



DRC PROGRAM

Bridging the Gap: Providing Water and Sanitation and Non-Food Item Assistance to Returnees, IDPs and Host Communities in North Kivu

FOURTH QUARTERLY REPORT
(April 1 – June 30, 2010)
July 31, 2010

COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT NO: DFD-G-00-09-00230-00

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I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Program Title:	<i>Bridging the Gap: Providing Water and Sanitation and Non-Food Item Assistance to Returnees, IDPs and Host Communities in North Kivu</i>
Cooperative Agreement No.:	DFD-G-00-09-00230-00
Country:	Democratic Republic of Congo
Time Period Covered:	April 1 to June 30, 2010

Catholic Relief Services coordinates regularly with the non-food item (NFI) and Water, Hygiene and Sanitation (WASH) cluster leads at UNICEF and participating agencies in the North Kivu Province of the Eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) in order to identify gaps in humanitarian assistance. Eastern Congo is currently experiencing a complex transitional phase in which population displacements persist in some zones, while stability in others is encouraging some Internally Displaced People (IDPs) to return home. In response to this situation, CRS conceived this project to respond to the water, hygiene, sanitation and non-food item (NFI) needs of displaced and returnee families and host communities. CRS's program is a complement to the UNICEF-funded Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) and aims to ensure that the impact of the initial wave of assistance is not only improved but also sustained in keeping with the 2009 Humanitarian Action Plan for the DRC.

The initial Bridging the Gap project had an official start date of 16 July 2009 and was designed to last one year with an expected end date of 31 July 2010. A subsequent No-Cost Extension was granted by OFDA on June 10, 2010, extending the end date of the project to November 30, 2010. This quarterly report covers the third three-month period of 1 April through 30 June, 2010.

Activities conducted during this period can be summarized as follows:

Coordination

- The participation in WASH and NFI cluster meetings has continued.

OBJECTIVE I: The health and dignity of IDPs, returnees and host community populations in North Kivu is improved.

- Completed construction of double adduction gravity-fed water system in Ngungu (SNHR and GTZ systems), including operation of 22 *tap-stands*. Continued construction of bathing facilities, laundry washing stations, and solid waste pits.
- Protection and improvement of springs for mini-adduction system in Murambi, construction of 15 cubic meter storage reservoir, digging of trenches, and foundations for '*bornes fontaines* (tap stands).'
- Completion of 2014 meters of drainage in/around Ngungu center- continuation of drainage system stopped based on consultation with community.
- Protection and improvement of four new springs in Ngungu, three in Ruzilantaka, one in Nyamyumba, one in Manyundo.

- Continued hygiene promotion activities in the seven target communities within the Ngungu health zone.
- Awareness raising sessions with local teachers conducted by hygiene promotion agents.
- Digging of 16 waste pits, 12 in Ngungu, 4 in Murambi
- Continued chlorination activities in areas where construction of improved water sources is still ongoing.

OBJECTIVE II: Newly displaced persons (IDPs) have improved capacity to meet their basic needs

- Conducted follow-up evaluation from May 11-18 of **2,184** beneficiaries participating in NFI Fairs in Walikale area in March 2010. **322** households surveyed and three discussion groups of **15** people each conducted.

II. PROGRAM OVERVIEW

A. Program Goal/Objective

The overall **goal** of the Bridging the Gap project is to reduce morbidity and mortality and restore human dignity among internally displaced persons (IDPs), returnee populations, and the host populations affected by war and displacement in North Kivu.

The specific **objectives** of the program are:

- The health and dignity of IDPs, returnees and host community populations in North Kivu is improved
- Newly displaced persons (IDPs) have improved capacity to meet basic needs

B. Target Population Profile

The NFI component of this project, as originally proposed, has covered the needs of recent IDPs and returnees in Walikale. At the time of this report, the NFI fairs and subsequent evaluation have been completed, and no further NFI-related project activity is planned.

C. Geographic Locations

The project is being implemented within the Ngungu health zone of the Masisi Territory, North Kivu province. The NFI component of the project was implemented in Walikale, Walikale Territory, North Kivu province. The selection of this region was originally made in close consultation with UNICEF and the NFI cluster members. The selection of Walikale was further supported by OCHA.

III. PROGRAM PERFORMANCE

A. Progress Achieved Toward Objectives

OBJECTIVE I: The health and dignity of IDPs, returnees and host community populations in North Kivu is improved.

Activities executed during reporting period:

Monitoring/Evaluation

Preparation for the final project evaluation is underway in collaboration with the Monitoring & Evaluation unit. This will be implemented in November, 2010. Other M&E activities are ongoing, as is general oversight of water committees, monitoring of supply levels, etc.

Trainings

Seven water management committees relating to the protection of 10 springs were successfully trained. Preparation for training of additional committees responsible for the management of the gravity-fed adduction systems in Murambi and Ngungu was conducted, with training planned for next reporting period.

Staffing

As reported previously, an international Project Coordinator and six veteran Caritas water technicians were in place as of the previous report. An experienced national staff member who had prior CRS experience on a WASH project in Masisi Territory in 2008/09 was hired by CRS as an Assistant WASH Engineer and is currently field-based as a means of supervising the Caritas technicians. This engineer is reporting directly to the WASH Program Coordinator. At the end of June, 2010, the expatriate WASH Engineer ended his employment with CRS, and construction is primarily being supervised by the Assistant Engineer; as the major construction activities (notably the gravity-fed system) are complete, this level of supervision is appropriate. Additional support is planned during the next reporting period with a monitoring visit from the CRS Senior Technical Advisor for Water/Sanitation and Hygiene.

Field Missions and WASH Activities

Eight (8) significant field missions were conducted during this reporting period. These missions included the following activities:

- Water quality testing (including fecal coliform count, turbidity, etc) and analysis of 23 sources
- Transport of construction materials for the gravity-fed water system and other project infrastructure
- Identification of other materials and subsequent transport of these materials.
- Supervision of construction of project infrastructure
- Supervision of hygiene promotion sensitization activities
- Supervision of chlorinators in points where chlorination activities are ongoing
- Supervision of field-based Caritas Goma technicians
- Follow-up contacts with governmental and other authorities

- Payment of field-based community agents (hygiene promoters, chlorinators)
- Payment of daily laborers for construction activities

Table 1: Ongoing WASH activities per project site

WASH Activities in Target Communities, Ngungu Health Zone as of 6/30/2010											
Activity	Total Target	Ngungu Center	Murambi	Ruzilantaka	Nyamyumba	Lukunda	Katovu	Manyundo	Comments	Total completed	% Completed vs. Target
Hygiene Committee Establishment	26	12	2	4	2	2	2	2	All committees functioning, additional training planned	26	100
Construction of shower blocks	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Planned for next reporting period (Jul-Sep)	0	0%
Construction of Laundry Stations	20	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	Planned for next reporting period (Jul-Sep)	1	5%
Drainage System (meters)	3000m	2014m	0	0	0	0	0	0	Stopped at community request/ advisement	2014	67%
Construction of 15m3 Solid Waste Pit	20	12 (1 remaining)	4 (2 remaining)	0	0 (1 remaining)	0	0	0	In process, negotiating land parcel in Nyamyumba	16	80%
Recruitment of Hygiene Promotion Agents	20	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	Reduced number of agents from 20-10 based on evaluation of hygiene promotion needs; supplemental PHAST training to be conducted next reporting period	10	50%

Chlorination Points	12	4	2	0	2	2	1	1	Chlorination activities to end next reporting period with completion of gravity-fed adduction system	12	100%
Spring Rehabilitation and Construction	25	12	4	3	0 (3 remain)	1	1	1	(11 rehabilitated as part of gravity-fed adduction).	22	88%
Construction of Gravity-Fed System	3	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	Gravity system(s) complete in Ngungu, final construction in process in Murambi	3	100%

Hygiene Promotion

Hygiene promotion activities have been ongoing in Ngungu and the surrounding targeted communities. Following evaluations of the hygiene promotion portion of the program, it was determined that these activities could be effectively carried out by a smaller number of staff, given the short distances between the project sites. It was therefore decided to reduce the number of hygiene promotion agents from 20 to 10.

The ten agents, having been trained during the second reporting period, continued awareness activities resulting in an increase in awareness of hygiene best practices such as hand-washing, maintenance of clean bathing areas/latrines, etc based on the results of the baseline survey. These agents each received a copy of the '*boite d'images*' picture book in May, which they have used for their activities. In the next reporting period, a supplementary training based on the PHAST methodology is planned with the support of CRS' Senior Technical Advisor for Water and Sanitation.

Procurement

Procurement of all relevant construction materials is complete.

Administration

During this reporting period, a formal partnership accord between CRS/Congo and Caritas Goma was elaborated, and final revisions are currently in process. This accord will replace the existing partnership contract, and covers partnership issues related to finance, logistics, project support, and other areas.

Partner Finance Assessment/Training

Given the need to ensure compliance with CRS and USAID/OFDA rules and regulations, project and finance staff continued to work together to improve Caritas Goma's current finance systems and procedures.

Coordination

Both the CRS WASH team and NFI team participate regularly within the WASH cluster, sharing information on interventions and assessments as well as updates on relevant epidemics and developments in the field.

OBJECTIVE II: Newly displaced persons (IDPs) have improved capacity to meet their basic needs

As the NFI component of the project completed fairs for 2,184 beneficiaries in March 2010, the only activity related to objective two was a follow-up evaluation of the NFI Fairs. The evaluation occurred from 11-18 May, with 322 households surveyed and three discussion groups of 15 people each conducted. The results of the evaluations are being analyzed and will be presented in the next quarterly report.

Coordination

Both the CRS WASH team and NFI team participate regularly within the NFI cluster, sharing information on interventions and assessments as well as updates on relevant epidemics.

B. Obstacles Encountered

Access to the Field

During this reporting period, access to the field was compromised due to a number of factors. Primarily, heavy seasonal rains led to roads being impassible in some cases, thereby placing limitations on humanitarian access to the region. These access problems caused delays in the implementation of programmatic missions and the transport of technical materials. With the coming of the dry season at the beginning of June, road conditions have become markedly better, and are anticipated to remain as such until approximately mid-September.

Continued Insecurity

During this reporting period, there have been multiple incidents of acute insecurity which have necessitated the postponement of field visits. Incidents have included sporadic fighting between FARDC and factions of CNDP who have been unwilling to participate in the ongoing integration process. Additional incidents have included isolated cases of banditry, robberies, and sporadic attacks for personal financial gain.

IV. ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR NEXT QUARTER

During the period of July 1—September 30, 2010, activities planned are:

Objective I

- Completion of gravity-fed adduction system in Murambi with four *bornes fontaines*.
- Completion of four remaining solid-waste pits
- Tapping and protection of 14 remaining springs
- Construction of 20 public showers
- Construction of remaining laundry-washing stations
- Ongoing support of 26 Community Hygiene Committees
- Supplementary training for Hygiene Promotion Agents using PHAST methodology.
- Monitoring visit of CRS' Senior Technical Advisor for Water and Sanitation
- Ongoing support to health centers on Hygiene Promotion and support to field-based technicians for the reduction of the percentage of children under three having cases of diarrhea and a decrease in the percentage of water-borne diseases reported by community members.
- Continued participation in WASH cluster meetings at the provincial level

Objective II

- No activities relating to objective two are planned.

Attachment A: Indicator Tracking Table (OFDA Specific)

Goal: Morbidity and mortality are reduced and human dignity is restored among internally displaced persons (IDPs), returnee populations and the host populations affected by war and displacement in North Kivu.

Obj	Indicator	Original Target	Baseline Data	Progress Prior to This Reporting Period	Progress This Reporting Period	Total Progress To Date	% of Original Target
1	The health and dignity of IDPs, returnees and host community populations in North Kivu is improved.						
	Percentage of children under <36 months with diarrhea in the last two weeks	TBD	-	-	-	-	-
	% decrease in incidence of water borne diseases reported by local health centers	TBD	-	-	-	-	-
	Community cleanup/debris removal activities conducted	52	0	52	0	52	100%
	Drainage installed as a vector-borne disease environmental control activity in each community	3000	0	1500	514	2014	67%
	Bathing facilities are completed according to North Kivu WASH cluster norms	20	0	0	0	0	0%
	Communal washing facilities are constructed	20	0	0	1	0	5%
	15m3 Solid Waste Pits constructed	20	0	0	16	16	80%
	Families surveyed report their communities being cleaner	95%	-	n/a*	n/a*	n/a*	n/a*
	Families surveyed report using the sanitation facilities and using them appropriately	95%	-	n/a*	n/a*	n/a*	n/a*
	Families surveyed report having greater personal hygiene	95%	-	n/a*	n/a*	n/a*	n/a*
	Hygiene Promotion Agents are hired	20	0	20	0	20	100%
	Community hygiene committees are reinforced and actively promoting positive hygiene behaviors in the communities	26	0	26	0	26	100%
	Clean water points functioning one month after completion	30	0	30	0	30	100%
	Water points with measurable chlorine residual exceeding 0.2 mg/l	30	-	n/a*	n/a*	n/a*	n/a*
Percent of Population demonstrating good hand-washing practices	95%	-	n/a*	n/a*	n/a*	n/a*	

Obj	Indicator	Original Target	Baseline Data	Progress Prior to This Reporting Period	Progress This Reporting Period	Total Progress To Date	% of Original Target
	Target population demonstrating correct water usage and storage (Percentage)	TBD	30%	n/a*	n/a*	n/a*	n/a*
	Gravity-Fed Adduction system (two points) & mini-adduction systems are constructed	3	0	2	1	3	100%
	Springs are rehabilitated or created	25	0	16	6	22	88%
	Chlorination points are established	12	0	12	0	12	100%
	Increased water usage of target population in liters per person per day (measured prior to and after interventions)	TBD	33	n/a*	n/a*	n/a*	n/a*
	Household water supplies with 0 coliform bacteria per 100ml	95%	n/a	n/a*	n/a*	n/a*	n/a*
	Families surveyed report a decrease in time spent on daily water collection.	TBD	-	n/a*	n/a*	n/a*	n/a*
	Newly displaced persons (IDPs) have improved capacity to meet their basic needs**						
<u>2</u>	1,000 IDP beneficiary families receive NFIs in compliance with Sphere standards	1000	0	2184	0	2184	218%***
	Percent of a household's non-food item assets lost during displacement are restored	75%	-	n/a**	n/a**	n/a**	n/a**
	Percent of sample IDPs are satisfied with the selection of NFI items and their quantity available at the voucher fairs.	95%	-	n/a**	n/a**	n/a**	n/a**
	Percent of sample IDPs are using all of the NFI kit items one month following the distribution	90%	-	n/a**	n/a**	n/a**	n/a**

* Some data will not be available until completion of Final Evaluation at project end.

** Data analysis from NFI component in process, will be available next reporting period.

*** Additional private funding received, enabling a larger target beneficiary population.