



TÜRKIYE

2023 IFRC network country plan

Funding Requirement **CHF 237M**

Appeal number **MAATR002**

In support of the Turkish Red Crescent Society



264

National Society branches



11,100

National Society staff



200,000

National Society volunteers

People to be reached



3.4M

Disasters and crises



105,000

Health and wellbeing



236,000

Migration and displacement

IFRC network multiyear focus

Longer term needs

- protracted population movement crisis

Capacity development

- humanitarian diplomacy
 - communications
 - digitalization
- human resource development

Key country data

Population **85M**

INFORM severity rating **high**

Climate ND-GAIN Index rank **85**

Human Development Index rank **54**

Population below poverty level **15%**

Hazards



Migration



Earthquakes



Landslides



Floods



Wild fires



Climate change

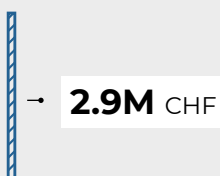
Funding requirements

Total 237M CHF

Through the IFRC



Through Participating National Societies



IFRC Breakdown

216.1M CHF

Disasters and crises

1.2M CHF

Health and wellbeing

10.9M CHF

Migration and displacement

740,000 CHF

Values, power and inclusion

5.2M CHF

Enabling local actors

Participating National Societies

American Red Cross

British Red Cross

German Red Cross

Netherlands Red Cross

Norwegian Red Cross

Spanish Red Cross



NATIONAL SOCIETY PROFILE

The Turkish Red Crescent Society, established in 1868, is the largest humanitarian organization in the country. As an auxiliary to the public authorities, the National Society provides aid for vulnerable people in need during disasters and non-emergency contexts. It uses its extensive in-country assets, human resources, and government and civil society relations for the effective and efficient implementation of activities across all sectors. This includes disaster management as well as social, migration and blood services.

The Turkish Red Crescent Society's vision is to serve as a model in humanitarian aid services in Türkiye and around the world, and to stand by people in their most challenging times. Prepared with the contributions of all stakeholders, [the Turkish Red Crescent's strategic plan for 2021–2030](#) comprises a total of 11 goals to reinforce social resilience and develop strong governance and institutional trust. With a mandate to support the public authorities in humanitarian services, the National Society strives towards eliminating hunger and poverty

in society, helping migrants and promoting healthy ageing, meeting blood needs sufficiently, developing resilience against natural hazards and human-made disasters, and creating a more viable environment with better access to education. In its objective of enhancing strong governance and institutional trust, the Turkish Red Crescent aims to promote a network of transparency in financial management, supported by technology, efficiency and accountability. It also seeks to improve stakeholder relations and financial sustainability.

As part of its migration response, the Turkish Red Crescent has built a strong capacity which it commits to share with other stakeholders to reach more communities in need. This focuses on cash (the Kizilaykart Platform) and social services – including multi-sector needs such as health, protection and livelihoods through a nationwide network of community centres. It also emphasizes planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting, together with community engagement and accountability approaches.

IFRC NETWORK ACTION IN 2023

Joint situational analysis

With a population of more than 80 million, Türkiye is an upper middle-income country, currently hosting about four million registered refugees out of a total of 5.5 million foreign residents. Of these, 92 per cent are Syrians under temporary protection, and 1.5 million receive assistance through the Emergency Social Safety Net (ESSN).

More than 98 per cent of Syrian refugees have settled in different towns and cities in Türkiye, living side by side with the host communities, mainly of their own accord. These Syrians include three-quarters of a million stateless children who have been born in Türkiye since their families migrated. The remaining 300,000 registered refugees are mostly under international protection and come from other countries, including Iraq, Ukraine, Afghanistan, Iran and Somalia. Additionally, many unregistered migrants are present in Türkiye, and their numbers can only be estimated based on deportations and arrests. In the last year, there has been a sharp increase in the deportation rate of irregular migrants – about 60,000 migrants, mainly from Afghanistan, were deported in 2022.

Türkiye has been experiencing an economic crisis for the past years, and it has worsened significantly since the COVID-19 pandemic, and the conflict in Ukraine. Inflation had reached nearly 80 per cent by June 2022, compared with the previous year, while the overall poverty rate rose to 12.1 per cent over the summer. The pandemic aggravated those indicators, increasing vulnerabilities and barriers to access of basic needs during the shutdowns and caseload peaks. Higher domestic food prices, lower incomes and increasing unemployment rates have had a significant impact on overall food security and access to healthy food.

Türkiye is also highly vulnerable to natural hazards such as earthquakes, landslides, floods and forest fires. More than 95 per cent of the country lies in some of the most active earthquake and landslide regions in the world. Climate change is expected to contribute to an increase in average temperature, which will negatively affect water and soil resources that are crucial for food production. Climate change has manifested itself in Türkiye in the form of forest fires, drought, desertification and ecological degradation. High temperatures across 54 different provinces in Türkiye caused severe wildfires in July and August 2021, and future summers

may follow a similar pattern. These problems are likely to cause further distress to Türkiye's entire population,

and have a particularly negative impact on the vulnerability of migrants living in the country.

Strategic priorities

Climate and environment

Climate change studies in Türkiye report that there is likely to be a decrease in rainfall, a rise in extreme weather events and average temperature increases of 1.5–4°C degrees by 2070. According to Türkiye's National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy and Action Plan, temperature increases could be reaching up to 5°C in inner regions and up to 4°C in the Aegean and Eastern Anatolia. Such factors will contribute to a more arid climate with a higher propensity for weather-related disasters. These changes are not evenly distributed across the country. Higher temperatures are predicted for the west and southwest, with less rainfall in regions with a Mediterranean climate and more rainfall and flooding along the Black Sea coast. The most extreme effects of climate change are predicted, and already observed, to be along the western coastline where much of the population lives. This area is projected to have less water and more wildfire outbreaks similar to those that took place during the summer of 2021. All of this is likely to have a significant effect on water availability, including in the Turkish agricultural system. These impacts will further distress the Turkish population, especially vulnerable groups such as migrants. Pollution, deforestation and environmental degradation are also areas for concern, as evidenced by the 2021 Marmara Sea mucilage bloom event.

Main actions and areas of support

The Turkish Red Crescent has defined a set of multi-year objectives together with the IFRC and network partners to tackle climate change and environmental challenges in Türkiye. The objectives cover ambitious institutional and programmatic developments, in line with the urgency of the climate and environmental crisis. It will be undertaken with the support of and in cooperation with the IFRC, the American Red Cross through the Global Disaster Preparedness Centre, the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre, and the Norwegian Red Cross.

Multi-year objective: The capacity of Turkish Red Crescent staff and volunteers is enhanced in relation to developing and implementing community-driven climate change adaptation and environmental protection

projects. The National Society has identified as its mandate the organizational structure to tackle climate change challenges in Türkiye.

Activities for 2023 include:

- Deliver virtual climate change-related training
- Conduct joint research to understand the risks and impacts of climate change in Türkiye, particularly from extreme heat
- Identify the climate policy landscape in Türkiye, the potential role that the National Society can play, and key areas of focus in climate and environment-related response
- Explore and research sample case studies from other countries to understand how different National Societies position themselves in their overall climate response
- Support the mandate of the Turkish Red Crescent's climate response as determined by its strategic investments, such as hiring an expert and creating a cross-cutting department

Multi-year objective: Turkish Red Crescent and IFRC staff and volunteers will apply procedures in their day-to-day work to conform to environmental protection requirements.

Activities for 2023 include:

- Developing an implementation plan with procedures to ensure the application of protective measures, such as responsible water and energy usage, alternative energy sources, waste separation, recycling of materials, and reducing the consumption of products with high carbon emissions
- Increasing responsible consumption, including travelling and procurement

Multi-year objective: The Turkish Red Crescent will mainstream environmental protection as an integral part of project and programme implementation, particularly in socio-economic empowerment and community resilience programming.

Activities for 2023 include:

- Increase Turkish Red Crescent capacity to develop new proposals aimed at increasing the resilience of communities to climate change
- Strengthen existing livelihood interventions and expand their scope into developing an integrated socio-economic programme with integral climate change actions
- Support available concept notes or proposals concerning the impact of climate change on health, for example heatwaves, fires, floods and drought, or potential malnutrition as a result of food insecurity with a community-oriented focus
- Set up an Istanbul Logistics Hub at Istanbul Airport, which could specialize in greener solutions for disaster response and humanitarian work

Multi-year objective: The National Society will raise awareness at the community level with the help of branches and community centres.

Activities for 2023 include:

- Inform local institutions and government bodies, such as municipalities, agriculture and forest departments, about the Turkish Red Crescent's approach to climate change
- Explore partnerships to support environmental protection, including waste management, community plantation and reforestation, conservation of natural resources, and disaster risk reduction mitigation activities by addressing climate change and environmental crisis issues with mitigation measures
- Ecological awareness-raising training at the community level, for example vocational training of participants to reduce, reuse and recycle the materials used during the training

Disasters and crises

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

Given its environmental and geographic position, Türkiye has long experienced many disaster and migration events. The earthquake potential is high, as are wildfires in the Mediterranean region, which experienced its most active season in 2021. Flooding is also a risk along the Black Sea coast, while the southern border regions face potential militant and cross-border conflict issues. Türkiye hosts one of the world's largest

refugee populations, and this has affected its economy, culture and political situation on a national and international basis. Regional events are causing prolonged migration into Türkiye, such as the recent large influxes of people from Afghanistan and Ukraine, adding further stress to an already-overburdened system.

While the escalation of the conflict in Ukraine has been ongoing since 24 February 2022, more than 11 million people have fled to neighbouring countries such as Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Moldova and Hungary. Türkiye has also been accepting Ukrainian refugees. According to UNHCR data, 145,000 people have fled from Ukraine to Türkiye since the Russian invasion began, and this number is expected to increase daily as a result of the ongoing conflict. The Turkish Government has allowed Ukrainians to enter the country and has provided shelter in dormitories in the provinces of Bursa, Tekirdag, Kirklareli, Edirne and Eskişehir, as well as in a temporary accommodation centre in Elazığ Province. In collaboration with the World Food Programme, the Turkish Red Crescent has provided cash support to more than 1,500 Ukrainians sheltered in the Elazığ accommodation centre.

Türkiye's most significant challenge is the evolving economic crisis, which was exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. High inflation has led to increased poverty and unemployment, which has had an intense impact on vulnerable groups and triggered social tension within refugee communities.

Main actions and areas of support

The National Society will continue to invest in its capacity to respond qualitatively to varying disasters affecting Türkiye. Activities are defined for 2023 under each multi-year objective:

Multi-year objective: The Turkish Red Crescent, with IFRC support, provides continued cash support to the most vulnerable refugees covering basic needs through the provision of monthly cash transfers:

- Provide monthly cash transfers and regular and other specific top-ups, based on emerging needs, to more than 1.5 million refugees in Türkiye under the Emergency Social Safety Net (ESSN) programme
- Establish, maintain and enhance the ESSN management structures and integrate coordination within existing operational and technical coordination structures

Multi-year objective: Implement the plan of action, developed following the Preparedness for Effective

Response (PER) practical experience requirements assessment, highlighting priority areas for capacity strengthening:

- With additional support from the German Red Cross, support preparedness efforts of branches in Türkiye, regarding the identification of protection and other hazard risks and how to react to sudden shocks in localized contexts

Multi-year objective: There is a robust legal framework around the auxiliary role of the National Society in disaster management, with support from the IFRC:

- Use humanitarian diplomacy in communicating with authorities on the legal framework of the Turkish Red Crescent's auxiliary role

Multi-year objective: The IFRC supports the Turkish Red Crescent to receive continued support in the case of a disaster requiring international cooperation through the Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF), or a full-blown Emergency Appeal, depending on the nature of the disaster and the scale of needs.

Health and wellbeing

Despite the deaths of 100,000 people in Türkiye during the COVID-19 pandemic, its impact and threat to Türkiye have decreased in the last year. The virus has abated worldwide and weakened in impact, and Türkiye's vaccination rate climbed to 63 per cent by summer 2022. Nevertheless, new variants of the virus still pose a threat. The country's public health services remain strained by the large number of migrants. Due to language and cultural barriers, most lack access to quality preventive and curative health services. Vulnerability and poverty have also had a negative effect on Syrian refugees in Türkiye. Many in less stable situations have been seeking health care more frequently, reporting higher rates of obesity, heart disease and other long-term ailments. Mental illness is especially acute in the Syrian and Turkish populations, and is closely linked to economic stress and post-conflict trauma. However, despite these problems, refugees have reported that their health has improved over time, with 65 per cent said to be in good health by 2020.

Main actions and areas of support

Multi-year objective: The IFRC will support the Turkish Red Crescent in developing a sustained health capacity and strengthened community-based approach, including mental health and health interventions within community centres:

- Extend mental health and psychosocial support services to people affected by the ongoing crises in Afghanistan and Ukraine at five community centres – including capacity-strengthening of available staff, individual and group counselling, education and referral services

National Society actions planned with additional support from the German Red Cross will:

- Maintain essential mental health and psychosocial support services through psychiatrists, psychologists and child development specialists at 12 mental health units. These stress a community-oriented focus, as well as prevention-related activities and the sustainability of actions, to ensure mental health and psychological support will remain operational beyond funding support
- Provide technical support and improve essential mental health and psychosocial support activities in community-based migration programmes
- Strengthen mutual referral mechanisms between the migrant health facilities run by the Turkish Ministry of Health, other stakeholders with mental health and psychosocial support services, and the Turkish Red Crescent's other refugee services

National Society actions planned with additional support from the Norwegian Red Cross will:

- Maintain community health care provision at five community centres focusing on maternal and child health care services, immunization, referrals to primary health care, health awareness and education sessions, and outreach activities – together with a protection component where the Turkish Red Crescent responds to violence issues with a focus on health
- Include and engage communities through health committees during health care service provision
- Use a special needs fund to facilitate Syrian refugees' access to health and hygiene-related materials that are not offered to them in free health care programmes, such as hearing aids and eye care
- Strengthen health capacity elements, including community-based health and first aid, volunteering, staff capacity building (in both migration and public health departments) and networking with stakeholders, such as the Ministry of Health, NGOs and other local health actors, to improve referral mechanisms



Multi-year objective: With support from the IFRC and the Directorate of Public Health and Psychosocial Support, the Turkish Red Crescent raises awareness at the community level through enhanced community-based health and first aid capacity. It can ensure a coherent response for a sustainable recovery from COVID-19, and reduce the spread of infectious diseases:

- Train people to train key National Society staff in community-based health and first aid, including branch volunteers, based on training previously provided by the IFRC
- Increase public health awareness regarding maternal and childcare, communicable and non-communicable diseases, mental health and psychosocial support in first aid, water sanitation, disaster health preparedness, oral and dental health, as well as care for the elderly and people living with disabilities
- Institutionalize community-based health and first aid training under the ongoing public health training hub
- Organize community-based health and first aid programmes in all provinces for community health-strengthening activities and events

Multi-year objective: The Turkish Red Crescent has an improved and standardized health emergency response unit (ERU) to respond to emergency health crises, with support from the IFRC:

- Provide practical health ERU training together with field exercises, including necessary equipment and materials, to the health roster on an annual basis
- Provide training to ERU staff and volunteers in the areas of essential health care services and referral systems through the ongoing public health training hub

- Provide software services for ERU roster management as part of a rapid personnel deployment system
- Run workshops for ERU core team members to develop standard operating procedures
- Ensure participation of roster members in international health ERU working group meetings and special training programmes in other countries, online and through universities
- Networking within the IFRC to ensure support for the National Society on improving its health ERU capacity
- Institutionalization of ERU capacity-building efforts and practices

Multi-year objective: The Turkish Red Crescent provides complementary water, sanitation and hygiene to protect the social well-being and dignity of refugees from Afghanistan and Ukraine, and vulnerable host communities, with support from the IFRC:

- Distribute hygiene kits to Afghan and Ukrainian refugees, as well as vulnerable host communities, following the field needs assessments conducted through Turkish Red Crescent community centres and outreach activities

Migration and displacement

Multiple regional factors have caused prolonged migration into Türkiye, placing further stress on an already-overburdened system. Türkiye hosts nearly four million refugees, primarily from Syria but also from Afghanistan, Iraq, Somalia and now Ukraine. Refugee groups face significant challenges regarding social cohesion and inclusion within the host community. Rising anti-migrant sentiment threatens the relative harmony that existed during the first few years of the Syrian crisis.

The ongoing economic crisis and pandemic-era disruptions have negatively affected migrant livelihoods and the quality of life, and poverty has risen along with the cost of living. Most migrants report limited job opportunities, and an estimated one to two million Syrians are associated in some way with the informal labour market.

Since 2020, access to essential services seems to be deteriorating slightly, particularly for refugees. Families struggle to cover basic expenses such as food, housing and energy, and negative coping strategies remain prevalent. Many families buy food on credit, borrow money, and cut down on education and health costs to cover their most basic needs. The quality of food has declined, resulting in a deterioration of not only physical but mental health.

The Turkish Red Crescent is part of the IFRC's three-year [Global Route-Based Migration Programme](#). It aims to improve the safety and dignity of people along dangerous land and sea-based migration routes across Africa, the Americas, Europe, the Middle East and North Africa. Annually, the programme aims to support 4.7 million people on the move and in host communities 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.

Main actions and areas of support

Multi-year objective: The IFRC will support the Turkish Red Crescent in strengthening its protection and outreach capacity:

- Manage the protection referral mechanism within the Emergency Social Safety Net (ESSN) programme
- Strengthen linkages between the ESSN programme and governmental and non-governmental authorities, through community centres, to enhance tracking of the protection referrals
- Conduct advocacy activities targeting local and central authorities, to remove barriers during the application process to secure dignity and safe access to impartial assistance
- Provide information on individual rights, ESSN procedures and updates to maximize and facilitate meaningful access to services during application at service centres and through sensitization activities
- Transfer and adopt international standards related to protection

Multi-year objective: The Turkish Red Crescent, with support from the IFRC, works towards the sustained economic inclusion of refugees and vulnerable host populations through socio-economically empowered and resilient communities:

- Support a nexus approach to transition from humanitarian assistance to developmental programming collaboratively, through coordination, complementarity and coherence among ongoing humanitarian programmes
- Enhance livelihood referral pathways that facilitate the profiling of ESSN recipients and matching suitable livelihoods opportunities through a harmonized referral and tracking mechanism
- Conduct advocacy and sensitization activities with local authorities and sectoral actors to disseminate information on livelihood referral mechanisms
- Conduct labour market analysis, both supply and demand, and sector identification to support profiling and selection of target groups
- Make need-based interventions, such as Turkish language training, vocational training and on-the-job and soft skills training
- Provide access to employment opportunities through promotion and job placement services
- Engage with the private sector, through panels and workshops, to promote employability, and collaborate with cooperatives, small and medium-sized enterprises and other community-based organizations
- Provide work permit application consultancy, coverage for work permit fees and incentives for employers
- Create employment opportunities through entrepreneurship development and market linkages
- Enhance agriculture sector growth through an increase in productivity and adaptation to new technologies
- Support registration of seasonal informal agriculture workers through an authorization granted by the Directorate-General for International Labour Force across community centres
- Coordinate with state and non-state actors through evidence-based advocacy initiatives, collaborative actions and community-level dialogues – raising the concerns of refugees about socio-economic opportunities, formalization of informal jobs and access to work permits

- Coordinate with the interagency livelihoods working group and the transition task team
- Disseminate the findings of a technical study on strengthening livelihood pathways among the refugee population

Values, power and inclusion

The relationship between migrants and host communities in Türkiye has deteriorated rapidly since 2020. This has affected refugees' access to essential services, social cohesion, refugee mobility and other vital aspects of migrant life. This deterioration is exacerbated by the economic crisis, the media and political rhetoric. According to the Syrian Barometer and other surveys, migrants have retained a positive attitude towards Turkish people, with 95 per cent of Syrians wanting to be friends with them. In contrast, only 37 per cent of people in host communities feel the same. The Turkish Government encourages the voluntary return of refugees, while the rhetoric of opposition parties on refugees has intensified in the past year and is likely to escalate further.

Main actions and areas of support

Multi-year objective: The IFRC will support the Turkish Red Crescent in incorporating protection, gender and inclusion in all its programmes, operations and services:

- Adapt and translate minimum standards for protection, gender and inclusion in emergencies and programmes across Türkiye
- Monitor the collection and evaluation of sex, age, and disability disaggregated data
- Strengthen programmes for children at risk through lessons learned and the development of educational tools
- Collect case studies to capture lessons learned and good protection, gender and inclusion practice in ESSN procedures

Multi-year objective: The Turkish Red Crescent will focus on localization, to improve its targeting system to address needs and vulnerabilities on the ground. This includes host communities alongside migrants. The National Society's focus is changing from disaster management to social services and resilience, as it repositions its auxiliary role to an evidence-based approach, with support from the IFRC:

- Detailed desk and field research to identify target criteria and develop an up-to-date digital system for different aspects of vulnerabilities, such as protection needs, access to school, the empowerment of women, and socio-economic, cultural and climate impacts. It will also consider finance, a 'do no harm' policy, and funding-related restrictions when targeting different groups
- Partner with a university or other expert institution to develop a barometer or observatory to define and monitor needs and vulnerabilities
- Engage the Kizilay Academy to regularly publish vulnerability studies, which can then inform programming around social services, climate and other areas

Multi-year objective: The IFRC will potentially support the Turkish Red Crescent as it works towards increased social cohesion among refugee and host communities:

- Develop a grassroots strategy to influence public opinion about social cohesion, through the dissemination of critical messages to host communities and high-level decision-makers
- Collaborate with local municipalities to identify ongoing social cohesion initiatives, and jointly discover more options for promoting it

Multi-year objective: With potential support from the British Red Cross, increase awareness among National Society staff and volunteers in human trafficking and sexual and gender-based violence:

- Provide peer learning and capacity exchange
- Develop training materials on preventing human trafficking and sexual and gender-based violence

Enabling local actors

The Turkish Red Crescent Society is committed to strengthening itself as an institution. It carried out a self-assessment as part of the Organizational Capacity Assessment and Certification (OCAC) process in 2019. This self-assessment is intended to capture the strengths and weaknesses of National Societies in relation to a wide range of organizational capacities. The Turkish Red Crescent is also committed to the Preparedness for Effective response (PER) process, and is at the work plan phase. The PER approach is a continuous and flexible process that enables National Societies to assess, measure and analyze the strengths and gaps of their preparedness and response mechanisms, and ultimately take necessary action to improve them.

Engaged

The Turkish Red Crescent aims to strengthen exchange of skills and knowledge with the IFRC network. The IFRC will support it in building a strong network and developing further partnerships with other humanitarian organizations and private entities, to promote and enhance both innovation and development.

The IFRC will support the National Society through humanitarian diplomacy and communication, especially on critical migration issues. The IFRC will implement a strong visibility campaign to influence public perception of refugees and forced displacement to raise awareness of the vulnerability of communities and humanitarian needs.

The Turkish Red Crescent is running large projects in Türkiye, and the IFRC will support it in collecting and processing the data of vulnerable populations. It will also promote the National Society's efforts on the digitalization of humanitarian services and systems, along with developing innovative mechanisms to cover more extensive related needs.

Main actions

Multi-year objective: The Turkish Red Crescent ensures engagement with partners through the effective use of humanitarian diplomacy, with support from the IFRC:

- Maintain regular communication and engagement with government ministries, humanitarian and development actors in Türkiye, and Movement and other partners
- Develop an external humanitarian diplomacy action plan

Multi-year objective: The IFRC will support the Turkish Red Crescent with its joint communications strategy to address critical migration issues:

- Implement the Above Standard Visibility campaign, to influence the EU and the public perception of refugees and forced displacement into or from Türkiye
- Raise awareness about the humanitarian and protection needs of refugees, and the impact of ESSN
- Position, influence and advocate for the Turkish Red Crescent and the IFRC network in Türkiye and around the world, by engaging with the press and social media, managing potential crisis communication issues, aligning on national, regional and global campaigns and other key events

Multi-year objective: The IFRC will support the Turkish Red Crescent in setting up a digital system for its volunteering network:

- Digitalize the volunteering network, including individualized assignments, e-learning activities, instant and mutual duty feedback mechanisms, online certification and evaluation, a social media platform for National Society volunteers, automatized health and travel insurance, safety monitoring and a shared duty management function

Multi-year objective: The Turkish Red Crescent can collect and innovatively present data and information, with support from the IFRC:

- Generate automated and online reports and dashboards as well as information products through visualization and mapping, to be shared publicly through the IFRC global data platform for operations and other public platforms, such as the Kızılaykart website, ReliefWeb and CashHub
- Support internal and external audiences with their information needs about the refugee context in Türkiye, while providing easy access to reliable secondary data. This should use a central, safe and secure 'collect data anywhere' platform to compile survey data, and an intelligent web-based data entry and exploration platform offering a collection of collaborative tools tailored towards humanitarian crisis responses. These include a customizable analysis framework to catalogue information contained in large amounts of documents and export it to a variety of formats.

- Gather all relevant stakeholders and targeted people in a single platform through a digital community centre modality. This can provide up-to-date information on ongoing and planned projects and activities where people can sign in and apply for the same job. This will help to establish a concrete referral system, including but not limited to job placements, and share and coordinate information.

Accountable

The IFRC's investment in human resources as part of large-scale humanitarian operations is ongoing, with many international and national staff in Türkiye. The IFRC will manage its expertise with a migration, displacement, disaster and community resilience background. The IFRC also supports the Turkish Red Crescent in ensuring financial sustainability by contributing to the effective and efficient use of financial resources and accountability for prudent stewardship of funds and safeguarding assets.

The IFRC will cooperate with the Turkish Red Crescent on quality assurance and effective risk management mechanisms, resulting in a functioning accountability framework, including with regular internal audits and financial spot checks. The IFRC is also working closely with the National Society to reinforce its protection from social exploitation and abuse policies. To ensure proper accountability, there will be proper complaint and feedback mechanisms and community engagement.

The IFRC recognizes the Turkish Red Crescent's need to have sustainable financial and operational activities. It therefore supports the National Society with resource mobilization for emergencies and long-term programming. The IFRC plays a significant role in identifying gaps within the Turkish Red Crescent and defining humanitarian priorities.

Main actions

Multi-year objective: The IFRC invests in its human resources with a focus on creating opportunities:

- Develop a staff retention strategy, including severance calculation and employability-focused training
- Develop a human resources exit strategy, targeting potential employers
- Anticipate a post-ESSN organizational set-up
- Pursue a human resources development package for national and international staff

Multi-year objective: The IFRC ensures sound financial management that contributes to the effective and efficient use of financial resources and accountability for prudent stewardship of funds and safeguarding assets:

- Provide pertinent, reliable and timely financial and related non-financial information and reports to all stakeholders to inform them on the use and management of funds
- Ensure that effective and efficient internal control systems are in place and controls are proportionate to the risks they aim to mitigate, while supporting innovation

Multi-year objective: As part of IFRC risk management and quality assurance, an audit, assurance and accountability framework is in place, and comprises of follow-up on findings of independent internal audit, quarterly financial spot checks, quarterly household verifications, risk management activities, and fraud and protection against sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA), which are underpinned by complaints and feedback mechanisms:

- Ensure comprehensive internal monitoring and accountability
- Conduct independent internal audit activities to assess the accountability of the ESSN programme and develop recommendations for enhancements
- Facilitate workshops on the risk of fraud and protection from sexual exploitation and abuse
- Regularly update the assurance map for the ESSN programme
- Conduct reviews related to IT assurance, ECHO compliance, complaints management, the ESSN transition plan, protection mainstreaming and sexual employment abuse risk management
- Conduct quarterly financial spot checks with third-party service providers for the ESSN programme
- Conduct bi-monthly household verifications with third-party service providers for the ESSN programme
- Oversee data spot checks in coordination with information management and finance units

Multi-year objective: The IFRC ensures accountability to service users, donors, partners and other stakeholders through transparent allocation and understanding of roles and responsibilities:

- Ensure timely and accurate reporting of financial and implementation progress for each donor, and for stakeholder requirements on all programmes and projects

Multi-year objective: The IFRC ensures effective resource mobilization for emergencies and long-term programming in Türkiye:

- Continue to provide support in the case of a disaster requiring international cooperation through the DREF or a full-blown Emergency Appeal, depending on the nature of the disaster and the scale of needs
- Ensure a unified planning process in Türkiye to include all Movement partners providing in-country support, and help fundraise with potential donors in line with National Society priorities

Trusted

The Turkish Red Crescent implements large cash and community-based programmes in Türkiye, in the context of migration influx. The IFRC supports the National Society in institutionalizing such services, along with socio-economic empowerment, community centres, and activities in the areas of protection, gender and inclusion, child protection, human trafficking, and sexual and gender-based violence. Its planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting will be done in close cooperation with other National Societies including the American Red Cross, British Red Cross and German Red Cross.

Multi-year objective: The IFRC is supporting the Turkish Red Crescent with its development:

- Further strengthen the National Society's capacity to deliver the ESSN programme, and continue transferring its expertise and learning across other Turkish Red Crescent programmes through face-to-face, online, virtual classroom and peer-to-peer learning, training, workshops and mentoring
- Exchange and share experience and knowledge from the ESSN programme with IFRC and Movement partners, including intersecting with the National Society's Kızılaykart cash and voucher assistance, and know-how exchange programme
- Document best practice and learning from the ESSN programme, explore options for joint research on specific themes in partnership with academic institutions in Türkiye and the UK, and host learning events
- Develop specialized content in areas such as humanitarian cash and social safety nets, large-scale cash and voucher assistance programming and social protection, and disseminate this to other Movement partners through the Movement Cash Hub
- In terms of the Turkish Red Crescent contribution to the Movement cash school, the British Red Cross and Turkish Red Crescent will collaborate to strengthen the cash training hub in Türkiye, and jointly host training on cash and voucher assistance
- The British Red Cross will support the Turkish Red Crescent in ensuring its experience of cash and voucher assistance programming in Türkiye is reflected throughout the organization – for example, in its IT, finance and human resources systems – enabling it to use cash and voucher assistance across all operations (not just within the Migration Directorate). The British Red Cross will also support it in strengthening the cash and voucher assistance preparedness of other National Societies where appropriate.
- Institutionalize Turkish Red Crescent community centres to make them more sustainable. There will be a branch-driven community centre model, a more unified agreement on the role of community centres across all departments, a contextualized resilience-building framework, and stronger branch and volunteer involvement. These models will ultimately be firmly embedded in the communities they serve. The American Red Cross through the Global Disaster Preparedness Centre, the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre, the British Red Cross, the German Red Cross and the IFRC will support these activities:
 - Operational sustainable community centres in Osmaniye and Kirikkale, with 10 more to be opened in 2023
 - Fundraising for sustainable community centres through incorporating lessons learned from the pilot project
 - Transforming the experience gained into scalable models and developing tools for sustainable community centres, to be disseminated not only within the National Society but also across the Movement
 - Applying global disaster management tools developed by the Global Disaster Preparedness Centre and Climate Centre to the Türkiye country context

- Explore the possibility of funding to support preparedness efforts of National Society branches, following priority recommendations from the conducted PER assessment. This will help identify protection and other hazard risks more readily, as well as providing guidance in how to react to sudden shocks in localized contexts
- Establish stronger links with IFRC reference points, such as the Movement's Cash Hubs, and the Livelihoods Centre hosted by the Spanish Red Cross (supported by the deployment of dedicated sector-leading technical expertise)
- Ensure know-how exchange with IFRC network members in the areas of community-based health and first aid, as well as the emergency response health unit, under the National Society's public health training hub
- Strengthen the capacity of staff to mainstream protection, gender and inclusion
- Develop and roll out training materials on child protection, human trafficking, and sexual and gender-based violence
- Support the National Society's international operations department in materializing the planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting capacity-building plan prepared in 2021, and taken forward in 2022 with some training. This will include developing or adapting tools and processes in 2023.

Multi-year objective: The Turkish Red Crescent focuses on and develops its volunteer-centred approach with support from IFRC:

- Advocate for legal framework/policy, including insurance at the governmental level to protect volunteers
- Map out volunteer skills and expertise that could provide support to different National Society programmes for optimal use of the available human resources, as well as ensuring volunteer satisfaction
- Encourage volunteers to participate in the design, implementation and monitoring of the required interventions in community centres
- Support volunteers in skills and capacity building as well as focusing on the development of sustainable volunteering schemes and leadership roles across all departments and branches including:
 - Organizing a mutual experience transfer programme where the Turkish Red Crescent will visit other National Societies to learn about different volunteering structures
 - Organizing annual international youth camps in Türkiye based on themes such as climate change, with the participation of volunteers from other National Societies
- Share volunteer management models and software with Movement organizations and other parties that may be interested in extensive know-how and accumulated experience (Turkish Red Crescent, IFRC)

Multi-year objective: The Turkish Red Crescent encourages increased acceptance and trust within the population, by continued community engagement and accountability initiatives conducted through health, the ESSN and socio-economic empowerment programming, with support from IFRC:

- Use and strengthen existing complaint and feedback mechanisms to improve programme implementation
- Conduct community engagement and accountability-related assessments and surveys, to understand the relevance of the services provided, information needs and community views
- Ensure continuity of the advisory committees, consisting of refugees and local communities, to contribute to the development of good social cohesion and to share feedback or concerns on services provided by the National Society
- Conduct community meetings to ensure diverse representation – to exchange ideas and information, grant community groups real opportunities to affect plans, and promote social inclusion and cohesion
- Strengthen existing community forums to ensure member participation, by mainstreaming age, gender and diversity in all activities and decision-making processes that affect their lives
- Expand existing ESSN communication and information-sharing channels for greater community participation and involvement in line with the needs and requests of affected populations
- Ensure dissemination of relevant and timely ESSN information through Turkish Red Crescent service centres, institutional partners, group and individual interviews and meetings, monitoring and evaluation, and other outreach activities

Multi-year objective: The Turkish Red Crescent promotes new partnerships with other National Societies with support from the IFRC:

- Contribute to membership coordination through regular communication with the National Societies

that are currently supporting the Turkish Red Crescent, providing regular updates on IFRC and National Society activities in Türkiye as a means of promoting cooperation

THE IFRC NETWORK

The IFRC

The IFRC supports the Turkish Red Crescent through its Türkiye delegation in Ankara. Its international and national staff support cash transfer, migration and disaster response programming, humanitarian diplomacy and external partnerships. It also assists in finance and administration, procurement, human resources, communications, learning, capacity support and external engagement, as well as assurance and audit. The IFRC has established strong coordination among partner National Societies and with other humanitarian organizations such as the UN and INGOs. It also supports the National Society in engaging with the private sector to develop innovative solutions for humanitarian problems.

The IFRC has played a key role in supporting the Turkish Red Crescent to assist four million refugees since 2012 in temporary accommodation camps and urban settings. The National Society has provided first-line response by deploying volunteers, staff and emergency supplies, while organizing its structures and resources to receive and provide safety for people in need, primarily through its community centres. The Turkish Red Crescent has extended its humanitarian scope whenever required, with the IFRC supporting it in new programming development and strategies for humanitarian problems that might arise. The IFRC has helped the Turkish Red Crescent in addressing the essential needs of people stranded at the Türkiye-Greece border. It has also supported it with the COVID-19-related needs of refugees and host communities.

Since 2020, the Turkish Red Crescent and the IFRC have assumed joint implementation of the Emergency Social Safety Net programme, with funding from the EU, and in partnership with the Turkish Government's Ministry of Family and Social Services. The IFRC Türkiye delegation

provides technical, coordination, administrative and donor-reporting support to the Turkish Red Crescent, and it has a prominent role in coordinating partner National Societies to cover its needs. When required, the IFRC also provides specialist technical support to the National Society.












IFRC Membership coordination

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

With its capacity, the National Society is the only implementing Red Cross Red Crescent actor in Türkiye. However, it has received significant support from Red Cross Red Crescent stakeholders in its response to the 1999 earthquake, the 2011 Van earthquake, and the Syrian migration influx towards Türkiye.

To share and exchange experience on migration, climate and cash in Türkiye, the National Society works very closely with the IFRC Global Disaster Preparedness Centre, hosted by the **American Red Cross**, the Climate Centre, hosted by the **Netherlands Red Cross**, and Livelihoods Resource Centre, hosted by the **Spanish Red Cross**. This cooperation focuses mainly on exchanging knowledge.

Participating National Society Support - Bilateral

Name of Partner NS	Funding Requirements	Climate	Disasters and crises	Health and wellbeing	Migration	Values, power and inclusion	Engaged	Accountable	Trusted
American Red Cross									
British Red Cross	CHF 0.09M								
German Red Cross	CHF 2.13M								
Norwegian Red Cross	CHF 0.69M								
Spanish Red Cross									

Total

2.91M

In addition to IFRC members channeling overall support to sister National Societies through the IFRC, participating National Societies providing long-term support to the Turkish Red Crescent are the following:

British Red Cross works closely with the Turkish Red Crescent on the cash support mechanism, migration and community resilience. The British Red Cross and the Movement Cash Hub, hosted by the British Red Cross, have engaged with the Turkish Red Crescent on various activities, such as cash peer learning and institutionalization, market monitoring, and the graduation approach to livelihoods.

German Red Cross has supported the National Society since the 1999 earthquake. It continues to assist it in mental health and psychosocial support programming, targeting refugee and host communities in Türkiye. Furthermore, the German Red Cross supports community-based programming by enhancing the sustainable community centre model. It contributes to disaster preparedness through readiness support to local branches wherever necessary. It supports the

partnership from its Beirut office with regular visits to Ankara.

Norwegian Red Cross started multilateral support to the Turkish Red Crescent through the IFRC and is currently working with the National Society bilaterally to cover gaps in health. The Norwegian Red Cross supports health activities in community centres in five provinces, by enabling increased access for Syrian refugees and vulnerable host communities to equitable, gender-responsive and quality community health services. This includes a capacity-strengthening component of the Turkish Red Crescent for community-based health intervention for the most vulnerable populations. The Norwegian Red Cross has an agreement to assist the Turkish Red Crescent with community-based health programmes until 2023 – and discussions are taking place around its presence and scope after that. There are also plans to support the National Society in responding to the potential health implications of climate change. The Norwegian Red Cross has an embedded health delegate in Türkiye, working closely with the National Society.

Movement coordination

The IFRC and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) communicate regularly about their activities in Türkiye and follow up on developments in the country and sub-region. The ICRC is not present in Türkiye, but it continues to strengthen its collaboration with the

Turkish Red Crescent in restoring family links, and promoting and disseminating international humanitarian law. This is carried out in line with the Strengthening Movement Coordination and Cooperation (SMCC) principles, and the newly adopted [Seville Agreement 2.0](#).

Coordination with other actors

The Turkish Government authorities lead the overall coordination and management of humanitarian assistance for refugees. The National Society works closely with the leadership of the Turkish Disaster and Emergency Management, Migration Management, Ministry of Family and Social Services, and Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in line with its assigned mandate.

It also works with a range of other governmental bodies for its action in support of refugees and other services. This includes collaboration with the Ministry of Labour and Social Security, Ministry of Health, Ministry of National Education, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry,

provincial and local authorities, security authorities and other relevant bodies, as and when required.

With its extensive network of humanitarian partnerships, the Turkish Red Crescent cooperates with UN agencies, INGOs and private sector entities. The National Society is running a major livelihoods project with the World Bank and working with UNICEF and UNHCR on large-scale protection activities. In collaboration with the IFRC, it cooperates with global private sector organizations.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- [IFRC Global Plan and Country Plans](#)
- [Subscribe for updates](#)
- [Donor response](#) on IFRC website
- [Live Disaster Response Emergency Fund \(DREF\) data](#)
- Operational information: [IFRC GO platform](#)
- National Society data: [IFRC Federation-wide Databank and Reporting System](#)



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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