

Annual report

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Sierra Leone

Appeal No. MAASL001

12/05/2009

This report covers the period 1/January/2008 to 31/December/2008.



Some of the beneficiaries of the CAR project at one of centres. **SLRCS**

In brief

Programme purpose: The National Society programmes, in line with Federation's Global Agenda Goals, aim to strengthen capacity at community, branch and headquarters levels.

Programme summary: The Sierra Leone Red Cross Society (SLRCS) carried out activities in 2008 with support from the International Federation and other Movement partners. The pilot project of the West Africa Disaster Management Capacity Building (WADMCB) was launched in Sierra Leone in March 2008 and activities are ongoing. It is a partnership project between the SLRCS, the Federation, the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (SCCA) and the Swedish Red Cross. With the granting of extension, the European Commission funded community disaster preparedness project continued till December 2008. The project also contained some health and care activities. The SLRCS carried out various activities in its health and care programme during 2008. Sensitization sessions on HIV/AIDS, Avian Influenza, TB, Lassa fever and meningitis were organized in some target communities across the country. The malaria keep-up project continued while staff of the National Society participated in various health meetings within and outside Sierra Leone. The community-based health programme (CBHP) evaluation was carried during this reporting period. The SLRCS also carried out water and sanitation (Watsan) activities during 2008. To ensure a "Strong Red Cross for a better Sierra Leone", the SLRCS continued to strengthen its organizational capacity to effectively carry out its work and to improve on its reporting and service delivery. The Federation Finance Development Delegate continued to work with the finance department in strengthening its capacity in financial management and reporting. The Delegate assisted in setting up operational accounting software systems for proper accounting controls. The human resources unit of the National Society conducted training on appraisals and objective settings for branches as well as headquarters staff. The SLRCS developed a business plan and fundraising policy. During

2008, the National Society continued to work on its Operational Alliance process focusing on humanitarian values and organizational development (OD). The National Society continued to work within the framework of the 8-NS Initiative focusing on OD. It also continued to work on bilateral with the Spanish Red Cross in OD. The humanitarian values activities of the SLRCS continued to improve the lives of the vulnerable people mostly affected by the war. With the closing of its delegation in Sierra Leone and scaling down of its activities in-country, ICRC continued to provide technical and financial support to the National Society in the areas of dissemination, restoring family links, first-aid training and assistance especially in the CAR project. The National Society continued to make efforts to improve on partnership coordination and reporting issues. The audit reports for 2006 and 2007 were completed during the year.

Three key management positions, the director of programmes, director of finance and social welfare coordinator became vacant in 2008, leaving major gaps in management functions. However, the National Society appointed some employees to fill these vacant posts in acting capacity.

Financial situation: The total 2008 budget is **CHF 4,423,906 (USD 3,893,940 or EUR 2,934,403)**, of which 62 per cent covered. Expenditure overall was 49 percent.

[Click here to go directly to the attached financial report.](#)

See also [Programme update no. 1](#)

No. of people we help: A total of 68,600 people including children benefited directly from secretariat-supported programme interventions during the reporting period.

Our partners: The SLRCS worked in partnership with national institutions like the Ministry of Health and Sanitation, the Ministry of Education Science and Technology, National AIDS Secretariat, Office of National Security, National Commission for Social Action and International Organizations like the World Health Organization, UNICEF, United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, UNAIDS, MAMASNET; other partners such as British Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross, Danish Red Cross, the European Commission, Finnish Red Cross/Government, Icelandic Red Cross, the Global Fund, Netherlands Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross, Spanish Red Cross (and their back donors), Swedish Red Cross/Government (including the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency); Swiss Red Cross/Solidarity Chain, and Private donors. The SLRCS also worked in close partnership with other Movement partners such as the Federation and the ICRC.

Context

Sierra Leone experienced relative socio-political stability during 2008 though there was tension between the leading political parties prior to the July 2008 local council elections. The elections described by UN officials as another step towards enhancing the country's democratic process, witnessed some violent clashes between political parties during the first half of the year. Corruption and abject poverty still constitute a major challenge in the country with high rate of unemployment among young people. The increase in the prices of staple commodities and fuel contributed to the high cost of living among the population. Despite cases of theft in some of its vocational and rehabilitation centres coupled with the bad state of roads in the country, the Sierra Leone Red Cross Society (SLRCS) continued to carry out its humanitarian activities to the vulnerable population across the country. The National Society assisted war affected people including children in the areas of rehabilitation and self sustainability and continued to sensitize the population on good hygiene and other health related issues.

Progress towards outcomes

Disaster Management

Programme component 1: Disaster response capacity building

Outcomes

- A disaster management information system (DMIS) is developed and maintained;
- Quality control and minimum standards for better disaster management are in place and respected;
- Development of first aid training curriculum and manual to be used as a guide to motivate and improve trainers' knowledge, skills and attitudes through first-aid training workshops;
- Capacities of hospital out-patients department (OPD), Public Health Units (PHU), Red Cross personnel, community volunteers and Blue Flag volunteers to respond to emergencies are improved through adequate emergency first aid training, provision of 270 first aid and four complete cholera kits;
- The SLRCS disaster management (DM) training tools are developed to adequately equip trainers with the necessary knowledge, skills and attitudes;
- Sufficient and appropriate logistics, IT and telecommunications systems exist and properly used in DM activities;
- A national disaster plan is produced by the Government of Sierra Leone (GoSL) with support from the Red Cross, and key stakeholders at central level are sensitized about disaster management preparedness;
- The capacity of the SLRCS for timely disaster response and disaster reporting is improved;
- The DM programme ensures that financial and technical dependence by communities, districts and national HQ on external support is reduced in the long term.

Achievements

In 2008, the Action Teams of the SLRCS responded to the windstorm and fire disaster that occurred in some communities in Tonkolili, Port Loko and Bonthe districts. The teams in the respective branches responded by conducting initial assessments and re-assessments in disaster areas and provided non-food items to the victims. Volunteers of the Western Area branch in Freetown worked in collaboration with the National Tourist Board, Beach Wardens and Life Guards, in providing first-aid services on beaches. Assessment of tracing needs was done and as part of the agreed phasing out plan of the ICRC, capacity is being built for work in Restoring Family Links (RFL), which is now integrated into disaster management. A tracing manual with disaster management module as an integral part was produced by the National Society. The National Society attended the monthly National Child Protection and District Coordination and Technical meetings. The SLRCS tracing team followed up active cases and sent reminders to its branches and other sister national societies. As at the third quarter of 2008, the SLRCS transmitted a total of 60 case follow-up results to other national societies through the ICRC.

Constraint

Logistics constituted a major constraint particularly in synchronizing rescue operation at different locations.

Programme component 2: Community based disaster risk reduction and preparedness

Outcomes

- Vulnerabilities and capacities of target communities are known and measures taken to prevent, mitigate and respond to them in the most appropriate ways;

- Community-based disaster management committees (CBDMC) have been established at community level and a national disaster response team (NDRT) is formed at national level;
- The capacity of CBDMC, NDRT, SLRCS volunteers/staff and blue flag volunteers to manage disasters is improved through adequate DM training;
- Risk reduction activities are sustained through CBDMC empowerment, as identification and mapping of the main disaster risks have been carried out at chiefdom level. Corresponding contingency plans (at district level) and risk-mitigating activities are expected to be designed and communities are sensitized about those risks.

Achievements

The SLRCS continued to carry out activities under the European Commission funded DM project till December 2008 based on the granting of request for extension of the project. Community based disaster preparedness activities were carried out in all the 13 branches of the National Society and some state institutions. The activities focused mainly on DM planning, strengthening of the SLRCS logistics and communications systems at the headquarters and in the 13 district branches. Some other health related activities were also carried out under this project. The SLRCS procured and distributed emergency first-aid kits to some staff of the Government of Sierra Leone and hospitals. The National Society also procured cholera kits.

The SLRCS set up Community Based Disaster Management Committees (CBDMCs) with members trained in disaster mapping and risk reduction activities. In addition to the trained members of the CBDMCs, other group of persons also received emergency first-aid training. They included government personnel in district referral hospitals and primary health units. Others were drawn from the Blue Flag and community volunteers as well as volunteers and staff of the SLRCS. The National Society started the process of procuring and distributing first-aid kits to the beneficiaries. The project activities were designed to build upon and complement the cooperation between the SLRCS and the Ministry of Health & Sanitation with regard to first-aid services and disaster management issues. In preparation for the local council elections across the country in July 2008, the National Society conducted emergency first aid training in Moyamba, Bonthe, Pujehun and Kailahun branches. This was part of the elections contingency plan supported by the ICRC.

Forty-five communities in the nine DM capacity building branches carried out risk reduction activities through the construction of river banks and fire belts, after completing the Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (VCA) in their various communities.

In collaboration with the Spanish Red Cross country team, plans were put in place to kick-start the DISAO+ supported DM project in four branches; Bombali, Tonkolili, Kono and Koinadugu. The project document was finalized and the terms of reference developed. The criteria for the selection of participants from the branches in community-based first aid training were also developed under the project.

Constraints

The department continued to face the challenge of late reporting (narrative and financial) from the field.

Programme component 3: Coordination and partnerships in disaster management

Outcomes

- Efficient coordination in disaster planning and response;
- Sustainable partnerships are established and maintained.

Achievements

A regional DM capacity building project was launched in Freetown in March 2008. The Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (SCCA), the Swedish Red Cross and the Federation are partnering

with Red Cross national societies of Liberia, Nigeria and Sierra Leone to implement the project aiming at building DM capacity at the community level. The pilot project which is ongoing is also expected to focus on improving national relations and cooperation as well as disaster management policies, structure and strategies. In May 2008, a DM consultant visited Sierra Leone in pursuance of the objective to learn more about other partners' expectations on disaster management initiatives of the SLRCS and possible interface to enhance future collaboration. The SLRCS with the other two national societies participated in a training workshop in Liberia in August 2008. The SLRCS also entered into partnership with the Spanish Red Cross in DM project (DISAO+).

Health and Care

Programme component 1: HIV and AIDS

Outcomes

- Increased knowledge on STI/HIV/AIDS through social mobilization of communities in 13 branches;
- Stigma and discrimination of people living with HIV (PLWH) is reduced in SLRCS operational areas;
- Improved quality support to PLWH;
- Strengthening collaboration with PLWH, MoH, NAS, UN Agencies and other NGOs including women and youth groups.

Achievements

With support from the National AIDS Secretariat (NAS), the SLRCS carried out home based care for people living with HIV (PLWH) and orphan and vulnerable children (OVC) in Bombali district. Twenty of them received training in income generating activities and were provided with start-up kits at the completion of the training. The National Society also assisted the vulnerable children with nutritional support while 41 PLWH received home care kits. The SLRCS also provided educational support to 56 OVC in the Bombali branch. The SLRCS youth peer educators continued to organize weekly health talks on HIV/AIDS in their communities. About 582 youth peer-educators in 62 schools and five out of school youths in all 13 branches were engaged. With its HIV/AIDS messages, the National Society recorded an increased demand for condoms during this period. A total of 12,240 pieces of condoms was procured and distributed to community people during 2008. The Red Cross volunteers also carried out sensitization activities on HIV/AIDS during 2008. The PLWH activities have increased positive living condition among PLWH.

Programme component 2: Voluntary non-remunerated blood donation

Outcomes

- The general public is well sensitized and are donating safe blood at the various centres.
- By the end of 2009 voluntary blood donation is increased by 10 percent in the operational areas.

Programme component 3: Community-based health care

Outcomes

- Community social mobilization activities are intensified and volunteer capacity is improved to operate within the ARCHI 2010 framework;
- Sustainable primary health care (PHC) services are provided to the most vulnerable in 13 SLRCS branches;
- Collaboration and coordination with the Ministry of Health (MoH), UN agencies, and NGOs are strengthened.

Achievements

The National Society continued to implement its public health in emergency programme during 2008. The SLRCS carried out social mobilisation for awareness creation in operational

communities in all the 13 administrative districts. The social mobilisation, through health talks focused on personal hygiene, diarrhoea, malaria and the use of insecticides treated nets (ITN) as well as STI/HIV/AIDS. The branch health and operations coordinators continued to monitor the use of ITN in communities where mosquito nets were distributed. The Red Cross carried out quarterly community sensitization meetings on measles, TB, tetanus, diphtheria, whooping cough, polio and vitamin A deficiency. The community volunteers continued to carry out house-to-house visits for health promotional education. Mothers' clubs formed in all the 13 branches were also engaged in house-to-house visits for follow up and carried out health promotional talks among the community people. Primary health care clinics continued to provide health care services to children less than five years, pregnant women and lactating mothers. These activities impacted positively as less cases of malnutrition were recorded in target communities. Immunization coverage also increased during 2008 because of the activities of the Red Cross volunteers including members of the mothers' club.

The National Society in its malaria keep-up activities mobilized 1,870 volunteers who in turn reached 47,335 households in 8 branches with the keep-up messages. The SLRCS also developed and produced IEC/BCC materials on avian influenza, malaria, water and sanitation. The use of mosquito nets increased in communities where keep-up activities were carried out by the volunteers.

The National Society with the British Red Cross, Swedish Red Cross and the Federation carried out joint CBHP evaluation exercise during the last quarter of 2008. The SLRCS hopes to use the outcome of the exercise for its programme planning and resource mobilization in its integrated community health activities.

The SLRCS CBHP coordinators monitored and assessed programme implementation in the branches. During this period, they encouraged and provided support to staff and volunteers of the Red Cross in the field. In strengthening the capacity of the SLRCS staff in CBHP, the National Society staff participated in various trainings and workshops within and outside Sierra Leone during 2008.

Programme component 4: Water and sanitation (Watsan)

Outcome

Access to safe drinking water and sanitary latrines improved in 170 communities using the Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation (PHAST) approach.

Achievements

The National Society conducted two refresher training sessions for sixty community volunteers in PHAST methodology in two districts. The community volunteers did follow up home visits to ensure that PHAST methodology was implemented. The SLRCS chlorinated 278 traditional wells in 25 communities and rehabilitated 33 hand pumps and traditional in all the districts in 2008. This effort has reduced outbreak of waterborne diseases in the beneficiary communities. During this reporting period, ICRC supported watsan activities were completed with the construction of nine latrines and five lined water wells. The Red Cross volunteers also carried out sensitization on safe drinking water using the PHAST methodology. The SLRCS in collaboration with the Ministry of Health conducted training in Watsan for 260 community volunteers in July 2008.

Constraints

Motivation for the Red Cross volunteers continued to constitute constraint to the health and care activities of the Red Cross. Many communities do not have clinics and the National Society had to organized mobile clinics to reach these communities. This effort of the Red Cross is hindered by poor logistics in terms of mobility and poor road network.

Capacity Building

Programme component 1: NS leadership capacities improvement

Outcomes

- Governance and operational structures are consistent with the law;
- The profile and standing of the SLRCS with the Government of Sierra Leone (GoSL) is strengthened.

Achievements

The SLRCS decentralization project funded by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) through the Canadian Red Cross (CRC) ended during the first quarter of 2008 after three years of implementation. The National Society continued to implement activities under its decentralization project. Through the project, the SLRCS developed and strengthened its structures and systems in branches and at headquarters. Input from the project is reflected in most of the organizational development activities during 2008. CIDA carried out an evaluation exercise of the project with the final narrative and financial reports produced. The CRC also submitted a new OD proposal and was approved. This was to further complement and fill gaps from the decentralisation project.

The SLRCS commenced a project to develop leadership training manual (LTM) with the aim of strengthening leadership at all levels in the SLRCS. The project funded by the Netherlands Red Cross was to promote good governance and management for effective service delivery.

Programme component 2: NS systems, procedures and staff sustainability

Outcome

The SLRCS finance department is restructured and strengthened to carry out financial management in an accountable, timely and transparent manner.

Achievements

The Finance Development Delegate continued to train the Finance team of the SLRCS. He assisted the National Society in reviewing and building its finance management structures and systems during 2008. The National Society developed a new chart of accounts data entry from 2007 and beyond. The Great Plains accounting software has been upgraded on the new chart of accounts with data entry completed in May 2008. A new book keeping system was developed for branches. The implementation of the new financial and accounting manual commenced in September 2008 both at headquarters and in the branches. The National Society also organized several training courses on draft financial and accounting manual at headquarters and in some branches for better implementation. All senior managers, coordinators, branch operations coordinators, branch treasurers, field finance officers and others attended the courses. The SLRCS developed its finance department organization chart. The National Society carried out its 2006 and 2007 audits through an external audit firm with the final reports shared with partners.

Following the resignation of the director of finance, an acting director of finance was appointed effective from June. The contract of the Finance Development Delegate was extended for another three months (till March 2009). This was to facilitate the process of smooth transfer of accounts and provide additional time for the new acting director of finance to better understand the systems and procedures. The Director of Programmes also resigned because of a prolonged ailment in May. An acting director of programmes was appointed during the third quarter of 2008.

Programme component 3: NS financial sustainability

Outcome

Income generation for sustainability is enhanced.

Achievements

The SLRCS engaged the services of a consultant to produce a business plan thanks to the Canadian Red Cross funding support. The National Society has been advocating for support for the implementation of the plan which could lead to sustainable local fundraising and resource mobilization. Branches carried out fundraising activities as the national headquarters organized fundraising and management training for branch operation coordinators and fundraisers during the second quarters of 2008.

With the employment of a national commercial first aid officer as part of the plan in reorganizing commercial first aid to maximize potentials, the SLRCS carried out feasibility study of the status of commercial first aid. Some of the steps taken in standardizing commercial first aid after the study include submission of the report of the assessment, submission of a proposal on training of instructors to the British Red Cross, submission of terms of reference and log frame with budget to the British Red Cross. The National Society also submitted a proposal on updated and standard instruction manual. As a result, the British Red Cross supported the SLRCS with 14 first aid training mannequins. The SLRCS also updated its brochure and reviewed its training charges.

Programme component 4: NS programme development and management capacity

Outcomes

- Enhanced staff performance and expanded quality membership and volunteer base are in place.
- Project design, planning, controlling, monitoring, evaluation, reporting and feedback are enhanced;
- SLRCS has settled its liabilities and built capacity to prevent reoccurrence;
- Logistics management capacity of headquarters, regions and branches is improved.

Achievements

During 2008, the SLRCS developed new appraisal system and carried out dissemination sessions on the new performance appraisals at the headquarters and in all the branches to ensure staff and governance members understand the process. To enhance the management capacity in information technology, the National Society developed a draft training and development IT policy. The SLRCS printed and distributed staff manual and HR policy to all members of staff. This effort has contributed to improved services on the part of the staff. The National Society's management staff at the headquarters and in the branches participated in various trainings and workshops to enhance their capacities in 2008.

With support from the NLRCS, the SLRCS created and launched its own website. The website has been contributing to filling the communication gap between partners, members of the public and the National Society. It is also enhancing the visibility of the Red Cross. Prospective volunteers and members now have access to information on volunteering and membership of the SLRCS. It is also assisting the National Society in its resource mobilization and fundraising activities.

The National Society organized a week long workshop on participatory, monitoring, evaluation and reporting for 6 project supervisors as part of activities under its development of structures. The project is funded by the NLRCS and aim at enhancing quality service delivery by the SLRCS to the vulnerable population in the country.

The logistics unit supported other units in effective implementation of activities in 2008. The SLRCS updated its logistics manual and distributed copies to staff at headquarters and in the branches. The unit also processed the custom clearance of relief items and other logistic equipment of the National Society in 2008. The unit received one used vehicle as donation from the ICRC. The logistics unit installed a new HF radio in the Bonthe branch and also undertaken routine maintenance of other HF and electronic equipment in other branches.

Constraints

Many of the motorbikes used for field operations are no more in good condition because of the poor road network across the country. They always break down and costs of repair keep increasing. Another major constraint is the retention and management of trained volunteers with strong competition from other humanitarian organizations with better motivation.

Principles and values

Programme component 1: Promotion of humanitarian principles and values

Outcomes

- The skills, knowledge and performance of staff and volunteers in dissemination have improved and there is territorial expansion in the dissemination of principles and values of the Movement;
- The dissemination of the Movement principles and values are integrated into other programmes;
- Staff and volunteers of the SLRCS are adhering to the communication policy and proper supervision at all levels;
- Government, public and donors recognize and support SLRCS as auxiliary to public authorities in humanitarian issues.

Achievements

In keeping with its mandate to disseminate International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and humanitarian principles, the Sierra Leone Red Cross Society (SLRCS) hosted this year's National IHL Moot Court competition for students in university colleges and tertiary institutions of Sierra Leone. The IHL Moot Court competition is a training event on IHL intended for students. The National Society conducted a workshop on the Red Cross emblem for professional bodies including members of the health sector, community people and pressmen, police and military personnel in Freetown during 2008. The SLRCS used the workshop to create awareness on the use and/or misuse of the emblem.

In collaboration with the ICRC, the SLRCS communication team carried out an assessment of the communication capacity of the National Society. A SLRCS profile was developed from the assessment. During the first quarter of 2008, the National Society and the ICRC carried out two joint dissemination sessions to a women advocacy organization and also to personnel of the country's Armed Forces. With support from the Canadian Red Cross, the Communication Coordinator of the National Society participated in a communication seminar jointly organised by the American Red Cross and the Federation in Washington in April 2008.

The National Society continued to promote its activities and enhance its visibility with the production and distribution of its newsletter. Collaboration with the country's print and electronic media also improved during 2008.

Constraints

Transportation is one of the major constraints to the effective implementation of activities planned. The only vehicle available is used together with DM/Tracing project. There is the need to hire more staff and increase the allowance of staff.

Programme component 2: Anti-discrimination and violence prevention/reduction – Child Advocacy and Rehabilitation (CAR)

Outcomes

- Child and human rights are promoted and advocated for project communities;
- The process of de-traumatizing war-affected children, fostering participation in healthy peer youth relationships is enhanced;
- Self reliance and development capacity of registered children at the centres is increased;

- Income generation and development awareness capacity of their own communities are initiated.

Achievements

The SLRCS continued to scale up activities in all its CAR centres. During the first quarter of 2008, a total of 450 beneficiaries graduated in various skills. The beneficiaries now put into practice the skill they acquired to generate revenue. The centres registered new beneficiaries and carried out orientation for them in all the centres. The Kailahun centre was formally commissioned during the first quarter of 2008. Some of the activities carried out in the centres included skill development training and basic education programme. The National Society also intensified its school reintegration project. 20 children were reintegrated into the formal school programme in Kambia with two dropping out. In Kailahun, 12 children were reintegrated while 22 were in reintegrated in Port-Loko. Interfacing activities with the project communities continued to increase thereby creating a sense of communal ownership of the project and willingness on the part of parents, guardians, community leaders and indeed the community as a whole to support the reintegration of youths and generally promote child protection and welfare.

The National Society continued its normal counselling sessions with the assistance of its activists in the centres. The activists conducted their sessions on one-on-one basis and also in group. A total of 326 male and 603 female participated in the one-on-one counselling in all the centres during 2008. A total of 759 home visits were also made during this period. The home visits focused more on resolving disputes between parents and beneficiaries. More parents and guardians now relate well with their children and understand better the rights of the child. This impacted a lot during 2008 as it has helped beneficiaries to come out and share their experiences during the war. The group counselling has raised the awareness of the beneficiaries on good hygiene practices, women's rights and empowerment. More women now participate in decision taking in their communities. The discussion on drug abuse has assisted in the reduction in the number of young people indulging in drug.

The Youth Empowerment Project (YEP) as an upgrade of the CAR project commenced in Waterloo. Six community groups were formed. The SLRCS received a donation of a piece of land in Deep Eye Water for the construction of a community training centre. Some 60 young people aged 18-30 years enrolled for the project; 15 each in carpentry, masonry, tailoring and welding. The focus of the project is to strengthen capacity both in skills and attitude for employment. To retain beneficiaries at the centre, the National Society commenced the provision of food for them during the second quarter of 2008. The SLRCS continued to provide medical care for beneficiaries at the YEP centre. The oldest bottling company in Sierra Leone, the Freetown Cold Storage funded the construction of one hut for masonry training.

The National Society continued to contribute to improving the lives of the beneficiaries in all the CAR centres. The feeding of beneficiaries continued during 2008. The feeding served as motivation to them as it contributed to their being punctual at the centres. The SLRCS organized regular games, sporting, drama and cultural activities for them. The drama groups performed at official public functions with messages on child abuse, drug abuse, child education as well as teenage pregnancy. All these activities have contributed to the healing of trauma among the children in the centres. The clinics at the centres continued to provide medical assistance to the beneficiaries and their children. Reported cases of epidemics reduced in the centres during 2008. The nanny centre in Kambia is now functioning. The nannies are taking good care of the children of the beneficiaries and their parents now concentrate on their vocational training.

During 2008, the SLRCS supported communities hosting the centres to enhance their means of livelihood. Eleven communities in Kailahun, Kambia and Port-Loko benefited from the Red Cross community support. The supports came in the form of micro finance, seedlings, farming tools. The SLRCS also organized a workshop on pre-project implementation for beneficiary communities. The community support project has contributed to improving the lives of beneficiaries in the target communities. The SLRCS organized community sensitization

workshops in target communities. The role of the communities in the CAR project, girl child education, the rights of the child, family planning and women development were some of the issues discussed during the workshops. This has enhanced the knowledge of the communities on these issues. Community Staff Association meetings were also held during 2008 to discuss issues such as volunteer membership visits of PNS teams and other community developmental activities.

Community Animation and Peace Support (CAPS)

Outcomes

- Community cohesion, family ties and the ability of communities to resolve conflict and strengthen structures for post-conflict reconstruction and social action are strengthened;
- Food cultivation, household and farm incomes and sustainable living standards are increased;
- Awareness and respect for human rights and participation of women and youth in community development is increased;
- Access to social services including shelter is increased;
- The capacity of SLRCS to address needs of war-torn communities and profile the project is increased;
- Collaboration and coordination with internal and external partners are effective.

Achievements

The SLRCS carried out its CAPS project in 24 target communities in Pujehun. The National Society constructed eight latrines and five lined water wells for the communities. In Bo and Moyamba, 10 lined water wells and 10 6-seater latrines were constructed by the National Society to improve access to safe drinking water as well as good hygiene among the beneficiaries. The Community-Based Health Programme (CBHP) of the SLRCS conducted complimentary training in hygiene promotion and campaigns (PHAST training) as part of the integrated approach in service delivery in the communities. The National Society procured and distributed shovels, head pans pickaxe and rakes to 25 target communities to enhance their environmental cleaning activities. These activities are impacting in these communities as they now look cleaner with monthly cleaning exercise carried out by the community people. Cases of reported water borne diseases have also reduced in these communities.

The project assisted these communities with farming tools and seedling for cultivation. The Red Cross procured and distributed bushels of rice and groundnut to the beneficiaries. The SLRCS also procured and distributed assorted construction tools such as shovels, head pans, pickaxes, rakes and wheelbarrows to the communities. The National Society trained 100 persons (45 women and 55 men) selected from 13 different communities on livestock management. The training is contributing improved livestock management. The SLRCS also organized soap making training for 24 women groups and 5 communities. Beneficiaries were provided with tools after the training. This has improved the revenue generating base of these rural women.

The National Society organized peace building and animation sessions and created community peace consolidation committees (CPCCs). The CPCC supported animators to facilitate group discussions focusing on community development issues. The SLRCS also organized 2 peace festivals in Fullawahun and Senahun to promote peace among the communities. The National Society also carried out training in conflict transformation, human rights and formed Human Right Peace Monitoring Committees at community level. Conflict resolution at community level improved during 2008. The peace activities are also helping in fostering good relationship among the community people.

War Amputees Reintegration Empowerment (WARE)

Outcomes

- Capacity of war amputees is enhanced for sustainable livelihood;
- School going children of war amputees are supported to begin/continue schooling;

- Awareness and support is raised in the public on war amputee issues;
- War amputees receive psychosocial support.

Achievements

At the completion of their vocational skill training, the SLRCS provided start-up kits to 20 beneficiaries including 10 amputees in tailoring, 10 in soap making. The beneficiaries are now empowered and have started practising their skills to sustain their living. The project registered 40 new amputees and they were undergoing training in tailoring and soap making as at December 2008 in Pujehun. 20 others were also registered for the same skill acquisition programme in Port-Loko. The National Society supported 300 children of the amputees by providing them with books and paying their school fees.

The Red Cross organized recreational and sporting activities for the beneficiaries to heal their trauma. Radio discussion programme was also organized on positive living with amputation. The National Society also organized adult literacy lessons in the Pujehun branch.

Community Reintegration and Development Project (CRDP)

Outcomes

- 50 target communities increase their community cohesion and their ability to resolve conflicts;
- 50 target communities increase their food production, household and farm income and sustainable living standards;
- Increase awareness and respect for human rights in community development in 50 targeted communities;
- 20 communities have access to clean potable water and sanitation facilities and practice improved hygiene behaviours;
- Improved awareness and knowledge on STI and HIV/AIDS in 50 target communities;
- Self reliance capacity and income generation capacity of 150 selected children are increased in Koinadugu District.

Achievement

Funding for the project ended in the last quarter of 2007.

Constraints

There is lack of adequate accommodation in all the centres for beneficiaries coming from far away communities. Theft of start up kits for beneficiaries is a big challenge but collaboration with security forces and the communities is helping in this regard. The bad state of roads and the bad condition of the motorcycles used for operation hampered activities during this reporting period. There is the need for water well and recreational facilities in the Kailahun centre. Beneficiaries trek long distance to fetch water. Late submission of reports to the headquarters is another major challenge during 2008.

Coordination

With the phasing out of the Federation delegation and the ICRC office in Sierra Leone, the National Society continued to work closely with its Movement partners for effective coordination of its programmes. The Finance Development Delegate of the Federation supported the National Society in developing its financial systems and procedures. Federation supported programmes of the National Society is being coordinated from the West Coast regional office in Abuja, Nigeria. The National Society played host to different teams from its partners who visited the country to assess progress made and impact of the Red Cross activities in improving the lives of the vulnerable people. The SLRCS also used these visits to discuss with partners on planning, implementation and funding of its programmes.

Working in partnership

The SLRCS continued to work in close collaboration with partners both in-country and outside. The National Society continued to receive the support of its bilateral and multilateral partners in implementing its core programmes. The National Society is also strengthening its local partnerships with corporate organizations and government agencies. A partnership meeting was held in March 2008 in Freetown with representatives of British, Swedish, Canadian, Icelandic, Finnish, Netherlands and Spanish Red Cross Societies. ICRC and the Federation also attended the meeting. It was decided at the meeting that the National Society needed to improve on its activities especially in the area of finance management, reporting and partnership cooperation since the Federation delegation was phasing out during that period. In this regard, the Swedish Red Cross engaged the services of a consultant to work with the National Society in developing structures, systems and approaches in enhancing partner cooperation. Officials of the National Society participated in the 8-NS Africa Initiative meeting in Abidjan during the month of April 2008. The SLRCS made presentation on its OD activities. The Management Committee of the SLRCS met and endorsed Operation Alliance (OA) as a viable option for partnership coordination. The Committee agreed to roll out OA in organizational development and humanitarian values (with project like CAR, CAPS, YEP and WARE). A two-day workshop on "Improving partner cooperation – the concept of Cooperation Agreement Strategy and Operational Alliance" was held with broad based participation from governance and management bodies from the field and headquarters. The Transformation Plan 2013 also provided a clear path for the SLRCS.

Contributing to longer-term impact

The humanitarian activities of the SLRCS to improve the lives of war affected vulnerable communities are impacting positively on the beneficiaries and the communities in general. Many of the war affected people who are beneficiaries of the Red Cross programmes are now using the knowledge acquired in the centres to generate revenue and improve their well being. Most communities now peacefully settle conflicts even without resorting to the court of law. Women now participate more in community meetings and decision making. Cases of violence among youths and against women are reducing. Beneficiaries working in group now assist in promoting peace in their communities. The health related activities have assisted in reducing cases of water borne diseases which in the long term are also increasing the income level of households as they are now spending less on treatment. There is increase in the number of people interested in Red Cross activities thereby increasing the enrolment rate of volunteers. Increased awareness of staff on proper management systems has been effectively contributing to service delivery to the communities.

Programme coordinators ensure regular visits to the field to assess progress made and give support as well as encouragement to staff and volunteers. This effort has contributed to improved service delivery in the communities. Field visits carried out by some partners during this reporting period have also encouraged staff and volunteers of the National Society. These visits have also encouraged beneficiaries who see the visits as an appreciation of their efforts to rebuild their communities. Seeing the positive impact of SLRCS programmes on the communities, other sister national societies whose countries have gone through the Sierra Leone experience are now soliciting the technical support of the SLRCS in replicating same in their respective countries. The fundraising activities and the commercial first aid project of the National Society are expected to improve the revenue base of the SLRCS.

Looking ahead

The SLRCS will continue to scale up its activities and reach more target beneficiaries as success recorded during 2008 needs to be sustained. The SLRCS will adopt the concept of Operational Alliance (OA) as its main vehicle for streamlining partner cooperation. The National Society is finalizing preparation for its partnership meeting scheduled for the first quarter of

2009. One of the main issues to be discussed at the meeting will be the AO. The National Society will carry out its 2008 audit during the first quarter of 2009. It shall continue to improve on its financial management systems, reporting and communication. The SLRCS plans to redesign its health programme. Monthly reports shall henceforth be sent not only to the Federation but also to partners of the SLRCS. The National Society will also join others in celebrating the 150 years of the Red Cross during 2009. The General Assembly of the SLRCS will be meeting during first quarter of 2009 to elect a new governing board. With new members expected on board, the National Society is developing a new leadership training manual that would be used during training for the new incoming members. The SLRCS will continue to coordinate activities of Movement partners in the country in close collaboration with the West Coast regional representation of the Federation in Nigeria and the ICRC office in Guinea Conakry.

How we work	
<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>Global Agenda Goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters. • Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies. • Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability. • Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.
Contact information	
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International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAASL001 - Sierra Leone

Annual report 2008

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2008/1-2008/12
Budget Timeframe	2008/1-2008/12
Appeal	MAASL001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
A. Budget	427,808	580,803	1,035,091	2,294,889	85,316	4,423,906
B. Opening Balance	65,547	409,285	390,988	1,261,843	73,673	2,201,335
Income						
<u>Cash contributions</u>						
<i>British Red Cross</i>		591	109,252	0	0	109,844
<i>Canadian Red Cross</i>			10,400			10,400
<i>Danish Red Cross</i>		43				43
<i>European Commission, Europe Aid</i>	307,090					307,090
<i>Finnish Red Cross</i>	0	9,067		0		9,067
<i>Finnish Red Cross (from Finnish Government)</i>		51,378		0		51,378
<i>Icelandic Red Cross</i>			9,550	934	195	10,678
<i>Icelandic Red Cross (from Icelandic Government)</i>				-227		-227
<i>Irish Government</i>			71,030			71,030
<i>Netherlands Red Cross</i>			4			4
<i>Netherlands Red Cross (from Netherlands Government)</i>			5,756			5,756
<i>Norwegian Red Cross</i>			591			591
<i>Other</i>	-21	-1,751	-3,873	-706	-195	-6,547
<i>Swedish Red Cross</i>		558	0	0		558
<i>Swedish Red Cross (from Swedish Government)</i>	9,028	558	37,587	1,099	0	48,272
<i>Swiss Red Cross</i>				12,600		12,600
C1. Cash contributions	316,097	60,445	240,296	13,699	0	630,537
<u>Outstanding pledges (Revalued)</u>						
<i>Danish Red Cross</i>		-30,229				-30,229
<i>European Commission, Europe Aid</i>	-42,423					-42,423
<i>Netherlands Red Cross (from Netherlands Government)</i>			-5,945			-5,945
<i>Swiss Red Cross</i>				-12,600		-12,600
C2. Outstanding pledges (Revalued)	-42,423	-30,229	-5,945	-12,600		-91,197
<u>Inkind Personnel</u>						
<i>Danish Red Cross</i>		1,992				1,992
C4. Inkind Personnel		1,992				1,992
<u>Other Income</u>						
<i>Miscellaneous Income</i>			8,760	-12,250	16,532	13,042
<i>Services</i>					6,273	6,273
C5. Other Income			8,760	-12,250	22,805	19,315
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C5)	273,674	32,208	243,111	-11,151	22,805	560,646
D. Total Funding = B + C	339,221	441,492	634,099	1,250,692	96,478	2,761,982
Appeal Coverage	79%	76%	61%	54%	113%	62%

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAASL001 - Sierra Leone

Annual report 2008

Selected Parameters	
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Budget	APPEAL

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II. Balance of Funds

	Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance	65,547	409,285	390,988	1,261,843	73,673	2,201,335
C. Income	273,674	32,208	243,111	-11,151	22,805	560,646
E. Expenditure	-268,947	-361,140	-566,093	-935,390	-72,907	-2,204,477
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	70,274	80,352	68,006	315,302	23,571	557,505

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAASL001 - Sierra Leone

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Budget	APPEAL

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III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure						TOTAL	Variance
		Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination			
A		B						A - B	
BUDGET (C)		427,808	580,803	1,035,091	2,294,889	85,316	4,423,906		
Supplies									
Shelter - Relief		15,104					15,104	-15,104	
Construction Materials					15,749		15,749	-15,749	
Clothing & textiles			2,600		904		3,504	-3,504	
Food		2,195	14,804	1,363	110,192		128,553	-128,553	
Seeds,Plants	42,174		1,628		9,414		11,043	31,131	
Water & Sanitation	25,859							25,859	
Medical & First Aid	119,442	8,488	6,583		2,669		17,740	101,702	
Teaching Materials	820,521	4,085			67,142		71,227	749,294	
Utensils & Tools		6,036			14,611		20,647	-20,647	
Other Supplies & Services	46,875		4,372		6,348		10,719	36,156	
Total Supplies	1,054,871	35,908	29,986	1,363	227,028		294,285	760,586	
Land, vehicles & equipment									
Land & Buildings	43,129				8,715		8,715	34,414	
Vehicles	35,965	377			3,600		3,977	31,989	
Computers & Telecom	23,914	1,680		617	3,621		5,918	17,997	
Office/Household Furniture & Equipm.					100		100	-100	
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	103,008	2,057		617	16,036		18,709	84,299	
Transport & Storage									
Storage			1,310	758	1,249	217	3,535	-3,535	
Distribution & Monitoring		1,884	4,952	3,699	3,637		14,173	-14,173	
Transport & Vehicle Costs	285,894	29,271	25,188	26,354	129,028	318	210,160	75,734	
Total Transport & Storage	285,894	31,156	31,451	30,812	133,914	536	227,868	58,026	
Personnel									
International Staff	485,650	1,229	-15,236	106,116	21,348	53,018	166,474	319,176	
National Staff	27,100	12,452	2,051	13,113	15,343	4,725	47,682	-20,582	
National Society Staff	829,813	48,508	80,702	207,036	157,775	114	494,135	335,678	
Consultants				7,532			7,532	-7,532	
Total Personnel	1,342,564	62,188	67,517	333,796	194,466	57,856	715,824	626,740	
Workshops & Training									
Workshops & Training	594,573	68,575	94,957	2,975	44,992	-1,630	209,868	384,705	
Total Workshops & Training	594,573	68,575	94,957	2,975	44,992	-1,630	209,868	384,705	
General Expenditure									
Travel	186,113	11,530	11,911	13,520	24,093	9,259	70,313	115,799	
Information & Public Relation	91,797	4,936	22,904	809	18,547		47,196	44,601	
Office Costs	130,560	25,680	11,142	53,327	32,999	13,952	137,100	-6,540	
Communications	28,808	2,134	2,822	9,974	7,801	6,325	29,056	-248	
Professional Fees	30,315		1,866	41,599	7,530	1,354	52,349	-22,034	
Financial Charges	19,740	4,193	26,569	33,276	90,743	1,859	156,640	-136,900	
Other General Expenses	272,108	25,529	10,276	372	29,861	-18,594	47,444	224,664	
Total General Expenditure	759,440	74,002	87,490	152,876	211,574	14,155	540,097	219,343	
Depreciation									
Depreciation						1,050	1,050	-1,050	
Total Depreciation						1,050	1,050	-1,050	
Programme Support									
Program Support	283,557	17,420	23,865	36,975	60,800	4,739	143,799	139,757	
Total Programme Support	283,557	17,420	23,865	36,975	60,800	4,739	143,799	139,757	
Services									
Services & Recoveries		949	504				1,453	-1,453	
Total Services		949	504				1,453	-1,453	

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Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure						TOTAL	Variance
		Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination			
A		B						A - B	
BUDGET (C)		427,808	580,803	1,035,091	2,294,889	85,316	4,423,906		
Operational Provisions									
Operational Provisions		-23,307	25,370	6,680	46,579	-3,798	51,523	-51,523	
Total Operational Provisions		-23,307	25,370	6,680	46,579	-3,798	51,523	-51,523	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	4,423,906	268,947	361,140	566,093	935,390	72,907	2,204,477	2,219,430	
VARIANCE (C - D)		158,861	219,663	468,999	1,359,499	12,408	2,219,430		