

# OPERATIONS UPDATE



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies  
Fédération Internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge  
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja  
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

## ***SOUTHERN AFRICA:FOOD INSECURITY***

19 May 2006

*The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization and its millions of volunteers are active in over 183 countries.*

### **In Brief**

**Appeal no. 05EA023; Operations Update no. 8; Period covered: 7 March to 15 May; Appeal coverage: 26.8%; [Click here to go directly to the attached Contributions list](#) or [here for the one on the website](#).**

#### **Appeal history:**

- **Launched on 18 October 2005-** <http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/05/05EA023.pdf> for CHF 39,360,753 (USD 30,193,299 or EUR 25,301,687) for 9 months to assist up to 1.5 million beneficiaries.
- **Operations Update no. 1-** <http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/05/05EA02301.pdf> was posted on 7 November 2005.
- **Operations Update no. 2-** <http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/05/05EA02302.pdf> was posted on 21 November 2005. This update focused on Malawi and the impact of DREF.
- **Operations Update no. 3-** <http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/05/05EA02303.pdf> was posted on 4 January 2006.
- **Operations Update no. 4-** <http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/05/05EA02304.pdf> was posted on 25 January 2006.
- **Operations Update no. 5-** <http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/05/05EA02305.pdf> was posted on 17 February 2006.
- **Operations Update no. 6-** <http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/05/05EA02306.pdf> was posted on 6 March 2006.
- **Operations Update no. 7-** <http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/05/05EA02307.pdf> was posted on 5 April 2006; it focused on Malawi.
- **Disaster Relief Emergency Funds (DREF) allocated: CHF 1,160,000.**

**Outstanding needs: CHF 28,810,880 (USD 22,856,708 or EUR 18,246,282).**

**Related Annual Appeal: Southern Africa Regional Programmes and National Society Capacity Building: Appeal 2006-2007 (MAA63001).** Refer to <http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/annual06/MAA63001.pdf>

**Operational Summary:** The main agricultural growing season is drawing to a close in southern Africa, with crops at a stage of maturity and early harvests resulting in improved availability of food at household levels and in rural markets. However, concerns remain high in Zimbabwe (where it is likely that cereals will need to be imported again) and in isolated pockets of Zambia, Malawi, Mozambique, Lesotho and Swaziland (which received low/late rain, or excessive rain that caused flooding, wiping away crops planted).

The Red Cross actors in the region have worked hard to meet the humanitarian challenges since October 2005, with all seven national societies having bilateral agreements with the World Food Programme (WFP), their respective governments and/or donor national societies (outside of this appeal process) to distribute food to over 300,000 most vulnerable people in the region. Despite the low level of funding received for this Appeal, the Malawi Red Cross Society managed to expand its final double distributions in April/May to reach some 130,000 supplementary feeding beneficiaries and to provide a one-off distribution within the food-for-work project to a further 28,000 beneficiaries building health structures. The Zambia Red Cross Society also started distributing food in April, with this project expected to expand to 27,500 beneficiaries during the May and June distributions.

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With the exception of Zambia, all agricultural starter packs have been distributed and national societies (NS) are focusing on distributing vegetable seeds at the end of May. Preliminary findings from the Federation's regional post-harvest survey are being analyzed to ascertain the impact the harvested crops have had on household food security. In Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe, implementation of water and sanitation (WatSan) projects is progressing well, with several projects nearing completion.

The third regional food security coordination meeting, held in Johannesburg on 5 April, developed further livelihood projects which are now starting to get underway. These include Zambia's cash voucher/transfer and livestock projects and Zimbabwe's orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) supplementary feeding project as well as a small-scale irrigation project.

At the end of April, an operational review commenced; it is being conducted by an evaluation team of four members who are holding discussions with key external counterparts, the Federation Secretariat, the regional delegation in Harare and the seven<sup>1</sup> NS as well as conducting field visits in Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The aim of the exercise is to review the performance of the operation and to identify lessons learned. The exercise will also highlight the way forward, with discussions including a possible extension of longer-term projects outlined in the Appeal or the integration of these projects into other programmes. The full findings of the operational review will be shared with all counterparts at the end of May 2006.

**This operation is aligned with the International Federation's Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".**

### Global Agenda Goals:

- **Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.**
- **Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.**
- **Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.**
- **Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.**

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*All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the Code of Conduct and is committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for a full description of the national society profile, please access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>*

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<sup>1</sup> To visit profiles of national societies involved in this operation, visit the Federation website on the following pages:

Lesotho Red Cross Society- <http://www.ifrc.org/where/country/check.asp?countryid=102>

Malawi Red Cross Society- <http://www.ifrc.org/where/country/check.asp?countryid=110>

Mozambique Red Cross Society- <http://www.ifrc.org/where/country/check.asp?countryid=120>

Namibia Red Cross- <http://www.ifrc.org/where/country/check.asp?countryid=122>

Baphalali Swaziland Red Cross Society- <http://www.ifrc.org/where/country/check.asp?countryid=163>

Zambia Red Cross Society- <http://www.ifrc.org/where/country/check.asp?countryid=12>

Zimbabwe Red Cross Society- <http://www.ifrc.org/where/country/check.asp?countryid=13>

## **Background**

The food insecurity Emergency Appeal (05EA023) was launched against a backdrop of food insecurity affecting an estimated 12 million people in the southern Africa region at the end of 2005/beginning of 2006. The most affected countries were Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

## **Operational developments**

The months of April/May bring the end of the hunger season, as crops planted earlier start to be harvested, resulting in improved food security since households begin to access seasonal crops. According to the Famine Early Warning System Network (FEWSNET), general preliminary crop assessments in Southern Africa indicate improvements when compared to the previous two years, with near-normal or above-normal seasonal rainfall totals. Emergency relief programmes being implemented in the region are gradually being scaled-down during the April to June period, when it is likely that only very targeted distributions will continue in several countries/vulnerable pockets. Zimbabwe is likely to face further food shortages amidst a rapidly declining socio-economic environment. Lesotho and Swaziland do not have good harvest prospects too but Malawi's crop estimates indicate an 87% maize production increase over the last year. Zambia's and Mozambique's harvests are also expected to improve, with the respective governments' crop forecasting surveys being conducted in May.

As highlighted in the operational summary of this report, various countries as well as pockets in some countries will have very poor harvests as a result of late rains or excessive rains that resulted in severe flooding. Official crop surveys and national vulnerability assessments are expected to be completed by mid-June in all countries included in this Appeal. This information will form the basis for any further interventions related food insecurity.

It should be noted that this Appeal is not only responding to a situation of food insecurity caused by erratic rainfall patterns in 2004/5, but also by the chronic burden of HIV/AIDS and weakened government capacities, with the so called 'triple threat' destroying vulnerable families. Whilst the 'hunger season' is over and crops have begun to be harvested, the 'triple threat' still exists for a high proportion of vulnerable beneficiaries relying on the Red Cross interventions (those registered for the HIV/AIDS home-based care programmes, OVCs, people who are older, the chronically sick, people with disabilities, etc).

## **Red Cross and Red Crescent action - objectives, progress and impact**

**Overall goal: To assist some 1,483,900 vulnerable beneficiaries in Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe with food security, water and sanitation projects and to reinforce coping mechanisms (promoting livelihoods).**

### **Food Assistance**

**Objective: To meet the immediate food needs of vulnerable individuals in Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Swaziland, Zambia, and Zimbabwe until the next harvest in 2006.**

#### **Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)**

Funding constraints have resulted in lesser food being provided than outlined in the Emergency Appeal. However, the Malawian and Zambian operations have been able to implement fairly substantial food relief distributions from the Emergency Appeal funds to the benefit of those in most need. Additionally, the Zimbabwe Red Cross Society is just about to embark on a small-scale OVC supplementary feeding operation for some 600 children.

Over the reporting period, the Malawi supplementary feeding programme was expanded to just over 130,000 beneficiaries and the Zambia Red Cross Society started distributing food to 16,000 beneficiaries in April. The distributions will be increased to support some 27,500 by May/June. The total number of beneficiaries receiving food within this objective will therefore be in excess of 150,000.

All national societies involved in this operation have partnership agreements with WFP/governments/DFID or PNS to distribute food to the most vulnerable in their respective countries. These agreements enabled an additional 310,000 beneficiaries to receive monthly food rations at the peak of the crisis. Consequently, the national societies feel that they have made a positive impact on households trying to survive southern Africa's latest humanitarian crisis.

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### Procurement of food and logistics for Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe

The final items for Malawi's supplementary feeding and food-for-work programmes, procured through the Finnish Red Cross/Federation, were incoming during the reporting period, with no new procurements now taking place. The logistics operation went smoothly as it was enhanced by the fact that Malawi Red Cross Society's FS operation now has its own warehouse. However, a truck transporting approximately 28,000 litres oil was hijacked in April; the lost oil will be replaced by the insurance company in May. Except for the oil, the Zambia Red Cross Society's items — procured through the Finish Red Cross/Federation— arrived at the end of March in time for distribution in April. The Zimbabwe Red Cross Society/Federation also procured fortified maize, CSB, beans, oil, soya mince, sugar, peanut butter and *kapenta* for the OVC supplementary feeding programme. During the week starting 8 May, fortified maize and peanut butter were delivered to the Red Cross warehouse in Harare, with all the other items stored in the supplier's warehouse. A quarter of all quantities were delivered to Bindura in the first two weeks of May, followed by 50% of goods designated for the two distribution centres in Masvingo.

**Table 1: Status of Federation/Finnish Red Cross- procured food items**

Country	Operation	Status	Maize (MT)	Pulses (MT)	Oil (lt)	CSB (MT)	Notes
Malawi	Supplementary	Ordered	3003	601	300,304	901	Procured by Finnish RC
Malawi		Incoming	3003	601	300,128	901	176lt oil (short only)
Malawi	Food-for-work	Ordered	281.5	28.15	0	0	
		Incoming	281.5	28.15	n/a	n/a	Concluded
Zambia	Supplementary	Ordered	805.6	135	72,200	224	Finnish RC/Federation
		Incoming	436	135	26,400	90	Ongoing

### Malawi Red Cross Society's supplementary feeding programme

The third and last round of double-ration distributions under the Malawi Red Cross Society's supplementary food programme commenced on 3 April 2006, targeting an extra 10,370 households and focusing on an additional four districts - Karonga and Kasungu (in the Northern Region) and Dowa and Ntchisi (in the Central Region). This expansion was made possible by additional incoming funds from donors. The distributions will be concluded towards the end of May, when the final batch of cooking oil is incoming. Distributions in all but one distribution point in the four central districts were completed by 11 May 2006.

**Table 2: Summary of supplementary food relief distributions in Malawi**

Distribution period	Dates	Districts	HH	Maize (MT)	Pulses (MT)	Oil (lt)	CSB (MT)
1 <sup>st</sup> (Dec/Jan)	29 Dec-10 Feb	5	16,747	837.35	114.85	83,735	251.205
2 <sup>nd</sup> (Feb/March)	18 Feb-18 March	5	15,947	797.35	211.78	79,735	239.21
3 <sup>rd</sup> (April/May)	3 April- End May	9	26,317	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing

### Zambia Red Cross Society's supplementary feeding programme

As outlined in the logistics chart, all food items started to arrive in Zambia over the reporting period, with the exception of cooking oil which was only incoming in May. Distributions in Sinazongwe and Secheke took place between 10 and 19 April for the benefit of 15,936 beneficiaries. Beneficiaries in Sinazongwe received double-rations of cooking oil in the second round of distributions. The second and third distributions have been planned for May and June respectively.

**Table 3: Items distributed through Zambia Red Cross Society's supplementary feeding programme**

District	Areas	Beneficiaries	HH	Maize meal(MT)	Beans (MT)	CSB (MT)	Oil (lt)
Sinazongwe	10	13,450	2,180	144,82	22,34	40,13	0
Sesheke	5	2,484	513	26,92	12,49	7,46	2,484

An additional in-kind donation from the Finnish Red Cross will enable food distributions to be extended to Choma District in the second round, targeting an additional 9,000 beneficiaries (exact figures to be confirmed). As a result, the total number of beneficiaries is likely to reach 27,500.

**Zimbabwe Red Cross Society’s OVC supplementary feeding programme**



A total of 600 children between the age of 3 and 9 years will be supported through the Zimbabwe Red Cross Society’s OVC supplementary feeding programme in three centres in Bindura, Dete and Masvingo. A possible fourth centre will be opened in Masvingo. These children are extremely vulnerable— HIV positive, sick or living in child-headed households. The centres are within the HBC projects and the OVC are cared for in the centres from 8 am to 1 pm Monday to Friday. They will be provided with breakfast, mid-morning snacks and lunch. In April, baseline data was collected for each child and monitoring/reporting tools were developed. Food distributions will start towards the end of May.

*Photo: OVC with two of their volunteer care facilitators, attending the OVC Day Centre in Bindura.*

**Reinforcing self-reliance and coping mechanisms (livelihoods)**

**Objective: To re-enforce or rebuild self-reliance and to restore their positive coping mechanisms through food-for-work/food-for-assets (income generating opportunities), cash transfers, targeted agricultural support, and the provision of vegetable garden drip kits.**

**Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)**

To date, focus has been placed on two areas of operation under this objective. First, the distribution of agricultural starter packs in all seven countries (supporting the livelihoods of just under 40,000 households/some 200,000 beneficiaries) and second, a food-for-work project in Malawi (where some 5,630 households/28,150 beneficiaries received food rations in exchange for construction work at community-based health care centres).

At the 5 April Johannesburg FS coordination meeting, additional national society initiatives to reinforce self-reliability were discussed. They included backyard gardens, cash/voucher transfer projects, small-scale irrigation projects, provision of livestock (goats/chickens) and vegetable/herb gardens next to health clinics.

**Agricultural starter packs**

This component of the food security operation is almost complete. National societies have distributed maize or wheat seeds, a mixture of vegetable seeds and top/basal fertilizers as follows: Zambia distributed vegetable seeds only with funds from this appeal, so these will not be distributed until the end of May/early June, after maize is harvested; Zimbabwe’s top fertilizer was all distributed but basil fertilizer (which is used before the planting season) arrived too late, it will therefore be distributed at the end of this programme in time for the next planting season. All other agricultural starter pack activities have been completed, with the Federation-designed post-planting survey being carried out in operational areas to ascertain potential yields.

**Table 4: Status of the distribution of agricultural starter packs**

Country	No of households	Cereals/Pulses	Veg Seeds	Fertilizers
Lesotho	5,000	Completed	Completed	Completed
Malawi	16,747	Completed	Completed	Completed
Mozambique	1,250	Completed	Completed	Completed
Namibia	2,000	Completed	Completed	Completed
Swaziland	1,938	Completed	Completed	Completed
Zambia	3,000	N/A	End May/early June	N/A
Zimbabwe	7,565	Completed	Completed	Completed/stored

**Malawi Red Cross Society’s food-for-work project**

The Malawi Red Cross Society, in partnership with the Netherlands Red Cross (NLRC), has been implementing a community-based health care programme (CBHCP) in Kasungu, Dowa and Ntchisi districts targeting 120,000 beneficiaries since October 2003. The NLRC has supported the food-for-work component of the CBHCP through this Appeal. All the 281.5 MT of maize and 28.15 MT of pulses procured were incoming, with a total of 5,630 households receiving food rations of 50 kg maize and 5 kg pulses each between 20 and 28 March in support of volunteers involved in constructing health centres. A complete relief report will be provided in the next update.

**Zambia Red Cross Society's cash voucher/transfer project**

The Zambia Red Cross Society/Federation contracted an external consultant to conduct a feasibility study aimed at identifying the most suitable methodology and procedures for the proposed cash voucher/transfer project. Findings from the study will be presented in May. In the meantime, it was proposed that a pilot disbursement of funds takes place during the first week of June, targeting 200 households in Livingstone. The project will expand to cover 600 households by September.

**Zambia Red Cross Society's livestock project**

Households in three districts will receive goats and chickens between May and July 2006; a total of 300 goats and 1,200 chickens are planned to be distributed. The first set of beneficiary households will pass on the first offspring of the goats (when at the mating stage of development) and chickens (at the pullet stage of development) to the next set of households. An independent consultant will be engaged to identify, purchase and transport the livestock to the distribution points. The consultant will also be responsible for training staff and volunteers in basic goat and chicken rearing, focusing on feeding, housing as well as disease prevention and control. Given the threat of Avian Influenza, all chickens will be purchased from the local districts therefore abiding to the ban on movement of birds.

**Zimbabwe Red Cross Society's small-scale irrigation project**

Two small-scale irrigation schemes are being developed by the Zimbabwe Red Cross Society/Federation, with the aim of improving the livelihood of 90 vulnerable child-headed households (CHHs) in Chinhoyi and Banket districts by constructing boreholes and providing piping as well as seeds thus enabling the CHHs to have their own nutritional gardens. The Red Cross offices in Chinhoyi and Banket have 2.5 hectares of land each set aside for the project. The availability of two boreholes, a water tank, piping, a piggery and a fowl run will make it possible to rear chicks and piglets as well as to produce vegetables and herbs. Training/technical assistance will also be a large part of the programme. In April, the Zimbabwe Red Cross Society and RD WatSan officers visited the two sites and compiled a list of items to be procured. On 8 May, all bids were opened at the RD and suppliers were selected. Simultaneously provincial managers were hiring draught power (to clear the land) and selecting volunteers for training, whilst liaising with the government's Department of Agricultural Research and Extension Services (AREX). An agronomist is also being recruited for three months to promote best farming practices and to conduct training for the volunteers.

**Water and Sanitation**

**Objective: Ensure access to safe and adequate drinking water, borehole rehabilitation, sanitation, small-scale irrigation, latrine construction, and hygiene education by vulnerable individuals.**

**Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)**

**Malawi**

The Malawi Red Cross Society will soon provide 4,500 beneficiaries with a safe water supply and disseminate hygiene promotion to 30,000 beneficiaries in TA Mwambo, Zomba district. The work is closely coordinated with the ministries of health and agriculture. Activities will include: drilling 10 new boreholes and equipping them with hand pumps; rehabilitating 8 water boreholes and equipping them with functioning hand-pumps and aprons; selecting and training 18 water committees for community-based management of each of the boreholes and training 36 hygiene promotion volunteers who will conduct 12 hygiene promotion sessions each, ultimately disseminating good practices to 30,000 beneficiaries.

At the end of April 2006, all the quotations for borehole work were opened for Zomba district, with the rehabilitation of non-functioning boreholes now in progress.

**Mozambique**

The WatSan intervention is focused on Maputo, Gaza and Inhambane provinces. Activities will include: training of 30 water point maintenance committees/volunteers; construction of 12 ground-level water tanks, 7 borehole aprons and 500 family latrines and the rehabilitation of 21 boreholes. To date a total of 19 volunteers attended a five-day



*The successful rehabilitation of this borehole hand-pump has provided clean water for these women in Zomba district, Malawi.*

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participatory hygiene and sanitation transformation (PHAST) course, enabling them to promote hygiene education and maintain hand pumps in Gaza Province. Community organizations in the province also started selecting the water committee members to be trained. The process of identifying water points to be rehabilitated and sites to construct water tanks in Gaza province were completed. Additionally, the rehabilitation of 14 water points was completed, with new parts and hand-pump components fitted. Cement for 500 latrine slabs is also being procured.

### **Zambia**

The Zambia Red Cross Society will focus its WatSan activities in Sinazongwe and Secheke, where food distributions are being implemented. A particular emphasis will be on Secheke district, which previously lacked WatSan support. Support will include: rehabilitation of 50 boreholes; construction of 50 community ventilation improved pit (VIP) latrines and provision of over 2,000 sanitation platforms (SanPlats). Hygiene education and promotion using the PHAST methodology will also be conducted. An assessment mission for Sinazongwe was completed on 30 April while an assessment mission for Secheke was planned for May. WatSan items are also in the process of being procured.

### **Zimbabwe**

The Zimbabwe Red Cross Society will target over 16,000 beneficiaries in Chikomba and Buhera districts. It will also reach over 3,600 households with hygiene education, considering that Chikomba district was affected by a cholera outbreak this year. Both districts will have 2 new boreholes, 10 rehabilitated boreholes and 100 latrines constructed. Plans are on course to recruit a WatSan technician to be based; the officer will start working on 1 June 2006. Funds have been disbursed to the provinces, cement and the builders' tools have been purchased and 98 latrines are at various stages of completion. Ten boreholes have been rehabilitated and two new boreholes were expected to be completed by mid-May. To date, 14 builders and 10 hygiene promoters have been trained in Chikomba, with the water point maintenance training planned for the first week of June.

## **Reinforcing capacities in assessing livelihoods, and food security monitoring and reporting**

**Objective: To ensure that national society staff is well versed in livelihood and food security interventions**

**Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)**

### **Regional delegation level**

At the Harare regional delegate level, the following delegate/national staff positions were filled to support this intervention: an FS operations coordinator; FS roaming logistics delegate; FS reporting delegate and an FS finance officer. Disaster management as well as finance and administration delegates are also working with the FS team to ensure that the operation is implemented smoothly. At country levels, each national society apart from Namibia benefited from a relief delegate, with a regional delegation officer allocated during the distribution of agricultural starter packs. The Malawi operation also had a logistics delegate whose contract ended in mid-May. In addition, from mid-April, a second America Red Cross delegate was deployed to Lesotho (on a bilateral basis) to support the general operation for a month.

### **National society level workshops**

In Lesotho, an experienced FS relief officer was recruited and 80 LRCS volunteers were mobilized from the 8 districts involved in the distribution of the agricultural starter packs. The volunteers attended a distribution management workshop in February. Recruitment was underway at the end of April to replace the LRCS's DM coordinator. In Malawi, a coordinator, a logistician, a monitoring and evaluation officer as well as 2 food monitors were recruited or allocated to each of the 5 districts, bringing the total to 25; 4 warehouse staff were also put in place for the FS operation. In May, the FS coordination meeting also involved an internal review workshop in Blantyre for the team in the southern region. In Mozambique, a total of 75 volunteers and 6 FS field officers were employed from mid-February and attended a three-day training session at the end of February. A team comprised of 4 officers from the national society and the FS delegate is planning to visit Swaziland in June to share lessons learned and experiences, to conduct field trips and to hold discussions, with a particularly focus on backyard garden projects.

In Swaziland, a coordinator from the headquarters and 5 divisional coordinators were allocated to the FS operation, although several officers were suspended at the end of April. During April, the FS officer conducted a workshop on backyard gardens and vegetable production. In Namibia, the Namibia Red Cross reallocated six staff and mobilized

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200 volunteers to work for the FS programme. The visiting regional logistics officer ran a vehicle and warehousing capacity-building exercises at the end of February. In Zambia, national staff consisted of an FS relief coordinator, 3 FS district coordinators, 3 district coordinators, 3 FS logistics assistants, two drivers and over 100 volunteers. Of these, 32 from Choma attended a FS induction and refresher workshop held on 26-27 April. In Zimbabwe, the Federation delegate now has an administrative assistant and the national society has recruited a FS WatSan officer who will start working by 1 June.

### **Impact**

**Food Assistance:** All national societies have partnership agreements with WFP, DFID and PNSs which include food components. Due to limited financial resources, this Appeal is currently focusing funding on food interventions in Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Measuring the impact of the food component of the Malawi Red Cross Society's operation is the responsibility of the newly-appointed monitoring and evaluation (M&E) officers at the headquarters and district levels. Monitoring is conducted at the distribution points and follow-up household M&E tools have been introduced. The tools are analyzed on a monthly basis.

**Reinforcing self-reliance and coping mechanisms (livelihoods):** The regional delegation's food security programme officer designed a post-planting survey with the aim of assessing the impact of this intervention. Data collected includes number and types of crops planted, area planted by crop type, fertilizer applied, crop production and size of the households. The Malawi, Mozambique and Swaziland national societies have already conducted this survey. In Lesotho, preparations were underway to conduct the survey on 15-16 May, using 5-6 volunteers led by the relief officer. The Zambia Red Cross Society will conduct the survey after distributing vegetable seeds in June. The survey may not be conducted in Namibia due to a lack of human resources. Once all the data has been collected and analyzed, a consolidated report will be compiled and its results will be shared with all counterparts. The Zimbabwe Red Cross Society has conducted a Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO) survey.

**Water and sanitation:** In accordance with SPHERE standards, the WatSan component of the operation will be evaluated for impact using beneficiary baseline surveys before and after each intervention.

**Reinforcing capacities in assessing livelihoods, and food security monitoring and reporting:** The impact of this objective will in part be measured by the review evaluation exercise which was being conducted in May by two consultants. Initial results of the exercise are due by the end of May/beginning of June. The review report will be shared with all counterparts.

### **Constraints**

Insufficient funding is still a problem, with the Appeal receiving only 26.8% of the funds needed. Many of the planned activities, especially provision of food, are now not going to be implemented at all. However, further funds are still incoming and new initiatives were highlighted at the FS coordination meeting held in Johannesburg in April.

Staffing problems occurred over the reporting period in the Lesotho and Swaziland national societies, with several key FS/DM staff either resigning or being suspended. This resulted in planning and implementation challenges. The president of Zambia Red Cross Society was also suspended over the reporting period; this did not disrupt the FS operation.

### **Operational review**

An operational review is being conducted between the end of April and the end of May 2006, with funds from the Swedish Red Cross and the British Red Cross. A team of two consultants was joined by the secretary general of the Mozambique Red Cross Society and the regional delegation's M&E officer, who visited Malawi, Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Zambia operations and held discussions with internal and external counterparts. The team will hold telephone conferences and meetings with key staff/delegates in the other four national societies as well as at the regional delegation and Secretariat levels.

The general objective of the exercise is to review the performance of the operation and to assess its effectiveness and efficiency, with a view to provide lessons learned and a way forward. Other issues to be addressed are:

- Comparing the 2002 and 2005/6 food security operations and how lessons learnt were applied;

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- Considering the poor response by donors to this Appeal, to examine the consequences for the implementation of programmes and the reasons which led to poor donor support;
- Examining the overall operational approach in respect to logistical support and local procurement in the crisis, to demonstrate if the set-up helped or hindered the provision of timely services;
- Examining operational alliances/partnerships, in respect to the response to this operation.

A comprehensive report will be produced by the end of May and will be shared with all counterparts. The report will also be discussed at the fourth Johannesburg FS coordination meeting scheduled for 10-14 July 2006. During the meeting, the regional FS policy framework document will be developed further.

### **Federation Coordination**

A third food security coordination meeting was held in Johannesburg on 5 April, bringing together FS delegates/NS relief and programme coordinators, RD FS delegates/officers, the senior food security advisor from the Secretariat and the British Red Cross's desk officer. In addition to general programme coordination, operational and budget updates, the meeting focused on new livelihood initiatives, their corresponding budgets and the development of a five-year food security strategic plan.

Over the reporting period, the Federation Food Security Task Force met fortnightly in Harare to ensure that coordination was maintained. Topics discussed included pledge updates, country operational updates, movement of delegates, forthcoming field trips and meetings, the operational review, agricultural post-planting survey and development of new projects. Minutes of the meeting are available up on request to all involved in the operation. At country levels, each NS also held task force coordination meetings with key NS staff, PNSs and the Federation—on a weekly or fortnightly basis and minutes were shared by all involved in the operation.

Externally, relevant regional delegation representatives attend the Regional Inter-agency Coordination Standing Office and Head of Agency meetings, UNICEF/Ministry of Health Watsan Working Group meetings and other coordination meetings. At country levels, WFP Food Security Coordination meetings, National Disaster Management Unit Meetings and HIV and AIDS meetings—among others—are attended by key national society staff and delegates on a regular basis.

### **Communications – Advocacy and Public Information**

National society information departments continued to support the food security operation through a number of media activities. The Zimbabwe Red Cross Society organized a media tour (for the local media) to highlight the plight of the most affected as well as the role of the Red Cross in food security interventions. A feature story was published in the *Herald* and was aired on the national television. The Malawi Red Cross Society also arranged a media tour to cover food distributions, focusing on the impact of seed and cassava distributions in addressing long-term food security problems. On 8 May, the president of Malawi received the senior staff of Malawi Red Cross Society to discuss the work of the Red Cross. The meeting was broadcasted on all national TV and radio outlets.

Following the food security coordination meeting held in Johannesburg IN April, a press release entitled “Red Cross food security operation in southern Africa on course despite poor funding” was issued. The article was also posted on Reuters AlertNet, IRIN and AEGIS among others. Two more stories on Zambia and Namibia were posted on the Federation's website: “[Zambia Red Cross volunteers extend lifeline to people living with HIV and AIDS](#)” and “[Namibian San people begin a new chapter with Red Cross seed distribution](#)”. The former focused on the role of volunteers in the food security operation and the latter on the role played by the Red Cross food security operation in Namibia in an attempt to change the lives of the marginalized San community.

*[Contributions list below; click here to return to the title page.](#)*

# Southern Africa - food insecurity

ANNEX 1

APPEAL No. 05EA023

## PLEDGES RECEIVED

09/05/2006

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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### CASH

REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->					TOTAL COVERAGE	
					<b>39,360,753</b>	<b>26.8%</b>
AMERICAN - RC		1,000,000	USD	1,321,000	06.02.06	LESOTHO, MALAWI, ZIMBABWE, ZAMBIA
AUSTRALIAN - RC		39,173	AUD	38,194	27.02.06	MALAWI, ZAMBIA, ZIMBABWE
BRITISH - RC		100,000	GBP	225,900	01.12.05	MALAWI, ZAMBIA, ZIMBABWE
BRITISH - RC		6,600	GGBP	14,956	20.04.06	EVALUATION
CANADIAN - GOVT/CIDA/HAPS		990,000	CAD	1,077,318	07.11.05	
DANISH - RC				67,394	14.02.06	
FINNISH - RC		100,000	EUR	155,700	25.10.05	MALAWI
FINNISH - RC		20,000	EUR	31,560	20.04.06	ZAMBIA
FINNISH - GOVT		14,625	EUR	22,771	25.10.05	MALAWI
IRISH - RC		66,668	EUR	103,169	20.12.05	MOZAMBIQUE WATSAN
IRISH - RC		100,000	EUR	155,650	23.01.06	MALAWI
JAPANESE - RC		30,000,000	JPY	332,400	02.11.05	
MONACO - RC		20,000	EUR	31,140	25.10.05	
NETHERLANDS - RC		106,952	EUR	165,294	23.11.05	FOOD-FOR-WORK 30'000 PEOPLE IN MALAWI
NORWEGIAN - GOVT/RC		10,326,000	NOK	2,007,374	15.11.05	INCL. 2 RELIEF DELEGATES
PRIVATE DONORS ON LINE				567	22.12.05	
PRIVATE DONORS ON LINE				4,786	26.01.06	
SWEDISH - RC		5,000,000	SEK	810,000	11.11.05	
SWEDISH - RC		3,000,000	SEK	486,000	18.11.05	
SWEDISH - GOVT		14,250,000	SEK	2,315,625	16.12.05	
SWISS - PRIVATE DONOR				1,000	07.11.05	
USA - PRIVATE DONOR				63	13.01.06	MALAWI
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				9,367,861	CHF	23.8%

### KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
ECHO				585,019	27.04.06	443000 BAGS CSB, 147606 L. OIL, 295000 KGS BEANS
FINNISH - GOVT		270,000	EUR	420,390	25.10.05	MALAWI: 540 MT MAIZE, 150 MT CSB, 90 MT BEANS, 50'000 L. VEGETABLE OIL
ICELAND	DELEGATES			38,600		
IRELAND	DELEGATES			33,600		
SWEDEN	DELEGATES			37,600		
SWITZERLAND	DELEGATES			36,400		
AMCROSS	DELEGATES			30,400		

# Southern Africa - food insecurity

ANNEX 1

APPEAL No. 05EA023

## PLEDGES RECEIVED

09/05/2006

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				1,182,009	CHF	3.0%

## ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED				0	CHF	