

FINAL REPORT



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 SECURITY AND INTEGRATED COMMUNITY CARE

31 January 2004

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 181 countries.

In Brief

Appeal No. 15/2003; Final Report; Period covered: May to December 2003; Final appeal coverage: 21.1%.
[\(Click here to go directly to the attached Final Financial Report\).](#)

Appeal history:

- Launched on 28 May 2003 for CHF 13.6 million (USD 10.3 million or EUR 9 million) for 12 months to assist 347,000 beneficiaries.
- Disaster Relief Emergency Funds (DREF) allocated: N/A

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals: • Lesotho Annual Appeal 13/2004, • Malawi Annual Appeal 14/2004, • Swaziland Annual Appeal 18/2004, • Zambia Annual Appeal 19/2004, • Zimbabwe Annual Appeal 20/2004.¹

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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For longer-term programmes, please refer to the Federation's Annual Appeals (see footnote below).

Click the country name below to access the respective narrative section:

[<Botswana>](#) [<Lesotho>](#) [<Malawi>](#) [<Namibia>](#) [<South Africa>](#) [<Swaziland>](#) [<Zambia>](#) [<Zimbabwe>](#)

¹ Lesotho Appeal - http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?04/011304.pdf;
Malawi Appeal - http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?04/011404.pdf;
Swaziland Appeal - http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?04/011804.pdf;
Zambia Appeal - http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?04/011904.pdf;
Zimbabwe Appeal - http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?04/012004.pdf.

Background and Summary

In 2002, 14.4 million people across Southern Africa were threatened with starvation, malnutrition and disease as a result of two years of poor harvest, lack of clean drinking water and HIV/AIDS infection rates of 25%. The Federation launched an Appeal in May (revised in July) 2002 for USD 61.6 million. In collaboration with the WFP, the Appeal aimed at providing relief and humanitarian assistance to 1.3 million people across Lesotho, Malawi, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe over a period of 12 months. More than 734,000 people received food assistance. 118,800 drought-stricken farming families received seeds, farming tools, fertilizers, hygiene items and improved water and sanitation (WatSan) facilities.

The Federation undertook an options assessment in March 2003 and announced in *Not Business as Usual* that a new disaster is consuming Southern Africa. HIV/AIDS, food shortage, poverty and other forms of vulnerability are eroding the social fabric and gradually overwhelming the region. Forecasts indicate that life expectancy could fall to less than 25 years in decades, with a loss of 30% of the workforce. Concerted interventions are vital as life is becoming unsustainable. In addition, decreased access to health care, the accelerated spread of tuberculosis, malaria and other diseases, a widespread shortage of safe WatSan, uncontrolled urbanization and poor agricultural production are some of the aggravating factors. A rapid slide into destitution is underway, which triggers further spread of HIV/AIDS and ever greater vulnerability to common diseases and disasters. Above all, efforts to prevent new HIV infection are not having a major impact.

After playing a major role in averting a wide-scale Southern African famine, the Federation launched a new Appeal on 28 May 2003 to better respond to the emerging challenges. The Appeal Southern Africa: Food Security and Integrated Community Care aimed at supporting 347,000 people through food security and integrated community care from the Red Cross Societies of Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe from August to December 2003. With the focus on integrated community care, programmes would cover nutrition, health, WatSan, HIV/AIDS prevention and economic self-reliance. The programme took over the one-year Southern Africa: Food Aid and Humanitarian Assistance (Emergency Appeal no.12/2002)² reflecting the commitment of the Federation to transform major relief assistance into longer-term, sustainable programmes.

The contributions made by Andorra Red Cross, Australian Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross, Japanese Red Cross, Monaco Red Cross, New Zealand Red Cross, Swedish Red Cross, Swiss Red Cross and UK, DFID³ through the British Red Cross, and Italian government ensured small-scale distribution of food and agricultural inputs. The Red Cross assisted persons living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) and orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) provide them with nutrition support through the home-based care (HBC) programme. Results from an assessment done in October in Livingstone, Zambia on the impact of food on the clients in the HBC project show that 80% of the clients can afford two meals a day compared to one before the project. Hospital records showed that in the HBC project, there was a reduction of 30% in the number of patients with malnutrition. Care facilitators are monitoring the drug intake of tuberculosis patients and the rate of default has dramatically dropped among patients in the HBC project. There is observable weight gain among the clients.

The operation, however, faced serious limitations because of the minimal donor response to the Appeal. Progress was far behind the plan and the needs of the vulnerable. Priorities for the use of the limited funds available were given to activities continuing from Emergency Appeal 12/2002 and immediate life saving interventions like food distributions. The complementary approach of the integrated health and care programme could not be fully implemented in the absence of WatSan activities. Initiatives to ensure good harvest had minimal impact due to delayed rainfall.

According to the WFP and FAO, at least 6.2 million people in the southern Africa region will need food aid until the harvest in April 2004, despite improved agricultural outputs. While the situation in most countries has improved, Zimbabwe's food production was worse than in 2002 and regional disparities in food production have created pockets of needs. Approximately 5.5 million people in Zimbabwe - half the total population - face acute food shortages and need food and non-food assistance. Aid agencies have pointed out the urgent need to assist

² Emergency Appeal – http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?02/1202r.pdf

³ DFID – Department for International Development (U.K. Government)

deliver agricultural inputs for the coming cropping season as concern over future harvest prospects remains. The impact of HIV/AIDS in the region has exacerbated the food security crisis. HIV/AIDS infection rates in southern Africa are the highest in the world. There are more than three million orphans in southern Africa and child or elder-headed households are on the increase. The food insecurity has affected lives and livelihoods of the communities.

With the food security situation in the region remaining grim, the Federation calls for immediate and generous donor support to the 2004 Annual Appeal of these countries where long-term food security issues are addressed and integrated with other long term development programmes, to help build self-reliance of the vulnerable communities.

Coordination

Federation

The Federation through the Regional Delegation in Harare and the Country Delegations provided significant support to the food security operation. The Federation gave technical support and procurement services to the newly arrived ECHO-funded team under bilateral operation between the national societies and their Red Cross partners. Based on recommendations from the study *Not Business as Usual*, the integration of technical departments of the Federation Regional Delegation in Harare has taken shape, with food security an integral part of it. The health, HIV/AIDS, WatSan, disaster management (DM), organisational development (OD), and food security departments are designing and planning their activities in close coordination, to maximise impact and benefit for vulnerable people.

The Federation has been coordinating food security activities and monitoring the latest development through the UN RIACSO (Regional Inter-Agency Coordination Support Office) and other regional and country coordination mechanisms.

Partner National Societies (PNS)

The coordination function was supported by generous contributions from a number of partner national societies. Some of this money was used for regional coordination activities, and considerable amounts were reallocated to the individual country appeals. Canadian Red Cross provided the bulk of this useful money, supported by the Swiss Red Cross, the Andorra Red Cross and the Red Cross of Monaco. Other PNS provided or funded delegates towards the coordination function: the British Red Cross, Swiss Red Cross, German Red Cross, Japanese Red Cross, Icelandic Red Cross and the Red Cross of Monaco each contributions in this way.

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

Botswana

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Goal: To clearly understand the nature and level of food security-HIV/AIDS related need amongst communities in Ghanza and Kgalagadi, to determine the most appropriate Botswana Red Cross response, drawing on regional Red Cross experience and expertise.

Objective: To gain precise base-line information at community and household level, of the impact of drought-related food insecurity and HIV/AIDS in Ghanza and Kgalagadi to establish specific needs and explore the most appropriate Red Cross response.

Achievement:

Late in the operation, the Italian government gave DREF funds for the operation. No full assessment could be carried out. Preparatory work was done and hardware purchased to conduct a vulnerability and capacity assessment (VCA) in early 2004. This will enable Botswana Red Cross Society⁴ to adjust their programming to the food security situation in the country.

⁴ Botswana Red Cross Society - <http://www.ifrc.org/where/country/check.asp?countryid=34>

National Society Capacity Building

The ongoing VCA process is fully in line with national society capacity building plans and is actively supported by the Federation Harare Regional Delegation's organizational development and disaster management departments.

Assessment and Lessons Learnt

The VCA process will be assessed at a later stage and lessons learnt identified.

Lesotho

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Goal: To guarantee the minimum acceptable level of care for people living with HIV/AIDS and the chronically ill, and to mitigate the effects of food insecurity and destitution on the most vulnerable people in society.

The present food security operation aims to provide the needed support to communities in Lesotho's districts of Berea, Leribe and Mafeteng affected by HIV/AIDS and have no other means of livelihood or means to improve their nutrition. Providing food parcels and humanitarian assistance to 3,000 direct beneficiaries living with and affected by HIV/AIDS was the main focus of the programme of cooperation between the Lesotho Red Cross and the Federation. Besides food parcel assistance in Mafeteng district, Lesotho Red Cross Society⁵ distributed seeds and fertilizer in Leribe.

Lesotho Red Cross has explored more creative forms of assistance, aimed at identifying selective vulnerability as a priority, and meeting their needs more effectively despite limited capacity and resources. The priority target groups of the national society are consistently identified in the region, by the vulnerability assessment committee, UNAIDS, and DFID.

Due to lack of funding, the five months were a challenge to develop the relatively small-scale but innovative integrated programming in Lesotho. The food security and economic situation in Lesotho improved in overall terms, but chronic and combined needs remain for destitute households. Longer-term support and integrated approaches are needed. Unfortunately, there were no funds to implement WatSan activities.

Coordination and Federation support

Implementation of this five-month programme was coordinated with limited involvement of the government and/or other agencies unlike the 2002-2003 the Southern Africa food security operation. However, coordination was enhanced during the food parcel distributions, selection of seeds and fertilizer for the horticulture programmes, and training of community HBC facilitators.

There was good coordination within the Red Cross and Red Crescent in Lesotho. Information sharing that started during the 2002-2003 operation, continued to regularly take place between the Lesotho Red Cross, German Red Cross and the Federation. The ongoing cooperation demonstrated the Red Cross purpose in Lesotho was one to serve the beneficiaries. The German Red Cross and Lesotho Red Cross timely provision of food parcels and agriculture inputs served the situation in Berea where the Appeal did not yield the required funding to carry out the planned activities.

The Federation Country Delegates have supported and guided on the job training content for four designated divisional coordinators. Nine other divisional headquarters that had not been exposed to Red Cross and Red Crescent working knowledge attended the training on 17-20 November 2003. The Federation supported Lesotho Red Cross planning and packaging of the 2004 Appeal ensuring the proper integration of food security into long-term HIV/AIDS and health programmes. Senior management of Lesotho Red Cross was encouraged to build on team spirit in the organization.

⁵ Lesotho Red Cross Society - <http://www.ifrc.org/where/country/check.asp?countryid=102>

Objective 1: To ensure greater food security for 3,000 destitute and chronically ill people, in Mafeteng, Leribe and Berea districts.

Achievements

The Japanese Red Cross through the Federation funded parcel procurement and distribution. The existing Lesotho Red Cross food distribution programme for 3,000 vulnerable people was discontinued in June 2003. During the five-month comprehensive food security intervention, the same beneficiaries were to receive targeted food assistance. These beneficiaries, 1,000 each in Mafeteng, Leribe and Berea, were carefully identified as being destitute and/or chronically ill before distributions were carried out. 1,000 targeted beneficiaries in Mafeteng, the worst hit district, were chosen to benefit the food parcels due to limited financial availability. Each food parcel contained 12.5kg fortified maize meal, 30kg beans, 30kg corn soy blend (CSB), 0.5kg iodized salt, 0.5kg soap, 500 ml Vaseline, six candles, and one box of matches. 4,784 food parcels were distributed to 943 beneficiaries (634 chronically ill and 309 orphaned children) between September and December 2003 in three Red Cross selected catchments areas. These constituencies included Thabana Morena with 46 villages, Mafeteng Township with 24 villages and Likhoele with 24 villages. 23 chronically ill beneficiaries died while a small number of other registered beneficiaries were disqualified in the process because of early marriages or migration to other areas. Twenty volunteers were involved in the distributions. In addition, Lesotho Red Cross involved the existing community mechanisms in the assessment process.

Among the 3,000 targeted beneficiaries, the plan was to assist 240 orphans in Leribe and Berea. This was not implemented. The orphans, however, continue to benefit from the ongoing Lesotho Red Cross psychosocial and education support project.

Objective 2: To improve nutritional status and encourage self-reliance, dignity and community involvement in producing food from 25 acres of arable land linked to the Lesotho Red Cross integrated home-based care project, community centre and clinic.

Achievements

Despite late arrival of funds during the worst dry summer, this water-dependent objective was implemented in Berea district. A Lesotho Red Cross Branch Relief Officer has been identified as potential manager of 25 acres of arable land owned by Lesotho Red Cross in Berea for a community horticulture and nutrition initiative. In Leribe, 50 households donated 50 acres of land for the communal gardens and Lesotho Red Cross staff and volunteers have significantly contributed to the initiative.

A total of 4,075 beneficiaries including chronically ill patients, their families and carers from the existing Lesotho Red Cross programmes Berea, Leribe and Mafeteng were selected to participate in the development of community nutrition gardens that would produce a variety of nutritional crops in the 25-acre plot.

Table 1: Beneficiaries who participated in community nutrition gardening

Target beneficiaries	Berea		Leribe		Mafeteng		Sub-total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
PLWHA	825	1,175	415	585	539	467	4,006
Carers	2	15	2	14	34	2	69
Total	827	1,190	417	599	573	469	4,075

By the end of December 2003, three communal gardens were established on 25 acres in Berea and four on 50 acres in Leribe district where land had been donated by 50 households. 700 households in Berea and Leribe have not planted due to prolonged dry conditions, therefore making it impossible for the tractor to plough. The communal garden initiative in Leribe was supported by the Italian government through the Federation.

At the end of the operation, 21 households in Berea and Leribe had reached an agreement with Lesotho Red Cross to own the produce from the project. Some community members offered their land for the project; Lesotho Red Cross prepared agreements to provide evidence of "produce ownership" ownership and clear terms of operation between the Lesotho Red Cross and the producers.

With bilateral funding support from the German Red Cross, Lesotho Red Cross distributed selected seed types and fertilizer to 2,000 PLWHA, their families and carers in Berea. The beneficiaries also received a food ration from the existing Lesotho Red Cross assistance to the chronically ill persons.

The communal gardens will improve the nutritional status of the vulnerable communities and provide them with options in their household economy. This is an opportunity for Lesotho Red Cross to work together with similar or evolving community-based activities. Initial indications from a public sample in Berea and Leribe showed that an additional 24 households were prepared to be in the scheme and to raise awareness in the communities on the importance of ownership and self reliance. Through the horticulture projects, community participation and involvement in community-based initiatives were successfully encouraged.

Objective 3: To more accurately identify the most vulnerable, and to more approximately help them meet their needs through simple integrated programmes that give people options, promote dignity and encourage self-reliance.

Achievements

Other priority components instead of a full field-based assessment of household economic security in Mokhotlong and Berea were undertaken because of limited funding. However, Lesotho Red Cross continues as a WFP implementing partner for 2003-2004 food distribution programmes in Mokhotlong and Berea. The Lesotho Red Cross has been obtaining field-based feedback sessions that projected a looming famine situation during the 2003-2004 planting and harvesting season. WFP confirmed the looming famine in the 2003-2004 to 2004-2005 planting and harvesting seasons. The information has been shared with the Federation Regional Delegation in Harare for further consideration on food assistance to Lesotho. WFP predicted that food needs in Lesotho would increase much more than the needs in 2002-2003. WFP launched an Appeal and Lesotho Red Cross is one of the listed partners. WFP food targeting was likely to address households with poor winter crop harvest and chronically food deficit households, food-for-work beneficiaries, child-headed households and chronically ill beneficiaries affected by HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis, and beneficiaries of general food distributions.

The intended provision of household economy projects was not implemented due to limited manpower and financial resources. Original plan was to give additional specific targeted food assistance, agricultural and horticultural assistance, payment of school-related expenses, and other forms of support to existing household and community coping mechanisms. However, careful coordination with other actors, specific and simple community-based assistance projects were underway in Mafeteng, Berea and Leribe districts.

Opportunity was also taken to simultaneously monitor the impact of other Lesotho Red Cross activities to encourage integration and maximize impact for the beneficiaries. Lesotho Red Cross existing programmes (community HBC and pre-school feeding programmes) were integrated in Berea with the home-based orphans care project. In addition, Lesotho Red Cross has a continued constant monitoring on the impact of household economies that will be its basis for the long-term planning of Lesotho Red Cross integrated approaches to address vulnerability in the 2004 Annual Appeal.

National Society Capacity Building

Lesotho Red Cross has progressed well at headquarters with finance management skills and systems. The term of the current Finance and Administration Delegate has been extended for one year as Finance Development Delegate. Steady improvement in programme implementation has been observed in Lesotho Red Cross. But continued monitoring and advice from the Federation is required, particularly on donor reporting. The employees and volunteers previously trained by 2002-2003 relief teams in Lesotho continued to put into practice the skills they acquired.

Assessment and lessons learnt

- the interventions have not been implemented the way they should have been because of inadequate funding
- The national society capacity including human and material resources needs to be improved to better manage future operations.

- Continuous volunteer training and supervision are essential to efficiently implement operations. The recruitment process should be strengthened to ensure good quality of volunteers and to maintain standards in relief operations.
- Bilateralism is growing within the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement in Lesotho. This resulted in programmes with a lot of support from partner national societies (PNS). Presently, Lesotho Red Cross is working with German Red Cross and Norwegian Red Cross.

Malawi

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Goal: To mitigate the impact of food insecurity and HIV/AIDS related poverty in five districts through integrated food, water-sanitation, food security and health/HIV/AIDS care, awareness and education programmes.

Despite difficulties to obtain reliable figures, reports from various sources indicate that the food security situation in the country improved further in the second half of 2003. However, the HIV/AIDS situation remains grim with the official infection rate at 15% among Malawians.

The overall goal of the Malawi portion of Appeal 15/2003 is to further improve on the gains of the previous food intervention (Appeal 12/2002) by providing assistance to vulnerable groups affected by the food insecurity situation in the country. As in the previous Appeal, persons infected and/or affected by HIV/AIDS were to be targeted, especially those already benefiting from the Malawi Red Cross Society⁶ programme in identified districts in the country. The main activities for implementation were supplementary feeding, provision of safe and affordable water, distribution of irrigation "Treadle" pumps and training of the beneficiaries on the use of the pumps, and distribution of agricultural starter packs consisting of seeds and fertilizers.

Unfortunately, donor response to the Appeal 15/2003 for Malawi was poor. Lack of funds adversely affected timely implementation of planned activities. Towards the end of November 2003, some funds were made available and seeds distribution and irrigation activities were implemented in December 2003. As Malawi enters the traditional "lean season" between harvests, when food stocks generally run out, pockets of food insecurity are emerging in the country.

Coordination and Federation support

There was strong and effective coordination between Malawi Red Cross, Spanish Red Cross, American Red Cross and the Federation Regional Delegation in Harare in planning and implementation of activities throughout the period. All the Red Cross partners attended the review meetings for planning of the seeds and irrigation pumps activities. The HIV/AIDS programme was the focal point, whilst Spanish Red Cross brought in experience from their previous starter packs distributions, and American Red Cross shared ideas on how the irrigation pumps may benefit existing HIV/AIDS farming groups in the districts.

Malawi government Irrigation Officers and Agricultural Officers working in the implementation districts in December 2003 assisted in training beneficiaries on the use of irrigation pumps, and on planting starter packs seeds, and proper use of fertilizers. This is a continuation of a collaboration that started during the implementation period of Appeal 12/2002.

The Federation through the Country Delegation and the Federation Regional Delegation in Harare made efforts to generate resources for the planned activities. Most of the implemented initiatives were not derived from the Federation. This may have been due to the absence of direct financial support to the activities.

Objective 1: To guarantee basic food security for 7,500 most vulnerable HIV/AIDS affected, chronically ill, and destitute people in the five districts of Karonga, Dedza, Lilongwe, Balaka and Mwanza, by providing targeted supplementary feeding food distribution.

⁶ Malawi Red Cross Society - <http://www.ifrc.org/where/country/check.asp?countryid=110>

Given the late and limited funding, instead of targeted supplementary food distribution, 7,000 agricultural starter packs were distributed in December 2003 in time for the planting season in three districts of Lilongwe (central region), Balaka and Mwanza (both in the southern region). Each agricultural starter pack contain 2kg of maize seeds, 2kg of legumes seeds, 5kg of basal dressing fertilizers, and 5kg of top dressing fertilizers. Beneficiaries were selected from the previous list of target beneficiaries for the supplementary feeding programme. Criteria for selection were based on: households headed by orphans, households headed by grandparents with more than one orphan, other families with more than one orphan and farming groups with community gardens aiming to assist orphans and chronically ill patients.

Table 2: Number of agricultural starter packs distributed

District	Distribution dates	Number of families assisted	Households headed by grandparents	Households headed by orphans	Other Families with orphans	Families with chronically ill members	Farm groups
Mwanza	8-9 December	2,333	260	2,073	0	0	0
Balaka	10-11 December	2,333	230	1,723	380	0	0
Lilongwe	10-11 December	2,334	0	2,241	0	81	12
Total		7,000	490	6,037	380	81	12

Objective 2: To improve the health conditions and health awareness by maximizing the availability and affordability of safe water, and by promoting safe water-sanitation practices to 15,000 beneficiaries in Mchinji district.

Due to inadequate funding for the WatSan programme for Malawi, no activity was carried out in direct relation to the objective.

Objective 3: To improve food security for 2,000 people in the Machinga and Salima districts, and the Mzuzu area of Mzimba district, through a combined irrigation and seeds programme.

Achievements

Funds for implementation were provided by the Federation towards end of November 2003 despite initial planning of activities in July 2003. Meetings were held in November and attended by Malawi Red Cross, American Red Cross, Spanish Red Cross and the Federation. Implementation plans were reviewed to ensure more effective targeting of resources. It was decided at the meetings that existing HIV/AIDS farming groups be given priority to receive the irrigation pumps and that Ntchisi district was to replace Mzimba district because the former had comparatively more identifiable beneficiaries of the HIV/AIDS programme. Malawi Red Cross provided 400 selected households with treadle pumps. In December 2003, Malawi Red Cross and the government organized treadle pump technology trainings in Mwanza, Machinga, Ntchisi and Mchinji districts. To date, 886 beneficiaries, mainly farming groups in the Malawi Red Cross HIV/AIDS project areas, have been trained; 300 from Mwanza, 296 from Machinga, 150 from Ntchisi and 140 from Mchinji. Community clubs were formed.

Constraints

The main constraint was the late provision of funding.

Impact

More vulnerable HBC clients received assistance than in previous food operations. The assistance of agricultural inputs was timely for the planting season. Treadle pump beneficiaries also learnt how to use and maintain the pumps, construct a basin irrigation plot layout, raise vegetable seedlings using improved nursery techniques, grow a range of crops using the correct crop husbandry and irrigation practices, and make compost using simple methods.

Objective 4: To further promote knowledge of HIV/AIDS prevention and control to approximately 70,000 people in seven districts through theatre/drama performances integrated with other Malawi Red Cross programme activities.

Achievements

Funding for the drama performances was secured in October 2003 from the Malawi National AIDS Commission and was allocated to Mwanza, Mchinji and Karonga districts. In Mwanza and Mchinji there is no supplementary feeding programme running at the moment because the emergency food security programme funded by the Federation ended in July 2003. In Karonga, American Red Cross through C-SAFE programme is running a supplementary feeding programme for chronically ill clients. Drama performances in this district were linked to food distribution. In Mchinji, volunteers performed six drama performances, music, traditional dances and poems at a HIV/AIDS open day planned for 1 December 2003. Karonga performed 12 performances from the last week of November to first week of December 2003. Mwanza conducted an open day with 12 drama performances, dances, poems and music in the first week of December 2003. In total, about 27,000 people were reached with HIV/AIDS messages by the end of the first week of December 2003.

Constraints

Delays in funding for drama performances led to ad hoc performances between August and November 2003.

Impact

No assessment has been done to analyze the impact of the project.

Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement -- Principles and initiatives

In conformity with the principles of humanity and voluntary service, people most at risk or vulnerable were selected as priority beneficiaries to receive assistance. African national Red Cross societies have committed themselves through the Ouagadougou Declaration⁷ and ARCHI 2010⁸ to develop HIV/AIDS and volunteer management programmes in the coming years. These two areas were integral to this Southern Africa food security Appeal 15/2003. In addition, integrated approach was used in planning and implementation of activities for the starter packs, irrigation pumps and HIV/AIDS activities. This is in line with Strategy 2010⁹ which emphasizes the importance of providing a comprehensive package of assistance to fewer communities, rather than spreading different activities in an uncoordinated and non-integrated way to many more communities.

Assessment and lessons learnt

A lot more would have been achieved to help alleviate the vulnerability of the target communities if there was adequate and timely funding. While the implementation of some activities was delayed, others were not implemented at all. It is therefore impossible to assess the impact or lessons learnt of Red Cross interventions under these circumstances. The quality of Red Cross service delivery had been satisfactory in general as indicated by the beneficiary groups. However, it would be useful to revisit the irrigation (treadle) pumps project within a year in order to assess the real benefits of the assistance on the beneficiaries, and to determine thereafter whether the project should continue in future.

Swaziland

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Goal: To guarantee the minimum acceptable level of care for people living with HIV/AIDS and the chronically ill, and to mitigate the effects of food insecurity and destitution on the most vulnerable people in society.

Objective 1: To ensure greater food security for 12,000 specifically targeted destitute and/or chronically ill people, through food provision that is integrated with the ongoing Baphalali Swaziland Red Cross programmes.

⁷ Ouagadougou Declaration - <http://www.ifrc.org/meetings/regional/africa/5thpac/5thpacde.asp>

⁸ ARCHI 2010 - <http://www.ifrc.org/what/health/archi/>

⁹ Strategy 2010 - <http://www.ifrc.org/who/strategy.asp>

Achievements

Only part of the objective was achieved due to lack of funds. The Baphalali Swaziland Red Cross Society¹⁰ managed to distribute monthly food parcels to 1,870 destitute and chronically ill beneficiaries through its HBC programme. The beneficiaries were selected within the three Red Cross clinics' catchments areas based on the criteria of OVC, terminally ill, elderly destitute and economically unsustainable households. The food parcels include: 12.5kg mealie meal, 3kg CSB, 1kg brown sugar, 2kg sugar, beans, 2 x 7.5ml vegetable oil, 100 ml tooth paste, a tooth brush, 0.5kg laundry soap, 125g body soap, 10 match boxes, pocket candles and 50g iodized salt.

Table 3: Food Parcels distributed

Area	Beneficiaries	Food parcels distributed
Mahwalala clinic	1,620	1,620
Silele clinic	2,040	2,040
Sigombeni clinic	1,950	1,950
Total	5,610	5,610

Red Cross nurses and HBC care givers distributed at two of the clinics while nurses from the local city council distributed at the third clinic. The Baphalali Swaziland Red Cross would like to continue with this activity if funding is made available. This intervention benefits the whole family and terminally ill patients who could not recover or cope with their illness due to hunger were reportedly managing to respond to the medications after consuming the food.

Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement - Principles and Initiatives

In all its endeavors, the Baphalali Swaziland Red Cross promotes the seven Fundamental Principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. In the food security operation, the most vulnerable were selected in accordance with these principles. The Red Cross volunteers and HBC providers conducted the assessments and selection of beneficiaries with the communities in a fairly. The food security programme aimed also to provide food security to HIV/AIDS infected and affected people.

Communication - Advocacy and Public Information

In the operations that the Baphalali Swaziland Red Cross undertakes, the Information Manager publicizes the activities through the print and electronic media. Presently the office is full of request from communities who have seen and heard about the food distributions and communal gardens that the national society assisted the communities to develop.

Assessment and lessons learnt

- The food security programme has been a solution to the HIV/AIDS pandemic in the country. The Baphalali Swaziland Red Cross is empowering affected households with agricultural gardens and poultry to enable them to a nutritious meal and sell for profit to attend to other family needs.
- During the food distributions, there is usually an increase in membership and volunteers that join the Red Cross branches. The Baphalali Swaziland Red Cross also gets an opportunity to increase its profile in the different communities where there were distributions.
- The chronically ill beneficiaries are seen to be on the recovery road after eating food received in the food parcels.
- The food parcels were only serving a fraction of the population of the communities that were benefiting.
- The programme was ended in December 2003, leaving the beneficiaries with no other source of food.
- The sometimes delayed transfer of funds for distributions from the Federation resulted in late payments to creditors which has affected Red Cross credibility.

¹⁰ Baphalali Swaziland Red Cross Society - <http://www.ifrc.org/where/country/check.asp?countryid=163>

Zambia

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Goal: To support the provision of an integrated assistance package to communities by ensuring the immediate and medium term food security for HBC clients and their families whilst developing longer term food security initiatives and providing health and water and sanitation services to the wider community.

Most of the set Appeal objectives for Zambia were achieved because of positive donor response. A total of 13,108 beneficiaries were assisted with basic food and hygiene items. However, procurement of some relief items and other capacity building initiatives were only completed towards the end of 2003 due to initial delays of funding. WatSan activities were not implemented due to funding constraints.

As Zambia Red Cross Society¹¹ expanded its HBC project geographical areas and clientele, the target number of beneficiaries increased from the planned 12,000 to 14,000 including the HBC clients. A total of 29,000 targeted beneficiaries received food and agricultural inputs. Through the food security operation, Zambia Red Cross managed to avert the hunger threatening lives of the most vulnerable, and increased its capacity, notably in the integration of food security programme with HBC and WatSan, disaster preparedness and response programmes. The Annual Appeal 2004 for Zambia includes plans for Zambia Red Cross to continue providing food, care and support to the HBC clients. Moreover, a transition strategy was developed, discussed and used as a guide by the key actors to enhance continuity of Zambia Red Cross programmes. The proposal outlines options to hand over the beneficiary caseload, retain quality food security staff and volunteers, develop and manage human resources, manage accumulated assets and other administrative procedures of human resource, logistics and finance within the entire relief operation.

The evaluation scheduled to take place in early 2004 will further give an in-depth analysis on the extent of the impact of Red Cross food security programme on the beneficiaries and the Zambia Red Cross and the general host communities.

Coordination and Federation support

In addition to the various bilateral functions in Zambia, overall coordination and much of the food distribution was undertaken multilaterally through the Federation. This was supported primarily by generous donations from the Swedish Red Cross, with additional support from the Swiss Red Cross and the Australian Red Cross. Delegates were funded through donations of Japanese Red Cross.

A country coordination committee was formed to enhance partnership and coordination among Movement partners; the committee was comprised of the Federation Head of Harare Regional Delegation, an ICRC representative, the Zambia Red Cross Secretary General and the Netherlands Red Cross Country Manager. The committee which met bi-weekly impacted through being a decision-making organ at country level, facilitating institutional capacity building of the national society, coordinating implementation, monitoring and evaluation of Zambia Red Cross programmes, and providing advisory and technical support to Zambia Red Cross programmes.

The inter-agency coordination weekly meetings took place in Lusaka and were chaired by CARE International. Representatives from World Vision International, Cooperatives League of USA, Catholic Relief Services (CRS), Lutheran World Federation (LWF), FAO, WFP, PAM, Zambia Red Cross, the Federation and Netherlands Red Cross. The forum has helped coordination of implementation of similar programmes by bringing together humanitarian agencies to share information and ideas, lobby, review pipelines and get to know more about government policies.

Internal weekly Red Cross meetings attended by the Federation and Netherlands Red Cross were established to coordinate on-going operational matters like logistics, cost-sharing and general administration. The Federation has stepped up a day-to-day consultation with Zambia Red Cross food security programme staff at field and headquarter levels and with its other line programmes on the integration and implementation of food security activities.

¹¹ Zambia Red Cross Society - <http://www.ifrc.org/where/country/check.asp?countryid=12>

The food security programme had various levels of impact on the communities and most of the interventions have yielded the desired output.

Objective 1: To ensure the immediate food security of 2,000 HBC clients and 12,000 HBC household members including OVC through the provision of basic food items and health and nutrition advice

Achievements

The food security relief operation provided relief assistance to 2,000 HBC clients and their family members throughout the Appeal period in Sesheke, Livingstone, Maamba and Kapiri Mposhi districts. The number of clients in HBC project areas was constantly changing due to ongoing weaning process resulting from improved nutrition combined with medication. Registration of new clients into the Zambia Red Cross HBC project areas also continued. The food was distributed on a monthly basis, as reflected in the table below, with the recommended average ration per person per month of 12.0kg of maize meal, 3.6 kg of beans and 1 litre of vegetable oil. The Kapenta¹² and HEPS¹³ were not procured due to the initial funding constraints. Distributions were completed at the end of December 2003. Remaining balances of 19.3 MT of beans, 1,716 litres of cooking oil will be donated to targeted orphanage homes.

A total of 30 Red Cross food monitors in the operational districts were oriented and continued monitoring the average food rations distributed at the 15 distribution points and at household levels. The general overview from the sample monitoring forms indicated that the majority of beneficiaries consumed the food received, and that distribution sessions were well organized. However, there was no mechanism put in place to analyze the monthly data collected from the monitoring forms.

The beneficiary register verification was done on a monthly basis to include new HBC clients and exclude those who have moved, died or were assessed have become less vulnerable. The HBC facilitators played a key role in monitoring and determining the number of clients while the food security staff/volunteers verified the beneficiaries at the distribution points using the confirmed registers for relief distribution planning.

A Delegate who was engaged in the previous food security programme was relocated at the Federation country office in Lusaka where he has been coordinating the operation together with his counterparts from Zambia Red Cross and PNS. Over the months, Zambia Red Cross food security staff and volunteers were empowered by the Federation to take over their operational responsibilities notably in logistics, planning, implementation, monitoring, accountability and reporting.

Constraints

In the initial stages of the programme the HBC clients faced isolated cases of stigmatization which has drastically reduced as the community began to appreciate the assistance being given to the sick members of the community who were unable to fend for themselves.

Impact

The impact of the food security programme in general can be measured in terms of:

- The tremendous improvement in client-caregiver relationship
- The considerable stigma reduction among clients as more of the HIV/AIDS infected persons came up openly for voluntary HIV/AIDS testing done by health organizations,
- the increase in the registered clients/beneficiaries for relief distribution
- Clients' ability to complete their medication especially tuberculosis treatment under HBC facilitators in the project areas.
- Unprecedented expansion of the Zambia Red Cross HBC project geographical/catchment areas in all the districts including Sesheke. In districts of Sinazongwe and Livingstone, Zambia Red Cross HBC project catchment areas initially supported by the Federation were expanded from the centre to provide beneficiary caseload for relief assistance under the Netherlands/Belgian/ECHO funding.

¹² Kapenta – a local variety of fish

¹³ HEPS – High-energy protein supplements

Table 4: Zambia Red Cross/Federation food aid

Distribution rounds	Beneficiaries	Meal (MT)	Beans/pulses (MT)	Cooking oil (litres)
August 2003	9,625	147.3	83.1	12,209
September 2003	12,814	19.4	45.3	11,694
October 2003	12,308	150.6	17.0	7,726
November 2003	12,402	149.4	39.4	8,761
December 2003	13,108	307.0	52.9	8,946
Total amount of food distributed		773.7	237.7	49,336

Note: Late procurements and deliveries of relief items to the districts led to distributing double rations of some items as readily available in the month of December 2003. This was meant to reduce the backlog of stocks and ease future management of their balances after the end of Federation Appeal.

The Netherlands Red Cross and ECHO¹⁴ assisted 17,000 beneficiaries in Maamba, Choma, Kalomo and Livingstone. These beneficiaries will receive food packs up to April 2004. In addition, the beneficiaries were given agro inputs, which were seeds for maize, cowpeas, groundnuts sorghum, cassava and sweet potato cuttings and fertilizer. This will contribute to the long-term food security of the beneficiaries who will not only have food for consumption after the harvest but they will be able to keep some of the grain to use as seed in the next farming season. The first distribution took place in October 2003 due to delays in procurement.

Table 5: Zambia Red Cross/Netherlands Red Cross Food Aid

Distribution Rounds	Beneficiaries	Maize (MT)	Beans (MT)	Oil (Litres)
October 2003	16,654	199.44	57.303	16,779
November 2003	9,103	110.827	31.297	8,964
December 2003	16,978	208.4	60.96	16,948
Total amount of food distributed		518.6	149.5	42,691

Objective 2: To improve the medium-term food security of HBC households including OVC and to develop long-term food security initiatives that provide options and encourage self reliance.

Achievements

The Zambia Red Cross with support from the Federation distributed agricultural inputs and vegetable seeds to 1,000 targeted household beneficiaries by end of December 2003. An agronomist has been employed by the Zambia Red Cross to give technical advice to the field staff and beneficiaries on how best to use the agricultural inputs for a better harvest. Extension workers from the Ministry of Agriculture provided basic agriculture information and advice to beneficiaries during agro inputs distribution. Red Cross representatives attended the NGO coordinating committee meetings and shared a lot of on general country crop yield and failure and recommendations on the selection of appropriate agricultural inputs. This is envisaged to improve the medium-term food security of the HBC households. Apart from sprayers which were distributed on communal basis, each of the targeted 1,000 households was given one unit of each of the items, as reflected in the table below. The criteria used to select the 1,000 households were; easy access to water points, availability of arable land (at least half a hectare) registered HBC clients in the household, and the presence of able bodied members in the household.

¹⁴ ECHO – European Community Humanitarian Office

Table 6: The Federation agro inputs distributed

Items/District	Maamba	Livingstone	Sesheke	Kapiri Mposhi	Total households
Garden Seeds (sachets)	300	300	100	300	1,000
Fertilizers (50kg-bags)	300	300	100	300	1,000
Rakes (pieces)	300	300	100	300	1,000
Hoes (piece)	300	300	100	300	1,000
Watering cans (pieces)	300	300	100	300	1,000
Sprayers (pieces)	16	30	10	24	80

Note: Garden seeds were each in assortment of: cabbages, carrots, onions, rapes and tomatoes. There are ten sprayers in the remaining stock.

The HBC households which benefited from the relief package are expected to be boosted by nutritional food supplements from the agricultural inputs received as a medium-term measure. The labour required for preparing and maintaining vegetable gardens will not be so demanding and therefore advantageous for the HBC clients. It is hoped that the clients will get surplus produce from their gardens which they will sell to raise money to buy essential household items.

The initial funding constraints had negative impact on planning long-term sustainable food security initiatives, that is, pilot programmes, the “need and viability” assessment of agricultural interventions and support to exchange initiatives with PNS on food security programmes.

With the support of the Netherlands Red Cross and ECHO, Zambia Red Cross is distributing agricultural inputs. These include fertilizers, cow peas, ground nuts, maize grain, sorghum grain, cassava cuttings and sweet potato vines to their targeted 3,000 household beneficiaries in Kazungula, Livingstone, Kalomo, Choma and Sinazongwe catchment areas. It is hoped that this will provide the beneficiaries with long-term food security and less dependence on relief food. At a later stage the beneficiaries will be provided with inputs for vegetable gardens. The communities will also be given goats, cows and chicken with the hope that they will multiply to a stage where all beneficiaries will benefit.

Objective 3: To improve the hygiene condition and medical resources for the 2000 HBC clients including OVC.

Achievements

Funding to procure more hygiene items was forthcoming in late November 2003. Procurement was done locally and items delivered to the districts of Sinazongwe (Maamba), Livingstone, Sesheke and Kapiri Mposhi, through central warehouses. Stocks were not enough to cover all the targeted beneficiaries on a monthly basis and therefore their rations depended on quantities available. Recommended average rations were: one tablet of body soap, three bars of laundry soap per family and three bottles of petroleum jelly (Vaseline) per family.

Table 7: Distribution of hygiene items resourced from the Federation

Distribution Rounds	Beneficiaries (Individual)	Body Soap (250g-pieces)	Laundry Soap (500g-Bars)	Vaseline (100g)	Towels (pieces)	Blankets (pieces)
August	12,321	12,202	566	566	539	248
September	12,814	7,143	585	669	15	1
October	12,308	11,370	3,731	0	5,035	0
November	12,402	8,969	1,090	447	112	0
December	13,108	39,504	22,562	23,766	0	900
Total Distributed		79,188	28,534	25,448	5,701	1,149

The remaining stock of hygiene items (17,501 pieces of body soap, 21,174 bars of laundry soap and 37,560 jars of Vaseline) will be handed over to the Zambia Red Cross HBC project areas for distribution to their clients in early 2004 as part of the transition strategy.

A total of 62 HBC providers were trained in Mporokoso district where Zambia Red Cross expanded with a new HBC project targeting recruitment of ten clients per provider in the next six months. Four new district HIV/AIDS Project Officers of Zambia Red Cross were recruited for Livingstone, Sesheke, Mansa and Mporokoso. Zambia Red

Cross care facilitators and givers continued with home visits to the 2,033 clients in the food security operational areas. OVC benefited from the relief assistance. The Zambia Red Cross National HIV/AIDS Coordinator and HBC Project Officers at district levels monitored the activities of the care facilitators regularly with support from their respective branch executive committees.

In addition, Zambia Red Cross distributed 11,700 insecticide treated nets (ITN) to 850 clients and 1,930 other beneficiaries outside HBC catchment areas in Maamba with support from UNICEF. Distribution of condoms, fliers with HIV/AIDS prevention messages, educational talks have remained a routine activity in the districts.

From the HBC project budget, basic medicines supply planned under this Appeal for HBC clients were bought for each of the districts of Maamba, Livingstone, Sesheke and Kapiri Mposhi. These included 7,000 paracetamol, 4,000 aspirin, 3,000 septrin, 4,000 fragyl, 4,000 vitamin B complex, 4,000 multi-vitamin, 4,000 co-trimoxazole tablets and 79 bottles ketaconazole 1,000 tablets, and 185 Calamine lotion jars, 40 thermometers, 40 rolls bandages (8x10cm), eight rolls absorbent cotton wool (50mg), seven rolls gauze swabs, and 14 bottles Dettol antiseptic liquid (500mls).

Objective 4: To provide sustainable water and sanitation facilities and to improve the health status of 15,000 vulnerable people in communities with HBC clients and OVC in Livingstone, Sinazongwe and Sesheke districts

There was no funding to implement this objective. However, the Zambia Red Cross implemented WatSan activities supported by the Netherlands Red Cross in neighbouring districts and this limited potential gaps. Rehabilitation of water points, pit latrines, community training in health promotion and maintenance of WatSan structures is ongoing with Netherlands Red Cross and ECHO funding.

National Society Capacity Building

Following the reduction of Federation in-country Delegates in July 2003, most of the food security technical and operational functions, such as planning and implementation of relief distribution, relief pipeline, budgeting and accountabilities and coordination have been effectively delegated to the Zambia Red Cross staff and volunteers under the direct supervision of their respective branches and national headquarter food security coordination office. However, planning, monitoring and reporting capacity still need to be improved. The restructuring of Zambia Red Cross food security programme staff at the start of this Appeal has instilled an improved sense of duty and responsibility among field staff and volunteers. The re-opened post of Provincial Development Officer at the provincial headquarters in the south has eased co-ordination of food security and development programme activities in the province.

The Provincial Development Officer was recruited on promotion from the food security programme staff of Zambia Red Cross. The position of a Provincial Development Officer needs guidance in terms of job description, orientation and integrated programme budgetary support in order to realize its intended long-term development objectives.

The profile of Zambia Red Cross has improved because of relief distribution activities, their growing impact and guidance on membership recruitment, volunteers and branch leadership skills, dissemination of Red Cross ideals, local fundraising, project proposal writing and programme planning. Zambia Red Cross has stepped up efforts to use the available food security resources in branches and provinces to promote other traditional programmes such as first aid, disaster preparedness, branch development and youth.

Zambia Red Cross Kapiri Mposhi branch acquired an office block through funding resourced by the Federation. The building which is currently used for food security, HBC, branch governing board and project staff accommodation, will go a long way in boosting the development of the branch. The Federation also assisted Zambia Red Cross to acquire 4,800 square meters of land in Choma and 12,797 square metres in Maamba for future development of the two branches. This timely move was deliberately made to take advantage of the increased profile of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement at local and country levels. Provision has also been made for Maamba branch to procure alternative permanent office accommodation. Part of the resources has been allocated to address the much needed sensitization of the newly elected branch executive committee members in food security operational districts with focus on their roles and responsibilities. The Federation is working with some of the branches to write project proposals for long-term capacity building funding.

Transition Strategy

As proposed in the food security transition strategy plan for action before and after the end of the Appeal in December 2003, the following have been achieved so far:

- The Netherlands Red Cross and ECHO to continue supporting the beneficiary caseload.
- Beneficiaries, branches and local authorities in the districts have been informed and sensitized about end of the Federation support.
- Staff appraisal of Zambia Red Cross food security staff has started
- A consolidated inventory of assets accumulated under the Federation Appeals' support has been completed. The assets will be handed over to Zambia Red Cross as soon as authorization from relevant authority has been granted.
- Compiled list of operational expenses cost-shared with Netherlands Red Cross for their follow up with Zambia Red Cross.
- A joint food security Appeal review meeting facilitated by Zambia Red Cross and the Federation has been held. Participants were drawn from all integrated Zambia Red Cross programme staff, the Federation and Netherlands Red Cross Delegates. The food security operation was preceded by a get-down-together that attracted a historic attendance of all Zambia Red Cross, Federation, ICRC and Netherlands Red Cross Delegates and national executive committee members of Zambia Red Cross.
- Certificates of service co-signed by Zambia Red Cross Secretary General and the Federation Head of Delegation have been designed and will be given to over 250 volunteers who participated in the entire food security programme Appeal periods.
- Final Appeal report compiled and submitted in time.

Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement -- Principles and Initiatives

Through the Federation supported food security programme, Zambia Red Cross is being assisted to produce Red Cross promotional materials to boost its image and that of the Federation support through various programme activities in the country. The materials include: T-shirts, caps, calendars, placards, bibs and banners. Emphasis has been put on the use of the Red Cross and Red Crescent emblems depicting the theme "Protecting Human Dignity" effective November 2003. In addition, the Zambia Red Cross field staff and volunteers under the guidance of the Federation Field Delegates have advocated and acted in accordance with the fundamental principles of the Red Cross, guided by the established Code of Conduct which was disseminated to them and has remained their point of reference from the very start of the operation in 2002.

August 2003	9,625	147.3	83.1	12,209
September 2003	12,814	19.4	45.3	11,694
October 2003	12,308	150.6	17.0	7,726
November 2003	12,402	149.4	39.4	8,761
December 2003	13,108	307.0	52.9	8,946
Total amount of food distributed		773.7	237.7	49,336

Assessment and lessons learnt

- The food security operation has enhanced integration of programmes within the Zambia Red Cross by bringing health, disaster preparedness and response, branch development initiatives closer to plan and implement with often a common approach in the field.
- The Zambia Red Cross branches engaged in food security operation have demonstrated a coordinated management of their volunteers.
- The Federation has maintained close working relationships with its partners through sharing Zambia Red Cross infrastructure at headquarters and branch levels, and operating in more or less the same areas with the Netherlands Red Cross and Belgian Red Cross.
- The re-opened and strengthened Federation Country Delegation in Zambia has facilitated positive changes in the financial management of Zambia Red Cross through training and delegating to Zambia Red Cross financial management responsibilities. Close working relationship with the Zambia Red Cross finance office has added considerable effort into controlling of working advances from the food security operation budget.

- Delegation of responsibilities to the Zambia Red Cross field food security staff and volunteers, such as managing financial and material resources under direct branch supervision, has promoted a strong sense of belonging and partnership with the Federation.
- The integration linkage between the food security operation and other Zambia Red Cross programmes was not clear enough from the beginning to enhance focused programme development in terms of quality membership recruitment and dissemination.
- Procurement has been a daunting task for Zambia Red Cross staff in the absence of a Federation Logistics Delegate. This often led to poor quality of goods supplied and last-minute cancellation of contracts with suppliers causing delays in delivery and disruption of distribution plans.
- Zambia Red Cross logistics department needs to be restructured and properly equipped.
- The implementation of Federation proposed transition strategy will provide a framework on how the Zambia Red Cross and PNS will manage the operation and how the Netherlands Red Cross, Belgian Red Cross and ECHO-funded initiatives will end in April 2004.
- From the end of Zambia Red Cross/Federation Appeal review meeting, participants expressed urgent training need in areas of counterpart relationship, reporting, capacity building and logical framework analysis.
- The internal and external joint evaluations of the food security operation planned respectively for December 2003 and January 2004 are expected to give an in-depth analysis of achievements/impact made, constraints and lessons learnt during the period. The same exercises are envisaged to provide Zambia Red Cross, Netherlands Red Cross, Belgian Red Cross and ECHO with better tools to plan and implement food security strategy.

Zimbabwe

[Click here to return to title page](#)

Goal: To continue the build-up of comprehensive safety net consisting of food security, water and sanitation, health care and psycho-social support to 113,390 HIV/AIDS affected and infected individuals, and to help maintain household's livelihoods and prevent the gradual decline into poverty and destitution.

In essence the integrated food security and community care operation began under the previous Appeal 12/2002; this current Appeal 15/2003 was a continuation from Appeal 12/2002. There was a smooth integration of food security components into longer-term programming for the 2004 Annual Appeal after closing the Emergency Appeal. The Emergency Appeal bridges the gap, but the short timeframe presented major problems with the funding elements.

Through a partnership between Zimbabwe Red Cross Society¹⁵ and the WFP, the operation met the emergency food needs, and with funds carried forwards from the previous Appeal and additional money, management, supervision and monitoring structures were set up. Unfortunately some of the activities designed to ensure offer the fully integrated safety net were not funded, neither were some of the capacity building elements.

Zimbabwe remains in a complex state of chronic crisis. The underlying HIV/AIDS epidemic is undermining institutional and household capacity in every sector, and in every part of the country. A deep economic slump has reduced spending power and cut employment levels; salaries have failed to keep pace with soaring inflation. Many essential commodities are in very short supply, prices are elevated, and the goods only available on the black market. Patchy, unreliable rains coupled with a shortage of seeds, fertilizer and fuel has combined to reduce harvests; the projections for the 2004 harvest are not encouraging. The combination of these factors has increased vulnerability, and left a large proportion of the population dependent on handouts.

Zimbabwe Red Cross has a long term HIV/AIDS programme, focusing on prevention of new infections, palliative care for those already sick, and a basket of support to orphans and children made vulnerable by HIV/AIDS. The HBC clients and OVC within the programme are amongst the most vulnerable in Zimbabwe, marginalized by stigma, debilitated and made less productive by illness and death within their families. These people are the beneficiaries of the food aid, the complementary programmes and the packages of agricultural inputs provided under this appeal.

¹⁵ Zimbabwe Red Cross Society - <http://www.ifrc.org/where/country/check.asp?countryid=>

Coordination

Coordination mechanisms continued to function throughout the implementation of the Appeal activities. At the national level, Zimbabwe Red Cross and the Red Cross partners participate in the monthly food aid coordination meetings. Parallel meetings to these are held at provincial and district level, which ensures opportunities for sharing responsibilities and accountability, and that beneficiary lists are shared to avoid duplication of efforts. Internally, coordination has been enhanced between Movement partners across all sectors, through biweekly operations meetings and monthly coordination meetings.

In Zimbabwe, the major bilateral donor was the British Red Cross, who used their own funds generated through public appeal and funds from their government. All activities in Zimbabwe were undertaken multilaterally. Various donors including DFID and ECHO hold coordination meetings, and other sectoral meetings in health, nutrition, logistics etc are also attended. A bilateral contribution by the Danish Red Cross and British Red Cross had a major impact on the operation across most of the activities planned in three of the most affected provinces of Masvingo, Matebeleland North and Matebeleland South. Funding was provided through ECHO, and covering period to May 2004 – rather than being tied to the calendar year as in the Annual Appeal. Activities have been included in the narrative section of the report, clearly identified as being funded through British Red Cross and Danish Red Cross and ECHO but not in the financial section as these funds have not passed through the Federation systems.

Objective 1: To improve the food and health security of HBC clients and their household members, HBC care facilitators and OVC (orphans and other vulnerable children) affected by HIV/AIDS.

Achievements

The number of beneficiaries receiving food aid increased from 72,983 to 86,569 due to natural growth of the HBC programme as predicted in the Appeal, and beneficiary figures were revised in November 2003. Food and seeds were distributed to all the targeted beneficiaries with 62.78MT of seeds distributed to 9,099 households. Approximately 265 OVC continued receiving a cooked and nutritious meal every day. In Matebeleland and Masvingo province, 4,000 rural households were provided with poultry and small livestock to rear and use for consumption. The distribution of ITN to target beneficiaries did not take place due to lack of funds.

Table 8: Food aid distribution August to December 2003

Dates	Total amount of food distributed (MT)	Total number of beneficiaries	HBC clients
August 5 – 30	1095.85	72,893	9,055
September 10– 30	1095.85	72,893	9,055
October 9 –31	1361.60	86,569	11,040
November 4 – 27	1361.60	92,995	10,529
December 2– 30	1265.80	83,225	10,692

Procurement of food items was done internationally except for sugar. The provincial and headquarters staff, with the support of the Federation Relief Delegate monitors distribution at the distribution point and within household for randomly selected beneficiaries and households. The monitoring tools such as summary forms have been improved and weighing scales provided. During a period of particularly high inflation, provinces found themselves without sufficient cash working advance to complete the distributions.

Objective 2: To provide a more comprehensive basket of support to the HBC support groups and communities around the HBC projects.

Achievements

During the reporting period, 40 new boreholes were constructed and only 30 boreholes were identified for rehabilitation. The HBC programme with the assistance from the community and Red Cross volunteers constructed 508 toilets. Training of Red Cross volunteers in hygiene promotion and the related hygiene promotions focusing on use of safe water and latrines and hand washing did not materialize due to inadequate funding.

Objective 3: To enhance the capacity of Zimbabwe Red Cross to deliver their programmes, during and after the acute phase of this emergency and into the next period of acute need.

Training on food distribution was carried out for newly recruited volunteers, HBC facilitators and Red Cross staff. Monthly coordination and training meetings continued to be held for provincial staff to further establish basis for sharing experiences and best practices between the HBC projects and provinces enhancing standardization. The Zimbabwe Red Cross is now in a position to produce the distribution plan with minimal supervision from the Federation.

The national society secured a contract for transportation of all relief items. An induction course relating to distributions and logistical issues was held for new Food Security Officers. A prefabricated distribution office has been erected at the new Zimbabwe Red Cross headquarters in Harare.

As identified in the introduction, the shortage of funds available for non-food activities lead to failing to implement the following planned activities:

- Recruitment and training of new care facilitators (although this activity has begun using HBC funding)
- Provision of ten computers and associated training
- Rehabilitation of Zimbabwe Red Cross warehouse at Westwood Training Centre in Harare
- Support to branch structures.
- Provision of four vehicles for provinces with high rural caseloads

Federation Support

Through the support from the Federation, Zimbabwe Red Cross is now a WFP implementing partner in food aid distribution. The national society has received support in areas of organizing and implementing distributions, monitoring, logistics, surveys and warehouse management. The Federation also assisted the national society facilitating ECHO bilateralism during the initial stage.

Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement – Fundamental Principles and priorities

Considerable efforts have been made within the food security operation to promote the image and principles of the Red Cross. Provincial staff undertakes sensitization and awareness campaigns with all stakeholders from beneficiaries to local and national authorities at every opportunity. Food distributions have the potential to become politicized and every proactive effort is taken to ensure that this cannot happen. In addition, volunteers and staff are easily identifiable and distribution points are clearly marked with the Red Cross emblem.

Assessment and lessons learnt

The food security operation has strengthened the national society's capacity to target beneficiary and understanding the selection criteria. Experiences in food distribution enhanced the need for timely deliveries and close monitoring of beneficiaries on usage. Households receiving agricultural inputs also needs close monitoring and continuous crops assessment.

The effects of the HIV/AIDS pandemic is exacerbated by food shortages that there is need for an integrated approach to alleviating the suffering. The national societies also learnt that it can impact more if internal coordination and relationship with other humanitarian agencies is improved. Food aid distribution through the HBC structures works more efficiently although stigmatization still hinders progress. The national society is also challenged to vary the food rations throughout the year without hurting the safety net.

Namibia and South Africa

Lack of financial resources hindered the implementation of planned activities in Namibia and South Africa.

[Final Financial Report below; click here to return to the title page.](#)

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT SOCIETIES

Interim report	
Annual report	
Final report	X

Appeal No & title: 15/2003 Southern Africa Food Security
Period: up to July 2004
Project(s): P63513, BW513, LS513, MW513, NA513, SZ513, ZA513, ZM513, ZW513
Currency: CHF

I - CONSOLIDATED RESPONSE TO APPEAL

FUNDING	CASH		KIND & SERVICES		TOTAL INCOME
	Contributions	Comments	Goods/Services	Personnel	
Appeal budget	13,631,176				
less					
Cash brought forward					
TOTAL ASSISTANCE SOUGHT	13,631,176				
Contributions from Donors					
Andorran Red Cross (DNAD)	33,054				33,054
Australian Red Cross (DNAU)	51,341				51,341
British Govt.via British Red Cross (DGNGB)	392,085				392,085
British Red Cross (DNGB)	239,998				239,998
British Red Cross (M0306069)	-107,820				-107,820
British Red Cross (M0310141)	-116,731				-116,731
Canadian Red Cross (DNCA)	66,750				66,750
Danish Govt.via Danish Red Cross (DGNDK)	241,651				241,651
DFID - British Government (DFID)	70,000				70,000
Icelandic Red Cross (DNIS)	237,000				237,000
Italian Government (DGIT)	385,750				385,750
Japanese Red Cross (DNJP)	505,703				505,703
Monaco Red Cross (DNMC)	30,860				30,860
Netherlands Red Cross (DNNL)	29,510				29,510
New Zealand Red Cross (DNNZ)	2,592				2,592
Norwegian Red Cross (DNNO)	70,000				70,000
Spanish Red Cross (M0312255)	7,916				7,916
Swedish Red Cross (DNSE)	194,925				194,925
Swiss Red Cross (DNCH)	102,000				102,000
Swiss Red Cross (M0309041)	27,647				27,647
Turkish Red Crescent (DNTR)	2,546				2,546
Miscellaneous contributions	106,560				106,560
Swiss RC reimbursement	-40,000	To be booked			-40,000
Icelandic RC reallocation to ap. 01.21/2004	-12,000	To be booked			-12,000
DENMARK				30,600	30,600
ICELAND				30,600	30,600
GREAT BRITAIN				59,200	59,200
SWITZERLAND				30,600	30,600
TOTAL	2,521,337			151,000	2,672,337

II - Balance of funds

OPENING	
CASH INCOME Rcv'd	2,521,337
SERVICES	151,000
TOTAL INCOME	2,672,337
CASH EXPENDITURE	-2,461,157
SERVICES	-151,000
TOTAL EXPENSE	-2,612,157

CASH BALANCE	60,180

Appeal No & title: 15/2003 Southern Africa Food Security

Period: up to July 2004

Project(s): P63513, BW513, LS513, MW513, NA513, SZ513, ZA513, ZM513, ZW513

Currency: CHF

III - Budget analysis / Breakdown of expenditures

Description	APEAL Budget	CASH Expenditures	KIND & SERVICES		TOTAL Expenditures	Variance
			Goods/services	Personnel		
<u>SUPPLIES</u>						
Shelter & Construction	39,425	2,493			2,493	36,932
Clothing & Textiles	675,000					675,000
Food & Seeds	6,596,652	634,550			634,550	5,962,102
Water & sanitation	860,100					860,100
Medical & First Aid	203,000	15,606			15,606	187,394
Teaching materials	35,000					35,000
Utensils & Tools	63,800	7,265			7,265	56,535
Other relief supplies	209,000	137,065			137,065	71,935
Sub-Total	8,681,977	796,980			796,980	7,884,997
<u>CAPITAL EXPENSES</u>						
Land & Buildings		31,025			31,025	-31,025
Vehicles	319,500	27,995			27,995	291,505
Computers & Telecom equip.	51,250	6,422			6,422	44,828
Medical equipment						
Other capital expenditures	16,000	18,381			18,381	-2,381
Sub-Total	386,750	83,822			83,822	302,928
<u>TRANSPORT & STORAGE</u>						
Warehouse & distribution	620,785	166,070			166,070	454,715
Transport & vehicles	824,262	244,301			244,301	579,961
Sub-Total	1,445,047	410,372			410,372	1,034,675
<u>PERSONNEL</u>						
Personnel (delegates)	700,147	469,791		151,000	620,791	79,356
Personnel (regional, national staff)	576,211	201,611			201,611	374,600
Consultants	187,500	52,623			52,623	134,877
Workshops & training	205,090	1,407			1,407	203,683
Sub-Total	1,668,948	725,432		151,000	876,432	792,516
<u>GENERAL & ADMINISTRATION</u>						
Travel & related expenses	206,381	66,067			66,067	140,314
Information expenses	87,554	10,521			10,521	77,033
Admin./general expenses	268,493	198,937			198,937	69,556
Sub-Total	562,428	275,524			275,524	286,904
<u>PROGRAMME SUPPORT</u>						
Operational provisions	886,026	169,027			169,027	716,999
Transfers & contributions						
TOTAL BUDGET	13,631,176	2,461,157		151,000	2,612,157	11,019,019