

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

ANGOLA

22 December 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. 05AA008; Programme Update no 2, Period covered: July to November 2005; Appeal coverage: 26.8%; Outstanding needs: CHF 814,205 (USD 620,583 or EUR 526,142).

[Click here to go directly to the attached Contributions List, also available on the website.](#)

Appeal target: CHF 1,112,426 (USD 883,600 or EUR 716,500).

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals: Marburg haemorrhagic fever outbreak; Minor Emergency no. ([05ME021](#)) and Floods: ([05ME016](#)).

Programme summary: The [Angola Red Cross](#)¹ is undergoing a comprehensive change process with the vision of becoming a well-functioning national society with strong branches and motivated volunteers capable of assisting and addressing the needs of the most vulnerable communities. Following the March 2005 decision by the national council to review the Statutes, to develop a new five-year strategic plan and to audit the last five years accounts, three commissions were set up and reported the progress at the November 2005 meeting. While the work is moving in the right direction, some delays have been encountered and have prompted the postponement of the annual general meeting to early 2006.

The national society continued to implement activities in community-based health and care, health education, mother and child health care, HIV/AIDS prevention and promotion of behavioural change. Disaster management activities included mine awareness campaigns, response to flooding in Kwanza Norte and Bengo provinces, continued Marburg Hemorrhagic Fever control, social mobilization activities and the provision of safe water, sanitation and hygiene.

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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.

¹ Angola Red Cross- refer to <http://www.ifrc.org/where/country/check.asp?countryid=18>

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

Following an update on Angola Red Cross programme activities, it is evident that many of the institutional development strategic initiatives undertaken in 2005 have produced the desired results and had substantial impact. In the provinces, good level of commitment amongst the new provincial governing boards on the change process has facilitated the revision of the Statutes, development of better finance system, structure and a strategic plan for the next three years.

The relief operations towards flooding in Bengo and Kwanza Norte provinces were well coordinated at the field level. Effective cooperation and coordination mechanisms were also established between the Red Cross branches and other humanitarian aid organizations, to avoid duplication of work and to maximize the positive impact of the collective efforts. Key partners in the field during this operation include UNICEF and WFP who provided mosquito nets and food items respectively for distribution to affected families. Coordination with local civil protection services was also strong, helping to optimize the impact of relief aid provided.

An outbreak of Marburg Haemorrhagic Fever (MHF) in the beginning of 2005 had claimed the lives of 323 people, mainly in Uige province, by August 2005. The Angola Red Cross, as a member of the National Civil Protection Commission, played an important role in controlling the spread of the deadly virus. The national society was a member of the social mobilization sub-commission with two national society staff members as permanent members to participate in all meetings. Angola Red Cross volunteers carried out sensitization activities in Uige Province and surrounding villages on control and prevention of Marburg and other communicable diseases

The Federation supported Angola Red Cross with an allocation of CHF 252,000 from its Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to respond to the MHF outbreak. The Federation regional delegation recruited a delegate from Guinea-Bissau who was deployed to Uige province to support with social mobilisation and relief activities. The delegate worked closely with the national society provincial secretary in co-coordinating the operations and regularly communicated with the provincial local authorities, provincial Marburg control committee and the international team from Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), WHO, UNICEF and OCHA. The operation was closed in August 2005.

Angola Red Cross's change process slowed down a bit during the month of July and August as the national society's president was involved in an accident and was hospitalised. The three commissions that were tasked with the review of the constitution, strategic planning, finance and audit experienced some delays in carrying out their tasks due to lack of funding. The books of accounts have now been closed and auditing is in progress. The national society held a council meeting, on the 3 and 4 November 2005, which was attended by representatives from the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the Federation to assess the progress of the drafting of national society statutes and strategic plan as well as the preparation of audit. The Statutes review has not been finalized in time to hold the annual general assembly. Consequently, it has been rescheduled for early 2006. There is therefore, the need to carry out a comprehensive assessment of the 2004 mission' action plan and identify the short term gaps that is holding the Angola Red Cross to carry out its change process effectively.

Health and care

Goal: Sustainable improvement in the general health conditions of vulnerable communities, whilst building and expanding upon national society capacity and volunteers system in the entire country.

Objective: National society basic health care provision in three provinces to targeted communities surrounding national society health posts (with emphasis on returnee population) is improved and contributes to the mitigation of priority health problems.

Progress/Achievements:

- The community-based health and care programme (CBHCP) aimed at improving the health of mothers and children through effective and sustainable volunteer intervention based on ARCHI 2010 was implemented in all the provinces. Initially it was planned to work in three provinces with Angola Red Cross health posts to benefit approximately 157,841 people. Below is a breakdown of beneficiaries accumulated to the end of the reporting period;
 - 10,485 benefited from curative, first aid and treatment of the most common diseases;
 - 79,377 from health education sessions;
 - 16,250 from home visits and water sanitation activities;
 - 14,146 from routine vaccination;
 - 6,825 women from parental care;
 - 14,327 people from malaria prevention activities.
- The national society also had an important social mobilization role during the first, second and third round of government organised National Immunization campaign against polio (July 29 to 31, August 26 to 28 and September 23 to 25 respectively). The campaign aimed at increasing coverage, improving quality and stopping the spreading of the current poliovirus outbreak in Angola. More than 190 Angola Red Cross volunteers were trained and worked in a community mobilization and vaccination teams during the six working days of each round. The Federation supported Angola Red Cross with CHF 16,000 toward the campaign. More than 400,772 community members received information and were mobilized, 602,936 children below five years were vaccinated and 437,941 home visits conducted in seven affected provinces.
- In response to the outbreak of the Marburg Hemorrhagic Fever in early 2005, more than 80 volunteers were trained in social mobilization, psycho-social activities and were active in disseminating, distributing information, education and communication (IEC) material, conducting home visits, meeting with traditional leaders, training communities on water purification, and distributing midwifery safety materials at traditional therapeutic centres. A total of 355 affected families benefited from immediate relief distribution and a total of 2,430 home visits conducted by Red Cross volunteers reached 25,430 people in four municipalities of Uige province (Uige, Songo, Negage and Quitexi).

Impact:

- There is an assured and wider coverage of community-based health and care programme at the Angola Red Cross health posts and their surrounding communities through better volunteer network.
- Increased vaccination activities, conducted in collaboration with the government, contributed to the reduction of infant morbidity and mortality in targeted areas.
- Logistics and relief distribution during the MHF control operation improved the capacity of the national society's volunteers to carry out social mobilization activities.
- The intervention of the Red Cross during the MHF operation reduced vulnerability of affected families. The authorities (at the national, provincial and local level) and the communities in Uige province expressed their appreciation.
- Based on its effectiveness and timeliness in implementing activities towards the control MHF and providing relief assistance to floods in Kwanza Norte and Bengo province, Angola Red Cross's auxiliary role to the government is increasingly being recognised.

Constraints:

- Lack of funding for planned health activities slowed down the scheduled programme implementation for the second semester of 2005.
- Delays in generating field reports and weak headquarters and provinces staff capacity derailed the programme implementation plan.
- Weak communication between headquarters and provincial level due to inaccessibility because of the prevalence of landmines also affected the smooth implementation of health and care initiatives.

HIV/AIDS

Goal: Sustainable improvement in health and well being of being of targeted populations.

Objective: 600,000 people reached through an extended prevention programme, 100 OVC and 100 clients provided with care and support through the new pilot home based care project.

Progress/Achievements:

The capacity of provincial offices to implement and evaluate HIV/AIDS activities is improved.

- During the reporting period, a total of 238 volunteers- including HIV/AIDS coaches, facilitators and youth peer educators- worked in ten provinces of the country reaching 52,610 beneficiaries (23,200 females and 29,410 males) with anti stigma and discrimination messages, prevention tips and home care and psychological support.
- A national home-based care (HBC) workshop facilitated by Mozambique Red Cross Society HBC technician was held 10 to 17 September in Luanda and 18 HIV/AIDS provincial programme coordinators participated. The workshop aimed at building capacity to provide technical support to Red Cross volunteers in areas of providing care and support to HBC clients in the projects planned to start in 2006.

Awareness has been raised and information disseminated on HIV/AIDS prevention to 600,000 people.

- Red Cross volunteers conducted 1,810 sensitization sessions and distributed 70,872 condoms and 5,228 information, education and communication (IEC) materials during the reporting period. These initiatives aimed at increasing knowledge on HIV/AIDS and strengthening capacities on prevention.

100 chronically ill people in one province are identified and have received HBC services.

- Angola Red Cross HIV/AIDS provincial coordinator in Cabinda identified 18 people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA), in coordination with the local authorities, in order to establish a support group. The group provided a platform for PLWHA to share experiences, receive psychological support, gain life development skills and fight stigma and discrimination.

100 OVC identified in one province have received material, educational, psychological and social support.

- Angola Red Cross has, since July 2005, provided 30 orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) with educational material, blankets, food, and psychological and social support. This was conducted in Cabinda province as a pilot project and will be rolled out to other provinces.

The national society is recognized both nationally and internationally as a key actor in the fight against HIV/AIDS, through advocacy and communications strategies directed at media and authorities.

- The national society continued supporting the government efforts on HIV/AIDS prevention and assistance to people infected and affected by HIV/AIDS.

Impact:

- There is an increased HIV/AIDS awareness amongst the population as a result of the sensitization campaigns carried out by Angola Red Cross volunteers.
- Anti-stigma campaigns conducted in ten provinces contributed to positive participation of the community members in supporting people infected and affected by HIV/AIDS and in maintaining a low HIV/AIDS prevalence.

Constraints:

- Delays in generating field reports and weak capacity of headquarters and provincial staff affected the development of action plans.
- Poor communication between headquarters and provinces also affected progress and project implementation according to plan.

- The national HIV/AIDS programme coordinator is overburdened and the Red Cross volunteers capacity needs strengthening in order to scale up HBC projects.

Disaster management

Goal: The vulnerability of people affected by disasters is reduced.

Objective: The vulnerability of targeted communities is improved through implementation of disaster prevention, preparedness and response strategies.

Progress/Achievements:

Improved national society's disaster preparedness and response through capacity building of staff and volunteers.

- In responding to flooding that occurred in Bengo and Kwanza Norte provinces, Angola Red Cross assisted the affected families by providing temporary shelter, nutritional feeding, water and sanitation facilities, tracing and family reunification. The national society also worked in collaboration with local National Civil Protection Service on search and rescue, evacuations and providing basic health care.
- Angola Red Cross, in collaboration with the government, conducted a damage assessment in the affected areas, which identified the needs of the affected families. The government also sent equipment to the affected areas to help repair roads, as well as relief items such as blankets, mattresses, used clothes and food items.
- The Red Cross volunteers also distributed household items (bed sheets, blankets, mosquito nets, and soap etc) to replace those destroyed as a measure to prevent transmission of MHF. This, being the first experience of an MHF outbreak in Angola, strengthened the capacity of the national society to respond to future outbreaks.
- Angola Red Cross first aid-trained staff and more than 30 volunteer in Dondo and 15 in Caxicana conducted social mobilization activities in an effort to prevent the spread of diarrhoeal diseases, cholera and malaria. The national society sent two consignments of used clothing to Dondo and one to Caxicana from its central warehouse in Luanda and distributed them to vulnerable and affected families.
- Through coordination of the disaster management programme, Angola Red Cross organized two training sessions on community-based First Aid for 125 volunteers in Kwanza Norte, Bengo and Uige provinces, as capacity building on response to disease outbreaks.



Angola Red Cross Society volunteers distributing relief items to families affected by MHF in Uige province.

Improved quality of service in the community-based landmine awareness and education programme in seven provinces.

- With the support of the ICRC, Angola Red Cross continued to implement the landmine awareness programme at the community level in Bie and Benguela, Kwanza Sul, Moxico, Kwanza Norte and Bengo provinces. A total of 40 Red Cross volunteers were involved in the land mines awareness campaigns conducted on monthly basis.
- Angola Red Cross actively participated in the first national disaster response exercise conducted with the National Civil Protection Services and American Embassy in Angola.

Impact:

- Emergency response operations improved the volunteer capacity in Kwanza Norte, Bengo and Uige provinces in disaster response, community-based first aid, social mobilization activities, logistic and relief distribution.
- Coordination in disaster response between National Civil Protection Services, provincial local authorities and Angola Red Cross branches was improved especially during the MHF relief operation;

- The civil protection authorities at the national, provincial and local levels- including communities in Bengo, Kwanza Norte and Uige provinces- expressed satisfaction over the Angola Red Cross disaster response intervention which evidenced quality programming.

Constraints:

- The national society has limited disaster response capacity, which resulted in delays in accessing emergency relief funds and in distribution processes. It also delayed the implementation of the relief programme for the floods in Bengo and Kwanza Norte provinces. The emergency operation was planned to last three months but was prolonged due to delays in the disbursement of funds. Throughout the course of this relief operation it became clear that capacity building in services delivery and administration is necessary at all level in Angola Red Cross.
- Lack of funding for the annual appeal hindered implementation of other planned disaster management programme activities.

Organizational development

Goal: Angola Red Cross is a well-functioning national society and is recognized and respected as a key national actor in the humanitarian sector, first and foremost by the Angolan people themselves and by the government and other local and international humanitarian agencies.

Objective: The governance and management capacities of Angola Red Cross at both headquarters and provincial branch levels are strengthened so as to meet the new emerging development needs and deliver quality services to most vulnerable communities to fulfil its role as an auxiliary to the government in humanitarian activities.

Progress/Achievements:

- The national society conducted the first national council in March 2005, which was attended by all 18 provincial presidents and the national headquarters staff, ICRC and Federation country and regional staff. The aim of the meeting was for the new provincial presidents to start the preparatory activities for the general assembly. During the council, three national commissions were established:
 - The strategy commission- to develop a strategic plan: On the basis of the recommendations of an assessment mission, the provincial executive council is to conduct a VCA upon which the national development plan for three years will be developed. The strategy commission has developed the first draft of three-year strategic plan (2006-2009) based on the evaluation and discussion with the Angola Red Cross national coordinator and provincial committees;
 - The legal commission- in charge of revising the national society Statutes, with support from the Federation, ICRC and a joint technical experts' team. The commission has established general rules and regulations and a new Red Cross Law will be proposed to the government for subsequent adoption by the parliament. The legal commission finalised the Statutes revision and sent it to the provincial board for discussion and commenting;
 - The fundraising commission- in charge of carrying out inventory of the national society's properties, preparing the agreement with an external auditing firm, booking the last five years accounts, conducting the audit drafting proposals on fundraising and resources mobilization activities. The five years booking of accounts were closed by KPMG Finance and Audit Company and the report was sent to the governance, management and president of the financial commission. The audit was finalised in November 2005 and results will be presented at the General Assembly planned for early 2006.

Impact:

- There was improved branch participation in the statutes revision and setting up of the commissions with specific tasks.
- There is a clearer understanding of the national society finance situation and how funds were used since 2000, which in turn allows better future planning and budgeting.

Constraints:

- Delays in the separation of powers between the provincial and branch committees affected progress on the planned activities.
- Lack of commitment in implementing the plan of action and developing a strategic plan draft by a key member of the strategy commission jeopardize the production of the first draft.
- Delays in signing a contract agreement with external audit firm to carry out the audit by management also delayed the process.
- Absence of secretary general due to incapacitation destabilized the headquarters' staff, decreased the control on tasks, the delivery of services and effective implementation of the transition process. Fortunately the president has been available to fill the gaps and supervise the process.

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

CASH

| REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF -----> | | | 1,112,426 | TOTAL COVERAGE 26.8% | |
|--------------------------------|---------|-----|-----------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| OPENING BALANCE | | | 22,453 | | |
| CAPACITY BUILDING FUND | | | 105,168 | 31.01.05 | ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT |
| DANISH - GOVT | | | 42,000 | 26.01.05 | HEALTH DELEGATE |
| DANISH - RC | | | 41,100 | 04.07.05 | HEALTH DELEGATE |
| FRENCH - RC | | | 2,000 | 12.12.05 | PC HEALTH DELEGATE |
| SWEDISH - GOVT | 500,000 | SEK | 85,500 | 19.05.05 | ARC GENERAL ASSEMBLY |
| SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH | | | 298,221 | CHF | 26.8% |

KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

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