

# 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

## REPUBLIC OF CONGO

28 June 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](http://www.ifrc.org)

### In Brief

**Appeal No. 05AA036; Programme Update no. 1; Period covered: January-April 2005; Appeal coverage: 28.3%; Outstanding needs: CHF 365,053 (USD 285,197 or EUR 235,822).**

*(Click here to go directly to the attached Contributions List (also available on the website).)*

**Appeal target: CHF 509,259 (USD 404,500 or EUR 328,000 )**

**Related Emergency or Annual Appeals: N/A**

**Programme summary:** This programme update summarises the activities carried out all over Republic of Congo by the Congolese Red Cross<sup>1</sup> from January to April 2005. Despite the relatively low coverage (24%) of Appeal 2005, the national society has managed to conduct several activities in key areas, including health programmes (HIV/AIDS and care), disaster management, promotion of humanitarian values and organisational development.

Being an auxiliary of the government, Congolese Red Cross was supported by the ministry of health and population and the ministry of sports and youth development in implementing its activities. The Federation provided technical support.

The different components of the movement: the Federation, ICRC and partner national societies (British Red Cross, Spanish Red Cross) played major roles in enabling the national society implement its programmes/activities.

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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 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>*

<sup>1</sup> Congolese Red Cross <http://www.ifrc.org/where/country/check.asp?countryid=184>

## **Operational developments**

The Congolese Red Cross main concerns in 2005 have been: evaluation and motivation systems using local resources; promoting gender and development with a focus on food security and social reintegration.

The national society also focused on enhancing good governance and management skills and in the setting-up of along with mechanisms to improve volunteer management skills. On health, Congolese Red Cross strived to reduce major diseases such as HIV/AIDS/STD, Ebola, and Malaria. It also built strong partnerships with other stakeholders by participating in the world health day under the theme “Let’s give a chance to each mother and child” and the world malaria control day under the theme “Let’s join forces to combat malaria”

The Federation, ICRC and partner national societies (among them the British Red Cross, Irish Red Cross and the Spanish Red Cross) provided technical and cooperative support to the Congolese Red Cross. In early February, the British Red Cross donated a vehicle to the national society while its desk officer, in line with strengthening cooperation received twenty five volunteers.

The chairperson of the Congolese Red Cross was among the team that the Federation sent to Gabon, so as to mediate in solving the internal crisis in the Gabonese Red Cross Society.

## **Health and care**

**Goal: A reduction is achieved in the disease-related vulnerability of people living in the areas targeted by the programme.**

**Objective: With the support of the ministry of health and other partners, the Congolese Red Cross improves access to community health services in the areas of the country targeted by the project.**

### **Achievements**

- HIV/AIDS/STIs projects were established in Brazzaville, Pointe-Noire, Dolisie and Owando.
- Congolese Red Cross volunteers carried out several social mobilisation activities to combat Ebola hemorrhagic fever in the four districts exposed to the infection. Participation in the meetings organised by the ministry of health was maintained.
- An evaluation of the activities of the national society in Mpoumako village was conducted in February 2005, by six officers from the directorate general of the Congolese Red Cross.

### **Impact**

- HIV transmission among high-risk groups (young people, soldiers, sex workers and long-haul drivers) has been reduced.
- Care for AIDS sufferers has improved.
- The presence of Congolese Red Cross in all the ministry of health meetings enabled the national society to consolidate ties as an auxiliary to government.

### **Constraints**

- The national society continued to suffer from the insufficiency of didactic materials.

## **Disaster management**

**Goal: A reduction is achieved in the disaster-related vulnerability of people living in the target districts in the Republic of Congo.**

**Objective: The national society’ disaster management capacities to provide rapid and effective response in emergencies are improved.**

### **Achievements**

- Risk mapping and disaster preparedness activities have been carried out in Brazzaville, Cuvette Centrale and Cuvette Ouest.
- Twenty national society volunteers actively participated in the management of relief operations in sites that attract children between the age of six and thirteen in Brazzaville, in December 2004 to January 2005.
- Congolese Red Cross officials participated in the January 2005 international conference on disasters which took place in Kobe Japan.
- The national society deployed three volunteers [who are also members of regional disaster response team for Central Africa (ERDAC<sup>2</sup>)] in Treguine, a Sudanese refugee camp in Chad.
- In April 2005, Congolese Red Cross volunteers organised an information education and communication (IEC) session on typhoid in the Sixth District of Brazzaville. The session benefited customers of the Mikalou main market.

### **Impact**

- The visibility of the national society was strengthened as its volunteers came closer to vulnerable people.

### **Constraints**

- Lack of well-equipped first-aid kits hindered the national society's effective intervention in emergencies.
- Absence of well-structured field relief teams.

## **Humanitarian Values**

**Goal: Respect for human dignity and more effective solidarity with the vulnerable are assured through the promotion of the fundamental principles and humanitarian values.**

**Objective: The level of discrimination against pygmies, PLWHA, the disabled and rape victims is reduced in the target areas (Pointe-Noire, and the regions of Pool and Lékoumou).**

### **Achievements**

- The first issue of Congolese Red Cross monthly information bulletin (known as "Etendard de la paix<sup>3</sup>") was published in January.
- A weekly radio programme, entitled "Tout connaître sur la Croix-Rouge Congolaise<sup>4</sup>" is now broadcasted on the national radio station.

### **Impact**

- The monthly information bulletin and the weekly radio programme have enormously enhanced and strengthening the image of Congolese Red Cross before the general population and partners.

### **Constraints**

- Lack of financial incentives for the volunteer in charge of producing the radio programme.
- Insufficiency of materials required for the production of the information bulletin makes it very difficult to meet publication deadlines and produce good quality document.

## **Organizational development**

**Goal: The Congolese Red Cross progresses towards becoming a well-functioning national society.**

**Objective: The Congolese Red Cross is technically and financially self-sufficient and capable of meeting its major challenges through its volunteer network.**

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<sup>2</sup> Equipe de Réponse aux Désastres en Afrique Centrale

<sup>3</sup> French for: the flag of peace

<sup>4</sup> French for : know everything about Congolese Red Cross

**Achievements**

- A follow-up mission was conducted in the Mpoumako village, in January 2005 to ensure that activities were carried out on the field within the framework of the rural development project.
- Twenty three volunteers of the national society harvested and sold cassava from eight farms within the Mpoumako agricultural project, 153 km from Brazzaville.
- The British Red Cross desk officer for west and central Africa received twenty five Congolese Red Cross volunteers, from 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> April 2005, as part of strengthening cooperation between the two national societies.
- Five volunteers from the national society travelled to Impfondo and Kinkala to sensitise the populations and prepare them for the celebration of the World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day.
- The Federation organised a mediation mission to Gabon with the aim of solving the internal crisis affecting Gabonese Red Cross Society.
- Two Congolese Red Cross volunteers attended the national consultation committee meeting of women-managed non-governmental organisations. The meeting was to share the findings of the 49<sup>th</sup> session of the women commission which was held in New York from in February to March 2005.
- The national society carried out several income-generating activities that were successfully run by its volunteers. The financial report is summarised in the table below.

Project/Activities	Status	B/BF	Takings	Expenses	Balances
Selling cards	Cash in	416 245	0	416 245	0
Restaurant	Cash in	500 025	531 095	913 110	118 010
Rent Federation	Cash in	500 000	750 000	1 150 000	100 000
Paul KAMBA Site	Cash in	158 800	195 000	303 800	50 000
Whale-boat	Cash in	547 750	0	203 011	344 739
Selling water in tanks	Cash in	77 675	25 000	4 000	98 675
Health Centre	Cash in	1 718 565	2 006 224	3 259 593	465 196
Agricultural project	Cash in	419 100	203 500	123 850	498 750
<b>Total</b>		<b>4 338 160</b>	<b>3 710 819</b>	<b>6 373 609</b>	<b>1 675 370</b>

**Impact**

- The national society has been able to take care of its operational costs with funds it has raised from the income-generating micro projects.
- The rapport existing between Congolese Red Cross and its partners has been strengthened throughout constant collaboration.

**Constraints**

- Lack of funding has hindered the support organisational development initiatives.

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

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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**CASH**

						<b>TOTAL COVERAGE</b>
REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				<b>509,259</b>		<b>28.3%</b>
OPENING BALANCE				27,066		
BRITISH - RC		5,000	GBP	10,905	14.01.05	ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
JERSEY OVERSEAS AID		33,655	GBP	73,401	23.05.05	EBOLA PREVENTION
IRISH - GOVT		21,204	EUR	32,834	04.02.05	ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				144,206	CHF	28.3%

**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	