

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

ZIMBABWE

10 January 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. For more information: www.ifrc.org

In Brief

Appeal No. 05AA017; Programme Update no. 2, Period covered: July to November 2005; Appeal coverage: 20.6%; Outstanding needs: CHF 8,088,258 (USD 6,164,831 or EUR 5,196,439) - Adjusted as per revised appeal budget. [Click here to go directly to the attached Contributions List, also available on the website.](#)

For Programme Update no. 1 please refer to- <http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/annual05/05AA01701.pdf>

Appeal target: CHF 10,187,076 (USD 7,915,366 or EUR 6,528,085) - Adjusted as per revised appeal budget.

Related Emergency Appeals:

- Appeal no. 05AA016- http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?05/05EA016.pdf (Zimbabwe: Assistance to the population affected by the 'clean-up' exercise).
- Appeal no. 05EA023- http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?05/05EA023.pdf (Southern Africa: Food Insecurity).

Programme Summary: The Zimbabwe Red Cross Society¹ is implementing an integrated HIV/AIDS programme in eight provinces, reaching 16,300 home-based care (HBC) clients and 52,000 orphans and other children made vulnerable by HIV/AIDS (OVC). This is against a background of an increasing negative impact of HIV/AIDS; which- according to the Ministry of Health- has a current prevalence rate of 20.1%. The integrated HIV/AIDS programme is funded by a Consortium of donors namely the Royal Netherlands Embassy (RNE), the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA)/Swedish Red Cross Society (SRCS) and Development Cooperation Ireland (DCI), through the Federation regional delegation. A detailed plan and budget for the next five years has been drafted and will be finalized in early 2006. Zimbabwe Red Cross Society is one of the three pilot countries for the antiretroviral (ART) programme. Funding has been secured by Danish Red Cross Society and DANIDA for 1,300 HBC clients and the programme will start in 2006.

The water and sanitation programme is being implemented in Mashonaland East province, where drilling and rehabilitation of 22 boreholes, construction of 200 latrines, training of 40 care facilitators and establishment of water point committees have taken place. With the EU-ACP water facility support, the five-year water and sanitation activities will focus on integrated water supply, sanitation and hygiene promotion.

The national society continued to provide humanitarian support to the families affected by the government's 'Clean Up' exercise launched in May 2005. Zimbabwe Red Cross Society provided relief items such as blankets, jerry cans, soap, chlorine tablets, sanitation services and support with the management of transit camps temporarily set by the government. The Federation assisted with a CHF 100,000 Disaster Response Emergency Funds (DREF) allocation and later launched appeal 05EA016 (Zimbabwe: Assistance to the population affected by the 'clean-up' exercise), targeting 3,000 households.

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

Zimbabwe is also one of the seven countries in the region severely affected by food insecurity. In response to the food crisis, the Federation launched Emergency Appeal 05EA023 (Southern Africa: Food Insecurity) on 18 October 2005 for the seven countries- Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Through a coordinated operation with Zimbabwe Red Cross Society as the implementing partner, the operation will provide food assistance, agricultural inputs, safe water and adequate sanitation to the affected home-based care (HBC) beneficiaries.

The national society held a two-day orientation workshop for the newly elected governance members. The national society' Statutes are currently being reviewed through wide consultation with members and volunteers. Zimbabwe Red Cross Society introduced the new Navision financial accounting system to be rolled out to the divisions in 2006. The audit of the 2004 books of accounts has been finalized. The financial manual draft has also been finalized and submitted to the governing board for comments and adoption.

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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

The external environment was characterised by climatic challenges such as the ongoing drought and economic challenges with a hyper inflation over 700% in the year. Zimbabwe is suffering a drawn-out, complex humanitarian crisis with a number of interconnected causes. The positive gains across a number of sectors in the decade following independence have been wiped out in just a few years. The prime culprit is HIV/AIDS, which has reduced the productive population and increased the number of dependents- old and young, increased household expenditure on medicines and care and support services, while reducing households' capacities to earn money; and reduced life expectancy. Economic difficulties and the withdrawal of donor support resulted in spiralling inflation, shortages of basic commodities, and a growing parallel economy. The poor rains and subsequent poor harvest in the last three seasons added another shock beyond the coping capacity of many households.

In 2005, nearly 700,000 people were displaced as a result of the government 'clean up' exercise aimed at getting rid of illegal structures. Most of these belong to the poorest group of people, which include people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA), orphans and other children made vulnerable by HIV/AIDS (OVC) and the elderly. From the onset, the national society, the Federation and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) met on a day-to-day basis in the form of a dedicated Task Force to follow up the situation and agree on the appropriate course of action. In trying to meet the immediate needs, on 10 June 2005 the Federation provided CHF 100,000 to Zimbabwe Red Cross Society from its Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF). The DREF allocation met the immediate humanitarian needs of 500 affected families throughout the country as it enabled the distribution of blankets, soap, rigid jerry cans, kitchen sets and chlorine tablets. The Zimbabwe Red Cross Society provided temporary toilets, second hand clothes, plastic sheeting and tents from its disaster response stock. The items were distributed to some of the affected people

in all the eight administrative provinces including Caledonia Farm and Sakubva Oval Sports Ground transit camps. The assistance to the population affected by the 'clean-up' exercise emergency appeal (05EA016) sought to assist 3,000 households over five months focusing on livelihood recovery by the distribution of seeds and fertilisers, small livestock for households in rural areas and income generating activities in urban areas.

During the reporting period, Zimbabwe Red Cross Society continued to respond to the effects of the 'Operation Restore Order'. The affected families were either relocated to rural areas or accommodated by relatives and friends who owned legal dwellings. Some of the families were temporarily moved to transit camps which lasted for two months up to end of July 2005. The affected people moved either to their rural homes or to newly designated housing settlements where they were allocated housing stands.

The 'clean up' exercise was concluded in July 2005, when operation 'Garikai/Hlalani Khulhe' (operation stay well) was launched. Under this second operation, construction of shelter for the families affected by the 'clean up' exercise has been planned by the government of Zimbabwe. Most of affected people (scattered all over Zimbabwe) are seeking opportunities for resettlement- some in the government designated areas, others in rural areas and others again are hosted by families and relatives within the cities. This phenomenon is negatively affecting the most vulnerable, especially OVC and the chronically ill people, who can hardly access basic services such as medical care, shelter, food, water and sanitation. The situation is worsened by the general economic decline currently being experienced in Zimbabwe, the protracted fuel shortage crisis and the effects of the drought experienced during the 2004/05 agricultural season-resulting in a poor harvest.

Poor harvests have been aggravated by the shortage of seeds and fertilizers as a result of the economic crisis. Where parents die young, knowledge of agricultural techniques and coping strategies are not passed on to the next generation. Lack of money and limited options drive young women to transactional sex, increasing their exposure to HIV/AIDS. Shortages of food means that tuberculosis patients fail to maintain their courses of treatment. Malnutrition has decreased the resistance of PLWHA to opportunistic infections.

In response to the food crisis, the Federation launched the Southern Africa: Food Insecurity emergency appeal in October 2005 to assist 1.5 million affected people in seven countries in the southern Africa region, including Zimbabwe. The nine-month operation supports the vulnerable population with targeted food distribution and building their capacities to enhance livelihood through community-based activities conducted by Red Cross national societies. The operation also reflects the Federation's commitment to move from relief assistance into longer-term sustainable programming. Donor response to the emergency appeal has been slow and thus limiting the initial phase of the operation, despite the need to scale up the assistance to the affected people. Zimbabwe Red Cross Society is targeting 388,800 beneficiaries mainly in the HBC project areas.

Through its well established health and care programme, Zimbabwe Red Cross Society provides care and support to HBC clients and OVC, emergency food aid in times of drought, support to agricultural recovery, nutrition gardens, start-up funding for income-generating projects for support groups, water and sanitation projects, health and hygiene education, advocacy and counselling services. The HIV/AIDS projects continue to receive support through the Federation regional delegation, from a Consortium of donors namely; the Royal Netherlands Embassy (RNE), Swedish International Development Agency/Swedish Red Cross Society and Ireland Development Cooperation (DCI). The main focus of Federation support over the reporting period has been to promote and develop a more integrated programme around the HBC project sites, in order to create a more substantial safety net for its beneficiaries. The programme has 1,375 care facilitators in all the 27 project areas providing care and support to 16,300 HBC clients and psychosocial, educational, food and clothing support to 52,000 OVC. The Danish and Japanese Red Cross Societies also support the programme bilaterally.

The Federation regional delegation submitted an application to the European Commission – ACP-EU Water Facility Actions in ACP countries and succeeded in the first screening. Zimbabwe, Malawi, Mozambique, and Zambia have been selected under the Global Water Sanitation Initiative (GWIS) activity from southern Africa region. The GWIS has an overall goal of "contributing to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goal (MDGs) by scaling up established capacities". The primary objective is to "increase sustainable water and sanitation coverage among the

vulnerable people while encouraging greater hygiene awareness". The Federation and national societies are contributing to the water and sanitation MDGs, ARCHI 2010 and Algiers Plan of Action. However, the GWIS is designed to promote a common approach among national societies.

In an effort to support the national society to move towards a cash transfer system, the Federation regional delegation has submitted all relevant documents to the national society for consideration. The national society had planned to review all the policy documents and the volunteers Code of Conduct during the last half of 2005; however the focus will now be on the Statutes only. Dissemination of Humanitarian Values remains a vehicle for transmitting the mandate and values of the Red Cross and promoting compassion towards the vulnerable groups. Therefore external and internal dissemination continued to be an integral part of the national society's activities during 2005.

Health and care

Goal: Sustainable improvement in health and well being of targeted vulnerable populations.

HIV/AIDS

Objective: Comprehensive and effective safety net for the most vulnerable people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) and orphans and other children made vulnerable by HIV/AIDS (OVC) is provided.

Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective):

Improved quality of life for people infected and affected by HIV/AIDS

- The total numbers of care facilitators remains at 1,375, with a care facilitator to client ratio of 1:12, excluding OVC. HBC activities carried out include assisting clients and families with basic nursing care, emotional support, food and material support as well as health and hygiene information, education and communication (IEC) materials.
- With support from the government, 150 field officers, volunteer supervisors, counsellors and team leaders were trained in "communication and child counselling", in response to the training needs identified in the mid-term review. The areas covered include:- Concept of counselling approaches; identifying children in distress; basic counselling and communication skills; dealing with suicidal clients; children and HIV/AIDS; child development and abuse; communicating with children; bereavement counselling; life skills development; and stress management. The methodology used was participatory with use of practical case studies and role-plays.
- Support groups continue to meet collectively to manage their income generating projects, and to provide emotional and social support to each other. There are currently 117 support groups engaged in income generating activities such as gardening and poultry. Monthly care facilitators' meetings were held and it is from these forums, that they are given updates of the programme by field officers as well as share ideas and experiences.
- Zimbabwe Red Cross Society HIV/AIDS programme continues to work in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in areas such as voluntary counselling and testing (VCT), training, counselling, medical referrals and general welfare of PLWHA.

Improved quality of life for OVC

- The OVC supported under the HIV/AIDS Integrated programme continued to receive monthly food rations and material support including clothes, blankets, hygiene articles and school fees. It is hoped that the training input given to care facilitators on child counselling will enhance the quality of care given to the OVC.
- The National Plan of Action for OVC was launched by the government and was attended by OVC representing all the provinces. The Red Cross OVC Advocacy Campaign was launched nationally in September 2005 and was a success with children taking a leading role in the activities of the day. Other humanitarian organizations in child welfare such as UNICEF, officials from relevant government ministries and private companies attended the launch held in Harare. This was as a follow up to the regional OVC Advocacy Campaign launch in June 2005, held in South Africa.

Reduced HIV transmission

- Zimbabwe Red Cross Society IEC materials on child abuse were reprinted and distributed during the OVC Advocacy Campaign launch.
- Posters on the rights of the child were also produced in English and local languages (Shona and Ndebele) and have become popular in schools and other institutions working with children such as SOS Children's Villages and UNICEF.

Improved access to treatment and treatment literacy

- The national society, supported by the Danish Red Cross Society, conducted interviews for a technical advisor in antiretroviral therapy (ART), who is to start working in early 2006. The pilot phase will be in two project areas- Lower Gweru in Midlands province and Mt Darwin in Mashonaland Central province. The initial targeted population of the project is 1,500 clients. The project will be partly funded by the Danish Red Cross Society.
- In order to strengthen the implementation of programmes, the national society has recruited additional staff such as HIV/AIDS prevention and OVC officers, while the recruitment of a monitoring and evaluation officer and human resource manager is underway.

Impact

- The HBC projects contribute towards improving the quality of life for households infected and affected by HIV/AIDS through care and support provided by the trained care facilitators.
- Stigma and discrimination is on the decline in the targeted areas as more people feel empowered to disclose their HIV status without fearing the negative reactions and consequences.
- The income generating activities help address food insecurity and complement the intake of antiretroviral drugs for HBC clients.
- Livelihoods are enhanced as food availability is guaranteed for a longer period.

Constraints

- The workload for care facilitators has been increased due to programme integration.
- The shortage of drugs at health centres is impacting negatively on treatment of opportunistic infections.
- There is also lack of transport to take immobile HBC clients to health centres.
- Late disbursements of funds at some periods have compromised the quality of activities.

Water supply, sanitation and hygiene promotion

Objective: Establishment of sound, sustainable environmental services for vulnerable population (22,000) in Mudzi district, Mashonaland province by 2006 in water supply, sanitation and hygiene promotion.

Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective):

Hygiene/sanitation promotion volunteers effectively cover target population of 10,000 by year 2006.

- The national society trained 40 hygiene promoters in Mudzi districts to reach 10,000 beneficiaries with hygiene promotion messages conveyed through house-to-house visits and community meetings.

200 viable and adequate latrines are constructed in households affected by HIV/AIDS and in schools and health centres in targeted area by 2006.

- The water and sanitation programme team constructed 30 latrines between January and June 2005, as communicated in Programme Update no. 1, and another 170 during the reporting period. The latrines were constructed for households with PLWHA and/or HBC clients.
- The project is in the process of constructing latrines in schools and health centres in the same project area.

20 viable, fully functioning and adequate community managed water supplies in low-income villages by 2005 (20 hand pump rehabilitation, 2 new boreholes fitted with hand pumps).

- As planned, 20 hand pumps were rehabilitated during the reporting period in communities of Mudzi district. The project officers are in the process of facilitating more rehabilitation and drilling work for new water points after receiving further support from the British Red Cross Society.

22 community-based operation and maintenance and cost recovery system established and functioning by 2006.

- A total of 20 community-based operation, maintenance and cost recovery committees were established. The committees are formed to maintain all water and sanitation facilities provided to the communities and to safeguard them from vandalism and misuse. Repair of broken down pumps is to be done with the help of the trained pump minders. The location of the water borehole is discussed with the community and a neutral ground is selected to avoid objection of using the boreholes by some members of the community.

Water supply, sanitation and hygiene promotion project efficiently and effectively implemented using demand responsive community managed approach by 2006.

- Activities such as project selection, identification and implementation, water point committee members' selection, hygiene promoters' identification and training have been carried out using demand responsive community-based approaches. Approximately 5,000 beneficiaries have been reached by the hygiene promoters.

Increased resources for water/sanitation and hygiene promotion projects, and contribution to sector policies, best practices, coordination and cooperation by 2006.

- The programme officer is an active member of the National Water and Sanitation Working Group coordinated by UNICEF and the Ministry of Water Resources. Lessons learnt and best practices are shared and advocated for amongst different players in the water and sanitation sector in Zimbabwe.
- The Federation regional delegation submitted a proposal to the European Commission – ACP-EU Water Facility Actions in ACP countries on 15 September 2005 for a total of EUR 1,910,591. If successful, Zimbabwe Red Cross Society- with support from Federation regional delegation- will work with the British, Finnish and Swedish Red Cross Societies on the planned three-year water and sanitation project. Zimbabwe will be one of the four countries (others being Malawi, Mozambique and Zambia) in the region to benefit from support in water and sanitation activities from the European Commission. The proposal passed the first screening and if finally approved, it will build upon the general targets and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by improving access to primary level of WatSan facilities and household food security, targeting the most vulnerable and under-served rural communities. This will also reduce the incidents of water-borne diseases and the number of people suffering from hunger. For a successful and sustainable water and sanitation project, community participation and ownership is crucial and recruitment of volunteers amongst the beneficiaries will ensure community involvement.

Capacity to respond, (and response if necessary) to disasters requiring water, sanitation and hygiene promotion response.

- The national society has a water and sanitation (WatSan) technician who attended the Regional Disaster Response Team (RDRT) training and can respond immediately in the event of a disaster. The programme officer attended the Emergency Response Unit (ERU) training in Germany in October 2005. The skills the officer acquired are instrumental in cases of emergencies that require water and sanitation intervention.

Impact

Community expectations

- The community expectations are being realized and the perceived quality of life, subjective well being, self esteem and self-image will be assessed with other factors as the project progresses. Community cohesion is improving as people are participating and integrating during water and sanitation activities. The community is involved during planning, implementation, monitoring thus building a sense of ownership.

Water supply

- The project is addressing the waterborne and water-washed disease problems by ensuring that the water from the sources is safe, equitable (close to dwellings, women and men are involved and youths are taught through the process) and sufficient for their needs. The beneficiaries (10,000 people) can now draw water within 500 metres from their households, thus saving on time and energy and enhancing livelihood opportunities, especially for women and girls. The estimated round trip to the water points from the households is 30 minutes. The beneficiaries' costs for hospital charges and medicine cost will be reduced due to minimized occurrence of water-borne and water-washed diseases. The community is sensitized to make sure that they have adequate facilities to collect, store and use sufficient quantity of water for drinking, cooking, personal hygiene and ensure that drinking water remains safe until it is consumed.
- In developing the water collection points, the safety of women and girls is also put under consideration. Many women/girls are sexually molested or raped when they go and fetch water or collect firewood in unsafe areas (streams, rivers or wells) which are secluded from the community. The safety of women and girls, mostly against sexual molesters/rapists, has been assured as the water points are now closer to the households. Before rehabilitation, the beneficiaries were drawing water from rivers and ponds or other water points, which were far from their homes (1 - 2 km).
- The locating of the water points and the types of water pumps also add convenience to children and women when they are drawing water. For example, the manually-operated Bush type water pump can be operated by a child of 6 -7 years old.

Sanitation

- Access to sanitation facilities is emphasized, considering cultural needs. Each family contributes in construction of its own latrine and ensures proper use of latrines. The design of the latrine is according to the local traditional pit latrine improved by providing SanPlats, which adds the hygiene and safety part, which is lacking in the traditional pit latrine.
- The absence of decent latrines had been a problem for the clients and OVC families, particularly where a client is bedridden. The availability of such facilities has reduced the burden of the family members who care for the clients, especially women and children who confessed that they dug pits and covered them as soon as the patients used them.
- The integration of HBC project with WatSan ensured that health and hygiene standards of the client and household members are not compromised.
- The training of caregivers as health and hygiene promoters ensured that there was a combined approach to the service provision.
- The dignity of the clients was retained through the provision of toilets and health education.

Hygiene promotion

- Although it is difficult to measure the hygiene promotion impact in a short time, focus is given on important practices (hygiene messages during critical times) that can rapidly influence people's behaviours and avoid risky unhygienic practices. The field visit conducted by the water and sanitation team in October 2005 indicated that household surroundings are clean, beneficiaries are using washing slabs near rehabilitated water points to wash their clothes, and generally people are wearing cleaner clothes.

Constraints

- The cost of drilling and of purchasing water pump equipment is increasing on a monthly basis due to the unfavourable economic situation in the country. Most private companies peg their tender documents on informal (parallel) market money rates, resulting in high costs of implementation for some of the activities- such as borehole drilling.
- The programme is understaffed to cope with the growing needs and activities. The Federation regional delegation recommended the recruitment of field officers in charge of water and sanitation at provincial level and an assistant WatSan coordinator at headquarters.
- There is a need for improving the reporting format to capture water and sanitation activities.
- Delays in the disbursement of funds also affected the smooth operation of the programme.

Disaster management

Goal: Develop mechanisms of empowering and strengthening communities in disaster management so as to reduce human suffering when disasters occur.

Objective: Strengthen disaster management capacity through capacity building and community involvement by the end of 2005.

Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective):

Communities' capacity strengthened through training of 40 provincial staff, 2,400 volunteers and community members in community-based disaster management by end on 2005.

- Due to lack of funding under the Federation annual appeal, limited activities were undertaken towards training communities in basic disaster management. However, through the support for the 'clean up' exercise, the national society trained 34 staff members and volunteers in basic disaster management focusing on camp management, with technical assistance from the Federation regional delegation.
- The national society sent three programme officers to attend the RDRT workshop held in Namibia from 17 to 30 September 2005. 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. To date the national society has been able to retain 16 of its 18 RDRT-trained staff (one passed on and one left the national society).

Community-based disaster management programmes established based on the Vulnerability Capacity Assessment (VCA) recommendations in the districts of Matobo, Chipinge and Chimanimani.

- The Federation annual appeal received no response to support activities designed from the recommendations of the VCAs conducted during 2003 and 2004 in Matobo, Chimanimani, Chipinge, Chiredzi and Mwenenzi districts. The recommendations included production of drought resistant crops and keeping of small animals like goats. However, these activities are being implemented under the operation 'Garikai/Hlalani Khulhe' (operation stay well) which was launched by the government in July 2005.

Food Security initiatives mainstreamed into the community-based HIV/AIDS programming.

- Under the assistance to households affected by 'clean up' exercise operation, the national society distributed seeds and fertilizers to 530 households relocated to rural areas of Mashonaland Central. Between October and November 2005, Zimbabwe Red Cross Society distributed 13.2 MT of seeds and 19.7 MT of fertilisers to 1,320 vulnerable households who relocated to rural areas in Matebeleland Central province. The agricultural inputs distributed will enable the affected households to produce food during the upcoming rain season. Also in Matebeleland North and South provinces, 200 households are set to benefit from 800 goats, as a source of livelihood in these drought prone provinces.
- Under operation 'Garikai/Hlalani Khulhe', construction of shelter for the families affected by the 'clean up' exercise is planned by the government of Zimbabwe. The national society is supporting a reconstruction programme by providing decent accommodation to the affected OVC only. With the emergency appeal's coverage currently at 38%, the national society is able to construct up to 20 houses for the child-headed households. In Harare, the national society is constructing four two-roomed houses for child-headed households and plans are at an advanced stage to construct three in Bindura, three in Gweru and two in Marondera.
- Food distribution programme, supported by DFID, continued from January in all the project areas to the benefit of HBC client's households, care facilitators and OVC. Agricultural inputs such as seeds and fertilizers were also distributed to these households in preparation for the next crop growing season. The food pipeline has been supported by ECHO, WFP and the Federation. Beneficiaries are now receiving food rations

according to SPHERE minimum standards. There was no distribution in August 2005, however, due to the unavailability of food from the pipeline.

Impact

- The provision of both food and agricultural starter packs has generally improved household food security. The beneficiaries are now able to supplement pulses with other leaf vegetables and herbs to address their nutritional needs. This will help in the transition from short-term to sustainable household food security.
- The national society managed to respond to the effects of the 'clean up' exercise through its grassroots structures that provided the necessary relief to the affected people. Due to the Zimbabwe Red Cross Society' credibility, the government only supported the Red Cross to launch an emergency appeal to raise resources to assist households affected by the 'clean up' exercise.

Constraints

- The response to the needs of the people affected by the 'clean up' exercise was limited by slow response from the donor community.
- The national society continues to face challenges in mobilizing resources for disaster preparedness due to the economic hardships prevalent in the country.
- The current hyper inflationary economic situation, food insecurity, shortage of fuel and basic commodities are increasing the vulnerabilities at community level, demanding support from the humanitarian agencies. There has been a break in the food pipeline due to the critical shortage of foreign currency, fuel and other macro-economic challenges. This resulted in huge negative variances.
- The Zimbabwe Red Cross Society response operation to the 'clean up' exercise diverted all staff and volunteers attention from their normal duties, thus creating gaps in long-term programming.

Humanitarian Values

Goal: Awareness on Humanitarian Values amongst all stakeholders and partnerships are built and sustained with the corporate sector, diplomatic community and the general public

Objective: Humanitarian Values are well known by all in society and the Zimbabwe Red Cross Society is a highly regarded humanitarian organization within the public and the private sector.

Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective):

- With support of ICRC, a dissemination session was held for the defence forces, where the Humanitarian Values, history and activities of the Red Cross were highlighted to increase humanitarian space and cooperation for the Red Cross in its work.
- Internal dissemination was also conducted for staff involved in the food security and livelihood programme to communicate the Red Cross position on the protection and promotion of human dignity in humanitarian work. In addition, the national society held six coordination meetings with the other components of the Red Cross Movement, as well as its bilateral partners, for discussions and updates on the current programmes.
- Participation at key national exhibitions, such as the Harare Agricultural Show held in August 2005 and Zimbabwe International Trade Fair in May 2005, showcased the activities of the national society. This period also marks the beginning of advocacy meetings between the national society and embassies resident in Zimbabwe.
- There was increased media coverage during this reporting period, especially in providing assistance to the families affected by the 'clean up' exercise. Due to its auxiliary role to the government, Zimbabwe Red Cross Society was the only organization allowed to operate in the transit camps, established to temporarily accommodate the displaced people. As part of advocacy, the Red Cross met with the Ministry of Local Government to clarify its role in response to the humanitarian needs of the affected people. Key messages, press statements, question and answer papers regarding the 'clean up' exercise were drafted and shared with all senior Red Cross officers in the country.

- The three-day visit to Zimbabwe by the Federation head of Africa department in July 2005 also contributed to developing a high profile for the national society with the support from the International Federation.
- As part of promoting integration and raising the profile of the plight of OVC, Zimbabwe Red Cross Society launched its OVC advocacy campaign which was attended by members of the public, private sector, government and other humanitarian organizations in the country. This helped to put children issues in the spotlight given the high prevalence of HIV/AIDS in the country.
- A radio programme on first aid was launched at the International Volunteers Day commemoration held in Harare on 5 December 2005. The programme is set to run for 12 months to promote and mobilise volunteers in Zimbabwe. The Zimbabwe Red Cross society also joined the world in commemorating international humanitarian days such as World Refugee Day, First Aid Day and World Risk Reduction Day.

Impact

- Increased interest and understanding of the Red Cross Movement was generated among the defence forces, thereby building on the relationship between the national society and the uniformed forces, which is key to the continued humanitarian work in Zimbabwe.
- The national society also continues to receive positive publicity due to adherence to its mandate by volunteers and staff, especially with the larger public.
- The good relations and understanding of the Red Cross by the authorities resulted in the creation of an enabling environment during the response to the 'clean up' exercise.
- Commemoration of events also helped to boost support for the Red Cross and attract more volunteers for Red Cross activities.

Constraints

- The information department is faced with limited funding to conduct the planned activities. Efforts are however being made to integrate it with other programmes so that most of its activities are programme funded.
- Inflation also had an effect on the cost of many services such as printing and publishing.

Organizational development

Goal: The Zimbabwe Red Cross Society meets all the requirements and indicators of a well functioning national society, which satisfies the humanitarian needs of the most vulnerable groups.

Objectives: The capacity of the Zimbabwe Red Cross Society to design and implement strategic direction is improved.

Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective):

Organizational development

- The national society held a two-day workshop on orientation of governance members who were elected at the General Assembly.
- The national society' policy and regulation committee, chaired by the President, reviewed the Statutes through wide consultation among the members and volunteers, and meetings and workshops were conducted at headquarters and at provincial levels. This process has included the review of the Volunteers Code of Conduct to normalize the gaps that have been identified, and to assist the 250 branches on volunteer management.
- More staff was recruited to try and match the growth of programmes in terms of budget and coverage.

Finance development

- The regional delegation engaged Microsoft Business Solution partners to conduct a system analysis of the Navision accounting system. The system analysis provided the basis for rolling out Navision accounting system to the provincial offices. The following findings were made:

- The dimension structures were not suitable for the type of reporting required by the national society and no system securities had been integrated into the system;
 - The auditing firm engaged by the national society was not completely satisfied with the trial balance figures that were provided by the Navision system;
 - The current posting routines were inadequate for the correct balance reflections in both the general ledger and the sub-ledgers;
 - The system had a range of irrelevant data that needed to be cleaned out;
 - Transactional entries that were posted in the system did not have all the required dimensions linked to them to accurately reflect the data in management reports.
- Consequently, a new system structure was designed to ensure that the system was more suitable for capturing relevant data. This will facilitate the national society to prepare more accurate reports for their donors and the trial balance for the audit firm.
 - The 2004 books of accounts were audited by an external auditing firm.
 - The national society completed the first draft of its financial manual and submitted it to the governance for consideration, finalization and adoption.
 - The regional finance development delegate is supporting the national society to move from working advance to cash transfer system. All relevant documents have been submitted to the national society for familiarization and the process should be finalized in 2006.

Impact

- The recruitment of additional staff will facilitate the national society to prepare more accurate reports for donors and the trial balance for the audit firm.
- The installation and implementation of the Navision accounting system will assist the society to be proficient in reporting and to capture financial transactions on a timely basis.

Constraints

- The Zimbabwe Red Cross Society requires unequivocal governance support to achieve set objectives. Separation of roles of governance and management remained a challenge not only at the national headquarters but throughout the branches. There is a need therefore, to develop a 'compliance guidelines for separation of roles of governance and management' as laid down in the Constitution. This will form the basis for the organizational development agenda in 2006.
- There is a need to look at volunteer, youth and branch development projects that have not received adequate attention due to the workload.
- Although there has been discussions with partner national societies (British, Danish and Japanese) working with Zimbabwe Red Cross Society for programme integration through operationalizing Strategy 2010, the progress is slow due to other emergency priorities.

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

APPEAL No. 05AA017

PLEDGES RECEIVED

28/12/2005

CASH

REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->						10,187,076	TOTAL COVERAGE 20.6%	
BRITISH - RC	30,000	GBP	65,430	15.02.05	WATER/SANITATION			
BRITISH - RC	245,098	GBP	534,559	25.05.05	RC LIVELIHOODS PROGRAMME			
BRITISH - GOVT/DIFD	598,421	GBP	1,356,021	31.08.05	RC LIVELIHOODS PROGRAMME			
FINNISH - GOVT	9,850	EUR	15,258	21.03.05	FOOD OPERATION			
SWEDISH - GOVT/RC	250,000	SEK	42,750	03.06.05	WATER & SANITATION IN MATOBO			
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH						2,014,018	CHF	19.8%

KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
GREAT BRITAIN	DELEGATE(S)			84,800		
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				84,800	CHF	0.8%

ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET

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