

MAACD001

# Democratic Republic of the Congo

2011 Annual report

11/July/2012

**This report covers the period: 1 January 2011 to 31 December 2011.**

*HIV/AIDS Kiosk installed in Sekebanza (Bas-Congo province) by Red Cross of DRC with support from the IFRC  
Photo by Red Cross of DRC*



## In brief

### Programme outcome

In line with Strategy 2020, the overall goal of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) 2011 support plan to the Red Cross of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (RC of DRC) was to ensure that the programmes and services of the National Society are scaled up; more responsive to the post conflict and/or development needs of vulnerable people; more effective and sustainable; and implemented through bilateral or multilateral support. The projects and programmes planned by the RC of DRC for 2011 were aimed at saving lives, protecting livelihoods, strengthening recovery from disaster and crises, enabling healthy and safe living, strengthening the operational capacities of the National Society and promoting respect for diversity and human dignity, as well as reducing intolerance and social exclusion.

## Programmes summary

In 2011, the socio-political, economic and humanitarian situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) was characterized by epidemic outbreaks (cholera, rabies), population displacement due to internal conflicts, the wide spread of HIV/AIDS, food insecurity, water scarcity, violent winds and floods, tensions following presidential and legislative elections in the country, road, sea and plane accidents. The RC of DRC assisted the vulnerable populations affected by the above mentioned crises through the implementation of its disaster management, health and care, national society development and principles and values programmes.

### *Disaster Management*

IFRC's Country Representation in DRC supported disaster preparedness of the RC of DRC by facilitating training of 4,904 Red Cross volunteers on community-based first aid (CBFA). Basic level training on CBFA, and disaster management was conducted in 11 provinces of the country, namely Bandundu, Bas-Congo, Kasai Occidental, Kasai Oriental, Katanga, Kinshasa, Maniema, Nord-Kivu, Orientale, Equateur and Sud-Kivu provinces. One of the major achievements of 2011 was the assistance to the returnees who had been expelled from the Cabinda enclave in Angola, and the successful coverage of the presidential and legislative elections. The National Society also developed a contingency plan for elections and implemented it during the November 2011 legislative and presidential elections.

### *Health and Care*

A major accomplishment was implementation of a project to fight HIV/AIDS in Bas-Congo province with support from the Finnish Red Cross. Other achievements during 2011 included promotion of voluntary blood donation and conducting water and sanitation activities in 3 prefectures within Bas Congo. In response to the cholera outbreak during 2011, the National Society with support from IFRC implemented a plan of action to tackle the epidemic. The National Society also supported anti-polio immunization campaigns and epidemiological surveillance activities.

### *National Society (NS) Development / Capacity Building*

The RC of DRC participated in two COSNAC<sup>1</sup> meetings with support from IFRC. This resulted in the implementation of a plan of action to revitalise the RC of DRC with support from partners including the IFRC, ICRC, Swedish, Finnish, French, Italian, Belgian Red Cross Societies and the Iranian Red Crescent Society. Significant progress has been made towards separation of governance and management functions through improvements in the National Society's financial, material and human resources management, and strengthening of its project/programme design and implementation capacities.

## Financial situation

Out of the total 2011 budget of CHF 2,116,210, an amount of CHF 689,279 (33 per cent) was covered during the reporting period (including opening balance). Overall expenditure during this period was CHF 976,772 (46.15 per cent of the budget).

There is a considerable variance between coverage and expenditure. In fact, while secured funding was CHF 689,279, the total expenditure was CHF 976,772. This resulted in a year end deficit of CHF 287,493. The primary factor which caused this deficit was the sudden decrease in donor contributions to DRC development programmes (CHF 0.6 million in 2011, down from CHF 1.9 million in 2010). This resource shortfall led to the management decision of closing the IFRC representation in DRC.

<sup>1</sup> Coordination des Sociétés Nationales de la Croix-Rouge de l'Afrique Centrale

[Click here to go directly to the financial report.](#)

<http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/annual11/MAACD00111arf.pdf>.

### No. of people we have reached

A total of 72,300 people have been reached through implementation of a programme supporting victims of sexual abuse (VSA) in South Kivu. In addition, 32,356 people have been supported through the HIV/AIDS project in Bas-Congo. Four thousand nine hundred four Red Cross volunteers were trained on community-based first aid (CBFA), basic level training on CBFA, and disaster management in 11 provinces of the country. This gives us a cumulated number of 109,560 people reached directly in 2011. While it is difficult to calculate the number of indirect beneficiaries of the programme, estimates place the minimum number at 109,560 people, with the assumption that each person reached directly also reached one person indirectly.

### Our partners

In 2011, the following Movement and non-Movement partners supported IFRC programmes in the DRC:

- DFID (disaster management – disaster preparedness)
- Finnish Red Cross (health and Care; National Society development/Capacity Building)
- Finnish Red Cross from Finnish Government (health and care – HIV/AIDS project)
- Irish Government (disaster management, health and care and coordination)
- Japanese Red Cross Society (health and care)
- Norwegian Red Cross (disaster management, principles and values)
- Norwegian Red Cross (from Norwegian Government) (disaster management)
- Swedish Red Cross (NS development, principles and values and coordination)
- Netherlands Red Cross (health and care)

### Context

In 2011, the socio-political, economic and humanitarian situation in DRC was characterized by epidemic outbreaks such as cholera and rabies (Bandundu province), population displacement due to internal conflicts (Bas-Congo, Kasai Oriental and Kasai Occidental, Katanga, Maniema and South-Kivu provinces), the wide spread of HIV/AIDS (Bas-Congo, Kasai Occidental), food insecurity (Kasai Occidental), water scarcity (Kasai Occidental), violent winds and floods (Katanga), tensions following presidential and legislative elections in the country (in almost all 11 provinces of the country), road, sea and plane accidents (Orientale province).

The major situations for concern were the cholera outbreak and the legislative and presidential elections. Two DREF operations were launched to ensure adequate management of both these situations. The first DREF addressed the cholera outbreak in the country while the other DREF ensure proper management of elections through implementation of the National Society contingency plan for elections.

The concentration on these two operations, with a low coverage of the 2011 plan, limited the completion of planned activities.

## Progress towards outcomes

### Disaster Management

#### National society disaster management planning and organizational preparedness

##### Outcomes

- Improved disaster preparedness and response framework that enable efficient early warning/early action in disaster situations (natural or technological disasters, conflicts, epidemics)
- Enhanced National Disaster Management Committee (NDMC) to provide effective and efficient disaster response coordination through the formulation of a national disaster response plan (Plan ORSEC)

##### Achievements

The RC of DRC trained 4,904 Red Cross volunteers on community-based first aid (CBFA). Basic level training on CBFA and disaster management was conducted in 11 provinces of the country, with contributions from IFRC and other partners. This training aimed at preparing the volunteers for response to future crises. In addition, a contingency plan on elections was developed ahead of the November 2011 legislative and presidential elections. IFRC prepositioned 19 first-aid kits and 30 blankets in localities identified as high risk areas within the contingency plan ahead of the elections. A disaster management camp was organized in Dumi. The National Society contributed to the development of a plan for the organization of relief at national level.

#### Disaster Risk Reduction

##### Outcomes

- Enhanced resilience of individuals and communities to public health emergencies and disasters
- Improved resilience of 5,000 households affected by food insecurity in two districts of Maniema Province through food security community-based programme as long-term sustainable development strategy

##### Achievements

A food security project was planned to be implemented in Maniema and Bandundu provinces. In February 2011, a Federation team supported by the National Programmes Coordinator of the RC of DRC conducted a feasibility study of that project in Lubelengé district (Maniema province). Following this study, a plan of action with planned activities for the project was developed, and a project team was selected. Nevertheless, the project never started due to lack of funding.

##### Constraints or Challenges

A new project has been prepared with support from the Spanish Red Cross. This project is a follow-up of the food security project implemented in Dumi (Batéké). The materials, equipment, land and personnel of the former project are available and will readily be put at the disposal of the new project when funding is available. However, systematic vulnerability and capacity assessment (VCA) needs to be conducted first in order to ensure efficient risk reduction projects.

## Health and Care

### Community-Based Health and First Aid (CBHFA) in action

#### Outcomes

- Healthier communities that are able to cope with health and disaster challenges through CBHFA activities

#### Achievements

Within the framework of the Global Alliance to fight HIV/AIDS, the RC of DRC implemented a project to fight HIV/AIDS in three health zones of the Bas-Congo province. This project was supported by the Finnish Red and IFRC. In 2011, the RC of DRC organized 221 educational talk sessions, 504 sensitization campaigns, and 1,339 home visits, reaching close to 33,000 people with HIV prevention messages. Red Cross volunteers distributed 67,191 condoms (66,336 male and 855 female). During a field visit in September 2011, RC of DRC officials found that several beneficiaries had adopted safer practices as a result of the project. The team found that female sex workers had established principles not to have sex with a client without a condom. The National Society supported the schooling of 90 orphans and other vulnerable children (OVC); 30 each in Kinsantu, Matadi and Sekebanza. RC of DRC also supported the implementation of income-generating activities (IGAs) for people living with HIV (PLHIV) in Kinsantu. Additional details of the achievements of this project are available in the 2011 pledge-based report submitted to the Finnish Red Cross for. The project implementation increased the visibility of the RC of DRC and strengthened their partnership with the Ministry of Health which is responsible for regularly supplying the condoms promotion kiosks of the National Society at no cost. The National Society also intensified educational talks using the stock of posters and leaflets made available by UNICEF.

The RC of DRC implemented a project to fight against malaria in 10 health zones of the Maindombe health district. Within the framework of this project, the National Society mobilized more than 1,000 volunteers, 600 of whom sensitized the populations on how to prevent malaria. These volunteers also distributed long-lasting insecticide-treated mosquito nets (LLITN) and showed the populations how to install and use them.

The RC of DRC also actively supported activities of the routine Expanded Immunization Programme (EIP) in Equateur province through financial support from GAVI (Global Alliance for Vaccine and Immunization). This led to the RC of DRC signing of an agreement with the Ministry of Health in selected health zones of the 11 provinces of the country.

#### Constraints or Challenges

While the listening and orientation posts are adequately supported by UNICEF and other partners with didactic materials, there remains a need to enable the RC of DRC to also produce didactic materials that will help promote its visibility.

### Health in Emergencies

#### Outcomes

- Reduced number of injuries and deaths from accidents through emergency First Aid and commercial First Aid interventions
- Increased voluntary blood donation awareness and adequate safe blood supply through Red Cross interventions

## Achievements

In Katanga, Red Cross volunteers sensitized 2,151 people on voluntary blood donation and collected more than 271 blood bags. They also seized the opportunity to disseminate HIV prevention messages. One hundred forty four blood bags were collected in Lubumbashi, and 102 in Goma.

A serious cholera outbreak occurred in DRC in 2011, and IFRC supported the National Society by allocating funds from DREF to help respond to the epidemic in Kinshasa, Mbandaka (Equateur) and Bolobo (Bandundu). Red Cross volunteers were mobilized and trained for the management of the epidemic. Additional details of the achievements are available on the IFRC website through the various 2011 reports on cholera outbreak in DRC.

## Water and sanitation

### Outcomes

- Adequate and sustainable access to safe and clean drinking water and sanitation services for 100,000 people in two provinces.

### Achievements

IFRC funded five water and sanitation (WATSAN) projects in Kifudi, Kinzau-Mvueté, Kinsantu, Mpozo and Nanza. (Bas-Congo province).

## National Society Development

### National Society leadership and management development

#### Outcomes

- Effective and empowered RC of DRC leadership, governance and management

#### Achievements

IFRC facilitated the participation of the RC of DRC at two COSNAC<sup>2</sup> meetings in 2011; one for National Society Secretary Generals, and the other for National Society presidents.

A plan for the revitalisation of the RC of DRC was developed and implemented through multilateral support from the Swedish and Finnish Red Cross Societies and IFRC. Bilateral support was provided by the Belgian and Spanish Red Cross Societies, ICRC on and the United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID). A mid-term evaluation of this plan, undertaken in October 2011, revealed that although the National Society still faced some challenges, it functioned better as a result of the plan. Within the framework of the plan, a Code of Conduct, Statutes and the Rules and Regulations of the National Society were reviewed. In addition, a performance contract was developed, signed by the Secretary General and circulated among the staff of the National Society. This measure aimed at increased accountability further enables the governance mechanism to evaluate performance of the management of the National Society.

In order to facilitate the work of the Secretariat General of the National Society, a new organization chart has been developed with new units headed by national directors. These units include the directorate for programmes, the directorate for administration and legal affairs, the directorate for finance and logistics, the directorate for

<sup>2</sup> Coordination des Sociétés Nationales de la Croix-Rouge d'Afrique Centrale

communications and external relations, the production units division, the marketing and resources mobilization division, and the volunteering management and training division. In line with this restructuring process, services of some staff members were terminated after paying their entitlements from contributions by Movement partners represented in DRC. A new female director of finance and logistics has been recruited, and a few remaining vacancies are under recruitment.

### Constraints or Challenges

The National Society needs to promote systematic self-evaluation of their branches. This will enable it to provide its branches with relevant proximity support needed for their smooth development.

### Branch and volunteering development

#### Outcomes

- Effective and efficient planning and implementation of community- based activities by RC of DRC branches and their volunteers

#### Achievements

All 11 provincial Secretary Generals who used to report exclusively to their provincial authorities now report to the National Secretary General. This measure will facilitate proper monitoring of activities in the field.

IFRC supported representatives from the Katanga provincial committee of the RC of DRC to attend a disaster management workshop organized by the disaster management department of the National Society in Kinshasa.

A campaign to promote volunteering was organised in Kinshasa, with the participation of local and international media present in Kinshasa.

IFRC supported the organization of the elective general assembly in Equateur province.

Within the framework of the programme to revitalize the RC of DRC, the Federation contributed to the salaries of National Society staff at both headquarter and province levels (Bas-Congo, Katanga, Kasai Oriental, Maniema, North Kivu and South Kivu).

### Financial sustainability

#### Outcomes

- Enhanced fund-raising and resource mobilization capacity of the RC of DRC (branches and headquarters)

## Achievements

Within the framework of the plan to revitalize the RC of DRC, the National Society purchased computing software (Winbook) to enhance transparency of its financial statements. In addition, new expenditure authorization procedures were adopted to strengthen the traceability of expenses and ensure smooth accountability. In addition to the accounting system of the RC of DRC being updated, finance staff of the National Society have been trained on the use of Winbook, and the financial data for 2011, 2010 and 2009 is presently being processed using this software, in preparation for a general financial audit scheduled for 2012. Another major achievement is that the members of the Executive Committee have stopped being signatories to the project bank accounts of the National Society. This responsibility now vests with Management. Program management capacity development

## Outcomes

- Enhanced RC of DRC capacity to manage increased number and volume of programmes and partnerships (operational alliances)

## Achievements

The staff members at the headquarters of the National Society have been trained on project planning. In order to ensure proper monitoring, evaluation and reporting of programmes, a post of director of programmes has been created and placed under the direct supervision of the Secretary General.

All 11 provincial Secretary Generals who used to report exclusively to their provincial authorities now report to the National Secretary General.

## Constraints or Challenges

Although all provincial committees submitted their reports to the national headquarters, they did so very late, and the quality of the reports varied. This suggests that efforts still need to be made at the level of projects planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting (PMER). A formal PMER system needs to be put in place.

## Principles and Values

### Promotion of the Fundamental Principles and Humanitarian Values

#### Outcomes

- Gradual behavioural change of target population in respect for the Fundamental Principles and Humanitarian Values

#### Achievements

IFRC supported the communications department of the National Society to ensure that activities to promote the fundamental principles and humanitarian values are implemented. Such activities included the promotion of the club of Red Cross friendly journalists, the production of communication aids, strengthening the capacities of communication staff both at national and provincial levels, and supporting the television broadcasting of messages on the impartiality of the Red Cross and the safer access of Red Cross volunteers.

## Constraints or Challenges

Efficient communication strategies need to be put in place to ensure smooth dissemination of the Fundamental Principles and Values, as well as communication on the achievements of the National Society at national and international levels.

## Operationalisation of Fundamental Principles and Humanitarian Values

### Outcomes

- Fundamental Principles and Humanitarian Values are integrated in RC of DRC operations and programmes
- Scaled-up and expanded RC of DRC sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) planning and implementation
- Reduced stigma and discrimination against Pygmies in Equateur and Kasaï provinces through scaled up and expanded anti-discrimination programming

### Achievements

A programme to address SGBV is being implemented in North and South Kivu provinces. The mid-term evaluation of this programme was undertaken in Minastaki and Ubakadji. A survey on SGBV was conducted at listening and orientation posts and interviews were conducted with victims of sexual abuse. The findings of both the survey and interviews will be used to improve programme implementation in support of victims of sexual abuse in North and South Kivu.

Forty Red Cross volunteers were mobilized and trained on behaviour change communication (BCC) techniques. These volunteers then conducted mass sensitization in Goma and Rutshuru, spreading messages to “protect people who have been raped like us” and “supporting people who have been raped as a starting point for their healing”.

Ten listening and orientation posts (LOP) were equipped with sensitization materials, including 7 megaphones, batteries, boots and raincoats.

The National Society distributed 150 loincloths and shoes to 150 most vulnerable victims of sexual abuse (VSA); fifteen people in each of the 10 LOPs identified. The criteria for the selection of the most vulnerable VSAs were defined by the programme management committee.

Red Cross volunteers provided psychosocial support and orientation to 288 VSAs at 10 operational LOPs.

The gender and development team of the National Society conducted 2 monitoring missions to the localities of the SGBV programme.

## Working in partnership

In 2011, the following Movement and non-Movement partners supported IFRC programmes in the DRC:

- DFID (disaster management – disaster preparedness)
- Finnish Red Cross (health and Care; National Society development/Capacity Building)
- Finnish Red Cross from Finnish Government (health and care – HIV/AIDS project)
- Irish Government (disaster management, health and care and coordination)
- Japanese Red Cross Society (health and care)
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- Norwegian Red Cross (from Norwegian Government) (disaster management)
- Swedish Red Cross (National Society development, principles and values and coordination)

- Netherlands Red Cross (health and care)

## Contributing to longer-term impact

The Federation was guided by its strategy to strengthen the operational capacities of the RC of DRC. Having supported the implementation of the National Society recovery plan during 2011, which included restructuring the Secretariat of the DRC RC and training the Governance team, a decision was made to close the IFRC representation in the country and transfer full responsibilities to the National Society. Although a few positions remain to be filled at its headquarters, the National Society is now well on its self development journey, and stands better prepared face future challenges. IFRC has facilitated the recruitment and coaching of a Reporting Officer for the RC of DRC with a view to improving reporting on project implementation and development impact.

The National Society implemented a programme to assist victims of sexual abuse in North Kivu. The objective of this programme is not only to improve the living conditions of those victims, but also to demonstrate that women are the backbone of development in DRC and as such deserve a protective and enabling environment.

## Looking ahead

The Federation's representation for DRC still functional, with the IFRC Regional Representative assuming these responsibilities. The RC of DRC will continue to receive support through the IFRC Central Africa Regional Representation (CARREP) based in Yaoundé. The restructuring process that was initiated in 2011 needs to be pursued and strengthened to enable the RC of DRC to become a strong National Society.

A new strategy has been put in place by IFRC's Central Africa Regional Representation (CARREP), in accordance with needs of National Societies within Central Africa, to ensure the smooth implementation of activities in support of vulnerable people involving the use of a pool of regional resource persons to ensure proper monitoring and evaluation of projects and programmes. These regional resource persons are trained RDRT members deployed from their respective National Societies to assist a sister National Society with the implementation of an operation. In 2011, CARREP deployed RDRT's from DRC to other National Societies within the region. The presence of an RDRT member provides the added value of helping a National Society to implement projects related to a Programme Contract signed with CARREP, and also in maintaining reporting and financial accountability. The presence of RDRT members also benefits the National Society since the resource persons are expected to return to their respective National Societies and use experience gathered during their missions to help improve programmes planning and implementation in their own National Society.

During 2011, much focus was given to the implementation of emergency operations. Most development projects were not implemented due to lack of funding. Learning from this experience, CARREP will be intensifying its fundraising efforts 2012 onwards. Attention will be concentrated around National Societies development, particularly in the areas of PMER and financial development and management which have been identified as needing strengthening. Development and implementation of sustainable projects with sound accountability measures in place will contribute to increased confidence from key partners in the long term.

## How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations](#) (NGOs) in Disaster Relief and the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

[www.ifrc.org](http://www.ifrc.org)  
Saving lives, changing minds.



The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of nonviolence and peace.

## Contact information

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