



ZAMBIA

2025 IFRC network mid-year report, January – June



24 October 2025

IN SUPPORT OF THE ZAMBIA RED CROSS SOCIETY


65
National Society
branches


68
National Society
local units


8,100
National Society
volunteers


114
National Society
staff

PEOPLE REACHED

Emergency
Operations



420,758

Climate and
environment



302,991

Disasters
and crises



23,458

Health and
wellbeing



408,781

Migration and
displacement



2,650

Values, power
and inclusion



13,732

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

in Swiss francs (CHF)



Appeal number **MAAZM002**

*Information on data scope and limitations is available on the back page



ONGOING EMERGENCY INDICATORS

MDRZM022 / *Drought Response*

Climate and environment	Number of people reached by activities addressing rising climate risks	4,000
	The National Society implements nature-based solutions (including those with a particular focus on the planting of trees and mangroves)	Yes
Disasters and crises	Number of people reached with livelihoods support	16,000
	Number of people reached with emergency response and early recovery programmes	11,000
	Number of people reached with disaster risk reduction	4,000
	Percentage of assistance delivered using cash and vouchers	95%
Health and wellbeing	Number of people reached by the National Society with contextually appropriate water, sanitation and hygiene services	4,000
Values, power and inclusion	Number of people reached by protection, gender and inclusion programming	2,000
	Percentage of those surveyed report receiving useful and actionable information	50%



ONGOING EMERGENCY INDICATORS

MDRZM023 / Mpox Response

Accountability and agility	National Society is implementing a digital transformation roadmap in line with the IFRC strategy	Yes
	National Society has strengthened its integrity and reputational risk mechanism	Yes
	National Society has a Protection of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) policy to enforce prevention and support survivors	Yes
	National Society has a functioning data management system that informs decision making and supports monitoring and reporting on the impact and evidence of its actions	Yes
Health and wellbeing	Number of people reached by the National Society with contextually appropriate health services	405,000
Humanitarian diplomacy	National Society participates in IFRC-led campaigns	Yes
	National Society has a domestic advocacy strategy developed, aligning, at least in part, with global IFRC advocacy strategies	Yes
Migration and displacement	The National Society has undertaken any data collection, research, analysis or other information management initiatives to better assist and protect people on the move	Yes
	The National Society has undertaken any advocacy, dialogues, educational or communication initiatives to change the legal, policy, or operational environment to better assist and protect people on the move	Yes
National Society development	There is a National Society Development plan in place	Yes
	National Society has developed and/or implemented a strategy for strengthening their auxiliary role	Yes
	National Society covers health, accident and death compensation for all of its volunteers	Yes
Strategic and operational coordination	Number of government-led coordination platforms the National Society is part of	1
	Number of formal interagency/international coordination platforms the National Society is part of	1
Values, power and inclusion	Number of people reached by protection, gender and inclusion programming	4,000
	The National Society has a Community Engagement and Accountability policy, strategy or plan	Yes
	Percentage of those surveyed report receiving useful and actionable information	90%

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Climate and environment

Number of people reached with activities addressing:

 Environmental problems	→ 303,000
 Rising climate risks	→ 4,000

THE NATIONAL SOCIETY

- has received IFRC Network's support to adapt to longer-term impacts of climate change
- implements environmental or climate campaigns focused on behaviour change, plastic reduction, clean-ups or reducing GHG emissions
- implements nature-based solutions (including those with a particular focus on the planting of trees and mangroves)



Disasters and crises

Number of people reached with

 Livelihood support	→ 16,000
 Disaster risk reduction	→ 23,000
 Emergency response and early recovery programmes	→ 16,000



95%

assistance-delivered using cash and vouchers



Health and wellbeing

Number of people reached by the National Society with

 Contextually appropriate health services	→ 405,000
 Contextually appropriate water, sanitation and hygiene services	→ 409,000



Migration and displacement

 Migrants and displaced persons reached with services for assistance and protection	→ 3,000
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THE NATIONAL SOCIETY

- has undertaken any advocacy, dialogues, educational or communication initiatives to change the legal, policy, or operational environment to better assist and protect people on the move
- has undertaken any data collection, research, analysis or other information management initiatives to better assist and protect people on the move



Values, power and inclusion



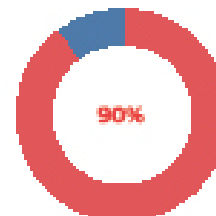
Reached by the National Society's educational programmes

136



Reached by protection, gender and inclusion programming

14,000



of those surveyed report receiving useful and actionable information

THE NATIONAL SOCIETY

- has a Community Engagement and Accountability policy, strategy or plan

ENABLING FUNCTIONS



Strategic and operational coordination

1

Number of formal interagency/international coordination platforms the National Society is part of



National Society development

- National Society covers health, accident and death compensation for all of its volunteers
- National Society has developed and/or implemented a strategy for strengthening their auxiliary role
- There is a National Society Development plan in place



Humanitarian diplomacy

- National Society has a domestic advocacy strategy developed aligning, at least in part, with global IFRC advocacy strategies
- National Society participates in IFRC-led campaigns



Accountability and agility

- National Society has a functioning data management system that informs decision making and supports monitoring and reporting on the impact and evidence of its actions
- National Society has a Protection of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) policy to enforce prevention and support survivors
- National Society has strengthened its integrity and reputational risk mechanism
- National Society is implementing a digital transformation roadmap in line with the IFRC strategy

IFRC NETWORK SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

National Society	Funding Requested	Obtained from IFRC	Obtained from others	Health for all and BSR	Humanitarian development	Values, power and inclusion	Enabling Functions
American Red Cross	70,000						
British Red Cross	88,000						
Netherlands Red Cross	1,441						

Total Funding Reported CHF 2M

Q1. OVERALL PERFORMANCE

Context

Zambia continued to grapple with a severe drought that affected more than 9.8 million people, with the Southern and Western provinces bearing the heaviest burden. Rural communities were the most impacted, experiencing displacement and widespread food insecurity. The crisis disproportionately affected women and children, with over 202,000 individuals displaced due to drought and related climate shocks. Food insecurity reached critical levels, with the number of food-insecure people rising to 5.8 million nationwide. Alongside the drought, additional hazards including floods, cholera outbreaks, and a resurgence of Mpox heightened the risk of public health emergencies, stretching already limited response capacities. Socio-economic challenges continue to demand sustained government and humanitarian interventions. The country's future hinges on economic diversification, effective governance, and resilience-building strategies to mitigate the impacts of climate change, public health crises, and economic instability.

Key achievements

Climate and environment

In the first half of 2025, the Zambia Red Cross Society implemented climate-smart agriculture and environmental resilience initiatives such as training 30 lead farmers and 1,250 farmers in each of Choma, Kalabo, and Sinazongwe in sustainable agriculture, post-harvest handling, and food preservation, alongside planned distribution of fertilizers and seeds. Community sensitization meetings were held to launch goat farming projects, with training in animal health and housing provided in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock. Environmental restoration efforts included planting 1,500 trees across five schools in Kapiri and Mposhi and distributing gardening tools. The National Society also advanced planning for broader food security and livelihoods initiatives, informed by regional workshops in South Africa and Zimbabwe, and convened national meetings to tailor innovative FSL solutions for Zambia. These efforts have strengthened technical direction, improved input targeting, and enhanced sustainable agricultural training, contributing to improved food and nutrition security and climate adaptation across vulnerable communities.

Disasters and crises

In the first half of 2025, the Zambia Red Cross Society strengthened disaster preparedness and response commissioning warehouses, training staff, and conducting capacity assessments. It responded to droughts, floods, and fires with borehole rehabilitation, food distribution, shelter support, and emergency training. Through the [Pilot Programmatic Partnership](#), over 593,000 people were reached with epidemic response, CVA, and contingency planning. The National Society finalized its Drought Early Action Protocol and advanced its Flood EAP, while enhancing coordination, data systems, and community feedback mechanisms to improve resilience and humanitarian impact.

Health and wellbeing

In the first half of 2025, the Zambia Red Cross Society, with support from IFRC, UNICEF, and the Netherlands Red Cross, implemented public health interventions to address cholera and Mpox outbreaks, strengthen maternal and child health, and improve immunization systems. Key actions included deploying trained volunteers, establishing Oral Rehydration Points, distributing chlorine, conducting health education and surveillance and providing psychosocial support. The National Society also promoted RMNCH services through infrastructure development and sensitization, advanced immunization coverage via the 5-Point Plan, and developed validated Social and Behaviour Change materials to boost routine immunization, with plans for translation into seven local languages to enhance accessibility.

Migration and displacement

In the first half of 2025, the Zambia Red Cross Society supported people with connectivity services, including successful phone calls, internet access, and phone charging in refugee camps. [Restoring Family Links](#) interventions assisted visitors with tracing inquiries, registered 10 new cases, and followed up on unaccompanied children and general tracing requests. Psychological First Aid was provided to individuals and referrals were made. To boost visibility and engagement, awareness sessions were held, and the National Society showcased key services during World Refugee Day and the Africa Family Links Network meeting in Nairobi.

Values, power and inclusion

In the first half of 2025, the Zambia Red Cross Society advanced Community Engagement and Accountability across its operations by integrating CEA into emergency responses, developing institutional documents, and strengthening committees at headquarters and branch levels. It partnered with the 510 team to digitize feedback tools and improve data-driven decision-making, expanded its toll-free hotline for broader access, and explored a centralized call center to enhance feedback collection.

Enabling local actors

In the first half of 2025, the Zambia Red Cross Society strengthened its role as a responsive humanitarian actor through strategic partnerships, institutional reforms, and operational improvements. It maintained agreements with key government bodies for disaster and public health coordination, actively contributed to the UN-led Early Warning for All initiative, and participated in national and regional humanitarian platforms. The National Society advanced its Strategic Plan by focusing on disaster risk reduction, climate action, health, WASH, youth engagement, and governance reforms, including a Constitution review and policy updates. It enhanced financial sustainability, digital systems, and volunteer engagement, while promoting gender equity, safeguarding, and staff safety. Through the Red Safe platform, it supported affected populations with secure digital services and improved anticipatory action and donor engagement.

Q2. CHANGES AND AMENDMENTS

In this reporting period, no changes or amendments were made by the National Society

Q3. MEASURING RESULTS OF THE IFRC NETWORK ACTION

ONGOING EMERGENCY RESPONSE

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

1

Name	Zambia Drought Response
Appeal number	MDRZM022
People affected	9.2M
People to be assisted	1.38M
Duration	August 2024 to December 2025
Funding requirements	Total IFRC funding requirement through the Appeal: CHF 8 million Total Federation-wide funding requirements: CHF 11 million
Emergency Appeal	<u>Africa – Regional Mpox Epidemic</u>
Operational Strategy	<u>Operational Strategy</u>
Latest operation update	<u>Operational Update No. 2</u>

Zambia has experienced prolonged drought and erratic rainfall, especially in the southern, western, eastern and central provinces. The El Niño effect during the 2024–2025 season led to failed harvests, dried-up water sources, and reduced food production.

The drought has affected eight provinces, with the most severe impacts in Southern, Central, Eastern, North-Western, Western, and Lusaka Provinces. An estimated 9.8 million people have been adversely affected, of whom 6.6 million require urgent humanitarian assistance. The crisis has led to widespread crop failure, drying of water sources, loss of livestock pasture, and rising food prices, with small-scale farmers and rain-fed-dependent households being the most affected.

Short description of the emergency operational strategy

The Zambia Red Cross Society with support from the IFRC is implementing a Drought Emergency Appeal in Sinazongwe and Chikankata districts. The operation aims to reduce the negative impacts of the drought and improve food security, health, nutrition, and access to safe water, while promoting climate-smart agriculture and resilience-building. Key interventions include cash and voucher assistance, distribution of agricultural inputs, health and nutrition services, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) activities, and cross-cutting measures in community engagement, accountability, protection, gender, and inclusion.

The following assistance was provided by the Zambia Red Cross Society:

Livelihood

Farmers were supported with assorted agricultural inputs. Training given to lead farmers in climate-smart agriculture and water use management, in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and district authorities. Activities included monitoring land preparation, validating input needs, and conducting crop growth assessments to strengthen resilience and improve food production in drought-prone areas.

Multi-purpose Cash

Multipurpose cash assistance provided in targeted districts, enabling households to meet their most urgent needs such as food, healthcare, rent, and other essentials. This flexible approach empowered recipients to make choices based on their individual priorities, promoting dignity and improving overall well-being during a time of crisis.

Health and care

Provided nutrition support in drought-affected areas through community-based education sessions promoting healthy feeding practices and dietary diversity. Volunteers conducted door-to-door screenings to identify malnourished children, who were then supported with appropriate nutritional supplements or referred to health facilities. Growth monitoring and awareness campaigns reached households with key health messages, while radio programs helped dispel myths around immunization. Capacity building efforts equipped volunteers with skills in health communication, surveillance, protection, and psychosocial support, strengthening community trust and resilience.

Water, sanitation and hygiene

Improved access to safe water and sanitation in drought-affected areas by drilling and rehabilitating boreholes, equipping them with solar systems, and constructing waterborne toilets. Working with local authorities, it trained waterpoint committees and area pump menders to ensure sustainable operation and maintenance. WASH items were procured and distributed, and crop field monitoring was conducted to support water-efficient farming practices.

Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI)

Engaged traditional and community leaders to address harmful norms and reduce gender-based violence. Volunteers were trained in PGI, psychological first aid, and safeguarding, enabling them to identify and refer protection cases and support affected individuals. The National Society also established referral pathways, distributed awareness materials, and conducted focus group discussions to understand community needs and coping mechanisms. Coordination with stakeholders and participation in protection networks further enhanced inclusive response planning and community resilience.

Community engagement and accountability

Consultative meetings and help desks at cash distribution points allowed communities to share concerns and suggestions, leading to improvements such as borehole rehabilitation, inclusion of groundnut seeds, and targeted nutrition support. Volunteers were trained in Community Engagement and Accountability to collect and analyze feedback, while preferred communication channels like toll-free lines, door-to-door visits, and radio programs ensured two-way communication.

2.

Name	Africa Regional Mpox Epidemic
Appeal number	MDRBI022
People affected	9.2M
People to be assisted	1.38M
Duration	August 2024 to December 2025
Funding requirements	Total IFRC funding requirement through the Appeal: CHF 30 million Total Federation-wide funding requirements: CHF 40 million
Emergency Appeal	Africa – Regional Mpox Epidemic
Operational Strategy	Operational Strategy
Latest operation update	Operational Update No. 2

In 2024, Mpox cases and deaths surged significantly in Africa, with over 17,000 cases and 500 deaths reported across 12 countries, marking a sharp increase from 2023. The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) remains the epicentre, contributing 92 per cent of cases, with transmission spreading across all its provinces and into neighbouring Burundi, Rwanda, Uganda and Kenya. Non-endemic countries like South Africa have also reported cases, while endemic regions, including Nigeria and Côte d'Ivoire, continue to see expanding outbreaks. The emergence of Clades 1a, 1b and 2 in disparate areas highlights the heightened risk, prompting organizations such as the Africa CDC, WHO and the IFRC to declare the outbreak a public emergency. Red Cross Red Crescent Societies are working closely with governments to provide community-based surveillance, risk communication and community engagement and vaccination support to mitigate the spread and reduce mortality.

In October 2024, a confirmed Mpox case in Chitambo District highlighted the effectiveness of frontline health workers in early detection and response. In coordination with IFRC, the Zambia Red Cross Society launched targeted interventions in high-risk districts to strengthen surveillance, risk communication and community engagement. Despite the initial funding ending in June 2025, the response has been extended, though the National Society awaits formal confirmation of further funding support.

Short description of the emergency operational strategy

During the early stages of the Mpox outbreak, the Zambia Red Cross Society concentrated its response efforts in districts located near border posts and major transit towns, given their higher risk of disease spread. Priority was given to districts that had already recorded confirmed cases, where trained volunteers conducted door-to-door sensitization campaigns to raise community awareness, promote preventive practices and reduce misinformation.

The Zambia Red Cross Society reached over two million people through door-to-door sensitization, community meetings, radio programmes, public announcements and distribution of IEC materials. These efforts helped raise awareness on Mpox symptoms, transmission and prevention. The National Society also trained healthcare workers and community-based volunteers to strengthen case detection, reporting, surveillance and risk communication, while facilitating discussions to address concerns and encourage community-led action.

The following assistance was provided by the Zambia Red Cross Society:

Health & Care: Mobilized trained volunteers to strengthen epidemic preparedness, grassroots surveillance, and health promotion, reaching over a million people through public outreach. Despite progress, challenges in community-based surveillance and limited distribution of protective materials highlighted gaps. Feedback from communities guided improvements, including targeted nutrition support and water access. Moving forward, enhancing surveillance workflows, expanding household-level interventions and improving feedback mechanisms remain key priorities.

Protection, gender and inclusion (PGI): Capacity building for volunteers was conducted in Kalumbila district, out of the six affected districts in the copper -belt and north-western provinces. A total of 300 volunteers were trained in PGI.

Community engagement and accountability (CEA): Inclusive focus group discussions and community meetings were conducted in Sinazongwe District, engaging diverse groups such as the elderly, persons with disabilities, pregnant women, lactating mothers and local leaders from community structures.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Climate and environment

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In the first half of 2025, the Zambia Red Cross Society, in line with its strategic objective to take urgent and proactive measures against the escalating risks of climate change and environmental degradation, implemented a range of climate-smart agriculture (CSA) and environmental resilience initiatives. These interventions were supported through the IFRC Drought Appeal, bilateral funding from the Netherlands Red Cross, the Acute Crisis Project, and the fourth phase of the OVC Project with support from the Japanese Red Cross.

The core interventions focused on equipping communities with the knowledge, skills, and resources needed to adapt to climate-induced disasters. This included training lead farmers and community members in sustainable food production, conservation agriculture, post-harvest handling, and food preservation. To enhance productivity and resilience, the Zambia Red Cross Society will procure and distribute key agricultural inputs such as 50kg of urea, 50kg of D Compound fertilizer, maize, groundnuts, and vegetable seeds, benefiting smallholder farmers across Choma, Kalabo, and Sinazongwe Districts. The project has identified 30 lead farmers and 1,250 farmers in each of the three targeted districts.

Through chronic crisis support from the Netherlands Red Cross, the Zambia Red Cross Society conducted community sensitization meetings in Choma and Sinazongwe to raise awareness of CSA and small livestock projects, form goat farmer groups, and select beneficiaries. In collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, farmers will receive training in goat housing, feed formulation, and animal health management to improve drought resilience and diversify livelihoods.

Beyond agriculture, the Zambia Red Cross Society addressed environmental restoration through a large-scale tree-planting campaign. On January 27, 2025, a total of 1,500 fruit and non-fruit trees were planted across five schools in Kapiri and Mposhi Districts—300 trees per school—alongside the provision of gardening tools such as wheelbarrows and hoes. This initiative aims to combat climate change, restore ecosystems, and provide nutritional benefits while fostering environmental stewardship among schoolchildren. By integrating climate adaptation, livelihood diversification, and environmental education, the National Society is building long-term community resilience.

During the reporting period, the National Society also made significant strides in planning for the inception of broader food security and livelihoods (FSL) initiatives. This progress was informed by the outcomes of the Southern Africa Regional Food Security and Livelihoods Portfolio Solutions Workshop held in South Africa in 2024, as well as a follow-up meeting in Zimbabwe, which served as a platform for peer learning and experience sharing. Building on these regional engagements, the Zambia Red Cross Society convened national-level meetings to deliberate on FSL innovation plans tailored for the Zambian context. These planning processes, supported by the IFRC network, have laid a solid foundation for the integration of innovative and sustainable livelihoods solutions that address the root causes of food insecurity and enhance long-term community resilience.

Through these combined efforts, the Zambia Red Cross Society has strengthened its technical direction and programming frameworks, enabling the organization to scale up CSA activities, improve targeting of inputs, and deliver comprehensive training in sustainable agricultural practices. This coordinated, network-driven approach continues to contribute meaningfully to improved food and nutrition security, while advancing climate adaptation across vulnerable communities in Zambia.

IFRC network joint support

The **IFRC** provided technical and financial support to the National Society for the implementation of climate-smart agriculture interventions.

The **Netherlands Red Cross** supported the Zambia Red Cross Society in timely and targeted assistance to climate-affected communities.

The **Japanese Red Cross National Society** supported the National Society in the effective implementation of its activities.



Disasters and crises

Progress by the National Society against objectives

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

In the first half of 2025, the Zambia Red Cross Society commissioned a provincial warehouse in Choma District, Southern Province, to store non-food items for faster response in the region. Construction of the largest National Society warehouse in Lusaka advanced significantly and is nearing completion; it will serve as the central hub for NFI distribution nationwide. A total of 46 headquarters staff were oriented on the Mobile Emergency Operations Centre system, with input from the Disaster Management and Mitigation Unit to improve coordination with government EOCs. Staff were also trained on the digital warehouse management system to improve stock monitoring, including real-time data on quantities and expiry dates across all regional warehouses. Branch Organization Capacity Assessments were conducted in Namwala, Choma, Monze, and Mazabuka districts. A joint branch exchange visit between Siavonga and Gwembe branches in Mazabuka was facilitated under the ECHO-PPP project to promote knowledge sharing, networking, and collaboration among Branch Executive Committees and Satellite Disaster Management Committees. The National Society also supported DMMU in organizing Disaster Preparedness, Response, and Recovery meetings across project districts.

During the reporting period, the Zambia Red Cross Society responded to multiple emergencies. In drought-affected districts such as Sinazongwe and Chikankata, recovery activities included rehabilitation and upgrading of 46 boreholes, training of 1,075 farmers in climate-smart agriculture, child health growth monitoring, and procurement of 15,000 supplementary food items for malnourished children under five. On 25 February 2025, the Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI) unit, in collaboration with the Disaster Management Department, assisted over 85 flood victims in Chaisa Compound, Lusaka by providing temporary shelter support. In response to the Nyimba fire incident, the National Society constructed 25 temporary bathroom/toilet shelters, deployed 10 volunteers for distribution of relief items, and provided logistical support. In Monze District, 12 participants including DMMU officials, Environmental Health Technicians (EHTs), volunteers, and Branch Executive Committee members were trained in Camp Coordination, Camp Management, and Shelter Construction.

The Zambia Red Cross Society, in partnership with the Netherlands Red Cross and supported by the [European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations](#) (DG ECHO), implemented the Pilot Programmatic Partnership from May 2022 to June 2025. This project strengthened disaster preparedness, epidemic response, and anticipatory action while enhancing the National Society's operational capacity to deliver timely, localized, and integrated humanitarian assistance. By the end of the project, it had reached over 593,000 people, including women, men, and vulnerable groups such as 7,821 persons with disabilities and 6,000 individuals in camp-like settings. Most beneficiaries were members of the local population, with activities tailored to address gender, age, and inclusion considerations.

Under disaster preparedness and response, over 151,000 people were covered by contingency and anticipatory action plans. Two warehouses and six storage containers were established for pre-positioning essential supplies, and vehicles were procured to support emergency response. For epidemic preparedness and response, more than 584,000 people were reached through health promotion, WASH interventions, and risk communication during cholera and Mpox outbreaks. Through Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA), over 26,000 people were supported, primarily in drought-affected districts such as Chikankata, Gwembe, and Sioma, improving food security and financial stability. Post-distribution monitoring showed over 90% beneficiary satisfaction and effective use of funds. Capacity strengthening efforts included training and support for Provincial, District, and Satellite Disaster Management Committees, community volunteers, and government partners, enhancing preparedness, coordination, and resilience at all levels.

The Zambia Red Cross Society worked closely with government ministries, humanitarian clusters, and technical partners such as the Red Cross Climate Centre and NLRC 510, fostering integrated response planning, early action protocols, and improved data systems. The project's adaptive approach allowed resources to be reallocated to address cholera outbreaks and drought emergencies, demonstrating flexibility and relevance to evolving humanitarian needs. Continuous monitoring, data visualization, and community feedback mechanisms, including a toll-free hotline, improved accountability and program quality. Despite some limitations in Year 3 related to funding for CVA activities, the project achieved its objectives, significantly strengthening the National Society's auxiliary role, enhancing local

and national disaster response systems, and providing a scalable model for multi-sector, anticipatory, and integrated humanitarian action in Zambia.

In addition, the Zambia Red Cross Society finalized and secured IFRC approval for its Drought Early Action Protocol (EAP), a pre-agreed plan to trigger early interventions before drought conditions escalate, based on defined risk indicators or forecasts. Procurement and pre-positioning of NFIs for readiness activities are planned for the second half of 2025. In parallel, the Flood EAP was submitted to IFRC for approval. The National Society is currently addressing feedback from the approval committee, with the goal of finalizing the plan before the end of 2025.

IFRC network joint support

The **IFRC** provided technical and financial assistance to the Zambia Red Cross Society for emergency response mechanisms. IFRC mechanisms such as the Disaster Response Emergency Fund ([DREF](#)) and the IFRC Emergency Appeal are utilized by the National Society in times of disasters and crises to effectively support those who face immediate needs during times of emergency.

The **Netherlands Red Cross** provided technical assistance to the National Society for its disaster management and preparedness efforts.



Health and wellbeing

IFRC network joint support

In the first half of 2025, the Zambia Red Cross Society, through its Health and Care Department, implemented a series of interventions to address public health emergencies and strengthen routine health services. These activities were supported by funding from IFRC, UNICEF, and the Netherlands Red Cross, and aligned with the strategic objective of enhancing community resilience and reducing the impact of health crises in high-risk areas.

In response to cholera outbreaks in Chililabombwe, Chingola, Kitwe, Nakonde, Lusaka, Ndola and Kabwe, the Zambia Red Cross Society concentrated its efforts in Copperbelt and Lusaka provinces, where dense populations and inadequate water and sanitation infrastructure heightened transmission risks. Key actions included the construction and operationalization of 10 Oral Rehydration Points in Chililabombwe and other high-burden districts to enable early treatment and reduce severe cases. A total of 730 trained volunteers were deployed to support Risk Communication and Community Engagement, Community Engagement and Accountability and Case Area Targeted Interventions. The National Society distributed 16,800 bottles of chlorine for household water treatment, supported by awareness campaigns to improve hygiene and sanitation practices in Kabwe, Kitwe, Ndola, Chingola and Chililabombwe. Six help desks were established at health facilities and community entry points to facilitate information sharing, referrals, and psychosocial support. Additionally, radio programs were aired across target districts to promote cholera prevention, safe water practices, and early health-seeking behavior.

For Mpox prevention and response, the Zambia Red Cross Society targeted six districts Kalumbila, Chililabombwe, Chingola, Mufulira, Kitwe, and Ndola where risk was elevated due to trade and migration corridors. A total of 300 volunteers were trained and deployed to implement community-level interventions, including community surveillance to detect and report suspected cases early, health education campaigns to increase public awareness on prevention measures and symptom recognition, contact tracing in coordination with district health teams, and psychosocial support for affected individuals and families to address stigma and mental health needs. These activities significantly improved community knowledge, strengthened early detection systems, and reduced the potential for onward transmission in high-risk areas. The integration of Mpox awareness into existing community health platforms also enhanced sustainability beyond the funding period.

Through the Community-Based Health and Resilience project in Lusangazi, the Zambia Red Cross Society promoted the utilization of Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, and Child Health services such as family planning, antenatal care, facility-based deliveries, and postnatal care. Funded by the Netherlands Red Cross, the intervention included the completion of a maternity annex and mothers' shelter to provide safe spaces for deliveries, especially for women from remote areas, and community sensitization campaigns to increase awareness of maternal health and encourage facility deliveries.

In Kabwe and Mansa, the Zambia Red Cross Society continued implementing the 5-Point Plan (5-PP) project to strengthen immunization systems. Under Point 4 (social mobilization and community engagement), 360 volunteers supervised by 36 supervisors conducted a six-day door-to-door campaign to identify under-immunized or unvaccinated children. Point 5 (evaluation) activities in Kabwe district showed progress from the Point 1 baseline, including a 31.6 per cent reduction in partially vaccinated children and a 58.4 per cent reduction in fully unvaccinated children.

Under the Saving Lives and Livelihoods (SLL) project, and in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, the Zambia Red Cross Society developed and validated Social and Behaviour Change materials to promote routine immunization, integrating COVID-19 messaging. Three consultative meetings were held with stakeholders from the Ministry of Health, the National Society, partner organizations, and technical experts to design, review, and contextualize SBC materials in line with national immunization goals. A total of 20 SBC materials were produced, including posters, brochures, leaflets, radio scripts, key message guides, and frequently asked questions all tailored to increase routine immunization uptake. These materials were pretested in selected communities to assess clarity, cultural relevance, language use, and effectiveness, with community feedback integrated into final revisions. The refined materials underwent technical validation by national health communication working groups and received formal approval from the Ministry of Health's Permanent Secretary, confirming alignment with national communication standards. Translation into seven local languages is planned for the second half of 2025 to maximize accessibility

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided technical and financial assistance to the National Society in ensuring safe drinking water, proper sanitation, and adequate hygiene awareness of the communities during the relief and recovery phases of the Emergency Operation.

The **Netherlands Red Cross** supported the Zambia Red Cross Society's Health and Care Department, enabling it to respond to public health emergencies and strengthen routine health services in high-risk areas.



A Zambia Red Cross Society volunteer hands over a water container and hygiene items to a woman in Sinazongwe district. Photo: IFRC



Migration and displacement

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In the first half of 2025, the Zambia Red Cross Society recorded a total of 9,446 attempted calls from both camps, out of which 6,307 were successful phone calls. Additionally, 505 supplementary messages were received. A total of 4,857 users accessed internet services, and phone charging services were provided to support connectivity, with 5,083 people assisted overall.

Restoring Family Links (RFL) interventions received 212 visitors seeking tracing-related assistance. During this period, 10 new tracing requests were recorded, along with the registration of one individual with protection needs. Follow-ups on unaccompanied and separated children resulted in one positive case, eight negative cases, and 10 pending cases. For general tracing inquiries, three positive cases, 54 negative cases, and 180 pending cases were documented.

Field staff from the Zambia Red Cross Society provided Psychological First Aid to 38 minors and 30 adults. In addition, a total of 187 referrals were made across both settlements. To increase visibility and community engagement, the National Society conducted awareness-raising and humanitarian dissemination sessions during the reporting period.

The RFL team, both at headquarters and in the two settlements, actively participated in the commemoration of World Refugee Day on 25 June 2025 under the theme Ubuntu in Action. Key RFL services were showcased to encourage refugees to reconnect with their loved ones and take advantage of available support.

The National Society also participated in the Third Africa Family Links Network meeting held in Nairobi from 27 to 30 May 2025. The Zambia Red Cross Society was represented by its RFL officer, who presented various services offered by the National Society to regional partners.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided support to the National Society to support refugees and migrants in responding to challenges.

The ICRC provided financial and technical support to the National Society while engaging with ICRC programmes such as Restoring Family Links and the Red Safe Digital Humanitarian Platform.



Values, power and inclusion

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In the first half of 2025, the Zambia Red Cross Society made significant progress in institutionalizing Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) across its operations. The National Society has developed key institutional documents to guide and sustain the implementation of CEA across its operations. These include a CEA Strategy, CEA Policy, Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for Feedback and Complaints Handling and Terms of Reference for CEA Committees. These documents are currently awaiting final approval and endorsement by senior management.

Efforts to strengthen CEA Committees at both Headquarters and branch level are ongoing. These committees serve as coordination platforms to ensure timely and effective action on community feedback, with clearly defined roles and responsibilities outlined in the Terms of Reference currently under review.

To enhance digital feedback management, the Zambia Red Cross Society has initiated technical collaboration with the 510 team. Through joint meetings and planning sessions, the following goals are being pursued: digitization of feedback collection tools, real-time analysis and data visualization to improve decision-making, and improved data-driven programming based on community feedback trends. This partnership is expected to significantly improve the functionality, responsiveness, and efficiency of the National Society's feedback mechanisms.

Additionally, the Zambia Red Cross Society has expanded its toll-free hotline (7373) to operate across all networks, increasing accessibility for affected populations. The National Society is also exploring the establishment of a centralized call center to further enhance the collection and processing of community feedback. .

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the National Society's CEA and PGI efforts.

The **Netherlands Red Cross** assisted the National Society in expanding its inclusivity initiatives.

ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS



Strategic and operational coordination

Progress by the National Society against objectives

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 including the **Italian Red Cross**, the **Japanese Red Cross Society**, and the **Netherlands Red Cross**.

Movement coordination

The Zambia Red Cross Society collaborates closely with the IFRC, ICRC and the Netherlands Red Cross, ensuring an aligned approach across the Movement in support of its priorities. 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 does not have a presence in Zambia and provides support through its regional delegation in Zimbabwe. Using innovative tools, ICRC aims to address the humanitarian consequences of armed violence and migration; to support authorities to trace missing persons, to reconnect separated families; to strengthen respect for and compliance with International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and international standards of policing; and to support the National Society in improving its capacity to be the first responder to disasters.

External coordination

In line with its auxiliary role, the Zambia Red Cross Society maintains close coordination with a range of ministries, departments and government bodies, demonstrated by its engagement in disaster risk management, health, water, sanitation and hygiene.

The National Society has an agreement with the Disaster Management and Mitigation Unit to work with disaster management committees at the province, district and satellite levels, as well as on relief distribution and camp management. It has a Memorandum of Understanding with the Zambia National Public Health Institute, which is a part of the Ministry of Health which is responsible for public health security and surveillance.

The Zambia Red Cross Society is actively engaged in the Early Warning for All (EW4ALL) initiative, a global effort led by the United Nations aimed at ensuring that every person is protected by life-saving early warning systems by 2027. As part of this commitment, the Zambia Red Cross Society has participated in four coordination meetings with the Commissioner for Refugees (CoR), UNHCR, the Ministry of Home Affairs, MCDSS, and other partners and stakeholders to strengthen collaborative efforts in humanitarian response and preparedness.

The Zambia Red Cross Society is a key member of the Zambia Humanitarian Country Team, which prioritizes humanitarian response by maximizing impact through sectoral, operational, and localized approaches. This includes addressing critical gaps, enhancing community resilience, and aligning with long-term life-saving goals. The organization also plays a vital role across various sectors such as Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene, Cash and Voucher Assistance and Risk Communication and Community Engagement contributing to a coordinated and effective humanitarian strategy across the country.



National Society development

Progress by the National Society against objectives

During the first half of 2025, the Zambia Red Cross Society strengthened its institutional capacity to ensure relevance, sustainability, and alignment with the principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. The National Society prioritized the implementation of its Strategic Plan (2021–2025), focusing on disaster risk reduction, climate action, health, WASH, youth engagement, and organizational development. A comprehensive Constitution review was initiated to enhance governance, supported by nationwide consultations and policy reforms including the Board Charter, Membership Policy, and Youth By-laws. Branch development was reinforced through capacity-building, equipment provision, and revised guidelines to promote accountability and local fundraising. Financial sustainability efforts included resource mobilization strategies, private sector engagement, and income-generating projects. Operational systems were upgraded, including digital volunteer databases, finance tools, and a new MIS under development. Governance capacity improved through regular training and active oversight by the National Governing Board. Volunteer and youth engagement remained central, with recognition events, policy updates, and youth-led innovations such as the award-winning solar-powered irrigation project. The National Society also secured NSD funding, including the Empress Shōken grant, and participated in regional peer learning. Through strategic investments in leadership, systems, and partnerships, the Zambia Red Cross Society continues to position itself as a responsive and trusted humanitarian actor.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the Zambia Red Cross Society to advance its financial sustainability by securing property ownership documentation, expanding income-generating activities, and investing in long-term assets such as warehouses and real estate. The IFRC also supported governance and leadership development through initiatives like the Leadership and Management Development programs, enhancing strategic oversight and policy frameworks. In emergency response, the IFRC mobilized resources through Emergency Appeals and DREFs to support the National Society's operations for drought, Mpox, and cholera.

The **Netherlands Red Cross** supported the National Society through contributing to key strategic priorities in health, climate, disaster management, and preparedness, while strengthening the Restoring Family Links programme to reconnect separated families and support crisis-affected communities.



Humanitarian diplomacy

Progress by the National Society against objectives

During the first half of 2025, the Zambia Red Cross Society leveraged the [Red Safe](#) digital platform to enhance protection and support for people affected by conflict, migration, and humanitarian crises. A total of 258 applications were downloaded and 188 Digital Vaults created, offering secure access to vital services and documents. The National Society also focused on improving anticipatory action by addressing technical challenges, promoting 'no regret' decisions, and engaging donors to allocate more resources toward proactive humanitarian responses.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the Zambia Red Cross Society in advocating for the National Society's strategic development priorities within the Movement. It also provided guidance and funding opportunities to strengthen sustainability. The IFRC provided technical assistance in developing EAPs on floods and droughts.



Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

Progress by the National Society against objectives

During the first half of 2025, the Zambia Red Cross Society prioritized building a secure, inclusive, and development-oriented workplace through strategic human resource initiatives. The HR department advanced safeguarding efforts by developing a comprehensive policy, reinforcing PSEA measures, and implementing training on acceptable conduct.

and protection protocols. Staff safety was enhanced through risk assessments, emergency planning, and mental health support, especially in high-risk environments. The National Society also promoted gender equity through inclusive policies, fair recruitment, and equal access to professional development. Integrity was upheld via a clear code of conduct, confidential reporting channels, and disciplinary procedures. Security management was strengthened with plans for biometric access, CCTV monitoring, and vehicle tracking, while digital transformation progressed through IT infrastructure upgrades, cybersecurity training and a digital gap assessment. These efforts collectively improved operational efficiency, accountability, and resilience across the National Society.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided support to the National Society with guidance on digital transformation and funding opportunities to strengthen sustainability.

The **Netherlands Red Cross** provided technical and financial support to the National Society in identifying gaps in digital systems and the development and implementation of a strategic roadmap to achieve complete digital transformation.

Q4. AFFECTED PERSONS (PEOPLE REACHED)

See cover pages

Q5. PARTICIPATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY FOR AFFECTED PEOPLE – COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

See Strategic Priority on 'Values, power and inclusion' under Q3: MEASURING RESULTS OF THE IFRC NETWORK ACTION

Q6. RISK MANAGEMENT

This information is not available in Mid-Year Reports

Q7. EXIT STRATEGY AND SUSTAINABILITY

See Strategic Priorities or Enabling Local Actors, where relevant under Q3: MEASURING RESULTS OF THE IFRC NETWORK ACTION

Q8. LESSONS LEARNED

Implementation of various health, WASH, climate resilience, and disaster preparedness initiatives has yielded key lessons that will shape and strengthen future interventions.

- Enhanced coordination across departments significantly improved the delivery of interventions and strengthened information flow. However, regular coordination between key stakeholders within the National Society remains limited. Future interventions will prioritize joint planning and reinforce coordination mechanisms and shared accountability frameworks to ensure consistent and effective communication.
- Coordination of data collection and information flow was strengthened, but some indicators and reporting requirements were not fully aligned with project-specific or donor-driven needs, creating challenges in harmonization. Moving forward, efforts will focus on developing standardized and flexible monitoring, evaluation, and learning (MEL) tools that meet diverse information needs while minimizing duplication and reporting burdens.

SUCCESS STORIES



1

Zambia Red Cross Society strengthens financial sustainability through strategic reforms and investments

The National Society has strengthened its financial sustainability by investing in business development, income generation, resource mobilization and digital transformation. With support from partners such as IFRC and the Netherlands Red Cross, the National Society secured ownership documentation for its properties, expanded income-generating activities, and invested in long-term assets including warehouses and real estate. Leadership played a key role by reviewing the Constitution and adopting governance policies such as the Board Charter, Membership Policy, and Youth By-laws. These reforms have enhanced accountability, stability, and operational efficiency, positioning the Zambia Red Cross Society as a more relevant and trusted humanitarian partner with a stronger financial and institutional foundation to serve vulnerable communities.

ANNEX 1. IFRC APPLICATION OF THE 8+3 REPORTING TEMPLATE

The IFRC network structures its result-based management along five Strategic priorities and four Enabling functions, developed based on the IFRC network's [Strategy 2030](#):

IFRC network Strategic Priorities	IFRC network Enabling Functions
SP 1 - Climate and environment	EF 1- Strategic and operational coordination
SP 2 - Disasters and crises	EF 2 - National Society development
SP 3 - Health and wellbeing	EF 3 - Humanitarian diplomacy
SP 4 - Migration and displacement	EF 4 - Accountability and agility
SP 5 - Values, power and inclusion	

The Federation-wide results matrix provides a standard way for the IFRC network to measure its progress towards Strategy 2030 implementation and supports consistent quality of the IFRC network planning, monitoring and reporting. To further advance coherence in monitoring across the IFRC network, a [Federation-wide Indicator Bank](#) has been developed and integrated into the Federation-wide monitoring systems for emergencies and longer-term work, structured along the Federation-wide results matrix as well. Signatory of the Grand Bargain Agreement, the IFRC has committed to its monitoring and reporting standards through integration of the [8+3 reporting template](#) contents into its results-based management approach. The following mapping demonstrate the way in which this report aligns with 8+3 reporting:

8+3 template	IFRC network Mid-Year Report (with variance in structure in red)
Core Questions	
1. Overall Performance	Overall Performance
2. Changes and Amendments	Changes and amendments
3. Measuring Results	Measuring Results
4. Affected Persons	Cover pages with indicators values
5. Participation & AAP	Under Q3 Strategic Priority 5: Values, power and inclusion – Community Engagement and Accountability
6. Risk management	Risk management
7. Exit Strategy and Sustainability	Under Q3 sub-sections by Strategic Priority/Enabling Function where relevant
8. Lessons Learned	Lessons learned
Additional Questions	
1. Value for Money/ Cost Effectiveness	Not included in mid-year reports
2. Visibility	Not included in mid-year reports
3. Coordination	Under Q3 Enabling Function 1: Strategic and operational coordination
4. Implementing Partners	Cross-cutting, with a focus on support to localization through the Q3 Enabling Functions 1 to 4
5. Activities or Steps Towards implementation	Cross-cutting in Q3 Strategic Priorities and Enabling Functions
6. Environment	Under Q3 Strategic Priority 1: Climate and environment



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 15 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.

DATA SCOPE AND LIMITATIONS

- **Timeframe and alignment:** The reporting timeframe for this overview is covering the period from 1 January to 30 June 2025. However, due to the diversity of the IFRC and differences in fiscal years, this coverage may not fully align for some National Societies.
- **Financial overview:** This overview consolidates data reported by the National Society and its IFRC network partners, as well as data extracted from IFRC's financial systems. All reported figures should include the administrative and operational costs of the different entities. The financial data with a grey background is solely reported by the National Society, including the funding sources. Financial reporting is often times estimated depending on availability of financial figures, closing of financial periods and may be incomplete. 'Not reported' could sometimes mean 'not applicable'. Also note that funding requirements are already reflected in the published 2025 IFRC network country plan. The total funding requirements show what the IFRC network has sought 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
- **Missing data and breakdowns:** National Societies have diverse data collection systems and processes that may not align with the standardized indicators. Data may not be available for some indicators, for some National Societies. This may lead to inconsistencies across different reporting tools as well as potential under or over-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

- [ZM_Zambia MYR Financials.pdf](#)
- [IFRC network country plans](#)
- [Subscribe for updates](#)
- [Live Disaster Response Emergency Fund \(DREF\) data](#)
- Operational information: [IFRC GO platform](#)
- National Society data: [IFRC Federation-wide Databank and Reporting System](#)
- [Evaluations database](#)

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