



ROMANIA

2026-2028 IFRC network country plan



30 January 2026

In support of the Romanian Red Cross



47

National Society branches



624

National Society local units



289

National Society staff



8,632

National Society volunteers

People to be reached in 2026



10,000

Climate and environment



45,000

Disasters and crises



229,000

Health and wellbeing



950

Migration and Displacement



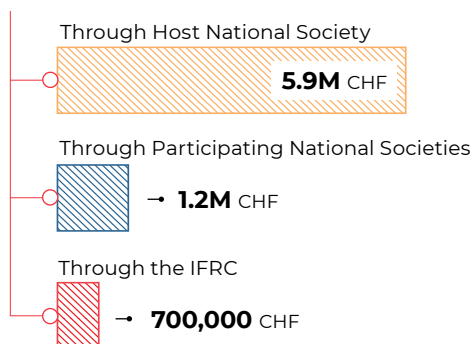
5,000

Values, power and inclusion

IFRC network Funding Requirements

2026

Total 7.8M CHF



2027

Total 360,000 CHF

2028

250,000 CHF

Projected funding requirements

Participating National Societies

- American Red Cross*
- Austrian Red Cross
- British Red Cross
- French Red Cross*
- Spanish Red Cross
- Swedish Red Cross
- Swiss Red Cross*
- The Republic of Korea National Red Cross*

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

IFRC Appeal codes

Longer-term needs:

MAARO02

Hazards



Earthquakes



Landslides



Floods



Extreme Heat
and Cold



Population
Movement

IFRC network multi-year focus

Longer term needs

- Disaster Preparedness
- Community Based and Emergency Health
- Mental Health and Psychosocial Support

Capacity development

- Humanitarian diplomacy
- National Society development

Key country data links

INFORM Climate Change Risk Index **Low**

Human Development Index rank **55**

World Bank Population figure **19.1M**

World Bank Population below poverty line **19%**



The Romanian Red Cross supported people affected by heavy rains and flooding in Suceava through the delivery of safe water, food, and blankets. (Photo: The Romanian Red Cross)

Detailed funding requirements

	2026		2027		2028	
	Host National Society	IFRC	Host National Society	Host National Society	Host National Society	Host National Society
Longer-term needs						
Climate and environment	90,000	20,000				
Disasters & crises	453,000	80,000				
Health & wellbeing	4.5M	450,000				
Migration & displacement	419,000	20,000	60,000		100,000	
Values, power & inclusion	60,000	5,000				
Enabling local actors	360,000	125,000				
Total	5.9M	700,000	60,000		100,000	

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	200,000	100,000			200,000			
	2027	300,000	150,000			300,000			
	2028	150,000	150,000			150,000			
British Red Cross	2026	644,000	644,000		-		-		-
Spanish Red Cross	2026								-
Swedish Red Cross	2026	375,000	375,000	15,000	20,000	210,000	50,000	40,000	40,000

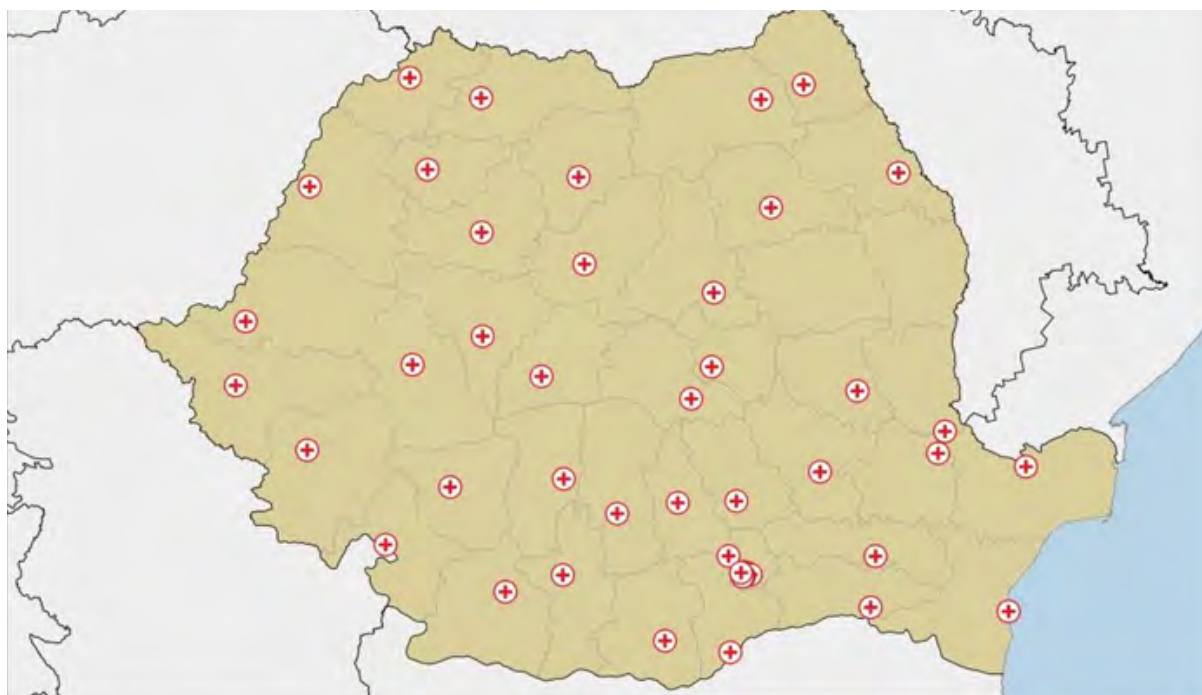
NATIONAL SOCIETY PROFILE

The **Romanian Red Cross** was established by law in 1876 and revised in 1995, with further amendments made in 2004 by the Romanian Parliament. It was admitted to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in 1919. The National Society operates as an independent, non-governmental, apolitical and non-commercial organization.

As an institution of public benefit, the National Society engages in humanitarian activities as a voluntary aid organization and an auxiliary to the public authorities. The Romanian Red Cross enjoys the protection and support of the state and has the right to request the support of all public authorities and they have the obligation to grant it. It plays a vital role in preventing and alleviating human suffering in all circumstances, treating everyone equally without discrimination based on nationality, race, religion, age, sex, social condition or political or military affiliation. It acts as an auxiliary during armed conflicts and peacetime, ensuring preparedness in various situations.

The National Society strengthens community health and alleviates suffering through mutual aid while providing emergency services to disaster victims at both national and local levels. Additionally, it recruits, trains and instructs personnel for its mission and promotes youth involvement while educating the public about its activities and principles. The Romanian Red Cross authorizes the use of its emblem in accordance with the law and collaborates with various organizations, ministries and institutions to achieve humanitarian goals. It also participates in health programmes, recruits blood donors, combats epidemics and offers mandatory courses for volunteers, providing first aid training for at-risk professionals.

In 2023, the National Society reached approximately 57,000 people with its long term services and development programmes and 44,000 people with its disaster response and early recovery programmes.



Map of Romanian Red Cross branches in Romania

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

IFRC NETWORK ACTION

JOINT SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

Romania, located in southeastern Europe, boasts diverse geography, including the Carpathian Mountains, plains and a Black Sea coastline. Its historical role as a cultural and commercial crossroads has shaped its identity as a bridge between eastern and western civilizations. While the Carpathian Mountains offer resources like minerals and timber, the fertile plains support agriculture. However, the [Black Sea's strategic importance](#) has increased due to the conflict between Russia and Ukraine, leading to security concerns. Despite these challenges, Romania's geographic diversity has profoundly influenced its cultural heritage, economic pursuits and historical engagements.

[Romania's population](#), totaling about 19.1 million, consists of slightly more females than males. The average life expectancy in 2025 is close to [77 years](#), a 0.18 per cent increase from 2024, with variations between genders. The [birth rate](#) in 2025 is 9.204 births per 1000 people, a 0.48 per cent decline from 2024, while the death rate stands at around 13 deaths per 1,000 people. The ethnic makeup is diverse, with ethnic Romanians being the majority, alongside minority groups like Hungarians, Roma, Ukrainians and Germans. Emigration, driven by economic challenges since the fall of the dictatorship in 1989 and the 2007/8 global financial crisis, has led to an aging population and labour shortages, resulting in a [significant drop](#) in Romania's population over the past three decades, from 23 million in 1991 to just over 19 million in 2024.

Romania functions as a semi-presidential republic with a bicameral parliament, marked by the overthrow of the communist regime in 1989 and subsequent democratization efforts. The political landscape in Romania became increasingly polarized throughout 2024 and into 2025, marked by growing public discontent and escalating tensions. In late 2024 and mid-2025, the first rounds of presidential elections saw

rising anti-migration rhetoric and public dissatisfaction with the government's response to economic challenges. This result triggered widespread protests, some of which turned violent, exposing deep divisions within Romanian society.

Economically, Romania boasts a diverse, high-income economy, ranking among the top EU nations in terms of nominal GDP and purchasing power parity. However, persistent challenges include a notable budget deficit, significant unemployment rate of 5.4 per cent and economic inequality, with a quarter of the population at risk of poverty. Inflation [surged over 15 per cent in 2022](#) due to the Ukraine conflict, exacerbating affordability issues, particularly in housing.

Over a quarter of the population faces [a risk of poverty](#), perpetuating disparities between urban and rural sectors, with latter facing greater levels of poverty and economic disadvantage. Romania's current unemployment rate stands at 5.8 per cent, with only marginal projected improvement. While Romania's nominal GDP growth remains commendable, the prospects for employment remain muted due to factors such as an ageing population and substantial emigration. Nonetheless, the integration of labour market entrants fleeing the Ukraine conflict and non-European Union (EU) worker visas could serve as mitigating elements.

The country's high risk of poverty has had a significant impact on the health and wellbeing of Romanians, particularly those belonging to rural communities, historically marginalized groups such as Roma communities and certain groups of migrants. The escalation of the conflict in Ukraine has also increased the people's risk of falling into poverty due to an increased national inflation rate, rising cost and scarcity of affordable housing, rising food costs and other factors.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Climate and environment

Romania's temperate-continental climate experiences distinct seasons, from hot summers to cold winters, with climate change altering patterns and expected to continue impacting the country. Projections indicate rising temperatures, more frequent heatwaves and shifts in precipitation patterns, leading to intense rainfall and prolonged droughts. Various regions face distinct risks; coastal areas may suffer from sea-level rise and erosion, while inland regions could encounter water scarcity and heat-related challenges.

The country has already felt the effects of climate change. In September 2024, [Storm Boris](#) caused severe flooding in the counties of Galați and Vaslui, resulting in at least seven deaths, thousands of evacuations, and damage to approximately 6,000 homes.

Elderly, children, and people with pre-existing health conditions are highly exposed to heat-related health risks, particularly in urban areas where the urban heat island effect amplifies temperatures. Low-income rural households, particularly smallholder farmers, are vulnerable to prolonged droughts and crop failure, with limited access to financial or technical adaptive resources. Roma communities and marginalized groups in peri-urban settlements are also disproportionately exposed to flooding and poor water/sanitation infrastructure, compounding their vulnerability.

The [European Environment Agency](#) reported that weather- and climate-related extremes caused economic losses estimated at EUR 738 billion in the European Union from 1980 to 2023, with over EUR 162 billion (22%) occurring between 2021 and 2023.

As an EU member, Romania is committed to combating climate change, exemplified by its ratification of the Paris Agreement in 2015. The EU aims for a climate-neutral economy by 2050, with interim targets, including a 55 per cent reduction in GHG emissions by 2030 compared to 1990 levels. Romania's Working Group on Fighting Climate Change has identified [seven key challenges](#) in combating climate change.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Romanian Red Cross seeks to enhance its ability to address and adjust to the threats posed by climate change, implementing [proactive measures](#) to minimize its effects. For this, the National Society's goals are to:

- Undertake urgent action to adapt to the rising and evolving risks from the climate and environmental crises

and prepare the communities as well as the staff and volunteers

- Adopt environmentally sustainable practices and contribute to climate change mitigation

Planned activities in 2026

- Enhance the knowledge and capacity of the staff and volunteers enabling them to take urgent action to adapt to the climate crisis
- Integrate and anticipate the short and longer-term impacts of climate change into programmes, operations, plans, and strategies
- Implement programmes and operations to prevent new and reduce existing disaster risks and manage residual risks
- Ensure that communities have increased capacity to address the impacts of climate change and ownership over programmes addressing climate risks
- Minimize its carbon footprint and any adverse environmental impacts resulting from its operations
- Promote [environmentally sustainable practices](#) in its offices and promote environmentally sustainable practices in communities
- Minimize the National Society's carbon footprint and any adverse environmental impacts resulting from its operations and promote environmentally sustainable practices in its offices

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the Romanian Red Cross in strengthening its disaster management systems through revised contingency and response mechanisms, enhanced Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) capacities, and climate risk awareness sessions, resulting in communities being better equipped with practical tools, improved institutional readiness, and stronger engagement with partners to integrate climate resilience into preparedness and response.

It will also assist the National Society in implementing actions outlined in the regional [Climate Action Roadmap](#), which serves as the main framework for guiding and scaling up climate action in the Europe Region. This assistance will include leveraging new tools, facilitating peer-to-peer exchanges, and

providing technical and capacity-building support through IFRC network entities, including the [Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre](#).

The **Swedish Red Cross** will support the Romanian Red Cross with its [Green Response](#) approach, which will help to integrate

environmental sustainability into preparedness and response activities, alongside support for [community-based disaster-risk reduction](#) initiatives.



Disasters and crises

For real-time information on emergencies, see IFRC GO page: [Romania](#)

Romania's geography boasts diverse landforms, with plains, hills and plateaus and mountains distributed almost equally across its surface. With altitudes ranging from sea level to Mount Moldoveanu's peak at 2,544 meters, Romania's average altitude is approximately 420 meters. While Romania possesses a [low overall risk](#) and moderate resilience to disasters, it still contends with various threats such as earthquakes, landslides, extreme temperatures, communicable diseases, forest fires and floods.

The recent escalation of the conflict in Ukraine has heightened concerns about a potential [radiological disaster from the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant](#) in Southeast Ukraine, as well as the expansion of conflict into the Republic of Moldova.

Earthquakes pose a significant risk to Romania due to its high seismic activity, particularly in the Vrancea subduction zone. The [1977 Vrancea earthquake](#), with a magnitude of 7.2, caused extensive casualties and economic damage. Additionally, external earthquakes from neighboring countries occasionally impact Romania, highlighting the nation's vulnerability.

Floods, often triggered by heavy rainfall and river overflow, are [recurrent hazards](#) in Romania, particularly during spring and autumn. Climate change may exacerbate flooding by intensifying extreme rainfall events, affecting low-lying areas and regions with inadequate flood management infrastructure.

Landslides are common in Romania's hilly and mountainous regions, often occurring after heavy precipitation or snowmelt events. Deforestation and improper land use practices increase the risk of landslides.

Extreme temperatures, including heatwaves, pose significant risks to Romania's population and economy. With [temperatures exceeding 40 degrees Celsius in recent years](#), the frequency and duration of heatwaves are expected to rise due to global warming, leading to increased hospitalizations and fatalities.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

As the sole humanitarian organization mandated by law to support public authorities in disaster prevention and intervention,

the Romanian Red Cross is well-equipped to respond promptly to disasters through its territorial organization, human resources, and logistical capabilities. It establishes disaster base camps, triage points, and delivers [first aid](#) immediately after disasters strike.

Its objectives include to:

- Support communities in taking action to increase their resilience to multiple evolving shocks and hazards
- Become a cash-ready organization and scale up the use of [cash and voucher assistance](#) (CVA) as a primary assistance modality
- Respond effectively to a wide spectrum of evolving crises and disasters and leverages its auxiliary role in emergency response
- Expands capacity to influence legislative changes and public policies aimed at strengthening the institutional recognition of its auxiliary role to public authorities

Planned activities in 2026

- Inform and prepare at-risk communities through targeted awareness campaigns, training, and actionable information dissemination
- Relaunch a disaster-risk reduction project with a focus on creating and distributing disaster preparedness kits (disaster buckets) and age-appropriate training modules
- Regularly test the national emergency communications system via Tabletop Exercises (TTXs) to ensure communities are connected to [early warning systems](#) and better prepared for real-time emergencies
- Deepen coordination with civil protection authorities, national and local government bodies, civil society, the private sector, and scientific institutions
- Enhance its logistics capacity by increasing the number of warehouses and upgrading prepositioned stock to increase reach
- Continue initiating or supporting legislative proposals that explicitly define and regulate its auxiliary role in relation to public authorities

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the Romanian Red Cross in the event of disasters and emergencies. 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 Romania. The DREF allocation has been described below:

[IFRC-DREF Romania Floods](#): The DREF allocation of CHF 465,192 in September 2024 supported the Romanian Red Cross in assisting more than 8,820 people affected by sudden displacement due to flooding. The National Society supported the targeted people over a six-month period with assistance such as shelter, housing, and settlements, livelihoods and basic needs, water, sanitation and hygiene, among others.

The IFRC will also help to develop the National Society's knowledge and capacities in [disaster risk management](#) by tapping into the knowledge and experiences of other EU National Societies, particularly newer EU Member States, such as Slovakia or Bulgaria. To better align support to the Romanian Red Cross and leverage resources, the IFRC also acts as co-convenor for Movement coordination working groups. The IFRC provides technical and financial support in key areas including mainstreaming [MHPSS](#) into disaster management trainings and interventions and logistics development support.

Support is also available through the regional risk financing project to scale up National Society preparedness, integrating their capacities in regionally developed solutions for sharing stocks in emergency situations. National Societies can benefit from such cooperation by increasing their capabilities to quickly mobilize regional support through deployments of relief items in case of urgent needs.

The **British Red Cross** will work to advance the Romanian Red Cross's Disasters and Emergencies goals by supporting the development of its cash readiness and by providing technical support and guidance to deliver [cash and voucher assistance](#) (CVA) in the most effective and efficient way. In addition, the British Red Cross will continue to support the National Society in strengthening its auxiliary role to the government, working closely with the Legal, Disaster Management, and Programme departments.

The **Swedish Red Cross** will support the National Society with its Green Response approach, which will help to integrate environmental sustainability into preparedness and response activities, alongside support for community-based DRR initiatives. The Swedish Red Cross will also make rapid response funds available to support the National Society's first response during emergencies. Additionally, assistance can be provided to strengthen Information Management systems for risk analysis and disaster management and contribute to enhancing volunteer management.



The Romanian Red Cross provided food, clothes, and other necessities to homeless people, the elderly, and other vulnerable groups during freezing temperatures. (Photo: The Romanian Red Cross)



The health and well-being landscape in Romania is undergoing significant transformation, as outlined in the Romanian [National Health Strategy 2023-2030](#), titled "Together for Health." This strategy builds upon previous efforts and recognizes the profound impact of political, economic and social changes over the past three decades on the population's health and the healthcare system. Despite improvements, Romania faces challenges such as disparities in healthcare access, particularly in rural areas and persistently low life expectancy compared to EU averages. In [2023](#), urban areas had 13,700 independent specialty medical practices, while rural areas had significantly fewer, with only 793 practices. This disparity results in a higher number of residents per general practitioner in rural areas, with 2,312 residents per general practitioner compared to 1,157 in urban areas.

Key concerns include under-five mortality rates, infant mortality rates and neonatal mortality rates, which place Romania in the [lower quartile](#) among European countries. Over four million children in Romania encounter barriers to accessing [adequate healthcare](#), highlighting the need for targeted interventions, particularly in poverty-stricken areas.

Avoidable deaths due to preventable and treatable causes remain a pressing issue, with Romania reporting notably higher mortality rates compared to other EU nations. Dietary risks, tobacco, alcohol and air pollution are identified as primary risk factors contributing to this trend.

The national health strategy emphasizes citizen-centered healthcare, aiming to empower individuals in managing their health and promoting preventive measures. It advocates for a transition from a patient-centered to a citizen-centered approach, focusing on public health promotion, accessible healthcare services and efficient healthcare system management.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Romanian Red Cross seeks to contribute to improving health, preventing diseases, and alleviating suffering through programmes that promote mutual aid for the benefit of communities. As an auxiliary to the public, the National Society aims to enhance the national health strategy's implementation, with a focus on key national objectives. These include:

- Providing services and further develop the auxiliary role of the Romanian Red Cross to ensure relevance and strong contributions to the national public health strategy, advocate for improvements in health and care in Romania, and engage in key policy discussions
- Mainstreaming and integrating [Mental Health and Psychosocial Support](#) (MHPSS) across programmes by building a cohesive, decentralized, and technically strong MHPSS capacity throughout the National Society

- Promoting organizational wellbeing and a shared duty of care for MHPSS staff and volunteers through supportive practices, resources, and structures that foster resilience and sustainability
- Improving the opportunities, capabilities, and dignity of disadvantaged individuals and groups so that they can participate fully in the economic, social, and cultural life of society, without being excluded or discriminated against on the basis of characteristics such as gender, race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, or disability

Planned activities in 2026

- Finish the development of the National Health Programme Framework by consolidating existing activities contributing to standardization, sustainability, cooperation, expansion and innovation
- Establish six dedicated Health Centers in Bucharest, Brasov, Iasi, Constanta, Satu Mare, and Salaj for services such as medical consultations, patient navigation, medical counseling, health promotion and education, social inclusion support, psychological first-aid, and psychological counseling
- Deliver authorized services in the communities including home medical care and private ambulance
- Provide community-based MHPSS activities for vulnerable groups facing long-term hardship or marginalization, ensuring inclusive participation and context-adapted interventions
- Deliver targeted training and supervision for MHPSS team leaders, instructors, and coordinators on peer support, burnout prevention, stress management, and team-based Psychological First Aid (PFA)

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the Romanian Red Cross through the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement's [Mental Health and Psychosocial Support](#) (MHPSS) Hub. It will continue providing technical support in strengthening the MHPSS capacity and institutionalizing MHPSS. Specifically, the IFRC aims to support the National Society with the implementation of the MHPSS and health education programmes aimed at fostering children and youth wellbeing, as well as wellbeing of displaced people and host communities. Technical support in mainstreaming and integrating MHPSS in Emergencies remains a priority for the future period. The IFRC will also continue to provide technical guidance and support in resource mobilization and implementation of the MHPSS, Community Health and social inclusion programmes.

The **Swedish Red Cross** will continue to contribute to the Romanian Red Cross's health and well-being service delivery and capacity-strengthening objectives through financial and technical support. This includes support for integration and inclusion, community health, health inclusion initiatives,

and medical consultations in Health Promotion Centers. Additionally, the Swedish Red Cross will assist the National Society in mainstreaming protection, gender, and inclusion (PGI) in MHPSS methodologies and the well-being of volunteers within its branches.



Migration and displacement

Migration and displacement in Romania present a multifaceted landscape influenced by historical trends, geopolitical factors and contemporary crises. Historically a country of emigration, Romania witnessed a surge in emigration following the 1989 revolution, a trend further accelerated by its accession to the European Union in 2007. This emigration phenomenon, characterized by approximately 3.15 million Romanian citizens living abroad as of 2023, has significantly impacted Romania's social and economic fabric.

While predominantly an emigration country, Romania also serves as a transit and to a lesser extent, a destination country for migrants, including refugees, asylum seekers and other displaced individuals. Geographically positioned adjacent to Ukraine and a member of the EU, Romania has experienced an influx of migrants, particularly amid the international armed conflict in Ukraine. While in 2020 UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) estimated that there were 705,300 migrants in Romania, since the escalation of the international armed conflict in Ukraine, almost 5 million people are estimated to have entered Romania from Ukraine and Moldova (as well as via Hungary, Serbia, and Bulgaria).

Displaced persons from Ukraine, comprising a diverse demographic including adults and children, have sought refuge in Romania, adding to the complexity of migration dynamics. A substantial number of unaccompanied or separated minors have been recorded, underscoring the vulnerability of certain migrant populations. As many as 167,048 refugees obtained temporary protection in Romania since the escalation of the conflict.

In addition to those fleeing conflict, Romania receives asylum claims from various countries, with Ukraine being a significant source alongside nations such as India, Bangladesh and Syria. In 2023, Romania received 10,099 asylum applications, with the majority originating from Bangladesh, Syria and Pakistan. Before the Ukraine conflict, Romania also experienced migration from other countries, with Moldova, Hungary and Italy being among the top origins of migrants.

Apart from migration driven by conflict and asylum-seeking, Romania grapples with internal displacements associated with disasters, though these numbers have generally remained in

the hundreds annually. However, significant events like the 2022 flood caused by the failure of the Tăul Mare Dam led to internal displacements, highlighting the country's vulnerability to natural hazards.

Romania also faces challenges related to human trafficking, with individuals trafficked for sexual and labour exploitation both domestically and internationally. Approximately 50 per cent of all human trafficking victims in Romania are children, with over 90 per cent of sexually exploited child victims being girls from rural areas. Despite government efforts to combat trafficking, instances persist, impacting vulnerable populations.

Migration and displacement in Romania reflect a complex interplay of historical, geopolitical and socio-economic factors, ranging from emigration-driven by economic opportunities to the influx of refugees and asylum seekers fleeing conflict.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Romanian Red Cross plays a key role in engaging with people on the move and host communities to assess, understand, and respond to their priority needs more effectively. The Romanian Red Cross aims to:

- Develop and strengthen procedures, competencies, and capacities so that safe, quality, and timely services are provided to migrants in need along their migration journeys
- Support migrants in vulnerable conditions to have access to needs-based services so they live in dignity along their migration journeys
- Communicate the National Society's approach and role on migration and widely recognize communities, national, and regional actors
- Become a relevant partner and promote the rights of migrants and influence change towards a safer and more inclusive environment
- Provide Restoring Family Links (RFL) services to individuals who experiences separation from loved ones due to conflict, natural disasters, migration, or other humanitarian crises

Planned activities in 2026

- Develop sustainability and capacity of [Humanitarian Service Points \(HSPs\)](#) and other points of contact with people on the move
- Train staff and volunteers on conducting [needs assessments](#), focus group discussions, key informant interviews and other tools to identify the needs and preferences of people
- Raise awareness of the RFL service through coordinated communication campaigns and community engagement activities by seeking collaboration with local authorities and partner organizations
- Improve coordination and engagement with government and other stakeholders by engaging in dialogues and establishing agreements with the national authorities
- Train staff and volunteers with the skills and tools necessary to manage increasingly complex migration cases

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The **IFRC** is providing a range of technical and financial support for enhancing migration and displacement capacities of the Romanian Red Cross. This includes guidance and funding for the development of Humanitarian Service Points, technical

support for MHPSS in migration and displacement and helping to strengthen the humanitarian diplomacy and auxiliary role of the National Society. The IFRC is also supporting the Romanian Red Cross to develop [migration-related policies and good practices](#) connected to [community engagement and accountability](#) (CEA), and [protection, gender, and accountability](#) (PGI), [safeguarding](#) and other relevant areas.

The **British Red Cross** will support the implementation of the Migration and Displacement Framework and Plan of Action 2024–2027, developed by the National Society, with a particular focus on assessing the National Society’s capacities, strengthening capacity through targeted initiatives, supporting the evaluation of services already provided to migrants, and identifying opportunities for expansion.

The **Swedish Red Cross** will continue to support the Romanian Red Cross in its efforts to assist most vulnerable displaced people. It will contribute to the National Society’s capacity in Migration and RFL in the northern border region and to mainstreaming PGI in procedures and tools. The Swedish Red Cross will also support cross-border collaboration with other National Societies and facilitate peer-to-peer exchanges on migration.

The **ICRC** is supporting the development of the restoring family links (RFL) capacities of the Romanian Red Cross.



Values, power and inclusion

In Romania, the dynamics of values, power and inclusion manifest through a range of [social, legal and economic factors](#), often intersecting to shape the experiences of different communities within the country.

Violence and discrimination, particularly against marginalized groups, present significant challenges to inclusion and social cohesion. Identity-based violence, including sexual and gender-based violence, remains a pervasive issue, with efforts to address it reflected in the [Gender Equality Index](#). Human trafficking, while showing a decline in detected victims, continues to threaten vulnerable populations, highlighting the need for ongoing vigilance and protection measures.

Gender disparities persist in various spheres, including labour force participation and representation in leadership positions, despite notable progress in certain areas. Romania faces challenges in [LGBTQIA+ inclusion](#), ranking poorly in terms of respecting the rights of LGBTQIA+ individuals. [Hate speech and targeted violence](#) against marginalized groups further

exacerbate social divisions and undermine efforts toward inclusion and equality.

The Roma community faces systemic discrimination, particularly in the labour market and housing, with forced evictions exacerbating their marginalized status. Limited awareness about equality and nondiscrimination impedes progress toward a more inclusive society.

Economic disparities intersect with social exclusion, affecting vulnerable groups such as older people, those with low income and individuals below the poverty line. [Access to education](#), while generally strong, needs to address the proportion of youth not engaged in employment, education, or training to prevent long-term exclusion.

Government initiatives, in collaboration with civil society organizations like the Romanian Red Cross and local NGOs, aim to amplify community voices and enhance participation in decision-making processes. Community-based organizations play a crucial role in disaster preparedness and response,

engaging local communities in risk assessment and policy development.

Communication channels, including social media and emergency messaging systems, facilitate the dissemination of information about disaster preparedness and support services, empowering communities to take proactive measures for their safety and well-being.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Romanian Red Cross aims to be a safe and inclusive organization ensuring dignity, access, and participation for people of all identities. It also aims to empower people and communities, vulnerable to and affected by crises, to influence decisions affecting them and trust Romanian Red Cross to serve their best interest. It will achieve this by strengthening institutional capacities, resources and commitments to address violence, discrimination and exclusion from the headquarters to the branch level.

Planned activities in 2026

- Integrate [PGI approach](#) across all operations, programmes and services, ensuring that the specific needs, vulnerabilities and capacities of the affected population are met, including the [minimum standards for PGI in Emergencies](#)

- Strengthen its understanding of and capacity to implement [CEA approaches](#) at all levels, from programme and operations staff to senior leadership
- Develop a mainstreamed, centralized, nation-wide feedback mechanism with multiple channels for providing feedback and roll out across its branches
- Develop external communications and information capacities of the staff and volunteers by expanding the resources and information being provided by the help line
- Expand the scope of the helpline by training staff and incorporating additional information in more languages

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will continue providing the Romanian Red Cross with technical support for CEA and PGI, including supporting the development of relevant policies and integrating them into programming.

The **Swedish Red Cross** will provide financial resources and close technical accompaniment to the Romanian Red Cross's efforts in PGI and CEA. The Swedish Red Cross will continue assisting the National Society in achieving its objectives for PGI institutionalization and the mainstreaming of these principles for sustained institutional capacity.

ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS

The Romanian Red Cross is committed to pursuing institutional strengthening and carried out the self-assessment part of the Organizational Capacity Assessment and Certification (OCAC) process in 2018. The self-assessment is intended to capture the strengths and weaknesses of National Societies as a whole in relation to a wide range of organizational capacities. The Romanian Red Cross is also committed to the Preparedness for Effective Response (PER) process. The PER Approach is a

continuous and flexible process that enables National Societies to assess, measure and analyze the strengths and gaps of its preparedness and response mechanism and take necessary action to improve it.

The IFRC network is committed to support the National Society in its development according to its priorities.



Strategic and operational coordination

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Strengthen its role as a trusted humanitarian partner, enhancing coordination with Movement and non-Movement actors, and building institutional capacity for sustainable resource mobilization and effective multi-sectoral response
- Improve internal coordination by aligning branch policies, planning strategies and reporting, fostering peer learning within the IFRC network, and promoting joint initiatives across branches in areas such as health, migration, and emergency response

- Establish strategic, operational, and technical level platforms to develop and adopt strategic directions; oversee implementation through inclusive and problem-solving coordination, and implement operations by involving relevant Movement and external expertise

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the Romanian Red Cross in its strategic direction and governance, and in strengthening its partnerships with the government, UN agencies, and other partners. It also supports the National Society in exchanging knowledge with other National Societies in the region.



National Society development

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Continue to work as an efficient organization with functional, accountable, and sustainable systems, policies, and practices, and work as a trusted partner of choice for local humanitarian action, with the capabilities to act effectively and influentially within the global Movement network
- Continue to facilitate the emblem law implementation
- Localize and develop programmatic approaches, organizational standards, and policies on community engagement and accountability (CEA), cash and voucher assistance (CVA), protection, gender and inclusion (PGI), safeguarding and the Safer Access Framework

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the National Society through technical or financial support and through enabling peer-to-peer exchanges with other National Societies. It aims to support strategic planning and legal base development, resource mobilization (in particular institutional and face-to-face) development, volunteers, youth and branch development, as well as support in increasing logistical capacities.

The **British Red Cross** will continue to support the Romanian Red Cross's efforts across key areas, including safeguarding, risk management, and cost-recovery policy development while also enhancing organizational capacities in individual giving, strategic planning, and digitalization. This support will further extend to strengthening information management systems,

building internal volunteer capacity through targeted training, and fostering knowledge sharing to promote sustainability across programmes.

The **Swedish Red Cross** will continue to provide support to the Romanian Red Cross with its resource mobilization and coordination objectives. This will include strengthening

its Face-to-Face (F2F) fundraising capabilities, including peer-to-peer exchanges, as well as providing assistance for programmatic funding opportunities. Targeted support will also be provided for enhancing branch capacity and resource mobilization, as well as for the strengthening of volunteer management.



Humanitarian diplomacy

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Strengthens its auxiliary role and humanitarian diplomacy to influence policies, protect humanitarian space, and improve operational access
- Enhance its communication and public positioning to strengthen trust, visibility, and influence as an independent, neutral, and leading humanitarian actor
- Develop communications and public advocacy guidance to contribute towards building public trust and understanding of its role and activities

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The **IFRC** will contribute to the National Society's Humanitarian Diplomacy goals by coordinating amongst Movement partners, gathering support from the Red Cross Red Crescent network, and by helping to facilitate high-level meetings with counterparts from the authorities and other actors of influence. Utilizing its Legal Status Agreement with the Romanian Government, the IFRC will also support the strengthening internal national Red Cross law, including its auxiliary role to the national authorities.

The **Swedish Red Cross** will contribute to Romanian Red Cross's humanitarian diplomacy efforts, particularly in International Humanitarian Law.



Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Revise and implement comprehensive policies, safeguarding action plan, and reporting mechanisms to ensure effective protection and accountability and to address any risks of harm inflicted by staff or volunteers
- Commit to ensuring the safety and security of its staff members and volunteers in all activities undertaken
- Strengthen policies, systems, and practices to prevent and mitigate potential integrity risks

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The **IFRC** will support the Romanian Red Cross's Accountability and Agility goals by providing technical support at country, cluster, regional, and international levels. This will include bringing in experts to help develop policies and systems on integrity, safeguarding, PSEA and risk management, facilitating working groups, and other support as requested.

The **British Red Cross** will support the Romanian Red Cross to strengthen its safeguarding framework by promoting a strong safeguarding culture, implementing good practices to prevent and mitigate risks, ensuring safe and accessible reporting mechanisms, and enabling appropriate and timely responses to safeguarding concerns.

THE IFRC NETWORK

The IFRC

The IFRC is dedicated to strengthening the humanitarian efforts of the Romanian Red Cross through technical, financial and long-term programme support, aiming to enhance its role as a trusted and agile leader in humanitarian action. Initially focused on aiding those affected by the conflict in Ukraine, the IFRC transitioned to a longer-term development approach, establishing a Country Office in Bucharest in 2023. Guided by [Strategy 2030](#) and the [Agenda for Renewal](#), the IFRC promotes

consistency and coherence within its network to improve effectiveness. The IFRC country office in Romania emphasizes National Society development across sectors, prepares the Romanian Red Cross for various challenges, ensures accountability, enhances humanitarian diplomacy, facilitates learning and fosters effective communication among partners.

IFRC membership coordination

IFRC membership coordination involves working with member National Societies to assess the humanitarian context, humanitarian situations and needs; agreeing on common priorities; jointly developing common strategies to address issues such as obtaining greater humanitarian access, acceptance and space; mobilizing funding and other resources; clarifying consistent public messaging; and monitoring progress. This also means ensuring that strategies and programmes in support of people in need, incorporate clarity of humanitarian action, links with development assistance and efforts to reinforce National Societies in their respective countries, including through their auxiliary role.

The following participating National Societies support the Romanian Red Cross with their in-country presence:

The **American Red Cross** supports the Romanian Red Cross through the IFRC mobilization support for establishing [humanitarian service points](#) to increase the intervention capacity for [shelters](#).

The **British Red Cross** provides integrated assistance through [CVA](#) or multipurpose cash support.

The **Swedish Red Cross** supports the National Society in expanding and enhancing the humanitarian service points, [CEA](#), [PGI](#) and National Society development.



The National Society supported people affected by floods through the provision of food and safe water. (Photo: The Romanian Red Cross)

Movement coordination

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

The ICRC in Romania supports the humanitarian response to the international armed conflict between Russia and Ukraine. In partnership with the Romanian Red Cross, it seeks to restore contact between family members separated by the conflict and promote the proper use of the red cross emblem. It also supports the Romanian Red Cross in emergency preparedness and communications.

Coordination with other actors

As a crucial member of various humanitarian coordination platforms in Romania, including the Refugee Response Coordination mechanism and national working groups, including basic needs, protection, [MHPSS](#) and [cash](#), the Romanian Red Cross collaborates closely with international organizations, humanitarian actors and civil society groups to complement the efforts of national and local authorities. In fulfilling its auxiliary role, the Romanian Red Cross actively engages in regular coordination meetings with Romanian authorities at both levels, facilitating effective and evidence-based humanitarian interventions. Additionally, it regularly coordinates humanitarian interventions with national and sub-national authorities, including the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Protection and the Elderly, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Defence, and the Ministry of Investments and European Projects, as part of its strategic partnerships.

Additionally, the Romanian Red Cross fosters partnerships with private sector entities to expand its reach and resource mobilization capabilities, with plans to further strengthen these collaborations in 2026. Through participation in inter-agency groups and initiatives, such as those focused on [community engagement and accountability \(CEA\)](#), the Romanian Red Cross ensures alignment with global standards and enhances its capacity for data sharing, analysis and community engagement, thus maximizing its impact and effectiveness in addressing humanitarian needs. The National Society is collaborating closely with UN agencies such as UNHCR, UNICEF, and IOM, as well as INGOs and diplomatic missions, on programmes supporting refugees, migrants, and vulnerable host communities.



The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) is the world's largest humanitarian network, with 191 National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and around 16 million volunteers. Our volunteers are present in communities before, during and after a crisis or disaster. We work in the most hard to reach and complex settings in the world, saving lives and promoting human dignity. We support communities to become stronger and more resilient places where people can live safe and healthy lives, and have opportunities to thrive.

About the plan

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

Explanatory note on funding requirements and definitions

- The total funding requirements show what the IFRC network seeks to raise for the given year through different channels: funding through the IFRC, through participating National Societies as bilateral support, and through the host National Society from non-IFRC network sources. All figures should include the administrative and operational costs of the different entities
- Host National Society funding requirements not coming from IFRC network sources can comprise a variety of sources, as demonstrated when reporting on income in the [IFRC network databank](#)
- Participating National Society funding requirements for bilateral support are those validated by respective headquarters, and often represent mainly secured funding
- IFRC funding requirements comprise both what is sourced from the IFRC core budget and what is sought through emergency and thematic funding. This includes participating National Societies' multilateral support through IFRC, and all other IFRC sources of funding
- Figures for the years beyond 2026 most often represent partial requirements that are known at time of publication. Many National Societies have annual internal approval processes for funding requirements, and lower figures do not mean a decrease in funding requirements in future years
- Missing data and breakdowns: data may not be available from all IFRC network members for funding requirements. This may lead to inconsistencies across different reporting tools as well as potential under-estimation of the efforts led by all
- Reporting bias: the data informing this Federation-wide overview is self-reported by each National Society (or its designated support entity) which is the owner and gatekeeper, and responsible for accuracy and updating. IFRC tries to triangulate the data provided by the National Societies with previous data and other data in the public domain
- **Definitions:**
 - » **Local units:** ALL subdivisions of a National Society that coordinate and deliver services to people. These include ALL levels (provincial, state, city, district branches, sections or chapters, headquarters, and regional and intermediate offices, as well as community-based units)
 - » **Branches:** A Branch has its roles, responsibilities and relationship with the National Headquarters defined through the National Society's Statutes, including the level of autonomy given, especially in the area of its legal status, mobilising local resources and building local partnerships, and the decisions it makes. It has a local-level decision-making mechanism through its Branch members, board and volunteers, equally defined through the National Society's Statutes

Additional information

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

Contact information

Adrian Halpert

Director General
Romanian Red Cross
T +40 730 002 511
adrian.halpert@crucearosie.ro

[Crucea Rosie Romana](#)

Andrej Naricyn

Head of Strategic Partnerships & Resource Mobilization
IFRC Regional Office for Europe, Budapest
T +367 04306528
andrej.naricyn@ifrc.org

Elmir Camic

Head of Country Office
IFRC Romania Delegation
elmir.camic@ifrc.org

Sumitha Martin

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