



GUINEA-BISSAU

2025 IFRC network annual report, Jan-Dec



16 July 2026

IN SUPPORT OF THE RED CROSS SOCIETY OF GUINEA-BISSAU



11

National Society
branches



52

National Society
local units



17

National Society
staff



5,000

National Society
volunteers

PEOPLE REACHED

Climate and
environment



20,055

Disasters
and crises



20,055

Values, power
and inclusion



215

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

in Swiss francs (CHF)

Red Cross Society of Guinea-Bissau			
Overview		Funding Sources	
Funding	Not reported	IFRC Secretariat	Not reported
Expenditure	429,000	Participating National Societies	Not reported
		HNS other funding sources	750,000

IFRC network			
Country	Funding Requirement		7.7M
IFRC Secretariat	Longer-term	Funding Requirement	4.5M
		Funding	Not reported
		Expenditure	Not reported
	Emergency Operations	Funding	455,000
		Expenditure	440,000
Participating National Societies	Funding Requirement		850,000
	Funding		Not reported
HNS other funding sources	Funding Requirement		2.4M
	Funding		750,000

Appeal number **MAAGW0023**

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

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



ENABLING FUNCTIONS

Accountability and agility	National Society has a Protection of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) policy to enforce prevention and support survivors	Yes
National Society development	National Society has created and implemented youth engagement strategies	Yes

Q1. OVERALL PERFORMANCE

Context

In 2025, Guinea-Bissau continued to operate in a complex humanitarian and development context marked by persistent socio-economic vulnerability, climate-related risks, and renewed political uncertainty. Guinea-Bissau ranks among the world's poorest and most fragile nations. The country continues to grapple with deep-rooted poverty, especially in rural areas, compounded by low literacy rates (notably among women), food insecurity and high infant mortality. Persistent institutional fragility and political instability evidenced by recurring election postponements and governmental turnover further undermine socioeconomic development in Guinea-Bissau.

Food insecurity remained a recurring challenge during the reporting period. During seasonal lean periods, an estimated 30 per cent of the population experiences food shortages, particularly in rural communities. The national health system also continued to face significant constraints, including limited health infrastructure, shortages of qualified health personnel, and inconsistent access to essential medicines. As a result, maternal and child mortality rates remain high, while recurrent disease outbreaks such as malaria, tuberculosis, diarrheal diseases, hepatitis, and HIV/AIDS continue to place pressure on already overstretched health services. Vaccination coverage remains uneven, particularly in remote communities with limited access to healthcare facilities.

Guinea-Bissau is highly exposed to floods, droughts, coastal erosion, strong winds, and rising sea levels, which negatively affect livelihoods, housing, and food production. These environmental pressures are contributing to internal displacement and increasing migration among young people seeking economic opportunities abroad.

During the reporting period, several emergencies further affected vulnerable communities. In January 2025, two major fires in the Gabú and Cacheu regions destroyed homes, market infrastructure, and sources of livelihood for hundreds of households. Later in September 2025, heavy rainfall caused flooding in several communities across the Gabú and Bafatá regions, damaging homes and increasing the risk of waterborne diseases and malaria. These events highlighted the increasing impact of climate variability and the need to strengthen community preparedness and disaster risk reduction mechanisms.

The operating environment was further affected by political developments following the November 2025 general elections, which resulted in a coup d'état and the suspension of constitutional order. This situation created uncertainty and posed challenges for coordination with national authorities and humanitarian actors. Despite these constraints, humanitarian operations continued with the objective of maintaining essential services and supporting vulnerable populations.

Key achievements

Disasters and crises

In 2025, the Red Cross Society of Guinea-Bissau strengthened disaster preparedness, emergency response, and community resilience in the face of recurrent floods, fires, and strong winds affecting vulnerable communities. Through contingency planning, volunteer training, simulation exercises, and the Integrated Ambulance Network, the National Society enhanced its operational readiness and emergency response capacity. Rapid assessments and DREF-supported interventions enabled timely assistance to fire- and flood-affected households, including support for shelter recovery and livelihoods restoration. Community awareness activities on disaster risk reduction further strengthened local resilience, while humanitarian assistance provided through the Flood Mitigation and Resilience Strengthening Project helped affected families improve housing conditions, access food, and meet essential household needs.

Health and wellbeing

In 2025, the Red Cross Society of Guinea-Bissau strengthened community-based health, first aid, and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) interventions to address persistent public health challenges, including limited access to healthcare, communicable diseases, malaria, and poor sanitation. Trained volunteers provided first aid and emergency health support during community activities and public events, while health promotion, epidemic prevention, and hygiene awareness campaigns helped strengthen preventive health behaviours in vulnerable communities. The National

Society also enhanced emergency medical response capacity through the Integrated Ambulance Network and, through its partnership with Plan International under the SQRIBE project, improved access to safe water, sanitation, and hygiene services in schools by rehabilitating water infrastructure, providing water storage equipment, training teachers, and promoting good hygiene practices.

Migration and displacement

In 2025, migration and displacement remained significant humanitarian concerns in Guinea-Bissau, driven by economic hardship, climate-related shocks, food insecurity, and periodic instability. In response, the Red Cross Society of Guinea-Bissau strengthened protection and support services for migrants and displaced persons through its [Restoring Family Links](#) (RFL) programme, implemented in partnership with the ICRC. During the year, 80 migrants were assisted in reconnecting with their families, while tracing, communication, and return support services were provided to vulnerable individuals and families affected by migration. The National Society also conducted community awareness activities on the risks of irregular migration and responded to disaster-induced displacement caused by fires and floods through emergency assistance and early recovery support.

Values, power and inclusion

In 2025, the Red Cross Society of Guinea-Bissau integrated [Protection, Gender, and Inclusion \(PGI\)](#) across its humanitarian programmes to address the needs of women, children, persons with disabilities, and other vulnerable groups affected by inequality and limited access to services. The National Society strengthened youth engagement and volunteer development through recruitment, leadership opportunities, and training on humanitarian principles, the Code of Conduct, and the protection of the Red Cross emblem. [Community Engagement and Accountability \(CEA\)](#) remained a cross-cutting priority, with volunteers maintaining regular dialogue with communities to gather feedback, promote participation, and ensure that humanitarian interventions remained inclusive, responsive, and aligned with community needs.

Enabling local actors

In 2025, the Red Cross Society of Guinea-Bissau strengthened its institutional capacity, partnerships, and humanitarian coordination through active engagement with national emergency mechanisms, government authorities, UN agencies, NGOs, and Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement partners. With support from the IFRC and participation in the Sahel+ Resilience Platform, the National Society enhanced disaster preparedness, health, education, and resilience programming while strengthening the operational capacity of its 11 regional committees through training, technical support, and improved coordination systems. Communication and visibility efforts, including radio programmes, digital outreach, and institutional publications, increased public awareness and reinforced the Society's credibility and humanitarian presence.

The National Society also expanded its volunteer network, strengthened youth engagement, safeguarding, and community accountability, and invested in operational infrastructure and staff development. High-level humanitarian diplomacy with government authorities, diplomatic missions, and Movement partners further enhanced strategic partnerships and resource mobilization, while the signing of the IFRC Headquarters Agreement formalized the Federation's presence in Guinea-Bissau. Through strengthened governance, transparency, digital transformation, risk management, and community engagement, the National Society improved its operational effectiveness, accountability, and readiness to respond to evolving humanitarian needs across the country.

Q2. CHANGES AND AMENDMENTS

In this reporting period, no changes or amendments were made by the National Society

Q3. MEASURING RESULTS OF THE IFRC NETWORK ACTION

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Disasters and crises

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

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2025, the Red Cross Society of Guinea-Bissau continued to strengthen its role in disaster preparedness, emergency response, and community resilience. Recurrent climate-related hazards including flooding, strong winds, and fires continued to affect vulnerable communities across the country, particularly in regions with fragile housing conditions, limited early warning systems, and weak infrastructure. In response, the National Society prioritized strengthening disaster risk management capacities, improving emergency preparedness mechanisms, and delivering timely humanitarian assistance to affected communities.

During the reporting period, the National Society reinforced its disaster preparedness and operational readiness through updated contingency planning, volunteer training, and simulation exercises. Contingency plans were reviewed and operationalized to address potential risks related to major public events and national processes, including the 2025 electoral process and large public gatherings such as Carnival, Ramadan, Easter, Tabaski, and Labour Day.

Preparedness measures included simulation exercises and refresher trainings for volunteers, aimed at improving coordination and response capacity at both national and regional levels. In addition, 70 volunteers were trained under the Integrated Ambulance Network initiative, strengthening the National Society's capacity to provide pre-hospital emergency care and support national emergency medical services.

During the year, the Red Cross Society of Guinea-Bissau maintained strong rapid response capacity, enabling timely humanitarian assistance following fires and floods that affected several regions of the country. Rapid needs assessments conducted after the major fires in Gabú and Djufunco enabled the National Society to quickly identify priority needs and mobilize emergency support.

Following these assessments, the National Society submitted a Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF) request, which enabled the provision of targeted humanitarian assistance to affected households and traders. This support aimed to help families cope with the loss of homes, goods, and livelihoods caused by the fires. In Gabú, reconstruction assistance supported the restoration of burned market infrastructure, helping affected traders resume economic activities.

First aid and emergency health support remained a key component of the National Society's disaster response efforts. Throughout the year, Red Cross volunteers provided structured first aid services during public events and mass gatherings, assisting approximately 634 individuals who required medical attention.

Community-based disaster risk reduction remained central to the Guinea-Bissau Red Cross' efforts to strengthen local resilience. Volunteers conducted community awareness campaigns on disaster prevention, focusing on risks related to floods, fires, and strong winds.

Additional support to disaster-affected communities was delivered through the Flood Mitigation and Resilience Strengthening Project, which targeted households affected by the 2022 floods in Bissau. During the reporting period, 374 families received humanitarian assistance aimed at improving living conditions and strengthening household resilience. Support included the distribution of construction materials to facilitate the restoration of damaged homes, as well as food assistance for vulnerable households facing food insecurity. In addition, long-lasting insecticide-treated

mosquito nets and essential household items were provided to help reduce the risk of vector-borne diseases and improve basic living conditions for affected families.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided technical and financial assistance to the Red Cross Society of the Guinea-Bissau.



Health and wellbeing

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2025, Guinea-Bissau continued to face significant public health challenges linked to limited healthcare infrastructure, shortages of trained health personnel, and restricted access to primary healthcare services, particularly in rural and remote areas. High maternal and child mortality rates, persistent malaria transmission, and recurrent outbreaks of communicable diseases such as diarrheal and respiratory infections remained major public health concerns. Seasonal flooding and poor sanitation conditions further increased the risk of waterborne diseases in vulnerable communities.

In response, the Red Cross Society of Guinea-Bissau strengthened its community-based health and first aid interventions, focusing on prevention, emergency health response, epidemic preparedness, and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH).

The Red Cross Society of Guinea-Bissau volunteers continued to provide first aid and emergency health support during public gatherings, cultural events, and community activities across several regions of the country. During the reporting period, approximately 634 individuals received first aid assistance from trained Red Cross volunteers. A key milestone during the reporting period was the continued implementation of the Integrated Ambulance Network initiative, coordinated by the National Society in collaboration with national health authorities. Through this initiative, 70 volunteers were trained in pre-hospital emergency care, strengthening the National Society's capacity to provide timely emergency medical assistance and support referral systems between communities and health facilities.

Health promotion and epidemic prevention remained central components of the Red Cross Society of Guinea-Bissau's community health programming. Volunteers conducted awareness sessions and outreach activities to encourage preventive health behaviours, promote early health-seeking practices and reduce exposure to common diseases. These interventions were particularly important in flood-prone areas, where the risks of malaria and waterborne diseases increase during the rainy season. Risk communication activities were aligned with the priorities of the Ministry of Public Health, helping to ensure consistent public health messaging while strengthening collaboration between the National Society and national authorities.

The Red Cross Society of Guinea-Bissau also implemented hygiene promotion campaigns and community sensitization activities aimed at improving environmental health conditions in vulnerable communities. These activities focused on safe water handling, handwashing practices, and improved sanitation behaviours. Door-to-door awareness campaigns increased community knowledge of essential hygiene practices and supported efforts to prevent waterborne diseases, particularly in communities affected by flooding and inadequate sanitation infrastructure.

Additional progress in strengthening WASH services was achieved through a partnership with Plan International Guinea-Bissau under the Resilient and Inclusive Quality Education Project (SQRIBE), implemented in the regions of Bafatá and Gabú. Through this initiative, ten school water points were identified for rehabilitation following a joint assessment mission, while water harvesting and conservation equipment, including water tanks and related accessories, was distributed to 56 schools. Teachers received training in the management of school water and sanitation infrastructure, and school management committees were established to support the maintenance and sustainability of these facilities. Hygiene promotion activities conducted in targeted schools improved students' knowledge of safe hygiene practices and contributed to creating healthier and safer learning environments.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided the Red Cross Society of Guinea-Bissau with technical assistance in collaborating with national health authorities and development.



Migration and displacement

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2025, migration and displacement remained significant humanitarian concerns in Guinea-Bissau. Limited economic opportunities, climate-related shocks, food insecurity, and periodic political instability continued to drive population movements within and beyond the country.

In response, the Red Cross Society of Guinea-Bissau strengthened its humanitarian support to migrants, displaced persons and their families, focusing on protection services, family reunification, humanitarian assistance and community awareness activities.

The Red Cross Society of Guinea-Bissau interacted with and provided Restoring Family Links (RFL) service to families in close collaboration with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). Through this programme, 80 migrants were supported through phone call services, enabling them to reconnect with family members. Families also received communication support and tracing services for relatives separated as a result of migration. Volunteers and RFL focal points worked closely with families of missing migrants, particularly in the eastern regions of Gabú, Cuntuboel, and Tabanane, where migration rates remain high.

In cases of heightened vulnerability, the Red Cross Society of Guinea-Bissau also facilitated transportation support for migrants wishing to return safely to their communities. The strengthening of RFL focal points and case management procedures further improved documentation, follow-up, and coordination with humanitarian partners, while continued technical and financial support from the ICRC reinforced the quality and sustainability of migration-related protection services delivered by the National Society.

The Red Cross Society of Guinea-Bissau also implemented community awareness and risk prevention activities to address the growing trend of irregular migration. Volunteers conducted sensitization sessions with youth groups, community leaders, and families in high-migration areas to raise awareness of the risks associated with irregular migration, including human trafficking, exploitation, and unsafe travel conditions.

In addition to migration-related services, the Red Cross Society of Guinea-Bissau responded to disaster-induced displacement caused by fires and floods affecting several communities during the reporting period. Rapid needs assessments were conducted in affected areas, followed by the provision of emergency humanitarian assistance and early recovery support to households that had lost homes, livelihoods, or access to basic services.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided technical support to the Red Cross Society of Guinea-Bissau through the regional initiatives which helped strengthen its institutional capacity to address migration challenges, collaborate with humanitarian partners and development of protection-focused migration services, including cross-border collaboration mechanisms.

Under wider Movement support, the **International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)** provided technical and financial support to the Red Cross Society of Guinea-Bissau in providing Restoring Family Links service.



Values, power and inclusion

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2025, humanitarian action in Guinea-Bissau continued to take place in a context marked by structural inequalities, gender disparities, and limited access to services for marginalized populations. Women, children, persons with disabilities, and rural communities remained disproportionately affected by poverty, low literacy rates, and limited participation in decision-making processes.

In response, the Red Cross Society of Guinea-Bissau integrated Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI) across the Red Cross Society of Guinea-Bissau's humanitarian activities, including disaster response, health promotion, water,

sanitation and hygiene ([WASH](#)) and community outreach programmes. Women volunteers played an active role in community awareness activities, health promotion campaigns, and emergency response operations.

[Youth engagement](#) remained a key component of the National Society's strategy to strengthen community participation and long-term institutional sustainability. Recognizing that a large proportion of the population is under the age of 25, the National Society continued to promote youth participation in volunteerism, leadership development, and community service activities. Young volunteers actively supported disaster preparedness initiatives, first aid services, health awareness campaigns, and environmental activities, contributing to community resilience while fostering civic engagement and social responsibility.

During the reporting period, 92 new child volunteers were recruited in Cacheu, 98 in Bafatá, and 11 in Bolama. In addition, 211 volunteers from the Autonomous Sector of Bissau transitioned from child volunteers to youth volunteers upon reaching the age of 18. This expansion strengthened the capacity and sustainability of the National Society's volunteer network and contributed to the development of a new generation of humanitarian leaders.

Training sessions were organized for volunteers across several regional committees on the Seven Fundamental Principles, the [Code of Conduct](#), the use and protection of the Red Cross emblem, and the history and structure of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

[Community Engagement and Accountability \(CEA\)](#) was integrated across the National Society's programmes to ensure that humanitarian interventions remained responsive to community needs and priorities. Volunteers maintained regular dialogue with communities through outreach activities, awareness sessions, and consultations carried out during programme implementation and emergency response operations.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided technical support to the Red Cross Society of Guinea-Bissau for the recruitment and transition of volunteers and for the training sessions in the emblem, the principles of the Movement, the Code of Conduct, the history of the Movement and the rights and duties of members and volunteers.



A volunteer of the Red Cross Society of Guinea-Bissau conducting a session on good hygiene practices with community members (Photo: IFRC)

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 Red Cross Society of Guinea-Bissau is part of the four [IFRC Pan-African initiatives](#) focusing on Tree Planting and Care, Zero Hunger, Red Ready and National Society Development. These initiatives are reflected under the relevant sections of this plan.

The **French Red Cross** provided technical support to the National Society in strengthening its technical expertise, advocacy capacity, and resilience programming, benefiting from cross-border learning and harmonized approaches in areas such as food security, migration, and shelter.

The **Italian Red Cross** has been supporting a climate mitigation tree planting project. Other support to the Red Cross Society of Guinea-Bissau includes setting up a volunteer database, management system and related training.

Movement coordination

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

The **ICRC** supports the Red Cross Society of Guinea-Bissau by promoting international humanitarian law and encouraging its implementation.

External coordination

In line with its auxiliary role, the Red Cross Society of Guinea-Bissau belongs to and participates in different national and regional emergency coordination structures, including the National Civil Protection Service and the Operational Health Emergency Centre. The National Society has been an advisory member of the National Civil Protection since 2011 and actively participates in disaster preparedness and response mechanisms at national level.

The Red Cross Society of Guinea-Bissau works with various UN agencies (UNICEF, WFP, FAO, WHO, UNFRA, UN-HABITAT), as well as national and international NGOs operating in the country, as part of its humanitarian mission. A partnership with UNICEF to run an awareness programme on disease prevention and vaccines is currently underway and Plan-GB is supporting student and teacher training as part of the good school governance programme on risks and disasters.

The Red Cross Society of Guinea-Bissau continued to benefit from technical and strategic support provided by the IFRC through its Country Cluster Delegation in Freetown and the IFRC Regional Office for Africa in Nairobi.

The Red Cross Society of Guinea-Bissau also actively participated in the Sahel+ Resilience Platform, a regional initiative that promotes shared analysis, strategic planning, and capacity-building among ten National Societies.



National Society development

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Red Cross Society of Guinea-Bissau invested in strengthening the capacity of its 11 regional committees through material and technical support aimed at improving internal management, operational planning, and coordination. Capacity-building initiatives, including inter-regional visits, training sessions, and restitution workshops, helped harmonize practices, promote knowledge sharing, and strengthen understanding of statutes, volunteer policies, and ethical standards.

The National Society also enhanced its communication, visibility, and advocacy efforts to strengthen public trust and institutional credibility. During the reporting period, the Red Cross Society of Guinea-Bissau produced 12 radio programmes broadcast on Rádio Sol Mansi, issued three institutional newsletters and press releases, published 27 pieces of digital content on social media platforms, and maintained regular updates to its website. A total of 354 operational activities were documented, increasing the visibility of humanitarian action at both national and international levels. In addition, a seven-day IFRC training mission in Nairobi strengthened communication planning, dissemination practices, and coordination between national and regional structures.

Volunteer and youth engagement remained central to institutional development. The establishment of the XVI Friendship Camp steering committee created additional opportunities for youth participation and leadership development, while 259 new volunteers were recruited across five regional committees, expanding the National Society's reach and operational capacity. Sixty volunteers received training on the Code of Conduct, and child facilitators in Bafatá and Bissau were trained in child protection and inclusive facilitation, strengthening safeguarding standards and community engagement.

The Red Cross Society of Guinea-Bissau further reinforced community acceptance and operational legitimacy through engagement with traditional leaders in São Domingos, Tombali, and Bolama, improving humanitarian access and community trust. Partnerships with local authorities and organizations, including the Regional Health Directorate and Pro-Bolama NGO, strengthened integrated service delivery and resource sharing. The establishment of village focal points enhanced local communication and rapid response capacities, while investments in operational infrastructure, including the acquisition of a laptop for the South Bank Regional Committee and office space for the Biombo Regional Committee, improved administrative efficiency and coordination.

Additional capacity-building efforts included a two-day Secretariat training in Bissau covering administrative management, archiving, and internal communication, as well as participation in the Plan International SQRIBE Partners Workshop, which strengthened coordination around school water points and safer learning environments.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided financial and technical support to the Red Cross Society of Guinea-Bissau to improve the sustainability of services, strengthen the role of the National Society, expand and reinforce the branch network, enhance financial sustainability and enable the National Society to lead its own development.



Humanitarian diplomacy

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Red Cross Society of Guinea-Bissau strengthened its humanitarian diplomacy and communications efforts, enhancing its visibility, credibility, and strategic partnerships at both national and regional levels.

The National Society leadership engaged in high-level dialogue with key government authorities, including the President of the Republic, the Prime Minister, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs. Discussions focused on strengthening institutional support, enhancing operational capacity, and promoting enabling policies for disaster preparedness, health, and community resilience.

The National Society also deepened cooperation within the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and with bilateral partners. A delegation from the Portuguese Red Cross, including its Vice-President, President of the General Assembly Board, and technical experts, visited the National Society to explore opportunities for technical cooperation and partnership development. Visits by the IFRC Regional Communication Officer and the IFRC Head of Cluster for Sierra Leone, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, and Liberia further strengthened the National Society's humanitarian diplomacy, public visibility, and stakeholder engagement. A major achievement during the reporting period was the signing of a Headquarters Agreement between the IFRC and the Government of Guinea-Bissau, formalizing the Federation's legal presence in the country and facilitating improved operational coordination.

As part of its diplomatic outreach, the National Society conducted advocacy and courtesy visits to several embassies in Bissau, including those of China, Portugal, The Gambia, Guinea, Cabo Verde, and Senegal. It also reinforced its regional leadership through hosting the General Assembly of the Sahel+ Group in Bissau, bringing together ten National Societies and Movement partners, including the IFRC and ICRC. The event facilitated the exchange of best practices, strengthened inter-society solidarity, and promoted common approaches to regional humanitarian challenges. As a result, the National Society enhanced its reputation and influence within the Sahel+ region while strengthening its ability to contribute to collective humanitarian action.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided technical and financial support to the Red Cross Society of Guinea-Bissau to strengthen its humanitarian diplomacy, ensuring that its activities were adequately resourced and aligned with global best practices.



Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2025, the Red Cross Society of Guinea-Bissau made efforts to implement principles of transparency and integrity across its operations. During emergency responses to fires, floods, and extreme weather events in Gabu and other high-risk regions, the National Society operationalized its accountability framework in line with IFRC guidance. Forty volunteers were trained on community engagement and feedback mechanisms, equipping them to facilitate awareness sessions, conduct risk communication, and systematically collect and document community feedback. The information gathered was actively integrated into operational adjustments, enabling the Society to adapt interventions in real time.

The Red Cross Society of Guinea-Bissau maintained a strong focus on safeguarding, staff safety, and volunteer development, promoting gender diversity and inclusion across its teams. Transparent financial management systems were reinforced to ensure compliance with donor requirements, accurate reporting, and efficient resource allocation. Integrity policies were applied consistently, with mechanisms in place to address any incidents of misconduct, fraud, or corruption. Risk management and security procedures were integrated into operational planning, while supply chain systems were strengthened to improve the timely delivery of humanitarian goods and services.

In 2025, the National Society advanced its digital transformation through initiatives aimed at increasing data and digital literacy, enabling data-driven decision-making, and supporting digitally enabled humanitarian services. Investments in infrastructure, tools, and training allowed the National Society to streamline operational planning, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the Red Cross Society of Guinea-Bissau in updating its administrative and financial procedures manual.

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

- The implementation of the Unified Plan in 2025 highlighted the importance of aligning interventions with national priorities and Movement strategies, while adopting integrated, multi-sectoral approaches that combine health, WASH, livelihoods, protection, and emergency response. The experience demonstrated that strong community engagement and an active volunteer network are essential for building trust, improving access, and delivering effective humanitarian assistance. It also underscored the need to further decentralize operational capacity and strengthen regional committees to ensure more responsive and locally driven interventions.
- The year also revealed the importance of diversifying funding sources, strengthening regional capacities, improving monitoring, evaluation and learning systems, and enhancing operational agility in the face of socio-economic, climatic, and political challenges. These lessons reinforced CRGB's commitment to continuous improvement, with future priorities focused on strengthening institutional and volunteer capacities, increasing community ownership and participation, expanding sustainable resource mobilization, and promoting evidence-based, adaptive programming.

SUCCESS STORIES



1

A new hope after the storm: Cadijatu's Story

The violent winds that swept through the Gabú region left significant destruction, destroying homes, livelihoods, and security for many families. Among the most affected was Cadijatu, a widow and mother of five, whose house was completely destroyed. Facing immense challenges in supporting her family, the disaster left her and her children exposed and struggling to meet basic needs.

Through rapid assessment and prioritization by the Red Cross Society of Guinea-Bissau, Cadijatu received humanitarian cash assistance. This support enabled her to rebuild her house by repairing damaged walls and restoring the roof, providing a safer and more secure shelter for her children. It also helped her purchase essential food items to meet her family's daily nutritional needs, contributing to improved living conditions and greater household stability.

Cadijatu shared her gratitude, "With the help of the Red Cross, I managed to rebuild my house and feed my children. Today, we can sleep safely."

2

Rebuilding After the Floods: Marta's Path to Recovery

In Antonio Có village, Biombo region, many children had never received vaccinations due to distance, lack of transportation, and limited access to health services. Among them was Pelé, the youngest son of Babssa Indi, who had never been immunized.

The National Society, in partnership with UNICEF, implemented a zero-dose vaccination initiative, targeting the most remote and underserved communities. Volunteers traveled long distances, often on foot, to deliver vaccines and raise awareness about the importance of immunization.

During a visit, Pelé received his first vaccine, bringing relief and gratitude to his mother:

"Now I feel my son is protected. I am very grateful to the Red Cross and UNICEF for not forgetting us."

The National Society volunteer Carlos Mendes reflected, "When we find children who have never been vaccinated, we feel the weight of responsibility. But we also feel pride, knowing that our presence can save lives."

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

- [GW_Guinea Bissau AR Financials.pdf](#) (Note: This financial report link will be fed upon the completion of the audit)
- [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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