



REPUBLIC OF NORTH MACEDONIA



2024 IFRC network annual report, Jan-Dec

2 September 2025

IN SUPPORT OF RED CROSS OF THE REPUBLIC OF NORTH MACEDONIA



33

National Society
branches



33

National Society
local units



4,585

National Society
volunteers



204

National Society
staff

PEOPLE REACHED

Emergency
Operations



454

Climate and
environment



23,304

Disasters
and crises



9,610

Health and
wellbeing



39,988

Migration and
displacement



11,078

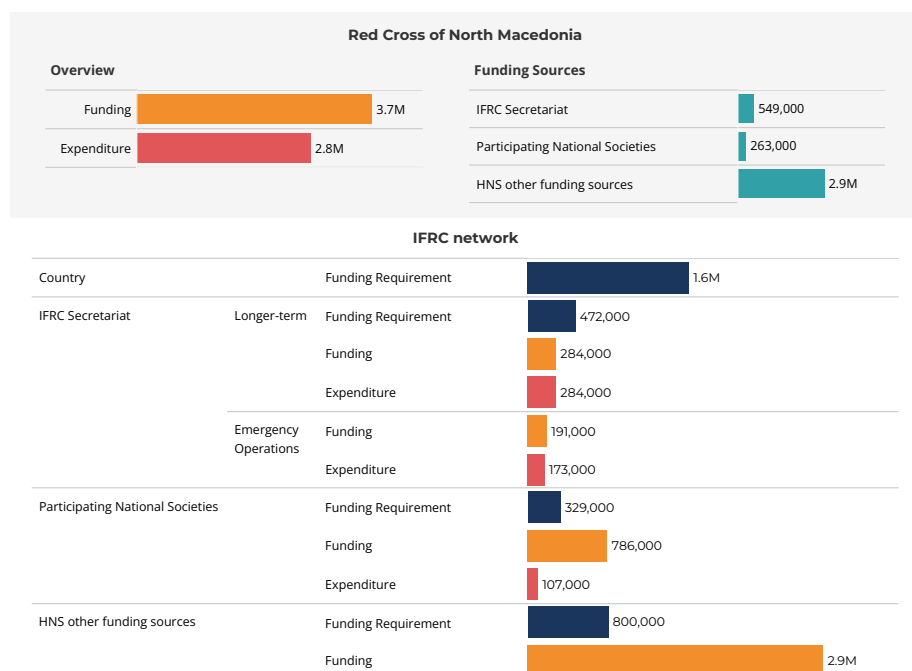
Values, power
and inclusion



11,622

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

in Swiss francs (CHF)



Appeal number **MAAMK003**

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

ONGOING EMERGENCY INDICATORS

MGR65002 / Ukraine and Impacted Countries Crisis

SP2 - Disasters and crises	Number of people reached with livelihoods support	454
	Number of people reached per year with support services, in-kind, cash and voucher assistance for emergency response and recovery	454
SP3 - Health and wellbeing	Number of people reached by the National Society with contextually appropriate health services	161
	Number of people reached with psychosocial and mental health services	40
SP4 - Migration and displacement	Number of migrants and displaced persons reached with services for assistance and protection	454
	Number of Humanitarian Service Points (HSPs) providing assistance and/or protection to people on the move along migration routes	1
	National Society has undertaken any data collection, research, analysis or other information management initiatives to better assist and protect people on the move	Yes
	National Society has undertaken any advocacy, dialogues, educational or communication initiatives to change the legal, policy, or operational environment to better assist and protect people on the move	Yes
SP5 - Values, power and inclusion	Number of people reached by the National Society's educational programmes	114
	Number of people reached by protection, gender and inclusion programming	76
	National Society has a Community Engagement and Accountability policy, strategy or plan	Yes

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Climate and environment	Number of people reached with heatwave risk reduction, preparedness or response activities	23,000
	Number of people reached with activities to address rising climate risks	3,000
Disasters and crises	Number of people reached with disaster risk reduction	10,000
	Number of people reached per year with support services, in-kind, cash and voucher assistance for emergency response and recovery	674
	Number of people reached with livelihoods support	479
	Number of people reached with shelter support	220
Health and wellbeing	Number of people reached by the National Society with contextually appropriate health services	70,000
	Number of people donating blood	40,000
	Number of people trained by the National Society in first aid	28,000
	Number of people reached by the National Society with contextually appropriate water, sanitation and hygiene services	2,000
Migration and displacement	Number of migrants and displaced persons reached with services for assistance and protection	11,000
	Number of Humanitarian Service Points (HSPs) providing assistance and/or protection to people on the move along migration routes	3
Values, power and inclusion	Number of people reached by the National Society's educational programmes	12,000
	Number of people reached by protection, gender and inclusion programming	76

ENABLING FUNCTIONS

Strategic and operational coordination	Number of government-led coordination platforms the National Society is part of	6
National Society development	National Society has created and implemented youth engagement strategies	Yes
	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

	Funding Reported	Bilateral Support					Values, power and inclusion	Enabling Functions
		Climate and environment	Disasters and crises	Health and wellbeing	Migration and displacement			
National Society								
Austrian Red Cross	786,000						●	
Swiss Red Cross			●	●			●	
Turkish Red Crescent Society								●

Total Funding Reported **CHF 786,000**

Q1. OVERALL PERFORMANCE

Context

The Republic of North Macedonia, a landlocked country in Southeast Europe, gained independence in 1991 as a successor state to Yugoslavia. It shares borders with Kosovo, Serbia, Bulgaria, Greece, and Albania. The population is approximately 1.84 million (2021 Census) with a density of 78.7 people per square kilometre. Ethnically, the country is diverse, comprising 54.21 per cent Macedonians, 29.52 per cent Albanians and smaller groups of Turks, Roma, Serbs, Bosniaks and Vlachs. North Macedonia operates as a parliamentary republic with a medium-developed industrial base.

North Macedonia is highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change and natural hazards, including floods, droughts, earthquakes, extreme temperatures, and forest fires. Flooding has been the most frequent and damaging hazard between 1990 and 2023, causing significant damage to infrastructure and communities. Climate-related risks are projected to cost up to four per cent of GDP by 2050 if adaptation measures are not implemented. These risks underscore the need for robust climate adaptation, disaster preparedness and resilient infrastructure investments.

North Macedonia's economy is recovering from previous shocks but faces moderate growth challenges. GDP growth was projected to stabilize between 2.1 per cent and three per cent in 2024, despite weaker external demand and tighter financing conditions. Inflation, which reached nearly 20 per cent in 2022, eased to 6.6 per cent in late 2023 and is forecasted to decline further to 2.3 per cent in 2025, supported by central bank measures. The country's external position improved in 2023 due to reduced energy costs and significant infrastructure projects—particularly in renewable energy and road development—are expected to drive long-term growth. However, fiscal stability, climate vulnerabilities and inclusive economic development remain critical challenges. Poverty and social exclusion persist, particularly among vulnerable groups, including older persons, who represent a growing share of the population. Long-term unemployment among low-skilled individuals limits competitiveness in the labour market, while access to support systems remains uneven across communities.

Gender inequality remains a systemic challenge. Women face limited access to resources, markets, and decision-making processes and experience persistent wage and labour force participation gaps. Gender-based violence, abuse and exploitation continue to disproportionately affect women, reflecting entrenched structural inequalities. Addressing these disparities requires comprehensive policies to promote gender equality, protection mechanisms, and economic empowerment.

North Macedonia lies on the Balkan Route, a key transit corridor for migrants heading toward Western Europe. This position has created logistical and humanitarian challenges, necessitating effective resource coordination, protection measures and community engagement strategies to manage migration flows without exacerbating social tensions.

Key achievements

Climate and environment

In 2024, the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia significantly advanced climate action and environmental awareness through youth-led initiatives and nationwide campaigns. The National Society focused on promoting eco-friendly habits, educating young people on environmental issues and engaging communities in practical actions to reduce pollution. It also enhanced preparedness for extreme weather events by developing operational plans for heatwave management, conducting public health awareness activities and providing essential services during high-risk periods. These efforts strengthened community resilience to climate-related risks and positioned the National Society as an active advocate for environmental sustainability.

Disasters and crises

The National Society strengthened its disaster preparedness and response capabilities through active participation in regional and national exercises, specialized training and community resilience initiatives. It enhanced operational readiness for migration crises and extreme weather events, introduced anticipatory action planning and implemented improved risk assessment methodologies. During severe heatwaves and wildfires, the National Society provided

humanitarian assistance, logistical support and life-saving interventions, reinforcing its ability to respond effectively to emergencies and safeguard vulnerable populations.

Health and wellbeing

In 2024, the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia delivered comprehensive health services and prevention initiatives aimed at improving community well-being. Key achievements included expanding harm reduction programmes, supporting access to sexual and reproductive health services in rural areas and conducting nationwide awareness campaigns on communicable and non-communicable diseases. The National Society also prioritized first aid education, mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) and blood donation drives, while strengthening internal capacities through instructor development and volunteer training.

Migration and displacement

The National Society maintained a strong humanitarian response to migration and displacement by delivering life-saving assistance and protection to people on the move. Through its Humanitarian Service Points (HSPs) and mobile teams, it provided essential items, medical care, psychosocial support and family reunification services. Integration support was also prioritized, including assistance for individuals with international protection and displaced persons from Ukraine.

Values, power and inclusion

In 2024, the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia promoted inclusion, social cohesion and support for vulnerable groups. It expanded services for older people and people with disabilities, strengthened caregiving programmes and enhanced innovative solutions such as patient transport and emergency response systems. Awareness campaigns targeted human trafficking, xenophobia and cultural integration, while social enterprises and solidarity initiatives mobilized resources for those at social risk.

Enabling Local Actors

During the reporting period, the National Society strengthened its governance and operational capacity through systematic assessments, improved infrastructure, and policy development. The BOCA process advanced in local branches, leading to better organizational performance and accountability. Logistics capabilities were upgraded through warehouse reconstruction and equipment procurement, while volunteer safety frameworks were implemented to protect and support frontline workers. Efforts to modernize membership management, financial systems and statutory frameworks ensured stronger institutional resilience. The National Society also deepened collaboration with authorities, securing formal recognition of its auxiliary role and positioning itself as a key partner in national response mechanisms.

Q2. CHANGES AND AMENDMENTS

In this reporting period, no changes or amendments were made to the plan

Q3. MEASURING RESULTS OF THE IFRC NETWORK ACTION

ONGOING EMERGENCY RESPONSE

For real-time information on emergencies, see IFRC GO page [North Macedonia](#)

Name	Ukraine and Impacted countries appeal
Appeal number	MGR65002
Duration	February 2022 – December 2025
People to be reached	1,300
Funding requirements	Total: CHF 800 M (IFRC); CHF 2.7 billion (Federation-wide) North Macedonia: CHF 1.33 M (IFRC); CHF 1.54 M (Federation-wide)
Emergency Appeal	Revised Emergency Appeal
Operational Strategy	Revised Operational Strategy North Macedonia Response Plan
Last operation update	Operation Update No. 11

The armed conflict in Ukraine, ongoing since 2022, continues to cause immense civilian suffering, widespread displacement and destruction of infrastructure and livelihoods. Millions have crossed into neighbouring countries, many displaced for nearly two years, with growing gaps in meeting their protection and assistance needs. The IFRC Emergency Appeal, first launched in February 2022 and revised in May 2023, now supports 18 National Societies, including the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia, with expanded targets, funding and geographical coverage. The revision reflects the shift from immediate emergency to protracted crisis, requiring adaptable and long-term responses.

Since the escalation of the Russia-Ukraine international armed conflict and until the end of 2024, North Macedonia received [19,325](#) displaced individuals from Ukraine. Only a small proportion requested assistance, enabling the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia to maintain regular communication and personal interaction with those supported. Assistance was provided during humanitarian aid distribution, registration and related activities, with a focus on people with disabilities, older persons and mothers with young children—identified as the most vulnerable among the displaced population.

Short description of the emergency operational strategy

The DRC Red Cross' planned operations are aligned with the regional operational strategy's three response pillars and include:

Shelter, housing and settlements: With the **Swiss Red Cross** support, assistance for clothing and footwear was provided twice a year through Cash and Voucher Assistance ([CVA](#)). 100 vouchers were distributed to 50 vulnerable displaced people (including those with chronic illnesses, older people and children) to buy summer clothing and footwear. Additionally, 350 food parcels and essential household items were delivered to Ukrainians residing in North Macedonia.

Multi-purpose cash: 35 host families received cash assistance, and 104 supermarket consumer cards were replenished for displaced people. To strengthen CVA capacity, 21 Red Cross representatives completed a Level II CVA training in Struga, while two attended a CVA Data Management training in Sarajevo. The National Society adopted Kobo for beneficiary registration, needs assessments and Post-Distribution Monitoring.

Health and care: 10 vulnerable individuals received health insurance coverage. 36 people requiring urgent medical treatment were supported, resulting in 73 medical interventions, including cardiac, dental and ophthalmology cases. Additionally, 52 people received chronic disease medication, and volunteers assisted with appointments, transport and prescription procurement. 20 group mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) sessions were organized for displaced individuals.

Protection, gender and inclusion (PGI): The Children's Corner hosted 82 educational and recreational activities for 20 children, encouraging creativity and integration. 94 people attended 336 Macedonian language classes. A summer camp in June monitored early childhood development and offered MHPSS.

Excursions for 30 displaced people promoted socialization, while cultural visits and World Refugee Day activities raised awareness among 1,500 people. A Gaming Hub opened in partnership with UNHCR engaged 10 Ukrainian and local youth, offering digital skills training.

Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA): Regular communication with displaced people ensured feedback and need-based support. Two staff attended CEA planning training in Montenegro. A profiling survey of 57 Ukrainian households identified key needs to inform better programming and integration into national plans.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Climate and environment

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2024, the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia prioritized climate action and environmental awareness through its 'Green Volunteerism' programme, designed to engage youth and promote sustainable habits. Implemented across 33 local branches via eco-hubs, the initiative aimed to reduce pollution and raise awareness of global warming and its health impacts.

An online campaign, 'My/Our Eco Habit,' ran from March to June 2024, featuring posters, videos and photos created by volunteers to promote eco-friendly practices. Peer educators from youth clubs delivered eco-education sessions to primary school students in grades I–III, teaching early habits for a cleaner environment. To prepare these educators, an online workshop was held, reaching 3,088 participants. In May, youth volunteers collaborated with primary and high school students in eco-actions across the country. Additionally, 33 outdoor workshops were organized to recruit new volunteers and encourage discussions on 'Environmental Challenges in Our Environment.'

Alongside awareness efforts, the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia played an active role in heatwave preparedness and response, recognizing the growing impact of extreme temperatures. An operational plan for managing heatwaves and open-space fires was submitted to the Crisis Management Centre, and the National Society Operations Centre functioned 24/7 during peak periods. Ten workshops on heatwave-related health risks reached 175 people, while first aid and hydration support were provided to 2,902 individuals in high-traffic areas. Blood pressure checks were conducted for 796 people, and 2,884 flyers on heatwave prevention and recognition were distributed. Social media channels amplified prevention messages, extending the campaign's reach nationwide.

Through 32 local branches, the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia continued advocacy on climate change and promoted behavioural shifts to strengthen community resilience to environmental risks.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia through strategic guidance, technical advice and knowledge exchange on climate adaptation, awareness campaigns and anticipatory actions for heatwaves.



Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia volunteers deliver food and water to affected communities and firefighting teams battling wildfires. (Photo: Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia)



Disasters and crises

For real-time information on emergencies, see IFRC GO page [North Macedonia](#)

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2024, the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia actively strengthened its disaster preparedness and response capacities through regional and national initiatives, addressing risks such as migration, heatwaves and wildfires.

The Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia participated in the Regional Tabletop Exercise held in Bulgaria from 16–18 April 2024. The exercise focused on improving region-specific migration preparedness in Central and South-Eastern Europe (CSEE). It included refining scenario assumptions, estimating potential caseloads, identifying key locations and validating the regional risk matrix. These inputs will inform the CSEE contingency plan and strengthen National Society response strategies.

The National Society also attended the [Anticipatory Action](#) Tier 1 Training in Montenegro (23–25 September 2024), which brought together eight National Societies to build practical competencies in anticipatory action planning. In addition, the enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (eVCA) Workshop took place in North Macedonia from 11–15 November 2024, engaging six National Societies to strengthen skills for community resilience within the Roadmap to Community Resilience framework.

To improve water safety, the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia organized water rescue courses in May and June 2024 for the Army of North Macedonia and local rescuers. 31 participants were certified as open-water rescuers.

During the reporting period, North Macedonia faced severe heatwaves and wildfires in 2024, prompting large-scale humanitarian interventions. 320 volunteers and staff distributed 18,000 litres of water to citizens and 20,000 flyers with heatwave prevention advice. First aid teams performed 900 interventions, supporting people in need. 550 hygiene kits and 550 food parcels were delivered to fire-affected households. For firefighting forces, 9,000 litres of water were distributed and 120,000 flyers on wildfire protection were disseminated alongside social media campaigns.

The National Society teams installed specialized 8,000-litre water tanks in four municipalities, enabling continuous helicopter refilling. In total, 180,500 litres of water were used by helicopters to extinguish fires. A national appeal raised funds for affected households, with CHF 5,400 distributed as financial assistance.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided technical and logistical support to the National Society for key capacity-building activities, including the Anticipatory Action Training and eVCA Workshop. This collaboration strengthened the National Society's preparedness planning, anticipatory action capacity and community resilience approaches, ensuring better alignment with regional contingency frameworks.

The Regional Tabletop Exercise held in Bulgaria was co-organized by the IFRC and the ICRC.



Health and wellbeing

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2024, the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia implemented a wide range of health and wellbeing initiatives that directly contributed to improving community resilience and access to essential services. Under the HIV/AIDS prevention and harm reduction programme supported by the Ministry of Health, 487 individuals with substance abuse disorders were reached across three municipal centres in Kičevo, Veles and Prilep. The programme distributed 35,852 needles, 25,624 syringes, 2,075 condoms, 1,740 lubricants and 1,390 informative leaflets. Additionally, 907 social services and 1,299 medical services were provided as part of this effort to reduce health and social harm among drug users. As part of the HIV/AIDS Awareness Week in December, the National Society organized peer education workshops in high schools, produced educational videos and disseminated posters and information through social media to strengthen prevention awareness among youth.

The National Society also supported the Ministry of Health in delivering mobile gynaecological clinics to rural communities between February and November 2024. Volunteers provided administrative support, mapping and outreach to inform vulnerable women and facilitate their access to sexual and reproductive health services in three municipalities. Public awareness campaigns were organized to combat communicable and non-communicable diseases, including cardiovascular illnesses, cancer, HIV/AIDS, addiction-related diseases, tuberculosis and diabetes. These campaigns, implemented during health prevention weeks, reached more than 18,000 people through educational lectures, workshops and community mobilization efforts aimed at disease prevention and health promotion.

In December 2024, two training sessions on hygiene promotion were conducted for 36 volunteers representing 28 Red Cross branches and the City Red Cross of Skopje. These sessions enhanced knowledge and skills in maintaining hygiene as a critical tool for preventing infectious diseases. The National Society also continued its strong focus on first aid as a life-saving skill. Throughout 2024, 1,924 first aid courses for motor vehicle drivers were conducted, reaching 24,554 individuals, while an additional 178 workplace courses trained 776 people and 12 courses for maritime vessels reached 29 participants. World First Aid Day was marked under the theme 'First Aid and Sports Activities - Be Prepared and Offer Help,' featuring athlete training, student workshops and interactive online quizzes to raise public awareness through media engagement.

To strengthen internal capacity, the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia organized instructor development programmes, including two first aid training sessions for 36 new instructors and demonstrators in February and 14 refresher courses for 171 instructors in January and February. Three specialized training sessions for first aid competition judges involved 91 participants from local branches. Youth engagement was prioritized through the national first aid campaign, which reached 3,701 young people across primary and secondary schools. In addition, 124 school-based training sessions educated 2,670 students and 123 teachers, and regional as well as national first aid competitions were organized throughout the year, with the 30th National First Aid Competition held in September in Skopje.

The blood donation programme exceeded its annual target of 55,000 units by collecting 61,359 units, surpassing the previous year by 1,500 units. These achievements were supported by 62 coordination meetings and 740 blood donation actions across the country. Mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) remained a significant focus in 2024. Activities included psychological first aid, psychosocial support training, awareness workshops and psychological counselling, reaching more than 5,000 people. A total of 262 individuals completed psychosocial support training, and 184 beneficiaries received free counselling services, including employees and volunteers of the National Society.

Workshops on stress management and self-care were organized to support staff and volunteers, while national awareness campaigns promoted open discussions on mental health, reduced stigma and encouraged community engagement.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided technical support and guidance to strengthen the National Society's health and wellbeing programmes, including alignment with global health strategies, capacity-building initiatives and knowledge sharing in areas such as first aid, MHPSS and community health outreach.



Migration and displacement

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2024, the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia reaffirmed its commitment to supporting migrants, refugees and displaced people by delivering essential humanitarian services in two temporary transit centres located in the northern and southern regions of the country. The National Society deployed mobile teams along the northern border to provide continuous assistance to people on the move, with particular attention to the Humanitarian Service Point (HSP) near the Serbian border. These efforts were crucial in meeting urgent needs and ensuring the safety and dignity of individuals and families in transit.

The range of services provided included first aid for immediate medical care, psychosocial support to address stress and trauma and distribution of essential relief items. Migrants received hot meals, food parcels, hygiene kits tailored for women, men and children, and bottled water to meet basic needs. Medicines and medical assistance were provided, with safe transportation arranged for those requiring hospitalization. The Restoring Family Links (RFL) programme supported family reunification, resolving 10 cases in 2024.

To ensure efficiency and cultural sensitivity, mobile teams were composed of a general practitioner to address health concerns, two logistics assistants to manage operations and an interpreter fluent in Arabic, Pashto and Farsi. This structure enabled effective communication and delivery of humanitarian assistance to diverse migrant populations. Over the course of the year, the National Society assisted 11,031 people on the move. Among them, 5,926 received institutional assistance, while 4,853 were supported through the HSPs. First aid was delivered to 4,282 people.

The Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia also prioritized mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS). Psychological counselling was provided by professional psychologists and educators in their final year of psychotherapy training. A total of 184 individuals benefited from these free counselling services, including some National Society staff and volunteers, ensuring comprehensive support for both migrants and responders.

In addition to emergency response, the National Society implemented integration support activities for people with international protection. Assistance was provided to 744 individuals in the Temporary Transit Centres (TTC) of Vinojug and Tabanovce, and 2,299 people were assisted through the HSP in Lojane. In addition, 35 host families received cash assistance, and 104 displaced people from Ukraine were supported with cash cards, enabling them to meet their immediate needs with dignity.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided technical guidance and coordination support to the National Society to align humanitarian interventions with international standards and ensure effective service delivery. The IFRC also facilitated experience sharing and best practices on migration programming and protection, helping the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia enhance operational capacity and resource mobilization for critical activities such as mobile team deployment, HSP management and integration support initiatives.

The ICRC supported the National Society with the RFL programme.



Values, power and inclusion

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2024, the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia advanced values, power and inclusion through an extensive range of social services and community programmes. A key achievement was the implementation of caregiver training programmes, through which 154 long-term unemployed individuals (146 women and 8 men) received nationally and internationally recognized certificates. Complementing this, a survey involving 15 local branches and 179 respondents provided valuable insights into the needs of informal caregivers, revealing that nearly 70 per cent expressed interest in structured training for basic caregiving skills.

Significant efforts were directed toward expanding services for older people and people with disabilities. Two additional branches were licensed to provide services for older people, resulting in the engagement of 375 caregivers who supported 1,057 older people. Social services were delivered monthly to 558 older people and 317 individuals with disabilities. The personal assistance training programme was also strengthened, with the number of assistants increasing by 16 per cent and beneficiaries by 14 per cent. By the end of 2024, 359 personal assistants provided support to 495 people with disabilities. Social and medical services were extended to 836 older people through a partnership between the City Red Cross of Skopje and the Albiz Foundation, while six daily centres for healthy ageing reached 365 older people with educational and health-oriented activities.

Innovative services such as patient transport and the 24/7 Emergency Button gained traction, benefiting 1,664 users for transport and 102 for emergency response. These services handled 896 alarms, with 32 requiring urgent field interventions. Two holiday programmes for 250 children at risk were organized during winter and summer, encouraging inclusion and well-being. Eight daily centres for people with disabilities supported by Commercial Bank provided socialization opportunities to over 340 children and youth. The National Society also operated a shelter centre that served 170 homeless individuals with meals, medical care and counselling.

In its commitment to social solidarity, the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia assisted approximately 2,000 people at social risk with food, clothing and hygiene supplies during the Week of Solidarity. The social enterprise "Kopche" continued to promote responsible consumption while supporting vulnerable groups. In 2024, it attracted 8,997 visitors, received donations from 1,943 contributors and collected 195 tons of clothing. A total of 38,150 clothing items were donated to institutions, while 3,630 pieces were distributed to 254 people from 94 families. Excess textiles were repurposed into alternative fuel, reinforcing environmental sustainability.

Awareness and prevention programmes were also prioritized. In combating human trafficking, 57 workshops reached 1,697 youth, while 22 additional sessions during the European Day of Combating Trafficking engaged 1,043 young participants and volunteers. Campaigns promoting inclusion featured a VR caravan against xenophobia, engaging 150 students and training 18 youth in cultural mediation to assist migrants. These efforts collectively strengthened social cohesion and inclusion across communities.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided technical guidance and resources to support the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia in integrating humanitarian values of humanity, impartiality, neutrality and protection, gender and inclusion (PGI) into its initiatives. This assistance ensured these principles are embedded throughout the National Society's programmes and operations.

Through collaboration and knowledge sharing, the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia will learn from the experiences of other National Societies, promoting innovative approaches to community engagement and accountability (CEA). This exchange of expertise strengthens the National Society's ability to make a lasting impact.

The **Austrian Red Cross** supported the National Society in patient transport and the 24/7 Emergency Button.

In March 2024, a five-member delegation from the **Turkish Red Crescent** visited the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia to provide bilateral support, delivering 1,000 family packages to socially vulnerable families in the country's southeastern region.

ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS



Strategic and operational coordination

Progress by the National Society against objectives

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 **Austrian Red Cross** provides support to the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia through bilateral and regional EU projects, focusing on capacity development, healthy ageing, social services, certified caregiver training, disaster preparedness, MHPSS crisis response. Key achievements include home care services for older people, the establishment of the Regional Training Centre in Strumica, caregiver training for the unemployed and innovative services such as the "Emergency Button" in Skopje to assist older adults and those with disabilities.

The **Italian Red Cross** supports the National Society's capacity-building initiatives, focusing on vulnerable groups, migrant assistance and volunteer training for crisis response. Promotes decentralized cooperation, including a twinning program between the Italian Red Cross Branch of Brescia and City Red Cross of Skopje, enhancing local-level volunteer engagement and branch development.

The **Swiss Red Cross** offers bilateral support to the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia for capacity building, healthy and active ageing programmes, social services and caregiver training for older adults and people with disabilities. Key initiatives include humanitarian aid and MHPSS for displaced Ukrainians, referral services, CVA, child-friendly spaces and support for the Emergency Button service and homeless assistance.

Movement coordination

The Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia 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** provides support in the realization of training for general as well as IHL disseminations, activities for restoring family links and workshops with media representatives. The activities are aimed at spreading the idea, vision and mission of the Red Cross Movement. The ICRC also supports the National Society with essential supplies, medical assistance, capacity building and facilitating access to medical services for affected populations.

External coordination

The Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia collaborates with authorities, participates in coordination mechanisms and diverse partnerships illustrate its auxiliary role in supporting disaster response, long-term initiatives and humanitarian coordination at both national and international levels.

The Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia actively participates in the National Emergency Management Authority, that coordinates disaster management efforts nationwide. The Ministry of Interior usually leads this mechanism. The National Society also engages with the Ministry of Health for health-related emergencies and the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy for social support initiatives. The Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia participates in rapid assessments to evaluate the needs of affected communities and plays a significant role in providing immediate assistance, including shelter, food and essential supplies.

The National Society engages in longer-term work through collaborations with the Ministry of Education and Science on educational initiatives, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Water Economy on rural development programmes and the Ministry of Social Affairs on social inclusion projects.

The Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia actively participates in inter-agency coordination mechanisms and working groups to ensure a coordinated humanitarian response. This includes collaborations with national and local actors such as UN agencies, NGOs, the private sector and academic institutions to facilitate joint initiatives, knowledge exchange and resource mobilization for community development and resilience-building efforts.

During the reporting period, the National Society actively contributed to shaping national integration policies, participating in the development of the Integration Strategy 2025–2030 and the accompanying Action Plan for 2025–2027.

Additionally, the National Workshop on Migration Challenges brought together 18 representatives from eight organizations to address critical issues such as financial constraints, sustainability and the need for improved coordination in integration efforts. The recommendations from this workshop, held in Sarajevo, will guide advocacy initiatives in 2025.



National Society development

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2024, the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia strengthened its organizational capacity and governance structures. The Branch Organizational Capacity Assessment (BOCA) process was a major focus, starting with a two-day working meeting to adapt the BOCA toolkit and develop a six-month implementation plan. Facilitators met bi-monthly to share experiences and improve the process, ensuring strong monitoring and branch-level support. By the end of the year, the BOCA process had been completed in 24 local branches, bringing the total to 30. A roadmap for 2025 was developed to monitor the implementation of development plans, revise the assessment matrix, expand the facilitator team and strengthen coordination, monitoring and visual promotion of the BOCA programme. Results were regularly communicated through electronic channels, social media and meetings with branch leadership and the Governing Board.

In addition to governance measures, the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia focused on improving its logistical agility through the reconstruction of the warehouse of the Red Cross of the City of Skopje. This project included structural upgrades such as roof repairs and insulation and the installation of new shelving systems to improve storage for both food and essential household items. Two hand-operated forklifts were also procured to enhance efficiency in handling relief supplies.

Volunteer safety and well-being remained a top priority in 2024. The ‘Standards to Facilitate the Safety, Security and Well-Being of Volunteers - Implementation Guide’ was translated into the local language, and a national workshop was organized to identify gaps in volunteer management. A dedicated working group revised volunteer policies, codes of conduct and security protocols, introducing mechanisms for incident reporting and response. Each branch appointed and trained a focal person responsible for addressing volunteer safety concerns at the local level.

Membership development was also a key area of focus. A specialized workshop assessed member motivation, engagement levels and communication flow. The insights gathered laid the groundwork for introducing a new membership management concept under the ‘Transformation 28’ development framework to build stronger participation and satisfaction.

Strengthening the auxiliary role of the National Society was another significant achievement. Drawing lessons from emergency operations, including the COVID-19 response and migration crises, as well as from the ‘Humanitarian Response 2023’ simulation exercise, a specialized Governing Board workshop was held in Struga from 13–15 September 2024. This effort was complemented by translating and disseminating the IFRC’s ‘Guide to Strengthening the Auxiliary Role through Law and Policy.’ A working group was subsequently established, and a comprehensive publication titled ‘Red Cross Platform for Cooperation with Authorities’ was launched at a national conference on 6 November 2024 in Skopje, attended by 60 participants, including 10 members of parliament and senior government representatives.

The National Society also launched a statutory revision process in 2024, ensuring an inclusive and consultative approach, with completion expected in 2025. The Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia hosted a National Society development webinar in November 2024, sharing its experience with Organizational Capacity Assessment and Certification (OCAC) and presenting the new OCA methodology, reaffirming its leadership role as a member of the global IFRC OCA+C working group.

Financial sustainability was prioritized through a new Capacity Building Fund (CBF) initiative aimed at unifying accounting systems across all branches. The initiative introduced standardized financial tools, strengthened branch-level financial management and established a centralized support system through a newly created headquarters position.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC contributed technical expertise for volunteer safety policies, facilitated the national workshop on volunteer management and supported translation and dissemination of global guidance materials. The IFRC also partnered with the National Society on the National Society development webinar, promoting best practices in organizational assessments and capacity-building frameworks.

Additionally, the IFRC provided financial assistance to the National Society through the CBF.

The IFRC also supported the National Society in improving its logistics and infrastructure by providing technical review and approval, strengthening the National Society's response capacity for future emergencies.



Humanitarian diplomacy

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2024, the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia significantly advanced its humanitarian diplomacy efforts in alignment with its strategic objectives. A major milestone was the active participation in the IFRC Country Cluster Delegation to Central and South-Eastern Europe (CCD CSEE) first in-person Humanitarian Diplomacy Extended Network Meeting, held in February in Sutomore, Montenegro. During this event, the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia humanitarian diplomacy focal points contributed to discussions on strengthening advocacy and policy influence within the region. Throughout the year, the focal points were consistently engaged in monthly online meetings organized by the cluster, facilitating the exchange of information, best practices and lessons learned with other National Societies.

The Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia's leadership in advocacy and diplomacy was highlighted through the presentation of its successful humanitarian diplomacy initiatives during these exchanges. This recognition contributed to a landmark achievement: the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with the national government, officially designating the National Society as a full social service provider. This formalized cooperation marks a significant step in strengthening the auxiliary role of the National Society and its positioning as a trusted partner to authorities.

Further consolidating its role as a regional leader in humanitarian diplomacy, the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia co-hosted the second Humanitarian Diplomacy meeting organized by the IFRC. The event took place from 26 to 27 November 2024 at the 'Solferino' training centre in Struga, North Macedonia. The meeting brought together humanitarian diplomacy focal points from across the cluster with the objective of enhancing advocacy capacities and advancing humanitarian diplomacy priorities. Discussions focused on three main goals: influencing policy and practice change at governmental and institutional levels; strengthening the profile and positioning of National Societies and the IFRC network; and promoting public engagement and behaviour change to support safety, inclusion and resilience within communities.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC organized and facilitated the regional network meetings, both in-person and online, which served as key platforms for peer learning and capacity building. The IFRC also provided technical guidance to the National Society on advocacy strategies and policy influence, enabling it to effectively engage national authorities and secure the Memorandum of Understanding as a social service provider. Additionally, the IFRC's coordination ensured that the

second Humanitarian Diplomacy meeting in Struga was successfully implemented, reinforcing the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia's leadership role within the regional network.



Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2024, the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia adopted the integrity protection policies designed to ensure a zero-tolerance approach toward issues such as sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment, as well as to promote child protection and safeguard whistleblowers. These policies clearly outline roles, responsibilities and procedures for addressing violations, reinforcing a culture of integrity within the National Society.

To operationalize these commitments, the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia organized workshops with branch presidents, secretaries and headquarters staff, raising awareness and building capacity for policy implementation. An online reporting platform is currently being developed to align with the IFRC system and adapted for the Macedonian context. This platform will enable safe and confidential reporting of breaches and is expected to become operational soon. Complementing this, an official email address (integritet@redcross.org.mk) has been introduced for reporting integrity-related issues, managed by a designated headquarters focal point who will coordinate responses with trained staff. Furthermore, three National Society headquarters staff participated in IFRC training on handling integrity breach reports using the Movement's standardized methodology, ensuring compliance with global standards.

The National Society also prioritized digital transformation and utilized the Capacity Building Fund (CBF) to unify accounting systems across all branches to strengthen internal controls, transparency and accountability, while enabling timely financial reporting and improved decision-making by governing boards.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided critical technical guidance to the National Society in the development and update of human resource policies to align with best practices, facilitated specialized training on integrity breach handling for the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia staff and provided oversight during the warehouse reconstruction process to ensure compliance with standards.

The IFRC also provided the National Society financial assistance through the IFRC Capacity Building Fund (CBF) to ensure that the Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia's accountability and agility measures were implemented effectively, positioning the National Society to deliver timely and transparent humanitarian assistance while maintaining trust and integrity across all operations.

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

Q8. LESSONS LEARNED

Nothing to report

SUCCESS STORIES



1

From Displacement to Empowerment: A Journey of Resilience and Renewal

Arriving in North Macedonia in 2022 with her young son after fleeing the armed conflict in Ukraine, one courageous woman turned a story of displacement into one of hope and achievement. Her first step was registering at the Red Cross of the City of Skopje's Humanitarian Service Point, where she received immediate support. Determined to adapt, she quickly learned the Macedonian language, enabling her to integrate more easily into her new community.

Her commitment soon extended to giving back. She began volunteering at the Red Cross Child-Friendly Space, where she engaged children from Ukraine in creative, social and educational activities. Drawing on her background as a trained nurse with years of experience in ophthalmology and surgery, she dreamed of returning to her profession. However, the absence of translated and validated credentials stood in her way.

In 2024, the Red Cross team assisted her in translating and validating her diplomas, removing the final barrier to employment. With further support from a National Society volunteer, she successfully secured a position at a private ophthalmology clinic in Skopje. Today, she is not only rebuilding her life but also contributing her skills to the healthcare sector, ensuring a stable livelihood and a renewed sense of purpose for herself and her son.

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

- [MK_North Macedonia AR Financials.pdf](#)
- [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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