

# ***NIGERIA: HEALTH, CAPACITY BUILDING, DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE***

*31 August 1999*

*appeal no. 01.06/99; Revised budget  
situation report no. 1  
period covered: 1 January - 31 July 1999*

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*In addition to providing assistance for the existing caseload of Liberian and Sierra Leonean refugees, sporadic communal clashes since April 1999 have caused the internal displacement of over 90,000 persons. Some 18,000 are considered vulnerable and in urgent need of food, household utensils, and agricultural tools. The additional assistance requirements are reflected in a revised budget, increased from CHF 1,237,096 to CHF 1,929,542. With CHF 862,380 already provided, the programme urgently requires CHF 736,000 in order to deliver the planned assistance.*

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## ***The context***

The Nigerian Red Cross Society (NRCS) and the Federation proposed the following three major programme objectives for the 1999 Emergency Appeal:

{ Capacity-building: Develop efficient headquarters to provide adequate guidance and support to branches; establish functional offices with a full-time Branch secretary in each of the 37 branches; and set up an adequate communications system throughout the country with strategically placed relief stocks in Lagos and Kano.

{ Health: Ensure strengthened management and monitoring capacities of health staff at all levels of the NRCS.

{ Disaster Preparedness/Response and Relief: Pre-stock non-food relief items in the aftermath of man-made disasters; provide food to 600 Liberian and 1,350 Sierra Leonean refugees; and train volunteer Disaster Preparedness and Response Management teams in each branch to respond in a planned, timely, and appropriate manner in the event of disaster.

## ***Latest events***

Since 2 April 1999, Nigeria has experienced several fierce communal clashes in different regions of the country. To date, over 700 people have been killed, many more injured and an estimated total of 91,000 people displaced. Serious socio-economic consequences are feared as homes and property have been lost, livelihoods destroyed, and farmers are unable to return to the land. The police force, with a ratio of one police officer for 1,000 inhabitants, has a limited capacity to enforce security.

Since the ethnic clashes which occurred between April and June 1999 in the State of Anambra, in the State of Warri and in Kafanchan (See Information Bulletin No. 1 on Communal Clashes), further violent outbreaks of communal fighting took place in July in the towns of Shagamu, South West Nigeria, Kano, the largest city in the North of Nigeria and in Ondo State. In Shagamu which is made up of a majority of Yoruba, clashes took place following what was considered a violation by a Hausa woman of a traditional rite. The clashes took place between 17 and 20 July and some 200 people were reported dead, while at least 400 people were injured. Around 400 buildings were burnt down including mosques and business premises and 20,000 people were displaced.

In retaliation, between 22 and 30 July, the population of Kano State (of which the majority is Hausa) carried out an attack on non-Hausas resulting in at least 170 people feared dead, 300 injured and some 9,000 people displaced.

At the end of July, communal conflict raged between the Ijaws and Ilajes in two local government areas of the Ondo State of Nigeria. Over 200 people have been reported dead on both sides. Some 13,800 houses were burnt down in 68 Ilaje villages, whilst 12 Ijaw villages were destroyed. Over 22,000 people have been displaced and the population, made up predominantly of fishermen, is unable to work. Economic and social activities have come to a standstill as the conflict continues.

In early August, the Regional Relief Co-ordinator carried out a mission to Nigeria in order to review the current situation and to assist the National Society in designing plans of action to come to the aid of the displaced and vulnerable following the clashes.

UNHCR aid to Liberian refugees ceased in July 1998. The most vulnerable refugees who have not volunteered for repatriation for security reasons, have been identified by the NRCS and number some 600. As for the 2,000 Sierra Leonean refugees, a reduced ration of 6 kgs of rice, 1.5 kgs of beans and 0.75 lt. of oil per person is currently provided by UNHCR. Federation funding enabled the NRCS to supplement the refugees' provision of food between February and June 1998 and between October 1998 and March 1999. Since March, however, the refugees have been struggling to survive on meagre rations which are below subsistence level. The two groups of refugees pose a security threat as they resort more and more to theft in order to feed their families.

## ***Red Cross/Red Crescent action***

### ***Disaster Preparedness and Response*** w

The NRCS placed an emphasis in 1999 on disaster preparedness and response with a Plan of Action which focuses on training in disaster management, both of teams of volunteers and officials at Branch level. Given growing levels of poverty, lack of access to health facilities and the frequent occurrence of natural disasters, NRCS, with its large network of branches and volunteers, aims to be at the forefront of organisations in-country capable of responding to natural and man-made disasters. Furthermore, the complexities of Nigerian society, with the largest population in Africa of 120 million people made up of 250 ethnic groups, give rise to another forms of disaster as ethnic tensions threaten stability and cause displacement of large groups of people.

Given limited government emergency and welfare services, NRCS plays a vital role in disaster response and has built a solid reputation in this field. The NRCS also has a strong tradition of working with refugees, and since the Oru camp in the Ogun State of Nigeria was set up in 1990 the NRCS has been involved in caring for the Liberian and Sierra Leonean refugee caseloads. The Society is responsible for camp management, running of the clinic, and carrying out distributions of food and non-food items. The National Society, with its network of Branches and volunteers, has intervened following each of the communal clashes in order to provide assistance in a variety of ways.

***Shagamu, South West Nigeria***

The NRCS's Ogun State Branch mobilised around 100 volunteers to assist victims of the conflict in Shagamu. In addition, first aid squads of the Shagamu, Abeokuta and Ijebu-Ode divisions were mobilised on 19 July, providing first aid services and evacuation to hospitals. The volunteers also set up rehabilitation centres for the displaced in public buildings situated in safe areas. The Ogun State Branch of the Society distributed relief materials including 50 blankets, 5 bags of gari (granulated cassava), 20 mats and disinfectant. The Branch also donated a limited number of blankets, mats, towels and some second-hand clothing. The ICRC provided a box of dressing materials to four hospitals treating the wounded.

***Kano, North Nigeria***

In Kano, volunteers provided water and sanitation materials for the displaced: the Federation made available two plastic water tanks with a capacity of 1,500 litres of water. The National Society distributed 20 bags of gari, 3 bags of sugar and 600 plastic plates and spoons. Red Cross volunteers assisted the wounded and displaced with first aid services and psychological support.

***Aguleri Umuleri/Umunoba communal conflict, Anambra State***

Communities remain engaged in guerrilla-like tactics, resorting to occasional armed attacks. The affected areas are unsafe and few economic and social activities have resumed. The number of vulnerable people has therefore increased and more persons have been displaced. The National Society, the Federation, and the ICRC have been active in providing assistance. In June, with Federation funding, the Society distributed a one-time assistance package of 12 kgs of rice, 2 kgs of beans, 1 litre of oil to 2,791 victims of the clashes. Nevertheless, approximately 12,000 people are still displaced, of whom some 2,400 remain vulnerable.

***Ijaw/Itsekiri, Urhobo, Isoko Ethnic Conflicts***

Hostilities between ethnic groups have reduced and, as a result, security has improved. The root of the conflict is related to local politics and efforts are being made to address the issue. Some 2,900 vulnerable, displaced people are, however, without assistance. The National Society is monitoring the situation closely with the Sapele, Warri Ughelli, Udu Ovwie Divisions of the Society.

***Kafanchan Communal Conflict, Kaduna State***

The conflict broke out on 22 May and continued over a one week period. The hostility is rooted in diverging opinions as to the need to observe traditional practices. The situation is calm at present, but further violence may erupt. National Society volunteers distributed relief items donated by the ICRC and the Swedish Red Cross and provided first aid and evacuation services. It is estimated that 1,500 vulnerable are in need of further support.

***Border Clash between Usaka Annang, Akwa Ibom State and Nenu, Abia State***

This clash took place in June 1999, displacing an estimated 5,200 people who are currently taking refuge in schools and churches and have no access to assistance.

***Communal conflict between Ilaje and Ijaws, Ondo State***

The Ondo State Branch of the National Society has provided food, first aid services, and psychological support. Representatives from Headquarters carried out an assessment in the area and identified 5,270 vulnerable persons made up mostly of women, children and the elderly.

### ***Oru refugee camp***

In co-operation with the UNHCR, the National Society continues its activities in the refugee camp and its clinic which is manned by volunteer doctors and nurses. Medicines are provided by the UNHCR. The NRCS is responsible for the welfare of the refugees and National Society representatives are present around the clock. The Programme is monitored by the Branch Training Officer.

### ***Capacity-Building w***

The conclusions of the mid-term evaluation of the Tripartite Programme carried out in March 1999 clearly show that substantial progress has been made. In line with the drive to reinforce the Branches, procedures were put in place to recruit Branch Secretaries. Appointments have not been made in all 37 Branches, but the process continues. The Headquarters benefits from new premises, thanks to the Tripartite Programme which has resulted in an improved working environment, both for the Delegation and the National Society.

Three workshops have been held, two of which focused on good governance and the third on resource development, the importance of which is recognised by the National Society. The National Society also plans to launch first aid training as a fund-raising activity, and to increase contacts with Embassies and the representatives of all major donors (UN-agencies, European Community etc.).

### ***Community-Based Health w***

The concept of mothers' clubs is spreading throughout the Branches and it is hoped that a total of 12 will be set up by the end of the year. The last Training of Trainers' (ToT) zonal workshop was completed in February in Calabar. Twelve zonal technical committee meetings are planned for 1999 with the objective of assisting the Branches in the setting up of the three different service units of the Community-Based Health Programme. The first workshop took place in Kano at the end of February. In May the final Prison and Sanitation Workshop, organised in co-operation with the ICRC, was held in Aba with the participation of 10 States. Technical Committee meetings continue with a special focus on mothers' clubs. The NRCS, together with the Federation Delegation, is in constant liaison with other international organisations and NGOs as regards health issues. A new co-operation with the government and American Red Cross is developing with the objective to include the NRCS into a country-wide campaign for the vaccination of children. The National Society's role will be the sensitisation of the population through house-to-house visits.

## ***Outstanding needs***

In the context of the communal clashes, the NRCS has been working in close co-operation with government agencies. With the exception of limited government support and a donation from the Royal Netherlands Embassy, no external assistance has been forthcoming to the victims.

The National Society plans to provide assistance for a one month period to 18,040 people identified as vulnerable. Food rations consist of rice, gari (granulated cassava), beans, and oil to be distributed on a family basis, together with blankets, mats, pots, soap and plastic water containers. A breakdown of food assistance sought is reflected in the attached table. All items can be purchased locally. Distributions will be carried out by volunteers who will be supervised by the Branch Secretaries and Training Officers who have received training in disaster preparedness under the Tripartite Programme. The displaced are in urgent need of support as the communal fighting has deprived them of their homes, property and land.

Trade has almost ceased in the affected areas and a climate of insecurity and fear prevails in certain volatile regions where hostilities remain latent.

Some 600 Liberian refugees are in need of 9 kgs of rice, 1.5 kgs of beans, 0.75 lt. of oil per month and 2,000 Sierra Leonean refugees of a supplementary ration of 3 kgs of rice, 1.5 kgs of beans and 0.75 lt. of oil per month. The UNHCR plans to repatriate the Liberian and Sierra Leonean refugees and terminate the operation by June/July 2000. The attached table shows a breakdown of assistance sought for a six month period.

## ***External relations - Government/UN/NGOs/Media***

The NRCS is in constant liaison with government authorities throughout the country. The communal clashes which took place between April and July 1999 provoked a good deal of reaction in both the national and international media. The NRCS has a long-standing partnership with the UNHCR in connection with the refugee programme and relations are excellent.

## ***Contributions***

See Annex 1 for details.

## ***Conclusion***

Assessments carried out by National Society staff and the Regional Relief Co-ordinator's evaluation mission to Nigeria confirmed the urgent need for assistance to those who were most affected by communal conflict and who are displaced without food or basic sanitation. It is hoped that hostilities will subside and that provision of food assistance for one month, together with relief items, will permit the vulnerable displaced population to cope until normalcy returns. Both caseloads of 600 Liberian and 2,000 Sierra Leonean refugees remain dependent on external assistance. It is vital to provide adequate rations until such time as repatriation takes place. The social and political situation in Liberia and Sierra Leone, together with the climate of insecurity, discourages many from returning home in the immediate future. The increased capacity of the National Society as a result of its strong programmes in Capacity Building and Disaster Preparedness and Response, ensures efficient and rapid delivery of aid to the targeted beneficiaries.

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needs in Nigeria					Food in Bags				Non-food in pieces					
Conflict area	Displaced	Deaths	Injured	Vlnerbl	Rice	Gari	Beans	Oil	Blankets	Mats	Pots	Soap	jerrycans	CHF
Aguleri/Umuleri Anabra State	12,000	330.00	600.00	2,480	600.00	120.00	52.00	128.00	800.00	800.00	500.00	1,000	500.00	68,267
Ijaw/Itsekiri Urhobo, Delta State	15,000	250.00	500.00	2,900	725.00	145.00	63.00	145.00	1,780	1,780	500.00	1,500	1,500	92,596
Kafanchan, Kaduna State	8,000	150.00	315.00	1,500	375.00	75.00	33.00	75.00	1,000	1,000	500.00	500.00	500.00	49,428
Usaka/Annang / Menu	5,200	200.00	67.00	1,350	338.00	68.00	29.00	68.00	700.00	700.00	300.00	400.00	300.00	40,903
Yoruba/Ahussa/ Sagamu, Orgu State	20,000	200.00	400.00	2,680	670.00	134.00	58.00	134.00	2,680	2,680	2,680		2,680	114,682
Hausa/Yoruba/ Kano, Kano State	9,000	170.00	300.00	1,860	465.00	93.00	40.00	93.00	1,000	1,400	1,000		1,000	63,820
Ilaje/Ijaw, Ondo State	22,000	200.00	1,155	5,270	1,818	264.00	115.00	264.00	1,757	1,757	1,757		1,757	180,205
Refugees from Sierra Leone & Liberia	2,600			2,600	1,425		258.00	585.00						125,992
<b>Total</b>	<b>93,800</b>	<b>1,170</b>	<b>3,337</b>	<b>20,640</b>	<b>6,416</b>	<b>899.00</b>	<b>648.00</b>	<b>1,492</b>	<b>9,717</b>	<b>10,117</b>	<b>7,237</b>	<b>3,400</b>	<b>8,237</b>	<b>735,893</b>

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<b>Prices:</b>	Rice/bag:	51,59		Rice/Mt .::	1,075 CHF	incountry		<b>Total quanti ties:</b>		Rice:	307,97	Mt.	
	Gari/bag:	103.17		Gari/Mt :	737 CHF	incountry				Gari:	125,86	Mt.	
	Beans/bag	120,63		Beans/ Mt:	1,311 CHF	incountry				Beans:	59,62	Mt.	
	Oil/drum:	36,50		Oil/Mt:	1,825 CHF	incountry				Oil:	29,84	Mt.	
	blanket:	5,87								Blanket s:	9,717.0 0	pieces	
	mat:	4,29								Mats:	10,117. 00	pieces	
	pot:	7.14								Pots:	7,237.0 0	pieces	
	soap/piece	0.79								Soap:	3,400.0 0	pieces	
	jerrycan:	3.00								Jerry Cans	8,237.0 0	pieces	



(Nigeria)

01.06/99

IN CHF

	<u>Initial Budget</u>	<u>Revised Budget</u>
<b>RELIEF NEEDS</b>		
<b><u>NON FOOD ITEMS</u></b>		
Shelter and Construction	58,970	58,970
Clothing and textiles	54,561	54,561
Ustensils and Tools	63,180	142,411
<b><u>FOOD ITEMS</u></b>	126,237	556,393
<b><u>MEDICAL ITEMS</u></b>	34,868	34,868
<b>TOTAL RELIEF NEEDS</b>	337,816	847,203
<b><u>Capital equipment</u></b>		
Computers & Telecom	76,554	76,554
Land and buildings	65,000	65,000
Vehicle	45,440	45,440
Other capital expenditure	21,697	21,697
<b><u>Transport, storage &amp; vehicle costs</u></b>	93,405	208,406
<b><u>Personnel</u></b>		
Expatriate staff	229,662	229,662
Local staff	204,796	239,890
<b><u>Administrative, office &amp; general expenses</u></b>		
Travel and related expenses	44,039	51,539
Information	23,098	23,098
Administrative expenses	95,589	112,753
Assessments/Surveys/Evaluations		8,300
Secretariat operational support	208,867	256,471
<b>TOTAL OPERATIONAL NEEDS</b>	899,280	1,082,339
<b>TOTAL APPEAL CASH &amp; KIND</b>	1,237,096	1,929,542
LESS CASH ON HANDS/PLEDGES ANNOUNCED	180,000	<b>862,380</b>
<b>NET REQUEST CASH &amp; KIND</b>	1,057,096	1,067,162

All items are going to be purchased locally