



MADAGASCAR

2026-2028 IFRC network country plan



12 January 2026

In support of the Malagasy Red Cross Society



23

National Society branches



141

National Society local units



150

National Society staff



10,000

National Society volunteers

People to be reached in 2026



30,000

Climate and environment



70,000

Disasters and crises



2.5M

Health and wellbeing



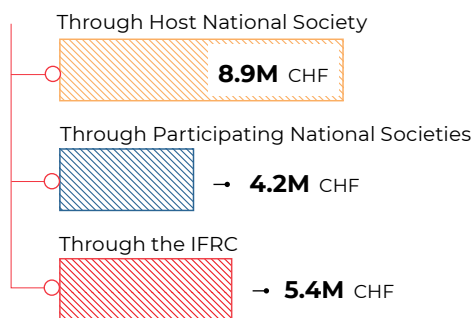
7,000

Values, power and inclusion

IFRC network Funding Requirements

2026

Total 18.5M CHF



2027

Total 14.4M CHF

2028

15.5M CHF

Projected funding requirements

Participating National Societies

French Red Cross

German Red Cross

Luxembourg Red Cross

IFRC Appeal codes

Longer-term needs:

MAAMG002

Hazards



Tropical storms



Cyclones



Floods



Disease outbreaks

IFRC network multi-year focus

Longer term needs

- Disaster risk management
- Epidemic preparedness and response
 - Food security and livelihoods
- Climate change adaptation and environmental protection

Capacity development

- Branch development
- System strengthening and digitalization

Key country data links

INFORM Severity rating

Medium

INFORM Climate Change Risk Index

High

Human Development Index rank

183

World Bank Population figure

32M

World Bank Population below poverty line

70.7%



Malagasy Red Cross Society volunteer assessing damage in a neighbourhood during the cyclone season. (Photo: Malagasy Red Cross Society)

Detailed funding requirements

	2026		2027		2028	
	Host National Society	IFRC	Host National Society	IFRC	Host National Society	IFRC
Longer-term needs						
Climate and environment	1.4M	830,000	1.2M	738,000	1.4M	855,000
Disasters & crises	3.5M	1.9M	2.9M	1.7M	3.7M	2M
Health & wellbeing	2.6M	1.9M	2.5M	1.7M	2.6M	1.9M
Migration & displacement						
Values, power & inclusion	554,000	277,000	492,000	246,000	570,000	285,000
Enabling local actors	830,000	554,000	738,000	492,000	855,000	570,000
Total	8.9M	5.4M	7.8M	4.9M	9.2M	5.6M

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
British Red Cross	2026	3.5M	3.5M						
	2027	886,000	886,000						
French Red Cross	2026	139,000		-	139,000	-		-	-
	2027	139,000			139,000				
	2028	154,000			139,000	15,000			
German Red Cross	2026	575,000		400,000	175,000	-		-	-
	2027	575,000		400,000	175,000				
	2028	575,000		400,000	175,000				
Luxembourg Red Cross	2026	15,000		-	-	15,000		-	-
	2027	21,000				21,000			
	2028	15,000				15,000			

See back page for explanatory note on funding requirements

NATIONAL SOCIETY PROFILE

The **Malagasy Red Cross Society** was created in 1915 and recognized in its current form by decree in 1963. It was admitted to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in the same year. The National Society's auxiliary role to the public authorities in the humanitarian field was officially regulated in 1984. It is a key organization in directly supporting disaster preparedness in Madagascar and runs emergency operations and reconstruction and rehabilitation following a disaster. The National Society is part of the country's national emergency response mechanism, led by the Government, through the National Office for Risk and Disaster Management.

The National Society aims to prevent and alleviate the suffering of vulnerable people impartially, without discriminating on the grounds of ethnicity, race, class, sex, religion, language, social condition or political opinion. The National Society contributes to disaster management and risk reduction, improving health, preventing diseases, first aid, teaching people how to react in the event of a disaster and encouraging young people to participate in its activities. It popularizes the Fundamental Principles of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement and works with public authorities to ensure respect for international humanitarian law and to protect the Red Cross emblem.

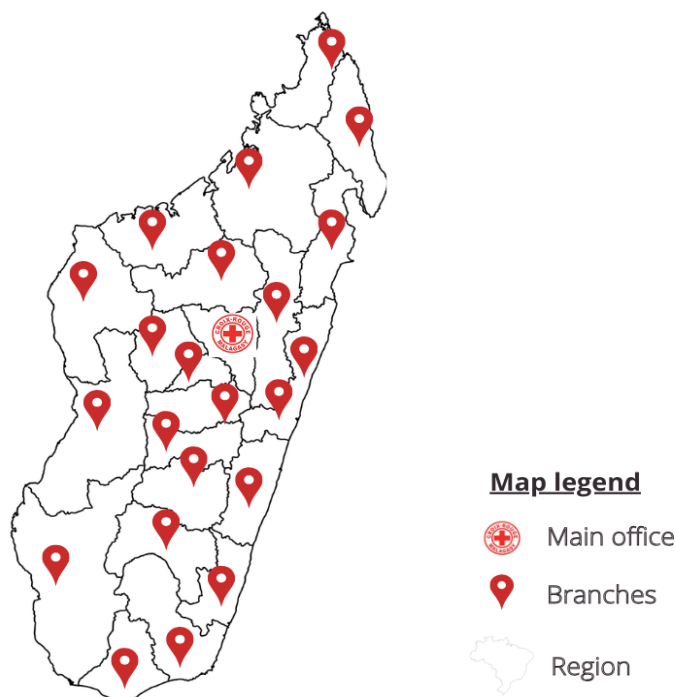
As part of its 2025–2030 Strategic Plan, the Malagasy Red Cross Society is committed to strengthening its humanitarian impact and supporting the country's development through three interconnected axes. First, it focuses on saving lives and building community resilience by enhancing disaster risk management, climate change adaptation, community health, and first aid, with the goal of reducing risks and improving local preparedness and response.

Second, the Malagasy Red Cross Society is reinforcing its governance and institutional sustainability by strengthening its branches, mobilizing volunteers and youth, and improving financial sustainability to ensure a more transparent, inclusive, and resilient organization.

Third, it is advancing humanitarian values and humanitarian diplomacy through advocacy, strategic partnerships, and stronger communication to promote humanitarian principles and its auxiliary role with authorities, partners, and the public.

Through these priorities, the Malagasy Red Cross Society aims to deliver a more effective and community-focused humanitarian response across Madagascar.

In 2024, the Malagasy Red Cross Society directly reached 77,000 people with disaster response and early recovery programmes.



Map of the Malagasy 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

Madagascar is the biggest island in the Indian Ocean. It has a land surface area of 592,000km, a population of around 29.6 million people, and an annual population growth of about 3 per cent. Despite the country's natural resources holding significant potential, it remains one of the poorest countries in the world. Obstacles to economic growth include political instability, weak institutions and poor governance.

According to the [World Bank](#), Madagascar has not been able to reduce poverty over the last decade, with the poverty rate now estimated at around 80 per cent. The informal sector is the main source of employment in Madagascar, representing 95 per cent of total employment. Women are the main suppliers of jobs, representing 97 per cent of informal production units according to the [International Monetary Fund](#). Young people, women, and individuals with less education occupy the lowest-paid or most vulnerable positions in the informal sector, including domestic services to households and other categories of family aid. Around [80.7 per cent](#) of the population lives in rural areas and [77.9 per cent](#) of households practise agriculture. The livelihoods of the population depending on the agricultural sector are affected by recurrent droughts.

In 2025, southern and southeastern Madagascar will continue to be in the grip of a severe drought amplified by the El Niño phenomenon, compromising crop and livestock production and plunging more than 1.2 million people into acute food insecurity (IPC phases 3 and 4) according to IPC. The number of children under five suffering from moderate or severe acute malnutrition could reach more than 550,000 in 2025, an increase of more than 50% compared to initial projections.

The passage of the past cyclonic season has [impacted cash crop production](#), including cloves, coffee, and pepper. These crops, which constitute the most important source of revenue for the national economy, are exported at 90 per cent. Additionally, due to consecutive years of drought in the South of Madagascar, harvests are in decline, and the capacity of farmers to supply has decreased. There has also been an increase in transportation costs due to a rise in international oil prices and administered pump prices. The food basket has increased by an average of 19 per cent over the last three years. The government, through the Plan Emergence, aims to increase GDP per capita to US\$4,000 in 2040 (compared to US\$522 in 2019) and the human capital index to 0.60 (from 0.39 in 2020), while simultaneously reducing the poverty rate to 35 per cent by 2040.

Madagascar has made progress on some key health indicators, but significant challenges remain in malnutrition, immunization, and service delivery. According to [World Bank Development Indicators](#), Madagascar's performance improved over the last decade in life expectancy (67 years in 2020), maternal mortality rates, and infant mortality rates. However, the prevalence of malnutrition has increased significantly, from 28 per cent of the total population in 2010 to 49 per cent in 2020. Similarly, the prevalence of stunting among children under five years remains one of the highest in the world at 39.8 per cent.

The ongoing food insecurity in the south of Madagascar remains a major concern and poor living conditions, especially in terms of sanitation and hygiene, lead to high risk of major infectious diseases spreading. Madagascar also remains extremely vulnerable to a range of hazards such as cyclones, floods, locust infestations and public health crises, and the south of the country is facing security problems due to armed robberies of cattle.



Climate and environment

Madagascar is highly vulnerable to climate change, in particular due to its location in the middle of the cyclonic basin of the southwest Indian Ocean and exposure to more severe extreme weather events as a result of global warming. Five tropical storms and cyclones have hit Madagascar between January and April 2022, and cyclones and floods are becoming more frequent, strong and irregular. At the same time, the Great South of the country has faced its worst drought in 40 years between 2020 and 2022.

Precipitation projections are less certain than temperature change projections due to high natural variability from year to year. The median projections of the various forecast models show a decrease in precipitation of 114 mm per year by 2080 compared to the year 2000. Higher greenhouse gas emissions suggest an overall drier future for Madagascar.

In Madagascar, 16 out of the 23 regions are subject to regular climate shocks and according to the International Fund for Agriculture Development, a fifth of the population lives in areas that are highly prone to cyclones, floods, or droughts.

Madagascar, known for the richness of its natural capital, harbours 5 per cent of the world's biodiversity in its diverse terrestrial ecosystems (forests, agricultural fields, and grasslands), aquatic environments (wetlands, continental waters), and marine and coastal areas. Despite its abundant natural resources, the country faces significant environmental challenges due to increasing industrialization, unsustainable agricultural practices and the abusive exploitation of nature, which further aggravates the country's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change. According to Global Forest Watch, Madagascar lost 235,000 hectares of tree cover in 2021, which equates to 119 megatons of carbon dioxide emissions. In 2022, 370,000 hectares of land were burned, meaning that from 2001 to 2021, Madagascar has lost 4.36 million hectares of tree cover overall. This represents a 25 per cent decrease in tree cover since 2000, and the release of 2.13 gigatons of carbon dioxide emissions.

Environmental degradation trends include deforestation (hotspots in the West/Southwest), degradation of mangroves and reefs, and increasing pressures in urban areas (insufficient drainage, waste) that amplify flood risks. In July 2025, the government, with support from UNEP/GEF, launched a US\$7 million initiative to build coastal resilience through ecosystem restoration (including mangroves) in several coastal regions, illustrating the growing shift towards ecosystem-based adaptation solutions⁷.

Madagascar boasts a well-structured climate governance framework, having adopted its National Adaptation Plan in late 2021. The government's response includes breaking down compartmentalization within the environmental sector, fostering intersectoral collaboration, establishing environmental units within sectoral ministries, and implementing initiatives such as extensive reforestation efforts, community empowerment in resource management, and mechanisms for transferring governance responsibilities for fisheries and aquatic ecosystems.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Malagasy 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 most 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 Malagasy Red Cross Society engages in climate change adaptation and environmental preservation, harnessing both its community presence and its auxiliary role to the authorities. At a community level, the National Society encourages behaviour change in Madagascar through awareness campaigns around environmental preservation and climate change. It supports communities to adopt environmentally sustainable measures and climate-smart agriculture with a view to increasing their adaptation to climate change, including identifying and promoting innovative and sustainable livelihoods and environmentally friendly energy sources in target communities.

The National Society facilitates engagement with local actors, mapping relevant organizations working in the field of climate change and bringing the perspectives of vulnerable communities to the attention of policymakers. It engages in early warning systems through collaboration with the national bureau for risk and disaster management (BNGRC) and Météo France to leverage weather forecasts and cyclone predictions. It also collaborates closely with the government to contribute to Madagascar's National Adaptation Plan and the

development of district-level climate change adaptation plans. This includes ensuring the inclusion of local assessments in district and national plans, with a focus on balancing national and local interests. The National Society also works with the Ministry of the Environment to finalize the national plan for fighting drought. As part of the [IFRC Pan-African tree planting and care initiative](#), the Malagasy Red Cross Society aims to establish partnerships with local authorities and the regional directorate of the Ministry of Environment, planting and caring for 20,000 anti-erosive and fruit trees to contribute towards reforestation.

Planned activities in 2026

- Conduct awareness campaign on environmental preservation and climate change
 - Organize training sessions on climate change adaptation and early warning system in five communes
 - Carry out perception studies of risks and climate change in two communes in the Melaky region
 - Carry out an assessment on climate smart livelihoods in Anosy region
 - Set up and equip group associations for income-generating activities that respond to climate-smart livelihoods
 - Carry out afforestation/reforestation community campaigns with climate-adapted tree species, and plant and nurture anti-erosive and fruit trees for reforestation activity
 - Train farmers in climate-adapted agro-ecological farming measures, post-harvest management and improved storage, and establish farmer field schools
 - Provide agro-ecological production inputs, equipment and technical support to farmers that take climate change risks into consideration
 - Promote low-cost firewood, charcoal alternatives and improved stoves
 - Conduct a feasibility study on [forecast-based financing](#) for the development of [early actions protocols \(IFRC-DREF EAPs\)](#)
 - Train 150 volunteers on climate change and adaptation
 - Conduct a carbon footprint analysis of the National Society
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Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the National Society in the framework of its [Global Climate Resilience Programme](#), aligning support of the IFRC network to its objectives, and [Pan-African initiative on tree planting and care](#). This includes documenting and replicating best practices in tree planting and care from school clubs and community levels. The IFRC supports with technical expertise, proposal development, and establishing partnerships at local and regional levels. As an example, and with a focus on the drought-stricken Grand Sud districts of Amboasary and Elonty districts, a partnership with the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) foresees that the FAO provides seeds at the local community level, and the National Society contributes through disseminating methods related to environmental adaptation and climate-smart agriculture.

The **French Red Cross'** regional platform for intervention in the Indian Ocean ([PIROI](#)) will aid the National Society with its carbon footprint analysis and community perception studies, as well as with regional and national training of trainers on [nature-based solutions](#), including through a partnership with WWF. PIROI is also engaged, together with the National Society, in the UNDRR resilience building and disaster response management in the Indian Ocean [programme](#), co-funded by the European Union (EU) in partnership with the Indian Ocean Commission.

The **German Red Cross** will support the National Society in the development and testing of early warning-early action triggers and standard protocols for drought and cyclone. It will also assist on assessments for climate-smart livelihoods, training of farmer groups, establishment of farmer field schools, and afforestation/reforestation community campaigns. This includes the provision of agroecological production inputs, equipment, and value chain analysis for agricultural livelihoods in Antanambao and Manampotsy. It will also support capacity building of the National Society at national, regional and district levels on climate change adaptation, biodiversity, and livelihoods resilience.



Disasters and crises

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

Madagascar, with its coastal plains and mountain ranges, is exposed to multiple natural hazards. The historical analysis of crises shows the intertwining of environmental disruptions and societal resilience. The [INFORM index](#) gives it 5.1/10, ranking the country as high risk. Cyclones remain the most destructive: from mid-January to mid-April 2022, systems including Cheneso and Freddy caused more than 50 deaths and 280,000 victims; in 2024, Alvaro and Gamane caused a humanitarian emergency (38 deaths, 124,000 people affected). Between late 2024 and early 2025, Cyclone Chido also hit the region. Recurrent floods have damaged livelihoods, changed land use and worsened poverty and food insecurity; Over thirty years, more than 30 episodes of floods or torrential rains have caused human losses and affected thousands of people.

Drought is another structural challenge, especially in the Great South (Atsimo Andrefana, Androy, Anosy), which has been arid for more than four decades: crop failures, food insecurity and rising poverty, with water prices increasing by 300 per cent (2018-2021). Extreme survival strategies (cactus fruits, boiled leather) are reported, while pregnant women and children under five are exposed to severe malnutrition. For January–April 2025, the food security analysis projects 1,775,367 people in Phase 3. The INFORM index also indicates an adaptive capacity of 7.1/10, which is severely constrained by poverty. Despite progress in coordination, gaps persist in terms of coverage, sustainable building of community resilience and availability of data at the local level (WASH, food, essential services).

Madagascar remains a high-risk context according to INFORM 2025, with a high combined exposure to cyclones, floods and droughts⁸. The 2024–2025 cyclone season had five major systems, resulting in extreme rainfall and flash flooding. In the 1st half of 2025, the superimposition of shocks (drought, floods, cyclones) displaced >46,000 people and affected >200,000 inhabitants. The impact of Gamane illustrates the intensification of the episodes: ≥18 deaths and >20,000 displaced.

Food insecurity remains critical, with an estimated 1.2 million people in IPC Phase 3+ in the areas analysed in 2025, and an expected seasonal deterioration. According to UNICEF, the aggregate humanitarian needs for 2025 exceed 4.7 million people, concentrated in the South, Southeast and some areas of the North. Agricultural livelihoods and access to essential services (water, sanitation, health) are severely disrupted during extreme rainfall events and droughts, fuelling structural vulnerability. In this context, strengthening preparedness (early warnings, evacuations), climate adaptation and community resilience remains a priority to reduce the magnitude of impacts in the coming seasons.

Multi-year high-level objectives of the National Society

The Malagasy Red Cross Society is anchoring its approach in a community approach supported by a digital maturity roadmap, in order to install a real data culture at the heart of its alert, intervention and recovery systems. With an extensive network of volunteers at all levels, it is able to carry out rapid needs assessments during crises. Technological innovation makes relevant information accessible and actionable for strategic and operational planning; by positioning itself as a reference player on data at the local level, the National Society can generate primary community data that is useful to itself and to all humanitarian actors.

The Malagasy Red Cross Society will work to strengthen the resilience of vulnerable communities in the face of a variety of shocks by disseminating actionable risk analyses and involving populations in decision-making processes related to operations. It systematically capitalizes on lessons learned from past interventions to design tailored responses, based on a multisectoral approach to preparedness and response and informed by the results of enhanced vulnerability and capacity assessment (eVCA), with the goal of sustainably increasing the capacity of communities to cope and adapt.

In order to fully exercise its powers and responsibilities, the National Society is working at the same time to strengthen the official and legal recognition of its role as an auxiliary to the public authorities in the humanitarian field.

Planned activities in 2026

- Conduct community-based assessment on vulnerabilities and risks and safe shelter within target communities
 - Organize community sensitization on disaster risk reduction
 - Establish, train, equip and carry out simulation drills with local emergency response teams in ten communes
 - Distribute household items, cash and/or essential food and other consumption needs during crisis to affected households and to target vulnerable communities
 - Construct emergency shelters for households by disasters
 - Provide cash for livelihood protection targeting youth and women, including cash for work, vocational training, and micro and small businesses development
 - Conduct the IFRC-PER assessment to identify priority actions on National Society preparedness
 - Pursue election preparedness activities in view of the 2024 parliamentary elections
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Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will continue to provide both financial and technical support to the Malagasy Red Cross Society in its objectives under disasters and crises. This includes components such as enhancing the National Society's readiness for disasters, strengthening the capacity of volunteers and staff, increasing collaboration with internal and external stakeholders, development of relevant strategies, among a range of other initiatives aimed at strengthening the National Society's response.

IFRC mechanisms such as the Disaster Response Emergency Fund (IFRC-DREF) and Emergency Appeals will be drawn on as

needed for the National Society to respond to disasters and crises. In 2024, IFRC provided DREF allocations for an emergency in Madagascar. The DREF allocation has been described below:

IFRC-DREF Madagascar Cyclone Gamane: the DREF allocation of CHF 148,708 in April 2024 supported the Malagasy Red Cross Society in assisting more than 10,000 people affected by the onset of Cyclone Gamane in the area of Sava. The National Society supported the targeted people over a four-month period with assistance such as multipurpose cash assistance, WASH interventions, protection and community engagement, among others.



Amid ongoing election-related unrest in Madagascar, the Malagasy Red Cross Society has been providing continuous first aid support to those injured during the escalating street protests (Photo: Malagasy Red Cross Society)



Health and wellbeing

The Malagasy health system is very fragile and health coverage is limited. Over 60 per cent of people live more than 5km away from a health centre, often in areas without roads or communications, and people often have to travel to health centres by foot or on trolleys. This is particularly acute in rural areas, where 35 per cent of the population live more than 10km from a health facility, which according to the World Health Organization (WHO) might explain low attendance at these centres. In addition, health personnel are unevenly distributed, and medicines and medical supplies are prone to running out and are completely unavailable in some areas. Total health spending per capita from both government and private

is about US \$78 per person per year, less than half the average in low-income countries of \$202 per person per year.

The Malagasy health system is highly fragile, with limited coverage and over 60 per cent of the population living more than 5 km from a health facility, particularly in rural areas. The top causes of death in Madagascar include diarrhoeal diseases, lower respiratory infections, neonatal disorders, stroke, protein-energy malnutrition, ischemic heart disease, congenital defects, and tuberculosis. Malnutrition and the prevalence of stunting among children under five years remain of high concern, on the backdrop of the food insecurity in the

country. According to [WHO](#), the entire population is at risk of malaria while the Itasy and Haute Matsiatra regions are prone to outbreaks of plague. Plague outbreaks, mainly bubonic plague but also pneumonic plague [register about 400 cases](#) in rural areas during the period from September to April. Other frequent epidemic episodes include meningitis, measles, and cholera. The [Global Health Security Index 2021](#) ranks Madagascar at 130 out of 195 countries, with a slightly decreased score from the 2019 assessment.

The frequent tropical storms and cyclones increase risks associated with water-borne and vector-borne diseases, such as cholera, typhoid fever, dysentery and malaria, as highlighted by the [Madagascar Health Cluster](#) for the areas affected in 2022. Disasters also disrupt already challenged health services including antenatal care, postnatal care and immunization. Common mental health issues such as depression, anxiety and post-traumatic stress disorder also increase among disaster victims, and access to mental health services remains extremely limited.

A quarter of Madagascar's population lacks adequate water, sanitation, and hygiene resources, ranking it fourth worst globally in this sector according to UNICEF and [WHO](#). Only 24.1 per cent have access to drinking water, 51 per cent to improved water supply, contrasting with a 68 per cent sub-Saharan Africa average. [45 per cent](#) lack sanitation services, and 36 per cent in rural areas lack basic hygiene installations. Open defecation remains a major issue, with a rate of [44.6 per cent in 2017](#), affecting over 10 million people, mainly rural. [Urban areas fare better](#) with over 40 per cent having access to safe drinking water, compared to only 9.6 per cent in rural regions.

Multi-year high-level objectives of the National Society

By aligning itself with the "One Health" approach and relying on its expertise in community health, the Malagasy Red Cross has established itself as a key player within national platforms and mechanisms related to public health strategy, awareness and policies. It is focusing on [community-based health and water, sanitation and hygiene \(WASH\)](#), [epidemic and pandemic preparedness and response](#), and the health consequences of disasters and crises. The National Society emphasizes its role as an auxiliary of the public authorities by working closely with the Ministry of Health. It seeks to actively participate in advocacy sessions, workshops, and meetings with national and local authorities for involvement in relevant national plans, strategies, and policies related to epidemic and pandemic preparedness and response.

The National Society's role in supporting the Ministry of Health on national immunization campaigns has increased since the COVID-19 pandemic, and it will continue to support the Government to achieve and sustain national immunization targets and promote fair and equitable access to new vaccines. The Malagasy Red Cross Society is part with the IFRC of the continent-wide [Saving Lives and Livelihoods](#) initiative, a partnership platform of Africa CDC funded by the Mastercard

Foundation to ensure that 60 per cent of the African population is vaccinated against COVID-19. The National Society supports the uptake of the COVID-19 vaccine through community-led and trusted immunization activities. The National Society also invests in [mental health and psychosocial support](#) (MHPSS) for communities and its own volunteers, and is part of the interagency protection cluster.

Planned activities in 2026

- Organize community mobilization on knowledge, behaviour and practice change on [WASH](#), health, and social wellbeing
- Set up and equip health committees, and [epidemic control](#) committees in selected communities
- Adapt, translate and disseminate health and WASH information, education and communication materials, in particular on epidemic control
- Participate in immunization and vaccination programs and campaigns
- Provide WASH assistance to affected households from target communes
- Rehabilitate and construct water points and water systems
- Support health centres at district and commune levels with WASH equipment and waste management activities
- Develop a [first aid](#) programme including training and equipment
- Set up community-based actions focusing on blood donor services
- Set up a team of specialized volunteers to provide psychosocial support to emergency response volunteers
- Organize training of trainers for staff and volunteers on epidemic control and psychosocial support

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the Malagasy Red Cross Society to develop partnerships on health and WASH, such as is the case with Médecins du Monde for the supply materials for the detection of children suffering from severe malnutrition or moderate acute malnutrition, and referring children identified to local hospitals.

The **French Red Cross'** [PIROI](#) centre will coordinate a workshop with health authorities in the perspective of deployment of a modular emergency field hospital in Madagascar. It will also support the National Society on first aid and psychological first aid, WASH training and the purchase of WASH items.

The **Luxembourg Red Cross** will assist the National Society for vaccination activities in selected districts, and with community

mobilization on knowledge, behaviour, and practice change on WASH and health. It will further aid the retrofitting and construction of water points and health facilities in Vatovavy and Sava.

The **German Red Cross** will support the Malagasy Red Cross for the construction of water systems and infrastructure networks in Ankilivalo. It will also support community-based epidemic control.



Migration and displacement

Madagascar is mainly experiencing internal mobility for economic purposes, dominated by the rural exodus and seasonal movements to agricultural areas (e.g. Alaotra and Marovoay) for temporary jobs. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) already estimated that more than 100,000 annual crossings from rural to urban areas (particularly to Antananarivo), a trend confirmed by recent diagnoses; urbanization is progressing and the urban population share is around ~40 per cent in 2024–2025 according to the World

Bank/UN series. In the capital, various sources point to a high proportion of informal settlements, reflecting unplanned urbanization and strained basic services.

The Malagasy Red Cross Society supports people who are moving across the country or displaced by disasters as part of its overall range of services. This support is detailed under other sections of this plan.



Values, power and inclusion

Frequent disasters in Madagascar place certain groups at a higher risk of insufficient employment and income, and of food insecurity and poverty. These groups include women, young people under the age of 25 (who make up 60 per cent of the population) and people living with disabilities. More than one in 10 children in Madagascar live with a disability, making children one of the most vulnerable groups in society who face extreme challenges that are often contrary to children's rights.

In Madagascar, the disparities in schooling between girls and boys at the primary and secondary levels are low, especially compared to what is observed on average in sub-Saharan African countries. Parity is almost achieved at the primary and secondary levels, while some challenges emerge at the higher education level, where the situation is less favourable for girls. Higher education involves 3.1 per cent of women compared to 3.3 per cent of men.

Gender inequalities and gender-based violence remain a major concern. About 25 per cent of women report having experienced physical or sexual violence by their intimate partner, and 14% have experienced sexual violence. Early marriage affects 40 per cent of girls aged 20 to 24. Children, including those living with disabilities, as well as LGBTQI+ people, religious or ethnic minorities and unaccompanied children, are at increased risk of violence, discrimination and exclusion. Policy frameworks such as the National Strategy to Combat Gender-Based Violence and the National Action Plan for Gender and Development exist, but their implementation remains uneven.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Malagasy Red Cross Society places great importance on inclusion and addressing the vulnerabilities of the people it serves. The National Society applies a gender-sensitive, inclusive approach to all its interventions, striving to give everyone a voice, particularly the most marginalized. The National Society also promotes youth engagement through its youth volunteers, providing a space for empowerment and developing their skills. It has established strategic documents such as National Society policies, strategies, and standard operating procedures in emergency response to ensure inclusive humanitarian assistance.

The National Society aims to further integrate community engagement and accountability (CEA) and protection, gender, and inclusion (PGI) into its programmes and operations. It also promotes setting up operational capacity to identify protection risks, including child protection and sexual and gender-based violence, and take action to prevent, mitigate and respond to sexual violence, exploitation, and abuse (PSEA), including through appropriate reporting and referral mechanisms.

Other high-level objectives include:

- Contribute to a positive change in communities through wider understanding, ownership, dissemination and application of the fundamental principles and

humanitarian values, focusing especially on young people's knowledge, skills and behaviour

- Promote and support safe, equitable, and continuous access to quality education for all, especially boys and girls affected by disaster, crisis, or displacement
- Become safe and inclusive, ensuring dignity, access, participation, and safety for people of all identities

- Train staff and volunteers on CEA, PGI and PSEA
- Train staff and volunteers in humanitarian values and principles

Planned activities in 2026

- Raise awareness of affected households from target communes on PGI issues, including sexual and gender-based violence
- Develop specific strategic plans, feedback mechanism policies, guidelines and operating procedures to ensure that communities actively participate in the design of early action/anticipatory systems and response
- Develop and deploy standardized approaches for community engagement, collection, and use of qualitative community feedback data to better understand community perspectives
- Mobilize young volunteers for branch activities, in particular on the dissemination and application of fundamental principles and humanitarian values

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The **IFRC** will support the National Society in progressive institutionalization of CEA through integration in programmes and projects as a cross-cutting thematic area, and adoption of the Movement minimum commitments. This includes the development of standard operating procedures for the management of the feedback mechanism. It will also assist the development of lessons learned and case studies as part of monitoring and learning, alongside facilitating evidence-based advocacy with internal and external stakeholders. The IFRC will also support with the adoption of the PGI minimum standards in emergencies and the dignity, access, participation, and safety (DAPS) approach. This entails starting projects and programme with a situational and gender analysis.

The **French Red Cross** will support the National Society in conducting a CEA self-assessment and conducting CEA training.

ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS

The Malagasy Red Cross Society is committed to pursuing its institutional strengthening and has carried out the self-assessment part of the IFRC [Organizational Capacity Assessment and Certification \(OCAC\)](#) process twice, first in 2013 and again in 2021. The self-assessment part of this process is intended to capture the strengths and weaknesses of National Societies in relation to a wide range of organizational capacities. The Malagasy Red Cross Society is also committed to the IFRC [Preparedness for Effective Response \(PER\)](#) process and is in the orientation phase. This approach is a continuous and flexible process that enables National Societies to assess, measure and analyze the strengths and gaps of its preparedness and response mechanism, and ultimately take necessary action to improve it.



Key Institutional Indicators

The National Society has put in place the following:

- Strategy to strengthen its auxiliary role
- National Society development plan
- Youth engagement strategy
- Health, accident and death compensation for volunteers
- Protection against sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) policy
- PSEA Action Plan
- Digital transformation roadmap



Strategic and operational coordination

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Strengthen engagement with public authorities along its key programmatic areas
- Take part in significant consultation processes such as for the development of the country humanitarian response plan under the co-lead of the government and UN OCHA
- Continue to engage in inter-agency coordination, including in key clusters such as nutrition, food security and shelter
- Implement appropriate communication mechanisms between National Society headquarters, branches and the IFRC network

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the National Society on coordination with partners and donors, including for resource mobilization, and within the IFRC network through supporting the unified planning process. Participating National Societies and the IFRC will also support the Malagasy Red Cross Society coordination with a wide range of stakeholders and partners in its key areas of work.



National Society development

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Design and deliver the National Society development plan to enhance the accountability and organization
- Develop and review internal policies, strategies and procedures including the volunteering policy, youth policy, and youth volunteer management manual
- Train governance member at headquarters and branches on the monitoring of policies
- Conduct branch organizational capacity assessments ([IFRC-BOCA](#))
- Prioritize volunteering development and [youth](#) action as critical catalysts of behavioural change and local action
- Engage young leaders in the National Society and revitalize the regional youth structure
- Enhance provision of psychosocial support to volunteers
- Develop a resource mobilization strategy
- Intensify and decentralize commercial first aid services in regions for income generation

- Implement a core cost policy
- Expand or construct headquarters and branch offices buildings including equipment
- Rehabilitate and construct other key infrastructure such as warehouses, and other assets such as fleet
- Strengthen emergency stocks for a more efficient response
- Pursue training of staff and volunteers in a wide range of topics relevant to the National Society's programmatic interventions

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will continue to support the National Society to develop its capacities and abilities. It will ensure the support of the governance and leadership through the improvement of their accountability and organization. The IFRC will also support the National Society to design its development plan, with support of the IFRC [Capacity Building Fund](#), and support the adoption of policies such as on volunteering, youth, and protection, gender and inclusion.



Humanitarian diplomacy

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Map and increase engagement towards key decision-makers and stakeholders, including government, inter-governmental organizations, diplomatic community, donors, and partners, through continuous provision of a radar function on emerging issues, active engagement in regular dialogues, and clear working agenda
- Strengthen advocacy for safeguarding public health and the promotion of social welfare, and a culture of non-violence and peace
- Bring community voices into humanitarian coordination spaces, including through evidence-based advocacy with internal and external stakeholders based on CEA lessons learnt and case studies
- Develop a communications strategy, and create advocacy and humanitarian diplomacy materials

- Strengthen the communication unit and foster a communications culture
- Implement a dedicated and trained pool of media engaged towards National Society priorities
- Increase visibility in local, regional and global events and campaigns

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the National Society in all its [humanitarian diplomacy](#) efforts. This includes to persuade decision-makers and other opinion leaders to act in the interests of vulnerable people, and with full respect for fundamental humanitarian principles, making use of the appropriate diplomatic tools and actions, and engaging at appropriate times with partners outside the Movement, including Governments as well as NGOs.



Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Adopt a Code of Conduct adjusted to PGI policies
- Training staff and volunteers on PGI and PSEA
- Develop and review the integrity policy and financial procedures
- Continue to ensure that projects are managed with the support of dedicated project managers, finance and logistics staff
- Pursue digital transformation efforts, including the electronic volunteer database and the digitalization of internal management processes (Odoo system)

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The **IFRC** will support the National Society in identifying legally compliant, time- and risk-sensitive, budget-appropriate options for registering the National Society with the relevant partner in Madagascar. It will also assist the National Society in the adoption of its protection, gender and inclusion policy and Code of Conduct.

The **French Red Cross** will provide support to the National Society in strengthening its emergency information management systems.

The **German Red Cross** will support the National Society with digitalization of data management systems for humanitarian assistance, including contracting with Red Rose digital platform.

THE IFRC NETWORK

The IFRC

The IFRC has had a permanent presence in Madagascar since 2018 to support the Indian Ocean islands. Its support to the Malagasy Red Cross Society centres on strategic and operational coordination, National Society development and humanitarian diplomacy. It also ensures that accountability remains a cross-cutting theme. The IFRC supports the National Society to strengthen its auxiliary role by meeting key stakeholders at the government level regularly.

In recent years, the IFRC has supported the Malagasy Red Cross Society through a number of Disaster Response

Emergency Fund (DREF) and Emergency Appeal operations relating to food insecurity, tropical cyclones, heavy rains, floods, landslides, election preparedness and outbreaks of disease such as plague and measles, and for COVID-19.

The IFRC also supports the Malagasy Red Cross Society in working towards strategic priorities such as for climate change and environmental sustainability, holistic disaster risk management, health and WASH, as well as people-centred approaches.

IFRC membership coordination

The IFRC membership coordination involves working with member National Societies to assess the humanitarian context, humanitarian situations and needs; agreeing common priorities; co-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, of links with development assistance, and of efforts to reinforce National Societies in their respective countries, including through their auxiliary role.

The Malagasy Red Cross Society is also part of the four [IFRC Pan-African initiatives](#) on Tree Planting and Care, Zero Hunger, Red Ready, and National Society development. These are reflected under the relevant sections of this plan.

Along with IFRC members channelling support to the Malagasy Red Cross Society through the IFRC, the following National Societies also provide long-term bilateral support:

The **French Red Cross** and the Malagasy Red Cross Society have been working together since 2000 through [PIROI](#). Based in La Réunion, PIROI is part of the French Red Cross and implements a regional programme on disaster risk management in the southwest Indian Ocean, which includes Madagascar. The French Red Cross had a permanent presence in Madagascar between 2006 and 2012, funded by the EU

and the French Government. Support the Malagasy Red Cross Society includes disaster risk management, health, and emergency operations.

The **German Red Cross** and the Malagasy Red Cross Society have worked together since 2012, jointly implementing projects with funds from the German Federal Foreign Office, the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development. The German Red Cross has a permanent office in Antananarivo and a temporary office in Fort Dauphin in the south of the country. It has primarily supported projects in the southern part of the country and in Antananarivo, mainly around disaster risk management, cash and voucher-based assistance, readiness and preparedness, food security and livelihoods, health, water, sanitation, and hygiene services. The German Red Cross leverages its expertise in forecast-based financing and as a host of the [Anticipation Hub](#) in its support to the National Society.

The **Luxembourg Red Cross** (Aide Internationale de la Croix-Rouge Luxembourgeoise) has been working with the Malagasy Red Cross Society since 2017. The Luxembourg Red Cross has had a permanent presence in Antananarivo since 2019 and has primarily supported projects in the north of the country (Diana, Sava, Analanjirifo and Boeny regions), mainly around disaster risk management and health. The Luxembourg Red Cross gives a specific focus on shelter, as a host of the [IFRC Shelter Research Unit](#).



IFRC Secretary General Jagan Chapagain and Dutch Ambassador Paul Bekkers visited Mananjary to see cyclone damage and how the Malagasy Red Cross and partners are supporting recovery through shelter, cash assistance and community rebuilding (Photo: IFRC)

Movement coordination

The Malagasy 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 does not have a permanent presence in Madagascar, but it has a regional base in Nairobi.

Coordination with other actors

The National Office for Risk and Disaster Management leads the coordination of emergency preparedness and response actions in Madagascar. Given its auxiliary role, the Malagasy Red Cross Society is part of the national emergency response mechanism. It is also an active member of the Comité de Réflexion des Intervenants en Catastrophe and the national platform of the National Office for Risk and Disaster Management, alongside other government, and non-government institutions for disaster management.

The Malagasy Red Cross Society coordinates with the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development on climate change. Through its auxiliary role, and due to the significant part, it plays in responding to food insecurity, the National Society has been tasked by the Ministry of Environment (with support from the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification) to lead the technical process towards finalizing the national drought plan.

The Malagasy Red Cross Society cooperates and coordinates closely with the Ministry of Public Health and has an active role in several national coordination bodies, including the technical working group for COVID-19 vaccination and the health cluster.

The Malagasy Red Cross Society, with IFRC support regularly participates in the cash working group and clusters focused on food security and livelihoods, nutrition, water, sanitation, and

hygiene, and protection. With the IFRC and the government, it co-leads the shelter cluster in disasters the stakeholders, with coordination meetings held every week. The Malagasy Red Cross shelter cluster co-leadership role significantly contributes to the localization efforts of the international humanitarian system. The [global shelter cluster](#) is an inter-agency standing committee coordination mechanism. The IFRC has led the shelter cluster in disasters since the cluster approach was introduced in 2005. This critical mandate places the IFRC as one of the lead agencies in the international humanitarian coordination system. The IFRC leverages its leadership of the global shelter cluster to improve coordination, strengthen policies and standards across the sector, and better support people to recover.

As part of the response to the hunger crisis, African National Societies are working closely with relevant government line ministries, national stakeholders and other agencies to ensure efforts are aligned and mutually reinforcing, maximizing their effectiveness and efficiency. With IFRC support, the National Societies will continue engaging and coordinating with humanitarian partners by participating in joint assessments, attending coordination meetings (in some cases leading working groups or clusters), and filling gaps that are raised by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), coordination platforms or clusters.



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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