

IN SUPPORT OF THE ALBANIAN RED CROSS



National Society
branches

39



National Society
local units

39



National Society
volunteers

2,800



National Society
staff

58

PEOPLE REACHED

Climate and
environment



10,000

Disasters and
crises



10,000

Health and
wellbeing



21,000

Migration and
displacement



430

Values, power
and inclusion



2,000

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

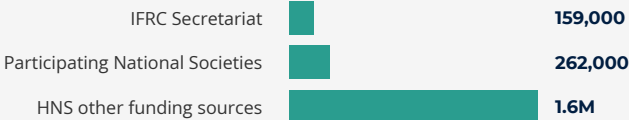
in Swiss francs (CHF)

Albanian Red Cross

Overview



Funding Sources



IFRC network

Country		Funding requirement		2.1M	
IFRC Secretariat	Longer-term	Funding requirement		175,000	
		Funding	Not reported		
		Expenditure	Not reported		
	Emergency Operations	Funding requirement	Not reported		
		Funding	Not reported		
		Expenditure	Not reported		
Participating National Societies	Funding requirement		278,000		
	Funding		30,000		
	Expenditure		4,000		
HNS other funding sources	Funding requirement		1.6M		
	Funding		1.6M		

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Climate and environment

Number of people reached with activities to address rising climate risks	10,000
Number of people reached with heatwave risk reduction, preparedness or response activities	800

Disasters and crises

Number of people reached with disaster risk reduction	10,000
Number of people reached with livelihoods support	4,000
Number of people reached with shelter support	100

Health and wellbeing

Number of people trained in first aid	21,000
Number of people reached with contextually appropriate health services	8,000
Number of people reached with contextually appropriate water, sanitation and hygiene services	3,000
Number of people donating blood	3,000
Number of people reached with psychosocial and mental health services	402

Migration and displacement

Number of migrants and displaced persons reached with services for assistance and protection	430
Number of Humanitarian Service Points (HSPs) providing assistance and/or protection to people on the move along migration routes	3

Values, power and inclusion

Number of people reached by protection, gender and inclusion programming	2,000
Number of people reached by the National Society's educational programmes	2,000

ENABLING FUNCTIONS

Strategic and operational coordination

Number of formal interagency/international coordination platforms the IFRC network is part of	3
Number of government-led coordination platforms the National Society is part of	2

National Society development

Number of staff and volunteers trained on the Fundamental Principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement

400

National Society has developed and/or implemented a strategy for strengthening their auxiliary role

Yes

The National Society has an official branch development framework, model or guidance that defines the expected role and standards of branches

Yes

There is a National Society Development plan in place

Yes

National Society has created and implemented youth engagement strategies

Yes

Humanitarian diplomacy

National Society participates in IFRC-led campaigns

Yes

National Society has a domestic advocacy strategy developed aligning, at least in part, with global IFRC advocacy strategies

Yes

Accountability and agility

National Society has a Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) policy to enforce prevention and support survivors

Yes

National Society has a safe and accessible mechanism (such as the IFRC Integrity Line) in place to report integrity concerns, misconduct and breaches of rules and policies

Yes

National Society has a Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) Action Plan to enforce prevention and support survivors

Yes

National Society has a functioning data management system that informs decision making and supports monitoring and reporting on the impact and evidence of its actions

No

National Society is implementing a digital transformation roadmap in line with the IFRC strategy

No

IFRC NETWORK BILATERAL-SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

	Funding Reported	Climate and environment	Disasters and crises	Health and wellbeing	Migration and displacement	Values, power and inclusion	Enabling Functions
Austrian Red Cross	232,000		●	●		●	
Italian Red Cross	30,000			●			
Qatar Red Crescent Society						●	
Red Cross Society of China			●				
Total	CHF 262,000						

Q1. OVERALL PERFORMANCE

Context

Albania, located in southeastern Europe on the western Balkan Peninsula, shares borders with Montenegro, Kosovo, North Macedonia and Greece, and lies across the Adriatic Sea from Italy. Covering about 28,748 square kilometres, the country holds a strategic geographic position.

Albania's population has declined by roughly 14.5 percent over the past 12 years and is projected to shrink by over 20 per cent in the next three decades. The country is highly vulnerable to climate change, with agriculture, hydroelectricity and tourism particularly at risk, making adaptation strategies essential.

Despite structural challenges, Albania's economy has shown resilience, with steady growth driven by tourism and construction. Inflation is easing but remains above target, and labour market inclusion, especially for women and rural populations, continues to be a challenge.

Albania faces mixed migration flows, including refugees, asylum seekers and stateless individuals. While the country has ratified key international human rights instruments, further efforts are needed to strengthen institutions and ensure consistent implementation of human rights protections.

Key achievements

Climate and environment

The Albanian Red Cross strengthened climate resilience and anticipatory action capacities through preparedness and response activities for climate-related hazards, particularly heatwaves. The National Society responded to localized emergencies, strengthened coordination with public authorities and technical partners on anticipatory action, enhanced forecast-based action systems, improved cash readiness and vulnerability targeting mechanisms and expanded community awareness and preparedness measures to support timely assistance for people most exposed to extreme heat.

Disasters and crises

During the reporting period, the Albanian Red Cross responded to localized flooding through rapid assessments, volunteer mobilization, emergency relief assistance and close coordination with local authorities. Recovery support was provided to affected communities, while strengthened cooperation with national civil protection and search-and-rescue institutions, participation in inter-agency exercises and contributions to national preparedness initiatives further enhanced disaster response and resilience capacities.

Health and wellbeing

In the first half of 2026, the Albanian Red Cross continued to strengthen community health through first aid training, promotion of voluntary blood donation, health awareness campaigns and mental health and psychosocial support services. Health promotion activities addressed hygiene, HIV prevention, substance abuse prevention and healthy lifestyles, while support for older people was expanded through home-based care, healthy ageing initiatives, psychosocial support, caregiver assistance and community care services that promoted wellbeing, social inclusion and quality of life.

Migration and displacement

The Albanian Red Cross strengthened its response to people on the move through the Global Route-Based Migration Programme, improving access to humanitarian assistance, protection services, referrals and essential support along migration routes. Capacity-building activities enhanced migration preparedness and response, while continued collaboration with UNHCR, public authorities and partner organizations strengthened protection monitoring, case management, referral pathways and access to services for migrants, refugees and asylum seekers. Awareness-raising activities also promoted inclusion, dignity and solidarity with displaced populations.

Values, power and inclusion

In this reporting period, the Albanian Red Cross strengthened the wellbeing, inclusion and resilience of vulnerable groups through women's empowerment, community-based support, home-care services for older people and targeted assistance to vulnerable households. Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) remained a cross-cutting approach across programmes, strengthening two-way communication, community participation, case management and feedback mechanisms. The National Society also continued providing Restoring Family Links (RFL) services and promoting greater inclusion, protection and access to support for people in vulnerable situations.

Enabling local actors

The Albanian Red Cross continued strengthening its organizational capacity, governance, volunteer engagement, humanitarian diplomacy, accountability and digital transformation. Key achievements included the approval of the National Society's new Strategy 2026–2030, completion of the Branch Organizational Capacity Assessment (BOCA) process across all branches, strengthened volunteer management systems, expanded humanitarian education and youth engagement, and enhanced accountability and safeguarding mechanisms. The National Society also increased its visibility and humanitarian influence through engagement with public authorities, diplomatic representatives, partners and communities, while the visit of IFRC President Kate Forbes reinforced the profile of the Albanian Red Cross and strengthened support for its humanitarian mandate and strategic development.

Q2. CHANGES AND AMENDMENTS

In this reporting period, no changes or amendments were made by the National Society.

Q3. MEASURING RESULTS OF THE IFRC NETWORK ACTION

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Climate and environment

Progress by the National Society against objectives

During the reporting period, the Albanian Red Cross responded to several localized emergencies, including wildfires and floods, through branch-level assessments and targeted assistance. At the same time, the National Society continued to strengthen its preparedness for climate-related hazards, recognizing the growing impact of extreme heat on public health and air quality. Through its engagement in the Anticipatory Action Working Group alongside government, academic and technical institutions, the National Society supported efforts to prioritize heatwaves as a key hazard requiring coordinated preparedness and response measures.

In response to the increasing frequency and intensity of heatwaves, the Albanian Red Cross continued implementing the Simplified Early Action Protocol (sEAP) for heatwaves in the target branches of Tirana, Elbasan and Berat. The National Society strengthened forecast-based action systems by finalizing and testing a heatwave monitoring product in collaboration with the Institute of Geosciences, enabling operational forecasting and trigger monitoring. Preparedness capacities were enhanced through volunteer training on Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA), Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA), Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI) and digital data collection. Vulnerability assessments were conducted to identify and prioritize at-risk households for anticipatory cash assistance, while cash readiness systems were finalized to enable timely activation of support.

The Albanian Red Cross also completed the procurement and pre-positioning of equipment required for community heat preparedness points and coordinated with local authorities to determine implementation locations. Community preparedness and awareness were further strengthened through the development of communication and awareness materials, preparations for the expansion of the Green Line initiative, and school-based awareness activities.

Together, these measures enhanced the National Society's ability to activate anticipatory actions within the required lead time and provide timely support to people most exposed to extreme heat.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the implementation of the simplified Early Action Protocol (sEAP) for heatwaves.

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

The **Austrian Red Cross** provided technical assistance to strengthen anticipatory action and operational preparedness capacities. Support focused on enhancing forecast-based action systems, volunteer preparedness, cash readiness mechanisms and community-based heatwave preparedness measures.



Disasters and crises

For real-time information on emergencies, see the IFRC GO page, [Albania](#).

During January to June 2026, one IFRC Disaster Response Emergency Fund (IFRC-DREF) was active for extreme heatwave in Albania.

Name of Operation	Simplified Early Action Protocol Albania - Heatwave
MDR-Code	<u>MDRAL009</u>
Duration	2 years (sEAP approved: 24 June 2025)
Funding allocation	CHF 199,966
People targeted	17,000

The DREF allocation of CHF 199,966, active since 20 June 2025 will support the Albanian Red Cross in assisting approximately 17,000 people. The main goal of this two-year initiative is to safeguard the lives and livelihoods of vulnerable urban populations in Tirana, Berat and Elbasan from the effects of extreme heat by strengthening institutional and community resilience and improving early response systems. This action enables early measures such as community alerts, supply distribution and mobile team readiness.

Progress by the National Society against objectives

Following localized flooding caused by heavy rainfall in January, the Albanian Red Cross activated its disaster response mechanisms to support affected communities across several municipalities. Branches in the most affected areas conducted rapid needs assessments, coordinated closely with local authorities and participated in local emergency coordination structures. Trained disaster response volunteers were mobilized to assist affected families, while evacuation awareness activities were carried out in cooperation with municipal authorities. Based on identified needs, emergency relief assistance, including clothing, blankets and food support was provided to vulnerable and evacuated households, ensuring timely humanitarian assistance to those most affected.

The Albanian Red Cross also continued to support recovery efforts for flood-affected communities through a food assistance programme targeting vulnerable households in affected areas. The assistance was designed to help families address immediate food needs and strengthen their recovery following the floods.

To strengthen national preparedness and response capacities, the Albanian Red Cross further enhanced cooperation with the National Civil Protection Agency and the National Search and Rescue Centre. As a member of the National Search and Rescue Centre Working Group, the National Society participated in a joint field

exercise aimed at strengthening inter-agency coordination and clarifying operational roles in search and rescue response. The National Society also contributed to national workshops focused on disaster preparedness, community organization, public awareness and risk communication, supporting broader efforts to strengthen disaster resilience across the country.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provides long-term support to the Albanian Red Cross in disaster and crisis management, aiming to enhance its capacity for timely response and mitigate the impacts of disasters on communities. This support involves capacity building, technical expertise and resource mobilization to strengthen the National Society's ability to address humanitarian needs during disasters.

IFRC mechanisms such as the Disaster Response Emergency Fund ([DREF](#)) and the IFRC Emergency Appeal are utilized by the National Society in times of disasters and crises to effectively support those who face immediate needs during times of emergency.

The **Red Cross Society of China** provided support to the Albanian Red Cross with funding of CHF 40,532 to support flood recovery efforts. The contribution financed a three-round food assistance programme for vulnerable flood-affected families in Durrës. The first round of assistance was completed during the reporting period, while the remaining distributions will continue in the second half of the year.



Albanian Red Cross disaster response volunteers provided rescue and relief assistance and raised evacuation awareness among flood-affected and vulnerable households in high-risk communities. (Photo: Albanian Red Cross)



Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Albanian Red Cross continued to strengthen first aid capacities through the delivery of first aid training for individuals applying for driving licenses, as well as employees of private companies and institutions. Delivered by certified Albanian Red Cross trainers, these sessions focused on equipping participants with essential life-saving skills and promoting a culture of preparedness across communities and workplaces.

The National Society also continued to promote first aid excellence through the organization of the 26th National First Aid Competition. Branch-level competitions were held across the country, bringing together volunteers to apply and strengthen their knowledge and practical skills in simulated emergency situations. As a long-standing Red Cross tradition, the competition contributed to volunteer motivation, continuous learning and the maintenance of high-quality first aid services throughout the National Society.

The Albanian Red Cross further strengthened its Voluntary Blood Donation Programme through partnerships with universities, private companies, religious communities and civil society organizations. Blood donation sessions were organized nationwide, contributing significantly to national blood reserves and helping meet the country's blood supply needs. In parallel, awareness-raising sessions promoted the importance of voluntary blood donation, encouraged healthy behaviours and reinforced public understanding of the need for a safe and sustainable blood supply. World Blood Donor Day was marked through awareness activities and blood donation events involving diplomatic representatives, business sector partners, and citizen volunteers, demonstrating a shared commitment to voluntary blood donation.

Through its Health Prevention Programme, the Albanian Red Cross implemented a wide range of community-based awareness activities focusing on personal hygiene, community hygiene, HIV prevention and substance abuse prevention. Hygiene-promotion activities were carried out in schools and kindergartens to encourage healthy practices among children and their families. HIV awareness sessions continued across local branches, promoting knowledge of HIV transmission, prevention measures, responsible health behaviours and stigma reduction. Activities addressing tobacco, alcohol and drug use focused on raising awareness among young people about the health and social consequences of substance abuse while promoting informed decision-making and healthy lifestyles.

Health promotion efforts were further strengthened through activities linked to key international observance days. World Health Day was used to promote broader health awareness, while activities organized around World No Tobacco Day and the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking reinforced messages on substance abuse prevention and healthy living. Environmental health awareness was also promoted through activities marking Earth Day and World Environment Day, highlighting the importance of clean and healthy environments for community wellbeing.

The Albanian Red Cross continued to strengthen Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) as an integral component of its humanitarian and community-based services. MHPSS was embedded within services for older people through daily centres, home-based care and individual follow-up, helping to address loneliness, social isolation, stress and emotional distress while promoting social inclusion and access to support services.

Under the Strengthening Health, Access, Participation and Social Equality (SHAPE) Project in the Western Balkans, the National Society continued providing integrated health, psychosocial and home-based support to older people in several municipalities. Activities focused on healthy ageing, preventive health monitoring, psychosocial support, referrals to health services and individualized assistance for people with limited mobility. Mobile teams conducted regular home visits, while support was also provided to informal caregivers to strengthen their capacity to care for older family members. Monitoring of home-based care services was further enhanced through digital tools to improve case tracking, identify priority needs and support timely adjustments to services.

The sixth phase of the Home Care Cross-Border: Albania–Montenegro–Bosnia and Herzegovina project also commenced during the reporting period, continuing efforts to improve the quality of life and social inclusion of older people. As part of the project, a regional training on home care was organized for volunteers from Albania, Montenegro, and Bosnia and Herzegovina, focusing on community support for older people, volunteer roles, ageing, communication, fall prevention and first aid.

Project activities were implemented through daily centres and home-care services in several municipalities, providing regular support to older people through healthy ageing programmes, home visits, psychosocial support and community-based care services. Additional branch-led initiatives further complemented these efforts, reaching vulnerable older people with home-based assistance and activities aimed at promoting health, wellbeing and social participation.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC continues to support the Albanian Red Cross in the health and wellbeing sector including technical expertise, resources and capacity building to enhance the National Society's healthcare programmes and services. Training courses on first aid were conducted in accordance with the standards of the [IFRC Global First Aid Reference Centre](#), ensuring quality, consistency and alignment with international best practices.



Migration and displacement

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Albanian Red Cross strengthened its humanitarian response to people on the move through the implementation of the [Global Route-Based Migration Programme](#), aimed at improving access to humanitarian assistance, protection and safer and more dignified access to essential services along migration routes in the Western Balkans. Through the programme, mobile volunteer teams from priority branches strengthened their capacities in migration response, protection, Psychological First Aid ([PFA](#)), first aid and Restoring Family Links ([RFL](#)), while humanitarian assistance and protection services were provided to people on the move.

The National Society also participated in capacity-building initiatives focused on migration risk analysis and preparedness planning, further strengthening its readiness and response capacities in the field of migration. In partnership with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the Albanian Red Cross continued delivering protection and assistance services to people identified within mixed movement flows and to individuals who may be seeking international protection. Activities included the provision of information, counselling, referrals, protection monitoring and cash-based support, while close coordination with border and asylum authorities, municipalities, prefectures, UN agencies and partner organizations strengthened referral pathways, facilitated the timely identification of protection concerns and enhanced access to services.

The Albanian Red Cross also marked World Refugee Day through awareness-raising activities organized in collaboration with UNHCR and local partners, bringing together local institutions, religious communities, refugees, asylum seekers and humanitarian organizations to promote the protection, inclusion, dignity and rights of refugees and asylum seekers and to foster solidarity within host communities.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the Albanian Red Cross through the implementation of the Global Route-Based Migration Programme and capacity-strengthening initiatives, including training on migration risk analysis and preparedness planning. The programme was implemented with the support of the IFRC, the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), and the Swiss Red Cross, strengthening the National Society's operational and institutional capacity to respond to migration-related humanitarian needs.



Values, power and inclusion

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Albanian Red Cross continued to strengthen the wellbeing, inclusion and socio-economic resilience of women in vulnerable situations through its Women Empowerment Project. In Lezha and Korça, women and girls participated in vocational tailoring training, complemented by psychosocial support, health education and employment and self-employment guidance. The programme aimed to strengthen participants' wellbeing, self-confidence, professional skills and pathways to economic independence. Cooperation with local businesses and employment services was initiated to facilitate access to employment and self-employment opportunities. Building on this approach, the National Society launched a similar initiative in Kukës, combining vocational training with psychosocial, health and employment-oriented support for women in vulnerable situations.

To address immediate socio-economic needs, the Albanian Red Cross provided food and basic assistance to vulnerable households identified by local branches based on their needs and circumstances. Assistance included food parcel distributions during Ramadan as well as support provided through branch-level initiatives, helping families experiencing economic hardship meet their essential needs while complementing broader social protection and community support activities.

The Albanian Red Cross also continued delivering community-based and home care services for older people through daily centres and mobile care teams operating in Shkodër, Durrës, Berat and Tirana. Mobile teams conducted regular home visits, providing integrated health, psychosocial and home-based support to older people living alone and in vulnerable situations. The programme improved access to essential services, promoted healthy and independent ageing and helped reduce social isolation among one of the country's most vulnerable population groups.

The National Society further strengthened Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) as a cross-cutting approach across its programmes, ensuring that people and communities had access to information, opportunities to communicate their needs and concerns and mechanisms through which feedback informed service delivery. Under the simplified Early Action Protocol for heatwaves, the Green Line continued to serve as an important two-way communication channel, while individual cases received follow-up support based on identified needs, including information, relief assistance, and psychosocial support. CEA principles were also integrated into home-based care and migration programmes through improved case management, strengthened feedback and complaints mechanisms and greater community and youth engagement.

In addition, the Albanian Red Cross continued to provide Restoring Family Links (RFL) services, helping individuals affected by family separation maintain or re-establish contact with family members.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provides technical expertise, resources and capacity-building initiatives, knowledge sharing and collaborative projects to the Albanian Red Cross.

The **Austrian Red Cross** supported the Women Empowerment Project and the community-based and home care programme for older people.

The **Qatar Red Crescent** supported food assistance for vulnerable households during Ramadan.

ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS



Strategic and operational coordination

IFRC membership coordination

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

In April, IFRC President Kate Forbes, accompanied by Maria Kristensen, Head of the IFRC Country Cluster Delegation for Central and South-Eastern Europe, undertook an official visit to Albania. During the visit, they met with national authorities, including the President of the Republic and the Deputy Prime Minister, as well as Albanian Red Cross leadership, staff, volunteers and beneficiaries. They also visited Albanian Red Cross branches in Tirana, Durrës and Berat and attended the National First Aid Competition, recognizing the dedication and preparedness of young volunteers.

Over the years, the Albanian Red Cross has developed strong relationships and projects with the **Austrian Red Cross**, the **Italian Red Cross** and the **Qatar Red Crescent Society**. Their support includes:

The Albanian Red Cross continues its long-standing partnership with the **Austrian Red Cross**, which has previously supported the development of first aid systems and the earthquake response in 2019. Since 2021, both National Societies have been implementing a three-year project focused on strengthening volunteering in first aid and disaster preparedness. Additionally, the Austrian Red Cross provides technical expertise in delivering Cash and Voucher Assistance ([CVA](#)) to vulnerable populations.

Before 2019, the **Italian Red Cross** supported the Albanian Red Cross in areas such as women's empowerment, first aid training and emergency response. In late 2018, the partnership expanded with two new initiatives: a home care programme in collaboration with the **Montenegro Red Cross** and a women's empowerment project. Following the 2019 earthquake, the Italian Red Cross deployed technical personnel to assist with rescue operations and MHPSS. It currently provides technical and financial support for the ongoing home care programme for older people.

Starting in 2018, the **Qatar Red Crescent** has been offering financial assistance to provide relief support to vulnerable families, primarily through food packages. Furthermore, the Qatar Red Crescent played a significant role in supporting the Albanian Red Cross during the emergency response operation following the earthquake that struck Albania in November 2019.

Movement coordination

The Albanian Red Cross 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 ongoing support to the National Society in assistance to those in need, promoting and upholding International Humanitarian Law ([IHL](#)) and facilitating of the Restoring Family Links ([RFL](#)) for separated or missing persons. The Albanian Red Cross and ICRC jointly implement activities such as tracing and reconnecting separated family members and promoting awareness of humanitarian principles by conducting training and capacity building for staff and volunteers.

External coordination

To implement its humanitarian activities, the Albanian Red Cross cooperates with the diplomatic-consular sector in Albania, as well as with many international organizations including the EU Delegation, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the World Health Organization (WHO), the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and World Vision.

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

According to the National Plan of Civil Protection, the Albanian Red Cross is a member of the Albanian disaster management structure on local, regional and national levels. In terms of first aid training, the Albanian Red Cross is certified by the Global First Aid Reference Centre (formerly the European Reference Centre for First Aid, EFAC).



National Society development

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Albanian Red Cross continued strengthening its organizational capacity and branch development through the implementation of the Branch Organizational Capacity Assessment (BOCA) process. During the reporting period, BOCA was completed in the remaining local branches, extending the assessment across all participating branches. The process engaged governance members, staff and volunteers in identifying organizational strengths, capacity gaps and development priorities, resulting in Branch Development Action Plans that are linked to annual planning and organizational priorities. The process strengthened evidence-based planning, branch ownership, peer learning and coordination between Headquarters and local branches. A network of trained BOCA facilitators and ambassadors continued to support the implementation and sustainability of the process, while lessons learned workshops enabled branches to reflect on progress, exchange good practices and follow up on development priorities. These efforts contributed to institutionalizing BOCA as an ongoing approach to organizational development rather than a one-time assessment exercise.

The Albanian Red Cross also achieved a significant milestone with the approval of its Strategy 2026–2030, which establishes the strategic direction of the National Society for the next five years. The Strategy was developed through an inclusive and participatory process involving governance members, branch representatives, volunteers and Headquarters staff. BOCA findings were integrated into the strategic planning process to ensure that the Strategy reflects branch capacities, development priorities and evolving community needs. This strengthened ownership of the Strategy across the National Society and reinforced the connection between local branch development, organizational priorities and the long-term humanitarian vision of the Albanian Red Cross.

Volunteer engagement remained a core organizational strength of the Albanian Red Cross, with volunteers actively supporting first aid, disaster preparedness, anticipatory action, health and social care, migration activities, humanitarian education and community outreach. Attention was given to strengthening volunteers' practical skills and preparing them for more specialized roles within National Society programmes. Efforts also continued to strengthen volunteer management systems and branch-level engagement through structured monitoring and support of the volunteer database across all branches, contributing to more effective volunteer follow-up and participation.

The Albanian Red Cross further promoted youth engagement and humanitarian education through the 'Promotion of Humanitarian Values' project, which delivered awareness-raising activities in schools across the country. Through the involvement of youth volunteers, the initiative promoted the Fundamental Principles, humanitarian values, solidarity and volunteerism among children and young people under the 2026 theme, 'Volunteering knows no age!' The initiative culminated in the 29th National Art Exhibition 'Children and the Red Cross', showcasing artworks developed through local exhibitions organized by Albanian Red Cross branches. The exhibition promoted volunteerism, solidarity, first aid, blood donation and support to vulnerable people, while strengthening cooperation between branches, schools,

teachers and local institutions and reinforcing humanitarian education as an important pathway for engaging younger generations in the Red Cross mission and values.

IFRC network joint support

The **IFRC**, provided technical support for the Branch Organizational Capacity Assessment ([BOCA](#)) process, branch development initiatives and the development of the Albanian Red Cross Strategy 2026–2030 through the IFRC Capacity Building Fund ([CBF](#)). Support focused on strengthening organizational development, branch planning, governance and long-term strategic positioning, while helping ensure alignment with community needs and the objectives of [IFRC Strategy 2030](#).



Humanitarian diplomacy

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Albanian Red Cross strengthened its humanitarian diplomacy efforts by enhancing engagement with national authorities, diplomatic representatives, international partners and the wider public. The Embassy of Switzerland in Albania hosted a diplomatic reception bringing together ambassadors and representatives of the diplomatic corps, creating opportunities to discuss the role and priorities of the Albanian Red Cross, strengthening relationships with existing and potential partners, and increase the visibility of the National Society's humanitarian mandate. This provided an important platform for advancing dialogue on humanitarian priorities and reinforced the position of the Albanian Red Cross among national stakeholders.

As part of its commitment to promoting humanity, solidarity and active citizenship, the Albanian Red Cross engaged its membership through awareness-raising, community activities and internal dissemination efforts, strengthening understanding of the [Fundamental Principles](#), humanitarian values and the Red Cross mandate. The National Society also reached the wider public through outreach and awareness initiatives on humanitarian education, first aid, climate and heatwave preparedness, health promotion and voluntary blood donation. These activities contributed to increasing public awareness, promoting preparedness and healthy behaviours and strengthening solidarity, volunteerism and support for humanitarian action.

IFRC network joint support

During the reporting period, **IFRC** President Kate Forbes officially visited Albania, which provided an important platform for advancing dialogue on humanitarian priorities and reinforcing the position of the Albanian Red Cross within the IFRC network and among national stakeholders. A diplomatic reception hosted by the Embassy of Switzerland in Albania brought together ambassadors and representatives of the diplomatic corps creating visibility for the Albanian Red Cross.



Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Albanian Red Cross continued to strengthen accountability, [safeguarding](#) and evidence-based programme management across its operations. Institutional safeguarding systems were reinforced through the adoption of a new [Child Safeguarding Policy](#) and capacity-building for headquarters and branch staff on the Code of Conduct, safeguarding, Community Engagement and Accountability ([CEA](#)), and Protection, Gender and Inclusion ([PGI](#)). These efforts strengthened the National Society's institutional framework for child protection and supported the more systematic integration of safe, inclusive and accountable approaches across its services.

At the same time, the National Society expanded the use of digital tools and structured data to improve transparency, targeting, monitoring and programme adaptation. KoboToolbox, initially introduced under the SHAPE project, was further integrated into home-based care and the simplified Early Action Protocol (sEAP), supporting vulnerability-based beneficiary selection, case management, monitoring and the identification of priority needs. Together with established community feedback and referral mechanisms, these developments enhanced the National Society's

ability to generate and use evidence, incorporate community perspectives and adapt programmes more effectively to evolving needs.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supports the Albanian Red Cross in improving financial and administrative procedures, monitoring and evaluation processes and ethical standards. To enhance agility, the IFRC supports the development of emergency preparedness strategies, resource mobilization and coordination during crises. It also promotes the use of digital tools and innovative technologies for faster decision-making and more effective humanitarian action.

Q4. AFFECTED PERSONS (PEOPLE REACHED)

See cover pages

Q5. PARTICIPATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY FOR AFFECTED PEOPLE – COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

See Strategic Priority on 'Values, power and inclusion' under Q3: MEASURING RESULTS OF THE IFRC NETWORK ACTION

Q6. RISK MANAGEMENT

This information is not available in Mid year Reports

Q7. EXIT STRATEGY AND SUSTAINABILITY

See Strategic Priorities or Enabling Local Actors, where relevant under Q3: MEASURING RESULTS OF THE IFRC NETWORK ACTION

Q8. LESSONS LEARNED

Nothing to report

ANNEX 1. IFRC APPLICATION OF THE 8+3 REPORTING TEMPLATE

The IFRC network structures its result-based management along five Strategic priorities and four Enabling functions, developed based on the IFRC network's [Strategy 2030](#):

IFRC network Strategic Priorities	IFRC network Enabling Functions
SP 1 - Climate and environment	EF 1- Strategic and operational coordination
SP 2 - Disasters and crises	EF 2 - National Society development
SP 3 - Health and wellbeing	EF 3 - Humanitarian diplomacy
SP 4 - Migration and displacement	EF 4 - Accountability and agility
SP 5 - Values, power and inclusion	

The Federation-wide results matrix provides a standard way for the IFRC network to measure its progress towards Strategy 2030 implementation and supports consistent quality of the IFRC network planning, monitoring and reporting. To further advance coherence in monitoring across the IFRC network, a [Federation-wide Indicator Bank](#) has been developed and integrated into the Federation-wide monitoring systems for emergencies and longer-term work, structured along the Federation-wide results matrix as well. Signatory of the Grand Bargain Agreement, the IFRC has committed to its monitoring and reporting standards through integration of the [8+3 reporting template](#) contents into its results-based management approach. The following mapping demonstrates the way in which this report aligns with 8+3 reporting:

8+3 template	IFRC network Mid-Year Report (with variance in structure in red)
Core Questions	
1. Overall Performance	Overall Performance
2. Changes and Amendments	Changes and amendments
3. Measuring Results	Measuring Results
4. Affected Persons	Cover pages with indicators values
5. Participation & AAP	Under Q3 Strategic Priority 5: Values, power and inclusion – Community Engagement and Accountability
6. Risk management	Risk management
7. Exit Strategy and Sustainability	Under Q3 sub-sections by Strategic Priority/Enabling Function where relevant
8. Lessons Learned	Lessons learned
Additional Questions	
1. Value for Money/ Cost Effectiveness	Not included in mid-year reports
2. Visibility	Not included in mid-year reports
3. Coordination	Under Q3 Enabling Function 1: Strategic and operational coordination
4. Implementing Partners	Cross-cutting, with a focus on support to localization through the Q3 Enabling Functions 1 to 4
5. Activities or Steps Towards implementation	Cross-cutting in Q3 Strategic Priorities and Enabling Functions
6. Environment	Under Q3 Strategic Priority 1: Climate and environment



The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) is the world's largest humanitarian network, with 191 National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and around 15 million volunteers. Our volunteers are present in communities before, during and after a crisis or disaster. We work in the most hard to reach and complex settings in the world, saving lives and promoting human dignity. We support communities to become stronger and more resilient places where people can live safe and healthy lives, and have opportunities to thrive.

DATA SCOPE AND LIMITATIONS

- **Timeframe and alignment:** The reporting timeframe for this overview is covering the period from 1 January to 30 June 2026. However, due to the diversity of the IFRC and differences in fiscal years, this coverage may not fully align for some National Societies.
- **Financial overview:** This overview consolidates data reported by the National Society and its IFRC network partners, as well as data extracted from IFRC's financial systems. All reported figures should include the administrative and operational costs of the different entities. The financial data with a grey background is solely reported by the National Society, including the funding sources. Financial reporting is often times estimated depending on availability of financial figures, closing of financial periods and may be incomplete. 'Not reported' could sometimes mean 'not applicable'. Also note that funding requirements are already reflected in the published 2026 IFRC network country plan. The total funding requirements show what the IFRC network has sought to raise for the given year through different channels: funding through the IFRC, through participating National Societies as bilateral support and through the host National Society from non-IFRC network sources. All figures should include the administrative and operational costs of the different entities.
 - » Host National Society funding requirements not coming from IFRC network sources can comprise a variety of sources, as demonstrated when reporting on income in the IFRC Federation-wide Databank and Reporting System
 - » Participating National Society funding requirements for bilateral support are those validated by respective headquarters, and often represent mainly secured funding
 - » IFRC funding requirements comprise both what is sourced from the IFRC core budget and what is sought through emergency and thematic funding. This includes participating National Societies' multilateral support through IFRC, and all other IFRC sources of funding
- **Missing data and breakdowns:** National Societies have diverse data collection systems and processes that may not align with the standardized indicators. Data may not be available for some indicators, for some National Societies. This may lead to inconsistencies across different reporting tools as well as potential under or over-estimation of the efforts led by all.
- **Reporting bias:** The data informing this Federation-wide overview is self-reported by each National Society (or its designated support entity) which is the owner and gatekeeper, and responsible for accuracy and updating. IFRC tries to triangulate the data provided by the National Societies with previous data and other data in the public domain.
- **Definitions:**
 - » **Local units:** ALL subdivisions of a National Society that coordinate and deliver services to people. These include ALL levels (provincial, state, city, district branches, sections or chapters, headquarters, and regional and intermediate offices, as well as community-based units)
 - » **Branches:** A Branch has its roles, responsibilities and relationship with the National Headquarters defined through the National Society's Statutes, including the level of autonomy given, especially in the area of its legal status, mobilising local resources and building local partnerships, and the decisions it makes. It has a local-level decision-making mechanism through its Branch members, board and volunteers, equally defined through the National Society's Statutes

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- [AL_Albania MYR Financials.pdf](#) (Note: For emergency operation, see [MDRAL009](#))
- [IFRC network country plans](#)
- [Subscribe for updates](#)
- [Live Disaster Response Emergency Fund \(DREF\) data](#)
- Operational information: [IFRC GO platform](#)
- National Society data: [IFRC Federation-wide Databank and Reporting System](#)
- [Evaluations database](#)

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