

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

BURUNDI

30 April 2005

In Brief

Appeal No.: 01.01/2004 – http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?annual04/010104.pdf

Appeal target: CHF 453,755 (USD 340,784 or EUR 292,085)

Appeal coverage: 57.7% ([Click here to access the final financial report](#))

Appeal 2005: East Africa sub-regional programmes no. 05AA004 (includes Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda and sub-regional office; **Burundi** and Tanzania are planned for inclusion during the course of 2005) – http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?annual05/05AA004.pdf

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

Implementation of the peace process following the Arusha peace and reconciliation accord signed in August 2000 continues, giving hope for the future in Burundi. There is a general desire to support a peaceful democratic process to bring the country out of the spiral of violence. With few exceptions, all opposition parties and groups have joined the accord. The United Nations has deployed its peace keeping force (ONUB) whose mandate includes disarming and disbanding militias as well as promoting the rule of law.

However, the peace process has not gone without several violent manifestations of the fundamental problems in the country, including armed attacks on settlements and government establishments, aggressions clearly designed to upset the peace processes in Burundi and in neighbouring countries.

Several delays have still been observed in the development of the critically important political process. The constitutional referendum and the general elections have been postponed several times; as of year end, no new dates have been set for the general elections.

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UNHCR has helped some 153,000 refugees to return home since the commencement of voluntary repatriation of Burundian refugees from camps in western Tanzania in March 2003. In the middle of 2004 up to 11,000 people were repatriated in a month, but the figures started going down towards the end of the year, with average figures for the last quarter of 2004 hardly reaching 1,500 per month, probably linked to political uncertainty due to the repeated postponements of elections and the proposed changes in the country's constitution.

Health and care

The original Annual Appeal did not envisage activities under this sector, due to the pending implementation of the new Burundi Red Cross¹ structure.

Disaster Management

Goal: To build capacity of Burundi Red Cross to effectively respond to the needs of the vulnerable and the populations affected by the current armed conflict and its consequences.

Objective: To define and implement a national policy for disaster management, and to develop an intervention plan for Burundi Red Cross that will be included in the government plan. Train, equip, and supervise the intervention teams to prepare them to effectively respond to emergency situations.

Progress

While activities in the first half of the year were brought to a standstill by the impasse described in the programme summary above, the Federation's main focus in Burundi since the agreement reached during the Movement meeting in Bujumbura in October, has been on supporting organisational development, particularly the restructuring process at all levels leading towards the national society's first ordinary General Assembly. Nevertheless, the Burundi Red Cross was able to provide assistance to an estimated 25,000 -31,000 refugees who fled into Burundi in June 2004 following heavy fighting between Congolese government forces and rebels over the control of the eastern DRC border town of Bukavu. Burundi Red Cross was on site to disinfect three refugee sites (Karurama, Rugombo and Gatumba) and the town of Cibitoke, conducted health and sanitation education and water monitoring including quality control.

Impact

The Burundi Red Cross does not currently have sufficient capacity to respond to the needs of the vulnerable population, but needs to rebuild its organization at all levels. However, several initiatives taken by the new Secretary General during the last half of the year in terms of mobilizing the existing organization to respond to emergency situations with resources available locally, have revealed a commitment at national level and in certain local branches which is a very good basis for future capacity building.

Constraints

The structures are currently not sufficiently in place to address this objective in its full scale.

Humanitarian Values

Goal: Burundi Red Cross has the capacity to effectively disseminate the humanitarian values among the population, the community leaders and the local authorities.

Objective: Burundi Red Cross information and communication unit produces reliable information and disseminates actively the fundamental principles and humanitarian values; it creates public awareness and knowledge of the Movement, the International Humanitarian Law, and of the activities of the Burundi Red Cross in the country through a reliable communication system.

¹ Burundi Red Cross – <http://www.ifrc.org/where/country/check.asp?countryid=39>

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Achievements/progress

During the last half of the year the Burundi Red Cross took several important and independent steps in promoting Red Cross Red Crescent humanitarian values at national, provincial and communal levels (T.V spots, broadcasts on the national radio, and different news articles).

With support from the ICRC the national society conducted a regional information campaign in July and August with participation from Red Cross volunteers, local authorities and the business community representing most of the provinces within each of the four regions.

Within the framework of the October 2004 agreement between the Burundi Red Cross, the ICRC and the Federation, the national society initiated a nationwide Red Cross combined sensitization and media campaign in the provinces as part of the preparations towards holding a general assembly in the first quarter of 2005. This aims particularly at creating awareness of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement in the country.

Impact

The arrival of the national society's new Secretary General marked the beginning of several encouraging initiatives to mobilize the existing Burundi Red Cross structures to respond to humanitarian needs in the country with resources available locally. Although it certainly will take some more time before the impact can be realistically assessed, there are already indications that the media and information campaigns have created expectations among people of the Burundi Red Cross as an impartial and neutral national actor in the humanitarian field.

The current enthusiasm for and commitment towards the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement's ideals augur well for the future of the Burundi Red Cross.

Constraints

The capacity of the national society to implement the activities has been limited due to inadequate structures. The dedicated support agreed on by the ICRC and the Federation to assist in the country-wide preparations leading up to the general assembly is meant to compensate temporarily for this inadequacy.

Organizational Development

Goal: Burundi Red Cross is a well-functioning national society that renders efficient service to the community according to the basic principles and humanitarian values of the Movement, and formulates and implements good quality programmes that respond to the needs of vulnerable people at branch level.

Objective: Burundi Red Cross institutes an effective decentralization through the establishment of operational structures at branch and headquarters levels and separates governance and management by strengthening the capacity and involvement of members of the national committee to deal with major problems related to governance; having the management to take responsibility of the day to day affairs: establishing policies (especially a volunteers management policy), procedures and systems with a view to realizing efficient coordination of the national society's activities at all the levels; and allocating adequate resources for programmes.

Progress:

During the first half of 2004, an impasse between the Burundi Red Cross and the RC-NET² task for Burundi hampered implementation of most programme activities. With the arrival of the national society's new Secretary General this unfortunate situation changed almost overnight into constructive dialogue. A special meeting about Burundi Red Cross was held during the regional partnership meeting in Nairobi in June 2004. Following the termination of the mandate of the task force, and as a direct follow-up to side meetings on Burundi during the

² RC-NET – Red Cross and Red Crescent Network for East Africa

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Pan-African Conference in Algiers, the Federation's regional delegation in Nairobi and the ICRC met with the Burundi Red Cross' leadership in Bujumbura in October. The outcome of the Movement meeting was an initial agreement for six months with focus on organizational development concentrated on support to the national society's preparations to organize its first ordinary general assembly, an intensive media campaign included. To this effect, a national society branch development coordinator was recruited early November 2004, and a Federation organizational development delegate would be posted from the beginning of January 2005 for a limited period to advise and assist the Secretary General with the country-wide restructuring and in conducting provincial meetings to revive existing and establish new branch structures. Both positions have been established for six months initially, pending the outcomes of the General Assembly.

Impact

The aim of the new agreement between the three Movement partners in Burundi is the successful holding of the first ordinary General Assembly of the Burundi Red Cross in April 2005. The constructive dialogue with the partners and the national society's enthusiasm for and commitment to the Movement's ideals, as well as its ability to mobilize human and material resources available locally, are all elements critical for the future of the Burundi Red Cross.

Constraints

The current support from the Federation and the ICRC is directly linked to the national society's commitment to hold a transparent and democratic general assembly without political interference in April 2005. No major external support to other activities is likely to happen until the realization of this objective and its outcomes.

Coordination

Goal: The Federation coordination role is accepted and respected by all partners in Burundi in view of enhancing good cooperation and successful partnerships.

Objective: Through constant dialogue, good coordination is achieved with the various partners with a view to building the capacity of the Burundi Red Cross.

Progress

The Federation appeal for 2004 was based on the plan of action drawn last year. Delays in implementing the proposals did not allow the regional delegation to spend the funds raised in 2002 and 2003. Consequently, a budget revision was undertaken in May 2004 and the 2004 appeal is fully covered with these funds.

The end of the mandate of the RC-NET supported Burundi task force led the Federation to reflect on its strategy to support the change process of the Burundi Red Cross. The approach suggested by the Federation and the ICRC for the next six months focussed on financial support and technical assistance to strengthen the national society's central and local organisation and to assist in preparing for the General Assembly. Implementation started in early November 2004.

The relationship with the ICRC is very cordial, the dialogue is open and professional and the joint strategy is respected. The Federation regional delegation continues to include information on Burundi in the biweekly regional information notices.

Currently there are no other Movement partners present in Burundi.

Impact

The disruption of the work of the Burundi task force and its dissolution makes it nearly impossible to measure the impact of activities during 2004, particularly since the main recommendations of the task force in February were not implemented.

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It seems, however, that the many official meetings and close personal contacts between the task force members and the Burundi Red Cross have contributed to a better mutual understanding of needs, perceptions and requirements of the national society in the light of the country's very special situation and history on the one hand, and the Burundi population's need of a nationwide Red Cross organisation capable of representing and effectively reaching the most vulnerable with appropriate assistance.

Although progress is evident and tangible with regard to the current field activities to inform the Burundi population and the authorities on the very valuable contributions that Red Cross can offer the country and the impressive rate at which provincial and local committees are being established all over the country - the first ordinary General Assembly of the Burundi Red Cross in April 2005 will ultimately be the decisive measure of the impact of the current Federation support to the national society.

Constraints

The implementation and the outcome of the political and election process in Burundi will represent additional challenges for the Burundi Red Cross' leadership in its drive to achieve focused attention by the population to the Movement's humanitarian values and to the national society's plans to recruit members and volunteers, strengthen existing local branches and create new committees.

Effective Representation and Advocacy

Goal: The Federation has a high profile as a key humanitarian actor and advocate in the region with the added advantage of a network of national societies able to deliver services at community level.

Objective: The Federation is an effective and reliable partner in support of Burundi Red Cross and in addressing the needs of the most vulnerable.

Progress: The media and provincial information campaigns supported by the Federation and the ICRC during the last months of the year, include activities to create an understanding of the Movement's current support to the national society among national and local authorities, the population at large, as well as within the UN system, the NGO community, and donors.

Impact: It has already been observed a positive image of the national society among the target groups as well as increased support to the Burundi Red Cross' activities at the local level.

Constraints

The current political situation in Burundi might still represent an obstacle to the core Red Cross message of humanity, impartiality and neutrality.

Notes specific to financial transactions

- The low rate of expenditure is due to the freezing of activities following the impasse between the national society and the Federation-supported task force. This level of expenditure rose again during the fourth quarter of 2004 with the placement of the Federation organizational delegate in Burundi. Programme Updates 2 and 3 explained this in greater detail, and extended activities into 2005.

[Final financial report below; click here to return to title page and contact information.](#)

Selected Parameters	
Year/Period	2004/1-2004/12
Appeal	M04AA001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
Budget (A)		63'229		390'525		453'755
Opening Balance (B)		69'655		156'287		225'942
Income						
Cash contributions						
British Red Cross				36'634		36'634
Other		0				0
Cash contributions (C1)		0		36'634		36'634
Total Income (C) = SUM(C1..C5)		0		36'634		36'634
Total Funding (B + C)		69'655		192'921		262'576

II. Balance of Funds

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
Opening Balance (B)		69'655		156'287		225'942
Income (C)		0		36'634		36'634
Expenditure (D)		-17'516		-23'616		-41'133
Closing Balance (B + C + D)		52'139		169'305		221'444

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01.01/2004 BURUNDI

Selected Parameters	
Year/Period	2004/1-2004/12
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III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation		
	A					B	A - B	
BUDGET (C)			63'229		390'525		453'755	
Supplies								
Teaching Materials	20'000							20'000
Total Supplies	20'000							20'000
Capital Expenditure								
Computers & Telecom	39'353							39'353
Total Capital Expenditure	39'353							39'353
Transport & Storage								
Transport & Vehicle Costs	4'071				101		101	3'970
Total Transport & Storage	4'071				101		101	3'970
Personnel Expenditures								
Delegates Payroll	148'759							148'759
Delegate Benefits					6'228		6'228	-6'228
Regionally Deployed Staff	50'600							50'600
National & National Society Stal					-7'224		-7'224	7'224
Consultants	271							271
Total Personnel Expenditures	199'631				-996		-996	200'627
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	55'005				8'994		8'994	46'012
Total Workshops & Training	55'005				8'994		8'994	46'012
General Expenditure								
Travel	17'234		2'752		2'871		5'623	11'610
Information & Public Relation	27'798				1'573		1'573	26'225
Office Costs	30'219				1		1	30'218
Communications			13'625		658		14'283	-14'283
Professional Fees	30'950				-31		-31	30'982
Financial Charges					-145		-145	145
Total General Expenditure	106'201		16'378		4'926		21'304	84'897
Program Support								
Program Support	29'494		1'139		1'535		2'674	26'820
Total Program Support	29'494		1'139		1'535		2'674	26'820
Operational Provisions								
Operational Provisions					9'056		9'056	-9'056
Total Operational Provisions					9'056		9'056	-9'056
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	453'755		17'516		23'616		41'133	412'622
VARIANCE (C - D)			45'713		366'909		412'622	