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Disaster relief emergency fund (DREF)
Namibia: Floods

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF operation n° MDRNA007
GLIDE n° FL-2013-000028-NAM
16 March 2013

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) is a source of un-earmarked money created by the Federation in 1985 to ensure that immediate financial support is available for Red Cross and Red Crescent emergency response. The DREF is a vital part of the International Federation's disaster response system and increases the ability of National Societies to respond to disasters.

CHF 282,917 has been allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Namibia Red Cross Society (NRCS) in delivering immediate assistance to some **2,500 families (11,000 beneficiaries).** Un earmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged**.**

Homesteads surrounded by flood water. Photo: NRCS

Summary: Heavy rains and rising river levels in the Zambezi River catchment caused flooding in The Caprivi region, inundating community houses, infrastructures and crop fields.

According to the joint rapid assessment conducted by the government-led regional disaster risk management technical team (of which the Red Cross is a part of) in February, a total of 4,000 families (17,600 people), including 4,527 school children, were identified to be at risk of flooding if the situation continued to unfold. As of 11 March, up to 2,500 families (11,000 people) were identified as most vulnerable in the flood plains of Caprivi region and were evacuated to camps supported by the government. The joint assessment team identified sanitation, the increased risk of water borne diseases and shelter challenges as some of the immediate needs in these camps.

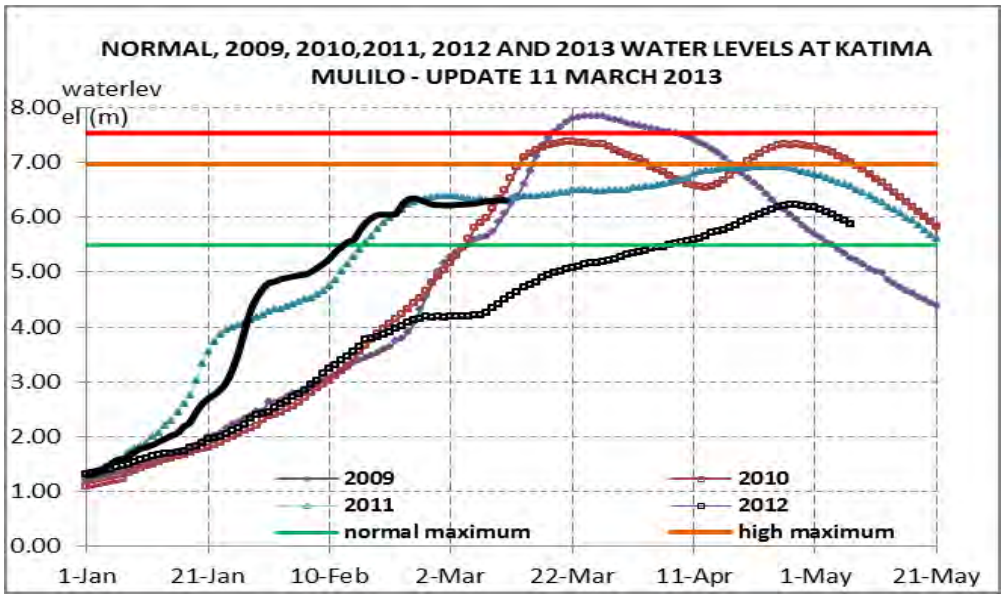
The DREF operation intends to respond to the immediate needs of the 2,500 families living in the camps, through the provision of water and sanitation, hygiene promotion, disease surveillance, emergency shelter materials and non-food items.

This operation is expected to be implemented over a period of four months, and will therefore be completed by 30 July 2013. The final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation by end October 2013. However, with the continued heavy rains to this day in the region, there still may be a need for the operation to be extended in scope and timeframe.

<click here for the DREF budget; here for contact details; here to view the map of the affected area>

The situation

Early January 2013 saw the increasing levels of the Zambezi river as a result of increased rainfall in the Zambezi river catchment area. The river's levels reached 6.31m on 11 March as compared to the 4.57m at the same time in 2012 and at normal levels of 4.21m. This level is the highest level reached by the Zambezi river on record this time of the year. The traditional peak period of the floods in this area is mid-March, as illustrated in the graph below.



As a result of the increased water levels, the subsequent floods caused damage to homes, roads, dams, fields and destroyed livestock and livelihoods, with the majority of the houses in the flood plains inundated. The road networks have been cut off, making it difficult for the communities to access essential services such as clinics. Some of these clinics were also inundated and had to be closed. Many families are left homeless after their houses were destroyed and damaged, with schools disrupted and used as temporary evacuation centres, in addition to available evacuation camps set up by the government

According to the findings of the rapid assessment report conducted by the Regional Disaster Risk Management Committee Technical Team (of which NRCS is part), approximately 4,000 families, including 4,527 children, have been impacted by the floods, with up to 2,500 families already evacuated to different relocation camps.

Since the onset of the floods, the Regional Disaster Risk Management Committee activated its contingency plans[1] and started evacuating the affected populations to demarcated relocation camps, while some moved in with host families. The number of households in the relocation centres is expected to rise as the evacuation teams continue to evacuate people. Meanwhile, the table below illustrates the total number of people housed in relocation centres/ camps as of 12 March:

Table 1 Total Population in relocation centres as of 12 March 2013

No	Flood Relocated Area	No of families/hh	Total no. of people affected
1	Kabbe Camp - Muzii	210	809
2	Lusese camp A	94	376
3	Mpunkano	34	136
4	Lusese camp C	34	136
5	Shuckmansberg	185	740
6	Impalila	165	660
7	Kasika Camp	161	644
8	Mbalasinte Camp	125	500

[1] The contingency plans include the deployment of the evacuation teams, water and sanitation teams as well as camp management and camp coordination teams.

9	Nakabolelwa Camp	147	588
10	Imukusi Camp	42	168
11	Itomba	182	728
12	Masikili	99	396
13	Sifuha	164	738
14	Kalundu	65	260
15	Isize	130	633
16	Nankuntwe	166	747
17	Kapolota	17	68
18	Lisikili Camp	99	396
19	Nfooma Camp	114	342
20	Kalimbeza Camp	120	360
21	Likunganelo camp	22	88
22	Ivilivinzi /Sionzo	53	212
	Sub-Total	**2,428**	**9,725**

These numbers are expected to have increased since.

The rapid assessments identified the need for immediate response to support sanitation in relocation camps, hygiene promotion and health education, provision of clean water, emergency shelter, as well as disease surveillance as there is a growing concern of possible outbreaks of water borne diseases due to contaminated water and around the provision of food, as the majority have lost their source of food (crops).

Based on the rapid assessment carried out, the number of families expected to be affected is estimated between 4,000 to 5000 families in the region, as the rain and evacuations continue. Of the total expected to be affected, NRCS is targeting to support 2,500 families (11,000 people) that have been identified as the most vulnerable in the region, to complement government efforts so far. Government support to the affected families to date includes the activation of evacuation centres, distribution of tents to 1,750 families, as well as food rations.

With the continued downpour, should the number of most vulnerable families increase to more than 2,500 based on assessments, the operation will be adjusted accordingly. To date, the evacuated populations are expected to be in the camps for up to five or six months, considering the current level of the Zambezi River and the fact that it continues to rise.

Coordination and partnerships

The overall coordination of the flood response rests with the Government's Office of the Prime Minister, through the Directorate of Disaster Risk Management and the National Disaster Risk Management Committee. The Namibia Red Cross Society is a member of the National Disaster Risk Management Committee, and attends committee meetings.

In the Caprivi region, the Regional Governor is coordinating the response at the local level. The regional governor is the chairperson of the Regional Disaster Risk Management Committee, of which NRCS is a member. The Committee conducted rapid assessments on 13 and 25 February, activated the regional contingency plans and facilitated coordination meetings.

The government, through the Directorate of Disaster Risk Management, provided food and tents to affected households. The planned NRCS response operations have been agreed with the Regional Disaster Risk Management Committee at the regional level and the Office of the Prime Minister to complement government efforts and avoid duplication while ensuring that key needs are addressed. Local partner national societies are updated regularly as the situation unfolds and are already in contact with their respective offices. Other actors in-country have not been responding as the floods have not yet been declared a national disaster.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Overall, NRCS capacity in emergency response has improved greatly. The National Society has responded swiftly and effectively through the mobilization of resources (people, funds and other assets) and used networking and coordination to respond to sanitation needs of communities that have permanently relocated to higher ground through the Zambezi River Basin Initiative (ZRBI). The trained volunteers respond to recurrent disasters and as such, have the necessary experience and skills to respond accordingly.

NRCS has at its disposal trained staff and volunteers in national disaster response teams (NDRTs). The NDRT members in the region participated in the rapid assessment and are involved in the response operation. With the support from the American Red Cross and the Spanish Red Cross, the National Society has established Community Disaster Risk Management Committees (CDRMC) which have been influential in the early action of the affected communities.

To date, NRCS has a pool of more than 5,000 volunteers country-wide that can be mobilised to respond to disasters. Although some trainings have been conducted to capacitate these volunteers there is still a need to increase the capacity of these volunteers in areas of water and sanitation, hygiene promotion and first aid, which is vital in disaster situations.

The National Society participated in the initial assessment and identified the needs of the situation in the Caprivi region. Rapid action has been undertaken to provide support to the community that have relocated. The National Society, through the ZRBI, also engaged the communities in the identification of higher ground and preparations of these areas as reception centres during disasters.

In the early days of the disaster, the National Society quickly deployed five volunteers and responded to the immediate needs of 110 vulnerable families with its prepositioned stock, which consisted of hygiene packs, water purification tablets, blankets, jerry cans and 220 soaps. With its stocks depleted, the National Society aims to provide immediate assistance to the remaining selected families with the support of DREF.

The needs

An estimated number of households of about 4,000 families have been identified to be at risk of floods in the flood plains of Caprivi region. Out of these, as of 12 March 2013, a total of 2,428 families have been relocated to higher ground and it is expected that this number will increase, however the NRCS is targeting to support 2,500 identified families as the most vulnerable. Evacuations continue in the region.

The flood affected families have an urgent need for food supplies, shelter, clean water, sanitation, and basic family items. The growing number of people in these relocation camps are challenged with limited sanitation facilities, and hygiene therefore continues to be a concern and a potential threat on health risks for the population.

The government initially responded to the floods with the distribution of food and tents for up to 1,250 families, through the regional council, leaving a gap of 750 vulnerable families who will be supported through the DREF with shelter materials (as there are no other humanitarian actors responding to disasters in Namibia). The needs for water and sanitation, shelter and hygiene and health education remains a challenge.

Beneficiary selection

The Regional Disaster Risk Management Committee, with support from the Village Development Committee, traditional authorities, Community Risk Management Committees and the volunteers participated in the rapid assessment and hence assisted in the identification of the population at risk.

The selected 2,500 families are from the flood plains in the Kabbe constituency who have lost their homesteads and most of their valuables due to floods. Their livelihoods were completely inundated.

Specifically, NRCS aims to identify and prioritize support to the elderly, women-headed households, child-headed households, disabled people, people living with HIV, tuberculosis patients and single-parent headed households. Volunteers and traditional authorities within the locality have been consulted in this process. The National Society also aims to assist families who do not have any means to obtain shelter.

The beneficiary selection is verified at different levels to avoid double counting.

The proposed operation

The National Society aims to assist 2,500 families (approximately 11,000 people) affected by the floods. The focus of these response operation will be relief distribution of non-food items, shelter, water and sanitation, and emergency health.

- Procurement of relief items – 5,000 blankets, 5,000 mosquito nets 1,500 tarpaulins, 300,000 water makers, 2,500 jerry cans, 2,500 hygiene parcels and 20,000 soaps.
- Refresher training for 70 volunteers on hygiene promotion and health education and proper utilization of mosquito nets.
- Hygiene promotion sessions in the camps by the volunteers (which is crucial to prevent further water borne disease outbreaks).
- Construction of 120 latrines and 120 bathing shelters at the planned relocation camps, to complement limited number of latrines and bathing shelters already present at camp sites.
- Deployment of national disaster response team trained staff to the affected regions.
- Technical support from headquarters to the staff and disaster response structures in the affected regions

A total 70 volunteers will be engaged to conduct hygiene and health education in the relocation camps. Refresher trainings on PHAST methodologies, first aid training and disease surveillance will be conducted to enhance the skills level of the volunteers in the camps.

During the course of the operations, NRCS's restoring family links volunteers will be deployed to the camps in case there is a need to tracing services required as it has been the case of displaced minors and unaccompanied minors and adults.

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

Outcome: The risk of waterborne and water related diseases is reduced through the provision of safe water, adequate sanitation as well as hygiene promotion to 2,500 families in the Caprivi Region for four months.	
Expected results	**Activities planned**
• The 2,500 families have access to clean water, soap and knowledge • Appropriate sanitation, including excreta disposal, solid waste disposal and drainage, is provided to 2,500 families for four months. • The health status of the population is improved through hygiene promotion activities and behaviour change.	• Distribute water purification sachets to 2,500 households (30 sachets per household per month for 4 months). • Distribute 1 20-litre jerry can and 8 soaps/ 4 months to each of the 2,500 families • Assist with construction of 120 temporary latrines and bathing shelters with community members • Train community members on use of water treatment chemicals. • Conducting hygiene and health promotion campaign within the affected population focusing on behaviour change. • Provide information, education and communication (IEC) material on hygiene promotion (printed materials (posters, flyers, etc.), manuals, educational materials, etc.).These materials are available and already been utilised in the relocation camps.

Emergency shelter and non-food items

Outcome: The vulnerability of 2,500 flood-affected families is reduced through the provision of basic household and emergency shelter items.	
Output (Expected results)	**Activities planned**
The targeted 750 displaced families who did not receive government-distributed tents are provided with shelter materials such as tarpaulins and plastic sheeting and technical support Up to 2,500 families receive non-food items including mosquito nets and blankets according to assessment and selection criteria	• Select and train volunteers • Identify and register beneficiaries • Distribute 2 each of mosquito nets and blankets to the targeted beneficiaries • Provide sheltering materials, such as tarpaulins, tools, fixings and timber to targeted beneficiaries depending the identified needs and selection criteria • Train volunteers to provide technical assistance to the beneficiaries with the construction of temporary shelters • Monitor, evaluate and report on the sheltering activities and findings.

Emergency health

Outcome: : Reduce health risks, morbidity and mortality as a result of the emergency on the affected population through the provision of health promotion, preventive, community-level and PHC services to families in affected regions for four months.	
Output (Expected results)	**Activities planned**
• Reduction of mortality and morbidity of beneficiaries as a result of floods are prevented and health services are supported through a primary health care oriented programme. • The scope and quality of the NS involved in health and care services are improved.	• Train up to 70 community-based volunteers on health promotion as well as proper utilization of mosquito nets. • Sustain health promotion campaigns within the affected population focusing on malaria and water-borne diseases, targeting 2,500 families in affected areas. • Support and provide printed and other materials to be used in the health promotion campaign (such as posters, flyers, manuals, educational materials, etc.). • Train 50 community-based volunteers on health and hygiene promotion using epidemic vector control (ECV) and participatory hygiene and sanitation transformation (PHAST) in emergencies methodology to assist in responding to the issues surrounding emergency and ensuring that prevention is emphasized to minimize disease outbreaks through proactive health education in affected communities and also strengthening quick referrals.

Logistics

Outcome: Non-food items are delivered to affected families in a timely and effective manner.	
Output (Expected results)	**Activities planned**
• Relief items are procured and delivered timely, properly stored and distributed	• Procure and distribute relief stocks and controlling supply movements to end user in accordance with IFRC procurement standards • Monitor and evaluate relief activities and reporting on the relief distributions • Facilitate appropriate warehousing and transportation to distribution points

Communications –Advocacy and Public information

Outcome: Regular credible and reliable information to the public is provided	
Output (Expected results)	**Activities planned**
• A steady flow of timely	• Conduct awareness campaigns through print and electronic

and accurate information between field and other stakeholders is maintained.	media • Support field staff in producing regular field updates for sharing with stakeholders • Ensure the visibility of the Red Cross in response operations • Collect visual materials of the operation and case studies. • Organize at least one media tour to the operation area • Advocate for development of risk reduction policies and legal framework to ensure community resilience.

Monitoring and evaluation

NRCS will have the overall implementation and management of the DREF operation. Monitoring will be based on the planned operation and Disaster Management Manager will be responsible for overseeing this DREF operation, ensuring that due compliance is observed and the financial and narrative reports are produced on time with support from the PMER.

The IFRC regional office will monitor the operation, and support in evaluating the intervention, with a lessons learned workshop planned at the end of the operation. A Final financial and narrative report will be posted based on the final reports submitted from the National Society.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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Click here

1. **DREF budget and map below**
2. **Click here to return to the title page**

How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) in Disaster Relief and the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (Sphere) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.

DREF OPERATION

15/03/2013

MDRNA007 Namibia Floods

Budget Group	DREF Grant Budget CHF
Shelter - Relief	38,400
Shelter - Transitional	
Construction - Housing	
Construction - Facilities	
Construction - Materials	
Clothing & Textiles	59,050
Food	
Seeds & Plants	
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	33,000
Medical & First Aid	1,050
Teaching Materials	3,800
Utensils & Tools	11,550
Other Supplies & Services	33,800
Cash Disbursements	
Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES	**180,650**
Land & Buildings	
Vehicles	
Computer & Telecom Equipment	
Office/Household Furniture & Equipment	
Medical Equipment	
Other Machinery & Equipment	
Total LAND, VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT	**0**
Storage, Warehousing	7,200
Distribution & Monitoring	
Transport & Vehicle Costs	23,000
Logistics Services	
Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	**30,200**
International Staff	
National Staff	
National Society Staff	31,600
Volunteers	
Total PERSONNEL	**31,600**
Consultants	
Professional Fees	
Total CONSULTANTS & PROFESSIONAL FEES	**0**
Workshops & Training	5,000
Total WORKSHOP & TRAINING	**5,000**
Travel	6,200
Information & Public Relations	6,700
Office Costs	900
Communications	2,900
Financial Charges	1,500
Other General Expenses	
Shared Office and Services Costs	
Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES	**18,200**
Partner National Societies	
Other Partners (NGOs, UN, other)	
Total TRANSFER TO PARTNERS	**0**
Programme and Services Support Recovery	17,267
Total INDIRECT COSTS	**17,267**
TOTAL BUDGET	**282,917**

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

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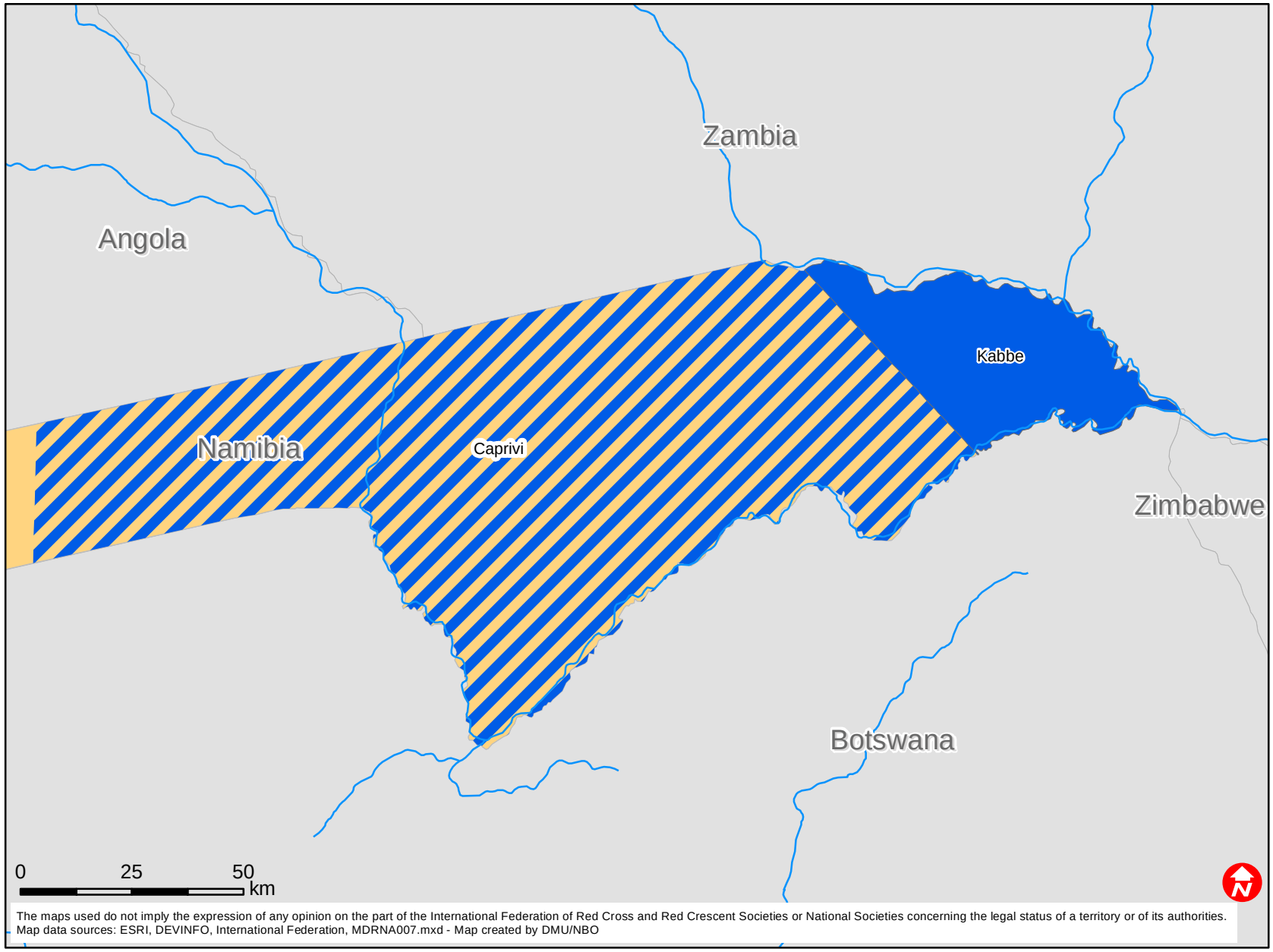
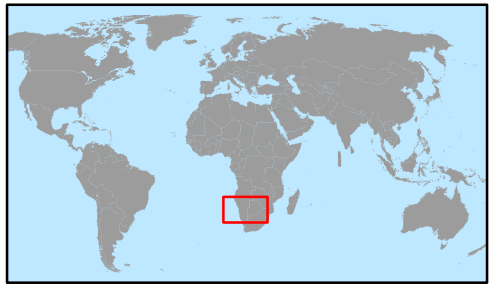
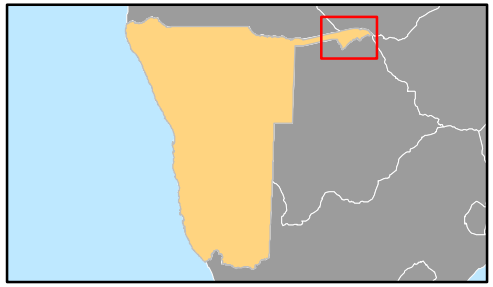
Namibia: Floods







Most affected constituency
Affected province

The maps used do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies or National Societies concerning the legal status of a territory or of its authorities.
Map data sources: ESRI, DEVINFO, International Federation, MDRNA007.mxd - Map created by DMU/NBO