

IN SUPPORT OF THE LESOTHO RED CROSS SOCIETY



10

National Society
branches



96

National Society
local units



66

National Society
volunteers



720

National Society
staff

PEOPLE REACHED

Climate and
environment



5,818

Disasters
and crises



7,994

Health and
wellbeing



4,720

Values, power
and inclusion



5,125

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

in Swiss francs (CHF)

Country	Funding Requirement	2.1M
IFRC Secretariat	Longer-term Funding Requirement	1.4M
	Funding	Not reported
	Expenditure	Not reported
Participating National Societies	Funding Requirement	99,000
	Funding	82,000
HNS other funding sources	Funding Requirement	680,000
	Funding	Not reported

Lesotho Red Cross Society

Overview

Funding	Not reported
Expenditure	Not reported

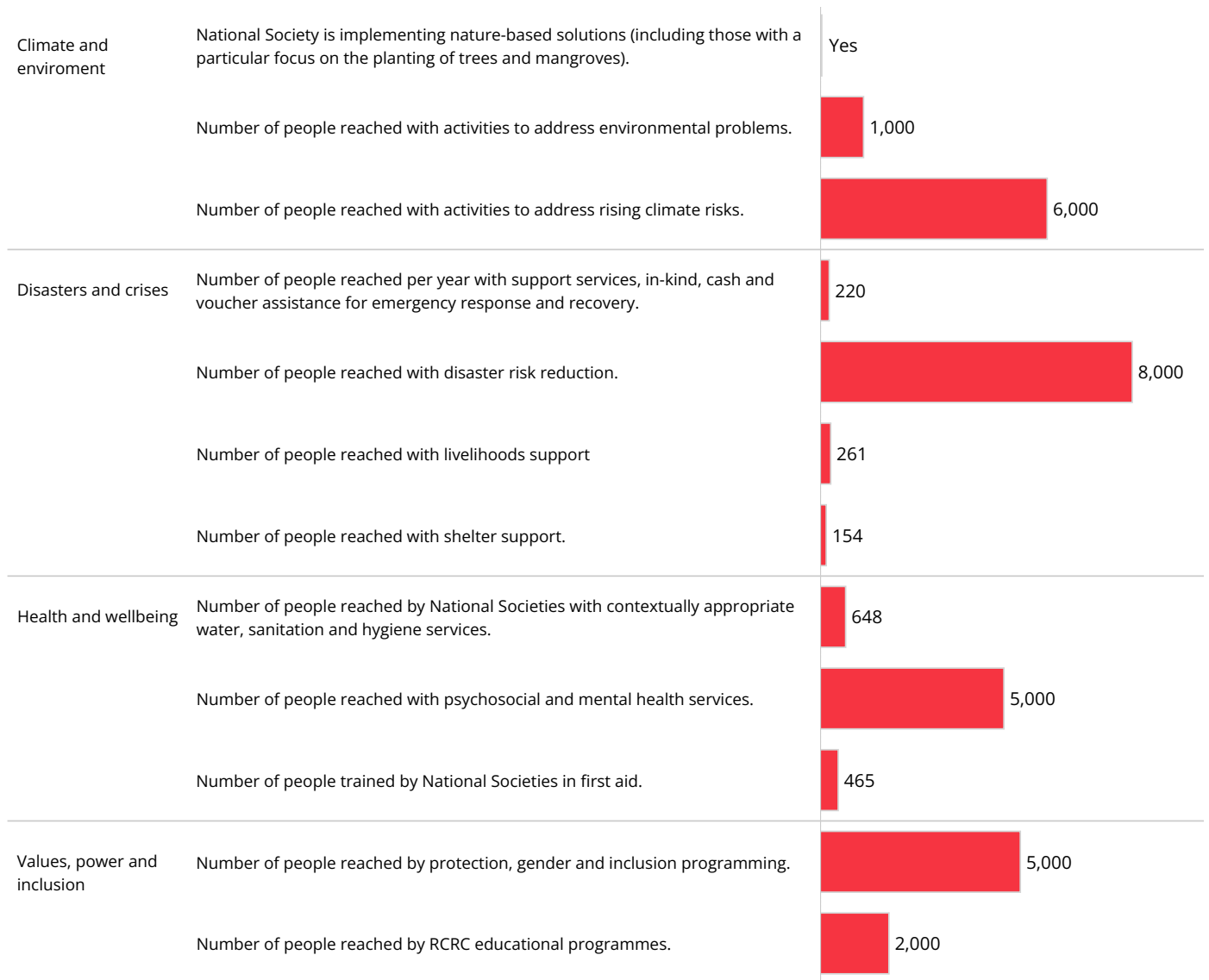
Funding Sources

IFRC Secretariat	Not reported
Participating National Societies	Not reported
HNS other funding sources	Not reported

Appeal number **MAALS003**

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

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



ENABLING FUNCTIONS

Accountability and agility	National Society has a Protection of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) policy to enforce prevention and support survivors.	0
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IFRC NETWORK SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

	Funding Reported	Climate and environment	Disasters and crises	Bilateral Support			Values, power and inclusion	Enabling Functions
				Health and wellbeing	Migration and displacement			
National Society								
British Red Cross	82,000							

Total Funding Reported **CHF 82,000**

OVERALL PROGRESS

Context

In the first half of 2024, Lesotho faced a complex and challenging landscape that significantly impacted humanitarian response in the country. The country, predominantly rural and heavily reliant on agriculture, encountered severe challenges related to livelihoods, climate, and food security. Erratic weather patterns, including prolonged dry spells and persistent heatwaves, critically affected agricultural productivity, resulting in decreased crop yields and limited pasture availability for livestock. As a consequence, vulnerable households across Lesotho experienced heightened food insecurity, with many struggling to access adequate and nutritious diets.

The situation was further exacerbated by pre-existing socio-economic vulnerabilities, including high poverty rates, limited access to resources, and persistent unemployment. Ongoing challenges related to infrastructure, market access, and the availability and affordability of agricultural inputs compounded these difficulties. The lingering effects of the COVID-19 pandemic strained already limited resources, adding further obstacles to food security and the sustainability of livelihoods.

According to the Lesotho Meteorological Services, the period from January to March 2024 witnessed exceptionally high temperatures, leading to widespread crop dryness and exacerbating ongoing crop failures. This climatic distress contributed to soaring food prices, forcing 41 per cent of rural families to allocate over half their income to food expenses. Approximately 325,000 individuals—around 22 per cent of the population—were identified as experiencing food insecurity, with eight out of ten districts classified under IPC Phase 3 (Crisis). The districts of Berea, Maseru, Mafeteng, Mohale's Hoek, Quthing, Thaba Tseka, and Leribe were particularly hard-hit, necessitating urgent interventions and support.

Despite efforts by the government and humanitarian organizations to provide assistance to affected communities, the situation remained precarious, highlighting the urgent need for comprehensive and sustainable interventions aimed at addressing the root causes of vulnerability and enhancing resilience to future shocks. The below-normal harvests and increased reliance on markets drove up maize prices during the main harvest season, with many households relying on market purchases earlier than usual due to significant crop losses.

Looking ahead, forecasts indicated a normal start to the 2024/25 agricultural season, with expectations of timely rainfall and seasonal agricultural labour opportunities for land preparation and planting. However, anticipated below-normal wage rates due to increased competition for labour and lower liquidity among middle and better-off households posed challenges for poorer households seeking to engage in casual labour for income to purchase staples.

Key achievements

Climate and environment

In the first half of 2024, the Lesotho Red Cross Society implemented a range of climate resilience and disaster preparedness initiatives, including a climate change and early warning systems workshop in partnership with the Ministry of Forestry. The National Society engaged volunteers in community-wide cleaning campaigns and conducted awareness-raising activities to address environmental degradation and climate risks. Additionally, the National Society trained District Disaster Management Teams on drought-based Forecast-Based Financing and facilitated local dialogue platforms for enhanced disaster risk management. The National Society also provided essential support to vulnerable communities through clothing and hygiene packs for infants and launched a cash transfer program to help households impacted by the Storm Surge in Maseru and Quthing. These efforts fostered community resilience, enhanced preparedness, and supported families in regaining stability after the disaster.

Disasters and crises

In response to multiple emergencies, including storms and fires, the Lesotho Red Cross Society coordinated closely with the Disaster Management Authority (DMA) to provide cash transfers, psychosocial support, and emergency relief to hundreds of affected households. Progress was made in strengthening disaster management capacity, including the establishment of the National Society Disaster Management Committee and the training of Village Disaster Management Teams under the Forecast-Based Financing Project. The National Society also launched a targeted cash transfer program following the Storm Surge in Maseru and Quthing and provided essential supplies after storms and

fires. Through collaboration with government and humanitarian agencies, it ensured timely recovery and promoted resilient housing construction. Additionally, the Lesotho Red Cross Society developed an Early Action Protocol for droughts and is working on one for extreme cold events to enhance preparedness and response to future climate-related shocks.

Health and wellbeing

In this reporting period, the Lesotho Red Cross Society expanded mental health and psychosocial support ([MHPSS](#)), provided Psychological First Aid to affected households and survivors of sexual and gender-based violence. It introduced tippy taps to promote handwashing and collaborated with partners on water, sanitation and hygiene ([WASH](#)) and food safety education. The National Society also addressed child protection, nutrition, and menstrual health by distributing sanitary pads and dignity packs. It installed new water points in Botha-Bothe and educated students on water conservation to improve health resilience. Over 150 individuals received psychosocial support, strengthening the National Society's focus on community well-being.

Migration and displacement

In this reporting period, the Lesotho Red Cross Society conducted capacity building exercises for its staff on migration and restoring family links ([RFL](#)). This training has not only enhanced their understanding of migration issues but has also strengthened their skills in managing RFL-sensitive data and utilizing secure communication channels to protect the safety and privacy of beneficiaries. This capacity-building initiative is crucial for enabling the National Society to effectively implement Migration and RFL programs in response to the increasing needs within the country.

Values, power and inclusion

In this reporting period, the National Society's interventions under health and wellbeing, disasters and crises were conducted with the inclusion of various protection needs to ensure a safer and more inclusive environment. Distribution of hygiene kits, mental health and psychosocial support to sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) survivors, awareness raising campaigns in schools, child protection knowledge dissemination for parents, are some of the cross-cutting interventions that highlight the National Society's priorities.

Enabling local actors

The Lesotho Red Cross Society has made progress in strengthening its governance and operational systems through divisional meetings, induction workshops, and youth engagement initiatives. These efforts aim to enhance understanding of governance and strategic goals, as well as encourage youth leadership and participation. Outreach initiatives have also been undertaken to address membership challenges, including revitalizing old memberships and recruiting new volunteers, further expanding the National Society's presence in the community. Additionally, visits to existing branches and efforts to establish new ones are enhancing the operational health and structure of the National Society.

At the advocacy level, the Lesotho Red Cross Society actively participates in technical working groups and engages with local governance structures, fostering collaboration with government ministries and implementing partners. It has also increased its national visibility through seminars, press conferences, and media presence. In line with accountability and safeguarding principles, the National Society is investing in talent development for staff and volunteers. As part of its [digital transformation](#), the Lesotho Red Cross Society is integrating the Emergency Preparedness and Response system to streamline operations, though challenges remain in fully utilizing data management and digital literacy initiatives.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Climate and environment

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In this reporting period, the Lesotho Red Cross Society hosted a climate change and early warning systems workshop in partnership with the Ministry of Forestry, providing insights into developing early warning systems and mitigating the impacts of climate change through localized interventions. This workshop was part of a comprehensive end-to-end early warning and anticipatory action learning approach, ensuring that the National Society is well-equipped to implement effective early actions.

The National Society engaged volunteers in a community-wide cleaning campaign aimed at improving local environmental conditions and promoting cleaner, healthier surroundings. This initiative emphasized the importance of waste management in preventing environmental degradation, a growing concern due to climate change. Additionally, the Lesotho Red Cross Society conducted community education and awareness-raising activities to help residents adapt to and reduce climate-related risks.

As part of its efforts to strengthen knowledge management and exchange on early action and anticipatory action, the National Society distributed clothing and hygiene packs to infants born at local hospitals, particularly targeting vulnerable households. This effort addressed both environmental and humanitarian needs while promoting social cohesion within the community.

Moreover, the Lesotho Red Cross Society trained District Disaster Management Teams (DDMTs) and members of the Forecast-Based Financing Technical Working Group on drought impact-based Forecast-Based Financing, ensuring that local stakeholders are prepared to respond effectively to climate-related challenges. The National Society also facilitated local dialogue platforms focused on Impact-Based Forecast-Based Finance, fostering collaboration and dialogue among stakeholders to enhance disaster risk management.

Through these initiatives, the Lesotho Red Cross Society actively contributed to climate resilience by fostering community engagement in environmental cleanliness, raising awareness of climate change, and building capacity for disaster preparedness through collaboration with governmental and humanitarian agencies. These efforts align closely with the objectives of enhancing anticipatory action, promoting knowledge exchange, and empowering communities to adapt to climate-related risks.

In response to the Storm Surge affecting communities in Maseru and Quthing districts, the Lesotho Red Cross Society implemented a cash transfer program that was launched to support affected households with immediate essential and shelter needs. A total of 154 households received unconditional cash transfers through mobile money transfer. This multipurpose cash grant empowers families to prioritize their expenditures according to their unique circumstances, enhancing their ability to procure necessities such as food, medicine, and other vital supplies.

The feedback on the impacts suggests significant improvements in the purchasing power of the affected families. Many have reported an increased ability to meet their basic needs and regain a sense of stability in the aftermath of the disaster. By providing this direct financial assistance, the program not only alleviates immediate hardships but also fosters resilience within the community as families work towards recovery.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided support to the Lesotho Red Cross Society in its efforts under climate and environment, which consists of raising awareness on climate change impact in communities, capacity building of staff and volunteers, community-led climate actions, among others. It supports the National Society to promote participatory community-

led solutions to address challenges, improve behaviours and promote climate action.



Disasters and crises

For real-time information on emergencies, visit [IFRC GO page Lesotho](#).

Between January to June 2024, two IFRC disaster response emergency fund (DREF) were activated for storm surge and drought in Lesotho.

1.

NAME OF OPERATION	Lesotho Storm Surge
MDR-CODE	MDRLS007
DURATION	Four months (17 January 2024 to 31 May 2024)
FUNDING ALLOCATION	CHF 71,435
PEOPLE TARGETED	770
DREF OPERATION DOCUMENT	Lesotho Storm Surge DREF operation

The DREF allocation of CHF 71,435 in January 2024 supported the Lesotho Red Cross Society to assist 770 people who were affected by heavy rains and storms in the areas of Berea, Leribe, Maseru, Mokhotlong, Quthing, and Thaba Tseka. The National Society supported the targeted people over a four-month period with assistance such as shelter, multipurpose cash assistance, provision of mental health assistance, WASH, and PGI services.



The Lesotho Red Cross Society actively engages children in gardening to strengthen response to climate change. (Photo: IFRC).

2.

NAME OF OPERATION	Lesotho drought
MDR-CODE	MDRLS008
DURATION	9 months (15 May 2024 to 28 February 2025)
FUNDING ALLOCATION	CHF 711,203
PEOPLE TARGETED	12,500
DREF OPERATION DOCUMENT	Lesotho Drought DREF operation

The DREF allocation of CHF 711,203 supported the Lesotho Red Cross Society to assist 12,500 people who were affected by drought in the areas of Maseru, Mohale's Hoek, Qacha's Nek, Quthing, triggered by intense heatwaves. The National Society assisted the targeted people assistance such as livelihood and basic needs support, multipurpose cash assistance, health and hygiene, WASH interventions, and CEA.

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In response to multiple emergencies, including storms and fires, the Lesotho Red Cross Society coordinated closely with the Disaster Management Authority (DMA) to provide cash transfers, psychosocial support, and emergency relief to hundreds of affected households across various regions. The National Society has made significant progress in strengthening its internal disaster management capacity in compliance with the DMA Act and the National Response Plan. The establishment of the National Society Disaster Management Committee has been pivotal in overseeing the development, implementation, and maintenance of the National Society's Disaster Management Program, which focuses on procedures to prevent, mitigate, prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies.

To enhance disaster management capacity, the Lesotho Red Cross Society has conducted training and capacity-building initiatives for Village Disaster Management Teams under the Forecast-Based Financing Project. These trainings equip local teams with the skills necessary to anticipate and respond to disasters effectively. Additionally, members of the team in various districts have received training on disaster response and community planning, promoting a proactive approach to disaster risk reduction at the community level.

The Lesotho Red Cross Society actively collaborates with the Government of Lesotho, the DMA, and other humanitarian agencies to implement coordinated disaster response efforts. For example, following a storm that damaged numerous households, the National Society intervened by verifying and registering affected families, providing psychosocial support, and distributing cash transfers. Essential supplies, including mattresses, blankets, hygiene packages, and food, were also delivered to the affected communities.

In response to multiple fire incidents, the Lesotho Red Cross Society provided psychosocial support, emergency shelter materials, and essential supplies such as food, hygiene kits, clothing, and kitchen utensils. This response involved close collaboration with the DMA and other relevant agencies to ensure efficient recovery for those impacted. Fire-damaged homes received emergency assistance, including agricultural tools to support recovery efforts.

Additionally, the National Society assessed storm-affected households in various areas, distributing hygiene packs to vulnerable families. The National Society also provided support to an elderly man whose shack was destroyed by fire, coordinating with the DMA and other organizations to deliver essentials and extend aid to other fire-affected community members.

In response to the devastating Storm Surge that impacted communities in the Maseru and Quthing districts, the Lesotho Red Cross Society implemented a targeted cash transfer program to support affected households in addressing their immediate essential and shelter needs. This initiative provided timely financial assistance, enabling families to secure necessary supplies for shelter repairs.

Furthermore, the National Society, in collaboration with various stakeholders, is actively engaged in raising awareness across the country about constructing resilient housing. These efforts focus on educating communities about building practices that can withstand climatic and man-made shocks, such as fires and floods. By promoting safe and durable

housing solutions, the Lesotho Red Cross Society aims to enhance community resilience and reduce vulnerability to future disasters.

The Lesotho Red Cross Society is committed to enhancing the capacity of communities to withstand climate-induced shocks, focusing on disaster risk reduction training in vulnerable across the country. Recognizing the importance of proactive measures, the National Society has trained 40 local disaster management teams on early action protocols, equipping them with the knowledge and skills necessary to respond effectively to potential disasters. This capacity-building initiative not only prepares communities to manage immediate risks but also empowers them to implement sustainable practices that strengthen their livelihoods over the long term.

In addition, the Lesotho Red Cross Society has successfully developed and approved an Early Action Protocol specifically for droughts, allowing for swift and coordinated responses to minimize the impact of these climatic events. Recognizing the need to adapt to a range of environmental challenges, work is currently underway to create an EAP for extreme cold events, further enhancing the organization's preparedness and response capabilities.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC support to the Lesotho Red Cross Society in this reporting period consisted of identifying risks and response system gaps, supporting timely review and process of IFRC disaster response emergency fund ([DREF](#)) and Emergency Appeal requests, providing assistance through technical assessments of the disaster management ecosystem in the country, supporting the roll out of mandatory briefings on protection, gender and inclusion ([PGI](#)) in emergencies, and supporting the development/refinement of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) referral systems.



Health and wellbeing

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Lesotho Red Cross Society has made progress in scaling up mental health and psychosocial support ([MHPSS](#)), focusing on raising community awareness and providing timely interventions for those in need, particularly during emergencies and for survivors of sexual and gender-based violence. The National Society has prioritized immediate emotional support, such as providing Psychological First Aid to affected households and conducting team-building initiatives for health staff and military personnel to ensure service providers are also attentive to their mental health needs.

In its efforts to reduce illness, death, and public health impacts, the Lesotho Red Cross Society has implemented various initiatives aimed at enhancing community health resilience. The introduction of tippy taps promotes handwashing, a critical practice in preventing the spread of diseases. Collaborating with District Child Protection Teams and Catholic Relief Services, the Lesotho Red Cross Society has conducted educational sessions on water, sanitation, hygiene (WASH), and food safety for caregivers and children, helping to prevent waterborne diseases and ensuring a healthy environment for children's growth and development. Furthermore, the National Society continues to emphasize the importance of public health services such as HIV/AIDS awareness and first aid training.

The Lesotho Red Cross Society is also actively engaged in child protection and well-being initiatives, focusing on WASH and food hygiene practices to minimize illness risks among children. Collaborating with the Ministry of Agriculture, the National Society addresses child protection concerns by educating parents on nutrition, vaccinations, and referral pathways to ensure children's well-being.

Additionally, the National Society has taken proactive measures to support menstrual health and dignity, particularly for vulnerable girls. Initiatives such as distributing sanitary pads and providing dignity packs have significantly improved menstrual hygiene, thereby reducing absenteeism in schools.

The Lesotho Red Cross Society has significantly scaled up the provision of mental health and psychosocial support, particularly for survivors of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV). Since the beginning of the year, over 150 individuals have benefited from psychological first aid, receiving timely and compassionate care through targeted interventions developed in collaboration with the Ministry of Health.

As part of its commitment to ensuring safe drinking water, proper sanitation, and hygiene awareness in communities, the Lesotho Red Cross Society has installed 3 new water points in Botha-Bothe. This initiative is integral to ongoing school-based hygiene promotion activities aimed at enhancing access to clean water and fostering healthier environments.

In addition to improving water access, the National Society has engaged students in educational programs focused on water conservation practices. These efforts promote safer water usage, particularly in drought-prone areas, and empower young people to adopt sustainable habits that contribute to their community's overall health and resilience.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided technical support to the National Society in the implementation of the community health projects and resource mobilization to expand the scope of the health promotion projects. It also supported to the National Society contributing towards the agenda for renewal, especially the Pan-African initiatives such as the Saving Lives and Livelihoods and Community Health Worker Programme. The National Society supported health teams to develop specific procedures and map referrals for comprehensive and holistic care for survivors of SGBV, including clinical management of sexual abuse, clinical response and protective care, referrals and procedures.



Migration and displacement

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In this reporting period, the Lesotho Red Cross Society conducted capacity building exercises for its staff on migration and restoring family links (RFL). This training has not only enhanced their understanding of migration issues but has also strengthened their skills in managing RFL-sensitive data and utilizing secure communication channels to protect the safety and privacy of beneficiaries. This capacity-building initiative is crucial for enabling the National Society to effectively implement Migration and RFL programs in response to the increasing needs within the country.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provides support to the Lesotho Red Cross Society in its migration and displacement initiatives. This involves strengthening of capacity around migration, advocacy efforts, or catering to the various service needs of migrants through assessments.

The ICRC provides support to the Lesotho Red Cross Society through the restoring family links (RFL) programme.



Values, power and inclusion

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Lesotho Red Cross Society empowers individuals and communities vulnerable to and affected by crises to influence decisions that impact their lives. This is achieved by integrating community engagement and accountability (CEA) and protection, gender and inclusion (PGI) commitments into guidance, tools, and operational plans at various levels, including country, clusters, and regional frameworks. To increase reach, PGI is mainstreamed across the National Society's work through recap trainings of PGI minimum standards for all the projects. All service providers working closely with children are given the child safeguarding policy and code of conduct to abide with.

In this reporting period, the National Society's interventions under health and wellbeing, disasters and crises were conducted with the inclusion of various protection needs to ensure a safer and more inclusive environment. Distribution of hygiene kits, mental health and psychosocial support to sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) survivors, awareness raising campaigns in schools, child protection knowledge dissemination for parents, are some of the cross-cutting interventions that highlight the National Society's priorities.

The Lesotho Red Cross Society, through its Lars Amundsen Foundation project, is addressing the educational needs of Orphans and Vulnerable Children. The project provides vital support by assisting with the purchase of school uniforms, books, and covering school fees, ensuring that financial barriers do not hinder these children's access to quality education.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provides support to the Lesotho Red Cross Society in its values, power and inclusion interventions.

ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS



Strategic and operational coordination

Progress by the National Society against objectives

Membership coordination

IFRC membership coordination involves working with member National Societies to assess the humanitarian context, humanitarian situations and needs; agreeing on common priorities; jointly developing common strategies to address issues such as obtaining greater humanitarian access, acceptance and space; mobilizing funding and other resources; clarifying consistent public messaging; and monitoring progress. This also means ensuring that strategies and programmes in support of people in need, incorporate clarity of humanitarian action, links with development assistance, and efforts to reinforce National Societies in their respective countries, including through their auxiliary role.

Movement coordination

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

The ICRC, through its Pretoria regional delegation, monitors the humanitarian situation in the region, promotes international humanitarian law, restores contact between family members separated by conflict and helps National Societies enhance their emergency response capabilities.

External coordination

In line with its auxiliary role, the Lesotho Red Cross Society collaborates closely with authorities at national level. These include the Disaster Management Authority, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Education and Training, Department of Traffic, Ministry of Social Development, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Water Affairs and Ministry of Communication. At district level, it works alongside the district administration, disaster management team, district health management team and district child protection team. At community level, it works with councils and chiefs, Ministry of Agriculture extension workers, and village health workers.

As part of the national disaster management mechanisms in Lesotho, the Lesotho Red Cross Society is typically a first responder and also supports with initial rapid assessments when a disaster strikes. It designs its own humanitarian response based on assessments, in close coordination with the authorities.

The Lesotho Red Cross Society also collaborates with a range of international and local actors. These include UN agencies comprising the World Food Programme, the UN Development Programme, UNICEF, UNESCO, Food and Agriculture Organization, World Health Organization, and UN Population Fund. International and national non-governmental actors and civil society organizations include the Lesotho Council of NGOs, Lesotho Network of People living with HIV and AIDS, Partners In Health, Johns Hopkins Programme for International Education in Gynaecology and Obstetrics, Lesotho Network of AIDS Services Organization, Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation, and World Vision Lesotho.



National Society development

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Lesotho Red Cross Society has made significant strides in strengthening its governance and operational systems through various initiatives. Divisional meetings and induction workshops have been conducted to enhance the understanding of governance, operational procedures, and strategic goals among branch and divisional committee members. These workshops are essential for familiarizing committee members with their roles and responsibilities within the National Society.

Youth engagement has been a focal point, exemplified by successful Annual General Meetings that facilitate the election of new leadership and provide platforms for youth members to refresh their knowledge of the National Society's history and activities. Reports on previous activities are shared, and resolutions are made to guide future youth initiatives, thus enhancing youth leadership and participation in governance.

To address membership challenges, outreach efforts have been undertaken to revive old memberships and recruit new members for various branches. These initiatives have generated increased interest in volunteering for the Lesotho Red Cross Society, contributing to the National Society's expansion and visibility within the community.

Efforts to establish new branches and revitalize existing ones are also underway, further strengthening the overall structure of the National Society. Branch visits aim to enhance operational health, ensuring that all branches remain integral to the National Society's activities.

In addition, strategic meetings with local governance structures have reinforced the relationship between the Lesotho Red Cross Society and community leaders, enhancing operational efficiency and response capacity at various levels.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provides both financial and technical support to the Lesotho Red Cross Society in its National Society development initiatives, which consists of development and implement strategies and tools, capacity building, establishing new systems, among others. IFRC funding mechanisms such as the IFRC-ICRC National Society Investment Alliance (NSIA), the IFRC Capacity Building Fund (CBF), and the Empress Shoken Fund are utilized for National Society development objectives.



Humanitarian diplomacy

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Lesotho Red Cross Society actively upholds its advocacy roles at the district level through its 10 divisional offices. This commitment is demonstrated by robust participation in various technical working groups, fostering collaboration with government ministries, and engaging with various implementing partners. At the national level, the Lesotho Red Cross Society's technical and management teams have represented the National Society in numerous seminars and dialogue platforms, both nationally and regionally. These engagements have facilitated the sharing of knowledge and best practices, enhancing the National Society's visibility and influence in humanitarian discussions. Additionally, the Lesotho Red Cross Society has commemorated Red Cross days, conducted press conferences and maintained a significant media presence across multiple platforms, further strengthening public trust and awareness of its critical role and activities.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provides support to the Lesotho Red Cross Society in effectively advocating with relevant authorities for increasing its visibility and highlighting its humanitarian interventions in Lesotho. The IFRC supports the National Society in also ensuring that the National Society is the first responder in humanitarian emergencies in the country.



Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In the realm of policy and guidelines, Lesotho Red Cross Society continues to adhere to its policies for structured execution of its day-to-day activities. In alignment with accountability and safeguarding principles, the Lesotho Red Cross Society is actively engaged in talent development initiatives. This includes offering tailored development programmes that encompass training opportunities for key staff and volunteers.

In the area of digital transformation, the Lesotho Red Cross Society is in the process of integrating the Emergency Preparedness and Response system, housed within the Finance department. This integration aims to link internal systems, facilitating more efficient and transparent day-to-day operations, thereby contributing to the National Society's overall digital maturity. However, a gap remains in fully utilizing data management and digital literacy initiatives, which are essential for optimizing data-driven humanitarian services and ensuring effective access to infrastructure.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provides support to the National Society in its efforts to enhance accountability and agility within overall systems and processes. This consists of supporting the National Society in the development of relevant strategies and tools, raising awareness and capacity on components such as digital transformation, and strengthening the management system of the National Society.



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 2024. However, due to the diversity of the IFRC and differences in fiscal years, this coverage may not fully align for some National Societies. Mid-year reporting data may have been based on estimations, with plans to submit more robust numbers at the annual reporting stage.
- **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 light 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."
- **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) and 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.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- [IFRC Lesotho mid-year 2024 financial report](#)
- [IFRC network country plan](#)
- [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](#)
- [IFRC Evaluation and Research Databank](#)

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