



9,200,000

Swiss Francs funding requirement

1,630,000

People to be reached

3673

Local branches

170,790

Volunteers country-wide

56

Years of experience reaching the most vulnerable

## AFRICA WEST COAST

### IFRC Country Cluster Support Team Office

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The IFRC West Coast office directly supports the six National Societies of the West Coast of Africa, Liberia, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Togo, Benin and Nigeria. The office also provides technical assistance to the IFRC country office in Sierra Leone. The office also supports the National Sub-regional network of the "West Coast Group" currently chaired by the President of the Nigerian Red Cross.

The 2019 plan focuses on the IFRC objective of strengthening the West Coast National Societies and West Coast Group. The region faces common hazards and vulnerabilities. The highest among these are flooding, drought, land slides, coastal erosion and forest fires, all currently accentuated by climate change, population growth and depletion of resources; epidemics, poor sanitation and poverty. The National Societies as well share common challenges and opportunities. Four out of the six countries in the cluster, are among the fastest growing economies in Africa, and yet have high poverty rates, severe health challenges and are beginning to feel the impact of climate change. The National Societies have little if any sustainable core financing, are not staffed adequately to meet their objectives, have weak internal and external communications and institutional systems and procedures. Through this plan, the IFRC looks to adopt a holistic approach to both support National Societies in their programmatic objectives, as well as their capacity building objectives, taking advantage in particular of potential domestic funding. It also looks to growing the peer to peer and knowledge sharing among the West Coast Group Societies, as well as their cross border activities. The plan also focuses on ensuring a harmonized IFRC approach towards the Lake Chad Region as well as coordinated "West Africa Approach".

The IFRC West Coast's Operational Plan 2019 has been developed based on the inputs received from each of the National Societies in the Cluster, and the results and action points adopted by the West Coast Group. The contents are part of a coherent and coordinated global approach of IFRC support to National Societies world-wide. The plan is aligned to the IFRC's Strategy 2020, the Africa Region Road Map, the Africa Regional Operational Plan and Monitoring and Evaluation Framework.

## NEEDS ASSESSMENT



### Toward a Community Resilience

West Africa is going through an impressive economic growth, yet millions of people in Benin, Togo, Ghana, Cote d'Ivoire and Liberia are struggling, facing extreme vulnerability and increasing hardships.

Through the 2019 Plan the IFRC seeks to support the NRCS to provide support to communities in DRR, WASH, Migration and Health. Focus will also be on strengthening the NS capacities, ensuring effective international disaster managements and influencing others as leading strategic partners.

## STATISTICS

**6M**

People are struggling to meet their daily food needs (Caritas, 2018)

**1.6M**

Children threatened by malnutrition (Caritas, 2018)

**100K**

Children under-five die every year due to WASH related issues (World Bank)

## AREA OF FOCUS

### DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

**CHF 1,140,000 REQUIRED**

The Africa West Coast sub-region remains at risk of recurring hazards and conflict affecting millions of people and leading to a vicious cycle of vulnerability. The region experiences frequent events of floods, environmental degradation, and cross border population movement which has contributed to unplanned settlement and deforestation. The IFRC will focus on enhancing the capacities of NS and their volunteers to effectively respond to disasters, and on climate change adaptation programmes and support National societies to pursue green solutions. This will include climate change awareness and education programmes, activities such as tree planting.

- 350,000 people reached by the RC with public awareness and education campaigns under harmonized messages to reduce, mitigate, and respond to risks
- 350,000 reached by climate change mitigation and environmentally sustainability awareness raising campaigns

### LIVELIHOODS AND BASIC NEEDS

**CHF 1,590,000 REQUIRED**

The IFRC over the past years has grown its cash and livelihoods expertise, this learning will be used to support the NS programming in this region. The main aim is to enable individuals and families to have improved livelihoods and the ability to provide for their families. Programmatic approaches will focus on three main interventions based on the needs in the 5 targeted countries: Protection, Recovery and Enhancement.

- 4100 households with enough food, cash or income to meet their survival threshold
- 50% of targeted population with livelihoods restored to pre-disaster level

### HEALTH

**CHF 3,340,000 REQUIRED**

The countries of the West Coast sub-region, have immense needs in terms of health. Weak primary health care systems with low government investment, recurring epidemics, Cholera, Meningitis, and Lassa Fever, risk of Ebola, the ever presence of measles and malaria, and HIV/AIDS, low rates of immunization and high rates of stunting, typify the health profile of the region. To address the health challenges in the targeted countries, the IFRC through the NSs in the region, will largely rely on the volunteer network living within the target areas to deliver services using the community-based health and first aid (CBHFA) approach. The focus will be to expand and strengthen the CBHFA approach as an integral part of supporting weak health systems and in line with the Africa Roadmap 2017 to 2020.

- 700,000 people reached by NS health programmes and services
- 3,500 volunteers mobilized by NS for health activities

### WASH

**CHF 1,230,000 REQUIRED**

The implementation of WASH activities will be through a two fold approach that will include the software aspect as well as the hardware component. The IFRC will ensure NSs work closely with other governmental and non-governmental partners to ensure complementarity of project activities. To achieve the WASH objectives, IFRC will support NSs to train community volunteers and mothers' clubs who will lead social mobilization activities in the communities. Establishment of school health clubs will also ensure that sanitation issues at schools are addressed.

- 500,000 households provided with safe water services and reached with awareness raising activities on improved treatment and safe use of wastewater
- 30 community-based water and sanitation management plans developed

### MIGRATION

**CHF 200,000 REQUIRED**

The West Coast Region, is a region of migration and unfortunately high rates of human trafficking. Though the office has been working in support of IDPs in Nigeria, and supporting on the DEVCO Migration programme, the office has had little focus on migration in the region. Though there would be strong need to develop the NS programme, cash and livelihoods support in regions prone to migration, information sharing and advocacy on the realities and risks of migration and human trafficking, as well as PSS and livelihoods support to returnees.

### STRATEGY FOR IMPLEMENTATION

#### STRENGTHEN NATIONAL SOCIETY CAPACITIES

**CHF 1,380,000 REQUIRED**

NS of the region in general struggle with diversification and sustainability of resourcing, weak institutional structures and procedures, challenged governance/management and branch/headquarter relations. There is a strong willingness to want to grow and increased country presence is as well requested from a few Societies to ensure full time attention and understanding of needs. Priority will be given to resource mobilization, and all that this entails, effective use of funds, reporting, communication, building of domestic financing. Innovative financing will also be explored to seek to adapt the funding flows to changing dynamics.

#### ENSURE EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT

**CHF 20,000 REQUIRED**

The cluster office will look to grow its coordinated support to disaster management. As a first step, it will seek to ensure a full time DM delegate, to work with the NSs in their preparedness and response efforts. A disaster management working group will be established for the region, for peer learning and coordination. NS interested in growing the cash programming will be supported to do so with interested partners. Close coordination as a Movement already takes place in Nigeria, this will be expanded to the National Societies.

#### INFLUENCE OTHERS AS LEADING STRATEGIC PARTNER

**CHF 300,000 REQUIRED**

Under this strategy, the key focus will be placed on resource mobilization. The NSs of the region lack core financing. Their funding flows are dependent on donor giving, most often partner NSs and ICRC. Many look to grow their domestic fund raising, either through private and public giving or through resource generation from services and assets. Support will be given to grow these forms of financing. A mentorship/incubator support for growing business will be created with interested partners, including the Ashoka Fund. Commercial First Aid will be scaled, with the support of partners such as the Netherlands Red Cross. Partnerships grown with Ecobank, and funding possibilities explored with the African Development Bank.

## CONTACTS

For more information on the work of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in Country, please contact:

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