

# 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 لجمعية الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

## BURKINA FASO

1 December 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](http://www.ifrc.org)*

### In Brief

**Appeal No. 01.32/2004; Programme Update no. 2; Period covered: May to November 2004; Appeal coverage: 20.1%; Outstanding needs: CHF 523,570 (USD 462,500 or EUR 339,300).**  
*[Click here to go directly to the attached Contributions List, also available on the website](#)*

**Appeal target: CHF 655,579 (USD 492,361 or EUR 422,001).**

**Related Emergency or Annual Appeals: Burkina Faso 2005 Annual Appeal no. 05AA026 –**  
[http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf\\_appeals.pl?annual05/05AA026.pdf](http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?annual05/05AA026.pdf)

**Programme summary:** The breach in the eighteen-month Ivorian ceasefire has raised great humanitarian concerns as refugees and returnees spill into neighboring countries. The Burkinabe Red Cross Society,<sup>1</sup> in close coordination with Movement partner, Government and other organizations, has been monitoring the situation and developed a contingency plan.

Swarms of locusts arriving from neighboring Mali invaded northern Burkina Faso in August, infesting more than 100,000 hectares and severely damaging crops and pasture. Worst hit communities in the Seno; Soum and Ouadalan provinces have begun using air spray and pesticides to curb the devastation. The Burkinabe Red Cross is working out a 2005 plan of action to be activated at the beginning of the farming campaign.

The national society's anti-yellow fever sensitization and vaccination campaigns in August as well as the polio campaign in October and November, strengthened its social mobilization capacity. The national society has mapped out a 2005-2008 strategic plan to improve service delivery while working towards better financial reporting through the Regional Office.

During his mission, the regional finance manager shared the Federation's rules, procedures and budget cycles with all national society programme managers. The Office has completed a bid process for a comprehensive management audit due to start by the end of this year.

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<sup>1</sup> Burkinabe Red Cross Society – refer to <http://www.ifrc.org/where/country/check.asp?countryid=181>

## Burkina Faso; Appeal no. 01.32/2004; Programme Update no. 2

*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 log frame 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

In November, the UN Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (ONUCI) reported <sup>2</sup> that it was monitoring the ceasefire pact in the country. But it raised the security alert to a level-four following a breach in the ceasefire agreement between Government and the opposition forces. These conditions permit non-essential staff to be evacuated.

The national society successfully drafted and set up its 2005-2008 Strategic Plan and related programmes. In line with the plan, a comprehensive communication development workshop was held in November to improve the national society's image and fund-raising efforts. It also developed closer relationships developed with partners, particularly ICRC, Danish Red Cross and Spanish Red Cross, which strengthened the Co-operation Agreement Strategy (CAS) process. This improvement resulted in the recruitment of a CAS officer and a Health Coordinator. The coordinator's position is a key one as it enhances the national society's implementation capacity for sensitization and vaccination campaigns.

In May, 25 suspected yellow fever cases were reported <sup>3</sup> in Bobo Dioulasso, Burkina Faso's second largest city, with an estimated population of 400,000. A nearby town of Gaoua, close to the border with Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana also reported yellow fever incidents. In its mildest form, the disease leads to an illness similar to influenza but severe cases can lead to hepatitis, hemorrhagic fever and death. Yellow fever outbreaks can lead to sudden and severe epidemics, especially in densely populated areas, where the mortality rate is as high as 50%. WHO confirmed the yellow fever epidemic and recommended its being added to the list of child-immunization vaccines in endemic countries.

In July, health officials began yellow fever vaccination campaigns expected to cover about 840,000 people in and around Bobo Dioulasso. Recent immunization campaigns had targeted under-fives and no major effort had been made to inoculate the adult population since 1984. WHO expressed concerns that the rainy season would sharply increase the number of mosquitoes and the spread of disease. Consequently, the national society with Federation support has been involved in the sensitization and vaccination campaigns in Solenzo and Nouna health districts where cases were reported.

The rainy season is also favorable to locust breeding in the Sahel region. Swarms of locusts which were first sighted in the northern provinces of Soum and Ouadalan near the frontier with Mali in August <sup>4</sup>, caused crop damage in the far north. Over the past months, locust swarms have spread south across the Sahara, causing extensive damage to crops and pasture. Control teams have already been sent to disinfect the affected areas of Seno, Soum and Ouadalan with insecticides. The Federation collaborates with OCHA, WFP, FAO and other organizations to define their role and input for the present situation and preparedness for a potential invasion in 2005.

In October, the FAO, WFP and CILSS carried out a joint locust impact assessment and determined action to check its spread. In line with this assessment and knowledge of the potential hazard of pesticides, the Federation discourages the use of pesticides by the national societies in affected countries. It rather recommends possible actions and contingency plans while maintaining close contacts with the government, national and international organizations. The national society is carrying out situation assessment and monitoring through the volunteer

<sup>2</sup> UN News Service November 2004

<sup>3</sup> UN OCHA Integrated Regional Information Network (IRIN) 13 May 2004

<sup>4</sup> IRIN 13 August 2004

## Burkina Faso; Appeal no. 01.32/2004; Programme Update no. 2

network in remote communities. The Federation is assisting the Burkinabe Red Cross in formulating and planning food security programmes as well as longer-term preparedness for potential locust invasions for the most-vulnerable communities in 2005.

### Health and care

**Goal: To contribute to the reduction of morbidity and mortality resulting from communicable diseases and cultural practices in Burkina Faso.**

**Objective: Morbidity and mortality linked to endemic diseases, childhood illnesses and harmful traditional practices are reduced through promotion of appropriate health behavior at the community level in targeted rural zones.**

**Achievements: Community health practices related to vaccination-preventable childhood illnesses and meningitis change positively through sensitization, training and literacy programmes.**

The Regional Health Coordinator's recruitment in July enhanced the review of already launched programmes and the national society's capacity building efforts. One of the coordinator's first tasks with the Regional OD officer was to set up a strategic the 2005-2008 plan. This facilitated the assessment of on-going and future community-based programmes. Different programmes and emergency vaccination interventions were emphasized (infant and adolescence health, maternal health, HIV/AIDS and female genital mutilation practices).

The national society also mobilized support shortly after the MoH declared the Bobo Dioulasso District 22 an epidemic area following the confirmation of a yellow fever case in May 2004. During the monitoring campaign, a suspicious yellow fever case was reported in the health district of Solenzo and another in the Nouma health district. Consequently, the Burkinabe Red Cross with Federation support collaborated with the MoH and WHO to organize a rapid volunteer response in both districts. Anti-yellow fever vaccination coverage of the Extended Vaccination Programme (EVP) in Solenzo and Nouma health districts were below 80% within the last four years. The last massive vaccination campaign was conducted in 1984. Within this context, a multidisciplinary team carried out an epidemiological and entomological survey to assess the situation and make plans for relevant interventions. The table below reflects findings in both districts:

#### Solenzo

Patient	Age	Sex	Residence	Vaccination status	Date of sampling	Comments
EPID: BFA-DED-SOL-04-208	18	M	Toukoro	Unknown	11/06/2004	Resident but died on 12/06/2004 at Solenzo medical center (CMA)

#### Nouma

Patient	Age	Sex	Residence	Vaccination status	Date of sampling	Comments
EPID: BFA-DED-NOV-004	60	F	Yalankoro	Unknown	14/06/2004	Under treatment

In both districts, monitoring is carried out for yellow fever cases with samples systematically taken and sent to the Muraz reference laboratory center in Bobo Dioulasso.

The national society's health officer with the MoH, WHO and other partners, attended the yellow fever epidemic response meetings organized in Burkina Faso. The objectives were to actively participate in the epidemiological monitoring to identify early cases, promote prevention awareness among the communities and participate in massive vaccination campaigns together with the health districts. Of the 1,640 volunteers mobilized to support health technicians, 526 volunteers were selected for the fix strategy and 1,114 for the advanced strategy. There were 15 local supervisors. As a result, the volunteers intensified and enhanced the epidemiological monitoring to identify early cases. Two yellow fever cases were found during the vaccination process in the Nouma health district.

## **Burkina Faso; Appeal no. 01.32/2004; Programme Update no. 2**

Besides yellow fever, polio has been another epidemic that affected five times as many West and Central African children in the first half of 2004, compared to the same period last year. Health authorities express possible threats of the biggest epidemic in recent years unless massive immunization programmes swing into action. Burkina Faso fully subscribed to the global poliomyelitis eradication programme like its West-African neighbors. The national society has been dynamic during the whole planning process and attended the MoH's social mobilization programme. With Federation's support, it organized anti-polio vaccination campaigns from 8-12 October and 18-22 November.

### **Impact:**

- Improved coverage in Solenzo health district which is currently 95.2% and 99.7% for Nouma, following the anti-yellow fever vaccination campaign.
- More visibility for the Burkinabe Red Cross.
- Stronger collaboration between the national society and the government health authorities. The Solenzo health district called for future partnership with the national society during sensitization campaigns.
- Enhanced community health programmes and capacity building through the health coordinator's recruitment.

### **Constraints:**

- Delays in funds transfer to support the planned vaccination (polio-measles) and unexpected campaigns (yellow fever) affected efforts in completing the national society and Regional Office's activities.

### **The Burkinabe Red Cross successfully organizes and manages a community health programme.**

- The national society prioritized its polio and yellow fever vaccination mobilization activities due to inadequate funds to cover the Health and Care sector of this Appeal.

### **Female genital mutilation is reduced in three provinces (Ganzourgou, Kourweogo and Oubritenga).**

- The national society prioritized its social mobilization activities due to inadequate funds received.

## **Disaster Management**

**Goal: The Burkinabe Red Cross branches and headquarters are able to respond adequately to emergencies.**

**Objective: The Burkinabe Red Cross capacity to address root causes of food insecurity and to intervene during emergencies to assist those in need is strengthened.**

### **Expected Results:**

- Household food security is improved in selected communities through:
  - Technical and material support to cereal production, gardening and irrigation schemes.
  - Sale of cereals at the RC-run boutiques.
- The national society's emergency response capacity improves through:
  - Annual training of 60 trainers and 1, 200 first-aid volunteers for the next four years.
  - Equipping 320 brigades of 15 first-aid volunteers, each with basic materials (stretchers, Red Cross pinafores, first-aid kits).
  - Regular branch support through monitoring and guidance.
  - Acquisition of communication/transportation facilities.

### **Constraints**

- Lack of funding impeded the realization of these projects.

## **Organizational Development**

**Goal: Better assistance to the most vulnerable is furnished through improved programme planning, management and resource mobilization capacities of the Burkinabe Red Cross.**

**Objective: The Burkinabe Red Cross has completed a comprehensive Strategic Development Plan leading to a systematic development of the national society's capacity.**

### **Progress/achievements:**

The Burkinabe Red Cross moves closer towards realizing the characteristics of a well-functioning national society through:

- **Development of a three to five-year strategic development plan (based on national society capacity assessment and evaluation of previous plan results) in coordination with other stakeholders.**

Following the mission to plan Federation's OD support, a process was proposed to evaluate the last four years' programmes. The national society carried out this evaluation in April 2004 with the technical and financial support of the Federation and the Danish Red Cross. This led the national society to identify its own weaknesses in programme and project planning.

In June, a strategic planning workshop was held enhancing the national society's capacity to draw up the 2005-2008 Strategic Plan. This was followed, in July 2004, with a Federation-supported project-planning workshop to develop different projects based on the 2005-2008 Strategic Plan. Now, the project-planning matrices in health, disaster preparedness with food security as well as conflict preparedness and OD are available for submission to donors. These project-planning matrices paved the way for the 2005 Appeal and future projects.

- **Completion of a Co-operation Agreement Strategy (CAS) process**  
Both the ICRC and Danish Red Cross were part of the national society's partnership meeting organized in February with the Regional Office's technical assistance. The strategic planning workshop gathered the Danish Red Cross, the Spanish Red Cross, Dakar Regional Office and ICRC representatives. Similarly, the Regional Development Officer participated in a communication planning workshop organized in November by the national society with the ICRC support. There is thus a strong coordination effort with partners playing their respective roles
- **Convening a partners meeting to formally present and confirm the Co-operation Agreement Strategy (CAS).**  
This meeting is the final stage of the process and will be achieved in 2005 with the assistance of a CAS Officer recruitment supported by the Danish Red Cross.
- **The Burkinabe Red Cross installs professional accounting software and trains the staff on its use.**  
Financial constraints prevented the conclusion of the national society's desire to improve its management systems and harmonize the tools used with other national societies. The Regional Office organized a mission to harmonize procedures among finance managers in the Sahel region. Within this context, the Office in collaboration with the national society's finance staff reviewed the Federation's budget programmes among other issues.

These exchanges upgraded staff performance and motivated the establishment of a minimum criteria list to enhance financial documentation. This list has been disseminated throughout the national society to improve its financial reporting system. A memorandum now serves as a reference to list the national society's strengths and weaknesses in financial reporting. This document is to be updated pending progress noted within the financial management.

## Burkina Faso; Appeal no. 01.32/2004; Programme Update no. 2

- **The Burkinabe Red Cross undergoes external audits of its accounts to better manage resources, identify weaknesses and address them.**  
For its comprehensive management audit, the national society conducted a bid process and one proposal is to be selected before the year's end.
- **Members and managers of ten branches clearly understand the separation of governance and management functions.**  
No progress due to lack of funding
- **Ten branch-level pharmacies possess the tools and capabilities to manage stocks.**  
No progress due to lack of funding
- **Resource development activities are coordinated according to plans approved by the Burkinabe Red Cross resource development committee.**  
This activity is for review in the light of the Burkinabe Red Cross 2005-2008 Strategic Plan
- **The Burkinabe Red Cross improves its public relations and marketing strategy through a positive public image and its revenue sources are diversified.**  
A workshop was held in November to build a comprehensive communication strategy based on the national society's 2005-2008 Strategic Plan. This workshop allowed the Burkinabe Red Cross to better grasp its public image and build a global and coherent communication strategy. Three areas were covered during the workshop: harmonization of the views and perceptions around key concepts of the Plan; definition of intermediate strategies to set up an annual communication plan; the implementation of a new communication department with clear vision and orientations.
- **Ten branch staff is trained in resource mobilization activities and the Burkinabe Red Cross national resource mobilization committee develops standard project-description formats.**  
The achievement of these results is contingent upon the completion of the activities above.
- **Revenues generated by ten branches increase significantly through income-generating activities.**  
The achievement of these results is contingent upon the completion of the activities above.
- **Impact**  
The national society now has a more coordinated development plan and is on its way towards having a better long-term project-planning tradition based on the Project Planning Process (PPP). However, the impact of the process will be better felt after a few years. The Federation's lead role in assisting the national societies' development is better understood.
- **Constraints.**  
All interested partners found it difficult to be always present at board meetings. While the lack of a Disaster Preparedness/Management Officer created a heavier workload on the Regional Office staff, inadequate funds limited progress in finance development activities.

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

APPEAL No. 01.32/2004

## PLEDGES RECEIVED

11/01/2005

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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## CASH

					TOTAL COVERAGE	
REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				655,580		20.1%
CASH CARRIED FORWARD				69,158		
BRITISH - GOVT/DFID GRANT 2004				50,000	29.01.04	HEALTH
BRITISH - GOVT/DFID GRANT 2004				12,852	29.01.04	ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				132,010	CHF	20.1%

## 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	