

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

BURUNDI

7 February 2005

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

In Brief

Appeal No. 01/01/2004; Programme Update no. 3, Period covered: November 2004 to January 2005; Appeal coverage: 57.7%; Outstanding needs: None. See Note below. [Click here to go directly to the attached Contributions List](#), also available on the website

Appeal target: CHF 453,754 (USD 340,784 or EUR 292,085).

Note: The 2004 annual appeal for Burundi was based on the plan of action drawn the previous year. The operational budget was revised in May 2004; this Appeal is fully covered with existing funds.

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals: Although the Federation did not launch a 2005 Annual Appeal for Burundi, it is anticipated that the 2005 Annual Appeal for East Africa sub-regional programmes no. 05AA004 will be amended during 2005 to include activities for Burundi.

Programme summary: The Burundi Red Cross¹ began effective preparations in late October 2004 for holding its first-ever ordinary General Assembly in April 2005; this is supported for six months by Federation and ICRC. To this end, a Branch development coordinator was recruited, and a Federation OD delegate arrived in Burundi mid-January 2005. The OD delegate is currently assisting in the country-wide restructuring of the national society, culminating in the April General Assembly. Based on the outcome of this General Assembly, the basis for an Annual Appeal will be available. This will then be integrated with the existing Annual Appeal for East Africa sub-region, and communicated by means of a Programme Update.

In line with the October 2004 agreement between the Burundi Red Cross, the Federation and the ICRC, this Programme Update (no. 3) seeks to provide the background for an extension of the organizational development activities into 2005, as well as the coordination and implementation components of the 2004 Annual Appeal, as described in Update (no. 2 – http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?annual04/01010402.pdf). These activities will be covered from funds remaining from the 2004 Annual Appeal OD programme (approx. CHF 169,000).

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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¹ Burundi Red Cross – <http://www.ifrc.org/where/country/check.asp?countryid=39>

This Programme Update reflects activities to be implemented over a one-year period. This forms part of, and is based on, longer-term, multi-year planning (refer below to access the detailed logframe documents).

All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the Code of Conduct and is committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for a full description of the national society profile, please access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

Operational developments

The implementation of the peace process following the Arusha Peace and Reconciliation Accord signed in August 2000 continues. The only remaining active rebel group, the Forces Nationales de Liberation (FNL) declared early in February 2005 that it is ready for talks with the transitional government. However, in another development, the governor of Bubanza province was shot dead in an ambush in the middle of January.

Several delays have still been observed in the development of the critically important political process. The constitutional referendum, initially called for on 20 October, and later postponed several times, has now been announced for 28 February. New dates have unfortunately not been set for the general elections; the last schedule was to have seen local and communal elections in February and legislative elections in March. Presidential elections were to be held in April 2005.

A period of drought in the northern parts of the country coupled with virus attacks on the manioc crops prompted the Burundian government to declare famine in the two northern provinces of Kirundo and Muyinga in the middle of January 2005. WFP has confirmed that half a million people are in need of food aid in northern Burundi, and that it would assist 520,000 people in the two provinces with food aid.

UNHCR has helped some 153,000 refugees to return home since the commencement of voluntary repatriation of Burundian refugees from camps in western Tanzania in March 2003. In the middle of 2004 up to 11,000 people were leaving in a month but the figures started going down towards the end of the year, with average figures for the last quarter of 2004 hardly reaching 1,500 per month. UNHCR links the slowing down of voluntary repatriation to the political uncertainty linked to the repeated postponements of elections and the proposed changes in the country's constitution.

Health and care

There is no health and care programme under this appeal, pending implementation of the new national society structure.

Disaster Management

Goal: To build capacity for Burundi Red Cross to respond effectively to the needs of the vulnerable and the populations affected by the current conflict and its consequences.

Objective: To define and implement a national policy for disaster management, and to develop an intervention plan for Burundi Red Cross that will be included in the government plan. Train, equip and supervise the intervention teams to prepare them to respond effectively to emergency situations.

Progress

No activities to report. The Federation's main focus in Burundi is currently on supporting organizational development, particularly the restructuring process at all levels leading towards the national society's first ordinary General Assembly.

Humanitarian Values

Goal: Burundi Red Cross has the capacity to effectively disseminate the humanitarian values among the population, the community leaders and the local authorities.

Objective: Burundi Red Cross information and communication unit produces reliable information and disseminates actively the fundamental principles and humanitarian values; it creates public awareness and knowledge of the Movement, of International Humanitarian Law, and of the activities of the Burundi Red Cross in the country through a reliable communication system.

Progress

Within the framework of the October 2004 agreement between the Burundi Red Cross, the ICRC and the Federation, the national society has initiated a nationwide Red Cross combined sensitization and media campaign in the provinces as part of the preparations towards holding a General Assembly. This aims particularly at creating awareness of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement in the country.

The sensitization and media campaign, financially supported by the ICRC, and designed and led by the Secretary General Burundi Red Cross has already been carried out in 13 of 17 provinces.

Impact

The Burundi Red Cross has taken important steps by starting to promote Red Cross/Red Crescent humanitarian values in the country at national level, provincial and communal level.

Constraints:

The capacity of the national society to implement the activities has been limited due to inadequate structures. The dedicated support agreed on by the ICRC and the Federation to assist in the country-wide preparations leading up to the society's General Assembly is meant to compensate temporarily for this inadequacy.

Organizational Development

Goal: Burundi Red Cross is a well-functioning national society that renders efficient service to the community according to the basic principles and humanitarian values of the Movement, and formulates and implements good quality programmes that respond to the needs of vulnerable people at branch level.

Objective: Burundi Red Cross institutes an effective decentralization through the establishment of operational structures at branch and headquarters levels; and separates governance and management by strengthening the capacity and involvement of members of the national committee to deal with major problems related to governance; by having the management to take responsibility of the day to day affairs, to establish policies (especially a volunteers management policy), procedures and systems with a view to realizing efficient coordination of the national society's activities at all the levels; and to allocate adequate resources for programme.

Progress

The agreement reached in Bujumbura in mid-October 2004 has led to an organizational development approach focussing on support for the preparations of the national society's General Assembly in April 2005.

In addition to the sensitization and media campaigns described under Humanitarian Values above, the Federation's initial support is OD oriented. A Burundi Red Cross Branch Development Coordinator was recruited early November 2004 to assist the Secretary General in conducting provincial meetings to establish branch structures. A Federation OD delegate, having experience with several African national societies, was recruited and arrived mid-January in Bujumbura. Generally his tasks are two-fold: To assist the national society in developing its local branches country-wide, and to assist the Burundi Red Cross in the other preparations for the General Assembly in April 2005. Both positions have been established for six months initially, pending the outcomes of the General Assembly.

Impact

The aim of the new agreement between the three Movement partners has enabled the national society to establish interim provincial Burundi Red Cross committees in 13 of 17 provinces. Currently the Federation OD delegate is assisting the Burundi Red Cross Secretary General and the Branch Development Coordinator in establishing local committees in the communes.

Burundi; Appeal 01.01/2004; Programme Update no. 3

Constraints

The Burundi government's decision to postpone the electoral process in the country now means that the national electoral process possibly will take off after the Burundi Red Cross' General Assembly in April 2005. The previous concerns expressed related to the coincidence of these two processes are now considerably reduced.

Coordination

Goal: The Federation coordination role is accepted and respected by all partners in Burundi in view of enhancing good cooperation and successful partnerships.

Objective: Through constant dialogue, good coordination is achieved with the various partners with a view to building the capacity of the Burundi Red Cross.

Progress

The support strategy focuses on financial support and technical assistance to strengthen the central and local organization of the Burundi Red Cross. It will also prepare for and assist with the organization of the national society's General Assembly in April 2005. This strategy has been agreed by Burundi Red Cross, Federation and ICRC for the six-month period from November 2004 to April 2005 Implementation of the resulting programme started in early November 2004.

Impact

Although progress is evident and tangible with regard to the current field activities to enlighten the Burundi population and the authorities on the very valuable contributions that Red Cross can offer the country and the impressive rate at which provincial and local committees are being established all over the country - the first ordinary General Assembly of the Burundi Red Cross in April 2005 will ultimately be the decisive measure of the impact of the current Federation support to the national society.

Constraints

The implementation and the outcome of the political and election process in Burundi will represent additional challenges for the Burundi Red Cross' leadership in its drive to achieve focussed attention by the population to the Movement's humanitarian values and to the national society's plans to recruit members and volunteers, strengthen existing local branches and create new committees.

The Federation's Regional Delegation in Nairobi has planned to include Burundi in the geographical area of responsibility of the Federation's sub-regional office for East-Africa (currently in Kampala) as soon as the new Head of sub-office has been appointed. Unfortunately the regional delegation has seen its coordination and implementation capacity in the East-Africa sub-region stretched to its limits because of the difficulties experienced in recruiting for that position. This has already led to delays in the current support to the Burundi Red Cross, as the regional delegation had the capacities to attend to the most urgent issues only.

Fortunately, a very experienced Federation delegate has agreed to assume the post ad interim, and was appointed Acting head of the sub-regional office in Kampala in January 2005. It is estimated that the Head of the sub-regional office will assume full responsibility for Federation support to Burundi Red Cross by mid-February 2005.

[Contributions list below; click here to return to the title page and contact information.](#)

APPEAL No. 01.01/2004

PLEDGES RECEIVED

15/02/2005

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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CASH

					TOTAL COVERAGE	
REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				453,755		57.7%
CASH CARRIED FORWARD				225,942		
BRITISH - GOVT/DFID GRANT 2004				36,000	29.01.04	ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				261,942	CHF	57.7%

KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

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

ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET

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