



UGANDA

2024 IFRC network annual report, Jan-Dec



12 August 2025

IN SUPPORT OF THE UGANDA RED CROSS SOCIETY



51

National Society
branches



1

National Society
local units



244

National Society
staff



16,687

National Society
volunteers

PEOPLE REACHED

Climate and
environment



96,565

Disasters
and crises



770,794

Health and
wellbeing



325,000

Migration and
displacement



133,191

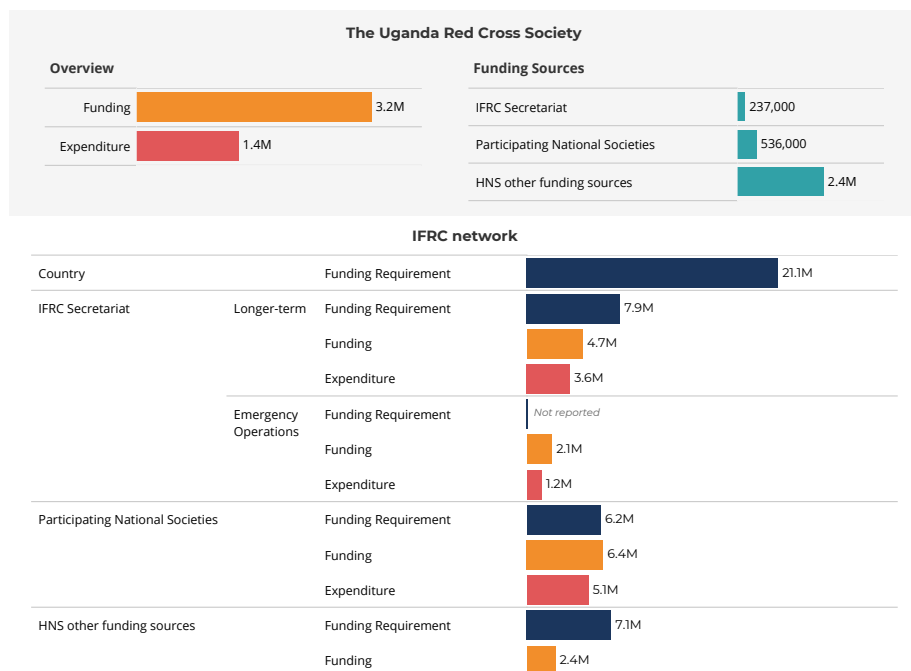
Values, power
and inclusion



2,092

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

in Swiss francs (CHF)



Appeal number **MAAUG002**

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

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Climate and environment	Number of people reached with activities to address environmental problems	 97,000
	Number of people reached with activities to address rising climate risks	 36,000
	National Society implements nature-based solutions (including those with a particular focus on the planting of trees and mangroves)	 Yes
	National Society implements environmental or climate campaigns focused on behaviour change, plastic reduction, clean-ups or reducing GHG emissions	 Yes
	National Society has received IFRC Network's support to adapt to longer-term impacts of climate change	 Yes
Disasters and crises	Number of people reached with disaster risk reduction	 771,000
	Number of people reached per year with support services, in-kind, cash and voucher assistance for emergency response and recovery	 60,000
	Number of people reached with shelter support	 788
	Number of people reached with livelihoods support	 639
Health and wellbeing	Number of people reached by the National Society with contextually appropriate health services	 325,000
	Number of people donating blood	 171,000
	Number of people reached by the National Society with contextually appropriate water, sanitation and hygiene services	 54,000
	Number of people trained by the National Society in first aid	 3,000
	Number of people reached with psychosocial and mental health services	 2,000
Migration and displacement	Number of migrants and displaced persons reached with services for assistance and protection	 133,000
	Number of Humanitarian Service Points (HSPs) providing assistance and/or protection to people on the move along migration routes	 5
	National Society has undertaken any data collection, research, analysis or other information management initiatives to better assist and protect people on the move	 Yes

Values, power and inclusion	Number of people reached by protection, gender and inclusion programming	2,000
-----------------------------	--	-------

ENABLING FUNCTIONS

Strategic and operational coordination	Number of government-led 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
	There is a National Society Development plan in place	Yes
Humanitarian diplomacy	National Society has a domestic advocacy strategy developed aligning, at least in part, with global IFRC advocacy strategies	Yes
	National Society participates in IFRC-led campaigns	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 Protection of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) policy to enforce prevention and support survivors	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
	National Society is implementing a digital transformation roadmap in line with the IFRC strategy	Yes

IFRC NETWORK SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

National Society	Funding Reported	Bilateral Support					Enabling Functions
		Climate and environment	Disasters and crises	Health and wellbeing	Migration and displacement	Values, power and inclusion	
Austrian Red Cross	1.3M						●
Belgian Red Cross	992,000		●	●	●	●	●
German Red Cross				●			●
Netherlands Red Cross	3.6M	●	●				●
Turkish Red Crescent Society	392,000			●			

Total Funding Reported **CHF 6.4M**

Q1. OVERALL PERFORMANCE

Context

In 2024, Uganda experienced overlapping socio-political, economic and environmental challenges that shaped humanitarian and development needs across the country. Climate-related disasters, including prolonged droughts, severe flooding and landslides in districts such as Kasese, Katakwi, Bududa, Butaleja, Bunyangabu and Ntoroko, caused widespread displacement, infrastructure damage and heightened food insecurity.

Public health systems were strained by outbreaks of cholera, anthrax and Mpox, particularly in Adjumani, Elegu, Kyotera and Kiryandongo. These emergencies created urgent needs for disease surveillance, hygiene promotion and improved water, sanitation and hygiene services to curb further spread.

The country continued to host over 1.7 million refugees, mainly from South Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo. The growing refugee population placed increasing pressure on healthcare, protection services, WASH infrastructure and food assistance, especially in settlements such as Nakivale, Kiryandongo and Bidi Bidi.

Uganda's economic situation remained fragile, with rising inflation and a high cost of living disproportionately affecting vulnerable households and increasing reliance on humanitarian assistance. These conditions underscored the need for scalable, flexible support mechanisms such as cash and voucher assistance. At the same time, the push for improved accountability and responsiveness drove a national shift toward digital tools for financial reporting, case management and community feedback systems.

Key achievements

Climate and environment

During the reporting period, the Uganda Red Cross Society reinforced early warning systems and disseminated real-time weather updates in high-risk districts, enabling timely evacuations and anticipatory actions such as Cash and Voucher Assistance and prepositioning of emergency supplies. It advanced tree planting and reforestation in Ntoroko, Kasese, Kamuli and refugee settlements, distributed energy-saving stoves and trained youth and farmers in afforestation and agroforestry. The National Society integrated sustainable practices into disaster response through waste management, briquette production, composting and installed solar-powered water treatment plants in refugee settlements to reduce environmental impact.

Disasters and crises

During the reporting period, the Uganda Red Cross Society assisted people affected by floods and landslides across multiple districts with shelter kits, essential household and hygiene items, drinking water, cash support and emergency sanitation facilities. The National Society enhanced community-based early warning systems in high-risk areas, disseminated real-time flood and landslide alerts through house-to-house sensitization, radios and megaphones, developed multi-hazard contingency plans and prepositioned relief supplies in strategic locations. It activated Red Cross Action Teams and National Disaster Response Teams to conduct search and rescue operations, deploy ambulances, provide first aid and emergency care and deliver non-food items and water services in affected districts. The Uganda Red Cross Society provided Cash and Voucher Assistance, including multipurpose cash transfers and cash-for-work initiatives, supported women- and men-headed households and conducted cash feasibility assessments and post-distribution monitoring to ensure effective impact.

Health and wellbeing

In 2024, the Uganda Red Cross Society assisted people in response to an anthrax outbreak in Kyotera District through community sensitization and strengthened household-level health promotion. The National Society responded to cholera, malaria and Mpox across multiple districts by supporting water chlorination, distributing hygiene kits, conducting sensitization campaigns, enhancing early case detection and training volunteers to strengthen disease surveillance. It provided ambulance services for emergency cases and implemented community health programmes.

in refugee and host communities, delivering hygiene promotion, epidemic prevention and sessions on vaccination, malaria prevention and maternal health. Through the [Community Epidemic and Pandemic Preparedness Programme](#), it carried out house-to-house awareness campaigns and facilitated group sessions on hygiene and disease detection. The National Society also expanded [mental health and psychosocial support](#) services through trained volunteers and community sessions on stress management and trauma recovery and distributed menstrual hygiene management kits to survivors of sexual and gender-based violence and vulnerable women.

Migration and displacement

The Uganda Red Cross Society responded to population movement caused by the armed conflict in Sudan through the provision of temporary shelter, multipurpose cash, hygiene kits, latrine construction and health literacy sessions. The National Society provided outpatient medical services through mobile clinics, referred patients for specialized care, conducted health education campaigns and supported national blood supply through donation drives. It ensured access to safe water and sanitation by trucking water, installing surface and treatment plants, constructing gender-sensitive latrines and promoting hygiene practices in refugee settlements. The National Society delivered multipurpose Cash and Voucher Assistance, conducted financial literacy training and provided protection services including community sessions on prevention of sexual and gender-based violence and training in [Community Engagement and Accountability](#), the [Safer Access Framework](#) and [Protection, Gender and Inclusion](#). It also distributed shelter kits to displaced households.

Values, power, and inclusion

In 2024, the Uganda Red Cross Society supported women, children, older people and persons with disabilities by conducting a Persons with Specific Needs verification exercise in Kiryandongo refugee settlement, assessing wheelchairs for repair, distributing menstrual hygiene management kits and raising awareness on gender-based violence through drama-based sessions, mobile cinema screenings and community discussions. The National Society developed the EspoCRM system to strengthen safeguarding and accountability, trained volunteers in [Community Engagement and Accountability](#), the [Safer Access Framework](#) and [Protection, Gender and Inclusion](#) and established structured reporting channels for survivors of sexual and gender-based violence. It collected multilingual community feedback to facilitate referrals to relevant agencies and hosted a five-day training-of-trainers in epidemic preparedness and response, covering psychological first aid, behaviour change communication and local epidemic preparedness planning. .

Enabling local actors

During the period January to December 2024, the Uganda Red Cross Society strengthened governance, financial systems and workforce capacity by ensuring functional governance structures, training branch managers, transitioning to Business Central and securing private sector partnerships for initiatives such as the Keep a Girl in School Menstrual Hygiene Management project. It drafted a [Youth Recruitment and Engagement Strategy](#), trained volunteers in key thematic areas and built staff capacity in epidemic preparedness using insights from a global skill-share. The National Society implemented its National Society Preparedness for Effective Response Plan of Action 2023 across all 2024 work plans.

It advanced humanitarian diplomacy and communications by supporting disaster policy reform, engaging Parliament on the National Disaster Preparedness and Management Bill and launching the 'Humanity Needs You' campaign to mobilize support. The Uganda Red Cross Society enhanced visibility through digital outreach, strengthened accountability via Business Central and a new digital server and streamlined service delivery through the EspoCRM system and participation in Movement forums.

Q2. CHANGES AND AMENDMENTS

In 2024, the Uganda Red Cross Society implemented its Unified Plan with adjustments to address shifting humanitarian needs. Intensified floods, landslides and droughts led to a stronger focus on climate resilience through expanded early warning systems and forecast-based financing in high-risk districts. Cholera and Mpox outbreaks prompted increased epidemic preparedness, including mobile clinics, hygiene promotion and surveillance in affected areas. Rising refugee arrivals required scaled-up cash assistance, WASH services and protection interventions in key settlements. Despite

operational challenges such as procurement delays, weather-related disruptions and funding gaps, the National Society maintained impact through strengthened coordination, resource mobilization and capacity building.

Q3. MEASURING RESULTS OF THE IFRC NETWORK ACTION

ONGOING EMERGENCY RESPONSE

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

Emergency Appeal Name	Africa Regional Mpox Epidemic
IFRC Emergency Appeal code	MDRS1003
People affected	People affected/at risk: 300 million people
People to be assisted	30 million people
Duration	16 months (20 August 2024 to 31 December 2025)
Funding requirements	Total IFRC funding requirement through the Appeal: CHF 30 million Total Federation-wide funding requirements: CHF 40 million
Link to Emergency Appeal	Africa - Regional Mpox Epidemic
Link to Operational Strategy	Operational Strategy
Link to Operational update	Operations Update No.2

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

Short description of the emergency operational strategy

The regional Mpox emergency appeal aims to assist National Societies in preparing for and responding to the Mpox epidemic. The strategy includes scaling up health and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services, community engagement and accountability (CEA) and addressing socio-economic impacts. The operation will be guided by a risk-based approach and regional coordination, prioritizing preparedness, readiness and response. The Uganda Red Cross Society will receive support to develop country-specific response plan, enhance community-based advocacy and mitigate the spread of the virus, particularly in areas with imported cases or established transmission. The operation will also target vulnerable populations, including marginalized and immunocompromised groups, with a focus on protection, gender and inclusion. The highlights of the assistance are:

Integrated assistance

Affected people and families are provided with a safety net scheme, including multipurpose cash to meet immediate needs and cover basic necessities while recovering from Mpox infections. Affected people who have lost their livelihoods due to Mpox are aided in reintegrating into the labour market through skills enhancement and diversification.

Health and care, including water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)

Affected people are provided with community-based surveillance to detect and actively find suspected Mpox cases, feeding into existing surveillance systems. Clinical care pathways for screening, triage, isolation, testing and assessment are identified through national plans and guidelines, ensuring awareness among clinical facilities. Communities are engaged on Mpox transmission, symptoms and preventive actions. Health services ensure individuals with Mpox symptoms seek care, with support for isolation and referral. Vaccination efforts are supported through community engagement. WASH facilities are improved in health centres, with ongoing hygiene promotion to reduce transmission.

Cross-cutting approaches: the operational strategy integrates **community engagement and accountability** (CEA) and protection, gender and inclusion (PGI) as pivotal elements, in an approach that recognizes and values all community members as equal partners, with their diverse needs shaping the response. Activities includes the provision of dignity kits and establishment of two-way feedback mechanisms. The strategy emphasizes local voice amplification, collaborative engagement and transparent communication, extending into **long-term resilience building** through initiatives such as the IFRC Pan-Africa Zero Hunger Initiative.

For the period 20 August 2024 to 28 October 2024, the following assistance was provided by the Uganda Red Cross Society:

The Uganda Red Cross Society focused on training volunteers and Village Health Teams to strengthen community-based surveillance, support case screening at border entry points and promote public awareness. Screening was conducted at key points of entry in collaboration with district authorities, with volunteers and health workers equipped to identify suspected cases of Mpox. The National Society also organized community sensitization through group sessions, household visits and radio programmes, distributed informational materials and conducted school outreach to educate learners. These activities aimed to raise awareness, detect and report cases early, strengthen community involvement and support coordination among district task forces. Interventions were integrated into existing community pandemic preparedness programmes.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Climate and environment

Progress by the National Society against objectives

During this reporting period, the Uganda Red Cross Society reinforced community-based early warning systems to improve disaster preparedness in high-risk districts including Kasese, Bududa, Sironko, Butaleja, Ntoroko and Kamuli. The National Society disseminated real-time weather updates and early warnings in collaboration with the Uganda National Meteorological Authority and District Disaster Management Committees, enabling timely evacuations and reducing loss of life and property. The Uganda Red Cross Society integrated forecast-based action into disaster response by developing multi-hazard contingency plans and supporting at-risk communities in Ntoroko and Katakwi with anticipatory actions such as Cash and Voucher Assistance and prepositioning of emergency supplies. This was undertaken under the Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations – IFRC Pilot Programmatic Partnership (DG ECHO – IFRC PPP).

The Uganda Red Cross Society advanced tree planting and reforestation initiatives in Ntoroko, Kasese, Kamuli and refugee settlements such as Nakivale and Kiryandongo to mitigate deforestation, reduce soil erosion and improve water conservation. It engaged youth groups and local farmers in afforestation and agroforestry training in partnership with the National Forestry Authority, National Environment Management Authority and the Ministry of Water and Environment. The Uganda Red Cross Society also distributed energy-saving stoves to households in Nakivale refugee settlement to reduce reliance on firewood and prevent deforestation.

The National Society integrated environmentally sustainable practices into disaster response operations through faecal sludge and solid waste management initiatives in Arua and Wakiso under its project, 'Clean and Prosperous Uganda'. It promoted solid waste recycling and produced briquettes from waste materials as alternative energy.

sources. In refugee settlements such as Kiryandongo and Rhino Camp, the Uganda Red Cross Society piloted waste segregation and composting and trained community members in vermicomposting to convert organic waste into fertilizer. Additionally, it improved sustainable water management through the installation of solar-powered water treatment plants in Bidi Bidi and Kyangwali refugee settlements to provide clean drinking water and reduce reliance on environmentally damaging water trucking.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided technical expertise and funding to the Uganda Red Cross Society for early warning systems, forecast-based disaster response and sustainable water management through DG ECHO – IFRC PPP.

The Austrian Red Cross, Belgian Red Cross-Flanders, German Red Cross and the Netherlands Red Cross supported the National Society in anticipatory action, reforestation, solid waste management and the Clean and Prosperous Uganda project.



Disasters and crises

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

In 2024, the IFRC Disaster Response Emergency Fund (IFRC-DREF) was approved for four separate emergencies: floods, landslides, an Anthrax outbreak and population movement. Details on the floods and landslide emergencies are mentioned below. For details on the Anthrax outbreak emergency, see section ‘Health and wellbeing’. For details on the population movement emergency, see section ‘Migration and displacement’.

1.

NAME OF THE OPERATION	Uganda Floods
MDR-CODE	MDRUG050
DURATION	6 months (22 May 2024 to 30 November 2024)
FUNDING ALLOCATION	CHF 479,715
PEOPLE TARGETED	19,098 people
LATEST OPERATIONAL UPDATE	Operational Update No. 1

The DREF allocation of CHF 479,715 in May 2024 supported the Uganda Red Cross Society in aiding 19,098 people affected by episodic floods, hailstorms and landslides in various areas, including Mbale, Kapchorwa, Bulambuli, Bukedea, Butaleja, Sironko, Bududa and Namisindwa. The support included shelter kits and essential household items as well as cash support to affected communities. Other support included distribution of hygiene kits and installation of water tanks in flood-impacted areas.

2.

NAME OF THE OPERATION	Uganda Landslides
MDR-CODE	MDRUG053
DURATION	5 months (16 December 2024 to 31 May 2025)
FUNDING ALLOCATION	CHF 355,019
PEOPLE TARGETED	12,138 people
LATEST OPERATIONAL UPDATE	Operational Update No. 1

The DREF allocation of CHF 335,019 in December 2024 supported the Uganda Red Cross Society in aiding 12,138 people affected by landslides caused by heavy rains and flooding in the Eastern Region of Uganda. The National Society supported the targeted people for a period of five months with support comprising the provision shelter kits, tents and essential household items as well as cash support. Other support included the provision of first aid, distribution of hygiene kits and drinking water as well as construction of latrines and bathing shelters.



A volunteer of the Uganda Red Cross Society conducting a post-distribution survey with a recipient of non-food items in Bunyangabo district following the landslides (Photo: Uganda Red Cross Society)

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In the period from January to December 2024, the Uganda Red Cross Society enhanced community-based early warning systems in high-risk areas including Mbale, Namisindwa, Sironko, Bududa, Butaleja and Mbale City. The National Society disseminated early warning messages in collaboration with the Uganda National Meteorological Authority and local disaster committees, ensuring timely evacuations and reducing disaster impacts. It issued real-time flood and landslide alerts in Sironko, Namisindwa and Mbale districts through house-to-house sensitization, community radios and megaphones. The National Society supported the development of multi-hazard district contingency plans to guide emergency response and prepositioned relief supplies in locations such as Mbale, Fort Portal, Kisoro and Soroti.

The Uganda Red Cross Society responded to floods and landslides by activating Red Cross Action Teams and deploying National Disaster Response Teams in affected areas. The National Society conducted search and rescue operations in Mbale, Bundibugyo, Mukono, Ntoroko, Kamuli, Kasese, Sironko and Kumi, deployed ambulances to transport injured individuals and provided non-food items to displaced families in Sironko, Namisindwa and Bulambuli. It delivered first aid and emergency medical care and coordinated with partners in Ntoroko District to provide shelter, hygiene kits and water services to flood-displaced families. The National Society also implemented urgent water, sanitation and hygiene and shelter interventions in Kasese District following the destruction and damage of houses and latrines.

The Uganda Red Cross Society provided Cash and Voucher Assistance to help disaster-affected households meet urgent needs. The National Society delivered direct cash transfers in Ntoroko and Katakwi and multipurpose cash assistance in Budaka and Sironko. In Sironko District, the National Society supported women- and men-headed households through multipurpose cash transfers to purchase essential goods. The Uganda Red Cross Society implemented a cash-for-work initiative in Cheele Dam and Ocurimongin Market in Palisa District for individuals engaged in community

restoration. The National Society conducted cash feasibility assessments before disbursement and carried out post-distribution monitoring to assess impact.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided technical and financial support to the National Society for early warning systems, multi-hazard contingency planning and Cash and Voucher Assistance under the Early Warning and Early Action Initiative. IFRC mechanisms such as the Disaster Response Emergency Fund and Emergency Appeal were also drawn on by the Uganda Red Cross Society as required.

The Austrian Red Cross, Belgian Red Cross-Flanders, German Red Cross and the Netherlands Red Cross supported the National Society in anticipatory action, disaster response and cash-based interventions.



Health and wellbeing

In 2024, the IFRC Disaster Response Emergency Fund ([IFRC-DREF](#)) was utilized for an anthrax outbreak emergency.

NAME OF THE OPERATION	Uganda - Anthrax Outbreak
MDR-CODE	MDRUG049
DURATION	3 months (12 December 2023 to 31 March 2024)
FUNDING ALLOCATION	CHF 129,613
PEOPLE TARGETED	69,340 people
LATEST OPERATIONAL UPDATE	DREF Final Report

The IFRC-DREF allocation of CHF 129,613 in December 2023 supported the Uganda Red Cross Society to assist 69,340 people affected by anthrax outbreak which broke out in the areas of Kabira, Kasasa andLwankoni sub-counties in Kyotera district. The National Society supported the targeted people over a three-month period with assistance comprising the sensitization of community on the preventive measures for anthrax and other communicable diseases. Support also included the strengthening of health promotion at household level in affected communities.

Progress by the National Society against objectives

During the reporting period January to December 2024, the Uganda Red Cross Society responded to public health emergencies including cholera, malaria and Mpox across multiple districts. In Adjumani District, the National Society supported water chlorination, distributed hygiene kits and conducted sensitization campaigns in response to a cholera outbreak. The Uganda Red Cross Society worked with local health authorities to strengthen early case detection and treatment, reducing new infections. The National Society enhanced community-based disease surveillance systems in Bundibugyo, Kamwenge, Kabale and Kitagwenda by training volunteers to monitor and report on epidemic-prone diseases. Ambulance services responded to emergency cases involving road traffic injuries, Mpox and other incidents, providing timely medical support.

The Uganda Red Cross Society implemented community health programmes targeting refugees, host communities and vulnerable populations. Under the Community-Based Water, Sanitation and Hygiene and Health Assistance Programme, the National Society conducted hygiene promotion and epidemic prevention campaigns in West Nile and South Sudanese refugee settlements. The Uganda Red Cross Society engaged individuals through household visits, community meetings and facility-based sessions on vaccination, malaria prevention and maternal health. Through the [Community Epidemic and Pandemic Preparedness Programme](#), the National Society conducted house-to-house awareness campaigns and facilitated group sessions in hygiene, epidemic prevention and disease detection. Blood donation campaigns supported national supply, including events in Kiryandongo refugee settlement and other locations.

The Uganda Red Cross Society expanded [mental health and psychosocial support services](#) for refugees and disaster-affected communities. The National Society trained volunteers in mental health and psychosocial support in

emergencies to offer counseling and emotional assistance. Community engagement sessions focused on psychosocial first aid, stress management and trauma recovery. Additionally, the Uganda Red Cross Society distributed menstrual hygiene management kits to survivors of sexual and gender-based violence and vulnerable women to ensure dignity and hygiene access.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the National Society in epidemic response, community-based surveillance, mental health and psychosocial support and community health outreach.



Migration and displacement

In 2024, the IFRC Disaster Response Emergency Fund ([IFRC-DREF](#)) was approved for a population movement emergency.

NAME OF THE OPERATION	Uganda Population Movement
MDR-CODE	MDRUG051
DURATION	5 months (06 July 2024 to 31 December 2024)
FUNDING ALLOCATION	CHF 500,000
PEOPLE TARGETED	106,996 people
LATEST OPERATIONAL UPDATE	Operational Update no. 1

The IFRC-DREF allocation of CHF 500,000 in July 2024 supported the Uganda Red Cross Society to assist 106,996 people affected by the armed conflict in Sudan which has forced millions to flee and migrate to Uganda. The National Society supported the targeted people over a five-month through interventions such as deployment of temporary sleeping tents, distribution of multipurpose cash and hygiene kits, construction of latrines as well as awareness sessions focused on health literacy.

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2024, the Uganda Red Cross Society provided outpatient medical services in Kiryandongo refugee settlement through mobile clinics and emergency medical referrals, addressing respiratory infections, malaria and other common illnesses among refugees and host communities. The National Society referred patients for specialized care and conducted health education campaigns covering vaccination, malaria prevention and maternal health. Blood donation drives contributed to the national blood supply and strengthened emergency preparedness within the settlement.

The Uganda Red Cross Society also ensured access to safe water and sanitation in refugee settlements by trucking water to Cluster B in Kiryandongo and installing a surface water treatment plant at Siliba Stream to serve Cluster C. In Nakivale refugee settlement, the National Society constructed the Misiera Water Treatment Plant to improve drinking water access and built gender-sensitive pit latrines to enhance sanitation coverage. The National Society conducted hygiene promotion sessions on safe water practices, human waste management and disease prevention and distributed menstrual hygiene management kits to women and girls, including survivors of sexual and gender-based violence.

The Uganda Red Cross Society also implemented Cash and Voucher Assistance refugee settlements to help refugee households meet basic needs and strengthen economic resilience. It delivered multipurpose cash assistance and conducted financial literacy training for households to support budgeting, saving and long-term financial planning. Additionally, the National Society provided protection services in Kiryandongo refugee settlement by conducting community sessions in the prevention of sexual and gender-based violence and training volunteers in Community Engagement and Accountability, the Safer Access Framework and Protection, Gender and Inclusion. The National Society also distributed shelter kits to displaced households to ensure secure housing for vulnerable families.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the Uganda Red Cross Society in delivering health services, water and sanitation infrastructure, cash and voucher assistance and protection services to refugee settlements.



Values, power and inclusion

Progress by National Society against objectives

The Uganda Red Cross Society supported women, children, older people and persons with disabilities by conducting a Persons with Specific Needs verification exercise in Kiryandongo refugee settlement, assessing nine wheelchairs for repair and distributing menstrual hygiene management kits to women and girls, including survivors of sexual and gender-based violence. The National Society engaged community leaders in discussions on the prevention of gender-based violence and reached people through drama-based sessions and mobile cinema screenings to raise awareness on legal rights and survivor support.

The Uganda Red Cross Society developed the EspoCRM system to strengthen safeguarding and accountability through more efficient case management and feedback resolution. The National Society trained volunteers in Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA), the Safer Access Framework and Protection, Gender and Inclusion. It established structured reporting channels for survivors of sexual and gender-based violence. The National Society collected multilingual feedback from community members, enabling referrals to UNHCR, the Office of the Prime Minister Save the Children for concerns related to water, security, education and gender-based violence awareness.

The National Society hosted a five-day training-of-trainers in epidemic preparedness and response in communities, equipping its delegates with knowledge in, CEA, psychological first aid and behaviour change communication. It also provided training in carrying out community assessments and develop local epidemic preparedness strategies.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the National Society in mainstreaming Protection, Gender and Inclusion and Community Engagement and Accountability across its operations. It also supported the Uganda Red Cross Society in conducting the five-day training-of-trainers in epidemic preparedness and response in communities.

The **Netherlands Red Cross** supported the Uganda Red Cross Society in the development of the EspoCRM system.

ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS



Strategic and operational coordination

IFRC membership coordination

IFRC membership coordination involves working with National Societies to assess the humanitarian context, agree on common priorities and jointly develop common strategies. This includes addressing issues such as obtaining greater humanitarian acceptance and access, mobilizing funding and other resources, clarifying consistent public messaging and monitoring progress. It also entails ensuring that strategies and programmes in support of people in need incorporate clarity of humanitarian action while linking with development assistance and contribute to reinforcing National Societies in their respective countries, including through their auxiliary role.

The Uganda Red Cross Society is part of the four IFRC pan-African initiatives focusing on Tree Planting and Care, Zero Hunger, Red Ready and National Society development. These initiatives are reflected under the relevant sections of this plan.

The Uganda Red Cross Society National Society is also part of the global [Pilot Programmatic Partnership \(PPP\)](#) between the Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations of the European Commission (DG ECHO) and IFRC, with implementation support from the Netherlands Red Cross as lead EU National Society and the Austrian Red Cross. The IFRC is providing technical support in the green response and overall coordination support.

During the reporting period, the National Society received support from the **Austrian Red Cross, Belgian Red Cross, British Red Cross, German Red Cross** and **Netherlands Red Cross**.

Movement coordination

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

In Uganda, **the ICRC** contributes to addressing the humanitarian needs of people who have fled situations of violence in neighbouring countries and detainees. It also supports the integration and promotion of international humanitarian law, notably for troops deployed in operations abroad.

External coordination

The Uganda Red Cross Society, throughout the reporting period, worked with local, national, regional and international partners to strengthen emergency response, disaster risk management, health services and climate resilience. The National Society collaborated with the Office of the Prime Minister to support the development and dissemination of National Disaster Risk Management plans in eight districts and advocated for the National Disaster Preparedness and Management Bill, engaging over 80 Members of Parliament. Under the ECHO Pilot Programmatic Partnership, it partnered with the Ministry of Water and Environment and the Uganda National Meteorological Authority to disseminate seasonal and monthly weather forecasts and convened the second National Dialogue on Anticipatory Action with 200 stakeholders.

In partnership with the Ministry of Health, Uganda Blood Transfusion Services, Bunyoro Kitara Kingdom and Omugo Development Foundation, the Uganda Red Cross Society collected 62,209 units of blood and provided counselling. It enhanced first aid and ambulance services in refugee settlements through collaboration with Medical Teams International and the Ministry of Health and strengthened emergency response systems with the Uganda Police and Kampala Capital City Authority. These services were deployed at national events including World Literacy Day and presidential celebrations. The National Society also partnered with the World Health Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund and the Uganda Communications Commission to support community-based surveillance through the National Youth Service Scheme system.

To support environmental sustainability, the Uganda Red Cross Society planted trees through partnerships with the National Forestry Authority and the National Environmental Management Authority. It also mobilized youth in Isingiro and Kasese to plant bamboo trees along River Nyamwamba under the Y-Adapt initiative. With support from the Austrian Red Cross, the National Society completed the construction of a water treatment plant in Kasese district.



National Society development

Progress by the National Society against objectives

During the period January to December 2024, The Uganda Red Cross Society strengthened its governance, leadership, financial sustainability and workforce capacity to improve operational efficiency and resource mobilization. The National Society ensured full functionality of all governance structures, held statutory Central Governing Board meetings quarterly, convened branch board meetings and organized the National Council.

Under the Localization Project, the Uganda Red Cross Society trained branch managers in financial management to enhance reporting and income generation at branch level. The National Society transitioned from MS Navision to Business Central to improve financial oversight, made progress onboarding projects to the new system despite delays and engaged two consultants who facilitated partnerships with over one hundred companies. These efforts resulted

in private sector funding for initiatives such as the Keep a Girl in School Menstrual Hygiene Management project. The Uganda Red Cross Society also drafted a Youth Recruitment and Engagement Strategy to increase youth participation in governance and response.

The Uganda Red Cross Society focused on workforce development by training volunteers in Community Engagement and Accountability, the Safer Access Framework and Protection, Gender and Inclusion. It provided advanced training in epidemic preparedness and response to build staff capacity for responding to outbreaks such as cholera and Mpox. The National Society also participated in a global skill-share event in Portugal. Lessons from this engagement informed the revised Resource Mobilization Strategy, which is under finalization.

The Uganda Red Cross Society continued implementing its National Society Preparedness for Effective Response Plan of Action 2023 as the key guiding document for all 2024 work plans.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided technical support to the Uganda Red Cross Society for youth engagement policy development. It facilitated epidemic preparedness training and contributed to the global skill-share platform that informed the National Society's revised Resource Mobilization Strategy.

The Netherlands Red Cross provided technical assistance to the Uganda Red Cross Society in the implementation of the Localization Project.



Humanitarian diplomacy

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2024, the Uganda Red Cross Society strengthened its efforts in humanitarian diplomacy and communications by advocating for improved humanitarian policies and funding, while increasing public awareness of its work through strategic media and digital outreach. The National Society collaborated with the Office of the Prime Minister and the Ministry of Disaster Preparedness to influence policy reform in disaster risk management. It played a central role in advancing the National Disaster Preparedness and Management Bill by engaging with over eighty Members of Parliament to strengthen Uganda's legislative framework for disaster preparedness and response.

The Uganda Red Cross Society launched the 'Humanity Needs You' campaign to reinforce financial sustainability and resource mobilization. This campaign mobilized public support for humanitarian action, attracted new members and volunteers and raised funds to sustain the National Society's operations. It highlighted the shared responsibility of Ugandans in humanitarian response and emphasized the National Society's life-saving role over the past six decades. The Uganda Red Cross Society expanded its public engagement through targeted media and digital campaigns, published advocacy articles in national outlets such as the Daily Monitor and produced short videos and social media content focused on disaster preparedness and emergency response. These communication efforts increased visibility and enhanced community participation in humanitarian activities.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the Uganda Red Cross Society in its humanitarian diplomacy and advocacy efforts. It also provided the National Society with technical assistance in the launch of its 'Humanity Needs You' campaign.



Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Uganda Red Cross Society, during the reporting period, prioritized accountability, transparency and integrity across its humanitarian operations. The National Society transitioned from MS Navision to the Business Central financial system to strengthen financial accountability, improve donor reporting and enable real-time expenditure tracking. It procured a digital server to enhance data storage and security, reinforcing its commitment to financial integrity and operational efficiency. The Uganda Red Cross Society embedded transparency mechanisms across its programming

and participated in Movement-coordinated forums to deepen collaboration with regional and global resource centres in key thematic areas, including volunteering, gender and inclusion, community education and first aid.

The Uganda Red Cross Society integrated adaptive management practices to ensure that service delivery remained responsive to emerging needs. The National Society enhanced its digital transformation agenda by advancing the development and deployment of the EspoCRM system. This system streamlined case management, data tracking and community feedback, enabling real-time response to concerns and improving overall efficiency.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided support to the Uganda Red Cross Society in strengthening its financial accountability and reporting.

The Netherlands Red Cross, through its 510 team, supported the National Society in the development and deployment of the EspoCRM system.

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

In 2024, the Uganda Red Cross Society learned that early community engagement, gender inclusion and participatory planning significantly improved outcomes in climate, health and cash interventions. Community feedback and targeted engagement in Kasese, Isingiro and Nakivale strengthened ownership of tree planting and water, sanitation and hygiene activities. In Adjumani, combining cash assistance with community-led waste management and feedback mechanisms improved impact. Forecast-based financing and pre-positioned supplies enabled faster, more effective disaster response. Community-based surveillance and coordination with the Ministry of Health, World Health Organization and local actors helped detect and contain outbreaks, with integrated mental health support emerging as a key need in areas such as Kiryandongo. The National Society also found that pairing refugee support with vocational skills and financial literacy training improved long-term outcomes and that phased cash disbursements were more effective. Post-harvest handling and climate-smart agricultural initiatives promoted household food security and resilience. Across all sectors, inclusive, locally adapted and multi-sectoral approaches strengthened community trust and response effectiveness.

SUCCESS STORIES



1

A Life Delivered by the Roadside: First Aid in Action in Kyangwali

On a rainy afternoon in November 2024, a Uganda Red Cross Society team was returning from fieldwork in Nyamyehembo Village when they came across a woman in labour on the roadside. She had been enroute to the hospital on a bicycle taxi or a boda boda, but had delivered her baby before reaching care. Shivering and weak, with the umbilical cord still uncut, she lay vulnerable by the road as bystanders looked on, unsure how to help.

Without hesitation, the Uganda Red Cross Society volunteers stepped in. They quickly assessed the scene, organized traffic control and used a bedsheet and traditional lesu to create a privacy shield. With support from a passing female health worker and the woman's caretaker, the team sterilized equipment, safely cut the cord and warmed both mother and baby. They then transported them to Kyangwali Health Centre IV, where both received further care and were later discharged in stable condition.

The emergency unfolded without warning, but the Uganda Red Cross Society's First Aid training and preparedness made the difference between crisis and safety. This powerful story from Kyangwali refugee settlement illustrates the life-saving value of First Aid and the quiet heroism of trained volunteers responding when it matters most.

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

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

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

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

8+3 template	IFRC network 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

- [UG Uganda AR Financials](#) (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 [MDRS1003](#), [MDRUG049](#), [MDRUG050](#), [MDRUG051](#), [MDRUG053](#))
- [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](#)

Contact information

Uganda Red Cross Society
W <https://redcrossug.org/>

Mohamed Babiker

Head of Delegation
IFRC Country Cluster Delegation for
South Sudan, Uganda & Tanzania,
Juba
mohamed.babiker@ifrc.org

Louise Daintrey-Hall

Head of Strategic Engagement &
Partnerships
IFRC Regional Office for Africa,
Nairobi
T +254 110 843978
louise.daintrey@ifrc.org

Sumitha Martin

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