

# **BOTSWANA**

2024 IFRC network mid-year report, January – June

15 April 2025

## IN SUPPORT OF THE BOTSWANA RED CROSS SOCIETY









46
National Society local units



15,000

National Society volunteers



64

National Society staff

#### **PEOPLE REACHED**

Climate and environment



8,695

Disasters and crises



280

Health and wellbeing



502,022

Migration and displacement



- 1

Values, power and inclusion



20,240

#### **FINANCIAL OVERVIEW**

in Swiss francs (CHF)

Country		Funding Requirement	1.6M
IFRC Secretariat	Longer-term	Funding Requirement	1.3M
		Funding	Not reported
		Expenditure	Not reported
Participating National Societies		Funding Requirement	25,000
		Funding	28,000
		Expenditure	3,000
HNS other funding sources		Funding Requirement	320,000
		Funding	Not reported

Botswana Red Cross Society				
	Funding Sources			
Not reported	IFRC Secretariat	Not reported		
Not reported	Participating National Societies	Not reported		
	HNS other funding sources	Not reported		
	Not reported	Funding Sources    Not reported   IFRC Secretariat     Not reported   Participating National Societies		

Appeal number MAABW003

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

### **STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**

Climate and enviroment	National Society is implementing environmental or climate campaigns focused on behaviour change, plastic reduction or clean-ups.	Yes
	National Society is implementing nature-based solutions (including those with a particular focus on the planting of trees and mangroves).	Yes
	National Society is supported in developing and implementing strategies and plans that address rising climate and environmental risks.	Yes
	Number of people reached by public campaigns involving clean-up, recycling or urban greening	27
	Number of people reached with activities to address environmental problems.	114
	Number of people reached with activities to address rising climate risks.	85
	Number of people reached with heatwave risk reduction, preparedness or response activities.	9,000
	Number of trees planted for climate change adaptation, mitigation and/or to reduce disaster risk.	118
Disasters and crises	Number of people reached per year with support services, in-kind, cash and voucher assistance for emergency response and recovery.	55
	Number of people reached with disaster risk reduction.	77
	Number of people reached with livelihoods support	280
Health and wellbeing	Number of people reached by National Societies with contextually appropriate health services.	502,000
	Number of people reached by National Societies with contextually appropriate water, sanitation and hygiene services.	0
	Number of people reached with immunization services.	24,000
	Number of people reached with psychosocial and mental health services.	74
	Number of people trained by National Societies in first aid.	956
Migration and displacement	Number of Humanitarian Service Points (HSPs) that provided assistance and/or protection to people on the move along land based migration routes.	0
	Number of migrants and displaced persons reached with services for assistance and protection.	1
Values, power and inclusion	Number of people reached by protection, gender and inclusion programming.	20,000
	Number of people reached by RCRC educational programmes.	109
	Number of people whose access to education is facilitated through RCRC programming.	109

### **ENABLING FUNCTIONS**

Strategic and operational coordination	National Society increases the number of government led platforms in which they are actively participating to achieve humanitarian or development goals.	7
	Number of formal interagency/international coordination platforms the IFRC Network is part of.	5
National Society development	National Society covers health, accident and death compensation for all of their volunteers.	Yes
	The National Society has a risk management framework in place	1

### **IFRC NETWORK SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES**

	Bilateral Support						
National Society	Funding Reported	Climate and enviroment	Disasters and crises	Health and wellbeing	Migration and displacement	Values, power and inclusion	Enabling Functions
Netherlands Red Cross	28,000						

Total Funding Reported CHF 28,000

### **OVERALL PROGRESS**

#### Context

The current population of Botswana stands at approximately 2.36 million, with an average age of 28.1 years. Notably, nearly half of households in the country are female headed. With this youthful demographic, the National Society strives to enhance the youth's understanding, ownership, and practical application of humanitarian values. Through the engagement of young people as Red Cross members and volunteers, the Society equips them with the necessary knowledge, skills, and behavior to make a meaningful contribution to society. The high number of female-headed households emphasizes the need for gender-sensitive interventions. The Botswana Red Cross Society (BRCS) recognizes gender mainstreaming as an essential element of all its programs.

Botswana eagerly anticipates the benefits of its demographic dividend. However, over the past three years, a series of global crises have significantly affected socio-economic progress worldwide, and Botswana is no exception. These crises, including the COVID-19 pandemic, the Russia-Ukraine war, and other geopolitical tensions, have left a lasting impact on the country. Against this background, <u>real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth averaged 2.9 percent</u>, lower than the 7.6 percent projected for 2022/2023. The current economic growth rate has decreased in Botswana, leading to an increase in the unemployment rate. In the fourth quarter of 2019, the unemployment rate was 22.2%. However, by the third quarter of 2023, it had risen to 25.9 percent. These figures underscore the urgency of our collective efforts to address these challenges.

Climate change is another factor that has negatively affected Botswana's socio-economic progress. Significant drivers of the GDP, such as agriculture, water, biodiversity, and ecosystems, are severely affected by climate change due to their dependence on the environment and climate. The Government of Botswana declared the 2023-2024 agricultural season an extreme drought, marking it as the most severe drought in the last decade. Between the third quarter of 2023 and the first quarter of 2024, food-insecure people stood at 37,000. The Government of Botswana further conducted National Drought Assessments in June 2024, and the findings indicated an increase in the number of food-insecure people to 72,175

Despite facing economic challenges, the Botswana government has significantly improved access to necessities such as clean water, sanitation, and electricity. It is estimated that 75.8% of Botswana's population has access to electricity, 76.3% have access to a mobile telephone, and 85.4% have access to clean water.

Politically, Botswana has experienced a stable political environment, including a multi-party democratic tradition, with general elections held every five years. In October 2024, Botswana will hold its <u>twelfth general election</u>, anticipating that the country will continue to experience a <u>peaceful transition of power</u>.

### **Key achievements**

#### **Climate and Environment**

To promote sustainable livelihoods and reduce food insecurity, the Botswana Red Cross Society has continued advocating for climate-smart agricultural practices in vulnerable communities. The Gweta Community Farm has been instrumental in encouraging sustainable farming techniques while providing produce to beneficiaries. In addition to its agricultural initiatives, the National Society carried out a one-time food distribution targeting 70 households with malnourished children under five years of age. These efforts aim to address food insecurity while promoting long-term resilience through sustainable agricultural interventions.

#### Disasters and crises

Recognizing the severe impact of drought on vulnerable communities, the Botswana Red Cross Society secured CHF 499,471 through the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies Disaster Response Emergency Fund to support 5,350 people in Mabutsane, Hukuntsi, and North East Districts. The six-month drought response plan includes livelihood diversification initiatives, nutritional health promotion for children under five years old, and Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene interventions. These targeted efforts aim to provide immediate relief while strengthening the resilience of affected communities against future climate shocks

#### Health and wellbeing

The Botswana Red Cross Society has made significant progress in improving access to sustainable, affordable, and quality health services. In the first six months of 2024, the National Society implemented two major health projects focused on integrating COVID-19 into routine immunization and reducing harmful tobacco use. These initiatives complement long-term health interventions such as First Aid, blood donation, physiotherapy, and rehabilitation services. Through these efforts, 502,022 people have been reached with services and health promotion messages. Additionally, the Botswana Red Cross Society has played a key role in influencing health policies and strategies by actively participating in multiple policymaking and advocacy platforms.

#### Migration and displacement

Although no specific migration-related projects were highlighted in this reporting period, the Botswana Red Cross Society's broader efforts in health, disaster response, and social inclusion contribute to supporting vulnerable populations, including migrants and displaced individuals. By integrating health services, strengthening community resilience, and addressing key protection concerns such as sexual and gender-based violence, the National Society continues to play a vital role in fostering safer and more inclusive communities for all.

#### Values, power and inclusion

The Botswana Red Cross Society has actively responded to sexual and gender-based violence through a dedicated project supported by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies Capacity Building Fund. As part of this initiative, the National Society conducted referral mapping with key stakeholders, including government agencies, non-profit organizations, law enforcement, healthcare providers, and community leaders, to improve coordination and collaboration in addressing sexual and gender-based violence. Volunteers, staff members, gender committee members, and Village Development Committee representatives received training in gender concepts and Psychological First Aid. The project reached 20,240 people with messages on mental health and sexual and gender-based violence. To ensure long-term impact, the National Society initiated a root cause analysis study to strengthen existing response mechanisms.

### IFRC NETWORK ACTION

### STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



### **Climate and environment**

#### **Progress by the National Society against objectives**

The Botswana Red Cross Society is committed to strengthening community resilience to climate change and disaster risks by increasing local ownership and participation. The Gweta Community Farm, serving both commercial and social welfare purposes, acts as a demonstration site for climate-smart agriculture. A significant improvement at the farm has been the installation of a shade net, which has prevented crop losses even during cold spells, showcasing its effectiveness in temperature regulation.

Aligned with the Pan-African Tree Planting and Care Initiative, the Botswana Red Cross Society has mobilized resources for large-scale tree planting to enhance climate adaptation, disaster risk reduction, and food security. With support from the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security, 100 fruit tree seedlings, along with 18 additional seedlings from volunteers, were planted in Francistown and Gweta.

The National Society is also preparing to launch a community-based disaster risk management project in collaboration with the Netherlands Red Cross Society. The project, which is undergoing due diligence, will conduct Enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessments in Bobirwa and Letlhakeng districts to strengthen disaster preparedness.

In waste management, the Botswana Red Cross Society has initiated a sanitation project in the Okavango Delta to improve hygiene and protect the ecosystem. The project, introduced to stakeholders in Maun and Gumare in June 2024, focuses on constructing anti-seepage latrines in North-West and Okavango districts. A steering committee has been formed to oversee the project's implementation.

Through the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies Disaster Response Emergency Fund, the Botswana Red Cross Society secured CHF 499,471 to assist 5,350 people in drought-affected Mabutsane, Hukuntsi, and North-East districts. This six-month response includes cash and asset transfers, food distribution, and hygiene packages. Additionally, a one-time food distribution was conducted for 70 vulnerable households in Qanqwa village in partnership with Palms for Life, benefiting malnourished children under five, pregnant women, and lactating mothers.

To further assist affected communities, the Botswana Red Cross Society acquired funding to provide three-month unconditional cash grants to 550 households, starting in the third quarter of 2024. The transfers, set at P750 per month, align with national standards. The National Society is also enhancing cash preparedness through improved systems, a dedicated cash focal point, and a Cash and Voucher Assistance Technical Working Group.

To strengthen disaster risk reduction, the Botswana Red Cross Society is actively involved in Botswana's first Disaster Risk Management Bill, advocating for the integration of international disaster response assistance and climate adaptation measures. The organization is also engaging with public authorities to revise its governing act, ensuring its role is clearly defined.

In collaboration with the Netherlands Red Cross Society, the Botswana Red Cross Society organized a three-day symposium on "Promoting Innovation, Integration, and Collaboration in the Southern African Development Community Region." With over 70 participants from government, civil society, the private sector, and National Societies, the event focused on fostering partnerships and knowledge-sharing. The organization also participated in a District Disaster Risk Management and Contingency Planning Workshop, engaged with the National Disaster Management Office to align annual plans with national priorities, and contributed to the Quarterly District Disaster Management Committee meetings in Kgatleng.

#### IFRC network joint support

The Netherlands Red Cross Society has been a key financial and technical partner of the Botswana Red Cross Society. The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies Pretoria cluster facilitated this partnership, strengthening disaster risk management efforts in Botswana.

Additionally, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies Pretoria office played a critical role in securing funding from the Embassy of Japan for the Gweta Community Farm in 2021. This support enabled the farm's development as a sustainable climate-smart agricultural model. The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies continues to provide technical and strategic assistance to the Botswana Red Cross Society in resilience-building, food security, and disaster preparedness efforts.



#### **Progress by the National Society against objectives**

The Botswana Red Cross Society aims to ensure that people affected by crises and disasters receive timely and appropriate assistance. Botswana is facing one of its worst droughts in a decade, declared by the President on 20 June 2024. Extreme dry spells and consecutive heatwaves have caused widespread crop failures, increased malnutrition, and worsened human-wildlife conflicts. To address this, the Botswana Red Cross Society secured CHF 499,471 through the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies Disaster Response Emergency Fund to support 5,350 drought-affected people in Mabutsane, Hukuntsi, and North-East districts. Implementation will begin in the third guarter of 2024.

The six-month response plan focuses on providing unconditional cash grants to help families meet basic needs, supporting the hardest-hit households with livestock feed and layer chickens for long-term food security, and distributing nutrient-rich food packages for young children. Additionally, nutrition workshops are being conducted

for caregivers in collaboration with District Health Monitoring Teams. Water, sanitation, and hygiene interventions include repairing boreholes to restore access to clean water and distributing hygiene kits to promote proper sanitation practices.

The National Society has also continued its partnership with Palms for Life, conducting a food distribution on 5 May 2024 at Qanqwa Clinic for 70 food-insecure households, prioritizing malnourished children under five, pregnant women, and lactating mothers. Beneficiaries were identified through assessments carried out with District Health Monitoring Teams and Social and Community Development authorities. Local leadership attended the distribution and acknowledged the positive impact of these efforts in remote areas.

Beyond direct disaster response, the National Society has strengthened collaboration with key stakeholders. It has engaged with the National Disaster Management Office to align its annual plans with national priorities, ensuring a well-coordinated disaster response. It has also participated in Quarterly District Disaster Management Committee Meetings in Kgatleng and a District Disaster Risk Management and Contingency Planning Workshop in Francistown, contributing to developing disaster risk management plans. Additionally, a capacity-building workshop on resource mobilization for Restoring Family Links provided practical skills for securing resources for family tracing and reunification.

A key initiative was the 2024 Symposium on "Promoting Innovation, Integration, and Collaboration in the Southern African Development Community Region," organized in partnership with the Netherlands Red Cross Society. The three-day event brought together over 70 participants from government, civil society, the private sector, and National Societies across Southern Africa to foster strategic partnerships and share knowledge on disaster risk management. One key outcome was the decision to make this an annual event.

#### IFRC network joint support

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies Pretoria Cluster has played a vital role in supporting the National Society's drought response. It has provided guidance on securing Disaster Response Emergency Fund support and continues to assist with resource mobilization efforts. Additionally, the Pretoria Cluster supports the National Society's Cash and Voucher Assistance Technical Working Group, facilitating peer-to-peer learning and strengthening cash-based intervention capabilities.



Botswana Red Cross Society volunteers set up new shelter in Inalegolo (Photo: IFRC)

#### **Progress by the National Society against objectives**

The Botswana Red Cross Society has focused on strengthening its influence in public health strategy and policy, ensuring it plays a key role in health promotion, disease prevention, and community-based care. In the first half of 2024, the National Society completed the COVID-19 Integration into Routine Immunization project, implemented across 17 villages in Kweneng East and West. Through this collaboration with the Ministry of Health and UNICEF, and supported by USAID, 4,772 children were vaccinated by mid-year. The project also reached 486,125 individuals with messages about COVID-19 vaccination and routine immunization through various communication channels, including Integrated Voice Recordings and Robodialler to reach those without internet access.

The National Society also continues to address non-communicable diseases by providing tobacco cessation counseling at its Maun rehabilitation center. In total, 67 clients were counseled on tobacco cessation, with 30 reducing consumption and 7 quitting entirely. The outreach efforts on tobacco control reached 12,836 individuals through community dialogues, school advocacy, and outreach campaigns. In addition, the National Society has been working to increase non-remunerated voluntary blood donations by training 75 volunteers in Maun, Kasane, and Palapye and supporting 9 blood drives that recruited 1,407 people, collecting 340 pints of blood. First Aid training was also provided to 956 individuals.

The National Society has taken proactive steps in water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH), addressing sanitation issues in the Okavango Delta, where a steering committee was formed to oversee a sanitation project targeting households near Delta tributaries. The project aims to improve sanitation practices and protect the ecosystem. In collaboration with the DREF, the National Society secured funding to construct boreholes and distribute hygiene packages starting in Q3 of 2024.

#### IFRC network joint support

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies has been a critical partner, especially in securing funding and technical support. The IFRC Pretoria Cluster played a key role in resource mobilization for the drought response and the DREF applications. Additionally, the Cluster has been instrumental in supporting the Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) Technical Working Group, offering peer-to-peer learning opportunities across National Societies. This collaboration has further strengthened the National Society's capacity to respond effectively to emergencies and health challenges.



### Migration and displacement

#### **Progress by the National Society against objectives**

The Botswana Red Cross Society is actively working to address violence, discrimination, and exclusion through a series of initiatives. The Capacity Building Fund accessed through the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies has been crucial in strengthening the National Society's ability to prevent and respond to sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV). In the first half of 2024, the National Society conducted referral mapping workshops with 135 stakeholders, including government bodies, non-profit organizations, law enforcement, healthcare providers, and community leaders, across three districts. These workshops aimed to foster coordination and collaboration in tackling SGBV.

The National Society also implemented a training program to educate community members, volunteers, and staff on gender concepts and Psychological First Aid. A total of 60 participants from various community groups attended these workshops, which equipped them with the skills to identify and respond to signs of gender-based violence and offer psychosocial support to survivors. To ensure the project's long-term impact, the National Society launched an SGBV root cause analysis study. This research aims to explore the knowledge, attitudes, and perceptions of community members regarding SGBV and identify gaps in the current response system in the Chobe, North-West, and Palapye districts.

In addition to its SGBV efforts, the Botswana Red Cross Society is also enhancing inclusivity for people living with disabilities. The National Society provides education and rehabilitation services to children with disabilities in three centers across Botswana. For the 2024/2025 academic year, 113 children were enrolled in the program, with 109 actively attending school. The Tlamelong Rehabilitation Center also offers health services, including sexual and reproductive health education, as part of a broader effort to support marginalized populations.

#### **IFRC Network Joint Support**

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, through the Capacity Building Fund, has provided vital support for the National Society's efforts in combating sexual and gender-based violence. This partnership has enabled the National Society to carry out research on the root causes of SGBV and strengthen its response mechanisms. The IFRC has also supported the referral mapping workshops, which brought together various sectors to enhance SGBV prevention and response.

In addition to supporting SGBV initiatives, the IFRC has been instrumental in improving community engagement and accountability. The IFRC facilitated focus group discussions and a workshop on Community Engagement and Accountability, which allowed the National Society to integrate feedback from local communities into its programs. The Netherlands Red Cross Society also provided support in the Community Engagement and Accountability workshop, further enhancing the National Society's capacity to serve the needs of vulnerable communities.

### **ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS**



### Strategic and operational coordination

#### IFRC membership coordination

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

The Botswana Red Cross is part of the four IFRC Pan-African Initiatives focusing on Tree Planting and Care, Zero Hunger, Red Ready, and National Society Development. These initiatives are reflected in the relevant sections of this plan.

Further, the Botswana Red Cross Society has a lead role in the risk communication and community engagement (RCCE) activities for IFRC's country cluster delegation in Pretoria. The IFRC has a delegate based in Botswana to support the National Society with any necessary coordination support.

With regards to participating National Societies, **the Netherlands Red Cross** will fund a two-year project on water innovation and management beginning in 2024.

#### Movement coordination

The National 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 IFRC** supports the project on the prevention of SGBV technically and financially through the Capacity Building Fund.

**The ICRC** through its regional delegation in Pretoria aims to strengthen respect for and compliance with International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and international standards of policing. It also supports improvements in the capacity of National Red Cross Societies in the region to be first responders to natural and man-made disasters.

**The Netherlands Red Cross** is funding a two-year water innovation and management project. Implementation is scheduled to start in the next quarter.

#### **External Coordination**

The Botswana Red Cross has, over the years, developed strong partnerships with different stakeholders at national, regional, and international levels. It has a multisectoral partnership with government ministries and departments such as the Ministry of Health, Office of the President, National Disaster Management Office, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Affairs, as well as Ministry of Defence and Justice.

It also works with UN agencies including UNICEF and IOM in addition to organizations such as Mastercard Foundation and local organizations like Palms for Life, Botswana Council for the Disabled, Botswana Chamber of Mines, and Botswana Motor Vehicle Accident Fund.

During 2023, the Botswana Red Cross Society collaborated with various organizations and partners, both international and local, to implement activities. The National Society participated in regional coordination meetings through the Secretary-General, President and the Youth President. Through the SLL project, in which Botswana Red Cross Society partnered with the Mastercard Foundation and Africa CDC, significant progress was reported.



### **National Society development**

#### **Progress by the National Society against objectives**

In March 2024, the National Society successfully held its Youth Annual General Assembly, attended by 24 delegates from various sub-branches and volunteer action teams, including the chairperson of the San Youth Network and the IFRC Youth Delegate. During the assembly, the youth members elected their new executive committee members. This gathering was pivotal in fostering youth participation and leadership within the National Society.

The youth members have played a key role in developing the Youth Annual Plan, which focuses on enhancing engagement across different youth structures within the organization. The plan emphasizes the exchange of business and entrepreneurial ideas, which aims to empower youth and build their capacity for future endeavors. Another important component of the plan is resource mobilization to promote the sustainability of the National Society. Furthermore, the plan addresses climate change mitigation and economic development by encouraging the planting and selling of fruit trees, providing a sustainable source of income and promoting environmental responsibility.

#### IFRC network joint support

**The IFRC** supported the National Society's youth engagement efforts by providing the framework and resources for the Youth Annual General Assembly. This support helped create a platform for youth delegates to discuss, plan, and execute initiatives that align with the broader goals of the National Society. The collaboration between the IFRC and the National Society has been crucial in shaping the Youth Annual Plan and ensuring its implementation effectively.



#### **Progress by the National Society against objectives**

The National Society has actively worked to enhance its visibility through various engagement strategies. One significant activity was collaborating with the Botswana Association of Local Authorities to facilitate a briefing by the Secretary-General on the review of the BRCS Act. This initiative helped raise awareness and strengthen the relationship with local authorities. Additionally, the National Society has effectively utilized digital communication channels, including social media and its website, to reach a broader audience. The Facebook page saw a growth in followers from 37,200 in December 2023 to 39,280 in the reporting period. Furthermore, the website has garnered 739 visitors in the last six months, indicating a growing online presence.

The National Society has also gained increased media visibility, with 29 features across various mainstream media platforms. These included newspaper articles and radio interviews, all spotlighting the organization's efforts and impact. In addition, the Society has worked with over 18 stakeholders during events where it exhibited its work or provided first aid services, further amplifying its outreach and impact.

#### IFRC network joint support

**The IFRC** has supported the National Society in enhancing its visibility by providing platforms and resources for media engagement and public outreach. This support has been instrumental in ensuring that the National Society's activities are featured in mainstream media and that its digital communication tools are effectively utilized to reach wider audiences. The IFRC's guidance on enhancing communication strategies has also played a key role in the growth of the National Society's online presence and its participation in collaborative events with stakeholders.



### Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

#### **Progress by the National Society against objectives**

In the first two quarters of 2024, the National Society employed 64 staff members, 37 of whom were female, reflecting its commitment to gender equality and empowering women in the workplace. The organization continues to uphold its Human Resources Policy and Employee Code of Conduct, fostering a culture of well-being. The National Society is equally committed to staff development, offering internal and external training opportunities. Furthermore, all employees and volunteers are covered by insurance, ensuring their safety and security.

The National Society also adheres to key financial policies, including the Finance and Procurement Policy, Prevention of Fraud and Anti-Corruption Policy, Whistle-blower Policy, and Travel Policy. These guidelines help ensure that financial resources are managed prudently. The National Society maintained transparency and accountability in its financial reporting, meeting donor requirements. The successful audit of the first year of the SLL project by Mastercard Foundation and Africa CDC yielded valuable recommendations to further strengthen financial and programmatic systems.

Digital transformation has also been a priority, with mobilizers utilizing the KoBoToolBox platform for data collection on projects that include a data component. This digital tool enhances data accuracy, efficiency, and reporting, which supports the National Society's ongoing efforts to modernize and streamline operations.

#### IFRC network joint support

**The IFRC** has played a significant role in supporting the National Society's commitment to staff development and organizational transparency. Through collaborative training programs and shared expertise, the IFRC has contributed to the National Society's capacity building. The IFRC has also provided guidance in ensuring that financial management systems are robust and accountable, helping the National Society comply with donor requirements. Additionally, the IFRC has supported the digital transformation efforts, facilitating the use of tools like KoBoToolBox for more efficient data collection and project monitoring.



#### 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 Botswana 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

#### **Contact information**

#### **Red Cross of Botswana**

**Red Cross of Botswana** 

#### Kopano Masilo

Head of Delegation
IFRC Country Cluster Delegation for
South Africa, Botswana, Lesotho,
Namibia & Kingdom of Eswatini,
based in Pretoria **T** +276 632 03886
kopano.masilo@ifrc.org

#### **Louise Daintrey**

Head of Strategic Partnerships & Resource Mobilization IFRC Regional Office for Africa, Nairobi **T** +254 110 843978 louise.daintry@ifrc.org

#### **Sumitha Martin**

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