

VENEZUELA 2024 IFRC network annual report, Jan-Dec



24 July 2025

IN SUPPORT OF THE VENEZUELAN RED CROSS







105 National Society local units



606 National Society staff



volunteers

PEOPLE REACHED

Climate and environment



14

Disasters and crises



12,717

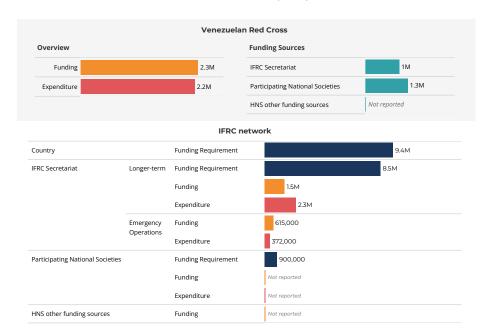
Health and wellbeing



46,462

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

in Swiss francs (CHF)



Appeal number MAAVE003

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

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Climate and enviroment	Number of people reached with activities to address environmental problems	14	
	National Society implements environmental or climate campaigns focused on behaviour change, plastic reduction, clean-ups or reducing GHG emissions	Yes	
Disasters and crises	Number of people reached with disaster risk reduction	13,000	
	Number of people reached with shelter support	2,000	
	Number of people reached with livelihoods support	2,000	
Health and wellbeing	Number of people reached by the National Society with contextually appropriate health services	46,000	
	Number of people reached by the National Society with contextually appropriate water, sanitation and hygiene services	32,000	
	Number of people reached with psychosocial and mental health services	8,000	
	Number of people trained by the National Society in first aid	69	

ENABLING FUNCTIONS

Strategic and operational coordination	Number of formal interagency/international coordination platforms the National Society is part of	1
National Society development	National Society has developed and/or implemented a strategy for strengthening their auxiliary role	Yes
Accountability and agility	National Society has a functioning data management system that informs decision making and supports monitoring and reporting on the impact and evidence of its	Yes
	National Society has a PSEA Action Plan to enforce prevention and support survivors	Yes
	National Society has strengthened its integrity and reputational risk mechanism	Yes

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
Canadian Red Cross Society			 				
German Red Cross		•	•				
Netherlands Red Cross							
Norwegian Red Cross							•
Spanish Red Cross			•				
Swedish Red Cross							

Q1. OVERALL PERFORMANCE

Context

In 2024, Venezuela continued to face a complex crisis. Although the economy showed signs of recovery in 2023, there was a slowdown in the main economic indicators during the first months of 2024. According to available data, 41.9 per cent of the population remains unable to access food, with negative consequences for child nutrition. After a decade of political and social instability and economic imbalances, the crisis has deepened and the inequality gap has widened, especially in large cities.

The health sector remains among the most urgent needs. There is limited availability of specialized equipment and a persistent shortage of qualified personnel. The absence of official data limits monitoring of health trends, including child malnutrition, which secondary sources estimated at over 60 per cent in 2022. In 2024, secondary sources estimated that the health system had lost around 70 per cent of its response capacity. Although medical supplies were more available than in 2017–2020, their high cost continued to limit access to medicines and equipment. Mental health needs have increased, especially in rural areas where taboos persist, although there were signs of growing public interest. The most vulnerable populations include children under five, pregnant women and older adults, who face increased protection risks.

Problems in the education system are also evident linked to deficiencies in teaching staff, infrastructure, basic services, school feeding and transportation.

Since late 2022, Venezuela's borders have remained open, allowing legal crossings. However, many people continue to use alternative routes. As of mid-2024, it was estimated that of the <u>7.7 million Venezuelans</u> who have left the country, about <u>6.5 million are in Latin America and the Caribbean</u>. Pendulum migration movements have persisted and are expected to continue with the implementation of regulatory policies in several countries. The most common route in 2024 remained the one leading from the south to the north, passing through the Darien Gap. Between January and mid-August 2024, more than half of the migrants who passed through this region to reach Panama were Venezuelans.

Key achievements

Climate and environment

During the reporting period, the Venezuelan Red Cross organized an online workshop on climate change adaptation for volunteers, covering terminology, causes, greenhouse effect, livelihood impacts and mitigation and adaptation strategies. It conducted a community awareness campaign using participatory methodologies and diagnostic tools, through which trained volunteers facilitated workshops on climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction. The National Society conducted educational sessions for primary school students in Anzoátegui state in composting, planting and building crop structures with recyclable materials to promote agroecology and sustainable practices and developed micro-projects in Aragua and Anzoátegui states to strengthen livelihoods, raise awareness on climate change impacts, protect water sources and encourage responsible water use. It promoted environmentally sustainable practices through its Youth Programme by developing tools supporting a culture of sustainability, implemented a climate-smart approach in livelihoods activities to reduce environmental impact and encouraged reuse of materials and good waste management practices during community deployments, including proper garbage collection, classification and use of reusable tools.

Disasters and crises

From January to December 2024, the Venezuelan Red Cross responded to two emergencies. It assisted flood-affected communities, providing targeted populations with relief items, hygiene kits, shelter materials, healthcare, water purification supplies and hygiene promotion. The National Society strengthened resilience by forming emergency committees and brigades in nine states, conducting training in safe water management, first aid, evacuation and applying the Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (eVCA) methodology to develop community action plans. It implemented localized early warning systems such as megaphones and radios in Cumanacoa and supported four climate-smart livelihoods microprojects in Aragua and Anzoátegui through technical training, essential tools and

irrigation system restoration. The Venezuelan Red Cross improved emergency preparedness by training volunteers, updating the National Response and Contingency Plans, participating in regional and national workshops, creating a presidential election contingency plan and launching an incident reporting system. It coordinated closely with humanitarian partners and Civil Protection and advanced its restructuring by developing its <u>Statutes</u>, completing half of the legal drafting process to establish a national legal framework.

Health and wellbeing

In 2024, the Venezuelan Red Cross provided diagnostic, surgical and primary care equipment at the Carlos J. Bello Hospital in Caracas and held a national workshop on hospital infection prevention, while operating medical facilities offering a range of primary and specialized care. It conducted community health days, delivered sexual and reproductive health sessions and implemented school-based education through its Youth Programme, including for indigenous children. It launched a social media campaign on sexual and reproductive health and established community health brigades with a community-based health and first aid (CBHFA) approach. It delivered mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) through consultations in safe spaces, integrated psychosocial support into contingency planning, trained branches in psychological first aid and stress management and introduced a peer support system for volunteers. It conducted nutrition and dietetics training followed by community education and assessments. The National Society improved access to water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) by conducting workshops on water quality and sanitation methodologies, rehabilitating water systems in health centres and schools, installing home filtration systems for flood-affected families and promoting hygiene practices including menstrual hygiene and vector control. In Aragua, it supported ongoing community-led hygiene activities and leadership. Following floods caused by Hurricane Beryl in Sucre, it assessed needs, coordinated with authorities, distributed supplies, deployed an emergency water treatment plant and supported safe water access in educational centres. Additionally, it evaluated branch infrastructure and developed a technical proposal to strengthen WASH services.

Migration and displacement

For the period January to December 2024, the Venezuelan Red Cross provided <u>Restoring Family Links (RFL)</u> services in the border states of Apure, Barinas and Táchira by locating family members separated by conflict, emergencies or migration and enabling telephone contact where other communication was unavailable. The National Society offered first aid to migrants and carried out continuous migration monitoring in Apure, Barinas, Táchira and Zulia. In Barinas, it distributed drinking water and energy bars to migrants through partnerships with local actors such as the UNHCR and served dinners with support from the Popular Dining Room of the State of Barinas. The National Society participated in a meeting of the South American Network focused on RFL to strengthen collaboration and unify reporting standards. It merged the Directorates of Migration and RFL to improve coordination and response. It maintained active focal points across the country, continued monitoring the national context and migration needs and advanced strategic planning aligned with the regional migration strategy, with development scheduled for 2025.

Values, power and inclusion

In 2024, the Venezuelan Red Cross strengthened internal and external communications by promoting its emblem, auxiliary role and the <u>Fundamental Principles</u> through training and awareness sessions. The National Society <u>engaged youth</u> in revising its Statutes, consulted branches to update the volunteer database and held a National Volunteer Meeting to align future actions with humanitarian values. It enhanced institutional capacity through governance training and assessments and launched an <u>Integrity Line</u> with case management mechanisms to ensure accountability. The National Society trained volunteers and focal points in protection, gender and inclusion (<u>PGI</u>) and in policies on child safeguarding and Prevention and Response to Sexual Abuse and Exploitation (<u>PSEA</u>). It worked on community engagement and accountability (<u>CEA</u>) by gathering feedback through surveys and community discussions and adapted activities accordingly. The National Society also documented good practices through case studies and debriefing.

Enabling local actors

From January to December 2024, the Venezuelan Red Cross updated its legal and regulatory framework by forming a Statute Review Monitoring Committee, consulting its affiliates, appointing a legal advisory team and approving a new Statutes after four decades. The National Society elected a new National Governing Board and five branch boards and conducted governance and management training to reinforce leadership structures, roles and communication lines. It held the National Youth Meeting and National Volunteer Meeting and developed workplans to improve branch performance and service reach. The National Society strengthened internal systems by launching an external audit, initiating strategic planning, appointing financial focal points and improving accountability. It delivered training in

water, sanitation and hygiene, health, relief, livelihoods, emergency assessments, the Code of Conduct and Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse policies. It activated the <u>Integrity Line</u>, created an Integrity Committee and organized workshops in institutional risk and volunteer protection. The National Society implemented a <u>pilot digital platform</u> for volunteer planning and supported its development. Additionally, it expanded its visibility through updated branding, <u>youth-focused campaigns</u> and audiovisual materials highlighting its health and emergency work.

Q2. CHANGES AND AMENDMENTS

Since August 2023, the Venezuelan Red Cross began a restructuring process led by the Ad Hoc Restructuring Board, prioritizing institutional integrity, volunteer protection mechanisms, a strengthened legal framework, operational sustainability and leadership renewal. In the first half of 2024, the National Society redirected resources toward this transformation, rescheduling some planned activities to the second semester. Community-level activities continued without disruption.

Q3. MEASURING RESULTS OF THE IFRC NETWORK ACTION

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Red Cross and Red Crescent communities, staff and volunteers take urgent action to adapt to the growing and evolving risks of the climate and environmental crises

Progress by the National Society against objectives

During the reporting period from January to December 2024, the Venezuelan Red Cross organized an online workshop on climate change adaptation for volunteers, covering key terms, causes of climate change, the greenhouse effect, impacts on livelihoods and strategies for mitigation and adaptation. The National Society carried out a community awareness campaign using participatory methodologies and diagnostic tools, through which trained volunteers conducted workshops on climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction. The Venezuelan Red Cross conducted educational sessions on composting, planting and building crop structures with recyclable materials for primary school students in Anzoátegui state, promoting agroecology and sustainable practices. The National Society developed micro-projects in Aragua and Anzoátegui states to strengthen livelihoods sustainably and raise awareness about climate change impacts, protection of water sources and responsible water use. The Venezuelan Red Cross promoted environmentally sustainable practices through its Youth Programme by developing tools that support a culture of sustainability and environmental protection.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided the National Society with technical support in conducting the online workshop on climate change adaptation.

The IFRC Network adopts environmentally sustainable practices and contributes to climate change mitigation

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Venezuelan Red Cross implemented a climate-smart approach in its livelihoods activities to reduce environmental impact and promoted <u>environmentally sustainable practices</u> in communities through the reuse of materials. The National Society encouraged good practices to minimize waste during community deployments, especially during

health days, including proper garbage collection, classification and transfer, as well as the use of reusable tools. The Venezuelan Red Cross conducted workshops in Anzoátegui and Aragua where trained volunteers shared knowledge on climate change adaptation and climate-smart livelihoods with community members. The National Society promoted youth leadership in these initiatives through the Youth Programme.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided the Venezuelan Red Cross with support in the implementation of climate-smart approach in its livelihoods.



For real-time information on emergencies, visit IFRC GO page Venezuela

In 2024, IFRC Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF) was utilized for two separate emergencies in Venezuela.

1.

NAME OF THE OPERATION	<u>Venezuela floods</u>
MDR-CODE	MDRVE008
DURATION	6 months (07 October 2023 to 31 January 2024)
FUNDING ALLOCATION	CHF 207,890
PEOPLE TARGETED	4,125 people
DREF OPERATION UPDATE	DREF Final Report

The IFRC-DREF allocation of CHF 207,890 in October 2023 supported the Venezuelan Red Cross to assist approximately 4,125 people affected by floods in the areas of Apure, Aragua, Bolivar, Portuguesa, Sucre and Vargas. The National Society supported the targeted people over a six-month period with assistance such as the distribution of relief items including mosquito nets and first aid kits. Support also included the provision of hygiene kits, cleaning kits and water purification tablets with storage containers. This was complemented by hygiene promotion sessions aimed at educating and encouraging affected families to improve their hygiene practices and reduce waterborne diseases.

2.

NAME OF THE OPERATION	Venezuela Floods: Hurricane Beryl
MDR-CODE	MDRVE009
DURATION	6 months (16 July 2024 to 31 January 2025)
FUNDING ALLOCATION	CHF 270,049
PEOPLE TARGETED	5,000
DREF OPERATION UPDATE	DREF Operation Update

The IFRC-DREF allocation of CHF 270,049 in July 2024 supported the Venezuelan Red Cross to assist approximately 5,000 people affected by floods in the areas of Sucre. The National Society continues to support the targeted people over a six-month period with assistance such as distribution of essential shelter items, provision of primary healthcare and first aid services, water, sanitation and hygiene (<u>WASH</u>) supplies, among others.

Communities take steps to increase their resilience to multiple impacts and evolving hazards

Progress by the National Society against objectives

During the reporting period, the Venezuelan Red Cross completed resilience-strengthening actions in the states of Amazonas, Apure, Bolívar, Delta Amacuro, Táchira and Zulia by developing emergency committees with a health focus. In Anzoátegui, Aragua and Sucre, the National Society formed community brigades and conducted training in safe water management, enabling communities to better identify and monitor risk indicators and support emergency management. The Venezuelan Red Cross delivered training in community first aid and evacuation plans, applied the Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (eVCA) methodology to assess local threats and developed community action plans to enhance local response capacity. The National Society prioritized the technical evaluation and implementation of early warning systems adapted to the local context, as in Cumanacoa, Sucre, where it equipped community leaders with megaphones and radios to improve emergency communication and evacuation coordination. The Venezuelan Red Cross implemented four livelihoods-related microprojects that promoted community empowerment and cohesion, conducted debriefing sessions to gather feedback and developed case studies to document success stories and community experiences, including in Las Tejerías, Aragua, to support comprehensive and sustainable recovery.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the Venezuelan Red Cross in undertaking activities for building resilience of communities impacted by disasters and crises.

The needs of people affected by crises and disasters are met through access to in-kind assistance and support that is timely, appropriate and flexible and strengthens their agency

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Venezuelan Red Cross conducted needs analyses in communities in Aragua and Anzoátegui to assess economic conditions, available resources, vulnerabilities, risks and priority needs. Based on the findings, the National Society implemented four climate-smart livelihoods micro-projects that strengthened local capacities through technical training, provision of essential tools and restoration and improvement of irrigation systems to support community recovery. In Sucre, in response to Hurricane Beryl, the Venezuelan Red Cross met basic needs by distributing emergency supplies including kitchen kits, family cleaning and hygiene kits, collapsible drums, water filters and water purification tablets. The National Society provided technical assistance at a shelter managed by authorities, delivering washing machines, kitchen equipment and semi-industrial utensils, and improved water and electricity connections and installed a water treatment system. It also distributed water, sanitation and hygiene inputs, mobilized a regional water treatment plant to ensure access to safe water and replaced pre-positioned items such as blankets and mosquito nets, demonstrating the efficiency of pre-positioned emergency supplies in optimizing resources and enabling effective response.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided support to the Venezuelan Red Cross in providing in-kind, timely assistance to people affected by crises.

The National Society responds effectively to the wide range of evolving crises and disasters and takes advantage of its auxiliary role in emergency response

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Venezuelan Red Cross strengthened its technical response capacities by organizing a Needs Assessment and Emergency Planning Workshop in Caracas, which trained volunteers from thirteen branches and external organizations in emergency assessment, coordination and analysis. The National Society also participated in the Expanded Regional Workshop on Vulnerability and Capacity Assessments, the Workshop for Trainers in Expanded Vulnerability and Capacity Analysis and the Cyclone and Rainy Season Preparedness Workshop. It held a National Security Workshop with the participation of all security focal points, developed a Contingency Plan ahead of the presidential elections and implemented an incident reporting system to identify risks and enhance national-level safety coordination. The National Society revised the National Response Plan and the National Contingency Plan in anticipation of an intense hurricane season and began reviewing the structure and activation of situational rooms and emergency operation centres. The Venezuelan Red Cross received refresher training in the Disaster Response Emergency Fund

process for its national relief team and deployed a Disaster Response Emergency Fund operation in Sucre in response to Hurricane Beryl, led by the water, sanitation and hygiene coordination. The National Society also improved its coordination with humanitarian organizations through participation in cluster-level, local and national coordination forums and strengthened ties with Civil Protection and the National Risk Management System through joint training and preparedness exercises, as demonstrated in Sucre.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC and the **German Red Cross** supported the Venezuelan Red Cross in conducting the Needs Assessment and Emergency Planning Workshop, coordination in regional workshops, the National Security Workshop and refresher sessions on the Disaster Response Emergency Fund.

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) provided technical and financial assistance to the National Society in conducting the National Security Workshop.

The National Society expands its leadership in the field of disaster law and improves official/legal recognition of its auxiliary role

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Venezuelan Red Cross established a legal advisory team as part of its restructuring project to conduct an exploratory evaluation on the feasibility of a draft law, using technical, legal and contextual analysis, along with preliminary consultations and impact assessments to determine the viability of a legislative proposal. Based on the outcomes of this evaluation and analysis of the national legal context, the National Society developed its Statutes, representing a fifty per cent advancement in drafting the required preliminary legal framework. These <u>Statutes</u> served as a foundation for shaping the organizational structure and initiating the development of a legal framework tailored to the Venezuelan Red Cross's operating context, aimed at enabling transparent and effective decision-making over the long term.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided support to the National Society in establishing a legal advisory team and in developing its Statutes.



Health and wellbeing

The health and well-being of communities are protected and improved through access to sustainable, affordable, appropriate and quality health services throughout the life course

Progress by the National Society against objectives

During the reporting period from January to December 2024, the Venezuelan Red Cross continued its humanitarian action in vulnerable communities by supplying diagnostic, surgical and primary care equipment at the Carlos J. Bello Hospital in Caracas and conducting a national workshop on hospital infection prevention. The National Society operated hospitals and outpatient clinics, providing primary, emergency, surgical, gynaecological, dental, psychosocial and rehabilitation care. It carried out community health days and delivered sexual and reproductive health sessions focused on family planning, prenatal care, syndromic management of sexually transmitted infections and cancer screening.

The National Society conducted educational activities through the Youth Programme in schools across Amazonas, Apure, Barinas and Delta Amacuro, including with indigenous children and adolescents. It launched a social media campaign on sexual and reproductive health with audiovisual content and a monitored publication schedule. It formed community health brigades with a community-based health and first aid (<u>CBHFA</u>) approach, supporting them with ongoing monitoring and integration into branch activities.

The Venezuelan Red Cross reached people with mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services through individual, group and psychological first aid consultations, ensuring privacy in safe community spaces. It also organized

training workshops in nutrition and dietetics, followed by educational sessions and anthropometric assessments, targeting vulnerable groups including children, adolescents, nursing mothers and the elderly.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided technical and financial assistance to the Venezuelan Red Cross in providing vulnerable communities with sustainable and affordable healthcare.

The Canadian Red Cross and German Red Cross supported it with supplies for hospital care and health activities.

The **German Red Cross** also supported the National Society in conducting training workshops in nutrition and dietetics.

The health and dignity of communities in emergencies and disease outbreaks are maintained by providing access to appropriate health services

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Venezuelan Red Cross integrated psychosocial support into its Relief Directorate's contingency plan, including psychological first aid, individual care sessions and group interventions to foster emotional resilience and community-based coping strategies in crises. The National Society deployed a Surge staff member for mental health and psychosocial support, accompanied by a volunteer referent from the Capital District branch, to assess branch capacities and identify training needs. As a result, it conducted training in psychological first aid, stress management, the mental health and psychosocial support pyramid and self-care in the branches of Valle de la Pascua, Valencia and Nueva Esparta, with additional branches participating in person and remotely. The National Society also held psychosocial support sessions for its staff and volunteers, organizing a mental health and self-care day at headquarters attended by management, directors, staff and volunteers, including IFRC personnel. It introduced a peer support system and encouraged branches to continue supporting volunteer well-being.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the National Society in the deployment of the mental health and psychosocial support Surge staff. It also participated in the mental health and self-care day.

Communities have increased access to affordable, appropriate and environmentally sustainable water, sanitation and hygiene services

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Venezuelan Red Cross carried out a wide range of activities to improve access to water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services in multiple communities, while strengthening the capacities of volunteers, staff and communities to promote the safe use of water. The National Society organized a virtual National Workshop on Water Quality Treatment and Analysis and conducted a National Workshop on the Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation (PHAST) methodology, equipping volunteers to promote hygiene and community-led sanitation solutions.

It rehabilitated safe water supply systems in health centres across Bolívar, Táchira, Zulia, Delta Amacuro and Amazonas, and adapted safe water storage and filtration systems for families in Sucre affected by <u>floods caused by Hurricane Beryl</u>. As part of flood recovery efforts, it rehabilitated water systems in schools and public health centres. It also conducted hygiene promotion sessions for people to encourage safe practices including handwashing, water handling, menstrual hygiene, waste disposal and vector control.

In Aragua, the community brigade formed in 2023 in Las Tejerías continued to carry out hygiene promotion, water management and vector control activities with technical support from the National Society's water, sanitation and hygiene team. The National Society developed audiovisual materials to support these initiatives and promoted leadership and cohesion among community members through continued accompaniment.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the Venezuelan Red Cross in the development of two consultancies to plan and coordinate field activities with the Water and Sanitation Officer. It also provided technical assistance in ensuring quality standards and legal compliance in the rehabilitation of water systems.

Communities have increased access to affordable, appropriate and environmentally sustainable water, sanitation and hygiene services in emergencies

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2024, the Venezuelan Red Cross responded to the emergency caused by floods from Hurricane Beryl in Cumanacoa, Sucre state, by providing timely access to water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services. It conducted a needs assessment to prioritize actions and coordinated with local authorities to organize the response.

The National Society distributed WASH supply kits from pre-positioned stocks and deployed the OX-LMS 06 emergency water treatment plant from El Tigre to Cumanacoa, operating for 14 days and producing safe water. It distributed and installed home water storage and filtering kits in the La Vía sector along the Cumana–Cumanacoa highway, using a beneficiary census supported by community leaders.

The National Society improved spaces for safe water distribution and hygiene promotion in educational centres, alongside educational sessions, messaging and mural development to reinforce hygiene, sanitation and water quality. It strengthened its water, sanitation and hygiene capacities by evaluating infrastructure at the Punta de Mata branch in Monagas state, developing a technical proposal to improve services through a detailed intervention plan including timelines, resources, staffing and implementation stages.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the National Society through technical assistance in water, sanitation and hygiene infrastructure evaluation and planning.



Migration and displacement

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Venezuelan Red Cross provided <u>Restoring Family Links</u> (RFL) services in the border states of Apure, Barinas and Táchira, including locating family members separated by conflict, emergencies, or migration and facilitating telephone contact when no other communication means were available.

The National Society offered first aid services to migrants in need and conducted ongoing migration analysis and monitoring in the subsidiaries of Apure, Barinas, Táchira and Zulia. The Barinas branch served migrants with drinking water and energy bars through partnerships with local actors such as the UNHCR and provided dinners to migrants on migratory routes with support from the Popular Dining Room of the State of Barinas.

The National Society participated in a meeting of the South American Network on restoring family links, strengthening relations among National Societies in the region and unifying criteria on reporting issues. It also merged the Directorates of Migration and RFL programmes to enhance coordination of efforts and resources for an integrated and efficient response to migrant needs and those separated from families.

Additionally, the Venezuelan Red Cross maintained active focal points for RFL and migration across the country and continued monitoring the complex national context and related needs. It promoted the implementation of key activities to develop a strategy aligned with the regional migration strategy, with strategy development scheduled for 2025.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided support to the National Society in its participation in the South American Network on RFL meeting. It also provided technical assistance to the National Society in the alignment its migration strategy with the regional strategy.

The IFRC Network contributes to positive change in communities through increased understanding, ownership, dissemination and application of the Fundamental Principles and humanitarian values, with a particular focus on the knowledge, skills and behaviour of young people

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2024, the Venezuelan Red Cross made efforts to ensure uniform internal and external communications, highlighting its actions on social networks. It collaborated between the Directorate of Communications and the Directorate of Dissemination to reinforce guidelines on respect for the emblem, the auxiliary role before public authorities and the principles and philosophy of the Movement through training for directors nationwide.

The National Society conducted educational sessions and talks for state security forces, public entities and target populations to promote positive change in communities through understanding, appropriation and dissemination of the <u>Fundamental Principles</u> and humanitarian values. The Venezuelan Red Cross strengthened its capacities through a participatory review and restructuring process, consulting <u>youth volunteers on key organizational processes</u>, which led to the National Youth Meeting where their opinions were included in drafting the National Society's statutes for the first time.

The National Society carried out a participatory consultation with volunteers and local government authorities by visiting its branches to update the volunteer database, consolidate the National Registry of Human Talent and consult on needs for the new statutes, resulting in the closure of two branches and consolidating a database including volunteers and contracted personnel.

Following the publication of the new statutes and the election of a new Governing Board, the National Society held the National Volunteer Meeting to analyze challenges and opportunities for improving volunteering based on the new statutes and the IFRC Global Volunteering Policy, establishing a roadmap aligned with humanitarian principles and values

Institutional strengthening activities, including the Organizational Capacity Assessment and Certification Workshop, the Training Programme for Governance and Management and the National Volunteer Meeting, contributed to the continuity of the Venezuelan Red Cross's operations by strengthening capacities to fulfil its humanitarian mission sustainably and effectively in an impartial, neutral and independent manner.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the participatory consultation process for updating the volunteer database, the drafting of the new statutes, the National Volunteer Meeting, the Organizational Capacity Assessment and Certification Workshop and the Training Programme for Governance and Management.

The **German Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross** and **Spanish Red Cross** also supported the National Society in the implementation of its programmes focused on protection and mitigation efforts in conflict-affected areas.

The IFRC network is safe and inclusive, ensuring the dignity, access, participation and safety of people of all identities

Progress by the National Society against objectives

For the period January to December 2024, the Venezuelan Red Cross ensured space for victims and compliance with due process, establishing mechanisms for reporting. In February, the National Society began establishing the <u>Integrity Line</u>, a safeguarding and protection mechanism comprising policies, procedures and systems to guarantee ethical conduct, transparency and accountability.

The Venezuelan Red Cross's integrity committee utilized a whistleblowing and case management channel to record and assess breaches immediately. It also focused on prioritizing critical cases with clear recommendations for early and effective response.

During the restructuring process, the National Society's protection, gender and inclusion (<u>PGI</u>) focal point conducted branch-level training and identified key needs to guide the work plan. At the community level, the National Society

ensured that volunteers received training in the code of conduct, Prevention and Response to Sexual Abuse and Exploitation (<u>PSEA</u>) policy, Gender and Diversity policies and <u>child safeguarding</u> as part of standard pre-deployment procedures.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided support to the Venezuelan Red Cross in the establishment of its Integrity Line, the consolidation of the Protection Network and the development of training and work plans.

The **Colombian Red Cross** also provided support to the National Society in the consolidation of the Protection Network.

Vulnerable and crisis-affected individuals and communities are empowered to influence decisions that affect them and rely on the IFRC network to serve their best interests

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Venezuelan Red Cross updated satisfaction surveys to consult beneficiaries in the communities served, evaluating the relevance and degree of satisfaction with the inputs delivered. The National Society promoted feedback spaces during community activities to collect anonymous and confidential comments and suggestions, enabling communities to express their opinions. Based on this feedback, the National Society implemented necessary corrective actions to improve activities and disseminated key messages adapted to the collected information.

The Venezuelan Red Cross made efforts to empower communities through microprojects, fostering greater cohesion within communities and among members. After each activity, the National Society conducted debriefing sessions to identify areas for improvement and understand community perspectives on objectives.

In June 2024, the National Society developed case studies to document success stories and life experiences as a learning basis for future interventions. It provided refresher training in community engagement and accountability (CEA), Prevention and Response to Sexual Abuse and Exploitation (PSEA) and the Code of Conduct to all staff and volunteers.

In July, the National Society held virtual training for volunteers in protection, gender and inclusion (PGI) in contexts of social tensions and public unrest. The National Society prepared volunteer question-and-answer sheets to inform community members adequately and facilitated focus group discussions to gather community perceptions, needs and proposed solutions. Additionally, it generated a final report analyzing the implementation of feedback mechanisms and its findings.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided the Venezuelan Red Cross with technical and financial support for conducting training in community engagement and accountability (CEA), Prevention and Response to Sexual Abuse and Exploitation (PSEA), Code of Conduct and PGI.

ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS



Strategic and operational coordination

IFRC membership coordination

IFRC coordination involves working with member National Societies to analyse the humanitarian context, assess humanitarian situations and needs, agree on common priorities, co-develop strategies to obtain greater humanitarian access, acceptance and space, mobilize funding and other resources, clarify consistent public messaging and monitor progress. This also means ensuring that strategies and programmes in support of people in need incorporate clear humanitarian actions and development assistance and reinforce the auxiliary role of the National Societies in their respective countries.

The **Canadian Red Cross** provided support to the National Society in the provision of healthcare equipment to a hospital in Caracas.

The ColombianRedCross provided support to the National Society in cyclone and rainfall season prepared ness workshop.

The **German Red Cross** supported the National Society in conducted training workshop for volunteers on relevant nutrition and dietetics topics, which in turn have been replicated at the community level in educational sessions with the aim of providing information and tools for participants to make informed decisions about their diet and lifestyle. It also provided support to the National Society in training components such as vulnerability and capacity assessment, emergency needs assessment and planning, and cyclone and rainfall season preparedness workshop.

Movement coordination

The Venezuelan Red Cross 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 in Caracas works to mitigate the humanitarian consequences of armed violence in Venezuela. Working with the authorities and the communities it serves, it carries out activities in the areas of health, water and sanitation, economic and food security, dignified management of the dead, protection of detainees and Restoring Family Links. It also promotes international humanitarian law and international standards on the use of force by the armed forces and police.

External coordination

In line with its auxiliary tole, the Venezuelan Red Cross coordinates with the governmental risk management system, which includes the country's emergency mechanism VEN911, civil protection, the fire brigade, and local, regional and national response bodies.

In April 2024, the Venezuelan Red Cross signed a letter of understanding with the United Nations in Venezuela, recognizing the importance of continuing to promote an effective and coordinated humanitarian response, ensuring that aid reaches those who need it most in a timely and efficient manner. Both organizations committed to collaborate on the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), with a focus on knowledge management, capacity building, technical assistance and advocacy. This alliance reaffirms their joint commitment to strengthen both the humanitarian response and sustainable development in the country.

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Venezuelan Red Cross began forming the Statute Review Monitoring Committee in October 2023 to update its legal and regulatory framework. The National Society appointed its legal advisory team to evaluate the feasibility of the draft law through legal, technical and contextual analysis, including consultations with key stakeholders and assessments of the broader impact. In March 2024, the National Society created the Drafting Committee, which developed the initial version of the statutes based on statutory models of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and IFRC guidelines. The National Society conducted internal consultations through visits to its affiliates to understand their functioning and needs, surveying thousands of volunteers and staff. The National Society approved the final statute document in May 2024, updating its framework after four decades to enhance governance and ensure efficient, transparent management.

In June 2024, the Venezuelan Red Cross elected a new National Government Board for the first time in 46 years, with representation from all five regions of the country. It also conducted local elections for five branches during the year. The Venezuelan Red Cross continued its institutional strengthening by providing training to volunteers and staff in water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), health, relief, livelihoods and emergency assessments. In February, the Venezuelan Red Cross convened the National Youth Meeting, gathering youth directors and coordinators to identify key motivators and barriers affecting volunteer engagement and to improve volunteer management structures. It also held the National Meeting of Volunteers.

The National Society conducted a governance and management training session focused on clarifying functions through shared leadership, reinforcing Movement principles and improving and modernizing management and governance models. It worked on building leadership succession systems, defining roles and responsibilities, setting decision-making levels and improving communication lines. It also developed work plans to strengthen its branch network and improve the geographical reach of its services. To sustain this effort, the National Society committed to continuous training for governance teams to build leadership capacity from volunteer levels to top management. Additionally, the National Society prioritized resource mobilization training for management teams to support the expansion of volunteer and youth activities.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC and **Norwegian Red Cross** supported the National Society in internal consultation and capacity assessments, and the planning and implementation of institutional strengthening processes.



Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Venezuelan Red Cross strengthened its communications network to enhance visibility and improve outreach. It began by updating and disseminating its identity manual, then developed various campaigns to promote its projects and humanitarian operations. These campaigns used an informative, educational and community-focused approach, particularly targeting youth and vulnerable populations. It also produced audiovisual content for social media and other platforms, including posts about its maternal and child health project. These materials helped highlight the National Society's contributions to community health and education and promoted the impact of its work in emergency settings, including the Cumanacoa response.

The Venezuelan Red Cross adopted a dynamic and educational communications strategy focused on social media to attract younger audiences. By featuring volunteers as the primary faces of its messaging, the National Society created relatable content that fostered stronger connections with its audience.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the National Society in advancing its media and outreach efforts.



Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2024, the Venezuelan Red Cross launched an external financial audit and strategic planning process to guide its medium and long-term development. It conducted technical visits to assess needs and capacities in security and finance, appointed financial focal points and improved accountability mechanisms. Based on preliminary audit findings, the National Society prioritized actions to enhance accountability and information management in line with global standards. It also prioritized the documentation and identification of professional profiles to ensure appropriate recruitment within the newly established Finance Department.

The Venezuelan Red Cross organized a workshop on institutional risk management, volunteer protection and integrity, and activated an <u>integrity line</u> for volunteers. It continued promoting and delivering training in the Code of Conduct and the Policies for the Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (<u>PSEA</u>), ensuring volunteers were informed and prepared to act in accordance with these standards. The National Society also created an Integrity Committee to safeguard the well-being of personnel, partners and people reached through its interventions.

As part of <u>digital transformation</u>, the Venezuelan Red Cross implemented the pilot phase of the Volunteer Development and Planning Application (VODPLA) platform and actively contributed to its development. This digital advancement strengthened information management, volunteer oversight and institutional accountability.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the Venezuelan Red Cross in implementing the institutional risk management workshop, the integrity line and the development and testing of the VODPLA platform.



Volunteers of the Venezuelan Red Cross supporting families affected by Hurricane Beryl through water and sanitation supply distributions, in August 2024 (Photo: Venezuelan Red Cross)

Q4. AFFECTED PERSONS (PEOPLE REACHED)

See cover pages

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

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

Q6. RISK MANAGEMENT

This information is not available in Annual Reports

Q7. EXIT STRATEGY AND SUSTAINABILITY

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

Q8. LESSONS LEARNED

The Venezuelan Red Cross identified key lessons from the 2024 anticipatory action and emergency flood operations and the project on strengthening maternal and child health in vulnerable populations. From the anticipatory action operation under the IFRC Disaster Response Emergency Fund (IFRC-DREF) mechanism, the National Society recognized the importance of fostering continuous learning, transparency and open communication to consolidate good practices and prevent the recurrence of past mistakes.

In the maternal and child health project, the Venezuelan Red Cross learned that comprehensive planning, including preparation of medication lists and clear role assignments, was a strength that facilitated execution. However, it identified the need to improve logistical processes by adapting them more effectively to the specific contexts of each branch, strengthen staff training in epidemiological reporting, and improve the use of digital tools such as Open Data Kit (ODK). It also recommended establishing specialized monitoring teams in each branch to ensure more efficient data collection and analysis.

From its emergency response to floods, the National Society learned the importance of conducting prior security assessments in the field, ensuring accessible reporting mechanisms, and deploying technical personnel from the start of operations to improve coverage and operational effectiveness.





Venezuelan Red Cross Successfully Maintains Operations Amid Restructuring

Since the start of its transition process, the Venezuelan Red Cross has worked closely with IFRC and ICRC, alongside the Joint Red Cross and Red Crescent Ad-Hoc Group, to protect volunteers, review its legal framework and ensure continuity of its operations. These efforts were grounded in respect for Fundamental Principles and focused on developing a comprehensive restructuring plan.

IFRC played a pivotal role by coordinating collaborative initiatives and forming strategic alliances within the Movement's network, addressing the complex restructuring mandated by the Supreme Court of Justice. This coordination identified key priorities: ensuring impartial and neutral operations, reviewing the legal basis and regulatory framework and electing a new Board of Directors. Following these guidelines laid the foundation for the Venezuelan Red Cross's transformation.

During this period, the Venezuelan Red Cross demonstrated its commitment to uninterrupted service by responding effectively to the emergency caused by floods in Cumanacoa. The National Society provided timely, adequate and flexible assistance and in-kind support, meeting the needs of affected communities while undergoing restructuring.



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

The IFRC network structures its result-based management along five Strategic priorities and four Enabling functions, developed based on the IFRC network's <u>Strategy 2030</u>:

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

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

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



The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) is the world's largest humanitarian network, with 191 National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and around 15 million volunteers. Our volunteers are present in communities before, during and after a crisis or disaster. We work in the most hard to reach and complex settings in the world, saving lives and promoting human dignity. We support communities to become stronger and more resilient places where people can live safe and healthy lives, and have opportunities to thrive.

DATA SCOPE AND LIMITATIONS

- **Timeframe and alignment:** The reporting timeframe for this overview is covering the period from 1 January to 31 December 2024. However, due to the diversity of the IFRC and differences in fiscal years, this coverage may not fully align for some National Societies.
- **Financial overview:** This overview consolidates data reported by the National Society and its IFRC network partners, as well as data extracted from IFRC's financial systems. All reported figures should include the administrative and operational costs of the different entities. The financial data with a grey background is solely reported by the National Society, including the funding sources. Financial reporting is often times estimated depending on availability of financial figures, closing of financial periods, and may be incomplete. 'Not reported' could sometimes mean 'not applicable'. Also note that funding requirements are already reflected in the published 2024 IFRC network country plan. The total funding requirements show what the IFRC network has sought to raise for the given year through different channels: funding through the IFRC, through participating National Societies as bilateral support, and through the host National Society from non-IFRC network sources. All figures should include the administrative and operational costs of the different entities.
 - » Host National Society funding requirements not coming from IFRC network sources can comprise a variety of sources, as demonstrated when reporting on income in the IFRC Federation-wide Databank and Reporting System
 - » Participating National Society funding requirements for bilateral support are those validated by respective headquarters, and often represent mainly secured funding
 - » IFRC funding requirements comprise both what is sourced from the IFRC core budget and what is sought through emergency and thematic funding. This includes participating National Societies' multilateral support through IFRC, and all other IFRC sources of funding
- Missing data and breakdowns: National Societies have diverse data collection systems and processes that may not
 align with the standardized indicators. Data may not be available for some indicators, for some National Societies.
 This may lead to inconsistencies across different reporting tools as well as potential under or over-estimation of the
 efforts led by all.
- **Reporting bias:** The data informing this Federation-wide overview is self-reported by each National Society (or its designated support entity) which is the owner and gatekeeper, and responsible for accuracy and updating. IFRC tries to triangulate the data provided by the National Societies with previous data and other data in the public domain.

• Definitions:

- » Local units: ALL subdivisions of a National Society that coordinate and deliver services to people. These include ALL levels (provincial, state, city, district branches, sections or chapters, headquarters, and regional and intermediate offices, as well as community-based units)
- » Branches: A Branch has its roles, responsibilities and relationship with the National Headquarters defined through the National Society's Statutes, including the level of autonomy given, especially in the area of its legal status, mobilising local resources and building local partnerships, and the decisions it makes. It has a local-level decision-making mechanism through its Branch members, board and volunteers, equally defined through the National Society's Statutes

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- <u>VE_Venezuela AR Financials.pdf</u> (Note: This financial report link will be fed upon the completion of the audit. For emergencies for which a financial report is not yet available, see <u>MDRVE008</u>, <u>MDRVE009</u>)
- IFRC network country plans
- Subscribe for updates
- Live Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF) data
- Operational information: IFRC GO platform
- National Society data: IFRC Federation-wide Databank and Reporting System
- Evaluations database

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