

GHANA RED CROSS SOCIETY



ANNUAL REPORT

FOR

2018

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1. 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 153 districts with a volunteer strength of 77,625 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:

Fig 1 Staff Strength.

N O.	Region/ Headquarters	Regional Staff	Head Of Depart ment	HQ Staff	Volunt eer Staff	National Service Personnel	Regional Committee	HQ Board
1	Ashanti	2			13	19	11	
2	Eastern	2			5	7	12	
3	Volta	2			6		9	
4	Central	2			3	2	10	
5	Greater Accra	3			63	70	12	
6	Western	2			6		11	
7	Upper East	5			141		11	
8	Upper West	2			5		15	
9	Northern	3			4		13	
10	Brong Ahafo	3			23		8	
11	Headquarters		6	23	5	10		7
12	IFRC			1				
	TOTAL	26	6	24	274	108	112	7

Fig 1.1. Regional Volunteer Mapping.

	REGION	NUMBER OF DISTRICT	VOLUNTEER MEMBERSHIP		
	(Active)	(Active)	Total	Adult	Youth
1	Greater Accra	16	36,705	9,175	27,530
2	Ashanti Region	13	1,630	450	1,180
3	Brong Ahafo	20	3,561	916	2,645
4	Western Region	22	5,105	1,248	3,857
5	Eastern Region	12	1,573	737	836
6	Upper East Region	14	14,461	10,700	3,761
7	Upper West Region	10	2,892	658	2,234
8	Volta Region	13	4,000	800	3,200
9	Central Region	14	3,429	1,562	1,867
10	Northern Region	19	4,269	2,309	1,960
	TOTAL	153	77,625	28,555	49,070

2. 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 2018 has trained fifty -Six (56) organizations with a total number of 2,854 participants. The total amount yielded from the training is 86,642.14Ghana Cedis.

At the regional level, a total of 631.00 were trained in commercial first aid in the year under review. Non- commercial first aid talks were given to 2,323 people in the regions.

2:2 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, eighty-nine (89) accident cases were reported at Accra – Tema motorway involving Twenty-Nine (19) female, Forty Two (52) male, Ten (10) and children Eight (8).

Casualties were transported to Tema General Hospital, 37 military hospital and Ridge hospital. The ambulance attached to the post still is under repair and we need to replace the engine. We are appealing to the general public to assist the post with a new ambulance to ease the work load of the volunteers.

2.3 First Aid Services at Public Places.

- Fifty volunteers drawn from Mawuli SHS, OLA SHS, Mawuko SHS, Nurses' Training College, and Ho Technical University were at the parade ground on the 6th March, 2017 to render first aid services in Volta at Ho Jubilee Park.
- First Aid Trainings were organized for interested corporate organizations, Police Service, Cocoa Farmers Association, MasterCard Scholarship students and teachers from various schools in the Ashanti Region.
- The Central Regional branch with the support of the ambulance has been providing First Aid and Ambulance services during events such as the Independence celebration, the Oguaa Fetu Afahye and the National Premier League among others.
- Red Cross organized an industrial First Aid training for 20 staffs of Kibi Goldfields Company of Kibi in the East Akim District. Funding was provided by the company and the training was done in the company premises. We also trained 122 school teachers from different schools across the region. This includes 35 teachers from the School for the Blind in Akuapem North.

- Within the reviewed period, the region also in its bid to increase first aid services to the general public, two separate first aid lectures were held for the congregation of the Wesley Methodist and Presbyterian churches in Sunyani and Abessim all in the Sunyani Municipality. Approximately **600** congregants of the churches benefited from the lectures and demonstrations. The activity was also intended to enhance the corporate image and visibility of the Ghana Red Cross Society.
- Volunteers also administered first aid services at public gatherings, some of the public gatherings were; the Newmont workers wives health walk, the 61st independence day celebration parades region wide, funeral grounds of the late Nana Korang IV (Patron of the regional branch), the one week funeral rites of the late headmistress of Sunyani Senior High School, the annual inter Senior High Schools Football competition to state a few.
- 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 First Aid team was at the rehearsals and parade grounds to provide First Aid services.
- The University for Energy and Renewable Resources (UNER) youth link rendered First Aid services during the University’s Second congregation where the Vice President of the Republic of Ghana was the guest of honour. The Link First Aid team also administered First Aid services to their school football teams during their SRC week celebrations.



First Aid Training at School for the Blind person demonstrating CPR



Fig 2. Training Resources Available in the Regions.

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
	Total	27	3	35	20	31

Fig3. 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.

3. HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Implementation of activities for the health department for the year under review was snail-paced due to intermittent challenges with cash flow for the year 2018. However, a number of successful projects were coordinated and implemented in 2018 in addition to the efforts of our regional teams in carrying out some health care activities in their respective regions. At Headquarters level, the health department oversaw the successful implementation of the GH WASH project albeit some challenges, Cape Coast Cholera response project as well as the Second Year of Life (2YL) Vaccination campaign in partnership with CDC, Atlanta.

At least 20,870 people were supplied with safe water supply, 52, 169 reached with key messages on health and hygiene of which 14,250 were pupils from basic schools in the targeted areas under the GH WASH project and a total of 43 borehole were drilled in communities and schools and are set to be installed this year.

With regards to 2YL, a total of 2000 volunteers were trained in all three pilot regions to generate demand for second year of life vaccines (Measles Rubella and Men A), Vit A and growth monitoring. Consequently, a total of 288, 221 HH were reached within the three months implementation period. A total of 12122 caretakers were referred to send their children to health facilities relevant vaccination they had defaulted.

During the Cape Coast Cholera Response operation, a total of 31,200 HH were reached with health and hygiene messages and a total of 350, 000 people were sensitized on health and hygiene in the affected districts. This led to the implementation of zero mortality cholera response in the Cape Coast. In like vain, Delta Airline supported the implementation of cholera preparedness activities in the Greater Accra Region. Volunteer were trained and stationed in various health facilities to monitor Out Patient morbidity records and alert the Sword team for rapid response. Fortunately, no cholera outbreak was recorded in the Greater Accra region and much was not done since it was a preparedness operation.

In addition to the above, respective regional teams carried a number of health related activities which they have duly reported in their reports below.

3.1. CONTRIBUTION TO THE PREVENTION AND REDUCTION OF HIV & AIDS INCIDENCE FROM THE PRESENT NATIONAL PREVALENCE RATE OF 1.7% TO 1%

Under the set objective, the Regional branch was able to play a key role in the Regional AIDS Committee by attending all the planned meetings of the committee and also participating in all organized activities such as workshops, sensitizing education in schools, churches and mosques.

The Regional branch during the World AIDS Day organized HIV/AIDS Awareness Walk to marked the day, about 350 people participated and the day was grace with the Presence of the Regional Chairman Mr Selete Nyomi, AIDS Commission technical support unit Coordinator for Central Region, Mr William Yeboah who gave overview of current HIV/AIDS situation in the Region and recommended Red Cross for taking such initiative to support the fight against the spread of HIV/AIDS in the country.



3. PROMOTION OF COMMUNITY HEALTH THROUGH PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF MALARIA AS WELL AS INFECTIOUS DISEASES

As part of the IFRC-DREF Relief operations in Upper Denkyira East, (25) volunteers were given orientation on Social Mobilization and were deployed to various communities to undertake Community Engagement and Accountability campaign and were able to reach out to a population of 22,456 with key messages on prevention of Cholera and waterborne diseases.

During the distribution of Relief items 250 families were given mosquito nets as a way of prevention and control of Malaria.



CONTRIBUTION TO REDUCING MORTALITY AND MORBIDITY BY REDUCING WATER BORNE & SANITATION RELATED DISEASES THROUGH PROMOTION OF PERSONAL HYGIENE AND ENVIRONMENTAL SANITATION

Though there was no funding to support such activities, as part of sustainability approach to complement the 2017 activities, the beneficiaries communities were supplied with BCC and IEC material to continue with sensitization campaign as the Region continues distributing veronica buckets and stands to some schools to support the promotion of hand-washing.



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Ability to work things out that has led to the acquisition of (3) Gota phones from Bureau of National Communications to support our Emergency Response services in the Region
- Organized a successful HIV/AIDS Awareness Walk to support the fight against the spread of HIV/AIDS.
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3.2.HIV/AIDS AWARENESS WALK 2018

As part of the international HIV/AIDS day, the Regional office organized HIV/AIDS awareness walk through some principal streets of Ho in December. About 1000 people participated in the, including the Regional Minister, the Regional branch of Ghana AIDS Commission, The Ho MCE and the media. Fifteen schools from six districts were present.

Ghana AIDS Commission supported the walk with educational materials. With the help of the national service personnel, they were able to open new school links who also took part in the walk. The walk was intended to raise funds for the Region so fundraising cards were printed.

Key achievements:

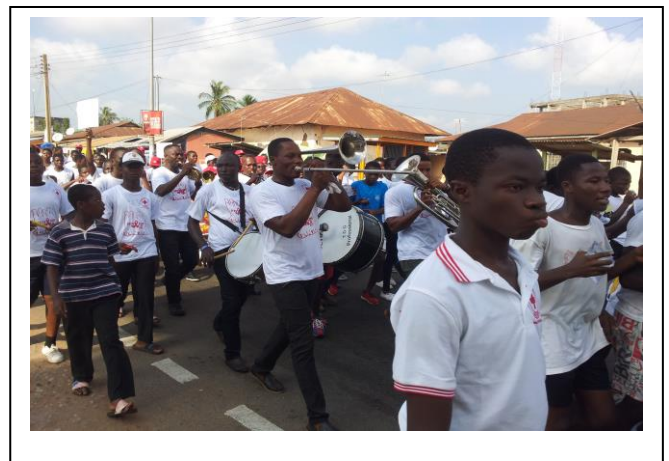
Many new school links were added to the reactivated old ones and patrons were actively involved.

Challenges

Due to delay in the cards, many of the school links could not participate hence, the region could not raise many funds as expected.

A one day orientation workshop was held for ten (10) Rapid Response Team members at Adaklu Waya in the Adaklu District of the Volta Region on 26th February, 2018. The participants were taken through the causes of cholera and prevention, the role of the Rapid Response Team in household sanitization, malaria prevention and the proper use of the LLINs. Adaklu Waya and Adaklu Anfoe were the two communities close to each other selected for the ten (10) days exercise. The Rapid Response Team moved from household to household and the general public sensitizing them on cholera prevention. They took the

opportunity to educate the households on the need to prevent malaria and proper hanging of Long Lasting Insecticide Treated Nets (LLINs). The volunteers identified some vulnerable people who either do not have the LLINs or the one they have is torn beyond repairs.





3.3 2YL IMMUNIZATION

A 3-month social mobilization and demand generation exercise was organized in Adaklu District and Ho Municipal. It was organized in collaboration with Coalition of NGOs in health and Ghana Health Service with support from CDC. It was under the theme “Protecting children from vaccine preventable disease (VPD) by strengthening the second year of life (2YL) immunization platform in Ghana”.

The specific objectives of this partnership are to:

Raise community awareness on vaccination services (MR2 and Men A vaccines) provided during a child’s 2YL as the primary objective

- Promote awareness of other services provided during the 2YL including growth monitoring (weighing), mosquito bed-net distribution, and vitamin A supplementation
- Offer high quality interpersonal communication to inform parents/caregivers about vaccines and other services provided during the 2YL and to answer questions they might have
- Facilitate community engagement and linkage to the health system for parents/caregivers through referrals

As part of awareness creation and education, the GRCS delivered key immunization messages agreed upon with the CDC to target populations.

The programme was a successful one even though there were challenges.

4. Eye Care Health Program

4.1 Partnership and Arrangements

The EHP runs on a tripartite partnership between the GRCS, MOH/GHS and the SRC. Under the partnership arrangement, the GRCS being the primary partner of the SRC in Ghana provided volunteers to offer various HPDP services under the program. The MOH recognized as the policy holder of health services in the country provided through the GHS, all the medical staff for service provision. The SRC provided coordination, monitoring, quality programming and other program support services. The GRCS has trained and retains a corps of volunteers

who provide HPDP services at community level. This system which comes up as the main factor responsible for increase in both surgical and medical outreach is fully managed by the GRCS. 15 health facilities were supported by the Red Cross to provide eye health services across 23 Districts in the NR. The general population in the NR was targeted as beneficiaries of the EHP, however through a sustained education by community based volunteers, the level of support was emphasized on women, children and the poor; the acceptance of women to call at the health facilities appreciated significantly; 21,296 females against 18,134 males.

4.2 Service Provision

39,630 individuals reported for consultation and treatment. This is a 23% appreciation over the previous year's output of 32,301. A total of 504 community outreach visits were conducted by 14 health facilities of which attendance was 49,617; a 15% appreciation over the output of the preceding year which recorded 43,178. 172 school visits were carried out of which 45,620 children were screened; a 50% appreciation against the output of the preceding year (2016) that recorded 30,361. 13 AACHIB camps were organized during the year of which 19,710 children benefitted from free consultation and screening through Red Cross support. 14,200 children with ailments were treated while 900 children were refracted for optical correction of which 339 children were provided with spectacles. A total of 3,891 eyes were operated within the year of which 2,363 were cataract operations. This records a 12% appreciation of the performance over the previous year (2,109). The Red Cross supported 1,409 of the cases with consumables and post-operative drugs. The volunteers conducted cataract case searches reaching and referring 3,954 individuals suspected to have cataract. 1,097 of the suspected cases were confirmed as operable cataracts. 1,225 eye patients were escorted by volunteers to the health facilities for care i.e. clinical and surgery. The trained volunteers assisted the ophthalmic nurses by mobilizing communities for the ONs to undertake clinical outreach. Over 60% of the population identified by the volunteers for support is mostly of a class that under normal circumstances would not be able to access the service due various inhibiting factors including their geographical location, transportation accessibility, their financial status etc. Over 900 patients qualifying within this extreme poor bracket received full subsidy under the pro poor program with transportation, feeding and other needs for their upkeep during the surgery.

4.1. Capacity-Building

The SRC committed funds for the construction of an office facility for the GRCS in the NR to enhance volunteer management within the EHP. The office was completed within the year. All necessary furniture, fixtures and fittings were provided to make the office conducive to operate from. The building has a large office housing the Regional Manager and is used to hold light meetings and conferences. It has also two smaller offices housing the SRC PSU and the GRCS eye care project officer.

5. STRATEGIC PLAN 2016-2020: BROAD OBJECTIVE 2:

Scale up programs and projects for service delivery to most vulnerable and affected individuals, households and communities to prevent and alleviate human suffering.

The Vision First Eye care project is extended to three (3) new districts namely: East Gonja, Soboba and Savelugu/Nanton. One Hundred and Fifty Eye Care Volunteers have been trained in these three new districts to carry out house to house education on Eye Health and refer people with eye problems to the health facilities for medical and surgical care. Thirty new eye care volunteers were also trained in East Mamprusi- Gambaga, to complement the efforts of the Ophthalmic Nurses in the district by doing the house to house education on eye health and related issues in their communities

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

- To provide preventive and corrective primary eye care services

6. BLOOD DONATION

A voluntary blood donation was organized on the 31st March, 2018 at Tamale. Members donated 68 pints of blood to the TTH blood bank. West Mamprusi District also organized blood donation at the WaleWale District Hospital. 31 pints of blood was donated to the blood bank.

7. SECOND YEAR LIFE (2YL)

In August to December 2018 saw the region implemented a joint programme dubbed Second Year of Life (2YL) with Ghana Health Service, Centre for National Culture, Behasung Integrated Development Organisation (BIDO). The Ghana Red Cross Society was supported with funding by Centre for Disease Control in the United States of America (CDC) in the execution of the project



VOLUNTEER TRAINING ON 2YL

8. MONITORING VISITS

The Northern Region had official visits from the National and International levels. The Secretary General, National Health Coordinator, Director of National Eye care Unit (NECU) and the Swiss Red Cross Country Representative visited the region and to some beneficiary communities of our programmes.



9. STRATEGIC PLAN 2016-2020: BROAD OBJECTIVE 2:

Scale up programs and projects for service delivery to most vulnerable and affected individuals, households and communities to prevent and alleviate human suffering.

9.1 Specific objective 1:

Improve the health status of vulnerable and affected communities by reducing morbidity and mortality arising from common diseases and health emergencies. Students from the school links, Volunteers, members, regional committee members and staff embarked on a health walk to raise awareness of Ghana Red Cross Society. Donation of blood was held at Adehyeman lorry terminal on the first of May, 2018 to the KATH blood bank, hand washing exercise was also organized for schools.

10. GHANA WASH

As part of activities of the WASH project, 63 volunteers from the project communities carried out intensive door-to-door sensitization promoting health and hygiene in the communities. Key topics covered included; water safety and storage, hand washing, prevention and treatment of diarrhoea, environmental cleanliness, and waste management as well other sanitation related topics. A total of **483 HH** with **2897 (1457 females and 1419 males)** people were reached in the communities with education on these topics. These volunteers promoted health and hygiene in strategic community institutions such as markets places, religious institutions and schools. Six (6) school hygiene clubs were established in all six schools in the implementing districts in the region.

In implementing CLTS 4 communities were triggered of which 21 HH non-subsidized latrines were constructed in the communities. 18 boreholes were drilled for both communities and schools in the implementing districts in the communities. There were intermittent supportive

monitoring to volunteers and DOs at the community levels. Some significant change stories from beneficiaries were collected and a sample is captured:

A beneficiary of Yaw Boadi community in the Ahafo Ano South district named Mariama Usman said ‘my children used to defecate at the back of the house but after the Red Cross Volunteers came and told me of the health implications, I have bought chamber pot which they use. I immediately dispose it off at the community latrine. Ayekoo!!! Red Cross for the good work’



Strengthen Community resilience and institutional capacity to ensure disaster Risk reduction, response and impact reduction.

Responding effectively and timely to all disasters affecting the most vulnerable communities- There were First Aid Services at stadium, farmer’s day celebration, and funerals, among others.

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

Volunteers organized clean up exercises in all the districts and on National sanitation days as well.

10.1 Health Programmes

Ghana Red Cross Society, through its programs and projects continues to provide service delivery to most vulnerable and affected individuals, households and communities to prevent and alleviate human suffering. The region has carried out some health promotion activities that have impacted behaviour change in the project communities. Though some projects have folded up, including the famous BENCOM, the impact remains to be seen in the communities.

Fig 4. Introduction (Revisit to the WASH Agenda and Previous Activities)

Health Programmes	Communities involved/ locations	No. of volunteers involved	Activities performed	In charge	collaborators
	39 Communities in 9 Districts	455 comprising			IFRC/RC,

Flagship Project on WATSAN dubbed GH WASH	Proposed by Nestle	335 males and 120 females 68 School bases SHEP comprising 36 males and 32 females	WATSAN activities including provision of water and sanitation infrastructure including water point repairs and construction of new ones	GRCS	NESTLE, SRC, GHS and GRCS
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Ghana Red Cross Society started its first Global Water and Sanitation Initiative project. An initial site evaluation and identification was conducted, including mapping and screening of communities in Eastern region based on predefined criteria. Nine districts were selected, 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 the selected districts in mid-November 2015. Rapid Mobile Phone-based system (RAMP) was used to collect and analyse data and measure progress and impact. The project aimed at improving health status and resilience of 52 cocoa producing communities in rural and semi urban areas of Eastern and Ashanti region, through the provision of water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services. The project sought to reach 51,840 people with health and hygiene education services; 34,750 people with sanitation facilities; 43,500 with water supply facilities and improved capacity of 1300 staff and community volunteers to manage and maintain WASH services in the targeted communities.

10.2 Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) and Community Based Health and First Aid (CBHFA)

As part of capacity building efforts, the project organized a training of trainers' workshop in Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) approaches for Red Cross district officers and district officers of Community Development, Environmental Health and Sanitation Agency. CLTS is an integrated approach to achieving and sustaining open defecation free (ODF) status. CLTS entails the facilitation of community's analysis of their sanitation profile, their practices of defecation and the consequences, leading to collective action to become open defecation free (ODF). Community members are thus encouraged to build and use their own latrines.

On a later date, the CLTS team including district officers of the Health promotion office of the Ghana Health Service (GHS) and School Health Education Programme (SHEP) of the Ghana Education Service (GES) were trained in CBHFA. CBHFA is a tool that equips trainees to be able to facilitate or demonstrate the skills to facilitate assessment and prioritize relevant learning and community actions. CBHFA also sought to equip trainees freely use various new facilitating tools that support Learning by Doing, such as reflective learning and needs for living model. This was done to have trainers develop competence in coaching and peer support and to become a resource pool for the district in training volunteers.

10.3 Ghana WASH water infrastructure assessment and volunteer recruitment

In August of 2017, Ghana Red Cross Society in conjunction with pump mechanics trained by Ghana Community Water and Sanitation Agency (CWSA) and District Organizers conducted an assessment on functionality status of water infrastructure in the project communities. The assessment was part of the project objective of increasing water supply to target communities and schools through rehabilitation or improving non-functioning water infrastructure to contribute to sustainable provision of safe water through increased quality, coverage, accessibility and improved capacity in the operations and management of water infrastructure by the target communities.

10.4 Volunteer Recruitment

In course of the assessment, the team used the opportunity to recruit volunteers for training. About 565 project volunteers within the 52 communities and schools of the WASH project were recruited. The recruited volunteers were to be trained in community based health and first aid to become social mobilization agents as part of building community based capacity in improving access to health and hygiene information. The Volunteer recruitment was done in consultation with traditional leaders. The process involved organizing a community meeting with represented by all segments of the community including women, youth and representative of the leadership structures existing in the community. The team leader explained project objectives, roles and responsibilities of community and roles and responsibilities and calibre of volunteers and role of Ghana Red Cross.

10.5 Training of Volunteers

On November 14th 2017, the team of facilitators comprising district officers of GHS, GES EHSA and Red Cross DOs started the step down training for the recruited volunteers in the thirty-nine (39) project communities in the Eastern Region. The training was organized to equip volunteers with the requisite knowledge that will help promote water and sanitation related issues in their communities. In addition to volunteers trained, the School Health Education Programme (SHEP) coordinators in each community were also trained.

The last badge of trainings was finished on 1st December 2017. A total of four hundred and fifty-five (455) volunteers comprising three hundred and thirty five (335) males, and one hundred and twenty (120) females were trained. Also sixty-eight (68) SHEP coordinators made up of thirty two (32) females and thirty six (36) males were trained. In all, 523 community volunteers were trained.



11. Reporting

For reporting purposes, all volunteers were given reporting forms into which all WASH activities would be recorded. Community leaders and DOs were also given mobile phones for data collect. Additionally, DOs were given Digital cameras and motorbikes to facilitate their work

11.1 Water Point Repairs

Soon after the trainings were completed, CWSA trained pump mechanics were contracted to start pump repairs. Red Cross therefore acquired parts that were needed for the repair and the mechanics did their job. About 50 per cent of repairs were completed by the end of December.



Commissioning of Akooko Water System

As part of the Nestle Ghana funded WASH project, the Akooko piped water scheme was rehabilitated by the Red Cross and later commissioned. The commissioning was done in collaboration with the Community Water and Sanitation Agency in Koforidua on 8th May 2018 in Akooko community. The commissioning was held in conjunction with the world Red Cross day which is celebrated every year by the Red Cross. Cultural troops were invited to grace the occasion. The Water Scheme in Akooko had broken down for over three years and had not been repaired due to financial constraints. The rehabilitation of the water scheme was a great relief to the Community Water and Sanitation Agency and the people of Akooko community. The event saw the participation of GRCS staff and volunteers, Community Water and

Sanitation Agency, the District Assembly, SHEP Coordinators, Environmental Health, Ghana Health Service, Chief, elders and some community folks from Akooko community.



11.0 WASH IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES

While on monitoring in January 2018, the monitoring team came to the realization that, nearly all the communities' volunteers were not using the monitoring forms/books provided. According to the volunteers, the training on how to fill the forms was rushed despite the complexity in filling the forms. Transfer of data from the forms to the provided phones was equally challenging.

As a result, the monitoring team had to visit and retrain all 38 communities and 528 volunteers in the correct way of reporting. Depending on size of volunteers, training lasted from a minimum of 3 hours to a maximum of 6 hours.

Most part of the First quarter and the month of April were used to carry out these activities. The monitoring and training was further constrained by vehicular damage.

11.1 Training of Replacement Volunteers

By the beginning of the second quarter, there was the need to train replacement volunteers in certain communities. In Densusu, one person, instead of 3 recruited volunteers attended the official training in November 2017. By April 2018, this sole volunteer in Densusu was in the third trimester of pregnancy. It meant that, Densusu did not have any active WASH volunteer. In Adukrom community, one out of seven volunteers was active and in Adotowa, 2 out of 5 volunteers were active. As a result, 2 days training was held for 13 volunteers to replace the inactive ones.

12.1.Overall Objective: Reduce the number of deaths, illness and impact from diseases and public health emergencies. Specific Objective (c): Strengthen the capacity of volunteers and community members to respond to public health emergencies and disasters.

- a) The Mothers clubs in Ajalaja No. 1 and 2 have continued to process gari for sale. Within the reviewed period, 20 maxi bags of gari was processed and sold. The processing equipment has also opened an income generation avenue for some individual community women to raise some funds to support the husbands pay the school fees of their children.

- b) The Fakwasi processing centre has become dormant as the women no longer use the facility. They have been challenged by lack of market for the gari due to the bad nature of the road linking the community to the markets.

Fig 5. Ghana Red Cross Health Services, Eye Care Unit

The work force of the unit as at the reporting period stood at 13.

Doctor of Optometry	1
Manager /Optician	1
Optician	1
National Service persons	3
Customer Relation /Front Desk	1
NHIS Claims Officer	1
Accounts Officer	1
Dispensing Assistant	1
General Office Assistant	1
Security	1
Cleaner/orderly	1

Fig 6. Out Patients (OP) attendance over the period under review were as follows;

Month	2017	2018
January	822	617
February	828	513
March	779	667
April	790	522
May	882	640
June	983	564
July	688	523
August	807	789
September	883	690
October	888	768
November	748	912
December	482	425
Totals	9,580	7,630

Comparing the 2017 OPD attendance with 2018, it would be realized that the number of persons who accessed eye health at the unit had reduced. This could be attributed to the de-accreditation of the unit by the National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS).



12. Challenges

- The building in which the eye services is currently housed has become inadequate hence posing a lot of spacing difficulties.
- The Visual Field Analyses broke down towards the end of 2018; this has led to the loss of highly needed income.
- The withdrawal of accreditation of the unit by the NHIS has consequently plunked the unit into dwindling finances.

13. Recommendations

- There is the need to either relocate or expand the building housing the unit.
- The National Society should seek means of partnering with foreign volunteer organization that are into eye care delivery so that eye care professionals could volunteer to work in the facility to reduce the high cost of human resource remunerations.
- All efforts must be synergized to work toward the re accreditation of the unit to enhance its survival and sustainability.

14. Conclusion

The year 2018 has been a very challenging on. The inability for the region to raise the needed internally generated funds led to the inability to execute most of the activities planned. No funds were received from the national secretariat too. All that notwithstanding, the region tried hard to execute some of the core activities of the Organization.

The region looks forward for a more proactive attitude towards work by staff and volunteers alike for an enhanced co-operate image for the Brong Ahafo Regional branch of the Ghana Red Cross Society and the National Society at large.

15. HEALTH CARE ACTIVITIES

15.1. 2YL (SECOND YEAR OF LIFE) DEMAND GENERATION CAMPAIGN

15.2. INTRODUCTION

The Ghana Red Cross Society (GRCS) in collaboration, with GHS, CDC and other partners is implementing a Second Year of Life (2YL) project on vaccination demand generation and defaulters tracing at household levels in two Districts Accra Metro and Ga East in Greater Accra Region. The project involved one thousand two hundred (1200) Volunteers. The Volunteers were educated on the purpose of the training which involved GRCS, GHS, CDC and other NGO's.

As part of activities underlying volunteers' work in the communities, the Region took part in the trainers of trainers' workshop on the 2YL for all targeted districts leaders; subsequently they trained the community level volunteers for household immunization demand-creation, Measles vaccination with emphasis on 2YL in the communities. The activities in this project were aimed at achieving the following objectives;

- ▶ Raise community awareness on vaccination services (MR2 and MenA vaccines) provided during a child's 2nd year of life as the primary objective
- ▶ Promote awareness of other services provided during the 2YL including growth monitoring (weighing), mosquito bed-net distribution, and vitamin A supplementation
- ▶ Offer high quality interpersonal communication to inform parents/caregivers about vaccines and other services provided during the 2YL and to answer questions they might have.
- ▶ Facilitate community engagement and linkage to the health system for parents/caregivers through referrals.

16. THE TRAINING SESSION

The training comprises of the history of Red Cross and its fundamental Principles, the Importance of Vaccination and the use of the Vaccination Chart, presentation on 2YL, presentation on Measles, communication skills and strategy, social mobilization strategies, reporting format (tally sheet, referral forms) and implementation Plan

- They were taught community entry, which has to do with how they approach the community. The communication skills required by a volunteer.
- They were also taught social mobilization of the households that they will be visiting.
- The resource persons from the Ghana Health Service took the Volunteers through the importance and the effects of not taking the right number of injection that protects babies from diseases.
- They were taken through on how to determine if mothers are giving their ward the required injection to prevent their ward from diseases.
- The Volunteers were taken through the reporting format or the tally sheet and the referral forms
- They were also taught how to tally the data from the various household during the field work that they will be conducting in households they visit.
- The volunteers were told what is expected of them when on the field and the conduct during the exercise which will last for three months.

- The volunteers were divided into groups so that they can be delegated to the various communities.



Briefing of Volunteers before social mobilization

16.1. ACTIVITIES

- ▶ Trained 1,200 at Volunteers at Accra Metro and Ga East
- ▶ Deployed 1,200 Volunteers to all Communities in Ga East and Accra Metro
- ▶ Monitored Volunteers activities from Region and National Headquarters.
- ▶ The Team leaders took part in the steering committee meetings at the Districts level
- ▶ Monitored Volunteers activities from Region and National Headquarters.
- ▶ Team leader met and evaluate the program for the month
- ▶ The National monitoring team met the Regional team for the evaluation of the project to address challenges
- ▶ The Region took part in all the steering committee meeting
- ▶ Data collection and compilation
- ▶ Final evaluation of the project by Team Leaders and Staff



17. REPORT ON CHOLERA PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE PROJECT (SWORD AND SHIELD TEAMS) ACTIVITIES

18.1 Introduction

This is a status update report on progress made in regard to Accra Cholera Preparedness and Response Project from January to October 2018.

The Cholera Preparedness and Response Project implemented by Greater Accra Region with the Sword and Shield approach which focused on the response to cholera reported cases. The Ghana Red Cross with support from Delta Airline to continue the Project for ten (10) months. According to UNICEF and Ghana Health Service, Ghana has recorded Cholera cases in other Regions rather than Accra, like Central Region among others

The Greater Region has not reported any case of cholera. Nevertheless, there is still critical need to continue with cholera surveillance, prevention and control activities particularly WASH activities, school education, social mobilization and enhanced surveillance and alert systems. In addition, more investment should now be directed towards cholera preparedness activities.

The Swords and Shield Team were trained, while the Alert Volunteers at Health Facility were trained in January and stationed in Eight Health Facilities in the Greater Accra such as Adabraka Polyclinic, Achimota Hospital, Maamobi General Hospital, Kaneshie Polyclinic, LEKMA General Hospital, LA General Hospital and GA South Municipal Hospital and Amamfrom community Clinic.

18.1 REFRESHER TRAINING OF VOLUNTEERS

The Region organized refresher training for the Volunteers and Districts Officers which helped them to revise all notes pertaining to the deployment protocols and to improve their performance.

Twenty (28) volunteers took part in the refresher training and five (5) representatives from the Delta Airline. The Volunteers were taken through the History of Red Cross and the Seven Fundamental Principles of Red Cross.

The Volunteers were also taken through project overview, goals and objectives which aims at addressing all the gaps to identify during deployment, the deployment protocols, the overview of Cholera, the cultural practices which enhance the spread of Cholera and ways to address them and activities such as poor hygiene practices which contribute significantly to cholera transmission and the handling of toiletries and exposure of faecal matters are the major risk of transmitting cholera, the Cholera response (the Sword and Shield Concept) and their roles and responsibilities, deployment protocols and what the Team Leader must do before, during and after deployment. Summary forms and guidelines and checklist for activities at households and the communities, how to use pamphlets and posters as social mobilization tools etc.

The Volunteers were also trained on the importance of disinfection using chlorine, and how to prepare chlorine content for disinfection of drinking water, washing clothes, surfaces, washing body fluids.

The Team was taken through hygiene promotion which to prevent diarrheal diseases and its related health problems and promoting better hygiene practices such as personal hygiene, domestic hygiene, water hygiene, food hygiene and the process of proper hand washing.

Volunteers were trained on the importance of correct data collection and information which is key in earning the trust of Donors. The Alert Team or the Health Facility Volunteers were educated on the reporting format and the order of communication and the importance of scanning for GPS location to facilitate the work.

They were taken through social mobilisation to promote and increase awareness on cholera prevention and build capacity of people to change, infection prevention and control practices within the communities were not left out; e.g. hand washing, food safety, Environmental hygiene, to promote early detection and reporting among at-risk and vulnerable groups.

The Project Supervisor from National Headquarters took the Volunteers through the community entry strategies. He said the importance of the community entry strategy cannot be relegated to the background; it enhances effective implementation of any community programs. He said the opinion leaders and all stakeholders must be informed and sometimes involved them in some of the activities. Culture diversity must be respected, language choices, identification of Volunteers are very important. The entry and exit routes must be identify before starting the community work. He said the procedure must be followed he gave some practical examples where in a certain community some people presented themselves as community leaders which turn out to be wrong and nearly disrupted their plan of activities.

Fig 7. DETAILS OF THE HEALTH FACILITY VOLUNTEERS

NAME OF VOLUNTEER	DISTRICT	HEALTH FACILITY	TEL NO
Shullammite Rhodalyn Asamoah	Ashieduketeke	Adabraka Polyclinic	0540210175
Ntiamoah Eric	Ga South (Amanfrom)	Amanfrom Community Clinic	0275766146/ 05578041786
Eunice Opoku-Dwamena	Ladma	La General Hospital	0209610548
Agbemehia Lydia	Ayawaso Sub- Metro	Maamobi General Hospital	0548332502
Hansan Twum-Ampofo	Lekma	Lekma General Hospital	0248186363
Laureta Naa Adjete	North Okaikoi	Achimota Hospital	0267552741
Michael Ofori-Attah	Okaikoi South	Kaneshie Polyclinic	0541550956
Phyllis Ofori-Faron	Ga South	Ga South General Hospital	0244738576

The Alert Team and Volunteers were given Polo- shirt for easy identification.

The Sword and Shield were involved in social mobilization in some selected Schools in all the Districts because there were no reported cholera cases in the Region. The schools were educated on hand washing, cholera prevention, etc.



17.1. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The Regional Manager paid regular visit to the various facilities

The monthly meeting with all the Facility Volunteers to address challenges

The Volunteers submitted monthly report to the Regional office

17.2. CONCLUSION

The Ghana Health Service appreciated our involvement in Cholera preparedness and response project and they hope the collaboration continues so together we can put a stop to the recurrence of Cholera outbreak in the Country.

We hope our main Partner (Delta Airline) renew the partnership to continue the fight against cholera.

18. HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICE/ COMMUNITY PROJECTS

The Swiss supported Maternal and child health program is currently in the Region. Four Districts are benefiting from it. They are Binduri; Bongo; Kassena Nankana East and N.

The coverage's made are very impressive. A separate achievement report on MNCH will follow shortly as an appendix.

19. DISASTER DEPARTMENT

Disaster Management is one of the core areas of the Ghana Red Cross Society which operates to ensure that the impact of disasters on victims and the population is mitigated. The Disaster Management Department aims at increasing community resilience, minimizing community vulnerability and risk to disasters to avoid or limit the diverse impact of disasters within the context of sustainable development. Through risk assessment and identification, risk analysis, planning for risk reduction activities, the Department further plans with communities and implement proactive and preventive measures while strengthening community capacity to resist, cope with and recover from disasters. In achieving its goal of assisting communities

build their resilience, prepare and respond to disasters the Disaster Management Department is guided by the IFRC Strategy 2020, the Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction for the West Coast Region 2015-2018 and Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030.

19.1. Strengthen community resilience and institutional capacity

19.2. Design effective risk mapping for timely and appropriate response to human-induced and natural disaster.

The Northern Regional branch with support from the Swiss Red Cross carried out refresher training for the Community Disaster Preparedness and Response Teams (CDPRTs) in (25) twenty five communities. The refresher training was on First Aid, Fire Prevention and Safety tips, Peace and Security, Sanitation, Tree planting, Search and Rescue in open water.



20. Presentation of logistics to CDPRTs

Materials and equipment to enhance the operation of the established were distributed to the 25 Communities Disaster Preparedness and Response Teams (CDPRTs) in the five zones of the Northern Region. The presentation ceremony was done by the Disaster Management Coordinator, Swiss Red Cross Logistics/DRR Coordinator, Regional Manager and District Organisers. The Materials that were presented to the (25) twenty five CDPRTs were as follows: Bicycles ,Life Jackets (Vest) ,Life Buoys, Nylon Ropes, Cutlasses, Wellington Boots, First Aid Kits, Red Cross T-shirts, Red Cross Jackets, Fire Extinguishers, Fire beaters, and Tree seedlings. The distribution was done in June 2017. The Zones and communities are as below: Fig. 8.

S/no.	ZONES	COMMUNITIES
1.	West Mamprusi	Duu, Dibsi, Kpasenkpe, Zua and Fio Naya
2.	Gushegu	Yawungu, Yishei, Kpugi, Zamashegu and Shebo
3.	Nanumba	Zebaga, Dakpam, Nabayili, Pusuga, Jangbojado
4.	West Gonja	Disa, Lingbinsi, Amedzrovi, Adape and Guo
5.	Bole	Zebaga, Dakpam, Nabayili, Pusuga, Jangbojado

The items were handed over to the Community Disaster Committees which have oversight responsibility of ensuring the good use and maintenance of the items as well as the performance

of the CDPRTs. In the North Gonja District, Daboya community was presented with Lifebuoys and Life Jackets for use in the boat transport over the White Volta.

The pictures below shows the handing over of the items to the communities.





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

23.1. Refresher Training

A five –day refresher training was held for NDRT members. They were taken through disaster needs assessment, WATSAN in emergencies, logistics, and WATSAN kit 5, among others. A total of 30 participants made up of volunteers and staff were trained.



Engagement with community leaders during assessment during field work

24. Relief Distribution

In July 2018 some communities in 4 regions, namely, Greater Accra, Central, Volta, and Western regions were affected. A total of 1,000 most affected families, 250 families per region, were identified and registered after the completion of the assessment in the various communities in the 4 regions affected. In order to facilitate the distribution of relief items, one-off distribution ration chits were printed and given to the beneficiaries before the distribution exercise.

The non-food items procured were as follows:

Fig 8

S/no.	ITEM	QUANTITY
1.	Blankets	1,000
2.	Mosquito nets	1,000
3.	Mats	1,000
4.	Bed sheets	1,000

Below are the affected regions and number of beneficiaries per region.

Fig 9

S/no.	REGION	NO. OF BENEFICIARIES
1.	Greater Accra	250
2.	Volta	250
3.	Central	250
4.	Western	250
	Total	1,000

A total of fifteen (15) communities in the 4 affected regions benefited from the relief distribution.



Verification of beneficiaries before the distribution of relief items



Beneficiary receiving her items

Health education in a School

25. Health Education

A total of about 150,000 educated through hygiene promotion exercises involving 100 volunteers in the relief operation.

25.1 District Disaster Response Teams activities

25.2. DDRT response

The District Disaster Response Teams in Sekondi-Takoradi, Shama, and Tarkwa responded to gas explosion, fire outbreaks and a road crash during the year under review.

25.3. Distribution of sanitation equipment to District Disaster Response Teams

Sanitation equipment were distributed to the four districts as part of the Swiss Red Cross sponsored Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) project.

Each of the District Disaster Response Teams 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.

The Pru District has used the equipment to do clean up campaigns in the Yeji community. 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.

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.

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

26. Clean up exercise

As part of activities of the Region, the office collaborated with Tema District and embarked on clean-up exercise at community 1 and the community members were encouraged by the Red Cross Volunteers to have a regular clean-up exercise. A total of about 150 people participated.

The Pru District Disaster Response Team organized clean up exercise in the Yeji community and participated by about 100 people in the community.

27. Toende dam

The Toende dam is an irrigation facility was constructed with the assistance of Swiss Red Cross in 1993 but damaged during the 2007 floods. Through the advocacy of Regional office of the Ghana Red Cross Society the dam has been repaired by the Assembly, whilst the fencing was done by World Vision. Currently, the dam is being utilised for the cultivation of vegetables by over 500 farmers including women.

A proposal on food security to support the vulnerable women farmers in the Upper East region could not get funding. Efforts are being made to look for funding.



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

28.1. Contingency Planning training

Currently GRCS has a draft Contingency Planning on Elections. Efforts are being made to validate it and also to produce a Multi-Hazard Contingency Plan.

28.2. Orientation on Climate Change Adaptation

In September 2018 the staff, volunteers and stakeholders were given orientation on Climate Change Adaptation by a Consultant from the Swiss Red Cross. The Stakeholders included NADMO. A total of 25 participants attended.

29. Regional Disaster Management Workshop.

In September 2018 a Regional Disaster Management Workshop was organized in Tamale. The 35 participants were Swiss Red Cross staff from Africa and Middle East: Ghana, Lebanon, Egypt, Ethiopia, Sudan, South Sudan, Mali, Togo and Switzerland. It was aimed at strengthening their capacities to help reduce risk and save lives. It was organized by the Swiss Red Cross and hosted by the Ghana Red Cross Society.

The President of the Ghana Red Cross Society Dr. Michael Agyekum Addo opened the workshop. He said in his opening address that the workshop was in line with the thematic objectives of disaster management at the West Africa and Middle East Programme from 2017 to 2020. He said the workshop was timely for Ghana Red Cross Society as disaster risk management was significantly captured in the strategic plan of GRCS from 2016 to 2020. He said it was relevant to the enhancement of the society's humanitarian activities across the country. The President said Ghana has experienced its own share of disasters, example the floods disaster in Accra, the cholera outbreak, Cerebral Spinal Meningitis outbreak, the Melcom Building collapse and the Stadium Disaster.

He mentioned that the GRCS has advocated and built the capacities of teams in the Northern region and Upper East region where the Red Cross have partnered with the regional, district

authorities and communities to develop a Disaster Management Framework which identifies community hazards, actions required to address them and responsibilities.

The leader of the Swiss Red Cross delegation, Mr Indermuhle Lorenz commended the GRCS for hosting the one week long workshop.



Participants
A cross-section of participants in the field

30. Organisational Department

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

30.1 Youth Department

The youth department has the National Youth Co-coordinator 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.

Fig 10

	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

Fig 11.

	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

31. YOUTH ACTIVITIES

The Youth in Upper East Region donated sixty 60 pints of blood to Bolgatanga Regional Hospital on Independence Day celebration. This was the society contribution to reducing maternal mortality in the Region.

They also carried out first Aid service during football matches played in the Region. First Aid services were also provided during the Independence Day celebrations by the youth. During

his Excellency Nana Akuffo Addo's visit to the region they provided first aid services to the teams' crowd

The Youth Organizers, link Organizers and District Coordinators visited all Schools in January, 2018, and shared with them the program and activities of the year (2018)

They discussed the programs and seek the support of School Authorities in the implementation of the youth programs.

The Regional Youth activities are as follows Training of Teachers, Youth Day Celebration, inter schools First Aid Competition, Youth Camp, HIV/AIDS awareness walk.

31.1. Youth Day Celebration

Greater Accra Region organized Youth Day and funfair in March 2018 at Aburi Botanical gardens, 56 schools took part in the Youth Day and funfair with a total number of 2580 of students. The first to third Schools were awarded with Industrial First Aid Kits.

31.2. Inter Schools First Aid Competition

Also an Inter-Schools First Aid Competition was organized for schools in Greater Accra at Ghana International Trade Fair and once again 72 schools participated.

First Aid Kits were given to all schools in attendance



31.3 Regional Youth Camp

Mobilize recruit, develop and retain the youth as the most active volunteer force to respond to their vulnerabilities and the needs of other vulnerable people in the community

Central Region organized a youth camp meeting for about (200) youth members from the various schools in the districts at Abrem Agona in KEEA District from 7th to 12th May 2018

Northern Regional organized a four days Regional Youth Camp at Kalipohini Senior High School in Tamale from the 20th - 23rd April with the theme “Rekindling the Volunteer Spirit of the Youth for Humanitarian Work”. 64 youth participated from Tamale Tolon, West Gonja, Karaga, West Mamprusi and Tamale.

Activities at the Camp included Discussions on The Youth Engagement Strategy, Entrepreneurship Development (Practical liquid Soap making, Yogurt making) Educational Visit to Yendi. In Yendi they visited the Gbewaa's Palace, Babatu's (Slave raider) grave site and the Baobab Tree (Naa Dataa Dua) and Fun Games, Hand Washing with Ananse.

Brong Ahafo Regional annual youth camp came off in Wenchi Senior High School in the Wenchi Municipality from the 16th to 19th of August 2018. About 120 youth across the region attended the youth camp.

Some activities the campers undertook included blood donation, clean up campaigns, quizzes, First Aid training, football matches, the Ananse game and a recreational excursion to the Bui power generation site. Participants were also taught some entrepreneurial skills in Soap making and baby complementary feeding feeds. The campers also learnt the history of the Red Cross Movement.

Western Regional Youth Camp was also organized in second week of August, 2018 at Asankragwa including participant from Benin. The participants again used the opportunity to engage the stakeholders on how they can “Stop illegal Mining; Save our Waters, Save our Lands, Save our Future

Greater Accra organized skill training Youth camp for our youth members in the Greater Accra schools. The camp brought together over 100 youth volunteers from all over the Region and equipped the youth with necessary skills to help them render humanitarian services in their communities and schools through volunteerism. Leadership skills and personal development, First Aid Management, History of Red Cross and the Seven fundamental Principles, Disaster response, Communication Skills, Intercultural tolerant, Road safety issues, peaceful coexistence, stress management, personal hygiene, handicraft, Ebola and Cholera Education were discussed.



Central Region Youth



Northern Region Youth



Western Region Youth and participants from Benin who also joined the camp.



32. HIV/AIDS Walk 2018

The following regions Greater Accra, Central observed the World AIDS DAY youth were involved in HIV/AIDS and other Health related issues awareness creation in the month of November; however on the 3rd of December 2018 the youth were involved in Peace/Health Walk.



Greater Accra Regional Youth



Central Regional Youth

33. Swiss Red Cross build Regional Office for Tamale

Swiss Red Cross (SRC) committed funds for the construction of an office facility for the Ghana Red Cross Society (GRCS) in the Northern Region to enhance volunteer management within the EHP. The office was completed within the year. All necessary furniture, fixtures and fittings were provided to make the office conducive to operate from. The building has a large office housing the Regional Manager and is used to hold light meetings and conferences. It has also two smaller offices housing the SRC PSU and the GRCS eye care project officer.



FRONT VIEW OF OFFICE



REAR VIEW OF OFFICE

34. Partnership with Other Organizations

Ghana Red Cross partners with various governmental and non-governmental agencies and departments, including health, education and the youth authorities. One of our major stakeholders is National Disaster and Management Organisation, National Road Safety Commission (NRCS). Ghana Red Cross Society and National Road Safety Commission have worked collaboratively in many spheres to promote road safety. Our activities have included Quiz competition, radio discussions on road safety and First Aid and education of drivers at lorry stations.



Ghana Red Cross Society and the Police educating passengers in a vehicle

35. Branch Organization Capacity Assessment (BOCA)

The Branch self-assessment is a process intended to capture the strengths and weaknesses of the Greater Accra and the Central Region of the National Society *as a whole* in relation to a wide range of organisational capacities. This assessment was done with the help from National Headquarters which followed the BOCA Facilitators trainers' workshop.

The BOCA Matrix was used which addresses organisational characteristics and attributes that are very basic and are widely accepted as being vital for any organisation or the branch development. At the end of the assessment, the branch identified its strength and weakness and drew plans to improve on them



36. COMMUNICATION DEPARMENT

36.1. Increase the number of Commercial First Aid training for corporate organizations, institutions and individuals.

The Regions use both posters, radio stations and television station as means of drawing the attention of the public to appreciate how important and the need for every person to acquire basic knowledge in first aid but it all proved futile.

WORLD RED CROSS DAY CELEBRATION



Ghana Red Cross Society as a leading humanitarian based service provider in Ghana with the aim of working for humanity and efficient service delivery to support the vulnerable in society and also seeking to prevent and alleviate human suffering by mobilizing the power of humanity celebrated this year's World Red Cross Day with the Osu Children Home at Accra.

These are destitute children who do not have a family to take care of them and so they are been cared for by the Department of Social Welfare under the control of the government, so management therefore decide to put a smile on the face of these children on World Red Cross Day.

In celebrating this year's World Red Cross Day and throughout 2018, we celebrated the strength and reach of our global network, and the contribution of our staff and 65,000.00 volunteers through the **THEME: 'EVERYWHERE FOR EVERYONE – SMILE.**

Ghana Red Cross Society was able to donate a variety of items to the children at a cost of GH¢6,000. Ghana Cedis, and to name a few of the items were:

1. Bags of Rice
2. Boxes of Soap
3. Gallons of Oil
4. Packs of Toilet Roll
5. Sanitary pads
6. Food items etc.

In this year's celebration we aimed also at broaden the public's understanding of the Red Cross Movement by highlighting the diversity of our work and the universality of our approach to society.

Ghana Red Cross Society presented these items of food stuffs and non-food items to our brothers, Sister and Children in the home as sign of putting a Big Simile in the faces of these young ones, as we celebrated the Day with them, we also appeal to the public to also help Ghana Red Cross Society to support everyone everywhere to enable us preform our humanitarian core mandate in the country to help the needy in society.

The staff of the Children's Home were also given First Aid training, this will afford them the knowledge to be able to handle or manage some basic injuries that may occur at the home.

Report Compiled
Communications Department
31st December 2018