

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

SENEGAL

11 July 2003

Appeal No. 01.40/2003: Appeal Target: CHF 226.285

Programme Update No. 1; Period covered: January 1- April 15

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.

In Brief

Appeal coverage: 111.6%; See attached Contributions List for details or see the Federation's website at: http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?annual03/1-2-3%20-%20ap014003.pdf

Outstanding needs: None

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals: Sahel Sub-regional programmes (Annual Appeal 01.43/2003)

Programme Summary: The Senegalese Red Cross Society is a well-functioning Society best known for its community health and disaster response activities. It has one main Red Cross partner, the Danish Red Cross, with whom it has successfully collaborated for a number of years, most recently on a community based health programme. Covering all of its own core costs, the Society has chosen a careful strategy, which includes consolidating its current programmes and strengthening its internal capacity to manage and finance them, although it collaborates with and is in negotiations with other external partners for long-term community projects. Main support through the Federation consists of support to the health programme in two districts, for a disaster preparedness programme which targets branch level food security for those living in particularly arid areas, and organizational development targeting improved financial systems and resource development. During the reporting period, funding was mainly available to support the last programme. Additional support is required to meet needs created by this year's drought and its impact on food production.

Operational Developments

The conflict in Cote D'Ivoire led to the arrival of many persons fleeing the Ivorian capital of Abidjan which has put a strain on the housing market and schools in the Senegalese capital of Dakar. Senegal has sent troops to Cote D'Ivoire as part of an ECOWAS peacekeeping force. A drought affecting most of the Sahel has not spared Senegal and thus food security is a pressing issue. The government is under pressure to implement economic reforms to meet conditions set by the IMF and World Bank and ease the hardships facing many ordinary people. An extensive list of economic and social initiatives designed to bring quick and obvious improvements was announced in February, which is especially important at a time of rising unemployment and reduced rural incomes. Health remains problematic with only about 40% of the population having access to health services, and nearly three-quarters of all healthcare personnel are concentrated in the two largest cities, Dakar and Thiès, leaving the majority rural population poorly covered. Health problems in Senegal are compounded by inadequate nutrition. According to a 2002 report by the UN Development Programme, 24% of Senegalese suffer from chronic malnutrition.

1. Health and Care

Overall Goal: To contribute to the reduction of infant and child morbidity and mortality in Senegal.

Programme Objective: The capacity of the National Society is strengthened to fight preventable infant and child-related diseases in M'bour and Thies health districts in Senegal.

Progress/Achievements

In 2001, Senegal recorded more than 24,000 cases of measles in the country. During the period access to Integrated Management of Childhood Illnesses (IMCI)-related services was improved through measles vaccinations under the national campaign, whose goal was to vaccinate 95% of children from 9 months to fourteen years. Within Thies district, 70 volunteers conducted social mobilisation activities, advised mothers or guardians of children to be vaccinated, and helped with on site organization, with the result of 9,198 children being vaccinated against measles. Although not included within the scope of this appeal, the Senegalese Red Cross Society also mobilised 235 volunteers for the same activities in Dakar, Kaolack, Kolda, Djourbel, Louga, and Ziguinchor reaching a total of 257,490 children.

Impact

Beneficiaries reached through the social mobilisation activities of the Senegalese Red Cross Society were 5.73% of the national objective of 4,653,000 children.

Constraints

Additional activities to meet the expected results relating to breast-feeding and supplementary food practices, updating of vaccination cards, and access to other IMCI-related services such as malaria, essential drugs, and diarrhoeal disease control will take place in the second quarter of 2003.

2. Disaster Management

Overall Goal: The regional branches will develop Community-Based-Disaster Preparedness activities within a food security component.

Programme Objective: Vulnerable communities develop disaster prevention and preparedness mechanisms mainly through small-scale projects relating to food security.

Progress/Achievements

There were no disaster management activities during the period. Implementation is expected to begin in the second quarter of 2003.

3. Organizational Development

Overall Goal: To decrease the vulnerability of people living in Senegal through improved service delivery by the Senegalese Red Cross Society.

Programme Objective: The Senegalese Red Cross Society has completed a comprehensive Strategic Development Plan, based on a national society capacity assessment, which is coordinated and agreed upon with key stakeholders both within and outside the Movement, leading to a systematic development approach which, with strengthened financial management and resource development capacities, will allow the National Society to progressively increase its capacity to better meet the needs of the vulnerable.

Progress/Achievements

The Senegalese Red Cross (SRCS) has a five-year Plan for the period 2000-2004. Two of the main programmes covered by the plan are capacity building and resource development. The Danish Red Cross finances a community health programme that is operating between 2002-2006, with funding of CHF 4,164,790. The SRCS currently operates two different accounting and budgeting systems for the community health programme and the Society's other programmes. One of the main objectives for the finance and resource development project is to install a professional accounting and budgeting software package, and develop rules, controls, and procedures in harmony with both finance units. The Danish Red Cross has since committed CHF 45,000 to support the finance development project.

Accounting and budgeting software is installed with consolidated budgets and chart of accounts revised and completed.

A finance development committee was created in order to define the needs and expectations of the National Society and community health programme accountants. The National Society agreed to reshape and strengthen the finance department with new staff to support the present accountant. Weekly meetings were held in order to select a local consultancy firm for the diagnostic process. Quotations have been collected from local software providers with two systems seeming to be appropriate for the needs of the National Society and community health programme financial management. Senegalese Red Cross should be able within two months to go through a diagnostic assessment and implement the new finance software.

Rules and procedures are introduced with the finance procedural manual fully respected by SRCS staff.

A procedures manual existed during the health project's first five-year's but it seems that this tool was not compatible with the daily work of the staff. This document is now under revision by the programme's auditors, and a new version will be introduced. The National Society's current financial management is based on internal systems, which, for some, weren't updated since 1966. The regional delegate presented to the finance staff, as references, two different finance procedures Manuals: one from the Burkina Faso Red Cross, and one issued by Rwanda Cross with the assistance of PriceWaterhouseCoopers consultants. These documents are now being reviewed. It was stated during committee meetings that before developing its own manual, different issues need to be clarified regarding the National Society's organisation chart.

Professional skills of finance staff are improved through training and finance department is involved in preparation and budget control as well as finance reporting:

Training sessions for finance section staff on the accounting and budgeting software will be organized once the software is selected. Training is part of the software package bids.

By end 2003 one national resource development committee is organized and one resource development plan is developed (operational plan with measurable objectives and defined responsibilities) within overall goals development plan.

These activities will begin upon completion of the three priority points described above.

For further information please contact:

- *Senegal Red Cross Society, Executive Secretary, Abdoul Aziz Diallo, Tel+ 221 823 39 92; email: crsnational@sentoo.sn*
- *Dakar Regional Office: Head of Office, Andrea Wojnar-Diagne, Tel +221 842 23 41; email: ifrcsn03@ifrc.org*
- *Mark Willis, Regional Officer, Tel. +41-22-730-4260, email mark.willis@ifrc.org*

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>

APPEAL No. 01.40/2003

PLEDGES RECEIVED

10.07.2003

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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CASH

				TOTAL COVERAGE		
REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				226'285		111.6%
CASH CARRIED FORWARD				5'000		
BRITISH - GOVT/DFID (04)				58'000	24.02.03	FOOD SECURITY
BRITISH - GOVT/DFID (04)				57'000	24.02.03	
DANISH - GOVT				45'000	15.04.03	FINANCE SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT
IRISH - GOVT				80'000	28.04.03	PRIMARY HEALTH
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				245'000	CHF	108.3%

KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
FRANCE	DELEGATE(S)			7'556		
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				7'556	CHF	3.3%

ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET

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