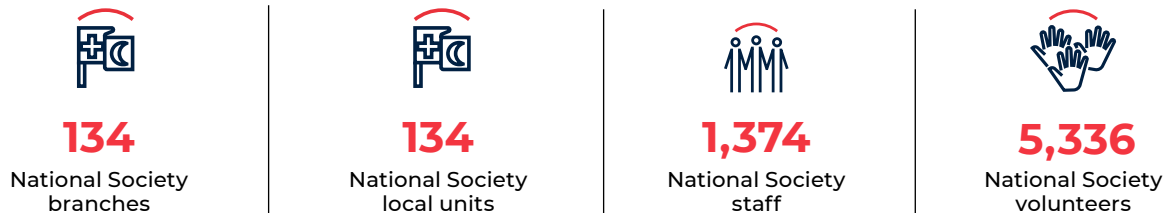


IN SUPPORT OF THE COSTA RICAN RED CROSS SOCIETY



PEOPLE REACHED



No information at time of publication. Figures reflect targeted reach in 2026 plan

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

in Swiss francs (CHF)

Costa Rican Red Cross				
Overview		Funding Sources		
Funding	Not reported	IFRC Secretariat	Not reported	
Expenditure	Not reported	Participating National Societies	Not reported	
		HNS other funding sources	Not reported	

IFRC network				
Country	Funding Requirement		3.0M	
IFRC Secretariat	Longer-term	Funding Requirement	1.1M	
		Funding	535,000	
	Emergency Operations	Expenditure	406,000	
		Funding	914,000	
Participating National Societies	Funding Requirement	Expenditure	387,000	
		Funding Requirement	858,000	
	Funding	Expenditure	28,000	
HNS other funding sources	Funding Requirement	Expenditure	28,000	
		Funding Requirement	1M	
	Funding	Expenditure	Not reported	

ENABLING FUNCTIONS

Strategic and operational coordination	Number of government-led coordination platforms the National Society is part of	
National Society development	National Society covers health, accident and death compensation for all of its volunteers National Society has created and implemented youth engagement strategies National Society has developed and/or implemented a strategy for strengthening their auxiliary role There is a National Society Development plan in place	
Humanitarian diplomacy	National Society has a domestic advocacy strategy developed aligning, at least in part, with global IFRC advocacy strategies National Society participates in IFRC-led campaigns	
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 National Society has strengthened its integrity and reputational risk mechanism National Society is implementing a digital transformation roadmap in line with the IFRC strategy	

IFRC NETWORK BILATERAL-SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

		Climate and environment	Disasters and crises	Health and wellbeing	Migration and displacement	Values, power and inclusion	Enabling Functions
National Society	Funding Reported						
Swiss Red Cross	28,000						

Total Funding Reported **CHF 28,000**

Q1. OVERALL PERFORMANCE

Context

Costa Rica is an upper-middle-income country in Central America, bordered by Nicaragua to the north and Panama to the southeast, with coastlines along both the Caribbean Sea and the Pacific Ocean. The country has a diversified economy that has evolved from its traditional agricultural base into a predominantly service-oriented economy, with tourism remaining a major contributor to national income. Other important economic sectors include agriculture, medical and technological manufacturing, software development, financial services and business outsourcing.

Despite relatively strong economic performance, Costa Rica continued to face socioeconomic challenges in 2025. Public spending constraints, residual inflationary pressures and a high cost of living affected households and institutions alike, requiring greater efficiency in the use of available resources. Poverty remained a concern, particularly in rural areas and among vulnerable population groups, despite gradual improvements compared with previous years.

Migration and displacement continued to shape the national context. Costa Rica remains one of the principal host countries for refugees, asylum seekers and migrants in Latin America, particularly people from Nicaragua, as well as Venezuela, Cuba, Colombia and Haiti. Migrants and forcibly displaced people represent a significant share of the population, placing additional demands on social, economic and public services.

The country also remained vulnerable to the impacts of climate variability and environmental hazards. During 2025, Costa Rica experienced hydrometeorological events including heavy rainfall, floods, landslides and periods of drought, particularly in the Chorotega Region and Pacific areas. These events increased humanitarian needs and highlighted the importance of preparedness, risk reduction and community resilience. In parallel, continued coordination among public institutions, local governments, civil society organizations and community actors supported efforts to address emerging humanitarian challenges and strengthen local response capacities.

Key achievements

Climate and environment

In 2025, the Costa Rican Red Cross strengthened its leadership in climate action by advancing climate resilience, community adaptation and environmental sustainability at both national and local levels. Through active participation in national climate policy processes, strengthened climate governance and community-based initiatives focused on ecosystem restoration and nature-based solutions, the National Society contributed to improved environmental stewardship, reduced climate vulnerabilities and enhanced resilience among communities. These efforts also reinforced the National Society's role as a strategic actor in Costa Rica's climate agenda and in supporting national and international climate commitments.

Disasters and crises

During the reporting period, the Costa Rican Red Cross strengthened its anticipatory action, preparedness and emergency response capacities, enabling more effective and timely support to communities affected by hydrometeorological hazards. The National Society successfully combined anticipation and response approaches, strengthened operational readiness through pre-positioning and preparedness measures and expanded community resilience initiatives through local capacity-building, early warning systems and community organization processes. Participation in national and regional preparedness initiatives further enhanced institutional readiness and disaster management capabilities.

Health and wellbeing

In 2025, the Costa Rican Red Cross reinforced its commitment to health and wellbeing through a strong focus on mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), health promotion and institutional wellbeing. The National Society expanded access to psychological support for staff and volunteers, strengthened capacities through training and awareness activities and contributed to national efforts to improve health preparedness and response. These actions enhanced resilience, self-care and the ability of staff and communities to cope with emergencies and high-stress situations.

Migration and displacement

The Costa Rican Red Cross strengthened its institutional and operational response to increasingly complex migration dynamics by enhancing preparedness, humanitarian assistance, protection services and regional coordination throughout the year. The National Society reinforced its leadership in migration and Restoring Family Links (RFL), improved coordination and referral mechanisms, expanded preventive actions to reduce risks along migratory routes and strengthened its capacity to support migrants, asylum seekers, returnees, displaced people and separated families. Active participation in regional platforms further positioned the National Society as a key actor in migration-related humanitarian action.

Values, power and inclusion

From January to December 2025, the Costa Rican Red Cross strengthened its commitment to humanitarian values, Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI), and Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) by embedding people-centred approaches across its operations and programmes. Significant progress was made in institutionalizing accountability mechanisms, strengthening community participation, improving feedback systems and enhancing organizational capacities in protection and inclusion. These efforts contributed to more transparent, inclusive and responsive humanitarian services while fostering stronger relationships with communities and reinforcing institutional accountability.

Enabling local actors

In 2025, the Costa Rican Red Cross achieved important advances in institutional strengthening through governance, legal recognition, strategic planning, volunteer development, financial sustainability, humanitarian diplomacy, accountability and digital transformation. The enactment of the Costa Rican Red Cross Law marked a historic milestone, reinforcing the National Society's auxiliary role and humanitarian mandate. At the same time, the National Society strengthened its volunteer base, modernized systems and processes, enhanced transparency and accountability, expanded strategic partnerships and advanced resource mobilization efforts. These achievements have contributed to a more resilient, innovative and sustainable organization, better positioned to respond to evolving humanitarian challenges and support communities across the country.

Q2. CHANGES AND AMENDMENTS

During 2025, implementation of the Unified Plan was adjusted in response to evolving humanitarian needs, operational demands and financial constraints. Heavy rains and floods in several regions required the temporary reprioritization of resources towards emergency response and assistance to affected communities. As a result, some planned activities, particularly community training processes, regional meetings and preventive actions, were rescheduled. These adjustments were coordinated between Auxiliary Committees, national headquarters technical teams and local authorities to ensure an effective and timely response.

At the same time, longstanding financial sustainability challenges significantly influenced implementation. Budget limitations and the need to maintain essential humanitarian and prehospital emergency services required the optimization of available resources, prioritization of activities with the greatest humanitarian impact and increased focus on resource mobilization and strategic partnerships. Consequently, some activities were reprogrammed or adjusted in scope.

Despite these challenges, the adaptations made during the year enabled the continuation of critical services and a relevant response to emerging needs, while maintaining the overall strategic direction of the Unified Plan. The experience also highlighted the growing financial pressures facing the Costa Rican Red Cross, driven by increasing demand and complexity of emergency services without a corresponding increase in funding, underscoring the need for sustainable financing solutions to ensure the long-term continuity of its humanitarian services.

Q3. MEASURING RESULTS OF THE IFRC NETWORK ACTION

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Climate and environment

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2025, actions were developed at both national and community levels to strengthen climate capacities, citizen participation and community resilience. This was in coherence with institutional priorities and in alignment with national and international commitments on environmental and climate matters, in accordance with the National Environment Policy, the National Biodiversity Strategy, the guidelines of the Directorate of Quality Management (DIGECA), the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and the Sustainable Development Goals.

To strengthen technical capacities in climate management, the Costa Rican Red Cross carried out 11 technical workshops for the preparation of greenhouse gas reports, strengthening capacities in measurement and reporting of emissions in accordance with national and international standards. Participants were trained, strengthening climate transparency system and the improvement of institutional and community management in the field of climate change.

The Costa Rican Red Cross also actively participated in the Platform of Civil Society Organizations and in the Citizen Advisory Council on Climate Change, contributing directly to national consultation processes, particularly in the preparation of the National Biodiversity Strategy. This participation allowed for the incorporation of territorial, community and resilience approaches, in coherence with the IFRC's [Climate Charter](#) and Climate Change Strategy.

Additionally, community workshops focused on ecosystem-based adaptation and [nature-based solutions](#) (NbS), through the elaboration of clay spheres, promoting environmental restoration, community health and climate risk reduction. Almost 170 communities benefited from the activities and local capacities for environmental protection were increased.

The actions carried out in 2025 contributed directly to strengthening the national climate reporting and transparency system, the participatory implementation of the National Biodiversity Strategy, Community adaptation to climate change and compliance with national and international commitments associated with the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals. These actions also strengthen the role of the Costa Rican Red Cross as a strategic actor in national climate action, reducing vulnerabilities and strengthening community resilience.



Disasters and crises

For real-time information on emergencies, visit IFRC GO page: [Costa Rica](#)

In 2025, IFRC Disaster Response Emergency Fund ([IFRC-DREF](#)) was utilized for three flood emergencies.

1.

Name of Operation	Pacific slope floods
MDR-Code	MDRCR027
Duration	45 days (20 September 2025 to 30 November 2025)
Funding Allocation	CHF 80,000
People Targeted	850 people

The DREF allocation of CHF 80,000 in September 2025 supported the Costa Rican Red Cross in aiding approximately 850 people to reduce the most severe humanitarian impacts anticipated because of flooding in exposed communities. Anticipatory provision of cash through the cash and voucher assistance ([CVA](#)) enabled families to prepare more adequately, strengthening their ability to respond and recover.

2.

Name of Operation	Floods
MDR-Code	MDRCR026
Duration	4 months (20 November 2024 to 31 March 2025)
Funding Allocation	CHF 458,959
People Targeted	7,500 people

The DREF allocation of CHF 458,959 in November 2024 supported the Costa Rican Red Cross in aiding approximately 7,500 people affected by flooding through actions focused on health, Cash and Voucher Assistance ([CVA](#)), Water, Sanitation and Hygiene ([WASH](#)), Protection, Gender and Inclusion ([PGI](#)) and Community Engagement and Accountability ([CEA](#)) in the most impacted districts of the provinces of Guanacaste and Puntarenas over a four-month period.

3.

Name of Operation	Costa Rica: Floods
MDR-Code	MDRCR024
Duration	5 years (activated on 27 October 2023)
Funding Allocation	CHF 528,641
People Targeted	10,000 people

The DREF allocation of CHF 528,641 targeting 10,000 people supported anticipatory actions aimed at reducing and mitigating the impact of floods caused by tropical cyclones in Costa Rica. In line with the Early Action Protocol ([EAP](#)) readiness plan, the Costa Rican Red Cross advanced key preparedness actions to ensure that early actions, particularly those linked to multi-purpose cash, can be implemented in a timely and coordinated manner if trigger thresholds are met.

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2025, the Costa Rican Red Cross coordinated anticipation and preparedness in response to the country's climate and humanitarian context. In the area of response, DREF operations were implemented in across provinces in accordance with the provisions of the National Society's action plan which defined the strategies, sectors of intervention and goals to respond to hydrometeorological events, ensuring a comprehensive humanitarian response adapted to the needs of the prioritized communities. The operations, originally conceived under an anticipatory approach, had to also transition to the response pillar due to the influence of Hurricane Melissa.

The Costa Rican Red Cross further provided advance assistance to at-risk communities, with an emphasis on the protection of livelihoods. As part of its pre-positioning actions, 2,050 humanitarian aid cards and rescue equipment were acquired, strengthening the capacity for early activation, supporting people affected by heavy rainfall due to tropical cyclones.

Likewise, in the area of community preparedness and resilience, through the FOCARE project community strengthening actions were carried out, including courses on social micro-projects, the formation of community teams in Río Cuarto, Upala and San Carlos, and progress in the characterization of the early warning system in the micro-basin of the Aguas Zarcas river. At the regional level, the Costa Rican Red Cross participated in the creation of the Action Plan for Preparedness for Effective Response (PER) 2026–2028.

IFRC network joint support

The **IFRC** supported the Costa Rican Red Cross in the development and implementation of the Early Action Protocol (EAP) for intense rainfall due to tropical cyclones, the EAP for volcanic ash dispersion and the DREF flood operation. The IFRC also supported the Costa Rican Red Cross in the co-creation of the Action Plan for Preparedness for Effective Response (PER) 2026–2028, together with other National Societies, contributing to a common roadmap to strengthen preparedness and coordination.

The **German Red Cross** supported the National Society as part of the FOCARE project to facilitate micro-social project training and community team development in the cantons of Río Cuarto, Upala, Guatuso and San Carlos.



Costa Rican Red Cross rescue teams safely rescued six people after a vehicle plunged into a ravine in Turrialba, demonstrating unwavering commitment to saving lives under challenging conditions. (Photo: Costa Rican Red Cross)



Health and wellbeing

Progress by the National Society against objectives

A key component of the Costa Rican Red Cross' health strategy has been the provision of Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) to its staff. The Costa Rican Red Cross provided specialized psychological care to staff and volunteers, contributing to the strengthening of their emotional well-being and the improvement of their capacities to face contexts of high operational demand. This accompaniment had a positive impact on the self-care, resilience and comprehensive performance of volunteer and salaried personnel.

The National Society conducted training on MHPSS processes (virtual and face-to-face), specialized mental health training for students of the UCIMED University and health promotion campaigns developed throughout the period. More than 700 participants were trained in comprehensive health issues with around 120 external people trained in mental health. The National Society also participated in three dissemination spaces through podcasts, addressing the importance of mental health, post-traumatic stress and suicide prevention day.

The Costa Rican Red Cross also actively participated in working groups for the development of the '72-hour Protocol and Rapid Response Teams for the Comprehensive Care of Rape Victims'.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided technical guidance, capacity-building opportunities and regional coordination that have enriched the Costa Rican Red Cross's approach to community health and staff wellbeing. The IFRC also facilitated the National Society's participation in regional MHPSS platforms, enabling the exchange of best practices and the development of context-specific interventions.



Migration and displacement

Progress by the National Society against objectives

Following changes in U.S. immigration policy, the closure of migrant detention centres in Panama and stricter legal migration pathways, Costa Rica experienced a complex and evolving migration landscape marked by mixed flows that included people in transit, pendulum migrants, asylum seekers, returnees and internally displaced persons (IDPs).

The Costa Rican Red Cross worked on strengthening its technical and institutional role in migration, aligned with the Movement's Strategy and humanitarian commitments. Capacity building was done through projects and donations of Humanitarian Service Points (HSPs) and development of the 2025-2026 Migration Scenarios as a strategic tool for institutional preparedness. It coordinated humanitarian assistance actions, including Restoring Family Links (RFL), first aid, delivery of supplies and community support. In 2025, the National Society attended to many RFL cases.

Likewise, progress was made in updating the mapping of key actors in protection, migration and emergency response, strengthening referral routes and inter-institutional coordination for more timely attention to disappeared, separated persons and their families.

The RFL programme focused its actions on strengthening the organizational and operational structure at the national level, in coherence with the Movement's global strategy and Strategy 2030, as part of the humanitarian response mechanisms in contexts of migration, disasters, violence and other emergency situations.

The RFL programme has been a pioneer at the regional level in the development of innovative tools for the prevention of separations and disappearances, particularly aimed at children and vulnerable communities. A relevant example is the 'ladder of the family reunification' educational game, designed for school-age children, which reinforces preventive education and community preparedness in emergencies.

A central focus of the National Society's migration response was the prevention of family separations, disappearances and risks along migratory routes. More than 5,000 preventive materials were distributed, including printed messages, audiovisual content and multilingual resources designed to inform and protect migrants in transit.

The Costa Rican Red Cross also played an active role in regional coordination and knowledge exchange. The National Society participated in the Migration Scenario Planning Conference 2025 in Panama, the Regional Meeting on Migration in the Americas and the XVI Face-to-Face Meeting of the Restoring Family Links Regional Network (AMERCAN). These engagements facilitated the sharing of best practices, the presentation of the National Society's migration response model and the strengthening of operational ties with other National Societies across the region.

IFRC network joint support

The **IFRC** provided technical assistance in the development of strategic planning tools, such as the migration scenario document, and supported the implementation of the Early Action Protocol ([EAP](#)) for migration-related emergencies.

The **Canadian Red Cross** contributed to protection efforts, particularly in addressing gender-based violence among migrant populations.

The **Swiss Red Cross** supported the National Society in institutional strengthening through policy updates, resource mobilization and operational enhancements. The Swiss Red Cross also collaborated with the Costa Rican Red Cross on the presentation of the project 'Strengthening the Costa Rican Red Cross: Rapid and Efficient Responses for People on the Move,' which focuses on improving humanitarian services for migrants and displaced populations.

The International Committee of the Red Cross (**ICRC**) played a vital role in the dissemination of preventive materials and the promotion of family reunification through the Restoring Family Links ([RFL](#)) programme. The ICRC also conducted workshops on [Safer Access](#), [Fundamental Principles](#) of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and RFL.



Values, power and inclusion

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2025, the Costa Rican Red Cross continued to strengthen its work on humanitarian values, Protection, Gender and Inclusion ([PGI](#)) and community engagement and accountability ([CEA](#)). Institutional capacity was enhanced through the delivery of International Humanitarian Law ([IHL](#)) training programmes, strengthening knowledge of humanitarian principles and supporting the effective fulfilment of the National Society's mission across the country. The PGI agenda was further reinforced through engagement in regional networks, specialized training processes and actions related to data protection, institutional ethics and information security, reaffirming the National Society's commitment to humanitarian standards.

The Costa Rican Red Cross placed strong emphasis on institutionalizing CEA as a cross-cutting approach centred on people, transparency, participation and continuous improvement of humanitarian services. Ongoing technical support was provided to regional and local structures to integrate accountability and community participation into programmes and operations. Efforts focused on establishing a comprehensive feedback mechanism that enables people to submit complaints, suggestions, concerns, opinions and compliments through multiple communication channels, including WhatsApp, telephone, email and web-based platforms. This mechanism has strengthened the collection and analysis of community feedback, informing advocacy efforts, social media campaigns and technical recommendations aimed at improving humanitarian services.

Throughout the year, the National Society strengthened community feedback and monitoring systems, integrated CEA components into programmes and operations and promoted information as aid, communication for social and behaviour change and evidence-based advocacy. The CEA approach was applied during emergency response operations related to heavy rainfall and flooding using the AccessRC application, facilitating community registration and engagement. Additional initiatives included campaigns on the appropriate use of Red Cross services, webinars on good practices in humanitarian service provision, institutional campaigns promoting zero tolerance toward violence,

data protection awareness and the promotion of safe and reliable communication channels. Regular satisfaction and perception assessments were also conducted to better understand the experiences of both internal and external stakeholders.

The Costa Rican Red Cross institutionalized the CEA approach by strengthening capacities at all levels of the National Society through continuous training and the development of a dedicated CEA in Emergencies course. Regional volunteer focal points were consolidated to support implementation across the country, while CEA principles were integrated into accountability processes, operations, programmes, annual planning processes and the development of the first institutional CEA policy. In parallel, a comprehensive humanitarian services monitoring mechanism was established to manage community feedback and improve accountability. The National Society also updated its administrative procedures governing the management of community feedback and complaints.

The application of the CEA approach was further reflected in major operations and events during 2025. Internal and external evaluations were conducted for key humanitarian operations and public events, including the annual Pilgrimage Operation, the Festival of Light and holiday response operations, enabling the National Society to assess service quality, strengthen accountability and support continuous improvement of humanitarian assistance.

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 contributing to reinforcing National Societies in their respective countries, including through their auxiliary role.

The **Canadian Red Cross** is supporting the National Society with a humanitarian assistance project in conditions of human mobility. It is a regional project that is being developed in Panama, Costa Rica, Honduras and El Salvador, it ends in 2027, it has two main lines of work which include the prevention of gender-based violence and the promotion of sexual health. The Canadian Red Cross Society has also carried out activities of psychosocial support, soft skills workshops, community awareness, prevention of gender-based violence, non-violent masculinities, culture of peace, among others.

The **German Red Cross** is supporting the Costa Rican Red Cross with the FOCARE Project (Integrated Program for the Strengthening of Community DRR and the Preparation of National Societies in Central America). The focus of the project is established in the work with the beneficiary communities. Work is also being done with communities in the province of Alajuela, cantons of Upala, San Carlos, Guatuso and Río Cuarto.

The **Swiss Red Cross** is assisting the National Society with a regional migration programme for Central America, running from March 2024 to December 2026. It seeks to strengthen the preparedness and response of five National Societies (Panama, Costa Rica, Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala) in migration contexts, in coordination with the IFRC and the ICRC. With a bilateral and multilateral approach, it promotes institutional development, the provision of humanitarian services and information along migration routes and evidence-based humanitarian diplomacy. The programme fosters regional cooperation, mutual learning, and alignment with the [Global Route-Based Migration Programme](#) and the Migration Action Plan for the Americas.

Movement coordination

The Costa Rican 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 contributes to the National Society's work in protection, including minimum standards, restoring family links, self-care messages for migrants, health and first aid and support in humanitarian diplomacy. Although the ICRC does not have a physical office in Costa Rica, it supports the National Society through closely working with the Costa Rican State to promote the implementation and development of International Humanitarian Law ([IHL](#)) and to ensure that it is respected. Accompaniment is provided to the Costa Rican Commission on the national implementation of this normative framework in the country, as well as participation in round tables on the role of IHL as an instrument of peace and stability. The ICRC also maintains relations with the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, headquartered in San José.

External coordination

The Costa Rican Red Cross continued to strengthen its external coordination through active engagement with public institutions, the private sector, diplomatic missions, civil society organizations, trade associations, local governments and community actors. These efforts sought to increase visibility of the National Society's broad humanitarian mandate beyond its well-recognized prehospital care role, while fostering strategic dialogue and collaboration to address national and local humanitarian needs.

As a result, the National Society further consolidated partnerships and alliances that enhanced its technical and operational capacities at both national and international levels. This collaborative approach strengthened its role as a bridge between communities and key stakeholders, contributing to more comprehensive, coordinated and sustainable humanitarian responses.

Throughout the year, external coordination also supported resource mobilization, technical cooperation and the development of strategic partnerships, enabling continued progress towards institutional priorities and strengthening the sustainability of programmes and operations. Collaboration with public authorities, local governments, international organizations, embassies, civil society organizations and other strategic actors facilitated the implementation of humanitarian projects and the exchange of knowledge and good practices.

Several partnerships supported community resilience and preparedness initiatives. As part of the continuation of the FOCARE project, training processes on social micro-projects and community team formation were implemented in Río Cuarto, Upala, Guatuso and San Carlos. These activities were complemented by coordination with municipalities, Municipal Emergency Committees and communities, as well as progress in the characterization of the Aguas Zarcas river micro-basin Early Warning System, including the identification of key stakeholders, points of interest and technical requirements for future monitoring infrastructure.

Additional cooperation initiatives focused on strengthening support for people in situations of human mobility, prevention of gender-based violence, community preparedness, [Safer Access](#), [Restoring Family Links \(RFL\)](#) and [Anticipatory Action](#) related to heavy rainfall, tropical cyclones, volcanic ash dispersion and flood response. Strategic engagement with diplomatic missions also supported the presentation and development of projects aimed at strengthening emergency response capacity, rescue services and humanitarian infrastructure.

By the end of 2025, the Costa Rican Red Cross was managing multiple international cooperation projects across different areas of the National Society. These initiatives reflected its continued commitment to international collaboration, strengthened strategic partnerships and contributed to the development of sustainable solutions to humanitarian challenges while advancing its humanitarian mission.



Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2025, the Costa Rican Red Cross achieved a major institutional milestone with the official publication of the Costa Rican Red Cross Law No. 10632, formally recognizing and strengthening its auxiliary role to the State and its humanitarian mandate throughout the country. The law provides a clearer legal framework for the National Society's operations, strengthens the protection of volunteers, the emblem, vehicles and facilities and establishes the conditions necessary for carrying out humanitarian activities during emergencies, disasters and other situations requiring humanitarian action. It also formally recognizes its status within the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and reinforces its relationships with public authorities, municipalities, international organizations and other stakeholders.

The Costa Rican Red Cross continued advancing its institutional transformation through the implementation and ongoing update of its Strategic Development Plan 2021–2030. This process focused on incorporating lessons learned, organizational findings and emerging priorities to ensure that the institution remains resilient, innovative and capable of responding effectively to evolving humanitarian needs. The review and updating of the strategy also strengthened the Costa Rican Red Cross' ability to adapt to changing contexts and support long-term institutional development.

Continuous improvement remained a strategic priority throughout 2025. The National Society strengthened its quality management and internal control systems through the review and formalization of institutional procedures, policies and operational guidance. Efforts focused on enhancing efficiency, effectiveness, transparency and accountability while further developing monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to track progress against institutional objectives and promote a culture of integrity and continuous improvement.

The Costa Rican Red Cross strengthened its commitment to inclusive humanitarian action in 2025 by investing in volunteer development, leadership and participation across the National Society. Through training initiatives, governance and social action spaces, and knowledge-building activities, the National Society enhanced the capacities of its volunteer network and reinforced community engagement. Significant progress was also made in human talent management through continued growth of the volunteer and operational workforce, supported by recruitment, induction, training and staff development initiatives. Efforts to expand volunteer structures, promote leadership development, strengthen youth participation and implement the Learning to Save Lives programme further increased institutional capacity and readiness to respond effectively to humanitarian needs nationwide.

Additional efforts included strengthening humanitarian diplomacy, promoting youth engagement, consolidating strategic partnerships, supporting migrant populations and advancing institutional knowledge through training on humanitarian principles and International Humanitarian Law (IHL).

Financial sustainability remained a critical area of focus in response to the growing financial pressures facing the National Society. In the context of increasing demand and complexity of emergency and pre-hospital services, the National Society implemented measures aimed at optimizing resources, containing costs, diversifying income streams and strengthening the sustainability of its national structure. Attention was placed on reinforcing the capacities of Auxiliary Committees, promoting self-financing mechanisms, developing sustainable initiatives and improving efficiency while maintaining the quality and coverage of humanitarian services.

To support these efforts, the Costa Rican Red Cross continued to strengthen its cooperation and resource mobilization strategy through strategic engagement with public institutions, the private sector, international cooperation partners, non-governmental organizations, universities, embassies and other stakeholders. Resource mobilization efforts were supported by humanitarian diplomacy, institutional communication, marketing, and public relations strategies designed to generate trust and demonstrate the impact of humanitarian action. The diversification of partnerships and funding sources, together with the promotion of innovative fundraising approaches and strategic alliances, contributed to strengthening institutional capacities and supporting the long-term sustainability of the National Society.



Humanitarian diplomacy

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2025, the Costa Rican Red Cross continued to strengthen its humanitarian diplomacy efforts by promoting strategic engagement both within the institution and with key external stakeholders. Priority was given to maintaining and strengthening relationships with public authorities, including the Ministry of Health, the General Directorate of Migration (DGME), the Directorate of Social Adaptation, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Public Security and the Costa Rican Social Security Fund. These efforts contributed to enhancing institutional visibility and reinforcing the National Society's role as a humanitarian actor and auxiliary to the public authorities.

As part of this work, the Costa Rican Red Cross promoted and disseminated its Restoring Family Links ([RFL](#)) programme and advanced institutional initiatives related to Protection, Gender and Inclusion ([PGI](#)). These actions supported greater awareness of humanitarian services and strengthened collaboration with relevant stakeholders on issues affecting vulnerable populations.

The National Society also participated in initiatives aimed at strengthening institutional capacities in humanitarian diplomacy and the auxiliary role. A dedicated workshop for decision-makers was conducted to further reinforce understanding of humanitarian principles, the role of the Costa Rican Red Cross, and the importance of coordinated action to address humanitarian needs across the country.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC and the ICRC jointly supported the Costa Rican Red Cross through collaboration on joint initiatives and institutional capacity-strengthening efforts related to [humanitarian diplomacy](#) and the [auxiliary role](#). This support included the organization of a 'Humanitarian Diplomacy and Auxiliary Role Workshop' for decision-makers, contributing to enhanced understanding of humanitarian action and strengthening institutional positioning and engagement with key stakeholders.



Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2025, the Costa Rican Red Cross continued to strengthen accountability, transparency and institutional agility through enhanced governance, community participation, human talent management, internal control systems, supply chain improvements and [digital transformation](#). Accountability remained a key component of institutional management, supported through regular reporting to the General Assembly, public authorities, local governments and other stakeholders. At regional and local levels, accountability processes were also reinforced through periodic meetings and assemblies that provided opportunities for staff, volunteers and communities to review results and strengthen transparency in institutional management.

The National Society maintained a strong focus on community participation and accountability through the work of the Department of Strategic Communication and Accountability, promoting engagement with communities and facilitating mechanisms to receive and address feedback regarding institutional services. These efforts contributed to strengthening relationships with stakeholders and ensuring that humanitarian interventions remained responsive to community needs.

The well-being and protection of staff remained a priority during the reporting period. Through its Occupational Safety and Health Department, the National Society expanded actions focused on operational safety, workplace safety and institutional insurance management. Training and awareness activities were conducted to strengthen risk prevention, decision-making, and safe operational practices. During the year, the Operational Safety Policy was formalized and approved, establishing a framework for proactive risk management and fostering a stronger culture of prevention and resilience. Volunteer protection was further strengthened through improvements to volunteer policies, enhancing coverage and support in cases of accidents or illness related to humanitarian service.

The Costa Rican Red Cross continued to strengthen quality management and internal control systems through the development, updating and dissemination of key institutional documents, policies and procedures.

Efforts focused on improving monitoring, evaluation, risk management and governance processes while ensuring compliance with national legal requirements. Progress was also made in consolidating the institutional quality management system through the ongoing maintenance and updating of procedures and operational guidance, supporting standardization, transparency and accountability across the National Society.

Supply chain management and operational support systems were further enhanced during the reporting period. Fleet management, procurement processes and supplier management systems were strengthened to improve operational efficiency and transparency. Efforts included the expansion and renewal of operational assets, improvements to procurement procedures, updates to supplier standards, adoption of framework agreements and strengthening of contracting mechanisms to ensure the timely provision of goods, equipment and services required for humanitarian operations.

Digital transformation remained a major institutional priority in 2025. The National Society continued implementing a strategic modernization process aimed at strengthening information security, operational efficiency and technological sustainability. Key advances included the formalization of digital governance frameworks, modernization of technological infrastructure, cloud migration initiatives, adoption of collaborative communication platforms and implementation of new information security tools. Progress was also made in upgrading institutional management systems, improving digital services, standardizing databases and strengthening business intelligence using analytics and interactive dashboards.

The Costa Rica Red Cross also strengthened its operational management and evidence-based decision-making through the co-development and testing of a new digital system for ambulance and pre-hospital care services. The new platform standardized the recording and management of emergency cases, improving the quality, consistency and accessibility of operational data. This represented an important step towards more effective service monitoring, performance analysis and continuous improvement of pre-hospital care operations, while also strengthening the National Society's capacity to manage and utilize critical operational information.

The Costa Rican Red Cross also advanced the digitization of critical operational processes, improved data governance and strengthened institutional decision-making through better use of data and information management systems. These efforts reduced technological risks, improved operational continuity, enhanced efficiency, strengthened institutional resilience and laid the foundation for sustainable digital transformation in the medium and long term.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the Costa Rican Red Cross in strengthening its accountability and agility by providing technical guidance, capacity-building opportunities and support for institutional development processes. IFRC support contributed to the strengthening of Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) systems, the development of accountability mechanisms and approaches and the integration of community feedback processes across programmes and operations. In addition, the IFRC supported learning and capacity-building initiatives related to accountability, community engagement and institutional strengthening, helping the National Society enhance transparency, evidence-based decision-making, operational adaptation and people-centred service delivery.

The **Netherlands Red Cross** co-developed, designed, tested and supported in implementing the new digital system for ambulance and pre-hospital care services by working jointly with the Costa Rica Red Cross. This collaboration provided technical support and expertise to improve data management processes and ensure that the National Society can independently manage, maintain and further expand the platform in the future.

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

- Prioritizing anticipatory action, preparedness and risk reduction helps reduce humanitarian impacts and optimize resources, while maintaining flexibility to shift between anticipation and response when conditions require
- Early and meaningful community participation improves the relevance, acceptance and effectiveness of interventions, while strengthening trust through feedback and accountability mechanisms
- Digital transformation enhances efficiency, transparency and evidence-based decision-making, but its success depends on strong change management, continuous training and sustained support for staff and volunteers
- Financial challenges highlighted the National Society's vulnerability to reduced income and rising operational costs, reinforcing the need for stronger financial sustainability measures
- Greater emphasis is needed on resource optimization, strategic prioritization and diversification of funding sources to ensure the continuity of humanitarian services and reduce dependence on limited funding streams
- Strengthening medium-term financial planning and fundraising capacities is essential to maintain operational stability and safeguard critical humanitarian and emergency response services during future crises

SUCCESS STORIES



1

A Historic Milestone with the Costa Rican Red Cross Law

In February 2025, the Costa Rican Red Cross achieved a landmark institutional success with the official enactment of Law No. 10632, providing formal legal recognition and strengthening its auxiliary role to the public authorities. Driven by the collective efforts of more than 6,000 Red Cross members, the new law reinforces the National Society's humanitarian mandate, protects volunteers, safeguards the emblem and institutional assets and establishes the conditions necessary to carry out humanitarian work during emergencies, disasters and other crisis situations. The legislation also formally recognizes the National Society's role within the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and strengthens its relationships with public institutions and other stakeholders. This milestone represents a major step forward in securing legal certainty and long-term support for humanitarian action in Costa Rica.

2

Celebrating 140 Years of Humanitarian Service

In 2025, the Costa Rican Red Cross commemorated 140 years of uninterrupted humanitarian service, marking a historic milestone in its journey since its founding in 1885. The anniversary provided an opportunity to celebrate the impact of the National Society, strengthen institutional identity and reinforce connections with communities and key stakeholders. Through a series of high-level events, communication campaigns, commemorative activities across local branches, intergenerational volunteer exchanges and recognition of volunteers, staff and partners, the National Society highlighted its humanitarian legacy and future vision. These efforts strengthened public trust, increased national visibility and reinforced the sense of belonging among volunteers and supporters, contributing to the long-term sustainability and continued relevance of the Costa Rican Red Cross.



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

- [CR Costa Rica AR Financials.pdf](#) (For emergency operations, see [MDRCR027](#), [MDRCR026](#) and [MDRCR024](#))
- [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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