

Programme Update

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Democratic Republic of Congo

Appeal No. MAACD001

08/September/2008

This report covers the period
1/01/2008 to 30/6/2008.



Construction of public latrines at a market in
Mbandaka – Equateur Province, DRC

In brief

Programme purpose: The Appeal 2008-2009 of the Federation for the DRC Red Cross aims at contributing to the improvement of the living conditions of the most stripped populations. In light of the experience of the Congo Program Initiative (PIC), the Federation continues to support the National Society's activities in RDC. To improve the quality of services rendered to vulnerable people and create a significant impact on the lives by substantially multiplying activities, emphasis will be put on the following the four global agenda goals:

Programmes summary:

Disaster Preparedness and response: This is achieved by developing a map of at-risk zones in the provinces of Bandundu, Maniema and Katanga, ensuring community-based disaster management, developing minimal human, structural, and material resources needed for rapid needs assessment and quick response to disasters as well as setting up non-Red Cross disaster management groups in the targeted areas.

Promotion of basic health and Care: This is achieved by ensuring community-based water supply and sanitation, supporting community based micro projects as for victims of sexual abuse, carrying out health activities (community-based first aid, malaria, cholera, measles, Ebola, and HIV/AIDS, maternal feeding) according to the priorities defined in the 2010 Strategy, ARCHI 2010, the Ouagadougou Declaration, and the Algiers Plan of Action.

Organizational Development: This is achieved by building the capacities of the National Society and communities through the improvement of work conditions (salary, equipment, infrastructures, training), and the promotion of youth and gender activities throughout the provinces.

Humanitarian Values: Dissemination of humanitarian values, fundamental principles of Red Cross and the protection of the Red Cross emblem will be the priorities of this program which is one of the Red Cross domains.

It is important to mention that some activities are carried out with the support of the ICRC and PNS operating in DR Congo and other partners, i.e. dissemination of fundamental principles, humanitarian Law, family linking, food security, and HIV.

Financial situation:

The total budget for 2008 is of **CHF 2,734,265** (USD 2,485,696 or EUR 1,693,044), financed at 65%. Expenditure overall is CHF 1,683,722.

[Click here to go directly to the attached financial report](#)

See also: <http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/annual08/MAACD001app.pdf>

No. of people we help:

The Congo Programme Initiative (PIC) which is the implementation strategy of the national society's Appeal through the four objectives of the Global Agenda, aims at assisting the following numbers of beneficiaries in 2008:

	Disaster Management	Health	Capacity Building	Promotion of Humanitarian Values
Men			3,338	165,950
Women	9,305	133,550	3,344	147,000
Children		254,113		
Total	267,238	2,615,759	13,500	312,950

During this term, out of a total of 2,996,488 targeted persons, 47% representing 1,438,320 persons have been assisted.

Our partners:

The NS signed a two-year agreement of 1,500,000 USD with GAVI. The agreement aims at implementing an awareness program for the populations to have their children vaccinated, in the framework of the Extended Vaccination Program, at 65 health centers in 5 provinces. The program targets 2,000,000 children. The funding was received by the National Society in June 2008.

Context

This term was marked by two major events in the social and political context of the DRC.

After two weeks of speeches, debates and workshops, the Kivus Conference on Peace, Security and Development ended in January with the signature of an act of engagement from the different armed groups and representatives of the DR Congo government. FARDC reacted after security incidents on humanitarian in Rutshuru by setting-up a military survey post in Katoro. Fighting between PARECO and CNDP and between FARDC and Mayi-Mayi has been reported in Masisi territory over the last days. Some clashes among FDLR factions (not invited to the Conference on Peace) have been reported (Source: OCHA).

Unfortunately the signing of the Goma Peace agreement did not prevent sporadic fighting in eastern DRC between the dissenting troops and the FARDC. On top of this situation in the East were

troubles during March which opposed the FARDC to Bundu dia Congo's followers in Bas-Congo province. The fighting may have killed 18 persons according to official sources and 120 according to other sources. At the social level, the situation remains dominated in the provinces of Katanga, Kasai Oriental, Bas-Congo and Bandundu by the massive return of the Congolese refugees in Zambia and Angola, causing a major humanitarian problem for some 35,000 people. The National Society which is present all over the country through its thousands of volunteers with no logistic means is required to respond.

Progress towards outcomes

Disaster management

This programme includes two components: disaster preparedness and disaster response.

Outcomes

- Risk maps of target areas and adequate planning are developed in the provinces and divisions targeted by the programme in DRC
- The vulnerable populations and Red Cross local committees have good mastery of risks specific to their respective localities and ensure effective disaster prevention and response
- Interventions to respond to disasters are improved and carried out in a more professional way through good coordination and the use of realistic contingency plans.

Achievements

Three provincial committees in Maniema, South Kivu and Kinshasa have emergency response material to respond to natural disaster; three vulnerability assessments were conducted in Katanga and Bandundu provinces. They end up surveys conducted all over the country since 2006; three hazard maps were put in place in both Kivus and in Kinshasa; about 2,699 persons were trained in first-aid, of whom 699 were from the NS and the 2,000 others from the communities in 11 provinces of DRC; and 78,180 persons were sensitized and another 1,237 were assisted, representing a total of 89,367 or 66.33 % (with 48% of women) of the 2008 objective.

Health and Care

The programme has five components: HIV/AIDS, Vaccination, Water and sanitation, food security, promotion of maternal feeding and the construction of a medical centre in Dumi (Kinshasa) to improve the conditions of vulnerable people benefiting from food security project and fight against malaria.

Outcomes

- Access to potable water and sanitation is improved in Equateur, Western Kasai, Eastern Kasai and Bas-Congo and Bandundu, in order to reduce the risks of cholera epidemics and the prevalence of water-borne diseases
- The understanding of HIV/AIDS and the attention to people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) are reinforced in the target provinces of DRC in view to change behaviours
- The multi-antigen immunization coverage rate has increased in target zones within the DRC.

Achievements

From January to June 2008, six water sources and 10 wells have been built in the provinces of Equateur, both Kasai and Maniema. Some 17,000 beneficiaries had access to drinking water; about 325 sensitization sessions on hygiene and sanitation informed some 522,000 persons; sixty volunteers at the border of Lake Tanganyika organized seven water chlorination sessions for

5,600 beneficiaries; fifty-five members of women's clubs conducted 25 sensitization sessions to raise awareness of some 3,750 women; about 18,980 persons were sensitized on the prevention of HIV/AIDS; and vaccination sensitization activities were launched during the second term in the framework of the Extended Vaccination Programme targeting 2,000,000 children. This programme is scheduled for two years with training sessions for 15,000 volunteer sensitizers.

Organizational Development

The programme has four components: capacity building of communities and the national society's staff, fundraising, maintenance of materials, and cooperation. Gender and Youth activities will be carried out as cross domains.

Outcomes

- Women are better represented at every level of coordination and management organs and their capacities are built to enable them to fully play their roles
- The local branches of the national society are reactivated and local assemblies are held within the timeframe provided by the articles of association to elect new leaders
- The financial resources of the national society are developed and diversified, and book-keeping is mastered at national headquarters and local branch levels
- Planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting systems are improved in the national society
- Through the CAS process, the national society of the DRC has consolidated partnerships with other Movement components, governments, the UN as well as national and international organizations.

Achievements

The NS finalized the reorganization of the Secretariat General with the recruitment of new heads of Disaster management and Information-Communication departments; and of the Gender, Assistance and Youths divisions' officers. Three important processes are in hand during this quarter with the Operational Alliance, the revision of statutes, and the evaluation of the 2004-2008 Strategic Plan. These three processes are supported by the Federation. 85 members of NS including 25 women were trained in community animation and in follow-up of activities at the 8 provincial committees' level. Some 125 community members including 100 women were trained in community sensitization. The 210 trained people sensitized 32,000 people from communities in the six provinces.

Humanitarian Values

The programme has three components: promotion of Principles and values, respect for human dignity and visibility.

To create conditions of success for the PIC process in the branches, and regarding the immensity of the country and the programs implemented for communities, there will be the need to hire a third field delegate or a regional Watsan and a development delegate.

Outcomes

- The Fundamental Principles of the Movement and Humanitarian Values are well understood within the Red Cross and by the populations in the areas covered by PIC; and abuses of the emblem are reduced in the DRC
- Discrimination against Pygmies is reduced in Bandundu, Northern Maniema, Equateur and Province Orientale.

- Stigma against female sexual abuse victims is reduced and they benefit from adequate attention in North Kivu, South Kivu (DRC).

Achievements

- The basic principles of the Movement are promoted during all sensitization and training sessions. A total of 264 sensitization sessions have been organized by the 11 provincial committees for 39,450 persons including 12,300 women.
- As far as training is concerned, 90 cadres of 4 provincial committees are trained in the promotion of humanitarian values.
- A session was carried out in which 15 first-aid workers from the pygmy community have been trained alongside another 15 trainees from the community;
- In the 20 North Kivu and South Kivu Red Cross committees' counselling centres, 346 women victims of sexual violence are received and assisted;
- Sensitization has been carried out with 55,900 people on sexual violence, the protection of human dignity, the physical integrity of the person and the stigmatization of victims in eastern DRC.

During this quarter 95,455 people have been sensitized through this programme.

Constraints

The major challenge of the national society and the Federation in working for the vulnerable communities is the vastness of the country and the extent of the problems. Faced with this challenge, the NS worked out and implemented a strategy adapted to the context. The Congo Program Initiative (PIC) which goes from relevant assessments and well targeted priorities makes it possible large impact responses to water and sanitation problems, gastroenteritis diseases, cholera, malaria. The training of NDRT (national disaster response team) and PDRT (provincial disaster response team) is an answer to further minimize the effects of the vastness of the country and for the actions carried out within the framework of the various programs to have more impact.

Working in partnership

In the Democratic Republic of Congo, in addition to the Federation, four partner National Societies cooperate with the DRC RC in health and promotion of the humanitarian values programmes. An intense partnership was developed this quarter with the visit of the National Societies of Sweden and Denmark and of the Representative of DFID. In Kinshasa, the ICRC, the Federation, the participating National Societies present in DRC and the National Society maintain very good relationships which facilitate dialogue within the Movement. Steps are taken to collaborate with UNICEF and WHO to have additional funds for specific aspects of the promotion of humanitarian values programme like in birth registration and the promotion of pygmy children's schooling.

Contributing to longer-term impact

The vulnerability assessment at every PIC's step makes it possible to measure the impact of the disaster management, health, capacity reinforcement and the promotion of humanitarian values programmes. In this approach, the priority of community health defined by the NS within the framework of the Operational Alliance is a search for a solution for greater impact. In addition to access to drinking water it aims to contribute to the reduction of water-borne diseases and the promotion of women as effective and committed support in the process of mentality change.

The implication of the NS in the promotion of food security of vulnerable communities had positive effects and large impact in Dumi thanks to the agricultural project financed by the EU and the Spanish Red Cross. This project targets 1,575 households in 27 villages. These households, in two years of exploitation, succeeded in ensuring their daily food and selling at the market ten tons

of the surpluses of manioc, maize and beans production, thus contributing to the Strategy for the Reduction of Poverty in this locality.

Looking ahead

For the next six-month, with regard to the results which reached 60% of this year's objectives, emphasis will be put on strengthening capacities for volunteers to increase the quality of services.

How we work	
<p>The International Federation's activities are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".</p>	<p>Global Agenda Goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters. • Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies. • Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability. • Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.
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