



YEMEN

2026-2028 IFRC network country plan



29 January 2026

In support of the Yemen Red Crescent Society



22

National Society branches



32

National Society local units



673

National Society staff



7,224

National Society volunteers

People to be reached in 2026



100,000

Climate and environment



768,000

Disasters and crises



1.6M

Health and wellbeing



20,000

Migration and displacement



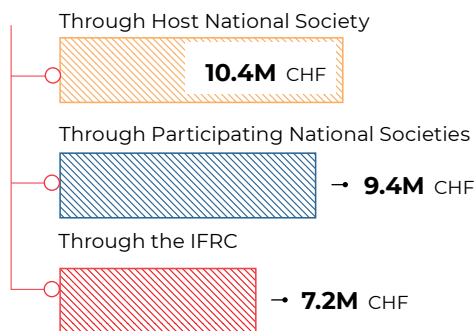
2.3M

Values, power and inclusion

IFRC network Funding Requirements

2026

Total 27M CHF



2027

2028

Total 800,000 CHF 800,000 CHF

Projected funding requirements

Participating National Societies

- British Red Cross
- Canadian Red Cross*
- Danish Red Cross
- Finnish Red Cross
- German Red Cross
- Iraqi Red Crescent Society*
- Japanese Red Cross Society*
- Monaco Red Cross*
- Norwegian Red Cross
- Qatar Red Crescent Society
- Netherlands Red Cross*
- Turkish Red Crescent Society

IFRC Appeal codes

Longer-term needs:

MAAYE001

*National Societies which have contributed only multilaterally through the IFRC in 2025.

Hazards



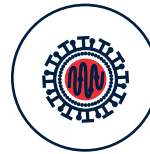
Conflict



Population Movement



Food insecurity



Epidemics



Floods

IFRC network multi-year focus

Longer term needs

- Health
- Water, sanitation and hygiene
- Disaster preparedness & response
 - Disaster risk management
 - Migration & displacement
 - Climate change adaptation

Capacity development

- Branch development
- Volunteer management
- Security management
- Internal systems strengthening

Key country data links

INFORM Severity rating

Very High

INFORM Climate Change Risk Index

Very High

Human Development Index rank

184

World Bank Population figure

40.6M



Yemen Red Crescent Society providing shelter assistance to flood-affected families in al-Luhayyah (Photo: Yemen Red Crescent Society)

Detailed funding requirements

2026

	Host National Society	IFRC
Longer-term needs		
Climate and environment	60,000	700,000
Disasters & crises	5.1M	2.7M
Health & wellbeing	825,000	2.4M
Migration & displacement	200,000	200,000
Values, power & inclusion	316,000	100,000
Enabling local actors	3.9M	1.1M
Total	10.4M	7.2M

Participating National Societies bilateral support

National Society	Year	Funding Requirement	Confirmed Funding	Climate and environment	Disasters and crises	Health and wellbeing	Migration and displacement	Values, power and inclusion	Enabling Functions
British Red Cross	2026	322,000	322,000						
Danish Red Cross	2026	1.7M	1.4M	-	-	-			-
Finnish Red Cross	2026	300,000				300,000			
	2027	800,000			500,000	300,000			
	2028	800,000			500,000	300,000			
German Red Cross	2026	475,000			50,000	400,000			25,000
Norwegian Red Cross	2026	2.3M	2.3M	-	-	-			-
Qatar Red Crescent Society	2026	4.2M			211,000	4M			
Turkish Red Crescent	2026				-	-	-		

See back page for explanatory note on funding requirements

NATIONAL SOCIETY PROFILE

The **Yemen Red Crescent Society** is a key humanitarian actor in Yemen, with a well-recognized presence throughout the country. It was first established in the south of Yemen in 1968 and the north in 1970, and the two were later integrated as one National Society in 1993, after the unification of Yemen. The Yemen Red Crescent Society was admitted to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in 1983. The Yemen Red Crescent Society is recognized as the first responder for both conflict-related emergencies and natural disasters. The National Society has ongoing programmes in health, water, sanitation and hygiene, food security, disaster preparedness and risk reduction and anticipatory action. It also provides humanitarian relief to the most vulnerable, especially those affected by conflict and natural hazards. In its auxiliary role to the public authorities, the Yemen Red Crescent Society regularly provides support in responding to emergencies such as floods, droughts, disease outbreaks and transporting injured people. It works closely with its International Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners located in Yemen and those providing remote support.

The National Society's vision is to be the foremost humanitarian organization ready to meet the challenges faced by vulnerable communities and capable of rapid delivery of humanitarian services. Its mission is to relieve human suffering, protect human lives and dignity and respond to emergencies. The Yemen Red Crescent Society's commitment to its role as a far-reaching humanitarian organization is built into its Strategic Plan 2023-2027, which outlines five strategic goals:

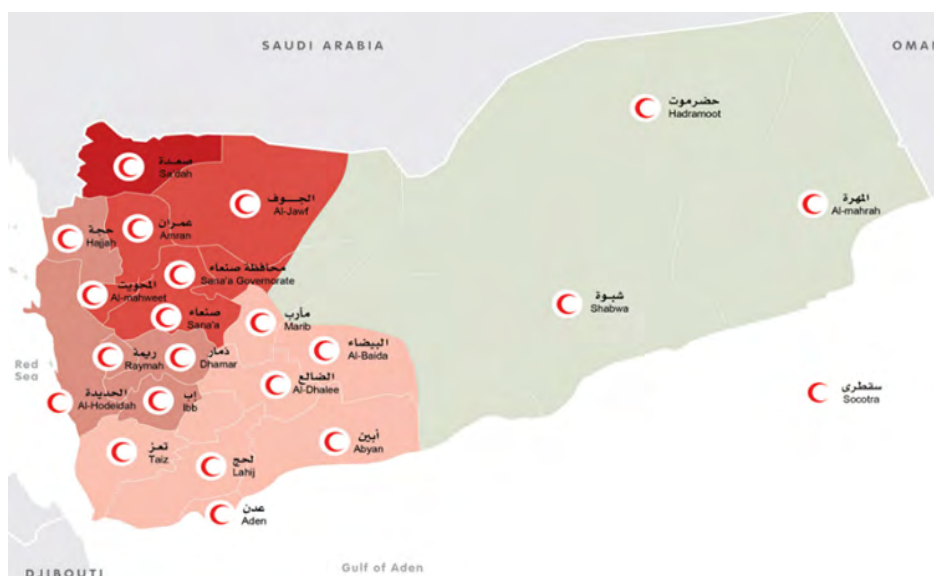
- Develop vibrant and well-functioning National Society that supports sustainable systems, policies and procedures for efficient service delivery to attain sustained, relevant

and impactful humanitarian actions per the National Society's vision and mission

- Improve and strengthen resilience in the communities while ensuring a sustainable humanitarian response
- Deliver appropriate health interventions and address the life-saving needs of the communities, including emergency preparedness, in a timely and effective manner
- Improve and expand the Yemen Red Crescent Society's water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) operational and response capacity to ensure safe, equitable and sustainable WASH assistance and services to the affected communities that impact positively on the health, dignity and well-being of the targeted communities
- Protect the dignity of the people who are victims of conflict and emergencies and improve the National Society protection mechanism to act effectively and to be a trusted partner for humanitarian actions

The Yemen Red Crescent Society has set ambitious goals to enhance its capacity to better respond to the widespread and multiple needs of the Yemeni population. Based on its Strategic Plan, the Yemen Red Crescent Society aims to support approximately 4.7 million people (5.1 million households) with essential goods and services between 2023 and 2027 through its sectorial interventions in emergency and non-emergency times. This will involve the assistance of youth and community volunteers and Yemen Red Crescent Society staff members in programming, organizational development and administration.

In 2024, the National Society reached 2 million people with long term services and development programmes and 3.7 million people with disaster response and early recovery programmes.



Map of Yemen Red Crescent Society branches

The map does not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the IFRC or the National Society concerning the legal status of a territory or its authorities

IFRC NETWORK ACTION

JOINT SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

Throughout 2025, humanitarian needs remained alarmingly high. An estimated [19.5 million](#) people required assistance or protection, a reflection of the compounded effects of prolonged conflict, economic collapse, and environmental shocks. The situation was further strained by critical funding gaps, rising global inflation, and persistent access constraints that limited the reach of humanitarian actors. Families across Yemen struggled to meet basic needs, with food insecurity affecting over 17 million people. Many households were unable to afford staple goods due to soaring prices and dwindling income, leaving parents with impossible choices between feeding their children and seeking medical care.

Access to health services remained a major concern, with 20 million people lacking essential care. Clinics and hospitals, where still operational, were overwhelmed and under-resourced. Maternal and child health services were particularly strained, and chronic illnesses went untreated in many areas. The water and sanitation situation also deteriorated, leaving 15 million people without reliable access to clean water or adequate sanitation facilities. This contributed to the spread of preventable diseases and placed additional pressure on already fragile health systems.

Displacement continued to define the humanitarian landscape. Over 4.5 million people remained internally displaced, many living in overcrowded shelters or informal settlements with limited access to services. Protection risks were widespread. Civilians, especially in areas with increased movement, faced daily threats from landmines and explosive remnants of war. Women and girls were particularly vulnerable to violence, and children faced growing risks of exploitation, early marriage, and recruitment. Vulnerable groups such as people with disabilities, older people, migrants, and refugees experienced heightened barriers to accessing support and services.

The health system was under severe strain. Disease outbreaks—including cholera, dengue, and measles—were reported across several governorates. Malnutrition worsened, with hundreds of thousands of children projected to suffer from acute malnutrition, many at risk of severe outcomes. This deterioration was driven by poor feeding practices, low immunization coverage, limited access to clean water, and high levels of illness. Mobile clinics and community health programs provided critical support, but coverage remained insufficient to meet the scale of need.

Yemen's economy continued its downward spiral. The Yemeni rial depreciated sharply, and inflation pushed food and fuel prices up by more than 30 percent compared to previous years. The separation of economic institutions and competing monetary policies deepened the crisis, further eroding household purchasing power. Most public sector employees, including teachers and healthcare workers, had not received regular salaries in years. Families relied on informal labour, remittances, and humanitarian cash assistance to survive. Yemen's heavy dependence on imported goods made it particularly vulnerable to global supply chain disruptions, including those linked to [ongoing international conflicts](#).

Environmental challenges added another layer of complexity. [Yemen's vulnerability](#) to climate change became increasingly evident in 2025, with severe seasonal flooding displacing thousands and damaging homes, roads, and farmland. Droughts and water scarcity affected agricultural production and access to drinking water, forcing families to relocate to areas with limited infrastructure and services. The absence of early warning systems and disaster preparedness mechanisms left communities exposed and unprotected.

The year 2025 was marked by both resilience and hardship. While the humanitarian situation remained dire, the commitment of communities, volunteers, and humanitarian actors offered hope.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Climate and environment

Yemen ranks fourth on the [INFORM Climate Change Risk Index for 2024](#), with a high vulnerability score of 8.2, reflecting its extreme susceptibility to climate impacts and limited preparedness. This position, following Somalia and South Sudan, underscores the profound and multi-dimensional impact of climate change in Yemen, which aggravates socioeconomic challenges and heightens vulnerability to natural disasters.

Climate change has increased the frequency of extreme weather events in Yemen, particularly droughts and [flash floods](#). Prolonged drought periods have exacerbated water scarcity and degraded arable land, reducing [agricultural productivity and food security](#). Yemen's shifting rainfall patterns have also led to more flash floods, which damage infrastructure, displace communities and destroy crops. The combined effects of these droughts and floods have put severe pressure on Yemen's already limited resources.

[Water scarcity](#) remains one of Yemen's most pressing challenges, as groundwater resources are rapidly depleted due to over-extraction and decreasing recharge rates, exacerbated by climate pressures and human activities. This depletion, which affects drinking water and irrigation supplies, has intensified competition for water across communities and regions, occasionally resulting in [localized conflicts](#). Limited access to clean water has also contributed to an increase in [waterborne diseases](#), compounding health risks for many Yemenis.

The agricultural sector, essential to Yemen's economy and food supply, has been hit hard by these climate challenges. Erratic rainfall and soil degradation have led to reduced crop yields for key staples such as wheat, sorghum, and millet, driving up food prices and increasing reliance on imports. For pastoralist communities, the scarcity of water and grazing lands has resulted in higher livestock mortality, further diminishing livelihoods and deepening poverty.

These environmental challenges carry significant socioeconomic consequences. [Food insecurity](#) continues to affect millions, with reduced agricultural production and rising food costs hitting the most vulnerable populations—especially children and pregnant women. The harsh climate conditions have also driven internal displacement as people migrate in search of better living conditions, adding strain to urban areas and increasing demand for humanitarian aid. Health outcomes are deteriorating due to compounded effects of malnutrition, waterborne diseases, and overcrowded living conditions, with rising incidences of diseases such as cholera and malaria.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Yemen Red Crescent Society is part of the [IFRC Global Climate Resilience Programme](#), which aims to foster an unprecedented scale-up in locally led climate-smart disaster risk reduction and adaptation efforts to prevent and reduce climate-related disaster impacts and build community level climate resilience. The programme aims to support 500 million people in 100 of the most climate-vulnerable countries, focusing on the least supported and marginalized communities. This holistic, multi-year programmatic approach consists of four operational pillars: (1) scaling up climate-smart disaster risk reduction, [anticipatory action](#) and preparedness; (2) reducing the public health impacts of climate change; (3) addressing climate displacement; and (4) enabling climate resilient livelihoods and ecosystem services.

To help communities adapt to climate change, the Yemen Red Crescent Society will systematically anticipate and integrate the short- and longer-term impacts of it into its programmes and operations. These programmes include disaster risk reduction, water, sanitation and hygiene, livelihoods and protection interventions where young people are involved.

The National Society will also promote the adoption of [greener solutions](#), such as solar-powered energy in agricultural livelihoods schemes and the use of more climate-resilient agricultural practices such as drought-resistant seeds and better irrigation systems. The Yemen Red Crescent Society aims to ensure that its staff and volunteers have the knowledge and capacity to serve as agents of change, and take the necessary actions required to address climate-driven and environmental crises. Its high-level objectives include to:

- Promote sustainable livelihoods and economic security to strengthen community adaptability to climate variability
- Conduct widespread climate adaptation awareness campaigns across regions
- Expand education on contingency planning and [early warning systems](#) for climate events
- Advocate for high-level policy support to position itself as a key partner in national climate action
- Raise climate risk awareness through targeted sessions and partnerships with government entities
- Build its capacity for long-term climate action and environmental stewardship

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

Planned activities in 2026

- Establish community-based early warning systems
- Install 30 weather and rain monitoring stations
- Implement four small-scale adaptation projects focusing on water harvesting, sustainable agriculture and ecosystem restoration
- Conduct four environmental assessments to identify key drivers of degradation and pollution
- Organize 10 community awareness campaigns on sustainable waste management, water conservation and ecosystem protection
- Establish community-based energy management committees
- Implement four livelihood projects targeting 100,000 people
- Train staff and 220 volunteers on [enhanced capacity and vulnerability assessments](#)

The IFRC will support the Yemen Red Crescent Society in strengthening the expertise of its staff and volunteers in climate-smart practices and seamlessly weave climate and environmental considerations into their programmes and day-to-day responsibilities. The IFRC will assist the integration of climate and environmental strategies into the strategic and operational frameworks of the Yemen Red Crescent Society. It will also support the National Society in expanding its policymaking and advocacy endeavours pertaining to environmental and climate issues. This support will extend to engagements with Government bodies and other critical humanitarian stakeholders at the national and governorate tiers, as necessary.



Disasters and crises

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

Disasters and environmental hazards, significantly intensified by climate change, continue to pose a critical threat to the lives, livelihoods, and well-being of communities across Yemen. The country's extreme vulnerability is confirmed by its 2025 INFORM Climate Change Risk Index, where it continues to rank among the world's most vulnerable nations, with a score of 8.4, reflecting a worsening outlook and an increased inability to cope with climate shocks. Key challenges include:

The frequency and severity of droughts and flash floods have increased, with 2025 seeing patterns of erratic and torrential rainfall. These events cause widespread destruction of infrastructure, destroy crops, and trigger repeated displacement, eroding any recovery gains and stretching humanitarian resources beyond their limits.

The depletion of groundwater resources has accelerated, moving beyond an agricultural crisis to a severe public health emergency. Competition over scarce water resources continue to fuel local conflicts and community tensions, while access to safe drinking water remains a primary challenge, perpetuating cycles of waterborne diseases.

Agricultural productivity has further declined due to consistent drought, soil degradation, and the destructive impact of floods on farmland. Staple crop yields have fallen, and large-scale livestock mortality has devastated pastoralist livelihoods, destroying a critical safety net for rural families and deepening dependence on food aid.

Climate impacts act as a threat multiplier, directly exacerbating the world's worst humanitarian crisis. Food insecurity levels remain catastrophic for millions, with climate shocks directly contributing to spikes in acute malnutrition. Climate-induced displacement continues to drive vulnerable populations into overcrowded and underserved urban areas, overwhelming already collapsed essential services and amplifying health risks, including malnutrition and infectious disease outbreaks.

The recurrent annual flood escalated severely in 2025, with torrential rains causing widespread destruction and exacerbating the world's largest humanitarian crisis. According to updated assessments by the Yemen Red Crescent Society, the scale of impact has grown, with over 380,000 people directly affected by flooding since the season began, a significant increase from the previous year. These floods have destroyed homes, submerged agricultural land, killed livestock, and critically damaged water and sanitation infrastructure, creating a fertile ground for disease outbreaks. A heightened and persistent threat is the

movement of unexploded ordnance (UXO) into populated areas by floodwaters, severely jeopardizing civilians and hindering humanitarian response efforts.

Current reports from the 2025 flooding season indicate that over 55,000 families have been directly affected. The governorates of Al Hudaydah, Hajjah, and Marib remain epicenters of destruction, with initial reports indicating a tragic rise in flood-related fatalities and missing persons compared to 2024.

Consequently, food insecurity has reached unprecedented levels. Projections for late 2025 indicate that over 5.1 million people are now facing high levels of acute food insecurity. The share of households with inadequate food consumption has surged to 65 percent nationwide, with severe food deprivation rates soaring to 35-40 per cent.

The total population of migrants, refugees, and asylum-seekers in need of humanitarian assistance and protection has grown significantly. Current estimates for 2025 indicate that over 480,000 individuals require urgent support, including access to healthcare, protection services, shelter, and food assistance. This figure highlights the immense strain placed on the humanitarian response system, which is already struggling to meet the needs of millions of vulnerable Yemenis.

Multi-year high-level objectives of the National Society

The Yemen Red Crescent Society will support at-risk communities with reducing their vulnerability and exposure to hazards and communicate actionable risk information with them. The Yemen Red Crescent Society will also ensure that communities prepare for the timely and effective mitigation of and response and recovery to, crises and disasters, including early action. These will use impact projections and include scenarios where several hazards are happening simultaneously.

To support people affected by crises and disasters, the Yemen Red Crescent Society will focus on implementing its cash and voucher assistance (CVA) programme. It will also carry out food security and livelihoods (FSL) programmes and provide households with one-off unconditional cash transfers during emergency response operations. Where markets and services are disrupted, the National Society will ensure that people affected by crises and disasters receive timely and appropriate in-kind assistance. Its high-level objectives include to:

- Strengthen the capacity of communities for disaster risk reduction through training and community-led efforts
- Conduct comprehensive risk assessments and hazard mappings at national, branch and local levels
- Enhance disaster preparedness, response, early warning capabilities
- Improve disaster response coordination and provide timely cash and voucher assistance (CVA) and in-kind assistance to affected populations, including internally

displaced persons and host communities in areas with disrupted markets

- Expand its leadership by advocating for an effective disaster law
- Promote nature-based disaster risk reduction solutions, including reforestation, wetland conservation, and ecosystem restoration
- Increase capacity to meet population protection needs and support authorities in mass casualty events with efficient management of human remains
- Strengthen mine and explosive remnants of war response by raising community awareness, improving mine risk education, enhancing data collection and improving access to essential services for affected communities

Planned activities in 2026

- Facilitate the establishment of eight Disaster Management Community Committees (DMCCs) across eight targeted governorates
- Implement 12 lightning protection systems in five high priority governorates
- Treat four critical road bends to mitigate landslide and rockfall risks
- Implement rockslide mitigation measures at 4 high-risk sites
- Develop a georeferenced database of hazards, vulnerabilities and community assets to support evidence-based decision-making
- Identify strategic locations and establish pre-positioning of critical supplies
- Develop standard operating procedures for emergency communications and information management during disasters
- Provide one-off cash for a crisis to 1500 households affected by disasters
- Train 80 branch volunteers in conducting vulnerability and capacity assessments (eVCA) at the community level

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will assist Yemen Red Crescent Society in strengthening its disaster management capacity through ongoing technical and financial support. This support includes emergency preparedness and response activities, such as contingency planning at the headquarters and branch levels and the pre-positioning of emergency stocks for swift distribution in crises. The IFRC will also aid in implementing and enhancing the National Emergency Response Fund, while working with the Yemen Red Crescent Society to grow contributions for the fund.

The IFRC is working closely with the National Society to strengthen service delivery, as this support is centred on several key pillars: backing health centres, expanding primary healthcare networks to promote community health, mitigating the risk of disease and epidemic spread through the public

health in emergencies approach, and ensuring equitable access for the most vulnerable populations. The IFRC also ensures the provision of mobile clinic services to reach populations in areas inaccessible to other actors.



Health and wellbeing

In 2025 an estimated 19.5 million people in Yemen require humanitarian assistance. Health services remain severely strained and many health facilities are non-functional or only partially functional (roughly ~40–46 per cent partially/non-functional depending on assessment). Priority areas are emergency health surge capacity, cholera control, immunization scale-up, malnutrition treatment, and rebuilding primary care and surveillance. UNICEF estimates ~17.8 million people lack adequate access to basic healthcare (2025 planning figures). Access is worst in conflict frontlines, many rural and remote districts, and overcrowded IDP sites; shortages of staff, medicines, fuel and functioning infrastructure are the main barriers.

Yemen carried the world's highest cholera burden in 2024 (250,000 suspected cases and ~861 deaths in 2024). In 2025 (Jan–25 May) surveillance reported ~18,286 suspected cases and 10 deaths (reporting gaps and under-reporting remain important caveats). Large measles and diphtheria burdens persist (WHO reported ~39,000 suspected measles cases with 328 deaths in 2024). Malaria and dengue remain endemic and spikes after heavy rains/floods. Surveillance and laboratory capacity remain limited.

UNICEF/WUENIC estimates place ~580,000 zero-dose children in Yemen (a very large share of regional zero-dose totals), highlighting major immunity gaps that drive measles/diphtheria outbreaks. Malnutrition also remains acute: UNICEF/WHO planning documents and IPC analysis project that ~500,000 children will require treatment for severe wasting in 2025, while cluster reporting indicates hundreds of thousands of acutely malnourished children (estimates of ~600,000 malnourished children appear in some agency briefs for late-2024). Certain coastal/local pockets (e.g., parts of Hodeidah) show extremely high prevalence (reports have highlighted rates approaching one-third in worst-affected districts). Drivers: food insecurity, high prices, poor WASH, service gaps, and repeated shocks.

Projected impacts of climate change on health indicate increasing heat stress, more frequent/intense extreme precipitation (flash floods) and worsening water stress — all of which will amplify diarrhoeal disease, vector-borne disease risk (malaria, dengue), food insecurity and malnutrition, and damage to health infrastructure and supply chains. The World Bank/WHO assessments highlight large future health costs without adaptation.

As of 2025, Yemen is experiencing a dire humanitarian WASH crisis with more than 15 million lacking access to safe water, sanitation, and hygiene. Less than one-third of the population has access to piped water, and over 3.6 million people are at imminent risk of losing water access where fuel shortages threaten pumping systems. The WASH sector remains critically underfunded—at just 9 per cent of the required US \$2.47 billion, according to UNOCHA's 2025 appeal. Without significant investment to rehabilitate water infrastructure, provide reliable fuel supplies, and scale up sanitation and hygiene promotion, Yemen faces elevated risk of waterborne disease outbreaks and escalating public health emergencies.

Multi-year high-level objectives of the National Society

The Yemen Red Crescent Society seeks to supplement the struggling health system by providing quality health care services. The Yemen Red Crescent Society will run its general hospital and 29 primary health care centres and provide emergency health services through four mobile health clinics. Collaborating closely with the Ministry of Public Health and Population, the Yemen Red Crescent Society strives to fulfil pressing needs for basic health services and referrals, enhancing emergency medical services, combating epidemics and pandemics, leveraging its capabilities and the dedicated mobilization of community volunteers, to ensure safe and timely delivery of quality care.

Through its water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) interventions, the Yemen Red Crescent Society aims to improve and make sustainable drinking water accessible through rehabilitation and maintenance of existing water systems, building new water projects, providing water to the most affected communities and displaced persons, schools and health facilities, and improving access to sanitation facilities and hygiene promotion in targeted communities to mitigate public health risks. This will be done to help reduce the prevalence of water-borne diseases such as cholera, by supporting community initiatives for environmental sanitation in the most vulnerable areas. Its high-level objectives include to:

- Deliver evidence-based and impact-driven, effective, appropriate health services, disease prevention and community-based care activities

- Help communities identify and reduce health risks through relevant community engagement and behaviour change that ensure locally led solutions to address unmet needs
- Expand the reach, quality and modalities of its first aid activities, including training of volunteers, staff as well as commercial first aid
- Address the needs of people living with communicable diseases, such as HIV and tuberculosis, utilizing relevant harm reduction approaches
- Focus on vector-borne disease interventions, including the use of insecticide-treated nets for effective malaria prevention
- Provide quality and sustainable nutrition services
- Provide communities at risk improved access to adequate water, sanitation and hygiene assistance to support disease control and prevention
- Provide pneumatic wheelchairs to 500 people with physical disabilities
- Support 300,000 people with improved, equitable and sustainable access to safe water for drinking, cooking and other domestic use through rehabilitation and upgradation of water supply systems in 10 governorates
- Assist 25,000 people who are at risk from pandemics and epidemics to improve access to adequate water, sanitation and hygiene assistance

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC provides support to the Yemen Red Crescent Society in expanding its healthcare services to reach remote and vulnerable communities through 26 primary healthcare centres. It also supports the National Society in closely coordinating with the Ministry of Public Health and Population to address urgent health needs.

The IFRC further helps the Yemen Red Crescent Society's in improving its emergency health capacities through policies, standard operating procedures and emergency medical services. Additionally, it assists the National Society in coordinating with WHO, UNICEF and other humanitarian actors.

The IFRC supports the National Society's strategic initiatives by funding water system rehabilitation, emergency sanitation facilities for displaced populations and hygiene promotion in schools and communities. It also aids in establishing Yemen Red Crescent Society's water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) department and integrating WASH efforts with health services to prevent disease outbreaks, ensuring sustainable and effective service delivery across Yemen.

Planned activities in 2026

- Review and update its Health Strategic Plan matching the crisis need
- Activate and mobilize a trained health emergencies response team
- Support running costs for 26 health facilities
- Upgrade and provided maintenance for 30 ambulances
- Establish community committees and train them in community-based health and first aid (CBHFA)
- Procure and operate two mobile health clinic vehicles
- Refresh and print basic and advanced First Aid manuals



The National Society provided essential support to families affected by floods and landslides in 2025. (Photo: Yemen Red Crescent Society)



Migration and displacement

Yemen has historically served as both a destination and primary transit route for migrants, refugees, and asylum seekers from the Horn of Africa, particularly enroute to Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states. According to the [UNOCHA Yemen Humanitarian Needs Overview 2023](#), most of these individuals are Ethiopian nationals, predominantly young men, with 22 per cent being women and 10 percent children.

Despite ongoing humanitarian crises, Yemen remains a critical transit hub for migration between the Horn of Africa and Saudi Arabia. According to IOM, the primary migration route begins in Ethiopia, moving through the seaport of Obock in Djibouti. From Obock, migrants cross the Bab Al Mandeb Strait, reaching the coasts of Lahj and Taiz governorates in Yemen. This represents nearly a three-fold increase in arrivals since 2021, with IOM recording 66,330 new migrant arrivals in Yemen between [January and May 2023](#). By December 2022, over [43,000 migrants](#) were estimated to be stranded across Yemen, unable to continue their journeys or return home, relying entirely on humanitarian aid for survival.

Since the beginning of the conflict in 2014, Yemen also emerged as a source country for people fleeing the hostilities, both Yemeni nationals and migrants returning to their countries of origin. According to UNOCHA Yemen Humanitarian Needs Overview for 2023, an estimated 308,218 migrants, refugees and asylum-seeking women, girls, boys and men need humanitarian assistance, protection and services. This includes 209,505 migrants and up to 100,000 refugees and asylum-seekers.

Multi-year high-level objectives of the National Society

The Yemen Red Crescent Society integrates assistance to internally displaced populations into all its programmes. To

continue providing this assistance, it maintains an active role in coordination mechanisms for effective camp management.

As part of the National Society's objectives in this area, it seeks to ensure that the conditions and surroundings for people in sites for internally displaced persons are improved in a protection-oriented and dignified manner. This includes addressing the immediate humanitarian and protection needs of vulnerable migrants and displaced people, including internally displaced persons.

Planned activities in 2026

- Provide migrants with health services, food, water, sanitation, essential items, psychosocial support and protection during their stay in the transit sites at Taiz, Shabwah, Saadah and Hajjah
- Draft and finalize its migration strategy for Yemen

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will provide guidance and technical support to the Yemen Red Crescent Society to implement a clear migration and displacement strategy. This will provide a road map for the National Society for its migration and displacement programme and strengthen the National Society's capacities in this programmatic area. The IFRC will also assist in mobilizing resources for the planned activities, and internal and external coordination with clusters and other humanitarian actors.



Values, power and inclusion

Yemen faces a significant [gender gap](#) and high gender inequality as per recognized indexes. In various domains, such as education, livelihood opportunities, protection, and political representation, indicators display severe disparities between men and women.

In the current humanitarian context, direct access to all population groups as recipients is a significant challenge. Even if humanitarian stakeholders have established mechanisms to overcome the difficulties on the ground, several obstacles remain in reaching out to women, boys, and girls and ensuring they are the final beneficiaries of humanitarian interventions. Protection, gender and inclusion are crucial issues that impact

different sectors, as protection should be integrated into health, education, WASH and food security.

During conflict, men and young boys are more likely to be killed or injured while fighting. Civilian men and young boys can suffer from humiliation and denigration from armed groups, arbitrary detention, and summary execution. This leads to an increasing number of female-headed households that face specific protection risks. Changes in gender roles are accelerated in situations of conflict as women are forced to assume responsibilities previously held by men.

However, they face more obstacles than males in playing this new role because of social exclusion, limited mobility, a lack of support structures, communication barriers, and social

perceptions (including how they perceive themselves) that they are weaker than men. This may also have an impact on ensuring the wellbeing and protection of children. The inconsistency in the application of the rule of law by institutions and protection systems disproportionately affects women, boys, and girls, making them more vulnerable to grave violations of their rights and significantly exposing them to exploitation and [multiple barriers to justice](#).

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Yemen Red Crescent Society has committed to taking concrete steps toward observing the [minimum standards](#) in gender and diversity through its humanitarian interventions and by disseminating and advocating for these standards throughout the humanitarian response, with the objective of making sure that women, girls, boys and men, of all ages and backgrounds have access to humanitarian assistance and protection that cater to their distinct needs and experiences. The multi-year objectives of the Yemen Red Crescent Society include to:

- Adopt a comprehensive protection, gender and inclusion (PGI) approach across all interventions and programmes
- Educate the most vulnerable people about [child protection](#), protection against sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA), prevention of gender-based violence and provide legal assistance as required
- Empower communities to influence decisions affected them
- Establish feedback mechanisms for communication, participation, feedback and complaints
- Integrate [community engagement and accountability](#) into its strategic plans, policies and operating procedures

Planned activities in 2026

- Provide 3,000 dignity kits to orphan girls in four governorates
- Deliver legal assistance, issuing 500 birth certificates for displaced newborns and replacing 1,000 lost identity cards
- Develop policies on protection, gender and inclusion (PGI), prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA), [child protection](#), human rights, and non-discrimination
- Establish a hotline unit to receive community feedback
- Facilitate interactive summer activities for displaced children and orphans
- Conduct three training sessions in basic PGI principles
- Conduct two PGI and PSEA training sessions for Yemeni authorities.
- Organize a workshop in community engagement and accountability self-assessment for executive management across 21

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC network support the Yemen Red Crescent Society to mainstream [protection, gender and inclusion](#) across all programmes, strengthening the capacity of the National Society, including training youth and volunteers in conflict zones. Technical support and guidance will be provided by the IFRC at strategic and operational levels, including workshops for staff and volunteers and monitoring of Emergency Appeals for PGI mainstreaming. The National Society will be supported to implement policies and systems related to Code of Conduct adherence, prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA), fraud and corruption prevention, non-discrimination and child safeguarding.

ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS

The Yemen Red Crescent Society is engaged in the IFRC Preparedness for Effective Response (PER) process and is at the action and accountability phase. The PER Approach is a continuous and flexible process that enables National Societies to assess, measure and analyze the strengths and gaps of its preparedness and response mechanism, and ultimately take necessary action to improve it.



Key Institutional Indicators

The National Society has put in place the following:

- Strategy to strengthen its auxiliary role
- National Society development plan
- Youth engagement strategy
- Health, accident and death compensation for volunteers
- Protection against sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) policy
- PSEA Action Plan
- Digital transformation roadmap



Strategic and operational coordination

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Enhance coordination and collaboration with key national and sub-national stakeholders, including authorities, civil society organizations, the private sector and research institutions
- Increase participation and leadership in international and inter-agency coordination efforts
- Develop a resource mobilization strategy
- Conduct Movement operational and coordination group meetings to align efforts and share best practices
- Host National Society development technical working group meetings to address challenges and opportunities

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the Yemen Red Crescent Society in strengthening and leveraging its role in humanitarian coordination with national authorities, including the Civil Defence, the Ministries of Health, Water Authorities, and Education. This support includes technical guidance to enhance collaboration with key stakeholders, as well as facilitation of Movement strategic and operational coordination platforms, and thematic technical working group meetings across prioritised areas, including National Society Development. As convener, the Yemen Red Crescent Society will be supported in coordinating with the broader Movement, while the IFRC will drive the operationalization of the IFRC Way of Working, linking it with the National Society Investment Framework to strengthen the Yemen Red Crescent Society's institutional and operational capacity through coordinated and collective efforts.



Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Update its legal and policy framework and revise its statutes to strengthen its performance and integrity
- Strengthen governance and senior leadership's understanding of integrity, accountability, humanitarian diplomacy, partnership development and Safer Access Framework awareness
- Strengthen its network of branches and their operational capacity based on annual development plans by using tools such as Branch Organizational Capacity Assessment (BOCA)
- Improve financial sustainability through strategic investments and leadership engagement in resource mobilization and financial management
- Access funding through mechanisms such as the IFRC Capacity Building Fund, IFRC/ICRC National Society Investment Alliance and the Empress Shôken Fund
- Implement youth and volunteer strategies through Red Crescent Youth (RCY), Youth as an Agent of Behavior Change (YABC), Youth Engagement Strategy (YES), Youth camps and Volunteering in Emergencies (VIE)

- Improve volunteer learning and peer-to-peer exchange opportunities
- Engage community members in decision-making

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC is supporting the Yemen Red Crescent Society in a comprehensive organizational development and transformation process to strengthen its capacity to address the complex and evolving needs of communities across Yemen. This support focuses on reinforcing branch development and strengthening institutional foundations and systems, support services, enhancing programme performance and accountability, advancing leadership and governance capacities, and developing key policies aligned with the NSD Framework and Strategic Plan revisions.

In addition, the IFRC is supporting financial sustainability efforts through the development of a resource mobilization plan, as well as exploring local income generation opportunities. Further assistance includes strengthening human capital through initiatives to enhance volunteer and youth engagement, institutional and operational capacity, aligned with the NSIF, and volunteer retention across branches, ultimately contributing to more resilient and effective National Society operations nationwide.



Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Foster trust and strategic humanitarian diplomacy with government, donors, media and communities to enhance its reputation and influence public behaviour, policies and decisions
- Increase awareness and understanding of its activities through media coverage
- Develop a unified visual identification
- Develop a humanitarian diplomacy policy
- Coordinate communication strategies during emergencies to deliver impactful messaging

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the Yemen Red Crescent Society in strengthening humanitarian diplomacy, including

evidence-based advocacy, localized communication tools for its leadership and staff, experience exchange efforts with other National Societies in the region, and the development of a Humanitarian Diplomacy Plan.

In 2026, the IFRC, together with the ICRC, will assist the Yemen Red Crescent Society in managing sensitive communications, reinforcing its auxiliary role, and ensuring neutrality, impartiality, and unity. Joint advocacy will be promoted to secure access and operational efficiency, while the National Society's work will be highlighted through the IFRC traditional and social media platforms. The IFRC will also provide technical and financial support to sustain engagement with national authorities, advocate for ongoing donor support, pursue media outreach to maintain public awareness of Yemen's humanitarian situation, and share humanitarian diplomacy expertise from other contexts.



Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

- Building its planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting capabilities through the establishment of policies, procedures and tools

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the Yemen Red Crescent Society in strengthening institutional and operational frameworks, promoting accountability, and improving business processes in line with global guidance. This includes advancing monitoring, evaluation, and reporting, enhancing financial and administrative systems, and establishing robust internal controls for effective risk management. Following the transition to the 'Working with Project Partners' (WWPP) modality, IFRC will build the National Society's capacity in financial management, reporting, and accountability, alongside the phased roll-out of the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system to streamline corporate services. Risk management will remain a priority, with systematic mitigation, capacity building, and the promotion of a risk-aware culture across the National Society's branches. The IFRC will also support the implementation of policies on anti-fraud and corruption, child protection, PSEA, and Safeguarding, using integrity mechanisms to track and respond to issues.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Enhance its institutional accountability by integrating gender and diversity considerations into management and culture
- Develop and monitoring safeguarding policies and mechanisms
- Manage financial resources transparently and efficiently, uphold integrity and prevent fraud and corruption
- Strengthen resource management system (RMS) at headquarters as well as branches
- Implement comprehensive risk management across all levels to ensure quality assurance and operational readiness
- Develop human resources (HR) policy and procedures and review the HR structure
- Guarantee the safety and security of its staff in all humanitarian activities
- Adopt web-based systems for integrated finance, project management, logistics and public relations processes and focus on digital transformation

THE IFRC NETWORK

The IFRC

The IFRC has had a long-standing presence in Yemen since 2003 as a country Delegation and its support to the Yemen Red Crescent Society centres on strategic and operational coordination, National Society development, and humanitarian diplomacy. It also supports accountability as a cross-cutting theme.

In Yemen, the IFRC gives particular focus to its central role in facilitating and coordinating efforts geared towards National

Society development, with a view to pooling capacities and resources, where other partners have a comparative advantage. The IFRC provides support in various sectoral and technical areas, including emergency response. In recent years, the IFRC supported the National Society through several Disaster Response Emergency Fund (IFRC-DREF) and Emergency Appeal operations in response to floods and disease outbreaks

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.

IFRC member national societies supporting the National Society multilaterally through the IFRC include the **British Red**

Cross, Canadian Red Cross, Italian Red Cross, Japanese Red Cross, Netherlands Red Cross, and Swedish Red Cross. In addition, the Yemen Red Crescent Society has bilateral cooperation agreements with other member partners present in the country, including the **Danish Red Cross, German Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross and Qatar Red Crescent Society.**

The **Danish Red Cross** will provide technical support on epidemic preparedness and response.

The **German Red Cross** will continue to provide technical assistance in WASH and PGI.

The **Norwegian Red Cross** will provide technical assistance in community-based surveillance.



National Society support to flood and landslide-affected families recover with dignity and hope. (Photo: Yemen Red Crescent Society)

Movement coordination

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

The ICRC has been in Yemen since 1962 and has a permanent presence in several governorates. Since the outbreak of the armed conflict in Yemen in 2015, the ICRC has been assisting those affected by it by providing clean water, health care and other relief.

Coordination with other actors

The Yemen Red Crescent Society collaborates across several humanitarian clusters, including those focused on water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH), health, and shelter, working with in-country partners such as UN agencies, local and international NGOs and relevant local authorities. Through this coordination, it advocates for support and ensures a united approach to humanitarian assistance.

In close partnership with the IFRC, the Yemen Red Crescent Society participates actively in the Yemen Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) clusters and working groups, sharing insights, addressing challenges and contributing recommendations on Yemen's humanitarian needs. The IFRC and the National Society are part of the strategic advisory group for the shelter and non-food items (NFIs) cluster, with the National Society co-chairing the flood response for the national shelter/NFI cluster. Regular national and subnational meetings enable the National Society to coordinate shelter and NFI initiatives effectively.

The Yemen Red Crescent Society works with WHO and UNICEF to enhance risk communication and community engagement (RCCE), integrating support for the most vulnerable. The IFRC also represents the National Society in the anticipatory action (AA) working group, which aims to strengthen early response efforts.

The National Society maintains vital relationships with local authorities, including the Supreme Council for the Management and Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (SCMCHA), the IDP Executive Unit and government ministries, such as those for Public Health, Water and Education. Partnerships with UN agencies such as OCHA and UNHCR further facilitate coordination and ensure Yemen Red Crescent Society's activities are represented in cluster reporting, while upholding the neutrality essential to the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement's role in Yemen.



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 16 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.

About the plan

The plan reflects the priorities of the host National Society, the IFRC and National Societies providing international support, for 2026 and subsequent years. It is aligned with IFRC [Strategy 2030](#), representing the collective ambitions of the IFRC membership, and is the result of a joint planning process and will serve for joint monitoring and reporting. It will be revised on an annual basis to adjust priorities and funding requirements to the needs in-country.

Explanatory note on funding requirements and definitions

- The total funding requirements show what the IFRC network seeks 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 network databank](#)
- 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
- Figures for the years beyond 2026 most often represent partial requirements that are known at time of publication. Many National Societies have annual internal approval processes for funding requirements, and lower figures do not mean a decrease in funding requirements in future years
- Missing data and breakdowns: data may not be available from all IFRC network members for funding requirements. This may lead to inconsistencies across different reporting tools as well as potential under-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

- [IFRC network country plans](#) • [All plans and reports](#)
- Data on National Societies on [IFRC network databank](#)
- Live data on active emergency operations on [IFRC GO platform](#)
- Live data on [IFRC-Disaster Response Emergency Fund Response and Anticipatory pillars](#)
- [Evaluations and research bank](#) • [Donor response reports](#)

Contact information

Nino Burtikashvili

Head of Delegation
IFRC Country Delegation Yemen,
Sana'a
nino.burtikashvili@ifrc.org

Yara Yassine

Head of Strategic Partnerships
& Resource Mobilization
IFRC Regional Office for Middle East
& North Africa,
Beirut
T +961 79 300 562
yara.yassine@ifrc.org

Sumitha Martin

Lead
IFRC Global Strategic Planning
& Reporting Centre
New Delhi
sumitha.martin@ifrc.org