

PROGRAMME UPDATE



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

NAMIBIA

11 July 2003

Appeal No. 01.19/2003; Appeal Target: CHF 442,484 (2003)

Programme Update No. 1; Period covered: January - May, 2003

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 180 countries.

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In Brief

Appeal coverage: 0 %; See attached Contributions List for details or see the Federation's website at http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?annual03/1-2-3%20-%20ap011903.pdf

Outstanding needs: CHF 442,484

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals: Appeal 2003 Regional Programmes (01.24/2003)

Programme Summary: The Namibian Red Cross Society (NRCS) continues to educate the public through the "Edu-tainment team", where awareness and education on HIV/AIDS/STD prevention, transmission and mitigation is created and promoted. The role of the "Edu-tainment team" has grown tremendously to include that of training other groups in drama and puppetry. The team is now crossing borders to train other National Societies interested in puppetry and drama reaching some 25,000 people. The team trained 18 youths and staff for Zimbabwe Red Cross Society. A consultant has assisted with the development of a curriculum that has proved useful in training the new groups.

The NRCS's zeal to implement is high, but funding is still a problem, hampering the smooth implementation of Disaster Management activities in NRCS. Given sufficient funding NRCS will be in a position to streamline its DM activities and become a well prepared national society that can respond to any disasters in a timely manner, and offer assistance adhering to the code of conduct, Humanitarian Charter and SPHERE minimum standards in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable people. The Regional Delegation in Harare is making a concerted effort to secure funding in order to commence with the planned activities.

Operational developments

With the support of the Harare Regional Delegation, the Namibia Red Cross society (NRCS) continues to scale up its activities in HIV/AIDS prevention, reaching more than 24,000 people with education on HIV/AIDS quarterly. The Society is well known for its remarkable puppet power project ("Edu-tainment" groups), which has been very successful in disseminating information on HIV/AIDS to all age groups, regardless of literacy levels. The Society

also runs an Orphan and Vulnerable Children Project targeting street children and a drop-in centre that provides counselling, recreation, basic food and first aid services.

Namibia like other countries in Southern Africa is also facing economic problems, coupled by inflation. NRCS has continued to streamline its disaster management (DM) and programming, however, their efforts to implement DM planned activities are being hampered by failing to have sufficient funding

Health and care

Overall Goal: A sustainable improvement in the general health and reduction in HIV/AIDS transmission of the targeted vulnerable communities, through the provision of community-based health and care interventions.

Programme Objective: To support the NRCS HIV/AIDS projects to reduce the transmission of HIV and to improve the quality of life for people living with HIV/AIDS and their families.

1.1 Health

Alongside poverty and food insecurity, Namibia is struggling with a high prevalence of HIV/AIDS that is estimated at 22.5% of the adult population aged between 15 – 49 years. NRCS's strategic direction is well within the overall borders and framework of the Federation's Strategy 2010, ARCHI and the Ouagadougou Declaration.

Although HIV/AIDS is the major component of the NRCS Health and Care programme, the Society is also involved in Commercial and Community Based First Aid pilot projects supported by FAO. It is the Society's intention to strengthen both the community and commercial based First Aid to enhance the HIV/AIDS activities and its related illnesses such as TB and Malaria.

Overall goal: A sustainable improvement in the general health of the vulnerable communities through the provision of community based health and care interventions in targeted project areas in four most vulnerable Regions is achieved.

Achievements against Expected results

The capacity of NRCS to design and implement health projects that contribute to the reduction of morbidity and mortality from common health problems is strengthened.

- **Five Namibia RC staff trained and able to design and implement monitor and evaluate CBHC projects.** The Regional health programme provided technical support to NRCS in the development of the Society's strategic plans for health for the coming five years. This will provide the Society with direction and focus for their health intervention in line with ARCHI 2010.

- **Five First Aid teams trained with 200 volunteers trained in two provinces.** The training of trainers (ToT) in Community Based First Aid (CBFA) could not take place due to lack of resources, and with availability of resources in the next quarter this will be implemented.

- **5,500 families in targeted area have received First Aid training and are able to respond to common health conditions.** This result could not be realised because CBFA training could not be implemented.

- **NRCS are members of the Country Interagency Immunisation Committee and Country Coordination Mechanism Body for Global fund.** NRCS is a member of the Country coordination mechanism body for the global funds, however it is not a member of the Interagency Immunisation Committee.

- **Increased immunization coverage to 100 % in the targeted areas.**

This expected result will be realised during the mass measles campaigns that is going to take place later this year, following the CBFA training.

- **Proposal for Malaria and TB developed by NRCS and presented to GFATM.**

An integrated proposal for malaria, HIV/AIDS and TB was developed and presented to the CCM, but due to a technicality it was not forwarded.

- **NRCS has partnership with other organisations.**

NRCS has managed to work closely with various organisations including WHO, UNICEF and the Ministry of Health.

Impact:

The impact, as of yet, is not significant due to the fact that activities are only in their preliminary stages. However the “Edu-tainment group” has managed to sell the NRCS’s health intervention in the community and the Society is well known as reliable caregivers.

Constraints:

The major constraint in the health programme is the lack of a Health Coordinator to drive the health programme forward and this is coupled by lack of funding.

Cooperation:

NRCS has a good working relationship with the Ministry of Health (MoH) of which NRCS is recognised for its contributions in the provision of health related services to vulnerable communities. WHO and UNICEF are the National Society’s other partners in implementing adolescent reproductive health activities.

1.2 HIV/AIDS

In addition to the puppetry power project by the Edu-tainment groups, and the Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) project, there is a Reproductive Health Initiative Programme being implemented in a number of regions, which is supported by the American Red Cross. Recently a Home Based Care (HBC) project was established in the Caprivi Region.

The Society is geared to scale up HIV/AIDS activities in other regions. Khomas and Grootfontain have been identified as places to start with HBC Activities.

Achievements against Expected Results:

- **200,000 youths and general population have received information on HIV/AIDS/STD in 13 districts in Namibia.**

Through the edutainment team, Namibia Reproductive Health Initiative and Health communication Project 40,000 youths and the general public have been reached. The health and communication Project has continued to reach the public through the distribution of Choose Life Magazine.

- **500,000 condoms have been distributed.**

20,000 condoms were distributed to the public.

- **41,000 People Living With HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) have received home based care, support and counselling.**

Through the Ohangwena Home Based Care project 1,000 clients received care, support and counselling. During the quarter, a baseline survey and training of 14 care facilitators in Caprivi Strip took place. The care facilitators are currently attached to the local hospital for practicals.

- **Five support groups established for PLWHA.**

Sensitisation of the care facilitators and the project staff has been done.

- **Community based orphan care projects established in six regions.**

NRCS has an OVC project in Rundu, which is supporting approximately 300 OVCs. The OVCs receive food, clothes and psychological support. The Society intends to implement a Memory Box Project in the area in the second quarter.

- **NRCS is recognised both nationally and internationally as a key actor in the fight against HIV/AIDS, through advocacy and communications strategies directed at media and authorities.**

The Society through its activities (the launch of the Caprivi initiative and the Edutainment team) has been publicised locally, regionally and internationally.

Impact:

The HBC programme in Ohangwena has improved the condition and quality of life for people infected and affected by the HIV/AIDS. The patients have testified that without the Red Cross support they may not have survived the disease, and are very grateful for the support they are getting.

Due to the nature of the programme most of the family members have learnt to care for their sick relatives, something that was hardly practiced because of traditional and cultural limitations. Normally most patients are not taken care of by the relatives.

OVCs are now receiving support from social services because of the Red Cross intervention. The Red Cross facilitates the process of registration with the Social Service Skim. The launch of the Caprivi Project has contributed to the visibility of the Red Cross in the Region and Country.

Constraints:

The major constraint is the uncertainty of funding for the Ohangwena HBC Project, which is purely supported by the German Red Cross. The German Red Cross has submitted a proposal to the EU, and is waiting for the outcome. The Edutainment Team funding from the Canadian Red Cross is coming to an end, and future plans for the Team are currently uncertain. The NARHI project funded by American Red Cross also faces an uncertain future.

Coordination:

The NRCS works with the Government Department, The Ministry of Health, Ministry of Women Affairs and Child Welfare, The Ministry of Basic Education and Culture, Local NGOs such as Africare, Social Marketing Association, the Federation, ICRC, UNAIDS, Soul City, UNICEF and WHO. The Society also collaborates with Networks for PLWHAs and the Media.

Disaster Management

Three people from NRCS participated in the Regional Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (VCA) training of trainers' (ToT) workshop at the Regional Delegation in January 2003. The training gave the participants an opportunity to reflect on whether the National Societies' programming process considers the vulnerabilities and capacities of target beneficiaries, and if the impact of the intervention can be measured. The Disaster Management (DM) department held a very successful DM planning meeting, which NRCS participated in from 18-20 February 2003. The workshop was aimed at: consolidating 2003 DM plans in line with the Society's priorities, capacities and appeal; finalise and agree on the regional disaster response plan; agree on well prepared Society minimum standards; and, come up with a development contract 'MoC'. The MoC is meant to set operational parameters with the Society for the 2003 – 2004 period.

Efforts are being made to raise funds for the NRCS appeal for DM activities. The lack of positive response to the Appeal is preventing DM planned activities from being implemented according to schedule. NRCS continues with training volunteers in first aid as a way of strengthening their response capacity.

Goal: Implementation of characteristics of a well-prepared national society has improved the NRCS in the three key areas of know-how, capacity and performance.

Programme Objective: Increased capacity of the NRCS in disaster management through the design and implementation of well-coordinated responsive performance.

Achievements against Expected Results

Lack of funding has hampered implementation of the planned Disaster Management programme activities. The Regional Delegation in Harare is making a concerted effort to secure funding in order to commence with the planned activities, these being;

- Disaster management policy and plan reviewed and operational by second quarter, 2003;
- VCA conducted, needs established by third quarter 2003;
- Staff and volunteers trained in appropriate disaster management by end of 2003;
- Comprehensive disaster management plan operationalised by end of 2003;
- Community-based early warning system is in place and operational, benefiting the vulnerable communities by 2004;
- Improved disaster preparedness and response capacity;
- Appropriate basic emergency stocks pre-positioned in at risk areas;
- Sustainable food security initiatives incorporated into all national society priority programmes by end of 2004.

Impact:

The use of Regional Disaster Response Teams (RDRT) and VCA trained personnel has given the Society the capacity to monitor and assess its impact on disaster preparedness and disaster response events. A VCA can be used as an institutional capacity assessment tool, and programming tool to evaluate the effectiveness and impact of current programmes in the National Society. However, more activities need to be done once sufficient funds are raised for NRCS DM activities so that the impact in reaching the most vulnerable is felt.

Constraints:

The zeal to implement is high, but funding is still a problem, hampering the smooth implementation of DM activities in NRCS. Given sufficient funding NRCS will be in a position to streamline its DM activities and become a well prepared Society that can respond to any disasters in a timely manner, and offer assistance adhering to the code of conduct, Humanitarian Charter and SPHERE minimum standards in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable people.

Coordination:

Based on the experience gained during the Osire refugee programme, the NRCS coordinates well with the government through the DM programme. Coordination is also strong with ICRC, Federation, UN Agencies based in Namibia and other NGOs/CBOs operating in Namibia. Good coordination with the government allows the NRCS to benefit from access to government vehicles during a disaster.

Organisational Development

Goal: Implementation of characteristics of a well-functioning national society has improved the NRCS in the three key areas: foundation, capacity and performance.

Programme Objective: Secretariat support has ensured National Society development to respond to the humanitarian needs in the country and serve the vulnerable people in accordance with its mandate.

Achievements against Expected Results:

The Society has adopted an integrated approach in implementing its Organisational Development (OD) planned activities. The OD coordinated country appeal has yet to receive any funding. Plans, however, are being worked on to establish how OD activities, such as volunteer management and branch development can be supported in cooperation with other programmes. Upon the receipt of funding, the NRCS's work on the following expected results can begin;

- NRCS has an effective volunteer management in place.
- NRCS has functional branches in place that are actively participating in project implementation.
- NRCS has increased its financial resource base in both value and diversity.
- NRCS has in place effective financial management systems.
- NRCS human resources are managed effectively.

Impact:

The technical support and advice given to the Society by the Regional OD department is enabling NRCS to move towards a well-functioning Society. The Deputy Secretary General is a member of the recently created Regional Capacity Building Team which has increased the incorporation of OD skills within the Society.

Constraints:

NRCS programmes are required to share plans and reports on OD related issues, which is not always properly complied with. If coordination of programmes is strengthened much more will be achieved in terms of organisational development. Given adequate funding more personnel will be trained improving capacity building of the NRCS and branch development.

Coordination:

OD activities and coordination occurred through other regional programming initiatives.

For further information please contact:

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All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the Code of Conduct and is committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (SPHERE Project) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

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DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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CASH

REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->	442'484					TOTAL COVERAGE 0.0%
CASH CARRIED FORWARD						
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				0	CHF	0.0%

KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				0	CHF	0.0%

ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET

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