



RED CROSS SOCIETY OF SEYCHELLES

ANNUAL REPORT 2025



THE RED CROSS SOCIETY OF SEYCHELLES

The Red Cross Society of Seychelles (RCSS), formally established through the RCSS Act of 1991, is a voluntary relief society, and an auxiliary to public authorities that provide humanitarian services in the country.

Mission: To prevent and alleviate suffering with complete impartiality, making no discrimination as to nationality, race, sex, religious beliefs, language, class or political opinions.

Vision: To work with partners and community members to build a stronger, more resilient and better prepared Seychellois society to respond effectively to crises and disasters.

Principles: The RCSS is also guided by the International Federation of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement's Seven (7) Fundamental Principles¹ - as listed below.

1. Humanity

The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement... endeavours, in its international and national capacity, to prevent and alleviate human suffering wherever it may be found. Its purpose is to protect life and health and to ensure respect for the human being. It promotes mutual understanding, friendship, cooperation and lasting peace amongst all peoples.

2. Impartiality

The Red Cross makes no discrimination as to nationality, religious beliefs, race, political opinions, or class. It endeavours to relieve the suffering of individuals, being guided solely by their needs, and to give priority to the most urgent cases of distress.

3. Neutrality

In order to continue to enjoy the confidence of all, the Red Cross may not take sides in hostilities or engage at any time in controversies of a political, religious, ethnic or ideological nature.

4. Independence

The Red Cross Movement is independent. The National Societies, while auxiliaries in the humanitarian services of their governments and subject to the laws of their respective countries, must always maintain their autonomy so that they may be able at all times to act in accordance with the principles of the Red Cross.

5. Voluntary service

¹ [Our Fundamental Principles – Red Cross EU Office](#)

The Red Cross is a voluntary relief movement not prompted in any manner by desire for gain.

6. Unity

There can be only one Red Cross or one Red Crescent Society in any one country. It must be open to all. It must carry on its humanitarian work throughout its territory.

7. Universality

The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement is worldwide. All its national Societies have equal status and share equal responsibilities and duties in helping each other.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The year 2025 has remained a struggle and a challenge for the National Society, as it continued to operate without its headquarters, although its priority remained the strengthening of institutional capacity and the implementation of its Strategic Plan 2023–2027.

The organisation placed particular emphasis on humanitarian diplomacy and advocacy, staff and volunteer development, and the advancement of resource mobilisation initiatives. However, the absence of suitable office space resulted in staff discomfort and operational limitations, affecting coordination, efficiency, and the effective delivery and maintenance of programmes and activities.

Throughout the year, the Red Cross Society of Seychelles, RCSS, prioritised the reinforced humanitarian diplomacy and advocacy to enhance visibility, strengthen stakeholder engagement, and promote its humanitarian mandate at national and community levels. Concurrently, significant investment was made in staff and volunteer development through targeted capacity-building initiatives aimed at improving organisational effectiveness, service delivery, and operational readiness.

A key strategic area of focus was resource mobilisation, with concerted efforts directed towards identifying potential donors and development partners. The NS initiated discussions towards the establishment of Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) and explored opportunities for future collaboration, intending to strengthen financial sustainability and expand programme support.

RCSS continued to operate under constrained conditions due to the loss of its headquarters following the 2023 explosions. This situation significantly impacted operational capacity and the implementation of programmes, with staff temporarily operating from the warehouse, resulting in suboptimal working conditions.

Despite these challenges, RCSS demonstrated resilience and adaptability in maintaining essential humanitarian services and advancing its institutional development agenda. The RCSS remains committed to strengthening its capacity and ensuring the effective delivery of its mandate to vulnerable communities across Seychelles.

This annual report seeks to provide an overview and put into perspective the work of the National Society throughout 2025.



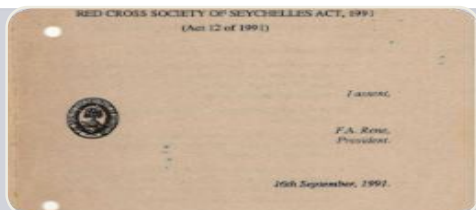
Marie-May Esparon
Secretary General
Red Cross Society of Seychelles

Institution and Capacity Building

1. Milestones for Institution Building

Staff training opportunities increased, in 2025 with a particular focus on leadership and report writing. The majority of RCSS staff have now benefited from leadership training, contributing to improved management and operational effectiveness. The National Society also maintained a strong focus on the implementation of its Strategic Plan 2023–2027.

In addition, significant advocacy efforts were undertaken with Ministries, Departments, and Agencies to support the progression of the RCSS Bill for presentation and approval.”



1- Review RCSS Act

Started in September 2022. Submitted as a Bill to Government in 2023.

2- Strategic Plan 2023-2027

Initiated in March and completed in June 2023. The Strategic Plan 2023-2027 was launched on 7 August 2023

1.1 Submission of Reviewed (1991) Red Cross Act - as a Bill

One of the key efforts made in 2025, is the continuous advocacy efforts to have the Reviewed RCSS Bill approved by the Cabinet and ultimately the National Assembly. This advocacy was done through a series of engagements with government entities, as well as through strategic use of various communication platforms, including RCSS social media channels and interviews with media houses.

A principal challenge remains the unique status of the RCSS as an auxiliary to the public authorities, while maintaining its independence and not operating under any specific Ministry, Department, or Agency (MDA). Despite its wide range of cross-cutting programmes and activities, this positioning has made it difficult to identify a parent Ministry to present the Bill to the Cabinet. As a result, progress has been stalled for the past three years.

This was done in different meetings conducted with government entities and through different mediums; on RCSS social media platforms, and interviews conducted with media houses. The main challenge is that the RCSS, being an auxiliary to the authorities, is independent and does not operate under any MDAs. Albeit, with its range of cross-cutting activities and programmes, is finding it difficult to get a Ministry to present its Bill to the Cabinet; thus this has been stalling for three years now.

The aims to provide the Red Cross Society of Seychelles with a clear legal basis as a corporate body, formally recognizing it as the sole National Society and a voluntary aid society to public authorities in the humanitarian field. The Bill also ensures its mandate to operate across the entire territory of the Republic of Seychelles, with full freedom of movement to carry out its humanitarian activities.

2. RCSS Strategic Plan 2023-2027

2.1. The year 2025 provided an opportunity for the National Society (NS) to reassess its Strategic Plan and implementation framework with renewed perspective, particularly after operating without a permanent office and headquarters for the past two years.

This situation highlighted key areas requiring strengthening, including the organizational structure, the establishment of an effective, transparent, and updated financial management and accounting system, and the development of a comprehensive and dynamic resource mobilization programme.

RCSS Management has recognized the importance of conducting a thorough organizational assessment, undertaking donor mapping within Seychelles, and establishing a robust monitoring and evaluation system to support more structured, accountable, and results-driven implementation moving forward.

The Red Cross Society of Seychelles (RCSS) has placed strong emphasis on strengthening its institutional capacity and sustainability, in line with its Strategic Plan 2023–2027.

- Capacity building and training for staff and volunteers in areas such as leadership, governance, ethics, and technical skills to improve overall performance.
- Ongoing review of the organizational structure, to ensure that leadership can focus on strategic direction and external engagement, while operational and managerial tasks are delegated more effectively.
- Development of an Incentive Cadre to improve staff motivation, retention, and recognition.
- Establishment of new local committees on Praslin and La Digue, aimed at strengthening RCSS's community presence, volunteer mobilization, and outreach beyond Mahé.
- Enhanced focus on resource mobilization and financial sustainability, with efforts to diversify funding sources and strengthen accountability systems.
- Active participation in regional and international peer exchanges, allowing RCSS to learn from best practices and strengthen its profile within the Movement.

The Red Cross Society of Seychelles (RCSS) continues to strengthen its role as the country's leading humanitarian actor, working closely with government, civil society, and international partners.

Key engagements include strong collaboration with the Government of Seychelles, particularly the Disaster Risk Management Division, to align humanitarian action with national priorities; active representation of RCSS and the IFRC network at national, regional, and global forums, where RCSS is recognised as a best practice example for small island states; and contributions to policy discussions on disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation, and resilience, ensuring the voices of vulnerable communities are considered.

MEETING WITH THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

The Red Cross Society of Seychelles met with the Minister for Education and Human Resource Development, Mr. David Pierre, to reaffirm their long-standing partnership and discuss the continuity and expansion of school-based programmes, including Red Cross Clubs, psychosocial and mental health support, and the provision of medical and ambulance services, with both parties expressing commitment to strengthening collaboration to enhance the safety, wellbeing, and resilience of students and educators across Seychelles.



During the meeting, the RCSS briefed the Minister on its ongoing initiatives with the Ministry of Education and Human Resource Development, including:

- Red Cross Clubs in schools, aimed at empowering young people with humanitarian values, leadership skills, and basic first aid knowledge.
- Psychosocial and mental health support, provided to both students and educators during times of stress, emergencies, and difficult events.
- Ambulance services and medical assistance, routinely offered during school sport activities, competitions, and major youth events.
- Additional support services provided to strengthen the safety, wellbeing, and resilience of children and young people.

The Secretary General reaffirmed the organization's commitment to working closely with the Ministry to ensure that essential humanitarian support continues to reach students and teachers across Seychelles. The Minister expressed appreciation for the long-standing partnership and highlighted the importance of maintaining strong collaboration to enhance safety and wellbeing in the school environment.

The Red Cross Society of Seychelles is committed to broadening its support and introducing new initiatives designed to benefit children, educators, and communities throughout the country. Looking to the future, RCSS reaffirmed its dedication to expanding these efforts and implementing programs that will have a positive impact nationwide.

3. Project Agreement and MOUs

3.1.1-Project Agreement with French Red Cross, (PIROI)

The Red Cross Society of Seychelles (RCSS) has signed an Agreement with the French Red Cross for a total amount of SCR 693,381 (approximately €43,564) under Phase 3 of the Three Oceans Project, financed by the Agence Française de Développement (AFD).

The project aims to strengthen the resilience of communities to disaster risks, health crises, climate change impacts, and gender inequalities across the Caribbean, Indian, and Pacific Ocean regions. With climate-related extreme weather events becoming more frequent, the project emphasizes disaster preparedness, risk reduction, and community awareness as cost-effective approaches compared to post-disaster response and recovery.

Key activities under the project include:

- ❑ Organizing an Organizational Capacity Assessment and Certification (OCAC) workshop to strengthen governance, leadership, planning, and volunteer management.
- ❑ Training of trainers in first aid and psychosocial support.
- ❑ Recruitment and training of community-based and regional volunteer teams, including radio communication training.
- ❑ Rehabilitation, cleaning, and improved management of the RCSS warehouse.
- ❑ Technical and operational support will be provided by the Plateforme d'Intervention Régionale Océan Indien (PIROI).

Through this partnership, which will run for a period of two years (2025-2026), RCSS will enhance its preparedness, improve volunteer capacity, and reinforce its role in supporting national disaster risk reduction and response efforts for the benefit of vulnerable communities across Seychelles. The project will also complement the Early Action Protocol under the SEYCCAT initiative.

2.1.2- Memorandum of Understanding with Disaster Risk Management Division (DRMD)

This MOU aims to facilitate collaboration and establish a framework for cooperation between the Parties to enhance the national capacity and capability to manage disasters.

Signing of the Mou was done in a short ceremony: Mr Robert Ernesta, DRMD's Director General and Ms Marie-May Esparon, RCSS Secretary General, respectively signed on behalf of their organisation. Both parties recognised the complementary roles of DRMD and RCSS in disaster preparedness, response, and recovery, and acknowledged the importance of coordinated efforts to protect lives, livelihoods, and dignity.

Areas of collaboration:

1. **Capacity Building, Training and Community Outreach:** Encouraging technical exchanges, collaborate in organising key training for government, staff, and volunteers and conduct joint simulation exercises at national and district levels and promote public awareness and preparedness campaigns.
2. **Policy and Guideline Development:** Supporting the development and review of relevant disaster preparedness, response and recovery guidelines as required to address evolving risk factors and vulnerabilities.

3. **Shelter and Humanitarian Response Guidelines:** Engaging in the refinement and adoption of appropriate shelter management and humanitarian response guidelines
4. **International and Regional Cooperation:** Exploring and establishing collaborations and exchanges with other International Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and regional bodies such as the Plateforme d'intervention régionale océan Indien (PIROI) of the French Red Cross.
5. **Representation in Applicable National Disaster Risk Management Committees:** Ensuring active participation of RCSS representatives in national mechanisms.
6. **Project Collaboration:** Encouraging the submission of joint project proposals to relevant donor organisations.
7. **Data Sharing and Risk Analysis:** Facilitating information exchange to support national efforts in prepositioning of resources, loss and damage assessments, risk knowledge, disaster forecasting, and risk mitigation.

2.1.3-Memorandum of Understanding with the Mauritius Commercial Bank, MCB.

This agreement came about after MCB approached the National Society to assist during the 2023 explosions at Providence in 2023. Apart from providing laptops for staff, towels, and other essentials for those affected, MCB pledged to donate nine hundred thousand rupees (SCR900,000) towards the reconstruction of the RCSS headquarters, which was severely affected during the blasts. The money went towards the replacement of all the windows, tiles, clearing of the debris after the explosion, replacing the toilets and showers, and painting of the building, among others.

Areas of Collaboration **3.1**

First Aid Training:

3.2 Psychosocial Support (PSS):

3.3 Disaster Preparedness & Response:

3.4 Blood Donation Drives:

-Establish blood donation group at MCB and conduct sensitisation sessions etc..

2.1.4-Training, leadership development, and volunteer system expansion

The National Institute of Health and Social Studies (NIHSS), in collaboration with the Red Cross Society of Seychelles, established a Red Cross Club as part of efforts to relaunch school-based clubs nationwide. An induction session held on 7 March 2024 at the NIHSS campus in Mont Fleuri brought together over 40 students interested in joining.

During the session, students elected a committee to lead the club, chaired by Rudy Flore, alongside a vice chairperson, secretary, treasurer, and three committee members. RCSS staff provided an overview of the National Society's roles, programmes, and key areas of work, including first aid, blood donation, disaster risk reduction, and community outreach.

The initiative aims to promote Red Cross principles, strengthen student capacity through training and volunteerism, and support RCSS programmes targeting vulnerable communities. It also contributes to the development of leadership, teamwork, and practical skills among future healthcare professionals.



Section 2

Health and Wellbeing

1. First Aid Training

The Red Cross Society of Seychelles main resource mobilisation (income - generating) is through the first aid training and ambulance service. Between January and December 2025, the Red Cross Society of Seychelles successfully conducted forty-five (45) first aid training sessions across the three main islands: Mahé, Praslin, and La Digue. These sessions aimed to equip participants with essential lifesaving skills, attracting a diverse group of individuals eager to enhance their knowledge. Among the forty-five trainings provided, one amongst were free for the Mauritian Commercial Bank as the main partner for RCSS in providing funds for HQ renovation.

Throughout these twelve months, a significant number of participants attended the training, with both women and men actively benefiting from the programs offered. The training not only included comprehensive courses for beginners but also refresher courses designed for those wishing to update their skills. A total of 175 men and 238 women. Certified first aiders from January to December 2025, four hundred and thirteen (413).



Detailed statistics on the number of participants, categorised by gender, highlight the inclusive nature of these training sessions, demonstrating a commitment to ensuring that everyone, regardless of gender, has access to important first aid knowledge. For a more visual representation of the training outcomes and participant demographics, relevant data have been compiled in a table for reference.

Organisation	Type of Training	No.of males	No.of Female	Total Pax	Amount paid	Gross Total
Domaine des Lorangeraie	Basic First Aid	8	0	8	450	3,600.00
Enchanted Resort and SPA	Basic First Aid	3	2	5	450	2,250.00
Indian Ocean Lodge	Save a Life	1	5	6	300	1,800.00
Enchanted Resort and SPA	Basic First Aid	3	2	5	450	2,250.00
National Library	Basic First Aid	0	3	3	450	1,350.00
Seychelles Fishing Authority	Refresher	3	1	4	275	1,100.00
Seychelles Fishing Authority	Refresher	5	8	13	275	3,575.00
Sey.Police	Practical First Aid	8	6	14	200	2,800.00
Individual	Practical First Aid	1		1	600	600.00
Sey.Fishing Authority	Basic First Aid	7	5	12	450	5,400.00
Individual	Practical First Aid	1	0	1	600	600.00
DSAPTR	Practical First Aid	5	9	14	600	8,400.00
ACCS	Practical First Aid	3	3	6	600	3,600.00
Sey.Fishing Authority	Refresher	2	4	6	275	1,650.00
Ministry of Transport	Basic First Aid	2	12	14	450	6,300.00
Kinderland Daycare	Basic Pediatric First Aid	1	11	12	300	3,600.00
Seychelles Fishing Authority	Basic First Aid	2	2	4	450	1,800.00
Individual	Refresher	1		1	275	275.00
Seychelles Fishing Authority	Refresher	1	4	5	275	1,375.00
Bel Air DA,s Office MLGCA	Save a Life	5	4	9	300	Free
Seychelles Airport Authority	Basic First Aid	4	2	6	450	2,700.00

Sey.Post Office	Refresher	1	4	5	275	1,375.00
Ministry of Environment	Practical First Aid	1	5	6	600	3,600.00
Min. of Foreign Affairs	Refresher	8	0	8	450.00	2,200.00
Masons Travel	Save a Life	11	4	15	300.00	4,500.00

Masons Travel	Save a Life	9	4	13	300.00	1,800.00
Impress Dental Clinic	Practical First Aid		2	2	600.00	600.00
Boat House	Save a life	4	6	10	300.00	3,000.00
Postal Services	Basic First Aid	1	3	4	450.00	1,800.00
Beri-Unisey- M-Eco fabrics	Practical First Aid	2	6	8	600.00	4,800.00
Jastam House	Save a Life	8	4	12	300.00	3,600.00
Seychelles Port Authority	Refresher	4	2	6	200.00	1,200.00
Travisory	Save a Life	5	5	10	300.00	3,000.00
Postal Services	Basic First Aid	3	2	5	450.00	2250.00
Sey.Fishing Authority	Basic First Aid	4	3	7	450.00	3,150.00
Paradise Sun	Refresher	7	8	15	275.00	4,125.00
Anonyme	Refresher	4	4	8	275.00	2,200.00
MCB	Basic First Aid	4	6	10	Free	Free
Masons Travel	Save a Life	1	16	17	300.00	5,100.00
Seychelles Fishing Authority	Refresher	3	4	7	275.00	1,925.00
Seychelles Port Authority	Save a Life	4	1	5	300.00	1,500.00
Sey. Defence Force	Basic First Aid	11	5	16	200.00	3200.00
Seychelles Police	Practical First Aid	9	6	15	200.00	3,000.00
Seychelles Police	Practical First Aid	4	10	14	200.00	2,800.00
IECD Child Minders Praslin	Basic Pediatric First Aid	0	5	5	300.00	1,500.00
IECD CHILD Minders Praslin	Basic First Aid		8	8	200.00	1,600.00
	Basic First Aid Pediatric		25	25	300.00	7,500.00

Footprint Day Care						
Seychelles Police	Refresher	1	7	8	200.00	1,600.00

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Total males trained from January to December 2025 = 175

Total females trained from January to December 2025 = 238

Total income = 127,350.00

1. First Aid Assistance

Two remarkable events that took place in Seychelles are the World Cup FIFA beach Soccer, which took place from 01st May 2025 to 11th May 2025 and the national election on 27th September 2026 and the second round on 11th October 2025.

FIFA Beach Soccer

The Red Cross Society has been working in partnership with the Ministry of Health to provide first aid and medical assistance. The RCSS volunteers whose first aid certificates were valid and up to date were able to register freely for the event. Before the date, a meeting was set up to discuss their roles, which had been assigned to them. Various refresher courses and crash courses had been conducted for all volunteers working for the beach soccer. RCSS volunteers designated areas were mainly attached to the public, such as in the stadium itself with spectators and in the Fan Zone experience.

For the FIFA beach soccer, both staff and volunteers were engaged. Five staff, two female (2) and three male (3), have been helping out with the event in collaboration with the Ministry of Health. For the FIFA World Cup beach Soccer, no major cases were recorded except for members of the public, five minor injuries were recorded, two males and three females, including two children, 1 male aged 5 years old and one female aged 10 years.



AMBULANCE STANDBY

From January to December 2025, the RCSS successfully provided 28 ambulance services, with the most notable event being the vibrant National Day Parade held on June 29, 2025, in collaboration with the Seychelles Defence Force. Standbys were provided to the following: the festival Kreol Lasenerad, the Regatta, Schools for house athletic competition, national school championship athletic competition and some individual requests. These colourful celebrations drew large crowds and required comprehensive medical support to ensure the safety of all participants and spectators.

In addition, the Ministry of Education reached out to our organisation for ambulance services and first aid support for the school heats and the national school athletic competition encompassing primary, secondary, and post-secondary institutions. Heats are crucial in preparing young athletes for the upcoming National School Athletics Championship scheduled for July 5, 2025. By actively participating in these events, the RCSS not only offers immediate medical assistance but also collects data to identify common injuries, enabling us to enhance our first aid strategies effectively, especially for the National School Athletic Championship.

During this period, for the school heats, more than 50 casualties were recorded across the islands of Mahé, Praslin, and La Digue and over 100 casualties were recorded for the school athletic competition in July 2025.

The school heats specifically took place on Mahe at the Stade Linite and on La Digue at the playing field L'Union Estate, for schools on Praslin and La Digue itself. The present role of RCSS volunteers assisting those events is to ensure that all schools on Mahe, Praslin and La Digue can compete in a safe environment.

Numerous organisations and government bodies frequently seek the RCSS ambulance services and first aid assistance, particularly during sporting events that attract large groups of participants and spectators. For the RCSS, providing these vital services not only promotes community health and safety but also serves as a significant source of funding to support the ongoing initiatives of the

National Society. Although some requests were on short notice, we managed to attend to them by providing our services of both first aid and ambulance service. It has been apparent that nowadays members of the public are requesting our ambulance service, especially with those with complicated situations, such as paralysis and bedridden patients.



Strengthening Blood Donation Initiatives & Responding to Requests

During the first, second, third and fourth quarters, fulfilling blood requests, especially for road traffic accidents and other medical conditions, has been a significant challenge for us. Despite the high demand, we managed to fulfil some requests through partnerships with governmental institutes, such as our main partners, which are the Seychelles Police and the Seychelles Civil Aviation Authority. One of our main challenges is getting volunteers to donate blood, and this is still an issue due to our volunteers working in a hectic environment, which makes it a bit difficult for them because of stress, and this can lead to high blood pressure.

Two blood drives were organised with the Seychelles Post Office on 07th March 2025 and the other one on 08th August 2025.

For the first drive, there were five donors, but only three of them were qualified to donate blood: two females and one male. For the second drive, five males were donors, but only four were qualified to donate: two males and two females.

Blood donation is crucial, and at any point in time, anyone can need a blood transfusion to save a life. Blood transfusions are given to replace blood that has been lost or depleted due to various medical conditions. This includes situations like severe bleeding from accidents and surgery or childbirth, as well as conditions like anaemia, certain cancers and inherited blood disorders. To sensitise the members of the public, various interviews are being aired on Seychelles radio in collaboration with the RCSS for the benefit of donating blood.

To commemorate World Blood Donor Day, a talk was organised for the staff of the Mauritius Commercial Bank, which was on our programme, in partnership with the Ministry of Health staff from the Blood Transfusion Unit, who were willing to help in delivering the presentation. This was one of the first trials to encourage workplaces to mobilise staff to donate blood.

Seychelles Land Transport Agency

The Road Safety Advisory Committee aims to encourage collaborative solutions for safer roads, both for pedestrians and drivers. Educational sensitisation workshop for members of the public. The Road Safety Advisory Committee actively promotes collaborative strategies aimed at enhancing road safety for all users, including both pedestrians and motorists.

To achieve this, the committee organised informative workshops designed to raise awareness and educate the public about safe road practices. These workshops featured interactive sessions that covered vital topics such as pedestrian rights, responsible driving behaviours, and the importance of adhering to traffic regulations. By bringing together community members, local authorities, and traffic safety advocates, the committee aims to foster a deeper understanding of road safety issues and develop practical solutions that benefit everyone on the road. These workshops featured interactive sessions that cover vital topics such as pedestrian rights, responsible driving behaviours, and the importance of adhering to traffic regulations. By bringing together community members, local authorities, and traffic safety advocates, the committee aims to foster a deeper understanding of road safety issues and develop practical solutions that benefit everyone on the road. Various activities were being organised by the committee to sensitise members of the public on road safety issues and security on the road for the Road Safety Week, 22nd to 27th November 2025, but for this year, activities will be ongoing until April 2026.

Ministry of Health

Collaborated closely with the Ministry of Health to meticulously plan and prepare for the highly anticipated FIFA World Cup Beach Soccer 2025. This initiative focuses on developing comprehensive safety protocols and health measures to safeguard both players and spectators during these thrilling and dynamic events. Our efforts aim to create a secure and enjoyable environment that enhances the excitement of the matches while prioritising the well-being of everyone involved. Our responsibilities were to provide first aid assistance to the public in the Fan Experience zone and to spectators in the stadium for the matches, working in partnership with the Ministry of Health medical staff, and it was a very exciting experience.

Ministry of Tourism

We are joining forces with the Ministry of Tourism Department and other partners to enhance the captivating Nature Trail Seychelles 2025 event. This collaboration involves a series of meaningful and detailed meetings aimed at coordinating exceptional health and first aid provisions for athletes and the public alike, ensuring that everyone enjoys a safe and memorable experience. Set against the backdrop of Seychelles' breathtaking landscapes, this much-anticipated event took place on August 23, 2025. On that day, our dedicated health teams will be on standby, ready to provide immediate assistance and support, underscoring our commitment to the safety and well-being of all participants. Together, we aim to create an unforgettable adventure that celebrates both the stunning natural beauty of Seychelles and the spirit of community and safety. For this, several meetings and visits were organised, in which the Health Coordinator participated.

Foreign Affairs Department

Working closely with the Foreign Affairs Department to support the Seychelles Humanitarian Committee, fostering international cooperation and compassion in our global outreach efforts.



Electoral Commission

In collaboration with the Electoral Commission as it prepared for the crucial elections scheduled for 2025, the RCSS Health Coordinator is actively participating in a series of detailed discussions. Our goal was to ensure comprehensive first aid services were available to all voters and Electoral Commission staff on Election Day.

This initiative focuses on developing comprehensive safety protocols and health measures to safeguard both the staff of the polling station and the police officers on site, and members of the public casting their vote. Our efforts aim to create a secure and safe environment that enhances the voters' experience of a smooth-running process.

This involves outlining specific plans for strategically placing first aid teams at polling stations, training volunteers in basic first aid skills, and equipping them with necessary medical supplies. We are committed to maintaining a safe and secure environment for everyone involved in the electoral process, addressing any health concerns that may arise on that significant day.



National Election 2025

The national election took place on the 27th September 2025, and following the result, a second round took place on 11 October 2025.

A total of 81 RCSS volunteers, inclusive of staff, participated in the standby, 27 males and 54 females. The standby aimed to work closely with the Electoral Commission to provide first aid assistance at the polling station. Volunteers and staff were deployed to various stations in the early morning of 27th September and 11th October 2025 to assist in case of an incident that might happen. Before that, volunteers from Mahe, Praslin and La Digue were being provided with refresher courses such as stay safe training, first aid and evacuation procedures. The Command Centre was set up at Providence HQ, and the aim of setting up such a command post was to keep updated on what was going on around Mahe, Praslin and La Digue, of which team leaders on site at the polling station were providing

information to HQ. Logistics arrangements, like setting up of tent and transporting equipment, were done before the main day of 27th September 2025 and October 11th 2025. For most of our volunteers on standby, that was a very good experience for them, especially our newcomers from post-secondary school NIHSS.

RCSS assisted the SFRSA with first aid assistance and ambulance service regarding the land Fire on 07th September 2025. 12 RCSS volunteers, including staff, were present on site on that day: 7 females and 5 males.

Section 3

Disaster Risk Management

The Red Cross Society of Seychelles (RCSS) received a grant from the Seychelles Climate Change and Adaptation Trust (SeyCCAT) in 2024. This funding aims to enhance climate change adaptation efforts across the Seychelles by implementing a robust Anticipatory Action framework and establishing a Last-Mile Community Early Warning System. At the beginning of this year, the RCSS faced some delays in the implementation of the project due to financial complications. However, these issues were effectively resolved by May 2025, allowing for the project to move forward with full momentum.

- In the upcoming month, the National Society (NS) will be rolling out an extensive survey across the three primary islands: Mahé, Praslin, and La Digue. This survey is designed to gather vital data and insights regarding community perceptions and effectiveness of the Early Warning System. To ensure that the analysis is both accurate and reflective of the communities' experiences, a qualified consultant will oversee the survey process. The findings will be instrumental in compiling a comprehensive report that assesses the strengths and areas for improvement within the Early Warning System.
- Additionally, our first consultant has completed and submitted her detailed report on the Last-Mile Community Early Warning System. This report critically examines the implementation of relevant laws and protocols within various ministries, providing a foundation for enhancing the coordination and efficiency of disaster response strategies in the region. The insights gained from these efforts are expected to greatly bolster community resilience against climate-related hazards.

EW4ALL INITIATIVE

The Committee for the Early Warning for All Initiative met recently in a first meeting which took place at the Seychelles Meteorology Authority. Representatives and members of the committee discussed the need to prioritize the roadmap, composition of the committee and funding amongst other topics discussed.

The first meeting was attended by representatives from the Seychelles Meteorological Authority (SMA), Department of Information Communication Technology (DICT), Seychelles Broadcasting Corporation (SBC), Ministry of Local Government and Community Affairs (MLGCA), AIRTEL and the

Red Cross Society of Seychelles (RCSS). Meeting was chaired by the SMA's Chief Executive Officer, Vincent Amelie.



In a significant step toward enhancing regional disaster preparedness, Seychelles and Mauritius reaffirmed their commitment to the Early Warnings for All (EW4All) initiative through a joint Risk Knowledge Technical Workshop that was held on the **23rd – 25th June 2025** at the **Berjaya Beau Vallon Bay Resort**.

Organized by the Disaster Risk Management Division (DRMD) of Seychelles, the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Centre (NDRRMC) of Mauritius, and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), the workshop focused on the theme: ***“Use of Risk Knowledge in Early Warning and Early Action (EWEA).”***

Building on outcomes from a previous session held earlier during the month (10th –12th June 2025), the workshop supported the implementation of **Pillar 1** of the national EW4All Roadmap and Action Plan. This pillar emphasizes the collection, analysis, and effective use of **risk knowledge**—a critical foundation for the design and implementation of robust Early Warning Systems (EWS).

Despite proven benefits, one in three people worldwide still lacks access to effective early warnings. In response, the EW4All initiative—launched by the United Nations (UN) in 2022—aims to ensure universal coverage by 2027. Seychelles and Mauritius have responded proactively, developing national roadmaps and prioritizing capacity-building across the four EWS pillars: risk knowledge, observation and forecasting, warning communication, and response preparedness.

The workshop had four main objectives:

1. Enhance national capacities to gather and apply risk information.
2. Foster inclusive and collaborative risk knowledge frameworks.
3. Integrate technology and innovation to improve forecasting and communication.
4. Strengthen early action and preparedness planning through risk-informed decision-making.

The event brought together representatives from various ministries, departments, and agencies (MDAs) involved in disaster risk reduction, public health, environment, education, infrastructure, and emergency response. Attendees included representatives from the Red Cross Society of Seychelles (RCSS), the Department of Information Communication and Technology (DICT), Department of Environment, the Ministry of Local Government and Community Affairs (MLGCA), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Tourism, the Ministry of Agriculture, Climate Change and Environment, the Seychelles Meteorological Authority (SMA), and other key institutions involved in risk assessment and early warning systems.

The initiative ensured a broad exchange of expertise, perspectives, and best practices to support the development of more inclusive, localized, and effective early warning strategies. The workshop also reinforced the need to reach the most vulnerable communities with timely, understandable, and actionable warnings.

The workshop saw strong engagement and reaffirmed the collective commitment to building a safer, more resilient future for all. It marks another critical step in Seychelles' and Mauritius' ongoing efforts to ensure that no one is left behind in the face of climate-related risks and disasters.



A

Planning Workshop for Media Professionals

was held from **23rd to 27th June 2025** at the Berjaya Resort, organized by the Disaster Risk Management Division (DRMD) in collaboration with the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

The objective of the workshop was to enhance the capacity of media professionals in disaster preparedness and response, with a particular focus on executive and operational -level engagement. Key areas of discussion included the role of the media in emergency communication, the dissemination of timely and accurate information to the public, and the importance of ensuring the safety and well-being of media personnel working in high-pressure environments.



The Red Cross Society of Seychelles (RCSS) was among the participating organizations - Today
Seychelles, the Seychelles Broadcasting Corporation (SBC), the Seychelles Nation - and was
represented by Ms. Bettina Azemia, Communication and Resource Mobilisation Coordinator.

For the RCSS, the workshop provided a valuable opportunity to reinforce the critical role of communication in disaster risk reduction and emergency response. It also offered a platform to

engage with media professionals and other stakeholders on strategies to improve collaboration, preparedness, and public awareness during emergencies.

On the final day, participants took part in a field visit to Le Niole, a community that was severely affected by the torrential rains of December 2023. The visit, facilitated by representatives of the Seychelles Land and Transport Agency (SLTA), offered practical insight into the impact of disasters at the community level and underscored the importance of risk-informed communication and coordinated response efforts.

The RCSS remains committed to strengthening national disaster response mechanisms and continues to support initiatives that build resilience and enhance public preparedness through effective communication strategies.

Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery

The Red Cross Society of Seychelles (RCSS) received a grant from the Seychelles Climate Change and Adaptation Trust (SeyCCAT) in 2024. This funding aims to enhance climate change adaptation efforts across the Seychelles by implementing a robust Anticipatory Action framework and establishing a Last-Mile Community Early Warning System. At the beginning of this year, the RCSS faced some delays in the implementation of the project due to financial complications. However, these issues were effectively resolved by May 2025, allowing for the project to move forward with full momentum.

- In the upcoming month, the National Society (NS) will be rolling out an extensive survey across the three primary islands: Mahé, Praslin, and La Digue. This survey is designed to gather vital data and insights regarding community perceptions and effectiveness of the Early Warning System. To ensure that the analysis is both accurate and reflective of the communities' experiences, a qualified consultant will oversee the survey process. The findings will be instrumental in compiling a comprehensive report that assesses the strengths and areas for improvement within the Early Warning System.
- Additionally, our first consultant has completed and submitted her detailed report on the Last-Mile Community Early Warning System. This report critically examines the implementation of relevant laws and protocols within various ministries, providing a foundation for enhancing the coordination and efficiency of disaster response strategies in the region. The insights gained from these efforts are expected to greatly bolster community resilience against climate-related hazards.

SEYCCAT SURVEY

PROJECT GOAL: Develop early warning systems for vulnerable communities to mitigate impacts of storm surges and flooding events.

This was undertaken with volunteers in the South West Mahe region to collect data of the local knowledge on the Early Warning and the knowledge for people in the community on Storm Surge and flooding.

Disaster Preparedness and Response Planning Workshop for Media Professionals

A Disaster Preparedness and Response Planning Workshop for Media Professionals was held from 23rd to 27th June 2025 at the Berjaya Resort, organized by the Disaster Risk Management Division (DRMD) in collaboration with the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

The objective of the workshop was to enhance the capacity of media professionals in disaster preparedness and response, with a particular focus on executive and operational-level engagement. Key areas of discussion included the role of the media in emergency communication, the dissemination of timely and accurate information to the public, and the importance of ensuring the safety and well-being of media personnel working in high-pressure environments.



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The RCSS remains committed to strengthening national disaster response mechanisms and continues to support initiatives that build resilience and enhance public preparedness through effective communication strategies.

5. Italian Red Cross Support to the Implementation and Review of National Regulatory Frameworks on Disaster Risk Management in the Indian Ocean Island States (Madagascar, Mauritius, Seychelles, and Comoros)

The project agreement was signed between the Red Cross Society of Seychelles and the Italian Red Cross for total of \$16,975 for a period of 7 months.

The objective of the project is to strengthen national capacities to develop, review, and implement effective DRM frameworks, while fostering a dialogue that is both context-specific and regionally coherent. Specifically, the project aims at improving Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) understanding and governance capacities of the four Island States: Comoros, Madagascar, Mauritius and Seychelles. As part of the project a training workshop has been designed to identify existing domestic provisions,

gaps, criticalities and suggestions including with a specific focus on improvements concerning the definition of disaster data and information, disaster data collection, and disaster data sharing.

Outcome: –Held a Training Workshop for Seychelles ‘Support to the Implementation and Review of National Regulatory Frameworks on Disaster Risk Management’, on Tuesday 5th and Wednesday 6th August 2025 at L’Escale Hotel, Mahe.

Output: Produced a Tool to support self-assessment by DRM stakeholder in their day-to-day Operations and in workshop review of existing DRM legislative frameworks, and make key findings, identify gaps, and make recommended regulatory revisions.

The workshop was officially opened by the Minister for Agriculture, Climate Change and Environment, Flavien Joubert. Also present and deliver remarks were:

- RCSS President Kisnan Tamatave
- UNDRR representative; Nancy.....
- DRDM Director General, Robert Ernesta
- RCSS Secretary General, Marie-May Esparon.

Activities:

- Conducted a meeting with DRMD and the Met Office the day before the workshop.
- Conducted a 2 day workshop.
- Had a postmortem with DRMD and the Meteorological Office’s CEO.



Develop early warning systems for vulnerable communities to mitigate impacts of storm surges and flooding events

1. Increased Awareness and Understanding of the project by RCSS volunteers working as enumerators for the community survey

The RCSS volunteers now show a greater understanding of and active participation in the SeyCCATRCSS project's objectives, strategic relevance, and its alignment with national climate adaptation goals. Furthermore, the community survey allowed the volunteers to be engaged in data collection in the selected communities, and to gain a better understanding of their issues, specifically with floods, storm surges and climate change, in general.

2. Improved Ownership and Engagement of RCSS staff and volunteers

RCSS staff and volunteers, especially the ones involved in the data collection phase of the community survey, became more knowledgeable and motivated to commit to the project’s success. The selected volunteers became necessarily more engaged in the project as they participated in the training for data collection and being out in the districts to interview participants.

1. Increased knowledge and understanding of vulnerable communities’ issues with floods and storm surges

- i. The RCSS volunteers conducting interviews in the community in September 2025, became more aware and involved in the vulnerable communities' concerns and issues with flooding and storm surges.

Country General Election

Introduction

The Presidential and District Election for the general public was held on Saturday 27th September at The Red Cross Society of Seychelles (RCSS) was on standby to provide humanitarian and first aid support during the 2025 General Elections. The RCSS plays a neutral and impartial humanitarian role during national elections, ensuring that first aid support is readily available to the population, election officials, and candidates' supporters and in the event of any emergency can assist with evacuation.

Objectives

- To provide emergency first aid and ambulance standby during election-related activities.
- To ensure timely response to any medical incidents or emergencies.
- To support the safety and well-being of the public, without political affiliation.

Set up

The RCSS had a team of volunteers, new and veterans, positioned at every Polling stations in the country. Smallest stations had 2 volunteers and the biggest stations had 3 volunteers as per available budget agreement for the operation. At the RCSS HQ Providence, the RCSS Coordination team was comprised of 8 people playing different roles.



Districts Polling Station Stand-By

Anse Aux Pins- Anse Boileau - Anse Etoile - Anse Royale - Au Cap - Baie Lazare - Baie St Anne - Beau Vallon - Bel Air - Bel Ombre- Cascade- English River - Glacis - Grand Anse Mahe - Grand Anse Praslin - Ile Perseverance - Inner Island - Les Mamelles - Mont Buxton - Mont Fleuri - Plaisance - Pointe Larue - Port Glaud - Roche Caiman - Saint Louis - Takamaka

Cases:

We had a number of cases that were mostly linked to not having had anything to drink or eat and standing in the lines, although the line movement were faster than past experiences in most districts.

There were some cases of asthma as well. Most calls that came through were requests for wheelchairs, which the volunteers were advised to seek the Electoral Officer (EO) as they were supposed to have arranged for wheelchair availability in the districts. RCSS did obtain 2 from the Seychelles Hospital to assist the nearest station in need. We had only 1 case needing ambulance transport to the Casualty.

Conclusion

Every volunteer and staff showed their appreciation of the smooth running of the operation despite certain small hiccups that were swiftly taken up. Red Cross obtained much appreciation from the EO's, members of the public and all the political parties visiting. Lessons learnt was discussed in a debriefing for future improvement.

SEYCCAT Red Cross Club Project

RED CROSS SCHOOL CLUBS

As part of the activities to relaunch the Red Cross School Clubs, an information session was held on **Tuesday 20th May 2025** at the Independent School, Union Vale with thirty-nine (39) students, ranging from S1 to A-Level, who have expressed interest in joining the Red Cross School Club.

The session, attended by both students and some parents, was facilitated by RCSS volunteer and disseminator Ms. Mirenda Hoareau.

The session covered various topics including an overview of the Red Cross Movement's history, its seven fundamental principles, the code of conduct, and details regarding the consent form and membership fee.



Several completed consent forms, along with membership fees, have already been submitted. Ms. Marinette Joseph, the teacher responsible for overseeing the club at the school, will be meeting with the students at a later date to discuss their upcoming activities and plan of action.



SMA and Chinese Partners Strengthen Scientific Cooperation Through Marine Buoy Deployment

A joint technical mission between SMA and its Chinese partners is underway to strengthen ocean, weather, and climate monitoring through the deployment of a marine buoy system in Seychelles waters.

The deployment, taking place from 23 to 30 April 2026, marks an important step in the growing collaboration between the two institutions and reflects the strong spirit of cooperation between the

two countries. More than a symbolic exchange, the mission highlights a practical scientific partnership focused on improving marine observation, data collection, and environmental monitoring.

The ongoing at-sea operation involves underwater deployment work by divers to position the buoy at approximately 4.34° South latitude and 55.21° East longitude. This operation demonstrates the technical coordination and shared expertise involved in setting up the monitoring system.

The buoy is expected to support the collection of valuable weather, climate, and ocean data, contributing to improved forecasting, marine and climate research, and a better understanding of changing environmental conditions. Such systems play an important role in strengthening observation capacity and supporting informed decision-making in areas linked to climate resilience, disaster risk reduction, and ocean management.

The mission also underlines the value of sustained institutional collaboration. By working together on specialized technical operations such as buoy deployment, SMA and its Chinese counterparts continue to build capacity, exchange expertise, and deepen cooperation in meteorology, climatology, and oceanography.



As part of the visit, the Chinese delegation presented a gift to SMA as a gesture of appreciation for the productive collaboration that has developed between the two institutions. The gesture further reflects the goodwill and mutual respect that continue to support this partnership.

With the buoy deployment now underway, both sides are reaffirming their shared commitment to scientific cooperation and to advancing systems that benefit environmental monitoring and national development.



Section 4

Assistance to the Community

1. Emergency - Fire Cases

Since the beginning of its intervention programme, the Red Cross Society of Seychelles (RCSS) has prioritized support for families who have suffered the complete loss of their homes due to fire incidents.

In 2025 RCSS provided direct assistance individuals whose houses were entirely destroyed by fire.



Following rapid assessments of the affected households, RCSS mobilized its response teams to address the most urgent needs. Assistance provided included:

- **Basic Food Commodities:** Each family received an initial food parcel containing rice, flour, oil, and other essentials to sustain them in the first days after the incident.
- **Hygiene Kits:** Complete hygiene packages, including toiletries and cleaning materials, were distributed to ensure health and dignity during displacement.
- **Psychosocial Support:** Ongoing counselling and psychosocial assistance were provided to help family members cope with the emotional and psychological impacts of losing their homes.

The RCSS response was carried out in close coordination with the Ministry of Local Government and Community Affairs (MLGCA), ensuring that relief was delivered in a timely and complementary manner.

2. Non-Emergency - Beneficiary Cases

The RCSS has had a number of call from assistance coming directly from the public and from the District Administration office to assist with basic needs to individuals or family. These request have been mainly in the form of food, mattress, bed, and clothing etc... although not considered emergencies, urgent cases were assisted to prevent them from getting worse especially when children and the elderly are in these homes. RCSS has communicated with the Ministry of Local Government and Community Affairs for processing Social Aid in the form of cash to these families if possible and they also liaise with the Ministry of Social Affairs.



Research and Scientific Research Results

The Community survey on knowledge, attitude and practices on the risk of floods and storm surges in the community reveals that there is a paradox: awareness of risk is high, yet preparedness remains low. While most respondents recognise flooding and storm surges as serious threats, few households or communities have structured plans or actions in place. However, the study also finds strong community solidarity that, if organised, could drive early action.

The report also calls for a Community Early Action Protocol (CEAP) linking forecasts to simple, predefined local triggers and roles. By formalising co-leadership between the Red Cross Society of Seychelles and Local Government, CEAP offers a practical pathway for turning early warnings into timely, collective preparedness across coastal districts.

With the results available, it is now possible to move to the following stages of the project implementation:

1. Dissemination of findings to the communities and to responsible authorities
2. Training in preparedness for all stakeholders
3. Preparedness exercises in all vulnerable communities
4. Development of the Early Action Protocols with the key stakeholders' input



RED CROSS SCHOOL CLUBS

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January–March

- Began negotiations with contractors for headquarters repairs and renovations following the 2023 explosion.
- Coordinated temporary relocation of staff and resources to ensure continuity of operations.
- Conducted safety inspections and compliance reviews with regulatory authorities.



April–June

- Assist with the finalisation of contracts and initiate phased renovation works at headquarters.
- Maintained uninterrupted supply chain operations despite construction challenges.
- Started new procurement strategies to stabilise vendor relationships.
- Attended logistics refresher course at PIROI centre in Reunion.

July–September

- Oversaw logistics for transporting materials and equipment required for headquarters restoration.
- Expanded fleet management initiatives, including route optimization and fuel efficiency monitoring.
- Introduced digital inventory tracking systems to reduce stockouts and improve accuracy (PLAYS)
- Strengthened partnerships with external contractors and suppliers.
- Coordinated the volunteer logistics team throughout the school's annual athletics competition
- RCSS was assisted by the SFRSA department in cleaning the left-wing part of the warehouse
- Organization of the logistics for the 2nd edition of the Seychelles International Nature Trail Competition
- Deployment at the Providence landfill to assist SFRSA, the Police department and several other entities in a fire outbreak in our capacity as first aiders. Logistics assistance was provided, such as tents, chairs, tables, a generator, water flasks, and camp beds.

□

October–December

- Receipt of beverage donation from ISPC
- Completion of electrical work on HQ
- PLAYS training by PIROI for staff and volunteers
- Cleaning and donation presentation to Plaisance home for the elderly



RCSS staff and volunteers operating outside the Red Cross building

Key Activities and Achievements (2025)

The year 2025 opened with intensive negotiations and planning sessions with contractors tasked with repairing and renovating the headquarters, which had been severely damaged by the 2023 explosion. During the first quarter, the department coordinated temporary relocation measures to ensure continuity of operations while simultaneously engaging safety inspectors and regulatory authorities to secure compliance approvals.

By the second quarter, contracts were finalized and phased renovation works commenced. Despite the challenges posed by construction activities, the Logistics Department maintained uninterrupted supply chain operations. Procurement strategies were refined to stabilise vendor relationships, and staff training programs were rolled out with a strong emphasis on safety and emergency preparedness.

The third quarter was marked by the logistical coordination of transporting materials and equipment required for the restoration project. At the same time, the department expanded fleet management initiatives, focusing on route optimisation and fuel efficiency monitoring. A digital inventory tracking system was introduced, significantly reducing stockouts and improving accuracy across warehousing operations. Partnerships with external contractors and suppliers were strengthened, ensuring smoother workflows and resource availability.

A significant milestone during this period was the donation of a Ford Ranger pickup truck by Oceanic Motors. After extensive internal discussions on which organization would benefit most from such a vehicle, Oceanic Motors ultimately decided that the Red Cross Society of Seychelles was the best recipient. This generous contribution greatly enhanced the department's operational capacity, providing reliable support for daily duties and strengthening the department's ability to respond effectively to logistical demands.

The department also received assistance from the Seychelles Fire and Rescue Services Agency (SFRSA), with a team of eight firemen helping to clean the left-wing section of the warehouse. This collaboration ensured the facility was restored to safe and functional standards. In turn, RCSS provided support to the fire department and other entities during a fire at the Providence landfill, supplying camp beds, chairs, tables, water flasks, a generator, and tents to sustain response operations.

Beyond these core responsibilities, the logistics team proudly participated in the second edition of the Seychelles International Nature Trail Competition, offering logistical support that contributed to the smooth running of this national event.

A notable highlight during this period was the donation of soft drink beverages from ISPC, represented by Mr. Dilan Bastienne. The contribution was formally accepted by the Head of Logistics, Ms. Regina

Prosper. These beverages were primarily allocated for standby activities, supporting staff and volunteers during operational duties and ensuring readiness during emergency deployments.

The department also oversaw the **completion of electrical work at the headquarters**, ensuring that the facility was fully functional and compliant with safety standards. Staff and volunteers benefited from **PLAYS training conducted by PIROI**, which enhanced preparedness and strengthened operational capacity for disaster response. In addition, the team carried out a **cleaning exercise and donation presentation at the Plaisance Home for the Elderly**, providing essential supplies and demonstrating the department's commitment to community service.

Beyond restoration and community engagement, the team managed year-end procurement cycles, securing contracts for 2026 supplies and services.



VEHICLE:

- After being in service for more than fifteen years, RCSS' first staff van, S19663 will be leaving its fleet.

RCSS's first staff van,

S19663 is up for sale. The national committee has agreed to remove the same from its fleet because of its age, and the procedure is ongoing to conclude the sale.



Section 5

Communication and Community Engagement

All RCSS programmes include a communication component to ensure standardised and continuous dissemination of information and education to various target groups. Throughout 2025, most media-related outreach was initiated by the National Society to maintain a consistent flow of information.

The RCSS maintained an active presence across its social media platforms, which were updated regularly to provide prompt dissemination of news, programme updates, emergency information, and awareness messages. And during the year, the RCSS issued approximately 15 press releases and communiqués on a range of topics. All received media coverage and were subsequently shared on the RCSS social media platforms.



1. Media outlets

The RCSS continued to engage actively with national media outlets to strengthen visibility and ensure consistent dissemination of humanitarian information. Key engagements included coverage through television, radio, and print media, as well as digital platforms.

These collaborations supported the amplification of RCSS messages, press releases, and public awareness campaigns, contributing to wider outreach across Seychelles. The media played an important role in supporting the National Society's communication efforts and ensuring that key humanitarian updates reached diverse audiences across the country.

Monthly Media Feature Commitment

The RCSS established a standard to ensure the National Society is featured at least once every month in either national or international media.

Impact

This approach has proven effective—enhancing visibility, strengthening public awareness, and reinforcing the RCSS as a leading humanitarian voice.

Growing Media Trust & Visibility

Media outlets increasingly engage the RCSS for follow-up stories, recognizing the National Society as a credible and reliable humanitarian voice. This ongoing collaboration also strengthens advocacy efforts, helping to amplify RCSS programmes and initiatives.

Why This Matters

This is a significant achievement, especially as RCSS continues to advocate for:

- Increased **support from partners and local authorities** □ Assistance to **vulnerable and marginalized communities**
- Support towards the **rebuilding of RCSS headquarters** following the 2023 disaster

Key Awareness Days Coverage

Extensive media coverage was achieved during major global theme days, including:

- World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day
- World Blood Donor Day
- World First Aid Day
- International Volunteer Day



A few pictures of TV interviews given by the RCSS are shown here:



2. Social Media

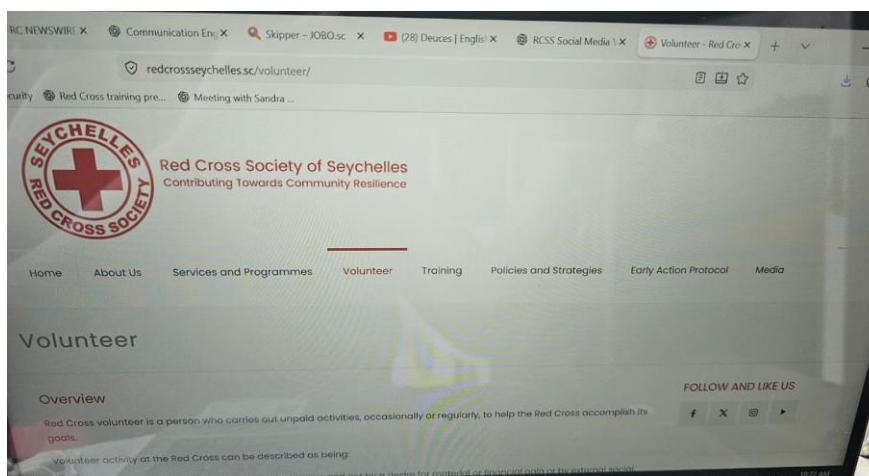
The RCSS social media platforms were updated as frequently as possible to ensure that news and updates were shared promptly, often ahead of other media outlets.

Content published on these platforms was regularly contributed by both staff and volunteers of the National Society, supporting timely and consistent communication with the public.

New features were introduced to improve user experience and visibility of RCSS initiatives:

- **Volunteer Hub** – Showcasing volunteers’ personal and professional achievements
- **Early Action Protocol (EAP) Section** – Highlighting preparedness and anticipatory action efforts.

New features added to RCSS website



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3. Promotional material and giveaways

In 2025, the RCSS produced branded promotional T-shirts to support visibility and awareness-raising of the Early Action Protocol (EAP). These were worn by staff and volunteers during the Interschool Athletics Championships held on 18 June.

This strategic visibility initiative contributed to increased public awareness of anticipatory action and strengthened the RCSS brand presence at a high-attendance national event. An estimated 35,000 participants and spectators were reached, ensuring broad dissemination of key messaging on community preparedness. The use of standardized branding further enhanced the National Society’s visibility, positioning RCSS as a key actor in early action and disaster risk reduction efforts.”

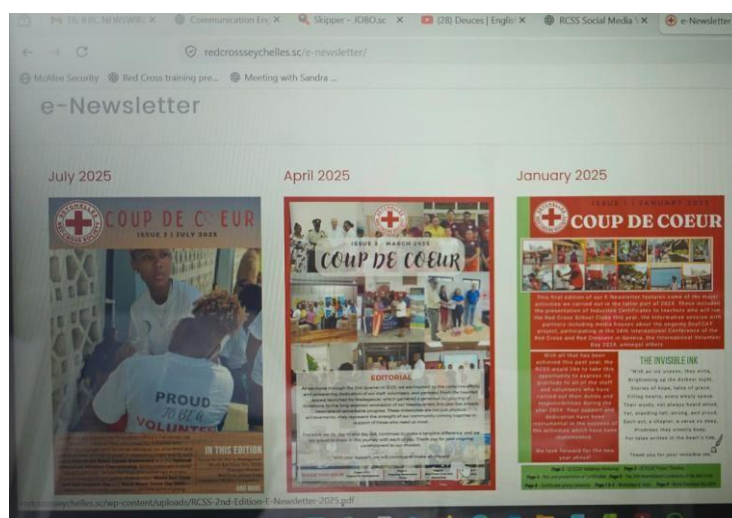
The event was aired live on two television and radio stations.

4. Newsletter

The Red Cross Society of Seychelles continued to strengthen its digital communication by publishing e-newsletters for staff, volunteers, partners, and the general public.

Key Features of 2025 E-Newsletters

- Monthly and quarterly digital newsletters distributed via email and social media
- Highlighting humanitarian activities and community impact



- Updates on disaster response, preparedness, and ongoing projects
 - Volunteer stories, achievements, and recognition
 - Advocacy updates including progress on the RCSS Bill
 - Partner and donor acknowledgements
-

RCSS website and social media addresses

RCSS website:

www.redcrossseychelles.sc

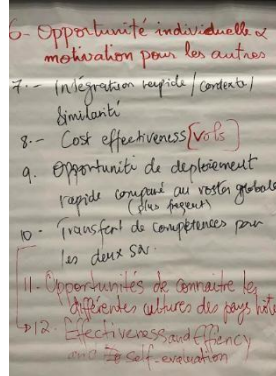
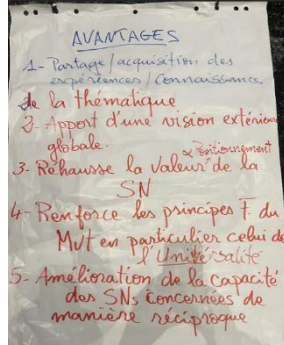
Section 6

Regional/International Cooperation

From 1–3 September 2025, the leaders of the Madagascar Red Cross, Mauritius Red Cross, Seychelles Red Cross, and Comoros Red Crescent met in Antananarivo under the auspices of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. The high-level meeting, held at the Radisson Blu Waterfront, aimed to strengthen cooperation and strategic alignment within the Indian Ocean Islands (IOI) cluster through dialogue, experience sharing, and the definition of common commitments.

The Red Cross Society of Seychelles was represented by its Vice President, Audrey Adam, and Secretary General, Marie-May Esparon. The meeting also brought together partner National Societies, including the German Red Cross, Italian Red Cross, French Red Cross (through PIROI), and British Red Cross, reinforcing regional collaboration and capacity strengthening.

Key discussions focused on joint resource mobilisation, shared human resources, collective risk management, and strengthening trust and cooperation among IOI National Societies.



Agreed Action Points

- Develop and implement a regional digital platform or database to regularly map and update National Societies' human resource capacities (staff and volunteers), in order to improve coordination, facilitate rapid deployment, and promote knowledge sharing.
- Formalize cooperation through Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs):
 - Sign MoUs between IOI National Societies to define terms for human resource sharing;
 - Develop SOPs outlining deployment procedures, cost-sharing mechanisms, and integration processes with the host National Society.
 - Promote continuous capacity development and motivation through joint training sessions, mentorship programmes, and cultural exchange initiatives

EARLY WARNINGS FOR ALL - LEARNING WORKSHOP FOR AFRICAN REGION Double Tree by Hilton, Nairobi-Kenya - 10th to 12th March 2025



The EW4ALL Learning Workshop convened 23 National Societies alongside key IFRC staff for three days of productive dialogue aimed at strengthening the implementation of the Early Warnings for All (EW4ALL) initiative across the African region. The workshop served as a platform for learning, experience sharing, and joint planning, with a particular focus on Pillar 4 — **Preparedness to Respond to Warnings**. Participants reviewed progress to date, exchanged good practices, and examined and validated the draft Africa IFRC

EW4ALL framework, ensuring its alignment with regional priorities and national contexts to further enhance disaster risk reduction and climate resilience efforts across the continent.

Specific workshop objectives were as follows:

- Enhance Technical understanding of EW4ALL
- Assess IFRC Network's Role
- Share Experiences and Best Practices
- Clarify Roles and Responsibilities
- Foster Linkages with other areas/sectors
- Validate Africa EW4All framework



The workshop also provided an opportunity for National Societies to openly discuss key challenges encountered in rolling out the EW4ALL initiative. Among the main concerns highlighted were the difficulty in securing sustainable funding, as many NSs continue to depend on short-term funding cycles that constrain long-term planning and implementation. In addition, coordination challenges among stakeholders—including national governments, pillar leads, and implementing partners—were identified as a significant barrier, affecting the coherence and effectiveness of early warning system implementation.



Interactive exercises aimed at recognising challenges

The Secretary General of the Red Cross Society of Seychelles (RCSS), Marie-May Esparon, participated in the workshop, contributing to the discussions and regional exchanges on strengthening the EW4ALL initiative.

Section 6

Regional/International Cooperation

1. Training at PIROI for Logistics Officer

The Red Cross Society of Seychelles (RCSS) was represented by its Logistics Officer, Mr. Michel Simeon, at a regional refresher training held at the PIROI Centre in Ste. Marie, Réunion from 19th to 21st May 2025. The training brought together logistics officers from Seychelles, Madagascar, Comoros, and Mayotte to review challenges, share best practices, and strengthen technical capacity in procurement, warehousing, and emergency logistics.

Participants toured PIROI's state-of-the-art logistics centre, capable of storing relief supplies for over 25,000 people, gaining practical insights into efficient stock management and preparedness. An external survey highlighted the overall satisfaction of participants with PIROI services, while a newly

established WhatsApp group now facilitates ongoing regional collaboration and real-time information sharing.

For RCSS, the training enhanced logistics preparedness, alignment with regional standards, and crossborder coordination, equipping Mr. Simeon with practical strategies to implement locally. The initiative reinforces the National Society's ability to respond swiftly and effectively to emergencies and contributes to long-term resilience and regional cooperation.



OTHER LOGISTIC TRAINING:

- The logistics officer had the chance to have a refresher training conducted by PIROI's representative on stock management in the PLAYS software. The training was from the 11th to the 15th of November. Mr Gabriel Monteville from PIROI conducted a three-day training for RCSS logistics officer, plus other staff and volunteers. It is to be noted that Mrs Sandra Rose, Praslin logistic volunteer, also attended the training online, where she proved to be very versed with the system.
- Following the training, we had a live trial of a batch of equipment transferred from the Mahe depot to the Praslin depot using the PLAYS software. Twenty-five kitchen sets, 5 stretchers, and 5 camp beds were sent, and all went smoothly.

Climate Change and Adaptation workshop

The Health Coordinator participated in an insightful workshop organised by Piroi, focusing on Climate Change Adaptation, held in the beautiful region of Île de la Réunion. This comprehensive training session was entirely funded by Piroi, along with several esteemed international organisations dedicated to addressing the challenges posed by climate change. The workshop provided an opportunity for attendees to engage in discussions, share best practices, and develop strategies aimed at enhancing resilience against the impacts of climate change within communities. The training was held at the Piroi Centre from 24th to 28th November 2025. Staff and volunteers from the five national societies as listed participated in the training: La Reunion, Ile Maurice, Madagascar, Mayotte, Comores and Seychelles. To make it more interested in the training a visit was held on Thursday, 27th November 2025, at the Observatoire de l'Atmosphère du Maito.

Anticipatory Action & Early Warning Systems Training

Ms Regina Prosper (Disaster Manager), Ms Aliza Serret (Programme Officer), and Ms Elaine Fanchette (La Digue Finance Volunteer) participated in a three-day regional training on **Anticipatory Action and Early Warning Systems**, held from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. with participants from **Mauritius, Comoros, Madagascar, Mayotte, Réunion, and Seychelles**. This was the **first time** Seychelles was represented in this training.



- The training strengthened participants' technical knowledge in **risk anticipation, trigger models, protocol development, and financing mechanisms**, including access to **DREF for anticipatory action**. Practical **simulation exercises (SIMEX)** enhanced confidence in decisionmaking under pressure and improved understanding of proactive disaster risk management.
- For the **Red Cross**, the training contributes to building institutional capacity to act **before disasters occur**, improve preparedness planning, clarify roles and responsibilities, and better integrate **gender and protection considerations** into emergency and shelter management plans.
- For **Seychelles**, the knowledge gained supports stronger early warning systems, improved community preparedness, reduced disaster impacts through early action, and enhanced collaboration with national, regional, and international partners. The participants look forward to further similar capacity-building opportunities in the future.



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October – School Safety – Reunion Island – PIROI

Small island states are among the most exposed to climate and natural hazards. Their vulnerability also presents an opportunity to innovate in terms of prevention and adaptation, particularly in the education sector. Schools are strategic locations for instilling a culture of risk awareness from an early age.

On October 9 and 10, 2025, PIROI – French Red Cross organized a regional workshop on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) at the PIROI Center in Réunion, a regional workshop on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), with a particular focus on risk education in schools, drawing on tools developed by the Movement, such as the EVCA (Evaluation of Vulnerability and Capacities) adapted to schools, and in particular the ECOSchools DRR Toolkit.

This workshop is in line with the strategic orientations of the Sendai Framework, the Comprehensive School Safety Framework (CSSF), which call for the integration of DRR into national education systems, and the IFRC's Red Education initiative, which aims to promote safe, equitable, and inclusive access to education through humanitarian action, integrating DRR as a lever for resilience.

The workshop brought together National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies from the region, as well as ministries of education and national disaster risk management offices from various countries, with the aim of strengthening the resilience of education systems in countries in the region that are particularly exposed to natural hazards.

Discussions focused on ways to sustainably integrate DRM into school policies and programs, considering schools as an essential lever for instilling a culture of risk awareness from an early age.

Objectives

- Consolidate an inclusive and integrated approach to DRR in regional education policies;
- Promote partnerships between National Red Cross/Red Crescent Societies and Ministries of

Education;

- Capitalize on existing tools and experiences in the region.

Expected results

- Capitalization on regional experiences.
- Development of a regional roadmap for school DRM.
- Dissemination of the Eco-Schools DRR Toolkit.

GENERAL SUMMARY of the 3 themes

Common points observed

- Strong desire for collaboration, but coordination needs to be formalized
- Lack of stable institutional frameworks and resources
- Awareness raising and advocacy essential for sustainable political commitment

Priority guidelines for the regional plan

1. Formalize cooperation between actors (Ministry of Education, CRCR, Protection/Civil Security, NGOs)
2. Integrate DRR into curricula at all levels of education
3. Strengthen human and material capacities for DRR
4. Institutionalize monitoring, evaluation, and capitalization
5. Ensure the inclusion of all audiences, particularly people with disabilities and young girls



November - Reinforcing locally led adaptation: a climate workshop for the French-speaking Indian Ocean region –Reunion Island – PIROI

As climate impacts intensify across the Indian Ocean, the IFRC and the Climate Centre joined forces with the French Red Cross and its regional intervention platform (PIROI) to provide a workshop training to strengthen climate action in humanitarian programmes and reinforce locally led adaptation.

The workshop got a group of French-speaking Red Cross and Red Crescent personnel up to speed on disseminating climate knowledge and strengthening resilience in their National Societies.

Sixteen staff and volunteers from La Réunion itself as well as Comoros, Madagascar, Mauritius and Seychelles took part, and the sessions were facilitated by experts from PIROI, the IFRC, the French Red Cross and the Climate Centre.



Section 6

Human Resources and Administration.

This report provides an overview of human resources activities and developments within the Red Cross Society of Seychelles for the first half of 2025. It highlights major initiatives, staff movements, training, and workplace improvements undertaken to support operational efficiency and staff wellbeing.

A core component of the year 2025 was the professional upskilling of our administrative and leadership teams through The Guy Morel Institute (TGMI)

Strategic Enrolment:

Staff participated in specialised short courses designed to attract organizational efficiency.

Key Training Areas:

Leadership & Management: Focused on “Mindset for 21st Century Leadership” and “Supervisory Skills” to strengthen internal governance and other short courses.

RCSS HQ Renovations

The renovation of the RCSS Headquarters at the Providence Industrial Estate started in 2nd quarter of 2025, following the damage sustained in late 2023. As of late 2025/early 2026, renovation work is still ongoing. Significant milestones achieved including the replacement of office windows and the repair of shutter doors in both the left and right wings. To ensure uninterrupted service, the RCSS team continue to operate from temporary rented facilities at the ONIVO Complex , Perseverance 1, then we move back to HQ, occupying part of the right wing warehouse due to financial constraint of paying rent.

Due to resource allocation and logistical delays, full completion and the resumption of certain humanitarian programs are projected for the 2nd quarter of 2026.

International Missions & Overseas workshops

Our commitment to the global Red Cross Red Crescent movement was evidenced by several overseas engagements for both staff and volunteers in 2025.

Staff/volunteers attended to 8 workshops/trainings during 2025 as follows:

- Negotiation Course
- Logistic training
- Reunion des Dirigeants L'IOI NS
- Formations Alerte et Actions Anticipees
- Skillshare Training
- DRR workshop
- Women's Leadership Training
- Adaptation au Changement Climatique

Section 7

Financial Statement

Profit & Loss