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Annual report

West Coast Regional Representation

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

15 June 2012

**This report covers the
period 1 January 2011 to
31 December 2011.**

*IFRC carried out hand washing
demonstrations for school children in
Jacqueville during the World Water Day.
March 2011/Zakari Issa, IFRC*



In brief

Programme outcome

National Societies in the West Coast region – Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Liberia, Nigeria, Sierra Leone and Togo – work within the framework of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) Strategy 2020 to contribute to improving the lives of vulnerable populations in the region and promoting social inclusion and peace.

Programme summary

The West Coast Regional Representation worked in collaboration with the seven National Societies in the region to implement some of the activities planned for 2011, although some of the planned activities could not be carried out or implemented due to funding constraints and the socio-political situation in some of the countries in the region.

In the field of disaster management, IFRC supported the population movement operations in Liberia, Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire 2011. The Regional Representation deployed RDRT members to support the operation in Liberia and continued collaboration with the Red Cross of Côte d'Ivoire in providing assistance to the internally displaced persons. The regional warehouse in Benin was expanded and stocks prepositioned as part of the disaster preparedness plan in the region. The West Africa Disaster Management Capacity Building pilot project in Liberia and Sierra Leone organized its 2011 contingency planning workshop in Liberia during the second quarter of 2011. The IFRC Regional Representation in the

West Coast supported the National Societies in the region during emergency operations such as yellow fever outbreak in Côte d'Ivoire and political disturbance in Nigeria through DREF allocations.

Water and sanitation, community-based health and first aid (CBHFA) and maternal and child health (MCH) activities were carried out in 2011 despite the political and religious crises in some countries in the region. The Red Cross of Benin, Nigerian Red Cross Society (NRCS) and Ghana Red Cross Society (GRCS) completed their maternal and child health projects. The water and sanitation activities funded by Nestle resumed in Côte d'Ivoire during the second quarter of 2011 and the Red Cross continued to collaborate with other agencies in sensitization on good hygiene and sanitation practices. The Finnish Red Cross CBHFA project in Ghana scaled up with activities planned carried out in target communities. However, very little progress was made in Cote d'Ivoire because of the political crisis in the country. Activities resumed during the second half of the year. Other projects implemented during 2011 included malaria projects in Nigeria, Sierra Leone and Togo.

The National Society development activities focused mainly on Nigeria where the organizational development delegate completed their mission to support the NRCS in its management reorganization. The IFRC delegate supported the National Societies in putting in place tools and policies to enhance effective operation and management of the NRCS.

The Sierra Leone Red Cross Society continued to carry out its activities to support the population including children affected by the prolonged civil war in the country. These activities were carried out through the Child Advocacy and Rehabilitation (CAR) project, Community Animation and Peace Supports (CAPS). Vocational training, Literacy activities, peace building activities and livelihoods support were provided to target beneficiaries to enhance community cohesion and peace.

The West Coast Regional Representation continued to ensure Movement coordination in the region in collaboration with the ICRC, PNS operating in the region as well as host national societies. The Representation supported the organization of the West Coast Group extraordinary meeting to discuss the humanitarian situation in Cote d'Ivoire and its effect in the region. The IFRC facilitated a joint regional health & care and disaster management workshop in Lomé, Togo to strengthen collaboration and synergy between the two sectors in planning and activities' implementation.

The West Coast Regional Representation has been relocated from Abuja, Nigeria to Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire in December 2011.

Financial situation

The total 2011 budget is CHF 4,395,685, of which CHF 5,006,795 (114%) was covered during the reporting period (including opening balance). Overall expenditure during the reporting period was CHF 3,665,150, corresponding to 83% of the budgeted amount and 73% of the available funding. Of the surplus funding, approximately 20% represented funding earmarked for Malaria projects in Nigeria, Sierra Leone and Togo, that did not figure in the 2011 total budget. Also not included in the budget for 2011 was CHF 13,884 covering in-country costs of the DM Delegate.

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

See also related appeals:

<http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/10/MDR6100704.pdf>

<http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/11/MDRCI00301.pdf>

<http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/10/MDRNG008dfr.pdf>

<http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/10/MDRTG003dfr.pdf>

<http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/10/MDRGGH003dfr.pdf>

<http://ifrc.org/docs/appeals/10/MDRBJ007dfr.pdf>

<http://ifrc.org/docs/appeals/11/MDRNG00902.pdf>

<http://ifrc.org/docs/appeals/11/MDRNG01001.pdf>

<http://ifrc.org/docs/appeals/11/MDRGGH00401.pdf>

<http://ifrc.org/docs/appeals/11/MDRCI002dfr.pdf>

<http://ifrc.org/docs/appeals/11/MDRGGH005.pdf>

Number of people we have reached

| Programme | Activity | No. of people reached |
|---------------------|---|-----------------------|
| Disaster Management | Training on improved building techniques that are environmental friendly and cost effective for disaster response. | 198 |
| | Training on first aid and hygiene, sanplat making community mobilization in emergency, malaria (hang up and keep up), family planning (use of contraceptives as a means to space child birth) and house-to-house education, construction and use of cluster household latrines. | |
| | House-to-house sensitization with messages on hygiene promotion and community clean up campaigns | |
| Health and Care | National measles campaign in Benin, vaccination against polio in Côte d'Ivoire, and WATSAN activities. | 1,037,849 |

Our partners

The West Coast Regional Representation (WCRR) collaborated with Swedish, Finnish, Icelandic, Canadian, Norwegian and Japanese, Netherlands Red Cross Societies and ICRC in the region in 2011. The Representation also appreciated the funding support of the Irish Aid, Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (MSB), Nestlé, USAID, DFID, EU, the Japanese, Finnish, Swedish, Icelandic and Norwegian Governments. Other partners include UNICEF, WHO, Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and governments' agencies in the region. National Societies in the region also worked in partnership with other corporate organizations and government agencies in their respective countries. Refer to the table below in the section *Working in partnership*. The IFRC and the National Societies wish to thank partners for their collaboration and support during 2011.

Context

West Coast region was dominated by political activities especially in Côte d'Ivoire, Nigeria, Benin and to certain extent Liberia. The political crisis that followed the outcome of the presidential elections in Côte d'Ivoire since November 2010 continued into early part of the second quarter of 2011. The violent political crisis in the country caused serious humanitarian crises with hundreds of thousands of persons internally displaced and others crossing into neighbouring countries like Ghana, Guinea Conakry, Burkina Faso and mostly Liberia. At the height of the crisis, more than 170,000 Ivorian refugees were reported to be in Liberia, a country just recovering from a decade civil war and preparing for her national elections scheduled for the last quarter of 2011. The refugees' movement into already vulnerable Liberian communities worsened the living conditions of the host communities as social facilities such as water points, sanitation and health facilities were overstretched. The Red Cross joined other humanitarian organizations in coming to the aid of the host and refugee populations by providing water and sanitation facilities as well as assisted some of the most affected families with livelihood support. However, Côte d'Ivoire is gradually returning to peace time after the

inauguration of a new government. Social economic activities are picking up and some of the refugees across the borders have started returning though at a slow pace.

In Benin, presidential elections were held without any major incident though there were tensions before and during the election in the first quarter of 2011. The Liberian presidential election was peacefully conducted in 2011. However, in neighbouring Nigeria, the aftermath of the April 2011 presidential elections even before the announcement of the results led to violent protests in some states in the northern part of the country. The violence which claimed many lives caused the displacement of thousands of persons and destruction of property including houses and vehicles. The IFRC supported the Nigerian Red Cross Society with a DREF allocation to assist some of the most affected by the violent protests. In Liberia, tension continued to rise prior to the national elections scheduled for the last quarter of 2011. The situation was compounded by the proliferation of arms caused by the influx of some fighters in the Côte d'Ivoire crisis into some parts of the country.

In Nigeria, as abduction activities reduced in the Niger-Delta region of the country, the spate of killings through explosion linked to a sectarian group continued to rise in the north and central parts of the country especially in Borno, Plateau, Niger and Bauchi States as well as Abuja, the federal capital territory. Hundreds of lives have been lost to the attacks. The attackers target government institutions and pose threat to international community in Abuja. In Plateau State, the attacks were worsened by the unending ethno-religious crises.

The socio-economic situation in the West Coast region remained characterized by rising unemployment, high cost of living, and inadequate social infrastructure. The advent of the rainy season has caused flooding in virtually all the countries in the region. Many people were displaced and property including road, bridges were damaged thereby impeding movement of goods and services in the affected areas. There were also outbreak of cholera in Côte d'Ivoire and Nigeria; and yellow fever in Côte d'Ivoire in 2011. The National Societies of these countries supported by the IFRC complemented efforts of their respective governments through sensitization and mobilization for vaccination to curtail the spread of the epidemics.

Apart from Côte d'Ivoire where the political crisis affected implementation of planned activities of the National Society during this reporting period, activities of the Red Cross were carried out in other parts of the region as scheduled.

Progress towards outcomes

Disaster Management

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| Programme Purpose: Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crisis. | |
| Programme component 1: DM planning and organizational preparedness | <p>Outcome 1</p> <p>National Societies have developed a disaster management strategy and annual disaster management plans, including developing and updating contingency plans for most recurrent hazards and developing strategies for cross border response.</p> <p>Achievements</p> <p>The Red Cross of Benin in collaboration with West Coast Regional Representation reactivated and updated its contingency plan for the presidential elections in Benin during the first quarter of 2011. The National Society organized training for its volunteers and conducted workshop for its management and governance members on the neutral and impartial role of the</p> |

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| | <p>Red Cross during elections. During the election period, trained volunteers were deployed in strategic violence prone areas to provide first-aid assistance when needed. No major incident was recorded during the period, the National Society however was able to strengthen the capacities of some its branches especially in training its volunteers in first-aid emergency intervention.</p> <p>Under the West Africa Disaster Management Capacity Building (WADMCB) project, contingency planning workshop was held in Monrovia, Liberia from 22 to 28 May, 2011. Disaster management officers from the National Societies of Liberia and Sierra Leone as well as representatives of their governments, from ICRC and UN agencies also participated in the workshop. This was to lay the ground in preparation of the flooding season and an eventual population movement or civil unrest especially due to the upcoming elections in Liberia and neighbouring countries namely Guinea Conakry and the then troubled Côte d'Ivoire.</p> <p>West Coast National Societies of Benin, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Togo were able to meet in Lomé, Togo for a 3-day workshop (29 - 31 March 2011) for the regional planning session that gathered all DM coordinators and Health & Care coordinators. The workshop outlined three key priorities in the region for building community resilience namely risk and community knowledge, prevention and preparedness all in an integrated approach.</p> <p>Outcome 2</p> <p>National Societies trained and equipped national disaster response teams (NDRTs) for effective disaster response and contingency stocks of non-food items have been pre-positioned at country and regional levels with an established replenishment mechanism; a pool of regional disaster response team (RDRT) members has been strengthened through training, simulation exercises and deployments.</p> <p>Achievements</p> <p>The IFRC rehabilitated its regional warehouse in Benin and pre-positioned more non-food items (NFIs) in the warehouse for any emergency in the region. Some of the NFIs were used to support the Nigerian Red Cross Society during its assistance to people affected by the post-election crisis in Nigeria.</p> <p>The population movement operation in Liberia was supported with the deployment of RDRT members in the region who effectively collaborated with the Liberian Red Cross in assisting the Ivorian refugees and their host communities. One RDRT member from Benin, 1 from the Gambia, 2 from Nigeria and 2 from Sierra Leone were deployed in Liberia during this reporting period. IFRC support to the operation continues with the long-term recovery activities.</p> |
| <p>Programme component 2: Community preparedness/Disaster</p> | <p>Outcome 1</p> <p>Vulnerabilities and capacities of target communities are known and community disaster management committees (CBDMC) are established and trained, including risk reduction activities; CBDMC are empowered with environmental</p> |

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| risk reduction | <p>and gender mainstreaming.</p> <p>Achievements</p> <p>In Benin, the National Society has been able to launch a community risk reduction project with the mobilization of the community and ownership in Ketonou. About 25 single-headed household women have been incorporated in the project that aims at reducing community risks from malaria, respiratory infections, water borne diseases, food insecurity and malnutrition. A committee has been set up and community mapping exercise has been carried out.</p> <p>The Liberian Red Cross has been rolling out gender and environmental concept to be mainstreamed into disaster risk management. The WADM CB conducted training in Sanniquellie, Nimba County in Liberia that enabled the county authorities and other humanitarian actors to be inducted on gender and environment aspects in disaster management. A gender working group has also been formed in the country where the LNRCS is taking part.</p> <p>Sensitization and gender awareness at institutional level have been rolled out in Sierra Leone. The National Society has been able to conduct series of activities with role playing, focus groups and workshop for programme managers and pilot community leaders and project committee. The project committee has representatives from all the different groups and is able to effectively contribute in the discussions for community activities without discrimination of age, sex or ability.</p> |
| <p>Programme component: 3 Disaster Response</p> | <p>Outcome 2</p> <p>National Societies have established an early warning system (EWS) for flood prone areas and meteorological information in disaster risk reduction for community activities is being used.</p> <p>Achievements</p> <p>Under the WADM CB project, the EWS concept was reviewed from community-centred to community-driven early warning system (CD-EWS). Trained community members of the pilot communities in Liberia and Sierra Leone have started working on a field guide on CD-EWS. After the first two components of the module on Risk knowledge and monitoring, indicators have been developed and reported on for the last two quarters. The training on the response and communication component has taken place in Bo, Sierra Leone (2 to 12 June 2011) for 24 community trainees and replications in the community are scheduled for the 3rd quarter of 2012 in the pilot communities of Liberia and Sierra Leone.</p> |
| <p>Programme component: 3 Disaster response</p> | <p>Outcome</p> <p>National Societies disaster response interventions have improved by promptly meeting the needs of the affected people and including a recovery component in the response activities.</p> <p>Achievements</p> <p>Early recovery concept has been incorporated into the response strategy of the</p> |

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| | <p>region especially in the DREF operations with in-depth need assessment. Therefore, response interventions in Nigeria towards population affected by floods and civil unrest resulted to provision of hand pumps, building of temporary schools to enable children to study and not miss their school year, provision of off-season seeds for backyard gardening and building with improved techniques for flood resistant housing. IFRC supported the training of a special team (25 trainees) on improved building techniques that are environmental friendly and cost effective for disaster response. The trainees were deployed in Central African Republic (1), Liberia (1), and Nigeria (4) to support the emergency operations using the local resources while protecting the environment through tree planting mechanisms in 2011.</p> |
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Health and Care

| Programme Purpose: Enable healthy and safe living | |
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| <p>Programme component 1: Community-Based Health and First Aid</p> | <p>Outcome</p> <p>Increased “healthy communities” capable of coping with health, disaster and emergency challenges achieved through community based integrated health and first-aid activities.</p> <p>Achievements</p> <p>IFRC technical support to National Societies in community-based health programme and first aid continued throughout 2011 especially as the regional CBHFA programme entered its 2nd year of implementation in 2011. In Côte d’Ivoire CBHFA activities resumed during the 2nd quarter after they were suspended because of the political crisis in the country. Two focal persons, 4 supervisors and 32 community based volunteers were trained in first aid and hygiene, and sanplat making. In Ghana, 60 volunteers, 10 chiefs including opinion leaders and opinion leaders, 2 districts assembly officers and 5 health workers were trained in first aid, community mobilization in emergency, malaria (hang up and keep up), family planning (use of contraceptives as a means to space child birth) and house-to-house education, construction and use of cluster household latrines. The 60 trained CBHFA volunteers have been carrying out house-to-house sensitization with messages on hygiene promotion and community clean up campaigns in the 3 target communities.</p> <p>UNICEF supported the Red Cross of Cote d’Ivoire to carry out social mobilization activities reaching 10,000 households with basic hygiene messages and distribution of hygiene kits to households during the first half of 2011. The National Society also contributed to the national response to the yellow fever outbreak in the country. A total of 320 volunteers were trained on the Epidemic Control for Volunteers (ECV) manual and they in turn carried out social mobilization activities targeting 89,582 households. This was made possible through a DREF allocation received in January 2011.</p> <p>During the second half of the year, the Nigerian Red Cross implemented a Maternal and Child Health (MCH) project in Das, Bauchi State. Twenty volunteers (16 women and 4 men) were trained on family planning, safe motherhood, nutrition/malnutrition, malaria prevention and control, acute respiratory tract infection, diarrhoea and dehydration, HIV/AIDS/STIs,</p> |

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| | <p>immunization, access to safer water, sanitation and hygiene. Ghana Red Cross trained 20 volunteers and 1 district organizer for the implementation of its maternal and child health project. The training sessions focussed on nutrition, use of long lasting insecticide treated nets, antenatal and safe delivery. The Red Cross of Benin implemented MCH activities with funding support of Japanese Government. The National Society trained 120 volunteers on hygiene promotion. The National Society also trained 6 volunteer supervisors as CBHFA master facilitators in the three project communities. The project distributed 1,500 mosquito nets to children under 5 and pregnant women in the 3 target communities.</p> <p>IFRC supported the National Societies of Benin and Côte d'Ivoire during their measles and polio immunization campaigns. The Red Cross of Benin took part in social mobilization for the national measles campaign in September. The Red Cross participation was supported by multilaterally funding contribution from American Red Cross, IFRC and UNICEF. During the campaign, the National Society mobilized 907 volunteers in 6 communities to reach 262,183 children from 9-59 months, while Côte d'Ivoire Red Cross was able to mobilize 847 volunteers in 10 districts of the country to reach 750,000 children 0-59 months for vaccination against polio.</p> <p>The Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement scaled up its fight against malaria in Nigeria, Sierra Leone and Togo during the reporting period. The extended USAID funded malaria project in Nigeria allowed the distribution of mosquito treated bed nets in target communities in Cross River State, South of Nigeria. In Togo, the National Society scaled up its hang up activities through sensitization and assisted some households to hang their nets.</p> |
| <p>Programme component 2: Water and sanitation</p> | <p>Outcome</p> <p>Access to safe water and sanitation services in the target communities is improved.</p> <p>Achievements</p> <p>With the water and sanitation programme in Côte d'Ivoire, the field office in Gagnoa has been rehabilitated and equipped while project staff members were recruited for implementation of activities after the crisis. The programme joined others in celebrating the World Water Day in Jacquerville. To celebrate the day, the Red Cross treated 75 water wells and carried out door-to-door hand washing demonstration in the community and in schools, and reached 15,000 persons directly. The water and sanitation team also disinfected 89 water wells serving over 2,250 persons in Jacquerville, Bassam and Village Modeste (suburb of Abidjan). The team also disinfected additional 224 wells in Ayamé. The programme carried out further household water treatment and hand washing demonstration for 162 households in Jacquerville, Bingerville, Dabou, Bassam, Attékoubé, Anono and Eglise UESSO (Cocody).</p> <p>The National Society constructed 14 emergency latrines and 24 bathhouses and carried out hygiene promotion activities in 10 sites for internally displaced persons (IDP) and reached 10,641 persons. The water and sanitation</p> |

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| | <p>programme organized training in emergency PHAST and assessment procedures for 25 hygiene promoters selected from all the districts of Abidjan. Hygiene and sanitation committees were set up in 10 IDP sites. The programme distributed waste management tools and sanitary facilities cleaning items as well as IEC/hand washing and proper latrine use leaflets in all sites. The Water and sanitation programme in Côte d'Ivoire carried out identification and assessment of 60 communities in Gagnoa, Divo, Lakota and Guitry for the Nestlé phase-3 project implementation. The team also did a post-crisis evaluation of the past project facilities.</p> <p>The Red Cross of Côte d'Ivoire under the CBHFA project constructed three blocks of four latrines per block in three primary schools in San Pedro and Toumodi, while one block of four latrines was rehabilitated in a primary school in Toumodi. Eight hand washing facilities were also constructed beside the latrines. Community volunteers carried out water treatment in 5 traditional wells and 17 domestic water supply points, and constructed sanplat slab latrines in communities based on needs.</p> <p>Constraints or Challenges</p> <p>The post-election crisis in Côte d'Ivoire delayed the implementation of the planned health projects in the country. However, with peace returning to many parts of the country during the third quarter of 2011, the National Society was able to have access to some of the target communities to implement its activities.</p> |
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National Society Development

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| <p>Programme Purpose: Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross and Red Crescent Capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.</p> | |
| <p>Programme component 1: Programme development and management capacity</p> | <p>Outcome Regional training on programme/project strategic development is organized for National Societies in the region.</p> <p>Achievements The Regional Representation planned activities could not be carried out due to funding constraints and the political situation in the region during this reporting period. However, a workshop on project planning, implementation and reporting was organized for the Nigerian Red Cross Society management team during the first quarter of 2011. The workshop was within the framework of the management reorganization within the National Society. New senior management members of the National Society were able to enhance their knowledge in planning, implementation and reporting process based on the IFRC project/programme, planning process (PPP).</p> |
| <p>Programme component 2: NS leadership capacities improvement</p> | <p>Outcome Members of governance have clearly understood their role as stipulated in the statutes.</p> <p>Achievements The West Coast Regional Representation (WCRR) through the OD delegate</p> |

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| | <p>deployed in the NRCS continued to support the National Society till the end of the first quarter of 2011. The delegate organized working sessions with members of governance to increase their understanding of their roles and responsibilities within the organization.</p> <p>The WCRR supported the Ghana Red Cross Society in the organization of its general assembly meeting in July 2011. One of the outcomes of the meeting was the elections of members of the governing board and the validation of the National Society's strategic development plan. IFRC also supported the Nigerian Red Cross in organizing its extra ordinary general assembly meeting in 2011.</p> |
| <p>Programme component: 3 NS systems, procedures, staff and financial sustainability</p> | <p>Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Efficient and effective management and administrative systems are in place in all the National Societies in the West Coast region. • Improved financial management system is in place in all National Societies in the region; Income generation for sustainability is enhanced. <p>Achievements</p> <p>The OD delegate for the NRCS collaborated with the management and leadership of the National Society to finalize work on some of the policy documents of the NRCS. Some of the documents include the human resources policy, job descriptions for senior management and programme staff, volunteer policy and resource mobilization strategy.</p> |

Principles and Values

Programme Purpose: Promote respect for diversity and human dignity, and reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion

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| <p>Programme component 1: Promotion of humanitarian principles and values</p> | <p>Outcome</p> <p>Dissemination of the Fundamental Principles and Humanitarian Values is strengthened.</p> <p>Achievements</p> <p>IFRC continues to encourage National Societies in the West Coast to use the various programmes implemented in 2011 to promote humanitarian values and national cohesion in the region. In Côte d'Ivoire, the National Society supported by IFRC used the opportunity provided by the operation in Côte d'Ivoire to sensitize population on humanitarian values and the importance of peaceful cohabitation and social cohesion.</p> |
| <p>Programme component 2: Anti-discrimination and violence prevention/reduction</p> | <p>Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved respect for child and woman's rights in the region. • Cases of gender-based violence and discrimination against war affected people have reduced in the region. <p>Achievements</p> <p>Sierra Leone Red Cross continued to use its Child Advocacy and Rehabilitation (CAR) and the Community Animation and Peace Support (CAPS) projects to contribute to alleviating the trauma of war-affected population in the country. Counselling sessions and community meetings were</p> |

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| | <p>organized to improve peaceful interaction and good behaviour by children in their communities. The National Society conducted regular health talk in CAR centres leading to progress in personal hygiene among children in the centres.</p> <p>The CAR project also organized regular recreational activities such as sport and drama plays to alleviate the war trauma of children and also promote peace and tolerance in the target communities. The National Society continued to ensure the feeding of the inmates in the centres. Children are also being empowered through skills acquisition and literacy activities. The CAPS continued to contribute to community empowerment and peace. The trained stakeholders in target communities on conflict resolution, human rights and gender-based issues are contributing to effective conflict management in their communities.</p> |
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Coordination

The West Coast Regional Representation continued to ensure regional collaboration and cooperation among National Societies in the region through the West Coast Group. From 18 to 19 February 2011, the Group held an extra ordinary meeting to discuss the humanitarian situation in the region. The meeting appreciated the contribution of other National Societies in terms of human resources deployment to Liberia to support the Red Cross assistance to the Ivorian refugees in that country. The Group also pledged its support to the Red Cross of Côte d'Ivoire in its efforts to support the internally displaced persons in the country. Other issues discussed at the meeting were experience sharing in terms of resource mobilization, contingency plans against floods, the Red Cross Movement International Conference, National Societies' capacity building experience from Liberia and Sierra Leone and experience sharing from ACROFA meeting (The Francophone Red Cross National Societies association) held in Bamako, Mali.

The joint regional Health and DM workshop was organized in Togo during the first quarter of 2011. The aim of the workshop was to establish synergy between health and disaster related interventions in the region. The workshop has contributed to better understanding of working together among the 2 sectors in the national societies in the region. The meeting was also used to share experience among the Participating National Societies. Togo Red Cross was supported by an operational research delegate in the implementation of operational research on the nationwide LLIN distributions. The National Society was chosen after an assessment mission was carried out in the country and wide consultations with the National Society and stakeholders.

The Regional Representation organized the quarterly meeting of the Red Cross Movement in Abuja, Nigeria during the first half of 2011. Issues concerning programmatic support to the Nigerian Red Cross Society (NRCS) and security situation in the country were the main focus of the meeting. The Representation also continued its collaboration with the Movement components in supporting the National Societies of Liberia, Togo, Benin, Côte d'Ivoire and Sierra Leone.

IFRC continued to strengthen collaboration with regional bodies such as ECOWAS and diplomatic community in the region.

The West Coast Regional Representation in collaboration with the Sahel Regional Representation supported Liberia, Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire Red Cross Societies to assist populations affected by the crisis in Côte d'Ivoire. Deployed regional staff supported these National Societies in the narrative and financial reporting, communications and planning.

The WCRR is facilitating collaboration between the Sierra Leone Red Cross and the Red Cross of Côte d'Ivoire on the possibility of replicating the post-civil war rehabilitation programmes in Côte d'Ivoire. Discussion on this is expected to be scaled up during the first quarter of 2012.

IFRC coordination and support activities to National Societies slowed towards the end of 2011 as a result of the relocation of the West Coast Regional Representation from Abuja, Nigeria to Abidjan in Côte d'Ivoire.

Working in partnership

| Partners | Programmes | Countries |
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| IFRC | DM, Health and Care, NS Development/Capacity Building, Principles and Values | All the countries in the West Coast |
| ICRC | DM and Principles and Values | Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Nigeria, Sierra Leone and Togo |
| British Red Cross/DFID | Disaster Management (including food security), Health and Care, NS Development/Capacity Building, Principles and Values | Côte d'Ivoire, Nigeria and Sierra Leone |
| Finnish Red Cross | Health & Care | Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana and Nigeria and Sierra Leone |
| Swedish Red Cross | DM, Health & Care, NS Development/Capacity Building, Principles & Values | Nigeria, Sierra Leone and WCRR |
| Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (MSB) | Disaster Management | Liberia and Sierra Leone |
| Japanese Red Cross | Health & Care, NS Development | Ghana, Nigeria and WCRR |
| Norwegian Red Cross | DM, NS Development/Capacity Building, Health and Care, Principles and Values | Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana and Sierra Leone |
| USAID | Health & Care (Malaria project) | Nigeria |
| Irish Aid | DM, Health & Care, NS Development/Capacity Building | WCRR, Benin, Nigeria and Côte d'Ivoire |
| Canadian Red Cross | Health and Care and NS Development/Capacity Building | Côte d'Ivoire, Sierra Leone and Togo |
| Nestlé | Health & Care (Water & sanitation projects) | Côte d'Ivoire |
| Spanish Red Cross | Health and Care, Principles and Values; Disaster Management, NS Development/Capacity Building | Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Sierra Leone and Togo |
| Danish Red Cross | Health and Care | Togo |
| Netherlands Red Cross | NS Development/Capacity Building, Principles and Values and Health and Care | Côte d'Ivoire and Sierra Leone |
| Icelandic Red Cross | NS Development/Capacity Building, Principles and Values | Sierra Leone |
| Japanese Government | Health & Care | Benin |

Contributing to longer-term impact

Disaster management activities will continue to focus on empowering communities and contributing to reducing impact of disasters among the population.

Increased activities in CBHFA and MCH in remote communities in Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Benin and Nigeria aim to empower communities in good health practices. This effort is expected to contribute to reducing the impact of diseases and improve community health as beneficiaries' knowledge in good health practices is enhanced.

The empowerment of the youths is an economic opportunity for sustainable livelihoods both in the short-term and long-term. The SLRCS is using the CAR project to contribute to human resources development in the country which will also be contributing to Poverty Reduction Strategy of the Government of Sierra Leone. The SLRCS through its CAR initiative is contributing to the psychosocial healing of youth, war-affected children and communities through its rehabilitation, peace building and youth development programmes. One of the key components of this healing process is the reintegration of war-affected children with their families and communities.

Looking ahead

With the socio-political situation in Cote d'Ivoire returning to normal, the IFRC will ensure its water and sanitation and CBHFA activities in the country are increased while it will continue to support the Red Cross of Côte d'Ivoire in increasing its assistance to some of the households most affected by the armed conflicts. The IFRC will support the Red Cross of Côte d'Ivoire in collaborating with the Sierra Leone Red Cross Society on possible replication of the latter's post-war rehabilitation and peace building projects.

MCH projects in Benin and Nigeria will be prioritized during the second half of the year. Activities planned under the WADM CB will be effectively carried out in collaboration with stakeholders while the population movement operation in Liberia will continue to be supported by the West Coast and Sahel Regional Representation.

As the rainy period commences with its potential impact in the region, IFRC will ensure collaboration with National Societies in scaling up their early warning system and rolling out of their contingency plans. The regional warehouse in Benin will continue to be replenished with emergency stocks to support any eventual need in the region.

With the relocation of the Regional Representation to Abidjan, IFRC will ensure proper office space is secured for the smooth running of activities from Abidjan and service delivery to the West Coast National Societies. The management will continue its advocacy to international donor agencies, governments and the diplomatic community in the region to promote the activities of the Red Cross and draw their attention to the needs of the vulnerable population in the region.

How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations](#) (NGOs) in Disaster Relief and the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

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Saving lives, changing minds.



The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of nonviolence and peace.

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