

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

GUINEA

23 March 2004

In Brief

Appeal No.: 01.26/2003 ([Click here to access the 2003 Appeal](#))

Appeal target: CHF 3,940,389 (USD 2,703,711 or EUR 2,679,064)

Appeal coverage: 68.1% ([Click here to access the Final Financial Report](#))

Appeal 2004: Guinea (Conakry)no. 01.24/2004 ([Click here to access the 2004 Appeal](#))

This Annual Report reflects activities implemented over a one-year period; they form part of, and are based on, longer-term, multi-year planning.

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Overall analysis of the programme

The focus of year 2003 was the preparation and organization of presidential elections that returned President Conte to office. Apart from this, Guinea was relatively calm throughout 2003.

Guinea continues to face the problem of national security caused by the lingering conflicts along the Mano River sub-region and Côte d'Ivoire, which evolved considerably during the year. National efforts deployed towards the control and prevention of epidemics is commendable. However, the situation has been worsened by diseases such as measles, typhoid fever, meningitis, malaria, cholera yellow fever, and last but not the least, HIV/AIDS. This amounts to intolerable poverty, which highlights the vulnerability of the population, creates environmental degradation and impacts on the entire health of the population.

The need is enormous and requires more support from the international community but particularly from humanitarian organizations and donors.

Health and care

Goal: The incidence of new HIV infections among the country's population is reduced.

Objective: Due to the [Red Cross Society of Guinea](#) initiatives, there is a change in behaviour in the targeted Guinean population towards HIV/AIDS.

Expected results

1. The Red Cross of Guinea technical departments of Health, Relief, Information Dissemination, Social Welfare and Youth have effectively contributed to HIV/AIDS prevention in Conakry.
 - A gender-sensitive group of ten educators from each of the five communes of Conakry has been created.
 - A tool kit has been developed with effective modules for reaching different target groups.
 - As a result of educator's presentations, the knowledge base of the general population has been increased.
 - The five technical departments of the Red Cross of Guinea have been working together to conduct an effective HIV/AIDS campaign.
2. The risk of HIV infection has been reduced among the school-going population.
 - Nationally approved course and teaching aids have been developed.
 - Forty-five (45) primary schools, 15 secondary schools and five teachers' colleges (20,000 students and 150 teachers in total) plus the schools target by Red Cross of Guinea/IGRC for 2003 (15 primary and 15 secondary schools) have been reached.
 - The knowledge base of the causes of the spread of the HIV/AIDS and prevention has been increased among the school-aged population.

Progress/achievement

Guinea faces a major health problem with HIV/AIDS. Its prevalence rate went from 1.5% in 1996 to 2.8 in 2001 but has risen to 7% in certain geographical areas and amongst at-risk groups. As part of the technical support given to the Red Cross of Guinea and in order to ensure its effective participation in the fight against HIV/AIDS in Guinea, a technical mission of the Federation stayed in Conakry from 15 to 22 August 2003, with the aim of elaborating a strategic plan and activities to be carried out in partnership with the Ministry of health in collaboration with international organizations involved in health care. In line with this objective, the mission had the responsibility of designing a social mobilization project for the fight against measles in the Boké region (400 km west of Conakry). With a vaccination rate of above 99%, the Ministry of health, partners and donors considered this project as a real success for the national society.

Other activities:

Promotion of voluntary blood donation

In this regard, the health department participated in the training seminar organized by the National Center for Blood Transfusion (NCBT) from 19 to 23 August 2003, which was intended for recruiting officers in charge of voluntary donors. The joint partnership of the Red Cross of Guinea and NCBT carried out monthly blood donation by or through the committees in Conakry. In line with the partnership of the European Union and the national society, the mobilization programme for voluntary blood donation was concluded in October 2003.

Sub-regional co-operation

Progress/Achievements

On 24-26 November 2003, the Red Cross of Guinea participated in the workshop held in Grand Bassam, Côte d'Ivoire, aimed at revamping the activities of RANY-WA (Regional Aids Network for the Youth in West Africa). In December 2003, the national society was elected to head of the Abidjan group for two years. The national society also designed the projects to be presented to sponsors in 2004, which include; the national programme on fight against malaria, the water and sanitation projects and the project for social mobilization for the yellow fever vaccination.

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Constraints

- Complexity of activities.
- Absence of shared experiences .
- Limited funds.

Impact

The structural changes carried out at the Red Cross of Guinea and the support of the Federation delegation in Guinea has had positive impact in the NS's health projects. This facilitated the supply of adequate information and management tools to the department, which enhanced the implementation of departmental tasks within stipulated datelines.

Community health programmes were designed in line with the [Strategy 2010](#), and partnership has been strengthened with the Ministry of Health, United Nations Agencies, as well as other international NGOs.

Disaster management

Goal: Individual and collective capacities of communities are reinforced.

Objective: Individual and collective capacities of refugees and local communities in Kissidougou, N'Zérékoré and Conakry to reduce health and other risks are reinforced through community-based education.

KISSIDOUGOU

There was a great population movement in the Albadaria camps in 2003 with regards to the reception of new Liberian refugees and the repatriation of Sierra Leone refugees. Thus there was a significant number of vulnerable persons, of whom over 70% were women, children and the elderly. A relocation of the refugee camp at Kouankan was envisaged by the United Nations agencies and the NGOS to guard against any eventuality, in view of the obvious concerns expressed by the Guinean government for the security of its entire borders and that of the population. This was due to counter attacks by armed men from Liberia which resulted into the influx of refugees into Guinea and other countries in the sub-region, together with the uncontrolled traffic of unidentified armed-men into the afore-mentioned countries.

Progress

Projects carried out in partnership with the UNHCR are geared towards the improvement of living conditions of refugees in Albadaria camps, with particular emphasis on the welfare of vulnerable persons. In compliance therefore with the statutes, the Federation and the Red Cross of Guine a focused its efforts on activities related to the following programmes :

- Care and maintenance of community services, with special consideration given to issues related to the fight against sexual abuse, social integration of disabled and the elderly, as well as socio-cultural activities.
- Renovation/construction of shelters – community infrastructures for sheltering relocated or transferred refugees in a decent and safe manner.
- First-aid health insurance for convoys of voluntary officers handling the repatriation of Sierra Leone refugees who are willing to return to their country and the guarantee of all the vital needs for the journey

Project implementation

Community services care and maintenance

The main focus in this area was the training given to young single mothers and single girls (57) in small income generating activities, recreation and socio-cultural activities either individually, at the family or at the community level, as well as specific support given to the target groups (women, children, youth, disabled, chronically ill and the elderly).

Beneficiaries of the assistance

Table 1: Grouping of vulnerable persons per camp, type of vulnerability and age.

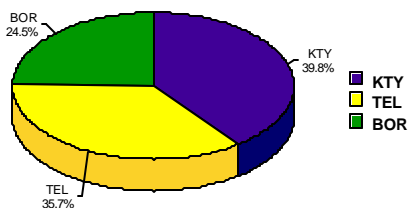
Age	Camp	Problems	Sc	Ena	Mc	Sf	Sp	Sov	Hp	Ci	Bl	Md	Dm	Ue	El	ap	Total
		chh															
Q A	KT	20	48	24					40	2	8		1				985
	TEL	15	38	39					14								948
	BOR	14	16	33					18			2	4				672
DE 18A	KTY					41	50	2	18		2	4	3				1,108
	TEL					12	54		29	2	6	8	9				718
	BOR					13	49	4	21		2	1	1				659
	KTY					17	40		10	6	6	4	1				694
	TEL					38	54		12		4	7	1				1058
	BOR					33	41		30	1	2	3	2				788
	KTY								17	4	5	6	6	24	68		1,126
	TEL								13	2	6	4	2	14	49		790
	BOR								9	5	3	3	3	88	17		287
TOTAL			1,0			1,5	2,8								1,3		
		500	32	984	0	65	97	6	874	22	44	42	33	480	54	0	9,833

Abbreviations (Problems):

CHH (Child head of household), SC (Separate children), ENA (Unaccompanied Child), MC (Male child) SF (single Female), SP (Single Parent), SOV (Survival of violence), HP (Physically handicapped), CI (chronic illness), BL (blind), UE (Unaccompanied Elderly), EL (Elderly).

Abbreviations (Camps): DTY (Koutanya), TEL (Telikoro) and BOR (Boreah)

Chart 1: Ratio of persons supported by our teams in each camp.



The high number of persons supported at Koutanya (KTY) and Telikoro (TEL) as against those at Boreah (BOR) is also due to the large number of persons relocated to these camps.

Relocalization of Refugees

This project was aimed at receiving all refugees relocated or transferred from the transit centers or camps in Kouankan (for security reasons) and Dabola (for reasons of consolidation) in a secure and decent manner, providing adaptable shelters for each family.

Table 2: Statistics of persons received and accommodated.

CAMP	CE	BENEFICIARIES		
		M	F	TOTAL
Boreah	2,915	1, 125	1,099	2,224
Telikoro		979	1,409	2,388
Kountaya		1,530	1,855	3,385
TOTAL	2,915	3,634	4,363	7,997

Table 3: Statistics of allocated land, shelter, community houses constructed and/or renovated in the three camps.

CAMP	AREA	SHELTER			HOUSES
		Renovation	Construction		
			EN	EN	
Boreah	545	691		50	19
Telikoro	480	514		68	32
Kountay	353	587	4	334	21
TOTAL	1,378	1,792	4	452	72

N.B The partners unanimously consented to the construction of tent shelters covered with straw (see photo below), in view of the heavy rainfall that hindered the fabrication of bricks, and in consideration of the high rate of transfer of persons, which created an urgent need for shelter for the refugees.

Repatriation programme

The general objective of the programme, which is in conformity with the sub-conventions of the UNHCR, is to ensure that all the refugees are entitled to first aid care in each of the convoys of repatriated persons.

Table 4: Annual statistics of repatriated persons

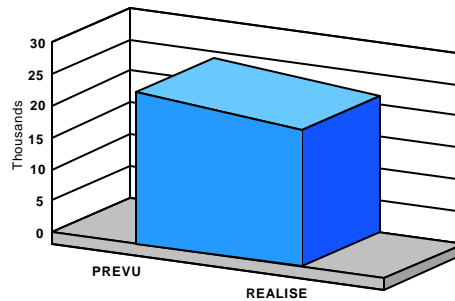
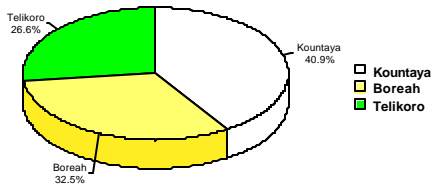
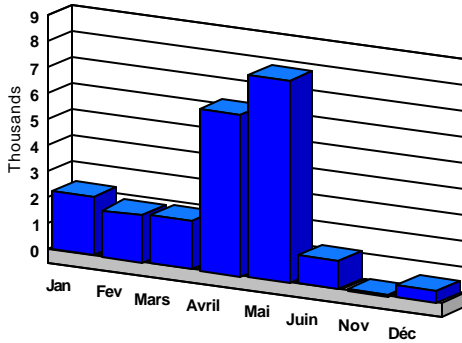
Month	Repatriated persons per camp								Volunteers involved
	Kountaya		Boréah		Telikoro		Total		
	Total	Vuln.	Total	Vuln.	Total	Vuln.	Total	Vuln.	
January	906	254	1,017	148	355	-	2,278	402	60
February	1,023	171	315	82	458	33	1,796	286	55
March	693	441	958	60	249	-	1,900	501	46
April	3,001	234	1,585	149	1,624	137	6,210	520	158
May	2,697	540	2,445	212	2,609	68	7,751	820	177
June	275	135	515	-	295	-	1,085	135	27
November	89	-	-	-	-	-	89	12	4
December	469	-	-	-	-	-	469	68	10
Total	9,153	1,775	6,835	651	5,590	238	21,578	2,744	537

Vuln. = Vulnerable persons

N.B.: The rate of repatriation reached its peak in April and May respectively 28.8% and 35.9%, which made it higher than the consolidated rate of six months. This increase is attributed to accessibility of the route at Kailahoum (Sierra Leone), in the mouth of the dam which is being constructed at the river dividing the two countries. The loss of enthusiasm by the refugees reflected in the November and December figures which are 0.4% and 2.2% respectively, could be either due to the collapse of the dam which was a shorter route for them or to rice harvesting and the end of year celebrations in Guinea.

The set up of the dam in April and May helped to resolve the logistic problem of transportation, due to an insufficient number of available lorries against a long distance between the two destinations.

Chart 2-4: Percentage of refugees repatriated versus estimated figures.



To encourage the repatriation exercise and shorten the distance for refugees from the Kailahoum district, Red Cross teams worked in partnership with UNHCR to build a transit centre at Dandou with the necessary infrastructure to accommodate 500 persons. The service infrastructure were also put in place, which are; 12 sleeping tents, 1 tent for baggage, 1 waiting room, 2 tents for the accommodation of partners, a cafeteria, a kitchen, a shop, and two big buildings extended with tarpaulin to house the health centre.

Constraints in Implementation

- There are constraints linked to budgetary planning.
- Lack of funds due to delayed and/or failure to honour pledges. This caused to insecurity at the site making it difficult to assess the performance of our teams and measure real effectiveness.
- Relocation programme was badly affected by the rainy season, which deteriorated the roads.
- The increasing rate of short-term activities is due to the different population movement forcing Red Cross teams to either respond to emergencies or continue following the progress of newly arriving beneficiaries.

N’ZEREKORE

The programme was implemented in Kouankan (31,632 targeted beneficiaries), Kola (6,591), Lainé (30,541) and Nonah (6,771). The population at the beginning of the year was 65,514, and 75,535 at the end of the year; this reflected 10,021 new refugees.

Health/Nutrition

Objective: There is low rate of depression and mortality because all the Liberian refugees from Kouankan and Kola, particularly women and children benefit from medical assistance and are in good mental and physical health.

Progress/achievements

- **The total number of basic consultations carried out: 80,364 of which 20,578 are under-fives.**

Renovation was done; repair and plumbing work was done out to improve the hygienic conditions and hot meals were made available, two nurses were hired and the number of beds by 15.

The Federation office and the Red Cross of Guinea signed a joint agreement with the headquarters hospital and the Philafrican Mission Center of Macenta for the health care of referred patients, because of insufficient beds and lack of specialized care at the regional hospital at N'Zérékoré.

In collaboration with the health and administrative authorities, the Red Cross used the HRC funds to successfully expand the first floor of the Pediatric unit, equipments were purchased and a pediatrician was hired at their expense to increase the capacity of the regional hospital of N'Zérékoré to provide services.

Vaccination campaigns were carried out in close collaboration with the Ministry of Health after the recurrence of measles in the camps, and yellow fever in the Macenta region. The vaccination rate for measles was: 76% at Kouankan, 56.7% at Kola and 88% at the transit camp in Baala. Yellow fever was only found in the transit camp in Kouankan in Macenta district with the vaccination rate of 75%.

From 22 July to 2 August 2003, the national society carried out a nutritional survey that revealed the exact diet and nutritional situation of the extremely vulnerable individuals (EVI). This survey showed that 30% of EVIs were lean, while 5.6% of their young dependants suffered from slight malnutrition. The female EVIs overall rate of leanness was 8.7%: of which 6.3% was in the first stage, 11.6% in the second stage and 0.8% in the third stage (severe malnutrition).

To reduce the rate of malnutrition, depression and mortality in the camps, especially for infants and mothers, an additional nutrition center was established to care for pregnant women in their last trimester as well as those breastfeeding malnourished infants (0 to 6 month-old babies). In addition, the Red Cross of Guinea team promoted the growth of under-fives Kouankan and Kola camps, through monthly weighing exercise and nutritional education on the use of local food items. Two electricity-generating sets were installed in order to facilitate the nighttime activities of the maternity centers at our health posts; one at the renovated referral center at Kouankan and the other at the Kola health post. To strengthen the operational capacities of supervisors, training sessions were organized by the Swedish Red Cross delegate on prevention and care of malaria, diarrhea-related diseases, malnutrition, STI/HIV/AIDS, promotion of breastfeeding and vaccination among others.

Impact

- Overall mortality rate reduced to 0.007/1,000 at Kouankan and 0.09/1,000 at Kola.
- Rate of infant mortality: 0.19/1,000 of under-fives at Kouankan and 0.22/1,000 at Kola.
- Rate of malnutrition in infants of 0-5 years; slight malnutrition: 1.23% at Kouankan and 1.18% at Kola.
- Severe malnutrition: 0.0%
- Other health issues are rated above 70%.

Constraints

- Lack of essential drugs at health centers due to non-delivery of drugs ordered overseas by the UNHCR.
- Rising cost of services in the referral centers.
- Lack of technical expertise and qualified personnel (no Gynae-obstetrician at the regional hospital of N'Zérékoré).
- Lack of reactivants for safe transfusion at the regional hospital at N'Zérékoré.
- Late referrals of malnourished infant refugees living outside the camp. Nutrition and medical care are thus rendered difficult because these infants arrive at the health post in severe condition.
- Insufficient ambulances on the site to ensure adequate transportation of patients.

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- Cars meant for other operations have been made available for use by the Federation office and Red Cross of Guinea thereby hindering freedom of movement of health staff.
- Difficulty in managing the HIV/AIDS screening tests results and the follow-up of persons living with HIV/AIDS.
- Difficulty in blood banking at the health referral centers due to lack of voluntary blood donor clubs.
- Inflation renders cost of living very high.
- Lack of training for staff involved in the assistance programmes.

Community Services

Objective: Vital assistance has been provided in various areas in the camps at Kouankan, Kola, Lainé and Nonah for all Liberian and Ivorian refugees especially women, adolescents and vulnerable persons.

Progress/Achievements

From 1 January to 30 April, the Red Cross of Guinea funds were used for the camp at Nonah, and for constructing a podium, purchasing of recreational materials and uniform for traditional groups as well as creating activities to foster friendship in the camp at Lainé.

From 1 July to 30 November, a refresher course was organized for counselors on the protection of refugees and identification of persons at risk with the aim to strengthen the capacities of the trained staff. Entertainment materials such as musical instruments, drums among others, were distributed and a community center was constructed at Nonah, while that of Kola is underway.

To fight against insecurity as part of its socio-community programmes, the national society intensified socio-cultural and recreational activities in the camp at Kouankan, through IEC in vulnerable groups and different groups in general, as well as sports involving the different ethnic groups and the rural population.

Severe cases of EVI's were identified and the follow-up was strengthened through home visits as well as reconstruction of certain shelters in the Thuo village (Lola region) where the vulnerable persons were living outside in the open. The national society took action before the rainy season to save this poor population from disaster. Shelters were repaired and strengthened to enable the other group of the extreme vulnerable persons to live in dry conditions.

Extreme vulnerable persons also received 9900 bed covers (donated by Danish Red Cross), and second-hand clothes (donated by Swedish Red Cross), which were provided for the 242 people living within and outside the camp.

Clothing items, tricycles and walking-sticks were distributed to vulnerable persons who needed them. Baby kits and 3000 hygienic kits from the left-over stock of 2002, were also distributed with particular consideration given to young girls and other women in different zones of the Kouankan camp.

The issue of the burial of refugee persons, referred to as funeral, was reconsidered by choosing a man, seconded by a woman, to prepare the bodies of deceased persons to respect the dignity of the deceased and their families. In addition, coffins were constructed in each camp so that corpses could be buried in a decent manner. Burial tools were equally distributed to each camp (hoes and shovels).

Constraints

- Deterioration of communication facilities (radio and Wave Mail) and absence of the internet.
- Insufficient funds for carrying out recreational and socio-cultural activities for youths.
- De-motivation of volunteers due to withdrawal of Red Cross activities from Lainé.
- Insufficient food rations for EVIs and absence of care for their dependent youth.
- Lack of appropriate vehicles designed for conveyance of deceased persons from the access points to the cemetery creates difficulty in carrying out interment activities and transfer of corpses from the camps (urgent need for repairs).
- Lack of hygienic kits in the camp for women of childbearing age.

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- Delay in obtaining birth registration certificates from the urban commune of N'Zérékoré.
- Motorcycles given to counselors for the follow-up of EVIs in the prefectures (Beyla, Yomou, Lola) are deteriorating progressively.
- Lack of satellite dishes in the camps and in the convalescent homes to facilitate activities on the war against GBV (Gender Based Violence).

Humanitarian Values

This section was not included in the original Annual Appeal; however, it was included in the second Programme Update and is being reported on here in this Annual Report.

Goal: to promote and encourage better understanding of the Red Cross Movement and its fundamental principles.

Objective: To assist Red Cross of Guinea technical departments of Health, relief, information-diffusion, social welfare and youth to effectively promote the Red Cross Movement and the fundamental principles through a 'From Principles to Action' project.

Expected Result

The Red Cross of Guinea technical departments of Health, Relief, Information/Diffusion., Social Welfare and Youth effectively have promoted the Red Cross Movement and its Fundamental Principles through a 'From Principles to Action' project.

- During the year, at least 20% of the population of Conakry has been exposed to awareness campaigns on the Red Cross principles and the national society's activities.
- The five technical departments of the Red Cross of Guinea have been effectively working together.

Progress/Achievements

Conferences were held in April with the representatives of all the pilot schools, National Directors of public education, secondary education and the municipality of Conakry to discuss the results of the general evaluation of the national society's programme/School in Conakry.

Training seminar was held in August for 38 Directors of headquarters and Community Departments in charge of the Youth of the Kouroussa branch.

Training seminar for educators involving 40 teachers from the 11 pilot colleges was held in September. Another training seminar for educators involving 40 teachers from the 9 pilot colleges of Faranah, Kissidougou, Dabola, Kouroussa, Kankan, Kérouané, Gueckédou, Mandiana and Nzérékoré was held in November.

Three members were rewarded in the towns of Kaloum (01), and Matam (02).

Impact

- All these activities increased the visibility of the national society.
- The Red Cross of Guinea registered a significant number of student volunteers.
- The University has requested the Red Cross of Guinea to design a training module on international human rights and emergency response and the International Humanitarian Law for its academic programme.

Organizational Development

Goal: The Red Cross of Guinea is an well-functioning national society.

Objective: The financial management capacity of the National Society is strengthened.

Expected Result

The financial reporting of the national society has been improved.

- The national society will have a proper financial system in place at headquarters level for the management of its projects.
- Ten branches selected as the most active have benefited from a finance management training.

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Achievements

- Installation of the financial software – New FRT and training of staff.
- Installation of the software – BUSY Budget and training of staff.
- Training on presentation of financial reports.
- Training on stock management.
- Training on management of records.

Others

- Organization of a special national committee in February 2003.
- Organization of the General Assembly in April 2003.
- Designing of work rules for coordinators and regional representatives .
- Professionalism of the technical posts of the national society.
- Designing of the strategic plan guidelines for the development of the national society.
- Designing and development of Emergency and First-Aid groups.
- Designing of the first annual budget of the national society.
- Designing and implementing, a model contingency plan.

Problems and Constraints

In order to eliminate the problems caused by the intense conflict within the leadership of the previous National Committee, it was necessary to confront the situation, exercise a lot of tact and show unflinching support towards the President of the national society.

Impact

- The quality of financial reports has improved tremendously.
- The review of the basic documents of the national society created a significant change of attitude at the administrative and management level.
- The new governance structure was replicated in other local committees through out the country.
- The national society has gained more credibility and improved relationship with government and international partners. She also won the honorable Lasane Conte's award for peace (the first of such award).
- The President and Executive Secretary represented the national society at the statutory meetings of the Federation in Geneva for the first time.
- Three staff members of the national society were elected to participate in the regional work groups.

Federation Coordination

The CAS process (Country Assistance Strategy) is programmed for 2004. It was not included in the Guinea's 2003 Appeal requirements.

International Representation

Lobbying was not carried out as the delegation expected with regards to getting a building for the headquarters of the Red Cross of Guinea but the President of the national society contacted the Director in the office of the President of the Republic of Guinea.

A world-renowned artist, Sékouba Bambino was also contacted to create awareness on the values and programmes of the national society among other artistes and the Guinean public. Contacts were also made with the Executive Secretary of the National Committee for fight against AIDS.

Problems and Constraints

The main constraint was the fact the Head of Delegation was working alone in Conakry.

Impact

There was notable development in the process of obtaining a headquarters, but the delay was caused by the need to wait for the December 2003 country elections when a new government will be in place. The delegation is closely following it. Upon the nomination of the artist Bambino as the Ambassador of the Red Cross of Guinea at a ceremony, which was largely reported by the press, he released a cassette with a song dedicated to the activities and humanitarian values of the national society. A great concert is being planned as a means of raising funds, on 8 May 2004.

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