

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

BURKINA FASO, MALI, MAURITANIA AND NIGER: FOOD INSECURITY

13 April 2006

BUDGET REVISION

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 183 countries.

In Brief

Appeal No. 05EA015; Operations Update no. 5; Period covered: 9 February to 28 March 2006; Appeal coverage: 61.7%; [Click here to go directly to the attached Revised Appeal budget](#) and [here to go directly to the Contributions list on the web site](#).

Appeal history:

- Launched on 22 July 2005 for CHF 18,243,483 (USD 14,211,607 or EUR 11,642,754) in cash, kind or services to assist 44,400 households (220,000 beneficiaries) in four countries for six months (until 22 January 2006)- http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?05/05EA015.pdf
- A revised plan of action of 7 August 2005 specified assistance to 76,571 households (532,000 beneficiaries) over the next six month period.
- Operations Update no. 1 dated 27 Aug 2005- http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?05/05EA01501.pdf
- Operations Update no. 2 dated 25 Oct 2005- http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?05/05EA01502.pdf
- Operations Update no. 3 dated 8 Dec 2005- http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?05/05EA01503.pdf
- Operations Update no. 4 dated 9 Feb. 2006- http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?05/05EA01504.pdf extended the appeal timeframe to 23 July 2006, as per a six month supplementary plan of action, and revised the Appeal budget to CHF 30,679,055; with funds sought for ongoing and new activities in community health, water and sanitation, relief-livelihoods, logistics, IT/Telecommunications as well as reporting, media and communications.
- This operations update revises the appeal budget to CHF 31,242,371 (USD 24,051,094 or EUR 19,798,714) to include addition of cereal bank activities in Tanout, Niger, as well as a technical budget adjustment relating to valuation of in-kind donations in 2005.
- Disaster Relief Emergency Funds (DREF) allocated of CHF 280,000. Funds have been reimbursed.

Outstanding needs (Adjusted as per revised budget): CHF 12,310,476 (USD 9,476,887 or EUR 7,801,316).

Adjusted Appeal coverage: 60.6%

Operational summary: Since the launch of its appeal extension on 9 February 2006, the Federation has continued to promote and implement its proposed and ongoing activities for the Sahel Region. Core actions remain based in Niger but engagement is being maintained in Burkina Faso, Mali and Mauritania to draw attention to outstanding needs in each country and reinforce emergency response capacities for the future.

Two new important initiatives are supplementing programmes of the Sahel operation. As per preliminary results of the monitoring and evaluation of the cash distribution completed in the Niger's Tanout region, the British Red Cross, in cooperation with the University of Arizona, is pursuing the research and development of cereal banks as part of its support to the Red Cross Society of Niger livelihood intervention.

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Additionally, as part of the diversification of Federation efforts, the Qatari Red Crescent is aiming to provide a substantial contribution to carry out water and sanitation activities in the Tahoua, Zinder and Filingue-Abala districts of Niger.

As a result, the current Operations Update focuses on the British Red Cross and Qatari Red Crescent initiatives. A complementary overview of programme areas and beneficiary figures as per the Federation Emergency Appeal and its extension can be found in [Fact Sheet no. 4](#). A new Update on all Sahel operation activities will be made available shortly.

This operation is aligned with the International Federation's 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".

Global Agenda Goals:

- 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.

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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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 in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for a full description of the national society profile, please access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

Operational developments

The current Operations Update reflects refinements to the Sahel operation enacted since the launch of its appeal extension on 9 February 2006. Adjustments refer to the evolution of activities related to cash distribution project monitoring and evaluation at Tanout and developments in the water and sanitation sector.

Since the launch of the appeal extension, a new initiative proposed by the British Red Cross has occurred. As monitoring in the aftermath of the cash distribution progressed in Niger, it became evident that an opportunity was at hand to investigate the suitability of cereal banks and potentially pursue their implementation at Tanout. At the present time, as part of a unique experimental effort, a project manager from the British Red Cross and monitoring staff from the University of Arizona are examining prospects to assist the Red Cross Society of Niger in the implementation of cereal banks. Since the cereal bank pilot project represents an extension of monitoring and evaluation related to the cash distribution conducted during October and November 2005, implemented directly through the Federation Emergency Appeal, a budgetary increase is being made.

As a second new initiative, the Qatari Red Crescent will be working closely with the Federation in the implementation of water and sanitation activities based at the principal locations of Tahoua, Zinder and Filingue-Abala. The collaboration has its origins in technical cooperation through previous supplementary feeding activities of the health sector as per the initial Federation Emergency Appeal for the Sahel region. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Qatari Red Crescent, Red Cross Society of Niger and Federation will clarify the contributions of each. Since the majority of water and sanitation activities will be implemented directly by the Qatari Red Crescent, there are no budgetary implications for the two initiatives.

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As certain activities outlined above have resulted in an increase of the Sahel operation budget, the document is attached for review. Points below represent an update of those listed in the Sahel operation appeal extension although only specific objectives related to the cash distribution/relief-livelihoods and water and sanitation sectors contain new details. The narratives related to other specific objectives remain unchanged – details are available in [Operations Update no. 4](#) and [Fact Sheet no. 4](#).

Red Cross and Red Crescent action - objectives, progress and impact

Specific Objective 1 (Relief — General food distributions): Distribute a monthly general food ration to 76,571 households (536,000 people) in Burkina Faso, Mali, Mauritania and Niger.

With the exception of Niger, activities are ongoing as per the appeal extension.

Specific Objective 2 (Health — Supplementary feeding): Provide basic health services through emergency supplementary feeding for targeted vulnerable children under five years of age to a total population of 24,500 in Niger.

The activity is ongoing as per the appeal extension.

Specific Objective 3 (Relief — Cash distribution): As per the revised plan of action of 7 August 2005, a cash distribution was foreseen targeting 20,000 beneficiaries, or 4,000 households, to communities in Niger and Mali.

SO3b, Niger – As of 18 November 2005, a cash distribution project was completed in the Tanout area to 34,278 beneficiaries (5,713 households) in 88 villages and three pastoralist settlements. As part of the activity, a monitoring regime was put in place designed to assess the impact of the distributions - data gathering and analysis is scheduled to last until at least April 2006.

As monitoring progressed in recent weeks – reflecting survey research and discussions with households and communities around Tanout as well as the local Red Cross branch – it became evident that cereal banks might be a means of further assisting people in the region. Preliminary investigations suggested that as many as 50 villages could benefit from cereal banks as a means of enhancing their longer term food security.

Since there was general reluctance on behalf of the Federation to pursue the implementation of cereal banks, it was felt that further study regarding the potential effort was needed – complementing the cash distribution monitoring regime. In response, the British Red Cross and University of Arizona, the key players in the development and stewarding of the monitoring regime, agreed to provide staff for additional research and the possible implementation of cereal banks should their appropriateness be confirmed.

As of the previous week, a project manager from the British Red Cross arrived in Niger to develop the ‘cereal bank pilot project’ along with academic staff from the University of Arizona. As per supplementary funding to be provided by the British Red Cross, the Federation has agreed to provide logistics support for the research or implementation phases of the pilot project as needed. **SO3b – Activity Ongoing.**

Specific Objective 4 (Logistics, administration and telecoms): Immediately augment the existing Red Cross/Red Crescent national societies with logistical, administrative and telecommunications infrastructure in the four different countries of the Sahel operation.

Activities are ongoing as per the appeal extension.

Specific Objective 5 (Relief — Livestock interventions for Mali and Niger): As per the revised plan of action of 7 August 2005, it was anticipated that 5,000 pastoralists would be assisted in Mali and Niger.

Activities are closed as per the appeal extension.

Specific Objective 6: Relief — Cereal bank support for Mali and Niger.

As per the revised plan of action of 7 August 2005, it was anticipated that food stocks could be placed at cereal banks in 250 of the worst food crisis affected communities in Mali and Niger. Due to the complexities in developing, managing and sustaining cereal banks as well as providing adequate project oversight, it was

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determined by the Federation that such support would not be pursued through the Sahel operation. The current pilot project on behalf of the British Red Cross and University of Arizona at Tanout in Niger represents an action politically distinct from the Sahel operation although funds for the effort will still be channelled through the livelihoods intervention project of the appeal extension budget.

Specific Objective 7 (Health — Post-emergency health for Niger): Sustainable health interventions to promote resilience and improve the longer term health of those most vulnerable were advocated as part of the revised plan of action of 7 August 2005.

New activities are underway as per the appeal extension.

Specific Objective 8: Water and sanitation (Niger)

Following a Federation assessment mission undertaken in September 2005, a number of potential water and sanitation activities were outlined that could be implemented immediately or over the mid and longer term. Of priority for the Federation has been to pursue actions complementing health sector interventions and priorities of the Niger national society. Overall, it was felt that the scope of a WatSan programme was flexible depending on funding received and the presence and expertise of staff available to implement and manage activities.

With the arrival of a water and sanitation coordinator, a substantial effort was made to refine programme prospects with the Red Cross Society of Niger and other national societies active in the country. In turn, reflecting cooperation established in the health sector, the Qatari Red Crescent came forward as a party with a proactive interest and the means to further water and sanitation interests. As a result of the blossoming collaboration, the water and sanitation activities outlined in the appeal extension of 9 February 2006 have been adjusted to more accurately reflect programme prospects. The Qatari Red Crescent is also on the verge of being a major financial contributor to the Sahel operation.

As part of the cooperative effort, the Federation will endeavour to facilitate and increase access to water supplies to meet basic needs such access to safe drinking water and promotion of good personal and environmental hygiene. The activities undertaken as part of the current specific objective are listed below:

- Study of water infrastructure needs at Filingue-Abala
- Training of volunteers at Tahoua, Zinder and Filingue-Abala
- Training of village masons at Tahoua and sub-locations of Illela and Bouza
- Rehabilitation and construction of wells at Tahoua, Zinder and Filingue-Abala
- Construction of pit toilets at Tahoua, Illela and Bouza
- Creation and training of water hygiene committees at Tahoua, Zinder and Filingue-Abala

A comprehensive budget highlighting the actions above is available through the Sahel operation office at Niamey, Niger. General administration and management by the Federation WatSan department and Qatari Red Crescent as well as monitoring and evaluation form the cornerstones of the evolving programme. Should finance and expertise be available, additional activities initially listed as per the appeal extension may be pursued.

Specific Objective 9: Logistics — Capacity building

New activities in Niger are underway as per the appeal extension.

Specific Objective 10: Relief — Livelihoods capacity building in Niger

New activities are underway as per the appeal extension.

Specific Objective 11: Reporting, media and communications – Advocacy and public information¹

New activities are proposed as per the appeal extension.

¹ As mentioned in the narrative, the reporting, media and communications plan focuses on Niger since it comprises most activities contained in the Supplementary Plan of Action – Appeal Extension. If significant activities are being developed or underway in other countries of the Sahel region, as much as possible reporting, media and communications actions will be replicated for those locations taking into account resources available as part of the Sahel operation.

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Federation Coordination

For the two new initiatives described above as part of the Sahel operation, the Federation has facilitated coordination between the national societies concerned and others working in the same geographic areas. To coordinate and clarify roles and responsibilities between the Qatari Red Crescent, Red Cross Society of Niger and Federation, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is in the midst of being finalised.

Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement -- Principles and initiatives

For the two new project initiatives, volunteers will be trained in matters of technical support as well as Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement principles.

National Society Capacity Building

The implementation of the two new activities will include the strengthening and capacity building of the Red Cross Society of Niger through volunteer training focusing on water and sanitation assessment and management.

For more about the national societies responding to this crisis, please visit the links below:

Red Cross Society of Niger – <http://www.ifrc.org/where/country/cn6.asp?countryid=127>

Mauritanian Red Crescent - <http://www.ifrc.org/where/country/cn6.asp?countryid=114>

Mali Red Cross - <http://www.ifrc.org/where/country/cn6.asp?countryid=112>

Burkinabe Red Cross Society - <http://www.ifrc.org/where/country/cn6.asp?countryid=181>

[Revised Appeal budget below; click here to return to the title page.](#)

BUDGET 2005

PROGRAMME BUDGETS SUMMARY

Appeal no.: M05EA015

Name: BURKINA FASO, MALI, MAURITANIA, NIGER

PROGRAMME:

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	Emergency	Total
	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF
Shelter	0	0	0	0	0	93,190	93,190
Construction	0	0	0	0	0	433,175	433,174
Clothing & Textiles	0	0	0	0	0	7,359	7,358
Food	0	0	0	0	0	6,291,601	6,291,600
Seeds & Plants	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Water & Sanitation	0	0	0	0	0	1,050,000	1,050,000
Medical & First Aid	0	0	0	0	0	45,131	45,131
Teaching Materials	0	0	0	0	0	2,835	2,835
Utensils & tools	0	0	0	0	0	26,996	26,995
Other Supplies & Services	0	0	0	0	0	1,799,155	1,799,154
SUPPLIES	0	0	0	0	0	9,749,442	9,749,440
Land & Buildings	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vehicles	0	0	0	0	0	3,785,173	3,785,173
Computers & Telecom	0	0	0	0	0	634,979	634,978
Medical equipment	0	0	0	0	0	31,619	31,618
Other Equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
LAND, VEHICLES & EQUIPMEN	0	0	0	0	0	4,451,771	4,451,770
Storage	0	0	0	0	0	78,570	78,570
Distribution & Monitoring	0	0	0	0	0	5,445,114	5,445,113
Transport & Vehicles cost	0	0	0	0	0	1,948,098	1,948,097
TRANSPORT & STORAGE	0	0	0	0	0	7,471,782	7,471,781
International Staff	0	0	0	0	0	3,823,998	3,823,997
Regionally Deployed Staff	0	0	0	0	0	215,253	215,253
National staff	0	0	0	0	0	785,944	785,944
National Society Staff	0	0	0	0	0	524,802	524,801
Consultants	0	0	0	0	0	350,443	350,443
PERSONNEL	0	0	0	0	0	5,700,440	5,700,440
Workshops & Training	0	0	0	0	0	280,512	280,511
WORKSHOPS & TRAINING	0	0	0	0	0	280,512	280,511
Travel & related expenses	0	0	0	0	0	639,653	639,653
Information & Public Rela	0	0	0	0	0	32,263	32,262
Office Running Costs	0	0	0	0	0	543,220	543,220
Communication Costs	0	0	0	0	0	417,866	417,866
Professional Fees	0	0	0	0	0	102,732	102,732
Other General Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	132,515	132,515
GENERAL EXPENDITURE	0	0	0	0	0	1,868,249	1,868,249
Asset Depreciation	0	0	0	0	0	40,944	40,944
DEPRECIATION	0	0	0	0	0	40,944	40,944
Contributions & Transfers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CONTRIBUTIONS & TRANSFERS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Programme Support	0	0	0	0	0	1,679,233	1,679,232
PROGRAMME SUPPORT	0	0	0	0	0	1,679,233	1,679,232
TOTAL BUDGET:	0	0	0	0	0	31,242,373	31,242,371