



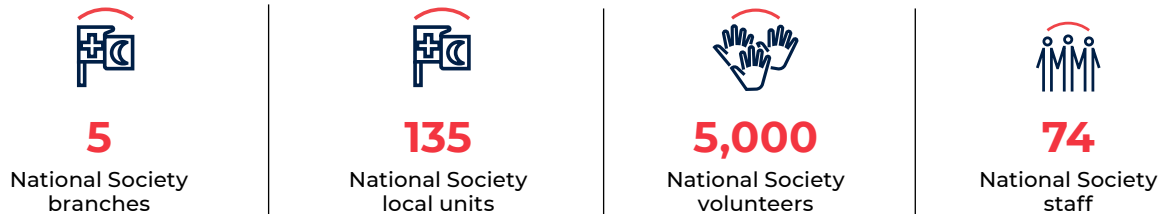
ESWATINI

2024 IFRC network annual report, Jan-Dec



15 September 2025

IN SUPPORT OF THE BAPHALALI ESWATINI RED CROSS SOCIETY



PEOPLE REACHED

Climate and environment



83,891

Disasters and crises



171,041

Health and wellbeing



527,720

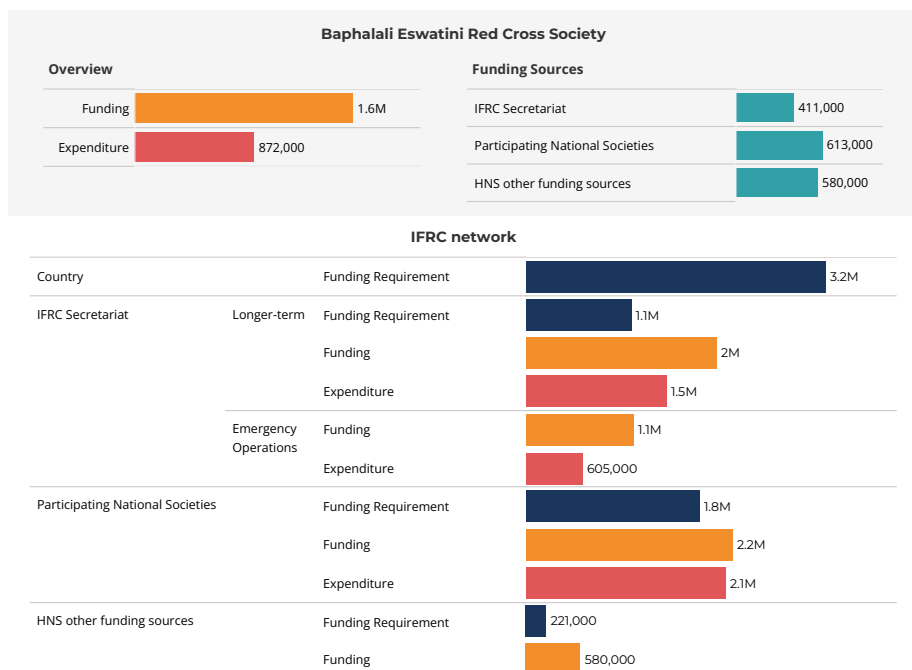
Values, power and inclusion



175,143

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

in Swiss francs (CHF)



Appeal number **MAASZ003**

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

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Climate and environment	Number of people reached with activities to address rising climate risks	84,000
	Number of people reached with heatwave risk reduction, preparedness or response activities	13,000
	Number of people reached with activities to address environmental problems	3,000
	National Society implements nature-based solutions (including those with a particular focus on the planting of trees and mangroves)	Yes
	National Society has received IFRC Network's support to adapt to longer-term impacts of climate change	Yes
Disasters and crises	Number of people reached per year with support services, in-kind, cash and voucher assistance for emergency response and recovery	171,000
	Number of people reached with livelihoods support	115,000
	Number of people reached with shelter support	35,000
	Number of people reached with disaster risk reduction	3,000
	Percentage of assistance delivered using cash and vouchers	47%
Health and wellbeing	Number of people reached by the National Society with contextually appropriate health services	528,000
	Number of people reached by the National Society with contextually appropriate water, sanitation and hygiene services	53,000
	Number of people reached with immunization services	29,000
	Number of people trained by the National Society in first aid	1,000
Values, power and inclusion	Number of people reached by protection, gender and inclusion programming	175,000
	Number of people reached by the National Society's educational programmes	65,000
	Number of people whose access to education is facilitated through National Society's programming	4,000

Percentage of people surveyed who report receiving useful and actionable information	92%
National Society has a Community Engagement and Accountability policy, strategy or plan	Yes

ENABLING FUNCTIONS

Strategic and operational coordination	Number of formal interagency/international coordination platforms the National Society is part of	1
	Number of government-led coordination platforms the National Society is part of	1
National Society development	National Society covers health, accident and death compensation for all of its volunteers	Yes
	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

National Society	Bilateral Support						
	Funding Reported	Climate and environment	Disasters and crises	Health and wellbeing	Migration and displacement	Values, power and inclusion	Enabling Functions
British Red Cross	602,000						
Finnish Red Cross	1.5M						

Total Funding Reported **CHF 2.1M**

OVERALL PROGRESS

Context

In 2024, Eswatini experienced a relatively calm political environment, although prodemocracy organizations continued to advocate for political reform. The Eswatini Teachers Association hosted meetings at their centre in Manzini, which raised concerns about maintaining stability and democratic peace. In November, the Swaziland Liberation Movement (SWALIMO) held prayers in South Africa's Mpumalanga Province, an act that was not well received by the Eswatini government. Despite these developments, the NS was able to carry out its activities without political interference.

Economically, Eswatini faced significant challenges following a reduction in Southern Africa Customs Union (SACU) contributions by South Africa. Since SACU receipts account for over half of Eswatini's national budget, this reduction had a major impact. The country's reliance on maize as a staple crop was tested by severe heatwaves, and poor post-harvest practices led to a 30% loss of food. Maize production dropped from 85,201 metric tons in 2022/23 to 74,946 metric tons in 2023/24. As a result, an estimated 25% of the population is expected to face acute food insecurity between October 2024 and March 2025, driven by prolonged dry spells and economic pressures. Additionally, supply chain disruptions affected the availability of medical supplies, leaving some NS health facilities without basic family planning commodities.

Environmentally, the Ministry of Natural Resources reported declining dam levels, indicating a slow-onset drought. However, towards the end of the year, heavy rainfall led to flooding in perennial rivers, damaging household structures. These environmental shifts were compounded by the effects of climate change, which continued to disrupt farming seasons. Irregular rainfall patterns, persistent droughts, and increasingly intense storms contributed to worsening food insecurity and highlighted the growing impact of climate variability on the country's agricultural stability.

Key achievements

Climate and environment

The National Society made significant strides in climate action by responding to 87 fire incidents across five branches, supporting 350 affected individuals with essential relief items. It developed a draft environmental policy and conducted a water harvesting awareness campaign, which led to 70% of participants reporting improved understanding of natural resource management. Additionally, 1,819 smallholder farmers were trained in climate-smart agriculture, and over 1,000 beneficiaries received training in poultry and goat care, supported by conditional cash transfers to boost food production.

Disasters and crises

To strengthen community resilience, the National Society trained local leaders in land and water management, resulting in a 100% increase in knowledge and active rehabilitation of degraded areas. It conducted Enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessments in Lubombo region and responded to disasters affecting over 1,400 people, including fire and hailstorm victims. Relief items were distributed, and food security projects reached 10,367 households, benefiting 43,233 individuals. The Society also developed a Disaster Management Curriculum and prepositioned emergency supplies to enhance preparedness.

Health and wellbeing

The National Society expanded its public health advocacy by engaging with national platforms and stakeholders, securing inclusion in the Pediatric Adolescent Treatment Africa platform. It continued delivering health services through its clinics, improved family planning access, and conducted outreach during community events. Emergency health responses included treatment for poisoning, snake bites, and emergency deliveries. Epidemic preparedness was strengthened through water tank distribution and hygiene sensitization, supported by IFRC-led training on epidemic response and digital WASH tools.

Migration and displacement

During the 2024 unrest in Mozambique, the National Society played a critical role in supporting over 1,000 refugees at the overcrowded Malindza reception centre. It collaborated with UNHCR and other partners to provide humanitarian assistance, ensuring that displaced individuals received essential support despite limited infrastructure. This response highlighted the Society's capacity to manage migration-related crises and coordinate effectively with international agencies.

Values, power and inclusion

The Baphalali Eswatini Red Cross Society continued to strengthen its role in public health through advocacy, clinical services, and outreach. It maintained high standards in HIV care, achieving strong viral suppression among children and adolescents through effective treatment and follow-up. The Society also improved access to family planning, responded to various emergency health needs, and promoted hygiene and disease prevention through community sensitization. Epidemic preparedness was enhanced with water harvesting initiatives and hygiene awareness campaigns. Additionally, first aid services and training were expanded, contributing to both community resilience and organizational sustainability.

Q2. CHANGES AND AMENDMENTS

Staff retention has remained a significant challenge for the Eswatini Red Cross Society (ERCS) during the implementation of its current plan. This issue has affected the continuity and momentum of various initiatives, prompting the National Society to reflect on internal coordination and collaboration mechanisms. It recognized the need for stronger synergy between branches, headquarters, and project teams to ensure more cohesive and effective operations.

Transport limitations have also hindered the ability to conduct regular branch visits and provide adequate support. These challenges sparked discussions within the British Red Cross about procuring a dedicated vehicle to enhance the visibility and reach of National Society Development (NSD) efforts. Improved mobility is expected to strengthen engagement with branches and units, particularly in advancing branch development work.

Another structural challenge lies in the limited staffing at the branch level, where only two staff members are responsible for implementing all National Society programs. This has slowed down progress on several fronts. In response, the ERCS has begun deploying volunteers in each branch to support existing staff, with a focus on branch development, volunteer engagement, and membership activities. This approach aims to build local capacity and ensure more sustainable and community-driven development.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Climate and environment

Communities and Red Cross and Red Crescent (RCRC) staff and volunteers undertake urgent action to reduce and adapt to the rising and evolving risks from climate and environmental crises

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Baphalali Eswatini Red Cross Society (BERCS) actively engaged staff and volunteers in urgent climate action, focusing on enhancing community resilience and addressing immediate humanitarian needs. Through rapid assessments, BERCS identified local vulnerabilities and provided targeted support, including training and resources to help communities adapt to climate-related challenges. During the reporting period, BERCS responded to 87 fire incidents reported across five branches, affecting 350 individuals. The National Society conducted damage assessments and distributed relief items such as tents, sleeping mats, blankets, clothing, food parcels (10kg rice, 5kg beans, 750ml

cooking oil), and tarpaulins to the most affected households.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported BERCS in strengthening its climate resilience programming and emergency response capacity. This included technical guidance on needs assessments, community engagement, and the provision of relief materials aligned with humanitarian standards.

IFRC Secretariat and National Societies adopt environmentally sustainable practices and contribute to climate change mitigation

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The National Society developed a draft environmental policy and hosted a water harvesting awareness day to promote adaptive and sustainable practices. Following the awareness campaign, approximately 70% of participating communities reported improved understanding of natural resource management, including water conservation and the use of drought-resistant crops.

As part of the Pan-African initiative, the National Society has actively supported tree planting initiatives through training and community engagement, integrating these efforts into the promotion of community gardens to enhance sustainability. In 2024, it distributed 1,000 fruit trees to communities, emphasizing the long-term benefits of planting fruit-bearing trees. Additionally, the National Society's Youth structures have been instrumental in advancing the Tree Planting and Care initiative, particularly in schools and local communities, where they have planted 421 trees, including both wind breakers and fruit trees.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided technical support in the development of environmental policies and facilitated knowledge-sharing platforms to promote sustainable practices across National Societies. This included guidance on integrating environmental considerations into programming and community outreach.

Strengthened early warning systems and community mobilization through innovative technologies. Strengthening data collection and reporting systems at community level and rapid transmission to strategic partners

Progress by the National Society against objectives

BERCS continued to strengthen its early warning and data systems by improving community-level data collection and ensuring timely reporting to partners. Although the 2023/2024 El Niño-induced drought was severe, the Early Action Protocol (EAP) trigger was not met, preventing the activation of early cash assistance. However, BERCS conducted smart agriculture trainings to help communities adapt to climate impacts and reduce future vulnerabilities.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC Delegation enhanced BERCS's exposure to Anticipatory Action (AA) platforms. It facilitated the participation of the AA focal point in regional workshops, helping build capacity and broaden understanding of AA mechanisms and tools.

Smallholder farmers' capacity strengthened, to increase their food production

Progress by the National Society against objectives

Through the ECHO PP project, the National Society trained 1,819 smallholder farmers in climate-smart agriculture. In January 2024, 1,090 poultry beneficiaries were trained in indigenous chicken care, housing, incubation, and market access. Additionally, 729 goat kit beneficiaries received training on goat management, disease control, and vaccination schedules. All trained farmers received conditional cash support to apply their skills and increase food production.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC and its partners, including ECHO, supported the implementation of the climate-smart agriculture initiative by facilitating training through the Ministry of Agriculture and providing financial resources for conditional cash transfers. This joint effort aimed to strengthen food security and build long-term resilience among smallholder farmers.



Disasters and crises

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

Communities take action to increase their resilience to evolving and multiple shocks and hazards

Progress by the National Society against objectives

During the reporting period, community leaders received training on land and water management, resulting in a 100% increase in their knowledge of natural resource management. This enhanced understanding led to positive behavioral changes in the sustainable use of natural resources. Communities actively participated in rehabilitation efforts, using supplied materials to restore degraded areas such as dongas. This locally driven engagement has laid a strong foundation for continued application of natural resource management principles beyond externally funded projects.

Additionally, the Baphalali Eswatini Red Cross Society conducted Enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessments (EVCA) in Mhlume and Lomahasha constituencies in the Lubombo region. These assessments helped communities identify local hazards and develop concrete plans to strengthen their resilience to future shocks and disasters.

IFRC network joint support

IFRC supported the National Society through technical assistance in conducting EVCA and promoting community-led resilience initiatives. The IFRC also facilitated knowledge sharing and capacity building to enhance local ownership of natural resource management practices.

People affected by crises and disasters have their needs met through access to assistance and support that is timely, adequate, flexible and strengthens their agency

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Baphalali Eswatini Red Cross Society provided timely assistance to people affected by disasters such as storms and fires across the country. Fire incidents affected 350 people, while a hailstorm damaged homes and left 1,055 individuals from over 200 families without [shelter](#). The National Society conducted damage assessments and distributed essential relief items including tents, sleeping mats, blankets, mixed clothing, food parcels (10kg rice, 5kg beans, 750ml cooking oil), and tarpaulins.

In response to widespread food insecurity, the National Society collaborated with the Finnish Red Cross, British Red Cross, and IFRC to implement food security projects in Shiselweni, Lubombo, and Hhohho regions. These efforts reached 10,367 households—5,412 through cash transfers and livelihoods support, and 4,955 through general food distribution—benefiting a total of 43,233 people.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC and partner National Societies provided financial and technical support for disaster response and food security interventions. This included coordination of relief efforts, provision of resources, and implementation of cash transfer programs to strengthen community agency and resilience.

National Societies respond effectively to the wide spectrum of evolving crises and disasters, and their auxiliary role in [disaster risk management](#) is well defined and recognized

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Baphalali Eswatini Red Cross Society, in collaboration with the National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA) and World Vision, developed a Disaster Management Curriculum. A draft has been produced and is pending approval by the respective stakeholders. The National Society also prepositioned relief materials including tarpaulins, tents, and roofing supplies to enhance preparedness.

Additionally, the National Society launched volunteer-led blood donor recruitment programs to address national blood shortages, reinforcing its role in public health and disaster response.

As part of the [Pan-African initiative](#), the National Society implemented a Drought DREF which to a greater supported the reduction of hunger in the targeted communities. Through the DREF some boreholes were drilled which supported the community to grow crops and support their families. Through the same [DREF](#) households were taught of the

importance of smart agriculture techniques and some committees were established to support the uptake of zero hunger initiatives.

The National Society has a Drought [EAP](#) which the Delegation is supporting. The Delegation has been ensuring exposure on the National Society through inviting them and facilitating their travels and participation at various Anticipatory Action platforms to ensure they have the capacity to implement their EAP and advance AA initiatives in the National Society.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the development of the Disaster Management Curriculum and provided strategic guidance on prepositioning relief supplies. It also facilitated collaboration with stakeholders to strengthen the National Society's auxiliary role in disaster risk management.



IFRC targets the most vulnerable groups in Eswatini as extreme drought affects over half the population (Photo: IFRC)



Health and wellbeing

National Societies capitalize on their auxiliary role to ensure their position on relevant country-level public health strategy, advocacy, and policy platforms and mechanisms

Progress by the National Society against objectives

During the reporting period, Baphalali Eswatini Red Cross Society strengthened its role in public health advocacy through a series of strategic engagements. The National Society held six meetings with its internal health committee, which successfully advocated for inclusion in the Pediatric Adolescent Treatment Africa platform. Additionally, the National Society expanded its external outreach by engaging with three chiefdoms, one constituency, and three stakeholders, enhancing its visibility and influence in national public health discussions.

IFRC network joint support

IFRC provided technical and financial support to the National Society.

The health and wellbeing of communities are protected and improved through access to sustainable, affordable, appropriate, and quality health services across the life course

Progress by the National Society against objectives

Baphalali Eswatini Red Cross Society continued to deliver essential health services through its three clinics, offering comprehensive care for both acute and chronic conditions. With support from the Ministry of Health, the National Society addressed previous gaps in family planning commodities, leading to improved service uptake. Outreach efforts, including participation in community events like cattle dipping sessions, helped disseminate health information and promote preventive practices, particularly among men. The clinic health committee played a key role in supporting these initiatives. In addition to clinical services, the National Society provided first aid at major national events and conducted training sessions across its branches, strengthening community-level emergency response capacity.

IFRC network joint support

IFRC provided the National Society with financial and technical support

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

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The National Society responded to a range of emergency health needs during the reporting period, including cases such as emergency deliveries, poisoning incidents, snake bites, and puncture injuries. To strengthen community-level preparedness, the National Society sensitized rural health motivators on cholera and influenza, equipping them to raise awareness and support early response efforts within their communities.

IFRC network joint support

IFRC provided the National Society with financial and technical support

Communities at risk from pandemics and epidemics have increased access to affordable, appropriate, and environmentally sustainable water, sanitation, and hygiene services

Progress by the National Society against objectives

To support community-level epidemic preparedness, Baphalali Eswatini Red Cross Society distributed water tanks to vulnerable households in Hosea Inkhundla to promote rainwater harvesting for domestic use and backyard gardening. In parallel, rural health motivators were sensitized on good hygiene practices during the cholera alert phase, helping to strengthen awareness and reduce the risk of disease transmission within the affected communities.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported Baphalali Eswatini Red Cross Society through Epidemic Preparedness in Communities training, aimed at strengthening the National Society's ability to manage and respond to disease outbreaks. This training also introduced water, sanitation, and hygiene software interventions, enhancing the organization's capacity to integrate digital tools into its epidemic response strategies.



Migration and displacement

Progress by National Society against objectives

During the 2024 unrest in Mozambique, Eswatini received an influx of refugees fleeing post-election violence. Approximately 1,000 individuals crossed into Eswatini, many of whom had lost their livelihoods and were seeking safety and humanitarian support. The Malindza refugee reception centre, originally designed to accommodate 250 people, quickly became overcrowded as it housed over 1,000 displaced individuals.

IFRC network joint support

In response to this crisis, Baphalali Eswatini Red Cross Society played a key role in supporting the affected population. The National Society worked closely with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and other development partners to provide assistance and coordinate efforts at the reception centre. This collaboration helped ensure that the immediate needs of the refugees were addressed, despite the strain on local resources and infrastructure.



Values, power and inclusion

National Societies promote and support equitable access to quality education for all boys and girls affected by disaster, crisis or displacement

Progress by the National Society against objectives

Eswatini Red Cross Society collaborated with the Deputy Prime Minister's Office to contribute to the revision and strengthening of legal frameworks concerning the Rights of the Child. This engagement provided a platform for various stakeholders to reflect on national efforts aimed at improving child welfare, especially in contexts affected by crisis and displacement. The National Society's involvement in these discussions reinforced its commitment to child protection and education advocacy.

Protection-related work was also coordinated through the Coordinating Assembly of Non-Governmental Organisations, which serves as an umbrella body for civil society actors in Eswatini. Through this collaboration, the National Society ensured that its child protection initiatives were aligned with broader national strategies and benefited from shared expertise and resources.

IFRC network joint support

IFRC provided the National society with technical and financial support.

National Societies and the IFRC Secretariat adopt comprehensive Protection, Gender and Inclusion

Progress by the National Society against objectives

From 16 to 20 September 2024, Eswatini Red Cross Society hosted a Protection, Gender, and Inclusion Champions Training at Brookside Lodge in Malkerns. This training, funded by the European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations Pilot Programme, brought together 17 volunteers from implementing communities, National Society branches, and clinics. The sessions focused on equipping participants with the knowledge and skills to apply Protection, Gender and Inclusion principles, as well as Community Engagement and Accountability approaches, in emergency response settings.

In addition, a total of 48 staff members from the National Society, equally split between male and female participants, were trained on the policy for prevention and protection against sexual exploitation and abuse. The training aimed to orient staff on how to identify, report, and refer cases of abuse within the workplace. Topics covered included working with people with disabilities, safeguarding considerations when capturing media for reporting, and understanding how to respond to breaches of protection policies.

IFRC network joint support

The training was made possible through funding from the European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations Pilot Programme, demonstrating the IFRC network's commitment to strengthening the capacity of National Societies in Protection, Gender and Inclusion. The support enabled the National Society to build a more informed and responsive workforce, capable of upholding dignity and safety in both emergency and routine operations.

National Societies and the IFRC Secretariat lead by example and inspire others on gender and diversity

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The National Society actively participated in Social Protection coordination meetings led by the Deputy Prime Minister's Office. These meetings provided a platform for dialogue and collaboration on issues related to gender, diversity, and social inclusion. Through its involvement, Baphalali Eswatini Red Cross Society demonstrated leadership and commitment to promoting inclusive practices within humanitarian and development work.

To further strengthen its internal capacity, the National Society established an Investigations Committee to address cases of sexual exploitation and abuse. This initiative followed a specialized training on Protection against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and Investigations, conducted from 23 to 25 October. The training was facilitated by the Office of Internal Audit and Investigations and focused on building the skills necessary to respond to safeguarding concerns both in the workplace and in the communities served.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the National Society by organizing and delivering the Protection against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and Investigations training. This intervention was instrumental in enhancing the National Society's ability to

lead by example in safeguarding and gender-sensitive programming. Additionally, the British Red Cross provided support under this strategic priority, contributing to the broader effort to promote gender and diversity within the humanitarian sector.

ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS



Strategic and operational coordination

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 Baphalali Eswatini Red Cross Society is part of the DG ECHO and the IFRC Pilot Programmatic Partnership, between the DG ECHO and IFRC, and as such, is receiving the implementation support of the **Finnish Red Cross** (the lead EU National Society), **Belgian Red Cross** (Flanders), as well as the coordination support of the IFRC. The **Finnish Red Cross** and **Belgian Red Cross (Flanders)** provide support to the National Society in the areas of disaster risk management, epidemic and pandemic preparedness and response, cash and voucher assistance and community engagement and accountability. This partnership meets the realities of extended crises with longer-term predictable funding, facilitating actions and processes with the potential for greater, longer-term impact. It leverages the IFRC's global network and unique access to people and communities, and it helps to fulfil the ambitions of the European Union as the world's biggest international donor for humanitarian assistance. The partnership is scheduled to end in mid-2025.

The National Society is working closely with the following in-country participating National Societies in the following thematic areas:

The **Belgian Red Cross (Flanders)** has had an active partnership with the Baphalali Eswatini Red Cross since 2015. During two consecutive regional first aid programmes (2015–2017, 2019–2021), the national first aid capacity of the National Society (both at community level and commercially) was strengthened with a focus on quality, standardization and institutionalization. During the COVID-19 crisis (2020–2021), a project was established to support the Baphalali Eswatini Red Cross Society nationally to raise awareness, promote water, sanitation and hygiene practices and purchase protective equipment. In recent years, the Belgian Red Cross (Flanders) has incorporated its vast national blood expertise in international projects and supported the National Society in Eswatini with blood collection management.

The **British Red Cross** provides support to the National Society with forecast-based financing, food security and livelihoods, water, sanitation and hygiene and National Society development.

The **Finnish Red Cross** maintains an office at the National Society's headquarters in Mbabane and has been providing support in food security, health, community resilience and organizational development since 2001. The support has had a strong focus on food security and HIV/AIDS projects funded by DG DEVCO, drought relief, food security and nutrition funded by DG ECHO, and livelihoods, nutrition and organizational development funded by Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland.

Movement coordination

The Baphalali Eswatini Red Cross Society ensures regular exchanges with the IFRC, the International Committee of the Red Cross and participating National Societies, for the alignment of support and action between Movement partners.

In times of emergencies, closer coordination is organized. This is carried out in line with the Strengthening Movement Coordination and Cooperation ([SMCC](#)) principles and the newly adopted [Seville Agreement 2.0](#).

The ICRC provides support to the National Society in [restoring family links](#), addressing civil unrest and volunteer and staff capacity building. It also provides support to the National Society with [Safer Access](#) training to address civil unrest.

External coordination

In line with its [auxiliary role](#), all humanitarian interventions of the Baphalali Eswatini Red Cross Society are coordinated with the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister through the Disaster Management Department and National Drought Management Authority. In times of emergencies, the National Drought Management Authority coordinates all interventions by humanitarian agencies with support from other UN agencies through the Command-and-Control Centre.

The National Drought Management Authority has several sectoral technical working groups focused on specific areas, and the National Society has a representation in the following: food security, agriculture and livelihoods, health, nutrition, HIV/AIDS, social protection, security and [education](#). Close coordination with relevant authorities is ensured at all levels, from constituency to regional and national levels. The National Society has a permanent seat on local disaster management committees. At regional level, the National Drought Management Authority and the National Society's technical officers work together in assessments, response and other support areas. In addition, the National Society engages traditional leadership systems at community level.

[Epidemic and pandemic preparedness](#) and response activities are closely coordinated with the Ministry of Health and development partners such as the World Health Organization and UNICEF.

For [food security and livelihoods](#), the National Society sustains a constant operational dialogue with the World Food Programme, which has implemented a significant assistance intervention in Eswatini. Coordination in terms of geographical locations, delivery approaches, feedback and complaint mechanisms, and joint targeting and monitoring tools between the Baphalali Eswatini Red Cross Society and World Food Programme have been ongoing since 2016.

Another key organization with which the National Society will continue close coordination is World Vision, which plays an important role across the country – particularly in Shiselweni – in supporting longer-term livelihood protection and water, sanitation and hygiene initiatives for communities affected by drought.

The Baphalali Eswatini Red Cross Society is also working in partnership with Africa Centre for Diseases Control (CDC) and LAF (LARS Amundsen Foundation), local corporates, individuals and the government of the Kingdom of Eswatini. Some of these partners provide both financial and technical support to the National Society. The National Society is also part of the food security cluster and the disaster risk management cluster, under the National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA), where plans and updates are shared.



National Society development

Progress by the National Society against objectives

As part of its financial sustainability strategy, Baphalali Eswatini Red Cross Society disbursed E15,000.00 to each of its five branches to support the establishment or expansion of income-generating activities. Prior to receiving funds, each branch was required to form a Resource Mobilization Committee, submit a business plan to the finance team, and conduct a baseline assessment using KOBO. To ensure financial accountability, branches were also instructed to open dedicated business accounts for tracking income and expenditure.

To reinforce this initiative, a support team from the National Society's headquarters conducted on-site visits to all five branches. These visits included training sessions on record keeping, business monitoring, marketing, and other essential soft business skills. The goal was to strengthen branch-level financial management and ensure the long-term sustainability of income-generating activities. Additionally, the National Society facilitated a participatory training workshop on core cost management. This workshop aimed to enhance the financial literacy of senior staff and board members, enabling them to identify the full cost base of the organization and ensure accurate programme costings.

The training also focused on developing a robust cost recovery policy and related tools. Participants included two board members—the Board Treasurer and the Chairperson of the Resource Mobilization Committee—alongside 14 staff members from the Senior Management Team and two representatives from the British Red Cross.

IFRC network joint support

The British Red Cross played a key role in supporting the National Society's financial sustainability efforts. Their participation in the core cost management training contributed to strengthening the organization's capacity to manage resources effectively and implement a comprehensive cost recovery framework. This collaboration reflects the broader commitment of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies network to building institutional resilience and promoting sustainable development within National Societies.

Enhanced communication and Digital Transformation

Progress by the National Society against objectives

As part of its digital transformation strategy, Baphalali Eswatini Red Cross Society organized a workshop to assess its current level of digital maturity and identify next steps for improvement. This initiative was aimed at strengthening the organization's capacity to leverage digital tools for operational efficiency and service delivery. In line with its commitment to modernizing cash and voucher assistance interventions, the National Society selected the 121 Platform as its official system for managing information related to cash-based programming.

To support the implementation of this system, the National Society engaged with the Netherlands 121 Team, with a rollout planned following a training session scheduled for 10 February 2025. In addition to these efforts, the organization developed and launched a new website to enhance its online presence, improve accessibility, and provide a more user-friendly interface for stakeholders and the public.

IFRC network joint support

The collaboration with the Netherlands 121 Team reflects the broader ecosystem of support and innovation encouraged within the IFRC network, particularly in advancing digital transformation and information management across National Societies. The Finnish Red Cross and the British Red Cross also supported the National Society.

The cluster delegation provided comprehensive support to Baphalali Eswatini Red Cross Society in strengthening its legal and organizational frameworks. This included assistance in reviewing the National Society's foundational Act in bill format and facilitating an exchange learning visit with the Kenya Red Cross Society. The delegation also supported the revision of the National Society Development plan and helped revive youth structures by co-facilitating a youth board induction. Additionally, remote support was extended to youth-led tree planting initiatives, contributing to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies' global target of planting five billion trees by 2030.



Humanitarian diplomacy

Progress by the National Society against objectives

During the reporting period, Baphalali Eswatini Red Cross Society implemented a wide-reaching communication and visibility strategy across multiple platforms. Weekly radio programmes with national coverage were used to disseminate key messages, including public service announcements on cholera, while television and print media featured news stories and regular columns to highlight the National Society's work. Social media engagement reached thousands with updates on humanitarian activities, impact stories, and the fundamental principles of the Red Cross. The National Society also gained international visibility through participation in the Limitless innovation programme and the publication of a climate change story on the Solferino Voices YouTube channel. In collaboration with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and the British Red Cross, a videography script was developed to promote easy volunteer actions. Four stories were produced for donor reporting, and two high-level breakfast meetings were held with corporate partners to strengthen resource mobilization. Dissemination efforts reached over one hundred thousand people, including engagement with the House of Senate. To support identification and branding, various visibility materials such as hats, water bottles, umbrellas, and vests were produced and distributed.

IFRC network joint support

IFRC provided technical and financial support to the National Society.



The National Society is working as an organization nationally, delivering what it promises to the communities they serve.

Progress by the National Society against objectives

Baphalali Eswatini Red Cross Society undertook several initiatives to strengthen its internal systems and organizational resilience. A contingency plan was developed to ensure continuity of essential roles, and updated policies were disseminated to staff, with formal acknowledgements recorded. The National Society conducted a competency and skills gap analysis for cash and voucher assistance, reviewed its performance management system policy, and updated its organizational structure, both of which are pending board approval. Staff participated in workshops on community feedback mechanisms and gender-based violence risk mapping, which informed the development of a risk management plan. Regular volunteer meetings were held to gather community feedback on ongoing projects. Additionally, a cyber security and data protection training was conducted at headquarters to equip staff with essential knowledge on safeguarding sensitive information, emphasizing principles of lawfulness, transparency, and fairness.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC network provided remote support to the National Society's youth-led initiatives, including tree planting activities aligned with the global five billion trees campaign. While the broader institutional strengthening efforts were led internally, they reflect the strategic priorities and standards promoted across the IFRC network.

Q4. AFFECTED PERSONS (PEOPLE REACHED)

See cover pages

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

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

Q6. RISK MANAGEMENT

This information is not available in Annual Reports

Q7. EXIT STRATEGY AND SUSTAINABILITY

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

Q8. LESSONS LEARNED

Information not available at time of publication

SUCCESS STORIES



1

First Aid at the Heart of Community Resilience

First Aid lies at the core of the Baphalali Eswatini Red Cross Society's mission. As a humanitarian act, it plays a critical role in promoting health, saving lives, and building resilient communities. We believe that first aid should be accessible to everyone, everywhere, empowering individuals to respond effectively during emergencies.

In line with this commitment, the Society offers comprehensive first aid training to both individuals and corporate clients on a fee-for-service basis. These trainings not only equip participants with life-saving skills but also contribute to the sustainability of the Society's humanitarian programs. By expanding access to first aid education, the Baphalali Eswatini Red Cross Society continues to strengthen community preparedness and ensure that more lives can be saved through timely, informed action.

2

Empowered to Thrive: Mngometulu's Journey to Self-Reliance

"I received my money from the Red Cross, and I am quite happy," shared Mngometulu, proudly showing off her recent purchase free-range chickens and poultry care kits worth E1,050.00.

Thanks to support from the Baphalali Eswatini Red Cross Society, Mngometulu not only received financial assistance but also participated in training on poultry management. "I've kept chickens before, but they all died, that was a huge loss, especially because I have a large family," she recalled. "This time, the training has equipped me with the knowledge I need to properly care for them. I feel more confident, and I now know where to turn for support if I face challenges."

With her new knowledge and resources, Mngometulu plans to launch a small chicken business to generate income for her family. "This has been an eye-opening experience. I'm truly grateful to Baphalali," she said, smiling at her box of healthy chicks.

In addition to starting her poultry venture, Mngometulu was able to use the remaining funds to purchase essential food items such as maize flour, helping to ensure her family's well-being in the short term while working toward longer-term stability.

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

- [SZ_Kingdom of Eswatini AR Financials.pdf](#)
- [Subscribe for updates](#)
- [Donor response](#) on IFRC website
- [Live Disaster Response Emergency Fund \(DREF\)](#) data
- Operational information: [IFRC GO platform](#)
- National Society data: [IFRC Federation-wide Databank and Reporting System](#)
- [Evaluations database](#)

Contact information

Danger Nhlabatsi

Secretary General
National Headquarters | 104 Dzeliwe Street | Mbabane |
Eswatini
T +268 2404 2532, 2404 6106 | +268 7602 8861
dnhlabatsi@redcross.org.sz
facebook.com/BaphalaliEswatiniRedCrossSociety

Louise Daintrey-Hall

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

Mercy Laker

Head of Delegation
IFRC Country Cluster Delegation for
South Africa, Botswana, Eswatini,
Lesotho & Namibia, based in Pretoria
mercy.laker@ifrc.org

Sumitha Martin

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