

Plan 2009-2010



DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

Executive summary

The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) faces an acute humanitarian situation. Years of armed conflict in parts of the country continue to impact the most vulnerable, and under these conditions natural disasters such as floods, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions and serious health concerns such as cholera, meningitis, ebola haemorrhagic fever, malaria, polio and water-borne diseases present significant constraints for the work of the Red Cross and Red Crescent. Despite the challenges and constraints, the country remains committed to trying to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDG's). Health and care programmes in particular are based on ensuring that the programmes and services of the Red Cross of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (RCDRC) are focused on the needs of vulnerable people and that they are responsive, sustainable and of acceptable standards in performance, accountability and integrity.

The RCDRC's partners include the Belgian Red Cross (French and Flemish sections), Swedish, Danish, Spanish, German, British, Irish, Korean Red Cross, Iran Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the International Committee of Red Cross (ICRC) and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent.

The Federation's support to the RCDRC for 2009-2010 will enable the National Society to implement its priority programmes established in the 2008 operational alliance. The RCDRC's health operational alliance aims to contribute to a reduction of the number of deaths and the impact of diseases linked to water and to health reproduction in 5 provinces. Within the framework of this approach, the National Society will prioritize collaboration with civil society and communities that will contribute to reinforcing their capacities to assist in reducing the more urgent vulnerabilities.

The target beneficiaries of this plan will include volunteers and workers, and communities of vulnerable people identified in the DRC. Red Cross volunteers and local branch leaders will be trained in community based health and first aid, HIV and AIDS, and emergency health. Vulnerable communities will be associated in these training sessions, which will contribute to improving their operational capacities. Information and sensitization sessions on those affected by sexual abuse will also take place in the eastern provinces most affected by instances of rape. Children, women, disabled people, the elderly, and other vulnerable people will be targeted in the implementation of the programmes. Beneficiaries will also be associated in the design, implementation and monitoring of programmes. Special attention will be given to fight against discrimination toward minorities (pygmies) in five provinces of the country.

Activities will be carried out according to Red Cross Principles and the concept of gender, age, and vulnerabilities in rural and urban areas. The implementation of these activities will increase the visibility of the National Society and strengthen its role.

The total 2009-2010 budget is CHF 10,002,732 (USD 9,143, 265 or EUR 6,371,166) (Click here to go directly to the attached summary budget of the plan)

Country context

According to the Human Development Report in 2007-2008, the Human Development Index (HDI) for the DRC is 0.411, a rank of 168 out of 177 countries. In the 2005 Human Development Report, life expectancy at birth is estimated at 45.8. The life expectancy index is 0.346. The human poverty index for Congo is 39.3, 88th among 108 developing countries for which the index has been calculated (this focus on the most serious dimensions of poverty, such as basic health, adult literacy rate, those without access to viable water sources, and the proportion of children under five who are underweight for the age). High rates of poverty are a contributing factor to the HIV and AIDS pandemic (prevalence in 2005: 4.9 for people between 15 and 49 years old), health problems and food insecurity, all of which present considerable challenges for the RCDRC.

The Democratic Republic of the Congo is at high risk to major disasters. In 2007, more than 10 disasters occurred, including floods, earthquakes, fires, epidemics, and air, railway and road accidents.

The security situation has a direct impact on the humanitarian situation in the Eastern provinces (South, North Kivu and Bas-Congo). Widespread sexual abuse presents a particular challenge in this part of the country. Over 109,590 people have been repatriated in Equateur, Northern Kivu, Southern Kivu and Katanga (data provided by UNHCR) from Zambia and Tanzania. OCHA estimates that over one million people are internally displaced people. In North Kivu, widespread food insecurity has been registered in many villages of Lubero (Luofu, Mbunghavinya and Kitobindo). Food insecurity is likely to threaten other provinces of the country due to climate change. At the beginning of June 2007, an outbreak of haemorrhagic ebola fever occurred in Kampungu and Kaluamba in the district of Luebo/Western Kasai. Meningitis remains a persistent and serious threat.

The activities planned in this programme in 2009-2010 will benefit 5,231,500 people, of which 2,669,100 are female and 254,113 are children under 11 years. These numbers constitute a reference point in the annual planning to assess the measurement and the relevance of the action in favour of the targeted populations. An emphasis will be put on the promotion of women groups, especially cases of sexual abuse and minorities (pygmies) in Equateur, Katanga, Maniema and Bandundu. The prevention of sexual abuse in North and South Kivu is an important component of the 2009-2010 plan. Consequently, National Societies will have to strengthen the capacities of national and local branches, as well as the communities in regions at risk. Although National Societies have a significant number of volunteers, their capacities to provide effective interventions are limited and need to be improved in almost every area – from disaster preparedness to response, including setting up good management practices.

National Society priorities and current work with partners

The overall goal is to ensure that programmes and services of RCDRC are focused on the needs of vulnerable people in the provinces of Equateur, Katanga, Maniema, Bandundu, Bas-Congo, North Kivu, South Kivu, Kinshasa, Eastern and Western Kasai and Province Orientale where the Programme Initiative Congo (PIC) has been implemented. The Federation support to the National Society will focus on the following areas:

Disaster Management (preparedness and response):

The National Society reinforces its capacities of preparedness and response to disasters by prioritizing the training of trainers among volunteers and the members of the communities in the provinces of Equator, Kinshasa, North Kivu, South Kivu and Katanga. Contingency plans will be developed or improved disaster management. Communities will be sensitized on the risks of disasters and involved in managing operations so that they can respond efficiently during disasters

Promotion of basic health and Care:

Community-based first aid, fighting against epidemic and infectious diseases (malaria, cholera, ebola), promotion of voluntary blood donation and breast feeding) according to the priorities defined in the 2010 Strategy, ARCHI 2010, the Ouagadougou Declaration, and the Algiers Plan of Action; ensuring community-based water supply and sanitation, fighting against food insecurity and HIV and AIDS.

Organizational Development:

In the area the Federation's support is focused on building the capacities of the National Society to help it develop financial, structural and institutional capacities so that it delivers better services to vulnerable people. This includes improving the conditions of Red Cross committees and allowing them to respond during disasters, building the capacities of communities to allow them to face disasters, and reinforcing the cooperation within the Red Cross at local and national levels.

Humanitarian Values:

Dissemination of humanitarian values to fight against discrimination toward marginalized groups (pygmies), preventing sexual abuse, and supporting community based micro projects for victims of sexual abuse will be the priorities of this cross-cutting programme. The Federation will support the National Society to enhance the relations with media in the DRC and will promote communication activities such as radio and television broadcasts, and a better use of the Federation existing tools such as the Disaster Management Information System (DMIS).

Partnership

Outside the Red Cross Movement, the National Society relies upon other important partners such as the Government, embassies, International Organizations (GAVI, Global Fund), United Nations agencies, Non-Governmental Organisations (NGO), and humanitarian associations.

4. Profile of partnerships

INSTITUTION	Programme component
ICRC	Operationalization of fundamental principles, reestablishment of family link (RLF), disaster management (preparedness and response); health (Wat/Hab, economic security), capacity building.
German Red Cross	Water and sanitation.
Belgian Red Cross	Operationalization of fundamental principles (humanitarian values) community based health and first aid (prevention of epidemic diseases), water and sanitation.
British Red Cross (DFID)	Disaster preparedness, disaster management planning.
Danish Red Cross	Programme Initiative Congo: water and sanitation (access to drinking water, construction of water wells, public latrines in markets and school, family latrines in Province Orientale, OD capacity building (leadership capacities improvement and legal base development), financial sustainability; operationalization of fundamental principles (victims of sex abuse, pygmies, abandoned children.
Spanish Red Cross	Community based health.
Korean Red Cross	Programme Initiative Congo: water and sanitation.
Swedish Red Cross	Programme Initiative Congo activities : DM planning, community preparedness (VCA), disaster response, prevention of epidemic diseases, water and sanitation (access to drinking water, construction of water wells, public latrines in markets and school, family latrines; Organizational Development capacity building (leadership capacities improvement and legal base development), financial sustainability; operationalization of fundamental principles (victims of sex abuse, pygmies, children).
Irish Red Cross	Community preparedness, disaster management planning.
FEDERATION	Capacity building: trainings, resource mobilization, planning, monitoring and evaluation; disaster management; health (epidemic and water-borne diseases, surveillance and response to epidemic diseases; coordination, advocacy.
GAVI-Health Ministry	Sensitization for vaccination.
Nestlé Suisse	Prevention of epidemic diseases.
Other	International organizations and United Nations Agencies.

Secretariat supported programmes in 2009-2010

Disaster Management

a) The purpose and components of the programme

Programme purpose
Reduce the number of deaths and injuries, and the impact of disasters.

The disaster management programme budget is CHF 1,832,552 (USD 1,675,093 or EUR 1,167,230).

Programme component 1: Organizational preparedness
Component outcome 1: The National Society reinforces its capacities of preparedness and response to disasters by prioritizing the training of trainers among volunteers and members of the communities in the provinces of Equator, Kinshasa, North Kivu, South Kivu and Katanga.

This component will aim at strengthening the capacities of the RCDRC and targeted communities to reduce disaster risk, and render effective and timely response services during disasters. This will be done through pre-positioning relief materials in local Red Cross warehouses in six provinces, setting up

Red Cross provincial response teams and training skilled resources in community based first aid, which will be in charge of training volunteers and preparing them to respond to disasters. These Red Cross teams are provided with materials to efficiently respond during disasters.

Programme component 2: Community preparedness
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Component outcome 1: Improved self-reliance of individuals and communities to reduce their vulnerabilities to public health emergencies and disasters.

The community-based preparedness will be implemented through training provided to 40 communities in six provinces and materials to efficiently respond during disasters. Some 2,750,000 people at community level will be sensitized on the risks of disasters so that they are able to take risk reduction measures and respond to local disasters.

Programme component 3: Disaster Management Planning
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Component outcome 1: Improved ability to predict and plan for disasters to mitigate their impact on vulnerable communities and respond to and effectively cope with their consequences.
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The Federation will support the National Society in strengthening its capacities in developing a disaster response contingency plan to enhance preparedness for disasters such as floods and earthquake. Communities will be sensitized on risks and measures to take for preventing disasters. They are developed in close coordination with Government, United Nations Agencies, and facilitate the contribution to risk reduction in targeted areas. The National Society continues mapping risks in provinces, ensuring community-based disaster management, developing human resource, structural and material resources.

Programme component 4: Food security

Component outcome 1: Food security projects are developed to allow the communities in five communities to reduce their vulnerability

Every vulnerable person identified in targeted communities will be a beneficiary. In emergency situations, beneficiaries will receive emergency kits (food and non-food items).

Component outcome 2: Farmers are trained in agricultural techniques.

Farmers will receive several trainings that will contribute to enhancing their operational capacities. Targeted beneficiaries will always be involved in the design, implementation and monitoring of the programme.
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Component outcome 3: A support is given to vulnerable communities to reduce their vulnerabilities.

Food security projects will be developed: farmers will be trained on agricultural techniques and 500 vulnerable families will be assisted.
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b) Profile of target beneficiaries

Red Cross volunteers and workers, vulnerable communities of 40 local committees and Red Cross committees in the six provinces will benefit directly from this programme.

Health and Care

a) The purpose and components of the programme

Programme purpose

Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
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The health and care programme budget is CHF 5,947,153 (USD 5,436,154 or EUR 3,787, 995).

Programme component 1: Community-based health and first aid.

Component outcome 1: Access to curative and preventive health services are improved in target area.
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Component outcome 2: A water and sanitation network of mother clubs and Red Cross sensitizers is set up.

The activities will aim at improving the health status of people living in rural areas in eight provinces

through increasing access to improved water and sanitation facilities and provision of community-based health and hygiene education by volunteers trained in first aid. It will be made possible through the construction and maintenance of water wells and sources. Red Cross volunteers will assist communities in the maintenance and construction of water wells as well as public and family latrines. A network of mother clubs will be set up to sensitize populations on water and sanitation. In addition, a system of surveillance and early warning, prevention and response against cholera, Ebola and other diseases is set up in five provinces.

Programme component 2: Emergency Health

Component outcome 1: The targeted vulnerable communities improve their knowledge that will enable them to better face up the health disaster challenges.

The Red Cross of the Democratic Republic of the Congo will develop an emergency health contingency plan in the 11 provinces of the country to facilitate the work in this area and train staff and volunteers in emergency health and epidemic control. The Red Cross committees will be equipped with first aid materials. Communities in north and south Kivu will receive materials to respond to health disasters.

b) Profile of target beneficiaries

About 3,000 women will enhance their knowledge of breast feeding and 150,000 direct beneficiaries will benefit from water and sanitation works in eight provinces. Some 2,750,000 people will be reached through sensitization campaigns.

Organizational Development and Capacity Building.

a) The purpose and components of the programme

Programme purpose

Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross and Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.

The organisational development/capacity building programme budget is CHF 1,482,685 (USD 1,355,287 or EUR 944,385).

Programme component 1: Well functioning organization.

Component outcome: The provincial committees of Equator, Kinshasa, North Kivu, South Kivu and Katanga are provided with financial and administrative management tools that will enable them to reinforce and develop their operational capacities.

Programme component 2: Financial sustainability.

Component outcome: The National Society builds its financial, institutional and structural capacities to deliver better quality of services to communities.

Programme component 3: Development of operational alliances.

Component outcome: Through Operational Alliances, the National Society develops good partnership with five Participating National Societies and five organizations at the national and local levels.

b) Profile of target beneficiaries

Direct beneficiaries will be vulnerable community members of 40 local Red Cross committees. The activities will be carried out both in rural and urban areas in accordance with the Red Cross Fundamental Principles. Red Cross volunteers and workers will be the indirect beneficiaries of the programme. They will receive several trainings that will contribute to enhancing their operational capacities.

Principles and Values

a) The purpose and components of the programme

Programme purpose
Promote respect for diversity and human dignity, and reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion.

The principles and values programme budget is CHF 740,342 (USD 676,729 or EUR 471,555).

Programme component 1: Operationalization and internal promotion of fundamental principles and humanitarian values.
Component outcome 1: The Fundamental Principles of the Movement and humanitarian values are well understood within the Red Cross and by population in areas covered by the Programme Initiative Congo.

Programme component 2: External promotion of fundamental principles and humanitarian values.
Component outcome 1: Stigma against female sexual abuse victims is reduced and they benefit from adequate attention in north Kivu, south Kivu.
Component outcome 2: Discrimination against Pygmies is reduced in Bandundu, north Kivu, Maniema, Equateur and Katanga.

b) Profile of target beneficiaries

Some 3,300 women victims of sex abuse and pygmies in five provinces will directly benefit from this programme. Some 500 women will be supported through income generating activities. Red Cross volunteers and workers will be the indirect beneficiaries of the programme. They will receive several trainings that will contribute to enhance their operational capacities. Targeted beneficiaries will always be involved in the design, implementation and monitoring of the programme.

c) Potential risks and challenges

The main challenges which relate to all programmes are the following: the political instability of the country (social unrest, strikes, and public demonstrations); the permanent situation of conflicts in the eastern part of Congo; fluctuation of the United States dollar and the local currency which can cause the under-evaluation of programmes' costs; and the insecurity of aerial transportation related to the lack of reliability of internal air flights.

Role of the secretariat

a) Technical programme support

In 2009-2010, the Federation's representation will assist the National Society in the reinforcement of the present partnership and its diversification through support to operational alliances that have been organized based on Cooperation Agreement Strategies (CAS). These initiatives provide a sound basis for the National Society to fund its community health programmes and better assist targeted vulnerable communities.

b) Partnership development and coordination

The Delegation and the National Society maintain a dynamic partnership especially with the following Participating National Societies (PNS): German, Belgian, and Spanish Red Cross, and ICRC. Other PNSs contribute to programme funding, especially Swedish, Danish, and British Red Cross through DfID. Since 2007, the National Society has reopened discussions with Iran Red Crescent Society and the Greek Red Cross which agreed to fund some activities in the framework of PIC. Relations of partnership also exist with international organizations such as MONUC, UNICEF, WFO, UNHCR, UNDP, Tear Funds, and other diplomatic organizations. The Federation's Representation also undertakes some contacts with other organizations to find funding for National Society's projects GAVI.

Partnership will be reinforced through the Operational Alliance which would include many partners for the four coming years. The Secretariat will play the role of facilitator between the National Society and its partners.

c) Representation and Advocacy

The Federation's representation will carry out activities to directly improve the image of the Federation and the National Society. It will endeavour to promote a better knowledge of Red Cross and ensure visibility among public authorities, the general public and partners in advocating for vulnerable people.

Promoting gender equity and diversity

All programmes will consider gender and equity issues. Women and youth representatives will actively participate in taking decisions in respect of the Red Cross Fundamental Principles.

Quality, accountability and learning

The Federation will support the National Society to develop a monitoring and evaluation mechanism through monthly field narrative reports, financial reports and updates on the progress and challenges encountered during the implementation of activities. In accordance with the Programme Initiative Congo, Red Cross visits will be arranged to ensure that the well-developed branches can share their knowledge and resources with less developed ones.

How we work	
<p>The International Federation's activities are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".</p>	<p>Global Agenda Goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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.
Contact information	
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