

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

GABON

24 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

In Brief

Appeal No. 01.46/2004; Programme Update no. 1; Period covered: January to March 2004;
Appeal coverage: 12.0%; Outstanding needs: CHF 365,154 (USD 288,900 or EUR 237,700)
[\(Click here to go directly to the attached Contributions List \(also available on the website\)\).](#)

Appeal target: CHF 415,153 (USD 319,793 or EUR 267,237)

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals: [Central Africa sub-regional programmes Appeal 01.48/2004](#)

Programme summary: All the activities carried out by the [Gabonese Red Cross Society](#) were related to organizational development. The national society now has documents that will enable it to improve on its management capabilities in order to fully play its role as a humanitarian agency. Members of governance, as well as technical executives, are determined to make the Gabonese Red Cross a reliable national society that is respected by government authorities, the general public, and its partners. All other activities have been postponed to the second term because the recruitment process took longer than expected.

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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 Gabonese Red Cross started its restructuring process after the December 2001 extraordinary General Assembly during which all the participants agreed that a governance system be installed. The system will make provisions for clear separation of powers, accountability and honesty of managers for the enhancement of the national society's image.

The preoccupation of the national society members is to redirect the national society towards its primary objective of providing relief to the community, especially to the most vulnerable.

The lack of skilled labor at the headquarters has hindered the development and execution of sustainable programmes for the benefit of the most vulnerable. Consequently, there has been a lack of adequate coordination among the local branches close to the most vulnerable.

Members of the Gabonese Red Cross have acknowledged the need to carry out an organizational reform in order to establish an efficient mechanism to strengthen the national society's managerial capacities.

Mindful of its strengths, weaknesses and lessons learned, the national society is determined to make good use of the best practices of other national societies.

Organizational Development

Goal: Build the Gabonese Red Cross capacities in good governance, programmes and human resources management, financial development/management and equipment resources.

Objective: The Gabonese Red Cross' governance, management and programming capacities are built.

Achievements

Elaboration of the manual on financial procedures

The accountant was trained on software for financial management and an up-to-date record on all financial transactions from January 2003 has been completed. The national society ordered forms for its daily management.

A training programme was organized for the chairperson, secretaries and the Secretary General on the Information Management System (reception, treatment, diffusion and filing).

Following general assemblies held in each local committee, a secretary general and heads of departments were recruited.

Impact

The current Gabonese Red Cross management team is aware of the challenges of the national society's capacity building programme.

The management teams of local committees now recognize the need to collaborate with administrative and community authorities in their respective localities. Members of the national society understand why the representatives of partner ministries are included in the Executive Council. Partner ministries play their role as facilitators for the programme execution through their representatives who are members of the Executive Council.

Constraints

The delay in the disbursement of subsidies for the year 2004 turned out to be the major handicap to the smooth functioning of Gabonese Red Cross. Lack of transportation has also hindered coordination of activities.

The long delay in processing civil servants' (heads of departments) assignment files often prevent the Gabonese Red Cross from meeting programme execution deadlines.

Gabon; Appeal no. 01.46/2004; Programme Update no. 1

Lessons Learned

A competent technical and administrative team is required, both at headquarters and local committee levels in order to achieve an effective national society capacity building.

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

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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CASH

						TOTAL COVERAGE
REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				415,154		12.0%
BRITISH - GOVT/DFID GRANT 2004				50,000	29.01.04	
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				50,000	CHF	12.0%

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	