

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

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

19 August 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. 05AA034; Programme Update no. 1, Period covered: January to June 2005; Appeal coverage: 26.1%; Outstanding needs: CHF 270,783 (USD 210,400 or EUR 173,524).

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

Appeal target: CHF 366,210 (USD 290,900 or EUR 235,900).

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals: N/A

Programme summary: Since holding an extraordinary general assembly (EGA) in April 2004, the Central African Red Cross Society¹ entered a restructuring phase. During that EGA, all participants agreed that a new governance system should be put in place based on the separation of governance from the executive, the enforcement of financial accountability, the integrity of leaders and the polishing of the national society's image. The restructuring was to restore the national society's focus on its primary mission- to provide assistance to the most vulnerable.

Lack of qualified staff to handle the governance department led to the crumbling of several branches of the national society and resulted in the total disorder experienced at national level.

Apart from capacity building, Central Africa Red Cross Society was not able to implement any activities under its programmes due to lack of funding for the 2005 Appeal.

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

- In Central African Republic: Pasteur Mbaog Bogo Antoine, President, Central African Red Cross Society, Bangui; Phone: + 236.61.22.23; Fax: + 236.61.35.61
- In Cameroon: Daniel Sayi, Acting Head of Federation Central Africa Sub-regional Office, Yaoundé; Email: ifrcm06@ifrc.org; Phone +237.221.74.37; Fax +237.221.74.39
- In Geneva: Madeleine Lundberg, Federation Regional Officer for West and Central Africa, Africa Dept; Email: madeleine.lundberg@ifrc.org; Phone +41.22.730.43.35; Fax +41.22.733.03.95

This Programme Update reflects activities to be implemented over a one-year period. This forms part of, and is based on, longer-term, multi-year planning (refer below to access the detailed logframe documents). All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the Code of Conduct and is committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

¹ Central African Red Cross Society- <http://www.ifrc.org/where/country/check.asp?countryid=44>

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 Central African Republic (CAR) is confronted by a series of man-made and natural disasters, among them epidemics- malaria, meningitis and cholera - floods, diamonds and gold mining-related accidents and armed conflicts. At national level, a crisis committee to respond to disasters whenever the need arises is in place, under the supervision of the prime minister. Several other committees were also formed in reaction to the various alerts and crises the country has experienced. There is need to put an efficient coordination system in place in order to guarantee the success of all the efforts that may be made to respond to the disasters that threaten the lives of vulnerable communities. As an institution that deals with humanitarian action, the Central African Red Cross Society has a key role to play in preventing and responding to those hazards.

The Central African Red Cross Society was, for a long time, one of the best national society in Central Africa- with well organized and develop first aid activities. Unfortunately, institutional crises gripped it, resulting in poor management of human, material and financial resources and leading to its deterioration. The economic crisis facing the country has compounded the situation. The crises have had negative impacts, including:

- A number of trained volunteers abandoning the national society;
- Halting of activities in local branches, and
- A tarnished image of the national society.

The national society had planned to implement activities in:

- Health and care
 - Support to community-based health: with the goal to reduce the vulnerability of the CAR populations to health related issues.
 - AIDS control and the fight against tuberculosis: with the aim to reduce the spread of HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis in the populations that are highly exposed in CAR.
- Disaster management: aiming at reducing the vulnerabilities of the populations in the prefectures of Sibut, Bossembele, and the third and seventh districts to hazards, natural disasters and man-made disasters.
- Organizational development: targeting to improve the performances of the targeted local committees in at least one essential domain of the ARCHI 2010 strategy.

Due to lack of funding of the 2005 Appeal during the reporting period, the Central African Red Cross Society was not able to implement activities in any of its key programmes.

However, should the local committees of the national society be provided with skilled volunteers, they will again be able to assist communities prepare and respond to disasters and their capacities will be restored and strengthened.

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

