

Appeal 2004



THE GAMBIA

Appeal no. 01.34/2004

The International Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. The Federation is the world's largest humanitarian organization, and its millions of volunteers are active in over 180 countries. All international assistance to support vulnerable communities seeks to adhere to the Code of Conduct and the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response, according to the SPHERE Project.

This document reflects a range of programmes and activities to be implemented in 2004, and the related funding requirements. These are based upon the broader, multi-year framework of the Federation's Project Planning Process (PPP). The PPP products are either available through hyperlinks in the text¹, or can be requested through the respective regional department. For further information concerning programmes or operations in this or other countries or regions, please also access the Federation website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

Click on programme title or figures to go to the text or budget

Programme title	2004 in CHF
Strengthening the National Society	
Health and Care	323,634
Disaster Management	123,630
Organizational Development.	121,477
Total	568,740²

¹ Identified by blue in the text.

² USD 427, 142 or EUR 366, 102.

National Context

The population of the Gambia is predominately rural and approximately 75% of the workforce is involved in agriculture (World Factbook, 2003). Its economy is based on peanut exports and tourism, and the country imports one-third of its food, all its fuel and most of its manufactured goods. Because the country has very little land mass and runs the length of the Gambia River, the country also suffers from soil erosion and environmental degradation.



Health indicators have improved substantially over the past 30 years. Infant mortality rate is 91 per 1,000 births in 2001, compared with 183 per 1,000 births in 1970. (UNDP) Nevertheless, a third of the population lacks access to potable water and more than half the population lacks access to adequate sanitation. Potential disasters are floods, fires, epidemics and environmental degradation. Malaria remains the main killer in the country with over 350,000 cases reported every year. Tuberculosis and parasitic diseases are the next biggest causes of death. The spread of HIV/AIDS has been contained. Nonetheless, there is concern that youth unemployment and migration could lead to an increase in the epidemic.

An estimated 515,000 refugees are currently living in the Gambia. This represents roughly 40% of the population and has added to internal pressures over the years. Most refugees are from Casamance in southern Senegal, Guinea-Bissau and Liberia, owing to endemic regional instability.

Human Development Indicators at a Glance

	The Gambia	Sub-Saharan Africa	World
Life expectancy at birth (years), 2001	53.7	46.5	66.7
Adult literacy rate (% age 15 and above), 2001	37.8	62.4	~
Adult literacy rate 2001	69	77	~
Combined primary, secondary and tertiary gross enrolment ratio (%), 2001	47	44	64
GDP per capita (PPP USD), 2001	2,050	1,831	7,376
People living with HIV/AIDS, adults (% age 15-49), 2001	1.6	9	1.2
Refugees (thousands), in/out, 2001	8/0	~	~

Source: UNDP Human Development Report 2003
PPP in this context refers to Purchasing Power Parity.

Red Cross and Red Crescent Priorities

Movement³ Context:

The Federation: The Federation organized “emergency” technical assistance in 2003 to help the national society address the crisis it was in. Finance development programme continued. Programme support includes relief, HIV/AIDS, and food security.

Considering the difficulties that the **Gambia Red Cross Society** has been going through, the priority of the Secretariat is to support the restructuring and organizational development of the national society. With a new Secretary General and Senior Accountant appointed and a Finance Development program already launched, supporting the organizational development efforts of the national society would build on the

³ ‘Movement’ refers to the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement

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momentum and bring the Gambia Red Cross back on track. The national society would also like to diversify its resource base.

The Federation is seeking support in Food Security and HIV/AIDS for vulnerable people in the Gambia.

The Food Security project, covering two branches, seeks to promote educative sessions on the importance of a balanced and varied nutritional food basket by involving 5,000 school children in 40 Red Cross School Links, and 30 Red Cross Village links in the two branches. During one school year (nine months), the links will have at least ten sessions on the subject, practice planting of nutritional food at home and measure the impact of nutritious food on their own health.

The HIV/AIDS program builds on the experience of the Gambia Red Cross in two at-risk communities, Central River Division (CRD) and Upper River Division (URD). Two different strategies will be followed: in CRD a social mobilization campaign on the truth about AIDS is going to target selected groups of Public Opinion Leaders (POL), while in URD, the Gambia Red Cross is planning for an intensive awareness campaign among adolescents and youth (13-35 years).

The Organizational Development, Disaster Management and Health programs will be strongly supported and monitored by the Sahel sub-regional office based in Dakar. The Regional Delegation Disaster Management Program will provide technical expertise and support to assure a comprehensive approach to Disaster Management and Food Security grounded in the regional strategy for disaster preparation and response.

ICRC: The ICRC has been working with the Gambia Red Cross to create a network of trained tracing volunteers, to reinforce their emergency response capacities in regions at risk, to sustain the motivation of emergency response teams through community hygiene and public service activities, and to develop its communication department. Dissemination activities supported by the ICRC include celebration of Red Cross day, production of a newsletter, a workshop for head-teachers in two divisions and support to the Bantaba 2003 youth camp. Given the difficult transition the national society has been going through, support in 2004 will likely focus on installing radio communications between branches, helping the Gambia Red Cross improve its ability to recruit volunteers, and providing basic overhead support.

Bilateral partner national societies : Spanish Red Cross for HIV/AIDS.

Empress Shôken Fund Gambia Red Cross was selected for assistance from the Empress Shôken Fund in 2003 towards its First Aid and Emergency Response project

Primary support from the movement in 2003

Partner	Health	Relief	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organizational Development	Other
ICRC		xx				xx
Federation	Xx	xx			xx	
Icelandic Red Cross						xx
Spanish RC	xx					

Primary support through the Federation is provided by Icelandic, Norwegian, Swedish, and British Red Cross Societies .

National Society Strategy/Programme Priorities:

Enjoying vibrant youth participation, about 80% of the Gambia Red Cross volunteers are young people. They play an active role in organizing fund-raising events, first aid, and relief operations across the national society's seven branches. The national society has completed a countrywide Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (VCA⁴) and has used the results to develop its strategic work plan. The Gambia Red

⁴ VCA – Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment is an International Federation risk assessment tool and process that can be used by national societies as a basis for their disaster preparedness and risk reduction planning.

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Cross collaborates with the Ministry of Health on health care delivery, is an active member of the local association of non-governmental organizations and has worked with ANCHOR in reception and assistance to refugees. The national society generates about 20% of its funds locally.

The national society experienced a major crisis in 2003 linked to mismanagement, but mobilized itself to conduct internal investigations, upgrade the financial management system and controls (internal procedures and external audits), hire new managerial and finance staff, and conduct governance and management training.

At a Glance

	YEAR	COMMENT
Statutes	2001	
National Disaster Plan	Yes	Nation-wide VCA conducted in 1999. The national society is a working member on the government's NDPP.
National Development Plan	2000- 2003	Requires updating
CAS	No	
Self Assessment	2003	
Elections	2001	General Assembly
Yearly audit	Yes	2000,2001,2002 now available

Main Strengths

- The Gambia Red Cross is a well-accepted organization with an extensive nation-wide network.
- Trained and committed volunteers.
- Offices in all divisional capitals.
- A multipurpose centre that generates income for the national society.

Main Challenges

- Suffering from years of weak management.
- Recommendations made by the external auditors are difficult to implement.
- Reporting and accountability.
- A Strategic Development Plan 2004.

During the last few years, the main priorities for the Gambia Red Cross were financial resource development, disaster preparedness and relief at branch level, as well as HIV/AIDS awareness creation through ARCHI 2010 methodology⁵.

Strengthening the National Society

Health and Care

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Background and achievements/lessons to date:

Early marriage and low age at first birth both contribute to high fertility rates.

- Socio-economic factors associated with above demographic indicators pose problems to the health sector by generating health needs for the young population.
- VCA identified following hazards to the communities: malaria, malnutrition, diarrhoeal diseases, dysentery, HIV/AIDS, and cholera.
- HIV/AIDS prevalence rate approximately 2%.
- Number of PLWHA⁶ estimated at 20,000 - 25,000.

⁵ ARCHI – African Red Cross and Red Crescent Health Initiative 2010 builds on its strength: a Red Cross and Red Crescent presence in each of 53 countries in Africa and, in all, more than 2 million volunteers. The overall goal of ARCHI 2010 is to make a major difference in the health of vulnerable people in Africa. (refer to <http://www.ifrc.org/WHAT/health/archi/>)

⁶ PLWHA – Persons living with HIV/AIDS

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- High rates of STD⁷ (sentinel survey indicates approx. 40% of women have had an STD).
- Still a general denial of HIV/AIDS.
- Heterosexual transmission remains the major mode of transmission of HIV/AIDS.
- Strong relationship between the Gambia Red Cross and the national blood bank in the Central area - The Gambia Red Cross has been acknowledged as an organization that plays a pivotal role in the recruitment of blood donors (33% of regular blood donors are Gambia Red Cross volunteers) and collection of blood over the past years.
- The Gambia Red Cross has a close collaboration with the National AIDS Control Programme and the Medical Research Council.

Achievements

- Prior HIV/AIDS prevention activities among youth (Gambia Boys Scout Association), aimed at increasing awareness of HIV/AIDS and promotion of condom use.
- Good network of volunteers, with ability to organize national programme.
- Availability of trained volunteers.
- Experience in using youth peer education strategy (adolescent youth HIV/AIDS education).
- Red Cross volunteers found in key positions in blood bank, Medical Research Council, and private clinics.
- Active in blood donor recruitment, achieving good collaboration with the National blood bank.
- Formation of anti-AIDS clubs and blood donor clubs.
- Diarrhoeal disease control.

Lessons learned

- Need to promote access to condoms during sensitization activities.
- HIV/AIDS activities should be complemented by good media campaigns.
- Need to reinforce advocacy efforts targeting high-level leadership for improved commitment/political will in the fight against HIV/AIDS.

Goal: The rate of HIV/AIDS in the Gambia is reduced.

Objective: Central River Division: A social mobilization campaign on the truth about AIDS has been carried out among selected target groups.

Upper River Division: An intensive awareness campaign on the truth about AIDS has been carried out among adolescents and youth (13-35 years).

Expected Results

1. Knowledge is increased and attitudes and behaviour positively changed among adolescents and youth aged 13-35 years in target villages of both CRD and URD;
2. The Gambia Red Cross Branches have sufficiently trained and equipped teams of campaign workers. Over 40 volunteers initially trained ('Training of Trainers'-TOT), equipped and receiving refresher courses annually.
3. The Branch Offices are adequately equipped to supervise the project activities.
4. Liaison with partners and stakeholders efficiently carried out by the national society headquarters.

[<Click here to access the Logical Framework Planning Matrix document for Health and Care – Fighting HIV/AIDS in URD>](#)

[<Click here to access the Logical Framework Planning Matrix document for Health and Care – Fighting HIV/AIDS in CRD>](#)

⁷ STD – Sexually-transmitted disease

Disaster Management

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Background and achievements/lessons to date:

A disaster preparedness and response plan manual was being produced based on the results of a nationwide VCA conducted in 1999. The national society is also a working member on the government's national disaster preparedness plan. The Secretariat will assist the Gambia Red Cross to promote nutritional food in small-scale food security projects in North Bank and Lower River Divisions.

Goal: Gambian households have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food.

Objective: 5,000 school children (grade 4-6) understand, practice and benefit from food adequate to meet their dietary needs.

Expected Results

1. Students demonstrate their full understanding of the relation between nutritious food and personal health.
2. Students maintain their own mini gardens at home.
3. Students adding nutritious food to their daily diet gain weight.
4. Target audience, having established nursery gardens for muringa trees, are actively promoting the use of muringa leaves in the community.
5. Volunteers demonstrate good capacity to implement food security projects in the Red Cross branches.

[<Click here to access the Logical Framework Planning Matrix document for Disaster Management – Food Security>](#)

Organizational Development

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Background and achievements/lessons to date

Since the management crisis of national society erupted during the first months of 2002, ways and means to regain control of the internal situation have dominated the scene. With the assistance of the Federation, a Plan of Action has been adopted by the national society, which includes, among others, the restructuring and improvement of the headquarters and branch organization and capacity and the upgrading of the finance management systems. The national society headquarters restructuring programme has three major components:

1. Cost reduction, through scrutinizing all budget lines, core costs to be identified and covered by own funds;
2. Implementation of income generating programs; and,
3. Efficient and transparent management systems run by competent and well trained staff to enable the national society to establish medium and long-term co-operation with partners within and outside the Movement.

Internal income sources for the Gambia Red Cross are fund-raising events, chair rentals, airport/hotel collections and the occasional sale of second-hand clothing. A two-storey, multifunctional building serves as an income-generating source as well. External sources of funding include some partner national societies, the Federation and the ICRC. The Gambia Red Cross would like, however, to further diversify its resource base. This would require updating and expanding its financial management systems for better management.

Goal: The Gambia Red Cross is a well-functioning national society capable of alleviating human suffering and delivering development services effectively and efficiently.

Objective: The national society has strengthened its governing, managerial and financial capacities at the national society headquarters and at branch and link levels.

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Expected Results

1. The Gambia Red Cross has restructured and improved its organization and capacities at headquarters and branch level
 - Human resource policy and management are enhanced and administration procedures introduced at the national society headquarters.
 - The national society has adopted policies and strategies in all core areas of intervention.
 - The Gambia Red Cross is decentralized, having strong branches with the capacity to carry out the Mission of the national society.
 - A nation-wide membership drive is promoted
2. Financial management systems and procedures are improved and revenues from resource development activities are increased and diversified.
 - Installation of a new accounting and budgeting software and development of a procedural manual
 - Competent, motivated and well-trained staff runs the national society.
 - Adequate financial resources allow the national society to cover its core costs at headquarters and branch levels.
 - Resource development committee meetings produce an operational resource development plan.

[<Click here to access the Logical Framework Planning Matrix document for Governance and Management>](#)

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BUDGET 2004

PROGRAMME BUDGETS SUMMARY

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Name: The Gambia

PROGRAMME:

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	Emergency	Total
	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF
Shelter & construction	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Clothing & textiles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Food	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Seeds & plants	0	2,594	0	0	0	0	2,594
Water & Sanitation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Medical & first aid	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Teaching materials	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Utensils & tools	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other relief supplies	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SUPPLIES	0	2,594	0	0	0	0	2,594
Land & Buildings	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vehicles	0	31,824	0	0	0	0	31,824
Computers & telecom	8,100	0	0	6,800	0	0	14,900
Medical equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other capital exp.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CAPITAL EXPENSES	8,100	31,824	0	6,800	0	0	46,724
Warehouse & Distribution	0	2,300	0	0	0	0	2,300
Transport & Vehicules	66,044	13,412	0	4,190	0	0	83,645
TRANSPORT & STORAGE	66,044	15,712	0	4,190	0	0	85,945
Programme Support	21,036	8,036	0	7,896	0	0	36,968
PROGRAMME SUPPORT	21,036	8,036	0	7,896	0	0	36,968
Personnel-delegates	0	6,500	0	15,902	0	0	22,402
Personnel-national staff	31,036	11,589	0	31,039	0	0	73,664
Consultants	0	0	0	6,000	0	0	6,000
PERSONNEL	31,036	18,089	0	52,941	0	0	102,066
W/shops & Training	111,891	20,405	0	17,850	0	0	150,146
WORKSHOPS & TRAINING	111,891	20,405	0	17,850	0	0	150,146
Travel & related expenses	6,486	0	0	6,280	0	0	12,766
Information	63,512	21,622	0	0	0	0	85,134
Other General costs	15,529	5,348	0	25,520	0	0	46,396
GENERAL EXPENSES	85,527	26,970	0	31,800	0	0	144,296
TOTAL BUDGET:	323,634	123,630	0	121,477	0	0	568,740