

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

LIBERIA

15 October 2003

Appeal no. 01.27/2003; Appeal target: CHF 691,419 (USD 474,419 or EUR 470,094)

Programme Update No. 2

Period covered: May to September 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 180 countries.

For more information: www.ifrc.org

In Brief

Appeal coverage: 86.8%; please refer to the Contributions List for this appeal on the Federation's website.

Outstanding needs: CHF 90,923 (USD 68,780 or EUR 59,080).

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals: Mano River sub-regional programmes, Appeal no. 01.29/2003

Programme Summary: The on-going conflict in Liberia had previously limited activities under this appeal; nonetheless, the Liberian Red Cross staff and volunteers continued to offer assistance despite those limitations. A ceasefire in August has improved the ability of the National Society and the Federation to implement activities. The National Society has developed a plan of action; this has allowed a rebuilding of the infrastructure, completely looted during hostilities. National Society staff and volunteers have entered a new phase of assistance for those affected by the conflict. As well, the improved peace has allowed the Community-Based Health Programme to restart and to provide essential services to those in need.

Operational developments

This document presents a revised plan of action for the Liberian Red Cross, which has resulted because of the conflict situation reigning in this country for the last two months. The document will also present objectives for 2004 as a means of identifying the continuation of the work to begin in September, 2003.

On 5 June 2003, ongoing fighting between the Liberian Government troops and LURD¹ forces erupted in the western suburb of Monrovia, 6 km from the city center. This led to massive displacement and further vulnerability of the local population with thousands of IDP² in search of refuge and safety.

The signing and announcement (18 June 2003) of a cease-fire by the warring parties in the Republic of Ghana raised the hopes of thousands of war weary Liberians. However, a second round of fighting erupted in Monrovia a few days following the cease-fire (25-27 June), further increasing the number of IDP. The consequences of this mass displacement in a hostile politico-military context were acute shortages of pre-stocked medical supplies, drugs and equipment, food, safe drinking water, resulting in increased hardship and a rise of cholera and diarrhoea cases. Looting and vandalism were targeted against humanitarian organizations, private enterprises and individual homes.

Furthermore, the highly volatile armed hostilities near the Liberian capital of Monrovia quickly changed from deteriorated on 19 July: a third round of attacks on the traumatized city forced thousands of IDP to the brink of

¹ LURD – Liberians United for Reconciliation and Democracy

² IDP – Internally-displaced persons

despair. The constant barrage of rockets, mortars and bullets on various parts of the city quickly reduced Monrovia to a big graveyard, with large number of deaths amongst the civilian population recorded daily. In the West Point Community alone, two kilometers from the city center, at least 49 bodies were collected and buried by the Liberian Red Cross volunteers. Another 238 victims were provided first aid with the more serious cases transferred by wheel barrel to the MSF³ clinic.

Finally, after more than two months of intermittent fighting in and around Monrovia, a cease-fire was signed in Accra on August 18th between the three parties in the conflict. The guns have been silenced in Monrovia and people are beginning to move about and shops are opening. However, the estimated one million inhabitants of Monrovia have been left in a grave state with hunger and disease as their chief enemy.

The Liberian Red Cross was completely looted during the second and third attacks even to the point of having all their doors and windows stolen. Volunteers and staff were forced to flee their homes and most lost all their possessions. Despite this, volunteers and staff have continued to work and offer assistance to the victims of the conflict and are now beginning a new phase of assistance to the tens of thousands of Liberians affected by the conflict.

The Federation, ICRC and Liberian Red Cross Secretary General held a two-day meeting; the objective was to develop a plan of action for the National Society during this crisis period. The following identifies the objectives established for September to December 2003. Further, the major objectives for 2004 are also presented for information purposes; these will be explained in greater detail in the 2004 Annual Appeal for Liberia.

Health and care

Goal: The health of vulnerable people in Liberia is improved through increased knowledge of: proper hygiene and sanitation; importance of good drinking water; and transmission of communicable diseases.

Objective: A community-based health programme will be developed and implemented by the volunteers of Liberian Red Cross.

Expected results:

1. Through peer education, HIV/AIDS awareness among young people in Grand Bassa country has been significantly increased.
 - The target population in Grand Bassa (20,000 persons under 18 years of age) have received key health messages;
 - Thirty health clubs are established in target schools;
 - A volunteer management system covering all five districts of Grand Bassa has been put in place;
 - Stigmatization and discrimination towards PLWHA⁴ has been reduced in the target county; and,
 - Significant behaviour change has been noted amongst the target population.
2. The recruitment of a director of community-based health programme (CBHP) for Liberian Red Cross will be completed by 15 October 2003.
 - A community-based health programme will be developed;
 - Twenty volunteers will be recruited and trained in CBHP in eight chapters; and,
 - A health delegate will be recruited to assist in the development and implementation of CBHP.
3. A clean-up campaign will be carried out in Monrovia, targeting orphanages, IDP camps, West Point area, Bushrod Island and parts of central Monrovia.
 - Thirty volunteers will be provided with tools and protective clothing as well as training on safe and proper methods to follow; and,
 - Approximately 100,000 residents will benefit from a cleaner environment.
4. Information sessions will be carried out for the inhabitants of the targeted areas on related health issues, in conjunction with the clean-up campaigns.

³ MSF – Médecins sans Frontières

⁴ PLWHA – Persons living with HIV/AIDS

- Ten residents including the local chief of the area will be associated with the clean-up campaign and encouraged to take responsibility of their area; and,
 - Information sessions on related health issues will seek to target 2,000 people over the two-month period.
5. Safe drinking water will be provided to the citizens of Monrovia and the accessible chapters through assessments and chlorination of wells.
- Two hundred (200) wells will be tested and chlorinated in Monrovia. Follow-up testing will be done on a monthly basis; and,
 - One hundred (100) wells - 50 in Grand Bassa and 50 in Margibi - will also be tested and chlorinated as needed, with monthly follow-up.

January - December 2004

Objective 1: The implementation of the Community-Based Health Programme in all 15 chapters as they become accessible.

Disaster Management

Goal: The Liberian Red Cross will respond to the needs of the vulnerable affected by conflict as well as food insecurity.

Objective: While developing the Liberian Red Cross local Emergency Response Teams, the National Society will learn more about the most urgent needs of the vulnerable people including access to food.

Expected results:

The food security project that was successfully implemented in the counties of Grand Bassa, River Cess and Margibi earlier in the year but interrupted due to the conflict in the country, will again be supported through the provision of seeds and replacement of agricultural tools and will be extended to the rural areas of Montserrado County. The purchase of seeds and necessary materials will be coordinated with the ICRC Agro programme.

- An additional 500 farmers will be targeted in the ... (1,000 farmers have already benefited from the programme)
- 75% of the target group (1,000 persons) are able to plant in the next farming season using their own reserve.
- Beneficiaries are able to exhibit new techniques learned in crop management, nursery construction and management, fertilizer application, and transplanting.
- Sufficient quantity of food produced to improve the nutritional diet of the beneficiaries.
- Improved capacity to implement disaster preparedness and development projects in the four Liberian Red Cross chapters and eight districts involved.

Expected results:

In coordination with ICRC, a data base will be developed on the volunteers and staff of the National Society that have successfully completed disaster management training. Individuals will be identified for refresher training and new volunteers recruited to fill the gaps left as a result of the conflict in the country.

- ERTs⁵ trained in all 15 chapters entered into the data base.
- Refresher courses will be provided before the end of 2003-10-29
- Each functioning chapter will identify new volunteers to complement the existing ERTs.

January - December 2004

Objective 1: ICRC, Federation and National Society will conduct refresher training for the individuals identified through the data base and new volunteers trained with the objective of reinforcing the Emergency Response teams in the border areas with the Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea and Sierra Leone.

⁵ ERT – Emergency Response Teams

Objective 2: Emergency response teams will have quick access to equipment and non-food items necessary for responding to disasters through the central ICRC emergency response stock. ERTs will also be provided with basic first aid response materials at the chapter and branch level

Objective 3: Follow-up of the Emergency Response teams will be the responsibility of the National Society supported by the ICRC and Federation Disaster Management Units.

Youth

The Liberian Red Cross, aware of the impact and consequences of the conflict on the thousands of child soldiers in Liberia, will be looking to the programmes (CAR and CAP) successfully run by the Sierra Leone Red Cross Society. The Secretary General of the Liberian Red Cross, along with the Youth coordinator, will carry out a mission to the Sierra Leone Red Cross Society in order to visit these programmes. The 2004 Annual Appeal of the Liberian Red Cross will include plans for the development of the programmes.

Organizational Development

Goal: Liberian Red Cross is a well-functioning National Society.

Objective: Liberian Red Cross is capable of delivering services effectively and efficiently.

Expected results

- The National Society has a decentralized structure with active chapters, which facilitates its improved operational capacities and resource development capacities.
- Governance has clearly defined job descriptions, and work of Governance is distinctly different from the work of Management.
- The National society is decentralized, having strong chapters with the capacity to carry out the mission of the National Society. Headquarters provides technical support to chapters.
- The construction or rehabilitation of the following Red Cross offices will take place: National headquarters, Montserrado and Bong chapters.⁶
- Six senior management positions at the National Headquarters level: Director of Community Based Health Programme, Director of Conflict and Disaster Management, Director of Youth, Director of Administration and Finance, Director of Family Reunion (Tracing), and Director of Information and Communication will be advertised, positions filled and incumbent trained.
- The status of the President of the Liberian Red Cross and, if necessary, providing the support for a National Executive meeting to choose an acting President will be clarified.
- The National Board Meeting will be held with the objectives of providing a draft of the 2004 plan and information and input to the upcoming statutory meetings and General Assembly.
- During December 2003, the Presidents and Field Officers of all 15 chapters will spend a week in Monrovia; the National Society objectives for 2004 will be shared, and training in community-based health care and disaster management will take place.
- The Liberian Red Cross representatives to the statutory meetings and the General Assembly will be prepared.
- ICRC and Federation will hold joint information sessions on the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement for government Ministers and senior officials: Geneva conventions, principles and Humanitarian Values, Movement activities in Monrovia, etc.
- A Finance Delegate will be recruited for a 12-month period to enable the National Society to develop and implement an interim management system. The National Society lost all of its financial reports and materials, including computers and soft ware. There is a plan to implement a Financial Management System in 2004 following an assessment carried out this year.
- A partnership meeting will be held in Monrovia before the end of October 2003.

⁶ The rehabilitation and construction of the headquarters and chapters will be funded by ICRC.

January - December 2004

Objective 1: Construct or rehabilitate additional National Society chapters. Note that the number and identification of the chapters to be supported will depend on the security situation in the country.

Objective 2: Assistance with the holding of the Chapters' General Assemblies prior to the National Red Cross General Assembly to be held in December 2004.

Objective 3: The holding of information sessions on Management and Governance for the National Society as well as for Chapters .

Objective 4: Management training to be carried out for the Chapters.

Objective 5: The implementation of a financial management system.

Objective 6: The provision of financial management training to the Chapters.

Objective 7: The establishment of a finance resource position and the recruitment and training for this position.

Objective 8: The implementation of an audit of 2003 financial activities.

Objective 9: The review and revision of the Liberian Red Cross 2003-2007 Strategic Plan.

Objective 10: A self-assessment of the Liberian Red Cross will be carried out.

Objective 11: The Liberian Red Cross will be an active member of the Mano River Regional Working Groups, with one of the regional meetings to be hosted by the Liberian Red Cross.

Coordination

The Liberian Red Cross, in addition to the support from the Federation, also implements the following programmes with the following partners:

- ICRC: Tracing, Dissemination and Emergency Preparedness, in addition to providing volunteers to assist the ICRC in IDP camps in providing shelter, water and sanitation and distribution of non-food items.
- UNHCR: The Liberian Red Cross has an agreement with UNHCR to manage the camps for Ivorian refugees in Saclepea, Nimba County.
- UNFPA: The Liberian Red Cross conducted an HIV/AIDS awareness campaign, funded by UNFPA, for 5,000 adolescents in the IDP camps around Monrovia. A second awareness campaign is programmed for 3,000 adolescents in Totota, Bong County.

For further information please contact:

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

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>

APPEAL No. 01.27/2003

PLEDGES RECEIVED

29/10/03

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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CASH

					TOTAL COVERAGE	
REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				691,419		86.8%
CASH CARRIED FORWARD				94,280		
AMERICAN - RC				49,528	03.10.03	
BRITISH - RC		10,000	GBP	21,690	12.05.03	GENERAL DELEGATION CORE COSTS
BRITISH - RC		30,000	GBP	66,285	26.09.03	ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
FINNISH - RC		50,000	EUR	76,125	02.06.03	ORGANISATIONAL DEV.. HEALTH, DISASTER PREPAREDNESS
SWEDISH - GOVT		1,400,000	SEK	241,500	23.10.03	ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, HEALTH
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				549,408	CHF	79.5%

KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
CANADA	DELEGATE(S)			51,088		
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				51,088	CHF	7.4%

ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET

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