

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

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO AND REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

17 July 2002

The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilising the power of humanity: it is the world's largest humanitarian organisation and its millions of volunteers are active in 178 countries. For more information: www.ifrc.org

Appeal No. 01.06/2002

Appeal Target: CHF 3,761,809 (USD 2.59m/EUR 2.56m). Programme Update No. 1; Period covered: January-April 2002.

"At a Glance"

Appeal coverage: 18.8%

Related Appeals: Volcanic Eruption in Goma (Appeal 02/2002); Central Africa regional programmes; (Appeal 01.05/2002)

Outstanding needs: CHF 3,056,452 (USD 2.10m/EUR 2.08m)

Update: During the reporting period, the Federation, upon the request of the Democratic of Congo Red Cross conducted a Needs Assessment Mission (NAM) in DRC. The needs in the Democratic of Congo are so great that the Movement must do more. The findings of the assessment mission will be shared at a later stage.

OVERVIEW

A major feature in the development of the political situation in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), was the inter-Congolese dialogue, which began on 25 February at Sun City in South Africa. Chances to achieve a greater degree of stability or even an end to the war have significantly improved over the last couple of months. Troops in various parts of the country have disengaged, and there has been an overall decrease in the intensity of military clashes and operations.

In the Republic of Congo (ROC), the first quarter was marked in March by the presidential elections with the re-election of the current President. Recent violent conflicts in April in the Pool region northwest of the capital, Brazzaville, are worrisome and a degradation of the already precarious situation is feared.

DRC has become one of the poorest countries in the world, ranking 150 out of 174 in regards to income per capita. It is among the world's most disaster prone countries facing man-made and natural disasters such as floods, epidemics, volcanic eruptions, constant internal conflict, malnutrition and economic collapse. Since 1997, there have been an estimated 2.5 million violence related deaths. The humanitarian situation in the eastern part of DRC has continued to deteriorate and continues to be affected by war. Millions of people have only rags or nothing to wear, little or no food, children have no access to education or health care, and people have been forced out of their homes into the wilderness. Close to 70 % of the children in the occupied

territories have not been able to go to school at all, and the educational system is in an acute crisis. Most schools have no books, and teachers are paid a few dollars a month taken from contributions from parents.

In the east of the DRC, a modest estimation is that 180,000 have been displaced by war and politico-military risks solely related to the strategic position of the city of Goma, the capital of North Kivu Province which sits on the border with Rwanda, and has the only international airport in eastern Congo. The eruption of the volcano Nyirangongo in January in Goma (North Kivu), and then cholera outbreaks in Katanga have contributed to the hardship of a people already worn out by war, civil strife, increasing poverty, problems of malnutrition and an economic breakdown since 1997.

Red Cross/Red Crescent Action

The activities defined in the appeal were undertaken in line with the financial means received. Certain objectives were only partially achieved, while others are still pending further financial contributions. Additional activities were extended to respond to flooding in the town of Loukolela in the region of the Cuvette in the northeast of RoC; the outbreak of Ebola in the region bordering with Gabon, the volcanic eruption in Goma (eastern DRC), and during the recent conflict in the Republic of Congo (RoC) where the Federation undertook an evaluation with the ICRC of the most affected communities in the Pool region. With the current situation, the ICRC's lead role has taken over once again and the Federation will concentrate on organisation development and the health programmes.

The two National Societies conducted planned activities in the four areas defined in Strategy 2010, and others relating to the specific objectives of both of the National Societies. Thanks to their proximity and the Federation delegations covering both countries, there was a notable increase in the exchange and support between the two National Societies.

The Federation delegation of the Congos with support from the Regional Delegation (DRAC-Yaounde) has focused its support on key programmes regarding organisational development, health, ARCHI, disaster preparedness (DP) and humanitarian values. In February, the Federation also assisted the Congolese Red Cross (CRC) to move into its newly refurbished national headquarters. The Federation has rented space within the premises for its Brazzaville office so that the National Society can allocate this revenue towards covering core costs.

Lessons learned over the first quarter of 2002:

- The Federation's presence is regarded by both Congos National Societies as essential, there is a desire for collaboration, and a real will to invest in the implementation of the National Societies' programmes despite the financial difficulties.
- Tangible attitude change is demonstrated, and a will for improvement has been noted in both the National Societies. Regular meetings of the components of the Red Cross Movement permit an exchange of experience and harmonisation of the viewpoints of the National Societies, the ICRC and the Federation in the exercise of the mandates.
- The collaboration strengthens the links between staff and volunteers in the RoC and the DRC, as well as enhances the image of the Movement.

Even with little financial means, the Federation delegation has maximised the impact and support in interventions of the two National Societies, at first with the occurrence of the volcanic eruption, with population movement in the east of the DRC and then with conflicts north of the Congo. Baring in mind that during the last year the financial support to the Congo Red Cross (CRC) has been reduced to a minimum, and CRC has successfully shifted its efforts and is concentrating on establishing good partnerships with both the Government and United Nations agencies such as UNFPA, WHO, UNICEF, MSF, etc.

Operational development

The two National Societies have conducted several activities in the four areas defined in Strategy 2010 and others relating to the mission of a National Red Cross/Red Crescent Society. The Federation has done everything in its power to maximise the impact of the interventions of the two National Societies in the wake of the disasters occurring in the east of the DRC and the north of the Congo. The region of Central Africa is

concentrating all its efforts towards Disaster Preparedness and Disaster Response and is planning a 9 day workshop with the support of the Disaster Management Co-ordination Team from Geneva in the field later on in the year. This will reinforce the regional response team of the region to respond to the numerous disasters of all sorts constantly affecting the region.

Needs Assessment Mission (NAM) - Overall objectives of the Review

The current situation in the country, raised expectations on the development of the overall situation in the DRC and the hope for some stability. With the momentum of the National Society's new leadership, the DRC Red Cross has requested the International Federation to assist it in assessing the humanitarian challenges and options it will face especially in relation to rehabilitation at community level. In particular assistance has been requested regarding, rehabilitation of family households, water and sanitation needs and community based health structures.

The mission is defining the capacities of the National Society, and will clarify the training needs to enable the DRC Red Cross to prepare itself for the above mentioned involvement in rehabilitation.

Based on the characteristics of a well functioning National Society, the mission will assist the DRC Red Cross to design a technical rehabilitation programme, and identify capacity building blockages and opportunities. The National Society will define its institutional capacity (foundation, mission, legal base); its resources (human, financial and material); and, its past and current performance (activities, relevance, efficiency) and identify which of the branches visited offers the best possibilities to fulfil a pilot function in view of reconstructing the capacities of the DRC Red Cross.

The NAM team is visiting Kinshasa, town and province, Mbuji-Maji, Mbandaka, Lubumbashi and Goma. In early January the team visited the first four towns but due to the Goma volcanic eruption in mid-January it had to short-circuit the mission and undertake it again in April.

Specific objectives of NAM are :

- Identification of the number of branches that have sufficient capacities to serve as pilot branches in view of the development of the branch network.
- To come up with a plan of action, focusing on the training needs of the National society at headquarters level and at the level of the selected branches.
- To prepare them in terms of project planning, implementation, monitoring, management and evaluation.
- Identifying the various options the NS will have to support rehabilitation at community level if and when possible.

The Federation will support the DRC Red Cross with developing relevant programmes to address capacity building in the short term and drawing up plans for future rehabilitation programmes in the mid-term. The Federation will assist the National Society with defining its options to participate in rehabilitation programmes whenever possible in order to guarantee continuity of the Movement actions and to ensure that the DRC Red Cross builds credibility amongst the Congolese population, as well as the authorities in its activities in the future.

Organisational development

In line with the recommendations of PriceWaterhouse Coopers (part of the Tripartite project plan for support), the newly elected committee of the DRC Red Cross has been focusing on the Society's change process and the Federation has supported the DRC Red Cross with setting-up proper financial management, reporting systems, internal and external transparency, reinforcing relationship between governance and management, and the restructuring of headquarters in Kinshasa. The Society had to revisit the staffing situation, focus on a leaner and more efficient resources base, and senior staff have been recruited based of their experience and qualifications. Following the Provincial Assemblies, newly elected members are putting the same process in place new branch committees.

The capacities of the National Society have certainly improved at headquarters level with the arrival of a committed president actively promoting the Red Cross Principles, and a Secretary General who has the potential to be an effective manager. Both are increasingly working together for a clear role and to guarantee full cohesion within the governance and management teams of the DRC Red Cross.

The overall management capacities at provincial and urban branch levels must be strengthened. This is part of the priority of the NAM currently taking place in DRC. The provincial elections that were held in preparation of the General Assembly, largely replaced a group of leaders with poor capacities by a new team of more dynamic, better motivated and better trained committee members with encouraging potential to succeed in a serious capacity building effort of the national society. They need sustained and well structured training and, particularly hands-on, on the job training to fully benefit from such a programme. The effort will start with in the committees defined by the NAM findings.

Democratic Republic of Congo

Organizational Development - original objectives and results achieved

Objective 1: Promote and ensure well-functioning governance and management

Activities carried out

- A recruitment and selection commission was set up and has been busy sorting the applications received to organise tests and interviews with candidates. The positions needed are : Head of the Administrative and Finance Department; the Head of the Organisational Development Department and the Head of the Gender and Development Department.
- Training of management and of newly recruited staff, of the technical staff and volunteers in the provinces of North Kivu (Goma), Western Province (Kisangani) and South Kivu (Bukavu). A team composed of representatives of the 3 components of the Movement undertook this training in March 2002.

Objective 2: Train 25 central administration personnel in information technology with a view to strengthening the operational capacity of the National Society's human resources.

Activities carried out

- Introductory course in information technology for the 20 staff members of the General Secretariat, the management headquarters in Kinshasa.
- Continue running and monitoring the literacy programme for women Red Cross volunteers in the communes of Bandalungwa and Ndjili at Kinshasa.

Objective 3: Initiate and seek funding in the micro-projects sector focusing on nutritional self-reliance. Strengthen the national society financial and material capacity at the provincial and national levels.

Democratic Republic of Congo

Activities carried out

- Preparation of two self-financing micro-projects in the food sector in the Kinshasa district. These micro-projects involve the establishment of a restaurant and a terrace and planting food crops at Kamba-Mulumba.
- The management committee has received 16 proposed micro-projects for examination and approval. One of these is the planting of bamboo, not only for revenue generation but for disaster prevention during land slides which occur regularly in capital. Bamboo is an excellent land holder.
- Installation of proper accounting software. In February, the Federation delegation made contact with PriceWaterhouse Coopers to ask for advice on software so the DRC RC has an appropriate accounting data base and may produce balance sheet and other tools for the National Society.
- The delegation assisted the National Society in setting up and maintaining reliable management and financial control systems.
- Maintenance of the radio network. The radio operator undertook missions to Kinshasa to check the whole communications system, maintain the radio network and make an inventory of equipment.

Republic of Congo

Activities carried out:

- Installation and maintenance of reliable management and financial control systems, the Federation assisted the Congolese Red Cross in setting up and maintaining reliable management and financial control systems.

- In January, the Federation moved its office within the premises of the NS allowing this revenue to cover the CRC to cover some of its core costs.

Objective 4: Facilitate the organization of the 12 regional and communal assemblies in the Republic of Congo.

Activities carried out:

- Visits to the provincial and communal committees. The Federation assisted the CRC in training the teams that were to visit the provinces and the communes for the regional and communal assemblies. These teams also included representatives of the ICRC.
- Renewal of the Red Cross executive and communal bureaux.

Objective 5: Encourage and continue to involve young people in carrying out Red Cross activities.

Democratic Republic of Congo

Activities carried out:

- Capacity building. In February in partnership with the ICRC, three training sessions were held in Community Based First Aid (CBFA). The first was held in Yalusaka in the province of Equateur for 65 Red Cross volunteers from Mondombe and Yalusaka. The second was undertaken for 53 combat stretcher-bearers of the 221st Infantry Battalion in Equateur, and the third in Kananga, in the province of Western Kasai for 20 instructors.

ARCHI/Disaster preparedness

Background and progress to date and additional disaster

Climatic conditions have been unfavourable in recent years with severe flooding in the most affected areas (e.g. Mbandaka, Kinshasa, Mbuji-Mayi) halting harvest cycles and reducing considerably the amount of arable land. Homes as well as administrative and public health buildings, situated along the rivers Congo, Oubangui, Likouala and Sangha, have been destroyed, leading to, yet again, population movements, malnutrition, significantly increased disease risks in the area.

The city of Goma, is subject to a number of threats that make it a high risk area. The presence of several active volcanoes, all part of the Virunga chain with Nyiragongo and Nyamulagira known for their frequent episodes of activity and very fluid type of lava. Nyiragongo poses the biggest threat to Goma since lava flows can be expected not only to reach the city of Goma but could actually start inside the city leaving very little time for evacuation once an eruption has started. Frequent tectonic activity, related to the presence of the volcanoes with magma searching for a way out creates tension and pressure and is related to a process of ongoing rift formation in the area. Goma is sitting on the epicentre of this activity.

There is presence of large quantities of methane and carbonic gasses at the bottom of lake Kivu. While the concentration of these gasses is well below critical level, a major earthquake inside the lake could create a situation where gasses accumulate under water and the pressure is so strong that it virtually flips over the water and is released en masse. Once released, these gasses could either ignite (methane) and create a massive explosion that could destroy the city or could force out the oxygen and asphyxiate the population with a release of carbon dioxide gasses, similar to events that took place in Cameroon several years ago. The Federation DR Congo & Rwanda Volcanic Eruption in Goma operation will continue to focus on support for the next twelve months in Goma and on the Rwanda side and concentrate on Disaster Preparedness, Capacity Building and reinforcement of the Kivu branch of the DRC Red Cross, (*please refer to Appeal 02/2002 on the Federation website for more information*).

Affecting both Congos, the River Congo Basin in recent years, were flood waters have reached levels rarely seen. Areas which had previously been unaffected by floods are now being partially or totally submerged. Although the riparian populations are used to this phenomenon, it is difficult for them to cope with current conditions and they are exposed to many risks connected with the rising water levels. The impact of the flooding on the most vulnerable populations can be summed up as follows: systematic destruction of homes; loss of some personal items and effects; loss of harvests and destruction of agricultural land; significant

increase in diseases currently found in the area (malaria, respiratory diseases, diarrhoea illnesses, skin diseases).

During the recent disasters (floods in Kinshasa, Loukolela (RoC), Mbandaka and Mbuji-Mayi, population movements in the eastern part of DRC, airport and fire disaster in Kinshasa), the national societies have been providing immediate emergency responses in terms of assistance and evacuation of victims, distribution of food and non-food items to meet the needs for the vulnerable population.

The DRC Red Cross is working on a disaster preparedness and response programme (DP/DR) in its branches, providing first-aid training and refresher courses, as well as supplying first-aid kits and other equipment. With the Federation's assistance, the Community Disaster Preparedness Programme (CBDP) approach will gradually be introduced to a larger number of branches. Through the process, these branches will develop a better understanding of the hazards in their communities and will have acquired the skills to engage in further CBDP in other provinces once conditions permit. Communities, specifically those who live in these risk zones, will be the direct beneficiaries. The local Red Cross role will be to coach communities in identifying risks and addressing them using local solutions.

The Goma Red Cross branch played a key role in the identification and registration of beneficiaries of the Nyirangongo disaster. The branch provided distribution to 6,500 families affected by the eruption, with a basic reinstallation package (sheeting, soap, kitchen set, jerrycans and blankets). At the RC headquarters in Kinshasa the cellular phone company, CELTEL, provided funds to help the 6,500 families with clothing and repairs of a damaged school building.

Disaster preparedness - original objectives and results achieved

Objective 1: Train leaders of the existing provincial teams to draw up maps of risk zones in the non-occupied territories of the DRC, for the purpose of disaster planning and management.

Activities carried out:

DRC: Mapping of risks. A first draft maps of natural disasters were produced on the strength of information gathered by volunteers, and submitted to the Ministry of Health.

Republic of Congo: The same exercise of risk mapping is in progress in RoC.

Objective 2: Promote and participate in regional activities on disaster management.

Activities carried out:

DRC: with the regional ARCHI 2010/DP delegate an agreement was drawn up to support the North Kivu branch of the Red Cross in identifying and implementing the CBFA and ARCHI programmes.

Objective 3: Acquire, produce and manage material and stores for rapid action and relief for the most vulnerable victims of the floods in the Loukoula region.

Activities carried out:

Republic of Congo the CRC and the Federation participated in a relief operation with the Ministry of Health at Loukolela. Technical advice was provided and a plan of action drafted for the victims of the floods. Apart from local contributions from local organisation, no international assistance was requested.

Objective 4: Train a core group of 50 instructors to undertake training in their respective provinces.

Activities carried out:

Democratic Republic of Congo Training in CBFA. In partnership with the ICRC, 21 instructors from Kinshasa, Bandundu and the Lower Congo were trained in CBFA during March 2002 in the capital. The Federation also provided technical support for this training.

Objective 5: Improve the knowledge and techniques of volunteers in Kinshasa on flood relief operations and set up the necessary prevention arrangements to help flood victims.

Activities carried out:

Democratic Republic of Congo Identification of flood-prone zones and eroded sites; Printing of three types of thematic maps available for the province of Kinshasa, i.e. a map of flood-prone zones, a map of eroded sites and a third indicating the National Society's posts and headquarters.

Disaster response

Objective 1: Improve the nutritional state of the most vulnerable, especially children, pregnant and nursing women, and invalids.

Activities carried out

Democratic Republic of Congo

- Participation in training on the care of anaemic patients at the Kimbanguist Reception Centre.
- The National Society headquarters participated in various activities in response to the Nyiragongo volcanic eruption at Goma, with Federation support including fund-raising and logistics support.

Republic of Congo

- Participation of the head of the health department in the joint assessment missions of the floods on the Makotipoko and Mossaka-Loukolela-Ntokou road and of the EBOLA haemorrhagic fever epidemic in the district of Kéllé.
- Briefing of 75 key people from different localities affected by the epidemic and of 23 CRC volunteers in communication techniques in association with an outreach awareness campaign at Kéllé and other villages affected by EBOLA.

Health and Care

Background and progress to date

In the conflict region of the eastern part of DRC (and the regions bordering the frontlines) mortality is very high amongst the displaced while **food insecurity, hunger, malnutrition and disease** are a daily plight. Health districts have little or no support from the Kinshasa based government nor from the rebel authorities who occupy the eastern DRC. Many of these health districts have no doctors, medicine or infrastructure. One in every 25 children in the Bas-Uélé region suffers from **cretinism caused by iodine** deficiency. It has been reported that over 30 percent of children are **malnourished**. **Tuberculosis** is increasing in Ituri and **measles** alone affected more than 2,000 children in one of the many ill equipped health districts. **Malaria** is the most common cause of morbidity, mortality and absenteeism both among school children and workers in DRC, particularly in Kinshasa, Lubumbashi and Mbandaka, and it has increased its toll in the first four months of 2002.

The prevalence of STD/HIV/AIDS, according to the Ministry of Health (MoH) has increased twofold targeting especially young people, mainly female in the age range of 15 to 29 years old. The displacement of population and military personnel, the unemployment among young population, the lack of adequate information in prevention against STD/HIV/AIDS and the lack of means to negotiate sexual encounters, has led young people to engage in unprotected sexual practices especially in the last year. Figures show an increase on STD/HIV/AIDS consultations from 3% in 1999 to 11% at the end of June 2001. This only shows the tip of the iceberg: it is assumed that almost 40% of all STD/HIV/AIDS cases in the community are treated outside the MoH functioning structures. The reproductive health services especially in the eastern occupied territories continue to deteriorate. Women continue to be subjected to physical abuse and sexual violence. It is a fact that when a population is in deep distress, sex, drugs and alcohol are the few means of release.

Polio. In 2000, WHO, UNICEF and Rotary International called for the Red Cross Movement to assist in National Immunisation Days (NIDs) to address continuing transmission of wild polio virus. Through this effort with partners, there have been no cases of wild polio reported in 2001. A programme supervised by the Interagency Co-ordinating Committee (ICC) to increase Polio vaccination coverage will continue and a separate Polio appeal has been launched (please refer to Federation appeal 07/2002 for further information).

The health and care programme, which groups together a coherent series of complementary projects, allows the DRC Red Cross to provide targeted care to the most vulnerable populations, to create new partnerships and to ensure effective and lasting strengthening of the operational capacities of the national society.

DRC Red Cross has been widely recognised with in the DRC in the prevention of STD/HIV/AIDS and support to PLWAs. During the past year, activities relating to HIV/AIDS have been scaled up in Kinshasa and Matadi. These activities include: the increasing knowledge of populations, dissemination of simple preventive measures, supporting integrated Health Centres for early-treatment of STDs, providing timely pre- and post-test counselling and to set up home care and fight against stigmatisation of PLWAs.

The national society has been actively involved in activities related to **Roll - Back Malaria** informing the population about malaria prevention and in promoting the increased the use of impregnated bed nets in the target population.

During the course of this year, the national society will launch its **Reproductive Health Programme** to supplement the reproductive health services of the MoH to provide quality health assistance to women victims of sexual violence.

DRC Red Cross with its 85,000 volunteers in the country, with its recognised prestige regarding community mobilisation and health interventions in emergency and post conflict situations, was called by the Extended Programme of Immunisation (EPI) department of the Ministry of Health to support the NIDs and the polio eradication activities. After the three immunisation days (July, August and September 2001) the national coverage of Polio immunisation has been 100% and over. The DRC Red Cross collaborated with the MoH to support the NIDs vaccination campaigns in Provinces of Bas-Congo, Bandundu and Kinshasa. The following table shows the no. vaccinations carried out together with the DRC Red Cross.

CHILDREN 0-59 MONTHS WHO WERE VACCINATED

Territory covered	Target population	Children vaccinated	No. of health zones covered	No. of Red Cross volunteers involved
Kinshasa	941.680	941 230	34	400
Bas-Congo	516.835	573 733	27	245
Bandundu	1207 593	1 269 873	38	400
Total	2 666 108	2 784 836	99	1045

The Polio campaign will continue and will be covered the Polio appeal Appeal (07/2002).

Health and care - original objectives and results achieved

Objective 1: Increase polio vaccination cover to 100% in the Republic of Congo.

Activities carried out:

- Involvement of the National Society during the planning phase of the national vaccination days at the regional level side by side with the Ministry of Health's national delegates. The volunteers will be active in three regions of the country.
- Inclusion of the volunteers and supervisors in the Ministry of Health's arrangements.
- The National Society played an active role at the meeting of the inter-agency coordination committee on the 2002 polio vaccination campaign.
- The CRC volunteers and national supervisors are included in the Ministry of Health's operational arrangements to improve vaccination cover during the 3 tours of each of the 11 regions, including Brazzaville.

Objective 2: Strengthen the coordination mechanisms between the Ministry of Health and partners.

Activities carried out:

Republic of Congo Strengthening of partnership. To ensure better coverage of the field, the National Society diversified its partnership activity and established contacts with the AIDS prevention project in schools and the Marc Gentilini Association.

Democratic Republic of Congo Participation in the AIDS network side by side with the Government and other partners.

Objective 3: Strengthen communication tools for the HIV/AIDS project. Step up activities to increase the understanding of HIV/AIDS and STI prevention in the target populations by the use of simple preventive measures.

Activities carried out:

Democratic Republic of Congo

- Strengthening of the role of volunteers in outreach awareness-raising campaigns and social mobilisation. As such, their activity extends to the whole community.
- Training of 57 people to take responsibility for peer education among Red Cross volunteers in Kinshasa and of teachers at 20 schools selected for the project, from 4 to 8 February and 19 to 23 March 2002.
- Organization of an IEC session on STI and HIV/AIDS at a school in the town of Matadi, Province of Lower Congo.
- Acquisition of 6 containers and their placement on site in 6 communes of Kinshasa.
- Distribution of 950 calendars and posters on HIV/AIDS to partners, provincial committees and 20 schools selected for the project.
- Creation of AIDS clubs at 50 schools of 5 communes in the town of Kinshasa.

Republic of Congo

- Creation of a CRC theatrical troupe composed of 20 players. At present they are working on the presentation of a play entitled "Drama in the Community".
- Creation of 4 AIDS clubs at Brazzaville.
- Organization of educational discussion groups in schools in Brazzaville. These reached 6,485 pupils, 150 teachers and 40 administrative staff.
- Participation in the coordination of a national health forum of NGOs held in Brazzaville from 24 to 27 January 2002. The forum was organized by the Ministry of Health in partnership with the WHO.
- Organization of 4 IEC sessions on STI/HIV/AIDS in public places for 678 people in Brazzaville, and 346 at Pointe-Noire.
- Distribution of 2,880 condoms during the awareness-raising sessions.
- Establishment of the discussion group centre at Pointe-Noire on 29 March 2002 and creation of 5 AIDS clubs in schools there.

Objective 4: Strengthen support of the reproductive health services for female victims of sexual violence.

Activities carried out

Republic of Congo

- Three drafts of outsourcing contracts were exchanged between the General Directorate for the Population (DGPop) and the Federation in respect of the activities of the project, pending signature of the contract.
- At the request of the General Directorate for the Population, the CRC proposed a training curriculum. This was adopted with a number of amendments at a meeting held on 27 February by the different partners involved in the project. The DGPop will set the dates for the training and invite participants.

Objective 5: Conclude CBFA training in the regions already involved in the programme.

Activities carried out:

Democratic Republic of Congo

- The regional delegation agreed to support DRC headquarters and the Goma branch of the Red Cross in the framework of the CBFA programme.
- Fight against the cholera epidemic in Katanga.
- Health support for the populations victims of the Nyiragongo volcanic eruption. A health support project for the 6,500 families most affected by the eruption has been prepared.

- Improvement of access to primary health care for the populations most affected by the Nyiragongo volcanic eruption. The population has been informed of the diseases that can result from inhalation of gases at the three sites at Bukavu.
- Environmental sanitation.
- Participation in activity planning at Kalembe-Lembe Paediatric Hospital for the coming 5 years.

Republic of Congo

- Improvement of access to basic health care in the region of the Pool thanks to funding by the German Government by way of the German Red Cross.
- Technical equipment and a shipment of drugs have been delivered to the hospital of Kinkala and the 8 health centres in the region of the Pool.
- Management training: With a view to better management of this materiel, 18 health workers (2 per centre) were trained for 5 days at Kinkala.
- Awareness-raising activities: using teaching aids and promotional material (3,100 leaflets, 100 T-shirts and 1,296 condoms), 32 volunteers trained in IEC techniques raised the awareness of 4,800 people over 3 days at Kinkala.
- Awareness-raising among the population of Kéllé on EBOLA haemorrhagic fever, by 23 volunteers briefed in communication techniques and EBOLA and 2 nurse volunteers trained by MSF/Holland.

Promotion of humanitarian values

Background and progress to date

In view of the increasing humanitarian challenges exacerbated by war and the hostilities in the eastern occupied zones in DRC, the national society has had to review its strategy to inform public on the work of the Red Cross. This new orientation expands beyond the traditional dissemination activities with the Armed forces, schools and the general public, to maintain and consolidate concrete contacts with the media, for profiling the DRC Red Cross, its partners, and the Federation. Expanded activities include advocacy in HIV/AIDS, forgotten disasters and the ever increasing and alarming food insecurity in the DRC.

In the next few years, the DRC Red Cross supported by the ICRC and the Federation will establish a range of contacts and set up an national information network, report on other Red Cross programmes and assure closer proximity to breaking news. For the wider Central Africa network, the DRC Red Cross will contribute effectively by submitting regular and relevant information, publishing newsletters and press releases and participate in all the regional information activities. Opportunities will be created to promote Strategy 2010, the Ouagadougou Declaration and issues relating to the work of the movement.

Promotion of Humanitarian Values - original objectives and results achieved

Objective 1: Promote IHL, the fundamental principles and protection of the emblem in the two Congos.

Activities carried out:

Democratic Republic of Congo

- Media coverage of the handing over of clothes to some fifty war-displaced children at Nganda Mosolo in February 2002. This action was carried out by 687 pupils of the Monseigneur Bokeleale primary and secondary schools.
- Media coverage of the official inauguration of Red Cross sections at 55 primary schools of the town of Kinshasa on 23 February.
- Drafting of two press releases on sanitation of the University of Kinshasa (UNIKIN) by volunteers and participation of the DRC Red Cross president at the meeting of funding agencies in Geneva.
- Participation of the DRC Red Cross in a special programme organized by TKM television on intervention by the Red Cross at Goma following the volcanic eruption.
- Dissemination of the history of the Movement and the CRD Red Cross to 34 HIV/AIDS peer educators on 4 February.

- Organization in March 2002 of 6 talks at schools and in Red Cross circles and among peer educators of the town of Kinshasa. 458 people took part in these dissemination sessions.
- Production of 5 radio broadcasts (RTNC) to make Red Cross activities known to the public.
- Printing of 6,000 copies of the "Red Cross Echo".
- Printing of a leaflet about the DRC Red Cross.
- Participation on 8 March of 12 women volunteers at an event commemorating International Women's Day with a view to increasing the visibility of the DRC Red Cross.

Republic of Congo

- Recruitment of the 30 volunteers at Djambala in the Plateaux region to raise awareness of IHL, with the ICRC support, from 26 to 28 February 2002.

Objective 2: Create and support a network of people responsible for information in each of the regions of the two Congos.

Activities carried out:

Democratic Republic of Congo

- Work at the Ministries on constitution of the inter-ministerial dissemination commission.
- Training seminar on reporting: the Information and Reporting heads facilitated this seminar with the support of the ARCHI 2010 coaching delegate. The administrative staff of the two National Societies participated.
- Harmonisation with the ICRC of the objectives of the inter-ministerial dissemination commission.

Republic of Congo

- Holding of a work session with five journalists from the Congolese national press in late February, with a view to establishing a network of friends of the Red Cross.
- Participation of managers at the training seminar on reporting mentioned above

Co-ordination and Management

Background and progress to date

The Federation delegation is working alongside the National Societies in Congos. In DRC all efforts are concentrated to build the management abilities of the National Society at the Secretariat level. Through each opportunity and programme, where in all the main programmes the Federation focuses on hands-on training in the area of project management and reporting of staff and volunteers. The Federation has a strong and important roles to play in Kinshasa in assisting the new Governance and Management teams to develop the skills necessary to effectively and efficiently govern and manage their society.

In order to maximize resources, the Head of Delegation and his team since mid-2001 have been covering both Federation Delegations in Kinshasa and Brazzaville. The idea was to provide the support of a complete team of delegates - Organisational Development, Health, Finance & Administration - to both countries and, at the same time, in view of the limited financial means which thus allows for the technical support to the two Congos national societies. The overall objective is to be more cost effective and be closer to the national societies. This situation has encouraged the resources of the national societies from both sides of the river to work more closely together, share and maximise know-how and experience sharing.

The Federation delegation has been active in coordinating the Needs Assessment Mission in DRC, which required complex logistics and a security plan with the ICRC. Based on the assessment results, the Federation delegation will work with the DRC Red Cross in this revision of the appeal 2002/03 which will be shared in the next Programme Update.

The Federation together with both national societies promotes knowledge sharing, human resource exchanges between the DRC Red Cross and the ROC Red Cross as it encourages useful interaction with the other national societies in the region. In particular, the Federation Delegation of Congos is working actively with the regional delegation in Yaoundé to reinforce and prepare the newly created regional response teams (ERDAC - Equipes de Réponses aux Désastres de l'Afrique Centrale) in DP, Disaster Response, Health and Communications taking into account, the development of capacities of each national society.

Objective 1: in close collaboration with DRAC at Yaoundé, the delegation will support the national societies in the application of Strategy 2010, the Africa review, the Ouagadougou Declaration and other regional decisions in an efficient manner.

Activities carried out

Democratic Republic of Congo

- In Kinshasa the Federation delegation and the National Societies attended coordination meetings and assisted in humanitarian intervention on behalf of the victims of the Nyiragongo volcanic eruption.
- With logistical and administrative support from the ICRC, the organizational development delegate continued to train the members of the new governance in Goma, Bukavu and Kisangani.
- Organization of activities to combat HIV/AIDS. The delegation has provided the National Society with full technical and logistical support for the launching and pursuit of the programmed activities in the framework of peer educator training at Matadi and Kinshasa.
- Participation in Yaoundé at the meetings on restructuring the Regional Delegation in Yaounde (DRAC). The Federation discussed with all the National Societies of the region the way forward, on how to better assist them in Capacity Building; for leaner and more efficient delegation and how better to provide the various technical supports. The DRC Red Cross President, also President of the coordination of the eight National Societies of central Africa, participated at the meeting on revisiting the current structure DRAC.
- The delegation finalized the annual financial report on assistance to Cabindan-Angolan and urban refugees at Pointe Noire and submitted it to the HCR.
- The delegation organized and undertook several trips outside and within the two Congos, including Nairobi and Yaoundé.
- With the co-ordination of the Federation, the heads of department and volunteers of the two national societies carried out working missions on both sides of the Congo River.

Republic of Congo

- Support for peer educator training in the HIV/AIDS programme at Pointe-Noire and Brazzaville. The Federation provided support for training health workers at Kinkala, and organized IEC sessions in the framework of the project “Health care in the Pool region”.

Objective 2: Support the National Societies in ensuring coherence and coordination in the preparation of the strategic development plan and the country assistance strategy.

Activities carried out:

Democratic Republic of Congo and Republic of Congo

- Regular weekly meetings are held between the Federation delegates and the secretaries general and directors of the National Societies’ programmes to ensure orientation of strategy consistent with the implementation of the programmes.
- Two meetings were held in Brazzaville and 3 in Kinshasa to plan activities and prepare the departure of the HoD for Abidjan, where the work sessions of the heads of the regional delegations, the heads of the national delegations, the head of the Africa Department and the Geneva desk officer exchanged views on the future of DRAC.
- Under the supervision of DRAC, a workshop on reporting and information was organized at the beginning of March at Kinshasa for the two national societies and the staff of the delegation.

Objective 3: Ensure good, fruitful collaboration with the ICRC in accordance with the Seville agreements and the principles of the Movement.

Activities carried out

Democratic Republic of Congo and Republic of Congo

- In Kinshasa, regular coordination meetings between all the components of the Red Cross Movement (Federation, DRC RC, ICRC, Spanish Red Cross and Belgian Red Cross) are held every Thursday at the office of the ICRC head of delegation. Each member has the opportunity to present its activities and exchange views with the others on a broad range of issues.
- Two other work sessions took place between the finance and administration delegate and the programme manager at the ICRC to discuss remuneration of the programme coordinators.

- In Brazzaville, the ICRC, the Federation and the CRC meet every two weeks to focus on coordinating joint programmes. During the times of conflict crisis this team meets and communicates daily.
- The ICRC is responsible for security in the two Congos. Cooperation in respect of security between the ICRC and the Federation was excellent throughout of the presidential elections in the Congo.

Objective 4: Strengthen existing relations between the operational partners and establish new relations.

Democratic Republic of Congo

- In the course of the quarter, the members of the delegation undertook several visits to our partners for planning purposes and to inform them of our activities. A number of meetings were held with the UNFPA representative to discuss the reproductive health project.
- Following the Nyiragongo volcanic eruption, the Federation and the DRC Red Cross were present at all daily and weekly inter-agency coordination meetings.
- Valuable contacts were made with the commercial enterprises and embassies in order to gather funds to assist victims of Goma volcano eruption. On this occasion, the telecommunications company CELTEL donated USD 20,000 to the DRC Red Cross for the Goma branch.
- The health delegate attended co-ordination meetings for the AIDS, polio and cholera programmes, together with the head of the health department.

Republic of Congo

- The CRC authorities met in Brazzaville with representatives of UNFPA and DGPop to discuss proposal regarding reproductive health projects.
- The Federation has co-ordinated, partnerships for a collaborative framework of the fight against Ebola (MoH and MSF/Holland) The CRC made two nurses available, financed by the Federation, to reinforce the MSF team in the field., co-ordinated also with the director general for health and OCHA, UNICEF, and NGOs such as ACF and CRS.

Objective 5: Ensure integrated planning, implementation and assessment of delegations' activities.

Activities carried out:

Democratic Republic of Congo and Republic of Congo

- The delegation recruited a head in charge of Information and Reporting. The delegation organized a retreat in March to plan the activities of the second quarter, organize reviews of the programmes for each quarter with all delegates and discuss the known deficit in implementing these programmes; brief and debrief one another on the different missions of the HoD at Goma, Nairobi and Yaoundé and those of the OD delegate at Goma and Kisangani.
- During the reporting period an experienced Swedish Red Cross Health Delegated arrived in the Congos; she was briefed at the Regional Delegation in Yaoundé, in Brazzaville and Kinshasa. She also participated in the retreat for delegates and heads of health for Africa, in Geneva; this allowed her to understand and be updated on the dynamics of the technical health team at the Secretariat.

Goal: As a serving leader, the Federation delegation in Congos will advise, facilitate, support, coordinate, advocate and develop cost effective services and establish partnerships and stronger links for the DRC Red Cross.

Lessons learnt

The presence of the Federation is both a life belt and an incentive for the two National Societies in that there is a desire for collaboration and a real will to invest in the implementation of the National Societies' programmes despite financial difficulties. Regular meetings of the components permit an exchange of experience and harmonisation of the viewpoints of the National Society, the ICRC and the Federation in the exercise of their mission. In addition, such collaboration strengthens the links between, and complement staff and volunteers in the Congo and the DRC, as well will reinforce the image of the Movement.

Conclusion

In the light of the results obtained in the implementation of the programmes, we note that the first quarter of 2002 began with strong dynamism and determination on the part of the two sister National Societies. This felicitous situation is favoured on the one hand by the presence of the Federation and on the other by the confidence shown by the actors of the Movement. The Red Cross has also established a good partnership with both the Government and United Nations agencies such as UNFPA, WHO, UNICEF, etc. Other partnerships were unfortunately severed such as decision of the HCR to change partners and work with another prefinancing NGO rather than the Red Cross; the CRC volunteers who worked in the assistance project for Cabindan-Angolan and urban refugees were dismissed by the heads of the Kouilou Red Cross.

The conclusions of the Needs Assessment Mission confirm the need of the Movement to do more in the DRC, where the needs created by the humanitarian crisis, and rebuilding the capacities of the DRC Red Cross are a priority.

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All International Federation Operations seek to adhere to the Code of Conduct and are committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (SPHERE Project) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

For further information concerning Federation operations in this or other countries, please access the Federation website at <http://www.ifrc.org>.

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Director
External Relations Division

Bekele Geleta
Head
Africa Department

Congo Republic & DR Congo

ANNEX 1

APPEAL No. 01.06/2002

PLEDGES RECEIVED

17.07.2002

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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CASH

						TOTAL COVERAGE
REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				3,761,809		18.8%
CASH CARRIED FORWARD						
				0		
BRITISH - RC		20,000	GBP	47,830	11.03.2002	OD DELEGATE COSTS
HELLENIC - RC		30,000	EUR	43,989	22.04.2002	
SWEDISH - RC		50,500	SEK	8,141	23.04.2002	
SWEDISH - GOVT		450,000	SEK	71,145	30.05.2002	
REALLOCATIONS				50,000		CONGO - HIV/AIDS
REALLOCATIONS				248,000		CONGO - POLIO PHASE II
REALLOCATIONS				100,000		DR CONGO - POLIO PHASE II
GLOBAL RECRUITMENT FUND				30,000		SALARIES & COSTS HOD
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				599,105	CHF	15.9%

KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
GREAT BRITAIN	Delegate(s)			59,959		
SWEDEN	Delegate(s)			25,543		
SWISS - RC	Delegate(s)			20,750	15.10.2001	
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				106,252	CHF	2.8%

ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED						
				0	CHF	