

# OPERATIONS 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

## ***SOUTHERN AFRICA: FOOD AID AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE***

*Appeal no: 12/02  
29 July 2002*

*The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization and its millions of volunteers are active in 178 countries. For more information: [www.ifrc.org](http://www.ifrc.org)*

*Appeal No. 12/02*

*Appeal Target: CHF 89,285,274 (USD 61.6 m/EUR 60.9m) for 12 months to assist 1.3 million beneficiaries. Note: the budget issued with the appeal is in the process of being updated in line with a revised food component (see table on page 3); the full revised budget will be issued shortly.*

*Operations Update no. 2; Period covered: 22 - 26 July 2002*

### **IN BRIEF**

*Appeal coverage: 14.1%*

*Related Appeals: 01.16/2001; Southern Africa Annual Regional Appeal*

*Outstanding needs: CHF 76,665,345*

*Summary: The slow onset and multi-country nature of this emergency operation places certain constraints on efforts to effectively communicate operational information, the Federation is, however, assigning the necessary delegate resources and developing a strategy to increase the timeliness and accuracy of the reports provided.*

*This particular report focuses particularly on the Malawi Red Cross Society (MRCS) who, in cooperation with the American Red Cross, has distributed maize to some 7,500 families (approximately 37,000 beneficiaries) in three districts.*

*The launch of the appeal has received extensive coverage in the media and television, with in depth radio interviews conducted on BBC World, CNN and Swiss television.*

## **Operational Developments w**

### **Coordination w**

World Food Programme (WFP): A meeting was held in Geneva with the WFP Southern Africa Regional Manager to discuss the signing of a partnership agreement for the use of the fleet, the supplies of WFP food and the system for the use of any Federation purchased buffer stock. An agreement has been drafted by the Federation and is in the process of being approved in house prior to discussion with WFP.

**Media coverage w**

There has been good media coverage with many interviews conducted both in the field and from Geneva following 22 July's launch of the Appeal. The Norwegian Red Cross signed a Pledge Management Note for CHF 11.4 million for the transport package identified in the appeal.

The planning phase continues in Johannesburg and the countries identified in the appeal. Operational Relief agreements were signed between the Federation and six of the National Societies defining their respective roles and responsibilities for the operation.



*MRCS volunteers unloading sacks of maize.*

**Red Cross and Red Crescent Action**

**Malawi w**

**Targeted Food Distribution (appeal objective 1)** - To ensure secure transportation of food from main warehouses to distribution points, and to ensure the timely and fair distribution to targeted households, namely child-headed and female-headed households, as well as the elderly and people living with HIV/AIDS.

The Malawi Red Cross Society (MRCS) with support from the American Red Cross has commenced distributions of maize, donated by the WFP, in three of the five districts the Society has been selected to cover. Some 7,500 families (37,000 beneficiaries) received food aid distributed by MRCS volunteers. The distribution was the first of a series of four planned distributions. MRCS distributions to Karona and Chitipa districts in cooperation with the American Red Cross are scheduled for September, and the NGO consortium is covering distributions of WFP food aid to the remaining 22 districts. During the second half of July the MRCS distributed maize to families in:

- Rumphi District to 2,500 families.
- Nkhatakota District to 3,000 families.
- Ntchisi District to 2,000 families.

The MRCS targeted women, children and elderly led households for distributions. Child run households are becoming increasingly common due to the HIV/AIDS pandemic. HIV/AIDS has virtually destroyed the traditional family structure in Malawi, as the traditional heads of households have either died from AIDS or are incapacitated due to the disease. The responsibility of taking care of the family and themselves therefore has fallen upon children, the elderly and women.



*Conveyer to truck loading*



*Organizing the food distribution.*

HIV/AIDS has devastated Malawi's workforce as the majority of HIV/AIDS affected people are of working age. Living conditions in Malawi are generally basic with people living in clay or adobe houses. The primary source of income for the average family in Malawi is the cultivation of small plots of land. With most of the workforce sick or dead there are simply not enough people, even under the best circumstances, to farm the land.

The MRCS has considerable experience with conducting distributions and the distributions have gone well. Food supplies are being stored in a MRCS warehouse. Volunteers are then responsible for loading the trucks which are dispatched to designated sites and distributed by MRCS volunteers. Most of the volunteers are in

their early twenties and comprise both men and women. Following identification, beneficiaries (one representative per household) receives a ration card which is stamped following the receipt of relief items.

**The revised appeal and operation w**

***Food and seeds***

The full budget line reflecting the food needs was compiled in more detail for each activity in each country and will be made available shortly. The table below reflects a preliminary summary of the revised plan. A financial plan is being compiled for the immediate use of available funds. The priority is the buffer stock of maize as WFP have indicated shortfalls for each month until the end of the year despite local purchase in Africa. To accommodate this buffer stock improved warehousing and transport systems are being implemented.

TOTAL ITEMS COST PER COUNTRY							
Country	General Food Distribution* Cost	Supplementary food Cost	Hygiene items Cost	Medical Cost	Seeds/Fertilizer Cost	Buffer stock Cost	Total cost
Zambia	1'386'000	8'881'026	822'225		0	2'500'800	13'590'051
Lesotho	6'668'650	742'500	33'750	50'000	72'000		7'566'900
Swaziland	2'955'500	773'993	32'888	100'000	72'700		3'935'081
Malawi	7'000'000	0	0		2'160'000		9'160'000
Zimbabwe	7'283'500	289'025	228'750	350'000	144'000		8'295'275
South Africa						1756800	1'756'800
<b>Total item cost</b>	<b>25'293'650</b>	<b>10'686'544</b>	<b>1'117'613</b>	<b>500'000</b>	<b>2'448'700</b>	<b>4'257'600</b>	<b>44'304'107</b>

\* This column is the WFP-resourced and provided food component.

***Programme coordination and management***

The reporting lines and responsibilities of the Federation Regional Delegation in Harare and the Office in Johannesburg was clarified in a letter to the Southern Africa region national societies. The Regional food security co-ordinator will report to the Director of DMC, with information and liaison to the Head of Regional Delegation in Harare.

***Recruitment***

A main priority during this early stage of the revised operation has been a focus on identifying and implementing the structures required to implement the roles and responsibilities indicated in the operational relief agreement and to start to get them in place. A country programme manager has been identified and accepted by the Zambia Red Cross with one pending for the Zimbabwe Red Cross. The WFP liaison delegate was identified, briefed and deployed to Johannesburg. A temporary administrator has been identified to help set up the Johannesburg office while a long-term delegate for this position is identified. A reporting delegate has been assigned and is now in place, and two temporary logistics officers arrived to help set up the transport system with WFP for the truck transport fleet donated by the Norwegian government through the Norwegian Red Cross.

**Outstanding needs**

Cash support is urgently required to implement the objectives of this revised appeal.

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

*For further information concerning Federation operations in this or other countries, please access the Federation website at <http://www.ifrc.org>.*

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Southern Africa - food aid and humanitarian assistance						ANNEX 1
<b>APPEAL No. 12/2002</b>		<b>PLEDGES RECEIVED</b>				29.07.2002
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
<b>CASH</b>						
REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				<b>89'285'274</b>		<b>TOTAL COVERAGE 14.1%</b>
AUSTRIA - RC		50'000	EUR	73'625	12.07.2002	
CYPRUS - RC				5'014	22.05.2002	
IRISH - GOVT		500'000	EUR	738'150	04.07.2002	
LIBYAN - RC				5'000	07.06.2002	
SWEDISH - RC		3'000'000	SEK	483'600	16.05.2002	MALAWI, ZAMBIA, ZIMBABWE
SWISS - RC				38'190	05.07.2002	
TURKISH - RC		5'000	EUR	7'314	07.06.2002	MALAWI RC SUPPORTING STARVING POPULATION
<b>SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH</b>				<b>1'350'893</b>	<b>CHF</b>	<b>1.5%</b>
<b>KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)</b>						
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SWISS - RC				65'000	05.07.2002	10000 BLANKETS, TRANSPORT/ INSURANCE
NORWAY - RC/GVT				11'204'036	24.07.2002	TRANSPORT
<b>SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES</b>				<b>11'269'036</b>	<b>CHF</b>	<b>12.6%</b>
<b>ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET</b>						
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
<b>SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED</b>				<b>0</b>	<b>CHF</b>	