

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

SWAZILAND: STORM

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INTERIM FINAL REPORT

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

Minor Emergency history:

- Launched on 27 January 2005 for 3 months.
- Disaster Relief Emergency Funds (DREF) allocated: CHF 35,550.

For information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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All International Federation 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 is committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (Sphere) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

For longer-term programmes in this or other countries or regions, please refer to the Federation's Annual Appeal. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for national society profiles, please also access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

Background

Swaziland experienced a devastating storm on 23 January following heavy rains. The storm hit parts of Manzini, Lubombo and Shiselweni which is the south east of the country. A total of 15 sub areas in Mazini, four in lubombo and 11 in Shiselweni were affected by the storm.

The storm caused great havoc as it destroyed houses, crops in the fields, household and food items. Roofing corrugated sheets and tiles were also blown leaving approximately 145 households in Shiselweni and 85 in Manzini without adequate shelter, clothing and food. Some schools in the affected areas were also destroyed by the storm. Human life was not spared as there were reports that four people were suspected to have been washed away by flooded rivers.

The storm damage was initially reported on the Federation web site through an information bulletin (Swaziland: Storm damage Information Bulletin no.1) - refer to http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?rpts05/sz050127.pdf

Red Cross and action and impact of the DREF

In response to the storm, Baphalali Swaziland Red Cross Society¹ teams were deployed to all the affected areas to conduct rapid assessments. The national society immediately distributed food, tarpaulins and blankets to the affected households. Distribution of relief items was conducted mainly between 24 and 29 January. Tents were provided only to four families whilst rebuilding their houses which were completely destroyed.

Distribution of food

Area	No. of beneficiaries	No. of 50kg bags of maize	No. of 50kg bags of beans (pulses)	Vegetable oil (750ml)
Manzini District				
Nhlambeni	396	95	14	396
Masundvini	235	56	8	235
Zakhele	97	23	3	97
Mangwaneni	122	29	4	122
Ngwane Park	153	37	6	153
Madonsa	506	121	19	506
Maliyaduma	885	212	32	885
Moneni	654	157	24	654
Ticancweni	494	119	18	494
Dvokolwako	72	18	5	72
Sub-total	3,614	866	133	3,614
Shiselweni District				
Thunzini	649	156	23	649
Nkoneni	195	47	7	195
Machobeni	401	96	14	401
Ndubazi	454	109	16	454
Mpatheni	134	32	5	134
New Nazareth	264	63	10	264
Makhonza	895	215	32	985
Gwegwe	157	38	6	157
Sub-total	3,149	756	113	3,149
Lubombo District				
Sigcaweni	112	28	5	112
Libhuku	119	29	3	119
Kalanga	123	30	5	123
Total	354	77	13	354
Grand Total	7,117	1,699	259	7,117

Some of the worst affected victims, who had their crops destroyed in the fields, were immediately provided with legume seeds. A total of 93 households were identified to be in need of new houses and plans are underway to assist them construct one-roomed houses.

Distribution of non-food items

Area	Blankets	Tarpaulins	Tents	Clothes (bales)
Manzini	350	370	2	8
Lubombo	50	65		7
Shiselweni	215	188	2	5
Total	615	623	4	20

¹ Baphalali Swaziland Red Cross Society – refer to <http://www.ifrc.org/where/country/check.asp?countryid=163>

The national disaster task force supported the national society with food items distributed to the affected households. The food package distributed to the beneficiaries comprised of twelve 5kg maize bags, 2kg bags of beans and 750ml cooking oil. The food was distributed at an average of seven beneficiaries per household.

Coordination

The Federation provided CHF 35,550 from the Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF), which was used to procure tents, tarpaulins and to cover assessment and distribution costs. The government availed SZL 5 million through the national disaster task force office. The donation was used for food and seed distribution and it was agreed in principle to rehabilitate schools and houses destroyed by the storm. Ngwane Mills, a private company, donated 15 tonnes of beans to the Red Cross to distribute. Other individuals brought in assorted clothing as donations.

Constraints

Some people were coming up with reports that they were also affected by the storm, but were left out in the assessments that were carried out. The national society continued to check for verification of these reports and genuine households were assisted and as a result many people were coming to the food distribution points. Late deliveries of relief materials by suppliers delayed the emergency distribution.

Lessons learnt

The DREF allocation allowed the national society to respond rapidly to the needs of the people affected by the floods. The national society was able to respond effectively and efficiently by distributing food and non food items.

The Baphalali Swaziland Red Cross Society recommends that relief materials should be procured through regional delegation logistic department in order enhance prompt response to emergency operations. There is need for the national society to always hold reasonable relief materials in the warehouse to facilitate immediate disaster responses.

The national society should establish its own disaster fund.

<p>Special note: This Interim Final Report is being issued without the financial report. The Final Report, comprising of the final financial report and this narrative report, will be issued in due course.</p>

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