SOUTH AFRICA
IFRC COUNTRY OFFICE

Appeal number
MAA63001

Funding requirement in Swiss francs
900,000

Branches
35

Staff
400

Volunteers
6,000

People to be reached
7 million

This document details the IFRC’s support in areas agreed upon with the relevant National Society. The IFRC seeks resources to carry out this country/cluster plan listed here as funding requirements.
SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

Situated on the southernmost tip of the African continent, South Africa is exposed to natural disasters that result in loss of life, livestock and damages to infrastructure. These consequences have a direct impact on the country’s economy as well as people’s livelihoods. Severe or extreme weather is occurring more frequently as an effect of climate change and is expected to worsen in the coming years. In April 2019, severe flooding in three provinces resulted in the deaths of 70 people.

Since 2015, the South African government has declared drought disasters in all nine provinces. Droughts impact the socio-economic stability of the country, including food security, unemployment, and poverty, and severely affect the environment and viability of crops through the loss of productivity on the soil and soil erosion.

South Africa is one of the countries most affected by HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and poor sanitation in the informal settlements. HIV continues to spread relentlessly, and tuberculosis has been declared a national emergency.
The South African Red Cross Society (SARCS) is a crucial partner of the Government of South Africa on humanitarian issues. It was established by the Parliament of South Africa as a voluntary humanitarian relief and development society, auxiliary to the public authorities in the humanitarian field. SARCS exists to augment Government humanitarian efforts in times of peace and war.

The National Society is a member of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. As a network of voluntary organisations, the Movement has the unique ability to rapidly mobilise community volunteers to be first responders and is often the last to leave disaster situations. The National Society provides the following services:

- **Disaster management**
- **Health and care**
- **International Humanitarian Law Advocacy**
- **Humanitarian Diplomacy**

**Established**

1921
MEMBERSHIP COORDINATION AND MOVEMENT FOOTPRINT

Membership coordination

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Partner</th>
<th>Climate</th>
<th>Crises</th>
<th>Health</th>
<th>Migration</th>
<th>Inclusion</th>
<th>Engaged</th>
<th>Accountable</th>
<th>Trusted</th>
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<tbody>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Monaco Red Cross</td>
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Movement footprint

The ICRC, Belgian Red Cross, Monaco Red Cross and the IFRC support the National Society in South Africa. Monthly coordination meetings are organised by the National Society at which reports are shared and updates on progress are provided. The coordination platforms provide partners with an opportunity to exchange guidance and technical support. The progress is closely monitored by all partners and suggestions for areas of improvement are shared to enhance the effectiveness of the National Society’s programmes and activities.

The Belgium Red Cross is supporting the National Society to strengthen commercial and community-based first aid. The ICRC supports the National Society to strengthen its restoration of family links services, stock preposition, communications and expanding the capacity of the National Society’s staff and volunteers on safer access to communities. The Monaco Red Cross is also providing support for branch development in the Free State (Welkom) and Northern (Kimberley) Cape provinces. The IFRC gives technical support, capacity building and resources to the National Society to provide adequate services to vulnerable communities.

The National Society has established ongoing partnerships with the South African government. It also partners with United Nations agencies, such as the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) as well as private sector entities such as Santam, Absa, Standard Bank and Telkom that provide support to the National Society to respond to the emerging needs in vulnerable communities.
Climate change is already posing significant challenges to people in South Africa. The country is especially vulnerable to the increasing effects of climate change and the significant risks and this has resulted in many socio-economic challenges. The National Society has a responsibility to explore interventions that minimise environmental risks in order to promote sustainable development. It will work to empower communities and engage humanitarian actors to reinforce climate related laws and policies in order to limit the adverse impacts of climate change on the environment.

The National Society understands the strength of community action and will involve people living in its target areas to engage in its programmes’ activities. In addition, the National Society and the IFRC will internally adopt environmentally sustainable practices that contribute to climate change mitigation.

**ACTIVITIES**

- The National Society will build the capacity of its staff and volunteers on climate and environmental crises.
- The National Society will train volunteers on community engagement activity approaches in order to build resilient communities.
- The National Society will develop information, education and communication materials with key messages on climate change which are province context specific.
- The National Society will promote the use of indigenous knowledge in all nine provinces.
- The National Society will create farming food hubs.
- The National Society will provide timely early warning messages to communities to minimise climate change impacts and integrate practices that minimise risks.
Evolving crises and disasters

Operational Plan

South Africa

EVOLVING CRISES AND DISASTERS

ACTIVITIES

- The National Society will mobilise local disaster management forums, village representatives, civil society and private sector partners in order to increase community resilience.
- The National Society will promote indigenous knowledge systems in developing early warning systems.
- The National Society will provide disaster mitigation resources including smoke detectors, fire-fighting equipment, gabion check dams, clearing of debris in drainage systems and sandbags.
- The National Society will train staff and volunteers on cash assistance to enable vulnerable households to provide timely support through this programme in the event of a disaster.
- The National Society will empower communities to address their needs using available local materials and skills and support them when affected by crises and disasters in order to meet their basic needs.
- The National Society will develop contingency plans for specific crisis and disaster preparedness.

Rapid urbanisation and climate change both increase the intensity of disasters. South Africa is exposed or prone to disasters and hazards that damage infrastructure, result in loss of life and livestock and have a direct impact on the economy of the country. The imminent need for disaster risk management includes developing an understanding of hazards, reducing disasters, and developing capacity to cope with disaster impacts. The National Society will explore disaster risk reduction interventions to reduce community vulnerabilities, mobilise community-based adaptations and promote indigenous knowledge systems.

Despite improved access to sanitation facilities, the General Household Survey in 2018 revealed that many households continue to lack proper sanitation facilities. The National Society is addressing the need for access to safe water by improving sanitation facilities, promoting good hygiene practices and implementing effective water management systems, including rainwater harvesting and utilising home water treatment.

When communities are provided with actionable risk information, they are able to take action to reduce their vulnerability and exposure to hazards, creating the best opportunity to minimise loss of life and damage to infrastructure. However, when people do become vulnerable to these situations the National Society will ensure their needs are met through access to assistance and support that is timely, adequate, flexible and that strengthens their capacities.

There is a tremendous need to fast track COVID-19 vaccines as the number of cases in South Africa has reached almost 1.2 million, the highest number in Africa.

People to be reached

7,000,000

Funding requirement in Swiss francs

500,000

15 000 000

people were affected by disasters from 1980 to September 2008

2nd

South Africa’s ranking - people affected by disaster
Despite improved access to sanitation facilities, many households continue to be without proper sanitation facilities. There is a need to enhance water quality and access to water across South Africa by improving sanitation facilities, promoting good hygiene practices and implementing effective water management systems such as rainwater harvesting and utilising home water treatment.

Many of the health inequalities in South Africa are determined by the economic situations people are born into. Most poorer families will remain poor throughout their lives, with little change in their economic situation. To address their needs the National Society will use its support role at the national level to promote good health and wellbeing of communities, ensuring its position on relevant country level public health strategy, advocacy and policy platforms and mechanisms. It will protect and improve the health and wellbeing of communities through access to sustainable, affordable, appropriate, and quality health services in all areas of people’s lives, focusing on people in vulnerable situations.

The IFRC will support the National Society to help communities identify and reduce health risks through relevant community engagement, accountability and behaviour change approaches that ensure locally led solutions to address unmet needs. It will also support the National Society to expand the reach, quality and modalities of first aid activities, including training of volunteers, staff and people in communities across all contexts. By doing so, the National Society will maintain the health and dignity of communities in emergencies.
South Africa is a destination country for migrants coming from a variety of backgrounds including large numbers of women and unaccompanied children. They suffer as a result of inadequate migration management policies and border management processes. Rising xenophobic sentiments become violent in some cases, creating the need for enhanced and harmonised migration management policies. A critical priority for the National Society is to support the Government in its response to the migration crisis, including supporting migrants with services such as Restoring Family Links, perceived stress, health care and psycho-social support.

To assist with this, the National Society will help people access humanitarian protection and assistance at main points along migratory routes, and access solutions to their immediate needs when appropriate.

The National Society understands that speaking directly to people in communities is the best way to establish where support is needed. It will engage with migrants, displaced people and host communities to more effectively assess, understand and respond to their priority needs.

**ACTIVITIES**

- The National Society will establish coordination teams for prioritised services for migrants and develop a national migration and displacement strategy in collaboration with relevant Government authorities and other humanitarian organisations.
- The National Society will facilitate Restoring Family Link (RFL) services to ensure individuals separated by disasters or hazards are reunited.
- The National Society will promote the integration of migration into existing programmes.
- The National Society will raise awareness among migrants of potential risks, rights, and services provided by organizations and the Government.
- The National Society will advocate for the Government to provide reception shelters for migrants and ensure local integration to avoid conflict between migrants and host communities.
VALUES, POWER, AND INCLUSION

Funding requirement in Swiss francs  
50,000

People to be reached  
7,000,000

Promoting community ownership of development initiatives by the National Society will enhance Migra’s sustainability of its programmes. The National Society recognises that communities are made up of all demographics, abilities and needs, and they are best supported when they can be encouraged to come together and provide mutual support to one another.

The work that the National Society does to promote inclusivity will contribute to a positive change in communities through a wider understanding, ownership and concrete application of humanitarian values and fundamental principles, focusing especially on young people’s knowledge, skills and behaviour.

The IFRC and the National Society promote and support safe, equitable and continuous access to quality education for all, especially boys and girls affected by disaster, crisis or displacement. They adopt a comprehensive Protection, Gender and Inclusion approach across operations and programmes to provide dignity, access, participation and safety for all affected marginalised and excluded people.

Overall, the National Society and the IFRC will lead by example, including with a focus on equality and inclusivity among its own staff and volunteers.

**ACTIVITIES**

- The National Society will support women and youth owned enterprises to apply for Government and private sector funding opportunities.
- The National Society will support the participation of National Society Youth in the 2021 Pan African Conference and General assembly (IFRC Youth Forums).
- The National Society will facilitate youth training on introductory business skills including value chain, business opportunities and financial management.
- The National Society will conduct immediate needs assessments to ensure children return to school and provide access to relevant educational materials.
- The National Society will facilitate forums to discuss improved processes for protection, gender and inclusion in prevention of and response to emergencies.
- The National Society will train the main stakeholders and humanitarian actors on minimum standards of protection, gender and inclusion in emergencies.

**People to be reached**  
7,000,000

**Funding requirement in Swiss francs**  
50,000

56-60% youth unemployment rate

34% women led micro, small, and medium-sized businesses

25% youth owned micro, small, and medium-sized businesses
The IFRC has developed strategies to support the NS in South Africa to strengthen its engagement with partners - to identify and aid in the creation of potential networks.

The IFRC will provide communications and public advocacy resources and advice to the National Society, increasing impact and nurturing public trust and understanding of its roles and activities. The National Society will strengthen its communications and ensure that profiling of activities is carried out to keep track of its performance. Volunteers and staff will be trained in community engagement skills and the communication strategy and feedback mechanisms will be reviewed.

The IFRC will support the National Society to ensure that relevant organisations are well informed about the role and activities of the National Society and the IFRC, participating in humanitarian working group forums to connect with other facilitators.

The IFRC will support the National Society to develop data tools, ensuring that programming provokes public behaviour change within communities, integrating CEA initiatives and informed by science and data.

The IFRC will provide training on change and innovation for National Society staff and volunteers, ensuring that the IFRC’s approaches are being implemented in National Society programming.

The IFRC will support the National Society to strengthen staff and volunteer skills in digital processes, develop platforms for information sharing and networking and to use information and communication technology tools for social development.

**ENABLER 1**
ENGAGED WITH RENEWED INFLUENCE, INNOVATIVE AND DIGITALLY TRANSFORMED WITH GREATER EMPHASIS ON NATIONAL SOCIETY DEVELOPMENT

Funding requirement in Swiss francs

50,000

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**ACTIVITIES**

- Strengthen communications the profiling of National Society activities
- Train volunteers and staff on community engagement skills, data literacy and data development, and change and innovation
- Join digital fundraising platform to boost domestic resource mobilisation
- Develop an online membership system for recruitment
- Develop strategic plan for 2030
- Develop IM platforms for sharing information and networking
- Strengthen volunteer management systems

59% growth in profiling itself via IFRC Social Media channels
ENABLER 2
ACCOUNTABLE WITH AN AGILE MANAGEMENT AND A RENEWED FINANCING MODEL WITH GREATER EMPHASIS ON NATIONAL SOCIETY DEVELOPMENT

Funding requirement in Swiss francs
20,000

The IFRC is strengthening organizational risk management culture at all levels with a clear link to accountability and quality assurance and will support the National Society to provide risk management training to its volunteers and staff.

To ensure that there are high levels of productivity and accountability within the programs being implemented by the National Society there are 300 staff members that are engaged in talent/staff development programmes. To date there are 12 partnership funding agreements enabling the National Society to perform on a higher level.

The IFRC is developing a strategy and plan of action to mitigate the risk of fraud, corruption, sexual harassment, exploitation and abuse at all levels. The National Society in South Africa will develop and disseminate a PSEA policy and provide its staff and volunteers training on PSEA.

ACTIVITIES
• Provide risk management training to staff and volunteers to ensure accountability at all levels
• Develop and disseminate PSEA policy and train staff and volunteers
ENABLER 3
TRUSTED BY COMMUNITIES, OWNED AND VALUED BY THE MEMBERSHIP WITH GREATER EMPHASIS ON NATIONAL SOCIETY DEVELOPMENT

Funding requirement in Swiss francs
30,000

The IFRC will support the National Society in its development to become a trusted partner of choice for local humanitarian action and act in the global network.

With the support of the IFRC, the National Society aims to become an economically sustainable organisation that can independently cover its core costs. To this end, effective financial management and accountability will remain a top priority.

The National Society will continue to strengthen its mechanisms to protect its staff and volunteers and the people it serves, following guidelines that address issues such as fraud and corruption, discrimination, harassment and child safeguarding.

Volunteer development and youth action are a priority for the National Society as a catalyst for behavioural change within communities. The National Society is committed to improving volunteer management, membership and youth engagement, recruiting individuals with diverse skillsets and abilities.

ACTIVITIES

- Develop and implement policies on prevention of sexual abuse and exploitation, gender and diversity and child protection/safeguarding policies
- Support the prevention of fraud and corruption through mapping, reporting and development of preventative measures
- Conduct a protection, gender and inclusion organisational assessment, including an analysis of recruitment and retention practices for volunteers
- Track community engagement and accountability performance through measurement framework
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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