

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

BENIN

12 March 2004

In Brief

Appeal No.: 01.30/2003 ([Click here to access the 2003 Appeal](#))

Appeal target: CHF 36,329 (USD 24,927 or EUR 24,700)

Appeal coverage: 99.1% ([Click here to access the Final Financial Report](#))

Appeal 2004: Benin no. 01.28/2004 ([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.

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Overall analysis of the programme

The country's general elections were conducted in 2003 without any major violent attacks. A Federation sponsored mediation team led by the president of the Burkina Red Cross tried to resolve a long outstanding conflict between the current government and the former president of the national society in April 2004. The team's recommendation, which included the reintegration of former members, the restructuring of the management of the national society and the calling of an extraordinary general assembly, was submitted to the Federation's Africa department at Geneva.

The ICRC office in Abidjan and the Lagos office of the Federation have continued efforts to help the national society move ahead with the implementation of the proposed changes. The Federation has planned to have the same mediation team visit the [Red Cross of Benin](#) in the second quarter of 2004. The team will be led by the President of the Burkina Red Cross.

The second Lagos regional working group meeting, which consisted of Presidents and Secretary Generals of Benin, Ghana, Nigeria and Togo national societies, was held in Porto Novo, Benin and exchanged strategies on how to promote regional cooperation and resources.

Health and care

Goal: To contribute towards improving the health status among the most vulnerable populations in Togo, through health promotion and prevention.

Objective: The national society's efforts to combat morbidity and mortality related to HIV/AIDS/STDs, malaria, waterborne diseases and potential epidemic diseases in the Maritime and Kara regions are reinforced.

Expected Results

1. The quality of life of persons living with and affected by HIV/AIDS has been improved through the development of and implementation of an appropriate home-based care strategy.
 - Increased access to psycho-social support through regular home visits and/or hospital referrals.
 - Nutritional and/or educational support has been provided to orphans in the target community. Income generating activities have been implemented among widows living with HIV/AIDS in the target community.
 - Community-based health activities have been scaled-up and intensified in the Maritime region/Lomé commune, through the help of the Togolese Red Cross volunteer network, contributing to reduced morbidity and mortality linked to malaria, waterborne, and other potential epidemic diseases.
 - Increased knowledge about malaria, waterborne and other potential epidemic diseases resulting in improved personal and community preventive practices.

Progress/achievements

Due to the internal crisis within the Red Cross of Benin, the national society did not receive funding to carry out planned activities in health leading to further deterioration of the health situation. The quality of life of the persons living with and affected by HIV/AIDS was not improved as an appropriate home-based care strategy could not be developed.

Organizational Development

Goal: To decrease vulnerability of people living in Benin through improved service delivery by the Red Cross of Benin.

Objective: To promote national society development and capacity building throughout all programmes, and activities of the Red Cross of Benin, and the effective coordination of bilateral and multilateral support and cooperation programmes.

Expected Results

1. Governance and management skills of Red Cross of Benin have progressed towards realizing the characteristics of a well-functioning national society through contracting of an external management consultant who will see that:
 - In-depth management audit have been conducted;
 - A report on the findings has been produced;
 - A six-month action plan has been elaborated based on the findings;
 - Six months of technical back-up support have been provided to the national society as they moved through their change process their change process.
2. The Red Cross of Benin has completed the Cooperation Agreement Strategy (CAS) process.
 - A national society capacity assessment exercise has been completed;
 - A three to five-year strategic development plan (based on national society capacity assessment) has been developed in coordination with other stakeholders.
 - The national society has convened a partners meeting and formally presented and confirmed the CAS.

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Achievements

The management audit of the national society could not be carried out pending the completion of the ongoing mediation planned for April 2004. Funding for the management audit, which has been incorporated in the country's 2004 annual appeal, is urgently required.

Expected Result 2

The Red Cross of Benin conducts capacity assessment and has completed the Cooperation Agreement Strategy (CAS)

Achievement

The national society completed its internal assessment and the findings have been sent to the Secretariat. However, the CAS process is still pending due to the final resolution of internal conflicts in the national society.

Impact

Despite the internal conflict, volunteers continually carried out activities in first aid, emergency response and community health activities which helped the local communities and raised the image of the national society. The Red Cross of Benin works closely with other national programmes for the reduction of HIV/AIDS through its volunteer network.

Constraints

The lack of funding and the internal conflicts constrained the implementation of planned activities.

Coordination

The Federation head of the regional office and the organizational development delegate visited the national society to help support the second sub-regional group meetings in Port Novo. The Federation has also been financing the mediation process to help resolve the conflict.

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