

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

SENEGAL

3 February 2004

Appeal No. 01.40/2003

Appeal Target: CHF 226,285 (USD 155,266 or EUR 153,850)

Programme Update No. 2

Period covered: May – 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 180 countries. For more information: www.ifrc.org

In Brief

Appeal coverage: 95.7%; See attached [Contributions List](#) for details.

Outstanding needs: CHF 9,823 (USD 7,800 or EUR 6,300)

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals:

- [Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Mali, Mauritania, Niger and Senegal: Heavy rains and floods - Emergency Appeal no. 20/2003.](#)
- [Senegal: Annual Appeal no. 01.38/2004](#)

Programme Summary: The [Senegalese Red Cross Society](#) worked hard to assist more than 6,500 victims of flooding that affected much of the Sahel sub-region between July and October 2003. The community health and disaster preparedness programmes assisted persons facing food insecurity in the arid and inaccessible areas in Ranérou, Matam districts; the Federation financially supported these programmes. Technical and financial support for the organizational development programme helped improve financial systems and resource development.

Operational Developments

Floods/ Food Security:

In Senegal, heavy rains in July 2003 caused flooding and affected Kaolack, Matam, Tambacounda, Saint Louis and Kolda. The swelling of the Senegal River submerged crops which were about to germinate. Parts of St. Louis city and many towns and villages along the river banks were greatly affected after dikes opened up in the upper stream. Roads were cut off by mudflows and many regions in the northern part of Senegal were inaccessible. A total of 6,492 people were rendered homeless, eight people died, and 1,277 people lost property. The Senegalese Red Cross embarked on a program to help thousands of victims in Saint Louis and Matam; the national society distributed blankets, mats, insecticide treated nets (ITN), food stuff and shelter material to more than 6,500 people. A special project for producing bricks was launched to help victims rebuild their homes; this project will be transformed into an income-generating activity for the local branches at the end of the operation.

Senegal; Appeal no. 01.40/2003; Programme Update no. 2

Recent studies by WFP showed that 19% of the country's population suffers from acute malnutrition (compared to an average of 10% in Sub-Saharan Africa). In response to this situation, WFP launched a drive to help six million out-of-school children to attend school in the Sahel sub-region over the next 12 years; this effort will expand the school feeding programme, combining it with other measures which will improve child health. In the Sahel sub-region, only half of all children receive a basic primary education.

The national society conducted its general assembly in December 2003; the incumbent President was re-elected through secret ballot, a manifestation of support from the public. Changes occurred within the executive committee during voting. The previous Executive Secretary stepped down in October 2003, and the former Head of Programmes was elected to take his position.

The national society hosted thirty-six representatives of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement¹ who attended the International HIV/AIDS Community-Based Care Conference in Dakar in December. Youth volunteers from the national society provided language support and assistance to the conference participants throughout the week. The Sahel Sub-Regional Office Health and Care Department supported this financially.

In August, the Sahel Sub-Regional Office facilitated training of the national society's Regional Disaster Response Team in Bamako, Mali. In October, one member of the executive committee took part in two of the three modules of the Movement's executive leadership development programme which was held in Geneva. The Executive Secretary participated in the Federation's project planning process (PPP) training in Cameroon, and subsequently trained staff in the national society to enable them to prepare 2004 Appeals.

Health and Care

Social cultural practices of the Senegalese contribute to the high rate of infant and child morbidity and mortality. Only 40% of the population has access to health care. Nearly 75% of all health care personnel are concentrated in the two largest cities (Dakar and Thiès), leaving the majority rural population with poor access to health care. In 2001, studies showed that more than 50% of deaths of children below five years occur at home. In response to this situation, the Senegalese government adopted the Integrated Mother Child Illness (PCIME²) program in the country. The M'bour and Thiès regions were excluded from this effort; the Senegalese Red Cross health department therefore concentrated its efforts in assisting this vulnerable population. The current project targets pregnant women and children under five in the commune of Pout and Ndey village.

Goal: To contribute to the reduction of infant and child morbidity and mortality in Senegal.

Objective: The capacity of the National Society is strengthened to fight preventable infant and child-related diseases in M'bour and Thiès health districts in Senegal.

Progress/Achievements

Family and community practices to fight infant and child-related diseases have been improved in M'bour and Thiès health districts:

- Mothers have accepted and are practicing correct breast feeding and supplementary food practices for children aged five years and below.
- A total of 21 infant and child scales were procured for use in the programme. See below the description of the launch of integrated activities and development of baseline data.
- Children's vaccination cards have been updated; there has been follow-up by volunteers in the target districts to ensure routine immunization schedules and standards are followed.
- A guide for developing and managing the volunteer network has been developed. The volunteers will help in follow-up and monitoring of the vaccination program; illiteracy and cultural practices obstruct proper upbringing of children in Senegal. Volunteers will explain to mothers the use of the record sheets, the different vaccines that the child requires and the frequency of immunization.

¹ 'Movement' refers to the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and its member National Societies

² Prise en Charge intégrée des maladies de l'enfant

Senegal; Appeal no. 01.40/2003; Programme Update no. 2

- The Red Cross health structures in the target districts have facilitated and improved access to a minimum package of IMCI-related services (vaccination, malaria, essential drugs, and diarrhoeal disease control).

A feasibility study and a situation analysis were undertaken in the last quarter of 2003 in the regions of Thiès and M'bour, with emphasis on Ndey region. A consultant was hired to analyse the data and submit a final report. The study was carried out in collaboration with the Danish Red Cross-supported community health programme to reduce costs, and to ensure coherence of the objectives and activities of the national society's health department. Indicators show that thousands of the most vulnerable children in these regions were vaccinated against measles (still a major cause of death). Over 40 volunteers were trained for deployment and 350 ITN purchased for the campaign.

The integrated health campaign is based on house-to-house sensitization. Distribution of ITN will target families with children aged below two years to encourage them to sleep under a treated mosquito net.

Impact

The impact on the lives of children in M'bour and Thiès districts has not yet been assessed; however, the national society has laid the foundation for health support in the two districts.

Constraints

Funds were transferred late and difficulties were experienced in finding a consultant to build a data base of information to ensure the programme runs smoothly and reaches out to the right target. This has delayed the programme's action phase until February 2004. There is need to train competent volunteers for this project. In line with the Ministry of Health's PCIME programme, a regional and district level workshop must be carried out by the Ministry of Health as a pre-condition to launching this project. Finally, the national society has undergone staff changes necessitating further re-enforcement of staff in the health department.

Disaster Management

Goal: The regional branches will develop Community-Based-Disaster Preparedness activities within a food security component.

Objective: Vulnerable communities develop disaster prevention and preparedness mechanisms mainly through small-scale projects relating to food security.

Progress/Achievements

Following drought in the region this year, the national society gave priority to Ranérou Ferlo branch in North-eastern Senegal for a food security pilot programme. The branch is located in a new department which was created by the government in 2003. This is an arid zone, highly vulnerable and prone to drought and floods; the government department lacks basic infrastructure. In the past, the national society has successfully linked branch development with projects hence the choice of dual strategy in food security programming and branch development. There are plans to expand the programme to neighbouring areas in the next three years, as the national society progresses and learns from the pilot project. Indicators are:

- Rice will be distributed to 2,169 people
- Construction of a multi-functional building to serve as a cereal bank and offices for the local branch
- Saving schemes will be established in each of four local branches
- About 26 members of the Red Cross are trained on the Movement
- About 20 first aiders are trained in four local committees;
- A four-tonne cereal bank is built
- Animal feed banks are installed in each of four local branches
- The departmental branch is furnished and provided initial materials.

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

Senegal; Appeal no. 01.40/2003; Programme Update no. 2

The objectives below represent more specific ones which were derived from the initial Appeal objectives.

Objectives: Vulnerable communities of Rané rou Ferlo strengthen their capacities to prevent and prepare for disasters through small food security projects.

The departmental branch of Ranérou Ferlo strengthens its institutional capacities.

Expected results:

- Target communities develop and participate as prime actors in the prevention of food insecurity in the event of a disaster.
- Small-scale saving schemes are started to strengthen the community's financial capacity.
- Communities have a better understanding of the Movement
- The departmental branch of Ranérou Ferlo has greater local visibility
- The local branches are better organized and participate in improving the living standards of the most vulnerable.

Achievements

- Rice was distributed to 2,000 vulnerable families.
- Basic sensitization was conducted during food distributions.
- Promotion of the food security programme and its launch through rehabilitation-oriented food distributions was well received by local communities and enhanced the visibility of the departmental branch which is very new and was hardly known by the local population.
- Architectural plans and costing have been obtained for the construction of the joint grain storage and offices. Construction begins in 2004.

No activities have been undertaken to strengthen the community's financial capacity.

Impact

Assessments have been conducted, and a data base developed to allow assistance to more than 2,000 beneficiaries. Food was distributed and this enabled branches to establish relationships with the local communities.

Constraints:

A plan of action was prepared, agreed upon and funds were transferred for this programme. However, the department was inaccessible due to heavy flooding. Consequently, the operation was put on hold until late December 2003. Lack of adequate communication equipment with the department worsened the situation.

The national society is in dialogue with local branches and is sensitizing local branch committees on various aspects of longer-term food security. This requires the support of technical staff currently available at headquarters only.

Organizational Development

Goal: To decrease the vulnerability of people living in Senegal through improved service delivery by the Senegalese Red Cross Society

Objective: The Senegal Red Cross has completed a comprehensive Strategic Development Plan, based on a national society capacity assessment, which is coordinated and agreed upon with key stakeholders both within and outside the Movement, leading to a systematic development approach which, with strengthened financial management and resource development capacities, will allow the National Society to progressively increase its capacity to better meet the needs of the vulnerable.

Progress/Achievements

The Senegalese Red Cross has completed the Cooperation Agreement Strategy (CAS) process, including:

- A national society capacity assessment exercise.
- A three-to-five-year Strategic Development Plan (based on national society capacity assessment) has been developed in coordination with other stakeholders.
- The national society has convened a partners meeting and formally presented and confirmed the CAS.

Senegal; Appeal no. 01.40/2003; Programme Update no. 2

The national society has a strategic development plan for 2001-2006, which does require review and refinement. This review was not conducted during this reporting period; a partners meeting was not convened, due to lack of funds and conflicting day-to-day priorities.

Accounting and budgeting software is installed with consolidated budgets and chart of accounts revised and completed.

Following a comprehensive analysis, the Senegalese Red Cross in consultation with the Regional Finance and Resource Development Delegate chose SAGE SAARI accounting software. SAGE is a firm well represented in most of the main African countries. The presence of subsidiaries represented locally by an approved dealer assures better support for installation, launching, training and after-sale service of the SAGE software packages. An annual maintenance contract was signed; this will allow the national society to receive local technical assistance and regular software updates.

National societies in the region have selected SAGE SAARI software. Negotiations for special rates were held; this could lead to a 20% discount on the purchase of the accounting Compta 100 pack software package, and an additional 20% discount in technical assistance contracts. The SAGE SAARI software will likely be used by the following national societies: Senegal, Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger. This will allow the harmonization of tools and systems in place, as well as capacity building at regional level through fostering knowledge-sharing between national society finance staff.

Rules and procedures are introduced with the finance procedural manual fully respected by Senegalese Red Cross staff.

A steering committee made up of two accountants from the national society and the community based health program was set up. The team will be assisted by the administrator on matters related to the setting up of basic steps. A report is expected in early 2004.

Professional skills of finance staff are improved through training and finance department is involved in preparation and budget control as well as finance reporting:

There will be training sessions during the installation of the software which will be complemented with monthly assistance visits during the closure of the accounts and at the end of the year in order to present the financial statements. The overall tools introduced in the finance department should allow a smooth 2004 budgetary exercise with better technical mastery of the basic steps of financial and accounting management.

By end 2003 one national resource development committee is organized and one resource development plan is developed

The Senegalese Red Cross benefits from a strategic vision related to its fund raising policy originating from a precise cartography of resources and constraints of local committees. In an integral approach, the national society wished to reinforce its resource mobilization capacity in six regional committees and eighteen departmental committees in Dakar, Kaolack, Thiès, Ziguinchor, Diourbel and Kolda. This process relies on a team of two existing posts within each committee: the person in charge of development and the one in charge of relations with women volunteers.

The Regional Finance and Resource Development Delegate will conduct an evaluation mission in January 2004 together with the national society's Executive Secretary and the Programme Coordinator to cover the 24 regional and departmental branches. Two workshops are planned in Dakar and Kaolack in order to formulate guidelines related to effective resource mobilization for fundraising and income generating projects which will benefit from the expertise of the national committee which has already approved techniques, a network and activities. The setting up of an annual resource development plan through the national committee of the national society in accordance to the PPP framework is anticipated.

Senegal; Appeal no. 01.40/2003; Programme Update no. 2

Each fundraising project should develop the following logical planning criteria:

- A situation analysis of the fund raising situation
- Needs assessment
- Quantitative objectives
- Expected results
- Activities linked to the project
- Performance indicators
- Critical assumptions and risks.

Impact

Installation of SAGE financial and accounting software for the activities of the national society and in the community based health care long-term program allows the integration of the existing accounts within the two formerly separate entities. In addition, it allows the national society to professionalize its human resources further and restructure existing management systems.

Constraints

The national society's accountant and the regional finance and resource development delegate were absent for about two months. This negatively impacted on the ability of the national society to meet some objective deadlines. These activities should be completed by January 2004.

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>

[<Contributions List below - Click here to return to title page>](#)

APPEAL No. 01.40/2003

PLEDGES RECEIVED

06/02/2004

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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CASH

				TOTAL COVERAGE		
REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				226,285		95.7%
CASH CARRIED FORWARD				5,000		
BRITISH - GOVT/DFID (04)				58,000	24.02.03	FOOD SECURITY
BRITISH - GOVT/DFID (04)				14,000	24.02.03	FOOD SECURITY
DANISH - GOVT				48,128	15.04.03	FINANCE SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT
IRISH - GOVT				80,000	28.04.03	PRIMARY HEALTH
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				205,128	CHF	90.7%

KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
DENMARK	DELEGATE(S)			3,778		
FRANCE	DELEGATE(S)			7,556		
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				11,334	CHF	5.0%

ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET

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