



From my point of view:

Partnership

Partnership was uppermost in our thinking right at the beginning of the year. To move forward with consultation in the Operational Alliances (OA) process, Mr. Gunnar Strom, Technical Advisor, and I visited The Hague and Madrid to meet with the NLCS and Sp RCS. The two PNSs, among our current partners were unable to attend the consultation meeting in Stockholm in December 2008.

The weather was chilly but welcome very warm. Our hosts were gracious. Issues of OA were discussed and grey areas looked into.

Our Partnership meeting this year was held in Freetown 25-26 February with partners from BrRC, CRC, FnRC, NLRC, SpRC, SwRC, and the ICRC and Federation. The newly appointed S.G. of Côte d'Ivoire RC also attended. At the meeting, we tried to underscore the point that as a National Society, the transformation was being rolled out and yielding positive results. We also sought support for OD, CBHP, HV program. Program plans and budgets were presented and in the end we found that our partners are still with us.

Emmanuel Hindovei-Tommy,
Secretary General, SLRCS

Programs:

SGS NGO Benchmarking Audit - The Society was audited and certified with a 70.1% score on demonstrating compliance with Best Practice.

CBHP evaluation - technical support is sought to rewrite the program, to embrace the integrated health delivery approach. A new program is expected to be rolled out in 2010 and for two years, after a midterm review will be done, that will lead to a second phase implementation for another two years.

NLRC HIV/AIDS - A consultant from the NLRC worked with us in drafting a three year HIV/AIDS integrated health package and implementation to start by beginning of second quarter.

DM- Work on harmonisation of the capacity building project funded by SRSA/SwRC/IFRC and the DISAO by the SpRC

Soroptimists International to support work in Lassa fever- The BRC has worked with the Soroptimist to fund our Lassa fever campaign as part of primary health care.

They visited the Society in January.

Kimbima Hotel 26/02 2009:



The typical Partnership Meeting photo with partners and staff and governance of the SLRCS. Yes the image is small, but send a line and we will send you the real stuff!

Staff and volunteers:

Victor Fornah, SW Coordinator, attended a two weeks' course in Nairobi on 'Making Change Happen', Challenges for Peace building Practice, organised by Coalition for Peace in Africa (COPA), sponsored by the BRC.

Rhoda Gblah, Advocacy Officer CAR Kambia through sponsorship by Swiss Red Cross started six month training on Human Rights at the York University in the UK.

The calendar:

Senior management retreat - March 12-13

Leadership training workshop - March 26-28

Finance Commission, March 31

8NS Meeting 5-6 May, hosted by SLRCS

Financial news:

Mr. Andy Brimelow, Head of International Finance BRC, Mr. Eric Sandstedt, Business Controller SwRC and Mr. Bruce Obiokala IFRC Lagos sub Zone Head of Finance visited before the Partnership meeting to do a forensic check on the SLRCS financial Management. Their assessment endorsed the positive transformation made and generally gave 'thumbs -up' to the SLRCS.

2009 budgets were presented at the partnership meeting and partners declared their pledges.

"The partners are committed to working together collectively to achieve shared goals rather than operating on an individual project basis."

From the draft Memorandum of Understanding between SLRCS and partners