

# 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

11 June 2004

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 181 countries. For more information: [www.ifrc.org](http://www.ifrc.org)

### In Brief

**Appeal No. 01.29/2004; Programme Update no. 1, Period covered: 01 January to 30 April 2004; Appeal coverage: 35.7%; Outstanding needs: CHF 165,604 (USD 131,015 or EUR 107,815)**  
[\(Click here to go directly to the attached Contributions List \(also available on the website\).](#)

**Appeal target: CHF 257,715 (USD 193,552 or EUR 165,893)**

**Related Emergency or Annual Appeals:** [Nigeria sub-regional programmes Appeal no. 01.31/2004](#)

**Programme summary:** Ghana partnership meeting was held on 4 March 2004 to discuss and propose a restructuring plan to address a financial and management crisis in the [Ghana Red Cross Society](#). With technical assistance from the Federation Nigeria sub-regional office, a restructuring plan has been jointly prepared with the national society to address four core issues: debt repayment, financial audit, appointment to key management positions and the development of a business plan. The restructuring plan is awaiting a full commitment from the management committee for implementation by the national society.

The Federation continues to support the national society's peer education programme for in- and out-of-school youths in Volta, Eastern and Central regions. During the period under review, 11,205 youths have been reached; more than half are females. The national society has been working to consolidate the youth peer education programme. A survey by the Ghana AIDS Commission shows a reduction in the HIV/AIDS prevalence rate between the ages of 15 and 19 years in one of the areas where the national society is active. During this period, the health department aimed to consolidate activities of the mother's clubs in primary health care through training on leadership, first aid, community health education and the construction of water wells and household latrines in 75 districts across Ghana. It also supported the mothers clubs in establishing home based care programme and increasing the mother's clubs involvement in HIV/AIDS.

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*This Programme Update reflects activities to be implemented over a one-year period. This forms part of, and is based on, longer-term, multi-year planning (refer below to access the detailed logframe documents).*

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, or for a full description of the national society profile, please access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

## Operational developments

The proliferation of community-based organizations (CBO) and NGO working in HIV/AIDS in Ghana is affecting the retention of Ghana Red Cross volunteers and the work of peer educators. Consequently, the national society has stepped up its advocacy on the principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and the experience of volunteerism. More experienced youth peer educators have become coaches to strengthen the volunteer management system and ensure volunteer recruitment based on the principles of the Movement.

The Eastern region experienced severe water shortages in January 2004. Peer educators and their peers were unavailable to attend meetings because they were involved in water collection.

## Health and Care

**Goal: The national society has contributed to the reduction of the spread of HIV/AIDS, particularly among women and improves the quality of life of persons living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) in ten districts of the targeted four regions by the end of 2007.**

**Objective 1: The capacity of the national society has been enhanced to improve knowledge and understanding of HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted diseases among 48,000 youth and community members in seven districts by the end of 2007, with an aim to encourage safer sex.**

### Peer education for HIV/AIDS/STI

#### Achievements

As demonstrated in Table 1 below the youth peer education programme continues to reach out to both male and female. Methods such as the risk game are used in the programme. The risk game encourages the youths to identify high risk behaviour. A quiz is used to test peers information on HIV/AIDS/STI while role play is used to encourage gender awareness and assertiveness. The youths reached vary in each region as detailed below

#### Volta region:

- The youth in the Volta region have reached out to 4, 684 of their peers.
- The average age of people reached in school is 17 years for males and 15 years for females.
- The average age of people reached out of school is 25 years for males and 22 years for females.
- About 132 peer educators held 224 educational sessions.

#### Eastern region:

- An estimated 2,648 youths comprising 1,772 males and 876 females.
- The average age of people reached out of school is 18 years for males and 17 years for females.

#### Central region:

- A total of 3,710 youths have been reached during the period under review.
- Their ages range from 14-24 years for males and 13-23 years for females.

**Table 1: Number of people reached from January to April 2004**

<b>Region</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Volta</b>	2,332	2,352	4,684
<b>Eastern</b>	1,770	1,264	3,034
<b>Central</b>	1,834	1,635	3,469
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>5,936</b>	<b>5,251</b>	<b>11,187</b>

**Impact:**

Overall total of 11,187 youth have been reached under the review period with an increasing number of females interested in getting involved in the programme.

**Objective 2: The national society capacity has been enhanced to improve knowledge and understanding of preventable diseases in relation to women and children in 75 districts in Ghana. The national society has contributed to the reduction of women and infant morbidity and mortality in Ghana especially in communities where mothers clubs exist.**

There has been improved promotion of basic health care among Ghana's rural women with children through these mothers' clubs.

**Achievement**

Trained leaders of mothers' clubs have in turn reached out to 3,000 members and an additional 3,000 women in community health education and first aid skills. Mothers' club members provide first aid services within their communities.

The 310 health education sessions conducted in collaboration with the Ministry of Health (MoH) have resulted in the reduction of diarrhoeal and vaccine preventable diseases in the communities.

**Achievement**

Communities where mothers' clubs exist have been sensitized and both men and women are constructing hand dug wells, household latrines and doing clean up campaigns.

**Impact:**

A total of 350 latrines and 21 water wells were constructed by community members with technical support from the community water sanitation (WatSan) units of the district assemblies.

**Achievement**

A total of 6,500 women volunteers have been trained since August 2001 in 19 most endemic districts in Ghana. These volunteers continue to carry out house to house education and demonstrate the use of filter to their female counterparts in their respective communities.

**Impact**

According to reports from the MoH, there has been a reduction in the incidence of guinea worm in mothers' club districts and communities. A request has been made for the Ghana Red Cross to set up more district health management teams in mothers' clubs to help fight against guinea worm infestation.

**Achievement**

The capacity of trained mothers club leaders and members in the Child Survival project in the Upper East Region have been further strengthened by training from the MoH to carry out home based treatment of malaria in children aged below five years. The MoH field staff provide the technical supervision in their routine monitoring; the mothers' club facilitators of Ghana Red Cross conduct regular monitoring for moral and logistic support. Other mothers' clubs are engaged in exclusive breast feeding and complementary feeding of infants in collaboration with LINKAGES, a Ghana-based organization.

**Impact**

There is increased knowledge among community members on the home-based treatment of malaria and diarrhoeal diseases lead to reduced cases of complicated malaria and dehydration as a result of diarrhoeal.

**Progress**

Mothers' clubs members carry out door-to-door education of families and encourage them to use the mosquito nets which were distributed during the 2002 mass measles campaign.

**Impact**

There is a reduction in the incidence of malaria among children aged below five years in Lawra District.

**Constraint**

There are no funds to purchase chemicals to re-treat the mosquito nets. Discussions are however going on with UNICEF to support the national society with chemicals to conduct a mass re-treatment of all mosquito nets distributed.

**Coordination, Capacity Building and Networking**

The management committee of the Ghana Red Cross has asked that the Red Cross pulls out of the coordinating committee to combat HIV/AIDS (COCOIDS) because the national society was being asked to make financial contributions.

At regional level, the national society continues to collaborate with organizations such as YMCA, MoH, World Education, the National Youth Council and the Ghana Education Service. Some of the regional offices have acquired equipment such as computers and projectors. Others have had capacity building through training workshops including training in financial management and computer skills.

The Federation Lagos Sub-Regional Health Delegate has made multiple visits to support the national society health development programme. The Head of Office and Organizational Development (OD) Delegate held a one-day meeting with the management committee of the national society on 31 April 2004 in Accra and discussed the restructuring plan of Ghana Red Cross which was drafted with the technical support from the OD Delegate. The committee agreed to give feed-back to the Federation at a later date.

**Other activities**

Other health programmes include: Home-based treatment of malaria (child survival project) in the Upper East region, guinea worm prevention education in Northern, Upper West, Brong Ahafo and Volta regions health education on the use of mosquito nets in the Lawra district of Upper West Region. These programmes are supported by other partners. The national society is increasing its scope of networking and developing partnerships with the MoH, UN agencies including UNICEF and WHO, Global 2000, Family Health International (FHI), LINKAGES, BASICS and Project concern.

**Impact:**

The MoH appreciates the national society as a valued partner in improving the health status of Ghanaians, thus the national society works with the national committees of child health.

**Constraints**

- The national society experienced difficulties in their financial reporting and accounting which caused delays in implementation of the programmes.
- The current crisis within the national society is affecting programme implementation with decreasing capacity at headquarters for monitoring support and activity implementation.
- In the central region, peer educators continue to drop out. They either go to school or are being lost to other NGO with similar interventions who pay for their services.
- Competition for funds from the same donors in country makes it difficult to access funds.

## **Organizational Development**

**Goal: By the year 2007, the Ghana Red Cross Society has become a well functioning, visible, independent, and relevant community-based organization mobilizing resources affectively and efficiently to improve the lives of the most vulnerable trough strengthened capacity and established partnership**

**Objective: The capacity to deliver and implement programs to assist the most vulnerable in our communities is strengthened**

### **Progress made on the restructuring plan of the Ghana Red Cross**

The Ghana partnership meeting was held on 4 March 2004 to discuss financial and management crisis of the national society. The meeting agreed on a restructuring plan to help the national society address four key issues namely debt repayment, financial audit, appointment to key management positions and the development of a business plan. Following the decision, the sub-regional office helped in drafting a national society restructuring plan, which was discussed with the management committee of the national society on 31 April 2004. As a part of this restructuring plan, initial funding from one of the main partners of the national society, the Swiss Red Cross, will be used for the purchase of new offices for the headquarters, after a full agreement is reached with the national society's management committee.

The sub-regional office has facilitated and coordinated a partnership meeting and liaised with various partners of the national society to help address the national society's crisis.

[Contributions list below; click here to return to the title page and contact information.](#)

APPEAL No. 01.29/2004

## PLEDGES RECEIVED

23/06/2004

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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## CASH

						TOTAL COVERAGE
REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				257,715		35.7%
CASH CARRIED FORWARD				92,111		
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				92,111	CHF	35.7%

## KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
Note: due to systems upgrades in process, contributions in kind and services may be incomplete.						
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	