

2022

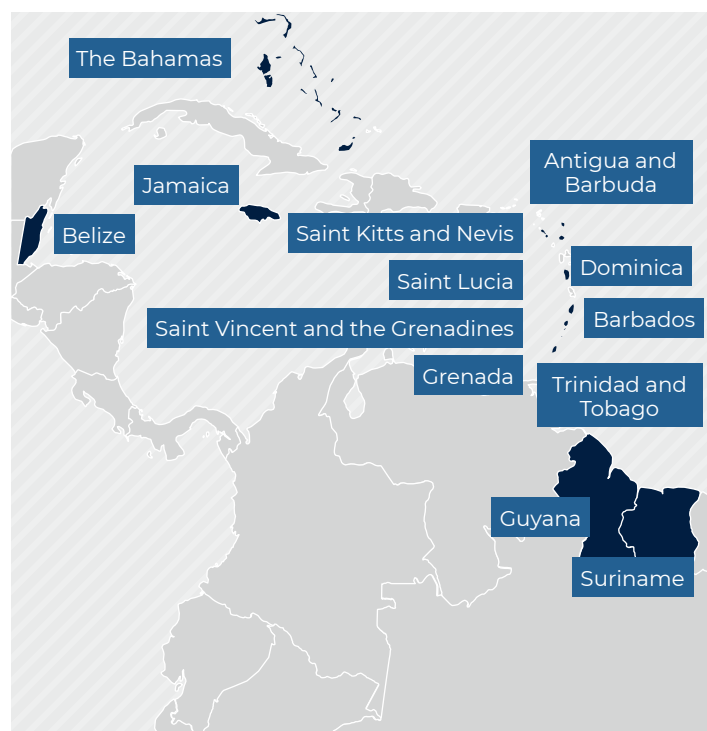


St. Vincent & the Grenadines © Angela Hill

DUTCH AND ENGLISH SPEAKING CARIBBEAN IFRC CLUSTER PLAN

2022 funding requirement in Swiss francs
7.9 million

As part of a total Federation-wide funding
requirement in Swiss franc **8.3 million***



National Societies

13



National Society
staff

193



National Society
volunteers

8,656



People to be reached

67,893

This document details the IFRC's support in areas agreed upon with the relevant National Society. The IFRC seeks resources to carry out this plan, listed here as funding requirements. For information on the IFRC's emergency operations, please visit ifrc.org/appeals.

* Total for IFRC and National Societies working internationally. Not including the country National Society's funding requirements.

SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

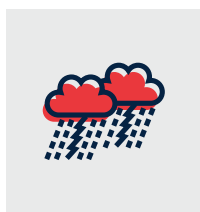
Population

7,331,350

Human Development Index Ranking

Antigua and Barbuda–78, Bahamas–58, Barbados–58, Belize–110, Dominica–94, Grenada–74, Guyana–122, Jamaica–101, St. Kitts and Nevis–74, St. Lucia–86, St. Vincent & the Grenadines–97, Suriname–97, Trinidad and Tobago–67

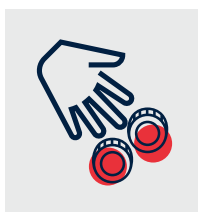
Vulnerability to disasters



Hurricanes



Climate change



Poverty



Disease

The size and location of Caribbean countries limit their capacity to deal with emergencies and make them susceptible to risks. They are highly affected by climate change and natural disasters, and the COVID-19 pandemic has caused severe economic impacts, especially on the tourism sector and on resource exports.

In 2021, Caribbean National Societies were forced to respond to multiple concurrent disasters, including flood events in Suriname and Guyana and dengue outbreaks in St. Lucia and St. Vincent and the Grenadines. National Societies have dealt with the simultaneous impacts of the La Soufriere Volcanic Eruption, the dengue outbreak and the COVID-19 pandemic. Recovery from previous disasters, particularly hurricanes, takes several years.

The COVID-19 pandemic has dramatically increased the number and vulnerability of migrants. More than 21,000 refugees and asylum-seekers in Trinidad and Tobago are currently registered. COVID-19 restrictions have limited migrant access to livelihoods, preventing them from accessing basic services.

Non-communicable diseases will cause an estimated 81 per cent of deaths in the region by 2023. The Caribbean has the second-highest HIV prevalence in the world, with 1 per cent of the adult population infected. The spread of mosquito-borne diseases with a high risk of widespread transmission, especially dengue, chikungunya and more recently Zika, is of great concern in the region.

Economic and health fears increase sexual and gender-based violence towards women and children. Young people are especially vulnerable and often experience high unemployment, disenfranchisement and exposure to crime and violence.



ROLE OF THE NATIONAL SOCIETIES

Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross

The Antigua and Barbuda National Society has a positive national reputation and is supported and recognized by an act of Parliament in its status as an auxiliary to the Government.

Bahamas Red Cross

Since Hurricane Dorian struck the Bahamas in 2019, the National Society has been engaged in a development programme. Its priorities for 2022 are financial sustainability, climate change and branch development.

Barbados Red Cross

The Barbados National Society priorities are resource mobilization, enhancing the Meals on Wheels programme, re-establishing community disaster response teams and revising disaster preparedness policies.

Belize Red Cross

The Belize National Society activities are focused on disaster management, disaster risk reduction and mitigation, HIV prevention, first aid and prevention of communicable diseases, nursing and social assistance, assistance to victims of fire and skills-building programmes.

Dominica Red Cross

The Dominica National Society has identified strategic goals to build healthier and safer communities, reduce vulnerabilities, strengthen resilience to function effectively and increase its reach. Its priorities are financial sustainability, resource mobilization, strengthening its auxiliary role and branch development.

ROLE OF THE NATIONAL SOCIETIES

Grenada Red Cross

The Grenada National Society was launched as a Branch of the British Red Cross after the devastation caused by Hurricane Janet in 1955 and became an independent National Society in 1987. The National Society targets the entire population with public education and awareness initiatives. Priorities include strengthening not only relationships with the affected population and stakeholders but also strengthening organizational results, resource mobilization capacities, operational excellence and the staff and volunteer base.

Guyana Red Cross

The Guyana National Society priorities include resource mobilization, financial sustainability and development of the Meals on Wheels Programme. It addresses many needs, including emergency shelter; food and medicine; water and sanitation; disaster preparedness; family links restoration for disaster victims; community-based health and care; first aid training and activities; disease control and prevention, including HIV and AIDS prevention; and youth and volunteer activities

Jamaica Red Cross

Some of the core services of the National Society in Jamaica include health and welfare, youth development, livelihood protection and emergency services, as well as climate change adaptation and ecosystem protection.

Its strategic priorities are to advance community risk reduction programmes; improve and expand climate and environmental action; embark on a digital transformation; improve connectivity between branches; establish effective and sustained resource mobilization measures; and increase actions for healthier, safer and dignified communities.

Saint Kitts and Nevis Red Cross

The St. Kitts and Nevis National Society priorities are governance and management, youth programme enhancement, capacity development, and other exceptional and emerging needs. In addition, it will upgrade National Society technology and resource mobilization and strengthen its auxiliary role and relationship with government agencies.

Saint Lucia Red Cross

The National Society in Saint Lucia is prioritising youth, health, and disaster preparedness and emergency services. The focus will specifically be on youth development, volunteer management and capacity building, community health care and disaster risk reduction and response.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Red Cross

The National Society is currently implementing an emergency appeal for relief distribution, cash and voucher assistance, protection, and gender and inclusion in emergencies following a volcanic eruption in April 2021. In addition, the National Society has been engaging in activities to strengthen overall capacities.

Suriname Red Cross

The Surinamese National Society is registered as an 'Association' and its priorities include organization development, financial sustainability, and volunteer development.

Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross

The Trinidad and Tobago National Society is a recognized auxiliary in the humanitarian field to the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago. It focuses its resources on providing disaster preparedness and quality health programmes designed to empower the most vulnerable communities.

MEMBERSHIP COORDINATION AND MOVEMENT FOOTPRINT

Name of Partner National Society	Climate	Crises	Health	Migration	Inclusion	Engaged	Accountable	Trusted
American Red Cross	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓
Canadian Red Cross	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
French Red Cross	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Italian Red Cross			✓			✓	✓	✓
Japanese Red Cross	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Through its Regional Intervention Platform for the Americas and the Caribbean (PIRAC), the French Red Cross will work under the Ready Together project in the Eastern Caribbean on international disaster response law and civil-military activities, as well as climate change adaptation and disaster preparedness activities.

The PIRAC will work with the National Societies in Dominica, Grenada, Antigua and Barbuda, St. Kitts and Nevis, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines to train trainers and on National Society Commercial First Aid accreditation with the Global First Aid Reference Centre.

The Japanese Red Cross will support the Preparedness for Effective Response Approach and Logistics Capacity Strengthening.

Coordination with partner National Societies is vital in advancing a balanced, customized and sustainable approach to National Society development. This has resulted in stronger disaster law advocacy and disaster risk reduction and more resources for programmes. Coordination has also contributed to the exchange of best practices and the development of working tools from other partner National Societies.



Belize © IFRC / Belize Red Cross

GLOBAL FLAGSHIPS

Local action – stronger National Societies

The IFRC will support National Society strategies to strengthen National Society capacities as institutions, leading to relevant and sustainable programmes and services.

Increasing the scale of humanitarian action and risk reduction

The 13 National Societies in the IFRC Dutch and English-speaking Caribbean cluster have committed to addressing the impacts of climate change and related issues in vulnerable communities. Eight National Societies have signed the Climate and Environmental Charter as of October 2021. National Societies are also engaged in several climate change adaptation initiatives and are using nature-based solutions to address the impacts of climate change and reduce the risk of disasters.

Disaster Relief Emergency Fund and anticipatory funding to triple by 2025

An increase is expected in the response to small and medium scale disasters and crises through different DREF modalities, such as response, anticipatory actions and forecast-based financing.

Briefings will be systematically scheduled in 2022 with National Societies for each DREF application to enhance Emergency Plans of Action and their implementation.

Global cash leadership

The IFRC will engage Caribbean National Societies in pre-disaster cash-based assessments to significantly reduce the time it takes to implement cash and voucher assistance (CVA) programming, particularly in emergencies. The IFRC will also promote cash initiatives for National Society financial preparedness and sustainability goals.

Global health security – epidemic and pandemic preparedness and response

The IFRC will support the National Societies to reinforce their public health capacities, including Community Based Health and First Aid and Epidemic Control for Volunteers. In addition, support will be provided to introduce new approaches, such as Community Based Surveillance, to address response and preparedness needs in the region.

Support will continue for vaccinations, first aid, mental health and psychosocial support services, risk communication and community engagement, and livelihoods support, all to achieve an inclusive, resilient and green recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENTAL CRISES

Funding requirement in Swiss francs

220,000

People to be reached

17,393

Due to their size and location, Caribbean Small Island Developing States are particularly susceptible to climate change. People in the Caribbean are increasingly affected by rising sea levels, changes in rain patterns and temperatures, and increasingly intense natural hazards. The region's economies are heavily reliant on tourism, agriculture and fishing, all of which are heavily affected by the climate and environmental crises.

Rainfall patterns have shifted in the region, with the number of consecutive dry days expected to increase. Additionally, sea-level rise has occurred at a rate of between two and four centimetres per decade over the past 33 years – a trend that threatens freshwater resources and coastal populations dependent on tourism and agriculture.

Strategic approach

Eight National Societies have signed the Climate and Environment Charter for Humanitarian Organizations. The Trinidad and Tobago National Society has developed an environmental programme to reduce its carbon emissions and The Bahamas National Society is creating a climate change policy and will develop an environmental policy with targets in 2022.

Through the Resilient Islands by Design project, National Societies have identified and implemented nature-based and climate-smart solutions to existing challenges in communities, and through the Community Resilience Building project, National Societies have reintroduced indigenous trees for nature-based solutions and controlled vector-borne diseases. Both projects are replicable across the region. The Bahamas Red Cross Society is replicating the Resilient Islands project in several of its family islands with training provided by CADRIM. The Jamaica National Society works closely with government agencies to identify and implement nature-based solutions in one of the country's protected areas.

Regional projects, including the Capacity Building Initiative Phase IV project, will support all 13 National Societies. Training National Societies to support the development of climate-smart livelihoods in communities is one such initiative.



10%
(\$22 billion) of the Caribbean
economy could be lost
annually to climate crises.



0.1° to 0.2°C
is the temperature
increase seen each
decade in the last 30
years.



2–4 cm
is the sea level rise
observed each decade
in the last 30 years.

TARGETS

- 3 coastal towns supported to adapt to longer-term impacts of climate change by 2025.
- 5 National Societies use nature-based solutions for DRR and adapt to and mitigate climate change.
- 3 National Societies implement campaigns focused on behaviour change, plastic reduction or clean-ups.

SUPPORT

- Support National Societies to develop climate-smart livelihoods and capacity-building for staff and volunteers and implement activities for adapting to climate change.
- Support the Guyana National Society to work with the Government to promote strong laws for Disaster Risk Reduction and climate change.

EVOLVING CRISES AND DISASTERS

Funding requirement in Swiss francs

4 million

People to be reached

20,000



The IFRC Caribbean Country Cluster faces complex language and culture differences when dealing with evolving crises and disasters. The area's geography and population is diverse, creating multifaceted and varied response needs. Together with Latin America, the Caribbean is the second most disaster-prone region in the world. Disasters in the region have become more complex and protracted since 2000. Some are so large that they now intersect and form super disasters.

Many countries in the region have limited resources but are highly susceptible to natural hazards. Their fragile ecosystems are vulnerable to urbanization, deforestation, coastal degradation, and inadequate physical development planning. The confluence of these issues and disasters quickly overwhelms the capacity of governments and local institutions.

Strategic approach

The IFRC is committed to supporting National Societies in this cluster and vulnerable communities to improve their capacities to prepare for and respond to evolving crises and disasters and mitigate the risks from multiple hazards. This includes enhancing the community disaster response teams and contingency planning with early warning systems, early action and anticipation. It will also prioritize resilience, training and strategic approaches to conducting vulnerability capacity assessments with livelihood considerations.

National Societies will be engaged in preparedness and readiness activities to respond to shocks, adaptive and enhanced community risk-reduction and resilience, advocating for effective and protective disaster-related laws and supporting vulnerable communities to recover from the immediate and secondary effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

TARGETS

- 50 million people reached per year with support services, in-kind, cash and voucher assistance for emergency response and recovery (50 per cent of assistance in the form of cash by 2022).
- 13 National Societies engaged in preparedness and capacity-building processes (early action, PER, cash preparedness, logistics).
- 500 million CHF mobilized per year through IFRC mechanisms for National Society responses to crises and disasters (including 100 million CHF through DREF).
- 3 governments supported to adopt new legal instruments related to disaster law.
- 13 National Societies exposed to shelter and urban strategies with an emphasis on Barbados Red Cross Society developing shelter programming.

SUPPORT

- Utilize the Preparedness for Effective Response Approach.
- Create and implement Red Cross actions in Disaster Law.
- Adapt and share information in local languages.



1.2 million

deaths and more than 4.03 billion people have been affected by crises and disasters between 2000–2019.

GROWING GAPS IN HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Funding requirement in Swiss francs
330,000

People to be reached
10,500



The COVID-19 pandemic has spread to all countries in the Americas region, with the highest number of new cases reported in five out of the thirteen countries supported in this cluster. It has had a severe impact on Caribbean health systems, economies, and people's mental health. The prevalence of pre-existing health conditions such as diabetes, cardiovascular diseases, and obesity make Caribbean communities more susceptible to COVID-19. High levels of inequality make the situation potentially more catastrophic than in other parts of the world. This is compounded by low-lying, small, often remote and economically vulnerable small island developing states that are highly vulnerable to climate change.

The climate in the Caribbean region is linked to heat stress; asthma; vector, food, and waterborne diseases; and mortality from extreme weather events. While non-communicable chronic diseases outnumber communicable diseases or injuries in the Americas, the region's most immediate risk is the increased transmission of communicable diseases. This combination of non-communicable chronic diseases and communicable diseases puts significant pressure on the capacities of Caribbean health systems.

The psychological and social impacts of emergencies may be acute in the short term, but these impacts are heightened during crises and can undermine the long-term mental health and psychosocial well-being of the affected population, threatening peace, human rights, and development.

Strategic approach

The IFRC will support National Societies in the Caribbean to enhance their community-based health and first aid and water, sanitation, and hygiene initiatives to meet the needs of vulnerable populations. Support will be planned and implemented through existing initiatives to increase community resilience.

The IFRC will promote disease prevention, healthy lifestyles, voluntary blood donations, maternal and child health, routine immunization, TB control, HIV and vector-borne disease control, and health-seeking behaviour in local communities.

IFRC will also support the development and sustainability of community and commercial first aid and sustain its global reputation as a first aid provider.

All 13 Caribbean National Societies are prioritizing health programmes, including regional training in vector borne diseases and response to regional emergencies, dengue outbreaks, the La Soufriere volcanic eruption, and COVID-19.

TARGETS

10,000 persons reached directly through the following long term health programme activities:

- 3,450 people reached per year with contextually appropriate health services.
- 650 people reached per year with contextually appropriate water, sanitation, and hygiene services.
- 400 people reached per year with mental health and psychosocial support services.
- 500 people trained per year in first aid.

SUPPORT

- Ensure that the Government's health plans are incorporated into programmes.
- Promote better health and prevent diseases through Community-Based Health and First Aid.
- Respond early to outbreaks.
- Build on community resilience activities, immunization campaigns, water and sanitation and disaster risk reduction activities.

MIGRATION AND IDENTITY

Funding requirement in Swiss francs

260,000

People to be reached

20,000


Caribbean countries have historically experienced various forms of migration. Recently, the Venezuelan economic crisis has added to the complexity of migration in the region, with migrants from Venezuela making up a growing share of the overall population of the Caribbean. Since 2019, the Venezuelan migrant population has more than doubled, equalling 224,000.

Most asylum-seekers and migrants will not benefit from government-regulated social programmes. Their primary needs are food security, multipurpose cash, integration, protection, education access, access to medical and psychosocial health services, livelihood opportunities and shelter. Asylum seekers continue to experience stigma, discrimination and resentment regarding employment and access to health services.

Governments in the Caribbean region are not equipped to respond to the increased scale of migration, nor have they responded in a coordinated manner. Throughout the Caribbean, migrants from Venezuela face various legal, economic, and social barriers to integration, especially as public officials and host communities seem concerned that the migrants place additional pressure on public resources. In Trinidad and Tobago, Venezuelans who arrived after the 2019 registration exercise – or who could not participate in it – have difficulties accessing basic services or the formal labour market.

Most recently, Haitians and Cubans facing difficult economic circumstances have migrated within the region. The Haiti earthquake in August 2021 and the assassination of the President caused a surge in migration to Jamaica and the Bahamas. Some people eventually try to reach the United States through Central America and Mexico, but many have set down roots within the region.

TARGETS

- 4 National Societies integrate migration and displacement into their strategic planning.
- 2 National Societies conduct migration and displacement needs and assessments.
- 2 Humanitarian Service Points are in place, providing access to protection and integration support to migrants and displaced persons.



224,000
migrants reside in the
Caribbean.

SUPPORT

- Support National Societies to provide humanitarian assistance for migrants.
- Promote migrant and displaced persons' access to essential public services.
- Develop policies and procedures for migration.
- Coordinate with Spanish-Speaking National Societies for the provision of mental health and psychosocial support services.
- Campaign and advocate against xenophobia and other forms of discrimination against migrants and displaced persons.

VALUES, POWER AND INCLUSION

Funding requirement in Swiss francs
200,000

People to be reached
10,000



Gender-based violence is increasing in the Caribbean Small Island Developing States. The effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and protective measures have contributed to this increase as governments enforce lockdowns and support services are disrupted or inaccessible.

According to a UN Women report, violence has also increased in other settings, including violence against migrant women and girls. The risk of sexual exploitation and abuse in exchange for social safety net benefits is common. Xenophobia-related violence, harassment and other forms of violence in public spaces and online have become more prevalent.

The situation of migrants has been further aggravated since the pandemic began, with a lack of access to services, protection, livelihoods and worsening health conditions. Many migrants in Trinidad and Tobago and Guyana work in the hospitality sector, which has been repeatedly locked down. Migrant unemployment has increased by more than 50 per cent.

Emergency response assessments in the Caribbean, such as in Belize and St. Vincent and the Grenadines, have shown worsening inequalities and increased sexual and gender-based violence and violence against children during and after emergencies.

Strategic Approach

The protection, gender, and inclusion (PGI) approach will build capacities within National Societies. The IFRC will establish a PGI Network for the Dutch and English-speaking Caribbean with PGI focal points as part of a consultative process. National Societies will be supported in developing and implementing the framework and developing a PGI Action Plan for 2022.

TARGETS

- 10 National Societies are included in regional PGI trainings on Dignity, Access, Participation and Safety.
- 10 National Societies monitor the use of PGI minimum standards (including SADDD) and PGI in emergencies toolkit.
- 10 National Societies are included in the pilot of a PGI self-paced online course adapted to the Caribbean.
- Training takes place for PGI focal points on community engagement and accountability approaches.
- 2 National Societies develop a community-level advocacy project tackling discrimination and the lack of access to livelihood services for vulnerable groups.

SUPPORT

- Support National Societies to monitor the use of Protection, Gender, and Inclusion minimum standards and PGI in emergencies toolkit.
- Tackle discrimination and lack of access to livelihood services.
- Develop child-friendly communication tools for emergencies.
- Access training opportunities for child protection standards.



50%
increase in migrant
unemployment has occurred.



Antigua and Barbuda © IFRC

ENABLER 1 – ENGAGED

Funding requirement in Swiss francs

480,000

The IFRC aims to be the humanitarian partner of choice globally. To achieve this, it recognizes that it must keep pace with digital innovation and training, a fact that became even clearer during COVID-19 restrictions around the world.

Growing as an international organization that shares skills, knowledge and vital information to equip and increase the capacity of National Societies with tools will enable the IFRC to support more vulnerable people worldwide.

The IFRC will ensure that a strong peer-to-peer system is in operation and will develop organizational strategies, plans and policy development activities to incorporate and prioritize innovation and transformation.

TARGETS

- 13 National Societies develop online videos, stories, and games for online learning and First Aid education.
- 13 National Societies convert existing and other face-to-face courses to online modality using the learning management system (LMS), including First Aid and other courses the National Society seeks to deliver to its public, beneficiaries, volunteers and staff.
- 13 National Societies implement digital transformation plans.

SUPPORT

- Create a blended First Aid course with an online component.
- Support National Societies to convert in-person courses to online courses adapted to the Caribbean context and make them accessible on the IFRC learning platform.
- Increase promotion of the IFRC learning platform.



Suriname © IFRC

ENABLER 2 – ACCOUNTABLE

Funding requirement in Swiss francs

830,000

The IFRC will support the thirteen (13) National Societies to enhance and ensure accountability to donors, partners and beneficiaries in planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting and to participate in a Virtual Caribbean PMER Network. It will encourage National Societies to use the GO platform to be accountable and highlight their work to Partner National Societies and donor organizations.

The IFRC will manage donor partnerships locally and globally to strengthen communication and information sharing and reinforce engagement to both maintain and nurture current partners and expand its alliance. It will strengthen its accountability and engagement with its donors and partners and provide technical support to the National Societies to reinforce their partnerships, resource mobilization, financial sustainability and accountability processes.

Additionally, the IFRC partnership and resource development will support National Societies before, during and after emergencies. This includes leading interactions with donors in emergencies, searching for funding opportunities, supporting proposal and marketing document development, managing negotiation processes, grant management and monitoring funding coverage.

TARGETS

- National Societies have updated, audited financials and reports on FDRS.
- Board level training on finance, integrity and ethics is planned and executed for the region.
- Technical and financial support is provided to National Societies to develop resource mobilization plans with fundraising and business plans to recover core costs.

SUPPORT

- Provide support to submit externally audited financial statements.
- Provide support to establish a functioning data management system that informs decision making.
- Invest in developing commercial activities, such as purchasing ambulances, equipment and data software.
- Develop a core cost recovery policy and a resource mobilization plan that informs fundraising and business initiatives to recover unrestricted funding for core costs.



Dominica © Finnish Red Cross

ENABLER 3 – TRUSTED

Funding requirement in Swiss francs

1.5 million

The IFRC will continue to increase its provision of resources to National Societies to invest in their development through mechanisms such as the National Society Investment Alliance, the Capacity Building Fund, the Empress Shôken Fund and other innovative approaches to funding. Peer-to-peer exchanges through the Financial Sustainability newsletter will continue, as will regular webinars.

TARGETS

- Financial systems are improved.
- Youth engagement strategies are implemented with technical and financial support.
- Professional volunteers are provided and supported in the region.
- National Societies provide insurance coverage, protective equipment and security mechanisms to ensure volunteer safety and wellbeing.

SUPPORT

- Address gaps identified in Organizational Capacity Assessment and Certification financial assessments.
- Implement a youth engagement strategy.
- Include volunteer protection into all forms of programming.
- Scale-up community engagement and accountability.



The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) is the world's largest humanitarian network, with **192 National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies** and around **14 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.

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