

# PROGRAMME 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

## UGANDA

10 December 2003

Appeal no. 01.12/2003 Appeal target: CHF 1,002,930 (USD 682,548 or EUR 681,890)

Programme Update No. 2

Period covered: July - November 2003

*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 180 countries. For more information: [www.ifrc.org](http://www.ifrc.org)*

### In Brief

**Appeal coverage:** 56.1% Please refer to the [Contributions List](#) for this appeal on the Federation's website

**Outstanding needs :** CHF 440,154 (USD 352,400 or EUR 282,150)

**Related Annual or Emergency Appeals:**

- [East Africa Sub-Regional Programmes: Annual Appeal no. 01.08/2004](#)

**Programme Summary:** Programming under Uganda's Appeal covers two key areas: (1) Organizational development (OD), and (2) Support to managing refugee camps in South Western Uganda. The OD programme has received adequate funding and Federation assistance to the [Uganda Red Cross Society](#) in the area of coordination and support is well appreciated by the national society. Uganda Red Cross is actively participating in regional activities like the RC-NET, the Lake Victoria Project, quarterly senior meetings, and has shown willingness and capability to share its experiences with partner national societies.

Federation support to Uganda Red Cross in running the camps includes camp management and water and sanitation. A rain harvesting project for sustainable and environmentally friendly water provision began as a pilot project in 2002 and continues on a reduced scale due to the expected repatriation of Rwandan refugees by UNHCR in 2004.

### Operational developments

Incursions by the rebel Lords Resistance Army have heightened insecurity in the northern part of Uganda. Over one million people have been displaced by the attacks which have caused civilians deaths, human suffering, and abduction of children to be used as slaves. Uganda Red Cross launched an operation to assist these internally displaced persons (IDP) and, following escalation of insecurity into the neighbouring district of Teso, Uganda Red Cross launched a national appeal in July 2003. The international community has expressed serious concern for the humanitarian situation in the north of Uganda and while the government of Uganda has opted for military combat, international pressure has forced it to make attempts at peaceful negotiations with the rebels.

In addition to its planned programming and the ongoing operation to assist IDPs in the North, the Uganda Red Cross Society responded to a looming refugee crisis in north-eastern Uganda in February 2003 when thousands of people fleeing an upsurge in inter-ethnic fighting in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) crossed the border into Uganda. On behalf of the Uganda Red Cross, the Federation launched Emergency Appeal no.06/2003 (Uganda: Refugees from DRC) for CHF 353,000 to assist the national society in providing essential assistance to 15,000 Congolese refugees; the operation has now been completed and a final report is available. (The Appeal and its reports can be accessed by clicking on the link to Uganda Red Cross Society above).

## Disaster Management / Health and Care

**Goal: Disaster Management: To provide humanitarian relief assistance to refugees in Orukinga and Nakivale camps and specific capacity building to Uganda Red Cross so that the SPHERE standards for disaster response are met.**

**Objective: Disaster Management: Efficient camp management and a sustainable solution to water supply are realized.**

**Goal: Health and Care: The general health of vulnerable communities is improved through sustainable provision of safe water and sanitation.**

**Objective Health and Care: Sustainable water and sanitation services are provided by supporting the intervention and partnership of Uganda Red Cross Society with beneficiary communities and other stakeholders.**

### Progress

By October 2003 there were 14,988 registered refugees in Nakivale with an additional 3,600 asylum seekers, while in Orukinga the population was 4,246 refugees. The camps are managed by Uganda Red Cross with financial support from the Federation; other partners are WFP, UNHCR and bilateral support from the Netherlands Red Cross. In recognition of the national society's efficient management of the South Western Refugee Operation and the camps, the UNHCR requested Uganda Red Cross to manage an additional camp in Kyaka II with a refugee population of 5,514; this is a direct agreement between the national society and UNHCR and the Federation is not directly involved.

Following the successful repatriation and integration of Rwandan refugees in other countries in Africa, the UNHCR office in Kampala has informed the Ugandan government that if the situation in Rwanda improves, the Rwandan refugees will cease to have UNHCR refugee status by July 2004. A tripartite agreement has since been signed between the governments of Rwanda, Uganda and the UNHCR.

A voluntary repatriation process was about to commence by 1 November for Rwandese refugees wishing to return home. However, less than 100 families had registered by mid November. Many refugees have stayed in Uganda for a long time and enjoyed the relaxed refugee policy of the Ugandan government; they also have access to land and have cattle. The liberal refugee policy of the Ugandan government has also been misunderstood as willingness by the Ugandan government to continue supporting the refugees and might hamper the process. Rwandan government representatives and the UNHCR are undertaking ongoing sensitization to prepare the refugees for eventual repatriation.

The Federation support to the rainwater harvesting initiative in the camps has noted significant progress; several storage tanks and water points are operational while large rainwater collection shelters are nearing completion. Two rainwater catchments have been erected, repairs carried out in six water points in Orukinga, and 25 slabs distributed in both camps. Materials to repair four wells in Kyaka II have been procured. The PHAST<sup>1</sup> process is well established in Orukinga but behind schedule in Nakiwale; national society staff have undergone several training sessions including the PHAST Review and Disaster Response training. The water and sanitation supervisor attended the Health Inspectorate Workers seminar.

The water and sanitation (WatSan) services for both camps were adjusted in June 2003 to take into account the expected decrease in population from 2004 following the announcement by UNHCR over the repatriation plans. The regional WatSan team carried out its third quarterly missions to support the programme in October. As a result, WatSan services for both camps are fully upgraded to meet future needs and funding fully secured for the 2003 revised project budget.

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<sup>1</sup> PHAST – Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation

## **Uganda; Appeal no 01.12/2003; Programme Update no. 2**

The Uganda Red Cross demonstrated its capacity and preparedness to respond to emergencies when it assisted approximately 600 families made up of 1,905 persons following a serious fire in Nakivale Camp in July 2003. The national society promptly distributed tarpaulins, blankets, kitchen sets, jerry cans and plastic plates from its disaster preparedness stocks; additional funding was provided by the British Red Cross.

### **Impact**

The management of the camp has improved and no major problems have occurred despite an influx of an additional 5,000 ex-Rwandan refugees whom both the Ugandan government and the UNHCR refuse to acknowledge. However, the national society has granted this group access to WatSan services and health facilities in the camp.

Refugees have expressed their appreciation of the WatSan services and have exhibited a very positive attitude to the programme; their health and hygiene has improved through the provision of WatSan services according to SPHERE<sup>2</sup> standards. No further water borne diseases have been reported.

The efficient management of the camps has earned Uganda Red Cross recognition from the UNHCR who requested the national society to manage an additional camp in Kyaka II

### **Constraints**

Increased workload from the Kyaka II camp presents some challenge due to unavailability of transport and delays in procurement, thereby slowing down activities and delaying the schedule. In addition, lack of WatSan technical staff in Kyaka II has slowed down the speed of work; staff from the South Western Refugee Operation are assisting in the interim.

Delayed procurement has affected the timely implementation of the rain water harvesting programme in Nakivale although it is still within schedule. The camp continues to expand with dispersed refugee settlements; the fire in the camp also seriously disrupted activities for some time.

News about the impending repatriation of Rwandese refugees has decreased refugee's interest in participating in community based activities.

## **Organizational Development**

**Goal: Implementation of the characteristics of a well-functioning national society. The national society improved in the three areas of: foundation, capacity and performance.**

**Objective: To consolidate the organizational and financial development processes of the Uganda Red Cross Society at national and branch level through continuing support to its new strategic plan and decentralisation process during 2003-04.**

### **Progress/Achievements**

The level of political and financial support to the national society has grown over the years. With the successful launch of local Appeals, the national society has consolidated its image as capable of assisting the most vulnerable in-country. Public relations functions are well attended, and the national society has been able to build a solid image vis a vis the national public, the government and donors.

The national society is very active in local fund raising among them an annual dinner and golf tournaments. One such event was held in October 2003 to raise funds for children affected by the rebel incursion in the North.

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<sup>2</sup> SPHERE

- 15 litres per person per day
- Flow = 0.125 litres per second
- 1 water point per 250 people
- Nearest water point < 500 m

## **Uganda; Appeal no 01.12/2003; Programme Update no. 2**

The updating of the procedures manual for finance, logistics and human resources is ongoing. The national society worked together with a logistic team from the secretariat to adopt the newly updated Federation regulations for international procurement to a national society context which is serving as a model. Experiences from this process are being shared with other national societies in the region.

Bilateral programs are implemented in accordance with a Memorandum of Understanding; however, a few partners are not in a position to honour all requirements and this has generated a lot of discussion among the other partners. Several bilateral partners have also committed themselves to multi year funding for the core programmes.

### **Impact**

The amount of funds raised within Uganda has increased significantly thanks to local fundraising initiatives. Long-term partnerships have been developed with donors in support of the core programmes.

### **Constraints**

The national society's fundraising programmes have to date raised less funds than was originally anticipated, although the contributions towards the national appeals is very positive.

## **Federation Coordination**

**Goal: To build capacity and empower Uganda Red Cross Society to achieve its mandate through better partnerships.**

**Objective: The Uganda Red Cross Society's integrated capacity building planning and implementation skills are ensured by the Federation through participatory facilitation.**

### **Progress/Achievements**

The Sub-regional Office for East Africa based in Uganda was created in January 2003 and covers Kenya, Uganda and Rwanda. It is headed by one delegate supported by a local national senior officer specialized in financial development assistance to the national societies.

Like Kenya and Rwanda, the Head of the Sub-regional Office for East Africa provides coaching to the senior management of the Uganda Red Cross and also advises on the use of technical expertise in support of its programmes.

With assistance from the Federation, Uganda Red Cross developed a cooperation agreement strategy (CAS) through a participatory approach involving all partners. The CAS was endorsed during the society's partnership meeting in October 2003 and the document was later signed by nine partner national societies<sup>3</sup> and the Federation at a ceremony during the International Conference in Geneva in December 2003.

Regular coordination meetings between the Uganda Red Cross, the ICRC, bilateral partners in Uganda and the Federation representative have started upon the initiative of the Federation with the objective of achieving a coordinated approach to the assistance given to Uganda Red Cross.

The Federation is a recognized partner in the monthly OCHA<sup>4</sup> meetings and in the consolidated appeal process (CAP); the Federation Appeal document appears in the CAP 2004 document. The Federation was recently invited to participate in an international donor consultancy group headed by the World Bank and attended by diplomatic missions and UN organizations; the ICRC was also invited to the meetings.

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<sup>3</sup> American Red Cross, British Red Cross, Danish Red Cross, French Red Cross, German Red Cross, Netherlands Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross, Spanish Red Cross, Swedish Red Cross

<sup>4</sup> OCHA – (UN) Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

## **Uganda; Appeal no 01.12/2003; Programme Update no. 2**

### **Impact**

The Uganda Red Cross enjoys good support from its partners and is capable of taking on more and more coordination activities.

The development of the CAS document has contributed to better coordination of programmes and assurance that they are within the framework of the national society's development plan. A better coordination mechanism between the stakeholders is also in place.

### **Constraints**

The Head of the Sub-Regional Office for East Africa is covering three countries and the amount of time available for each national society is not always sufficient.

## **International Representation**

**Goal: The Federation has a high profile as a key humanitarian actor and advocate in the region with the added advantage of a network of national societies able to deliver services at community level.**

**Objective: The Federation is an effective and reliable partner in support of Uganda Red Cross Society and in addressing the needs of the most vulnerable.**

### **Progress/Achievements**

The Head of the Sub-Regional Office for East Africa maintains close contacts with diplomatic missions, UN organizations and other institutions. Quarterly senior management meeting between the Secretaries General from the national societies of Rwanda, Kenya and Uganda facilitated by the Head of the Sub-Regional Office for East Africa has contributed to increased cooperation across borders. The meetings address common issues and concerns, harmonize efforts where possible and draw upon each other's experiences. The meetings are planned to coincide with the quarterly RC-NET meetings to make them cost effective. The Lake Victoria Project Task Force decided to incorporate their quarterly meeting into the already existing structures in the region.

At the initiative of the Sub regional Office for East Africa, quarterly meetings for the finance directors from the three countries has been actualized. The group has developed a standard financial reporting format and is in the process of developing standards formats for core cost budgets.

Uganda Red Cross has proven ability and capacity to plan, raise funds, manage and report for relief operations. Last year, the national society launched a national Appeal to assist IDP in Northern Uganda following increased conflict where it raised over USD 300,000 locally within Uganda. The second phase of their Appeal proposes a budget of USD 1.2 million; the programme extension to assist 120,000 IDPs will be supported by an ECHO grant of EUR 1.2 million covering a 12 month period.

The ECHO assistance was initiated by the Head of the Sub-Regional Office for East Africa as part of the information sharing and cooperation with players at regional level. The Danish Red Cross who is one of the main in-country partners of the national society made the contract on behalf of Uganda Red Cross.

The national society also launched a national Appeal for USD.1.2 million to assist victims of rebel attacks in Teso district.

### **Impact**

The international recognition of the achievements of Uganda Red Cross is showing tangible results such as the Euro 1.2 million ECHO grant which will the national society to provide assistance to the vulnerable.

The senior management meetings between the Secretaries General of the Rwandese Red Cross, Uganda Red Cross and Kenya Red Cross are generating constructive dynamics in the region. The establishment of a sub-regional working group to improve financial management has proven successful.

## **Uganda; Appeal no 01.12/2003; Programme Update no. 2**

### **Constraints**

Having to support three countries does not leave much time to the Head of Sub Regional Office to work on international representation, thereby leading to some missed opportunities.

### ***For further information 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 (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>*

*[<Contributions List below - Click here to return to title page>](#)*

APPEAL No. 01.12/2003

## PLEDGES RECEIVED

07/01/2004

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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## CASH

REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				1,002,930	TOTAL COVERAGE 56.1%	
CASH CARRIED FORWARD				17,829		
AMERICAN - GOVT/PRM		120,000	USD	163,140	29.04.03	ASSISTANCE TO RWANDAN REFUGEES
BRITISH - RC		49,806	GBP	106,983	21.03.03	WATER & SANITATION IN NAKIVALE CAMP
BRITISH - RC		25,060	GBP	53,816	07.04.03	WATER & SANITATION IN NAKIVALE CAMP
BRITISH - RC		12,341	USD	16,673	18.07.03	PURCHASE & DISTRIBUTION OF RELIEF ITEMS FOR NAKIVALE CAMP
DANISH - RC				127,395	07.03.03	
NORWEGIAN - GOVT/RC		110,000	NOK	21,285	28.05.03	ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
SWEDISH - GOVT		200,000	SEK	32,000	08.04.03	
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				539,121	CHF	53.8%

## KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
DENMARK	DELEGATE(S)			23,655		
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				23,655	CHF	2.4%

## ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET

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