



DUTCH AND ENGLISH SPEAKING CARIBBEAN

2026-2028 IFRC network country plan

1 April 2026

In support of the Red Cross National Societies of the Dutch and English speaking Caribbean



43

National Society branches



96

National Society local units



139

National Society staff



7,883

National Society volunteers

People to be reached



1.9M

Ongoing emergency operations



11,140

Climate and environment



38,770

Disasters and crises



13,193

Health and wellbeing



3,800

Migration and displacement



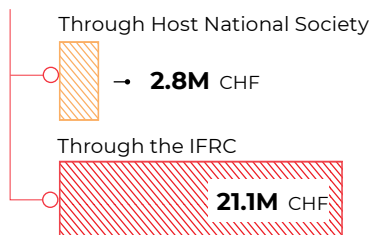
4,525

Values, power and inclusion

IFRC network Funding Requirements

2026

Total 24M CHF



2027

Total 4.8M CHF

Projected funding requirements

2028

5.2M CHF

Participating National Societies

American Red Cross*

Canadian Red Cross*

French Red Cross

Japanese Red Cross Society*

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

IFRC Appeal codes

Emergency Appeal:

MDRS2001 Hurricane Beryl

MDRJM005 Hurricane Mellisa

Longer-term needs:

MAAAG002 MAABB002 MAABZ002

MAADM001 MAAGY001 MAAKN001

MAALC001 MAASR001 MAATT001

Hazards



Floods



Hurricanes



Volcanoes



Disease outbreaks



Population movement

IFRC network multi-year focus

Emergency response

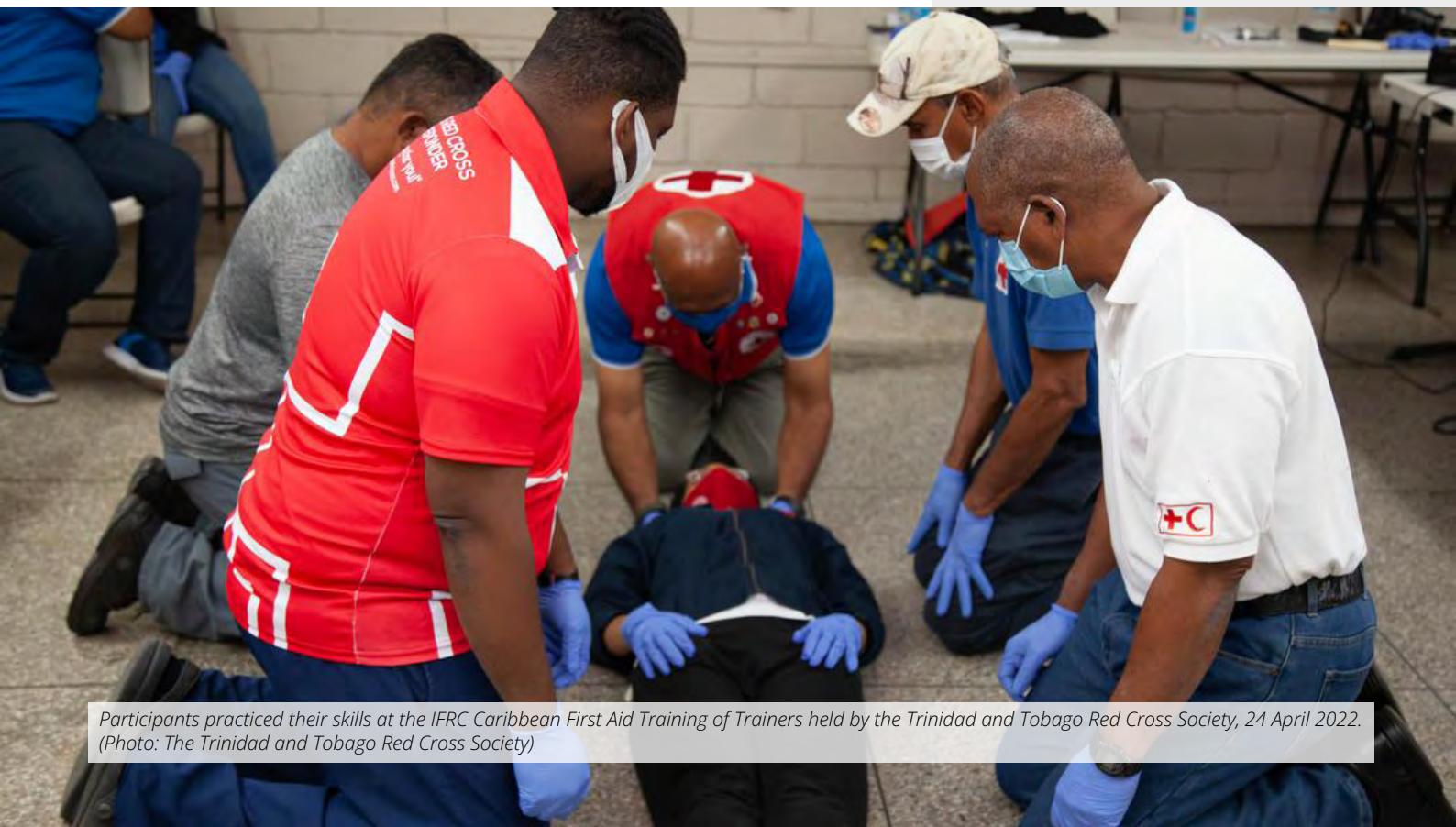
- Hurricanes

Longer term needs

- Disaster risk management
- Climate change adaptation
 - Community health

Capacity development

- Auxiliary role
- Financial sustainability and resource mobilization
 - Volunteering



Participants practiced their skills at the IFRC Caribbean First Aid Training of Trainers held by the Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society, 24 April 2022. (Photo: The Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society)

Detailed funding requirements

	2026		2027		2028	
	Host National Society	IFRC	Host National Society	IFRC	Host National Society	IFRC
Ongoing emergencies		19M				
Longer-term needs						
Climate and environment	545,000	222,000	736,000	338,000	938,000	401,000
Disasters & crises	753,000	790,000	802,000	448,000	827,000	475,000
Health & wellbeing	523,000	294,000	506,000	311,000	530,000	327,000
Migration & displacement	282,000	148,000	268,000	144,000	273,000	157,000
Values, power & inclusion	119,000	124,000	142,000	136,000	130,000	133,000
Enabling local actors	565,000	553,000	435,000	509,000	545,000	532,000
Total	2.8M	21.1M	2.9M	1.9M	3.2M	2M

Country facts

Country	<u>INFORM Severity rating</u>	<u>INFORM Climate Change Risk Index</u>	<u>Human Development Index rank</u>	<u>Population below poverty level</u>
Antigua and Barbuda		Low	53	
Bahamas		Very Low		
Barbados		Very Low	69	26%
Belize		Low	115	52%
Dominica		Low	98	
Grenada		Very Low	80	25%
Guyana		Medium	89	
Jamaica		Low	117	8%
Saint Kitts and Nevis		Very Low	58	
Saint Lucia		Very Low	103	25%
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines		Low	76	
Suriname		Medium	114	18%
Trinidad and Tobago	Low	Low	72	

Participating National Societies bilateral support for 2025

Country	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
Dominica	French Red Cross	2026				-				

NATIONAL SOCIETY PROFILE

The National Societies of the Dutch and English-speaking Caribbean countries vary in size, while sharing common values and principles and facing similar contextual realities. They all act as auxiliaries to their governments in the humanitarian field, focusing on disaster response and contributing to national disaster management frameworks.

Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross

Number of staff	7
Number of volunteers	68
Local units	1

The **Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross** was established in 1941 and was admitted to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in 1993. In 2026, it proudly marks 85 years of continuous humanitarian service. Its head office is on the main island of Antigua, where 98 per cent of the population live, with one branch on the smaller island of Barbuda. The Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross has a positive national reputation and is visible in communities across the island. In 2024, the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross reached 268 people through its long-term services and programmes.

The Bahamas Red Cross Society

Number of staff	18
Number of volunteers	500
Branches	3
Local units	16

The **Bahamas Red Cross Society** was established in 1939 and was admitted to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in 1977. It was officially recognised by the Government of The Bahamas under the Bahamas Red Cross Society Act of 1975, as a voluntary aid society, auxiliary to the public authorities in the humanitarian field, in accordance with the 1949 Geneva Conventions. It is the only National Red Cross authorised to carry out humanitarian activities within the Commonwealth of the Bahamas.

Disaster preparedness and response remain at the core of the Society's mandate, with staff and volunteers working closely with the National Disaster Risk Management Authority and the National Emergency Operations Centre during major weather

events and other emergencies. The National Society plays a vital role in coordinating evacuations, providing ambulance services for vulnerable individuals, managing shelters, and distributing non-food items and hygiene supplies. This operational capacity was clearly demonstrated when Hurricane Melissa struck The Bahamas, bringing hurricane-force winds, storm surge and heavy rainfall to the southeastern islands. In 2024, the Bahamas Red Cross Society reached 303 people through its long-term services and programmes.

The Barbados Red Cross Society

Number of staff	7
Number of volunteers	90
Branches	1

The **Barbados Red Cross Society** was established in 1960 and was admitted to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in 1984. It began its operations as a branch of the British Red Cross and was incorporated as a voluntary aid society by a parliamentary act in 1969 which designated it as an organisation auxiliary to public authorities.

Within the current emergency management framework, the Barbados Red Cross is identified as the organisation responsible for the provision of first aid services within Category 1 emergency shelters. In addition, the National Society receives an annual subvention from the Ministry of Health and Wellness, which supports its 'Meals on Wheels programme'. It also resides over several key committees which provide shelter, food and general supplies, emergency housing and rehabilitation and the health services standing committee.

In 2024, the Barbados Red Cross Society reached 229 people through disaster response and early recovery programmes over time and 50 people through its long-term services and development programmes.

The Belize Red Cross Society

Number of staff	6
Number of volunteers	121
Branches	7

The **Belize Red Cross Society** was established in 1914 and was admitted to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in 1984. Its activities help to

build on the following strategic aims: saving lives, protecting livelihoods, strengthening recovery from disasters and crises, enabling healthy and safe living, and promoting social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace. Its work focuses on the areas of disaster management, including preparedness, response and recovery, disaster risk reduction and mitigation, and HIV/AIDS prevention through the 'Together We Can' peer education programme. The National Society is also considered a leader in basic first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, the Home Care Givers Certification in Belize, as well as the provision of social assistance such as feeding programmes, assistance for fire victims and skills building programmes. In [2024](#), the Belize Red Cross Society reached 204 people through disaster response and early recovery programmes over time and 1691 people through its long-term services and development programmes.

Dominica Red Cross Society

Number of staff	6
Number of volunteers	318
Branches	11

The [Dominica Red Cross Society](#) was established in 1983 and was admitted to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in 1989. The Dominica Red Cross Society has identified strategic goals to guide its objectives and strategies: building healthier and safer communities, reducing vulnerabilities, and strengthening its resilience to function effectively as a National Society that is well resourced, with robust capacity at all levels. Achieving these goals will enable the National Society to increase its reach while maintaining independence and identity. The Dominica Red Cross Society's key priorities are climate resilience and disaster preparedness through early action, financial sustainability, and resource mobilization. In [2024](#), the Dominica Red Cross Society reached 296 people through its long-term services and development programmes.

Guyana Red Cross Society

Number of staff	24
Number of volunteers	150

The [Guyana Red Cross Society](#) was established in 1948 and was admitted to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in 1969. The Guyana Red Cross Society acts as an auxiliary to the public authorities in the humanitarian field, providing a range of services addressing both immediate and long-term needs. These

include emergency shelter, food and medicine, water, and sanitation, restoring family links for disaster victims, disaster preparedness, community-based health and care, first aid training and activities, control and prevention of disease, HIV/ AIDS prevention, and youth and volunteer activities. The Guyana Red Cross Society is responsible for delivering humanitarian aid and developing programmes and outreach services. In [2024](#), the National Society reached 139 people through disaster response and early recovery programmes over time and 643 people through its long-term services and development programmes.

The Jamaica Red Cross

Number of staff	25
Number of volunteers	5,000
Branches	13

The [Jamaica Red Cross](#) was established in 1948 and was admitted to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in 1965. The Jamaica Red Cross is woven into the National Disaster Management Framework of Jamaica, with clearly defined roles in the national disaster plan as well as various hazard specific plans. Some of the core services of the National Society include health, welfare and first aid, youth development, livelihood protection and emergency services, disaster preparedness and response, psychosocial support, and relief distribution, as well as climate change adaptation and ecosystem protection. In [2024](#), the Jamaica Red Cross reached 1,500 people through disaster response and early recovery programmes.

The Saint Kitts and Nevis Red Cross Society

Number of staff	1
Number of volunteers	153
Branches	2
Local units	2

The [Saint Kitts and Nevis Red Cross Society](#) was established in 1942 and was admitted to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in 1993. It serves the twin island Federation of St. Kitts and Nevis, with its headquarters and a branch office in Basseterre, St. Kitts, that covers three districts, equating to two-thirds of the island. In Nevis, a second branch in Charlestown covers the entire island. The strategic objectives of the organization encompass three key areas of the Movement's Fundamental Principles and humanitarian values, disaster response, and disaster

preparedness. These objectives collectively reflect a holistic approach to humanitarian action and disaster management.

The Suriname Red Cross

Number of volunteers	10
Branches	125
Local units	4

The **Suriname Red Cross** was established in 1940 and was admitted to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in 1986. The National Society's main objective is to prevent and alleviate human suffering, in an impartial manner and without discrimination based on nationality, race, sex, religion, language, or social or political beliefs. The Suriname Red Cross manages the only blood bank in the country. In 2024, the National Society reached 5000 people through disaster response and early recovery programmes over time.

The Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society

Number of staff	34
Number of volunteers	832
Branches	3
Local units	3

The **Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society** was admitted to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in 1963. It is an auxiliary in the humanitarian field to the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago. As a non-profit humanitarian organization, the National Society focuses its resources on providing communities with disaster preparedness and quality health programmes designed to empower the most vulnerable people. The Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross is comprised of its headquarters and three branches situated in Port of Spain, San Fernando and Scarborough. Its mission is to mobilize the power of humanity through volunteerism, and to be a beacon of hope that supports and connects people as they regain control of their lives. In 2024, the National Society reached 450 people through disaster response and early recovery programmes over time and 735 people through its long-term services and development programmes.

IFRC NETWORK ACTION

JOINT SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

Caribbean countries, many of which are small island developing states, are susceptible to a wide range of risks, with limited capacity to deal with disasters when they occur. The countries within the Dutch and English-speaking Caribbean region continue to be severely affected by climate change and geomorphological and hydrometeorological events. Latest reports indicate that 74 per cent of Latin American and Caribbean countries are highly exposed to extreme weather events which in turn reducing agricultural productivity, disrupting food supply chains, impacting food environments and threatening progress in reducing hunger and malnutrition in the region.

According to the Climate Change 2022 report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), small islands are increasingly affected by increases in temperature and are set to experience the most intense tropical cyclones, storm surges, droughts, changing precipitation patterns, sea-level rise, coral bleaching, and invasive species, all of which are already detectable across both natural and human systems.

In 2025, the National Societies in the Caribbean had to respond to Category 5 Hurricane Melissa, which was the strongest tropical cyclone anywhere in the world that year. The event resulted in life-threatening winds of nearly 300 km/h, devastating storm surges, and heavy rainfall. It also resulted in catastrophic flash flooding and numerous landslides. Due to the multi-dimensional vulnerabilities of Caribbean small island developing states, exacerbated by economic, social, and environmental factors, as well as the frequency of disasters in this region, recovery from crises can take years.

Per the World Migration Report, the Caribbean experiences a large number of people moving to countries outside the

Caribbean. Most intraregional migration is related to labour, with higher income countries in the Caribbean often attracting migrant workers from neighbouring islands with lower wages and limited employment opportunities. Factors such as gang-related violence, insecurity, political persecution, as well as deteriorating economic conditions also result in significant internal and cross-border displacement.

Non-communicable diseases remain a challenge and are of particular concern – it is estimated that they caused 75 per cent of deaths in the region. These conditions, such as hypertension, diabetes, obesity and cancer, are the major causes of death and account for the greatest share of the disease burden in the Caribbean. The prevalence of chronic illnesses is higher in the Caribbean than in the rest of the Americas. After sub-Saharan Africa, the region has the highest prevalence of HIV/AIDS in the world, with one per cent of the adult population HIV/AIDS positive. The spread of vector-borne diseases, especially dengue, chikungunya and, more recently, Zika, is of great concern, and there is a high risk of widespread transmission because of the mobility of the population.

Evidence shows that the risk of gender-based violence increases during times of additional stress, including financial hardship, job losses and emergency situations like the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic created a lot of fear, and the potential for economic hardship, job losses and extended periods of quarantine and stay-at-home orders all combined to create a dangerous scenario for women and their children in abusive relationships. Violence and social exclusion are also on the increase in the region, particularly in urban areas, and women, girls, men who have sex with men and transgender populations are particularly vulnerable to sexual and gender-based violence. Young people are an especially vulnerable group, as they experience high levels of unemployment, disenfranchisement, and exposure to crime and violence.

ONGOING EMERGENCY RESPONSE

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

1.

Emergency Appeal name	Hurricane Beryl
IFRC Emergency Appeal code	MDRS2001
Duration	24 months (5 July 2024 to 31 July 2026)
People to be assisted	25,000 people
Funding requirement	IFRC Secretariat funding requirement: CHF 4 million Federation-wide funding requirements: CHF 4.5 million
Link to Emergency Appeal	Emergency appeal
Link to Operational Strategy	Operational Strategy
Link to Operational update	Operations Update No.4

On 29 June 2024, the first major hurricane of the 2024 Atlantic hurricane season was hurricane Beryl which was the earliest Category 4 hurricane to form in recorded history, on 30 June. By 1 July, it became a Category 5 hurricane with maximum sustained winds of 270 km/h. Hurricane Beryl made landfall on 1 July in Barbados, Grenada, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines as a Category 4, causing several deaths and severely damaging most of the properties on the islands. Hurricane Beryl intensified to a category 5 as it approached Jamaica, bringing with it the potential for severe impacts. Reports indicate extensive damage, including numerous fallen trees that have blocked roads, landslides, widespread power outages in multiple communities, and structural damage due to high winds.

For the response, the Red Cross Societies of the four countries activated their Emergency Operations Centres to coordinate efforts with local partners. Through this Emergency Appeal, the IFRC aims to support the Barbados Red Cross, Grenada Red Cross, Jamaica Red Cross, the Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Red Cross in responding to the 2024 hurricane.

Short description of the emergency operational strategy

This Emergency Appeal aims to provide humanitarian assistance as well as short to medium-term recovery support to withstand future climate-related shocks and stresses to 25,000 people (5,000 families) living in the affected areas of Barbados, Grenada, Jamaica, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. The response will be conducted over twelve months, with an emergency phase of three months followed by recovery activities. The relief efforts will encompass various forms of assistance. This includes Shelter, Livelihoods, Cash and Voucher Assistance, Mental Health and Psychosocial Support, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene, Risk Reduction, and

Recovery interventions. Considerations for Protection, Gender and Inclusion and Community Engagement and Accountability will underpin all activities. In addition, the operation aims to strengthen the institutional capacity of the National Societies in order to reinforce ongoing and future response capabilities through the additional training of staff and volunteers, 15 further developments of volunteer management systems, increased logistics capacity, and the procurement of critical equipment, among other initiatives.

For the period [5 July 2024 to 31 October 2025](#), the following assistance was provided:

Shelter, Housing, and Settlements

Provide immediate and medium-term shelter solutions for individuals and families affected by Hurricane Beryl, ensuring safe and dignified living conditions.

Livelihoods

Support the protection, restoration and strengthening of the livelihoods of families affected by Hurricane Beryl.

Multi-purpose Cash

Provide dignified and effective assistance to individuals and families affected by Hurricane Beryl through CVA, enabling them to meet their basic needs.

Health & Care

Enhance the well-being of the affected population by providing immediate first aid, mental health, and psychosocial support to individuals and communities affected by Hurricane Beryl.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Reduce the risk of waterborne diseases and ensure the dignity of the affected population through the provision of safe, inclusive WASH services.

Protection, Gender and Inclusion

Enhance resilience and reduce the vulnerability of communities affected by Hurricane Beryl through comprehensive PGI

2.

Emergency Appeal name	Hurricane Melissa
IFRC Emergency Appeal code	MDRJM005
Duration	24 months (29 October 2025 to 31 October 2027)
People to be assisted	180,000 people
Funding requirement	IFRC Secretariat funding requirement: CHF 19 million Federation-wide funding requirements: CHF 21 million
Link to Emergency Appeal	Emergency appeal
Link to Operational Strategy	Operational Strategy
Link to Operational update	Operations Update No.2

Hurricane Melissa made landfall in Jamaica on 28 October bringing hurricane-force winds of up to 280 km/h (175 mph) and torrential rains reaching 500 to 750 mm (15 to 30 inches) over different parts of the country. Storm surge and high waves reached up to 4 m (13 ft) above ground level alongside the southern coast. Widespread damage is being reported across southern, central and northern parishes. The storm's slow pace, recorded at 7 km/h (5 mph) on 26 October, resulted in a prolonged exposure of the country to wind and rain over 2 days before landfall, causing landslides in Saint Thomas and Portland. While clear data on structural damage is not yet available, local media describe Melissa as the strongest storm in Jamaica's history.

Short description of the emergency operational strategy

In response, the Jamaica Red Cross is assisting 180,000 people affected through emergency shelter, multi-purpose cash assistance, livelihood recovery, health and hygiene, risk reduction and climate change adaptation, and community engagement and accountability (CEA). Through this appeal, the Jamaica Red Cross will be providing immediate life-saving assistance while laying the foundation for longer-term resilience. Initial distributions of shelter materials, cleaning kits, hygiene kits, and other essential items, have enabled families to meet urgent needs and begin early recovery.

measures, including the implementation of Protection, Safety, and Safeguarding mechanisms in affected communities.

Community Engagement and Accountability

Ensure that affected families and other stakeholders are engaged in the design, implementation, and monitoring of the response operation.

In 2026, these activities will progressively transition into sustainable recovery and resilience programmes. The focus will shift toward restoring livelihoods, strengthening community preparedness, rehabilitating damaged homes and infrastructure, and reinforcing local disaster management and climate adaptation structures. Particular attention will be given to integrating climate-smart approaches, promoting inclusion of vulnerable groups, and strengthening local volunteer networks to ensure that communities are better prepared for future shocks and less dependent on emergency assistance.

For the period [29 October 2025 to 20 December 2025](#), the following assistance was provided:

Shelter, Housing and Settlements

Communities in crisis-affected areas are supported in restoring and strengthening their well-being and dignity through the provision of essential items, and in restoring their homes with conditional cash assistance.

Livelihoods

People, community groups, and community-based organisations in crisis-affected areas are supported in restoring and strengthening their livelihoods.

Multi-purpose Cash

Communities in crisis-affected areas are supported in restoring their dignity and meeting their diverse basic needs.

Health & Care

Strengthen the health of individuals and communities affected by the disaster through community level interventions and the restoration of health systems.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Ensure that affected communities have access to the means for ensuring a basic level of hygiene, and household-level safe storage of drinking water during the relief and recovery phases, through distribution of hygiene and cleaning items, hygiene promotion campaigns and other initiatives.

Protection, Gender and Inclusion

Ensure that the affected population has access to and receives assistance in a non-discriminatory and equitable manner, with a focus on addressing the distinct needs of disadvantaged and vulnerable groups, through the implementation of comprehensive protection, gender, and inclusion (PGI) measures.

Community Engagement and Accountability

Ensure that the affected population and other stakeholders are engaged in the design, implementation, and monitoring of the response operation, to build transparency and trust.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Climate and environment

Due to their size and location, Caribbean small island developing states are particularly susceptible to the serious threat of the impact of climate change, despite their relatively low contribution to global greenhouse gas emissions. In their precarious position as developing economies relying on sectors that are vulnerable to climate patterns (such as tourism, agriculture, and fishing), Caribbean nations are increasingly affected by sea level rise, changes in rain patterns and temperatures, and the increasing intensity of natural hazards identified by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

According to the IPCC, average temperatures in the region have increased by 0.1° to 0.2°C per decade over the last three decades. Rainfall patterns have shifted in the region, and the number of consecutive dry days is expected to increase. Additionally, sea level rise has occurred at a rate of about two to four centimetres per decade over the last 33 years, a trend that presents risks to the region's freshwater resources and its largely coastal population who are dependent on tourism and agriculture to support their livelihoods.

To the Caribbean, the cost of failing to address the threat of climate change is high. Projections indicate that losses could total CHF 20.6 billion every year by 2050, a figure that represents 10 per cent of the current Caribbean economy. Increased resources could help the region reduce its dependence on fossil fuels, reduce its exposure to fuel price variability, and enable climate change mitigation activities.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

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

The high-level objectives of the national societies are:

- Ensure communities alongside IFRC staff and volunteers undertake urgent action to adapt to the rising and evolving risks from the climate and environmental crises
- Support communities to have increased capacity to address the evolving impacts of climate change and ownership over programmes addressing climate risks

- Integrate and anticipates short- and longer-term impacts in programmes and operations to help communities absorb, adapt, and transform to climate change
- Update policies and climate action based on new technologies and new approaches that enhance climatic adaptation, mitigation, and resilience
- Adopt environmentally sustainable practices and contribute to climate change mitigation

Planned activities in 2026

In 2026, the **Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross** will advocate for greater political and institutional recognition of the National Society in the environmental policy space. It will also integrate climate-smart actions into youth programmes, community outreach, and climate smart livelihoods initiatives. In addition, it will initiate community-based climate awareness and risk education campaigns.

The **Bahamas Red Cross Society** will work on strengthening engagement with government ministries, technical agencies, and accredited climate-finance entities to support its participation in national climate programmes and funding opportunities. It will also expand climate education and awareness activities at community and school levels, focusing on practical actions for adapting to and reducing climate-related risks.

The **Barbados Red Cross Society** will build on lessons from the Hurricane Beryl response to enhance logistics, data management, and programme delivery systems, thereby improving the Society's capacity to act early and effectively in the face of environmental threats. It will also integrate climate information into public education, [early warning systems](#), and disaster-preparedness planning, ensuring that the most vulnerable communities are better protected.

The **Belize Red Cross Society** will support locally led climate adaptation initiatives. It will also assess gaps and integrate climate smart recommendations into the National Society's policies, programmes and operations.

The **Dominica Red Cross Society** will continue to pursue grant funding to support and expand its forest and other ecosystem restoration initiatives, building on work initiated in 2024 to promote locally led adaptation. It has also identified a growing solid waste management challenge and is actively engaging stakeholders to develop coordinated, sustainable approaches to address this issue and reduce its environmental and public health impacts.

The **Guyana Red Cross Society** will take a multi-faceted approach to tackle climate and environmental challenges. It will place a strong emphasis on capacity building through training initiatives, enabling both the National Society and local communities to effectively respond to climate crises,

locally led adaptation, and climate-smart operations. Its strategy will also involve developing strategic partnerships with government counterparts and accredited climate funds to facilitate climate-related projects that align with national priorities.

The **Jamaica Red Cross** will support recovery from Hurricane Melissa through climate-smart livelihood and other adaptation measures. It will also promote ecosystem-based adaptation and ecosystem-based disaster risk reduction such as mangrove restoration and flood mitigation.

The **Saint Kitts and Nevis Red Cross Society** will prioritise addressing heat vulnerability, especially among the most at-risk populations such as the elderly, children, outdoor workers, and those with pre-existing health conditions. This includes promoting awareness of heat safety measures and collaborating with local authorities to enhance emergency response plans.

The **Suriname Red Cross** will work to build its capacity in climate adaptation by training staff and volunteers in climate smart [livelihoods](#) and community-based adaptation approaches. It will conduct awareness activities to help communities understand and reduce climate related risks while also developing and implementing an environmental policy to guide its own practices.

The **Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society** plans to implement locally led adaptation and [nature-based solutions](#) (NbS) actions within the country. This focus will lead to the support of community-driven climate adaptation initiatives which focus on reducing risks from floods and coastal erosion on-going threats that will only continue to rise in frequency with the effects of climate change.

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the **Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross** with technical guidance on integrating climate resilience into disaster, health, and livelihood programmes. It will also assist the National Society with capacity-building through the [Climate Centre](#) and other organisations, and peer-to-peer learning. Resource mobilization for climate adaptation and sustainable livelihoods projects will also be provided.

The IFRC will aid the **Bahamas Red Cross Society** in strengthening its climate education and public awareness efforts by offering tools, training, and evidence-based materials that help communities and schools understand and act on climate risks. This includes guidance on how to adapt global IFRC climate messaging and methodologies for the Bahamian context.

The IFRC will support the **Barbados Red Cross Society** with integrating climate and environmental considerations across its operations. This includes technical accompaniment,

capacity strengthening, and knowledge exchange through regional mechanisms such as the [IFRC Climate and Environment Reference Centre](#) and the Caribbean Climate and Resilience Hub.

The IFRC will support the **Belize Red Cross Society** with to develop and strengthen its relationships with key climate and environment stakeholders. The IFRC will support the National Society to advocate for laws and policies to enhance Belize's resilience and promote coherence in legal and institutional frameworks between disaster risk reduction and climate and climate change adaptation.

The IFRC will continue to provide the **Dominica Red Cross Society** with technical support in the development of concept notes and funding proposals. It will also facilitate the strengthening of partnerships with relevant stakeholders at the national, regional, and international levels to enhance coordination, resource mobilisation, and the overall effectiveness of resilience and climate action initiatives.

The IFRC will support the **Guyana Red Cross Society** to advocate for laws and policies to enhance Guyana's resilience and promote coherence in legal and institutional frameworks between disaster risk reduction and climate and climate

change adaptation. This assistance will also involve an assessment of legal and policy frameworks to determine areas for improvement. The development of an advocacy strategy to advocate for those improvements and legislative advocacy training for the National Society to improve recognition of its auxiliary role and better position the National Society in legal and institutional frameworks.

The IFRC will support the **Jamaica Red Cross** with technical support in integrating climate smart livelihood in recovery activities. It will also assist the National Society in developing climate- and risk-informed approaches based on lessons learned from the Hurricane Beryl operation.

The IFRC will assist the **Saint Kitts and Nevis Red Cross Society** by providing materials and technical advice for awareness campaigns. It will also continue to provide technical advice for the development and implementation of the environmental policy.

The IFRC will support the **Suriname Red Cross** with capacity building for its staff, volunteers, and communities.

The IFRC will support the **Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society** to develop and implement proposals that support its climate and environment programmes.



Disasters and crises

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

The diversity of the geography, population, wealth, culture, language, and economic models in the Caribbean presents several unique challenges when dealing with evolving crises and disasters. Disasters have become more complex and protracted and can even intersect with each other to form 'super emergencies and disasters.' Latin America and the Caribbean is the [second most disaster-prone region](#) in the world, with 152 million people affected by 1,205 disasters between 2000 and 2019 recorded in the international disasters database EM-DAT.

The latest demonstration of this trend was seen with the occurrence [Category 5 Hurricane Melissa](#), which was the strongest tropical cyclone anywhere in the world that year. The event resulted in life-threatening winds of nearly 300 km/h, devastating storm surges, and heavy rainfall. It also resulted in catastrophic flash flooding and numerous landslides. The hurricane disrupted essential services such as water, power, and healthcare. Island economies which are often tourism-dependent also experience significant risk to financial stability as the industry faces natural shocks or stressors due to the increasing frequency of climate-related disasters.

As developing states, countries in the region share similar sustainable development challenges, such as limited resources, susceptibility to natural hazards, vulnerability to external shocks, excessive dependence on international trade, and fragile environments and ecosystems. These vulnerabilities are exacerbated by a combination of [anthropogenic influences](#) on the natural environment, including urbanization, deforestation, coastal degradation, and inadequate physical development planning.

Communities are intricate and varied, and so too are the vulnerabilities that challenge them. The physical, human, financial, natural, and social factors that influence [community resilience are interconnected](#) and require consideration and understanding through a holistic, multi-disciplinary approach. An appreciation of the complex, dynamic nature of Caribbean communities and their vulnerabilities reinforce the idea that people living in the region know how things around them work, and how their lives can be improved by building safer, more resilient communities.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The National Societies will work to improve their capacity to anticipate, prepare for, and respond to, evolving crises and

disasters, while improving the capacities of local vulnerable communities to do the same. Their objectives include:

- Ensure communities take action to increase their resilience to evolving and multiple shocks and hazards
- Ensure increased access to [livelihoods and food security](#) for those affected
- Provide [multi-purpose cash grants](#) and in-kind assistance to people affected by crises and disasters
- Provide [shelter assistance](#) and essential household items to cover their basic shelter needs
- Respond effectively to the wide spectrum of evolving crises and disasters, and leverage their auxiliary role in emergency response
- Expand leadership in the field of disaster law and improve official/legal recognition of their auxiliary role

Planned activities in 2026

The **Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross** and the **Guyana Red Cross Society** will enhance local disaster response capacity through the establishment, training, and sustained engagement of Community Disaster Response Teams (CDRTs). It will also strengthen community-level preparedness and [early warning systems](#) in at least 3 parishes, building on the [CREWS Caribbean 2.0 initiative](#). This includes enhancing local risk knowledge through [enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment \(eVCA\)](#), integrating gender and disability considerations into early warning planning, conducting community consultations, and supporting communities to co-design and operate people-centred early warning mechanisms.

The **Bahamas Red Cross Society** will institutionalise anticipatory actions such as pre-deployment of shelter management teams and early stock mobilisation as standard practice across hurricane seasons. It will also maintain a sustainable replenishment system for essential Non-Food Items (NFIs), focusing on critical water, hygiene, and sanitation (WASH) and shelter items needed annually during hurricane seasons.

The **Barbados Red Cross Society** will strengthen its [early warning](#) and [anticipatory action](#), ensuring that information and support reach people before emergencies strike. It will also work to improve preparedness within the organisation, through the [Preparedness for an Effective Response \(PER\)](#) approach for clearer systems for coordination, logistics, and information management.

The **Belize Red Cross Society** will focus on enhancing inclusive, community-level early warning and preparedness systems by increasing coordination with national and local stakeholders so that community perspectives shape planning and decision-making. To support this, the National Society plans

to rebuild and strengthen its technical foundations through refreshed Community Disaster Response Teams (CDRT) and National Disaster Response Teams (NDRT) training, structured cycles of [enhanced vulnerability and capacity assessment \(eVCA\)](#), and continue working with different stakeholders at national level towards the implementation of the [Early Warnings for All \(EW4ALL\)](#) roadmap on Pillar 4.

The **Dominica Red Cross Society** aims to enhance disaster preparedness and response by replicating the disaster-focused community resilience model piloted in the Tarreau community across other high-risk communities in Dominica. The National Society also intends to continue addressing disaster-related access challenges in vulnerable areas, including infrastructure improvements such as hillside access routes that were identified as essential for safe movement during emergencies.

The **Jamaica Red Cross** will continue implementing Hurricane Melissa early recovery activities including shelter repair, cash, and livelihoods support. It will also strengthen community-based disaster risk reduction and preparedness in the affected parishes through branch-led initiatives including the community microprojects for risk reduction and early warning system enhancement.

The **Saint Kitts and Nevis Red Cross Society** will strengthen its disaster response capacity over the coming years by formalising and reinforcing its auxiliary role with public authorities. A key priority is securing tangible state recognition and support, including advancing the pre-disaster agreement, to ensure clearer expectations and adequate resourcing for Red Cross Red Crescent's participation in response operations.

The **Suriname Red Cross** aims to strengthen its disaster preparedness and response capacity by continuing community-level preparedness activities and expanding the number of communities it works with, making the reactivation of community disaster response teams and the strengthening of volunteer preparedness critical priorities.

The **Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society** will work to promote public education and outreach, so promote preparation, response, and recovery. Youth will be invited to active and prominent roles, adding creativity and momentum to local action.

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the **Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross** with technical and material support for the [Preparedness for Effective Response \(PER\)](#) assessments and implementation. It will also assist with resource mobilization for equipment and training as well as the integration with the Caribbean Disaster Risk Management platform.

The IFRC will collaborate with the **Bahamas Red Cross Society** to provide [cash and voucher assistance \(CVA\)](#) training to staff

and volunteers. It will also coordinate with the Bahamas Red Cross Society to purchase material for shelter retrofitting as a result of the aftermath of Hurricane Melissa.

The IFRC will assist the **Barbados Red Cross Society** with technical assistance in [disaster law](#), data management, logistics, and information systems, while promoting linkages between the National Society and regional hubs such as the Caribbean Climate and Resilience Hub and the Global Disaster Preparedness Centre. These partnerships will support the National Society in embedding forecast-based financing, digital tools for early warning, and evidence-based decision-making within its operations.

The IFRC will support the **Belize Red Cross Society** with sustained guidance for strengthening training systems, including refreshed CDRT and NDRT training, eVCA application, and the development of field exercises that deepen practical preparedness skills. It will also assist the National Society with technical support in shaping a simplified [Early Action Protocol](#) (EAP) suited to Belize's context, particularly in establishing hazard selection processes, early action triggers, and the design of simulation exercises.

The IFRC will support the **Dominica Red Cross Society** with technical guidance on resource mobilisation to help the National Society maintain and complete essential disaster preparedness infrastructure, such as its five storage facilities, one of which remains unfinished. In addition, the IFRC will assist the National Society in revisiting and advancing the implementation of the PER approach to reinforce disaster assessment, planning, and preparedness processes in line with the National Society's evolving capacities.

The IFRC will support the **Guyana Red Cross Society** to advocate for disaster laws and policies that are climate smart and comprehensive. It will reflect all phases of the disaster management cycle, from risk reduction to recovery, including the timely and effective facilitation and regulation of international disaster assistance, providing for an enabling environment

for disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation and recognition of the National Society's auxiliary role.

The IFRC will support the **Jamaica Red Cross** with delivering technical guidance on cash and voucher assistance, livelihoods recovery, and logistics management in line with activities under the Hurricane Melissa operation. It will also support capacity-building for staff and volunteers, including in emergency operations, branch management, and volunteer coordination.

The IFRC will assist the **Saint Kitts and Nevis Red Cross Society** in strengthening the recognition of its auxiliary role in laws and policies. In this regard, IFRC will provide technical support to conclude a pre-disaster agreement that aims to establish a framework for cooperation between the Government, the National Society, and IFRC in the areas of disaster risk reduction, preparedness and response, recovery, and public health emergencies.

The IFRC will support the **Suriname Red Cross** with updating its essential disaster management documents such as its national disaster plan and contingency plan. Additionally, it will also assist the National Society in its collaborations with regional partners on civil military coordination and humanitarian response.

The IFRC will support the **Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society** in advocating to its government authorities for disaster laws and policies that are comprehensive, that is, reflecting of all phases of the disaster management cycle, from risk reduction to recovery, ensures the timely and effective facilitation and regulation of international disaster assistance and providing for an enabling environment for disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation. This support entails supporting the National Society and the Office of Disaster Preparedness and Management to finalize the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Policy and the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Bill while ensuring that the auxiliary role of the National Society is fully recognized and entrenched in disaster risk management instruments.



Health and wellbeing

The Caribbean islands are facing a growing burden of [noncommunicable diseases](#) (NCDs) such as heart disease, stroke, cancer, diabetes, and chronic lung disease.

In cases of pandemic or epidemic outbreaks such as COVID-19 or Zika, the prevalence of pre-existing health conditions such as [diabetes](#), [cardiovascular diseases](#), and [obesity](#) makes Caribbean communities extremely vulnerable. High levels of inequality and informality in the region make the situation potentially more catastrophic than in other parts of the world.

This is compounded by the region's abundance of small island developing states, which are also vulnerable to climate change.

Many of these countries are low-lying, small, often remote, and economically vulnerable. The Caribbean region already has a heavy burden of non-communicable chronic diseases (NCDs). NCDs are linked to more than [7 out of 10 deaths](#) in the Caribbean region, which exceeds the global average of nearly 60%. The risk factors such as obesity, physical inactivity, smoking, and alcohol which contribute to the development

of NCDs are also on the rise in Caribbean countries. The risks of infectious diseases, triggered by emergency events, also stretches the limited capacities of Caribbean health systems.

With regards to water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH), the countries in the region are working towards achieving the [Sustainable Development Goal 6 \(SDG 6\)](#), which aims for universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water and adequate sanitation by 2030. All WASH indicators in favour of WASH with a focus on governance, monitoring, human resources, and finance show a positive trend.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Protect the health and wellbeing of communities and improve through access to sustainable, affordable, appropriate, and quality health services across the life course
- Maintain the health and dignity of communities in emergencies and disease outbreaks through access to appropriate health services
- Build and maintain community-level capacity in effective detection, prevention, and response to infectious disease outbreaks and immunization campaigns
- Ensure communities have increased access to environmentally sustainable water and are practicing proper [sanitation and hygiene \(WASH\)](#), especially during emergency settings
- Capitalize on its auxiliary role to ensure their position on relevant country-level public health strategy, advocacy, and policy platforms and mechanisms

Planned activities in 2026

The **Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross** will establish a pilot Red Cross Clinic for marginalised populations. It will also conduct community health screenings per year and train individuals in [First Aid](#) and emergency response.

The **Bahamas Red Cross Society** will increase community access to Automated External Defibrillator (AEDs) by placing units in public buildings, schools and Red Cross facilities. It will also strengthen branch infrastructure across Family Islands to decentralize health-related services and extend community outreach.

The **Barbados Red Cross Society** will promote community health and [epidemic preparedness](#), expanding outreach in [first aid](#), hygiene, and health promotion, with special attention to older persons, migrants, and other vulnerable groups. It will also support epidemic control and vaccination awareness by working with the Ministry of Health and Wellness and other partners to maintain high immunisation

coverage and strengthen surveillance for communicable and vector-borne diseases.

The **Belize Red Cross Society** will expand its national [first aid](#) and CPR services, securing their integration into university curricula, and formalizing its role as the government's primary provider of first aid training. It also seeks to advance the home caregivers programme toward formal recognition within the national nursing pathway, reinforcing the country's health workforce.

The **Dominica Red Cross Society** will seek to strengthen its health and wellbeing services by expanding and professionalizing its first aid and basic life support (BLS) training programmes, which have shown steady growth and remain a key source of community support and income. It will also strengthen its ambulance services.

The **Guyana Red Cross Society** will establish a well-defined and active health/WASH strategy, official recognition and positioning within public health emergency preparedness and response coordination platforms, and the development of an active vision and framework for non-communicable diseases (NCDs). It will also work on the delivery of evidence-based health promotion, disease prevention, and community-based care activities, with a specific focus on vulnerable populations across various contexts. Additionally, there's an emphasis on expanding health services to enhance first aid activities and training, addressing mental health and psychosocial support.

The **Jamaica Red Cross** will expand and maintain [mental health and psychosocial support](#) (MHPSS) for families, volunteers, and staff impacted by the disaster. It will also strengthen access to basic health care in disaster-affected and underserved communities through the deployment of Mobile Health Units in coordination with the Ministry of Health and Wellness. The National Society will also strengthen community level WASH services through the distribution of hygiene kits, water treatment solutions, and hygiene promotion activities to reduce disease risks.

The **Saint Kitts and Nevis Red Cross Society** will continue its ongoing role in leading community education and outreach during health upsurges such as dengue. It intends to continue prioritizing support to vulnerable groups where endemic or recurring health concerns exist. The National Society's health programming will remain needs-based and closely aligned with national disaster partners, but with a deliberate effort to sustain and expand community-level health readiness despite human resource limitations.

The **Suriname Red Cross** intends to strengthen its health and wellbeing work by continuing routine first aid assistance and expanding first aid training across communities. By building the skills of community volunteers and linking them closely with health services, the National Society can help ensure that essential information, basic care and early support are available even when formal facilities are cut off, making

communities safer and more resilient in everyday life and in crisis.

The **Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society** will strengthen equitable access to essential health services through its network of community health programmes and mobile clinics. These mobile units will provide preventative, curative, and referral services, in particular targeting underserved and remote communities where access to primary healthcare remains limited.

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will provide technical support to the **Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross** on community-based health and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH). It will also aid the National Society through facilitating and providing guidance on health learning opportunities both online and in person to enhance the skills and competencies of staff and volunteers.

The IFRC will support the **Bahamas Red Cross Society** with first aid technical guidance and training support. It will also support standards and procurement advice for AED expansion.

The IFRC will support the **Barbados Red Cross Society** with strengthening technical collaboration through health, WASH, and mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) focal points, providing mentoring, training materials, and access to IFRC Reference Centres and Hubs. This will include support from the MHPSS Reference Centre, CADRIM, and the epidemic and pandemic preparedness team to help integrate community-based health preparedness and early action systems.

The IFRC will support the **Belize Red Cross Society** with strengthening national first aid and CPR systems through advice on curriculum development, quality standards, and monitoring approaches, as well as guidance to further develop the home caregivers programme so it aligns with recognized competencies. The IFRC will also provide continued technical support in WASH and psychosocial methodologies will help ensure programmes remain current and responsive to ongoing national requests.

The IFRC will support the **Dominica Red Cross Society** with targeted guidance on resource mobilization to help the National Society sustain and improve its ambulance service, addressing challenges related to high insurance and maintenance costs and limited availability of volunteer drivers outside working hours. This support will include exploring potential partnerships and funding avenues, including the development of cost-recovery approaches where appropriate.

The IFRC will support the **Guyana Red Cross Society** with technical support to explore opportunities for resource mobilization health and well-being activities and building new partnerships.

The IFRC will support the **Jamaica Red Cross** with continued technical and material support for health, hygiene, WASH, and psychosocial interventions in communities affected by Hurricane Melissa. It will also provide technical and operational support for health and WASH interventions, including coordination with health partners to align with national recovery and preparedness plans.

The IFRC will assist the **Saint Kitts and Nevis Red Cross Society** in sustaining and expanding its health preparedness and prevention work. This includes providing technical guidance in refining community-based health education approaches, improving systems for timely outreach during disease upsurges, and ensuring that health messaging consistently reaches vulnerable groups.

The IFRC will support the **Suriname Red Cross** with the First Aid Reference Centre and partner National Societies to provide technical guidance to the National Society on first aid expansion and community health engagement.

The IFRC will support the **Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society** with the Health and Wellbeing Working Group comprised of health focal points of National Societies formed to enhance and expand existing health and well-being initiatives. The purpose of the Working Group on Health and Well-being (WGHWB) is to develop Caribbean-wide large-scale programmes to address the more pressing health and well-being gaps. The Working Group will also serve as an advisory body to address unaddressed gaps in health and well-being, in line with Strategy 2030 and the Nassau Accord.



Caption



The Caribbean region is often overlooked as a destination for part of the estimated [7.7 million migrants and refugees](#) who fled the political and economic crises in Venezuela. As of May 2024, 6.59 million people found refuge in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Governments have not been equipped to respond to the unprecedented increase of migration into the Caribbean region, nor have they responded in a coordinated manner. Throughout the Caribbean, [Venezuelan migrants](#) face a variety of legal, economic, and social barriers that prevent their integration into society, especially amid pandemic-related concerns among public officials and host communities that their arrival puts undue pressure on public resources.

While government-imposed restrictions around COVID-19 have been removed, migrants continue to face stigma and discrimination resulting in limited or no access to livelihoods, causing evictions and preventing them from ensuring basic needs. Although the government has instituted various financial and economic measures to provide income, food, and rental support to vulnerable nationals and permanent residents financially affected by the pandemic, most asylum-seekers and migrants cannot benefit from these social programmes.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The National Societies of Belize, Guyana, Jamaica, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago are part of the IFRC's three-year [Global Route-Based Migration Programme](#), which aims to improve the safety and dignity of people on the move along deadly and dangerous land and sea-based migration routes across Africa, the Americas, Europe, and the Middle East and North Africa. The programme aims to support 4.7 million people on the move and people in host communities annually through three operational pillars: (1) improving access to assistance and protection, including through [humanitarian service points](#); (2) strengthening National Society capacities; and (3) local to global humanitarian diplomacy.

The National Society will also work to:

- Ensure migrants and displaced persons have access to humanitarian assistance and protection at key points along migratory routes
- Ensure migrants, including asylum seekers, refugees and migrant workers, in vulnerable situations and irrespective of their legal status have their essential needs met through assistance and protection services, including through [humanitarian service Points](#) (HSP)

- Ensure migrants and displaced persons have access to humanitarian assistance and are informed of their rights, criteria, and regulations for regularization
- Engage with migrants, displaced persons, and host communities to assess, understand, and respond to their priority needs more effectively

Planned activities in 2026

The **Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross** will strengthen protection and referral mechanisms for migrants and displaced persons. It will also train staff and volunteers on humanitarian assistance and rights-based approaches for migrants. It will also conduct advocacy for inclusion of migrants in national preparedness and health systems.

The **Bahamas Red Cross Society** will work to increase public understanding of safe, legal, and transparent pathways to Bahamian citizenship through targeted awareness campaigns. These efforts will contribute to more informed communities, improved protection outcomes for migrants, and stronger engagement with stakeholders involved in migration governance.

The **Belize Red Cross Society** will work to re-establish and strengthen its support to migrants and displaced people by building on previously carried out work through the migrant information hub at the Cayo branch. This includes restoring the hub's ability to provide information, accompaniment, and community outreach to migrants entering Belize through the western border, where most newly arrived migrants settle. The National Society intends to reinforce complementary services that were part of the earlier programme such as psychosocial support, first aid, livelihood skills, and child-focused cash assistance so that migrants can more easily navigate integration and well-being challenges.

The **Guyana Red Cross Society** will prioritise strengthening its ability to comprehend migration within its specific contexts and to provide suitable humanitarian services to migrants. One of the ways the National Society hopes to achieve this is by establishing a humanitarian service centre at the headquarters. This centre will serve displaced individuals and those affected by migration and displacement, including families who remain in their home areas, in close coordination with relevant local and international partners.

The **Saint Kitts and Nevis Red Cross Society** will seek to build clearer internal capacity to manage such situations, including developing a more structured approach to supporting migrants, ensuring appropriate referrals, and navigating unfamiliar legal and administrative processes. The National

Society will work to integrate migration considerations into its broader humanitarian and crisis-response framework.

The **Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society** will continue to support the education needs of migrant and displaced children by promoting access to learning opportunities and reducing their barriers. It will also make use of the [Cash and Voucher Assistance \(CVA\)](#) to help families meet the direct costs associated with education, such as transport costs. It will also work to reunite separated families through the Restoring Family Links (RFL) programme. It will continue to provide tracing services, family reunification support, and communication between relatives separated by migration, detention, or emergencies.

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the **Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross** with technical support through the [IFRC Migration and Displacement Hub](#). It will also support the National Society with resource mobilization for livelihood and protection activities.

The IFRC will support the **Bahamas Red Cross Society** with continued technical guidance and advisory support to strengthen its work with migrants and deportees. Through access to global expertise such as the migration hub, the IFRC will help the National Society build sustainable capacities to better serve migrants and contribute to national efforts on migration and displacement.

The IFRC will support the **Belize Red Cross Society** with ongoing technical guidance to help re-establish migration programming in a way that reflects current global standards and regional practices. The IFRC will also provide continued guidance on strengthening volunteer and branch capacity in migration-sensitive programming.

The IFRC will assist the **Guyana Red Cross Society** with efforts into enhancing the Red Cross Red Crescent Society's capacities to understand migration dynamics in their contexts and deliver appropriate humanitarian services to migrants, displaced people, and those impacted by the migratory and displacement phenomenon (including families who stay behind) in coordination with relevant local and international actors.

The IFRC will assist the **Saint Kitts and Nevis Red Cross Society** through technical guidance to strengthen its capacity to manage migration and displacement situations that arise unexpectedly. This guidance will be essential in applying appropriate humanitarian standards, developing clear internal procedures, and navigating the legal and administrative complexities that accompany migration cases areas.

The IFRC will support the **Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society** with its efforts to address the evolving challenges of the country's migrant situation over the next three years. It will also support the National Society's commitment to enhancing the resilience and support systems for vulnerable migrants in Trinidad and Tobago.



Values, power and inclusion

The broader global issues facing the Caribbean amplify the specific challenges facing women and girls, from gender-based violence (GBV) and economic barriers to limited political influence and the disproportionate effects of climate change. More than [30 percent](#) of women in the Caribbean fear sexual assault in their communities, and household pressures and limited access to credit and finance hinder women-owned businesses.

A [UN Women report](#) indicates that the COVID-19 pandemic has not only increased the prevalence of violence within the home, but also other forms of violence against women and girls, particularly migrants. The pandemic has further aggravated the situation for migrants and refugees, creating a lack of access to services, protection, livelihoods, and health. Many migrants in Trinidad and Tobago and Guyana work in the hospitality sector, which has been repeatedly locked down. In an [August 2020 UNICEF study](#), it was estimated that unemployment among migrant populations rose to more than 50 per cent. Xenophobia-related violence, harassment, and

other forms of violence in public spaces and online has also become more prevalent, and the risk of sexual exploitation and abuse in exchange for social safety net benefits is common.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The protection, gender and inclusion (PGI) approach for the Dutch and English speaking Caribbean will focus on further building the capacities of the National Societies. The PGI network established in the region will focus on the implementation of the IFRC [PGI operational framework 2022–2025](#), which sets out how to turn the new IFRC PGI policy into action.

- Ensure the network is safe and inclusive, ensuring dignity, access, participation, and safety for people of all identities
- Promote and support safe, equitable, and continuous access to quality education for all, especially children affected by disaster, crisis, or displacement

- Contribute to a positive change in communities through wider understanding, ownership, dissemination and application of [fundamental principles](#) and humanitarian values
- Focus on enhancing [young people's knowledge](#), skills, and behaviour
- Increase focus on integrating [protection, gender and inclusion \(PGI\)](#) in programmatic and project activities
- Train shelter wardens on creating child-friendly spaces, aligned with the [child safeguarding policy](#) and child participation toolkit

diversity, by making more efforts to protect people and their dignity, and by contributing to resilience and building peaceful environments.

The **Jamaica Red Cross** will work on building the institutional capacity on Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI) and Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA). It will also strengthen inter-agency coordination and referral mechanisms with national authorities, United Nation's agencies, ICRC, and local organisations to ensure protection services (including the [Restoring Family Links](#) programme) and [safeguarding](#) referrals function effectively.

The **Suriname Red Cross** plans to update its volunteer policy and create clear pathways for volunteer development to help volunteers grow within the organization and contribute meaningfully. It will also expand community engagement approaches and establishing a stronger presence across more districts, whether through local volunteers or virtual structures.

The **Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society** will continue to strengthen its focus on protection, gender, and inclusion by promoting the participation and empowerment of women, youth, migrants, and persons with disabilities in all programmes and community activities. It will prioritize the development of structured training through the Humanitarian Academy to build leadership, safeguarding, and volunteer capacity, ensuring safe and inclusive spaces for all. Collaboration with key partners including government ministries, civil society, and the private sector will remain essential to expanding psychosocial support, violence prevention, and social inclusion initiatives.

Planned activities in 2026

The **Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross** will mainstream PGI principles in all programmes and train its volunteers in PGI and [community engagement and accountability](#) (CEA). It will also work to improve accessibility at the National Society facilities to all.

The **Bahamas Red Cross Society** will work to strengthen communication and recognition mechanisms to improve engagement across the organisation. It will also work to enhance member engagement through more consistent outreach and supportive systems.

The **Barbados Red Cross Society** will advance [protection, gender, and inclusion](#) (PGI) by implementing survivor-centred safeguarding measures, completing human resources and governance reforms, and supporting national advocacy to reduce gender-based violence and discrimination. It will also institutionalise the [community engagement and accountability](#) (CEA) across all programmes by embedding feedback systems into project management, increasing transparency, and building communication capacities at branch and community levels.

The **Belize Red Cross Society** will strengthen youth participation and inclusion by expanding youth engagement beyond school-based clubs and re-establishing a national youth structure. It will convene a national youth encounter to elect a Youth Central Committee and enable young volunteers to participate in governance and decision-making at all levels of the organization.

The **Dominica Red Cross Society** will focus on making its health and wellbeing services more inclusive, especially for people who often struggle to access support. This includes continuing to provide emergency transport for individuals who cannot rely on public ambulance services and ensuring that assistance is delivered fairly and without discrimination.

The **Guyana Red Cross Society** will work towards enhancing its capacities to increase awareness and actions through the powerful role of the youths by engaging with the education community, by making significant efforts towards more inclusive work dynamics, by working to achieve greater

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the **Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross** with technical assistance for the IFRC PGI and CEA units. In addition, it will support the access to learning materials from the IFRC PGI leads and Youth Commission.

The IFRC will support the **Bahamas Red Cross Society** with guidance to strengthen an inclusive organizational culture, including practices that ensure volunteers and staff feel valued, heard, and connected to the mission. It will also offer technical advice and tools to strengthen membership development strategies, helping attract, retain, and mobilize a broader and more diverse membership base.

The IFRC will support the **Barbados Red Cross Society** with technical guidance on PGI, CEA, and education programming, including support for operationalizing updated safeguarding and human resource policies. It will continue to strengthen data management, facilitate training in inclusive community engagement, and ensure the National Society's alignment with regional strategies on accountability and trust.

The IFRC will support the **Belize Red Cross Society** in re-establishing a national youth governance structure, develop clear participation pathways for young volunteers, and ensure the integration of youth perspectives into formal decision-making processes.

The IFRC will support the **Dominica Red Cross Society** by providing guidance on connecting with specialised partners that supply mobility and rehabilitation equipment to help fill gaps that national services currently cannot meet. The IFRC can also help the National Society strengthen the inclusion aspects of its health-related services, ensuring that people with disabilities or mobility challenges receive appropriate, respectful, and timely support.

The IFRC will support the **Guyana Red Cross Society** with empowering youth through education and community engagement, fostering more inclusive work dynamics, safeguarding human dignity, and enhancing resilience and peace in the region. The IFRC will provide training, and guidance to help the Guyana Red Cross Society harness the potential of young individuals as agents of positive change, promote diversity and inclusivity, and contribute to building resilient and peaceful communities, working together to create a more inclusive, empowered, and resilient society in Guyana.

The IFRC will support the **Jamaica Red Cross** with providing sustained technical guidance and quality assurance on PGI and safeguarding integration in all recovery and development interventions. It will also assist the National Society with the deployment of regional surge and technical experts to assist in establishing child-friendly spaces, community feedback systems, and safeguarding protocols.

The IFRC will support the **Suriname Red Cross** with technical guidance in strengthening volunteer management systems, updating volunteer policies, and helping design tools such as perception surveys that capture volunteer experiences and needs.

The IFRC will support the **Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society** with the development of PGI and safeguarding policies, ensuring alignment with the IFRC's [Minimum Standards for PGI in Emergencies](#). It will facilitate access to regional peer exchange and capacity-building opportunities through the PGI Network and Reference Centres, while also providing ongoing technical guidance to strengthen institutional capacity and programme quality.

ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS

The Dutch and English speaking Caribbean National Societies are committed to pursuing National Society development, and all of them, apart from the Guyana Red Cross Society have 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 Societies are also committed to the [Preparedness for Effective Response](#) (PER) process, and most of them are at different phases of completion. The approach is a continuous and flexible process that enables National Societies to assess, measure and analyse the strengths and gaps of their preparedness and response mechanisms, and take necessary action to improve it.



Strategic and operational coordination

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Increase its cooperation and coordination with external partners to address major challenges facing communities
- Fulfil its priorities for Movement coordination and cooperation, as outlined in the [Council of Delegates meeting](#) in 2019
- Ensure effective shelter cluster coordination with partners inside and outside the network and take an increased role in shelter cluster coordination
- Effectively increase financial resources, both through domestic fundraising

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the **Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross** in strengthening coordination with national authorities through formalized MOUs with the Meteorological Office, Agriculture Ministry, and NODS to enhance preparedness and response. It will also assist the National Society in expanding [first aid](#) services and online donations to diversify domestic funding. Movement coordination and active participate in IFRC sub-regional platforms will also be reinforced to improve alignment and collaboration.

The IFRC will support the **Bahamas Red Cross Society** in strengthening national coordination to improve emergency preparedness and response, ensuring clearer reporting lines and better information flow between headquarters and branches. The National Society will embed new governance and financial management systems into daily operations to enhance coherence with the assistance of the IFRC. Partnerships with government authorities and organizations such as Rotary Clubs will also be consolidated to expand community-based preparedness and safety initiatives.

The IFRC will assist the **Barbados Red Cross Society** in strengthening coordination in line with its auxiliary role and national disaster frameworks. It will enhance partnerships with government, civil society, private sector, and Movement partners to improve preparedness and response. Internal collaboration will also be reinforced to improve coherence and volunteer engagement. Financial sustainability will be prioritized through diversified fundraising and partnerships, strengthening the National Society's role as a credible national coordination actor.

The IFRC will assist the **Belize Red Cross Society** with strengthening engagement with national disaster authorities through consistent participation in planning and structured coordination with National Emergency Management

Organization (NEMO). The National Society will also receive support in aligning its initiatives with national priorities, including the forthcoming Caribbean Development Bank-funded 2026 programmes, while clarifying its auxiliary role in legislation and reinforcing recognition of its responsibilities in early warning, health, and preparedness.

The IFRC will support the **Dominica Red Cross Society** with strengthening auxiliary role through more structured and consistent engagement with national authorities beyond emergency responses. The IFRC will aid the National Society's efforts to improve understanding and integration of its capacities across sectors, while building on existing cooperation such as support to the Electoral Commission to enhance relevance and operational coordination with state institutions.

The IFRC will offer continued technical guidance to the **Guyana Red Cross Society** with reviewing and strengthening national and inter-agency coordination mechanisms to improve effectiveness and participation. It will also remain active in coordination platforms while developing a fundraising strategy to secure sustainable resources. The National Society will also leverage global private-sector partnerships to enhance its national-level cooperation and operational capacity.

The IFRC will support the **Jamaica Red Cross** with strengthening coordination between headquarters and its 11 branches to enhance preparedness, response, and recovery. It will also assist the coordination of the Hurricane Melissa Appeal with Movement partners and national authorities, collaborate with Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM) and Parish Disaster Committees, and harmonise multilateral and bilateral support under a unified Federation-wide approach.

The IFRC will provide the **Saint Kitts and Nevis Red Cross Society** assistance with strengthening strategic and operational coordination by addressing leadership and structural gaps to improve consistency between headquarters and branches. The IFRC will also advance formal agreements with public authorities to clarify roles and enhance coordination during emergencies.

The IFRC will assist the **Suriname Red Cross** with deepening coordination with the National Disaster Office as well as the Medical Mission and Ministry of Agriculture to strengthen joint preparedness, assessments, and response. It will also aid the enhancement of seasonal hazard readiness, reactivate disaster response teams, and align community-level actions with national mechanisms, ensuring cohesive, government-aligned support for affected communities.

The IFRC will support the **Trinidad Tobago Red Cross Society** in strengthening coordination nationally, within the Movement, and across its membership by deepening partnerships with authorities and key stakeholders. It will also enhance

collaboration with the ICRC on protection and migration, revitalising branch and volunteer systems, and diversifying resource mobilisation through international partnerships and domestic income-generating initiatives.



National Society development

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Continue to be a network of relevant local organisations who are the trusted partners of choice for local humanitarian action with the capabilities to act in the global network
- Promote image and advocate for change, affecting public behaviour, policies, and decisions on a domestic, regional, and global scale
- Improve financial sustainability by updating the resource mobilization plan, enhancing local and international fundraising efforts, and strengthening investment and financial management strategies
- Update policies on Youth, duty of care, and volunteering, while providing training for volunteer managers to strengthen volunteer engagement and retention, with a focus on youth
- Prioritize volunteering development and youth action as critical catalysts of behavioural change and local action, ensuring access and nurturing trust in all contexts

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the **Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross** with prioritising comprehensive governance and management reforms to strengthen institutional effectiveness. It will also support the advance branch development and youth leadership training to build future leaders, while enhancing volunteer management through digital platforms to improve coordination, engagement, and service delivery nationwide.

The IFRC will assist the **Bahamas Red Cross Society** with restoring and maintaining full financial and administrative compliance through timely audits and strengthened reporting systems. It will also formalise branch structures with improved staffing and administration, while enhancing volunteer and staff engagement, motivation, and retention through structured support, recognition, and a stronger organisational culture.

The IFRC will also assist the **Barbados Red Cross Society** is advancing governance reform, strategic planning, and Preparedness for Effective Response (PER) actions to strengthen accountability and leadership. It will also support the National Society in enhancing volunteer engagement and

youth participation, improving financial sustainability and strengthening legal recognition of its auxiliary role through advocacy and review of its Red Cross law.

The IFRC will assist the **Belize Red Cross** with strengthening governance by finalising statutes, advancing Red Cross law review, and engaging government on legal updates. It will also revitalise youth leadership and inactive branches, and rehabilitate the headquarters to expand training, community services, and income-generating activities.

The IFRC will assist the **Dominica Red Cross Society** with the development of a new strategic plan, branch functionality, youth engagement, volunteer retention, and headquarters capacity gaps. The IFRC will also aid with prioritising resource mobilisation despite limited funding options, improve storage infrastructure, and expand outreach.

The IFRC will support the **Guyana Red Cross Society** in aligning its strategy with the IFRC Strategy 2030, revise statutes and strengthen its auxiliary role. It will also support the enhancement of governance, financial management, accountability and resource mobilisation. All while implementing volunteer safety standards and insurance. These reforms will modernise the National Society and strengthen its long-term institutional sustainability and effectiveness.

The IFRC will aid the **Jamaica Red Cross** with strengthening governance and leadership succession, restoring key western branches, and enhancing financial management and resource mobilisation. It will also assist with the improvement of volunteer systems, deliver humanitarian leadership training, and advance organisational effectiveness, accountability, and long-term sustainability.

The IFRC will assist the **Saint Kitts and Nevis Red Cross Society** with strengthening governance and decision-making processes, address overdue statutory requirements including audits, and modernise outdated financial systems. It will also reinforce volunteer management structures to reduce over-reliance on small groups and promote a more balanced, sustainable and accountable approach to service delivery.

The IFRC will assist the **Suriname Red Cross** with updating key policies and contingency plans to strengthen organisational clarity and preparedness. It will enhance volunteer management through improved onboarding and development pathways, while expanding local presence by establishing

volunteer groups in underserved districts to ensure broader national coverage and community representation.

The IFRC will support the **Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society** in strengthening its governance through branch

reactivation, leadership training, and clearer oversight roles. It will also develop a structured volunteer leadership pathways and improved data systems, while investing in staff capacity and diversifying local revenue to enhance sustainability, accountability, and community-centred service delivery.



Humanitarian diplomacy

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Successfully promote its image and advocate for change, affecting public behaviour, policies, and decisions on a domestic, regional, and global scale
- Promote image and advocate for change, affecting public behaviour, policies, and decisions on a domestic, regional, and global scale
- Increase visibility through digital storytelling and social media

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the **Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross** in strengthening humanitarian diplomacy by launching a new website to enhance communication and fundraising, increasing visibility through digital storytelling and social media, and advocating for stronger legislative recognition of its auxiliary role and environmental action priorities.

The IFRC will support the **Bahamas Red Cross Society** with strengthening public trust through improved governance, transparency, and reliable operations. It will also expand partnerships with government, private sector, and local actors to mobilise support for community services and branch development. These efforts will be pursued alongside enhancing communication with members and volunteers to broaden participation and national reach.

The IFRC will assist the **Barbados Red Cross Society** in strengthening its humanitarian diplomacy by enhancing communication, visibility, and advocacy to reinforce its auxiliary role. It will also deepen engagement with government and regional platforms to promote preparedness, health, climate resilience and social protection.

The IFRC will aid the **Belize Red Cross Society** with technical support for the development of policy briefs and legal recommendations to clarify its auxiliary role and support disaster legislation updates. It will also work to enhance engagement with ministries and NEMO, while improving communication of its plans, achievements, and strategic priorities to increase national visibility and alignment.

The IFRC will support the **Dominica Red Cross Society** with guidance on enhancing communication around its services

and auxiliary role. Through clear and consistent messaging, the IFRC will aid the National Society in deepening its engagement with communities, partners, and external stakeholders. Thereby, increasing visibility and public understanding of its humanitarian mandate.

The IFRC will support the **Guyana Red Cross Society** in developing a targeted communication strategy with audience-specific messaging and two-way engagement. It will also identify and address training needs for communication staff to ensure effective delivery of clear, impactful messages that enhance public understanding and stakeholder engagement.

The IFRC will aid the **Jamaica Red Cross** in strengthening advocacy and communication to reinforce recognition of its auxiliary role. It will also share learnings from the Hurricane Melissa operation to inform national disaster risk and climate discussions, promote humanitarian principles, and engage regional forums and diplomatic partners to advance key humanitarian priorities.

The IFRC will assist the **Saint Kitts and Nevis Red Cross Society** in strengthening advocacy for its auxiliary role and enhance dialogue with government institutions amid increasing emergency expectations. It will improve internal and external communication systems, including reliable emergency communications, to boost visibility, preparedness, response capacity, and community engagement.

The IFRC will support the **Suriname Red Cross** by advocating for clearer recognition of its auxiliary role and formalised agreements with government. It will enhance communication capacity through improved digital platforms, targeted outreach, and dedicated communication focal points to increase visibility, public trust, and national positioning as a reliable humanitarian partner.

Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society will strengthen communication to increase public awareness and showcase impact. It will advance targeted humanitarian diplomacy on detention access, migrant protection and humanitarian space, expand engagement with the diplomatic corps, and develop advocacy tools to influence climate resilience, disaster preparedness and social protection policies.



Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Works as a global accountable network
- Undergoes a digital transformation at the Head Quarters as well through improved monitoring and evaluation structures
- Use innovative and transformative approaches to better anticipate, adapt to, and change for complex challenges and opportunities
- Maintain strong financial transparency, safeguarding, and integrity standards

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will assist the **Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross** by supporting the development of a digital transformation plan, data management, and online volunteer systems. It will also support the National Society in upholding strong financial transparency as it alongside strengthens its internal data systems to support results-based management and improved reporting to stakeholders.

The IFRC will aid the **Bahamas Red Cross Society** in maintaining strong financial integrity, record-keeping and organisational accountability under Governance, Risk, Audit and Compliance oversight. It will aid the reinforcement of internal systems and decision-making across headquarters and branches, and ensure consistent reporting and compliance to support reliable planning, transparency, and agile external engagement.

The IFRC will support the **Barbados Red Cross Society** in enhancing its financial management, governance, risk and safeguarding systems. It will also advance digital transformation to improve data management, volunteer coordination, and results-based reporting, while promoting staff well-being and innovation to ensure effective humanitarian service delivery.

The IFRC will support the **Dominica Red Cross Society** through annual planning and measurable results. It will

also aid the enhancement of digital capabilities and submit regular performance reports, improving transparency, monitoring, timely decision-making and operational agility in line with country-focused commitments. The IFRC will also advance digital transformation to enhance services and expand outreach.

The IFRC will assist the **Guyana Red Cross Society** by developing clear financial policies and procedures covering budgeting, expense reporting, and internal controls. These guidelines will be accessible and regularly communicated to stakeholders, promoting transparency, sound financial management and improved organisational oversight.

The IFRC will aid the **Jamaica Red Cross** in ensuring efficient use of resources and compliance with the IFRC standards. It will also assist the strengthening of community feedback, safeguarding, and protection systems, while enhancing institutional agility. It will also assist with the advancement of digital transformation to increase organisational effectiveness.

The IFRC will also assist the **Saint Kitts and Nevis Red Cross Society** with audits, ensuring regular financial reporting and internal accountability frameworks. It will also aid the modernisation of administrative processes to improve transparency and overall operational effectiveness and stakeholder confidence.

The IFRC will support the **Suriname Red Cross** with contingency plans, policies, and procedures to guide consistent operations. It will also enhance volunteer engagement through feedback-driven improvements and advance digital learning, including expanded online and Dutch-language training, to build skills, agility and more responsive humanitarian action.

The IFRC will support the **Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society** through robust safeguarding, enhancing donor accountability, and advancing digital transformation, including technology in emergencies. It will also aid the promotion of environmentally sustainable operations to improve agility and long-term resilience.



The IFRC Health Officer for the Country Cluster Delegation in Port-of-Spain, Dawn Byng, practices her CPR steps during the IFRC Caribbean First Aid Training of Trainers, 24 April 2022. (Photo: The Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society)

THE IFRC NETWORK

The IFRC

The IFRC supports the Dutch and English-speaking Caribbean National Societies through its country cluster delegation based in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago. The IFRC's support centres on strategic and operational coordination, National Society development and humanitarian diplomacy. It also supports accountability as a cross-cutting theme. The IFRC supports the National Societies with strengthening their auxiliary roles by meeting key stakeholders at government level on a regular basis.

In recent years, the IFRC has supported the National Societies in the Dutch and English speaking Caribbean through a number of [Disaster Response Emergency Fund \(DREF\)](#) and [Emergency Appeal](#) operations in relation to hurricanes and tropical storms, floods, disease outbreaks and volcano eruptions.

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.

In the Dutch and English-speaking Caribbean, various established national and regional mechanisms provide space for coordination and knowledge sharing. Those include, most prominently, the Red Cross Caribbean Disaster Risk Management Reference Centre (CADRIM), which takes the lead in building and contributing knowledge and providing services to the IFRC network in the Caribbean, as well as contributes to the Americas and globally. CADRIM actively

works towards the development of evidence, data and research on how to strengthen community resilience through sustainable preparedness and risk reduction activities, particularly in small island developing states.

The **French Red Cross**, through the Regional Intervention Platform for the Americas and the Caribbean of the French Red Cross (PIRAC), works in Eastern Caribbean countries under the Ready Together project in international disaster response law and civil military activities, as well as in climate change adaptation and disaster preparedness activities. The platform will also work with the National Societies of Antigua

and Barbuda and Dominica to train trainers and accredit National Society commercial first aid with the IFRC Global First Aid Reference Centre.

The National Societies of the Dutch and English speaking Caribbean also receive long-term support from the **American Red Cross** (Barbados and Trinidad and Tobago), the **Canadian Red Cross Society** (Barbados), the **French Red Cross** (Dominica, Jamaica, St. Kitts and Nevis), **Italian Red Cross** (Dominica, and exploring support to Antigua and Barbuda), the **Japanese Red Cross Society** (Barbados), and the **Netherlands Red Cross** (Suriname).

Movement coordination

The National Societies 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 some of the National Societies in their work on restoring family links and tracing, primarily in the areas of migration, and in promoting international humanitarian law. The [Caracas regional delegation](#) covers Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago and Venezuela. It focuses on promoting International Humanitarian Law among armed forces and police, detainees and cooperation with National Societies.

Coordination with other actors

The IFRC maintains a strong strategic partnership with the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA), with active participation in regional technical committees, working groups and preparedness platforms. Collaboration focuses on anticipatory action, early warning systems, shelter coordination and community resilience, aligned with the Regional Comprehensive Disaster Management (CDM) Strategy. The IFRC and CDEMA continue to operationalise joint priorities under their Memorandum of Understanding, strengthening coordinated disaster preparedness and response across Participating States.

The Red Cross Caribbean Disaster Risk Management Reference Centre (CaDRiM) continues to work with regional and international partners and academic institutions to enhance community resilience tools, climate adaptation programming and early warning capacity. Ongoing efforts include expanding digital learning platforms, updating community emergency response training materials and strengthening public

awareness and public education (PAPE) resources across the region. CaDRiM is also actively develops evidence-based data and research that can inform leadership and help bridge gaps in future projects and programmes implemented by the IFRC and National Societies through the integration of lessons learnt and best practices.

The IFRC and Caribbean National Societies continue to implement institutional and community preparedness initiatives with support from key partners reinforcing emergency readiness, logistics, anticipatory action and disaster risk reduction capacities.

Strategic partnerships also extend to climate and health institutions, including the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre and the Caribbean Public Health Authority (CARPHA), supporting climate resilience programming and vector borne disease research action across the Caribbean.



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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Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross

W www.facebook.com/ab.redcross/

Bahamas Red Cross Society

W www.bahamasredcrosssociety.com

Barbados Red Cross

W www.barbadosredcross.com/

Belize Red Cross

W www.facebook.com/BelizeRedCrossSociety/

Dominica Red Cross

W [www.ifrc.org/national-societies-directory/
dominica-red-cross-society](https://www.ifrc.org/national-societies-directory/dominica-red-cross-society)

Guyana Red Cross

W guyanaredcross.org.gy/

Saint Kitts and Nevis Red Cross

W www.facebook.com/sknrcs/

Saint Lucia Red Cross

W www.saintluciarredcross.org/

Suriname Red Cross

W [www.ifrc.org/national-societies-directory/
suriname-red-cross](https://www.ifrc.org/national-societies-directory/suriname-red-cross)

Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross

W www.ttrcs.org/