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Zimbabwe Annual Report 2012

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

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**This report covers the
period:** 01 January
2012 to 31 December
2012

**Borehole rehabilitation - ZRCS
and DDF Technicians/Photo
IFRC**



Overview

Zimbabwe before 2002 used to be the bread basket of the continent and all countries would look down south for assistance in food security issues. 10 years later the country is undergoing difficulties as it relies on food aid. Zimbabwe is failing to produce enough to feed its own nationals due to consecutive droughts and poor growing seasons. Livestock has been greatly affected, as climate change has dried up main water streams resulting in poor grazing land. The water and sanitation situation has worsened over the years with 2012 being characterised by water borne diseases such as cholera and typhoid in different parts of the country. The Rural Livelihoods May 2012 Assessment Report (Zimbabwe Vulnerability Assessment Committee (ZIMVAC) 2012, established that a growing food insecurity crisis would peak in December 2012 – March 2013 with an estimated 1,667,518 people being in need of food assistance.

The financial sector has been performing poorly as a result of limited availability of cash due to the industries operating below 30% capacity. The introduction of the multiple currency economy has worsened the country's economy making it difficult for households to purchase food for consumption from retail shops where stocks are available. The majority of Zimbabweans are operating below the poverty datum line with households relying on negative coping strategies such as skipping meals and food rationing for survival. The education and health system has been malfunctioning as employees in the sector have relentlessly been lobbying for pay increases.

In addressing the above challenges, Zimbabwe Red Cross Society (ZRCS)'s focus in 2012 was on alleviating the suffering of the most vulnerable people and communities through the implementation of programmes aimed at contributing to the decline in deaths, injuries and impact from disasters, diseases and public health emergencies. This was achieved through

implementing Food Security, Health and HIV, Disaster Management, Water and Sanitation as well as Organisational Development programmes.

The Society's Food Security interventions reached out to 24,877 beneficiaries with support from the British Red Cross, World Food Programme (WFP) and the Japanese Government. The main focus on these programmes was to enhance food security interventions especially on food assistance, agricultural recovery and integration with water and sanitation activities.

A four year EU/ACP WatSan project funded by the EU, British and Finnish RC targeting 100,000 beneficiaries has so far reached 12,500 beneficiaries in its first year through the provision of safe water, sanitation facilities and health and hygiene education in Chivi district. A further 12,500 and 2,380 people were reached with safe water and improved latrines respectively across 6 provinces of Zimbabwe.

528 Orphans and Vulnerable Children received educational support with funding from the Norwegian Red Cross and Netherlands Red Cross in Mashonaland West, Manicaland and Matabeleland North under the Community Based HIV and AIDS, TB and Behaviour Change Programme.

The ZRCS Communications' programme has been effective in terms of organisational visibility in key activities and commemorations such as World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day and World Health Day. Positive coverage was generated, through production of IEC materials, publications and stories published in both the electronic and print media.

Working in partnership

The Zimbabwe Red Cross partners have been ranging from those who provide technical support to those who provide financial support. The ZRCS appreciates the support they received from the partners listed below,

Table 1: Partners working with ZRCS

Partner	Areas of support to ZRCS
IFRC	Coordination, resource mobilisation, technical and programmes support in Disaster Management, Food Security, WATSAN and Organisational Development in Zimbabwe and advocacy on behalf of the society
ICRC	Technical and programmes support in Communication, Disaster Management and Organisational Development across the country- Bilateral support
WFP	Food security in Bindura District through IFRC as Cooperating partner
America Red Cross	Disaster management in Binga CBDRR- Bilateral Support
British Red Cross	Food Security in Mashonaland West (Zvimba and Hurungwe) and Midlands (lower Gweru and Shurugwi)- Bilateral Support
Finish Red Cross	CBHFA- DM in Muzarabani – Bilateral Support
Netherlands Red Cross	HIV and AIDS- OVC in Manicaland and Women and Children in Conflict in Matebeleland South- supported through the IFRC
Norwegian Red Cross	Programme Support in Organisational Development for youth

	delegates in Manicaland, Health in Chipinge and School fees assistance in Nkayi and Mashonaland West.- Bilateral Support
DFID	Community Disaster Risk Reduction in Kariba – Supported through IFRC
Japanese Government	Food Security and Livelihoods in Matebeland South, Manicaland, Mashonaland Central, Masvingo Mashonaland West- supported through IFRC
Ministry of Health and Child Welfare (MOHCW)	Technical support, policy and coordination in Health Programmes.
World Health Organisation	Technical assistance on trends, outbreaks and response in collaboration with the MOHCW.
Agricultural Extension Services (AGRITEX)	Food security livelihoods
District Development Fund (DDF)	Technical support on WatSan
Relevant Government Ministries and local authorities	Technical partners in the food security and livelihoods, WatSan and disaster management

IFRC has an active role of coordinating the RC/RC movement partners support to the Zimbabwe Red Cross. The IFRC is also a member of various coordinating mechanisms and working groups involving Government, UN and other humanitarian agencies in the country.

At the national level, ZRCS also participates and is a member of various working groups that coordinate humanitarian interventions such as the Food Aid Working Group, Nutrition Cluster and the Agriculture Coordination Working Group (ACWG). At Provincial and district level ZRCS is a member and participates in Provincial and District, Disaster and Development Committees, which coordinate planning and support for communities.

Progress towards outcomes

Business Line 2: To grow Red Cross Red Crescent Services for Vulnerable People

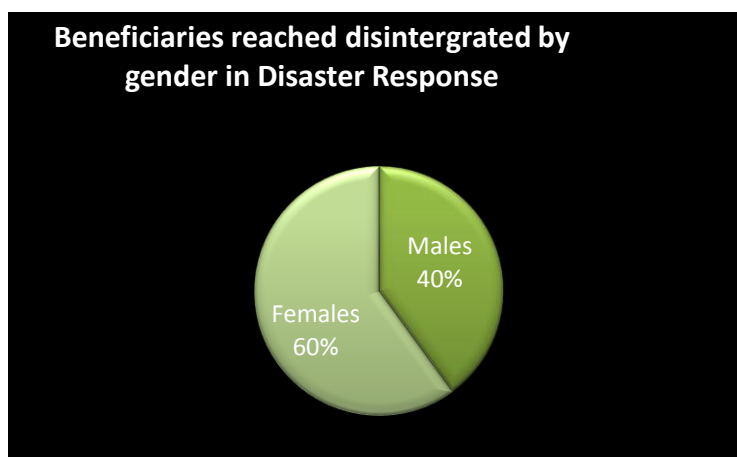
Outcome: *Reduction in deaths, losses and damage due to disasters and crises.*

Progress towards outcomes on Business Line 2

Coping capacities of volunteers and communities during disasters are increased.

The Population Movement Project reached out to 7500 beneficiaries as planned. The capacity of the beneficiaries was built in disaster preparedness increasing in ability to define disaster related problems and provide local level solutions to disaster response. The table below reflects the disintegration by gender of beneficiaries reached.

The Movement partners supported the National Society to prepare for the Zimbabwe Referendum on the drafted new constitution and harmonised elections planned for March and July 2013 respectively. The support was mainly in the areas of training and equipping volunteers in order to enable them provide humanitarian services before, during and after the referendum and the elections.



34 emergency First Aid trainings were carried out reaching a total of 1,250 volunteers thereby improving the capacity of volunteers to respond to emergencies. The volunteers have been instrumental in cascading important disaster response information to communities increasing local disaster preparedness and resilience capacity.

Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction (CBDRR) funded by the American Red Cross (ARC) under the Building Resilient African Communities (BRACES) projects is complimenting funding to the Zambezi River Basin initiative. The project targeted at training and building communities resilience. The training and the knowledge obtained strengthened the community as they embarked on community projects such as training in the use of Rocket Lorena efficient cooking stove. Four (4) initial cooking stoves were built out of an annual target of 50 as test examples and tested to be working very well.



Trainings in Disaster Risk Reduction/Photo ZRCS

The project also distributed 60 bicycles and uniforms to the Disaster Management Committees in Binga District. The bicycles improved local movement of volunteers from one community to the other thus improving the visibility of volunteers as they carry out their work in the communities.

Zambezi River Basin Initiative (ZRBI) and DFID support targeted three of the five districts along the Zambezi with funding support from DFID. The project targeted the enhancing of activities already undertaken in the district, through PHAST training and

distribution of NFI for hygiene promotion. The first phase of ZRBI support saw communities engaging in DRR and climate mitigation projects such as bridge construction in areas where hazards exist and establishment of gardens to counter effects of climate change. Communities' capacity to deal with disasters was also enhanced through first aid training and response to identified hazards.

Community Based Health and First Aid in Action (CBHFA) is focusing on the exit strategy including strengthening of communities and Red Cross branch structures so that the projects would remain sustainable. The programme rehabilitated 10 boreholes for 2,500 beneficiaries in Gokwe and Tsholotsho which will assist communities to access water from nearby points.

Logistics and warehousing was improved, with the Gweru warehouse now operational and currently holding NS stock and IFRC Zone stocks. Stocks already prepositioned in the warehouse have to date, assisted Masvingo and Mashonaland Central during hailstorm and flood disasters. Due to the location of the warehouse, Westwood warehouse remains the main warehouse with greater carrying capacity and holding the main stocks for the NS.

The food Security component was funded by WFP and the Japanese government. The support enabled the NS to reach 103% of its target. The NS target for 2012 was to reach 857 and has reached 887 clients who are on ART, TB, malnourished children and lactating mothers and a total of 4,087 beneficiaries with food under the WFP. This programme made an impact in terms of assisting clients to improve their nutritional status e.g. 49% of the targeted clients improved in their Body Mass Index (BMI) status and were consequently weaned from the programme.



Beneficiaries in maize farm from Bindura, project funded by the Japanese Government/Photo IFRC

The Japanese government grant (USD1.5million) reached a total of 11,960 beneficiaries in 5 provinces. The beneficiaries were drawn from both urban and rural households. The urban households were supported through a cash transfer intervention under which they each received a USD20 food voucher. Rural households were supported through trainings to build resilience and increase production and productivity. The trainings were further complemented with inputs support i.e. agricultural inputs and vegetable seeds. 9000 households benefitted from the vegetable and gardening inputs as well as training. The interventions included the construction of 150 latrines at institutions and 50 borehole rehabilitations. To boost income and consumption of nutritious foods the project procured and distributed sweet potato vines and cassava cuttings. The market linkage trainings have enabled beneficiaries to realise some income which they used to pay school fees, purchase seeds and fertilisers for their gardens. The garden groups also started savings schemes and members draw loans from the scheme which they repay with interests.

Business Line 3- To strengthen the specific Red Cross and Red Crescent Contribution to Development

Outcome: To reduce the illnesses, deaths and mitigate impact from communicable, non-communicable and public health emergencies.

The 39 people trained in Gender Based Violence resulted in increased awareness of gender based violence, culture and women's rights and integration with HIV and AIDS. The trained volunteers cascaded this knowledge during Community mobilisation and integrated it into prevention of HIV infection talks. Psychosocial and Life skills training reached 30 OVC in 3 provinces (Manicaland, Mashonaland West and Matebeleland North Provinces). The training empowered the participants to have personal management skills and general social skills. Peer education training has also contributed to the reduction in teenage pregnancies. The ambassadors of hope managed to reach 4,787 people with information on positive living and prevention of further HIV infections and anti-stigma campaigns in the two quarters. This has resulted in male participants embracing their responsibilities and importance in accompanying their wives to the antenatal clinics.

This also helped to achieve the objective of assisting HIV and AIDS orphans and vulnerable children and also in the prevention of further infection. Several trainings were conducted as listed below.

Table 2: List of trainings disintegrated by gender.

Type of training	Males	Females	Total
Gender Based Violence and HIV Training			39
OVC Psychosocial and Life Skills Training	15	15	30
Out of school Peer Education	2,248	1,946	4,194
Ambassadors of Hope	2,027	2,760	4,787
Total	4,290	4,721	9,011

OVC support was given to 528 beneficiaries of whom 50% of the recipients of the support were females, in Mashonaland West, Manicaland and Matabeleland North. 53 OVCs were supported with medical check-ups and treatment as prescribed by doctors. Most of the children were on ART while others were on opportunistic infection drugs. The support has resulted in acceptance of their status as they are able to do what other children are doing hence restoring their dignity.

ZRCS volunteers work with children to support them psychologically and this has raised openness and self-esteem in the OVC. 70 volunteers have been trained (51 female and 19 male) in "Basic OVC Programming and Hero Work. Guardian clubs have been established with a total of 90 guardians, (65 female and 25 male) involved in poultry and goat rearing and gardening. They expressed gratitude over the clubs' ability to bring them together, where they share experiences on child care while realising some profit which enabled them to look after the OVCs.

Safe water and sanitation services

The main Objective of this component is to improve the health and quality of life of the vulnerable communities through increased access to safe and sustainable community managed water and sanitation and hygiene promotion. A total of 25,000 beneficiaries were reached through the provision of safe water, 2,380 pupils with sanitation facilities and 45,000 with health and hygiene education messages.



Borehole rehabilitated in Matobo District/Photo IFRC

A 'Look Back' study was undertaken in Mt Darwin to evaluate the extent to which project objectives have been met since the project was completed in 2010. The learning's will inform on-going and future projects at National and global levels. A video documentary was prepared to capture the learning during the "look back" study and also captured the current on-going efforts to address the challenges of access to safe water and sanitation to Chivi district.

Check out our Fednet web page on:

<http://www.ifrcmedia.org/assets/rss/slideshows/www/page10/index.html>

Outcome: To increase local, civil and Red Cross/ Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.

A General Assembly was held in December 2012 which saw to the election of a new governing board. Before the end of December 2012, interviews for a substantive Secretary General were held and a new Secretary General and new President have assumed office in January 2013.

A Team building workshop, which was facilitated by external resource persons, was held in December 2012. The process facilitated an opportunity for secretariat, the Board and partners to meet as one family, thus strengthening understanding of each other within the Red Cross Movement. An elaborate training for both the management and the board members is planned for 2013.

Turnaround Strategy

With the ultimate goal of increasing partner confidence and increasing resource mobilization for project implementation, the ZRCS is working on a turnaround strategy. This process is expected to facilitate and usher in a new way of doing business within the NS.

The National Youth elections were held during the National youth Congress which was held in Chimanimani in December 2012. Provincial Youth elections were also held. All the provinces now have the provincial youth structures in place.

The young volunteers involved in the exchange programme between ZRCS and Norwegian Red Cross enjoying the fruits of a strong bilateral relationship. The volunteers, two from both ZRCS and Norwegian Red Cross have mutually been exchanged so far. The current pair of young volunteers in either of the two National Societies is going through capacity building processes that have seen the strengthening of ZRCS youth structures in the provinces where they are based.

Business Line 4: To heighten Red Cross Red Crescent Influence and support for our work

Outcome: To Promote respect for diversity and human dignity, and reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion.

Increased visibility of the organisation, its work and positive impact in the community

ZRCS Communications has reached over 5million people through its activities particularly in view of the National events and exhibitions which the NS participated in, Red Cross and Red Crescent Commemorations, use of the website, print and electronic media coverage and other IEC material production initiatives. The ZRCS website and the face book pages have also been helpful particularly for the University Red Cross clubs, the media and other professionals and partners.

A number of positive stories were generated for the media particularly with regards to the NS' main programmes like Food Security and Livelihoods, Water and Sanitation, World First Aid Day Commemorations as well as through other Press releases which were sent out by the department. Regardless of past challenges, the partnerships that have been created, the positive media coverage and the slowly but progressively improving corporate funding are indicative of future success in National Society.

Increased understanding of the Movement history and principles by both volunteers, staff and stakeholders

New staff members were trained on the principles of the Red Cross Movement. Efforts were also made to create linkages with other humanitarian players through participation in events like the World Blood Donor Day hosted in Manicaland by the National Blood Services Zimbabwe. To further market the organisation, the department in liaison with other programmes officers and the First Aid Training Unit participated at the 2012 edition of the Zimbabwe International Trade Fair (ZITF) in Bulawayo and Zimbabwe Agricultural Show in Harare where new networks were created and resource development partnerships sought.

Stakeholder participation and feedback

Strong working relations are also maintained between ZRCS and government department's i.e. AGRITEX for trainings in crop production, Veterinary Services for livestock production and Management, District Development Fund for borehole rehabilitation and Environmental Health Department for latrine construction and trainings in PHHE.

UN agencies such as WFP and FAO are constantly consulted in development of interventions. The monitoring reports indicated that the involvement of beneficiaries in terms

of their contribution in building latrines and providing labour, sand and bricks during the processes of borehole rehabilitations was appreciated by the community, thus building a sense of ownership which strengthens the support of water point committees.

IFRC has been actively participating and coordinating the Movement Coordination Meetings which are held to foster a coordinated approach to support the Zimbabwe Red Cross to address the humanitarian challenges facing the country.

The IFRC, ICRC and ZRCS are members of the Emergency Steering Committee (ESC) which has been instrumental in planning for and overseeing the referendum and Harmonised election preparedness activities.

Constraints or Challenges

- The country has experienced poor rainfalls affecting crop yield which has increased food insecurity in the country.
- Food insecurity has been experienced across all communities and the targeted beneficiaries are not significantly addressing the challenges in the community

Key Risks or Positive Factors

Key Risks or Positive Factors	Priority High Medium Low	Recommended Action
Attract long term donors to support development programmes in Food Security, Health and Capacity Building	High	Establish new relationship with donors funding development programming
A new senior management team has been appointed	Medium	There is need to provide induction training to the new board and senior management
Increase donor confidence	High	Maintain high levels of accountability to all existing and potential new donors

Lessons learned and looking ahead

Lessons Learnt

- Improved accountability increases donor confidence in existing projects and potential new programmes
- There is need to revise the Country Office LTPF to ensure measurable indicators are stated for more efficient monitoring

Looking ahead

- ZRCS is also looking ahead to continued support from its partners in the implementation of its programmes. Effective marketing and visibility will also add to the volunteer recruitment drive.

- Under the Food Security programme the NS submitted an appeal through the IFRC to support 10,000 beneficiaries in Matebeleland North through an emergency appeal. The WFP nutritional support programme is also anticipated to continue in 2013, hopefully expanded to include other districts. Under food security interventions, water harvesting initiatives will be expanded as these initiatives have seen an increased in household food security, income and nutritional diversity.
- Priority areas for the National Society remain as institutional capacity building, resource mobilisation, food security and health interventions.

Financial situation

[Click here to go directly to the financial report.](#)

How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations](#) (NGOs) in Disaster Relief and the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

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The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of nonviolence and peace.

Find out more on www.ifrc.org

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