

ASHANTI REGIONAL REPORT

1.0 GENERAL INTRODUCTION

The regional office is situated at the Ghana Health Service Building, room 34. Adum-Kumasi.

b. The region has only one room as its office, and this poses a lot of challenges for the region.

1.1 STAFF OF THE REGION

PAID STAFF

Regional Manager	-	Michael Kwame Asante
Office Assistant	-	Linda Amankwah

REGIONAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The region held its Annual General Meeting (AGM) on the 30th may 2015 and the following executives were elected.

Bishop J.N.K Boaten	-	Chairman
Theophilus Quaye	-	Vice Chairman
Kofi Adu Domfer	-	P.R.A
Konadu Yiadom	-	Treasurer
Dr Akosua Darkwa	-	Health Advisor
Lawyer Eric Oduro Konadu	-	Legal Advisor
Derek Agyeman Prempeh	-	Reg Youth Rep.
Mohammed Don Abdullah	-	Member
Nana Agyei Addo	-	Member
Dickson K. Frimpong	-	Member
Dr. Asante Mante	-	Member
Abass David	-	Member

2.0 ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

2.1 Operational Districts:

The Region is currently operating in Eleven (11) Districts out of the thirty (30) political districts in the region.

2.2New District

Inauguration was done at Jakobu district where 25 people were registered as members of the Society.

2.3 Membership

The Region has a total registered membership of 850 out of which 190 was newly recruited and registered the year, below are the breakdown:

Youth Membership: 650
Adults (chapter): 200

Out of these, the total members in good standing or paid up members are;

Youth Membership: 250
Adults (chapter): 110

For the region to increase its membership and also create publicity for the society in the region, we have recruited 40 National Service Personnel to help in the in-school youth membership and other youth activities in the region. We hope that with this intervention our membership will increase in the coming years.

OBITUARY

The region lost one of its active district organizers; the Mampong District Organizer in the person of Mr. Amofa Sarpong, May his soul rest in peace.

2.4MEETINGS/WORKSHOPS

2.5 Meetings

The region has organized Four Regional Committee meetings and Five District Organizer's meeting. The national president was at one of our committee meeting.

2.6 Workshops

As part of activities to eradicate cholera and Ebola and also engage community member on best hygiene practices, Ashanti region was selected to be part of the regions to carry out community education. Sixty four (64) volunteers were selected to do the educational campaign in Kumasi metro and Ejura Sekyeredumasi municipa

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers were trained by the society and the Ghana Health Service to have knowledge on Ebola, Cholera, community entry procedural and CSM, this training took place at the regional health directorate.



INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

3.1 LAND AND PROPERTY

a) Suntreso

The Suntreso land has still not been put into any good use, it is still lying idle, the ground rent is also in arrears and has accumulated to about GH¢ 6,000.00.

3.2 Transport

The official vehicle in the Region is in a very bad condition and this has therefore brought about a high maintenance cost for the region. We are therefore appealing to management to help us get a new official vehicle.

3.3 OFFICE EQUIPMENTS

To uplift the face of the office to a regional office status new air conditioner, TV, chairs and also painting of the office were done. The office has one desk top computer and a printer and they are in a good condition.

4.0 HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

4.1 Cholera and Ebola Project

Volunteers were trained to carry out house to house education on the outbreak at Kumasi and Ejura. During the training, posters, flyers, veronica buckets, soaps and hand sanitizers were distributed to volunteers to be sent to the community for the education.



The volunteer were asked to go schools, mosques, churches and lorry parks to sensitize the people about the disease, also house to house.



Places Visited

They visited schools (that is both government and Arabic), market centers - food sellers, houses, lorry parks, mosques, churches.



Each of the teams were tasked to visit five houses a week and not less than Five (5) organize groups in a month and base on the feedback received they all participated full in this campaign.

4.2 Ebola

UNICEF supported the society to go into 88 SHS to educate the student in proper hand washing and signs and symptoms of Ebola and cholera. Implementing organizations received supporting materials and items that were available from UNICEF.



Implementation of the interventions

Hand washing which was a key message to this intervention was encouraged to be practised by teachers and students in the various schools. Demonstration of proper hand washing was done with soap under running water.



Student practicing hand washing.

Video of cholera was shown to enhance understanding of what actually causes cholera and how one can protect him/herself from getting the bacterial. Another entertaining part of the programme was the Ebola video. In some schools, students danced but others did not because of the presence of teachers and other colleagues.

Presentation Session:

A veronica bucket, a box of carbolic soap (72 tablets), a basin and the big banner which had already been hanged were all given to the beneficiary school; teachers who assisted throughout the programme were given some allowances.

4.3 HAND WASHING ACTIVITIES:

The region has on several occasions rendered these services at many public gatherings.



4.4 ASANTEHENE 15TH ANNIVERSARY:

As part of activities marking the 15th year's anniversary of Otumfuo, a series of programs was lined up and Red Cross was part of the planning committee and also participated actively in all those activities.

4.5 CLEAN UP EXERCISES

The region also organized various clean up exercises at the various districts



Volunteers at a clean-up exercise at one of the National Campaign

5.0 DISASTER MANAGEMENT

5.1 Emergency Response

The region was able to visit some of the places of fire outbreaks like the central market and the Suame roundabout where a truck loaded with iron rods fell on some cars, there were a lot of casualties and it took the help of the Red Cross volunteers and the ambulance service to attend to some of the victims.

5.2 First Aid

50 volunteers have been trained by the ICRC and Swiss Red Cross as Emergency first aiders and three of them have been further trained to be first aid instructors by Belgian Red Cross at Kumasi.

NAME OF DISTRICT	No. TRAINED
JUASO	5
KONONGO	5
OBOASI	5
BEKWAI	5
EJURA	10
KUMASI METRO	25
MAMPONG*****	10

6.0 YOUTH ACTIVITIES

6.5 Fun Fair

The region organized fun fair on the 7th of march 2015 and over 1500 children attended, series of activities were lined up for the kids to have fun.



7.0 CONCLUSION

2015 was a year of success and we hope that our activities will improve in 2016 to make the Ashanti region become one of the best regions for the society.

Report Presented By:

Bishop J.N.K Boaten
REGIONAL CHAIMAN

GREATER ACCRA REGIONAL REPORT

ADMINISTRATION

The Greater Accra Region is located at Ministries Annex –Accra with 5 office rooms and has sixteen (16) political Districts but we are operating in twelve(12) of them, namely: Tema, Adenta, Accra Metro, Ga South, Ga East, Ga West, Ashiaman, Dangme West, Dangme East, Kpone Katamanso, La Dade Kotopon and Ledzokuku-Krowor.

Averagely each district has two chapters and at least one mothers club.

The Region has 14 Mother's club and 24 chapters. The Districts have their own management committees, District Organizers, chapter organizers and Youth Organizers.

However we have 850 school links which cut across all the Districts.

STAFF

Eric Asamoah Darko	-	Regional Manager
Nafisah Haruna	-	Office Assistance
Catherine Adasu	-	Cholera project officer
Rechard Nyarko	-	Project Driver.

VOLUNTEER STAFF

Regional Youth Organizers	- 2
Regional Mothers Club Facilitators	- 2
Regional First Aid Co-ordinator	- 1
Regional EFAT Coordinator	- 1
Regional First Aid Co-ordinator	- 1
Regional chapter Organizer	- 1
District Organizers	-12
District Mothers club facilitators	- 5
District Chapter Organizers	- 8
District Youth Organizers	- 8

NATIONAL SERVICE PERSONNEL

The Region Received Twenty (64) National Service Personnel, this is as a result of a gap identified at the Regional secretariat on Disaster response in the Region.

The Personal have received training in Disaster management and First Aid as well as the History of Red Cross. They are currently educating the public, especially schools in Disaster preparedness and mitigation.

GERMAN VOLUNTEERS

Two volunteers from Germany were posted to the region to serve as volunteers; they were Miss Pia Heinrich and Sophie Fetschie. They stayed with the region for a year and worked in the schools on Red Cross activities and they have since left for Germany.

However at the later part of the year one volunteer was sent to us to support the youth activities.

MANAGEMENT

The region is managed by 12 elected committee members. They are;-

Mr. Kwabena Nketia Addae	- Chairman
Mr. George Ankomah	- Vice Chairman
Mrs. Princess Lizzy Gborze	- PRO
Mr. Clement Zormelo	- Treasure
Mr. Ernest Aboagye	- Legal Advisor
Mr. Ebenezer K Addae	- Member
Mr. Rahman Tagoe Abdul	- Health Advisor
Mr. Gabriel Anaba	- Youth Rep
Hajia Asiya Mohammed	- Member
David Mills	- Member
Rev Emmanuel Ofori	- Member
Emmanuel Amedge	- Member

REGIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING

The Regional Committee Meeting was scheduled as follows:-

COMMITTEE	SCHEDULES	ATTENDANCE	AVERAGE	PERCENTAGE
Management	4	3	8/12	80%
Youth	4	4	5/5	100%
Resource Development	4	1	5/5	100%
Information	4	Nil	Nil	-
Disaster	4	Nil	Nil	-

YOUTH

Once again at the beginning of the year 2015, the youth organizers visited all our school links and shared with them our programme and activities and how they will help in the implementation of the youth programmes.

On the 8th of March 2015, the region organized a Funfair for some selected schools, in all 56 schools participated with a total number of 2090 at Aburi garden.

Also an Inter-Schools First Aid Competition was organized for schools in Greater Accra, once again 52 schools participated.

72 youth members attended the year's Regional Youth Camp in August at Dodowa

They used it as a platform to train the youth in First Aid delivery leadership skill, Communication skills, which was facilitated by Mr. Louis Okyere the communication's Manager of Ghana Red Cross at the Head office. However 10 members were able to attend the National Youth Camp at Wa.

In the month of November 2013, the youth were involved in HIV/AIDS awareness creation; however on the 5th of December 2015 the youth were involved in HIV/AIDS Walk, which started from YMCA through the principal streets of Osu-Accra and ended at the YMCA Office again.

HEALTH CARE

EBOLA

West Africa Ebola Beneficiary Communications and Social Mobilization Project

1. Executive Summary

The Ebola Beneficiary communication and Social Mobilization Project Contribute to halt the chain of transmission of Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) and prevalent epidemic threats in West Africa through effective implementation of social mobilization, community engagement and beneficiary communication activities for the prevention, preparedness and control of the outbreak. These communities and their Leaders now understood all issue pertaining to EVD are prepared for prevention, preparedness and control measures.

One hundred and forty four {144} Volunteers were recruited and trained in the said interventions and were deployed to the Schools, Mosques, Funeral grounds and Public gatherings to educate the people on the issues of Ebola. They distributed educational materials to the communities, hand washing equipment were also distributed to Schools. Focus group discussions were encouraged.

Many has become aware of the EVD and had overcome their fears

Situation/Context Analysis – (Positive & Negative Factors)

It came out clearly during the implementation that the community accepted the Red Cross Volunteers than the Health Service Volunteers. This is due to the community entry strategy used by the Red Cross volunteers and they are also based in the communities. Some community leaders suggested they should be involved during the planning stage of the project.

4. Analysis of Implementation

After a successful training, the Volunteers were paired and deployed into the communities, Schools, Public gatherings, funerals grounds, Mosques, Market places. Each group did the Ebola education three times a week.

The teams collected data on the number of people reached in visit.

The activities of the Volunteers were as follows:

- Explained and defined the (EVD) to the people
- Mode of transmission through body fluids and contacts
- Who is at risks
- Prevention methods
- Cultural practices which enhances transmission
- Demonstrated hand washing and donated hand washing equipment to some groups like Schools and mounted hand washing points at Public Gatherings
- The DO,s and the Regional Manager from the office did monitored the activities of the Volunteers
- The Volunteers were given monitoring sheets which the Head of institutions or those in charge sign and also provide stamped or telephone numbers to help the office traced the activities of the volunteers.
- People are advised to report all suspected cases to the nearby clinic.

5. Beneficiary Participation & Feedback

The community groups, Schools, Churches, Mosques, and Public Gatherings were involved in the discussions and the feedbacks were positive because the discussions were done in the local languages, the Volunteers also engaged them with questions which were clearly answered.

6. Visibility and communication

The Volunteers were given well branded T-Shirts which had the EU, Swiss Red Cross, IFRC, and Ghana Red Cross logos, all the educational materials were also labelled with European Union logo and the other PN's logos.

7. Human resource

The office had enough human resource to implement the program.

10. Case studies, photos, other reports





11. Key Lessons

Social mobilization is very important to epidemic control and Community involvement is also a key to successful implementation and the community member trusted the Red Cross Volunteers as a credible source of information.

The Ebola education has help people to overcome their fears about the EVD However more people need to be educated.

GHANA CHOLERA PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE PROJECT

Background

Following the cholera outbreak in Ghana in June, 2014 that resulted in over 29,000 cases and 243 deaths (CFR of 0.8%) in 130 out of the 216 districts of the 10 regions of the country, the International Federation of Red Cross in partnership with Ghana Red Cross with financial support from ECHO and Swiss Red Cross has embarked on a cholera preparedness and response project targeting seven (7) districts in Accra City. These include: Adabraka polyclinic, Achimota hospital, Maamobi Hospital, Kaneshie polyclinic, Lekma Hospital, LA District Hospital, and GA South Municipal.

The project is aimed at building cholera preparedness and response capacities at community level using the sword and shield approach through establishment of 50 preparedness and 12 response teams over a period of 12 months. The established structure should be able to effectively respond to cholera outbreak with capacity to reach over 200,000 cholera affected population during an outbreak. The Sword and Shield approach concept is an initiative of the West Africa Cholera response strategy which demonstrated to be one of the most effective cholera response approaches after its pilots in DRC, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Niger and Tchad.

The Sword and Shield strategy is deliberately focused at targeted response by addressing identified transmission routes at community level to protect

population at risk but not yet affected (Shield) and as well as timely and focused disease containment at household level with confirmed cholera case (Sword)

Project prompted by 2014 cholera out break

That resulted in 28,975 cases and 243 deaths (CFR of 0.8%) in 130 out of the 216 districts of the 10 regions of the country.

Project target

7 districts in Accra city, namely Adabraka polyclinic, Achimota hospital, Maamobi Hospital, Kaneshie Polyclinic, Lekma Hospital, A District Hospital, GA South Municipal

Designed to reach over 200,000 cases load with community outreach using Sword and Shield approach

Implemented by Ghana Red Cross, technical support, IFRC, funded by ECHO and Swedish Red Cross

12 Months period ending 6 June 2016

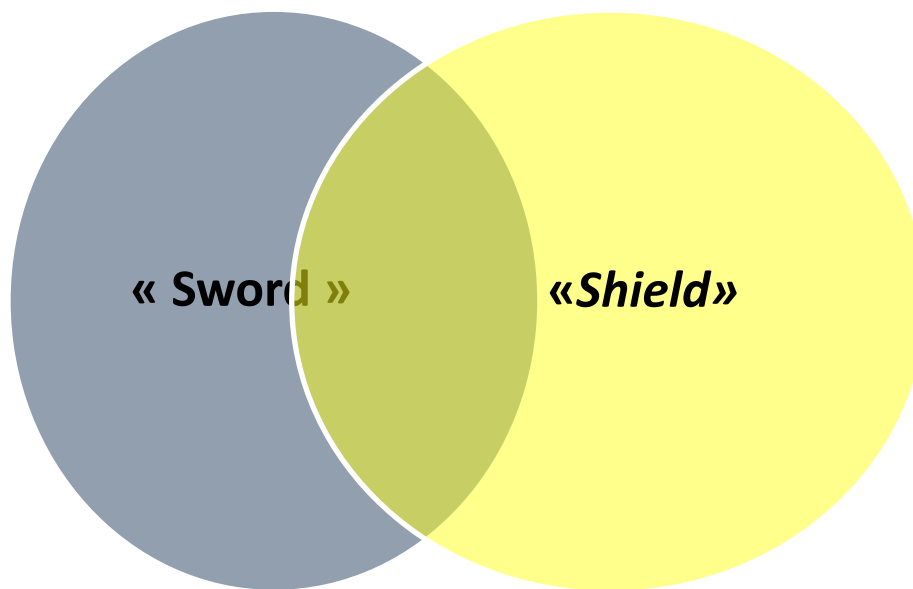
Project Goals and Objectives

Overall Objective

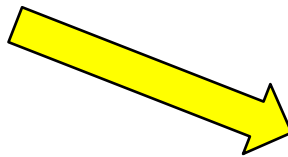
Contribute to the reduction of cholera related contamination spots in the most affected areas of Ghana

Key expected results

1. Timely deployment (Sword and Shield Team of cholera response at household and community level based on first confirmed case
2. Reduced risks of further contamination of all affected households through disinfection and targeted household messaging
3. Reduced risk of cholera affected communities through social mobilisation and promotion of preventive measure including disinfection and establishing hand washing points, promotion environmental hygiene and surveillance
4. Contamination routes and potential risks of cholera documented and continue surveillance systems established.

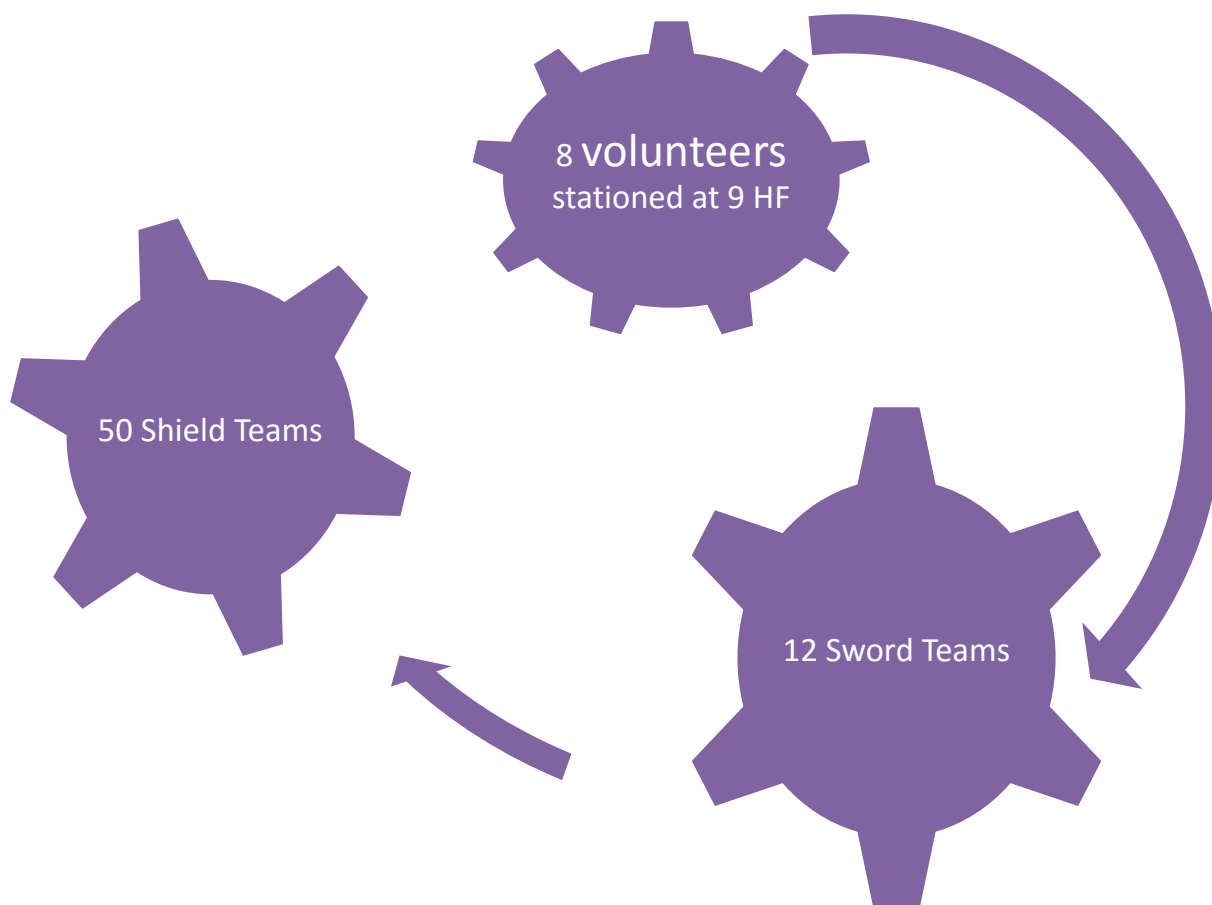


Approach- Sword and Shield concept



- Early and Targeted WASH Emergency Response in affected areas – from first suspicious cases
- Response based on preparedness and on transmission context, case mapping, population and practices at risk

- WASH Emergency Response in at risk but not yet affected areas
- Sustainable WASH intervention in priority areas - outside outbreak period



Approach- 8 Alert Response Teams

- Full time representative in each of the 9 Health Facilities
- Liaise without patient/ disease control units on reported cases and surveillance reports
- Alert Sword Teams through the Project Officer upon record of suspected and confirmed case (report through the RAMP, WhatsApp message, Calls and text messages)
- Compile daily records for further analysis to information management unit

Approach – 12 Sword (response) Teams- Household

- Ready to be deployed to cholera confirmed household within 3 hours
- Support with household disinfection where necessary
- Conduct cholera awareness sensitization sessions
- Promote and demonstrate the use household water treatment
- Distribute cholera promotional IEC materials
- Distribute household cholera kit consisting of 450 g of soap, water purification tablets/sachets enough 15litres per person per day for 90 days
- Collect general assessment of household access to water, sanitation and type of livelihood

Approach cont.50 Shield (Response) Team

- Ready for deployment within affected communities covering 2 km radius
- Social mobilisation using targeted messages through house to house, community meetings school and churches where applicable.
- Promotion of risks reduction activities e.g. hand washing stations in public latrines, schools, markets, restaurants and food vendors, funerals and water treatment (bulk or household levels) among others

Community profiling for risk identification and assessment (sanitation, water, environmental hygiene)

Approach-Information Management

- Data collation and analysis
- Production of geo maps and activity mapping
- Technical support on assessment and continues surveillance
- Manage volunteer data base

Achievements

- Trained 120 Volunteers from 8 cholera hotspot districts :
- Cholera (Causes, transmission routes, signs and symptoms, prevention)
- Contact tracing
- Social mobilisation skills – community entry, data collection, communication skills,
- Disinfection using chlorine solutions for clothing, toilets, vomits, water treatment etc.
- Code of conduct
- Data collection mobile platforms – Rapid Mobile Program (RAMP)

Training of Sword and Shield Team



Sword and Shield Deployment

- Cholera Alert volunteers in 9 health facilities , they are first responders to activate Sword and Shield systems, alert is done through mobile and WhatsApp platforms
- Sword Team respondent to 3 suspected cases in GA South Municipality within 3 hours after notifications.
- Contact tracing
- Cholera education and awareness

- Distributed soap, aqua tabs, ORS, Veronica

Shield Team deployed in 3 communities within 48 hours:

- 220 house to house education and 7 schools, disinfection of 4 public toilets, installation 3 hand washing points at public latrines, 1 at clinic

Sword and Shield Deployment



General awareness and disinfection

- Community clean campaigns in GA South and Ablekuman
- Cholera awareness and 2 installation of hand washing facilities and promotion at Kristo Asafo Mission annual program 10,000 people reached.
- Cholera awareness and 12 installation of hand washing facilities and promotion at 6 beaches for 4 days during festive season reaching 7400 people
- Disinfection of 26 Public latrines and installation hand washing facilities 18 stations in Ayawaso and Ashiedu Keteke Sub –Metro and other districts are on going
- Training of 60 public latrine operators in 2 districts (Cholera facts, disinfection, hand washing, orientation on policy public toilet operations
- Cholera awareness work campaign with over 5000 students from 200 schools
- Conduct two baseline surveys, 200 public Facility Direct Observation and KAP survey with 1100 sample size

- Donated 26 Veronica buckets so far
- Market education and hand washing campaign are on-going in all Districts.

General Social mobilisation and Public Toilets disinfection



Lesson Learned and Recommendations

- Despite absence of cholera cases population still at risks due to limited access to good sanitation, water and deplorable condition of public latrine facilities
- Confirmation of cholera cases from reference lab is too long (2 weeks or more) which affects deployment time.

Recommendations

- Increase social mobilisation activities targeting most risk areas e.g. markets, schools and public gatherings.
- Develop a comprehensive plan to improve public latrine conditions in partnership with district assemblies and public latrine operators.
- Develop a comprehensive cholera contingency plan in anticipation of possible outbreak during or after the rainy season.
- Improve capacity building at public health facility level, e.g. rapid test, surveillance and case tracing
- The need for attitudinal and behavioural change of people towards sanitation

THE DELTA AIRLINE MALARIA CONTROL PROGRAMME IN THE NIMA MAAMOBİ- ACCRA

On the 15th of May, 2015. The Regional Manager and the Regional Youth Organizer met the Women Volunteers who were involved in Mosquito net hanging in the Nima and Maamobi communities.

The Women were asked to come out with their challenges as well as achievements from the previous distributions.

CHALLENGES

- 1- In proper identification
- 2- Lack of motivation
- 3- Not able to work when it is raining
- 4 -Lack of logistics like Hammer and Nils to facilitate the net hanging.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- 1-More people are now using mosquito net
- 2-Also it was proved that the nets were good for preventing house flies and other insects
- 3-Ghana Red Cross has become more visible

4- Reduction in malarial cases

The groups were taking through the use of the tally/record sheets and also reminded them of the roll as Volunteers in the communities.

In all, Sixty Women were involved in the training exercise. The group leader Madam Mariam Haruna shared her experienced with other members, she said most of the houses even though had received some nets from the Ghana Health Service but were still asking for more, however according to her, when they enter the houses they first asked them whether they are using what they received from the Ghana Health Service and if their reply is yes then the volunteers help them hang, this also help them to know those who actually needs the Nets. Sixty (60) T-shirts branded with Delta and Ghana Red Cross were distributed to them for their work.

On the 15th of June 2015, staffs of the Delta Airline joined the Red Cross Regional Team for monitoring.

They were very happy for the work done and attached is a picture of some of the mothers in action.

Their main challenge is that the mosquito nets got finished three weeks after receiving them. For us to continues we need some of them.

Also, the size of the nets was too small and can only do for one

JUNE 3RD 2015 FLOOD DISASTER OPERATION

INTRODUCTION

Accra has always been flooded during the rainy season and Ghanaians always get worried when it is about to rain because some will be left homeless and lives will be lost. The capital city Accra has always been a flood prone zone yet the authorities keep promising that the problem will be solved but immediately the rainy season go by, it's overlooked.

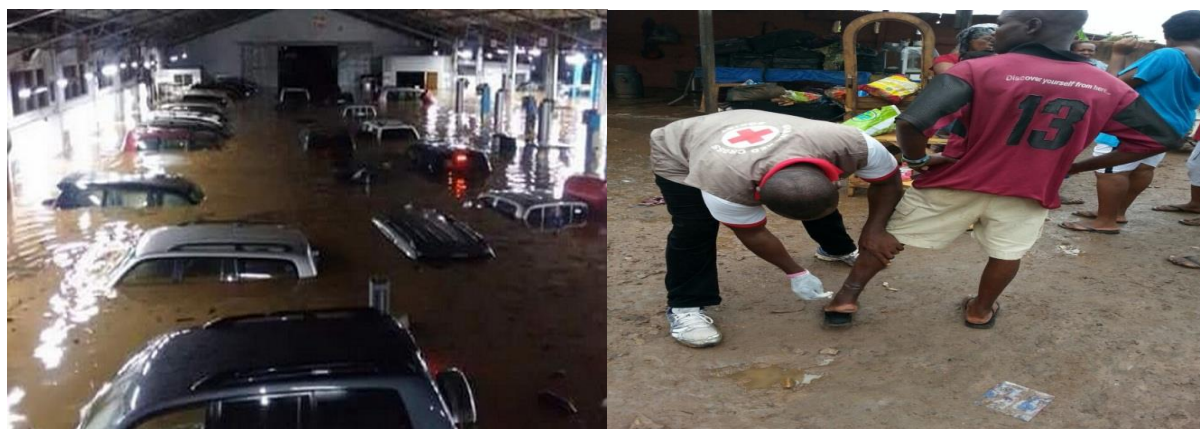
Some suburbs of Accra like Kwame Nkrumah Circle, Adabraka, Nima, Maamobi, Alajo, Caprice, Awoshie, Lower McCarthy, Mallan junction, Dansoman, Teshie Nungua, and Tema among other areas have never been spared by the floods but the situation on June 3rd 2015 was not different.

On that faithful day Accra experienced severe flooding and the explosion of fuel station ravaged hundreds of people and wiped properties. The city's poor drainage system, indiscipline from the citizenry by littering around is a major

cause of flooding in Accra. The loss of lives, properties, businesses and homes and livelihood, over 200 people were killed.

A leakage from a GOIL service station located close to the Kwame Nkrumah Interchange caused an explosion that killed many people who had sought shelter there from the torrential downpour that had inundated the city. The inferno quickly spread and engulfed a nearby pharmacy and several properties adjoining the filling station claiming more casualties.

During the period, Ghana Red Cross Society joined other Government institutions in recued operations and provided first aid services as well.



Red Cross Giving First Aid Services

RED CROSS IN ACTION AT CIRCLE DISASTER

RAPID ASSESSMENT

Rapid assessment was made in collaboration with the community Leaders in five worse affected communities. They were, Adabraka, Awoshie, Lower McCarthy, Alajo and Nima.

Based on the rapid assessment an appeal was made to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies to assist the most vulnerable in those communities.

RELIEF EMERGENCY OPERATION

With the support of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Society a two days training workshop was organized for forty five (45) Volunteers on the following topics: Introduction to the movement, Fundamental principles /The use of the Red Cross emblem, Disaster needs Assessment,

Beneficiaries registration, Relief distribution, Ration chits, Code of conduct for the volunteers and Introduction to data collection with mobile phones.

Eleven of the volunteers were deployed to conduct detail assessment in the five communities.

Per the assessment conducted, we found out that over 5600 people were affected and displaced; this constitutes an average of 1120 households.

However relief items were distributed to 260 households. The items were Mats, Mosquito Nets, Cloths, Hygiene Kits, Bed sheets and Blankets.



Preparations towards the Distribution of the Relief Items



Hygiene Education Duration the Distribution of the Relief Items By the Delegate from the IFRC



Ghana Red Cross President presenting relief items to a Victim.

EPIDEMIC CONTROL AND HYGIENE PROMOTION/ PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT AND ORP TRAINING FOR COMMUNITY BASED VOLUNTEERS

Due to the June 3rd flood and fire disaster, five most vulnerable communities were selected to be assisted in hygiene promotion and ORP Post. Thirty (30) Community Based Volunteers were recruited and three days comprehensive training was organized for the Volunteers from 25th to 27th June, 2015 to improve the health status and reduce health risks, morbidity and mortality on the affected population through the provision of health care and referral services to families affected by flood and to strengthen the capacity of GRCS volunteers to enable them provide supportive activities to affected communities.

The Volunteers were taken through Social Mobilization strategies by a representative from Ghana Health Service (Mr. Richard Owusu).

Interpersonal communication skills, Diseases linked to water and sanitation-mode of transmission and barrier, Household water treatment and safe storage, Sanitation and waste management, Good and bad hygiene practices, Introduction to ECV –Infection, Germ, Vectors, Epidemic, Infection Cycle, Immunity and Spread of Diseases, Diseases that cause epidemics, Epidemic Response Cycle, Role of volunteers in Epidemic control, Actions in epidemic control

(Before an epidemic, Epidemic alert, During an epidemic, After an epidemic), Practical exercise on ECV tools, Understanding Psychosocial Support, Role of

volunteers on PSS, Group work, Presentations on PSS, Contents of ORP kit, Rehydration techniques, Infection control, Documentation and referral, Practical demonstration on hand washing, Preparation of SSS/ORS Orientation on Social mobilisation forms, Post-test, Evaluation by Dr. Vivian and Miss Udoh Joy and assisted by Miss Catherine Adasu



Rep. from Ghana Health Service taken Volunteers through Community Entry Strategies.





Hygiene Promotion Training

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE HYGIENE PROMOTION AND ORP/FIRST AID POST

After a successful three days training of the Community Based Volunteers, the Volunteers were paired based on their strength, six to each community and were deployed into the communities.

The volunteers move from house to house and educated the households on hygiene promotion and prevention of diseases. They worked three times a week which lasted for eight weeks (two months). The Volunteers collected data on the household visited and the data on the number of people sensitized were compiled from the five communities (Adabraka, Alajo, Nima, Awoshie and Lower McCarthy).

During the hygiene promotion it came out that many people in Adabraka, Nima and Alajo lacks good drinking water and one hundred (100) water treatment bags were distributed and hang for 100 households. Pure and chlorine tab or Aqua tabs and flyers were distributed to many households visited.

The group met each morning and started the education from a point in the community to the other. The leaders for each group collected the data sheets each day and compiled for the week and brought them to the Regional office every Monday for evaluation and to address all challenges faced during the whole process.

Concurrently the ORP and the First Aid Posts were set-up at vantage points in the five communities which was accessible to all the community members.

Letters were written to Clinics and Hospital Heads to inform them about the projects in the five communities and any possible referrals to these hospitals and clinics. The Communities Leaders were contacted and were part of the locating a good place for the ORP/First Aid Post. The Tents were mounted and labeled with the Red Cross Emblems. The Volunteers were paid their allowance every week for the eight weeks.

ITEMS IN THE ORP/FIRST AID POST

Blankets, Tables, Chairs, Water jugs, Table spoons Mats, ORS, Cups, Hand Washing Point, Jerri cans, Rubber Buckets, wooden spoons, Dust bins, Mobs/bucket, Brooms, Soap, Disinfectant, educational materials, Sugar, Salts, measuring cups and Hard Gloves, surgical gloves, bowls and Sirenges.



Mounting of the First Aid Post

VOLUNTEERS MOUNTING THE ORP/FIRST AID POST IN THE COMMUNITIES



Volunteers on Hygiene Promotion Exercise



Pictures of Volunteers during the Hygiene Promotion (ECV/Wash)

DATA COLLECTED DURING HYGIENE PROMOTION AND ORP/ FIRST AID POST

Data of Adabraka during Hygiene Promotion

N° of week	Name of Community	Topics discussed with House hold/ school/communi ty meeting	No. of people sensitized in a house hold during the visit			
			Adult M	Adult F	Childre n	Total
Week 1	ADABRAKA	ECV/WASH	432	459	406	1297
Week 2	ADABRAKA	ECV/WASH	178	204	406	788
Week 3	ADABRAKA	ECV/WASH	323	326	279	928
Week 4	ADABRAKA	ECV/WASH	184	313	334	831
Week 5	ADABRAKA	ECV/WASH	372	526	730	1628
Week 6	ADABRAKA	ECV/WASH	402	665	687	1754
Week 7	ADABRAKA	ECV/WASH	465	739	494	1698
Week 8	ADABRAKA	ECV/WASH	480	540	544	1564

Total			2,836	3,772	3,880	10,488
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Data Of Lower McCarthy During Hygiene Promotion

N° of week	Name of Community	Topics discussed with House hold/ school/ community meeting	No. of people sensitized in a house hold during the visit			
			Adult M	Adult F	Children	Total
WEEK 1	MCCARTHY	ECV/WASH	615	780	1032	2427
Week 2	MCCARTHY	ECV/WASH	458	734	1425	2617
Week 3	MCCARTHY	ECV/WASH	354	488	629	1471
Week 4	MCCARTHY	ECV/WASH	487	751	407	1645
Week 5	MCCARTHY	ECV/WASH	403	630	154	1187
Week 6	MCCARTHY	ECV/WASH	422	659	195	1276
Week 7	MCCARTHY	ECV/WASH	430	680	192	1302
Week 8	MCCARTHY	ECV/WASH	477	646	247	1370
TOTAL			3646	5368	4281	13295

Data of Nima during Hygiene Promotion

N° of week	Name of Community	Topics discussed with House hold/ school/ community meeting	No. of people sensitized in a house hold during the visit			
			Adult M	Adult F	Children	Total
1	NIMA	ECV/WASH	244	306	718	1268
2	NIMA	ECV/WASH	247	251	531	1029
3	NIMA	ECV/WASH	301	369	266	936
4	NIMA	ECV/WASH	478	735	377	1590
5	NIMA	ECV/WASH	422	799	304	1525
6	NIMA	ECV/WASH	476	898	243	1617
7	NIMA	ECV/WASH	476	738	214	1428

8	NIMA	ECV/WASH	539	805	307	1651
	TOTAL		3183	4901	2960	11044

Data of Awoshie during Hygiene Promotion

N° of week	Name of Community	Topics discussed with House hold/school/community meeting	No. of people sensitized in a house hold during the visit			
			Adult M	Adult F	Children	Total
1	AWOSHIE	ECV/WASH	234	390	984	1608
2	AWOSHIE	ECV/WASH	134	255	400	789
3	AWOSHIE	ECV/WASH	233	349	320	902
4	AWOSHIE	ECV/WASH	436	677	224	1337
5	AWOSHIE	ECV/WASH	392	473	322	1187
6	AWOSHIE	ECV/WASH	436	585	329	1350
7	AWOSHIE	ECV/WASH	396	517	350	1263
8	AWOSHIE	ECV/WASH	466	586	223	2613
TOTAL			2,727	3,832	3,152	11,049

Data of Alajo during Hygiene Promotion

N° of week	Name of Community	Topics discussed with House hold/school/community meeting	No. of people sensitized in a house hold during the visit			
			Adult M	Adult F	Children	Total
Week 1	ALAJO	EVC/WASH	386	535	531	1452
Week 2	ALAJO	EVC/WASH	329	476	463	1268
Week 3	ALAJO	EVC/WASH	356	594	330	1280
Week 4	ALAJO	EVC/WASH	384	580	243	1207
Week 5	ALAJO	EVC/WASH	341	521	312	1174
Week 6	ALAJO	EVC/WASH	304	573	379	1256

Week 7	ALAJO	EVC/WASH	412	653	272	1337
Week 8	ALAJO	EVC/WASH	414	446	370	1230
TOTAL			2,926	4,378	2,900	10,204

Summary of the Data Collected During the ORP and First Aid Post

NAME OF COMMUNITY	NO OF CASUALTIES	GENDA		SIGNS/SYMPTOMS / ACTION TAKEN									REFERENCES
		MALE	FEMALE	Cold/feverish		Diarrhoea		Vomiting		Wounds/rashes			
ADABRAKA	28	12	16	6	2(Advice to see Dr.)	8	ORS referred	7	ORS first aid (4 referred)	7	First aid	14	
NIMA	19	8	11	3	1(referred)	5	ORS(2referred)	5	ORS/First Aid(3referred)	6	First aid	6	
ALAJO	74	27	47	19	2first aid and referred	13	ORS/First Aid(4 referred)	15	1(referred)	27	1first aid	8	
AWOSHIE	25	11	14	6	First aid	7	2 referred	3	Referrer	9	First aid	5	
LOWER McCARTHY	21	9	12	5	First aid	8	1 referred	3	1 referred	5	First aid	2	

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The Regional Manager, National Headquarter and IFRC Rep. formed a strong monitoring team and monitored the hygiene promotion and the ORP/First Aid Post in the five communities; two communities were monitored during a day. There was weekly evaluation with the Team leaders, IFRC Rep. the Coordinator and Headquarters Staffs every Monday morning

CHALLENGES

Eleven Volunteers who did the detailed assessment were not adequate
The Mobile phones have charging problems as well as network problems during rapid and detailed assessment.

Assessment delayed and other agencies did assessment and provoked the community members during their relief operation which created many hindrance and resistance from some community members during the Red Cross operation.

RECOMMENDATIONS

We strongly recommend that there should be a way to fast track relief operation in order not to loose the essence of the operation.

The family of the death should be taking special care.

CONCLUSION

Even though most of the affected people were not given the relief items, Ghanaian appreciated the work done.

REPORT ON THE DISTRICTS EMERGENCY RESPONSE TRAINING

INTRODUCTION

The Region selected forty (40) dedicated Volunteers from Tema, Accra Metro, Ada East and Ga South for a four days residential training in Disaster/Emergency preparedness, response and First Aid at Adusa in the Ga West District in the Greater Accra Region.

TRAINING PROGRAM

The selected Volunteers together with the Staff from the Regional office reported at Adusa village. The Regional Manager, Mr. Eric Asamoah Darko welcomed members and told them the essence of the training in responding to emergencies and all the rules and regulations governing the training program.

TRAINING SESSIONS

The Regional Manager, Mr. Eric Asamoah Darko took the Team through Leadership Training as He took them through four types of leadership styles, their advantages as well as their disadvantages. Some of the leadership styles are democratic style, paternalistic, autocratic as well as laissez fair styles of leadership



ACTIONS AT EMERGENCY SCENE

Mr. Rahman from the National Ambulance Service who is also the Regional health advisor took the team through actions at the accident and an emergency scenes, a team of personnel's from the Ghana Ambulance Service also were invited with their ambulance and took the Team members through how to load and off load an ambulance.



DISASTER

The Regional Manager took members through Disaster Management. He discussed with them disaster management mechanisms, the response, emergencies, vulnerability, risk, capacity as well as hazard.

FIRST AID TRAINING

The Team members were divided into groups for the, First Aid practical's. Each group was given a task or a question to answer, for example, how to give first aid to a casualty with spine injury, how do you attend to an unconscious casualty and how to treat a casualty with multiple bleeding. Each group did presentation.



SESSION WITH THE NATIONAL DISASTER COORDINATOR

Mr. S.S Mahama the disaster coordinator for Ghana Red Cross at the Head Office took the team through disaster management. Certificates would be issued to those who took part in the training.

MATERIALS FOR THE TEAM

The team members were given jackets as a uniform for easy identification during emergencies.

CONCLUSION

The training program has very successful and wish an annual refresher could be organized.

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

GROUP	AS AT 31 st DECEMBER, 2014	30 th DECEMBER, 2015	GOOD STANDING
CHAPTERS	7,059	7850	180
YOUTH	27,403	27,603	200
LIFE MEMBERS	Nil	Nil	Nil
PATRONS	Nil	Nil	Nil
CORPERATE	Nil	Nil	Nil

FUND RAISING

ACTIVITY	INDICATORS	PERFORMANCE	REMARKS
REGISTRATION/DUES	5,080	1,097	Could have done better.
FIRST AID TRAINING	17,000	19,290	Average

FIRST AID KITS	7,500	3,510	We could do better
DONATIONS	5,120	1565	We didn't receive favorable responses from Companies
FIRST AID SERVICES	3,600	1615	Not enough response from organizations
HIV/AIDS WALK	4,000	8267	Very good.
YOUTH PROGRAM	3,500	1,570	Not well patronized
MTN Mobile money	2,000	1400	Very good initiative
CLOTH	2500	1370	Very good initiative
SALE OF WATER	2000	460	Could do better
PHOTOCOPY	1500	930	Good initiative
TOTAL	53,800	42584	Could do better

Report Presented By:

Kwabena Nketia Addae
REGIONAL CHAIMAN

VOLTA REGIONAL REPORT

GENERAL INTRODUCTION

The office is a single all inclusive one situated in the premises of the Volta Regional Health Administration in Ho in the Volta Region.

STAFF OF THE REGION

- a) The Regional office is manned by two paid staff and a National Service Person as follows:

Mr. Larry Yeboah	-	Regional Manager
Miss Margaret Akorta	-	Office Assistance
Emmanuella Dela Agbaveh	-	National Service Person

b) **VOLUNTEER STAFF**

Mr. Gershon Dzokoto	-	Regional Youth Organiser
Miss Esther Chomaffo	-	Regional Mothers Club Facilitator
Mr. Dunant Zoglo	-	Regional Chapter Organizer
Mr. Micheal Sittie	-	First Aid Training Coordinator

c) **REGIONAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

The Regional Committee Members are as follows:

Mr. Matthew Atinyo	-	Regional Chairman
Mr. Hans Gbena	-	Vice Chairman
Miss Getrude Kukah	-	Hon. Treasurer
Mr. Gregory Amenuvegbe	-	Hon. Health Advisor
Mr. Samuel Kodjo Acquency	-	Hon. PR Advisor
Mr. Wilhelm Gaitu	-	Council Member
Mrs. Bertha Afenya	-	Council Member
Mr. SNK Kove	-	Council Member
Mr. SS Seneagya	-	Council Member
Mr. Thomas Kosi Darkey	-	Youth Representative

REGIONAL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 2015

The Regional Annual General Meeting was held in Ho on 23rd May 2015.

Fifty (50) representatives from all the operational districts were present.

After the deliberations the representatives elected the above as their representatives for the next two years.

ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Membership

	Total Membership	Members in Good Standing	Old Members	New Members

Youths	794	250	661	133
Adults	776	223	740	36
	1570	473	1401	169

Efforts are being made to strengthen the membership of the two groups in the coming year.

BRANCHES, STRUCTURES AND VOLUNTEER DEVELOPMENT

The region operates in ten (10) out of twenty four (24) political districts as at November 2014.

They are as follows:

Ho Municipality

Kpando Municipality

Hohoe Municipality

Jasikan District

Kadjebi district

Ketu South Municipality

Ketu North District

Nkwanta South District

Nkwanta North District

Kpetoe/Ziope District

The region has twenty (20) chapters, sixteen (16) Mothers Clubs and fifteen (15) youth links in the region.

GOVERNANCE

The Regional Committee held three meetings in the year.

A meeting was organized for three District Organisers and the Regional Mothers Club Organisers in Kumasi to build up their enthusiasm and work for the betterment of the society.

A five day workshop on NDRT – WATSUN was organized for the Regional Managers in Accra to build up their knowledge in WATSUN and its related activities.

A Strategic Plan workshop was also organized for Regional Managers in Kumasi to review their plans for 2016/17.

A Staff Review Meeting for all paid staff was organized in Accra to review their performance and enable them work harder in the ensuing year.

INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Operational Districts by Name	Description Of Asset	Current Status	Date of Acquisition	Original Cost	Identification Nos.	Recommendations
Ho	Two building plots 4 motorbikes	Good 2 good 2 bad	1998 2008 2010 1998 2002		NR2729 Z M-10-GR 2443 GT 9918 F GT 1289 H	Ready for development In good condition Needs replacement
Hohoe	1 motorbike	bad	1998		GW5052 H	Needs Replacement
Ketu	1 motorbike	bad	1998		GT 5046H	Needs Replacement
Nkwanta North	1 motorbike	Bad	2003		GW 7037 U	Needs Replacement
Nkwanta South	1 motorbike	Bad	2003		GW 4557 U	Needs Replacement
Akatsi	1 motorbike	Bad	2003		GW 4554 U	Needs Replacement
Krachi	1 motorbike	Bad	2003		GW 4551U	Needs Replacement

ACTIVITIES:

HEALTH

FIRST AID SERVICES AT PUBLIC PLACES

Twenty two volunteers from the Ho municipality were at the parade ground on the 6th March to render first aid services at Ho.

Sixteen volunteers were also at the Ho Asogli Yam festival at Ho in September 2014.

The volunteers worked in collaboration with the Ambulance Services and the 66 Artillery Regiment in Ho.

FIRST AID TRAININGS

Two first aid trainings were organized in the region during the period.

Twenty five students from Nurses Training College Ho and twenty five students Ho School of Hygiene.

An amount of GHC500 was realized and paid to headquarters accordingly.

Volunteers from the society attended various public functions in the region to render basic first aid to victims.

POLIO IMMUNISATION

The Regional Manager and six volunteers were invited to take part in the polio immunization. While I was the Regional Supervisor for Krachi South, the six volunteers took part in the exercise in Ho District.

EBOLA PREPAREDNESS/RESPONSE INTERVENTION

Twenty-four volunteers each from Ho, Agotima-Ziope and Ketu South were taken through Ebola training during the period. Topics treated included: What is Ebola, How it is spread, signs and symptoms, who is at Risk and Key messages on Ebola.

The workshops were facilitated by the District Directors of Medical Services together with their Disease Control Officers.

The volunteers worked in their districts from December 2014 to February 2015 to collect data from households and community leaders and submitted to the office.

In all the 72 volunteers visited 6,411 Community leaders, visited 22,499 households and reached 54,042 numbers of people within the period.

CHOLERA EDUCATION

Outbreak of Cholera in the country, Volta Region was no exception necessitated the training of 40 Red Cross volunteers from four districts in what is cholera, how it is spread, the management and control.

The volunteers drawn from Ho, Hohoe, Ketu South and Ketu North were directed to educate households and community leaders in their communities about the effects of cholera and how it could be controlled for a period of one month.

The 40 volunteers visited 2,500 community leaders, visited 9,200 households and reached 20,100 number of people within the period.

NATIONAL CLEAN UP DAY

A National Clean Up campaign was lunch at Ho in the Volta Region.

The purpose of the lunching was to draw people's attention to proper refuse disposal, personal hygiene and sanitation.

About 150 Red Cross volunteers drawn from Mawuli SHS, Mawuko Girls SHS, OLA Girls SHS and out of school youth from Ho took part in the clean up.

Also present were Ministers and MPs from all over the region, the Secretary General and the Finance and Administrative Manager of Ghana Red Cross.

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AND RELIEF

The only recorded disaster in the region was the river at Kpetoe which over flew its bank into the Kpetoe town. One person died from the disaster. A report was sent to headquarters to that effect.

DISTRICT DISASTER RESPONSE TEAMS TRAINING

A two day District Disaster Response Training was organized for four districts in the region in February 2015. The training was organized in two groups- Hohoe and Ho in one and Ketu North and Ketu South in another. About 40 volunteers were trained from the four districts. A set of topics discussed with them included the History of the International and Ghana Red Cross, the structure of the movement, fundamental Principles of the movement, Disaster Management, First Aid etc.

The training has enabled the participants manage disaster in an effective manner.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Ten youth links in the region have been rejuvenated and are active in their day to day activities. They meet every Thursday to draw their programmes and activities.

Two German Red Cross volunteers are with us in the region. In addition to other Red Cross assignments they undertake, they also train the youth in first aid and other community development activities.

INAUGURATION OF YOUTH LINK

With the help of a Nigerian Red Cross volunteer, Laniyan Itunyola otherwise known as Comfort, a new school link was inaugurated at Susan Griesbach Educational Center at Have in the Afadzato district in the Volta Regional. The school is a private educational institution and has 20 members who were registered as Red Cross volunteers and trained in Basic First.

COMMUNICATION, MARKETING AND VISIBILITY ACTIVITIES

The society has been given the opportunity to educate the public about Red Cross and its activities on the Volta Star radio every Friday.

We have also been invited to the sport stadium any time there is match.

INCOME PROJECTS OR IGFS

The region has no Income Generating Activities apart from first aid training.

The society must help the region establish a fund raising activity to help us raise funds.

CHALLENGES FACED BY THE REGION

Volta Region is the longest region in Ghana sharing boundaries with Gt. Accra, Eastern, Northern and Brong Ahafo regions with its challenges of bad road network, and various types of disasters and conflicts.

The region has no vehicle to manage these challenges.

The region has no project of any kind which attracts members and others to make them active. The more member we attracts, the more they will be dedicated to the society and possibly contribute to the development of the society.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO ADDRESS THE CHALLENGES

Efforts should be made to provide vehicle to the region to assist in the rejuvenation of the district committees, mothers clubs, youth links and chapters.

The region has two building plots and registered which could be used to build a hostel or Youth training center.

The region needs a project to beef up membership in the region.

CONCLUSION

Efforts should be made to identify an investor to help the region out of its woes.

Report Presented By:

**REGIONAL CHAIMAN
MR. MATTHEW ATINYO**

EASTERN REGIONAL REPORT

Eastern Regional branch of the Ghana Red Cross Society occupies a single room office. The office is located at the ministries in Koforidua, situated on the ground floor of the Ministry of Health. The single office space is shared by the Regional Manager, the office assistant, six regional volunteer staff, national service persons and any other volunteers and visitors who occasionally visit the office. With support from the national headquarters, the region is renovating the bigger office space that was used as the municipal office.

Staff and Management of the Region

The region has two [2] paid staffs in the persons of:

[i] Theophilus Tackie, Regional Manager and

[ii] Mary Owusu, Office Assistant

Regional Volunteer Staff

1. Regional Youth Organizers-Emmanuel Djan Yeboah
2. Regional Youth Representative-Silas Quarcoo Barawusu
3. Regional Mothers' Club Facilitator-Janet Agyeiwaa
4. Emergency Response Team Coordinator-Kasewu Nartey
5. Regional chapter organizer-Oduro Ameyaw Depores

Regional Committee Members

NO	NAME	POSITION	PROFESSION	TEL. NO.
1	Bridget Boham-Addey	Chairman	Health Professional	0244207359
2	Achiampong Obempon	Vice Chairman	Retired FA Inst.	0266705590
3	Emelia Diana Okai	Hon. Treasurer	Regional Disease Control Officer	0549633784
4	Mukaila Diwura	Health Advisor	Health Professional	0205202577
5	ASP/Godwin A. Asare	Legal Advisor	ASP - Police Service	0244654697
6	Hon. A. K. Frimpong- Mansoh	PRO	Retired Health Professional	0287234084

7	Mr K. Darko-Asumadu	Executive Member	Retired- RM, RCER	0243577547
8	Miss Lydia Asante	-do-	NADMO	0208219288
9	Rev. Owusu Ansah	-do-	Rev. Minister	
10	Johnny Wordui	-do-	Health Inspector	0244277305
11	Michael Osei	-do-	Radio Eastern FM	
12	Silas Barawuso Quarcoo	YOUTH REP	Student	0265153745
	STAKEHOLDERS/ REPRESENTATIVES	INSTITUTION	POSITON/ PROFESSION	TELEPHONE
13	Bernice Oforiwaa	GES	SHEP Coord.	
14	Emmanuel Armah	Immigration Services- Rep	Immigration Officer	
15	Giftly Sonu	GHS Rep.	Health Professional	0208934297
16	Moses Akuffo Baah	NADMO	SDCO	
17	Stephen Darkwah Lawson Percy Ebenezer Nii Aryee	National Ambulance	EMT-B	
18	Patricia Brago Gyan	Regional Education Office	HRMD	
19	Adu Siaw Agatha	Environmental Health & Sanitation	Secretary-Rep of Reg. Director	

The regional office received four national service persons with the following backgrounds:

Name

Programme/course

Daniel Asante

Degree in Political Science and Information Studies

Esther Akosua Sackey

Secretary ship and Management Studies

Alberta Frimpomaa Asante

Diploma in Social Work

Bridget Obenewaah

Diploma in Social Work

Organizational Development

Membership

Eastern Region has a registered membership of 443 currently. Out of the total registered membership, sixty-four percent (64%) are youth. The table below gives the breakdown of the membership including those in good standing:

Category	Male	Female	Total	Paid-up members
Youth	111	174	285	133
Adult	98	60	158	117
Total	209	234	443	250

Branches, Structures and Volunteer Development

Eastern Region has twenty-six (26) political districts and municipalities. Red Cross is operational in ten (10) of the districts. The region has three (5) un-inaugurated chapters in the Yilo Krobo, New Juaben, Birim Central Suhum and West Akim districts. There is one mothers club in New Juaben and one in Suhum. There are over sixty (60) school links from the first and second cycle schools. The table below summarizes the branches and structures in the region.

Structures	Number	Functional	Location	Membership
Districts	26	10		NA
School links	NA	60	Various locations in the districts	
Chapters	5	5	Yilo Krobo, New Juaben, West Akim Birim Central and Suhum	92
Mothers Club	2	2	New Juaben and Suhum	18 and 12 Respectively

Office Renovation

With support from the national headquarters, the region is renovating the bigger office space that was used as the municipal office. With management approval, the municipal office is to be used as the regional office so that the current single room regional office is converted to municipal office. With this

arrangement, the regional office would have offices for the manager, office assistant, volunteers/volunteer staff and a small conference room which can also be used for National Service Persons. An estimated budget of about Fifteen Thousand Ghana Cedis (GH¢15,000) was presented to National Headquarters for support. The region has received Five thousand Ghana Cedis (GH¢5,000) of the amount involved and renovation has started



Before Renovation after Partial Completion of Renovation

Governance

The regional management committee met twice in February and June 2015. Regional Annual General Meeting was held in the June edition of the management meeting. This was prelude to the National Annual General Meeting (AGM) which came on from 25-28 June, 2015. The outcome of the regional AGM is reflected in the composition of the management team above.

Institutional Development

National society assets and properties available in the region, their locations, risk factors and recommended actions are summarized up in the table below:

Assets	No	Location	Risk factors	Recommendation
Desktop Computer	2	One at Regional office One at West Akim		
Table top Fridge	1	Regional office		
Motorbike (M10GR2444)	1	Suhum		
Cabinet	1	Regional office		
Camera	1	Regional office		
Folder	4	Regional office		

stretcher				
Basket stretchers	2	Regional office		
Spine board	2	Regional office		
Splint	4	Regional office		
Two way radio	1 set	Regional office		
Dummy	3	Regional office		
Nissan Patrol (NR45U)	1	Yamete workshop at Magazine-Koforidua	Exposed to weather condition and it is rusting.	Should Be Auctioned
Chairs	11	Regional office		
Writing table	1	Regional office		
Conference table	1	Regional office		
Computer desk	1	Regional office		
Shelf	1	Regional office		
Binding machine	1	Regional office	Not in use	New one required
Television set	1	Regional office		
Generator	1	Regional office		
Industrial Fan	1	Regional office		
5000VA AVR	1	Regional office		

ACTIVITIES

World Red Cross Day

Eastern region hosted Ghana Red Cross in the 2015 year World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day Celebration which is celebrated every year on 8 May. The week long programme that marked the occasion in Ghana included a week long radio discussions throughout the country; a clean-up exercise on the 2nd May which also coincided with the National Sanitation Day and a grand durbar on 8th may 2015. Staffs from the national headquarters were involved in the week long programme in the region.



8.5.2015 10:15



8.5.2015 10:19



8.5.2015 10:48



8.5.2015 10:52

Internationally, the 2015 edition launched a global conversation celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the adoption of the Fundamental Principles and their continuing relevance in humanitarian service. It reflected on the Fundamental Principles in our ever-changing world and their application in today's humanitarian contexts, its importance and enduring relevance.

‘Power of Humanity: The Fundamental Principles in Action’ was the chosen theme of the Movement’s 32nd International Conference held in December 2015. From beneficiaries to policymakers, it was essential to remind Red Cross partners of the elements that make up the identity of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. They are central to the common identity and purpose, and key to ensuring safety for staff and volunteers and safe access to humanitarian services for beneficiaries. The 50th anniversary of the Fundamental Principles served as an opportunity to celebrate the Principles as a continued vital guidepost in the delivery of the work of the Red Cross and Red Crescent.

Annual General Meeting

The 2015 edition of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held from 25th to 27th of July in Eastern Region. The main feature of the AGM was the election of management members constituting the Central Council. For his good work and achievements in the society for the period of two years when he was the National President of the movement, Dr Agyekum Addo stood unopposed as the president for the next two years leading to June 2017. The Electoral Commission conducted the election which saw some persons losing their position and others maintaining theirs



Group Picture after the AGM

Health

The region has carried out some health promotion activities that have impacted behavior change in the communities where the projects were carried out. Below is a summary of the activities carried out, locations, or communities involved, number of volunteers, activities performed and the collaborators.

Health Programmes	Communities involved/locations	No. of volunteers involved	Activities performed	In charge	collaborators
Water/sanitation	Adasawase Anyinam Frimponso and Vanderpuye	22 26 6 6 Total = 60	House to House education on sanitation, LLINs usage and malaria control; Diarrhea and Cholera prevention; pre and post natal attendance; exclusive breast feeding and proper hand washing with soap, and water, Open defecation,	GRCS	Ernst Peyer Memorial Foundation (EPMF) GHS
Beneficiary Communication (BenCom) on Cholera and Ebola	New Juaben and Suhum	40 24 Total = 64	House to house and Mass Sensitization on Key messages on Cholera and Ebola Community Engagement and Commitment of Opinion Leaders	GRCS	Swiss Red Cross GHS
Flagship Project on WATSAN and Maternal and Child Nutrition (Project Proposal Phase)	39 Communities in 9 Districts Proposed by Nestle	Yet to be decided	WATSAN activities including provision of water and sanitation infrastructure	GRCS in the course of events	IFRC/RC, NESTLE, SRC, GHS and GRCS

Adasawase Project

In January 2015, representatives from the Ernest Peyer organization together with the Regional Manager and Regional Youth Organizer conducted 2 days monitoring and evaluation into the 2014 project at Adasawase. The success of the project had so much impression on the representatives such that they did not only continue the project in 3 more communities but also provided Emergency Medical Aid such as ORS and Aqua Tabs to the communities in the region and a motor bike to the RYO to aid monitoring.



Emergency Medical Aid in the form of ORS Aqua Tabs Provided Above



Motorbike provided by EPMF

Beneficiary Communication (BenCom)

In partnership with Swiss Red Cross, with support from the European Union (EU), the Eastern Regional branch of the Ghana Red Cross Society trained 64

volunteers from 32 communities in 2 districts in Ebola, Cholera and Avian Influenza Preparedness Awareness using the **Beneficiary Communication (BENCOM)** approach. BenCom shifts focus from just reaching certain targets of the communities with key messages on Ebola with its characteristic household canvassing and mass sensitization on essential health practices, to community engagement. BenCom focuses on Essential Community Engagement Practices that would promote hygiene with respect to Ebola and Cholera Preparedness. The project started in November 2014 in New Juaben alone. In the second phase, the programme was scheduled to run from September 2015 to April 2016.

Among other projections, the BenCom project sought to ensure community understanding, engagement, ownership and implementation of prevention, preparedness and control measures on cholera and Ebola through effective social mobilisation and beneficiary communication interventions. It also sought to increase behaviour change through adoption of proper hygiene practice, proper sanitization of water sources and effective transmission of the key behaviour change messages using the Beneficiary Communication approach. Ultimately, the aim was to develop and implement processes that will effectively engage the communities we work with using both traditional and high-tech methods to open up channels of communication that will involve people in the decision process to arrive at the best possible solution to hygiene promotion using the Beneficiary Communication tool.

Pre Implementation Activities

District Organizers selected communities and volunteers to take part in the project. In many areas, community leaders were involved with the volunteer selection. Community heads, assembly men, opinion leaders and where applicable, the head of existing health facilities were contacted and briefed on the project implementation. In some instances, the community leaders were involved in selecting the volunteers and subsequently, some of them were involved in the training.

Resource persons for the training were drawn from the Regional Directorate of Disease Control Unit of the Ghana Health Service and the Ghana Red Cross Society. Two days training was organized for each of the communities starting with Suhum and followed by New Juaben.



Discursion on Ebola, Cholera and Avian Flu Proper Hand Washing Demonstration

Participants were trained on general issues on Ebola, Cholera and Avian flu, their incidences, causes, signs and symptoms, cases identification and incidental preparedness and response plans. The picture above shows a demonstration on proper hand washing with soap at critical times. The training methodology included lectures, power point presentations, and practical demonstrations. Each pair of volunteer trainee is to visit the households at least twice in a week for a minimum of two hours and conduct mass sensitizations until the end of the project in May 2016.

Participants Characteristics/Dynamics

Sixty four (64) participants were drawn from 32 communities in Suhum and New Juaben. Volunteers are aged from 18 years to 65 years, with about 20 per cent of volunteers aged between 45 years and 65 years. Out of the 64 volunteers, 33 are males and 31 are females. Segregation is as follows;

District	Number of Communities	Number of Volunteers	Male	Female	Age Range	Age 45+
Suhum	12	24	19	5	22 - 62	14
New Juaben	20	40	14	26	18 - 65	4
Total	32	64	33	31		18

Materials

All 64 trained volunteers were given hand sanitizers and liquid soap to use during demonstrations. Additionally, each pair of volunteers representing the various communities was given veronica buckets and megaphones for the community engagements and for demonstration in mass sensitizations activities. Participants also received numerous flyers and posters on

Cholera, Ebola and Avian flu

Project Implementation

The hygiene promotion activities are set to benefit several communities and over 2,000 households involving over 10,000 people in the selected communities and beyond. Prior to the house to house and community engagements, volunteers pasted posters all over the communities as shown below.



Pasting of posters all over town

Outcome of Activities

Within the first 3 months of the campaign, volunteers reached about 3,082 households and interacted with over 16,407 people in the targeted communities. Out of the total number reached, females reached were 9225 and are the majority. Also 22 community opinion leaders have been reached. Further, about 23958 and about 3200 community members have been reached through 195 mass sensitization and 15 community engagement sessions respectively. The tables below have a summary of activities carried out in the 2 communities.

Household Canvassing

Community	Households Visited	No of People Reached	Male	Female	Referral
Suhum	1015	6072	2529	1181	-
New Juaben	2067	10335	4653	1894	-
Total	3082	16407	7182	9225	-

Mass Sensitization and Community Engagements

District	Community Opinion Leaders Reached	Mass Sensitization Held	People Reached	Community Engagement Sessions Held	People Reached	Hand Washing Sessions Held
Suhum	14	24	About 8958	9	About 2000	62
New Juaben	8	41	About 15000	6	About 1200	142
Total	22	65	About 23958	15	About 3200	204

Mass sensitizations were mostly done in schools, churches, mosques, funerals and social groups and gatherings. The community engagements were organised through the opinion leaders reached. During mass sensitizations and during community engagements, proper hand washing demonstrations are done.





BenCom Discussions in a School at Suhum and after a Clean - Up in a Zongo Community in New Juaben.

Open Defecation and Use of Surface Water - In discussions with certain opinion leaders and during the community engagements and upon observation, it came to light that some of the communities neither have latrines nor boreholes of any kind. As such, open defecation is a common feature. Coupled with the fact that these communities rely on surface water for domestic use, the likelihood of disaster in the event of any cholera outbreak cannot be over emphasized. Although volunteers have engaged the people on the appropriate behaviors to adopt, these communities are requesting the Red Cross for assistance in the area of latrines and boreholes.

Radio Discussions, Jingles and Live Presenter Mention(LPM)

In the second week of November 2015, weekly Radio Discussions, Jingles and Live Presenter Mention (LPM) of Ebola Cholera and other key behaviors were introduced into the BenCom project. In Eastern Region, Eastern FM and Good Life FM in Koforidua and Thank 'U' FM in Suhum were selected. A team was composed for the discussions. The team is made up of health personnel from Ghana Health Service (GHS), Red Cross Staff and a BenCom volunteer. Listener groups were formed to monitor the FM station. This is to ensure that the FM stations play the Jingles and LPMs at the right times and the number of times agreed upon by the contract.



BenCom Discussion on Cholera and Ebola at Eastern FM

Flagship

Ghana Red Cross Society is to start its first Global Water and Sanitation Initiative project, with plans to scale-up into a “Flagship” concept, integrating Nutrition, Maternal and Child Health and Disaster Risk Reduction components. An initial site evaluation and identification was conducted, including mapping and screening of over 340 communities in Ashanti and Eastern regions of Ghana based on predefined criteria. Nine districts have been selected in the Eastern Region, including: **Atiwa, Ayensuano, Brim North, East Akim, Kwaebibirem, Kwahu West, New Juaben, Suhum and West Akim.** A baseline survey for water, sanitation and hygiene components was conducted in communities in all selected districts in mid-November 2015. Rapid Mobile Phone-based system (RAMP) was used to collect and analyse data and measure progress and impact in the selected districts.

In addition to working on water, hygiene and sanitation, the project hopes to increase the scope to include Nutrition and Maternal and Child Health in 2016 onwards. To do so, the project sought to conduct a nutrition and maternal and child health situational assessment and causal analysis. This included: reviewing the current nutritional and maternal and child health situation; identifying and mapping the capacity of current and potential nutrition partners in both government and non-government controlled areas and assess their potential to scale-up; map current nutrition and maternal and child health interventions provided by both government and non-government organizations; determining the capacity of the Ghana Red Cross Society to work on nutrition and maternal and child health.

As part of this nutrition and maternal and child health situational assessment and causal analysis, the project seeks to understand the most recent nutrition and maternal and child health situation, where available, including: under-five child mortality, neonatal mortality and maternal mortality rates; wasting,

stunting and overweight prevalence; low birth weight prevalence; infant and young child feeding practice; micronutrient deficiency prevalence; micronutrient supplementation coverage; diarrheal disease prevalence rates, etc. that have been collected at the district level.



Training on the use of RAMP to collect data and geographical coordinates

Disaster

Eastern region experienced minor disasters in the year especially in West Akim. These were mostly floods. The region has 4 existing District Disaster Response Teams in 4 districts, namely; Birim Central, West Akim, East Akim and Atiwa districts. These districts are disaster prone districts from which volunteers were selected and trained. Besides being on standby for the any disaster that may occur, the trained volunteers help in their various districts and

communities by identifying and mapping hazards. The volunteers help flood victims in many cases including how to prevent future occurrences and also engage in house to house education to sensitize people on disaster prevention, preparedness and response.



Red Cross Volunteers Identify Hazard in their own Community



Volunteers help a flood victim and educate him and other community members on prevention measures.

First Aid

Red Cross organized First Aid training for 44 students and one resident nurse of Ashesi University on campus in Berekuso in the eastern region. Training was organized for another 6 students of the Carer School of London College in Koforidua. The region also undertook some first aid service. What posed a challenge to the Red Cross is that, most institutions or organizations that requested these services, sought it for free. These unguided requests were informed by the misconception that Red Cross has funds available for providing the services.

Youth Activities

As part of the World Red Cross Day celebration, the region organized quiz competition among 5 schools. Headquarters staff; including the Secretary General, Mr. Kofi Addo were present to grace the occasion. The schools that competed are; Ghana Secondary School (GHANASS), Oyoko Methodist SHS (OMESS), Pope John SHS, Koforidua Technical and Vocational Secondary (KOTECH). OMESS won the competition. By way of motivation and appreciation, headquarters sponsored all participants of the quiz to the 2015 National Youth Camp held in Wa from 9th to 16th August 2015. Five additional people joined these members in the camp.



The region intensified youth and school links visitation in the first quarter. The limited volunteer capacity made it difficult for this to continue throughout the year. As such, other youth programmes that had been planned did not come. The only youth programme that was successful is the health walk organized on 5th December 2015 in Koforidua. The turn out, however, was not encouraging.



Aerobics after the health walk and Hand Washing Stand mounted during the programme

Communication, Marketing and Visibility Activities

In the first week of January, a group of radio presenters visited the regional office to find out and announce the Red Cross programmes for the year 2015 any resources that might be required. The interview was done in the office. Over the months, it became evident that people thought the Red Cross did not exist anymore. Therefore it became necessary to talk about any activity being done in Red Cross in the media, especially on radio. Fortunately, the European Union (EU) and Swiss Red Cross sponsored BenCom project came with a radio discussion component. The public is getting information on Red Cross principles, programmes and activities and supporting partners.

Internally Generated Funds

The sources of funds generated internally are First Aid training, registration of new members and payment of dues. In the year 2015, the region trained 50 students from two tertiary institutions namely Ashesi University and Carer School of London College. To date, 285 youth and 158 adults have registered. A total of 250 members from both the youth and adults have paid dues in the year 2015. As the secretariat plans the relocation of the regional office, there are plans to start secretarial services to generate funds for the office.

Challenges Faced By the Region

Logistics

The major challenge is the same as always. There is no official vehicle in Eastern Region.

Volunteers Motivation/Retention

Volunteerism seems to be on the decline. Many volunteers become active when there is financial reward. Retention of the few active one is not easy as well. This is because of schooling and employment. This poses a serious challenge to the region and consequently, affects our programmes.

Accommodation

The single room accommodation is another challenge facing the region. Fortunately, there is on-going renovation to convert the more spacious municipal office space to the regional office.

Recommendations

Vehicles: Eastern is a region with widely scattered communities and districts coupled with network of bad roads. It is difficult to operate in such conditions without a vehicle. It is therefore recommended that the national society provides the region with a vehicle.

Volunteers: As a strategy to inculcate more volunteer work, the region will target more SHS youth who have completed and are either waiting for enrolment in higher education or looking for jobs. At this rate, more volunteers will be recruited annually as some leave.

Conclusion

The Eastern Regional Branch of the Ghana Red Cross Society operates from a single room office provided and maintained by the Ministry of Health. Currently, renovation works are on-going with the purpose of moving the office to the municipal center. The region has twenty-six (26) widely scattered districts with a network of bad roads. Membership currently stands at 443 with 250 members in good standing. The region has two mothers' clubs in New Juaben and Suhum, 5 chapters, ten (10) functional districts and 64 school links.

By way of activities, the Red Cross in the region has made a lot of impact in effecting behavior change in community members with its Communication for Development (C4D) and Beneficiary Communication (BenCom) model activities. The most critical challenges facing the region are lack of vehicle to run the region, difficulty with volunteer management and office accommodation issues. A vehicle will help in the smooth operations of our programmes in the region.

Report presented by

**REGIONAL CHAIRMAN
BRIDGET BOHAM- ADDEY**

UPPER WEST REGIONAL REPORT

1. INTRODUCTION

The Regional Secretariat of the Ghana Red Cross Society is situated within the Ministries Blocks (Ministries Block 'D') of the Upper West Region. The Secretariat has Three (3) office space Rooms, two (2) of which are used as offices and the other room as a store room.

The year 2015 had its own successes and challenges for the Region. However, the region's performance could be described as modest. The absence of an official vehicle to move around for work, including monitoring and supervision, as well as some administrative challenges, was a major hindrance to smooth work in the region.

Basically, First Aid training and Services, some youth activities, and General Health Promotion and Disease Prevention (HPDP) activities took place in the Region in the area of Social Mobilization for effective and efficient health delivery and services uptake.

It is however sad to also add that there was a fire incident at our container stores burning down almost all our student mattresses. These student mattresses were rented out to the public for a token fee.



2. STAFF OF THE REGION (Name and designations)

a. Paid Staff

Joseph Bog-Yena	Regional Manager
Mariam Balegha	Office Assistant (Office Clerk)

b. Volunteer Staff and their Positions

Francisca Naawerebagr	Regional Mothers Club Facilitator
Denis Salia	Ag. Regional Youth Organiser
Danso George	Ag. Regional First Aid Co-ordinator
Paul Hemet Sornye	Municipal Organiser- Wa
Yendau Eugene	Ag. District Organiser - Nadowli
Vitalis Mbabaniyel	Ag. District Organiser - Jirapa
Edward Baagah	District Organiser - Lawra
Mohammed Lulua	Ag. District Organiser - Sissala
Magdalene Maayang	Mothers Club Facilitator - Wa
Margaret Galyoun	Mothers Club Facilitator - Nadowli
Mercy Diedong	Mothers Club Facilitator - Jirapa
Elizabeth Gbeney	Mothers Club Facilitator - Lawra
Rabiatu Mohammed	Mothers Club Facilitator - Sissalla
Abu Mohammed Niga	Ag. Reg. Chapter Organizer/Disaster Co-ordinator

c. Executive Committee

A 15 member Regional Executive Committee is in place and working effectively. However, as a result of certain challenges, most sub-committees which ought to be formed to support the workings of the Executive committee are still not completed



3.0 REGIONAL STRUCTURES

In the region, the Regional Executive Committee has been the highest management body after the Regional General Assembly which is held every two years. It functions as the BOARD at the regional level and is supported by Sub-committees such as; Management Sub-committee, Finance Sub-committee, Resource Mobilization Sub-committee, Disaster Sub-committee, Health Sub-committee, Youth Sub-committee as well as Women, Children and the Aged Sub-committees.

These subcommittees are to meet much regularly to plan activities for implementation for the various wings of the society and report as such to the Executive Committee quarterly except in emergency situations where meetings are much regularly than quarterly. However, the situation was not as expected as most of these sub-committees are yet to be formed.

3. MEMBERSHIP

a. Total Membership and breakdown as

OPERATIONAL DIST. BY NAME	NO. OF CHAPTERS IN THE DIST.	TOTAL NO. OF RED CROSS MEMBERS (Ordinary Members + Youth + Mothers Clubs +School Links + etc)
Wa Municipal	10	390
Nadowli	3	85
Jirapa	5	140
Lawra	7	250
Sissala	3	120
Total	28	985

b. Youth

Name of Operational District	Number of School Links	Total Membership of School Links
Wa	8	340
Nadowli	2	40
Jirapa	3	95
Lawra	5	190
Sissala	2	65
Total	20	730

c. Mothers Clubs

Name of Operational District	No. of MC Groups	Total Membership of the Mothers Club
Wa Municipal	10	421
Nadowli	12	315
Jirapa	16	380
Lawra	32	897
Sisaala	9	276
Total:	79	2,289

4. ACTIVITIES

a. Health and Care in the Community

- (i) Between November 28th and December 6th 2014 some volunteers were trained in Ebola Preparedness as part of Red Cross Social Mobilization for the Ebola Awareness Campaign. Initially four (4) districts were selected but it was spread to cover six (6) districts. These districts were; Wa Municipal, Wa West, Lawra, Nandom, Lambussie/Karni and Jirapa districts. Volunteers were trained in these districts to support Ghana Health Service in the National Ebola Preparedness campaign. In all 96 volunteers were trained in the Region. This programme however, phased out at the end of February 2015.
- (ii) In September 2015 some 72 community volunteers were trained to continue with the Ebola Campaign programme (BenCom Project). This time round, three (3) districts; Nandom, Nadowli and Wa West Districts are the participating districts.
- (iii) Red Cross Optical Centre; The Region has an Optical Centre which is operating optimally to provide optical services affordably to the people of the region and beyond. Indeed it is a component of the vision first programme in the region which has since phased out. Regrettably however, the previous Optical Centre Manager (Dr. Zakarea Alhasan Balure) resigned from the Ghana Red Cross Optical Services. Hence, we now have Mr. Isaac Donkor as the Ag. Centre Manager while Dr. Hakeem Afful has been recruited an Optometrist for the centre.

b. Disaster;

In March 2015, forty (40) community volunteers were trained and formed into District Disaster Response Teams (DDRT) to work in their various Districts and communities as Disaster volunteers.

c. Guest Houses:

- i. Zenuo Guest House which is at Nandom is functioning optimally except that business is seasonal. We have a challenge of attracting professionally dedicated staff to work their considering the low remuneration that we pay the staff. As indicated earlier, Nandom District Assembly is interested in the place and we are still having discussions on that.
- ii. Wonuo Guest House would need some serious rehabilitation, especially the summer hats.

d. Red Cross Meetings

Management Committee	6
Regional Committee	3
Subcommittees	4

e. Other Meetings

Staff Meeting	3
Partnership/Collaborative Meetings	12

f. Youth Activities



- i. First Aid Training for Jirapa Baazu Junior High School. 26 students benefited, from 30th to 31st March 2015.
- ii. First Aid Training for 25 UDS students, 19th to 23rd March 2015.
- iii. Blood Donation; 17 pints of blood donated by Red Cross Youth at the Wa Regional Hospital
- iv. The youth regularly participate in monthly clean-up campaigns that take place throughout the country.

- v. The 2015 National Youth Camp was hosted by the Upper West Region successfully from 9th to 15th August 2015 at the Wa Senior High School. The Region presented 17 campers while the total National Camp participation was about 70 campers.

5. Successes

- I. Slight increase in membership, particularly youth membership.
- II. Slight increased visibility as a result of increased youth activities, increased provision of First Aid Services and the sale of First Aid Kits.
- III. Purchase of 40 student mattresses for rentals.
- IV. Successful organization of National Youth Camp

6. Challenges

- i. The Upper West Region is one of the most deprived Regions in the Country. Our Humanitarian principle should have guided us to be cognizant of that fact in our projects and programmes allocation for the benefit of the most vulnerable people in society. However, it appears most donors now dictate our vulnerable communities and that should be a source of worry.
- ii. The burning down of the Red Cross stores has been very devastating, particularly, the burning down of almost all our mattresses
- iii. Mobility continues to be major challenge for the region. This has limited the movement of the Regional Manager and therefore the region is not able to organize and implement some programmes.
- iv. Fund raising is also another challenge as the populace in the region sees Red Cross to be a charitable organization and sees no reason why it should be supported since it has been perceived to be a rich organization. The case has been compounded with the numerous community and faith based organizations competing for the very few generous people and corporate bodies in the region.



7. Summary of financial report

Income

B/F 2014 **GH¢2,150.00**

Annual Dues	GH¢450.00
First Aid Training	GH¢350.00
Sale of First Aid Kits	GH¢410.00
Guest Houses	GH¢3,800.00
Others (Rentals)	GH¢260.00

Total **GH¢7,420.00**

Expenditure

Equipment Repairs	GH¢376.00
T&T for Staff	GH¢450.00
Guest House Expenses	GH¢2,460.00
Courier services	GH¢90.00
Tonner& stationery	GH¢386.00
Photocopying	GH¢95.00
Electricity	GH¢450.00
Allowances	GH¢550.00
Telephone Bills	GH¢350.00
Internet Services	GH¢580.00

Total **GH¢4, 857.00**

B/d **GH¢2,563.00**

8. Way forward/Recommendations and conclusions

Head office should assist regions with some of the basic resources needed to effectively work e.g. Vehicles, training materials such as projectors, video Cameras, etc

REPORT PRESENTED BY

REGIONAL MANAGER

CENTRAL REGIONAL REPORT

1.0 ADMINISTRATION

1.1.1 PERSONNEL ISSUES

1.1.2 Status of Personnel at post (at post, on leave, attending training)

The Regional Secretariat was manned by two (2) paid staff- the Regional Manager Mr. John Ekow Aidoo and the Office Assistant, Mr. Jonathan Hope but within the third quarter of the year, Mr. Jonathan Hope was reposted to headquarters to support the First Aid Department which created a vacancy at the secretariat within the year under review.

1.1.3 Auxiliary Staff:

The Region has four office support staff and four service personnel who were both assisting in administrative and operational work at the office.

The Region was privileged to have two German Red Cross volunteers and one Portuguese volunteer who were also volunteering for the Red Cross.

1.1.4 Volunteer staff (Name and Designation)

NAME	DESIGNATION
1. Mr. Mohammed Baidoo	Regional Youth Organizer
2. Mad. Gloria Anane	Regional Mothers' Facilitator
3. Mr. Francis Adainoo	Regional Disaster Coordinator

1.2 GOVERNANCE MEMBERSHIP WITH NAMES, CONTACTS, POSITIONS

The Period under review witnessed the holding of Biennial general meeting and electing of new management committee members who are to work effectively to facilitate, Coordinate and oversee the work of the Society in the Region.

The meeting was held on the 12th April, 2015 at the new Regional conference room and as part of the meeting, there was dedication of the Conference Room in honour of the late Regional Manager, Mr. Patrick Ayerekwa.

1.2 NEW ELECTED REGIONAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Name	Position
Mr. Selete Nyomi	Reg. Chairman
Nana Ama Kenya Amuah	Vice Chairman
Mr. Isaac Nkem	Hon. Treasurer
Mrs. Joyce A. Asante	Hon. Health Advisor
Mr. Nicolas Addo	Hon. PR Advisor
Mr. Maxwell Owusu-Duku	Youth Representative
Mr. J.A Allotey	Council Member
Mad. Veronica Mantey	Council Member
Mr. Patrick A. Owusu	Council Member
Dr. Gladys Ekuban	Council member





2.0 ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

2.1 MEMBERSHIP

The region has total registered membership of **(2, 784)** with **(588)** in good standing

2.3 Total Membership Breakdown:

No	Categories	Male	Female	Total
1	Youth	811	546	1357
2	Chapters	214	78	292
3	Mothers Clubs		134	134
5	Ordinary Members	687	314	1001
Membership in Good Standing				
1	Youth	185	145	330
2	Chapters	56	34	90
3	Mothers		38	38
4	Ordinary	78	52	130

	members			

2.4 OPERATIONAL CHAPTERS BREAKDOWN

SN	Categories	Registered	Yet to be Registered
1	Youth	34	48
2	Chapters	4	6
3	Mothers Clubs	2	6
4			

2.5 BRANCHES, STRUCTURES AND VOLUNTEER DEVELOPMENT

SN	POLITICAL DISTRICTS ALONG SIDE GRCS OPERATIONAL DISTRICTS	Non-Operational Districts
1	Abura/Asebu/Kwamankese	
2	Agona East	
3	Agona West Municipal	
4	Ajumako/Enyan/Essiam	
5	Assin North Municipal	x
6	Cape Coast Metropolitan	
7	Gomoa West	
8	Mfantsiman Municipal	
9	Twifo-AtiMokwa	x
10	Twifo/Heman/Lower Denkyira	
11	Effutu Municipal	
12	Komenda, Edna Eguafo	
13	Gomoa East	
14	Ekumfi	
15	Awutu Senya East	
16	BremanAsikuma	x
17	Upper Denkyira West	x
18	Upper Denkyira East	x
19	Awutu Senya	x

20	Assin South	x

3.0 HEALTH PROGRAMS

3.1 CBHFA

The implementation of the project came to an end within the year under review, the close out of the project witnessed the construction of two bore-holes at the Agona Ofoase, construction of (7) cluster of household latrines at Domeki and (9) at Brahabekum communities. As a result of forming two mothers clubs at the communities, the project supported the clubs with IGAs activities by procuring Gari processing machines and a seed capital to open bank accounts.

There was capacity building training for the women in leadership, financial management, marketing, production, branding, and packaging operating of the machines.

There was also closed-out stakeholders meeting and get-together party for the project volunteers and community members which certificates were presented to the volunteers.





3.1.2 GRCS/UNICEF SUPPORT PROJECT-Communication for Development (C4D)

The project is on-going with the selected implementing Districts and volunteers continue with their behavior change key messages at their communities.

During the period under review there has been review/ planning meeting towards the scaling up of the project to cover the entire communities within the selected Districts.

There was second inter-District Quiz Competition and this was aligned with the Regional Youth Camp. Below are the competing Districts and positions.

S/N	NAME OF DISTRICT	MARKS OBTAINED	POSITION
1	Cape Coast Metro	22	1 st
2	Mfantseman	21	2 nd
3	Twifo Hemang Lower Denkyira	16	3 rd
4	Komenda Edina Eguafo ABirim	15	4 th
5	Ekumfi	10	5 th
6	Efutu	8	6 th

3.1.3 Health in emergencies

As a major partner in risk communication and social mobilization, the Region was privileged to be part of GRCS/UNICEF & GES SHSs Mobilization in combating epidemics such as the Ebola Disease and Cholera. The Region was able to engaged (47) SHSs with the various form of education campaign to

sensitized the students to help prevent the outbreak. As part of the campaign each school was given (1) Veronica bucket and a (1) box of Guardian soap.

The last quarter of the year also witnessed the introduction and implementation of another project dubbed BenCom Project as the Region is among (7) other Regions selected to implement the Project. The project is been implemented in (3) Districts (36) communities with (72) volunteers and it seeks to engaged communities folks and other stakeholders in preparedness to combat the outbreak of Ebola, Cholera and other infectious diseases.

4.0 DISASTER PREPAREDNESS & RESPONSE

The Region was able to provide a relief service to families at Junkwa in the THLD District whose house was gutted by fire outbreak and loss of properties.

The Region donated (6) pieces of mats and blankets in addition to (12) pieces of assorted used clothes to the affected family.

As part of the CBHFA Project activities, there was simulation exercise to test the communities Disaster preparedness Plans.

The DDRTs formed at the selected districts are always standby and have been up-dating the Region on issues related to disasters.

4.1 DONATION OF AMBULANCES & RUNNING OF EMERGENCY AMBULANCE SERVICE

The East Milan Red Cross Society in Italy through the hard effort of the Regional Manager donated two ambulances, communication equipment and protective clothing to the, Central Regional branch of the Ghana Red Cross Society to enable it attend to emergency health challenges in the Region.

The donation of the ambulances was facilitated by the Health Advisor to the East Milan Red Cross branch Dr. Masini Lino who during his visit to Ghana (Cape Coast) last year and through the visibility of the Society in Region draw his attention that made him to pay a visit to office to enquired what help can he offered to Society with regards to responding to emergencies in the Region and based upon the offer that the Regional Manager appeal for the ambulances and upon the arrival, the Central Regional Minister, Mr. Aquinas Tawiah Quansah, who received the items on behalf of the Region and handed them over to the Red Cross Society, expressed his gratitude to the East Milan Red Cross for the kind gesture.

In attendance during the handling-over ceremony were the Regional management committee members lead by the Regional Chairman, Mr. Selete Nyomi and stakeholders such as the Cape Coast Metro Director of Health Services, the Regional Manager for National Road Safety Commission, and the Scheme Manager for National Health Insurance among others

Now the Region is using it by responding to emergency calls and occasions.



FIRST AID PROGRAMS

During the period under review, the Region was able to trained (434) First Aiders with (88) of them been commercial First Aid training and most of them were the school link members

There was also First Aid Talk with Drivers Unions such as GPRTU and Cooperative Transport Society and it was in partnership with Nation Road Safety Commission.

FIRST AID SERVICES

The Society was able to provide First Aid Service during the Independence Anniversary, festivals, social gathering as well as the football matches within the period under review.



5.0 YOUTH ACTIVITIES

5.1 YOUTH CAMP

The 2015 Regional Youth Camp-meeting was able to come on from 23rd to 27th April, 2015 at Ekumfi Otum with participants numbering around (250).

The program line-up comprises of First Aid Training, community outreach and Inter- District Quiz Competition on Behaviour Change and First Aid.



6.0 COMMUNICATION, MARKETING AND VISIBILITY ACTIVITIES

During the celebration of the World Red Cross Day on 8th May, 2015 due to financial constraint the Region could not organized the planned event but yet was able to have media encounter to propagate the significance of the World Red Cross Day at some of the media houses.

The Regional Youth Organizer and the Youth Rep. were hosted by a local television station Coastal TV.

Though the day was also a bad day for the Regional Manager as it coincided with the demise of his late mother, all the same the Regional Manager together with the Public Relations Adviser, the RYO and the Youth Rep. were

hosted by another local Radio station Cape FM to also propagate the message.

The BenCom Project is also supporting the propagating of Red Cross messages apart from key media discussions centered on Ebola and Cholera.



7.0 INCOME PROJECTS OR INTERNALLY GENERATED FUNDS (IGF)

Through the support of Finnish Red Cross as part of the branch development, the sole income generating venture of the Region, that is the Hostel has been renovated with lying of floor tiles in the rooms, new beds, television sets, reservoir, generator among others to face-lift the running of

The Region on its own has done extension work to increase the number of rooms from (4) to (8) rooms to improve upon the intake of guests which is gradually improving the income of the Region and we hope to generate enough funds to support the completion of the next floor and that will lead the region to become sustainable to carter for its own cost-cost and other administrative cost in the near future.

9.0 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Attached is the Receipts and Payment for the year 2015

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENT - JANUARY TO DECEMBER, 2015

RECEIPTS	AMOUNT GHC	PAYMENT	AMOUNT GHC
Hostel proceeds	10620	Office support	
membership	2376	Staff/volunteers Allowances	8640
First Aid training and services	4695	VAT Remittances	274
sale of first aid box	150	CCMA business operating rate	200
		Office fuel	470

sale of clothes	630	Remittances to Head office	4076
Support for Fundraising Dinner	100	Management meetings/Dos meeting	1420
photocopy services	65	Hostel/ office expenses	1448
youth camp registration	65	AGM expenses	1388
youth funfair	300	hotel extension work	4710
hiring of mattresses	70	volunteers/DO'S allowance (UNICEF PROJECT)	1880
DONATION	10	First Aid Training/Services Expenses	1540
Renting of premises	650	Utility bills	330
SHSs Mob (UNICEF) 7% Overhead cost	4865	production of cards (fund raising)	300
Funds for host family & mentor	6360	Payment to host family & mentor	6360
Funds for UNICEF Volunteers	1880	Expenses on clearing ambulances	900
		Expenses on staff review meeting	450
		funeral donations	904
Total :	32,836.00	Total:	35,290.00
Deficit :	2454.00		

CONCLUSION:

In spite of several challenges, the periods under review has brought a lot of remarkable achievements and therefore wishes to thank all those who have contributed to such effort.

We wish to acknowledge the support of the past management committee members, staff and the entire volunteer team.

REPORT PRESENTED BY

MR. SELETE NYOMI
REG. CHAIRMAN

BRONG AHAFO REGIONAL REPORT

INTRODUCTION

The Brong Ahafo region since the commencement of the Community Based health and First Aid (CBHFA) project has always been mostly engaged with CBHFA activities. Though, other core Red Cross activities were also undertaken. Some of the activities included First Aid services, First Aid training and lectures, hand washing at social gatherings, youth activities, World Red Cross, capacity building for the CBHFA beneficiary district Mothers Club membership, National Mothers Club meeting of Regional Mothers Club Facilitators, Stakeholders meeting for the CBHFA project, Ebola and Cholera sensitisation for senior high schools with sponsorship from UNICEF, National Review meeting, Training of Emergency Response Teams in the Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) project, Health Promotion and Disease Prevention activities (cholera surveillance Ebola sensitisation, Latrine construction and handing over to beneficiaries construction of gari processing centers for MCs in the CBHFA beneficiary district and project exit get-together, just to mention a few.

1. REGIONAL STAFF STRENGTH

A. Paid Staff

All paid staff in the Region are at post and going about their duties. These are;

Mr. Gayoni Gbolo Solomon
Ms. Olivia Kwarteng Opuni
Mrs. Faustina B. Chaahaa
Seconded to Optical Centre.

Regional Manager
Administrative Assistant
Administrative Assistant –

B. Volunteer Staff

All Volunteer staff who are mostly District and Municipal Organisers are at post. The D O of Atebubu- Amanten who passed on in 2014 has been replaced with the then district Mothers Club facilitator and a new District Mothers Club Facilitator recruited.

C. Regional Committees and Sub Committees

The Region had its Annual General Meeting in May 2014 and elected a new Governance body to preside over the activities of the region chaired by Mr. Nimako Anthony. Immediately after this event the various Sub Committees were also constituted.

2. Regional Structures

Youth Links, Chapters and Mothers Clubs are the Organisational Structures in the region as enshrined in the organisational constitution.

3. Membership

The Red Cross is now operational in 20 out of the 28 districts and Municipalities in the Brong Ahafo Region with the newest district being the Dormaa west district. The districts and municipalities are as listed below;

Techiman Municipal	Sunyani Municipal
Wenchi Municipal	Berekum Municipal
Dormaa Municipal	Pru District
Nkoranza North District	Nkoranza South District
Atebubu- Amanten District	Tano South District
Kintampo North District	Tain District
Jaman North District	Jaman South District
Sunyani West District	Asutifi District
Asunafo North District	Asunafo South District
Banda District and	Dormaa West District.

Total memberships of the various structures as presented from the districts during the review period are as indicated in the table below;

District/Municipal	# Chapte rs	Vol. Strengt h	# Youth Links	Vol. Stre ngth	# Mother s Clubs	Vol. Streng th
Techiman Municipal	5	127	10	618	5	75
Kintampo North District	2	30	4	120	4	50
Nkoranza North District	1	25	2	80	1	28
Nkoranza South District	2	40	3	120	2	60
Atebubu-Amanten District	3	65	2	67	3	60
Pru District	1	20	1	54	1	25
Wenchi Municipal	2	28	4	160	2	48
Tain District	1	21	2	110	1	18

Banda District	0	0	1	48	0	0
Jaman North District	2	65	4	180	2	60
Jaman South District	1	25	2	96	0	0
Sunyani Municipal	2	80	4	125	1	25
Sunyani West District	1	44	2	68	1	30
Tano south District	1	21	2	90	0	0
Asutifi District	1	30	3	48	0	0
Asunafo North District	2	40	2	145	0	0
Asunafo South District	1	18	1	51	0	0
Dormaa Municipal	2	50	3	162	1	24
Berekum Municipal	2	100	4	272	4	200
Dormaa West	1	10	0	0	0	10
Sub-Totals	33	846	56	2,476	29	713
Grand Total	4,035					

4. ACTIVITIES

a. Health and Care in the Community

As has always been practiced, districts and Municipal branches commemorated the 58th Independence Day celebrations by mounting First Aid Post and rendering First Aid services on the parade grounds. In most of the districts, the First Aid teams were a combination of nurses from the district and municipal hospitals. In Sunyani the Brong Ahafo regional capital, the First Aid team was made up of 17 First aiders drawn from the Sunyani Senior High link, and a few chapter members. There was also a team from St. Johns Ambulance forming a very vibrant First aid team on the parade ground. Over 21 casualties were recorded.

During the commemoration ceremony for Ghanaian soldiers who fought in the first and second world wars on the 11th of November each year normally called eleven-Eleven, the Red Cross was at the rehearsals and parade grounds to provide First Aid services.

The University for Energy and Renewable Resources (UNER) youth link was trained in First Aid, 31 of the youth members were certificated. In the same vein, the UNER link organised simulation exercises to mark their SRC week celebrations and also to demonstrate to the colleague students the need to join the Red Cross. The Regional Manager was invited to the activity.

The UNER link in a simulation Exercise during the school SRC week celebration.

- a. Staff of the Bui power generation station as part of their regular safety week lectures and rehearsals invited the Red Cross to give a talk on rescue and resuscitation. The Regional Manager facilitated in the two hour talk and did some demonstrations on the topics treated. This was used as a bait to lure the organisation to access First aid training from the Red Cross.

The RM demonstrating how a casualty is put into recovery position after Resuscitation.



b. Regional World Red Cross Day

The 2015 World Red Cross Day reminiscence activities were held in the Techiman Municipality. Red Cross Youth and chapter members gathered on the premises of the Muslim Ahamaddiya hospital to clean the Hospital. This was to bring into practice the NUTRALITY and IMPARTIALITY principles of the Red Cross Movement. The authorities of the hospital were very appreciative and commended the Red Cross for the wonderful work done.

- c. The Jaman South district and Techiman municipal braches mounted hand washing post on the grounds of 2015 national farmers' day celebrations and also sensitised the general public on the need for regular hand washing with soap under running water. Funeral grounds were also not left out as far as the sensitisation of the general public on hand washing is concerned especially at the critical times of the day and when most parts of the country had plunged into the outbreak of the deadly cholera epidemic.

The Red Cross has been applauded by many for taking up the hand washing initiative which health authorities and some traditional

authorities think will help scale down disease outbreaks and promote the health of the people.



A hand washing post in Jaman South district The DO of Jaman South district during the recent farmer's day celebration sensitising some dignitaries at function

In the Techiman municipality, volunteers did not relent in their effort in providing health and community services to the general public, a gathering of dress makers and beauticians association held a congress in Techiman and volunteers were there to provide them with services and also to promote and sell the Red Cross.

d. World Blood Donor day

In observance of the 2015 world Blood Donor Day 14th June 2015, 14 volunteers in the Jaman South district (Drobo) donated 14 pints of blood to the St. Mary's Hospital in Drobo. The blood was to be used to save the lives of pregnant women and children who are susceptible anaemia.

e. National sanitation day

Red Cross volunteers participated in the Brong Ahafo regional National Sanitation Day clean ups. In Techiman over 60 Red Cross volunteers took part in the exercise. They also provide First Aid services during the exercise. In Sunyani regional capital, only a hand full of Red Cross volunteers partook in the event. Some regional governance members also attended took part in the activity.

f. Optical Services

The Ghana Red Cross Optical Centre continues to render invaluable eye health services to the people of Sunyani and its environs. The centre registers an average of 80 patients a day. The Secretary General in the

company of some governance members on a working tour in the Brong Ahafo region paid a visit to the centre to assess its performance.



The Secretary general and some Staff of the Optical a Frontal view of the Optical Centre in the Brong Ahafo Region

5. Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Activities

a. Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) and Cholera Sensitisation for Senior high Schools

The Brong Ahafo region benefited from the UNICEF sponsored Ebola and Cholera sensitisation campaign for senior high schools in the region. A start up Trainer of Trainers was held for all implementing organisations in Kumasi in the Ashanti region. The role out started in May and ended in August 2015.

In the region under review, 64 SHSs were visited reaching 26,420 out of which 13,364 were males and 13,036 females. Each school was presented with a carton of carbolic soap, a veronica bucket and a large banner. The campaign gave a lot of visibility to the Red Cross in the region.



A cross section of students of St. John Bosco The RM (Mr. Gayoni) presenting a carton of Training College in a session of the campaign carbolic soap to a teacher in the school after the campaign.

- b.** The West Africa Ebola Operation also got underway in the region in 2015. Five district namely Dormaa Municipal, Dormaa West, Jaman South, Jaman North and Tain districts were the beneficiary districts. Downstream trainings were organized for 24 volunteers each in the five districts in late October 2015, they were provided with veronica buckets, mega phones, sanitiser's posters and other logistics to sensitise and hold community engagement activities in their various communities. Volunteers explored all channels to reach the general population. By the end of December 2015, the data below indicates the number of people reached;

Community Engagements	HHs Reached	No. of People Reached	Gender (sex)		No. of Mass Sensitisations	No. of People Reached	No. of People Referred
			Female	Male			
873	2,817	24,137	12,742	10,146	918	157,706	0



Volunteers in a school in Dormaa municipal and a market in the Dormaa West district sensitising the populace.

6. Community Based Health and First Aid (CBHFA) Activities

- a. To commence activities for the 2015 year, a start-up workshop was held in Ereta hotel in Accra. Project staff, the Secretary General, the finance and Administration Manager, some governance members as well as the project delegates was all at the workshop. Plans and budgets were put together. Within the year, capacity building activities were done for the mothers Clubs, they were taken through financial ethics and management,

and the facilitators were drawn from the Prang and Atebubu branches of the Yapra Rural bank.

Five MCs were also taken to Akrofrom gari processing centre in Techiman and trained as TOTs. They were expected to return to their communities to train their colleagues. Machinery sheds and all the necessary requirements were put in place and IGA activities has gotten underway.

- b. The monthly Child Welfare Clinics (CWC) and Antenatal clinic (ANC) attendance as well as supervised deliveries has improved. The attendance of routine CWCs have become very encouraging and has led to reduced infant morbidity and mortality.



A MC member (in RC T shirt) weighing her child at a heavily attended CWC in Aajalaja community

- c. In the projects bid to contributing to the government's effort to reducing the incidence of malaria in pregnant and children below the fifth year, the CBHFA project procured and distributed 300 LLITNs in all the three project communities.



MCs being trained on how to hang a net outside the room during the warm period of the year.

- d. As part of the hardware component of the CBHFA project, Seventy five (75) Household latrines have been completed in the three project communities and handed over to their beneficiaries in three separate community durbars in the three project communities. The DCE of the Pru district who attended one of the ceremonies was very thankful to the Red Cross and her donors (Finnish Red Cross) for contributing to fight the perennial outbreak of cholera and other epidemics in the district.



The Hon. Health Adviser handing over a twin household latrine to the Environmental Health officer of the District assembly at the handing over ceremony in Aajalaja No. 1

- e. To reinforce into stakeholders their expected roles after the exit of the project in December 2015, a sustainability workshop was organised in Atebubu. A stakeholders workshop have also been held to brief stakeholders on activities carried out during the year under review and to officially notify them on the project fold up by December 2015. The meeting was also used as a forum to call on stakeholders particularly the Ghana Health Service (GHS) to continue manage and use the CBHFA volunteers in other health interventions for the benefit of their community folks.
- f. The CBHFA project as one of its objectives of building the capacities of the national Society (NS), assisted the Brong Ahafo regional branch of the Ghana Red Cross Society to procure a Cannon photocopier and 100 pieces of metal chairs and 10 rooms of canopies to facilitate income generation at the regional level.

7. Monitoring and Supervision

- a. Monitoring and supervision was effectively carried out at all levels. The District Organiser (DO) as well as the District Mothers Club Facilitator (DMCF) regularly visited project communities as scheduled. The Regional Manager (RM) did likewise. The National team in some instances teamed up with the regional and district teams to do combine monitoring. The project delegates also embarked on monitoring trips to the communities.
- b. Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)**

One of the core mandates of the Ghana Red Cross Society is to swiftly respond to disasters when they occur. This therefore calls for the strengthening of volunteers capabilities of responding to these emergencies whenever need be. In this regard 40 Red Cross volunteers from five most disaster prone districts in the Brong Ahafo region were mobilized and trained as Emergency Response Teams (ERTs). They were trained in the types of disasters, the disaster cycle, and First Aid.



The RM (Mr. Gayoni) Taking trainees through ERT Members in their regalia with the disaster cycle during the DRR training RM after the training.

8. Achievements

- a. Lobbying the Finnish Red Cross to assist the region with income generation to promote sustainability of the CBHFA project after the project exit in December 2015 has yielded results as the regional secretariat has been assisted to procure a cannon photocopier, 10 rooms of canopies and 100 pieces of metal chairs for income generation
- b. Seventy five (75) household latrines has been completed in the three project communities and handed over to beneficiaries. This has promoted the visibility of the Red Cross not only in the beneficiary communities but the entire district.

- c. Three gari processing centers have also been completed and handed over to three Mothers Clubs in the three project communities. These centers will serve as binding forces to keep the MCs from disintegrating after the close of the project. This venture will also help to alleviate poverty among the mothers clubs as they will be able to raise some funds from the production of the gari to support themselves and their families.
- d. The society in the Atebubu Amanten district has been rekindled since the district became dormant after the guinea worm eradication activities came to an end in 2008.

11.0 Lessons Learnt

- a. Effective coordination and communication is an effective ingredient for effective organizational development.

12.0 Challenges

- a. The main challenge encountered within the period has being the unwillingness for volunteers to renew their membership subscription.
- b. Voluntary spirit is fast depleting amongst the general population, particularly the youth hence it is really becoming very difficult to render voluntary services during community development projects.

10.0 Conclusion

- a. The year 2015 can be said to be well used in terms of Red Cross activities. Visibility has steadily risen in the region particularly in the CBHFA districts and communities, the senior high schools where the Red Cross implemented the EVD and Cholera sensitization campaign and the districts where the West Africa Operation project is ongoing.

WESTERN REGIONAL REPORT

GENERAL INTRODUCTION

The Regional Headquarters is located at Sekondi in the Old Hospital structure used by the Ghana Health Service some years past. The Society is occupying two (2) rooms and a store room with the other rooms been used by the Metro Births and Deaths Registry, and Sekondi Reproductive and Child Health (RCH) Centre.

STAFF OF THE REGION

Paid Staff

- Regional Manager - Mr. Matthew Boateng
- Office Assistant - Miss. Patience O. Anim

NATIONAL SERVICE PERSONNEL

2014/2015

- Miss. Precious Akroboto
- Mr. Suguri Anaba

2015/2016

- Mr. Evans Annan
- Mr. Stephen Graham Anaman
- Miss. Mercy Nartey
- Mr. Benjamin Tabi
- Mr. Nobel Narteh Tagoe
- Miss. Sahadatu Dramani
- Mr. Alhassan Abdul-Hamid Taufiq
- Mr. Stephen Obeng

REGIONAL VOLUNTEER STAFF

- Youth Organiser - Mr. Benjamin Acquah Jnr.
- First Aid Coordinator - Mr. Philip Abban
- Emergency Response Team Coord - Mr. Acquah Harrison
- Mothers' Club Facilitator - Mad. Margaret Adade
- Deputy Mothers' Club Facilitator - Miss Esther Nave

DISTRICT ORGANISERS

DISTRICT	NAME	STATUS/REMARKS
Sekondi-Takoradi	Mr. Kingsley Yeboah	Active
Jomoro	Miss Vida Duku	Active
Ellembele	Mrs. Elizabeth Joe	Active
Amenfi West	Mr. Justice Braimah	Active
Wassa Amenfi East	Mr. Stephen Asare	Active
Sefwi Akontombra	Mr. Michael Asante	Active
Sefwi Wiawso	Mr. Edward Fosu	Active
Tarkwa-Nsuaem	Mr. Stephen Armoh	Suspended
Ahanta West	Miss. Agarthia Ghansah	Active
Juaboso	Mr. Joseph E. Mensah	Active
Suaman	Mr. Emmanuel Botwe	Inactive
Aowin	Mr. John Abiauw	Inactive
Nzema East	Mrs. Bernice Anakwa	Active
Shama	Mr Eric Adjei	Active
Prestea Huni Valley	Mr. Farouk Mohammed	Active
Bia West	Mr. Ahmed Ibrahim	Active
Bia East	Mr. Ata Yaw	Active
Wassa East	Mr. Randy Kwarteng	Active
Amenfi Central	Mr. Edward Folsom	Active
Bibiani Ahwiaso Bekwai	Mr. Ebenezer Miah	Active
Bodi	Mr. Awal Mohammed	Active
Mpohor	Mr. Peter Amoah	Active

Note: The D.O for Tarkwa-Nsuaem Municipal has been suspended by the Regional Committee due to misconduct. Mr. Akwasi Poku Tuffour has been asked to act in his stead from July 2015.

IMMEDIATE PAST REGIONAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2013 - 2015

Prof. Newton A. Amegbey	-	Chairman
Mr. Stephen Johnson	-	Vice Chairman
Mr. Kenneth Dormah	-	Treasurer
Mr. Emmanuel Owu-Ewie	-	P.R.A
Mr. Ganiyu Salami	-	Health Advisor
Chief Inspector Daniel Sogah	-	Legal Advisor
Mr. John Armah	-	Youth Rep.
Nana Benyin Thompson	-	member
Mr. Isaac K. Abekah Bondzie	-	member
Mr. Charles Arhizi	-	member

ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Membership: The Society has about 5,600 members in the region. However, the number of active members stands at 1,800. Out of this number 1,200 belong to Youth Membership while 600 fall under Adult Membership.

Massive membership drive in the schools is ongoing and the responses have been positive. The National Service Personnel have been assigned to some schools to embark on membership drive and to supervise the activities of the School Links.

The Takoradi Mothers' Club is actively involved in health education and has now put up a proposal to get funds to do house-to-house education on correct breast-feeding practices.

Corporate Membership: Ghana Ports and Harbours Authority, Takoradi has been a corporate member of the Western Regional branch of the Society since 2014 and has paid its membership dues up to date.

BRANCHES, STRUCTURES AND VOLUNTEER DEVELOPMENT

GRCS is now active and operational in all the 22 districts in the Western Region since the inception of the Japan Government Project on Ebola and Cholera from March 2015. The Society has a total of about 35 Chapters. The number of active Mothers Clubs in the region is 5; one is located in Sekondi-Takoradi, two in Amenfi-West and two in Wassa Amenfi East. Most of the basic and senior high schools in the Region have Red Cross School links.

GOVERNANCE

Annual General Meetings (AGMs) - AGMs were held for some districts, including Sekondi-Takoradi, Tarkwa-Nsuaem, Wassa Amenfi East and Jomoro to elect their committee members prior to the Regional AGM in Sekondi on 21st March, 2015. The other districts appointed Interim District Committees to run the Society until the next AGM for elections. In attendance of the Regional AGM were delegates from the National Headquarters including the Secretary General, some past Regional Executives, media and volunteers from all the districts.

The **Newly Elected Executives of the Regional Management Committee (2015-2017)** are as follows:

Dr. Edward Donkoh	-	Chairman
Mr. Stephen Johnson	-	Vice Chairman
Mr. Charles Arhizi	-	Honorary Treasurer

Mr. Benjamin Tuckson	-	P.R. A
Mr. Salami Gayoni	-	Health Adviser
Mr. Daniel Sogah	-	Honorary Legal Adviser
Mr. Andam Kewtu	-	Youth Representative
Mr. Dominic Bentum	-	Member
Mr. Anthony Lawoe	-	Member
Mr. N. Acquah-Thompson	-	Member
Mr. Isaac Bondze	-	Member

INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

National Society Assets and Properties available in the Region are:

1. **One Toyota Land Cruiser (GW2533-U)** – The engine was overhauled in January, 2015 after it broke down in August 2014. The Society has now settled the total debt owed Kwansa Automobile Company for the overhauling of the engine in November, 2013. The total amount of which was **GHC 10, 6007.00**.
2. **Corn Mill machine at Konfeku in Shama District** – This was given to the Presby Mens' Fellowship in Takoradi to manage some years past but no accounts have been rendered. The Regional Management Committee has decided to cancel the contract and retrieve the machine, because it has broken down and the shop has been left to lie fallow. The Society is now looking for funds to buy a new Corn Mill.
3. **A Parcel of land at Agona Nkwanta** – Old documentation was incomplete and needed to be discarded. An amount of GHC1, 200.00 has been paid for fresh documentation to properly acquire the land for future development. It is the plan of the region because the land is closer to a poorly managed public toilet, to secure some funds to construct a modern public toilet on a portion of the land to generate revenue for a bigger project in future.
4. **Three (3) Motorbikes** – The Society owned 3 motorbikes in the region for the past years; one in Sekondi-Takoradi and in the possession of Mr. Benjamin Acquah Jnr., the Regional Youth Organiser, one in Wassa Akropong and in the possession of the District Executive and the third one is in possession of Mr. Nanabenyin Acquah-Thompson. The Regional Committee requested for the return of the bikes but some of the members who are in possession of the bikes said they were asked to pay some money before given the bikes, therefore the committee ought to factor that in its decision. It was therefore resolved that the bikes be evaluated and auction to those in possession. However, this has not been done.

The Regional Manager subsequently set up a 2-Member Committee chaired by the Regional Vice Chairman to contact those in possession of the bikes. The Committee was able to retrieve the one at Amenfi East, which was given to Juaboso District Branch for monitoring of the Japan Government Project mentioned above. Mr. Benjamin Acquah Jnr. also showed the Committee the shop where the one he possessed had been sent for maintenance. However, Mr. Nanabenyin Thomson has still not handed his to the Committee.

5. **Ten (10) Motorbikes** – These motorbikes were received on 25th August, 2015 from the National Headquarters as part of the logistics for the implementation of the Japan Government Project on Ebola and Cholera.
6. **Old Buildings at Wassa Akropong** – The old structure which had been occupied by the Akropong Division of the Ghana Police Service has been retrieved. The Society is now looking for funds for maintenance and to be properly documented.
7. **New office equipment** – Air Conditioner, generator, projector, screen and PA system were purchased for the Society 2015.
8. **Renovation of Office Accommodation** – The Regional Manager's office was renovated; all the wooden windows were replaced with sliding windows, bugler-proof sliding door was installed with ceiling and new floor carpet.

ORIENTATION AND FIRST AID TRAINING FOR NATIONAL SERVICE STAFF

The Regional Headquarters received eight (8) National Service Personnel for the 2015/2016 service year. A Two-Day Workshop was organized for them to provide them with much information on Red Cross Movement. The main topics considered were as follows:

- History and Seven Fundamental Principles of Red Cross Movement
- Membership Drive
- Fund Raising Activities
- First Aid Training
- Introduction of NSPs to the Regional Committee Members.

ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT IN 2015

Health

- **Ebola Preparedness Campaign** – 72 Red Cross volunteers from 3 districts (Sekondi-Takoradi, Jomoro & Ellembele) who were given step-down training on Ebola Viral Disease continued with the mass and house-to-house sensitization from November 2014 to the end of February this year.

Monitoring and evaluation were done by the DOs and the Region, as well as a team from the National Headquarters including the Health Coordinator.



Practice of Proper Hand washing at Ampain Refugee Camp Mass Sensitisation at Mosque

- **Clean up campaigns** – Clean up exercises went on in the various districts on all the National Sanitation Days.
- **Twin city Marathon** – The Maiden edition of this event took place in Sekondi-Takoradi and the Red Cross Volunteers spread out along the route of the event and administered first aid to ensure incident-free event.

Disaster

- The region did not record any serious disaster in the year. However, in order to mobilise resources to respond appropriately to disasters and emergencies the region has established a Fund dubbed **“Good Samaritan Emergency Response Fund”**. Various strategies are being explored to get support from all walks of life.
- With the support from Swiss Red Cross, Four (4) District Disaster Response Teams (DDRT) of Ten (10) volunteers were established in February, 2015 to attend to disasters in the region. The 4 disaster-prone districts which benefitted were Jomoro, Sekondi-Takoradi, Tarkwa and Shama.



DDRT, Sekondi-Takoradi



DDRT, Tarkwa

2015 WORLD RED CROSS DAY

The Western Regional branch of the Ghana Red Cross joined the worldwide commemoration of this event which falls on 8th May every year. Activities carried out to mark the event included; simulation exercise in ORSAM Company and at G.P.R.T.U Lorry station in Takoradi.

UNICEF PROJECT ON MOBILISATION OF S.H.S ON EBOLA & CHOLERA

This was Ghana Education Service project which was funded by UNICEF and implemented by the Ghana Red Cross Society and other NGOs throughout the country. The target population for the project was Senior High School (SHS) students in Ghana.

In the Western Region, the Ghana Red Cross Society (GRCS) was one of the implementing organizations that implemented the project in partnership with the Regional Education Office. In total, GRCS was responsible for 43 Senior High Schools spread across 13 districts in the Western Region. The general objective of this project was to educate Students in Senior High Schools in the Region on all they need to know and do about Ebola Virus Disease and Cholera. The project was implemented from June to July, 2015.

The most significant presentation was done on the 10th of July, 2015. UNICEF and G.E.S officials paid a visit to the implementation team at Ghana Secondary Technical School (G.S.T.S). This time, they were there to have a video documentary of the activities of Red Cross regarding the said project. In all, a total of 23,500 students benefitted from the campaign.



Monitoring team from UNICEF and GES interacting with students at St. Ann's Vocational Institute



Regional Manager taking some participants through proper hand washing



Axim Girls S.H.S receives donation from the Regional Manager of the GRCS

As part of the project, donations were made to each school. Items donated include:

- 1 Veronica Bucket and a Bowl for hand washing
- A box of red Guardian Carbolic Soap
- 2 AGOO branded T-Shirts and Caps
- 1 AGOO branded banner

JAPAN GOVERNMENT PROJECT ON BUILDING COMMUNITY RESILIENCE TO EPIDEMICS (EBOLA & CHOLERA)

The Western Regional Branch of the Red Cross was fortunate to receive support from the Japan Government through the IFRC to implement the above mentioned project in all the 22 districts in the Western Region. The project spanned from March 2015 to November 2015 but was extended to February 2016.

This project sought to equip the beneficiary communities with the resources and capacities to be resilient to epidemics, specifically Ebola Virus Disease and Cholera. As part of the implementation, orientation workshops were organised for the key stakeholders at both the Regional and District levels. 220 Red Cross volunteers, 10 from each district were trained as DDRTs and were subsequently used for community engagement. Other trainings included; NDRT, and Sword & Shield.

We received 10 Motorbikes and still waiting for a vehicle that has been promised as part of the logistics for the implementation of the project. One Laptop and Desktop Computers each were also received.



Distribution of Motorbikes to the Districts for monitoring

Ebola Health Walk

As serious and deadly as the Ebola disease is, and the adverse effects it has brought to Sierra Leone, Guinea and Liberia and even **causing schools to be shut down**, the Ghana Red Cross Members in the **Basic Schools in Sekondi-**

Takoradi Metro decided to play their part in the fight against this Ebola Pandemic by embarking on a **Health Walk** on the Saturday 11th April, 2015 to sensitise the public on some common health practices as a preventive measure.

The theme for the Health Walk was “No Ebola in Ghana”

The walk started at 8:00am from Takoradi Jubilee Park, through Market Circle to Latter Day Saints Church and was followed by aerobics, dancing competitions, quiz and interviews by GTV personnel. The participants numbered about 700 including the Red Cross Volunteers, some Regional Committee members and teachers from the 17 schools that took part in the event. Also in attendance were Dr. P.K. Quist (Regional Patron), Mr. John Ahiable (Former Regional Chairman) and the Takoradi Manageress of Multi Pro Private Ltd (Indomie).

The Red Cross Traffic Management Team (TMT) that has been trained by the Regional MTTD Commander displayed their competencies to ensure that there was free flow of traffic. The District Disaster Response Team (DDRT) was also there to manage emergencies to see to an incident-free event.

The Regional Chairman, Dr. Edward Donkoh, after walking the full length of the distance indicated that the event has helped the participants to exercise themselves and has also drawn the attention of the public, that the Ebola Epidemic is still claiming lives and continues to be a threat to human life.

The Regional Manager Mr. Matthew Boateng, who was the brain behind this event, drew the attention of the public to the fact that, the fight against the Ebola Epidemic should never be considered as less important in our daily discourse as it appears now, but called on all and sundry to beware of the dangers of the disease and be on their guard until this canker is totally annihilated.

Participating Schools

1. Kingsbury International School, Aprembo, Takoradi
2. Barbara International School, Aprembo, Takoradi
3. Morning Glory International School, Airport Ridge, Takoradi
4. Navy Basic School, Takoradi
5. Naval Base Basic School, Takoradi
6. Nav West Basic School, Takoradi
7. Western Command Basic School, Takoradi
8. Young Christian International School, Takoradi
9. Nana Brempong Yaw Basic School, Takoradi
10. Rev. Cobbah Yalley Basic School, Takoradi
11. Old Hospital Basic School, Sekondi
12. St. Andrews Anglican School Complex, Sekondi

13. St Peters Anglican School, Sekondi
14. Rev. Griffen Basic School, Sekondi
15. Presby J.H.S, Sekondi
16. Happy Home Educational Complex, Kojokrom Sekondi
17. Bill Burk International School, Mpintsin, Sekondi

Below are pictures of the walk. The video of the event is also available at the Regional Headquarters in Sekondi.



Red Cross walking Ebola out of Africa Students doing sensitization along the walk



Traffic Management Team (TMT) in action Participants doing Aerobics

FIRST AID

First Aid Services

First Aid services were rendered at the stadia and public events including the 6th March and Farmers' Day celebrations.

Commercial First Aid

Commercial First Aid Trainings were done for the following companies:

- GHACEM Company, Takoradi - Twenty (20) participants
- ORSAM Company, Takoradi - Twelve (12) participants
- ORSAM TEN PROJECT, Takoradi- Seven (7) participants
- PASICO Company, Takoradi - Five (5) participants
- CONSHIP Company, Takoradi - Twenty-three (23) participants
- Protea Hotel Select, Takoradi - Twenty-six (26) participants
- United Storage Company, Takoradi - Fifteen (15) participants
- SSNIT Takoradi - Two (2) participants

Non Commercial First Aid

About Two-hundred (200) participants were given Basic First aid training in some schools and churches on non-commercial basis.

Emergency Response First Aid Post (ERFAP)

The main objective of this project is to position well trained Red Cross First Aiders at crash-prone areas along the major highways in the region to swiftly rescue road crash casualties. The selected highways in the Region are: Takoradi-Tarkwa, Takoradi- Cape Coast and Takoradi-Elubo.

Twenty Plots of Land has been obtained from the chief of Simpa for the Takoradi-Tarkwa highway project. Meanwhile, a communal labour was organized by the chief with the help of the Assembly Member to clear a portion of the land early part of 2015 pending further actions. The major challenge now is funding.

COMMUNICATION, MARKETING AND VISIBILITY ACTIVITIES

There has been constant engagement with the media to educate and sensitise the public on health issues and the activities of Red Cross in the region.

GTV and GBC were the main media houses which broadcasted our activities at the national level; Twin City Radio in Sekondi was the most supportive media house at the regional level in the year under review. The activities which were

most captured in the media were the Japan Government Project on Ebola Virus Disease & Cholera, and UNICEF Project on Mobilising the Senior High Schools on Ebola and Cholera.

Visibility

Eleven (11) Red Cross volunteers have been trained by the Regional MTTD Commander as Traffic Management Team (TMT) in February this year to help manage and to ease motor traffic in the Sekondi-Takoradi Metropolis. This has been the initiative of Dr. Michael Agyekum Addo, the President of the Ghana Red Cross Society. The Volunteers are working with enthusiasm; however lack of funds poses a big challenge to the sustainability of this pilot project.

Subsequently, the Region has decided to involve the National Service Personnel which are already paid by the Government in order to reduce cost. There are also discussions ongoing with the Regional MTTD Commander and the Regional Manager of the National Road Safety Commission on how to sustain the project with regards to funding.

INCOME PROJECTS OR INTERNALLY GENERATED FUNDS (IGF)

Dues - A total number of about 200 members paid their dues for the year 2015. There was one corporate membership subscription from G.P.H.A, Takoradi.

Fund Raising to Purchase an Ambulance

In order to discharge our core mandate of attending to emergencies to give first aid, the Western Regional branch of the GRCS is making a special appeal to individuals through the use of well-designed envelopes to solicit for funds to purchase an ambulance. About 2000 envelopes were designed with about 1500 distributed as at December, 2015. It is expected that all the envelopes would be retrieved by the end of February 2016.

CHALLENGES FACED BY THE REGION

- We had difficulty in meeting the administrative cost and other financial obligations.
- Lack of funds and resources posed the challenge of deploying Disaster Response Teams to attend to emergencies.
-

RECOMMENDATIONS TO ADDRESS THE CHALLENGES

We recommend that the National Headquarters appeals to the Government and Partner National Societies (PNSs) to support the region with a vehicle and most especially an ambulance. We believe that these resources would help the Organisation to function effectively and efficiently, thereby making it more visible in order to get the support of the society.

Report Presented by

Regional Chairman
Dr. Edward Donkoh

NORTHERN REGION REPORT

INTRODUCTION

The administration of the Society's programmes in the region is diverse. The Regional Committee and members had assisted in countless ways to achieve the successes recorded for the period under review.

STAFF OF THE REGION

PAID STAFF

NAME	DESIGNATION
Abdul-Rahamani Yussif	Regional Manager
Zakaria Adams	Project Officer,VFP
Augustina Vaaib	Office Assistant

VOLUNTEER STAFF

	NAME	POSITION	DISTRICT
1	Mr. Lucas A Anao	Regional Youth Organiser	Tamale
2	Mr. Eric N. Gochie	Chapter Organiser	
3	Sophia Bugri (Mrs.)	Mothers Club Facilitator	
4	Mr. Alhassan Mahama	District Organiser	Bole
5	Mr. Iddrisu Nantogmah	District Organiser	East Mamprusi
6	Mr. Charles Hamed	District Organiser	Gushegu
7	Muniru Salifu Ali Nnan	District Organiser	Kpandai
8	Mr. Braimah Alhassan I	District Organiser	Nanumba North
9	Mr. Mohammed Anim	District Organiser	Savelugu
10	Mr. Hassan Husein	District Organiser	Tamale
11	Mr. Charles Bekoe	District Organiser	Tatale
12	Mr. Tia Dokurugu	District Organiser	Tolon
13	Mr. Sumaila Mumuni	District Organiser	West Gonja
14	Mr. Bayensi E. Gamel	District Organiser	West Mamprusi
15	Mr. Shahadu Alhassan	District Organiser	Yendi
16	Mr. Adam Shahayawu	District Organiser	Zabzugu
17	Mr. Imoro Tanko	District Organiser	Central Gonja
18	Mr. Mohammed Kinansua Yaro	District Organiser	Bunkpurugu
19	Mr. Sayibu Yakubu	District Organiser	Karaga

Regional Management Committee members

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Mr. Shaibu Wilberforce Adams | - Regional Chairman |
| 2. Alhaji Wahab Yahaya | - Vice-Chairman |
| 3. Mr. Abu Alhassan | - Hon. Treasurer |
| 4. Alhaji. Dajiah Iddrisu | - Hon. Legal Adviser |
| 5. Mr. Albert Futukpor | - Hon. Public Relation Advisor |
| 6. Mr. Adam Hamza | - Regional Youth Representative – |
| 7. Mr. Yakubu Abukari Amin | - Member |
| 8. Mr. Labik D. Kombian | - Member |
| 9. Mr. Abukari Mohammed Awal | - Member |
| 10. Yussif Tayiba Christabel | - Member |
| 11. Mr. Abu Fuseini | Member |
| 12. Department of Social Welfare | Representative |
| 13. Ghana Police Service | Representative |
| 14. Ghana Education Service | |

A. Sub-committees

DISASTER RESPONSE AND RELIEF

FUNDRAISING

INFORMATION

HEALTH

YOUTH

REGIONAL STRUCTURES

- A. Districts- 17
 - a. Chapters – 21
 - b. Mothers clubs – 11
 - c. School links - 53
 - d. District Organizers, Youth Organizers and chapter organizers etc - 34

ACTIVITIES:

EBOLA PREPAREDNESS INTERVENTION

One hundred and twenty six (126) trained Red Cross volunteers educated community members on Ebola Viral Disease (EVD) at homes, in schools, mosques, churches and at public places.

Their activities were in the following districts in the tables below
January and February 2015.

District	No. of Community Opinion Leaders Visited	No. of Households Visited	No. of People Reached	Gender	No. of Mass Sensitisation Held		No. of People Reached	No. of People Referred
				Male	Female			
Bole	434	1,793	4,231	1,955	2,276	826	13,001	0
Bunkpurugu	394	1,229	5,680	2,947	2,733	401	11,545	0
Chereponi	265	758	6,006	2,433	2,631	65	5,756	0
Tamale	152	290	10,683	6,032	4,651	234	9,906	0
Zabzugu/Tamale	420	830	14,096	4,862	9,234	79	14,327	0



SOME PICTURE- EBOLA PREPAREDNESS INTERVENTION ACTIVITIES

NATIONAL SANITATION DAY

On the 7th February 2015, National Sanitation Day was organised in the Northern Region. Volunteers came out in their numbers and actively participated the clean up exercise. They distributed leaflets on Ebola to the general public, rendered First Aid service and displayed an improvised motorcycle Ambulance. Fortunately the Secretary General of the Ghana Red Cross Society and the Swiss Red Cross Country Representative were in the region and join volunteers at the Tamale central in the clean up exercise.



BLOOD DONATION

A voluntary blood donation was organised on the 10th February, 2015 at Kpandai Hospital. members donated 72 pints of blood to the Kpandai blood bank. It has been programmed with the Ghana Health Service authorities such that every quarter Red Cross Volunteers in Kpandai will donate blood to the Health facilities and also be part of monitoring the usage of the blood in the community.

First Aid Training

A total of 124 students and volunteers were trained in Standard Practical First Aid, only 57 of them from Vittin Tech SHS, and Kalpohin SHS were given certificates after the training.

Other meetings

Regional AIDS Committee

Regional Road Safety Committee

Regional Disaster Platform

Regional stakeholder meeting on BCC, Cholera and EBOLA

Validation Meetings on Black and White Volta Disasters

Disaster Risk Reduction

The Regional branch with support from the Swiss Red Cross identified 125 communities in five administrative Districts of the Northern Region strategically selected as the grounds to ultimately facilitate the development of a disaster management plan for the Northern Region. 25 most vulnerable communities out of the 125 were selected to undertake an in-depth study and using a participatory approach. The location of the selected 25 communities gave results that were representative of all parts of the Northern Region

therefore the plans derived from the results could equally be deemed representative of all or most of the communities in the Region.

Together with a consultant commissioned for the project, the Regional Disaster Plan/Framework was put together. The plan was under a short but colourful ceremony held in Tamale – Regional Coordinating Council handed over to Government by Secretary General. Government pledged it will ensure the full adoption of the document and the implementation of the recommendations therein.

The SRC has committed to support 25 communities to fully implement their recommendations. Prior to the ceremonial handover, a verification workshop was held to bring together all stakeholders including NADMO, Local Government, Traditional Authorities, Volunteers, Ghana Red Cross Society staff, Swiss Red Cross staff and the Regional Coordinating Council to review and assess the relevance of the framework and fine-tune it.

Annual General Assembly.

The region held its annual General Assembly at the Tamale Centre of National Culture which brought together members from the various active districts, some of which included Bole, Bunkpurugu, Karaga, Kpandai, Tamale, Savelugu, Tatale, and Zabzugu.

Election of Regional Committee Executives was held at the end of the Assembly





Vision First Programme (EYECARE)

Background

The Red Cross continues to support 12 Health Facilities located within 10 Districts in the Northern Region. Targeting a population of close to two (2) million, the programme is open to almost a million additional population located within the Northern parts of the Brong-Ahafo Region and the Southern parts of the Upper West and Upper East Regions of Ghana.

General Outputs

The Ghana Red Cross Society provided all necessary in-country personnel (mostly volunteers) for the implementation of the preventative component of the eye care programme. In the Northern Region, the Red Cross undertook Social mobilization and community preparation works during community and school outreaches. The Regional branch also undertook eye health promotion activities at community level.

Specific Outputs

Service Provision – With regard to specific outputs in the area of service provision that the Red Cross supported OPD attendance recorded 8,819 individuals seen. 63 community outreach visits were conducted of which attendance was 5,861. 21 schools were visited of which 4,897 children were screened. Surgical operations conducted summed up to 488 eyes within the quarter of which 366 were cataract surgeries.

Pro-Poor Support – The Region with support from the Swiss Red Cross supported needy patients with transportation, feeding and intra-operative consumables and post-operative medications to enable them access cataract

surgical service. The consumables included disposable blades, IOLs and viscoelastic substances for surgery.

Health Promotion and Disease Prevention (HPDP)/Social Services – Reports were collected from 385 volunteers out of 721 who provided eye care education through community mass education and house-to-house education to over 33,740 people in the Region. The volunteers also conducted cataract case search reaching and referring 1,319 individuals requiring surgery in their communities as well as surrounding communities. They also assisted the Ophthalmic Nurses in conducting pre-surgery case search and confirmation. The volunteers managed to escort 239 blind people to the health facilities for surgery. 239 of the 366 cataract cases operated upon were referred by Red Cross volunteers.



Monitoring

The Regional Secretariat monitored the activities of the thirteen active districts.

Challenges

- The breakdown of the Regional Official vehicle in the first to third quarters of the year.
- Capacity building in disaster response is crucial to effectively respond to disaster, but volunteers in the district do not have adequate knowledge in disaster assessment.
- Who maintains the motor bikes of Focal persons on eye care, is it Ghana Red Cross or Swiss Red Cross?

Recommendations

The Northern region will not renege on its efforts to use its comparative advantage to keep the Society in the region in tune with its humanitarian obligation.

Report Presented by

**MR. SHAIBU WILBERFORCE ADAMS
REGIONAL MANAGER**

UPPER EAST REGIONAL REPORT.

GENERAL INTRODUCTION

I have pleasure to report to you the operations of the Ghana Cross Society from Jan – April 2016.

The Report covers Administration; Regional Specific activities viz. – Disaster Prevention; Disaster relief; Health and care in the communities; Food Security; Organizational Development; Youth Development Resource mobilization.

1. Regional office is situated at Old Ministry Block, near NCWD and Ministry of Food and Agric.
2. The office is government premise

OFFICE SPACE

1. The Regional office has two Rooms and one store.

STAFF OF THE REGION

FOUR PAID STAFF

- a. Regional Manager Mr. Joe Abarike
- b. Office Assistant Miss. Josephine Akolga
- c. Health Coordinator Madam. Olivia Fatchu
- d. Driver Mr. Majeed Osman

VOLUNTEERS STAFF (NAME AND DESIGNATION)

The Region Has a Total of One Hundred And Forty Volunteers As Below

RYO	REC	DCE	RFAC	DO	DMFC	RMCF	DYO	ADYO
1	10	80	1	12	12	1	12	12

RYO	-	Regional Youth Organizer
DEC	-	District Executive Committee
RFAC	-	Regional Emergency First Aid Coordinator
DO	-	District Organizers
DYO	-	District Youth Organizer
ADYO	-	Assistant District Youth Organizer
DMF	-	District Mother's Club Facilitator
RMCF	-	Regional Mother's Club Facilitator
REC	-	Regional Executive Committee

REGIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Excellency Donald Adabre	- Chairman
Mr. G.M Bozie	- Member/Ag-V-C.
Madam Victoria Aboore	- Treasurer
Rufina Asoro	- Health Advisor
Mr. Peter Naakpi	- Member
Faustina Alhassen	- Member
Mr. Issah Ibrahim	- Reg. Youth Organizer
Mr. John Abu	- Fire Service Rep.
Mr. A. A. Mbord	- PRO
Sowa Bernice	- member of Community Dev

Efforts are being made to get a legal representative to the committee.

Mr. Musah Issifu is promoted and transferred to B/A. A new emergency Effat coordinator for the Region is yet to be recruited.

DISTRICT ORGANIZERS

No.	DISTRICT	NAME	CONTACT NO
1.	Bawku Municipal	Aguda B.K Felix	0244690028
2.	Bawku Wets	Roland Atalinga	0507378898
3.	Bolga Municipal	Joseph Aserekam	0246406489
4.	Bongo	Ayine A. / Ferguson	0206932814
5.	Builsa North	Haruna H. Baba	0207245019
6.	Builsa South	Haruna H. Baba	0207245019
7.	Garu Tempane	Alem Isaac	0202188213
8.	K N D Municipal	Anaba Gabriel	0203110493
9.	K N West District	Puteru W.K. Stephen	0209779772
10.	Nabdarn	Tambeag Michael	0243625407
11.	Talinsi	None	0246030866
12.	Bugbil Cletus	Binduri	0246267274
13.	Pusiga	Pusiga None	None

A new organizer for Pusiga will soon be recanted

ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

MEMBERSHIP

- Total membership as at date. 14, 461
- Total membership in good standing out of the total membership is 520 members paid up members.
- Head quarters share will soon be sent.

Total Membership Breakdown Into

- Youth Membership Total – 2061
- Adults Membership Total 10,700 not renewed.
- Other Members 1700

BRANCHE STRUCTURES AND VOLUNTEER DEVELOPMENT

- Districts in the Region – 13
- Districts that GRCS is Operational in – 12
- No. of Chapters in the Region and their locations – 5 in BK West but not active
- No. of Mothers Clubs in the Region and locations – 9, 200 located in all 12 districts.
- No. of School links in the Region and locations – 60, youth links, Distributed in all 12 District.
- District where the society is yet to enter is Builsa South.
- Indicate future plans and strategies for strengthening and expansion of these structures

The youth sector needs to be reorganized and strengthen.

GOVERNANCE

- The Regional Executive held one meeting and one Emergency meeting; all meetings discussed the implementation of Swiss, Delta, and UNICEF Support Programmers and chieftaincy Disputes.
- The health – Committee discussed the CSM outbreak. Cross was discussed at the emergency meeting.
- The District Organizers held one meeting at the Regional Secretariat. They discussed the work of their respective Districts and the challenges they face.
- All other committees could not meet due to financial constraints

INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

REGION'S ASSETS AND PROPERTIES

1. The region has the following assets.
 - a. **Fixed Assets** One office building – for government. It was renovated by the Swiss Red Cross.
 - b. Binduri DCE has donated land to the society, but we are yet to process the papers with lands Dpt.
 - c. So volunteers were trained on Disaster Risk Reduce

VEHICLES AND MOTOR BIKES

- a. Toyota Pick donated by the Swiss Red Cross is being used by Regional Manager/Project Officer.
- b. 28 motor bikes – used by DOs and MCF etc. One in the Regional Office. However 20 motor bikes are old and need to be auctioned out and replaced.
- c. We are considering reallocating office motor bike to the Talensi District Organizer.

OFFICE EQUIPMENT

Computers	- 3
Tables	- 5
Chairs	- 30
Speakers	- 1
Generator	-1
Fridge	- 2

STORE ITEMS

Roofing Nails	40 Packets
Roofing Sheers	10 Packets
Water Cans	20 Packets
Saw	50 Pieces
Hoes	100 Pieces
Hand Gloves	120 Pieces
Wellington Boots	30 Pieces
Buckets	150 Pieces
Rain Coats	40 Pieces
Helmet	100 Pieces
Kitchen Set	50 Pieces
Stretch	3 Pieces
Hammer	25 Pieces
Alcohol	20 Pieces
Surgical Gloves	31 Pieces
Nose Mask	80 Pieces
Rain Coats	20 Pieces

A.DISASTER

Bawku Conflict: - Calm has returned to the area. Ban on motor bikes riding has been lifted but not in the night. Security prerace is still felt in the municipality.

Bolga: - which has been peaceful also had chieftaincy Dispute in the latter part of the year. Sixteen houses were vandalized and four people received gun

wounds but were treated and discharged at the Bolga Regional Hospital. There is still security presence in the area. Recently there was another upheaval and a shoot between the two – rival chiefs. Curfew was imposed but now lifted.

WIND STORMS

A violent wind storm in Bawku and Garu. Red Cross volunteers have stated Educating people on Disaster

V.C.A TRAINING

With the support of the Swiss Red Cross eighty volunteers were trained in Binduri; Nabdam; Bongo on VCA Techniques.

3HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Mr. President, the Swiss supported Maternal and child health programme is what is currently in the Region. Four Districts are benefiting it. They are Binduri; Bongo; Kassena Nankana East and Nabdam.

The coverage's made are very impressive as under.

No of Household Entered	Pregnant Mothers	No using ITNS	Referrals to Hospital	Newborns 0 -28 days	No Referred	Post Natal Mothers Seen	Post Natal Referred
8,494	4,88	971	65	722	7	722	28

HEALTH AND COMMUNITY CARE

ROLE OF MOTHERS UN UPPER EAST

Mr. President, Our Red Cross mothers continue to give maximum visibility to the Red Cross Society. A group from Bongo show cased the role of the Red Cross and their contribution to health delivery where the chief patron and the wife visited the Region in the later part of 2015.

They were highly commended his Excellency and asked to continue with their Good work.

FOOD SECURITY

TOENDE DAM: - This facility which was provided to the people with the assistance of Swiss Red Cross in 1993 was broken by crocodiles during the 2007 and 2008 floods. Through the Regional and District effort through Net working with the Assembly and other NGOD the irrigation area fenced for effective work. As I speak over five hundred farmers including our mothers have cultivated plenty onions a vegetables.

MEGOGO KUKA/YAMPARELE PROJECTS

These communities were supported last year with onion seeds; fertilizer and other inputs. Importunately they could not be supported this year due to funding constraints. Two dams which they relied for water also dried up. They are appealing to Red Cross for support to Dredge the dam and also farm.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

1. The Youth in the Region have undertaken the following activities.
2. Donated sixty 60 pints of blood to Bolga Regional Hospital during Independence Day Celebration.
3. One football match in Bolga in and during the celebration they go cases for Aid.
4. Carried out First Aid Services at National Event in depended day celebration.
5. Carried out one clean up exercises in five districts.

CHALLENGES FACED BY THE REGION

TRANSPORTATION

The Region is provided with vehicle. However we still need another strong vehicle to cover the entire region particularly the difficult terrain.
20 motor bikes are over 10 years and not functioning well
We shall do more appeals for an additional vehicle

VOLUNTEER MOTIVATION

Due to lack of effective fundraising structure, it has been difficult to organize enough money to support volunteers in need, especially those who fall sick and request for support from the Region. The Swiss support however assist volunteers especially DOs/MCFs with fuel and motivation.

The retraining of chapter organizers was expected to generate more funds; some of which will be used to support welfare activities; unfortunately this objective are still not met

FUND RAISING DIFFICULTIES

Region finds it difficult to raise funds.
Those who register do not renew their memberships.
Strenuous efforts are being made to raise money.

a. CHALLENGES

- b. Fundraising is the major challenge

RECOMMENDATION TO ADDRESS THE CHALLENGE

- a. Head quarters should assist the Region build a guest house.

- b. The Swiss Red Cross should assist the Region with more Motor bikes.
- c. The Region is networking with Assemblies to get a land for office accommodation and fund raising activates
- d. Plans are advanced to sell aqua Red

ACHIEVEMENTS

The Region through Net working is moving the society forward. Red – Cross is widely known in the Region

PROTOCOL VISITORS

During the year the Region received visitors from the Swiss Red Cross and Headquarters. They were on monitoring visits. Officials from Water Aid Ghana also visited the Region from Accra.

CONCLUSION.

On the whole, the Region did very well. It collaborated effectively with Key Partners. Ghana Health Service, Nadmo and the Regional Coordinating Council and there Swiss Red Cross.

The Region salutes the Swiss Red Cross, UNICEF, and Delta Airlines for supporting it Region.

Thank you

Report Presented by

**REGIONAL CHAIRMAN
EXCELLENCY DONALD ADABRE**