

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 والهلال الأحمر

GHANA

22 January 2004

Appeal No. 01.31/2003

Budget: CHF 217,580 (USD 149,249 or EUR 147,932)

Programme Update No. 2

Period covered: October - December 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: 79.5% ; See attached [Contributions List](#) for details.

Outstanding needs: CHF 44,688 (USD 35,77 or EUR 28,646)

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals: [Ghana: Annual Appeal no. 01.29/2004](#)

Project Summary: During the reporting period, the [Ghana Red Cross Society](#) received financial support towards the peer educator's project; training, monitoring and paying for their allowances and transport costs. There has been growth to the peer educator project attested by the many people who have enrolled. Training sessions were held in the months of October, November and December. Numerous sessions, targeting both in school and out of school participants were conducted. This has led many people to not only enroll in the training but also joining the Red Cross. The activities targeted all three regions of the country, namely; the Volta region which has three operational districts, the Central region which has two operational districts and the Eastern region which has two operational districts. The national society also continues to collaborate with other organizations and government stakeholders to carry out their activities. This aims at preventing duplication.

Operational developments

Peer educators in the three districts of Volta Region encountered difficulties in reaching out to their groups in the sewing centers because of the yuletide activities in the sewing shops. Most of them were busy sewing for customers. One district in the capital of Volta region targeted the churches and was very successful. The project in the Central Region is on course but has not had any major developments.

The annual festival affected the two districts in the Eastern region. This event affected the activities of the peer educators as some of their sessions clashed with the festivities. It is however hoped that the festivities next year would be taken advantage of to reach out to more people with our HIV/AIDS messages.

Health and Care

Goal: To contribute towards the reduction of morbidity and mortality linked to childhood illnesses and transmission of HIV/AIDS/STI¹ in Ghana.

Objective: The Ghana Red Cross has reinforced its efforts to combat childhood illnesses, and HIV/AIDS/STI among youth in selected regions in Ghana, through intensified IEC² and social mobilization activities.

Progress/Achievements

1. Newly recruited peer educators continued to attend weekly review meetings with the old peer educators. The Regional Secretaries and the district youth organizers visited most target groups regularly to encourage them.
2. The Peer Education training workshop was successful. About 132 newly recruited peer educators have been trained in the three regions. The attrition rate has reduced drastically despite the fact that allowances have not been paid from January to May. This can be attributed to regular visits by project officials.
3. The Ghana Red Cross in collaboration with other organizations co-ordinates peer education projects to build upon existing knowledge, promote positive attitudes and teach needed skills.

Impact

The impact of the HIV/AIDS peer education is much felt in the communities where the sessions were held. This is evident in the following ways:

1. Youth misconceptions on HIV/AIDS, for instance the use of condoms and abstinence, have been addressed. Participating youth have shown appreciation for abstinence and have exhibited understanding on the need to use condoms.
2. The youth freely discuss issues concerning sex, HIV/AIDS and reproductive health.
3. There has been rapid behaviour change. Some members of target groups have reportedly given up behaviour which encourages the spread of HIV/AIDS such as gang sex and multiple sexual partners.
4. Generally, there is a drop in the prevalence rate in Eastern region. A survey conducted by the Ghana AIDS Commission shows a significant drop in the two districts in the region, which were the leading districts in HIV/AIDS.

According to statistics, there has been an increase in the sale of condoms countrywide. This is an indicator that HIV/AIDS education by stakeholders including the Ghana Red Cross has had positive impact. (*Source: Social Marketing Foundation*)

Coordination

In the Central region, the Federation's project is coordinating well with other agencies involved in similar projects to avoid duplication. They include the Ghana Education Service, Planned Parenthood Association of Ghana and the Ministry of Health (MoH) besides the Ghana Red Cross peer educator project. In the Volta Region however, NGO, governmental organizations such as the MoH and other stakeholders continue to use the national society's peer educators' capacity for some of their activities. The national society often collaborates with other organizations when need arises.

Ghana Red Cross works with World Education Ghana (a US based NGO working in Ghana) in the area of capacity building. The Regional Secretary and the Clerk Typist benefited from a three-day Microsoft Excel in-plan course organized by World Education Ghana for its partners.

¹ STI – Sexually Transmitted Infections

² IEC – Information, education and communication

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Constraints

- Peer educators require visual aids to enhance their work. They believe the visual aids will have a great impact on the target groups .

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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 <http://www.ifrc.org>

<Contributions List below – Click here to return to title page>

APPEAL No. 01.31/2003

PLEDGES RECEIVED

28/01/2004

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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CASH

					TOTAL COVERAGE	
REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				217,581		79.5%
CASH CARRIED FORWARD				172,693		
AMERICAN - PRIVATE DONOR		150	USD	200	30.11.03	
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				172,893	CHF	79.5%

KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				0	CHF	0.0%

ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET

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