

Mozambique, Botswana, Swaziland, Zimbabwe: *Floods Rehabilitation* 27 April, 2000

*appeal no. 04/2000(revision no. 3)
situation report no. 9
period covered: 1 - 24 April*

Revision No. 3 of Appeal 04/2000 consolidated the relief and rehabilitation phases of the operation, and sought CHF 19,470,41 in cash, kind, and services to assist 140,600 direct beneficiaries and 225,000 indirect beneficiaries for a period of 12 months. The total appeal budget is therefore increased to CHF 29,964,273, with the programme implementation time-frame extended from December, 2000 to March, 2001.

Mozambique, one of the world's poorest countries, has neither the reserves nor the resources to cope with effects of the floods. Substantial and longer term international support is urgently needed to overcome the recent disaster. In the absence of forthcoming support, the potential for continued development will be severely hampered. To facilitate the Red Cross and Red Crescent action, on Friday, April 28, 2000, the International Federation will host a Mozambique Red Cross Partnership Meeting. More specifically, the objective is to review the floods operations in Mozambique, present and discuss the Mozambique Rehabilitation programme, and discuss the co-ordination mechanism and strategy and future action plan for Mozambique.

In Zimbabwe, the Federation's support to the Zimbabwe Red Cross Society (ZRCS) flood relief and assistance operation has been constrained by logistical and fuel issues, and is likely to be further affected by the continued occupation of commercial farms and approaching elections which have heightened security concerns and provoked some instability. Despite the constraints and uncertainty, the Federation's assistance efforts have proved successful, but continued support to the relief and rehabilitation assistance programmes in favour of the intended beneficiaries is essential.

The context

Cyclones Connie and Eline hit south-eastern Africa on 4-7 and 22-23 February respectively, producing heavy rains and strong winds throughout the region, causing overflowing rivers and pressure on dams,

and resulting in widespread flooding in large areas of Mozambique, Swaziland, Botswana, Malawi, Zimbabwe, and South Africa. Latest figures reflect over 1,000 casualties from the cyclones and resulting floods, with more than two million people estimated to have been affected throughout the region. Main road and rail lines were severed, with widespread damage to other infrastructure, boreholes, wells, and piped water systems. Cultivated land was destroyed, causing fears that severe food shortages will occur in the longer term. In each of the affected countries, the Federation has coordinated the relief response with the respective National Societies, as well as with UN agencies and NGOs.

The International Federation's first priority in the affected countries focused on rescuing marooned people, then providing basic relief assistance. To respond to the disaster and to support the Mozambican Red Cross Society (MRCS or CVM) and the Botswana Red Cross (BRC), the Federation launched an appeal on February 11, and later extended it to Swaziland and Zimbabwe following an expansion of the affected area.

Initially, many of the flooded areas were difficult to reach, with air lifting of food and other required items the only viable way to reach victims. Health interventions focused on the danger of outbreaks cholera and malaria, as well as other water-borne diseases.

In Mozambique, the flooding has dislodged mines, increasing the danger to displaced and returning populations. As a result, de-mined areas may now be unsafe again, and dedicated mine awareness campaigns have been initiated and reinforced.

Responding to the immediate emergency needs provoked by flooding in Mozambique and Botswana, the International Federation launched Appeal 04/2000 on 11 February 2000 for CHF 2,800,000. In view of the evolving nature of the disaster, the appeal was revised on 25 February, 2000 with a particular focus on Swaziland, and reflecting a revised total budget of CHF 4,667,312. With the situation in the region continuing to worsen, the Federation adjusted to the operational needs by issuing revision no. 2 (including Zimbabwe) on 2 March, 2000, reflecting a total revised budget of CHF 11,346,464.

Based on a series of assessments, the Appeal revision no. 3 presented the rehabilitation needs in the four countries affected. The regional and country-specific capacity building components of the emergency appeal are complementary to the more detailed strategies presented in the Federation's Appeal 2000-2001; *Building Capacities to Serve the Community*.

Latest events

Mozambique •

While further damage was expected from Cyclone Hudah on 5 April, it was relatively confined with limited displacement of people and loss of crops. An assessment mission to the area concluded that agencies would be able to meet additional shelter needs within the existing relief and rehabilitation programme. Improved weather conditions facilitated the return home of many of the people displaced by the floods. The largest accommodation centre during the floods in Chaguelane (which had accommodated 85,000 persons at the peak of the emergency), for instance, witnessed the departure of more than half of the internally displaced people (IDPs).

While the emergency phase is almost completely over, the needs remain considerable. However, the risk of major epidemics, especially related to the contamination of drinking water sources, remains very real. In fact, with people returning to their areas of origin where safe water sources are often not available, the risk of disease is increasing. Food security remains weak as large surfaces of land can still not be cultivated. Income of many people have been dramatically affected as market mechanisms, especially at the community level, are thoroughly disrupted.

Efforts to replace the logistical airlift capacity by trucking continue as road access improves. However, supplies can still often only be ferried by small boats as the river channels remain heavily silted. The identification of remaining pockets of food and non-food needs throughout Manica, Sofala and

Inhambane Provinces has taken place. OCHA has co-ordinated an accessibility survey which has resulted in a more rationalised use of air lift capacity.

While completing relief distributions, the focus of the recent post-emergency effort has been on the delivery and distribution of seed and tool kits to areas in which planting is possible. The Red Cross has achieved its initial goal of distributing seeds to areas in which soil conditions are appropriate for planting.

Zimbabwe •

In Zimbabwe, reduced rains have allowed access to most areas resulting in an overall improvement in the situation. However, road access to Chiredzi district of Masvingo Province remains difficult, and helicopters have been used to deliver the food which had been stocked in class rooms awaiting delivery. Chipinge and Chimanimani districts of Manicaland Province are also now accessible. The fuel availability situation has also improved, with less waiting at fuel filling stations. The Government took the decision to down-scale Independence Day celebrations on 18 April in order to devote limited resources on floods victims.

Malawi •

A second round of floods at the end of March caused the situation to deteriorate, with reports of a much higher number of people affected. Based on an assessment carried out in Malawi (with support provided by the Federation's Regional Delegation in Harare), 20,000 beneficiaries are being assisted in Nsjanje, Chikwawa, Nkothakota and Karonga Districts. Assistance in the form of food and agricultural input (seeds and tools) and the provision of shelter are the immediate priorities, as well as interventions to combat malaria and water borne diseases. The household food security situation will also be monitored. A consignment of water purification tablets, tarpaulins, and blankets sent from Harare arrived in Blantyre and was distributed to the intended beneficiaries.

Red Cross/Red Crescent action

In Mozambique and Zimbabwe relief distributions have been completed and post-emergency and rehabilitation activities initiated.

Mozambique •

The Red Cross continues its assistance activities in the areas of water and sanitation, health, and relief.

The MRCS has conducted a 2 day planning meeting attended by secretaries of the 11 Provinces, the Secretary General, other MRCS representatives, the Federation, and representatives of various Participating National Societies. The main purpose was to discuss upcoming needs and priority areas for the reinstallation and rehabilitation campaigns outlined in the Appeal.

Maputo City, Maputo Province and Gaza Provinces

Post emergency relief distributions were completed to the Maputo Province (on 20 April), with 2,080 families receiving non-food relief items over a one week period, including 2,080 blankets and jerry cans, 2,160 soap bars, 4,420 pieces of hygiene soap, 4,000 packets of matches, and 1,895 buckets. Logistical difficulties in reaching some locations due to damaged roads and transportation infrastructure have been resolved for the majority of areas, facilitating faster distributions to outlying areas of the Maputo Province.

This distribution completes the Federation and MRCS post-emergency relief distribution to flood affected people in the provinces of Maputo City, Maputo Provinces and Gaza Province in which over 20,242 families have been served to date through more than 100 separate non-food relief distributions. An additional 5,000 families have been served through similar distributions co-ordinated by the Beira Sub-delegation in the central provinces of Sofala, Inhambane and Manica.

In preparation for the distribution process of the rehabilitation programme, select supplies presently stocked in the Maputo warehouse are being repositioned in Beira, taking advantage of currently available flights into the region. Additional items required to complete the kits include tarpaulins, blankets, kangas, fishing nets, construction wire and nails, mosquito nets, buckets and machetes. Initial estimates of priority areas and numbers of beneficiaries are being revised and updated so as to obtain exact information about the number of families per district and area in each province.

Red Cross health activities reported from Maputo City, Maputo Province and Gaza Provinces primarily include treatment at health posts for cases of malaria and diarrhoea, and health education sessions. In Maputo City, Mozambique Red Cross volunteers continue to work in six Health Posts in camps which currently accommodate a total of 11,000 beneficiaries. The majority of health consultations are for malaria (23%) and diarrhoea (11%). Thirty volunteers visited 800 houses during the past week, providing health education sessions on cholera, diarrhoea, oral rehydration and hygiene and sanitation issues. In Maputo Province, similar patterns of disease has been found, with 15% malaria and 10% diarrhoea. A total of 13,102 persons (2,700 families) are currently accommodated in 7 centres in 4 districts. More than 30 volunteers have organised health education sessions in the accommodation centres, with topics including cholera, diarrhoea, malaria, sexually transmitted diseases, and diseases preventable by vaccination. Five to ten volunteers conduct daily visits to over 100 homes in the affected area. In the Gaza Province, the German Red Cross donated a maternity tent with 20 beds and maternity equipment to Manjangué. The Red Cross Health Post is being upgraded to a Health Centre to serve a total population of 23,000. The control of the health situation for Macia and Chaquelane has been supported by establishing new health posts and the community health programme which promotes environmental and personal hygiene. Training programmes, awareness sessions, and active case findings have been taking place as well as vaccination and water treatment programmes. A cholera preparedness structure has also been put in place. At the same time basic services have been reinstated in Chokwe. The Red Cross has opened two health posts outside Chokwe Town, one in Bombofu and the second one in Manjangué. A 3-person team of medical professionals from the Angolan Red Cross arrived in Chokwe district for a 2 week mission to also consider ways of strengthening the health posts in the IDP camps.

Related to water and sanitation rehabilitation, planning meetings with local authorities and the repair of handpumps and pit latrine construction has been continuing in affected districts through April. Specific locations for 15 boreholes in the Macia and Chokwe district have been sited jointly with the Red Cross and local authorities. These will be the first set of boreholes drilled in this area. The contracts for drilling boreholes and supplying AfriDev handpumps will be signed in the upcoming week. Actual field activities, starting with geophysical surveys, are planned to start by May 1, 2000. The construction of 4 improved latrines for the Health Centre near Manjangué continues. An additional 2 improved latrines are planned for the Manjangué administrative post. Water and sanitation activities (as well as other Red Cross activities) in the Macia area will be supported by the establishment of a Red Cross office in Macia.

Sofala Province

The distribution of shelter materials to 500 families in Bandua has completed the initially planned allocation of 3,000 family flood kits donated by the British Red Cross to Sofala province.

The Maputo delegation seconded a relief delegate to Beira to support the seeds and tools distribution. By Tuesday 11 April, a total of 2,000 families in Bandua and 530 in Nharrangué had received the seeds and tool package. An air operation was mounted, at the request of the National Institute for Disaster Management (INGC), to supply seeds and tools in selected areas in Buzi District. By 17 April, 1,000 kits were distributed in Estaquina and 1,450 kits in Guruja. A final non-food relief distribution was also made in Marombe (which is inaccessible by road) and in Chissinguane which had not been reached with relief items by any agency. Some 463 families were provided with mosquito nets, blankets, capulana, tarpaulins and cooksets.

Cases of a disease symptomatic of cholera were reported in Guaraguara, (3 cases) and Buzi Sede, (24 cases). The MRCS has two cholera kits available in Buzi and Chimoio, (Manica Province) and the health co-ordinator is in daily contact with the Government on this issue.

The MRCS has been running a First Aid Course in Chibabava since 6th April and has provided logistical support for visits by the rehabilitation assessment team and the media to Buzi and Guaraguara. The MRCS currently has 31 volunteers in Buzi district (including Buzi town, Guaraguara and Estaquina) who are working on relief distributions, well chlorination and First Aid. There are 20 volunteers in Machanga district (Villa Franca do Save) working in health education and tracing and reunification of separated families.

Co-ordinated MRCS and Federation planning for the distribution of reinstallation kits is taking place as well as the consolidation of the training of new volunteers in Buzi District and the provision of DPP training at the provincial and district level.

Zimbabwe •

The Zimbabwe Red Cross Society (ZRCS) has carried out a registration exercise to identify actual areas of operation and the numbers of targeted beneficiaries. Deliveries of relief assistance, mainly non food items, have been continuing in Manicaland and Matebeleland South and Masvingo Provinces (see tables below for a summary of items distributed). The lack of adequate transport, however, remains a problem with the provinces relying on an ICRC truck and Civil Protection Unit trucks which are not always available. The German Red Cross is providing logistical support with an 8 mt truck which is being procured locally.

Matebeleland South

Beitbridge is considered to be the hardest hit district in the country. The Red Cross is concentrating on two wards where health institutions have reported outbreaks of malaria (217 cases), diarrhoea (61 cases), and dysentery (18 cases). The ZRCS has carried out health education campaigns for a total of 1,078 people with 77 receiving first aid training. There are now reportedly cases of anthrax and ephemeral fever in the province, and treatment efforts are being arranged. A total of 1,916 livestock were reported drowned or missing after the cyclone.

Non-food items have been distributed in the districts of Beitbridge, Umzinwane, Gwanda, Insiza, Matobo, Plumtree, Filabusi. In addition, in Gwanda district, food assistance was distributed to 721 people, and 460 people received used clothing assistance. Health education also continues where needed.

Midlands Province

The Red Cross is involved in the areas of Mataga, Mvuma and Mberebdwa, with 16 volunteers focusing on and assisting with distribution and health education (hygiene and rubbish disposal).

Masvingo Province

Distributions were carried out to Serima East, Serima Stephen, Gutu Ndahwi, Gutu Serima, and Chiriga areas. The Provincial branch also carried out a registration exercise at the beginning of the month with the help of government helicopter transport to the area of Chishinye where 1,863 beneficiaries were assisted. Lately, due to unavailability of trucks for transporting the commodities to the distribution sites, the provincial branch has not been able to distribute the main part of the commodities needed. The distribution of some blankets, soap and clothes did take place, however, over the last two weeks in Makoho, Gondwi and Sadzangwena villages with an additional food distribution to the two latter villages. In Sadzangwena area, 51 shelters made of plastic sheeting have been completed.

Manicaland Province

After a reassessment exercise, beneficiaries have been identified for assistance. The target group was divided into categories so as to distinguish those whose houses and fields had been destroyed. Of particular concern is the vulnerability of a target group of children under five. To assist this groups, Nutrimeal has been procured by Save the Children UK and will be distributed shortly by the Red Cross.

Distributions in the areas of Chipinge District (Masimbe, Maronga, Gumira and Chibuwe) have been taking place according to revised beneficiary lists. Volunteers are conducting distributions and health education activities, with ZRCS and Federation staff supporting the operation.

Non-food items distributed

Items	Matebeleland South	Masvingo	Manicaland
Kitchen sets	2,634	-	1,078
Tents	360	-	82
Large tents	-	-	3
Blankets	1,991	1,744	5,922
Jerry cans	-	-	1,260
Plastic sheeting	-	-	36
Plates	-	-	546
Cups	-	-	600
Purification tabs	-	-	52
Soap	2,696	89	-

Food items distributed

Item	Matebeleland South	Masvingo	Manicaland
Mealie meal	760 kg	10 916 kg	12 184 kg
Beans	28,5 kg	1026 kg	792
Sugar	128 kg	-	
Salt	108 kg	424 kg	
Cooking oil	72 lts	992 lts	

During the month of April the Regional Relief Co-ordinator provided warehousing training to Manicaland Province. The Regional Relief Administrator assisted the Zimbabwe, Botswana, and Swaziland National Societies in the floods operation activities, and met with the Provincial Programme Officer (PPO), other volunteers and National Society staff to supervise and reinforce distribution exercises. The Information Management Delegate has carried out several week long trainings to improve computer literacy for PPO and other provincial staff from the Zimbabwe Red Cross.

Outstanding needs

The initial response and support for the relief phase of the floods operation was positive. Further resources (both cash and in-kind) are needed to implement the rehabilitation phase of the operation.

External relations - Government/UN/NGOs/Media

Mozambique •

The MRCS and Federation (including the Beira Sub-delegation) continue to participate fully in the co-ordination process. The exchange of information with OCHA and INGC in preparation for the reinstallation phase is a priority.

The Sub-delegation and MRCS participated in two disaster planning workshops arranged by USAID in preparation for Cyclone Houdah. Additionally, briefings were given to OFDA, AICF and the Johannesburg Sunday Times on Red Cross and Red Crescent activities in Sofala. From April 7 to 10, the sub delegation provided logistical and other support to a British Red Cross-arranged visit from

Hello! Magazine, designed to increase public awareness of the situation in Mozambique. Visits to MRCS distributions of seed and tools kits in Bandua as well as the health post at Guaraguara were arranged.

Zimbabwe •

The ZRCS continues to receive donations in cash and kind at Headquarters and locally in Provinces and Districts from private and public companies and organisations (eg. Post and Telecommunications) as well as individuals. The Society has officially launched its website which has been created by the ZRCS staff, supported by an Information Management intern and the Regional Delegation.

Contributions

See Annex 1 for details.

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