



PARAGUAY

2025-2027 IFRC network country plan



Multi-Year Funding Requirement **CHF 19.8M**

20 March 2025

In support of the Paraguayan Red Cross



21

National Society
branches



21

National Society
local units



35

National Society
staff



1,438

National Society
volunteers

People to be reached



3,000

Climate and
environment



4,000

Disasters
and crises



8,000

Health and
wellbeing



500

Migration and
displacement



500

Values, power
and inclusion

IFRC network multi-year focus

Longer-term needs

- Disaster risk management
- Climate change adaptation
 - Community health
- Capacity development

Capacity development

- Auxiliary role
- Financial sustainability and resource mobilization
 - Volunteering

Key country data links

INFORM Climate Change Risk Index **Low**

Human Development Index rank **102**

World Bank Population figure **6.8M**

World Bank Population below poverty line **24.7%**

Funding requirements

2025

2026**

2027**

**Projected funding requirements

Total 7.2M CHF

Total 6.2M CHF

Total 6.4M CHF

Through the Host National Society

5.8M CHF

Through Participating National Societies

→ **520,000 CHF**

Through the IFRC

→ **925,000 CHF**

HNS Breakdown

IFRC Breakdown

Longer term needs

150,000 CHF

Climate & environment

100,000 CHF

Disasters & crises

4M CHF

Health & wellbeing

50,000 CHF

Migration & displacement

50,000 CHF

Values, power & inclusion

1.5M CHF

Enabling local actors

Through the Host National Society

6M CHF

Through the IFRC

→ **283,000 CHF**

HNS Breakdown

IFRC Breakdown

Longer term needs

155,000 CHF

Climate & environment

103,000 CHF

Disasters & crises

4.1M CHF

Health & wellbeing

52,000 CHF

Migration & displacement

52,000 CHF

Values, power & inclusion

1.5M CHF

Enabling local actors

Through the Host National Society

6.2M CHF

Through the IFRC

→ **292,000 CHF**

HNS Breakdown

IFRC Breakdown

Longer term needs

160,000 CHF

Climate & environment

106,000 CHF

Disasters & crises

4.2M CHF

Health & wellbeing

53,000 CHF

Migration & displacement

53,000 CHF

Values, power & inclusion

1.6M CHF

Enabling local actors

80,000 CHF

Values, power & inclusion

212,000 CHF

Enabling local actors

See back page for explanatory note on funding requirements

Participating National Societies bilateral support for 2025

National Society name	Funding Requirement	Climate	Disasters and crises	Health and wellbeing	Migration	Values, power and inclusion	Enabling local actors
Italian Red Cross							
Swiss Red Cross	520,000						

Total Funding requirement **CHF 520,000**

Participating National Societies

Italian Red Cross
Swiss Red Cross

IFRC Appeal codes

Long-term needs:

MAAPY002

Hazards



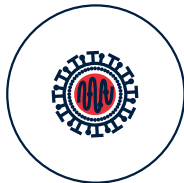
Drought



Floods



Fires



Disease outbreaks



The Paraguayan Red Cross provided monetary assistance to people families affected by floods (Photo: Paraguayan Red Cross)

NATIONAL SOCIETY PROFILE

The **Paraguayan Red Cross** was founded in 1919 by Dr. Andrés Barbero and was admitted to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in 1922. It is the oldest humanitarian aid organization in the country and the one with the largest territorial coverage. As a voluntary organization, its social impact is recognized by all citizens.

According to a law of 2016, it serves as an auxiliary to the public authorities in full compliance with the principle of independence. The law regulates the relations of the Paraguayan Red Cross with the competent public authorities, enabling it to collaborate and provide humanitarian assistance. It grants the National Society the competence to act in risk reduction, disaster prevention actions and the provision of humanitarian aid. Consequently, the National Society responds to urgent and emergency situations, providing health care services in communities and to vulnerable people, focusing especially on the sick, injured or at-risk.

The National Society has a national headquarters located in Asunción, 21 branches distributed throughout the national territory, a maternal and child hospital and an educational centre that provides services. Each operational unit collaborates according to the specific needs of its area to fulfil the organization's mission.

In its latest Strategic Plan (2021-2025), the National Society aims to (a) enhance the impact of health, youth, social inclusion and disaster risk management programmes (b) develop a sustainable organizational culture (c) strengthen the institutional identity to generate a national positioning of reference, and (d) generate and implement financial sustainability strategies locally, nationally, and at the Reina Sofía Maternal and Children's Hospital.



Map of the territorial units of the Paraguayan Red Cross

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

IFRC NETWORK ACTION

JOINT SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

Paraguay ranks as Latin America's eighth-largest country located in south-central South America. It has a population of 6.8 million people and a very low population density of 17 inhabitants per square kilometre. It borders Brazil, Argentina and Bolivia. Most of the country's population is between 15 and 64 years of age. However, in recent years, there has been a decrease in the number of children and adolescents and a marked increase in the population over 65 years of age.

Paraguay's GDP has recovered to pre-COVID-19 levels, both in aggregate and per capita terms. Currently, 22 per cent of the population lives below the poverty line, and 33 per cent

experiences deprivation in areas such as work and social security, housing and services, health and environment and education. Regional disparities also persist, with poverty rates ranging from 4 per cent in the capital to 33 per cent in the departments of the central zone.

Paraguay has a low global risk index, reflecting its relatively low exposure to hazards, vulnerability and capacity to address them. However, significant challenges stem from high exposure to natural hazards, considerable socioeconomic vulnerability and limited institutional capacity for anticipating and responding to risks. According to the IFRC Humanitarian Observatory (2024), the country is particularly susceptible to floods, droughts, and forest fires, which are influenced by El Niño and La Niña phenomena. These challenges are further compounded by rising vector-borne diseases, food insecurity, and pronounced social inequality.



Paraguayan Red Cross volunteers leading a workshop with community members in conducting vulnerability and capacity assessments, in October 2024 (Photo: Paraguayan Red Cross)

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Climate and environment

Paraguay is a country with moderate exposure and vulnerability to climate change, in its current development trajectory, especially to extreme events such as droughts, epidemics and floods. Paraguay has seen an increase in its average temperature since 1995 and an increase in its seasonal precipitation regime combined with exposure to drought via El Niño and La Niña phenomena. Temperatures are expected to continue to rise by 2 degrees Celsius by 2050 and 4 degrees Celsius by 2100, resulting in a deterioration in animal and human health, agricultural activity, the availability of water resources and pressure on ecosystems.

Paraguay was ranked is 11th globally in terms of loss of forest cover between 2001 and 2023. Between 2000 and 2010 it experienced a net loss of 25 per cent in that area. This phenomenon has been the result mainly of deforestation for productive purposes, followed by the change of land use to agriculture. It is noteworthy that this phenomenon is concentrated mainly in two regions: Boquerón and Alto Paraguay. According to Global Forest Watch, 93 per cent of the loss of forest mass in Paraguay was due to activities linked to the production of raw materials such as beef, soybeans and timber.

Waste management, along with water and air pollution, remains one of the most pressing environmental challenges at the national level, particularly in urban areas. The absence of a national monitoring system for municipal solid waste generation, water quality and air quality exacerbate these issues. Waste management efforts are limited to collection and final disposal, leading to waste accumulation in streets and public areas. This has also driven the growth of informal activities for waste recovery and disposal in water bodies. Paraguay has the 11th highest mortality rate in Latin America and the Caribbean due to unsafe water, inadequate sanitation and poor hygiene. Air pollution, primarily from small-scale mining and coal combustion, further compounds these challenges. These issues pose significant risks to the quality of life, especially in communities affected by poverty, informal activities, and high population density.

Paraguayan legislation such as the “Zero Deforestation Law” attempts to fight the loss of tree cover, however, it currently only applies to the country's eastern Regions. Some legislations only punish crimes against the environment; however, the application of the law is sporadic.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Paraguayan Red Cross is part of the IFRC Global Climate Resilience Programme, which aims to foster an unprecedented scale-up in locally-led climate-smart disaster risk reduction and adaptation efforts. These are designed 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 National Society aims to take urgent action to adapt to the growing and changing risks of the climate and environmental crises. It will also focus on adopting environmentally sustainable practices and contribute to climate change mitigation.

Planned activities in 2025

- Carry out awareness and environmental care campaigns aimed at young people, in public spaces and schools
- Implement the roadmap developed during the early warning and early action dialogue platform

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will financially and technically support the Paraguayan Red Cross in its endeavours to continue and expand the actions it is implementing. It will also assist in the training of staff and volunteers in climate-smart operations and programmes.

The **Swiss Red Cross** will support the Paraguayan Red Cross in the implementation of its youth awareness campaigns focused on the environment.



Disasters and crises

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

Paraguay is classified as a [low-risk country](#) by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee's Reference Group on Risks, Early Warning and Preparedness and the European Commission. However, the country faces significant threats, including riverine floods, epidemics and droughts. In the last five years, the main emergencies and disasters that have occurred in Paraguay have been related to both hydrometeorological events such as floods, droughts and heat waves; and human-induced anthropogenic activities such as deforestation, forest fires and land degradation. In 2024, widespread [forest fires](#), exacerbated by drought conditions, consumed approximately 465,417 hectares between September and October, originating from 463 active fires.

Floods are a [recurring disaster](#) in the region, primarily taking two forms: fluvial floods from the seasonal overflow of the Paraná, Paraguay, and Pilcomayo rivers, and urban pluvial floods caused by localized heavy rains. Urban pluvial floods impact the regional economy by flooding crops, disrupting communication routes, and causing partial or total isolation of certain areas. Flooding typically occurs between April and July, the rainiest period in the country. In early 2023, the northern regions around Concepción, Amambay, and Alto Paraguay experienced significant flooding due to the overflowing Paraguay River, affecting an [estimated 20,000 people](#). Additionally, in October 2023, [severe flooding](#) along the Paraná River led to the evacuation of approximately 2,000 families, resulting in at least five fatalities and 17 injuries, and impacted 10 departments nationwide.

Conversely, droughts also directly affect the population, crops, river navigation and hydroelectric generation, and therefore the economy. Since Paraguay's economy relies heavily on agriculture and livestock, droughts make the country vulnerable both hydro-meteorologically and economically.

Vector-borne diseases are a serious [public health problem](#) in Paraguay. Mosquito-borne infections have implications for health security, and despite efforts to control them, several factors continue to contribute to their transmission. These include rapid and unplanned urbanization, poor sanitation, climatic and environmental conditions and certain aspects of population behaviour.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Paraguayan Red Cross aims to enhance the impact of its Disaster Risk Management programme. It seeks to establish processes and actions for implementing the National Disaster Response Plan and defining institutional leadership to address humanitarian needs. This approach aligns with the objectives outlined in the National Policy for Risk Management and

Reduction under the National Emergency Secretariat (SEN). The National Society will also promote the use of analytical tools for community assessment and planning to support appropriate community response and recovery during emergencies and disasters. Additionally, it will focus on maintaining strategic agreements with key partners to ensure efficient, effective and well-coordinated actions.

The National Society will:

- Take action to increase resilience to multiple evolving impacts and hazards
- Provide [shelter assistance](#) to people affected by crises and disasters, and meet their housing needs
- Offer [multi-purpose cash grants](#) to affected people
- Leverage its auxiliary role and respond effectively to the wide range of evolving crises and disasters during emergency response
- Expand leadership in the field of [disaster law](#) and enhance the official/legal recognition of their auxiliary role

Planned activities in 2025

- Focus on revising and adjusting the disaster law
- Provide institutional support to local agencies for the management of shelters
- Update contingency plans and early warning systems
- Update its national response plan to adapt it to the local context
- Identify, request, procure and distribute shelter-related household items to affected communities, incorporating environmental and climate intelligence considerations
- Raise awareness in the community about improving production and nutrition-sensitive consumption practices
- Conduct cash transfer activities as part of its response and recovery mechanisms
- Strengthen emergency response mechanisms as part of the preparedness for effective response (PER) process
- Adapt the emergency operations centre in alignment with the National Response Plan

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will continue to support the Paraguayan Red Cross during its response to small and medium-scale emergencies. IFRC mechanisms such as the Disaster Response Emergency Fund ([IFRC-DREF](#)) and Emergency Appeals will be drawn on as

needed It will also provide technical support for the updating of the National Response Plan and the creation of the National Society's emergency and disaster procedures.



Health and wellbeing

Non-communicable diseases account for the highest mortality rates in Paraguay, with a 16 per cent likelihood that an individual will die from these conditions. The three most prevalent diseases are ischemic heart disease, strokes and diabetes mellitus. Among children under five, minor respiratory infections remain the leading cause of mortality. Paraguay has maintained a stable situation regarding tuberculosis and malaria over the past four years. Key health risk factors include a 56 per cent prevalence of hypertension, 33 per cent prevalence of obesity in adults and 10 per cent prevalence of tobacco use among individuals aged 15 and older.

Communicable diseases in Paraguay are marked by the proliferation of vector-borne illnesses such as dengue, Zika, and chikungunya. Between 2023 and 2024, 382,974 cases of dengue were reported, with 47,494 confirmed cases, representing 12 per cent, and a low incidence of severe cases at 0.2 per cent and hospitalizations at 4 per cent. From October 2022 through March 2023, Paraguay faced the largest Chikungunya epidemic in its history and, in turn, one of the largest recorded in South America. The country recorded a rate of 1,169 patients per 100,000 inhabitants, with 265 reported deaths from chikungunya. Patients over the age of 60 and newborns become the main fatalities of this virus.

Concerning sexually transmitted infections, Paraguay has a rate of new HIV diagnoses of 22.44 per 100,000 inhabitants, 34.25 per cent of people are diagnosed late, and the mortality rate from AIDS is 0.81 per 100,000 inhabitants.

Paraguay ranks fourth in the Latin American and Caribbean region for mental health vulnerability, with notable regional disparities. Sleep problems, anxiety, irritability and loneliness are 20 per cent more prevalent in urban areas compared to rural regions. Women are 16 per cent more vulnerable than men in this regard. Suicide rates in the country show a concerning upward trend, with 6,467 cases reported between 2004 and 2022, including 940 cases or 15 per cent among children and adolescents. This phenomenon is most frequent in individuals over 36 years of age.

In Paraguay water network coverage reaches 88.2 per cent of the population. However, sewerage coverage is only 15 per cent. Moreover, sewage treatment is available to only 7.5 per cent of the population. Rural areas and Indigenous communities are the most affected, mainly in the Chaco region due to drought and lack of infrastructure.

The **Swiss Red Cross** will support the National Society in disaster preparedness and response.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Paraguayan Red Cross aims to improve the impact of its health programme through efficient and effective management in the coming years. In this context, it will work to redesign the management model of its Maternal and Children's Hospital, equip it with necessary resources and develop partnerships to improve its infrastructure.

The National Society will continue its efforts in community-based health and first aid (CBHFA), providing training to communities using simple and dynamic tools to support and implement health plans and projects aligned with community priorities.

The Paraguayan Red Cross also seeks to strengthen its collaboration with the Ministry of Health and the Pan American Health Organization to implement community-level health actions.

Planned activities in 2025

- Design and implement actions aimed at the development of healthy lifestyles in communities
- Implement mental health and psychosocial support services, along with community health initiatives, for vulnerable communities through trained volunteers
- Implement intervention actions in the field of vector control.
- Participate in the technical roundtables for health promotion, SENEPA, primary health care and health surveillance

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The **IFRC** will support the Paraguayan Red Cross by providing technical support in designing its mental health and psychosocial support policy.

The **Swiss Red Cross** will assist the National Society in training its volunteers in psychological first aid. It will also support targeted branches with equipment according to prioritized lines of action, seeking to improve the quality of services offered to the population. Additionally, the Swiss Red Cross will support the Paraguayan Red Cross in providing humanitarian assistance and lobbying with public institutions at the central and local levels to generate synergies in the field of health.



Migration and displacement

Migration in Paraguay shows a significant difference between its international and local components. Historically, the country has experienced negative net migration, meaning more people leave the country than enter it. However, in the past 13 years, this trend has shown a tendency towards equilibrium. As of 2024, 3.4 million people have entered the country, while 4.1 million have left, primarily for general purposes and tourism, with the highest movement observed in the regions of Itapúa, Presidente Hayes and Central. According to the most recent data, 2.3 per cent of Paraguay's population is foreign, marking a slight increase since 2015, with men making up 52 per cent of the foreign population, predominantly from Brazil, Argentina and Uruguay. Some immigrants, particularly those with chronic illnesses, criminal records, or those previously deported, face significant challenges. Additionally, irregular immigrants are not permitted to work in Paraguay.

Around 7,600 people were estimated to have been displaced within the country in the past year. Since 2019, the Central and Alto Paraná regions have experienced the highest numbers of internal migrants, primarily due to agrarian reforms and agricultural intensification. Disasters, particularly floods and storms, have played a significant role in driving internal displacement, with 98,000 people relocating from rural areas to cities between 2016 and 2023. Key factors influencing migration include a lack of employment opportunities, food insecurity, and issues related to soil management. It is also noteworthy that 67 per cent of the households of internal migrants are headed by women and 88 per cent of these individuals rely on agriculture, an activity heavily impacted by climate change, environmental degradation and deforestation.

In 2022, Law No. 6984 "On Migration", established Paraguay's new immigration regime. It defines the principles and guidelines of the public policies in this matter and introduces the recognition of rights and guarantees for migrants, in line with international legal instruments on human rights and migration issues. It is also in line with the recommendations of competent international organizations. It is also meant to be a legislative roadmap for new legislation addressing migrants living within the country as well as its citizens abroad. The national migration policy outlines services which are to be provided to its citizens living abroad including the promotion of remittances.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Paraguayan Red Cross works transversally in all its programmes with the migrant population. It strives to prevent and reduce the risks of discrimination and xenophobia associated with population movements.

The National Society aims to ensure that migrants and displaced persons have access to humanitarian assistance and protection at key points along migration routes. It seeks to engage with migrants, displaced persons, and host communities to more effectively assess, understand and respond to their priority needs. Additionally, the Paraguayan Red Cross focuses on strengthening and expanding comprehensive services and programmes that promote the rights and dignity of all people.

Planned activities in 2025

- Provide restoring family links (RFL) services to immigrants and displaced people
- Focus on understanding the perceptions and needs of the migrant population by gathering feedback at family reunification points
- Focus on issues related to human mobility driven by climate factors

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will continue to support the Paraguayan Red Cross by providing technical support in the prevention of discrimination and xenophobia and the promotion of the rights associated with human mobility. It will also provide support to the National Society in responding to internal migration (rural to urban areas) motivated by climate change.

Under wider Movement support, the **International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)** will continue to support the Paraguayan Red Cross in providing restoring family links (RFL) services.



Values, power and inclusion

Adolescents and young people in Paraguay face significant vulnerabilities due to violence, discrimination and exclusion. The adolescent pregnancy rate is 72 per 1,000 girls aged 15 to 19,

and 22 per cent of adolescent girls in the country are married. Contraceptive use among adolescents in this age group has

declined by over 10 percentage points since 2018 and 2.5 per cent of maternal deaths involve girls aged 10 to 14.

Gender-based violence remains a critical issue, with six girls, adolescents and women reporting domestic violence daily, including at least one case of sexual violence. In the first half of 2023, 36 femicides were reported, although specialized agencies warn about the underreporting of cases.. Over 78.5 per cent of women aged 18 or older have experienced some form of violence in their lifetime, with psychological violence affecting 57.8 per cent, sexual violence 60.9 per cent, physical violence 25.7 per cent and economic violence 25 per cent. Among rural and indigenous populations, such violence is often underreported and less visible.

In Paraguay, 12 per cent of primary school-aged children are not enrolled in school. Children who are out of school are regarded as being below the minimum proficiency level. Only 36 per cent of children with disabilities ages 6 to 18 years attend school. Moreover, while 95 per cent of the country's total population is literate, only 57 per cent of people with disabilities can read or write.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Paraguayan Red Cross seeks to improve the impact of its social inclusion programme through efficient and effective management. It will establish a dedicated management model for its Maternal and Child Home, evaluate the relevance of its educational programmes and define the identity and institutional values of its educational centres. The National Society also aims to strengthen the competencies of its educational community to improve resource management for sustaining actions. Additionally, it will develop a national policy on holistic psychosocial care for communities.

The Paraguayan Red Cross will prioritize the inclusion of adolescents and young people in its interventions. It aims to

strengthen the design of community activities aligned with the primary goals of the National Youth Plan 2020. The National Society also seeks to strengthen the external positioning of its youth programmes to advance community-based initiatives.

Planned activities in 2025

- Carry out training in protection, gender and inclusion (PGI) aimed at paid and volunteer staff, to incorporate the approach in a transversal way to all actions
- Focus on the integration of community engagement and accountability (CEA) by gathering the voices of affected people across all projects to continuously improve services
- Design and implement awareness-raising programmes aimed at preventing gender-based violence and domestic violence
- Implement and manage safe spaces in emergency shelters in conjunction with the National Ministry of Children and Adolescents

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will continue to support to the Paraguayan Red Cross through its protection, gender and inclusion (PGI) unit, enabling the implementation of targeted prevention and promotion actions while ensuring no harm to the communities involved.

The **Swiss Red Cross** will support the National Society in the socialization of the National Youth Policy in addition to supporting the implementation of the community engagement and accountability (CEA) approach as a cross-cutting axis in the actions of the branches.

ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS

The Paraguayan Red Cross is committed to pursuing institutional strengthening. It has already carried out the self-assessment part of the Organizational Capacity Assessment and Certification (OCAC) process in 2016 and 2023. The self-assessment part of the OCAC process intends to capture the strengths and weaknesses of National Societies concerning a wide range of organizational capacities. The

Paraguayan Red Cross is also committed to the Preparedness for Effective Response (PER) process and is at the action and accountability phase. The PER Approach is a continuous and flexible process that enables National Societies to assess, measure and analyze the strengths and gaps of its preparedness and response mechanism and ultimately take necessary action to improve it.



Strategic and operational coordination

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Strengthen coordination with Movement partners through the activation of internal coordination mechanisms
- Strengthen the affiliate network to support resource mobilization initiatives
- Develop and implement a resource mobilization plan, focusing on commercializing first aid, generating revenue from the Reina Sofía Maternal and Children's Hospital and building private sector partnerships

- Increase cooperation and coordination with external partners to address the main challenges faced by communities

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will continue to support the Paraguayan Red Cross in organizing local, regional and global events. It will also provide support for the development and implementation of the resource mobilization plan at the central and branch levels.



National Society development

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Update its statutes to strengthen its response to emergencies and crises in the country
- Prioritize the creation of a financial sustainability strategy
- Optimize indirect costs by designing cost recovery policies to foster equitable partnerships with cooperating partners
- Prioritize the development of youth volunteerism and action as critical catalysts for behaviour change and local action
- Organize a national volunteer meeting to strengthen peer connections and strengthen volunteer training efforts
- Develop training courses for staff and volunteers
- Organize a national volunteer meeting to strengthen peer connections and strengthen volunteer training efforts

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will continue to support the Paraguayan Red Cross in developing its financial sustainability strategy. It will also support leadership training processes and help strengthen the governance capacities in the National Society. The IFRC will assist the National Society in the strengthening its volunteer base as well as engaging with the youth in a wide range of contexts. Additionally, it will support the Paraguayan Red Cross in updating its statutes.

The **Italian Red Cross** will support the National Society in the purchase of a licence and the training of administrative staff both at the headquarters and branch levels.

The **Swiss Red Cross** will assist the National Society financially and technically by strengthening the institutional and programmatic management of the National Society to respond in a relevant and timely manner to Paraguay's humanitarian needs.



Humanitarian diplomacy

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Promote its image and drive change by influencing public behaviour, policies and decisions at national, regional and global levels
- Develop an internal and external communications strategy
- Define its auxiliary role and mandate

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The **IFRC** will support the Paraguayan Red Cross in the development and implementation of an external communications strategy that positions the National Society as a leading organization in the humanitarian and health field. It will provide support to the National Society in participating in high-level fora and advocating for policies supporting humanitarian action.



Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Implement safeguarding policies
- Develop robust policies and systems aligning with the IFRC integrity line
- Develop financial projection processes and systems based on its fundraising goals
- Carry out institutional risk monitoring and management
- Implement a results-based management approach
- Develop an accessible information management and collection system for decision-making, focusing on digital transformation

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The **IFRC** will support the National Society in monitoring and taking early actions based on its institutional risks. It will provide financial and technical support to the Paraguayan Red Cross in the development and validation of the monitoring and reporting module of the National Society's volunteering platform. Additionally, the IFRC will provide financial support in the implementation of its digital transformation.

The **Italian Red Cross** will assist the National Society in the development of financial accountability procedures.

The **Swiss Red Cross** will support the Paraguayan Red Cross in operating an institutional intranet to facilitate the flow of information, streamline data exchange and improve the sharing of files, experiences and knowledge at all levels.



Paraguayan Red Cross teams visiting a community affected by floods, heat and fires, in the Limpio area, in October 2024 (Photo: IFRC)

THE IFRC NETWORK

The IFRC

The IFRC The IFRC has been operating in Paraguay through its Southern Cone and Brazil Cluster Delegation in Buenos Aires since 2010. The IFRC provides technical support to the National Society in organizational development, fundraising, financial sustainability, crisis and emergency response, programmatic development, and membership coordination.

In recent years, the IFRC has supported the National Society through a [DREF](#) in relation to flooding in northern Paraguay. The IFRC also provides technical support in a wide range of areas, in accordance with the needs of the National Society.

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.

Several participating National Societies provide support in the region:

The **Italian Red Cross** supports the National Society in the training of administrative staff both at the headquarters and branch levels in addition to support in the development of financial accountability procedures.

The **Swiss Red Cross** has a strong presence in Paraguay. It assists the Paraguayan Red Cross across climate and environment, disasters and crises, health and wellbeing, migration and displacement and values, power and inclusion. The Swiss Red Cross also supports the Paraguayan Red Cross in developing internal policies, strengthening volunteering and improving information management for accountability.

Movement coordination

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

The ICRC fosters income generation and enhanced nutrition in communities affected by violence and works towards providing essential services such as water. It also delivers first aid training and provides psychosocial support to these communities. The ICRC visits prisoners to ensure that they are treated with dignity and foster implementation of IHL and IHRL by the civilian and military authorities and national security forces. The ICRC also collaborates with the Paraguayan Red Cross to respond quickly and effectively to the needs of victims affected by violence or other emergencies.

Coordination with other actors

The Paraguayan Red Cross coordinates with various national actors to address humanitarian needs and mitigate risks. In collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Science (MEC), it works on implementing the Institutional Risk Management and Reduction Plan. With the Ministry of Public Health and Social Welfare (MSPyBS), the National Society focuses on mental health and vector eradication actions. It also partners with the National Malaria Eradication Service (SENEPA) to establish technical committees on health promotion at local branches. The Ministry of Children and Adolescents (MINNA) is engaged in implementing safe spaces in shelters.

Through its participation in the National Emergency Secretariat, the Paraguayan Red Cross contributes to the National Executive Committee for Emergencies, collaborating with various government agencies to mitigate the effects of climate change during emergencies. Additionally, the Paraguayan Red Cross maintains coordination with the Directorate of Meteorology and Hydrology to support the development of an early warning system platform for flood risk reduction. The National Society has also established a new framework for cooperation with the Pan American Health Organization.



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 2025 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 Federation-wide Databank and Reporting System](#)
- Participating National Society funding requirements for bilateral support are those validated by respective headquarters, and often represent mainly secured funding
- IFRC funding requirements comprise both what is sourced from the IFRC core budget and what is sought through emergency and thematic funding. This includes participating National Societies' multilateral support through IFRC, and all other IFRC sources of funding
- Figures for the years beyond 2025 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 Federation-wide Databank and Reporting System](#)
- 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 databank](#) • [Donor response reports](#)

Contact information

María del Carmen Pérez

Executive Director
Paraguayan Red Cross
T +595 986 672568
direccionejecutiva@cruzroja.com.py
cruzroja.org.py

Monica Portilla

Head of Strategic Partnerships & Resource Mobilization
IFRC Regional Office for Americas, Panama
T +502 586 57619
monica.portilla@ifrc.org

Daniel Bolaños

Head of Delegation
IFRC Country Cluster Delegation
for South Cone, based in Argentina
T +54 911 3396 2819
daniel.bolanos@ifrc.org

Sumitha Martin

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