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Disaster relief emergency fund (DREF) Zimbabwe: Floods

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF operation n° MDRZW007
GLIDE n° FL-2013-000011-ZWE
7 February 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 266,514 is being requested from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Zimbabwe Red Cross National Society (ZRCNS) in delivering immediate assistance to some 3,500 beneficiaries (700 households). Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

Summary: Continuous heavy rains across the country have caused flooding, resulting in large scale destruction. The Limpopo and Bubi rivers are overflowing, forcing the Beitbridge border to close, a phenomenon last seen in 1972. The six provinces of Matebeleland South, Matebeleland North, Midlands, Masvingo, Mashonaland Central and Manicaland have been worst affected by the storms and flooding.

Many families had their homes destroyed, leaving them homeless, and their belongings and livelihoods washed away. To date, 125 persons have died in the floods and storms and 9,700 persons have been affected with over 5,910 people requiring urgent humanitarian assistance.

This DREF operation will provide 700 displaced families (3,500 people) with temporary shelter and basic household items. ZRCNS will also provide emergency health, water and sanitation and hygiene, thereby reducing health risks for affected families.

As part of preparedness for the flooding season, ZRCNS is working with Department of Civil Protection (DCP), United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) and other humanitarian partners to raise awareness in flood prone areas for early evacuation and relocation to high grounds.

This operation is expected to be implemented over three months, and will therefore be completed by 7 May 2013; a Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation (by 7 August 2013).

[<click here for the DREF budget; or here for the contact details>](#)



ZRCNS Staff distributing NFIs to an affected household in Tsholotsho. Photo/ ZRCNS

The situation

Since the first week of January 2013, heavy rains have caused flooding across most parts of the country. The six provinces of Matebeleland South, Matebeleland North, Midlands, Masvingo, Mashonaland Central and Manicaland have been most severely affected. The ZRCS has received reports of the flooding disaster with varying degrees of damage to infrastructure, crops, livestock, shelter and loss of lives as well as destruction to schools, clinics, bridges and roads. Many families had their homes destroyed leaving them homeless (most houses were made of untreated wood and clay), with belongings and livelihoods washed away.

The assessment carried out by ZRCS, verified in reports from OCHA and Directorate of Civil Protection (DCP)¹ have estimated that over 125 people have died in the storms and floods and 9,700 people have been affected. Over 5,910 people are requiring urgent humanitarian assistance in the form of emergency shelter and basic relief assistance. Many of those affected people are also grieving the loss of their loved ones in the flooding disaster.

The rains and the floods have started to subside but the devastation is evident and there are growing concerns on health, hygiene and sanitation risks in the flood aftermath. There are concerns of a looming food shortage in the backdrop of the destroyed field crops and lost livelihoods sources within the affected communities.

Preparedness needs to be further bolstered as there are strong indications of more rainfall in February, normally being the peak of the flood season. Information gathered so far points towards a very serious situation and the need for swift response to prevent further loss of life and to manage the risk factors arising from the disaster.

Coordination and partnerships

There has been increased coordination of relief efforts by all agencies in most affected areas. At national level, the National Civil Protection Committee (NCPC) has been coordinating response efforts as part of their mandate and the ZRCS has been actively involved. The ZRCS has attended meetings which were platforms for information sharing and coordination. The NCPC have requested ZRCS to provide emergency relief items to the most affected households.

The ZRCS also participates in Humanitarian Cluster coordination meetings with United Nations Agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOS), and other humanitarian actors to gauge the level of preparedness, availability of emergency stocks as well as facilitating information flow to enable a coordinated response. While some NGOs have been more focused on field assessment, other agencies are looking at mobilizing resources through Emergency Relief Funds for the health and WatSan sectors. There hasn't been a geographical division of responsibilities as most agencies are still looking at their responses in the short term. International Organization for Migration (IOM) and Christian Care have been responding to shelter needs and provided NFIs.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) assessments have been carried out by MSF, Mercy Corps and World Vision and are planning to respond in Manicaland and Matebeleland North Province.

There is a close cooperation and division of responsibilities. For example, when ZRCS has provided temporary shelter for some vulnerable families, the Directorate of Civil Protection Unit (DCPU) has been providing transportation of the material. In Chikwarakwara, Matebeleland South, the DCPU managed to airlift marooned villagers using a Zimbabwe Defence Forces helicopter while ZRCS provided emergency shelter, blankets and kitchen utensils.

The Government has been providing assistance of USD100 to the most affected households through the NCPC and coordinating all agencies through the same platform. The Department of Epidemiology and Disease Control has held a coordination meeting on preparedness for health related impacts from floods. The meeting agreed to conduct mapping for areas at risk of waterborne diseases and carry out an audit of available strategic stocks (IV fluids, drugs). Health facilities infrastructure has not been affected by the floods and will continue to provide treatment and referral services including supporting the health promotional services proposed in the operation.

¹ DCP is a government body with the mandate to coordinate humanitarian responses in disasters

The ZRCS has constantly been updating the Federation on all the developments on the ground and this has enabled the Federation to expedite mobilization of critical resources when needed, enabling, for example, the initial situation and needs assessment.

The Partner National Societies (PNSs) active in the country includes Norwegian Red Cross, Finnish Red Cross, American Red Cross, and the Netherlands Red Cross. They are involved in programmes including Community Based Health and First Aid in Action, and Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction. Through the trained volunteers in the areas affected, the National Society has had more presence and has been able to get information very quickly enabling a quick response with the available resources. In country PNS (Norwegian and Finnish RC and ICRC) meet monthly for a Movement coordination meeting to discuss in country operations (development and emergencies) and support of the host National Society.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The ZRCS has been closely monitoring the threats of the flood since the start of the rainy season. As soon as the situation reached unprecedented levels, the ZRCS swiftly activated action teams in the affected districts to work with the provincial and district officers of the ZRCS.

Action focused on assessing the nature and extent of the flood situation. Many of the affected areas were not accessible for rapid assessment since the areas were still flooded, making it difficult for vehicles to travel. This has resulted in limited information. The assessment teams had to rely to some extent on interviews with community members from the affected area. Further assessments need to be conducted to determine the exact needs and to quantify the damages caused by floods.

The ZRCS has to date managed to distribute relief assistance to some of the affected families and position its emergency stocks nearer to affected areas. The ZRCS has so far distributed 152 family tents, 100 blankets, 100 buckets and 10 kitchen sets to affected populations. The ZRCS needs more resources to be able to respond to further needs of the affected population.

The IFRC has provided technical assistance to ZRCS in planning for the operation, as well as resources to carry out the situation and needs assessment. ZRCS, with the support of IFRC, is currently implementing a Food Security Emergency Appeal targeting 2,000 households in Nkayi district of Matebeleland North. The district is listed as one the flood prone areas however the current floods have not affected the district, but have affected Tsholotsho a district in the same province.

ZRCS is carrying out Restoring Family Links (RFL) activities in the country and is on hand to provide the service if need arises, with support from the ICRC tracing department.

The PNSs have supported ZRCS with training of volunteers in Community Based Health and First Aid (CBHFA), which has contributed to increase the capacity of ZRCS staff and volunteers to carry out community-based health programmes. Norwegian Red Cross provided training for volunteers in Gokwe, Tsholotsho and Manicaland. Finnish Red Cross trained volunteers in Muzarabani. American Red Cross trained volunteers in Binga, while Netherlands Red Cross provided capacity building support in Beitbridge to respond to emergencies.

The needs

The information from other agencies and the ZRCS rapid needs assessments have been valuable sources of information on the needs of the affected population. ZRCS plans to support the 700 of the most vulnerable households, which have not received any support from government agencies and other humanitarian actors in the country.

To date, 9,700 persons, mainly from the six provinces of Matebeleland South, Matebeleland North, Midlands, Masvingo, Mashonaland Central and Manicaland, have been affected by the floods and storms. Out of these, over 5,910 persons need urgent humanitarian assistance. The National Society interventions are focussed in these 6 provinces to cater for temporary shelter and basic relief items needs of the affected.

The affected population is currently at heightened risk of diseases outbreaks, due to contaminated water sources and lack of proper sanitation facilities. Additionally, food shortages remain a concern for the immediate and longer term. WFP is also working on the ground with partners to coordinate requests for food assistance, some of which is being provided through the regular Seasonal Targeted Assistance programme as some locations that have been affected are already beneficiaries of food assistance.

While the rapid and initial assessment has been valuable, given that some areas are not accessible due to the flooding, the exact nature and quantity of needs are difficult to determine at this stage, and may change as the situation evolves. The list below indicates the relief needs of the communities established so far through the ZRCS assessment findings and UNOCHA reports.

- Temporary shelter
- Cooking utensils
- Clothing
- Blankets
- Hygiene Kits (including sanitary kits)

Table 1: Summary of the needs in the affected areas and other actor's implementing activities

Province	District	No. affected Beneficiaries households	Other Actors
Matabeleland South	Beitbridge	95	IOM distributed tarpaulins and NFIs to 18 hh MSF WATSAN assessment
Matabeleland North	Tsholotsho	67	No reports of other actors, CPU – Air Force evacuations in Binga World Vision and MSF responding to WASH needs
	Binga	15	
Masvingo	Chivi, Zaka, Bikita, Chiredzi	35	CPU - Chivi USD100 per HH IOM full NFI pack other partners including ZRCS provided tents, buckets and blankets
		24	
		283	
Midlands	Gokwe North	25	IOM – Tarpaulins CPU – Air Force evacuations Christian Care assisted 20households with NFIs
Manicaland	Chipinge, Nyanga, Mutare	50	CPU – Air Force evacuations in Nyanga Mercy Corps conducted a WASH assessment.
		30	
Mashonaland Central	Mt. Darwin, Mbire, Muzarabani	76	No reports of other actors
Total		700 HH	

Beneficiary selection:

ZRCS will target 700 displaced families (3,500 people) with temporary shelter and relief support. The families come from the six most severely affected provinces. Other players such as IOM, Christian Care, Care, World Vision and MSF are providing are responding to shelter and NFI needs. The assistance is being coordinated by the Directorate Civil Protection Unit and UNOCHA so that there is no duplication of effort.

ZRCS will prioritise the most vulnerable population groups. These include elderly, persons with disabilities, orphans, women and child headed households, families with sick family members (including HIV/AIDs) and very poor households. Emergency shelter distribution shall also consider gender and diversity disaggregation of the affected communities especially in areas such as Tongogara refugee camp, which houses 8,000 refugees with varying sizes of households.

Special needs for affected communities will be reassessed as we engage in the immediate intervention. Most of the beneficiaries are in their local communities but have relocated to higher ground. Schools and public buildings have been used as temporary settlements in areas which were severely affected, such as in Beitbridge district.

The proposed operation

This DREF operation intends to focus on provision of emergency relief material. This includes temporary shelter and basic non food items (NFI) to 700 households (3,500 persons). It will also look at replenishment of stocks already utilized and support for further assessment as part of preparedness activities in the event of a likelihood of more floods since we have not reached the peak rainfall season which is usually February to April.

The DREF operation will include the following components:

- 1) Temporary shelter to 700 displaced families; shelter kits will be provided to the families which includes family tents, tarpaulins, and shelter tool kits. Zimbabwe is split into five agricultural regions and distribution of tents and tarpaulins will be considered according to these regions. Family tents will be mainly used where vegetation cover is low in order to save on cutting down trees to build shelters.
- 2) Relief items in terms of basic household items will be distributed to 700 displaced and most vulnerable families. Items to be distributed include kitchen sets, blankets, and hygiene kits (which include soap, Vaseline, toothpaste, and sanitary pads for women).
- 3) The emergency health activities will focus on awareness raising of the 700 families related to health risks in flooding situations and waterborne/related diseases and diseases, such as cholera and malaria. Awareness raising on other communicable diseases such as HIV/AIDS will be conducted during distributions.
- 4) Water, sanitation and hygiene activities will focus on provision of clean water (distribution of water purification products combined with training for households) and improving sanitation conditions through providing pit latrines. Additionally, hygiene promotion through awareness raising campaigns² will be carried out. Water containers (jerry cans and buckets) will be distributed to the households.

The operation will make use of trained CBHFA volunteers in most of the affected areas to carry out awareness raising activities to prevent the risk of waterborne and water related diseases. The National Society currently has over 1,200 volunteer trained in CBHFA and CBDRR who are First Aid certified in the affected areas. The volunteers will be mobilized according to need in the areas that they come from.

The ZRCS shall not concentrate on food relief as other agencies such as WFP are managing this intervention. WFP has been running programmes with other agencies in the affected districts and would be better suited to provide the necessary assistance.

Temporary shelter and Relief distributions (basic non-food items)	
Outcome: Living conditions for 3,500 people (700 households) whose houses were completely or partially damaged by the floods is improved.	
Outputs	Activities planned
700 families have been provided with temporary shelter and basic household items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct rapid emergency needs and capacity assessments in the six affected provinces. • Develop beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system to deliver intended assistance. • Distribute 575 shelter kits and assist beneficiaries to construct temporary shelters • Train 60 volunteer in shelter and relief activities (include distribution, erecting shelters and monitoring) • Procure and distribute non food items for 700 families. (Each family will receive 2 blankets,1 kitchen set, 1 hygiene kit) • Distribute 175 family tents and replenish those already distributed. • Control supply movements from point of dispatch to end user • Develop an exit strategy • Monitor and evaluate the relief activities and provide reporting on relief distributions.

Emergency health	
Outcome: Waterborne and communicable diseases have been reduced through increased awareness on health risks related to flooding situations among 700 families (3,500 people).	
Outputs	Activities planned
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 700 flood affected families are aware of water borne/related health risks including cholera and malaria and how to prevent these. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct CBHFA refresher training focusing on epidemic control and PHHE in flood situation to 30 volunteers³ • Awareness raising of 700 flood affected families how to reduce risks for diseases such as cholera and malaria

² Campaigns will be done during distribution of relief items and also through formation of community health clubs.

³ The volunteers being trained under Emergency Health will also receive refresher training on PHHE/PHAST in emergencies in order to carry out a consolidated health and hygiene promotion package to communities.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 700 flood affected families are using ITNs correctly. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procure and distribute insecticide treated mosquito nets (ITNs) for 700 families (two ITNs per family) • Monitor and evaluate emergency health activities
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Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

<p>Outcome: Improve health and restore dignity by provision of adequate safe water, sanitation, hygiene promotion interventions to 700 households (or 3,500 beneficiaries) in the affected areas in the 6 provinces</p>	
<p>Outputs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 700 households have access to clean water • 700 households reached by hygiene promotion activities • 700 households with improved sanitary conditions. 	<p>Activities planned</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess the water and sanitation needs of the affected population • Support the construction of 200 pit latrines. • Conducting hygiene promotion to 700 families (3,500 persons) in the six provinces using the Participatory Health and Hygiene Education (PHHE/PHAST in emergencies methodology) • Distribute and train households on use of water treatment products (37,800 chlorination tablets and 50,400 Chloro-Floc sachets) to 700 households (2 sachets/household/day) • Procure and distribute one bucket and one jerry can per family for 700 families • Monitor and evaluate WatSan and hygiene activities

Communications – Advocacy and Public information

Maintaining a steady flow of timely and accurate information between the field and other major stakeholders is vital for fundraising, advocacy and maintaining the profile of emergency operations. During an operation, communications between affected populations and the Red Cross and Red Crescent, as well as with the media and donors, is an essential mechanism for effective disaster response and the cornerstone to promote greater quality, accountability and transparency. The communications activities outlined in this operation are aimed at supporting the National Society to improve their communications capacities and develop appropriate communication tools and products to support effective operations.

The Zimbabwe Red Cross is currently in the midst of implementing activities connected to an IFRC Food Security Emergency Appeal (MDRZM006). Communication material gathered through this DREF could be linked to a communications campaign to be launched in the coming weeks which focuses on food insecurity in the region.

It is critical for communications support to be provided during the response phase, as it will establish Red Cross Red Crescent role as being at the forefront of operations and provide media outlets with a source for video/photos etc.

Communications- Advocacy and Public Information

<p>Outcome: The profile and position of the host National Society and the IFRC are enhanced, leading to increased availability of funds and other resources to support this and future emergency operations.</p>	
<p>Outputs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communications products are made available to media and stakeholders. 	<p>Activities planned</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • News releases, fact sheets, photographs/video and interviews with qualified spokespeople are developed and made available to media and key stakeholders. • Direct outreach will be coordinated with the Host National Society and conducted with National and International media. • The launch of this DREF will be supported with people-centred, community level diverse content, including web-stories, video footage and photos will be posted to ifrc.org and shared with other global humanitarian web portals and international media • An IFRC communications officer will be deployed immediately to the affected region, coordinating the gathering and dissemination of communication materials, liaising with and supporting the Host National Society

Logistics

Outcome: Emergency relief NFIs are transported to the affected areas	
Outputs	Activities planned
Effective logistical support has enabled rapid assistance to targeted beneficiaries.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Procurement of non food items for relief, emergency health and WatSan activities• Transporting and prepositioning of response material.• Control supply movements from point of dispatch to end user.• Transportation of staff and volunteers to the affected areas

Procurement

Procurements will be done both locally and regionally following the IFRC procurement procedures. The NS has a DM truck which will be utilised to ferry goods to the beneficiaries. Any other hiring support is provided for in the budget in terms of trucking goods. Priority will be given to in country stock held in the NS and Regional stocks held by the National Society warehouses.

Operational Structure

The operation will be carried out through the existing human resource structures within IFRC regional office, country office and ZRCS.

ZRCS – Field level the activities will be implemented by a team of volunteers supervised by the disaster management officers and provincial programme officers based at the headquarters and provincial level respectively. At national level the disaster management manager will coordinate the technical inputs from various sectors to ensure an effective response.

IFRC – The country representative will coordinate with Movement partners and other humanitarian actors including information sharing. The finance, administration, logistics and programme will provide technical and field level support to implement the operation.

Monitoring and evaluation

During the monitoring of the intervention will be at all levels, district, provincial and National. The NS has PMER unit which can be deployed to monitor the intervention with coordinating team from ZRCS NS HQ and IFRC country office.

ZRCS and IFRC country office will actively participate in continuous assessment of the flood situation in the country over the rainy season. Coordination with UNOCHA, state and non state actors will enable the NS to have updated information for timely response based on changing needs.

Based on previous experience, the National Society has developed tools that will assist in beneficiary identification, tracking and reporting of items distributed. Monthly reports will be generated at headquarters level based on the implementation of activities in the field. These reports will be sent to IFRC country office and will feed into the operational updates and final report.

IFRC will conduct joint monitoring visits to the area of operation to assess the effectiveness of the operation.

IFRC will coordinate with National Society and the Regional Office in the compilation and posting of operation updates. IFRC will also coordinate information sharing with in country Red Cross Red Crescent partners under the Movement coordination meeting.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation, please contact:

- **Zimbabwe Red Cross Society:** Lucky Goteka, Acting Secretary General; phone: +263.4.332638; +263.4.332197; email: luckyg@redcrosszim.org.zw
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For Resource Mobilization and Pledges:

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For Performance and Accountability (planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting):

- **IFRC Africa Zone:** Robert Ondrusek, PMER/QA Delegate for Africa; Nairobi; phone: +254 731 067277; email: robert.ondrusek@ifrc.org

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 (NGOs) 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.

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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.
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DREF OPERATION

07-02-13

MDRZW007

Zimbabwe Flood Budget

Budget Group	DREF Grant Budget CHF
Shelter - Relief	88,875
Clothing & Textiles	25,550
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	41,600
Teaching Materials	1,000
Utensils & Tools	18,550
Other Supplies & Services	7,000
Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES	182,575
Storage, Warehousing	1,500
Distribution & Monitoring	6,938
Transport & Vehicle Costs	18,265
Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	26,703
National Staff	2,550
National Society Staff	14,370
Volunteers	6,950
Total PERSONNEL	23,870
Workshops & Training	4,200
Total WORKSHOP & TRAINING	4,200
Travel	10,000
Information & Public Relations	350
Office Costs	750
Communications	1,050
Financial Charges	750
Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES	12,900
Programme and Services Support Recovery	16,266
Total INDIRECT COSTS	16,266
TOTAL BUDGET	266,514