

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

WEST AFRICA REGIONAL PROGRAMMES

13 April 2004

In Brief

Appeal No.: 01.45/2003 ([Click here to access the 2003 Appeal](#))

Appeal target: CHF 494,484 (USD 339,291 or EUR 336,198)

Appeal coverage: 143.0% ([Click here to access the Final Financial Report](#))

Appeal 2004: West Africa regional programmes no. 01.49/2004 ([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.

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](#) 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's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

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Overall analysis of the programme

In 2003, the Federation Regional Delegation for West and Central Africa assisted national societies in the region through four sub-regional offices, three country delegations and three representative offices:

- Mano River sub-regional office in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire;
- Nigeria sub-regional office in Lagos, Nigeria;
- Sahel sub-regional office in Dakar, Senegal;
- Central Africa sub-regional office in Yaounde, Cameroon;
- Guinea country delegation in Conakry;
- Sierra Leone country delegation in Freetown;
- Democratic Republic of Congo country delegation (covering Republic of Congo) in Kinshasa;
- Liberia Federation Representative office in Monrovia;
- Gabon Federation Representative office in Libreville;
- Mauritania Federation Representative office in Nouakchott; and,
- The Gambia Federation Representative office in Banjul.

The regional delegation programmes focused on the following sectors:

Health and Care

Pilot projects undertaken by the Federation Regional Delegation include polio eradication now transferred to the Federation Sub-Regional Office in Dakar, measles campaign, the fight against HIV/AIDS and the community health project of the Red Cross Society of Côte d'Ivoire. Most of these projects have been transferred to the Federation Sub-Regional Offices.

Disaster Preparedness and Response

Disaster preparedness and response activities aimed at developing and coordinating a Regional Disaster Response Team (RDRT), ready for deployment in a timely manner in case of disasters which are beyond the capacity of the national society.

Federation Coordination

The Regional Delegation focused on coordinating the national society support on issues such as improved governance, branch development, youth and volunteer recruitment and management. This is according to the needs expressed by the national societies through the Federation Regional Offices.

International Representation

Ensured greater visibility and public knowledge of the Federation and the national societies, as well as improved advocacy efforts for the rights and interests of vulnerable populations. The Federation was well represented at all levels, in different forums and regional meetings.

Ongoing armed conflict in Côte d'Ivoire led to massive population movement between Côte d'Ivoire and neighboring Mali, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Niger, Guinea (Conakry) and Liberia necessitating the relocation of the Federation Delegation to Dakar. Despite the difficulties, the Federation Regional Delegation assisted national societies to carry out most of their programmes in 2003 and carry out emergency operations such as population movement resulting from the Ivorian crisis, floods operation in the Sahel region and the food security operation in Mauritania.

Health and care

Goal: To contribute effectively to the improvement of health situations of the most vulnerable population through education and prevention of endemic diseases.

Red Cross of Benin participated in a measles mass vaccination campaign from 10-19 January 2003 in Benin in collaboration with WHO, UN (UNICEF), American Red Cross and CDC¹. This campaign targeted five million children aged between 9-14 years and took place in the Borgu, Alibri, Atlantic/Littoral, Mono/Couffo and Oueme/Plateau districts. About 2,265 Benin Red Cross volunteers and women's groups with Red Cross experience conducted door-to-door social mobilization and disseminated information through mobile drama groups. The coverage was estimated at 95%. A representative from the Federation Regional Delegation supported the national society during the campaign.

Meningitis

Regional health department gave technical support to the Federation Sub-Regional office in Dakar and the Burkinabe Red Cross Society to fight meningitis which had reached an alarming level in Burkina Faso. Red Cross volunteers were actively involved in social mobilization for the vaccination in five health districts.

¹ CDC – U.S. National Centres for Disease Control and Prevention

HIV/AIDS

Goal: The reduction of the propagation and transmission of HIV/AIDS and STD² in West Africa.

Objective: Regionally coordinate and represent a rapidly expanding range of HIV/AIDS projects at national society level.

The UNAIDS inter-country team for West and Central Africa and the Federation Regional Delegation for West and Central Africa signed a joint action plan on 25 February 2003; to promote better response to the HIV/AIDS pandemic in West and Central Africa through joint programme planning and implementation, coordination and interventions in the sub-region.

Areas of collaboration include:

- Prevention of HIV/AIDS among commercial sex workers
- Community mobilization for local response to HIV/AIDS
- Peer-educator approach and the promotion and distribution of condoms among youth
- Provision of support and care to PLWHA³
- Strengthening international partnerships to combat HIV/AIDS in West and Central Sub-Regions

During this reporting period, the capacity of national societies in the region was strengthened through the regional programme HIV/AIDS/STD prevention activities and provision of home based care and support for PLWHA. There was increased collaboration between national societies in the region and associations of PLWHA in the respective countries in all HIV/AIDS care and prevention activities. Networking and sharing of experiences in HIV/AIDS prevention and care in West Africa was reinforced through a reinvigorated, well-functioning regional AIDS network for youth in West Africa (RANY-WA). The Red Cross Society of Côte d'Ivoire and the Federation Regional Delegation assisted to develop and implement a policy for HIV/AIDS in the workplace.

Regional health and HIV/AIDS meetings for the Federation Sahel Sub-Region were held in Dakar while the one for the Lagos Sub-Region on 21-23 January 2003 during which over fourteen health and HIV/AIDS Coordinators from the various national societies met. Representatives from UNAIDS, UNICEF, ICRC and other partners attended the meeting. A Federation representative from Geneva attended the Lagos meeting. The regional health team from Abidjan facilitated the meeting together with Nigerian Red Cross Reporting Officer who facilitated the session on result-based reporting.

Impact

Knowledge sharing benefited participants from national societies. The national societies and collaborating partners successfully worked on the HIV/AIDS project.

Constraint

Civil unrest in Côte d'Ivoire led to the departure of the Regional HIV/AIDS Coordinator which led to the stagnation of some projects. The absence of a Regional Health Coordinator was an obstacle to effective programme monitoring by the Federation Regional Delegation.

Lessons learnt

It is crucial to ensure proper coordination of health activities particularly in HIV/AIDS by filling the post of a regional health coordinator at the Federation Regional Delegation.

² STI - Sexually Transmitted Infections

³ PLWHA – Persons living with HIV/AIDS

Disaster Preparedness

Goal: Improve Red Cross disaster response within the region.

Objective 1: Improve response of national societies to communities affected by disaster through an intra-regional assistance (Regional Response Team).

Achievements

The Federation supported the Regional Delegation in organizing the first RDRT workshop in Accra, Ghana on 31 May to 10 June 2003. The training brought together 25 participants from Nigeria, Ghana, Liberia, Gambia and Sierra Leone. The overall goal of the workshop was to promote knowledge of Red Cross disaster management systems, in direct relation to rescue operations conducted by national societies in the region, and to strengthen the emergency response capacity of national societies in the region.

RDRT training was organized in Bamako, Mali for 31 French-speaking participants on 3 to 13 October 2003. The National Red Cross/Red Crescent Societies of Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea-Bissau, Guinea, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal and Togo were represented.

The theory and practical training was tailored towards emergency rescue, disaster preparedness and response, logistics and telecommunications. Topics such as needs assessment; risk analysis, risk mapping, epidemic control and the SPHERE project were covered in the two workshops while water and sanitation (WatSan) is yet to be covered. A data bank of RDRT trained staff has been created. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed with national societies so that staff can be released for deployment if need arises.

The Federation Regional Delegation supported national societies in interventions on population movement resulting from the Ivorian crisis, by launching an Emergency Appeal covering Liberia, Ghana, Niger and Guinea, Burkina Faso and Mali. This was taken over by a FACT⁴ team from Geneva, which conducted operations in Burkina Faso and Mali. An Emergency Appeal was launched and funds sought locally from Embassies, to address the problem of floods in the Sahel countries: Mali, Mauritania, Burkina Faso and Senegal.

Impact

- The RDRT training strengthened the national society's competence in emergency response and increased knowledge on rescue, camp management, logistics and the code of conduct during operations.
- Some national societies in Central Africa and in the Sahel have already put lessons learnt into practice when confronted with floods, land slides and outbreak of epidemics in their sub-regions.
- There is increased cooperation among national societies in the region.

Constraints

The absence of a Regional Disaster Management Coordinator was a major constraint which slowed down the implementation of planned programmes. A Swiss Red Cross staff member worked for the Federation as a DM Coordinator from July to September 2003. However monitoring has been difficult in the West Africa region in spite of the arrival of the Federation Delegate in September 2003.

Lessons learnt

There is need to strengthen the capacity of staff in disaster management. This will ensure timely response to disasters, solicit for appropriate assistance if necessary, and provide clear and precise information on the prevailing situation.

The two systems used in West and Central Africa should be standardized to ensure effective response to disasters. A multi disciplinary team should always be deployed any time there is a disaster.

⁴ [FACT – Field Assessment and Coordination Team](#)

Federation coordination

Goal: Use the combined knowledge experience and resources of the International Federation more efficiently and effectively by serving as a coordinator, linker, facilitator and guide to support National society development and programmes.

Objective: The West African national societies will increasingly develop their own local expertise, and share information and resources with each other, in addition to coordinating their plans and work with all important Stakeholders.

Achievements

The Sub-Regions held working group meetings as follows:

The Sahel Sub-Region

The Sahel Sub-Region held two meetings during which heads of sectoral groups presented the action plans on disaster management, health and care and organizational development. Priorities for the 2004 - 2007 Appeal were presented. There were presentations on initiatives for the revision of the terms of reference (ToR). Each national society presented actions and activities being undertaken for the implementation of the [Ouagadougou Declaration](#).

The Sahel Sub-Region met and adopted the action plan. In December 2003, major restructuring was done at the levels of group chairmanship, ToR for interventions in health and care, organizational development, capacity building; resource development and disaster preparedness and response were drawn. The 2004 – 2005 action plan was revised and adopted.

The Lagos Sub-Region met and finalized its staff constitution and outlined an action plan to be adopted during the next meeting.

The programme coordination unit in the Federation Regional Delegation organized a general meeting of the four working groups in Dakar in October 2003. This meeting brought together chairpersons and secretaries of working groups, technical officers of sectoral groups and technical Delegates who were facilitators. The objective was to conduct a mid-term assessment of the activities of the various groups, review their ToR which are interpreted differently by different working groups and to harmonize integration with Central Africa.

The following resolutions and recommendations were made:

- Efforts undertaken in the framework of the Federation change process should be strengthened and reinforced in the Federation Sub-Regional Offices and the Country Delegations
- Improvement of competences and capacity building of national societies should be pursued
- Diversification of partnerships should continue being pursued and reinforced at local level
- National societies should intensify cooperation with each other, foster closer working relationships, share knowledge and experiences and share best practices and work as a team especially in times of disasters. The Secretariat and national society should make funds available to support the process.

Impact

National societies in the region are becoming more aware of their responsibilities in relation to [Strategy 2010](#), especially in the development of the institutions and their programmes. There is demonstrated commitment in the areas of competence of the national societies.

Local competences in national societies, especially in health, disaster management and organizational development are growing stronger hence the region is better placed to handle disasters. The change process embarked upon by the Federation's Secretariat has started yielding the expected results. Sub-regional offices are giving support to the national societies, thus allowing better management and capacity building.

Constraints

Late approval of funds was a major obstacle at the beginning of 2003. This retarded funds advancement for the organization of working group meetings.

Lessons learnt

The relevance of the working groups cannot be over emphasized. The establishment of sub-regional groups has increased cooperation among national societies in the region. This will promote organizational development. During meetings, national societies share ideas in health, disaster preparedness and response and development issues. Internal problems are also often discussed and possible solutions discussed. The Federation Secretariat, partner national societies (PNS) and the ICRC should fund these initiatives and ensure proper implementation.

During the meeting in October 2003, it was agreed that working groups will operate under the Sub-Regional Offices which will help in budgeting. Technical sectoral groups will be supervised by the Programme Coordinator of the Federation Regional Delegation, with support from the Technical Delegates. Working groups from all sub-regions will meet every year in September.

International representation

Goal: Service provided to beneficiaries is improved through more effective and efficient humanitarian planning and coordination in West and Central Africa.

Objective: The quantity and quality of International Federation participation in interagency coordination and planning is increased and an advocacy strategy based on a specific issue is agreed with the Humanitarian Advocacy Department applicable 2003-2004.

Achievements

- The Federation Regional Delegation participated in all meetings with UN organizations like OCHA⁵ and other NGO in 2003 in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire. These meetings mainly focused on information sharing on relief and assistance to displaced persons.
- A meeting was organized in Côte d'Ivoire for all national societies and partners to set up a contingency plan to deal with the resulting population movement. A proposal was submitted to the ECHO⁶ Representative in Abidjan.
- The UNAIDS inter-country team for West and Central Africa is in partnership with the Federation in carrying out the health and care programmes.
- The Federation Head of West Africa Delegation participated in a NEPAD⁷ meeting, held in Accra, Ghana in May 2003; to advocate for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement on the humanitarian situation in the region and to solicit support and assistance to national societies from political governments.
- Cooperation and collaboration with the ICRC was strengthened in 2003. A direct outcome of this is the harmonious manner in which ICRC supported national societies facing conflicts in Côte d'Ivoire, Liberia and the Democratic Republic of Congo as well as internal crisis and integrity problems in Guinea-Bissau, Central African Republic and Benin.
- Relationship with governmental authorities in the different countries is stronger. Governments have been called upon, every now and then, to assist in resolving problems in host national societies.
- The process of renewing the Headquarter agreement for the Federation Abidjan Sub-Regional office was successful and a new agreement was signed in February 2003.
- Diplomatic missions in Dakar were requested to fund the Emergency Appeal for the Sahel floods in 2003.

Impact

The contribution and expertise provided by the Federation Regional Delegation was of great value during contingency planning meetings.

The action plan jointly signed with UNAIDS will strengthen HIV/AIDS programs in the national societies in the region. Projects have been developed and implemented. The youth project to support and care for HIV/AIDS

⁵ OCHA – (UN) Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

⁶ ECHO – European Community Humanitarian Office

⁷ NEPAD – New Partnership for Africa Development

victims through the RANY-WA peer-educator approach have also been reinforced in some countries of the region.

Constraints

- Prolonged absence of the Federation Head of Regional Delegation has been a major constraint.
- Lack of enough funds to implement programmes.

Lessons learnt

Well-conducted campaigns and advocacy could help mobilize funds locally. This will however require the guidance of a Head of Delegation.

National societies should get increasingly involved in meetings with government authorities and diplomatic representatives in the country to increase the visibility of the Red Cross.

Field Management

Goal: The Secretariat is providing efficient and effective service in West and Central Africa.

Objective: The Regional Delegation, regional offices and country delegations in West and Central Africa are:

- **Strengthening national societies to deliver services and advocate on behalf of vulnerable people ;**
- **Ensuring effective representation and advocacy; and,**
- **Building coordination, cooperation and strategic partnerships.**

Finance

Objective: Provide efficient financial management to the regional delegation and offices.

All accounts were processed accordingly in 2003. Feedback on compliance with Federation finance and accounting procedures was given to enhance the quality of accounting and provide a solid base for efficient financial management.

The regional finance unit (RFU) implemented new operational budget approval procedures and took on certain financial administration tasks, verification of documents and the approval of cash transfers to Delegations. Technical support missions were made to Lagos and Guinea Country Delegations and the Federation Sub-Regional Office in Dakar. There was training in Federation financial procedures and processes to improve compliance and efficiency. With technical support from Geneva, RFU hosted the first West and Central Africa regional finance meeting. There was training in International financial procedures and processes, including the latest financial software. A plan was formulated for implementation of the latest financial software within the West Africa region.

With the security situation in Côte d'Ivoire in February 2003, RFU human resources were stretched beyond the limit. The Sierra Leone Delegation Senior Accounts Officer was seconded to RFU and helped develop the regional finance human resource base.

The Federation West Africa Regional Delegation moved from Abidjan to Dakar in mid 2003 followed by change of staff for the position of Regional Finance Delegate to head the West and Central Africa RFU. In early August, there was a rollout of the new version of the financial accounting CODA software in West and Central Africa, with a gradual site by site upgrade and implementation. A CODA software training session in French was held in Guinea and Dakar before the launching of the new version at the Regional Delegation and the Regional Office. The new Federation Regional Finance Delegate was confronted with a staffing problem until early December when the first new analyst was recruited.

The Annual Appeal budgets were submitted late in the year, weeks after the deadline and were not of expected quality. The quality of the year end accounts was not very satisfactory as there appeared to be lapses in the

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implementation and strict adherence to financial procedures. Examples of these were the lack of accurate provision of contingent liabilities and expenses.

Impact

- The new budget approval procedures facilitated better project financial management
- Processing improved and was more efficient
- The regional finance meeting was an opportunity to enhance efficiency through sharing of experiences and ideas and the development of the regional finance team

Constraints

- There was inadequate staff in the finance department.
- Late submission of the Annual Appeal budgets led to lack of feedback to Delegations.

Lessons learnt

- RFU should be involved early in the year in the Appeal planning process and train the various programme managers and budget holders in budget and finance procedures
- There should be better quality budgets with timely submission for the next Annual Appeal.
- RFU needs to visit Delegations more frequently especially during the month end procedures and work in closely with the Delegations being served.
- RFU will be in a position to understand and review the training needs of the finance staff in the region and to provide the appropriate training and advice according to the needs of each Delegation.

Information

Objective: Use information activities to enhance the credibility and image of the regional delegation and offices.

Regional Information covered the regional global policy meeting organized by the Federation and ICRC for all national societies affected by the Ivorian crisis. Web articles and daily situation reports on the Red Cross of Côte d'Ivoire were written during the anti-peace deal riots in Abidjan and other cities. Radio and TV interviews were given during which the Federation presented its global activities with emphasis on the West and Central Africa regions. Regional Information covered the signing of a working agreement between the West and Central inter-country office of UNAIDS and the Federation Regional Delegation. This was reported in Federation news.

In addition, the regional information office:

- Joined an assessment mission to Ghana to assess the effects of the Ivorian crisis on the country and document the activities of the national society. An article was written and posted on the Federation web site.
- Wrote the cover story of the Red Cross Red Crescent Magazine June 2003 edition with emphasis on the role of the Red Cross on the West African humanitarian crisis
- Wrote a press release on the revised Appeal for population movement arising from the Ivorian crisis.
- Manned a stand during an open day organized by the Côte d'Ivoire Red Cross to mark the Red Cross day to promote the activities of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.
- Compiled information on the activities of the national societies for Federation publications.
- Facilitated a session during the Federation's RDRT training held in Accra, Ghana and wrote articles for the web and the Federation news bulletin.
- Covered the launching of the 42nd local committee of the Côte d'Ivoire Red Cross in Jacquenville, 82 km west of Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire.
- Held several meetings with the Red Cross of Côte d'Ivoire and ICRC and discussed ways to improve information sharing on the Ivorian crisis.

Impact

The articles, web stories and interviews increased the visibility of the National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in West and Central Africa.

Reporting

Objective: Support the Regional and country delegations in doing effective and timely reporting as well as in building the reporting capacities of national societies in the region.

During a meeting organized by the Federation, ICRC and the seven national societies involved in population movement resulting from the Ivorian crisis discussed the role of reporting as a tool for strengthening partnerships and improving the national society. Furthermore, in February 2003 the regional reporting office organized a workshop on reporting and emphasized:

- Federation reporting standards
- Editing
- Quality and timely reporting
- Reports as marketing tools

Two Information and Reporting Officers from the Central Africa sub-region attended the training. This was followed by three-day training in November 2003 for reporting focal persons from six national societies from the sub-region.

The regional reporting office edited all standard reports, Operation Updates, Information Bulletins and Emergency Appeals generated in the West and Central Africa region in addition to coordinating the writing of all pledge-based reports, editing and validating them for onward transmission to Geneva. Additionally, the regional reporting department was the focal point in coaching, editing and vetting all 28 Appeals – and their related logical frameworks (LogFrames) - for 2004 for West and Central Africa regions.

Regional reporting hosted the Nigerian Red Cross Society Reporting Officer for a one-week on-the-job training in Abidjan. The department initiated proposals with regional offices on how to adequately provide reporting support to national societies in West and Central Africa.

The Federation Mano River Sub-Regional Office received technical assistance in:

- Developing a project proposal for the capacity building fund (CBF) for Guinea-Bissau
- Contributing during Appeal planning meetings
- Writing two Programme Updates for 2003 in the absence of staff
- Specialized coaching on report writing to organizational development staff
- Coaching all national society in the region on report writing
- Extensive revision of the 2004 Appeal
- Proof-reading of documents when necessary
- Developing MoU for training in reporting in the region

Impact

- The volume of reports across the region was adequately handled despite limited staff.
- National societies received adequate technical support from regional reporting.
- National societies now understand the need for responsible reporting leading to strong partnerships and credibility of national societies.
- Capacities in reporting have improved.
- Some sub-regional offices are beginning to see the need to hire reporting officers or appoint reporting focal persons from the national society to enhance the quality of reporting

Constraints

- Late approval and disbursement of funds slowed down activities in 2003, which led to late submission of reports by some national societies.
- The departure of Programme Officers put additional burden on reporting staff who had to prepare outstanding reports.
- With the addition of Central Africa sub-region to the Federation Regional Delegation of West Africa, reporting workload has increased leading to the need for additional reporting staff.
- Some sub-regional offices needed extra coaching for report writing during the Annual Appeal process; this required additional support from an already-understaffed reporting department.

- Reporting and capacity building is not a priority of some regional offices. This has led to lack of reporting staff, late submission of reports and excessive workload on the regional reporting office.
- There is lack of understanding of the role of regional reporting in some regional offices.

Information Technology (IT)/Telecom

Objective: Provide the Regional delegation and regional offices with effective IT tools and support to ensure rapid and effective communication

The IT department does routine local network administration which consist of providing support to computer users, updating the anti-virus, ensuring security of network operating system, installing standard new Federation's software and monitoring of the high frequency (HF) and very high frequency (VHF) systems, IT/Telecom local area network (LAN) management services. In addition, the department now supports sub-regional offices, delegations and national societies.

Achievements

In January 2003, the Red Cross of Côte d'Ivoire IT material was assessed in view of the on-going crisis in the country. Equipment was ordered, configured, and prepared for deployment by the ICRC. French Red Cross assisted the IT department to set up the network for the national society allowing access to shared drives and printers by computer users.

As the security situation in Abidjan degraded, mobile VHF radios were reconfigured to appropriate frequencies and channels; a satellite telephone was assigned to the Federation Head of Regional Delegation residence.

In preparation for the relocation of the Federation Regional Delegation to Dakar, inventory of computer and telecommunication equipment was done to identify items to be taken to Dakar or to be retained in Abidjan. To ensure effective settlement of the Federation Regional Delegation in Dakar, a three-month mission was taken to Senegal, from June to August 2003 to install IT equipment and a technical unit. A local company was engaged to assist with hooking up the phone lines. A generator and air-conditioning equipment were also installed.

A mission was undertaken to Guinea in September 2003 to restore the wave mail connection. Another mission restored a faulty connection in Dakar (September); a backup system was installed. One-month training was organized in Abidjan for the radio operator from Guinea.

Two missions were undertaken in November 2003. In Guinea, obsolete equipment was replaced to ensure an end to re-occurring communication problems. In Liberia, Internet access was installed for the national society in the residences of Federation Delegates. Evaluation of equipment was done. An IT Delegate undertook a three-week mission to Niger to resolve serious communication problems; two new HF stations were installed.

Constraints

Lack of a regional stock of IT equipment imposed great time constraints on the department lead to the problem of meeting delivery deadline, as these items have to be ordered from Geneva. It takes up to one month for them to be received.

Impact

Optimal support was provided to national societies in West and Central Africa in 2003.

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