

Final report



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

NAMIBIA: Caprivi Floods

Final report
Emergency appeal n° MDRNA003
GLIDE n° FL-2007-000030-NA
19 November, 2008

Period covered by this Final Report:
22 March to 22 September 2007;

Appeal target (current): CHF 877,479
(USD 719,245 or EUR 545,018);

Final Appeal coverage: 40%;
[<click here to go directly to the final financial report, or here to view the contact details>](#)

Appeal history:

- This Emergency Appeal was initially launched on 22 March 2007 for CHF 877,479 (USD 719,245 or EUR 545,018) for six months to assist 15,000 beneficiaries.
- CHF 112,877 was initially allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support Namibia Red Cross Society (NRCS) in responding to the need of the displaced families.



Namibia Red Cross Society staff and volunteers offloading relief items for distributions at Schuckmansburg relocation site, Caprivi Region
Photo: Namibia Red Cross Society

Summary: NRCS supported the government efforts in assisting the families affected by flooding in the Caprivi region, through the procurement and distribution of non-food relief to over 2,600 out of a targeted 3,000 households. In addition, the National Society ensured adequate supply of clean water at all relocation sites, rehabilitation of family latrines, as well as undertaking hygiene and health promotion activities. The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) Southern African Zone Office facilitated the provision of seed funding from the DREF, complemented by in-country technical support on the operation and enhancing the capacities of the staff and volunteers involved.

NRCS' partnership between the government's Emergency Management Unit (EMU) at national level and with Regional Emergency Management Unit (REMU) at regional/local level has been enhanced through close collaboration in planning and implementation of the relief operation.

The situation

Following heavy rains in Angola beginning December 2006, the Zambezi River burst its banks in February 2007, causing extensive flooding in the Caprivi region of Namibia – the worst flooding to have occurred in over 50 years. The localised floods affected the four constituencies of Kabbe, Katima Rural, Linyanti and Kongola where many villages, fields, cattle and boreholes were submerged. Nine people are reported to have died due to circumstances around the floods. Pupils from 11 schools were relocated to higher ground, while the most affected communities were relocated to four camps, namely Lusese, Kabbe, Impalila and Schukmansberg. The government's emergency management department REMU estimated that 4,500 households were in total affected.

The roads in all the floodplains were rendered impassable. Crops were submerged, leading to concerns over food security, given that the affected areas are the 'bread basket' of the region for Namibia. The main needs of the resettled people were identified as being for shelter, food, health care, and water and sanitation.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

On February 26, 2007, the IFRC allocated CHF 112,877 from upon request by the National Society. The initial funding enabled NRCS to initiate relief operations through activities which included a rapid assessment jointly with REMU and other partners, developing a plan of action and registration of beneficiaries. Upon request by the National Society, The IFRC Zone office immediately responded by deploying two Regional Disaster Response Team (RDRT) members - a water and sanitation technician and the Zone disaster response officer - to assist NRCS with the initial assessment and overall coordination of the operation. In addition, The RDRT team was complemented by four NRCS RDRT-trained staff members who were selected from other regions to complement the Caprivi regional staff throughout the operation. Technical support in terms of international resource mobilisation, donor relations and procurement was provided directly from the IFRC Zone office. The IFRC Zone office disaster management department also conducted ad hoc technical support and monitoring visits to Caprivi.

The overall coordination of operations was ensured by the government's Directorate of Disaster Management, through REMU. The Red Cross participated actively in task force meetings at both national and regional levels, alongside the United Nations partners, non-governmental organizations and other local actors. NRCS worked closely with REMU through its local branch offices in the most affected four constituencies namely Kabbe, Katima Rural, Linyanti and Kongola particularly in conducting the rapid assessments, identifying beneficiaries and training of volunteers on relief activities. The government allocated a warehouse used by NRCS in managing its stocks throughout the emergency operation.

NRCS was specifically tasked with the provision of safe drinking water and sanitation at the four relocation sites, in partnership with the Ministry of Rural Water Affairs. A total of 2,621 households (or more than 9,600 people) received relief assistance over the course of this emergency operation, mostly benefiting from non-food relief items, clean water, sanitation facilities, temporary shelter and basic health care. Red Cross volunteers also took part in distributions of food items provided by the WFP, earmarked for orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) at the relocation sites.

Progress

Overall Objective: Provision of shelter, water and sanitation, communicable disease prevention and distribution of non-food items to 3,000 affected households.

Emergency shelter	
Objective: To provide temporary shelter to 3,000 households in the four relocation sites.	
Expected results	Activities planned
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All the relocated families have access to shelter. Shelter materials are available. Red Cross volunteers register all beneficiaries. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Providing temporary shelter in the form of tarpaulins and plastic sheets to 3,000 households. Procuring the necessary shelter materials. Registering, verifying and distributing materials to beneficiaries to be done by volunteers as families arrive at relocation sites.

Results

NRCS volunteer systematically registered all beneficiaries upon arrival at the relocation sites and the records were well maintained throughout the operation. In terms of temporary shelter, the tarpaulins and plastic sheeting distributed to 2,600 households were initially donated REMU and replenished through the un-earmarked donations to the emergency operation. A total of 40 tents were distributed to elderly people. NRCS volunteers helped with erecting the tents and setting out of the temporary shelter. Community participation was commendable and as a result their skills have been developed in the construction of temporary accommodation.

Emergency health	
Objective: To facilitate community-based first aid and prevention of communicable diseases through health education and hygiene promotion at the four relocation sites over a period of 6 months.	
Expected results	Activities planned
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20 volunteers competent in conducting health and hygiene promotion. Community members following hygiene practices as a result of training. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20 Red Cross volunteers (five in Lusese, five in Kabbe and ten in Katima) are trained to be able to conduct health education in the relocation sites using the ARCHI tool kit. The volunteers will provide first aid and community-based health promotion and awareness-raising. Continuation of home-based care (HBC) to clients will be provided by volunteers from the communities in the relocated sites. Procure 40 volunteer kits (T/shirts, bibs, caps, IEC materials) for social mobilization activities.

Results:

During the early days of the operation 20 NRCS volunteers were trained on how to conduct community-based First Aid and basic health education, using the ARCHI¹ tool kit. An additional 52 volunteers were trained and organized health promotion and awareness-raising campaigns, reaching over 2,000 households through the following activities:

- Educating communities on health, hygiene practices (such as washing of hands and utensils with soap and clean water) and environmental hygiene;
- Supporting the establishment of hygiene facilities such as rubbish pits, pot racks and bathing shelters;
- Supporting home-based care (HBC) clients in the relocated sites, using volunteer care facilitators;
- Promoting proper and hygienic use of latrines;

¹ **ARCHI** – African Red Cross/Red Crescent Society Health Initiatives 2010 builds on its strength: a Red Cross and Red Crescent presence in each of 53 countries in Africa and, in all, more than two million volunteers. The overall goal of ARCHI 2010 is to make a major difference in the health of vulnerable people in Africa. Refer <http://www.ifrc.org/what/health/archi/>

- Clearing of stagnant waters to prevent mosquito breeding.

A health specialist was deployed from the IFRC Zone office to provide technical support for over a period of two weeks. SPHERE minimum standards were appropriately employed and adequately monitored.

The Ministry of Health and Social Services provided all curative services at clinics set-up at the relocation sites, which also catered for the medical needs of HBC clients. On-going support was provided to HBC clients through NRCS-trained care facilitators. NRCS has a strong HBC project in the Caprivi region where the care facilitators continuously track the whereabouts of their clients, particularly during and after emergencies. In this operation, some HBC clients were relocated to higher ground hence were followed and support ensured by volunteers which were mobilised from among the displaced families.

Through these efforts, there was no disease outbreaks reported at the relocation sites or in the affected areas. Proper measures put in place to control health hazards as well how to control in the event of an outbreak of water-borne diseases.

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion	
Objective: To provide safe drinking water and sanitation at the four relocation sites.	
Expected results	Activities planned
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targeted households had access to 20 litres of safe drinking water per person per day. • Households changed their hygiene practices after receiving health education. • Households utilized latrines appropriately at the relocation sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distribute 540,000 water purification tablets to non-relocated communities. • Rehabilitate 3 water points to supply water to the four relocation sites. • Construct 33 latrines. • Excavate 32 refuse pits. • Facilitate and promote disinfection and cleaning of latrines. • Construct 32 bathing shelters • Purchase three water tanks (10,000 litres) for use in the relocation sites.

Results:

The rapid assessments at the relocation sites revealed that the relocated families had no adequate basic water and sanitation facilities. Existing boreholes at all relocation sites were rehabilitated to provide safe potable water. To fulfil these urgent needs in sanitation, 67 pit latrines were constructed. Beneficiaries also received education and awareness-raising on how to utilise the facilities and to dig holes for the removal of rubbish. Latrines were also regularly disinfected with chloride.

Clean water was provided at all sites, through a combination of methods. At the Schuckmansburg site, the supply of water improved following installation of 10,000 and 5,000 litre water tanks. In addition, the installation of a generator increased water flow pressure into the tanks. The boreholes at Lusese camp A and B were provided with submersible pumps and engines – with 10,000 litre water tanks at each site. Camp C at Kabbe was equipped with two additional 5,000 litre water tanks, and Schuckmansburg camp was equipped with an additional 5,000 litre water tank generator.

The additional latrines improved the hygiene situation at the camps. People had access to more than 40 litres of safe water per person per day. Personal hygiene of beneficiaries was also taken care of properly. It also contributed to the prevention of waterborne disease outbreaks; attributed to the action by the Red Cross in provision of safe water and promotion of proper hygiene practices in the camps.

Relief distributions (basic non-food items)

Relief distributions (basic non-food items)	
Objective: Provision of non-food items to 3,000 affected households.	
Expected results	Activities planned
Basic needs of all vulnerable beneficiaries have been met.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distribute 36,000 bars of soap (2 bars per month x 3,000HH x 6months) • Distribute 3,000 mosquito nets to children under 5 and pregnant mothers. • Distribute 9,000 blankets (3 per HH for those in need, as well as to the most vulnerable and needy learners in relocated camps). • Distribute 1,000 cooking sets to HH in need. • Distribute 3,000 jerry cans to relocated HH.

NRCS distributed non-food items to some 9,626 beneficiaries (2,621 HH) in all major relocation sites, as indicated in table below. The basic needs of over 9,600 beneficiaries across all relocation camps were met.

Table 1: Distribution table covering all sites

Name of Camp	# of HHs	Total Beneficiaries	Tents	Plastic sheeting (rolls)	Tarps	Blanket	Jerry cans	Mos. nets	Bars Soap (kg)	Water makers
Lusese Camp A & B	486	1,707	15	476	657	758	416	66	56.25	276
Kabbe Camp C	236	1,077	0	240	450	241	246	102	0	8,000
Schuckmansburg	348	1,509	10	492	491	987	334	107	158	38,520
Kabbe Camp D	17	36	0	21	85	391	31	0	97.5	3,211
Impalila	84	329	0	30	0	81	67	15	0	3,880
Office Distribution	1,450	4,968	14	84	67	518	36	93	127	59,837
Total Distribution	2,621	9,626	39	1,343	1,750	2,976	1,130	383	438.8	113,724

Challenges:

- The lack of transport by boats proved to be a big challenge, as the distribution teams had to travel through Zambia to reach the relocation camps.
- Most of the relief items had to be procured outside the country, and hence arrived very late. Existing stock was insufficient to cater to the needs of all the affected people.

Institutional development	
Objective: NRCS has appropriate and affordable organisational structures at provincial and branch levels, with equipment to improve capacity in disaster response.	
Expected results	Activities planned
NRCS disaster response capacity is improved.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional IT Officer provides technical support to NRCS. • Laptop procured for new water and sanitation officer. • Generator procured to ensure continuous supply of power for the operation's office at the regional branch.

NRCS volunteers were trained in the following areas:

- Relief distributions, including beneficiary registration and management of distribution process;
- Health and hygiene promotion;
- Water chlorination;
- Latrine construction.

Furthermore, NRCS staff participated actively in coordination meetings, and managed logistical needs for all resources linked to the relief operations.

Challenges:

- NRCS did not have a health officer to spearhead activities within the health sector.
- The flood response activities put a strain on other programme staff to the detriment of their programme activities.

Conclusion

Impact:

NRCS capacity to respond to disasters has improved considerably due to their active participation in the recurrent floods in the Caprivi region. The collaboration between the EMU and NRCS has improved such that service provision was efficient and effective. It was observed that all the families had decent temporary shelter, enough clean water for domestic use and adequate sanitation facilities. The food items provided by the WFP ensured that all children were well feed, which helped in maintaining their good nutritional status.

Lessons learned:

- Early warning systems need to be strengthened, so that the communities relocate on their own before water levels become too high.
- There is a need to establish village-level disaster committees and provide them with training in disaster management, in order to strengthen each community's coping mechanisms.
- Volunteers need to be trained in first aid to enhance the response capacity of the National Society.
- Culturally, there is poor use of latrines within the region, and beneficiaries are strongly encouraged to use pit latrines. There is a need for on-going education on the use of latrines in the affected communities.

The main challenge of the relief operation has been lack of resources due to limited funding and slow response to the floods operation emergency appeal. A post-disaster review was conducted with support from the IFRC Zone office was lessons learnt were documented. The review took into account important issues that influenced decision-making in floods response, as well as the role and mandate of the Red Cross in the formulation and execution of National Disaster Management Policy. The review considered key questions and made recommendations for both the EMU and the National Society. Lessons learned from the review will feed into future mitigation and disaster response activities in the Caprivi region.

How we work

All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations \(NGO's\) in Disaster Relief](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The International Federation's activities are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".

Global Agenda Goals:

- Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
- Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
- Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.
- Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRNA003 - Namibia - Floods Caprivi

Final Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2007/1-2008/10
Budget Timeframe	2007/1-2008/12
Appeal	MDRNA003
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
A. Budget	877,479					877,479
B. Opening Balance	0					0
Income						
<u>Cash contributions</u>						
<i>British Red Cross</i>	49,400					49,400
<i>Japanese Red Cross</i>	28,819					28,819
<i>Monaco Red Cross</i>	24,600					24,600
<i>Netherlands Red Cross</i>	65,600					65,600
<i>Swedish Red Cross (from Swedish Government)</i>	265,950					265,950
C1. Cash contributions	434,369					434,369
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C5)	434,369					434,369
D. Total Funding = B + C	434,369					434,369
Appeal Coverage	50%					50%

II. Balance of Funds

	Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance	0					0
C. Income	434,369					434,369
E. Expenditure	-434,377					-434,377
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	-8					-8

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Reporting Timeframe	2007/1-2008/10
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All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Goal 1: Disaster Management	Goal 2: Health and Care	Goal 3: Capacity Building	Goal 4: Principles and Values	Coordination		
A							B	A - B
BUDGET (C)		877,479					877,479	
Supplies								
Shelter - Relief	67,810	78,070				78,070	-10,260	
Construction Materials		15,905				15,905	-15,905	
Clothing & textiles	97,920	135,155				135,155	-37,235	
Water & Sanitation	99,965	7,931				7,931	92,034	
Teaching Materials	7,100						7,100	
Utensils & Tools	45,000	30,398				30,398	14,602	
Other Supplies & Services	57,600						57,600	
Total Supplies	375,395	267,459				267,459	107,936	
Land, vehicles & equipment								
Computers & Telecom	9,240						9,240	
Office/Household Furniture & Equipm.	3,270						3,270	
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	12,510						12,510	
Transport & Storage								
Storage	6,538	562				562	5,976	
Distribution & Monitoring	105,000	18,035				18,035	86,965	
Transport & Vehicle Costs	32,750	19,150				19,150	13,600	
Total Transport & Storage	144,288	37,747				37,747	106,541	
Personnel								
Regionally Deployed Staff		948				948	-948	
National Staff		6,204				6,204	-6,204	
National Society Staff	134,200	22,571				22,571	111,629	
Consultants	20,000	3,485				3,485	16,515	
Total Personnel	154,200	33,208				33,208	120,992	
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	3,500	452				452	3,048	
Total Workshops & Training	3,500	452				452	3,048	
General Expenditure								
Travel	16,800	10,888				10,888	5,912	
Information & Public Relation	2,500						2,500	
Office Costs	105,000	496				496	104,504	
Communications	3,450	1,206				1,206	2,244	
Professional Fees	1,800						1,800	
Financial Charges	1,000	48,153				48,153	-47,153	
Other General Expenses		2,550				2,550	-2,550	
Total General Expenditure	130,550	63,293				63,293	67,257	
Programme Support								
Program Support	57,036	27,958				27,958	29,079	
Total Programme Support	57,036	27,958				27,958	29,079	
Services								
Services & Recoveries		4,260				4,260	-4,260	
Total Services		4,260				4,260	-4,260	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	877,479	434,377				434,377	443,102	
VARIANCE (C - D)		443,102				443,102		