

ANNUAL REPORT



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 AFRICA

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 178 countries. For more information: www.ifrc.org

Appeal No. 01.01/2002; Appeal target: 7,342,916; Appeal coverage: 77%

Overall analysis of the programme w

The International Federation's regional programme for West Africa went well in early 2002 but was later affected by low funding. The high level of delegation staff turn-over and instability in Côte d'Ivoire had a significant impact on the ability to provide sufficient technical support to the region's National Societies. As a result, a number of projects were closed down, the appeal budget was revised and staff was down-sized. Nevertheless, National societies had significant assistance from the regional delegation despite the low funding and challenging security situation.

The security situation in Sierra Leone stabilized after the May 2002 presidential elections and rehabilitation of the war-torn country was successful throughout the year. The Sierra Leone Red Cross Society (SLRCS) provided assistance to over 30,000 returnees through the weekly repatriation programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the International Organization for Migration. Over 46,000 former fighters and 5,000 child soldiers were disarmed and reintegrated into the society. Hundreds of war-affected youth were rehabilitated through the programmes of the SLRCS.

Nigeria experienced several inter-ethnic clashes in the Nasarawa, Plateau, Taraba and Benue states. Lagos and other states had their own share of ethnic and religious violence. In all, the Nigerian Red Cross Society (NRCS) was active in resettling 85,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs).

An armed rebellion in Côte d'Ivoire began on 19 September 2002 and affected the entire Mano River Union with thousands of Ivorians fleeing into neighbouring Guinea, Niger, Mali, Ghana, Burkina Faso and Senegal. No solution was in sight as the year rolled to a close.

The internal destabilization in Liberia prevails. Electricity and potable water supply still remain major problems throughout the country. Many Liberians were forcibly uprooted from their homes and are living miserably in displaced camps or in cramped living conditions with relatives, friends or others who can hardly afford to help them. Late in 2002, the internal conflict in neighboring Ivory Coast brought Ivorian refugees as well as Liberian returnees into the country. The National Society is greatly challenged by the humanitarian needs and the overall difficult situation in the country as well as the limited resources available to it.

Throughout the year, the regional delegation strengthened the capacity of the National Societies by providing them with either technical or financial assistance and enabling them respond effectively to the following disasters:

- A Lagos munition explosion that displaced 15,000-20,000 residents and killed over 600 people;
- Heavy flooding and cold snaps that affected over 100,000 people in Senegal killing 28 individuals and 105,471 heads of livestock and destroyed 13,993 homes and 581 hectares of crops. In Mauritania, the same disaster led to the death of over 120,000 cattle;
- An outbreak of the non-native meningococcal W 135 strain in Burkina Faso with 4,758 cases and 672 deaths;
- The drought that started in mid-2001 leading to food insecurity in Mauritania affecting 2.5 million people, 70 per cent of whom reside in rural areas. The Federation launched an appeal to assist the NS respond to the disaster and the operation will continue into 2003.
- Supporting IDPs as a result of renewed fighting in Liberia displacing between 50,000 and 65,000 people.
- An allocation from the Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) was made to the Red Cross Society of Côte d'Ivoire to attend to emergencies resulting from the country's security crisis. The Federation launched an appeal to assist NSs in Burkina Faso, Mali, and Niger to assist returnees and refugees. This operation continues into 2003.

Objectives, Achievements and Constraints

Disaster Preparedness w

Objective 1: Support West African National Societies of one sub-region to improve their disaster management capacities so that they may then train the other National Societies of the region.

The West Africa disaster preparedness programme workshop in February 2002 for all 16 NSs in the region was a good platform to share the strategy for 2002 and new tools for field assessment and coordination teams (FACT), emergency response units (ERU) and the disaster management information system (DMIS).

The regional disaster manager developed volunteer management guidelines and documents on best practices with refugees and sent them to all the NSs. The National Societies of Guinea, Nigeria and Sierra Leone participated in the Disaster and Management Coordination workshop in Addis-Ababa while the secretary general of Red Cross Society of Côte d'Ivoire and the DP officer of the Red Cross Society of Guinea attended the Reach-out conference in Nice, France from 16-20 September.

Ghana and Niger NSs filled out self-assessment questionnaires while the NS in Senegal shared experiences during the international workshop on climatic changes organized by the Netherlands Red Cross in June. Disaster management initiation workshops for first aid volunteers were held in the regional committees of some NSs.

The Red Cross of Benin prepared a strategy for revising its national emergency plan while Nigeria Red Cross drafted a national disaster management response plan. An Emergency Appeal of CHF 61,000 was launched on behalf of the Mauritanian Red Crescent for a food security project in the country. Côte d'Ivoire Red Cross benefited from a DREF allocation of CHF 40,000 for the distribution of blankets and mats to displaced people in the current conflict. Its capacity was further supported through fuel provisions, repair of vehicles, first aid kits and telecommunication equipment in collaboration with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

A DREF allocation of CHF 10,000 was approved for the Gambian and Senegalese Red Cross Societies to provide emergency assistance to victims of the ferry accident in September.

With a DREF allocation of CHF 50,000, a regional disaster response team (RDRT) conducted an assessment mission to Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger from October 31 to 8 November to evaluate the situation of returnees and refugees from Côte d'Ivoire to the above-mentioned countries. Furthermore, the regional disaster manager evaluated the famine situation in Mauritania and the capacity of the Mauritanian Red Crescent to carry out operations.

Objective 3: Given sufficient organizational reform in the Liberia Red Cross Society (LRCS), support the NS to continue its engagement in small-scale food security projects enabling branch development.

A food security project was started in Liberia in October 2002, aimed at assisting 1,000 beneficiaries in Margibi, Grand Bassa and Rivercess counties in small scale farming activities to produce complementary food commodities for their dietary needs (to meet the basic daily requirement). Districts selected all have Red Cross branches and the branch coordinator and volunteers are involved in the implementation of the project in close cooperation with LRCS headquarters and the Federation. The project, which is planned for 13 months, is also included in Appeal 2003-2004. During the first three months, project sites were identified, beneficiaries selected and local management teams established. Furthermore, the required inputs (tool kit and planting materials) were procured and distributed. Monitoring activities included two field visits by the agriculture officer. The project is improving the capacity of the LRCS chapters and districts involved to implement development projects.

Objective 4: Support West African National Societies of one sub-region to improve their vulnerability and capacity assessment (VCA) capacity so that they may train other societies in the region.

The National Societies in Guinea Bissau, Côte d'Ivoire, and Senegal completed their pilot VCAs but could not do the national-level ones due to lack of funding. **Red Cross Society of Guinea** began discussions on the realization of its VCA.

Objective 5: Support development of regional response teams (RRTs) for intervention when a West African National Society's capacity is exceeded on the basis of an agreed terms of reference (ToR).

The ToR for the regional response team was completed in collaboration with the NSs in view of the constitution of a team for West Africa in 2003. Regional disaster management (DM) and telecom officers participated in a response team training with the Central Africa region RRT from 14-22 October in Kribi, Cameroon.

Other activities:

In addition to participating in a workshop in Accra, Ghana, the regional DM delegate participated in inter-agency meetings on the Côte d'Ivoire crisis situation with the UN's Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and other UN agencies as well as in meetings leading to the Consolidated Appeal of the United Nations for the Mano River region from 9-11 September 2002.

Health and Care w

Primary Health Care

Objective 1: Support West African National Societies of one sub-region to improve their ARCHI 2010 capacities by developing, strengthening and improving volunteer networks, community capacity and preparedness, so that they may then train the other National Societies of the region.

Burkina Faso - Meningitis

The Federation facilitated a grant of CHF 20,000 to Burkinabe Red Cross Society for the management of community based African Red Cross and Red Crescent Health Initiative (ARCHI) activities based on health priorities in the six provinces of Kadiogo, Yatinga, Soum, Kourtinga, Komoe and Houet. With financial support of CHF 103,000 through the Federation, the Burkinabe Red Cross Society responded adequately to a meningitis epidemic in April affecting 8,414 people and resulting in 1,448 deaths in 43 districts.

Côte d'Ivoire

The Red Cross Society of Côte d'Ivoire benefited from technical support from the Federation in designing two projects aimed at assisting Liberian refugees and restructuring the NS.

Togo - Malaria, Community surveillance of diseases & EPI coverage

The Swiss government approved CHF 235,000 for strengthening the capacity of the national society and supporting the Togo government's health development plan. With technical support from the regional delegation, Togolese Red Cross organized activities through targeted operations thereby increasing the volunteer network and strengthening partnerships.

Activities were increased for the benefit of 77 new communities in the Maritime region and Lome municipality together with four other communities in the Plateaux region which benefited from the construction of public latrines. Several vaccination sensitization sessions were successfully held. The various reasons for a low vaccination coverage were identified and a solution adapted for each child was discovered with the interpersonal approach of visiting homes.

In districts I and II of the Lome district where the cholera campaign was targeted, 2,015 homes were visited and 18,325 persons sensitized while 10 cases of diarrhoea were referred to the hospital by Red Cross volunteers. Over 513 community health and first aid officers and 19 trainers were involved in this campaign. Community surveillance of epidemic diseases reduced cholera cases in Lome and Lac districts. This project helped to acquire an all-terrain vehicle and six motorcycles for the district coaches. The capacity of the NS in providing community health services was strengthened as it sensitized community leaders on the role of the Red Cross and its basic principles.

The use of impregnated mosquito nets increased demands in the community. Public health activities involved the entire Zio, Golf, Vo and Lacs communities. The participation of the community, Red Cross volunteers, local NGOs and community leaders in information dissemination and resource mobilization was very effective.

Benin and Ghana - Measles

The Federation provided technical support for the measles coordinator to work with the National Societies in Benin, Ghana and Senegal in preparation for the 2002 measles vaccination campaigns.

The Federation facilitated a partnership fund grant of approximately CHF 61,200 for the Red Cross of Benin and CHF 30,396 for the Ghana Red Cross Society for implementing their social mobilization activities in collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO) and UNICEF from 10-15 January (Benin) and 9-15 December (Ghana), respectively.

In Benin, 1,600,000 people were reached by the door-to-door sensitization campaign with a vaccine coverage rate of approximately 98 per cent in the 11 districts targeted by the Red Cross of Benin.

In Ghana, 14,350 volunteers reached 5,000 children, 3,104 communities and 70 districts for measles vaccination. The Red Cross is now involved in measles surveillance.

The measles coordinator also worked with Guinea-Bissau, Guinea, Côte d'Ivoire and Senegal NSs in preparation for their measles vaccination campaigns.

Niger - Polio and EPI coverage

With Federation funding of CHF 90,528, the Red Cross Society of Niger participated in polio vaccination campaigns in February/March and then in October/November 2002 in collaboration with WHO and, UNICEF. Trained Red Cross volunteers helped vaccinate 8,132 children in Eroufa, 3,780 in Bangui, 3,465 in Bana and 6,446 in Bingou against polio; 300 volunteers worked in 29 districts and visited 42,704 households. About 24,724 health cards were updated thanks to volunteers follow up regarding the EPI (routine vaccination).

Regional group health meeting

A participative Sahel regional health and HIV/AIDS meeting were held from 18-20 November in Dakar around such themes as the implementation of ARCHI 2010, strengthening of partnerships, the Red Cross contribution in the EPI, project planning, follow-up and evaluation of health activities.

Objective 2: Enable, encourage and support national societies in the region to target vulnerable communities and provide them with the means of improving their health and life through the establishment of new or improved water and sanitation activities.

This objective could not be achieved due to lack of funding.

Objective 3: Promote regional standards in training and best practices for First Aid. This will be aligned with the global first aid project.

Burkinabe Red Cross Society, in collaboration with the Swedish Red Cross and the Federation, organized a training camp from 19-31 October 2001 in Koupela. The purpose of this camp was to reinforce the operational capacity of the local committees within the framework of ARCHI 2010 and beef up their first aid income generating activities.

Constraints:

Volunteer recruitment: Low educational levels in the villages especially among women necessitated the use of audio-visual support and training in local languages. Red Cross volunteers should always be chosen in collaboration with community leaders and the community health and First Aid officers to facilitate the involvement of the population in following up health issues.

Volunteer motivation: Follow-up of volunteers and recognition of their contributions is indispensable to their commitment to continue carrying out activities. Refresher courses, exchange visits and camps could help to motivate the volunteers.

Use of management tools: The local coaches, who are either the community health and first aid officers or HIV/AIDS peer educators received a short training in using some working tools. Intensive monitoring has to be carried out by the national coordination team and the district coaches to solve ensuing problems.

Meeting needs: Awareness campaigns wake up community members to their realities. In order for social communication activities to succeed, other accompanying activities should be designed so that basic needs like impregnated mosquito nets and tablets, anti malaria and anti-diarrhoeal medicines as well as latrines and wells can be within the reach of the community.

Lack of vaccines: A periodic lack of vaccines was frustrating for women who took children back home without receiving care. However, Red Cross efforts helped to minimize this frustration by

coordinating vaccine supplies with the Ministry of Health and the various centres and a timely dissemination of the information to beneficiaries.

District coaches: There is need to strengthen the capacity of some coaches. It was established that not all of them have mastered the strategy or the various management tools.

Using ARCHI 2010 is an opportunity to enhance the local branches. This initiative equally offers a complete integration of the Red cross in the public health system.

HIV/AIDS

Objective 1: Improve knowledge and understanding of HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted diseases and their prevention while promoting responsible sexual behaviour.

In total, 35 staff members of the regional delegation benefited from two HIV/AIDS sensitization workshops in collaboration with HOPE Worldwide in view of developing a policy on HIV/AIDS in the workplace.

The regional delegation supported the Red Cross Society of Côte d'Ivoire in its official launch of an HIV/AIDS anti-stigma radio campaign, in collaboration with UNAIDS, on 8 May. Lumiere Action and AMEPOUH, associations of persons living with HIV/AIDS, were part of the team. This production is now available on CD-ROM.

Liberia

On 1 December, the LRCS launched an HIV/AIDS project aiming at scaling up its peer education activities, concentrating its presence in one county, Grand Bassa. The launching programme included traditional dancers, a popular pop group from Monrovia and a children's choir from one of the many churches in Buchanan. Following the launching, the first out of five training workshops was carried out. A baseline study on knowledge, attitude, beliefs and practices of adolescents in the county was carried out with the assistance of NACP, the government's AIDS authority. The Grand Bassa HIV/AIDS Prevention Campaign, which is also part of the Appeal 2003-2004 document puts considerable effort into strengthening the Red Cross' volunteer management system. The project is engaging more than 100 youth reaching out to 20,000 schoolchildren and students in the county's five districts. Activities include community campaigns with awareness sessions in towns and villages, drama performance and distribution of condoms and information and educational materials.

Objective 2: Increase safe blood transfusion and strengthen blood donation services by increasing the number of non-remunerated blood donors and the quantity of safe blood.

This objective was not achieved throughout this period due to lack of funding.

Objective 3: To increase care and support for persons living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) and their families.

The delegation intensified its efforts in the region to combat HIV/AIDS-related stigma and discrimination through radio education and sensitization campaign in collaboration with PLWHA associations. The delegation encouraged all national societies to equally emphasize HIV/AIDS anti-stigma activities.

Objective 4: Strengthen the capacity of the Red Cross and Red Crescent national societies in implementing their HIV/AIDS country plans through targeted support.

The Federation's health retreat on 18-22 March provided an opportunity for health personnel to network, share experiences and discuss health and HIV/AIDS related issues.

The regional health team worked out a collaborative work agreement with the UNAIDS inter-country team for West and Central Africa on HIV/AIDS in the workplace, strengthening of NSs in the region to access the Global fund on HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria.

The regional HIV/AIDS coordinator assisted Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, the Gambia, Ghana, Mali, Niger, and Togo NSs in elaborating plans of action for the 2003/2004 appeal as well as participating in an HIV/AIDS evaluation mission to Togo in May.

Ten participants from the National Societies of Gambia, Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, Senegal, Cape Verde, and Mauritania attended the sub-regional health and HIV/AIDS meeting for the Dakar group on 18-20 November 2002. Among the topics discussed were: regional and global HIV/AIDS programmes for the Federation; home-based care strategy; global campaign against HIV/AIDS-related stigma and discrimination; the UNAIDS regional study on HIV/AIDS-related stigma and discrimination; and the RANY-WA (Regional AIDS Network for Youth, West Africa).

Country plans

The Federation facilitated the signing of a memorandum for all NSs and the release of money from the Swedish Red Cross for societies in Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo and Benin to implement their activities. In total, 100 trainers were trained in the Red Cross Society of Côte d'Ivoire. Needs assessment and sensitization sessions were carried out for local authorities, equipment and supplies were purchased, 200 peer educators were trained and a baseline survey was conducted for all four NSs. Regional HIV/AIDS assisted the NSs of Côte d'Ivoire, Burkina Faso and Gambia in reviewing their 2002 HIV/AIDS activities as well as in defining their role in the various HIV/AIDS crisis committees. The Gambia Red Cross Society demonstrated a strong volunteer base as shown in its involvement in the World Bank-funded HIV/AIDS rapid response project (HARP)

In addition to its World AIDS Day 2002 activities, over 35 volunteers from Togolese Red Cross did sensitization on blood donation in Adidogomé, Sanguéra, and Hahotoé and formed blood donor clubs in Hahotoé. Furthermore, the Phase II memorandum for continuation of HIV/AIDS activities was signed between the regional delegation and the Togolese Red Cross, and CHF 50,000 was transferred. The NS collected and reviewed training materials from other organizations, did an HIV/AIDS baseline survey, trained peer educators and counsellors for home visits, sensitized religious groups and visited HIV/AIDS widows and orphans.

Five HIV/AIDS peer educator coaches/trainers participated in a national youth forum on HIV/AIDS and unwanted pregnancies organized by the Ministry of Youth and Sports in collaboration with UNFPA and UNAIDS. Some 62 intermediary local coaches were involved in the planning, follow-up and monitoring of health projects including HIV/AIDS in the Kara region. The NS made home-based visits to 14 people living with HIV/AIDS with some religious groups while 42 volunteers were trained in HIV/AIDS sensitization. Twenty-two psycho-social counsellors were trained for home-based visits to PLWHA. Project activities in Maritime (Aného, Tsévoé, Vogon, Avé, Zio, and Lomé districts) and Kara (Bassar, Kozah and Binah districts) were monitored. Eighty-one local coaches were trained on planning and monitoring of project activities. A contract between the Togolese Red Cross and PSI-Togo HIV/AIDS prevention among youth was renewed through a youth friendly clinic, 'Clinique Amie des Jeunes'.

In Ghana, 39 peer educators reached 2,921 youth in educational sessions in Cape Coast and Awutu/Efutu/Senya/Ketu/Ho/volta districts, respectively. Target groups in all districts participated well in the programme despite financial constraints. Some of these were through house to house campaign.

Niger, Mali and Gambia

A total of CHF 5,000 was transferred to the National Societies in Niger, Gambia and Mali as a contribution towards their World AIDS Day 2002 activities.

Constraints: Difficulties encountered include increasing demand for female condoms and high defaulting rates of participation of some registered members. In both Ketu and Ho districts there was a lack of funds to pay volunteer incentives, delays in funds transfers, low participation by religious groups and accounting difficulties affected monitoring visits. In Togo, the inexistence of VCT centres in the project zones made it difficult to motivate volunteers conducting sensitization activities. There was also the difficulty of social marketing due to free distribution of condoms by certain organizations as well as delays in fund transfers.

Humanitarian Values w

Objective 1: Encourage National Societies to improve knowledge about legal instruments and the international framework, to promote the development of a legal base in their countries and to clarify their role within the system of assistance.

Objective 2: Support National Societies in having well-trained staff that is aware of problems and issues arising from migration and population movement, able to start concrete activities on behalf of the most vulnerable, familiar with methods for trainer training, and able to consider conflict negotiation and peace building between the different populations.

Objective 3: Support National Societies in working together to avoid parallel structures in other programmes for the same target groups and with similar objectives, such as disaster response and preparedness, and health and organizational development programmes.

Objective 4: Support National Societies' self-reliance in population movement issues and well-assessed programmes, such as emergencies and long-term programmes, by the use of regional networking within the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and with outside partners.

Due to funding difficulties, only objectives two and four were addressed under this programme.

A ten-day mission to Mali was done to prepare for a reach-out workshop on child trafficking and exploitation to enable the NS to begin actions and advocacy against the practice. However, due to poor funding, this workshop was cancelled.

The HIV/AIDS peer educators among street children carried out sensitization activities in Abidjan in the first quarter which attracted big crowds including the authorities and the media. The performance was accompanied by a picture exhibition with direct prevention messages.

This project experienced financial difficulties during the first quarter despite efforts to find funding. Up to the end of the year, funds were not received to make this programme possible.

Organizational Development w

Objective 1: Provide technical assistance to national societies in (self) assessment, planning, implementation, communication and knowledge sharing, and evaluation and reassessment.

The regional OD delegate presented the "characteristics of a well functioning society" to representatives of all 16 NSs during a DP workshop in February to enable participants to examine and evaluate the characteristics of their own NSs.

The regional OD delegate also assisted the NSs in West Africa in the following ways:

Red Cross Society of Côte d'Ivoire: The NS was assisted in the preparation and funding of its general assembly on March 21-22. Following a meeting with the newly elected President of Abidjan Group to discuss concerns about regional communications, the regional delegation gave financial assistance to the NS to offset some of its debts.

Ghana Red Cross Society: Self-evaluation was undertaken by a consultant who travelled to Ghana after consultations with the regional OD delegate. A good working relationship was established with Swiss Red Cross on a bilateral basis and the secretary general of Ghana Red Cross Society regarding the CAS process.

Guinea-Bissau: A coordination meeting was held on using the remaining funds (CHF 27,000 from Swedish Red Cross) in hiring a consultant to help complete the Swedish Red Cross' development project and initiating the CAS process. Contacts were made with the Spanish Red Cross bilaterally to assist in developing a strategic plan between the NS and the Spanish Red Cross and an eventual build-up to the CAS process.

Togolese Red Cross: Both the German Red Cross and the French Red Cross were involved with the Togolese Red Cross to assist in the CAS process.

Red Cross Society of Niger: Self-evaluation analysis was completed and sent back to the NS for confirmation.

Nigeria Red Cross: The OD delegate in Nigeria was given a three-day briefing at the regional delegation in preparation to take over OD for the Lagos region.

Regionalization

Final drafts of ToR for the regionalization working groups was completed and sent out to all West African National Societies. Schedules and operational budgets for the regional offices were established.

Regional OD workshop

In total, 25 participants including bilateral delegates, ICRC, regional and country delegation and Secretariat staff, attended the regional OD workshop for West and Central Africa on 16-18 October in Togo covering the three-phase process for National Society's future development namely, vulnerability capacity assessment, development plan and cooperation agreement strategy. The workshop's goal was to clearly define each process and explain the inseparable link that binds them all together to create long-term sustainable programming and development for the National Societies. NSs are committed to move ahead with the three-step process.

Objective 2: Support national societies in establishing efficient financial management systems and resource development.

The regional delegation (RD) supported the NSs in all seven Sahel countries namely the Gambia, Senegal, Cape Verde, Mauritania, Mali, Niger and Burkina Faso in finance and resource development by evaluating their accounting procedures and practices.

Burkina Faso and Mali: A memorandum of understanding (MoU), signed between the Dakar Office, Mali and Burkina Red Cross Societies led to information sharing and exchange missions with the goal of strengthening the accounting capacity of each NS in management and reporting. Additionally, meetings were organized between Burkinabe Red Cross Society and Danish, French and Spanish Red

Cross representatives in the region on how to support the four economic centres of the NS for financial autonomy. A project proposal was written and presented to the Secretariat in December. Mali Red Cross was assisted in the revision of management systems and engagement of an accounting staff.

Cape Verde: A cooperation agreement between the Federation and the Red Cross of Cape Verde on safeguarding the current system, establishing an intranet network in the accounts department and purchasing an accounting programme was being developed for the NS. However, due to lack of further information from the NS, this initiative could not be achieved by the end of the year.

Sierra Leone: A new financial management programme was installed for the SLRC.

Senegal: A new management system was arranged for the Senegalese Red Cross Society's community health programme jointly financed by the Danish Red Cross and the Dakar office.

Gambia: The Federation arranged meetings between the Gambian Red Cross and the Icelandic Red Cross with the goal of evaluating its management systems, the quality of reporting and enhance its resource development capacities.

Regional working group: During the regional working group meeting of presidents from the Sahel region, the finance and resource development delegate presented an analysis of the accounting, financial and budgetary situation of the RC/RC in the region with the aim of putting in place a workplan for developing a financial and resource mobilization system.

Objective 3: Provide technical support to National Societies to enhance communications and information sharing in coordination with ICRC.

In 2002, the regional information department was proactive in strengthening the visibility of the all the NSs in the region through various activities, including:

- A presentation to all 16 NSs during the DM seminar on their role as key information providers to the RD during disasters;
- A web article on the all-Africa HoD meeting in February;
- Four information bulletins for the munitions depot explosions in Nigeria, the floods in Mauritania and Senegal, and a meningitis epidemic in Burkina Faso;
- Four articles and a press release on the relief efforts of the Nigerian Red Cross Society in relation to armory explosion, ethnic clashes in Lagos and the heroic acts of the NRSC president with one co-authored by the NRCS information officer;
- Three articles on measles campaigns in Mali, Benin, Ghana, Togo and Burkina Faso;
- An article on a water and sanitation project in line with World Water Day by the information officer of the SLRCS with the encouragement of regional information;
- An article on an elderly volunteer was co-authored with the information officer from Ghana;
- An article on the peer educators project of the population movement department and the Red Cross Society of Côte d'Ivoire;
- An article on the annual general meeting of the Red Cross Society of Côte d'Ivoire and an interview about the former president's forty years of service in the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement;
- Field trips and two concerts organized for two producers and the audio visual officer from Geneva to document the activities of the peer educators and a Red Cross artistic group promoting the Federation's HIV/AIDS anti-stigma campaign for 8 May.
- Coverage of the assistance to victims of the Ivorian uprising by the Red Cross Society of Côte d'Ivoire and the ICRC resulting in four articles on the society for the website;
- Participation in coordination meetings organized by OCHA and the ICRC on the Ivorian crisis.

- An article on the emergency assistance offered by the Nigerian Red Cross Society to the victims of anti-Miss World riot in Kaduna, northern Nigeria during which over 100 lives were lost and over 1,000 people injured.

All the articles were posted on the Federation's website and sent to local, regional and international press some of which asked for radio interviews.

Objective 4: Support organizational change within the LRCS, enabling better delivery of relevant services to the most vulnerable.

LRCS is faced with the problem of providing quality services to the vulnerable population against a background of extremely weak donor assistance and almost no income from its own resources. To meet this challenge, LRCS initiated a restructuring programme supported by the Federation's Secretariat. Main components include the development of a strategic five-year plan (Plan 2007), a revised headquarters organization, a new salary scale and a financial development plan. The restructuring programme being a major financial undertaking, LRCS has adopted a plan to increase the domestic income and the commitment from major partners before moving on.

Plan 2007 was approved by the 44th General Assembly on 7 December. It was printed and distributed within and outside the society. A dissemination drive to chapters and branches is being planned.

The planned mapping of the current LRCS accounting system by a Federation consultant was delayed. Phase II will follow as soon as possible, assisting the NS in procuring and installing a computerized accounting system at the headquarters.

Also, the implementation of the restructuring programme that was approved by the executive committee on 19 September was delayed. The main reasons are the ongoing deliberations regarding legal consequences of the planned reorganization of the national headquarters and the release of all staff. Furthermore, since the reform is a major financial undertaking, LRCS would like to see progress in its own efforts to increase domestic income and some commitment from major partners before moving on.

Regional Cooperation w

Objective 1: Support national society sub-regional cooperation and information exchange.

Regional Working Groups

Terms of reference for the sub-regional, sectoral and regional working groups for West Africa were completed and agreed upon during a meeting held in Abidjan on 16 April with all the presidents of the 16 West African countries.

All regional groups held their initial meetings as planned and some held second meetings. Results of the working groups' activities convened under revised ToR moved forward but more slowly than anticipated. However this was due to a sustained effort by the NSs and the RD to place responsibility for all aspects of planning, organization and implementation with members of the groups themselves. This proved successful and the NSs are beginning now to develop strong agendas and have a renewed sense of purpose.

Information sharing

International organizations, embassies, the Red Cross Society of Côte d'Ivoire, and governmental authorities attended the launching of the Emergency Appeal for Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger. Subsequently, an evaluation team visited Mali and Burkina Faso to determine the progress on the appeal. Furthermore, an appeal on food insecurity was prepared for the Mauritanian Red Crescent.

The Red Cross Society of Côte d'Ivoire received some capacity building assistance from the regional delegation in view of the ongoing armed conflict.

A decision was taken that delegations for Central Africa (Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Democratic Republic of Congo and Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Sao Tomé and Príncipe and Gabon) should report to the regional delegation in Abidjan. A new head of regional office for Yaounde assumed his position at the end July 2002 and support to the region has begun especially in finance and reporting.

The HoRD had several missions to Togo, Liberia, Guinea, Nigeria and Ghana to give support and improve relations with the NSs and to assist with governance and management issues.

Assistance through the regional offices

The NSs continue to benefit from knowledge sharing through documents prepared by the Senegalese Red Cross Society. Under the sponsorship of Swiss Red Cross, the Chad Red Cross' programme coordinator visited SRCS from 9-30 June with the aim of improving his organizational development skills. The Swiss Red Cross' programme manager at the sub-regional office contributed to the capacity building process for three weeks.

Collection of experiences from the NSs continued. Good experiences collected were used to challenge and assist other national societies.

The Dakar regional office not only assisted the SRCS in developing projects to be submitted to Kuwait Red Crescent but also coordinated food security in the region for the regional DP department. A survey of activities of NSs in the area of food security was done while contacts and follow-up were made with the NSs in the sub-region to collect information on ARCHI 2010 experiences currently used by volunteers in the prevention of epidemics and disaster response.

Objective 2: Support human resource development and deployment in West Africa.

Human resource capacities in West Africa were developed in the following ways:

- Applications for the position of delegates from the NSs were processed in the first quarter.
- An application from the Senegalese Red Cross Society was recommended to the federal Secretariat.
- Lists of open positions published by the Federation were sent to National Societies for dissemination.
- A place was negotiated for a regional health officer and the SG of the Red Cross Society of Côte d'Ivoire to do undergo a basic training course with the French Red Cross in June and December, respectively.
- Ghana Red Cross Society's secretary general was posted to Tanzania in July 2002 as a delegate.
- Two recommendations from the Ghana Red Cross Society and Togolese Red Cross for the posts of delegate were submitted to the HR department in Geneva.

Coordination and Management w

Delegation Management

Objective 1: Improve the regional delegation's management and coordination.

Delegation management in the first quarter of 2002 focused on matching budgets to revenue and assuring expenditure was contained within available income. The West Africa regional appeal amounted to CHF 7.3 million for 2002 (not including the HIV/AIDS portion, the amount appealed for was CHF 5.2 million). As a result, significant work and effort was put into reviewing 2002 budgets by all the programme managers and the management but the financial situation remained critical throughout 2002. This was, however, addressed satisfactorily with the assistance of the regional finance unit (RFU) and technical departments in the RD and the Africa department. Cooperation with

the regional offices and country delegations was strengthened - with increasingly well-coordinated but autonomous offices throughout the region.

The regional delegation participated in ICRC and OCHA meetings as well as those of UNICEF on the Ivorian crisis. Regional health coordination meetings continued with UNAIDS.

Due to the efforts of the office of the HoRD, the legal status of the regional delegation with the Ivorian government was approved in late 2002 after several years of operation.

Reporting

Objective 2: Provide timely reporting according to the Federation's standards.

Regional reporting assisted NSs as well as regional and country delegations in addressing reporting needs following familiarization and needs assessment missions to the delegations. The following assistance was given in 2002:

- Training of new reporting officer for the Nigerian Red Cross Society covering writing and editing skills and the Federation's reporting standards. Coaching continued by e-mail.
- The compilation and editing of the 2001 annual report for the regional delegation, eight monthly reports, four quarterly reports, two DFID reports, Swiss government and Finnish Red Cross reports.
- Editing the English version of the report on the DP workshop held in February 2002.
- Editing of the Lagos delegation's annual report, DFID relief report and the munition operation's updates.
- Editing of monthly, quarterly and annual reports for the Sierra Leone and Guinea delegations.
- Translation and editing of the final report of the Togolese Red Cross' ARCHI 2010 capacity building project sponsored by the Swiss Government;
- Giving a brief reporting orientation to the new assistant to the head of office in Dakar, who was to begin handling reports in the later part of 2002.
- Sensitization of the Senegalese Red Cross Society to the need for regular information exchange with the Dakar regional office and the regional delegation.
- Participation in a sub-regional workshop organized for health and HIV/AIDS coordinators in Dakar in November during which a presentation was made on reporting as a public relations function that strengthens partnerships for the National Societies.
- Editing emergency appeals and information bulletins for the Senegalese Red Cross Society, Mauritanian Red Crescent and the Nigerian Red Cross;
- Editing operation updates on the meningitis epidemic for the Burkinabe Red Cross Society;
- Information bulletins on flooding for the Senegalese Red Cross Society;
- Information bulletins for the ferry disaster in September for the Senegalese Red Cross Society and Gambia Red Cross;

The regional reporting delegate participated in a reporting workshop in Sweden in October 2002 during which information was received about the Federation's strategy for change and ideas were exchanged with other reporting officers of the Federation.

Finance

Objective 3: Improve accounting and financial management to conform with the Federation's financial regulations and procedures.

The RFU monthly processed all working advances for the delegations, FRT accounts and also ran checks on CODA. Timeliness and accuracy of accounting and financial reporting in the region generally improved in 2002. The RFU successfully overcame initial difficulties in providing basic accounting support to Central Africa. By the year's end, all Federation offices in West and Central

Africa received support including preparation of monthly financial analyses and maintenance of financial systems. Project balances in the country delegations were generally positive, however, some tidying up of a handful of deficits was done at the end of the year. A new system was used for sharing regional delegation support costs across regional programmes, with the few resulting problems successfully resolved.

The finance delegate in the Guinea delegation gave good support in the audit of project PC I 002 and made a technical support mission to the Red Cross of Benin. HoRFU gave technical support to Sierra Leone and Yaounde offices by installing new programmes and training their finance officers in the Federation's financial procedures. An analyst at the RFU gave technical support with similar missions to Dakar and Yaounde. Capacities were strengthened as the finance officer in Liberia worked in Abidjan on both revised budgets for 2002 and appeal budgets for 2003 using the busy budgeting system while the senior accounts officer from the delegation in Sierra Leone and the RFU analyst attended CODA training in the Secretariat. The RFU worked extensively on both the 2002 budget for Abidjan and the 2003 appeal budget process.

Objective 4: Institute knowledge management services supporting the Federation's work in core areas with special attention to volunteer management.

The regional OD and health delegates looked into possibilities of collaborating on volunteer management during the measles campaign in some NSs but lack of funding was a limiting factor. As a result, this objective was not realized in 2002.

Objective 5: Provide support for the achievement of the Federation's objectives for 2002 and 2003 in Liberia by efficient and cost effective management.

In a first phase of renewed development cooperation with the Liberian Red Cross Society, the Federation's Secretariat provided technical assistance to support the organizational development of the LRCS enabling the pursuit of its mission on the basis of commitment towards change and innovation. The technical advisor spent four months in Liberia from April to December, integrated into the National Society's office premises. Technical support was provided as were tools for assessment and change management within the LRCS and for preparing a development plan. Other areas of support include financial management, management and governance training and coordination initiatives with the ICRC and other partners.

By the end of 2002, an agreed and effective working relationship was developed between the LRCS and the Federation and a representative was recruited to support the NS. The Federation's representative was integrated into the National Society and will be able to draw technical support from the regional delegation and beyond if required, to support the LRCS in its priority areas.

All International Federation Operations seek to adhere to the Code of Conduct and are committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (SPHERE Project) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

For further information concerning Federation operations in this or other countries, please access the Federation website at <http://www.ifrc.org>.

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT SOCIETIES

Interim report	
Annual report	X
Final report	

Appeal No & title: 01.01/2002 West Africa

Period: year 2002

Project(s): PLR002, LR160, LR410, LR501, 61001, 61002, 61101, 61160, 61161, 61162, 61163, 61201, 61202, 61203, 61301, 61302, 61401, 61403, 61404, 61410, 61502, 61902, 61908

Currency: CHF

I - CONSOLIDATED RESPONSE TO APPEAL

FUNDING	CASH		KIND & SERVICES		TOTAL INCOME
	Contributions	Comments	Goods/Services	Personnel	
Appeal budget	3,354,107				
less					
Cash brought forward	-78,886				
TOTAL ASSISTANCE SOUGHT	3,432,993				
<i>Contributions from Donors</i>					
American Government PRM #2 (DGUSPR2)	100,185				100,185
American Government (DGUS)	-5,435				-5,435
American Red Cross (DNUS)	25,250				25,250
British Red Cross (DNGB)	92,719				92,719
Danish Govt.via Danish Red Cross (DGNDK)	49,377				49,377
Danish Red Cross (DNDK)	45,674				45,674
DFID - British Government (DFID)	225,648				225,648
DFID 3- British Government (DFID03)	239,135				239,135
Donor - Capacity Building Fund (DCBF)	83,500				83,500
Donor - Disaster Relief Emergency Fu (DREF)	10,000				10,000
Donor - Unidentified (D000)	56,409				56,409
Finnish Govt.via Finnish Red Cross (DGNFI)	131,825				131,825
Finnish Red Cross (DNFI)	19,370				19,370
French Red Cross (DNFR)	7,800				7,800
Norwegian Red Cross (DNNNO)	33,920				33,920
Spanish Red Cross (DNES)	1,778				1,778
Swedish Govt.via Swedish Red Cross (DGNSE)	579,305				579,305
Swedish Red Cross (DNSE)	159,213				159,213
Tunisian Red Crescent (DNTN)	3,406				3,406
Turkish Red Crescent (DNTR)	10,000				10,000
Unilever/Domestos (DPS007)	20,000				20,000
United Arab Emirates Red Crescent (DNAE)	8,484				8,484
CANADA				30,061	30,061
FRANCE				56,837	56,837
NETHERLANDS				2,300	2,300
NORWAY				42,053	42,053
SWEDEN				102,340	102,340
SWITZERLAND				27,433	27,433
TOTAL	1,897,571			261,024	2,158,595

II - Balance of funds

OPENING	-78,886
CASH INCOME Rcv'd	1,897,571
CASH EXPENDITURE	-1,779,754

CASH BALANCE	38,931

Appeal No & title: 01.01/2002 West Africa**Period: year 2002**

Project(s): PLR002, LR160, LR410, LR501, 61001, 61002, 61101, 61160, 61161, 61162, 61163, 61201, 61202, 61203, 61301, 61302, 61401, 61403, 61404, 61410, 61502, 61902, 61908

Currency: CHF**III - Budget analysis / Breakdown of expenditures**

Description	APPEAL Budget	CASH Expenditures	KIND & SERVICES		TOTAL Expenditures	Variance
			Goods/services	Personnel		
<u>SUPPLIES</u>						
Shelter & Construction	4,155					4,155
Clothing & Textiles	1,074	2,778			2,778	-1,704
Food & Seeds		5,787			5,787	-5,787
Water & sanitation		48			48	-48
Medical & First Aid	8,202	40			40	8,162
Teaching materials	12,694	104			104	12,590
Utensils & Tools		1,937			1,937	-1,937
Other relief supplies		907			907	-907
Sub-Total	26,125	11,601			11,601	14,524
<u>CAPITAL EXPENSES</u>						
Land & Buildings						
Vehicles	57,109	949			949	56,160
Computers & Telecom equip.	43,716	14,347			14,347	29,369
Medical equipment						
Other capital expenditures	8,992	11,108			11,108	-2,116
Sub-Total	109,817	26,405			26,405	83,412
<u>TRANSPORT & STORAGE</u>	292,746	-250,805			-250,805	543,551
Sub-Total	292,746	-250,805			-250,805	543,551
<u>PERSONNEL</u>						
Personnel (delegates)	590,649	354,211		261,024	615,235	-24,586
Personnel (national staff)	862,371	648,012			648,012	214,359
Sub-Total	1,453,020	1,002,223		261,024	1,263,247	189,773
<u>GENERAL & ADMINISTRATION</u>						
Assessment/Monitoring/experts	159,386	143,783			143,783	15,603
Travel & related expenses	202,966	118,170			118,170	84,796
Information expenses	105,400	26,054			26,054	79,346
Admin./general expenses	414,404	375,345			375,345	39,059
External workshops & Seminars	289,972	48,935			48,935	241,037
Sub-Total	1,172,128	712,286			712,286	459,842
<u>PROGRAMME SUPPORT</u>						
Programme management	184,066	119,995			119,995	64,070
Technical services	55,100	35,927			35,927	19,173
Professional services	61,105	39,854			39,854	21,251
Sub-Total	300,270	195,777			195,777	104,494
Operational provisions		82,268			82,268	-82,268
Transfers to National Societies						
TOTAL BUDGET	3,354,107	1,779,754		261,024	2,040,778	1,313,328