

Global Refugee Crises due to climate, disasters and conflicts

SUMMARY OF THE 2022 ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE NETHERLANDS RED CROSS

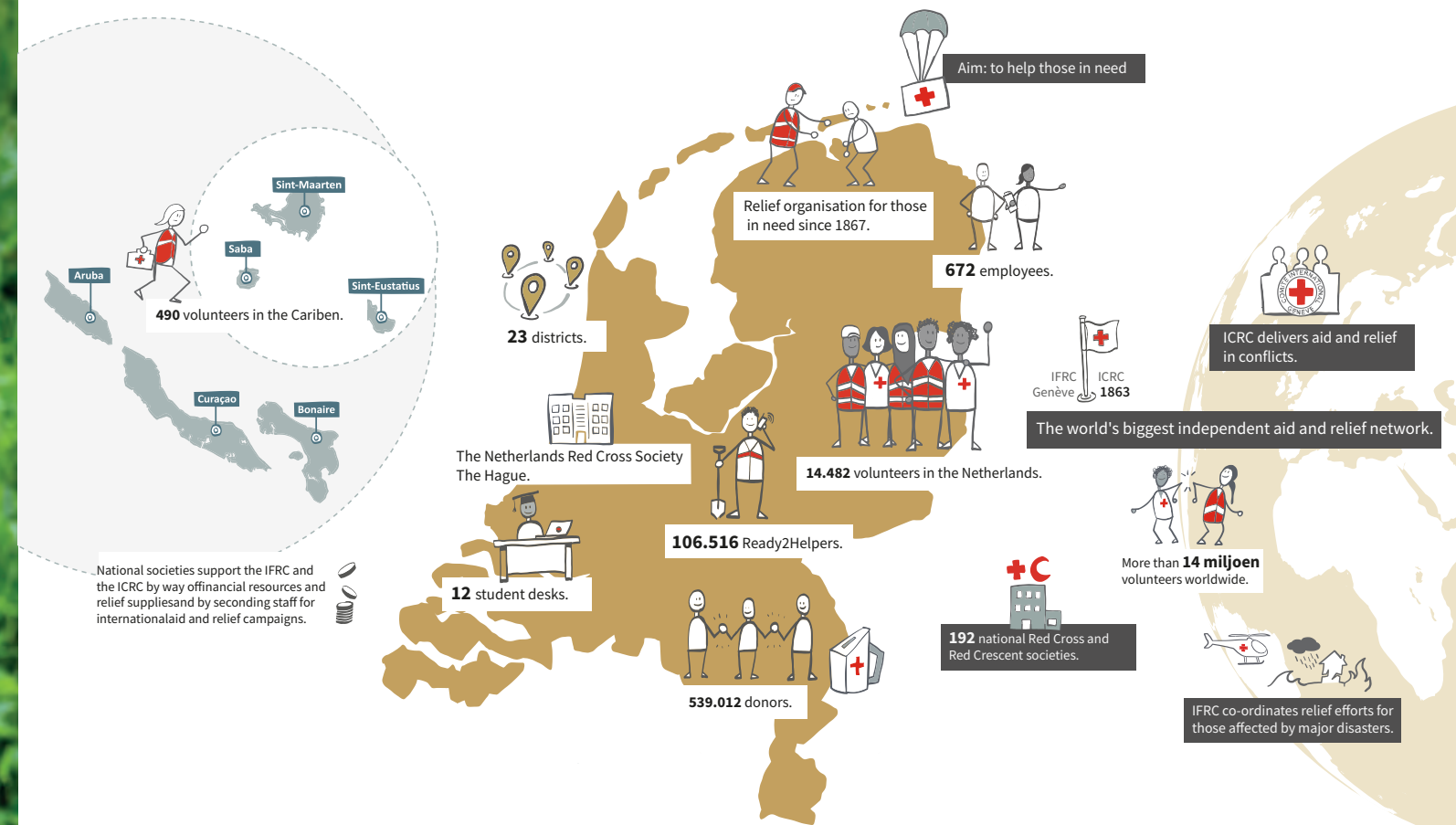
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The Netherlands
Red Cross



The impact of the Red Cross in the Netherlands



Mission

Prevent and alleviate human suffering wherever it occurs. Protect lives and health and ensure respect for all human beings. That is our mission. We pay particular attention to those who are most vulnerable: those who, without our help, would not survive or would fall into poor health.

Vision

Through our volunteers and Red Cross Societies in 192 countries, we prepare people for potential crises and ensure that people are able to help themselves and others. Thanks to our efforts, no one stands alone in times of need.

Challenges in 2022

Worldwide we saw the number of humanitarian crises grow in 2022. Basic necessities such as shelter, water and food were under pressure. People were struggling in Ukraine, Syria, Pakistan and many other countries. And also in the Netherlands. The causes were diverse, from the aftermath of the pandemic and the energy crisis to conflicts and natural disasters. But one common thread became increasingly clear in 2022 as the cause of much human suffering: more people became displaced by the changing climate and by disasters and conflicts.



The Red Cross in the Netherlands

Needs are closer than you think. Basic necessities such as food, drink and shelter proved, even in 2022, not to be taken for granted in a rich country like the Netherlands. We also faced an ever-increasing refugee crisis and wanted to do a massive “something” for Ukrainians seeking refuge in the Netherlands. With 14,972 volunteers in the Netherlands and the Caribbean and 106,516 flexible citizen aid workers (Ready2Help), we were able to help thousands of people in the Netherlands in 2022. We could only do this thanks to the overwhelming support of many individuals, companies, governments, institutions and funds.

Reception of Ukrainians in the Netherlands

Millions of people from Ukraine fled the conflict in their country in 2022. Some of them sought a safe haven in the Netherlands. Thousands of relief workers came into action. For example, we set up Humanitarian Service Points at various stations, where newly arrived refugees were given something to eat and drink and information about accommodation options in the Netherlands. Together with The Dutch Council for Refugees, The Salvation Army and TakeCareBNB, we supported the matching process of people from Ukraine and host families. We also supported shelters and opened several helplines where people from Ukraine can ask their questions.

Refugee shelter

We supported municipalities and other organizations in the reception of all homeless people. Also so-called “non-eligible persons”, such as undocumented migrants and migrant workers without official work permits. A low point in the refugee crisis was when people at the overcrowded location in Ter Apel had to spend the night outside. The Red Cross then immediately supported by providing tents and establishing a Humanitarian Service Point.

Food aid

More and more people are struggling daily to buy groceries. In cooperation with partner organizations in neighbourhoods and districts, we offered help with grocery cards in 2022. These cards allow people to go to the supermarket and pick the products they need themselves. Our focus was on people who do not qualify for regular assistance or do not know how to find help on their own. In North Holland, Utrecht and Friesland, school children were given breakfast bags in order to start the day with a full stomach.

Finalizing the COVID-19 National Action Plan

During the corona crisis, the Red Cross conducted the largest relief operation in the Netherlands in more than 65 years. In July 2022, we concluded our relief efforts during this unprecedented crisis, standing ready to immediately scale up relief efforts again, if needed. The 2022 relief effort focused on testing and vaccination in healthcare facilities, we organized assisted transportation and provided psychosocial support.

Impact in the Netherlands: reach

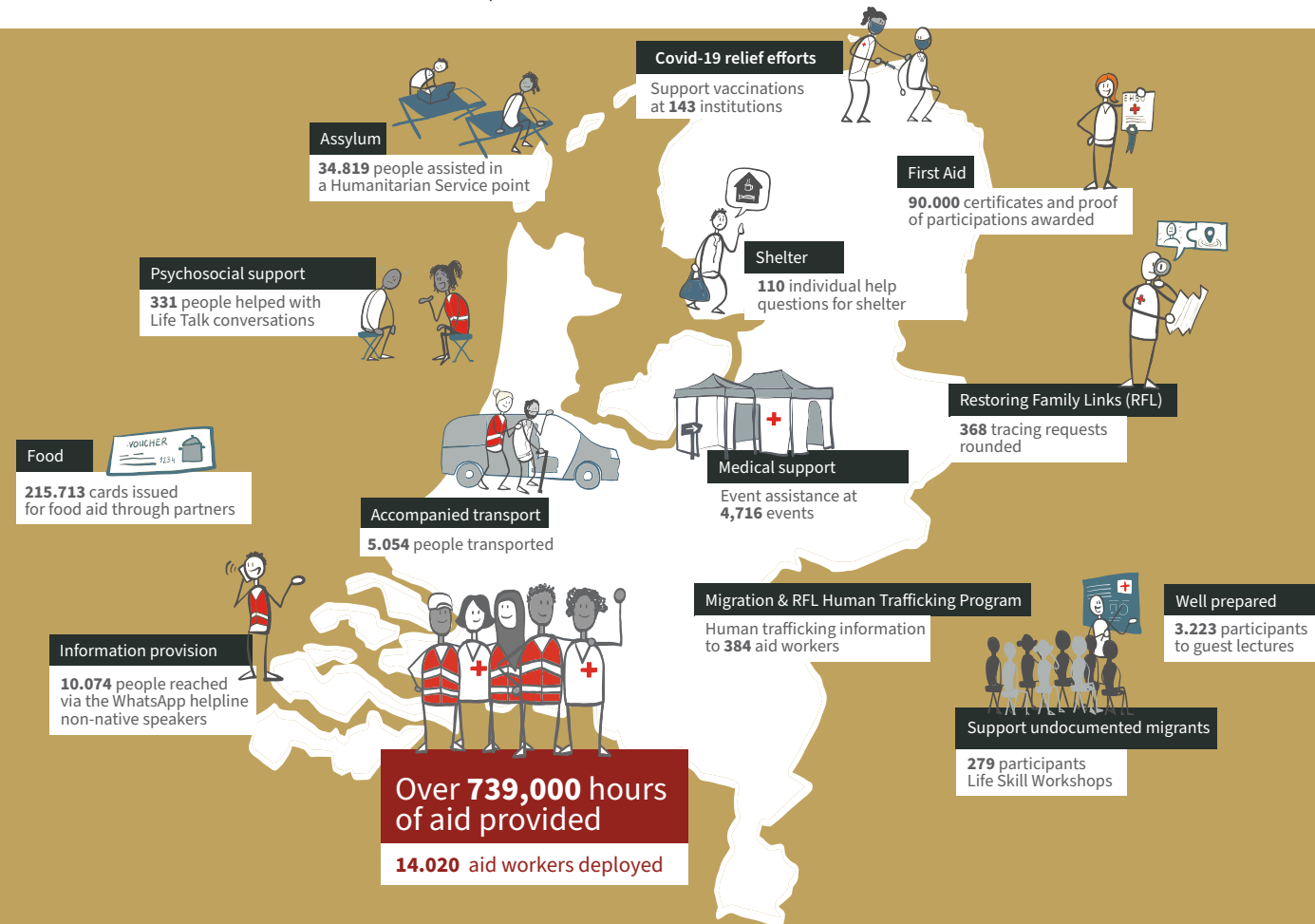


Photo: Sander Koning



The Red Cross on the Caribbean islands

The global COVID-19 crisis had major consequences in the Caribbean part of the Kingdom: Aruba, Bonaire, Curaçao, St. Maarten, Saba and St. Eustatius. Due to the nipping economic situation, poverty was already high, but with the collapse of tourism, the number of vulnerable households increased rapidly. In addition, the Caribbean region faces many other challenges, such as hurricanes, earthquakes and an influx of migrants from Venezuela.

Our help in the Caribbean

Finalizing the COVID-19 National Action Plan

As in the Netherlands, we also concluded the COVID-19 National Action Plan in the Caribbean part of the Kingdom in June 2022. The provision of basic needs constituted for a large part of our assistance on the Caribbean islands. The food program is the largest relief program ever implemented in the islands.

Social Economic Plan

In order to continue providing vulnerable households with assistance after the corona crisis, the corona relief effort in 2022 has a sequel: the Social Economic Plan. With this plan we want to ensure that people are more resilient to the consequences of disasters. Our relief efforts include grocery cards, (school) meals, medical care, home repairs and assistance with rent and school supplies.





The Red Cross Worldwide

Floods in Pakistan, the conflict in Ukraine, violence and economic insecurity in Syria, hunger in the Horn of Africa, millions of migrants around the world seeking safety and a better life. With the increasingly noticeable disastrous effects of climate change in the background. The humanitarian crises in 2022 were piling up. We are not only there when disaster strikes. We are also there before and after the disaster, deeply rooted in the society, and well prepared. We also ensure that local Red Cross societies on the ground are strong enough to be able to help people in need in their countries themselves.

Conflict Ukraine

The impact of the conflict in Ukraine affects both those who fled and those who remained. Under extremely difficult conditions, the Red Cross in Ukraine provided food, water, medicine, medical aid, hygiene kits and clothing. In addition, we received people who fled from Ukraine in surrounding countries such as Hungary, Moldova, Belarus, Poland.

Hunger in the Horn of Africa

Extreme weather due to climate change and conflict is causing a severe food crisis in the Horn of Africa. Millions of people in Kenya, Ethiopia and Somalia do not have enough to eat. To provide aid, the Red Cross, in 2022, provided food, financial support and clean drinking water, among other things. We also set up several projects to make people more resilient to extreme weather events.

Floods in Pakistan

In June of 2022, Pakistan received nearly 10 times more rainfall than normal during the rainy season. This caused massive flooding, landslides and *flash floods* (*short, intense floods*). The Red Cross helped people evacuate, we offered first aid, provided water purification systems and distributed hygiene kits, mosquito nets and jerry cans. We also gave people cash so they were able to buy what they needed on their own.

Violence in Syria

After no less than 11 years of violence, the problems in Syria have piled up tremendously. As much as 90% of the population lives below the poverty line and much of the health care system has collapsed. In 2022, we distributed food packages and provided medical assistance through mobile clinics. We ensured that water supplies were restored and we installed water pumps. We also set up projects to help people in the longer term. For example, we trained people to start a business and give them a start-up kit for their small business so they can once again provide themselves and their families with basic living needs.

“Invisible” disasters

Even ‘invisible’ disasters are not forgotten by us. For example, in 2022, more than 300 natural disasters occurred that did not make the news. We helped worldwide with food, water and shelter. As the Netherlands Red Cross, we work together with other national Red Cross societies and we use our specialist expertise as much as possible: water, sanitation and the use of data and digital solutions.

Strong Red Cross societies

We are strongly committed to strengthening the capacity of Red Cross sister societies vulnerable areas. We enter into multi-year cooperation agreements and support our partners in financial sustainability, disaster preparedness and disaster impact reduction. Our goal? Ensuring that local Red Cross societies can directly help the most vulnerable people.

Ready and prepared

The Red Cross is also present before the disaster. From the Red Cross Climate Center, our data and digital team 510 and the Red Cross Princess Margriet Fund, we are constantly working on disaster preparedness and prevention and emergency relief. With relatively simple measures such as evacuation plans and better warning systems, people become more resilient to natural disasters.

Invaluable

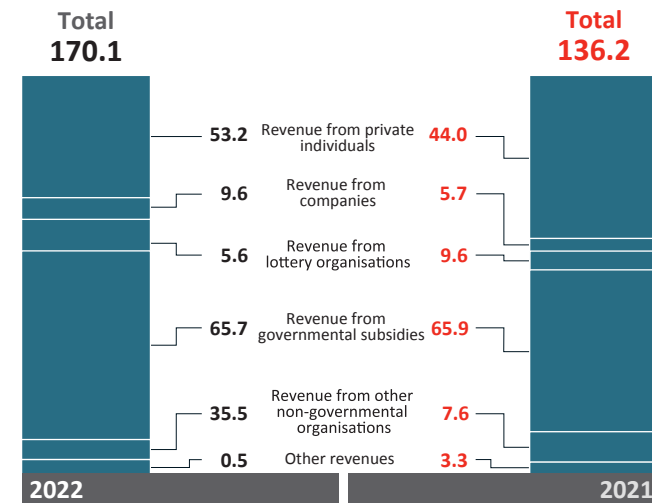
We are incredibly grateful that, in 2022, we could once again count on the support of many donors, companies, funds and institutions. It is entirely thanks to them that we were able to make aid a reality. All the contributions we receive are invaluable because they save lives, alleviate worries and make people more resilient and self-reliant. We are therefore enormously grateful to everyone who supports our work.



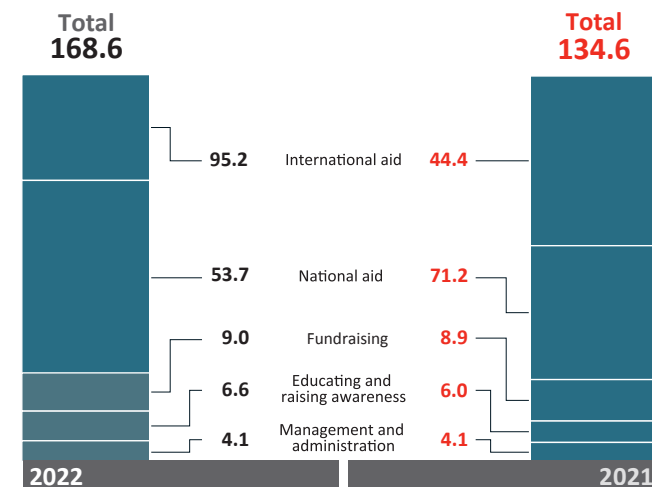
Photo: Wijnsh Chedi

Statement of income and expenditure

Revenue In € M



Expenditure In € M





The Netherlands
Red Cross

Humanity
Impartiality
Neutrality
Independence
Voluntary service
Unity
Universality