



MALI

2025-2026 IFRC network country plan



Multi-Year Funding Requirement **CHF 31M**

27 August 2025

In support of the Mali Red Cross



11

National Society
branches



358

National Society
local units



321

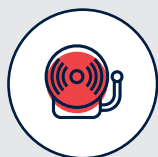
National Society
staff



9,276

National Society
volunteers

People to be reached



200,000

Ongoing
emergency
operations



191,000

Climate and
environment



78,000

Disasters
and crises



2.4M

Health and
wellbeing



159,000

Migration and
displacement



22,000

Values, power
and inclusion

IFRC network multi-year focus

Emergency response

Complex emergency

- Floods
- Displacement
- Food insecurity

Longer term needs

• Protracted displacement • Disaster risk management • Livelihoods • Health • Water, sanitation and hygiene • Climate change adaptation

Capacity development

- Internal systems strengthening
 - Digital transformation
 - Resource mobilization

Key country data links

INFORM Severity rating

Very high

INFORM Climate Change Risk Index

Very high

Human Development Index rank

188

World Bank Population figure

23.8M

World Bank Population below poverty line

44.6%

IFRC Country Cluster Delegation for Burkina Faso,
Cote d'Ivoire, Mali & Niger, Niamey

Funding requirements

2025

2026**

Total 29.1M CHF

Total 1.9 CHF

Through the Host National Society

18.4M CHF

Through Participating National Societies

6.8M CHF

Through the IFRC

3.9M CHF

Through Participating National Societies

1.9M CHF

HNS Breakdown

Ongoing emergency operations

4M CHF

Longer term needs

1.9M CHF

Climate & environment

3.1M CHF

Disasters & crises

5.4M CHF

Health & wellbeing

2.3M CHF

Migration & displacement

226,000 CHF

Values, power & inclusion

1.3M CHF

Enabling local actors

IFRC Breakdown

Ongoing emergency operations

3.9M CHF

Participating National Societies

Belgian Red Cross

Danish Red Cross

The Netherlands Red Cross

Saudi Red Crescent Authority*

Spanish Red Cross

*National Societies which have contributed only multilaterally through the IFRC in the first half of 2024.

IFRC Appeal codes

Emergency Appeal:

MDRML019 Mali Complex Emergency

Long-term needs:

MAAML002

See back page for explanatory note on funding requirements

Participating National Societies bilateral support for 2025

National Society name	Funding Requirement	Climate	Disasters and crises	Health and wellbeing	Migration	Values, power and inclusion	Enabling local actors
Belgian Red Cross	794,000						
Danish Red Cross	3M						
Netherlands Red Cross	1.3M						
Spanish Red Cross	1.8M						

Total Funding requirement **CHF 6.8M**

Hazards



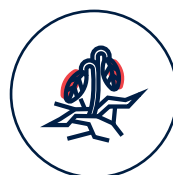
Floods



Displacement



Food insecurity



Drought



Conflict

NATIONAL SOCIETY PROFILE

The **Mali Red Cross** is a non-profit humanitarian organization, established in 1965 and recognized as a public utility by the Government of the Republic of Mali in the same year. It was admitted to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in 1969. The National Society works under the direction of the Ministry of Public Health and is recognized as the only national auxiliary to the public authorities.

The Mali Red Cross implements humanitarian and development actions throughout the country, carried out in accordance with the seven Fundamental Principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

The Mali Red Cross strives to focus on people most in need, which includes vulnerable households, people affected by disasters and emergencies and internally displaced people, migrants and refugees. It gives a particular focus to people with specific vulnerabilities, such as children and young people who are vulnerable or at risk, women and women's groups and people with disabilities.

The Mali Red Cross Strategic Plan 2021-2025 identifies six priority axes:

- Contribute to the improvement of the health and nutritional status of communities

- Accompany and support communities in all phases of disasters, from preparedness to recovery and ensure communities are actors of their own resilience and actively participate in humanitarian actions.
- Ensure sustainable management of natural resources, the protection of the environment and fight against the adverse effects of climate change on people
- Strengthen the protection of vulnerable people and promote better social cohesion
- Improve food security and nutritional status
- Strengthen the institutional and organizational capacities the National Society, including volunteerism, with a view to achieving its vision and meeting new challenges

The Mali Red Cross relies on its decentralized structure with operational regional committees and a network of qualified volunteers to assist communities, including those in difficult to access areas due to the conflict in Mali and logistical constraints. The Mali Red Cross also places great emphasis on reinforcing the security and safety of its staff and volunteers for safe humanitarian access and safe interventions for the most vulnerable populations.

In 2023, the Mali Red Cross reached about 4,527 people with its disaster response and early recovery programmes.



Volunteers of the Mali Red Cross conducting a first aid training, in January 2024 (Photo: Mali Red Cross)

JOINT SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

Mali, a vast Sahelian country, spans 1,240,192 square kilometres, with over half being desert or semi-desert. It shares borders with Algeria, Niger, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Mauritania and Senegal. The population is predominantly rural (84 per cent) and is characterized by a young population (48 per cent under 15). The country's high fertility rate (5.5) ranks it second globally, contributing to a 3.36 per cent population growth. Administratively, Mali comprises 11 regions, 19 urban communes and 684 rural communes. With local autonomy, these entities have elected bodies.

Economically, Mali has a low-income, agriculture-dependent economy (60 per cent of the workforce), susceptible to raw material fluctuations. GDP is dominated by agriculture (30 per cent) and the informal sector. Climate change poses volatility to the agricultural sector, which utilizes only 4 per cent of the land. Droughts, desertification and overexploitation of resources contribute to poverty and food insecurity. Floods and droughts are recurrent, causing loss of life and property. Extreme weather events intensify, affecting river levels, disease vectors, including malaria and displacing populations.

The economic and social situation in Mali in 2024 remains complex and characterized by several major challenges. The country has shown signs of resilience despite economic sanctions imposed by ECOWAS and climatic shocks. In 2022, the real GDP recorded a growth of 3.7 per cent, supported by an increase in cereal production and the resilience of the mining sector. However, in 2023, inflation soared to 9.7 per cent, worsening the living conditions of the most vulnerable. Political tensions and ongoing armed conflict since the coup

d'état in 2012 have also contributed to social and economic instability. Recent attempts at political stabilization, such as the creation of an inter-Malian dialogue body by the transitional president, aim to establish lasting peace, although presidential elections have been postponed for technical reasons. Despite these challenges, initiatives are underway to strengthen the country's economic resilience, notably through support from the World Bank in the sectors of education, health, agriculture and energy. Efforts to diversify the economy and improve governance are essential for creating a stable and prosperous environment for Malians.

Recent years have been marked by an exacerbation of violence in the north and intercommunal conflicts in the centre (in Segou and Mopti regions). This has led to a significant deterioration in the security and humanitarian context. The persistence of insecurity in these areas has led to population displacement and increased humanitarian access constraints, in a complex emergency environment characterized by an insufficient and sometimes total lack of infrastructure and basic social services. Conflicts between the Malian Armed Forces (FAMA) and armed groups have led to a significant deterioration in the security and humanitarian context. According to the DTM Mali report of May 2024, during the first five months of 2024, significant population movements continued to be observed in localities in northern and central Mali. In addition to internal movements, the violent nature of the conflicts has caused significant population displacement in the border communities between Burkina Faso and Niger.

In the coming decades, the expected increase in the number of extreme weather events, as well as the high rate of growth of the Malian population, is likely to contribute to an increase in the number of people leaving rural areas to more than 130,000 per year by 2040, 10 times more than during the 2000s (Dimitri Defrance, Esther Delesalle and Flore Gubert, 2020).

ONGOING EMERGENCY RESPONSE

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

Emergency Operation	Mali Complex Emergency
Appeal number	MDRML019
Duration	12 months (01 November 2024 to 30 November 2025)
People affected	2,002,191 people
People to be assisted	200,000 people
Funding requirement	Total funding requirements: • Through the IFRC Appeal: CHF 4 million • Federation-wide: CHF 8 million
Link to Emergency Appeal	Mali Complex Emergency
Link to Operational Strategy for Mali	Operational Strategy

Mali, with a population of over 22 million, is facing overlapping crises driven by mass displacement, armed conflict and its worst flooding in decades. As of May 2024, more than 330,000 people were internally displaced, while escalating violence has sharply increased security incidents. The floods have affected nearly 70,000 households, collapsed over 40,000 homes and severely damaged infrastructure related to water, sanitation, agriculture and education. Food insecurity now affects over 1.3 million people, particularly in conflict-affected areas, with losses of farmland and soaring prices worsening conditions. Migrants, internally displaced persons and returnees remain especially vulnerable, many living in overcrowded, underserved settings. The crisis is further compounded by underfunded humanitarian responses. In this context, the Emergency Appeal seeks CHF 8 million to support 200,000 people across Bamako, Kayes, Koulikoro, Sikasso, Gao, Ségou, Mopti and Timbuktu. Phase 1 (October to December 2024) will deliver immediate relief in shelter, health, nutrition, water, sanitation and hygiene and food security, while Phase 2 (January to October 2025) will support recovery through cash assistance, epidemic preparedness, climate adaptation and enhanced disaster response.

Short description of the emergency operational strategy

This operational strategy aims to support 200,000 vulnerable people across eight regions in Mali affected by floods, displacement and food insecurity. The Mali Red Cross will deliver an integrated response covering shelter, health, nutrition, water, sanitation and hygiene, education, migration, mental health and disaster risk reduction. Priority will be given to internally displaced persons, migrants and highly vulnerable households including women, children, persons with disabilities and those living in high-risk areas. The operational strategy

combines emergency relief and long-term recovery, with strong focus on climate resilience, community engagement and accountability and protection, gender and inclusion. The highlights of the assistance are as follows:

Shelter

Affected households are provided with temporary shelters, essential household items and training to enhance their capacity to cope with future floods and improve their resilience.

Livelihoods

Irrigated vegetable gardening areas and local management committees are established. Improved seeds, compost pits and drip irrigation kits are distributed among affected communities. Awareness campaigns on climate-smart agriculture are conducted to help communities adapt to environmental changes and improve food security through sustainable farming practices.

Multi-purpose cash

Secure and efficient cash distributions in coordination with local financial service providers are established.

Health and care, including water, sanitation and hygiene

Health initiatives are established; visual communication toolkit is distributed and integrated public health awareness campaigns on hygiene and nutrition are conducted. Children and pregnant or breastfeeding women are screened for malnutrition and severe cases are referred. Culinary demonstrations are organized to promote dietary diversity. Vaccination campaigns are conducted and insecticide-treated nets, first aid kits, fortified flour are distributed along with the provision of emergency medical care. Drinking water, along

with containers is distributed and water supply systems are rehabilitated

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 include the provision of dignity kits and establishment of two-way feedback mechanisms.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Climate and environment

Mali's diverse and varied geography means that it is exposed to a wide range of environmental risks (hydrometeorological and geophysical) that are directly impacted and exacerbated by climate change and in all regions of the country. Indeed, every year, Mali faces challenges related to climate and environmental crises, such as droughts, floods and high winds, leading to food insecurity, malnutrition, displacement and epidemics. Poor economic development, insufficient arable land and poverty make Mali particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.

Climatic hazards, particularly droughts, are one of the main factors in the food and nutrition crisis in Mali. The impact of climate change on water supply and agriculture is expected to increase the risk of malnutrition and hunger in Mali. Declining agricultural production, especially during droughts, will exacerbate food insecurity and malnutrition, especially for children below five years of age. The regions affected by droughts are mainly Kayes, Koulikoro, Mopti, Ségou, Timbuktu, Gao and Kidal and can affect about two million people, although this number can be considerably higher during years of severe drought.

The biggest floods usually occur due to intense rains from July to October. According to some analyses, floods are among the most frequent natural disasters in Mali and the resulting population displacement is one of the most visible examples of displacement linked to natural hazards. Every year, around 75,000 people are affected by floods, but data and profiling of people affected by natural hazard displacement are not systematically collected.

Recurrent flooding increases the risk of waterborne diseases due to increased water stagnation, water contamination and damage to hygiene and sanitation infrastructure in the country. Flooding also exacerbates widespread pathogens and pathogenic contamination of shallow aquifers (due to inadequate sanitation systems), which are the main source of

drinking water in Mali. In addition, droughts reduce the amount of water available for hygiene and sanitation, increasing the risk of disease transmission. The challenge of low coverage of drinking water and sanitation services in the country (with additional risks of contamination due to flooding and water shortages during dry seasons) is likely to increase the risk of diarrhoeal diseases (Nagarajan, 2020; USAID, 2018).

Heat-related mortality is expected to increase as temperatures rise. Higher temperatures are expected to lengthen the transmission season and increase the geographic reach of diseases such as meningitis and malaria. Meningitis is particularly a problem in southern Mali, mainly in the dry season. Meningitis is expected to increase as the warmer, drier climate increases dust and moisture. In contrast, malaria infections are expected to decrease as temperatures exceed the thermal threshold of Anopheles mosquitoes. However, in southern Mali, the risk of malaria will increase due to the high frequency of flooding.

Climate impacts can also affect mental health, especially when it comes to the trauma associated with the loss of crops and other climate-sensitive sources of income and livelihoods. Two-thirds of Mali's territory is desert and the desert is advancing about 7 kilometres per year, according to estimates, causing the reduction of vegetation cover, the decline in soil productivity, the silting up of rivers, environmental migrations and conflicts over natural resources. Fighting desertification in the Sahel and in Mali in particular, has become a major challenge to secure people's habitats and protect biodiversity.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Mali Red Cross is part of the IFRC Global Climate Resilience Programme, which aims to foster an unprecedented scale-up in locally-led climate-smart disaster risk reduction and adaptation efforts to prevent and reduce climate-related disaster impacts and build community-level climate resilience. The programme aims to support 500 million people in 100 of the most climate vulnerable countries, focusing on the least supported and marginalized communities. This holistic, multi-year programmatic

approach consists of four operational pillars: (1) scaling up climate-smart disaster risk reduction, anticipatory action and preparedness; (2) reducing the public health impacts of climate change; (3) addressing climate displacement; and (4) enabling climate-resilient livelihoods and ecosystem services.

The Mali Red Cross seeks to work at four levels to achieve complementary sustainable impacts and reverse the current trends in terms of environmental degradation and the negative impacts of climate change on people and their livelihoods. These are:

- Linking climate risks with peace and security
- Climate-sensitive social stabilization
- Controlling production factors, including water, farmland, livestock and environmental regeneration by promoting woody plant and wildlife resources in order to strengthen biodiversity and wetlands
- Combating social and economic inequalities, as a guarantee of irreversible social cohesion that contributes to community resilience and which takes into account the sources of subsistence of each and every one of us (particularly the most vulnerable)

The Mali Red Cross aims to take an active and contributory part of national processes, such as frameworks for consultation and reflection. Much depends on the government defining the priorities of the macro-economic framework of the impact of climate change on people, social cohesion and the protection of the means of production in their great agricultural diversity, taking into account positive cultural realities while maintaining its sovereign role of control.

The Mali Red Cross is also actively engaged in the [IFCR Pan-African Initiative on Tree Planting and Care](#). It will contribute to climate adaptation and mitigation through planting and caring for multipurpose trees, tree planting and care awareness creation using school environmental clubs, promotion of energy saving solutions and using its branches as centres of resilience spearheading seedling production, community engagement on protecting and restoring natural resources and strengthening community ownership of tree planting and care initiative. It will use [nature-based solutions](#) for [disaster risk reduction](#) and increased food security. Through its participation in the tree planting and care initiative, the Mali Red Cross seeks to gain increased knowledge, capacities and engagement in improved environmental practices and nature-based solutions in its operation.

Planned activities in 2025

- Contribute to strengthening the [resilience](#) capacities of at least 1,200,000 most vulnerable people who are food insecure and exposed to the effects of climate change and environmental degradation by end 2025

- Strengthen the response and recovery capacities of at least 30 per cent of the most vulnerable people in terms of food insecurity and exposure to the effects of climate change through coordinated actions by all actors
- Strengthen its position as a key actor in climate change and environmental protection with public authorities and communities, including the implementation of the National Society climate impact assessment and [green response](#) approach
- Focus on valuing smart practices and promoting techniques and technologies adapted to environmental challenges, whether traditional or innovative
- Establish climate watch and environmental monitoring committees
- Strengthen, rehabilitate and diversify the adapted and sustainable livelihoods of the most vulnerable communities through emergency and recovery assistance
- Participate in all coordination mechanisms and frameworks at the national and local levels
- Intensify communication, advocacy and humanitarian diplomacy with a view to increasing the visibility and legibility of its actions

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the Mali Red Cross by identifying and mobilizing secure and sustainable donors to support it. It will also advocate at the international level for climate change adaptation and mitigation. To achieve the goal of tree planting and care initiative, the IFRC will support the National Society in technical expertise, proposal development, establishing partnership at local and regional levels and linking tree planting and care with other [IFRC Pan-African initiatives](#).

Under the global [Pilot Programmatic Partnership](#) between the IFRC and the Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO) and with implementing support from the **Danish Red Cross** (as lead EU National Society), the **Luxembourg Red Cross** and the **Spanish Red Cross**, the Mali Red Cross will be supported in the continuation of its reforestation campaign. The reforestation aims to protect livelihoods against silting and improve the ecosystem. The National Society will receive support for raising awareness of the double effect of conflict and climate change on food insecurity. Additionally, the Mali Red Cross will also receive support for hydro-agricultural and pastoral development, ecosystem protection and rehabilitation as well as the promotion of economic sectors and livelihood protection and restoration. Support will include the use of cash and voucher assistance (CVA) to assist the National Society in the empowerment of recipients. The **Danish Red Cross** will provide expertise in forecast-based action. The **Spanish Red Cross** will provide technical expertise in livelihoods through the IFRC [Livelihoods Resource Centre](#) that it hosts.



Disasters and crises

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

Mali is classified as very high by the [INFORM Risk Index](#), and ranks 15th in the world. Over the years, Mali has experienced a history of repeated disasters, often causing deaths and population movements within and outside the country. The main hazards leading to disasters include droughts, floods, epidemics and locust invasions. According to the National Disaster Preparedness and Management Plan, 80 circles, 278 communes and 930 villages were considered localities at risk of flooding in 2023 throughout the country. This analysis determined an approximate at-risk population of 1.5 million people.

Disasters have a negative impact on the economy and have created tensions between the local population and the various waves of displaced persons and refugees. Private sector investment and service delivery by a weak public sector, as well as the lack of resources to meet growing needs in health, water, sanitation, education, food security, livelihoods, shelter and protection sectors, have continued to affect the needs of vulnerable people.

As communities are not fully aware of the multi-hazards and other climate-related risks and which are different from one region to another, they are not able to adopt coping mechanisms and other adequate techniques to protect themselves and enhance their resilience. The humanitarian needs in Mali are not only due to specific shocks or events but also stem to a large extent from the conditions of underdevelopment in the country, so that in many cases they are independent of the occurrence of a shock.

Of Mali's 6.4 million people in need, more than [1.2 million face critical circumstances](#), including over 378,000 who are internally displaced. Multiple displacements to urban centres contribute to a protracted displacement situation. Other displacement dynamics affect Mali, with over [93,000 Burkinabe refugees](#) also taking shelter there. In 2025, it is estimated that almost [1.51 million people](#) will be in a situation of acute food insecurity and [2.8 million people will need emergency nutritional assistance](#) to ensure their survival. Pockets of famine and high levels of acute malnutrition have been reported, especially among displaced people in northern and central Mali and those cut off from aid in areas under blockade.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Mali Red Cross, in line with its role as an auxiliary to the public authorities in the humanitarian field, seeks to strengthen its preparedness and response capacities through a multi-risk contingency plan. This plan, aligned with the disaster management guidelines of the Government of Mali and the IFRC,

serves as a foundational reference for the National Society's disaster preparedness and response interventions.

The Mali Red Cross aims to mitigate the suffering of communities before, during and after disasters by focusing on preparedness activities, timely and appropriate emergency response and recovery efforts carried out in a safe and secure environment.

The National Society will focus on strengthening its own capacities, along with those of communities and other relevant stakeholders, by conducting risk assessments and mapping, establishing [early warning systems](#) and promoting anticipatory action and disaster risk reduction as core preparedness strategies.

The Mali Red Cross also seeks to enhance the resilience of vulnerable communities by supporting them to better withstand and recover from crisis and disaster risks, ensuring a more sustainable and community-driven approach to disaster risk management.

Planned activities in 2025

- Monitor and analyze [risks, vulnerability and capacities of communities](#), build scenarios and undertake early actions
- Strengthen its auxiliary role and coordination to create a conducive operating environment
- Develop its contingency plan in accordance with the field of disaster management.

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC supports the National Society in strengthening community resilience capacities. These long-term initiatives focus on disaster management based on the National Society's multi-hazard contingency plan, which is regularly updated at all levels. In addition, they incorporate the Mali Red Cross emergency response assistance plan.

IFRC mechanisms such as the Disaster Response Emergency Fund ([IFRC-DREF](#)) and Emergency Appeals will be drawn on as needed for the National Society to respond to disasters and crises.

Under the global [Pilot Programmatic Partnership](#) between the IFRC and the Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO) and with implementing support from EU National Societies, the National Society will continue to enhance disaster risk management in accordance with the regional multi-hazard contingency plans that were developed. Community Early Warning and

Emergency Response Systems will be set up or revitalized based on the mapping of systems and assets that was carried out. The National Society will continue to increase its capacity for safe shelter provision with training for staff and volunteers and the pre-positioning of shelter kits. The National Society will continue to improve its abilities to provide multi-purpose

cash assistance, including the registration of beneficiary data. The **Danish Red Cross** will provide expertise in cash transfer and disaster risk reduction. The **Spanish Red Cross** will provide technical expertise in cash and the **Luxembourg Red Cross** in the areas of shelter and risk reduction.



Health and wellbeing

The health and wellbeing situation in Mali is marked by widespread insecurity, population displacement and fragmentation of families and communities, resulting in significant loss of property and livelihoods and both physical and psychological trauma. The health status of the population continues to deteriorate, further strained by emerging threats such as dengue. Despite these challenges, the fully vaccinated child rate rose from 45 per cent to 53 per cent between the sixth and seventh Demographic and Health Surveys, with a national catch-up campaign planned in 2025 across 44 health districts.

Access to healthcare remains limited, particularly in conflict-affected or remote areas, where distance, cost and cultural factors hinder the population's ability to seek medical care. Many health facilities, especially in regions such as Ménaka, are non-functional due to security conditions and partner presence in primary healthcare management is limited. Although some progress has been made, measles outbreaks continue to affect nearly one-third of health districts, while confirmed cases of meningitis and a growing dengue outbreak—recorded in Mopti, Koulikoro and Bamako—have underscored the urgent need for stronger epidemic prevention, surveillance and response capacities.

Maternal and child health indicators remain poor due to weak access to reproductive and adolescent health services and complications from malnutrition and childbirth. Malnutrition rates are persistently high, particularly in the Ménaka, Gao, Tombouctou, Kidal and Kayes regions.

Mental health and psychosocial wellbeing remain largely unaddressed in Mali, despite evident distress caused by overlapping shocks and crisis conditions. A dedicated mental health and psychosocial support service has been operational since 2023. The scale of needs has continued to grow, placing increasing demands on available resources, personnel and regional outreach capacity.

Approximately 3.2 million people, nearly 17 per cent of the population, lack access to clean water in Mali. In May 2024, 11.2 million people, nearly 59 per cent of the population, did not have access to proper toilet facilities — i.e. those enabling the sanitary disposal of bodily waste. These health challenges are compounded by structural gaps in Mali's health system,

including low numbers of qualified personnel, under-equipped facilities and weak infrastructure.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

In responding to health needs, the Mali Red Cross plays a vital role in emergency medical services, epidemic prevention, health system strengthening and community health promotion. Community Engagement and Accountability remains a key strategy to provide health information for communicable disease prevention among targeted communities.

The Mali Red Cross seeks to further develop its network of branches and volunteers to support the authorities in early detection, contact tracing, social mobilization and community engagement to control infections. The Mali Red Cross will also continue its activities in the field of water, sanitation and hygiene and nutrition, including income-generating activities for communities, basic community health, sexual and reproductive health as well as in the prevention of respiratory diseases, epidemic preparedness and prevention of genital mutilation. Its multi-year objectives of the Mali Red Cross include to:

- Improve the health and dignity of communities in emergencies and epidemics and pandemics
- Provide access to sustainable, affordable, appropriate and quality health services for all ages
- Improve its institutional and operational capacities in mental health and psychosocial support
- Improve access to safe drinking water and a healthy living environment for communities and health centres

Planned activities in 2025

- Carry out community-based surveillance and referral of pregnant women, newborns and children to reduce illness and death
- Encourage support for national vaccination goals and ensure fair access to new vaccines
- Raise awareness about preventing and fighting malaria

- Conduct nutrition education sessions and screen children for malnutrition, referring identified cases to health centres
- Organize first aid training sessions for community members
- Develop a strategic plan for mental health and psychosocial support
- Build and maintain water points for communities and health centres
- Set up local committees to manage water and hygiene facilities
- Organize hygiene promotion sessions to improve daily practices in communities

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will align support to the priorities set by the National Society in the fields of health, nutrition and water, hygiene and sanitation.

Under the global [Pilot Programmatic Partnership](#) (PPP) between the IFRC and DG ECHO, the Mali Red Cross continues to receive support to strengthen its capacity for epidemic preparedness and response. The National Society is also supported to carry out awareness-raising activities aimed at improving hygiene and preventing the spread of diseases such as acute respiratory infections and diarrhoeal illnesses. The **Luxembourg Red Cross** provides technical expertise to the Mali Red Cross in the area of water, sanitation and hygiene.



Migration and displacement

Mali lies at the [centre of the east-west migration route](#) in West Africa, serving as a country of origin, transit and to a lesser extent, destination. Migration dynamics in the country are shaped by factors such as armed conflict, climate change, environmental degradation, demographic pressure and limited livelihood opportunities, especially in rural areas. Patterns of movement include cross-border migration, seasonal migration to artisanal gold mining areas and irregular migration towards North Africa, the Mediterranean and the Canary Islands. Return and expulsion of migrants are also frequent.

Migrants in Mali, including [migrant workers](#), often face insecurity and limited access to essential services. Many of those in transit are vulnerable to abuse, exploitation and poor living conditions. Migrants frequently require protection, healthcare, legal aid and psychological support, but existing infrastructure and services are inadequate to address these needs. The flow of migrants also places additional pressure on local resources in transit areas, particularly in regions with weak public services.

Refugees and asylum seekers constitute another significant group. According to the IOM Displacement Tracking Matrix report from May 2024, there are [288,471 Malian refugees](#) in neighbouring countries and 85,683 repatriated persons. Most have fled due to armed conflict and persecution. Refugees and returnees face challenges in accessing shelter, education, food security and healthcare, as the capacity of host communities and available services remains limited.

Internally displaced persons (IDPs) make up the largest and most vulnerable group. As of May 2024, [330,713 internally displaced persons](#) were registered, spread across 87,623

households in several regions including Ménaka, Mopti, Ségou, Gao, Tombouctou and Bamako. Ménaka, Mopti, Bandiagara, Gao, Ségou and Tombouctou account for the highest proportions of the displaced. The displacement is largely driven by interethnic conflict, violence by armed groups and insecurity, particularly in central Mali. A large number of those displaced are women and children, with livelihoods primarily based on agriculture and livestock. Between May and August 2024, over 111,500 IDPs were reported in Bandiagara, Douentza and Mopti alone, comprising one-third of all identified IDPs.

Mali has adopted various frameworks to address these issues. The [National Strategy on Migration and Displacement](#) forms the core of its policy approach, aiming to coordinate protection and assistance for migrants and displaced populations. The government collaborates with international partners such as UNHCR, IOM and non-governmental organizations to deliver aid and support. Coordination structures such as the Protection Cluster are active in aligning humanitarian responses and facilitating cooperation among actors working in the field.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Mali Red Cross is part of the IFRC three-year [Global Route Based Migration Programme](#), which aims to improve the safety and dignity of people on the move along deadly and dangerous land and sea-based migration routes across Africa, the Americas, Europe and the Middle East and North Africa. The programme aims to support 4.7 million people on the move and people in host communities annually through three operational pillars: (1) improving access to assistance and protection, including through [humanitarian service points](#);

(2) strengthening National Society capacities; and (3) local to global humanitarian diplomacy.

To cope with the growing migration phenomenon, the Mali Red Cross developed a migration strategy 2021-2025. The overall objective of the Mali Red Cross is to help reduce abuses and alleviate the suffering of migrants through a range of humanitarian actions, strengthening the resilience of migrants and the communities in which they find themselves and advocating for their rights. The Mali Red Cross will continue to intervene in order to provide assistance to internally displaced persons and migrants. Its multi-year objectives include to:

- Improve the living conditions and well-being of internally displaced persons (IDPs), refugees and migrants in Mali
- Improve the integration and well-being of IDPs, returnees and migrants in transit by supporting their return and reintegration into host communities or communities of origin

Planned activities in 2025

- Support income-generating projects for IDPs and migrants in rural, urban and peri-urban areas to help them integrate into the local economy
- Help IDPs, migrants and refugees adapt to climate change and disasters through targeted resilience-building activities



Values, power and inclusion

Mali faces deep-rooted challenges particularly in a context shaped by armed conflict, political instability and ongoing humanitarian crises. These conditions heighten risks of violence, discrimination and marginalization for vulnerable groups.

Sexual and gender-based violence remains widespread, with women frequently exposed to extreme forms of abuse and discrimination. Identity-based violence, including that related to ethnicity and religion, is also a persistent concern. Persons with disabilities experience high levels of exclusion and are at increased risk of violence, while children, especially those separated from families or in conflict zones, are vulnerable to exploitation and abuse. The risks are compounded for young girls, who face limited access to sexual and reproductive health services, resulting in high rates of early and unwanted pregnancies.

Ethnic and religious minorities in Mali continue to face discrimination, exclusion and inequitable access to services. These experiences are shaped by systemic inequalities that intersect with gender, socio-economic status and geographic location. The prevalence of multiple and overlapping forms of

- Set up safe spaces where IDPs, migrants and refugees can receive protection, orientation and information
- Carry out advocacy with authorities to raise awareness of migrant rights and needs
- Deliver Restoring Family Links (RFL) services, train volunteers in RFL and conduct awareness sessions with communities

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will provide technical and financial support to the Mali Red Cross to strengthen its capacities the provision of legal assistance to migrants and the operationalization of Humanitarian Service Points.

Under the global Pilot Programmatic Partnership (PPP) between the IFRC and DG ECHO, with implementation support from the **Danish Red Cross** (as lead EU National Society), the **Spanish Red Cross**, the **Luxembourg Red Cross** and the IFRC, the Mali Red Cross will receive support to provide assistance to internally displaced persons. Based on the multi-sectoral rapid assessments conducted, the National Society will be supported in the distribution of non-food items, hygiene kits and shelters to affected households. The **Danish Red Cross** will provide expertise in cash transfer, disaster risk reduction and forecast-based action.

discrimination reflects broader structural imbalances in power and access to rights and resources. The situation is further shaped by issues of family separation linked to conflict and displacement. Reunification of separated families is a continuing concern, particularly for children and vulnerable adults.

Youth form nearly half of Mali's population, with 47.2 per cent under the age of 15 and an average national age of 21.4 years. Access to education remains uneven, particularly for children and youth from marginalized groups. Formal and non-formal education opportunities are often limited by insecurity, poverty and weak infrastructure. These constraints hinder young people's ability to participate fully in social and economic life.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Mali Red Cross ensures that its staff and volunteers are trained to take an inclusive approach to its programming and that protection, gender and inclusion (PGI) and community engagement and accountability (CEA) are included in all its programming. It works to further integrate PGI and CEA

through a range of different trainings, the creation of relevant policies and the implementation of actions focused on women, persons with disabilities and youth, for social cohesion and stability.

The National Society pays particular attention to the prevention of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) among the populations it serves, particularly during the distribution of money and food. The Mali Red Cross will continue to ensure that people at risk of or survivors of sexual and gender-based violence have increased capacity to prevent, respond to and mitigate risks of sexual and gender-based violence, through the coordinated development of standards and programming tools.

The Mali Red Cross will also continue to promote positive change for humanity, based on humanitarian values and principles. It will continue to engage in the areas of adult education and build its capacity to reach more local branches and increase awareness and action through the powerful role of young people and engagement with the education community and ensuring meaningful efforts for more inclusive work dynamics.

Planned activities in 2025

- Conduct workshops focused on the National Society Gender and Inclusion Policy, feedback mechanism and associated standard operating procedures
- Organize village assemblies and interactive radio broadcasts
- Integrate Protection, Gender and Inclusion into all projects and programmes

- Organize workshops for the development and validation of its Community Engagement and Accountability Strategy
- Establish and train complaint/claims management committees
- Organize monthly advocacy sessions with public authorities and partners
- Sensitize its workers, volunteers and members on Fundamental Principles and humanitarian values
- Disseminate its Youth Policy through orientation sessions using local and public communication channels

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the Mali Red Cross by funding youth education initiatives and action plans aimed at developing youth-focused education programmes within communities. It will also support the National Society in conducting capacity-building activities for young people, particularly in peer education and facilitate their participation in national and international leadership meetings and exchange visits.

Under the global Pilot Programmatic Partnership (PPP) between the IFRC and DG ECHO, with implementation support from the **Danish Red Cross** (as lead EU National Society), the **Spanish Red Cross**, the **Luxembourg Red Cross** and the IFRC, the Mali Red Cross receive support to improve its community engagement. The National Society will work with the established complaint management committees to improve the mechanism and increase the involvement of communities.

ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS

The Mali Red Cross is committed towards institutional strengthening and has carried out the self-assessment section of the Organizational Capacity Assessment and Certification (OCAC) process in 2011. That part of the OCAC process is intended to capture the strengths and weaknesses of National Societies as a whole, in relation to a wide range of organizational capacities. The National Society is also committed to the

Preparedness for Effective Response (PER) process and is at the action and accountability phase. The PER approach is a continuous and flexible process that enables National Societies to assess, measure and analyze the strengths and gaps of their preparedness and response mechanisms and ultimately take necessary action to improve them.



Strategic and operational coordination

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Ensure active participation in group meetings and frequent bilateral meetings with high-level government actors and other humanitarian organizations
- Leaders ensure that partners act in accordance with the Movement's fundamental principles, humanitarian values and code of good partnership
- Leaders strive to ensure that the partnership adds value to each partner's aspirations and priorities
- All parties involved in the partnership communicate in a frank, respectful and constructive manner

- Inequalities between partners in terms of financial means, time and resources are recognized but do not harm the partners/partnership
- Establish a resource mobilization unit and strategy, ensuring internal resource mobilization for core and programme costs

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the Mali Red Cross in its engagement with a variety of partners, while ensuring strong coordination amongst themselves in support of the National Society. Expertise from the IFRC [reference centres](#), labs and hubs will also be leveraged, such as is the case with the support provided by the [Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre](#), the IFRC [Psychosocial Centre](#) and the [Cash Hub](#).



National Society development

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Revise the strategic plan and institutional and operational organizational charts
- Adopting and implement a sustainable resource mobilization strategy
- Implement the Branch Organizational Capacity Assessment (BOCA) process and ensure the presence of key personnel in the branches
- Organize workshops and information exchanges to increase knowledge and involvement of the branches
- Provide computer equipment to local committees, enabling efficient information access and reporting through internet connection
- Strengthen warehouse and storage capacities for at least 50 per cent of branches by the end of 2025

- Promote the opening and operation of a physical and digital information, archiving and learning service in the institutional and organizational system
- Promote academic training in humanitarian health and first aid in certain regions for institutional development and the strengthening of internal sources of funding

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will continue to support the Mali Red Cross for its vision on organizational development and priorities in terms of internal resource development, financial sustainability through strengthened processes and branch development supported with income-generating activities. This support follows assessments or diagnoses carried out and several projects that have already been implemented. The IFRC has facilitated application to [National Society development funds](#), including the [IFRC Capacity Building Fund](#) and the jointly-led IFRC and ICRC [National Society Investment Alliance](#), as part of the reinforcement of commercial and fire first aid.



Humanitarian diplomacy

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Elaboration of a humanitarian diplomacy strategy
- Draw a dissemination action plan to promote the National Society through various national and local channels (TV, advertising campaign, artist ambassadors, social networks)
- Create a mechanism for ongoing consultation between the National Society, authorities and communities
- Maintain a framework for dialogue with gatekeepers to strengthen acceptance of the National Society and facilitate access to vulnerable communities

- Acquisition of audio-visual conference equipment
- Strengthen the communication skills of the dissemination focal points

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will continue to support the National Society's humanitarian diplomacy and communications efforts. Based on the needs and programmatic priorities. It will also provide the National Society with support in strengthening its auxiliary role with local and national partners in Mali and enable it to function better as a coordinated network with other organizations.



Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Prioritize sound financial management and transparent accounting to optimize revenue and strengthen accountability
- Focus on establishing an effective and transparent governance and executive framework that ensures accountability at all levels
- Conduct risk management through the development of a reliable and transparent database system that incorporates project, programme and institutional development indicators
- Focus on improving human resource systems by creating enabling conditions that support effective staff performance and institutional learning
- Prioritize innovation in leadership, governance and management practices to enhance the National Society's visibility and engagement with decision-making bodies

- Conduct digital transformation initiatives to modernize operations, improve visibility, facilitate staff tasks and secure a permanent data management system

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the Mali Red Cross in enhancing financial transparency and accountability by improving internal controls, financial reporting and building the capacities of finance staff through the use of appropriate technologies. In terms of integrity, the IFRC will assist the National Society in disseminating accountability policies and mechanisms across all branches and in implementing the IFRC's digital integrity line. It will also support the National Society in strengthening its human resource systems by helping implement its capacity-building and recruitment plans, improving the work environment and ensuring personnel protection through accident insurance. It will provide technical support in digitizing monitoring, evaluation, accountability and learning systems to build a detailed intervention database. Additionally, the IFRC will assist with the National Society's digital transformation efforts.

THE IFRC NETWORK

The IFRC supports the Mali Red Cross from its country cluster delegation in Niamey, which covers Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Mali and Niger. The IFRC has legal status in Mali and its support to the Mali Red Cross centres on strategic and operational coordination, National Society development and humanitarian diplomacy, including reinforcing its auxiliary role. The IFRC also supports accountability as a cross-cutting theme.

The IFRC maintains a role in representing, advocating and coordinating with the Mali Red Cross and IFRC members. It offers programmatic support across strategic priorities, providing technical, financial, material and human resource assistance for various projects and programmes.

In recent years, the IFRC has supported the Mali Red Cross through a number of Emergency Appeals and Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF) [operations](#).

IFRC membership coordination

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

The Mali Red Cross is part of the global [Pilot Programmatic Partnership](#) between DG ECHO and IFRC, benefitting from the support of **Danish Red Cross** (lead EU National Society), **Spanish Red Cross** and **Luxembourg Red Cross**, for the implementation of activities in the areas of disaster risk management, epidemic and pandemic preparedness and response, humanitarian assistance and protection to people on the move, cash and voucher assistance and risk communication, community engagement and accountability. The partnership responds to the realities of protracted crises with predictable longer-term funding, facilitating actions and processes with greater impact. It leverages the IFRC's global network and unique access to people and communities and helps achieve the European Union's ambitions as the world's largest donor of international aid.

The Mali Red Cross collaborates with a number of participating National Societies.

The **Belgian Red Cross** (French community) resumed its collaboration with the Mali Red Cross in December 2009. The aim of this partnership is to strengthen the National Society and provide a humanitarian response in the country. One of the principles of cooperation is alignment with the strategy of the Mali Red Cross on projects/programmes that meet the priorities and needs of the Mali Red Cross. Since the beginning

of the collaboration, the Belgian Red Cross and the Mali Red Cross, while working closely with the technical services of the State and the communities, have implemented several projects the fields of health, nutrition, community resilience, agricultural production, promotion of income-generating activities, disaster risk reduction and humanitarian assistance.

The **Canadian Red Cross**, which has been present in Mali since 2012, with funding from the Government of Canada, supports the efforts of the Mali Red Cross and the Ministry of Health, particularly in the area of health. From 2012 to 2020, it supported the implementation of projects such as improving maternal, newborn and child health in Mali, whose objectives were to provide health services to rural communities.

The **Danish Red Cross** initiated a cooperation called "Hope in the Desert" with the Mali Red Cross in the 1980s following the droughts in the Sahel, with an environmental education project. In 2007, bilateral cooperation was revived with the presence of delegates. It supported the capacity building of the Mali Red Cross by supporting the management and implementation of projects and supporting long-term organizational and technical development. It works closely with the IFRC [Reference Centre for Psychosocial Support](#) and, since 2019, the Danish Red Cross has been working to support the establishment of a psychosocial department.

The **Luxembourg Red Cross** has been working with the Mali Red Cross since 2014, on interventions and projects that cover the needs of all segments of the population affected by the conflict: returnees, internally displaced persons, internally displaced persons and host populations affected by the crisis. These projects consist of different areas of intervention including habitat rehabilitation and the distribution and pre-positioning of emergency kits and shelters.

The **Netherlands Red Cross** and the Mali Red Cross have been engaged in a long-term partnership since 2015 focused on supporting resilience initiatives. They work together in

several areas such as risk and disaster preparedness at the institutional level, with support for the operationalization of the Emergency Operations Centre.

The **Qatar Red Crescent Society** works with the Mali Red Cross in the areas of health and water, sanitation and hygiene and National Society development.

The **Spanish Red Cross** and the Mali Red Cross have been engaged in a long-term partnership since 2000, focusing on supporting initiatives in the areas of health, environmental

protection and improvement of living environments, social protection and cohesion, as well as in the area of food security and livelihoods. The main areas of intervention are Kayes, Sikasso, Timbuktu and Ségou. Currently, the Spanish Red Cross, with a permanent operational presence in the branches in Ségou and Timbuktu, supports the implementation of protection projects (gender protection and inclusion and prevention of gender-based violence), disaster management and food security and livelihoods.

Movement coordination

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

In Mali, **the ICRC** visits detainees, puts people back in touch with loved ones with whom they've lost contact because of the conflict, treats people that have been wounded or injured by the fighting, distributes seed and tools to farmers, vaccinates livestock, rebuilds and reconnects water-supply systems and raises awareness of international humanitarian law.

For many of these activities, it works closely with the Mali Red Cross.



The Mali Red Cross training teams in safe and dignified management of dead bodies in preparation for a potential escalation of the Ebola outbreak (Photo: IFRC)

Coordination with other actors

The Mali Red Cross supports the government in the implementation of its humanitarian and development policies and strategies. Thus, the National Society's Strategic Plan 2021-2025 is aligned with the government's Economic and Social Development Plan. The Mali Red Cross works closely with the Ministry of Humanitarian Action and Disaster Management and is a member of the National Disaster Management Coordination Forum. The ministry has a mandate to manage disasters and similar emergencies through the following key functions:

- Prepare national disaster plans to prevent and mitigate the consequences of disasters
- Establish, assess and update national disaster plans
- Ensure adequate facilities for technical training and educational programmes to raise public awareness
- Establish early warning systems and general preparedness of its staff and the general public
- Ensure that appropriate and adequate facilities are available for the provision of relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction after any disaster. This includes local

and international support for disaster relief, emergency services and reconstruction.

The Mali Red Cross actively participates in interagency clusters, including shelter, protection, health and food security. It also holds high-level coordination meetings with the food security country cluster and is an active member of the national cash working group.

The National Society and the IFRC also work with United Nations agencies, including WHO, UNDP, UNICEF, WFP, FAO, OCHA, UNFPA and IOM, through the implementation of actions, thus contributing to the realization of humanitarian intervention plans in Mali. External partnerships are governed by the guidelines on external partnerships in the Sahel region for components of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. The objective of these guidelines is to define a common position of Movement partners responding to humanitarian needs in the Sahel region, by agreeing on the coherent and realistic limits of partnerships that Movement components can lead and develop with external humanitarian actors.



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

About the plan

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

Explanatory note on funding requirements and definitions

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

Additional information

- [IFRC Global Plan and IFRC network country plan](#) • [All plans and reports](#)
- Data on National Societies on [IFRC Federation-wide Databank and Reporting System](#)
- Live data on active emergency operations on [IFRC GO platform](#)
- Live data on [IFRC-Disaster Response Emergency Fund Response and Anticipatory pillars](#)
- [IFRC Evaluation and Research Databank](#) • [Donor response reports](#)

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