

TOGO

2025 IFRC network country plan



Funding Requirement CHF 11.3M

23 April 2025

In support of the Togolese Red Cross



5 National Society branches



311
National Society
local units



92 National Society



46,937National Society volunteers

People to be reached



58,000 Ongoing emergency operations



Climate and environment



Disasters and crises



Health and wellbeing



Migration and displacement



Values, power and inclusion

Medium

IFRC network multi-year focus

Emergency response

Population movement

Longer-term needs

- Disaster risk reduction
 - Community health
 - Maternal health
 - Climate adaptation

Capacity development

- Partnerships and resource mobilization
 - Risk management
 - · Digital transformation
 - · Financial sustainability
- Volunteer development and youth action

Key country data links

Human Development Index rank

World Bank Population figure

9.1M

INFORM Climate Change Risk Index

World Bank Population below poverty line 45.5%

IFRC Country Cluster Delegation for Nigeria, Togo, Benin & Ghana, Abuja

Funding requirements

2025

Total 11.3M CHF

Through Host National Society



Through Participating National Societies



Through the IFRC



HNS Breakdown

IFRC Breakdown

Ongoing emergency operations

500,000 CHF

Longer term needs

Longer term needs

750,000 CHF

Climate & environment

1.2M CHF

Disasters & crises

1.6M CHF

Health & wellbeing

300,000 CHF

Migration & displacement

250,000 CHF

Values, power & inclusion

60,000 CHF

Enabling local actors

1.2M CHF

Climate & environment

950,000 CHF

Disasters & crises

2.4M CHF

Health & wellbeing

450,000 CHF

Migration & displacement

550,000 CHF

Values, power & inclusion

600,000 CHF

Enabling local actors

Participating National Societies

French Red Cross
German Red Cross
Italian Red Cross
Japanese Red Cross Society*
Red Cross of Monaco*
Swiss Red Cross
The Canadian Red Cross
Society*

IFRC Appeal codes

Emergency response:

MDRTG010 Population Movement

Longer-term needs:

MAATG002

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
French Red Cross	120,000					•	
German Red Cross	337,000					•	
Italian Red Cross	30,000						
Swiss Red Cross	470,000					•	

Total Funding requirement **CHF 957,000**

Hazards



Floods



Droughts



Storms



Wildfires



Disease outbreaks



Climate change

NATIONAL SOCIETY PROFILE

The Togolese Red Cross was established in 1959 and admitted to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in 1961. As an auxiliary to the public authorities in the humanitarian field, it retains the autonomy that enables it to act in all circumstances in accordance with the Geneva Conventions, their additional protocols, and the Fundamental Principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

The Togolese Red Cross' network of staff and volunteers is the largest in Togo. It is committed to the humanitarian cause throughout the national territory and is present in 311 local sections (branches). At the institutional level, it is a decentralized organization with autonomous local structures. Its national management committee was elected in June 2022 for a period of five years. In terms of governance, there are five regional committees whose responsibilities include implementing policies, providing guidance, and supervising the National Society's accountability.

The Togolese Red Cross' vision is to be a well-functioning National Society, to improve the living conditions of vulnerable people in an equitable and sustainable manner, to protect human dignity and promote peace among Togo's population. The Togolese Red Cross' strategic plan 2022-2026 has four main objectives:

- To build a stronger National Society that functions well at all levels
- To promote the identity of the Movement, human rights, social cohesion and a culture of peace
- To strengthen the resilience of the most vulnerable communities and individuals in Togo
- To strengthen disaster preparedness

In 2022, the Togolese Red Cross reached 100,000 people through its long-term services and development programmes and 1.8 million people through disaster response and early recovery programmes over time.



Map of Togolese Red Cross branches

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

Togo is located on the west coast of Africa and is bordered by Ghana, Benin and Burkina Faso. It has a population of about 8.5 million people, 42.2 per cent of whom live in urban areas. It is expected that urbanization will continue, and that the proportion of people living in towns and cities will increase to 48.6 per cent by 2030, and 60.6 per cent by 2050.

Togo is one of the world's top five producers of phosphates, which are used in fertilizer manufacturing. The country's economy and GDP have improved in recent years, although poverty levels are not significantly declining - especially in the agricultural sector which employs most of the workforce. There is widespread poverty across the country, and nearly 81.2 per cent of people in rural areas live below the global poverty line. This is likely to be exacerbated by rising inflation, which is being driven by global increases in food and oil prices.

According to the World Bank, about 46% of the population lived below the poverty line in 2021. Efforts to diversify the economy and develop infrastructure are underway, but significant challenges remain: The level of inflation (3.9% as at August 2024) has remained high with household purchasing power maintained or even reduced; the scarcity of certain basic foodstuffs on local markets at certain times of the year, the decrease in the income of more and more households who are unable to build up reserves throughout the year.

Child welfare is a major concern in Togo, as half the people living in poverty are under the age of 18. Child marriage is also a significant problem - approximately 22 per cent of girls are married before the age of 18.

Togo is highly vulnerable to the natural hazards of flooding, droughts, high winds, storms, wildfires, coastal erosion and disease epidemics. The country experiences recurring flooding and droughts, which have several challenging socio-economic impacts on the population, the environment and the economy.

ONGOING EMERGENCY RESPONSE

For real-time information on emergencies, see IFRC GO page Togo

Emergency Operation	Africa Population Movement
Appeal No	MDRTG010
People affected	171,728
People to be assisted	58,000
Duration	30 November 2023 to 31 July 2025
Funding requirement	Funding requirement through the IFRC Appeal: CHF 4 million Total Federation-wide funding requirement: CHF 6 million
Emergency Appeal	Population Movement
Operational strategy	Operational Strategy
Operational Update	Operational Update

The Sahel conflict has triggered a major displacement crisis, with nearly 60,000 people seeking refuge in Togo's Savanes region by September 2023 due to escalating violence, attacks on civilians, and the destruction of infrastructure. This influx has strained already limited resources, exacerbating food insecurity, malnutrition, and disease among both the displaced and host communities, who are already coping with poverty and climate change impacts. Women and girls face heightened risks of gender-based violence.

Short description of the emergency operational strategy

The operation combines emergency relief, recovery and resilience-building to support affected communities. During the initial phase, the Togolese Red Cross provided critical aid, including food, water, and healthcare. The highlights of the assistance are as follows:

Shelter, Housing and Settlements

Essential items like blankets, bedding, kitchen sets, and cleaning materials were distributed to households.

Livelihoods

Essential food assistance, through cash and in-kind transfers, was provided to the most vulnerable households arriving in Togo.

Health and care including water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH)

Community-based mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services were provided through peer support groups, recreational activities and counselling, while psychological <u>first aid</u> training was provided to responders. First aid posts were established, sanitation gaps were identified and addressed, and WASH communities were formed to improve hygiene and strengthen emergency response capabilities.

Protection, gender, and inclusion (PGI)

Training provided on preventing sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) and child safeguarding policies to staff and volunteers. Specialized protection measures implemented for vulnerable groups, including children, pregnant women and minorities.

Community engagement and accountability (CEA)

Training was provided on feedback mechanisms, and staff was equipped with tools for effective feedback management. Coordination included participation in AAP/CEA working groups, integrating CEA across sectors, and developing SOPs for handling sensitive feedback.

Migration

Humanitarian Service Points (HSPs) along migration routes were established, essential services such as emergency health care, first aid, food, water, psychosocial support was provided along with safe referrals for displaced persons and migrants.



STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Togo is highly <u>vulnerable</u> to the impacts of climate change, due to a combination of geographic, political, and social factors. It has a low coastal plain with marshes and lagoons, hills in the north and a southern plateau. The movements of the tropical rain belt, which oscillates between the northern and southern tropics throughout the year, influence Togo's rainfall seasons. In the dry northern regions of the country there are typically south-westerly winds, while the weather in the south is wetter and more humid. The changing movements and intensity of the inter-tropical convergence zone, and variations in the timing and intensity of the West African Monsoon, mean that seasonal rainfall in Togo and across the entire region varies from year to year.

The <u>river system</u> in Togo is dominated by the Mono River and the Oti River. The country experiences flooding nearly every year, especially in the Volta and Mono Basins, because of heavy rainfall during the winter months. The floods cause significant damage to infrastructure such as roads, bridges and culverts, and the destruction of agricultural crops and livelihoods.

There are several major environmental challenges in Togo. Logging, for the purposes of manufacturing charcoal from trees, is causing deforestation. There are also issues of plastic waste pollution, the environmental impact of rapid urbanization, and damage being done to areas adjacent to rivers.

The Government of Togo plans to achieve 25 per cent forest cover by <u>2025</u> and plant a billion trees by 2030.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

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

The National Society aims to focus on mitigating the current and potential humanitarian repercussions of climate and environmental crises on communities so that they can adapt and build resilience in the face of such challenges. Climate adaptation and mitigation, integrated with climate risk management across all programmes, operations and advocacy efforts, will remain a priority.

The Togolese Red Cross will focus on establishing community-based and inter-agency early warning and early action systems for health emergencies and natural disasters, supporting the implementation of multi-risk contingency plans in the most exposed communities, and promoting forecast-based financing mechanisms. Additionally, the Togolese Red Cross will advocate for environmental protection and restoration actions such as reforestation, agroforestry, popularizing improved stoves, and encouraging the use of gas in homes. The National Society will also prioritize research and modeling promote good agricultural practices based on ecological and adapted agriculture, including agriculture and livestock farming encourage better home economy management practices and work towards strengthening, diversifying and protecting the livelihoods of vulnerable households to enhance its resilience.

Planned activities in 2025

- Train National Society staff and volunteers on climate and environmental issues, tools, innovations and technologies
- Conduct community education, awareness and school activities on climate adaptation and disaster risk reduction
- Strengthen staff and volunteer capacity in digitization
- Hold annual refresher sessions for communities on climate change resilience tools
- Provide refresher sessions for teachers and students of school and climate clubs
- Train communities on natural resource protection and rehabilitation measures
- Support municipalities in owning and disseminating disaster risk reduction achievements through workshops and training
- Strengthen community of practice cooperation and advocate collectively
- Update disaster management and vulnerability and capacity assessment training manuals

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will continue to support the National Society in mobilization of resources to fund projects outlined within the framework. It will continue to support the National Society

through advocacy efforts and workshops, helping knowledge sharing and capacity building within the National Society to better address humanitarian challenges and promote resilience in the communities.

It will also provide support for the Resilience Building through Multi-Stakeholder Engagement in Anticipatory Action for Climate-Induced Disasters (REBUMAA) project, launched in 2024 in collaboration with the University of Hamburg. This project, running until 2026, aims to support research on climate change, adaptation, resilience, and nature-based solutions in Benin, Nigeria, and Togo.

The **German Red Cross** will support the National Society by implementing the climate change resilience project aimed

to adapt to climate-related challenges. It will support the Togolese Red Cross in the third phase of the "Institutional Strengthening of Communities on Adaptation to Climate Change" project, funded by BMZ, between 2025 and 2028. The project aims to reduce vulnerability at the micro level by transferring knowledge and techniques on climate change adaptation.

The **Swiss Red Cross** will continue its support to the Togolese Red Cross as the Community Resilience project, which has been ongoing since 2019, concludes in 2025. From 2025 to 2028, a new regional programme will be launched in collaboration with the Swiss Red Cross, focusing on assisting National Societies with community-based disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation initiatives.



For real-time information on emergencies, see <u>IFRC</u> <u>GO page Togo</u>

Disasters and crises caused by <u>natural hazards</u> happen nearly every year in Togo. The country's geographical location in the inter-tropical convergence zone exposes it to storms and cyclones, especially in the Plateaux, Central, Kara and Savanes regions. These strong winds often cause the uprooting of trees and the destruction of roofs, homes, classrooms, farm buildings and health centres.

The most common disasters and chronic crises in Togo are primarily climatic hazards. Floods, which frequently occur during the rainy season, especially in the two major basins—the Volta Basin in the north and Mono in the south—cause significant damage to infrastructure, crops, and homes each year.

Serious <u>flooding</u> has occurred in Togo in 1995, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2016, 2017 and 2020, causing significant damage to bridges, culverts, concessions, fields and property. More recently, there was <u>heavy rainfall</u> in the northern Savanes region, starting in mid-October 2022, causing rivers to overflow and flooding in some areas. Three of the seven prefectures in the Savanes region, Oti, Oti-Sud and Kpendjal, were seriously affected by the flooding.

Other emergencies in Togo are caused by <u>fires</u>, which occur every year during the dry season. The main causes are human activities, for example slash-and-burn agricultural methods and certain hunting practices. Togo is also exposed to other risks and threats such as transportation accidents (road, river, rail and air), industrial incidents, the transportation of hazardous materials and violent attacks.

Although less frequent, landslides occur in the mountainous regions of Plateaux, Kara, and Centrale after heavy rains.

Human-caused disasters, once limited, have escalated, particularly in the north, where conflicts and violence, largely linked to attacks by non-state armed groups, have resulted in population movements and displacement, both internally and externally. The impact of these disasters continues to increase, leading to loss of human lives, particularly from the attacks by non-state armed groups in the north.

Livelihoods, especially agriculture and livestock, are severely affected, contributing to ongoing food insecurity due to repeated shocks. Infrastructure, including roads, bridges, buildings, and homes, also suffers significant damage. Like other countries in the sub-region, Togo is experiencing an increase in both natural and human-made disasters, along with various risks.

Drawing lessons from previous disasters, which caused significant material damage and loss of life due to gaps in prevention, planning, and coordination, Togo has developed a single reference document for its civil protection policy. The national strategy aims to make Togo a country where the safety of people and property is guaranteed by reducing disaster risks by 2030.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Togolese Red Cross responds to disasters affecting the country, in line with its auxiliary role. The emphasis in 2025 will extend to preparedness and fortifying resilience against shocks. This entails enhancing risk reduction measures and community resilience through a multifaceted approach. This will include the implementation of early warning, early action systems and anticipatory action to mitigate the multiple hazards that affect the lives, livelihoods, homes, and overall living conditions of vulnerable communities, particularly those who are most disadvantaged and challenging to access. The

Togolese Red Cross also emphasizes first aid and road safety, disaster risk reduction, and humanitarian education as key components of its approach to managing crises effectively.

The National Society aims to strengthen the networks of Community Disaster Response Teams (CDRTs), Emergency Committees, and other volunteer networks. From 2025 to 2026, the focus will also be on developing contingency plans and enhancing the national disaster response system by training and equipping the intervention teams of the Togolese Red Cross.

Planned activities in 2025

- Strengthen regulatory framework for first aid services within National Society structures
- Update and harmonize training curricula
- Conduct vulnerability and capacity assessments
- Train and network volunteers
- Strengthen collaboration with Fire Brigade, Gendarmerie and Health Units
- Conduct statistical and historical mapping of traffic accidents

- Organize sentinel watch and first aid stations on dangerous ramps
- Raise awareness in car/motorcycle stations, markets, schools, and media
- Advocate for First Aid training for public or private drivers
- Link first aid in the workplace to health and safety issues
- Set up structures for managing commercial training in business rescue and road first aid

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the National Society in building resilience in vulnerable communities exposed to disaster risks heightened by climate change. Additionally, it will assist the Togolese Red Cross in implementing the Preparedness and Response process to enhance disaster and crisis response efforts.

The **Swiss Red Cross** will support the National Society in the framework of securing official recognition of its auxiliary role and its leadership in the humanitarian field. It will also support the development of contingency plans at the local level.



Health and wellbeing

There are social, economic and geographical disparities in access to essential health care in Togo, although the health system is relatively well-equipped and 70.9 per cent of the population have access to facilities. However, pregnant women and newborn babies do not receive appropriate health care during pregnancy, delivery and the first few years after birth. As a result, on average 368 in 100,000 mothers die each year from complications during childbirth, the infant mortality rate in Togo is high and a significant number of children under the age of five are underweight.

Infectious diseases continue to dominate Togo's epidemiological profile. According to the Ministry of Health, the five most common reasons for seeking medical help for children under the age of five are malaria, pneumonia or other acute respiratory infections, anaemia, diarrhoea and injuries. Health authorities report high numbers of cases of communicable diseases such as tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS; two percent of people aged 15–49 are living with HIV/AIDS.

This confirms the country's health priorities, which are:

- Strengthening the health and community systems for equitable access to essential health services
- Improving the use of specific health services including nutrition by mothers, children, youth and adolescents and the elderly

- Strengthening capacities to combat diseases and control social and environmental determinants
- Strengthening the resilience of the health system and its capacity to respond to epidemics, other public health emergencies and the health impacts of climate change
- Strengthening protection mechanisms against healthrelated financial risk

To this end, the Ministry of Health conducts high-impact interventions on maternal and child health; major disability and mortality diseases, including malnutrition, malaria, HIV/ AIDS, tuberculosis, other epidemics and noncommunicable diseases, as well as the determinants of health inequalities with social, environmental and economic origins.

To bring adapted health services closer together, the health system is supported by community health workers (CHWs), whose number and capacity are still insufficient because of the multiplicity of approaches used by partners. As an auxiliary to the public authorities, the Togolese Red Cross Society is part of the Ministry of Health's community health dynamic which focuses on the integrated management of newborn and child diseases at the community level, to contribute to the improvement of community-based interventions in a uniform manner throughout the nation.

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decrease in the incidence of malaria, and leprosy has been declared eliminated as a public health problem along with maternal and neonatal tetanus.

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

As an auxiliary to the public authorities, the National Society actively engages with the Ministry of Health in prioritizing key objectives of community health strategy. This includes guaranteeing safe and equitable access to health services, water, sanitation, and suitable living conditions for all. The National Society is expanding integrated community-based health care and first aid (CBHFA) programmes, as well as water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) initiatives to meet the unaddressed needs of vulnerable and marginalized groups.

The Togolese Red Cross will implement a water, sanitation, and hygiene project across four prefectures in Togo: Bas-Mono, Kpélé, Akébou, and Mô, running through 2027. The project will focus on building sanitation facilities in health centres and public spaces, alongside efforts in community mobilization and social mediation. The National Society will also continue its Strengthening Preparedness and Response to Health Emergencies in Togo project, funded by the Pandemic Fund, through 2026, in collaboration with WHO and other UN agencies.

Additionally, the National Society is investing in epidemic and pandemic preparedness, with a focus on empowering local actors, networks, and volunteers as frontline community responders capable of swiftly detecting and responding to outbreaks and other health threats.

Planned activities in 2025

- Digitize National Society's outbreak feedback and alert mechanism
- Train volunteers and staff on the digital feedback system
- Establish and train Community Health Emergency Committees
- Conduct awareness sessions on diseases with epidemic potential
- Develop IEC tools for volunteer reporting
- Improve access to chronic disease care
- Organize community dialogues on menstrual hygiene management
- Provide dignity kits to women and girls in disasteraffected areas

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will provide support to the Togolese Red Cross in continuing the implementation of the WASH project in four prefectures of Togo: Bas-Mono, Kpélé, Akébou, and Mô.

The IFRC will also assist the Government of Togo in scaling up WASH service delivery by mobilizing financial resources from financial institutions and development partners to support the country's 2030 goals.

The Swiss Red Cross will provide support to the National Society on health and care, specifically community health, blood transfusion and healthy ageing.



Togo is a country of both origin and destination for migrants, refugees and asylum seekers. According to the Operational Data Portal, there were 10,580 refugees and 856 asylum seekers in Togo in 2022, mainly from Ghana, Ivory Coast, the Central African Republic, Rwanda, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Mali. There are porous borders between Togo and other nations such as Ghana, so some people are smuggled into the country or migrate irregularly by foot or on buses. There is no encampment policy in Togo, so refugees and asylum seekers in urban and rural areas must attempt to integrate themselves within host communities.

Since November 2021, the southern zone of Burkina Faso has faced escalating insecurity due to incursions by Non-State Armed Groups (NSAGs) near the Togolese border, leading to deaths and mass displacement. In response, the Togolese government declared a security emergency in the Savannah region in June 2022, prompting the displacement of 9,783 households, with 5,018 registered by September 2022.

To combat insecurity and violent extremism, Togo launched the Emergency Programme to Strengthen the Resilience and Security of Communities (PURS) on October 24, 2022, covering the entire country, especially areas affected by terrorism. This initiative has improved social sectors in the Savannah region. Additionally, the Operation Koundjoaré military operation was launched to secure northern Togo, protect its population, and strengthen the operational capacities of deployed troops.

Togo suffers from considerable brain drain, where skilled and educated nationals, especially young people, emigrate to work abroad. For example, 60 per cent of Togolese doctors are said to be practicing in France. The 2021 Human Flight and Brain Drain Indicator ranked Togo well above the global average.

There are many victims of human trafficking in Togo, especially children. Victims are forced to work in the agricultural sector - for example on coffee, cocoa and cotton farms, in stone and sand quarries, in palm wine production or in the gold mining industry. Other victims of human trafficking are forced into sex work, or trafficked to work as domestic servants, porters or roadside vendors.

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

The Togolese Red Cross is part of the IFRC 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 Togolese Red Cross includes a strategic action focused on the "Establishment of a Family Links Restoration Service adapted to situations of armed conflict and the general issue of migration." However, the theme of migration was primarily addressed through the emergency operation "Population Movement in the Savannah region." In 2024, the National Society developed a procedure manual for its <u>Humanitarian</u> Service Points (HSPs) and opened the first HSP at the Regional Coordination of the Savannahs. HSPs serve as neutral spaces along migration routes, offering migrants and displaced persons a safe environment to access essential services. These points can be either mobile or fixed, and the services provided depend on available resources, needs, and the specific context.

Planned activities in 2025

- Establish Humanitarian Service Points (HSPs) along migration routes and in IDP-hosting areas
- Set up mobile clinics to support HSPs in the Savannahs
- Strengthen management teams of PWDs for efficient service delivery
- Promote inter-community cultural and sports activities
- Build capacity of community leaders on values and raise awareness across communities

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will provide support to the National Society in strengthening the response to displaced populations in the Savannah region.

The Swiss Red Cross will support the Togolese Red Cross in ensuring the basic social and protection service needs of migrants and populations on the move and to promote the social integration of migrants and internally displaced persons within host communities.



Values, power and inclusion

Gender inequality in Togo is significant. In 2007, Togo adopted a law that prohibits sexual assault and harassment, exploitation, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation. However, women in Togo lack information and education regarding their legal and human rights, so the law does not prevent these practices, and marital rape and domestic violence are still commonplace. Furthermore, only 18.7 per cent of seats in Parliament are held by women (February 2021).

According to the Borgen Project, child labour in Togo is also a serious issue, with nearly 30 per cent of all children aged 5–14 in work. The worst forms of child labour include sexual exploitation, agricultural work and forced begging- all of which can lead to human trafficking. Children also work in mines and quarries, in domestic service and garbage scavenging. Since 2017, Togo has made some minor progress in reducing the worst forms of child labour, and there are now more inspectors monitoring workplaces, although the government has not authorized inspectors to issue fines for labour violations. The inspections are helping to decrease the number of children in work, but progress in this area is very slow.

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

The objective of the Togolese Red Cross is to develop a policy document with action plans on Emergency Response Preparedness (ERP), prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse, and the active management of community feedback, including sensitive complaints. This policy will be implemented in a transversal manner across all its projects and programmes. The Togolese Red Cross will: contribute to the elimination of all forms of violence, social exclusion, negative stereotypes, prejudices, and discrimination against individuals based on their age, sex, or social background in all situations, including wars, conflicts, and humanitarian emergencies; promote the establishment of a holistic framework for the care of victims of all forms of violence and discrimination.

This approach aims to ensure continued access to education for all children, including those affected by crises, through teacher training, psychosocial support, and the inclusion of vulnerable groups. Protection mechanisms will be put in place to prevent violence and exploitation, while coordination between stakeholders and support for families will be strengthened. Additionally, the integration of survival skills into school curricula will be promoted to improve children's resilience to disasters.

Planned activities in 2025

- Integrate protection, gender, and inclusion, safety, and well-being in National Society activities, especially in education
- Conduct awareness campaigns to promote the rights of vulnerable groups, including the elderly and disabled
- Establish an internal hotline for transparent, confidential reporting, with a case management system

- Strengthen community feedback mechanisms, focusing on qualitative data analysis
- Incorporate community needs assessments into emergency action plans and budgets
- Regularly produce case studies documenting lessons learned, best practices, and impacts
- Integrate <u>community engagement and accountability</u> into National Society strategies, policies, and operations

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the Togolese Red Cross in identifying Emergency Response Preparedness as a cross-cutting area of support in its 2025-2028 regional programme. The IFRC, within the context of the emergency operation and beyond, as well as the UNFPA, which has been a long-time partner of the National Society in this area, will continue to provide support.

ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS

The Togolese Red Cross is committed to pursue its institutional strengthening and has carried out the self-assessment part of the Organizational Capacity Assessment and Certification (OCAC) process in 2011. The self-assessment part of the OCAC

process is intended to capture the strengths and weaknesses of National Societies as a whole in relation to a wide range of organizational capacities.



Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Togolese Red Cross is engaged and involved in the existing national coordination and communication mechanisms in the country. These include government institutions namely (ANPC, ANAMED, ANADEB), platforms working on Disaster Risk Reduction, health and WASH, research institutions such as WASCAL, and the IFRC Climate Centre. The National Society aims to:

- Utilize engagements with government institutions and other platforms to mobilize resources at the local level
- Recognize the limitation of available resources and strategize to optimize them

- Consolidate achievements, particularly in community mobilization and volunteer networks
- Position itself within partnerships and coalitions to access additional resources

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the National Society by expanding collaboration with additional participating National Societies operating within the country to address humanitarian challenges effectively. It will also work to increase participation in IFRC thematic networks or communities of practice, particularly those focusing on public health in emergencies and blood donation, to enhance knowledge sharing and peer support initiatives. The IFRC will also encourage participation in relevant coordinating structures to improve coordination and collaboration in both humanitarian and development initiatives.



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

The Togolese Red Cross is working on organizational development through a Nationall Society development master plan, which is currently under development. The plan will be implemented in two phases: short-term (2025-2026) and longterm (2027-2030). To improve management in areas such as human resources, logistics, and monitoring and evaluation (PMER), the Togolese Red Cross Society has administrative, financial, and accounting manuals, with the current manual being revised for implementation in 2025-2026. A new monitoring and evaluation manual, adopted in 2022, is already in force.

As part of its strategic commitment, the National Society seeks to improve governance and strengthen management at all levels, engaging with peers within and outside the Movement to mobilize resources for transformation. It has an emergency preparedness and response plan, aligned with the national multi-risk contingency plan, ensuring that its services address the country's current risks and needs.

While the National Society's status as an auxiliary to the government facilitates decision-making in emergencies, its capacity should be strengthened in terms of emergency fund mobilization for quick response and advocating for better cooperation and safer access with authorities.

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC is providing support to the National Society for the effective implementation of its activities and programmes. The IFRC will also provide support to mobilize funds through its various mechanisms such as the Capacity Building Fund, Shoken Fund, NSIA Fund and Country Plan Funds.



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

The Togolese Red Cross aims to adopt a new strategic plan for internal and external communication to restore its visibility. This strategy aims to strengthen the organization's reputation by delivering clear, accurate information about its missions and services, especially during humanitarian crises. Proactive communication, supported by key messages, will address misperceptions and restore the National Society's image among stakeholders.

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the Togolese Red Cross to design a network of branch communications officers and focal persons, who will assist in content collection and processing in coordination with the Communications lead at the National Society headquarters. The IFRC will also provide support in designing and implementing hands-on training in storytelling and content gathering for volunteers and branch communications officers, enabling the National Society to enhance its visibility. Additionally, the IFRC will assist in creating and managing content for the Togolese Red Cross's social media platforms to increase its visibility and amplify the impact of its work.



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

- Develop policies, action plans, and mechanisms related to safeguarding, integrity, and the prevention of fraud and corruption
- Enhance planning, monitoring, and reporting capabilities to meet the requirements of national and international partners
- Formalize <u>security</u> management with the establishment of a documented security framework and minimumsecurity requirements for operational security management
- Invest in digital transformation to increase the speed, relevance, efficiency, quality, and accountability of humanitarian services to the population
- Create a website linking various National Society platforms to facilitate resource mobilization, accountability, and communication with stakeholders

Strengthen systems, procedures, and controls, including the development of a data protection policy, the implementation of secure digital infrastructure

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will provide expertise and guidance to the Togolese Red Cross in restructuring management and financial accountability processes. It will assist in the development and implementation of policies and enhancing planning, monitoring, and reporting capabilities to meet the requirements of national and international partners.

The IFRC will provide guidance and resources for formalizing security management, including the establishment of a documented security framework and minimum-security requirements. It will support in digital transformation efforts, including rationalizing and prioritizing investments to ensure growth in digital maturity for improved humanitarian services.

The IFRC will guide the National Society in updating administrative, financial, and risk management systems, as well as performance management mechanisms and quality assurance processes.

THE IFRC NETWORK

The IFRC

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The IFRC will guide the National Society in updating administrative, financial, and risk management systems, as well as performance management mechanisms and quality assurance processes.

IFRC membership coordination

The IFRC works closely with member National Societies to assess the humanitarian context, humanitarian situations and needs; agreeing common priorities; co-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, of links with development assistance, and of efforts to reinforce National Societies in their respective countries, including through their auxiliary role.

The Togolese Red Cross is part of the four IFRC Pan-African initiatives focusing on Tree Planting and Care; Zero Hunger; Red Ready and National Society Development. The following National Societies work with the Togolese Red Cross Society for various long-term and short-term programmes:

The French Red Cross has supported the construction of the Voga Reception Centre for trainee nurses in the Maritime district, and it continues to support the project by training young nurses.

The **German Red Cross** is present in Togo with two delegates and 16 national staff. It supports activities in climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction in two regions.

The Italian Red Cross supports the construction of the Ona (Plateaux) Health Centre and its effective functioning. Medical personnel and Italian Red Cross volunteers visit the health centre whenever possible, to provide specialist care and equipment and build the capacities of permanent staff members. The Italian Red Cross has recently granted a support fund for building the capacity of Mothers' Clubs the Kara Region.

The Swiss Red Cross is present in Togo with one delegate and 26 staff. It supports activities in health, WASH, climate change adaptation, disaster management and National Society development.

The **Qatar Red Crescent Society** and the Turkish Red Crescent have provided ad hoc support to the Togolese Red Cross.



Togolese Red Cross providing support to communities affected by heavy rain (Photo: IFRC)

Movement coordination

The Togolese Red Cross engages regularly with the IFRC, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and participating National Societies, to ensure the alignment of support and action between Movement partners. This is carried out in line with the Strengthening Movement Coordination and Cooperation (SMCC) principles, and the newly adopted Seville Agreement 2.0.

The ICRC supports the National Society in the areas of restoring family links and communications, and training in disaster relief and management. The ICRC also works to disseminate information on the principles of intervention in emergency situations, the Fundamental Principles, international humanitarian law, and security and safety.

Coordination with other actors

In line with its auxiliary role, the Togolese Red Cross coordinates closely with the public authorities. It benefits from the support of different national consultation councils, and various networks and platforms in Togo such as the Conseil de Concertation pour l'Eau et l'Assainissement de Base au Togo, civil society organizations, the HIV Platform, WILDAF Togo, and many others.

The Togolese Red Cross is engaged and involved in the existing national coordination and communication mechanisms in the country. These include government institutions namely (ANPC, ANAMED, ANADEB), platforms working on Disaster Risk Reduction, health and WASH, research institutions such as WASCAL, and the IFRC Climate Centre.

Other partners include UN agencies comprising the IOM, FAO, UNDP, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP, as well as international NGOs such as The Global Fund, Plan International Togo, CRS, GIZ, Compassion International, Malaria Consortium, REDISSE and BM. Areas of partnership include:

The Global Fund works with the National Society in the fight against malaria through communication actions, the management of simple malaria (with rapid malaria

- tests and distributions of malaria tablets), and building the capacity of grassroots organizations
- With UNHCR and IOM, the National Society is sometimes asked to facilitate the re-establishment of family ties, support relief distributions, and organize refugee awareness sessions on community health
- The partnership with FAO focuses on empowering people in rural areas to reduce poverty through improved livelihoods for women and men, for example supporting Mothers' Clubs to strengthen the resilience of flood-affected households in the Savanes region
- UNFPA works with the National Society to tackle genderbased violence. It also contributes to raising the rate of attendance at health centres by taking a community approach, working with Papas Champions (men's committees) and Mothers' Clubs
- UNICEF and the National Society have collaborated on the prevention of and response to health emergencies and development projects in maternal and child health, particularly the promotion of essential family practices



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 <u>Strategy 2030</u>, 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 Global Plan and IFRC network country plan All plans and reports
- Data on National Societies on IFRC Federation-wide Databank and Reporting System
- Live data on active emergency operations on <u>IFRC GO platform</u>
- Live data on <u>IFRC-Disaster Response Emergency Fund Response and Anticipatory pillars</u>
- IFRC Evaluation and Research Databank Donor response reports

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