

DUTCH AND ENGLISH SPEAKING CARIBBEAN

2024 IFRC network annual report, Jan-Dec

4 September 2025

IN SUPPORT OF THE RED CROSS NATIONAL SOCIETIES OF THE DUTCH AND ENGLISH SPEAKING CARIBBEAN













National Society branches



National Society local units



1,414
National Society
volunteers



National Society staff

PEOPLE REACHED

Climate and environment



75

Disaster and crises



4,365

Health and wellbeing



72,230

Migration and displacement



3,894

Values, power and inclusion



20

Appeal number

MAABB002 | MAADM001 MAABZ002 | MAAGY001 MAATT001

OVERALL PROGRESS

Context

The Caribbean region, comprising 13 Dutch and English-speaking nations, faces a complex web of challenges that span environmental, social and economic realms. Climate change intensifies the frequency and severity of natural disasters, including hurricanes, floods, and rising sea levels, which affect both the environment and essential sectors like tourism and agriculture. These small island developing states are especially vulnerable to climate-related disruptions, straining recovery efforts and critical infrastructure. Latest reports indicate that 74 per cent of Latin American and Caribbean countries are highly exposed to extreme weather events which in turn reducing agricultural productivity, disrupting food supply chains, impacting food environments and threatening progress in reducing hunger and malnutrition in the region.

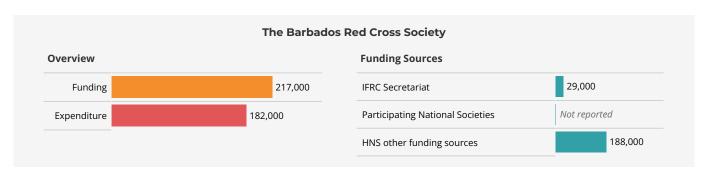
In 2024, the National Societies in the Caribbean were forced to respond to <u>multiple concurrent disasters</u>, including <u>Hurricane Beryl</u> in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Grenada, Barbados, and Jamaica as well as <u>fires</u> in Belize. Due to the multi-dimensional vulnerabilities of Caribbean small island developing states, exacerbated by economic, social, and environmental factors, as well as the frequency of disasters in this region, recovery from crises can take years.

Non-communicable diseases remained a challenge in 2024 and were of particular concern – it is estimated that in they caused 81 per cent of deaths in the region. These conditions, such as <u>hypertension</u>, <u>diabetes</u>, <u>obesity and cancer</u>, are the major causes of death and account for the greatest share of the disease burden in the Caribbean.

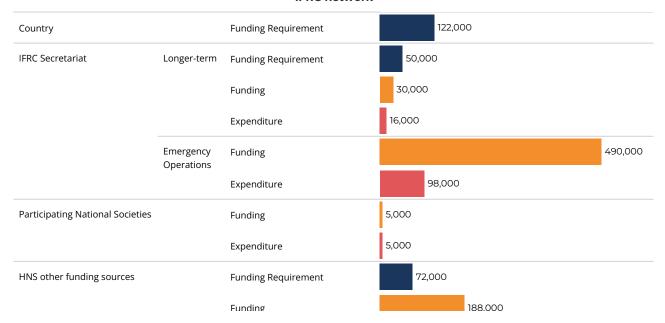
BARBADOS

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

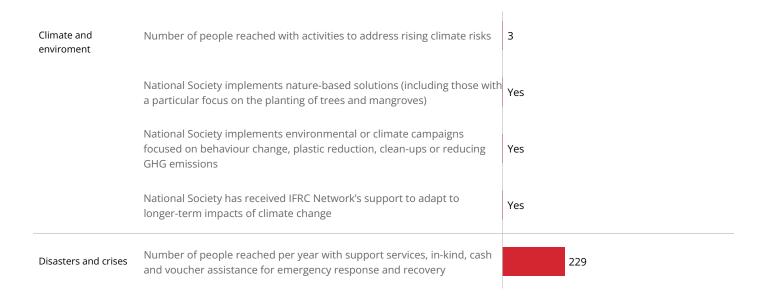
in Swiss francs (CHF)

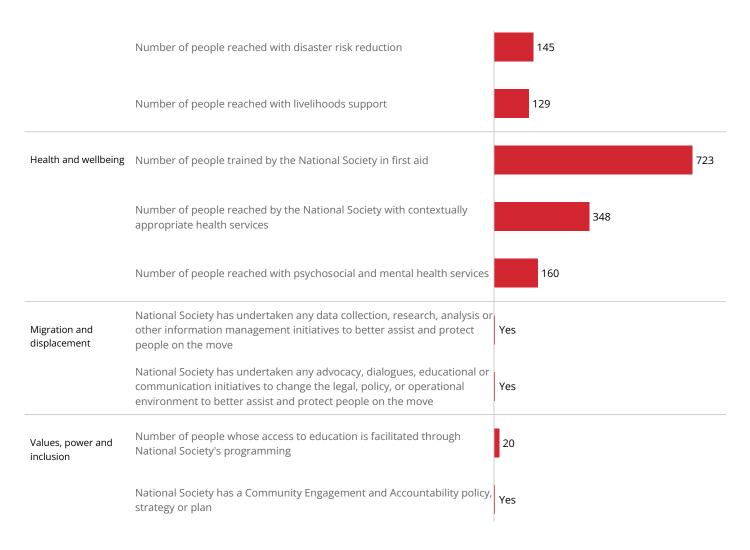


IFRC network



STRATEGIC PRIORITIES





ENABLING FUNCTIONS

operational coordination	Number of government-led coordination platforms the National Society is part of	2		
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 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

Total Funding Reported CHF 5,000

Q1. OVERALL PERFORMANCE

Key achievements

Climate and environment

In 2024, the Barbados Red Cross Society's efforts included the scaling-up of <u>enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (eVCA) to carry out micro-projects in targeted communities for 2025. The National Society volunteers were trained in the climate-smart Livelihoods Programming Course (LPC), which later supported the <u>livelihoods efforts</u> during Beryl operations.</u>

Disasters and crises

During the reporting period, the National Society responded to Hurricane Beryl with support from the IFRC Emergency appeal to carry out activities in shelter, water, hygiene and sanitation (WASH) and multipurpose cash. Prior to impact, the Barbados Red Cross Society distributed hygiene kits and buckets to vulnerable households, conducted an online Psychological First Aid session for staff and volunteers, and deployed volunteers to provide first aid at nine emergency collective centres in line with its mandate. Additionally, volunteers assisted the Department of Emergency Management (DEM) and the Caribbean Disaster and Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) with call centres and warehouse operations.

Health and wellbeing

In anticipation of Hurricane Beryl, the Barbados Red Cross Society distributed hygiene kits to households with additional kits stored in its warehouse. The National Society worked closely with its partners, such as the Barbados Fisheries Department and the World Food Programme, to adapt their response. The National Society also launched a programme with the Psychiatric Hospital to deliver <u>Psychological First Aid</u> (PFA) training. In partnership with the Ministry of Health and Wellness, the National Society hosted its first Men's Wellness Day, which saw an overwhelming response. Attendees were offered free health screenings, including blood sugar, blood pressure, and prostate cancer tests, with 207 men receiving prostate cancer screenings.

Values, power and inclusion

The Barbados Red Cross Society trained volunteers in <u>Community Engagement and Accountability</u> (CEA), introduction to warehousing, and exhibitor etiquette. The National Society also identified the need for a reliable feedback mechanism to enhance communication with communities and the public. Under the Emergency Appeal's post-distribution monitoring, the National Society prioritised strengthening two-way engagement with communities and beneficiaries in 2025.

Enabling local actors

Through strengthened collaborations with youth organisations and an enhanced digital presence, the Barbados Red Cross Society focused on expanding and diversifying its youth volunteers. Programmes like Youth Link and the Youth Commission were re-established to increase participation, especially in disaster management. The National Society reviewed the Organization Capacity Assessment and Certification (OCAC) recommendations, the Preparedness for Effective Response (PER) action plan, and the recommendations coming out of the ongoing Human Resources audit.

Q2. CHANGES AND AMENDMENTS

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

Q3. MEASURING RESULTS OF THE IFRC NETWORK ACTION

ONGOING EMERGENCY RESPONSE

For real-time information on emergencies, see IFRC GO page: Americas

1.

Name	Hurricane Beryl Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Grenada, Barbados, and Jamaica
Appeal number	MDRS2001
Duration	12 months (5 July 2024 to 4 July 2025)
People affected	1,280,000 people
People to be assisted	25,000 people
Funding requirements	Funding requirements through the IFRC Appeal: CHF 4 million Federation-wide Funding requirements: CHF 4.5 million
Emergency Appeal	Hurricane Beryl- Emergency Appeal
Operational Strategy	Hurricane Beryl-Operational Strategy
Operational Update	IFRC Information Message 8

On 29 June 2024, the first major hurricane of the 2024 Atlantic hurricane season was hurricane Beryl which was the earliest Category 4 hurricane to form in recorded history, on 30 June. By 1 July, it became a Category 5 hurricane with maximum sustained winds of 270 km/h. Hurricane Beryl made landfall on 1 July in Barbados, Grenada, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines as a Category 4, causing several deaths and severely damaging most of the properties on the islands. Hurricane Beryl intensified to a category 5 as it approached Jamaica, bringing with it the potential for severe impacts. Reports indicate extensive damage, including numerous fallen trees that have blocked roads, landslides, widespread power outages in multiple communities, and structural damage due to high winds.

For the response, the Red Cross Societies of the four countries activated their Emergency Operations Centres to coordinate efforts with local partners. Through this Emergency Appeal, the IFRC aims to support the Barbados Red Cross, Grenada Red Cross, Jamaica Red Cross, the Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Red Cross in responding to the 2024 hurricane.

Short description of the emergency operational strategy

This Emergency Appeal aims to provide humanitarian assistance as well as short to medium-term recovery support to withstand future climate-related shocks and stresses to 25,000 people (5,000 families) living in the affected areas of Barbados, Grenada, Jamaica, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. The response will be conducted over twelve months, with an emergency phase of three months followed by recovery activities. The relief efforts will encompass various forms of assistance. This includes Shelter, Livelihoods, Cash and Voucher Assistance, Mental Health and Psychosocial Support, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene, Risk Reduction, and Recovery interventions. Considerations for Protection, Gender and Inclusion and Community Engagement and Accountability will underpin all activities. In addition, the operation aims to strengthen the institutional capacity of the National Societies in order to reinforce ongoing

and future response capabilities through the additional training of staff and volunteers, 15 further developments of volunteer management systems, increased logistics capacity, and the procurement of critical equipment, among other initiatives.

For the period <u>5 July 2024 to 4 July 2025</u>, the following assistance was provided:

Shelter, Housing, and Settlements

Provide immediate and medium-term shelter solutions for individuals and families affected by Hurricane Beryl, ensuring safe and dignified living conditions.

Livelihoods

Support the protection, restoration and strengthening of the livelihoods of families affected by Hurricane Beryl.

Multi-purpose Cash

Provide dignified and effective assistance to individuals and families affected by Hurricane Beryl through CVA, enabling them to meet their basic needs.

Health & Care

Enhance the well-being of the affected population by providing immediate first aid, mental health, and psychosocial support to individuals and communities affected by Hurricane Beryl.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Reduce the risk of waterborne diseases and ensure the dignity of the affected population through the provision of safe, inclusive WASH services.

Protection, Gender and Inclusion

Enhance resilience and reduce the vulnerability of communities affected by Hurricane Beryl through comprehensive PGI measures, including the implementation of Protection, Safety, and Safeguarding mechanisms in affected communities.

Community Engagement and Accountability

Ensure that affected families and other stakeholders are engaged in the design, implementation, and monitoring of the response operation.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2024, the Barbados Red Cross Society worked to strengthen its climate-smart approach through micro-mitigation activities at the community level. Its efforts included the scaling-up of <u>enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment</u> (eVCA) to carry out micro-projects in targeted communities.

The National Society volunteers were trained in the climate-smart Livelihoods Programming Course (LPC) who later supported the <u>livelihoods efforts</u> during Beryl operations.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the Barbados Red Cross Society through training volunteers in the climate-smart Livelihoods Programming Course (LPC).



Progress by the National Society against objectives

For real-time information on emergencies, visit the IFRC GO page: Barbados

In July 2024, Barbados was impacted by the passage of Hurricane Beryl. The National Society played an active role in monitoring developments and initiating early response actions. Prior to impact, the Barbados Red Cross Society distributed hygiene kits and buckets to vulnerable households, conducted an online <u>Psychological First Aid</u> session for staff and volunteers, and deployed volunteers to provide <u>first aid</u> at nine emergency collective centres in line with its mandate.

Additionally, volunteers assisted the Department of Emergency Management (DEM) with call centres and warehouse operations. At the request of the Caribbean Disaster and Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA), the National Society volunteers also assisted with operations at the agency's Transshipment Hub at the Barbados Port Inc. Under the Early Warning for All (EW4ALL) initiative, the National Society actively engaged in stakeholder consultations and in the development of the roadmap and implementation plan. This led to the Barbados Red Cross Society's appointment as a member of the Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems (MHEWS) Advisory Committee, an advisory body established by the Department of Emergency Management.

The Barbados Red Cross Society undertook several initiatives to strengthen disaster resilience in at-risk communities during the reporting period. Three members of the National Society participated in the Community Disaster Response Teams (CDRT) training by the <u>Caribbean Disaster Risk Management</u> (CaDRiM). Additionally, eight trainers were certified through a Trainer of Trainers workshop and community engagement sessions were held in Bath Land/Welch.

The Barbados Red Cross Society aims to enhance community resilience by implementing an inclusive and integrated risk management framework. This objective focuses on improving disaster preparedness, adaptability, and response within communities, while also bolstering national security. Key actions include developing disaster management manuals, establishing Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for Emergency Operations Centres, and strengthening early warning systems.

Additionally, the Barbados Red Cross Society seeks to enhance its Meals on Wheels (MoW) programme to better serve vulnerable populations in times of crisis. It has completed the first stage of its' kitchen garden, designed to supplement the plant-based options available to the Meals on Wheels kitchen, promote organic approaches to gardening, and create a teaching site for volunteers.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided technical and financial assistance to the Barbados Red Cross Society for emergency response mechanisms. It supported the National Society through IFRC mechanisms such as the Disaster Response Emergency Fund (<u>DREF</u>) and the IFRC Emergency Appeal, which were utilized by the National Society in times of disasters and crises to effectively support those who face immediate needs during times of emergency.



Health and wellbeing

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In anticipation of Hurricane Beryl's passage through the country, the National Society distributed hygiene kits to 120 households with an additional 80 kits stored in the Barbados Red Cross Society's warehouse in June. The National Society worked closely with its partners such as Barbados Fisheries Department and the World Food Programme to adapt their response.

The National Society also launched a programme with the Psychiatric Hospital to deliver <u>Psychological First Aid</u> (PFA) training to staff members from the Ministries of Labour, Health, and the Public Service. This initiative is led by the Psychiatric Hospital and will continue in 2025.

In partnership with the Ministry of Health and Wellness, the National Society hosted its first Men's Wellness Day, which saw an overwhelming response. The event, held on 3rd February at the Barbados Red Cross Society in Warrens, St. Michael, featured expert speakers on men's health, nutrition, and stress management. Attendees were offered free health screenings, including blood sugar, blood pressure, and prostate cancer tests, with 207 men receiving prostate cancer screenings. The event also included interactive workshops and activities aimed at empowering men to take charge of their health.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the Barbados Red Cross Society with advocating for the National Society's auxiliary role during a meeting with the Deputy Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of People Empowerment and Elder Affairs.



Values, power and inclusion

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Barbados Red Cross Society remained committed to supporting a deeper understanding and dissemination of <u>Fundamental Principles</u> and humanitarian values. In support of this mission, the organization held volunteer training sessions covering essential topics such as Introduction to <u>Community Engagement and Accountability</u> (CEA), Introduction to Warehousing, and Exhibitor Etiquette. To further enhance volunteer engagement, the National Society completed the development of a volunteer e-book, providing a valuable resource for ongoing education and support to volunteers.

The National Society also identified the need for a reliable feedback mechanism to enhance communication with communities and the public. Under the Emergency Appeal post-distribution monitoring, the National Society has prioritized the need to strengthen two-way engagement with communities and beneficiaries in 2025.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided technical and financial support to the National Society.



The Barbados Red Cross conducted a post-distribution monitoring exercise to support the fisherfolk in Bridgetown and Oistins Fish Markets. (Photo: The Barbados Red Cross)

ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS



Strategic and operational coordination

IFRC membership coordination

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

In the Dutch and English-speaking Caribbean, various established national and regional mechanisms provide space for coordination and knowledge sharing. Those include, most prominently, the Red Cross Caribbean Disaster Risk Management Cell (CADRIM), which takes the lead in building and contributing knowledge and providing services to the IFRC network in the Caribbean, as well as contributes to the Americas and globally. CADRIM actively works towards the development of evidence, data and research on how to strengthen community resilience through sustainable preparedness and risk reduction activities, particularly in small island developing states.

Movement coordination

The Barbados 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 supports the Barbados Red Cross Society in its work on restoring family links and tracing, primarily in the areas of migration, and in promoting international humanitarian law through its Caracas regional delegation.

External coordination

In 2021, the IFRC signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre, and it is expected that more will be signed by the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States, the University of the West Indies, Cavehill Campus in Barbados, and the Digicel Group. The Barbados Red Cross Society also collaborates with the Ministry of Health for its various health initiatives.



National Society development

Progress by the National Society against objectives

Through strengthened collaborations with youth organizations and an enhanced digital presence, the Barbados Red Cross Society focused on expanding and diversifying its youth volunteers. Programmes like Youth Link and the Youth Commission were re-established to increase participation, especially in disaster management. The National Society also worked on improving volunteer satisfaction and retention through targeted activities and capacity-building efforts. Partnerships helped broaden the volunteer base. Additionally, a review of the Statutes ensured alignment with modern standards, while a comprehensive organizational development plan supported resilience, sustainability, and sound financial management. By securing accident and injury insurance for 33 active volunteers from March to December 2024, the Barbados Red Cross Society further enhanced volunteer safety and well-being, ensuring coverage for accidents and fatalities while performing Red Cross duties.

The Barbados Red Cross Society reviewed the <u>Organization Capacity Assessment and Certification</u> (OCAC) recommendations, the <u>Preparedness for Effective Response</u> (PER) action plan, and the recommendations coming out of the ongoing Human Resources audit. These efforts aimed to identify key gaps and areas requiring intervention.

The Barbados Red Cross Society also completed the initial phase of launching its Thrift Shop. It is expected that the Thrift Shop will provide an additional income stream for the National Society, while promoting the 'slow clothing movement' and sustainable approaches to fashion.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC continues to provide support to the National Society with technical and financial assistance. The IFRC continued collaborating with the Barbados Red Cross Society to review the OCAC and PER documents.



Humanitarian diplomacy

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2024, the National Society received legislative advocacy training allowing participants to increase their knowledge and learn key advocacy concepts and strengthen their capacity to design and implement advocacy strategies. Topics covered during the training included strengthening the auxiliary role, developing an advocacy message, the elevator pitch, credibility and risk, using the opposition, the influence tree, the theory of change, among other topics. Additionally, the participants were able to develop their own draft advocacy strategies for strengthening their auxiliary role and enhancing their strategic positioning with key government partners.

In May, the Barbados Red Cross Society attended the United Nations Fourth International Conference on Small Island Developing States (SIDS4 Conference), as part of the IFRC delegation, held in Antigua and Barbuda under the theme "Charting the course toward resilient prosperity." The political outcome of the Conference was the <u>Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for SIDS</u> (ABAS), which replaced the <u>SAMOA Pathway</u> (SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action), as the new intergovernmental agreed outcome document or new 10-year Programme of Action (PoA) for SIDS.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the National Society with facilitating legislative advocacy training participants from the National Society.



Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2024, the Barbados Red Cross Society focused on enhancing organizational accountability by revising its statutes and seeking support from the IFRC Secretariat.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the National Society through a comprehensive human resources review of the organization's capacity. This included a document review and consultations with staff and key members of the Governing Board.

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

Nothing to report



1

Hurricane Beryl Response and Fisherfolk

In response to Hurricane Beryl, the Barbados Red Cross Society (BRCS) supported the recovery of fish vendors through a targeted cash assistance programme. Beyond cash assistance, the National Society played a key role in strengthening assessment and registration methodologies. It shared critical tools, lessons learned, and a list of unregistered vendors with partners to enhance future interventions. Recognizing additional recovery needs, the National Society initiated further support to fisherfolk who lost fish pots during the hurricane. After reassessing the situation, it was found that some needs had already been met through the efforts of local organizations, but gaps remained in several fishing villages.

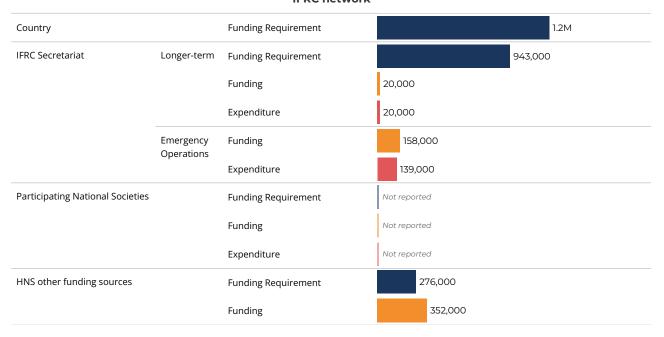


FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

in Swiss francs (CHF)



IFRC network



STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Climate and enviroment	Number of people reached with activities to address environmental problems	72
	National Society implements nature-based solutions (including those with a particular focus on the planting of trees and mangroves)	Yes
	National Society implements environmental or climate campaigns focused on behaviour change, plastic reduction, clean-ups or reducing GHG emissions	Yes
	National Society has received IFRC Network's support to adapt to longer-term impacts of climate change	Yes

Disasters and crises	Number of people reached with disaster risk reduction	3,000
	Number of people reached with livelihoods support	2,000
	Number of people reached per year with support services, in-kind, cash and voucher assistance for emergency response and recovery	616
	Number of people reached with shelter support	10
	Percentage of assistance delivered using cash and vouchers	30%
Health and wellbeing	Number of people reached by the National Society with contextually appropriate water, sanitation and hygiene services	69,000
	Number of people reached by the National Society with contextually appropriate health services	13,000
	Number of people reached with psychosocial and mental health services	3,000
	Number of people trained by the National Society in first aid	1,000
	Number of people donating blood	102
Migration and displacement	Number of migrants and displaced persons reached with services for assistance and protection	1,000
	Number of Humanitarian Service Points (HSPs) providing assistance and/or protection to people on the move along migration routes	1
	National Society has undertaken any data collection, research, analysis or other information management initiatives to better assist and protect people on the move	Yes
	National Society has undertaken any advocacy, dialogues, educational or communication initiatives to change the legal, policy, or operational environment to better assist and protect people on the move	Yes
Values, power and inclusion	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
Coordination	Number of government-led coordination platforms the National Society is part of	4
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 strengthened its integrity and reputational risk mechanism	Yes

Q1. OVERALL PERFORMANCE

Key achievements

Climate and environment

In 2024, the Belize Red Cross Society demonstrated strong leadership in climate action and environmental resilience. It responded swiftly to devastating wildfires in the Toledo District, supported affected farming communities and reinforced its preparedness capacities. The National Society engaged youth in climate education and stewardship through clean-up campaigns and awareness sessions. It actively participated in national and regional climate forums, contributed to oil spill preparedness, and collaborated with Green Climate Fund consultants to advance its strategic focus on disaster risk reduction, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) and livelihoods. Regionally, its presence at COP16 in Colombia solidified its role in biodiversity advocacy and climate diplomacy.

Disasters and crises

In this reporting period, the Belize Red Cross Society led impactful disaster response operations, including wildfire relief in Toledo and flood assistance following Tropical Storm Sara, reaching thousands with <u>cash</u>, food, hygiene kits and assessments. It strengthened community resilience through CDRT training and hosted a Lessons Learned Workshop to improve future emergency responses. The Belize Red Cross Society advanced food security by developing a regional case study on Indigenous livelihoods, set to be published in 2025. The National Society contributed to legal reform efforts, presented at global forums such as SIDS4 and hosted a Legislative Advocacy Workshop to build internal capacity. Its collaboration with NEMO and other partners reinforced its role in shaping Belize's disaster governance and legal frameworks.

Health and wellbeing

In 2024, the Belize Red Cross Society strengthened its role in national public health platforms, promoting workplace safety and First Aid awareness and contributing to hurricane season preparedness. It expanded First Aid outreach through training and public engagement, supported mental health advocacy via youth-led initiatives and facilitated blood drives across multiple districts. The Belize Red Cross Society contributed to CARPHA's mosquito-borne disease prevention survey and led Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) interventions in 12 villages, training community leaders in PHAST methodology and supporting hygiene campaigns. It also played a key role in national WASH planning and governance through participation in the multisectoral body and the TRACKFIN survey closing session.

Migration and displacement

In response to Belize's growing migrant crisis, the Belize Red Cross Society strengthened partnerships with external stakeholders to ensure migrants received humanitarian aid and accurate information on regularization. The Migrant Information Hub in San Ignacio remained a vital resource, offering support with documentation, vocational training, and education grants, while outreach efforts extended to rural communities via pop-up events and media campaigns. Despite funding challenges, the Hub continued operations, assisting individuals through various services including psychosocial support and mobile hubs. The Belize Red Cross Society also conducted Rapid Needs Assessments in migrant communities across four districts. A workshop on domestic violence against migrant women and girls further reinforced the National Society's commitment to protection and empowerment.

Values, power and inclusion

In 2024, the Belize Red Cross Society advanced humanitarian education and advocacy through strategic leadership and partnerships. The Director General contributed to the development of the Movement Protection Framework, reinforcing the National Society's commitment to humanitarian principles. The National Society promoted inclusive education and professional development by participating in career fairs and graduating 101 individuals—mostly women—from its Home Care Givers program. It supported children's well-being through creative activities and engaged youth in community service. The Belize Red Cross Society adopted a comprehensive Protection, Gender and Inclusion (<u>PGI</u>) approach, distributing wheelchairs, supporting persons with disabilities and advocating for legislative reforms during the 16 Days of Activism campaign against gender-based violence. The Director General also delivered a keynote address at the National Council for the Ageing's annual conference, emphasizing dignity and inclusion for older persons and caregivers.

Enabling local actors

In this reporting period, the Belize Red Cross Society focused on strengthening its branch network and volunteer engagement. It worked to reactivate the Orange Walk and San Pedro branches, conducted a Branch Organizational Capacity Assessment (BOCA) review in Stann Creek, and hosted a Branch Development Framework meeting to align goals across active branches. The wildfire operation reinforced disaster response capacity in Toledo, while preparations began for the 2026–2030 Strategic Plan. The National Society invested in youth leadership through seminars and training, updated its volunteer database, and contributed to IFRC youth engagement surveys. Volunteers supported numerous community events, participated in hurricane preparedness sessions, and represented the Society at the Uplawapni Technical Conference in Honduras, gaining insights into volunteer management and sanitation practices.

The National Society also advanced its advocacy and accountability efforts. It hosted a Legislative Advocacy and Auxiliary Role training in May, empowering staff and volunteers to influence policy reform. The Belize Red Cross Society represented Belize at the SIDS4 Conference in Antigua, sharing experiences in disaster and climate risk governance. Internally, it initiated financial audits, conducted a performance review and developed a restructuring proposal. A donation from SOL supported operations, while digital transformation efforts—funded by the IFRC Capacity Building Fund (CBF)—led to equipment upgrades and improved financial software. An IT volunteer assessed digital gaps and submitted a Wishlist to IFRC, furthering the National Society's modernization and operational efficiency.

Q2. CHANGES AND AMENDMENTS

The National Society's pace of implementation and reporting was impacted due to the initial delay and emergency operations conducted by the National Society related to wildfires in Toledo and Cayo districts and Tropical Storm Sara.

Q3. MEASURING RESULTS OF THE IFRC NETWORK ACTION

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2024, in response to prolonged high temperatures and low rainfall that triggered widespread fires—particularly in the Toledo District—the Belize Red Cross Society swiftly mobilized its preparedness capacities to support affected communities. These fires devastated livelihoods and subsistence crops for hundreds of farming families and caused significant environmental damage. The National Society's timely response highlighted its readiness to tackle climate-induced emergencies.

In March 2024, the Belize Red Cross Society collaborated with educational institutions and Oceana Belize for a coastal clean-up on World Water Day. This hands-on activity fostered environmental stewardship among students and covered a large stretch of Marine Parade. Later in October, the National Society youth group participated in a climate awareness session led by an intern, where they explored the disaster cycle—preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation—and learned how to contribute to climate adaptation and sustainability through small, impactful actions.

The National Society also strengthened its role in national and regional climate dialogues. It participated in a four-day workshop in March on National Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response, and Co-operation, organized by key maritime and environmental stakeholders. This engagement aligned with Belize's National Oil Spill Contingency Plan and reinforced the National Society's commitment to environmental protection.

In June 2024, the Belize Red Cross Society joined the 12th National Climate Outlook Forum hosted by the Belize National Meteorological Office. The forum emphasized the importance of meteorological services in climate action, early warning systems, and disaster risk reduction. The following month, the National Society attended another NCOF organized by the Ministry of Blue Economy and Civil Society, which provided seasonal climate forecasts to inform planning across agriculture, health, water, and disaster management sectors. These forums promoted inter-agency coordination and enhanced access to climate risk information.

Throughout the year, the Belize Red Cross Society collaborated with Green Climate Fund consultants to finalize its Concept Note, focusing on three strategic areas: Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) and Livelihoods.

Regionally, the National Society participated in the Climate and Environment Champions Meeting during COP16 in Cali, Colombia. This event aimed to establish actionable frameworks for biodiversity conservation and further solidified the National Society's role in regional climate advocacy.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supports the Belize Red Cross Society to advocate for nature-based solutions in the partnerships and policies being developed. It provides technical support, updated tools, new technology, and guidance, alongside assisting the National Societies with writing proposals related to climate change and environmental sustainability.



For real-time information on emergencies, visit IFRC GO page: Belize.

In 2024, two IFRC Disaster Response Emergency Fund (IFRC-DREF) was approved for wildfire-related emergency in Belize.

NAME OF THE OPERATION	Belize Forest Fires
MDR-CODE	MDRBZ008
DURATION	4 months (6 June 2024 to 31 October 2024)
FUNDING ALLOCATION	CHF 158,160
PEOPLE TARGETED	800 people

The DREF allocation of CHF 158,160 in June 2024 supported the Belize Red Cross Society in aiding approximately 800 people affected by forest fires in the area of Toledo. Within a period of four months from June 2024 to October 2024, the National Society conducted interventions such as multipurpose cash assistance for affected families, distribution of PPEs, provision of hygiene and cleaning kits, among others.

Progress by the National Society against objectives

Throughout 2024, the Belize Red Cross Society led an IFRC Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) operation in response to wildfires in the Toledo District. The operation targeted nine communities, delivering support in water and sanitation, health, cash assistance, and community engagement. The National Society provided Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) to over 1,000 individuals, while additional aid from the Inter-American Development Bank enabled food and farming supply distributions to help families restart agricultural activities.

In November, the Belize Red Cross Society responded to flooding caused by Tropical Storm Sara in the Cayo and Belize Districts. At NEMO's request, the National Society conducted house-to-house assessments and distributed food, hygiene kits, cleaning supplies, and mattresses, reaching over 2,000 people. The National Society also facilitated targeted grocery box distributions to families most in need.

In its efforts under community resilience and capacity building, the Belize Red Cross Society advanced its disaster preparedness goals through Community Disaster Response Team (CDRT) training in Calla Creek and Santa Familia.

These sessions combined classroom instruction with flood monitoring and community assessments, culminating in draft disaster plans for both villages. Although training paused in November due to funding delays, 64 community members had already benefited.

The National Society also hosted a Lessons Learned Workshop in October to evaluate its wildfire response, fostering collaborative reflection and generating recommendations to improve future operations. Additionally, volunteers participated in hurricane preparedness training, including psychosocial first aid and safety protocols.

Under livelihoods and ensuring food security, the Belize Red Cross Society developed regional case study on Indigenous knowledge and income generation, focusing on the Maya Nut Association in Harmonyville. This initiative is part of a broader effort to enhance understanding of livelihood support within humanitarian contexts. The case study will be published as a 'Story Map' and shared via CADRIM's platform in 2025.

The Belize Red Cross Society continued to expand its leadership in disaster law as Deputy Chair of the Regional IDRL Working Group. In 2024, it contributed to the development and presentation of an IDRL Gap Analysis Report and model provisions for CDEMA's CDM Policy and Legislation. The National Society also participated in the IFRC's Pre-Hurricane Conference and the SIDS Conference in Antigua, advocating for stronger legal frameworks and inclusive disaster governance. In May 2024, the National Society hosted a Legislative Advocacy Training Workshop, empowering participants to design strategies on topics such as mandatory first aid training and Red Cross law reform. The training included a 'Training of Trainers' component to build internal advocacy capacity.

Further collaboration with NEMO included sensitization meetings and an IDRL Workshop in August, where the National Society introduced tools and recommendations to strengthen Belize's disaster laws and policies. These efforts aim to enhance the country's regulatory framework for international disaster response and risk governance.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supports the Belize Red Cross Society by hosting the training of Caribbean disaster response teams (CDRT) to expand the cadre of people able to enhance community resilience. The IFRC will also provide if needed, trained enhanced vulnerability and capacity assessment (eVCA) facilitators to support the completion of eVCAs in selected communities across the countries. IFRC mechanisms such as the disaster response emergency fund (DREF) and the IFRC Emergency Appeal are utilized by the National Society in times of disasters and crises to effectively support those who face immediate needs during times of emergency.



The Belize Red Cross distributed essential food and cleaning kits to families in Otoxhal, close to the Guatemala border. (Photo: The IFRC)

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2024, the Belize Red Cross Society worked on strengthening its role in national public health platforms. It promoted workplace safety and First Aid awareness during World Day for Safety and Health at Work via national media. Ahead of the hurricane season, the National Society participated in the Ministry of Health and Wellness's annual health cluster meeting to assess institutional readiness, update disaster plans, and identify health gaps.

Under first aid, mental health and community health services, the Belize Red Cross Society expanded its <u>First Aid</u> outreach through training and public engagement. Volunteers received instruction in vital sign monitoring, enabling them to offer health checks at public events. The National Society conducted First Aid and CPR training for high school teachers and supported numerous events, including sports tournaments, health fairs and awareness campaigns.

Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) advocacy was also prioritized. Youth groups at Saint John's College Junior College and Saint Catherine Academy organized activities for Mental Health Day, promoting emotional well-being through peer support and expert talks.

The Belize Red Cross Society facilitated multiple blood drives throughout the year, collecting over 100 units of blood. Collaborations with the Belize National Blood Bank, Transparent BPO, and regional hospitals helped address blood shortages. Drives were held in Belize City, San Pedro, Belmopan, and during World Red Cross Day and World Blood Donors Day, fostering strong community participation.

Between February and April 2024, the Belize Red Cross Society supported CARPHA's mosquito-borne disease prevention survey, exceeding its target with 549 completed surveys across four regions. Volunteers from five branches participated, contributing valuable data and insights into public health practices.

Under the National Society's Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (<u>WASH</u>) interventions, community leaders were trained across 12 villages in PHAST methodology. Monitoring visits confirmed widespread implementation of hygiene education, clean-up campaigns, and disease prevention efforts. Despite access challenges due to flooding, outreach continued in all but one village.

The Belize Red Cross Society also participated in the WASH Multisectoral Body meeting in June, contributing to emergency preparedness planning and water system assessments. The National Society was identified as a key partner for future nationwide WASH training. Additionally, the Belize Red Cross Society engaged in the closing session of the TRACKFIN WASH survey, supporting national efforts to improve water and sanitation governance.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provides the Belize Red Cross Society with technical guidance and support through the sharing of case studies, tools, materials, methodologies, and other resources. It also supports the training of staff and volunteers, especially those working in First Aid, ambulance management, and as Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs).



Migration and displacement

Progress by National Society against objectives

In 2024, amid Belize's growing migrant crisis, the Belize Red Cross Society worked on strengthening its partnerships with UNICEF and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) to ensure migrants have access to humanitarian aid and accurate information on regularization processes. The Migrant Information Hub at the San Ignacio Branch remained a central resource, offering guidance on the Government's Amnesty programme, document retrieval, vocational training and education grants. Outreach efforts included pop-up events, social media campaigns, and radio ads targeting rural communities in the Cayo District.

Despite funding uncertainties in May, the hub continued its operations, assisting over 150 migrants through IOM-supported programs. In July 2024, it hosted student sessions and pop-up booths to reach underserved migrants, providing information on passport and nationality applications, referrals for essential services and psychosocial support.

By October 31, 2024, the National Society concluded the fourth phase of the Integrated Response on Migration (IRM) programme, with Phase 5 scheduled to begin in November. Throughout the year, 558 individuals benefited from the Hub's services, which included case closures, financial support for documentation, updates on the amnesty process and mobile hub deployments. The Hub also conducted psychosocial workshops and increased visibility through consistent reporting and promotional activities.

Late in 2024, the Belize Red Cross Society held a workshop on domestic violence against migrant women and girls, reinforcing its commitment to protection and empowerment. A new agreement with IOM for continued support was pending, but services remained uninterrupted.

Lastly, in collaboration with UNICEF and IOM, the Belize Red Cross Society conducted Rapid Needs Assessments in migrant communities across multiple districts. These assessments reached 779 individuals in 391 households, identifying urgent needs and informing future programming. The surveys covered communities in Toledo, Cayo, Corozal, and Orange Walk Districts, with ongoing efforts to complete remaining targets.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provides the Belize Red Cross Society with financial support, technical guidance, case studies, success stories, and peer-to-peer support to build its capacity to expand its migration programming.

The ICRC provides support to the Belize Red Cross Society under the Restoring Family Links (RFL) intervention.



Values, power and inclusion

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2024, the Belize Red Cross Society continued to contribute to humanitarian education and advocacy through strategic partnerships and leadership. The Director General played an active role on the Protection Advisory Board, which developed the Movement Protection Framework (MPF). This framework, under review for formal adoption, guides protection works across the Red Cross Movement. Its core elements were discussed during a virtual Protection Hour in April, reinforcing the National Society's commitment to humanitarian principles.

The Belize Red Cross Society promoted access to quality education and professional development, especially for vulnerable groups. It participated in the Women's Economic and Empowerment Fair and Edward P. Yorke High School Career Day, promoting its Home Caregivers certification and First Aid training. By December, 101 individuals (mostly women) graduated from the Home Care Givers program across five cohorts.

Additionally, the Belize Red Cross Society collaborated with Queen Street Baptist School for the SCA Golden Nest Egg Project, offering creative and nutritional activities to children aged 5–13. Youth groups also completed community service at Sister Cecilia's Home for the elderly and supported Headquarters operations during Service Day.

In 2024, the Belize Red Cross Society adopted a comprehensive approach to Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (<u>PGI</u>) across its programmes. It distributed wheelchairs in 2024, exhausting its 2023 stock, and maintained a database of recipients. The National Society expressed interest in continuing the programme with support from The Latter-day Saints Church. The National Society's support for persons with disabilities included monthly grocery and hygiene assistance, and the recruitment of a Home Caregiver for a couple in need. The National Society also played a key role in the 16 Days of Activism campaign against Gender-Based Violence (GBV), advocating for legislative reforms and participating in marches and awareness events. Youth volunteers and branch representatives actively contributed to these efforts.

The Director General delivered a keynote address at the National Council for the Ageing's annual conference, emphasizing dignity, inclusion, and the rights of older persons. Her message echoed global calls to strengthen care systems and recognize the contributions of caregivers.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provides the Belize Red Cross Society with financial support, technical guidance, case studies, success stories and peer-to-peer support to build its capacity.

ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS



Strategic and operational coordination

IFRC membership coordination

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

In the Dutch and English-speaking Caribbean, various established national and regional mechanisms provide space for coordination and knowledge sharing. Those include, most prominently, the Red Cross Caribbean Disaster Risk Management Cell (CADRIM), which takes the lead in building and contributing knowledge and providing services to the IFRC network in the Caribbean, as well as contributes to the Americas and globally. CADRIM actively works towards the development of evidence, data and research on how to strengthen community resilience through sustainable preparedness and risk reduction activities, particularly in small island developing states.

Movement coordination

The Belize 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 supports some of the National Societies in their work on restoring family links and tracing, primarily in the areas of migration, and in promoting international humanitarian law. The Caracas regional delegation covers Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago and Venezuela.

External coordination

The Belize Red Cross Society continued to strengthen its auxiliary role through active collaboration with national and international partners. It contributed to the update of Belize's National Disaster Management Plan and deepened its partnership with NEMO, coordinating hurricane preparedness and wildfire response in Toledo. These joint efforts enhanced National Society's visibility and positioned it as a key factor in planning, decision-making, and training.

The National Society also maintained its membership in the Caribbean Technical Advisory Group on First Aid (CTAG) and participated in the Global First Aid Reference Centre's READY 360 project to improve service quality. It was designated by the Government of Belize as the recipient of IDB funds for wildfire response and provided Psychological First Aid to the City Emergency Management Organization.

The Belize Red Cross Society held its 23rd Ordinary General Assembly in February, electing a new Board of Governors led by President Jacqueline Marshalleck. The Director General presented a five-year overview of achievements, while the outgoing President reflected on the previous term's successes. In July and August 2024, the National Society leadership met with the Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Prime Minister to discuss constitutional updates, the Red Cross Act of 1983, and long-term financial sustainability. They advocated for increased subvention, formal recognition as the Government's primary First Aid provider, and support for legislative reforms. The Prime Minister expressed appreciation and pledged cabinet-level support.

The Belize Red Cross Society actively participated in the Statutory Meetings in Geneva in October, represented by the President, Director General, and a Youth Representative. The delegation contributed to high-level discussions on humanitarian priorities, with the President serving on the Drafting Committee and the Director General presenting on financial scarcity and protection. Side meetings with ICRC, Japanese Red Cross, and American Red Cross explored future collaboration.

Youth groups from Saint Catherine Academy and Wesley High School attended the NEMO Disaster Risk Reduction Youth Forum, engaging with the Sendai Framework and showcasing National Society's disaster preparedness work. The forum empowered youth to contribute to resilience-building efforts. It also participated in the Belize Development Partners Network's General Assembly and hosted the new UN Country Director for WFP, discussing future collaboration and a proposed stand-by agreement for food and cash assistance during disasters.

Under its MoU with the University of Belize, the National Society explored support in finance, marketing, and strategic planning. It also contributed to the Second Cycle of the WASH TrackFin process, coordinating with PAHO-Belize to compile and analyse sector financing data using WHO tools.



National Society development

Progress by the National Society against objectives

Under National Society development initiatives in 2024, the Belize Red Cross Society continued to strengthen its branch network, focusing on reactivating the Orange Walk and San Pedro branches. The wildfire DREF operation helped reinforce coordination and disaster response at the Toledo Branch. A Branch Organizational Capacity Assessment (BOCA) review was conducted for the Stann Creek Branch, identifying priorities such as updating disaster plans, improving First Aid marketing, and enhancing visibility from Headquarters. Monthly meetings and a WhatsApp group improved volunteer engagement. A virtual Branch Development Framework meeting in November brought together four active branches to align goals and define characteristics of strong, service-oriented branches. Preparations also began for consultations to develop the National Strategic Plan 2026–2030.

The Belize Red Cross Society hosted a Youth Leadership Seminar in January 2024, engaging young leaders from NGOs and community groups. Volunteers received training in disaster management, conflict resolution, PHAST, psychosocial support, communication and project management. The National Society participated in IFRC surveys on youth engagement and governance, contributing to the development of Youth Engagement Strategy (YES) 2.0. A volunteer satisfaction survey in March provided insights into volunteer experiences, guiding improvements in support and engagement.

The National Society's volunteers supported numerous community events with First Aid services, including school sports days, police tournaments and public gatherings. Youth groups conducted coastal clean-ups, fire safety training, and outreach to homeless individuals and seniors. The St. Catherine's Academy youth group assisted 50 homeless persons, while Headquarters volunteers celebrated World Red Cross Day and Mother's Day with senior outreach activities. Volunteers also participated in hurricane preparedness meetings, receiving training in psychosocial first aid, safety, and Preparedness for Effective Response (PER). Youth groups held recruitment drives and orientations, while branches hosted team-building sessions to foster fellowship.

In July, the National Society representatives attended the Uplawapni Technical Conference in Honduras, gaining insights into volunteer management, water sanitation, and fundraising. These learnings are being integrated into National Society operations to enhance capacity and service delivery.

The Belmopan Branch held a Volunteer Orientation in November, covering Red Cross principles, policies and roles. Volunteers were introduced to the online training portal and encouraged to complete mandatory courses, reinforcing their commitment and understanding of the Movement's values.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provides the Belize Red Cross Society technical support to strengthen its local network of branches, including a travel mission for in-person support to individual branches and headquarters. IFRC funding mechanisms such as

the IFRC-ICRC National Society Investment Alliance (NSIA) and the IFRC Capacity Building Fund (CBF) are utilized for National Society development initiatives.



Progress by the National Society against objectives

In May 2024, the Belize Red Cross Society conducted a Legislative Advocacy and Auxiliary Role training for staff and volunteers from multiple districts. The interactive sessions helped built capacity in advocacy strategy design and implementation, covering key concepts such as stakeholder targeting, influence mapping, and training of trainers. Led by the IFRC Legislative Advocacy Advisor and Disaster Law Officer, the training aimed to empower the National Society to advocate effectively for law and policy reforms that benefit vulnerable communities.

The Belize Red Cross Society also participated in the United Nations Fourth International Conference on Small Island Developing States (SIDS4) in Antigua and Barbuda as part of the IFRC delegation. The National Society presented on strengthening disaster and climate risk governance, sharing Belize's experiences from hurricanes to health emergencies. The conference culminated in the adoption of the Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for SIDS (ABAS), replacing the SAMOA Pathway as the new 10-year action plan.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supports the Belize Red Cross Society in establishing a Small Island Developing States (SIDS) that will foster engagement and continued learning between National Societies. It also promotes the collective advocacy efforts of National Societies to influence outcomes at relevant regional and international platforms related to disaster risk management, climate change, and other relevant thematic issues. The IFRC also supports the National Societies to engage in a peer-to-peer exchange on <u>international disaster response law</u> with the Japanese Red Cross and between government and intergovernmental counterparts such as the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA).



Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2024, the Belize Red Cross Society initiated preparations for financial audits covering fiscal years ending March 2023 and 2024, with an auditor hired in June. A performance review and role clarification process began at Headquarters to improve internal management. A restructuring proposal is being developed for submission to the Governing Board to enhance organizational efficiency.

In October 2024, the National Society received a donation from SOL, a fuel company whose employees selected the National Society as their charity of choice, recognizing its community impact and humanitarian mission.

Under digital transformation efforts, with support from the IFRC Capacity Building Fund (CBF), the Belize Red Cross Society upgraded its digital infrastructure, including replacing essential equipment and enhancing financial software. These improvements have streamlined operations, improved transparency and strengthened coordination between departments. In November 2024, an IT Volunteer assessed digital gaps at Headquarters and submitted a wish list of equipment needs to the IFRC, aiming to further modernize the National Society's IT and communications systems.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provides both technical and financial assitance to the National Soceity in its effots under accountability and agility.

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

Preparedness and Assessment

- Identify storage locations; Procure and distribute PPE (gloves, goggles, masks, fire-resistant clothing); Conduct inventory checks before fire season.
- Conduct risk mapping and community workshops; Develop SOPs for fire response and evacuation plans; Train local responders and volunteers.
- Install satellite phones or two-way radios in remote areas; Develop an SMS alert system for fire risks.

Coordination and Communication

- Define clear roles and responsibilities in disaster response protocols; Implement regular coordination meetings.
- Conduct refresher training sessions; Provide communication tools like radios; Strengthen CDRTs' role in initial assessments.
- Identify suitable locations; Develop communication and coordination protocols.
- Use neutral personnel for community messaging; Create multilingual awareness campaigns; Develop clear criteria for assistance eligibility.

Health and First Aid

- Conduct community-based first aid and wildfire-related respiratory health workshops; Increase PSS outreach, especially for vulnerable groups
- Pre-stock medical supplies for respiratory illnesses; Improve referral pathways for severe cases
- Standardize PPE distribution (fire-resistant gear, respirators), Train volunteers on safe firefighting practices

Livelihoods & Cash and Voucher Assistance

- Explore digital payments and mobile cash transfers; Assess vendor expansion for greater product variety.
- Conduct joint Red Cross-NEMO assessments; Use clear and transparent selection criteria; Improve community awareness of CVA process
- Host workshops on climate-resilient farming; Partner with ago-cooperatives for seed distributions

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

- Conduct localized needs assessments; Include respiratory health items such as masks
- Construct additional water storage facilities; Provide water tanks in high-risk zones





1

Belize Red Cross Society Coordinates with NEMO

The Belize Red Cross Society was invited by NEMO to participate in the revision of the National Disaster Plan for Belize and to do a presentation on the state of the National Society's preparedness to respond at their first annual pre-hurricane conference held in May 2024. Thereafter, the National Society attended NEMO's coordination meetings, also held in May.

On 27 April, the President and the Director General visited with the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade where the National Society's programs, challenges and areas for collaboration were discussed. The Minister was also advised of the IDRL sensitization session to be facilitated by the IFRC Legislative Advocacy and Disaster Law Officers in July 2024 and the

activities of the Regional IDRL Working Group of which Belize Red Cross Society is a member.

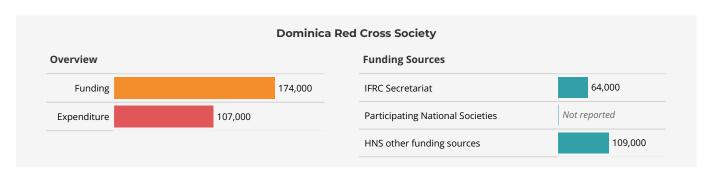
Avenues to bolster collaboration, climate change, migration and food security were explored. The Minister also commended the Belize Red Cross Society for their century-long dedication to Belize and extended his sincere gratitude for their tireless service.

The new relationship that has been established with NEMO has improved the image and highlighted the value of what the organization brings to the table. Belize Red Cross Society is now further regarded as a key partner and is being involved in planning, decision making and development of programmes as well as training, both as participants and facilitators.



FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

in Swiss francs (CHF)



IFRC network



STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Health and wellbeing	Number of people reached with psychosocial and mental health services	296
	Number of people reached by the National Society with contextually appropriate water, sanitation and hygiene services	66
	Number of people trained by the National Society in first aid	50
Migration and displacement	Number of migrants and displaced persons reached with services for assistance and protection	2

ENABLING FUNCTIONS

National Society development	National Society covers health, accident and death compensation for all of its volunteers	Yes
	There is a National Society Development plan in place	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 strengthened its integrity and reputational risk mechanism	Yes

IFRC NETWORK SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

	Bilateral Support						
National Society	Funding Reported	Climate and enviroment	Disasters and crises	Health and wellbeing	Migration and displacement	Values, power and inclusion	Enabling Functions
French Red Cross			•				

Q1. OVERALL PERFORMANCE

Key achievements

Climate and environment

In 2024, in efforts to fight annual bush fires and land slippage, the Dominica Red Cross Society replaced mulch vegetation with hardwoods and fruit trees in several areas. The <u>Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre (RCCC)</u> gave the representatives of the Dominica Red Cross Society overviews of climate change as part of the Climate Action Journey. Additionally, the National Society attended the Natural Infrastructure for Caribbean Resilience (NICaR) programme's five-day regional seminar on ecosystem restoration and drafted a national climate risk assessment, which was sent for comments for further feedback.

Disasters and crises

In 2024, the Dominica Red Cross Society responded to humanitarian needs following Hurricane Beryl, distributing relief items including hygiene kits, kitchen sets, cleaning supplies, mosquito nets, blankets, tarpaulins, solar lights, shelter toolkits, and mattresses. Through community sessions and trainings, the volunteers and staff were trained in areas such as disasters, enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (eVCA), and First Aid, among others. The National Society also strengthened its disaster response capacity by completing an inventory of relief items and commenced the construction of a small storage facility at the National Society headquarters. A hazard map was further developed with verification from the community information table and historical calendar.

Health and wellbeing

In 2024, the Dominica Red Cross Society strengthened its role in national public health by securing positions on key emergency preparedness platforms and contributing to epidemic and pandemic strategies. The approach included enhancing community access to sustainable WASH services, establishing a 24/7 ambulance service, and expanding training in wilderness <u>first aid</u>, water safety, and emergency medical services (EMS). First Aid Training of Trainers (ToT) under the 360 Ready Together projects by PIRAC was also extended.

Values, power and inclusion

In 2024, the Dominica Red Cross Society promoted the <u>Fundamental Principles</u> and humanitarian values, focusing on the empowerment of youth. It also planned to enhance youth engagement through initiatives like the Youth Emergency Action Committee (YEAC) and School Safety programmes, and to strengthen partnerships, particularly with education authorities, to ensure equitable access to quality education for children affected by crises.

Enabling local actors

In 2024, following the recognition of a need to strengthen relationships with the Kalinago community, a new National Society branch was established in the Kalinago Territory, with over 100 volunteers and an elected executive team. Additionally, the Dominica Red Cross Society planned on enhancing sustainability and capacity through strategic development. This included improving financial sustainability, strengthening systems for emergencies, and reinforcing its auxiliary role in disaster response. A National Society Development (NSD) plan was also positioned to guide these efforts.

Q2. CHANGES AND AMENDMENTS

Due to operational constraints, certain activities could not be completed by the agreed end of year as per agreement. Staff shortages further impacted the implementation of activities.

Q3. MEASURING RESULTS OF THE IFRC NETWORK ACTION

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Climate and environment

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2024, the Dominica Red Cross Society engaged in a Climate Change Adaptation environmental project as a continuation of the Forest Restoration programme in Tarreau, with support from NiCAR. Efforts were made to plant hardwood and fruit trees to replace the mulch on the hillside. The plan was to change the type of vegetation on the hillside which causes the annual bush fires and land slippage.

Additional trees were planted in the clearing around the trees in 2-3 acres around Tarreau. With over 89 new trees planted, the National Society continued to work closely with the Forestry Department which provided with 50 plants such as hard woods like Samon and fruits trees such as mango and tamarind among others.

The Dominica Red Cross Society is committed to addressing climate and environmental crises by equipping staff and volunteers with the skills and resources needed for effective response. In March, representatives of the Dominica Red Cross Society attended the Natural Infrastructure for Caribbean Resilience (NICaR) programme's five-day regional seminar on ecosystem restoration in Trinidad and Tobago. NICaR, supported the National Society in upland forest and disaster restoration through their post-hurricane disaster forest restoration efforts in the Tarreau community.

In April, May and November 2024, the <u>Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre</u> (RCCC) gave the representatives of the Dominica Red Cross Society overviews of climate change as part of the Climate Action Journey. The sessions were aimed at increasing their understanding of mitigation and adaptation and the impact of climate change on the communities.

The national climate risk assessment was drafted and sent for comments from the Dominica Red Cross Society. One of its key findings was the susceptibility of elderly populations to the rising heat and other weather-related hazards and their low adaptive capacity. The National Society also submitted names for a technical working group comprised of staff and volunteers from different branches. It supported the development of the national climate risk assessment by submitting information and reviewing the drafts.

In October, the National Society attended the Second Regional Climate Change Champions Network Meeting in Cali, Colombia. At the five-day workshop, information was shared in the mornings, on various topics such as climate smart livelihoods and <u>anticipatory action</u>.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the Dominica Red Cross Society in collaboration with other Participating National Societies (PNSs) to draw upon shared indigenous and traditional knowledge and practical experience. It also assisted the National Society's efforts through engagement with the <u>Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre</u>.



For real-time information on emergencies, visit the IFRC GO page: Dominica.

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2024, the Dominica Red Cross Society responded to humanitarian needs following Hurricane Beryl. A rapid Damage and Needs Assessment was conducted in Baytown/Pottersville, a low-income coastal community, where 29 homes were assessed, identifying around 100 affected individuals, with many needing shelter assistances after being displaced. The Dominica Red Cross Society distributed relief items including hygiene kits, kitchen sets, cleaning supplies, mosquito nets, blankets, tarpaulins, solar lights, shelter toolkits, and mattresses.

During the reporting period, the Dominica Red Cross Society participated in the <u>Community Disasters Response Team</u> (CDRT) regional training of trainers conducted by the Caribbean Disaster Risk Management and Resilience Training Centre (CADRIM) and subsequently developed a roll-out plan to address gaps identified during the session. A community session was undertaken in the Tarreau Community which highlighted the importance of being prepared and knowing what to do in the event of being impacted by the hazards. The training was conducted over a 5-day period with topics such as the Introduction to Disaster Management, <u>Community Disasters Response Team</u> (CDRT) in disasters, <u>enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment</u> (eVCA), <u>First Aid</u>, evacuation planning, hazard mapping, light search and rescue, firefighting, temporary shelter construction, psychosocial support, <u>needs assessment</u>, and household disaster plans.

In 2024, work was continued with the Office of Disaster Management and the review of the Comprehensive Disaster Management Bill for Dominica, the Country Work Plan, and the National Disaster Management Plan review was carried out. Additionally, in June, the National Society attended Community Resilience Alliance meetings, a government-led initiative to coordinate Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) efforts among stakeholders in Dominica's communities.

During the reporting period, an organization offering Open Street Mapping and drone training to assist with eVCA development assisted the National Society. In October, the eVCA was completed with the walk through in the Castle Bruce community to identify all the hazardous areas. The hazard map was developed with verification from the participants along with the community information table and historical calendar for the community.

<u>Cash and Voucher Assistance</u> (CVA) training was also a priority during 2024. The National Society developed a CVA programme roll-out to address identified gaps. The Dominica Red Cross Society was part of the pilot countries where the development was prioritized.

Communities also received assistance with food security and income generation. Climate action and livelihood activities were developed with National Society focal points appointed to include all Caribbean National Societies. Following the Climate Risk Assessment results in October, the Dominica Red Cross Society gave support to build capacity for climate-smart livelihoods in local communities.

Staff and volunteers participated in a volcanic eruption simulation organized by the Office of Disaster Management. Alongside First Aid and CPR refresher training, the need for additional training in temporary shelter construction and Emergency Operations Centres was identified. A meeting with an organization specializing in Open Street Mapping offered to train volunteers in mapping and drone flying to support eVCA development. In June, the National Society attended Community Resilience Alliance meetings, a government-led initiative to coordinate disaster risk reduction efforts among community stakeholders.

During the reporting period, the Dominica Red Cross Society strengthened its disaster response capacity by completing an inventory of relief items. In October, the National Society reported that work was designed to commence on the construction of a small storage facility at the National Society headquarters. Additionally, all branches received updated copies of the Disaster Management and Contingency Plan, with guidance to review their localized plans prior to the 2024 hurricane season.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the Dominica Red Cross Society in coordinating and responding to humanitarian needs following Hurricane Beryl. It further assisted the National Society with refining its <u>PER</u> work plan to address current challenges and goals.

The **Italian Red Cross** provided assistance to the National Society with the construction of a storage facility at the headquarter grounds.

The **French Red Cross** provided assistance to the National Society with strengthening its disaster response capacity by completing an inventory of relief items.



Health and wellbeing

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2024, the Dominica Red Cross Society sought to strengthen its role in national public health by securing positions on key emergency preparedness platforms and contributing to epidemic and pandemic strategies. The approach included enhancing community access to sustainable WASH services, establishing a 24/7 ambulance service, and expanding training in wilderness first aid, water safety, and emergency medical services (EMS).

Volunteers were trained in First Aid under the 360 Ready Together projects by PIRAC. With the addition of the trainer or trainers (ToT) programme to the first aid programme, the National Society extended its programme and enhance the skills the volunteers in its branches to be able to become facilitators and train in their communities in 2025.

In December, the National Society promoted its First Aid programme by encouraging the public to learn a lifesaving technique. The Ministry of Education started with the training of its Early Education teachers in December and to continue in January. The inclusion of Adventure First Aid to the First Aid programme enabled the National Society to provide options to companies particularly tour guides the ability to train on-site or at their work areas along the hiking trails.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided technical and financial support to the National Society.



Values, power and inclusion

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2024, the Dominica Red Cross Society promoted the <u>Fundamental Principles</u> and humanitarian values, focusing on empowering the youth. It planned to enhance youth engagement through initiatives like the Youth Emergency Action Committee (YEAC) and School Safety programmes, and to strengthen partnerships, particularly with education authorities, to ensure equitable access to quality education for children affected by crises.

ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS



Strategic and operational coordination

IFRC membership coordination

IFRC membership coordination involves working with National Societies to assess the humanitarian context, agree on common priorities and jointly develop common strategies. This includes addressing issues such as obtaining greater humanitarian acceptance and access, mobilizing funding and other resources, clarifying consistent public messaging, and monitoring progress. It also entails ensuring that strategies and programmes in support of people in need

incorporate clarity of humanitarian action while linking with development assistance and contribute to reinforcing National Societies in their respective countries, including through their auxiliary role.

In the Dutch and English-speaking Caribbean, various established national and regional mechanisms provide space for coordination and knowledge sharing. Those include, most prominently, the Red Cross Caribbean Disaster Risk Management Cell (CADRIM), which takes the lead in building and contributing knowledge and providing services to the IFRC network in the Caribbean, as well as contributes to the Americas and globally. CADRIM actively works towards the development of evidence, data and research on how to strengthen community resilience through sustainable preparedness and risk reduction activities, particularly in small island developing states.

The **French Red Cross**, through the Regional Intervention Platform for the Americas and the Caribbean of the French Red Cross (PIRAC), works in Eastern Caribbean countries under the Ready Together project in international disaster response law and civil military activities, as well as in climate change adaptation and disaster preparedness activities. The platform works with the Dominica Red Cross Society to train trainers and accredit National Society commercial first aid with the IFRC Global First Aid Reference Centre.

The Italian Red Cross provides long-term support to the National Society for its climate and environment initiatives.

Movement coordination

The Dominica 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 supports the Dominica Red Cross Society in its work on <u>restoring family links</u> and tracing, primarily in the areas of migration, and in promoting <u>international humanitarian law</u> through its Caracas regional delegation.

External coordination

The IFRC continues to have a robust alliance with the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA), and IFRC staff and National Societies actively participate in various technical events, committees and working groups. Currently, the IFRC is represented on the CDEMA's school safety committee, it is working on renewing their joint Memorandum of Understanding and developing a technical annex that will form the basis of joint programming.

The Caribbean Disaster Risk Management Reference Centre (CADRIM) continues to collaborate with CDEMA, the Nature Conservancy and other development partners in the development and implementation of several community resilience tools. Most recently, the CADRIM team coordinated several technical working groups to develop a self-paced, e-learning climate change course and the Public Awareness and Public Education (PAPE) Library, as well as updating training manuals for community response teams and various aspects of early warning systems programming.



National Society development

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2024, the Dominica Red Cross Society planned on enhancing sustainability and capacity through strategic development. This included improving financial sustainability, strengthening systems, for emergencies, and reinforcing its auxiliary role in disaster response. A National Society Development (NSD) plan was positioned to guide these efforts, emphasizing capacity building, financial management, and stakeholder engagement, while pursuing constitutional reform and stronger ties with public authorities. Additionally, with the Dominica Red Cross Society's Strategic Plan ending in 2024, the National Society established a committee to develop the 2025-2030 plan.

In 2024, following the recognition of a need to strengthen relationship with the Kalinago community, a new National Society branch was established in the Kalinago Territory, with over 100 volunteers and an elected executive team. In February, branch leaders met to discuss 2024 plans, focusing on volunteer refresher training and the slow installation of amateur radios to improve communication during emergencies. First Aid and CPR training was conducted across branches, aiming for all volunteers to be certified, with further training planned. Each branch also received updated Disaster Management and Contingency Plans to review before hurricane season.

The Dominica Red Cross Society continued to empower youth, volunteers, and community leaders in decision-making and innovation. It strengthened volunteer protection and promoting psychosocial well-being. It also monitored volunteer satisfaction and implemented necessary changes based on feedback.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided technical assistance to the National Society by conducting internal analysis and providing technical guidance in line with the updated IFRC guidelines. A Capacity Building Fund (CBF) proposal was developed to further these efforts. Additionally, the IFRC assisted the Dominica Red Cross Society in creating a case study on Adventure First Aid as a potential income source for both the Red Cross Society and local tour guides.

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

Nothing to report





Kalinagos and First Aid: Inauguration of a new National Society branch

The Kalinago Red Cross Branch of the Dominica Red Cross, launched in February 2024, quickly attracted significant interest. Over a hundred Kalinagos from various ages and backgrounds registering to join. The Dominica Red Cross Society provided training opportunities to the Kalinago people. Over fifty Kalinagos trained in CPR and First Aid. This initiative is particularly significant given the vulnerability experienced during Hurricane Maria when medical and psychological support was limited. With this training, the community is better prepared for future disasters. Furthermore, the establishment of Disaster Committees in all Hamlets enhances overall preparedness.





FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

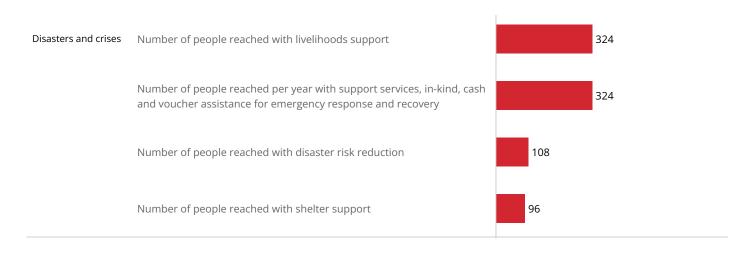
in Swiss francs (CHF)



IFRC network



STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Health and wellbeing	Number of people trained by the National Society in first aid	66
	Number of people reached by the National Society with contextually appropriate health services	508
	Number of people reached by the National Society with contextually appropriate water, sanitation and hygiene services	96
	Number of people donating blood	51
Migration and displacement	Number of migrants and displaced persons reached with services for assistance and protection	42

ENABLING FUNCTIONS

National Society development	National Society covers health, accident and death compensation for all of its volunteers	Yes
	There is a National Society Development plan in place	Yes

Q1. OVERALL PERFORMANCE

Key achievements

Climate and environment

In 2024, the Guyana Red Cross Society prioritised community education, training, and strategic partnerships to address climate challenges. In the first quarter of the year, the National Society conducted a Knowledge, Attitude, and Practices (KAP) survey to assess the community's awareness of mosquito-borne diseases (MBDs). It focused on evaluating the existing knowledge about MBDs, the population's perceptions, and their behaviours related to these diseases. Additionally, the Community Disaster Response Teams (CDRTs) of Corriverton held an outreach activity to raise awareness about dengue transmissions, symptoms, and preventive actions, and distributed treated nets to households.

Disasters and crises

The Guyana Red Cross Society's key objectives during the reporting period included regular assessment of emergency stocks, refining relief distribution procedures, and integrating best practices into recovery programming. In October, the Guyana Red Cross Society responded to fires in Puruni that displaced 80 families. In collaboration with other response agencies, it conducted a needs assessment and returned with cash-based intervention, food hampers, clothing, and non-food items. The National Society also significantly enhanced its emergency preparedness and response efforts through various trainings and sessions, including El Niño/La Niña forecasting, Community Disaster Response Teams facilitator training, and Preparedness for Effective Response (PER) sensitisation for rapid capacity assessments. It also engaged in climate adaptation initiatives like the UN's Early Warning for All initiative and implemented tools such as enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (eVCA) and Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) Rapid Market Assessments to strengthen disaster response planning. Additionally, foundational and technical trainings, including National Disaster and Response Training (NDRT) and shelter coordination meetings, equipped participants with essential skills for effective humanitarian operations.

Health and wellbeing

In 2024, the National Society conducted monthly <u>First Aid</u> training for companies and individuals, employing it both as a tool for income-generation and for introducing participants to the Red Cross Movement. Throughout the year, on every second Tuesday, the Guyana Red Cross Society hosted a national blood drive in collaboration with the national blood bank in Guyana. The National Society staff and volunteers conducted mobilisation efforts to encourage persons to donate blood. As a result, fifty-one persons donated blood.

Migration and displacement

Between January and June, despite not having an active programme, the Guyana Red Cross Society continued to assist the large migrant population in Guyana. It provided essential support to migrants in need during this period. Forty-two migrants were assisted with water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH), shelter, livelihood, and Restoring Family Links (RFL) interventions. In addition to the ongoing assistance, the National Society directly assisted the migrant population during the Puruni Fire Response operation. The National Society also attended a webinar on First Aid in migratory contexts.

Values, power and inclusion

The Guyana Red Cross Society aimed to enhance its capacity by empowering youth through education and Community Engagement and Accountability (<u>CEA</u>), promoting Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (<u>PGI</u>), protecting human dignity, and contributing to resilience and peaceful environments. A Youth and Volunteer Focal Point was also appointed to further develop our Youth and Volunteering programme.

Enabling local actors

In 2024, the Guyana Red Cross Society aligned itself with the goals of <u>Strategy 2030</u>. Key initiatives included revising statutes and Red Cross laws, enhancing fiscal management and accountability, and implementing resource mobilisation strategies. The National Society also focused on volunteer safety, introduced a volunteer insurance mechanism, and

promoted engagement in the global IFRC volunteering community. The Guyana Red Cross Society aimed to strengthen its accountability mechanisms by developing clear financial policies and procedures and ensuring that they are made available to stakeholders. It worked on revising its statutes through a committee led by board members, demonstrating its commitment to governance and alignment with IFRC standards.

Q2. CHANGES AND AMENDMENTS

Due to certain funding-related delays in activity implementation, the PER technical workshop, Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) Rapid Market Assessments, and an additional Community Disaster Response Teams (CDRT) training were rescheduled for 2025.

Q3. MEASURING RESULTS OF THE IFRC NETWORK ACTION

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Climate and environment

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2024, the Guyana Red Cross Society prioritized community education, training, and strategic partnerships to address climate challenges. Between February and March 2024, the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) conducted a Knowledge, Attitude, and Practices (KAP) survey in six Caribbean countries, including Guyana. The survey, led by the project manager and 12 Guyana Red Cross Society volunteers, aimed to assess the community's awareness of mosquitoborne diseases (MBDs). It focused on evaluating the existing knowledge about MBDs, the population's perceptions, and their behaviours related to these diseases, considering the socio-ecological context of each community. Guyana was one of six countries participating in a project that sought to understand the knowledge, attitudes, and practices of communities regarding mosquito-borne diseases. Mosquitoes breed within certain temperatures and humidities; MBDs are therefore climate-triggered.

In June, the Community Disaster Response Teams (CDRTs) of Corriverton held an outreach activity at Crabwood Creek, Region 6, to raise awareness about the ongoing dengue outbreak. Eleven CDRTs informed community members about dengue transmission, symptoms, and preventive actions, and distributed treated nets to households.

In September, the National Society participated in a webinar on the case study "Livelihoods, the gateway for ecosystem restoration" Green Pearl Project – Haiti' as well as the World Wildlife Foundation EDM Seminar on Cost-estimating and Cost-management of Natural and Nature-based Flood Management Methods.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC continued to support the efforts of the National Society through IFRC CADRIM reference centre which provided technical assistance for the KAP survey to better fight mosquito-borne diseases. Additionally, it also provided aid with the Climate Action Journey (CAJ) initiative and the possible DG Clima Grant.



For real-time information on emergencies, visit the IFRC GO page: Guyana.

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Guyana Red Cross Society's key objectives included regular assessment of emergency stocks, refining relief distribution procedures, and integrating best practices into recovery programming. GRCS supports community disaster management through training and scaling up Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) activities while establishing and training local disaster response teams.

In October, the Guyana Red Cross Society responded to the fires in Puruni of Region 7. A devastating fire broke out destroying 15 buildings including restaurants, hotels, fuel stations, and housing quarters. An estimated 80 families we affected and displaced inclusive of Guyanese and migrant populations. In collaboration with other response agencies, the National Society conducted a <u>needs assessment</u> and returned with cash based intervention, food hampers, clothing, and non-food items. Eighty-three households benefitted from this activity.

The National Society undertook a considerable number of activities to strengthen emergency preparedness and response during the reporting period. This included attention a session on El Nino/La Nina predictions for crucial insights into the Atlantic Hurricane Season, the Community Disaster Response Teams (CDRT) facilitator training, and a Preparedness Laboratory session focused on resource mobilization before, during, and after emergencies. Additionally, a Preparedness for Effective Response (PER) sensitization session introduced the PER Approach's shorter-term applications, including the seasonal check and readiness check, to help national societies quickly assess and improve preparedness capacities. In the latter half of 2024, the Guyana Red Cross Society was involved in the UN's global early warning initiative for climate adaptation Early Warning for All.

In July, the National Society began the implementation of <u>enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment</u> (eVCA) in Kabakaburi. By August, the Disaster Management Coordination Group Meeting further informed the National Society on <u>Shelter in emergencies</u>. The meeting provided participants with an overview of shelters and settlements in emergencies, their relevance in humanitarian programmes, and an understanding of the principles and practices of the humanitarian shelter response.

The National Disaster and Response Training (NDRT) was organized to equip participants with a foundational understanding of disaster operations, including setting up an Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) and developing a Plan of Action. Although specific technical skills, such as those required for <u>Cash and Voucher Assistance</u> (CVA) and <u>Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene</u> (WASH).

Throughout the year and following the CVA regional training and roll-out plan established by the National Society, several technical meetings and pre-disaster rapid market assessments were conducted. In November, the CVA Rapid Market Assessment (RAM) was conducted in region 10. It provided a quick and basic first understanding of key markets in communities that are prone to disasters. This activity will allow the National Society to strengthen response analysis by providing market data, essential for informed decision-making on appropriate transfer mechanisms (i.e. in-kind or cash-based) if relief is to be provided. The additional assessments were rescheduled for January 2025.

In November, the National Society received training on Regional Logistics and Warehouses. The training was aimed at supporting logistics focal points in National Societies with the optimization of physical warehouse spaces. It also aimed to manage the lifespan of the items stored, received, and dispatched. The information was in line with recently updated standards for the design and retrofitting of shipping containers as storage space, a staple methodology in the region, with considerations of climatic conditions for the Caribbean. This training also supported National Societies in understanding all aspects of logistics including procurement procedures, fleet management, and customs considerations.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC continued to support the National Society in its efforts to capacity build and advocate for comprehensive disaster laws and policies to ensure effective international disaster assistance and climate-smart risk reduction. The IFRC also supported the Guyana Red Cross Society with Regional Logistics and Warehouse Training including the optimization of physical warehouse spaces as well as managing the lifespan of the items stored, received, and dispatched.

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The National Society conducted monthly <u>First Aid</u> training for companies and individuals, employing it both as a tool for income-generation and for introducing participants to the Red Cross Movement. The training aimed to improve their ability to assist those in need and potentially save lives. Five hundred and sixty-six (566) people were trained, and through their training, 102 new volunteers were enrolled.

Throughout the year on every second Tuesday, the Guyana Red Cross Society hosted a national blood drive in collaboration with the national blood bank in Guyana. The National Society staff and volunteers conducted mobilization efforts to encourage persons to donate blood. As a result, fifty-one persons donated blood, supported by fifteen volunteers.

As previously mentioned, the National Society also completed a Knowledge, Attitude, and Practices (KAP) survey to gauge the level of awareness related to knowledge on Mosquito Borne Diseases (MBDs), attitudes associated with the population's perception of MBDs based on their existing knowledge, and practices on how the population behaves. This exercise was supported by the by the project manager and 12 National Society volunteers.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC provided technical and financial support to the National Society.



Migration and displacement

Progress by National Society against objectives

Between January and June, despite not having an active programme, the Guyana Red Cross Society continued to assist the large migrant population in Guyana. It provided essential support to migrants in need during this period. Forty-two migrants were assisted with <u>water, sanitation, and hygiene</u> (WASH), <u>shelter</u>, <u>livelihood</u>, and <u>Restoring Family Links</u> (RFL) interventions. In addition to the ongoing assistance, the National Society directly assisted the migrant population during the Puruni Fire Response operation. Twenty-nine migrants were supported directly with WASH and shelter interventions in Puruni, Region 7.

In May, the National Society attended a webinar on First Aid in migratory contexts. The objectives were to encourage National Societies to develop First Aid components in their migration efforts, explore future synergies between other National Societies and the Global First Aid Reference Centre (GFARC), and facilitate the exchange of best practices.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the Guyana Red Cross Society with opportunities to support the continuation of services for migrants and displaced persons.

The ICRC assisted the National Society with the Restoring Family Links (RFL) interventions.



Values, power and inclusion

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Guyana Red Cross Society aimed to enhance its capacity by empowering youth through education and <u>Community Engagement and Accountability</u> (CEA), promoting <u>Protection, Gender, and Inclusion</u> (PGI), protecting human dignity, and contributing to resilience and peaceful environments. A Youth and Volunteer Focal Point was appointed to further develop our Youth and Volunteering programme.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the Guyana Red Cross Society with efforts around training and guidance to help the National Society achieve its objectives.

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.

Movement coordination

The Guyana 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 <u>Strengthening Movement Coordination and Cooperation</u> (SMCC) principles, and the newly adopted <u>Seville Agreement 2.0</u>.

The ICRC supports the Guyana Red Cross Society in its work on <u>Restoring Family Links</u> and tracing, primarily in the areas of migration, and in promoting <u>International Humanitarian Law</u> through its Caracas regional delegation.

External coordination

The National Society engaged in discussions with the Prime Minister, Minister of Health and the Civil Defence Commission. These meetings aimed to enhance understanding of the auxiliary role of the Guyana Red Cross Society, improve communication and coordination and strategize ways to enhance emergency response systems. Although progress has been minimal so far, the National Society remains committed to continuing these engagements.



National Society development

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2024, the Guyana Red Cross Society aligned itself with the goals of <u>Strategy 2030</u>. Key initiatives included revising statutes and Red Cross laws, enhancing fiscal management and accountability, and implementing resource mobilization strategies. The National Society also focused on volunteer safety, introduced a volunteer insurance mechanism, and promoted engagement in the global IFRC volunteering community. These efforts are designed to modernize the Society and reinforce its role as an auxiliary to public authorities in the humanitarian field.

The National Society insured 100 active volunteers against accident, injury, and death. In May 2024, the Organizational Transformation Team identified key support areas for National Society Development, prioritizing the <u>Preparedness for Effective Response</u> (PER) approach for the National Society to address gaps and strengthen institutional capacity.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC continues to provide support to the National Society with technical and financial assistance.

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2024, the Guyana Red Cross Society seeks to enhance its <u>Humanitarian Diplomacy</u> role by developing a communication strategy with tailored content for specific audiences, emphasizing two-way engagement, along addressing training needs for communication personnel at the National Society. It also aims to advocate for laws and policies that recognize its auxiliary role in disaster risk management, strengthen its advocacy strategies, and participate in national and international forums on humanitarian diplomacy.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC continues to provide support to the National Society with technical and financial assistance.



Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2024, the Guyana Red Cross aimed to strengthen its accountability mechanisms by developing clear financial policies and procedures and ensuring that they are made available to stakeholders. It worked on revising its statutes through a committee led by board members, demonstrating its commitment to governance and alignment with IFRC standards.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC continues supported the Guyana Red Cross Society through the Country Agreement 2024 to strengthen human resources and programme teams. The support aims to enhance organizational capacities, enabling more effective humanitarian missions and community responses.

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

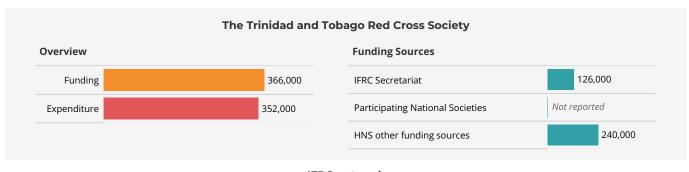
Q8. LESSONS LEARNED

Nothing to report

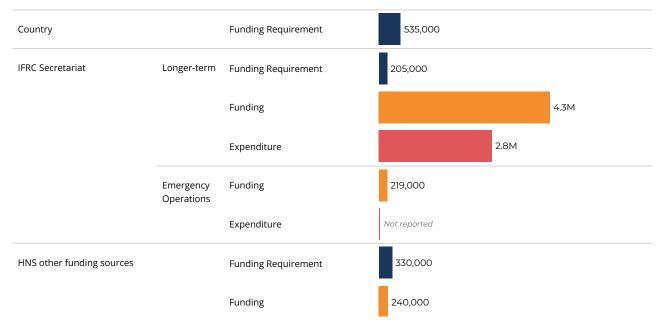
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

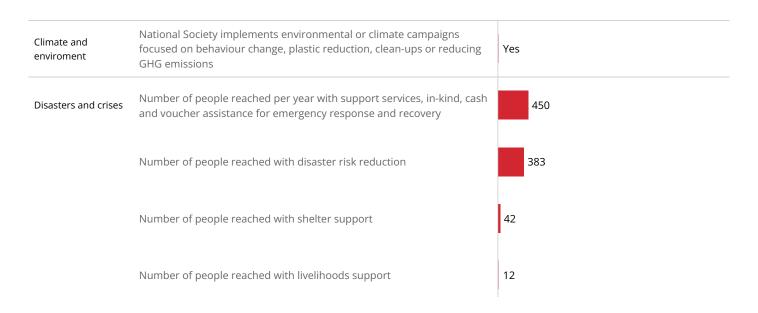
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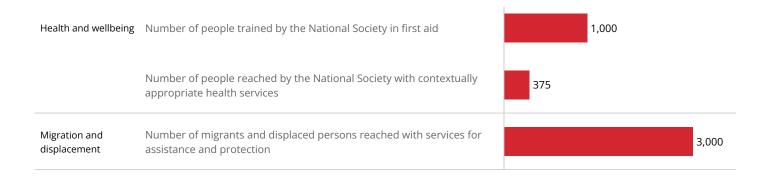


IFRC network



STRATEGIC PRIORITIES





ENABLING FUNCTIONS

Strategic and operational coordination	Number of formal interagency/international coordination platforms the National Society is part of	2
	Number of government-led coordination platforms the National Society is part of	2
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
	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

IFRC NETWORK SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

	Bilateral Support						
National Society	Funding Reported	Climate and enviroment	Disasters and crises	Health and wellbeing	Migration and displacement	Values, power and inclusion	Enabling Functions
Japanese Red Cross Society			•				

Q1. OVERALL PERFORMANCE

Key achievements

Climate and environment

The Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society conducted a successful plastic bottle recycling programme with over 20,000 plastic bottles turned in to the 'Every Bottle Back' programme. The programme provided a small remuneration for the bottles dropped in, and the funds were used to offset costs associated with the Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society's ambulance service. To encourage community participation, it also conducted a competition related to climate and the environment titled 'Reduce, Reuse and Upcycle'.

Disasters and crises

In 2024, the Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society made significant strides in building community resilience through various training programmes and assessments across several communities. A primary focus was on ensuring that communities received crucial risk information and developed practical skills to mitigate the impact of hazards, particularly in flood-prone areas. The National Society engaged with multiple communities through structured programmes, which included Community Emergency Response Team training, shelter management, and enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (eVCA). Through eVCA assessments, the National Society engaged people in Caroni and Speyside, focusing on understanding local vulnerabilities and forming resilience action plans. The Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society also facilitated disaster response training for the growing Woodland Community Resilience Group, providing hands-on exercise, which included realistic scenarios with moulage artists and staged damaged homes, and was designed to ensure the group could respond effectively to real-life disasters.

Health and wellbeing

In 2024, the Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society aimed to advance its five-year health programme 'Safeguarding Society Through Mind and Body' by expanding geographical coverage and services to address health inequalities exposed by COVID-19. The Henry Dunant Clinic continued to provide care to vulnerable persons through primary care services at the main location in Port of Spain, as well as at the satellite location in Signal Hill, Tobago. The monthly outreach activities took the service to last-mile communities where people generally had limited access to health services. Mobile clinics such as the Moruga Mobile Clinic, the San Fernando Mobile Clinic, and the Fyzabad Mobile Clinic also delivered essential health services.

Migration and displacement

To support educational needs, the Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society supported migrant households with an unconditional grant to meet basic needs and the educational needs of children who were enrolled in the online secondary school education programmes. It also continued its pilot programme with unconditional cash support to Unaccompanied and Separated Children (UASC) who were part of the Children's Authority Alternate Care Programme. These grants were to help UASCs who were 16 or 17 cover their essential living needs, such as rent and food, while they looked for jobs. The National Society also participated in the IFRC's Annual Regional Meeting on Migration in January 2024. As part of the Caribbean regional Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI) Network, it supports vulnerable Venezuelan migrants, especially women, children, and adolescents.

Enabling local actors

In 2024, the Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society aimed to be a key humanitarian actor in the region. In May, it held an event in commemoration of World Red Cross Day, which not only celebrated the work of its volunteers and members but also provided health services and educational demonstrations to the public. Over the reporting period, the Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society discussed priorities and plans, exploring how it could better position itself to receive support from the secretariat. Key points for continued follow-up included providing tailored training for staff and volunteers, and technical support for the Climate and Environment 5-year programme. The Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society also prioritised <u>Digital Transformation</u> to maintain relevance and operational efficiency.

Q2. CHANGES AND AMENDMENTS

No changes to report

Q3. MEASURING RESULTS OF THE IFRC NETWORK ACTION

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Climate and environment

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2024, the National Society's plastic bottle recycling programme was also a successful with over 20,000 plastic bottles turned in to the 'Every Bottle Back' programme. The programme provided a small renumeration for the bottles dropped in and the funds were used to offset costs associated with Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society's ambulance service.

Additionally, the Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society conducted a competition related to climate and the environment titled 'Reduce, Reuse and Upcycle'. It was completed in June and prizes awarded.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC continued to support the efforts of the National Society under strategic climate and environment projects.



For real-time information on emergencies, visit the IFRC GO page: Trinidad and Tobago.

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2024, the Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society made significant strides in building community resilience through various training programmes and assessments across several communities. A primary focus was on ensuring that communities received crucial risk information and developed practical skills to mitigate the impact of hazards, particularly in flood-prone areas. The National Society engaged with multiple communities through structured programmes which included Community Emergency Response Team training, shelter management, and enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (eVCA). In communities like Las Lomas and Woodland, where flooding has been a historical concern, tailored training was provided, preparing the community for potential flooding events.

Through eVCA assessments, the National Society engaged people in Caroni and Speyside, focusing on understanding local vulnerabilities and forming resilience action plans. These assessments, conducted in September, identified key community hazards and discussed strategies for enhancing resilience. However, recruitment challenges in Speyside highlighted the difficulty in mobilizing volunteers, a barrier that required ongoing engagement to foster greater participation.

The Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society also facilitated disaster response training for the growing Woodland Community Resilience Group. The group expanded significantly, with over 40 new members recruited, and underwent a comprehensive four-day Community Disaster Response Teams (CDRTs) training that included practical exercises in disaster response, search and rescue, and fire safety. The training culminated in a simulation exercise in September, which tested the team's ability to coordinate their efforts during a simulated hurricane. The hands-on exercise, which

included realistic scenarios with moulage artists and staged damaged homes, was designed to ensure the group could respond effectively to real-life disasters.

In total, the National Society reached over 300 individuals through these various training programs and activities across multiple communities, including Las Lomas, Caroni, Speyside, Maraval, Woodland, Cascadoux, and San Fernando. The initiatives played a vital role in building local capacity for disaster preparedness, with a strong focus on enabling communities to take proactive steps toward reducing their vulnerability and exposure to risks, fulfilling the objectives of increasing resilience to multiple hazards.

In April, the Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society re-engaged with the Office of Disaster Preparedness and Management (ODPM) on the finalization of the Draft National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (NDRRM) Policy. The Draft NDRRM Policy was properly aligned to international best practices and existing policy documents, as well as the recommendations of the legislative gap analysis. The Draft NDRRM Policy focuses on four main objectives, namely understanding disaster and climate risks; strengthening the overall disaster risk governance framework; providing a people-centred approach to disaster management; and strengthening partnerships across sectors. In November and December 2024, two stakeholder consultations were held on the Draft NDRRM Policy. There were approximately 75 organizations, including government agencies, civil society and international organizations that participated in the consultations. Their feedback will be incorporated into a third draft and finalized for approval by the line Ministry and submission to Cabinet.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC continued to support the Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society with its ongoing engagements with the Office of Disaster Preparedness and Management (ODPM) on the finalization of the Draft National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (NDRRM) Policy. It provided additional technical and financial assistance in other required areas.



Health and wellbeing

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2024, the Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society aimed to advance its five-year health programme 'Safeguarding Society Through Mind and Body' by expanding geographical coverage and services to address health inequalities exposed by COVID-19. The programme focuses on promoting positive mental health and well-being and providing integrated community-based health care. The following highlights progress against the National Society's Health and Wellbeing objectives for the given period.

The Henry Dunant Clinic continued to provide care to vulnerable persons through primary care services at the main location in Port of Spain, as well as at the satellite location in Signal Hill, Tobago. The monthly outreach activities took the service to last-mile communities where persons generally had limited access to health services.

In August, the Moruga Mobile Clinic was held serving 50 beneficiaries. This was followed by the San Fernando Mobile Clinic assisting 36 individuals. The efforts culminated in the Fyzabad Mobile Clinic on August 25th, benefiting 55 attendees. These clinics not only delivered essential health services but also reinforced engagement with local communities.

A key focus throughout August was ensuring data integrity and advancing the database development. The National Society meticulously collected and analysed data from each clinic, which will be vital for future planning and decision-making. This commitment to data accuracy has strengthened the National Society ability to assess the impact of our services and enhance our reporting mechanisms.

In addition to the mobile clinics, the National Society initiated the <u>Psychological First Aid</u> (PFA) Pilot Training in August. This session was a significant milestone, marking the first time PFA training was delivered simultaneously in both English and Spanish to eight persons. This bilingual approach effectively accommodated both English-speaking and Spanish-speaking participants, fostering inclusivity.

In June, Dr. Alana Roach delivered a presentation highlighting the Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross community-based efforts on Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) from a strategic perspective, describing the impactful work the National Society is delivering to the communities at the IFRC Global Launch Event for the NCD Vision and Framework 2030.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC continued to support the Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society with technical and financial support.



Migration and displacement

Progress by the National Society against objectives

With support from the Pan American Development Foundation (PADF), the National Society enhanced its health interventions for migrant and host community populations in South Trinidad. The Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society continued to support migrant children with their education needs. In January, it supported 203 households with an unconditional grant to meet basic needs and the education needs of children who were enrolled in the online secondary school education program, Dawere. It also continued its pilot programme with unconditional cash support to Unaccompanied and Separated Children (UASC) who were part of the Children's Authority Alternate Care Programme. These grants were to help UASCs who were 16 or 17 cover their essential living needs such as rent and food while they looked for jobs.

The National Society also participated in the IFRC's Annual Regional Meeting on Migration in January 2024. The meeting discussed the overall status of the implementation of the Migration Action Plan of the Red Cross Movement in the Americas 2021-2024, lessons learned with implementation of the Action Plan.

The National Society also prioritized diversity and inclusion through its <u>Protection, Gender, and Inclusion</u> (PGI) approach, focusing on combating violence, discrimination, and exclusion. As part of the Caribbean regional PGI Network, it supports vulnerable Venezuelan migrants, especially women, children, and adolescents.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC continued to support the Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society with technical and financial support.

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.

Movement coordination

The Trinidad and Tobago 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 supports the Guyana Red Cross Society in its work on <u>Restoring Family Links</u> and tracing, primarily in the areas of migration, and in promoting <u>International Humanitarian Law</u> through its Caracas regional delegation.

External coordination

The Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society collaborates with national authorities and partners including the Ministry of Health and the Office of Disaster Preparedness and Management (OPDM). As such, the Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society continues to train Communications Emergency Response Tool (CERTs) for the ODPM and will organize the firstever National CERTS games in July 2023. The Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society has been successful in securing funding from external international partners based in Trinidad and Tobago, such as the European Union and the Inter-American Development Bank. The Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society has also built partnerships with the UNICEF as well as the UNDP.



National Society development

Progress by the National Society against objectives

Over the reporting period, the Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society discussed priorities and plans, exploring how it could better position itself to receive support from the secretariat. Key points for continued follow-up included providing tailored training for staff and volunteers, and technical support for the Climate and Environment 5-year programme.

Following the MIC meeting earlier with the Regional Coordinator for Volunteering and Youth, interest was sparked in conducting a national Youth as Agents of Behavioural Change (YABC) Peer Education training and highlighted the need to update the National Society's volunteering and youth policies. This activity is still currently seeking.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the National Society with technical and financial support.



Humanitarian diplomacy

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society aimed to be a key humanitarian actor in the region. In May, it held an event in commemoration of World Red Cross Day, which included a range of exhibitions in partnership with governmental and non-governmental organizations. This event not only celebrated the work of its volunteers and members but also provided health services and educational demonstrations to the public, thereby strengthening community ties and enhancing the visibility of the National Society's efforts.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the National Society in the revision of its statutes and the 1st draft has been completed with this support.



Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

Progress by the National Society against objectives

The National Society worked on aligning volunteer and membership activities with government, community, and other stakeholders to boost volunteerism and membership levels. The Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society also prioritized <u>Digital Transformation</u> to maintain relevance and operational efficiency.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the National Society by providing assistance with covering the annual subscription costs for their Better Impact volunteer management software. It is an online volunteer management system that allows volunteers to build and manage their own profiles, access a schedule of available tasks and events, (such as first aid classes for example) and manage their own availability and engagement.

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

Nothing to report

SUCCESS STORIES

1

The success of mobile clinics in Trinidad and Tobago

The Henry Dunant Clinic continued to provide primary care services to vulnerable populations in Port of Spain and Signal Hill, Tobago. Monthly outreach activities extended healthcare access to remote communities. With support of the Pan American Development Foundation (PADF), the Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society enhanced its health interventions for migrant and host community populations in South Trinidad with a target of completing 4 mobile clinics and 3 health fairs in the communities of San Fernando, Moruga, Icacos, and Fyzabad.

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

- <u>BB_Barbados AR Financials.pdf</u> (Note: This financial report link will be fed upon the completion of the audit. For emergencies for which a financial report is not yet available, see <u>MDRS2001</u>)
- <u>BZ_Belize AR Financials.pdf</u> (Note: This financial report link will be fed upon the completion of the audit. For emergencies for which a financial report is not yet available, see <u>MDRBZ008</u>)
- DM_Dominica AR Financials.pdf (Note: This financial report link will be fed upon the completion of the audit.)
- GY Guyana AR Financials.pdf (Note: This financial report link will be fed upon the completion of the audit.)
- <u>TT_Trinidad and Tobago AR Financials.pdf</u> (Note: This financial report link will be fed upon the completion of the audit.)
- IFRC Global Plan and Country Plans
- 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

Necephor Mghendi

Head of Delegation
IFRC Country Cluster Delegation for
English & Dutch Speaking Caribbean,
based in Trinidad and Tobago
T +93700274881
necephor.mghendi@ifrc.org

Monica Portilla

Head of Strategic Partnerships & Resource Mobilization IFRC Regional Office for Americas, Panama T +502 586 57619 monica.portilla@ifrc.org

Sumitha Martin

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