

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

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

8 June 2006

In Brief

Appeal No. 05AA034; Appeal target: CHF 366,210 (USD 290,527 or EUR 231,925); Appeal coverage: 26.1 %. [Click here to go directly to the attached Financial Report.](#)

Annual Appeal : <http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/annual05/05AA034.pdf>

Programme update no. 1: <http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/annual05/05AA03401.pdf>

Programme update no. 2: <http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/annual05/05AA03402.pdf>

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

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Operational context

The recommendations made by the joint Federation/ International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) mediation mission to Bangui with a view of solving the crisis that was rocking that the Central African Red Cross Society (CARCS). Culminated in the organization of an Extraordinary General Assembly from 2 to 3 April 2004. The assembly instituted a two-year transitional period during which efforts would be concentrated on organizational development (OD), community-based health and disaster management programmes.

Overall analysis of 2005

Health and care

Goal: The vulnerability of the Central African Republic (CAR) populations to health related issues is reduced.

Objective: The targeted populations in the communities working with the programme have adopted risk free behaviours as far as health is concerned, and continue to use the quality health and care facilities put at their disposal by the CARCS.

Central African Republic; Appeal no. 05AA034; Annual Report 2005

Achievements

With technical support of Central Africa sub-regional office (BRAC¹), the CARCS was able to develop a project to combat poverty and malaria. The CARCS is to launch two pilot integrated and ARCHI 2010-oriented projects which combine environmental health education, environmental hygiene and sanitation as well as the fight against malnutrition and poverty.

A social mobilization project within the framework of the anti-measles immunization campaign in children between six months and 14 years was developed and submitted to the Federation's Secretariat for funding. The national society received funds for the immunization campaign which took place from 24 to 30 October 2005. The main activities carried out included:

- Training and retraining volunteers on mobilization techniques and epidemiological surveillance;
- Mobilizing communities before, during and after the campaigns;
- Establishing community-based disease surveillance.

The Central African Red Cross volunteers mobilized themselves within the framework of the anti-polio immunization campaign, from 11 to 13 November 2005, achieving the same success like the previous anti-measles campaign.

The Federation's Secretariat in Geneva approved the allocation of CHF 23,000 for the NS volunteers to carry out social mobilization during the anti-measles campaign of January 2006.

AIDS control and the fight against tuberculosis (TB)

Goal: The spread of HIV/AIDS and TB in the populations that are highly exposed in CAR is reduced.

Objective: The targeted populations in the communities working with the programme have adopted risk free sexual behaviours, and have continued to use the prevention, screening, and treatment services put at their disposal by the national society.

Achievements

Thanks to the support of BRAC, the national society was able to develop a pertinent programme to combat Sexually transmitted infections (STI)/HIV/AIDS among commercial sex workers. The peculiarity of this project lies in the fact that the pilot phase will take place in the 3rd and 5th subdivisions of Bangui. Condom selling points will be established in inns of targeted localities; and the micro-projects will be funded on the basis of three "Filles Libres"² for one micro-project in order to create greater impact on communities.

The regional health officer of BRAC visited the CARCS from 16 to 20 August 2005 to assess the health activities carried out and to pave way for the launching of the "Filles Libres" project in CAR. This is a project that started and is ongoing in Cameroon.

In order to mark the World AIDS Day, the NS volunteers carried out activities such as sensitization, distribution of condoms, free screening tests and theatre shows in Boali, a town located 95 kilometres from Bangui. These activities lasted for three days.

From 16 to 20 August 2005, the regional health officer visited the national society to help consolidate the partnerships with the World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and the National AIDS Control Committee. The mission also intended to help in developing pertinent projects that would improve the living conditions of vulnerable people.

¹ Bureau Régional pour l'Afrique Centrale (BRAC)

² «Filles Libres» are young girl commercial sex workers. The Cameroon Red Cross Society, which initiated the project, prefers to maintain the name "Filles Libres" in all languages because it serves as a trademark. In addition, the girls themselves do not like to be referred to as sex workers or prostitutes. They prefer the name "Filles Libres".

Disaster management

Goal: The vulnerabilities of the populations in the prefectures of Sibut, Bossembélé, and the 3rd and 7th districts to hazards, natural and man-made disasters are reduced.

Objective: The capacities of the populations in the local committees of Central African Red Cross Society and those of community leaders in the targeted prefectures and districts are built.

Achievements

Disaster response: Floods

In August 2005, torrential rains fell in Bangui, the capital of CAR, causing serious material and human casualties. The Federation allocated CHF 46,000 from the Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to enable the CARCS to respond to immediate needs. BRAC conducted a mission to assess the extent of damages with a view to assist the affected populations. After a second evaluation of the situation in the field, a second information bulletin was published, and the plan of action was updated. The affected populations received non-food items and a sanitation kit was put at the disposal of Central African Red Cross Society. The CARCS is currently pursuing the relief operation while preparing a response strategy to potential future floods in the country.

Relief and assistance

As a result of the of torrential rains in the night of 6 to 7 August 2005 in Bangui and the surrounding localities, CARCS volunteers actively responded and identified 2,160 affected families (15,000 beneficiaries.) They distributed non-food items provided by the Federation (BRAC) to the 800 most affected families. The volunteers distributed 800 cooking pots, 1,600 pieces of soap, 800 buckets and 800 blankets (including the 500 blankets donated by ICRC).

Training community-based first-aid (CBFA) trainers

In order to build the disaster preparedness, prevention and management capacities of the CARCS, some executives of the CARCS were trained on CBFA. The training was facilitated by a regional resource person deployed by BRAC.

Organizational development

Goal: The performance of the targeted local committees in at least one essential domain of the ARCHI 2010 Strategy is improved upon.

Objective 1: The principles of good governance and management will be implemented by the members of the Executive Committee and by leaders of the targeted local committees.

Achievements

Members of the CARCS executive committee and leaders of target local committees attended training on good governance and management in Bangui. The training facilitated the development of the 2005-2006 plan of action (PoA) as well as revision of the old statutes, rules and regulations of the CARCS, taking into consideration the change of context. The training also facilitated the development of some new tools for human resource, material and financial management.

A support follow up and counselling mission was conducted in the local committees while the documentation needed for the smooth implementation of good governance and management was provided to members of the executive council and the local committees.

Objective 2: At least 50% of the needs in qualified and permanent personnel, as well as qualified volunteers will be covered.

Achievements

Through a transparent recruitment process, the CARCS managed to employ qualified executives and supporting staff. Among the recruited were; a programme coordinator, an accountant, a secretary, a driver and two gatekeepers.

Central African Republic; Appeal no. 05AA034; Annual Report 2005

The government appointed a Secretary General for the CARCS and the technical staff members have been trained in resource management.

The national society seized the opportunity of the disaster management programme (floods) to boost the morale of volunteers, particularly qualified volunteers in eight local committees. This was despite the fact that only four local committees were initially scheduled to benefit. The volunteers were retrained on the ARCHI 2010 approach while the new comers were initiated to the Movement.

20 volunteers from eight local committees were trained as trainers on CBFA and a workshop on Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (VCA) was organized in the various target local committees.

Objective 3: The auto-financing capacities of the CARCS will be increased by at least 5%.

Achievements

The various activities carried out by the national society in response to the floods that hit as well as during the various elections contributed to enhancing the image of national society before operational partners. This earned the CARCS an appointment as the vice-president of the Country Connection Mechanism (CCM) of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM).

The national society received support from ICRC within the framework of disaster preparedness and response, as well as in the domain of information and dissemination.

Objective 4: The equipment and materials needed for the execution of these programmes will be available.

Achievements

With the financial support of ICRC, the headquarters of the Central African Red Cross Society is being refurbished following the pillage that ensued after the 2003 events in CAR. While a waiting the completion of the work, a new building has been rented and put at the disposal of the national society. The CBF-funded programme enabled the purchase of office equipment and part of computer-related tools. The rest is funded by BRAC.

Local committees and peer educators received pedagogic aids on CBFA to facilitate mass sensitization about HIV/AIDS, hygiene and sanitation.

Objective 5: The project management capacities of the targeted local committees will be reinforced.

Achievements

An assessment of the health activities carried out paved way for the launching of the “Filles Libres” project in Central African Republic. BRAC also helped the national society to consolidate partnerships with the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) and the National AIDS Control Committee.

With the technical support of BRAC, the CARCS was able to develop a project to combat poverty and malaria. The national society is to launch two pilot integrated and ARCHI 2010-oriented projects which combine environmental health education, environmental hygiene and sanitation as well as the fight against malnutrition and poverty.

A strengths, weakness, opportunities and threats (SWOT) analysis was conducted in eight local committees to enable the governance team to take the necessary measures to improve the quality of services to vulnerable people. After the SWOT analysis in the committees, volunteers conducted VCA in some neighbourhoods of Bangui and in other towns.

Impact

The CARCS was courageous enough to sack and sue the former Secretary General who was found guilty of embezzlement; this has enhanced the integrity of its governance. The national society is now trusted by authorities, the populations and operational partners. It is now coordinating the National Disaster Management Committee.

Central African Republic; Appeal no. 05AA034; Annual Report 2005

The organizational development programme enabled the CARCS to get its former partners back and to attract new partners such as the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the French Red Cross, the Spanish Red Cross and ICRC among others.

The various activities carried out contributed to polishing the image of the national society as it did not leave any stone unturned to render quality services to the most vulnerable people. As a result, the national society is trusted by all its partners and can now count on new funding opportunities.

Constraints

The secretary general of the CARCS was dismissed for integrity reasons, and this hindered the smooth execution of planned programmes and activities. The government did not appoint additional civil servants to support the national society due to financial problems and as a result the implementation of the expected results was disrupted.

The various floods and political events (elections) that occurred in CAR prevented the national society from attaining some of its objectives.

Lessons learned

The experience the CARCS acquired when responding to the August 2005 floods disaster (through DREF funds) added more value to the activities of its disaster management programme. The national society gained more know-how to better respond to future flood disasters.

The administrative and financial procedures developed at the Secretariat General level, with support from the CBF enabled the national society's governance to diagnose early signals of poor management by the former Secretary General without interfering in the activities of the management team.

Activities planned for 2006

- Holding of general assemblies of local committees;
- Holding of the general assembly of the national society;
- Organizing workshops to promote the knowledge of the Movement and voluntary service;
- Organizing VCA sessions in local committees;
- Organizing a partnership meeting on Cooperation Agreement Strategy (CAS);
- Mid-term evaluation of the programme.

[Final financial report below; click here to return to title page and contact information.](#)

Selected Parameters	
Year/Period	2005/1-2005/9998
Appeal	M05AA034
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
A. Budget				366'211		366'211
B. Opening Balance				45		45
Income						
Cash contributions						
Capacity Building Fund				95'427		95'427
C1. Cash contributions				95'427		95'427
Outstanding pledges (Revalued)						
Capacity Building Fund				0		0
C2. Outstanding pledges (Revalued)				0		0
Reallocations (within appeal or from/to another appeal)						
Irish Government				-23'405		-23'405
C3. Reallocations (within appeal)				-23'405		-23'405
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)				72'022		72'022
D. Total Funding = B + C				72'067		72'067

II. Balance of Funds

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance				45		45
C. Income				72'022		72'022
E. Expenditure				-72'047		-72'047
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)				20		20

Selected Parameters	
Year/Period	2005/1-2005/9998
Appeal	M05AA034
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III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation		
	A					B	A - B	
BUDGET (C)					366'211	366'211		
Supplies								
Medical & First Aid	41'099						41'099	
Total Supplies	41'099						41'099	
Land, vehicles & equipment								
Computers & Telecom	20'000				6'242	6'242	13'758	
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	20'000				6'242	6'242	13'758	
Transport & Storage								
Distribution & Monitoring					-12'857	-12'857	12'857	
Transport & Vehicle Costs	16'600				11'730	11'730	4'870	
Total Transport & Storage	16'600				-1'127	-1'127	17'727	
Personnel Expenditures								
Delegates Payroll	51'000						51'000	
Delegate Benefits	36'000				1'864	1'864	34'136	
National Staff	78'108				37	37	78'071	
National Society Staff					36'475	36'475	-36'475	
Total Personnel Expenditures	165'108				38'376	38'376	126'732	
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	51'000				18'520	18'520	32'480	
Total Workshops & Training	51'000				18'520	18'520	32'480	
General Expenditure								
Travel	23'000				332	332	22'668	
Information & Public Relation					124	124	-124	
Office Costs	25'600				9'508	9'508	16'092	
Communications					6'406	6'406	-6'406	
Professional Fees					115	115	-115	
Financial Charges					-687	-687	687	
Other General Expenses					3'271	3'271	-3'271	
Total General Expenditure	48'600				19'069	19'069	29'531	
Program Support								
Program Support	23'804				4'683	4'683	19'121	
Total Program Support	23'804				4'683	4'683	19'121	
Operational Provisions								
Operational Provisions					-13'717	-13'717	13'717	
Total Operational Provisions					-13'717	-13'717	13'717	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	366'211				72'047	72'047	294'164	
VARIANCE (C - D)					294'164	294'164		