

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

TOGO

24 June 2004

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. 01.30/2004; Programme Update no.1; Period covered: January to April, 2004; Appeal coverage: 28.0%; Outstanding needs: CHF 271,299 (USD 214,635 or EUR 176,627).
[\(Click here to go directly to the attached Contributions List \(also available on the website\).](#)

Appeal target: CHF 376,701 (USD 282,915 or EUR 242,485)

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals:

- [Togo: Cholera Epidemic, Information Bulletin no. 1/2004 dated 19 February 2004;](#)
- [Togo: Cholera Epidemic, Information Bulletin no. 2/2004 dated 24 March 2004](#)
- [Togo: Cholera Epidemic, Information Bulletin no. 3/2004 dated 31 May 2004](#)

Programme summary: The [Togolese Red Cross](#) expanded its HIV/AIDS programme to 50 new localities in the Central Regions and Kara. The intensification of the HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention programme within high risks groups, most notably the youth has been emphasized. The increase in activities also includes a programme for those caring for persons living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) which, together with other partners including associations of PLWHA, encourages people to seek assistance and support. The support for voluntary counseling and testing (VCT) and the promotion of and the protection of the rights of the PLWHA has increased. In Togo today, HIV/AIDS is not only a health problem but a social economic and development issue affecting all.

The Togolese Red Cross with support from the Federation, and in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, also responded effectively to a serious cholera epidemic during this period; see Information Bulletins referenced above. The national society effectively mobilized 493 volunteers to assist in the response. It is also preparing for a national integrated campaign for measles vaccination, and distribution of insecticide treated mosquito nets (ITN), vitamin A and mebendazole.

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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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 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>

Operational Developments

The Togolese Red Cross has continued to effectively develop and implement its HIV/AIDS programme through its strong volunteer network. While HIV/AIDS and malaria remain leading causes of morbidity, the national society has also responded to a cholera epidemic and planned a measles and malaria campaign.

Cholera response

An estimated 1,200 cholera cases have been reported in Lomé and its environs. The epidemic reached its peak in February 2004. With support from the Federation and the Ministry of Health (MoH), the Togolese Red Cross mobilized 493 volunteers to provide basic hygiene and medical supplies to the most vulnerable. Consequently, there has been a remarkable decrease of cases but the national society continues its education on hygiene, safe water and environmental sanitation.

Measles and Malaria Campaign

To reduce child morbidity and mortality, the national society in collaboration with the MoH and other partners has been actively involved in the measles vaccination campaign for children between nine months to five years, provision of vitamin A supplements, administration of mebendazole (to reduce effects of hookworms) and provision of ITNs to households where children are at risk.

Health and care

Goal: The prevalence of HIV/AIDS and STD infection among the country's vulnerable population is reduced. Objective: The Togolese Red Cross management and volunteer capacity is improved contributing to the reduction of the national HIV/AIDS/STI prevalence rate to below 6 per cent.

Expected Result 1: Knowledge on reproductive health and the prevention of HIV/AIDS and STIs is reinforced.

Progress and impact

- About 205 peer educator coordinators were recruited and deployed to 50 new localities. These localities are in 14 sanitary districts of the regions: Lomé – Commune, Maritime and Kara.
- Four hundred (400) local and 25 district coaches' report registers were updated and reproduced; while 1,050 educational game equipment and other volunteer management tools were distributed.
- The Togolese Red Cross prepared socio-cultural activities to sensitize the public and mark World Red Cross Day on May 8 2004.
- Training sessions of peer educators were held in February, March and April 2004.
- The national society HIV/AIDS information, education and communication (IEC) activities were reinforced and expanded to 50 new localities in three sanitary districts.
- Approximately 9,750 peer education and support sessions targeting 58,500 youth and women were held.
- A headquarters staff carried out a technical support visit in April 2004. where?

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Constraints and recommendations

A continual development and maintenance of the national society volunteer network is required to gain more efficient and intensive volunteer action to the most vulnerable groups in the communities served. It is therefore necessary for the national society to concentrate its efforts on the following points:

- Uniformity in motivation given to all volunteers including support and skills building
- Extension of volunteer network to cover the districts.
- Reinforcement of the local and district coach capacity with transport such as bicycles to facilitate monitoring and volunteer support.

Expected Result 2: The number of volunteer blood donors is increased

The Togolese Red Cross continues its support for volunteer blood donor recruitment and the national centre of sanguine transfusion. This support is extended to the Gulf district in Lomé and the regional centre of Sokode.

Progress and impact

- A national document on the politics of recruitment and motivation has been produced.
- Strategic Planning meetings were held with the Association for the Promotion of Volunteer Blood Donors and the departmental head of the Lomé University Teaching Hospital blood bank.
- Nine volunteer blood donor clubs are formed.

Constraints

The lack of equipment and reagents in the blood transfusion centres lead to interruptions in collection of blood donations. Recruited volunteers are not always able to donate blood leading to frustration and exit from the programme. This problem is worse for the vulnerable? in the most remote areas.

Expected Result 3: The number of persons taking voluntary counselling and testing is increased.

Progress and impact

The Togolese Red Cross community health centre statistics reveal that 171 people received voluntary counselling and testing. This shows an increase in the number of persons seeking VCT ?Ninety nine (99) persons received positive results? Within the support program, the widows of HIV/AIDS victims and their children receive VCT.

Expected Result 4: Increased awareness and proper usage of preventive methods.

Progress

About 100,000 condoms were distributed following demonstrations while the social distribution network of condoms is expanded through public institutions and community health agents.

Impact

- Condom distribution and purchase in public places has been increased.
- Women have discussions about condoms in mothers clubs.
- Mothers' club members can negotiate the use of condoms with their husbands.

Expected Result 5: Care and support is given to PLWHA and their affected families including the vulnerable children.

Progress

Promotion and protection of the rights of PLWHA.

- The actions for the Promotion and the Protection of the rights of PLWHA are realized in collaboration with the national commission of human rights, the Ministries of Justice and Social Matters and the representative of the Swiss Red Cross to Togo.
- A multi-disciplinary committee has been put in place to summarise the plan of action and achievements.
- The Togo ratified international document on discrimination is made available to the national society.

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- A hearing counsel composed of a lawyer, notary and psycho-social counsellor has been established in some areas for the protection of the rights of PLWHA in Plateau, Central and the Savannah regions.

Impact

- Widows of HIV/AIDS victims are able to talk about their case and gain more self confidence through the Togolese Red Cross' counsellor's team.
- The public and authorities are now more informed of the rights of PLWHA.

Home care and support to PLWHA

The 37 home care counsellors pay weekly visits to their clients at home. The home care counselors guide is being finalized while a workshop to implement it, is planned for June 2004. The Togolese Red Cross program offers education and socio-psychological support to 27 orphans and children affected by HIV/AIDS some of who work with widows of HIV/AIDS victims. A nutritional program with demonstrations of preparing weekly menus based on local foods has commenced and is adapted for the two regions of Kara and Maritimee.

Progress and impact

- About 30 widows of HIV/AIDS victims were initiated to the various components of income generation and accounting as well as production, distribution and marketing techniques of various goods. This leads to improved incomes and socio-economical conditions.
- Rights of the national society-supported PLWHA have been pursued.

Constraints and recommendations

The increase in number of the national society-supported PLWHA requires further support programmes for the caregivers. It also requires the program extension to other localities especially at the regional coordination level.

Expected Result 6: The management of the HIV/AIDS program is assured and partnership with other actors is reinforced.

Progress

- A HIV/AIDS committee is functional with active and productive weekly meetings.
- Five new district and 45 local coaches were recruited in the expanded new zones in 14 sanitary districts.
- Five brand new motor bikes were obtained and in use for the district coaches.
- The Togolese Red Cross is an active partner in the national HIV/AIDS/STI activities with the effective collaboration of the UN agencies.
- Finance is obtained from the regional Global funds for coordination the Kara, Savannahs and Central regions.
- Activities for the second quarter of 2004 in the sanitary region of Lomé received funding.

Impact

- The Togolese Red Cross expanded the HIV/AIDS program to new areas in the Lomé, Central and Kara regions.
- The HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention programme among high risk groups has been emphasised and the national society now has more visibility in the communities and the schools.

Capacity building and networking

The Togolese Red Cross president and Health Coordinator visited the Thai Red Cross and Geneva during the period. The President, Ag Secretary General and HIV/AIDS Coordinator participated in the sub-regional meeting as well as the Accra partnership meeting for West and Central Africa.

The RANYWA HIV/AIDS Coordinator continues mobilising the network and assist in planning meetings for June 2004. He is also involved in the caring for carers group established from the secretariat with the sub-regional health delegate support. This group aims at developing guidelines in recognition of the need for increased support to carers of PLWHA. He will represent the region at the July HIV/AIDS conference in Bangkok.

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The HIV/AIDS Coordinator represented the national society in the fourth annual measles meeting in Washington. Regular teleconferences were held. The sub-regional health delegate made several visits aimed at supporting the Togolese Red Cross health development programme. The West Africa senior regional officer visited with the head of the sub-regional office.

Lessons learned

- The increased visible actions of the national society enhance the possibility of local partnerships.
- The volunteer network system facilitates community mobilization to support change of certain traditional harmful practices.

General recommendations

Considering the objectives fixed by the Togolese Red Cross HIV/AIDS program to increase the activities and intensify their impact, it is necessary to:

- Reinforce the intermediary structures of the national society using coaching system at all levels.
- Harmonize the coordination system through increased regional coordination
- Look for other financial support especially at the local level within the country
- Increase the number of home care counsellors for PLWHA.
- Reinforce the volunteer motivation system at national, regional and local level in accordance with [Strategy 2010](#) and [ARCHI 2010](#).

Conclusion

The community mobilization for increasing HIV/AIDS/STIs awareness continues successfully. The Togo Red Cross demonstrates visible efforts in responding to the prevention, care and support of the PLWHA and orphans and vulnerable children. The capacity to mobilise the community, authorities, volunteers and partners is continuing to develop.

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

APPEAL No. 01.30/2004

PLEDGES RECEIVED

23/06/2004

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

CASH

| | | | | | | TOTAL COVERAGE |
|--------------------------------|--|--|--|---------|-----|----------------|
| REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF -----> | | | | 376,701 | | 28.0% |
| CASH CARRIED FORWARD | | | | 105,402 | | |
| SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH | | | | 105,402 | CHF | 28.0% |

KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

| DONOR | CATEGORY | QUANTITY | UNIT | VALUE CHF | DATE | COMMENT |
|---|----------|----------|------|-----------|------|---------|
| Note: due to systems upgrades in process, contributions in kind and services may be incomplete. | | | | | | |
| SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES | | | | 0 | CHF | 0.0% |

ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET

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