

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

ZIMBAMBWE: ASSISTANCE TO THE POPULATION AFFECTED BY THE 'CLEAN-UP' EXERCISE

26 August 2005

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 over 181 countries.

In Brief

Appeal No. 05EA016; Operations Update no. 1; Period covered: July to August 2005; Appeal coverage: 15.4%; [Click here to go directly to the attached Contributions List, also available on the website.](#)

Appeal history:

- Launched on 26 July 2005 for CHF 2,481,818 (USD 1,788,110 or EUR 1,487,813) for 5 months to assist some 15,000 persons (3,000 households)- http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?05/05EA016.pdf
- Disaster Relief Emergency Funds (DREF) allocated: CHF 100,000

Outstanding needs: CHF 2,098,666 (USD 1,630,665 or EUR 1,344,865).

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals: Zimbabwe 2005 Annual Appeal no. 05AA017- http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?annual05/05AA017.pdf

Operational Summary: In response to the humanitarian needs of those affected by 'operation restore order', Zimbabwe Red Cross Society¹, the Federation and ICRC formed a task force to coordinate humanitarian efforts. The swift response has assisted 1,400 affected households in eight provinces with relief items: blankets, kitchen sets, soap and jerry cans. The relief efforts have alleviated the suffering of the most vulnerable people, particularly persons living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) and orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) - under the home-based care (HBC) projects- and those who sought shelter in holding camps. The shelters protected the affected from the cold winter weather while the distributed jerry cans contributed to the prevention of water-related diseases by ensuring safe transportation and storage of water. To date, the Appeal has received 15% coverage, and further donor support is encouraged.

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

- In Zimbabwe: Emma Kundishora, Secretary General, Zimbabwe Red Cross Society, Harare; Email: zrcs@ecoweb.co.zw; Phone: +263.4.77.54.16; Fax: +263.4.75.17.39.
- In Zimbabwe: Françoise Le Goff, Federation Head of Southern Africa Regional Delegation, Harare; Email: ifrczw02@ifrc.org; Phone: +263.4.70.61 55, +263.4.70.61.56; Fax: +263.4.70.87.84.
- In Geneva: Terry Carney, Federation Regional Officer for Southern Africa, Africa Dept.; Email: terry.carney@ifrc.org; Phone: +41.22.730.42.98, Fax: +41.22.733.03.95.

¹ Zimbabwe Red Cross Society- <http://www.ifrc.org/where/country/check.asp?countryid=13>

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All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the Code of Conduct and is committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for a full description of the national society profile, please access the Federation’s website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

Background

The ‘Operation restore order’, a government-facilitated operation to clean up its major cities, that commenced in May 2005 affected around 375,000 people in 50 locations within eight administrative provinces. The majority of those affected have lost their homes and means of livelihood, and education for children has been disrupted due to the resettlement activities. Children and sick people, particularly the terminally ill due to HIV/AIDS-related diseases, are most vulnerable as access to basic services such as medical care, shelter, water and sanitation and food has become very limited.

CHF 100,000 was received from the Federation’s Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) thus enabling a swift response to assist 1,400 affected households in eight provinces. As the needs became critical and the number of vulnerable people increased, the Federation launched this appeal (no. 05EA016) seeking CHF 2.4 million to further assist 15,000 vulnerable people for a period of five months.

Operational developments

As the ‘clean up’ campaign came to an end, the government embarked on a recovery process aimed at constructing housing for the affected households. However, the majority of affected people are still grappling to make ends meet as they were left even more destitute after the three holding camps: Caledonia- Harare, Sakubva Oval Sports ground- Mutare and Hellensvale- Bulawayo were cleared by the government on 31 July 2005. Families that had settled in the camps were sent to their rural homes and are still in dire need of humanitarian assistance. The immediate closing down of the holding camps has created another challenge to the emergency operation in terms of accessing the most vulnerable and ascertaining the current critical needs.

During the clearing of the holding camps, the national society registered 1,151 people from 489 households in the two transit camps of Mutare and Bulawayo. The data collected will assist in tracing the people when providing further humanitarian relief. According to Zimbabwe Red Cross Society’s field reports, a total of 4,906 terminally ill people and 741 OVCs from the HBC projects in seven provinces, together with 135 care facilitators, were also affected by the ‘clean up’ campaign. Currently the HBC projects are unable to provide the necessary services as most beneficiaries are scattered.

In order to reconvene the ongoing support services to the vulnerable people and to accelerate the humanitarian efforts to those affected, the Zimbabwe Red Cross Society has mobilized its field staff and volunteers in 57 districts to continue monitoring the situation and registering the most vulnerable groups within their respective areas. Furthermore the national society is exploring ways of integrating the operation activities in the ongoing programmes to serve the affected populations better.

Red Cross action - objectives, progress and impact

Emergency relief: Shelter and non-food items

Objective: Immediate relief items are provided to 15,000 vulnerable people.

In addressing the needs of 15,000 most vulnerable people, particularly the elderly, the chronically ill and OVC, the national society distributed non-food items consisting of tents, blankets, jerry cans and soap bars to people in the holding camps and other vulnerable groups within the eight provinces.

The 125 family tents distributed to those affected can accommodate approximately 600 people and have protected people from cold weather while at the same time ensuring their safety and dignity. The 500 households that received standard kitchen sets containing cooking utensils and cutleries are able to prepare and serve meals as required.

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Number of items distributed against identified targeted needs

Item needed	Quantity planned	Achieved	Coverage in %	Level of priority
Family tents	500	125	25	Medium
Kitchen sets	500	500	100	Medium
Blankets	17,000	5,000	29	High
Sanitary platforms	200	25	13	High
Mosquito nets	5000	0	0	High
Digging tools	3000	0	0	High
Condoms	3000	0	0	Medium
Chlorine tablets	90,000	0	0	High
House construction	120	0	0	High
Jerry cans	1500	500	33	High
Bars of soap	20,000	5,200	26	High
Plastic sheeting	200	0	0	High
Agriculture packs	3,000	0	0	High
HBC health kits	200	0	0	High

[Please click here to see the attached Stock update report for more details.](#)

Insufficient relief materials left many vulnerable people unattended to and may cause unfavourable humanitarian consequences if not addressed soon. Limited access to the affected populations, due to lack of transport and fuel and the ever changing economic environment resulted in insufficient accounting of the needs of vulnerable people at the provincial level. A slow response to the Federation’s appeal and action from other humanitarian organizations is exposing the most vulnerable to more risks such a lack of food, shelter and security.

Health and hygiene promotion

Objective: Health and hygiene among the affected people are provided.

Each of the 5,200 households received one bar of soap (26% of identified needs).

There is need to improve health and hygiene and provide related services to the targeted vulnerable people. Lack of psychological support, health education on hygiene and HIV/AIDS and the disruptions of the provision of home-based care to the terminally ill have negatively impacted on the affected populations. Most activities could not be implemented due to a lack of material and human resources, including lack of health kits, condoms and resources to train 80 volunteers to conduct health education and provide psychological support.

Water and sanitation

Objective: The risk and outbreak of waterborne diseases among the affected population are minimized.

In the Caledonia and Hellenvale holding camps, a sufficient quantity of water was supplied on a daily basis to 4,000 people by UNICEF using water browsers. In Sakubva Oval Sports ground piped water was supplied from the Mutare City Council accessible to over 1,000 people free of charge. The Zimbabwe Red Cross Society distributed 500 25-litre rigid jerry cans to five hundred house holds.

A total of ten SanPlats and four portable latrines were dispatched to Sakubva Oval Sports ground, Caledonia, hosting an estimated 5,000 people. Following a successful community mobilization within the camps, households dug rubbish pits and pit latrines that were constructed with SanPlats and portable latrines.

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Approximately 33% of vulnerable people were able to transport and store water in safe containers thus reducing any risk of water contamination during the process. The quantity of water delivered was sufficient for all transit camps to ensure access to safe water to the vulnerable people and prevalent risk of water borne diseases. The high coverage of latrines and rubbish pits in the holding camps reduced risks of vector-borne diseases and related diseases due to safe disposal of excreta while maintaining the dignity of vulnerable people. Sanitation needs within the camps were significantly reduced by the supply of more portable latrines by other agencies.

Limited funding and the closing down of holding camps may, however, hamper the progress registered in the provision of water and sanitation services.

Livelihoods

Objective: Start-up seed packs vouchers (agric-inputs) are provided to 3,000 households who are relocated to new areas.

Insufficient funding contributed to the low implementation on this activity. Despite the dire need and urgency of supporting at least 3,000 households with agricultural starter packs, no progress was made in this regard. The 3,000 households are yet to be provided with vouchers to procure seeds and fertilizers that would enable households to produce their own food and become self reliant.

Federation coordination

The Federation’s regional delegation for Southern Africa is supporting the Zimbabwe Red Cross Society to deliver humanitarian assistance. The Federation, together with ICRC and the Zimbabwe Red Cross Society, forms part of the task force coordinating the operation. The task force also participates in other stakeholders’ forums, including meetings with government agencies and the UN.

The Federation continues to mobilize and coordinate resources from funding agencies and other partners to contribute to the launched appeal. The regional office is playing an advocacy role on behalf of the Movement thus opening strategic partnership doors for Zimbabwe Red Cross Society.

A relief coordinator position has been created and filled. The coordinator will be based at the Zimbabwe Red Cross Society so as to continue providing support to the national society in the coordination and management of the operation for a period of five months.

The Movement -- Principles and initiatives

Ongoing consultative meetings with public authorities at all levels- including ministers, provincial governors, local chiefs and other key stakeholders- are being conducted in all the eight provinces. The consultative meetings aim at clarifying the role and mandate of the Red Cross as auxiliary to the government in humanitarian issues as per the fundamental principles while at the same time advocate on behalf of the most vulnerable for the right to receive humanitarian support.

The government acknowledges the role of the Red Cross and the added value that the national society can contribute to the operation. The fact that the Zimbabwe Red Cross Society was the only humanitarian organization given clearance by the government to provide humanitarian relief is testimony of the high credibility and respect the government has for it. The grassroots network of the Zimbabwe Red Cross Society gives it an advantage over other actors in coordinating assistance to the affected.

Identification of priority needs and vulnerable groups was in line with the Red Cross and Red Crescent strategies, particularly ARCHI 2010 and the Algeria’s plan of action for African Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. Focus was thus on addressing the plight of persons affected and infected by HIV/AIDS- including OVC, ensuring food security, health and mobilizing and strengthening the capacity of volunteers.

National society capacity building

With financial support from the Department for International Development (DFID), 34 staff received training in basic disaster management in order to ensure that humanitarian services are provided in accordance to the fundamental principles. The course covered issues such as:

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- Application of SPHERE minimum standards;
- Camp management;
- Media relations;
- Distribution of relief items, and
- The general code of conduct of staff and volunteers when providing humanitarian services.

The training has contributed to the smooth implementation of ongoing activities in the eight provinces. Zimbabwe Red Cross Society has, however, indicated the need to further enhance capacity in the areas of assessment, beneficiary identification and registration- particularly at provincial level, collection of data, coordination and reporting. It was further observed that there is a need for human resource to better manage the operation both at headquarters and provincial level.

The national society has taken an integrated approach to the operation by engaging other departments and some bilateral partners to ensure transformation from recovery to a sustainable service delivery particularly with regard to HBC and OVC support.

Communications – Advocacy and public information

The national society will produce situational reports and updates that will be disseminated through the Federation’s website. Efforts are being made to further strengthen reporting and informing with more press conferences and timely update reports to the relevant structures and partners.

[Contributions list below; click here to return to the title page.](#)

Zimbabwe - Assistance to the population

ANNEX 1

APPEAL No. 05EA016

PLEDGES RECEIVED

29/08/2005

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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CASH

REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->					TOTAL COVERAGE	
					2,481,818	15.4%
BRITISH - PRIVATE DONOR/RC		25,000	GBP	56,500	01.08.05	
FINNISH - RC		50,000	EUR	77,400	29.07.05	
JAPANESE - RC		62,900	USD	80,952	05.08.05	
SWEDISH - GOVT		1,000,000	SEK	168,300	28.07.05	
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				383,152	CHF	15.4%

KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				0	CHF	0.0%

ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED				0	CHF	

Zimbabwe Red Cross Society

Up-to-date stock report: August 2005

Item	From	Qty	Manicaland	Mash east	Mash central	Midlands	Masvingo	Bulawajo	Mash west	Mat South	Vict Falls	Total distr	Balance
Blankets	IFRC	5000	375	375	1399	976	375	375	375	375	375	5000	0
Kichen Sets	IFRC	500	75	50	50	80	0	50	50	70	75	500	0
Soap	IFRC	5200	370	370	1634	976	370	370	370	370	370	5200	0
Jerry cans	IFRC	500	75	50	50	50	75	50	50	70	75	545	-45
Tents (family tents(IFRC	100						100				100	0
Tents (family tents(ZRCS	25	25									25	0
Potable toilettes	ZRCS	25	25									25	0
San plates	ZRCS	25	25									25	0
Second hand clothes													0

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