EMERGENCY APPEAL

AFRICA | HUNGER CRISIS



Women and children have been hit hardest by the hunger crisis. In the Horn of Africa, increasing numbers of girls are in danger of leaving school as the crisis deepens, putting them at higher risk of child marriage @ IFRC

Appeal №: MGR60001	IFRC Secretariat Funding requirements: CHF 132 million Federation-wide Funding requirements: CHF 205 million	
Glide №: XX-2014-123456-XXX	People [affected/at risk]: 146m people across sub-Saharan Africa (123m in the 23 countries covered in this operation)	People to be assisted: 7.6 million
DREF allocation: CHF 9.3 million ¹	Appeal launched: 06/10/2022	Appeal ends: 31/12/2023

Built on a foundation of strong, national country response plans, this Regional Emergency Appeal provides an overarching structure for Hunger Crisis responses across the continent. It consolidates the IFRC's operational planning and coordination for collective impact, positioning the IFRC Membership's food insecurity response with humanitarian and government partners.

¹ This includes CHF 5,788,786 in DREF grants and loans on active operations, as well as an additional CHF 3,600,094 allocated with the launch of the Regional Hunger Crisis Appeal, to boost the response as part of the IFRC pan-Africa Zero Hunger Initiative.

Situation Overview

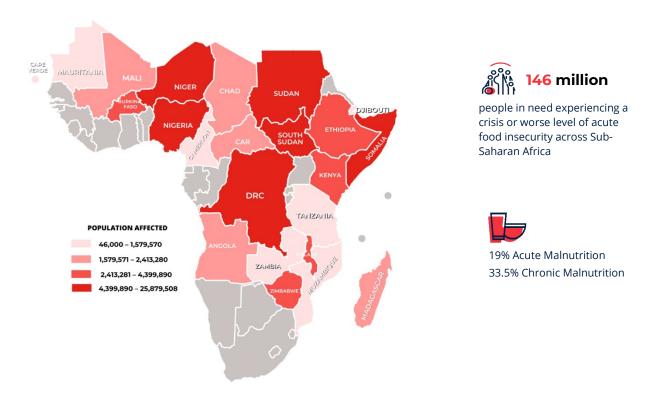


Figure 1: Hunger crisis affected countries

At a time of intense global humanitarian need and competing demands, Sub-Saharan Africa is experiencing one of the most alarming food crises in decades. Roughly 146 million people - a figure approaching half the entire population of the United States - are suffering from acute food insecurity and require urgent humanitarian assistance. Hunger is one of the most undignified sufferings of humanity and has severe repercussions on African communities who face multiple shocks, compromising their lives, livelihoods, and prospects.

Driven by a complex interplay of insecurity and armed conflict, extreme weather events, climate variability, and negative macroeconomic conditions, this crisis is distinct in its magnitude and geographic scope. As such, it requires an exceptional mobilisation and a massive effort by all concerned institutions and states to address the drivers that underpin food insecurity in Africa.

In the past five years, those experiencing acute food insecurity have increased by 83 per cent, an estimated 54 million people, with women and children being disproportionately affected. Their vulnerabilities are compounded by poverty, inequality, marginalisation, and recurrent shocks, which have fundamentally altered lives. It is unconscionable that in 2022 communities have to endure such acute food insecurity, while global food production has continued to increase.

In the great Horn of Africa, 50 million people are severely impacted. Across the Sahel, the number of people needing emergency food assistance has quadrupled to 30 million in the past seven years. Levels of hunger are forecasted to continue to deteriorate into 2023, fuelled by conflict and insecurity, the climate crisis, and rising prices and inflation, underlined by endemic poverty. Production shortages, food and energy price hikes disproportionately affect the most vulnerable through reduced incomes and purchasing power – exacerbating inequalities.

The crisis has spread across all of Africa – from East Africa with an anticipated fifth consecutive failed rains in the Horn of Africa and extreme flooding for four successive years in South Sudan, to the Sahel region of West Africa plagued by insecurity and political instability, to Southern Africa where countries, such as Zimbabwe, are experiencing surging inflation. Angola is undergoing a fifth consecutive year of drought. The IFRC must rise to this challenge through collective mobilisation and action - both in the immediate and long-term. Our immediate

collective priority is to contribute life-saving support. Through this appeal, the IFRC-wide membership will support 23 African National Societies to respond to this crisis. Our plan starts by prioritising support to 7.6 million people across 14 priority countries, while the Movement continues to support the remaining nine National Societies to assess, monitor and launch operations to respond as the crisis evolves.

Global triggers and local drivers

The current factors creating pressures on food systems in Africa and driving the hunger crisis are multifaceted, interrelated, and frequently mutually reinforcing, namely, conflict and insecurity, economic slowdowns and downturns resulting in inflation in consumer prices (particularly food and energy), and weather extremes and climate variability.

Across Africa, millions of people are living in poverty and facing challenges to themselves. Climatic shocks, such as prolonged and recurrent drought and flooding, conflict, desert locusts, and the economic downturn impact the livelihoods of people in affected areas, and food production overall The countries. devastating impact of global triggers is compounding the effect of deeprooted drivers such as poverty, inequality, marginalisation - all underpinned by governance challenges.

Global Drivers Global Climate crisis. The impact of recurrent weather-related hazards on food insecurity has intensified. Poverty. The majority of people in sub-Saharan Africa live on less than \$1.90 a dav. secondary Those at the edge of the society resulting in loss of employment and (marginalized communities) are denied income, higher transportation costs, involvement in mainstream economic, and inflation with increased cost of political, cultural, and social activities. Conflict, insecurity, social unrest, and political instability across Africa continue to destroy the livelihoods and The Russian-Ukraine conflict is lead to displacement disrupting the global trade of food, fertilizers, and oil products, with prices Recurrent cycles of drought and of agricultural products reaching record flooding are probably the single greatest highs. threat to local agricultural supply and food security. **Local Drivers**

The COVID-19 pandemic and the recent Ukraine crisis are

exacerbating pre-existing vulnerabilities and already high levels of hunger on the continent. The armed conflict in Ukraine has greatly disrupted global food supply systems as well as future harvests in many countries due to the impact it is having on the availability of fertiliser, and fuel prices. Furthermore, while the world's attention is geared towards this conflict, hunger in Africa has not received the engagement it requires. Political will and resources are needed now. Without them, countless lives will be lost, and the suffering will endure for years.

Category Red Emergency

Red Cross Red Crescent Societies continue to report worrying levels of hunger they are witnessing across the continent. There is an urgent need for life-saving humanitarian assistance in the most affected countries in Africa. Organisations such as Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies are stepping up their actions, with the IFRC ICRC, governments and partners, to provide this urgent support.

The IFRC categorised the Hunger Crisis in Africa as a "Red Level Emergency" in view of the severity and scale of the ongoing disaster. This implies that the highest level of attention is required from all parts of the IFRC secretariat and membership, including the activation of global emergency tools that will support the operational scale-up. The IFRC aims to ensure that international efforts and support from all Federation members acknowledge and strengthen the essential auxiliary role of National Societies in their own countries.

AFRICAN NATIONAL SOCIETIES' RESPONSE

Through uniquely positioned branch and volunteer networks, with wide acceptance and unparallel access, African National Societies have been able to deliver lifesaving assistance to some of the hardestto-reach communities and marginalised groups since mid-2021. During this emergency phase, the National Societies are focusing their support on the approaches they know from experience will make the most difference to affected people's lives and livelihoods. Collectively, National Societies have reached nearly one million people with multipurpose cash transfers, water and sanitation activities, and/or health and nutrition services. Yet, the situation continues to deteriorate and the IFRC, together with all members, is scaling-up its life-saving response to provide support to the millions of people affected. At this stage, 14 African National Societies are scaling-up the response to this unprecedented crisis in Somalia, Kenya, Ethiopia, Sudan, South Sudan, Nigeria, Niger, Burkina Faso, Mali, Democratic Republic of Congo, Cameroon, Angola, Zimbabwe and Madagascar. additional National Societies are using the Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) as a primary

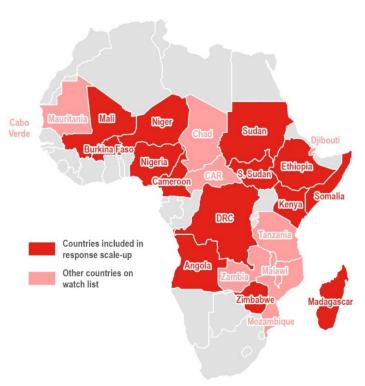


Figure 2: Hunger crisis priority countries

assessment and response tool to attend to the extreme food insecurity situations in their respective countries.

Everything the IFRC does is underpinned by solid data and meaningful community engagement making sure the response is evidence-based and tailor-made. An Information Management (IM) Cell has been created specifically for this operation with the express purpose of analysing the food insecurity situation and, in partnership with humanitarian and other actors, forecasting the evolution of the crisis. This to inform our operational and strategic decision-making. At the same time, the IFRC is developing longer-term programmes outside of this Emergency Appeal, to address the root causes of food insecurity, and in addition, is building on our previous successes and work in support of the plans and frameworks of governments to increase the resilience of the most impoverished communities, including displaced populations.

TARGETING

Targeting by Country





7.6 million people targeted in 14 countries



To date, there are 23 countries in sub–Saharan Africa that the IFRC has included on a watch list and considers of particular concern relative to this crisis. Of the 23 countries, 14 were identified as most at risk with a scaling-up of life-saving assistance to the most vulnerable and affected communities. Each of these 14 National Societies have developed country-specific emergency response plans which are consolidated under this Regional Hunger Crisis Appeal, aiming to reach 7.6 million people. Target prioritisation is based on a multivariate analysis, which includes the Integrated Phase Classification (IPC), and focuses on those communities experiencing a crisis or worse level of acute food insecurity (IPC 3+). Details of the geographic areas covered will be provided in each country plan of action.

The remaining nine countries on the IFRC Hunger Watch List will initially be supported through the DREF, based on requests from the National Societies. This will serve to produce specific assessments, start a response, and develop their country plans. Contingent on the results of the assessments and should the situation deteriorate further, these National Societies will also be included in the scale-up of assistance through a revised Funding Ask of this Emergency Appeal. It is also possible that additional countries could become part of this watch list as the situation deteriorates across sub-Saharan Africa.

Country	Funding Ask (CHF)	
Somalia	24,000,000	
Kenya	25,000,000	
Ethiopia	12,500,000	
Nigeria	27,000,000	
Niger	10,000,000	
Angola	10,000,000	
Sudan	12,000,000	
South Sudan	16,000,000	
Madagascar	5,500,000	
Burkina Faso	10,000,000	
Zimbabwe	14,000,000	
DRC	16,000,000	
Mali	8,000,000	
Cameroon	10,000,000	
	200,000,000	
Djibouti	Supported through the DREF for possible scale-up in the future based on needs assessments.	
Cabo Verde		
Mauritania		
Tanzania		
Zambia		
Malawi		
Mozambique		
CAR		
Chad		
IFRC Coordination	5,000,000	
205,000,000		

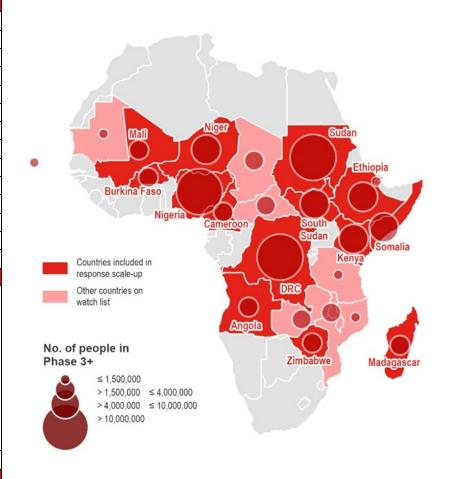


Figure 3: Number of people affected by the hunger crisis in Africa

Targeting by Communities

African National Societies continue to work based on their long-standing ability to reach people in the "last mile" making certain that even the most isolated and hard-to-reach communities receive the assistance they need.

Geographic, community, and population targets are aligned between sectors and complementary partnerships with other humanitarian organisations are promoted, including the rehabilitation of community livelihood assets that support food availability and access. In addition to the direct provision of support, National Societies play an important role in enabling and facilitating access to services and goods provided by governments and other actors.

In-country geographic targeting of affected regions and smaller administrative units (e.g., districts) is based on "IPC/Cadre Harmonise" data and other recognised references. Targeting is further refined through more detailed/disaggregated data from more focused assessments of National Societies and/or partner agencies where these have been or can feasibly be conducted.

The targeted groups are acutely food insecure households struggling to meet their basic needs due to climatic shocks and the compounding effects of other food insecurity drivers described above. When geographic targeting is completed, the next step is to target the affected households based on food security and economic criteria, agreed with the community, or ideally developed jointly with them. Within these food insecure and poor households, targeting can be further refined by identifying social categories. Protection, Gender, and Inclusion considerations are incorporated into the targeting process to provide an understanding and response to individuals and groups based on their specific risks, needs, and concerns.

PLANNED OPERATIONS

African National Societies supported by the IFRC, and partner National Societies will provide life-saving humanitarian assistance under this Regional Emergency Appeal. Each of these National Societies has developed an emergency response, with an emphasis on meeting the urgent food, nutrition, and WASH needs of the most vulnerable groups impacted by the crisis and on protecting their livelihoods while setting a foundation for resilience building. This approach facilitates the transition to longer-term programming of National Societies and development partners. The IFRC will build on our previous successes and work in support of the plans and frameworks of governments to restore and build resilience in the most impoverished communities, including displaced populations.

Our approach is fully aligned with the IFRC-wide Pan-African Zero Hunger Initiative working towards zero hunger and more sustainable development through the following:

- **Humanitarian response**: Meeting the urgent humanitarian needs of the most vulnerable families experiencing emergencies or worse levels of acute food insecurity in Africa through the provision of cashbased assistance along with a package of health and nutrition, water, sanitation, and hygiene services. All interventions are underpinned by protection, gender and inclusion, community engagement and accountability and National Society strengthening activities. This integrated approach will maximise the impact on food security and the nutritional status of the affected population and halt negative coping strategies.
- Resilience building and sustainable food security: In working towards zero hunger and a sustainable recovery, longer-term programming outside of this Regional Emergency Appeal will focus on building resilience and providing people and their communities with resources and tools to help them cope with the impact of seasonal and multiple concurrent shocks and stresses. In line with governments' plans and priorities on food security (under SDG 1 and SDG 2), efforts will focus on food systems and agricultural value chains, nature-based solutions, climate-smart livelihoods, women, and women and youth empowerment, aligned to the Africa Union Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want and climate adaptation plans.
- Humanitarian Diplomacy: To witness and draw attention to the ongoing hunger crisis by mobilising
 decision-makers and opinion leaders in Africa as well as funding partners to scale-up humanitarian
 support and investments for development. The IFRC will bring a voice and evidence from those most
 affected, work with African governments to promote policies that protect and empower vulnerable
 households and will use the IFRC network's unique positioning to leverage a longer-term response that
 leads to resilience and meets the Zero Hunger commitments.

The three pillars of the integrated response, with enabling actions and longer-term programming, are as follows:

OPERATIONAL STRATEGY IMPACT

Improved food and nutrition security of 7.6M vulnerable people in rural and urban areas contributing to the goal of ZERO HUNGER 2030

Pillar 1

Cash grants for safety nets and safeguarding livelihoods



Pillar 2

Health and Nutrition



Pillar 3

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene



Protection, Gender, and Inclusion and Community Engagement and Accountability

National Society Strengthening

Humanitarian Diplomacy

Building resilience and contributing to the IFRC Africa Zero Hunger Initiative

Response Pillars

Response Pillar 1: Cash transfers for safety nets and safeguarding livelihoods

The hunger crisis response seeks to improve food access and maintain consumption levels through the scale-up of emergency food assistance, primarily through cash transfers to poor households experiencing acute food insecurity.

Lifesaving basic needs assistance through multipurpose cash transfers



- Life-saving assistance is grounded in a basic needs approach with the main response modality being multi-purpose cash transfers (MPC), designed to address multiple basic needs that influence household food security. The cash transfers will be conducted in coordination with National Cash Working Groups, through which market assessments and regular joint market monitoring are carried out and MPC values set, based on the Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB).
- A complementary range of actions (cash plus) will be delivered to achieve the desired outcomes: increasing access to nutritious food, protecting livelihoods, improving nutrition and WASH, ultimately strengthening impact. These actions consist of awareness-raising, information dissemination, practical trainings, provision of inputs/tools, linkages to essential services, and the strengthening of social networks and community safety nets.



Safeguarding livelihoods support

Provide emergency production inputs and tools (mainly related to crops and livestock) aimed at
protecting and sustaining primary household production, along with support to prevent the
consumption, sale, or exchange of household inputs and assets to cover food gaps originating
from access and availability constraints – including after loss of production, during food price
hikes, and/or during lean periods.



Response Pillar 2: **Health and Nutrition**

Nutrition surveillance, knowledge-raising, and health promotion

- Cash recipients can effectively access essential health services when needed in addition to nutrition awareness and education (especially IYCF) and inputs.
- Surveillance of the most vulnerable, particularly children affected by acute malnutrition, will be supported through community-based screening and the referral of malnourished children to therapeutic feeding programmes as well as follow-up and defaulter tracing at the community level
- In recognising the interrelations between malnutrition and infectious diseases and the related mortality, context appropriate community-based promotional and preventive services, including health and hygiene promotion, aimed at preventing and controlling the main childhood killer diseases as well as epidemics will be provided.



Response Pillar 3: Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

- Access to WASH services underpins health, food security and livelihoods as none can exist in its absence. While WASH is a life-saving intervention, it can also contribute to sustainable improvements in health, dignity, protection, livelihoods, and a wide range of other improvements that contribute to resilience.
- Provision of WASH services will take a variety of forms, including the direct provision of safe water
 or rehabilitation of water supply infrastructure, in-kind provision of water treatment and storage
 products, and the use of the cash or voucher assistance to support WASH objectives. In many
 cases, water supply will need to be multipurpose. While National Society WASH services usually
 focus on human consumption, considerations will be made for the efficient use of water for
 livestock and agriculture production.

Cross-Cutting Sectors - Protection and Prevention

Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) and Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI) are critical and transversal components of the operation and vital to ensuring that the operation recognises and values all community members as equal partners whose diverse needs, priorities, and preferences guide the Red Cross Red Crescent actions.

Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI)



- Targeting by National Societies will continue based on protection gender and inclusion (PGI)
 minimum standards in emergencies through all sectors. Safe and equitable provision of services
 will be provided with consideration of needs based on gender and other diversity factors, while
 sex, age, and disability disaggregated data will be included in assessments and reporting.
- Multipurpose cash assistance offered (through livelihoods and basic needs activities) will be linked with awareness-raising to halt or reduce exposure to harmful household survival coping mechanisms (survival sex, child marriage, child labour, and school dropouts).
- Community-based information and education initiatives and materials on the culture of nonviolence and peace (including discrimination, violence, exclusion, sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), and child protection) will be at the centre of the response.

Community engagement and accountability (CEA)



Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) will be the underpinning approach to amplify the voices of affected people and communities to inform and scale-up the response. The ways of working within the overall approach will encourage collaboration with people and communities through meaningful community participation, timely, open, and honest communication, and mechanisms to listen to and act on feedback throughout all stages of the response. Support will be provided to staff and volunteers to make sure they have the

knowledge, skills, and tools to effectively engage with communities while dedicated CEA processes will be established to support FSL, Health and Nutrition, and WASH interventions and use of the CVA modality.

Promoting a foundation for resilience building – the IFRC Africa Zero Hunger Initiative

- The integrated approach adopted through this Regional Appeal will begin to address some of
 the multiple interconnected factors influencing resilience, including basic needs assistance,
 using a safety net approach, and livelihood protection activities. Actions to respond to an
 ongoing food insecurity crisis, beyond the timeframe of this emergency appeal, will be
 integrated into longer-term country plans of National Societies, under the IFRC's continuing Zero
 Hunger initiatives.
- Promoting links to existing programmes investing in nature-based solutions such as adopting
 agroecological food production practices, forest conservation, protecting wetlands or enhancing
 coastal ecosystems can help store emissions, protect communities from extreme weather
 events, and provide food, jobs and habitats. Relying on the unique grassroots expertise and
 knowledge of African National Societies, the IFRC will pilot climate change adaptative strategies
 to facilitate the recovery process of individuals, households, and communities.



Enabling approaches

The sectors outlined above will be supported and enhanced by the following enabling approaches:

National Society Strengthening



• In line with its core mandate, the IFRC secretariat and partners will continue to strengthen key areas of National Societies as identified in their organisational development framework. These will be developed further in each country plan. Attention will focus on the operational and management capabilities in branches which are responsible for programme delivery.

Coordination and partnerships

IFRC Membership Coordination

This Emergency Appeal promotes a Federation-wide approach to the response. It builds on the
expertise, capacities, and resources of all active members in the targeted areas. National
Societies have adopted one response plan, with a Federation-wide approach to resourcing and
implementation. The IFRC secretariat coordinates contributions and supports information
sharing and analysis across Red Cross Red Crescent partners ensuring a common analysis and
approach to the hunger crisis.

Movement Cooperation



 The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has a Regional Delegation in Nairobi and country delegations in many countries targeted under the IFRC Regional Emergency Appeal. The two international institutions will work to promote and coordinate the operations of the entire Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in line with Strengthening Movement Coordination and Cooperation (SMCC) principles, and the newly adopted Seville Agreement 2.0

External Coordination

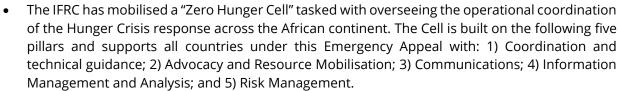
 African National Societies are working closely with relevant government line ministries, national stakeholders, and other agencies so that efforts are aligned and mutually reinforcing, maximising effectiveness and efficiency. National Societies will continue to engage and coordinate with other humanitarian partners by participating in joint assessments, attending coordination meetings (in some cases leading working groups/clusters), and filling gaps that are raised by OCHA, coordination platforms or clusters.

Humanitarian Diplomacy and representation with governments and external partners

National Societies will make certain that actions under this Emergency Appeal are in line with
and contributing to governments' plans to fight hunger and reduce food insecurity. The IFRC
secretariat will represent the collective in advancing the interests of the most vulnerable while
supporting the auxiliary status of National Societies through policy dialogues with a view to
positioning member National Societies and the IFRC at policy forums and through public and

bilateral engagements with governments, multilateral actors, academia, the private sector and with the communities served by the IFRC.

IFRC Secretariat services





Based on the technical and coordination support required in this operation, the following
programme support functions will be put in place to ensure effective and efficient technical
coordination covering Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting (PMER); Information
Technology (IT); Information Management (IM); Logistics; Finance and Administration;
Communications and Advocacy; Security; Risk Management, and Resource Mobilisation. A
comprehensive data management system will be shared between National Societies to monitor
people reached with different services.

The planned response reflects the current situation and is based on the information available at the time of this Emergency Appeal launch. Details of the operation are available in the Hunger Crisis Regional Operational Strategy. The Operational Strategy provides further details on the Federation-wide approach which includes response activities of all contributing Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies.

RED CROSS RED CRESCENT FOOTPRINT

National Societies

THE 49 NATIONAL SOCIETIES WITHIN THE AFRICA REGION OF THE IFRC ARE AUXILIARIES TO THEIR PUBLIC AUTHORITIES. THE AUXILIARY ROLE IS EXPLICITLY DESIGNED FOR RED CROSS RED CRESCENT-NATIONAL SOCIETIES AND PROVIDES THE LEGAL FACILITIES THEY NEED TO PROVIDE RAPID AND EFFECTIVE RELIEF TO PEOPLE AFFECTED BY EMERGENCIES. THIS INCLUDES THE REGULATION OF THEIR ACCESS TO COMMUNITIES IN NEED, MOVEMENT OF PEOPLE AND TRANSPORT OF GOODS BETWEEN AND WITHIN COUNTRIES, AND THEIR PROTECTION AS THEY GO ABOUT THEIR HUMANITARIAN AND DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES.

The IFRC is the largest humanitarian organisation in the world, uniting 192 National Societies. There are **49 Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies in sub-Saharan Africa** that provide humanitarian, recovery and development services to people and hard-to-reach communities in every country, province, and locality. Cumulatively, the African National Societies have about **1.6 million volunteers** and over **12,000 local branches**. This network constitutes an unparalleled force. Their staff and volunteers represent a well-trained workforce pre-positioned to identify the most vulnerable. With a strong local presence and first-hand knowledge, African National Societies are uniquely positioned to be at the forefront of the response. Their strength lies in their community-based expertise, volunteer network, and independence and neutrality. National Societies enjoy wide acceptance in all countries of operation, including access to the hardest hit areas and last mile communities. Red Cross Red Crescent volunteers are recruited from the communities and understand the cultural context and local languages.

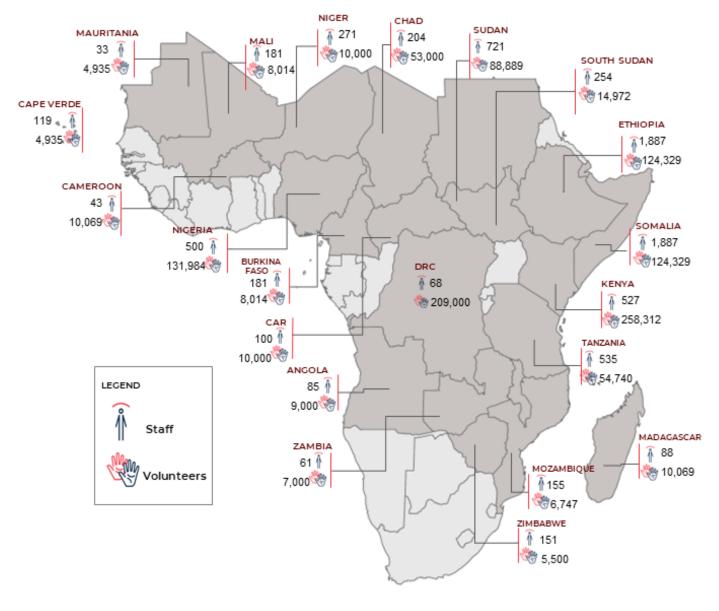


Figure 4: National Society staff and volunteers

IFRC Membership coordination

The IFRC secretariat provides support through its headquarters in Geneva, the Africa Regional Office in Nairobi, and its fifteen Country Cluster Delegations. In line with its core mandate, the IFRC provides strategic coordination, humanitarian diplomacy and National Society development services to its members in the Africa region. The IFRC secretariat continues to advocate for the needs of the most vulnerable communities affected by the hunger crisis with governments and in international humanitarian forums.

The IFRC is supporting the African National Societies in coordinating a Federation-wide response together with Participating National Societies. The IFRC ensures Federation-wide reporting for the emergency response, demonstrating the collective support of the IFRC membership towards providing humanitarian assistance.

Participating National Societies supporting African National Societies include the American Red Cross, Australian Red Cross, Austrian Red Cross, Bahrain Red Crescent, Belgian Red Cross, British Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross, Chinese Red Cross, Danish Red Cross, Finnish Red Cross, French Red Cross, German Red Cross, Icelandic Red Cross, Italian Red Cross, Kuwait Red Crescent, Japanese Red Cross, Luxembourg Red Cross, Monaco Red Cross, the Netherlands Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross, Qatar Red Crescent, Spanish Red Cross, Swedish Red Cross, Swiss Red Cross, and Turkish Red Crescent.

Red Cross Red Crescent Movement coordination

The ICRC and IFRC work together in strengthening Movement coordination platforms in each country and at the regional level, ensuring joint technical, operational, and strategic support to National Societies. Both institutions have already mobilized significant resources in response to the Hunger Crisis. The ICRC, together with other partners of the Movement, continues to scale-up its operations, focusing on context of conflict and other situations of violence (OSV), and increasing its emergency efforts to provide life-saving aid to communities most affected by food shortages and malnutrition. Although it is not spared from security risks, its neutral, impartial, and independent humanitarian approach, and its dialogue with parties to armed conflict enable it to reach communities in areas where few or no other humanitarian actors are present.

The complementary focus of ICRC and IFRC allows broader geographical coverage of the needs while coordination between the Movement entities across various platforms at country level and regional aim to holistically address hunger and food security issues, linking emergency response with long-term strategy aligned with the IFRC Pan-African Zero Hunger Initiative. The Red Cross Red Crescent Movement, with its international and local components, is uniquely positioned to respond to this crisis given its reach and vast experience in humanitarian response, leading to greater collective and lasting impact.

External coordination

The IFRC serves as a representative in global and regional policy platforms and together with its National Societies, is actively working in collaboration with governments, international organisations, and regional stakeholders such as the African Union, Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), and Southern African Development Community (SADC).

National Societies are engaged with relevant governments and partners to make certain that all our plans are aligned to provide immediate support and prioritise longer-term resilience activities within existing programmes. To achieve longer-term impacts and sustainability of the recovery and resilience-building components, the responses are aligned with government policies to address climate change and enhance the resilience and adaptive capacities of communities.

To improve synergy and optimise the efforts of all humanitarian actors, the IFRC is actively engaging through its operation leads and humanitarian diplomacy services with various aid stakeholders, particularly UN agencies and major NGOs. Coordinating with the UN and aligning with the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) is essential to maximise humanitarian coverage and the Movement's ability to reach people in the last mile. To achieve these objectives, IFRC and National Society focal points coordinate with existing humanitarian structures such as the Humanitarian Country Team, Inter-Cluster Coordination Team, and relevant inter-agency working group meetings/forums, such as the Food Security Cluster, and cluster and working group members, including NGOs, UN agencies, and public authorities.

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