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Annual report Zambia

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

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**This report covers the
period 01/01/2011 to
31/12/2011**

*ZRCS volunteers trained in the CBHFA
approach. Photo: Zambia Red Cross
Society*



In brief

Programme outcome

In line with the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies' (IFRC) Strategy 2020, the expected outcome of the 2011 support programmes was for communities to be resilient to disasters and public health emergencies, with protected livelihoods and strengthened capacity to recover from disasters, with healthy and safe living, social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.

Programme(s) summary

A major focus area for the Zambia Red Cross Society (ZRCS) during the reporting period was the launch of the Zambezi River Basin Initiative (ZRBI) which is being implemented in an integrated approach. Staff and volunteers were recruited under the ZRBI and targeted communities in Sesheke and Kazungula districts were mobilized and sensitized about the project. Approximately 50 households in these two districts were also mobilized under ZRCS food security initiative and underwent training in conservation farming in August 2011. With support from the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), plans are underway to scale-up the food security interventions along the basin. The project will target an additional 500 beneficiaries with food security activities by April 2012. Furthermore, ZRCS volunteers in the two districts were trained on community-based health, first aid and MDR-TB.

Geographical coverage of ZRCS' HIV and AIDS programme (2011-2014), which has so far been implemented in Lusaka district, has been expanded to include Sesheke and Kazungula, thereby integrating with the ZRBI at implementation level.

Other focus areas for the National Society during the reporting period were voluntary non-remunerated blood donation (including expansion of the Club 25 initiative); institutional disaster preparedness (through the development of a contingency plan on the anticipated socio-political unrest prior, during and after the 2011 general elections in Zambia); ZRCS branch and youth development (including election and induction of new branch executive committee members); as well as intensifying ZRCS' local resource mobilization initiatives.

Financial situation

The total 2011 budget for the country-specific plan was CHF 737,204, of which CHF 309,463 (42%) was covered during the reporting period (including opening balance). Overall expenditure during the reporting period was CHF 86,524, corresponding to 12% of the budgeted amount and 28% of the available funding. Disbursement of funds to the National Society was delayed due to outstanding working advances to be cleared, which accounts for the low level of expenditure. Additionally, the National Society used other regional and global IFRC funds, including through ZRBI and for HIV/AIDS.

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

Number of people we have reached

The total number of people directly reached during this period was 32,730, while another 22,980 were reached indirectly. The National Society had targeted to reach about 48,000 people cumulatively by the end of 2011, which it managed to exceed.

Programme	Planned number of people to be reached in 2011	Actual figures reached during the reporting period	
		Directly	Indirectly
Food security	500	560	1,680
Zambezi river basin initiative	5,000	4,000	7,000
Community-based health and first aid	-	60	400
Club 25	500	350	1,500
Commercial first aid training	-	1,200	2,400
First aid services	9,000	7,500	-
HIV and AIDS	5,000	3,000	2,500
Branch development and volunteer mgt	15,000	8,000	3,500
Principles and Values	15,000	8,000	4,000
TB Training	5,000	60	-

Our partners

Within the Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement, ZRCS partnered with the Netherland Red Cross Society on HIV prevention and support to orphans and vulnerable children, and by the IFRC and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). Outside the Movement, the National Society worked with UN agencies, government-based and international organizations like UNICEF and the World Bank. Collaboration with various government ministries continued at all levels. At community level, partnerships were developed with local government departments such as the disaster management and mitigation unit, district development coordination committees and district water and sanitation committees, among others. Collaboration also continued with a number of NGOs, both international (Medicines Sans Frontiers, World Vision, Catholic Relief Services and Care), as well national and local. The ZRCS and IFRC want to thank partners and contributors for their collaboration and support during 2011 appeal.

Context

Following the 2010/11 rainy season, some districts in Zambia experienced rising water levels in rivers, lakes, swamps, dams and streams, as reported by the government's District Disaster Management Committee. The Zambia Vulnerability Assessment Committee carried out an assessment to ascertain the risk of flooding and water logging in these districts and establish the sectors at risk. The assessment revealed that 11,094 households (66,564 people) were at high risk of flooding in 13 of the 20 districts surveyed. Some extreme situations were reported in the western and north-western parts of the country, where houses and churches collapsed due to heavy rainfall and crops were rotting due to water logging. Some districts, including Sesheke and Kazungula, also experienced the risk of flooding along with prolonged dry spells. ZRCS mobilized its volunteers to be on stand-by in these areas in case the situation worsened.

On the socio-political front, the first half of the year witnessed some civil unrest in different parts of the country leading up to the general elections (Presidential, Parliamentary and Local government) which was held in September 2011. The anti-government protests resulted in loss of lives, injuries and destruction of public infrastructure and government vehicles. The Zambia Red Cross Society (ZRCS) conducted pre-election orientation sessions in the country, focusing on 7 high risk provinces, and had mobilized its volunteers and staff to be on high alert in case of violence during the election period. During the actual voting day, a total of 303 casualties were attended to countrywide. The opposition Patriotic Front PF won the elections and Mr. Michael Sata was sworn in as the new head of state on 23rd September, 2011.

During this period, the National Society continued to implement programmes in an environment of financial instability caused by lack of programme funding. Some external challenges like the increase in fuel prices also adversely affected programme implementation. All these challenges resulted in slow progress of planned activities against set targets. In this context, the National Society made efforts towards carrying out activities using its locally mobilized resources.

Progress towards outcomes

Disaster Management

Programme component 1: Food security

Outcome 1: Household food availability is improved.

Outcome 2: Household food utilization is improved.

Outcome 3: Household access to food is improved.

Achievements

During the reporting period, ZRCS focused on planning interventions to increase the resilience of 3,000 vulnerable households at risk of food insecurity and agricultural loss caused by seasonal floods/drought in Zambia's Sesheke and Kazungula districts. Supported by the IFRC's southern Africa regional office, ZRCS drafted a food security strategy for the implementation of its long-term food security initiative. The long-term food security (LTFS) plan emphasizes on improving crop production to benefit the rural or small scale farmers. Activities include increasing productivity in rural areas dependent on rain fed agriculture, improving soil fertility management {CA}, expanding cropped areas, increasing livestock production and investing in irrigation. In partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, the ZRCS identified and mobilized 50 Lead Farmers (from households targeted under the food security initiative) in Sesheke (25) and Kazungula (25). The Lead Farmer model was adopted. These farmers underwent training in conservation farming in the month of August 2011 and were each supported with agriculture inputs. Approximately three {3} hectares of land were cultivated and over 500 individual basins were made. These basins were divided into four [4] intercrops; maize, tomatoes, cabbage and onion. Each basin consist of approximately 15-21 individual crops, in total K15,000,000 were realised from the project in the two districts. This money went towards school fees for the children among the farmers involved and for household food consumption.



Community volunteer monitoring the vegetable garden in Kazungula, Photo: Zambia Red Cross

Under the FAO DRR-FS support, the identification of Lead Farmers (LF) and Participating Farmers (PF) was done in the two districts and a total of 500 beneficiaries were identified including 30 Community RC Volunteers. ZRCS conducted the beneficiary identification together with Ministry of Agriculture at the district level and the local traditional leadership. This was done to create synergies between the project and local leadership. So far the trainings in Conservation Agriculture CA and herbicide usage were conducted in December, 2011 for both Sesheke and Kazungula Lead farmers. FAO Zambia procured early maturity seed varieties for the farmers which were distributed just after the trainings. The following are the inputs which were distributed to the farmers:

1. Maize	PAN 413	500 x 5kg
2. Groundnuts	MGV4	250 x 10kg
3. Sorghum	Kuyuma	250 x 2kg

4. B/Millet	Dola	250 x 2kg
5. Cowpeas	Lutembwe	250 x 2kg

Programme component 2: Zambezi River Basin Initiative (ZRBI)

Outcome 1: The risk and impact of disasters among communities living along the Zambezi River basin is reduced through community preparedness.

Outcome 2: Access to adequate and nutritious food commodities increased among communities along the Zambezi River Basin.

Outcome 3: The number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases reduced among communities along the Zambezi River Basin.

Outcome 4: ZRCS capacity to implement disaster preparedness, response and recovery operations is increased.

Achievements

Under the Zambezi river basin initiative, the National Society planned to reach a total of 5,500 direct beneficiaries. Under outcome one 1, the ZRCS partnered with the government under the Pilot Programme on Climate Resilient {PPCR} in march 2011 and sensitization of 40 district staff (20 per district in Kazungula and Sesheke) on climate change issues. 60 volunteers also attended the meetings (30 per district). Under outcome two, a total of 560 beneficiaries in food security were reached while 60 were trained in horticulture and 500 were supported in rain-fed cropping. Outcome {3}, 60 volunteers were trained in the CBHFA approach and another 60 community volunteers were trained in MDR -TB Control activities.

This period saw the recruitment of project staff to oversee the activities of the ZRBI, including a disaster management coordinator based at ZRCS headquarters and district project officers for the two ZRBI project sites in Sesheke and Kazungula districts. Volunteer recruitment and sensitization also continued in Sesheke and Kazungula. A total of 60 new community volunteers were recruited even thou no training were provided to these volunteers.

Over the years, some communities in Lusaka district have consistently been identified as the most vulnerable areas to flooding as well as disease outbreak by the Zambia Vulnerability Assessment Committee mainly due to the lack of drainage systems in these communities. In October 2010, the Zambian government released funds for community based disaster risk reduction (DRR) activities in Lusaka, which involved construction of new drainage and unblocking of existing ones. ZRCS collaborated with the government, through the government's Disaster Management and Mitigation Unit, by providing first aid and counselling services, along with the distribution of condoms to people involved in the DRR operations. The National Society attended to 1,183 casualties during the four months of operation. The services were also extended to the nearby communities. As a result of this operation to improve the drainage system, the city of Lusaka did not experience any flooding during the 2010/2011 rainy season.

In order to ensure institutional disaster preparedness, ZRCS developed a contingency plan on the anticipated socio-political unrest prior, during and after the 2011 general elections. The National Society identified seven high risk provinces in the country, where volunteers and staff were mobilized for pre-election orientation trainings. However, trainings in first aid and Safe Access were only conducted in four of the seven provinces, covering over 30 staff and 150 volunteers. The trained volunteers provided orientations to other volunteers in their local branches. The target was to train 700 volunteers across the country. Prior to and during the elections, the National Society, with Financial and technical support from ICRC, positioned its trained staff and volunteers in identified high risk violence polling stations in each district. A total of 303 casualties were assisted during this operation. Further, emergency first aid stocks and kits were put on standby. World Vision-Zambia supported the NS with first aid refills which was used during the election period.

Zambia lost the second republican president Dr Fredrick Chiluba on June 18, 2011, the government declared seven days of national mourning. The national society provided first aid to the mourners during Dr Chiluba's state funeral and assisted more than two thousand five hundred (2500) casualties (mourners).

In June 2011, one of the biggest markets in the city of Lusaka was gutted by fire and over 100 households were made homeless. The NS through Government [DMMU] provided relief materials [tents and food] to

the affected families. Following the 2011/2012 rain season, some parts of Lusaka experienced flooding in which a total of 50 HH had their homes submerged in water following the heavy downpour. Government through ZRCS donated relief materials to the affected families in the form of shelter, food and blankets. These families were later asked to relocate to non-affected communities.

The National Society is a member of the Pilot Programme on Climate Resilient {PPCR}. PPCR is a project that is aimed at strengthening the resilience of communities in Zambezi and Kafue Basins to effects of climate change. So far, a total of 27 districts have been mapped out in the two basins for implementation purpose. These include districts that are under the ZRBI Project. The following thematic platforms have been created under the PPCR Climate Infrastructure, Climate Information, Climate Finance and Management and Climate Agriculture. The National Society is active in this programme and sits on climate information and agriculture platforms. The Civil Society Consortium [CSC] of which ZRCS is a member will soon sign the MOU with the Ministry of finance to begin implementing activities under the PPCR. The consortium consists of Zambia Red Cross Society, Zambia Climate Change Network and Green Enviro-watch.

Constraints or Challenges

Progress has been slow in implementing activities under the ZRBI project, due to delays in NS clearing previous working advances. Plans have been put in place by the National Society to address such administrative delays in future.

Health and Care

Programme component 1: Community-based health and first aid (CBHFA)

Outcome 1: Communities are able to cope with health and disaster challenges achieved through implementation of community-based health and first aid and traditional and commercial first aid activities.

Outcome 2: Mother and child health is improved through immunization services to children and mothers in areas of ZRCS operations.

Outcome 3: Blood donation awareness and pool of voluntary non-remunerated blood donors (VNRBD) is increased through the Club 25 Methodology.

Achievements

During this period, ZRCS community volunteers were provided training on the CBHFA *in Action* approach, along with community mobilization, community assessment, and the Red Cross Movement. A total of 60 volunteers were trained (30 from Sesheke and 30 from Kazungula districts). During community assessments conducted by the trained CBHFA volunteers, priority health needs were identified by the community members. These volunteers will require further training to enable them to conduct health education sessions for identified priority health needs in communities. The National Society procured and distributed bibs to the volunteers as a way of increasing its visibility in these districts. The increased visibility, in turn, will create a favourable humanitarian space for the National Society's disaster response activities. Under its commercial first aid programme, ZRCS continued training personnel in companies, government ministries and banks on first aid and 1,200 people were trained during this period. The National Society also offered first aid services to over 700 casualties during a trade fair held in June in Ndola and 303 casualties were offered first aid during the tripartite elections across the country.

Zambia Red Cross Society in collaboration with the District Health Management Team offices of Kazungula and Sesheke also conducted a four day training session of 60 community volunteers on MDR -TB Control activities from 25th to 28th October for Sesheke and 30th to 2nd November 2011 for Kazungula. The community volunteers gained basic knowledge and skills on TB/HIV and MDR/TB and how to facilitate management of TB/MDR TB. Over 3,000 households were visited and sensitized by the end of 2011

This period also saw seven more schools in Lusaka district join ZRCS' Club 25 initiative with 230 pupils being enrolled to the club. Sensitization sessions on the importance of donating blood continued to be held in the communities around Lusaka.

Programme component 2: Emergency health

Outcome 1: ZRCS targeted communities with increased capacity to cope with health

emergencies.

Achievements

During the period under review no activities were carried out under this component due to funding constraints.

Programme component 3: Water and sanitation

Outcome 1: Access to clean and safe water and sanitation services has improved in southern, eastern and northern provinces of Zambia.

Achievements

The water and sanitation project came to an end in 2010. No water and sanitation activities were carried out in 2011 due to funding constraints.

Programme component 4: HIV and AIDS

Outcome 1: Prevent further infections through targeted community based peer education and Information, Education and Communication activities for the most at risk populations, key drivers of the HIV epidemic and promote uptake of services including male circumcision, voluntary counselling and testing (VCT), parent to child transmission (PPTCT) and mother and child health (MNCH).

Outcome 2: Provide nursing care in homes and communities for those with chronic illnesses who still require it. Provide support for PLHIV and children who are on antiretroviral therapy (ART) through counselling on adherence, ART literacy, nutrition, psychosocial support, livelihoods and support groups. Provide holistic support for orphans and vulnerable children including educational, material, livelihoods, psychological and social support and ensure implementation of the regional Child Protection Strategy.

Outcome 3: Reduction of stigma and discrimination by engaging in advocacy, promotion of human rights, tackling sexual and gender based violence at community level including promotion and implementation of work place programmes for staff and volunteers.

Outcome 4: Strengthen planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting (PMER) systems, training in resource mobilization, strengthen branch and volunteer management systems, establish relevant partnerships at regional and country level, developing guidelines, good practices, organizing country and regional meetings and facilitating participation in regional and international conferences and seminars.

Achievements

Following the training of trainers' workshop for youth peer education conducted in 2009 and 2010, ZRCS used these trained peer educators to roll out the "Youth Peer Education Life Skills Activity Kit" during the reporting period. A total of 43 peer educators from ZRCS' Lusaka branch were supported to reach 1,450 out-of-school and school going youth through peer education activities, including games, group discussions on HIV and AIDS, sexually transmitted infections, psycho-social counselling, condom use and sexual health. ZRCS managed to reach 490 people through sexual and reproductive health promotion sessions and distributed 10,700 condoms. A total of 392 young people were referred to new start centre for HIV testing.

Youths reached appreciate the knowledge they have gained and have indicated that their behaviour has been influenced by the gain in skills and knowledge.

Further, ZRCS with support from IFRC obtained funding from the Netherlands Red Cross for its HIV and AIDS programme (2011-2014). The main focus of the programme will be on HIV prevention using the peer education approach and provision of support to orphans and vulnerable children. The funding support will be for a period of two year from July 2011 and covering activities in Kazungula and Sesheke districts where ZRCS is implementing the Zambezi River Basin Initiative, thereby integrating activities at implementation level. The identification and selection of the OVC to be supported under this project were done in Kazungula and Sesheke. The National Society has partnered with the Ministry of Education under this project and it will support the OVC with school fees, books and School uniforms. The target number for

OVC is 430 school going children. The NS with support from IFRC trained 60 volunteers in MDR-TB and follow up activates were on hold since the NS was closed since late November to December, 2011.

Constraints or challenges

Lack of funding continued to be the major constraint faced by the health and care programme and resulted in:

- A slow roll-out of the voluntary non-remunerated blood donation programme, with little having been achieved since its launch in May 2010;
- Slow implementation of HIV and AIDS programme activities;
- Inability to carry out health education campaigns for priority health needs identified in communities by CBHFA volunteers;
- Inability to roll out the TB prevention activities due to lack of funding.

National Society Development/Capacity Building

Programme component 1: Branch development and volunteer management

Outcome 1: ZRCS branches are viable and vibrant with sound volunteer and local youth network management systems.

Outcome 2: ZRCS has established systems and procedures for the systematic provision of technical support for branch development and volunteer management by its Headquarters.

Outcome 3: ZRCS resource base is improved and ensures sustainability of programmes.

Achievements

ZRCS' Governing Board adopted a number of policy documents during this period including a branch manual, a youth policy, gender policy, communication policy, code of conduct for volunteers, and standard rules and regulations in the conduct of ZRCS branch council meetings. These will assist National Society Headquarters to establish systems and procedures for the provision of technical support to enhance branch development and volunteer management. ZRCS continued disseminating the recently developed volunteering policy and the new ZRCS constitution, taking advantage of every opportunity such as field trips, branch executive committee inductions, national council meetings and volunteer training sessions.

During the reporting period, the National Society's Chienge, Chingola, Livingstone, Siavonga, Mpulungu, Nakonde and Ndola branches successfully held branch council meetings and elected the branch executive committees. An induction programme was conducted for the new branch executive committee members soon after they were elected.

The Lusaka branch also successfully held an annual branch council meeting in March, to adopt its work plan for 2011. Between June and December 2011, the Copperbelt, Southern, Lusaka and Eastern provincial committee held two provincial meetings each with all the branches in that province attending the meetings.

ZRCS organized two provincial youth camps, one in the Copperbelt province from 8 to 12 April under the theme "Youth on the move, doing more, doing better, and reaching further", and the other in the Lusaka province from 11 to 17 April under the theme "Youth on the move". Youth from various schools, as well as those out-of-schools, attended these youth camps, with a total of 423 attending the former and 93 attending the latter. The national youth camp was held in Ndola Copperbelt province from 12-17 August 2011 under the theme: save to serve humanity through survival skills.

In an effort to improve its resource base and meet some of its administrative costs, ZRCS continued its local resource mobilization initiatives including conducting commercial first aid training. The National Society engaged first aid marketers to



BEC members posing for a group photo after the branch council. Photo by ZRCS

approach companies, government ministries and banks, encouraging them to have their staff trained in first aid. The response has been good. In addition, the recently renovated lodge in Livingstone has also been another source of income for ZRCS, helping it to meet some of its administrative costs.

Constraints or Challenges

Financial sustainability remained the most significant challenge for ZRCS. Therefore, during the year 2011, the National Society was beset with funding insecurity which hampered implementation of activities. Some of the activities that could not be carried out as planned were operations and strengthening of ZRCS' provincial structures and setting up systems for volunteer management and community mobilization. The activities reported on here were implemented using local resource mobilization initiatives.

Principles and Values

Programme component 1: Promotion of Fundamental Principles and Humanitarian Values

Outcome 1: Knowledge, understanding and application of the Fundamental Principles and Humanitarian Values are enhanced (including non-discrimination, non-violence, tolerance and respect for diversity) at all levels of the National Society.

Achievements

In an effort to enhance the skills of youth and new governing boards in portraying a positive image of the Red Cross, ZRCS took advantage of the youth camps and branch induction sessions that were held during this period to train the youth and governance on various aspects of the RC/RC Movement. This included aspects such as history of the Movement, the Fundamental Principles and Humanitarian Values, volunteerism, volunteer management, legal framework and action planning.

Programme component 2: Make operational the Fundamental Principles and Humanitarian Values

Outcome 1: The dissemination of Fundamental Principles and Humanitarian Values is an integral part of all National Society programmes and activities.

Achievements

The National Society disseminated the Fundamental Principles and Humanitarian Values during various sensitization and training sessions, including at community level. During weekly youth meetings at the Lusaka branch, the branch field officer or a volunteer coordinator made a presentation on the Fundamental Principles and Humanitarian Values.

This period saw the National Society successfully organize World Red Cross celebrations (8 May 2011) under the theme "Find a volunteer inside you". This initiative was a motivation for branches in the Copperbelt as it was the first time in the history of ZRCS that a national celebration was held outside Lusaka where its national headquarters are located. The Fundamental Principles were disseminated at this event.

Constraints or Challenges

Since the Fundamental Principles and Humanitarian Values are an integral part of all National Society programmes and not a stand-alone programme, there is always a challenge of these not being disseminated as they are not given first priority, especially as there is no specific dissemination officer to carry out the activities.

Working in partnership

During this period, the Ministry of Health remained ZRCS' primary partner in the implementation of its HIV and AIDS programme. This partnership provided technical support in the areas of prevention and voluntary counselling and testing referrals. The National Society collaborated with the national AIDS council, which coordinates and monitors all HIV and AIDS related programmes in the country. ZRCS also partnered with the Zambia national blood transfusion service in activities related to blood donor mobilization in the country and is a member of the national epidemic preparedness and prevention committee, coordinated by the

Ministry of Health. National Society volunteers worked in close collaboration with environmental health technicians in rural health centres on community sensitization and hygiene promotion.

Further, all disaster risk reduction and disaster preparedness activities continued to be carried out in close collaboration with the government's disaster management and mitigation unit (DMMU) that has a coordination role in the country. ZRCS is a member of DMMU's Zambia vulnerability assessment committee. Partnerships also continued with international, national and local NGOs, as well as field based organizations at the national and district levels for capacity building. ZRCS, with support from the IFRC, aspires to enhance this collaboration and coordination, utilizing the Cooperation Agreement Strategy (CAS) approach that aligns needs, strategic directions, capacities and priorities as well as support received from partners.

Contributing to longer-term impact

The implementation of the Club 25 initiative by ZRCS in an increasing number of schools, which comprise young people between the ages of 16 to 25 years, is resulting in an increase in blood donation awareness and a pool of voluntary non-remunerated blood donors. This will significantly contribute to an increase in safe blood in blood banks around the country, thereby reducing the number of deaths in hospitals due to blood shortages. Further, the continued commitment by Club 25 members to maintaining healthy lifestyles by not engaging in risky behaviour such as unsafe sex, drug abuse and alcohol abuse, ensures the quality of blood they donate to the programme. The longer term impact of this will be a zero % incidence of HIV infection among Club 25 members.

To ensure relevance and sustainability of its programmes and to improve the quality of lives of vulnerable communities, ZRCS aligned programmes with international humanitarian instruments such as the Hyogo Framework for Action, as well as national policy instruments such as "Vision 2030", which is a Zambian strategy towards the attainment of the UN Millennium Development Goals. The National Society also kept its programmes in line with IFRC's Strategy 2020 and the objectives of the Johannesburg Commitments.

The Zambezi River Basin Initiative is one such project that was developed with reference to the above mentioned strategies. This project focuses on building community resilience to disasters and breaking the cyclical interface of poverty, vulnerability and HIV and AIDS. The project seeks to address the problems faced by vulnerable communities; not through external assistance but through facilitating a process of freeing the people from exclusion, vulnerability and risk, incorporating local knowledge and capacities. It also works towards developing long-term partnerships with government, corporate and national/regional agencies such as the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) to facilitate resource mobilization, cooperation and coordination towards a sustainable service delivery to the vulnerable communities.

Looking ahead

During the year 2011, ZRCS implemented various policy documents that were adopted by the board; these documents guided the NS in implementation of activities. Further, the National Society is planning to revise its Strategic Development Plan to align it with IFRC Strategy 2020.

It is expected that activities that could not be carried out under the ZRBI during the past year will be carried out during the first half of this year 2012.

Future programming will ensure long-term and sustainable impact while not neglecting the immediate needs of people affected by disasters. ZRCS will also adopt an integrated approach to programming at all levels.

The National Society will continue to work towards formalizing partnerships, with the support of IFRC's resource mobilization framework. Active engagement with IFRC's southern Africa regional office will continue under all ZRCS programmes, as well as aligning with international humanitarian declarations and strategies.

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](#) (NGO's) 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.

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