

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

GUINEA

Appeal No. MAAGN001
6 July 2006

The Federation's vision is to strive, through voluntary action, for a world of empowered communities, better able to address human suffering and crises with hope, respect for dignity and a concern for equity. Its 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 183 countries.

In Brief

Programme Update no. 1.

Period covered: 1 January to 30 June 2006.

Appeal target: CHF 2,460,000 (USD 1,921,000 or EUR 1,592,000).

Outstanding needs: CHF 2,008,000 (USD 1,632,000 or EUR 1,279,000).

Appeal coverage: 18%

Appeal 2006-2007: <http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/annual06/MAAGN001.pdf>

[<Click here to go directly to the attached Interim Financial Report>](#)

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals: N/A

The programmes herein are aligned with the Federation's Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity":

- *Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.*
- *Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.*
- *Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.*
- *Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.*

Programme summary: The Red Cross Society of Guinea (RCSG) has not been able to implement most of the activities planned under Appeal 2006-07 due to lack of funds. Lack of funding has prevented the national society (NS) from assisting a population that is extremely vulnerable. However, there are some achievements in the areas of disaster management (DM). During this reporting period, the NS strengthened its disaster response capacity for population movements through the finalization of its contingency plan, training and equipping its National Disaster Response Team (NDRT), with the assistance from the Federation. Funding received to-date has been only for the refugee assistance programme from the United Nation High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the Irish government.

The main activity in this reporting period was in disaster response and provision of assistance to refugees in the Guinea Forestière region. The Federation provided technical and financial support, coordination as well as management of the partnerships with the UNHCR and the World Food Programme (WFP). According to the UNHCR statistics for May 2006, the RCSG staff and volunteers provided health care and social welfare services to 44,353 refugees from Liberia, Sierra Leone and Côte d'Ivoire living in camps in two prefectures of the Guinea Forestière region (Nzerekore with 36,691 and Kissidougou with 7,761) and 2,800 out of 8,843 refugees living in Conakry. The programme has achieved all the targets set by the UNHCR for health care and social welfare services. It has been managed and entirely run by trained NS staff and volunteers.

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For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

- **In Guinea:** Dr Mohammed Camara, Ag Executive Secretary, Red Cross Society of Guinea, Conakry; Email: crgconakry@yahoo.fr; Phone +224.60.200.159.
- **In Guinea:** Anthony Gyedu-Adomako, Federation Representative in Guinea, Conakry; Email: anthony.gyeduadomako@ifrc.org; Phone +224.60.353.301.
- **In Senegal:** Alasan Senghore, Federation Head of West and Central Africa Regional Delegation, Dakar; Email: alasan.senghore@ifrc.org; Phone: +221.869.36.41; Fax +221. 860.20.02.
- **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.

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 quality and accountable 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

Guinea continued to experience an increase in vulnerability during the reporting period. The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) study on vulnerability in the country listed the main causes of vulnerability as follows:

- The persisting social and economic crisis marked by the continuing devaluation of the currency and its related effect of rising prices exacerbated by three successive increases in the price of fuel during the past six months. Thus the current situation of poverty and the ever increasing costs of living have been aggravated and have triggered two general strikes by trade unions in March and June with the latter accompanied by violence that led to 12 deaths and several injuries.
- The slow pace of political dialogue created by the continuing absence of a prime minister since the last incumbent was sacked in April and the continued ill health of the president which has nurtured rumors of who is actually in charge of government.
- The continuing outbreaks of yellow fever, meningitis and cholera epidemics, coupled with the persisting high prevalence of malaria, typhoid fever, HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted infections (STIs), malnutrition in children and poor sanitation as well as personal hygiene contribute to the vulnerabilities caused by health problems.

The main achievements in the reporting period were in the provision of assistance to refugees in the Guinea Forestière region. The Federation provided technical and financial support, coordination as well as management of the partnerships with the UNHCR, WFP. The national society (NS) staff and volunteers to provide health care and social welfare services to refugees from Liberia, Sierra Leone and Côte d'Ivoire living in camps in two prefectures in the Guinea Forestière region as well as in Conakry.

The lack of funding to enable the NS to implement its planned health activities in the face of increasing vulnerability creates a sense of helplessness and frustration among the NS staff and volunteers. The NS demonstrated its capacity to respond to emergencies during the strikes by deploying its first aid brigades.

Health and care

The planned activities under health were not implemented during the reporting period due to lack of funding. However availability of some funds for HIV/AIDS activities was communicated but has not been received yet. Further, the funds allocated are less than the planned budget hence there will be a downward review of activities and a decrease in the number of targeted beneficiaries.

Goal: To improve the health status of vulnerable people and promote healthy living in beneficiary communities.

Objective: To reduce morbidity and mortality caused by preventable diseases in beneficiary communities.

Progress/Achievements

No activity has been implemented due to lack of funding.

Disaster management

The main activity during this reporting period was the response to the refugee presence in the Guinea Forestière region.

In terms of disaster preparedness, there was capacity building for disaster response with the finalization of a contingency plan for population movements and the increase in the number of disaster response teams (DRTs), with financial support from the Federation.

Goal: To alleviate the suffering of refugees in Guinea Forestière.

Objective: To provide shelter, health and social services to refugees in seven camps in Kissidougou and Nzerekore.

Progress/Achievements

The volunteers of the RCSG, working under the coordination and support of the Federation and with funding from UNHCR, provided medical care, comprising of curative services (consultation, laboratory services, pharmacy, and referral), public health services (mother and child health services: ante natal and post natal services, deliveries, immunization of pregnant women and children, child growth and development monitoring and nutrition services, surveys and therapeutic feeding of identified malnourished children as well as pregnant and lactating mothers) and social welfare services for the vulnerable among the refugees (people with disabilities, the elderly, chronically ill, unaccompanied minors, women- heads of families and youth) and medical screening for refugees due for voluntary repatriation.

Expected result 1: Eighty percent of refugees have improved shelter.

With the onset of the rainy season, 57 shelters in Kola and over 100 others in Kouankan have been rehabilitated, bringing the percentage of refugees with improved shelter to 60%. The Federation is however not responsible for construction and repair of shelters in 2006, the responsibility having been given by the UNHCR to the German Technical Cooperation (GTZ).

Expected result 2: Eight women’s groups and two cooperatives formed in 2005 receive continued support.

Expected result 3: People with disability and the elderly organized in cooperatives in 2005 are supported.

Support provided for women’s groups (WGs) and cooperatives is as outlined below:

Group	Activity	Support provided
4 WGs in Kouankan 1	Sewing	3 sewing machines and 3 kits (containing needles, thread and scissors).
1 WGs in Kola	Sewing	1 sewing machine and 1 kit.
1 WG in Kola	Batik making	Plain cotton material, dye, gloves and parasol
1 WG in Kola	Soap making	Oil and caustic soda
Cooperative of the handicapped	Petty trading	2 bags of rice.
Cooperative of the aged	Manufacture of hammocks	Wood, cord and needles.

Expected result 4: Medical services are provided for refugees in Kouankan and Kola camps.

The health status of the refugees has been well maintained as indicated by the attainment of all standards as well as monitoring and evaluation indicators set by the UNHCR for both curative and public health services.

Expected result 5: The national society’s capacity to intervene in emergencies is strengthened.

The RCSG has finalized its contingency plan for population movements and participated in the contingency planning workshop held in Dakar in March. Three new DRTs have been trained and equipped along the borders with Côte d’Ivoire and Sierra Leone. Funds are available for the training and equipping of three more in the course of the year. A survey of the borders with Guinea-Bissau and Senegal will be conducted to determine at which locations to site more DRTs. The NS also participated in the workshop held in Sikasso, Mali, to plan for cross border response to population movements. The NS will also train a national level response team in July 2006.

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Impact

- The refugees have access to basic social services and physical infrastructures thus reducing their vulnerability.
- The health status of the refugees was kept within all the performance indicators set by the UNHCR, such as mortality rates, immunization coverage, and malnutrition rates.
- The capacity of the refugee community to take charge of the vulnerable has been strengthened.
- About 11,700 refugees were medically screened and found to be in good medical condition for repatriation between January and June 2006.
- The Federation has strengthened the capacity of the RCSG to the extent that all the activities are carried out and managed by trained volunteers of the NS with the Federation providing coordination, financial and technical support as well as management of partnerships with the UNHCR, WFP and other partners.

Constraints

- When preparing the 2006-7 Appeal document in October 2005, the Federation was responsible for the construction and repair of shelter and other infrastructure in the camps. In January, this activity was handed over to GTZ by the UNHCR in its quest to limit the number of implementing partners and concentrating same activities with one partner.
- The amount UNHCR gives as support to women's groups as well as cooperatives for the elderly and the disabled has been reduced from GNF 500,000 to GNF 200,000 in 2006. With the high inflation rate, the impact of the support has consequently been greatly reduced.
- The number of women in the camps has reduced because of repatriation; therefore the membership of each woman's group has been reduced from 14 to 7.
- Funding from the UNHCR has been reduced while that from the Federation has not yet been received thus there have been gaps in meeting needs. For example, baby kits have not been distributed to women who have delivered this year.
- There is a shortage of drugs in the referral hospital, Nzerekore Regional Hospital. This, compounded by an increase in fees, has affected the budget in the short-term.

Organizational development

The Red Cross Society of Guinea planned to construct its own national office in 2006-7 with support from partners, and to position itself so as to attract partners both in and out of the Movement. The NS aimed at becoming a well-functioning NS through: conducting self assessment; drawing up a strategic plan; establishing a functional capacity in its national offices for fundraising; improving coordination between its headquarters and branches and strengthening its financial administration. The aim is also to reduce 100% dependence of the NS on Movement partners for the funding of its administrative costs.

The construction of the national headquarters is on course and should be completed by the end of September 2006. Other planned activities have not yet been carried out due to lack of funding. However, with funding pledged in the middle of June by the Swedish Red Cross and the Federation, implementation will begin in July.

Goal: The Red Cross Society of Guinea will have the characteristics of a well functioning national society by the end of 2007, having reduced its financial dependence by 60%.

Objective: The NS will finance 20% of its administrative cost by the beginning of 2007.

Progress/Achievements

Apart from the construction of the national office which is ongoing, none of the other planned activities are yet to be implemented.

Expected result 1: The national society's financial management is strengthened.

Activities have not been implemented but, with the arrival of a finance delegate in Guinea on 22 June 2006, training will start as soon as the delegate is settled.

Expected result 2: Construction of the offices of the Red Cross Society of Guinea is completed.

The construction, funded by the NS's branches and the ICRC, has reached the roofing stage and should be completed by the end of September 2006.

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Expected result 3: Monitoring and coordination system between the national office and branches/local committees is established.

Implementation will begin in August 2006 with a workshop to outline the coordination system.

Expected result 4: A fundraising unit is established at the national office.

Implementation will start with the recruitment a fundraising officer by the end of August 2006.

Impact

The activities as indicated above will commence in the second half of 2006. The monitoring and evaluation system in place is indicated below:

Activity	Monitoring and evaluation mechanism/indicators
1. Strengthening of financial management.	1.1 Number/hours of training provided by finance delegate. 1.2 Publication/release of income and expenditure statement for 2006.
2. Construction of national office.	2.1 Date of handover by contractor. 2.2 Date office is occupied and becomes functional.
3. Establishment of a monitoring and coordination system between national office and branches/local committees.	3.1 Date of approval of designed mechanism by committee/ national board. 3.2 Date of implementation.
4. Establishment of a fundraising unit.	4.1 Date of approval of job description by committee/ national board 4.2 Date of recruitment of fundraising officer. 4.3 Date the officer starts work. 4.4 Date of completion of database for local development partners 4.5 Total funds raised by end of year.
5. Drawing up of a strategic plan	5.1 Date of completion of NS self assessment. 5.2 Date of Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (VCA) and other VCA reports received. 5.3 Date of workshop held to discuss draft. 5.4 Date final version is received.

Constraints

Funding limitations remain the main constraints. There has been a pledge from the Swedish Red Cross, which will be supported with in-country Federation funds and a possible grant from the Federation's Capacity Building Fund (CBF) for financing the planned activities.

Humanitarian Values

The Federation planned to work with the NS to ensure the awareness of the Movement's policies and guidelines in the reduction of vulnerabilities in Guinea, working through the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC)/COPIA¹ and others to discuss and plan for humanitarian activities in the country. Further, the Federation will take advantage of its IASC/COPIA membership to ensure that the Red Cross view is represented in the discussion and planning for humanitarian action.

Goal: The Movement's Principles, mission and activities are known and respected by the government and its agencies, the UN agencies, other international bodies and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in the country.

Objective: The Federation representative and the national society launch and participate in activities aimed at creating awareness about the Movement's Principles, mission and activities.

Progress/Achievements

The Federation, the Red Cross Society of Guinea and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) have attended IASC/COPIA meetings as well as other forums for discussion and planning for humanitarian action. These include the workshops on the Community Animation Peace Support (CAPS) process and UNHCR coordination meetings.

¹ In French: Comité permanent inter agence (COPIA)

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The NS has created a high level of awareness about the activities of the Red Cross through its mobilization and community education activities for the management of cholera and immunization. The deployment of first aid brigades (volunteers) during the general national strike- to provide first aid- to the wounded and to transport them to hospitals-also created a high level of awareness about the Movement. The NS was called to a special IASC meeting and was commended by the UN system for this activity.

Other activities were also organized at all levels of the NS to commemorate the World Red Cross Day and Red Crescent activities, specifically aimed at awareness creation about the Movement, have been implemented by the NS through the ICRC dissemination programme.

Expected result 1: The Federation is represented at all meetings of the IASC and others aimed at coordinating humanitarian action in the country.

The Federation representative has attended 80% of the meetings, being absent only when on mission.

Expected result 2: The World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day is given wide publicity in the country.

Activities were carried out by all branches to commemorate World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day. They include:

- Organizing of clean up campaigns;
- Donating of food and non-food items to patients in hospitals;
- Organizing a seminar on volunteering;
- Sensitizing the public on the Movement Principles and the Emblem;
- Strengthening fellowship among the youth.

The World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day has been commemorated at national level with two events:

- A donation of food and non-food items to people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) in a centre at the commune of Matam, Conakry. This was funded by proceedings from a concert held by a musician who is a goodwill ambassador of the Red Cross Society of Guinea.
- A first-aid competition was held in which the six first aid brigades in the six communes of Conakry participated, with the brigade of the commune of Matam emerging champions. 33 brigade from other parts of the country were invited to observe the competition as a learning process. The event received wide and extensive coverage in the media.

Expected result 3: The Launch of Federation Appeal and World Disasters Report is given wide publicity in the country.

The activities will be implemented in the second half of the year.

Expected result 4: The Movement is represented in the celebration of other important global events such as World Health Day.

Implementation will be done during the celebrations of the specific events.

Impact

Awareness of the Red Cross and its activities is high as a result of the refugee programme, the activities of the RCSG (cholera, immunization and first aid to wounded), and the dissemination programme of the ICRC.

Constraints

Lack of or inadequate funding remains the main constraint. There is still a difficulty for many persons and groups to understand the roles of the Federation and the ICRC.

Implementation and coordination

The Federation's framework for action, as part of the Federation of the Future (FoF) process, has not yet been inculcated into the NS. Awareness creation on the FoF will begin in July with a workshop for members of governance at all levels of the NS to be cascaded down to the local committee level.

Coordination has been achieved through planned meetings, informal discussions and follow-up on plans of action (PoAs).

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Coordination, cooperation and strategic partnerships

The NS has committed to self-development and will initiate the process through a self assessment workshop to respond to the Federation's survey of well-functioning NS. This will also serve as input into the strategic planning process which will follow after the self assessment. A SEK 100,000 pledge from the Swedish Red Cross, in support of the exercise, has been received.

A workshop is to be held in July to create awareness of the FoF process and to identify areas in which the NS can scale up. The Millennium Development Goals (MDG) will be added to the ARCHI 2010 Strategy, the Kampala Declaration and the Algiers Plan of Action in drawing up the strategic plan.

Below is a table reflecting the activities undertaken bilaterally by Movement partners in Guinea.

Movement Partners	Summary of activities (during the reporting period)
ICRC	Support to first aid brigades, celebration of World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day, IASC membership, contribution to administrative costs of NS.
Swedish Red Cross	Refugee assistance programme and organizational development.

International representation and advocacy

The Federation is a member of IASC/COPIA and other forums for discussion, planning and implementing of humanitarian activities aimed at reducing vulnerabilities in Guinea. In these forums, the capacity of the NS- particularly in the deployment of over 6,000 trained volunteers in emergencies- has been stressed and noted. The role and capacity of the Federation in the country and through international appeals have also been clarified.

The Federation has been an invited participant at forums organized by the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to inform the heads of missions and international organizations on emergencies (such as epidemic outbreaks) and political issues (such as general strikes).

Delegation management

Management at all levels of the Federation's operations has been effective and proactive, particularly in the area of finance, to ensure that funds are expended as per agreed budgets to prevent deficits and misapplication of funds. To further improve on financial management performance, a finance delegate has been posted to Conakry with effect from 22 June 2006.

[*Interim financial report below;*](#)
[*Click here to return to the title page and contact information.*](#)

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAAGN001 - GUINEA

Interim financial report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2006/1-2006/5
Budget Timeframe	2006/1-2007/12
Appeal	MAAGN001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
A. Budget	0	2'459'885	0	0	0	2'459'885
B. Opening Balance	0	0	0	0	0	0
Income						
Cash contributions						
Irish Government		31'560				31'560
UNHCR (UN Agency)		267'245				267'245
C1. Cash contributions		298'805				298'805
Outstanding pledges (Revalued)						
UNHCR (UN Agency)		154'308				154'308
C2. Outstanding pledges (Revalued)		154'308				154'308
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)	0	453'112	0	0	0	453'112
D. Total Funding = B + C	0	453'112	0	0	0	453'112

II. Balance of Funds

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance	0	0	0	0	0	0
C. Income	0	453'112	0	0	0	453'112
E. Expenditure		-413'411				-413'411
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	0	39'701	0	0	0	39'701

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

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Interim financial report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2006/1-2006/5
Budget Timeframe	2006/1-2007/12
Appeal	MAAGN001
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation		
A							B	A - B
BUDGET (C)		0	2'459'885	0	0	0	2'459'885	
Supplies								
Shelter	21'450		140				140	21'310
Construction	151'759		36'565				36'565	115'194
Clothing & textiles	108							108
Food	35'085		10'950				10'950	24'135
Seeds,Plants			344				344	-344
Medical & First Aid	54'823		71'707				71'707	-16'885
Utensils & Tools	1'440		209				209	1'232
Other Supplies & Services	20'778		31'692				31'692	-10'914
Total Supplies	285'443		151'607				151'607	133'836
Land, vehicles & equipment								
Computers & Telecom			2'205				2'205	-2'205
Office/Household Furniture & Eq			243				243	-243
Total Land, vehicles & equipme			2'449				2'449	-2'449
Transport & Storage								
Storage	1'800		144				144	1'656
Distribution & Monitoring			15'534				15'534	-15'534
Transport & Vehicle Costs	462'621		35'461				35'461	427'160
Total Transport & Storage	464'421		51'139				51'139	413'282
Personnel Expenditures								
Delegates Payroll	377'600		32'083				32'083	345'517
Delegate Benefits	312'000		15'600				15'600	296'400
National Staff	165'876		55'780				55'780	110'096
National Society Staff	507'239		130'581				130'581	376'658
Total Personnel Expenditures	1'362'715		234'044				234'044	1'128'671
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	7'860		792				792	7'068
Total Workshops & Training	7'860		792				792	7'068
General Expenditure								
Travel	21'382		5'583				5'583	15'799
Information & Public Relation	13'507		198				198	13'309
Office Costs	127'076		31'437				31'437	95'639
Communications	7'110		9'895				9'895	-2'785
Professional Fees			1				1	-1
Financial Charges	720		-6'472				-6'472	7'192
Other General Expenses			-123'568				-123'568	123'568
Total General Expenditure	169'795		-82'925				-82'925	252'720
Depreciation								
Depreciation	9'759		2'033				2'033	7'726
Total Depreciation	9'759		2'033				2'033	7'726
Program Support								
Program Support	159'893		26'872				26'872	133'021
Total Program Support	159'893		26'872				26'872	133'021
Operational Provisions								
Operational Provisions			27'401				27'401	-27'401
Total Operational Provisions			27'401				27'401	-27'401
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	2'459'885		413'411				413'411	2'046'473
VARIANCE (C - D)			2'046'473				2'046'473	