

# 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**

16 February 2006

*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 183 countries.*

### **In Brief**

**Appeal No. 05EA016; Operations Update no. 4; Period covered: 5 December 2005 to 12 January 2006; Appeal coverage: 35%. [Click here to go directly to the attached Contributions List](#) or [here for the one 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 15,000 persons (3,000 households). Refer to [http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf\\_appeals.pl?05/05EA016.pdf](http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?05/05EA016.pdf).
- Operations Update no. 1 [http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf\\_appeals.pl?05/05EA01601.pdf](http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?05/05EA01601.pdf) was released on 31 August 2005.
- Operations Update no. 2 [http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf\\_appeals.pl?05/05EA01602.pdf](http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?05/05EA01602.pdf) was posted on 18 October 2005.
- Operations Update no. 3 [http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf\\_appeals.pl?05/05EA01603.pdf](http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?05/05EA01603.pdf) was issued on 5 December 2005 and provided a revised plan of action for the period October-December 2005, in light of funding received. It also sought to extend the operation's timeframe to 30 March 2006.
- This Operations Update confirms the extension of the appeal timeframe to 30 March 2006.
- Disaster Relief Emergency Funds (DREF) allocated: CHF 100,000.

**Outstanding needs: CHF 1,613,096 (USD 1,254,839 or EUR 1,037,727)**

**Related Emergency or Annual Appeals: Zimbabwe; Annual Appeal 2005; Appeal no. 05AA017. Please refer to [http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf\\_appeals.pl?annual05/05AA017.pdf](http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?annual05/05AA017.pdf)**

**Operational Summary:** The Zimbabwe Red Cross Society<sup>1</sup> continues to provide humanitarian assistance to approximately 15,000 people affected by the governments 'clean up' exercise which left over 700,000 people homeless. The Red Cross focuses on livelihood recovery by providing agricultural starter packs and small livestock (goats) to complement the reduced coping capacities of affected households.

During the reporting period, the national society distributed maize seeds and fertilisers to an additional 287 vulnerable rural households in Masvingo and Midlands provinces reaching a cumulative figure of 1,607 households. In Matabeleland North province, 199 households received 398 goats. The four two-roomed houses constructed in Mashonaland Central province were handed over to the beneficiary child-headed families.

<sup>0</sup> Zimbabwe Red Cross Society- <http://www.ifrc.org/where/country/check.asp?countryid=13>

## **Zimbabwe: Assistance to the population affected by the ‘clean up’ operation; Emergency Appeal no. 05EA016; Operations Update no. 4**

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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**

Provision of shelter remains one of the critical humanitarian needs still un-met by the response of both the government of Zimbabwe and international agencies. The government committed to provide permanent shelters to 5,000 households under the operation named ‘Garikai/Hlalani Khulhe’ (Operation Stay Well). Under the new operation, the beneficiaries were required to deposit about ZWD 600,000 (approximately USD 8) and provide proof of formal employment to benefit from the housing project. However, given the current poor economic environment characterised by unemployment, hyperinflation (585.4% in December 2005), shortage of foreign currency and basic high commodity prices among other things, it has been difficult for most people to meet these requirements.

In December 2005, the United Nations (UN) and the government agreed on the provision of temporary shelter to benefit 2,500 households. The intervention has been put on hold because the model of the houses did not meet the proposed government’s standard. Consequently, the majority of these displaced are still homeless, raising concerns as the rainy season continues causing public health problems to the most vulnerable people.

### **Operational developments**

During the reporting period, the humanitarian assistance delivered by the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement has mainly focused on livelihood development- including the distribution of goats, seeds and fertilizers to the displaced people who moved to rural areas. The government in collaboration with community leaders (chiefs) allocated land to the resettled people for subsistence farming. Following this developed, the national society procured agricultural starter packs and distributed them to the newly resettled subsistence farmers.

Coordination meetings with public authorities at all levels including ministers, provincial governors, local chiefs and other key stakeholders in all the provinces are ongoing. Identification of priority needs and vulnerable groups conducted with particular reference to Red Cross and Red Crescent strategies such as ARCHI 2010 and the Algiers Plan of Action.

### **Red Cross and Red Crescent action - objectives, progress and impact**

#### **Emergency relief: Shelter and non food items**

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

**Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)**

#### **Provision of 5,000 blankets for vulnerable individuals and households affected by the ‘Clean-up’ operation.**

In mid December 2005, the Zimbabwe Red Cross Society received 2,000 blankets from the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) to support 600 households displaced by the ‘Clean-up’ operation. Distribution of the blankets started in the first week of January 2006 to resettled families in all the affected provinces.

**Zimbabwe: Assistance to the population affected by the ‘clean up’ operation; Emergency Appeal no. 05EA016; Operations Update no. 4**

**Construction of 20 two-roomed permanent houses for orphans and children made venerable by HIV/AIDS (OVC) in designated areas.**

The four two-roomed houses constructed for child-headed households affected by the ‘clean-up’ operation were handed over to the beneficiaries in Hatcliff, a peri-urban suburb in Mashonaland Central province, east of Harare. The national society is planning to construct another 16 permanent houses by the end of March 2006. Funds for the construction of nine houses were disbursed to two provinces and the remaining provinces are set to receive the funds soon after they present appropriate documents.



*A child-headed family in a temporary shelter before they moved to a new house in Hatcliff settlement.*



*A child-headed family at a completed two-roomed house in Hatcliff settlement (December 2005).*

**Support 200 OVC with school fees in the four most affected provinces.**

Out of the 200 targeted school-going OVC, 25 have been provided with educational materials for all semesters in 2006. The Zimbabwe Red Cross Society paid the school fees and provided other educational materials such as school uniforms and shoes among others.

**Health and hygiene promotion**

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

**Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)**

**Recruitment and training of 80 volunteers in health education promotion, protection and psychological support in the newly designated settlement areas.**

No progress was made under this objective due to insufficient funding.

**Provision of 5,000 bars of soap to affected people, particularly OVC and the chronically ill.**

Distribution is planned to start in the first week of February 2006 in all the affected provinces.

**Water and Sanitation (WatSan)**

**Objective: the risk and outbreak of water borne diseases among the affected population is minimized.**

**Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective).**

The national society engaged in negotiations with UNICEF<sup>2</sup> for the provision of 5,500 insecticide-treated mosquito nets (ITNs) and 6,000 water and purification sachets to meet the needs of 1,894 vulnerable households in seven provinces.

<sup>2</sup> UNICEF's in-kind donation will be registered as a contribution to the appeal once completed (some relief items outstanding).

## Livelihoods

**Objective: Support 1,200 households in rural areas and 100 HBC clients and their care providers in urban areas to ensure self-reliance through agricultural interventions.**

**Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)**

**Provision of 1,000 seed packs and fertilizers to 1,000 households who relocated to rural areas.**

During the reporting period, 287 households received a total of 2.42 metric tonnes (MT) of maize seeds and 43 MT of fertilizer in Masvingo and Midlands provinces, in time for the planting season. This brings the number households displaced to rural areas that received agricultural starter packs in three provinces, including Mashonaland central, to 1,607.

**Table 1: Distribution of agriculture starter packs**

Province	Seeds (MT)	Fertiliser (MT)	Number of Households	Comment
Midlands	0.72	10.8	72	completed
Masvingo	1.7	32.2	215	completed
<b>Total Distributed</b>	<b>2.42</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>287</b>	



*Emilda, one of the agricultural starter packs beneficiaries, before the rain season in November 2005, Bindura district- Mashonaland Central.*



*Emilda and Red Cross volunteers in her field during the rain season, in December 2005, Bindura- Mashonaland Central.*

**Distribution of 800 goats to 200 households in the rural areas of Matabeleland North and South provinces.**

The Zimbabwe Red Cross Society provided 199 households resettled in rural areas of Northern Matabeleland with 398 goats as part of the livelihood interventions. Livestock farming is a preferred mean of farming activity in the province due to its harsh climatic and geographical conditions.

**Establish income generating activities supporting ten groups consisting of 100 home-based care (HBC) clients and care givers in urban areas of Matabeleland north and south, Mashonaland Central provinces.**

In order to sustain livelihoods in the urban areas, the Red Cross embarked on establishing income generating activities targeting 50 households, 100 people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA), affected by the ‘clean up’ operation. A consultant was recruited to conduct a feasibility study and to develop a management system for the income generating activities.

## Impact

The child-headed households which have received permanent shelter are protected from heavy rains, and cold winds and are more secure. The houses are now legal property of the children and will contribute to their future livelihoods.

## **Zimbabwe: Assistance to the population affected by the ‘clean up’ operation; Emergency Appeal no. 05EA016; Operations Update no. 4**

The distribution of goats to households resettled in Matabeleland North province will greatly improve livelihoods given the poor climatic condition for crop farming. More than 1,600 households which received seeds and fertilizers have taken advantage of the good rain and are expected to have a good harvest this season. This assures improved livelihood and food security.

Due to the sensitivities around the “clean up” operation, the national society’s advocacy activities, which have mainly targeted direct communication with stakeholders, have enabled the national society to implement its intended activities to assist the affected people.

### **Constraints**

Delays in the delivery of relief materials from UNICEF affected the implementation of related activities. On the other hand, the macro economic environment in the country, particularly in relation to high inflation rates and limited foreign currency, has resulted in scarcity of commodities such as fuel, fertilizer and other basic materials. This is adversely affecting the delivery of humanitarian assistance. The steep rising of commodity prices is also negatively impacting on procurement of local materials.

### **National society capacity building**

The Zimbabwe Red Cross Society communication and transport capacity has improved after the procurement and delivery of heavy duty photocopy machine, two laptop computers and one pick up vehicle to support the operation. The national society has taken an integrated approach to the operation by engaging this operations activities with the food insecurity operation. The national society continues to engage other departments and some bilateral partners to ensure transformation from recovery to a sustainable livelihood development, particularly with regards to food security and support for OVC.

### **Communications – Advocacy and Public Information**

In preparation for the handover of houses to some of the affected families, the national society prepared advocacy tools such as key messages question and answer papers. This was intended to standardize messages during dissemination, as the houses are built within government housing project called operation Garikai/Hlalani Khulhe. An advocacy workshop for local authorities was planned with the objective of communicating the mandate and the current activities of the Red Cross in Mashonaland Central and other parts of the country. In addition, during the reporting period the national society started on a process of engaging local authorities to enhance participation by the actual intended target groups, as compared to their representatives. The workshop intended for the purpose was however, deferred to February 2006 to facilitate more dialogue between the local authorities and the Red Cross.

A story was posted on the Federations website to increase the visibility of humanitarian intervention of the Red Cross in supporting people made vulnerable by the ‘clean up’ operation. The operations updates that are being disseminated through the website have also increased visibility of the national society.

### **Federation Coordination**

The Federations regional delegation in Harare has been supporting the Zimbabwe Red Cross Society to deliver humanitarian assistance through resource mobilization and by providing technical support through the presence of a full-time relief coordinator.

The full-time relief coordinator for the response to the ‘clean up’ exercise finished his mission on 12 January 2005 and the national society’s disaster management department has taken over the coordination role.

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

# Zimbabwe - Assistance to the population

ANNEX 1

APPEAL No. 05EA016

## PLEDGES RECEIVED

14/02/2006

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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### CASH

REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->					TOTAL COVERAGE	
					2,481,818	35.0%
BRITISH - PRIVATE DONOR/RC		25,000	GBP	56,500	01.08.05	
CHINA - HONG KONG RC BRANCH		4,540	HKD	731	07.09.05	
DANISH - RC				66,835	04.11.05	
FINNISH - RC		50,000	EUR	77,400	29.07.05	
FINNISH - RC		30,000	EUR	46,710	25.10.05	ZIMBABWE
ICELANDIC - RC		250,000	ISK	4,900	26.08.05	
JAPANESE - RC		62,900	USD	80,952	05.08.05	
NETHERLANDS - RC		42,781	EUR	66,610	18.10.05	
NORWEGIAN - GOVT/RC		1,510,248	NOK	299,784	14.10.05	CONSTRUCTION PERMANENT BUILDING
SWEDISH - GOVT		1,000,000	SEK	168,300	28.07.05	
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				868,722	CHF	35.0%

### 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	