

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 SUB-REGIONAL PROGRAMMES

31 January 2005

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 No. 01.08/2004; Programme Update no. 3; Period covered: June to November 2004;
Appeal coverage: 55.5%; Outstanding needs: CHF 1,014,068 (USD 895,800 or EUR 657,200).
[Click here to go directly to the attached Contributions List, also available on the website.](#)

Appeal target: CHF 2,281,148 (Revised in February 2004)

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals: East Africa sub-regional programmes, 2005 Annual Appeal no. 05AA004 – http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?annual05/05AA004.pdf

Programme summary: Through its sub-regional office for East Africa the Federation is supporting a number of programmes in the three national societies of Kenya, Rwanda and Uganda through the provision of technical support, coordination, facilitating of cooperation, strategic partnerships and representation.

The former Head of the East Africa Sub Regional Office assumed the position of Head of Regional Delegation in Nairobi in September. An Interim Head of the Sub Regional Office was appointed on 1 December 2004; this will ensure the office is represented at important fora.

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

- In Kenya: Mary Kuria, Secretary General, Kenya Red Cross Society, Nairobi; Email kuria.mary@kenyaredcross.org; Phone 254.20.60.06.69; Fax 254.20.60.35.89;
- In Rwanda: Alphonse Kalinganire, Secretary General, Rwandan Red Cross, Kigali; Email rrc@rwanda1.com; Phone 250.58.54.46/7/8; Fax 250.58.54.49
- In Uganda: Robert Kwesiga, Secretary General, Uganda Red Cross Society, Kampala; Email sgurcs@redcrossug.org; Phone 256.41.25.91.79; Fax 256.41.25.81.84
- In Kenya: Esther Okwanga, Federation Acting Head of East Africa Sub-Regional Office, Nairobi ; Email ifrcke42@ifrc.org; Phone 252.20.283.5253; Fax 254.20.271.8415
- In Geneva: Josse Gillijns, Federation Regional Officer for Eastern Africa, Africa Dept.; Email josse.gillijns@ifrc.org; Phone 41.22.730.42.24 ; Fax 41.22.733.03.95

This Programme Update reflects activities to be implemented over a one-year period. This forms part of, and is based on, longer-term, multi-year planning (refer below to access the detailed logframe documents).

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 in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for a full description of the national society profile, please access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

East Africa sub-region

Operational Developments

This update covers the East Africa sub-region presently including Kenya, Rwanda and Uganda. Updates on operational developments within the Federation-supported technical areas are organized per country. The assistance provided by the Federation East Africa sub-regional office in the areas of coordination, cooperation, strategic partnerships, representation and management, and the sub-regional organization are described in the last part of this update.

Political and economic developments in the East Africa sub region

Kenya continues to occupy its place amongst the ten most unequal nations in the world with 10% percent of the richest Kenyans controlling more than 42% of its total income. Such discrepancies are evident in life expectancy,¹ the prevalence of HIV/AIDS, and education among other key indicators. The value of the Kenya Shilling fell by some 12.1% against major currencies between May and November, further impacting on the disposable income at the household level; this coupled with the current drought in some parts of the country is likely to compound the situation of the vulnerable.

A ray of hope for peace in the Great Lakes following a meeting of the Foreign Affairs Ministers of Rwanda, Uganda and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) in October were short lived by renewed heightening of tensions at the announcement by Rwanda that their troops might invade eastern Congo to disarm Rwandan combatants who were responsible for the 1994 genocide in the country. Further, despite the fact that preparations for the planned International Conference on Peace, Security, Democracy and Development in the Great Lakes was at an advanced stage, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) effectively cancelled a high-level inter-government meeting scheduled for early December with Rwanda and Uganda. The impasse continued to the end of November with the Democratic Republic of Congo announcing that it would be sending 10,000 more troops to the area to counter the Rwandan "invasion".²

In Uganda, the government announced in November that it had deployed troops along the border with the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) following reports of renewed activity by Ugandan insurgent groups based in eastern DRC. The expulsion of a Rwandan diplomat claimed to be linked with the insurgents triggered renewed tensions between Uganda and Rwanda.

On the economic front, Rwanda achieved economic progress during the course of the year marked by strong performance in the agricultural sector, which contributed to a recorded growth in GDP of 6%.³ During the month of November, the country benefited from a USD 50 million grant from the World Bank to assist in its programme of poverty reduction. This should see some improvements in the level of poverty in the targeted communities.

Similarly, Uganda benefited from a USD 257 million grant from the World Bank for the national poverty reduction programme.

¹ IRIN. Nairobi, October, 2004

² IRIN, Kinshasa, November, 2004

³ IRIN. Kigali, Dec. 2004

Kenya

Operational developments

The Kenya Red Cross Society⁴ continues to implement a drought relief operation⁵ in the Kwale and Makueni districts following poor crop harvests in 2004.

Health and Care

Goal: The general health of the population is improved by promoting health care capacities in the community utilising ARCHI 2010 as the reference point.

Objective 1: Implementation of a peer education programme amongst in and out of school youth

The national society conducted several training workshops in eight targeted branches during the reporting period; these comprised 117 trainers, 345 peer educators and 400 Community Based First Aid (CBFA) cadres from in- and out-of-school youth. An additional 26 Red Cross Club patrons were also trained in HIV/AIDS related issues in the targeted eight branches.

Following the completion of the first draft of the Peer Educators Manual prepared jointly with “Partners Collaborating in Youth Empowerment to fight against HIV/AIDS in Kenya” (PACOYEK), a workshop was held by the Youth Alliance partners which include the Kenya Red Cross, to review the findings on the ground and incorporate the inputs from the pilot training before finalizing the manual and toolkit. As a follow up to this workshop, a coordination meeting was held with prevention officers from the various partner organizations where several issues were discussed relating to both narrative and financial reporting systems and general improvement to the implementation of the programme

Impact

The increase in the number of branches involved in the programme, the number of trainers, peer educators, Red Cross Club memberships and patrons during the period has increased the coverage and reach of the peer education programme across the country. This is expected to translate into changes in the knowledge levels and positive living amongst the population.

Constraints

The national society was involved in establishing the “Access to Treatment” programme during the period, which greatly stretched the available human resource capacity for effective follow up of the activities of the newly trained TOTs and peer educators.

Objective 2: Implementation of Home Based Care (Mombassa Branch)

This component is being implemented in a number of branches under bilateral arrangements with various partners except for the Mombassa branch project, which is being implemented with Federation support. Thirty new clients were registered for support and assistance in the four locations within Mombassa Branch, bringing the total number of beneficiaries to 222. Two professional counsellors one of whom is a PLWHA joined the staff during the period. Support was also provided to bereaved families of six clients who died during the period.

Through home based care visits, 133 clients in need of counselling and/or treatment were identified and referred to relevant institutions during the reporting period.

Impact

The programme has provided families with information on basic nursing care and psychosocial support to enable them to care for their sick at home.

⁴ Kenya Red Cross Society - refer to <http://www.ifrc.org/where/country/check.asp?countryid=93>

⁵ Kenya: Drought: Emergency Appeal 18/2004 – http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?04/1804.pdf.

See also Operations Update no. 1 dated 14 September 2004 - http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?04/180401.pdf.

Operations Update no. 2 dated 21 October 2004 - http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?04/180402.pdf, and

Operations Update no. 3 (due for release on 16 February 2005) – http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?04/180403.pdf.

East Africa sub-regional programmes; Appeal no. 01.08/2004; Programme Update no. 3

The number of referrals to VCT centres is expected to decrease since the professional counsellors will now provide the service in the comfort of the clients' homes.

Objective 3: Implementation of HIV/Aids workplace programme

Following the development of a draft policy document on the workplace programme, representatives from all the national society's 55 branches attended a workshop to give input to the document before its adoption during the Annual General Assembly.

The national society has also contracted a consultant to develop the commercial component of the workplace programme. A market survey for the programme has been completed and a workshop to develop the resource pack and training curriculum for workplace facilitators conducted. Twenty workplace facilitators have been recruited and trained using the newly developed toolkit and resource pack and are already active in the field.

The Peer Educators held their regular quarterly coordination meeting at the national society headquarters to discuss implementation of activities, challenges encountered and to plan activities for the next quarter. Amongst the ongoing activities include scaling up awareness at the national society headquarters through:

- Posting of information, education and communication materials (IEC) on the notice board at the reception area to reach out to staff, volunteers and visitors;
- Condom awareness creation and distribution in washrooms and in staff pay-slips.
- To the extent possible, always including a message on HIV/AIDS as an "any other business" agenda item at the end of internal staff meetings, seminars and/or workshops.

Impact

Staff, volunteers and visitors have been able to gain free access to both IEC materials and condoms at the National Society Headquarters reception area and more privately in the washrooms. The national society staff are increasingly internalising the concept that curbing the scourge is everybody's business and not only the responsibility of the HIV/AIDS programme staff.

Objective 4: Campaign and awareness for increased community mobilization and sensitisation on HIV and Aids.

All the 8 target branches implementing the peer education programme undertook several awareness creation activities during the World Red Cross Day celebrations. Activities undertaken included the dissemination of IEC messages on HIV/AIDS by school Red Cross Clubs through drama, video shows and focussed group discussions targeting both in and out of school youths, churches and mosques. Twenty students from Garissa High School Club visited a VCT centre in order to reduce stigma associated with VCT, something shunned by predominantly Moslem communities in Garissa District.

The national society also undertook the promotion of blood donations and succeeded in recruiting blood donors from sectors of the community previously uncomfortable about donation for fear of disclosure of their HIV status.

Other activities were the promotion of the Principles and Values of the Movement through public goodwill acts by Red Cross Club patrons and their respective membership (e.g. clean up of public places, donations of food and clothing to the needy, etc.) and inter-school debates and sports competition with HIV/AIDS as the theme.

Impact

The national society is making good progress in opening up to messages on HIV/AIDS among Moslem communities as is evident in Garissa district and the home based care programme of Mombassa branch.

Constraints

The human resource capacity of the national society has been somewhat stretched by the magnitude of the programme.

Objective 5: To complement the work of the government and other partners in improving access to treatment (ART)

Following a study conducted by a consultant and extensive consultations with stakeholders and partners, the Kenya Red Cross with support from the Federation developed and submitted a five year proposal on the “Access to Treatment” component complete with an action plan for the first phase of two years. Groundwork for launching the programme is ongoing.

Constraints

The modalities and systems of procurement of ART are still not very clear in Kenya, which poses a potential bottleneck for this activity.

Objective 6: Monitoring and Evaluation

Continuous monitoring and evaluation of activities in the eight target branches was maintained. Both monthly and quarterly reports prepared; national society headquarters staff also undertook monitoring visits to some of the branches.

Constraints

The period was characterized by very heavy workload including the expansion of the programme to include new dimensions as well as consolidation of the programme in other areas; this somewhat slowed down the rate of implementation of planned activities. It is hoped that the headquarters programme officers will be able to combine their monitoring visits with informal impact assessment once this phase is over.

Objective 7: Coordination and Networking

Prevention officers from the eight branches involved in the programme attended a national youth conference on peer education at which they shared experiences with their counterparts from other organizations. Networking meetings were held with different stakeholders for information sharing relating to HIV/AIDS as well as ways of complimenting each others’ contributions.

Committees have been formed to encourage project ownership among schools and club patrons; monthly meetings have also been held for coordinated planning and programme updates.

Organizational Development

Goal: The capacity of the Kenya Red Cross to respond to the needs of the most vulnerable in the community in an effective, efficient, timely, appropriate and coordinated way and in accordance with Strategy 2010 is improved.

Objective: To improve the capacity of the Kenya Red Cross to provide timely and qualitative support to the most vulnerable through adequate human and financial resources both at headquarters and branch level and in accordance with the fundamental principles and values of the International Red Cross Red Crescent Movement

Expected result 1: Strong and focused senior management team actively benefiting from the advisory services provided by the Federation by 2007.

The newly recruited Kenya Red Cross information technology officer has began the process of developing a management information system which includes a centralized databank on branch profiles and activities. Meanwhile, to partly fulfill the staff development agenda, two programme officers are currently being supported to undertake a course in project planning and management. This should see further improvements in planning, monitoring and supervision of activities.

The eight branches involved in the scaling up of HIV/AIDS activities have had communication facilities installed in their offices (telephone/fax machines) to facilitate effective communication between them and the national society headquarters.

Expected result 2: The national society's capacity within policy, strategy and guidelines development is strengthened.

A mid-term review of the strategic plan 2003-2005 was undertaken during the period. This was followed by a planning workshop to review the plans and budgets for 2005 as a follow up of the partnership meeting held in October at which various partners reaffirmed their level of support for 2005.

A workshop was conducted for members of the National Executive Committee to clarify their roles vis-à-vis management. The workshop also served as a refresher course for the serving members as well as an induction for newly elected members.

Regular quarterly technical and coordination meetings between programme teams and their counterparts at the field continued during the period at which peer review and learning were undertaken. This is expected to strengthen the capacity of the national society in programme implementation.

Expected result 3: Increased cooperation across the borders in Eastern Africa region for mutual benefit.

The Lake Victoria programme supported by the Swedish Red Cross involves capacity building support to seven branches around the lake basin in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda. Due to unforeseen circumstances, the Swedish Red Cross application for funding for the period 2004- 2006 was only approved in November 2004, which meant a delay in the implementation of planned activities. Planned coordination meetings nevertheless continued during the period.

Five Kenya Red Cross programme officers undertook an exchange visit in October to study the Zimbabwe Red Cross Home Based Care programme in the advent of a planned expansion of the Kenya Red Cross HIV/AIDS programme. The insights acquired through the visit have proven to be useful in guiding the Kenya Red Cross through the scaling up process.

Rwanda

Operational development

Tension following the postponement of elections dates in Burundi led to an influx of refugees from Burundi into Rwanda in October consisting of both Congolese already in refugee camps in Burundi as well as a number of Burundi nationals.

The Rwandan Red Cross ⁶ provided immediate humanitarian assistance to these populations; UNHCR later moved the Congolese into camps inside the Congo while the Burundi refugees continued to receive assistance from Rwandan Red Cross in camps inside Rwanda in collaboration with UNHCR and WFP.

Health and Care

Goal: The general health of the population is improved by promoting health care capacities in the community utilising ARCHI 2010 as the reference point.

Objective: The Federation together with partners provide support and assistance to the national society to enable it to access the necessary technical and financial resources to implement its health and care programme.

Expected result 1: Community based first aid is well established.

This activity is being implemented in all provinces; during the period, 38 volunteers representing all twelve provinces underwent a two-week training-of-trainers course. Subsequently they trained 335 volunteers who are now actively engaged in community based health interventions.

⁶ Rwandan Red Cross - refer to <http://www.ifrc.org/where/country/check.asp?countryid=143>

East Africa sub-regional programmes; Appeal no. 01.08/2004; Programme Update no. 3

Technical support for strengthening local networking amongst different volunteer groups within and across provinces was intensified through the newly-trained trainers. The programme also has orphans as a special target group with particular focus on those heading households.

Expected result 2: Malaria in community has been reduced.

Activities undertaken by the 335 newly trained community volunteers under the CBFA programme include health education campaigns and environmental health activities in the fight against malaria as well as the promotion and sale of insecticide-treated mosquito bed nets (ITN). A total of 1,500 ITN were disbursed during the period including those distributed free to selected vulnerable households that could not afford to pay for them.

Expected result 3: HIV/AIDS infection in the community has been reduced

The home based care programme continued in the six target provinces of Gisenyi, Gikongoro, Kibuye, Kibungo, Umutara and Gitarama. Families given training in basic home nursing continue to support their relatives living with HIV/AIDS thereby improving their quality of life.

Treatment activities commenced in Kibungo, Gikongoro and Kibuye in collaboration with the Ministry of Health at the local level (health centres) and Medical Formations, the organization providing the drugs; preparatory work to commence treatment activities are at an advanced stage in the remaining three target provinces. The role of the National Society is to identify 200-250 persons living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) over a period of a year and refer them to health centres for treatment. The national society is also to undertake monitoring compliance to treatment regimes and referral of side effects to the clinics.

Mobilizing PLWHA to join and actively participate in established associations is a continuous activity. PLWHA have been supported to initiate income generating activities including selling of consumer goods, small scale animal husbandry and food production activities which enable them to meet their own nutrition requirements.

The 38 trained Red Cross volunteers have continued with orphan care activities and home visits of child headed households. They have also undertaken advocacy campaigns in favour of these children amongst the general public as well as with local authorities.

See Organizational Development section for peer education activities with school groups.

Expected result 4: Mobilization of blood donors has been increased

Volunteers under the CBFA project undertake other health education activities including social mobilization targeting mothers to promote immunisation of children under five, information dissemination, the promotion of voluntary testing for HIV at established VCT, and blood donor recruitment.

Expected result 5: Water borne diseases have been reduced

The PHAST project is being implemented in five locations in the Gashonga district of Cyangungu province where communities are particularly vulnerable to water borne diseases.

Following a community mobilization and sensitization exercise, 42 volunteers selected among community members in Gashonga underwent a ten days training in the PHAST methodology and were subsequently deployed to carry out an analysis of the sanitation situation within the community. The assessment revealed that the marshes on the banks of the river from which the community drew their water were largely polluted. Few households also had sanitation facilities most of which were largely in a poor state or not properly used hence resulting in high instances of water borne diseases. A plan of action has been prepared and tools for use by the volunteers to facilitate hygiene promotion are under development (see Disaster Management section on preparedness activities with respect to possible outbreaks of waterborne diseases).

Constraints

Poor funding for the health and care component limited the capacity of the national society to implement activities to the desired degree.

Stigma and discrimination is high in Rwanda; one of the results is that income generating initiatives of PLWHA are shunned by the community. Provincial coordinators have been actively engaging volunteers in anti-stigma education campaigns to reduce stigma towards PLWHA. Cases of orphans of PLWHA being chased away by their relatives have been reported even though they are HIV-negative; this indicates that the national society must intensify its anti-stigma campaigns and continue with the orphan care project.

Disaster Management

Goal: The capacity of the national society to respond to and mitigate the emergency needs of the most vulnerable in the community in an effective, efficient, timely, appropriate and co-ordinated way and in accordance with Strategy 2010 is improved.

Objective: To improve the capacity of the national society to provide timely and qualitative response during disasters through adequate human and financial resources both at headquarters and branch level and in accordance to the fundamental principles and values of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement.

Expected result 1: The national society's capacity to respond to disasters has been enhanced

Activities towards the setting up of provincial committees was started in May as a prerequisite towards developing the Rwandan Red Cross disaster preparedness policy; committees have been established in Byumba and Kibungo while preparatory work has been undertaken in Gisenyi and Kibuye/Ruhengeri with stakeholders who include the local authorities, the police, armed forces and other NGOs on the ground. Monthly disaster preparedness meetings chaired by the provincial authorities to coordinate activities are convened regularly.

Twenty four volunteers representing 12 emergency brigades from each province received a five day training to enhance their knowledge and competence in water and sanitation in emergency and disaster situations. The training came up with recommendations on inter-brigades exchange visits, regular follow up of brigade activities, organization of information dissemination on disaster preparedness activities for the committees, and mock exercises.

As part of the fight against epidemics, the national society constructed a public garbage disposal facility in Ruhango town and provided 1,200 families with health education on proper disposal of garbage. In appreciation for the national society's efforts, the local authorities promised to put a second disposal facility within the town.

Rwandan Red Cross volunteers cleared a piece of land donated by the Provincial authorities in Byumba, and created a nursery of 500 tree seedlings and 200 fruit trees from a donation of seeds from the Provincial Agricultural Services. The seedlings were subsequently planted in October as part of the ongoing anti-landslide and environmental conservation component of disaster preparedness.

Rwandan Red Cross provided assistance to a case load of refugees consisting of Burundi nationals and a caseload of Congolese refugees who had been in refugee camps in Burundi. They fled Burundi for fear of violence after elections dates were postponed. Please refer to Information Bulletin no. 1 dated 13 October 2004, entitled Rwanda: People Fleeing Burundi - http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?rpts04/rw041013.pdf

Constraints

There is need for an effective communication system between the Provincial offices and the national society Headquarters for regular and efficient flow of information and reports on the activities of the Brigades. There is also a need to engage communities fully in the preparedness activities of the Brigades.

Organizational Development

Goal: The capacity of the national society to respond to the needs of the most vulnerable in the community in an effective, efficient, timely, appropriate and coordinated way and in accordance with Strategy 2010 is improved.

Objective: to improve the capacity of the national society to provide timely and qualitative support to the most vulnerable through adequate human and financial resources both at headquarters and branch level and in accordance with the fundamental principles and values of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement

Expected result 1: a strong and focused senior management team actively benefiting from the advisory services provided by the Federation.

As part of the decentralisation process, 49 new local committees were established following a recruitment drive for new members and inter-Provincial exchange visits organized for them for knowledge sharing and peer supported capacity building. Distribution of Red Cross promotional materials to the branches particularly targeting the newly established local committees was undertaken.

Another outcome of the recruitment drive was the establishment of a youth group at the Kigali Institute of Higher Education; preparations are underway to incorporate this group into the national society's HIV/AIDS Youth Peer Education programme.

Rwandan Red Cross Headquarters continued to monitor the decentralisation process and the impact of the exchange visits through monthly meetings with the Regional Coordinators during which the latter present their activity reports. These are discussed at such fora and any area requiring improvement identified and the appropriate support given.

The Rwandan Red Cross held its annual partnership meeting in October during which partners were presented with updates of progress in the various activities and operational plans for 2005. See section on coordination, cooperation and strategic partnerships for more details.

Uganda

Operational developments

The Uganda Red Cross Society⁷ is implementing two programmes supported by the Federation, namely Organizational Development and Disaster Management focusing on the South Western Refugee Operation.

In addition to these planned programmes for 2004, the national society launched their fourth local appeal to assist internally displaced persons due to the conflict in northern Uganda. The operation is now into its second phase and achievements are also included under the Disaster Management section.

Disaster Management including Health and Care

Goal: To provide humanitarian relief assistance to refugees in Orukinga and Nakivale camps and specific capacity building support to Uganda Red Cross to ensure that Sphere standards are met.

Objective: To improve and sustain an optimal level of health through the provision of water and sanitation facilities to the communities in the camps.

Expected result 1: Efficient national society management of the camps

Tap stands made of permanent concrete bases with drainage channels were constructed at three sites under the South Western Refugee Operation in Nakivale settlement. Gutters for harvesting rain water that had been damaged by strong winds at one of the primary schools in the settlement were repaired.

⁷ Uganda Red Cross Society - refer to <http://www.ifrc.org/where/country/check.asp?countryid=176>

East Africa sub-regional programmes; Appeal no. 01.08/2004; Programme Update no. 3

Materials for the construction of more water catchments areas were procured through funding from the Netherlands Red Cross. The water treatment plant was functional throughout the period save for two days during which the pump had broken down.

Expected result 2: Water and sanitation services for both camps are adequate and sustainable.

No cases of water borne diseases were reported in Nakivale due to continuous access to safe drinking water.

Expected result 3: Adequate infrastructure is established in the camp.

Most of the problems raised last year have been addressed: the problem of accommodation is addressed through bilateral support from the Netherlands Red Cross while transport has been addressed through the lease of a pick-up to assist the camp management.

Expected result 4: Cooperation with UNHCR, WFP, governmental institutions and other partners maintained and strengthened.

Good collaboration and open dialogue has been maintained with the Office of the Prime Minister, UNHCR and WFP over the implementation of the tri-partite agreement for the repatriation of refugees. Unfortunately UNHCR has experienced funding constraints that has limited progress. Discussions are ongoing with UNHCR over a phase out strategy, but despite numerous passionate appeals to partners to consider extraordinary funding to SWRO, no tangible results have materialized.

Northern Uganda Relief Operation

Implementation of the first phase of the USAID-OFDA and ECHO support for the IDP operation in Northern Uganda was successfully completed. The second phase of implementation with support from the same donors to some 26,500 displaced households currently in temporary shelters in Lira started during the reporting period.

Following the training of 50 volunteers in conducting assessments and surveys, the national society undertook a pre-intervention needs survey for WatSan and non-food items, as well the prevalence of HIV/AIDS in the six camps it is supporting. The volunteers also provided IDP with health education through environmental health and home hygiene awareness campaigns.

Through support from FAO, agricultural kits containing seeds and tools were distributed to 500 vulnerable households in rural Lira; monitoring of crop performance is ongoing.

A total of 1591.9 MT of food were distributed to 97,704 IDP in eight sub-counties in Kaberamaido district in Teso; this was the last distribution in the contractual agreement between Uganda Red Cross and WFP. Non food item kits were also distributed to some 12,000 households in the district.

Support in procurement was received from the Federation Regional Delegation in Nairobi in all these activities. Further, financial management, procurement and fleet management manuals are already in use by Uganda Red Cross following their adoption by the national society's board earlier in the year. As a result, the national society is expected not to have difficulties executing the responsibility that goes with administering donor funds. In the meantime, the national society has kept donors informed of progress through regular coordination meetings.

Organizational Development

Goal: The capacity of the national society to respond to the needs of the most vulnerable in the community in an effective, efficient, timely, appropriate and coordinated way and in accordance with Strategy 2010 is improved.

Objective: to improve the capacity of the national society to provide timely and qualitative support to the most vulnerable through adequate human and financial resources both at headquarters and branch level and in accordance with the fundamental principles and values of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement

Expected result 1: A strong and focused senior management team actively benefiting from the advisory services provided from the Federation

The national society organized a workshop for the Governing Board at which the Nairobi Regional Organizational Development Delegate facilitated. The report on the mid-term review of the implementation of the Uganda Red Cross Strategic Plan was studied and discussed. As a follow up, another workshop was held for participants from 45 branches to get their input into the development of operational plans for 2005 based on the Uganda Red Cross Strategic Plan report. This latter workshop came out with a realistic operational plan for 2005 based on lessons from the past.

Branch Capacity Assessments were conducted in 10 branches and areas of required support and the scope and capacities of branches to manage projects identified. In addition, headquarters staff supported a number of branches by attending and providing information, guidance and advice during branch governance meetings as well as Annual General Meetings.

With support from the Swedish Red Cross, the national society hosted an East Africa Twinning Network meeting which also involved national societies from Ethiopia, Kenya and Tanzania. The agenda included a session on the Framework for integrated local capacity building, a work-in-progress which has community income-generating projects as a component. The network considers the latter particularly important since one of the most sustainable ways of developing a branch is through locally mobilized resources. Monitoring and supervision of the twinned branches continued during the period under review.

Governance board and Technical committees meetings continued during the reporting period resulting in the adoption of the Branch, Gender and Youth policies. The Programme Management Department also held regular intra and inter departmental meetings for better coordination of activities. In addition, monthly coordination meetings between the Movement partners continued and resulted into a coherent approach to the delivery of assistance to the internal conflict in northern Uganda.

Following the training provided to volunteer coordinators to strengthen their capacities for implementation of activities, 2,075 new members were recruited during the reporting period; UGS 1,097,900.00 was raised through membership fees.⁸

Valuation reports on the undeveloped properties in four branches were received; management decisions on the nature and level of support for the development of these properties into Red Cross Centres is expected soon. Meanwhile, a cost benefit analysis guide has been developed by the national society headquarters to be used by the branches for tendering for service providers in the development of these properties.

Work is ongoing with a technical team from a telecommunication firm on the installation of an e-mail facility for the branches; a pilot project will be tested in Kampala South Branch.

⁸ UGS (Ugandan Shillings). UGS 1,097,900 equals approximately CHF 740

East Africa sub-regional office

Coordination, cooperation, and strategic partnerships

The sub-regional office for East Africa covers Kenya, Rwanda and Uganda at present and it is the intention to include Burundi and Tanzania hopefully by 2005.

An important role of the Sub-regional Office is to assist and guide the national societies in programme implementation, mobilization of specialised technical support from the Regional Delegation in Nairobi and collaboration with partners to further strengthen their operational capacities to fulfil their mandate.

With support from the Federation, all three national societies covered by the sub office successfully held their annual partnership meetings with their partners to review progress with respect to both the implementation of their strategic plans and the Cooperation Agreement Strategy (CAS) processes. At these meetings, partners reaffirmed commitments made at the time of signing the CAS documents and constructively contributed with their views on both progress and areas needing improvement. The Uganda Red Cross was also supported in organizing and running an offsite strategic management meeting during the period.

The chairmanship of the RC-NET changed and the Uganda Red Cross Society Secretary General handed over the chairmanship to Rwandan Red Cross. The new steering committee has finalised the revised RC-NET Terms of Reference which were later adopted at a side meeting during the 6th Pan-African Conference.

Representation, Management, and Implementation

Objective: The Federation is appreciated as a partner in development, as a source of technical knowledge that can add value to the national society development process and the Federation role as facilitator for coordination, cooperation and strategic partnership is appreciated and utilized by the national society.

Based upon the current status agreement in the three countries, the Federation and the national societies maintain a close dialogue with diplomatic missions, international and national partners, and the United Nations. All three national societies are active in national representation and advocacy while the Federation complements their efforts in the international arena.

Uganda Red Cross has been successful in its image building and is recognized as a major humanitarian actor in Uganda. Agreements with UNHCR, WPF, and with the Ministries of Disaster Preparedness and Health are ongoing. National support to national appeals has been received from USAID, DFID, Embassies and other partners. Regional ECHO support has been obtained via the Federation advocacy and lobbying. The national society participates in regular meetings with OCHA, UNHCR, WHO, UNICEF, while the Federation is a member of the inter-diplomatic contact group. The Secretary General of Uganda Red Cross and the Head of the Federation's East Africa sub-regional office have jointly increased cooperation with partners and extended national support to the society. The Federation is well established within the diplomatic and international community in Uganda and aptly complements the national advocacy and representation efforts of Uganda Red Cross.

The Kenya Red Cross has since its revitalization in 2002 improved public relations and created many corporate partnerships. Fundraising efforts have shown great success in a very short time, drawing upon the positive public image of the national society as being capable of delivering appropriate services to the community in a timely and effective way. The Kenya Red Cross also co-chairs the national committee for disaster preparedness and response together with the government. The Regional Delegation supports the national society in effective representation and advocacy through its participation in meetings of Nairobi-based international organizations i.e. OCHA, UNHCR, WHO, UNICEF.

Since the genocide in 1994, Rwandan Red Cross has continued to rebuild its national image as the main humanitarian actor in Rwanda. The national society is an active participant in the RC-NET subcommittee for communication; an important activity of the communication department activities is advocacy due to the specific historical context in Rwanda. The Head of the Federation's East Africa sub-regional office and the Rwandan Red Cross Secretary General have increased representation and advocacy activities with a national and international

East Africa sub-regional programmes; Appeal no. 01.08/2004; Programme Update no. 3

perspective aiming at extending the national cooperation with partners to assist the national society in raising more funds within the borders of Rwanda.

Delegation Management

The former Head of the East Africa sub-regional office left at the end of September to take up a new position as the new Head of Regional Delegation in Nairobi. Nevertheless, the sub-regional office continued to be represented at various coordination fora via the regional delegation in Nairobi, and through the finance officer and the national society development officer based at the sub-regional office. The sub-regional office was included in the UN Consolidated Appeal Process, the launching of the Inter-Agency Humanitarian Appeal 2005 and donor Contact Group meetings organized by OCHA.

The practice has been for the Federation Head of East Africa sub-regional office to undertake joint visits with the Uganda Red Cross Secretary General to external partners including governmental and inter-governmental agencies, the local business community, donor agencies, and UN agencies. The Secretary General continued with these public relations activities even during the period without a Head of sub-regional office in place.

An Interim Head of the sub-regional office was appointed on 1 December 2004; this will ensure that the office is represented at important fora.

[Contributions list below; click here to return to the title page and contact information.](#)

East Africa sub-regional programmes

ANNEX 1

APPEAL No. 01.08/2004

PLEDGES RECEIVED

08/02/2005

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
-------	----------	----------	------	-----------	------	---------

CASH

REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				2,281,148		TOTAL COVERAGE 55.5%
CASH CARRIED FORWARD				142,029		
AMERICAN - RC		50,000	USD	62,450	29.12.03	KRCS HIV/AIDS
AMERICAN - GOVT/PRM		50,000	USD	63,325	26.03.04	UGANDA, REFUGEES ASSISTANCE
BRITISH - RC		35,000	GBP	77,560	21.01.04	HIV/AIDS, DELEGATION COSTS, RWANDA RC
BRITISH - GOVT/DFID GRANT 2004				118,000	29.01.04	
DANISH - RC				87,787	28.09.04	ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
DANISH - GOVT				14,449	24.11.04	KENYA
DANISH - GOVT				85,947	24.11.04	UGANDA
NETHERLANDS - RC				10,783	04.11.04	REPORTING CONSULTANCY UGANDA RC
NORWEGIAN - GOVT/RC		100,000	NOK	17,950	12.03.04	UGANDA ORGANISATIONAL DEV.
NORWEGIAN - GOVT/RC		200,000	NOK	35,900	12.03.04	KENYA, ORGANISATIONAL DEV.
NORWEGIAN - GOVT/RC		2,500,000	NOK	448,750	05.03.04	RWANDA HEALTH, ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, SUPPORT SUB-REGIONAL DELEGATION
SWEDISH - GOVT		300,000	SEK	50,550	15.04.04	KENYA & UGANDA ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				1,215,480	CHF	53.3%

KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
DENMARK	DELEGATES			51,600		
Note: due to systems upgrades in process, contributions in kind and services may be incomplete.						
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				51,600	CHF	2.3%

ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET

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