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# Emergency appeal operation update

## Zimbabwe: Food Insecurity

 International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

### Emergency appeal n° MDRZW006

#### Operation update n°1

#### 8 January, 2013

**Period covered by this Ops Update:** 10 December 2012 to 3 January 2013

**Appeal target (current):** CHF 1,290,342.

**Appeal coverage:** Other than the initial start up DREF allocated, no contributions to this appeal have been received to date. Donor contributions to the appeal are encouraged in order to meet the urgent needs of the response operation which include food parcels, planting seeds and farm implements. [<click here to go directly to the updated donor response report, or here to link to contact details >](#)

#### Appeal history:

- This [Emergency Appeal](#) was launched on 19 December 2012 for CHF 1,290,342 for 9 months to provide immediate assistance to 10,000 beneficiaries.
- **Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF):** CHF 120 000 was allocated from the Federation's DREF to support the national society to respond to the food insecurity situation.

**Summary:** Through the DREF allocated, the national society has commenced key startup activities such as stakeholder meetings, beneficiary selection and registration, volunteer mobilisation, borehole identification as well as identification of suppliers of required food commodities.

Meetings held with the Drought Relief Committee and chaired by the District Administrator have identified wards 3, 4 and 20 of Nkayi District, Matabeleland North Province as the most affected. In the three wards targeted under this emergency appeal, there are no humanitarian or developmental actors currently responding to the drought situation. Stakeholder meetings are ongoing in order to facilitate beneficiary selection and volunteer mobilisation while a meeting with the District Development Fund (DDF) has been scheduled to identify boreholes for rehabilitation.

Identification of food item suppliers is in progress with the town of Kwekwe (100 km North East of Nkayi) being the preferred source due to accessibility and good road condition. An alternative supply from Bulawayo (150 Km South of Nkayi) is also being considered.



The drought situation has increased the burden of accessing safe water: Photo / Zimbabwe RC

## The situation

The situation remains the same as at the time of the Emergency Appeal launch on 19 December 2012 and further updates on the situation will be provided once further assessments have been done. Implementation of the operation was slowed down by the Christmas break but quickly picked up and the team is currently in the field. Late rains have now been received in Nkayi district. Prices of cereal and flour are likely to remain high compared to last year making food accessibility difficult for affected households.

## Coordination and partnership

The Southern Africa Regional Representation Office and the Zimbabwe country office have provided administrative and logistical support for effective implementation of the start up phase of the operation.

The Zimbabwe Red Cross Society is the key implementer of the operation and has held one meeting with stakeholders under the umbrella of the Drought Relief Committee. ZRCS has been allocated stakeholders from various state sectors such as the Social Services Department, District Development Fund, Women Affairs, Rural Development Council (RDC) and the Ministry of Education who will support and ensure efficiency and effective identification of beneficiaries and sites for successful implementation of the operation.

## National Society Capacity Building:

The ZRCS has been working with its trained staff based in Nkayi district to start up the operation during the month of December. The National Society prior existence in the district has enabled the setting up of relevant stakeholder meetings in this start up phase.

## Red Cross and Red Crescent action

### Overview

ZRCS has conducted relevant meetings with key stakeholders in Nkayi district to pave way to beneficiary registration and volunteer identification and mobilisation.

### Progress towards outcomes

#### Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)

**Outcome 1:** Immediate food needs of 2,000 households (10,000 beneficiaries) in Nkayi district of Matebeleland North Province is met for four months.

Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supplementary food baskets are distributed to 10,000 vulnerable people for four months.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct rapid emergency needs and capacity assessments.</li> <li>• Develop beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system to deliver intended assistance</li> <li>• Preparation of monthly food distribution and uploading plan.</li> <li>• Procurement of 420 MT of maize meal, 32 MT of oil and 72 MT of pulses.</li> <li>• Community notification of distribution date and time;</li> <li>• Distribution of monthly food packs (10.5kg maize, 1.8kg beans and 0.75kg oil) to 10,000 beneficiaries for 4 months.</li> <li>• Monitoring and evaluation of distribution activities</li> <li>• Train 20 volunteers on food distribution (beneficiary identification, targeting and post distribution monitoring).</li> <li>• Reporting.</li> </ul>

**Progress:** No relief distributions have been carried out to date. The national society logistics department is working on identification of suppliers for food and non food items. Kwekwe and Bulawayo towns have been identified as the possible sources of food commodities due to their proximity with Nkiya district and the good road condition.

Through meetings held between the national society and the Drought Relief Committee of Nkayi district, it was agreed that ZRCS interventions will be in wards 3, 4 and 20. Furthermore, meetings with various government departments as well as field assessments are ongoing and will provide further information on the needs and capacity gaps of the operation area which will be shared in the next update. The five state departments mentioned above will assist the national society in the development of beneficiary targeting and registration.

#### Challenges or constraints:

The Christmas holiday break slowed the operation progress as most government ministries, local authorities, departments and businesses were closed and set to re open during the second week of January 2013. The identification of suppliers of food and non food items was most affected by this break. This is however expected to improve as soon as the break is over.

#### Food security, nutrition and livelihoods

<b>Outcome 2:</b> Reduced food insecurity among 2,000 affected rural households through inputs support and training.	
<b>Outputs (expected results)</b>	<b>Activities planned</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Productive assets/inputs, through the distribution of seeds and tools, for primary production and training are provided in accordance with the seasonal calendar.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continuous and detailed assessment of food security, nutrition and livelihoods are carried out.</li> <li>Distribution of small grain seeds, fertilizers and maize seed to 2,000 households.</li> <li>Distribution of tools (each farm will receive four watering cans, two levelling rakes, two hoes and two wheelbarrows).</li> <li>100 lead farmers (selected from the beneficiaries) trained to cascade crop production, climate change and adaptation and market linkage training to 2,000 farmers at a ratio of 1 lead farmer to 20 farmers.</li> <li>Beneficiary training in seed selection and preservation to 100 lead farmers.</li> <li>Distribution of vegetable seed packs to garden beneficiaries to 100 households.</li> <li>Tracking system / monitoring of progress for the targeted farmers</li> </ul>

**Progress:** ZRCS is working with various state sectors such as the Social Services Department, District Development Fund, Women Affairs, Rural Development Council (RDC) and the Ministry of Education who will support and also ensure efficiency and effective identification of beneficiaries and sites for successful implementation of the operation.

#### Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

<b>Outcome 3:</b> Access to safe and clean water for domestic and livestock consumption and improved hygiene practises and access to basic sanitation facilities for 10,000 beneficiaries in Nkayi district is increased.	
<b>Outputs (expected results)</b>	<b>Activities planned</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10,000 people have access to safe water.</li> <li>Increased access to water for livestock.</li> <li>Increased knowledge in hygiene.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continuous assessments of water, sanitation, and hygiene situation.</li> <li>50 boreholes rehabilitated with water troughs constructed at each borehole.</li> <li>20 volunteers trained in participatory health and hygiene education.</li> <li>400 household latrines constructed in selected vulnerable communities.</li> <li>Community level cascading of participatory health hygiene education.</li> </ul>

**Progress:** ZRCS has scheduled a meeting with the District Development Fund in order to facilitate the identification of sites for implementation of water and sanitation activities.

## Disaster Risk Reduction

**Outcome 4:** Community resilience is strengthened through disaster risk reduction activities focusing on early warning systems and, enhanced coping mechanisms and strategies.

<b>Outputs (expected results)</b>	<b>Activities planned</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Affected communities are better prepared to respond to food insecurity problems resulting from weather induced emergencies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2,000 households trained in early warning systems.</li> <li>• 2,000 households trained in climate change awareness and adaptation.</li> <li>• Develop 1 district level contingency plan and 40 communities based early warning systems.</li> </ul>

**Progress:** No progress as yet on this outcome.

## Logistics

Currently the national society logistics unit is working towards identification of suppliers for both food and non food items.

## Communications – Advocacy and Public Information

After the launch of the appeal in December, a plan of action for the response operation is currently being prepared.

## Contact information

**For further information specifically related to this document, please contact:**

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