

# PROGRAMME UPDATE



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies  
Fédération Internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge  
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja  
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

## WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA REGIONAL PROGRAMMES

12 July 2005

*The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization and its millions of volunteers are active in over 181 countries.*

*For more information: [www.ifrc.org](http://www.ifrc.org)*

### In Brief

**Appeal no. 05AA039; Programme Update no. 1, Period covered: January to June 2005; Appeal coverage: 14.5%; Outstanding needs: CHF 1,514,935 (USD 1,183,543 or EUR 978,640). (See below).**

*(Click [here](#) to go directly to the attached Contributions List, also available on the website).*

**Appeal target: CHF 1,772, 655 (USD 1,408,000 or EUR 1, 141,800); This programme update revised the budget from CHF 1,772,655 to CHF 1,232,548 to remove the C-project. ([Click here to go directly to the revised budget](#)). Adjusted Appeal coverage: 20.9%; Adjusted outstanding needs: CHF 974,832 (USD 761,588 or EUR 629,736).**

**Related Emergency or Annual Appeals: N/A**

**Programme summary:** During the reporting period, funding was quite a challenge for the regional delegation. The delegation was however able to carry out activities under health, organizational development (OD), disaster management (DM), international representation and coordination and strategic partnerships.

Efforts have been made to cut down on costs by the restructuring of sub-regional offices. Consequently, the Sahel sub-regional office has been merged with the regional delegation structure and the Mano River sub-regional office reduced to a country delegation. Countries formally under the Mano River sub-region have been relocated to the Lagos regional office. Further restructuring is envisaged in the second half of 2005. This will drastically reduce administrative costs of the Federation and further allow for efficient and coordinated service delivery to National Societies and vulnerable groups.

**For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:**

- In Senegal: Alasan Senghore, Federation Head of regional delegation for West and Central Africa, Dakar; Email: [ifrcsn21@ifrc.org](mailto:ifrcsn21@ifrc.org); Phone +221.869.36.41; Fax +221. 860.20.02.
- In Geneva: Madeleine Lundberg, Federation Regional Officer for West and Central Africa, Africa Dept; Email [Madeleine.Lundberg@ifrc.org](mailto:Madeleine.Lundberg@ifrc.org); Phone +41.22.730.43.35 ; Fax +41.22.733.03.95

*This Programme Update reflects activities to be implemented over a one-year period. This forms part of, and is based on, longer-term, multi-year planning (refer below to access the detailed logframe documents). 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, or for a full description of the national society profile, please access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>*

## **Operational developments**

The West and Central Africa region continued to be faced by many challenges. While the Liberian political situation has begun to stabilize, with a transitional government in place and preparations for presidential and legislative elections scheduled for October ongoing, the food situation in the country and the Sahel region in whole remains precarious. The World Food Programme (WFP) warned that an additional USD 18.7 million is needed to avert a looming food shortage, as a result of an increased demand for food aid in the region. According to WFP, its regional operations in Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea had received only 75% of required funding despite feeding 20% more refugees than originally planned.

Beyond the food crises, some West Africa member National Societies have been hard-hit by political instability since 19 September 2002. A situation of a delicate peace has prevailed since then with intermittent outbursts of fighting in the western Cote d'Ivoire. Recent inter-ethnic fighting, in May, in the troubled western town of Duekoue left 15 people dead and 4,000 displaced. ICRC and the Red Cross Society of Cote d'Ivoire were actively involved in providing relief and humanitarian services. There has been a renewed effort to restore lasting peace in the country with the signing of an accord in Pretoria. In view of the recent meetings concluded in Yamoussoukro by the government, the army and the opposition, the disarmament process has had more hurdles than progress.

In Togo, more than 16,500 people have been displaced following post-election violence after the official confirmation of the disputed 24 April presidential election results in favour of the son to the late president. The neighboring Benin and Ghana National Societies immediately implemented plans of action to care handle the resultant massive refugee influx.

Between January and April 2005, the Nigeria Red Cross Society responded to ten national disasters which displaced 6,570 people, leaving 359 injured and 48 dead. The disasters included fires, road accidents, religious disturbances and explosions of munitions. Consequently, the National Society conducted refresher training for 60 emergency and first aid team (EFAT) leaders in 12 branches. The Nigeria Red Cross Society was also involved in the UNHCR-coordinated repatriation and reintegration of over 800 Nigerian returnees from Cameroon.

Meanwhile, the Republic of Guinea's socio-economic situation was worsened by the presence of a high refugee population from Liberian, Sierra Leone and Cote d'Ivoire: about 68,000 in camps and 13,600 extremely vulnerable persons (EVP) outside the camps. In addition, more than 200,000 internally displaced persons (IDP) forced to flee their homes, following armed attacks in 2000-2001, have settled in the Guinea Forestiere and Lower Guinea resulting in food insecurity and drop in the population's living standards and community health.

## **Disaster management**

**Goal: The impact of disasters on the vulnerable people in West and Central Africa is reduced through the National Societies' effective disaster management systems.**

**Objective: The four sub-regional offices are supported in strengthening disaster management capacities of the national societies.**

### **Progress/Achievements**

- The regional delegation has established a database of all National Societies' trained members of the regional disaster response team (RDRT) and started a review based on lessons learned both within and outside the region.
- The training's objective was to improve the system, effectiveness and efficiency of the RDRT.
- The regional delegation facilitated the deployment of RDRT members in several operations in West & Central Africa and Southern Africa: Chad refugee operation, Togolese refugee operation in Benin and Marburg fever in Angola.

## **West and Central Africa Regional Programmes; Appeal no. 05AA039; Programme Update no. 1**

- To harmonise and integrate approaches on disaster management (DM) and ensure coordination and sharing of knowledge, the regional delegation has collected documents from within the region and beyond on lessons learned, exercises and best practices on disaster preparedness and response with the view of developing a regional DM strategy.
- Experiences and lessons learned are also being collected through practical application of DM tools, e.g. in April; the regional delegation mobilised and sent a joint Federation-RDRT team to Benin and Ghana in response to the population movement resulting from political crisis in Togo. In collaboration with ICRC and the Togo, Benin and Ghana National Societies, the regional office carried out contingency planning and launched an emergency appeal.
- Besides population movements, the regional delegation is addressing the food insecurity crises in the Sahel countries and, together with the National Societies, has carried out preliminary assessments. A team comprising of a consultant and two National Society staff has been deployed to Niger, Burkina Faso, Mali and Mauritania to assess the role of the National Societies in responding to the crises and developing a plan of action for the regional delegation.
- The regional office issued Information Bulletins on disasters, with a regional dimension (i.e. food insecurity and Togo civil transition), and an Operations Update of the Emergency Appeal on population movement resulting from the crises in Cote d'Ivoire.
- The office continued coordinating and collaborating with governmental and non-governmental organisations on disaster preparedness and response, i.e. locust invasion, food security, population movements.
- Assisted National Societies in contingency planning and risk reduction.
- Supported National Societies on DM through joined field visits, assessment missions and consequent programme planning.
- Supported the Red Cross of Chad in refugee operations and capacity building.

### **Organizational development**

**Goal: The National Societies implement sustainable programmes with a positive impact on the lives of the most vulnerable with the support of the regional delegation.**

**Objective: The four sub-regional offices are supported to bring a cohesive approach that will help develop and improve the quality of management in national societies' programs and resources.**

### **Progress/Achievements**

- The regional delegation did an evaluation of the project planning process (PPP) training organized in the entire region in 2004. Results showed that all the National Societies that participated in the training had improved their capacities in project planning. Training for upcoming National Society staff was highly recommended.
- In the framework of the 2005 institutional support programme for the Sahel National Societies, workshops on governance and management were held from 5 May to 13 June in Niger, Burkina Faso, Mali and the Gambia. Members of governance, the National Society's program coordinators, national directors and the presidents of local branches attended the workshop. Recommendations made at the end of the workshops will be used in preparing a plan of action.
- The Red Cross Society of Guinea received assistance in preparing its long overdue 2004 annual report. The Red Cross Society of Guinea officers attended a refresher course on Federation reporting standards and guidelines. Sahel region, Lagos region and Central Africa region were also briefed on how to report on the 2005 appeal.
- Red Cross Society of Cote d'Ivoire received extra coaching in preparing its annual reports. Furthermore, to promote the visibility of the Cote d'Ivoire National Society, the regional reporting officer wrote an article on the activities of its volunteers during the 2005 polio vaccination campaign. The article was posted on the Federation's website.

## **Coordination, cooperation, and strategic partnerships**

**Goal:** Coordination and cooperation amongst the regional National Societies have been developed and strengthened due to the increased support to the working groups.

**Objective:** The four working groups are supported in the development of their local expertise, capacity building, knowledge and information sharing.

### **Progress/Achievements**

- Review of the efficiency and effectiveness of the regional working groups was undertaken. The group charged with the responsibility of working out the modalities presented its recommendations to the Sahel sub-regional group. The next step is sharing the findings with the Central Africa group.

## **Effective representation and advocacy**

**Goal:** The Federation is well known as a credible and effective voice on humanitarian issues in West and Central Africa.

**Objective:** The regional delegation assists the sub-regional offices and the National Societies to undertake advocacy work with governments and other institutions through established mechanisms.

### **Progress/Achievements**

- The regional delegation regularly participated in inter-agency coordination and emergency meetings with OCHA. The meetings discussed, among other issues, the Cote d'Ivoire population movement crisis, Togo civil transition and locust invasion and food insecurity in the Sahel countries.
- The Federation has established its position in the region as one of the most important partners of the UN and other organizations. The regional delegation was part of the team that met and held briefings with the UN donor-support group that visited the region.
- Based on the global agreement between the Federation and WFP, the regional delegation was represented at the regional WFP country managers' meeting. The meeting discussed strategies for cooperation and collaboration between the WFP and the National Societies of various countries in the West and Central Africa region.
- The regional delegation undertook advocacy missions to Guinea, Benin, Togo, Senegal and Nigeria by holding discussions with the respective governments so as to foster partnerships and mobilize support for the national societies.

## **Governance support**

**Goal:** National societies of West and Central Africa region are effectively represented on the Federation Board and other statutory bodies of the Movement.

**Objective:** The regional delegation facilitates the effective participation of members of governing boards and other statutory bodies in the board and commission meetings and other activities.

### **Progress/Achievements**

- Through the Sierra Leone delegation, the board member representing the region received briefings and administrative support that enabled him participate in the regular board meetings.
- The delegation facilitated the mission of the board member to assist and advice the Red Cross Society of Guinea on governance issues.

## Delegation management

**Goal: A robust and accountable regional delegation is providing efficient and effective services to the sub-regional offices, delegations and National Societies in West and Central Africa.**

**Objective: A management structure is established and maintained to provide services and support the sub-regional offices, National Societies and Federation operations on human resource, financial management, IT and telecom, information, reporting and logistics.**

### Progress/Achievements

- During the reporting period, the Sahel regional office in Dakar was merged with the regional delegation structure. This will drastically reduce the administrative costs of the Federation and further allow for efficient and coordinated service delivery to the National Societies and vulnerable groups.
- The regional delegation's organ gram is being reviewed whilst job specifications of the local staff are being aligned to the changes. All the regional delegation local staff job descriptions have however been revised accordingly.
- Furthermore, the regional delegation has recruited an information officer who has since started work and is presently familiarizing himself with the Federation. A local IT officer has also been recruited in Dakar and is supporting the delegation.

#### *Regional Reporting*

- During the reporting period, the reporting department supported the West and Central Africa region in processing about 82 reports. The reports comprised of monthly reports, operations updates, pledge-based reports, annual reports, information bulletins, final reports and emergency appeals. In the absence of the acting head of delegation, the regional reporting officer also represented the Abidjan office in meetings with OCHA, ICRC and National Societies.
- All sub-regional offices and delegations in the region completed their 2004 annual reports before the deadline, with the last ones cleared in April. A reporting mission was undertaken to Conakry to assist the National Society in preparing its overdue 2004 annual report and its first programme update for 2005. Officers of the Red Cross Society of Guinea were reminded of the need to comply with Federation reporting standards so as to strengthen their partnerships and maintain donor confidence. The reporting officer briefed new delegation staff in Dakar on Federation reporting standards and requirements.

#### *Regional IT/Telecom*

- The regional IT officer assisted Yaounde regional office in installing IT and Telecom equipment after moving offices. Standard packages and systems were verified and a Local Area Network (LAN) was optimized by installing two Dlink switches. As a prelude to its contingency plan for eventualities arising from the forthcoming presidential elections scheduled for October, the Red Cross Society of Cote d'Ivoire updated its VHF radio. Additionally, during the merging of Sahel regional office with the regional delegation, IT/Telecom extended the computer and telephone networks. It equally put in place a VHF network for local communication at the regional delegation.

#### *Regional Finance*

- Following the merger of the Sahel sub-regional office with the regional delegation, the finance department has worked out a merger of the balanced sheet together with a programme for the rest of financial details.
- The Red Cross Society of Guinea received support from regional finance team in sorting out its accounting problems and strengthening its accounting management system. Liberia delegation equally received support in the installation of FLIT software. The office reviewed the accounts coding system and various types of transactions in relation to account codes used by the Liberia delegation. Working advances for all National Societies have been done for this reporting period and Mauritania accounting is up-to-date.
- The regional delegation was able to mobilize funds for the Gambia Cholera outbreak. The Gambian National Society received the funds in good time and began implementations on schedule.
- The Togo refugee crisis also received funds, partly from the regional delegation and partly from the Lagos office. The funds enabled the assessment team to carry out the initial assessment.
- With the opening of an account with Ecobank, the problem of late transfer of funds to National Societies will soon be solved as a chequebook will be issued for use by all the countries covered by the delegation.

## **West and Central Africa Regional Programmes; Appeal no. 05AA039; Programme Update no. 1**

### **Constraints**

- Training for individual staff members has not taken off due to lack of funding.
- Several reminders for the preparation of first programme update for 2005 were sent out to all regional offices and delegations, yet many submitted their reports late.
- Most delegations prepared budgets for the first quarter of 2005 due to the weak funding situation but there is risk of deficits for fixed cost as funding situation remains dim. Urgent fundraising for the region's programs is needed to improve the situation.

*[Contributions list below; click here to return to the title page and contact information.](#)*

# West Africa Regional

ANNEX 1

APPEAL No. 05AA039

## PLEDGES RECEIVED

21/07/2005

### CASH

					<b>TOTAL COVERAGE</b>	
REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				<b>1,772,651</b>		<b>14.5%</b>
OPENING BALANCE				93,088		
BRITISH - GOVT/DIFD GRANT				25,000	01.01.05	REGIONAL COOPERATION
IRISH - GOVT	32,496	EUR		50,320	04.02.05	REGIONAL COOPERATION
IRISH - GOVT	32,496	EUR		50,320	04.02.05	REGIONAL RESPONSE TEAM
IRISH - GOVT	12,998	EUR		20,128	04.02.05	PPP TRAINING
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES - RC	5,000	USD		5,660	19.04.05	MALI: LOCUSTS
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				244,516	CHF	13.8%

### KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
GERMANY	DELEGATE(S)			13,200		
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				13,200	CHF	0.7%

### ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED				0	CHF	

# BUDGET 2005

## PROGRAMME BUDGETS SUMMARY

Appeal no.: 05AA039

Name: WEST & CENTRAL AFRICA REGIONAL PROGRAMMES

PROGRAMME:

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	Emergency	Total
	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF
Shelter & construction	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Clothing & textiles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Food	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Seeds & plants	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Water & Sanitation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Medical & first aid	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Teaching materials	0	0	0	0	750	0	750
Utensils & tools	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other relief supplies	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>SUPPLIES</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>750</b>
Land & Buildings	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vehicles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Computers & telecom	0	8,000	0	0	0	0	8,000
Medical equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other capital exp.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>CAPITAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8,000</b>
Warehouse & Distribution	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transport & Vehicules	0	11,580	0	0	53,378	0	64,957
<b>TRANSPORT &amp; STORAGE</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>11,580</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>53,378</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>64,957</b>
Programme Support	0	33,381	0	6,469	40,266	0	80,115
<b>PROGRAMME SUPPORT</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>33,381</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6,469</b>	<b>40,266</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>80,115</b>
Personnel-delegates	0	112,000	0	13,150	194,526	0	319,675
Personnel-national staff	0	11,285	0	0	17,557	0	28,841
Consultants	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>PERSONNEL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>123,285</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>13,150</b>	<b>212,083</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>348,517</b>
W/shops & Training	0	287,700	0	74,910	103,078	0	465,688
<b>WORKSHOPS &amp; TRAINING</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>287,700</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>74,910</b>	<b>103,078</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>465,688</b>
Travel & related expenses	0	43,603	0	5,000	93,348	0	141,951
Information	0	0	0	0	5,528	0	5,528
Other General costs	0	6,000	0	0	111,040	0	117,039
<b>GENERAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>49,603</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5,000</b>	<b>209,916</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>264,519</b>
<b>TOTAL BUDGET:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>513,549</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>99,529</b>	<b>619,471</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,232,548</b>