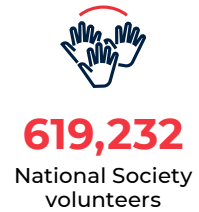


IN SUPPORT OF THE BURUNDI RED CROSS SOCIETY



PEOPLE REACHED

Emergency
Operations



3,073,329

Climate and
environment



2,868,200

Disasters
and crises



3,374,400

Health and
wellbeing



4,219,822

Migration and
displacement



37,617

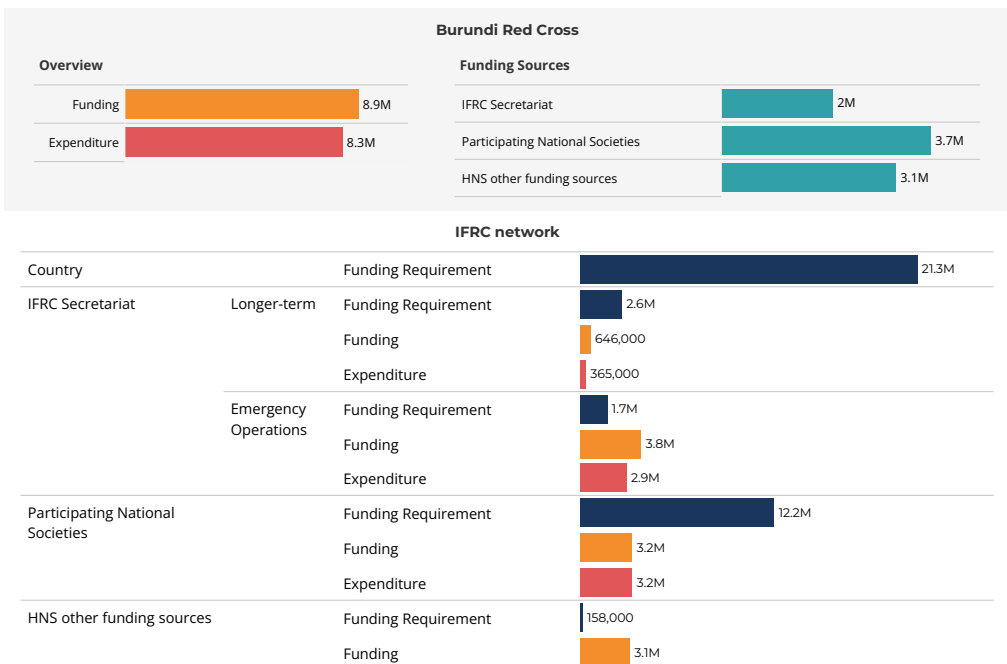
Values, power
and inclusion



949,728

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

in Swiss francs (CHF)

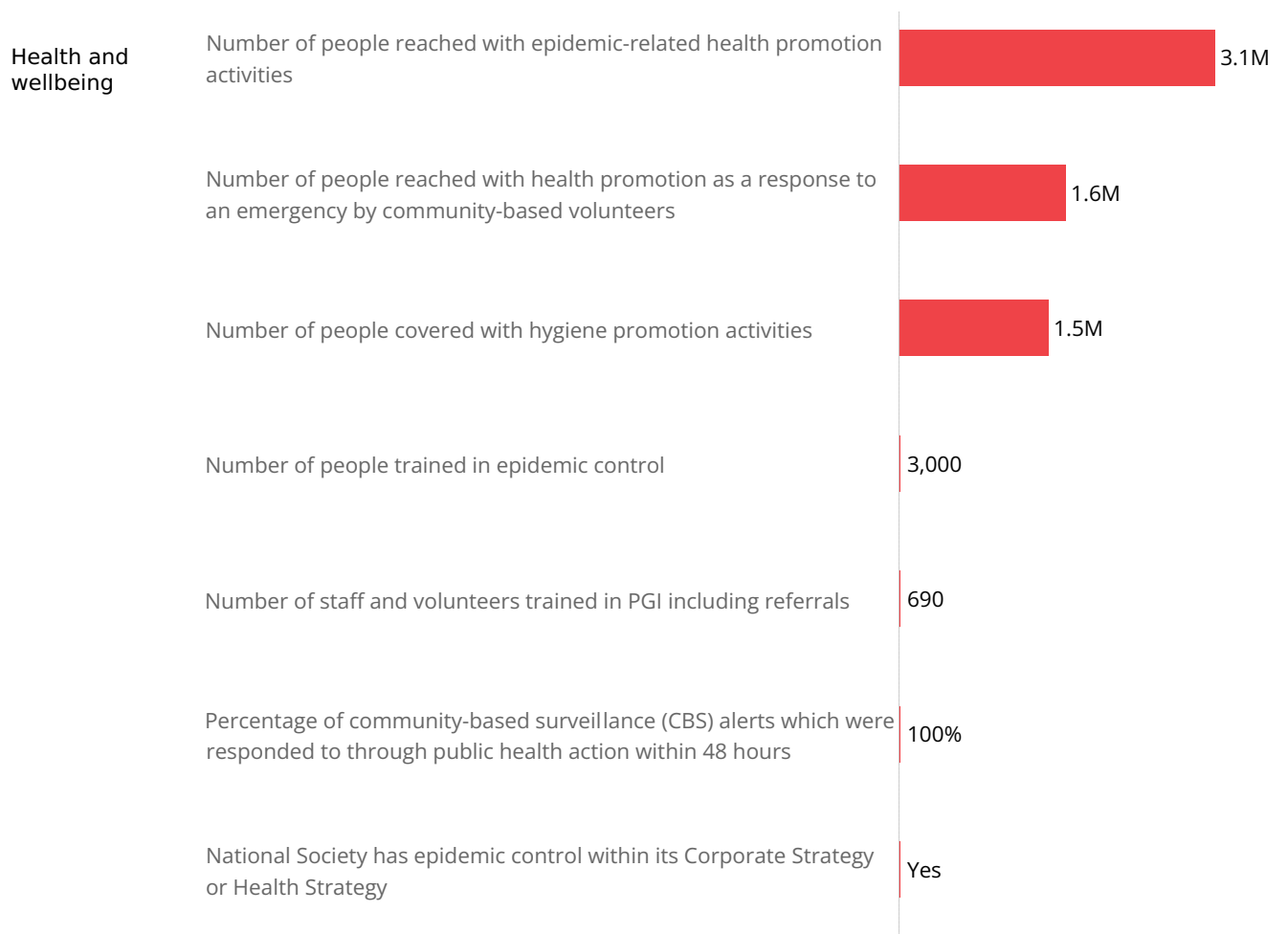


Appeal number **MAABI002**

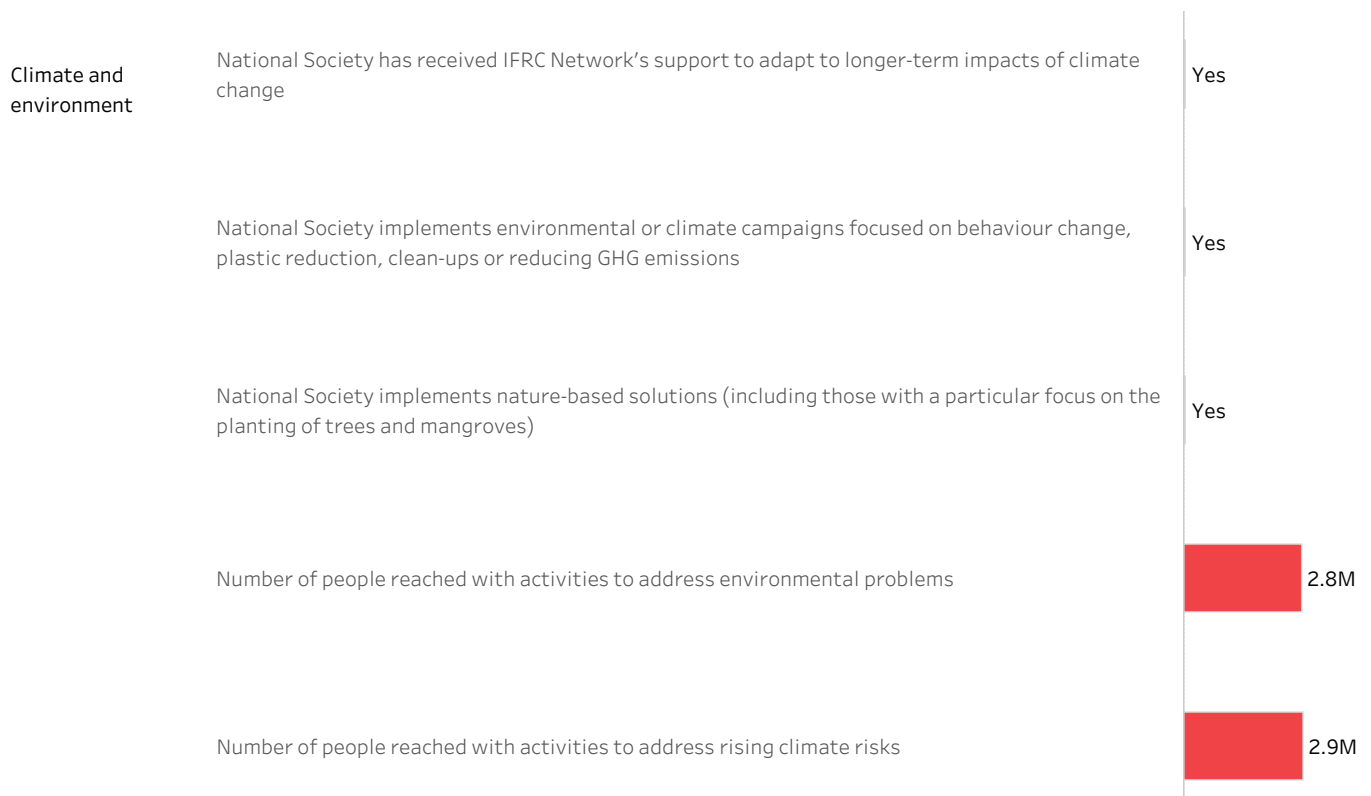
*Information on data scope and limitations is available on the back page

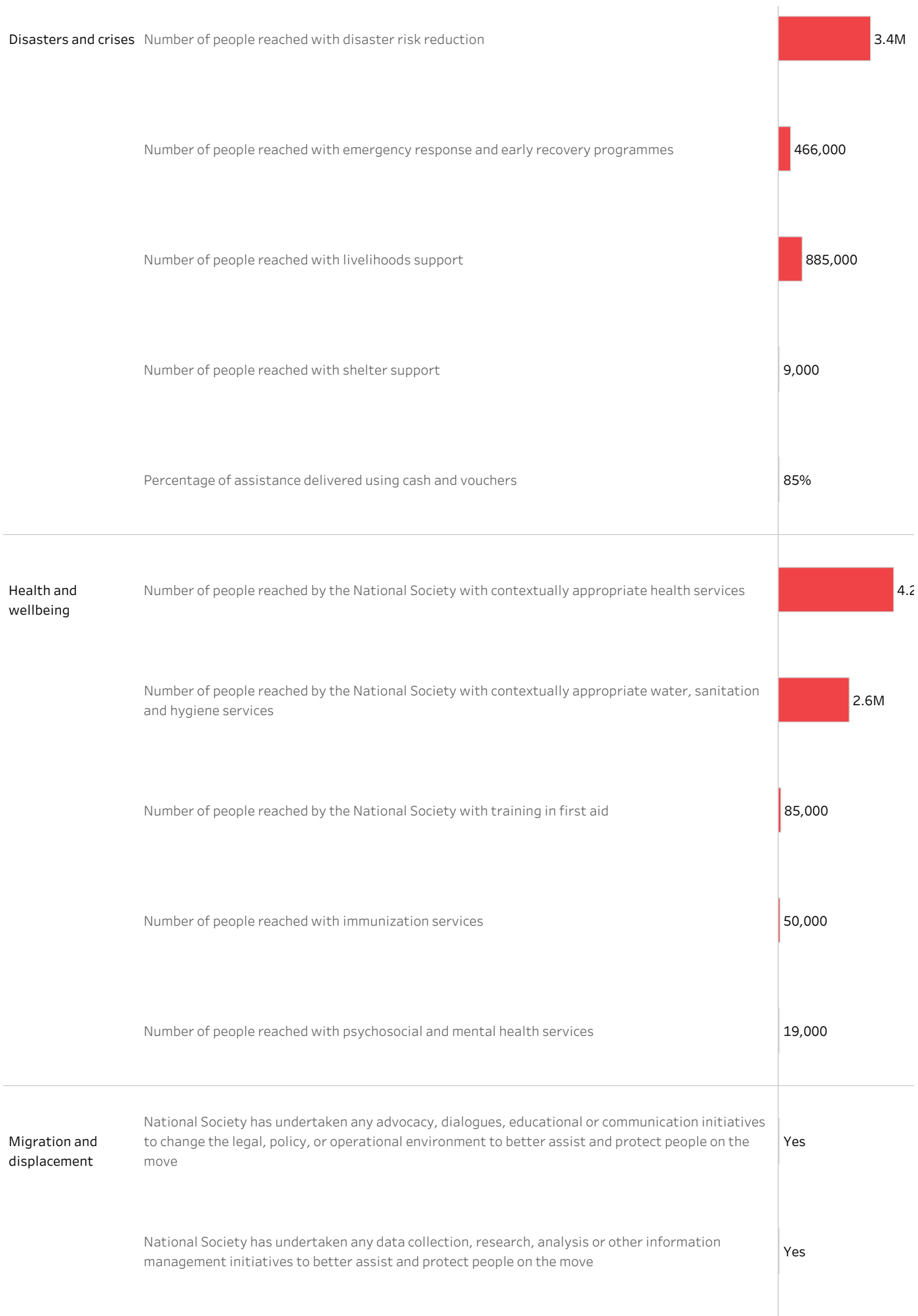
ONGOING EMERGENCY INDICATORS

MDRBI022 / Africa Regional Mpox Epidemic



STRATEGIC PRIORITIES





	Number of Humanitarian Service Points (HSPs) providing assistance and/or protection to people on the move along migration routes	11
	Number of migrants and displaced persons reached with services for assistance and protection	38,000
Values, power and inclusion	National Society has a Community Engagement and Accountability policy, strategy or plan	Yes
	Number of people reached by protection, gender and inclusion programming	950,000
	Number of people reached by the National Society's educational programmes	169
	Number of people whose access to education is facilitated through National Society's programming	1
	Percentage of those surveyed report receiving useful and actionable information	85%

ENABLING FUNCTIONS

Accountability and agility	National Society has a functioning data management system that informs decision making and supports monitoring and reporting on the impact and evidence of its actions	Yes
	National Society has a Protection of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) policy to enforce prevention and support survivors	Yes
	National Society has a PSEA Action Plan to enforce prevention and support survivors	Yes
	National Society has strengthened its integrity and reputational risk mechanism	Yes
	National Society is implementing a digital transformation roadmap in line with the IFRC strategy	Yes
Humanitarian diplomacy	National Society has a domestic advocacy strategy developed aligning, at least in part, with global IFRC advocacy strategies	Yes
	National Society participates in IFRC-led campaigns	Yes

National Society development	National Society covers health, accident and death compensation for all of its volunteers	Yes
	National Society has created and implemented youth engagement strategies	Yes
	National Society has developed and/or implemented a strategy for strengthening their auxiliary role	Yes
	There is a National Society Development plan in place	Yes

IFRC NETWORK BILATERAL-SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

National Society	Funding Reported	Climate and environment	Disasters and crises	Health and wellbeing	Migration and displacement	Values, power and inclusion	Enabling Functions
Belgian Red Cross	2.1M	●	●	●	●	●	
Finnish Red Cross	1M	●	●	●	●	●	
French Red Cross		●	●	●	●	●	
Luxembourg Red Cross		●	●	●	●	●	●
Spanish Red Cross	27,000					●	

Total Funding Reported **CHF 3.2M**

Q1. OVERALL PERFORMANCE

Context

Located between Central and East Africa, the Republic of Burundi is a small landlocked country with an area of 27,834 square kilometres. In 2022, the World Bank estimated the population of Burundi to be 12.8 million, of which more than 50 per cent constituted women. With a density ratio of 442 people per square kilometre, the country is one of the most densely populated countries in the world.

Since September 2023, exacerbated by the El-Niño weather phenomenon, Burundi faced virtually uninterrupted rains, instead of the usual two rainy seasons that span from September to January and March to May. According to official figures released by the Interior Minister, between September 2023 and April 2024, a total of 203,944 people were affected by flooding, landslides, violent winds and hail, and the number of internally displaced persons rose by 25 per cent to 96,000. The humanitarian situation worsened due to the rising of the level of Lake Tanganyika.

The floods and landslides caused an outbreak of cholera epidemic. The situation compromised the livelihoods of populations already suffering extreme poverty. The government of Burundi appealed for financial aid to meet the growing needs of 306,000 people in need of humanitarian assistance and to avoid a worsening of the situation.

The Burundian government's development priorities have been formalized in the National Development Plan 2018-2027 which includes the Poverty Reduction Strategy Framework 2012-2015 developed with the United Nations. The plan aims to strengthen the country's industrialization and improve the training of pupils and students to better adapt to climate change.

The year 2025 marked the fourth year of implementation of the 2022–2026 Strategic Plan and a decisive step in operationalizing the restructuring of the Burundi Red Cross, endorsed by the Extraordinary General Assembly in July 2025 and aligned with Burundi's new administrative division. Significant progress was achieved under the Annual Action Plan across the two strategic pillars of the Burundi Red Cross: Container and Content. In terms of organisational development, efforts focused on strengthening governance structures and volunteer management, resulting in a three-tier structure comprising the national level, 42 branches, and 3,044 hill/neighbourhood units, alongside provincial coordination structures and management committees in 451 volunteer supervision and professionalization centres. Volunteerism remained central to priorities, including the convening of a national youth volunteer forum with 180 participants, the election of a National Youth Council, and the appointment of a youth representative to the National Committee. Additional achievements included training on information management and fact-checking on social media, as well as the development of training modules on IFRC thematic expertise and volunteer management.

In 2025, the Burundi Red Cross was strongly mobilized in response to various disasters, including population movements from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (in February and December 2025) and the cholera outbreak in the "Cholera Belt". Alongside the public authorities, volunteers and staff provided reception, humanitarian assistance, first aid, drinking water supply, psychosocial support and the prevention of violence and disease in the reception sites. At the same time, the BRC continued awareness-raising activities against Mpox and strengthened community surveillance.

Key achievements

Climate and environment

During the first half of 2025, all Collinear Units were sensitized on environmental protection, climate change adaptation, and risk mapping, leading to widespread implementation of locally tailored mitigation activities such as contour line construction, gutter cleaning, and watershed protection. Significant efforts were made to develop riverbanks and stabilize watersheds using sustainable methods. Most units carried out anticipatory actions to reduce flood and landslide risks, with communal response teams and committees trained in early warning systems, evacuation planning, and risk mapping. Simulation exercises were conducted, and weather forecasts were consistently relayed to communities for timely action. Many units now maintain updated risk maps, supported by community-based processes and action plans. Across all branches, extensive tree planting and climate risk awareness activities reached a broad segment of the population.

Disasters and crises

During the first half of 2025, the Burundi Red Cross significantly strengthened community disaster risk reduction by sensitizing communities, equipping and operationalizing numerous Community-Based Red Cross Committees, and expanding first aid training for volunteers and road users. Standard operating procedures and practical tools for first aid and psychosocial support were developed and implemented, while response teams at all levels were updated and monitoring rooms established for effective coordination during elections. Community committees were continuously renewed and trained in life-saving techniques and vulnerability assessments, leading to the development of local action plans. The National Society also initiated a results-based Preparedness for Effective Intervention action plan, with joint teams formed and self-assessment sessions scheduled.

Health and wellbeing

During the first half of 2025, the Burundi Red Cross reached millions through health initiatives addressing malnutrition, disease outbreaks, and health promotion, while most Hill Units actively implemented disease prevention and management activities. The National Society strengthened community response by mobilizing authorities and volunteers to improve immunization, expanding first aid and health training, and scaling up the Model Household approach for better health outcomes. Food, water, sanitation, and hygiene interventions improved access to clean water, promoted hygiene, and supported vulnerable households, while child protection projects and school-based activities further enhanced community well-being.

Migration and displacement

During the reporting period, the Burundi Red Cross provided critical support to migrants, displaced persons, and returnees through registration for cash assistance, protection services, and family reunification efforts. With IFRC support, a major operation was launched to assist people fleeing conflict in eastern DRC, including the establishment of a humanitarian service point at the border offering shelter, medical care, mental health support, and essential supplies. Special attention was given to vulnerable groups, and water rescue teams were deployed to reduce drowning risks. Ambulances evacuated those needing medical care, and trained teams helped reunite separated families, while field visits highlighted the scale and effectiveness of the response.

Values, power and inclusion

During the first half of 2025, the Burundi Red Cross prioritized inclusion by ensuring marginalized groups and individuals with special needs were supported, systematically integrating PSEA and child safeguarding into activities, and advancing protection, gender equality, and mental health initiatives. The Society strengthened emergency preparedness and community engagement, expanded training for volunteers and staff, and enhanced support for survivors of sexual and gender-based violence. Psychosocial support and stigma prevention were emphasized, with ongoing efforts to improve stress management and establish a dedicated support unit.

Enabling local actors

During the first half of 2025, the Burundi Red Cross strengthened its role as a key partner in national and provincial government platforms, collaborating with UN agencies and various sectoral groups on disaster management, health, and protection initiatives. The Society advanced disaster preparedness, organizational development, and youth engagement, while enhancing its public image and advocacy efforts. It supported government-led projects, improved internal systems, and launched new resource mobilization initiatives, including ambulance services and income-generating activities. Regular meetings, training, and community events promoted accountability, volunteer engagement, and local action, while strategic partnerships and joint operations with IFRC and other stakeholders reinforced humanitarian diplomacy and effective crisis response.

Q2. CHANGES AND AMENDMENTS

The implementation of the 2025 unified plan has been implemented normally throughout the National Society. A major change has been made at the level of the organization of the National society and now has "the organic level, namely the central level, the branch level and the UCs. Thus, the Branches have increased from 18 to 42 and the UCs have increased from 2980 to 3044 in relation to the new administrative division of the country and according to the report of the restoration of the National Society. In addition, the provincial level has been endowed with provincial coordination and all the Branches of each province have elected a Representative and a Substitute to the National Committee. In addition, as the UCs are organized into Volunteer Supervision and Professionalization Centers (CEPV), the latter have been provided with a management committee. In terms of emergency response, in addition to epidemics including MPOX and cholera, the year 2025 was marked by a massive influx of Congolese asylum seekers and a response plan was developed and implemented.

Q3. MEASURING RESULTS OF THE IFRC NETWORK ACTION

ONGOING EMERGENCY RESPONSE

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

Emergency Appeal Name	Africa Regional Mpox Epidemic
Emergency Appeal number	MDRBI022
People affected	9.2M
Duration	August 2024 to December 2025
People to be assisted	1.38M
Funding requirements	Total IFRC funding requirement through the Appeal: CHF 30 million Total Federation-wide funding requirements: CHF 40 million
Link to Revised Emergency Appeal	Africa – Regional Mpox Epidemic
Link to Latest Operational Strategy	Operational Strategy
Latest Operations Update	Operational Update No. 2

In 2024, Mpox cases and deaths surged significantly in Africa, with over 17,000 cases and 500 deaths reported across 12 countries, marking a sharp increase from 2023. The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) remains the epicentre, contributing 92 per cent of cases, with transmission spreading across all its provinces and into neighbouring Burundi, Rwanda, Uganda and Kenya. Non-endemic countries like South Africa have also reported cases, while endemic regions, including Nigeria and Côte d'Ivoire, continue to see expanding outbreaks. The emergence of Clades 1a, 1b and 2 in disparate areas highlights the heightened risk, prompting organizations such as the Africa CDC, WHO and the IFRC to declare the outbreak a public emergency. Red Cross Red Crescent Societies are working closely with governments to provide community-based surveillance, risk communication and community engagement and vaccination support to mitigate the spread and reduce mortality.

Short description of the emergency operational strategy

The regional Mpox emergency appeal aims to assist National Societies in preparing for and responding to the Mpox epidemic. The strategy includes scaling up health and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services, community engagement and accountability (CEA) and addressing socio-economic impacts. The operation will be guided by a risk-based approach and regional coordination, prioritizing preparedness, readiness and response. The Burundi Red Cross will cover 5 months of intervention and prioritise the areas of gaps and competencies of the National Society. The recommended standards of RCRC will be applied in the tools and approach. A surge will be deployed to support

the capacity strengthening plan for the team in the 23 districts and the EPIC training package will be used to cover most of the desired trainings under health, CEA, and PGI.

The following assistance was provided by the Burundi Red Cross:

Health (Reducing the risk of transmission) : Community surveillance and contact follow-ups will be strengthened. The CBS system, led by the Ministry of Health and national authorities, will help strengthen the system at the community level. The Ministry will draw up a list of contacts and, based on these lists, volunteers monitor them. Based on the community definition of cases, volunteers will also notify alerts and participate in case follow-up in collaboration with the health authorities.

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) : Support will be provided for the distribution of detergents/disinfectants to households with reported suspected and confirmed cases. To improve WASH conditions, hand-washing facilities in public spaces, health centres, and entry points will be set up and monitored. Hygiene promotion campaigns focusing on hand washing in markets, schools, and other public places will also be carried out.

Risk communication and Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) : Community awareness will be promoted through home visits. Volunteers will be deployed to deliver awareness messages aligned with Ministry of Health messages, based on prevention and promoting barrier measures. Volunteers will use different channels/audio-visual support and strong feedback systems to address misinformation or information gaps, rumours, and concerns raised by the communities.

Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI) : Inclusive, protective, and gender-sensitive programmes and activities will be ensured to guarantee more equitable and safer assistance and benefits for all groups represented in the targeted community assistance and benefits to all groups represented in the targeted communities. The planning will aim to assess and reduce the risk of discrimination and violence and promote the meaningful participation of all people, regardless of gender, age, disability or background.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Climate and environment

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Burundi Red Cross has strengthened community resilience to climate shocks through expanded disaster risk reduction, environmental protection, and anticipatory action initiatives. Community Committees for Disaster Risk Reduction now operate across all hills in the country, with 48% trained and equipped to support local preparedness and response efforts. In alignment with the IFRC's pan-African tree-planting initiative, the Burundi Red Cross planted approximately 1.5 million agroforestry seedlings, while 15,550 households adopted improved cookstoves as part of the "model household" approach. To address erosion and protect livelihoods, 344 vulnerable watersheds identified through Enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessments were rehabilitated through contour line protection and agroforestry planting. Community participation remained central, with 91% of community units implementing at least one environmental protection activity and 93% carrying out local risk mitigation actions. Across the country, community units integrated climate adaptation measures into their service packages, including tree planting, nursery development, improved cookstoves, contour tracing, and drainage maintenance. In addition, anticipatory actions based on weather forecasts were expanded in flood-prone communes, strengthening preparedness, coordination, and protection of vulnerable communities from climate-related disasters.

IFRC network joint support

The activities of the Burundi Red Cross on the Climate and Environment strategic priority, including the pan-African "Tree Planting" initiative, were carried out with the technical and financial support of the members of the Red Cross network present in the country. Thus:

The **Finnish Red Cross** has supported the National Society through the production and planting of agroforestry trees in the province of Muramvya and through the creation and operationalization in the province.

The **Luxembourg Red Cross** has contributed to the production and planting of agroforestry trees in the provinces of Bujumbura and Rutana,

The **Belgian Red Cross Francophone Section** has contributed to the capacity building of community disaster reduction and prevention teams in the provinces of Kirundo, Kayanza and Karusi and to the creation and operationalization of CCRRCs in the same provinces.

The **Belgian Red Cross Flanders Section** contributed to the creation and operationalization of the CCRRC in the province of Cibitoke.



Disasters and crises

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

Progress by the National Society against objectives

During the first half of 2025, the Burundi Red Cross sensitized at least 124,270 people on disaster risk reduction and significantly strengthened its community response capacity. A total of 1,185 Community-Based Red Cross Committees (CCRRCs)—representing 44 per cent of the national total—were equipped and made operational. In the first half of the year, 167 new CCRRCs were established according to standardized procedures, and 91 were enhanced with basic first aid training and disaster risk reduction equipment to support local mitigation efforts.

Additionally 58,437 volunteers received First Aid training. The Burundi Red Cross developed and implemented standard operating procedures for First Aid and Response (FAFR) teams, along with practical tools such as manuals for frontline personnel, psychosocial support (PS), and injury response, including visual aids for community-level awareness.

All response teams at national, provincial, and municipal levels were updated, enabling the establishment of monitoring rooms across all provinces and municipalities during the June 2025 legislative and communal elections. At the hillside level, CCRRCs were continuously renewed and strengthened, with 74 per cent trained in essential life-saving techniques and vulnerability assessments (EVCA), leading to the development of community action plans.

Since May 2025, the National Society has also initiated the development of a results-based Preparedness for Effective Intervention (PIE) action plan. Joint teams from IFRC and the Burundi Red Cross have been formed, with self-assessment sessions scheduled for July 2025.

IFRC network joint support

The **IFRC** provided technical support to the Burundi Red Cross for the implementation of the Anticipatory Action Project, including the comprehensive Early Action Protocol (PAP). Disaster and crisis response activities, including the pan-African "Red Ready" initiative, were supported by Red Cross network partners in Burundi.

The **Belgian Red Cross (Flanders)** and **French Red Cross** also contributed to flood response efforts.

The **Finnish Red Cross** activated the "Crisis Modifier" for flood response.

The **Luxembourg Red Cross** responded to El Niño-related crises in Bujumbura, Bubanza, Cibitoke, and Rutana.

Red Cross of Monaco supported the National Society ad hoc support for the humanitarian response (MPOX, Population Movement).



Progress by the National Society against objectives

During the first half of 2025, the Burundi Red Cross reached over 4.2 million people through health-related activities, focusing on malnutrition, cholera, Mpox outbreaks, and promoting good health practices. At the community level, 92 per cent of Hill Units—2,699 in total—actively implemented disease prevention and management initiatives. The National Society mobilized 22 administrative and health authorities, along with 417 community leaders and volunteers, to improve access to routine immunization services.

Awareness campaigns on voluntary blood donation reached thousands of people, resulting in the collection of several blood bags and the creation of many school-based donation clubs. Additionally, 1,355 sessions were held on First Aid, community health, and the prevention of sexual and gender-based violence. The Model Household (MA) approach was updated and scaled up, with 2,562 units implementing it. A total of 7,799 households were certified as Model Households, and 49,136 were monitored to meet health-related criteria such as malaria prevention, HIV status awareness, and family planning.

Through this approach, 600 volunteers were trained in maternal and child health, and 760 sessions on sexual and reproductive health were conducted. In nutrition, 82 per cent of community units participated in managing malnutrition, with 141 learning sessions and 270 cooking demonstrations held. These efforts screened 40,785 children and supported 2,000 households in establishing kitchen gardens.

Water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) activities included the construction of a 9 km water supply system in Rusooro, serving 7,221 people, and the maintenance or development of springs and water sources in Gitega, Kirundo, and Rutana, benefiting thousands of households. In total, 61,392 households gained access to clean water, and 2,100 cubic meters were distributed to displaced Congolese in Cibitoke.

Community mobilization efforts led to the formation of nine Water Point Management Committees, involving 360 people. Hygiene awareness campaigns reached 9,641 people and 67,000 Congolese refugees. WASH kits were distributed to 1,070 households in Kirundo and Gateri.

Under the Child Protection Project in Kirundo, funded by the Japanese Red Cross through IFRC, 100 households were sensitized on hygiene practices and received water storage equipment. Two hygiene committees were established in local schools, and 39 educators and students were trained in the CHAST approach. Two water points were rehabilitated in Yaranda and Ceru hills, improving access for 3,050 households.

IFRC network joint support

The **IFRC** provided assistance for the Mpox outbreak response.

The **Finnish Red Cross** contributed through the Integrated Health in Poverty (ICH) project, focusing on community health in Muramvya Province.

The **Belgian Red Cross Flanders** supported first aid activities in Bujumbura, Cibitoke, Gitega, and Ngozi, along with WASH initiatives in Cibitoke and voluntary blood donation campaigns.

The **French Red Cross** promoted paramedical training at the National Institute of Public Health.



Migration and displacement

Progress by the National Society against objectives

During the reporting period, the Burundi Red Cross organized critical response actions to assist migrants, displaced persons, and returnees. A total of 1,768 vulnerable households were registered for upcoming cash assistance, while at least 21,513 individuals received protection services, including connectivity support at transit camps and 469 Protection of Family Ties (PLF) messages—231 distributed and 238 collected.

With IFRC funding of CHF 499,912, the Burundi Red Cross launched a DREF operation to support over 40,000 people fleeing conflict in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo. A humanitarian service point was established at Rugombo stadium near the border, providing shelter, medical care, mental health support, sanitation facilities, and essential items such as mosquito nets, hygiene kits, bedding, clean water, and food. Special assistance was offered to pregnant women, people with disabilities, and children.

Red Cross ambulances evacuated more than 120 individuals needing medical attention, while trained teams helped reunite separated families. To reduce drowning risks at the Rusizi River crossing, water rescue teams were deployed. A field visit by the Head of the IFRC Kinshasa Delegation and the Chief of Emergency Operations highlighted the scale of humanitarian needs and the effectiveness of the response.

IFRC network joint support

The **IFRC** assisted the Burundi Red Cross in family tracing activities, as well as support for the reintegration of displaced people and returnees in affected areas.

The **Belgian Red Cross (Flanders)** supported refugee protection and the restoration of family links.

The **Luxembourg Red Cross** and the French-speaking **Belgian Red Cross** contributed to the reintegration of displaced persons and returnees in Kirundo Province.



At Rugombo Stadium near the Democratic Republic of Congo border, Burundi Red Cross volunteers provide life-saving support and shelter to thousands of refugees fleeing conflict (IFRC)



Values, power and inclusion

Progress by the National Society against objectives

During the first half of 2025, all Hill Units ensured the inclusion of marginalized groups and individuals with special needs in their assistance packages. Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) and Child Safeguarding measures were systematically integrated into activities, particularly in response operations. As a result, at least 17,323 people benefited from initiatives focused on protection, gender equality, and inclusion. The National Society continues to prioritize the protection of individuals affected by crises and disasters.

Seventy percent of projects and programmes incorporated Emergency Response Preparedness (ERP) and Accountability to Communities and Engagement (ACE) components. This was achieved through the development of educational materials, implementation of anti-stigma strategies, and regular briefings for staff and volunteers. Additionally, 216 volunteers received ERP training specifically related to the Mpox and PSEA response.

Risk analyses for the protection of the child have been carried out and mitigation action plans have been developed. As part of this, **949,728 people** were reached through protection, gender and inclusion programmes, reflecting the National Society's ongoing commitment to protecting people affected by crises.

In the same vein, about 70% of the projects and programmes implemented by the BRC have integrated aspects of Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI) as well as Accountability and Community Engagement (ACE). This included the development of appropriate educational materials, the implementation of strategies to combat stigma and discrimination, and the briefing of staff and volunteers on the prevention of stigma and discrimination in communities. As part of the response to the Mpox outbreak, **216 volunteers** were trained on ERP and PSEA principles, to ensure that the specific needs of vulnerable groups were adequately addressed.

IFRC network joint support

The **IFRC** provided technical and financial support to the National Society for effective implementation of its programmes and activities.

The **Belgian Red Cross** and the **Luxembourg Red Cross** supported the promotion of humanitarian diplomacy and community engagement and accountability initiatives. The Magoniki Clubs were operationalized by providing registries for collecting community feedback in Kirundo, Makamba, Cibitoke, and Ruyigi. Through this mechanism, feedback on the Mpox response was collected, analyzed and shared with stakeholders to better inform response efforts.

The **Japanese Red Cross** provided support to the National Society for the Household Strengthening Project for Child Protection in the Kirundo Branch which aims to improve the living conditions of children and their families in the region. A total of 15 volunteer educators from the CERU and YARANDA hills were identified to monitor the schooling of children in 100 targeted households.

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 Burundi Red Cross receives long-term support from participating National Societies, including the **Belgian Red Cross (Flemish community)**, **Belgian Red Cross (French community)**, **Finnish Red Cross**, **French Red Cross**, **Luxembourg Red Cross** and the **Spanish Red Cross**.

Movement coordination

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

In Burundi, **the ICRC** repairs water and sanitation systems, restores family links and reunites families. It works with prison authorities to ensure that detainees are treated according to internationally recognized standards and supports training in international humanitarian law for the armed forces. In addition, the ICRC supports the Burundi Red Cross in the areas of community health, mental health, first aid, protection, restoring family links and migration. It also supports National Society development in the areas of safer access, humanitarian diplomacy and resource mobilization.

External coordination

The Burundi Red Cross Society is a member of several government platforms at both national and provincial levels. This includes the national disaster risk reduction and risk management platform, the sectoral protection platform, and the health cluster. The National Society also enjoys partnerships with several United Nations agencies, including the World Food Programme and IOM. It also works with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) to distribute dignity kits and with the Global Fund for Acceleration programme, to better manage and control the transmission and spread of HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis in Burundi. The National Society is a member and actively participates in the meetings of the National Disaster Management Platform. In addition, the said Platform regularly organizes coordination meetings in one of the meeting rooms of the Burundi Red Cross headquarters. It also actively participates in the meetings of the Platform at all levels and is the Secretary of this section. Additionally, it is a member of sectoral groups on different sectors such as the Shelter, Health, Nutrition, Cash Transfer and other sectors and collaborates with various partners, including government partners, United Nations agencies, bilateral cooperation and local organizations.

Lastly, it also participates in global coordination meetings organized by the COUSP, which is a division of the Ministry of Public Health in charge of managing public health problems in emergencies. In addition, the World Bank is supporting a project in Burundi called Merankabandi, led by the Burundian government. This project includes identification, registration and money transfers for vulnerable people. The Burundian Red Cross has been identified, without competition, by the World Bank for this work, which initially targets 10,000 households. It has already begun this work, which involves a large number of volunteers. In the context of disaster prevention and management, the National Society is a member of the National Platform for Disaster Prevention and Management and provides its secretariat at all levels.



National Society development

Progress by the National Society against objectives

During the reporting period, the Burundi Red Cross held regular and extraordinary meetings in line with regulatory requirements, focusing on disaster preparedness, response, and organizational restructuring. A retreat was organized for committee and executive members to review and improve the Society's operations across organizational, operational, and coordination levels.

Quarterly branch evaluation meetings identified strengths, weaknesses, and action points for development. The National Society mapped new structures in all branches to align with the country's updated administrative districts, including Pools coordination, Communal Branches, and CEPVs. Training sessions on volunteer management, integrity, and risk management were conducted in several branches.

Hill Committee members participated in International Red Cross and Red Crescent Day through community service, development, and environmental protection activities. All branches completed the BOCA assessment and integrated

action plans to address identified weaknesses. The operational model and standards for well-functioning branches were shared across all branches, and volunteer databases were updated.

Meetings were organized in line with regulations, with regular volunteer registers maintained. 108 out of 119 communes are functioning well. Community solidarity days and World Red Cross Day celebrations were held, including inter-municipal exchanges in Makebukoko and Bukweye.

Youth forums were organized, electing 10-member youth councils at each stage. This process will culminate in a national youth forum, establishing a national youth council and appointing a youth adviser to the National Committee.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC and the ICRC have donated 8 medical ambulances to the Burundi Red Cross as part of the National Society Investment Alliance project,

The Belgian-French-speaking Red Cross contributed to basic cost support, organizational capacity strengthening, and domestic resource mobilization through income-generating activities.

The Belgian Red Cross-Flanders supported the Burundi Red Cross through basic cost support, capacity building initiatives, and domestic resource mobilization activities, particularly in commercial first aid services.

The Finnish Red Cross provided support for basic operational costs, capacity building, domestic resource mobilization initiatives, and structural strengthening through Branch Organizational Capacity Assessment (BOCA) activities.

The French Red Cross contributed to basic cost support, organizational capacity development, and domestic resource mobilization activities focused on commercial first aid services.

The Luxembourg Red Cross supported the Burundi Red Cross through basic cost assistance and capacity-building efforts, including infrastructure construction initiatives.

The Spanish Red Cross supported the development and strengthening of volunteerism within the Burundi Red Cross.



Humanitarian diplomacy

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In the first half of 2025, the Burundi Red Cross took steps to enhance its public image and visibility. Following recommendations from a stakeholder perception study—which highlighted the advanced age of many volunteers—the National Society launched initiatives to attract and engage younger volunteers. This included awareness campaigns, forums, and the creation of youth councils at all levels.

To further improve public understanding, the Red Cross shared its operational approach with diverse audiences, notably through “friendship cafés.” Organized in collaboration with the International Committee of the Red Cross in the provinces of Cibitoke, Bujumbura, Bubanza, Makamba, Muyinga, Cankuzo, Rutana, and Rumonge, these forums brought together 240 stakeholders and strengthened understanding of the Burundi Red Cross mandate, principles, and operational approach among local actors. Advocacy efforts also began for a new law on the use and protection of the Red Cross emblem, supported by panel discussions, radio programs, and documentaries. In parallel, the Quality Assurance Commission developed and disseminated a roadmap on quality, accountability, and institutional compliance standards across all 42 branches, promoting stronger organizational performance and adherence to quality principles. Advocacy efforts also began for a new law on the use and protection of the Red Cross emblem, supported by panel discussions, radio programs, and documentaries.

On 13 March 2025, the IFRC Kinshasa Delegation visited Burundi to strengthen humanitarian diplomacy and coordinate responses to regional crises. The delegation was welcomed by key partners, including Africa CDC, UNESCO and WHO. Discussions focused on responses to outbreaks like Mpox and humanitarian emergencies linked to population movements from the eastern DRC crisis. All partners emphasized the need for stronger collaboration at national, continental, and global levels, agreeing that unity and solidarity are essential for effective humanitarian action. The visit also helped strengthen partnership relations and promote a coordinated approach to improving community resilience and preparedness for humanitarian crises across the sub-region.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided support to the Burundi Red Cross for the effective implementation of its programmes and activities.



Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

Progress by the National Society against objectives

During the first half of 2025, the Burundi Red Cross advanced its institutional development and domestic resource mobilization efforts. A skills development plan aligned with annual employee performance evaluations was implemented alongside an updated training policy, and mid-term staff evaluations are currently underway. Quarterly coordination sessions were also regularly organized to monitor institutional and operational performance across branches and coordination structures, while capacity-building sessions were conducted for newly elected leaders on governance, strategic planning, and financial resource management.

To strengthen financial sustainability, construction began on the Red Cross Gallery, with work expected to continue into the second half of the year. An ambulance service was launched following the acquisition of eight new medical ambulances. Additional resource mobilization efforts included fundraising partnerships for FOMI fertilizer distribution and flood victim assistance (Merankabandi and WFP), as well as income-generating activities through vocational trades. These initiatives led to statutory contributions from 44 per cent of Community Units and 79 per cent of municipalities, with further mobilization ongoing. The Burundi Red Cross also maintained a consolidated annual budget supported by strengthened financial monitoring systems, while the 2024 financial statements were externally audited to ensure transparency and accountability. In addition, integrated financial management and risk control mechanisms, including the operational use of NAVISION software, supported efficient budget tracking, expenditure validation, and risk management processes.

In Kirundo, Makamba, Cibitoke, and Ruyigi, 92 per cent of branches made strategic and operational decisions that reflected community concerns, and 61 per cent of complaints received were resolved locally. The National Society also updated its Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation, and Reporting (PMER) manual to improve strategic planning and reporting. Additionally, 25 staff members at headquarters were trained in data visualization and mapping using advanced Excel, QGIS, and Power BI. At the governance level, the restructuring process led to the renewal of the National Committee with the integration of provincial representatives, while governance and management bodies were fully operational from headquarters to hill units. Ethics, integrity, and quality assurance commissions also became operational in all 18 branches, strengthening compliance, accountability, and internal oversight mechanisms. At community level, 2,868 hill committees were supervised with support from communal committees, including the revitalization of 556 committees to reinforce local governance and accountability.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided support to the Burundi Red Cross in enhancing its institutional accountability and agility.

Q4. AFFECTED PERSONS (PEOPLE REACHED)

See cover pages

Q5. PARTICIPATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY FOR AFFECTED PEOPLE – COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

See Strategic Priority on 'Values, power and inclusion' under Q3: MEASURING RESULTS OF THE IFRC NETWORK ACTION

Q6. RISK MANAGEMENT

This information is not available in Annual Reports

Q7. EXIT STRATEGY AND SUSTAINABILITY

See Strategic Priorities or Enabling Local Actors, where relevant under Q3: MEASURING RESULTS OF THE IFRC NETWORK ACTION

Q8. LESSONS LEARNED

Key lessons learned from the implementation of the Unified Plan 2025 are presented in the different results sections (see Q3). Overall, the experience has confirmed the importance of the Burundi Red Cross Society's vast network of volunteers in ensuring a rapid and effective response to health crises, disasters and population movements. Community-based surveillance, risk communication and community engagement approaches have proven effective in reaching populations quickly and supporting authorities in managing outbreaks.

The implementation of the activities also highlighted the importance of close coordination with public authorities, including the Ministry of Health, as well as with humanitarian partners. This collaboration facilitated access to communities and provided relevant guidance to reach beneficiaries. It also reflects the support provided by the administrative authorities, health centres and schools, which have granted administrative facilities to the Red Cross teams. This approach of inter-agency coordination and collaboration is an essential element to be maintained and strengthened in future interventions.

In addition, some operational experiences have highlighted the need to pre-finance some initial activities in order to ensure a rapid start of interventions, especially in emergency situations. In some cases, such as the child protection project, an extension at no additional cost was necessary to ensure that the objectives were fully achieved. Experience has also shown the importance of facilitating and securing the mechanisms for transferring funds to the National Society, in particular through the use of partner banks already accredited by the IFRC.

In addition, the experience gained has highlighted the need to strengthen the inclusiveness of communication tools, especially for people living with disabilities, as well as to improve operational preparedness and pre-positioning of essential resources in order to respond more effectively to crises.

Finally, several evaluations and studies were conducted during the year to strengthen organizational learning and improve the quality of programs. These include the mid-term evaluation of the Amagara Yacu project, the final evaluation of the Integrated Health and Protection programme, the final evaluation of the AMoPAH 2 project, the CAP Mpox survey and the ECHO/HIP 2025 baseline survey. The results of these exercises will help improve the design, planning and implementation of future Burundi Red Cross programmes.

Volunteers at the heart of the MPOX response

In 2025, the Burundi Red Cross' vast network of volunteers was instrumental in responding to the MPOX outbreak. More than 2,400 trained volunteers were mobilized to carry out community surveillance, awareness and contact tracing activities in collaboration with the Ministry of Health. Through their presence in every community across the country, the volunteers have reached more than two million people with prevention messages, helping to limit the spread of the disease and build trust between communities and health services.

Contact: Burundi Red Cross – Health Department.

Improving access to safe drinking water for communities in Cibitoke

In the province of Cibitoke, the Burundi Red Cross has built an 8.7 km drinking water supply system, sustainably improving access to water for more than 1,200 households, 1,943 students and a health centre. This infrastructure has significantly reduced difficulties in accessing safe drinking water and strengthened hygiene practices within the community. The initiative also helps prevent water-related diseases and improve the living conditions of local populations.

Contact: Burundi Red Cross – WASH Department.

Community solidarity at the service of vulnerable people

Through the Community Solidarity Days, Burundi Red Cross volunteers mobilized communities to support the most vulnerable. In 2025, nearly 950,000 vulnerable people have benefited from assistance through local initiatives,

community contributions and activities carried out by hill units. These actions illustrate the strength of local solidarity and the central role of volunteering in building community resilience.

Contact: Burundi Red Cross – Community Resilience Department.

Prevention messages accessible to all

As part of the fight against MPOX, the Burundi Red Cross has innovated by developing inclusive awareness-raising actions for people with hearing impairments. Volunteers who can communicate in sign language have been mobilized to disseminate prevention messages to the communities concerned. This initiative has helped to ensure that essential information on disease prevention also reaches people living with disabilities, contributing to a more inclusive response.

- Video: <https://youtu.be/CegPimtw0mY>
- Raising awareness among people with hearing loss on the prevention of MPOX: <https://youtu.be/CegPimtw0mY>

ANNEX 1. IFRC APPLICATION OF THE 8+3 REPORTING TEMPLATE

The IFRC network structures its result-based management along five Strategic priorities and four Enabling functions, developed based on the IFRC network's [Strategy 2030](#):

IFRC network Strategic Priorities	IFRC network Enabling Functions
SP 1 - Climate and environment	EF 1- Strategic and operational coordination
SP 2 - Disasters and crises	EF 2 - National Society development
SP 3 - Health and wellbeing	EF 3 - Humanitarian diplomacy
SP 4 - Migration and displacement	EF 4 - Accountability and agility
SP 5 - Values, power and inclusion	

The Federation-wide results matrix provides a standard way for the IFRC network to measure its progress towards Strategy 2030 implementation and supports consistent quality of the IFRC network planning, monitoring and reporting. To further advance coherence in monitoring across the IFRC network, a [Federation-wide Indicator Bank](#) has been developed and integrated into the Federation-wide monitoring systems for emergencies and longer-term work, structured along the Federation-wide results matrix as well. Signatory of the Grand Bargain Agreement, the IFRC has committed to its monitoring and reporting standards through integration of the [8+3 reporting template](#) contents into its results-based management approach. The following mapping demonstrate the way in which this report aligns with 8+3 reporting:

8+3 template	IFRC network Annual Report (with variance in structure in red)
Core Questions	
1. Overall Performance	Overall Performance
2. Changes and Amendments	Changes and amendments
3. Measuring Results	Measuring Results
4. Affected Persons	Cover pages with indicators values
5. Participation & AAP	Under Q3 Strategic Priority 5: Values, power and inclusion – Community Engagement and Accountability
6. Risk management	Risk management
7. Exit Strategy and Sustainability	Under Q3 sub-sections by Strategic Priority/Enabling Function where relevant
8. Lessons Learned	Lessons learned
Additional Questions	
1. Value for Money/ Cost Effectiveness	Not included in annual reports
2. Visibility	Not included in annual reports
3. Coordination	Under Q3 Enabling Function 1: Strategic and operational coordination
4. Implementing Partners	Cross-cutting, with a focus on support to localization through the Q3 Enabling Functions 1 to 4
5. Activities or Steps Towards implementation	Cross-cutting in Q3 Strategic Priorities and Enabling Functions
6. Environment	Under Q3 Strategic Priority 1: Climate and environment



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

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

DATA SCOPE AND LIMITATIONS

- **Timeframe and alignment:** The reporting timeframe for this overview is covering the period from 1 January to 31 December 2025. However, due to the diversity of the IFRC and differences in fiscal years, this coverage may not fully align for some National Societies.
- **Financial overview:** This overview consolidates data reported by the National Society and its IFRC network partners, as well as data extracted from IFRC's financial systems. All reported figures should include the administrative and operational costs of the different entities. The financial data with a grey background is solely reported by the National Society, including the funding sources. Financial reporting is often times estimated depending on availability of financial figures, closing of financial periods, and may be incomplete. 'Not reported' could sometimes mean 'not applicable'. Also note that funding requirements are already reflected in the published 2025 IFRC network country plan. The total funding requirements show what the IFRC network has sought to raise for the given year through different channels: funding through the IFRC, through participating National Societies as bilateral support, and through the host National Society from non-IFRC network sources. All figures should include the administrative and operational costs of the different entities.
 - » Host National Society funding requirements not coming from IFRC network sources can comprise a variety of sources, as demonstrated when reporting on income in the IFRC Federation-wide Databank and Reporting System
 - » Participating National Society funding requirements for bilateral support are those validated by respective headquarters, and often represent mainly secured funding
 - » IFRC funding requirements comprise both what is sourced from the IFRC core budget and what is sought through emergency and thematic funding. This includes participating National Societies' multilateral support through IFRC, and all other IFRC sources of funding
- **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) 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.
- **Definitions:**
 - » **Local units:** ALL subdivisions of a National Society that coordinate and deliver services to people. These include ALL levels (provincial, state, city, district branches, sections or chapters, headquarters, and regional and intermediate offices, as well as community-based units)
 - » **Branches:** A Branch has its roles, responsibilities and relationship with the National Headquarters defined through the National Society's Statutes, including the level of autonomy given, especially in the area of its legal status, mobilising local resources and building local partnerships, and the decisions it makes. It has a local-level decision-making mechanism through its Branch members, board and volunteers, equally defined through the National Society's Statutes

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- [Burundi_INP_AR_2025.pdf](#)
- [IFRC network country plans](#)
- [Subscribe for updates](#)
- [Live Disaster Response Emergency Fund \(DREF\) data](#)
- Operational information: [IFRC GO platform](#)
- National Society data: [IFRC Federation-wide Databank and Reporting System](#)
- [Evaluations database](#)

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