

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

WEST AFRICA REGIONAL PROGRAMMES

Appeal No. MAA61001
1 July 2006

The Federation's vision is to strive, through voluntary action, for a world of empowered communities, better able to address human suffering and crises with hope, respect for dignity and a concern for equity. Its 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 183 countries.

In Brief

Programme Update no. 1.

Period covered: January to April 2006.

This Programme Update revises the Appeal budget from CHF 9,581,000 to CHF 9,639,000.

Original Appeal target: 9,581,000 (USD 7,302,000 or EUR 6,191,000).

Revised Appeal target: CHF 9,639,000 (USD 7,958,000 or EUR 6,183,000).

Appeal coverage (Based on the revised budget): 11.3%.

Outstanding needs (Based on the revised budget): CHF 8,549,000 (USD 7,058,000 or EUR 5,484,000).

Appeal 2006-2007: <http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/annual06/MAA61001.pdf>

[<Click here to go directly to the attached revised appeal budgets>](#)

[<Click here for the interim financial report>](#)

Related Emergency Appeals: Appeal no. 05EA015- <http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/05/05EA01504.pdf>
(Burkina Faso, Mali, Mauritania and Niger: Food insecurity).

The programmes herein are aligned with the Federation's Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission:

- *Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.*
- *Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.*
- *Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.*
- *Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.*

Programme summary: The West African socio-economic and political situation is characterized by recurring poverty, HIV/AIDS, food insecurity, political unrests and most recently, the bird flu threat. Political unrests are as a result of pre-campaign situations, upcoming elections and population movement. In order to respond to these disasters, the regional delegation in Dakar, through its disaster management department, organized workshops to assist the various national societies (NSs) in putting in place relevant contingency plans to be implemented together with their respective governments. The Federation regional delegation, in keeping with its mandate, is coordinating and providing financial and technical assistance to the NSs that are responding to disasters and/or carrying out humanitarian actions.

West Africa regional programmes: Appeal 2006-2007; Appeal no. MAA61001; Programme Update no. 1

The Federation regional delegation will continue the process of strengthening and consolidating the present structure so as to enable it to be more efficient, cost-effective and accountable to the NSs of the region. The delegation will encourage the implementation of the Federation secretariat strategy for change by ensuring that the NSs are in the “drivers’ seat”. This approach will ensure that the Federation secretariat structures and roles are limited to facilitation, coordination and creating a framework for interaction between partner national societies (PNS) in assisting the most vulnerable. The regional delegation (RD) will therefore take the lead by: coordinating international disaster response and situations where the NSs are overwhelmed by the humanitarian needs; rationalizing the use of the available resources by strengthening the capacities of existing regional human resources; assisting in the positioning the NSs as credible partners to their respective governments and communities in health and care, disaster management and promotion of Humanitarian Values; supporting NSs in the implementation of the Algiers Plan of Action (APA) by appropriately aligning their strategies; engaging in developing new partnerships with corporate partners, sub-regional groups and multinational companies in the region so as to mobilize resources and support for the NS’s humanitarian work. Consequently, the NSs will take ownership, responsibility and lead their own development process and programming under the guidance of the regional delegation.

This Programme Update introduces the HIV/AIDS programme of the Burkinabe Red Cross Society as part of the Appeal 2006-2007. As a result, the Appeal budget has been revised to CHF 9,639,451. The Burkinabe Red Cross Society is taking an active part in the struggle to combat the HIV/AIDS pandemic in Burkina Faso. Details of this programme are available within this update.

For further information specifically related to this operation 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 in delivering quality and accountable 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

In the recent weeks, at least 13,000 people have fled from fighting in Chad into the volatile Darfur region of Sudan. Some of these people are being relocated deeper into Western Darfur because of abductions and attacks. As aid agencies struggle to feed more than 200,000 refugees who fled from Darfur into Chad, Chadians themselves have been forced to leave their villages to the searing eastern desert after an escalation in fighting between the government forces and rebel groups earlier this year.

The food insecurity operation in Niger, known as the Sahel operation, is still going on. In Guinea-Bissau, tens of thousands of people will go hungry in the southern rice-bowl region, where both food and cash are running low. That is the reason why the government appealed for USD 2 million to buy seeds vital for the next harvest, as well as rice, cooking oil and sugar. The Federation’s food security team, a team of experts from the Food and Agricultural Organization of the UN (FAO) and the World Food Programme (WFP) are currently in the area to assess the situation.

The health and care situation in West Africa is hardly any better. The deadly H5N1 virus entered West Africa and is presently in Niger, Nigeria and Côte d’Ivoire. The Federation has launched an International Appeal to respond to this outbreak, and a regional workshop has been organized for NSs to prepare emergency plans in collaboration with their respective governments. The rapidly increasing rate of HIV/AIDS infections in the region is alarming. HIV/AIDS is of great concern for the Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement, and particularly for the Federation, which is one of its priorities. According to a report issued in Dakar, the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) stated that:

- Every fifth child born in sub-Saharan Africa will die before reaching five years;
- Mortality rates in West Africa are increasing;

West Africa regional programmes: Appeal 2006-2007; Appeal no. MAA61001; Programme Update no. 1

- West Africa is among the worst places to be born in the world and it's getting worse for many children;
- Children in Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Niger and Sierra Leone who were born in 2004 are less likely to live longer than those born in 1990;
- One of the biggest causes of death is malnutrition, either directly or because the small children's bodies are weak to such an extent that they die from malaria, tuberculosis or even diarrhoea.

The regional delegation in Dakar, together with its NSs in West Africa, has been providing assistance to the most vulnerable populations in health emergencies that affected the region since the beginning of this year as well as in community-based programmes.

Health and care

The NSs of the West African region have focused on the promotion of behavioral change communication (BCC) in order to raise the awareness of target populations.

The on-going plans of action (PoA) on health deal with challenges regarding HIV/AIDS, malaria and integrated management of childhood illnesses (IMCI). These programmes are linked with the APA priorities which include avian influenza and other epidemics such as meningitis, cholera and yellow fever.



Mali Red Cross volunteers during the response to a Meningitis outbreak.

The following objectives have been defined:

- Reduce the national HIV/AIDS prevalence in West Africa;
- Target the youth in the rural areas, who are among the most high-risk groups;
- Vector reduction through local clean-up campaigns; trained Red Cross and Red Crescent volunteers promote and coordinate local efforts to eliminate vector-breeding sites. Such initiatives can be scaled up through systematic capacity building in the community;
- Improve the Red Cross/Red Crescent involvement in avian influenza/human influenza pandemic and other health emergencies;
- Build the capacity of the Red Cross/Red Crescent NSs to respond to health emergencies.

HIV/AIDS

Goal: Increasing HIV/AIDS awareness and advocacy for voluntary counselling and testing (VCT) in the Sahel region.

Objective: To contribute to the reduction of HIV/AIDS prevalence rate in the Sahel region.

Expected results:

- More people are trained on IEC/BCC.
- The IEC materials are provided.
- Increased positive behavioural change from community and family members.
- Increased number of people comes for VCT and more volunteers are trained as counsellors.
- Better care and support provided for PLWHA and OVC.

Progress/Achievements:

The Senegalese Red Cross Society received funds from the Global Fund. The Federation provided support in writing the proposal. Through the GFATM funds, networking with the people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) has been developed in Saint-Louis, through monthly community lunches and support to orphans and affected persons. The other NSs are following the Senegalese Red Cross Society example in implementing HIV/AIDS programmes.

Malaria project

Goal: Promoting the use of insecticide-treated bed nets (ITNs) in the Sahel region so as to control malaria.

West Africa regional programmes: Appeal 2006-2007; Appeal no. MAA61001; Programme Update no. 1

Objective: To control and prevent malaria morbidity and mortality, minimize social effects and economic losses attributable to malaria in the Sahel region.

Expected results:

- National societies from Sahel sub-region support the National Malaria Control Program in scaling up ITN distribution in their Countries.
- The access to insecticide treated bed nets (ITN) by pregnant women and children under five is increased through targeted subsidies delivery.
- A total of 500 volunteers are trained on malaria prevention and control techniques.
- 50% of the target groups are sensitized on controlling mosquito breeding sites.
- The capacity of the national societies for effective monitoring and evaluation of the malaria intervention is improved.

Progress/Achievements:

- In Niger, the success of the long lasting insecticide-treated nets (LLITN) programme has benefited from international financial support. This success is an evidence of the effective partnership, a courageous leadership and a strong political will that are vital to Roll Back Malaria;
- The National Malaria Control programme, supported by the International Federation, the Canadian Red Cross, the World Bank, the World Health Organisation (WHO), UNICEF, Rotary clubs Vestergaard - Frandsen among others, and funded primarily by the Global Funds to fight AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria (GFATM) and the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), is making inroads as regards the fight against malaria in Niger;
- The RBM partners are collaborating at country level ensuring global fund monies are well spent;
- Niger is also a recipient of the GFATM funds from round 5 to implement ACTs in the country;
- The Massive Effort Team is working on a short documentary on the highlights of the net distribution campaign to advocate for more resources from donors and to encourage more African countries to follow this excellent initiative;
- The National Malaria Control Programme, the Federation and the UNICEF will now focus attention on BCC to ensure that the ITN will be used by pregnant women and children aged under five years, particularly in the rainy season, and preferably all year long.

Community IMCI Project

Goal: Scaling up community integrated management of childhood illnesses (IMCI) in the Sahel region.

Objective: Contribute to the reduction of childhood illnesses through an integrated approach in the Sahel region.

Expected results:

- 500 volunteers are trained in community Integrated Management of Childhood Illnesses (IMCI).
- 300,000 households are sensitized on early recognition of childhood illnesses.
- Mothers practice correct feeding habits for their infants.
- Mothers know and adhere to vaccination schedules for their children.
- Mothers take appropriate measures to care for children suffering from fever.
- Project health structures trained on community IMCI.
- The national societies' capacity for effective monitoring and evaluation on the IMCI programme is improved.

Progress/Achievements:

The IMCI programme was implemented in the West Africa region and funded by the Federation. This meant the improvement of the expertise of nurses and health workers in charge of health huts, the improvement of the health system and domestic and communal practice improvement to prevent infantile illnesses and take immediate care of the patients. Community involvement and sustainable care of illnesses is a component of the IMCI. The approach consists of teaching mothers to give more liquids to children suffering from diarrhoea, or any of the illnesses, along with their usual diet.

West Africa regional programmes: Appeal 2006-2007; Appeal no. MAA61001; Programme Update no. 1

Impact:

- More visibility and recognition of the NS as an auxiliary to government;
- A wider coverage of health programmes has been achieved through reinforced volunteer networks;
- Infant morbidity and mortality has reduced through increased vaccination activities;
- Low HIV/AIDS prevalence (of 1.4%) is noted, and continued efforts are being made to ensure prevalence does not exceed the 3% recommended in the national HIV/AIDS strategies;
- There is better HIV/AIDS awareness amongst the vulnerable populations;
- Health awareness amongst PLWHA has improved.
- The PLWHA now receive free medical care in state health institutions.

Constraints:

- A nationwide sensitization campaign was conducted in Nigeria for more than a week. This period was declared a public holiday and movements were restricted, thus activities could not be correctly implemented in the country;
- Due to lack of funds, not all the planned activities have been implemented.

Avian influenza

With the rapid spread of the H5N1 virus in the region, a quick assessment of the situation was done in Nigeria during the first week and the results were presented at the Federation regional management meeting held in Dakar in March, as well as at the monthly United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) regional coordination meeting in Dakar

The following PoA on avian influenza has been developed:

- A memorandum of understanding (MoU) between the Nigerian Red Cross Society and the Federation has been used to conduct a one-day workshop on 6 April 2006. Branch secretaries and health coordinators from 13 affected states (including the Federal Capital Territory) participated in this exercise. The expected outcome of this workshop is a draft of the Nigerian Red Cross Society contingency plan for avian influenza containment and human influenza pandemic preparedness;
- A regional workshop on avian influenza has been organized in Dakar with the effective participation of all the affected countries. The outcome of this workshop will include designation of one focal point from each NS and the elaboration of a contingency plan with preparedness and response components.

Meningitis

Meningitis outbreak campaigns have been conducted in Mali, Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire and Niger; with Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) allocations for Mali and Burkina Faso. The Spanish Red Cross provided financial support in Niger. The Department for International Development (DFID) has provided funds in support of Côte d'Ivoire.

The Burkina Faso HIV/AIDS programme

Spreading over 105,800 square miles, Burkina Faso is a Sahel country sharing borders with Mali in the North and the West, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo and Benin (in the South) and Niger (in the East). With a HIV/AIDS prevalence rate of 5%, Burkina Faso is one of the most affected countries in West Africa. Though this was not stated in the Annual Appeal, the Burkinabe Red Cross Society is taking an active role in fighting the HIV/AIDS pandemic.

Objective: Through the effort of the Burkinabe Red Cross Society, the HIV/AIDS prevalence rate in the Burkina Faso is reduced.

Expected results:

- Training of 100 Burkinabe Red Cross Society volunteers;
- Sensitizing of 20,000 people in the community;
- Mitigating against impact of the disease, including economic, social, health impacts among others;
- Monitoring and evaluation of social mobilization activities as well as volunteers involvement;
- Availing IEC/BCC materials on HIV/AIDS programmes;
- Strengthening of the Burkinabe Red Cross Society at the headquarters and the branch levels.

West Africa regional programmes: Appeal 2006-2007; Appeal no. MAA61001; Programme Update no. 1

Planned activities:

- Reduce HIV/AIDS transmission in the north of the country (Ouaiguya and Banfora);
- Promote community counselling with PLWHA;
- Build the capacity of the Burkinabe Red Cross Society volunteers in training and management;
- Provide health sensitization support;
- Hold social mobilization campaigns.

Disaster management

Goal: The impact of disasters on the most vulnerable in West and Central Africa is reduced through the support of the Federation regional delegation to national societies.

Objective (Capacity building): The regional delegation has contributed to strengthening the capacities of the national societies for efficient disaster management (DM).

Progress/Achievements:

Expected result 1: The National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) concept is introduced and tested with selected national societies.

- The introduction and dissemination of the NDRT concept to the NSs is part of the West and Central Africa contingency planning process;
- The NDRT's training sessions, co-funded by the European Commission Humanitarian Office (ECHO), are planned for June and July 2006 in Burkina Faso, Guinea (Conakry) and Liberia;
- The NDRT concept and methodology has been disseminated to NSs. The NSs of Mali, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, The Gambia and Guinea-Bissau have requested support for the NDRT training;
- The regional delegation provided technical support to the Nigerian Red Cross Society in order to create an NDRT.

Expected result 2: The national societies have increased their disaster management expertise.

- Permanent support has been provided from the regional delegation to the NSs DM coordinators through technical assistance during various training sessions that have been conducted (relief, NDRT, community-based disaster response teams and food security among others);
- Several activities have been planned with the support of the RD and required the presence of a member of the RD's DM team in Liberia, Guinea-Bissau, The Gambia and Cameroon;
- Information exchange has been improved, especially within the Mano River sub-regional countries, with the contingency planning process facilitated by the regional delegation;
- West and Central African NSs have made a lot of progress in terms of knowledge in DM as they have actively participated in most of disaster management forums organized by the RD. Their contributions, innovative ideas and exchange of experiences have strengthened and challenged the weak NSs.

Expected result 3: Basic equipment for disaster response is provided to the national societies in high risk countries.

The priority for the RD is to provide training and first aid materials to prepare the NSs to respond to disasters in their respective countries. Some NSs have also benefited from the expertise of the RD in the pre-positioning of emergency items and the best practices in terms of storage, dispatching and management.

Expected result 4: The well-prepared national society (WPNS) concept is further introduced and mechanisms to meet the criteria are developed.

No activity has been reported during this period.

Expected result 5: Vulnerability and Capacity Assessments (VCA) are promoted and facilitated.

No activity has been reported during this period.

Food Security

Though this was not stated in the Annual Appeal, food security concerns in the region prompted the RD to work on a regional food security strategy. A food security delegate and a food security assistant have been recruited to boost food security within NSs of high-risk countries.

The regional food security strategy has been developed taking into consideration the context and realities of the region as well as available resources. Each NS is working on its own strategy according to the regional scheme. This process is accompanied by the training of members from 12 NSs on food security assessment. Training modules with specificities of the region are being developed.



Red Cross volunteers conducting an assessment following a cholera outbreak in Guinea-Bissau

Constraints:

- The main challenge is funding and lack of human resources. For this reason, NSs are facing difficulties in carrying out activities aimed at strengthening their capacities to set up NDRTs as well as community-based disaster response teams (CBRDT);
- The dissemination of the WPNS concept in the region has been delayed due to lack of financial and human resources;
- Some NSs have started the VCA process, but the RD could not give its input and appropriate technical support due to human and financial resources problems. However, a VCA exercise is ongoing in Liberia from March to June 2006, with the support of the Canadian Red Cross;
- Inadequate reporting capacity of the NSs delays a number of important projects;
- Despite the recruitment of a new delegate and the setting up of the DM team at the RD, the turnover is still high and this hampers implementation, monitoring and evaluation of planned activities;
- Most activities are being carried out with DREF funds which are not for capacity building and development projects.

Objective (Emergency response): The regional delegation is assisting vulnerable people and national societies to efficiently respond to emergencies.

Progress/Achievements:

Expected result 1: The NSs use contingency planning more effectively in emergency response and share experience with the regional delegation.

The West and Central Africa contingency planning process has expanded, with 12 NSs (Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Senegal and Sierra Leone) developing contingency plans on population movement, which is the major disaster in the region;

A follow-up workshop was conducted to disseminate the concept to the countries new to the process. A contingency plan standard format has been developed to initiate this process. The standard format will be used as resource material for developing other national and regional contingency plans for other disasters.

Expected result 2: The regional delegation develops a regional contingency plan, taking into consideration the contingency plans of the NSs and other agencies.

- A regional contingency plan on population movement has been developed with IT and telecom and logistics components;

West Africa regional programmes: Appeal 2006-2007; Appeal no. MAA61001; Programme Update no. 1

- A study has been carried out to set up a logistic hub in Dakar, with emergency items stock for the first 48 hours of the disaster;
- Regional cooperation has improved and information exchange mechanisms are being put in place.

Expected result 3: The regional disaster response team (RDRT) is well established and effectively used in the region.

- Deployments of assessment teams and support teams through the RDRT system have helped the Red Cross Society of Guinea-Bissau to carry out food security assessment;
- The Cameroon Red Cross Society has trained and geared up its emergency response teams along the borders for population movements from Chad and Central African Republic;
- The RD has been updating its database of trained RDRT members and establishing a proper working system;
- The Standard Operating Procedures in terms of deployments, have been developed and shared with the NSs;
- An MoU is being discussed by the NSs and the regional delegation for deployments and further developments of the RDRT;
- Deployment kits have been pre-positioned at the RD for future missions;
- An internal protocol for emergency, which defines the role and responsibility of each department in case of an emergency, has been developed at the RD.

Expected result 4: The regional disaster management capacity is further developed.

The RD has provided support in accessing DREF funds for several NSs that were facing epidemics such as cholera, meningitis or natural and man made disasters such as floods, population movements and avian flu. The Nigerian Red Cross Society deputy secretary general thanked the regional delegation for its prompt response in the fight of the spread of bird flu in Nigeria.

Constraint:

The regional delegation's emergency response is timely and efficient but there is a lack of human resources. One of the main concerns is the continuity of the present DM team in the RD (composed of a DM coordinator, a DM delegate, a DM assistant, a food security delegate, a food security assistant and an IT and telecom delegate).

Expected result 5: Increased participation of the NS' staff in Field Assessment and Coordination Team (FACT) missions.

No activity has been reported during this period.

Constraints:

- The main challenge in the region is funding. Despite the funding received from the ECHO thematic funds, a lot needs to be done. Not all activities planned in the national or regional contingency plan are going to be implemented due lack of funds and this might have a negative impact on other activities;
- Limited financial and human resources, combined with inadequate reporting from the NSs, leads to a lot of frustration in the implementation of several activities.

Organizational development

Goal: National societies are well-functioning and respond to the needs in their respective countries.

Objective: The capacity of the national societies of the Sahel sub-region to assist the most vulnerable is improved.

Progress/Achievements:

Expected result 1: Governance and management bodies of the NSs are reinforced.

To achieve this, three issues were addressed: support of the strategic planning processes; assistance in the recruitment and payment of salaries for the staff; support in the revision of NS' Statutes.

West Africa regional programmes: Appeal 2006-2007; Appeal no. MAA61001; Programme Update no. 1

Strategic planning:

- The process to finalize the new Senegalese Red Cross Society strategic plan for 2006-2010 is ongoing, and a validation workshop is scheduled for 21 and 22 June;
- The Red Cross of Cape Verde has submitted a draft strategic plan to the Federation, and indications have been given to finalize the document;
- A PoA has been developed with the Red Cross Society of Cote d'Ivoire to assess its strategic plan, which is expiring this year, and to develop a new one. This was achieved with the technical and financial support of the Netherlands Red Cross.

Recruitment and salary:

- The process to recruit and equip regional executive secretaries for the Red Cross Society of Niger (initially started in 2005) has been finalized in four of the eight regional committees of the NS. Discussions have been initiated, as part of the Sahel operation, to support the salary of the national executive secretary and the human resources development officer;
- For the Ghana Red Cross Society, a new Secretary General has been recruited;
- At the Mauritanian Red Crescent, discussions have been initiated with the International Committee of Red Cross (ICRC), the Spanish Red Cross and the French Red Cross to support the recruitment of a health coordinator, a finance officer, a human resources development officer as well as to pay the salary of the Secretary General;
- The Red Cross of Cape Verde was advised to further professionalize its practices by recruiting more salaried staff for its headquarters;
- The Red Cross of Benin is also involved in enhancing its level of professionalism as part of its restructuring plan. For all these processes, the RD has developed and proposed job and post profile descriptions to the NSs.

Revision of NS Statutes:

- A process has been started with the Red Cross of Benin to implement the recommendations of the general audit conducted in 2005. A General Assembly will be organized later this year;
- The Red Cross of Cape Verde has just requested the support of the RD to assist in the review of its Statutes and development of internal regulations.

Expected result 2: The NS' volunteer management systems are improved.

- The development of volunteers management system, initiated in 2005 in Burkina Faso, Niger, Mali and The Gambia is ongoing;
- Focal points for volunteering have been appointed for Burkina Faso and Mali. The process is being finalized in Niger, and discussions are still underway with the Gambia Red Cross Society;
- The volunteer management sections in Niger and Burkina Faso received hardware equipment.

Expected result 3: Better knowledge in the Sahel sub-region's national societies' activities.

The impact of most of the activities under this section will be felt in 2007. Hopefully, the NSs will by that time implement a significant volume of activities that will be visible enough to attract more partners in the region and bring more people at local levels to adhere to the ideals of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

A mission conducted in Cape Verde in May 2006 found that the NS is carrying out many interesting activities that need to be made more visible. A documentary project with TV5 is underway for this year to ensure more visibility of their actions.

Discussions are also on course to arrange an exhibition room within the RD which will host the activities of the regional NSs.

Expected result 4: Increased financial resources amongst the NSs of the Sahel sub-region.

From January 2002 to April 2005, this part constituted a separate programme of capacity building, managed by a finance and resource development delegate. When the mission of the delegate ended in April 2005, recommendations were made to merge the finance/resource development programme with the organizational development (OD) programme. This became effective in 2006.

West Africa regional programmes: Appeal 2006-2007; Appeal no. MAA61001; Programme Update no. 1

Initial focus will be on the improvement of financial management systems as a prerequisite for consolidating partnerships and the development of financial resources. Terms of reference have been developed to this effect for a baseline study in four NSs. The study, which is under discussion within the RD, will:

- Assess the relevance of the actions carried out to improve the financial management systems;
- Assess the level of computerization of the financial management systems and make recommendations to meet the needs of the NSs;
- Assess the financial management control and internal/external communication systems, and make recommendations for the improvement of communication at internal levels and with the national and international partners;
- Assess the existing human resources and make relevant post profile proposals for financial management staff, financial line management and other capacity building actions;
- Make NSs adopt minimum financial management standards or guidelines to serve as a basis for further assessments and periodic audits.

Expected result 5: Management capacities at regional delegation level.

The OD programme is managed from the RD by a team composed of one OD delegate and one programme assistant. This team is in charge of the seven Sahel countries. After the closure of the Mano River sub-regional office, Guinea (Conakry) and Guinea-Bissau joined the Sahel region. As there is no OD staff in the Nigeria sub-regional office, the Sahel team was requested to support the OD process in Ghana, Benin and Côte d'Ivoire. This increase of the workload requires a better targeting of areas of intervention as well as additional human resources to support the OD team.

The communication/visibility of the actions of the NSs is handled by the delegation's information officer. The grant manager is in charge of the partnership and resources development. Consultants in financial management could be contracted to professionalize the financial systems development. Resource persons from the region will also be requested to support the strategic and projects planning processes, the review of Statutes as well as to help NSs organize their restructuring general assemblies. All strategic and projects planning processes are conducted in collaboration with the Sahel health team.

Impact:

- Partnerships and programmes have improved, with support to the strategic and project planning process, while trying to mainstream professionalism within the NSs. As a result, the Mali Red Cross managed to restore bilateral partnership with the Swiss Red Cross. A long-term cooperation programme has just been developed and implemented by the two NSs. The long-term projects with the Spanish Red Cross have been consolidated, while the Danish Red Cross, which had stopped any bilateral cooperation with the Mali Red Cross, has been showing some interest again and is supporting the on-going OD process with the Federation;
- The Red Cross Society of Niger is now better prepared to benefit from the Sahel food crisis operation. As a result of this, the NS has initiated long-term water and sanitation (WatSan) projects with the German Red Cross and the Qatari Red Crescent;
- The work on volunteering will allow NSs to better control issues related to volunteers that are the primary resources for achieving the humanitarian mandate of the Movement;
- The whole OD process fits very well in the ten areas that need to be improved in the « Federation of the Future » process, in its articles 1, 2, 3, 5, 8 and 9.

Constraints:

The OD process requires a strong willingness to change, a clear commitment for more transparency and a more focused positioning from the NSs. This calls for a lot of time, and there may be some disappointment along the process. Cases of disappointments include the Burkinabe Red Cross Society losing all its partners in 2005 (with the exception of the ICRC and the Federation); the decrease in OD support as a result of the Danish Red Cross withdrawing from the process.

There are difficulties in convincing some NSs to choose the relevant profiles when recruiting their staff. Such constraints make the best selection very difficult.

Implementation and coordination

The implementation and coordination of this Appeal is governed by the Federation's framework for action which will orient capacity building actions over the next five years, with the aim of building a well-functioning Federation network. The framework is a clear set of actions to reform and renew the Federation and to ensure that it remains relevant and effective as an organization. This calls for collective leadership and accountability at all levels.

Goal: Red Cross and Red Crescent humanitarian activities are well coordinated with all partners.

Objective: The three sub-regional working and sectoral groups are strengthened and assisted to ensure cohesion and coordination in West and Central Africa.

Progress/Achievements:

- There has been a lot of exchange of experiences and knowledge sharing through other programmes and operations such as the Benin refugee operation and the Sahel food security operation;
- The NS representatives participated in the regional delegation's management meeting held in March. Both African NS and PNS representatives participated in the first management meeting of the year. Several important issues affecting the region were discussed, including decentralization as part of the Federation of the future process.

Constraint:

The revised terms of reference (ToR) have not yet been finalized since none of the working groups met during the reporting period. As previously agreed with the regional working groups, the NSs were expected to take charge and were also financially responsible for the meetings. However, this did not happen despite the discussions and acceptance at all levels. The reason may be the lack of resources, interest or importance attached to such structures. However, the subject will be discussed with the heads of the NSs and it will be decided whether the working groups will have to continue or not.

Coordination, cooperation and strategic partnerships

The RD is hosting and working with several participating NSs who have set up regional offices in Dakar including: Netherlands, Danish, Hellenic and the French Red Cross Societies. Their presence and participation in meetings and other discussions organized by the RD has undoubtedly contributed in ensuring effective coordination of support to the NSs in the region.

There are regular consultations and interactions between the Federation and the ICRC delegates. The Federation has regularly invited the ICRC in its activities. Likewise, the Federation representatives were invited to the ICRC meetings and functions.

International representation and advocacy

The Federation is now recognized as one of the proactive humanitarian institutions in the region. This is due to the effective representation at regional coordination meetings and forums in Dakar and other countries around the region. In terms of developing relations and interactions, the RD has always ensured that other agencies are invited to most of the seminars and workshops organized both at regional and at country levels.

The delegation representatives have made several interventions during regional coordination meetings organized through the OCHA on topics such as preparedness for human avian influenza and contingency planning for possible population movements.

The RD has also been engaged in dialogue with other partners both within and outside the UN system including the WFP, the WHO and the UNICEF. Regular contact and courtesy visits were undertaken to embassies and governments in the region.

Federation governance support

The two governing board members in the region have been regularly briefed on the activities in the region. The RD also ensured that they received the necessary documentations for the meetings.

Below is a table reflecting the activities undertaken bilaterally by Movement partners in West and Central Africa region.

West Africa regional programmes: Appeal 2006-2007; Appeal no. MAA61001; Programme Update no. 1

RC Partners	Summary of activities
ICRC	
Netherlands Red Cross	<p>Finalization of the formulation of a three-year capacity building programme: Capacity building of Red Cross Societies in West Africa (Côte d’Ivoire, Liberia, Sierra Leone), 2006–2009. This programme was formulated in close collaboration with the NSs of the three countries and the Federation delegations in Liberia and Sierra Leone. The programme has been submitted to a Dutch donor for funding/approval.</p> <p>Preparation of and participation in a workshop in Dakar on a new alliance for improving collaboration for capacity building in Africa. The NSs of Côte d’Ivoire, Liberia, Mozambique, Sierra Leone, Canada, Great Britain, Netherlands and Norway participated in this alliance.</p>
Hellenic Red Cross	<p>The Hellenic Red Cross has agreed to fund and support activities for the implementation of two community-based health projects in Senegal through a PNS bilateral project together with the Senegalese Red Cross Society:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support PLWHA in Kaolack and Kolda; • Prevent childhood diseases in Thiès and Mbour. <p>The Hellenic Red Cross also agreed to fund and support activities for the implementation of one community-based health project in Cameroon through a PNS bilateral project together with the Cameroon Red Cross Society. It is an integrated project to fight against HIV/AIDS, mainly in Douala and Yaoundé (with possible extension after assessment and agreement to Ngaoundere, Garoua and Maroua in 2006). This project is also known as the “Filles Libre” Project.</p>

Delegation management

Goal: Maintain a functioning, well-structured and resourced delegation that provides effective and timely services.

Objective: To maintain a cost effective delegation that provides efficient services and supports regional offices national societies and Federation operations on human resource, financial management, IT and telecom, information, reporting and logistics.

Progress/Achievements:

Expected result 1: The new organizational chart is shared and put into effective use to update the job descriptions for all locally recruited staff both at the regional delegation and the sub-regional offices.

An in-depth review of the organizational structure and management of the RD has been initiated. Such a review will provide an opportunity to really assess the strengths and weaknesses of the present structure and determine the necessary corrective measures to be taken to achieve greater efficiency.

Expected result 2: Personnel management systems are streamlined with the appropriate recruitment, training and management procedures established for the different categories of personnel in the region (local and regional recruitment).

A new organization chart has been redesigned for the regional delegation’s support services department (i.e. logistics, administration and human resources services). Further work will be carried out to review the organization charts of the other departments for better functioning and coherence. In addition, consultants have been identified and hired to conduct a human resources (HR) audit, which will help assess the overall effectiveness of the regional delegation’s HR function and identify areas for change and improvements.

Expected result 3: Programme support staff for information, reporting and IT and telecom is recruited and trained.

The programme support staff has been recruited. The reporting and information officers have received some training provided by the regional reporting unit in Nairobi and the communications department in Geneva. Meanwhile, the IT and telecom assistant is receiving on the job training from the newly recruited delegate.

West Africa regional programmes: Appeal 2006-2007; Appeal no. MAA61001; Programme Update no. 1

Constraints:

- The lack of resources continues to be a challenge for the RD. Most of the positions have been vacant for long periods due to lack of funds and sometimes qualified human resources. This is the case for the region as the institution is not able to recruit French speaking delegates;
- Given the fact that several positions within the region are vacant, the RD staff members have to take on the extra responsibilities of supervising or supporting the work of those delegations and NSs;
- This situation is compounded by the fact that funding for the RD is difficult as most donors only provide funds for programmes and not the structures that are critical for programme implementation.

[Revised budget and interim financial report below;](#)
[Click here to return to the title page and contact information.](#)

BUDGET 2006

PROGRAMME BUDGETS SUMMARY

Appeal no.: MAA61001

Name: WEST AFRICA REGIONAL PROGRAMMES

PROGRAMME:	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	Recovery	Total
	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF
Shelter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Construction	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Clothing & Textiles	120,000	0	0	0	0	0	120,000
Food	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Seeds & Plants	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Water & Sanitation	7,200	0	0	0	0	0	7,200
Medical & First Aid	15,000	0	0	0	0	0	15,000
Teaching Materials	89,300	0	0	15,000	0	0	104,300
Utensils & tools	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Supplies & Services	0	284,600	0	0	0	0	284,600
SUPPLIES	231,500	284,600	0	15,000	0	0	531,100
Land & Buildings	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vehicles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Computers & Telecom	0	82,560	0	135,000	0	0	217,560
Medical equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
LAND, VEHICLES & EQUIPMEN	0	82,560	0	135,000	0	0	217,560
Storage	0	5,000	0	0	0	0	5,000
Distribution & Monitoring	40,000	0	0	0	0	0	40,000
Transport & Vehicles cost	6,285	73,020	0	33,854	0	0	113,159
TRANSPORT & STORAGE	46,285	78,020	0	33,854	0	0	158,159
International Staff	124,956	554,544	0	226,500	292,800	0	1,198,800
Regionally Deployed Staff	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
National staff	109,001	59,876	0	57,411	77,620	0	303,908
National Society Staff	71,000	0	0	0	0	0	71,000
Consultants	0	0	0	18,000	0	0	18,000
PERSONNEL	304,957	614,420	0	301,911	370,420	0	1,591,708
Workshops & Training	552,574	237,312	0	437,750	137,675	0	1,365,311
WORKSHOPS & TRAINING	552,574	237,312	0	437,750	137,675	0	1,365,311
Travel & related expenses	20,550	54,120	0	25,250	21,180	0	121,100
Information & Public Rela	261,200	0	0	51,000	0	0	312,200
Office Running Costs	61,069	36,832	0	10,300	172,020	0	280,221
Communication Costs	2,165	62	0	554	48,000	0	50,780
Professional Fees	7,731	2,580	0	33,193	61,474	0	104,978
Other General Expenses	5,455	900	0	625	2,500	0	9,480
GENERAL EXPENDITURE	358,170	94,494	0	120,922	305,174	0	878,759
Asset Depreciation	0	0	0	0	9,816	0	9,816
DEPRECIATION	0	0	0	0	9,816	0	9,816
Contributions & Transfers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CONTRIBUTIONS & TRANSFERS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Programme Support	103,825	96,729	0	72,608	57,220	0	330,381
PROGRAMME SUPPORT	103,825	96,729	0	72,608	57,220	0	330,381
TOTAL BUDGET:	1,597,311	1,488,135	0	1,117,045	880,305	0	5,082,795

BUDGET 2007

PROGRAMME BUDGETS SUMMARY

Appeal no.: MAA61001

Name: WEST AFRICA REGIONAL PROGRAMMES

PROGRAMME:	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	Recovery	Total
	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF
Shelter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Construction	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Clothing & Textiles	47,500	0	0	0	0	0	47,500
Food	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Seeds & Plants	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Water & Sanitation	7,200	0	0	0	0	0	7,200
Medical & First Aid	7,500	0	0	0	0	0	7,500
Teaching Materials	109,100	0	0	0	0	0	109,100
Utensils & tools	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Supplies & Services	0	134,600	0	0	0	0	134,600
SUPPLIES	171,300	134,600	0	0	0	0	305,900
Land & Buildings	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vehicles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Computers & Telecom	0	82,560	0	241,000	0	0	323,560
Medical equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
LAND, VEHICLES & EQUIPMEN	0	82,560	0	241,000	0	0	323,560
Storage	0	15,000	0	0	0	0	15,000
Distribution & Monitoring	30,000	0	0	0	0	0	30,000
Transport & Vehicles cost	6,285	68,100	0	35,469	3,305	0	113,159
TRANSPORT & STORAGE	36,285	83,100	0	35,469	3,305	0	158,159
International Staff	124,956	554,544	0	239,316	49,000	0	967,816
Regionally Deployed Staff	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
National staff	91,001	59,876	0	60,837	73,104	0	284,817
National Society Staff	89,000	0	0	0	0	0	89,000
Consultants	0	0	0	21,000	0	0	21,000
PERSONNEL	304,957	614,420	0	321,153	122,104	0	1,362,633
Workshops & Training	510,074	233,127	0	276,350	137,675	0	1,157,226
WORKSHOPS & TRAINING	510,074	233,127	0	276,350	137,675	0	1,157,226
Travel & related expenses	20,550	54,120	0	22,250	5,900	0	102,820
Information & Public Rela	239,800	0	0	165,000	0	0	404,800
Office Running Costs	61,069	36,832	0	11,948	170,372	0	280,221
Communication Costs	2,165	62	0	615	47,938	0	50,779
Professional Fees	7,731	2,580	0	25,770	58,897	0	94,978
Other General Expenses	5,455	900	0	725	2,500	0	9,580
GENERAL EXPENDITURE	336,770	94,494	0	226,308	285,607	0	943,178
Asset Depreciation	0	0	0	0	9,816	0	9,816
DEPRECIATION	0	0	0	0	9,816	0	9,816
Contributions & Transfers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CONTRIBUTIONS & TRANSFERS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Programme Support	94,503	86,363	0	76,490	38,827	0	296,182
PROGRAMME SUPPORT	94,503	86,363	0	76,490	38,827	0	296,182
TOTAL BUDGET:	1,453,889	1,328,664	0	1,176,770	597,334	0	4,556,656

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAA61001 - WEST AFRICA

Interim financial report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2006/1-2006/5
Budget Timeframe	2006/1-2007/12
Appeal	MAA61001
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	3'051'199	2'816'799	0	2'293'815	1'477'639	9'639'452
B. Opening Balance	56'947	16'546	0	120'585	-118'566	75'512
Income						
Cash contributions						
DFID Partnership	29'935	98'286		64'858	27'441	220'520
Irish Government	157'800	197'250			355'050	710'100
Swedish Red Cross					16'500	16'500
C1. Cash contributions	187'735	295'536		64'858	398'991	947'120
Inkind Personnel						
Australian Red Cross					8'217	8'217
German Red Cross		2'893				2'893
Spanish Red Cross		31'000				31'000
C5. Inkind Personnel		33'893			8'217	42'110
Other Income						
Miscellaneous Income					17'472	17'472
Service Agreements					8'121	8'121
C6. Other Income					25'593	25'593
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)	187'735	329'429	0	64'858	432'802	1'014'824
D. Total Funding = B + C	244'682	345'975	0	185'443	314'236	1'090'336

II. Balance of Funds

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance	56'947	16'546	0	120'585	-118'566	75'512
C. Income	187'735	329'429	0	64'858	432'802	1'014'824
E. Expenditure	-95'303	-137'736		-121'255	-89'844	-444'138
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	149'378	208'239	0	64'189	224'392	646'198

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAA61001 - WEST AFRICA

Interim financial report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2006/1-2006/5
Budget Timeframe	2006/1-2007/12
Appeal	MAA61001
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	
BUDGET (C)		3'051'199	2'816'799	0	2'293'815	1'477'639	9'639'452	
Supplies								
Shelter		756					756	-756
Clothing & textiles	167'500	3'072					3'072	164'428
Water & Sanitation	14'400							14'400
Medical & First Aid	22'500	480	48				528	21'972
Teaching Materials	213'400							213'400
Other Supplies & Services	419'200	22					22	419'178
Total Supplies	837'000	4'330	48				4'378	832'622
Land, vehicles & equipment								
Computers & Telecom	491'120	6'858	3'220		1'165	36'814	48'056	443'064
Office/Household Furniture & Equipment	50'000					7'235	7'235	42'765
Others Machinery & Equipment		13'845	13'936		8'192	-42'309	-6'336	6'336
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	541'120	20'702	17'156		9'357	1'740	48'955	492'165
Transport & Storage								
Storage	20'000					920	920	19'080
Distribution & Monitoring	70'000					24	24	69'976
Transport & Vehicle Costs	226'319	6'575	10'246		4'331	21'302	42'454	183'865
Total Transport & Storage	316'319	6'575	10'246		4'331	22'246	43'398	272'921
Personnel Expenditures								
Delegates Payroll	1'134'856		8'176		32'129	775	41'080	1'093'776
Delegate Benefits	1'031'760	855	46'895		16'711	25'543	90'005	941'755
National Staff	588'726	32'849	23'594		23'029	4'129	83'601	505'125
National Society Staff	160'000	36'144	495		8'834	500	45'974	114'026
Consultants	39'000				600		600	38'400
Total Personnel Expenditures	2'954'342	69'848	79'160		81'304	30'948	261'260	2'693'082
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	2'522'537	11'716	9'468		33'547	17'947	72'677	2'449'860
Total Workshops & Training	2'522'537	11'716	9'468		33'547	17'947	72'677	2'449'860
General Expenditure								
Travel	223'920	10'088	4'842		8'891	21'582	45'402	178'518
Information & Public Relation	717'000	1'910	1'773		624	1'177	5'484	711'516
Office Costs	560'442	5'567	2'237		2'370	74'215	84'388	476'054
Communications	101'560	7'458	1'394		-244	12'949	21'557	80'003
Professional Fees	199'956				13'889	24'894	38'784	161'173
Financial Charges		-2'359	-1'010		-4'752	2'978	-5'143	5'143
Other General Expenses	19'060	20'688	21'503		13'314	-88'470	-32'964	52'024
Total General Expenditure	1'821'938	43'353	30'737		34'092	49'325	157'507	1'664'430
Depreciation								
Depreciation	19'632							19'632
Total Depreciation	19'632							19'632
Program Support								
Program Support	626'564	6'195	8'810		7'882	5'805	28'691	597'873
Total Program Support	626'564	6'195	8'810		7'882	5'805	28'691	597'873
Operational Provisions								
Operational Provisions		-67'415	-17'889		-49'257	-38'168	-172'729	172'729
Total Operational Provisions		-67'415	-17'889		-49'257	-38'168	-172'729	172'729
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	9'639'452	95'303	137'736		121'255	89'844	444'138	9'195'314
VARIANCE (C - D)		2'955'896	2'679'063		2'172'560	1'387'795	9'195'314	