



# COMOROS



## 2026-2028 IFRC network country plan

30 January 2026

### In support of the Comoros Red Crescent



**3**

National Society branches



**236**

National Society local units



**32**

National Society staff



**6,000**

National Society volunteers

### People to be reached in 2026



**600,000**

Ongoing emergency operations



**17,000**

Climate and environment



**34,000**

Disasters and crises



**150,000**

Health and wellbeing



**19,000**

Migration and displacement



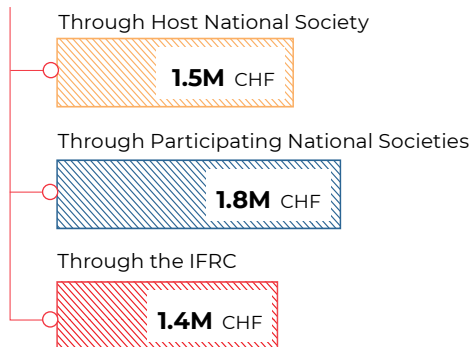
**859**

Values, power and inclusion

### IFRC network Funding Requirements

**2026**

**Total 4.7M CHF**



**2027**

**Total 5.4M CHF**

**2028**

**6.4M CHF**

*Projected funding requirements*

### Participating National Societies

French Red Cross

### IFRC Appeal code

Emergency Appeal:

**MDRS1005 (MDRKM013)**

Tropical Cyclone Chido

Longer-term needs:

**MAAKM002**

IFRC Country Cluster Delegation for Madagascar, Mauritius, Comoros & Seychelles, based in Antananarivo

## Hazards



Cyclones



Floods



Volcanic eruptions



Earthquakes



Drought

### IFRC network multi-year focus

#### Emergency response

- Tropical cyclone

#### Longer term needs

- Disaster risk reduction
- Anticipatory action
- Climate change adaptation
  - Health and care

#### Capacity development

- Volunteering
- Youth engagement
- Digital transformation
- Financial sustainability

### Key country data links

**INFORM Climate Change Risk Index** **Medium**

**Human Development Index rank** **152**

**World Bank Population figure** **867,000**

**World Bank Population below poverty line** **45%**



The Comoros Red Crescent supporting communities by restoring water tanks after cyclone damage (Photo: IFRC)

## Detailed funding requirements

|                              | 2026                  |             | 2027  |             | 2028                  |           |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------|---|-------------|-----------------------|-----------|
|                              | Host National Society | IFRC        | Host National Society   | IFRC        | Host National Society | IFRC      |
| <b>Ongoing emergencies</b>   |                       | <b>NA</b>   | <i>Funding requirement for MDRS1005 (MDRKM013) is not available</i> |             |                       |           |
| <b>Longer-term needs</b>     |                       |             |   |             |                       |           |
| Climate and environment      | 239,000               | 64,000      | 275,000   | 87,000      | 239,000               | 94,000    |
| Disasters & crises           | 275,000               | 442,000     | 130,000   | 596,000     | 168,000               | 644,000   |
| Health & wellbeing           | 411,000               | 562,000     | 401,000   | 759,000     | 410,000               | 820,000   |
| Migration & displacement     | 45,000                | 161,000     | 54,000  | 217,000     | 54,000                | 234,000   |
| Values, power & inclusion    | 102,000               | 72,000      | 102,000   | 98,000      | 102,000               | 105,000   |
| <b>Enabling local actors</b> | 476,000               | 64,000      | 158,000   | 87,000      | 792,000               | 94,000    |
| <b>Total</b>                 | <b>1.5M</b>           | <b>1.4M</b> | <b>1.1M</b>   | <b>1.8M</b> | <b>1.8M</b>           | <b>2M</b> |

### 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 |
|------------------|------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|
|                  |      |                     |                   |                         |                      |                      |                            |                             |                    |
| French Red Cross | 2026 | 1.8M                |                   | 86,000                  | 593,000              | 755,000              | 216,000                    | 97,000                      | 86,000             |
|                  | 2027 | 2.5M                |                   | 116,000                 | 801,000              | 1M                   | 291,000                    | 131,000                     | 116,000            |
|                  | 2028 | 2.7M                |                   | 126,000                 | 865,000              | 1.1M                 | 315,000                    | 142,000                     | 126,000            |

See back page for explanatory note on funding requirements

# NATIONAL SOCIETY PROFILE

The **Comoros Red Crescent** was established in 1982 and was recognized by ministerial order as an auxiliary to the public authorities in the humanitarian field in 1985. It was admitted to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in 2005. The Comoros Red Crescent is at the forefront of response alongside the Civil Protection Agency and is the leading actor in emergency and disaster situations in the country.

The Comoros Red Crescent operates under a pyramidal governance system comprising a General Assembly, a Board of Directors and a National Committee with a President, three Vice-Presidents, and two Treasurers. Its governance is supported by the General Secretariat and a Programme Director who oversees the departments for organizational development, health, risk and disaster management, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) and communications. Financial management is led by the Administration and Finance Manager, underpinned by updated financial and administrative procedures, a fraud and corruption policy and a resource mobilization framework.

The National Society maintains a nationwide presence through its headquarters in Moroni, regional branches in Fomboni

and Mutsamudu and 227 local committees across Ngazidja, Ndzuani and Mwali. It is reinforced by 3,933 volunteers registered on the MAKASSI platform and 32 permanent staff who support community health, first aid, disaster preparedness, WASH promotion, social inclusion and climate resilience initiatives.

The National Society's Strategic Plan 2026–2030 serves as its central guiding framework, positioning it to become a stronger, more agile and more resilient institution capable of delivering inclusive and effective humanitarian services nationwide. This strategic direction builds on lessons from its responses to Cyclone Kenneth, the 2022–2023 floods, Cyclone Chido and the 2024 cholera outbreaks as well as institutional strengthening measures. The objectives of the Strategic Plan are to enhance governance, reinforce community-based programming and ensure long-term sustainability to better serve the Comorian population.

In 2024, the Comoros Red Crescent reached about 1,369 people through its long term services and development programmes and about 181 people through its disaster response and early recovery programmes.

## IFRC NETWORK ACTION

### JOINT SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

The Union of the Comoros, an island nation comprising Grande Comore, Anjouan and Mohéli, faces a complex risk environment shaped by its volcanic geography, dense population and high exposure to natural hazards. Recurrent droughts, heavy rainfall, cyclones and coastal erosion continue to erode livelihoods, particularly in farming and coastal communities. Climate vulnerability assessments and the INFORM Risk Index classify the country as high risk, with more than half of the population living in hazard-prone areas. These environmental pressures intersect with fragile ecosystems that are already strained by deforestation, land degradation and poor waste management.

Socio-economic conditions further intensify vulnerability. The economy is centred on services, remittances, and small-scale

agriculture and remains undiversified and highly sensitive to external shocks. Rising global food and energy prices, coupled with domestic inflation and limited coping mechanisms, have deepened household precarity. In 2024, an estimated 40 per cent of households lived below the poverty line, while youth unemployment and reliance on informal, low-return activities continued to grow. Seasonal food insecurity affects several rural areas, reflecting both limited productive capacity and structural inequality.

Humanitarian needs are concentrated around health, water access and social protection. Health coverage remains low, with limited facilities and challenges in delivering essential services to remote communities. Disease outbreaks, including cholera and dengue in 2023–2024, revealed weaknesses in surveillance and highlighted the urgency of community-based health approaches. Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) access remains insufficient, with less than 60 per cent of the population able to access safe water sources. Communities have emphasised the need for additional water points, strengthened

hygiene promotion and improved supply chains for health and WASH materials. Migration pressures add an additional layer of risk, as irregular maritime movements, particularly toward the island of Mayotte, expose individuals to protection concerns, psychosocial distress and life-threatening journeys.

Across the social landscape, persistent inequalities affect women, youth, and vulnerable households. Gender-based

violence, limited access to education and low participation in public decision-making remain significant barriers to inclusion. Overall, Comoros presents a multidimensional vulnerability profile where climatic, socio-economic, health and institutional factors converge, making resilience building, equitable access to essential services, disaster preparedness, social protection and sustainable institutional development critical priorities for the country.

## ONGOING EMERGENCY RESPONSE

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

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Emergency Appeal name</b>             | <a href="#">Tropical Cyclone Chido</a>   |
| <b>Appeal number</b>                     | MDRS1005 (MDRKM013)  |
| <b>People to be assisted</b>             | 600,000  |
| <b>Duration</b>                          | 18 months (6 December 2024 to 30 June 2026)  |
| <b>Funding requirements</b>              | Federation-wide funding requirement: CHF 10 million<br>IFRC Secretariat funding requirement: CHF 6 million (5.7% funded) |
| <b>Link to Emergency Appeal</b>          | <a href="#">Africa Cyclone Chido Emergency Appeal</a>  |
| <b>Link to Operational Strategy</b>      | <a href="#">Africa Cyclone Chido Operational Strategy</a>  |
| <b>Link to latest Operational Update</b> | <a href="#">Operational Update No. 3</a>   |

Tropical Cyclone Chido was the first cyclone with a significant and destructive impact in the Southwest Indian Ocean region during what was forecasted to be an early and above average cyclone season, with particular risk to the Mascarene Islands, east Madagascar, and Mozambique. Chido intensified into an intense tropical cyclone on 11 December 2024, reaching category 4 - equivalent status with sustained winds of 220 km/h and gusts of up to 250 km/h, and an extreme central pressure of 929 hPa. As of 22 December 2024, Tropical Cyclone Chido had resulted in at least 142 confirmed deaths – 94 in Mozambique, 35 in Mayotte, and 13 in Malawi – and over 3,300 reported injuries.

The Comoros government declared a weeklong mourning following the crossing of the devastating cyclone on 14 December, which affected 64,167 people in the islands of Anjouan and Moheli, including 171 families who lost their homes. Schools and houses were damaged or destroyed while an average of 45 per cent of agricultural crops were affected.

### Short description of the emergency operational strategy

The core of this Operational Strategy was to respond to the immediate devastation caused by successive Tropical Cyclones following Chido while building resilience for anticipated future storms. This involved a two-pronged approach, of

immediate relief and long-term preparedness. The immediate response targeted 168,200 people in Madagascar, Comoros, Mozambique and Malawi, focusing on Shelter, multi-purpose cash assistance, livelihoods, health, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), [Protection, Gender and Inclusion \(PGI\)](#) and [Community Engagement and Accountability \(CEA\)](#). This included providing emergency shelter and essential household items (EHIs), first aid, clean water, hygiene kits and protection for vulnerable groups. Country specific plans were drafted to provide additional detail for the focus of each National Society.

For the period [16 December 2024 to 30 June 2025](#), the following assistance was provided by the Comoros Red Crescent:

#### Shelter, housing and settlements

Training was provided to 70 community carpenters in the Build Back Better and Cyclone resistant building techniques. This was complemented by awareness-raising sessions.

#### Multi-purpose cash

Cash and voucher assistance was provided 63 households affected by the tropical cyclone.

#### Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA)

Feedback collection system was deployed for use post cyclone season and used to gather feedback from 60 targeted



## Climate and environment

The climate of Comoros is humid and tropical, with low variations in temperature (between 26 degrees Celsius and 32 degrees Celsius) during the two main seasons of the year. These two seasons are characterized by the Kashkazi (monsoon) wind from November to April, and the Kusi (trade wind) from May to October. The islands receive abundant rainfall, with up to 3,000 millimetres per year, and the average sea water temperature is 25 degrees Celsius. The country's location and topography mean it is among the most climate-vulnerable countries in the world, and 54.2 per cent of the population live in at-risk areas. Volcanic eruptions and seismic activity are also prevalent.

Comoros is listed as a medium-risk country in the [INFORM Climate Change Risk Index](#), signifying the country's susceptibility to climate-induced hazards and impacts. Climate change is increasingly reshaping conditions in Comoros, where rising temperatures, shifting rainfall patterns, sea-level rise and more intense cyclonic winds are putting pressure on water availability, food production, public health and coastal protection. Scientific assessments highlight the country's acute sensitivity to extreme rainfall and coastal erosion, with critical ecosystems such as coral reefs and mangroves under growing stress. [Projections](#) indicate a continued rise in seasonal droughts and severe runoff in degraded watersheds, compounding the exposure of densely populated coastal zones and essential infrastructure.

These environmental stresses disproportionately affect households already living in precarious conditions. Poor rural families reliant on food crops, women and youth working in informal agricultural and water-related activities, artisanal fishers and coastal populations face recurrent losses from floods, crop damage, saline intrusion and water scarcity. The [impacts extend across sectors](#): water resources experience declining quality and reliability, agriculture suffers reduced yields, health systems face surges in waterborne and vector-borne diseases and fragile infrastructure is repeatedly disrupted.

Environmental degradation trends further intensify climate vulnerability. Widespread deforestation in upper catchments, pressure on limited freshwater sources and inadequate waste management, particularly in urban areas, magnify both health risks and flood hazards. [Coastal ecosystems](#), especially mangroves, continue to shrink or fragment in places, despite their essential role in buffering storm surges and storing blue carbon. Monitoring and restoration of these habitats remain key priorities.

National climate and environmental frameworks are anchored in the country's Nationally Determined Contribution, which emphasizes adaptation, watershed restoration, coastal protection and sustainable resource management. Ongoing initiatives including the 'One Comorian, One Tree' campaign, hydrometeorological monitoring programmes and water governance reforms supported through Green Climate Fund and Global Environment Facility projects aim to strengthen resilience across communities. These programmes highlight the importance of integrating climate considerations into water laws, expanding storage systems, protecting natural springs and promoting restorative actions that help safeguard the archipelago against accelerating environmental change.

### Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Comoros Red Crescent is part of the [IFRC Global Climate Resilience Platform](#), 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 Comoros Red Crescent is also part of the [IFRC Pan-African Tree Planting and Care Initiative](#), which aims to contribute to Africa-wide climate change adaptation and mitigation efforts through the planting and care of five billion multi-purpose trees aligned to continental, sub-continental and national plans and strategies. The effort will focus on areas at risk of flooding and landslides, coastlines exposed to swells and areas where sand extraction and timber cutting weaken livelihoods. In partnership with local authorities, hydrometeorological services and village chiefs, the Comoros Red Crescent will nature-based solutions, in order to improve vegetation cover, stabilize soils, protect catchments and strengthen household resilience. Volunteers, women and young people will be trained in nursery management, plantation maintenance and monitoring of impacts including restored areas, plant survival, co-benefits for water, agriculture and coastal protection. The National Society will undertake its objectives in alignment with

national reforestation campaigns. It will help municipalities integrate ecosystem-based adaptation into their plans, while strengthening local ownership and sustainability of maintenance.

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### Planned activities in 2026

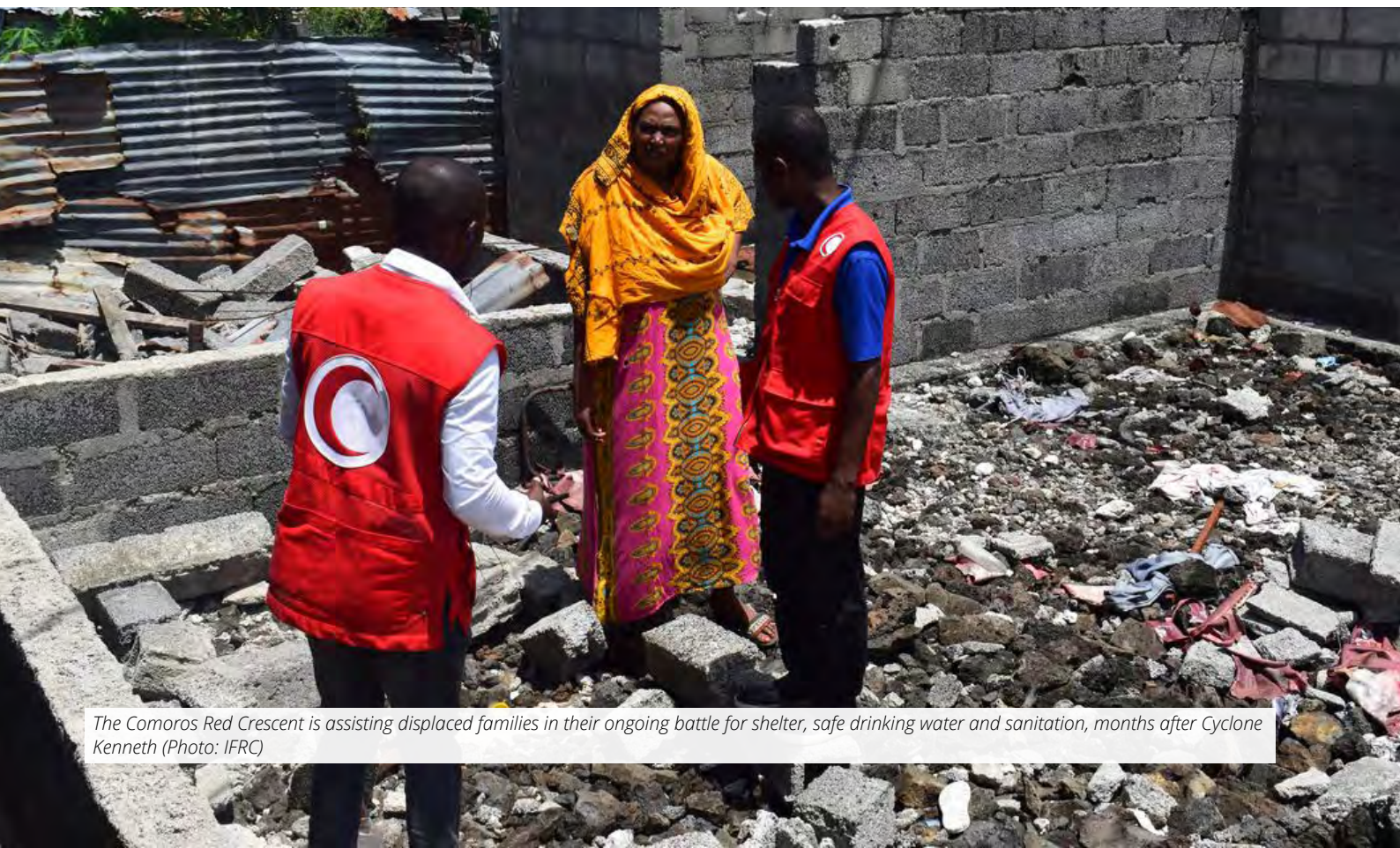
- Integrate climate risk analysis across programmes and equip teams with practical climate intelligence tools
  - Raise community awareness on the impacts of deforestation and sand extraction
  - Facilitate community reforestation sessions using both fruit and non fruit tree species
  - Support prevention of waterborne diseases through improved water services, sanitation measures and promotion of household water treatment
  - Provide disaster affected communities with access to safe drinking water through supply systems and kit distribution
  - Strengthen community knowledge and practices for managing and maintaining local water facilities
  - Train volunteers and local leaders in environmental protection, ecosystem conservation and mangrove clean up activities in Komoni and Mridjou
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### Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will provide streamlined technical support to the Comoros Red Crescent to embed climate considerations across programmes, strengthening the use of climate intelligence, early-warning data and alignment with national frameworks such as Nationally Determined Contributions and national adaptation plans. Assistance will emphasize climate-smart and nature-based solutions, improved application of Green Response standards and tools and practical guidance to ensure branches and teams can analyse and act on climate risks.

The IFRC will also mobilize its [reference centres](#), hubs and laboratories to offer specialized expertise on nature-based solutions, environmental data, innovation and Community Engagement and Accountability. This support will help design replicable community models, reinforce environmental accountability and document co-benefits for disaster risk reduction, health and livelihoods. Over time, these efforts aim to connect immediate needs such as water stress, environmental health and coastal protection with longer-term systemic vulnerabilities including watershed degradation, waste management and pressure on coastal ecosystems, while strengthening local governance and adaptive capacity.

Participating National Societies will contribute to branch capacity strengthening and the scale-up of ecological restoration, including reforestation, mangrove rehabilitation and watershed protection in collaboration with local authorities and hydrometeorological services. Their support will include co-financing, participatory mapping expertise, ecological monitoring and documentation and technical contributions that help communities expand restoration initiatives effectively.



*The Comoros Red Crescent is assisting displaced families in their ongoing battle for shelter, safe drinking water and sanitation, months after Cyclone Kenneth (Photo: IFRC)*



## Disasters and crises

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

Comoros faces a combination of geographical exposure and structural vulnerability that makes it one of the most hazard-prone island states in the Indian Ocean. Its volcanic terrain, dense coastal settlements and fragile drainage systems heighten the impacts of tropical cyclones, intense rainfall, landslides, volcanic activity and flash floods. These threats, increasingly intensified by climate change, consistently lead to loss of life, damage to homes and infrastructure, and erosion of livelihoods.

Recent crises illustrate this fragility. Recurring floods and localized droughts between 2021 and 2023 deepened food and water insecurity, while [Cyclone Chido in December 2024](#) affected about one million people and out about 5.6 million people at risk. These pressures are compounded by reliance on imports and global price fluctuations, which directly affect household purchasing power and economic stability.

Socio-economic vulnerability remains widespread. According to World Bank and FEWS NET analyses for 2025, around 40 per cent of households are at risk of food insecurity due to low agricultural productivity, land degradation and environmental stress. Rural and coastal communities face heightened exposure, with soil salinisation, loss of ecosystems and limited livelihood options eroding resilience. Humanitarian access is often constrained by difficult terrain, limited inter-island logistics and topographical barriers, affecting both the speed and reach of assistance during crises.

The government have initiated several reforms to improve disaster governance and climate adaptation. These include the National Strategy for Disaster Management and Climate Change Adaptation (2022–2030), the establishment of a Permanent Executive Committee for Preparedness and Response and engagement in regional programmes such as the Resilience Building and Disaster Response Management in the Indian Ocean initiative, led by the IOC, the PIROI and the UNDRR with support from the EU. Complementary efforts, such as the United Nations Development Programme–Global Environment Facility (UNDP GEF) project on climate resilience, have introduced early-warning systems and strengthened intersectoral coordination.

### Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Comoros Red Crescent aims to strengthen its role as an auxiliary to the public authorities by providing principled, timely and people-centred humanitarian assistance to communities affected by floods, landslides, storms and health emergencies. The National Society seeks to enhance

community preparedness by promoting local disaster management structures, school and village-based prevention efforts and wider awareness of first aid and alert behaviours. It also plans to focus on safeguarding fragile coastal ecosystems such as mangroves and coral reefs which serve as natural buffers against erosion and support local livelihoods. Despite logistical constraints linked to insularity and difficult terrain, the Comoros Red Crescent aims to reinforce its presence in remote areas, maintain humanitarian acceptance and support recovery in a manner that strengthens long-term resilience to increasingly complex climate and natural risks.

The National Society is also part of the [Pan-African Zero Hunger and Red Ready initiatives](#). Through the Zero Hunger Initiative, the National Society will support integrated food security by promoting community gardens, agroecological practices suited to island conditions, small-scale irrigation and women-led food processing. During shocks, assistance will alternate between cash transfers when markets allow and in-kind support when inflation or supply disruptions require it, backed by stronger market monitoring, nutrition messaging and water, sanitation and hygiene and nutrition links with ministries, the FAO and the WFP. Medium-term efforts will focus on livelihood diversification, reduced post-harvest losses and community early-action mechanisms to stabilise incomes. Under the Red Ready Initiative, rapid inter-island response capacity will be strengthened through updated contingency planning, trained response teams, equipped operations rooms, community early warning links to hydrometeorological services, harmonized procedures with the PIROI and basic digitization for stock and team tracking, supported by coordinated messaging through local radio.

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### Planned activities in 2026

- Provide immediate emergency assistance during natural hazards through distributions of food, clean water, temporary shelter and essential items
  - Support rapid livelihood recovery following crises through targeted assistance and community based engagement
  - Establish and strengthen local disaster management committees and develop community emergency plans
  - Conduct school and village awareness sessions on first aid, early warning behaviours and preparedness
  - Promote restoration and protection of mangroves and coral reefs as natural defences and livelihood assets
  - Enhance community knowledge through regular preparedness messaging and practical risk reduction activities
  - Train and mobilize volunteers for frontline response across islands, ensuring coverage of remote communities
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## Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC supports the Comoros Red Crescent in the familiarization of tools such as early warning systems and the preparedness for effective response ([PER](#)) through training of staff and volunteers. Additionally, the IFRC supports the National Society in amplifying its role to various donors in disaster risk reduction. IFRC mechanisms such as the disaster response emergency fund ([IFRC-DREF](#)) and Emergency Appeals

will be drawn on as needed for the National Society to respond to disasters and crises.

The IFRC will also support the National Society by consolidating an integrated national disaster management system that enhances responsiveness in the critical first hours of an emergency and strengthens the connection between immediate humanitarian assistance and long-term resilience. This approach will reinforce the capacity of the National Society to coordinate preparedness, response and recovery efforts.



## Health and wellbeing

The health context in Comoros is shaped by persistent communicable diseases such as cholera, malaria and respiratory and diarrhoeal infections, alongside ongoing maternal, newborn and child health challenges. Non-communicable diseases including hypertension, diabetes and asthma are gradually increasing. Health service access varies widely across the islands, with remote localities facing shortages of staff, equipment and specialised care. The nationwide cholera outbreak declared in February 2024, beginning in Moroni and spreading to Mohéli and Anjouan, underscored vulnerabilities in surveillance, water quality and waste management systems. The [WHO's documentation of the outbreak](#), culminating in the 2025 final report, highlights gaps in preparedness and the pressures placed on already fragile systems.

[Climate change](#) is increasingly influencing health outcomes through heightened seasonality of waterborne diseases, shifting patterns of arboviruses such as dengue and chikungunya and the emergence of heat-related health risks.

Access to routine healthcare remains inconsistent, particularly in rural and coastal communities where costs, travel distances, supply interruptions and disruptions to water and electricity limit service availability. These pressures intensify after climate-related events such as extreme rainfall or cyclones, which damage transport routes, water points and health facilities. Although vaccination coverage has improved since its post-pandemic decline, regional disparities persist and [zero-dose children](#) remain a central concern. Monitoring tools maintained by the WHO and the UNICEF help guide catch-up strategies and identify children most at risk of preventable disease outbreaks.

Malnutrition is another significant driver of morbidity and mortality, especially during lean seasons and within households that rely on unsafe water. The Joint Malnutrition Estimates produced by the UNICEF, the WHO and the World Bank serve as the primary reference for assessing prevalence and guiding interventions. At the same time, the country is experiencing the early stages of a nutritional transition, with rising rates of

overweight among preschool-aged children as reported by the Global Obesity Observatory.

Water, sanitation and hygiene indicators reflect substantial gaps in safely managed services for households, schools and health facilities, with marked disparities between and within islands. Data from the [Joint Monitoring Programme and the Global WASH Cluster](#) highlight the need for decentralized, context-specific solutions to water source protection, chlorination, maintenance and sludge management.

### Multi-year high-level objectives of the National Society

The Comoros Red Crescent will join government efforts to strengthen its health and water, sanitation and hygiene ([WASH](#)) strategy at the school level to bolster community health and fight against water-related diseases. It continues to disseminate information about this strategy and implement it through community-level workshops, establishing multi-hazard micro-plans and promoting hygiene in communities and schools. One of the priorities of the National Society is to train volunteers in the community outreach system to achieve an acceptable level of participation and sustainable commitment of the local population. The National Society will also work to ensure the mental and psychosocial health of volunteers and the community and its volunteers.

### Planned activities in 2026

- Participate in health platforms to contribute to the development of strategic documents and health policy
- Finalize and disseminate its standard operating procedures for community health
- Develop community mobilization activities to combat maternal and infant mortality
- Develop community strategy on the prevention of diseases with epidemic potential

- Train volunteers in community-based health and first aid (CBHFA) according to international standards
- Raise awareness of preventive measures related to endemic, pandemic, and epidemic diseases at community level
- Organize home monitoring, education and care for the elderly and people with reduced mobility
- Organize campaigns on water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) and provide WASH kits to people affected by emergencies

climate by providing technical guidance on community-based surveillance, cholera control and the use of Joint Monitoring Programme benchmarks in health facilities. This support will reinforce national health emergency plans and committees and improve data quality.

The IFRC will also engage its [reference centres](#), hubs and laboratories to assist the National Society in advancing innovation in community engagement, water quality monitoring, simple remote tracking of service disruptions and adherence to WASH standards in healthcare settings. Through this contribution, immediate outbreak response and access challenges will be linked to reducing systemic vulnerabilities such as low vaccination coverage, inadequate WASH services and continuity gaps, in line with national commitments.

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### Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the Comoros Red Crescent in the integration of health, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) and



## Migration and displacement

Comoros sits at the centre of [mixed migration movements](#) in the western Indian Ocean, shaped by its geography, economic conditions and proximity to Mayotte. Irregular sea crossings from Anjouan remain the primary route, exposing people to dangerous journeys, interceptions and returns, as documented in recent analyses of regional movement patterns. These routes involve migrants, migrant workers and small but fluctuating numbers of refugees and asylum seekers, while internal displacement tends to occur after sudden-onset disasters such as cyclones and extreme rainfall.

Multiple factors drive outward movement, including limited economic opportunities, environmental pressures such as coastal erosion and repeated damage to homes and family-related motivations. Women, unaccompanied minors and people with disabilities face heightened risks throughout the journey. Humanitarian needs identified along arrival and departure points include life-saving assistance, temporary shelter, health and mental health support, access to safe information, referral to protection services and where appropriate, support for dignified voluntary return. [Regulatory changes in Mayotte](#) related to nationality, residence and border controls also influence flows and protection needs, increasing risks at sea.

The number of refugees and asylum seekers within Comoros remains low but fluctuates, requiring close monitoring through tools maintained by the [UNHCR](#) that track profiles, routes and trends relevant to minimum protection planning. Internal displacement remains episodic and disaster-related,

with needs centred on shelter, water, sanitation and hygiene, health and early livelihood recovery. Analyses from the IDMC and post-cyclone recovery assessments continue to shape understanding of displacement patterns within a climate-affected context.

Migration governance relies on national legislation and coordination with regional and international partners including the Government of the Union of the Comoros, IOM and UNHCR. Evolving regulatory frameworks further affect mobility dynamics, requiring continuous monitoring and operational dialogue to ensure humanitarian responses remain adapted to changing patterns of movement and emerging protection needs.

### Multi-year high-level objectives of the National Society

The Comoros Red Crescent aims to place protection, dignity and humanitarian principles at the centre of its engagement with people on the move, seeking to reduce suffering and ensure humane treatment at points of entry, transit and return. The National Society plans to strengthen a safe and predictable humanitarian environment by focusing on inclusive assistance pathways that prioritize women, children including unaccompanied minors, older people and people with disabilities.

The Comoros Red Crescent seeks to build a coherent medium term migration preparedness system that aligns with national mechanisms, emphasising structured arrival management, reliable referral chains and strong protection, health and legal

linkages. The National Society also aims to reinforce ethical and accountable service provision by promoting adherence to recognized humanitarian standards, strengthening volunteer capacities and ensuring safe, confidential and non-discriminatory engagement with individuals and families on the move.

Over the longer term, the Comoros Red Crescent will focus on reducing protracted vulnerabilities by promoting pathways to dignity, recovery and stability for people who choose voluntary return or reintegration, ensuring that social, health and livelihood support structures are accessible and protective. The National Society plans to maintain close coordination with public authorities to ensure alignment with national contingency plans and international commitments.

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### Planned activities in 2026

- Provide immediate access to safe drinking water, food, hygiene items, emergency shelter and essential support at entry, transit and return points
- Establish [Humanitarian Service Points](#) in priority locations to offer safe reception, triage, first aid, basic water, sanitation and hygiene ([WASH](#)), multilingual information and protection-sensitive referrals
- Pre-position stocks for at least 200 people including food, hygiene kits, kitchen sets, light shelter and blankets

- Strengthen arrival management procedures and coordinated referral pathways for health, protection, legal assistance and family reunification
- Support voluntary return and dignified reintegration through linkages with social services, employability pathways and health support
- Engage in advocacy for government contingency plans consistent with international standards
- Train volunteers on [SPHERE standards](#)

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### Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the Comoros Red Crescent in the design and operationalization of Protection and Wellbeing Desks in line with Movement standards. It will provide assistance to the National Society in strengthening the migration, protection, water, sanitation and hygiene and health nexus through technical guidance, resource mobilization and alignment with national mechanisms. The IFRC will also draw on its [reference centres](#), hubs and laboratories to advance innovation such as multilingual accountability tools, toll-free information systems and maritime safety modules and to ensure continuous contextual analysis so that immediate assistance at entry, transit and return points is linked to reducing structural vulnerabilities.



## Values, power and inclusion

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Comorian society, although matrilineal and giving women an important role in the management of property, remains deeply marked by gender inequalities. Women represent matrilineal households and own the houses and family properties built for them by their uncles and brothers. They also wield informal power within communities and play a key role in the dynamics of social change. However, the traditional system tends to exclude them from formal decision-making processes. Although the Comoros has ratified the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the country continues to suffer from underrepresentation of women in all political and socio-economic spheres. Village chief positions are usually held by men, and women hold only two parliamentary seats, despite an increase in the number of female candidates.

The Comoros ranks 179th out of 190 countries according to the Inter-Parliamentary Union. Gender inequalities are also reflected in educational outcomes and limited economic opportunities. According to the [Comoros Poverty Assessment \(2018\)](#), only one-third of women participate in the labour market, compared to 57 per cent of men. In addition, educational disparities are significant: 47 per cent of women

in the uneducated labour force, compared to 36 per cent of men. Women are affected by social norms, lack of access to decision-making mechanisms, as well as gender-based violence, while young people experience impacts such as limited economic opportunities and low levels of education.

Violence remains pervasive in Comoros, with 446 cases reported in 2022, 65 per cent of which involved children. The government set out to strengthen the protection of children and women by adopting legal guidelines in 2021 and 2022, involving community actors such as traditional leaders, religious figures, adolescents, women, and individuals. UNICEF supported this initiative by providing additional counselling and protection services, providing medical, psychosocial and legal care in an integrated "one-stop-shop" format for children and women.

### Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Comoros Red Crescent will work with government and partners to support youth leaders from the four communities in learning humanitarian values and core principles. This collaboration will include raising awareness of humanitarian

values among parents, educators and local authorities, setting up a mandatory briefing on the Code of Conduct and Prevention of Sexual and Gender-based Violence (SGBV), as well as improving collaboration with organizations working for the rights of persons with disabilities and women at the national level. In addition, the Comoros Red Crescent will work to strengthen community feedback mechanisms by establishing a robust system for identifying and addressing issues. Through capacity building activities for its staff, volunteers, local authorities, and the wider community, the National Society will promote humanitarian values and adhere to Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI) principles.

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### Planned activities in 2026

- Carry out Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI) organizational assessment and ensure that PGI approach is applied to all project implemented by the National Society
- Organize conferences, seminars, and public discussions to share knowledge about humanitarian values

- Establish and provide mandatory briefings for all staff and volunteers on PGI minimum standard in emergencies
- Organize Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) training for National Society staff and volunteers
- Document lessons learned on CEA and PGI and strengthen community feedback mechanisms by focusing on the analysis and use of qualitative data from the community

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### Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC support to the Comoros Red Crescent includes training in Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) and identification of a CEA focal point, capacity building sessions around community feedback mechanisms. It will also support the National Society in progressive institutionalization of CEA through integration in programmes and projects. The IFRC also provides financial and technical support to enhance the dissemination and application of fundamental principles of the Movement, with a special emphasis on young's people knowledge, skills, and behaviour.

## ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS

The Comoros Red Crescent is committed to pursuing its institutional strengthening. It is engaged in the Preparedness for Effective Response (PER) process and is currently at the accountability and action phase. The PER approach is a continuous and flexible process that enables National Societies

to assess, measure and analyze the strengths and gaps of its preparedness and response mechanisms, and ultimately to take the actions necessary to improve it. The National Society also plans to embark on the IFRC Organizational Capacity Assessment (OCA) process. The self-assessment part of this process is intended to capture the strengths and weaknesses of National Societies as a whole in relation to a wide range of organizational capacities.



### Strategic and operational coordination

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#### Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Organize an annual meeting of partners, both within and outside the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement
- Strengthen planning and coordination capacities based on the Strategic Plan and recent preparedness assessments
- Improve coherence between national, regional and local structures through modernized management systems
- Support national disaster preparedness and response policies through structured cooperation with risk management authorities
- Enhance collaboration with Movement partners, government institutions, UN agencies and civil society for harmonized humanitarian action
- Contribute actively to national thematic platforms on health, protection, education and food security to shape multisectoral responses
- Promote regular coordination and joint priority setting to align public policies with Movement interventions
- Foster cohesion and accountability by sustaining dialogue on risk reduction and community resilience across stakeholders

## Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the Comoros Red Crescent by strengthening its role as a national coordination platform through sustained technical accompaniment, direct thematic expertise and the introduction of digital planning tools that enhance the coherence of operations and reinforce analytical capacities across the institution. This support will focus on improving structured coordination between national and local levels, strengthening the quality of operational planning and ensuring that the National Society can effectively align day to day implementation with strategic priorities. Through continuous guidance on harmonized practices, inclusive

coordination approaches and context appropriate systems, the IFRC will further enable the National Society to position itself as a central humanitarian actor capable of convening partners, facilitating decision making and promoting consistency in the wider humanitarian network in the Comoros and the Indian Ocean.

The **French Red Cross, German Red Cross and Japanese Red Cross Society** will also assist the National Society by providing institutional support, sharing practical experience and contributing to joint learning initiatives that reinforce coordination and integrated management of operations.



## National Society development

### Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Translate Organization Capacity Assessments (OCA), Branch Organizational Capacity Assessments (BOCA) and Preparedness for Effective Response (PER) diagnostics into a practical transformation plan focused on governance clarity, stronger secretariat professional financial management, internal control and improved human resources procedures
- Strengthen volunteer management through digitization with a unified register certification modules and recognition mechanisms that engage young people and women
- Professionalize systems and structures to ensure efficient operations through stronger departments processes and internal oversight
- Diversify resources through a financial sustainability roadmap including local partnerships mandate compatible services and regular donations to ensure predictable core operations
- Strengthen institutional resilience and performance to deliver consistent high-quality services to vulnerable communities

### Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the Comoros Red Crescent by guiding the design of its institutional strategy, strengthening the structure and functioning of its regional branches and advancing the professionalization of its human resources. This support will follow a long term approach aimed at helping the National Society consolidate its autonomy, reinforce its accountability systems and build the institutional strength required to coordinate, implement and report on large scale programmes that serve at risk communities. Through sustained accompaniment focused on strategic clarity, organizational coherence, leadership development, governance functionality and workforce readiness, the IFRC will help position the Comoros Red Crescent as a capable and credible national humanitarian actor grounded in community proximity, operational excellence and responsible stewardship.

The **French Red Cross, German Red Cross and Japanese Red Cross Society** will complement this through targeted institutional support, collaborative learning and peer to peer cooperation that reinforce leadership, strengthen branch structures and contribute to the development of a skilled and motivated volunteer network.



## Humanitarian diplomacy

### Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Amplify humanitarian diplomacy to strengthen the voice of vulnerable communities in national and regional decision making
- Reinforce advocacy for inclusive coordinated responses grounded in respect for [International Humanitarian Law \(IHL\)](#)
- Deepen collaboration with government UN actors and partners to strengthen preparedness response and humanitarian governance
- Enhance its role as an auxiliary to public authorities and trusted partner in national risk management and social protection policies
- Invest in strategic communications and public awareness to increase visibility strengthen trust and highlight volunteer contributions
- Participate actively in regional and international humanitarian dialogues to advocate for the specific vulnerabilities of small island contexts

### Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The **IFRC** will support the Comoros Red Crescent by reinforcing its influence and advocacy strategy through consistent guidance, targeted accompaniment and strengthened access to regional and international humanitarian diplomacy spaces. The IFRC will also help strengthen diplomatic and institutional capacities by helping develop evidence-based [advocacy](#), supporting strategic humanitarian communication and enhancing the National Society's ability to build constructive relationships with technical and financial partners. Through this sustained cooperation, the IFRC will help the Comoros Red Crescent deepen collaboration with government actors, international institutions and partner organizations, reinforce participation in national coordination platforms and support engagement on issues such as disaster risk reduction, food security, health, nutrition, water, sanitation and hygiene, protection and education.

The **French Red Cross, German Red Cross and Japanese Red Cross Society** will also support the National Society in advocacy and through engagements that strengthens the National Society's visibility, messaging coherence and participation in both national and regional humanitarian dialogues.



## Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

### Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Strengthen institutional accountability and organizational agility to ensure transparent reliable and effective humanitarian action
- Reinforce integrity and safeguarding through clear policies on fraud corruption protection and internal control supported by regular staff and volunteer training
- Establish an integrated digital management system for real time monitoring of volunteers interventions and resources across all branches
- Maintain a centralized volunteer database to enable rapid mobilization during emergencies and support coordinated field operations
- Set up an internal management and technical support service to ensure IT maintenance data security and business continuity
- Advance [digital transformation](#) by modernizing systems and improving operational traceability

### Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The **IFRC** will support the Comoros Red Crescent in strengthening accountable and agile governance by guiding the implementation of digital transformation, reinforcing administrative procedures and enabling the adoption of modern management systems. Through technical assistance and capacity building initiatives, the IFRC will ensure that the National Society can improve the transparency and reliability of its operations, enhance the traceability of resources and establish responsive mechanisms that allow rapid adaptation to emerging challenges.

The **French Red Cross, German Red Cross and Japanese Red Cross Society** will support the National Society by providing targeted technical inputs, specialized digital and organizational expertise and peer to peer collaboration that support stronger systems, more effective resource management and enhanced institutional readiness.

# THE IFRC NETWORK

## The IFRC

The IFRC supports the Comoros Red Crescent from its delegation in Antananarivo, Madagascar. The IFRC support to the Comoros Red Crescent focuses on strategic and operational coordination, National Society development and humanitarian diplomacy, including reinforcing the National Society's auxiliary role. The IFRC also supports accountability as a cross-cutting theme.

In recent years, the National Society received support through a number of IFRC Emergency Appeals and Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF) [operations](#). Since December 2024, the IFRC has been supporting Comoros with the [Tropical Cyclone Chido Emergency Appeal](#).

## 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 **French Red Cross** supports the Comoros Red Crescent through programmes in the areas of prevention, preparation

and response to emergencies caused by natural disasters and health crises. The Comoros Red Crescent also uses the Indian Ocean Platform for Regional Intervention (PIROI), an IFRC tool managed by the French Red Cross. When the PIROI platform was established in 2000, the Comoros Red Crescent became a full member. The French Red Cross has signed a framework agreement with the Comoros Red Crescent which specifies the technical support it provides for disaster management and health system strengthening activities carried out by the Comoros Red Crescent.

The **Japanese Red Cross Society** supports the Comoros Red Crescent in organizational development.



*The Comoros Red Crescent supporting women through income-generating initiatives (Photo: Comoros Red Crescent)*

## Movement coordination

The Comoros Red Crescent 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](#).

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**The ICRC**, through its regional delegation in Nairobi, supports the Comoros Red Crescent in strengthening its capacities in the areas of disseminating International Humanitarian Law (IHL), protecting persons in detention and providing Restoring Family Links (RFL) services. It also contributes to the training of the National Society volunteers and staff in humanitarian principles and the management of migration-related crises.

## Coordination with other actors

In line with its auxiliary role, the Comoros Red Crescent works closely with ministries and government agencies. During emergencies, it is part of emergency platforms such as the cyclonic crisis management coordination and sectoral coordination meetings organized by the Civil Protection Directorate. At the local level, the local committees of the Comoros Red Crescent participate in humanitarian stakeholder meetings organized by the Government.

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During emergencies, the National Society and IFRC communicate with the United Nations (UN) at country level to ensure coordination. International humanitarian organizations present in Comoros include UNICEF, UNDP, World Health Organization, World Food Programme, Caritas and the African Development Bank. The Comoros Red Crescent also has a partnership with UNICEF to support hygiene and sanitation in schools.



**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

#### Comoros Red Crescent [comoros-red-crescent](#)

#### Maria Martinez

Head of Delegation  
IFRC Country Cluster Delegation  
for the Indian Ocean Islands,  
based in Antananarivo  
T +261 321132624  
[maria.martinez@ifrc.org](mailto:maria.martinez@ifrc.org)

#### Louise Daintrey

Head of Strategic Partnerships  
& Resource Mobilization  
IFRC Regional Office for Africa,  
Nairobi  
T +254 110 843978  
[louise.daintrey@ifrc.org](mailto:louise.daintrey@ifrc.org)

#### Sumitha Martin

Lead  
IFRC Global Strategic Planning  
& Reporting Centre  
New Delhi  
[sumitha.martin@ifrc.org](mailto:sumitha.martin@ifrc.org)