

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 OFFICE

Appeal no. MAA62001
30 June 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: January to May 2006

Appeal target: CHF 2,346,000 (USD 1,788,000 or EUR 1,516,000)

Appeal coverage: 38.3% [<Click here to go directly to the attached Interim Financial Report>](#)

Outstanding needs: CHF 1,447,000 (USD 1,195,000 or EUR 928,000).

Appeal 2006-2007: <http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/annual06/MAA62001.pdf>

The programmes herein are aligned with the Federation's Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission:

- 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:



From January to May 2006, activities have been carried out in health and care, disaster management (DM), organizational development (OD) and Humanitarian Values. As far as health and care is concerned, the major achievement was the response to the cholera epidemic that occurred in Bafoussam, Cameroon, in April 2006 and the preparedness to Avian Influenza. One of the greatest achievements in health was when the Cameroon Red Cross Society won the best poster (*See photo far left*) on the occasion of the Global Health Forum, held in Geneva in May 2006.

As regards the crisis in Central African Republic (CAR) and Chad resulted in population movement in Cameroon. Training of Red Cross volunteers in Cameroon to respond to the situation was organized. As for OD, the sub-regional office revised the rules and regulations of the Central African Red Cross Society, taking into consideration comments from the joint commission. In addition, the sub-regional office commended the plan of action developed by the Gabonese Red Cross Society for 2006. Concerning Humanitarian Values, the main activity was the visit to the East province of

Cameroon to assess the project on schooling of young and vulnerable girls.

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Despite the delay in approving budgets, the overall financial situation of the Appeal is pretty satisfactory. About 67.2% of the budget has already been covered. The funds will be used extensively during the next semester.

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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

The period from January to May 2006 was characterized by conflicts in the Central African Republic (CAR) and Chad. Unidentified groups attacked both the army and the populations in CAR, while a military coup failed in Chad. These events affected the neighbouring Cameroon as there were cross-border population movements into the country. The acting head of the sub-regional delegation, alongside the head of department of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in Yaoundé, attended urgent meetings organized by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to examine the situation. The Cameroon Red Cross Society (CRCS) also alerted its teams along the borders of CAR and Chad. The sub-regional office organized a training session on population movement management for the CRCS volunteers.

A cholera epidemic broke out in Bafoussam, Cameroon prompting the CRCS to conduct a response operation. Preparedness activities to respond to avian influenza were implemented in CAR, Cameroon and Chad.

Health and care

Although the health budget has been partially approved, the department carried out some activities during this period, thanks to the financial support of the health department in Geneva, the Canadian Cooperation in Yaoundé and DREF funding allocated to respond to a cholera outbreak. The health department of Geneva financed internet connection of the health departments and paid a one-year subscription to the eight national societies of Central Africa.

The different budgets were partially approved in the April. This made it almost impossible to carry out activities as initially planned in the Appeal. However, the remaining will be implemented over the second half of the year.

Goal: The vulnerability of the populations in Cameroon, CAR, the Republic of Congo (RoC), the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Equatorial Guinea, Gabon as well as Sao Tome and Principe (STP) to major community health problems is reduced.

Objective: Improve the health condition of vulnerable populations in Cameroon, CAR, the RoC, the DRC, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon as well as STP by developing and implementing quality health and HIV/AIDS programmes.

Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)

Expected result 1: The national societies of Cameroon, CAR, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon and STP have reinforced their programmes to combat HIV/AIDS, especially for the benefit of 3,000 "Filles Libres", 30,000 women and 1,000,000 young people through sensitization and promotion of the use of condoms.

Cameroon: Thanks to the sensitization efforts made by the volunteers of the CRCS and the "Filles Libres" project in Douala and Yaoundé, 82 "Filles Libres" and 25 clients were screened at the national society's (NS's) Henry Dunant Health and Social Welfare Centre from February to May 2006. 150 educative talk sessions were held and

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over 800 persons were sensitized. On 28 April 2006, 27 peer educators were retrained to harmonize of the messages to be communicated to the populations.

Equatorial Guinea: In March 2006, the Red Cross of Equatorial Guinea completed the first phase of its activities to combat HIV/AIDS. About 15,000 youths and women were sensitized on HIV/AIDS transmission and prevention methods as well as the correct use of condoms. In addition, 3,000 condoms were distributed in Malabo. In April 2006, 20 peer educators from the Red Cross of Equatorial Guinea organized eight educative talk sessions, with the support of the NS's theatre group "Solferino", which attracted 25 to 35 people per session.

Central African Republic (CAR): The theatre group of the CAR Red Cross Society conducted three sensitization campaigns to encourage people to go for voluntary and confidential screening at the screening centre of the NS. Over 200 people presented themselves for the screening, and some went back home unscreened due to shortage of the reactants.

Expected result 2: The national societies of Cameroon, CAR, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, and STP have developed volunteer and personnel networks by recruiting people with technical know-how to carry out quality health and HIV/AIDS programmes.

The Federation's secretariat in Geneva offered internet connection to all the eight NSs of Central Africa, with a one-year subscription. This was to facilitate their communication with NSs, the Central Africa sub-regional office or *Bureau Régional pour l'Afrique Centrale* (BRAC), the secretariat and partner national societies (PNSs) among others.

Expected result 3: The national societies of Cameroon, CAR, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, and STP participate efficiently in immunization campaigns organized by their respective ministries of health (MoHs).

Cameroon: The CRCS actively participated in the anti-measles immunization and mosquito net distribution campaign in late January 2006. The NS volunteers joined efforts with agents from the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) to help the populations with insecticide-treated nets (ITNs).

CAR: The second phase of the anti-measles campaign took place in CAR from 30 January to 5 February 2006; the CAR Red Cross Society has played a significant role as far as population mobilization is concerned. Despite the restructuring process in the NS, its volunteers are still committed to carrying out activities aimed at improving the lives of the most vulnerable. In April 2006, the MoH called on the CAR Red Cross Society to take care of the social mobilization aspect of the next nationwide anti-measles campaign, scheduled for August 2006.

Expected result 4: The national societies of Cameroon, CAR, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, and STP have contributed to the reduction of malaria cases in their countries.

CAR: Within the framework of the implementation of the programmes of the Global Fund to fight HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria (GFATM), on March 2006, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) country office supported community-based organizations (CBOs) in CAR as well as the CAR Red Cross Society, to enable them to carry out activities in the following sectors:

- Reinforcing the fight against TB in CAR: 30 CAR Red Cross Society volunteers were trained on community sensitization and following up on TB patients;
- Validating the plans of action of CBOs/NGOs in the fight against HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria: seven plans of action of the Bouar, Kémo-Ibingui, Mobaye, Bambari, Kaga-Bandoro, Bria and Bangassou local committees of the CAR Red Cross Society were studied and validated. Actions to be taken are related to sensitization, promotion of condom use and dissemination of messages to prevent HIV/AIDS. These activities were coordinated by the executive council of the NS.
- Intensifying the fight against malaria: Two volunteers of the NS attended a training seminar during the launching of the sustainable ITNs programmes by the GFATM.

Expected result 5: The NSs of the Central Africa sub-region have contributed to the improvement of the health of vulnerable people exposed to epidemics, diarrhoeal disease and waterborne diseases, and have carried out sanitation activities with the water and sanitation (WatSan) team of the Central Africa Disaster Response Team or *Equipe de Réponse aux Désastres en Afrique Centrale* (ERDAC).

Avian Influenza: Following the confirmation of the H5N1 virus of Avian Influenza in a domestic duck on 12 March 2006 in Maroua, 20 volunteers of the Cameroon Red Cross Society, assisted by agents from the MoH,

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launched sensitization activities among populations and poultry sellers. Red Cross volunteers also participated in slaughtering chicken in that locality. A contract programme was prepared and signed, upon request from the CRCS, for support to its plan of action.

The Federation's BRAC received plans of action from CAR, Chad, the RoC and the DRC, and forwarded them to the Nigeria-based consultant.

Cholera in Cameroon

A cholera epidemic was declared in Bafoussam, West Province of Cameroon, on 10 April 2006, and a joint Cameroon Red Cross Society/Federation team went to the field to assess the situation and prepare the emergency phase of intervention. The Federation allocated DREF funds to the NS during the week of 24 to 28 April 2006 to enable it to implement activities to fight the epidemic.

From 12 to 14 May 2006, 75 peer educators were trained in Bafoussam on how to inform the populations and educate them about cholera. The acting head of BRAC paid a courtesy visit to the Secretary General of West Province and to the Mifi divisional officer to encourage them to get involved in the fight against cholera that is now recurrent in the province.



CRCS volunteers receiving training as peer educators in cholera management

Sao Tome & Principe: From 4 to 7 April 2006, the STP Red Cross trained 25 United Nations (UN) officers based in Sao Tome on first aid, including the management of an epidemic before, during and after the outbreak.

Equatorial Guinea: Five volunteers from the Red Cross of Equatorial Guinea sensitized almost 200 persons in the neighbourhoods of Malabo on hygiene measures during the weekends of April 2006.

Expected result 6: The NSs of the Central Africa sub-region have reinforced partnerships with associations of "Filles Libres", people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA), MoHs and other partners such as the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF), diplomatic missions among others.

The expanded programme on immunization (EPI) Meeting:

From 26 to 29 April 2006, the regional health officer of BRAC took part in a meeting of national directors of EPI from the epidemiological group for Central Africa, DRC and Douala (Cameroon). This participation was entirely financed by BRAC.

Coordination meeting of partners of the Cameroon MoH:

On 19 April 2006, the regional health officer of BRAC participated in the second coordination meeting of partners of the MoH in Yaoundé. The meeting was aimed at assessing the achievements since the March 2005 meeting and drawing the road map for 2006.

Expected result 7: The NSs of the sub-region are engaged in the fight against discrimination and stigma as they execute projects to combat FGM, to improve the living conditions of "Filles Libres", to provide home-based care (HBC) and assistance to orphans and other vulnerable children (OVC) as well as to the elderly.

Cameroon: Thanks to the support of BRAC, the CRCS developed a project to combat FGM and HIV/AIDS. The Nandongué and Garoua-Boulai localities in the East province, as well as Kousseri and Maroua in the Far North Province were targeted by the project.

40 CRCS volunteers and peer educators were trained in Garoua-Boulai on 17 and 18 March, in Kousseri on 23 March, and in Maroua on 25 March 2006. The training was based on three modules; communication techniques, the prevention of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and HIV/AIDS transmission and FGM.

On April 2006, the trained volunteers sensitized 17 excision professionals, around 500 people and seven community leaders on the risks of FGM. The project to combat FGM is financed by the Canadian Cooperation.

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Equatorial Guinea: The Red Cross of Equatorial Guinea continued to support the elderly by providing care and food.

Expected result 8: A system is put in place to ensure regional coordination and cooperation in the domain of health (meeting of health officers).

RANWAC meeting: The first meeting of the Regional AIDS Network for West and Central Africa (RANWAC) took place in Kribi, Cameroon from 8 to 9 March 2006, and was partially financed by the Federation's secretariat. The meeting saw the participation of seven NSs; the regional health officer of BRAC and her assistant in charge of HIV/AIDS, the regional health officer for the Sahel office, the RANWAC coordinator, and the health and care administrator at the Federation's secretariat in Geneva.

Participants exchanged success stories such as the "Filles Libres" project in Cameroon and the mobilization of volunteers with respect to care of the PLWHA within communities in the DRC. Participants also learnt about the framework for the self-assessment of competences and practices in fighting against HIV/AIDS.

Disaster management

From January to May 2006, emergency actions were carried out in order to relieve and sustain the living conditions of several vulnerable people, particularly in Cameroon. The Red Cross intervened when a shipwreck occurred in Kribi, Cameroon on March 2006. Owing to the insecurity that prevailed in CAR and Chad during this period, with a possibility of massive population movement, disaster preparedness activities were also carried out in Cameroon.

The delay in approving the budgets of BRAC prevented the implementation of activities as planned in the appeal for this period. However, the above-mentioned emergency activities were carried out in collaboration with Movement partners, notably the NS and ICRC as well as the UNHCR.

The NS of Cameroon, CAR and Chad, as well as the regional disaster management officer for BRAC participated in a meeting on the development of population movement-related contingency plans. This meeting, that took place in Dakar, Senegal on March 2006, enabled the improvement of activities in the three NSs.

A training session on food security was also held.

Goal: The vulnerability of the populations of Central Africa sub-region to disasters is reduced.

Objective: The disaster management capacity of the populations is increased through the services rendered by the NSs and the regional disaster response team for Central Africa (ERDAC).

Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)

Expected result 1: The WatSan capacity of ERDAC has been increased.

No activities have been implemented so far.

Expected result 2: The epidemic management capacity of ERDAC is strengthened.

No activities have been implemented so far.

Expected result 3: The logistics capacity of ERDAC is reinforced.

No activities have been implemented so far.

Expected result 4: The evaluation, budget planning and financial management capacities of ERDAC are increased.

No activities have been implemented so far.

Expected result 5: The Cameroon, CAR, Gabon, and STP national societies' disaster management capacities are fostered.

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The Cameroon Red Cross Society volunteers are trained on population movement management

Because of instability in CAR and Chad, signs of population movement were noticed in Cameroon. Thanks to the support of BRAC, a DREF request was forwarded to facilitate the response to this situation. DREF funds were allocated, and the Federation's regional delegation in Dakar, in collaboration with BRAC, sent a regional resource person to the Cameroon Red Cross Society. The mission of the regional resource person was to facilitate the training of CRCS volunteers on population movement management and to share experiences. Thus, from 10 to 14 May 2006, 23 CRCS volunteers in the North and Far North provinces of the country were trained on population movement management.

Apart from the training session, the experts on the field assessed the situation prevailing in Chad and CAR, and the possible consequences on the populations in Chad, CAR and Cameroon. They found out that Kousseri (Cameroon) is so close to N'Djamena (Chad) and it would be very difficult to know the origin of their populations as they are all used to living together. The experts also realized that the CAR populations entering the East Province of Cameroon came from the North, but they could not go to South Chad, which is nearer, given the insecurity in the country. Consequently, they recommended the imminent training of volunteers of the divisional and local committees of the CRCS (in the East province) in population movement management.

Capacity building of the national societies of Cameroon, Gabon, CAR and STP was postponed to the following semester.

Expected result 6: Management of the epidemic cycle is successful in Cameroon.

No activities have been implemented so far.

Expected result 7: The concept of food security is developed with agricultural techniques successfully duplicated in the North of Cameroon.

No activities have been implemented so far.

Expected result 8: Emergency materials in the Malabo and Bata warehouses in Equatorial Guinea have been replenished.

No activities have been implemented so far.

Expected result 9: Procedures required to ensure rapid deployment of ERDAC teams are put in place.

The ERDAC database was updated and shared with the NS and the regional delegation in Dakar. Today, ERDAC has 83 members with various qualifications. For the semester, it planned to update administrative procedures for future deployment of ERDAC members taking into consideration the deployment procedures developed by the regional delegation in Dakar. These procedures were implemented for the deployment of a new ERDAC/WatSan member in Chad to support the Sudanese refugees operation.

Organizational development

Given the multitude of problems the populations were facing, including health and HIV/AIDS, disasters and epidemics, it was very difficult for governments in Central Africa to improve the living conditions of the community members. Despite limited resources, the NSs in the sub-region made efforts to improve themselves with a special emphasis on good governance and the capacity building.

For the next two years, the regional office will focus on the launching of the cooperation agreement strategy (CAS) process in the NSs and on the reinforcement of local branches. This will enable them to establish pertinent and mature partnerships. The implementation of CAS was subject to preconditions, including the elaboration of strategic development plans by the NSs. So far, the CRCS is the only NS that has such a document in the region.

Very few activities were carried out from January to May 2006. The UK government's Department for International Development (DFID) funds were used to launch the CAS process in Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea and CAR. The CAR Red Cross Society which completed the construction of its headquarters with the support of ICRC is preparing to hold its General Assembly.

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Goal: The operational capacities of the national societies of Cameroon, CAR, Equatorial Guinea, and STP are increased.

Objective: The national societies of Cameroon, CAR, Equatorial Guinea, and STP have better access to funding and render quality services to vulnerable people.

Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)

Expected result 1: The national societies of Cameroon, CAR, Equatorial Guinea, and STP adopt and implement CAS.

No activities have been implemented so far.

Expected result 2: The NSs of Cameroon, CAR, Equatorial Guinea, and STP have developed more partnerships and have increased their funding in favour of programme activities.

Cameroon

Before starting the implementation of the 2006-2007 activities, a joint Cameroon Red Cross Society/BRAC team travelled to the six local committees that had received capacity building funds (CBF) for the execution of income-generating micro projects, to assess the achievements. The localities and projects included:

- Ngaoundéré in the Adamaoua province, a dry food grinding machine;
- Bertoua in the East province, a fish shop;
- Mbalmayo in the Centre province, the running of motorbikes as taxis in town;
- Douala in the Littoral province, the running of motorbikes as taxis in town;
- Limbe in the South West province, a fish shop at the Sonara Camp;
- Yaoundé in the Centre province, the production of chicken for meat in Nyom II.

The team realized that apart from Mbalmayo where the local committee had not implemented the project because of lack of initiative, everything was going on smoothly. However, they recommended that the project in Yaoundé be halted pending the evolution of the bird flu issue.

Apart from activities to mark the 59th edition of the World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day, the Cameroon Red Cross Society organized a gala night that was placed under the patronage of the first lady of Cameroon who is also the Honorary President of the NS. The objective of this ceremony was to get the prominent guests (ministers, diplomatic officers and other personalities of the civil society) to know the Red Cross better. The Cameroon Red Cross Society seized the opportunity to present its main challenges, hoping that the donors will once again be interested and provide support.

Equatorial Guinea

In early April 2006, the Red Cross of Equatorial Guinea elected a new president for the Ebibeyin provincial committee. Immediately after his election, the new president continued mobilizing existing volunteers and recruiting new ones. The newly constructed headquarters of the provincial committee was equipped with a 14-seat meeting table and three working tables.

On the occasion of the World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day, the Red Cross of Equatorial Guinea carried out several activities such as fundraising advocacy before enterprises and personalities of the civil society, the erection of stands to promote Red Cross articles as well as fundraising on the road in favour of the most vulnerable.

Central African Republic

The CAR Red Cross Society is presently undergoing a restructuring process that started with the revision of its Statutes. The sub-regional office reviewed the Statutes in collaboration with ICRC, taking into consideration the comments of the Joint Commission, and sent them back to the NS for comments.

Impact: Through the activities marking the World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day, the national societies of Central Africa improved their image as auxiliaries to their respective governments and made themselves well known to the public.

Constraint: Most national societies in Central Africa are yet to have their strategic development plans. However, efforts will be made to support them in this process.

Humanitarian Values

Within a regional context that is characterized by injustice, social exclusion, marginalization and all sorts of violence, the Federation's BRAC had been trying to provide response through the Humanitarian Values programme. This is seen – at the international level – as the pertinent advocacy in favour of the fight against discrimination and stigma on one hand, and in the national societies' capacity building on the other hand.

From January to May 2006, the Cameroon Red Cross Society received part of the DFID funds for the implementation of its programmes, and in particular, the project in favour of the schooling of young and vulnerable girls in the rural areas. These funds were used to assess the project in the East Province and to identify new localities.

The project in the Far North Province will be assessed later, while the second phase of the operation in both provinces (East and Far North) will be launched in August 2006 with the distribution of school kits to 120 new girls. BRAC is seeking new partnerships to support the project and to enhance the elimination of illiteracy among the girls.

Theatre groups will focus on PLWHA so as to reinforce their efforts in sensitization. This will enable their messages to reach a significant number of people and encourage them stop discriminating against PLWHA.

Goal: Access to basic social and community services is improved for people suffering from all sorts of discrimination.

Objective: Through the media and internationally renowned personalities, the national societies of Central Africa will disseminate the position of the Movement on discrimination.

Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)

Expected result 1: The public and national media (televisions, radios and newspapers) in Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea and STP disseminate Red Cross information on a regular basis.

No activities have been implemented so far.

Expected result 2: The programmes addressing discrimination in STP and Equatorial Guinea are supported by business people, oil companies, state-owned companies and breweries.

No activities have been implemented so far.

Expected result 3: The PLWHA have better access to the media in Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea and STP.

No activities have been implemented so far.

Expected result 4: 600 personalities contribute over CFA/F 40 million in favour of girls that are not attending school in Cameroon, hearing/speech impaired children and OVC in Equatorial Guinea as well as the elderly in STP.

A joint Cameroon Red Cross Society/BRAC team travelled to the East province of Cameroon from 15 to 19 May 2006 to assess the project on the schooling of young girls. The team carried out its activities in three localities; Lom, Djerem, and Haut Nyong. The mission revealed that 60% of the 80 girls who were registered in school in 2005 attended classes on a regular basis. Six new localities were identified prior to the beginning of the school year 2006-2007. The objective was to encourage 120 girls to go to school.

Expected result 5: Over two million people have been sensitized through the activities of theatre groups in Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea, and STP to combat discrimination against the elderly, the hearing/speech impaired and young girls that are not attending school in rural areas.

No activities have been implemented so far.

Expected result 6: BRAC has multiple partnerships with universities and higher learning institutions in Central Africa.

No activities have been implemented so far.

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Impact

The project on the schooling of young girls has increased the visibility of the Red Cross in the East province of Cameroon. In order to show the support of the Cameroon Government in this fight against discrimination, administrative authorities promised to facilitate the work by issuing official letters to Red Cross volunteers who are engaged in sensitization activities. The beneficiaries felt more empowered and were happy to go to school.

Four school headmasters decided to become Red Cross volunteers as they were impressed by the work of the Red Cross. They have been given the responsibility to sensitize the populations in their respective communities.

Constraints

Most localities in the East province are enclosed, making it difficult for Red Cross volunteers to smoothly follow up the project. In addition, the province is vast and distances between localities are very long.

Implementation and coordination

The implementation and coordination of this appeal is governed by the Federation's framework of action which will orient capacity-building activities over the next five years, with the aim of building a well-functioning Federation network. The framework is a clear set of actions to renew and reform the Federation and ensure that it remains relevant and effective as an organization. This calls for collective leadership and accountability at all levels of the International Federation.

Goal: BRAC effectively represents the Federation in Central Africa and develops an efficient management system, which makes it possible to follow up Red Cross programmes with professionalism and creativity.

Objective: BRAC brings quality support to the national societies of Central Africa sub-region and enables them to assist vulnerable people in their respective countries by mobilizing the volunteer network and developing fruitful partnerships.

Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)

Expected result 1: The regional coordination mechanism of the NSs of Central Africa functions efficiently and facilitates cooperation and coordination.

During the reporting period, the acting head of BRAC in Yaoundé attended monthly coordination meetings with the ICRC's head of delegation and the cooperation delegate.

The Federation met with ICRC and the CRCS to prepare the commemoration of the World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day on 8 May 2006.

The acting head of BRAC attended two information and follow-up meetings organized by the UNHCR to respond to the possible population movement from Central African Republic and Chad into Cameroon.

Expected result 2: BRAC supports the NSs in their efforts to establish partnerships and to have better access to the funding needed to implement programmes in favour of people infected and affected by HIV/AIDS and its related stigma.

No activities have been implemented so far.

Expected result 3: The regional disaster management preparedness and response capacities are strengthened.

No activities have been implemented so far.

Expected result 4: Integrity issues of the Gabonese Red Cross Society are solved through the regional coordination committee.

No activities have been implemented so far.

Expected result 5: A professional and reliable programme and resource management system is put in place and contributes to the increased visibility of BRAC amongst national societies, partners and donors.

No activities have been implemented so far.

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Impact

There is a good working relationship between the Federation's BRAC and partners such as ICRC and UNHCR. Due to its impressive volunteer network, the Red Cross/Red Crescent is perceived by many partners, as a key humanitarian actor in the management of population movement. This was shown in UNHCR's contingency plan to respond to the situation along the borders of Cameroon, CAR and Chad. In that contingency plan, it is clearly mentioned that Red Cross volunteers constitute a real force to be reckoned with as far as the management of population movement is concerned.

Coordination, cooperation and strategic partnerships

Thanks to the advocacy work carried out by BRAC, some donors have agreed to finance Red Cross programmes in Central Africa. For example, funding was received from the Canadian Cooperation in Cameroon to execute the FGM project of the CRCS. The Federation is currently appealing for funds from the Japanese Red Cross, on behalf of the CRCS. Thanks to the advocacy work carried out by the Federation before the Cameroon Government (the department of civil protection), the proposal made by the CRCS towards the development of a national relief organization plan was approved.

International representation and advocacy

Working in collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO) throughout the reporting period, the Federation's BRAC struggled and succeeded in positioning itself as a member of the Central Africa Regional Network (CARN) as far as the roll back Malaria (RBM) campaign is concerned. BRAC is currently negotiating with the European Union and the Bill and Melissa Gates Foundation to obtain funding to carry out malaria projects in all the eight countries of Central Africa. Subsequently, talks are underway with the Japanese, Canadian, French and USA embassies in Cameroon to obtain support for the plan of action of combating bird flu. In addition, the efforts made by BRAC during this reporting period to get Empress Shôken's funds yielded fruits as funding was received to execute the NS's anti-malaria project.

International disaster response

With respect to the Sudanese refugees operation in Chad, the mission of an ERDAC/WatSan member ended. To that effect, the Federation's BRAC proposed names to the head of delegation in Chad, and it is expected that a managerial decision will be made at the regional delegation's level in Dakar. As soon as the position is filled, a deployment process will begin in order to enable the Red Cross of Chad to better carry out its WatSan activities. In collaboration with the regional delegation in Dakar, BRAC facilitated the deployment of a regional resource person, from the Burkinabe Red Cross Society, to facilitate training of the CRCS volunteers in population movement management in the East and Far North provinces of Cameroon. The mission took place from 3 to 24 May 2006 and served as an opportunity for participants to share experiences about managing population movements among national societies of West and Central Africa, particularly Burkina Faso and Cameroon.

Federation governance support

During this reporting period, the NSs of Cameroon and Chad paid their Pan-Africa Coordination Team (PACT) contributions, through BRAC, to support the representative of Central Africa.

Management of the delegation

This reporting period was essentially marked by the departure of the programme coordinator (who is also the acting head of the regional office) at the end of his mission.

[*Interim financial report below;*](#)
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International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAA62001 - CENTRAL AFRICA

Interim financial report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2006/1-2006/5
Budget Timeframe	2006/1-2007/12
Appeal	MAA62001
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	998'639	551'747	159'363	338'475	297'956	2'346'179
B. Opening Balance	155'762	103'831	1'223	51'618	3'263	315'697
Income						
Cash contributions						
Canadian Government	23'760					23'760
Capacity Building Fund				83'022		83'022
DFID Partnership		31'930	14'967	28'438		75'335
Irish Government	110'460	110'460		78'900	39'450	339'270
C1. Cash contributions	134'220	142'390	14'967	190'360	39'450	521'387
Outstanding pledges (Revalued)						
Canadian Government	61'995					61'995
C2. Outstanding pledges (Revalued)	61'995					61'995
Reallocations (within appeal or from/to another appeal)						
Capacity Building Fund				0		0
C3. Reallocations (within appeal)				0		0
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)	196'215	142'390	14'967	190'360	39'450	583'382
D. Total Funding = B + C	351'977	246'221	16'190	241'978	42'713	899'079

II. Balance of Funds

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance	155'762	103'831	1'223	51'618	3'263	315'697
C. Income	196'215	142'390	14'967	190'360	39'450	583'382
E. Expenditure	-83'147	-40'545	-2'297	-48'253	-25'734	-199'975
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	268'830	205'677	13'893	193'726	16'979	699'105

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MAA62001 - CENTRAL AFRICA

Interim financial report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2006/1-2006/5
Budget Timeframe	2006/1-2007/12
Appeal	MAA62001
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)		998'639	551'747	159'363	338'475	297'956	2'346'179	
Supplies								
Shelter	5'760							5'760
Construction		276					276	-276
Clothing & textiles		3'531					3'531	-3'531
Seeds,Plants	7'320				538		538	6'782
Water & Sanitation	84'000	15'015					15'015	68'985
Medical & First Aid	65'040	193					193	64'847
Teaching Materials	60'840							60'840
Utensils & Tools	40'800		644		368		1'012	39'788
Other Supplies & Services	70'670							70'670
Total Supplies	334'430	19'015	644		907		20'566	313'864
Land, vehicles & equipment								
Vehicles		2'760					2'760	-2'760
Computers & Telecom	53'040	6'584	2'194		2'194		10'973	42'067
Others Machinery & Equipment		2'894					2'894	-2'894
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	53'040	12'238	2'194		2'194		16'627	36'413
Transport & Storage								
Distribution & Monitoring			82				82	-82
Transport & Vehicle Costs	106'920	3'350	3'408		8'111	7'454	22'324	84'596
Total Transport & Storage	106'920	3'350	3'489		8'111	7'454	22'405	84'515
Personnel Expenditures								
Delegates Payroll	74'400					16'288	16'288	58'112
Delegate Benefits	72'000	-8'432			5'000		-3'432	75'432
National Staff	353'542	23'733	24'929	180	16'271	88	65'201	288'340
National Society Staff	310'176	3'257	293	1'175	3'358		8'083	302'093
Total Personnel Expenditures	810'118	18'559	25'222	1'355	24'629	16'376	86'141	723'977
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	521'330	24'465	25'665		7'207	572	57'908	463'422
Total Workshops & Training	521'330	24'465	25'665		7'207	572	57'908	463'422
General Expenditure								
Travel	48'888	7'627	289	329	4'075	-798	11'522	37'366
Information & Public Relation	91'548	1'015	438		2'085	300	3'837	87'711
Office Costs	90'804	231		430	1'448		2'109	88'695
Communications	64'600	710	37		1'038	42	1'826	62'774
Professional Fees	33'000							33'000
Financial Charges	3'000	-3			40	115	152	2'848
Other General Expenses	36'000	24'033	9'077		6'508		39'618	-3'618
Total General Expenditure	367'840	33'612	9'840	759	15'193	-341	59'063	308'777
Program Support								
Program Support	152'502	5'405	2'635	149	3'136	1'673	12'998	139'503
Total Program Support	152'502	5'405	2'635	149	3'136	1'673	12'998	139'503
Operational Provisions								
Operational Provisions		-33'497	-29'146	34	-13'125		-75'734	75'734
Total Operational Provisions		-33'497	-29'146	34	-13'125		-75'734	75'734
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	2'346'179	83'147	40'545	2'297	48'253	25'734	199'975	2'146'205
VARIANCE (C - D)		915'492	511'202	157'067	290'222	272'222	2'146'205	