

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

SIERRA LEONE

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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.

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In Brief

Appeal No. 01.26/2004; Programme Update no. 1, Period covered: January to May 2004;
Appeal coverage: 48.5%; Outstanding needs: CHF 2,055,272 (USD 1,625,363 or EUR 1,344,194).
[\(Click here to go directly to the attached Contributions List \(also available on the website\).](#)

Appeal target: CHF 4,233,599 (USD 3,179,571 or EUR 2,725,201)

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals: n.a.

Programme summary:

Inadequate funds and a delayed honouring of pledges from donors limited the first quarter activities of the Sierra Leone Red Cross Society¹. All programmes' operational budgets were reduced to reflect this reality. Budget approvals were given in all cases except the Job Aid for War Amputees (JAWA) and the Voluntary Blood Donor programmes. Despite the funding constraints, the national society focused on providing primary health care to 30,000 people in 10 districts and community-based health care to 36,000 people in 104 communities; the activities included water and sanitation, traditional birth attendants, community sensitisation campaigns for serious health issues such as Lassa fever and promoting immunisation for other vaccine preventable childhood diseases.

The Sierra Leone Red Cross conducted 20 drama performances reaching over 2,300 beneficiaries to creating awareness and addressing HIV/AIDS prevention as well as advocate on discrimination on behalf of those affected by the disease. Youth peer educators conducted weekly meetings to share ideas and experiences to improve services to beneficiaries.

In terms of recovery and reintegration from the conflict, the national society continues for the fourth year, programmes designed to meet the needs of children, amputees and of communities most highly affected by the war. The CAR² programmes are currently assisting 600 war-affected children aged 10-18 years in four centres. The CAPS³ programme expanded their programme into a new district in Kono in an integrated project that includes most of the national society's programme areas.

The national society took important steps towards developing their organization to become a truly well functioning national society capable of addressing the challenges of sustainable development in Sierra Leone. The highlights include the financial management development project, the ongoing strategic planning, and the development of the final two branches in Pujehun and Kailahun and a staff restructuring process.

¹ Sierra Leone Red Cross Society - <http://www.ifrc.org/where/country/check.asp?countryid=152>

² CAR – Child Advocacy and Rehabilitation

³ CAPS - Community Animation and Peace Support

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Six partner national societies (PNS) gave direct multi-lateral contributions through the Appeal: British Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross, Swedish Red Cross, Netherlands Red Cross, Swiss Red Cross, and Finnish Red Cross. The Spanish Red Cross and Danish Red Cross have also provided support to the Sierra Leone Red Cross through programmes targeting the most vulnerable populations while the ICRC gave significant technical/financial assistance to the national society's programmes.

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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 Conduct⁴ and is committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response⁵ 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>

Operational developments

Sierra Leone's 11-year conflict caused immense suffering and devastation to the country. While there is renewed hope for lasting peace, the regional instability in Liberia, Ivory Coast and Guinea remains a cause for concern.

Efforts are being made to strengthen the Sierra Leone Armed and Police force to carry out the current responsibilities of the UN Permanent Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL) which has approximately 11,000 peacekeepers in the country.

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission provided a forum for healing and reconciliation to the country thus paving the way for the transition from peacekeeping to peace building and from relief to sustainable development. There remains much to be done to improve the lives of the most vulnerable and achieve sustainable development. The UN Human Development Index⁶ reveals that Sierra Leone has the worst health statistics of 177 countries worldwide. The following reflects key data from the HDI.

Maternal mortality	Under-five mortality	Infant mortality	Life expectancy
1,800 / 100,000	284 / 1,000	165 / 1,000	34.2 years

Overall Goal: The Sierra Leone Red Cross and its operational communities' capacities are strengthened and poverty is reduced through effective community-based programmes in the four core areas of Strategy 2010⁷.

⁴ Code of Conduct - <http://www.ifrc.org/publicat/conduct/code.asp>

⁵ Humanitarian Charter - <http://www.sphereproject.org/>

⁶ UN Human Development Index - http://hdr.undp.org/reports/global/2004/pdf/hdr04_HDI.pdf

⁷ Strategy 2010 - <http://www.ifrc.org/who/strategy.asp>

Health and care

Objective: The morbidity and mortality rate of under-fives and women of childbearing age has been reduced and the health status and well being of the most vulnerable improved while the STI/HIV/AIDS prevalence has been stabilized and voluntary blood donor recruitment intensified.

Expected results: The morbidity and mortality rate of under-fives and women of childbearing age has been reduced and the health status and well-being of the most vulnerable improved.

Community social mobilization activities intensified and volunteers' capacity to operate within the ARCHI 2010⁸ framework improved.

Volunteer management is being strengthened; each of the 10 district branches now has a health officer in-charge of the health activities and a coach working with the health volunteers. The communities also have a volunteer leader in charge of at least 20 volunteers.

Networks, for immunization, HIV/AIDS, WatSan, nutrition, malaria control, Lassa fever, safe motherhood, growth monitoring, diarrhoea and hygiene promotion, have been formed to enhance smooth implementation of community activities; community social mobilization is one of the major activities being successfully implemented. Health talks were conducted to promote safe motherhood, exclusive breast-feeding, balanced weaning diets, immunization, growth monitoring, water and sanitation and use of health facilities.

Quality Primary Health Care services are provided to the most vulnerable in 12 Sierra Leone Red Cross branch operational areas.

The programme continues to provide all elements of Primary Health Care (PHC) services in ten district branches, including provision of essential drugs, treatment of minor ailments, immunization, and health education. Two clinics in Kono and Tonkolili Districts were refurbished and reopened bringing the number of clinics countrywide to ten. Essential drugs from the Federation were supplied monthly to the Western Area, Lungi (Port Loko) and Kambia clinics and every two months to the Bo, Kenema, Bombali clinics, and quarterly to the Mattru and Bonthe clinics, including the Bonthe Mobile clinic. A new clinic building is nearing completion in Bonthe to enhance health care delivery services in collaboration with Ministry of Health and Sanitation (MoHS).

Reproductive health services are being provided in the areas of antenatal care for pregnant women, post natal care for lactating women, family planning for women of childbearing age and treatment of sexually transmitted infections. The Traditional Birth Attendants still follow pregnant women from their communities to the clinics.

Clinic attendance January – March 2004

Clinic	Bonthe Static	Bonthe Mobile	Mattru	Bo	Kenema	Bombali	Lungi	Kambia	Western Area	Car Centres	Total
Under Fives	716	907	846	3,314	1,523	2,645	1,012	1,164	1,273	40	13,440
Ante Natal	92	135	204	1,036	453	1,969	304	456	417	1	5,067
Post Natal	43	5	12	286	157	157	82	299	46	-	1,087
General	632	811	660	1,417	941	685	340	1,056	2,258	228	9,028
Total	1,483	1,858	1,722	6,053	3,074	5,456	1,738	2,975	3,994	269	28,622

⁸ ARCHI 2010 - <http://www.ifrc.org/what/health/archi/>

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Access to safe drinking water and sanitary latrines is improved in 58 Sierra Leone Red Cross operational communities have.

The hygiene promoters and Mothers Clubs in 86 communities have intensified community social mobilization activities on the provision of safe and clean water and sanitation in homes. Of the 86 communities, 58 have plate-racks, compost fences and clothe-lines that are being successfully used to improve sanitation practices. Visits were made to 1,449 houses reaching 10,143 beneficiaries.

Furthermore, the national society with support from the Ministry of Health and Sanitation and UNICEF, chlorinated 405 wells in Kenema, Bo, Bonthe and Port Loko.

Collaboration and coordination with Ministry of Health and Sanitation, UN agencies, NGO and International NGO is strengthened.

The national society is an active member of the health services task force at both the national and district levels. The task force meets monthly and is coordinated by the MoHS. The programme also national society is also an active member of the Roll Back Malaria (RBM) Task Force, the Country Coordinating Committee for immunization (ICC) and the Country Coordinating Mechanism (CCM).

In collaboration with the ICRC and the Government through NACSA, the Port Loko and Tonkolili branches provided basic paramedical services for 330 and 95 Liberian internees at the Mapeh and Mafanta facilities respectively; the ICRC provided the drugs, while NACSA provided funds for running costs.

The clinics in Bo and the Western Area, in collaboration with UNHCR, provided health care services to 5,029 Liberian refugees in the first quarter.

Constraints

- Unavailability of some families during home visitations.
- Non-provision of funds for bicycle maintenance used for measles surveillance.
- Unavailability of delivery beds in most TBA⁹ houses.
- Non-clinic attendance of expectant and lactating mothers on appointment dates.
- Poor community participation in services like community facilities construction, refuse and sewage disposal.
- Inadequate Watsan facilities in most of the operational areas.
- Excessive pressure and sometimes aggression on the clinic staff.

Expected result: STI/HIVAIDS¹⁰ prevalence rate is stabilized, stigma and discrimination is reduced and support to people infected and affected by HIV/AIDS is provided in Sierra Leone Red Cross targeted communities.

The capacity and activity of Sierra Leone Red Cross to create awareness on STI and HIV/AIDS have been increased with more volunteer groups actively advocating on HIV/AIDS prevention and against discrimination and stigma through drama performances, peer education, distribution of condoms and media messages in Bo, Kenema, Bombali, Kono, Mile 91 and Freetown.

Awareness of STI/HIV/AIDS is increased in 12 Sierra Leone Red Cross branches.

Twenty drama performances were conducted in both schools and communities followed by question and answer sessions reaching a total of 2,321 beneficiaries. Through social marketing, a total of 1,020 condoms were sold to various clients.

A total of 40 weekly meetings were conducted by youth peer educators in ten operational branches – Bo, Kenema, Western Area, Bombali, Kono, Bonthe, Port Loko, Kambia, Moyamba and Tonkolili. The weekly meetings provided a forum for peer educators to share ideas and experiences to improve services to the beneficiaries.

⁹ TBA – Traditional Birth Attendants

¹⁰ STI – Sexually-transmitted infection(s); alternatively, STD – sexually-transmitted disease(s).

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Coordination

- Collaboration and coordination with the Ministry of Health, NGOs and international NGOs are ongoing.
- The National Training and Health Education Officer attended six meetings at the National AIDS Secretariat to develop and resubmit project proposal for the 4th request of the Global Fund on STI/HIV/AIDS.
- Two meetings were organised by PLAN International with its implementing partners to discuss and plan for the community project of which 75% of the funding is from PLAN UK (25% funding will come from PLAN Sierra Leone). The Sierra Leone Red Cross will implement the STI/HIV/AIDS programme on behalf of PLAN International Sierra Leone in the Bombali branch.

Constraints

There was limited funding for activities even though the future plans are to scale up activities of the programme.

Expected result: Promotion of voluntary, non-remunerated blood donations in five Sierra Leone Red Cross branches is intensified.

No donors identified this project objective as one they wish to support. However, the Blood Donor recruitment continued with funding from the SHARP project (HIV/AIDS) and some funds from the Ministry of Health.

The Sierra Leone Red Cross capacity to support the Ministry of Health and Sanitation in promoting blood safety is increased.

A total of 100 volunteer blood donor motivators were trained in the Bombali, Kono, Bo, Moyamba and Kenema branches. However, no new blood donor clubs established during the reporting period.

Communities understanding of the importance of voluntary blood donation are improved.

A total of 75 new donors joined the voluntary blood donors clubs. This shows the communities' appreciation of the importance of blood donation.

The number of voluntary blood donors is increased by 25 per cent

The rate of retention of voluntary blood donors increased by 20 per cent.

Constraints

- Inadequate funding hampered the project implementation.
- Frequent motorbike breakdown created mobility problems for the Blood Donor Recruitment Officer.
- Acute shortage of reagents experienced in the Blood Bank.

Disaster Management

Objective: The effects of disasters in Sierra Leone are mitigated through the intervention of Sierra Leone Red Cross.

Expected result: The capacity of the Sierra Leone Red Cross to provide timely and effective response to disaster victims has been strengthened.

Skills in Disaster Management of Sierra Leone Red Cross action teams are upgraded and the curriculum field-tested in training.

Forty (40) Red Cross volunteers from Koinadugu branch participated in a four-day First Aid Emergency Preparedness training organised by the national society in collaboration with the ICRC.

Logistics planning at headquarters and branches is improved.

The national society pre-positioned various non-food items in the regional branches of Bo, Kenema and Bombali for emergency response to disasters in those regions.

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The Sierra Leone Red Cross disaster response mechanism is improved.

The Western Area branch selected Action Teams every week to be on standby at the Lumley Beach First Aid Post weekends and public holidays. The teams made hourly patrols of the beach site; they attended to 48 casualties who were provided with first aid services for injuries sustained while playing football, volley ball and swimming sports

Expected results : The impact of disasters and related vulnerabilities on Sierra Leoneans are reduced.

People's vulnerability to disaster related risks in Sierra Leone Red Cross' communities are reduced.

The national society organized a ten-day planning workshop and a field exercise on VCA¹¹ for 30 participants from the Bombali, Tonkolili and Kono branches. The WatSan and clinic activities in Tonkolili branch and the CAPS project in Kono branch were planned and implemented are in line with the VCA findings.

The food security of people in Sierra Leone Red Cross communities is improved.

The participants trained during the VCA workshop are sensitising the people in communities implementing the CBHP¹² and CAPS programmes on food security issues. This is expected to strengthen the programmes.

Expected result: Community collaboration and partnership with government, other agencies and the Movement¹³ are strengthened.

The capacity of Sierra Leone Red Cross to collaborate with the operational communities and other agencies to prepare for and respond to disaster and conflicts is strengthened.

A Disaster Management Committee for programme heads has been formed at the national society headquarters to discuss issues related to the national society's role and responsibilities in disaster management and develop strategies for the coordination and integration of activities/projects designed to help reduce vulnerability in communities most at risk. A DM policy has been drafted to guide the development of the national society systems, structure and procedures for preparing and responding to disasters.

Collaboration with the Sierra Leone Red Cross and government to develop a national disaster management plan and legislation is strengthened.

The national society is working closely with government and other stakeholders to formulate a national disaster management policy. The government established a department for disaster management in the office of National Security according to the National Security and Central Intelligence Act of 2002. This department is entrusted to take the lead role in the command, control and coordination of a national disaster. A working group has been formed with expertise from various line ministries, armed forces, fire services, police and the Sierra Leone Red Cross (supported by the Federation and ICRC). Weekly meetings have been held to develop the National DM plan in a three-phased approach;

- Phase I is to conduct a risk assessment in hazard prone areas of the country,
- Phase II is the development of a national policy based on the outcome of the assessment and
- Phase III is the development of alternative plans for funding.

Impact

- The disaster management projects implemented in the Bombali, Tonkolili and Kono districts reflect community needs following the VCA carried out in these areas.
- The Disaster Management Committee formed at headquarters has clearly defined terms of reference and policy recognized by the Sierra Leone Red Cross governance and management staff.

¹¹ VCA – Vulnerability Capacity Assessment

¹² CBHP – Community Based Health Programmes

¹³ 'Movement' refers to the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

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Constraints

- The national society's Disaster Management programme has insufficient trained staff and volunteers in all key disaster management areas due to uncontrolled volunteer movement of volunteers.
- Small representation and participation of female volunteers and inadequate emergency stocks pre-positioned in the regional branches

Humanitarian Values

Objective: A culture of non-violence and sustainable development is promoted in communities.

Expected result: War torn communities' capacities are strengthened for poverty reduction and post-war reconstruction and development.

There are 48 communities in Bo and Moyamba Districts served through the CAPS programme. Expansion into new communities in the Kono District was assessed during the first quarter.

Community cohesion and family ties and the ability of communities to resolve conflict and strengthen structures for peace building are increased.

In order to promote community acceptance and positive behavioural change towards ex-combatants, the CAPS team in Moyamba district in collaboration with UNAMSIL, organized a football gala for the Kowa, Dasse, Lower and Upper Banta chiefdoms. The Community Peace and Consolidation Committees (CPCCs) successfully settled family disputes in three villages in the Bo district and five in the Moyamba district. One ex-combatant from the former RUF faction was reunited with family members in the Yonnie community, Bumpeh chiefdom in the Bo district.

Food production, household and farm incomes and sustainable living standards are increased.

All CAPS communities were engaged in preparation of fields for the first cropping season. Planning meetings were held with community groups for type of agricultural support needed, and what could be provided by the project.

Awareness and respect for human rights and participation of women and youths in community development is increased.

A series of sensitisation meetings were held in all of the communities on the local government elections. Local government elections were last held in the country 30 years ago. Community radio listening continued, and some communities held spontaneous discussion of some news items. Peace clubs were established in eight community primary schools in the project's operational areas. The animator in Kowama facilitated the formation of a Red Cross Group with the registration of 144 members in the village.

Access to social services including shelter is increased.

Community kits (shovels, wheelbarrows, head pans) were distributed in the communities and used for cleaning and rehabilitation. Six bridges and 30 dwelling houses were rehabilitated. Ten protected wells and 33 latrines were constructed in five communities in Bo district, and five others in communities in the Moyamba district; the beneficiaries suffer from perennial water shortages and water borne diseases.

The capacity of Sierra Leone Red Cross to address the needs of war-torn communities and profiling is increased.

The Social Welfare Coordinator and the British Red Cross Desk Officer for West and Central Africa co-facilitated a Better Programming Initiative (BPI) workshop for the Nigerian Red Cross. A CAPS basic information brochure was produced. The Secretary General and the African Desk Officer of the Canadian Red Cross both visited Nyagolehun community in the Bumpeh chiefdom, Bo district.

Expected result: War-affected children are rehabilitated and reintegrated into child friendly communities.

There are four CAR Centres in Waterloo, Port Loko, Kambia and Kabala.

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The process of de-traumatizing war affected children, fostering participation in healthy peer relationship is enhanced, and child and human rights are promoted and advocated for in communities.

One to one counselling for the new intake at the Waterloo centre; home visits were also conducted. Weekly recreational activities were organized in the four centre; the first inter-house athletics sports' meeting was held by the Kambia CAR centre.

In order to promote child and human rights awareness, a two-day workshop was conducted by the Waterloo CAR centre for 67 headmen and youths from the beneficiary communities on the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Sensitisation meetings on registration and verification of new intake into the Port Loko CAR centre were held in five chiefdoms covering 18 communities in the Port Loko district Workshops were held on Gender and Development and the Convention on the Rights of the Child in two communities of the Tainkatopa Makama Safroko chiefdom in the Port Loko district. Further, a two-day workshop was conducted on the education of the girl child in Sanda Magbolonthor, Port Loko district.

Twice weekly clinics were run at the centres. Babies of girl mothers at the centres also received treatment at the centres for minor ailments. Malaria was the common illness reported. Two HIV/AIDS workshops were organized in collaboration with UNAMSIL in Katik, Dibia chiefdom and Kabatha, Maforki chiefdom in the Port Loko district.

Self-reliant and development capacity of registered children at the centre is increased as well as the income generation and development capacity of their communities.

Each of the beneficiaries was enrolled into one of the four skill areas of tailoring/dress making, carpentry/joinery, dyed fabric and soaping making, and brick, block and concreting. The children were also put into three levels of literacy classes; level one – those who never attended school, level two – those who only attended primary schools and level three – those who attended secondary schools.

The capacity of Sierra Leone Red Cross to address the needs of war-affected children and their communities is increased and profiling of the project is enhanced.

A two-day planning meeting was organized to review the CAR logframe, strategy and tools. All the supervisory staff of the centres; the Social Welfare Coordinator, the Social Welfare Programme Assistant and the Spanish Red Cross delegate participated in the meeting. A CAR basic information brochure was produced.

Expected result: The capacity for 300 war-affected amputees in eight of the 11 Sierra Leone Red Cross branches to be self-reliant is improved.

150 amputees would have completed skills training by 2006.

Thirty amputees continued skills training in fabric dyeing and tailoring, 10 and 20 respectively. Twenty (20) other amputees also received support in animal husbandry – 10 in Kenema and 10 in Port Loko.

85 per cent of those interested in psychosocial support will have skills to identify and reduce stress symptoms.

Volunteers in various project locations offered counselling and skills training to beneficiaries. Counselling helped them identify and deal with post-traumatic stress.

Ten targeted amputees would have gained sustainable employment yearly and reintegrated within the community.

The Horse Import and Export Company employed one amputee as messenger. However, no measurement has been taken yet to determine the performance of the employee.

Coordination

The programme staff continued collaborating and networking with other agencies, including UNAMSIL, Network on Collaborative Peace Building and NACSA, and attended inter-agency meetings in the various operational areas.

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Constraints

- Delays in transfer of funds affected the smooth implementation of activities.
- JAWA was faced with serious funding problems that caused some planned activities to be put on hold.

Organizational Development

Objective: The capacity of the national society to deliver sustainable and effective programmes that support the most vulnerable population is increased.

Expected result: Standardized human resource policies and procedures are instituted. The Sierra Leone Red Cross trained, qualified and committed staff and volunteers are motivated and quality service to the beneficiaries are provided.

The Sierra Leone Red Cross staff and volunteer policies and procedures are improved and implemented.

A revised staff manual was developed and approved by the Management and Governance. However, no staff evaluation was conducted during the reporting period.

The quality of service to beneficiaries is improved.

1,088 volunteers were recruited in Bo, Kenema, Koinadugu, Kambia and Port Loko branches. Furthermore, trained and qualified clinic staff were employed for the Bombali and Kambia clinics. A new staff structure was designed and approved by the Management and Governance of the national society to be implemented in the second quarter. Several new positions were developed and other jobs re-designed and recruitment will be necessary.

Expected result: Diverse fundraising strategies are implemented to maximize the partnership and revenue base, including international support as well as local initiatives and the programmes are sustained.

A separate fundraising and resource development position is created and an expert is recruited.

The Bo, Kono, Port Loko, Kenema and Kambia branches as well as the Pujehun Red Cross Group raised a total of SLL 8,555,500 an equivalent of CHF 3,168.70 through local fundraising.

The Sierra Leone Red Cross capacity to profile its work and maintain linkages with current and potential donors is strengthened.

The Executive Coordination Group meetings took place on a monthly basis. However, the Technical Program Coordination Groups were not implemented during this quarter because there are still some Partner National Societies (PNSs) who have not signed the MoU.

Proposals were submitted to the German Red Cross and Danish Red Cross during the quarter. The funding provided in the first quarter was well below the amounts expected and pledged during the partnership meeting in May 2003. This had a significant impact on the ability of the national society to implement activities. Reduced operational budgets were prepared in order to get operational budgets approved by Geneva Secretariat. The impact of this was felt throughout the programmes but particularly in CBHP where many community activities had to be postponed; the Voluntary Blood Donor programme and the JAWA programs also had little support.

The Sierra Leone Red Cross guidelines and policies for partnership development are developed and implemented.

The national society is still the principal recipient of the Global Fund; the partnership was developed through the country coordinating mechanism where the national society was chosen amongst many other agencies. The national society has also maintained partnerships with other agencies such as UNICEF, UNHCR and PLAN Sierra Leone

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Expected result: Core Sierra Leone Red Cross programme activities are delivered in existing and future branches that are strengthened by an effective and strong volunteer/membership base throughout the country.

The youth volunteer/membership base is being emphasised and the National Youth Executive committee met in March to further this agenda. In addition, the National Youth Chairman and the Vice-Chairman attended a Pan African Youth forum in Dakar in March.

The Sierra Leone Red Cross branches in all 13 districts in Sierra Leone are established.

Four new Red Cross Groups were formed in the Pujehun district, and four others in the Kailahun district. Construction work continued on Pujehun and Kailahun branches with the support of the ICRC. The Bonthe building was also under construction through funds given through CBHP; it is anticipated that the building will be used as a clinic and a branch office.

The volunteer/ membership base is strengthened.

1,088 new volunteers registered with five branches. Of the 1,088 volunteers there was almost an even split between males and females and between adults and youth. No other identifying data is available.

Core Sierra Leone Red Cross programmed activities are delivered in 13 branches by effective volunteers and members.

Branch progress was monitored and assessed during the reporting period. All programmes were implemented by the branches in collaboration with the communities. Some programmes faced funding constraints in the first quarter.

Expected result: The national society's unique role as auxiliary to government is effectively fulfilled and it is ensured that every level of government is knowledgeable about the Red Cross principles and its work and the responsibilities of government are followed.

The local and national government knowledge of the Sierra Leone Red Cross mandate and status is improved.

Dissemination sessions were held for various target groups, including government officials in the 13 operational districts. This has helped key officials in government line ministries understand the auxiliary status of the Red Cross to the government.

All the programmes implemented in the areas of Health and Care, Disaster Management, Promotion of the Fundamental Principles and IHL¹⁴ are complimentary to government's strategies of improving the lives of the people of Sierra Leone and spreading knowledge about the ideals and principles of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement.

The incidence of the Red Cross emblem being used inappropriately is reduced.

Dissemination sessions to various target groups at branch level on the uses and misuses of the Red Cross Red Crescent Emblem have reduced its misuse by pharmacies and health vehicles. More dissemination sessions on the uses and misuses also targeting the youth, women's organizations, educational institutions and community leaders are on-going.

The Sierra Leone Red Cross government's observance of IHL is improved.

The ICRC organized a number of sessions for the Sierra Leone Army on IHL. A Working Group on the implementation of Exploring Humanitarian Law (EHL) in schools was formed. Plans are underway for the formation of a National IHL committee.

¹⁴ IHL – International Humanitarian Law; see also <http://www.ifrc.org/what/disasters/idrl/>

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Expected result: Timely, informative and quality results-based planning, implementing, monitoring and reporting are improved and the needs of the most vulnerable are met and capacities are strengthened.

All Sierra Leone Red Cross programmes are planned and implemented within the framework of Strategy 2010, ARCHI 2010 and the Ouagadougou Declaration¹⁵.

All national society programmes were implemented within the frameworks of Strategy 2010, ARCHI 2010 and the Ouagadougou Declaration while all programmes are planned according to the PPP¹⁶.

The capacity of the Sierra Leone Red Cross senior and middle managers to be held accountable for the implementation and timeliness of quality planning, monitoring, evaluation, and financial and narrative reporting is improved.

Financial and narrative reports on Programmes implementations are based on PPP. However, this Programme Update is the first quarterly report for this reporting period.

Expected result: The administrative, financial, logistical and management systems that enhance coordination, efficiency, accountability, monitoring and communication are improved.

The main emphasis on systems improvement during the first quarter was on the financial management system. PCL International, a local consulting company was hired to implement recommendations made in a diagnostic assessment undertaken in the third quarter of 2003. The project was broken down into three phases, two of which were nearly completed by the end of March 2004.

The Sierra Leone Red Cross financial management system is improved according to appropriate standards and computerized.

The manual financial management system was improved with an on-the-job consultant from PCL International and the accounting procedures manual was revised and manual systems redesigned. The manual was produced and given to the Federation, governance members and staff for input and feedback. It is foreseen that the final version will be ready for implementation in June or July.

The finance personnel were given on-the-job training in comprehensive financial management skills by the PCL consultant who worked daily in the office with the staff for four months. Coordinators and Managers from headquarters attended a financial management course in March. The finance personnel as well as management, coordinators and staff who have input or authority over budgets were given basic computer skills training to facilitate their ability to work in a computerized environment.

Steps were taken to identify and analyse available software packages that can be adapted for use by the Sierra Leone Red Cross.

The administrative and logistics management systems are improved.

In 2004, administrative and logistics systems are harmonized. The harmonization of the Finance, Administration and Logistics units under the Department of Finance and Administration has improved the management and systems of the national society.

Constraints

- Mobility for the Field Officers of Kambia, Port Loko and Kenema was a problem because of the frequent breakdown of their old motorbikes.
- Majority of the members hardly pay their monthly dues because of the high unemployment rate.

¹⁵ Ouagadougou Declaration - <http://www.ifrc.org/meetings/regional/africa/5thpac/5thpacde.asp>

¹⁶ PPP – Project Planning Process

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Coordination, Cooperation and Strategic Partnerships

Objective: The capacity of the Sierra Leone Red Cross to coordinate their plans, cooperate with all stakeholders and develop strategic partnerships is strengthened.

Expected result: All Movement partners with Sierra Leone Red Cross have signed the MoU for Development Cooperation and have participated in the Coordination mechanisms outlined including the Cooperation Agreement Strategy.

Monthly Executive Coordination Group meetings are held and all partners are provided the opportunity to participate.

During the reporting period, monthly meetings took place as scheduled and all partners present attended; all minutes were distributed to those present.

Expected result: The capacity of the Sierra Leone Red Cross to deliver quality programmes is enhanced through strategic partnerships with bi-lateral partners .

All Red Cross/Crescent bi-lateral partners have signed an agreement with the Sierra Leone Red Cross and/or the Federation that outlines how services will be provided for the bi-lateral operations.

The Spanish Red Cross still continues to support the national society with the service agreement negotiated in 2003.

Expected result: The Sierra Leone Red Cross has cooperated with other national societies in the Mano River sub-region to optimise learning opportunities and strengthen the effectiveness of programmes.

The knowledge and skills of staff in each program area has been enhanced through a regional sharing forum.

No direct progress has been achieved over the reporting period.

[Contributions List below; Click here to return to the title page and contact information](#)

APPEAL No. 01.26/2004

PLEDGES RECEIVED

10/08/2004

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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CASH

					TOTAL COVERAGE	
REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				4,233,599		48.5%
CASH CARRIED FORWARD				345,124		
BRITISH - RC		30,000	GBP	70,785	27.02.04	COMMUNITY BASED HEALTH
BRITISH - RC		10,000	GBP	23,595	27.02.04	DELEGATION COSTS
BRITISH - RC		53,000	GBP	125,054	24.03.04	CAR PROGRAM
BRITISH - RC		30,000	GBP	70,785	24.03.04	CAPS PROGRAM
PARTHENON TRUST		13,753	GBP	31,089	20.05.04	HIV/AIDS
FINNISH - RC		200,000	EUR	311,900	15.04.04	
NETHERLANDS - GOVT		106,852	EUR	166,845	07.01.04	COMMUNITY REINTEGRATION & DEVELOPMENT PROJECT OF SLRCS
NETHERLANDS - GOVT		3,575	EUR	5,577	07.01.04	PROGRAMME SUPPORT
SWEDISH - GOVT		2,000,000	SEK	338,000	20.05.04	ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT. HUMANITARIAN VALUES, HEALTH
SWEDISH - RC		1,500,000	SEK	253,500	20.05.04	HUMANITARIAN VALUES, CAR/ PSL
SWISS - RC/SOLIDARITY CHAIN				109,018	27.02.04	CHILD ADVOCACY & REHABILITATION CENTRE
SWISS - RC				45,000	01.06.04	DELEGATE
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				1,896,272	CHF	44.8%

KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
CANADA	DELEGATES			73,200		
NETHERLANDS - GOVT		55,000	EUR	85,800	07.01.04	2 VEHICLES, COMPUTER & EQUIPMENT
Note: due to systems upgrades in process, contributions in kind and services may be incomplete.						
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				159,000	CHF	3.8%

APPEAL No. 01.26/2004

PLEDGES RECEIVED

10/08/2004

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
				0	CHF	