

# 2022



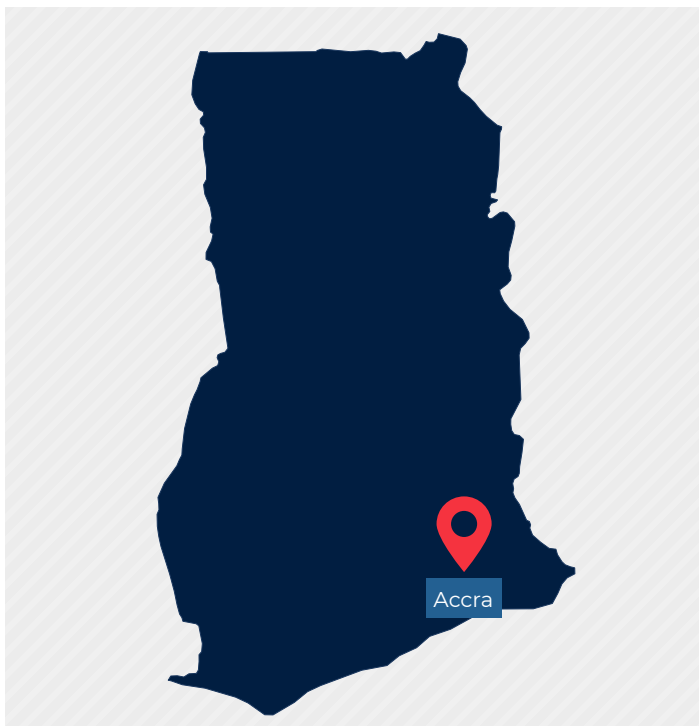
# GHANA

## IFRC COUNTRY SUPPORT PLAN

2022 funding requirement in Swiss francs

**1.4 million**

As part of a total Federation-wide funding requirement in Swiss franc **5 million\***



National Society  
branches

**10**



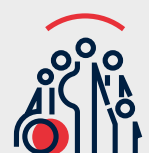
National Society  
staff

**54**



National Society  
volunteers

**77,625**



People to be reached

**524,110**

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](https://ifrc.org/appeals).

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

# SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

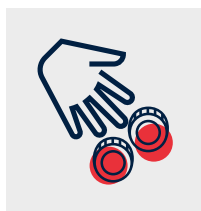
## Population

**24.7 million**

## Human Development Index Ranking

**138**

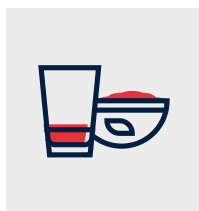
## Vulnerability to disasters



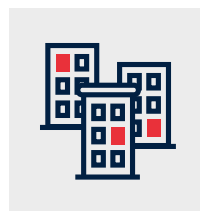
Poverty



Disease



Food scarcity



Urbanization



Climate change

Ghana is in West Africa and borders Ivory Coast, Burkina Faso and Togo. It is divided into the Northern, Middle and Southern zones and the Mediterranean Sea runs along the south coast. Most of Ghana's major settlements are in the south of the country and include Accra, Kumasi, Sekondi-Takoradi, Ho, Sunyani, Cape Coast and Tema. The major settlements in the north are Tamale, Bolgatanga and Wa.

Ghana has experienced steady economic growth since 2005, which has remained high since the country began pumping oil commercially in 2010. However, poverty is still widespread, particularly in the Volta region and the Northern and Middle zones, although the rate is declining and is now at 23.4 per cent. The number of people living in extreme poverty fell from 49.8 to 13.3 per cent between 1991 and 2016, which helped Ghana achieve its Millennium Development Goals.

Despite its economic successes, income inequality is a serious concern in Ghana. In 2006, the wealthiest 20 per cent earned almost half the national income, while the poorest people earned just 5.2 per cent. The poor, particularly women and children, are disproportionately affected by natural hazards and climate change, and they struggle to access education and basic services like health care and safe water. These groups are also disadvantaged in owning assets and accessing financial institutions.

Ghana has a youthful population of over 24.7 million people, with half under 18. The population is increasing and is expected to reach 25 million by 2025. The number of people living in urban areas is now slightly higher than the rural population.

Ghana's rapid urbanization and poor urban planning have created several social and environmental challenges. In urban areas, there is a lack of access to basic services such as water supply and sanitation, waste management, energy provision and health care. There is pressure on housing and social amenities, so the poorest and most vulnerable people often find themselves in unsafe and undignified living conditions. Urban development can also disrupt natural drainage and eco-systems and cause flooding, especially in low-lying areas. Vulnerabilities are exceptionally high in slum dwellings and peri-urban communities, where people are even more exposed to the risk of disasters and natural hazards.



## ROLE OF THE NATIONAL SOCIETY

The IFRC is the largest volunteer-based humanitarian service organization in Ghana. It operates in 153 districts, each represented by a District Organizer. Humanitarian assistance and protection are delivered to vulnerable people by 77,625 volunteers trained in First Aid, Disaster Management, Water and Sanitation Health (WASH), Disaster Risk Reduction, and Health Promotion. Volunteers also give additional support during rescue missions and in emergencies.

The IFRC will continue to build strategic partnerships across Ghana. Major stakeholders include the National Disaster Management Organization (NADMO), which is responsible for coordination, the Ghana Health Service, District Assemblies, UN agencies, traditional leadership and other civil society groups. Partner Government agencies include the Community Water and Sanitation Agency (CWSA) and the National Blood Donation Agency.



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## MEMBERSHIP COORDINATION AND MOVEMENT FOOTPRINT

| Name of Partner National Society | Climate | Crises | Health | Migration | Inclusion | Engaged | Accountable | Trusted |
|----------------------------------|---------|--------|--------|-----------|-----------|---------|-------------|---------|
| Swiss Red Cross                  | ✓       | ✓      | ✓      |           |           |         | ✓           | ✓       |

The National Society in Ghana is part of the IFRC Africa West Coast Cluster of National Societies, along with others in Benin, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Nigeria and Togo. The West Coast Cluster Office gives administrative support to the IFRC Technical Office in Ghana, which has four staff members in WASH, health and finance. It also provides technical and leadership support. There is regular ongoing communication and coordination throughout the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

The Swiss Red Cross supports the National Society with maternal, neonatal, and child health in the country's Upper East and Northern regions. It is also supporting it with eye health in the Northern region.



## GLOBAL FLAGSHIPS

### **Local action – stronger National Societies**

Promoting the localization agenda by sustaining and upgrading the strengths of communities to reach the most vulnerable people before, during and after disasters.

### **Going to scale on humanitarian action and risk reduction**

Training volunteers and staff to set up community systems for early detection and response to disasters.

### **Global cash leadership**

Trusting communities to deliver emergency and recovery assistance by sustaining and upgrading the Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) programme.

### **Reduce cholera related deaths by 50 per cent**

Providing evidence-based cholera prevention activities in hotspot communities.

### **Global health security – epidemic and pandemic preparation and response**

Engaging vulnerable communities in economic activities that will mitigate the socio-economic impact of COVID-19.

# CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENTAL CRISES

Funding requirement in Swiss francs

**145,000**

People to be reached

**15,830**



Ghana is situated in a complex climate region, and it experiences droughts, floods, sea erosion and tropical storms. Climate change is manifested through rising temperatures, declining rainfall and weather-related disasters. The IFRC will reduce the current and future humanitarian effects of climate and environmental crises. The Ghana National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy intends to increase climate resilience, decrease vulnerability and promote greater climate awareness among the population and policy-makers.

Agriculture is the primary source of livelihood for Ghana's poorest people, and over half of the labour force works in this sector. Changing rainfall patterns have a devastating impact on food security and nutrition, which is exacerbated by other factors, including inadequate roads, irrigation, and storage facilities.

Poor management of Ghana's forests, fisheries and wildlife has resulted in water pollution, the degradation of arable land and a loss of biodiversity. Long-standing extractive industries and poor environmental practices have resulted in widespread deforestation and natural resource degradation across the country. The annual cost of this is equivalent to about 9.6 per cent of Ghana's GDP.

## 🎯 TARGETS

- Train 300 volunteers on environmental issues.
- 15,830 people adopt climate resilience, drought tolerant crops and diversified livelihoods.
- 50 staff trained on environmental issues, and appropriate technologies to support volunteers' activities.
- Plant 80,000 trees (5,000 trees per region X16 regions).



**6.4 million**

hectares of forest cover has disappeared due to deforestation



**2 million**

people in Ghana are vulnerable to food insecurity

## ➡ SUPPORT

- Train staff and volunteers on environmental issues, tools and technology.
- Integrate climate risk management across all programmes, operations and advocacy.
- Introduce initiatives that increase community climate resilience, such as drought-tolerant crops and diversified livelihoods.
- Share information with external partners and stakeholders on climate-related risks, goals and resilience.
- Plant trees and support tree care activities and environmental conservation campaigns.

# EVOLVING CRISES AND DISASTERS

Funding requirement in Swiss francs

**230,000**

People to be reached

**51,800**



The IFRC will continue to reduce risks, prepare for and respond quickly to Ghana's frequent disasters. The country is vulnerable to many hazards, including droughts, wildfires and epidemics.

Flooding frequently occurs during the rainy season, which usually falls between June to September. It affects the Northern, Central, Eastern, Western, Upper East and Upper West regions, along with Volta, Ashanti, Greater Accra and Brong Ahafo. The most flood-prone areas tend to be along riverbanks, beaches and dams, although some urban areas are also affected by poor drainage and other factors. Recent trends suggest that climate change may be extending the rainy season into November and causing more flooding.

Ghana is dependent on food imports, exposing it to armyworm and other invasive pest infestations. This results in smaller harvests and increased pesticide costs, making it difficult for farmers to sustain their livelihoods and support their families. Earthquakes are also common in Ghana, most prominently in the Eastern and Central regions.

## ● TARGETS

- Train 33 National Disaster Response Teams (15 staff and 18 volunteers).
- Develop 10 regional and 1 national multi-hazard contingency plans.



**100,000**

people per year are affected by natural and man-made disasters

## ➔ SUPPORT

- Develop community early warning systems to reduce the risk of disasters.
- Develop contingency plans based on risk mapping, capacities assessments and climate information.
- Develop mechanisms for the timely distribution of cash and vouchers to vulnerable families in urban settings.
- Collaborate with partners and stakeholders, and participate in national, regional and district emergency response platforms.

# GROWING GAPS IN HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Funding requirement in Swiss francs  
**690,000**

People to be reached  
**238,800**



The people in Ghana are vulnerable to disease, particularly cholera, malaria, diarrhoea and pneumonia. Disease is particularly rife in overcrowded urban communities, where there is a lack of clean water and sanitation coupled with the inadequate collection of wastewater and septic sludge.

There is a lack of preparedness in Ghana to deal with public health emergencies, mainly because there is no national mechanism for preventing and controlling communicable diseases. Other factors such as under-qualified staff, delayed reporting, low quality protective equipment, mistrust in the health profession and cultural beliefs can make matters worse. Non-communicable diseases are also becoming more common in Ghana, for example, cancer, diabetes and cardiovascular disease.

The IFRC is focused on ensuring that all people have safe and equitable access to health care, water, sanitation and hygiene in emergency and non-emergency settings. It plans to scale up its community-based Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) programmes in 2022, reaching 450,000 people across the country.

In the response to COVID-19, Emergency Operation Centres (EoC) at national, regional and district levels were activated. The Ghana Red Cross Society sits in the EoC as well as the surveillance and risk communication thematic pillars at all levels where the country response strategy is decided. The National Society has contributed to social mobilization and the promotion of prevention. Over 10 million people were reached with COVID-19 key messages through community engagement and social mobilization activities as at end of May 2021. The COVID-19 operations in Ghana have helped the NS build staff and volunteers' capacity in Epidemic Preparedness and Control and a better image and strong network with Partners.

## TARGETS

- 64,000 people have sustainable access to WASH services.
- 40,000 people reached through community health messages on Cerebrospinal Meningitis (CSM), Yellow fever, malaria, maternal and child health.
- 40 mothers clubs trained to support in dissemination of health messages on Cerebrospinal Meningitis, Yellow fever.



**29,000**  
cases of Cholera and  
250 deaths in the last  
outbreak in 2014



**25%**  
of deaths in children  
under 5 are caused  
by diarrhoea and  
pneumonia

## SUPPORT

- Increase access to WASH services and improve knowledge of wastewater treatment within communities.
- Integrate climate change considerations into health-related programmes. For example, water-borne diseases occur with flooding, which is associated with climate change.
- Assess First Aid needs and increase the capacity to train trainers.
- Partner with the Ghana Blood Transfusion service while being mindful of how COVID-19 relates to blood safety.
- Train members of the Mother Club on safe motherhood, and support mothers to grow nutritional supplements during dry season gardening.
- Contribute to COVID-19 national vaccine intake through awareness and demand creation.



# MIGRATION AND IDENTITY

Funding requirement in Swiss francs

**175,000**

People to be reached

**14,400**



Although emigration has been increasing faster than immigration since the 1990s, Ghana continues to be an important country of destination. Most non-Ghanaian residents are nationals of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), followed by immigrants from other African countries, Europe and North America. Students make up a high proportion of arrivals. The overall immigrant population has remained relatively stable over the last two decades, but the number of asylum seekers and refugees, particularly from Liberia, has increased dramatically.

People on the move have increased vulnerabilities to abuse and health risks. Irregular migrants especially may not be aware of their rights to health, security and other basic services along the way or at their destination, and they may find themselves in dangerous situations. The IFRC will offer humanitarian assistance and protection to all migrants and displaced persons along migratory routes and appropriate solutions to their specific needs.

More than two-thirds of people migrating from Ghana stay within West Africa, although a growing proportion is leaving the region. The two most important destinations for emigrants are the USA and the UK.

## 🎯 TARGETS

- Conduct 4 border community needs assessment of migration.
- Establish 4 humanitarian service points.
- 14,400 migrants reached with awareness about negative impact of irregular migration.



**70%**

of migrants from Ghana stay in West Africa

## ➡ SUPPORT

- Raise awareness about the negative impacts of irregular migration, and provide information to intending migrants about legal pathways.
- Establish humanitarian service points in border communities.



**77.3%**

of the refugee population are immigrants from Liberia

# VALUES, POWER AND INCLUSION

Funding requirement in Swiss francs  
**20,000**

People to be reached  
**21,580**



Ghana has experienced economic growth over the last few decades, and overall, poverty has decreased. However, it is becoming an increasingly unequal society, where the benefits of economic success are not distributed evenly. Some electoral democracy exists, but there are still issues with the transparent and harmonious conduct of elections locally and nationally. There are also serious concerns about the judicial system and the equitable application of the law.

The IFRC intends to make a positive contribution to communities by understanding and applying humanitarian values, focusing primarily on young people's knowledge, skills, and behaviour. It will support people at risk or survivors of exploitation, particularly women, children, minority groups and people living with a disability, including cases of gender-based sexual violence and trafficking in persons.

## TARGETS

- 50 school links reached with humanitarian education programme including humanitarian principles.
- 50 disaster risk adaptation sessions organized with IFRC technical support.
- 30 Staff and Governance members trained to mainstream PGI in NS Programmes (Disaster, Health and Youth activities).

## SUPPORT

- The IFRC will develop a humanitarian education programme for young people in Ghana.
- The IFRC plans to integrate the Minimum Standards for Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI) into its programmes and operations.
- The IFRC will support access to education for all boys and girls affected by disaster, crisis or displacement.



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## ENABLER 1 – ENGAGED

Funding requirement in Swiss francs

**136,500**

The world is changing fast. The IFRC must keep pace if it is to be respected as a neutral, impartial humanitarian organization supporting the needs of vulnerable people and communities. It must modernize, innovate and embrace digital technologies to achieve its strategic objectives. It must operate more efficiently and effectively as a responsive and coordinated network. The IFRC will increase its visibility and public trust through communications and public advocacy. It will strengthen its auxiliary role with local and national partners and work better as a coordinated network and with other organizations.

### **TARGETS**

- Develop NS ICT policy to guide staff on usage of office system.
- Train 30 staff on office suite packages.
- Procure Microsoft licenses and 10 laptops for staff.

### **SUPPORT**

- Identify strategies to address gender and diversity issue.
- Involve women and marginalized groups in all programmes and initiatives, and advocate for diversity in the workplace.
- Continue the digital transformation of systems and data management.
- Train volunteers and staff in digital skills and systems.
- Public behaviour and policy change at the domestic, regional and global levels.



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## ENABLER 2 – ACCOUNTABLE

Funding requirement in Swiss francs

**16,000**

This enabler focuses on a management and organizational approach that will see the IFRC functioning as one global organization. The IFRC plans to eliminate unnecessary bureaucracy and duplication within systems to function more efficiently and with greater accountability.

The IFRC will ensure that it has integrated processes and accessible web-based systems to deliver what it promises to National Societies, volunteers, and communities. It will create the right conditions for increasing financial resources through a newly developed financial architecture to reach more people in need. It will develop the talents of its staff and manage its financial resources more effectively.

### 🎯 TARGETS

- Train 20 staff and governance members on accounting management systems.
- Train 30 people on risk management.
- Develop risk register for the National Society.

### 🔄 SUPPORT

- The IFRC will organize and disseminate organizational risk management strategies and tools.
- The IFRC will conduct training on the process of reporting misconduct, abuse and harassment.
- The IFRC will install a new financing architecture to increase financial resources.



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## ENABLER 3 – TRUSTED

Funding requirement in Swiss francs

**27,000**

The IFRC will position itself as a principled and trusted network, owned and supported by its membership. It strives for mutual respect and cooperation within the Movement and with external partners. To achieve these aims, the IFRC will make a substantial effort to listen and respond to the needs of its members.

The IFRC recognizes that effective management and leadership on developmental and humanitarian issues are essential for building trust nationally and locally. It intends to increase the involvement of young people and volunteers while fostering gender equality and inclusion. It will also empower the people and communities affected by crises to influence the decisions being made about their lives and livelihoods. To guard against reputational risk, The IFRC will adopt guidelines, tools and mechanisms on issues such as fraud, corruption and child safeguarding.

### TARGETS

- Train 7 governance members on CEA and CVA programming.
- Pilot a feedback system using toll free numbers.
- Engage governance members and parliament to review National Society Act.
- Training on gender diversity.

### SUPPORT

- Map, report and prevent fraud and corruption in its programmes and activities.
- Foster diversity in terms of age, gender and disability in its leadership, volunteers and staff.
- Strengthen its community feedback and accountability systems.



**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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