



VANUATU

2026 IFRC network country plan



28 September 2026

In support of the Vanuatu Red Cross Society



6

National Society
branches



6

National Society
local units



50

National Society
staff



361

National Society
volunteers

People to be reached in 2026

Climate and
environment



4,000

Disasters and
crises



15,000

Health and
wellbeing



27,000

Migration and
displacement



720

Values, power
and inclusion

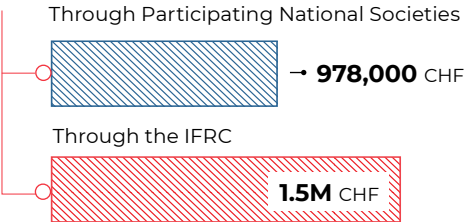


17,000

IFRC network Funding Requirements

2026

Total 2.5M CHF



Participating National Societies

American Red Cross
Australian Red Cross*
British Red Cross*
Canadian Red Cross*
Danish Red Cross*
French Red Cross*
Japanese Red Cross Society
The Netherlands Red Cross*
New Zealand Red Cross*
Saudi Red Crescent Authority*

IFRC Appeal codes

Longer-term needs:
MAAVU001

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

Hazards



Climate change



Volcanic eruptions



Cyclones



Earthquakes



Disease outbreaks



Tsunami

IFRC network multi-year focus

Longer term needs

- Climate change adaptation
- Disaster risk management
 - Healthcare
 - Social inclusion

Capacity development

- Branch development
- Financial sustainability
- Financial management
- Volunteer development and youth engagement

Key country data links

INFORM Climate Change Risk Index **Medium**

Human Development Index rank **146**

World Bank Population figure **328,000**

World Bank Population below poverty line **16%**



Vanuatu Red Cross Society providing humanitarian assistance to communities affected by the devastating earthquake of December 2024
(Photo: Vanuatu Red Cross Society)

Detailed funding requirements

2026

IFRC

Longer-term needs

Climate and environment	400,000
Disasters & crises	200,000
Health & wellbeing	25,000
Migration & displacement	2,000
Values, power & inclusion	20,000

Enabling local actors 873,000

Total 1.5M

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
American Red Cross	2026	79,000		79,000					
Australian Red Cross	2026	835,000			190,000	355,000		40,000	250,000
Japanese Red Cross Society	2026	64,000			64,000				

NATIONAL SOCIETY PROFILE

The **Vanuatu Red Cross Society** was founded in 1982 and admitted to the IFRC in 1993. As an auxiliary to the public authorities, the National Society plays a crucial role in supporting government efforts to address humanitarian needs across the country. The Vanuatu Red Cross Society is headquartered in Port Vila and has branches on other islands, which are managed by volunteers and led by executive committees. The National Society mobilizes resources primarily from local stakeholders, providing humanitarian services through its extensive network of volunteers.

The Vanuatu Red Cross Society engages a network of staff and volunteers across six branches: Shefa, Sanma, Penama, Malampa, Tafea, and Torba. The National Society's work is guided by the Vanuatu National Strategic Plan and aligned to the IFRC Strategy 2030 IFRC Strategy 2030 framework. The National Society is a member of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and participates in the wider Pacific Red Cross network.

IFRC NETWORK ACTION

JOINT SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

Vanuatu is an archipelago of over 80 islands in the South Pacific, home to approximately 330,000 people. The country ranks among the highest globally on disaster risk indices due to its exposure to multiple natural hazards. Vanuatu is also one of the most linguistically diverse countries in the world, with over 100 local languages, creating significant communication and coordination challenges for humanitarian response.

Economically, Vanuatu relies heavily on tourism, agriculture, and remittances. The economy remains fragile and susceptible to external shocks. The 2024 earthquake further disrupted

infrastructure and livelihoods, particularly in Shefa Province. Climate change is intensifying existing vulnerabilities, with increased frequency and severity of extreme weather events, coastal erosion, saltwater intrusion, and impacts on food and water security.

The Government of Vanuatu has committed to decentralizing disaster risk management through the National Disaster Management Office (NDMO), a process that creates both opportunities and coordination demands for the Vanuatu Red Cross Society as a key partner. National priorities include strengthening provincial-level Emergency Operations Centres (EOCs), improving anticipatory action frameworks, and building community resilience capacity.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Climate and environment

Vanuatu remains one of the most climate-exposed countries in the Pacific, where gradual environmental changes and sudden shocks are increasingly interconnected. Rising temperatures, changing rainfall patterns, intensifying cyclones, and sea-level rise are already affecting water availability, food systems, infrastructure, and community safety across all six provinces. These pressures are particularly acute for remote and coastal communities, where limited access to services and strong dependence on natural resources amplify vulnerability.

Climate change in Vanuatu is therefore not only an environmental issue, but a structural driver of humanitarian need; shaping disaster risk, health outcomes, and long-term resilience.

As these risks intensify, there is a growing need to move beyond reactive responses towards anticipatory, locally driven adaptation approaches that strengthen community capacity before crises occur.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

Over the coming years, the Vanuatu Red Cross Society aims to strengthen its role as a climate-informed and community-centred National Society, integrating climate considerations across its operations, systems and partnerships. A central priority is to establish strong institutional foundations for climate action. This includes the finalization and operationalization of the Climate and Resilience Strategy, alongside investments in staff and volunteer capacity to understand, communicate, and act on climate risks.

The Vanuatu Red Cross Society is positioning itself as a key community-based actor in climate resilience. Building on its auxiliary role and operational presence across all provinces, the National Society is increasingly working to connect national climate ambitions with practical, last-mile action. Its climate programming is guided by a developing Climate and Resilience Strategy and supported by initiatives such as CAP CLIMA, reflecting a shift toward more structured, long-term engagement in climate action.

At the community level, the Vanuatu Red Cross Society will increasingly focus on locally led adaptation and anticipatory action. Communities, particularly those most exposed to climate risks, will be supported to analyse their own vulnerabilities, develop context-specific adaptation solutions and act early based on climate information. Youth engagement will be a key driver of this shift, with initiatives such as [Y-Adapt](#) enabling young people to take an active role as climate change agents within their communities.

At the systems level, the Vanuatu Red Cross Society aims to strengthen its contribution to national climate coordination and knowledge exchange. By engaging with government agencies, civil society platforms, and regional partners, the National Society seeks to bridge the gap between policy and implementation, ensuring that national frameworks translate into meaningful action at community level. This also includes expanding engagement in anticipatory action dialogue and strengthening peer learning across Pacific National Societies.

In parallel, the National Society will invest in data, information management and digital systems to better capture, analyse, and use climate and risk information across sectors. Strengthened data systems are expected to enhance evidence-based decision-making, improve coordination and support more effective and timely responses to climate-related risks.

Planned activities in 2026

- Finalize and obtain board approval for the National Society Climate and Resilience Strategy
- Conduct Ambition, Risk Knowledge and Capacity Building workshops
- Implement climate adaptation activities in target communities
- Installation of software platform for data management across disaster risk reduction, shelter, [Cash and Voucher Assistance \(CVA\)](#), Logistics, [Protection, Gender and Inclusion \(PGI\)](#) and ERT volunteer databases
- Facilitate [Y-Adapt](#) training for communities targeting young people as climate change agents
- Develop and disseminate IEC materials on climate change impacts and adaptation
- Engage Vanuatu Climate Action Network, MET and CSOs to strengthen national climate platforms
- Fund peer-to-peer learning on Anticipatory Action with Pacific National Societies

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will continue to support the National Society with its climate and environmental ambitions over time. The IFRC, along with other participating National Societies assist the Vanuatu Red Cross Society in integrating climate resilience with its broader programme areas, including disaster preparedness, youth engagement and community resilience. Additionally, support is also provided for knowledge exchange, innovation and peer learning.



Disasters and crises

For real-time information on emergencies, see IFRC Go page: [Vanuatu](#).

Vanuatu is consistently ranked among the highest-risk countries globally under the INFORM index, reflecting a combination of extreme hazard exposure, structural vulnerability, and limited coping capacity. Vanuatu is an archipelago of more than 80 islands. Its geography combined with dispersed populations, logistical constraints and reliance on subsistence livelihoods, amplifies the impact of recurrent disasters.

The country faces a wide range of hazards, including tropical cyclones, floods, droughts linked to El Niño–Southern Oscillation cycles, and geophysical risks such as earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, and tsunamis. Recent events, including successive cyclones in 2023 and the 2024 Port Vila earthquake, demonstrate the compounding nature of disasters in Vanuatu—where multiple shocks occur in close succession, affecting the same communities and eroding their capacity to recover.

The humanitarian impact of these events is significant and multi-dimensional. Disasters have led to loss of lives, widespread damage to shelter and infrastructure, disruption of health and education services, and recurring food insecurity, particularly in outer islands. Vulnerable groups including people with disabilities, women, children, and remote communities are disproportionately affected, often facing barriers to accessing assistance and recovery support.

Food insecurity remains a recurring concern, driven by crop losses, disrupted livelihoods, and dependency on imported goods. Cyclones and droughts frequently damage subsistence gardens and cash crops, while market access challenges and price fluctuations further affect household resilience.

While the Government of Vanuatu, through the National Disaster Management Office, leads coordination and has established national frameworks aligned with the Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific, response capacity continues to be challenged by geographic remoteness, damaged infrastructure, and limited surge logistics. These constraints highlight the importance of decentralized preparedness, local response capacity, and strengthened coordination systems across national and provincial levels.

Within this context, the Vanuatu Red Cross Society plays a central role as an auxiliary to public authorities and a frontline responder. However, the evolving risk landscape increasingly requires a shift from reactive response toward anticipatory, community-based, and system-strengthening approaches that address both immediate humanitarian needs and underlying vulnerabilities.

Multi-year high-level objectives of the National Society

The Vanuatu Red Cross Society aims to strengthen its disaster risk management approach over the coming years by transitioning from a response-focused model to one that is more preparedness-driven and anticipatory. Its first priority is to strengthen institutional and operational readiness across all levels of the National Society. This includes establishing clear policies, contingency frameworks, and standard operating procedures, while enhancing the skills, capacities, and systems required for effective and timely response. The National Society aims to ensure that preparedness is not centralized but embedded within branches, enabling faster and more coordinated action across geographically dispersed islands.

The second priority is to enhance community-led risk reduction and resilience. The Vanuatu Red Cross Society seeks to support communities in better understanding their risks, developing their own preparedness and response plans, and taking early action. This includes strengthening participatory approaches, such as Vulnerability and Capacity Assessments (VCA) and ensuring that community resilience planning reflects local realities, capacities, and priorities.

The third priority is to advance anticipatory action and early response systems, shifting from reacting to disasters toward taking action before impacts escalate. The National Society aims to strengthen forecast-based action mechanisms, improve the use of early warning information, and align with national and regional anticipatory action frameworks. This shift is critical to reducing the humanitarian impact of increasingly frequent and intense hazards.

The fourth priority is to strengthen partnerships and coordination with government authorities and key stakeholders, particularly in support of national decentralization efforts. The Vanuatu Red Cross Society aims to play a stronger role in linking national disaster management systems with community-level action, including supporting the operationalization of Emergency Operations Centres and provincial disaster management structures.

The fifth priority is to improve the effectiveness, efficiency, and inclusiveness of emergency response through strengthened logistics, cash and voucher assistance systems, and the pre-positioning of resources. The Vanuatu Red Cross Society seeks to ensure that assistance is timely, appropriate, and accessible, particularly for the most vulnerable populations.

Across all these priority areas, the Vanuatu Red Cross Society will continue to align its disaster risk management approach with national policies and frameworks, including the Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific and national disaster legislation, contributing to a more resilient, locally led and sustainable humanitarian system in Vanuatu.

Planned activities in 2026

- Finalize and socialize the Multi-Hazard Contingency Plan and DRM Policy
- Conduct Emergency Response Team (ERT) and Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training across 3 branches
- Conduct Preparedness for Effective Response (PER) training and review
- Conduct cyclone simulation exercises at national and branch level
- Update shelter training package and conduct refresher trainings in three branches
- Develop National Anticipatory Action Framework in coordination with NDMO and partners
- Conduct Vulnerability and Capacity Assessments (VCA) in communities across 6 provinces

- Organization of International Disaster Risk Reduction Day in Torba Branch
- Establish mechanisms for forecast-based action with communities
- Develop hazard-specific contingency planning

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The **IFRC** will continue to provide technical support in areas such as preparedness for effective response (PER), contingency planning, anticipatory action and operational readiness. At regional level, IFRC reference centres, hubs, and peer National Societies contribute through knowledge exchange, technical innovation and peer learning, particularly in areas such as forecast-based action, shelter coordination and community-based disaster risk reduction.

The **American Red Cross**, **Australian Red Cross** and **French Red Cross** will continue to provide sustained support across key areas such as disaster preparedness, logistics, shelter, cash and voucher assistance, and community resilience.



Vanuatu Red Cross Society youth volunteers completing Y-Adapt training to better understand climate change and take practical action to adapt in their communities (Photo: Vanuatu Red Cross Society)



Vanuatu's health profile reflects both progress and persistent structural challenges shaped by geography, climate exposure, and resource constraints. While the country has made advances in primary healthcare and disease control, health outcomes remain uneven, particularly across outer islands where access to services is limited by distance, transportation barriers, and infrastructure gaps.

Communicable diseases continue to pose significant risks, including dengue, malaria, and other climate-sensitive vector-borne diseases. Seasonal outbreaks are common and are increasingly influenced by environmental factors such as rainfall variability and temperature changes. The country is also vulnerable to emerging epidemics, with recent experiences highlighting the importance of early detection, community-level surveillance, and rapid response mechanisms.

Vaccination coverage has improved in recent years; however, challenges remain in reaching remote populations and ensuring consistent immunization, particularly among under-served communities. Gaps in routine outreach contribute to the risk of outbreaks, especially in geographically isolated areas.

Non-communicable diseases (NCDs) are a growing concern, with rising rates of diabetes, cardiovascular diseases, and other chronic conditions placing additional strain on the health system. These long-term trends intersect with disaster impacts, where disruptions to services and livelihoods exacerbate underlying vulnerabilities.

Access to safe Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) remains uneven, particularly in rural and peri-urban areas. Limited sanitation infrastructure, water supply disruptions during disasters, and gaps in hygiene practices increase the risk of waterborne diseases and public health emergencies.

Climate change further intensifies these challenges. Increased temperatures, changing rainfall patterns, and more frequent extreme weather events contribute to disease transmission, strain water systems, and disrupt health services. These overlapping risks highlight the need for integrated approaches that connect health, WASH, and disaster preparedness.

The Government of Vanuatu leads the health sector through national policies and coordination mechanisms, with strong engagement from partners such as WHO, UNICEF, and UNDP. However, service delivery constraints, particularly in remote areas underscore the importance of community-based approaches that complement formal health systems.

The Vanuatu Red Cross Society plays a critical role in extending health services to the community level. Through its volunteer

network and branch presence, the National Society is uniquely positioned to bridge gaps between communities and the formal health system, particularly in times of crisis and in hard-to-reach areas.

Multi-year high-level objectives of the National Society

The Vanuatu Red Cross Society aims to strengthen its role as a community-based health actor by integrating health, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), and epidemic preparedness into a cohesive, locally driven system. One of the first priorities is to strengthen institutional readiness for health and WASH in emergencies. This includes developing clear policies, standard operating procedures and a well-trained workforce to ensure that health and WASH interventions are effectively integrated into disaster preparedness and response efforts.

The second priority is to expand and strengthen community-based health systems, particularly through Community-Based Health and First Aid (CBHFA) and Community-based Surveillance (CBS). The Vanuatu Red Cross Society seeks to position communities not only as recipients of services but also as active participants in safeguarding and improving their own health and well-being.

The third priority is to enhance epidemic preparedness and response capacity, including early warning systems, community awareness initiatives and rapid response mechanisms. By strengthening surveillance systems and linking them more effectively with national health structures, the Vanuatu Red Cross Society aims to reduce the impact of disease outbreaks and improve the timeliness and effectiveness of response efforts.

The fourth priority is to improve access to safe water, sanitation, and hygiene, recognizing their central role in achieving positive public health outcomes. The Vanuatu Red Cross Society aims to support both infrastructure improvements and behaviour change initiatives, ensuring that communities have the knowledge, resources, and capacity to maintain healthy environments, particularly in disaster-prone settings.

A fifth priority is to strengthen partnerships with government authorities and health sector stakeholders, ensuring alignment with national health priorities and contributing to coordinated and effective responses. The Vanuatu Red Cross Society seeks to serve as a bridge between national systems and communities, supporting outreach, health promotion, awareness-raising, and service delivery in underserved and hard-to-reach areas.

Planned activities in 2026

- Train staff and volunteers on the Health Policy and Standard Operating Procedures
- Establish Health and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) working groups in all six branches
- Pre-position emergency WASH kits in high-risk and disaster-prone areas
- Conduct blood donation campaigns in four provinces
- Construct handwashing stations in four schools
- Conduct awareness campaigns for teachers, students, and communities on hygiene and menstrual hygiene management
- Roll out Community-based Surveillance (CBS) activities in Shefa and Sanma Provinces, reaching 68 communities
- Conduct community inception meetings and annual review sessions in Shefa and Sanma Provinces
- Support the implementation of the Malaria Elimination Programme across five provinces
- Deliver integrated community health outreach activities in Malampa, Sanma, Tafea, and Torba Provinces

- Conduct a Community-Based Health and First Aid Training of Trainers for 30 volunteers and 10 staff
- Implement Community-Based Health and First Aid training in 12 communities
- Train Psychological First Aid trainers within the Vanuatu Red Cross Society

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The **IFRC** provides technical and financial assistance to the Vanuatu Red Cross Society in the areas of community health, epidemic preparedness and response, Community-Based Health and First Aid (CBHFA) and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) in emergencies.

The **American Red Cross** supports health system strengthening, WASH, and epidemic preparedness.

The **Australian Red Cross** provides support for the community-based surveillance and WASH capacity.

The **French Red Cross** supports Community-based Surveillance (CBS) and integrated community health approaches.



Values, power and inclusion

In Vanuatu, vulnerability is shaped not only by hazard exposure and service gaps, but also by unequal access to information, participation, safety, and decision-making. Women, children, young people, persons with disabilities and communities in remote areas can face multiple and overlapping barriers during both everyday life and times of crisis. These barriers can limit access to protection, reduce participation in preparedness and response, and deepen exclusion when disasters, climate shocks, or economic stress affect communities.

For the National Society, this priority is closely tied to its community presence and volunteer network across six provinces. The National Society's draft plan places particular emphasis on Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI), youth engagement, safeguarding, and community engagement. Planned areas of focus include disability inclusion, Youth as Agents of Behavioural Change, Y-Adapt, PGI and safeguarding induction, the PGI Organizational Assessment Tool, inclusive disaster risk management and awareness-raising on child protection, prevention of sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment and gender-based violence.

The Vanuatu Red Cross Society already coordinates with government actors, provincial authorities, and civil society organizations, including the Vanuatu Society for Disabled

Peoples and the Vanuatu Climate Action Network. This creates an opportunity for the National Society to strengthen inclusive partnerships and ensure that its community-level work is better linked to national platforms and decision-making processes. At the same time, the draft plan recognises the need to improve data disaggregation by sex, age, and disability and to further develop a community engagement and accountability system, showing that inclusion is not only a programming objective, but also a question of institutional practice.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Vanuatu Red Cross Society aims to strengthen its role as a National Society that enables communities to become more inclusive, peaceful and participatory, while ensuring that its own systems and approaches better reflect the dignity, safety, and agency of all people. One of the priorities is to advance inclusive and safer programming, with stronger attention to gender, disability, age, and protection risks across all sectors.

The National Society aims to strengthen staff and volunteer understanding of Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI), safeguarding, and survivor-centred approaches so that inclusion is consistently reflected in programme design, implementation,

and community engagement. This includes building institutional understanding through PGI-related assessment and induction processes, while also ensuring that inclusive disaster risk management becomes a practical reality at branch and community levels.

The second priority is to strengthen youth leadership and positive behaviour change as a long-term driver of community resilience. Through [Youth as Agents of Behavioural Change \(YABC\)](#), [Y-Adapt](#) and wider youth participation in local and national initiatives, the National Society aims to position young people not simply as beneficiaries or volunteers, but as active leaders in shaping peaceful, climate-aware, and inclusive communities.

The third priority is to promote social cohesion and community-based protection, especially in settings where crisis, inequality, or exclusion heighten risks of violence, neglect, or marginalisation. The fourth priority is to strengthen partnerships for inclusive action, including with government agencies, civil society organizations, and sectoral networks.

The fifth priority is to improve [Community Engagement and Accountability \(CEA\)](#) so that communities are better informed, more able to express priorities and concerns, and more meaningfully involved in decisions affecting them.

Planned activities in 2026

- Disability inclusion training for staff and volunteers
- Conduct climate change awareness activities through [Y-Adapt](#) in communities
- Promote youth participation in local programmes, including Disaster Risk Reduction Day and International Youth Day
- Conduct [Protection, Gender and Inclusion \(PGI\)](#) and Safeguarding induction training for staff and volunteers in Torba

- Undertake the PGI Organizational Assessment Tool process at the national level
- Develop and formalize Memoranda of Understanding with key government agencies, including the Meteorology and Agriculture departments
- Engage with climate networking groups and the Vanuatu Climate Action Network
- Conduct a joint Partnership Forum involving Ministers, embassies, international NGOs, and civil society organizations
- Conduct training on gender standards for crisis management within the Vanuatu Red Cross Society

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will continue to support the Vanuatu Red Cross Society through technical guidance, policy frameworks and regional accompaniment on [Protection, Gender and Inclusion \(PGI\)](#), community engagement and accountability, youth engagement and climate-linked inclusion.

The **American Red Cross** provides technical and financial assistance for youth engagement, [Youth as Agents of Behavioural Change \(YABC\)](#), [Y-Adapt](#), disability inclusion, partnership-building and inclusive disaster risk management initiatives.

The **Australian Red Cross** supports PGI, safeguarding induction, child protection, and gender-based violence awareness, while also contributing to broader branch and organizational development that helps inclusion take root institutionally.

ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS

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

The National Society is also committed to the Preparedness for Effective Response (PER) process, and is at the action and accountability phase of the process. This approach is a continuous and flexible process that enables National Societies to assess, measure and analyze the strengths and gaps of their preparedness and response mechanisms, and take the necessary actions to improve them.



Strategic and operational coordination

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Deepen coordination to support both emergency readiness and long-term development
- Strengthen resource mobilization and partnership positioning to support longer-term strategic priorities and organizational sustainability
- Expand domestic and international partnerships and funding opportunities
- Use strategic coordination to build relationships, trust, and visibility



Key Institutional Indicators

The National Society has put in place the following:

- Strategy to strengthen its auxiliary role
- National Society development plan
- Youth engagement strategy
- Health, accident and death compensation for volunteers
- Protection against sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) policy
- PSEA Action Plan
- Digital transformation roadmap
- Data management system

- Expand engagement in coordination mechanisms related to disaster management, shelter, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), health, and resilience, and improve links between national coordination and branch-level action.

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will continue to provide the Vanuatu Red Cross Society with an important platform for coordination, technical accompaniment and strategic alignment. It will also help the National Society strengthen its engagement with national coordination systems, sector working groups, and inter-agency platforms.

Participating National Societies also contribute to this enabling function by supporting the National Society's engagement across preparedness, response, recovery, and institutional development.



National Society development

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Review and update youth and volunteer policy
- Review and revise
- Conduct Branch Operational Capacity Assessment (BOCA) in Shefa and Sanma
- Conduct organizational assessments
- Update Finance Manual and develop cost-sharing policy
- Prepare internal audit procedure for HQ and branch level
- Review current strategy and develop 2027–2031 Strategy
- Train staff and volunteers on PMER
- Develop and socialize National Society Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) system

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The **IFRC** will continue to play an important enabling role in supporting the Vanuatu Red Cross Society's organizational development over time, helping turn transformation priorities into sustained institutional progress.

The **American Red Cross** contributes to PMER, youth and volunteer systems, and resource mobilisation efforts, while also supporting broader organizational development.

The **Australian Red Cross** supports branch development, finance systems, BOCA processes, and strategic planning, helping strengthen the organizational backbone of the National Society.



Humanitarian diplomacy

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Strengthen institutional communication capacity and visibility through improved storytelling, multimedia content and evidence-based reporting
- improving two-way communication and engagement with communities
- increasing participation in national, regional, and global coordination and influence platforms
- Train staff and volunteers on communication and visibility
- Document best practices through storytelling, video documentaries, and reports

- Attend high-level meetings with relevant authorities on International Humanitarian Law (IHL)

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The **IFRC** provides technical guidance, tools and global frameworks for communication and humanitarian diplomacy, including support on visibility, messaging, media engagement, and advocacy.

Participating National Societies contribute through technical support, capacity building, and resource mobilisation, including support for communication roles, development of materials, and integration of communication into programme delivery.



Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Strengthen data, information management, and digital systems
- Enhance evidence-based decision-making through stronger data systems
- Improve branch finance systems and internal financial procedures to strengthen accountability, transparency, and organizational efficiency
- Increase organizational capacity to manage growth confidently and transparently through stronger financial systems and practices
- Strengthen results management, transparency, and organizational learning by improving PMER systems and institutional monitoring approaches
- Enhance data quality and the use of sex-, age-, and disability-disaggregated data to support more inclusive and informed decision-making

- Strengthen Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) mechanisms to ensure programmes remain responsive to community needs and priorities
- Promote learning, informed decision-making, and public trust by improving monitoring, reporting, transparency, and accountability practices

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will provide support to the National Society for accountability reforms: technical coaching on risk management, finance, HR systems, and safeguarding policies; align National Society policies with global IFRC frameworks.

THE IFRC NETWORK

The IFRC

The IFRC supports the Vanuatu Red Cross Society. The IFRC focuses on improving the organizational foundations of the Vanuatu Red Cross Society and promoting transformative behaviour change through peer networks. Its priorities include disaster risk management, climate change adaptation, healthcare improvement, and comprehensive social inclusion. The IFRC actively engages in capacity-building efforts such

as branch development, financial sustainability, effective finance management, and promoting volunteer and [youth engagement](#).

The IFRC leverages collective resources, experiences, and tools to benefit the National Society. It tailors support to meet the National Society's current performance level and facilitates continuous improvement.

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 Pacific Leaders Meeting serves as a crucial platform for the Vanuatu Red Cross Society to align with the IFRC Strategic 2030 and Agenda for Renewal. This meeting facilitates peer learning, showcases best practices in National Society development and local initiatives across the Pacific, and builds engagement with external partners and stakeholders.

The Vanuatu Red Cross Society receives support from the following participating National Societies:

The **American Red Cross** contributes to PMER, youth and volunteer systems, and resource mobilization efforts, while also supporting broader organizational development. It provides technical and financial assistance for youth engagement initiatives, including [Youth as Agents of Behavioural Change](#)

(YABC) and Y-Adapt, as well as disability inclusion, partnership development, and inclusive disaster risk management. The American Red Cross also supports health system strengthening, [Water, Sanitation and Hygiene \(WASH\)](#), and epidemic preparedness initiatives. In addition, it will continue to provide sustained support across key areas such as disaster preparedness, logistics, shelter, cash and voucher assistance, and community resilience.

The **Australian Red Cross** supports branch development, financial systems, BOCA processes, and strategic planning, helping to strengthen the organizational backbone of the National Society. It also supports [Protection, Gender and Inclusion \(PGI\)](#), safeguarding induction, child protection, and gender-based violence awareness, while contributing to broader branch and organizational development efforts that help institutionalize inclusion. In addition, the Australian Red Cross supports community-based surveillance and strengthens WASH capacity. It will continue to provide sustained support across key areas, including disaster preparedness, logistics, shelter, cash and voucher assistance, and community resilience.

The **French Red Cross** supports [Community-based Surveillance \(CBS\)](#) and integrated community health approaches. It will continue to provide sustained support across key areas such as disaster preparedness, logistics, shelter, cash and voucher assistance, and community resilience.

Movement coordination

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

The ICRC supports the promotion of international humanitarian law and raises other humanitarian issues with governments, security forces, academic circles, the media and civil society. The ICRC, guided by its fundamental principles, provides support to the Vanuatu Red Cross Society in conflict and violence-affected areas. This support includes capacity building for the National Society staff and volunteers, resource mobilization assistance, and collaborative initiatives to enhance humanitarian response and protection.

Coordination with other actors

The Vanuatu Red Cross Society maintains active coordination with the Government of Vanuatu through NDMO, the Ministry of Health and provincial authorities. The National Society participates in the Vanuatu Humanitarian Team and relevant

cluster mechanisms. Key UN partners include UNICEF, UNDP and OCHA. The Vanuatu Red Cross Society also engages with the Vanuatu Climate Action Network, the Vanuatu Society for Disabled Peoples and other civil society organizations.



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

About the plan

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

Explanatory note on funding requirements and definitions

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

Additional information

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

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