

## IN SUPPORT OF THE ALBANIAN RED CROSS



## PEOPLE REACHED

Climate and  
environment



**15,000**

Disasters  
and crises



**8,600**

Health and  
wellbeing



**823**

Migration and  
displacement



**160**





Values, power  
and inclusion



**4,500**

## FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

*in Swiss francs (CHF)*

Country	Funding Requirement	 2.6M
IFRC Secretariat	Longer-term Funding Requirement	 1.3M
	Funding	Not reported
	Expenditure	Not reported
Participating National Societies	Funding Requirement	 272,000
	Funding	23,000
	Expenditure	36,000
HNS other funding sources	Funding Requirement	 978,000
	Funding	30,000

### Albanian Red Cross

Overview



Funding Sources

IFRC Secretariat	1
Participating National Societies	1
HNS other funding sources	 30,000

## STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Climate and environment	National Society is supported in developing and implementing strategies and plans that address rising climate and environmental risks.	Yes
	Number of people reached with heatwave risk reduction, preparedness or response activities.	15,000
Disasters and crises	Number of people reached per year with support services, in-kind, cash and voucher assistance for emergency response and recovery.	600
	Number of people reached with disaster risk reduction.	2,000
	Number of people reached with livelihoods support	9,000
	Number of people reached with shelter support.	600
Health and wellbeing	Number of people donating blood	3,000
	Number of people reached with psychosocial and mental health services.	823
	Number of people trained by National Societies in first aid.	24,000
Migration and displacement	Number of migrants and displaced persons reached with services for assistance and protection.	160
Values, power and inclusion	National Society reports that they have integrated and institutionalised Community Engagement and Accountability in their policies, operations, and procedures (with clear benchmarks).	Yes
	Number of people reached by protection, gender and inclusion programming.	858
	Number of people reached by RCRC educational programmes.	4,000

## ENABLING FUNCTIONS

Strategic and operational coordination	National Society increases the number of government led platforms in which they are actively participating to achieve humanitarian or development goals.	2
	Number of formal interagency/international coordination platforms the IFRC Network is part of.	3
National Society development	National Society develops and/or implements a strategy for strengthening their auxiliary role	Yes
	National Society has created and implemented youth engagement strategies.	Yes
	National Society has One National Society Development country plan created.	Yes
Humanitarian diplomacy	National Society has domestic advocacy strategies developed aligning, at least in part, with global IFRC advocacy strategies	0
	National Society is participating in IFRC-led campaigns.	Yes
Accountability and agility	National Society has strengthened their integrity risk mechanisms.	Yes

## IFRC NETWORK SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

National Society	Bilateral Support						Enabling Functions
	Funding Reported	Climate and environment	Disasters and crises	Health and wellbeing	Migration and displacement	Values, power and inclusion	
Austrian Red Cross			●				
Italian Red Cross	23,000			●			
Spanish Red Cross				●			

Total Funding Reported **CHF 23,000**

# OVERALL PROGRESS

## Context

Albania is classified as a middle-income country and officially became a candidate for accession to the European Union (EU) in 2014. According to [the latest census data](#), the population of Albania was estimated to be 2,412,113, with 50.4 per cent women and 49.6 per cent men. In 2011, Albania had a population of 2.8 million. This indicates a decrease of approximately 14.5 per cent in Albania's population over the span of 12 years. According to the United Nations' medium projection scenario, the number of people living in Albania is projected to decline by 20 per cent or more in the next three decades.

With the decline of traditional family structures and the high migration of younger family members, many older people are left alone with little social interaction. Besides social isolation, many older people also face financial struggles. Older people living alone in rural areas are particularly vulnerable as they often have no access to formal long-term care, be it residential care or home care services.

Due to a combination of political, geographic, and social factors, Albania is recognized as vulnerable to [climate change impacts](#), ranked 80 out of 185 countries. Like other Western Balkan countries, Albania has also been affected by mixed population flows, influenced not solely by socio-economic factors, but also by the repercussions of conflicts occurring globally. The number of irregular migrants apprehended in Albania is increasing every year, while there is generally an insufficient number of border and migration officers, reception centre personnel and asylum officials to cope with the increased number of arrivals and asylum requests of recent years.

## Key achievements

### Climate and environment

The Albanian Red Cross adapted risk reduction activities and [early-warning](#) procedures to evolving climate hazards. It disseminated heatwave prevention information via social media. In June 2024, it organized a [Simplified Early Action Protocol](#) workshop, engaging local branches and public institutions to strengthen preparedness and mitigation strategies for heatwaves.

### Disasters and crises

For the period January to June, the Albanian Red Cross strengthened disaster preparedness and response, working with government authorities and participating in field exercises. It worked to enhance water lifeguard services in Durrës, training volunteers in emergency response in aquatic environments. Additionally, it provided emergency assistance to families affected by small-scale disasters by distributing food and essential items.

### Health and wellbeing

The Albanian Red Cross promoted public health through education, [first aid](#), blood donation, social care and mental health initiatives. It conducted awareness campaigns, trained volunteers, and strengthened first aid services. It assisted vulnerable families, supported older people through social and health services, and integrated [psychosocial support](#) into disaster response. It also enhanced its health-in-emergencies capacities and continued promoting disease prevention and road safety. Additionally, through the [IFRC Reference Centre for Psychosocial Support](#) it improved its mental health activities.

### Migration and displacement

From January to June 2024, the Albanian Red Cross monitored the Italy-Albania asylum-seeker agreement while discussions continued with Movement partners. It assisted migrants in Babrru with relief aid and [Restoring Family Links](#) support.

## Values, power and inclusion

From January to June 2024, the Albanian Red Cross promoted volunteering, strengthened community resilience and enhanced public awareness of humanitarian principles. It expanded community engagement and accountability ([CEA](#)) initiatives, improved communication channels and provided relief support through a toll-free Green Line. It addressed stigma through protection, gender and inclusion ([PGI](#)) activities, supported children at risk of school dropout, and organized an art exhibit to promote humanitarian values. Additionally, the Albanian Red Cross advanced flood resilience efforts, conducted road safety awareness activities and strengthened its cash transfer programming.

## Enabling local actors

From January to June 2024, the Albanian Red Cross strengthened National Society development, humanitarian diplomacy and partnerships. It updated its volunteering policy and trained volunteers under an Empress Shôken Fund-supported anti-human trafficking project. It expanded domestic fundraising and submitted funding proposals, securing approval for a health and care initiative while awaiting evaluation on a gender-based violence prevention project. It also enhanced communication and digitalization to improve outreach and efficiency. The Albanian Red Cross strengthened its autonomy and independence, effectively serving vulnerable populations in its role as an auxiliary to the government. It focused on fostering partnerships with public authorities and enhancing communication and advocacy efforts. It participated actively in the cluster-wide humanitarian diplomacy network.

The National Society focused on sustainable service delivery, strengthening its financial and operational structures. It improved financial accountability and harmonized planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting standards. The National Society also developed strategies to adapt to changing humanitarian contexts and enhance its emergency response capabilities. Additionally, the Albanian Red Cross participated in a joint initiative to refine regional scenarios for migration influxes in the CSEE region, contributing to contingency and preparedness plans.

# IFRC NETWORK ACTION

## STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



### Climate and environment

#### Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Albanian Red Cross has been adapting risk reduction activities and [early-warning](#) procedures to address evolving climate-related hazards. It disseminated information on heatwave prevention and early recognition through social media platforms. In June 2024, it organized a workshop on the Simplified [Early Action Protocol](#). Representatives from three local branches affected by heatwaves, the Institute of Geosciences, and the Institute of Public Health attended this workshop. Discussions focused on proactive measures, recognizing predefined thresholds for triggers, identifying the most affected groups and areas and selecting effective activities to mitigate heatwave impacts.

#### IFRC network joint support

The **IFRC** provided the Albanian Red Cross with technical and financial assistance for organizing a workshop on the Simplified Early Action Protocol. The **Austrian Red Cross** also provided support for this initiative.



## Disasters and crises

### Progress by the National Society against objectives

During the reporting period, the Albanian Red Cross continued to strengthen its disaster management efforts, supporting the state in humanitarian assistance, preparedness and vulnerability reduction. As a member of the Albanian Disaster Management Structure at local, regional and national levels, it worked closely with governmental authorities on disaster preparedness and response. It actively participated in key events and field exercises, demonstrating its capabilities in disaster management. In collaboration with the Spanish Red Cross, it launched a pilot project to enhance water lifeguard services along the Durres coastline. The National Society also facilitated training of its volunteers from four local branches in prevention, protection and emergency response in aquatic environments. Additionally, it provided timely and flexible assistance to people affected by crises and disasters. It distributed food parcels and essential accommodation items, including blankets, kitchen sets, beds and mattresses to households affected by small-scale emergencies.

### IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided support to the Albanian Red Cross in assisting people impacted by disasters.

The **Spanish Red Cross** supported the National Society in launching a pilot project to improve water lifeguard services along the Durres coastline. It also provided training for the volunteers of Albanian Red Cross in emergency response in aquatic environments.



## Health and wellbeing

### Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Albanian Red Cross addressed public health needs through education, first aid, blood donation, social care, mental health and healthcare initiatives. It provided health education sessions to students in hygiene, substance abuse prevention, HIV/AIDS and environmental protection. Awareness campaigns were conducted for World Health Day, World No Tobacco Day and International Day Against Drug Abuse and information materials on health promotion and blood donation were distributed. It trained volunteers from seven branches in advanced first aid through a nine-day course, enhancing its response capacity during disasters and mass casualty events. It also trained driver's license applicants and employees in first aid.

The Albanian Red Cross collected 2,595 blood units and conducted a World Blood Donor Day campaign on 14 June, reaching people through local branch-led activities and social media. It supported vulnerable families with food and essential items. Additionally, the National Society assisted older people and seniors with integrated health and social services, including daily social centres, home visits, meal provision and referrals to public health centres.



Albanian Red Cross volunteers assisting families impacted by an earthquake (Photo: IFRC)

The National Society organized a Mental Health Awareness Week campaign from 13 to 19 May, reaching people across 39 local branches, raising awareness and reducing stigma. It provided psychosocial support to older people, through phone support as well as the Green Line. Albanian Red Cross also integrated psychosocial support into disaster response, first aid and health programmes, with continuous capacity strengthening through the [IFRC Reference Centre for Psychosocial Support](#). It contributed to reducing vulnerabilities by promoting hygiene, disease prevention, road safety, environmental protection and workplace safety while expanding its health-in-emergencies capacities.

### **IFRC network joint support**

**The IFRC** supported the Albanian Red Cross in strengthening its mental health capacities through its Reference Centre for Psychosocial Support.

The **Austrian Red Cross** provided support to the National Society in training its volunteers in advanced first aid.



## **Migration and displacement**

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### **Progress by the National Society against objectives**

Between January and June, the Albanian Red Cross monitored developments related to the agreement between Italy and Albania on hosting asylum-seekers. It also continued its discussions with the Italian Red Cross, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), IFRC, and other Movement partners. Additionally, it provided relief assistance to migrants in Babrru, Tirana, distributing clothing and offering [Restoring Family Links](#) support.

### **IFRC network joint support**

**The IFRC** supported the Albanian Red Cross in providing relief assistance to migrants in Babrru.



## **Values, power and inclusion**

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### **Progress by the National Society against objectives**

The Albanian Red Cross promoted volunteering and humanitarian values by remaining close to people in vulnerable situations and raising public awareness of their needs. It worked to strengthen Red Cross membership development across the country, ensuring communities had the necessary knowledge and skills for resilience in emergencies and sustainable support for those in need. It integrated community engagement and accountability ([CEA](#)) into activities at both headquarters and branch levels, increasing public awareness of the Red Cross Red Crescent emblem, the [Fundamental Principles](#) and International Humanitarian Law to ensure safe access for staff and volunteers during humanitarian interventions. It improved communication and community feedback mechanisms by maintaining a toll-free Green Line.

The Albanian Red Cross carried out protection, gender and inclusion ([PGI](#)) activities to reduce stigma and discrimination related to ageing and chronic diseases, encouraging affected individuals to participate in programmes and access essential health services. It supported children at risk of school dropout by providing social and educational assistance while engaging families in discussions on education and socioeconomic challenges. It organized the 27th National Art Exhibit and involved children from primary schools across the country to raise awareness of the Movement, its Fundamental Principles and humanitarian values. In cooperation with the General Directorate of Road Transport, it implemented a road safety project, conducting awareness activities in schools across multiple districts.

The Albanian Red Cross advanced flood resilience efforts under a project titled 'Flood Resilience Alliance 2.0' by conducting interviews with community members to assess the impact of flood preparedness measures. It facilitated regular meetings with community leaders to address challenges faced during emergencies. It strengthened its capacity in cash transfer programming with a focus on integrating community engagement and accountability, participation and feedback into cash and voucher assistance and other humanitarian aid modalities.

## IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the Albanian Red Cross in strengthening its cash transfer programming and community engagement and accountability initiatives.

# ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS



## Strategic and operational coordination

### IFRC membership coordination

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

The Albanian Red Cross has developed strong relationships and projects with the **Austrian Red Cross**, the **Italian Red Cross**, **Spanish Red Cross** and **Qatar Red Crescent Society**.

### Movement coordination

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

**The ICRC** provides ongoing support to the National Society in protection and [restoring family links](#) programmes. This partnership involves providing support and assistance to those in need, promoting and upholding international humanitarian law, and facilitating the reestablishment of family links for separated or missing persons. The Albanian Red Cross and ICRC jointly implement activities such as tracing and reconnecting separated family members and promoting awareness of humanitarian principles by conducting training and capacity building for staff and volunteers.

### External coordination

To implement its humanitarian activities, the Albanian Red Cross cooperates with diplomatic-consular sector in Albania, as well as with many international organizations (EU Delegation, UNHCR, UNDP, USAID, WHO, IOM, World Vision). The WHO is supporting the “Home Care for Older People” project.

The Albanian Red Cross enjoys a high level of autonomy and independence to act in accordance with its mandate and auxiliary role in Albania. The National Society maintains good relationship with line ministries, various departments and government institutions and there is cooperation in several areas. However, the Albanian Red Cross cooperates more closely with governmental authorities especially on disaster preparedness and its first aid programme.

According to the National Plan of Civil Protection, the National Society is a member of the Albanian disaster management structure at local, regional and national level. Regarding first aid training, the Albanian Red Cross is certified by European Reference Centre for First Aid (EFAC), now Global First Aid Reference Centre (GFARC).



## National Society development

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### Progress by the National Society against objectives

During the reporting period, the Albanian Red Cross updated its volunteering policy and customized its volunteer management database to strengthen its volunteer base. It trained a network of volunteers in combating human trafficking through certified trainers by using the funds from the Empress Shōken Fund.

The Albanian Red Cross also expanded domestic fundraising efforts, to strengthen its branches. It submitted three major funding applications.

### IFRC network joint support

The **IFRC** supported the National Society with technical assistance in preparing and submitting funding applications.

The **Spanish Red Cross** provided support to the Albanian Red Cross in updating its volunteering policy.



## Humanitarian diplomacy

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### Progress by the National Society against objectives

From January to June 2024, the Albanian Red Cross maintained its strong autonomy and independence, enabling it to effectively carry out its mandate and auxiliary role in Albania. As an auxiliary to the government in humanitarian action, it continued to implement specific measures to establish regular communication and advocacy channels, working to strengthen partnerships with public authorities and expand services. Additionally, the Albanian Red Cross actively participated in the cluster-wide humanitarian diplomacy network, exchanging information, best practices and key advocacy messages while improving humanitarian diplomacy capacities and skills.

### IFRC network joint support

The **IFRC** supported the Albanian Red Cross in enhancing its capacities in humanitarian diplomacy, communications and advocacy.



## Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

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### Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Albanian Red Cross focused improving financial accountability at national and local levels to facilitate effective programme implementation. It also established strong planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting (PMER) systems, reinforcing both international and domestic cooperation and prioritized harmonized PMER standards.

### IFRC network joint support

The **IFRC** provided support to the National Society in improving its financial accountability systems.



**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 30 June 2024. However, due to the diversity of the IFRC and differences in fiscal years, this coverage may not fully align for some National Societies. Mid-year reporting data may have been based on estimations, with plans to submit more robust numbers at the annual reporting stage.
- **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 light 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".
- **Missing data and breakdowns:** National Societies have diverse data collection systems and processes that may not align with the standardized indicators. Data may not be available for some indicators, for some National Societies. This may lead to inconsistencies across different reporting tools as well as potential under or over-estimation of the efforts led by all.
- **Reporting bias:** The data informing this Federation-wide overview is self-reported by each National Society (or its designated support entity) and which is the owner and gatekeeper, and responsible for accuracy and updating. IFRC tries to triangulate the data provided by the National Societies with previous data and other data in the public domain.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- [IFRC Albania mid-year 2024 financial report](#)
- [IFRC network country Plans](#)
- [Subscribe for updates](#)
- [Live Disaster Response Emergency Fund \(DREF\) data](#)
- Operational information: [IFRC GO platform](#)
- National Society data: [IFRC Federation-wide Databank and Reporting System](#)
- [Evaluations database](#)

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