

IN SUPPORT OF THE CONGOLESE RED CROSS



PEOPLE REACHED

Climate and
environment



178,053

Disasters and
crises



176,590

Health and
wellbeing



3,462,500

Migration and
displacement



16,700

Values, power
and inclusion



150,000

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

in Swiss francs (CHF)

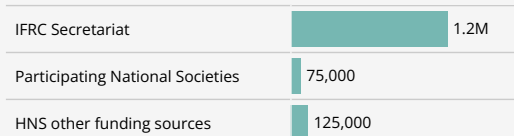
Country	Funding Requirement	780,000
IFRC Secretariat	Emergency Operations Funding	748,000
	Emergency Operations Expenditure	740,000
	Longer-term Funding Requirement	512,000
Participating National Societies	Longer-term Funding	45,000
	Longer-term Expenditure	44,000
	Funding Requirement	100,000
HNS other funding sources	Funding	258,000
	Expenditure	13,000
	Funding Requirement	168,000
	Funding	125,000

Congolese Red Cross

Overview



Funding Sources



Appeal number **MAACG002**

In addition to: CHF 261,000 DREF Funding

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Climate and environment	Developing and implementing strategies and plans that address rising climate and environmental risks?	Yes
	Implementing environmental or climate campaigns focused on behaviour change, plastic reduction or clean-ups?	Yes
	Implementing nature-based solutions (including those with a particular focus on the planting of trees and mangroves)?	Yes
	National Society is implementing environmental or climate campaigns focused on behaviour change, plastic reduction or clean-ups	Yes
	People reached by actions designed to reduce climate-related disaster displacement	37,000
	People reached with activities to address environmental problems	178,000
	People reached with activities to address rising climate risks	101,000
	People reached with heatwave risk reduction, preparedness or response activities	2,000
Disasters and crises	People reached per year with support services, in-kind, cash and voucher assistance for emergency response and recovery	17,000
	People reached with disaster risk reduction	177,000
	People reached with livelihoods support	2,000
	Percentage of humanitarian assistance delivered using cash and vouchers	66%
Health and wellbeing	People reached by National Societies with contextually appropriate health services	3.5M
	People reached by National Societies with contextually appropriate water, sanitation and hygiene services	1.6M
	People reached with immunization services	78,000
	People reached with psychosocial and mental health services	96,000
	People trained by National Societies in first aid	900
	Trained as Red Cross or Red Crescent WASH (community health) Volunteers	7,000
Migration and displacement	Migrants and displaced persons reached with services for assistance and protection	17,000
Values, power and inclusion	Is Community Engagement and Accountability integrated and institutionalized in the National Society policies, operations, and procedures (with clear benchmarks)?	Yes
	People reached by protection, gender and inclusion programming	150,000
	People reached by RCRC educational programmes	77,000
	People whose access to education is facilitated through National Society programming	149,000
	Percentage of people surveyed who report receiving useful and actionable information	98%

ENABLING FUNCTIONS

Strategic and operational coordination	Number of formal interagency/international coordination platforms the IFRC Network is part of	1
	Number of government led coordination platforms the National Society is part of	1
National Society development	One National Society Development plan in place	Yes
Humanitarian diplomacy	Participation in IFRC-led communication campaigns	Yes

IFRC NETWORK SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

National Society	Funding Reported	Bilateral Support						Enabling Functions	Multilateral Support Through IFRC
		Climate and environment	Disasters and crises	Health and wellbeing	Migration and displacement	Values, power and inclusion			
American Red Cross								✓	
Belgian Red Cross		●	●						
French Red Cross	285,000	●	●	●			●		

Total Funding Reported **CHF 285,000**

OVERALL PROGRESS

Context

Due to its physical, geographical, geological, and climatic realities on the one hand, and the level of culture and risk acceptance of the population on the other, Congo is characterized by a high exposure to natural and anthropogenic hazards. Disasters are recurrent, exacerbated by physical, functional, and structural vulnerabilities. Risks related to natural hazards include sea level rise, coastal erosion, flooding, and landslides. This ever-increasing vulnerability is compounded by rapidly changing economic, social, and environmental processes.

The Republic of Congo has experienced economic stagnation since 2015, aggravated by the COVID-19 pandemic and rising food and transport prices. According to the World Bank, the economy contracted by approximately 3.5 per cent in 2021, leading to an increase in extreme poverty from 39.1 per cent of the population in 2015 to 53.9 per cent in 2021. Economic recovery was affected by the decline in oil production in 2021, a decrease of 11 per cent year on year. Economic recovery is a major priority for the Republic of Congo, including restoring growth and resuming negotiations with the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and traders to settle its external debt. To achieve this, the Government has adopted a new national development plan for 2022–2026, which will lead the structural and profound transformation and diversification of the Congolese economy.

According to estimates from the International Labour Organization, unemployment affected 10.3 per cent of the total working population in 2020, compared with 9.6 per cent in 2019. Unemployment is increasingly affecting young people aged 15 to 24, who are generally first-time job seekers. Furthermore, the health status of the Congolese population is characterized by high morbidity, attributed to infectious and parasitic diseases and non-communicable diseases. The prevalence of severe acute malnutrition remains high. It is estimated that 31,736 children aged six months to four years suffer from severe acute malnutrition, and this is compounded by limited access to quality primary health care, recommended immunization and appropriate channels for referral and treatment. There are disparities in access to public services, with rural areas receiving fewer public services than the two largest cities of Brazzaville and Pointe-Noire. The Republic of Congo also faces multiple humanitarian challenges, including food insecurity, floods, epidemics and population displacement.

Key achievements

Climate and environment

In 2023, the Congolese Red Cross focused on disaster risk reduction efforts amidst rising climate risks. It planted trees in Mossaka and Loukolela to protect the environment and led community awareness campaigns and hydroclimatic data collection to enhance disaster forecasting models. It engaged with public authorities and participated in climate initiatives in preparation for responding to disasters related to climate change.

Disasters and crises

In this reporting period, the Congolese Red Cross conducted community awareness sessions on disaster preparedness. The National Society established [early warning systems](#) and trained community intervention teams in Mossaka and Loukolela on disaster management, [first aid](#), and health. The National Society also developed disaster risk reduction and flood contingency plans, conducted simulation exercises and reached people through epidemic preparedness efforts. Volunteers were trained in [enhanced vulnerability and capacity assessments](#) (eVCA), community engagement and accountability (CEA) and [protection, gender and inclusion](#) (PGI) in times of disaster.

Health and wellbeing

In 2023, the Congolese Red Cross conducted awareness sessions on water treatment, latrine use, and sexual violence under its community resilience programme. The National Society worked on addressing diarrhoeal diseases through routine awareness activities despite challenges in water protection. It distributed aqua tabs for water purification, disinfected homes and provided [mental health and psychosocial support](#) (MHPSS), enhancing volunteers' capacity in psychosocial first aid within the community.

Migration and displacement

In 2023, the Congolese Red Cross identified key entry points to the Republic of Congo and provided humanitarian assistance to vulnerable migrants. It supported displaced populations in Mkotimpoko and Ngabe through community integration interventions. As part of the national disaster response coordination, the National Society participated in meetings with local authorities and humanitarian agencies to strengthen partnerships. Standard operating procedures were established to clarify roles and ensure necessary equipment for psychological, medical and counselling support at each point of intervention.

Values, power, and inclusion

In this reporting period, the Congolese Red Cross integrated protection, gender and inclusion (PGI) activities into all emergency operations, providing briefings on the code of conduct and protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) for staff and volunteers. It offered psychosocial support and PGI messaging to disaster-affected communities. Through the community engagement and accountability (CEA) approach, the National Society raised awareness about COVID-19 vaccination via door-to-door campaigns and media programs, collecting community feedback. The National Society also carried out education and information initiatives in several regions, including Pool, Sangha, and Pointe-Noire, to promote health and safety practices.

IFRC NETWORK ACTION

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Climate and environment

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In recent years, disaster risks in the Republic of Congo have risen due to more frequent extreme weather events. The Congolese Red Cross, in partnership with the government, is addressing climate risk through disaster risk reduction efforts, such as tree planting and community awareness campaigns. Despite significant initiatives, post-disaster recovery remains limited, largely due to the absence of a clear, coordinated disaster risk management framework. Challenges include insufficient technical, material, and financial resources, as well as a lack of defined mandates and responsibilities among involved agencies.

The National Society planted and protected more than 850 trees with the help of local political-administrative authorities. Under the global Pilot Programmatic Partnership between the Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO) and the IFRC, the National Society planted trees in the districts of Mossaka and Loukolela with 1,000 trees planted for the protection of the ecosystem and the environment. The National Society also undertook hydroclimatic data collection campaigns with a view to develop risk and disaster forecasting models.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provides support to the Congolese Red Cross in its objectives under climate and environment, specifically in the implementation of the pan-African initiative “tree planting and care.”



For real-time information on IFRC emergencies, visit IFRC GO page [Congo](#).

In 2023, the IFRC Disaster Response Emergency Fund (IFRC-DREF) was approved for [Cholera Outbreak](#)

NAME OF OPERATION	Cholera outbreak
MDR-CODE	MDRCG021
DURATION	4 months (29-07-2023 to 30-11-2023)
FUNDING ALLOCATION	CHF 260, 809
PEOPLE TARGETED	84, 240
LATEST OPERATION UPDATE	DREF Final report

The IFRC-DREF allocation of CHF 260,809 in July 2023 supported the Congolese Red Cross in assisting approximately 84,240 people affected by the epidemic of cholera, shigellosis and salmonellosis in the city of Dolisie, among others. The National Society supported the targeted people over a four-month period with assistance in assessment, community engagement and accountability and coordination.

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2023, the Congolese Red Cross reached more than 25,000 people through community awareness sessions on the risks they face in their respective environments. Under the global Pilot Programmatic Partnership between the Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO) and IFRC, the National Society carried out the implementation of disaster preparedness activities, where an early warning system was set up. In the districts of Mossaka and Loukolela, the National Society established community intervention teams. These volunteers benefited from training on disaster management, first aid and community-based health, early warning system and advanced vulnerability and capacity assessment.

Before the implementation of the [IFRC DG-ECHO PPP](#) project, the National Society implemented a disaster risk reduction project. Through this project, the National Society put in place [community-based disaster risk reduction](#) plans, community flood contingency plans, and mitigation works. Simulation exercises were also held in Mossaka and Loukolela as well as contingency stockpile exercises.

The Congolese Red Cross reached approximately 500 people through [epidemic and pandemic preparedness](#) and response activities, disaster risk management, and risk community and community engagement. Under disaster risk management, the National Society formed community response teams in several communities and were trained in vulnerability and capacity assessment methods. Training was also provided to volunteers in the areas of [community engagement and accountability](#) (CEA), protection, gender and inclusion (PGI), and protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA).

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided both technical and financial support to the Congolese Red Cross in its objectives under disasters and crises. The National Society is supported through mechanisms such as the IFRC [disaster response emergency fund](#) (DREF) and the Emergency Appeals to provide services to disaster-affected people in a timely manner.



Health and wellbeing

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2023, the Congolese Red Cross carried out awareness-raising sessions under the community resilience programme where people were sensitized on several themes such as the treatment and conservation of drinking water and the usage of latrines and sexual violence against women. Cases of malnutrition in children aged 0 to 5 years were referred to referral health centres by volunteers. The National Society also implemented the activities of the COVID-19 vaccination project in Brazzaville and Pointe-Noire. These efforts took place under the National Society's interventions under water, sanitation and hygiene ([WASH](#)).

In its diarrhoeal disease intervention, the National Society carried out routine awareness-raising activities despite the inadequacy of current measures to protect water collection, storage, and distribution. The National Society has also worked in providing mental health and psychosocial support and has enhanced the operational capacities of volunteers working in the community environment under psychosocial [first aid](#). In 2023, the National Society distributed aqua tabs for drinking water purification and also assisted households through operations such as the disinfection of homes.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided both financial and technical support to the Congolese Red Cross in fulfilling its objectives under health and wellbeing. Components such as the WASH, MHPSS, first aid, community-based health and first aid (CBHFA) were supported by the IFRC.



The Congolese Red Cross distributing emergency kits to victims of flooding in the town of Uvira in South Kivu in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Date- 1st August 2024. (Photo: IFRC).



Migration and displacement

Progress by National Society against objectives

In 2023, the Congolese Red Cross identified various gateways to the Republic of Congo, carried out actions in the delivery of humanitarian assistance to migrants and host communities in vulnerable situations. The analysis of different areas was carried out and community integration intervention was undertaken by the National Society for the displaced populations in Makotimpoko and Ngabe.

The National Society, a member of the national coordination of disaster response, participated in various coordination meetings with local authorities and leaders in order to establish and make effective the partnership between the Government and humanitarian agencies. Standard operating procedures have been put in place to define the role and responsibilities of each actor which include references to the equipment needed at each point for psychological assistance, medical and counselling.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provides both financial and technical support to the National Society in its objectives under migration and displacement.



Values, power and inclusion

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In all emergency operations in the Republic of Congo, the Congolese Red Cross implements protection, gender and inclusion (PGI) activities. Briefings on the code of conduct, the protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA), and PGI exercised were organized for volunteers and staff. Specific psychosocial support and PGI messages/activities were provided to those affected by disasters.

Additionally, the community engagement and accountability (CEA) approach has been tested in various emergency operations since the beginning of 2023 through the risk communication and community engagement project. Community engagement and accountability project was implemented in the SLL CDC Africa project on COVID-19 vaccination in 2023. Volunteers were involved in door-to-door household awareness-raising operations, collecting community feedback, hosting interactive radio and television programmes on local communities' adherence to COVID-19 vaccination in Congo, with a view to reducing contamination at the community level. In the context of education, the National Society carried out communication, education and information activities for communities in the departments of Pool, Sangha, Likouala, Niari, Bouenza, Kouilou and Pointe-Noire.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided support to the Congolese Red Cross in its efforts under values, power and inclusion.

ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS



Strategic and operational coordination

IFRC membership coordination

IFRC membership coordination involves working with member National Societies to assess the humanitarian context, humanitarian situations and needs; agreeing on common priorities; jointly developing common strategies to address issues such as obtaining greater humanitarian access, acceptance and space; mobilizing funding and other resources; clarifying consistent public messaging; and monitoring progress. This also means ensuring that strategies and programmes in support of people in need, incorporate clarity of humanitarian action, links with development assistance, and efforts to reinforce National Societies in their respective countries, including through their auxiliary role.

The Congolese Red Cross is part of the four IFRC Pan-African initiatives focusing on Tree Planting and Care, Zero Hunger, Red Ready and National Society Development. These initiatives are reflected under the relevant sections of this plan.

The **French Red Cross**, the sole participating National Society active in the Republic of Congo, is dedicated to enhancing the capacities of the Congolese Red Cross through several projects.

Movement coordination

The Congolese Red Cross ensures regular exchanges with the IFRC, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and participating National Societies, for the alignment of support and action between Movement partners. In times of emergencies, closer coordination is organized. This is carried out in line with the Strengthening Movement Coordination and Cooperation (SMCC) principles, and the newly-adopted Seville Agreement 2.0.

The ICRC supports the Congolese Red Cross under a three-year cooperation agreement, implemented through an annual cooperation action plan focusing on crisis management preparedness, restoring family links and capacity building. The activities within the partnership are focused on six priority areas: Brazzaville, Plateaux, Pool, Bouenza, Likouala and Pointe-Noire.

External coordination

The Congolese Red Cross is an active member of the national coordination for disaster response. It participates in various preparatory and response meetings to ensure effective assistance for vulnerable populations. In the first quarter of 2023, the National Society also benefited from the support of several partners, including Africa CDC, the World Health Organization (WHO), UNICEF, and UNFPA, who have committed to supporting parts of these interventions.

The Congolese Red Cross has collaborated with community and civil society organizations, the inter-ministerial committee, UN agencies, and development partners to deliver impactful results. Through inter-agency coordination mechanisms, the National Society works closely with all humanitarian partners in emergency responses and efforts to support vulnerable populations, in partnership with the government, UN agencies, international NGOs, and accredited embassies. This operational partnership is coordinated by UNDP (OCHA) to ensure an integrated and effective response.



National Society Development

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Congolese Red Cross held an organizational capacity assessment and certification (OCAC) evaluation workshop in 2022 and enhanced the assessment further in 2023 to formulate approaches and solutions to the problems identified. Under the IFRC-DG ECHO PPP project, the National Society worked on the development of seven local branches through the rehabilitation activities of the headquarters including the one in Kidamba.

The National Society, through the IFRC capacity building fund (CBF), worked on the development of the National Society. It held a workshop on digital transformation aimed at strengthening the digital capacities of executives at the national headquarters and branches.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided support to the National Society through the IFRC capacity building fund (CBF) and provided technical support for the development and transformation efforts of the Congolese Red Cross.



Humanitarian diplomacy

Progress by the National Society against objectives

After the assessment of the National Society in January 2023, humanitarian diplomacy was identified as a strategic priority for the development of the Congolese Red Cross. In this context, the National Society has intensified its advocacy efforts with public authorities and opinion leaders to secure the government subsidy provided for the Congolese Red Cross in the Finance Law. Additionally, efforts have been made to disseminate key documents that define the role, profile, and responsibilities of the National Society.

The National Society is also actively working with public authorities to obtain the necessary administrative and legal documents, such as a Presidential Law or Decree, to ensure the proper functioning and recognition of the Congolese Red Cross.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provides support to the Congolese Red Cross in its humanitarian diplomacy priorities. This is done primarily through financial and technical support which consists of advocating with stakeholder's humanitarian efforts and showcasing the National Society's intervention as the primary responder in emergencies.

The IFRC supports the National Society in its development process in a participatory approach with the public authorities.



Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Congolese Red Cross has successfully demonstrated accountability for gender, diversity, and inclusion in its management and institutional culture by implementing monitoring and improvement mechanisms. The National Society publicized a policy and action plan on protection from sexual exploitation and abuse, developed and executed a risk management framework, and submitted an externally audited financial statement. Additionally, staff and volunteers received training in the prevention of fraud and corruption. A functional data management system was established, which informed decision-making and supported monitoring and reporting on the impact and evidence of the National Society's contributions. The Congolese Red Cross ensured that individuals and communities benefiting from its services were aware of their rights and made significant progress in digital transformation in alignment with the IFRC digital transformation strategy, fully embracing and deploying innovative digital technologies..

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provides both technical and financial support to the Congolese Red Cross in its efforts to enhance its accountability and agility.



The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)

is the world's largest humanitarian network, with 191 National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and around 15 million volunteers. Our volunteers are present in communities before, during and after a crisis or disaster. We work in the most hard to reach and complex settings in the world, saving lives and promoting human dignity. We support communities to become stronger and more resilient places where people can live safe and healthy lives, and have opportunities to thrive.

DATA SCOPE AND LIMITATIONS

- **Missing data and breakdowns:** National Societies have diverse data collection systems and processes that may not align with the standardized indicators. Data may not be available for some indicators, for some National Societies. This may lead to inconsistencies across different reporting tools as well as potential under or over-estimation of the efforts led by all.
- **Reporting bias:** The data informing this Federation-wide overview is self-reported by each National Society (or its designated support entity) and which is the owner and gatekeeper, and responsible for accuracy and updating. IFRC tries to triangulate the data provided by the National Societies with previous data and other data in the public domain.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- [IFRC Congo 2023 Finance report](#)

Note: For emergencies for which financial report is not yet available, see: [MDRCG021](#)

- [IFRC network country plans](#)
- [Subscribe for updates](#)
- [Donor response](#) on IFRC website
- [Live Disaster Response Emergency Fund \(DREF\)](#) data
- Operational information: [IFRC GO platform](#)
- National Society data: [IFRC Federation-wide Databank and Reporting System](#)
- [Evaluations database](#)

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