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Central Africa Mid-Year Report 2012

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

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12 October 2012

**This report covers the
period: 01 January 2012
to 30 June 2012.**

*In March 2012, the volunteers of the
Congolesse Red Cross distributed basic
non-food items to the people affected by
the explosion of munitions in Brazzaville
— Photo by Congolesse Red Cross*



Overview

At the beginning of 2012, the Central Africa Regional Representation (CARREP) of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) covered only Cameroon, Central African Republic (CAR), Republic of Congo (RoC), Sao Tome & Principe (ST&P), Gabon and Equatorial Guinea. The IFRC's country representation in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) was closed down in April 2012, and the Red Cross of DRC has been attached to CARREP. Subsequently, this 2012 mid-year report also highlights the achievements in DRC during the first half of 2012 and revises CARREP's 2012-2015 long-term planning framework (LTPF) to include the objectives of the Red Cross of DRC for 2012-2015. This notwithstanding, some expenses were made in the DRC appeal code (MAACD001) during the first half of 2012, making it difficult to close the appeal code before the end of 2012. Consequently, a 2012-2015 LTPF for DRC is being prepared and will be published soon; even though it will cover only the first half of 2012 as all the objectives of the Red Cross of DRC are now included in CARREP's LTPF.

The implementation of planned activities was disturbed during the first half of 2012 by the arising of emergency situations such as the explosion of munitions in RoC, the outbreaks of poliomyelitis and yellow fever epidemics in Cameroon, violent winds in CAR, floods in Gabon, and cholera in RoC. DREF operations and an emergency appeal were launched to respond to those situations, some of which are ongoing. Nevertheless, CARREP implemented activities in all of the five business lines identified in its 2012-2015 LTPF.

Business line 1

CARREP's Regional Representative and Regional Programmes Coordinator travelled to Cameroon, CAR, RoC, ST&P, Gabon and DRC to help the respective Red Cross National Societies (NSs) to understand the humanitarian situation in their respective countries and plan response actions. The HIV/AIDS and food security projects currently being implemented in CAR and DRC are examples of such actions that have been planned based on the prevailing humanitarian situation in the countries concerned.

Business line 2

The major projects planned for 2012 have been launched and are going on smoothly. These include the food security project in CAR, the projects to assist DRC and CAR refugees in RoC and Cameroon respectively, the projects to fight against HIV/AIDS in DRC and CAR respectively, and the training of a national disaster response team (NDRT) for the Gabonese Red Cross.

Business line 3

CARREP seized the opportunity of the launching and implementation of emergency operations to provide support to NSs for the development of their strategic development plans (SDP).

Business line 4

CARREP's Regional Representative and Regional Programmes Coordinator travelled to Cameroon, CAR, RoC, ST&P, Gabon and DRC to help the respective NSs to understand the humanitarian situation in their respective countries and to advocate for the strengthening of NSs' auxiliary role to governments. In most cases, this has resulted in NSs being recognized as key partners for humanitarian matters. This was the case in RoC for example after the explosion of munitions in Brazzaville in March 2012. Government acknowledged the Congolese Red Cross as a key partner for the assistance to affected people, and this made it possible for several donors to donate assistance directly to the Congolese Red Cross for the affected populations.

Business line 5

Within the framework of the Coordination of Red Cross NSs in Central Africa, mostly known by its French acronym COSNAC¹, it has been agreed that NSs will be deploying their qualified staffs as regional resource persons to help sister NSs with the implementation of development or emergency operations. It is in this regard that 6 regional resource persons were deployed to strengthen cooperation ties between NSs during the first half of 2012. This external support from sister NSs has increased the visibility of host NSs, encouraging their respective governments and partners to hold them in high esteem.

Working in partnership

Operational Partners	Agreement
United Nations High Commission on Refugees (UNHCR) - Cameroon	A project to assist CAR refugees in the East and Adamaoua regions of Cameroon
UNHCR - RoC	A project to assist DRC refugees in Betou, Northern RoC
United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF)	Support for immunization campaign in CAR
World Food Programme (WFP)	A nutrition project for CAR refugees in East region of Cameroon
World Health Organization (WHO)	Support for immunization campaign in DRC
UNFPA - Gabon	Contribution to a project to fight against HIV/AIDS targeting the youths not attending school and female sex workers
European Commission (ECHO)	Contribution to the Emergency Appeal on Explosion

¹ Coordination des Sociétés Nationales de la Croix-Rouge de l'Afrique Centrale

	in Brazzaville
American Red Cross	Health programme
Danish Red Cross	Health programme
United Kingdom's Department for International Development (DFID)	Disaster Management programme
Finnish Red Cross	Projects to fight against HIV/AIDS in CAR and DRC
Finnish Red Cross (from Finnish Government)	Projects to fight against HIV/AIDS in CAR and DRC
Irish Government	Disaster Management, Health, Organizational Development and Coordination programmes
Japanese Government	A food security project in CAR
Japanese Red Cross	Health and Organizational Development programmes
Organisation pour la Coordination de la lutte contre les endémies en Afrique Centrale (OCEAC) / Projet de prévention du Sida en Afrique Centrale (PPSAC)	A project to fight against HIV/AIDS along the borders of Cameroon, CAR, Chad, RoC and Equatorial Guinea
Standard Diagnostics, Inc	Health programme
USA Embassy in Cameroon	Contribution to the emergency appeal on cholera in Cameroon using the community-led total sanitation approach (CLTS)
Canadian Embassy in Cameroon	Contribution to the emergency appeal on cholera in Cameroon

Progress towards outcomes

Business line 1: Raise humanitarian standards

Outcome 1: CARREP has supported the National Societies of Cameroon, Central African Republic (CAR), Gabon, Republic of Congo (RoC), Equatorial Guinea (EG), Sao Tome & Principe (STP) and DRC to monitor and analyse trends in humanitarian indicators and to use findings to inform their Humanitarian Service Delivery.

Output 1: The humanitarian trends collected in each country are utilised by the corresponding National Society to inform programming.

Measurement			
Outcome indicators	BL	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
1. Number of National Societies covered that have contributed information to help update the regional trend report.	03	07	05
2. Number of National Societies covered that have updated their projects or programmes in accordance with available humanitarian trends in their respective countries.	01	07	04
Output indicators	BL	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
Number of projects/programmes updated taking into consideration existing humanitarian trends.	04	07	05

Comments on progress towards outcomes and outputs

During the first half of 2012, CARREP tried to maintain contact with all of the 7 NSs it covers, and succeeded to get updates on humanitarian trends from five countries, namely Cameroon, CAR, Gabon, RoC and DRC. The information received facilitated the launching of DREF operations in Gabon (Floods), CAR (violent winds), and RoC (cholera outbreak in Betou). An emergency appeal was also launched in RoC to assist more than 3,000 people affected by an explosion of munitions in Brazzaville. The information collected in 2011 in Equatorial Guinea is currently being used to develop a project to assist deaf and dumb children in that country. No specific donor has been identified yet to support that project.

Apart from the Red Cross of CAR that updated their strategic development plan (SDP) in October 2011, the remaining NSs of Central Africa were working with earlier SDPs. During this reporting period, CARREP supported the NSs of Cameroon, Congo Brazzaville and Equatorial Guinea through the finalization of their respective SDPs. Presently, the NSs of Cameroon, CAR and RoC have SDPs for 2012-2015; and the NS of Equatorial Guinea has one for 2012-2014. The NSs of DRC and ST&P have not yet updated their SDPs as the existing ones run from 2009-2013 (DRC) and 2011-2015 (ST&P). The NS of Gabon experienced a serious institutional crisis in 2011, which led to the dissolution of both Governance and management. They are yet to start preparing a SDP, but financial support is needed to that effect.

This 2012 mid-year report is revising the outcome to include the Red Cross of DRC following the closure of IFRC's DRC country representation in April 2012.

Outcome 2: CARREP has contributed information regularly for the establishment of a databank of objectively-analysed National Society capacities, and the National Societies of Cameroon, CAR, Gabon, RoC, DRC, EG and STP have greater self-awareness of their profile at all levels, services, strengths, gaps, and their future potential for boosting their own development.

Output 2: Each National Society of Central Africa has contributed information annually to the databank with support from CARREP.

Measurement			
Outcome indicators	BL	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
1. Number of National Societies that have conducted Strength, weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) analysis.	00	07	02 (CAR & RoC)
2. Number of National Societies covered that have good mastery of their profile.	00	07	02
3. Number of National Societies having information on them in the Africa regional data bank.	00	07	00
Output indicators	BL	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
1. Quality of profile information received from each National Society.	Poor	Good	Acceptable
2. Quantity of profile information received from each National Society.	Little	sufficient	Little

Comments on progress towards outcomes and outputs

SWOT analysis was conducted in CAR and RoC within the framework of the implementation of emergency operations.

A software is being developed by a consultant to facilitate data collection and analysis in NSs. It is expected that this software will be ready by the end of the second half of 2012.

Outcome 3: *CARREP has strengthened the professional qualifications and competences of National Society staff and volunteers at all levels in Cameroon, CAR, Gabon, RoC, DRC, EG and ST&P through mentorship, internship and regional peer network by creating opportunity for training and knowledge-sharing.*

Output 3.1.: The National Societies of Cameroon, CAR, Gabon, RoC, DRC, EG and ST&P are facilitated to share and learn from Peer National Societies in the region and in global forum.

Output 3.2.: The National Societies of Cameroon, CAR, Gabon, RoC, DRC, EG and ST&P are supported to establish linkages with learning institutions for operational research.

Measurement			
Outcome indicators	BL	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
1. Number of training and knowledge-sharing opportunities created.	00	07	01
Output indicators	BL	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
1. Number of sharing and learning opportunities facilitated for each National Society.	00	03	01
2. Number of National Society staff deployed as regional resource persons.	02	07	05
3. Number of linkages supported by CARREP.	00	02	00

Comments on progress towards outcomes and outputs

Business Line 2: Grow Red Cross Red Crescent services for vulnerable people

Outcome 1: *The National Societies of Cameroon, CAR, Gabon, RoC, DRC, EG and ST&P are supported to build-up robust essential disaster preparedness, response, and recovery capacities that also integrate risk reduction measures and enable them to deal predictably and effectively with anticipated disasters and crises.*

Output 1.1: The strategic preparedness capacities of the National Societies of Cameroon, Congo Brazzaville, DRC, CAR, Gabon, Equatorial Guinea and Sao Tome & Principe, and those of vulnerable communities in these countries are strengthened.

Output 1.2: The Red Cross National Societies of Cameroon, Gabon, Congo Brazzaville, DRC, Equatorial Guinea, Sao Tome & Principe and CAR have put in place well-structured disaster management departments, with qualified and well-organized volunteers, through the creation of well-trained national and community disaster response teams (NDRT & CDRT); and a regional disaster response team (RDRT) is trained.

Output 1.3: All the National Societies covered by this plan have updated their risk maps, and their respective communities have a better understanding of disaster risks and threats within their environment and have developed more efficient preventive actions, with special focus on food crisis, climate change and illegal migration.

Output 1.4: The food security capacities of the National Societies of Cameroon, Gabon, Congo Brazzaville, DRC, Equatorial Guinea, Sao Tome & Principe and CAR are strengthened.

Output 1.5: The risks associated with climate change are known and reduced in Cameroon, Gabon, Congo Brazzaville, DRC, Equatorial Guinea, Sao Tome & Principe and CAR through the intervention of their respective Red Cross National Societies.

Output 1.6: In collaboration with their partners within and outside the Movement, the Red Cross National Societies of Cameroon, Gabon, Congo Brazzaville, DRC, Equatorial Guinea, Sao Tome & Principe and CAR have responded effectively and quickly to emergency situations.

Output 1.7: A warehouse is well-managed and enables CARREP to facilitate rapid response to emergency situations by the National Societies of Central Africa.

Output 1.8: CARREP has improved on its human and material resources in order to be able to provide adequate technical and operational support to National Societies.

Output 1.9: The National Societies covered by this plan have received technical support from CARREP's DM department.

Measurement			
Outcome indicators	BL	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
1. Number of National Societies covered that have responded predictably and effectively to disasters and crises.		07	05
Output indicators	BL	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
1. Number of National Societies that are well prepared to manage disasters		07	03 (Cameroon, CAR & Congo Brazzaville)
2. Type of disaster preparedness activities carried out in each National Society.	Development of disaster management (DM) strategic plans (SPs) and contingency plans (CPs)	07 DM SPs and CPs developed; DM matrix developed	The DM matrix of all 07 NSs covered has been updated. The cross border CP for Central Africa has been updated. A draft CP on DRC population movement is being prepared for the NSs of RoC and CAR.
3. Number of National Societies with well-structured disaster management departments.		07	03 (Cameroon, CAR & Congo Brazzaville)

4. Number of NDRTs and CDRTs created.		04 NDRTs and 6 CDRTs	1 NDRT for Gabonese Red Cross
5. Number of RDRT members trained		30	Planned for the second half of 2012
6. Number of National Societies with updated risk maps		07	07
7. Percentage of community members assisted declaring to have better understanding of disaster risks and threats within their environment.		80%	10%
8. Type of preventive actions taken by communities.		Sanitation and sensitization activities in high-risk areas Early alert systems put in place Vulnerability and capacity assessment (VCA) conducted in 07 countries	
9. Number of food security projects implemented in each country with the host National Society.		04	01 in CAR
10. Number of National Societies declaring to have benefited from food security capacity building.		04	01
11. Number of climate change projects implemented in each country with the host National Society.		07	
12. Number of National Societies declaring to know the risks associated with climate change in their respective countries.		07	01
13. Number of emergency situations to which each National Society covered has responded effectively and quickly.		21	05

14. Number of people assisted in emergency situations.		42,000	20,499
15. Number of warehouses maintained by CARREP.		03 (01 in Cameroon, 01 in CAR, and 01 in RoC)	01 in Cameroon and 01 container in RoC
16. Quantity of goods stored in the warehouse.	Relief items for 2,500 families	Relief items for 7,500 families	Relief items for 2,500 families in Yaoundé & relief items for 300 families in RoC
17. Number of people assisted with the goods stored in the warehouse.	2,500 families (12,500 people)	42,000	20,499
18. Number of people working in CARREP's DM department.	01	02	01
19. Results of the performance evaluation of CARREP's DM team.			
20. Number of monitoring missions conducted in each National Society covered.		14	04 (02 in RoC, 01 in CAR, 01 in Gabon)
21. Number of evaluation missions conducted in each National Society covered.		07	02 (01 in RoC and 01 in Gabon)

Comments on progress towards outcomes and outputs

Preparing the NSs of Central Africa to manage disasters is a long-term initiative. The level of preparedness indicated during this reporting period in CAR and RoC NSs was achieved through various interventions to respond to emergency situations such as DREF operations. This means that not all aspects of disaster preparedness have been covered in those two countries; and much more effort is still needed in the remaining 5 countries.

Good disaster management preparedness also implies the development / review of disaster management strategic / contingency plans and disaster management matrixes. So far, most NSs have their contingency plans; but those plans need to be reviewed and updated to match with new disaster management realities and context. During this reporting period, community-based trainings were organized within the framework of the response to emergency situations, and this has contributed to the progressive strengthening of community disaster management capacities.

In an effort to accelerate the restructuring of the Gabonese Red Cross society following the 2011 institutional crisis that led to the dissolution of both governance and management of the NS by the Gabonese Government, CARREP organized a training of a NDRT in Gabon in early January 2012. The disaster management capacities of 20 newly recruited volunteers and executives of that NS were strengthened during that training. A training of the RDRT for Central Africa was planned to take place in March 2012, but was postponed to the second half of 2012 because of limited funding for CARREP's plan.

Each of the 7 NSs of Central Africa has a disaster management department, but most of those departments are composed of 02 people, which is insufficient to enable the NS to respond effectively to disasters. Even

CARREP's DM department is composed of a single lady. It is true CARREP has been using regional resource persons to support the implementation of emergency operations, but there is an urgent need to recruit at least one DM assistant. However, it is difficult to do so because no funding has been received to that effect.

The risk maps of the NSs of Central Africa are constantly changing as new hazards appear almost on a daily basis. A project to reduce the risks of food insecurity is currently being implemented in CAR with financial support from the Japanese Government. An evaluation is planned in RoC during the second half of 2012 within the framework of a project to fight against cassava mosaic, even though funding has not yet been secured to that effect.

The collaboration between the Red Cross and other disaster management actors within the framework of disaster risk reduction was strengthened during this reporting period through the participation of CARREP and the NSs of RoC and Gabon in a regional workshop on disaster risk reduction and management, which was organized by OCHA in Libreville. Most NSs did not take part in that workshop because of financial limitations. Nevertheless, another workshop on the same topic is scheduled to take place in ST&P in September 2012. Hopefully by then more funding will be available to enable all the NSs of Central Africa to participate.

Several emergency situations occurred during the first half of 2012, and DREF and emergency appeal operations were launched to respond in the various countries. Violent winds occurred in CAR twice, and the DREF facilitated the assistance to more than 700 families, i.e. about 3,893 beneficiaries and the strengthening of the capacities of 100 Red Cross volunteers. An explosion of munitions occurred in Brazzaville and an emergency appeal was launched to assist about 15,000 people. It is planned that the disaster management capacities of 200 Red Cross volunteers will be strengthened during the implementation of this emergency appeal. Still in RoC, a cholera outbreak occurred in Betou, and the DREF facilitated the assistance to 99,120 beneficiaries and the strengthening of the capacities of 60 Red Cross volunteers.

Floods occurred in Gabon and the DREF facilitated the assistance to 321 families, i.e. about 1,606 people and the strengthening of the capacities of 20 Red Cross volunteers. CARREP also supported the implementation of the operation to assist CAR refugees in Cameroon (85,000 refugees) and the operation to assist DRC refugees in RoC (about 80,000 refugees). The implementation of those operations contributed to strengthening the disaster management capacities of both the Red Cross local committees concerned and the respective communities. They also helped strengthen cooperation ties between the Red Cross and its partners.

In order to facilitate the implementation of those operations, CARREP maintained a warehouse in Yaoundé. However, it has been noticed that this warehouse needs to be bigger, and that some countries like RoC and CAR need in-country warehouses where relief items will be prepositioned considering the context in those two countries. A warehouse is under construction in RoC with part of the funds received within the framework of the 2012 emergency appeal on Explosion in Brazzaville.

Outcome 2: *Enable healthy and safe living*

Output 2.1: STIs or HIV-positive sex workers have received appropriate treatment in Cameroon, Central African Republic (CAR), DRC and Congo Brazzaville.

Output 2.2: The supply of blood products to national blood transfusion centres is improved and benevolent blood donors have adopted risk-free behaviours.

Output 2.3: Communities in Central Africa are sensitized to the fact that it is free to live with PLWH.

Output 2.4: Red Cross and community volunteers in Central Africa are actively engaged in social mobilization to facilitate immunization campaigns.

Output 2.5: Red Cross and community volunteers in Central Africa are trained on the use of community-based health and first-aid (CBHFA) tools.

Output 2.6: An increased number of children are reached by anti-measles and polio massive immunization campaigns and Expanded Immunization Programmes in Central Africa.

Output 2.7: The populations in Central Africa actually sleep under Long Lasting Impregnated Mosquito Nets (LLIMN), and have access to malaria treatment.

Output 2.8: Female genital mutilations (FGM) are reduced in Cameroon and CAR.

Output 2.9: Excision practitioners have abandoned the practice of female genital mutilations (FGM) in Cameroon and CAR.

Output 2.10: Moderate and acute malnutrition is controlled in refugees and host populations in Cameroon.

Output 2.11: The National Societies of Central Africa have contributed to the prevention and response to epidemics, particularly to cholera in Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea, Congo Brazzaville, DRC and Sao tome & Principe, meningitis in Cameroon and CAR, Ebola in Gabon and Congo Brazzaville, yellow fever in CAR and Cameroon, and Chikungunya in Gabon and Congo Brazzaville.

Output 2.12: An emergency stock of drugs, IEC and protection materials is built up and prepositioned at CARREP level in Yaoundé to be distributed when necessary

Output 2.13: CARREP's Health Department has enough human resources to implement activities as planned.

Output 2.14: The National Societies covered by this plan have received technical support from CARREP's Health department.

Measurement			
Outcome indicators	BL	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
1. Number of people enjoying healthy and safe living.	00	00	00
2. Number of diseases put under control thanks to Red Cross intervention.		10	05
Output indicators	BL	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
1. Number of STI-positive sex workers treated within the framework of Red Cross interventions in the countries covered.		N/A	3,455
2. Number of HIV-positive sex workers treated within the framework of Red Cross interventions in the countries covered.		N/A	421
3. Percentage of STI and HIV-positive sex workers declaring to have received appropriate treatment through Red Cross interventions in their respective countries.		54%	29.55%
4. Quantity of blood donated through Red Cross interventions.			
5. Number of benevolent blood donors sensitized to the importance of adopting risk-free behaviours.			
6. Number of people sensitized.		N/A	4,224

7. Number of immunization campaigns covered.		10	05
8. Immunization coverage rates		95%	96%
9. Number of Red Cross volunteers trained.		10,000	6,000
10. Number of community volunteers trained.		1,000	250
11. Number of training sessions organized.		100	60
12. Number of LLIMN distributed in each country covered.		N/A	2,183 LLIMN were distributed in Brazzaville within the framework of the emergency appeal on Explosion
13. Number of families actually sleeping under LLIMN.		N/A	
14. Number of people having access to malaria treatment in each country covered.			
15. Number of IGA financed			
16. Number of excision practitioners who have abandoned FGM			
17. Number of excision practitioners declaring to have abandoned FGM.			
18. Number of IGA implemented by excision practitioners as an alternative to FGM.			
19. Number of cases of moderate and acute malnutrition controlled.		N/A	00
20. Number of cholera prevention and response projects implemented.		07	03
21. Number of meningitis prevention and response projects implemented.			
22. Number of Ebola prevention and response projects implemented.		2	00
23. Number of yellow fever prevention and response projects implemented.		02	01
24. Number of Chikungunya prevention and response projects implemented			
25. Quality and quantity of items prepositioned at CARREP level in Yaoundé.		Relief items for 2,500 families	Relief items for 2,500 families
26. Number of emergency situations facilitated with this stock		05	04
27. Number of people working in CARREP's Health and Care department.		03	02
28. Results of the performance evaluation of CARREP's Health and Care team.			
29. Number of monitoring missions conducted in each National		02	01

Society covered.			
30. Number of evaluation missions conducted in each National Society covered.		02	01

Comments on progress towards outcomes and outputs

During the first half of 2012, two projects to fight against HIV/AIDS have been launched in DRC and CAR respectively, with financial support from the Finnish Red Cross. The achievements indicated above are for these two countries. 3,455 STI-positive sex workers received treatment, on the basis of 3,052 in DRC and 403 in CAR. 421 people living with HIV (PLHIV) also received treatment, on the basis of 240 in DRC and 101 in CAR. 51% of STI-positive people and PLHIV met in both countries during monitoring missions, i.e. 367 STI-positive people and 654 PLHIV, declared that they have been receiving appropriate treatment. While some Red Cross volunteers oriented STI-positive people to health centres where they received treatment following the syndrome approach adopted in each country, others conducted home visits and coaching of PLWH for the appropriate taking of ARVs. In addition, 4,224 people have been sensitized in DRC and CAR to the fact that it is free to live with HIV.

During the 2012 African football Cup of Nations (ACN) that took place in Gabon and Equatorial Guinea, the Gabonese Red Cross conducted an HIV/AIDS prevention campaign known as "AIDS free ACN". The NS also conducted another campaign to sensitize women and the youths in the out-patient treatment centres of Libreville and Port-Gentil. In February 2012, the Gabonese Red Cross society signed an agreement with UNFPA to sensitize out-of-school children on HIV / STIs and to promote and distribute condoms to populations at risk, including the youths, soldiers and sex workers.

A regional project to fight against STIs and HIV/AIDS, known as PPSAC (Projet de prevention du Sida en Afrique Centrale) is under implementation with financial support from OCEAC. The project extends to 04 countries of Central Africa, namely Cameroon, CAR, Chad, and Congo Brazzaville. The aspect of the project being managed by the International Federation targets professional sex workers in the cities along the main roads to those countries, especially close to borders. The baseline study has just been completed in the various crossroads, and HIV prevention activities are planned to begin during the second half of 2012.

Five immunization campaigns against yellow fever, poliomyelitis and measles were organized in Cameroon and CAR during this reporting period. During those campaigns, Red Cross volunteers conducted intensive social mobilization activities, which resulted in more than 95% immunization coverage rate. The Red Cross of DRC also supported the country's routine expanded immunization programme (EIP) following the signing of an agreement with Government to that effect. The Africa Zone Office and the American Red Cross provided financial support to enable the NSs of Central Africa to contribute effectively to the various immunization campaigns organized in their respective countries.

In order to promote the community-based health and first aid (CBHFA) in action approach and intensify epidemiological surveillance, 60 training sessions were organized, 6,000 Red Cross volunteers and 250 community volunteers were trained in Cameroon, CAR and DRC. The volunteers were also trained on the community-led total sanitation approach within the framework of the DREF and emergency appeal to respond to cholera in RoC, Cameroon and DRC.

A training of trainers on the psychosocial support programme (PSP) was organized in Cameroon and was supported by the Danish Red Cross-based Reference Centre on psychosocial support.

The first half of 2012 also saw the completion of 3 cholera response projects, one in Cameroon, one in CAR and the other in Congo Brazzaville (Betou), with about 1,686,620 people assisted in the various countries.

A DREF operation to respond to yellow fever was implemented in Cameroon, and 1,170,253 people were reached.

CARREP maintained a stock of relief items for 2,500 families, some of which were used during this reporting period to assist people affected by yellow fever and polio in Cameroon, as well as cholera and explosion in RoC.

CARREP had planned to recruit at least a health assistant, but has not been able to do so because of limited funding. However, the limited team conducted a monitoring and evaluation mission to DRC and collected the information that was used to complete a mid-term report on the HIV project for the Finnish Red Cross.

However, some essential activities that were planned for 2012 have not started yet because of lack of funding. This is the case for the nutrition project in Eastern Cameroon in favour of CAR refugees, to be funded by the World Food Programme (WFP). The implementation of malaria and female genital mutilation activities is also pending availability of funds.

Outcome 3: Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace

Output 3.1: Discrimination and social exclusion are reduced, and human dignity is respected in Gabon, Equatorial Guinea, STP, CAR, Cameroon, DRC and Congo Brazzaville.

Output 3.2: Young girls living in areas with low education level in CAR and Cameroon are identified and registered in schools and in vocational training centres, with the approval of their parents.

Output 3.3: Deaf-mute children are empowered in Equatorial Guinea.

Output 3.4: The dignity of old people is respected and their living conditions and management are improved in Sao Tome & Principe.

Output 3.5: Gabonese Government authorities are sensitized and encouraged to develop and implement policies aimed at combating child trafficking, and the populations in Cameroon, Congo Brazzaville, CAR and Equatorial Guinea know the consequences of illegal migration.

Measurement			
Outcome indicators	BL	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
1. Number of social inclusions facilitated.	00	00	00
2. Percentage of beneficiaries declaring to be satisfied with Red Cross intervention.			
Output indicators	BL	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
1. Number of people sensitized.			
2. Number of girls identified.			
3. Number of girls registered in school.			
4. Number of girls registered in vocational training centres.			
5. Quality and quantity of school kit distributed.			
6. Number of IGA supported.			

7. Number of deaf-mute children identified and registered in schools.			
8. Number of deaf-mute children registered in specialized vocational training schools			
9. Type of support provided to specialized schools for deaf-mute people.			
10. Number of old people identified and assisted.			
11. Type of support provided to specialized houses for old people.			
12. Number and quality of people attending a conference on child trafficking in Gabon.			
13. Number of meetings with government officials on child trafficking.			
14. Number of anti-illegal migration campaigns organized.			

Comments on progress towards outcomes and outputs

The activities planned under this outcome were treated as cross-cutting issues. As such, all opportunities, particularly emergency operations, were seized to promote the culture of peace and non-violence. In addition, activities to promote the fundamental principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement were carried out within the framework of emergency operations in Cameroon, Gabon, RoC and CAR during the first half of 2012. Moreover, a sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) aspect has been included in the operation to assist DRC refugees in RoC, and the activities related thereto are implemented and will continue routinely throughout the lifespan of the operation. For example, 41 victims of violence were assisted in RoC within the framework of that operation from January to June 2012. The volunteers and staff involved in emergency operations are constantly briefed on the Code of Conduct.

Business Line 3: Strengthen the specific Red Cross Red Crescent contribution to development

Outcome: *CARREP has scaled up systematic effort to build-up the leadership and institutional capacities of the National Societies of Cameroon, CAR, Gabon, RoC, DRC, EG and ST&P to extend their sustainability and the reach and quality of their services.*

Output 1.1: The National Societies of Cameroon, CAR, Gabon, RoC, DRC, EG and ST&P have each developed a long-term Strategic Development Plan (SDP).

Output 1.2: The National Societies of Cameroon, CAR, Gabon, RoC, DRC, EG and ST&P have developed short-term implementation plans of their respective SDP.

Output 1.3: The National Societies of Cameroon, CAR, Gabon, RoC, DRC, EG and ST&P have implemented programmes that contribute to achieving the aims of IFRC Strategy 2020 Development Agenda.

Measurement			
Outcome indicators	BL	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
1. Number of National Societies supported by CARREP.	00	07	07
2. Number of long-term development projects/programmes developed and implemented by National Societies covered.			05

Output indicators	BL	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
1. Number of National Societies having developed long-term SDPs.		07	07
2. Number of National Societies having developed short-term implementation plans of their respective long-term SDPs.		07	04
3. Number of National Societies' SDPs aligned with Strategy 2020.		07	04
4. Number of programmes implemented by National Societies to achieve the aims of IFRC Strategy 2020.			05
5. The aims of Strategy 2020 to which each programme has contributed.			1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disasters and crises 2. Enable healthy and safe living 3. Promote social inclusion and culture of non-violence and peace

Comments on progress towards outcomes and outputs

Generally speaking, all the NS of Central Africa received support from CARREP during the first half of 2012 for their development. This was mainly achieved through the implementation of medium to long-term projects, as well as emergency operations. These opportunities were seized to strengthen the functioning, structural, operational and institutional capacities of the NS concerned. For example, CARREP strengthened the restructuring process in RoC, and strengthened PMER capacities in RoC, Cameroon and CAR during missions to monitor ongoing operations and projects such as the assistance to CAR refugees in Cameroon, DRC refugees in RoC, food security in CAR, HIV/AIDS projects in CAR and DRC, explosion in RoC, and various DREF operations within the sub region.

Business Line 4: Heighten Red Cross Red Crescent influence and support for our work

Outcome 1: *The development of the auxiliary partnership role of the National Societies of Cameroon, CAR, Gabon, RoC, DRC, EG and ST&P is further supported to enable these National Societies to gain greater access and resources from their respective national governments.*

Output 1.1: The auxiliary role of the National Societies of Cameroon, CAR, Gabon, RoC, DRC, EG and ST&P is promoted through enhanced branding and public image.

Output 1.2: IDRL guidelines are incorporated into country DP/DRR policies.

Measurement

Outcome indicators	BL	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
1. Number of National Societies covered having experienced an increase in the support from their respective national governments.	00	00	00
2. Number of National Societies covered that are perceived as good humanitarian partners by their respective national governments.			06
Output indicators	BL	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
1. Number of advocacy missions conducted		07	05
2. Number of National Societies recognized as key humanitarian partners by their respective governments.		07	06
3. Number of National Societies that have contributed to the revision of their country DP/DRR policies		07	02
4. Number of country DP/DRR policies updated to incorporate IDRL guidelines.			

Comments on progress towards outcomes and outputs

During the first half of 2012, CARREP's Regional representative and Regional Programmes Coordinator seized the opportunity of their missions to NSs to intensify advocacy before the governments of RoC, CAR, Gabon and Sao Tome & Principe for the actual recognition of the auxiliary role of Red Cross NSs in those countries. As a result of that advocacy activity, the governments of RoC and Cameroon and CAR now consider their local NSs as key humanitarian partners. This was perceived in the response to explosion in RoC, the revision of the Cameroon's national disaster response plan in Cameroon, and the response to emergency situations in CAR (violent winds).

Outcome 2: *The resource mobilisation capacities of the National Societies of Cameroon, CAR, Gabon, RoC, DRC, EG and ST&P are strengthened to inspire more reliable contributions to their humanitarian projects and programmes.*

Output 2.1: The financial management capacities of the National Societies of Cameroon, CAR, Gabon, RoC, DRC, EG and ST&P are improved.

Output 2.2: Domestically generated resources for each of the 7 National Societies covered by this plan have increased by 50%.

Measurement			
Outcome indicators	BL	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
1. Number of new partnerships established	00	00	00
2. Number of projects/programmes funded within the framework of newly established partnerships			
Output indicators	BL	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual

1. Number of manuals revised			03 (Cameroon, CAR & RoC)
2. Number of procedures manuals developed			03
3. Availability of an harmonized procedures manual for the National Societies of Central Africa			The manual is available and shared with NSs
4. Number of training sessions held and quality of trainees			
5. Number of projects/programmes funded locally in each country			
6. Percentage of increase compared to baseline information			

Comments on progress towards outcomes and outputs

During this reporting period, CARREP continued to support the resource mobilization efforts of its member NSs. A dialogue was established with the Korean Embassy in Cameroon, and discussions are underway for the funding of an integrated food security and health project in Eastern Cameroon. A concept note to that effect has been submitted to the Korean Embassy and their feedback is awaited.

In addition, discussions are underway with the Russian Embassy in Cameroon, which also covers Equatorial Guinea, for the funding of a project to assist deaf-mute children through the extension of an existing Red Cross school for deaf-mute children in Malabo and the construction of an additional school with the same specialization in Bata, Equatorial Guinea. The project is currently being finalized and will be submitted to the Russian Embassy soon.

Another integrated food security and health project (concept note) was developed by Cameroon Red Cross and submitted to the American Red Cross with support from CARREP.

Some NSs such as the Red Cross of DRC succeeded in mobilizing local funds for their projects. In fact, the Red Cross of DRC signed agreements with the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF) to implement epidemic control actions (cholera, poliomyelitis, measles, etc.).

Outcome 3: A strong positive projection of our image, brand, and messaging is ensured to enable external partners to know us better, trigger fuller utilisation of our potential and allow an expansion of access, space, and market share for Red Cross Red Crescent actions in Cameroon, CAR, Gabon, RoC, DRC, EG and ST&P through a concerted effort in coordination and networking with all Key Stakeholders.

Output 3.1: The National Societies of Cameroon, CAR, Gabon, RoC, DRC, EG and ST&P take a progressive leading role in sectoral coordination within the International Community in their respective countries.

Output 3.2: The National Societies of Cameroon, CAR, Gabon, RoC, DRC, EG and ST&P progressively engage with local corporate to promote their image and brand as the choice partner for Corporate Social Responsibility funds.

Measurement			
Outcome indicators	BL	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
1. Number of new partners willing to or actually working with the Red Cross in Central Africa	00	00	03 (Governments of Korea, Japan)

			and Russia)
2. Number of projects submitted to partners upon their own request			03
3. Number of projects/programmes funded by new partners			01
Output indicators	BL	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
1. Number of National Societies covered that have coordinated at least one sector of humanitarian intervention in their respective countries at least once			04
2. Number of international bodies that have worked with the Red Cross National Societies of Central Africa and acknowledge them as leading partners in their respective countries			UN agencies ECHO RBM
3. Number of partnerships established with local corporate			
4. Contributions of corporate social responsibility funds to the budgets of the National Societies of Central Africa			

Comments on progress towards outcomes and outputs

The Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement is progressively gaining an improved image in Central Africa. This can be perceived in the fact that some NSs such as the Cameroon, CAR and RoC Red Cross societies are progressively taking the lead in humanitarian action in their respective countries, especially in the areas of social mobilization and relief. In Cameroon, the NS is considered by government as a key partner for any successful immunization campaign. In RoC, government allocated the management of the sites of the populations displaced by the March 2012 explosion to the Congolese Red Cross. As a result of this confidence inspired by government, most donors have supported the operation by donating directly to the Congolese Red Cross.

Business Line 5: Deepen our tradition of togetherness through joint working and accountability

Outcome 1: Update and strengthen harmonious working by sharing capacities and resources, and building alliances and partnerships that maintain unity and achieve higher value from our work together as a Movement.

Output 1.1: The National Societies of Cameroon, CAR, Gabon, RoC, DRC, EG and ST&P and Movement partners establish a new MoU and National Society-led coordination platform.

Output 1.2: The National Societies of Cameroon, CAR, Gabon, RoC, DRC, EG and ST&P take a progressive leading role in sectoral coordination within the Movement.

Measurement			
Outcome indicators	BL	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
1. Number of National Society staff deployed to assist other National Societies	00	00	05
2. Number of agreements signed between National Societies and other Movement partners			

Output indicators	BL	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
1. Number of MoUs signed			
2. Number of National Society-led coordination platforms established		07	03
3. Number of National Societies covered that have coordinated at least one sector of humanitarian intervention in their respective countries at least once		07	04
4. Number of Movement partners that have worked with the Red Cross National Societies of Central Africa and acknowledge them as leading partners in their respective countries		07	04

Comments on progress towards outcomes and outputs

Movement coordination meetings have been instituted and take place regularly in Cameroon, CAR, DRC and RoC. Such meetings are presided over by the respective NSs and serve as a forum to celebrate the key role of the NS for Movement intervention within the country. For example, the Congolese Red Cross is responsible for the operational management of all five sites of people displaced by the explosion in Brazzaville, and are supported in that work by the French Red Cross and the International Federation.

Partner national societies (PNS), ICRC and IFRC are all present and work in close collaboration with NSs in Cameroon (French Red Cross, Spanish Red Cross, ICRC, IFRC), in CAR (French Red Cross, Spanish Red Cross, ICRC, IFRC), in RoC (French Red Cross, ICRC, IFRC), in DRC (French Red Cross, Spanish Red Cross, Belgium Red Cross, Italian Red Cross, Iranian Red Crescent, ICRC, IFRC).

Outcome 2: *Keep up to date effective management structures, that bring the secretariat in Central Africa closer to Movement Partners, and modernise key business processes that impact on cost effectiveness, efficiency, and accountability with priority to: (a) planning and budgeting; (b) human resources development.*

Output 2.1: The National Societies of Cameroon, CAR, Gabon, RoC, DRC, EG and ST&P actively participate in COSNAC (Coordination des Sociétés Nationales de la Croix-Rouge de l'Afrique Centrale) and other regional network meetings with support from CARREP.

Outcome 3: Support the establishment of a Federation-wide planning and reporting system that fosters joint responsibility through mutual accountability and good governance at all levels, and shows partners, donors and the public that we are an effective, accountable, and trustworthy market leader.

Output 3.1: The National Societies of Cameroon, CAR, Gabon, RoC, DRC, EG and ST&P are supported to establish strong and effective PMER units.

Output 3.2: The National Societies of Cameroon, CAR, Gabon, RoC, DRC, EG and ST&P provide quality reports on time to all major donors with assistance of PMER officers in each National Society.

Measurement			
Outcome indicators	BL	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
1. Number of training sessions organized	00	00	01
2. Number of learning and experience sharing missions facilitated			

Output indicators	BL	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
1. Number of COSNAC meetings organized			
2. Number of National Societies attending each COSNAC meeting			
3. Number of regional network meetings attended by the National Societies of Central Africa			

Comments on progress towards outcomes and outputs

During the first half of 2012, CARREP monitored the implementation of the recommendations of the last COSNAC meeting. Information sharing was intensified and telephone and email discussions facilitated the resolution of some problems. The annual COSNAC meeting is scheduled to take place in November 2012. It is planned that the Secretary General of the Red Cross of Sao Tome, who is new in the post, will embark on an experience sharing mission during the second half of 2012.

Outcome 3: Support the establishment of a Federation-wide planning and reporting system that fosters joint responsibility through mutual accountability and good governance at all levels, and shows partners, donors and the public that we are an effective, accountable, and trustworthy market leader.

Output 3.1: The National Societies of Cameroon, CAR, Gabon, RoC, DRC, EG and ST&P are supported to establish strong and effective PMER units.

Output 3.2: The National Societies of Cameroon, CAR, Gabon, RoC, DRC, EG and ST&P provide quality reports on time to all major donors with assistance of PMER officers in each National Society.

Measurement			
Outcome indicators	BL	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
1. Number of National Societies that use a logical framework approach for planning	00	07	07
2. Number of National Societies that have used long-term plans		07	05
3. Number of PMER trainings organized			
4. Number of baseline studies and/or vulnerability and capacity assessments (VCA) conducted in each country covered			
Output indicators	BL	Annual Target	Year to Date Actual
1. Number of National Societies having a PMER Unit		07	02
2. Number of PMER units functioning well		03 (Cameroon , CAR and RoC)	00
3. Quality of reports submitted by National Societies		Good	Acceptable
4. Number of reports submitted in time		All	01 (RoC)

5. Number of reports prepared by National Society PMER officers		All	00
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Comments on progress towards outcomes and outputs

During the first half of 2012, CARREP's PMER unit seized the opportunity of ongoing operations to train NS staff following the on-the-job training approach. As such, NS programme officers were trained on how to develop and use monitoring and evaluation plans, as well as work plans. This facilitated the implementation of targeted projects; but the critical issue was with the reporting. Reporting at NS level remained very low mostly because none of the NSs in Central Africa has a PMER unit. Apart from the Red Cross of DRC that has a Reporting Officer, all the remaining NSs of Central Africa do not have someone for PMER. Consequently, reports are written by NS programme coordinators, and at times by secretary generals themselves, and submitted long after the deadlines, in most cases after several reminders from IFRC.

As a result of the support provided by CARREP's PMER unit, the quality of reports from NSs is improving, but it would have been better if NSs had their own PMER personnel, or at least a reporting officer each. PMER trainings were planned during this reporting period, but could not take place because of limited funding. The ideal solution to PMER development in NSs of Central Africa will include supporting the recruitment and training of PMER staff for NSs. The technical support needed is available within the region, but the financial support is not there.

Stakeholder participation and feedback

The community-based health and first-aid (CBHFA) approach in action was used when implementing all health activities described in this report. This ensured increased participation of communities and beneficiaries during planning and implementation phases. In fact, this approach was used in the operations to respond to cholera in Cameroon, CAR and RoC, as well as in the response to poliomyelitis and yellow fever in Cameroon. Our HIV/AIDS projects are currently being updated to include the use of this approach.

In disaster management, most activities carried out were in response to emergency situations. The actions were planned in collaboration with the beneficiaries through rapid needs assessment. The beneficiaries of the various emergency operations have expressed their gratitude to the Red Cross for the assistance received.

Key Risks or Positive Factors

Key Risks or Positive Factors	Priority High Medium Low	Recommended Action
Delayed response to LTPF	H	The Zone Office or Geneva to help CARREP mobilize funding to implement its activities
Programmes departments understaffed	H	The Zone Office or Geneva to help CARREP identify partners willing to support programmes positions such as DM assistant, Health assistant, PMER assistant and Communications Officer in Central Africa.
Insecurity within the region	M	Need to closely monitor the situation in DRC and CAR.

Lessons learned and looking ahead

The main lesson learned during this reporting period is that agreements should be signed at the end of the year or early in the next year to enable activities to start in January or in February latest. Apart from the HIV/AIDS projects in CAR and DRC, and the food security project in CAR, the other activities implemented were emergency response operations. The operations to assist CAR refugees in Cameroon and DRC refugees in RoC started very late in the year as agreement were not signed until April. The project to prevent HIV/AIDS in Central Africa (PPSAC) started in May because of the rather too long agreement signing process (it took several years). For the next six months, CARREP will focus on those projects that have been funded while continuing to mobilize funding for the remaining projects for next year if not for the second half of 2012.

Financial situation

The total 2012 budget was CHF 5,589,077. This budget was revised down to CHF 3,682,735 in April 2012 considering discussions with potential donors.

[Click here to go directly to the financial report.](#)

How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations \(NGOs\) in Disaster Relief](#) and the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

www.ifrc.org
Saving lives, changing minds.



The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of nonviolence and peace.

Find out more on www.ifrc.org

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