



EQUATORIAL GUINEA

2023 IFRC network annual report, Jan-Dec

17 October 2024

IN SUPPORT OF THE RED CROSS OF EQUATORIAL GUINEA



PEOPLE REACHED

Emergency
Operations



2,750

Disasters
and crises



2,750

Health and
wellbeing



1,528

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

in Swiss francs (CHF)

Country	Funding Requirement	1.1M
IFRC Secretariat	Emergency Operations Funding	1.1M
	Emergency Operations Expenditure	605,000
	Longer-term Funding Requirement	1.1M
	Longer-term Funding	93,000
	Longer-term Expenditure	8,000
HNS other funding sources	Funding	175,000

Red Cross of Equatorial Guinea	
Overview	Funding Sources
Funding	1.4M
Expenditure	124,000
	IFRC Secretariat
	1.2M
	Participating National Societies
	Not reported
	HNS other funding sources
	175,000

Appeal number **MAAGQ002**

In addition to: CHF 3M Funding requirement for newly launched emergency appeals*

OVERALL PROGRESS

Context

Equatorial Guinea covers 28,051 square kilometres and has a population of 1.2 million, divided into the Insular and Continental regions. Despite economic growth driven by oil, poverty and inequality persist, with social challenges such as limited access to education, healthcare and basic services, particularly in rural areas. The country has one of the highest inequality rates in the world, with the richest 10 per cent of the population controlling over 70 per cent of the wealth.

Equatorial Guinea has also made strides in urban water access, slum reduction and legal reforms for child protection, but continues to grapple with climate risks and the need for sustainable development. The country faces health, environmental and social issues, including ongoing efforts to address HIV/AIDS, child protection and deforestation.

On 13 February 2023, Equatorial Guinea declared an outbreak of Marburg virus disease (MVD), a highly virulent viral haemorrhagic fever. It was the first time the disease had been detected in the country. At the request of the Ministry of Health, several agencies deployed to the affected area in Equatorial Guinea to support the set-up of the response.

Key achievements

Climate and environment

In 2023, the Red Cross of Equatorial Guinea advanced its objectives by accessing seasonal and weekly weather forecasts, as well as monthly climate watches, produced for Central Africa by the Centre for Climate Application and Forecasting in Central Africa. Additionally, the National Society participated in a disaster risk reduction conference held in Malabo in March.

Disaster and crises

Between January and December 2023, the Red Cross of Equatorial Guinea participated in online training focused on the IFRC's Disaster Response Emergency Fund (IFRC-DREF) evolution and new templates to enhance its response capacity.

Health and wellbeing

For the reporting period, the Red Cross of Equatorial Guinea responded to a Marburg virus outbreak, aiming to assist 380,000 people after a cluster of deaths in Nsok-Nsomo and Ebebiyin. Following the first confirmed case, the National Society collaborated with the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Social Affairs on risk communication and community engagement, infection prevention and logistics. It trained volunteers on these efforts in various districts and set up a volunteer database for tracking purposes.

Enabling local actors

During the reporting period, the Red Cross of Equatorial Guinea focused on capacity development by applying to the IFRC Capacity Building Fund and creating a National Society development plan. It pursued legal status for formal representation in the country and planned to conduct induction courses for staff and volunteers. Advocacy efforts included developing a humanitarian diplomacy strategy, establishing communication with government and stakeholders, preparing advocacy materials and aligning with the IFRC Global Advocacy Strategy.

In the second half of 2023, the National Society revised its administrative, human resources, logistical and financial procedures. It planned training on financial coordination and worked to enhance transparency and accountability. Following an IT assessment, it outlined requirements for equipment, management software and intranet installation, as part of its digital transformation efforts.

IFRC NETWORK ACTION

ONGOING EMERGENCY RESPONSE

For real-time information on emergencies, visit IFRC GO page [Equatorial Guinea](#).

Emergency Appeal name	Equatorial Guinea Marburg Virus Disease
IFRC Emergency Appeal code	MMDRGQ003
People assisted	380,000 people
Duration	25 March 2023 to 31 December 2024
Funding requirements	Through the IFRC Appeal: CHF 3 million
Link to Emergency Appeal	Equatorial Guinea Marburg Virus Disease
Link to Revised Operational Strategy	Operational Strategy

In February 2023, Equatorial Guinea faced its first Marburg virus disease outbreak, linked to public events in Nsok-Nsomo and Ebebiyin, with Bata as the most affected city. The Red Cross of Equatorial Guinea received support through IFRC's Disaster Response Emergency Fund in early March, followed by an Emergency Appeal later that month. Despite challenges and delays, response activities may continue into 2024, with a revision of the Operational Strategy underway.

Short description of the emergency operational strategy

The IFRC Emergency Appeal aims to support the Red Cross of Equatorial Guinea in assisting 380,000 people across four mainland provinces—Kie-Ntem, Wele-Nzas, Littoral and Centro Sur. The intervention focuses on health promotion, epidemic and disaster preparedness and includes training volunteers in risk communication, safe burials and hygiene practices. It also addresses mental health needs, protection, gender and inclusion by assessing child protection risks, training in prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse, and improving community engagement and accountability. Additionally, it establishes feedback mechanisms and documents best practices for future response efforts.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Climate and environment

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2023, the Red Cross of Equatorial Guinea advanced its objectives by accessing seasonal and weekly weather forecasts, as well as monthly climate watches, produced for Central Africa by the Centre for Climate Application and Forecasting in Central Africa. Additionally, the National Society participated in a disaster risk reduction conference held in Malabo in March.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the National Society's participation in the disaster risk reduction conference and facilitated the sharing of climate-related forecasts and watches to enhance preparedness efforts.



Disasters and crises

For real-time information on emergencies, visit IFRC GO page [Equatorial Guinea](#)

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2023, the Red Cross of Equatorial Guinea participated in online training focused on the IFRC's Disaster Response Emergency Fund (IFRC-DREF) evolution and new templates to enhance its response capacity.



In March 2023, the Tanzania Red Cross Society volunteers raised community awareness on prevention from epidemic diseases in Bukoba, Urban. (Photo: Tanzania Red Cross Society)

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC facilitated training in IFRC-DREF evolution to ensure the National Society's alignment with updated processes and tools for emergency response.



Health and wellbeing

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2023, the Red Cross of Equatorial Guinea focused on responding to the Marburg Disease. It aimed to assist 380,000 people after a cluster of deaths from a suspected viral haemorrhagic fever was reported in two north-eastern districts, Nsok-Nsomo and Ebebiyin.

Following the first confirmed Marburg virus case, the National Society collaborated with the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Social Affairs on risk communication and community engagement, infection prevention and control and logistics. The Red Cross of Equatorial Guinea briefed volunteers and supervisors on risk communication and community engagement in Ebebiyin, Mongomo, and Nsok-Nsomo and trained volunteers on [community engagement and accountability](#) in Batam. Additionally, a volunteer database was established for attendance and payment tracking.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the Red Cross of Equatorial Guinea's response to the Marburg Disease outbreak through its mechanism of Emergency Appeal, launched in March 2023. The IFRC also provided support to the National Society by facilitating briefings for volunteers and supervisors and aided it in the establishment of a volunteer database.

ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS



Strategic and operational coordination

IFRC membership coordination

IFRC membership coordination involves working with member National Societies to assess the humanitarian context, humanitarian situations and needs; agreeing on common priorities; jointly 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, links with development assistance, and efforts to reinforce National Societies in their respective countries, including through their auxiliary role.

The Equatorial Guinea Red Cross has a long-term partnership with the **Spanish Red Cross**. Other National Societies provide support through the IFRC.

Movement coordination

The Red Cross of Equatorial Guinea ensures regular exchanges with the IFRC, the International Committee of the Red Cross and participating National Societies, for the alignment of support and action between Movement partners. In times of emergencies, closer coordination is organized. This is carried out in line with the Strengthening Movement Coordination and Cooperation ([SMCC](#)) principles, and the newly-adopted [Seville Agreement 2.0](#).

The **ICRC** provides financial and technical support to the Red Cross of Equatorial Guinea from its Yaoundé delegation. It provides support in first aid and emergency response, structural support, information technology equipment, running costs, and participation in regional training and meetings.

External coordination

In line with its auxiliary role, the National Society collaborates closely with the authorities in Equatorial Guinea. The Equatorial Guinea Red Cross is part of COMPREC, the Government structure responsible for disaster-related matters. As part of its standard emergency response, the National Society holds coordination meetings with the central government, local authorities and multilateral partners. It also collaborates with a range of other actors, including United Nations agencies such as the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).



National Society development

Progress by the National Society against objectives

During the reporting period, the Red Cross of Equatorial Guinea advanced its capacity development efforts by applying to the [IFRC Capacity Building Fund](#). The National Society developed a National Society development plan. Plans were also underway to conduct two mini-Red Cross Red Crescent Movement induction courses for staff and volunteers. Additionally, it pursued legal status in Equatorial Guinea to establish a formal country representation.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the National Society in proposal development, including applications to the IFRC Capacity Building Fund, the Empress Shôken Fund, the Japanese Government and the American Embassy. Additionally, the IFRC provided support to the Red Cross of Equatorial Guinea in acquiring legal status in Equatorial Guinea.



Humanitarian diplomacy

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In 2023, the Red Cross of Equatorial Guinea planned to enhance its advocacy efforts by developing and implementing a humanitarian diplomacy strategy. The National Society established consistent communication channels with the government and other key stakeholders. It began preparations to create advocacy materials addressing humanitarian needs in the country and focused on building capacity in advocacy skills. The National Society also aimed to implement advocacy agendas aligned with the IFRC Global Advocacy Strategy through the remainder of the year and into 2024.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC supported the efforts of the National Society by working to embed humanitarian diplomacy within its daily operations, providing tools and guidance and facilitating capacity building and skill-sharing initiatives.



Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

Progress by the National Society against objectives

In the second half of 2023, the Red Cross of Equatorial Guinea began revising or developing its administrative, human resources, logistical and financial procedures manual. The process involved planning a series of training courses on financial and coordination procedures. It also made efforts to strengthen its integrity, transparency and accountability.

In April, the National Society's IT capabilities were assessed, evaluating hardware, software and network infrastructure. Based on the findings, the terms of reference for financial capacity-building were developed, outlining requirements for computer equipment, financial and accounting management software and intranet installation. Procurement procedures commenced with suppliers being identified through a competitive bidding process. It also strengthened its systems development and digital transformation.

IFRC network joint support

The IFRC coordinated efforts to support the Red Cross of Equatorial Guinea's efforts to strengthen its integrity and transparency. It also supported the National Society in its digital transformation efforts.



The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)

is the world's largest humanitarian network, with 191 National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and around 15 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.

DATA SCOPE AND LIMITATIONS

- **Missing data and breakdowns:** National Societies have diverse data collection systems and processes that may not align with the standardized indicators. Data may not be available for some indicators, for some National Societies. This may lead to inconsistencies across different reporting tools as well as potential under or over-estimation of the efforts led by all.
- **Reporting bias:** The data informing this Federation-wide overview is self-reported by each National Society (or its designated support entity) and which is the owner and gatekeeper, and responsible for accuracy and updating. IFRC tries to triangulate the data provided by the National Societies with previous data and other data in the public domain.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- The financial report for the Equatorial Guinea IFRC network annual report is not yet available. For information on the ongoing emergencies for the period January to December 2023, see: [MDRGQ003](#)
- [IFRC network country plans](#)
- [Subscribe for updates](#)
- [Live Disaster Response Emergency Fund \(DREF\) data](#)
- Operational information: [IFRC GO platform](#)
- National Society data: [IFRC Federation-wide Databank and Reporting System](#)
- [Evaluations database](#)

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