

Appeal 2005



THE GAMBIA

Appeal no. 05AA028

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, objectives, and related activities to be implemented in 2005, and the corresponding 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 text, or can be requested through the respective regional department.

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Click on the title below to go to the relevant text; click on the figure to go to the programme budget

	2005
Programme title	in CHF
Strengthening the national society	
Health and care	83,960
Disaster management	66,167
Organizational development	110,663
Total	260,790¹

¹ USD 207,100 or EUR 168,000.

National Context

The population of the Gambia is predominately rural and approximately 75% of the workforce is involved in agriculture (World Fact book, 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 was 91 per 1,000 live births in 2002, 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

Category	The Gambia	Sub-Saharan Africa	World
Total population (millions)	1.4	641.0	6,225.0
GDP per capita (USD)	257	469	5,174
Life expectancy at birth (years):Female / Male	55.4 - 52.5	n.a.	n.a.
Infant mortality rate, per 1,000 live births	91	108	56
Maternal mortality per 100,000 live births (adjusted ratio)(2000)	540	n.a	n.a
Population (%) with sustainable access to an improved water source (2000)	62	57	82
HIV prevalence (% , ages 15-49) (2003)	1.2	7.7	01.1
Adult literacy rate (% , ages 15 and above) Female / Male	30.9 - 45.0	n.a	n.a

Source: UNDP Human Development Report, July 2004: Human Development Index (pages 139-250).

Refer to http://hdr.undp.org/reports/global/2004/pdf/hdr04_HDI.pdf

Note: Data is 2002 unless noted above.

For ease of reference, the table below lists the standard abbreviations and references used in this Appeal.

PLWHA – Persons living with HIV/AIDS	STI/ STD - Sexually-transmitted infections / diseases
PNS - Partner National Society(ies)	URD – Upper River Division
Movement - International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.	VCA – Vulnerability and Capacity assessment
ARCHI 2010 – refer to http://www.ifrc.org/what/health/archi/	
ERU – Emergency Response Unit(s) Refer to http://www.ifrc.org/what/disasters/eru/	
FACT – Field Assessment and Coordination Team(s). Refer to http://www.ifrc.org/what/disasters/fact/	
Strategy 2010 – refer to http://www.ifrc.org/who/strategy.asp	
Ouagadougou Declaration – refer to http://www.ifrc.org/meetings/regional/africa/5thpac/5thpacde.asp	
Seville Agreement – refer to http://www.ifrc.org/meetings/statutory/ga/ga97/ga_97_8.asp	

Red Cross and Red Crescent Priorities

National Society Strategy/Programme Priorities

Enjoying vibrant youth participation, about 80% of the Gambia Red Cross Society² 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 conducted a countrywide VCA and used the results to develop its 2000-2002 strategic work plan. The Gambia Red 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 also works closely with Concern Universal on its "Stepping Stones" AIDS project.

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, programme, and finance staff.

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	2004????
CAS		"Friends of Gambia" cooperation process launched in 2003; on-going.
Self assessment	2003	
Elections	2001	General Assembly
Yearly audit	Yes	2000, 2001, 2002 available; 2003 under preparation.

Main Strengths

- Ÿ The Gambia Red Cross is a well-accepted organization with an extensive nation-wide network.
- Ÿ Trained and committed volunteers.
- Ÿ Offices in all divisional capitals.

Main Challenges

- Ÿ Suffering from years of weak management.
- Ÿ Reporting and accountability.
- Ÿ Strategic development planning.

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 methodology.

Movement Context:

The Federation

At the request of the Gambia Red Cross Society, the Federation organized "emergency" technical assistance in 2003 and early 2004 to help the national society address the organizational crisis it was in. In October 2003, a Secretary General was hired externally which has helped to stabilize the situation within the national society. However, long delays and hurdles encountered in recruiting a Fance Manager and a Programme Coordinator left a human resource gap until mid 2004 and limited programme and restructuring progress.

Regarding financial management, the Gambia Red Cross have taken significant steps in 2004 with the recruitment of human resources, the implementation of new computerized systems and recommendations

² Gambia Red Cross Society - <http://www.ifrc.org/where/country/check.asp?countryid=70>

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from the 2002 audit results, in addition to organizing a new audit exercise for 2003 accounts. The regional finance and resource development program will continue to support the Gambia Red Cross in 2005 in its active engagement for finance development, responding to the desire of a national society eager to maintain and fully exploit the new tools and procedures in place. The main challenge for the national society in 2005 is to meet standard requirements regarding financial reporting. Additionally, the national society which had developed, over the past years, a number of successful fundraising activities will focus on resource development capacities, a key objective of its organizational development strategy in an effort to move towards sustainable development and organizational self-reliance; in this vein, the national society wishes to enhance its communication and networking strategy with external organizations and the private sector.

The school based food security programme was only able to begin in 2004 upon recruitment of the Programme Coordinator. Health activities consisted of support for social mobilization for the December 2003 measles campaign, for which the national society's efforts were lauded by local authorities. The regional office has also supported the 2003 and 2004 Bantaba youth camps with technical presentations and support to expand the group of invitees to neighbouring francophone national societies.

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 the World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day, production of a newsletter, a workshop for head-teachers in two divisions and support to the Bantaba 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

The Spanish Red Cross supports the HIV/AIDS programme of the national society.

Empress Shôken Fund

The Gambia Red Cross was selected for assistance from the Empress Shôken Fund in 2003 towards its first aid and emergency response project. This allowed the national society to launch a 24-hour emergency ambulance service in the first quarter of 2004.

Primary support to the Gambia Red Cross from the Movement in 2004

Partner	Health	Relief	Disaster management	Humanitarian values	Organizational development	Other
ICRC		xx				xx
Federation	xx	xx			xx	
Icelandic Red Cross						xx
Spanish Red Cross	xx					

Primary support through the Federation is provided by Icelandic Red Cross, Swedish Red Cross, British Red Cross, DFID, and the Irish government.

Strengthening the National Society Health and Care

Background

- 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 PLWHA estimated at 20,000 - 25,000.
- High rates of STD (sentinel survey indicates approximately 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

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

Lessons learned

- Ÿ Need to promote access to condoms during sensitization activities.
- Ÿ HIV/AIDS activities should be complemented by good media campaigns.
- Ÿ 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: an intensive awareness campaign on the truth about AIDS has been carried out among adolescents and youth (13-35 years) in Upper River Division (URD).

Expected Results:

1. Knowledge is increased and attitudes and behavior positively changed among adolescents and youth aged 13-35 years in target villages of 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.

<Refer to the Logical Framework Planning Matrix: Gambia Health-HIV/AIDS>
http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?annual05/logframes/africa/05AA028HH.pdf

Disaster Management

Background and Achievements

The national society is a working member on the government's national disaster preparedness plan. The Gambia Red Cross continues to promote nutritional food in small-scale food security projects in North Bank and Lower River Divisions as a continuation of the programme it launched in 2004.

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

Objective: 2,500 school children (grades 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.

<Refer to the Logical Framework Planning Matrix: Gambia Food Security>
http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?/annual05/logframes/africa/05AA028FS.pdf

Organizational Development

Background and Achievements

Gambia Red Cross is now recovering from a management crisis which began in 2002. With the hiring of a new Secretary General in late 2003, and a full management team in 2004, the situation has begun to stabilize. Throughout this period, the Federation Regional Office for West and Central Africa has provided technical and financial support to assist the national society to recover, in full collaboration with all of the national society's partners, including the ICRC. Nonetheless, major efforts are still required to put the national society on a healthy footing with well grounded and implemented programmes.

2004 did, however, see major progress in the financial management systems development, with the hiring of a new Finance Manager, upgrading of systems, and the audit of 2003 accounts (to complement the audits of the previous three years). More efforts to diversify the national society's resource base are needed.

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

Objective 1: The national society has strengthened its governing, managerial and financial capacities at the national society headquarters and at branch and link levels.

Expected Results:

- The functioning and efficiency of the governance and management at all levels have improved
- The ability of the national society to develop, manage, and retain volunteers is developed
- Motivated volunteers are engaged at community level in the health and disaster management programs

<Refer to the Logical Framework Planning Matrix: Gambia Organizational Development>
http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?/annual05/logframes/africa/05AA028OD.pdf

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Objective 2: Gambia Red Cross increases its financial management skills and develops its ability to advocate and market its programming and mobilise its own resources

Expected Results:

- The quality of financial reports improves.
- Finance staff develop their understanding of program budgeting cycle from the launch of the programme/Appeal until the final narrative and financial reports
- External consolidated audits are conducted on an annual basis.
- The national society is decentralized, having strong branches with the capacity to carry out the mission of the national society.
- Gambia Red Cross activities and interventions are disseminated actively and effectively through mass media country wide.
- A resource mobilization-fundraising plan and guidelines are developed, approved and disseminated throughout the structures.

<Refer to the Logical Framework Planning Matrix: Gambia Finance and Resource Development>
<http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?annual05/logframes/africa/05AA028FD.pdf>

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BUDGET 2005

PROGRAMME BUDGETS SUMMARY

Appeal no.: 05AA028

Name: 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	2,160	0	0	0	0	2,160
Computers & telecom	0	0	0	5,000	0	0	5,000
Medical equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other capital exp.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CAPITAL EXPENSES	0	2,160	0	5,000	0	0	7,160
Warehouse & Distribution	0	2,300	0	0	0	0	2,300
Transport & Vehicules	3,511	11,210	0	373	0	0	15,094
TRANSPORT & STORAGE	3,511	13,510	0	373	0	0	17,394
Programme Support	5,457	4,301	0	7,193	0	0	16,951
PROGRAMME SUPPORT	5,457	4,301	0	7,193	0	0	16,951
Personnel-delegates	6,720	3,587	0	13,712	0	0	24,018
Personnel-national staff	11,219	19,511	0	28,953	0	0	59,683
Consultants	0	0	0	8,300	0	0	8,300
PERSONNEL	17,939	23,098	0	50,965	0	0	92,001
W/shops & Training	7,844	13,681	0	23,322	0	0	44,847
WORKSHOPS & TRAINING	7,844	13,681	0	23,322	0	0	44,847
Travel & related expenses	7,032	291	0	14,851	0	0	22,173
Information	32,972	3,000	0	0	0	0	35,972
Other General costs	9,205	3,532	0	8,959	0	0	21,696
GENERAL EXPENSES	49,209	6,823	0	23,810	0	0	79,842
TOTAL BUDGET:	83,960	66,167	0	110,663	0	0	260,790