

Appeal 2008-2009



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

West Africa Zonal Programmes

Appeal No. MAA61001

21 December 2007

This appeal seeks CHF 36,634,285 (USD 32,767,696 or EUR 22,202,596) to fund the planned programmes that are to be implemented in 2008-2009.



A water pump is restored in Zinder, Niger, as part of the Red Cross/Red Crescent WatSan project. Kinvi/International Federation

Current context

The West and Central African zone is a diverse region comprising 24 countries (Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Equatorial Guinea, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo) and has an estimated population of 350 million people.

A number of diseases take a heavy toll on the population across the zone, such as HIV/AIDS, malaria, measles, waterborne diseases, cholera, meningitis and Ebola. Underlying the serious health challenges is widespread general poverty and 55 per cent of the population live on less than USD 1 per day and seven of the ten countries with the highest under-five mortality rates in the world are in this zone.

The Red Cross/Red Crescent societies in the zone, together with the International Federation, are committed to improve the health conditions of the vulnerable populations. In collaboration with their respective governments, Ministries of Health (MoH) and various partners, they are putting their impressive network of approximately one million dedicated and motivated volunteers into action.

Thousands of people across the zone have been made homeless due to heavy rains and floods, partly influenced by climate change but also due to poor infrastructure, others have fled their countries due to civil unrest and conflict. Drought, locust invasion, crop failure and poor harvest as well as conflict have all contributed to widespread food insecurity and malnutrition across the zone.

Programme summary

Disaster management

The main challenge of the Disaster Management programme is the size of the zone (24 countries) as well as the diversity, complexity and magnitude of the different hazards, risks and vulnerabilities each of these countries face which include floods, population movement, health emergencies, drought and food insecurity.

In line with Global Agenda Goal 1 to “reduce the number of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters”, the disaster management programme will continue to focus on reducing the impact of disasters on the most vulnerable and the 2008-09 appeal will consolidate what has been laid out in order to scale up the DM programme. This will be achieved through capacity building of national societies and building resilient communities who can respond to disasters and emergencies efficiently. Emphasis will be on the promotion of community based, national as well as regional disaster response teams that can be mobilised to respond to disasters as well as contribute to disaster risk reduction activities. This will enhance community preparedness and create community resilience. Contingency planning and early warning system mechanisms will be strengthened at both country and zonal level. Furthermore, the development and consolidation of a zonal disaster management strategy will support the development of national societies’ DM strategies and policies.

Continued reinforcement of community based programs and the NS volunteer base will facilitate project implementation as the zonal DM team supports the NS in their capacity building process. More food security projects and activities are going to focus on community resilience and promoting livelihood in a holistic and integrated approach.

The zonal DM team will continually strengthen the Federation’s response system by increasing the number and quality of RDRT members and trainers, supporting ERU and FACT training for NS and zonal staff. Diversification and the multidisciplinary aspect of these team members will enhance the response capacity of the Red Cross/Red Crescent in the zone and beyond.

A strengthened link between health and disaster management has been established and this will be fostered in 2008/2009 through specific projects linking Public Health Emergency (PHE) and Disaster Management (DM).

The zonal DM team will provide technical advice and support for programme planning, implementation and evaluation as well as coordination. This will also include facilitating coordination with various humanitarian partners at the regional, zonal and global level.

Health and Care

Health and care is another core area for the International Federation and its National Societies. The guiding principles to improve the health of the most vulnerable populations are established in the African Red Cross and Red Crescent Health Initiative (ARCHI) 2010 approach and the Algiers Plan of Action, which was adopted by all the NS in 2004.

In line with Global Agenda Goal 2, to “reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies”, NS programme areas and activities in 2008/2009 will be a continuation of efforts started in 2006/2007. Focus will be on the further integration and coordination between the different health and care components such as WatSan, public health preparedness and response, HIV/AIDS and other community based health initiatives (e.g. malaria and IMCI). The role of the zonal health and care unit will be to provide support to the NS health teams and ensure that technical aspects are respected and developed while at the same time leaving space for the natural diversity of individual NS programmes.

An important area to develop further is the zonal and national HIV/AIDS programming in West and Central Africa. Often considered a low-prevalence region, priority has mainly been given to other health challenges leaving the HIV/AIDS activities of most NS at a relative small scale. The Global Alliance for HIV/AIDS is promoting to scale up activities in the sector and double or reach 10 per cent of national program needs by 2010. A zonal programming process was started in 2007 to assure that the NS in West and Central Africa will not miss out on this opportunity to increase their share in the fight against HIV and AIDS. This support will continue throughout 2008/2009 to NS already started in the process while simultaneously reaching out to expand coverage of the programme throughout the zone.

The continued reinforcement of community based programs and the volunteer basis of the NS have to go hand in hand with any project implementation and the zonal health and care team will support the National Societies to carry out this double task to ensure ongoing capacity building down to community level volunteers in line with ARCHI 2010.

Water and sanitation programming needs to be further increased throughout the zone with projects aligned with the Global Water and Sanitation Initiative (GWSI). WatSan capacity building for NS in the zone will be emphasized by training of trainers on PHAST (in development and emergency context), increasing the number of RDRT WatSan members and trainers and supporting ERU and FACT training for staff of the National Societies from the Zone. WatSan activities aim to prevent the outbreak of epidemics, as well as to improve food security and access to save water and basic sanitation. Technical advice is focused on WatSan programme planning, implementation and evaluation as well as coordination.

Overall, focus in 2008-2009 is to further increase the disaster preparedness and response capacity throughout the zone through targeting a large number of countries for regional disaster response team trainings as well as strengthening the link between Public Health Emergency (PHE) and Disaster Management (DM). Intense follow-up and support at zonal and regional level for these programmes will be necessary for them to be successful and to increase the preparedness and response capacity in the region through human resources capacity and availability of relevant equipment. This is particularly important with regards to Avian flu and human pandemic preparedness and response as this is a major threat linking all aspects of PHE and DM and requires a joint effort.

Capacity Building

For an efficient implementation of Strategy 2010, the Federation's Global Agenda was developed in 2005 focussing on the scaling up of programmes in order to reach more beneficiaries and to have an increased impact on the lives of the vulnerable communities.

To successfully scale up programme activities, a Framework for Action with ten areas for improvement was developed:

Setting a shared vision and direction for the future

- Shared vision, values and organizational culture for the International Federation;
- Effective, empowered leadership, governance and management;
- A global communications and advocacy strategy to position the Federation.

Improving planning, performance and accountability

- Ongoing analysis and a common understanding of external trends;
- A Federation-wide approach to planning, performance management and accountability.

Delivering effective programmes and services

- A flexible, responsive Federation-wide operating model;
- Reinforced regional networks and structures;
- Strengthened and improved cooperation, coordination and support mechanisms.

Mobilizing resources to support our work

- A human resources strategy to strengthen the volunteer and staff base of the International Federation;
- A global fund-raising strategy to increase resources for all parts of the International Federation.

To address the African context, the strategic framework is supplemented with Declarations and Guideline Papers produced from the last three Pan-African Conferences of the Movement: the Kampala Declaration of 1996, the Ouagadougou Declaration and ARCHI 2010, which were adopted in September 2000, as well as the Algiers Plan of Action on September 2004.

The purpose of the OD function in the Global Agenda implementation process is to facilitate the scaling up of activities by providing strategic support in the programmes formulation process, facilitate an integrated approach of all project components and crosscutting issues, and finally to help ensure an environment and working conditions for an efficient achievement of the mission.

To ensure this, the following results are expected:

- A platform for strategic planning & Federation overall support at sub-zonal and Zone level is established;
- Volunteer management guidelines and policy are in place and implemented;
- Financial management guidelines and procedures are in place and adhered to by all NS.

A Zone OD coordinator will be recruited to guide the planning and re-structuring functions of the NS, as well as to provide relevant trainings. The coordinator will also provide supervision and support with regards to volunteer development and financial management systems. In addition, a volunteer development officer will be recruited to support NS in their volunteer development and project planning processes, as well as a financial system development officer to monitor the implementation of the financial management guidelines by national societies, and to carry out the relevant periodic performance assessments.

The zone OD team will provide technical coordination of OD plans within the regional offices, technical field support and facilitate cross regional experience sharing.

Principles and Values

In the 2006-2007, a number of principles and values programmes were initiated by the NS to reduce stigma and discrimination towards PLWHIV, child trafficking, support to victims of sexual violence, promote peace and the prevention of conflict.

The Zone office will support NS in the West and Central Africa zone to strengthen their activities to promote the respect of human dignity, reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion. The Zone will direct its support in the setting up of an NS network to ensure knowledge and information sharing which will allow quick assistance and support to vulnerable populations.

This network will support NS communication strategies and will ensure increased visibility of activities in support of the vulnerable populations. The network will also allow for the exchange of good practices with regards to humanitarian principles and values activities.

The international media will be mobilized through sensitization and a structured partnership framework to support Red Cross/Red Crescent activities in the following areas: the fight against PLWH stigmatization, schooling for girls, advocate against female genital mutilation, reintegration of street boys into communities, child trafficking, assistance to refugees, and promotion of peace in conflict zones.

Working in partnership

The Federation works closely with other international organizations and NGOs in the Zone, such as OCHA, ECHO, WFP, WHO, UNICEF and others. The main areas of coordination concern food security, watsan, public health but also capacity building. In disaster situations, one of the partners is appointed to lead activities in the field.

The integrated regional approach of health and organizational development activities provides an improved framework for multilateral and bilateral partnership development. Working with this spirit can facilitate the implementation of the Federation's Global Agenda and the Algiers Plan of Action.

Partnership focus on water and sanitation, nutrition, vaccination, monitoring of diseases under

epidemiological surveillance, disease prevention (cholera, avian flu, etc.), and response to disease outbreaks.

Needs

Programmes	2008 budget (CHF)	2009 budget (CHF)	Total budget (CHF)
Disaster Management	2,408,877	2,413,189	4,822,066
Health and Care	10,919,063	12,819,434	23,738,497
Capacity Building	1,780,394	1,152,586	2,932,980
Principle and Values	841,231	1,719,561	2,560,792
Coordination	1,285,506	1,294,444	2,579,950
Total	17,235,070	19,399,214	36,634,284

Please go to: [detailed 2008-2009 plan](#), [planning and resource summary matrix](#) and the [budget summary](#)

How we work

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 \(Sphere\)](#) 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>

The International Federation's activities are aligned with its 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".

Global Agenda Goals:

- 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.

Contact information

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