

PROGRAMME UPDATE



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

GUINEA

19 May 2003

Appeal No. 01.26/2003

Appeal Target: CHF 3,940,389

Programme Update No. 01

Period covered: January -March 2003

The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization and its millions of volunteers are active in over 180 countries.

For more information: www.ifrc.org

In Brief

Appeal coverage: 64.4%; for details please refer to the Contributions List for this appeal available on the Federation's website.

Outstanding needs: CHF 1,400,935

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals: 2003 Annual Appeal for Guinea (no. 01.26/2003)

Programme Summary: The Red Cross Society of Guinea (GRC) has achieved considerable success with the "Groupe d'Alerte de Première Urgence (GAPU)", assisting a total number of 51,659 persons over the reporting period. Although not originally envisioned in the Appeal, GAPU has proven to be an exemplary tripartite project (GRC/Federation/ICRC).

The Response to the 2003 appeal has been very low resulting in the freezing of some projects. GRC is still very active in the change process, and a review of the National Society's staff will be done after the General Assembly at the end of April in view of recruiting more qualified staff. The low level of available funding is having a critical effect on the Society, in regards to the growing operation of assistance to refugees and returnees following the conflicts in Cote d'Ivoire and Liberia.

Operational developments

The change process of the Red Cross Society of Guinea (GRC) has produced impressive and dynamic changes within the National Society. Since the beginning of the crisis, the National Society has been actively assisting the returnee and refugee population from Cote d'Ivoire. The Society's office in Kissidougou has successfully assumed most of the responsibility for providing assistance to refugees in camps, but still requires strong support from one Federation field delegate in the N'zerekore office. The Federation delegation maintains responsibility for the general management of the operation, and all of the operation's financial management.

The Red Cross Society of Guinea's change process is arriving at the right time, as it is strengthening the capacity of the GRC to face the current difficult times, and the anticipated difficult years ahead. The developments within the Society are in keeping with the International Federation's Strategy for Change.

Paradoxically, while the developments within the Society are exciting, the process is threatened by lack of funding. Currently the Appeal has received a very limited response, with earmarked funds allocated for the operation to assist refugees from Sierra Leone and Liberia.

In a move to strengthen the GRC's progress, the Society commenced the process of recruiting a Regional Finance Development Officer, and an Organisational Development delegate. However lack of funding has prevented the GRC from moving forward with the project. Additionally, in efforts to reduce expenditures the Federation has decreased the country delegation costs by reducing the number of expatriate delegates from nine delegates at the beginning of 2002, to three delegates at the beginning of 2003. The Society has also elected to put those projects listed in the Annual Appeal on hold which depend on what happens with April's restructuring of the National Society.

The situation is deteriorating in Guinea, increasing the vulnerability of the population. Over 100,000 returnees and refugees arrived in Guinea as a result of the conflict in the Cote d'Ivoire. At the same time, unrest in Liberia has led to the continuous arrival of refugees in Guinea. Additionally, the repatriation process of refugees from Sierra Leone has been delayed.

For the past several months there has been a cut in Conakry's water and electrical supplies which will remain that way until the beginning of the rainy season. Guinea is struggling with political instability and domestic frustrations, and a decline in the country's economic activities.

Health and Care

Goal 1: To encourage and promote a change of behaviour towards preventing HIV/AIDS in line with ARCHI 2010

Objective: To assist the GRC's Health, Relief, Information, Social Welfare and Youth technical departments to effectively contribute to HIV/AIDS prevention.

Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)

This programme has yet to begin. The development of the GRC health department, as well as the development of the other technical departments, will start after the Society's General Assembly, with the supervised recruitment process of qualified heads of departments.

The GRC became member of the National committee for HIV/AIDS prevention. Depending on the availability of funding, the Society intends on implementing the HIV/AIDS prevention programme as described in the 2003 appeal.

Impact

There was no measurable impact over the reporting period.

Constraints

The Society was unable to make any progress in achieving this goal due to lack of funding, and insufficient human resources.

Goal 2: The incidence of new HIV infections among the country's population is reduced.

Objective: The risk of HIV infection is reduced among the school-aged population.

Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)

An evaluation of the "Red Cross School" project was made during the first quarter of 2003, and the report was presented on 18 April. The Society awaits funding to implement the project.

Impact

There was no measurable impact over the reporting period.

Constraints

The Society was unable to make any progress in meeting this objective due to lack of funding.

Disaster Response**Goals:**

1. To reduce vulnerability and reinforce the individual and collective capacities of refugees, and local populations receiving refugees in UNHCR-targeted areas.
2. To contribute to the education of the population in the areas of humanitarian values, and the Movement's fundamental principles.
3. To reduce vulnerability to health risks, and reinforce individual and collective capacities of refugees in UNHCR-selected areas.

Objectives:

1. To provide social assistance based on need to the most vulnerable among the refugee population:
 - **Kissidougou:** in the three camps of Kountaya, Boréah, Telikoro
 - **N'Zérékoré:** in the three camps of Kouankan, Kola, Lainé, as well as 242 refugees from the 1998 influx who live in N'Zérékoré, identified by the UNHCR as "extremely vulnerable individuals" (EVIs) living outside of the camps.
2. To promote and encourage better understanding and acceptance within and between the refugee and local populations:
 - **Kissidougou:** in the three camps of Kountaya, Boréah, Telikoro, as well as surrounding villages
 - **N'Zérékoré:** in the three camps of Kouankan, Kola, Lainé, as well as surrounding villages.
3. To ensure health care is available to the refugee population in the two camps of Kouankan and Kola, as well as 242 refugees identified by the UNHCR as EVIs living outside of the camps.

Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)

The GRC/Federation is operating in seven camps from two field offices: N'zerekore and Kissidougou. A total of 5,532 persons were repatriated during the first quarter of 2003. Meanwhile, an influx of Liberian and Ivorian refugees continued resulting in a total of 94,732 beneficiaries. The repatriation process of refugees from Sierra Leone has been slow due to logistical constraints such as the lack of trucks, and the bridge is still under construction.

Beneficiaries of Red Cross Assistance in the Camps, plus Extremely Vulnerable Individuals Outside Camps:

	Kountaya	Telikoro	Boreah	Kouankan	Kola	Laine*	Nonah	EVI	Total
Ref.Dec.02	20'175	9'885	11'133	33'422	6'789	7'536	2'014	242	91'196
March 03	18'752	11'412	9'577	33'911	6'452	11'580	2'806	242	94'732
Difference	-1'423	1'527	-1'556	489	-337	4'044	792	0	3'536

**Note: with the massive influx of Liberian refugees at the beginning of April, the population of Lainé camp on 4 April was 15,252 persons, and in Nonah 3,700 persons. Both populations, however, are continuing to grow every day.*

N'zerekore Office.

The transfer of responsibilities to the Red Cross Society of Guinea is working well, but is still challenging and demanding. The Society receives assistance from a Federation field delegate who arrived at the beginning of March.

The GRC/Federation is operating in four camps providing medical services and social activities in Kouankan and Kola camp; and, social activities in Lainé and Nonah camps. The Nonah camp was not included in the Society's initial plan. The Society, however, assumed initial responsibilities for a limited number of refugees in the camp, which was considered a transit camp, because no other humanitarian organisation was available to provide assistance.

After the influx of refugees from Liberia and Cote d'Ivoire, the population in the camp increased, and the duration of their stay lengthened. The population of Laine camp also increased considerably for similar reasons.

Medical activities:

N'zérékoré regional hospital which services all the refugee camps in the area, and six health posts in the Kouankan and Kola camps, are staffed by a medical team of 108 persons (six medical doctors including locals and refugees, one pharmacist, two laboratory officers, 56 nurses (incl. 4 midwives), 11 traditional midwives, and 32 health assistants.

The following is a summary of consultations and nutritional assistance provided during the reporting period:

- 21,882 consultations; 1,194 ante-natal consultations; 5,647 family planning consultations; and, 4,033 vaccinations.
- Epidemiology: malaria (4,783 cases), respiratory diseases (2,832 cases), diarrhoea (2,319 cases, including 825 bloody), skin diseases (990 cases), STDs (777 cases).
- Mortality Rates (TMB): Kouankan: January 0.3, February 0.3, March 0.2; Kola: January 0.3, February 0.0, March 0.1
- Hospital references (hospitalisation days): general:558, surgery:305, paediatrics:1,094, gynaecological: 298
- 52,411 condoms distributed.

Nutrition:

Services provided from four nutritional centres (NCT) in camps, and one centre in town for the treatment of severe cases, to undernourished children, pregnant women-from six months, and undernourished adults:

- Treatment of 1,577 under-fives (Kouankan 1,134; Kola 443).
- 29,026 kg premix of Corn Soy Blend (CSB) distributed to 1,579 beneficiaries.
- There were more discharges than entries in NCTs during the reporting period, demonstrating the success of nutritional programmes in the camps.
- Mortality rate in NCTs: 0%.
- Severe undernourished rate: 0%.
- Medium undernourished rate: 3.8% in Kouankan, 2.5% in Kola.

Yellow fever:

Logistic support for vaccination campaign (10 days) conducted in the Macenta district.

Social activities:

Activities conducted over the reporting period include:

- 73 female single parents and nine "free" women benefited from the integration training programme.
- 13 working sessions to 1,178 women regarding the women groups.
- 252 new women alone and female single parents identified and assisted.
- Home visits and individual assistance by the social assistants to 3,772 vulnerable women.
- Support to micro-projects of vulnerable groups.
- 390 vulnerable elderly people identified and assisted.
- Home visits and individual assistance by the social assistants to 673 vulnerable elderly people.
- 4 working sessions with 99 elderly people.
- 71 disabled persons identified and assisted.
- 5 working sessions with 109 disabled.
- Home visits and individual assistance by the social assistants to 521 vulnerable disabled persons.
- 18 working sessions with 771 youths.
- Soccer competitions, theatre (16 representations, with 147 actors and two new troupes implemented), dance groups (500 participants).
- Assistance with 190 births, and 51 deaths.
- 242 extremely vulnerable individuals (EVI) assisted daily.

- 28,677 hot meals distributed to 9,559 convalescent and their companions.
- 312 shelters allocated to vulnerable persons.
- Assistance to newly arrived refugees in Lainé and Nonah camps.

Kissidougou Office.

The office, which is managed by a GRC officer, is in charge of social activities in the three camps of Kountaya, Telikoro, Boreah. In addition to the usual social activities in the camps, the office has been concentrating on a programme rehabilitating shelters for the most vulnerable, and a programme to prevent sexual abuse. The office is also in charge of providing support with the repatriation of refugees from Sierra Leone.

Social activities:

During the reporting period:

- 4,628 vulnerable persons received individual assistance.
- Programme to rehabilitate 650 shelters for vulnerable people.
- Allocation of 518 shelters to 1,818 newly arrived Liberian refugees

Repatriation programme:

The purpose of the programme is for a GRC volunteer to provide assistance to each and every refugee during the repatriation process. Original estimates expected some 18,000 persons repatriated during the period. However, only 5,532 persons have been repatriated due to the lack of trucks, the length of the trip, and the conflict in the border area of Kailahoum.

The GRC local branch, in partnership with the World Health Organisation completed a programme of malaria prevention (spray) in the camps, and in the neighbouring villages.

Impact: Assistance provided to 94,732 refugees.

Constraints

The Society was unable to make as much progress as it expected in achieving this goal due to lack of funding.

Other GRC Disaster Response Activities (not included in Appeal 2003)

Goal: Assistance to returnee and refugee population, following the conflict in the Ivory Coast.

Objectives:

- **To inform the authorities and humanitarian organisations about the population movements from the Ivory Coast.**
- **To provide reception, orientation, temporary shelter, hot meal, first aid to this population.**

Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)

In July 2002, due to a threat of population movement from Liberia, the Federation delegation initiated with the GRC, the "Groupe d'Alerte de Premiere Urgence" or GAPU, a project of "alert and emergency groups" at the border.

This draft project became a reality with the onset of the conflict in Cote d'Ivoire starting on 19 September. Since the beginning the GRC shared its views with the ICRC, which already had a GRC development project with local branches in the region. The GAPU became an exemplary tripartite project (GRC/Federation/ICRC). From the start, GAPU has been assisting the very vulnerable returnees and refugees from Cote d'Ivoire from 13 GRC local branches (17 reception centres), with 185 volunteers, with reception, registration, temporary accommodation in transit centres (blankets and mats made available, latrines, wells), first aid, tracing, distribution of water, biscuits, food and medical screening. The GRC was the first and only humanitarian organisation present at the beginning of this operation and remains the essential recognised actor responding to this crisis.

Up to 31 March, GAPU has been assisting 111,049 persons in the districts close to the border (85,441 Guinean returnees, 9,741 Ivorians refugees, 5,788 Liberian refugees, and 10,059 refugees of other nationalities). The total numbers of persons assisted by GAPU during the reporting period is 51,659. In addition, GAPU gave the same forms of assistance to 4,500 persons who arrived from Cote D'Ivoire to Conakry by boat and planes. This Red Cross project has been presented and appreciated at a regional meeting in Abidjan on January 2003, concerning the co-ordinated regional approach on the Cote d'Ivoire crisis from the Operating National Societies of the region, with participation of the Burkina Faso Red Cross, Mali Red Cross, Niger Red Cross, Liberia Red Cross, Ghana Red Cross, and Ivory Coast Red Cross.

The crisis exacerbated after the 2003 Appeal was finalised. The Federation delegation supported fifty percent of GAPU's disaster response budget, while ICRC supported the other half. Because of budget limitations, GRC agreed in February with ICRC that the ICRC will, cover the main expenses of the GAPU from March. The Federation takes care of the training cost, the salary of one co-ordinator and the running costs of one vehicle and four motor bikes.

The actual number of persons arriving from Cote d'Ivoire is decreasing. But the situation in Cote d'Ivoire is still evolving, and a new massive population movement remains a high risk. Similarly, the arrival of Liberian refugees is increasing.

Because of the high risk of HIV/AIDS contamination within Cote d'Ivoire's population, the highest rate of infection in the region (10 to 12 percent of the sexually active population - *UNAIDS source*), GRC will train the existing and the new GAPU on the HIV/AIDS prevention and anti-stigma.

GAPU will also be involved with assisting the local population and Guinean villages affected by the massive population increase, with the new arrivals from Cote d'Ivoire. GAPU has successfully strengthened GRC local branches and the volunteer network which can be called upon for community based assistance, and in future disasters. The project is also successful in terms of promoting the image of the GRC which received a congratulatory letter from the Guinean government and a similar letter from the "High Council of Guineans living in Cote d'Ivoire"). There have been several national and international press articles (including Red Cross/Red Crescent magazine), and shows on national and international television about the activities of GAPU in the field and assisting the persons arrived by boats and planes in Conakry.

Impact: Assistance to 56,159 persons during the reporting period (January-February-March)

Constraints

Activities were restricted by limited funding.

Disaster Preparedness

Goal: To search for appropriate local solutions in order to prepare and intervene effectively in future catastrophes.

Objective: To assist the GRC technical departments of Health, Relief, Information-Diffusion, Social Welfare and Youth design and conduct a VCA in Conakry.

Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)

This programme has not yet started. The development of the GRC disaster response/preparedness department, as well as the development of the other technical departments, will start after the General Assembly, with the

supervised recruitment process of qualified heads of departments. The GRC is considering removing this goal from the appeal, as the time remaining would not allow the implementation of this programme even if funding were made available. Nevertheless decisive disaster preparedness steps were made with the development of GAPU.

Impact: Development of GRC branches with the GAPU.

Constraints

Lack of funding posed an obstacle to realising this objective.

Humanitarian Values

Goal: To promote and encourage better understanding of the Red Cross Movement and its fundamental principles.

Objective: To assist GRC technical departments of Health, Relief, Information-Diffusion, Social Welfare and Youth to effectively promote the Red Cross Movement and the Fundamental Principles through a 'From Principles to Action' project.

Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)

The Society is waiting for the General Assembly to begin this programme. The extent and means by which this programme is implemented will depend on available funding.

Impact

The Federation delegation continued its support to the GRC information-diffusion department. After the national information-diffusion meeting scheduled for 27-30 December 2002, the national policy and objectives for 2003-2013 will be defined.

Constraints

Lack of funding posed an obstacle to meeting this objective.

Organisational Development

Goal: To contribute to the development of a well-functioning National Society.

Objective:

- **The National Society will have a proper financial system in place at headquarters level for the management of its projects.**
- **Ten branches selected as the most active will benefit from a finance management training.**

Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)

At the time Appeal 2003 was published, the GRC had not yet entered into its change process, so only one project was included in the appeal: development of a finance development department.

Just after the 2003 appeal was finalised (September 2002), the GRC completed decisive steps in their change process, leading the GRC to initiate projects not included in the 2003 appeal. The GRC also felt it was appropriate, in regards to the change process, to initiate the process of recruiting one Organisational Development Delegate, although this project was also not included in the appeal.

Finance development

The GRC finance department is weak. Because of the positive results thus far within the Society due to the change process, the GRC decided to initiate this project, despite the limited response to the appeal. With the arrival on 1 April of a regional finance development officer, the GRC is now able to begin moving forward with reaching the project's objectives.

Organizational Development projects, not included in Appeal 2003

As mentioned, the GRC initiated its change process in September 2002. A successful National Council took place on 5-6 February 2003. The Society completed its self-assessment in March 2003 demonstrating the Society's commitment to transparency. The General Assembly is programmed 26-27 April 2003.

National Council

Presidents of GRC branches unanimously approved the revised statutes, the Society's internal rules, and the code of administrative and financial procedures. The GRC has been closely sharing information about its change process with the ICRC which provided valuable support including costs for the National Council, and will share the cost of the General Assembly. The remaining costs for the General Assembly, although not included in the 2003 Appeal, need to be met.

The following are the key points for drafting the revised statutes:

- Separation of power between governance and the executive.
- Reduction of the number of governance members from seven to three (President, Vice-president, General-Treasurer).
- Selection by the five regions of Guinea of one of their representatives as advisor to the governance, and link between headquarters and the branches.
- Strictly supervised (Federation and ICRC) selection of GRC technical officers.

National Society Self-Assessment

The GRC completed its self-assessment according to schedule with interesting results. The Society confirmed its good will by coming first for the first time in its SAR programme (welcome service and assistance to refugees in Conakry). This programme is contractual between the GRC and UNHCR.

GRC Headquarters Building

The Federation made multiple efforts to support the request of the National Society to the Guinean government to obtain a building for its headquarters, through a letter from the Federation's General Secretary to the Guinean President. Though this has not yet yielded results, the efforts continue.

Impact: The National Society is building its capacity to face the major vulnerabilities in Guinea.

Constraints

Limited funding was an obstacle to meeting this objective.

Co-ordination

- At the Federation regional meeting for West Africa, GRC agreed that the CAS process does not necessarily need to be sophisticated, but can be a basic evolving tool year after year. Based on this statement, the delegations will support the West African National Societies to produce a CAS by end 2003. With the support from the delegation's Organisational Development delegate, GRC are planning to produce the GRC CAS by end of 2003, though the initial objective was 2004.
- The Federation and ICRC encourage the Participating National Societies to fit their bilateral programming into the framework of both appeals in order not to disturb the development process of the National Society.

- The co-ordination between humanitarian organisations is improving in Guinea in regards to the operations of assistance to refugees and returnees.

For further information please contact:

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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 (SPHERE Project) 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 website at

APPEAL No. 01.26/2003

PLEDGES RECEIVED

15/05/2003

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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CASH

REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				3,940,389	TOTAL COVERAGE 64.4%	
CASH CARRIED FORWARD				137,153		
AMERICAN - GOVT/PRM		500,000	USD	679,750	29.04.03	LIBERIAN & SIERRA LEONEAN REFUGEES
UNHCR (202 F)		930,908,730	GNF	641,396	04.02.03	LIBERIAN REFUGEES
UNHCR (351 D)		84,560,700	GNF	59,784	04.02.03	SIERRA LEONEAN REFUGEES
UNHCR (200E)		423,361,302	GNF	299,316	04.02.03	SIERRA LEONEAN & LIBERIAN REFUGEES
UNHCR (130B)		1,037,226,278	GNF	691,830	23.04.03	LIBERIAN REFUGEES
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				2,509,229	CHF	63.7%

KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
CANADA	DELEGATE(S)			30,225		
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				30,225	CHF	0.8%

ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET

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