

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 AFRICA SUB-REGIONAL PROGRAMMES

17 June 2005

[Chad and Sub-regional office]

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. 05AA038; Programme Update no. 1; Period covered: January to April 2005; Appeal coverage: 56.6%; Outstanding needs: CHF 843,302 (USD 655,246 or EUR 540,405).

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

Appeal target: CHF 1,942,272 (USD 1,542,700 or EUR 1,251,100).

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals: N/A

Programme summary: This update reports on activities carried out by the Red Cross of Chad¹ and the Central Africa sub-regional office. In conformity to the 2005 Appeal, the Central Africa Sub-regional office scheduled a number of activities for the year; encompassing the core areas of health and care, disaster management, organizational development and international representation. Unfortunately late funding hindered the implementation of programmes planned specifically in the core area of humanitarian values.

The sub-regional office provided support to the Cameroon Red Cross Society² to combat the cholera resurgence experienced in Cameroon in March. Together with the national society, the office conducted two field missions to assess the situation on the ground; the first mission was conducted from 20-22 April and the second from 29 April to 1 May. After the missions, 150 trained volunteers from the national society carried out sensitization, behavioural change communication, and hygiene and sanitation campaigns in the affected areas.

When Equatorial Guinea experienced a cholera outbreak in February, the sub-regional office assisted the Red Cross of Equatorial Guinea³ with technical expertise. The national society however mobilized its own funds and volunteers to curb the spread of cholera.

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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¹ Red Cross of Chad- <http://www.ifrc.org/where/country/check.asp?countryid=45>

² Cameroon Red Cross Society- <http://www.ifrc.org/where/country/check.asp?countryid=41>

³ Red Cross of Equatorial Guinea- <http://www.ifrc.org/where/country/check.asp?countryid=63>

Central Africa Sub-regional programmes; Appeal no. 05AA038; Programme Update no. 1 (Chad and Central Africa Sub-regional office)

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

Central Africa sub-region comprises of eight countries: Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Republic of Congo, Central Africa Republic (CAR), Chad, Gabon, Equatorial Guinea, São Tomé and Príncipe, and Cameroon. This programme update, however, reports on activities carried out by the Red Cross of Chad and the Central Africa sub-regional office.

Central Africa is one of Africa's most vulnerable and disaster-prone regions, affected by both natural and man-made disasters. The disasters include armed conflicts, population movement, food insecurity, epidemics, political instability, poverty and economic recession. The limited health facilities available within this sub-region remain inaccessible to most people while some of them are overwhelmed by the increasing number of HIV/AIDS patients. Albeit significant efforts have been made by the countries within the sub-region to prevent and combat epidemics, their populations are often hit by cholera, meningitis, and occasionally by the Ebola hemorrhagic fever.

Beyond epidemics, several Central Africa countries are faced by food insecurity problems. Although this has often been attributed to frequent floods and droughts, instability arising from latent political tensions or open conflicts has also hampered progress in addressing food security issues. The absence of a real policy for rural development has also contributed to the same. In DRC, growing insecurity and rumours of secession threaten to jeopardise the transition process. The government of Chad and the Red Cross of Chad have on the other hand been preoccupied by the situation in Darfur, specifically the Chad-based refugee camps.

Some of the national societies in the sub-region are faced by inadequate funding and absence of efficient internal and external policies for fundraising. Central Africa sub-region national societies' problems are also compounded by their countries' lack of close historical ties with international cooperative countries. With over 80% of the Central Africa populations being French speakers, language barrier prevents them from establishing fruitful contacts with English-speaking donors, resulting in low fundraising yield. Consequently, the national societies are unable to fully execute their annual action plans and are forced abandon a number of activities. Significant efforts have however been made during the past years in seeking potential partners within the sub-region and at the international level. There is still need for effective fundraising campaigns coupled with creative ideas and active international representation in order to fully exploit these potentials.

The International Federation regional office for Central Africa (BRAC⁴) has been, and is still, supporting the national societies on five key priorities: multiplication of the successes that fall in line with the 2010 strategy, selection of coherent and pertinent strategies and programme development, development of local partnerships and improvement of their image and credibility, and development of regional resources and regional cooperation.

Chad

Health and care

Goal: The vulnerability of the populations of Chad to health threats is reduced.

Objective: The targeted populations in the communities working with the programme have adopted health-friendly behaviours, and continue to use the quality health and care services put at their disposal by Red Cross of Chad.

⁴ In French : Bureau régional de la Fédération pour l'Afrique centrale

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Achievements

- The Red Cross of Chad authorities mobilized over 400 volunteers, from January to June, to conduct anti-polio immunization campaigns throughout the country.
- On 11 January, 120 Red Cross of Chad volunteers conducted an immunization campaign against meningitis in an area 25 km around Tredjine refugee camp. The Federation's regional office provided support.
- On 30 March, the executive council of the Red Cross of Chad held a meeting with the country representative of WHO in Chad and his assistant. The meeting discussed blood transfusion and impregnated mosquito nets distribution, with the two parties promising to collaborate on the same.
- On 14 June, 52 Red Cross of Chad volunteers, most of them female, donated 52 blood bags to the blood bank of the national reference general hospital.
- In early 2005, the Red Cross of Chad took responsibility over a health centre which was initially managed by the emergency response unit (ERU). The national society is supported in this activity by the Central Africa regional disaster response team (ERDAC⁵).

Impact

- The Red Cross of Chad volunteers are now recognised as key actors in immunization campaigns.

Fight against HIV/AIDS and Tuberculosis

Goal: The spread of HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis in the populations that are highly exposed in Chad is reduced.

Objective: The targeted populations in the communities working with the programme have adopted risk-free sexual behaviours, and continue to use the prevention, screening, and treatment services put at their disposal by the national society.

Achievement

- A substitute has been recruited to replace the former coach in charge of HIV/AIDS control who resigned early in the year. The new coach is currently in the field and is working closely with UNICEF.

Constraint

- Following the resignation of the coach in charge of HIV/AIDS control, all activities scheduled in this domain were halted during the first semester of 2005.

Disaster management

Goal: Reduce the vulnerability of the populations of Chad in high-risk areas to disasters and develop pilot projects on food security in three rural areas.

Objective: Train and animate disaster management teams in four local branches that are highly exposed to disasters, and develop a Red Cross of Chad pilot project on food security.

Achievements

- During the first semester of 2005, the Red Cross of Chad authorities laid emphasis on the extension of community-based first aid by organizing several training sessions for volunteers.
- From 17-26 March, 30 out of 31 Red Cross of Chad first-aid instructors were trained on how to teach community-based first aid in N'djamena.
- From 18-25 April, 16 out of 31 Red Cross of Chad instructors successfully completed training in community-based first aid teaching practice. The training sessions were sponsored by the Spanish Red Cross.
- Boreholes, sunk by the Red Cross of Chad volunteers with the support of the French Red Cross, were inaugurated in Western Logone (Moundou), in June. The boreholes were essentially drilled to provide water for the benefit of the Djarabe primary school.

⁵ In French : Equipe de réponse aux désastres en Afrique Centrale

Organisational development

Goal: The performances of Red Cross of Chad are improved in the essential domains of the ARCHI 2010 strategy.

Objective: The governance, technical, and financial capacities of Red Cross of Chad are built.

Achievements

- In April 2005, 36 executives from 18 regional and urban committees of the Red Cross of Chad were trained on project and programme development and management.
- After training, the Red Cross of Chad authorities were given full responsibility to single-handedly manage two refugee camps: the Tredjine and Bredjine camps.

Central Africa sub-regional office

Health and care

Goal: The living conditions of vulnerable persons in Central Africa are improved significantly upon and the sustainability of this status is ensured.

Objective: BRAC supports the National Red Cross Societies of Cameroon, CAR, Chad, Congo, DRC, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, and São Tomé and Príncipe to carry out a pertinent volume of community-based activities related to the promotion of health and to the fight against diseases. BRAC also supports the involvement of affected communities in the activities.

Achievements

Partnership/fundraising

- Following the appointment of a new director at the Cameroon Centre Pasteur, officials from the sub-regional office visited the centre to reopen negotiations on the revalidation for the treatment of sexually transmitted infections (STI) in a group of 250 Yaoundé-based sex workers.
- Prepared and sent a document (on 3 March) describing the philosophy of the sex workers project and the calendar of activities to the Greek Red Cross. The document was sent with an aim of seeking funding for the extension of the project to Douala, one of the four target towns with a great number of sex workers.

Community-based health

- The sub-regional office supported the Red Cross of Equatorial Guinea in mobilising its own funds and volunteers to curb the spread of cholera, following the February outbreak. The national society was able to provide community-based sensitization training for 35 volunteers in Malabo. Through fifteen of its volunteers, the Red Cross of Equatorial Guinea also disinfected the Malabo hospital, distributed 3,000 litres of safe drinking water each day (until 1 May) at the hospital, and 30,000 litres of potable water weekly to the neighbourhoods affected most by the cholera outbreak. The neighbourhoods included Elanguema, Semu, and Campo-Yaúnde; the most populated (with close to 10,000 inhabitants).
- The sub-regional office, in collaboration with the Cameroon Red Cross Society, conducted two field missions (20-22 April, and 29 April-1 May) to assess the situation following the resurgence of cholera in Cameroon in March. After the missions, 150 trained volunteers carried out sensitization, behavioural change communication, and hygiene and sanitation campaigns in the affected areas.
- With malaria still a major public health problem in the region (prompting WHO to initiate the Roll Back Malaria programme); from 5-6 April the acting head of the sub-regional office and the sub-regional health officer participated in the first partnership meeting in Libreville (Gabon), to develop a working plan to combat malaria in Central Africa.

Impact

- The authorities and populations of Cameroon's West Province, which was affected by the cholera epidemic, expressed satisfaction over the intervention of the Cameroon Red Cross Society.
- The national societies within the sub-region are increasingly being recognised as auxiliaries to their respective governments, based on their effectiveness and timeliness in fighting against epidemics.

HIV/AIDS Control

Goal: The spread of HIV/AIDS and stigma against PLWHA is reduced.

Objective: All eight national societies of Central Africa have been involved effectively and efficiently in the process of AIDS control, and have carried out a pertinent volume of activities to that effect.

Achievements

- The regional HIV/AIDS officer and the head of the gender department of Cameroon Red Cross Society paid an assessment visit, on 4-5 February 2005, to the 14 beneficiaries of the sex workers micro projects. During the visit, they discovered that four of the beneficiaries were yet to commence for various reasons and reminded them of the need to respect the contract terms as well as existing deadlines.
- Organised a training/retraining session on micro-project management for 60 ladies from several sex workers' associations. There are indications that pertinent projects will receive funding.
- Participated in the 18 March mobilization ceremony of the civil society to fight against HIV/AIDS in Cameroon. The project, financed by the Global Funds to combat AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, covers a two-year period and falls in line with the national AIDS control strategy. The funds are in the keeping of CARE International Cameroon, an international non-governmental organisation (NGO) which stands as the main beneficiary.
- Selected the Cameroon Red Cross Society, alongside two other NGOs, to represent the civil society- at national level- in the coordinating body of the Global Fund- the Country Connection Mechanism (CCM).
- Supported the organisation of a two-day workshop (26-27 April) at the Mont-Febe Monastery. Its objective was to develop a health project (fight against HIV, Tuberculosis and malaria) to be presented to CARE International Cameroon. The workshop brought together officers of the sub-regional office and member national societies.
- Received a pertinent project proposal from the Central African Red Cross Society on combating HIV/AIDS. The sub-regional office and the Central African Red Cross Society are currently studying how the project will be executed.

Impact

- The Cameroon Red Cross Society is an elected member of the Country Connection Mechanism (CCM), the national coordination body of the Global Funds for health projects.
- The Cameroon Red Cross Society is a recipient of the complete transfers of competence over the "sex workers project". This indicates the sub-regional office's effectiveness in coaching member national societies.

Constraints

- Delays in the financing of some activities, specifically those of the health department, slowed down the scheduled programme implementation for the first semester of 2005.

Disaster management

Goal: The vulnerability of the populations in Central Africa to disasters is reduced.

Objective: The technical know-how of RDRT/ERDAC has been reinforced in the domains of water and sanitation (WATSAN) and the construction of camps for both refugees and internally displaced persons, and practical provisions have been made in order to facilitate the deployment of RDRT/ERDAC members in the event of a disaster.

Achievements

- To facilitate its participation in activities marking the World Civil Protection Day (WCPD), the sub-regional office supported the Cameroon Red Cross Society to carry out sanitation activities around water points in the Mvog-Ada neighbourhood, Yaoundé. 60 volunteers from the national society treated 21 wells and sensitized the local populations on why/how they should sustain hygienic activities.

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- In collaboration with the SOS disaster network, the sub-regional office and the Cameroon Red Cross Society carried out cleaning and draining activities, funded by World Conservation Union, in the Nkolbisson neighbourhood. The national society is currently finalising narrative and financial reports, related to this activity, to be presented to the donor agency.
- Recruited more qualified persons to build the capacities of ERDAC health team in the field and updated the procedures for their deployment. Plans were made to recruit qualified staff to take over from the ERDAC team in Chad, through the Red Cross of Chad.
- Maintained the field team for an additional three month-period, following an excellent performance and public acceptance. The coordinator of the health operation confirmed this positive response on behalf of Sudanese refugees in Chad.
- The database of the ERDAC team has been updated.
- In response to the 18 March minor earthquake of Yaoundé and Douala (Cameroon), the information bulletin prepared by the Cameroon Red Cross Society, including a plan of action, were sent to Dakar regional delegation.
- In response to the request from the Dakar regional delegation, on 29 April the sub-regional office sent an ERDAC member to Benin to join the team assessing the needs of Togolese refugees.

Impact

- The recruitment of more qualified ERDAC team members has enhanced the disaster management skills of the executives of member national societies.
- The various interventions by the ERDAC team have increased solidarity between members.
- By participating in sanitation activities and sensitizing the communities, the Cameroon Red Cross Society's recognition as an auxiliary to the government in disaster management has increased.

Constraints

- Delays in the transmission of information to the regional office.
- Delayed programme implementation due to non-approval of budgets.

Organizational development

Goal: The capacities of the Central Africa national societies in the four key domains of the ARCHI 2010 strategy are built.

Objective: The good governance, human resources management, local branches and programmes management, and finance capacities of the Central Africa national societies are built.

Achievements

- The sub-regional office participated in the 21st General Assembly of the Cameroon Red Cross Society held in Ebolowa on 23-24 February.
- Updated the plans of action of the Mfoundi, Vina and Lom and Djerem divisional committees and trained their respective leaders on good governance.
- Updated the organizational development, gender and finance officers' database, in collaboration with member national societies.
- Continued preparing documents to boost member national societies' fundraising capacities.

Impact

- Training of leaders on good governance has increased capacities of member national societies in achieving their own strategic plans. The Cameroon Red Cross Society has particularly benefited from this.
- There good governance capacities of member national societies have been reinforced.

Constraints

- Delays in the transmission of information to the Dakar regional office.
- Delays in programme implementation owing to non-approval of budgets.

Humanitarian values

Goal: People who suffer from all sorts of discrimination and stigma have access to assistance services.

Objective: National Red Cross Societies of Central Africa have aggressively advertised the positions of the International Federation vis-à-vis all sorts of discrimination, with special emphasis on the discrimination against PLWHA, through the media or the intervention of internationally renowned personalities.

Constraint

- Scheduled activities could not be carried out due to delays in the disbursement of funds.

Coordination, cooperation, and strategic partnerships

Goal: The performance of national societies of Central Africa is strengthened.

Objective: The partnership between national societies of Central Africa with other members of the Red Cross Movement and with international organizations is reinforced.

Achievements

- From 6-14 April, the president of the Chad Red Cross, the chairlady of the Congolese Red Cross and the president of the coordination committee of Red Cross national societies of Central Africa conducted a mission to Gabon in an attempt to solve the institutional crisis afflicting the Gabonese Red Cross Society.

Effective representation and advocacy

Goal: The general public, authorities, the media, and donors are encouraged to take an active part in the humanitarian activities carried out by the Federation and by national societies of Central Africa.

Objective: The advocacy activities carried out by both the Federation and national societies of Central Africa are efficiently relayed to authorities, the media, the diplomatic corps, the general public and other partners.

Achievements

- Paid a courtesy visit to the director of the Cameroon Centre Pasteur, on 10th March, with the aim of reopening negotiations on the revalidation of STI treatment within the “sex workers project” framework.
- Participated in the ICRC-organized course on international humanitarian law, on 14 March.
- Participated in the 4-6 April Roll Back Malaria meeting, in Libreville (Gabon), which developed a working plan to combat malaria in Central Africa.
- Participated in the national day celebrations of foreign missions based in Cameroon.

Impact

- Increased public awareness and visibility amongst the diplomatic community in Cameroon.

Constraints

- Lack of funding prevented the Cameroon Red Cross Society from inviting members of the diplomatic corps for the 8 May celebrations of the World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day.

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

Central Africa Sub-Regional

ANNEX 1

APPEAL No. 05AA038

PLEDGES RECEIVED

21/07/2005

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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CASH

REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				1,942,272		TOTAL COVERAGE
						56.6%
OPENING BALANCE				154,150		
BRITISH - GOVT/DIFD GRANT				62,852	01.01.05	ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, DISASTER MANAGEMENT
IRISH - GOVT		49,394	EUR	76,487	04.02.05	ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
IRISH - GOVT		25,997	EUR	40,256	04.02.05	ARCHI & HIV/AIDS
SWEDISH - GOVT		1,525,000	SEK	260,775	10.05.05	ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, HIV/AIDS YOUTH PROG. & FILLES LIBRES
SWEDISH - RC		2,950,000	SEK	504,450	10.06.05	MANAGEMENT, ORGANISATIONAL
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				1,098,970	CHF	56.6%

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	