

# Report 2006-2007



International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

## Nigeria Sub-Region

Appeal No. MAA61002

Launch date: 03/04/2008

This report covers the period of 01 January 2006 to 31 December 2007 of a two-year planning and appeal process.

In a world of global challenges, continued poverty, inequity, and increasing vulnerability to disasters and disease, the International Federation with its global network, works to accomplish its Global Agenda, partnering with local community and civil society to prevent and alleviate human suffering from disasters, diseases and public health emergencies.



The volunteers of the Nigerian Red Cross Society in action during emergency intervention

## In brief

### Programme summary:

During the period 2006-2007, the Federation worked with the National Societies in the Nigeria Sub-Region to implement programme activities under this appeal in line with ARCHI 2010 and the Federation's Global Agenda. The four National Societies covered by this appeal (Benin, Ghana, Nigeria and Togo) carried out activities in health and care, disaster management, capacity building and organizational development as well as humanitarian values and principles. However, there was no report from Togo as the National Society's appeal 2006-2007 did not receive any funding, according to the Togolese Red Cross. The Federation worked in collaboration with partners in resource mobilization, coordination and monitoring in assisting the National Societies to carry out activities to alleviate the suffering of the vulnerable populations. Côte d'Ivoire, Liberia and Sierra Leone are not covered in this report as they had their respective appeal. The initial appeal and the budget were revised in December 2006. The revision focused on the 2007 plan of action and provided information regarding financial coverage as at December 2006 and adjustments made to the 2007 budgets and programmes.

During this reporting period, some emergency activities outside the appeal were carried out by the National Societies with support from the Federation through special funding from partners and DREF allocation. Some of these activities included Accelerated Measles Campaign programmes in Ghana and Nigeria, Cholera eradication campaign in Nigeria and Ghana, Cerebrospinal Meningitis outbreaks in Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana and Nigeria, Avian Influenza in Ghana and Nigeria, the

Yellow Fever mobilization exercise in Togo and in 2007, the floods relief operations in Ghana, Nigeria and Togo. These emergency interventions have separate reports.

**Goal:** To support national societies in reducing the suffering of the vulnerable populations.

**Needs:** Total 2006-2007 budget CHF 11,169,723 (USD 9,990,807.692 or EUR 6,769,529.09) (out of which 32 per cent covered).

**Click here to go directly to the attached financial reports:**  
[report 2006](#)                      [report 2007](#)                      [report 2006/2007](#)

**No. of people we help:**

Programme	Benin		Nigeria		Ghana	
	2006-2007	2008-2009	2006-2007	2008-2009	2006-2007	2008-2009
Health and Care	N/A	502,000	5,775,760	10,000,000	921,772	1,000,000
Disaster Management	N/A	366,000	3,563,600	8,000,000	N/A	500,000
Principles and Values	N/A	90,000	960,000	20,000,000	N/A	1,600
Capacity Development	N/A	20,000	284,820	340,000	N/A	1,000,361

**Our partners:**

During 2006-2007, National Societies in the Sub- Region worked with government agencies such as NACA (National Action Committee on Aids), NEMA ( National Emergency Management Agency), Ministry of Health in Nigeria, NADMO ( National Disaster Management Organization), Ghana Health Service in Ghana, Ministry of Health and CNLS (National Commission on Fight Against Aids) in Togo, and the Ministry of Health in Benin. The National Societies also worked with other agencies as the Belgian Cooperation, USAID, Global Fund, EU, SHELL, Nestlé, CHEVRON, First Bank of Nigeria, DfiD, WHO, UNICEF, UNDP, UNHCR and WFP. The National Societies worked in partnership and collaboration with other Movement partners such as ICRC, French Red Cross, American Red Cross, Belgian Red Cross, British Red Cross, Swedish Red Cross, Danish Red Cross, German Red Cross, Irish Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross and Canadian Red Cross.

## Current context

During this period, political activities created a lot of tension which affected the movement of people and implementation of planned activities in Nigeria. The fear of political violence prior to the 2007 general election caused the movement of people to neighbouring Benin Republic. The insecurity in the oil rich Niger-Delta region with armed militants kidnapping oil workers and abducting children impacted on the implementation of humanitarian activities in the region. Partners on field visits are always advised against mission to this volatile region because of the nefarious activities of the militants.

Between 2006 and 2007, there were relative peace in Benin, Ghana and Togo. Though there was political tension prior to elections in these countries, it did not affect so much the implementation of the Red Cross activities. Natural disasters such as floods in Ghana and Togo affected the implementation of some programmes as the limited number of staff was mobilized to assist in the floods operation in these countries.

## Progress towards objectives

### Benin

#### Organizational Development

**Objective:** The Red Cross of Benin implements its way forward plan, including the restructuring of its governance and management to provide leadership and direction, and strives to become a well functioning national society.

In 2006, the Red Cross started the implementation of its recovery plan of action with the election of a new a governing board in December. With support from the Federation and the ICRC, the board in 2007 recruited a new management team for the National Society. The process was carried out through an independent recruitment firm in Benin. Four well qualified persons; two female and male were recruited into the management. With the two structures in place, a good governance workshop facilitated by the Federation and the ICRC was organized for members of the governance and the management from the national to the branch levels. A development plan 2007-2010 has also been prepared by the National Society. The Benin Red Cross through the new management has started carrying out its humanitarian activities towards alleviating the suffering of the vulnerable people in the country.

### Ghana

#### Health and Care

**Objective:** Capacity of the GRCS is strengthened at all levels to promote health and prevent diseases and respond to public health in emergencies.

In its community based accelerated child survival programme, the Ghana Red Cross Society (GRCS) procured and distributed motorbikes to all project districts as well as the delivery of a pick up van for project activities. The National Society also procured training and IEC materials and T-shirts for the roll out phase of the programme. A training of trainers' workshop was held in August 2007 for the regional secretaries, district organizers, Mothers' Clubs facilitators, public health nurses to prepare them to carry out activities in their respective programme areas. However, since the programme is still in its preparatory phase, it would be too early to measure its impact on the target population.

In its efforts to contribute to the eradication of guinea worm by 2007, the Ghana Red Cross Society strengthened supervision, contribution to active surveillance and improving filter coverage. Emphasis was also placed on health and hygiene education particularly on the causes of guinea worm, effects and prevention. The activities of the National Society in this regard strengthened the capacity of women volunteers in advocacy skills, the use of water filters, identification and management of the disease. The GRCS also ensured monitoring of the programme at all levels. A total of 2,170,751 cloth filters was distributed in all the 15 endemic communities in 2007.

Training and monthly meetings were organized during this period. These meetings offered opportunity for supervisors and volunteers to share experience in best practices, discuss challenges and plan the way forward. The strategy of the door-to-door and case detection mechanism as well as the active involvement of the Mothers' Clubs effectively contributed to the reduction of cases in these communities.

In contributing to the reduction of HIV/AIDS cases through awareness activities, the GRCS reached out to 1,289 commercial workers and their regular partners. Out of this number, 120 were screened for STI and referred for treatment. The project also sold 91,818 condoms; 90,246 male condoms and 1,572 female condoms

The GRCS through its team of volunteers actively mobilized people for the meningitis vaccination exercise during this period while it also carried out community education on the Avian Influenza during this period. It should be noted that CSM and AI were the only Federation supported programmes in health and care during this period.

However, inadequate funding and motivation for volunteers constituted a major constraint to effective programme implementation during this period.

## Organizational and Capacity Development

During 2006-2007, the GRCS strengthened its management team with the recruitment of a programme officer, fundraising officer and a communication officer. They have since prepared a plan of action in line with the National Society's development plan. They have been actively involved in the implementation of the GRCS programmes and have been attending trainings and workshops in and outside Ghana to enhance their capacity.

During 2007, the GRCS elected a new governing board for the National Society. The board is expected to undergo good governance training in 2008. The National Society has also moved to its new permanent headquarters. It is expected that the relatively comfortable office complex will enhance the services of the Red Cross to the vulnerable communities.

The GRCS has also been implementing its intensive capacity building project with emphasis placed on strengthening capacity at the community level. The GRCS is improving its first aid services to corporate organization as a means of improving its revenue source. During this period, Mothers' Clubs received assistance to improve on their internal revenue generating activities thereby improving the lives of their families.

## Nigeria

### Health and Care

#### Community-based Health Programme (CBHP)

**Objective:** The capacity of the Nigerian Red Cross Society to deliver efficient services and improve the health of the vulnerable is increased by the end of 2007.

To improve its community based health programme, the Nigerian Red Cross Society (NRCS) contributed to improving the lives of women in the communities through skill acquisition programme. The lives of women have improved through their revenue generating activities. This has empowered the women to contribute to the sustainability of their families. During this period, the NRCS used the Mothers' Club concept as an entry point in its various health interventions such as malaria, measles, child survival as well as water and sanitation activities. Through the Mothers' Clubs, the National Society improved sanitation hygiene in 30 states with increased house-to-house health promotion.

With increased standardization of first aid services through quality assurance system and supply

of new first aid kits to all its branches, the NRCS responded effectively to casualties during 2006-2007. The National Society also increased its first aid services to other organization in the form of training during this period.

The NRCS organized periodic training and refresher programmes in health and hygiene to its staff and volunteers. In 2007, a total of 72 volunteers benefited from a refresher health education course while a total of 90 volunteers were trained in community based disaster management. More volunteers were trained in epidemic control and they have continued to provide health education in their various communities.

The NRCS strengthened its Emergency First Aid Teams (EFATs) by recruitment and training of more volunteers. It also updated its school unit membership in the branches by collating and analyzing the monthly reports from the units. In 2007, the National Society volunteers reached a total of 150 communities and 350 households comprising of 800 families of 5,552 beneficiaries

## HIV/AIDS

**Objective:** The Nigerian Red Cross capacity to effectively deliver assistance to vulnerable PLWHA or person affected by HIV/AIDS and to reduce the HIV/AIDS spread among the general population is increased.

During 2006-2007, the NRCS conducted training in Youth Peer Education for HIV/AIDS project in its branches across the country. The participants in turn carried out the HIV/AIDS messages to their respective communities. Adequate and relevant HIV/AIDS IEC materials, Home Based Care and Counsellors Kits were produced, distributed and maintained by all 37 branches. The NRCS continued to spread the message of prevention and protection against HIV/AIDS and other STI in the country during 2006-2007.

The NRCS held meetings with partners on how to increase knowledge of HIV/AIDS among young people in particular and the community in general. Meetings were held with the American Red Cross, the British Red Cross and the Swedish Red Cross. The National Society was actively involved in the Global HIV/AIDS Initiative in Nigeria (GHAIN) in 2006.

However, lack of adequate first aid training materials, inadequate first aid assessors in all the branches, difficulty in programme implementation because of bad terrain, inadequate home base care component and lack of fund to respond promptly to epidemic outbreak are some the challenges the National Society faced in health and care during this period.

## Disaster Management

**Objective:** The capacity of the Nigerian Red Cross Society to effectively reduce vulnerability, prepare and respond to disaster is increased.

During 2006-2007, the NRCS through its team of volunteers intervened in many disasters across the country. Some of these disasters included communal conflicts, political violence, floods, building collapse. The interventions were in the form of emergency first aid, evacuation, psychological support and health and hygiene education. The National Society now has its Emergency First Aid Team (EFAT) fully operational in all the 37 branches. Regular training and refresher programmes were also organized for the volunteers in the area of disaster management. The National Society also trained its staff and volunteers in contingency planning techniques. The NRCS intensified its activities in Community Based Disaster Management (CBDM) with the involvement of women groups in training. The participants are now sharing this knowledge in their various communities.

The National headquarters gave logistics support to the branches and this effort has really improved the activities of the branches as well as increased communication between the branches and the headquarters in terms of disaster management.

The NRCS purchased and distributed disaster management kits such as Red Cross flag, stretchers, bibs, helmets and face masks to all branches. This along with the different training programmes enhanced the operational skills of the volunteers during disaster in 2006-2007.

The NRCS also conducted training in disaster management to other organizations. During such training, the National Society enlightened participants on the roles and responsibilities of the Red Cross during disaster and disaster risk reduction management. Many organizations are now aware of the activities of the NRCS.

During the 2007 general elections in Nigeria, the national society mobilized a total of 111,480 Red Cross staff and volunteers to provide humanitarian services in the country. The Red Cross gave treatment to a total of 2,070 injured people during the election period. This effort greatly improved the image of the Red Cross in the country.

The organizational and human capacities of some branches need to be strengthened. The branches need to do more community based activities. There is the need to organize good reporting training on disaster in the branches. Improved monitoring and regular assessment visits to branches are very necessary in improving the services to the vulnerable population. Another major problem encountered during the period is the non-functioning of the National Society's communication tools such as HF and VHF Radios to cover the entire country; not only in the branches but also at the NHQ.

## Principles and Values

**Objective:** The Nigerian Red Cross capacity to promote the Fundamental Principles and Humanitarian Values is increased.

During 2006-2007, to improve the image of the Red Cross, the NRCS increased the production and distribution of its publication to internal and external public. The National Society reviewed, printed and distributed the Society's emblem brochure that includes information on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Additional Protocol to the Geneva Conventions. In 2006, the NRCS produced a 10-minutes documentary on its 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary and organized media coverage for the National Society's activities. It also actively participated in the anniversary to mark the World Red Cross Day in 2006 and 2007.

## Capacity Development

**Objective:** The NRCS capacity to provide sustainable, focused and responsive services to the vulnerable is improved.

In December 2007, the Nigerian Red Cross Society successfully elected its new governing board. The new board members and the management are expected to attend good governance workshop in the first quarter of 2008. During the period 2006-2007, the national headquarters conducted orientation exercise for new governance members in some branches after facilitating the successful conduct of election in these branches. In the same vain, the NRCS regularly organized training programmes for its management staff and volunteers at levels. In 2006 and with support from the Federation, a total number of 140 Community Volunteer Leaders were

trained in 14 state branches. This was in line with the objective of the National Society's volunteer development strategy. The National Society carried out some activities to strengthen its Youth Development Programme. In 2006, it successfully hosted the International Youth Camp. The NRCS organized a round table discussion on "Youth and Violence" during its 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

To enhance its revenue base, the NRCS strengthened its commercial first aid activities. It also collaborated with other organizations in fundraising activities such as concerts. It entered into partnership with corporate organizations such as Coca-cola (Disaster Management), First City Monument Bank (Disaster Relief Fund), Guaranty Trust Bank (Online Fundraising) and MTN Foundation (Philanthropic Support).

The NRCS is expected to move into a more befitting office complex to serve as temporary headquarters in the first quarter of 2008 while the branch office in Rivers State was renovated by the state government in 2007.

The organizational development department could not carry out most of the activities slated for this period because of lack of funding. For instance, the youth programme could not be implemented because of financial constraint. There is need to source for funding to carry out the basic preparations and follow up of the youth camp for maximum impact. Means of making minimum contributions to youth wing activities should be evolved and sustained.

Branches should be encouraged to initiate activities that are beneficial to the vulnerable people and to improve on their cooperation with the NHQ in carrying out activities assigned to them.

## Working in partnership

The Red Cross of Benin worked closely with the Federation, the ICRC and the Belgian Red Cross in its organizational development process. It is equally working in partnership with the state-owned radio and television stations to enhance the image of the Red Cross in the country. Till the end of the first quarter of 2007, the national society continued to have the support of the Belgian Red Cross, the government and the ICRC in its Child Protection project. As an auxiliary institution to the government, the Red Cross Benin worked closely with the Ministry of Health in the area of community mobilization for vaccination. The GRCS as a member of the Recovery Committee of the National Disaster Management Organization (NADMO) has been working in close collaboration with NADMO in alleviating the suffering of the vulnerable people in Ghana. During 2006-2007, The National Society worked in partnership with other organizations such as UNICEF, ICRC, Ghana Ministry of Health, the Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies. The NRCS is an active member of National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), Inter-agency Coordinating Committee (ICC) on Immunizations and Epidemics Preparedness and Response, National Agency for the Control of AIDS (NACA), as well as member of National Social Mobilization Working Group (NSMWG). During 2006-2007, there was also close collaboration with UNICEF, WHO, DFID, USAID as well as the Federal Ministry of Health. The Federation and ICRC supported the Nigerian Red Cross Society in building capacity. During the elections, the Federation provided logistic support to the NRCS. British Red Cross, Swedish Red Cross and the Federation supported the community based health programmes, disaster preparedness, scaling up HIV/AIDS intervention, and Health and Care in general. They assisted the National Society to develop its volunteer base and improve management systems. The Norwegian Red Cross and Finish Red Cross also supported the NRCS.

## Contributing to longer-term impact

The empowerment of families through the Mothers' Clubs and the building of community capacity in health and disaster management have contributed though in a smaller in reducing suffering and loss of lives in the communities in Ghana and Nigeria. The recruitment process of the management team of the Red Cross of Benin which produced 2 competent female staff in the management of the Red Cross Benin has highly integrated the gender issue as the 5-man management team has 2 qualified and competent women recruited by a professional recruitment firm. The activities of the Red Cross in the communities during 2006-2007 involved a lot of women through the Mothers' Clubs in the dissemination of health and hygiene messages. This has impacted a lot as the community people can now share information through their own languages. The activities of Youth Peer Educators in Nigeria have been contributing to the prevention of HIV/AIDS and reduction of vulnerability among the youths. The intervention of the NRCS's EFATs members during the elections has reduced the number of deaths from election violence while the social mobilization activities of the National Society have increased the acceptability and demand for polio and measles vaccine in the northern part of Nigeria.

## Looking ahead

In Benin, it is expected that the new management team and the governing board put in 2006-2007 will work towards Red Cross humanitarian service delivery to the vulnerable people in Benin. In Ghana and Nigeria, it is hoped that their newly constituted governing boards will work in collaboration with their respective management teams to win back the confidence of partners. With availability of fund the GRCS and the NRCS should be able to implement major programmes they were unable to carry out between January and June. Some of the activities the National Societies were not able to implement during 2006-2007 would be included the next appeal plan.

How we work	
<p>All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the <a href="#">Code of Conduct</a> and is committed to the <a href="#">Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (Sphere)</a> in delivering quality and accountable 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 <a href="http://www.ifrc.org">http://www.ifrc.org</a></p>	
<p>The International Federation's activities are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".</p>	<p><b>Global Agenda Goals:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.</li> <li>• Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.</li> <li>• Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.</li> <li>• Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.</li> </ul>
Contact information	
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