



MAA62001

Appeal number

2,970,000

Swiss Francs
funding requirement

1,840,000

People to be reached

5

National Societies supported
Cameroon Red Cross
Congolese Red Cross
Equatorial Guinea Red Cross
Gabon Red Cross
Sao Tome & Principe Red Cross

CENTRAL AFRICA
IFRC Cluster Office

COUNTRY PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Insecurity, delayed economic and political reforms as well as limited cooperation to address climate change and environmental concerns continue to challenge local communities, national governments and humanitarian and development actors. According to a report released by UNDP in 2017 (source: UNDP - Central Africa: a sub-region falling behind?), the sub-region experiences a lack of political and policy dialogue which affects (i) regional integration, institutions and politics, (ii) issues and dynamics taking place across borders, and (iii) common development priorities that require sub-regional responses.

Central Africa has the highest number of people living below the poverty line among all sub-regions of Africa, which particularly concerns women who are also experiencing the highest maternal mortality rate across African sub-regions. (source UNDP same report). Like other sub-regions in Africa, this area continues to confront natural hazards that adversely affect food security, health and livelihoods. In the last decade droughts, floods, pests and epidemics have affected the region, eroding resilience and contributing to internal and cross border displacement. Lack of access to water and sanitation and poor hygiene practices are among the principal causes of death and disease.

There is a need to invest in climate change adaptation and response initiatives by operationalising national adaptation plans where they exist and supporting development and employment creation that is environmentally sensitive. Improvement of urban management and quality of life in urban settings are also priorities.

The sub-region is also affected by social exclusion of marginalised groups which feeds internal tensions and at times spills into violent extremism. Initiatives that support socio-cultural integration via civil society networks, women and youth networks and through advocacy and awareness raising actions, should be further invested in.

NEEDS ASSESSMENT



WASH

Following the agreement between the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB), and the IFRC which foresees the creation of a multi-million dollar fund to combat cholera and other diarrheal diseases in OIC countries, Cameroon and Gabon were identified as potential focal countries. The fund will finance a WASH program to impact the lives of 5 million people in 29 OIC member countries. The program aims to strengthen and integrate the delivery of water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) with health services to combat cholera and other diarrheal diseases.

Cluster office Profile

The IFRC Country Cluster Office in the Central Africa sub-region will support National Societies in Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Republic of Congo (RoC), and Sao Tome & Principe (ST&P) in 2020. Additional matrix support will be provided to other African National Societies, in particular to the Red Cross of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and the Red Cross of the Central African Republic (CAR) as required. The National Societies (NS) in Central Africa face common challenges around resource mobilisation, capacity building for volunteers, institutional capacity building for managers and financial management. Priorities have been identified in 7 areas of focus, with the inclusion of Area of focus 7 - Migration and Displacement, in addition to 1) Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), 2) Shelter; 3) Livelihoods and basic needs, 4) Health; 5) Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH); and 5) Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI).

Movement Footprint

The IFRC Central Africa Country Cluster Office is working in partnership with all Red Cross Red Crescent Movement components present in the region. The cooperation with the ICRC regional delegation for Central Africa covering the same countries as the IFRC is excellent. Joint planning and strategy to support the National Societies in the region takes place on a regular basis, ensuring that both long-term and emergency interventions are effectively set up and implemented. Whenever applicable, resources are used jointly.

In Cameroon, the National Society, ICRC and IFRC operate under a tripartite Movement Coordination Agreement (MCA). Regular security consultations ensure safe implementation of activities in conflict prone areas of the region. With IFRC support, the Cameroon Red Cross is assisting Central African refugees in the East, Adamawa and North regions. Additional activities are conducted in cooperation with the French Red Cross. Swedish Red Cross is also supporting Cameroon Red Cross in Far North region to assist IDPs following the Lake Chad Basin crisis. Efforts will be made to maintain this cooperation in 2020. Agencies such as WHO and UNICEF and UNHCR contribute to IFRC/Cameroon Red Cross activities targeting refugees and other vulnerable groups in Cameroon.

STATISTICS

4.3M People in Cameroon need Humanitarian assistance.

1.1M People are food insecure in Cameroon.

70% Of CAR refugees live in host communities

DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

REQUIRED RESOURCES: CHF 340,000

Climate change is at the centre of political, scientific, and social debates and is preoccupying the world because of its negative present and future impacts on people and ecosystems. This sub-region, and in particular Cameroon, are not exceptions. The IFRC has been supporting the Cameroon RC to respond to recurrent flooding in the Littoral region of Cameroon, with occasional landslides, erosion and flooding associated with the most recent case in Santchou, West region in 2017, when a DREF operation was implemented

- 5,000 people reached by the Red Cross with public awareness and education campaigns
- 5 National societies supported by IFRC and the Federation network to develop forecast – based action

SHELTER

REQUIRED RESOURCES: CHF 310,000

Central Africa sub-region is prone to several disasters that often involve people losing their houses either partially or completely. It is therefore essential to invest in volunteer training, but also to sensitise and prepare communities to adopt building and sheltering techniques that are more sustainable and adapted to changing climatic conditions.

- 5,000 people provided with safe and adequate shelter and settlements
- 500 people provided with technical support and guidance, appropriate to the type of support they receive

LIVELIHOODS AND BASIC NEEDS

REQUIRED RESOURCES: CHF 90,000

Despite the overall favourable climates of Central African Countries that render agriculture work and harvest more fruitful than in neighbouring countries, the region suffers from surprisingly high rates of food insecurity. The Central Africa Country Cluster Office will respond to emerging food and livelihoods needs mainly through DREFs and Emergency Appeals as needed in each context. In Cameroon, IFRC will continue to mobilise financial support for food assistance and livelihoods activities in support of refugees and IDPs.

- 4,000 targeted households have enough food, such, incomes to meet their survival threshold
- 207,500 people reached with food assistance or cash for basic needs

HEALTH

REQUIRED RESOURCES: CHF 190,000

IFRC will strengthen the capacities of National Societies through training sessions; workshops; facilitating the participation of National Society staff in local, national and international gatherings; supporting National Society networking; and experience sharing. IFRC will ensure effective presence to ensure good quality of services or to provide close coaching to National Societies.

- Over 1 million people reached by long term health care support
- 230 volunteers trained by National Societies in epidemic control

WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

REQUIRED RESOURCES: CHF 530,000

IFRC will support both emergency response and development actions by National Societies to ensure better access of populations to potable water, hygiene and sanitation awareness and facilities. Potable water points and basic hygiene facilities will be constructed. In addition to this, information, education and communication tools will be used with the ultimate goal of achieving behaviour change in targeted communities.

- 10,000 households reached with awareness raising activities on improved treatment and safe use of waste water
- 50,000 people provided with knowledge and access to improved excreta disposal

PROTECTION, GENDER AND INCLUSION

REQUIRED RESOURCES: CHF 100,000

The IFRC Yaoundé Country Cluster Office will ensure that protection, gender and social inclusion aspects are included in both development projects and emergency operations within the Central Africa sub region.

- 4 National Societies Country programmes include measures to improve equitable status
- 4 National Societies have annual plan that demonstrate evidence of supporting SGBV

MIGRATION

REQUIRED RESOURCES: CHF 380,000

Assistance and protection activities in support of internally displaced persons, refugees and host communities will be carried out primarily through the emergency appeal for Cameroon.

- 10,000 people reached with services for migration assistance and protection
- 30,000 cross border displaced people affected

STRENGTHEN NATIONAL SOCIETY CAPACITIES

REQUIRED RESOURCES: CHF 190,000

IFRC will strengthen the capacities of National Societies in Central Africa to enable better understanding of the project cycle, including problem identification, planning, resource mobilization, communications, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, and reporting.

- 4 National Societies have adopted the Youth Policy
- 3 National Societies with functioning communication units

ENSURE EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT

REQUIRED RESOURCES: CHF 180,000

Wherever joint coordination is necessary, IFRC will make sure that all relevant Movement partners are involved in the planning and implementation of emergency operations with the specific host National Societies.

- 2,000 crisis affected people assisted through cash transfer programming
- 90% of operations during which National Societies comply with Principles and Rules for Humanitarian assistance

INFLUENCE OTHERS AS LEADING STRATEGIC PARTNERS

REQUIRED RESOURCES: CHF 150,000

IFRC will participate and support National Societies to actively participate in relevant local, national and international gatherings and events to influence decision making, policy debate and speak on behalf of the most vulnerable.

- 100% of emergency operations with approved and implemented communications plan
- 2 countries with state owned media offering at least 15 minutes free broadcasting of National society programmes

ENSURE A STRONG IFRC

REQUIRED RESOURCES: 510,000

The Cluster office will invest in sensitizing National Societies to prevention of fraud and corruption, in particular for those who have moved to modalities of working financially with project partners.

- 100% of operations/projects implemented after a security assessment
- 100% of Central Africa Country cluster staff showing good level of engagement and performance



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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