

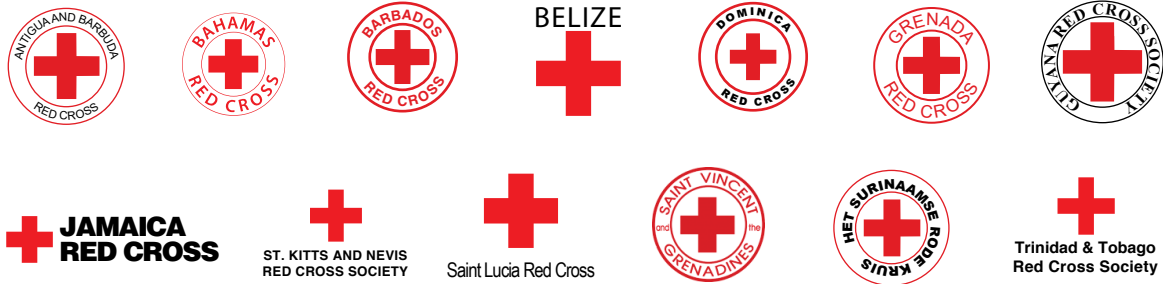


DUTCH AND ENGLISH SPEAKING CARIBBEAN

2023 IFRC network annual report, Jan-Dec

18 December 2024

IN SUPPORT OF THE RED CROSS NATIONAL SOCIETIES OF THE DUTCH AND ENGLISH SPEAKING CARIBBEAN



44
National Society branches

59
National Society local units

209
National Society staff

7,538
National Society volunteers

PEOPLE TO BE REACHED



283

Climate and environment



11,185

Disasters and crises



9,124

Health and wellbeing



1,076

Migration and displacement



2,342

Values, power and inclusion

Appeal codes:

MAAAG002	MAAGD001	MAALC001
MAABS002	MAAGY001	MAAVC001
MAABB002	MAAJM001	MAASR001
MAABZ002	MAAKN001	MAATT001
MAADM001		

OVERALL PROGRESS





Context

The Caribbean region, comprising 13 Dutch and English-speaking nations, faces a complex web of challenges that span environmental, social and economic realms. Climate change intensifies the frequency and severity of natural disasters, including hurricanes, floods, and rising sea levels, which affect both the environment and essential sectors like tourism and agriculture. These small island developing states are especially vulnerable to climate-related disruptions, straining recovery efforts and critical infrastructure. Economically, the Caribbean has been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, which caused severe declines in tourism, one of the region's main economic drivers, and highlighted the need for economic diversification. Public health is a pressing concern, with high rates of non-communicable diseases including diabetes, hypertension and obesity, compounded by the residual effects of COVID-19 on health systems. Migration is significant, with people moving both within the Caribbean for employment and outside for better opportunities, while internal and external displacement is fuelled by socio-economic issues, gang violence, and natural disasters. The region also grapples with gender-based violence and social exclusion, affecting women, youth and marginalized communities, who face challenges in accessing employment and protection. Politically, countries such as Haiti, Guyana and Suriname are experiencing instability and civil unrest, with concerns over governance and border conflicts. Additionally, the Caribbean remains vulnerable to infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS, dengue and Zika, exacerbated by high population mobility and limited healthcare infrastructure.

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA


FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

in Swiss francs (CHF)


Country	Funding Requirement		155,000
IFRC Secretariat	Longer-term	Funding Requirement	 155,000
		Funding	 210,000
		Expenditure	 134,000

Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross




Overview

Funding	 284,000
Expenditure	<i>Not reported</i>

Funding Sources

IFRC Secretariat	 284,000
Participating National Societies	<i>Not reported</i>
HNS other funding sources	<i>Not reported</i>

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Climate and environment	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
	People reached with activities to address environmental problems	 9
Health and wellbeing	People reached by National Societies with contextually appropriate health services	 16
	People trained by National Societies in first aid	 300

ENABLING FUNCTIONS

National Society development	National Society covers health, accident and death compensation for all of their volunteers	Yes
Humanitarian diplomacy	Participation in IFRC-led communication campaigns	Yes
Accountability and agility	National Society have strengthened their integrity and reputational risk mechanisms	Yes

IFRC NETWORK SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

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

Key achievements

Climate and environment

In 2023, the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society strengthened partnerships with the Forestry Department and other organizations to promote sustainable practices including tree planting and ecosystem-based adaptation. The National Society engaged youth in climate adaptation through Y-Adapt training and organized initiatives such as coastal cleanups, collecting 330 lbs. of waste at Shell Beach. A regional workshop participation allowed it to contribute to and benefit from a collaborative disaster risk awareness campaign set for 2024.

Disasters and crises

While community preparedness activities such as tsunami drills were postponed due to a focus on internal development, the National Society participated in workshops on disaster law and policy. This enhanced the National Society's understanding of effective disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation frameworks.

Health and wellbeing

The launch of a new ambulance service in February 2023 addressed urgent healthcare needs, supported by emergency readiness activities such as staff re-certifications in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and automated external defibrillator (AED) use. The National Society also collaborated on regional health initiatives through the READY360° project, enhancing first aid resources and training. Youth outreach programmes promoted health education and volunteer recruitment.

Enabling local actors

In 2023, the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society strengthened governance with new policies, including a Finance Policy Manual and Employee Handbook. Efforts to address branch-level integrity issues led to structural improvements, and investments in thrift shops and services increased financial independence. A youth representative played an active role in Caribbean-wide youth advocacy and development initiatives. Transparency was reinforced through the establishment of a Disciplinary and Compliance Committee and the completion of audits for 2020–2022. Challenges from previous financial management issues were addressed with a restructured finance team and improved resource mobilization strategies, leading to better cash flow and operational efficiency.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Climate and environment

Progress by the National Society against objectives

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

In 2023, the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society developed partnerships to promote sustainable practices within the community. The Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society initiated the drafting of a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Forestry Department, primarily to facilitate community-based activities such as tree planting. This initiative also targets ecological goals, such as supporting bat populations to aid pollination. During the MoU discussions, it was agreed to broaden the partnership to include the entire Ministry of Agriculture, allowing the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society to engage in a wider array of environmental efforts, including those related to agriculture and fisheries. Additionally, the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society sought a collaboration with the NGO [barbudanGo](#) to support ecosystem-based adaptation activities, particularly focused on the unique environment of Barbuda.

To enhance climate preparedness, the National Society will conduct a national climate risk assessment, set to start in 2024, to better understand the current and anticipated climate risks across sectors such as health, food security and infrastructure. By utilizing insights from the Climate Centre, the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society aims to incorporate climate-smart practices into its planning and projects.

In promoting community involvement and education, the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society trained a youth volunteer as a Y-Adapt trainer in 2023. This training enables the volunteer to implement climate adaptation initiatives with local youths, fostering grassroots understanding of and response to climate challenges. Recognizing International Coastal Cleanup Day on September 16, 2023, a team from the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society organized a cleanup at Shell Beach, collecting 330 lbs. of waste and raising awareness about ocean pollution.

The Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society's annual President's Wellness Day on November 19 featured environmental sustainability activities, including a hike and wellness check in Bendals Community. A significant tree-planting activity was conducted at the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society headquarters, where President Trevor Walker led the planting of pomegranate trees as part of their food security and climate resilience objectives. This species was selected for its drought tolerance and adaptability to the dry tropical climate of Antigua.

In December 2023, the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society participated in a workshop in Saint-Martin aimed to co-develop a regional campaign to raise awareness about disaster risks and the impact of climate change. This collaborative initiative, part of the READY360° programme, will be launched in 2024 and adapted to the needs of each participating territory. This workshop has allowed the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society to contribute to and benefit from a collective campaign on disaster risk awareness, a resource that will be crucial for local and regional climate resilience efforts in the coming years.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC organized a workshop in Saint-Martin in December through its Regional Intervention Platform for the Americas and Caribbean (PIRAC). The Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society participated in the workshop alongside five other Caribbean National Societies.

The **Japanese Red Cross Society's** backing for a national climate risk assessment provides vital data that will shape climate-resilient planning in 2024.



Disasters and crises

For real-time information on emergencies, see the IFRC GO page [Antigua and Barbuda](#).

Progress by the National Society against objectives

National Societies expand their leadership in the field of Disaster Law

In 2023, the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society set out to conduct community preparedness meetings, facilitate community tsunami drills and review and update disaster risk management strategies and policies to better equip communities for disasters. However, due to a strong focus on institutional development, the planned activities were deferred. The National Society prioritized strengthening internal frameworks and capacity, aiming to improve overall preparedness and response efficacy. These postponed community activities have since been re-scheduled as priorities for 2024.

The Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society participated in a workshop on [disaster law](#) and policy frameworks in effective disaster response. The exhibition also shared recommendations from recent disaster law studies, focusing on disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation. Due to competing priorities, the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society was unable to submit content, such as video materials and approvals of disaster law studies, for the exhibition.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the Cuban Red Cross in increasing its disaster management capacity, particularly during its extensive emergency appeals management. The IFRC further supported the National Society through the timely review and processing of the [Hurricane Ian emergency appeal](#) request.



Health and wellbeing

Progress by the National Society against objectives

National Societies capitalize on their auxiliary role to ensure their position on relevant country-level public health strategy, advocacy and policy platforms and mechanism

In February 2023, the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society launched its ambulance service. This new service is operated by the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society's qualified Emergency Medical Team (EMT) and aims to address urgent healthcare needs across Antigua and Barbuda. The launch event, attended by the Ministry of Health and the Governor General, underscored the commitment from local authorities to support and collaborate with the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society in furthering public health initiatives.

In August, the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society reinforced its emergency readiness by re-certifying its staff in [first aid](#), cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and automated external defibrillator (AED) techniques. This training also included participation from members of the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society's governing board, enhancing its leadership's capability in emergency response. Additionally, in preparation for the hurricane season, the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society invested in seventeen first responder bags for the National Office of Disaster Services, equipping [shelters](#) around the islands with critical resources for disaster response.

The health and wellbeing of communities are protected and improved through access to sustainable, affordable, appropriate and quality health services across their life course. National Societies expand the reach, quality and modalities of their first aid activities, including training of volunteers, staff and the public across all contexts

The READY 360° project funded by INTERREG Caribbean (a European-Union funded programme), Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) and Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA), is a regional initiative targeting disaster preparedness at individual, community and institutional levels, with the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society's participation bringing several benefits, including first aid kit supplies, trainer certification and support for a standardized Caribbean first aid manual, which is in draft form as of December 2023. This initiative

also involves monthly advisory meetings with eleven Caribbean National Societies, further strengthening regional expertise in health response.

In October, the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society's First Responders provided critical support at the National Youth Rally, working alongside the national Emergency Medical Services to ensure event safety. Furthermore, the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society carried out a youth outreach initiative in December at the Antigua State College. Led by the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society Youth Development Officer Terrell Bruno and volunteer Shania Simpson, the outreach aimed to engage students in humanitarian work. Programmes highlighted at the event included first aid, CPR and Sexual and Reproductive Health with a strong focus on recruiting and involving more youth in the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society's health and humanitarian programmes.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC and the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society leveraged the National Society's auxiliary role to ensure it engaged regularly with national public health advocacy platforms, fulfilling the objective to influence public health strategy, advocacy and policy mechanisms. The IFRC enabled strategic positioning of the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society within the national healthcare framework by supporting its ambulance service launch, which is also supported by the **Japanese Red Cross Society**.

The PIRAC and the **French Red Cross** with its **Global First Aid Reference Centre** supported the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society in the READY 360° project to increase disaster resilience and improve public health preparedness. Additionally, the IFRC provided the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society in the READY 360° project with technical and operational support to strengthen disaster preparedness and health service outreach. Through the project's collaborative platforms, the IFRC facilitated training, policy integration and supply provisions.



Strategic and operational coordination

IFRC membership coordination

IFRC membership coordination involves working with National Societies to assess the humanitarian context, agree on common priorities and jointly develop common strategies. This includes addressing issues such as obtaining greater humanitarian acceptance and access, mobilizing funding and other resources, clarifying consistent public messaging, and monitoring progress. It also entails ensuring that strategies and programmes in support of people in need incorporate clarity of humanitarian action while linking with development assistance and contribute to reinforcing National Societies in their respective countries, including through their auxiliary role.

The **French Red Cross** supports the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society with its Global First Aid Reference Centre in the READY 360° project.

The Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society is also supported by the **Japanese Red Cross Society** for national climate risk assessment and ambulance service.

Movement coordination

The Antigua and Barbuda 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.

The ICRC supports the Antigua and Barbuda through its Caracas regional delegation on restoring family links and tracing, primarily in the areas of migration, and in promoting international humanitarian law.

External coordination

The IFRC network has increased its cooperation and coordination with external partners to address major challenges facing communities

In 2023, the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society negotiated critical contracts with multiple national entities for ambulance and Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) services. These contracts include agreements with the Ministry of Health, the Antigua and Barbuda Drag Racing Association and the Ministry of Creative Industries for the Antigua Carnival launch. These partnerships are expected to streamline coordination across events requiring medical support.

Furthering its collaboration on migrant support, the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society engaged in discussions with representatives from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Multi-Country Office in Washington, DC. The meetings centred around the West African migrant situation in Antigua and Barbuda, with an emphasis on identifying and expanding collaboration avenues to better support migrant needs.

In disaster preparedness, the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society took part in a meeting hosted by the National Office of Disaster Services (NODS) with a team from the World Bank. During the discussion, the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society's President highlighted areas for improvement in Antigua and Barbuda's disaster response framework, specifically focusing on Barbuda's inclusion and the integration of more robust mitigation measures. The World Bank team acknowledged the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society's efforts and pledged ongoing support to help strengthen the national disaster response and management system.

To broaden its environmental and disaster response capacity, the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society also met with the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture. The discussion led to plans for extending their existing Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to incorporate the Forestry Division.

In 2023, the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society strengthened its technical expertise in first aid through its new membership in the Caribbean Technical Advisory Group on First Aid (CTAG), joining seven other National Societies on April 26. The CTAG, established per the Team Charter 2023, promotes income generation through high-quality, standardized first aid training specific to Caribbean needs. As a member, the National Society contributes to developing a unified regional first aid curriculum tailored to the Caribbean context, focusing on evolving crises and enhancing first aid programme standards across the region.



National Society development

Progress by the National Society against objectives

National Societies update their statutory, legal and policy base/framework and strengthen their auxiliary role

In 2023, the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society implemented structural and policy advancements to strengthen its internal governance and operational efficiency. Key policies and guidelines were developed and adopted, including the Finance Policy and Procedure Manual, Employee Handbook and a Revised Code of Conduct, among others. Additionally, governance documents such as the Terms of Reference for the Disciplinary and Compliance Committee and Finance Commission were established to strengthen oversight. These policies aim to guide staff, ensure compliance and establish a comprehensive framework for disaster risk management, volunteer engagement and anti-discrimination practices, solidifying the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society's statutory and policy framework.

National Societies strengthen their network of branches and contribute to building a distributed network across the IFRC network

Efforts to address internal branch challenges were also undertaken in 2023, particularly concerning the functionality of the Antigua and Barbuda branches. The Port of Spain Country Cluster Delegation (CCD) provided support in addressing integrity concerns within the branches. Following consultations, both branch chairpersons stepped down to maintain the National Society's reputation, enabling Headquarters to reestablish trust and rebuild relationships with volunteers in Barbuda.

National Societies improve their financial sustainability through investment and leadership engagement in the three

pillars of financial sustainability (mission and strategy, resource mobilization and financial management)

In 2023, the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society invested in expanding its thrift shop, first aid and ambulance services. This expansion increased unrestricted income, allowing for greater financial independence. Finance staff underwent structural changes, with a new hire streamlining finance management, addressing outstanding account issues, and improving reporting procedures.

Youth, volunteers and young community-based drivers of change contribute to decision-making, innovation and strengthening the domestic network

In February 2023, the Caribbean Youth Network, which included an Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society youth representative, finalized its Terms of Reference to guide youth engagement and advocacy across the Caribbean. A visit from the National Society development Youth and Volunteering Officer provided guidance on youth and volunteer management. This visit highlighted challenges in volunteer engagement, leading to recommendations on restructuring to enhance volunteer management and retention. The Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society youth delegate actively participated in the InterAmerican Conference (IAC) in June, representing youth perspectives and engaging in integrity and accountability discussions.

Mechanisms are strengthened to protect volunteers, promote their psychosocial wellbeing, and provide support to those killed, injured, and their families

The Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society placed strong emphasis on youth skill development, with a youth volunteer attending Y-Adapt training in Jamaica in November. This interactive climate adaptation training equipped youth with the skills to educate peers on climate resilience, expanding the National Society's youth engagement in sustainable action. A Solidarity Fund Mechanism was also initiated to complement volunteer insurance and extend support, ensuring comprehensive volunteer protection.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society's efforts to improve its financial sustainability, expand operational capacity and strengthen its mission. Marketing initiatives supported by the IFRC coaching included visibility campaigns to drive income-generating activities and increase engagement.

Through the IFRC collaboration, the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society developed a membership benefits programme to attract and retain members. Additionally, the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society provided volunteer insurance through the IFRC Insurance Scheme, covering 75 active volunteers.



Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society established a Disciplinary and Compliance Committee in 2023 to address organizational challenges and improve transparency. This committee is working on mitigating operational constraints and addressing issues related to governance and integrity.

One of the critical measures taken to strengthen financial accountability was the completion of audits for the financial years 2020 to 2022. Conducted by the firm Pannel Kerr Foster, the audits revealed challenges stemming from legacy issues with the previous finance team. These included missing files, lack of proper documentation and incomplete schedules, which presented hurdles for the new finance officer. Despite these constraints, the audits were successfully concluded in 2023, with the auditors stating that the evidence obtained was sufficient and appropriate for the basis of their opinion.

To further address financial management issues, the National Society implemented measures to strengthen its financial systems. These included restructuring the finance team and hiring a new staff member to replace two previous positions. The new hire took on responsibilities for both finance management and resource mobilization, addressing existing inefficiencies and introducing improved processes. The finance team also tackled outstanding accounts payable and collaborated with suppliers to systematically reduce the balance, thus alleviating cash flow pressures.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

in Swiss francs (CHF)

Country		Funding Requirement		530,000
IFRC Secretariat	Emergency Operations	Funding		19,000
		Expenditure		19,000
	Longer-term	Funding Requirement		460,000
		Funding		155,000
		Expenditure		96,000
Participating National Societies		Funding Requirement		70,000
		Funding		291,000
		Expenditure		141,000

The Bahamas Red Cross Society

Overview

Funding		135,000
Expenditure		94,000

Funding Sources

IFRC Secretariat		135,000
Participating National Societies		<i>Not reported</i>
HNS other funding sources		<i>Not reported</i>

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Climate and environment	Implementing environmental or climate campaigns focused on behaviour change, plastic reduction or clean-ups?	Yes
Health and wellbeing	People reached by National Societies with contextually appropriate health services	
Values, power and inclusion	Is Community Engagement and Accountability integrated and institutionalized in the National Society policies, operations, and procedures (with clear benchmarks)?	Yes

ENABLING FUNCTIONS

Strategic and operational coordina..	Number of formal interagency/international coordination platforms the IFRC Network is part of	1
National Society development	National Society covers health, accident and death compensation for all of their volunteers	Yes
	Youth engagement strategy developed or in place	Yes
Humanitarian diplomacy	Participation in IFRC-led communication campaigns	Yes

IFRC NETWORK SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

National Society	Funding Reported	Climate and environment	Bilateral Support					Enabling Functions	Multilateral Support Through IFRC
			Disasters and crises	Health and wellbeing	Migration and displacement	Values, power and inclusion			
American Red Cross				●					
Canadian Red Cross Society	538,000		●					✓	
Netherlands Red Cross								✓	
Norwegian Red Cross								✓	

Total Funding Reported **CHF 538,000**

Key achievements

Climate and environment

In 2023, the Bahamas Red Cross Society engaged youth through its Junior Red Cross Links programme, integrating beach cleanups into its training curriculum. Students from five schools participated in two coastal cleanups, demonstrating the National Society's focus on community-based environmental action.

Disasters and crises

Despite challenges such as the resignation of its Disaster Manager and funding constraints, the Bahamas Red Cross Society advanced in disaster law advocacy. It participated in workshops and contributed to a virtual exhibition highlighting its role in disaster response, particularly in recovery from Hurricane Dorian. Advocacy for formal recognition of its auxiliary role in the Disaster Risk Management Act 2022 remains a priority.

Health and wellbeing

Health initiatives of the National Society in 2023 significantly increased COVID-19 vaccination rates. Activities included health fairs, vaccine pop-up clinics and community outreach across multiple islands. The National Society also responded to a dengue fever outbreak by promoting vector control measures and linking them to broader health advocacy efforts.

Values, power and inclusion

The Bahamas Red Cross Society embedded community engagement and accountability (CEA) approaches in its COVID-19 sensitization campaigns, promoting greater trust and encouraging vaccination uptake within communities.

Enabling local actors

Revenue-generating programmes such as first aid training expanded in 2023, strengthening financial sustainability. The Bahamas Red Cross Society also supported regional development through participation in the Caribbean Youth Network and leadership roles at the InterAmerican Conference. Volunteer welfare was prioritized with accident and injury insurance coverage for volunteers.

IFRC NETWORK ACTION

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Climate and environment

Progress by the National Society against objectives

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

In 2023, the Bahamas Red Cross Society worked with The Nature Conservancy (TNC) to assist several schools with beach clean ups. Beach clean ups were recently added to the training curriculum developed by the National Society to increase youth engagement in its programmes. The Junior Red Cross Links participated in two coastal and community clean-ups with the participation of students from five schools. However, the Nature Conservancy did not play a role in these clean-up activities.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the Bahamas Red Cross Society to strengthen its youth curriculum and develop projects that are responsive to the Bahamas' unique climate challenges.



Disasters and crises

For real-time information on emergencies, see the IFRC GO page [Bahamas](#)

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Bahamas Red Cross Society faced several challenges in implementing its disaster and crisis-related priorities in 2023, primarily due to funding limitations tied to reporting issues and the resignation of its Disaster Manager in May 2023. Despite these setbacks, the National Society progressed in certain areas, particularly in [disaster law](#) and advocacy.

National Societies expand their leadership in the field of Disaster Law

At the Preparedness for Emergency Response (PER) Workshop in January 2023, the Bahamas Red Cross Society was introduced to the Disaster Risk Management Act 2022. This workshop initiated critical discussions about the implications of the new legislation for the Bahamas Red Cross Society's [auxiliary role](#). Following these discussions, the National Society committed to collaborating with the Disaster Law Team to explore ways to strengthen its position within the country's disaster risk management framework.

In March 2023, a [Disaster Law Report](#) was published, analyzing the legal and policy framework for disaster recovery in The Bahamas. This report, which also reviewed the response to Hurricane Dorian and the provisions of the Disaster Risk Management Act, provided evidence-based recommendations for the Bahamas Red Cross Society to enhance its advocacy efforts. Both hard and soft copies of the report helped the Bahamas Red Cross Society in policy engagement.

In December 2023, the Bahamas Red Cross Society contributed to a [virtual exhibition](#) highlighting the importance of robust disaster law frameworks. The exhibition, part of the READY360° Project, featured video content from the Bahamas Red Cross Society on its role in Hurricane Dorian recovery and its advocacy for disaster law. Additionally,

previously published reports on unsolicited bilateral donations and disaster recovery in The Bahamas were included in this exhibition.

National Societies improve official recognition of their auxiliary role in disaster risk management

One major ongoing challenge is the absence of explicit recognition of the Bahamas Red Cross Society's auxiliary role in the Disaster Risk Management Act 2022. To address this, the Disaster Law Team developed a position paper to support the Bahamas Red Cross Society in advocating for official acknowledgment of its role in national disaster risk management frameworks. Meetings with the Bahamas Red Cross Society leadership laid the groundwork for a strategy to strengthen the National Society's legal base.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the Bahamas Red Cross Society in disaster law and advocacy in 2023. The IFRC collaborated with the Bahamas Red Cross Society through its Disaster Law Team to produce the Disaster Law Report, offering recommendations for legal and policy improvements. Additionally, the IFRC organized the virtual exhibition, which amplified the Bahamas Red Cross Society's contributions and emphasized the need for effective disaster law frameworks.

The IFRC also supported the development of the position paper advocating for the recognition of the Bahamas Red Cross Society's auxiliary role.



Health and wellbeing

Progress by the National Society against objectives

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

In 2023, the Bahamas Red Cross Society undertook efforts to improve community health outcomes, particularly through activities targeting COVID-19 vaccination and broader health awareness. At the start of the year, the COVID-19 vaccination rate in The Bahamas was 40 per cent. By July 2023, the Bahamas Red Cross Society's initiatives helped increase this rate to 56.2 per cent, moving closer to the World Health Organization's recommended 75 per cent target.

The Bahamas Red Cross Society collaborated with the Ministry of Health and Wellness to organize health fairs, vaccine pop-up clinics and community walkabouts. These activities reached various communities across North Abaco, Green Turtle Cay, Grand Bahama, Nassau and Arawak Cay. Partnerships with organizations such as the Bahamas Psychological Association provided vital psychosocial support through a hotline, while urban renewal and community policing agencies contributed to walkabout coordination. In the latter half of the year, the Bahamas Red Cross Society extended its vaccination efforts to new locations, including Abaco, Exuma and Eleuthera.

In August 2023, the focus shifted to ensuring students were vaccinated before the new school year. The National Society also implemented COVID-19 sensitization activities including bus rides for seniors in collaboration with urban renewal departments, constituency offices and health authorities. This outreach continued into November and December with additional vaccine pop-up clinics and community awareness drives.

In response to a surge in dengue fever cases reported in New Providence in September 2023, the Bahamas Red Cross Society engaged with the Department of Environmental Health to include vector control in their health initiatives. Health inspectors identified mosquito breeding sites, shared samples and educated communities about vector control and the relationship between dengue and COVID-19. Messaging emphasized how COVID-19 vaccination could reduce complications for individuals with chronic or infectious diseases, contributing to increased vaccine acceptance among hesitant populations.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the Bahamas Red Cross Society in its health initiatives by providing technical guidance, resources and coordination support.

Additionally, the IFRC's capacity-building support helped the Bahamas Red Cross Society improve its ability to manage multi-sectoral health programmes, ensuring alignment with international best practices.



Values, power and inclusion

Progress by the National Society against objectives

Through the COVID-19 sensitization activities conducted with communities, the Bahamas Red Cross Society integrated community engagement and accountability (CEA) approaches to engage communities and to encourage community members to obtain COVID-19 and other routine vaccinations.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the Bahamas Red Cross Society to effectively address gaps in health service delivery, particularly in remote Family Islands. The support from IFRC also encouraged innovative approaches to community engagement, such as sensitization activities tailored for vulnerable groups such as seniors and students.

ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS



Strategic and operational coordination

IFRC membership coordination

IFRC membership coordination involves working with National Societies to assess the humanitarian context, agree on common priorities and jointly develop common strategies. This includes addressing issues such as obtaining greater humanitarian acceptance and access, mobilizing funding and other resources, clarifying consistent public messaging, and monitoring progress. It also entails ensuring that strategies and programmes in support of people in need incorporate clarity of humanitarian action while linking with development assistance and contribute to reinforcing National Societies in their respective countries, including through their auxiliary role.

The Bahamas Red Cross Society receives long-term support from the **American Red Cross** and the **Canadian Red Cross Society**.

The **French Red Cross**, through the Regional Intervention Platform for the Americas and the Caribbean (PIRAC), works in Eastern Caribbean countries under the Ready Together project in international disaster response law and civil military activities, as well as in climate change adaptation and disaster preparedness activities. The National Society signed on to the Caribbean Technical Advisory on First Aid and the Working Group on Curriculum and Standards. Two first aid representatives attended meetings and have been reviewing the Caribbean first aid manual as part of the READY360° project of PIRAC and the [Global First Aid Reference Centre](#). The Canadian Red Cross is assisting the National Society with writing and finalizing the document.

Movement coordination

The Bahamas 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](#).

The **ICRC** supports the Bahamas Red Cross Society in its work on [restoring family links](#) and tracing, primarily in the areas of migration, and in promoting [international humanitarian law](#) through its Caracas regional delegation.

External coordination

The Bahamas Red Cross Society is also one of eight National Societies which became a member of the Caribbean Technical Advisory Group on First Aid on 26 April 2023. According to the team charter, the working group was created to use the collective efforts in first aid training in the Caribbean, for optimal income generation through the improvement of

standards, quality and education. The focus for the technical advisory group is on the standardization of a regional first aid curriculum, developed specifically for the Caribbean to address the evolving crises of the Caribbean.

The Bahamas Red Cross Society also collaborated with the Ministry of Health and Wellness, the Bahamas Psychological Association, the Department of Environmental Health, Anns Town Clinic, the Department of Environmental Health Services, the Free Town Urban Renewal, the Community Policing (Royal Bahamas Police Force) and the Ministry of Education for its various initiatives.

The IFRC leads the Shelter Cluster in the Bahamas. The Global Shelter Cluster (GSC) is an Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) coordination mechanism and IFRC has been leading the shelter cluster in disaster contexts since the establishment of the cluster approach in 2005. This critical mandate places IFRC as one of the lead agencies in the international humanitarian coordination system. The IFRC leverages its leadership position in the shelter cluster for improved coordination, stronger policies and standards across the sector and better support for affected people in their recovery. The Global Shelter Cluster and country Shelter Clusters work collectively with national response actors, including local and national governments, to support people with timely, effective and predictable shelter and settlement responses.



National Society development

Progress by the National Society against objectives

National Societies improve their financial sustainability through investment and leadership engagement in the three pillars of financial sustainability (mission and strategy, resource mobilization, financial management)

In 2023, the Bahamas Red Cross Society focused on expanding revenue-generating programmes such as first aid training, lifeguarding and psychological first aid. This expansion has increased unrestricted income to support the National Society's core operations. The first aid programme saw significant growth due to training initiatives, including a training of trainers' workshop held in Antigua and Barbuda. Despite these advancements, challenges remain in maintaining consistent coaching and engagement in financial sustainability efforts. Following the election of a new governing board and President, coaching sessions with the first aid focal point were paused.

Youth, volunteers and young community-based drivers of change contribute to decision-making, innovation and strengthening the domestic network

The Bahamas Red Cross Society played an active role in regional youth development through the Caribbean Youth Network, which finalized its Terms of Reference in February 2023. A new Coordinating National Society, represented by the Jamaica Red Cross, was elected, enabling greater collaboration and advocacy for youth matters. The Bahamas Red Cross Society's youth representative contributed to this reactivation and will continue to use this platform for networking, knowledge-sharing and community engagement.

Needs and contributions of young people from all backgrounds are well understood by leadership and are accurately reflected in the National Society's strategic and operational plans and programme delivery

The Bahamas Red Cross Society supported the participation of three youth delegates—Gabrielle Johnson, Nathan Dames and Deja Rigby—at the InterAmerican Conference hosted in Nassau from 6 to 8 June 2023. The Youth Encounter preceding the conference fostered discussions on challenges and opportunities for youth leadership across the Americas. These delegates now advocate for youth initiatives, providing ongoing support to the National Society's Youth and Volunteer Manager.

Mechanisms are strengthened to protect volunteers, promote their psychosocial wellbeing, and provide support to those killed, injured, and their families

To strengthen volunteer protection, the Bahamas Red Cross Society secured accident and injury insurance for 500 volunteers. This comprehensive plan includes benefits for accidents, injuries, and death, ensuring the welfare and security of its volunteer workforce.

IFRC network joint support





The IFRC provided business coaching sessions that helped in expanding first aid services, directly contributing to increased revenue for the National Society. The IFRC also facilitated training opportunities, including the training of trainers' programme.

Additionally, the IFRC supported the reactivation of the Caribbean Youth Network and its alignment with the Global Youth Commission. The IFRC insurance scheme improved volunteer protection.

BARBADOS


FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

in Swiss francs (CHF)


Country	Funding Requirement		90,000
IFRC Secretariat	Longer-term Funding Requirement		90,000
	Funding		50,000
	Expenditure		47,000

The Barbados Red Cross Society





Overview

Funding		78,000
Expenditure	<i>Not reported</i>	

Funding Sources

IFRC Secretariat		78,000
Participating National Societies	<i>Not reported</i>	
HNS other funding sources	<i>Not reported</i>	

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Climate and environment	Implementing environmental or climate campaigns focused on behaviour change, plastic reduction or clean-ups?	Yes
	People reached with activities to address environmental problems	
Disasters and crises	People reached with disaster risk reduction	
Health and wellbeing	People reached by National Societies with contextually appropriate health services	
	People trained by National Societies in first aid	

ENABLING FUNCTIONS

National Society development	One National Society Development plan in place	Yes
Humanitarian diplomacy	Participation in IFRC-led communication campaigns	Yes
Accountability and agility	National Society have strengthened their integrity and reputational risk mechanisms	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	Bilateral Support							Multilateral Support
	Funding Reported	Climate and environment	Disasters and crises	Health and wellbeing	Migration and displacement	Values, power and inclusion	Enabling Functions	Through IFRC
Japanese Red Cross Society			●					✓
Swedish Red Cross								✓

Key achievements

Climate and environment

The Barbados Red Cross Society addressed water scarcity and waste management by organizing a gully cleanup near Speightstown, involving volunteers to protect a key watershed. Initiatives included plans to recycle organic waste from the Meals on Wheels programme for fertilizer and growing crops for reuse in the programme, promoting sustainability. A volunteer received training in climate-smart livelihoods to strengthen local resilience to climate impacts.

Disasters and crises

The National Society trained Community Disaster Response Team (CDRT) members in practical disaster response through hybrid training and simulations. Progress was made on disaster management, with draft operating procedures for maintaining critical tools and a training manual submitted for review. Efforts to enhance emergency response systems, including inventory management and security systems, also advanced.

Health and wellbeing

New trainers were certified in psychological first aid, enhancing the capacity for community support. First aid instructor training added nine certified instructors, supporting international standards. Community health activities included consultations on non-communicable disease prevention and sponsorship of dyslexia awareness events.

Enabling local actors

The National Society focused on financial sustainability by diversifying revenue streams, including commercial first aid, thrift shop operations and e-commerce initiatives. Strategic plans for 2023–2025 were approved, and funding proposals for volunteer engagement and Meals on Wheels redesign were submitted. Volunteer recruitment and retention were prioritized, with new management systems and engagement events. Youth participation in regional events such as the InterAmerican Conference helped shape leadership and advocacy strategies. The Barbados Red Cross Society introduced digital tools such as “Better Impact” software for volunteer management and enhanced data-driven approaches for programme evaluation.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Climate and environment

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2023, the Barbados Red Cross Society focused on water scarcity and waste management. Two volunteers were designated as focal points for climate and environmental activities, and they led a cleanup of a gully near Speightstown, mobilizing a team of 12 volunteers to participate. This initiative not only promoted local environmental awareness but also reduced pollution in a vital watershed area.

To address issues of sustainability, the focal points initiated plans to repurpose organic waste generated from Barbados Red Cross Society's Meals on Wheels programme as fertilizer for crops grown at the Barbados Red Cross Society headquarters. These crops, in turn, are used in the Meals on Wheels programme, thus supporting a closed-loop approach in food production and waste reduction. The focal points identified water scarcity as a key challenge for the island, and preliminary plans were made to find ways of increasing community access to water.

In July 2023, one Barbados Red Cross Society volunteer received training in climate-smart livelihoods, equipping them with knowledge on resilient livelihood practices that can be applied in Barbados. This training is expected to play an important role in shaping future Barbados Red Cross Society initiatives aimed at strengthening local resilience to climate impacts. However, two planned activities including developing a Climate Change Policy and a composting-focused micro-mitigation project could not be implemented due to staffing constraints.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided support to the Barbados Red Cross Society in 2023 by facilitating the climate-smart livelihoods training for capacity-building of the National Society.



Disasters and crises

For real-time information on emergencies, see the IFRC GO page, [Barbados](#)

Progress by the National Society against objectives

Communities take action to increase their resilience to evolving and multiple shocks and hazards

In 2023, the Barbados Red Cross Society conducted Community Disaster Response Teams (CDRT) hybrid training between 23 September and 1 October. This training included 27 participants from the Orange Hill, St. Andrew, Charles Rowe Bridge, St. George North, Bath/Welch and St. John communities, as well as representatives from the Barbados Professional Social Workers Association. The final day featured a mass casualty simulation, providing participants with practical, hands-on experience in disaster response scenarios.

In December 2023, a CDRT closing ceremony was held for 35 participants out of 37 previously trained. These participants represented five community-based organizations: the National Assistance Board, St. Andrew, Barbados Association of Social Workers, St. Michael North and St. John.

Additionally, a community engagement meeting was conducted in September 2023 in St. George North. This meeting focused on the implementation of warning signs in a flood-prone area, with the physical installation scheduled for the first quarter of 2024.

National Societies respond effectively to the wide spectrum of evolving crises and disasters and leverage their auxiliary role in emergency response

The Barbados Red Cross Society aimed to complete its preparedness for effective response (PER) review in October 2023. However, this activity was deferred to 2024 due to competing priorities.

The installation of security systems was finalized in August 2023, and 85 per cent of the back-end data for the inventory system was populated. Completion of data input, focusing on stock within contingency containers, is ongoing. Once finalized, training for staff and volunteers on managing and troubleshooting the system will be conducted.

A draft standard operating procedure for maintaining vehicles, generators and power tools was developed and submitted to the governing board for review. A Disaster Response Management Training Manual was also submitted to management for review and feedback.



Health and wellbeing

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In June 2023, the Barbados Red Cross Society trained a total of eight instructors in psychological first aid. First aid training is also a key line of income generation for the National Society.

The Barbados Red Cross Society conducted a first aid instructor training in August 2023. The training produced a cadre of nine new and recertified instructors. As mandated by the International Liaison Committee on resuscitation, continuous evidence evaluation process is paramount to ensure timely delivery and dissemination of the highest quality of pedagogy backed by science in accordance with international standards. The trainers were certified for two years, after which recertification is necessary to maintain a quality first aid product.

In September, the Director General participated in Stakeholder Consultation held by the Ministry of Health on “Caribbean Moves: An Initiative to Reduce Non-Communicable Disease”.

In October, the National Society provided sponsorship and first aid support to Spark Learning on their second annual dyslexia hike. It is important to highlight that October is Dyslexia Awareness Month.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the Barbados Red Cross Society with technical guidance. The National Society was also assisted by the **Dominica Red Cross Society** to conduct the first aid instructor training in August 2023.

ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS



Strategic and operational coordination

IFRC membership coordination

IFRC membership coordination involves working with National Societies to assess the humanitarian context, agree on common priorities and jointly develop common strategies. This includes addressing issues such as obtaining greater humanitarian acceptance and access, mobilizing funding and other resources, clarifying consistent public messaging, and monitoring progress. It also entails ensuring that strategies and programmes in support of people in need incorporate clarity of humanitarian action while linking with development assistance and contribute to reinforcing National Societies in their respective countries, including through their auxiliary role.

In the Dutch and English-speaking Caribbean, various established national and regional mechanisms provide space for coordination and knowledge sharing. Those include, most prominently, the Red Cross Caribbean Disaster Risk Management Cell (CADRIM), which takes the lead in building and contributing knowledge and providing services to the IFRC network in the Caribbean, as well as contributes to the Americas and globally. CADRIM actively works towards the development of evidence, data and research on how to strengthen community resilience through sustainable preparedness and risk reduction activities, particularly in small island developing states.

Movement coordination

The Barbados 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](#).

The ICRC supports the Barbados Red Cross Society in its work on [restoring family links](#) and tracing, primarily in the areas of migration, and in promoting [international humanitarian law](#) through its Caracas regional delegation.

External coordination

In 2021, the IFRC signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre, and it is expected that more will be signed by the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States, the University of the West Indies, Cavehill Campus in Barbados, and the Digicel Group.

The Barbados Red Cross Society also collaborates with the Ministry of Health for its various health initiatives.



National Society development

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2023, the Barbados Red Cross Society prioritized the development of an Operational Plan for 2024, aimed at achieving three strategic goals, including strengthening its position as a strong, well-structured, responsive and sustainable National Society. This objective focuses on implementing enhanced governance structures to boost operational efficiency, ensuring the National Society is agile and impactful in addressing the needs of the Barbadian people.

National Societies improve their financial sustainability through investment and leadership engagement in the three pillars of financial sustainability (mission and strategy, resource mobilization, financial management)

The Barbados Red Cross Society strengthened its financial sustainability through diversification of income streams and targeted capacity-building initiatives. Expansion efforts included increasing revenue from the first aid service, thrift shop operations and the profit-generating component of the Meals on Wheels programme.

Efforts were made to revamp the website and integrate e-commerce. The updated platform will support online donations, an online vintage store and digital fundraising campaigns. The National Society held a jumble sale as a fundraiser, but maximum participation was hindered due to competing events.

Innovation training sessions in August explored solutions to financial sustainability challenges. Using design thinking exercises, participants brainstormed new services, including disaster management training. The National Society began developing a business model canvas and feasibility assessment for the proposed service, with implementation set for September 2023.

Operational and strategic planning was also prioritized, with completed operational plans and budgets approved by the governing board for the period of 2023–2025. Additionally, the Barbados Red Cross Society prepared funding proposals, including one for a Capacity Building Fund ([CBF](#)) grant centred on commercial first aid and volunteer engagement, and another for redesigning the Meals on Wheels programme, submitted to the Maria Holder Trust.

Youth, volunteers and young community-based drivers of change contribute to decision-making, innovation and strengthening the domestic network

The National Society reported a shortage of volunteers, which limited activity implementation. To address this, the Barbados Red Cross Society hosted “A Taste of the Red Cross” in November, aiming to recruit, orient and re-engage volunteers. During the event, the National Society introduced the proposed “Traffic Light System” for volunteer engagement and development.

Needs and contributions of young people from all backgrounds are well understood by leadership and are accurately reflected in National Societies’ strategic and operational plans and programme delivery

Drafts of a Volunteer Management Development System and a Volunteer eBook were submitted for review, signalling progress in formalizing volunteer processes. Youth engagement was also strengthened through participation in the InterAmerican Conference and the Youth Encounter. A youth delegate represented the National Society, engaging with peers from the region to discuss challenges, gain insights and strategize future actions.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the Barbados Red Cross Society in the development of their Operational Plan for 2024 which entails strengthening partnerships. The IFRC also supported in identifying local partnership opportunities and leveraging socio-economic contexts for resource mobilization. The IFRC also supported the development of proposals for the CBF grant and the Maria Holder Trust.

Coaching sessions by the IFRC strengthened the National Society leadership's understanding of financial sustainability, resource mobilization, risk management and performance monitoring. The IFRC helped integrate youth representation and volunteer engagement into strategic planning.

The **Dominica Red Cross Society** supported the Barbados Red Cross Society in revamping the website and integrate e-commerce.



Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In alignment with its Operational Plan for 2024, the Barbados Red Cross Society emphasized improving external communication and partnerships by adopting consistent programme monitoring and evaluation practices. This included the systematic collection and analysis of data to inform decisions, refine programme strategies, and enhance stakeholder engagement. These measures were designed to promote transparency, enable data-driven decision-making, and create a feedback loop for continuous improvement.

National Societies advance scalable data-driven and digitally enabled humanitarian services and core enabling processes

The Barbados Red Cross Society introduced the volunteer management software 'Better Impact' to improve volunteer engagement and management. Following the initial trial phase, the software was purchased and integrated into the National Society. However, many features remain underutilized, with focal points actively exploring the platform's full capabilities. Efforts are ongoing to ensure that staff and volunteers receive adequate training to maximize the tool's potential for building a more connected and productive volunteer base.











Plans to revamp the organization's website were delayed due to shifting priorities. The intended improvements included updated graphics, detailed accounts of ongoing humanitarian efforts, and integrated functionality for donations and service payments. These upgrades are now slated for reassessment and potential implementation in 2024.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the Barbados Red Cross Society with strategic guidance for operational planning and data-driven approaches. The IFRC facilitated knowledge-sharing sessions to strengthen digital and technological capabilities, particularly in volunteer management and external communication. The IFRC also provided expertise in developing scalable and digitally enabled processes.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

in Swiss francs (CHF)


Country	Funding Requirement		581,000	
IFRC Secretariat	Emergency Operations	Funding	 25,000	
		Expenditure	 25,000	
	Longer-term	Funding Requirement		266,000
		Funding	 58,000	
		Expenditure	 60,000	
	Participating National Societies	Funding Requirement	 40,000	
Funding		 726		
Expenditure		 82		
HNS other funding sources	Funding Requirement		276,000	

Belize Red Cross Society






Overview

Funding		169,000
Expenditure		169,000

Funding Sources

IFRC Secretariat		169,000
Participating National Societies	<i>Not reported</i>	
HNS other funding sources	<i>Not reported</i>	

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Climate and environment	People reached with activities to address environmental problems	18
	People reached with activities to address rising climate risks	25
Disasters and crises	People reached per year with support services, in-kind, cash and voucher assistance for emergency response and recovery	 2,000
	People reached with disaster risk reduction	75
	People reached with livelihoods support	 2,000
	People reached with shelter support	 6,000
Health and wellbeing	People reached by National Societies with contextually appropriate health services	 186
	People reached by National Societies with contextually appropriate water, sanitation and hygiene services	 2,000
	People reached with psychosocial and mental health services	4

Migration and displacement	Migrants and displaced persons reached with services for assistance and protection	5
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	200
	People reached by RCRC educational programmes	15
	People whose access to education is facilitated through National Society programming	65

ENABLING FUNCTIONS

Strategic and operational coordina..	Number of formal interagency/international coordination platforms the IFRC Network is part of	1
National Society development	Youth engagement strategy developed or in place	Yes
Humanitarian diplomacy	Participation in IFRC-led communication campaigns	Yes
Accountability and agility	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	Climate and environment	Bilateral Support					Enabling Functions	Multilateral Support
			Disasters and crises	Health and wellbeing	Migration and displacement	Values, power and inclusion	Through IFRC		
British Red Cross								✓	
Canadian Red Cross Society	1,000								
French Red Cross								✓	
Swiss Red Cross	251								

Total Funding Reported **CHF 2,000**

Key achievements

Climate and environment

In 2023, the Belize Red Cross Society advanced its role in eco-friendly disaster risk reduction (Eco-DRR) by training volunteers and staff, forming strategic partnerships, and developing a three-year roadmap. Community micro-projects such as Maya nut processing and bamboo farming promoted sustainable livelihoods. Additionally, new canoes and engines were provided to enhance community resilience.

Disasters and crises

Early warning systems were strengthened through stakeholder collaboration and training, while Community Disaster Response Teams (CDRTs) were formally established. The National Society exceeded targets in Hurricane Lisa recovery, assisting with cash, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) and shelter support. It also contributed to disaster law discussions at the regional level.

Health and wellbeing

Key health initiatives included mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) training, wheelchair distribution and a blood drive. These efforts improved community access to essential health services, mobility solutions and emergency medical preparedness.

Migration and displacement

The Migration Information Hub offered migrants crucial resources for integration and legal processes. The National Society facilitated family reunifications and provided tailored first aid training for migrant communities, enhancing their resilience.

Values, power and inclusion

In 2023, the Belize Red Cross Society created child-friendly spaces and delivered skill-building initiatives, such as a sewing project for empowering women. Awareness events emphasized inclusivity, gender equality and disability rights, promoting diverse and respectful community engagement and accountability (CEA).

Enabling local actors

Strategic alignment and digital enhancements improved branch operations and financial management. Youth participation grew through new volunteer groups and leaders engaged in regional networks and conferences. Advocacy efforts included legal reforms to support the Belize Red Cross Society operations and humanitarian diplomacy.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Climate and environment

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Belize Red Cross Society, as part of its involvement in the 'Mainstreaming ecosystem-based disaster risk reduction (Eco-DRR) in the Caribbean' project, focused on building its capacity to implement nature-based solutions. This included identifying new partnerships and strengthening its collaboration with key national stakeholders, especially through a new Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the National Emergency Management Organization (NEMO). This MoU established a framework for future collaborations in climate adaptation efforts.

Communities and Red Cross and Red Crescent (RCRC) staff and volunteers undertake urgent action to adapt to the rising

and evolving risks from the climate and environmental crises

The Belize Red Cross Society supported community education and adaptation through training and capacity-building initiatives. Five volunteers and two staff members from branches in Corozal, Toledo and San Pedro were trained in Eco-DRR, gaining skills in applying nature-based solutions to increase resilience. Additionally, the Belize Red Cross Society assessed the country's policies, laws and data, identifying gaps and opportunities for Eco-DRR efforts. Based on this analysis, the National Society developed a three-year road map that outlines steps for future Eco-DRR actions, with support from partners such as NEMO. This roadmap is expected to help mobilize resources and build long-term resilience.

Furthering its engagement in climate-focused initiatives, the Belize Red Cross Society launched the Belize Green Climate Fund Country Programme on February 10, 2023, submitting a concept note currently under review by the Green Climate Fund. On 14 September 2023, the Belize Red Cross Society participated in a webinar on [anticipatory action](#), where members discussed the growing impact of climate change on education and strategies to mitigate disruptions through [early action](#) and financial mechanisms.

Empowering youth was also a priority for the Belize Red Cross Society, with a student leader from Saint John's College representing the National Society at the [Y-Adapt programme](#) launch in 2023.

The Belize Red Cross Society also implemented various community micro-projects focused on climate resilience and environmental conservation. In November, eighteen Belize Red Cross Society staff and volunteers attended a Maya Nut Processing demonstration, which covered the process from drying to packaging and explored using solar drying for food preservation and food security. To support this initiative, the Belize Red Cross Society procured processing equipment, including a grinder and packaging materials, to aid the Maya Nut Group in food storage and income generation.

The Belize Red Cross Society hosted additional activities to promote sustainable practices. On 19 November, staff and volunteers, alongside 18 Maya Nut Group farmers, toured the Bamboo Ranch in Rancho Dolores, learning about bamboo as a renewable resource for construction and climate change mitigation. Later in November, a composting training in Harmony Ville demonstrated sustainable composting techniques to 18 participants from various community organizations, with discussions on plastic pollution and its impacts on the environment.

The Belize Red Cross Society also delivered four canoes and outboard engines to the Freetown Sibun Community as part of an approved micro-project. These assets are expected to enhance community resilience and local livelihoods.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided the Belize Red Cross Society with training and technical support in Eco-DRR and nature-based solutions. Additionally, the IFRC facilitated knowledge-sharing opportunities by hosting the anticipatory action webinar. The IFRC also supported the Belize Red Cross Society by ensuring its participation in the IFRC's Y-Adapt programme launch.



Disasters and crises

For real-time information on emergencies, see the IFRC GO page, [Belize](#)

Progress by the National Society against objectives

Communities take action to increase their resilience to evolving and multiple shocks and hazards environmental crises

The Belize Red Cross Society participated in the Alert Hub Project to enhance [early warning systems](#) through the Common Alerting Protocol (CAP). An initial stakeholder meeting in February 2023 introduced local partners to the project. This was followed by a Public Awareness Public Education (PAPE) workshop in April 2023, where stakeholders developed action-oriented messages for disaster preparedness and risk reduction.

In collaboration with the Belize Water Resource Authority, the National Society expanded sensory equipment to measure river levels in flood-prone areas, empowering adjacent communities to better plan and protect livelihoods, particularly in livestock management.

Training for Community Disaster Response Teams (CDRTs) in Freetown Sibun was completed, with thirty community members equipped to support emergency response. A graduation ceremony marked the formal integration of these teams into the national response framework.

Two Belize Red Cross Society youths joined the Caribbean and Americas Region Youth Disaster Risk Reduction Committee in 2023. This platform encourages youth participation in disaster risk reduction, supported by key global partners.

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

The Belize Red Cross Society provided post-[Hurricane Lisa](#) support to over 5,500 individuals, exceeding its target. Assistance included water, sanitation and hygiene ([WASH](#)) interventions, multipurpose cash assistance and shelter support. A total of 352 households (approximately 1760 people) received financial support through cash and voucher assistance ([CVA](#)), with an additional 52 approved. The National Society also advanced its cash preparedness programme by engaging financial institutions to explore cost-effective CVA delivery.

The Belize Red Cross Society participated in planning sessions with the National Disaster Office and contributed to the first youth disaster risk reduction symposium. Volunteers engaged in lessons learned from Hurricane Lisa and preparation for future disasters.

National Societies expand their leadership in the field of Disaster Law

The Belize Red Cross Society served as Deputy Chair of the Regional International Disaster Response Law (IDRL) Working Group. This role included coordinating the Second Caribbean IDRL Workshop, which identified gaps in [disaster law](#) and proposed improvements to regional frameworks. Additionally, the National Society worked with government authorities on IDRL discussions, with workshops planned for 2024.

In December 2023, the Belize Red Cross Society participated in a [virtual exhibition](#) showcasing the work of National Societies in responding to disasters and the importance of a strong disaster law and policy framework under the READY360° Project.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided strategic guidance and resources to strengthen disaster preparedness and response in Belize. This included facilitating workshops, such as the PAPE session and supporting CDRT integration into national frameworks.

The IFRC also supported in advancing the Alert Hub Initiative and enhancing early warning systems through its global partnerships. It assisted the National Society in the planning of IDRL workshops, ensuring alignment with international standards and advocating for stronger legal frameworks to support disaster management in Belize.

The IFRC launched the virtual exhibition in collaboration with CADRIM and the **French Red Cross** through its Regional Intervention Platform for the Americas and the Caribbean (PIRAC).



Health and wellbeing

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Belize Red Cross Society participated in psychosocial support training sessions organized by the Pan American Health Organization. Four volunteers and the Volunteer and Youth Development Manager completed two in-person sessions in August 2023, along with a virtual training component focused on road safety and addressing the psychosocial impact of traffic accidents. One volunteer, Ms. Mariett Romero, further completed a Training of Trainers module, becoming a certified Psychosocial First Aid Facilitator for the Belize Red Cross Society.

In May 2023, the Belize Red Cross Society launched a wheelchair distribution programme after receiving 339 wheelchairs from the Jesus Christ Church of Latter-Day Saints. Assessors and technicians were trained by the donor to support proper distribution and use. To date, 186 wheelchairs have been distributed to individuals with disabilities

and limited mobility. Additionally, the National Society provided wheelchair etiquette training to Tropic Air staff, ensuring improved handling and support for passengers requiring mobility assistance.

In November 2023, the Belize Red Cross Society initiated discussions with Medical Equipment and Supplies of America to explore partnerships in providing supplies for its first aid and homecare programmes. The focus of this collaboration is transitioning from in-kind donations to cash-based contributions to better meet programme needs.

The Belize Red Cross Society supported a blood drive in November 2023 in collaboration with the National Blood Bank, the Rotaract Club of Belize City, and the University of the West Indies Open Campus. A blood stock database was created to manage and track deposits, improving efficiency in supporting healthcare needs.



Migration and displacement

Progress by National Society against objectives

The Belize Red Cross Society continued to operate its Migration Information Hub, focusing on providing critical support to migrants, particularly in the Cayo District. This initiative assists migrants with the information needed for regularization. The San Ignacio Branch played a pivotal role in engaging and supporting migrants through this Hub, in partnership with the International Organization for Migration (IOM). The Hub marked its third year of operation in September 2023, with plans for a renewed agreement to continue the partnership into 2024.

Through its restoring family links (RFL) focal point, the Belize Red Cross Society provided essential tracing services to families seeking to reconnect with loved ones, such as a New York resident was successfully reunited with his son in Punta Gorda, Toledo District, a Danish family and a Honduran family were assisted in their searches, although their efforts to locate missing loved ones were unsuccessful.

The Belize Red Cross Society also facilitated tracing activities. It responded to requests regarding Belizean families experiencing illness or death, providing information that allowed the release of U.S. military personnel to travel home during these emergencies. In 2023, the National Society processed five such requests for military personnel with family members in Belize.

In December 2023, the Belize Red Cross Society, in collaboration with IOM, provided first aid training specifically tailored for migrants. This training helped empower migrant communities with essential skills to address medical emergencies, enhancing their resilience and integration into local communities.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided indirect support through its broader initiatives to strengthen the capacities of National Societies in migration and displacement. The Belize Red Cross Society facilitated tracing activities for the **American Red Cross**.

The ICRC supports the National Society in its restoring family links services.



Values, power and inclusion

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In July 2023, the Belize Red Cross Society created child-friendly spaces in summer camps to engage children of different age groups. A total of sixty-five children participated in initiatives including the Port Loyola Summer Camp engaging children, the HUB Summer Camp focusing on youth, the Turton Library Summer Camp again catering to children. These spaces provided safe environments for children and youth to interact and grow through structured activities.

In May, the National Society partnered with the British Army Training Support Unit Belize to distribute over 120 cooked meals to older persons, individuals with disabilities and the homeless. The beneficiaries were from neighbourhoods including the Red Cross community, St. Martin's area and the Mental Health Resource Centre.

The Corozal Branch of the National Society concluded a three-month sewing project starting on 22 June, which was facilitated by volunteer Ms. Amareli Teck. Eighteen women participated, and fifteen successfully completed the programme. The course focused on basic sewing skills, garment repairs and creating bags, aiming to enhance socio-economic opportunities for female-led households. Plans are underway to expand this initiative with advanced sewing classes and to make the project permanent.

The Belize Red Cross Society also organized and participated in several awareness and advocacy events throughout the year including the protection, gender and inclusion (PGI) workshops in August that promoted inclusive leadership, emphasizing diverse perspectives and fostering a sense of belonging among staff. The workshop highlighted “Do No Harm” principles, focusing on standards to protect vulnerable populations and mitigate harm. Discussions on diversity and inclusion concerning disabilities and sexual orientation were also carried out.

The National Society participated in the World Food Programme Training in August that explored methodologies for vulnerability assessments and social protection systems, targeting effective beneficiary inclusion. The Belize Red Cross Society also participated in the People with Disabilities Awareness Session that focused on respectful language and infrastructure requirements to uphold the dignity of individuals with disabilities. Other workshops that the National Society participated in 2023 include a United Nations Population Fund session on gender equality and diversity held in November that highlighted the need for workplace policies ensuring fairness, transparency and accountability, and a march against gender-based violence emphasizing a zero-tolerance approach to gender-based violence, marking the start of 16 days of activism.

In November 2023, the National Society hosted a virtual training on the [minimum standards for PGI](#). The training covered areas such as emergency health, food security, WASH and shelter. Emphasis was placed on dignity, access, safety and participation, with guidance on PGI planning and institutional integration.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided strategic and operational guidance in developing tools and methodologies to mainstream [PGI principles](#) across all activities of the National Society.

ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS



Strategic and operational coordination

IFRC membership coordination

IFRC membership coordination involves working with National Societies to assess the humanitarian context, agree on common priorities and jointly develop common strategies. This includes addressing issues such as obtaining greater humanitarian acceptance and access, mobilizing funding and other resources, clarifying consistent public messaging, and monitoring progress. It also entails ensuring that strategies and programmes in support of people in need incorporate clarity of humanitarian action while linking with development assistance and contribute to reinforcing National Societies in their respective countries, including through their auxiliary role.

In the Dutch and English-speaking Caribbean, various established national and regional mechanisms provide space for coordination and knowledge sharing. Those include, most prominently, the Red Cross Caribbean Disaster Risk Management Cell (CADRIM), which takes the lead in building and contributing knowledge and providing services to the IFRC network in the Caribbean, as well as contributes to the Americas and globally.

The National Society also became a participant in the [Global First Aid Reference Centre READY360°](#) project lead by the **French Red Cross**, which allocates funding to enhance the quality of their first aid services.

Movement coordination

The Belize 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](#).

The ICRC supports the Belize Red Cross Society in its work on [restoring family links](#) and tracing, primarily in the areas of migration, and in promoting [international humanitarian law](#) through its Caracas regional delegation.

External coordination

National Societies enhance their coordination and collaboration with key national and sub-national stakeholders including authorities, civil society, the private sector, and research institutions

The Belize Red Cross Society conducted meetings to address gaps in skilled corporate volunteers. Three organizations—the Scouts Association of Belize, Holy Redeemer Credit Union and the University of Belize—agreed to sign Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) to formalize partnerships. These collaborations aim to strengthen the National Society's mobilization of skilled volunteers, support income-generating initiatives such as first aid training and expand community outreach. Additionally, an informal agreement was established with St. John's College Junior College Servant Youth Leaders. The college's Student Affairs Coordinator offered volunteer support from its student leaders for Red Cross events.

In September 2023, the Belize Red Cross Society joined the Caribbean Technical Advisory Group on First Aid. Two representatives were appointed to participate in the group's initiatives and contribute to its Working Group on Curriculum and Standards. This engagement positions the National Society to play an active role in shaping first aid practices and standards across the region.



National Society development

Progress by the National Society against objectives

National Societies strengthen their network of branches and contribute to building a distributed network across the IFRC network

The Belize Red Cross Society conducted visits across the seven branches, where the Youth and Volunteer Manager presented the National Society's 5-year Strategic Plan, provided activity updates and facilitated orientation for new volunteers. These engagements helped reinforce the alignment of branch activities with the National Society's strategic goals. Efforts were concentrated on revitalizing the Orange Walk and San Pedro branches, which are currently inactive. Headquarters is working closely with these branches to identify potential leaders and facilitate elections for new Executive Committees.

National Societies improve their financial sustainability through investment and leadership engagement in the three pillars of financial sustainability (mission and strategy, resource mobilization, financial management)

The Belize Red Cross Society improved its operational efficiency and capacity through a series of transformative measures. Digital tools such as financial software (QuickBooks), laptops and a printer were procured, enhancing financial management and access to information. The Headquarters underwent retrofitting, which included acquiring essential furniture and equipment to better support its functions. Income-generating activities were strengthened with the renovation of the snack shop and the addition of durable chairs and tables for rentals.

Youth, volunteers and young community-based drivers of change contribute to decision-making, innovation and strengthening the domestic network

The Belize Red Cross Society contributed to the sub-regional reactivation of the Caribbean Youth Network, which finalized its working Terms of Reference and elected the Jamaica Red Cross as its coordinating body. Locally, the National Society promoted the creation of five new youth groups, one of which now has a functioning executive committee. High school orientations conducted in August increased the number of youth volunteers by 250. Youth participation was also highlighted during World Humanitarian Day, with volunteers sharing inspiring stories of their commitment to humanitarian work through video testimonials.

Needs and contributions of young people from all backgrounds are well understood by leadership and are accurately reflected in National Societies' strategic and operational plans and programme delivery

Furthering its commitment to youth empowerment, the Belize Red Cross Society facilitated the participation of a youth delegate at the InterAmerican Conference in the Bahamas. This opportunity allowed young leaders to engage in discussions about challenges, opportunities, and strategies to strengthen youth representation across the region.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the National Society in strengthening its operational and financial capacity. Through the IFRC Capacity Building Fund (CBF), the Belize Red Cross Society received crucial resources to improve its digital infrastructure and operational effectiveness.

The IFRC also assisted the Belize Red Cross Society in engaging in the Caribbean Technical Advisory Group on First Aid where the National Society appointed two representatives to contribute refining first aid curricula and standards for the region.



Humanitarian diplomacy

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2023, the Belize Red Cross Society participated in the Red Cross Inter-American Conference in June. During the conference, the National Society took part in a panel discussion titled 'Overcoming challenges in accessing international humanitarian assistance.' This workshop brought together National Societies from Belize, Dominica, Guatemala and Costa Rica, where experiences were shared regarding the challenges faced in collaborating with public authorities during emergencies. The discussion focused on topics such as dealing with unsolicited bilateral donations, navigating customs clearances and the importance of effective communication and information sharing with government agencies. The panel also emphasized the need for humanitarian diplomacy and advocacy, with a call for a robust legal framework that supports the International Disaster Response Laws (IDRL).

The Minister of Foreign Affairs for Belize, backed by the National Society and the Disaster Law Team, proposed an amendment to an Organization of American States (OAS) Resolution concerning the Human Rights Crisis in Nicaragua. This amendment was successfully adopted during the OAS General Assembly held in Washington D.C. in June 2023. The amendment expressed concern over the dissolution of the Red Cross in Nicaragua and underscored the importance of the Red Cross as an institution operating in 191 countries, advocating for its role in promoting human dignity and peace globally.

The Belize Red Cross Society also supported the initiation of negotiations between the Government of Belize and the IFRC regarding the signing of a Legal Status Agreement. This agreement is critical in ensuring that the National Society can operate with clear legal standing and continue its work in humanitarian assistance and disaster response.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the Belize Red Cross Society through its Disaster Law Team, facilitating the discussions and negotiations that led to the amendment of the OAS Resolution concerning Nicaragua.

The IFRC also supported the Belize Red Cross Society's engagement in the Red Cross Inter-American Conference, providing a platform for knowledge exchange and networking with other National Societies. Additionally, the IFRC's role in promoting collaboration between the Government of Belize and the Red Cross Movement was crucial in advancing the negotiations for the Legal Status Agreement, ensuring that the National Society's work continues to be recognized and supported at both national and international levels.



Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The National Society continued with prudent management of its financial resources. Timely financial reporting on the use of donor funding ensured the transfer of additional funding to complete key deliverables.

Additionally, the National Society engaged the Marion Usher Audit Firm for its annual audit, emphasizing its commitment to financial integrity.






Digital transformation in the form of software installation was done to improve networking between management and finance staff for increased levels of accountability, transparency and accuracy in financial management.






*The Belize Red Cross Society hosted a workshop in May 2023 to train its volunteers and staff to be technicians and assessors for its wheelchair project to distribute wheelchairs to those in need from different communities across Belize, funded by the Church of the Latter-Day Saints.
(Photo: Belize Red Cross)*



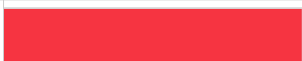
FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

in Swiss francs (CHF)

Country	Funding Requirement		476,000
IFRC Secretariat	Longer-term Funding Requirement		421,000
	Funding		94,000
	Expenditure		94,000
Participating National Societies	Funding Requirement		55,000

Dominica Red Cross Society			
Overview		Funding Sources	
Funding		106,000	IFRC Secretariat 
Expenditure		106,000	Participating National Societies <i>Not reported</i>
			HNS other funding sources <i>Not reported</i>

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Climate and environment	Implementing nature-based solutions (including those with a particular focus on the planting of trees and mangroves)?	Yes
	People reached with activities to address rising climate risks	
Disasters and crises	National Society is engaged in structured preparedness for response initiatives that inform/complement the National Society operational priorities	Yes
	People reached with disaster risk reduction	
Health and wellbeing	People trained by National Societies in first aid	

ENABLING FUNCTIONS

Strategic and operational coordina..	Number of formal interagency/international coordination platforms the IFRC Network is part of	1
National Society development	Youth engagement strategy developed or in place	Yes
Accountability and agility	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

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

Key achievements

Climate and environment

In 2023, the Dominica Red Cross Society focused on [nature-based solutions](#), initiating a tree-planting project in vulnerable areas to reduce landslide risks. Fruit trees were planted, with the local community committing to their care.

Disasters and crises

Disaster preparedness was enhanced through hazard sign installations, CDRT training and a community disaster plan in Bense. Infrastructure improvements included progress on the Portsmouth Branch facility. Workshops on alert messaging and stakeholder collaboration further strengthened emergency response capabilities. The National Society actively contributed to regional disaster law advancements, co-facilitating a workshop to address legal gaps. It also showcased lessons from Hurricane Maria in a virtual exhibition, highlighting the value of robust legal frameworks.

Health and wellbeing

[First aid](#) capacity was improved through advanced instructor training, benefiting diverse participants. Essential equipment reflecting Caribbean needs was added and individuals received first aid training, despite biennial fluctuations in figures.

Values, power and inclusion

Collaboration with the Kalinago Council advanced plans to establish a Red Cross group in the Kalinago Territory, with strong local and ministerial support ensuring inclusivity and CEA.

Enabling local actors

Volunteer management and branch development were prioritized. Innovative fundraising and new income streams, such as the Adventure First Aid programme, strengthened financial sustainability. Upgraded digital tools improved communication and training delivery, enhancing operational efficiency. Mechanisms such as the Solidarity Fund ensured volunteer well-being. Advocacy at the Inter-American Conference emphasized legal frameworks and humanitarian coordination, addressing logistical and bureaucratic challenges.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Climate and environment

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2023, the Dominica Red Cross Society actively pursued funding to implement nature-based solutions aimed at reducing environmental vulnerability across the country. This initiative aligns with Dominica's goal of becoming the world's first climate-resilient country.

During the first half of 2023, the Dominica Red Cross Society initiated a tree-planting project aimed at reducing the risks of landslides in vulnerable areas. Nine staff members and volunteers planted 20 fruit trees on a hillside in a community known for being prone to wildfires and landslides. These trees, when mature, are expected to provide stabilization to the soil and reduce the likelihood of landslides, particularly during heavy rainfall. The local community took ownership of the project by committing to maintain the trees.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supports the Dominica Red Cross Society's capacity to involve communities in contributing local insights and knowledge.

The **Japanese Red Cross Society** pledged to assist the Dominica Red Cross Society in the creation of a national climate risk assessment. This assessment is scheduled to begin in 2024.



Disasters and crises

For real-time information on emergencies, see the IFRC GO page, [Dominica](#)

Progress by the National Society against objectives

Communities take action to increase their resilience to evolving and multiple shocks and hazards environmental crises

The Dominica Red Cross Society worked with local authorities to identify hazardous areas and successfully erected eight warning signs in August—four for falling rocks and four for flood-prone zones in Loubiere. The Dominica Red Cross Society also collaborated with the Public Works Department to paint a pedestrian crossing on the busy highway in Loubiere, enhancing community safety.

The community of Bense benefited from comprehensive disaster readiness initiatives. A total of 20 individuals were trained as Community Disaster Response Teams (CDRTs), equipping them with knowledge on disaster management operations, first aid and community preparation. A simulation exercise was conducted with the Fire Department, the Office of Disaster Management and other stakeholders. A community disaster plan was also developed and presented to relevant authorities, including the Bense Village Council and the Parliamentary Representative.

National Societies respond effectively to the wide spectrum of evolving crises and disasters and their auxiliary role in disaster risk management is well defined and recognized

The Dominica Red Cross Society strengthened its disaster response infrastructure with the construction of the Portsmouth Branch facility, which will serve as a satellite warehouse. Although initial construction began in 2022, it advanced in 2023 with the installation of doors, windows and essential fittings. The remaining work, including septic tank installation and painting will be completed in 2024.

The Dominica Red Cross Society also organized an Alert Messaging Workshop with 25 participants from various government departments and organizations for effective emergency communication. This workshop focused on Common Alerting Protocols and structuring emergency messages. The National Society also hosted a Disaster

Stakeholders Symposium in June, bringing together representatives from 18 organizations to discuss collaborative approaches for the hurricane season.

National Societies expand their leadership in the field of Disaster Law

The Dominica Red Cross Society played an active role in advancing disaster law in the Caribbean. As a member of the Regional International Disaster Response Law (IDRL) Working Group, it contributed to creating a 2023-2024 work plan aimed at enhancing regional disaster management frameworks.

In November 2023, the Dominica Red Cross Society co-facilitated the Second Caribbean IDRL Workshop under the theme “Re-engineering the Caribbean regulatory framework for international disaster relief and humanitarian assistance.” With over 100 participants from CDEMA’s Participating States and other stakeholders, the workshop identified legal gaps and endorsed recommendations to improve disaster law. Promising developments included commitments from Belize, Guyana, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines to update their disaster management laws with IDRL considerations.

The Dominica Red Cross Society also participated in a virtual exhibition highlighting National Societies’ disaster response efforts and the importance of disaster law. Its contributions showcased the impact of strong disaster law frameworks, particularly through the lens of lessons learned from Hurricane Maria and ongoing disaster risk reduction efforts.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the Dominica Red Cross Society in the Regional IDRL Working Group and the coordination of the Second Caribbean IDRL Workshop through collaboration with CDEMA and other partners. The IFRC also contributed to the success of the virtual disaster law exhibition, showcasing the role of strong legal frameworks in disaster response.



Health and wellbeing

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2023, the Dominica Red Cross Society focused on enhancing its first aid capacity and services. In December, the National Society facilitated peer-to-peer training for first aid and adventure first aid instructors. This training programme equipped ten instructors with advanced skills to enhance their training delivery. Among these, two participants demonstrated remarkable potential: one instructor with a disability, who will offer specialized assistance to peers working with clients in his area of expertise, and a 17-year-old instructor, who will contribute to the school first aid programme in Grenada.

The Dominica Red Cross Society received essential first aid equipment, tailored to reflect the skin tones and needs of Caribbean populations. This addition improved the realism and inclusivity of training sessions. In 2023, the Dominica Red Cross Society provided first aid training to 277 individuals. This figure represented a decrease compared to 2022, attributable to a contractual agreement with the Ministry of Health. Under this agreement, the Dominica Red Cross Society provides first aid training to nurses on a biennial basis, resulting in alternating fluctuations in training figures each year.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supplied the Dominica Red Cross Society with new, inclusive first aid equipment through the Netherlands Business Service initiative.

In December, the **Grenada Red Cross** collaborated with the National Society to facilitate peer-to-peer training for first aid and adventure first aid instructors.



Values, power and inclusion

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In May 2023, a meeting was held with the Kalinago council regarding the establishment of a Red Cross group in the Kalinago Territory. Present at the meeting was the Minister of Kalinago Affairs, the Kalinago Chief, the Disaster Coordinator for the Dominica Red Cross, and members of the project team in the Ministry of Kalinago affairs. The Kalinago council is in support of this activity and has indicated that they will assist the Dominica Red Cross Society in forming this group. The Minister has also pledged his support for this activity in his community.

ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS



Strategic and operational coordination

IFRC membership coordination

IFRC membership coordination involves working with National Societies to assess the humanitarian context, agree on common priorities and jointly develop common strategies. This includes addressing issues such as obtaining greater humanitarian acceptance and access, mobilizing funding and other resources, clarifying consistent public messaging, and monitoring progress. It also entails ensuring that strategies and programmes in support of people in need incorporate clarity of humanitarian action while linking with development assistance and contribute to reinforcing National Societies in their respective countries, including through their auxiliary role.

In the Dutch and English-speaking Caribbean, various established national and regional mechanisms provide space for coordination and knowledge sharing. Those include, most prominently, the Red Cross Caribbean Disaster Risk Management Cell (CADRIM), which takes the lead in building and contributing knowledge and providing services to the IFRC network in the Caribbean, as well as contributes to the Americas and globally.

In September 2023, the National Society joined with nine other National Societies on the Working Group for Curriculum and standards of the Caribbean Technical Advisory Group on First Aid. The National Society is also co-chair of this working group.

The **French Red Cross**, through the Regional Intervention Platform for the Americas and the Caribbean of the French Red Cross (PIRAC), works in Eastern Caribbean countries under the Ready Together project in international disaster response law and civil military activities, as well as in climate change adaptation and disaster preparedness activities. The platform works with the Dominica Red Cross Society to train trainers and accredit National Society commercial first aid with the IFRC [Global First Aid Reference Centre](#).

The **Italian Red Cross** provides long-term support to the National Society for its climate and environment initiatives.

Movement coordination

The Dominica 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](#).

The **ICRC** supports the Dominica Red Cross Society in its work on [restoring family links](#) and tracing, primarily in the areas of migration, and in promoting [international humanitarian law](#) through its Caracas regional delegation.



Progress by the National Society against objectives

National Societies strengthen their network of branches and contribute to building a distributed network across the IFRC network

In May 2023, a multipurpose mission to the Dominica Red Cross Society was conducted to address branch development and volunteer management. Training sessions were held for branch leaders, focusing on improving volunteer management and creating a volunteer recognition plan to motivate and retain volunteers. Visits to the Delices and La Plaine branches provided insights into branch-specific challenges and accomplishments.

The Delices branch required mediation due to internal conflicts, with the Director General and Youth and Volunteer Manager playing key roles in resolving issues. Conversely, the La Plaine branch showcased its new building, a symbol of community pride achieved through support from the PIRAC. However, the building faced security challenges, necessitating immediate measures to safeguard its resources and emergency supplies.

National Societies improve their financial sustainability through investment and leadership engagement in the three pillars of financial sustainability (mission and strategy, resource mobilization, financial management)

To reinforce financial sustainability, the Dominica Red Cross Society used innovative fundraising tools, such as the Adventure First Aid magazine, which serves as both a progress report and a marketing asset to interest supporters. Engagement with stakeholders, including the Dominica Association of Industry and Commerce, yielded tangible outcomes such as commitments for magazine articles and potential collaboration on disaster preparedness and business continuity training.

In 2023, the National Society also explored new revenue-generating ventures such as first aid training and a tables and chairs rental business. The Adventure First Aid programme launched in October 2023 further diversified services, training participants in wilderness first aid and survival skills while also contributing to financial resources.

Additionally, a structured financial sustainability plan was developed, focusing on communication enhancements, such as purchasing radio equipment and expanding income-generating activities. These measures aim to reduce reliance on external funding and increase unrestricted income for core costs.

Youth, volunteers and young community-based drivers of change contribute to decision-making, innovation and strengthening the domestic network. Mechanisms are strengthened to protect volunteers, promote their psychosocial wellbeing, and provide support to those killed, injured, and their families

The Dominica Red Cross Society continued to prioritize youth participation in decision-making and innovation. Through active involvement in the Caribbean Youth Network, the National Society's youth representative contributed to reactivating sub-regional youth engagement. Mechanisms for volunteer protection, including the Solidarity Fund established in 2021, further demonstrated the National Society's commitment to its volunteers' well-being, promoting a safe and supportive environment.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the Dominica Red Cross Society by tailored training sessions for branch leaders, facilitated by the National Society development team from the Port of Spain Country Cluster Delegation. This included volunteer management training and guidance on establishing a volunteer recognition plan. The IFRC funded strategic projects, including the expansion of first aid services and new income-generating initiatives such as the Adventure First Aid programme. This included business coaching, funding for equipment and salaries and enhancing security for key assets.

Financial backing from the IFRC also supported the development of an e-commerce-enabled website and communication infrastructure for scaling income-generation efforts. The phased financial sustainability approach, supported by the IFRC, included resource mobilization plans and increased stakeholder engagement to diversify revenue streams and improve financial independence.



Humanitarian diplomacy

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2023, the Dominica Red Cross Society strengthened its role in humanitarian diplomacy, particularly through active participation in key regional discussions. At the Red Cross Inter-American Conference in June, the Society joined a panel discussion titled “Overcoming Challenges in Accessing International Humanitarian Assistance.” This platform brought together National Societies from Belize, Guatemala, and Costa Rica to share experiences, lessons, and best practices related to engagement with public authorities during emergencies and crises.

The Dominica Red Cross Society highlighted several critical issues that impact disaster response operations. These included the challenges posed by unsolicited bilateral donations, which often complicate aid logistics, and the bureaucratic hurdles in securing customs clearances for humanitarian goods. The Society also emphasized the importance of improving communication and information-sharing protocols with government agencies to enhance coordination. Further, it advocated for stronger disaster-related legal frameworks, including the adoption and implementation of International Disaster Response Laws (IDRL), to better facilitate effective humanitarian action.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the Dominica Red Cross Society by providing opportunities to engage in regional and global discussions, such as the Inter-American Conference.



Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

Progress by the National Society against objectives






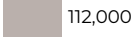

National Societies advance scalable data-driven and digitally enabled humanitarian services and core enabling processes

Through a Digital Engagement Capabilities initiative led by the Americas Regional Office, the Dominica Red Cross Society received financial support to improve its videoconferencing capacities at the national headquarters. The team was able to procure a Logitech videoconferencing stationary package, a portable web camera, wireless keyboard, projector, television, monitor, laptop and accompanying accessories to facilitate the setup of the equipment. This acquisition will allow the National Society to improve its ability to communicate effectively within its ten branches to deliver training internally to its staff and volunteers, and externally to clients requiring hybrid or online options for first aid content delivery, thereby lending to the agility of their main income generating stream.

Additionally, three computers were purchased in May for Penville, Layou and Wesley Branches to support branch activities.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

in Swiss francs (CHF)


Country		Funding Requirement	 922,000
IFRC Secretariat	Emergency Operations	Funding	 13,000
		Expenditure	 13,000
	Longer-term	Funding Requirement	 461,000
		Funding	 357,000
	Expenditure	 112,000	
HNS other funding sources		Funding Requirement	 461,000

Grenada Red Cross Society




Overview

Funding	<i>Not reported</i>
Expenditure	<i>Not reported</i>

Funding Sources

IFRC Secretariat	 136,000
Participating National Societies	<i>Not reported</i>
HNS other funding sources	<i>Not reported</i>

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Climate and environment	People reached with activities to address rising climate risks	 2
Disasters and crises	People reached with disaster risk reduction	 28
Health and wellbeing	People trained by National Societies in first aid	 208
Migration and displacement	Advocacy, dialogues, educational or communication initiatives to change the legal, policy, or operational environment to better assist and protect people on the move?	Yes

ENABLING FUNCTIONS

Strategic and operational coordina..	Number of formal interagency/international coordination platforms the IFRC Network is part of	2
Accountability and agility	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

	Bilateral Support							Multilateral Support
	Funding Reported	Climate and environment	Disasters and crises	Health and wellbeing	Migration and displacement	Values, power and inclusion	Enabling Functions	Through IFRC
National Society								
British Red Cross								✓
Netherlands Red Cross								✓
Swedish Red Cross								✓

Key achievements

Climate and environment

In 2023, the Grenada Red Cross Society developed a roadmap for mainstreaming Eco-DRR and nature-based solutions, focusing on institutional capacity, ecosystem-based livelihoods and gender-inclusive safeguards.

Health and wellbeing

Despite instructor shortages, the National Society trained individuals in first aid, CPR and basic life support, nearing pre-pandemic levels. New trainers included a young instructor for schools and a specialist for clients with disabilities. Collaborations with local organizations strengthened emergency preparedness through focused training for coaches, cadets and instructors.

Migration and displacement

The National Society partnered with key stakeholders to advance a National Plan for managing displaced populations. Participation in regional forums enhanced its capacity to address migration challenges and refine disaster response strategies.

Values, power and inclusion

Integration of protection, gender and inclusion (PGI) principles into programmes gained momentum. Regional training and webinars equipped staff and volunteers to apply these principles across operations, ensuring inclusivity and equity.

Enabling local actors

The governing board received training on strategic planning, [integrity](#) and financial sustainability. The Grenada Red Cross Society also expanded first aid services in 2023, including the “Adventure First Aid” programme, that contributed to income generation. The National Society also enhanced digital tools and infrastructure to streamline operations and communication. A pioneering local volunteering policy aligned with global frameworks was established, enhancing volunteer management. Elected to the SIDS Red Cross Red Crescent Disaster Law Network Steering Committee, the National Society focused on advancing legislative advocacy and collaboration.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Climate and environment

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2023, the Grenada Red Cross Society faced challenges in advancing climate and environmental projects due to a shortage of technical staff and volunteers being occupied with other commitments.

As part of the “Mainstreaming ecosystem-based disaster risk reduction (Eco-DRR) in the Caribbean” project, the Grenada Red Cross Society developed a comprehensive roadmap to incorporate nature-based solutions and Eco-DRR into its operations. This roadmap outlines actions across three key areas: institutional capacity building, ecosystem-based livelihoods and community empowerment, and environmental and social safeguards with an emphasis on gender considerations. This structured approach is intended to strengthen the Grenada Red Cross Society's capacity to handle climate-related crises through strengthened institutions and proactive community involvement.

The roadmap provided a foundation for the Grenada Red Cross Society's ongoing involvement in the ‘Ecological Connectivity and Community Resilience’ project, which aims to support the first two pillars by enhancing institutional skills and empowering communities to adopt nature-based solutions and Eco-DRR practices. To advance these goals, the Grenada Red Cross Society engaged in training activities as part of the project, equipping one volunteer and one external stakeholder with skills in Eco-DRR.

Grenada was also selected as one of two countries for a nature-based solutions project funded by the Caribbean Biodiversity Fund. Though no on-the-ground activities commenced in 2023, the project lays the groundwork for future initiatives that will support Grenada's efforts to mitigate climate risks through environmental restoration and conservation practices.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC through its Country Cluster Delegation in Port of Spain, provided support for the Mainstreaming Eco-DRR in the Caribbean project and facilitated the creation of a roadmap to incorporate nature-based solutions into the Grenada Red Cross Society operations. Additionally, the IFRC helped the Grenada Red Cross Society build connections with potential partners.



Disasters and crises

For real-time information on emergencies, see [Grenada](#).



Health and wellbeing

Progress by the National Society against objectives

National Societies expand the reach, quality, and modalities of their first aid activities, including training of volunteers, staff and the public across all contexts

The Grenada Red Cross Society expanded the reach and quality of its first aid programmes in 2023, despite facing challenges. The National Society trained staff and volunteers in first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and basic life support (BLS). Although there were initial difficulties in securing instructors for commercial first aid, the National Society undertook active recruitment efforts to address these gaps.

In April 2023, the Grenada Red Cross Society partnered with Women in Sports, a division of the Grenada Olympic Committee, to train 17 individuals including coaches and physical education teachers in first aid and CPR. In June 2023, the National Society trained 22 cadet corps members (five females and 17 males) as first responders, strengthening the country's emergency preparedness.

In December 2023, the National Society trained 10 first aid instructors to increase the pool of trainers, helping address a backlog of clients awaiting first aid training services. Among the newly trained instructors were a 17-year-old who is prepared to contribute to the school first aid programme and a person with a disability who will offer specialized assistance tailored to his area of expertise.

In 2023, the Grenada Red Cross Society trained a total of 208 individuals—84 males and 124 females—in commercial first aid as part of its income-generating activities. This represented a significant recovery, with training numbers approaching pre-pandemic levels.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the Grenada Red Cross Society in expanding its capacity to deliver first aid training.

The **Dominica Red Cross Society** and the **Guyana Red Cross Society** also supported the National Society to train first aid instructors. This effort was supported by funding from the **Netherlands Red Cross**.



Migration and displacement

Progress by National Society against objectives

In March 2023, a meeting was held with key stakeholders, including the Head of Immigration, the Head of the National Disaster Office (NaDMA) and the President of the Grenada Red Cross Society. This high-level engagement focused on advancing the development of a National Plan for managing displaced populations impacted by disasters and other emergencies.

Additionally, the Grenada Red Cross Society actively participated in various regional and global forums throughout the year to build its expertise and capacities in addressing migration-related issues.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the Grenada Red Cross Society's work on migration by facilitating knowledge-sharing opportunities and providing technical guidance.



Values, power and inclusion

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Grenada Red Cross Society is now focusing on integrating protection, gender and inclusion (PGI) in all its programmes and activities. The National Society ensures its volunteers and staff participate in regional webinars and training on PGI.

ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS



Strategic and operational coordination

IFRC membership coordination

IFRC membership coordination involves working with National Societies to assess the humanitarian context, agree on common priorities and jointly develop common strategies. This includes addressing issues such as obtaining greater humanitarian acceptance and access, mobilizing funding and other resources, clarifying consistent public messaging, and monitoring progress. It also entails ensuring that strategies and programmes in support of people in need incorporate clarity of humanitarian action while linking with development assistance and contribute to reinforcing National Societies in their respective countries, including through their auxiliary role.

The **French Red Cross**, through the Regional Intervention Platform for the Americas and the Caribbean of the French Red Cross (PIRAC), works in Eastern Caribbean countries under the Ready Together project in international disaster response law and civil military activities, as well as in climate change adaptation and disaster preparedness activities. The platform works with the Grenada Red Cross Society to train trainers and accredit National Society commercial first aid with the [IFRC Global First Aid Reference Centre](#).

The Grenada Red Cross Society assumes a pivotal role as the chair of the Caribbean Technical Advisory Group on First Aid, actively engaging in efforts to expand the group's membership. Through proactive lobbying initiatives, the chair successfully facilitated the inclusion of the **Barbados Red Cross**, the **St. Lucia Red Cross** and the **Belize Red Cross** into both the Caribbean Technical Advisory Group on First Aid and the Working Group on Curriculum and Standards. By December 2023, the working group developed a draft inaugural Caribbean First Aid Manual. The funding was secured under the READY360° programme.

Movement coordination

The Grenada 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](#).

The **ICRC** supports the Grenada Red Cross Society in its work on [restoring family links](#) and tracing, primarily in the areas of migration, and in promoting [international humanitarian law](#) through its Caracas regional delegation.



National Society development

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In December 2023, the Grenada Red Cross Society's governing board underwent training facilitated by the Organizational Transformation Team. The sessions strengthened understanding of the board's strategic and operational responsibilities emphasizing the development of unified plans, integrity practices and the formation of a compliance and discipline committee. Additionally, board members received training on their roles in resource mobilization and financial sustainability, focusing on the importance of data-driven decision-making.

National Societies improve their financial sustainability through investment and leadership engagement in the three pillars of financial sustainability (mission and strategy, resource mobilization, financial management)

The National Society expanded its first aid services as a significant revenue-generating initiative. The "Adventure First Aid" pilot project, developed in collaboration with other National Societies and key stakeholders, showcased innovative approaches to service delivery. The programme received enthusiastic feedback, including from a business owner expressing interest in further investment.

In 2023, the Grenada Red Cross Society trained 208 individuals in commercial first aid, marking a return to pre-pandemic participation levels. The initiative's success highlights the National Society's commitment to providing high-quality, fee-based first aid services, aligned with Strategy 2030.

Youth, volunteers and young community-based drivers of change contribute to decision-making, innovation and strengthening the domestic network

The Caribbean Youth Network finalized its Terms of Reference in February 2023, electing Jamaica Red Cross to lead the coordination efforts. The Grenada Red Cross Society's youth representative actively contributed to the reactivation of the network, advancing regional collaboration, knowledge sharing and advocacy for youth-related matters.

In partnership with the University of Michigan's Public Health Action Support Team (PHAST), the Grenada Red Cross Society developed a local volunteering policy aligned with the 2022 global Red Cross volunteering framework. This policy is a pioneering effort within the region, offering a structured approach to volunteer management and development.

The Volunteer Management Committee of the Grenada Red Cross Society participated in an induction into Red Cross operations, a review of the volunteer Terms of Reference, and an introduction to the Volunteering Development Framework. The committee now holds the responsibility for advancing volunteer strategies and maintaining a well-prepared volunteer base.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided ongoing support to the Grenada Red Cross Society by facilitating the Adventure First Aid programme, offering business coaching for resource mobilization and first aid expansion, and supporting the recruitment of resource mobilization volunteers. The IFRC also provided technical and funding assistance for creating and implementing the Volunteering Development Framework, ensuring alignment with global standards. A September mission by the IFRC Youth and Volunteering Officer supported the National Society's Volunteer Management Committee.



Humanitarian diplomacy

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The President of the Grenada Red Cross Society has been instrumental in advancing first aid standards across the Caribbean as Chair of the Technical Working Group on First Aid. This group seeks to optimize income generation and improve the quality of first aid education and training. Key objectives include forming a technical team to improve programme standards, conducting research on global trends and innovative methodologies, and raising opportunities for regional and international collaboration. These efforts also focus on creating visibility campaigns to attract resources and establishing a repository of shared experiences and lessons learned to preserve institutional knowledge. Through this role, the Grenada Red Cross Society has strengthened its leadership in humanitarian advocacy, positioning itself as a critical contributor to the development and expansion of first aid services in the region.

In November 2023, the Grenada Red Cross Society was elected as one of three National Societies to represent the Caribbean on the Steering Committee of the Small Island Developing States (SIDS) Red Cross Red Crescent Disaster Law Network. This network aims to build advocacy skills and advance collaboration among SIDS National Societies, emphasizing legislative advocacy and strategic engagement in disaster risk management and climate change.

The Steering Committee's inaugural meeting in December 2023 covered preparations for the upcoming United Nations SIDS Conference and the establishment of a community of practice among SIDS National Societies to support continuous learning and advocacy.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the Grenada Red Cross Society in its role within the SIDS Disaster Law Network with technical guidance and capacity building. Additionally, the IFRC's collaboration has strengthened the National Society's ability to engage in global advocacy.



Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

Progress by the National Society against objectives

To advance its core processes, the Grenada Red Cross Society collaborated with Protonic Solutions Inc., a local Information and Communications Technology agency. This partnership led to the implementation of Microsoft Office 365 tools, establishing a streamlined and professional digital infrastructure. Key positions within the National Society, such as the President and Director General, now have official email accounts, which significantly improves communication and operational efficiency.





This transition addresses past challenges such as the loss of staff and access to essential documents stored on personal devices and email accounts. The continued voluntary support from Protonic Solutions Inc. has further empowered the Grenada Red Cross Society to leverage technology in promoting and supporting local humanitarian efforts.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC has been promoting a culture of systematic risk management within the Grenada Red Cross Society. The IFRC's Organizational Transformation Team has collaborated with the National Society to enhance its integrity and accountability frameworks.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

in Swiss francs (CHF)


Country	Funding Requirement		238,000
IFRC Secretariat	Longer-term Funding Requirement		238,000
	Funding		101,000
	Expenditure		101,000

The Guyana Red Cross Society





Overview

Funding	<i>Not reported</i>
Expenditure	<i>Not reported</i>

Funding Sources

IFRC Secretariat		70,000
Participating National Societies	<i>Not reported</i>	
HNS other funding sources	<i>Not reported</i>	

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Disasters and crises	People reached with disaster risk reduction		1,000
Health and wellbeing	People trained by National Societies in first aid		743
Migration and displacement	Migrants and displaced persons reached with services for assistance and protection		204
Values, power and inclusion	People reached by protection, gender and inclusion programming		1,000

IFRC NETWORK SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

National Society	Bilateral Support							Multilateral Support
	Funding Reported	Climate and environment	Disasters and crises	Health and wellbeing	Migration and displacement	Values, power and inclusion	Enabling Functions	Through IFRC
British Red Cross								✓
Japanese Red Cross Society								✓
Netherlands Red Cross								✓

Key achievements

Climate and environment

In 2023, the Guyana Red Cross Society upgraded its warehouse facilities, pre-stocked emergency supplies and implemented a water pump project in a local community to mitigate climate impacts.

Health and wellbeing

The Guyana Red Cross Society expanded first aid training with inclusive equipment reflecting community needs. The National Society also responded to a dengue outbreak, distributing treated mosquito nets and promoting health awareness.

Migration and displacement

In 2023, the National Society supported migrants relocating due to border tensions, providing essential household items and referrals for shelter and healthcare.

Values, power and inclusion

In 2023, the Guyana Red Cross Society helped vulnerable families with essential supplies and partnered with organizations such as the HIAS and Blossom Inc. to address WASH and gender-based violence issues.

Enabling local actors

In 2023, the National Society reviewed and updated its first aid curriculum, developed policies and launched marketing campaigns to strengthen financial sustainability. The Guyana Red Cross Society also recruited and insured new volunteers. The National Society engaged in training programmes on disaster response law, logistics, financial reporting and community engagement to improve staff and volunteer accountability and knowledge.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Disasters and crises

For real-time information on emergencies, see the IFRC GO page, [Guyana](#)

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2023, the Guyana Red Cross Society improved its warehouse facilities to enhance disaster preparedness and response capabilities. Renovations included restoring the warehouse door, painting, adding guttering to the bond and rewiring the electrical system. These upgrades have strengthened the security and functionality of the warehouse, ensuring the safe storage of essential supplies.

The National Society strategically pre-stocked items sufficient to support 200 families in emergencies. This proactive measure has enhanced its capacity for immediate response, reducing delays in providing aid to families in crisis.

To strengthen disaster preparedness, the Guyana Red Cross Society conducted a preparedness for effective response (PER) introduction session. This session, aimed at leaders, volunteers and staff, focused on building awareness and reinforcing the importance of readiness for effective emergency responses.

As part of its commitment to reducing disaster impacts at the community level, the National Society provided one community with a water pump as a mitigation project. The pump serves a dual purpose: during dry seasons, it irrigates farms, and in wet seasons, it helps drain excess water. This initiative contributes to safeguarding livelihoods and enhancing community resilience to climate variability.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the Guyana Red Cross Society by providing technical expertise for the PER framework and facilitating knowledge-sharing opportunities.



Health and wellbeing

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2023, the Guyana Red Cross Society expanded its [first aid](#) services and upgraded its training capabilities. The equipment was chosen to reflect the skin tones and needs of the community members, enhancing the inclusivity and relevance of its services. The National Society trained a total of 743 individuals in first aid, comprising 339 females and 404 males. These training sessions aimed to equip participants with skills to respond to frequent incidents such as road accidents, fires and household injuries. Despite this progress, the number of individuals trained was lower than in previous years due to outdated equipment and a shortage of instructors. To address these challenges, additional instructors were trained, and new equipment was acquired.

A peer-to-peer training initiative was facilitated focusing on first aid and adventure first aid instruction. By December 2023, 10 instructors were trained including two standout participants: one with a disability who specializes in assisting first aid clients in his area of expertise, and a 17-year-old instructor to contribute to school-based first aid programmes.

In response to a Dengue outbreak, the Guyana Red Cross Society engaged in health promotion and distributed 400 treated mosquito nets to vulnerable communities. This intervention aimed to reduce disease transmission and provide immediate relief.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the Guyana Red Cross Society with technical expertise and funding to strengthen its first aid services.

The **Grenada Red Cross Society** facilitated a peer-to-peer training initiative focusing on first aid and adventure first aid instruction.

The **Netherlands Red Cross** supplied the National Society with equipment to upgrade its training capabilities.



Migration and displacement

Progress by National Society against objectives

In 2023, the Guyana Red Cross Society helped 204 migrants and displaced individuals, addressing their immediate needs and supporting their transition to safer environments. This assistance was directed primarily toward individuals relocating from border communities to Georgetown and other locations, spurred by fears of escalation related to the Guyana-Venezuela border dispute.

The support extended included essential items such as clothing, hygiene kits, kitchen sets, solar lamps and food. The National Society also facilitated referrals for additional support, such as [shelter](#) and medical services.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the Guyana Red Cross Society in building its capacity to respond to migration and displacement issues through technical guidance, resource mobilization and training.



Values, power and inclusion

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2023, the Guyana Red Cross Society assisted 221 families and individuals, comprising both migrants and Guyanese citizens, with essential items such as tarpaulins, kitchen sets, hygiene kits, solar lamps, treated mosquito nets, water filters and jerry cans.

Beyond material assistance, the Guyana Red Cross Society provided information on critical issues, including water and sanitation, safe health practices and sex and gender-based violence.

These activities were carried out in collaboration with partners such as HIAS, an organization providing aid to refugees and Blossom Inc., which supports children and families affected by trauma.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the Guyana Red Cross Society in enhancing its capacity to deliver inclusive and values-driven services through technical expertise, training and resource-sharing initiatives, particularly in areas of protection, gender and inclusion ([PGI](#)).

ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS



Strategic and operational coordination

IFRC membership coordination

IFRC membership coordination involves working with National Societies to assess the humanitarian context, agree on common priorities and jointly develop common strategies. This includes addressing issues such as obtaining greater humanitarian acceptance and access, mobilizing funding and other resources, clarifying consistent public messaging, and monitoring progress. It also entails ensuring that strategies and programmes in support of people in need incorporate clarity of humanitarian action while linking with development assistance and contribute to reinforcing National Societies in their respective countries, including through their auxiliary role.

In addition to signing up to the Caribbean Technical Advisory on First Aid, in September 2023 the National Society joined the Working Group on Curriculum and Standards. This means that the Guyana Red Cross Society is involved in the writing of the first draft of the Caribbean First Aid manual, that was completed in December 2023.

Movement coordination

The Guyana 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](#).

The ICRC supports the Guyana Red Cross Society in its work on [restoring family links](#) and tracing, primarily in the areas of migration, and in promoting [international humanitarian law](#) through its Caracas regional delegation.

External coordination

The National Society engaged in discussions with the Prime Minister, Minister of Health and the Civil Defence Commission. These meetings aimed to enhance understanding of the auxiliary role of the Guyana Red Cross Society, improve communication and coordination and strategize ways to enhance emergency response systems. Although progress has been minimal so far, the National Society remains committed to continuing these engagements.



National Society development

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Guyana Red Cross Society reviewed its first aid curriculum in 2023. Recognized for its excellence, this curriculum is set to be a benchmark for advanced first aid instruction in the region. Additionally, a draft first aid policy was developed, new first aid equipment was procured, and a marketing campaign was initiated to promote commercial first aid services. These steps are expected to strengthen revenue streams and provide unrestricted funding for operational sustainability.

Mechanisms are strengthened to protect volunteers, promote their psychosocial wellbeing, and provide support to those killed, injured and their families

In response to challenges posed by COVID-19 that led to reduced volunteer numbers, the National Society recruited 100 new volunteers and retrained 25 experienced ones. The Guyana Red Cross Society also secured accident and injury insurance for 100 volunteers through an international insurance scheme. This coverage includes accident, injury and death benefits, ensuring volunteer safety and welfare through December 2023 and into 2024.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the National Society by providing technical assistance to strengthen first aid programmes, supplying essential equipment, and guiding the creation of a first aid policy. The IFRC also provided the Insurance Scheme to cover volunteers for December 2023, as well as all of 2024.

The **Netherlands Red Cross** provided peer support by funding the review of the Guyana Red Cross Society's first aid curriculum.



Humanitarian diplomacy

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2023, the Guyana Red Cross Society participated in humanitarian diplomacy and policy advocacy and international disaster response law (IDRL) training.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided guidance to the National Society to participate in these training.



Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

Progress by the National Society against objectives








In 2023, the Guyana Red Cross Society participated in training on logistics and procurement procedures, financial and narrative reporting and community engagement and accountability (CEA). These training strengthened the knowledge of the Guyana Red Cross Society staff and volunteers and improved accountability.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC facilitated the participation of the Guyana Red Cross Society in the training sessions to improve its understanding and accountability to stakeholders.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

in Swiss francs (CHF)

Country		Funding Requirement		804,000
IFRC Secretariat	Emergency Operations	Funding		3,000
		Expenditure		3,000
	Longer-term	Funding Requirement		303,000
		Funding		696,000
		Expenditure		313,000
	HNS other funding sources		Funding Requirement	


Jamaica Red Cross

Overview

Funding  323,000

Expenditure  320,000








Funding Sources

IFRC Secretariat  323,000

Participating National Societies *Not reported*

HNS other funding sources *Not reported*

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
	People reached with activities to address environmental problems	 104
	People reached with activities to address rising climate risks	 104
Disasters and crises	People reached with disaster risk reduction	 19
	People reached with livelihoods support	 250
Health and wellbeing	People trained by National Societies in first aid	 1,000
Migration and displacement	Migrants and displaced persons reached with services for assistance and protection	 37
Values, power and inclusion	People reached by protection, gender and inclusion programming	 37

ENABLING FUNCTIONS

Strategic and operational coordina..	Number of government led coordination platforms the National Society is part of	1
Humanitarian diplomacy	Participation in IFRC-led communication campaigns	Yes

IFRC NETWORK SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

National Society	Bilateral Support							Multilateral Support
	Funding Reported	Climate and environment	Disasters and crises	Health and wellbeing	Migration and displacement	Values, power and inclusion	Enabling Functions	Through IFRC
Japanese Red Cross Society								✓
Netherlands Red Cross								✓

Key achievements

Climate and environment

In 2023, the Jamaica Red Cross Society advanced climate resilience through projects like Greening Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilient Islands. It trained community members in ecosystem-based disaster risk reduction (Eco-DRR) and engaged students in environmental awareness. It distributed cold-storage units to fisherfolk and introduced climate-smart agriculture training. Recognized globally, representatives from the National Society participated in COP28 to share insights on [nature-based solutions](#).

Disasters and crises

The National Society advocated for stronger disaster laws and policies through comprehensive reports and an advocacy roadmap. It showcased its [auxiliary role](#) in emergencies during the READY360° Project exhibition and pursued a legislative proposal for a new Red Cross Act to enhance its humanitarian capacity.

Health and wellbeing

In 2023, efforts of the National Society focused on expanding ambulance services and training individuals in first aid. While numbers dipped slightly compared to the previous year, services stabilized at pre-pandemic levels, with plans for marketing strategies to boost outreach.

Migration and displacement

In 2023, the National Society supported Haitian migrants through meals, essential household items and [MHPSS](#). Tailored mental health sessions and translation services improved the quality of assistance.

Values, power and inclusion

Advocacy ensured non-refoulement for Haitian asylum seekers, upholding their rights. Collaboration with governmental agencies strengthened the National Society's focus on dignity and inclusion for vulnerable populations in 2023.

Enabling local actors

The Jamaica Red Cross Society emphasized financial sustainability by expanding first aid and ambulance services. Branch representatives enhanced skills through training workshops, and youth engagement was prioritized via the [Y-Adapt](#) programme. The National Society continued working on revising the Jamaica Red Cross Society Act to optimize its legal and operational role.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Climate and environment

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2023, the Jamaica Red Cross Society strengthened its focus on climate adaptation and environmental resilience through several projects, including the Greening Disaster Risk Reduction, utilizing the capacity building funds ([CBF](#)) and the Resilient Islands initiatives. Under the Greening Disaster Risk Reduction project, the Jamaica Red Cross Society established a Community Disaster Response Team (CDRT) in Rock River, comprising 34 community members (20 females and 14 males), who received training in ecosystem-based disaster risk reduction (Eco-DRR), disaster management and emergency response. The Rock River team completed additional capacity-building activities, such as Light Search and Rescue and Fire Safety sessions on June 25, led by the Jamaica Fire Brigade, and a psychological first aid session on June 26. The CDRT members received certificates and essential equipment in November 2023, further cementing their preparedness to respond to climate-related risks.

Additionally, the Jamaica Red Cross Society implemented an Eco-DRR programme through a Youth Summer School in Old Harbour Bay, engaging over 70 students from August 22 to 25 in ecosystem awareness training. To further assess and improve climate resilience at the community level, the Jamaica Red Cross Society introduced the knowledge, attitude and practices (KAP) survey instrument in Rock River and Woodford, training 16 staff and volunteers in the methodology. The Woodford community also participated in an enhanced vulnerability and capacity assessment (eVCA), which was supported by various government agencies, such as the National Environment and Planning Agency and the Rural Agricultural Development Authority (RADA).

In the Resilient Islands Project, the Jamaica Red Cross Society distributed 100 'igloos' (cold storage equipment) to support Old Harbour Bay fisherfolk, with 83 of these arriving in May 2023. The project also included a climate-smart agriculture training at the Caribbean Christian Centre for the Deaf, held in collaboration with RADA over a 10-week period. As part of the Mainstreaming Eco-DRR in the Caribbean project, the Jamaica Red Cross Society assessed existing data gaps and recognized that while the country has extensive data on Eco-DRR, these are often siloed and not readily accessible.

The Jamaica Red Cross Society was also selected as a Global Climate Champion for demonstrating the capability to drive climate action locally and internationally. In November, representatives from the Jamaica Red Cross Society participated in COP28 in Dubai, with the greening disaster risk reduction project manager moderating a session on [nature-based solutions](#) for climate change adaptation and participating as a panelist on the use of mangroves as natural solutions for climate change mitigation.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the Jamaica Red Cross Society to enhance its climate resilience initiatives through technical guidance, capacity building and project funding through CBF. The IFRC also facilitated training for the National Society staff in the Nature Navigator programme and eVCA methodology.

The IFRC's collaboration allowed the Jamaica Red Cross Society to actively engage in COP28, where its representatives contributed to global dialogues on climate adaptation and resilience through sessions co-hosted by international environmental organizations.



Disasters and crises

For real-time information on emergencies, see the IFRC GO page, [Jamaica](#)

Progress by the National Society against objectives

National Societies advocate for effective and protective disaster related laws, policies, and regulations

In 2023, the Jamaica Red Cross Society focused on management through targeted advocacy, legislative efforts and public awareness campaigns. A cornerstone of these efforts was the completion of deliverables under the Resilient Islands Project. These deliverables included a comprehensive Synthesis Report, which analysed the strengths and weaknesses of Jamaica's legal and policy frameworks in disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation. This report offered practical recommendations for integrating nature-based solutions into decision-making processes. Additionally, a Policy Brief distilled the report's findings into key messages for policymakers, while an Advocacy Strategy and Roadmap outlined a clear action plan to promote nature-based adaptation strategies at local, national, and regional levels. Complementing this was a Communications Strategy designed to raise awareness among communities, government entities, and stakeholders about the importance of disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation.

National Societies improve official recognition of their auxiliary role in disaster risk management

In December 2023, the Jamaica Red Cross participated in a [virtual exhibition](#) as part of the READY360° Project. This exhibition highlighted the [auxiliary role](#) of National Societies in disaster response and highlighted the need for strong legal frameworks. The Jamaica Red Cross contributed content that showcased its challenges and progress in optimizing its auxiliary role. It also highlighted ongoing plans to draft a new Red Cross law that will address gaps and better define its responsibilities and authority in emergencies.

The Jamaica Red Cross also worked under the Capacity Building Initiative (CBI) Project, Phase V, to strengthen its advocacy efforts for improved recognition of its auxiliary role in disaster risk management. Several technical meetings were held to refine an advocacy strategy that supports the development of a legislative proposal for a new Red Cross Act. This law will serve as a foundation for more effective collaboration with government agencies and better humanitarian outcomes.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the Jamaica Red Cross Society's with tools such as the disaster law checklist to analyse existing frameworks and facilitated the creation of the Synthesis Report. Through the READY360° Project hosted by the **French Red Cross**, the IFRC contributed to the virtual exhibition by enabling knowledge-sharing and advocacy on the auxiliary role of National Societies. The IFRC offered technical guidance to help draft a legislative proposal for a new Red Cross Act. This included legislative advocacy training, equipping the Jamaica Red Cross members with the skills needed to engage effectively with government authorities and advocate for strong disaster risk management laws.



Health and wellbeing

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Jamaica Red Cross Society will develop its commercial first aid models to strengthen financial sustainability and accelerate National Society capacity to sustain services

In 2023, the Jamaica Red Cross Society promoted health and wellbeing through its ambulance and first aid services. The National Society continued its efforts to expand its ambulance service, a significant initiative that included the recruitment of additional ambulance drivers and emergency medical staff. This expansion was designed to strengthen the quality and reach of the existing service, aligning with the National Society's commitment to improving emergency response capabilities. Concurrently, the Jamaica Red Cross Society worked to enhance its first aid training services, providing education to 1,235 individuals, including 742 females and 493 males.

Although these training numbers reflected a decrease compared to the previous year, they were consistent with pre-pandemic levels, indicating a return to normal operations following disruptions caused by COVID-19. The decline was partly due to the additional focus on implementing the ambulance service and managing indicators within the first aid programme, which demanded significant staff time and resources. The National Society has outlined plans to address this by implementing marketing strategies to improve the efficiency and delivery of first aid services in the coming year.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC Capacity Building Fund committee supported the ambulance service initiative by granting an extension to ensure the completion of essential implementation tasks. This extension allowed for integration of the new service into the National Society's operations. Through collaboration with the **Netherlands Red Cross**, the National Society received new first aid equipment.



Migration and displacement

Progress by National Society against objectives

In 2023, the Jamaica Red Cross Society supported migrants and displaced persons, focusing on the humanitarian needs of Haitian migrants arriving on the island. Beginning on July 10, the National Society, through its branches in St. Mary and Portland, helped 37 Haitian migrants (24 men, five women, five girls, and three boys) who sought asylum status with the Government of Jamaica. This support included the provision of meals, essential household items and mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS). Volunteers from the St. Mary branch managed operations at the facility where the migrants were housed, ensuring that their basic needs were met.

The National Society's MHPSS team developed and implemented a psychosocial support programme tailored to the migrants' needs. This programme included two formal sessions complemented by personal visits from

psychosocial support officers to ensure the well-being of the migrants. Additionally, translation services provided by the Salvation Army helped facilitate communication and enhance the quality of support offered.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the Jamaica Red Cross Society in strengthening the operational and administrative capacities of its St. Mary branch, enabling it to respond effectively to the needs of the Haitian migrants. This support included funding for transportation costs for volunteers who managed the facility and delivered essential services.



Values, power and inclusion

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2023, the Jamaica Red Cross Society supported 37 Haitian migrants, ensuring their basic needs for food, shelter and clothing were met. These efforts were conducted in close collaboration with the Ministry of Labour and Social Security.

Advocacy was a key aspect of the Jamaica Red Cross Society's work under this objective. Efforts were made to uphold the principle of non-refoulement for Haitian asylum seekers, advocating for their right to remain free from forced return to unsafe conditions in their home country. This approach aligns with international humanitarian values and demonstrates the National Society's role in promoting PGI for marginalized populations.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided financial and technical support to the Jamaica Red Cross Society to enhance its capacity in delivering humanitarian assistance and advocating for the rights of vulnerable groups, including migrants.

ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS



Strategic and operational coordination

IFRC membership coordination

IFRC membership coordination involves working with National Societies to assess the humanitarian context, agree on common priorities and jointly develop common strategies. This includes addressing issues such as obtaining greater humanitarian acceptance and access, mobilizing funding and other resources, clarifying consistent public messaging, and monitoring progress. It also entails ensuring that strategies and programmes in support of people in need incorporate clarity of humanitarian action while linking with development assistance and contribute to reinforcing National Societies in their respective countries, including through their auxiliary role.

The Jamaica Red Cross became a member of the Caribbean Technical Advisory Group on First Aid (CTAG) on 26 April 2023, along with seven other National Societies. According to the Team Charter 2023 a working group was created to use the collective efforts in first aid training in the Caribbean, for optimal income generation through the improvement of standards, quality and education. The focus for CTAG is on the standardization of a regional first aid curriculum, developed specifically for the Caribbean. The purpose of the advisory group is to provide technical expertise for the development and improvement of the quality of the first aid programme.

Movement coordination

The Jamaica 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.

The **ICRC** supports the Jamaica Red Cross Society in its work on [restoring family links](#) and tracing, primarily in the areas of migration, and in promoting [international humanitarian law](#) through its Caracas regional delegation.

External coordination

The Jamaica Red Cross was successful in negotiating contracts with the Ministry of Health and Wellness (MoHW) to provide ambulance and Emergency Medical Technicians services for weekly meetings of the Cabinet of the Government of Jamaica. Through this partnership arrangement with MoHW, the National Society also provided services for a five-day international conference in July and another from 30 October to 8 November 2023. The Jamaica Red Cross Society also collaborated with various government agencies, such as the National Environment and Planning Agency, the Rural Agricultural Development Authority and the Jamaica Fire Brigade for its initiatives under climate and environment.



National Society development

Progress by the National Society against objectives

National Societies improve their financial sustainability through investment and leadership engagement in the three pillars of financial sustainability (mission and strategy, resource mobilization, financial management)

In 2023, the Jamaica Red Cross Society emphasized financial sustainability, branch strengthening and youth engagement. The National Society focused on improving its financial independence by expanding first aid and ambulance services. The strategic extension of its ambulance service project until March 2024 allowed for the completion of critical implementation activities, with enhancement the operational capacity of these services. The adoption of innovative tools, such as the first aid indicator reporting template, enabled the National Society to analyse training distribution trends and improve the delivery of its services. Marketing strategies were also developed to address seasonal fluctuations in training demand, aiming to boost revenue generation.

National Societies strengthen their network of branches and contribute to building a distributed network across the IFRC network

Branch strengthening was another priority throughout 2023. Workshops on customer service, sales and marketing were held for branch representatives, engaging 72 participants from 13 branches. These sessions focused on building a culture of innovation, developing business ideas and applying strategic business models to enhance income-generating activities. Branches explored diverse initiatives, including first aid training centres, healthcare services and agricultural projects.

Needs and contributions of young people from all backgrounds are well understood by leadership and are accurately reflected in National Societies' strategic and operational plans and programme delivery

Volunteer management was also enhanced through workshops targeting branch leadership, with activities designed for collaboration and accountability among branches. These initiatives aimed to equip branches with the tools needed to support their communities more effectively.

The Jamaica Red Cross Society also prioritized youth engagement through the [Y-Adapt programme](#), a game-based curriculum focusing on climate change education and community adaptation. This [training](#) equipped 12 young people with the skills to implement climate adaptation initiatives in their communities, with six identified for further training to become trainers themselves. Youth participants emphasized the importance of mental health support.

IFRC network joint support

The **IFRC** supported the Jamaica Red Cross Society in several areas, including financial sustainability and first aid training improvements. Collaboration with the **Netherlands Red Cross** facilitated the provision of first aid equipment and the piloting of the first aid indicator reporting template. Additionally, the IFRC supported the implementation of the Y-Adapt programme, promoting youth leadership and community engagement in climate change adaptation efforts.



Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2023, the Jamaica Red Cross Society leveraged its auxiliary role advocating for a stronger partnership with the government. A key moment was its participation in the Red Cross Inter-American Conference held in June 2023. During Plenary 8, which focused on 'Leveraging our Auxiliary Status with Governments,' the Jamaica Red Cross Society shared its experiences and insights alongside other National Societies.

The National Society highlighted its longstanding support for the government, such as serving on various national committees related to disaster risk management and health. However, challenges emerged following the enactment of the Charities Act in 2013, which sought to regulate the growing number of charities in Jamaica. This legislation imposed constraints, such as the removal of duty-free import facilities, which limited the Jamaica Red Cross society's operational efficiency. Additionally, the National Society noted its misclassification as a non-governmental organization rather than being recognized for its special auxiliary role.

In response, the Jamaica Red Cross Society pursued solutions to mitigate these constraints. Short-term measures included collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Wellness to streamline import and clearance processes for essential goods. On a broader scale, the National Society is actively working on revising the Jamaica Red Cross Act to ensure the auxiliary status is properly defined and legally recognized, thereby optimizing its role and securing the necessary legal and logistical facilities to carry out its humanitarian mandate effectively.






IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the Jamaica Red Cross in its humanitarian diplomacy efforts through technical assistance in revising the Jamaica Red Cross Act and guidance on strategies to advocate for the proper recognition of its auxiliary status. The IFRC facilitated platforms such as the Inter-American Conference, enabling the Jamaica Red Cross to exchange insights and strategies with peer National Societies, including the **Costa Rican Red Cross Society** and the **Argentine Red Cross Society**.

SAINT KITTS AND NEVIS

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

in Swiss francs (CHF)

Country	Funding Requirement		650,000
IFRC Secretariat	Longer-term Funding Requirement		60,000
	Funding		243
	Expenditure		180
HNS other funding sources	Funding Requirement		590,000

Saint Kitts and Nevis Red Cross Society

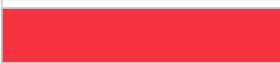


Overview

Funding	<i>Not reported</i>
Expenditure	<i>Not reported</i>



Funding Sources

Participating National Societies	<i>Not reported</i>
HNS other funding sources	<i>Not reported</i>

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Climate and environment	People reached with activities to address environmental problems	15
	People reached with activities to address rising climate risks	15
Disasters and crises	People reached with disaster risk reduction	
Health and wellbeing	People reached by National Societies with contextually appropriate health services	
	People trained by National Societies in first aid	

IFRC NETWORK SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

National Society	Funding Reported	Climate and environment	Disasters and crises	Bilateral Support				Enabling Functions	Multilateral Support
				Health and wellbeing	Migration and displacement	Values, power and inclusion	Through IFRC		
Japanese Red Cross Society									
Netherlands Red Cross									

Key achievements

Climate and environment

In 2023, the St. Kitts and Nevis Red Cross Society raised awareness about heat-related issues through a public education campaign in June, emphasizing heat illness prevention and first aid. It engaged youth in climate adaptation through Y-Adapt training and promoted environmental stewardship via beach and coastal cleanups. Despite delays in implementing climate-smart livelihood projects, the National Society prepared for future initiatives by drafting a climate change policy and participating in climate-smart livelihood training.

Disasters and crises

In 2023, the National Society worked on improving disaster laws and policies by reviewing the International Disaster Response Law (IDRL) Country Report and a disaster law profile for disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation.

Health and wellbeing

In 2023, the St. Kitts and Nevis Red Cross Society trained individuals in first aid including employees of financial institutions and students.

Enabling local actors

The St. Kitts and Nevis Red Cross Society focused on youth empowerment in 2023, with a volunteer participating in Y-Adapt training, gaining skills to lead climate adaptation initiatives. Efforts to enhance communication and advocacy strategies were prioritized reaching diverse audiences, equipping staff and volunteers with tools for humanitarian diplomacy, and advancing regional collaboration.

IFRC NETWORK ACTION

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Climate and environment

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2023, the St. Kitts and Nevis Red Cross Society addressed climate-related issues despite limitations in staff and resources. A primary area of focus was on heat awareness and understanding the impact of extreme heat on Small Island Developing States (SIDS). In June, the St. Kitts and Nevis Red Cross Society organized a heat awareness day to educate the public on preventing heat-related illnesses, recognizing symptoms and offering first aid for those affected by heat. This event highlighted the importance of community-level understanding and preparedness for heatwaves, which are becoming increasingly common in the Caribbean region due to climate change.

While climate-smart livelihood projects were not prioritized in 2023, two National Society representatives participated in a climate-smart livelihoods training in July. Although assigned funding for a micro-mitigation project was not utilized and was later reallocated, the training helped the National Society prepare for future initiatives. The St. Kitts and Nevis Red Cross Society also drafted a climate change and environment policy, although it was not finalized by year-end.

Youth engagement was a key aspect of the St. Kitts and Nevis Red Cross Society's climate action in 2023. A youth staff member completed the [Y-Adapt](#) training, equipping them to lead climate adaptation projects among youth in 2024. Additionally, five male youths commemorated International Youth Day by participating in a beach cleanup initiative where they separated recyclables, contributing to local recycling efforts and encouraging environmental stewardship. The St. Kitts and Nevis Red Cross Society's Nevis branch also participated in a coastal cleanup led by the National

Historical and Conservation Society at the Old Artisan Village, where eight volunteers worked together to promote coastal conservation.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the St. Kitts and Nevis Red Cross Society's climate initiatives through training, resources and collaboration opportunities. The IFRC offered the St. Kitts and Nevis Red Cross Society access to webinars and training on ecosystem-based disaster risk reduction (Eco-DRR), though the participants did not complete the programme. The IFRC also provided technical review for the climate change and environment policy draft developed by the National Society.

The IFRC provided support in the training of the National Society staff in the Y-Adapt programme.



Disasters and crises

For real-time information on emergencies, visit IFRC GO page [St. Kitts and Nevis](#).

Progress by National Society Against Objectives

National Societies advocate for effective and protective disaster related laws, policies, and regulations

Within the framework of the Capacity Building Initiative, Phase V, the Country Report on International Disaster Response Law (IDRL) for St. Kitts and Nevis was submitted to the National Society for review. Alongside this, a comprehensive [disaster law](#) country profile focusing on disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation was also provided for final assessment.

These reports when finalized, are expected to provide actionable recommendations to strengthen legislative frameworks and enhance the auxiliary role of the National Society in disaster risk management.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the development of these resources by providing technical expertise and guidance, ensuring that the reports are aligned with international best practices and address national contexts effectively.



Health and wellbeing

In 2023, the St. Kitts and Nevis Red Cross Society trained a total of 302 persons on first aid. In March and April, the National Society trained staff of the First Federal Credit Union. Also in March, staff and students of the Gingerland Secondary School were trained.

ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS



Strategic and operational coordination

IFRC membership coordination

IFRC membership coordination involves working with National Societies to assess the humanitarian context, agree on common priorities and jointly develop common strategies. This includes addressing issues such as obtaining greater humanitarian acceptance and access, mobilizing funding and other resources, clarifying consistent public messaging, and monitoring progress. It also entails ensuring that strategies and programmes in support of people in need

incorporate clarity of humanitarian action while linking with development assistance and contribute to reinforcing National Societies in their respective countries, including through their auxiliary role.

The **French Red Cross** provides long-term support to the St. Kitts and Nevis Red Cross Society.

The St. Kitts and Nevis Red Cross Society became a member of the Caribbean Technical Advisory Group on First Aid (CTAG) on 26 April 2023, along with seven other National Societies. According to the Team Charter 2023 a working group was created to use the collective efforts in first aid training in the Caribbean, for optimal income generation through the improvement of standards, quality and education. The focus for CTAG is on the standardization of a regional first aid curriculum, developed specifically for the Caribbean. The purpose of the advisory group is to provide technical expertise for the development and improvement of the quality of the first aid programme.

Movement coordination

The St. Kitts and Nevis 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](#).

The ICRC supports the St. Kitts and Nevis Red Cross Society in its work on [restoring family links](#) and tracing, primarily in the areas of migration, and in promoting [international humanitarian law](#) through its Caracas regional delegation.



National Society development

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The needs and contributions of young people from all backgrounds are well understood by leadership and are accurately reflected in the National Society's strategic and operational plans and programme delivery

One active youth volunteer of the Saint Kitts and Nevis Red Cross Society, Chris Clarke, joined 11 of his peers from three other Caribbean National Societies (Antigua and Barbuda, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago) in Jamaica for a Y-Adapt training in November 2023. The training incorporated a game-based, highly interactive approach to teaching young people about climate change, its impacts on humanity, and feasible climate adaptation actions that youths can take to educate their peers and improve lives. Following the training, Chris now has the necessary skills and content materials to contextualize and pass on knowledge about climate adaptation to other young people in St Kitts and Nevis.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC facilitated the Y-Adapt programme training in Jamaica that enabled a youth volunteer of the Saint Kitts and Nevis Red Cross Society to participate along with his peers from three other Caribbean National Societies including the **Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society**, the **Jamaica Red Cross Society** and the **Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society** in November 2023.











Humanitarian diplomacy

The St. Kitts and Nevis Red Cross Society prioritized planning and reorganization in communication and advocacy. The efforts focused on developing strategies and resources, reaching out to specific audiences, participating in networks and improving capacities of staff and volunteers in humanitarian diplomacy.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

in Swiss francs (CHF)

Country	Funding Requirement		165,000
IFRC Secretariat	Emergency Operations	Funding	 10,000
		Expenditure	 10,000
	Longer-term	Funding Requirement	 10,000
		Funding	 25,000
		Expenditure	 26,000
	Participating National Societies	Funding Requirement	 30,000
HNS other funding sources	Funding Requirement	 125,000	

Saint Lucia Red Cross





Overview

Funding	<i>Not reported</i>
Expenditure	<i>Not reported</i>

Funding Sources

IFRC Secretariat	<i>Not reported</i>
Participating National Societies	<i>Not reported</i>
HNS other funding sources	<i>Not reported</i>

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Disasters and crises	People reached per year with support services, in-kind, cash and voucher assistance for emergency response and recovery	 450
	People reached with livelihoods support	 450
	People reached with shelter support	 150
Health and wellbeing	People trained by National Societies in first aid	 568

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
	Strategy for strengthening the auxiliary role developed or implemented	Yes
Humanitarian diplomacy	National Society has domestic advocacy strategies developed aligning, at least in part, with global IFRC advocacy strategies	Yes
Accountability and agility	National Society have strengthened their integrity and reputational risk mechanisms	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	Climate and environment	Bilateral Support					Enabling Functions	Multilateral Support
			Disasters and crises	Health and wellbeing	Migration and displacement	Values, power and inclusion	Through IFRC		
French Red Cross			●						
Japanese Red Cross Society									✓

Key achievements

Disasters and crises

Despite challenges with reporting compliance, the Saint Lucia Red Cross Society focused on enhancing disaster risk management by engaging in legislative efforts in 2023. The National Society reviewed an International Disaster Response Law (IDRL) report and a disaster law country profile to guide policy improvements. It also participated in the READY360° programme, initiating a regional campaign to promote disaster preparedness and climate adaptation awareness.

Health and wellbeing

In 2023, the Saint Lucia Red Cross Society provided health services, solidifying its role as a significant health service provider. Collaborating closely with the Ministry of Health, it continues to align its activities with its auxiliary role to public authorities.

Values, power and inclusion

Through advocacy and awareness in 2023, the Saint Lucia Red Cross Society promoted tolerance, diversity, social inclusion and a culture of non-violence, ensuring these principles were integrated across all its programmes.

Enabling local actors

In 2023, the National Society updated its resource mobilization strategy to improve funding and support for humanitarian work. Participation in the Inter-American Conference facilitated knowledge-sharing and informed strategic planning.

IFRC NETWORK ACTION

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Disasters and crises

For real-time information on emergencies, see the IFRC GO page, [Saint Lucia](#).

The Saint Lucia Red Cross Society faced challenges in 2023 due to non-compliance with reporting requirements, which resulted in the withdrawal of direct support for activities during the year. However, a renewed focus on improving reporting processes is planned for 2024 to enhance progress in disaster risk management and strategic priorities.

Progress by the National Society against objectives

National Societies advocate for effective and protective disaster-related laws, policies and regulations

Under the leadership expansion in disaster law, the country report on International Disaster Response Law (IDRL) for Saint Lucia, along with a disaster law country profile focusing on disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation, was submitted to the National Society for review. Once finalized and published, these reports will provide critical evidence-based recommendations to strengthen the legislative and policy framework for disaster management and advocate for an enhanced auxiliary role for the National Society.

Additionally, the National Society has engaged with the READY360° programme to raise public awareness of climate change effects and disaster risks. This initiative includes a regional awareness campaign designed to promote protective measures and climate adaptation solutions, with broadcasts scheduled for 2024 and 2025. The campaign aims to enhance the resilience of communities by equipping them with knowledge and strategies to mitigate disaster risks effectively.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the development of the IDRL Country Report and disaster law Country Profile, ensuring their alignment with best practices and relevance to local contexts through technical guidance. Through the READY360° programme, the IFRC has provided tools and platforms to amplify public engagement on disaster risks and climate change. This initiative is a part of broader regional efforts to improve long-term resilience across the Caribbean.



Health and wellbeing

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The National Society continues providing first aid services and is considered a major provider of health services in the country with its funds and in compliance with its auxiliary role to public authorities. In addition, the Saint Lucia Red Cross Society continues to work in close cooperation with the Ministry of Health. In 2023, the National Society reached 568 people through these services.



Values, power and inclusion

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The National Society continues promoting tolerance, respect for diversity, social inclusion and a culture of non-violence through concerted awareness and integrated advocacy across all its programmes.

ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS



Strategic and operational coordination

IFRC membership coordination

IFRC membership coordination involves working with National Societies to assess the humanitarian context, agree on common priorities and jointly develop common strategies. This includes addressing issues such as obtaining greater humanitarian acceptance and access, mobilizing funding and other resources, clarifying consistent public messaging, and monitoring progress. It also entails ensuring that strategies and programmes in support of people in need incorporate clarity of humanitarian action while linking with development assistance and contribute to reinforcing National Societies in their respective countries, including through their auxiliary role.

Movement coordination

The Saint Lucia 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.

The ICRC supports the Saint Lucia Red Cross Society in its work on restoring family links and tracing, primarily in the areas of migration, and in promoting international humanitarian law through its Caracas regional delegation.



National Society development

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Saint Lucia Red Cross Society updated its resource mobilization strategy in 2023. This revised strategy aims to enhance the National Society's capacity to mobilize resources more effectively, thereby improving its ability to serve vulnerable populations and support humanitarian initiatives.

The National Society continued efforts to strengthen its mechanisms for long-term development, striving to remain a strong and relevant entity in the humanitarian field. Participation in the Inter-American Conference held in the Bahamas provided an invaluable platform for the Saint Lucia Red Cross Society to gain insights into key development areas. This exposure to diverse topics and collaborative discussions has informed its strategic planning and operational improvements, positioning the National Society to address current and emerging needs effectively.

Based on the new challenges and the modernization that the Saint Lucia Red Cross Society requires, the revision of its constitution has been finalized, and it is expected that the National Society statute will be submitted to the [Joint Statutes Commission](#) in the first quarter of 2024 for its revision.










Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Saint Lucia Red Cross Society has revised its [digital transformation](#) plan for 2022-2026, with the goal of creating and implementing a standardized approach for the digital delivery of humanitarian assistance, ensuring alignment with the [fundamental principles](#). The primary focus is on enhancing the effectiveness and sustainability of the National Society's humanitarian work.


SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW in Swiss francs (CHF)


Country	Funding Requirement		 520,000
IFRC Secretariat	Emergency Operations	Funding	 9,000
		Expenditure	 9,000
	Longer-term	Funding Requirement	 260,000
		Funding	 73,000
		Expenditure	 73,000
	HNS other funding sources	Funding Requirement	 260,000

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Red Cross

Overview

Funding	 79.3M
Expenditure	<i>Not reported</i>

Funding Sources

IFRC Secretariat	 79.3M
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STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Disasters and crises	People reached with disaster risk reduction	 100
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ENABLING FUNCTIONS

Strategic and operational coordina..	Number of government led coordination platforms the National Society is part of	1
Accountability and agility	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

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

Key achievements

Climate and environment

In 2023, the Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Red Cross Society installed a rooftop solar system at its headquarters. This initiative is expected to cut electricity costs and eliminate carbon emissions related to electricity usage, with savings redirected to future environmental projects. The National Society also educated communities on climate risks and sustainable practices.

Disasters and crises

In 2023, the Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Red Cross Society contributed to [disaster law](#) advancements as part of the Regional IDRL Working Group. It co-hosted the Second Caribbean IDRL Workshop, identifying legal gaps and advocating for updated disaster risk management laws. In December, it showcased its La Soufrière eruption response during a READY360° Project virtual exhibition, promoting the importance of robust disaster laws.

Health and wellbeing

In 2023, the National Society collaborated on a Caribbean First Aid Manual through the READY360° project, standardizing first aid practices regionally. It also finalized a first aid business plan to enhance service delivery and generate revenue for sustainable operations.

Enabling local actors

Strategic planning included constitutional reviews, a Capacity Building Fund (CBF) proposal and efforts to improve financial sustainability. Revenue-focused initiatives such as first aid training and an early childhood care project were prioritized by the National Society in 2023, alongside measures to improve financial management and instructor policies. Youth engagement was strengthened through participation in the Caribbean Youth Network, advancing regional collaboration. The National Society also contributed to humanitarian diplomacy and first aid innovation, aligning practices with global trends and enhancing training impact. The Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Red Cross Society appointed a Digital Transformation Officer to implement Microsoft Office 365 tools, providing training to staff, volunteers, and community disaster teams.

IFRC NETWORK ACTION

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Climate and environment

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2023, the Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Red Cross Society received a grant of USD 50,000 to install a rooftop solar system at its headquarters. This solar installation is designed to reduce the National Society's electricity costs by 80 per cent and achieve a 100 per cent reduction in carbon emissions related to its electricity usage. By achieving these targets, the Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Red Cross Society plans to allocate the savings from reduced electricity expenses over the next two years (2024 and 2025) to further climate action and environmental projects.

In addition to the solar project, the Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Red Cross Society continued to focus on educating communities and building local capacity to address climate risks. The National Society worked with volunteers and community groups to integrate climate awareness into its programmes, empowering residents to adopt environmentally friendly practices that align with the national and local efforts for a greener and more resilient Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Red Cross Society's efforts by providing financial and technical resources critical to advancing its climate action goals. The Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Red Cross Society was also able to access expertise in renewable energy solutions and ecosystem-based disaster risk reduction (Eco-DRR). The IFRC grant of USD 50,000 enabled the National Society to launch the solar installation project.



Disasters and crises

For real-time information on emergencies, see the IFRC GO page, [Saint Vincent and the Grenadines](#).

Progress by the National Society against objectives

National Societies advocate for effective and protective disaster-related laws, policies and regulations

The Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Red Cross Society advanced the development of disaster-related laws and policies in 2023. As a member of the Regional International Disaster Response Law (IDRL) Working Group since September 2022, the National Society contributed to providing Caribbean-specific recommendations to improve the regional framework for international disaster relief. In May 2023, the Working Group finalized its 2023-2024 work plan and began its implementation with secretarial support from CDEMA and other stakeholders, under the leadership of Guyana's Civil Defence Commission.

In November 2023, the Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Red Cross Society collaborated on the planning and facilitation of the Second Caribbean IDRL Workshop. Themed 'Re-engineering the Caribbean Regulatory Framework for International Disaster Relief and Humanitarian Assistance in the Context of Comprehensive Disaster Management – A Call to Action,' the event saw over 100 participants, including Red Cross-National Societies, national disaster offices, and regional organizations. The National Society presented on optimizing multisectoral engagement during disasters and proposed improvements for institutional collaboration during its panel discussion. The key outcomes of the workshop included identification of legal and policy gaps in disaster management across CDEMA participating states, endorsement of recommendations to address these gaps and commitments by several National Disaster Offices to update their disaster risk management laws with IDRL considerations.

In December 2023, the Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Red Cross Society participated in a virtual exhibition under the READY360° Project. The Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Red Cross Society showcased its preparedness and response efforts during the La Soufrière eruption and emphasized the role of robust disaster law frameworks. The Country Report on IDRL for Saint Vincent and the Grenadines was highlighted, with plans for further promotion and advocacy in 2024.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC through the IDRL Working Group and the READY360° Project, provided technical support to the Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Red Cross Society's disaster law initiatives. This collaboration facilitated key activities such as the Second Caribbean IDRL Workshop and the [virtual exhibition](#). The IFRC also continues to promote the findings and recommendations from the IDRL Country Report to strengthen disaster law frameworks across the region. In May, the Working Group finalized its 2023-2024 work plan and began its implementation. The **Belize Red Cross Society** led in finalizing this plan. In November, the Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Red Cross Society collaborated on the planning and facilitation of the Second Caribbean IDRL Workshop which saw over 100 participants, including several National Societies among other stakeholders.



Health and wellbeing

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Red Cross Society participated in the Caribbean Technical Advisory Group on First Aid through the READY360° project. This initiative involves 11 National Societies from the Caribbean, focusing on developing a standardized Caribbean First Aid Manual. Meetings of the working group were held biweekly or monthly, with contributions from the Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Red Cross Society.

As of December 31, 2023, the draft of the manual with input from Caribbean stakeholders was still under development. This manual aims to unify and standardize first aid practices across the Caribbean region, enhancing regional capacity for emergency response.

Additionally, the National Society has been finalizing its First Aid business plan, which is being developed collaboratively by staff and members of the management committee. This plan is a critical step in ensuring the sustainability and effectiveness of its first aid programmes, focusing on improving service delivery and increasing revenue streams.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provides technical assistance and guidance for the creation of the Caribbean First Aid Manual under the READY360° project that includes 11 National Societies from the Caribbean. The working group for the development of the Caribbean First Aid Manual has contributions from participating National Societies, and the draft is written by the **Canadian Red Cross**.

ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS



Strategic and operational coordination

IFRC membership coordination

IFRC membership coordination involves working with National Societies to assess the humanitarian context, agree on common priorities and jointly develop common strategies. This includes addressing issues such as obtaining greater humanitarian acceptance and access, mobilizing funding and other resources, clarifying consistent public messaging, and monitoring progress. It also entails ensuring that strategies and programmes in support of people in need

incorporate clarity of humanitarian action while linking with development assistance and contribute to reinforcing National Societies in their respective countries, including through their auxiliary role.

According to Team Charter 2023, the Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Red Cross Society became a member and Chair of the Caribbean Technical Advisory Group on First Aid (CTAG) on 26 April 2023, along with seven other National Societies.

Movement coordination

The Saint Vincent and the Grenadines 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](#).

The ICRC supports the Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Red Cross Society in its work on [restoring family links](#) and tracing, primarily in the areas of migration, and in promoting [international humanitarian law](#) through its Caracas regional delegation.



National Society development

Progress by the National Society against objectives

National Societies define their development priorities and use strategic and development plans to improve the sustainability of their services

Building on efforts initiated in May 2023, the Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Red Cross Society has focused on organizational enhancement. Working groups have been established to address constitutional review, strategic planning and the expansion of first aid programmes. These initiatives are driven by the need for comprehensive change management, following transitions within the governing board. Coaching sessions have been introduced to facilitate the drafting of a strong Capacity Building Fund ([CBF](#)) proposal, with completion targeted for 2024.

National Societies improve their financial sustainability through investment and leadership engagement in the three pillars of financial sustainability (mission and strategy, resource mobilization, financial management)

The National Society is actively working to reduce dependency by investing in services such as first aid and the Chateaubelair Early Childhood Care initiative. Strategies have been developed to secure funding through the CBF, focusing on improved financial management, a marketing and sales strategy and standard operating procedures (SOPs). Efforts are also underway to rectify issues such as aged receivables, payroll tax compliance for staff instructors and the development of SOPs to handle payment policies and operational standards. To reduce reliance on staff instructors, the National Society is implementing a transparent instructor selection process and developing cost recovery mechanisms, including budgets and business models.

Youth, volunteers and young community-based drivers of change contribute to decision-making, innovation and strengthening the domestic network

The Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Red Cross Society has prioritized youth engagement through its involvement in the Caribbean Youth Network. In February 2023, this regional body finalized its Terms of Reference and elected a coordinating National Society. The National Society's youth representative has supported this initiative, leveraging the platform for knowledge sharing, advocacy and strengthening youth participation in the region.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provides tailored coaching sessions on the business model canvas, cost recovery strategies and the completion of the first aid programme's implementation plan for the CBF application. Additionally, the Caribbean Youth Network's reactivation has been supported indirectly through global mechanisms that align youth engagement with the IFRC's overarching goals.



Humanitarian diplomacy

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Red Cross Society advanced its humanitarian diplomacy by leveraging its participation in the Technical Working Group on First Aid. This group aims to enhance the impact and financial sustainability of first aid training across the Caribbean region. The working group has monitored global trends, emerging technologies and innovative methodologies in first aid. Recommendations for improving and expanding first aid training in the Caribbean have been developed to align regional practices with global best standards.

The Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Red Cross Society has explored opportunities to build capacity through exchanges, internships and showcasing the region's achievements at various forums. These efforts aim to enhance visibility and attract resources to sustain and expand first aid initiatives.

A repository for shared experiences and lessons learned has been established, allowing the Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Red Cross Society and other members to document and maintain institutional memory. This initiative ensures that best practices are preserved and accessible for future use.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC has facilitated the functioning of the Technical Working Group, providing platforms for collaboration, resource sharing and technical expertise.



Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

Progress by the National Society against objectives

National Societies advance scalable data-driven and digitally enabled humanitarian services and core enabling processes

To lead its digital transformation, the Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Red Cross Society appointed a Digital Transformation Officer tasked with overseeing the implementation of Microsoft Office 365 for non-profit organizations. This includes access to ten licenses of the Office 365 suite, with discounts available for additional licenses.

The Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Red Cross Society conducted its first digital transformation awareness session, attended by eight staff members, 44 volunteers, and 16 members of Community Disaster Response Teams (CDRTs). Following the initial session, targeted training programmes were delivered to staff and volunteers, focusing on the use of the 10 Microsoft Office tools included in the suite. These sessions aimed to ensure the effective adoption of digital tools and improve overall capacity for digital operations.





The St Vincent and the Grenadines Red Cross hosted a march in Kingstown for World Red Cross Day to raise awareness about its work in May 2023 (Photo: Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Red Cross)

SURINAME

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

in Swiss francs (CHF)

Country	Funding Requirement		92,000
IFRC Secretariat	Emergency Operations	Funding	83
		Expenditure	83
Longer-term	Funding Requirement		92,000
		Funding	80
		Expenditure	45

Suriname Red Cross

Overview

Funding	Not reported
Expenditure	Not reported

Funding Sources

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

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Health and wellbeing	People trained by National Societies in first aid		1,000
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IFRC NETWORK SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

National Society	Funding Reported	Climate and environment	Disasters and crises	Bilateral Support				Enabling Functions	Multilateral Support
				Health and wellbeing	Migration and displacement	Values, power and inclusion	Through IFRC		
British Red Cross									✓
Netherlands Red Cross									✓

Key achievements

Climate and environment

In 2023, the Suriname Red Cross Society enhanced climate resilience in coastal areas by partnering with UNDP on an EU-funded project. The National Society trained Community Disaster/Emergency Response Teams (CDRTs/CERTs) in [early warning systems](#), evacuation procedures and flood and drought responses. Awareness materials and three community fairs further engaged locals in climate adaptation strategies.

Disasters and crises

In 2023, two representatives from the national Society attended a regional workshop on enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment ([eVCA](#)) tools in Guyana, developing practical skills in resilience-building. While funding challenges impeded some planned initiatives, including early warning systems and [forecast-based financing](#), groundwork was laid for future disaster response improvements.

Health and wellbeing

In 2023, the National Society trained individuals in first aid, CPR and automated external defibrillator (AED), including advanced courses for high-risk sectors like mining. Community-based health training reached 172 participants. Collaborating with the Ministry of Health and Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA), the National Society conducted a survey on Zika awareness, strengthening public health preparedness.

Enabling local actors

The Suriname Red Cross Society played a pivotal role in the Caribbean Youth Network in 2023, promoting youth engagement and regional collaboration. The National Society's youth team contributed to the Solferino Academy's Limitless programme with 'The Blueprint Project,' which provided digital education resources to underserved students.

IFRC NETWORK ACTION

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Climate and environment

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2023, the Suriname Red Cross Society progressed in climate change resilience for coastal communities in western Suriname, areas highly impacted by both droughts and flooding. Working in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) on a European Union-funded project, the National Society focused on increasing local capacity to handle extreme weather. The Suriname Red Cross Society organized training for Community Disaster/Emergency Response Teams (CDRTs/CERTs), empowering communities with essential skills to effectively manage disaster response and improve resilience to climate change impacts. The training included areas such as [early warning systems](#), evacuation procedures and flood and drought response techniques adapted to Suriname's unique coastal challenges.

In addition to capacity-building training, the Suriname Red Cross Society developed and distributed materials to raise awareness about flood and drought preparedness. This targeted information campaign was designed to help residents understand the steps they can take to protect themselves and their property before, during and after these weather-related events. As part of its commitment to community engagement, the National Society also scheduled three community fairs set to take place before the end of 2023. These fairs aim to provide a hands-on platform where residents can learn directly about flood and drought adaptation strategies. Through interactive exhibits and

informational sessions, attendees will have opportunities to engage with experts, access resources and strengthen their knowledge on climate adaptation.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supports the Suriname Red Cross Society with technical expertise in disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation. Additionally, the IFRC facilitated connections with key regional and international stakeholders such as with the UNDP and secured funding from the European Union for climate adaptation and community preparedness for protecting Suriname's vulnerable coastal populations.



Disasters and crises

For real-time information on emergencies, see the IFRC GO page, [Suriname](#)

Progress by the National Society against objectives

Communities take action to increase their resilience to evolving and multiple shocks and hazards environmental crises

In 2023, The Suriname Red Cross Society sent two representatives to participate in a one-week regional workshop on the enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment ([eVCA](#)) process held in Guyana. This workshop, attended by representatives from several Caribbean National Societies, emphasized practical learning through the application of eVCA tools. Participants engaged in community-based exercises using techniques such as the Problem Tree, Solution Tree, Resilient Star, Semi-Structured Interviews and Seasonal and Historical Calendars. These exercises allowed for a hands-on approach to developing action plans and enhanced understanding of resilience-building methodologies. The initiative aimed to cultivate a cadre of trained facilitators who could introduce eVCA concepts to other National Societies.

Despite planning to engage communities in early warning system activities and explore [forecast-based financing](#) for flood preparedness, the Suriname Red Cross Society faced challenges in advancing these goals. The lack of consensus on agreement terms and conditions for fund transfers led to the withdrawal of funding, hindering the completion of several planned initiatives, including the completion of the orientation phase of the preparedness effective response ([PER](#)) approach. However, the groundwork laid in 2023 highlights Suriname Red Cross Society's commitment to building its disaster response capabilities and its potential to expand on these efforts in the future.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC facilitated the regional workshop and associated eVCA training to strengthen disaster response capacities across the Caribbean. This collaborative effort enabled National Societies including the Suriname Red Cross Society to gain access to specialized knowledge, tools and frameworks aimed at enhancing community resilience and preparedness.



Health and wellbeing

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2023, the Suriname Red Cross Society focused particularly on [first aid](#) training and community health awareness. The First Aid unit of the National Society trained a total of 1,048 individuals across a variety of sectors. This included 495 individuals from commercial settings who were trained in first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and automated external defibrillator (AED) techniques. These courses were designed to ensure employees in workplaces are well-prepared to handle medical emergencies. Additionally, 287 individuals participated in refresher courses, ensuring their skills remained up to date.

Additionally, 94 employees of a mining company underwent advanced first aid training, which is critical in the mining industry due to its higher risk of accidents. 172 people, including a significant number of bus company employees, completed the [community-based health and first aid programme](#). This initiative aimed to enhance disaster

preparedness at the community level, ensuring that a wide range of sectors are equipped with essential emergency response skills.

In addition to the training efforts, the Suriname Red Cross Society, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA), undertook a key public health initiative. The National Society was identified as a primary partner for the implementation of a knowledge, attitudes and practices (KAP) survey on Zika and its complications. This survey is part of a broader effort to improve community awareness and practices related to Zika, contributing to enhanced public health resilience in the region.

ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS



Strategic and operational coordination

IFRC membership coordination

IFRC membership coordination involves working with National Societies to assess the humanitarian context, agree on common priorities and jointly develop common strategies. This includes addressing issues such as obtaining greater humanitarian acceptance and access, mobilizing funding and other resources, clarifying consistent public messaging, and monitoring progress. It also entails ensuring that strategies and programmes in support of people in need incorporate clarity of humanitarian action while linking with development assistance and contribute to reinforcing National Societies in their respective countries, including through their auxiliary role.

Movement coordination

The Suriname 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](#).

The ICRC supports the Suriname Red Cross Society in its work on [restoring family links](#) and tracing, primarily in the areas of migration, and in promoting [international humanitarian law](#) through its Caracas regional delegation.

External coordination

The Suriname Red Cross Society collaborates with the Ministry of Health and the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) as a primary public health implementation entity. The National Society was also identified as a central partner for the implementation of a knowledge, attitudes and practices (KAP) survey on Zika and its complications.



National Society development

Progress by the National Society against objectives

Youth, volunteers and young community-based drivers of change contribute to decision-making, innovation and strengthening the domestic network

In February, the Caribbean Youth Network finalized and approved a working Terms of Reference which will guide their functions, and they elected the Jamaica Red Cross Society, represented by Adrian Reid, as a new coordinating National Society. The move to reactivate and revitalize Caribbean youths was championed by Junior Bharratt, the then youth representative of the Suriname Red Cross Society, which served as the coordinating National Society until the recent elections. This channel will be used for improved engagement and networking, knowledge-sharing, community support and to advocate for youth-related matters through a unified Caribbean voice. While it is not a constitutional body, the Caribbean Youth Network will support and be supported by the Global Youth Commission in promoting youth at all levels.



Progress by the National Society against objectives

Local innovation is better supported and enhanced through community involvement, and technical teams and volunteers (including youth) are encouraged and equipped to test new work methods

In 2021, a youth team from the Suriname Red Cross Society applied and was accepted into the Solferino Academy's Limitless programme, which focused on the COVID-19 pandemic and innovative solutions to challenges raised during the difficult period. This team of young innovators designed an initiative called 'The Blueprint Project', which bridged the digital divide by bringing access to online education in farming and culinary arts to students with limited or no access to regular online schooling.

To encourage this culture, the innovation team at the reference centre for disaster preparedness established an Innovation Network in the Americas, which is still in its development stages but gaining traction and attention throughout the region. This Network meets every two months to share stories, inspire innovation and keep abreast of tools and resources that support innovation. In February, the Suriname team was invited to join one of these Network sessions to share its experiences with the Limitless programme and updates on The Blueprint Project to motivate peers.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

in Swiss francs (CHF)

Country	Funding Requirement	1.9M	
IFRC Secretariat	Emergency Operations	Funding	64,000
		Expenditure	64,000
	Longer-term	Funding Requirement	609,000
		Funding	5.5M
		Expenditure	3.3M
	HNS other funding sources	Funding Requirement	1.2M

The Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society

Overview

Funding 112,000

Expenditure *Not reported*

Funding Sources

IFRC Secretariat 112,000

Participating National Societies *Not reported*

HNS other funding sources *Not reported*

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Climate and environment	People reached with activities to address environmental problems	107
	People reached with activities to address rising climate risks	107
Disasters and crises	People reached per year with support services, in-kind, cash and voucher assistance for emergency response and recovery	1,000
	People reached with disaster risk reduction	70
	People reached with livelihoods support	10
Health and wellbeing	People reached by National Societies with contextually appropriate health services	360
	People reached by National Societies with contextually appropriate water, sanitation and hygiene services	80
Migration and displacement	Migrants and displaced persons reached with services for assistance and protection	830
Values, power and inclusion	People reached by protection, gender and inclusion programming	1,000

ENABLING FUNCTIONS

National Society development	Strategy for strengthening the auxiliary role developed or implemented	Yes
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IFRC NETWORK SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

National Society	Funding Reported	Climate and environment	Bilateral Support					Enabling Functions	Multilateral Support
			Disasters and crises	Health and wellbeing	Migration and displacement	Values, power and inclusion	Through IFRC		
French Red Cross								✓	
Japanese Red Cross Society								✓	
Netherlands Red Cross								✓	
Swedish Red Cross								✓	

Key achievements

Climate and environment

In 2023, the Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society engaged youth in climate action through workshops and competitions, advancing awareness and advocacy. A photovoltaic solar system was installed at the Henry Dunant Clinic to reduce carbon emissions, aligning with its 50 per cent emissions reduction goal by 2030.

Disasters and crises

The National Society trained enhanced vulnerability and capacity ([eVCA](#)) facilitators and established a Community Resilience Group in Woodland, while upgrading logistics with a new disaster relief warehouse. Weather stations enhanced [early warning systems](#), supporting climate-smart agricultural initiatives and disaster readiness.

Health and wellbeing

In 2023, the Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society reached individuals through clinic outreach. The National Society provided health screenings for non-communicable diseases and education on healthy living, extending healthcare services to vulnerable populations.

Migration and displacement

The National Society supported migrants with primary healthcare, education scholarships for children and cash grants to households in 2023. A cash assistance programme for unaccompanied children addressed urgent basic needs, promoting dignity and inclusion.

Values, power and inclusion

The Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society integrated [PGI](#) frameworks to address violence and discrimination, with targeted support for at-risk migrants, particularly women and youth. Awareness campaigns promoted diversity and equity within its operations.

Enabling local actors

Business diversification efforts, such as first aid and Red Korner Cuisine initiatives enhanced financial sustainability of the Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society in 2023. Governance improvements included constitutional reviews, branch optimization and financial accountability advancements. The National Society advocated for stronger auxiliary roles in humanitarian diplomacy, sharing insights at international platforms. A digital transformation initiative upgraded tools for improved financial management and operational efficiency, ensuring better compliance, transparency and stakeholder trust.

IFRC NETWORK ACTION

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Climate and environment

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2023, the Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society strengthened its focus on climate action and environmental sustainability by engaging youth and investing in green infrastructure. As part of its youth engagement, the Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society organized a Climate Crisis sensitization workshop for its Trailblazers Clubs, which comprise Red Cross youth from secondary schools across the country. A total of 77 youth attended this workshop, where speakers from the IFRC, Trinidad and Tobago Meteorological Service and the Office of Disaster Preparedness and Management provided insight into the impacts of climate change and the steps youth can take to address these challenges.

Following the workshop, the Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society launched a national competition on the Goodwall platform, encouraging youth to share their perspectives on the climate crisis and disaster preparedness. The competition drew 54 entries from young participants, with three Trailblazers taking the top spots and winning prizes such as cash awards, first aid training and a three-month paid internship with the Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society for the first-place winner. Through this initiative, the Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society fostered climate awareness among youth and gave them a platform to voice their concerns and solutions on a national and global scale.

The Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society also reduced its carbon footprint by installing a photovoltaic (PV) solar system at the Henry Dunant Clinic located at its Port of Spain Headquarters. Officially handed over in August 2023, this solar-powered system enables the clinic to operate on renewable energy for its day-to-day functions. It also provides the National Society with 24-hour emergency power during times of crisis when grid power is unavailable. This installation aligns with Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society's commitment to reducing its carbon emissions by 50 per cent by 2030.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC facilitated the youth sensitization workshop that provided access to expert speakers enhancing participants' understanding of the climate crisis and disaster risk management. The IFRC supported the Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society to set up and promote the climate awareness competition on the Goodwall platform. The IFRC also guided the Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society in its renewable energy project.



Disasters and crises

For real-time information on emergencies, see the IFRC GO page, [Trinidad and Tobago](#)

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The National Society conducted a successful 'Ready to Respond' (R2R) process in the Woodland and Castara communities. A 'Train the Trainer' workshop for enhanced vulnerability and capacity assessment ([eVCA](#)) facilitators was held in October 2023, combining three days of classroom sessions with practical exercises in the Woodland community. The training resulted in 18 certified facilitators who effectively conducted eVCA assessments. In Woodland, over 25 active participants engaged in mapping and assessment sessions, with a diverse group contributing to the creation of the first-ever Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Community Resilience Group. Meanwhile, the Castara community demonstrated support despite lower in-person attendance, with valuable input provided by the Castara Fishers Association, a major local livelihood sector.

The Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society also advanced in logistical readiness by constructing a specialized warehouse on its headquarters compound. Completed in December 2023, the facility, equipped with air conditioning and industrial shelving, is designed to store perishable disaster relief items, such as hygiene supplies and medical equipment. This upgrade improves the efficiency and longevity of relief supplies, enabling more effective disaster response.

The installation of two weather stations marked a critical enhancement in [early warning](#) and monitoring capabilities. One station was set up at the Tobago Branch supporting the Climate-Smart Agricultural Programme which assists local farmers in optimizing crop yields through precise weather data. The second station at the headquarters strengthens the National Society's overall capacity to detect and respond to adverse weather conditions. These weather stations [contribute live data](#) to the Trinidad and Tobago Meteorological Service and global platforms, enhancing collaborative weather monitoring.

The Woodland Community Resilience Group received essential response equipment, including personal protective equipment, life jackets, water waders, rescue lights and first aid kits. This support follows training provided by the Ministry of Local Government and the Coast Guard, certifying 15 community members in evacuation vessel operations. These actions lay the groundwork for advancing training in Community Disaster Resilience Tools and Emergency Medical Response in 2024.

National Societies provide advice to their government in the analysis, drafting and implementation of effective disaster-related laws and policies

In collaboration with the Office of Disaster Preparedness and Management, the National Society submitted recommendations to the draft comprehensive disaster management policy in March 2023. Research was conducted to reinforce these recommendations, ensuring the [auxiliary role](#) of the Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society is clearly defined. Funding has been secured to facilitate stakeholder consultations in 2024, furthering the legislative and policy review process.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided technical support to the Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society. The disaster law initiatives were supported through funding mobilized by the **Japanese Red Cross Society**, which will assist in completing the policy review process.



Health and wellbeing

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2023, the Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society clinic outreach services reached 360 persons during July to December providing basic health screening services for non-communicable diseases such as hypertension and diabetes and education on healthy lifestyle choices.



Migration and displacement

Progress by National Society against objectives

In 2023, the Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society continued its efforts to address the needs of migrants and displaced individuals within its scope, focusing on health, education and basic needs. These areas were selected to fill critical gaps experienced by the migrant population, particularly those with work permits who struggle to access employment.

The Henry Dunant Clinic, located in Port of Spain and Tobago, delivered essential health services to the migrant community. Between July and December 2023, the clinic provided basic primary health care to 230 migrants. These services were offered both at the permanent clinic locations and through health outreach initiatives, aiming to make healthcare accessible to vulnerable populations.

The National Society extended support to migrant children who are unable to access public education by facilitating their enrolment in the Dawere online Secondary Education programme. Scholarships were provided to ensure these children could continue their studies. This initiative was supported through partnerships with UNICEF and the Pan American Development Foundation. Additionally, the National Society distributed unconditional cash grants to 200 households with children enrolled in the programme to help cover educational costs, such as internet access, ensuring sustained participation in their studies.

To address the needs of unaccompanied and separated children aged 16 and older living independently, the National Society implemented an unconditional cash assistance programme. 10 children were registered in this programme in 2023, enabling them to meet their basic needs and live with a measure of dignity.



Values, power and inclusion

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2023, the Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society particularly focused on addressing diversity, equity and protection challenges in its operations. The National Society's protection, gender and inclusion (PGI) approach reinforced its efforts to combat violence, discrimination and exclusion across all contexts where it works.

Throughout 2023, the Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society successfully integrated its PGI framework into various programmes and activities. This approach was crucial in addressing the needs of the migrant population, particularly those arriving from Venezuela. Migrant women were identified as being at high risk of sexual harassment, while children and adolescents, especially girls and unaccompanied youth, faced threats of sexual and gender-based violence. These risks were compounded by the psychological and health challenges associated with the migrant experience.

The National Society employed in-depth surveys to assess the needs of migrants and inform the design and implementation of its programmes. This data-driven approach ensured that interventions were tailored to the specific vulnerabilities of migrant communities, enabling the National Society to address gaps effectively and provide targeted support. This included fostering safe environments for women, children and other at-risk groups, as well as promoting inclusivity in the delivery of services.

The Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society's work extended beyond migrants, encompassing efforts to build inclusive spaces and promote equity in its community programmes. Through various initiatives, it worked to raise awareness about the importance of diversity and foster a culture of respect and inclusion among staff, volunteers and beneficiaries.



Strategic and operational coordination

IFRC membership coordination

IFRC membership coordination involves working with National Societies to assess the humanitarian context, agree on common priorities and jointly develop common strategies. This includes addressing issues such as obtaining greater humanitarian acceptance and access, mobilizing funding and other resources, clarifying consistent public messaging, and monitoring progress. It also entails ensuring that strategies and programmes in support of people in need incorporate clarity of humanitarian action while linking with development assistance and contribute to reinforcing National Societies in their respective countries, including through their auxiliary role.

Movement coordination

The Trinidad and Tobago 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](#).

The **ICRC** supports the Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society in its work on [restoring family links](#) and tracing, primarily in the areas of migration, and in promoting [international humanitarian law](#) through its Caracas regional delegation.

External coordination

The Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society collaborates with national authorities and partners including the Ministry of Health and the Office of Disaster Preparedness and Management (OPDM). As such, the Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society continues to train Communications Emergency Response Tool (CERTs) for the ODPM and will organize the first-ever National CERTS games in July 2023.

The Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society has been successful in securing funding from external international partners based in Trinidad and Tobago, such as the European Union and the Inter-American Development Bank. The Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society has also built partnerships with the UNICEF as well as the UNDP.



National Society development

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2023, the Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society focused on strengthening its organizational capacity and operational efficiency to solidify its position as a key humanitarian organization. The National Society progressed in business diversification, financial accountability, volunteer engagement, branch development and governance.

To enhance financial independence, the Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society implemented a business diversification plan centred on its First Aid and Ambulance services and its social enterprise initiative, Red Korner Cuisine. These initiatives align with a social enterprise model aimed at generating income to reduce reliance on project-based funding. This approach not only sustains operations but also broadens the scope of services offered to the community.

The finance team worked diligently to organize and submit audit packs for the period from 2019 to 2022. This focus on financial accountability reflects the board's commitment to maintaining transparency and adhering to audit requirements. The National Society's efforts in this area are pivotal for securing stakeholder confidence and future funding opportunities.

The Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society demonstrated a renewed commitment to volunteer engagement by appointing a volunteer administrator to oversee operations and improve service delivery for its volunteer base. This role is critical to achieving its goal of expanding its volunteer network by 2024. On the employee front, the National Society implemented initiatives to enhance satisfaction, motivation and technical competency, including hiring a human resources assistant to streamline administrative processes and ensure competitive compensation.

Efforts to strengthen branch operations included the development of a dedicated team tasked with optimizing the functionality of the Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society's existing branch. These efforts aim to finalize the branch's

charter in the constitution, paving the way for improved service delivery. Furthermore, the ongoing constitutional review, initiated in 2022, is a testament to the National Society's commitment to good governance. The board has prioritized this review process, which is expected to be completed by 2024, and continues to engage in discussions to align its operational structure with its strategic goals.



Humanitarian diplomacy

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2023, the Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society advanced its humanitarian diplomacy objectives by championing the auxiliary role of National Societies at regional and international platforms. A significant highlight of these efforts was the facilitation of a panel discussion at the Red Cross Inter-American Conference in June 2023. The session, titled "Leveraging our Auxiliary Status with Governments," brought together experts and representatives to explore the importance of National Societies' auxiliary role and share insights on successful advocacy for Red Cross laws.

Participants gained valuable insights from Costa Rica and Argentina, where sustained advocacy efforts have led to new Red Cross laws strengthening their auxiliary roles. Jamaica's account of overcoming challenges in achieving government recognition emphasized the importance of resilience and strategic engagement. This session received widespread praise for its relevance and practical value, equipping National Societies with actionable strategies to enhance their diplomatic efforts with governments.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided guidance and a platform for knowledge exchange to the Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society for its humanitarian diplomacy. The Red Cross Inter-American Conference was one such platform where the discussion drew on the experiences of the **Costa Rican Red Cross Society**, the **Argentine Red Cross Society** and the **Jamaica Red Cross Society**, providing a rich blend of best practices and lessons learned.



Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2023, the Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society developed and enhanced its financial management system. The primary aim was to establish a robust system capable of overseeing financial planning, budgeting, forecasting, reporting, compliance and risk analysis while meeting statutory requirements and promoting transparency. This would ultimately strengthen the National Society's ability to attract and manage additional funding.

Although not all planned activities were completed, progress were made in updating financial procedures and systematizing the collection of financial data from operational units. These improvements enhanced the accuracy and efficiency of financial reporting, bringing the Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society closer to its accountability goals. Progress was also evident in efforts to finalize audited financial reports, reflecting the National Society's commitment to compliance and transparency.

Additionally, as part of its broader digital transformation initiative, the Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society transitioned to new laptops in 2023. This effort was supported by the Capacity Building Fund (CBF) initiative, which began in 2022. The upgraded digital tools have enhanced operational efficiency and strengthened its capacity to manage financial and administrative tasks more effectively.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society's digital transformation and improvements in financial management with resources and guidance. The IFRC CBF also helped the National Society in the acquisition of digital tools.

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 Antigua and Barbuda 2023 Financial Report](#)
- [IFRC Bahamas 2023 Financial Report](#)
- [IFRC Barbados 2023 Financial Report](#)
- [IFRC Belize 2023 Financial Report](#)
- [IFRC Dominica 2023 Financial Report](#)
- [IFRC Grenada 2023 Financial Report](#)
- [IFRC Guyana 2023 Financial Report](#)
- [IFRC Jamaica 2023 Financial Report](#)
- [IFRC Saint Kitts and Nevis 2023 Financial Report](#)
- [IFRC Saint Lucia 2023 Financial Report](#)
- [IFRC Saint Vincent and the Grenadines 2023 Financial Report](#)
- [IFRC Suriname 2023 Financial Report](#)
- [IFRC Trinidad and Tobago 2023 Financial Report](#)
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- Operational information: [IFRC GO platform](#)
- National Society data: [IFRC Federation-wide Databank and Reporting System](#)
- [Evaluations database](#)



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.

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Dominica Red Cross

[www.ifrc.org/national-societies-
directory/dominica-red-cross-society](https://www.ifrc.org/national-societies-directory/dominica-red-cross-society)

Grenada Red Cross

grenadaredcross.gd

Guyana Red Cross

guyanaredcross.org.gy

Jamaica Red Cross

www.jamaicaredcross.org

Saint Kitts and Nevis Red Cross

www.facebook.com/sknrcs/

Saint Lucia Red Cross

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Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Red Cross

www.redcross.vc

Suriname Red Cross

[www.ifrc.org/national-societies-
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Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross

www.ttrcs.org