

# 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

## ANGOLA

25 March 2004

### In Brief

**Appeal No.:** 01.14/2003 ([Click here to access the 2003 Appeal](#))

**Appeal target (revised in May 2003):** CHF 2,213,365 (USD 1,710,439 or EUR 1,465,120)

**Appeal coverage:** 30.6% ([Click here to access the Final Financial Report](#))

**Appeal 2004:** Angola no. 01.11/2004 ([Click here to access the 2004 Appeal](#))

*This Annual Report reflects activities implemented over a one-year period; they form part of, and are based on, longer-term, multi-year planning.*

*All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, please access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>*

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### Overall analysis of the programme

Angola enjoyed peace in 2003 after a ceasefire agreement was signed between the government of the Republic of Angola and the main opposition party, UNITA, in April 2002. It is a crucial period for national reconciliation and for consolidation of peace achieved after over 27 years of civil war. Angola should embark on stability, development and prosperity, in view of resources which are available in the country.

As the country emerges from many years of destructive war, there are many challenges which will last for several years while new ones are likely to develop. [Angola Red Cross](#), with the support from the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement aims at delivering more and better quality services to the vulnerable population by increasing its engagement in the community-based health and care programme, focusing on:

- Health care for women and children
- HIV/AIDS prevention and home based care (HBC)
- Water and sanitation (WatSan)
- Environmental health

Mine-awareness, tracing and family reunification are priority programmes for the Angola Red Cross and are in direct response to the legacy of the recent civil war.

## Angola; Appeal no. 01.14/2003; Annual Report

The Angola Red Cross 2003 Annual Appeal no. 01.14/2003 was revised at the end of May 2003; [click here to access Programme Update no. 1 that presents this revision](#). Focus changed to strengthening Angola Red Cross branch infrastructure, management and services offered to communities around the existing health posts and offices in eight provinces with the provision of combined community-based health care, safe water and sanitation, hygiene education and HIV/AIDS activities.

Parallel to and integrated with the health activities, the national society received limited support to the organizational development (OD) programmes due to lack of necessary resources and slow implementation of internal processes at the national society. The OD activities initially targeted the headquarters to ensure a strong and professional secretariat that is ready to motivate and support the provincial branch offices. It should lead to a general assembly of the Angola Red Cross to rebuild trust among governance, management, staff and volunteers.

It is now evident that the expectations to see a change process take off rapidly within the Angola Red Cross were over optimistic, because the headquarters has had governance and management problems for several years. The consolidated peace and the emerging changes in the country will affect the Angola Red Cross due to increased need for humanitarian assistance. The focus is on capacity building through programmes mainly in the field of different health and care related activities which has already yielded positive results in strengthening the national society.

## Health and Care

**Goal: Sustainable improvement in the general health conditions of vulnerable communities, through the provision of combined community-based health care, safe water/safe sanitation/hygiene education and HIV/AIDS activities whilst, at the same time, building and expanding upon Angola Red Cross's capacity and volunteer system in the entire country.**

### Community Health Care

Norwegian Red Cross, Mozambique Red Cross and Federation Regional Delegation in Harare held a joint assessment and planning mission in May and April 2003 after a meeting with partner national societies (PNS). Kwanza Sul was selected as the most suitable Red Cross branch for a pilot programme as they actively participated in drawing up the project proposal and identifying and accepting the project objectives, to ensure ownership of the programme.

The Angola Red Cross Kwanza Sul integrated health project is being implemented in five project sites and directly targeting 22 communities. Each community has established an Angola Red Cross health committee and approximately 500 volunteers have been mobilized. The two project sites near Sumbe, the provincial capital, are mainly focusing directly on establishing the HIV/AIDS program, information education and communication (IEC). As a result of the visibility, the Ministry of Health has opened a counseling centre and to provide HIV/AIDS testing services.

The remaining three projects sites in Gabela have their main focus on maternal and child health.

There are four area of activities included in the pilot project:

1. Mother and child health
2. HIV/AIDS
3. Environmental health
4. Strengthening the operational capacity of the national society's branch and headquarters.

The development challenge here will be on the community participatory process based on the committee's decision to national society activities from the health post and into the communities.

Being a pilot project, there is a need to define the content of the curriculum and standardize it. The project trained community leaders, trainers of trainers (ToT) in (HIV/AIDS). The TOT for environment health and hygiene will take place by the end of March 2004.

## **Achievements**

### **Strengthen the provision of basic health services in Angola Red Cross health posts**

Eighty six health staff and community volunteers from ten provinces participated in the refresher training courses that took place in May and September 2003. After the training, the national society made changes on the training curriculum. During the year, more than 200 new volunteers were recruited and trained.

### **Strengthen preventive services in communities surrounding the existing health posts**

The Angola Red Cross recruited and trained 285 new community health care volunteers who made 50,715 household visits and counseled 355,005 beneficiaries on health education (personal and environmental hygiene), control of communicable diseases and provision of community first aid. A total of 168,983 beneficiaries participated in 3,379 seminars and 675,932 condoms were distributed during the HIV/AIDS prevention educational activities at the health posts.

### **Reduce mortality due to malaria, measles, polio and other epidemics:**

In 2003, the Angola Red Cross started participating in the inter-agency coordination committee and to attend its meetings and through that served as a focal point for social mobilization and distribution of material during the national measles and polio vaccination campaigns, in May and August 2003 respectively. A total of 655 staff and volunteers participated in the social mobilization and administered vitamin A and measles and polio vaccines from house-to-house. 244,203 children were vaccinated against DPT, measles and polio in all national society's health posts.

In 2003, the Angola Red Cross received materials and vaccines from the Ministry of Health (MoH) and UNICEF to reinforce routine vaccination activities of the expanded programme immunization and for the mother and child health activities; in 21 national society health posts, and to reduce mortality as a result of measles, polio and tetanus. More than 45,000 mother and child cards and maternal health cards, 200 cool boxes for the Angola Red Cross branches in ten provinces and three cold chains for the Angola Red Cross health posts in Huambo, Kwanza Norte and Kwanza Sul were received and distributed.

## **Impact**

In 2003 the relationship between the Angola Red Cross, government bodies and non-governmental organizations MoH, WHO, UNICEF, GOAL, International Medical Corps (IMC) and other organizations were reinforced. The strengthened relationship will help increase both the quantity and the quality of Angola Red Cross health related activities.

## **Constraints**

The basic laboratory services were not provided, as the health posts are not currently equipped with material and no rehabilitation work on the basic infrastructures of the health posts has been done. The health posts do not have basic sterilizing equipment and the curative items are sterilized by boiling. The functioning Angola Red Cross health posts did not have enough medicines for its normal activities and does not have qualified staff and the capacity to diagnose common diseases affecting the population such as malaria and measles. Most health activities were hampered by lack of sufficient resources to support the national health programme activities. Delays in budget approval, and allocation and transfer of funds to the Federation Country Delegation in Angola have often hampered the smooth and timely implementation of activities.

There was neither an in-kind contribution of mosquito nets nor a cash contribution for procurement of mosquito nets. Angola Red Cross did not benefit from WHO and UNICEF support for malaria prevention activities in 2003.

## **HIV/AIDS**

### **Achievements**

### **Promote awareness and disseminate information on HIV/AIDS prevention to 60,000 vulnerable people in groups at high risk of contracting HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted infections.**

In 2003, the national society recruited and trained 100 activists and five provincial coordinators in five provinces of Cabinda, Kwanza Norte, Moxico, Uige and Zaire. The activists held 977 talk sessions in the community, with

## Angola; Appeal no. 01.14/2003; Annual Report

48,864 participants from the army, national police, truck drivers and people returning from neighboring countries. A total of 195,496 condoms were distributed during these sessions. The Angola Red Cross HIV/AIDS programme distributed 180,000 condoms donated by USAID and the US government for HIV/AIDS prevention activities in 2003. The association of people living with HIV/AIDS (Luta Pela Vida) and ANASO<sup>1</sup> work closely with the national society and have supported its training activities.

The provincial branches in Cabinda, Kwanza Norte and Moxico promoted ten drama performances and song contests, in each province, all with messages about HIV/AIDS and its prevention, and anti-stigmatization besides the education sessions.

**Table 1: Activities were achieved in 2003**

Volunteers mobilized and trained	110
Provincial HIV/AIDS coordinators contracted	5
Sections performed	977
Total of participants	48,864
IEC material distributed	15,000
Condoms distributed	195,496

### **Provide preventive and supportive counseling to the targeted vulnerable groups**

Angola Red Cross has been coordinating its activities GOAL and MSF to seek support to be able to increase its capacity to implement this objective.

### **Strengthen the capacity of the Angola Red Cross to plan, implement and monitor HIV/AIDS and related activities:**

In 2003, the Angola Red Cross volunteers carried out their activities based on the monthly plans, with six sessions per month scheduled for each activity. To complement the information given verbally to the target groups they distributed booklets, posters and condoms, and made demonstrations about the correct use of the latter. All the staff and volunteers in the different Angola Red Cross branches were involved in HIV/AIDS prevention activities.

### **Impact**

The relationships between Angola Red Cross and governmental bodies and non-governmental organizations is stronger. The image of the Angola Red Cross has improved, which should help when trying to secure financial and in-kind support for future activities.

### **Constraints:**

There were a few constraints related to the starting up of the HIV/AIDS program because there was a need to make a plan of action to implement the planned activities. The different target provinces (Cabinda, Kwanza Norte, Moxico, Uige and Zaire) have different capacities. The delays in the process related to the recruitment of the assistant to the national HIV/AIDS Programme Coordinator hampered the implementation of some of the programme activities.

The logistical problems related to the implementation of the activities in the provinces, have often delayed the dispatch of condoms and IEC material to the target provinces. In addition, slow communication between headquarters and provincial branches, supervision and monitoring have hindered effective performance.

### **Coordination:**

The two Provinces Kuando Kubango and Uige each received USD 20,000 from WHO for their HIV/AIDS prevention activities.

## **Water and Sanitation (WatSan)**

### **Achievements**

#### **Promotion of safe drinking water for vulnerable communities**

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<sup>1</sup> ANASO - an umbrella organization of national non-governmental organizations working in the area of HIV/AIDS

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The Angola Red Cross has been making the population aware of the importance of clean potable water through educational seminars and household visits in all the Angola Red Cross health posts and surrounding communities. Some 50,715 house-to-house visits were carried out with 355,005 beneficiaries being sensitized on safe drinking water. A total of 150 water point committees in seven communities surrounding Angola Red Cross health posts were established in 2003.

### **Reduce morbidity by promoting environmental health and sanitation to communities in rural areas**

Through health post seminars and household visits, a total of 355,005 people were sensitized about the use of latrines and malaria prevention activities. The health post staff and community volunteers carried out 50,715 household visits and hygiene education sessions.

### **Strengthen the Angola Red Cross's capacity in WatSan**

655 volunteers in ten provinces were trained in and disseminated IEC on WatSan preventive activities.

#### **Impact**

The community is now more sensitized about correct use of water, latrines and the importance of safe drinking water which has impacted positively on the general health.

#### **Constraints**

Very limited funding for WatSan activities was obtained in 2003. Support to local authorities in the identification and/or rehabilitation of water points was not given. Neither was the construction of institutional or communal latrines nor the identification or construction of family latrines was carried out. The national society did not have the services of a National WatSan Coordinator, and no technical training for volunteers was provided for in 2003.

## **Disaster Management (DM)**

In November 2003, Angola Red Cross conducted a population movement field assessment in four provinces of Kuando-Kubango and Moxico in the south, and Zaire and Uige in the north through the RDRT staff. The assessment led to an Appeal that focused on resettlement activities for returning refugees. The use of RDRT members in the assessments showed the added value of these members to the national society.

**Goal: A sustainable improvement in the capacity of Angola Red Cross's community-based mine awareness and education programme in four provinces and the strengthening of Angola Red Cross's capacity to respond to any disaster according to the role defined for it by the Government of Angola.**

#### **Achievements**

##### **Strengthen the capacity of the Angola Red Cross to respond to any disaster:**

As part of national society capacity building three Angola Red Cross staff participated in the RDRT held in Malawi. The Disaster Management Officer participated in the regional planning and review meetings held in February and December 2003. The planning meeting was aimed at harmonizing DM operational procedures, while the review meeting focused on reviewing achievements made in 2003 and looking at the way forward for 2004. Some 300 volunteers in the three provinces of Cabinda, Moxico and Kwanza Sul participated in a two-day promotion of the world first-aid day, in September 2003, disseminating the importance of having first aid skills and knowledge.

##### **Reduce the number of mine incidents:**

Angola Red Cross, with support from the ICRC, continued its mine awareness activities in the provinces of Benguela and Bie. A total of 60 Angola Red Cross volunteers, in close cooperation with community leaders in these two provinces, organized at least six mine awareness activities per month.

#### **Impact**

The national society was able to save on consultancy fees because personnel trained in RDRT conducted population movement assessment and prepared reports on the Appeal making the whole process cost effective.

#### **Constraints**

Lack of funding hampered the implementation of DM planned activities in 2003 as envisaged.

## **Organizational Development (OD)**

The Angola Red Cross did not have an OD Appeal for the year 2003 and the regional OD financially supported the national society to initiate the process to hold provincial assemblies, annual general assembly and finance development. Norwegian Red Cross and Swedish Red Cross donated CHF 17,500. In the 2003 Appeal, the national society mainly focused on the community-based health care programme. The senior leadership of the Angola Red Cross has negotiated with the government through the ministry of finance, for short-term and long-term financial support, to allow the national society to solve immediate financial problems, become self-reliant and sustainable. There is progress in this respect but there is still a long way to go until most of these issues are under control.

**Goal: Angola Red Cross meets the basic requirements of a well-functioning national society and is recognized and respected as a key national actor in the humanitarian sector in Angola.**

**Objective: To support the improvement of programme design, implementation, evaluation and financial management, as well as strengthen the governance at branch level in an integrated way with the provision of community health care, (safe water/sanitation/hygiene education and HIV/AIDS activities).**

### **Achievement**

The volunteer concept in Angola is a real challenge following the many years of emergency approach where incentives were paid to volunteers either as direct payment or food for work. The Kwanza Sul project created a new policy for the national society to support volunteers with incentives that in reality function as a salaries.

In second half of 2003, the President of Angola Red Cross and the executive council initiated provincial assemblies and established provincial commissions to strengthening the provincial governance. The national society has gained a positive image due to the implementation of needs driven programmes such as HIV/AIDS, WatSan and hygiene education.

### **Impact**

The integrated approach of health and care and branch development has improved the profile of the national society. Provincial assemblies have created the right environment to hold the long overdue, general assembly of the Angola Red Cross, in May 2004.

### **Constraints**

The Angola Red Cross has not yet succeeded in recruiting a head of finance and administration department, even after several rounds of a recruitment processes that has lasted eight months, and even after having engaged a recruitment agency. The process, therefore, continues and it is hoped that the national society will fill this key position, although it is difficult due to the prevailing labour conditions in Angola.

Local fund-raising and/or different income-generating activities are still difficult enterprises partly because of the current legislation and partly because such activities are rather new phenomena, both to the Angola Red Cross and to the public in general. Government officials and civil servants at different levels do not distinguish the Angola Red Cross from other national NGO, of which there are now several hundreds, and more are being established on a regular basis.

[\*Click here to return to the title page\*](#)