



MALI

2026-2027 IFRC network country plan



24 December 2025

In support of the Mali Red Cross



11

National Society branches



612

National Society local units



285

National Society staff



9,276

National Society volunteers

People to be reached in 2026



200,000

Ongoing emergency operations



608,000

Climate and environment



930,000

Disasters and crises



483,000

Health and wellbeing



159,000

Migration and displacement



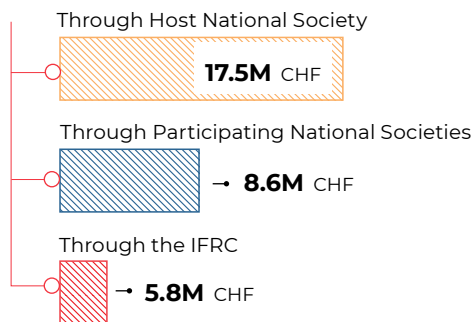
366,000

Values, power and inclusion

IFRC network Funding Requirements

2026

Total 32M CHF



2027

Total 442,000 CHF

Projected funding requirements

Participating National Societies

- Belgian Red Cross
- Danish Red Cross
- Canadian Red Cross
- Luxembourg Red Cross
- The Netherlands Red Cross
- Saudi Arabian Red Crescent Authority*
- Spanish Red Cross
- The Netherlands Red Cross

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

IFRC Appeal codes

Emergency Appeals:

MDRML019

Mali Complex Emergency

Longer-term needs:

MAAML002

Hazards



Floods



Displacement



Food insecurity



Drought



Conflict and violence

IFRC network multi-year focus

Emergency response

- Complex emergency
 - » Floods
 - » Displacement
 - » Food insecurity

Longer term needs

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

Capacity development

- Internal systems strengthening
- Digital transformation • Resource mobilization

Key country data links

INFORM Severity rating

Very High

INFORM Climate Change Risk Index

Very High

Human Development Index rank

188

World Bank Population figure

24.5M

World Bank Population below poverty line

43.3%



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

Detailed funding requirements

2026

	Host National Society	IFRC
Ongoing emergencies		2.9M
Longer-term needs		
Climate and environment	1.2M	83,000
Disasters & crises	7.6M	1.1M
Health & wellbeing	2.5M	571,000
Migration & displacement	3.6M	451,000
Values, power & inclusion	444,000	49,000
Enabling local actors	2.2M	650,000
Total	17.5M	5.8M

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
Belgian Red Cross	2026	684,000	684,000		-	-	-		
	2027	442,000	442,000						
Canadian Red Cross Society	2026	1.1M				1.1M			
Danish Red Cross	2026	3.4M	1.8M	-	-	-	-	-	-
Luxembourg Red Cross	2026	1.5M		400,000	750,000			325,000	50,000
Netherlands Red Cross	2026	1M		-	-	720,000			329,000
Spanish Red Cross	2026	805,000	805,000	78,000	-	170,000	414,000	106,000	37,000

See back page for explanatory note on funding requirements

NATIONAL SOCIETY PROFILE

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

The Mali Red Cross relied on its decentralized structure with operational regional committees and a network of qualified volunteers to assist communities, including those in difficult to access areas due to the conflict in Mali and logistical constraints. The Mali Red Cross also places great emphasis on reinforcing the security and safety of its staff and volunteers for safe humanitarian access and safe interventions for the most vulnerable populations. It possesses demonstrated expertise in collaborating with national authorities and Movement partners. Its support functions such as logistics, human resources, finance, and communication are currently undergoing digitalization and enhancement to improve efficiency, transparency and accountability, particularly in regions with limited humanitarian access.

The National Society implements humanitarian and development actions throughout the country, carried out in accordance with the seven Fundamental Principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. It strives to focus on people most in need, which includes vulnerable households, people affected by disasters and emergencies and internally displaced people, migrants and refugees. It gives a particular focus to people with specific vulnerabilities, such as children and young people who are vulnerable or at risk, women and women's groups and people with disabilities.

The Mali Red Cross provides a range of essential humanitarian services including emergency medical assistance, disaster response, health and sanitation programmes, support for vulnerable populations, and initiatives in water, hygiene, and environmental protection. The organization also engages in nutrition support, relief for displaced communities and advocacy for humanitarian principles and values, ensuring comprehensive assistance in both urban and rural areas across Mali.

The Mali Red Cross's Strategic Plan 2021-2025 identified six priority axes:

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

In 2024, the Mali Red Cross reached about 41,000 people with its disaster response and early recovery programmes.

IFRC NETWORK ACTION

JOINT SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

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

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

The economic and social situation in Mali in 2024 remains complex and characterized by several major challenges. The country has shown signs of resilience despite economic sanctions imposed by ECOWAS and climatic shocks. In 2022, the real GDP recorded a growth of 3.7 per cent, supported by an increase in cereal production and the resilience of the mining sector. However, in 2023, inflation soared to 9.7 per cent, worsening the living conditions of the most vulnerable. Political tensions and ongoing armed conflict since the coup d'état in 2012 have also contributed to social and economic instability. Recent attempts at political stabilization, such as the creation of an inter-Malian dialogue body by the transitional president, aim to establish lasting peace, although presidential elections have been postponed for technical reasons. Despite

these challenges, initiatives are underway to strengthen the country's economic resilience, notably through support from the World Bank in the sectors of education, health, agriculture and energy. Efforts to diversify the economy and improve governance are essential for creating a stable and prosperous environment for Malians.

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

In 2025, more than 1.4 million people were food insecure. The persistent insecurity is a result of unusual displacement of people, loss of property and crops, and theft/kidnapping of livestock in the central and northern parts of the country; particularly in the Menaka region where more than half of the population is considered displaced. The result is a deterioration in livelihoods that negatively affects light to high food consumption. Severe flooding following torrential rains and devastating floods further cause significant material damage.

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

ONGOING EMERGENCY RESPONSE

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

1.

Emergency Appeal name	Mali Complex Emergency
IFRC Emergency Appeal code	MDRML019
People affected	2,002,191 people
People to be assisted	200,000 people
Duration	20 months (6 August 2024 to 30 April 2026)
Funding requirements	Total funding requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Through the IFRC Appeal: CHF 4 million• Federation-wide: CHF 8 million
Link to Emergency Appeal	Mali Complex Emergency
Link to Operational Strategy	Operational Strategy
Link to Latest Update	MDRML019 6-month update

Mali, with a population of over 22 million, is facing overlapping crises driven by mass displacement, armed conflict and its worst flooding in decades. As of May 2024, more than 330,000 people were internally displaced, while escalating violence has sharply increased security incidents. The floods have affected nearly 70,000 households, collapsed over 40,000 homes and severely damaged infrastructure related to water, sanitation, agriculture and education. Food insecurity now affects over 1.3 million people, particularly in conflict-affected areas, with losses of farmland and soaring prices worsening conditions. Migrants, internally displaced persons and returnees remain especially vulnerable, many living in overcrowded, underserved settings. The crisis is further compounded by underfunded humanitarian responses. In this context, the Emergency Appeal seeks CHF 8 million to support 200,000 people across Bamako, Kayes, Koulikoro, Sikasso, Gao, Ségou, Mopti and Timbuktu. Phase 1 (October to December 2024) will deliver immediate relief in shelter, health, nutrition, water, sanitation and hygiene and [food security](#), while Phase 2 (January to October 2025) will support recovery through cash assistance, epidemic preparedness, climate adaptation and enhanced disaster response. Beyond the initial emergency response phase, the Mali Red Cross has strengthened coordination, planning and assessment efforts to guide the next phase of the response, including expanding activities to the Ménaka region due to worsening humanitarian conditions. Based on these updated needs and the revised operational strategy, the Mali Red Cross has extended the operation by six months, until 30 April 2026.

Short description of the emergency operational strategy

This operational strategy aims to support 200,000 vulnerable people across eight regions in Mali affected by floods, displacement and food insecurity. The Mali Red Cross will deliver an integrated response covering shelter, health, nutrition, water, sanitation and hygiene, education, migration, [mental health](#) and disaster risk reduction. Priority will be given to internally displaced persons, migrants and highly vulnerable households including women, children, persons with disabilities and those living in high-risk areas. The operational strategy combines emergency relief and long-term recovery, with strong focus on climate resilience, [Community Engagement and Accountability](#) and [Protection, Gender and Inclusion](#). The highlights of the assistance are as follows:

Shelter

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

Livelihoods

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

Multi-purpose cash

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

Health and care, including water, sanitation and hygiene

Health initiatives are established; visual communication toolkit is distributed and integrated public health awareness campaigns on hygiene and nutrition are conducted. Children and pregnant or breastfeeding women are screened for malnutrition and severe cases are referred. Culinary demonstrations are organized to promote dietary diversity. Vaccination campaigns are conducted and insecticide-treated

nets, first aid kits, fortified flour are distributed along with the provision of emergency medical care. Drinking water, along with containers is distributed and water supply systems are rehabilitated

Cross-cutting approaches

The operational strategy integrates [Community Engagement and Accountability \(CEA\)](#) and [Protection, Gender and Inclusion \(PGI\)](#) as pivotal elements, in an approach that recognizes and values all community members as equal partners, with their diverse needs shaping the response. Activities include the provision of dignity kits and establishment of two-way feedback mechanisms.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Climate and environment

Mali has a Sahelian climate marked by [high weather instability](#), with interannual variability marked by rainfall and warming faster than the global average. Temperatures have risen by about 0.7 degrees Celsius since 1960 and are expected to rise to increase by [1.2 to 3.6 degrees Celsius by 2050](#). Precipitation, already irregular, alternates between prolonged droughts and extreme rainfall episodes, causing flash floods and accelerated soil erosion. The north and centre are particularly affected by droughts, while the south experiences more flooding. Climate impacts are multiple and particularly affect vulnerable groups, including smallholder farmers which constitutes 80 per cent of the working population, transhumant pastoralists, and displaced people whose livelihoods are highly exposed to environmental shocks.

At the sectoral level the food and nutrition rates are declining as rainfed crop yields decline and chronic food insecurity worsens. In addition, water scarcity and pollution accentuate tensions between users and limiting equitable access. Access to infrastructure and health are also becoming increasingly difficult. As recurrent flooding damages roads, habitats, and basic amenities, the people affected are also having to struggle against the resurgence of water-borne diseases and vectors (malaria and diarrhoea), after floods.

In Mali, land use is characterized by a predominance of rainfed agriculture and extensive livestock farming. Deforestation (about 100,000 hectares per year) and overexploitation of land accentuate desertification, while biodiversity (Sahelian fauna and wetlands) is under increasing pressure due to the degradation of ecosystems.

Environmental trends include soil degradation, increasing pressure on water resources, increase in unmanaged

waste, especially in urban areas, and air pollution related to biomass combustion and traffic. At the institutional level, Mali has adopted a National Adaptation Plan (2015), a National Strategy on Climate Change, and has committed itself through its [Nationally Determined Contributions](#). However, the implementation of these frameworks remains hampered by limited resources and security instability.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

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

The Mali Red Cross is also actively engaged in the [IFCR Pan-African Initiative on Tree Planting and Care](#). It will contribute to climate adaptation and mitigation through planting and caring for multipurpose trees, tree planting and care awareness creation using school environmental clubs, promotion of energy saving solutions and using its branches as centres of resilience spearheading seedling production, community engagement on protecting and restoring natural

resources and strengthening community ownership of tree planting and care initiative. It will use [nature-based solutions](#) for [disaster risk reduction](#) and increased food security. Through its participation in the tree planting and care initiative, the Mali Red Cross seeks to gain increased knowledge, capacities and engagement in improved environmental practices and nature-based solutions in its operation.

In the coming years, the National Society aims to:

- Strengthen community resilience to climate risks through awareness-raising, training and adoption of sustainable practices (agroecology, water management, soil restoration)
- Integrate climate and environmental adaptation approaches across its humanitarian programmes
- Contribute to Mali's national and international climate and environmental commitments, aligning its interventions with the National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)

Planned activities in 2026

- Contribute to strengthening the resilience capacities of the most vulnerable people who are food insecure and exposed to the effects of climate change and environmental degradation
- Strengthen its position as a key actor in climate change and environmental protection with public authorities and

communities, including the implementation of the National Society climate impact assessment and green response approach

- Focus on valuing smart practices and promoting techniques and technologies adapted to environmental challenges, whether traditional or innovative
- Establish climate watch and environmental monitoring committees
- Strengthen, rehabilitate and diversify the adapted and sustainable livelihoods of the most vulnerable communities through emergency and recovery assistance
- Participate in all coordination mechanisms and frameworks at the national and local levels
- Intensify communication, advocacy and humanitarian diplomacy with a view to increasing the visibility and legibility of its actions

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the Mali Red Cross with the systematic integration of [climate change adaptation and sustainable practices](#) into programmes and internal governance (Green Response initiative). Additionally, through the [Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre](#), the IFRC will provide technical expertise, climate analysis and educational tools for adaptation.



Disasters and crises

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

Mali records as [high humanitarian risk](#) due to a combination of exposure to hazards, socio-economic vulnerabilities and a lack of adaptive capacities. In 2025, it recorded a 'very high' risk class reflecting severe constraints on humanitarian access.

The country suffers recurrent climatic hazards, including prolonged droughts and flash floods, which severely affect livelihoods and infrastructure. According to the National Directorate of Social Development, 832,188 people were affected by floods while at the same time droughts reduced agricultural yields and increased pressure on water, worsening food insecurity and displacement. These events disrupt markets and increase household vulnerability.

In 2025, around [28 per cent of the population](#) were in need of humanitarian assistance with needs concentrated in the northern and central regions. As of March 2025, conflict had

internally displaced over 378,000 people with more than 318,000 Malians seeking refuge abroad. Conflict, lockdowns and insecurity contributed to the disruption of markets, services, and people's mobility, exacerbating household vulnerability.

Humanitarian analyses also highlight persistent acute food insecurity, aggravated by insecurity, displacement, high prices, and declining production. The deterioration of needs and 'Hunger Hotspots' alerts anticipate a worsening during the lean season. Updates regularly place areas in the north/centre in [Crisis \(IPC3\) to Emergency \(IPC4\)](#) depending on the period.

In terms of national capacities, the Directorate General of Civil Protection (DGPC) is piloting the response through the permanent ORSEC system (the national disaster response framework) in conjunction with the National Disaster Risk Reduction Platform and relies on planning tools such as the National Multi-Risk Contingency Plan 2024-2025.

Multi-year high-level objectives of the National Society

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

The National Society will:

- Strengthen its own capacities, along with those of communities and other relevant stakeholders, by conducting risk assessments and mapping, establishing [early warning systems](#) and promoting anticipatory action and disaster risk reduction as core preparedness strategies
- Enhance resilience of vulnerable communities by supporting them to better withstand and recover from crisis and disaster risks, ensuring a more sustainable and community-driven approach to disaster risk management

Planned activities in 2026

- Strengthen [community-level preparedness and risk reduction](#) through local plans, early warning systems, and exercises aligned with the national frameworks
- Strengthen rapid response capacities (teams, repositioning, supply chains) and market-sensitive assistance (cash, shelter, food security, water and sanitation) for more agile and dignified responses
- Promote the institutional anchoring of Mali Red Cross in the national disaster management system, in line with

the National Policy for Disaster Risk Reduction and the commitments made in the Sendai Framework 2015-2030

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

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the National Society through strategic and technical support. This includes support through IFRC reference centres, hubs, and labs, including for [anticipatory actions](#) and emergency coordination to foster innovative and evidence-based approaches.

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 2025, IFRC provided DREF allocations in Mali to assist with floods, the details are as follows:

[IFRC-DREF EAP Mali Riverine Floods](#): The IFRC approved a DREF Early Action Protocol in 2025, in support of the Mali Red Cross. This enabled the National Society to utilize an immediate allocation of CHF 493,567 to implement early actions once triggers were met. The actions which included readiness and repositioning of stocks were meant to support up to 24,000 during an early action timeframe of three months in high-risk flood-prone areas along the Niger and Senegal Rivers, where seasonal heavy rains and poor drainage systems increase vulnerability. The protocol is meant to be in place for five years.



Mali continues to face many structural health challenges as access to care remains unequal. At the national level, 67 per cent of births are attended by qualified personnel, but this proportion drops sharply in insecure regions. Insecurity, population displacement, and a weak health system aggravate regional disparities.

Epidemics are also recurrent. In 2023, 352 cases of measles were reported in 32 health districts. As of April 2024, there were 40 confirmed cases of measles, higher than the cases reported during the same period in 2023. Malaria remains the leading cause of morbidity and mortality, with an estimated 7.7 million cases and nearly 20,000 deaths in 2021. Regarding cholera, no recent major outbreaks have been reported in Mali, but the recurrent outbreaks in the Sahel are a reminder of the vulnerability of riverine areas.

While vaccination coverage is increasing, it remains insufficient. According to estimates, coverage for Diphtheria tetanus toxoid and pertussis (DTP3), measles-containing-vaccine first-dose (MCV1), and wild poliovirus type 3 (Polio-3) is around 68-73 per cent, while the second dose of measles (MCV2) reaches only 59 per cent in 2024. In addition, 22 per cent of children have not received any dose of vaccine, a worrying proportion in conflict-affected areas.

Malnutrition remains a growing concern. In 2023, global acute malnutrition (GAM) affected about 12 per cent of children under 5 years of age, with peaks above 15 per cent in the central and northern. Chronic malnutrition affects 24.8 per cent of children, increasing the risk of child mortality and stunting.

Non-communicable diseases such as hypertension, diabetes, cardiovascular diseases, and cancers are a growing public health problem in Mali, especially in urban areas. According to the harmonized NCD-RisC estimates, about 35 per cent of adults aged 30-79 years were hypertensive in 2019. This is a level above the average for the West African region, with diagnostic and therapeutic coverage still limited. The burden of diabetes is also on the rise, with the International Diabetes Federation estimating its prevalence at around 4.8 per cent of adults in 2024.

Despite their growing burden, NCDs remain underdiagnosed and poorly covered by the health system, which remains focused on communicable diseases and maternal and child health. Lack of access to screening services, low availability of treatments, and the absence of massive awareness campaigns limit the national response.

Access to water and sanitation remains limited. Only 16 per cent of Malians have access to improved sanitation services and 17 per cent have a handwashing station with soap and water. These shortcomings increase the risk of epidemics and undermine prevention efforts. Climate change is expected to

increase these vulnerabilities, increasing the frequency of water outbreaks and expanding the malaria endemic area.

At the institutional level, Mali had adopted a National Health Policy in 2017, along with the Ten-Year Health and Social Development Plan (PDDSS 2014–2023) and the Health and Social Development Programme (PRODESS IV 2019–2023), which was subsequently extended until 2025. These frameworks outlined the government's commitments to advancing maternal and child health, nutrition, the control of communicable and non-communicable diseases, and the improvement of equitable access to healthcare and WASH services.

Multi-year high-level objectives of the National Society

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

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

Its multi-year objectives of the Mali Red Cross include to:

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

Planned activities in 2026

- Reduce the impact of priority communicable diseases by helping to increase vaccination coverage (DTP3, Polio, CVD1) to at least 75 per cent by 2026, with a particular focus on 'zero-dose' children in insecure areas
- Strengthen access to antenatal and perinatal services in vulnerable areas through assistance deliveries by skilled personnel

- Integrate reproductive health services, gender-based violence prevention (GBV), and psychosocial support into community-based health programmes
- Screen and refer at least 250,000 children under five years of age to priority areas
- Help to keep global acute malnutrition (GAM) below 12 per cent in targeted areas with scaled-up interventions in the central and northern regions
- Organize hypertension and diabetes screening for at least 25,000 adults, particularly in urban and peri-urban areas
- Facilitate access to water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) infrastructure for at least 20,000 households in rural areas and IDP sites
- Conduct hygiene awareness campaigns in at least 100 communities across villages, neighbourhoods and hamlets

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will provide technical and operational support to the National Society in the areas of community health, immunization, nutrition, and WASH, in alignment with the Universal Health Coverage approach and the priorities of the Strategy 2030. It will support the Mali Red Cross's planning, monitoring, and evaluation via resource mobilization.

The IFRC's support will be designed to strengthen the institutional and operational capacities of the Mali Red Cross, while ensuring a coherent response to immediate humanitarian needs and structural vulnerabilities related to health, nutrition and WASH.



Migration and displacement

Mali is facing a complex displacement crisis, mainly fuelled by persistent insecurity, climate shocks, and economic hardship. This multidimensional situation is generating growing humanitarian needs while straining existing response capacities. By June 2025, the country had 402,167 internally displaced persons (IDPs) and 120,000 refugees and asylum seekers while being the country of origin of more than 500,000 refugees who had fled to neighbouring countries, illustrating the regional dimension of the crisis.

The geographical distribution of the 402,167 internally displaced persons shows a significant concentration in the regions of Mopti, Gao, Timbuktu and Menaka. The demographic profile of these populations reveals an over-representation of women and children, with a notable presence of unaccompanied minors and the elderly or disabled. Their needs cover a full spectrum from shelter and food security to access to water, sanitation, health care, protection and education. However, meeting these needs faces significant operational constraints, including access difficulties related to insecurity, limited local capacity and fragmentation of data collection systems.

The refugees and asylum seekers which Mali hosts are mostly from crisis-affected neighbouring countries such as Burkina Faso, Niger, and Mauritania. They express priority needs for legal protection, durable shelter, and access to basic services and livelihoods. Their context is complicated by the limited reception capacities of host communities and the need for better integration of protection services into multisectoral programmes.

Migrants are also vulnerable, marked by an increase in forced returns from Algeria and other Maghreb countries since 2024-2025. These returns, often the result of restrictive migration policies, add a layer of vulnerability to people already affected by economic instability. The most vulnerable profiles include single women, unaccompanied minors and victims of exploitation or trafficking. Their immediate needs include access to health services, temporary shelter, restoring family links and support for socio-economic reintegration.

These displacement dynamics are rooted in a range of interrelated factors including armed conflict, economic instability, the effects of climate change and governance fragilities. Climate shocks exacerbate community tensions over access to resources, fuelling the cycle of conflict.

Humanitarian access is deteriorating rapidly, as evidenced by the significant increase in incidents hindering access, from 37 in June 2024 to 76 in June 2025. This deterioration of the security environment, marked by an upsurge in inter-communal conflicts and attacks on civilians, makes the delivery of aid more difficult. The convergence of these elements exposes vulnerable groups to increased risks of exploitation, violence, stigmatization and restricted access to essential services.

Multi-year high-level objectives of the National Society

The Mali Red Cross is part of the IFRC three-year Global Route Based Migration Programme, which aims to improve

the safety and dignity of people on the move along deadly and dangerous land and sea-based migration routes across Africa, the Americas, Europe and the Middle East and North Africa. The programme aims to support 4.7 million people on the move and people in host communities annually through three operational pillars: (1) improving access to assistance and protection, including through [humanitarian service points](#); (2) strengthening National Society capacities; and (3) local to global humanitarian diplomacy.

Its multi-year objectives include to:

- Help reduce the vulnerabilities and suffering of migrants, internally displaced persons (IDPs) and host communities through humanitarian assistance, resilience building and advocacy for their rights
- Improve the integration and well-being of IDPs, returnees and migrants in transit by supporting their return and reintegration into host communities or communities of origin

Planned activities in 2026

- Provide an appropriate humanitarian response in areas with a high concentration of displaced people (in Mopti, Gao, Timbuktu and Menaka), with particular attention to women, children and people with special needs
- Set up Humanitarian Service Points (HSPs) for immediate assistance

- Promote access to basic services, legal documentation, and dignified [livelihoods](#)
- Support socio-economic reintegration, especially for unaccompanied minors, unaccompanied women and victims of trafficking
- Contribute to national coordination and the integration of migration and identity issues into public policies

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the Mali Red Cross in ensuring cross-cutting support for the coherence of with pan-African commitments (Kampala Declaration on IDPs, Global Compact for Migration), strengthening volunteer training on conflict-sensitive migration, and supporting regional and international advocacy for safe, dignified and equitable access to essential services for all displaced and migrant people.

The IFRC will also provide targeted technical support, including sensitive data management, protection against exploitation and trafficking, implementation of appropriate cash transfers and capacity building of local branches.



Mali Red Cross volunteers distributing food to families, as part of efforts to support communities facing food shortages (Photo: IFRC)



Values, power and inclusion

Mali faces complex challenges in terms of protection, gender and inclusion. Violence, discrimination and exclusion disproportionately affect the most vulnerable groups, especially in a context marked by armed conflict, political instability, and recurrent humanitarian crises.

Sexual and gender-based violence remains a concern. Women and girls are exposed to extreme forms of violence and discrimination, which are compounded in conflict zones. The Global Protection Group stresses the need to strengthen prevention and support mechanisms, and to expand access to services for survivors. Adolescent girls, who are often exposed to early or unwanted pregnancies, lack sufficient access to reproductive health and sexuality education.

Persons with disabilities suffer from a double vulnerability. They are more exposed to violence and frequently excluded from essential social services. Children, especially those separated from their families or living in conflict zones, remain particularly vulnerable to exploitation, school dropout and malnutrition. Ethnic and religious minorities, as well as racialized people, face persistent discrimination, compromising their social inclusion and safety.

Mali's education system suffers from strong inequalities in access and quality. As of April 2024, nearly 1,800 schools were closed due to insecurity, depriving more than 530,000 children of their right to education. Out-of-school rates remain high, especially for girls, displaced children and those in rural areas. The quality remains limited, only slightly more than half of primary school teachers have adequate training.

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

The Mali Red Cross seeks to promote the well-being, dignity and resilience of the population, devoting special attention to vulnerable individuals, families and social groups. It aims to foster the active and inclusive participation of all members of society, ensuring that everyone is treated without distinction or discrimination. The National Society also aims to place vulnerable and crisis-affected people and communities at the centre of its programmes and operations. By doing so, it seeks to influence decisions that directly affect these groups and to build trust between them and the National Society.

The Mali Red Cross will focus on the integration of Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI) and Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) into all its activities. This will be achieved through a wide range of training sessions, the development of relevant policies and the implementation of targeted actions focusing on women, persons with disabilities and youth, with the goal of fostering social cohesion and stability.

Additionally, the Mali Red Cross plans to continue strengthening the ability of individuals at risk of or survivors of sexual and gender-based violence and to prevent, respond to and mitigate these risks, primarily through the coordinated development of standards and programming tools.

Planned activities in 2026

- Conduct training in inclusive approaches such as PGI and CEA for volunteers to integrate them in all the National Society programmes
- Conduct workshops focused on the National Society Gender and Inclusion Policy, feedback mechanism, and associated standard operating procedures
- Organize monthly advocacy sessions with public authorities and partners
- Sensitize workers, volunteers and members on Fundamental Principles and humanitarian values
- Inform, guide and strengthen the engagement and participation of young people in the National Red Cross and Red Crescent Society's mission to meet the needs of vulnerable people in their communities

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

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

ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS

The Mali Red Cross is committed towards institutional strengthening and has carried out the self-assessment section of the Organizational Capacity Assessment and Certification (OCAC) process in 2011. That part of the OCAC process is intended to capture the strengths and weaknesses of National Societies as a whole, in relation to a wide range of organizational capacities. The National Society is also committed to the Preparedness for Effective Response (PER) process and is at the action and accountability phase. The PER approach is a continuous and flexible process that enables National Societies to assess, measure and analyse the strengths and gaps of their preparedness and response mechanisms and ultimately take necessary action to improve them.



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



Strategic and operational coordination

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Strengthen its position as an auxiliary to the public authorities through more structured and proactive strategic coordination with all stakeholders
- Consolidate partnerships with key ministries, local authorities and civil society in order to fully integrate its priorities into public policies and national programmes
- Strengthen its representation and engagement in relevant regional and international humanitarian networks, to increase its credibility, advocacy, and capacity for influence
- Strengthen its capacity to mobilize and sustainably manage resources, both nationally and internationally, including through financial transparency and results-based management tools

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the Mali Red Cross in strengthening coordination and promoting a harmonized, coherent approach based on the Fundamental Principles of the Movement. It will also provide technical and methodological expertise through the IFRC's Reference Centres, Hubs and Labs to support innovation and the integration of new approaches, particularly in the field of shelter, logistics and partnerships with the private sector.



National Society development

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Consolidate the implementation of its Strategic Plan towards a 2030 vision ensuring alignment with the Movement's 2030 Strategy and national humanitarian priorities
- Expand and strengthen its regional and local branches through the formation of local committees, the diversification of services, and the improvement of coordination between branches and national headquarters
- Improve financial sustainability by diversifying revenue streams (membership fees, partnerships with the private sector, income-generating activities, and local fundraising)

- Strengthen the capacity of senior management and middle management through targeted training, mentoring and clear accountability mechanisms

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC network will support the Mali Red Cross through strategic and institutional support. It will be contributing to the development of the management skills through training, coaching, and exchange programmes with other National Societies. It will also support the Mali Red Cross in networking with other National Societies for the exchange of experiences, sharing of practical solutions, and adoption of innovative approaches (via hubs, labs and reference centres).



Humanitarian diplomacy

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Develop and implement a Humanitarian Diplomacy strategy aimed at influencing decision-makers and opinion leaders, particularly on major operational constraints
- Increase the visibility of activities through proactive and transparent communication aligned with the Movement's core principles
- Adapt messages and communication tools to different audiences such as local communities, authorities, donors, media, and diaspora ensuring that an inclusive approach that is sensitive to crisis contexts is integrated

- Enhance the reach and responsiveness of messaging by strengthening the communication and humanitarian diplomacy skills of staff and volunteers through targeted training, effective tools and greater use of digital platforms

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the Mali Red Cross through strategic support for the implementation of a national strategy for communication and humanitarian diplomacy, specialized training, the sharing of experiences between National Societies and mobilization in regional and global forums.



Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

Multi-year high level objectives of the National Society

- Strengthen policies and practices for the safeguarding, safety and security of staff and volunteers
- Promote diversity, inclusion and gender equality in all structures
- Uphold a transparent financial management in line with international standards, supported by modern reporting and accountability systems to donors
- Adopt results-based management through reliable systems for data collection, analysis, and dissemination of information

- Develop and implement an integrated digital roadmap, covering infrastructure, secure data management, digital inclusion and cybersecurity
- Gradually integrate digital tools into humanitarian services such as cash transfer, volunteer management, and early warning systems among others to improve scale, speed and inclusiveness

Longer-term support from the IFRC network

The IFRC will support the National Society's through technical and financial support, access to innovation, and digital transformation platforms. This will be carried out through sharing experiences among peer-National Societies. The IFRC will enable the National Society to sustainably strengthen its accountability, transparency and ability to offer inclusive, timely and effective services.

THE IFRC NETWORK

The IFRC

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

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

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



Mali Red Cross volunteers conducting community outreach in response to Ebola outbreak (Photo: IFRC)

IFRC membership coordination

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

The Mali Red Cross collaborates with a number of participating National Societies. **The Belgian Red Cross (French community)** resumed its collaboration with the Mali Red Cross in December 2009. The aim of this partnership is to strengthen the National Society and provide a humanitarian response in the country. One of the principles of cooperation is alignment with the strategy of the Mali Red Cross on projects/programmes that meet the priorities and needs of the Mali Red Cross. Since the beginning of the collaboration, the Belgian Red Cross and the Mali Red Cross, while working closely with the technical services of the State and the communities, have implemented several projects the fields of health, nutrition, community resilience, agricultural production, promotion of income-generating activities, disaster risk reduction and humanitarian assistance.

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

The **Danish Red Cross** initiated a cooperation called “Hope in the Desert” with the Mali Red Cross in the 1980s following the droughts in the Sahel, with an environmental education

project. In 2007, bilateral cooperation was revived with the presence of delegates. It supported the capacity building of the Mali Red Cross by supporting the management and implementation of projects and supporting long-term organizational and technical development. It works closely with the IFRC [Reference Centre for Psychosocial Support](#) and, since 2019, the Danish Red Cross has been working to support the establishment of a psychosocial department.

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

The **Netherlands Red Cross** and the Mali Red Cross have been engaged in a long-term partnership since 2015 focused on supporting resilience initiatives. They work together in several areas such as risk and disaster preparedness at the institutional level, with support for the operationalization of the Emergency Operations Centre.

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

The **Spanish Red Cross** and the Mali Red Cross have been engaged in a long-term partnership since 2000, focusing on supporting initiatives in the areas of health, environmental protection and improvement of living environments, social protection and cohesion, as well as in the area of food security and livelihoods. The main areas of intervention are Kayes, Sikasso, Timbuktu and Ségou. Currently, the Spanish Red Cross, with a permanent operational presence in the branches in Ségou and Timbuktu, supports the implementation of protection projects (gender protection and inclusion and prevention of gender-based violence), disaster management and food security and livelihoods.

Movement coordination

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

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

Coordination with other actors

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

Externally, the National Society actively participates in several humanitarian coordination groups, including the shelter, protection, health, and food security clusters. It plays an important role in the Food Security Cluster, where interventions are coordinated through the 5W matrix. She is also a committed member of the National Working Group on Cash Transfers.

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



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

About the plan

The plan reflects the priorities of the host National Society, the IFRC and National Societies providing international support, for 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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