



NORTH MACEDONIA

2026-2027 IFRC network country plan



14 January 2026

In support of the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia



33

National Society branches



33

National Society local units



204

National Society staff



4,585

National Society volunteers

People to be reached in 2026



10,000

Climate and environment



15,000

Disasters and crises



110,000

Health and wellbeing



25,000

Migration and displacement



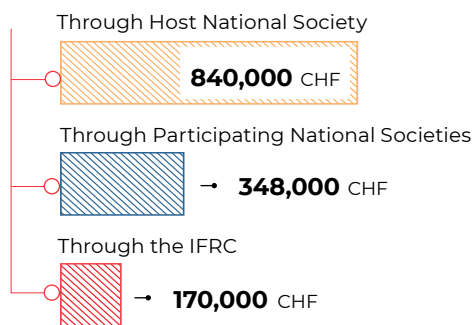
20,000

Values, power and inclusion

IFRC network Funding Requirements

2026

Total 1.3M CHF



2027

Total 511,000 CHF

Projected funding requirements

Participating National Societies

American Red Cross*

Austrian Red Cross

French Red Cross*

Italian Red Cross*

Norwegian Red Cross

Swiss Red Cross

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

IFRC Appeal codes

Longer-term needs:

MAAMK003

Hazards



Population movement



Extreme weather



Fires



Earthquakes



Landslides

IFRC network multi-year focus

Longer term needs

- Early warning and disaster risk reduction
 - Climate change adaptation
 - Health needs
 - Migration-related needs
- Inclusion of vulnerable groups

Capacity development

- Sustainable resource mobilization and fundraising
 - Partnerships
 - Financial management
 - Branch development
 - Communications
- Planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting

Key country data links

INFORM Severity rating **Very High**

INFORM Climate Change Risk Index **Very High**

Human Development Index rank **192**

World Bank Population figure **19M**

World Bank Population below poverty line **55%**



The Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia volunteers worked to provide medical supplies such as masks, gloves, and disinfectants during outbreaks in migrant transit centres in Tabanovce. (Photo: The Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia)

Detailed funding requirements

2026

	Host National Society	IFRC
Ongoing emergencies		
Longer-term needs		
Climate and environment	200,000	
Disasters & crises	50,000	
Health & wellbeing	400,000	
Migration & displacement	100,000	170,000
Values, power & inclusion	40,000	
Enabling local actors	50,000	
Total	840,000	170,000

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	313,000	313,000	108,000	86,000	119,000			
	2027	476,000	476,000	350,000	76,000	50,000			
Norwegian Red Cross	2026								-
Swiss Red Cross	2026	35,000				35,000	-		
	2027	35,000				35,000			

See back page for explanatory note on funding requirements

NATIONAL SOCIETY PROFILE

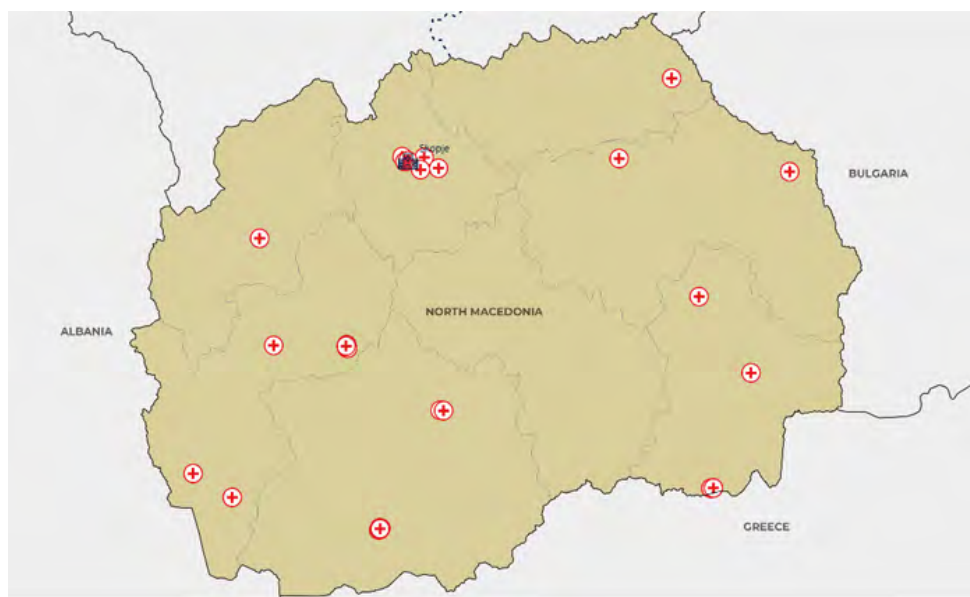
The **Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia** was founded in 1945 within the Democratic Federal Yugoslavia and was admitted to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in 1995 in its current form. The Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia performs an auxiliary role and supports the state authorities in carrying out various humanitarian tasks, according to the needs of the population.

The work of the National Society is regulated by a special law on the Red Cross of the Republic of Macedonia. The Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia consists of 32 branches and the City Red Cross of Skopje. The role of the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia is to nurture the power of humanity, to be where needed and to provide support for the various target groups of the population. In cooperation with institutions and partners, the National Society works on

disease prevention, improving health and alleviating human suffering through its own programmes in the field of education, health and social care for the benefit of communities.

In line with its Strategic Plan 2030, the National Society focuses on three goals, which are to:

- Strengthen its ability to reduce risks, take early action and respond to crises by building strong local preparedness and response capacities and quickly recover from crises
- Empower communities to lead safe, healthy, dignified lives and have opportunities to progress by having more choices and control over their lives
- Promote inclusive and humanitarian approach to enable positive transformative actions and build peaceful communities



Map of the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia 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

JOINT SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

The Republic of North Macedonia is located in Southeast Europe and gained independence in 1991 as a successor state to Yugoslavia. A landlocked nation, it shares borders with Kosovo, Serbia, Bulgaria, Greece and Albania. Ethnically, majority of the country identifies as Macedonians, with smaller percentage of Albanians, Turks, Roma, Serbs, Bosniaks, and Vlachs also present.

Poverty remains a critical issue in Macedonia, particularly among groups in vulnerable situations such as the people chronically unemployed, older people, and those in rural areas. [In 2024](#), poverty was estimated at 21.4 per cent, with the highest concentration of poverty in the rural and less-developed parts of the country. The government has committed to reducing poverty through targeted social programmes, including increased investments in education and vocational training, as well as expanding access to healthcare and social services.

In addition, corruption remains a significant challenge, contributing to political instability and hindering progress in key sectors, including governance and public service delivery.

North Macedonia is [exposed to climate change](#) and natural hazards that pose substantial risks to public safety and public infrastructure. Between 1990 and 2023, flooding events were the most prevalent type of natural hazards that caused the most significant damage.

The population in North Macedonia has been steadily declining, largely because of high emigration. Estimates project a population to decline by almost [nine per cent by 2030](#). A declining population, driven by emigration, threatens to drag down potential output growth going forward. In the recent decade, the Republic of North Macedonia has also been significantly impacted by the Balkan Route that passes through the country, which migrant people take along their journeys, predominantly to Western European countries.

The country has also been affected about the international armed conflict between Ukraine and Russia. From the escalation in 2022, millions of people have crossed borders from Ukraine into neighbouring countries and beyond. There are 20,336 displaced people from Ukraine residing in North Macedonia (of those 424 were issued temporary residence on humanitarian grounds, around 60 persons with temporary protection status).

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Climate and environment

Countries in Central and South-Eastern Europe are severely affected by climate change, which is creating critical situations requiring humanitarian action. The region is prone to various natural hazards, exacerbated by [climate change](#), such as floods, droughts, landslides and extreme weather conditions throughout the year.

[Air pollution](#) is also a major issue in North Macedonia, especially in the capital Skopje and other urban areas, largely due to industrial activity, combined with factors such as traffic emissions and seasonal heating. The high levels of particulate matter (PM10 and PM2.5) in the air contribute to respiratory problems, cardiovascular diseases, and other health issues among the population. Groups in vulnerable situations such as children, older people, and those with pre-existing health conditions are especially at risk. There is low public awareness in North Macedonia regarding air pollution reduction measures, which hinders community engagement and the adoption of practices that could help improve air quality.

Escalating heat waves, along with prolonged warm spells, have become an increasingly common occurrence in North Macedonia. In the [summer of 2024](#), North Macedonia experienced one of its most severe wildfire seasons in history, driven by prolonged heatwaves and dry conditions. The country registered a staggering 765 wildfires in July alone, averaging more than 30 fires per day. The wildfires led to significant environmental damage, destruction of homes and displacement of residents.

The country is a party to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Paris Agreement. Despite recent progress (for example, the draft Law on Climate Action), North Macedonia still lacks a comprehensive legislative framework for climate adaptation and resilience. As a contracting party to the Energy Community Treaty, North Macedonia has committed to harmonizing its energy and climate legislation with the European Union (EU) acquis. The country has expressed its intention to act to achieve a carbon-neutral continent together with the EU by 2050, but it has not set a net zero target yet.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia actively contributes to the National Committee for Climate Change and the Commission for Climate Change and Health, under the Ministry of Health of the Republic of North Macedonia. It engages in collaborative intersectoral efforts to safeguard the population during extreme temperature conditions and

participates in initiatives focused on climate change adaptation and mitigation.

In its pursuit to better address new and emerging risks and prevent them from occurring, the National Society aims to:

- Enhance local response and [preparedness capacities](#) alongside complementary international support mechanisms to be able to respond effectively to any emergency
- Raise awareness among the population of the Republic of North Macedonia about climate change and promote prevention and timely response to address health risks caused by climate change
- Strengthen its capacity in dealing with risks and consequences of climate change
- Contribute to mitigating the consequences of climate change by fostering an ecological organizational culture in the Youth Clubs and engaging young people in environmental activities such as recycling, afforestation, and energy conservation
- Enhance collaboration and partnership with national institutions to strengthen efforts in the prevention and mitigation of climate change effects

Planned activities in 2026

- Establish [early warning systems](#), increase public awareness, and coordinate emergency relief efforts to mitigate the health impacts of extreme heat and wildfires
- Implement simplified [Early Action Protocols](#) (sEAP) with a focus on enhancing preparedness and resilience
- Develop a climate change policy for the National Society to guide climate action and resilience efforts
- Prevent adverse health consequences from heatwaves by deploying mobile teams, providing [first aid](#), distributing informational leaflets, providing bottled water, organizing workshops on climate change, and sharing awareness-raising content on social media platforms
- Establish a Centre for Climate Change to further support education, innovation and action

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will provide technical expertise, guidance, and resources to assist the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia in addressing climate-related challenges. This support will support

the National Society to develop and implement sustainable programmes, build community resilience, and mitigate the impacts of climate change. Through knowledge sharing, capacity building and collaboration, the National Society will benefit from

the experiences and best practices of other National Societies. The IFRC will also facilitate the exchange of resources, tools, and methodologies to strengthen the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia's climate and environment initiatives.



Disasters and crises

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

North Macedonia has a [long history of devastating floods](#) with the most recent significant flooding event in North Macedonia occurred in September 2024, when torrential rains led to flooding in the city of Tetovo and surrounding areas. Villages along the Vardar River were particularly affected, with reports of landslides and significant damage to infrastructure. The impact of disasters on societal development is evident, with the number of affected people and economic losses increasing exponentially. Therefore, decisive actions must be taken to reduce disaster risks, as disasters have devastating effects on local livelihoods and significantly hinder development progress.

Currently, North Macedonia faces notable gaps in early warning systems and community-level preparedness, limiting the country's ability to respond effectively to disasters and increasing the challenges for people in vulnerable situations. Disasters due to extreme weather, climate/environmental disturbances, and geopolitical/economic factors are expected to become more frequent, impacting societal development and increasing the number of affected persons and economic losses.

The increasing population density in urban areas and migrations will bring various challenges and potential disasters, including seismic events, weather disturbances and outbreaks of infectious diseases, with significant impacts on the population. North Macedonia faces challenges related to limited community-level preparedness, such as the absence of basic safety tools such as fire extinguishers in underserved or exposed areas. The civil protection system is often described as non-functional or under-resourced, which hampers effective emergency response.

Additionally, [industrial hazards](#) pose a risk, particularly near Skopje, where there have been concerns about leaks of polluted water from nearby facilities. However, the country does have experience in activating the EU Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM), which offers a valuable foundation for strengthening coordinated disaster response.

Multi-year high-level objectives of the National Society

- Support at-risk communities and enhance their resilience to all kinds of crises and disasters through developing targeted programmes, education, and training
- Respond to the essential needs of the disaster-affected population through the provision of [water, sanitation and hygiene \(WASH\)](#), shelter and [livelihoods](#), and [cash and voucher assistance \(CVA\)](#)
- Ensure close cooperation between the IFRC [Climate Centre](#) and [Global Disaster Preparedness](#), with a strong focus on the adaptation and response of the Climate Centre, particularly regarding natural disasters
- Establish sustainable and efficient cooperation between disaster management and coordination structures at local, national, and regional levels
- Strengthen the recognition and position of the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia in disaster and crisis preparedness and response with the Government and key national actors

Planned activities in 2026

- Implement a systematic [disaster risk reduction \(DRR\)](#) approach by applying lessons learned from previous crises to integrate best practices and effective prevention measures, aiming to reduce and avoid future crisis cycles
- Implement DRR activities to strengthen community resilience and reduce vulnerability to hazards
- Strengthen synergies with [psychological first aid \(PFA\)](#) and [mental health and psychosocial support \(MHPSS\)](#) and special transport teams to ensure a more effective disaster response
- Secure and maintain emergency stocks and reserves in cooperation with government and public institutions
- Effectively use technology and innovation to anticipate risks and disasters and provide proactive, early action, and predictable funding by investing in advanced forecasting tools, data analytics and communication systems to improve disaster response and coordination

- Implement a renewed [Preparedness for Effective Response](#) (PER) and Contingency Plan with the aim of enhancing readiness and ensuring a coordinated, timely, and effective response to emergencies
- Conduct capacity-building exercises for the National Intervention Team to improve emergency response capabilities

and Labs, enabling the National Society to benefit from their experiences and best practices to improve its disaster response strategies and programmes over time.

IFRC mechanisms such as the Disaster Response Emergency Fund ([IFRC-DREF](#)) and Emergency Appeals will be drawn on as needed for the National Society to respond to disasters and crises. In 2025, IFRC provided DREF allocations for an emergency in the country. The DREF allocation has been described below:

[IFRC-DREF North Macedonia Fire in Nightclub](#): The DREF allocation of CHF 155,795 in March 2025 supported by the National Society in assisting 1,600 people affected by a fire breaking out during a concert at the 'Pulse' nightclub in Kočani. The National Society supported the targeted people over a four-month period with assistance such as the provision of shelter, health and WASH.

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will offer technical expertise, guidance, and resources to assist the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia in its disaster response and crisis management efforts. It will support the National Society's capacity enhancement and its access to Partner National Societies (PNSs), IFRC Reference Centres, Hubs



Health and wellbeing

Health and wellbeing in North Macedonia face multifaceted challenges shaped by demographic, environmental, and systemic factors. There continues to be a persistent lack of medical personnel, physicians, and nurses. The [low numbers of nurses in North Macedonia](#) might be partly related to their outmigration and their weak professional position. A curriculum for nurse training is not unified and there are no requirements for continuing medical education due to lack of an accreditation, licensing, and relicensing system. This situation reinforces the restricted, non-autonomous practice of nurses and midwives, especially in primary care.

Childhood immunization rates were falling even before the pandemic and continued to decline, although maternal and infant mortality rates have improved in recent years. Noncommunicable diseases are a major concern, but mortality from stroke and ischemic heart disease has decreased in recent years. High blood pressure, smoking, unhealthy diet, high blood sugar, and air pollution all represent [significant risks](#).

Multi-year high-level objectives of the National Society

- Prevent the spread of communicable and non-communicable diseases through preventive education and sustainable health services
- Encourage voluntary and unpaid blood donation by collaborating with youth, school clubs, and partner associations to ensure an adequate and safe blood supply
- Raise awareness and strengthen mental health care by delivering training, conducting post-crisis assessments, and supporting institutional staff through the Centre for [Mental Health and Psychosocial Support](#) (MHPSS)

- Advance the quality of life for older people and people with disabilities by enhancing their access to health and social services

Planned activities in 2026

- Support mobile gynecological clinics for women in rural areas through projects funded by the Ministry of Health
 - Support mental health through the collaboration with the Chamber of Psychologists and aim to scale up children's mental health awareness
 - Implement harm reduction activities to prevent HIV among people who inject drugs in Veles, Kichevo, and Prilep
 - Develop a strategy to strengthen community capacity for [epidemic and pandemic preparedness](#) and response
 - Expand and enhance the emergency button and special transport services in Skopje and other cities across the country
 - Conduct workshops on prevention of communicable and non-communicable diseases targeting various groups and [first aid](#) courses and competitions for youth and other target populations
 - Establish the Expert Centre for First Aid to provide high-quality training, develop standardized policies, and promote best practices, thereby enhancing first aid knowledge and skills across communities
-

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the National Society by providing access to technical expertise, guidance, and resources related to health and psychosocial wellbeing. This support will enable the National Society to develop and implement sustainable health programmes, strengthen community healthcare systems, and promote overall wellbeing.



Migration and displacement

Migration and displacement in North Macedonia reflect a complex interplay of global conflicts, economic challenges, and environmental factors. Positioned as a critical transit hub in the Balkans, the country faces dual pressures: managing increased flows of people on the move, while also contending with high levels of emigration of its own citizens.

According to UNHCR data, in North Macedonia, the number of people on the move transiting through the country between January and July 2025 decreased by approximately 27.5 per cent compared to the same period in 2024. However, the total number of assisted migrants by the end of the year remains highly unpredictable, given the unstable political and security situation in the region, which may cause sudden fluctuations in migration flows. North Macedonia still lacks a dedicated Law on Migration, and the adoption of the national Strategy for Migrants and Refugees as a state policy paper remains pending, leaving significant gaps in coordinated response and long-term planning.

The country hosts two main transit centres, which continue to operate in the absence of a comprehensive legal framework.

Therefore, the country's legal framework for managing migration remains underdeveloped, particularly concerning the integration of people granted international protection. Existing policies lack detailed guidance on the rights and responsibilities of migrants during the integration process. This regulatory gap severely limits access to essential services, education, and employment, thereby impeding the effective social inclusion of displaced populations. Addressing these systemic challenges is critical to fostering a more inclusive and protective environment for migrants and refugees.

North Macedonia's role as a transit country has become even more pronounced in light of displacement caused by the international armed conflict between Russia and Ukraine, which underscores broader regional instabilities. The country's strategic position ensures it remains a key node in migration

The IFRC will further assist the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia through collaboration and knowledge sharing, allowing it to learn from the experiences and best practices of other National Societies. This will foster continuous improvement and innovation in the National Society's health-related initiatives over time. Additionally, the IFRC will support the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia in mobilizing financial and material resources needed to implement and expand its health programmes effectively.

flows toward Western Europe. However, responding effectively to these challenges demand enhanced regional cooperation, strengthened institutional frameworks, and comprehensive policy reforms that safeguard the rights and well-being of people in vulnerable situations.

Multi-year high-level objectives of the National Society

The Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia will continue to prioritize the provision of humanitarian assistance and protection for migrants and host communities at key points along migration routes. Building on experience gained through its involvement in the IFRC Emergency Appeal for Ukraine and Impacted Countries Crisis, the National Society aims to further develop long-term integration programmes and reinforce institutional capacities.

Its objectives aim to:

- Ensure that all people who migrate are treated with dignity, safety, and humanity
- Enable inclusive support systems so that all people can thrive within society
- Promote the protection of people in vulnerable situations, including women, children, people with disabilities, displaced people from Ukraine, people with granted protection and asylum seekers
- Provide humanitarian assistance and protection to both migrants, displaced people from Ukraine, persons with granted protection and host communities at critical locations along migratory routes
- Strengthen its ability to assess and respond to migrant needs and to advocate for policy change through humanitarian diplomacy

Planned activities in 2026

- Expand the humanitarian service points (HSP) activities and transition toward long-term sustainable programming
- Provide humanitarian support at Temporary Reception Centres (TRCs) and HSPs, ensuring access to shelter, food, WASH, safe referrals, restoring family links (RFL), health care and protection services
- Implement early integration and inclusion activities aimed at supporting the social and cultural adaptation of migrants, displaced people from Ukraine, persons with granted protection, and asylum seekers
- Transition from in-kind support to cash and voucher assistance (CVA) to improve flexibility and better meet diverse needs
- Advance digitalization of humanitarian services to increase efficiency, real-time coordination, and accessibility

- Strengthen route-based capacities through peer exchange, information sharing, and targeted approaches such as protection, gender, and inclusion (PGI) and community engagement and accountability (CEA)
-

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia through participating in National Societies, IFRC Reference Centres, Hubs, and Labs. Through collaboration and knowledge sharing, the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia can learn from the experiences and best practices of other National Societies. The IFRC's resource mobilization efforts also facilitate access to financial and material support for the National Society's programmes and initiatives. In line with the Integration and Inclusion Framework Plans developed by the National Society, the IFRC will provide guidance, technical expertise, and resources to support it in implementing inclusive programmes that promote protection and gender equality.



The Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia supported national response teams in fighting forest fires resulting from heat waves across the country. (Photo: The Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia)



Values, power and inclusion

North Macedonia grapples with deeply rooted societal and structural challenges. These challenges manifest through divisions along ethnic, social, and economic lines, compounded by the historical complexities of the region. North Macedonia's education system continues to lack systematic support for children with disabilities, often resulting in inconsistent provision of teaching assistants and inadequate inclusive learning environment. In North Macedonia, children account for approximately 70 per cent of all identified human trafficking victims, with the average age around 15 and girls disproportionately affected through both sexual and labour exploitation.

North Macedonia's Roma population, the country's poorest community, has long been marginalized. Nearly 87 per cent of the country's Roma live in material deprivation, compared to 55 per cent among the non-Roma population. In response, the Roma Inclusion Strategy 2022 - 2030 is part of the public policies of the Republic of North Macedonia for levelling the degree of inclusion and integration of the Roma community with all ethnic communities.

Rural-urban divides further deepen these inequalities, with rural populations, particularly older people and those with chronic illnesses, facing limited access to infrastructure, mobility and support services. Addressing these gaps requires targeted interventions that prioritize social inclusion and equitable access to resources.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Promote International Humanitarian Law (IHL) by organizing targeted activities for students, army personnel, and government institutions
- Implement the Red Cross in Action and Promotion of Human Values (RCA-PHV) programme to instill positive values in youth, address social issues, and deliver around 100 community projects
- Highlight the fundamental principles through strategic communication that fosters inclusive and compassionate humanitarian action
- Mitigate divisions and foster empathetic communities by enhancing communication, education, and community involvement in line with the Red Cross Movement's humanitarian mission

Planned activities in 2026

- Continue conducting vocational training for caregivers and personal assistants, certified by the Ministry of Education and Science, with successful trainees employed as professionals
- Offer workshops on family and gender-based violence, targeting caregivers, personal assistants and trainers
- Introduce IHL to the general population, focusing on students, by increasing literature and improving dissemination quality
- Organize creative and educational workshops for children with disabilities, engaging youth volunteers in implementation
- Continue the home care social service and implement activities for healthy and active aging through daily centres
- Scale up social services for older people and people with disabilities in underserved and rural areas and digitalize training materials for vocational trainings

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will provide technical expertise, guidance, and resources to assist the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia in promoting values such as humanity, impartiality, neutrality, and inclusivity. This support will help the National Society integrate these principles into its programmes, activities, and operations.

Collaboration and knowledge sharing with other National Societies within the IFRC Network will also be supported to enable the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia to learn from the experiences and best practices of other National Societies. This will facilitate the development of innovative approaches to power dynamics, community engagement, and social inclusion, ensuring the National Society's long-term impact.

Through sustained partnership, the IFRC will assist the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia in upholding and strengthening the fundamental principles of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, fostering a culture of inclusivity, and advocating for the rights and well-being of people in vulnerable situations.

ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS

The Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia is committed to pursuing institutional strengthening and carried out the self-assessment part of the Organizational Capacity Assessment and Certification (OCAC) process in 2011. The self-assessment is intended to capture the strengths and weaknesses of National Societies in relation to a wide range of organizational capacities. The Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia 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.



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



Strategic and operational coordination

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Collaborate and establish long-term strategic partnerships with government institutions, civil society, international organizations, and the corporate sector and agencies to address community challenges
- Mobilize resources to meet the needs of diverse population groups guided by its policy for mobilization of funds and strategic directions
- Cooperate with the corporate sector to strengthen and develop social projects
- Formalize the cooperation between local self-government and the National Society
- Promote quality services with transparent implementation of joint initiatives, especially in times of economic challenges to build trust with partners
- Establish sustainable partnerships to support its programme activities effectively.

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia by offering technical expertise, guidance, and resources for enhancing its strategic and operational capacities. This includes training, capacity building, and the development of standardized tools and guidelines. The Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia will learn from other National Societies' experiences and best practices through collaborations and improve its disaster response, humanitarian action, and community-based programmes. The IFRC will also assist the National Society in resource mobilization, sustain strategic initiatives, and provide mechanisms for joint planning and response coordination during emergencies.



National Society development

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Strengthen volunteer management approaches by providing a participatory work model, effective support, and acknowledging their commitment and contributions
- Reduce barriers to volunteering and providing engagement opportunities for older people, promote intergenerational cooperation, and include people with disabilities and other groups in vulnerable situations
- Introduce modalities that enable digital volunteering, corporate volunteering, and volunteering through online campaigns to expand outreach, increase participation and leverage technology for greater impact
- Develop tools to improve financial stability through project operations and asset mobilization

- Establish an efficient and sustainable system for mobilizing funds at both national and local levels
- Strengthen its internal legal foundation by introducing statutory changes, aligned with international standards and alignment of relevant policies and procedures

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will provide technical expertise, guidance, and resources to assist the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia with capacity building, training programmes, and knowledge sharing to strengthen the National Society's organizational capacity and effectiveness. The IFRC will also support the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia through its various funding and resource mobilization mechanisms such as the [Capacity Building Fund \(CBF\)](#).



Humanitarian diplomacy

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Enhance diplomatic engagement at the national and international levels to promote humanitarian principles, influence policy development, and advocate for the needs of people in vulnerable situations
- Build strategic partnerships with key stakeholders, including governments, diplomatic missions, international organizations, and civil society actors, to facilitate cooperation, collaboration and joint advocacy efforts for effective humanitarian action
- Raise awareness and advocate for the adherence to international humanitarian norms and laws, including the Geneva Conventions and other relevant treaties, to ensure the protection and assistance of affected populations during armed conflicts and other emergencies

- Increase awareness of its mission and activities by emphasizing its auxiliary role and the continued relevance of its work at all levels
- Establish expert working groups, organize round tables and forums and prepare appropriate informational materials to foster collaboration, exchange knowledge and raise awareness on key issues

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the National Society in strengthening its humanitarian diplomacy efforts aligned to the [IFRC humanitarian diplomacy policy](#). The IFRC will also assist the National Society in effective engagement with various entities to advocate for [humanitarian fundamental principles](#) and promote the rights and well-being of people in vulnerable situations.



Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Incorporate new technologies and digital practices, leveraging collective knowledge to improve the well-being of people
- Undertake a digital transformation
- Invest in increasing transparency, strengthening integrity, and support systems and fostering openness to listen, engage and act
- Ensure the safety, security and protection of volunteers, especially those working in crisis situations

- Build on the risk management trainings organized and develop a systematic risk management tool to support ongoing risk monitoring and mitigation

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will assist the National Society in establishing transparent financial systems, robust reporting mechanisms, and efficient procurement processes, ensuring accountable resource use and boosting donor confidence. In addition, it will support evaluations and assessments to identify areas for improvement, enhancing programme implementation, and adaptive strategies.

THE IFRC NETWORK

The IFRC

The IFRC supports the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia through its Country Cluster Delegation to Central and South-Eastern Europe, based in Sarajevo and its regional office in Budapest, focusing on supporting emergency response and disaster preparedness, including cash and voucher assistance (CVA) preparedness and response. The IFRC also assists the National Society in enhancing mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) capacities and

coordinating humanitarian activities to ensure effective humanitarian service delivery.

Additionally, the IFRC is dedicated to supporting people on the move and displaced people, while also focusing on National Society development to strengthen local capacities and resilience. In previous years, the IFRC has supported the National Society through DREF operations on population movement, wildfires and extreme weather conditions.

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 **Austrian Red Cross** provides support to the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia through bilateral and regional EU projects, focusing on capacity development, [healthy ageing](#), social services, certified caregiver training, disaster preparedness, MHPSS crisis response. Key achievements include home care services for older people, the establishment of the Regional Training Centre in Strumica, caregiver training for the unemployed and innovative services such as the “Emergency Button” in Skopje to assist older people and people with disabilities.

The **Norwegian Red Cross**, as part of the four-year bilateral cooperation agreement, will support the National Society through the implementation of the two twinning programmes. It will be implemented over the next three years at the local level: Skopje-Oslo and Ohrid-Møre og Romsdal, focusing on mutual skills sharing and capacity building. The Norwegian Red Cross will also provide capacity building support to address identified gaps on a year-to-year basis.

The **Swiss Red Cross** offers bilateral support to the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia for capacity building, healthy and active ageing programmes, social services and caregiver training for older people and people with disabilities. Key initiatives include humanitarian aid and MHPSS for displaced people from Ukraine, referral services, CVA, child-friendly spaces and support for the Emergency Button service and homeless assistance.



Through the provision of food and drinking water to affected people as well as firefighting brigades, the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia assisted national fire fighting efforts. (Photo: The Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia)

Movement coordination

The Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia 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 provides support in the realization of training for general as well as IHL disseminations, activities for [Restoring Family Links](#) and workshops with media representatives. The activities are aimed at spreading the idea, vision and mission of the Red Cross Movement. The ICRC also supports the National Society with essential supplies, medical assistance, capacity building and facilitating access to medical services for affected populations.

Coordination with other actors

The Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia actively participates in the National Emergency Management Authority, led by the Ministry of Interior, coordinating disaster management nationwide. It also collaborates with the Ministries of Health and Labor and Social Policy on health emergencies and social support.

In recent disasters, the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia has conducted rapid needs assessments, provided immediate assistance, such as [shelter](#) and food, and helped register affected people to facilitate access to services.

Longer-term partnerships include work with the Ministries of Education and Science, Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy, and Social Affairs on educational, rural development, and social inclusion projects.

Alongside the IFRC and other partners, the National Society engages in interagency coordination and maintains partnerships with United Nations (UN) agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), the private sector, academic institutions and local actors to ensure coordinated humanitarian response and promote community development and resilience.



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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