

# 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

## REPUBLIC OF CONGO

8 June 2006

### In Brief

**Appeal No. 05AA036; Appeal target: CHF 509,259 (USD 404, 013 or EUR 322, 519); Appeal coverage: 36.0%** [Click here to go directly to the attached Financial Report.](#)

**Annual Appeal:** <http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/annual05/05AA036.pdf>

**Programme Update no. 1:** <http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/annual05/05AA03601.pdf>

**Programme Update no. 2:** <http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/annual05/05AA03602.pdf>

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

*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, please access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>*

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### Operational context

The many years of war in the Republic of Congo (ROC) seriously affected the Congolese Red Cross (CRC). After the 2000 General Assembly, the national society embarked on a development programme, with the ambition of becoming a strong and well-functioning national society by end of 2005, with support from the Federation, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), partner national societies (PNS), government and UN agencies. The national society was provided with technical, financial and material support, in line with its strategic development plan that covers the period 2004-2008. For five years now, these partners have been playing an active role in the development process of the national society.

All the priority programmes defined by the national society were related to the essential domains of the Strategy 2010 and ARCHI 2010 and the Ouagadougou Declaration. The activities planned aimed at building the human resource, material and financial capacities of the CRC.

In view of executing its strategic programmes as scheduled, the CRC focused on five pilot local branches. Although the overall results were positive, a few weaknesses were noticed in some domains. Though the targeted local

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branches have been restructured, the results obtained were below expectations for several reasons, including limited funding, insufficiency of human resources and poor management.

Some major achievements in 2005 included; the deployment of CRC volunteers in Chad, Sahel and Benin operations and the consolidation of the national society's position as a privileged partner to the government. In addition, a draft risk map has been developed for Brazzaville and it is now being used by the government as a reference document for developing a national disaster management organ.

At headquarters level, the human, material and financial resources management problem is yet to be solved because of the absence of adequate policies, systems and procedures. In an attempt to settle the situation, the Federation delegation proposed a model of administrative and financial management manual to the national society. The NS has however not reacted to it. This hampers follow-up and management of projects and human resources (volunteers and technical officers).

## **Analysis of 2005 programmes**

### **Health and care**

#### **HIV/AIDS**

**Goal: A reduction in the disease-related vulnerability of people living in the programme's target areas is achieved.**

**Objective: With the support of the Ministry of Health and other partners, the Congolese Red Cross improves access to community health services in the project target areas.**

#### **Achievements**

- Door-to-door sensitization was carried out by trained volunteers and peer educators. They conducted 225 educative talks and behavioural change communication (BCC), for the benefit of 25,000 people in Brazzaville, 1,450 in Kinkala, 1,350 in Mindouli, 1,000 in Kindamba and 3,000 in Impfondo. Anti-AIDS clubs were also set up to this effect.
- 180 volunteers and peer educators were trained on communication techniques relating to Sexually transmitted infections (STI)/HIV/AIDS and community-based first aid (CBFA); 25 in Brazzaville, 30 in Madingou and Nkayi, 25 in Kinkala, 25 in Mindouli, 25 in Kindamba and 50 in Pointe-Noire.
- A new educative talk centre was set up in Pointe-Noire to facilitate the access of the youths to HIV/AIDS-related information. The Congolese Red Cross participated actively to mark the World AIDS Day by disseminating messages to sensitize the populations on HIV/AIDS.
- 43 anti-Ebola clubs were set up, each of them composed of representatives of organized communities, the NS, important personalities and opinion leaders. These clubs aimed at carrying out social mobilization activities to combat Ebola. 430 volunteers and members of anti-Ebola clubs were trained on communication techniques. The trainees came from the 43 villages mostly exposed to the risk of Ebola. 32 Red Cross volunteers were mobilized in May 2005 during the resurgence of the Ebola epidemics to perform disinfection, burial of corpses and sensitization
- Red Cross district committees of Kellé, Etoumbi and Mbomo were provided with first-aid materials, notably 50 kits. An emergency kit was posted in Etoumbi; it was composed of 62 pairs of boots, 62 pairs of gloves, 100 mufflers, 88 coveralls, 50 backpacks, 5 sprayers, 15 wheelbarrows, 18 bicycles and 180 batteries.
- The national society begun setting up operational teams in villages and neighbourhoods of district administrative centres. Red Cross volunteers and executives of the CRC have been integrated within divisional crisis committees to provide multifaceted support.
- As far as malaria and waterborne diseases are concerned, Congolese Red Cross organized hygiene and sanitation operations in favour of 12,000 people. Concretely, 150 Red Cross volunteers trained in CBFA in Brazzaville cleaned gutters and participated in the collection of the corpses of the "Air Kasai" plane crash victims with communities. They also ensured the maintenance of water points in the 7<sup>th</sup> subdivision.

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- Regarding the expanded programme on immunization (EPI), 800 Congolese Red Cross volunteer participated in social mobilization activities during the two 2005 anti-polio immunization campaigns. In addition, the national society participated in meetings to plan and assess the 2005 national anti-polio immunization days.
- The national society carried out advocacy activities before authorities in order to help improve the working conditions of the volunteers in intervention zones. As a result it was given a plot to construct its warehouse. The CRC also advocated before government and UN agencies for the setting up of a disaster management structure. It shared experiences and availed a map of risky zones that were been identified with the support of the Federation's delegation in Kinshasa.

### **Impact**

- The visibility of the national society has been strengthened. Beneficiary communities are involved in social mobilization activities to combat HIV/AIDS. The knowledge about HIV/AIDS has been improved among the population.
- The populations now adhere to the community-based activities carried out by Red Cross volunteers. The Red Cross is acknowledged as a humanitarian organization and this consolidates its credibility before communities, government and local partners.
- Communities participate massively in information, education and communication (IEC) sessions for the change of behaviours. There is some noticeable change in behaviour.

### **Constraints**

- Procedures for the disbursement of funds were cumbersome, thereby delaying the execution of activities. The national society suffered from limited financial and human resources to execute the programme as planned. The three educative talk centres of Brazzaville, Dolisie and Owando failed to go operational due to a lack of funding.
- The PNS that supports the project to combat Ebola pointed at centralization as the major factor hindering the progress of work. In addition, it is very difficult to access some vulnerable zones because of bad roads.
- Some people continue to maintain their risky food habits (eating primates' meat).
- Volunteers are poorly motivated and there still is no volunteer management policy. Targeted committees lack volunteers that are trained on inventory management.

## **Disaster management**

**Goal: A reduction is achieved in the disaster-related vulnerability of people living in the target districts in the Republic of Congo.**

**Objective: The national society's disaster management capacity to provide rapid and effective response in emergencies is improved.**

### **Achievements**

- Two missions were conducted in Cuvette Centrale and Cuvette Ouest to prepare a Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (VCA) for these two regions.
- Preliminary data was collected in Brazzaville and Cuvette Ouest in view of mapping risks.
- Four intervention teams have been set up in Brazzaville (Mfilou, Makélékélé, Ouénzé and Mougali).
- 500 volunteers were trained on CBFA in Brazzaville.
- The national society participated in a joint mission to assess the damage caused by floods in Brazzaville in December 2005 and distributed aid to the victims (about 500 families, or 3,000 beneficiaries). The populations living in risky areas were mobilized within the framework of preventive activities.

### **Impact**

- The 56 volunteers trained in four risky subdivisions of Brazzaville are ready to intervene when needed.
- Sensitized populations are able to take care of themselves in the event of a disaster.
- Authorities are becoming sensitive to the recurrent floods in Brazzaville; meetings are already being organized in view of setting up disaster management structures.

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### **Constraint**

- There were a limited number of trained volunteers in some risky zones, making it difficult to set up operational teams. This was compounded by a lack of relief material.

## **Humanitarian Values**

**Goal: Respect for human dignity and more effective solidarity with the vulnerable are assured through the promotion of the Fundamental Principles and humanitarian values.**

**Objective: The level of discrimination against pygmies, people living with HIV/ AIDS (PLWHA), people with disabilities and victims of rape is reduced in the target areas (Pointe-Noire and the regions of Pool and Lékoumou).**

### **Achievements**

- 10 sessions were organized to disseminate the Fundamental Principles of the Red Cross to 350 people.
- A weekly radio programme was broadcasted on the national station in favour of urban and rural populations.
- Six sessions were organized to disseminate the International Humanitarian Law (IHL) in four divisions of Congo.
- Four issues of a quarterly information bulletin were published and distributed to the 11 divisional councils of the national society and to members of the public.
- Information on Congolese Red Cross activities was sent to Yaoundé for insertion in the information bulletin of the Yaoundé sub-regional office.

### **Impact**

- The beneficiaries adhere to the humanitarian action of the Red Cross, thanks to the impressive dissemination and promotion of Humanitarian Values, the Fundamental Principles and ideals of the Red Cross.
- A significant audience is now aware of the activities of the national society and has access to the Congolese Red Cross-related information.

### **Constraints**

- There was limited funding to carry out planned activities.
- Poor communication capacities and means, which translated to the poor media coverage.

## **Organizational development**

**Goal: The Congolese Red Cross progresses towards becoming a well-functioning national society.**

**Objective: The Congolese Red Cross is technically and financially self-sufficient and capable of meeting its major challenges through its volunteer network.**

### **Achievements**

- Assessment of good governance has been conducted in Brazzaville, Kinkala, Ewo and Impfondo.
- Communication on good governance was achieved with the participation of 55 members from council management teams.
- A seminar to build the capacities of animators in Brazzaville was organized along with training of 33 officers from the 11 branches of the Congolese Red Cross on administrative and financial management.
- Seven divisional councils were restructured and the functioning of three communal councils out of six has been boosted.
- On the occasion of the World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day (8 May), sensitization activities were conducted to the benefit of authorities, partners, Congolese Red Cross executives and volunteers assistance; was provided to patients, campaigns to encourage people to join the Red Cross were organized alongside distribution of IEC materials to combat HIV/AIDS. In addition, a football match was organized.

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- Five General Assemblies of volunteers in the Likouala, Kouilou and Brazzaville divisions, as well as in the Niari and Pointe-Noire councils were held.
- The whale-boat has been rehabilitated and exploited.
- The “Mpoumako agricultural project” was launched.
- New income-generating projects at national level were identified and developed and activities to extend the cafeteria were initiated.
- Projects to sell Congolese Red Cross membership cards by developing follow-up and monitoring mechanisms were codified.

### **Impact**

- Adhesion of new members in the management teams of the newly restructured councils.
- Progressive implementation of new statutory standards of good governance.
- Progressive disappearance of confusion between roles and responsibilities.
- Adoption of new strategies to encourage the youths and women to adhere to Congolese Red Cross activities.
- The number of people desiring to join the national society at local branches level as sympathisers has increased.
- The capacities of national and divisional structures have improved.
- The income of the national society has improved significantly and the resources have increased, thereby guaranteeing self-financing.

### **Constraints**

- Poor income-generating activity development and management system.
- Lack of a formal policy to make projects more profitable and to motivate animators.
- Reluctance of some officers at all levels (governance and management) to the change policy and to implement a good governance system.
- Failure to implement the recommendations that were made after the managerial assessment in 2004.
- Absence of administrative and financial procedure manuals.
- Lack of policies and systems to manage human resources, including volunteers.

## **Coordination, cooperation and strategic partnerships**

**Goal: Stakeholders in the Republic of Congo are familiar with Federation values and programmes.**

**Objective: The delegation represents the Federation at national, regional and international levels to promote Red Cross values and have its programmes appreciated.**

### **Effective representation and advocacy**

2005 was the fifth year of implementing the process to build the capacities of the Congolese Red Cross, which started in 2000 and was confirmed in the 2004-2008 development plans. Some support was provided to the Congolese Red Cross by the Federation’s Delegation in Kinshasa which now has three delegates, including the head of delegation and two field delegates. The national society also benefited from the support of the regional finance and administration delegate based in Yaoundé, dedicating 50% of his working time to the Democratic Republic of Congo and the Republic of Congo.

As far as building the operational capacities of the Congolese Red Cross is concerned, executives of the national society were trained and retrained on good governance, resource management, disaster management and management of emergency situations. The delegation supported the deployment of the Central Africa Disaster Response Team (ERDAC<sup>1</sup>) resource persons in the Sahel, Benin and Chad operations.

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<sup>1</sup> In French : Equipe de réponse aux désastres en Afrique Centrale

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The head of delegation supported the CRC in advocating before the government, partners within the UN system and PNS in view of reinforcing existing partnerships or establishing new ones. Meetings were held with the ministries of foreign affairs, health and solidarity as well as with the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). Regarding regional exchanges among PNS, and in view of sharing best practices, the Congolese Red Cross was invited to take part in the Cooperation Agreement Strategy (CAS) workshop of Red Cross of the Democratic Republic of the Congo from 26 to 27 September 2005 in Kinshasa.

Concerning coordination and representation, Yaoundé, Dakar, and Geneva sent updates on the financial situation and current events to Congolese Red Cross on a monthly basis. The head of delegation re-launched Movement meetings comprising of the Federation, ICRC and the Congolese Red Cross. These meetings served as a framework for exchange, information sharing and talking about follow-up of activities being carried out in Congo.

The head of delegation or the Brazzaville focal point participated in the various inter-agency meetings as well as in meetings convened by government authorities to deal with humanitarian issues. The head of delegation seized these opportunities to express the views of the Federation. ICRC worked in close collaboration with Congolese Red Cross within the framework of information and research, disaster management (conflict preparedness) and capacity building.

### **Impact**

- UNICEF, WHO and OCHA showed interest in partnering with the Congolese Red Cross. These partners expect that the national society will submit projects likely to be financed in 2006.
- Cooperation with the government, through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, has been consolidated and negotiations are being held with the Ministry of Solidarity to put in place a disaster management platform.
- According to the Congolese Red Cross president, the national society has learned a lot after the CAS workshop, including the cooperation and partnership model and the relevance of the cooperation strategy.
- The national society had the opportunity to meet delegates representing PNS and to discuss with them about the possibility of establishing and/or strengthening partnerships.
- The national can now follow up the evolution of its financial situation, as well as other current events.

### **Constraints**

- The newly appointed Director General of Congolese Red Cross is new to the Movement and needs to be trained.
- Poor communication/exchange within the structures of the Congolese Red Cross, including governance and management structures.

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

Selected Parameters	
Year/Period	2005/1-2005/9998
Appeal	M05AA036
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	302'359	61'979	4'866	140'056		509'260
B. Opening Balance	1'524	21'810	0	3'732		27'066
Income						
Cash contributions						
British Red Cross	39'171			11'208		50'379
Irish Government				32'834		32'834
Jersey Overseas Aid	76'059					76'059
C1. Cash contributions	115'231			44'042		159'272
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)	115'231	0	0	44'042		159'272
D. Total Funding = B + C	116'754	21'810	0	47'774		186'338

**II. Balance of Funds**

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance	1'524	21'810	0	3'732		27'066
C. Income	115'231	0	0	44'042		159'272
E. Expenditure	-52'447	-4'355		-43'193		-99'994
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	64'307	17'456	0	4'581		86'344

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Selected Parameters	
Year/Period	2005/1-2005/9998
Appeal	M05AA036
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

### 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	
<b>BUDGET (C)</b>		302'359	61'979	4'866	140'056	509'260		
<b>Supplies</b>								
Clothing & textiles		480				480	-480	
Water & Sanitation		2'513				2'513	-2'513	
Medical & First Aid	5'433	1'999				1'999	3'434	
Teaching Materials	3'750	466				466	3'284	
Utensils & Tools		2'095				2'095	-2'095	
Other Supplies & Services	81'570	4'731				4'731	76'839	
<b>Total Supplies</b>	<b>90'753</b>	<b>12'284</b>				<b>12'284</b>	<b>78'469</b>	
<b>Land, vehicles &amp; equipment</b>								
Computers & Telecom	7'600						7'600	
<b>Total Land, vehicles &amp; equipment</b>	<b>7'600</b>						<b>7'600</b>	
<b>Transport &amp; Storage</b>								
Storage		140	1'058			1'197	-1'197	
Distribution & Monitoring		291				291	-291	
Transport & Vehicle Costs	35'080	11'549	2'917		12'190	26'655	8'425	
<b>Total Transport &amp; Storage</b>	<b>35'080</b>	<b>11'980</b>	<b>3'974</b>		<b>12'190</b>	<b>28'144</b>	<b>6'936</b>	
<b>Personnel Expenditures</b>								
Delegates Payroll	38'400				7'379	7'379	31'021	
Delegate Benefits	24'120	2'249			2'495	4'744	19'376	
National Staff	140'443	169			313	483	139'960	
National Society Staff		13'524			4'599	18'123	-18'123	
<b>Total Personnel Expenditures</b>	<b>202'963</b>	<b>15'943</b>			<b>14'786</b>	<b>30'729</b>	<b>172'234</b>	
<b>Workshops &amp; Training</b>								
Workshops & Training	69'864	6'856			7'691	14'548	55'316	
<b>Total Workshops &amp; Training</b>	<b>69'864</b>	<b>6'856</b>			<b>7'691</b>	<b>14'548</b>	<b>55'316</b>	
<b>General Expenditure</b>								
Travel	5'800	2'351	49		2'243	4'644	1'156	
Information & Public Relation	30'421	840	48		119	1'007	29'414	
Office Costs	31'982	542			4'349	4'892	27'090	
Communications	1'695	512			1'902	2'414	-719	
Professional Fees					2'915	2'915	-2'915	
Financial Charges		-2'370			-2'689	-5'059	5'059	
Other General Expenses		97			427	524	-524	
<b>Total General Expenditure</b>	<b>69'898</b>	<b>1'972</b>	<b>97</b>		<b>9'266</b>	<b>11'336</b>	<b>58'562</b>	
<b>Program Support</b>								
Program Support	33'102	3'409	283		2'808	6'500	26'602	
<b>Total Program Support</b>	<b>33'102</b>	<b>3'409</b>	<b>283</b>		<b>2'808</b>	<b>6'500</b>	<b>26'602</b>	
<b>Operational Provisions</b>								
Operational Provisions		3			-3'549	-3'546	3'546	
<b>Total Operational Provisions</b>		<b>3</b>			<b>-3'549</b>	<b>-3'546</b>	<b>3'546</b>	
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)</b>	<b>509'260</b>	<b>52'447</b>	<b>4'355</b>		<b>43'193</b>	<b>99'994</b>	<b>409'266</b>	
<b>VARIANCE (C - D)</b>		<b>249'912</b>	<b>57'624</b>	<b>4'866</b>	<b>96'863</b>	<b>409'266</b>		