CAMEROON

ANNUAL REPORT

30 April 2005

In Brief

Appeal target: CHF 418,917 (USD 314,620 or EUR 269,660)
Appeal coverage: 36.8% (Click here to access the final financial report)
Appeal 2005: Central Africa sub-regional programmes no. 05AA038 (includes Cameroon, Chad, Equatorial Guinea, São Tomé and Principe, and sub-regional office) – http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?annual05/05AA038.pdf

This Annual Report reflects activities implemented over a one-year period; they form part of, and are based on, longer-term, multi-year planning. All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the Code of Conduct and is committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, please access the Federation’s website at http://www.ifrc.org

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Overall analysis of the programme
To satisfy the ever increasing needs of the Cameroonian communities as well as address its own inadequate resources, the Cameroon Red Cross Society ¹ has adhered to the Federation’s participative approach to support. This entails involving the stakeholders at every level of the project planning process (PPP) in drawing up of a coherent long-term development plan. This takes into consideration:
• the communities’ vulnerabilities and capacities,
• the results of the national society’s analysis of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT), and
• the development of a cooperation agreement strategy (CAS).

¹ Cameroon Red Cross Society - http://www.ifrc.org/where/country/check.asp?countryid=41
In 2004, the Cameroon country team comprising management commission members, divisional committees’ representatives and the national society president defined the following priorities:

- Local branches capacity building (development of local branches);
- Community-based health (AIDS control and the fight against related discrimination);
- Disaster and conflict preparedness/response (community-based first aid training, volunteers’ preparation for early epidemic alert).

Health and Care
Goal: Reduction of the vulnerability of populations in respect to health.

Objective: Target populations will adopt less risky behaviour patterns and make more use of the Cameroon Red Cross’s health and care services.

Achievements
In 2004, the Cameroon Red Cross carried out activities essentially related to care (vaccination and laboratory activities) and community-based health.

- Health Care
  - A total of 3,382 patients - 982 women, 1,660 men and 740 children - received treatment at the national society’s Henry Dunant Health and Social Welfare Centre. Amongst the most commonly diagnosed ailments were malaria, bronco-pneumonopathy, gastroenteritis, skin diseases, sexually-transmitted infections (STI), gastritis, haemorrhoids, typhoid fever, rheumatisms and traumas.
  - In all, the health centre administered 2,258 doses of vaccines: 437 doses of BCG, 880 doses of VTA, 323 doses of anti-polio vaccines, 428 doses of DTCOQ, and 190 doses of yellow fever vaccines. These figures exclude vaccines not covered by the expanded programme on immunization (EPI) and purchased by the patients.
  - In the health centre’s laboratory, 15,200 tests were conducted: 3,600 haematology tests, 800 parasite tests, 900 biochemical tests and 2,700 bacteriological tests.

- Community-based Health Care
  - The Cameroon Red Cross developed and executed a project consisting of surveys, training and sensitization. In addition, it was involved in latrines and water points’ construction.
  - The first survey was aimed at establishing the frequency of water-borne diseases in eight targeted neighbourhoods in Yaoundé while the second survey was conducted to promote behavioural change and teach targeted populations how to develop and implement community-based sanitation activities. The first survey’s results showed malaria topping the list of the most frequent water-borne diseases, followed by gastroenteritis, helminthiasis, amebiasis and typhoid fever.
  - During the second survey, the national society carried out information, sensitisation and education activities for behavioural change in the targeted neighbourhoods. A total of 16 first-aid workers and 24 opinion leaders received training in the construction, use and maintenance of latrines and water points as well as on epidemics - mode of contamination, vectors and prevention.
  - The health department’s chief medical officer was trained in epidemic management and nutrition in Kribi (Cameroon) during a joint seminar of the Cameroon Ministry of Public Health (MSP) and the Federation’s Central Africa sub-regional office (BRAC).
  - Similarly, 72 peer educators received training in AIDS control within the framework of partnership with AES/SONEL. In all, the Cameroon Red Cross produced and distributed 2,500 folders and 500 posters to 1,234 people to promote hygiene and sanitation in the eight targeted neighbourhoods.
  - Red Cross volunteers also participated in anti-AIDS campaigns in some schools, enterprises (BAT, and AES/SONEL) and the Yaoundé Central Prison.
Furthermore, the Cameroon Red Cross organized two blood donation sessions in collaboration with the public hospital for retirees (l’hôpital de la Caisse), the Central Hospital, and the Gynaecology-Obstetric-Paediatric Hospital, all based in Yaoundé.

Through the Federation’s financial support and in collaboration with MSP, the Cameroon Red Cross constructed a dry latrine with ventilated alternate pits in Tongolo, Yaoundé, to be managed by the community. This experience is expected to be duplicated to combat water-borne diseases.

The national society rehabilitated and maintained five water points in Nyom 2, a Yaoundé suburban area while 25 volunteers implemented sanitation activities at the Yaoundé Central Prison.

**The HIV/AIDS Programme**

In response to the increasing vulnerability of women, youths and adults to HIV/AIDS, the Cameroon Red Cross developed an integrated project to stop the progress of HIV/AIDS/STIs and to promote community health, women in development and humanitarian values. The Henry Dunant Health and Social Welfare Centre built within the framework of this all important project has become a reference health structure.

The Cameroon Red Cross also implemented a series of remarkable activities to enhance its visibility within the HIV/AIDS framework including the organization of 64 theatre shows in schools and other public places in Douala, Yaoundé, Bertoua, Ngoundéré and Garoua. The Red Cross clubs used these shows to promote behavioural change and encourage the provision of home and community-based care to people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA).

Similarly, the Cameroon Red Cross organized health education sessions in its counselling centres for the benefit of 1,500 youths in Douala, Yaoundé, Bertoua, Edéa, Mbouda, Ngaoundéré, and Garoua within the framework of HIV/AIDS/STIs prevention.

Within the framework of the Sex Workers Project, 78 young girls together with Red Cross volunteers received HIV-related peer education training. The objective is to provide psychosocial support to 2,500 sex workers, conduct HIV/AIDS/STI screening tests, and treat any infected participant. A total of 312 educative talks have been organized in Yaoundé and Douala for the benefit of 1,600 sex workers.

Twenty-four Red Cross volunteers have been trained as peer educators to sensitise 48 barbers, hairdressers (30 men, 18 women) and their regular customers. Consequently, the national society produced and distributed 1,000 folders on HIV/AIDS prevention in hairdressing salons.

Similarly, 72 AES/SONEL workers received training on HIV-related peer education to promote the fight against discrimination in that company.

**Impact**

- The Cameroon Red Cross’s visibility is restored. The public is better informed on the relevance of the fight against discrimination and stigma. Through its activities, the Cameroon Red Cross’s integrity before the National AIDS Control Committee (NACC) is reinforced.

**Constraints**

- Only three of the 10 Cameroon provinces have Cameroon Red Cross health structures.
- There is inadequate number of personnel and laboratory materials in these health centres.
- Lack of sponsors to support the Cameroon Red Cross’s AIDS activities (the only sponsor was the Federation).
- Lack of funds for the publication of the peer educators’ trainers manual on HIV/AIDS in working places.
Disaster Management
Goal: Reduction of the populations’ vulnerability in the wake of disasters.

Objective: The technical disaster management skills of a national team will be strengthened in the fields of WatSan, epidemic management and food security. Mechanisms for the national society’s hosting of an ERDAC, FACT or ERU\(^2\) team are in place and the prevention; preparedness and response capacities of the local branches in the high-risk zones are strengthened.

Achievements

- **The National First aid and Emergency Department**
  - In 2004, all divisional committees’ representatives nationwide became acquainted with the concept and terms of reference for ERDAC through the head of this department.
  - In addition, this department contributed to the introduction of new orientations in the national DM training programme promoting evaluation as an inescapable disaster management tool.
  - In collaboration with the Civil Protection Department (DPC) of Cameroon’s Ministry of Territorial Administration and Decentralisation (MINATD), the Cameroon Red Cross first aid and emergency department developed three projects to train, equip and establish a volunteer network in high risk areas like Nyos and Monun in preparation for subsequent disasters.
  - On 11 November 2004, the first aid and emergency department developed the following points at the evaluation meeting:
    - Update of training programmes at all levels and organization of community-based first aid activities (hygiene, marine, road, mountain);
    - Retraining of trainers and their even distribution nationwide;
    - Development of a national database of trained first aid-workers, incentives for first aid-workers, their identification, and the coaching role to be played by the head of the first aid and emergency department.
    - Furthermore, the national society adopted the following policies to better define field activities’ framework:
      - The national first aid policy;
      - The national policy on intervention in the event of a disaster;
      - The national disaster preparedness policy;
      - The national policy on rehabilitation after a disaster;
      - The national training policy.
  - In 2004, the national first aid and emergency department conducted 75 first aid training sessions, 11 training sessions for monitors, and 4 provincial workshops to train disaster response teams with support from BRAC.
  - The cholera epidemic which hit the Noun, Bamboutos, Logone and Chari as well as Wouri divisional committees provided a timely opportunity to test some of the trained disaster response teams.
  - In all, the Cameroon Red Cross deployed 2,500 volunteers during the emergency and rehabilitation phases of the intervention to eradicate this epidemic. Concretely, it promoted behavioural change, sanitation of water points and disinfection of victims’ homes. The Federation and MSP provided needed support.
  - Consequently, cholera was eradicated in the affected areas, and local authorities sent congratulatory letters to encourage the Red Cross volunteers.
  - The divisional committees received material support from the national headquarters within the framework of special and temporary activities like the health coverage of the October 2004 presidential elections, and the various anti-polio immunization campaigns. About 40 local committees received a minimum package comprising two first-aid kits, a stretcher, security patches, helmets, and blankets.

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\(^2\) ERDAC – Central Africa regional disaster response team(s); FACT – Federation assessment and coordination team(s); ERU – emergency response unit(s)
Impact

- Some Cameroon Red Cross executives acquired skills during the ERDAC training workshops which enabled them to progressively establish a National Disaster Response Team.

Constraints

- Limited funding reduced the number of planned disaster management training sessions: only four of ten provinces nationwide benefited from the training.

Promotion of Humanitarian Values

Goal: Elimination of discrimination of specific groups of vulnerable people.

Objective: The population, public authorities and employers are familiar with and appreciate the position of the Federation in respect of all forms of discrimination, with special emphasis on stigmatization due to HIV/AIDS.

Achievements

- **The national Communication and Public Relations Department**
  - The national station CRTV broadcasts a micro-programme, “Univers Croix-Rouge”, every Friday at 6:15 p.m., which publicizes Cameroon Red Cross activities.
  - The national society created its website - [www.croix-rougecamerounaise.org](http://www.croix-rougecamerounaise.org) – in October 2004 with financial support from the ICRC/Yaoundé delegation.
  - In 2004, the national society published its quarterly news bulletin “Croix-Rouge Infos”, with some difficulties because of inadequate funds as priority was given to the creation of the web site.
  - In mid-June 2004, the Cameroon Red Cross organized a training seminar on the communication and diffusion of the Fundamental Principles of the Red Cross in Bamenda for the benefit of 15 divisional communicators from the west and north-west provinces, with the ICRC Delegation’s financial support. The Cameroon Red Cross’s information/diffusion officer organized the seminar with the assistance of the information/diffusion officers of ICRC and the Federation. Participants learned how to write press releases and reports as well as everything regarding media relations.

- **The Youth Red Cross**
  - The Cameroon Red Cross Youth Red Cross organized theatre shows in schools in Douala, Yaoundé, Ngaoundéré, and Garoua. They also organized similar events in establishments such as AES/SONEL, Guinness Cameroon, and BAT in Yaoundé. In addition, the youth group organized several shows on national and international days, including the International Blood Donation Day, the International Women’s Day, the World Anti-AIDS Day, and the International Day of the Red Cross.
  - During such shows, the youths relay social messages to promote behavioural change through prevention of prostitution, HIV/AIDS, conflicts, violence and abuse.
  - From 1 to 5 August 2004, the Youth Red Cross organized an international camp with the theme, “The Youths and the Promotion of Humanitarian Values” with the participation of youths from Chad and Cameroon. The occasion provided participants the opportunity to learn how to set up and manage Red Cross clubs, promote peace and respect in various milieus. In addition, participants gained knowledge on HIV/AIDS including prevention, screening test, psychosocial care of PLWHA and HIV-positive cases, as well as the fight against marginalisation.
  - In all, 50 Red Cross youths received training as peer educators and participated in the anti-HIV/AIDS/STI campaign in favour of sex workers within the framework of the “Sex Workers” Project.
  - The Youth Red Cross counselling centres in Douala, Yaoundé and Bertoua, which constitute appropriate structures of dialogue, information and non-formal education, have been equipped with audio-visual materials and on HIV/AIDS information materials.
Impact
- An increasing number of people better understand the positions of the Red Cross on the fight against discrimination.
- People living with HIV/AIDS now have the opportunity to express themselves, especially through theatre shows.

Organizational Development
Goal: Improvement of the performance of the Cameroon Red Cross Society in the core areas of Strategy 2010.

Objective: The financial capacities of the Cameroon Red Cross Society permitting to cover its basic outlay and implement programmes are strengthened.

Achievements
- Within the capacity building framework, the national society recruited a programme and project coordinator and the head of OD department, with Federation support.
- Through the head of OD, the programme and project coordinator developed the Cameroon Red Cross’s 2005 – 2009 strategic plan.
- During a tripartite meeting of the Cameroon Red Cross, the Federation and ICRC, the national society’s articles of association were revised based on the Movement’s guidelines. The revised version sent to Geneva was returned to the national society with the authorisation for final adoption.
- The Cameroon Red Cross launched a pilot operation to recruit programme and project coordinators at local committee levels in six divisions:
  - Mfouindi (Centre Province),
  - Wouri (Littoral Province),
  - Fako (South West Province),
  - Vina (Adamaoua Province),
  - Lom and Djerem (East Province), and
  - Bamboutos (West Province).
- A PPP training seminar to support the various technical departments and ensure the smooth follow-up of the activities of local committees, immediately followed. This process will be extended to other local committees.

Impact
- The Cameroon Red Cross is engaged in a process to become a well-functioning national society.

Constraints
- The headquarters receives few reports and little information from the grassroots.

Final financial report below; click here to return to title page and contact information.
## I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Health &amp; Care</th>
<th>Disaster Management</th>
<th>Humanitarian Values</th>
<th>Organisational Development</th>
<th>Coordination &amp; Implementation</th>
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### Income

- **Cash contributions**
  - British Red Cross: 34'500
  - Great Britain - Private Donors: 52'578
  - Other: 0
  - **Total Cash contributions (C1): 87'078**

- **Reallocations (within appeal or from/to another appeal)**
  - Swedish Government: 29'600
  - Swedish Red Cross: 277'310
  - **Total Reallocations (C2): 299'325**

**Total Income (C) = SUM(C1..C5): 364'388**

**Total Funding (B + C): 386'403**

## II. Balance of Funds

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Prepared on 05.May.2005