

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

EAST AFRICA REGIONAL PROGRAMMES

17 February 2004

Appeal no. 01.13/2003

Appeal target: CHF 2,898,647 (USD 1,971,691 or EUR 1,970,574)

Programme Update no. 2

Period covered: April – December 2003

The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization and its millions of volunteers are active in over 181 countries. For more information: www.ifrc.org

In Brief

Appeal coverage: 83.8%; See attached [Contributions List](#) for details.

Outstanding needs: CHF 470,774 (USD 374,000 or EUR 301,300)

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals: [East Africa Regional Programmes: Annual Appeal no. 01.10/2004](#)

Programme Summary: Efforts by the Regional Delegation to initiate its own best practice series and to communicate better through presentations at conferences, press conferences, web stories and videos have given a lot visibility and understanding of the quality of work performed by the national societies and the Federation. The support of the Regional Delegation to the Delegations in the field continued. Efforts were put in order to meet new requirements with increased emphasis on the coordinating and advisory role of the Federation.

Click on the name of the national society below to access the individual Federation web page:

[Burundi Red Cross](#)

[Comoros Red Crescent](#)

[Red Crescent Society of Djibouti](#)

[Red Cross Society of Eritrea](#)

[Ethiopian Red Cross Society](#)

[Kenya Red Cross Society](#)

[Malagasy Red Cross Society](#)

[Rwandan Red Cross](#)

[Somali Red Crescent Society](#)

[Sudanese Red Crescent](#)

[Tanzania Red Cross National Society](#)

[Uganda Red Cross Society](#)

Health and Care

Goal: Contributing to improved health and care of the most vulnerable households/ communities, including those affected by conflict, epidemics (inclusive of HIV), and disasters in Eastern Africa region.

Objective: The capacity of national societies in enabling households/communities to reduce vulnerability to epidemics/injuries, and to prepare for and respond to basic health needs and health crises in partnership with stakeholders increased.

Progress

Standard regional community health coaches system has been developed tested and applied in seven out of the fourteen national societies in the region.

During the regional health and care working group meeting held in June 2003, national societies identified the development of volunteer management policies as a high priority and resolved to work more closely with the regional organizational development department to promote the process. The policy was described as the basis upon which activities of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement depends and the structure on which sound coaching systems will be built.

Netherlands Red Cross assisted the Red Cross Society of Eritrea to develop a coaching system as the basis for implementation of activities at community level. As part of relief operations in Eritrea, community coaches are currently monitoring the distribution of relief items by volunteers. There is good progress in the implementation of the bilateral community based health and care development programme by the Netherlands Red Cross and the Red Cross Society of Eritrea. Guidelines for participatory rural appraisal and training of trainers (TOT) are being developed. The national society plans to implement [ARCHI 2010](#) strategy in a comprehensive and efficient manner.

Community coaches were trained on vulnerability capacity assessment (VCA) by Uganda Red Cross Society, and have played a pivotal role in the success of the VCA under the Lake Victoria partnership. Community coaches have played a very crucial role in monitoring the house-to-house social mobilization for measles immunization campaigns of the national societies from Ethiopia, Uganda and Eritrea.

The Ethiopian Red Cross Society held a refresher course for coaches from 31 branches in a move to strengthen the coaching system and improve community based first aid (CBFA) activities. The national society conducted training for 25 TOT to enhance their skills in training at community level and in monitoring activities of first aid providers and follow up of implementation at community level.

The Health Manager of the American Women Initiative in Tanzania Red Cross National Society presented a case study of the project as a success story during a conference on community social mobilization held in Windhoek, Namibia in November 2003. Representatives from 15 Sub-Saharan countries presented case studies of Red Cross community social mobilization successes in their respective countries. The CBFA curriculum and manual have been translated into the local Swahili language and will be printed and distributed to the branches in 2004. Results of a business feasibility study on commercial first aid conducted by a consultant will guide the national society in developing a comprehensive programme in this respect.

Capacities of seven of the national societies in the region enhanced and networking improved through Regional Health Task Force assistance in strategic planning, creation of systematic monitoring mechanisms, and coordination and networking skills.

East Africa Regional Programmes: Appeal no. 01.13/2003; Programme Update no. 2

The third regional health task force meeting took place in June 2003 during which it was renamed the regional health and care working group and its terms of reference revised. Poor communication and information exchange between national societies were cited as the main weakness that have hindered sharing of experiences and therefore improving strategic planning, creation of systematic monitoring mechanisms, coordination and networking. As the way forward, a plan of action was drawn up at the end of the meeting.

With assistance from the regional health and care support unit, the national societies from Tanzania, Kenya and Uganda developed branch capacity assessment/VCA tools. These were applied to assess branches to pilot the Lake Victoria partnership. The three national societies developed country proposals which were merged into one sub-regional proposal and presented for funding.

At the initiation of the unit and as part of the regional exchange programme, Uganda Red Cross assisted Tanzania Red Cross to develop their blood donor recruitment proposal. This followed a request from the Tanzania government to the Tanzania Red Cross to undertake nationwide blood donor recruitment.

Competent RDRT¹ regional emergency health working group established with ability to assess and prepare ad hoc appeals and contingency plans for population movement, disease out break including cholera, malaria, measles and meningitis.

Action teams from the Kenya Red Cross Society undertook assessments of the floods that hit most parts of western Kenya. The national society initiated contingency plans for a possible cholera outbreak and prepared an Appeal with assistance from the Regional Delegation which raised funds locally and assisted the flood victims. The national society has also established a local emergency response unit that places volunteers on strategic spots along the Nairobi-Mombasa highway as first hand response to road accidents and evacuation of victims to hospitals to reduce the number of deaths. A pilot has begun in Makueni branch with the training of 35 volunteers in first aid; similar projects will be initiated in other branches based on the success of the pilot. The Nairobi branch first aid team was on standby during the exodus initiative children's soccer tournament, a campaign aimed at sensitizing and raising awareness on the plight of street children.

The Regional Health Working Group was represented by health officials from the national societies of Kenya and Ethiopia at the RDRT training in Ethiopia.

The concept of integrating health and care through health seed projects combining health, HIV/AIDS, and WatSan experienced in three national societies; lessons learnt and developed into regional strategy and applied with two more national societies.

Tanzania Red Cross was assisted by the health care support unit develop the Masasi integrated health pilot project proposal. The health component of the project targets 40,000 beneficiaries and entails the distribution of 2,000 ITN and 560 long lasting ITN to pregnant women and children aged below five years. During a field mission in December 2003, the Regional Health Officer helped supervise the distribution of ITN and in drawing up a plan of action for improved project implementation (see WatSan section for more details).

For further implementation of integrated health activities, the regional health and care unit assisted the Red Cross Society of Eritrea to develop its HIV/AIDS malaria and sexually transmitted diseases proposal which integrates health and care interventions at the grass root level while incorporating the five year strategic plan of the Ministry of Health. Funding has been received from the Netherlands Red Cross.

¹ RDRT – Regional Disaster Response Teams are a cost-effective regional disaster response support system that is entirely staffed by members of National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. The aim of RDRT is to actively promote building of regional capacities in disaster management.

East Africa Regional Programmes: Appeal no. 01.13/2003; Programme Update no. 2

The documentation of the Somalia integrated mother and child health programme into a best practice case study is underway (see HIV/AIDS section for details).

The Siaya branch of the Kenya Red Cross has integrated community tuberculosis management into its already established home based care (HBC) project. This is an opportunity for the national society to access the global fund for tuberculosis, malaria, and HIV/AIDS (GFTAM) for focused interventions in one branch. A tuberculosis specialist has been identified to train and monitor volunteers who will supervise patients on tuberculosis treatment.

The Kenya Red Cross held a workshop on project planning and management, resource mobilization and ARCHI 2010 for 126 representatives from 53 branches countrywide in August 2003. The Organizational Development Delegate, consultants from the University of Nairobi, the Kenya Red Cross Secretary General and First Deputy Governor, the Federation Regional Transition Manager and the ICRC Co-operation Delegate facilitated the workshop.

The Health Director and the Regional Health Programme Officer at the Tanzania Red Cross undertook an analysis of the probable causes of the high mortality rates among children under five at the Lugufu Congolese Refugee Camps in Tanzania where the national society provides all health services under the refugee relief operation. Among causes identified by the analysis were traditional beliefs and culture that have a negative effect on the health programme. Health inspection teams, clinical officers and the matron will step up health education to the community.

Tanzania Red Cross took over from Community Outreach as the implementing partner of UNHCR in providing health services to 56,000 Congolese refugees in Nyarugusu Camp from January 2004. As a result, the national society will provide health services to 254,000 refugees; more than 50% of total refugee population in six camps in north western Tanzania in 2004.

The Regional Delegation supported national societies in their preparations for the world first aid day celebrations. During this occasion, the Kenya Red Cross launched a week long set of activities to promote its first aid programme at a function officiated by the Minister of Information and Tourism. Tanzania Red Cross visited Kigogo Orphanage Center, Dogo dogo Centre for street children and Mtoni Maalum Primary School for the mentally retarded children and distributed soap, sugar, wheat flour and oil. A press release was issued in the local newspapers while the national society's signature emergency and disaster tune was aired by three local radio stations. Ethiopian Red Cross held a CBFA promotion in the capital city, Addis Ababa, an activity which involved 7,000 volunteers.

Make the global partnership agreements with the WHO, UNFPA on malaria and measles operational at country level and enhance national societies' impact and financial operating funds.

Somalia Red Gescent was identified by WHO as a partner in reaching target beneficiaries for enhanced service delivery under the Roll Back Malaria initiative (RBM). The initiative will improve early diagnosis and treatment of expectant women and children aged below five years.

Kenya Red Cross will be assisted to scale up its RBM interventions with the support from the Kenya NGO/Private sector Alliance against Malaria (KeNAAM) which will facilitate access of the funds from GFTAM and DFID². KeNAAM is a partnership of NGO and the private sector who applied for funding from the global fund.

[Click here to return to title page](#)

² GFTAM - Global Fund for Tuberculosis, AIDS and Malaria
DFID -Department for International Development (UK Government)

East Africa Regional Programmes: Appeal no. 01.13/2003; Programme Update no. 2

In addition, the national society developed a malaria prevention and control project in Bureti district which was presented to DFID for funding.

The global measles partnership initiative has seen several national societies supplement efforts by their governments by mobilizing volunteers to conduct house to house social mobilization for measles immunization: Uganda Red Cross 3,895 volunteers, Ethiopian Red Cross 300 volunteers and the Red Cross Society of Eritrea 413 volunteers.

The volunteers ensured that disadvantaged children were accessed for measles immunization (see section on regional information unit for media coverage of these activities)

At the request of UNICEF, Tanzania Red Cross shared the Masasi integrated health pilot project proposal for collaboration in social mobilization for routine immunization. This should provide Tanzania Red Cross volunteers with more activities in more regions and also profile the national society.

The Uganda Red Cross Senior Health Coordinator, the Ethiopia Red Cross First Aid Officer and the Regional Health Officer attended a three day meeting organized by WHO/UNICEF to make the reaching out every district (RED) approach operational. This is a WHO/UNICEF strategy to ensure that routine immunization is accessible to all children below one year. During the meeting, areas for networking with partners and integrating activities of Red Cross volunteers to scale up coverage in routine immunizations were identified. There was a presentation of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement's experience in measles social mobilization activities using the ARCHI 2010 strategy which is comparable to the RED strategy.

The Regional Health Officer attended a one week workshop on RBM in complex emergencies in Entebbe in October 2003. The possibility of engaging Red Cross volunteers in the fight against malaria was discussed. Knowledge and skills acquired at this workshop will be applied in assisting national societies to expand the volunteers' capacity to support their governments' efforts and thereby improve volunteers' and national societies' profile.

Discussions were held with the WHO expanded programme on immunization (EPI) Inter Country Coordinator for East Africa over the planned involvement of Red Cross volunteers in their pilot projects in Rwanda and Kenya. The volunteers will conduct social mobilization targeting orphans and street children for routine immunizations. They will also target caretakers in the orphanages and institutions taking care of street families and share with them information on immunization. Possibilities of Kenya Red Cross training WHO staff in first aid and providing them with first aid kits were discussed. There will be follow up in 2004.

National societies with established developmental water and Sanitation (WatSan) projects expanded from 6 to 10 (out of 14) national societies in the region by establishing WatSan/Health 'seed' projects.

The job description for the DFID-funded health and community services project officer for the Djibouti seed project has been finalized and recruitment is expected to be completed in 2004. The ICRC Nairobi Water and Habitat Delegate has indicated interest to further scale up on the 4,000 beneficiary population being targeted in Belbaba under this project. Discussions are on-going on how best this will be achieved in 2004.

The integrated health seed project for the Kajiado branch of the Kenya Red Cross received funding. Jointly with community members, the national society has identified the scope of activities to be undertaken. Procurement of pipes to rehabilitate a 2.5km 2" GI pipe rising main and a distribution point to Olusui Primary School has been undertaken and the laying of pipes is in progress. The WatSan project committee was trained in leadership, team building, group dynamics and procurement skills. Other donors are being approached to support the construction of bathrooms, toilets, a community water point, new water trough for

East Africa Regional Programmes: Appeal no. 01.13/2003; Programme Update no. 2

sheep and goats, a cattle trough and the rehabilitation of a reservoir tank. Malaria prevention and training of peer educators on HIV/AIDS will be undertaken after more funding is received.

The health seed project in Masasi branch in Tanzania made substantial progress during the period. In September 2003, 15 volunteers were recruited and trained in PHAST³ methodology and are conducting PHAST training in the community. Social mobilization for rehabilitation of the hand dug well was conducted in October. Construction and installation of a water pump in a well that serves 2,275 people was completed in November 2003. The well also serves one primary school and one government dispensary in the community. Volunteers conducted demographic and morbidity surveys in the community in October and November; data entry and analysis commenced in 2004.

There are eight countries implementing the seed projects in this region. Two seed projects each in Kenya and Tanzania were started during this reporting period.

WatSan beneficiaries in the region expanded from 369,000 to 453,000 during 2003, a ‘scaling-up’ of 20%.

A number of activities have been registered over the period; this is projected to contribute to the expansion of coverage and improve the quality of service delivery to the target beneficiaries. As reported above, implementation of two seed projects were started in Kenya and Tanzania during the period.

The in-country WatSan Delegate, national WatSan Programme Officer and the Regional Delegation continued to support WatSan activities under the Eritrea relief operation targeting about 25,000 beneficiaries. Activities include the provision of emergency water trucking, rehabilitation of bore holes and shallow wells and drilling of new water points. A solar training workshop was held in November and attended by 23 participants; community water point caretakers, Red Cross volunteers, government and NGO. A re-assessment of the whole operation conducted in December 2003 recommended an extension of the relief operation to December 2004. This will further increase coverage in areas where new water points will be developed or rehabilitated.

In Sudan, WatSan activities in the Red Sea State started in October 2003 with the support of the Regional Health and Care Support Unit. Rehabilitation of hand dug wells, drilling of new boreholes and upgrading of Hafeers (underground water structures) will assist 55,000 beneficiaries once completed at the beginning of 2004. In October, a WatSan consultant was hired by German Red Cross and assisted the Sudanese Red Crescent Society to develop a proposal on WatSan disaster preparedness and response which was presented to ECHO after approval by the Regional WatSan Delegate. The Regional Delegation will play a crucial role in providing technical support and capacity building of the national society's staff during the implementation of the project.

Members of the Regional Health and Care team took part in the flood assessment in Kassala State in Sudan. An [ERU](#) team from Europe was deployed to provide water to 150,000 people and sanitation (pit latrines) to 16 schools and vector control for 100,000 people. The ERU units were handed over to the Sudanese Red Crescent Society and training provided to Sudanese Red Crescent headquarters and Kassala Branch staff, 22 Red Crescent volunteers, and government officials to increase capacity for optimum use of the ERU equipment. Further training for national societies is scheduled for 2004.

The newly appointed Programme Coordinator for Somaliland has finalized the recruitment process of key staff for the WatSan component. Initial training and orientation has been done and further training in PHAST will be undertaken in 2004.

³ PHAST – Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation

East Africa Regional Programmes: Appeal no. 01.13/2003; Programme Update no. 2

A geo-physical survey for the drilling of a deep borehole in West Hararghe under the revised Appeal of the Ethiopian Red Cross is in its final stages. The national society will undertake a review of its WatSan programme in the first quarter of 2004 with the assistance of the Regional WatSan Unit in order to improve service delivery and better linkages with other health programmes. This review follows a previous one by American Red Cross in the branches where they have joint WatSan activities with Ethiopian Red Cross.

National societies using PHAST methodology increased from five to eight in the region.

A PHAST review workshop was held in Kampala, Uganda in August 2003 and highlighted the improved interaction between target groups and implementing agencies, capacity building within communities to make informed choices, and the versatility of the PHAST methodology in training in other topics such as HIV/AIDS and malaria. The Regional Delegation will use the findings and recommendations of this workshop to incorporate ARCHI toolkits into the PHAST tool kit in 2004. The workshop was co-facilitated by PHAST trainers from national societies in the Eastern and Southern Africa regions assisted by a PHAST consultant.

The Regional WatSan department and Caritas International have held several planning meetings in view of undertaking joint PHAST training in Somaliland in February 2004. The Regional Delegation will play a key role in the training of project officers from various agencies working in Somaliland, community workers and Somalia Red Crescent volunteers who will be instrumental in facilitating PHAST in communities.

A regional PHAST human resources network established to encourage skills sharing and further establishment of the methodology.

The PHAST review mentioned above provided opportunity for experience sharing and learning. The initiative towards building contact lists and profiles of PHAST trainers has started.

National societies with national strategies expanded from two to four in the region.

National WatSan strategies are seen as key instruments in giving vision and spelling out tools for implementation. Efforts towards realizing this output have been boosted by the recent publication of the adopted WatSan policy for the Federation as a guiding principle for the Federation and national societies. To date, national societies from Uganda and Sudan have national WatSan strategies while Kenya, Ethiopia, Rwanda have developed draft strategies. The Red Cross Society of Eritrea received support during field missions to present its draft strategy to the in-country WatSan sub-sector coordinating body for input. The Federation will give priority to supporting national societies with draft strategies to finalize them in light of the Federation policy.

Regional WatSan disaster response capacity is strengthened by establishing an initial two national societies with in-country WatSan emergency stocks linked to the annual RDRT training.

This initiative is already paying dividends in Eritrea where an RDRT in-country kit is adequately catering for the needs of the emergency water trucking components. An ERU WatSan kit donated to the Sudanese Red Crescent during the Kassala flood is a vital pre-positioned response mechanism to the flood and drought prone areas of Sudan.

The Regional Delegation continues to play a key role in capacity building in the areas of training both at RDRT and national society levels. In this respect, the Delegation facilitated the participation of the Regional WatSan Programme Assistant and a member of the Seychelles Red Cross Society to ERU training in Austria.

[Click here to return to title page](#)

East Africa Regional Programmes: Appeal no. 01.13/2003; Programme Update no. 2

Scaling down and phasing out of long-term refugee/IDP WatSan projects continued in Tanzania and commenced in Uganda and Sudan.

The Regional WatSan Delegate undertook key missions to assist Tanzania Red Cross in the planning and execution of the six months development phase of the EuroAid funded WatSan project in Lugufu and Kasulu refugee camps. Two boreholes were drilled yielding very successful pump testing results; these boreholes will be used as production boreholes when fully equipped. Procurement for Gen/Pumping sets is in progress and once fully commissioned, water needs for both Lugufu 1 and 2 will be fully met. The primary objective of having an economical, less complicated system that requires minimal labour force will thus be realized for a caseload of 90,000 refugees.

The general sanitation situation for both camps in Nakivale and Orukinga under South West Refugee Operation (SWRO) has been closely monitored and are in stable condition. Construction work for roof catchment for the rainwater harvesting system in Nakivale under the SWRO in Uganda is progressing well. Additional storage capacity has been enhanced through the procurement and delivery of Oxfam tanks. The construction work albeit a little slow, is expected to be finalized in 2004; structures already completed have demonstrated good results.

Funding for the refugee camps in Northern Khartoum in Sudan are still being met bilaterally with the Sudanese Red Crescent staff running the operations. The national society presented a proposal for initiating cost recovery steps for the water supply system.

The Regional WatSan Delegate phased out and a WatSan team of regionally recruited and local staff strengthened accordingly.

The WatSan Delegate who was doubling up the role of the Regional Health and Care Support Unit Coordinator completed his mission in December 2003; the WatSan Programme has now assumed all the delegates' roles while the recruitment process for the Coordinators' position is still in process.

Seven national societies (Eritrea, Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia, Rwanda and Seychelles) developed a comprehensive Health, HIV/AIDS policy and workplace programme for staff and volunteers.

The Regional Delegation's workplace programme is still evolving; a follow up workshop for HIV/AIDS peer educators from the Delegation, Kenya Red Cross and Nestlé-Kenya who were first trained in May 2003 was conducted during the period. Progress on work plans, innovative interventions, challenges and lessons learnt during implementation have been documented.

At the initiative of the regional human resources department, the health insurance scheme for the delegation's staff was revised to offer broader and better quality services inclusive of antiretroviral therapy. The potential for replication in national societies from the Eastern African region is being explored.

All 14 national societies from the region made a commitment to implement workplace interventions for headquarters staff and 90 % of their branches by 2007 through a pledge submitted at the Federation's General Assembly. The Kenya Red Cross officially launched its HIV/AIDS peer educators' programme in July. With support from the Regional Health and Care advisor, the national society received funding from American Red Cross in support of a commercial HIV/AIDS workplace programme for the corporate sector.

Ethiopian Red Cross is developing its policy in close consultation with the branches. The national society is already operating a workplace programme through condom promotion and distribution and training of a cross section of its nearly one thousand employees as peer educators.

East Africa Regional Programmes: Appeal no. 01.13/2003; Programme Update no. 2

Following the adoption and launch of its HIV/AIDS workplace policy, the Uganda Red Cross is fundraising to support workplace interventions.

National societies from Rwanda, Tanzania and Seychelles have initiated the process of developing their workplace policies.

Nine national societies (Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Rwanda, Seychelles, Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda) participate within existing national HIV/AIDS coordination mechanisms.

Eight national societies are already coordinating their HIV/AIDS response with the government and other stakeholders. National societies from Ethiopia, Rwanda, and Kenya are receiving partial financial support for their HIV/AIDS and health related activities mainly for district based interventions; Madagascar is expecting support from the government. No progress has been made with Mauritius Red Cross despite active support from the Regional Delegation.

Partnerships between national societies and National Networks of Persons Living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) to reduce stigma and discrimination established in eight national societies (Djibouti, Eritrea, Kenya, Rwanda, Seychelles, Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda).

During the 11th International conference for PLWHA in Kampala, Uganda a panel discussion to take stock of the partnership on a global level, and in particular in the African continent, was facilitated by the Nairobi and Harare Regional Delegations and the Federation Secretariat. Uganda Red Cross and the national guidance and empowerment network of persons living with HIV/AIDS were the co-organizers of the event.

National societies from Eritrea, Ethiopia, Rwanda, Kenya, Djibouti, Madagascar, Uganda, and Sudan have all entered into partnership with their respective national associations of PLWHA at different levels. Kenya Red Cross is a member of key coordinating bodies for the access of funds for roll back malaria activities. Following a successful application to the GFTAM, the national society is in discussion with the Ministry of Health on accessing the funds for its malaria prevention and control activities.

Discussions with the Country Representative of the International Medical Corps on the proposed collaboration with Karen/Langata branch of the Kenya Red Cross in the community tuberculosis management project in Kibera slums, Nairobi is expected to boost volunteers' activities. Under the project the volunteers will be trained on active surveillance of tuberculosis patients to conduct social mobilization for access to treatment, treatment adherence and defaulter tracing.

Existing and new regional partnerships to enhance national societies capacities developed with the Network of African people living with HIV/AIDS (NAP+), Action aid Africa in charge of supporting the International Partnership against HIV/AIDS in Africa (SIPAA), Center for African Family Studies (CAFS), UNAIDS inter-country team, and other regional resource networks.

A new joint action plan for the partnership between the Regional Delegation and the Network of African people living with HIV/AIDS (NAP+) for 2003-2004 has been developed and is being implemented. Two ambassadors of hope missions were jointly conducted by the Regional Delegation and NAP+ in Sudan and Eritrea to enhance the partnership and break the silence on HIV/AIDS in countries in denial

In order to make the partnership in the Eastern Africa region operational, a best practice case study documenting the partnership was published by UNAIDS together with the Federation and the Global Network of persons living with HIV/AIDS (GNP+). Within the context of the partnership with NAP+, the regional HIV/AIDS partnership officer was a member of the steering committee for the organization of the 11th international conference for PLWHA in Uganda.

East Africa Regional Programmes: Appeal no. 01.13/2003; Programme Update no. 2

A regional poster competition against stigma and discrimination for in-country PLWHA networks and associations was launched by the Regional Delegation. The second prize winner was submitted by a local association working with the youth in Kibera slums in Nairobi.

Due to a restructuring process and change of focus for SIPAA in moving from a regional approach to country based operation, no progress was registered during the period.

Ongoing technical support has been provided to the Empowering Africa's Young People initiative in Tanzania and Uganda. Good progress has been registered in Kenya and Uganda which have now entered the implementation phase.

Through the partnership with CAFS, two volunteers from Kenya Red Cross have been sponsored for a TOT workshop in home based and community care. CAFS is foreseen to be a partner for the Kenya Red Cross in designing the commercial HIV/AIDS programme for a corporate sector funded by American Red Cross.

A sub-regional HIV/AIDS strategy is developed for the Indian Ocean Islands national societies : Comoros, Madagascar, Mauritius and Seychelles.

The Regional Health and Care Advisor undertook missions to Madagascar, Comoros and Mauritius to support national societies in the development of their Health/HIV/AIDS strategic plans. Madagascar and Comoros partnered with their respective governments in applying for funds from GFTAM.

At the invitation of the Indian Ocean Islands Commission, the Regional Delegation was represented by the Malagasy Red Cross at the first meeting of the sub-regional HIV/AIDS thematic group charged with the task of developing a coordinated NGO response within the commission's member states. Additionally, the Regional Health and Care Advisor presented the partnership between national societies and PLWHA associations at the Indian Ocean Islands Conference on HIV/AIDS. The role of national societies within the region is foreseen by member states as being mainly focused on reduction of stigma. Madagascar and Seychelles are exploring possibilities of making the partnership operational. However, despite the willingness of the PLWHA national network, and expectations from the Government, Mauritius is still reluctant to enter into a partnership.

The President of the Seychelles Red Cross was elected as the RC-Net Health and Care Representative for the Indian Ocean Islands. The Regional Delegation will provide close support in moving this initiative forward.

Under the umbrella of the RC-NET Health/ HIV/AIDS Task force, national societies and regional delegation, HIV/AIDS interventions better known, documented, shared and coordinated through best practices, communications to international/regional conferences, regional exchange visit programme.

The best practice case study on community HBC for PLWHA of the Tigray branch of Ethiopian Red Cross was launched at the International Red Cross and Red Crescent satellite meeting and the ICASA⁴ conference in September 2003.

Similarly, the best practice case study of the family health and HBC of the Mombasa branch on the Kenya Red Cross together with a video called "A testimony of Hope" were finalized during the period and launched at the RC-Net health and care working group meeting in January 2004.

[Click here to return to title page](#)

⁴ ICASA - International Conference on AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Diseases in Africa

East Africa Regional Programmes: Appeal no. 01.13/2003; Programme Update no. 2

The third best practice study on the integrated mother and child health programme of the Somali Red Crescent Society has been completed and will be launched later in 2004 upon completion of printing.

During an exchange visit between the national societies of Somali and Sudan, the reproductive health programme for IDP⁵ in White Nile State of Sudan was reviewed. National societies from Ethiopia, Eritrea and Somalia also went on a study tour to learn more about the family health and HBC programme of the Kenya Red Cross Mombasa branch.

Prior to the ICASA conference in Nairobi, the regional HIV/AIDS unit organized a two day International Red Cross and Red Crescent satellite conference for 54 national societies in Africa. Colleagues and partner national societies (PNS) representatives shared experiences on building capacities of the continent through communicating the progress registered in scaling up HIV/AIDS interventions.

The regional HIV/AIDS unit was instrumental in supporting Uganda Red Cross in the co-organizing the XI international conference for PLWHA in Kampala and sponsored seven volunteers living with the HIV/AIDS from Eritrea, Sudan, Uganda, Kenya and Rwanda to attend the conference. Uganda Red Cross represented the RC-Net Regional Health and Care Working Group at the sixth international conference on home and community care for PLWHA in Dakar, Senegal.

During the RC-NET Health and Care Working Group meeting, health coordinators and directors outlined their activities in malaria and HIV/AIDS and resolved to communicate more effectively in sharing ideas and experiences for improved coordination of their activities.

Activities of the Regional Delegation and national societies in the region received profile at the international HIV/AIDS conferences held in Nairobi, Kampala, Mauritius and Dakar during the reporting period. Between September and December, the regional HIV/AIDS staff and national societies presented five abstracts and participated in three press conferences and eight plenary sessions.

Finish Red Cross seconded a HIV/AIDS Information Delegate for the last semester of 2003. As a result, the regional HIV/AIDS programme, national societies and the Federation's global programme on HIV/AIDS received a lot of visibility. There were 14 news stories on national societies' and the Federation HIV/AIDS activities for the Federation's website; two press conferences; one video and five editions of the "The Friendship Messenger" newsletter.

Federation's strategies in reducing household vulnerability to HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases implemented by both operating and participating national societies.

The good cooperation between operating national societies (ONS), PNS and the Federation regional HIV/AIDS unit has led to good coordination and sustainable HIV/AIDS interventions during the reporting period and beyond.

HIV/AIDS mainstreamed into the regional Disaster Preparedness and Response

The Regional Health and Care Advisor joined the regional inter-agency working group on HIV/AIDS in emergencies.

National societies from Uganda, Tanzania, Somali and Sudan have made substantive progress in addressing the reproductive health, sexually transmitted infections (STI) and HIV/AIDS needs of refugees and IDP populations caught in complex emergencies. During the period, the newly recruited Tanzania Red Cross Health Coordinator reviewed the HIV/AIDS activities in refugee camps and presented the results at the

⁵ IDP - Internally Displaced Persons

East Africa Regional Programmes: Appeal no. 01.13/2003; Programme Update no. 2

International Red Cross and Red Crescent satellite meeting Uganda Red Cross mainstreamed HIV/AIDS into its operations for IDP in the North; the Sudanese Red Crescent Society has completed its mainstreaming and is about to review the first year of implementation of its reproductive health programme for IDP who may become returnees in the context of the landmark peace agreement in Sudan.

In support of this objective, the regional health and care unit facilitated three TOT workshops on reproductive health, STI and HIV/AIDS for branches and staff of the Sudanese Red Crescent from the mother and child health clinics. It provided technical assistance to the Somalia Delegation and Somalia Red Crescent on the design of a nationwide IEC⁶ strategy and subsequent production of relevant IEC materials. The national society received support in the implementation of the joint Federation/UNDP/ World Bank HIV/AIDS project for low-income countries under stress (LICUS).

The integration of tuberculosis management within the HBC project in Kenya Red Cross Siaya Branch will greatly reduce occurrences of major opportunistic infection among PLWHA (see health section for more details).

Eight national societies (Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Rwanda, Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda) doubled their HIV/AIDS financial income and the number of branches capable of implementing cost effective, integrated Health, HIV/AIDS prevention and care interventions.

The Red Cross Society of Eritrea received funding from the Netherlands Red Cross to implement its HIV/AIDS activities in all branches towards which the Regional HIV/AIDS unit is providing technical assistance.

The Netherlands Red Cross and American Red Cross joined the Danish Red Cross and the British Red Cross in supporting Ethiopia Red Cross in scaling up its HIV/AIDS interventions in four additional branches.

Financial support from the Belgium Red Cross (Flemish section) enabled Rwandan Red Cross to scale up its HIV/AIDS activities in two additional provinces. Kenya Red Cross is in a full scaling up process through a Federation grant from Nestlé, Norwegian Red Cross, German Red Cross, Swedish Red Cross and French Red Cross.

The Red Crescent Society of Djibouti is implementing a HIV/AIDS programme in all its branches through funding from Save the Children/USA while Somali Red Crescent has started implementing HIV/AIDS awareness activities in all its branches through the LICUS funding and with support from several PNS.

No progress has been achieved in Sudan, Madagascar and Tanzania despite several attempts made by the Regional Delegation to play the matchmaker with donor national societies and the Governments.

Impact

Despite the ever expanding volume of work, the health and care support unit has been able to offer timely and targeted response to requests from clients. The hiring of WatSan coordinators in Kenya and Eritrea has seen these national societies expand their WatSan roles and better engagements with the Federation and bilaterals. All these have translated in to saving lives of the most vulnerable members in the communities.

Through mobilizing the Red Cross Red Crescent leadership, the Regional Delegation has registered great success in breaking the silence surrounding HIV/AIDS both within the Movement and beyond. This has created a conducive environment in which infected staff do not feel rejected or stigmatized, but are given access to care and treatment without discrimination. By leading through example, the Regional Delegation has

⁶ Information, Education and Communication

East Africa Regional Programmes: Appeal no. 01.13/2003; Programme Update no. 2

mobilized national societies to initiate HIV/AIDS workplace programmes and to make a commitment at the Federation's General Assembly. Through advocacy, the Federation was persuaded to create the Masambo Fund.

Despite the complexities of existing coordination mechanisms, the efforts by national societies are starting to bear fruits and gain recognition as important stakeholders especially in decentralizing the HIV/AIDS response. Four national societies are currently receiving contributions from their government to complement other funding sources.

The partnership between the Regional Delegation and NAP+ and between national societies and PLWHA national networks is about to become a model worldwide after being documented by UNAIDS as a best practice.

The work initiated by the regional HIV/AIDS unit in the Indian Ocean Islands will place the national societies in a better position their Governments and the international community. This will be instrumental in nipping the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the bud.

The distribution of relief items in Ethiopia and Eritrea and social mobilization activities of the volunteers during mass measles campaigns and urging communities to access health care provided by the mobile clinics have resulted improvement of the lives of the vulnerable. Over 60,000 people in hard to reach areas were accessed through the social mobilization and health education activities of the Kenya Red Cross volunteers under malaria and cholera prevention. As a result, no cholera outbreak has been reported to date. In the long term, the distribution of mosquito nets will reduce incidences of malaria among expectant women and 10,200 children below five years in the flood affected regions in western Kenya.

In accessing the hard to reach communities through social mobilization, the national societies of Eritrea, Uganda and Ethiopia improved their profile and contributed to improved health and care of the most vulnerable households, and communities and established a valued partnership on the ground. Capacity building through identification and training of coaches in Eritrea will improve the capacity of branches in responding to community needs and enhance monitoring and supervision at national level.

Coordination

The WatSan unit has been represented in several fora over the period. These include Water for the Poor forum in Norway in November 2003, and the regional water and sanitation workshop convened by NetWas International in Kenya. Further, the unit was invited to co-facilitate in a training workshop in water and environmental sanitation organized by NetWas International. Discussions are under way to formalize this collaboration.

The WatSan Delegate from the Southern Africa region and Eritrea visited the delegation to share progress reports and experiences. The sharing of experiences with the Southern Africa region centred on the PHAST methodology, and the integration of the health and care units (Health, HIV/AIDS and WatSan)

The regional HIV/AIDS unit is enjoying the confidence of all its partners both within and outside the Movement. Despite increased bilateral interventions, the department is still able to effectively play its coordination role building and capitalizing on every partner to mount a coordinated and coherent institutional response towards the epidemic.

The health section was represented at many forums where potential for funding of Red Cross activities was evident. The engagement of Kenya Red Cross in the provision of first aid training and kits to WHO/EPI is a culmination of the working relationships between the Regional Health and Care Support Unit and WHO/EPI

East Africa Regional Programmes: Appeal no. 01.13/2003; Programme Update no. 2

to implement mass measles campaigns in this region. Proposal by WHO/EPI to partner with the national societies in Kenya and Rwanda in reaching out to disadvantaged children will require good coordination. Similarly the International Medical Corps' interest in working with Kenya Red Cross in a tuberculosis project in Kibera slums calls for great support.

The interest shown by UNICEF Tanzania in the Masasi health integrated pilot project will be followed up in 2004 for the national society to have more in-country partners for community health interventions. Similarly, the Lake Victoria initiative presents great challenges in health and greater attention is needed in the implementation phase.

Constraints

The departure of the former WatSan Programme Officer- Software during the period created a vacuum in work but the position has since been filled. Shortage of staff within the HIV/AIDS unit which consists of only one delegate and one national staff, coupled with difficulties in recruitment has hampered the smooth development of the regional HIV/AIDS programme.

Financial constraints especially for integrated health seed projects slowed down implementation and therefore scaling up of activities. Whereas funding for Djibouti was available, very little funding was available for both Masasi and Kajiado while the Indian Ocean Islands had no funding.

Working in partnership with others means accepting others, their comparative advantages and their weaknesses. It also means adjusting to the rhythm and organizational capacities of the partners. This takes time and energy, and sometimes investments do not pay dividends.

Lack of resources still hampers effective national societies' health interventions in many countries. Monitoring and supervision of volunteers at community level is weak. More decentralization and recruitment of rural and community volunteers is needed in order to have a network of volunteers who can readily undertake community health interventions.

There is need to strengthen communication between national societies to enable them share experiences.

National societies' representation in country coordination committees or inter-agency coordination committees needs to be improved to enhance their access to more resources through these partnerships.

Disaster Management

Goal: The suffering of the vulnerable people affected by disasters is reduced through the building of Red Cross and Red Cross capacities at regional, country and local levels.

Overall Objective: National societies' and Regional Delegations' Preparedness and Response capacities are strengthened through knowledge-sharing and working together both at regional and country levels (ICRC, other agencies, other regional programmes, etc.).

Food security capacities/programmes at regional and country levels are established / strengthened at regional, sub-regional and country levels

Two Emergency Appeals were launched and one was revised since July 2003 with the support of the Disaster Management Unit:

- [Emergency Appeal no. 17/2003, Sudan: Drought in Red Sea](#). The appeal was launched on 01 July 2003 for CHF 1,159,000 to assist 106,500 beneficiaries for 12 months. The appeal was preceded by

East Africa Regional Programmes: Appeal no. 01.13/2003; Programme Update no. 2

an assessment in which the Disaster Management Unit actively supported the operation by deploying a member of the RDRT.

- [Emergency Appeal no. 28/2002, Ethiopia : Improving Food Security](#). This existing appeal was revised on 05 December 2003 for CHF 13,460,853 to assist 136,500 beneficiaries until end of February 2004.
- [Emergency Appeal no. 04/2004, Eritrea: Drought](#). The appeal was launched on 01 February 2004 to assist 50,000 beneficiaries for nine months. This appeal succeeded appeal no. 33/2002, which had received considerable support to resolve logistics difficulties. A drought re-assessment mission by the RDRT successfully assisted the national society and the Regional Delegation to prepare the new appeal (04/2004).

The Regional Disaster Task Force supported Uganda Red Cross in September to draft a follow up emergency appeal for the influx of refugees from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

With support from the global disaster preparedness/policy department in Geneva, a one week training workshop to reinforce the regional working group on food security was held in August for 21 national society's officers from eight national societies: Sudan, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Uganda, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Somalia and the Regional Disaster Management Programme Officer. The theory and field practical training was held in Sinkat, Sudan which is a chronically food insecure environment affected by acute food insecurity due to droughts. The training was aimed to strengthen the capacity of the food security working group to:

1. Support national societies in translating eastern Africa food security strategy and [Ouagadougou Declaration](#) into programmes and plans of action
2. Design and establish pilot food security projects with national societies annually according to annual plans and budgets
3. Take lead in training national societies' staff and volunteers on food security issues in creating awareness, skill training and advocacy.

Participants were drawn from a multidisciplinary background: health, disaster relief and preparedness, branch secretaries, programme coordinators and organisational development officers. The practical session helped build team spirit and experience sharing, and understanding of different organizational approaches to food security including relationship to other sectors such as health and key policies, strategies and the Ouagadougou declaration. It also enhanced the selection and use of different VCA tools in food security assessments, food security information analysis and programme design. Country specific action plans on food security and a regional action plan were developed during the training.

The disaster management unit continued to closely cooperate with agencies specializing in early warning and monitoring the food security situation in the Horn of Africa such as IRIN, USAID-FEWS, FSAU⁷, and national early warning systems.

Readiness for political disturbances and population movement is improved through contingency plans at regional, sub-regional, and country levels.

Plans for a joint training with ICRC on conflict preparedness, political disturbances and population movement to reinforce the regional working group on political disturbances were postponed as the ICRC were still developing a harmonized approach with the Federation's disaster management unit in Geneva.

[Click here to return to title page](#)

⁷ FEWS - Famine Early Warning System; FSAU - Food Security Assessment Unit

East Africa Regional Programmes: Appeal no. 01.13/2003; Programme Update no. 2

With technical assistance from the department, Rwandan Red Cross prepared and effectively implemented a contingency plan for their general elections; this entailed the deployment of Red Cross action teams to respond with first aid services both at the various political rallies and on the day of the elections.

Assistance was given to prepare the Lake Victoria Red Cross initiative involving the three East Africa national societies from Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania, and the Swedish Red Cross, ICRC and the Federation. This involved facilitation by the department at a meeting in Kampala in September 2003 to review the outcome of the vulnerability capacity and branch capacity assessments. A sub-regional programme was later developed at a meeting in Nairobi in November and a partnership structure agreed based on a Memorandum of Understanding. The role of the Federation would be to coordinate international and regional stakeholders, representation and advocacy relating to the initiative through the East Africa Sub-Regional Office with technical support from the Regional Delegation. Working closely with the East Africa Sub-Regional Office, a proposal was submitted for disaster preparedness, organizational development and health technical support to the initiative.

The Regional Disaster Management Coordinator participated in the first contingency planning for the Horn of Africa in November 2003 organized by UNOCHA Regional Support Office for Nairobi. At the meeting, donor and regional organisations, UN agencies, NGO and the ICRC developed the most likely and worst case scenarios for Ethiopia, Eritrea, Sudan, Djibouti, Somalia, Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda. These have greatly contributed to the planning of the department.

See section above on Appeals launched during this reporting period.

Preparedness for seasonal floods/cyclones is put in place and strengthened at sub-regional and country levels.

Following severe rains and flooding, the Sudanese Red Crescent Society received technical assistance in preparing a flood response operation in Kassala in August 2003. This involved the deployment of an RDRT assessment team and field missions by the Regional WatSan and Disaster Preparedness Delegates. The regional information and reporting departments assisted in the preparation of Information Bulletins and Press Releases while the regional logistics department assisted in the procurement of WatSan equipment.

As a part of the long term disaster preparedness measure, the Regional Disaster Management Coordination Unit gave technical input in the drafting of a concept sheet to be used in the training of the Sudanese Red Crescent's national working group for floods in 2004.

In cooperation with the French Red Cross, the disaster management department closely monitored the development of two cyclones in the region - Cyclone Beni and Cyclone Darius - that threatened to hit Madagascar in November 2003 and the Island of Mauritius in December 2003 respectively.

Vulnerability Capacity Analysis (VCA) is conducted and Disaster Preparedness policies/plans are prepared at country level

Technical support on risk mapping and disaster preparedness policy was provided to the Sudanese Red Crescent and Sudan Delegation as a continuation of the Federation/DFID Partnership. This resulted in a revision of the national society's disaster preparedness policy and plan. Relationships have been strengthened with ProVention consortium and UNEP for a risk reduction programme in Sudan.

Relationships with DFID have been maintained and national societies and delegation covered by the DFID and the Federation risk reduction partnership supported through monitoring visits (Rwanda and Sudan while the trip to Ethiopia was postponed until early 2004). All activities of the three national societies under the partnership have been successfully completed and negotiations initiated over a proposed DFID disaster

East Africa Regional Programmes: Appeal no. 01.13/2003; Programme Update no. 2

reduction mark II programme for 2004-2008 with a focus on food security, seasonal disasters and harmonizing conflict and disaster preparedness in the Horn of Africa.

Assistance was provided to Kenya Red Cross in facilitating a disaster management workshop for 40 senior governmental officials in Coast Province.

A computerized regional database for the RDRT has been established and updated.

Overall Regional Disaster Preparedness/Response capacity is strengthened, knowledge shared, skills transferred, and joint planning improved.

The Regional Disaster Management Coordinator participated in the Global Disaster Management Delegates meeting in Panama in October. A presentation was made on the East Africa disaster preparedness and response strategy that contributed to the initiation of a working group on “characteristics of regional disaster management” Led by the Regional Disaster Management Coordinator, the group has already defined these characteristics based on the “well prepared national societies” checklist and circulated the draft document for further input.

A major task for the regional disaster preparedness office is the coordination of technical support to national societies in the training of their national disaster response teams (NDRT). During the period, there were five NDRT training which involved the deployment of members of the RDRT to support national societies from Seychelles and Rwanda in July, Uganda in August, and Ethiopia in October while Sudan was supported by the Regional Disaster Preparedness Officer in December.

The regional disaster management unit held its annual disaster preparedness and response planning meeting in Nairobi in October 2003 attended by 13 of the 14 national societies from the region and a representative of the RC-NET. The major issues are:

- Progress reports
- Strengths and weaknesses of the five working groups since 2001
- The Indian Ocean sub-regional strategy
- The Lake Victoria sub-regional strategy
- The global and regional disaster preparedness [Strategy 2010](#)
- The plan of action for national societies for 2004
- The way forward

The region was represented in several international workshops during the year. These included a [FACT](#) training workshop organized by the disaster management and coordination division of the secretariat organized in Copenhagen in October 2003 in which participants from Uganda Red Cross and Ethiopia delegation attended. The Tanzania Red Cross Kasulu Field team leader and the Ethiopia Red Cross Disaster Preparedness Officer also attended a team leaders’ training workshop held in Finland in November 2003. A staff member from Sudanese Red Crescent participated in a needs assessment methodology workshop organized by the disaster preparedness and policy department in Geneva in December 2003.

Impact

Through the technical support and advice of the disaster management coordination unit, several national societies have developed new strategies and policies; among these are ARCHI 2010 and core structure in Ethiopia, and a national disaster preparedness policy and plan based on national risk mapping in Sudan. Ethiopian Red Cross has since conducted the first food security workshop and recruited a Food Security Officer as part of its newly adopted disaster preparedness and response strategy as well as Strategy 2010.

East Africa Regional Programmes: Appeal no. 01.13/2003; Programme Update no. 2

The RC-NET is committed to leading disaster management in the region as a result of the disaster preparedness and response planning meeting in October 2003. A clear plan of action for 2004 has been developed.

The regional working groups have been strengthened and stand at 192 members: Working group floods cyclones 100 members, RDRT 60 members, working group on population movement three members, working group on food security 25 members, and working group on policy planning four members. In addition to being the immediate response group for small to medium disasters in the region, the RDRT forms a multidisciplinary resource pool of national societies' officers who can be deployed to coach PNS through regional exchange as explicated in sections above.

The Lake Victoria Initiative has taken a definite structure and direction, a ten year proposal submitted for funding for the three Eastern Africa national societies from Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania, and an innovative partnership model successfully negotiated.

Constraints

The period was characterized by organizational change. The disaster preparedness and response department and regional logistics unit were merged into one disaster management department. The Regional Disaster Preparedness Delegate and Head of Regional Logistics Unit completed their missions and a new Disaster Management Coordinator appointed who in addition to assuming new responsibilities for disaster management coordination as well as security management for the delegation also takes up senior management team duties at the Regional Delegation. Staff responsible for local fleet, freight, logistics and IT/telecom continue to report to the Disaster Management Coordinator but will be absorbed into the support services department in 2004.

The programme budget was slightly under funded at the end of the year leading to some financial constraints. The recruitment of the Regional Disaster Response Officer did not take place in 2003 and will be undertaken in 2004.

Coordination

Close relationship with UNOCHA⁸ has been maintained through attendance at the CAP⁹ launch and contingency planning for the Horn of Africa in November 2003 and the bi-monthly inter-agency information sharing meetings.

The new UNDP Africa Disaster Management Advisor made a presentation to the 13 national societies present at the annual DP/R meeting.

The department developed partnerships with the ProVention consortium and UNEP for the project on risk reduction by strengthening community flood resilience through local partnerships in Sudan. Project activities commenced in September 2003 and a visit was planned for the three partners in January 2004.

The Kenya Red Cross Disaster Preparedness Director represented the Federation at the UNOCHA Field Coordination training in December 2003. Close coordination has been maintained with national societies and delegations running relief operations in Eritrea, Ethiopia, and Sudan, as well as DFID funded programmes in Sudan, Ethiopia and Rwanda.

[Click here to return to title page](#)

⁸ OCHA – (UN) Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

⁹ CAP – UN Consolidated Appeal Process

East Africa Regional Programmes: Appeal no. 01.13/2003; Programme Update no. 2

The regional disaster management department coordinates regular regional disaster task force meetings for disaster monitoring. Coordination with other Regional Delegation departments includes the regional health and care and support unit for the Lake Victoria Initiative and HIV/AIDS in emergencies during a regional meeting in Nairobi in September 2003.

Several members of the regional disaster management unit participated in inter-agency steering group meetings for emergency preparedness and response.

The Regional Disaster Management Coordinator took over as Regional Security Delegate. The duty officer system was reviewed and clear responsibilities written and explained. Relationships with ICRC, UN Office in Nairobi and Embassies were strengthened. Evacuation measures were reviewed and with the support of the local company providing security for the Regional Delegation, all security incidents in Kenya and East Africa were mapped. This period saw three security incidents involving PNS and Regional Delegation national staff.

Organizational Development

Goal: The Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in the region maintain a high profile in responding to the needs of the most vulnerable at community level.

Objective: The national societies have the necessary structures and systems in place to respond to clearly defined community needs.

Progress

Two national societies are fully proficient in project planning

Through the facilitation of the regional organizational development delegate, the Mauritius Red Cross finalized its Strategic Plan 2003-2006. The Strategic Plan focuses on the four core areas of the Strategy 2010 with underlying organizational development objectives to ensure adequate procedures between the headquarters and the branches in the implementation of activities, volunteer management, funding diversification and democratic governance succession.

The Seychelles Red Cross undertook the mid-term monitoring of its Strategic Plan 2000-2004 in January; one of the main findings was the lack of human resources to ensure regular follow up of programme implementation, leading to the emphasis for a full time programme coordinator. This position was filled in the second quarter with support from the Capacity Building Fund (CBF) following which the new programme coordinator has made good efforts to install systems to deal with shortcomings in the reporting and archiving process, and has also worked with the national society's programme officers to design detailed action plans under each objective of the Strategic Plan.

The regional organizational development delegate facilitated a Strategic Planning Process with the Somali Red Crescent during the second half of the year. This involved a number of meetings to outline the various sections of the document and to update drafts.

Governance and integrity issues are addressed in five national societies

After considerable effort and several training sessions on good governance by the regional delegation to the Governing Board members of Mauritius Red Cross, the national society finally committed itself to the process. This has entailed regular feedback and comments from the regional organizational development delegate in which several draft versions were produced. The final draft is expected to conform with the Federation's guidelines.

East Africa Regional Programmes: Appeal no. 01.13/2003; Programme Update no. 2

The current political environment in Somalia has not permitted the revision of the Somali Red Crescent statutes. The national society is however committed to implementing and revising certain internal procedures to ensure that the Federation's best practices are adhered to particularly in the areas of governance and management and financial transparency. The regional organizational development delegate gave regular support to the national society's Secretary General in designing training programmes on these issues.

Branch development and decentralization continue in five target societies

The Branch Development project of the Seychelles Red Cross drawn up at the beginning of 2003 proceeded well; the long overdue Assembly was held on the Island of La Digue in October while a training programme is being implemented with the newly elected committee. Members of the national society's National Committee also traveled to the Island of Praslin to assist in the redesign of the branch' activity plan.

An allocation from the CBF to Mauritius Red Cross enabled the branch on Rodrigues Island to purchase a computer and e-mail connection which has greatly facilitated contact with headquarters. Essential repairs to the roof of the branch office were also carried out with the help of this funding.

For information regarding branch development in Comoros, Djibouti and Madagascar, please consult the separate Annual Reports for each of these countries.

The Federation volunteerism policy is adapted to the requirements of four national societies

Drafting of the Somali Red Crescent Volunteer Management Policy progressed well over the last six months. However an indefinite postponement of the national society's all-inclusive meeting at which the final draft was to be presented has delayed the process.

The Mauritius Red Cross has also included the design of a Volunteer Management Policy in its Strategic Plan. However, no process had begun by the end of 2003.

Leadership in seven national societies are trained in finance and management procedures

The Somali Red Crescent successfully completed the recruitment of full-time secretaries in each of its branches. The regional OD delegate provided regular support to the Secretary General in the design of procedures for inclusion in the revised internal regulation which will clearly define the roles and responsibilities of governance and management particularly in the areas of financial management.

Impact

The design of the Mauritius Red Cross Strategic Plan and the mid-term monitoring of the Seychelles Red Cross Strategic Plan highlighted the fact that the national societies are continuing to appreciate the importance and value of such documents when explaining their priorities to potential partners.

The Somali Red Crescent now has a better understanding of the need for an all-inclusive approach to its Strategic Planning. While much of the discussion is still on an internal level, it is expected that all Movement partners will participate in the next stage of the planning. This will prepare the way for an eventual Cooperation Assistance Strategy document.

The appointment of the programme coordinator in Seychelles means that there is a much more systematic monitoring of the implementation of the Strategic Plan.

The rather modest support given to branch development in Mauritius and Seychelles has; reduced isolation, allowed the headquarters to provide more backup to local activities and ensured more branch participation in national society' decision making.

East Africa Regional Programmes: Appeal no. 01.13/2003; Programme Update no. 2

Constraints

The complex political process in Somalia together with the postponement of an important all inclusive meeting to elect new Board members and present the national society's Strategic Plan and Volunteer Policy has slowed down the momentum in finalizing these two documents. It is hoped that, as in the past, the political situation will not be used as an excuse to continue postponing these two processes.

The near finalization of the Mauritius Red Cross statutes is a major step. However it is expected that the institutionalization of the procedures to implement these will create certain difficulties for some members of the existing governance. This will be followed closely by the Regional Delegation in 2004. To ensure proper implementation of the Strategic Plan, the Mauritius Red Cross needs to seriously consider the appointment of a programme coordinator similar to the Seychelles' model. There is some hesitation in doing this as the national society is uncertain about sustaining the post in the long term despite the fact that there are significant opportunities to extend its funding base. The Regional Delegation will continue to encourage the national society to open this position this year.

While securing funding for Seychelles has never been easy, it will be important to ensure modest funding required in 2004 to maintain the momentum in branch development.

Humanitarian Values

Goal: Red Cross Red Crescent Principles and Humanitarian Values are known and respected throughout the region; discrimination against vulnerable groups is reduced.

Objective: Support national societies in the region by increasing their capacity to promote Red Cross and Red Crescent principles and Humanitarian Values, actively involving them in anti-stigma and anti-discrimination activities, especially with regard to people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA), and developing their potential of responding to humanitarian emergencies and reducing vulnerability.

Progress

Catastrophes and major events by the Federation and national society received high media coverage.

The national societies' activities to mark the World First Aid Day activities received varied degree of support from the Regional Information Unit. A notable example is the Kenya Red Cross whose week-long series of events was inaugurated by the Minister of Information and Tourism and included a feature on a local TV station and a series of radio interviews.

During the World Red Cross Red Crescent day, the unit gave its support in marking the activities of both the regional delegation's HIV/AIDS department and national societies. Various national societies' events relating to the Federation's global campaign against HIV/AIDS-related stigma and discrimination ranging from marches, speeches, first aid mock exercises, and television and talk shows were processed into press releases and web stories and posted in the Federation website.

Similarly, adequate media coverage was given to various disasters that affected the region over the reporting period; approximately 30 news releases and articles were issued and published on the Federation's web site (<http://www.ifrc.org/news/>), and approximately 15 more appeared on related websites.

This coverage included flooding in western Kenya that claimed more than 36 lives and left nearly 60,000 homeless during the long rainy season in April. Assistance was given to the Kenya Red Cross information officer in developing a communication strategy, setting up field visits for the media, arranging interviews for key staff of the national society and producing articles for the Federation website. The regional information

East Africa Regional Programmes: Appeal no. 01.13/2003; Programme Update no. 2

delegate, who had visited the flood areas together with the Kenya Red Cross secretary general, and national society's information officer were also interviewed live on various news agencies.

The Federation response to the Kassala floods in Sudan also received wide publicity including a press release in cooperation with the media service in Geneva. The regional information delegate also wrote feature articles and facilitated interviews with other Federation delegates in the field with various international media houses such as CNN, BBC, RFI, AFP, Reuters, Radio Vatican, World Radio Geneva, UN radio among others. The Federation provided photographs to Reuter's photo service; the United Nations Integrated Regional Information Network (IRIN) and Reuters AlertNet web sites hosted excerpts also made continuous references to information provided by the Federation through the regional information unit.

The emergency operations for internally displaced persons in Northern Uganda due to attacks by the rebel Lords Resistance Army was given a lot of media attention as did the drought relief operations both in Ethiopia and Eritrea. Response to floods in Madagascar and Comoros with the support from the Indian Ocean Rapid Intervention Platform (PIROI)¹⁰ were kept in the limelight; the Comoros Red Crescent's response and appeal for aid to secure potable water, food, clothes and basic drugs were repeatedly aired on the national radio.

Support was given to Somali Red Crescent to finalize the publication of a First Aid manual. Photographs taken during a role-play session with staff and volunteers of the national society were used to illustrate the document. The Seychelles Red Cross information officer was also assisted in the production of an article to mark the International Disaster Reduction day.

The regional information unit played a very active support role in the launch of the Lake Victoria Initiative covering the three national societies from Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania and funded by the Swedish International Development Agency through the Swedish Red Cross. This included editing the vulnerability and branch capacity analysis reports and writing of a feature article that was shared with the regional media houses. The unit will also design and implement a humanitarian values project under the initiative and continue to cover the progress of the initiative to increase regional awareness.

Three national societies are supported to protect the emblem, acquire international recognition, and recruit new members.

The recognition process for the national societies of Eritrea and Comoros is ongoing. The two counterparts are members of the regional Communications Forum and benefit from its support; direct coaching will be enhanced once official recognition is achieved.

The Kenya Red Cross volunteer and membership recruitment campaign is well on track. The national society used the video clip "*Where the Streets Have No Name*" produced by the Federation media service, as well as the song "the Power of Humanity" produced by the Philippines Red Cross for the 1998 International Conference in gatherings with youth in Nairobi and other main cities in the country. Although clear results will be seen later, visibility gained during the flood operation is expected to have a positive impact on the membership recruitment.

Six national societies strengthen their capacities in information/communications through region exchange/coaching visits and support.

Particular focus was put on the national societies of Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Rwanda, Seychelles, Tanzania and Uganda.

[Click here to return to title page](#)

¹⁰ PIROI - Plate-forme d'Intervention Régionale Océan Indien

East Africa Regional Programmes: Appeal no. 01.13/2003; Programme Update no. 2

The regional information unit played a key part during the second round of training of Regional Disaster Response Team (RDRT) held in Dessie, Ethiopia in April 2003. Other than contributing towards a successful fundraising for the training event, the regional information delegate also co-facilitated a session on the [Seville Agreement](#) with his Ethiopia Red Cross and ICRC counterparts. A module on 'dealing with media in emergencies' was included for the first time in the RDRT training. Two communication officers from Uganda and Ethiopia national societies also attended the training. Practical field-sessions included exercises on the production of news releases, operations updates and other relevant emergency documents. The regional information unit produced a well received promotional report which has also been used a marketing tool.

A Norwegian Red Cross information delegate undertook a five-week mission which focused on coaching the new head of information and public relations department of the Ethiopia Red Cross. Among the areas covered included introduction to the Movement, information policy and practice of the Movement, as well as the role and structure of the national society's information department and external contacts. A number of articles related to the drought operation and the RDRT training in Dessie were also produced during the course of the mission. A planned follow up mission was postponed for the beginning of 2004. The regional information delegate is working on expanding this model of partnership to other national societies in the region.

There has been little achievement during the past two years by the regional Communication Forum created in 2001 to provide information/communications/dissemination officers, of the national societies in focus, an opening to know one another and share experiences. As a result the ICRC announced their reluctance to continue funding the forum due to non-performance. The regional information delegate then initiated a series of meetings with the ICRC resulting into a Communications Forum task force which brought together four information officers from Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda. They resolved to be more proactive.

A regional web site to link national societies in the region into sharing of information, best practices and inter-society communication is functioning.

The creation of a web site for the Eastern African region was put on hold after it was decided to focus on using the global Federation web site. Coaching and networking with national societies communications counterparts continued.

Five national societies are supported to develop and produce videos, brochures, and posters etc. to conduct anti-stigma, anti-discrimination, and/or public awareness and vulnerability reduction campaigns.

There has been an excellent co-operation between the regional information and health and care units during the 13th International Conference on AIDS and Sexually Transmissible Infections (ICASA) held in Nairobi in September. "The friendship messenger," a bi-weekly newsletter on the activities of the Regional HIV/AIDS programme has been on issue regularly since June 2003. The document highlighting achievements and concerns over HIV/AIDS issues was shared with operating and participating national societies, the health department in Geneva, the UN agencies and the Global and National Networks of PLWHA (GNP+/NAP+).

The health and care unit was offered support during the production of two "Best Practice" brochures on HIV/AIDS Home-based Community care for Ethiopian Red Cross and Kenya Red Cross (refer to HIV/AIDS section for details)

The Kenya Red Cross worked jointly with the regional information delegate in video production to profile the community home based care programme of the Mombasa branch with a special focus on the role of Muslim religious leaders in HIV/AIDS prevention and care. It is hoped that the Kenya Red Cross/Federation video called 'A Testimony of Hope' will have a positive impact and promote and market the family and home-based care programme throughout the continent. It was successfully presented during a major HIV/AIDS conference

East Africa Regional Programmes: Appeal no. 01.13/2003; Programme Update no. 2

in Senegal in December 2003. Excerpts of the video were also included in a multi-media presentation showed at the International Conference in Geneva. The main character in the video is a HIV positive woman who is now an active volunteer of the HIV/AIDS campaign, thanks to the Kenya Red Cross.

The HIV/AIDS information delegate produced a series of articles and presentations of the Red Cross Red Crescent volunteers during the 11th International Conference for PLWHA held in Kampala Uganda in October 2003. The Federation had a strong presence due to the large number of volunteers and staff who were heavily involved in different activities. The information unit also produced an exhibition design for the regional health and care department for use during conferences and expositions (see related information in the HIV/AIDS section).

The health and care unit continued to receive assistance for their anti-stigma regional poster contest while the World AIDS day was marked with a press release and a feature article announcing the completion of the competition. All posters will be used to produce promotional materials for national societies; work is underway for the winning entries to be produced into pocket calendars, post cards and posters to be distributed to all national societies in the region as advocacy and dissemination tools, and for continuation of the campaign in 2004.

Through support from the regional information delegate during a mass-measles vaccination campaign in October, the Ethiopia Red Cross programme coordinator participated at a press conference together with representatives from Ministry of Health, WHO, UNICEF, USAID, Rotary International and the Japanese government. A series of articles highlighting the work of the national society were produced and published on the Federation web site; the American Red Cross, Reuters AlertNet and UN IRIN posted them on their own websites. Support was also given to a Swedish cameraman who covered the measles vaccination campaign. Both the footage and the final report were shared free of charge with the Regional Delegation.

Five national societies have improved their resource mobilization results through expanded information capacities.

The regional information delegate worked closely with the director of organizational development programme of the Kenya Red Cross in designing a membership and volunteer campaign programme (more details in the preceding section)

The global long-term partnership between Nestlé and the Federation WAS highlighted through the production of a news release and article.

The mission to Ethiopia in October provided an opportunity to coach the national society's information officer on ways of future co-operation and in particular support to the improvement of the national society's web site. The Federation's web manager, designer and the press officers from Swedish Red Cross and Norwegian Red Cross have been contacted for support. A video footage covering the Ethiopia measles campaign taken by a Swedish cameraman was shared with the national society for the production of resource mobilization material.

Following a visit by the Swedish Red Cross press officer to the Malindi branch of the Kenya Red Cross, the Swedish Red Cross has expressed its intention of supporting the development of an HIV/AIDS project in Malindi.

A similar HIV/AIDS focused visit to Rwanda was organized for a British Red Cross press officer in conjunction with the ICRC and the Rwanda information officer.

The regional information delegate and the Federation communications manager represented the Federation at a Partner National Societies (PNS) press officers' workshop organized by ICRC in Nairobi in November. The

East Africa Regional Programmes: Appeal no. 01.13/2003; Programme Update no. 2

meeting focused mainly on communications in crisis situations with a special emphasis on the Iraq operations. The regional information delegate presented a model in which a Norwegian Red Cross press officer coached the Ethiopian Red Cross counterpart and encouraged support for this type of development exercise co-ordinated by the Federation's regional information unit. The meeting was attended by PNS press officers from Austrian Red Cross, British Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross, Danish Red Cross, Dutch Red Cross, German Red Cross, Swedish Red Cross and Norwegian Red Cross; the ICRC was represented by their head of press service, the press officer in charge of national societies' relations, ICRC Nairobi information delegate and the head of ICRC Somalia delegation. A full report is available with the regional information unit upon request.

Meanwhile, the terms of reference for the follow-up mission of a Norwegian Red Cross information delegate to Ethiopia have been finalized. The one-month mission in 2004 will focus more on hands-on training as well as induction for two newly recruited staff.

Impact

The coverage of the response to catastrophes as well as major Federation and national societies events generated calls from national and international media. Major news organizations such as the BBC, CNN, Agence France Presse (AFP), Associated Press and Reuters are constantly briefed on Red Cross Red Crescent regional humanitarian issues.

Coverage of major conferences on HIV/AIDS during the period greatly increased the regional visibility of the Federation and its partners such as GNP+ and NAP+. Similar visibility was also gained through the production of best practice brochures for both Ethiopia and Kenya national societies. The ultimate impact through the wide distribution of these brochures will be a contribution to change the attitude towards HIV/AIDS positive people in traditionalist communities in East Africa. A series of posters, post cards and calendars published in Arabic, French and English are expected to have a similar impact.

Following months of negotiation by the regional information delegate, the very likely participation of the Reuters chief photographer as a facilitator in the upcoming regional Communications Forum in March 2004 is expected to be a catalyst in the capacity building effort of national society counterparts. Moreover, the prospects of the Reuters photographers teaming up with the national society/Federation information officers during evaluation missions, emergencies or routine coverage of operations is expected to bring good results. This regional development matches the signing of a global co-operation agreement between Reuters News Agency and the Federation during the International Conference in Geneva.

The regional information delegate attended a human resources workshop organized by the Swedish Red Cross in Kenya for their delegates working in Eastern Africa. This new initiative was designed to 'take the pulse' on-site and understand, evaluate the working and living conditions of delegates as well as to have a closer look at the activities deployed by Swedish Red Cross delegates on Federation/ICRC contracts. Development and capacity building activities in logistics, information, water and sanitation, or Federation representation was one of the main conclusions drawn at the retreat. From the promotion of humanitarian values perspective, the regional delegation received the confirmation that the development path adopted so far is well appreciated and that the Swedish Red Cross is keen in further supporting the efforts of the regional information delegate.

Constraints

Following two unsuccessful recruitment exercises, the regional information unit functioned without an information officer throughout the year which led to an increase in workload. The assignment of an HIV/AIDS information delegate, however, had a positive impact especially on promoting the activities of the regional health and care support unit. The recruitment of an information officer will be pursued in 2004.

East Africa Regional Programmes: Appeal no. 01.13/2003; Programme Update no. 2

Inactivity on the part of the regional Communication Forum led to the ICRC withholding funding. However, at the intervention of the regional information delegate, a Communications Task Force was created to spearhead the forum. However, this limited to four of the 14 people directly participating in a useful evaluation process.

Despite good developments in planning for a membership and volunteer campaign during the first quarter, the resignation of the director of Organizational Development programme of Kenya Red Cross temporarily slowed down the progress.

Coordination

Regular contact with information staff from the national societies (of Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Rwanda, Uganda and Somalia), colleagues from other departments of the regional delegation and the media service in Geneva led to an improved working relationship, a more fluid circulation of information and the production of articles.

There exists admirable cooperation with the Federation's media service and communications unit. The regional information unit contributed to the efforts of the media service of making Africa the most prolific region of the Federation with 50 news releases or articles produced. Part of these were published on the Federation web site, others were referred to or published on UN IRIN¹¹, Relief Web and Reuters AlertNet web sites.

Close working relations with the ICRC cooperation delegate has contributed to the revival of the regional Communications Forum. The regional delegation also produced footage for the International Conference that was sponsored by the ICRC, while the regional information delegate facilitates regularly at the induction sessions ICRC staff delegations.

Promotion of humanitarian values and information activities are part of every regional and national Federation programme which is proof of the integrated approach adopted within the regional delegation. Coordination with the PIROI delegate as well as with national society counterparts and the Federation representatives are regular, making contacts with main media representatives including UN counterparts more efficient.

There is commendable cooperation and coordination between counterparts from participating national societies (American, Austrian, British, Canadian, Danish, French, Finish, German, Swedish, Norwegian Red Cross societies). These are expected to bring an improvement in the funding of the regional information unit through PNS counterparts advocating for the direct allocation of a percentage of the pledges of their national societies towards the PHV programme. It is also expected to lead to the replication of the Ethiopian/Norwegian Red Cross short partnership missions facilitated by the regional information unit thus accelerating the capacity building process.

Federation Coordination

Goal: Federation coordination is maximized in the Eastern Africa region.

Objective: The impact of partners' inputs and the outputs from relationships amongst national societies, the Federation, the ICRC, and other global and regional partners is increased.

[Click here to return to title page](#)

¹¹ IRIN - United Nations Integrated Regional Information Network (OCHA)

East Africa Regional Programmes: Appeal no. 01.13/2003; Programme Update no. 2

Progress

Red Cross Red Crescent Network for East Africa (RC-NET) is well functioning and serves to guide the Regional Delegation

The RC-NET held its second and third meetings during the period. The ICRC has been fully incorporated into the meetings which have become a very important forum to discuss pertinent issues facing national societies in the region. Among prominent issues covered in the two meetings include the situation with Burundi Red Cross where the RC-NET resolved to get more involved in seeking a resolution. The RC-NET also expressed its concern over some bilateral delegates, their legal coverage and the insufficient dialogue by partner national societies prior to the selection of delegates. The ICRC highlighted the three current issues relating to national societies, namely; conflict preparedness, integrity issues and planning for results towards which it is considering multi-year funding of national society programmes.

Cooperation Agreements Strategies (CAS) documents and processes exist and function well in eight countries and are initiated in two others.

The three national societies under the East Africa Sub-region Office (Kenya, Uganda and Rwanda) have each developed their respective CAS documents and Memorandum of Understanding. These were signed by the Federation, the ICRC and eleven partner societies (American, Belgian, British, French, Danish, German, Netherlands, Norwegian, Spanish, Swedish, and Swiss Red Cross societies) during the Federation General Assembly in Geneva. Where a national society does not have a strategy, or the strategy is outdated, the delegation has encouraged their development or updating as was the case with Mauritius and Comoros. Ethiopia and Eritrea are making good progress with their CAS, while Tanzania and Sudan have made initial steps towards beginning the process.

Programmes and activities with ICRC, bilaterals, PNS are well coordinated

A new head of ICRC regional delegation in Nairobi took over in April and together with his predecessor, paid a courtesy call at the Federation regional delegation for a briefing. A close working relationship has been established with the ICRC and several joint activities conducted during the period, prominent among these is the inclusion of the ICRC at the RC-NET meetings. For the first time, eight delegates and local staff from ICRC-Somalia Delegation visited the Regional Delegation in October for a general briefing of activities in the region. Focus was put on the decentralization process, the change strategy and the example of the regional HIV/AIDS workplace programme. It is hoped that further exchanges will continue. The ICRC is also a close counterpart of the regional information unit in facilitating the activities of the Communication Forum and is a partner with the Federation and the Swedish Red Cross over the Lake Victoria Project covering the three national societies of Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania.

Several meetings were held with visiting bilateral officers to discuss evolving partnerships and activities with national societies. These include a field visit by two senior officers from the Norwegian Red Cross in which they consulted the head of the regional delegation and other colleagues over the position of the Norwegian Red Cross in the region, their comparative advantages, their weaknesses and their challenges in the future. The results of this consultation have been shared with the Norwegian Red Cross board and will serve as a base for the future international strategy of the national society.

The Lake Victoria project is coordinated through the Federation's East Africa sub-regional office. The organizational structure for the partnership proposed in Nairobi in November was endorsed at a meeting during Geneva Statutory meetings in which there would be a rotational one year chairmanship beginning with the Uganda Red Cross. The Head of the Sub-Regional Office for East Africa will participate in the quarterly Task Force meetings of the project planned to coincide with the RC-NET meetings.

East Africa Regional Programmes: Appeal no. 01.13/2003; Programme Update no. 2

Systems for the recruitment and deployment of locally recruited delegates are well functioning at regional level and are well known and respected by national societies in the region.

The recruitment system is well established and has been shared widely with national societies in the region and queries over the recruitment policy clarified. The establishment of a continental Human Resources Unit in July based at the regional delegation was reversed after one month. As a result a number of activities were returned to the delegation

Ten people from the region are trained, recruited for global assignments and reintegration into their national societies increased.

Refer to Disaster Management section for information on the second cycle of the RDRT training, was conducted in Ethiopia, on deployment of RDRT members for training and assessment missions to other sister national societies.

East Africa contributes to organizational learning and the development of best practices worldwide

The regional HIV/AIDS team and a consultant from UNAIDS undertook the documentation of the partnership between the Federation and Global/National Network of PLWHA HIV/AIDS to be published as a UNAIDS best practice document. The HIV/AIDS department has also launched a survey to collect data on key achievements of national societies in scaling up HIV and AIDS interventions in 2002 in view of measuring progresses of national societies in the scaling up process.

Federation-wide standards, policies, and resolutions are promoted and respected.

Regular meetings between the staff and head of the regional delegation continued as part of the regular information sharing and problem solving strategy. These meetings have given opportunity for the HoRD update staff on the Change Strategy, the impact on the field, to clarify rules and procedures in human resources matters and also to get the views and questions from staff.

A meeting of the All Africa organizational development (OD) delegates was held at the regional delegation in April and facilitated by Geneva based head of OD department. As part of the Federation Change Strategy, the position of Africa Volunteering Delegate will transform into that of a Continental OD Coordinator for the whole of Africa. The main objective of the meeting was therefore to discuss and finalize the draft Job Description of the new continental position, discuss the methods of working, line responsibilities and the relationships with delegates, the regional delegation and national societies' OD coordinators. The link between the global OD priorities and those of the regional delegations were also discussed. The meeting was attended by all Africa OD delegates, Federation representatives, national societies OD coordinators and the regional delegation's programme coordinator.

With support of the Netherlands Red Cross a 'Transition Manager' was posted at the regional delegation in July to implement the Change Strategy as adopted by the Board of Governors in November 2002 over a one year period.

Impact

The activities to strengthen the RC-NET have led to more ownership of the regional delegation's activities. The RC-NET taskforce discussed the implementation of the Change Strategy in the region. The senior representatives of the national societies used a meeting on governance to discuss issues of common interest in preparation of the statutory meetings. This also evolved into growing interest in having issues of integrity of member national societies settled as much as possible locally using peer pressure.

The positioning of a head of office for the East Africa sub-region, who specifically focuses on coordination issues, has proven very beneficial. The model is used as an example for the other Sub-regions where their establishment of heads the Indian Ocean Islands and for the Horn of Africa are in preparation.

East Africa Regional Programmes: Appeal no. 01.13/2003; Programme Update no. 2

The Transition Manager was able to develop the new organization structure and to promote new ways of working in order to make the Change Strategy effective at field level.

Constraints

A constraint is still the difference between the political decision to change the role of the Federation and the facilities and space to implement it. Financial constraints at the Federation forced the delegation to look for voluntary contributions for implementing the new structures (core positions such as disaster management coordinator and program coordinator are funded by donor national societies).

The national societies, operating bilaterally, are reluctant to be 'coordinated' by the Federation.

International Representation

Goal: The Federation is an authoritative voice in the international humanitarian arena and is a reliable partner to corporations, governments, international and non-governmental organizations.

Objective: The Federation is more focused and effective in international representation to build the capacities of the national societies in the region, to provide effective coordination mechanisms, play an active role in promoting its policies in fund raising and in participating in international meetings.

Progress

The regional delegation is increasingly called upon to provide opinions, information and leadership on issues of humanitarian concern.

The regional delegation was invited to participate in different forums (OCHA, UNEP, IRIN, etc.) and supported one of the Federation Board members from Africa to represent the Federation at a NEPAD meeting in Japan.

The regional database on external relations is fully functioning and disseminated throughout the region; national societies are able to take its ownership and management at country level.

The first steps in designing a regional database have been initiated and will be completed in 2004.

The running of the UNEP partnership through concrete projects in three countries is coordinated and documented by the regional delegation

Real cooperation had a difficult start due to different ways of operation. Plans for support to disaster preparedness activities in Sudan did not materialize; however an agreement has been reached to produce booklets on best practise.

The projects of the Alliance of Youth Organizations in three countries of the region is coordinated and documented by the regional delegation and reported to the secretary general.

The Youth Alliance programme continues to develop its activities; a regional secretariat has been established based at the Nairobi Regional Delegation premises, it is run by one officer and a consultant will be hired from time to time as per need to assist in technical support to the countries' organizations. The chief executive officer of the World Organization of the Scouts Movement paid a courtesy call and held discussion on the progress of the Youth Alliance with the head of the regional delegation during a visit for the Africa Region Scout meeting in Nairobi in September.

[Click here to return to title page](#)

East Africa Regional Programmes: Appeal no. 01.13/2003; Programme Update no. 2

Following a meeting held in Zambia in August, attended by the regional programme coordinator, all the five countries under the initiative (Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Ghana and Zambia) have completed their National Youth Workshops and are now finalizing their country plans. Meanwhile, the Kenya Red Cross is funding partners collaborating in youth empowerment in Kenya (PACOYEK) to develop a training manual on peer education. The PACOYEK team is currently developing a concept paper for the manual.

A youth forum on HIV/AIDS will be held in Dakar in March 2004 in which each organization is required to send two young representatives below 30 years old. Further information of this forum will be sent soon to national societies of Africa.

Increased resources from embassies and private enterprises are received in response to appeals.

The head of the regional delegation made diplomatic contact with several ambassadors who have recently arrived in Kenya; these included the ambassadors of Spain and the United States of America, to introduce the Federation regional office and explain its coordination role in disaster management, health and HIV/AIDS and in strengthening the capacity of national societies.

A representative of the Israeli embassy contacted the regional delegation to discuss possible cooperation in the field of emergency health and first aid which will be pursued further with the technical regional departments.

The French embassy security attaché paid a visit to the delegation for a general briefing with the disaster management coordinator and the health officer. Discussions centered on First Aid, medical evacuation and general security measures at the disposal of the delegation in a disaster situation. The French embassy is in the process of developing an emergency response and evacuation plan for their personnel and selected the Federation as one of the models to learn from.

Nairobi is also a hub of regional coverage for many embassies with a special accreditation to United Nations headquarters of UNEP and Habitat.

Relations with the African Union, United Nations agencies are revitalized based on clarified objectives.

The regional programme officer-health participated in an Inter-agency Coordinating Committee Taskforce meeting set up by the ministry of health to discuss and outline procedures to follow in the wake of the SARS outbreak. The disease was among the issues discussed at a United Nations HABITAT meeting held in Kenya, at which the head of the regional delegation represented the Federation and delivered a keynote speech (refer to section on HIV AIDS for work with UNAIDS)

The regional delegation has been participating at the inter agency meetings organized by OCHA. This forum is very important for all humanitarian actors to share their views on the Great Lakes situation and to coordinate contingency planning among them. The Federation has been selected to lead an inter-agency working group on cross borders issues and procurement. Other organizations participating at these meetings include MSF, UNICEF, OXFAM, World Vision and Merlin. The meetings are also attended by all OCHA country representatives from the Great Lakes region, other UN agencies, ICRC, World Vision International, Care, Oxfam, embassy representatives, and donors such as ECHO and USAID.

The head of regional delegation represented the Federation at the Africa workshop on environmental disasters organised in Nairobi by UNEP/OCHA in July. The Nairobi delegation presented the Eastern Africa disaster preparedness and response 2010 strategy and among the questions raised were; the role of the Federation in influencing and supporting the national societies, particularly the non-performers, the relations of national societies with their government and the constraints faced by interference during RC/RC relief interventions and the International Disaster Response Law and its objectives. Several recommendations were drafted to UNEP and are available upon request.

East Africa Regional Programmes: Appeal no. 01.13/2003; Programme Update no. 2

The objectives of the workshop are to build consensus and promote exchange of information, experiences and solutions in the management of environmental disasters in Africa. Matters on policies, programmes and tools in the prevention, preparedness for response to natural and technological disasters were discussed.

The participation of the Federation in international meetings and forums is more focused, coordinated and effective based on the Secretariat and regional priorities.

The head of the regional delegation represented the Federation at the Third International Conference for Africa Development (TICAD) meeting in Nairobi sponsored by the Japanese Government in June. This was the second of a series of three meetings held in South Africa and Cameroon. Six Federation interventions on the 11 topics of the conference were made during the debates and it is hoped that these will contribute to draw more attention to humanitarian aspects of Africa development. The meeting was attended by representatives of 12 countries from the Indian Ocean Islands, Horn and East Africa.

The regional ECHO coordinator based in Nairobi organized a regional seminar in Pretoria in June attended by all ECHO country representatives of Africa, their desk officers from Brussels, and the director of Echo 1 and Echo 5. The HoRD attended as a special guest for a panel discussion about relations of ECHO with its partners. Other panelists were UNHCR, OCHA, World Vision and COOPI. The debate was very fruitful and created a better understanding between the ECHO participants and the partners' representatives.

The regional delegation presented a brief on food security and water and sanitation to be featured in a publication of the African conference and exhibition edition of the International Aid and Trade Review held in Nairobi in June 2003.

An HIV/AIDS project-information delegate was recruited for six months (June-December) to assist the regional delegation and national societies with the preparations and organization of the ICAS conference and the PLWHA workshop in Uganda in November (refer to HIV AIDS section for more details)

The head of the regional delegation attended the first Eastern Africa Sub-regional ministerial conference of the New Partnership for African Development (NEPAD) held in Nairobi on 28 October. The meeting aimed at discussing the role of regional economic communities in NEPAD, the challenges for East Africa and how to run the partnership at national level. Participants highlighted the need for greater cooperation, synergy and harmonization with a stronger political commitment. It was attended by representatives and senior government officials from member countries (Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Djibouti, Sudan, Eritrea, Burundi, Mauritius and Rwanda), representatives from the COMESA, IGAD, East African Community, African Union, international organizations (the World Bank, European Union, IMF, USAID and Japanese Cooperation Agency), the private sector and international and national media houses.

Impact

The impact of activities related to the regional delegation's in external relations is difficult to measure, both in theory and practise.

Constraints

The delegation has lacked the means to systematically develop its 'external relations role'. For this reason an external relations unit is foreseen to be established in 2004.

Field Management

Goal: The capacity of national societies in the region is improved and service by the Regional Delegation to all Federation members supporting the region is highly valued.

Objective: The Federation programmes and presence in the region are well managed and contribute to the strengthening of national societies in the region through excellent cooperation, knowledge-sharing, best practice, advocacy, and policy development.

Progress

Country delegations in Sudan, Ethiopia, Rwanda, Uganda, and Eritrea are fully integrated into their host national societies; country delegations in Tanzania and Burundi are partially integrated into their host national societies.

Country delegations are fully integrated in the national societies. The Burundi delegation has been closed for integrity issues related to the Burundi Red Cross.

Sub-Regional office for East Africa/Great Lakes begins to function in 2003, and is completed by 2004-2005. Preparations for Sub-regional offices for the Horn and Indian Ocean Islands are complete in 2003, offices established in 2004-2005.

The East Africa Sub-regional office has initiated quarterly meetings for the general secretaries of the national societies of Kenya, Uganda and Rwanda covered by the office to increase networking, sharing of experiences and the transfer of knowledge. In line with this, the first joint meeting for the finance and administration directors from the three national societies was held at the regional delegation in November 2003. Participants shared experiences in relation to quarterly standard reporting formats and the management and funding of core cost budgets in the three national societies. The recently developed rules for international standards for procurement and the model adopted by Uganda Red Cross with the assistance from Geneva were also discussed.

Meanwhile, a senior officer has been recruited to assist the management of the office and to support the three national societies in the area of financial development. One of his first tasks was to develop the appeal 2004 budgets under the revised budget guidelines. Unfortunately serious IT problems in installing the updated version of BUSY delayed the presentation of budgets to the regional finance unit for validation on time.

Support and management oversight to Burundi, Tanzania, and Somalia delegations is effective.

The Tanzania Delegation has been effectively supported in the preparations of the handover of the refugee relief operation to the Spanish Red Cross. Support continued to the management of the Somali delegation which is hosted at the regional delegation premises.

Support to national societies without a Federation country presence is provided adequately to those demonstrating need, interest, and willingness to benefit from the support.

The head of the regional delegation and the regional organizational development delegate attended the second meeting of the PIROI, together with presidents of national societies of Indian Ocean Islands, at La Réunion in April. The meeting reviewed the achievements of the PIROI for the past three years, analysed the impact of the eight deployments so far, and proposed the way forward to sustain the platform which is aimed at responding to small and medium disasters in the Sub-region. The PIROI, through the technical support of Federation and ICRC is now fully operational and has become a major component of the Eastern Africa disaster preparedness and response strategy for the region. Some elements of the concept are being thought for the Great Lakes Sub-region and exchanges are planned to share lessons learnt especially with the Lake Victoria Initiative.

East Africa Regional Programmes: Appeal no. 01.13/2003; Programme Update no. 2

Regional finance unit processes accounts from the 14 countries and provides budget development and monitoring support.

The application of budgeting and financial management tools for budget holders at the delegation continues to show a remarkable improvement in financial management and tracking following training provided by the RFU in 2002.

A financial training officer from the global training department in Geneva conducted a financial management workshop for all regional delegation staff to train budget holders (programme managers) on financial management procedures. The training is expected to improve the budget holders' financial planning, tracking, forecasting, reporting and overall management of projects/programmes.

At the request of the head of the regional delegation, a management audit was conducted by the Federation internal audit department in June. The objective was not only to review the implementation level of the last audit held in 1999 but to analyze the impact of the reorganization process at the regional delegation following the Strategy for Change at field level. It is hoped that the recommendations will be useful to adjust the changes to the structure, the people and the system before the end of the year.

Regional logistics unit provides services and developmental support to national societies.

The restructuring of the regional logistics unit is now completed and saw four positions removed and replaced with two new ones. The head of logistics unit completed his mission in June and will not be replaced instead the major responsibilities have been transferred to the new disaster management coordinator. The warehouse manager and the general logistics responsibilities of the former delegate have been replaced by a senior logistics officer, while the positions of transport assistant and freight officer have been replaced by a logistics assistant.

The logistics spread sheet was finalized and posted in the server making it possible for direct tracking of goods and services by the respective departments at the delegation.

The logistics unit warehouse that was located at the Kenya Red Cross headquarters has been closed to control the budget. The remaining limited stock has been moved to the delegation's office building. The bonded stock/status is still kept at the Kenya Red Cross premises for easy operation. As part of the clean-up and closure of the warehouse, the regional disaster preparedness/response department disposed some of its old stock to staff through tendering system which fetched close to CHF 2,360.

The logistics unit is a member of an inter agency group of humanitarian organizations which meets frequently at the World Vision Offices to exchange information and ideas on logistics activities in view of uplifting the standard of humanitarian services in this region.

Annual and emergency appeals throughout the region are proficiently planned, reported on and managed.

Three emergency appeals were launched in the period with the support of the Regional Delegation. These were: Kenya Floods, Sudan; Kassala Floods and Uganda; Refugees in the Democratic Republic of Congo. The support offered by the regional delegation included the production of information bulletins, press releases, news articles and programmes updates; it also involved the regional departments of disaster preparedness/response, information, logistics and reporting. Support was also given in preparation of final reports for the Kenya and Uganda appeals.

[Click here to return to title page](#)

East Africa Regional Programmes: Appeal no. 01.13/2003; Programme Update no. 2

Quarterly management meetings unify the regional delegation and country-based representatives into a coherent, well-functioning team through experience and knowledge sharing, coordinated planning, and intra-regional cooperation

Team management meetings were held quarterly, taking an average of three days. The meeting in May included PPP training (see below).

The regional delegation has strengthened its management system and structure through weekly meetings of the senior management team in view of improving consultation and coordination for the implementation of the change strategy. As a priority, the support services unit which includes finance, human resources, administration, visitor services, reception and facilities has been reviewed and proposals for outsourcing some services approved. By the end of the year, it is expected to have completed the analysis of the regional delegation services aiming at reducing running costs, maximizing the cost effectiveness of the staff and increasing the quality, quantity and the timeliness of the Federation support to all national societies in the region.

Project Planning Process (PPP) is introduced to all delegates and formal training organized.

Project Planning Process (PPP) training was conducted at the regional delegation and was also attended by participants at the RC-NET and team management meetings. Several case studies were discussed such as one highlighting the development versus emergency response issues in which the promotion of humanitarian values programme is confronted. Other training sessions are planned to include all delegates and staff from the regional delegation and national societies.

Impact

Despite the restructuring, the logistics department continued to provide services to the regional delegation, national societies, country delegations, bilateral national societies based at the Nairobi regional delegation offices, and continental offices.

Constraints

The restructuring of the logistics department and the resultant reduction of manpower led to an increase in the workload.

Introduction of the concept of the head of Sub-region and the specific role takes more time than expected. It requires a gradual approach and a process of negotiation with the national societies concerned.

Though a proposal has been forwarded for the logistics administration cost, it has not been accepted by the logistics services beneficiaries. New ways of convincing the service beneficiaries of the need to subsidise the funding of the logistics department will need to be sought.

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All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(SPHERE Project\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

East Africa Regional Programmes: Appeal no. 01.13/2003; Programme Update no. 2

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

[Contributions List below – Click here to return to title page](#)

East Africa Regional

ANNEX 1

APPEAL No. 01.13/2003

PLEDGES RECEIVED

18/02/2004

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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CASH

REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				2,898,648	TOTAL COVERAGE 83.8%	
CASH CARRIED FORWARD				348,980		
AMERICAN - RC		5,466	USD	7,442	31.03.03	
AMERICAN - GOVT/PRM		80,000	USD	108,760	29.04.03	REFUGEE RELATED WORK
BRITISH - RC		30,000	GBP	66,834	29/01/2003	DP DELEGATE, HEALTH & CARE UNIT
BRITISH - GOVT/DFID (04)				90,000	24.02.03	RC-NET
BRITISH - GOVT/DFID (04)				54,000	24.02.03	HEALTH
BRITISH - GOVT/DFID (04)				59,000	24.02.03	ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
BRITISH - GOVT/DFID (04)				110,000	24.02.03	DISASTER MANAGEMENT
BRITISH - RC		5,466	USD	7,434	21.03.03	SUDAN DROUGHT ASSESSMENT TEAM MEMBER
BRITISH - RC		15,000	GBP	32,213	28.03.03	RDRT TRAINING
BRITISH - RC		15,000	GBP	32,213	07.04.03	HIV/AIDS
BRITISH - RC				10,238	16.06.03	HEALTH & CARE, PHAST REVIEW
BRITISH - RC		5,000	GBP	11,018	06.08.03	DISASTER PREPAREDNESS. WORKSHOP IN SINKAT
BRITISH - RC		5,000	GBP	11,300	29.10.03	DMC DELEGATE
BRITISH - RC		5,240	USD	6,804	05.12.03	HIV/AIDS 13TH INTERN. CONFERENCE, STI
BRITISH - RC		45,000	GBP	100,283	08.12.03	HEALTH & CARE: WATSAN, HIV/AIDS, DISASTER MGT COORDINATOR
BRITISH RC		15,000	GBP	33,427	17.12.03	LOGISTICS, INFORMATION, INT. REPRESENTATION
BURUNDI - RC		818,078	BIF	1,071	01.07.03	RC-NET 2002-2003
DANISH - RC		5,466	USD	7,442	28.03.03	ASSESSMENT MISSION
DANISH - RC				48,234	16.12.03	REGIONAL DELEGATION
DJIBOUTI - RC				1,000	11.04.03	RC-NET
ETHIOPIAN RC				1,000	12.03.03	RC-NET
EURAID		13,383	EUR	20,576	18.08.03	TANZANIA RCS
FRENCH - GOVT		33,000	EUR	50,243	07.05.03	MEDICAL ADVISER
INTERNATIONAL YOUTH FOUNDATION		16,509	USD	22,535	24.07.03	WORKSHOP TANZANIA & UGANDA, OFFICE SUPPORT
KENYAN - RC		56,900	KES	1,013	03.04.03	RC-NET
MAURITIUS - RC		763	USD	1,031	17.06.03	RC-NET
MONACO - RC		1,000	EUR	1,543	27.06.03	BRANCH DEVELOPMENT PROG.
NORWEGIAN - GOVT/RC		1,000,000	NOK	193,500	22.05.03	HEALTH,HIV/AIDS,COORDINATION, ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
NORWEGIAN - GOVT/RC		444,444	NOK	82,444	22.09.03	HEALTH. COORDINATION, ORGANISATION DEVELOPMENT
SEYCHELLES- RC				2,000	23.05.03	RC-NET 2002/2003
SWEDISH - GOVT		9,903	USD	13,468	10.02.03	REG. TWINNING FORUM

East Africa Regional

ANNEX 1

APPEAL No. 01.13/2003

PLEDGES RECEIVED

18/02/2004

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SWEDISH - GOVT		3,650,000	SEK	584,000	08.04.03	DISASTER MGT, HUMANITARIAN VALUES, HEALTH & CARE, ORGANISATIONAL DEV., CO-ORDINATION
SWEDISH - GOVT				2,500	28.08.03	ICASA
SWEDISH - GOVT				17,872	01.04.03	VCA/BCA SEMINAR
TANZANIAN - RC		1,471	USD	2,001	27.05.03	RC-NET
UGANDA - RC		1,383,430	UGX	1,000	21.05.03	RC-NET
UGANDA - RC		1,383,430	UGX	908	01.06.03	RC-NET
CAPACITY BUILDING FUND ALLOCATION				33,020	30/04/2003	SEYCHELLES - P64002
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				2,178,347	CHF	75.2%

KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
FINLAND	DELEGATE(S)			76,550		
NETHERLANDS	DELEGATE(S)			30,226		
GREAT BRITAIN	DELEGATE(S)			80,985		
SWEDEN	DELEGATE(S)			59,959		
USA	DELEGATE(S)			1,807		
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				249,527	CHF	8.6%

ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET

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