

PROGRAMME 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

NAMIBIA

31 December 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 183 countries.

For more information: www.ifrc.org

In Brief

Appeal No. 05AA013; Programme Update no. 2, Period covered: July to November 2005; Appeal coverage: 65%; Outstanding needs: CHF 319,539 (USD 243,551 or EUR 206,487).

[Click here to go directly to the attached Contributions List, also available on the website.](#)

Appeal target: CHF 912,850 (USD 725,100 or EUR 588,000).

Programme Update no. 1 dated 18 July 2005- <http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/annual05/05AA01301.pdf>

Related Emergency Appeal: http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?05/05EA023.pdf Southern Africa: Food Insecurity; Appeal no. 05EA023

Programme summary: The Namibia Red Cross delivers health and care services through an integrated HIV/AIDS programme. During the reporting period, the national society- with support of the Global Fund for AIDS, TB and Malaria (GFATM)- established nine new home-based care (HBC) projects in Opuwo, Khorixas and Outjo district of Kunene and Rundu, Andara and Nankudu districts of Kavango region, while the Khomas region project was expanded to four new districts namely Otjomuise, Kabila, Havana and Okuryangava.

The Regional Disaster Response Training (RDRT) was hosted in Namibia attended by staff from the ten regional national societies, a disaster management staff from Dakar Federation regional delegation and Namibia government officials. Namibia Red Cross is benefiting from the DFID supported disaster risk reduction programme, targeted at the San community.

Namibia is severely affected by the drought in the northern parts of the country. The Federation launched Emergency Appeal no. 05EA023 in October 2005 for seven countries, including Namibia. Through a coordinated operation with Namibia Red Cross as the implementing partner, the Federation regional delegation appealed to support a total of 45,000 people with food assistance and livelihood approaches.

The national society's Annual General Meeting (AGM) was successfully conducted on 26 November 2005 and a new president and governing board were elected. The Namibia Red Cross received the Federation Capacity Building Fund (CBF) for its organizational development programmes.

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This Programme Update reflects activities to be implemented over a one-year period. This forms part of, and is based on, longer-term, multi-year planning (refer below to access the detailed logframe documents). 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>

Operational developments

Namibia is the most arid country in sub-Saharan Africa with 80% of its land classified as arid and 20% as semi-arid. This makes the country prone to recurrent droughts and food deficits. Maize is imported to supplement local production, and lack of adequate natural fresh water resources also exacerbates food production and increases vulnerability among communities. Parents of about 30% of all children are unable to provide nutritious food of adequate quality and quantity with a third of the population classified as undernourished and highly vulnerable.

The population is approximately two million and Namibia has the fifth highest HIV/AIDS prevalence rate in the world, which is the biggest cause of death and hospitalization. During the reporting period, HBC activities included community-based health and care education, the provision of palliative care for terminally ill at household level, psychosocial support and counselling to people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) and orphans and other children made vulnerable by HIV/AIDS (OVC); treatment adherence counselling for the HBC clients on antiretroviral therapy (ART) and tuberculosis- direct observation therapy strategy (DOTS). The ART and voluntary counselling and testing (VCT) are provided by the government and Namibia Red Cross is playing a vital role in encouraging HBC clients to take up and adhere to treatment protocol. HBC activities are implemented in six regions, Ohangwena, Karas, Erongo, Kunene, Kunene and Kavango.

Despite the high per capita income, extreme poverty and food insecurity is prevalent in certain pockets of the country, such as in the Caprivi region. Production of winter wheat is estimated at 10,500 MT, down by 1,000 MT from the previous year due to erratic rain patterns. To date, only 27,000 MT of the projected national cereal deficit of 145,000 MT have been imported, mostly from neighbouring country - South Africa. There has been little rain over most part of the country as of mid-November and planting of the main season cereals, maize, sorghum and millet, which takes place typically only in the northern strip of the country has been delayed.

On 18 October 2005, the Federation regional delegation launched Emergency Appeal no. 05EA023 to assist 1.5 million affected people in Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe. This nine month operation aims to support the vulnerable population with targeted food distribution and building their capacities to enhance livelihood through community-based activities conducted by the Red Cross national societies. The operation also reflects the Federation commitment to move from relief assistance into longer-term sustainable programming. However, donor response to the Emergency Appeal has been slow which is limiting the initial phase of the operation, despite the need to scale up the assistance to the affected people.

A Federation regional delegation coordinated the British government's Department for International Development (DFID) Disaster Risk Reduction Phase II planning and review meeting held from 26 to 28 September 2005 in Windhoek, Namibia. The main agenda was to review disaster risk reduction proposals from Southern Africa (Lesotho, Mozambique, Namibia and Zambia) and South Asia region benefiting from the programme. The main outputs of the review process included defining a plan of action for the disaster risk reduction Phase II programme. Regional disaster management unit staff, representatives from DFID, the British Red Cross, the Federation Delhi regional delegation and Geneva Secretariat attended the planning meeting.

The 2005 Regional Disaster Response Team training (RDRT) was held in Namibia from 18 to 30 September 2005 with 38 participants from the ten national societies, Federation regional delegation, government of Namibia and a participant from the Dakar regional delegation. Facilitators for the training were all mobilized from southern Africa regional sources.

With support from the Federation Capacity Building Fund, Namibia Red Cross embarked on the improvement of governance structures from headquarters to village level, strengthening operating systems and human resource capacity building. The national society also focused on reviewing the Constitution, strategic development plan, developing volunteer, youth, human resource policies which will be finalized in 2006.

The Federation regional delegation provided technical support and guidance to facilitate the Annual General Assembly held on 26 November. The new governing board and president were elected and will receive further governance support in understanding their roles and responsibilities.

Health and care

HIV/AIDS

Goal: Sustainable improvement in health and well being for vulnerable population of 300,000 people in seven regions of Namibia.

Objective: Vulnerability is reduced for 300,000 targeted beneficiaries by the end of 2005 in the areas of HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment, care and support, water and sanitation, malaria, tuberculosis (TB) and community-based first aid through the provision of an integrated and sustainable community-based programme.

Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective):

5,000 PLWHA have access to comprehensive care and support

- The national society provided care and support to 2,895 HBC clients through participation of 139 care facilitators and 606 care providers. A total of 122 Red Cross supervisors conducted monitoring and support visits to coach the care facilitators on providing care and support to HBC clients.
- In Ohangwena region, 12 care providers attended a workshop on early childhood care and support conducted by the government. The care providers were educated on OVC care and support, and there is also increased collaboration between Red Cross and the government through this initiative. In Caprivi region, 30 volunteers were trained on ART issues, bringing the total up 130. In addition 95 volunteers including support group members attended the Memory work/support group training facilitated by the Federation regional delegation. The Memory work and support group trainings are earmarked on building capacities of the volunteers to provide psychological, educational support and improving on life skills coaching for OVC. In Caprivi Region, 605 care providers attended a refresher training on HBC, monitoring and evaluation tool conducted by the national society.
- The Ohangwena region expanded the HBC community mobilization activities with support from the Global Funds. The Global Fund also supported training sessions for 94 HBC volunteers in the Khomas, Kunene and Kavango regions, focusing on community mobilisation, assessments, monitoring, evaluation, and ART.

15,000 OVC received psycho social and material support

- Namibia Red Cross reached 18,038 OVC in all the projects areas with support in the form of social assistance through support home visits and counselling. The national society facilitated some of the OVC to access the government social services grants, fostering and reintegration into the community. In Kavango region the Red Cross volunteers assisted 150 OVC through providing psychological support, food and assistance with school home work.
- The HIV/AIDS department conducted an OVC situation analysis in Ohangwena region. Some of the issues that recommended include the need to provide holistic support to OVC through provision of food, material, social, psychological and educational support.
- Namibia Red Cross participated at the OVC conference conducted in the local language (Oshiwambo), in the northern region. The aim of the conference was to introduce the new OVC policy translated into Oshiwambo to sector agencies in the northern part of the country. The Red Cross regional manager, a staff member, five volunteers and five OVC who are all trained in Memory work attended the conference. Another seven Red Cross volunteers graduated in psychosocial support training, sponsored by Church Alliance for Orphans (CAFO) – through the Ministry of Health and Social Services.

Increased behavioural change of 300,000 people by increasing their knowledge and awareness on HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted infections (STI), tuberculosis, malaria, VCT, and PMTCT and ART

- The Namibia Red Cross is working in partnership with other organization such as Desert Soul in advocating for behavioural change and increasing knowledge and awareness on HIV/AIDS, STIs, PMTCT, ART and VCT. On 3 June 2005, The Desert Soul launched a book named “*HIV/AIDS... Action Now*”, written by His Excellency, the President of the Republic of Namibia. The books were distributed through the Red Cross branches in all regions, and the national society experienced overwhelming demand from the public. The project manager and researcher for Desert Soul attended a Gender Training Workshop on the 8 and 9 June 2005 at Soul City in South Africa, focusing on the different forms of gender-based violence against women.

Social mobilization and HIV/AIDS awareness activities are implemented in seven regions.

- HIV/AIDS prevention activities were the integral part of all project implemented in all the regions with Namibia Red Cross presence. Namibia Red Cross reached approximately 230,000 people with HIV/AIDS prevention messages as part of the integrated programming. A total of 17,709 condoms were distributed and their proper use promoted by Red Cross field staff and volunteers in all HIV/AIDS project areas. On a wider scale HIV/AIDS prevention messages were conveyed through multi media such as Namibia Broadcasting Corporation television, radio station; and the print which involves the production and distribution of information, education and communication (IEC) materials.

Quality of life of 5,000 PLWHA and their families improved through economic empowerment

- A total of 119 PLWHA were provided with emergency food parcels for consumption within a minimum of six months to complement ART intake.
- In order to mitigate the impact of HIV/AIDS, the national society has also embarked on a community-based economic empowerment project in Caprivi and Khomas regions. The project will focus on relevant, culturally sensitive and viable income generating projects.
- In order to ensure effectiveness in managing and implementing community-based economic empowerment project, a respective manual was developed and project staff trained in building life skills. In Caprivi region, the Sangwali community established tourism and poultry projects in Lisikili; crop and vegetable growing projects in aquaculture and Kongola. The project is benefiting 60 community members, the majority being care-givers working with OVC. The groups were also trained on basic financial management which covered record keeping and cash flow projections. In Khomas region, another 60 beneficiaries were trained on sewing and the project will start before the end of the year.

30,000 people knowledgeable on PMTCT and ART

- In support of government efforts in the provision of ART to PLWHA through the HBC projects, the Namibia Red Cross implemented the following;
 - Providing care and support to 845 clients who are on ART;
 - Trained 28 beneficiaries on treatment information sessions (TIS) in Khomas region HBC project. TIS is a two-days session provided to people on ART and their supporters (buddies) to promote adherence to treatment;
 - Referred 338 HBC clients to the Buddy Programme in Caprivi region where they receive care and support;
 - Conducted a refresher course training ARV for 605 volunteers from all the regions;
 - New 47 volunteers were trained on ART adherence counselling.
- The government supported VCT centres in Caprivi has increase access to VCT services for the community and more importantly, the HBC clients. A total of 221 HBC clients visited the VCT centres visits during the third quarter of 2005.

The risk and outbreak of water-borne disease minimized and access to safe drinking water improved for 700 households in three regions

- The Red Cross water rehabilitation and health education project in Kunene region is one of the best practices on risk reduction and mitigation activities implemented by the national society. Awareness campaigns on water and sanitation related diseases, and HIV/AIDS in 22 villages reached 1,243 beneficiaries.

- The national society also trained 86 people on community-based health promotion in the 16 villages of Kunene region. A total of eight water pumps were constructed during this period providing clean water to the communities in the same region.

Impact

- The emergency food parcels distributed to HBC clients help accelerates the recovery of those on ARV due to the improved nutritional intake, and are now mobile and able to fend for their families. The number of people going for VCT is increasing on a monthly basis, especially in Caprivi region where the volunteers have educated communities on the importance of VCT to access ARV. The HBC clients reached by the care facilitator expressed gratitude towards their quality services, which have improved on their general living conditions, health and mental state.
- The integrated project in Caprivi region with components of ART, PMTCT, HBC, VCT, food security and livelihoods continues to make a major difference among the HBC clients and OVC through enhanced livelihood.

Constraint

- The national society has been working on a limited budget and experiencing transport problems such that field support visits conducted were limited. However, with the additional funding under the HIV/AIDS Consortium funding, focal staff will be recruited, volunteers and beneficiaries visited and supported through monthly and quarterly monitoring visits.

Disaster management

Goal: The vulnerability of communities in disaster prone is reduced through the design and implementation of appropriate disaster mitigation and response programmes

Objectives: The disaster management capacity of Namibia Red Cross and communities living in disaster prone areas are strengthened

Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective):

Namibia Red Cross capacity in disaster management is enhanced and exhibit minimum standards of well prepared national society through capacity building of staff and volunteers

- The Namibia Red Cross hosted the 6th RDRT in September in Windhoek. A total of five members of staff from head office and the regions participated in the two-week training, which included theoretical and practical sessions. The RDRT training is an initiative considered as the basis of building and enhancing regional disaster response capacities. The objectives of the training are to increase skilled personnel, improve the quality of disaster assessments, and encourage close co-ordination with a variety of partners, quick decision-making and rapid deployment of resources. The RDRT training curriculum follows the disaster response cycle, including policies of disaster response, assessment, tools of disaster response and support functions to disaster response. Government officials from the Ministry of Health and the National Emergency Unit also participated in the training.
- Namibia Red Cross developed the disaster risk reduction plan and budget for three years up, until April 2008, with the support of the Federation regional delegation. The project is funded by DFID through the Federation and aims at reducing the impact of natural hazards (floods, droughts, epidemics) on targeted communities, through enhancement of community resilience, knowledge sharing and disaster response. The targeted beneficiaries are San communities in Caprivi, Otjozondjupa, Kavango and Ohangwena regions. As part of increasing the disaster response capacity of the national society, three staff and seven volunteers participated in a disaster simulation exercise organised by the Namibia Airport Company in September 2005.

Community-based early warning systems (CBEWS) – situation monitoring systems and alert network established and strengthened

- In collaboration with the government, the Namibia Red Cross initiated a situation monitoring exercises for the 2005/2006 rainfall season and warned communities on the dangers of flooding, lightning and crossing

the flooded rivers. The early warning systems are communicated through regional and national radio programmes, in the local languages.

Impact

- The radio programmes at both regional and national levels on early warning system help communities prepare for disasters such as floods.
- The RDRT training profiled the national society through the media day and strengthened its relationship with government, through the participation of the government staff from Ministry of Health and National Emergency Unit. The RDRT training was highly commended by the government of Namibia, stakeholders and visitors from Geneva, British Red Cross and Delhi regional delegation who at the same time were attending DFID planning meeting in Windhoek.
- The RDRT-trained staff will contribute to the disaster management capacity of the Namibia Red Cross with their skills and knowledge.

Constraints

- The resignation of the disaster management officer at the end of September 2005 left a gap, since that was the crucial time for reviewing the disaster risk reduction three-year plans.

Humanitarian values

Goal: Increased tolerance, respect for human dignity and understanding of humanitarian values and fundamental principles among policy makers and the general public

Objective: Improved knowledge on humanitarian values, fundamental principles and the role of the Red Cross among policy makers and the general public

Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective):

The development stage of the website has been finalized and it will be launched before the end of the year. With the launch of the website, information dissemination will improve. The information department has also prepared an annual report for 2004, shared at the Annual General Meeting.

The national society's information department is taking the lead in advocating for support on behalf of the San community and has so far received good public response and support. The efforts are aimed at improving recognition and acceptance of the San community who have been marginalized for a long time.

Improved knowledge of IHL, understanding of Humanitarian Values, Fundamental Principles and the national society's mission among staff and volunteers

- Dissemination of Fundamental Principles and Humanitarian Values is an integral part of the information department and has been integrated with other programme activities, in order to improve service delivery to all stakeholders, especially the vulnerable communities. Dissemination activities continued in all regions to enlighten all stakeholders on the national society's auxiliary functions to the public authorities.

Local private sector and the general public is sensitised to support Namibia Red Cross programmes and activities

- After the completion of the web development, the department also devised membership forms for web and office use and will mobilize a membership drive early 2006. The continued partnership with Desert Soul on the HIV/AIDS prevention assist in reducing the spread of the virus.
- A total of 1,000,100 copies of information, education and communication (IEC) material were produced and distributed to all regions, targeted at people between 18 to 49 years, the people most at risk of HIV/AIDS infection.

Easy access and flow of information to local and international stakeholders and the general public is created

- In an effort to ensure the smooth flow of information, Namibia Red Cross commemorated all the important international days which include World Refugee, First Aid, World Risk Reduction, World AIDS, and International Volunteers days.

Create and maintain good relations with the Media to improve visibility of the Movement

- The information department disseminated all national and regional press releases to the local media in order to strengthen relationships with the media. The national society took the opportunity to appraise the media on risk reduction issues during the RDRT. Namibia Red Cross's "Kiddies" television series and adult radio dramas are continuing and are reaching a wider audience.

Impact

- The national society's weekly radio programme has also assisted to generate a lot of interest in Red Cross activities as evidenced by the increase in the number of volunteers and support from the private sector.
- The information and promotion of Humanitarian Values initiative has enabled the national society to reposition itself as a leading humanitarian organization in the country that earned support from all stakeholders.
- The Namibia Red Cross's cooperation with its beneficiaries, donors, media and other stakeholders is ever improving, thereby enabling the mobilizing of the power of humanity and promoting human dignity.
- Improved Red Cross visibility and credibility has built confidence among stakeholders especially donors and other funding partners. It is also out of this reputation that Namibia Red Cross has become a leading humanitarian organization in the country. Commemorating the humanitarian international days also profiled the work of the Red Cross among stakeholders and the public.

Constraints

- Lack of funding for the department prevented the information officer to conduct field visits to gather stories and the planned media tours.
- The information officer resigned in September 2005, which is a draw back on the national society as it had to recruit and orient a new person, a process which is time consuming.

Organizational development

Goal: The lives of the most vulnerable people in Namibia improve as the Namibia Red Cross works towards becoming a well-functioning national society.

Objective 1 (Capacity building): Improved capacity of Namibia Red Cross to design, implement and manage its strategic directions at all levels by 2006

Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective):

- The first draft of the 2006-2010 strategic development plan was circulated internally for comments and the final product presented to the governance for endorsement at Annual General Meeting held on 26 November 2005.
- The national society has identified a human resources consultant to review the Human Resource Policy early 2006. Khomas and Kunene regional managers attended the three days leadership workshop which was facilitated by Namibia Dynamic Consultant. The workshop aimed at strengthening their skills on project management.

Objective 2 (Resource mobilization): Maximum support and resources for the national society is secured.

Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective):

- The national society marketing and resource mobilization work-plan was developed and presented to the management for operationalization. The national society assisted in the set up of five tuck shops supervised through the Red Cross branches. The tuck shops are intended for income generation for HBC volunteers and support to beneficiaries through a social assistance fund generated through proceeds on sales.
- A feasibility study was conducted and a business plan developed for Internet facility for Red Cross regional office in Opuwo for implementation before the end of the year. The national society is also developing partnerships for fundraising initiatives and reviewing the current resource mobilization strategy ending 2005.
- The Namibia Red Cross has experienced delays in the implementation of their Federation Capacity Building Funds supported activities due to shortages in human resources at both national and divisional

levels. It implies that the national society will not be able to meet all its targets of reviewing the Constitution, strategic plan, human resource policy and regulation in 2005. However, a draft strategic plan, human resource policy and regulation policy are already in circulation within the national society for discussion before finalisation.

Objective 3 (National society policies and strategies): National society policies and strategies improved and developed

Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective):

- A Constitutional review committee consisting of the secretary general, a national board member and the programmes and operation managers was established. The consultant was hired to conduct a review and make suggestions on clauses that need to be amended for adoption at the Annual General Meeting.

Impact

- Through the support of the Federation Capacity Building Fund, the national society has strengthened the capacity of management and staff in project development and management. The national society now conducts constant management meetings and senior management are informed on progress that they are able to map action plans and provide the necessary support on implementation, monitoring and reporting. The Federation Capacity Building Fund will greatly contribute to the organizational development, strengthening activities, thereby meeting the needs of the most vulnerable people in Namibia.
- Through its local resource mobilization efforts, Namibia Red Cross realised about 25% of its core income from a shopping complex developed in 1998 and sales of first aid courses and kits.

Constraints

- Insufficient material and financial resources for organizational development continue to hamper implementation of activities and production of relevant material.

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

CASH

REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				912,850	TOTAL COVERAGE	
					65.0%	
OPENING BALANCE				81,608		
BRITISH - DFID				387,203	01.05.05	DISASTER REDUCTION PHASE II
SWEDISH - GOVT	700,000	SEK		119,700	01.06.05	HIV/AIDS
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				588,511	CHF	64.5%

KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SWEDEN	DELEGATE(S)			4,800		
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				4,800	CHF	0.5%

ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET

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