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

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

01 September 2003

Appeal no. 01.43/2003

Appeal target: CHF 1,905,547 (USD 1,307,497 or EUR 1,295,578)

Programme Update No. 2;

Period covered: April to June 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: 67.1%; please refer to the Contributions List for this appeal on the Federation's website.

Outstanding needs: CHF 627,758 (USD 443,960 / EUR 408,300)

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals: Central Africa regional programmes 2003 Annual Appeal no. 01.44/2003

Programme Summary: A global peace agreement signed in South Africa has led to significant political progress. Security was still a concern in the eastern provinces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). The Red Cross of DRC was a key implementing partner in responding to the cholera epidemic in Eastern Kasai province; their interventions were well-managed and well-respected by partners. Programmes addressing HIV/AIDS, malaria and water/sanitation made significant progress. Disaster mitigation training and mapping continued as planned this period. The Red Cross of DRC continued making improvements in governance, youth and volunteer management, and financial development activities.

Operational developments

Since the signing of an exclusive, global agreement in Pretoria, South Africa, by the belligerent parties, significant political developments have taken place this quarter in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). The President of the Republic, the four vice-presidents, the ministers and vice-ministers were sworn in before the Supreme Court after the transitional constitution was promulgated by the President.

Security remained a major concern in the east of the country, especially in Ituri district, despite the presence of the United Nations Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC) and the French-led operation dubbed "Artemis". Clashes between the Lendu and Hema ethnic groups cause scores of deaths per month and complicate the operations of humanitarian agencies and NGOs in the region, particularly in the city of Bunia. As a reminder, it was in this part of the country that ICRC staff were killed.

All eyes were focused on the cholera epidemic which had broken out in the province of Eastern Kasai. Activities of the support project set up by the Federation Central Africa Regional Office with the financial support of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) proceeded smoothly. Latrines were built, water-points installed and community awareness increased. However, after the humanitarian agencies pulled out of Mbuji-

Mayi, the Red Cross of DRC was unable to control the epidemic single-handedly, and it resurfaced with several cases of cholera, claiming the lives of some 10 people in late May 2003.

Health and care

Goal: The overall health status of the populaton in the targeted provinces of the DRC is improved.

Objective: The DRC Red Cross continues to provide adequate health care services to vulnerable groups in target provinces in collaboration with partners.

Results

1. The prevalence of HIV/AIDS has been reduced.

- Forty-seven awareness campaigns were set up in Kinshasa in the health areas of Barumbu, Kalamu and Maluku, and in Bandundu province. The campaigns were carried out in military camps, ports, schools and churches, reaching about 1,000 people; most have decided to adopt a responsible sexual behaviour to avoid catching the virus. Educational talks were held both in Kinshasa and in the project's target provinces. Roughly 400 people attended. They have become aware of the gravity of the epidemic, and have resolved to join the ranks of those working to prevent HIV/AIDS.
- During this quarter, 32 peer educators were trained in HIV/AIDS prevention clubs at the Mota school in Kinshasa. Their mission is to convey information about the AIDS prevention campaign to their peers.
- Some 338 condoms were sold in Kinshasa during demonstrations of the proper use of the items. Those who purchased the condoms firmly resolved to use them correctly and to urge family and friends to do so as well when engaging in occasional sexual encounters.
- With the co-operation of the Kinshasa ambulatory treatment centre, fifteen people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) were visited in Matete, Lemba, Kinshasa, Masina and Barumbu communes. Family members, after having attended awareness sessions, agreed to take them back into their respective families.
- An AIDS-prevention club was founded at the Mokengeli Institute in Lemba commune, Kinshasa. This school was chosen because of its strategic location and the number of students attending. Since then, the attitude of many students towards HIV/AIDS has improved significantly.

2. Project Roll Back Malaria has been effective in reducing mortality and morbidity rates in DRC.

- A total of 1,626 households in the Peti-Peti area of Ngiri-Ngiri commune, Kinshasa, received information on malaria and the importance of using impregnated mosquito nets. Thirty-seven Red Cross volunteers sold 325 impregnated mosquito nets. A survey conducted by the volunteers indicated that 48 children from 0 to 5 years, eight expectant mothers, 48 children aged 5 to 15 years and 33 people from 15 to 40 and older, sleep under impregnated mosquito nets in the Ngiri-Ngiri health area. In comparison, 62 children aged 0 to 5, nine expectant mothers, 26 children from 5 to 15 years and 21 adults 40 years and older in other health areas use impregnated mosquito nets when sleeping.
- Eight clean-up operations were conducted by community members and 70 Red Cross volunteers: 4 in Assosa in the Ngiri-Ngiri health area and four in Ngampani neighbourhood in the Kikimi health area. Main activities included clearing brush, draining gutters and destroying and burying tin cans.

3. Water and sanitation conditions of the vulnerable improved during this period.

- Three public water-points along a distance of 950 metres were added to the water supply network, Regideso, in Mbuji-Mayi, the Misesa neighbourhood located in Dibindi commune, among those hit hardest by the cholera epidemic.
- In the context of the Congo Initiative Programme, Red Cross of DRC counterparts and coaches received training that will enable them to implement projects set up by provincial committees in other parts of the Equateur, Eastern Kasai and Nord-Kivu provinces. Also in this connection, 18 Red Cross of DRC/Mbandaka volunteers, chosen from five rural neighbourhoods, benefited from training in vulnerability and capacity assessment (VCA) and community planning. The VCA made it possible to determine water and sanitation requirements of those living in certain areas of Goma, Mbandaka and Mbuji-Mayi.

Disaster Management

Goal: Targeted provinces in the DRC are able to predict, prepare for, mitigate, cope with and respond to disasters that affect their daily lives.

Objective: Selected communes in Kinshasa, Mbandaka, Mbuji-Mayi and Goma have good knowledge of risks and are able to anticipate, cope with and manage these disasters in collaboration with local authorities and partners.

Results

1. Maps of areas at risk were drawn and disaster planning activities were carried out in selected communes.

- Data to be used in mapping sites at risk was gathered with a view to developing a database via a geographical information system in Mbandaka, Mbuji-Mayi and Goma, similar to those of the city of Kinshasa. These maps will enable volunteers to act more swiftly and efficiently when disaster strikes.
- A disaster management steering committee was set up, with, at the central level, a supervisor, a national co-ordinator, a national disaster preparedness and planning (DPP) officer, a provincial DPP officer, and two community representatives per commune. The aim of the committee was to achieve effective disaster management at all levels.
- A joint Federation/Red Cross of DRC (general secretariat and regional committee) team was set up to monitor VCA activities in Limete, Matete and Kisenso communes. The disaster-management groups set up in the communes are doing important work within their respective communities, and the Red Cross's visibility has been reinforced.
- Relief materials were supplied to communes at risk of the city of Kinshasa (Matete, Limete and Kisenso) with the Federation's financial support. These supplies are also income-generators. They are managed by the disaster-management groups with the support of the Red Cross of DRC communal committees.
- With the ICRC's assistance, bicycles and motorcycles for quick, effective intervention in the event of disaster were donated to the Red Cross of DRC regional committees of Kinshasa, Katanga, Equateur, Western Kasai, Eastern Kasi, Bandundu and Bas-Congo provinces.

2. Disaster mitigation training activities were conducted in selected communes.

- Forty team leaders were taught how to evacuate the wounded in Tshela, in the Bas-Fleuve district of Bas-Congo province, and ten instructors from Matadi district received refresher training in community-based first aid (CBFA), from 15 to 18 April 2003. Some 74 other team leaders received training in Wendji Sekri, Bongonde, Ikela and Mbandaka in Equateur province. In addition, 18 Red Cross volunteers and community members were trained in VCA methods. The UN agency CONCERN on 10 May 2003 kicked off a first-aid training course for ten volunteers.
- CBFA training was offered to HCR officials and senior authorities throughout the country and a first-aid training project for street children and their social workers was updated.
- Over two hectares of eroding terrain were reforested and 17 streets in Kananga, Western Kasai province, were cleaned up. Advancing erosion threatening the city was halted.

3. Disaster awareness by members of the community was raised.

- With Federation support, the Red Cross of DRC broadcast pictures on the Avenir Group Broadcasting System showing the risks of erosion and of nuclear charge leaks from the Nuclear Energy Research Centre in Kinshasa. This prompted the United States Embassy in Kinshasa to release substantial funds to prevent these disasters.

Humanitarian Values

Goal: There is improved respect for human life, more effective solidarity with vulnerable individuals, families and groups, and a more cohesive community.

Objective: The National Society has improved its public image visibility and is more vocal in advocacy issues.

Results
The National Society was active in disseminating information and in promoting advocacy issues.

- Monitoring and assistance on the ground were provided in 100 school sections trained in the dissemination of humanitarian standards (DHS) in line with the project sponsored by the Belgian Red Cross and the Red Cross of DRC. The departments of youth, information and communication participated in the work sessions of the DHS team instructors. As a result, there has been a significant change in the students' behaviour towards their peers. Fighting, insults, theft and the like are clearly on the wane.
- Some 901 students from the cities of Kinshasa and Mbandaka received information about the emblem, the Movement, HIV/AIDS and discrimination against people living with /HIVAIDS. They are now familiar with the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, they show respect for the emblem, and they know how to combat HIV/AIDS through responsible behaviour and how to treat people living with HIV/AIDS.
- Twenty Red Cross of DRC communication trainers from Kinshasa city took part from 24 to 26 April 2003, in a seminar on child soldiers organized by the Belgian Red Cross. The aim of the course was to raise community awareness of the integration of demobilized child warriors in the community.
- A number of broadcasts relating to the Society's activities were aired on the most popular radio and TV stations in Kinshasa and DRC. The population is now more knowledgeable about the Red Cross of DRC and its operations.
- The Red Cross of DRC attended a workshop organized by the Ministry of Social Affairs in co-operation with UNICEF from 15 to 16 May 2003. The workshop focused on standardizing the project and improved assistance to orphans and vulnerable children.
- Some 180 trained volunteers provided monitoring on the ground of the street children project. Some street children were persuaded by the volunteers to return to their families. Further, 65 street children completed training in various areas, such as baking, shoemaking, farming, livestock breeding and sewing, and returned to their homes.
- Eleven provincial information and communication unit heads attended a training seminar from 12 to 17 May on internal dissemination strategy.
- The musical group devoted to the dissemination of humanitarian standards and of Red Cross of DRC activities held its official outing on 17 May 2003.
- Twenty journalists on 8 May 2003 received information about the protection of human dignity during a press conference organized to mark the celebration of World Red Cross Day.

Organizational Development

Goal: The DRC RC is a focused, responsive and a well-functioning society.

Objective: Well functioning governance and management teams exist in the provinces of Kinshasa and Kinshasa city, of Equateur (Mbandaka) of Kasai-Oriental (Mbuji-Mayi) and of North Kivu (Goma).

Results
1. The National Society made improvements in the areas of governance, and youth and volunteer management.

- Two Red Cross of DRC officers were appointed on 24 April 2003: Matthieu Musepulu, secretary general, and Paul Mpoyi, deputy secretary general. These appointments helped relieve the tension in the general secretariat and restore normal operations.
- Owing to poor management of human, financial and material resources, a provincial interim management committee of Eastern Kasai composed of provincial technical unit heads directed by a co-ordinator, the president of Mbuji-Mayi commune, was set up to replace the provincial committee that had been previously

elected. The committee has been reinstated and it has promised to do better in the future. These elected senior officials and provincial committee members were trained with a view to building capacity, becoming familiar with new concepts used in the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, and thus provide leadership respecting the Fundamental Principles and ideals of the Movement.

- Celebration of 8 May, World Red Cross Day. More than 6,000 volunteers marched in Kinshasa for more than two hours to raise Red Cross visibility.
- The provincial committee management staff of the Red Cross of DRC branch in Goma, North-Kivu, received training in administrative and financial management. All technical management staff from Goma, Bukavu, Kisangani and Maniema benefited from the training session initiated by the Federation, and since then, progress has been made in those areas.
- Training, provided to provincial dissemination and communication unit heads in all eleven provinces, was organized by the ICRC with Federation technical support.

2. The National Society took part in the development of financial and material resources.

- The Red Cross of DRC handled the reception of a clothing container, a project financed by the British Red Cross; they also handled two containers of food and non-food items, a project with the Iranian Red Crescent. The clothing sale will give the Red Cross of DRC the means to finance other projects. The Federation convened a work session with the Red Cross of DRC to set up a team in charge of selling the clothing sent by the British Red Cross. The team met several times during this quarter to discuss marketing strategies.
- The soap-making project carried out by women volunteers of the Red Cross of DRC branch of the Orientale region was completed. These soaps were very useful during and after the war.
- A five-year plan for the Red Cross of DRC and for the Congolese Red Cross was prepared, organized and presented by technical management staff and the governing body with the support of the Federation, and in co-operation with other components of the Movement.

Federation co-ordination

Goal: Management and coordination skills are transferred to the National Society.

Objective: CAS, associated MoUs and other coordination mechanisms with Participating National Societies are developed and managed by the National Society with Federation support.

Results

- A two-member Swedish Red Cross delegation visited the DRC to witness first-hand the operations it was funding in the province of Equateur (Mbandaka). They urged the volunteers to keep up the good work they were performing with the Federation's technical support.
- Other meetings were held between the ICRC, the Federation, the Red Cross of DRC, the Spanish Red Cross and the Belgian Red Cross; these meetings were helpful in reassuring the Red Cross of DRC general secretariat to go forward with plans to restructure its national society and thus implement the recommendations of the evaluation published in September 2002.
- The Red Cross of DRC secretary general and his deputy officially began their terms of office. The secretary general had been briefed in June 2003 in Geneva. The Federation delegation handled all the logistics and administrative aspects of the trip.
- The financial services of the Federation and the National Society worked together to prepare and hold a financial and administrative management workshop in Goma from 19 to 24 May 2003. This event brought together all the Red Cross of DRC committees of the eastern part of DRC, then occupied by rebel forces. The workshop was a big success and benefited from the joint support of the ICRC and the Federation. The focus was on setting up a new programme management strategy to be applied by programme co-ordinators. Training and briefing sessions for national society delegates and programme co-ordinators are under way.
- In the spirit of the new form of coexistence among the National Societies, a health delegate joined the office of the provincial committee of Eastern Kasai. Facilities were also provided for organizational development and health delegates at the general secretariat of the Red Cross of DRC. We will continue working together so that stronger ties can be established to enable the transfer of know-how to the Societies.

- The Federation had several meetings with the presidents and secretaries general of the national societies of the DRC (in Kinshasa) and the Republic of Congo (in Brazzaville) to discuss the implementation of programmes for the 2003 appeals. It was pointed out that some programmes and activities were behind schedule, and corrective measures were envisaged accordingly.
- A work session with the finance departments of the National Societies of DRC and RoC was held to discuss strategies to justify timely operational progress and to implement the recommendations made in the assessment. The Federation this quarter benefited from the technical support of an expert, a volunteer of the Turkish Red Crescent Society, to accompany the implementation process of the recommendations, to draw up a strategic plan for the National Societies of DRC and RoC and to prepare in the medium term an evaluation of the Congolese Red Cross.

International Representation

Goal: Federation values and programming are known by all stakeholders in the DRC.

Objective: The delegation represents the Federation at regional and international levels in order to promote its values and programming.

Results

Knowledge of the Federation in the DRC was spread by promoting Strategy 2010 and the Ouagadougou Declaration.

- The programme aimed at fighting Ebola was pursued. Backed by the African Development Bank (ADB), this programme gave the Congolese Red Cross an idea of the size of the task and the responsibilities entrusted to it by the Congolese government and the ADB.
- Delegation members held several meetings with partners to give them a progress report on the 2003-2004 appeals and to request funding for those activities still unfunded. In this connection, the head of delegation made a tour of the accredited diplomatic missions in Kinshasa to present our plan of action for 2003 and to explore opportunities for co-operation. One of the outcomes of this endeavour is the payment by the Canadian Embassy of the last instalment of funds aimed at completing the construction of latrines in the campaign against cholera in Eastern Kasai province.
- The delegation negotiated a food-for-work agreement with the World Food Programme (WFP) for the cholera programme in Mbuji-Mayi. Food supplies have been received and are awaiting distribution there.
- Meetings with Ministry of Health authorities were held to discuss Red Cross of DRC activities, particularly the fight against cholera in Mbuji-Mayi, the national vaccination campaign (JNV), the anti-malaria campaign, HIV/AIDS, reproductive health, disaster management and the like. One of the things that came out of these meetings is the appreciation felt by the health authorities for Red Cross activities.
- With regard to the institutionalization of the Sphere Project in DRC, the national society and the Federation attended the meetings organized by the NGOs and pilot agencies for that purpose. Members of the Red Cross of DRC and the Federation to undergo training will in turn train volunteers with a view to managing humanitarian action effectively in the field.
- The delegation intensified its relations with participating national societies (PNS) to attract them to the region in general and to DRC in particular. To that end, several PNS representatives, including the Swedish Red Cross, came this quarter to Kinshasa.

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 http://www.ifrc.org

Democratic Republic of Congo

ANNEX 1

APPEAL No. 01.43/2003 **PLEDGES RECEIVED** 04/09/03

CASH

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
						TOTAL COVERAGE
REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ---------->				**1,905,547**		**67.1%**
CASH CARRIED FORWARD				107,133		
AUSTRALIAN - RC				34,500	24.06.03	DPP DELEGATE
BRITISH - RC		36,000	GBP	80,201	30/01/03	HEALTH PROGRAMME
BRITISH - RC		20,000	GBP	44,556	31/01/03	ORGANISATIONAL DEV. DELEGATE
BRITISH - RC		10,000	GBP	22,278	31/01/03	DISASTER PREPAREDNESS PROG.
BRITISH - GOVT/DFID (04)				68,000	24.02.03	HEALTH
BRITISH - RC				124,690	01.06.03	DRC BRANCH DEVELOPMENT, COMMUNITY BASED DEVELOPMENT
DANISH - GOVT				71,300	28.05.03	HEALTH DELEGATE
DANISH - RC		555,000	DKK	114,885	07.08.03	
IRISH - GOVT				20,000	28.04.03	OD (PZR001)
SWEDISH - RC		800,000	SEK	128,400	24.03.03	WATER SANITATION MBANDAKA
SWEDISH - GOVT		1,750,000	SEK	280,000	09.05.03	HEALTH, ORGANISATIONAL DEV., COOPERATION, WATSAN
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				1,095,943	CHF	57.5%

KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
AUSTRALIA	DELEGATE(S)			29,733		
GREAT BRITAIN	DELEGATE(S)			38,274		
SWEDEN	DELEGATE(S)			60,451		
SWITZERLAND	DELEGATE(S)			53,388		
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				181,846	CHF	9.5%

ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET

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