

# 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

## ZAMBIA

12 May, 2003

**Appeal No. 01.22/2003**

**Appeal Target: CHF 1,072,142**

**Programme Update No. 1**

**Period covered: January – March, 2003**

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### **In Brief**

**Appeal coverage:** %; See attached Contributions List for details.

**Outstanding needs:** CHF xxx (USD / EUR)

**Related Emergency or Annual Appeals:** Southern Africa Food Aid and Humanitarian Assistance (No. 12/02); Southern Africa 2003 Annual Regional Appeal (no. 01.24/2002)

**Programme Summary:** The Zambia Red Cross, in addition to its activities related to the ongoing food security operation, which have taken up much of the National Society's resources, is responding to enormous needs in the country brought about by the drought and the HIV/AIDS pandemic, by scaling-up its activities in regard to HIV/AIDS and water and sanitation activities. The Society also piloted a community based malaria project together with the WHO and the Ministry of Health.

**During the reporting period, a new President and a new Governing Board were elected by the National Society. The new Governing Board will ensure the immediate implementation of the National Society's recovery plan, in order to become a well-functioning National Society.**

### **Operational developments**

During the period under review, Zambia experienced a severe drought affecting some 200,000 families countrywide. The International Federation is supporting the Zambia Red Cross Society (ZRCS) with managing the implementation of food distribution to targeted HIV/AIDS affected families, and with the construction and rehabilitation of bore holes in the most affected areas.

The food insecurity operation (Appeal no. 12/02) in Zambia is progressing. ZRCS is receiving support with managing the operation from six Federation delegates, and through bilateral PNS projects in Choma and Livingstone. The Netherlands and German Red Cross signed agreements with ZRCS as part of the ECHO funding

initiative to support a further 180,000 beneficiaries in the southern part of the country. It is anticipated that the food insecurity operation will enter phase two over the second quarter within the revised consolidated regional appeal.

The much-heralded Zambia Red Cross Recovery plan was approved by National Council delegates who attended the Society's Annual General Assembly (AGM) meeting held during the reporting period. The AGM also elected a new President of the National Society, and a new Governing Board. The new Governing Board immediately upon taking oath of office, made the following resolutions:

1. Immediate implementation of the recovery plan;
2. Review of the ZRCS' Constitution and Act
3. Reorganisation of the provincial offices and restructuring of the ZRCS headquarters

A partnership meeting is now scheduled to take place immediately after the SARCS donor conference in June 2003. The meeting, however, is yet to be confirmed by all stakeholders.

There were no signs of refugee repatriation over the reporting period. Instead, resettlement of the multi-racial refugee caseload from the Democratic Republic of Congo and Rwanda is in the under consideration. The findings of the study undertaken late last year jointly by UNHCR and the Government of Zambia (GoZ) were released and shared widely throughout the international community. Key recommendations include: identification of viable land in the Mwanze region for resettlement; provision of tools and farm implements to refugees; identification of employment opportunities for refugees who are professionals or skilled; integration of the refugees with local communities; and, the development of the host region's infrastructure jointly funded by the GoZ and UNHCR.

Zambia, like many of the countries in the Southern African region is subject to many social problems. The impact, however, of HIV/AIDS has been exceptionally devastating. HIV/AIDS has and continues to affect many families, and the impact has been worsened by the poor economy and severe drought. These events adversely effected the national economy for most of the year. The 2003 national budget sets out to reduce poverty, lower inflation, sustain positive per capita income growth and improve the fiscal balance and external position. The fight against HIV/AIDS is also high on the agenda, with a significant amount reserved to curb the pandemic.

In the economic development and social sector, Zambia's gross domestic product (GDP) increased by 3.0 per cent (*source KPMG – Budget highlights 2003*). The economy was destabilised due to the drought which caused a significant drop in the country's agricultural output, and the withdrawal of a major corporation from the Konkola Copper Mines, the largest mining company in Zambia.

## **Health and care**

**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.

**Objective:** The Federation Secretariat support ZRCS' capacity to implement community-based health care programme, including HIV/AIDS and water and sanitation programming, thereby improving the general health situation in targeted communities, and increasing the community's coping capacity in disaster situations.

## **Regional Health Programme (CBHP)**

### **Progress against Expected Results:**

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

The ZRCS, with support from the Southern Africa Regional Delegation in Harare, has managed to establish and implement a community based malaria prevention pilot project in Sinazongwe District, in cooperation with the WHO and the Ministry of Health. A total of 80 volunteers were identified, of which 26 have already been trained in malaria interventions, while the remaining 54 will be trained by the end of May. Communities have been mobilized for malaria interventions, and 1500 insecticide treated nets (ITNs) are being distributed. UNICEF has contributed 15,350 ITNs to ZRCS for distribution in the project areas, which will raise the coverage from 27% to 60%.

ZRCS, with the availability of resources, is planning to extend the project into two other districts, Livingstone and Kapiri Mposhi. ZRCS will also be involved in distributing ITNs in Kaputa district for children under five (under-fives) who are expected for a mass measles vaccination from 7-13 June 2003. With support from the Federation's Regional health programme, ZRCS is now a member of the National Malaria Task Force.

## **2. Zambia Red Cross is member of the interagency coordination committee.**

ZRCS is an active member of the Interagency Coordination Committee, and the National Social Mobilization Committee. ZRCS has been tasked to conduct community social mobilization in eight districts for the coming mass measles campaigns.

ZRCS, with support from the Regional Delegation, finalized the micro-planning for the measles and malaria campaigns.

## **3. A project proposal developed by the ZRCS and submitted to GFATM.**

With support from the regional health programme, the ZRCS has been identified by the National TB programme as a partner for the implementation of the community TB DOTs. The process of implementation will start after the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Health, which has already been drafted. The two districts, which have been identified, are Kapiri Mposh and Mansa districts. The Kapiri district will be integrated into the home-based care programme, and Mansa district will be supported using funds from the Global funds.

## **4. Eighty Red Cross Volunteers in four districts are involved in prevention and response to cholera outbreak, benefiting 4,000 families.**

Responding to the flood situation in Kabwe district, which is a cholera endemic zone, the ZRCS mobilized volunteers for health education campaigns, and the Regional health programme supported them with technical and cholera volunteer kits.

## **Impact**

The malaria project in Sinazongwe District has increased knowledge about malaria to home-based care facilitators and Red Cross volunteers, enabling them to provide accurate information to their communities on how to prevent and respond to malaria infection at the community level, thereby empowering the vulnerable communities with knowledge about preventing malaria. The volunteers have also been trained as community chloroquine holders, which improve the accessibility of communities to basic anti-malarial drugs.

Communities in Sinazongwe were given information about how to prevent malaria within their community, and what to do when they suspect they have malaria. The use of ITNs is being promoted, and ITNs are being distributed by ZRCS volunteers. Targeted groups are home-based care clients, under-fives, pregnant women and the most poor.

The social mobilization for mass measles and malaria campaigns is expected to raise the measles vaccination coverage to 100%, and ITN coverage for under-fives to 100% in targeted districts. This will reduce the mortality rate of under-fives caused by measles and malaria.

## **Constraints**

The implementation of most of the planned activities did not take place due to lack of funding from the beginning of the year until now. Start-up funding from the Swedish Red Cross is depleted, and with the unavailability of further funding the continuity of the project is jeopardized. Once funding is available, the ZRCS will be able to embark on more health care initiatives in order to respond to the enormous needs in the countries.

## **HIV/AIDS**

### **Progress against Expected Results:**

By the end of 2004, the ZRCS has increased the impact of its HIV/AIDS programme by increasing the quantity and quality of its interventions.

**1. The ZRCS home-based care project for People Living With HIV/AIDS (PLWHAs) is expanded to reach a total of 5,000 clients.**

During the quarter, ZRCS continued to support some 2,000 clients in Maamba, Livingstone and Kapiri Mposhi. During the reporting period, additional care facilitators were trained in Maamba (35), Livingstone (47) and Kapiri Mphoshi (35). The National Society also conducted a baseline survey in Sesheke. Following the survey, 16 more care facilitators were trained. The National Society has a total of some 200 care facilitators.

**2. The ZRCS youth peer education project is expanded to reach a total of 5,000 youths in safer sex skills.**

During the second quarter, ZRCS identified youths for training about the peer education project.

**3. The ZRCS HIV/AIDS programme is expanded to reach a total of 5,000 orphans supported materially and psychologically.**

Orphans and other vulnerable children have been identified and registered. The Society will support the OVCs in accordance with the guidelines. An OVC delegate will support the implementation of the project.

**4. The capacity of the ZRCS to manage, implement, monitor, and evaluate its HIV/AIDS programme is strengthened.**

National Officers and Project Officers have had exposure on how to implement Home Based Care (HBC) projects, and are well oriented with the monitoring of the programme. ZRCS branches have been strengthened through the establishment of these projects.

**5. The ZRCS have created new partnerships with other organisations.**

Partnerships have been established with local offices for UNAIDS, UNICEF, National AIDS Council, Embassies and other departments of the Government.

**6. The ZRCS 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 ZRCS has increased its visibility since the implementation of the recovery plan. Most of the Society's activities are publicized to the media by the office of the Information Officer.

**Impact**

Awareness about HIV/AIDS in the communities where HBC projects are implemented has increased. Stigma and discrimination have been addressed through the establishment of income generating activities, and support groups. More people are speaking openly about their status, and more are going for voluntary counseling and testing (VCT). ZRCS collaboration has improved their collaboration with other organizations, such as: the Government, WHO, UNAIDS, UNICEF, UNFPA and PNSs.

**Constraints**

The National Society has no vehicle for the programme, which is affecting the ability to progress with monitoring and expanding programme coverage.

**Co-ordination**

Within the area of health and care, the ZRCS works closely with the Ministry of Health, WHO, UNAIDS, UNICEF, and other relevant stakeholders to ensure maximum impact of efforts and avoid duplication.

**Water and Sanitation**

**Objective:** The Federation Secretariat supports ZRCS' capacity to implement community-based health care programmes, including HIV/AIDS and water and sanitation programming, thereby improving the general health situation in targeted communities and increasing the communities' coping capacity in disaster situations.

**Progress against Expected Results:**

Provision of sustainable water and sanitation services at the National Society and beneficiary community level with increased capacity to respond to emergencies.

### **1. Beneficiaries empowered to plan and implement water and sanitation activities with linkages to health and HIV/Aids programmes.**

At least 11,000 beneficiaries were reached during the quarter through regional Wat-San activities in Choma and Kalomo through health/hygiene awareness raising campaigns managed by local ZRCS volunteers. Community ownership and sense of self responsibility were raised and developed from:

- Forming 30 village water committees;
- Refresher courses to 20 village water committees on the operation and maintenance of water facilities; and,
- Active participation in project implementation: training of 120 community members in pump installation and apron construction.

The connection with the HIV/AIDS programme was strengthened by increased Wat-San activities supported by food security funding. Wat-San activities in Livingstone, an HIV/AIDS programme area will be taken up next quarter.

### **2. Red Cross branches become catalysts of Wat-San activities in the National Society.**

ZRCS branches in Choma and Kalomo continue to actively monitor activities and recruitment of volunteers for the Wat-San project, and 32 new volunteers were recruited. The branches developed plans to stock hand-pump spare parts, and pipes to be sold to communities for water-point repairs, and to create a basis for the construction of latrine slabs.

### **3. Increased National Society Wat-San technical and managerial capacity.**

The national Wat-San team has demonstrated its strength by adjusting to the large increase in Wat-San activities due to the food security operation's activities. The Federation is providing extra support to manage and initially organize regional and food-security Wat-San activities, which, because of the high level of need, are taking place simultaneously in the same districts. ZRCS has a strong Wat-San capacity, and has increased its team with a technical assistant. The Society has begun to formalize its Wat-San activities in the district by engaging in activities such as, signing handover notes for functional water points with communities, government institutions, and the D-WASHE office. Coordination meetings have also started with various Wat-San players to avoid duplication of effort and activities. The Federation's support will continue to build upon and further strengthen existing managerial capacities.

### **4. Sustainable and appropriate Wat-San infrastructure and systems in accordance with SPHERE and country standards.**

One hundred and fifty family latrines and fifty school latrines (VIP) were newly constructed. While 30 boreholes were rehabilitated with regional programme funding. This includes completing activities initiated in 2002. Twenty rehabilitations and seven boreholes have been made with funding from the food security operation in accordance with set standards.

The ZRCS with support from the Federation and PNS plans to rehabilitate a total of; 355 boreholes (30 regionally funded, 75 funded from the food security operation, 250 funded bilaterally); drill 31 new boreholes (6 regionally funded, 25 funded from food-security operation); and, construct 600 latrines (200 regionally funded, 400 funded by the food-security operation).

### **5. Increased national society ability to implement emergency Wat-San interventions.**

Localised floods were reported in February/March in Gwembe and Kabwe (Southern and Central provinces) where needs were assessed by the ZRCS who sent RDRT trained personnel. The need, however, for assistance (blankets, plastic sheeting and chlorination tablets for some 150 people) was limited, and the National Society was able to respond without any assistance. Additionally, activities related to the food-security operation have also contributed towards increasing ZRCS' ability to implement emergency interventions.

### **Impact**

An increase in Wat-San activities is beginning to deliver a significant impact on improving basic living conditions for the most vulnerable living in Choma and Kalomo, where the majority of the population is affected either by food insecurity and/or HIV/AIDS. A more detailed report is being compiled from those areas, and tangible health

benefits, in particular for PLWHA are already being reported. Of note is that affected communities now have safe reasonable supply of water close to their homes, with enough spill water to be used for irrigating small gardens. Women and children in particular appreciate not having to walk long distances to fetch water for their family's use.

### **Constraints**

Initially participation in activities by members of the respective communities was low in areas affected by food insecurity. However, enthusiasm and participation from members of the affected communities greatly improved once food distribution activities commenced.

During the reporting period, the programme's 'software' aspects such as training and raising community awareness suffered due to the exceptionally heavy workload faced by the Wat-San and the health officers. As the increase of Wat-San activities continues, and was also recommended during the review process of the regional Wat-San programme, ZRCS will recruit an officer to handle these types of activities as soon as funding is available.

### **Disaster Management**

Over the past three months, the ZRCS has seen its fair share of emergencies. In January, the Society responded to a situation concerning a dispute over farm ownership that left 701 families displaced in Ngombe, Lusaka district. The ZRCS requested plastic sheeting to assist affected families with erecting temporary shelter. The request was filled by providing plastic sheeting procured locally in Zambia with financial support from the Southern Africa Regional Delegation.

During the reporting period, Zambia also was subjected to incessant heavy rains, causing extensive damage and disruptions to life in several districts. National society RDRT members were called upon to conduct assessments in the affected areas, identify the needs of the beneficiaries and make appropriate recommendations. The rains left many people homeless, destroyed crops and personal belongings, washed away bridges, and contaminated water sources. There was also fear of an outbreak of cholera. Identified needs included basic relief supplies such as food, tents, blankets and clothing. The Federation's regional delegation in Harare, responded immediately providing funding for the assessments. Later the Federation made available, cholera prevention volunteer kits, chlorinating powder, three large bundles of blankets, and 100 jerry cans. The government also responded by providing food and airlifting supplies to inaccessible areas.

ZRCS is also still heavily involved in the on-going targeted food distributions and is an implementing partner with the WFP. These activities have diverted the National Society's resources to the detriment of other disaster management activities.

**Overall Goal:** National Society capacity enhanced so as to enable it to be prepared and able to respond to disasters with appropriate interventions through building capacity of vulnerable communities and Red Cross volunteers.

### **Programme objectives:**

1. ZRCS disaster management capacity is strengthened in order to benefit the vulnerable communities and cushion them against impact of hazards.
2. The quality of life and health of the refugee population in Mwanze refugee camp is improved (*see separate report on refugee operation, available upon request from Regional Delegation*).

### **Progress against Expected Results:**

#### **1. Disaster Management (DM) policy and plan developed and operational by end of 2003.**

ZRCS is still developing its DM Policy and Plan. It is hoped that the draft policy document will be completed by the end of May.

#### **2. Customized disaster management training conducted for 200 staff and volunteers by end of 2003.**

To enhance the Society's human resources capacity, a training of staff and volunteers is scheduled to commence in May 2003. Three National Society staff members have also benefited from the VCA Training of Trainers facilitated by the Federation's Regional Delegation.

### **3. Improved disaster preparedness and response capacity and emergency funds and stocks available by end of 2004.**

Trained regional disaster response team members were used to monitor potential hazards, conduct assessments and provide situation reports to the ZRCS and the Regional Delegation. The ZRCS has noticeably increased its capacity in this area, and reporting about any potential hazards and assessment reports have been timely and of good quality.

In terms of emergency resources a proposal for fundraising has been drafted and circulated to various stakeholders to raise funds for the emergency fund and to purchase emergency stocks.

The Regional Delegation has also provided 50 family tents, chlorinating powder, 100 collapsible Jerry cans, three bales of blankets, and 25 large kitchen sets for replacement of emergency stocks used during the recent emergencies. This is a clear indicator that the Society's disaster management capacity is increasing.

### **4. ZRCS has identified sustainable food security initiatives and integrated them into other sector programmes in vulnerable districts by 2004.**

Sustainable food security initiatives are being discussed with various stakeholders involved in the current emergency food operations. Initiatives, which include, provision of vegetable seeds and tools, rain fed crop seeds and tools, fertilizers, income generating initiatives and training of farmers have already begun depending on individual community's needs.

#### **Impact:**

The programme activities have contributed to the National Society's response capacity, which in turn has helped to improve the lives of the vulnerable communities. Overall, the disaster management capacity of the National Society is progressing positively, evidenced by the use of early warning systems, early response, and timely and quality reports. This shows commitment from the National Society and is benefiting the targeted beneficiaries.

#### **Constraints**

The current emergencies caused by excessive rains and ensuing floods have had a negative impact on the implementation of planned activities such as the Society's pool of human resources have been diverted to responding to the emergency situations. It is hoped as emergencies subside, the planned activities will be achieved, as funding is available for the programme.

#### **Co-ordination**

The National Society co-operates with all relevant disaster management stakeholders such as the UNHCR, World Food Programme and government authorities.

#### **Organisational Development**

Support for the organisational development (OD) of the Zambia Red Cross Society (ZRCS) for the period 2003 and 2004 is being guided by the recovery plan and budget. Initial funding was obtained through the Federation's Capacity Building Fund, but considerably more resources will have to be accessed if the plan is to be effectively implemented. The OD support to the ZRCS is focused on legally based issues, capacity and performance. During the quarter under review, the National Society received both technical and financial support for governance election and governance orientation. Also, support for branch development, which has been provided since July of last year, is continuing. Recently, the finance and resource development OD officer visited the Society to identify areas requiring urgent support, and to outline a plan of action in relation to the recovery plan.

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

**Programme Objective:** Through Secretariat-supported technical guidance, the National Society has addressed many issues, from financial and administrative to separation between governance and management - and is clearly heading towards becoming a well-functioning national society.

**Progress against Expected Results:**

1. The ZRCS has increased its capacity to design and implement their strategic directions;
2. Established legal foundation that supports the effective implementation of programme;
3. Effective leadership and management in place;
4. Provincial structure to support branch development implemented;
5. Effective financial management systems put in place;
6. Increased financial resource base in both value and diversity.

The Society's constitution is currently being reviewed with support funds having been transferred to the National Society. It is hoped that by the end of the third quarter, the constitution will have been finalized. A new Governance board was recently elected in to office, and oriented giving ZRCS a new opportunity to become a well-functioning National Society. This was done with support from the Regional Delegation's Coordination and OD departments. The on-going branch development support, which has seen the resuscitation of provincial structures, is still going on with integration of Food Security and HIV/AIDS programmes utilizing volunteers from the branches. The issue of improving the financial management and resource base is already being discussed between the OD and responsible National Society staff on how to move forward. This is as a result of the recent meetings that were held by the OD officer and the ZRCS' management staff. Some of the key staff will attend the coming Resource Development workshop that will be held in Johannesburg at the end of April. This will assist the National Society with redefining its resource development base upon which further interaction between the National Society and OD can be planned.

**Impact:**

The recovery plan is progressing well with set objectives and targets being on course. This has resulted in a new Governance Board and new staff having been recruited to take up key positions. This indicates that the Society is moving towards becoming a well-functioning society, which will increase its capacity to be able to respond to the humanitarian needs in the country.

**Constraints:**

Some of the notable constraints, among others are the weak financial base to support the current staff complement that needs to help drive the recovery process.

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