



ARMENIA

2026-2028 IFRC network country plan



4 February 2026

In support of the Armenian Red Cross Society



12

National Society branches



54

National Society local units



300

National Society staff



10,000

National Society volunteers

People to be reached in 2026



368,000

Climate and environment



302,000

Disasters and crises



687,000

Health and wellbeing



200,000

Migration and displacement



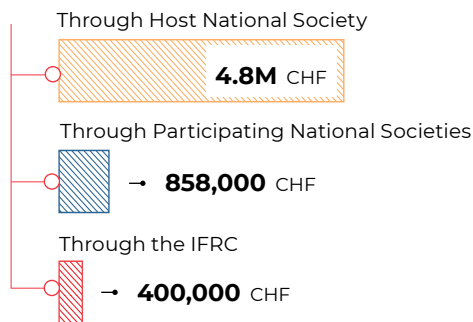
253,000

Values, power and inclusion

IFRC network Funding Requirements

2026

Total 6M CHF



2027

Total 6.3M CHF

2028

6M CHF

Projected funding requirements

Participating National Societies

American Red Cross*

Austrian Red Cross

Italian Red Cross

Swiss Red Cross

IFRC Appeal codes

Longer-term needs:

MAAAM002

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

Hazards



Population movement



Conflict



Floods



Drought



Hailstorm

IFRC network multi-year focus

Longer term needs

- Disaster risk reduction and preparedness
 - Protracted displacement
- Health, water, sanitation and hygiene
 - Elderly care
- Climate change adaptation

Capacity development

- Digital transformation
- Community Engagement and Accountability
 - Branch development
- Youth engagement & volunteer management
 - Resource mobilization

Key country data links

INFORM Climate Change Risk Index **High**

Human Development Index rank **69**

World Bank Population figure **3M**

World Bank Population below poverty line **23.7%**



Armenian Red Cross Society disaster response team volunteers conducting simulation exercises in Tavush regional brunch, Ijevan (Photo: Armenian Red Cross Society)

Detailed funding requirements

	2026		2027		2028	
	Host National Society	IFRC	Host National Society	IFRC	Host National Society	IFRC
Longer-term needs						
Climate and environment	1M	67,000	1M	33,000	1M	33,000
Disasters & crises	1.6M	67,000	1.7M	33,000	1.7M	33,000
Health & wellbeing	921,000	67,000	1.2M	33,000	1.2M	33,000
Migration & displacement	217,000	67,000	383,000	33,000	383,000	33,000
Values, power & inclusion	381,000	67,000	414,000	33,000	414,000	33,000
Enabling local actors	723,000	67,000	757,000	33,000	757,000	33,000
Total	4.8M	400,000	5.5M	200,000	5.5M	200,000

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
Austrian Red Cross	2026	188,000	188,000	-	-	156,000	32,000	-	-
	2027	80,000	80,000		50,000	30,000			
Italian Red Cross	2026			-	-			-	-
Swiss Red Cross	2026	670,000	520,000		-	475,000	-		195,000
	2027	520,000	320,000			400,000			120,000
	2028	230,000				100,000			130,000

See back page for explanatory note on funding requirements

NATIONAL SOCIETY PROFILE

The **Armenian Red Cross Society** is an auxiliary to the public authorities in the humanitarian field and the largest voluntary organization in the country. It was founded in 1920 and admitted to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in 1995.

The National Society has a network of 11 branches, one territorial branch and 54 community sub-branches. It has 300 experienced and committed members of staff and 10,000 active volunteers, with whom an agreement as defined in the newly introduced law about volunteer work have been concluded.

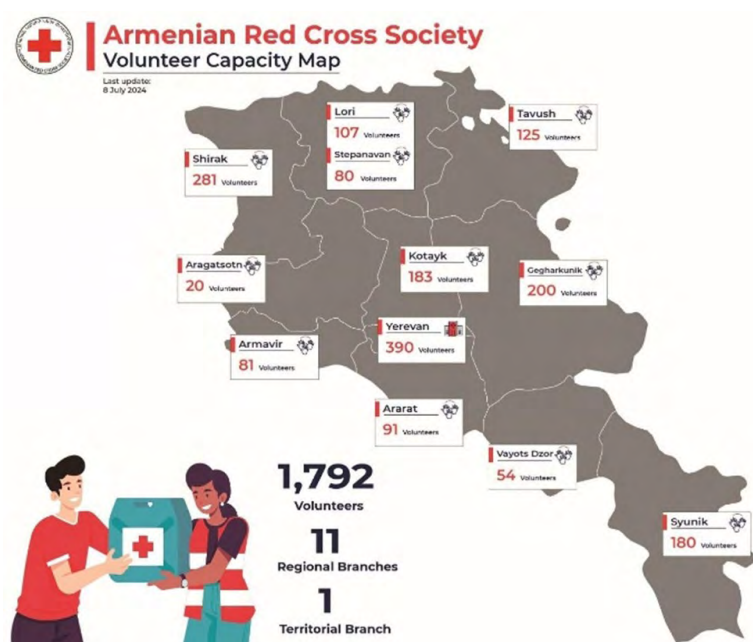
By implementing disaster risk reduction projects in recent years, the National Society has formed strong disaster management capabilities. In addition to disaster preparedness and response services, the National Society is well recognized in the country for its provision of social services and healthcare, including mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS)

and assistance to migrants and displaced groups. The National Society is well positioned as a key humanitarian actor to the public authorities in supporting disaster management and response activities.

The Armenian Red Cross Society Strategy 2022–2026 defines three strategic goals for the Armenian people:

- To better anticipate and respond to disasters and crises, and recover faster
- To lead safe, healthy and dignified lives, with opportunities to thrive
- To mobilize for inclusive and supportive communities

In 2024, the Armenian Red Cross Society reached more than 39,000 people through disaster response and early recovery programmes.



Map of the Armenian Red Cross 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

Armenia remains strategically sensitive in the South Caucasus, navigating a complex environment shaped by unresolved conflict dynamics, shifting geopolitical alliances, economic vulnerabilities and significant natural hazard risks. Two of its four international borders—those with Azerbaijan and Türkiye—have remained closed for more [than three decades](#), restricting trade and regional connectivity. Although the border with Türkiye temporarily opened in 2025 for the transit of humanitarian aid to Syria, broader normalization has not progressed. Regional stability remains fragile, with geopolitical tensions involving neighbouring Iran adding to uncertainty.

Domestic political pressures have intensified ahead of the 2026 parliamentary elections. Since April 2024, large-scale protests linked to the government's decision to return four border villages to Azerbaijan have escalated. The '[Tavush for the Homeland](#)' movement has led road blockages, sit-ins and sustained demonstrations met by mass detentions and allegations of excessive force, underscoring deepening polarization. Although Armenia and Azerbaijan reached a draft peace agreement in March 2025, long-term stability remains uncertain.

The most recent Karabakh escalation in September 2023 resulted in the [displacement](#) of more than 115,000 people—around [four per cent of Armenia's population](#). Around three-quarters have settled in Yerevan and neighbouring regions. The displaced population is demographically diverse, including 52 per cent women, 18 per cent older people, 31 per cent children and over 2 per cent persons with disabilities; more than 2,000 pregnant women were among those arriving. Many were previously affected by prolonged blockades and arrived with urgent needs related to shelter, food, health care, mental health support and livelihoods. Over 16,000 children have been integrated into Armenian schools, yet the overall influx continues to place strain on urban services, housing and public infrastructure. While some have departed for other countries, the majority remain and require sustained support for long-term integration.

Armenia's demographic trends continue to shift. With a population of [approximately 2.95 million in 2025](#), the country faces a declining fertility rate (1.7 children per woman), continued outward migration—particularly among youth—and an ageing population, with 18 per cent now over 65. These

dynamics heighten the need for investments in human capital, employment creation and social protection.

Economically, Armenia is experiencing a period of adjustment. After [strong growth](#) in 2022–2023 driven partly by inflows linked to the Russia–Ukraine conflict, GDP expansion moderated to 5.9 per cent in 2024 and stabilized to around 5 per cent in 2025. The economy continues to struggle with structural issues: [unemployment remains high](#) (13.9 per cent in 2024), [poverty](#) affects 23.7 per cent of the population and over half of Armenians fall below the upper-middle-income poverty threshold. Rural communities experience disproportionately higher levels of poverty. Inflation has stabilized, but an depreciating dram and rising housing costs—linked to Russian migration—continue to affect competitiveness and household affordability.

At the same time, Armenia is undergoing significant shifts in foreign and security policy. [Tensions](#) with the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO) over [inadequate security guarantees](#) led Armenia to suspend participation in 2024, straining relations with Russia. The government has since [accelerated engagement](#) with [Western partners](#), including a major EU investment package (CHF 2.3 billion) and expanded cooperation with India in defence and connectivity. In April 2025, Armenia formally initiated steps toward EU accession, indicating a broader strategic realignment.

Natural hazards further compound Armenia's vulnerabilities. The country is highly exposed to earthquakes, droughts, floods, hailstorms and landslides. Severe flooding in May 2024 in Lori and Tavush provinces caused major infrastructure damage, the destruction of bridges, hundreds of evacuations and multiple fatalities. Climate change is amplifying the frequency and severity of such events: annual flooding affects roughly 40,000 people and causes an estimated CHF 90 million in economic losses. Nearly one-third of communities are exposed to landslides, and extreme weather events pose ongoing challenges for agriculture, which employs a large share of the rural population despite relatively low productivity.

Armenia continues to confront intertwined geopolitical, economic, demographic and environmental stresses. Stability in border areas, the integration of displaced populations and resilience to natural hazards remain central concerns. The country's trajectory will depend on its ability to maintain internal cohesion, manage political transitions, advance economic reforms and navigate an evolving regional landscape while strengthening long-term resilience and development pathways.



Climate and environment

Armenia is experiencing climate change at a rate exceeding the global average, with average annual temperatures already rising by 1.6°C and projections indicating an increase of 1.5°C to 5°C by 2099. If emissions remain unchecked, temperatures could climb up to 4.7°C above the 1986–2005 baseline by the end of the century. Urban heatwaves, particularly in Yerevan, are becoming more frequent and severe, posing significant health risks to vulnerable populations such as the elderly, children and those with chronic illnesses.

Precipitation levels have declined, increasing Armenia's vulnerability to droughts, heat stress and hydrometeorological extremes—including floods, hailstorms and landslides—which now occur with greater frequency and intensity. Seasonal variability is pronounced: summer temperatures in Yerevan often exceed 33°C, while high-altitude regions face accelerated snowmelt and irregular rainfall patterns.

These climatic changes are already impacting Armenia's economy and society. Water resources and agriculture are among the most vulnerable sectors. Over-extraction of water is outpacing natural replenishment, while reduced rainfall and extreme weather events threaten food security and rural livelihoods. Studies suggest that climate impacts on water and agriculture alone could shrink Armenia's economy by up to three per cent by 2060 and increase poverty rates by 2.7 percentage points by 2030 if adaptation measures are not implemented.

Environmental challenges are compounded by human activities, including deforestation driven by reliance on biomass for heating. Desertification, soil erosion and water scarcity are escalating, particularly in the Ararat Valley. Extreme weather events such as heatwaves, storms and floods are projected to become more frequent, with heatwave probability reaching up to 18 per cent annually by the end of the century. These changes will disrupt crop production through altered growing seasons, increased pest and disease prevalence and mounting pressure on water resources.

Agriculture, a major source of employment, faces significant vulnerabilities as most farmers lack resources for adaptation measures such as irrigation or drought-resistant crops. Limited access to insurance further restricts recovery from climate-related disasters, leaving rural households dependent on seasonal migration and remittances. Climate change also amplifies health risks, increasing heat-related illnesses and the likelihood of communicable disease outbreaks.

Armenia ratified the Paris Agreement in 2017 and has committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 40 per

cent below 1990 levels by 2030. National climate policies align with Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and the National Adaptation Plan (NAP), prioritizing reforestation, water management and disaster risk reduction. The Fourth National Communication outlines progress in renewable energy, energy efficiency and improving transparency in greenhouse gas inventories. However, Armenia's energy system remains heavily dependent on imported natural gas, accounting for 63 per cent of total energy use, making the country vulnerable to external shocks. Achieving a resilient, low-carbon transition will require an estimated CHF 7.2 billion in investments by 2060, alongside systemic reforms in energy, water management and sustainable land practices.

Despite these commitments, Armenia's adaptive capacity remains limited, particularly among vulnerable populations and smallholder farmers. Building resilience will require accelerating climate adaptation measures, improve governance and mobilize resources to protect ecosystems and livelihoods from the accelerating impacts of climate change.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Strengthen institutional capacity for climate action by integrating climate risk management into strategies, policies and operational plans, and equipping headquarters and branches with climate tools and training
- Increase climate awareness and education through large-scale outreach, school-based programmes and inclusive community engagement using participatory tools
- Promote sustainable environmental practices by mainstreaming green initiatives such as reforestation, waste management and water conservation into programmes
- Enhance disaster preparedness and early warning systems to anticipate and respond to climate-related hazards, leveraging digital tools and partnerships with meteorological agencies
- Link climate resilience with socio-economic development by promoting climate-smart livelihoods and adaptation measures that provide economic co-benefits for vulnerable groups
- Mobilize climate finance and partnerships to scale up locally led adaptation and ensure long-term sustainability of climate initiatives

Planned activities in 2026

- Conduct climate risk assessments across all branches and upgrade early warning systems using digital platforms and AI
- Launch community-based adaptation projects, including tree planting, riverbank rehabilitation, wetland restoration and water conservation initiatives
- Implement green initiatives in targeted regions, such as reforestation with native species, agroforestry, composting and upcycling, in partnership with local schools and NGOs
- Promote [nature-based solutions](#) by increasing adoption by 15 per cent, focusing on reforesting degraded lands, using anti-hail nets in agriculture and addressing urban heat islands
- Expand climate-smart agriculture and irrigation techniques to strengthen food and water security and reduce vulnerability to droughts and floods
- Support communities displaced by climate-related disasters through tailored assistance and resilience-building programmes
- Develop strategic partnerships with climate finance institutions and explore blended finance models to secure long-term funding for climate initiatives
- Roll out awareness campaigns to reach 50,000 people with information on climate risks and adaptation strategies, using inclusive communication tools such as Public Awareness and Public Education (PAPE)
- Strengthen youth engagement in climate action through volunteer programmes, innovation hubs and community-led risk mapping
- Train staff, volunteers and youth on climate adaptation, heat-related first aid and disaster preparedness; integrate climate education into 200 schools

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The **IFRC** will support the Armenian Red Cross Society in strengthening climate resilience within communities across Armenia. This includes improving community early warning systems and building capacities to act early in response to climate risks. The IFRC will assist the National Society in developing climate-smart and gender-sensitive disaster risk management capacities, with a strong focus on vulnerable populations. Support will also include the development of Early Action Protocols ([EAP](#)) for climate hazards and increasing institutional readiness for effective [anticipatory action](#).

To enable timely and effective disaster response, the IFRC will provide access to its financial mechanisms such as the Disaster Response Emergency Fund ([DREF](#)) and Emergency Appeals. The recently completed IFRC Climate Project in Armenia (2024–2025), funded by the Irish Government, laid a strong foundation for anticipatory action by introducing ecosystem-based solutions such as tree planting to mitigate mudslides, hail and extreme heat. Implemented in Armavir Marz, this project achieved Armenia's first National Climate Assessment, delivered capacity-building workshops on [Early Warning and Early Action](#) and PAPE tools, and strengthened collaboration with national stakeholders. The initiative reached approximately 70,000 people and improved climate preparedness at the community level.

Further support will include technical assistance for accessing climate finance, collaboration on nature-based solutions, and scaling up anticipatory action across all programmes of the Armenian Red Cross Society. Strategic alignment with Armenia's national climate priorities and donor trends will ensure sustainability and impact.

The **Austrian Red Cross** will support the Armenian Red Cross Society in developing a Simplified Early Action Protocol ([sEAP](#)) for heatwaves. This process will define triggers, early actions and implementation mechanisms to mitigate the impacts of extreme heat events. Once endorsed, the sEAP will serve as the basis for mobilizing anticipatory funding through the IFRC DREF, enabling the Armenian Red Cross Society to implement timely and effective early actions ahead of forecasted heatwaves and reduce risks for vulnerable communities.



Disasters and crises

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

Armenia faces high exposure to natural hazards, with climate change amplifying the frequency and severity of disasters such as earthquakes, droughts, floods, hailstorms and landslides. The entire population is at risk from earthquakes, and a major seismic event could cause direct losses of up to CHF 1.9 billion, equivalent to 12 per cent of the country's 2022 GDP. Approximately 98 per cent of the population is vulnerable to droughts, which have historically caused significant damage, including an estimated CHF 153 million loss during the 2000 drought. Flooding also poses a major threat, with 31 per cent of Armenians living in flood-prone areas.

In May 2024, severe floods in Lori and Tavush provinces underscored Armenia's vulnerability. The disaster affected 12 settlements, including Alaverdi and Dilijan, destroyed 20 bridges and isolated several communities. It resulted in four fatalities and caused damages estimated at CHF 44.46 million, with economic losses of CHF 29.70 million and recovery needs exceeding CHF 72 million. Between 1992 and 2023, floods accounted for 23 per cent of natural disasters in Armenia, while storms were the most frequent at 38 per cent.

The economic toll of climate-related disasters is significant. Impacts on water and agriculture alone could reduce Armenia's GDP by up to three per cent by 2060 and increase poverty by 2.7 percentage points by 2030. Addressing these challenges will require an estimated CHF 7.2 billion investment between 2025 and 2060 to transition toward a resilient, low-carbon future, focusing on energy, water, agriculture and disaster risk management reforms.

Man-made disasters further strain resilience. In 2025, [a gas explosion in Chambarak](#) injured over 100 people, killed six and hospitalized 20 children, following the collapse of a residential building that exposed weaknesses in utility infrastructure and emergency response. Earlier that year, a gas station explosion in Ararat province highlighted similar risks. These industrial accidents, combined with Armenia's dependence on imported natural gas—accounting for 63 per cent of total energy consumption—underscore systemic vulnerabilities intensified by infrastructure limitations and external supply uncertainties.

Armenia's geopolitical position adds complexity, with population influxes and migration of ethnic Armenians exacerbating demographic pressures. In 2025, the permanent population grew by approximately 84,000, partly due to arrivals from conflict-affected regions such as Syria and Lebanon. Since late 2024, over 1,600 people arrived from Lebanon and around 55 from Syria, with further arrivals expected as air routes reopen amid deteriorating conditions in those countries. Armenia's border with Iran also presents challenges, as regional instability and economic pressures influence migration patterns and

security. These dynamics create urgent needs for coordinated humanitarian and socio-economic responses to support integration and maintain social cohesion. The government, in collaboration with international partners, continues to strengthen preparedness for managing these population movements.

Multi-year high-level objectives of the National Society

The Armenian Red Cross Society is a first responder to crises in Armenia and it remains in the communities it serves before, during and after emergencies. In recent years, the National Society has implemented several programmes focused on strengthening its capacity in the field of disaster management, in particular [disaster preparedness](#) and [risk reduction](#). As its multi-year high level objectives, the National Society aims to:

- Strengthen disaster management capacity by institutionalizing contingency planning, enhancing preparedness system and expanding risk reduction initiatives nationwide
- Deliver comprehensive humanitarian services including in-kind and cash assistance, mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), livelihoods and resilience programmes, search and rescue and tracing
- Promote risk communication and community engagement to raise awareness of natural and man-made hazards, including weapon contamination and foster inclusive preparedness planning
- Reduce vulnerability and exposure through localized disaster risk reduction strategies and community-led action planning
- Build institutional capacity through continuous training, volunteer engagement and integration of disaster management standards and processes

Planned activities in 2026

- Conduct enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessments (eVCA) nationwide, draft preparedness plans and organize community drills
- Expand disaster preparedness and risk reduction initiatives across Armenia, including simulation exercises and refresher trainings for Disaster Response Teams
- Institutionalize disaster management through updated contingency planning and Preparedness for Effective Response (PER) process implementation
- Provide targeted in-kind and cash assistance, scale up MHPSS and implement livelihood and resilience-building activities

- Preposition relief stocks annually for 250 families (approx. 1,000 people), including hygiene kits, bedding sets, blankets and pillows
- Strengthen DRT capacities through regular training in [First Aid](#), Search and Rescue (SAR), MHPSS, and humanitarian assistance, supported by national and regional simulation exercises
- Expand Volunteer Fire-Rescue Services (VolFiRe) from 13 to 23 stations, institutionalize VolFiRe within national emergency systems and establish a National Volunteer Fire-Rescue Association
- Implement Risk Assessment of Suspected/Contaminated Areas and Behaviour (RASB) methodology in Tavush, Gegharkunik, Vayots Dzor and Syunik to address weapon contamination risks
- Launch inclusive risk communication campaigns to promote risk-informed behaviours and preparedness planning
- Provide insurance coverage and eVCA training for volunteers to ensure safety and readiness

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The **IFRC** provides critical Emergency Response and Preparedness support to the Armenian Red Cross Society. This assistance strengthens the Armenian Red Cross Society's ability to respond rapidly to small-scale emergencies through timely stock replenishment, prepositioning of relief items and expansion of cash and voucher assistance ([CVA](#)). Additionally, the IFRC facilitates access to the Disaster Relief Emergency Fund ([DREF](#)) and Emergency Appeals, ensuring the Armenian Red Cross Society can maintain operational readiness and deliver swift humanitarian assistance.

In 2025, the IFRC supported the Armenian Red Cross Society in responding to a gas explosion in Chambarak through a [DREF amount of CHF 84,039](#). The three-month operation aimed to assist 850 affected people in Gegharkunik by providing emergency [shelter](#), essential household items and multipurpose

cash assistance to 200 people, alongside comprehensive health services with a strong focus on [MHPSS](#) (including [psychological first aid](#), counselling and professional consultants). The operation also included volunteer mobilization for relief and MHPSS delivery, and community engagement mechanisms to ensure information sharing, feedback and participation—ultimately reducing vulnerabilities and supporting recovery.

To implement its 2026–2028 Resource Mobilization Strategy, the National Society seeks continued and strategic support from Movement partners. This includes facilitating high-level donor engagement, supporting joint proposal development, providing technical assistance for mapping funding opportunities and offering flexible, multi-year funding. Strengthened collaboration will also prioritize donor visibility, strategic project packaging, alignment with national frameworks and resourcing internal capacities—positioning the Armenian Red Cross Society as a trusted actor in Armenia's humanitarian and climate resilience landscape.

The **Austrian Red Cross** is supporting the institutionalization of a national Volunteer First Responder Service (VolFiRe) to enhance community-level disaster readiness. This initiative aligns with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (2015–2030) and aims to build a robust volunteer network capable of providing immediate assistance during emergencies.

The **Italian Red Cross** contributes to strengthening the National Society's disaster preparedness and response capacities through contingency planning and capacity building for staff and volunteers in disaster risk management. It also supports community resilience via localized preparedness initiatives and technical assistance in disaster response coordination. This collaboration ensures the Armenian Red Cross Society can respond effectively to emergencies, particularly in at-risk and border communities.

The **Swiss Red Cross**, alongside the International Committee of the Red Cross (**ICRC**), focuses on long-term institutional preparedness for the Armenian Red Cross Society. Their support includes capacity building, reinforcing effective response systems and ensuring sustained assistance for vulnerable and crisis-affected populations.



Armenia's population in 2025 is estimated at around three million, with a median age of 36.6 years and a life expectancy of 75.8 years. Although these indicators reflect gradual improvements in overall health, demographic trends reveal emerging pressures on the health system. Fertility has declined to about 1.7 children per woman and births fell by 7.4 per cent in early 2025 compared to the previous year. Urbanization now stands at 63.7 per cent, while sustained emigration—particularly among youth and professionals—continues to drive negative net migration. The population is ageing rapidly, with older adults (65+) currently representing over 13 per cent of the population and projected to reach 31 per cent by 2050. These shifts highlight the growing demand for health, long-term care and social protection services.

Despite the constitutional commitment to Universal Health Coverage, Armenia's health system faces significant challenges. Public health spending remains low by regional standards, contributing to persistent gaps in access and quality. Many older people and low-income households remain excluded from free or subsidized services, and specialized palliative care availability is limited despite the adoption of national standards in 2017. The government's Health System Development Strategy (2023–2026), extending through 2028, outlines major reforms—including the introduction of Universal Health Insurance (UHI) by 2027—to expand financial protection and improve equitable access. Strengthening primary health care is central to this agenda, with priorities focused on prevention, early detection and management of non-communicable diseases (NCDs), which account for more than 83 per cent of national mortality.

Armenia continues to confront significant public health risks linked to climate change. Rising temperatures, shifting disease patterns and increased frequency of extreme weather events contribute to higher incidence of vector-borne diseases, respiratory infections, diarrheal illnesses and measles outbreaks. These risks intensify during disasters, when overcrowded shelters, disrupted water systems and poor hygiene amplify transmission. Malnutrition—especially among children under five—further heightens vulnerability to disease.

The epidemiological landscape is dominated by NCDs, responsible for approximately 93 per cent of all deaths. High rates of hypertension, cardiovascular disease, diabetes and cancer underscore the need for expanded screening, stronger risk-reduction programmes and improved chronic disease management. Progress has been made in areas such as mammography, stroke treatment, cardiovascular surgery and cancer prevention, but persistent challenges remain, including antimicrobial resistance and maintaining strong vaccination coverage.

HIV prevalence, while still low, has risen modestly to an estimated 0.4 per cent of adults aged 15–49 in 2023, compared to 0.1 per cent in 2003. Most new infections occur through

heterosexual transmission, and underdiagnosis remains an issue despite progress such as the elimination of mother-to-child transmission.

Mental health has become an increasingly urgent priority, driven by the combined effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2020 conflict, the 2023 fuel depot explosion in Karabakh and recent displacement. Demand for mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services has risen sharply, especially among children, adolescents and displaced populations. While new EU- and WHO-supported initiatives launched in 2025 are strengthening community-based care and the health workforce, stigma and limited-service availability continue to hinder access. UNICEF reports that more than 34,700 children, adolescents and caregivers received MHPSS support in 2024 alone, demonstrating both high need and increasing uptake.

Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) conditions continue to affect health outcomes. As of 2024, 18 per cent of Armenians lacked access to safe drinking water and 89 per cent lacked safely managed sanitation. These gaps are particularly acute in rural areas, where ageing infrastructure contributes to supply interruptions and reduced water quality. Diarrheal diseases remain a concern, accounting for nearly half of related mortality linked to unsafe WASH conditions. A 2024 assessment found significant gaps in schools: 71 per cent lacked warm water and 25 per cent lacked safe drinking water. Ongoing national efforts—supported by international partners—focus on upgrading WASH systems in communities, schools and health facilities and increasing public awareness on hygiene practices.

Frequent natural disasters and recent industrial accidents have underscored the need to strengthen first aid capacity and emergency preparedness. Floods, explosions and infrastructure failures in recent years have revealed critical gaps in rapid response and community-level first aid knowledge. As part of broader health reforms, Armenia is expanding standardized first aid training for health workers, first responders, educators and local communities, while improving medical supply pre-positioning and integrating disaster risk management into the health sector.

Overall, Armenia's health and wellbeing landscape is shaped by demographic ageing, the high burden of NCDs, climate-related risks, persistent gaps in service access and rising mental health needs. Efforts to expand Universal Health Coverage, strengthen primary care, improve WASH conditions and build resilient community health systems will be crucial to addressing these evolving challenges and ensuring equitable health outcomes for all population groups.

Multi-year high-level objectives of the National Society

- Strengthen national health emergency preparedness by supporting public authorities and defining the National

Society's role in health crises, aligned with national priorities such as family welfare, [healthy ageing](#), maternal and child health and migration health

- Promote healthy lifestyles and disease prevention through education, outreach and community engagement, focusing on non-communicable diseases (NCDs) and digital health solutions
- Enhance access to essential health services including TB and HIV prevention and treatment, immunization and voluntary blood donation, in partnership with primary health care providers
- Expand mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) by integrating services into disaster preparedness and community health programmes, prioritizing displaced populations, youth and vulnerable groups
- Improve water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) for rural and underserved communities, ensuring safe water access and promoting hygiene practices to reduce health risks
- Build community resilience and first aid capacity through nationwide training, volunteer mobilization and advocacy for integrating first aid education into schools and workplaces

Planned activities in 2026

- Develop standardized operational frameworks including guidelines, SOPs and digital tools for documentation and process management
- Enhance partnerships and policy dialogue with public authorities, NGOs and community groups, supported by MoUs and advocacy initiatives
- Expand community engagement and awareness via public campaigns, workshops, volunteer mobilization and local outreach programmes
- Advance MHPSS by integrating services into emergency preparedness, scaling up training and professionalizing delivery
- Promote knowledge sharing and innovation through participation in regional and international platforms and development of e-learning and mobile applications
- Implement volunteer recruitment and retention strategies with certification systems and mentorship programmes for [first aid](#) and emergency response
- Modernize service delivery through digital tools, mobile applications and innovative approaches for training and outreach
- Improve monitoring and evaluation systems by piloting digital reporting tools and strengthening quality assurance mechanisms

- Strengthen first aid capacity nationwide by training instructors, establishing Community-Based Health and First Aid (CBHFA) Teams, and integrating first aid into preparedness simulations
- Strengthen staff and volunteer capacity through targeted training, supervision, mentorship and provision of essential equipment

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will continue to support the Armenian Red Cross Society to enhance its MHPSS and First Aid capacities. In recent years, the IFRC supported the National Society in Psychological First Aid (PFA) training, procurement of PFA kits and the delivery of structured MHPSS across Armenia. Under the IFRC-ICRC joint National Society Investment Alliance (NSIA) initiative, the IFRC also supports the professionalization and commercialization of the National Society's First Aid services, including income-generating training and kit development to ensure long-term sustainability and scale-up of impact.

The **Austrian Red Cross** will continue to support the Armenian Red Cross Society in improving institutional care services for older people and persons with disabilities through the W2X – Working 2gether for Gyumri Care Centre project. This includes the provision of essential care materials, capacity building for staff and volunteers and promoting the social inclusion of residents. Additionally, through the ECHO-funded RENEW project, the Austrian Red Cross will help strengthen the National Society's MHPSS capacity by delivering individual and group counselling sessions, well-being training and PFA for both staff and affected communities.

The **Swiss Red Cross** will continue its long-standing support to the Armenian Red Cross Society through the Integrated Home-Based Care and Active Ageing Programme. This initiative strengthens health systems by providing in-home professional care, promoting the social inclusion of older people and offering MHPSS to caregivers. The Swiss Red Cross also contributes to strengthening First Aid service delivery through the NSIA, supporting the Armenian Red Cross Society to expand paid First Aid training services and develop standardized First Aid kits as part of its sustainability and resource mobilization strategy.

The **ICRC** will support the Armenian Red Cross Society in delivering community-based MHPSS through the 'People Affected by Violence (PAV) project'. Implemented in conflict-affected regions, the project provides tailored psychosocial interventions via trained community counsellors, addressing the chronic psychological needs of populations living near borders or in insecure environments.

In addition to financial contributions, Movement partners are expected to provide vital technical support to strengthen the Armenian Red Cross Society's capacity and impact. This support will include sharing expertise and best practices in

health, MHPSS and first aid programming, as well as facilitating training, mentorship and capacity-building for the Armenian Red Cross Society staff and volunteers. Partners will also assist in developing and implementing standards, tools and

guidelines, enhance advocacy and policy engagement at national and regional levels and promote knowledge exchange and networking within the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement.



Armenian Red Cross Society disaster response team volunteers conducting simulation exercises in Tavush regional branch, Ijevan. (Photo: Armenian Red Cross Society)



Migration and displacement

Armenia's migration and displacement dynamics have evolved significantly over the past decade, shaped by regional conflicts, economic challenges and demographic shifts. Traditionally a country of emigration, Armenia continues to experience a negative net migration rate of approximately -5.1 per 1,000 population, as many young Armenians seek employment and education abroad. This trend persists despite recent inflows of temporary migrants—estimated at 250,000–300,000, primarily from Russia and neighbouring countries—driven by geopolitical instability, including the war in Ukraine.

The September 2023 escalation in Karabakh marked a turning point, triggering one of the largest displacement crises in Armenia's recent history. By June 2025, 115,388 ethnic Armenians displaced from Karabakh were registered in Armenia, representing nearly 80 per cent of the 150,000 forcibly displaced

persons currently residing in the country. The remaining displaced population includes 4,124 Syrians in refugee-like situations and 839 asylum seekers, mainly from Ukraine. Women and girls account for 52 per cent, children for 30 per cent and older adults (65+) for 18 per cent of these groups. This demographic shift has placed immense pressure on housing, healthcare and social services, particularly in urban centres such as Yerevan, Armavir and Ararat provinces.

In addition to refugees, Armenia faces dynamic migration flows from countries such as Iran, Georgia, Russia and India, alongside ongoing outmigration of Armenians seeking better opportunities abroad. Remittances remain vital, contributing around 14 per cent of GDP, while government-led repatriation initiatives aim to attract diaspora Armenians to sectors such as IT, agriculture and tourism. However, Armenia's demographic challenges persist;

declining birth rates, an ageing population and a shrinking workforce. Since 2022, deaths have outnumbered births, underscoring a demographic crisis that threatens long-term socio-economic stability.

Displaced populations face acute challenges, including housing shortages, rising rent and utility costs, limited employment opportunities and legal barriers related to identity documentation. Vulnerable groups—especially women, children and older adults—require targeted support in education, mental health and livelihoods. The government, supported by international partners, is prioritizing migration governance, social inclusion policies and integration programmes, focusing on permanent housing, healthcare access and economic opportunities.

Armenia's migration and displacement landscape in the future will remain shaped by regional volatility, demographic decline and socio-economic vulnerabilities. Addressing these challenges demands a comprehensive approach that combines humanitarian assistance, legal reforms and sustainable development measures to strengthen resilience, social cohesion and population stability.

Multi-year high-level objectives of the National Society

The Armenian Red Cross Society will focus on strengthening humanitarian assistance, protection and integration support for migrants and displaced persons through the following strategic objectives:

- Ensure access to humanitarian assistance and protection for refugees, displaced persons and migrants, including shelter, health and legal support
- Promote durable solutions and social integration by expanding Integration Centres, language and cultural orientation programmes and community-based initiatives
- Strengthen community engagement and social cohesion through dialogue, awareness campaigns and volunteer-driven outreach to both displaced and host communities
- Improve livelihood opportunities via vocational training, job placement and small business support, complemented by conditional and multi-purpose cash assistance
- Enhance institutional capacity and coordination by building branch and volunteer networks, monitoring migration trends and participating in national and regional coordination platforms
- Expand digital outreach and service delivery to improve access to information, feedback mechanisms and integration support for migrants and displaced populations

Planned activities in 2026

- Track migration flows through borders and community networks and actively participate in government and Movement coordination platforms
- Operate existing Integration Centres, establish new ones in priority regions and develop sustainability plans for long-term impact
- Use digital platforms and social media to provide timely information on services, rights and integration opportunities
- Regularly assess community needs and protection risks informing programming and advocacy
- Organize community dialogues, cultural exchange programmes and civic orientation events involving host and displaced communities
- Implement multipurpose cash assistance and conditional cash support aligned with government programmes and integrate cash readiness into emergency preparedness
- Enhance cash and voucher assistance (CVA) processes, information management and implement the CVA Improvement Action Plan for operational efficiency
- Participate in national, regional and global forums to exchange best practices and influence migration and displacement policies
- Deliver targeted training, mentorship and on-the-job support for staff and volunteers in migration, protection and cash programming
- Provide vocational training, job placement, cash-for-work programmes and case management support for displaced and vulnerable populations

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will provide technical and financial support to the Armenian Red Cross Society with the revision of the tools and methodologies in the field of emergency preparedness, response and recovery at the global, regional and country levels to integrate migration and displacement principles and practices. It will continue supporting the National Society to assist families and individuals displaced from areas affected by the conflict, providing access to essential services and aid, while addressing their longer-term needs and ongoing welfare.

Under the RENEW project funded by EU ECHO and led by the **Austrian Red Cross**, support to the Armenian Red Cross Society will focus on restoring livelihoods and promoting wellbeing among displaced populations. The project to last in 2026 includes employment activation, vocational training and tailored household support, alongside job readiness and soft skills sessions. It will also strengthen stakeholder coordination through roundtables and improve referral systems to enhance

access to services. Post-support monitoring will ensure accountability and help guide future interventions.

The **Swiss Red Cross** has also expressed interest in supporting migration-related programming, aiming to enhance the

Armenian Red Cross Society's capacity to assist displaced and vulnerable migrant populations through integrated health, social and protection services.



Values, power and inclusion

Armenia's constitution guarantees equal rights for all citizens and reinforces commitments under international conventions on gender equality and human rights. Since 2023, the government has advanced legal and policy frameworks, including the National Strategy for Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (2024–2030). Despite these efforts, entrenched cultural norms and traditional gender roles continue to restrict opportunities for women and marginalized groups. Women remain concentrated in lower-paying sectors such as agriculture, education and healthcare, resulting in higher poverty rates among female-headed households and a labour force participation rate of only 47 per cent, significantly below that of men. These disparities are compounded by persistent gender-based violence, with one in three women reporting domestic abuse—though underreporting remains widespread due to stigma and limited access to survivor support services.

Recent geopolitical developments, notably the Karabakh conflict and subsequent displacement, have intensified social inclusion challenges. Armenia now hosts tens of thousands of refugees and internally displaced persons, primarily women and children, placing additional strain on housing, healthcare, education and employment systems. Integration efforts face legal and bureaucratic barriers, alongside shortages in housing and livelihood opportunities. Government agencies, civil society and international partners are working to strengthen referral mechanisms, psychosocial support and livelihood programmes to promote long-term social cohesion.

Education systems face growing demand for inclusive, disaster-sensitive and child-friendly spaces, particularly in vulnerable border communities such as Yervandashat, Khachik and Shikahogh. Increased participation in psychosocial education and child protection programmes such as Smiley Clubs highlights the need for scaling up resources and staffing. The Education Development Strategy (until 2030) and Child Protection Strategy (2022–2026) prioritize inclusive education, life skills and community-based services, while youth engagement initiatives aim to strengthen volunteerism and civic participation. However, volunteer capacity and motivation remain challenges, requiring structured support and safe environments.

Power dynamics and centralized decision-making continue to limit the influence of marginalized groups, including Roma, LGBTQI+ individuals and persons with disabilities. While legal

frameworks exist, inconsistent enforcement and societal attitudes hinder progress toward equality. Achieving meaningful inclusion will require legal reforms, cultural change and targeted interventions to empower underrepresented communities, enhance civic engagement and ensure equitable access to education, livelihoods and social services.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Institutionalize a systematic Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI) approach across all programmes and operations, ensuring equal and equitable access to services, with a focus on education in emergencies and migration-related crises
- Strengthen Smiley Clubs as inclusive, volunteer-led spaces that promote child protection, psychosocial well-being and social cohesion for displaced and vulnerable children. Pilot commercialization for sustainability and scale-up
- Embed Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) across all programmes by establishing robust feedback mechanisms, ensuring communities can share input, receive timely responses and influence decision-making
- Develop and maintain sustainable tools and processes for collecting, analysing and acting on community feedback, supported by digital platforms for transparency and accountability
- Enhance skills, resilience and leadership among staff and volunteers through targeted training, mentorship and youth engagement initiatives

Planned activities in 2026

- Operate 45 trauma-informed Smiley Clubs as safe spaces for child protection, psychosocial care and life skills development for displaced and vulnerable children and youth
- Address barriers to education through tailored support, partnerships and community engagement, while strengthening feedback mechanisms for child-centred programming

- Introduce income-generating activities such as paid training sessions, exhibitions and fundraising events; develop standardized materials and build facilitator capacity for professional service delivery
 - Provide targeted training, supervision and resilience support; empower youth and volunteers as community mentors and leaders through structured pathways
 - Embed PGI and safeguarding in its policies, strategies and operations; ensure inclusive, safe and participatory environments for all beneficiaries
 - Finalize and implement the National Society CEA Policy and Framework; integrate CEA into operational guidelines and strategic plans
 - Establish a centralized feedback mechanism, ensure timely analysis and response and measure community trust to improve programme accountability
 - Mainstream humanitarian principles through Smiley Clubs, school partnerships and youth engagement initiatives
 - Collaborate with government agencies, NGOs and the IFRC to co-design inclusive interventions, scale education in emergencies and integrate digital tools for outreach and feedback
 - Build staff and volunteer capacity for inclusive programming and strengthen systems to address protection risks during crises, especially for displaced and vulnerable groups
-

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will provide support to the Armenian Red Cross Society in conducting a needs assessment among youth, aimed at identifying their educational, social and cultural requirements. It will support safe, equitable and uninterrupted access to quality education for all individuals, with a particular focus on boys and girls affected by disasters, crises or displacement. The IFRC will also support the National Society in the integration of CEA in all its programmes.

The **Austrian Red Cross** and the **Italian Red Cross** are providing sustained support to the Armenian Red Cross Society to ensure the continuity and expansion of Smiley Clubs across Armenia—child-friendly spaces that promote education, psychosocial wellbeing and social integration for displaced and vulnerable children.

Through the Unified Plan, the IFRC supports Smiley Clubs, while the Austrian Red Cross contributes both under the RENEW project and via regular funds for Smiley Club 2.0, focusing on MHPSS and leadership development. The Italian Red Cross funds additional clubs, emphasizing resilience, inclusion and emotional recovery.

ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS

The Armenian Red Cross Society is committed to pursuing institutional strengthening and carried out the self-assessment part of the Organizational Capacity Assessment and Certification (OCAC) process in 2014. The self-assessment is intended to capture the strengths and weaknesses of National Societies as a whole in relation to a wide range of organizational capacities.

The Armenian Red Cross Society is also committed to the 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 analyse the strengths and gaps of its preparedness and response mechanism and ultimately take necessary action to improve it.



Strategic and operational coordination

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Strengthen its positioning and visibility as an auxiliary to state authorities
- Develop a resource mobilization strategy and identify, develop and adopt innovative approaches to resource mobilization
- Increase and widen its involvement in, and leadership of civil society groups and other coalitions at national and local level
- Enhance stakeholder engagement and coordination through collaboration with national and sub-national stakeholders to ensure a coordinated approach in addressing humanitarian needs, leveraging diverse partnerships for tailored assistance
- Create regular collaboration forums and facilitate annual action plan and budget development focused on local



Key Institutional Indicators

The National Society has put in place the following:

- Youth engagement strategy
- National Society Development plan in place
- Protection against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA)
- PSEA Action Plan

resource mobilization for sustainable, community-centred humanitarian initiatives

- Deepen partnerships with Movement partners
- Promote its auxiliary role by launching joint initiatives with public authorities
- Strengthen ties with diplomatic communities

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will continue to support the Armenian Red Cross Society in engaging with the Movement and non-Movement partners. Additionally, it supports the coordination efforts of the Armenian Red Cross Society, ensuring evidence-based country and emergency plans. It will also support the National Society in resource mobilization.



Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Update and institutionalize policies, strategies and compliance mechanisms to ensure robust governance
- Build leadership capacity and empower staff and volunteers through structured training, mentorship and youth engagement initiatives such as the Armenian Red Cross Society Youth Academy
- Diversify volunteer models (remote, short-term, spontaneous) and strengthen branch-level capacity for inclusive participation and community outreach
- Institutionalize quality assurance systems, integrate community feedback mechanisms and mainstream humanitarian values across all programmes
- Implement donor acquisition strategies and scale commercial services, including domestic and corporate first aid training, to generate revenue for core activities
- Improve response readiness through decentralized warehousing, fleet management and digitalized logistics processes for efficiency and transparency
- Address organizational capacity gaps through targeted assessments and tailored development measures
- Build competencies in digital tools, humanitarian programming and leadership development for staff and volunteers

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the Armenian Red Cross Society in expanding its youth-led initiatives and building their competencies through selective training. It will also support the National Society in training its staff and volunteers on programme management, volunteer management cycle and leadership training.

The **Italian Red Cross** will support the Armenian Red Cross Society in branch development, focusing on enhancing the operational capacity and effectiveness of local branches. This support will include conducting assessments, providing technical assistance, facilitating capacity-building activities for branch staff and volunteers and implementing strategies to improve service delivery and community engagement at the local level.

The **Swiss Red Cross** will support the National Society in institutional preparedness, aiming to enhance its capacity to deliver sustainable humanitarian services and effectively respond to the needs of vulnerable and crisis-affected populations in Armenia.

The ICRC, the IFRC and the Swiss Red Cross also support the Armenian Red Cross Society with the National Society Investment Alliance (NSIA) project to establish a comprehensive nationwide first aid training and service system, including the commercialization of first aid services.



Armenian Red Cross Society volunteers provided critical assistance to affected people after heavy rains and flash floods in northern Armenia (Lori and Tavush regions). (Photo: Armenian Red Cross Society)



Humanitarian diplomacy

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Integrate humanitarian diplomacy into its operations by serving as an auxiliary to the public authorities, advocating for vulnerable populations and influencing policy decisions in humanitarian matters
- Reinvigorate its public advocacy efforts to increase the impact of its activities, build trust in communities and develop people's understanding of its role in Armenia
- Provide comprehensive inception training for volunteers on humanitarian values, the seven fundamental principles, the history of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and auxiliary role of the National Society
- Review and promote the Armenian Red Cross Society Brand Guidelines across all organizational levels
- Implement an annual public awareness campaign to strengthen visibility and engagement
- Utilize digital platforms to expand and professionalize its social media presence for broader outreach
- Provide standardized communication tools and templates to enable harmonized, rapid and impactful communication
- Enhance strategic communication on key thematic areas such as climate action, cash assistance and cross-border youth exchanges
- Coordinate with the Resource Mobilization Department, marketing teams and sales specialists to align communication efforts with income-generating activities
- Develop and disseminate impact stories and visibility materials to support donor engagement and promote its services
- Train communication focal points in all branches to ensure consistent and effective messaging

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will continue to support the Armenian Red Cross Society in strengthening its communications. It will also provide support to the National Society with strengthening its auxiliary role and advocacy efforts.



Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Establish an internal control system monitored by board members to ensure robust governance and effective organizational oversight
- Advance digital transformation to inform evidence-based programming
- Improve information collection and feedback processes by strengthening the National Society call centre with adequate human resources (HR), software maintenance, equipment and external office space
- Actively participate in external working groups to share expertise on PGI and CEA, contributing to broader humanitarian efforts and policy development
- Develop and integrate policies and training programmes focusing on PGI, HR and child safeguarding
- Establish clear standard operating procedures for activities related to PGI, safeguarding and CEA to ensure consistent and high-quality implementation

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the Armenian Red Cross Society in the development of a planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting (PMER) framework and building capacities of PMER and information management staff. It will also support the National Society in its digital transformation efforts through a series of Information Management training sessions. Additionally, IFRC will handle logistics and supply chain procurement.

THE IFRC NETWORK

The IFRC

Since 1992, the IFRC has maintained a strong presence in the South Caucasus, including Armenia, delivering large-scale humanitarian assistance. The IFRC's Country Cluster Delegation for the region, based in Tbilisi, Georgia, oversees the Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies in Georgia, Azerbaijan and Armenia, and has an office directly in Armenia. The IFRC supports the Armenian Red Cross Society by strengthening strategic and operational coordination, fostering National Society development and advancing humanitarian diplomacy with an emphasis on accountability and agility as a cross-cutting theme. It also enhances the auxiliary role of the National Society by facilitating regular meetings with key government stakeholders.

In recent years, the IFRC has supported the Armenian Red Cross Society through several DREF operations addressing hailstorms, population movements, conflicts, a major explosion and floods, as well as an Emergency Appeal for migration-related needs, with funding exceeding CHF 8 million. The IFRC Capacity Building Fund has aided the Armenian Red Cross Society in upgrading its feedback mechanisms through digitalization through the Twilio project, which aims to establish Digital Community Engagement Hubs for sustainable system development, supported by Geneva's Digital Engagement Hub until 2025.

IFRC membership coordination

IFRC membership coordination involves working with National Societies to assess the humanitarian context, agree on common priorities and jointly develop common strategies. This includes addressing issues such as obtaining greater humanitarian acceptance and access, mobilizing funding and other resources, clarifying consistent public messaging, and monitoring progress. It also entails ensuring that strategies and programmes in support of people in need incorporate clarity of humanitarian action while linking with development assistance, and contribute to reinforcing National Societies in their respective countries, including through their auxiliary role.

The Armenian Red Cross Society has long-term partnerships with several participating National Societies, including the **Austrian Red Cross** and **Swiss Red Cross** (which also represents the **Monaco Red Cross**), which are present in the country:

The **Austrian Red Cross** has worked closely with the Armenian Red Cross Society since 2012 and has had an office in Yerevan since 2018. Its support to the National Society focuses on financial and technical assistance in all five strategic priorities. The programmes and projects they have jointly implemented include activities in disaster relief, disaster preparedness and risk reduction, health (including home care and MHPSS), climate change adaptation and assistance to Syrian Armenians through income generation. Emphasis is placed on National Society development, in support of the National Society's strategies and plans. The RENEW project funded by the European Commission's Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO), is a key component of the IFRC's Federation-wide Emergency Appeal addressing the population influx in Armenia. It

focuses on providing comprehensive assistance to displaced populations, promoting livelihoods, psychosocial support and community resilience. The project aims to strengthen the Armenian Red Cross Society's capacity to deliver tailored humanitarian aid while fostering social cohesion and sustainable recovery.

The **Italian Red Cross** supports the National Society financially and technically in disaster prevention, preparedness and response efforts, including the Smiley Clubs. Additionally, it contributed to MHPSS within the Emergency Appeal and supports National Society development initiatives focused on branch development.

The **Monaco Red Cross** provides technical and financial support through the Swiss Red Cross, towards disaster management and response, health, migration, education and National Society development.

The **Swiss Red Cross** restarted its partnership with the Armenian Red Cross Society in 2016, by opening its country representation and introducing its model of integrated community-based home care and active ageing. It has a comprehensive strategy for supporting the National Society in the areas of health and ageing, disaster risk management and response and National Society development, including building the capacities of regional branches. Since 2016, more than 10 long-term partnership projects based on series of phases have been implemented.

Movement coordination

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

The ICRC has been working in Armenia since 1992, assisting people affected by the Karabakh conflict. It prioritizes the needs of missing people and their families, supports mine victims and helps communities living along the border with Azerbaijan. It also visits detainees held for conflict-related or security reasons or who are otherwise vulnerable and helps them establish and maintain contact with their families. The ICRC promotes the dissemination and implementation of the International Humanitarian Law (IHL) among national authorities, academics and military personnel.

Coordination with other actors

The Armenian Red Cross Society continuously works in cooperation with public authorities at national and community level, and it has Memorandums of Understanding with all relevant government departments. This includes the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Emergency Situations, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Territorial Administration and Infrastructure, the office of the Prime Minister and local and regional authorities.

The Armenian Red Cross Society has earned increased trust from national and local authorities, leading to closer collaboration. Since 2024, the Armenian Red Cross Society has attracted new partners by demonstrating relevance, effectiveness, accountability and transparency in programme implementation. It actively coordinates with key stakeholders to ensure complementarity and avoid duplication of efforts. Since 2021, the National Society has participated in UN-led inter-agency operational working groups to improve humanitarian coordination in conflict-affected areas. Bilateral cooperation includes work with UNHCR on [shelter](#) and essential household item distribution and with UNICEF on education and mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS). The Armenian Red Cross Society also partners with local NGOs to deliver humanitarian assistance.

Engagement with the diplomatic community has deepened, strengthening collaboration and resource mobilization with embassies of France, Canada, Belgium, Czech Republic, Brazil and Argentina.

The Armenian Red Cross Society has expanded and strengthened cooperation with international partners including:

- **Russian-Armenian Centre for Humanitarian Response:** Joint Disaster Response Team (DRT) training for readiness and interoperability
- **United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR):** Supporting displaced populations through the provision of shelter and essential household items, as well as conducting border crossing monitoring

Through these partnerships and active participation in national coordination mechanisms, the National Society has reinforced its role as a leading humanitarian actor. Moving into the 2026–2028 planning period, the Armenian Red Cross Society aims to build on these foundations, expand operational reach and deepen its impact on vulnerable communities.



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](#)

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