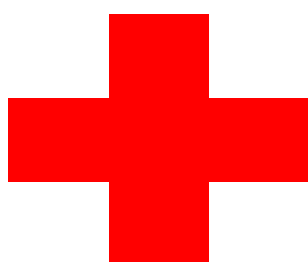


GHANA RED CROSS SOCIETY



ANNUAL REPORT

FOR

2016

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1.0 Administration

The Ghana Red Cross Society has its Regional Branches in the ten Regions of Ghana and are managed by Regional Managers and office assistants, Volunteer staff are also engaged as well as national service personnel in the running of the district offices.

The Ghana Red Cross Society is operational in 141 districts with a volunteer strength of 66,000 throughout the country, all these districts have a representation of district organisers. The names of the district and the number of volunteers are as follows:

1:1 Staff Strength.

NO .	Region/ Headquarters	Regional Staff	Head Of Departm ent	HQ Staff	Volunte er Staff	National Service Personnel	Regional Committee	HQ Board
1	Ashanti	2			13		11	
2	Eastern	2			5	13	12	
3	Volta	2			4		9	
4	Central	2			6	2	12	
5	Greater Accra	4			64	50	12	
6	Western	2			6		11	
7	Upper East	3			21		9	
8	Upper West	2			13		15	
9	Northern	3			23		11	
10	Brong Ahafo	3			23		9	
11	Headquarters		6	23	8	3		7
12	IFRC			1				
	TOTAL	25	6	24	186	68	111	7

1: 1 Regional Volunteer Mapping.

	REGION	NUMBER OF DISTRICT	NO. OF VOLUNTEERS
1	Greater Accra	12	34,342
2	Ashanti Region	14	1,294
3	Brong Ahafo	19	4,770
4	Western Region	16	3,278
5	Eastern Region	14	2,214
6	Upper East Region	14	14,250
7	Upper West Region	10	2,447
8	Volta Region	12	1,217
9	Central Region	14	987
10	Northern Region	16	1,201
	TOTAL	141	66,000

2.0 First Aid department

Ensure there is adequate knowledge in First Aid skills and provide services to residents in the country.

2:1 First Aid Training

The first aid department within the period of January to December 2017 has trained twenty (20) organizations with a total number of 955 participants. The total amount yielded from the training is 57,460 Ghana Cedis.

For the non-commercial first aid at the headquarters level, three (3) organizations with a total number of 287 people were trained. These include office of the President of Staff, St Joseph Catholic Church – Tema and the Ghana Prisons Service.

At the regional level, a total of 1,731.00 were trained in commercial first aid in the year under review. Non- commercial first aid talks were given to 1,348 people in the regions.



2:3 First Aid Training Module

A first aid training modules have been drafted and circulated to HODs for inputs to enable the society have a first aid modules for use in higher institutions and departments.

2:3 First Aid Services and Emergency Response Post

The First aid post is situated at the Accra end of Accra – Tema motorway. The post is manned by four (4) volunteers well trained in basic first aid manage accident cases on the motorway.

In the year under review, one hundred and one (101) accident cases were reported at Accra – Tema motorway involving two hundred and fifty (250) female, two hundred (200) male, fifty (50) children and five (5).

Casualties were transported to Tema General Hospital, 37 military hospital and Ridge hospital. The ambulance attached to the post got spoilt and according to the mechanic working on it, we need to replace the engine.

We are appealing to the general public to assist to post with a new ambulance to ease the work load of the volunteers.

A proposal of \$10,000 to support the operation of the post for one year has been approved and transferred to the society by the Turkish Red Crescent. The grant is initiated by the Turkish Red Crescent to build the capacity of the National Society for a one year period.

2:4 First Aid Kits

The society has negotiated for a supply of 500 vehicular first aid kit for sale to individuals and car owners. It has been delivered and sales is on - going.

2:5 First Aid Manual

The Community first aid manual is under editing at the moment. The aim is to review the manual for a new one to be printed.

The following are the editorial board:

1. Mr. Theophilus Tackie - Eastern Regional Manager
2. Mrs. Bridget Boham - Eastern Regional Chairman
3. Thomas Appore - Health Coordinator
4. Mrs. Theresa Nobiya Babero - Former Health Advisor

2:6 Regional First Aid Training Data- Summary

2:7 Training Resources Available

No	Region	Full Dummy	Baby Dummy	Stretcher	Spine Board	Blanket
1.	Volta	2	1	4	2	2
2.	Western	3	1	3	2	2
3.	Eastern	3	-	4	2	-
4.	Central	2	1	4	2	10
5.	Brong Ahafo	2	-	4	2	2
6.	Gt. Accra	6	-	2	2	2
7.	Ashanti	2	-	4	2	2
8.	Northern	3	-	4	2	4
9.	Upper East	2	-	4	2	2
10.	Upper West	2	-	2	2	5

2:8 First Aid Training Schedule

TOPIC	OBJECTIVE	TIME
Opening Remarks Introduction		Company Director/Rep.
History of Red Cross Movement	To help the understanding, origin and activities of Red Cross	30 Minutes
Introduction to First Aid Incident Management	To help understand the Principles and Management of first Aid	30 Minutes
Unconsciousness	To be able to manage unconsciousness with breathing and unconsciousness without breathing	1 hour
Choking/ Drowning	To be able to manage choking and drowning	1 hour
Fainting / Shock	To be able to manage fainting and shock	1: 30 hours
CPR Hands - On	To be able to check and apply CPR	2 hours
Wounds and Bleeding including nose bleeding	To be able to understand management of wounds and control of bleeding effectively	1: 30 hours
Burns and Scalds	To be able to manage burns and scalds	1:30 hours
Foreign bodies	To be able to manage strange objects in the human body	45 minutes
Fracture, Dislocation, Sprain and Strain	To be able to manage soft and hard tissue injuries	1:30 hours
Bandages and Bandaging	To be able to know the types of bandages and their use in bandaging	2 hours
Poisoning, bites and stings	To help understand how poisoning occurs and how to manage it.	1 hour
Convulsion and Epilepsy	To be able to know their management	1 hour
Transportation of Casualties	To know the effective ways of transporting casualties	2 hours
Practical/ Final Demonstration	The hands – on practice	2 hours
Evaluation test	To ascertain the level of knowledge impacted	30 minutes
Closing		Company Rep.

OPEN WATER LIFE GAURD VOLUNTEERS

Eleven Red Cross volunteers drawn from 4 regions in the country were among other volunteers who were trained by International Surf Lifesaving Association (ISLA) of USA in collaboration with NADMO.

The training which lasted for 5 days covered topics like Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation – CPR and Open Water and Ocean Rescue, to avoid accidents and saving lives on our water bodies.

The volunteers were drawn from the following regions:

Headquarters	-	1
Gt. Accra Region	-	4
Central Region	-	2
Brong Ahafo Region	-	2
Northern Region	-	2

Their training was sponsored by the Swiss Red Cross.

3:0 Communication Department

Strengthen GRCS capacity and role in dissemination of Values and Principles of the Red Cross movement and IHL.

3:2 Publicity and visibility

Radio discussions on the role and responsibilities of the Red Cross before and during the Elections were carried out in the regions with emphasis on the fundamental principles and principles and values of the Movement. Logistics such as T-shirts, Red Cross flags, and ID tags were also produced and distributed to participants of the peace walk before the elections and volunteers and NDRT members during the elections.

On the whole coordination of the election activities and collaboration with both stakeholders of government and non-government such as the security agencies and the European Union monitoring team was quite effective. Cooperation with stakeholders at the National Headquarters and the regional branches was also well done. A meeting on SOPs and coordination mechanisms was held at the NHQ for the staff.

The data and information officer was placed at GRCS headquarters to receive and manage all information to and from the field through WhatsApp messenger. Information on the process were also posted on Facebook and twitter accounts of the NS. The National Society's website has also been upgraded: redesigned and redeveloped, modified and amended all contents of the website, replicated, configured and deployed website templates.

3:3a Strengthen communication and sharing of information for enhancing synergized organizational processes within GRCS and for external visibility and accountability.

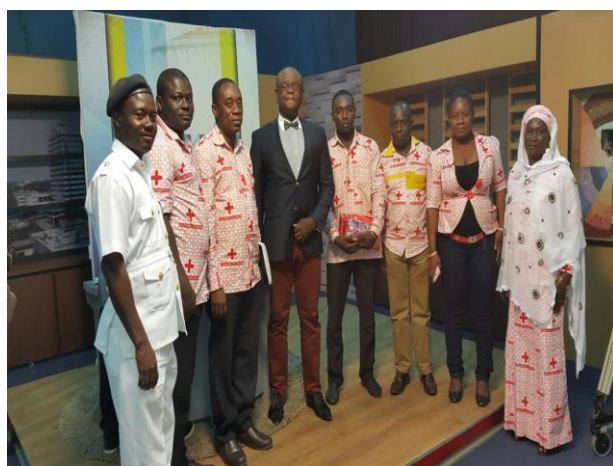
3:4 World Red Cross Day Celebration,

World Red Cross was celebrated in the Greater Region, Ghana on the 8th of May 2016 under the Theme: **Everywhere for Everyone**. The Region was able to organise inter district quiz competition on the National Television in Ghana (Ghana Broadcasting Corporation) and the contestants were David Nana Osei -Adenta District, Senyo Kwame Keteku - Ashaiman, Emmanuel Okyere - Ga South, Folitse Owen Gabriel – Tema District, Leonard Lamptey – Ga West and Bright Adewu Accra Central.

It was all volunteer's affairs, who participated in the quiz competition and at the end of the contest Mr. Folitse Owen Gabriel from Tema District emerged the winner followed by Senyo Kwame Keteku who placed second position and then Leonard Lamptey came third contestants were given prize ranging from Ceiling Fan and First Aid Kits.

The questions for the quiz mainly focused on the History of the Red Cross, the activities of the Red Cross, first aid, as well as the uses of the Red Cross Emblem in Ghana and its abuse in Ghana. The occasion was also to sensitize the whole nation about the existence of the Red Cross in the Country.

In attendance from left : Mr. Ernest P. Nyame Annan- Youth Coordinator, Mr Louis Anopong Okyere- Communications Manager, Secretary General- Samuel Kofi Addo, Mr. Dan Afari Yeboah – Quiz Master, Folitse Owen Gabriel, Mr Eric Asamoah Darko- Regional Manager, Catherine Adasu – Regional Youth Organiser and Madam Mariam Salifu- Regional Mother Club's facilitator.



National Executive in a pose with Quiz master Dan Afari Yeboah

Brong Ahafo Region also celebrated the day at Tanoso cluster of schools in the Tano North District Assembly. The pupils and teachers were lectured on the history of the Red Cross Movement and the seven Principles of the Red Cross Movement as well. A hand washing session followed the lecture. The pupils were taught how to correctly wash their hands, they were advised to wash their hands regularly with soap and clean water to stay healthy, and both pupils and teachers demonstrated how to effectively wash hands. Two Veronica buckets were donated to the school at the end of the exercise.

Two hundred and seventy pupils and all teachers of the school were screened by Red Cross Optical Centre staff. Those who were found to have some eye ailments were referred to the Optical Centre for further examination and treatment. The regional Hon. Health Advisor was present at the world Red Cross day activities.



Regional Manager giving a lecture hand washing



A Pupil learning how to wash properly

3:5 Public Dissemination Workshop with 5th Infantry Battalion

The Ashanti Regional Branch of the Red Cross In collaboration with the National Headquarters organised a two day sensitization workshop for the 5th Infantry Battalion of the Ghana Armed Force on the misuse of the Red Cross Emblem, The Soldiers were briefed lot about the way some cooperate organisations especially the health sector use the Red Cross emblem on their ambulances without any permission from the society and also violating the laws on the use of the Red Cross emblem in Ghana.

Participants also were taken through the Geneva Conventions and the two additional protocols, on how to handle prisoners of war in times of arm conflicts, it also explained how they should be handled to avoid the violation of the International Humanitarian law as stipulates.



4:0 Organisational Development

4:1 Stimulate initiatives for GRCS Mothers Clubs, Youth, Volunteer and membership development and management for increased self-reliance.

4.2 Youth Department

The youth department has the National Youth Co-ordinator at the headquarters, Ten (10) Regional Youth Organizers (RYOs), Ten (10) Regional Youth Representatives (RYRs), District Organizers (Dos) and District Youth Organizers (DYO) at each operating district at the Regional level. The RYOs, DOs and DYOs are volunteer staff in the region. The volunteer staff helped in organizing and implementing youth related activities with other youth leaders and School Link leaders in the districts whereas the RYRs and DYRs are decision markers elected during annual general meetings to represent the voice of the youth at the Regional and District management committee respectively.

	REGION	RYO	RYR	DO	DYO	DYR	Number of Registered youth Members	Number of youth Volunteers	Number of Volunteers
1	Ashanti	1	1	12			500	650	1,100
2	Brong Ahafo	1	1	20				2688+	4,158
3	Central	1	1	14			190	1526	3,088
4	Eastern	1	1				286	563	1,249
5	Greater Accra	2	1	16	16		947	28,550	36,575
6	Northern	1	1	19				1960	4269
7	Upper East	1		12	12			2061	14,461
8	Upper West								
9	Volta	1	1				267	801	1623
10	Western	1	1				150	4,000	5,000

School Links & Out of School Links

	REGION	Number of Schools Links	Number of out of school Links	Tertiary Links	Total Number of Links
1	Ashanti			4	4

2	Brong Ahafo	56	34	1	91
3	Central	38	4	3	45
4	Eastern	60	6		66
5	Greater Accra	1050	34		1084
6	Northern	28		1	29
7	Upper East	60	5		65

4:3 National Youth Camp 2016

The 8th National Youth Camp 2016 was held at Pope John Senior High School at Koforidua, Eastern Region. The theme for the occasion was *'Rekindling the Volunteer Spirit for Humanitarian Action'*.

The programme started on the 21st August to the 27th August 2016, 73 participants from nine (9) regions attended the camp, there was no representation from the Upper East Region.

Participants were taken through various trainings and activities on Malaria prevention tips, Cholera prevention tips, First Aid tips and Hand Washing with Ananse Story & Games. They also embarked on Health Promotion education in selected communities in Koforidua Township throughout the 7 days.

The Regional Chairperson, Mrs. Boham Addy, welcomed participants to her Region and she emphasized on the theme, as a timely one for humanitarian development. She noted that volunteerism is the key to support national develop, and throwing more light on it, The Headmistress of Pope John Senior High School, Mrs. Foli also advised all Red Cross volunteers to be very patriotic and help their various communities which are most vulnerable.

It was agreed that henceforth, the National Youth Camp meeting would be organized every Two (2) years to enable the regions hold their Youth Camps other years. The next to host the 9th National Youth camp is Upper East Region.



4:4 IFRC Global Pioneers

The National Youth Co-ordinator Mr Ernest P. Nyame Annan is part of Twenty-four (24) selected persons from IFRC for implementation of innovative humanitarian work 2017. The selection was based on an innovative projects for National Societies and Hand Washing with Ananse story and game which he developed has been selected as one the projects from Ghana to promote personal hygiene and sanitation among the youth.

4:5 Donation Boxes

There are three donation boxes placed at Alisa hotel, Erata hotel and Angel Hill hotel. In 2016, the first batch of funds were collected from the various stands to support the Youth Fund.

4:6 Regional Youth Camps 2016

There were Regional Youth camps organised at the various regions to develop the capacity of the youth members and also embark on peace campaign for Ghana Election 2016. The regions include Central, Northern, Western, Brong Ahafo and Greater Accra Region.

Some of the activities include;

Malaria, Ebola, Cholera & First Aid (MECFA) programme,
Hand Washing with Ananse Story & Game,
First Aid Training and drills



4:7 Hand Washing With Ananse (HWWA)

Hand washing with Ananse is an educational game to teach children *why*, *how* and *when* to wash their hands with water and soap. It has been developed by UNICEF Ghana in collaboration with Ghana Education Service, Red Cross/Red Crescent Climate Centre, Engagement Lab at Emerson College, Right to Play and Ghana Red Cross Society.

In March 2016, four (4) of our volunteer staff: Maxwell Owusu , Jonathan Amoah, Hamdza Adams and Yussif Mohammed were trained as Training of Trainers to help implement hand washing with Ananse in various school links.

Currently, the HWWA activities is on-going in Central, Greater Accra, Northern and Brong Ahafo region.

4:8 German Red Cross Volunteers

The German Red Cross Voluntary Development Service ‘‘Weltwärts’’ programme is an intercultural development policy, personality development program and auxiliary service developed by German Government with integrated package of learning, helping and interacting activities to build the capacity of volunteers of both German Red Cross and Ghana Red cross Society volunteers. This programme started September 2011 with two German Red Cross volunteers.

Currently, we have Four (4) volunteers namely: Christian Schirmer, Ole Kollien, Daniel Beaca and Melissa Korner working in Greater Accra, Central and Volta Region. They are accommodated by various host families and under the supervision of Regional Secretariat through the Regional Youth Organizers. They normally go through orientation seminar when they arrive in Ghana before posting to the Regions.

They work directly under the Regional Managers and mentored by the RYOs for guidance and supervision. These Volunteers stays with a host family for the one year period. The German Red Cross gives financial support through Ghana Red Cross to the host families.

4:9 International Volunteers Day

The Greater Accra and Central Region organized Inter-Schools First Aid Competition in their regions. First aid kits and trophies were given to winning schools. In Greater Accra, 72 school links participated in the competition

The IVD was celebrated with over 1000 volunteers at International trade fair centre with support from United Nation Volunteer (UNV) on Saturday, 3rd December 2016. The Greater Accra volunteers embarked on a peace walk on some principal streets of La before converging at the Centre for solidarity messages from dignitaries.



4:10 Mother Club's income generating Activities

The Mother's club trained on gari processing as an income generating activities and also to help improved the living standards of families, households as well as their community.

As part of efforts to support the mother's economically the Swiss Red Cross and the Finland Red Cross has provided funding support to the mothers to train as well as engaging in an income generating activities.

Five mothers clubs from Ofoase, Brahabeakume/ Domokyi all in the Agona Swedru districts of the Central Region, whilst Ajalaja NO 1& 2, Farkwesi also in the Atebubu-Amenten district of Brong-Ahafo Region are currently producing gari for sale.

Forty (40) women in the Upper East Region (Nabdam, Bongo Bawku/Binduri, and Kassina Nankana Districts) are in the production of Shea butter, Groundnut Past, Pito (Local Malt), Basketry, Local Rice Parboiling and Dawadawa processing, Greater Accra Region are also into the production of hand washing soap. However, these products are largely influenced by the available of raw materials accessible to the Mothers in each Region.

Mothers clubs in the Upper East have been producing more Shea butter and other consumable products, but they were facing a challenge with access to market for their products.

They have the capacity to produce more than one tone (1T) of Shea butter per month and have the efficiency to scale up their production depending on the availability of market for their products.



5:0 Health and Care

5: 1 Improve the health status of vulnerable and affected communities by reducing morbidity and mortality arising from common diseases and health emergencies.

The health department in the GRCS carried out many activities during the period under review implemented a number of activities aimed at achieving the above objective. These included the completion of the Community-Based Health and First Aid (CBHFA) project funded by Finish Red Cross, the Beneficiary Communications (BENCOM) project with funding from European Union (EU), the Greater Accra Cholera preparedness project (ECHO) funded by EU, Cape Coast Cholera Outbreak response operation funded by IFRC DREF; Vision First Project in Northern Region; and Maternal, Neonatal and Child Health Project in Upper East Region funded by the Swiss Red Cross. The Department also started the implementation of the GHA: WASH flagship Project in the Eastern and Ashanti Regions with funding from Nestle.

5:2 ECHO Project and Cape Coast cholera outbreak response

- ✓ Trained **120** Community based Volunteers on the project
- ✓ Recruited and trained Volunteers at 9 Hospital Facilities
- ✓ Trained and deployed volunteers for Direct Observation survey of public facilities in eight Districts(**Direct observation at Community level**)
- ✓ Trained and deployed volunteers for **Knowledge Attitude and Practices (KAP) Household Survey** in the eight Districts
- ✓ Sword and Shield teams deployed to suspected cases areas
- ✓ Trained volunteers on the use of Chlorine for disinfection
- ✓ Disinfected public toilets with Chlorine solution
- ✓ Donated and mounted of points at public toilets in some districts(Ga South, Ayawaso, Okaikoi, Ashiedu Keteke, La and Ablekuman)
- ✓ Education on Cholera and the importance of hand washing at Public Markets
- ✓ Cholera education and hand washing promotion in Schools in Accra
- ✓ Mounted hand washing points, hand washing promotion, cholera education at Public gatherings during festive season
- ✓ Cholera education, mounting of hand washing points, provision First Aid point and promotion at some selected Beaches in Accra
- ✓ Conducted Inter-School Cholera role play competition(cholera, transmission routes, sign and symptoms, causes, prevention, good food hygiene, water treatment etc)
- ✓ Trained public toilets Operators on Chlorine disinfection
- ✓ Trained **120** Volunteers on WASH and Vulnerability Mapping
- ✓ Deployed volunteers for WASH Mapping
- ✓ Water quality assessment
- ✓ Training of Volunteers in Dead Body Management and First



5:6 BENCOM Project

- Carried out social mobilization using 562 volunteers in 26 districts across 9 regions of Ghana
- Engaged 21 radio stations and 12 community information centers who carried out sensitization activities epidemic diseases and other pertinent health problems in the communities.
- Telecasted documentaries on hand washing and personal hygiene, cholera and Ebola preparedness and response on Multimedia platform (Joy TV, Joy Prime and Adom TV)
- Conducted cross border meningitis response program with Togo Red Cross.

5:7 GHA: WASH Project

- Engaged all stakeholders in the planning of the project
- Carried out training programs on Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) and Community-Based Health and First Aid (CBHFA)
- Trained five hundred and forty- six (546) volunteers who currently are on the field sensitizing household on health and hygiene promotion in 50 communities in the Eastern and Ashanti regions.
- Conducted infrastructure assessment for water points in 50 communities inform community water needs and repair of partially functional and non- functional water points
- To contribute to reducing mortality and morbidity by reducing water borne & sanitation related diseases through promotion of personal hygiene and environmental sanitation.



The CBHFA project and the GHA: WASH project carried out several activities geared towards meeting this objective. These included the following:

- ❖ Promotion of personal and environmental hygiene in
- ❖ Provision of safe and hygienic water to communities
- ❖ Started the rehabilitation of Akooko water scheme

Lessons Learnt

Our intervention as well as our effective collaboration with the Ghana Health Service for the ECHO project resulted in drastic reduction in case prevalence rate cholera between 2015 to July 2016.

6:0 Disaster Management

6:1 Strengthen Community resilience and institutional capacity to ensure disaster Risk reduction, response and impact reduction

6:2 Hazard Mapping

Hazard mapping in Eight (8) regions, namely, Greater Accra, Eastern, Western, Central, Ashanti, Upper East, Volta and Brong Ahafo. A total of 32 district were identified 4 per region. The hazards identified are: Rainstorms, Floods, Road traffic accidents, Boat accidents, Disease epidemics, Fires, Sea waves, Landslides and Armed conflicts

6:3 Respond effectively and timely to all disasters affecting the most vulnerable communities.

6.3a District Disaster Response Teams training

A total number of Thirty Two (32) District Disaster Response Teams were trained and established in the 8 regions in which the hazard mapping was conducted. A team comprise 10 members each in a district and 40 members in the 8 regions. The teams were taken through a refresher training with an additional training module on the management of fires.

S/no.	REGION	DISTRICTS
1.	Greater Accra	Ada, Tema, Ga South, Accra
2.	Central	Gomoa West, Twifo Hemang, Ajumako, Ekumfi
3.	Eastern	Oda, Atiwa, Asamankese, Kibi
4.	Ashanti	Ejura, Tapa, Konongo, Obuasi
5.	Brong Ahafo	Tain, Pru, Kintampo, Jama North
6.	Western	Shama, Sekondi /Takoradi, Tarkwa Nsuem, Jomoro
7.	Volta	Hohoe, Ketu North, Ketu South, Ho
8.	Upper West	Jirapa, Wa West, Nadowli, Wa East



Each of the District Disaster Response Team was given the following materials to enhance their activities: first aid kits, nose masks, life jackets, ID tags, wellington boots, T-shirts, wheel

barrows, shovels, spades, rakes, PVC hand gloves and Certificate of participation. This activity was sponsored by the Swiss Red Cross.

6:4 Refresher training for Regional Emergency Response Teams

In the wake of the terrorists attack on the Westgate shopping mall in Nairobi on 21st September, 2013 leading to at least 67 people dead, the British government issued a red alert warning on security in Ghana, as a result of the deployment of Ghanaian troops in Mali. This threat therefore necessitated the initial training and establishment of Regional Emergency Response Teams in Greater Accra, Ashanti and Central regions in 2014, followed by the retraining of the teams in Greater Accra and Central regions in 2016 to further enhance the response capacity of these teams in the event of any emergency or crisis.



Team members engaged in simulations

The purpose of this retraining was to review and update participants on the overview of Disaster Management, First aid in emergencies and others. This activity was sponsored by the International Committee of the Red Cross

6:5 Regional Emergency Response Teams training

Five (05) Regional Emergency Response Teams were trained and established in Volta, Eastern, Upper East, Upper West and Brong- Ahafo to build the response capacity of these teams in the event of any emergency or crisis. The five Regional Emergency Response Teams were taken through a two-day training sessions each.



Team members being taken through first aid sessions

The training workshops were facilitated by the Disaster Management Coordinator and the Regional Managers. The two main areas focused were Disaster Management and First aid in emergencies and others. A total of 75 volunteers, 15 members per region were trained. This activity was sponsored by the International Committee of the Red Cross

6:7 GRCS NDRT Standard Operating Procedures

A workshop was held to develop Standard Operating Procedures for the National Disaster Response Team. The two- workshop came out with a draft “GRCS NDRT Standard Operating Procedures”. The participants included staff and NDRT members.

6.8 WATSAN Kit 5 training for NDRT

During the year under review, the 20 members of the National Disaster Response Team were taken through a two-day training on WATSAN Kit 5 in Ofoase community in Agona East district in the Central region.



Team in training session at Swedru



Training on the use of PPEs

The team was taken through GRCS NDRT SOPs and Incident Command Structure, the contents of WATSAN Kit 5, NDRT Mission Triggers, Personal Preparedness and security, use of PPEs, disinfection, prevention and control, water treatment, storage and distribution in emergencies, amongst others.



The Ofoase stream



Conducting the jar test



The water treatment process

Practically, the team was taken through scheme of the WATSAN Kit 5, its installation from the set up to the distribution of treated water, application of reagents and the conduct of the jar test to find out the appropriate turbidity and pH levels of the water being treated. The training was supported by the Government and People of Japan and the IFRC.

6:9 Ghana Election 2016 Preparedness

Ghana Election 2016 Peace Walk

Peace walk events were organized in Greater Accra, Volta and Ashanti regions with a total of about 7,500 people participating (Greater Accra region – 5,000; Volta region – 500; and Ashanti region – 2,000) comprising staff and volunteers of Ghana Red Cross Society and the general public.

The Greater Accra Peace walk was preceded with a speech on peace by the President of the Ghana Red Cross Society, Dr. Michael Agyekum Addo. He delivered a peace message in which he appealed to Ghanaians to be circumspect in whatever they say before, during and after the elections to ensure that peace prevailed in the country and to exercise restraint while casting their votes to choose candidates of their choice.

The President emphasized on the Neutrality, Impartiality and Independence of the Red Cross as the ultimate objectives to prevent and alleviate human suffering and protect life as well as ensuring respect for human dignity and spelt out the role of the Ghana Red Cross Society in the 2016 election process.



The President of the Ghana Red Cross Society delivering his speech to participants



The Peace walk march by Volunteers on the streets of Accra

6:9a Refresher training for volunteers

The Ghana Red Cross Society received DREF support preparedness plan for the Ghana 2016 Presidential and Parliamentary elections. A total of 200 volunteers in four high risk regions, namely, Greater Accra, Northern, Ashanti and Volta were trained, equipped and deployed through the DREF support. The remaining six regions also deployed a total of 302 volunteers before, during and after the elections. The volunteers were trained on psychosocial support, first and safer access, the fundamental principles, principles and values of the Movement, code of conduct.

6:10 Refresher training for National Disaster Response Team

Twenty (20) members of the National Disaster Response Team also received refresher training on psychosocial support, first and safer access, the fundamental principles, principles and values of the Movement, code of conduct, etc. and deployed in the high risk areas to support the deployed volunteers for two days at Kumasi in the Ashanti Region.

6:11 Community Disaster Preparedness and Response Teams

In 2016, under the Disaster Risk Reduction programme supported by the Swiss Red Cross a Consultant was commissioned to conduct a Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment in 125 communities in the Northern Region. At the end of the exercise 25 most vulnerable communities in five Districts, namely, West Gonja, West Mamprusi, Gushiegu, Nanumba and Bole were identified and as a result of which a “Framework for Community-led Disaster Management” document was produced.

The recommendation was the training and establishment of Community Disaster Preparedness and Response Teams and Community Disaster Oversight Committees in each of the 25 communities. In consultation with the leadership of the communities 15 people from each of the communities were selected and trained on overview of disaster management, emergency first aid, management of fires and swimming drills (boat accident prone communities).

The teams’ members were selected by members of the community who want to be better prepared for the hazards that threaten their communities. The roles of the teams are to promote community awareness of potential hazards and preparedness measures, conduct search and rescue, among others. The Oversight Committees are to ensure that the teams carry out their prescribed roles in the community.

All the CDPRTs have also been given some equipment to enhance their work. The equipment include: First aid kits, fire extinguishers, fire beaters, bicycles, life buoys, life jackets, and wellington boots.



Representative of the Kpasemkpe chief talking to the Team

The Regional Manager explaining to the Team how to use some the equipment in Diksi.

6:12 Assisting families, who are scattered, separated and without news in times of disasters and in specific social cases through an efficient and operational relief services

6:12a Red Cross Messages

A total of 10 Red Cross Messages were received out of which 3 were delivered whilst the addressees of the rest could not be traced.

6:13 Family reunification

A 17 year old girl Zehouri Sowon Prisca Chimene, who got separated from her parents in 2011 was reunited with her grandmother in Divo, in Cote D'Ivoire in collaboration with UNHCR, Ghana.

Twenty-one (21) Ghanaian children from Sefwi-Wiawso who were sent to South Africa to fulfil their Soccer ambitions were stranded in Pretoria but later repatriated to reunite with their families. This was done in collaboration with ICRC and a Migration organization in South Africa.

6:14 Develop and implement appropriate disaster risk reduction interventions for the vulnerable communities including food security and environmental management

A proposal on food security to support the vulnerable women farmers in the Upper East region could get funding from DFID in the year under review. Efforts are being made to look for funding in the subsequent year.

6:15 Build capacity within GRCS in addressing climate change to enhance effective risk reduction including contingency planning.

6:15a Contingency Planning training

Twenty (25) members of staff and volunteers from the regions were taken through the process of Contingency Planning as a result of which a draft of an Election Contingency Plan was developed. The Contingency Plan was implemented during the Presidential and Parliamentary elections in Ghana on 7th December, 2016. The training was sponsored by the Netherland Red Cross.

***Compiled by:
Communication Department***