



NIGERIA

2026-2028 IFRC network country plan



31 December 2025

In support of the Nigerian Red Cross Society



37

National Society branches



774

National Society local units



500

National Society staff



800,000

National Society volunteers

People to be reached in 2026



1M

Ongoing emergency operations



165,000

Climate and environment



3.1M

Disasters and crises



704,000

Health and wellbeing



44,000

Migration and displacement



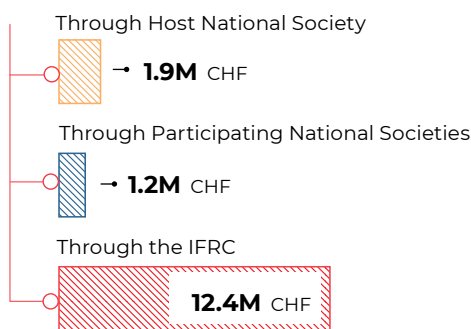
44,000

Values, power and inclusion

IFRC network Funding Requirements

2026

Total 15.5M CHF



2027

2028

Total 792,000 CHF 787,000 CHF

Projected funding requirements

Participating National Societies

- American Red Cross
- British Red Cross
- Canadian Red Cross*
- Italian Red Cross
- Japanese Red Cross Society*
- Red Cross of Monaco*
- The Netherlands Red Cross*
- Norwegian Red Cross
- Swiss Red Cross*

IFRC Appeal codes

Emergency Appeals:

MDRNG041

Nigeria Floods

MDRNG042

Nigeria Malnutrition

MDRS1003

African Regional Mpox Epidemic

Longer-term needs:

MAANG002

*National Societies which have contributed only multilaterally through the IFRC in 2025.

Hazards



Food insecurity



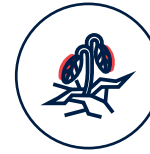
Disease outbreak



Population movement



Floods



Drought



Violence

IFRC network multi-year focus

Emergency response

- Malnutrition
- Disease outbreak
- Floods

Longer term needs

- Food and livelihood insecurity • Health
- Humanitarian access • Displacement
- Disaster risk reduction and response

Capacity development

- Disaster risk management
- Youth engagement
- Positioning • Digital transformation

Key country data links

INFORM Severity rating **Very High**

INFORM Climate Change Risk Index **Very High**

Human Development Index rank **164**

World Bank Population figure **232.7M**

World Bank Population below poverty line **56%**



Volunteers of the Nigerian Red Cross Society providing assistance at the internally displaced people camp in Jibia, Katsina state (Photo:IFRC)

Detailed funding requirements

2026

	Host National Society	IFRC
Ongoing emergencies		1.6M
Longer-term needs		
Climate and environment	28,000	1.2M
Disasters & crises	185,000	1.4M
Health & wellbeing	698,000	3.5M
Migration & displacement		802,000
Values, power & inclusion		2.1M
Enabling local actors	968,000	1.8M
Total	1.9M	12.4M

Note: Funding requirement for MDRNG041 and MDRS1003 (MDRNG040) are not available

Participating National Societies bilateral support

National Society	Year	Funding Requirement	Confirmed Funding	Climate and environment	Disasters and crises	Health and wellbeing	Migration and displacement	Values, power and inclusion	Enabling Functions
American Red Cross	2026					-			
British Red Cross	2026	728,000	728,000	-	-	-		-	-
	2027	792,000	792,000						
	2028	787,000	787,000						
Italian Red Cross	2026						-		
Norwegian Red Cross	2026	490,000	490,000			-			-

See back page for explanatory note on funding requirements

NATIONAL SOCIETY PROFILE

The **Nigerian Red Cross Society** was established in 1960 and was admitted to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) in 1961. It is the largest national humanitarian organization in Nigeria. The National Society has an extensive network of volunteers who work with people in need of humanitarian assistance, along with relevant public authorities, across all 36 states and the Federal Capital Territory. It is a first responder during disasters and social emergencies and supports long-term development through its work in public health, community and youth development.

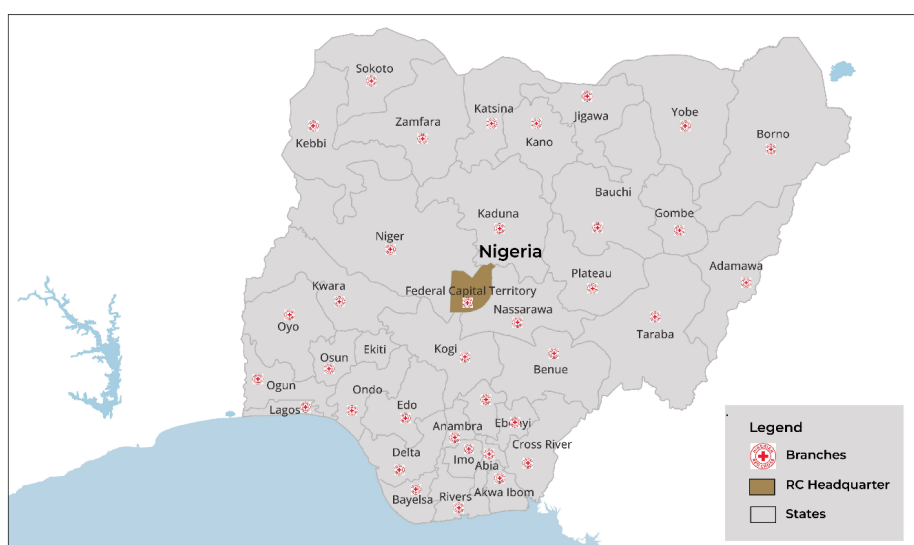
The Nigerian Red Cross Society is mandated to act as a leading organization in national preparedness and in the humanitarian response to circumstances including armed conflict and violent situations, natural hazards, man-made disasters and other emergencies in the country. It is also mandated to manage an effective national network that restores family links between people separated because of natural hazards or man-made disasters, or by other situations that have led to displacement and a need for humanitarian response.

The National Society's areas of work include livelihoods, shelter, climate change, migration, restoring family links, cash transfer programming, disaster risk reduction and community first aid. These activities accompany the National Society's long-term health work, resulting in a holistic approach that provides an effective humanitarian response in all situations. It aims to strengthen its preparedness capacity at headquarters and branch level to ensure timely planning, effective coordination, and response to emergencies.

The Nigerian Red Cross Society's Strategic Plan 2026–2030 aims to strengthen the National Society in alignment with the IFRC Strategy 2030. It focuses on enhancing the organisation's ability to save lives, deliver humanitarian aid, promote health

and social development and uphold humanitarian values across Nigeria. The strategic aims include:

- **Disaster Risk Management:** Address the impacts of climate change, migration and other risk factors through proactive prevention, preparedness and response
- **Health and Care:** Expand access to life-saving health services and health education for communities
- **Communications and Humanitarian Values:** Promote trust, awareness and understanding of humanitarian principles and values
- **Organizational Development:** Strengthen internal systems and processes to ensure operational excellence.
- **National Society Development:** Reinforce institutional structures, systems and capacity to deliver timely, high-quality humanitarian services
- **Resource Mobilization and Management:** Establish sustainable and flexible funding to cover core costs, support programmes and contribute to continental solidarity within Africa
- **Financial Development:** Achieve financial sustainability through prudent resource management and accountability
- **Digital Transformation:** Enhance programmes, decision-making and service delivery through digital tools and innovation
- **Programme Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability, and Learning (MEAL):** Improve project cycle management to produce measurable results and evidence-based insights



Map of Nigerian Red Cross Society branches

The map does not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the IFRC or the National Society concerning the legal status of a territory or its authorities

IFRC NETWORK ACTION

JOINT SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

Nigeria, a diverse sub-Saharan country of 223 million people, continues to face overlapping humanitarian, economic, and security challenges. Despite vast natural resources—particularly oil, which dominates exports and government revenue—structural fragility, inflation, and weak public systems have deepened poverty, especially in northern states. Nigeria's low HDI score (0.535) reflects chronic vulnerabilities across health, nutrition, protection and basic service delivery.

Insecurity remains one of the most significant drivers of humanitarian need. Boko Haram and ISWAP in the northeast, banditry in the northwest, and unrest in the southeast have displaced over 2.3 million people and exposed communities to abductions, sexual violence, child recruitment and restricted movement. These threats continue to disrupt livelihoods, limit humanitarian access, and heighten protection risks, particularly for women, children, and persons with disabilities.

Food insecurity is escalating nationwide. An estimated 33.1 million people are projected to face acute food insecurity in 2025, including 5 million in the northeast in IPC Phase 3 or 4. Price shocks, reduced purchasing power, global market instability, and climate-related disruptions have created widespread food shortages. Malnutrition remains severe, with 1.8 million children facing severe acute wasting.

Nigeria's health system is overstretched and under-resourced. The country continues to record the world's highest maternal mortality burden—around 75,000 deaths in 2023. Conflict-affected states face severe shortages of medical personnel, medicines, and functioning facilities, while access to reproductive health, nutrition, and GBV services remains extremely limited.

Climate shocks further compound vulnerabilities. Flooding remains a major seasonal threat, with 1,249 communities across 30 states identified as high-risk in 2025. Recent flash floods in Niger State killed more than 500 people and submerged over 10,000 hectares of farmland, while large-scale flooding in Adamawa displaced more than 5,500 people. These events undermine food production, damage critical infrastructure and increase cholera, typhoid and other disease outbreaks.

Economic instability—driven by inflation, fuel subsidy removal, currency pressures, and governance challenges—continues to erode household resilience. Rising food prices and unemployment have increased social tensions and contributed to periodic unrest in urban centres.

Overall, Nigeria's humanitarian landscape in 2025 is shaped by persistent insecurity, worsening food and nutrition crises, climate-driven disasters, and significant gaps in health and protection services. These compounding pressures have weakened community coping capacities and left millions in urgent need of sustained support and recovery pathways.

ONGOING EMERGENCY RESPONSE

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

1.

Emergency Appeal name	Nigeria Acute Malnutrition - 2025
IFRC Emergency Appeal code	MDRNG042
People to be assisted	1 million people (170,000 households)
Duration	12 months (26 May 2025 to 26 May 2026)
Funding requirements	IFRC Secretariat Funding requirements: CHF 2.5 million Federation-wide Funding requirements: CHF 5 million
Link to Emergency Appeal	Emergency Appeal- Nigeria, Africa Acute Malnutrition
Link to Operational Strategy	Operational Strategy- Nigeria, Africa Acute Malnutrition
Last Operation Update	Nigeria Acute malnutrition- Operation Update #2

Nigeria is facing a severe food insecurity and malnutrition crisis, with 33.1 million people projected to experience Crisis-level or worse (CH Phase 3+) food insecurity during the June–August 2025 lean season. The situation is compounded by an acute malnutrition emergency, affecting 5.44 million children in the North-East and North-West, including 1.8 million with severe acute malnutrition. Additionally, 800,000 pregnant and lactating women are malnourished, and 63 per cent of local government areas in these regions are classified as IPC-AMN Phase 3 or 4. Alarmingly, only 20 per cent of affected children receive treatment, while malnutrition remains a leading cause of child mortality.

Short description of the emergency operational strategy

This Emergency Appeal aims to assist one million people across 170,000 households in nine northern states: Adamawa, Benue, Borno, Katsina, Niger, Sokoto, Taraba, Yobe and Zamfara. The strategy focuses on life-saving nutrition and food assistance, complemented by protection and resilience-building measures. The IFRC aims to support the Nigerian Red Cross Society in responding to malnutrition, particularly Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM). The strategy, developed with the Federal Ministry of Health, the United Nations (UN) and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), seeks to address immediate lifesaving needs and strengthen medium-term community resilience. Urgent funding is required to scale up interventions in health, water, sanitation and hygiene ([WASH](#)), nutrition, protection and prevention, alongside enabling functions such as coordination, partnerships, IFRC support and National Society development. Key actions include:

- Conducting a comprehensive needs assessment to ensure context-specific, community-driven interventions

- Targeting children under five, especially infants 0–6 months, pregnant and lactating women and other vulnerable groups such as people with disabilities, elderly individuals and female-headed households
- Integrating a whole-of-family approach to promote household nutrition and reduce protection risks

The Nigerian Red Cross Society is currently carrying out the following interventions:

Health and care including water, sanitation and hygiene ([WASH](#)) and mental health and psychosocial support ([MHPSS](#)): Integrated community assessments to identify causes of malnutrition, train volunteers in screening, referrals, Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF), health and hygiene promotion.

Community-based management of acute malnutrition ([CMAM](#)): Map referral pathways and link communities to treatment services, conduct community screening using Mid-Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) or weight-for-height measurements, implement outpatient therapeutic programs for SAM and supplementary feeding for Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM).

Nutrition education and community engagement: Expand mother's and father's clubs to promote IYCF best practices, provide hygiene demonstrations, aqua tabs for water treatment and advocate for nutrition integration in primary health care.

Protection and prevention: Integrate Protection, Gender and Inclusion ([PGI](#)), Community Engagement and Accountability ([CEA](#)), and Disaster Risk Reduction into all activities. Conduct risk assessments, ensure safe and dignified access to services and train staff on Prevention and Response to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse ([PSEA](#)). Establish child-friendly spaces,

screen for abuse, and strengthen referral systems for survivors of Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and other vulnerable groups.

Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA): Include marginalized groups in outreach and involve communities in planning and monitoring and train community leaders and establish culturally appropriate feedback mechanisms.

The participating National Societies supporting the Nigerian Red Cross Society under this emergency appeal include the **British Red Cross**, the **Italian Red Cross**, and the **Norwegian Red Cross**.

The International Committee of the Red Cross (**ICRC**) supports the Nigerian Red Cross Society in reinforcing its emergency response through emergency first aid teams and restoring family links (**RFL**) as well as economic security programming.

2.

Emergency Appeal name	Nigeria Floods
IFRC Emergency Appeal code	MDRNG041
People to be assisted	400,000
Duration	15 months (13 September 2024 to 12 December 2025. Discussions ongoing to extend operation beyond 31 December 2025)
Funding requirements	Federation-wide funding requirement: CHF 10 million IFRC Secretariat funding requirement: CHF 5 million
Link to Emergency Appeal	Nigeria Floods Emergency Appeal
Link to Operational Strategy	Operational strategy
Link to latest Operations Update	Operational Update No.2

Nigeria is grappling with catastrophic flooding that has severely impacted 29 states, marking one of the worst humanitarian crises in its history. The disaster, exacerbated by the collapse of the Alau Dam in Borno State, has destroyed homes, infrastructure, and farmland, displaced 390,000 people and affected over one million individuals.

The floods have claimed 311 lives, injured over 3,174 people, and left many displaced in deplorable conditions. Farmland covering over 6,490,307 square meters (649 hectares) has been destroyed, threatening food security for millions. Health risks have escalated with contaminated water and inadequate sanitation leading to a surge in waterborne diseases such as cholera. In 2024 alone, over 7,056 suspected cholera cases have been reported, a 128 per cent increase compared to the previous year. Poor waste management, inadequate drainage systems, and climate variability have compounded the crisis, particularly in rural areas where fragile homes and infrastructure have been washed away. Entire communities have lost access to food, shelter, and basic hygiene items, leaving them highly vulnerable.

Short description of the emergency operational strategy

This Emergency Appeal covered 12 most severely affected states. This allowed the National Society to prioritize the most affected areas, acknowledging that the flood situation will continue to evolve. The states targeted in this appeal include Borno, Adamawa, Sokoto, Bauchi, Jigawa, Kebbi, Zamfara, Bayelsa, Kogi, Enugu, Imo and Lagos. The prioritization of the intervention areas was based on the magnitude of the impact of the floods and the number of partners present in the areas, focusing on addressing the most acute service gaps.

The Nigerian Red Cross Society's planned operations under this emergency appeal include interventions such as distribution of shelter kits and items, provision of unconditional multipurpose cash transfers, WASH interventions such as promotion of hygiene practices and distribution of kits, disaster risk reduction, PGI and CEA interventions.

3.

Emergency Appeal name	Africa – Regional Mpox Epidemic
IFRC Emergency Appeal code	MDRS1003
People to be assisted	300 million
Duration	20 August 2024 to 31 March 2026
Funding requirements	Federation-wide funding requirement: CHF 40 million IFRC Secretariat funding requirement: CHF 30 million
Link to Emergency Appeal	Africa – Regional Mpox Epidemic
Link to Operational Strategy	Operational strategy
Link to latest Operations Update	Operational Update No. 4

In 2024, a concerning surge in Mpox cases and deaths has been reported across 12 African countries, with over 17,000 cases and 500 deaths. While the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) remains the epicentre, accounting for 92 per cent of cases, cross-border transmission has extended to Burundi, Rwanda, Uganda and Kenya. Outbreaks have also been observed in other endemic countries such as Nigeria, Cote d'Ivoire and Central African Republic. The Nigerian Red Cross Society is actively involved in preparedness and response efforts in Nigeria, with support from the IFRC and other National Societies. The IFRC is mobilizing its vast network across Africa to provide critical interventions, including community-based surveillance, risk communication, vaccination efforts and psychosocial support to curb the spread of the virus.

Short description of the emergency operational strategy

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

populations, including marginalized and immunocompromised groups, with a focus on protection, gender and inclusion.

The following assistance was provided by the Nigerian Red Cross Society:

The Nigerian Red Cross Society, with support from the Norwegian Red Cross, organized a national Training of Trainers session for its National Disaster Response Team. This training included members of the Ministry of Health task force and state focal persons addressing epidemic response. Conducted in collaboration with the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control, the training equipped 56 participants from implementing states with skills in community-based surveillance. The trained National Disaster Response Teams will be deployed to highly affected states to supervise community-based volunteers.

The National Society has already produced banners displayed in strategic public areas, such as airports, to raise awareness about the disease. Additional materials are being prepared for state-level campaigns and awareness activities by volunteers. Following the national adoption of validated messaging on risk communication and community engagement, the Nigerian Red Cross Society has initiated radio awareness campaigns in Plateau State. These campaigns deliver key messages about mpox, including information on prevention, symptoms, recommended actions for suspected cases, dispelling misconceptions and rumors, and promoting compassion toward affected individuals and households.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Climate and environment

Nigeria faces complex and escalating climate challenges that intersect with environmental degradation, food security, and human vulnerability. Rising temperatures, unpredictable rainfall patterns, and extreme weather events have become more frequent, driving floods in the south and prolonged droughts in the north. Seasonal rainfall now occurs in intense bursts, causing flash floods and large-scale runoff, while northern regions experience desertification and water scarcity. Lake Chad, once a critical water source, continues to shrink, threatening livelihoods and regional stability.

Coastal areas, particularly Lagos, Delta, and Rivers states, are increasingly exposed to flooding and storm surges due to rising sea levels. Informal settlements and poorer households in cities such as Lagos, Warri and Port Harcourt face heightened risks. In the Niger Delta, mangrove forests—natural buffers against coastal storms—are being destroyed by oil pollution and land reclamation, weakening ecosystem resilience. Erosion and land degradation are widespread, with an estimated 90 per cent of Nigeria's landmass affected by soil erosion, ranging from sheet to gully erosion. This degradation undermines agricultural productivity, accelerates food insecurity and disrupts water systems.

Deforestation, driven by population growth, unsustainable farming and overuse of forest resources, exacerbates desert encroachment in the north and gully erosion in the south. Large-scale land clearing for agriculture and settlement has led to siltation of water bodies, loss of topsoil, and increased flooding. These environmental pressures are compounded by rapid urbanization and inadequate infrastructure, leaving communities vulnerable to climate shocks.

In response, Nigeria is strengthening its climate governance and adaptation frameworks. The National Adaptation Plan (NAP), adopted in 2020 and under development for full implementation, provides a roadmap for resilience. Complementary initiatives include the Climate Change Act, National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP), and the Drought Policy, alongside commitments under the African Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative (AFR100) to restore four million hectares of degraded land by 2030. National programmes such as the presidential tree-planting initiative (25 million trees) and the Land Degradation Neutrality Target Setting Programme (LDN TSP 2.0) aim to reverse ecosystem loss. Updated Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) incorporate climate-smart agriculture, sustainable water management, and ecosystem preservation to align environmental goals with development priorities.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Nigerian Red Cross Society is part of the IFRC Global Climate Resilience Programme, which aims to foster an unprecedented scale-up in locally led climate-smart disaster risk reduction and adaptation efforts to prevent and reduce climate-related disaster impacts, and build community-level climate resilience. The programme aims to support 500 million people in 100 of the most climate-vulnerable countries, focusing on the least supported and marginalized communities. This holistic, multi-year programmatic approach consists of four operational pillars: (1) scaling up climate-smart disaster risk reduction, anticipatory action and preparedness; (2) reducing the public health impacts of climate change; (3) addressing climate displacement; and (4) enabling climate-resilient livelihoods and ecosystem services.

The Nigerian Red Cross Society is also a signatory of the Climate and Environment Charter for humanitarian organizations since 2021. The Nigerian Red Cross Society invests in capacity building of volunteers and community members to institutionalize information and knowledge about locally-led risk-informed preparedness and early warning/early action (in particular for flood and drought risks), climate change adaptation and nature-based solutions.

The Nigerian Red Cross Society will continue to advance climate adaptation and preparedness under the PREPARE programme. Climate-related risks—particularly intensified seasonal rainfall and recurrent flooding—remain among the most critical challenges in target states. Over the coming years, the climate component of PREPARE will focus on three strategic areas:

Early warning and anticipatory action

- Expand tailored Early Warning Systems (EWS) in branches newly joining the programme (Bauchi and Delta) to reflect local risk contexts and communication needs
- In branches where EWS are already operational (FCT, Lagos, Imo), conduct periodic simulations and after-action reviews to strengthen preparedness

Community-led climate adaptation

- Promote affordable and sustainable mitigation measures at household and community levels, such as improved drainage systems, sanitation and flood-proofing
- Support climate-resilient livelihoods through climate-smart agriculture, village savings and loan associations (VSLAs), and vocational training in Lagos, Imo and FCT

- Provide technical assistance, coordinate with local stakeholders, and, where possible, offer seed grants or start-up inputs

Institutional capacity building

- Integrate climate adaptation into broader disaster planning and volunteer training
- Strengthen branch-level capacity to lead climate initiatives independently, aligning with the partnership's vision for sustainability and localization

In Delta and Bauchi, upcoming assessments will guide future interventions, ensuring that strategies remain adaptive and community driven. Overall, the climate dimension of PREPARE aims to enhance both short-term preparedness and long-term resilience, empowering communities to lead in the face of escalating climate risks.

Planned activities in 2026

- Reinforce environmental sustainability measures across all operations by integrating climate-smart practices into disaster response and community programmes
- Establish anticipatory action plans to reduce disaster impact on vulnerable communities
- Conduct volunteer-led training on sustainable land management techniques on soil conservation, water harvesting and agroforestry
- Establish tree-nursery projects focusing on indigenous species by engaging youth in reforestation to regenerate degraded lands and preserve biodiversity
- Organize community clean-up campaigns in cities and promote composting, waste recycling and reduction of

plastic pollution to prevent clogged waterways and urban flooding

- Support small-scale erosion control and watershed protection through local volunteer initiatives
- Demonstrate practical nature-based actions for land and water conservation
- Conduct awareness campaigns on climate resilience and environmental protection
- Foster community ownership of climate adaptation initiatives

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will provide technical and financial support to the National Society in areas such as campaign design, proposal development, partnership building and linking tree planting initiatives with the IFRC Pan-African initiative. Additional support includes early warning and early action, farmer training on climate-smart agriculture and land management, provision of climate-resilient seeds, tree planting and care and strengthening community trust through the Community Trust Index.

The IFRC's enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (eVCA) will empower communities to identify risks and develop risk-informed action plans. The IFRC will also deliver eVCA training for volunteers focused on climate-related impacts.

The **British Red Cross** will collaborate with the Nigerian Red Cross Society to prioritize climate adaptation and preparedness as a key element of its disaster management strategy under the PREPARE programme, building on its long-standing partnership with the National Society.



Disasters and crises

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

Nigeria remains one of the highest-risk countries globally, classified under the “very high risk” category in the INFORM Risk Index 2025. With a hazard and exposure score of 7.4, vulnerability score of 6.8, and lack of coping capacity score of 6.9, the country faces a dangerous combination of climatic hazards, insecurity, fragile socio-economic conditions and weak resilience infrastructure. These structural weaknesses amplify the impact of both natural and man-made disasters, leaving millions of people vulnerable to recurring crises.

Natural hazards continue to dominate Nigeria's risk landscape, with flooding being the most recurrent and destructive. Heavy

rainfall, river overflow and dam failures during the rainy season have caused widespread devastation. In 2025, floods affected over 1.2 million people across 25 states, displaced 420,000 individuals and destroyed 720,000 hectares of crops, worsening food insecurity. Drought cycles in the northern regions are lengthening due to climate change, reducing agricultural productivity and water availability. Coastal erosion and storm surges in the Niger Delta have displaced fishing communities and damaged farmlands, while epidemics often follow floods, with outbreaks of cholera and other waterborne diseases in congested displacement camps.

Man-made hazards compound these challenges. Protracted insurgency in the Northeast, driven by Boko Haram and ISWAP,

continues to displace millions and disrupt livelihoods. Banditry and farmer-herder clashes in the North Central and Northwest exacerbate displacement and food insecurity, while secessionist agitations in the Southeast, notably by the Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB), have led to fatalities, economic paralysis and persistent insecurity. In the Niger Delta, pipeline vandalism and oil theft disrupt economic activity and environmental stability, adding another layer of complexity to Nigeria's crisis environment.

The humanitarian impact of these hazards is severe. Displacement remains widespread, with hundreds of thousands uprooted by floods and millions affected by conflict. Conditions in internally displaced persons (IDP) camps are dire, with limited access to critical services and heightened protection risks. Food insecurity is at alarming levels, with FEWS NET projecting that over 30 million Nigerians will face Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or worse food insecurity in 2026. Malnutrition rates among children remain well above emergency thresholds, and health risks are compounded by poor sanitation and limited healthcare access.

The economic and social consequences of these disasters are profound. Agricultural losses from floods and droughts undermine rural livelihoods and national food supply. Infrastructure damage, including collapsed roads, bridges and dams, disrupts transportation and humanitarian access. Economic disruption is evident in oil production in the Niger Delta, which suffers from flooding and insecurity, while urban areas experience traffic congestion and power outages during disasters.

Nigeria's disaster management framework, led by the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), faces significant operational challenges. Disaster risk reduction infrastructure is limited, early warning systems are underdeveloped, and funding shortfalls persist. While the government has adopted the National Disaster Risk Management Policy, implementation remains uneven, and preparedness is largely theoretical. Humanitarian access is further constrained by insecurity, seasonal road inaccessibility, and logistical bottlenecks, leaving response capacities overstretched by simultaneous crises.

Looking ahead, emerging trends point to worsening conditions. Climate change is intensifying hazards, with longer droughts, heavier floods and accelerated coastal erosion expected to escalate humanitarian needs. The conflict-climate nexus is deepening vulnerability, as insecurity and environmental stress reinforce each other. Rapid urbanization without adequate drainage and planning is increasing flood exposure in cities, creating new layers of risk for Nigeria's growing population.

Multi-year high-level objectives of the National Society

The Nigerian Red Cross Society, in line with its auxiliary role, seeks to alleviate the impact of the multiple crises and disasters affecting the population. It plays a major role of first responder in emergencies, while working on the long-term needs of vulnerable people and the resilience of communities to shocks

and hazards. With Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), the National Society has had several preparatory meetings and consultations.

As a priority country within the [IFRC Pan African initiative on preparedness and readiness](#), the Nigerian Red Cross Society works towards enhancing its readiness and effectiveness to provide timely, effective, appropriate and accountable response to crises and disasters. This includes being able to monitor and analyse risks, vulnerability and capacities of communities, build scenarios and undertake early actions, strengthen its emergency response systems, including trained disaster response teams, and swiftly deploy capacity in at risk/affected areas. Through this initiative, the National Society will continue to strengthen its auxiliary role, coordination, and leverage from communities to create a conducive operating environment.

Planned activities in 2026

- Continue delivering [community-based disaster risk reduction \(CBDRR\)](#) interventions while shifting strategic focus toward sustainability, localization and adaptive expansion into new areas
- Maintain and potentially expand the crisis modifier funding mechanism to enable branches to quickly access pre-positioned funds during emergencies
- Integrate disaster risk reduction with [food security and livelihoods](#) initiatives to address underlying vulnerabilities
- Engage communities in Delta and Bauchi and roll out initial disaster risk reduction activities, establishing Community-Based Disaster Management Committees
- Deepen collaboration with government agencies, UN bodies, INGOs and the private sector to deliver timely and coordinated responses.
- Expand operational presence in high-risk and conflict-affected zones, especially Borno, Adamawa and Yobe (BAY) states, and the north central states including Benue and plateau state
- Align interventions with national disaster management frameworks and contribute to the enhancement of national [early warning systems](#)
- Procure financial service providers to provide [cash and voucher assistance](#) to respond effectively to affected populations

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC provides financial and technical support to the National Society and works collaboratively to enhance the Nigerian Red Cross Society's' preparedness and readiness. Through this initiative, the National Society continues to strengthen its auxiliary role, coordination and works with communities

to create a conducive operating environment. The IFRC also supports the National Society in its community-based disaster risk reduction and preparedness work, livelihoods support and cash assistance.

IFRC funding mechanisms such as the Disaster Response Emergency Fund (IFRC-DREF) and Emergency Appeals are drawn on as needed for the National Society to respond to disasters and crises. In 2025, the IFRC provided DREF allocation for one emergency in Nigeria (*see under Migration and displacement*).

The **British Red Cross** supports the Nigerian Red Cross Society in strengthening institutional capacity for disaster preparedness and response. This includes aligning disaster response plans with national standards, enhancing staff and volunteer skills

and scaling up tools and methodologies developed under the PREPARE programme. By combining efforts to build community resilience with institutional systems, the British Red Cross aims to enable the Nigerian Red Cross Society to sustain and adapt disaster risk reduction initiatives independently for long-term impact.

The British Red Cross will also assist the Nigerian Red Cross Society in consolidating progress in Federal Capital Territory (FCT) and the states of Lagos and Imo by guiding the transition to branch-led implementation through accompaniment, coaching and technical guidance, while supporting branches to deliver low-cost, high-impact activities such as community simulations, refresher training, contingency planning and engagement with Community-Based Disaster Management Committees.



Health and wellbeing

Nigeria's health system faces severe structural and operational challenges, leaving the country ill-equipped to manage its growing public health needs. Only 20 per cent of the nation's 30,000 primary healthcare facilities are fully functional, largely due to shortages and poor distribution of health workers, dilapidated infrastructure, lack of essential medicines, and poor-quality services. Chronic underinvestment and low remuneration have driven skilled professionals abroad, resulting in a ratio of just 0.4 doctors per 1,000 people—far below the global benchmark of 1.5. These gaps in primary and secondary healthcare underscore the urgent need for improved nutrition screening, community health mobilization, and strengthened service delivery.

Maternal and child health indicators remain among the worst globally. Nigeria accounts for 10 per cent of global maternal deaths, with [maternal mortality](#) at 576 per 100,000 live births and under-five mortality at 128 per 1,000. Malnutrition is a major contributor, with underweight prevalence rising from 23 per cent in 2018 to 26 per cent in 2020, and Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) rates increasing from 11 per cent in 2019 to 19 per cent in 2023. Micronutrient deficiencies—particularly vitamin A, zinc, iron, and iodine—are widespread, driven by poor feeding practices, inadequate WASH services, and high poverty levels. Over 5.9 million children require immediate nutrition support, with northern states reporting the highest stunting and wasting rates.

Communicable diseases dominate Nigeria's health burden, accounting for 66 per cent of morbidity. Malaria remains endemic, with 165 million people at risk, while tuberculosis prevalence stands at 219 per 100,000 people. HIV/AIDS affects 1.9 million Nigerians, disproportionately impacting women aged 15–49. Frequent outbreaks of Lassa fever, cholera, meningitis, yellow fever, and diphtheria strain an already fragile health

system. Cholera remains seasonal and endemic, exacerbated by poor sanitation and flooding, while climate change-driven extreme weather events have intensified the spread of vector- and water-borne diseases, disrupted vaccination campaigns, and damaged health infrastructure.

Climate shocks, conflict, and displacement further compound health vulnerabilities, particularly among women, children, and internally displaced persons. Floods in southern and central regions contaminate water sources and increase diarrhoeal disease, while drought in the north undermines food and water security, fueling malnutrition. Despite ongoing reforms and government investment, primary healthcare coverage remains inconsistent, disease surveillance under-resourced, and access to essential medicines limited. Regional disparities persist, with northern states reporting the poorest health outcomes and emergency thresholds for malnutrition exceeded.

The government's updated National Cholera Control Plan (2026–2030) offers an opportunity to integrate WASH interventions into maternal, child, and emergency health services. Community-based models, such as those championed by the Nigerian Red Cross Society, will be critical to breaking cycles of preventable disease and improving resilience in flood-prone and peri-urban settlements. However, without significant investment in infrastructure, workforce retention, and climate-adaptive health strategies, Nigeria's progress toward Sustainable Development Goals for health will remain slow, leaving millions vulnerable to preventable illness and death.

Multi-year high-level objectives of the National Society

The Nigerian Red Cross Society is engaged in the Resilient and Empowered African Community Health ([REACH](#)) initiative, a five years initiative part of the overall partnership between

the IFRC and the Africa CDC, with the ambition of strengthening the number, capacity, training and supervision of the community health workforce, as well as health systems across the continent. The overall target is to scale up two million community health workers across the African Continent, with each community health worker supporting an estimated 250 people (50 – 100 households).

The high-level objectives of the National Society are to:

- Strengthen community resilience through integrated health, nutrition and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) interventions, embedding climate adaptation strategies across all [health programmes](#)
- Expand the use of climate-sensitive disease forecasting to anticipate seasonal health risks and enable volunteers to lead early detection, public health messaging and community-level response
- Support the expansion of Nigeria's Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response (IDSR) system, with a strong focus on community-based surveillance and early warning
- Strengthen partnerships with the Federal Ministry of Health, National Primary Health Care Development Agency and state-level health authorities to improve immunization coverage, blood transfusion services and outreach to isolated and mobile populations
- Advance seven core programme areas—community-based health, maternal, neonatal and child health, nutrition, emergency health, WASH, health for vulnerable groups and medical services—while ensuring all interventions are climate-resilient and sustainable
- Deliver equitable, inclusive and adaptive health services that protect lives, restore dignity and build healthier, more resilient communities nationwide

Planned activities in 2026

- Implement the community health workforce ([REACH](#) initiative) and strengthen community-based health systems for marginalized groups through preventive care, nutrition, immunization and integrated WASH services
- Enhance [epidemic and pandemic preparedness](#) by improving surveillance and early warning systems, supporting vaccination campaigns, risk communication and rapid outbreak response
- Provide inclusive health services for migrants, refugees, ageing populations and persons with disabilities, including sexual and reproductive health, chronic illness care and mobile health clinics for hard-to-reach areas

- Scale up mental health and psychosocial support services in displacement camps and disaster-affected communities, addressing stigma and building volunteer capacity
- Expand emergency health response through community-based health and first aid ([CBHFA](#)), volunteer training and rapid deployment of medical teams and supplies
- Leverage innovation and digital health solutions through mHealth, telemedicine, AI tools and digital platforms for surveillance and data-driven decision-making
- Strengthen medical services by expanding clinics and mobile clinics, organizing blood donation campaigns, ensuring safe blood collection and distribution and advocating voluntary donation
- Mainstream climate-sensitive health interventions and disease forecasting across all health programming, with targeted training for staff and volunteers
- Improve access to safe water and sanitation by scaling up sustainable WASH services in cholera-prone and underserved areas, integrated with health and nutrition programming

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The **IFRC** will maintain long-term engagement to help the National Society achieve its health and wellbeing objectives, focusing on strategic outcomes aligned with the Nigerian Red Cross Society Health and Care Strategy.

The **British Red Cross** supports the Nigerian Red Cross Society by integrating a WASH component into the PREPARE programme following community assessments in 2023. The objective is to reduce health risks from waterborne diseases while ensuring dignity and comfort in target communities. This component adopts a phased approach, initially focusing on Lagos, Imo and FCT, addressing water access, sanitation practices, and hygiene through context-specific interventions implemented between 2023 and 2025.

From 2026 onward, the approach will expand to newly added locations—Bauchi and Delta—based on assessments to determine local needs. Additional locations may be included if funding becomes available.

The **Norwegian Red Cross** continues to provide bilateral support to the Nigerian Red Cross Society through its community health initiative under the REACH initiative.



Nigeria remains a critical hub in the global migration landscape, functioning as a country of origin, transit and destination. Migration and displacement drivers in the country are intensifying due to a fragile economic outlook, persistent insecurity and escalating climate-related disasters. Protracted violence—including insurgency in the Northeast, farmer–herder conflicts, kidnapping-for-ransom and banditry in the Northwest and Northcentral regions—continues to uproot communities. Climate change-induced flooding and prolonged drought cycles are forcing thousands to abandon homes in search of safety and livelihoods, adding to already high displacement figures.

Migrants and displaced persons face heightened vulnerability, particularly unaccompanied and separated children, persons with disabilities, older persons and survivors of trafficking. Risks of exploitation, gender-based violence, human trafficking and forced labour remain pervasive. Internal displacement is driven primarily by conflict and disasters, with over 3.6 million people displaced as of [late 2023](#). Flooding alone displaced an estimated two million people during the 2022 emergency, and projections suggest that sea-level rise could force 27–53 million relocations by the end of the century.

Migration flows are shaped by both supply and demand factors. On the supply side, spiralling inflation, high youth unemployment, weak infrastructure, insecurity and environmental shocks push people to migrate. On the demand side, cheap labour markets, trafficking networks and smuggling operations exploit vulnerabilities. Social media and diaspora networks amplify perceptions of opportunity abroad, often masking the dangers of irregular migration routes. Emigration is most common from southern and southwestern states, where intermediaries lure young people with promises of jobs and better living conditions in Europe.

Nigeria also hosts significant migrant populations, primarily from West African countries such as Benin, Ghana, Mali, Togo and Niger. According to [UN DESA](#), Nigeria hosted 1.3 million migrants in 2020, while [UNHCR reports](#) over 85,000 refugees, mostly from Cameroon. These mixed migration flows underscore Nigeria's dual role as both a source and destination country.

The Government of Nigeria, through the National Commission for Refugees, Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons (NCFRMI), has [strengthened](#) migration governance with support from civil society and international partners.

Looking ahead, migration and displacement in Nigeria will remain deeply interconnected with climate change, insecurity and economic fragility. Women, children and other vulnerable groups will continue to bear the brunt of these crises unless systemic investments in protection, resilience and inclusive migration governance are prioritized.

Multi-year high-level objectives of the National Society

The Nigerian Red Cross Society is part of the IFRC's three-year [Global Route-Based Migration Programme](#), which aims to improve the safety and dignity of people on the move along deadly and dangerous land and sea-based migration routes. The programme aims to support 4.7 million people annually across the world who are either on the move or living in host communities. It will do so through three operational pillars: (1) improving access to assistance and protection, including through [humanitarian service points](#); (2) strengthening National Society capacities; and (3) local to global humanitarian diplomacy.

The Nigerian Red Cross Society plays a key role in delivering humanitarian assistance, technical support and advocacy for migrant rights and dignity. Partnerships with migration stakeholders aim to enhance route-based humanitarian services, promote safe and legal migration pathways and prevent trafficking.

The Nigerian Red Cross Society supports government efforts to manage migration by building capacity, advising and providing technical assistance on migration. It has established strong collaboration with national migration stakeholders to enhance the fight against trafficking of people and to reduce irregular migration. The Nigerian Red Cross Society reaches significant numbers of internally displaced people through its overall humanitarian work and offers tailored support to Nigerian returnees and evacuees on arrival. It also provides critical [Restoring Family Links services](#) for separated families.

Aligned with the Movement Migration Strategy 2024–2030, the high-level objectives of the Nigerian Red Cross Society are to:

- Ensure that all migrants are safe and treated with dignity, have their rights respected, and can thrive in inclusive communities and societies, participating meaningfully in the decisions that affect their lives
- Raise awareness about the risks involved with migration and share information about legal pathways
- Enable young people to build their career skills where they live and advocate for the creation of job opportunities

Planned activities in 2026

- Establish humanitarian service points ([HSPs](#)) and monitor activities at existing humanitarian service points
- Strengthen protection and assistance for displaced persons, returnees and migrants, with targeted interventions that combine immediate humanitarian relief with longer-term resilience building

- Expand access to legal migration information for youth and vulnerable communities, while offering skills development and livelihood opportunities that reduce the push factors for unsafe migration
- Advocate for migrant-inclusive policies that address the full spectrum of needs—from safe return and reintegration to climate displacement adaptation
- Build capacity of the National Society's migration response team

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC support to the Nigerian Red Cross Society consists of technical and financial support to strengthen its migration initiatives and enhance its engagement with national migration stakeholders to strengthen the fight against trafficking of people and reduce irregular migration.

The Italian Red Cross will continue to support the National Society to sustain and scale migration-related interventions.

The HSP in Daura will be further developed to serve as a model for humanitarian services for people on the move and migrant-focused service hubs.

In 2025, the IFRC provided DREF allocation for one emergency in Nigeria, as described below:

IFRC-DREF – Nigeria Population Movement: the DREF allocation of CHF 695,477 in July 2025 supported the Nigerian Red Cross Society to assist 15,000 people affected by displacement crisis in the areas of Benue and Plateau. The National Society supported the targeted people over a five-month period to provide life-saving assistance through the distribution of multipurpose cash grants and essential household items, WASH and hygiene promotion, and protection and community engagement activities.

Under wider Movement support the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) provides support to the Nigerian Red Cross Society in restoring family links (RFL).



A dedicated Nigerian Red Cross Society volunteer shares his passion for helping his community and bringing hope to those in need. (Photo: Nigerian Red Cross Society)



Nigeria continues to grapple with overlapping humanitarian and development challenges—armed conflict, climate-driven displacement and economic instability—that disproportionately affect women, children, persons with disabilities and other marginalized groups. Social cohesion is under strain in communities hosting displaced populations, where discrimination, exploitation and abuse often go underreported due to stigma and fear of retaliation. These dynamics highlight persistent gaps in safeguarding, accountability and inclusive governance.

Gender inequality remains a major barrier to inclusion. Nigeria ranked 124 on the [Global Gender Gap Index in 2025](#), and the country still has the largest number of child brides in Africa, with an estimated 23 million girls and women married as children. Female genital mutilation persists despite declining prevalence rates, with Nigeria holding the world's third-highest absolute number of women and girls affected. Education disparities are stark: only 41 per cent of eligible girls in the Northeast and 47 per cent in the Northwest attend primary school, while millions of children remain out of school [due to conflict](#), poverty and cultural norms. School abductions and insecurity have further deepened this crisis, leaving an estimated 10.2 million children of primary school age and another 8.1 million of junior secondary school age out of school, as of [2024](#).

Persons with disabilities face systemic exclusion. [WHO estimates](#) that 29 million Nigerians live with disabilities, yet access to basic services remains limited. Social attitudes and infrastructural barriers compound marginalization, restricting participation in education, employment and public life. Intersectional discrimination—where gender, disability, ethnicity and poverty overlap—creates compounded vulnerabilities, particularly in conflict-affected and rural areas.

Power dynamics within communities and institutions influence access to resources and decision-making. Traditional hierarchies, gender norms and socio-economic status often determine who participates in governance and who benefits from aid or development programmes. These imbalances perpetuate exclusion and undermine accountability. Efforts to promote inclusion increasingly emphasize participatory approaches, cultural sensitivity and community engagement to ensure diverse voices are heard and respected.

Social inclusion programmes in Nigeria aim to challenge discriminatory norms, expand access to markets and public services and build capacity through civil society advocacy. However, progress remains uneven due to entrenched cultural practices, weak enforcement of protective laws and limited investment in inclusive systems. Addressing these gaps requires systemic reforms that prioritize dignity, equity and representation—ensuring that all individuals, regardless of identity or status, can participate fully in social, economic and political life.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Nigerian Red Cross Society seeks to ensure dignity, safety and equitable access for all individuals, with a particular focus on marginalised and at-risk groups. The National Society aims to institutionalise [Protection, Gender and Inclusion \(PGI\)](#) and [Community Engagement and Accountability \(CEA\)](#) across all its operations. It plans to strengthen safeguarding systems and [prevent sexual exploitation and abuse \(PSEA\)](#) by implementing robust policies and strict enforcement measures. Furthermore, the National Society will focus on promoting inclusive participation and decision-making processes to empower communities and enhance overall accountability. It also intends to build capacity for culturally sensitive and intersectional approaches that effectively address multiple forms of discrimination and exclusion. Additionally, the Nigerian Red Cross Society will expand humanitarian [education programmes](#), emphasizing humanitarian values and improving access for those whose education has been disrupted due to conflict, disaster or displacement.

Planned activities in 2026

- Implement stronger safeguarding and PSEA mechanisms, including staff and volunteer training and confidential reporting channels
 - Mainstream PGI and CEA standards in all programmes, ensuring feedback systems are accessible and acted upon
 - Develop and roll out inclusive communication strategies to reach displaced persons, women in remote areas and persons with disabilities
 - Facilitate community consultations and participatory planning to ensure diverse voices shape humanitarian responses
 - Launch awareness campaigns to challenge harmful norms and promote gender equality, disability inclusion and child protection
 - Establish safe spaces and referral pathways for survivors of violence and exploitation in high-risk areas
 - Integrate cultural sensitivity and intersectionality into programme design through localized assessments and community engagement
 - Scale-up youth-led initiatives and support for youth-led education building on the [youth engagement strategy](#) and tools such as youth as agents of behavioural change ([YABC](#))
 - Pilot youth engagement on climate change using the [Y-Adapt](#) tool to cascade knowledge to branches, divisions, detachments and units
-

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the Nigerian Red Cross Society by funding communication infrastructure for hard-to-reach communities, including solar-powered information hubs and mobile loudspeaker systems. It will also provide training for branch and volunteer leaders on social listening, rumor tracking and crisis communication to strengthen community engagement. In addition, the IFRC will help build strategic partnerships with

local media, civil society organizations and private technology companies to diversify and broaden communication channels. To enhance accountability and trust, the IFRC will assist in developing a Trust Index to measure and track community perceptions of the National Society transparency and responsiveness.

ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS

The Nigerian Red Cross Society is committed to pursuing institutional strengthening and carried out the self-assessment part of the Organizational Capacity Assessment and Certification (OCAC) process in 2012. The self-assessment is intended to capture the strengths and weaknesses of National Societies as a whole in relation to a wide range of organizational capacities.



Key Institutional Indicators

The National Society has put in place the following:

- Strategy to strengthen its auxiliary role
- Protection against sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) policy
- PSEA Action Plan



Strategic and operational coordination

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Systematically map interagency coordinating structures, such as technical working groups, development country teams, humanitarian country teams and ensure membership participation in all relevant structures
- Conduct mapping and engage key institutions jointly and individually in the donor community
- Engage with the Federal Ministry of Finance, Budget and National Planning and the National Assembly with a view to mobilize sustainable resources
- Enhance partnerships with individuals and private corporate organizations

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC supports the Nigerian Red Cross Society to maintain its crucial engagements with public authorities, ensuring continued collaboration and reinforcing its role as the leading actor in humanitarian service delivery in the country.



Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Focus on youth engagement, volunteer development, governance, inclusivity, financial sustainability, statutory frameworks and core functional capacities
- Continue to strengthen its institutional structure, operational capacity and long-term sustainability to meet the evolving humanitarian needs of Nigeria
- Conduct branch capacity assessment ([BOCA](#)) and develop individual branch development plans
- Establish youth-led and National Society-owned governance structures and encourage women representation
- Promote youth-led community projects and initiatives that address local needs and strengthen the National Society's network
- Reinforce statutory, legal and policy base, which is crucial for maintaining status as an auxiliary to the government
- Focus on enhancing internal capacities across various critical functions, including legal, human resources, communications, logistics, procurement and finance

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The **IFRC's** support to the Nigerian Red Cross Society focuses on enhancing institutional capacity, resource mobilization, and operational efficiency. This includes guiding the National Society in applying for key development funds such as the IFRC Capacity

Building Fund ([CBF](#)), IFRC-ICRC National Society Investment Alliance ([NSIA](#)) and [Empress Shôken Fund](#), while strengthening governance, leadership, and management through the use of the network's assessment tools including the Organization Capacity Assessment and Certification ([OCAC](#)), Branch Organizational Capacity Assessment ([BOCA](#)) and Preparedness for Effective Response ([PER](#)).

The IFRC will provide technical assistance to improve the National Society's financial sustainability, statutory frameworks, and auxiliary role, as well as boost legal, human resources, logistics, and communication capacities. This support ensures the National Society is better equipped for scaling up emergency responses and long-term program sustainability.

The **British Red Cross** supports the Nigerian Red Cross Society in regularly updating its Due Diligence Improvement Plan, which serves as the foundation for defining the National Society's development priorities. Once these priorities are finalized, partners, including the British Red Cross, will align their support to address those identified areas. As the Nigerian Red Cross Society is still in the process of determining its National Society development priorities, the British Red Cross cannot yet specify which areas it will support. However, it remains strongly committed to National Society development and has pledged to a multi-year programme to strengthen institutional capacity and sustainability.

The **Norwegian Red Cross** will provide support on strengthening the Nigerian Red Cross Society's financial and procurement systems.



Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Scale up its humanitarian diplomacy and advocacy to influence government policy, donor priorities and public behaviour in support of humanitarian action
- Leverage its nationwide volunteer network, auxiliary role and strong community presence to position itself as a trusted leader in humanitarian response and advocacy
- Plan and implement humanitarian diplomacy and advocacy programmes for key ministries, departments, and agencies of Government at the federal and state level

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The **IFRC** will support the Nigerian Red Cross Society in designing and implementing strategic, evidence-based humanitarian diplomacy initiatives. This includes building staff capacity in advocacy and communications and leveraging partnerships to enhance the National Society's visibility, influence and ability to shape humanitarian priorities at national and regional levels.



Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Enhance operational agility and accountability by fully leveraging technology, streamlining processes and embedding robust monitoring and evaluation systems into all areas of work
- Recognize the importance of technology in modern humanitarian action and advance [digital transformation](#)
- Conduct refresher training for staff members to build awareness of potential integrity risks and equip them with the knowledge to prevent and mitigate such risks

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The **IFRC** will support the National Society in upgrading planning and accountability systems, improving procurement and logistics frameworks, building financial sustainability strategies and integrating best practices in agile and responsive humanitarian operations.

The **Norwegian Red Cross** provides support on strengthening the Nigerian Red Cross' financial and procurement systems.

THE IFRC NETWORK

The IFRC

The IFRC has an established delegation in Abuja, Nigeria, and works closely with the Nigerian Red Cross Society, supporting it with strategic and operational coordination, National Society development and humanitarian diplomacy, and reinforcing the National Society's auxiliary role in Nigeria. Operationally, the IFRC's support to the Nigerian Red Cross Society is focused on the parts of the country most exposed to natural hazards. In recent years, the Nigerian Red Cross Society has been supported by a number of IFRC Emergency Appeals and

Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF) [operations](#) relating to flooding (including anticipatory action), disease outbreaks such as cholera and Lassa fever, food insecurity and election preparedness. The IFRC also provides technical support on [digitalization](#), [anticipatory action](#), cash and voucher assistance (CVA), and [youth and volunteer engagement](#) initiatives.

In 2025, the IFRC supported the National Society with [one new DREF operation](#).



A Nigerian Red Cross Society volunteer supports cash assistance in remote communities, strengthening family and community bonds. (Photo: Nigerian Red Cross Society)

IFRC membership coordination

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

The Nigerian Red Cross Society is part of the four [IFRC Pan-African initiatives](#) focusing on tree planting and care, zero hunger, Red ready and National Society development. These initiatives are reflected under the relevant sections of this plan.

Several National Societies provide support through the IFRC, including the IFRC emergency appeals with surge capacity deployments and financial contributions. Participating

National Societies that have longer-term partnerships with the Nigerian Red Cross Society are:

The **British Red Cross** supports with National Society development, disaster preparedness and disaster response.

The **Italian Red Cross** supports the Nigerian Red Cross Society on migration and youth inclusion.

The **Norwegian Red Cross**, which maintains a physical presence in Nigeria, provides support for community health initiatives through Community-Based Health and First Aid ([CBHFA](#)), Community-Based Surveillance ([CbS](#)) and Integrated Community Case Management of childhood diseases. It also contributes to programmes addressing sexual and gender-based violence, Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF), and broader areas of health, disaster preparedness and disaster response. In addition, the Norwegian Red Cross supports efforts to strengthen the Nigerian Red Cross Society's financial and procurement systems to enhance operational efficiency and accountability.

Movement coordination

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

In Nigeria, **the ICRC** supports people affected by armed conflict and violence, particularly in Borno, Adamawa and

Yobe (BAY states), as well as in Plateau, Benue and Niger states. It promotes international humanitarian law ([IHL](#)) and other rules that protect civilians during armed violence. The ICRC also supports the Nigerian Red Cross Society with security risk management, safer access training, and branch capacity development. Joint Movement planning frameworks now emphasize anticipatory action, conflict sensitivity and coordinated response in high-risk areas.

Coordination with other actors

In line with its [auxiliary role](#), the Nigerian Red Cross Society is part of the country's emergency coordination platforms. The National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), under the Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Poverty Alleviation, leads national-level coordination, while State Emergency Management Agencies coordinate at the state level. The Nigerian Red Cross Society collaborates closely with the Nigeria Meteorological Agency (NiMet), Nigeria Hydrological Services Agency, Federal Fire Service, Federal Road Safety Commission, Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps, Nigeria

Police Force, National Orientation Agency, Nigerian Army, Ministry of Environment and Ministry of Health. It also works with States Ambulance Services and is engaged in anticipatory action pilots with NiMet and hydrological monitoring bodies.

The IFRC and the Nigerian Red Cross Society are observers of the Humanitarian Country Team and members of the Inter-Cluster Coordination Team, actively contributing to the Food Security Cluster and other inter-agency forums alongside UN agencies, NGOs and public authorities.



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

About the plan

The plan reflects the priorities of the host National Society, the IFRC and National Societies providing international support, for 2026 and subsequent years. It is aligned with IFRC [Strategy 2030](#), representing the collective ambitions of the IFRC membership, and is the result of a joint planning process and will serve for joint monitoring and reporting. It will be revised on an annual basis to adjust priorities and funding requirements to the needs in-country.

Explanatory note on funding requirements and definitions

- The total funding requirements show what the IFRC network seeks to raise for the given year through different channels: funding through the IFRC, through participating National Societies as bilateral support, and through the host National Society from non-IFRC network sources. All figures should include the administrative and operational costs of the different entities
- Host National Society funding requirements not coming from IFRC network sources can comprise a variety of sources, as demonstrated when reporting on income in the [IFRC network databank](#)
- Participating National Society funding requirements for bilateral support are those validated by respective headquarters, and often represent mainly secured funding
- IFRC funding requirements comprise both what is sourced from the IFRC core budget and what is sought through emergency and thematic funding. This includes participating National Societies' multilateral support through IFRC, and all other IFRC sources of funding
- Figures for the years beyond 2026 most often represent partial requirements that are known at time of publication. Many National Societies have annual internal approval processes for funding requirements, and lower figures do not mean a decrease in funding requirements in future years
- Missing data and breakdowns: data may not be available from all IFRC network members for funding requirements. This may lead to inconsistencies across different reporting tools as well as potential under-estimation of the efforts led by all
- Reporting bias: the data informing this Federation-wide overview is self-reported by each National Society (or its designated support entity) which is the owner and gatekeeper, and responsible for accuracy and updating. IFRC tries to triangulate the data provided by the National Societies with previous data and other data in the public domain
- **Definitions:**
 - » **Local units:** ALL subdivisions of a National Society that coordinate and deliver services to people. These include ALL levels (provincial, state, city, district branches, sections or chapters, headquarters, and regional and intermediate offices, as well as community-based units)
 - » **Branches:** A Branch has its roles, responsibilities and relationship with the National Headquarters defined through the National Society's Statutes, including the level of autonomy given, especially in the area of its legal status, mobilising local resources and building local partnerships, and the decisions it makes. It has a local-level decision-making mechanism through its Branch members, board and volunteers, equally defined through the National Society's Statutes

Additional information

- [IFRC network country plans](#) • [All plans and reports](#)
- Data on National Societies on [IFRC network databank](#)
- Live data on active emergency operations on [IFRC GO platform](#)
- Live data on [IFRC-Disaster Response Emergency Fund Response and Anticipatory pillars](#)
- [Evaluations and research bank](#) • [Donor response reports](#)

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