

NIGER

2024-2026 IFRC network country plan



Multi-Year Funding Requirement CHF 59M

4 June 2025

In support of the Red Cross Society of Niger



71
National Society
local units



823
National Society



National Society volunteers

People to be reached



250,000 Ongoing emergency

operations



263,000 Climate and environment



1,400,000
Disasters
and crises



345,000 Health and wellbeing



400,000 Migration and displacement



80,000Values, power and inclusion

IFRC network multi-year focus

Emergency response

Floods

Longer-term needs

- · Food and livelihood insecurity
 - Health
 - Humanitarian access
 - Displacement
- Disaster risk reduction and response

Capacity development

- Disaster risk management
 - · Youth engagement
 - Positioning
 - · Digital transformation

Key country data links

INFORM Severity rating

High

INFORM Climate Change Risk Index

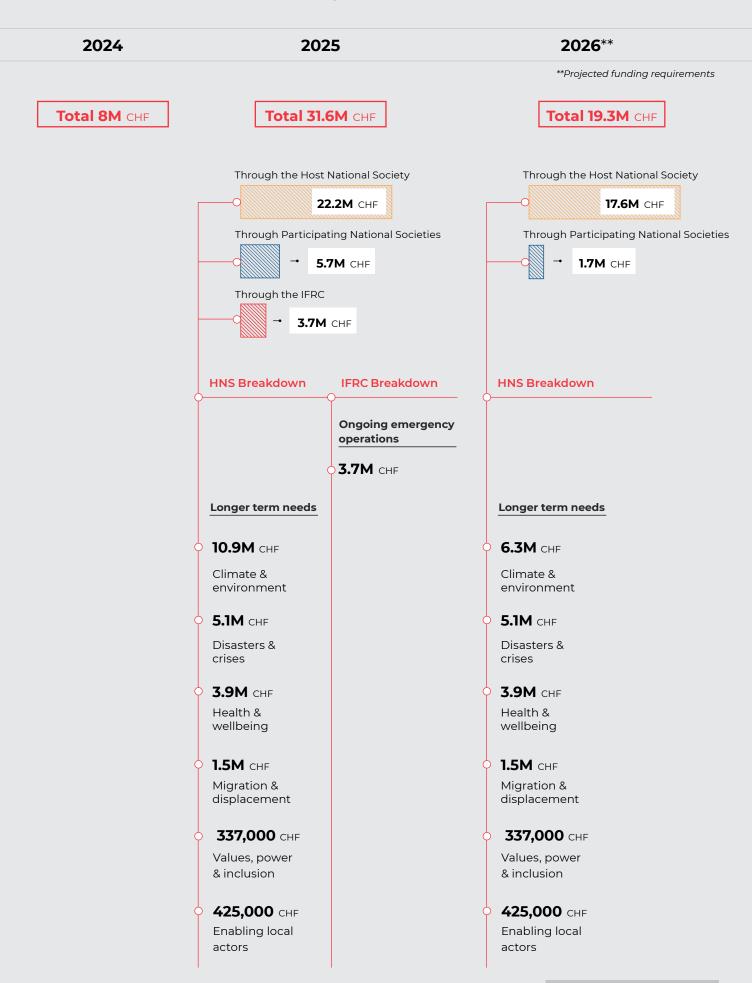
Very high

Human Development Index rank 189

World Bank Population figure 26.2M

World Bank Population below poverty line 45.5%

Funding requirements



See back page for explanatory note on funding requirements

Participating National Societies bilateral support for 2025

| National Society name | Funding Requirement | Climate | Disasters and crises | Health and wellbeing | Migration | Values, power and inclusion | Enabling local actors |
|-----------------------|------------------------|---------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Belgian Red Cross | 1.4M | | | | | | |
| British Red Cross | 332,000 | | | | | | |
| Danish Red Cross | 2.5M | | | | | | |
| Finnish Red Cross | 250,000 | | | | | | |
| French Red Cross | | | | | | | |
| Luxembourg Red Cross | | | | | | | |
| Spanish Red Cross | 1.2M | | | | | | |

Total Funding requirement **CHF 5.7M**

Participating National Societies

| Belgian Red Cross |
|----------------------|
| British Red Cross |
| Danish Red Cross |
| Finnish Red Cross |
| French Red Cross |
| Italian Red Cross* |
| Luxembourg Red Cross |
| Spanish Red Cross |

*National Societies which have contributed only multilaterally through

IFRC Appeal codes

Emergency Appeal: MDRNE030 Niger Floods

Longer-term needs: MAANG002

Hazards



Floods



Drought



Population movement



Conflict

NATIONAL SOCIETY PROFILE

The **Red Cross Society of Niger** was established on 13 July 1963. It was recognized by the Ministry of the Interior by decree on 7 September 1965 and it was admitted to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in the same year. As an auxiliary role to the public authorities, the Red Cross Society of Niger carries out a range of humanitarian and development activities across Niger. In accordance with its mission, the National Society intervenes throughout the national territory in the areas of health, nutrition, water, sanitation and hygiene and first aid. It also works on disaster preparedness and response, including food security and livelihoods and using cash and voucher assistance when appropriate. Other activities include protection, restoring family links and education, as well as volunteer promotion, communications and the promotion of humanitarian principles and values.

The <u>Strategic Plan 2022-2026</u> of the Red Cross Society of Niger is structured around the following strategic objectives:

- Vulnerable communities, including local populations and displaced persons in target areas, anticipate and respond promptly to crises and disasters while ensuring their sustainable recovery in a protective environment by 2026
- Vulnerable populations affected by conflicts and disasters, including children aged six to 59 months, girls and pregnant women and adolescent girls residing in target areas, have access to quality health and nutrition services, including in emergency situations

- The National Society has a network of competent volunteers who remain faithful to their mission
- The National Society maintains good strategic partnership relations with the actors of the Movement and outside the Movement
- The National Society improves the quality and impact of its programmes by 2026

With its partners, the Red Cross Society of Niger has identified five main priorities for 2025 – with <u>protection</u>, <u>gender and inclusion</u> and community engagement and accountability remaining cross-cutting themes:

- Preparedness and response to disasters and crises, including food insecurity
- Prevention and management of diseases and epidemics
- Mitigation of climate and environmental issues through disaster risk reduction interventions and early action protocols
- Response to population movements, including migration
- Organizational development

In <u>2023</u>, the Red Cross Society of Niger reached 4,527 people through its disaster response and early recovery programmes.



IFRC NETWORK ACTION

JOINT SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

Niger, a landlocked country in West Africa's Sahel region, shares borders with Libya to the northeast, Chad to the east, Nigeria and Benin to the south, Burkina Faso and Mali to the west and Algeria to the northwest. Covering the largest area in West Africa, more than 80 per cent of its land is part of the Sahara Desert. The country had an estimated population of 26.15 million in 2023, with 17 per cent residing in urban areas. With an urbanization rate of 5.3 per cent, Niger ranks sixth in Africa in terms of urban growth. However, extreme poverty remained high at 48.4 per cent as of 2023, affecting over 10 million people.

While the economic outlook for 2023 and 2024 was favourable, with projected growth rates of 7 per cent and 11.8 per cent

respectively, the country faces a chronic humanitarian crisis driven by rapid population growth of 3.9 per cent per year, inadequate basic services, limited natural resources, insecurity and climate change. Its economy, heavily reliant on agriculture, contributes 40 per cent to the gross domestic product but remains poorly diversified. Climate change and environmental degradation exacerbate existing economic and social challenges. The GDP growth is expected to average 6.5 per cent over 2025-2026, supported by oil production and exports (scaling up in 2025) and improvements in agricultural output due to an expansion in irrigated land.

In 2023, <u>UNOCHA</u> reported 4.5 million people, or 17 per cent of the population, requiring humanitarian assistance in Niger, compared to 3.7 million in 2022. In July 2024, according to UNHCR, Niger hosted almost 968,000 refugees, asylum-seekers and internally displaced people (IDPs).

ONGOING EMERGENCY RESPONSE

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

| Emergency Operation | Niger Floods |
|------------------------------|---|
| Appeal number | MDRNE030 |
| People affected | 2 million people |
| People to be assisted | 250,000 people |
| Duration | 12 months (19 September 2024 to 30 September 2025) |
| Funding requirement | IFRC funding requirement through the Appeal: CHF 4 million Federation-wide funding requirements: CHF 8 million |
| Emergency Appeal | Niger Floods |
| Link to Operational Strategy | Operational Strategy |

Since heavy rains began in late July 2024 and continued through September, flooding in Niger has worsened, exacerbating the country's already fragile socioeconomic conditions. Communities in refugee camps, peripheral neighbourhoods, flood-prone areas and densely populated urban zones have been particularly affected due to inadequate drainage systems. By 13 September, 924,799 people across 125,772 households had been impacted, with 95,028 homes destroyed, 309 lives lost and significant losses of food, crops and livestock. The

floods have displaced many, forcing them into schools-turnedshelters or with relatives, leaving them vulnerable to protection risks and diseases such as malaria and cholera. A cholera outbreak in the Tahoua region has affected 10 health centres, with 172 confirmed cases and 6 deaths. More than 400,000 people face a heightened risk of waterborne diseases, particularly children and pregnant women. The floods have also deepened an existing food crisis, worsened by ECOWAS and WAEMU sanctions since July 2023, with the destruction of thousands of hectares of crops threatening food security.

Short description the emergency operational strategy

The Red Cross Society of Niger, with support from the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, is implementing a comprehensive operational strategy in response to severe flooding that has affected over a million people across the country. The operation integrates emergency relief, recovery, and resilience-building to support vulnerable communities. During the initial phase, the focus is on life-saving assistance, including the provision of shelter, food, water, health, and hygiene services, with special attention to protection, gender, and inclusion. As the operation transitions to recovery, it prioritizes sustainable livelihoods, disaster risk reduction, climate resilience, and community engagement to help affected families rebuild and adapt. The highlights of the assistance are as follows:s

Shelter, Housing, and Settlements

The operation includes the distribution of emergency shelter materials and essential household items to displaced families whose homes were destroyed or damaged by the floods. Shelter kits are provided to enable families to construct or reinforce temporary shelters. Additionally, community members receive training in safe shelter construction practices to ensure safety and sustainability in high-risk areas.

Livelihoods

To address the loss of income and assets, emergency food assistance has been provided to families most affected by the floods. Seasonal farmers have received farm inputs such as seeds and fertilizers to resume agricultural activities, while selected households have been supported with livestock and animal health services, including treatment and vaccination. Young people have also benefited from skills training and starter kits, equipping them with tools to pursue alternative livelihoods based on assessed needs.

Health and Care, Including Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)

Health and hygiene interventions include the distribution of long-lasting insecticide-treated bed nets to prevent malaria, as well as the supply of first aid kits to support ambulance and community health services. Affected households have received water treatment chemicals and essential storage equipment such as jerrycans, buckets, and wash basins. Water storage tanks have been installed in key locations, and hygiene kits containing items like soap, toothpaste, and toothbrushes have been distributed. Women and girls have received dignity kits containing reusable sanitary pads and personal care items to safeguard their health and dignity during the crisis.

Protection, Gender, and Inclusion

The operation places strong emphasis on protection, gender, and inclusion by ensuring that the specific needs of vulnerable groups are met through targeted actions. Dignity kits have been distributed among women and girls to promote menstrual health and personal hygiene. The approach is grounded in community engagement and accountability, ensuring that all members of the community are involved in and informed about the response, and that their voices shape decision-making.

Cross-Cutting Approaches

The operational strategy integrates capacity strengthening for the Red Cross Society of Niger, with investments in training volunteers, improving logistics, and enhancing data management systems. Partnerships with government agencies and humanitarian actors have been leveraged to coordinate the relocation of vulnerable families and facilitate sustainable livelihoods and healthcare support. The strategy also addresses long-term risks by incorporating climate adaptation, environmental conservation, and disaster risk reduction, with communities playing a central role in building their resilience.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Climate and environment

Niger, located in the Sahelian zone, has a predominantly arid and semi-arid climate with high temperatures throughout the year. Average annual temperatures range between 30 and 40 degrees Celsius, with peaks sometimes exceeding 45 degrees Celsius during the hot season from March to June. The extreme heat, exacerbated by limited vegetation cover, increases the risks of desertification and heat stress for communities.

Rainfall in Niger is highly seasonal, with a short rainy season from June to September and a long dry season from October to May. Annual rainfall varies significantly by region, reaching approximately 800 millimetres per year in the agricultural south, including Maradi and Zinder, while falling below 100 millimetres per year in the northern desert regions. This variability leads to frequent droughts and water scarcity, severely impacting agriculture and pastoralism, which are the primary sources of livelihood for much of the population.

Harmattan winds, which blow from the Sahara southward between November and March, further shape Niger's climate. These dry, dusty winds reduce visibility and deteriorate air quality, while frequent sandstorms in desert regions pose risks to public health and infrastructure. Despite the overall aridity, flash floods occur during the rainy season due to soil impermeability, deforestation and unsustainable agricultural practices, exacerbating land degradation and displacement.

These climatic extremes expose Niger to severe environmental challenges, including land degradation, recurrent food crises and population displacement. Despite efforts, adaptation measures to mitigate the adverse effects of climate change have not been widely implemented, leaving the population with limited options to cope.

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

The Red Cross Society of Niger is part of the IFRC Global Climate Resilience Programme, which aims to foster an unprecedented scale-up in locally led climate-smart disaster risk reduction and adaptation efforts to prevent and reduce climate-related disaster impacts and build communitylevel climate resilience. The programme aims to support 500 million people in 100 of the most climate-vulnerable countries, focusing on the most vulnerable and marginalized communities. This holistic, multi-year programmatic approach consists of four operational pillars: (1) scaling up climate-smart disaster risk reduction, anticipatory action

and preparedness; (2) reducing the public health impacts of climate change; (3) addressing climate displacement; and (4) enabling climate-resilient livelihoods and ecosystem services.

As part of the IFRC Pan African Tree Planting and Care initiative, the National Society will contribute to fight against climate change and environmental degradation by planting and maintaining trees in places that suffer from desertification and land degradation, due to adverse weather conditions and poor land use practices.

Planned activities in 2025

- Develop early warning mechanisms and integrate climate risk management into all programmes, operations and advocacy, including nature-based solutions and risk management
- Improve agro-sylvo-pastoral production by promoting climate-smart agricultural practices
- Focus on strengthening community adaptation and reducing the consequences of climate change
- Protect livelihoods and assets of communities
- Increase market gardening through the adaptation of agricultural techniques such as tree planting and better water management

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the Red Cross Society of Niger by providing long-term technical assistance and mobilizing resources. In collaboration with regional partners, particularly the Climate Commission for the Sahel Region, it will strengthen the National Society through structured initiatives focused on humanitarian assistance and resilience projects for approximately one million vulnerable people. This support aligns with the vision of the Pan-African initiatives of the IFRC and the goals of its 2030 Agenda. Additionally, it will provide the National Society with technical assistance to build capacities of its staff members and volunteers.

Under the global Pilot Programmatic Partnership between the IFRC and the Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO) and with implementing support from the Belgian Red Cross, French Red Cross and Luxembourg Red Cross, the Red Cross Society of Niger will be supported in bringing key actors together to build capacity in forecast-based financing.



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

Niger is highly vulnerable to climatic hazards, ranking among the most exposed countries with a risk index of 7.3, according to Inform Risk Index 2024. The country faces a diverse risk profile, including natural and human-induced threats such as droughts, floods, bushfires, insecurity and epidemics. Due to this vulnerability, these risks often escalate into disasters, leading to severe humanitarian consequences such as loss of life, food insecurity and population displacement.

The 2024 floods, the most severe in the country's history, affected more than one million five hundred thousand people, caused four hundred fatalities, led to the collapse of over one hundred and fifty-eight thousand houses and resulted in the loss of more than thirty-one thousand animals, alongside extensive material damage nationwide. In response, the State of Niger, undertook significant efforts to assist affected populations. However, gaps remain in the overall response.

Food security remains a major concern, with the Harmonized Framework of March 2024 estimating that 3.4 million people were in crisis or worse for the projected July to September period. Although the 2024 agricultural season showed improvement compared to 2023, catastrophic floods destroyed vast hectares of crops, potentially worsening food insecurity in severely affected regions.

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

The Red Cross Society of Niger aims to strengthen preparedness for anticipation and effective response by strengthening community resilience to climate risks through early warnings and anticipatory actions, while also ensuring an effective response to crises and disasters.

The National Society seeks to strengthen both its institutional readiness and the operational readiness of communities to improve the implementation of early warning systems and early actions against climate-related disaster risks.

It also plans to improve social protection for the most vulnerable households affected by disasters and food crises to enhance their resilience.

Planned activities in 2025

- Support communities and local and national institutions in the development and implementation of risk management contingency plans and response mechanism. Improve community evacuation routes, shelter and warehousing capacities, to withstand shock
- Promote national disaster risk management and governance by advocating for effective legislations

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC supports the Red Cross Society of Niger in crisis and disaster management through the Red Ready initiative, providing both technical and financial assistance to strengthen the National Society's capacity to implement preparedness and response initiatives. IFRC mechanisms such as the Disaster Response Emergency Fund (IFRC-DREF) and Emergency Appeals will be drawn on as needed for the National Society to respond to disasters and crises.

Under the global Pilot Programmatic Partnership between the IFRC and DG ECHO, the Red Cross Society of Niger will receive continued support for community-level disaster risk management activities. The trained community intervention teams (CIT) will be supported to carry out communication and outreach activities to prepare for and reduce risk of disasters, as well as to develop a community alert system. The National Society will continue to increase its response capacity through the training of National Emergency Response Teams, as well as by improving its cash and voucher assistance. Drawing on the pilot experience, the National Society will adopt the use of the data management platform to scale up cash assistance.

Under wider Movement support, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) provides support to the Red Cross Society of Niger in enhancing its crisis and disaster response efforts and building the capacity of its staff members and volunteers

Health and wellbeing

Niger annually faces recurrent epidemics, including measles, meningitis, cholera, diphtheria and Rift Valley fever. In 2023, a significant meningitis outbreak affected over 2,600 individuals, underscoring the country's vulnerability to such health crises. Contributing factors include extreme weather events, such as high temperatures and heavy rainfall, which facilitate the spread of these diseases. Access to healthcare remains limited, with only 53 per cent of the population covered in 2023. This limited access exacerbates the impact of these epidemics, as many individuals cannot receive timely medical intervention.

Certain demographics are particularly susceptible to health challenges. Among the 1,668,946 individuals requiring health assistance, <u>vulnerable groups</u> include 100,137 pregnant and breastfeeding women, 323,776 children under five years of age and 68,587 elderly individuals, of whom 35,327 are women. These populations face heightened risks due to their physiological conditions and often have specific health needs that are not adequately met.

Despite improvements in infant and child mortality rates, Niger's health situation remains concerning, with high malnutrition and maternal mortality rates. Nationally, morbidity related to diarrhoea and fever stands at 8.20 per cent and 9.34 per cent, respectively, among children under five years old. Challenges such as limited access to health facilities, disparities between urban and rural healthcare services, inconsistent medical supplies and a shortage of qualified healthcare professionals further impede the delivery of quality health services.

Malnutrition persists as a critical issue. The 2022 SMART survey indicates a national prevalence of global acute malnutrition at 12.2 per cent among children aged six to 59 months, with certain regions surpassing emergency thresholds set by the World Health Organization. Factors such as unbalanced diets, insufficient access to basic health services, population displacement due to security crises and inadequate community-level nutrition interventions exacerbate this situation.

Access to clean water, sanitation and hygiene services remains insufficient, particularly in rural areas, adversely affecting living conditions. Niger experiences one of the highest mortality rates from waterborne diseases globally, at 70.8 per 100,000 inhabitants. This alarming statistic highlights the urgent need for improved water, sanitation and hygiene infrastructure to prevent disease and promote public health.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Red Cross Society of Niger seeks to improve the health, nutrition and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services available to vulnerable populations, particularly children aged

six to 59 months, pregnant and lactating women and adolescent girls in target areas, including in emergency situations. The National Society will also focus on the prevention of acute and chronic malnutrition among children under five years old and women of childbearing age. Additionally, it aims to ensure that communities in target villages have sustainable, equitable access to quality water, hygiene and sanitation services in sufficient quantities.

The Red Cross Society of Niger is engaged in the Alliance for Malaria Prevention (AMP) through the IFRC. This global partnership including government, private sector, faith-based and humanitarian organizations, focuses on three main activities: coordination of partners involved in insecticide-treated net (ITN) campaign and continuous distribution activities; development of operational guidance for planning and implementing of ITN distribution based on an iterative process; and providing technical assistance to national malaria programmes and partners based on requests.

Planned activities in 2025

- Maintain active disease surveillance activities and a rapid response mechanism when there are outbreaks of infectious diseases
- Improve access to communicable and noncommunicable disease control services
- Conduct activities in the areas of water and sanitation, nutrition, sexual and reproductive health care and psychosocial support.
- Collaborate with the Ministry of Health to strengthen maternal, child, youth and adolescent health services

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will provide the National Society with technical and financial assistance in the provision of improved health, nutrition and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services to vulnerable populations.

Under the <u>DG ECHO-IFRC Pilot Programmatic Partnership</u> the Red Cross Society of Niger will be assisted in supporting communities in the prevention, detection and early response to possible outbreaks. Trained volunteers will continue conducting awareness raising activities to prevent illnesses such as cholera, meningitis, polio and measles. Traditional healers, religious leaders and village chiefs will be trained and engaged in community-based surveillance as well. Target health centres will be rehabilitated based on needs identified in a study.



Niger's geographical position makes it a key crossroads for migration, serving as a country of origin, transit and to a lesser extent, destination for migrants from West and Central Africa and beyond. Migration in Niger falls into three main categories: outbound migration from Niger to coastal countries, inbound migration to Niger and transit migration through Niger toward North Africa and Europe. The latter, involving hundreds of migrants annually, is particularly significant in Euro-African geopolitics due to its links with broader displacement issues. Economic aspirations drive most of these movements, with young people seeking better living conditions.

Beyond voluntary migration, Niger faces the challenge of mass deportations from North African countries, mainly Algeria and Tunisia. Many sub-Saharan migrants arrive in Niger, increasing the number of vulnerable individuals and deepening the country's humanitarian crisis. This issue is particularly acute in the Agadez region, which serves as a primary reception area for deported migrants.

In addition to economic migration and forced deportations, Niger is also affected by large-scale internal displacement due to insecurity and violence from non-state armed groups. The regions of Tillabéri, Diffa, Maradi and Tahoua are the most impacted, with displaced populations seeking safety and stability. As of October 31, 2024, the country hosts 981,436 migrants and 507,438 internally displaced persons, further straining limited resources.

The complex migration landscape in Niger presents both humanitarian and human rights challenges. Addressing these issues requires a dual approach: emergency interventions to provide immediate relief and sustainable support for both migrants and host communities. Strengthening local infrastructure and services can help stabilize movements and contribute to long-term structural development in affected areas.

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

The Red Cross Society of Niger is part of the IFRC threeyear Global Route-Based Migration Programme, which aims to improve the safety and dignity of people on the move along deadly and dangerous land and sea-based migration routes across Africa, the Americas, Europe and the Middle East and North Africa. The programme aims to support 4.7

million people on the move and people in host communities annually through three operational pillars: Improving access to assistance and protection, including through humanitarian service points; strengthening National Society capacities; and local to global humanitarian diplomacy.

The National Society seeks to ensure safe, dignified and effective access to essential services for migrants, including humanitarian assistance, at all stages of their journey.

Planned activities in 2025

- Provide humanitarian assistance and essential services to least 300,000 migrants and people on the move
- Provide at least 50,000 migrants and people on the move with support to build their resilience
- Enable migrants to be part of and contribute to inclusive communities and societies
- Protect the safety and dignity of 50,000 migrants by ensuring their rights and reducing their exposure to risks

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will provide support to the Red Cross Society of Niger in influencing decision-makers at local, national and international levels to ensure greater awareness, assistance and protection of migrants in strategic planning and policy development. It will also provide support to the National Society to raise awareness of the need for humanitarian assistance, protection and behaviour change activities carried out in countries of origin, transit and destination.

Through the DG ECHO-IFRC Pilot Programmatic Partnership, Red Cross Society of Niger will provide humanitarian assistance and protection to internally displaced persons. The National Society will carry out psychosocial support, food and referrals. Under the framework agreement with health centres, the National Society will provide food to hospitalized patients and their companions. The National Society will encourage social cohesion between internally displaced persons and host communities through the organization of community recreational activities and child-friendly spaces.

The issue of inclusion has become increasingly central to humanitarian interventions in Niger. While efforts to integrate gender considerations, including gender-based violence (GBV) prevention, have improved, the inclusion of people with disabilities remains a significant challenge. With 4.2 per cent of the population living with disabilities, their specific needs are often overlooked in humanitarian responses, leading to continued marginalization.

The need for protection is particularly urgent in the context of security challenges, including the expulsion of sub-Saharan migrants by North African countries. These expulsions often occur under harsh conditions, leaving migrants vulnerable to abuse, exploitation and deprivation. Humanitarian actors face ongoing challenges in addressing the protection needs of these individuals and ensuring their access to basic services and legal rights.

Various groups require targeted protection measures, including women, children, people with disabilities and migrants, particularly children on the move. These populations face heightened risks of violence, exploitation and exclusion, necessitating stronger legal and social protections within humanitarian efforts.

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

The Red Cross Society of Niger seeks to strengthen community engagement and accountability (CEA) to ensure humanitarian interventions are inclusive, transparent and responsive to the needs of affected populations. It aims to place communities at the centre of all actions, ensuring that humanitarian organizations are held accountable for the quality of their interventions. It will focus on establishing feedback mechanisms through various communication channels, including community assemblies and media platforms, to enhance participation and engagement.

The Red Cross Society of Niger also aims to integrate protection, gender and inclusion (PGI) considerations across all humanitarian interventions, ensuring that the socio-cultural specificities of men, women, children and people with disabilities are taken into account. It aims to systematically disaggregate data by sex, age and disability to better inform responses. It will focus on responding to crises—whether disasters, conflict or migration—by prioritizing the needs expressed by affected communities while adhering to the 'Do No Harm' principle to uphold the dignity of beneficiaries.

The National Society will ensure respect and acceptance of diversity in all field operations by addressing discrimination and understanding the needs, risks and capacities of different groups.

Additionally, the Red Cross Society of Niger seeks to prevent sexual exploitation and abuse by upholding a zero-tolerance policy and ensuring strict compliance with its Protection Against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) framework. It aims to protect minors and vulnerable individuals through clear policies, procedural guidelines and enforcement mechanisms.

Planned activities in 2025

- Implement its PSEA policy, procedures manual and toolkit
- Implement the dignity, access, participation and security (DAPS) framework across all interventions
- Train its staff and volunteers in ensuring that humanitarian activities remain people-centred and are ethically conducted

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will continue to develop an integrated approach to coordinating the many Movement actors that are working on protection, gender and inclusion (PGI) issues in Niger. It will support the Red Cross Society of Niger in the development of its policies and in the training of staff and volunteers, ensuring that protection, gender and inclusion is incorporated into all programming.

The IFRC will support people at risk of, or survivors of, sexual and gender-based violence, to increase their capacity to prevent, respond to and mitigate the risks. This will be done through a coordinated development of standards and programming tools. It will support the National Society to strengthen the protection against sexual and gender-based violence component in schools.

Furthermore, support will also be provided to include minority groups and people of all gender identities and backgrounds in its programmes. The IFRC will also provide technical support to the Red Cross Society of Niger in establishing systems for community engagement and accountability and complaints management, at operational sites.

The Danish Red Cross and French Red Cross will support the Red Cross Society of Niger in the implementation of its PSEA policy.

ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS

The Red Cross of Niger is committed to its institutional strengthening and has carried out the self-assessment part of the IFRC Organizational Capacity Assessment and Certification (OCAC) in 2019. The self-assessment part of the OCAC process is intended to capture the strengths and weaknesses of National Societies within a range of organizational capacities.



Strategic and operational coordination

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

- Develop its resource mobilization strategy, increasing partnerships and mobilizing resources to better meet the humanitarian needs of vulnerable people
- Strengthen its internal coordination mechanisms

Improve its external coordination mechanisms

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will continue to support the National Society in implementing its resource mobilization strategy and in strengthening its internal and external coordination mechanisms.



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

- Focus on governance and management
- Strengthen branch development
- Develop its youth and volunteering policy
- Focus on financial sustainability by applying to grants such as the IFRC Capacity Building Fund (CBF), IFRC/ICRC National Society Investment Alliance (NSIA) and Empress Shoken Fund
- Develop volunteerism by strengthening its community base

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the Red Cross Society of Niger in its organizational and institutional development. It will strengthen the National Society's capacity through targeted initiatives that enhance its operational effectiveness and long-term sustainability. It will focus on providing structured support to advance the National Society's development plan. The IFRC will integrate capacity-building efforts into its various programmes, ensuring that National Society development remains central to emergency and long-term interventions. Additionally, it will focus on expanding specialized training, branch development and income-generating activities while strengthening volunteer management and emergency preparedness..

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Expand its auxiliary role and improve its ability to address existing and emerging challenges in the delivery of humanitarian aid
- Improve its communications with vulnerable populations
- Increase its visibility and public trust through communications and public advocacy

 Strengthen external communications and coordination with different humanitarian organizations, governments and local actors in order to provide effective humanitarian assistance

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the Red Cross Society of Niger in improving its communications and public advocacy efforts.

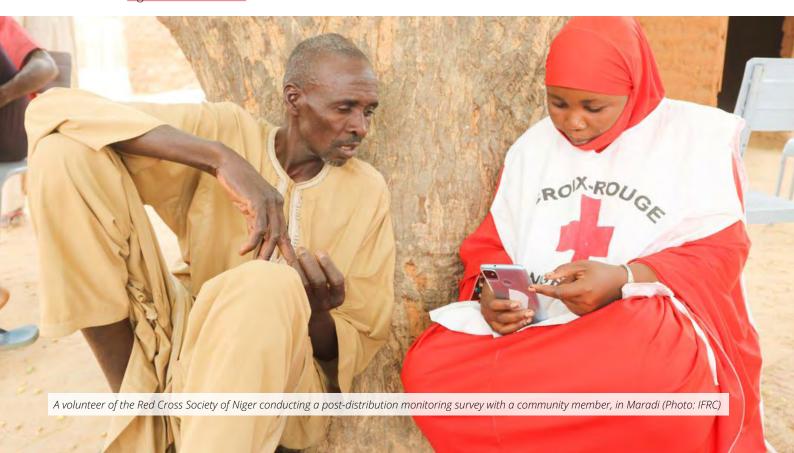


Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Develop and implement a strategy and action plan to mitigate the risks of fraud and corruption
- Implement a policy for protection against sexual abuse and exploitation
- Strengthen financial policies and systems for transparent management of financial resources
- Develop and implement a robust national operational plan with monitoring and reporting mechanisms
- Focus on digital transformation

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will provide the National Society with support in reinforcing its capacity to respond effectively to humanitarian needs while promoting transparent and accountable governance. Additionally, it will support the Red Cross Society of Niger in achieving its strategic objectives by strengthening project monitoring.



THE IFRC NETWORK

The IFRC

The IFRC has been present in Niger since 2010, with its former country delegation converted into a country cluster delegation covering Niger, Burkina Faso, Mali and Côte d'Ivoire in 2021. The IFRC supports the Red Cross Society of Niger with <u>strategic and operational coordination</u>, National Society development and humanitarian diplomacy. It also supports accountability as a cross-cutting theme.

In recent years, the IFRC has supported the Red Cross Society of Niger for multiple emergencies, including <u>operations</u> funded through Emergency Appeals and the Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF) in relation to floods, disease outbreaks, population movement, food crises and complex emergency situations.

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 Red Cross Society of Niger is involved in the four <u>IFRC Pan-African initiatives</u> 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.

The National Society is part of the global <u>Pilot Programmatic Partnership</u> between the DG ECHO and IFRC and as such, is receiving the implementation support of the **Belgian Red Cross, French Red Cross** and **Luxembourg Red Cross** (as the lead EU National Society), as well as the coordination support of the IFRC. This partnership meets the realities of extended crises with longer-term predictable funding, facilitating actions and processes with the potential for greater, longer-term impact. It leverages the IFRC's global network and unique access to people and communities and it helps to fulfil the ambitions of the European Union as the world's biggest international donor for humanitarian assistance. The partnership is scheduled to end in mid-2025.

The following participating National Societies support the Red Cross Society of Niger:

The **Belgian Red Cross** has been working with the Red Cross Society of Niger since 2012, supporting its efforts to strengthen resilience in agriculture and health with funding from the Belgian Development Cooperation. It also supports

disaster risk reduction through forecast-based financing and enhances disaster response capacity by facilitating cash transfer mechanisms.

The **Danish Red Cross** has supported the Red Cross Society of Niger since 2017, initially focusing on technical and financial assistance for humanitarian aid, protection and psychosocial support for migrants. Since 2018, it has expanded its support to include health, sexual and reproductive health in partnership with the **Finnish Red Cross**, anticipation of shocks, crisis response, resilience building and overall National Society strengthening. It supports activities in Niamey, Tillabéri, Zinder, Maradiand Diffa.

Present in Niger since 1998, the **French Red Cross** operates in Agadez, Tahou, Tillabéri and Zinder, supporting the Red Cross Society of Niger and national authorities in improving health services, managing malnutrition and implementing early warning mechanisms for drought risks. It also provides medical and psychosocial support for migrants in transit.

The **Luxembourg Red Cross** plays a lead role in coordinating the <u>ECHO pilot programmatic partnership</u> in Niger. It currently manages a portfolio of five programmes worth EUR 102 million under the Indicative Cooperation Programme IV (2022–2026). It also handles delegated cooperation from Denmark and the Netherlands for water and sanitation projects.

The **Spanish Red Cross** has supported the Red Cross Society of Niger since 1984 and has maintained a permanent delegation in the country since 2005. It focuses on livelihoods and food security through Mothers' Clubs and women's empowerment, as well as humanitarian assistance, protection and access to basic services for migrants in transit. Its areas of intervention include Niamey, Tahoua, Maradi and Tillabéri, with activities spanning livelihoods, migration, displaced persons and refugees, water, sanitation and hygiene, health and protection, gender and inclusion.

Movement coordination

The Red Cross Society of Niger 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.

Coordination with other actors

As an auxiliary of the public authorities, the Red Cross Society of Niger enjoys privileged relations with the authorities and works closely with the Ministry of Public Health, the Ministry of Humanitarian Action and Disaster Management, the Ministry of Protection, the Ministry of Hydraulics and others.

At the local level, the Red Cross Society of Niger works closely with communal authorities, management committees at displaced persons' sites, health centres, customary authorities and community leaders. All interventions are discussed with the relevant authorities and no action is undertaken without prior consultation.

The IFRC and the Red Cross Society of Niger have been actively engaged in humanitarian coordination at the national level and in the technical clusters and working groups – particularly in the areas of food security, water, sanitation and hygiene and health. The National Society regularly collaborates with external partners such as UN agencies, WHO, UNDP, UNICEF, WFP, FAO, OCHA, UNFPA and IOM, as it carries out its humanitarian activities.



The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) is the world's largest humanitarian network, with 191 National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and around 16 million volunteers. Our volunteers are present in communities before, during and after a crisis or disaster. We work in the most hard to reach and complex settings in the world, saving lives and promoting human dignity. We support communities to become stronger and more resilient places where people can live safe and healthy lives, and have opportunities to thrive.

About the plan

The plan reflects the priorities of the host National Society, the IFRC and National Societies providing international support, for 2025 and subsequent years. It is aligned with IFRC <u>Strategy 2030</u>, representing the collective ambitions of the IFRC membership, and is the result of a joint planning process and will serve for joint monitoring and reporting. It will be revised on an annual basis to adjust priorities and funding requirements to the needs in-country.

Explanatory note on funding requirements and definitions

- The total funding requirements show what the IFRC network seeks to raise for the given year through different channels: funding
 through the IFRC, through participating National Societies as bilateral support, and through the host National Society from non-IFRC
 network sources. All figures should include the administrative and operational costs of the different entities
- Host National Society funding requirements not coming from IFRC network sources can comprise a variety of sources, as demonstrated
 when reporting on income in the IFRC Federation-wide Databank and Reporting System
- Participating National Society funding requirements for bilateral support are those validated by respective headquarters, and often represent mainly secured funding
- IFRC funding requirements comprise both what is sourced from the IFRC core budget and what is sought through emergency and thematic funding. This includes participating National Societies' multilateral support through IFRC, and all other IFRC sources of funding
- Figures for the years beyond 2025 most often represent partial requirements that are known at time of publication. Many National
 Societies have annual internal approval processes for funding requirements, and lower figures do not mean a decrease in funding
 requirements in future years
- Missing data and breakdowns: data may not be available from all IFRC network members for funding requirements. This may lead to inconsistencies across different reporting tools as well as potential under-estimation of the efforts led by all
- Reporting bias: the data informing this Federation-wide overview is self-reported by each National Society (or its designated support
 entity) which is the owner and gatekeeper, and responsible for accuracy and updating. IFRC tries to triangulate the data provided by the
 National Societies with previous data and other data in the public domain
- Definitions:
 - » Local units: ALL subdivisions of a National Society that coordinate and deliver services to people. These include ALL levels (provincial, state, city, district branches, sections or chapters, headquarters, and regional and intermediate offices, as well as community-based units)
 - » **Branches:** A Branch has its roles, responsibilities and relationship with the National Headquarters defined through the National Society's Statutes, including the level of autonomy given, especially in the area of its legal status, mobilising local resources and building local partnerships, and the decisions it makes. It has a local-level decision-making mechanism through its Branch members, board and volunteers, equally defined through the National Society's Statutes

Additional information

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

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