

ANNUAL REPORT



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

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO AND THE REPUBLIC OF CONGO

Appeal N° 01.06/2002; Appeal target: CHF 3,761,809; Appeal coverage: 48%

Overall analysis of the programme •

Some of the activities set out in the 2002-2003 Appeal for the National Societies (NSs) of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and the Republic of the Congo (RoC) were not carried out or were only partially implemented, for lack of funds in most cases. This led the two NSs, with the support of the International Federation's delegation, to restate the objectives to be attained so as to respond more clearly to the needs of the vulnerable. This objective and rational spirit runs through the 2003-2004 Appeal which is largely based on the recommendations of the needs assessment mission (NAM). In the RoC, the emphasis has been placed on the activities of the health and organizational development programmes and this will continue in 2003-2004. In the DRC, however, it must be recognized that disaster preparedness and response activities were predominant throughout, with mapping of the areas at risk, and vulnerability and capacity assessment (VCA) in the communes at risk of flooding, sand encroachment, erosion, etc., in the city of Kinshasa. Hard on the heels of these activities has come health and organizational development. In all these activities, the financial, material and human contribution of the Federation's Secretariat, its regional bureau for Central Africa (BRAC) and country delegation as well as that of other partners has been great and must be acknowledged here.

In the DRC, the evolution of the political situation in 2002 was essentially characterized by the inter-Congolese dialogue which began on 25 February at Sun City, in the Republic of South Africa. The partial agreement signed between the government and the MLC (Movement for the liberation of the Congo) did not arrive at any tangible results in spite of negotiations between the signatories to establish a constitutional text for transition, because of the divergences by which they were divided. Concerned about this situation of conflict, the United Nations' secretary general sent an emissary to seek consensus with a view to reaching a comprehensive agreement. Another meeting was organized, this time in Pretoria, with deep involvement by the Government of South Africa, and a global comprehensive agreement was signed on 17 December 2002 for a period of transition of about two years.

The situation on the humanitarian and health fronts was markedly affected by the eruption of the volcano Nyiragongo in Goma on 17 January 2002, the cholera epidemic in Katanga and Eastern Kasai, the National Vaccination Days and the flooding, both in the interior of the country and in the capital. The involvement of volunteers was significant in both places.

In the Republic of the Congo, the year 2002 was characterized by the presidential, legislative and municipal elections which returned President Sassou Nguesso to power with a strengthened majority in Parliament, and by war in the Pool region and the outskirts of Brazzaville, including Maya Maya airport. This fighting resulted in large-scale movements of the population towards the interior of the country and to neighbouring countries, such as the DRC, the taking of two delegates of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) as hostages for more than two months by a militia group, and a shortfall of vital commodities and products from Point-Noire.

On the health front, there was an epidemic outbreak of the Ebola virus haemorrhagic fever in the region bordering with Gabon and in the Cuvette area at Kellé and Mbomo. There was also flooding in Brazzaville and the north of the country. Red Cross volunteers played a large part in mobilizing the population.

Disaster Management •

Objective 1: Train the leaders of existing teams in the provinces to draw up maps of the areas at risk in the non-occupied territories of the DRC, to facilitate planning and disaster management.

Activities:

The relief department of the Red Cross of the DRC, with the support of the Geographical Institute of the Congo and Mételsat, on 10 May 2002 produced three specialized maps for the province of Kinshasa showing the areas subject to flooding and erosion and the headquarters of the Red Cross and referral hospitals. In order to enable the NS to make use of these maps, manage the disaster from its national headquarters, properly manage the data bank and refer to the relevant administrative texts, the Federation's delegation in the DRC equipped the relief department with high-powered information technology using the ARC VIEW programme. In preparing for the 2003-2004 Appeal, the disaster preparedness and planning Department (DPP) drew up a project to map the areas at risk in the five target provinces, i.e. Nord-Kivu (Goma), Equateur (Mbandaka), Eastern Kasai (Mbuji-Mayi), Katanga (Lubumbashi) and Bandundu (Bandundu and Kikwit), in addition to the map of the city of Kinshasa.

Several activities were undertaken to raise awareness and motivate those in charge of disaster preparedness and relief (DPR) in the provinces to ensure effective preparation, prevention and response to disasters in each province. They identified the sites at risk, trained teams of volunteers in community-based relief work and raised awareness and secured the involvement of the population living in the sites at risk to get them to participate in activities to reduce the danger.

On 28 November 2002, in the meeting room of the Ministry of Health (MoH), the RC of the DRC presented the minister and aides with the various specialized maps prepared for the effective management of disasters in Kinshasa. Impressed and encouraged by the work accomplished by the RC of the DRC, the minister congratulated the Red Cross and adopted these maps on behalf of the government for the management of disasters.

Objective 2: Promote and participate in regional disaster management activities.

Activities:

An agreement was reached with the regional bureau for Central Africa to make the DPP/ARCHI delegate available to support the Goma branch of the Red Cross in initiating the community-based first aid (CBFA) and African Red Cross/Red Crescent Societies' Health Initiative (ARCHI) process in terms of defining and implementing the programme.

In October 2002, the BRAC established a regional disaster response team (ERDAC), comprising 14 members of the two National Societies.

Objective 3: Acquire, produce and manage equipment and stocks for action and rapid relief of the most vulnerable victims of flooding disasters.

Activities:

A joint needs assessment mission for flooding disasters was carried out by the Federation, the Congolese Red Cross (CRC) and the Ministry of Health at Likoulela in the RoC.

A substantial consignment of materials was handed over by the RC of the DRC, with the financial support of the Federation, to the populations of the Limete, Matete and Kisenso communes to help them cope with the flooding, erosion and sand encroachment which they suffer every time there is heavy rainfall. Multi-coloured signposts were implanted at the different sites subject to flooding.

Objective 4: With the ICRC, the MoH and the Federation, organize training and a simulation exercise for NS staff and the leaders of the provincial team on disaster prevention and management.

Activities:

As part of the strengthening of the operational capacities of the Red Cross provincial committees and medical assistance to the Congolese Armed Forces, the RC of the DRC, in partnership with the ICRC, organized three training sessions in CBFA, from 12-22 February at Yalusaka (Equateur province) and from 20-24 February at Kananga (province of Eastern Kasai), respectively, for 65 Red Cross volunteers from Mondombe 1, 2, 3 and Yalusaka; 53 combat stretcher-bearers from the 221st Infantry Battalion of the Congolese Armed Forces/Equateur; and 20 first aid instructors from the two Kasai provinces. The training of 50 combat stretcher-bearers from members of the Congolese Armed Forces and 135 first aid volunteers in CBFA took place at Djoulou, province of Equateur, from 1-13 June 2002. In Kinshasa, a total of 561 volunteers are undergoing training in CBFA and the follow-up of activities at the training centres in each pool.

During a visit to Goma, the organizational development delegate (ODD) organized training in CBFA for 120 volunteers from the RC of the DRC in the province of Nord-Kivu. After assessment, 20 of the 120 volunteers trained will be selected for training in raising awareness/education and preparation for communications. They will then work alongside the police and civil society in informing and educating the population. These trained volunteers will be very useful for educating the population about the constant risks emanating from the volcanoes which spew out harmful gases as well as fire and lava.

Objective 5: Establish community-based health activities in the provinces already involved in the programme (Kinshasa, Bas-Congo, and Bandundu).

Activities:

A large-scale gutter-cleaning operation was started by the rapid intervention teams (EQUIRA) of the Provincial Directorate of Bas-Congo, followed with admiration by the population.

All the first aid volunteers in Kinshasa were involved in the cleanup of the city; 20 first aid volunteers from the rapid intervention team did the same work on Red Cross Avenue in the commune of Kinshasa (sweeping up of dirt and cleaning of gutters).

In the province of Bas-Congo, 801 first aid volunteers – 434 men and 367 women from 10 villages on the territory of Songololo –cultivated 24 hectares of cassava and groundnuts, 11 hectares of maize, 5.5 hectares of soya and 2.5 hectares of beans.

Objective 6: Training in CBFA of volunteers from the provinces already involved in the programme (Kinshasa, Bas-Congo and Bandundu).

Activities:

In total, 1,125 volunteers, including 458 women, were trained in CBFA in Kinshasa, 5,320 in Nord-Kivu, 112 in Eastern Kasai, 178 in Katanga, 212 (including 100 soldiers) in Bandundu, and thousands of volunteers who received refresher training.

Other activities

- Participation by the RC of the DRC and the Federation in the various disaster response activities following the eruption of the volcano Nyiragongo at Goma, in the province of Nord-Kivu.
- Participation by the head of the health department of the CRC in joint assessment missions to Makotipoko and Mossaka – Loukolela – Ntokou. Participation by the head of the health department in the mission to assess the epidemic of Ebola virus haemorrhagic fever (EVHF) in the district of Kellé. Briefing of 75 key people in the different localities affected by the epidemic. 23 CRC volunteers briefed in techniques of communication and on EVHF with a view to organizing an awareness campaign at grassroots level in Kellé and Mbomo and the other villages affected by the disease.
- First aid volunteers from the RC of the DRC assisted the victims of several fires, including two in Goma and one in Kinshasa, a rail accident in Kananga, a road traffic accident in Menkao (a few kilometres from Kinshasa) and heavy rains at Kimpese, in the province of Bas-Congo. On each occasion they brought the assistance needed in terms of first aid, latrines, shelters, etc. Eleven CRC first aid volunteers went out from Brazzaville to help the RC committee of the Loutété district with the collection and burial of the bodies of the victims of the Ninja militia attack from 27-30 August 2002 at Loulombo, 180 kilometres from Brazzaville in the Pool region.
- In the province of Katanga, DRC, volunteers raised the awareness of the population to guard against cholera. In Goma, they warned against the danger of inhaling volcanic gases following the eruption of Nyiragongo.
- Efforts were made to control the ravine at Ndesha; a campaign was launched against the stockpiling of inflammable products in the province of Western Kasai.
- Three training sessions on CBFA were organized at the Grand Hotel in Kinshasa for its employees and security staff; 43 persons were trained from 2-8 May, another 30 were trained from 9-15 May and another 33 persons were trained from 16-25 May, bringing the total number of trained persons to 106.
- The OD delegate participated in the coordination meeting with the Governorate of the province of Nord-Kivu at Goma on management of the Nyiragongo volcano situation on Thursday 16 May 2002.
- Meeting was held on 1 April 2002 at Brazzaville with three representatives of the Swedish Parliament on the programmes supported by the Federation in the two NSs of the DRC and the RoC, in particular the disaster preparedness and response activities.

Health and care •

Objective 1: Proportionally increase activities to increase knowledge among the target populations about the prevention of sexually transmitted infections (STI) and HIV/AIDS using simple measures of prevention.

Activities:

A personal computer was donated by the Federation's delegation in Kinshasa to the department of health and social action of the RC of the DRC.

Activities carried out to convey prevention messages related to HIV/AIDS included: training of peer educators, distribution of condoms, organization of information/education meetings, awareness sessions, establishment of theatre troupes, and establishment of centres for educational talks in containers (a gift from the Federation, organization of anti-AIDS clubs in schools with support from the Belgian and Spanish Red Cross).

Visits were made to people living with HIV/AIDS and four leaders from the two NSs participated in a seminar/workshop on the evaluation of health programmes, especially related to AIDS.

Objective 2: Increase vaccination coverage against polio to 100 per cent in the regions of Congo and targeted provinces of the DRC.

Activities:

The CRC and the RC of the DRC took an active part in the preparatory meetings for the national vaccination days and in their implementation. In the DRC, only some of the provinces were covered by the Red Cross: Bandundu, Bas-Congo, Kinshasa, Katanga and the two Kasai.

For the vaccination days, the Federation made its van available to the two NSs. T-shirts and brochures were distributed to the volunteers to increase the visibility of the Red Cross and the radio stations also contributed, in addition to which financial support was received for the personnel involved in the vaccination days. In the different phases of the campaign, 687 CRC volunteers and 1,283 RC of the DRC volunteers were mobilized.

In order to increase vaccination coverage in all the target provinces a door-to-door strategy was adopted. The volunteers included 191 persons trained in the surveillance of polio.

In September 2002, 2,608 RC volunteers were involved in vaccination, awareness raising, population counting, identification of children presenting signs of paralysis of the limbs, case tracing, etc., in the four target provinces of the RC of the DRC during the last two rounds of the national vaccination days. The national president of the RC of the DRC, the head of the delegation and the ODD took part actively in these vaccination days.

Objective 3: Strengthen the mechanisms of coordination between the Ministry of Health and partners with a view to the future planning of vaccination days.

Activities:

The two NSs participated in the different meetings of the committees and sub-committees of coordination committee at the national, provincial and local levels, and in the meetings to plan and evaluate the different rounds of the expanded programme on immunization (EPI) vaccination days. Several humanitarian partners, including UNICEF, Rotary International, and the World Health Organization take part in these meetings.

Objective 4: Strengthen supplies to the reproductive health services for women who are victims of sexual violence in the target regions and provinces of the two NSs.

Activities:

The RC of the DRC, the Federation and the national reproductive health programme (PNSR) on 18-19 September 2002 participated in meetings for the planning and implementation of the project for assistance to female victims of sexual violence and improvement of reproductive health. Also, harmonization of the points of intervention and the budget to be allocated to the project in 10 health areas of the city of Kinshasa and three health areas of the city of Matadi; elaboration of a schedule of activities for three months (in relation to the funding of £40,000 received from the British Red Cross) was achieved.

Two health centres, Lisalisi for the RC of the DRC and Matadi-Mayo for the State, were rehabilitated with funding from the British Red Cross. Three training sessions were organized for 33 nurses and 114 community-based communicators, community leaders and first aid volunteers in 10 health areas in the city of Kinshasa, and one training session was held at Matadi, in the province of Bas-Congo, for 40 community leaders, community-based communicators and first aid volunteers from two health areas in the city of Matadi.

In the RoC, three projects were sub-contracted between the General Directorate for Population (DGPop) and the Federation for the implementation of activities under project PRC-00.01. On the instructions of the DGPop, a training curriculum was put forward by the CRC. A meeting on 27 February enabled the various partners involved in the project to adopt it with a few amendments. The DGPop will fix the dates for training and invite the participants. After the exchange of three draft contracts and a meeting of the representatives of UNFPA, the Federation, the DGPop and the SIEC (Chartered Accountants International Society) cabinet, a further project was submitted to the Federation's delegation which transmitted it on to Geneva. A reply from Geneva is currently awaited for the contract to be signed with the cabinet, and the invitation of the DGPop for signature of the sub-contract and organization of the training of reproductive health care providers in the localities of the project.

Objective 5: Promote and increase the use of impregnated mosquito nets by the civil population in the three target provinces of the DRC (Kinshasa, Bandundu and Bas-Congo).

Activities:

Two RC of the DRC volunteers, one of them a doctor, took part in the workshop organized by the MoH on the impregnation of mosquito nets with insecticide held from 16-19 May in the Kikimi health area in the commune of Kimbanseke. The official launching of the programme for the reduction of mortality and morbidity from malaria took place on 3 June 2002.

Several meetings took place between the coordinator of the malaria control project, the national malaria control programme and the chief area medical officer of the commune of Ngiri-Ngiri. The latter was consulted for collaboration between the health area and the Red Cross on the malaria control project that will shortly be starting in his health area. Discussion covered the practical modalities for the start-up of the project. Information was given to all the local partners of the Ngiri-Ngiri health area on the upcoming launching of the campaign on the impregnation and use of mosquito nets.

Training was organized and held from 16-20 December in the commune of Ngiri-Ngiri, Kinshasa, on the technique of insecticide impregnation of mosquito nets for 40 volunteer mobilizers, leaders, marketers and impregnators comprising 30 RC of the DRC volunteers and 10 members of the community from the Ngiri-Ngiri health area. This workshop, initiated by the RC of the DRC in collaboration with the national malaria control programme, was financed by the Federation.

RC of the DRC volunteers took an active part in the malaria awareness campaign. This campaign, which took place in the Kikimi health area, in the commune of Kimbanseke, was initiated by the national malaria control programme with the support of UNICEF.

Other activities

Efforts were made to control the cholera epidemic in Katanga. Health support was provided to the victims of the eruption of the Nyiragongo volcano, with the elaboration of a health support project for the 6,500 families worst affected by the disaster.

Improvement was made of access to primary health care for the populations worst affected by the eruption of the Nyiragongo volcano. The awareness of the population was raised about the dangers related to inhalation of gas from the volcano at the three sites in Bukavu, and clean up activities were undertaken.

There was also participation in the planning of activities at the Paediatric Hospital of Kalembe-Lembe for the next five years.

A project ran to improve access to primary health care in the Pool region. In a review of the health centres with medical equipment, the following data were collected after the fighting that took place in this region: at Kinkala, Linzolo and Missafou, everything is in place and the health teams are functioning; at Massembo Lubaki, all the medicines and equipment had recently been pillaged and refrigerator deposited minus its motor with the village headman; at Madzia everything had been removed; at Bibossi and Goma Tsé-Tsé everything had been pillaged and the buildings completely damaged, while the equipment and medicines for Boko were still at Kinkala.

The project to control Ebola virus haemorrhagic fever (EVHF) included raising the awareness of the disease among the population of the Western Cuvette region. To alert the population in the districts of Kellé, Mbomo and Etoumbi to EVHF, 62 RC volunteers trained in CBFA and on EVHF are raising awareness in all localities following a door-to-door strategy. A total of 6,765 people were informed in 38 localities of the three districts; the RC committees in the three districts of Mbomo, Kellé and Etoumbi received first aid materials comprising one stretcher (per locality), first aid manuals, identification tabards and information in the form of 1,770 leaflets and 650 posters about Ebola fever. A high-frequency radio station was set up at Etoumbi, a locality situated at the crossroads between Kellé and Mbomo, the two main foci of the epidemic in the Congo. After the kidnapping of the MoH delegate at Oloba, the CRC was the only organization active in the field. At present there are volunteers working door-to-door in the district of Mbomo where the epidemic is still active.

There was improvement of access to primary health care in the Pool region financed by the German Government through the German Red Cross. Technical equipment and medicines were provided to eight health centres and the hospital at Kinkala.

In total, 18 health workers, i.e. two per centre, were trained in management for five days at Kinkala; 32 volunteers were trained in IEC techniques for three days at Kinkala; 4,800 people received information; 3,100 leaflets and 100 T-shirts were printed; and 1,296 condoms were distributed.

In the Pool region, volunteers supported by the ICRC, UNFPA and the Federation distributed 10 first aid kits, drugs and other articles to victims displaced by the fighting. The volunteers also undertook a count of displaced persons at Djambala with the help of the MoH, for which they received 200 FCFA each, to meet the needs of the displaced persons. Two health centres in the Pool have been rehabilitated with the support of the German Red Cross and the Federation.

Promotion of humanitarian values •

Objective 1: Promote international humanitarian law (IHL), the fundamental principles and protection of the emblem in the two Congos.

Activities:

Media covered the official installation of the school sections of the Red Cross in 55 primary schools in the city of Kinshasa (23 February) and of the gift of clothing to about 50 children

displaced by war to Nganda Mosolo (22 February), a gift from the 687 pupils of the Bokeleale Institute.

With funding from the British Red Cross and the support of the Federation, 99 nurses from the reproductive health project, 45 leaders, marketers and impregnators from the malaria control project, and 1,445 pupils, members of the RC of the DRC and workers in the commune of Kinshasa were told about the history of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, its fundamental principles and humanitarian values.

Press releases released during the reporting period covered: the clean-up of UNIKIN by volunteers; the participation of the president of the RC of the DRC in the donors' meeting in Geneva; the presentation of the maps of sites at risk in Kinshasa; and the Federation's donation to efforts to control the cholera epidemic at Mbuji-Mayi. Press conferences were held on the history of the Movement.

Participation of the RC of the DRC in a special broadcast organized by the television channel TKM on the intervention of the Red Cross at Goma after the volcano eruption.

Information was disseminated on 4 February to the 34 peer educators (HIV/AIDS) on the history of the Movement and the RC of the DRC, and on 15 February in the commune of Matete about the emblem and the history of the Movement to 84 pupils of the Mango Institute and 124 pupils of the Diasiwa Institute.

Two press conferences were held on 19 March about the history of the Movement for 30 peer educators working on HIV/AIDS education in the schools of Kinshasa.

Printing and publication of 66,000 copies of the magazine "Echo de la Croix-Rouge" ("Red Cross Echo") and a leaflet summarizing the RC of the DRC were supported.

There was media coverage of: the activities commemorating World Red Cross Day and other important activities, in particular the lectures on the fundamental principles of the Movement (audience of 13,755 people); voluntary blood donation drives; the cleaning up of hospitals; the gift of blankets, soap, candles boxes of matches, etc., to 100 elderly people; the procession of volunteers and sympathizers; the exhibition by women volunteers of the RC of the DRC of several articles, products and works of art; the closure of the humanitarian law day on 22 June 2002, and the continuation of the broadcast "Children in their setting".

Different training sessions for broadcasters and RC exhibitions were organized by the national department of information and communication both in the interior of the country and in the capital, Kinshasa, with the support of the ICRC and the Federation, to enhance the image of the Red Cross.

Media covered the various rounds of national vaccination days and the polio and measles awareness day for volunteers organized by the Ministry of Health at the Palace of the People in Kinshasa on 22 August 2002.

Broadcasts were devoted to the activities of the Red Cross on the Congolese National Radio and Television (national channel), the radio of the Church of Christ in the Congo and the Catholic radio station Elikya for the RC of the DRC, and on Radio Congo for the CRC.

An awareness campaign was launched on 17 September 2002 for teachers in the five schools of the town of Kananga, in the province of Western Kasai, on the dissemination of humanitarian standards in schools. This experimental activity was initiated by the department of information and communication in collaboration with the project on dissemination of humanitarian standards.

On 20 September 2002 local media covered the handing over by the Federation of information technology equipment for disaster management in Kinshasa and in the provinces.

The RC of the DRC took an active part in the seminar/workshop which took place from 10-12 July 2002 at Kribi, Cameroon, on the theme of “Regional action to reduce discrimination and violence in the community”. This workshop was organized on the initiative of the humanitarian principles and values department of the Federation’s Secretariat and by the regional bureau for Central Africa.

Training was conducted of 30 communicators at Kinkala in the Pool region. Contacts were maintained with the regional authorities through the regional RC committee; preparation of the working documents and elaboration of the training programme was done with the ICRC.

New HF radio stations were installed at Etoumbi in the Western Cuvette region and at Impfondo in Likouala. These radio stations will contribute to the dissemination of humanitarian principles and help to combat discrimination.

Training was held for 30 volunteers in international humanitarian law (IHL), environmental sanitation, and STI/HIV/AIDS on 8 May 2002 (in Pointe-Noire, 14,932 people attended information sessions on HIV/AIDS). Leaflets and condoms were distributed to the audience in the Impfondo region. Training was also held for 25 volunteers at Owando and 30 at Ewo, in the Cuvette region.

Thirty volunteers were recruited at Djambala, in the Plateaux region, for training in awareness of IHL, with the support of the ICRC, from 26-28 February 2002.

Objective 2: Create and support a network of volunteer information officers in each of the regions/provinces of the two Congos.

Activities:

Follow-up at the ministry level was undertaken to establish an inter-ministerial commission for dissemination and harmonization with the ICRC regarding the objectives pursued by this commission.

A training and information seminar on reporting was conducted by two BRAC delegates for central administration officials of the RC of the DRC.

A working meeting of five journalists from the Congolese national press was held with the regional bureau’s staff at the end of February to set up a network of friends of the Red Cross.

Following the example of the RC of the DRC, the National Youth Directorate of the CRC created a journalists’ club called “Henry Dunant’s Messengers”. This body will help the CRC disseminate its different communiqués and will accompany it in its process of development.

Organizational development •

Objective 1: Promote and ensure the smooth working of governance and management.

Activities:

A meeting of the second ordinary session of the central committee of the RC of the DRC was held from 2-4 December 2002. At the session, 34 decisions were taken, including breaking the contract with the secretary general and reducing the number of staff at the general secretariat from 36 to 18, i.e. by half. Professionalism, versatility and competence were the criteria adopted for the consideration of each case.

A workshop for the Movement's components was organized in Kinshasa on 25-26 June 2002 to convey an understanding of such essential work tools as the Seville Agreement, the constitution and rules of procedure, and focused on three major topics which were discussed in working groups: the division of tasks between governance and management, the finance system and the functioning of the general secretariat.

A mission to Lubumbashi in the province of Katanga was carried out by three representatives of each component of the Movement (RC of the DRC, Federation and ICRC) to clear up the problem of the malfunctioning of the provincial committee and to revitalize it.

The elected officials, technicians and volunteers of the NS in the provinces of Nord-Kivu (Goma), Eastern Province (Kisangani) and Sud-Kivu (Bukavu) were given training by the representatives of the Movement under the direction of the ODD, from 10-25 March 2002.

The ODD of the Federation and the cooperation delegate of the ICRC paid a working visit to Lubumbashi to strengthen the functioning of the provincial committee.

The ODD also visited the eastern province (Kisangani) to provide technical assistance at the provincial assembly held on 12 October 2002.

A joint Federation/ICRC mission was undertaken to Bas-Congo (Matadi) to give technical support to the establishment of local and district committees.

Objective 2: To strengthen the capacity of the National Society's human resources.

Activities:

Training in English and information technology was provided to the staff and officials of the RC of the DRC general secretariat.

Reporting officers were recruited to ensure continuous and regular reporting of all the activities of all the services of the two NSs.

Twenty female volunteers received their diplomas after successfully completing literacy courses; follow-up activities were held at the literacy centre for women, single mothers and girls at the section of the N'djili and Bandalungwa commune.

On 30 September and 1 October 2002, the ODD and the reporting officer of the Federation and the deputy secretary general of the NS took part in working meetings at the central committee of the NS and the office of Save The Children Kinshasa with a British Red Cross representative and training director of the Sphere project. The object of these two meetings was to find ways and means to involve the RC of the DRC in this project which needs the support of all NGOs and humanitarian agencies to get more effective coordination in cases of disaster and for technical services to benefit from proper training and become more operational in the humanitarian field.

A former staff member of the Federation was nominated on 29 December 2002, by decision of the President of the CRC, to be director general of the CRC, on the proposal of the ad hoc committee set up for that purpose.

Objective 3: Strengthen the financial and material capacity of the NSs at the provincial and national levels.

Activities:

A project was elaborated for the printing of membership cards to be distributed for cash to the whole of the RC of the DRC, financed by the Finnish Red Cross and the Federation, as was a project to produce pins with the Red Cross emblem.

In addition, two food self-financing micro-projects were elaborated for the establishment of a restaurant and terrace and the cultivation of food crops at Kamba-Mulumba.

The delegation assisted the NSs in establishing and maintaining robust management and financial control systems.

The CRC radio operator undertook several missions to Kinshasa to maintain the radio network, verify the communication system as a whole and make an inventory of equipment.

A multi-purpose meeting room was constructed with a capacity for 220 persons with funds from the German Red Cross, in collaboration with the ICRC and with support from the RC of the DRC. Other achievements include: furnishing of the office made available to the Federation by the RC of the DRC at Goma; financial and administrative review carried out by the head of delegation for the redevelopment of the NS; gift of a laptop and accessories, a photocopier and a motorcycle by the Federation to the Goma branch (in North Kivu) of the RC of the DRC; and downward revision of the 2002-2003 Appeal budget taking account of the most pertinent programmes.

It was decided to reallocate financial support from the components to projects instead of people. Support will thus go to the NS through projects rather than staff. This is in line with the Federation's review of the NS.

A working meeting was held between the secretary general of the RC of the DRC, the administrator of the Belgian Red Cross (BRC) and the Federation's ODD to discuss the three broken down vehicles of the RC of the DRC. These will be examined by the BRC garage mechanic and the Federation's mechanic and the result will be submitted to the SG of the RC of the DRC who will present it to the Steering Committee for an opinion and subsequently to the ICRC and the BRC for approval of their sale by auction. The money thus obtained will be used to buy a new vehicle for logistics support to management.

The Belgian Red Cross donated two used computers from Brussels to strengthen the material capacity of the RC of the DRC.

At a meeting between the Federation's ODD and the ICRC's cooperation delegate on the improved functioning of the RC of the DRC secretariat, rational and optimal use of the financial resources made available to the RC of the DRC by the partners of the Movement was recommended.

A fund-raising committee was established by the general secretariat of the RC of the DRC.

The tour which took the Minister of Health accompanied by the President of the Red Cross and the Federation ODD to the province of Bandundu and the provinces of Eastern and Western Kasai during the third round of the national vaccination days, left them with some bitter pictures of the living conditions of the populations of Kabinda in Eastern Kasai. The population is wounded and paying a heavy tribute to the war between the DRC and the armies of Rwanda, Burundi and Uganda: women and girls have been raped (with girls of 10 to 13 giving birth), high prevalence of STI/HIV/AIDS, etc. The ODD is therefore proposing, in the framework of the NAM, that the capacities of local Red Cross committees be strengthened, especially in this part of the DRC.

The organizational development delegate and the reporting officer of the Federation drew up a profile of the Higher Institute of Health Sciences of the RC of the DRC to be presented to partners and donors with a view to obtaining funds for this institution to acquire modern equipment to enable it to function optimally.

Objective 4: Facilitate the organization of general assemblies in the RoC and the DRC.

Activities:

The CRC formed teams to visit the provinces and communes with the help of the Federation and the ICRC, and renewal of executive and communal officers.

The 10 regions of the RoC were visited by the management committee teams and informed of the steps to be taken to organize regional assemblies. At the elections in the regions of Kouilou, Niari, Lékoumou, Bouenza and the Pool, the presence of delegates from the interior of districts was estimated at 85 per cent. New entries to regional and communal councils are around 45 per cent, with about 15 per cent of newcomers to executive office. There was participation in the order of 80 per cent at the communal level (Ouesso) in the assemblies held in Brazzaville, the Plateaux, Central Cuvette, Western Cuvette, Sangha and Lékoumou; the communal council was renewed by 405 members and the executive by 1,005 and the adhesion of local intellectuals was noted. At the level of the region (Sangha) there was the same attendance as for the commune; the regional council was renewed by 58 per cent and the regional executive bureau by 60 per cent, including a new communal president.

The Federation assisted the Congolese RC in preparations for the fifth elective general assembly, which was held in Brazzaville from 13-15 September 2002. The costs were borne in full by the Federation and the ICRC. The Federation also provided technical, logistical and organizational support for this meeting. It should be noted that 60 per cent of the executive of the Congolese Red Cross are women. The Federation also assisted the CRC to recruit a new director general who was nominated by the ad hoc committee set up for this purpose and officially endorsed by the steering committee on 29 December 2002.

At the beginning of December 2002, the Federation assisted the RC of the DRC in the preparation and holding of the second ordinary general assembly of the central committee.

Coordination and management •

Objective 1: In close collaboration with the BRAC in Yaoundé, the delegation will support the NSs in the implementation of Strategy 2010, the *Africa* magazine, the Ouagadougou Declaration and other regional decisions in a constructive manner.

Activities:

The RC of the DRC intervened in the town of Goma after the ravages caused by the eruption of the volcano Nyiragongo. The head of delegation, the ODD and president of the RC of the DRC made a trip there to coordinate activities and begin to implement the resolutions of the NAM team. The ODD embarked on training the new members of the governing bodies in Goma, Bukavu and Kisangani. All these missions had the logistical and administrative support of the delegation.

The delegation's leadership participated in meetings held in Yaoundé on the restructuring of the BRAC.

The delegation finalized the annual financial report and submitted it to the UNHCR. The narrative report was sent to Geneva for comments before submission. Reports on donations and projects are contingent on financial information from the Secretariat.

The delegation arranged and undertook several trips outside and within the two Congos: visits to Nairobi and Yaoundé, and many missions by leaders and volunteers of the NSs on both sides of the river Congo.

The delegation gave all possible technical and logistical support to the National Societies for the start-up and implementation of activities and programmes: organization of the formation and education of peer educators in Pointe-Noire and Brazzaville, as part of the AIDS programme; training of health workers in Kinkala, and organization of information and educational sessions in the Pool region in the framework of the health care project there.

Following the review of the financial and administrative system of the RC of the DRC in May 2002, implementation of its recommendations has begun. The society's finance department already has its computers (donated by the Belgian Red Cross) and a fund-raising committee was set up within the RC of the DRC which began work at the beginning of October 2002.

The delegation and all its staff and delegates gave all possible technical and logistical support to the National Societies for the start-up and implementation of activities and ongoing programmes: organization of awareness campaigns on Ebola fever among the populations living near the RoC border with Gabon, and raising awareness among mothers of the need for vaccination against poliomyelitis and preventive action against HIV/AIDS. The delegation's logistical and technical support made a big difference to the success of the national vaccination days in both the DRC and the RoC. The delegation made available all its vehicles to the coordinating authorities, and the Congolese Red Cross covered the whole of the territory of Congo with its radio stations. With the help of this radio network, the NS took over communications completely during the second phase of the national vaccination days in the RoC.

The delegation supported the NS in the preparation of its appeals for 2003-2004, organizing coordination meetings and field trips to assess needs.

The presentation of the financial and administrative system review of the RC of the DRC last May was followed up by a three-day seminar, and the practical implementation of its recommendations in the different departments of the NS was supervised during July.

Objective 2: Support the two NSs to achieve coherent coordination in the elaboration of a strategic development plan and in the strategy for assistance to the two countries.

Activities:

In accordance with the new objectives of the 2003-2004 Appeal, the delegation, supported by the Federation, sent a mission to Mbuji-Mayi to support the provincial committee in its efforts to combat the cholera epidemic. The water and sanitation (wat/san) delegate who arrived in Kinshasa in December 2002 went back to his post at Mbandaka, in the Province of Equateur. The wat/san delegate for Mbuji-Mayi was due to arrive at the beginning of February 2003.

Regular weekly meetings between the Federation's delegates and the secretariats of the NSs took place in both Kinshasa and Brazzaville to monitor progress with the implementation of programmes. There were also regular meetings with the programme directors in order to ensure that strategy is oriented in step with programme implementation.

Meetings were held both in Brazzaville and Kinshasa to plan the activities and prepare for the departure of the head of delegation for Abidjan where working meetings between the heads of the regional delegations, the heads of the national delegations, the head of the Africa department and the desk officer in Geneva exchanged views on the future of the office. Another meeting was held to prepare for the partnership meeting scheduled to take place at Kribi, Cameroon, in January 2003.

Several meetings were held with the president and secretary general of the RC of the DRC in Kinshasa and the CRC in Brazzaville to plan the national vaccination days and discuss their results. Other joint working meetings were held to plan and elaborate the 2003-2004 Appeal.

The delegation organized meetings on the first phase of the production of the maps of areas at risk for natural disasters; the Kinshasa map has been finalized and converted to digital form, with very satisfactory results.

Objective 3: Ensure good and fruitful collaboration with the ICRC in accordance with the Seville Agreement and the norms of the Movement.

Activities:

In the DRC, a coordination meeting between all the components of the Movement is held every Thursday in the office of the head of the ICRC delegation. During these meetings each member presents respective activities and discusses areas of concern. In Brazzaville, tripartite meetings (ICRC, Federation and CRC) were held twice a month. At these meetings the emphasis is on the coordination of joint programmes and the coordination support to be offered to the CRC.

The ICRC is responsible for security in the two Congos. During the elections in the RoC and the events in the Pool and Brazzaville, cooperation on security between the ICRC and the Federation was perfect. On the occasion of the frequent visits by Federation delegates to the different provinces of the DRC, including Goma, the ICRC made an undoubted contribution to security.

At the ceremony to mark World Red Cross/Red Crescent Day, one single speech was given by the spokesman of the ICRC.

A special meeting on security was organized in Kinshasa. New security measures were introduced after the incident where an ICRC colleague was the victim.

In the DRC, all the components of the Movement met together twice to welcome the new heads of the missions of the ICRC and the Belgian Red Cross, respectively, and to say good-bye to those who were leaving.

Objective 4: Strengthen existing relations between operational partners and establish new relations.

Activities:

The RC of the DRC and the CRC maintained very close and fruitful relations with their traditional partners in the framework of their various programmes, in particular with the Ministry of Health, UNICEF, UNFPA, WHO, OCHA, the World Food Programme, MSF-Holland, MSF-Belgium, Catholic Relief Services and USAID. There are excellent relations with participating National Societies, which include the Belgian, Spanish and German Red Cross Societies. New relations are currently being established with GTZ (the German technical cooperation agency) and other NGOs involved in humanitarian work for the vulnerable. Contacts with economic operators such as CELTEL, which made a grant of US\$ 20,000 to the RC of the DRC, and with embassies raised funds for the operations in Goma.

The head of the delegation, the finance and administration delegate, the ODD and the health delegate met regularly to give their support to the governance and management of the National Societies of the DRC and the RoC.

There were many meetings with the representatives of UNFPA in Brazzaville and Kinshasa and with the General Directorate for Population in the RoC (DGPop) to discuss agreement on the reproductive health project. In the DRC, the British Red Cross financed the reproductive health project and the project to combat STI/HIV/AIDS.

The CRC and the delegation coordinated meetings in the offices of the director of health in Brazzaville to prepare for needs assessment missions to the north following the flooding. These working meetings brought together the ICRC, the CRC, the Federation, the director-general of health, OCHA, UNICEF and NGOs such as ACF and CRS. Following these meetings joint missions were dispatched into the field. The CRC and the delegation attend regular daily meetings to coordinate on the Ebola outbreak. These meetings include the partners enumerated above. The CRC made two nurses available, financed by the Federation, to strengthen the team from MSF-Holland in the field.

The newly elected members of the CRC receive training with the help of funding from the BRAC (obtained from the Swiss Red Cross). A project of support to single mothers will be financed by the SRC through the BRAC.

To contribute to the strengthening of coordination in disaster response, the Federation and the RC of the DRC participated alongside some ten humanitarian agencies, including Caritas, IRC, Save the Children, CRS, etc., in two working meetings on the Sphere project coordinated by the project's training officer.

Objective 5: Ensure integrated planning, implementation and evaluation of the activities of the delegations.

Activities:

The CRC volunteers who worked in the Cabindan refugee project were thanked by the leaders of the Red Cross in Kouilou, as UNHCR decided to change its partner.

The delegation recruited a reporting and information officer for the two Congos. To strengthen reporting in the two NSs, reporting officers were recruited.

On 30-31 March the delegation organized a retreat to plan activities for the second quarter, revise the programmes for each quarter with all delegates and reflect on what was missing from its programmes. Two other meetings of delegates took place, one in Brazzaville and one in Kinshasa, to plan activities for the second quarter and brief about the missions of the head of delegation to Goma and Yaoundé, and of the ODD to Goma, Kisangani and Bukavu. Other measures also emerged in these meetings, in particular the closure of the Brazzaville delegation on the instruction of the Secretariat in Geneva and revision of the budget of the 2002-2003 Appeal to bring it more in line with present realities in the field and with the recommendations of the NAM mission. This revision follows the addition to projects of provinces not originally included in the appeal, such as Nord-Kivu (Goma), Eastern Kasai (Mbuji-Mayi), Equateur (Mbandaka) and Katanga (Lubumbashi). The head of delegation also attended a meeting in Geneva of heads of delegations and regional delegations in Africa, and presented the programmes of the NSs to the donors invited to these working sessions.

Several working meetings were held in Kinshasa for debriefing about the Yaoundé meeting at which the head of delegation presented the 2003-2004 Appeal and then to prepare for the departure of the HoD to Geneva for the donors' meeting.

The delegation held a meeting with local staff to share information about its activities and provide an update on the implementation of activities for the current year.

Objective 6: Promote a productive working environment between the staff of the Federation and the personnel of the National Societies so as to arrive at a process of mutual learning.

Activities:

The delegation in Kinshasa had help with accounting from a CRC/Pointe-Noire volunteer this year following the death of the finance assistant. The activities of the Federation's administrative assistant, on leave, were covered by a volunteer from the RC of the DRC. The Brazzaville delegation's administrative assistant spent more than two weeks in Kinshasa to strengthen capacity of the national societies' secretaries, the national president and the Kinshasa delegation to manage the administrative documents of the Federation and the NS. Training focused on the filing of administrative documents according to the model used by the Federation, so as to secure uniform practice.

During September the delegation worked with the CRC in a new form of cohabitation, as the delegation no longer had any local staff in Brazzaville. The delegates are now working in the same offices as their counterparts from the CRC. In the DRC, delegates worked together to come closer to the NS by working directly in the same offices as counterparts.

The resource person in charge of reporting and information took part in the introductory and training seminar for field staff held in Geneva in September. The purpose of attendance was to give him a better idea of the functioning of the Federation's Secretariat in order to facilitate his tasks within the delegation.

During the month of July the delegation worked with the CRC on the assignment and resumption of the activities hitherto carried out by local staff under contract to the Federation in Brazzaville. The CRC officials were assigned to offices and were to begin work independently as from 1 August 2002.

In the framework of regional cooperation, the national director of the health department of the CRC was called upon as a resource person by the RC of the DRC to support it in its efforts to combat the cholera epidemic in the province of Eastern Kasai.

Conclusion

The year 2002 was one of challenge and of transition for the NS of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the NS of the Republic of the Congo. A challenge because they had to carry out their activities in an environment of war, internal conflicts and economic recession, and a year of transition because there were many changes in their structures of management. Nor has the regional office escaped this. These situations left the two NSs with no let-up in their activities, and every effort was made to attain the objectives which they set themselves.

The visit of the Federation's desk officer at the end of 2002 provided the opportunity for the two NSs to familiarize themselves with new directives and strategies. These are based on the recommendations of the NAM mission, the Ouagadougou Declaration, ARCHI 2010, the Strategy for Change, etc., which profoundly marked the spirit of the 2003-2004 Appeal. The opening of two sub-delegations in Mbandaka and Mbuji-Mayi is just a prelude to activities for 2003-2004.

It is time for the two NSs to become resolutely involved in the implementation of all these recommendations for the greater benefit of the vulnerable. Support is sought again from partners as well as assistance in search of solutions to the problems of the thousands of vulnerable people who are waiting for more concrete humanitarian actions from the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT SOCIETIES

Interim report	
Annual report	X
Final report	

Appeal No & title: 01.06/2002 Congo Republic & DR Congo

Period: year 2002

Project(s): PCG101, 160, 410, ZR001, 003, 101, 160, 401, 410,

Currency: CHF

I - CONSOLIDATED RESPONSE TO APPEAL

FUNDING	CASH		KIND & SERVICES		TOTAL INCOME
	Contributions	Comments	Goods/Services	Personnel	
Appeal budget	3,523,204				
less					
Cash brought forward	249,173				
TOTAL ASSISTANCE SOUGHT	3,274,031				
<i>Contributions from Donors</i>					
British Red Cross (DNGB)	175,913				175,913
Danish Red Cross Private donors (DPNDK)	91,724				91,724
DFID - British Government (DFID)	30,000				30,000
DFID 3- British Government (DFID03)	48,408				48,408
Donor - Disaster Relief Emergency Fu (DREF)	10,000				10,000
Finnish Red Cross (DNFI)	90,531				90,531
Hellenic Red Cross (DNGR)	43,951				43,951
Netherlands Red Cross (DNNL)	17,625				17,625
Norwegian Govt.via Norwegian Red Cro (DGNNO)	320,085				320,085
Norwegian Red Cross (DNNO)	75,165				75,165
Swedish Govt.via Swedish Red Cross (DGNSE)	131,905				131,905
Swedish Red Cross (DNSE)	29,123				29,123
Swiss Govt.via Swiss Red Cross (DGNCH)	41,600				41,600
Taiwan RCO (DM23)	352				352
Great Britain				59,959	59,959
Sweden				55,030	55,030
Switzerland				20,750	20,750
TOTAL	1,106,381			135,739	1,242,120

II - Balance of funds

OPENING	249,173
CASH INCOME Rcv'd	1,106,381
CASH EXPENDITURE	-1,190,209

CASH BALANCE	165,345

Appeal No & title: 01.06/2002 Congo Republic & DR Congo

Period: year 2002

Project(s): PCG101, 160, 410, ZR001, 003, 101, 160, 401, 410,

Currency: CHF

III - Budget analysis / Breakdown of expenditures

Description	APPEAL Budget	CASH Expenditures	KIND & SERVICES		TOTAL Expenditures	Variance
			Goods/services	Personnel		
<u>SUPPLIES</u>						
Shelter & Construction	116,574	25,429			25,429	91,145
Clothing & Textiles	83,625	2,781			2,781	80,844
Food & Seeds	13,750	519			519	13,231
Water & sanitation	10,000	119			119	9,881
Medical & First Aid	129,704	2,217			2,217	127,487
Teaching materials	26,225	6,148			6,148	20,077
Utensils & Tools	140,180	5,028			5,028	135,152
Other relief supplies		8,486			8,486	-8,486
Sub-Total	520,058	50,726			50,726	469,332
<u>CAPITAL EXPENSES</u>						
Land & Buildings	8,227	-7,178			-7,178	15,405
Vehicles	123,260					123,260
Computers & Telecom equip.	44,074	52,562			52,562	-8,488
Medical equipment	235					235
Other capital expenditures	102,073	22,433			22,433	79,640
Sub-Total	277,869	67,817			67,817	210,052
<u>TRANSPORT & STORAGE</u>						
	159,321	52,137			52,137	107,184
Sub-Total	159,321	52,137			52,137	107,184
<u>PERSONNEL</u>						
Personnel (delegates)	650,790	386,939		135,739	522,678	128,112
Personnel (national staff)	888,125	260,733			260,733	627,392
Sub-Total	1,538,915	647,671		135,739	783,410	755,505
<u>GENERAL & ADMINISTRATION</u>						
Assessment/Monitoring/experts	30,910	33,743			33,743	-2,833
Travel & related expenses	181,764	71,928			71,928	109,836
Information expenses	122,675	26,064			26,064	96,611
Admin./general expenses	286,339	157,736			157,736	128,603
External workshops & Seminars	17,800	1,578			1,578	16,222
Sub-Total	639,488	291,048			291,048	348,440
<u>PROGRAMME SUPPORT</u>						
Programme management	237,570	81,606			81,606	155,964
Technical services	71,116	23,160			23,160	47,956
Professional services	78,867	25,692			25,692	53,175
Sub-Total	387,553	130,457			130,457	257,096
Operational provisions		-49,648			-49,648	49,648
Transfers to National Societies						
TOTAL BUDGET	3,523,204	1,190,209		135,739	1,325,948	2,197,256