

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

16 November 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

In Brief

Appeal No. 01.29/2004; Programme Update no. 2, Period covered: May to October 2004; Appeal coverage: 35.7%; Outstanding needs: CHF 165,604 (USD 138,000 or EUR 108,300).

[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:

- **2005 Annual Appeal no. 05AA025: Nigeria sub-regional programmes (includes Benin, Ghana, Nigeria and Togo)** – http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?annual05/05AA025.pdf

Programme summary: The Ghana Red Cross Society¹ HIV/AIDS prevention programme has since 1991 targeted hoteliers, sex workers and the youth. To scale up its activities, the national society has included prevention and community home-based care (CHBC) for people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA). The mothers' clubs are undertaking this component of the project. Peer educators and community home-based care facilitators have been trained during this period. To date, 48 youth peer educators and 29 mothers' club trainers have received training from three districts in three regions. They are expected to begin the "coaching" system in two other districts: respectively the Greater Accra and Central Regions.

The Ghana Red Cross has made progress on its reform plan which includes settling pressing debts from proceeds received through assets sale. The national government provides financial subvention to cover some of the national society's running costs.

At a meeting with the Swiss Red Cross and the Federation sub-regional office in Lagos in August 2004, the Ghana Red Cross agreed to complete the existing structure as an office block to serve as the national society's headquarters in Accra while the rest of the funds would be applied to the restructuring plan through the Federation. Funds for this purpose will be channelled through the Swiss Red Cross office in Accra. It was also agreed to resume the restructuring plan to address financial audit, appointment to key management positions and prepare a business plan. Following this agreement, a revised reform plan and budget was prepared and presented to the Ghana Red Cross partners for implementation.

For further information please contact:

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¹ Ghana Red Cross Society – <http://www.ifrc.org/where/country/check.asp?countryid=73>

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

Preparations and political campaigns are underway in Ghana to run a presidential election in December 2004. The German Red Cross/EU has completed its health prevention project which was running with the regional offices of the Ghana Red Cross. The project has also stopped salary payments to 10 regional coordinators and clerks.

Health and Care

Goal: The National Society has contributed to the HIV/AIDS reduction particularly among women and improved on the quality of life of PLWHA in 10 districts of the four targeted regions by the end of 2007.

Objective: The National Society's capacity to improve knowledge and understanding of STI/HIV/AIDS among 48,000 women and community members in 10 districts by the end of 2007, with an aim of encouraging safer sex has been enhanced.

Achievements:

The Youth workshop trained a total of 48 peer educators (22 males, 26 females) from the Central, Eastern and Volta regions. These peer educators are between the ages of 13 and 25 years old.

- § Volta and Eastern regions had peer educators from new districts; the Central region had their prior peer educators representing the region.
- § The Volta region now operates in the Kejebi District in the northern part of the region. It is a market centre and as such attracts large numbers of peoples. The Eastern region selected East Akim due to the fact that it borders Koforidua, the regional capital, which has a high prevalence rate.

The ten-day training was a workshop for trainers in HIV/AIDS prevention and community home-based care for mothers clubs.

- § Twenty-nine of the 30 expected participants took part. One of the participants, a PLWHA, performed creditably well and has been recommended for appointment to assist the Health Department's Community Home Based Care project. The training was organized as part of the pilot project activities for Greater Accra and the Central Regions.
- § The 29 participants were from two regions, four districts and eight communities.

The main components of the training were:

- General facts about HIV/AIDS/STI
- Counselling
- Community Home Based Care
- Nutrition
- Volunteer management
- Facilitation skills

For both workshops, the methodologies employed were group discussions and presentations, role-plays, micro-teaching, demonstrations and pick and act. Before the pilot project was undertaken, a baseline survey was conducted in both selected project and control areas. The results of the baseline survey have been shared with the Federation and other partners.

Impact:

Feed back through the workshop evaluations indicate that respondents have an increased understanding of the HIV/AIDS pandemic while the Mothers Clubs facilitators had attained information that would influence the development of positive attitudes.

Constraints/Recommendations:

There was a delay in the commencement of the training workshop due to communication difficulties. It is hoped that communication facilities and systems will be improved to enhance the programme's operations through the Society's organisational development.

Organizational Development

Goal: By the year 2007, 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 through strengthened capacity and established partnerships.

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

Achievements:

Progress made on the restructuring plan of the Ghana Red Cross Society:

- The Ghana Red Cross has taken action to settle some of its pressing, outstanding debts through asset sales to raise income.
- During the period, it also received government subvention to pay off its staff.
- Progress has also been made on the long outstanding construction of the headquarters office. At a meeting held with the Swiss Red Cross and the Lagos sub-regional office in August 2004 in Accra, the following points were agreed:
 - Completion of the existing Ghana Red Cross structure as an office block to serve as its headquarters in Accra. The previous project was a combined office/conference centre building. The Ghana Red Cross has reportedly produced and submitted the costing for the completion of the office to the Swiss Red Cross in Accra. The Swiss Red Cross will assume the responsibility for the construction's coordination and supervision and all funds needed for this venture will be channelled through it.
 - After deducting the construction costs, the balance will be applied to the restructuring process through the Federation. What is pending now is the exact costing of the headquarters construction to determine the amount of funds that will go into the restructuring plan.

The American Red Cross expressed its support for the implementation of the plan.

Constraints:

The EU/German Red Cross has withdrawn salary support to all regional secretaries of the Ghana Red Cross from September 2004, affecting the regional offices' capacity to implement programmes.

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

APPEAL No. 01.29/2004

PLEDGES RECEIVED

01/12/2004

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	