

IN SUPPORT OF THE TIMOR-LESTE RED CROSS SOCIETY



PEOPLE REACHED

Disasters
and crises



1,729

Health and
wellbeing



6,598

Values, power
and inclusion



81

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

in Swiss francs (CHF)

Country	Funding Requirement	279,000	
IFRC Secretariat	Emergency Operations	Funding: 509	
		Expenditure: 509	
	Longer-term	Funding	1.2M
		Expenditure	797,000
Participating National Societies	Funding Requirement	279,000	
	Funding	320,000	
	Expenditure	320,000	

Timor-Leste Red Cross Society

Overview

Funding	Not reported
Expenditure	Not reported

Funding Sources

IFRC Secretariat	Not reported
Participating National Societies	Not reported
HNS other funding sources	Not reported

Appeal number **MAATP001**

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Climate and environment	Implementing nature-based solutions (including those with a particular focus on the planting of trees and mangroves)?	Yes
	National Society is implementing nature-based solutions focused on reducing disaster risks and adapting to and mitigating climate change	Yes
	Number of trees planted	100
Disasters and crises	People reached with disaster risk reduction	 2,000
	People reached with livelihoods support	69
Health and wellbeing	People reached by National Societies with contextually appropriate water, sanitation and hygiene services	 3,000
	People reached with immunization services	 7,000
Values, power and inclusion	People reached by protection, gender and inclusion programming	81
	Percentage of people surveyed who report receiving useful and actionable information	75%

ENABLING FUNCTIONS

Strategic and operational coordination	IFRC engages in inter-agency coordination during operation	Yes
	Number of IFRC monitoring and support missions	10
National Society development	One National Society Development plan in place	Yes
Accountability and agility	Functioning data management systems that inform decision making and support monitoring and reporting on the impact and evidence of the IFRC network's contributions	Yes
	National Society is showing progress in digital transformation according to the digital maturity model outlined in IFRC Digital Transformation Strategy	Yes

IFRC NETWORK SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

National Society	Funding Reported	Bilateral Support						Multilateral Support
		Climate and environment	Disasters and crises	Health and wellbeing	Migration and displacement	Values, power and inclusion	Enabling Functions	Through IFRC
American Red Cross								✓
Australian Red Cross	954,000	●	●			●	●	✓
Finnish Red Cross								✓
Indonesian Red Cross Society			●					
Italian Red Cross							●	✓
Korean Red Cross		●	●	●				
Netherlands Red Cross			●	●				✓
New Zealand Red Cross							●	✓

Total Funding Reported **CHF 954,000**

OVERALL PROGRESS

Context

In 2023, Timor-Leste faced significant [challenges](#) related to climate and the environment, with El Niño-related extreme weather events becoming more frequent and intense. Preliminary research indicates that these trends have been evident over the past 20 years, reflecting data from neighbouring regions such as Indonesia's East Nusa Tenggara Province.

The rainfall pattern in Timor-Leste is heavily influenced by the Australian Monsoon. During the [Australian Summer Monsoon](#), most of the country experiences wet conditions, while the dry season typically lasts from May to November. However, global warming has led to a shift toward a hotter climate, with increasingly hot days and nights becoming the norm.

As [heat waves](#) and [warm spells](#) are projected to increase dramatically in the coming years, the drastic rise in days with temperatures exceeding 35°C and the prevalence of tropical nights will necessitate adaptive measures. While the people of Timor-Leste are accustomed to a tropical climate, these changes pose new challenges.

Additionally, hazardous seasons can impede the timely implementation of programmes. Certain areas are prone to floods and landslides during the rainy season, which can cut off access from both within and outside these regions. This makes it difficult for the Timor-Leste Red Cross Society to reach affected communities, resulting in delays for some planned activities.

Key achievements

Climate and environment

In 2023, the Timor-Leste Red Cross Society recruited and trained volunteers in climate change adaptation across four villages. It partnered with the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Education for environmental initiatives, including the planting of 100 seedlings in Tutuluro Village. The National Society also engaged [youth](#) through awareness workshops in three villages on climate change, road safety and substance abuse. In 2023, the National Society participated in an [anticipatory action](#) workshop that established a roadmap for leveraging anticipatory action to reduce vulnerabilities over the next five years.

Disasters and crises

In 2023, the Timor-Leste Red Cross Society strengthened its role within the National Cluster System through shelter coordination training and continued community preparedness. Additionally, the National Society launched the Chronic Crisis Block Allocation project to build capacities for climate-related disaster response. Additionally, the National Society received funding to transition to community-based [early warning](#) systems and conducted a workshop on planning, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting (PMER). It procured 500 emergency family kits and performed a rapid protection, gender and inclusion analysis for dignity kit development.

Health and wellbeing

During the reporting period, the Timor-Leste Red Cross Society deployed community volunteers for door-to-door outreach and provided essential health information on diarrhoea, malaria and dengue. The National Society significantly improved water and sanitation infrastructure by rehabilitating 14 protected water sources, constructing a gravity-fed piping system, and installing public taps, thereby increasing access to clean water for over 3,000 people across three villages. Additionally, it constructed eight pilot latrines.

Migration and displacement

The Timor-Leste Red Cross Society plays a vital role in supporting displaced communities during emergencies, focusing on improving its capacity to respond effectively. It plans to conduct an assessment to analyze the migration landscape and identify opportunities to assist the government and other stakeholders.

Values, power and inclusion

The Timor-Leste Red Cross Society actively engaged youth by providing musical instruments for activities focused on disaster risk reduction and health. It initiated a disability policy, stakeholder mapping and the integration of protection, gender and inclusion indicators into monitoring tools. An evaluation of the ICBRR programme indicated that 75 percent of the community found the National Society's services beneficial for improving resilience across various sectors.

Enabling local actors

In 2023, the Timor-Leste Red Cross Society conducted a supplier management workshop to improve logistics and procurement practices and worked on strengthening its emergency fundraising capabilities. The National Society prioritized the development of its planning, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting (PMER) system, supported by digital tools for data collection. Additionally, it launched a communications strategy to raise its profile domestically and regionally, utilizing social media to increase visibility. In 2023, the National Society transitioned to the Working with Project Partner system by signing a Framework Funding Agreement, improving financial accountability and streamlining administrative processes.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Climate and environment

Communities and Red Cross and Red Crescent staff and volunteers undertake urgent action to adapt to the rising and evolving risks from the climate and environmental crises.

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Timor-Leste Red Cross Society supported local communities by recruiting and training volunteers in climate change adaptation. The volunteers, distributed across four villages worked towards improving community preparedness and safe shelter practices. Additionally, the Timor-Leste Red Cross Society established partnerships with the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Education to advance environmental protection through reforestation, planting 100 seedlings in Tutuluro Village. The National Society also focused on youth engagement, conducting awareness workshops in three target villages on topics such as climate change, road safety and substance abuse, reaching close to 300 young people. These educational initiatives aim to cultivate a generation committed to environmental preservation and responsible waste management. The Timor-Leste Red Cross Society is further advancing its objectives by preparing a new Integrated Community-based Risk Reduction (ICBRR) grant proposal that integrates multi-sectoral risk reduction approaches

Additionally, in February 2023, the National Society participated in an anticipatory action workshop facilitated by FAO, IFRC APRO and the Red Cross Climate Centre. This workshop provided clarity on anticipatory action approaches and resulted in a roadmap for the next five years, enhancing the National Society's understanding of how to leverage anticipatory action to reduce vulnerabilities and build disaster resilience. The Timor-Leste Red Cross Society submitted its new phase ICBRR grant proposal to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of South Korea, incorporating a multi-sectoral approach to risk reduction and aiming to increase community resilience against climate change.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided the Timor-Leste Red Cross Society with technical and financial support for the implementation of its activities. It also supported the National Society with the submission of its ICBRR grant proposal.



Disasters and crises

For real-time information on emergencies, please see IFRC GO page [Timor-Leste](#).

People affected by crises and disasters have their needs met through access to in-kind assistance and support that is timely, adequate and flexible and strengthens their agency

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2023, the National Society utilized the [preparedness for effective response](#) (PER) assessment to develop targeted activities. It evaluated policy, strategy, planning, coordination and operational capacity areas, including business continuity plans, multi-hazard risk analysis and [early warning](#) systems. The Timor-Leste Red Cross Society also strengthened its coordination role within the national cluster system, receiving training on shelter coordination and supporting the civil protection authority in leading national clusters. Although there were no major disasters in 2023, the Timor-Leste Red Cross Society continued to prepare communities through the Integrated Community Based Risk Reduction project ([ICBRR](#)). It trained community volunteers, who then educated families and students on disaster risk reduction.

Additionally, the Timor-Leste Red Cross Society distributed chicken coop materials and chickens to boost livelihoods. It also partnered with NGO Luta ba Futuru for savings and loan training. The National Society submitted a proposal to extend the ICBRR project to broaden its impact. The Timor-Leste Red Cross Society also initiated the Chronic Crisis block allocation project aimed at increasing financial and technical capacities for climate-related disaster response, with a focus on [shelter, water and sanitation, and health](#).

The National Society worked on the Green Climate Fund (GCF) project, coordinated by its Asia Pacific Regional Office (APRO) and the Climate Centre. It received funding to build on the existing work and to transition from national [early warning](#) systems to community-based systems. This funding supports the Timor-Leste Red Cross Society's efforts to integrate end-to-end [early warning](#) systems at the community level.

In July 2023, the National Society conducted a workshop on planning, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting (PMER) to develop its Logframe, monitoring and evaluation plan and indicator tracking table.

The National Society procured emergency relief items, including 500 family kits and in conducting a rapid PGI analysis for dignity kit development. The National Society worked in collaboration with the cash working group and appointed a new coordinator.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided technical assistance to the National Society with the Green Climate Fund (GCF) project, coordinated by its Asia Pacific Regional Office (APRO) and the Climate Centre. It also supported the Timor-Leste Red Cross Society in finalizing its voucher application "Loja" and ensuring compliance with procurement procedures. Additionally, the IFRC supported the National Society with a planning, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting (PMER) workshop.

Additionally, the IFRC assisted the Timor-Leste Red Cross Society in procuring emergency relief items, including 500 family kits.

The **Netherlands Red Cross** provided support to the Timor-Leste Red Cross Society with the Chronic Crisis block allocation project.



Health and wellbeing

The health and wellbeing of communities are protected and improved through access to sustainable, affordable, appropriate, and quality health services across the life course

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Timor-Leste Red Cross Society has utilized the [Integrated Community Based Risk Reduction](#) (ICBRR) project to improve health and water sanitation and hygiene ([WASH](#)) facilities in Ainaro and Manufahi municipalities. Through this

project, the national Society deployed community volunteers to provide essential health information on diarrhoea, malaria and dengue through door-to-door outreach, which increased community confidence in managing child diarrhoea and reduced occurrences of mosquito-borne diseases.

The project also achieved significant improvements in water and sanitation infrastructure by rehabilitating 14 protected water sources, constructing a gravity-fed piping system and installing public taps. This work improved access to clean water for over 3,000 people across three villages. Additionally, the Timor-Leste Red Cross Society constructed eight pilot latrines and plans to complete 200 more by December 2023, thereby enhancing sanitation and personal hygiene. The Chronic Crisis Block Allocation project will further address health and WASH needs, focusing on hygiene promotion, safe water access, health risk reduction, and psychosocial support.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided crucial support to the National Society in implementing the preparedness for effective response framework, which includes epidemic and pandemic preparedness components. The IFRC also facilitated the development and finalization of the Chronic Crisis Block Allocation project, which includes health and WASH interventions and emergency training.

The **Australian Red Cross** supported the Timor-Leste Red Cross Society in building the capacity of health staff, volunteers and community members.



Migration and displacement

National Societies engage with migrants, displaced persons and host communities to more effectively assess, understand and respond to their priority needs

Progress by National Society against objectives

The Timor-Leste Red Cross Society has consistently played a critical role in supporting displaced communities during emergencies, aiming to improve its capacity to respond effectively to such crises. The National Society is committed to addressing the needs of communities temporarily displaced by disasters or other emergencies, ensuring that immediate requirements are met promptly.



National Society volunteers conducting rapid assessments and providing family kits, baby kits and mosquito repellent to families affected by floods in Sau Village, Manatuto Town, Timor-Leste, 24 February 2022. (Photo: Timor-Leste Red Cross Society)

While the Timor-Leste Red Cross Society does not currently have a dedicated migration programme, it is eager to explore the migration context within Timor-Leste. The National Society intends to conduct an assessment to analyze the migration landscape more thoroughly and identify opportunities to support the government and other stakeholders involved in migration issues. This assessment will help the Timor-Leste Red Cross Society determine how it can better contribute to supporting and protecting the rights and needs of migrants in the country.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the National Society in its efforts to enhance its response capacity for displaced communities. In addition, IFRC also provided assistance to the National Society understand and navigate the migration context.



Values, power and inclusion

People and communities, vulnerable to and affected by crises, are empowered to influence decisions affecting them and trust the IFRC Network to serve their best interest

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Timor-Leste Red Cross Society made significant progress in its programmes by applying community engagement and accountability (CEA) as well as protection, gender, and inclusion (PGI) principles. The National Society actively involved the community in its services. In the Integrated Community Based Risk Reduction (ICBRR) project, the Timor-Leste Red Cross Society engaged youth by providing musical instruments and organizing activities related to disaster risk reduction and health. In Manelobas village, youth used these instruments to create songs addressing social and environmental issues, which were well-received and broadcast on national television.

PGI principles are integrated into all Timor-Leste Red Cross Society services, with a particular focus on the Chronic Crisis project, which aims to build safer and more inclusive communities by addressing the needs and rights of vulnerable groups. The National Society has outlined several PGI initiatives, including the development of a disability policy, PGI stakeholder mapping and the incorporation of PGI indicators into monitoring and evaluation tools. It also plans to build its capacity through PGI training of trainers programmes and to integrate PGI sessions into joint disaster risk management training for Municipal Disaster Management Committees (MDMCs). An evaluation of the ICBRR programme showed that 75 percent of the assisted community found the Timor-Leste Red Cross Society's services beneficial in improving resilience across various sectors.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the Timor-Leste Red Cross Society in implementing community engagement and accountability (CEA) and protection, gender, and inclusion (PGI) principles. During the PGI workshop held in Kuala Lumpur in June 2023 the IFRC also facilitated the development of PGI action plans, including the establishment of stakeholder mapping and the dissemination of PGI minimum standards. Additionally, IFRC assisted the National Society in planning PGI sessions for youths and organizing PGI training of trainers programmes. The **Australian Red Cross** also supported the National Society in all these efforts along with the IFRC.

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.

IFRC network partners in Timor-Leste include the **American Red Cross, Australian Red Cross, Finnish Red Cross, Indonesian Red Cross Society, Italian Red Cross, New Zealand Red Cross, The Netherlands Red Cross, and The Republic of Korea National Red Cross.**

Movement coordination

The Timor-Leste Red Cross Society ensures regular exchanges with the IFRC, the International Committee of the Red Cross 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](#).

In Timor-Leste, **the ICRC** is developing the capability of the authorities to identify people who died during the 1975-1999 conflict and to react to large-scale emergencies. It promotes international humanitarian law within the armed forces and police and trains the Timor-Leste Red Cross Society in community engagement, [restoring family links](#), and the management of dead bodies during emergencies. ICRC support in the country is covered by its regional delegation in Indonesia.

External coordination

In line with its auxiliary role, the Timor-Leste Red Cross Society coordinates with the Secretary of State for Civil Protection to outline cooperation on disaster response and preparedness. The National Society has been a member of the national taskforce responding to COVID-19 and has maintained strong relationships with the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education, working closely with them on emergency response and the development of remote communities through the ICBRR project at the municipal level. The National Society also received funding support from the Government of Timor-Leste for its youth, organizational development, branch development, health, and disaster management programmes, as well as for operational support.

The Timor-Leste Red Cross Society has built partnerships with various organizations in the country, including Oxfam for its disaster management programme, Partnership for Human Development (PHD) for its health programme, Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) for its disaster risk reduction and health programme, Child Fund for its youth programme and Catholic Relief Services for its nutrition programme. Since 2018, the Timor-Leste Red Cross Society has received support from the USAID Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA) to strengthen its national development capacity for response readiness through the Red Ready project.



National Society development

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2023, the Timor-Leste Red Cross Society conducted a supplier management workshop that led to recommendations for reviewing current logistics standard operating procedures, including supplier management and procurement processes. The workshop also identified additional suppliers for both domestic and international needs and emphasized the importance of developing branch capacity through training and monitoring to ensure effective procurement practices at the branch level.

In March 2023, the National Society focused on improving its emergency fundraising capabilities by participating in an orientation covering the principles of emergency fundraising and preparedness planning. As a result, the Timor-Leste Red Cross Society planned to create an emergency fundraising guide and evaluate its resource mobilization strategy to ensure it includes essential elements for emergency fundraising.

To promote volunteer safety and security, the National Society is drafting a Safety and Security checklist, using PMI's checklist as a reference. Additionally, the Timor-Leste Red Cross Society insured 731 volunteers through the IFRC Global Insurance for Accident scheme.

The Timor-Leste Red Cross Society has also prioritized the development of its planning, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting (PMER) system. The PMER guideline, developed with consultant support, covers the project cycle, log frame,

indicator tracking table (ITT) and their application to existing projects. Project managers have been utilizing these tools with ongoing coaching and mentoring from the National Society's PMER section. The Timor-Leste Red Cross Society has also implemented digital forms for data collection and progress reporting on project implementation.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the National Society in improving procurement processes, including facilitating a supplier management workshop in February 2023. It also assisted the Timor-Leste Red Cross Society by providing guidance for drafting a safety and security checklist for volunteer safety based on PMI's model. Additionally, the IFRC helped secure insurance for 731 National Society volunteers through the IFRC Global Insurance for Accident scheme. The IFRC also aided the Timor-Leste Red Cross Society in developing its PMER system.



Humanitarian diplomacy

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2023, the Timor-Leste Red Cross Society worked to strengthen its auxiliary role and mandate. The National Society made significant changes in its communications division to improve visibility and impact. It developed the Timor-Leste Red Cross Society Communications Strategy 2023 to increase exposure both domestically and regionally. The National Society focused on raising public and government recognition to garner greater support. This strategic shift aims to elevate the National Society's profile and ensure that its work is more widely acknowledged within the country.

To increase its visibility, the National Society utilized social media by ensuring that at least one tweet per week about its activities is published on the APRO Communications Twitter account. This approach helped to promote the National Society's work and expand its visibility across the Asia-Pacific region, contributing to greater recognition and engagement.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC promoted humanitarian diplomacy by supporting the Timor-Leste Red Cross Society to be better positioned and have a stronger capacity to achieve the goal of protecting the most vulnerable. It assisted the National Society by facilitating its exposure through social media.



Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2023, the Timor-Leste Red Cross Society successfully transitioned to the working with project partner system by signing the Framework Funding Agreement. This shift, which replaced the previous working advance modality, aimed to increase expenditure visibility, address capacity and internal control gaps and improve accountability to donors and stakeholders. Additionally, this transition streamlined administrative processes, reducing the need for the National Society to submit supporting documents to the IFRC and enhancing risk management awareness.

The Timor-Leste Red Cross Society focused on enhancing its finance and accounting capabilities. The National Society developed a separate bank account for core costs, introduced an automated excel template for asset depreciation and received comprehensive financial consultancy. This consultancy included job analysis, revisions to the finance manual and training. The National Society advanced its digital engagement strategy by linking its 13 branches with headquarters to improve information exchange and field reporting. This effort was complemented by initiatives aimed at reducing the digital divide and strengthening external communication and outreach.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided the National Society with technical assistance with staff compliance and safety by overseeing mandatory training, launching a new learning platform and updating safeguarding policies. It also supported the Timor-Leste Red Cross Society with technical assistance in fund and cash management, including developing a core cost analysis and providing an automated excel template for asset depreciation calculations. Additionally, IFRC facilitated the National Society's transition to the WWPP system, including training on key changes associated with the transition.

The IFRC also provided technical support to the National Society in content production across platforms, addressing gaps in communication skills and improving visibility as a leading humanitarian organization in Timor-Leste. Moreover, IFRC utilized digital forms to streamline procurement, finance and administrative processes.

The **Australian Red Cross** provided support to the National Society with strengthening its finance and accounting capabilities.

The **New Zealand Red Cross** supported the Timor-Leste Red Cross Society in advancing its digital engagement initiative.



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 Timor-Leste 2023 Financial Report](#)
- [IFRC network country Plans](#)
- [Subscribe for updates](#)
- [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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