

# REVISED EMERGENCY APPEAL

## AFRICA | HUNGER CRISIS



Photo: The mother's club in a village in Barkeol, Mauritania, organising a session on malnutrition prevention among children and pregnant and lactating women. "The "mothers' club" concept aims to strengthen community resilience in the face of food and nutritional insecurity, which has become recurrent in the country.

Appeal No: <b>MGR60001</b>	IFRC Secretariat Funding requirements: <b>CHF 232.5 million</b> Federation-wide Funding requirements: <b>CHF 318 million<sup>1</sup></b>	
Glide No: <b>NA</b>	People [affected/at risk]: <b>157m people</b> across sub-Saharan Africa (143m in the 25 countries covered in this operation/watch list)	People to be assisted: <b>14 million<sup>2</sup></b>
DREF allocation: <b>CHF 8,028,262<sup>3</sup></b>	Appeal launched: <b>06/10/2022</b>	Appeal ends: <b>31/12/2024<sup>4</sup></b>

<sup>1</sup> The Federation-wide funding requirement encompasses all financial support to be directed to the Operating National Societies in response to the emergency. It includes the operating National Societies' domestic fundraising requests and the fundraising appeals of supporting Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies of CHF 85.5 million (increased from CHF 73 million in the first appeal), as well as the funding requirements of the IFRC secretariat of CHF 232.5 million (increased from CHF 132 million in the first appeal). This comprehensive approach ensures that all available resources are mobilized to address the urgent humanitarian needs of the affected communities.

<sup>2</sup> The number of people to be assisted under this emergency appeal is increased from 7.6 million to 14 million with this revision.

<sup>3</sup> CHF 1,076,462 of which is reimbursed and the overall outstanding active loan to the hunger crisis is CHF 6,951,800 as of 05.03.2023 (B.O monitoring report).

<sup>4</sup> The timeframe of this emergency appeal is extended from 31 December 2023 to 31 December 2024 with this revision.

Built on a foundation of strong, national country response plans, this Revised 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. The current Emergency Appeal coverage is 27% Federation-Wide (CHF 59 million) and reached 1.53 million people with assistance. Due to the prolonged and deepening food crisis across the region and an urgent need to sustain and increase resources, this Emergency Appeal is being revised.

## Situation Overview



**38 countries**

across sub-Saharan Africa with people facing acute food insecurity



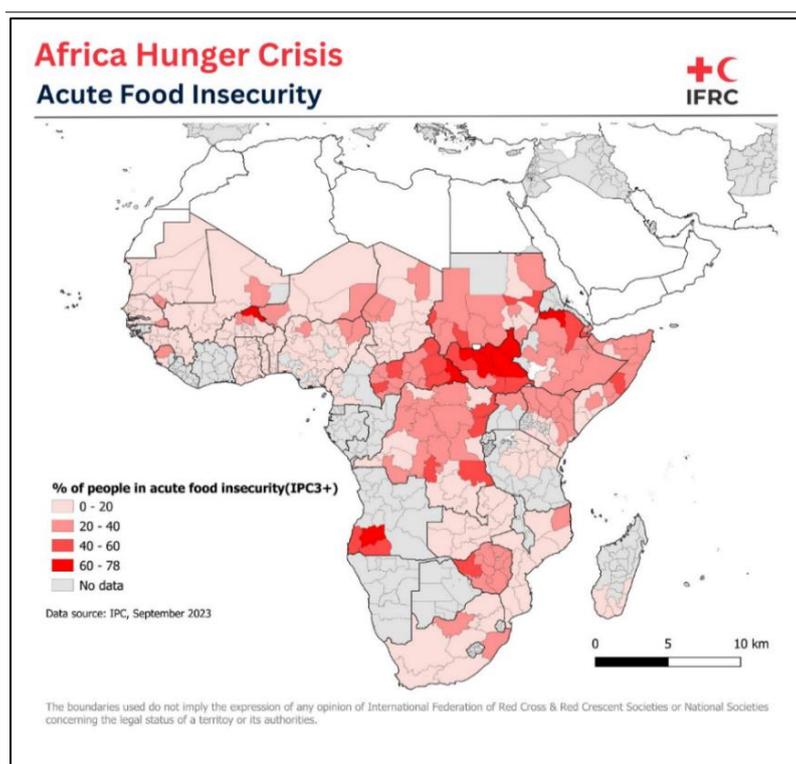
**157 million**

People experiencing Crisis or worse levels of acute food insecurity across sub-Saharan Africa



**29 million**

People in sub-Saharan Africa affected by natural disasters between January and September 2023



*Figure 1: Hunger crisis affected countries*

represent a significant increase from previous years but also underscore the expanding scope of the crisis.

In East Africa, countries are affected by the dual impact of conflict and climatic shocks. The Horn of Africa, for instance, experienced four consecutive failed rainy seasons starting from late 2020, followed by severe flooding in the latter part of 2023. This pattern of climatic extremes is unprecedented in its frequency and severity compared to previous years. South Sudan's situation is illustrative of the escalating crisis, with the country enduring extreme flooding for four successive years, leading to prolonged humanitarian emergencies which are, in turn, exacerbating the food crisis.

Political instability in the Sahel region has led to significant displacement and livelihood disruptions. By mid-2023, an estimated 45,000 people in Burkina Faso and Mali were projected to face catastrophic levels of hunger, a figure that starkly contrasts with the situation in previous years.

The effects of the ongoing food insecurity crisis in Africa are severe and have shown a critical trend over time.

As of November 2023, approximately 157 million people in sub-Saharan Africa are grappling with crisis-level food shortages, marking a 7% increase from the 146 million in October 2022. This escalation is indicative of the rapidly worsening situation, as the region struggles to cope with an array of exacerbating factors.

Acute malnutrition rates across the continent have surged alarmingly. Currently, 16.5 million children under the age of five in West and Central Africa are in a severe nutritional crisis. Additionally, another seven million children in the Horn of Africa are facing similarly dire circumstances. These figures not only

The United Nations Global Humanitarian Overview for 2023 estimates the response cost at USD 51.5 billion, reflecting a 25% increase from early 2022. By mid-2023, the number of people in need had further risen by 7%, a trend that signals a significant escalation compared to past years.

The efforts of the IFRC and African National Societies are being scaled-up in response to this crisis, however, its current magnitude poses an unprecedented challenge to their response capabilities, making the need for a rapid, effective, and well-funded response more critical than ever to mitigate the escalating crisis and its long-term impacts.

## Global and Local Drivers

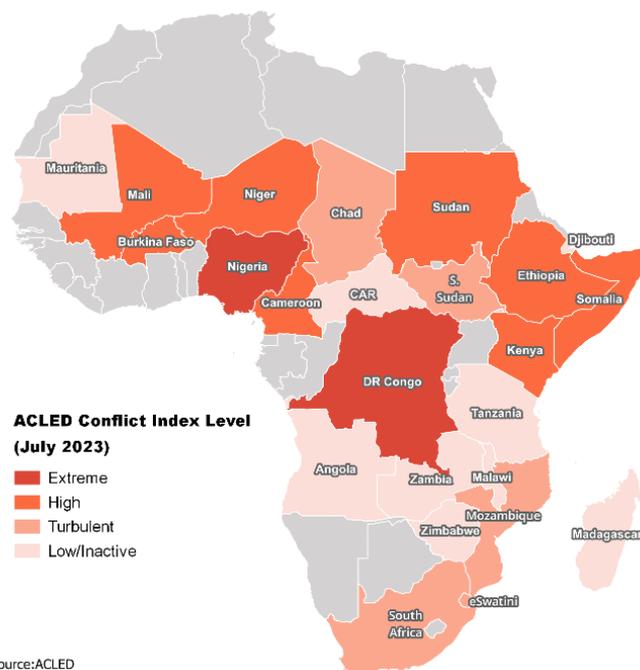
The food insecurity crisis in Africa, is a result of several interconnected global and local factors.

### Conflict/Political Instability:

Political turmoil, conflict and displacement are driving acute food insecurity in several parts of Africa. According to the [UNHCR 2023 mid-year trends report](#), 25.4 million people were internally displaced in sub-Saharan Africa by mid-2023. Re-emerging conflicts, particularly in Sudan and the Sahel region, have led to mass displacements internally and across borders, disrupting supply chains and intensifying food shortages.

**Climatic shocks:** Climatic conditions, especially the El Niño phenomenon, have been detrimental. El Niño is projected to cause drier than average conditions in Southern Africa and floods in Eastern Africa, impacting agricultural productivity. The October-December 2023 rainy season has brought extreme flooding across Eastern Africa (Kenya, Somalia, Uganda, Burundi, Ethiopia), affecting nearly 3.1 million people and displacing 772,000 people.<sup>5</sup>

Those affected by the floods are likely to face food insecurity, due to disruptions to livelihoods and damage to crops and property. In Southern Africa, a slow onset impact of El Niño is projected, with extended dry conditions beginning from October 2023 to March 2024. Reports indicate that the impact of these dry conditions in Southern Africa is likely to be long-lasting, with [FEWS NET projections](#) indicating the possibility of elevated needs for food assistance during the lean season in early 2025.



Source:ACLED

Figure 2: Conflict levels as of July 2023.



Photo: A Kenya Red Cross volunteer in Garissa helps move a mother, her children and livestock to higher ground after recent heavy El-Nino rains pounded the region.

**Macroeconomic challenges:** The economic outlook across the region for 2024 remains depressed. A World Bank study suggests that global food insecurity levels will persist, with a slow recovery projected in the global economy by 2024. Many countries in Africa are facing a high cost of living and soaring inflation. Nigeria exemplifies this, with inflation hitting a 10-year high of 27.3% in October 2023,

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.unocha.org/publications/report/somalia/eastern-africa-el-nino-impact-snapshot-november-2023>

severely limiting food access for households, while in Malawi, severe foreign exchange shortages have resulted in a cost-of-living crisis.

**Russia-Ukraine conflict:** The Russia-Ukraine conflict has dramatically disrupted global wheat, corn, and fertiliser exports, exacerbating food insecurity. This conflict has caused a deficit in grain exports and surging food and fertiliser prices. Crop production in Ukraine is expected to drop significantly, further affecting exports.

Somalia and Sudan were highly reliant on wheat imports from Russia and Ukraine to meet local demand.<sup>6</sup> By 2022, 63% of wheat imports in Somalia were from Ukraine, while in Sudan, 50% of wheat imports are from Russia and 20% from Ukraine.<sup>7</sup>

Both the availability and affordability of fertilisers in Malawi, Zimbabwe, and Mozambique have been particularly affected by the Russia-Ukraine conflict.<sup>8</sup> The availability of fertiliser in Malawi and Mozambique is particularly limited compared to other countries in sub-Saharan Africa. In Malawi, fertiliser prices increased by up to 25% following the outbreak of the Russia-Ukraine conflict.

Specifically in Africa, countries such as Cameroon and Kenya have been heavily impacted by rising food prices due to the war. While more than half the population was already food insecure in Cameroon before the conflict, Kenya's situation was even more dire, with nearly 70% experiencing food insecurity.<sup>9</sup> The cost of imported food, including staples like bread and cooking oil, has risen significantly, putting these essential items out of reach for many with low incomes.

The Russia-Ukraine conflict has exacerbated an already precarious food security situation in Africa, with millions more people facing acute hunger and soaring food prices severely impacting the affordability of basic food items.

## RED CROSS RED CRESCENT-NATIONAL SOCIETIES' RESPONSE

Through uniquely positioned branch and volunteer networks, with wide acceptance and unparalleled access, African National Societies of the Red Cross and Red Crescent have been able to deliver lifesaving assistance to some of the hardest-to-reach communities and marginalised groups since mid-2021. During this acute emergency phase, National Societies have focused their support on proven approaches, drawing from their experience, to make the most significant impact on the lives and livelihoods of those affected. Collectively, National Societies have reached more than 1.53 million people with multi-purpose cash transfers, livelihoods support, water and sanitation activities, and/or health and nutrition services. Yet, the

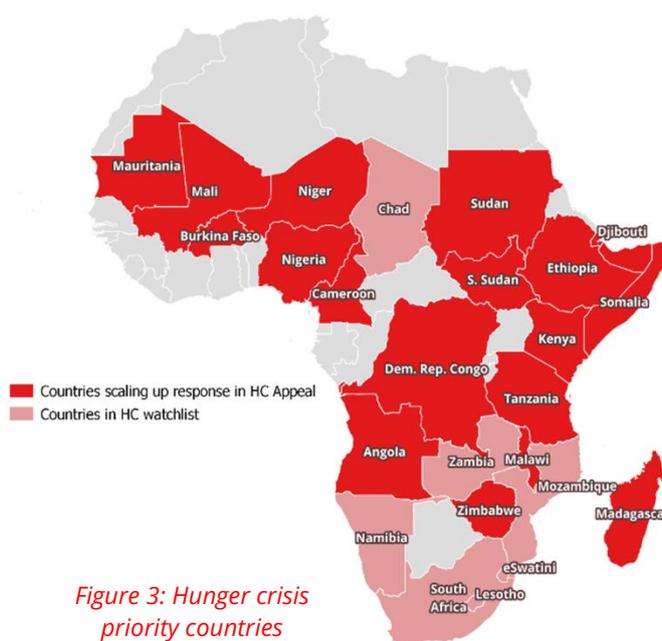


Figure 3: Hunger crisis priority countries

<sup>6</sup> <https://reliefweb.int/report/ethiopia/impacts-suspension-black-sea-grain-initiative-eastern-africa>

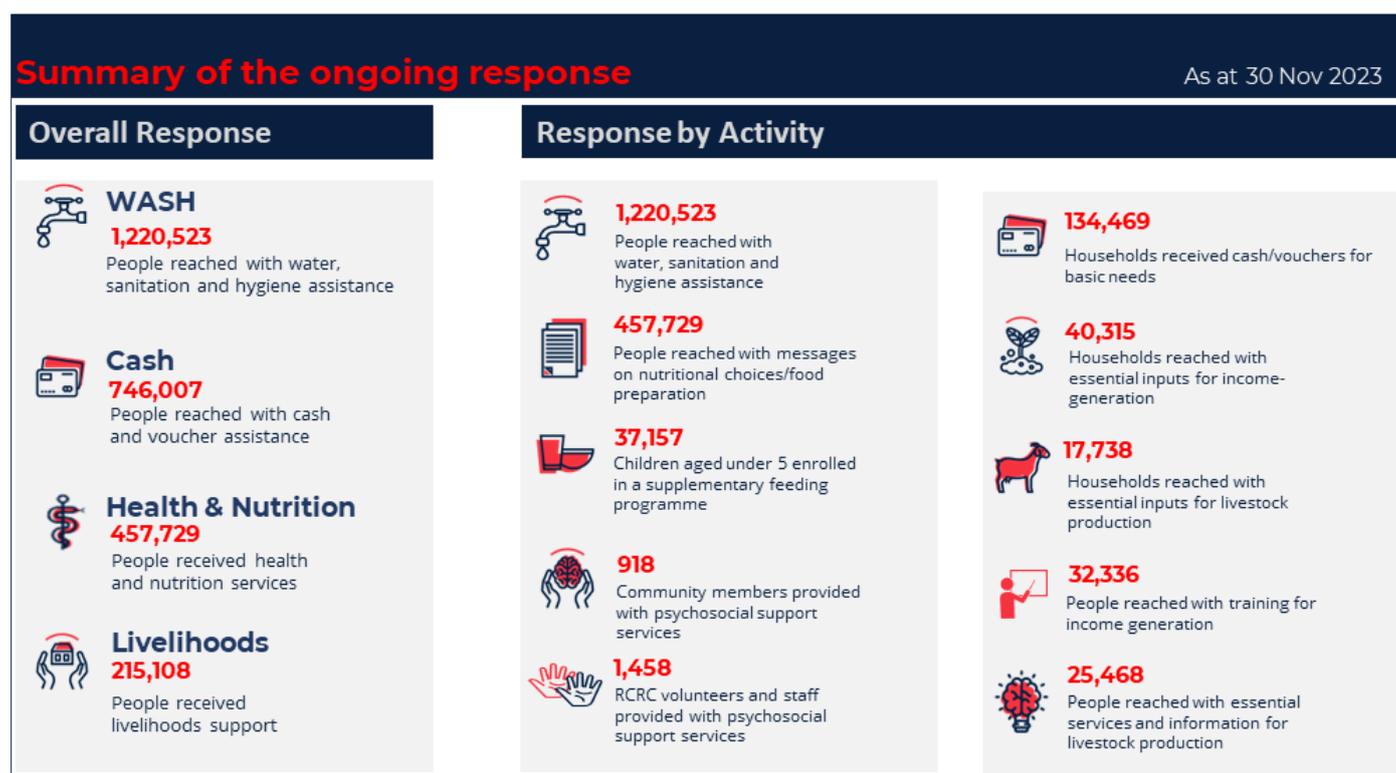
<sup>7</sup> <https://www.ipcinfo.org/ipc-country-analysis/details-map/en/c/1156504/?iso3=SDN>

<sup>8</sup> <https://africafertilizerwatch.org/#/en>

<sup>9</sup> [Ukraine/Russia: As War Continues, Africa Food Crisis Looms | Human Rights Watch \(hrw.org\)](https://www.hrw.org/news/2022/03/22/ukraine-russia-as-war-continues-africa-food-crisis-looms)

situation continues to deteriorate and the IFRC, together with its members, is scaling-up life-saving support to the millions of people affected. At this time, 18 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, Mauritania, Djibouti, Madagascar, Tanzania and Malawi.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action is supported by meaningful community engagement making sure the response is evidence-based and contextually relevant. The IFRC is also developing longer-term programmes in conjunction with 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.



### Category Red Emergency

Red Cross Red Crescent Societies continue to report witnessing concerning levels of hunger across the continent. They are stepping up their actions, in collaboration with the IFRC, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), governments, and partners, to provide life-saving support to the most affected countries.

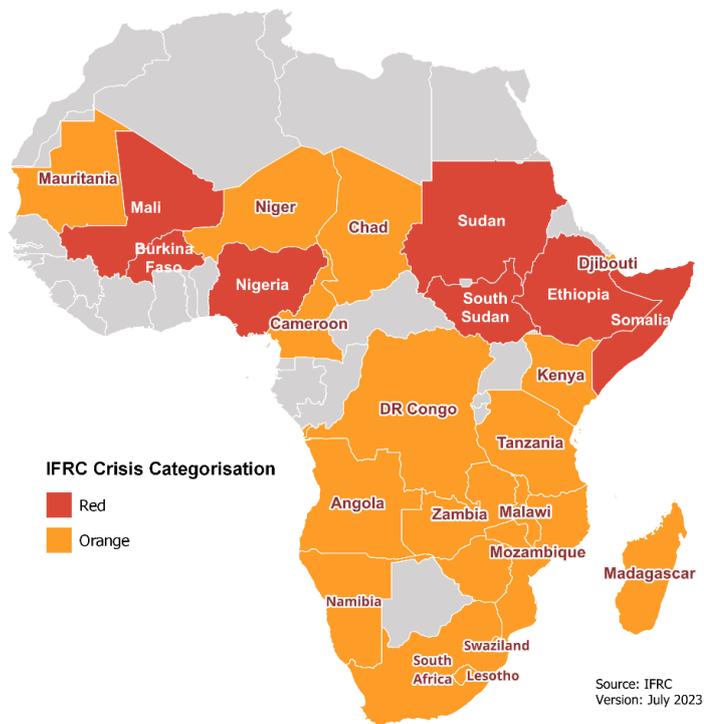


Figure 4: IFRC Crisis Categorisation

The IFRC’s crisis categorisation for the Regional Hunger Crisis was based on indicators under four pillars: Pre-crisis vulnerability, crisis complexity, scope/scale, and humanitarian conditions. Pre-crisis vulnerability refers to the susceptibility of the country to enter and stay in a crisis. Crisis complexity reflects different operational constraints affecting humanitarian assistance, while scope and scale indicates different measurable impacts of the crisis. Humanitarian conditions refer to the severity of humanitarian needs observed in the crisis.

Red Level categorisation is for the most severe humanitarian crises, and as of October 2023, the number of countries categorised as a red emergency has increased to seven, with the inclusion of Mali and Burkina Faso.

In 2022, 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.

## Targeting by Country



**CHF 318m**

*needed to scale-up*



**14 million**

*people targeted in 18 countries*



**25**

*countries on the IFRC watch list (18 priority countries)*

This revised appeal adapts to the evolving context, addressing both unmet and emerging needs, as well as incorporating insights from ongoing efforts. It focuses on an integrated response, structured around three core areas: food security and livelihoods; health and nutrition; and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH). The strategy also weaves in cross-cutting issues and resilience-building, facilitated through multilateral agreements and collaborations with intergovernmental organisations.

National Societies have aligned their hunger crisis plans of action with both their respective country plans and the Regional Hunger Crisis Emergency Appeal, as well as the Regional Operational Strategy. Technical sector leaders and country clusters continue to support hunger crisis operations. This includes efforts in humanitarian diplomacy and resource mobilisation to fulfil the objectives of both the Regional Hunger Crisis Operational Strategy and the respective action plans of National Societies.

This Emergency Appeal revision includes Tanzania, Malawi, Mauritania, and Djibouti as priority countries due to shifting contexts and urgent needs (Djibouti, Tanzania and Malawi have increased IPC3+ levels as compared to 2022 – 49%, 67%, and 67%, respectively). The number of countries categorised as Red Level Emergency increased from five to seven (Burkina Faso, Mali, Ethiopia, Somalia, Nigeria, South Sudan, and Sudan). Seven countries will be on the watch list due to increased risk of food insecurity (Chad, Mozambique, Zambia, South Africa, Namibia, Lesotho, and Eswatini). As a result, the overall funding request for the Federation has increased to 318 million Swiss francs, aiming to assist 14 million people which corresponds to 11% of the total populations in acute food insecurity across the 18 priority countries. The operational timeframe has been extended to conclude in December 2024.

Revised Emergency Appeal Targets		
Country	People to Assist	Funding Ask (CHF)
Angola	330,000	10,000,000
Burkina Faso	350,000	18,000,000
Cameroon	550,000	10,000,000
Djibouti	45,000	1,500,000
DRC	2,500,000	40,000,000
Ethiopia	2,000,000	40,000,000
Kenya	800,000	25,000,000
Madagascar	225,000	5,500,000
Malawi	450,000	6,500,000
Mali	350,000	8,000,000
Mauritania	90,000	2,000,000
Niger	450,000	10,000,000
Nigeria	2,500,000	40,000,000

Somalia	560,000	24,000,000
South Sudan	800,000	16,000,000
Sudan	1,500,000	40,000,000
Tanzania	100,000	2,500,000
Zimbabwe	400,000	14,000,000
	<b>14,000,000</b>	<b>313,000,000</b>
Chad	Watch List	
Eswatini	Watch List	
Lesotho	Watch List	
Mozambique	Watch List	
Namibia	Watch List	
South Africa	Watch List	
Zambia	Watch List	
IFRC Coord.		5,000,000
		<b>318,000,000</b>

To date, 25 sub-Saharan African countries are on the IFRC's hunger list, with 18 identified as most at risk and prioritised. Priority targeting is based on a multivariate analysis, including the Integrated Phase Classification (IPC), focusing on communities in crisis or worse levels of acute food insecurity (IPC 3+). Sixteen National Societies have developed country-specific emergency plans of actions under this Appeal and each country plan details the geographic areas covered.

Additionally, countries on the IFRC Hunger Watch List received support through the Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF). This aid enables assessments, initiates responses, and helps develop country plans. Should conditions worsen, these countries may also be included in the expanded assistance through a revised funding request within this Emergency Appeal. Moreover, if the situation in sub-Saharan Africa deteriorates, more countries may be added to the priority list.

### Targeting by Communities

African National Societies persist in their efforts to reach remote communities, ensuring assistance reaches even the most isolated areas. Their work involves setting geographic, community, and population goals in coordination with other humanitarian organisations. This collaboration extends to rebuilding community assets that support food availability and access. Beyond direct aid, these societies also facilitate access to services and goods from governments and other entities.

In each priority country, a minimum of 10% of those experiencing acute food insecurity are targeted for assistance. This targeting process uses IPC/Cadre Harmonisé data and other credible sources and is refined using more detailed data from focused assessments by National Societies or partner agencies.

The focus is on households facing acute food insecurity due to climate-related events and other factors affecting food security. After geographic targeting, households are selected based on food security and economic criteria, ideally developed in consultation with the community. Within these vulnerable households, further selection is done by identifying specific social categories. The targeting approach incorporates considerations of protection, gender, and inclusion (PGI), allowing for a tailored response to individual and group needs and risks.

## PLANNED OPERATIONS

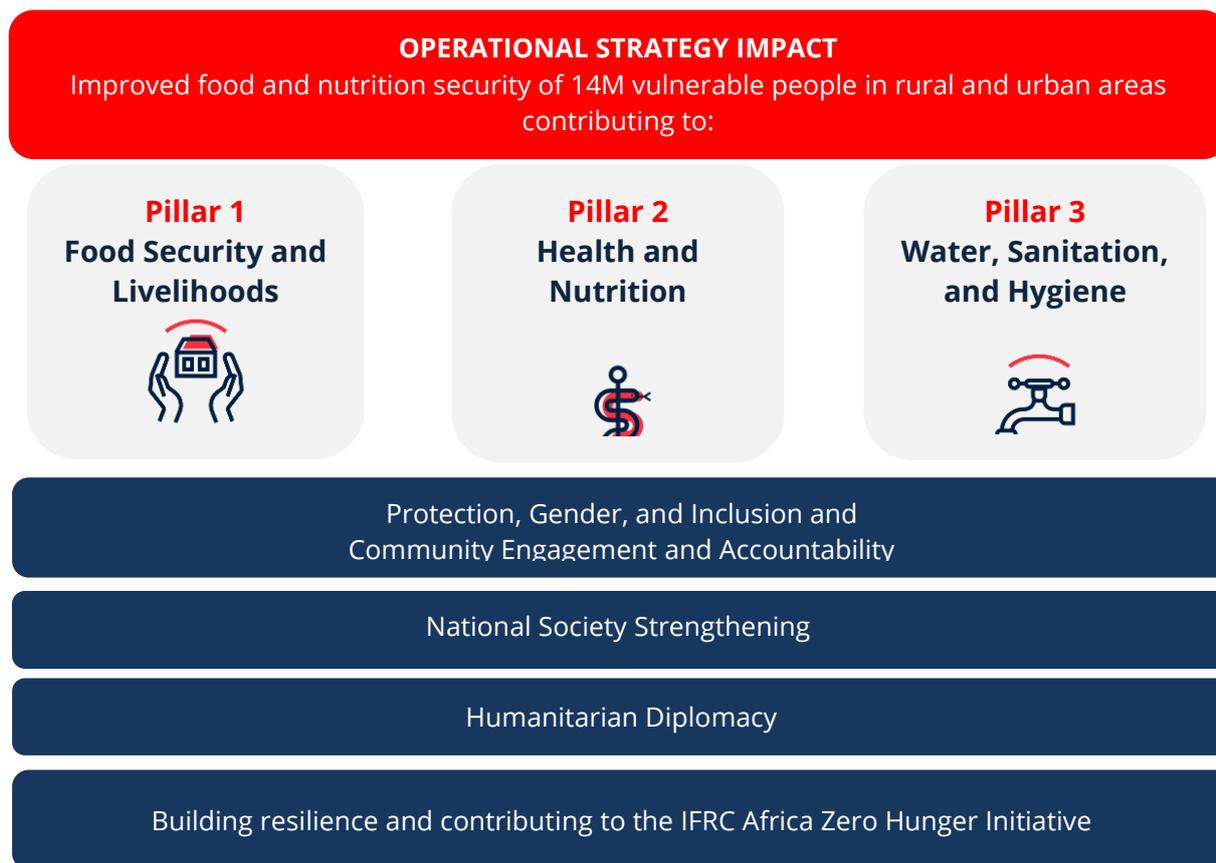
African National Societies supported by the IFRC and Participating National Societies will provide life-saving humanitarian assistance under this Regional Emergency Appeal. Each of these National Societies has developed an emergency response, with an emphasis on meeting the urgent food, nutrition, and 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 cash-based assistance along with a package of health and nutrition, water, sanitation, and hygiene services. All interventions are underpinned by PGI, community engagement and accountability (CEA) 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 revised 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 the plans and priorities of governments 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 with the Africa Union's Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want and climate adaptation plans. Additionally, the Development of the AU-IFRC Food and Nutrition Resilience Framework and AU-IFRC Horn of Africa Country Plans are other examples of the Zero Hunger Initiative supported by the Hunger Crisis Appeal.
- **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 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:

## Response Pillars



	<p><b>Response Pillar 1: Food Security and Livelihoods</b> <b>Enhancing Food Security and Strengthening Livelihoods</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Lifesaving Basic Needs Assistance:</b> This includes multipurpose cash transfers, vouchers, or in-kind assistance to address acute food insecurity in affected households. The primary modality is multi-purpose cash transfers (MPC), coordinated with National Cash Working Groups. These groups conduct market assessments and set MPC values based on the Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB). The MPC approach is a key component of the 'cash-plus' strategy. It complements other actions, emphasizing the synergy between cash transfers and other interventions for broader impact. This approach integrates with the pillars for health/nutrition and WASH, underscoring the role of cash and vouchers in a cohesive response framework.</li> <li>• <b>Comprehensive Approach:</b> The pillar integrates various actions like awareness-raising, information dissemination, training, provision of inputs/tools, linking to essential services, and strengthening community safety nets. This includes complementing with existing safety net/social protection systems.</li> <li>• <b>Safeguarding Livelihoods:</b> Emergency production inputs and tools, particularly for crops and livestock, will be provided to sustain primary household production. This also includes support to prevent the sale or exchange of these assets to cover food gaps, especially during crises like production loss, food price hikes, or lean periods. Anticipatory information will</li> </ul>
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	<p>be shared to assist households to pursue informed livelihood options and for early warning and early response to shocks/stresses.</p>
	<p>Response Pillar 2: <b>Health and Nutrition</b></p> <p><b>Nutrition surveillance, knowledge-raising, and health promotion</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Nutrition Surveillance and Health Promotion:</b> The pillar emphasises monitoring nutrition, particularly in vulnerable populations where children are at risk of acute malnutrition. This includes: regular community-based screening; referral of malnourished children to therapeutic feeding programmes; and follow-up and defaulter tracing to ensure continuous care.</li> <li>• <b>Nutrition Education and Access to Essential Health Services:</b> A strong focus on nutrition awareness and education, particularly on infant and young child feeding (IYCF) practices. Additionally, ensuring that cash and voucher assistance recipients can effectively access health services.</li> <li>• <b>Preventive Health Services:</b> The strategy includes providing community-based promotional and preventive health services. This is crucial for preventing and controlling main childhood killer diseases and epidemics, with a focus on the links between malnutrition and infectious diseases.</li> <li>• <b>Health and Hygiene Promotion:</b> A special emphasis will be placed on promoting health and hygiene practices in the community. This is important for preventing the spread of diseases and ensuring the overall well-being of the population, especially in contexts where malnutrition and infectious diseases are interconnected.</li> <li>• <b>Supporting health and nutrition through Cash/Voucher Assistance:</b> Cash or voucher assistance may be utilised to meet health/nutrition objectives, allowing flexibility and choice for the affected population in addressing their specific health/nutrition needs.</li> <li>• <b>Context-appropriate Interventions:</b> Recognising the varied needs across different communities, interventions will be tailored to be context-appropriate, addressing the specific health and nutrition challenges faced in each area.</li> </ul>
	<p>Response Pillar 3: <b>Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Essential WASH Services:</b> The response involves providing access to WASH services, crucial for maintaining health, food security, and livelihoods. These services are both life-saving and contribute to sustainable improvements in various areas, including health, dignity, protection, and resilience.</li> <li>• <b>Provision of Safe Water and Infrastructure Rehabilitation:</b> Activities include directly supplying safe water and rehabilitating water supply infrastructure. This ensures that communities have access to clean and safe water, which is essential for health and well-being.</li> <li>• <b>Water Treatment and Storage:</b> In-kind provision of water treatment products and storage solutions will be a part of the response. This ensures that water remains safe for consumption and use, even in areas where water quality is compromised.</li> <li>• <b>Supporting WASH through Cash/Voucher Assistance:</b> Cash or voucher assistance may be utilised to meet WASH objectives, allowing flexibility and choice for the affected population in addressing their specific WASH needs.</li> <li>• <b>Multipurpose Water Supply Considerations:</b> While the primary focus is on human consumption, the efficient use of water for other purposes like livestock and agriculture will also be considered. This holistic approach</li> </ul>

	<p>ensures that water usage supports overall community resilience and sustenance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Complementary WASH Actions:</b> The pillar will also include actions that support and complement direct WASH interventions, such as hygiene promotion campaigns, construction or rehabilitation of sanitation facilities, and community engagement activities to improve WASH practices and awareness.</li> </ul>
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**Cross-Cutting Sectors and Zero Hunger Initiative**

The revised Regional Hunger Crisis Appeal integrates CEA and PGI as pivotal elements, an approach that recognises and values all community members as equal partners, with their diverse needs shaping the response. Activities span from adhering to PGI standards in emergencies to promoting non-violence and peace. The strategy emphasises local voice amplification, collaborative engagement, and transparent communication, extending into long-term resilience building through initiatives such as the IFRC Africa Zero Hunger Initiative. This integrative approach aims for sustainable, community-led solutions in addressing crises and building resilience:

	<p><b>Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Targeting by National Societies will continue based on 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.</li> <li>• 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).</li> <li>• Community-based information and education initiatives and materials on the culture of non-violence and peace (including discrimination, violence, exclusion, sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), and child protection) will be at the centre of the response.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Community engagement and accountability (CEA)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CEA is 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. The integration of CEA activities will ensure that locally-led solutions are promoted to mitigate any impacts while supporting sustainable resilience building.</li> <li>• 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, in addition to using the CVA modality.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Promoting a foundation for resilience building – the IFRC Africa Zero Hunger Initiative</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The revised Regional Appeal's integrated approach will address various factors affecting resilience, including providing basic needs assistance through a safety net framework, and protecting livelihoods. This includes complementing with existing safety net and social protection systems. The response to the ongoing food insecurity</li> </ul>

	<p>crisis will extend beyond the Emergency Appeal's duration, integrating into long-term plans of National Societies as part of the IFRC's ongoing Zero Hunger initiatives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additionally, the appeal emphasises connecting with existing programmes that invest in nature-based solutions. This includes practices like agroecological food production, forest conservation, protecting wetlands, and enhancing coastal ecosystems. These strategies not only store emissions and shield communities from extreme weather but also provide food, jobs, and habitats. Leveraging the grassroots expertise of African National Societies, the IFRC aims to pilot climate change adaptation strategies to support the recovery of individuals, households, and communities.</li> </ul>
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## Enabling approaches

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

	<p><b>National Society Strengthening</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The IFRC Secretariat and partners, adhering to their primary mandate, are committed to enhancing the fundamental aspects of National Societies as outlined in their organisational development framework. This commitment will be reflected and expanded upon in individual country plans. A significant focus will be placed on improving operational and management capabilities at the branch level, which play a crucial role in programme delivery. There will be a concentrated effort to strengthen the capacity of National Societies at both the National Headquarters and Branch levels, especially in responding to crises. Additionally, support will be extended to develop strategic planning within National Societies, including initiatives like Zero Hunger and tree planting, as well as enhancing their preparedness and overall development.</li> </ul>
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## **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 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 diligently collaborating with relevant government line ministries, national stakeholders, and other agencies to ensure that their efforts are aligned and mutually reinforcing. This strategic alignment is key to maximising effectiveness and efficiency in their operations. Moreover, National Societies are committed to ongoing engagement and coordination with other humanitarian partners. This includes participating in joint assessments, attending and sometimes leading coordination meetings and working groups/clusters. They play a crucial role in addressing gaps identified by OCHA, coordination platforms, or clusters. Furthermore, there is a focus on deepening partnerships with major food security players, such as FAO, WFP, and others to enhance their impact in this critical area.

### **Humanitarian Diplomacy and representation with governments and external partners**

- African National Societies are dedicated to ensuring that actions under this Emergency Appeal align with and contribute to the strategies of governments to combat hunger and reduce food insecurity. The IFRC Secretariat plays a pivotal role in representing the collective interests of the most vulnerable while supporting the auxiliary status of National Societies. This is achieved through active policy dialogues aimed at positioning member National Societies and the IFRC in influential policy forums. Additionally, there is an emphasis on robust public and bilateral engagements with governments, multilateral actors, academia, the private sector, and the communities served by the IFRC network. A key focus is to continue supporting National Societies in establishing themselves as strong national humanitarian actors. This involves maintaining their auxiliary role to the public authorities and enhancing their influence and advocacy through in-country, sub-regional, and regional diplomatic efforts.





### IFRC Secretariat services

- The IFRC has mobilised a “Zero Hunger Cell” tasked with overseeing the operational coordination of the Hunger Crisis response across the African continent. The Cell is built on the following five pillars and supports all countries under this Emergency Appeal: The regional services provided by the IFRC and partners include: 1) Operations coordination and technical support; 2) Surge deployments (where applicable for new countries added to the EA); 3) Information management, foresight, and analysis; 4) Regional and global level advocacy and humanitarian diplomacy; 5) communications and visibility; 6) Federation-wide PMER tailored support to National Societies on implementation, development, and accountability; 7) Resource mobilisation, including national resource mobilisation plans.
- Based on the technical and coordination support required in this operation, the following programme support functions will continue 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, humanitarian diplomacy and resource mobilisation. Resource mobilization efforts are focused on securing flexible funding, prioritizing strategic multi-year, multi-million, and multi-country opportunities at the regional level for Zero Hunger. Emphasis is also on country-specific funding strategies, with a nexus approach, transitioning from emergency humanitarian funding to development-oriented donor opportunities, and maintaining strong relationships with existing donors through regular updates and acknowledgment of their contributions. 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 revision. 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 the 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 **3.8 million volunteers** and over **6,000 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.

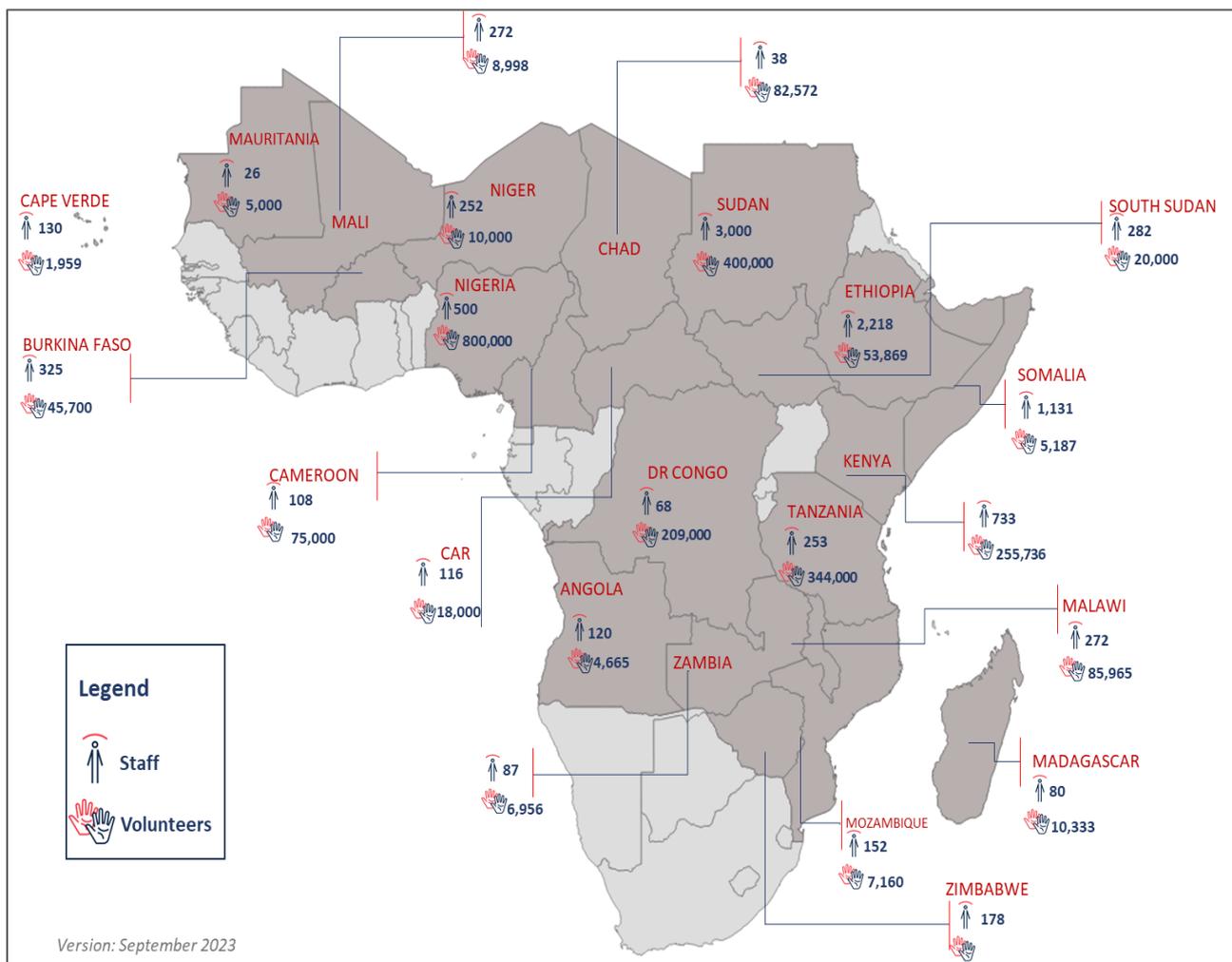


Figure 5: Africa National Society staff and volunteers

## 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 mobilised 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 the context of the 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 the ICRC and IFRC allows for broader geographical coverage of the needs while coordination between the Movement's entities across various platforms at the country and regional level aim to holistically address hunger and food security issues, linking emergency response with the 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 a 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 synergies 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, like the Food Security Cluster, and cluster and working group members, including NGOs, UN agencies, and public authorities.

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After 31 December 2024, response activities to this crisis will continue under the respective IFRC Network Country Plans for 2025. The IFRC Network Country Plans show an integrated view of ongoing emergency responses and longer-term programming tailored to the needs in the country, as well as a

Federation-wide view of the country's action. This aims to streamline activities under one plan, while still ensuring that the needs of those affected by the disaster are met in an accountable and transparent way. Information will be shared in due time, should there be a need for an extension of the crisis-specific response beyond the above-mentioned timeframe.

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### Reference



Click here for:

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