

OPERATIONS UPDATE



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
Fédération Internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

ANGOLA, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO, ZAMBIA: ANGOLA RETURNEES AND HOST-COMMUNITY CARE

4 May 2004

FOCUS ON ANGOLA and D.R. CONGO

The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization and its millions of volunteers are active in over 181 countries.

In Brief

Appeal No. 05/2004; Operations Update no. 02; Period covered: March to April 2004; Appeal coverage: 3.3% ([Click here to go directly to the attached Contributions List](#), also available on the website).

Appeal history:

- Launched on 20 February 2004 for CHF 4,968,000 (USD 3,974,400 or EUR 3,184,600) for nine (9) months to assist 283,000 beneficiaries.
- Disaster Relief Emergency Funds (DREF) allocated: N/A
- [Operations Update no. 1, dated 26 April 2004](#), was issued with a focus on Zambia. With the issuance of this current Update (no. 2), all three implementing countries have reported on this Appeal.

Outstanding needs : CHF 4,807,800 (USD 3,775,300 or EUR 3,082,000)

Please note that the values for Appeal coverage and Outstanding needs refer to the overall Appeal response; individual amounts per country are not presented in this Update.

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals:

- [Angola : 2004 Annual Appeal no. 01.11/2004](#)
- [Democratic Republic of Congo \(DRC\): 2004 Annual Appeal no. 01.43/2004](#)
- [DRC: Cholera in Mbuji-Mayi - Emergency Appeal no. 21/2003](#)
- [DRC: Population Movement - Information Bulletin no. 1/2004 dated 23 April 2004](#)
- [Zambia : 2004 Annual Appeal no. 01.19/2004](#)
- [Zambia : Floods - Information Bulletin no. 1/2004 dated 27 April 2004](#)

Operational Summary

The overall low donor response to this Appeal has adversely affected service delivery to Angolan returnees and the host communities. However, a contribution from the Japanese Red Cross has helped the Angola Red Cross to provide humanitarian assistance to returnees in the Zaire, Uige, Moxico and Kuando-Kubango provinces. The national society continues to develop community-based health activities, HIV/AIDS prevention and distribution of condoms. These activities have the local support of the Ministry of Health in all the provinces.

In addition to supporting 85,000 refugees and host communities, the national society is now involved in assisting expelled Congolese citizens being returned to the remote southern western Bandundu and western Kasai provinces. The national society is assisting the citizens with registration, health services and psychological support.

The individual Appeal budget is not being revised at this time; however, country-by-country operational budgets are being adapted to reflect the impact of this low donor response. The Federation and the implementing national societies urge donors to support this operation in its efforts to address the humanitarian needs.

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All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(SPHERE Project\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, please access the Federation website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

Operational developments

In February to May 2004 the operating period covered by the Emergency Appeal, the [Angola Red Cross](#) has received minimum support from humanitarian organizations and donors. The Federation continues to seek local and international support to enable Angola Red Cross to participate more actively in the integrated community-based health care for Angolan returnees and residents in the targeted resettlement communes in the four provinces of Kuando-Kubango and Moxico province in the south and Uige and Zaire.

In the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), the [Red Cross of the Democratic Republic of the Congo](#) and the humanitarian community are involved in assisting expelled Congolese citizens who are living and working in Angola illegally in addition to assisting Angolan refugees and returnees in the repatriation process and their host communities.

In December 2003 and January 2004, the government of Angola initiated a policy to identify and evict the Congolese civilians who had been living and working in the country's diamond mining areas from its territory. During the first two phases, at least 20,000 Congolese were forcibly expelled and returned to the remote southern western Bandundu and western Kasai provinces of DRC, bordering Angola. The situation worsened in April 2004 when many more were driven out of the Angolan borders thereby provoking an acute humanitarian crisis. The third phase began on 20 April. Since then, 67,000 Congolese have been registered by local crisis committees in Bandundu and Western Kasai Provinces after crossing Tungila River which separates the two countries. Expelled citizens go to Tshikapa in the mining province of western Kasai, Kahungula/Tembo and Kahemba in Bandundu

province in the DRC. According to an OCHA¹ report DRC and Angola dated 27 April 2004, 100,143 Congolese have been expelled from Angola in March and April 2004, but not all of them have crossed the frontiers or have been documented. Other humanitarian partners and the DRC Ministry of Solidarity and Humanitarian Affairs estimate that 80,000 to 100,000 Congolese have been or will soon be forcibly expelled in the next phase of population movement.

The National Red Cross Societies in collaboration with the government and other humanitarian organizations are welcoming the citizens and organizing their dispatch to their respective home provinces. Red Cross volunteers are helping with registration, referral to health centres and psychological support.

The assessment missions to Tembo and Tshikapa indicate that the most outstanding needs are:

- Water
- Food
- Medicine for injured and sick persons
- Transportation

In Kahemba, where the UNHCR manages a refugee camp for Angolans, there is a possibility of an upsurge of hostilities due to clashes between expelled Congolese and the Angolan refugees. The situation is also volatile at other entry points and this may force the UNHCR to repatriate the refugees ahead of schedule. The Red Cross volunteers will sensitize the host-community against discrimination and on the protection of refugees.

This situation did not hinder the Red Cross of the DRC from carrying out some of the planned activities. Negotiations with the UNHCR led to the effective launch of activities in all the target provinces in the dry season which starts in mid-May. UNHCR suspended repatriation activities in these provinces a few months ago and will resume operations soon. The operation continues to seek funds as the favourable season is approaching when the national society will be able to implement all the activities planned in the remote areas of the country. The ICRC has promised to provide logistical support to the national society.

Angola

The Angola Red Cross is seeking local and international support so that Angola Red Cross branches in Zaire, Uige, Moxico and Kuando Kubango provinces can be more actively involved in the integrated community-based health care for Angolan returnees and residents in the targeted resettlement communes in each of the four provinces. The Angola Red Cross is unable to carry out planned activities due to a lack of funds, and due to poor communication between headquarter and the provinces due to poor infrastructure. As a result of lack of funds ITN² have not been bought for the returnees who are thus exposed to malaria.

Objective 1 (Community-based health): Provide basic and preventive health services to 148,000 beneficiaries in the targeted resettlement communities.

Achievements

- The Angola Red Cross recruited and trained 20 community-based health care volunteers who visited 660 households and counselled 2,341 beneficiaries on personal and environment hygiene, control of communicable diseases and provision of community first aid.
- Five volunteers from each province of Zaire, Uige, Moxico and Kuando Kubango participated in the measles and polio routine vaccination activities.

¹ OCHA – UN Office of Coordination and Humanitarian Affairs

² ITN – Insecticide treated nets

Objective 2 (HIV/AIDS): Awareness and prevention of HIV/AIDS/STI³ is increased amongst the population in the targeted resettlement communities.

Achievements

- There were 693 public talk seminars with drama performance and songs in public markets in Zaire, Uige, Moxico and Kuando Kubango reaching out to 17,994 beneficiaries.

Democratic Republic of the Congo

The original objectives, activities and expected results for the Red Cross of the DRC have not been modified but have not fully been implemented due to lack of funding. The activities implemented by the Red Cross volunteers were incorporated into the framework of the programme initiative Congo and national society's long term programmes, particularly in the province of Kinshasa.

Objective 1: (HIV/AIDS): Through increased dissemination of related information and materials, the prevalence of HIV/AIDS/STI in the target provinces is reduced.

Achievements

- 40 volunteers have been identified and trained in the provinces of Kinshasa and Bas-Congo and another 40 have selected in the provinces of Katanga and Bandundu. The volunteers will be trained and provided with information, education and communication (IEC) materials.
- The Red Cross volunteers held educative talks with the target population in Kinshasa and Bas-Congo. The target population are refugees living with Congolese families in urban areas. Refugees in rural areas of the target provinces have not been accessed.
- Condoms have been distributed to the target population in Kinshasa through the Red Cross long term activities on HIV/AIDS. Due to lack of funds, the Angolan returnees and host-community care operation has not been able to distribute condoms.
- With the support of the Ministry of Health (MoH) through the national programme of the fight against HIV/AIDS and the Federation Health Delegate, IEC materials have been designed and developed. Image boxes and posters are now available at the Red Cross of DRC headquarters and will be dispatched to the target provincial offices. The local committees in the target provinces of Bandundu and Bas-Congo received mobile phones to enable them communicate with the national and provincial headquarters.

Objective 2: (Malaria): Through increased dissemination of related information and materials, the incidence of malaria morbidity and mortality is reduced in the target provinces.

Achievements

- Centres to treat mosquito nets have been established in Kinshasa and are accessible to the beneficiary population. However, there is need for more inputs to assist the beneficiaries continue with treatment. Treatment of mosquito nets has not started in the three other provinces because they are inaccessible. In addition, the team is buying all the requirements for treatment in Kinshasa as it prepares to go to the field.
- The MoH and the provincial health inspectors were informed of the national society's net treatment activities during meetings held between the Federation and the MoH.
- The Red Cross participated in planning and coordination meetings organized by the MoH at the national, provincial and local levels.
- The national society also participated on the events for the African day of the fight against malaria celebrated on 23 April 2004.

³ STI – sexually -transmitted infections

Objective 3: (WatSan): The supply and quality of water and environmental sanitation is improved for refugees and host populations in the target provinces.

Achievements on activities:

- The Federation WatSan Delegate will support the national society in training volunteers in the target provinces. The volunteers have been identified and selected but due to lack of funds, the implementation of the planned activities will take place in the coming months.
- Places for the construction of the nine public latrines have been identified by the local committees and the communities.

Contributions list below

[Click here to return to the title page.](#)

[Click here to return to contact information](#)

Angola, DR Congo, Zambia - Angola returnees

ANNEX 1

APPEAL No. 05/2004

PLEDGES RECEIVED

11/05/2004

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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CASH

REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				4,968,000		TOTAL COVERAGE 3.3%
JAPANESE - RC		131,200	USD	166,165	05.03.04	
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				166,165	CHF	3.3%

KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
Note: due to systems upgrades in process, contributions in kind and services may be incomplete.						
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				0	CHF	0.0%

ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED				0	CHF	