

# **MOZAMBIQUE: REHABILITATION, DISASTER PREPAREDNESS, AND CAPACITY BUILDING**

*1 December,  
1999*

*appeal no. 01.20/99  
situation report no. 3  
period covered: July - October, 1999*

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*The main thrust of the Federation's programmes in Mozambique continues to focus on support to the MRCS in retooling itself from a large relief-oriented organisation dependent on outside resources into a self-sustainable entity able to address long-term development and service-delivery to the community. Unfortunately, the programme has been hampered by a low donor response which has brought key activities as well as operational support to a standstill.*

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## ***The context***

The Mozambique Red Cross Society (MRCS) development plan is based on a strategy which sets out to strengthen the capacity of the most vulnerable, particularly in the fields of health and social welfare. The MRCS established the following priorities for this period:

To bring about a strong member-based National Society which is able to cover at least the society's basic costs from its own resources.

To consolidate MRCS' structures at all levels, enabling the National Society to respond more promptly to support victims of any type of disaster.

To support the development of communities to reduce their vulnerability, and to improve disaster response capacity through an integrated policy of disaster prevention and preparedness.

To consolidate and strengthen the community-based health programme, with particular emphasis on community involvement in health education, mother and child health care, education on AIDS and other sexually-transmitted diseases, and provision of water and sanitation.

To consolidate and strengthen the Social Welfare and Youth Programme through the promotion of local initiatives and involvement of a growing number of young people in activities that improve the living conditions of the most vulnerable.

To continue the institutional development of the MRCS with emphasis on improved financial management of the National Society, a higher level of participation of the elected bodies, and better training in management for the provincial branches.

To improve the image of the MRCS at national and international levels, and to promote awareness of the principles of the Red Cross through an Information and Dissemination Programme adapted to the post-relief situation.

To improve the management of MRCS volunteers.

## *Latest events*

The most significant event affecting Mozambique Red Cross Society (MRCS) programmes during the third quarter of 1999 was the reoccurrence of cholera in the provinces of Tete and Cabo Delgado. A lack of sanitation and potable water remain major problems. In Nampula province for instance, 83% of the population (nearly 2.5 million people) do not have latrines, and more than half of the province's population has no access to drinking water. Despite these constraints, a successful polio vaccination campaign has been carried out and it is expected that WHO will include Mozambique among the countries in which polio has been or soon will be eradicated.

A national strategy on HIV/Aids 2000-2002 has been launched, with more of a focus on preventive measures. In accordance with the multi-sectoral approach, key ministries will implement the strategy for target groups within their area (the Social Ministry, for example, will target vulnerable women and orphans). Other priority vulnerable groups are students, and youngsters who do not go to school, long-distance drivers, miners, prostitutes, police and soldiers, street children and people living with HIV/AIDS.

Agricultural development is hampered by land mines. Currently a 77,000 m<sup>2</sup> minefield is being cleared for future cattle farming. A new body, Instituto Nacional Desminagem, has been formed to ensure that mine clearance is integrated into general development plans.

The general and presidential elections are scheduled to be held on 3-4 December, 1999. Voter registration took place 16 July - 28 September, with approximately 8 million people registered.

## *Red Cross/Red Crescent action*

### **Disaster Preparedness •**

The main objectives of this programme are:

- to improve the skills of staff and volunteers in the areas of disaster preparedness, management and implementation; and
- to revise existing vulnerability and capacity assessments and introduce effective norms and management systems for disaster preparedness.

The disaster preparedness officer participated in the VCA workshop in Nairobi in September. This provided an informal opportunity to discuss MRCS disaster preparedness with the regional delegate. The World Disaster report was launched at a press conference in Maputo. A plan has been drafted for MRCS preparedness for the elections in December, and has been discussed with the provincial secretaries during their meeting in Maputo in August.

### **Health •**

The general programme objective in 1999 is to improve the health conditions of the more vulnerable population by preventing disease and promoting health in accordance with the fundamental principles of the Red Cross and the Red Crescent, complementing the government's efforts to provide primary health care in the 34 priority districts in the long term.

Specific objectives are:

- To raise community knowledge and awareness about basic health care and community development.

- To build institutional capacity to implement integrated programmes and response to disaster mitigation.

Supervision visits by HQ staff were made to Inhambane, Cabo Delgado, Niassa, Nampula, Tete, Gaza and Maputo Provinces. Health technicians in Tete, Manica and Sofala provided in-service follow-up training to community trainers during supervision visits. 20 volunteers in Zambezia attended a 2 week Training of Trainers (TOT) course. 163 first aid kits were purchased and 32 medical kits were distributed. The branches were actively involved in the polio vaccination campaign.

During the visit of the Icelandic Red Cross, discussions continued on the future community based health project in Maputo Province. Two MRCS staff participated in an exchange visit to Malawi where Danish Red Cross is funding a community health programme.

The Federation's Health Coordinator and the Director of Programmes participated in regional meetings of the African Red Cross and Red Crescent Health Initiative (ARCHI) 2010, and in the health task force meeting in Harare. These thorough discussions will benefit the development of more focussed MRCS health projects. Drafting of the HIV/AIDS programme is being assisted by the regional delegation whose consultant visited Mozambique in July.

#### **Water and Sanitation •**

The following objectives are being pursued:

- To reduce the incidence of disease related to poor water and/or sanitation facilities.

- To provide water and sanitation facilities effectively.

- To further develop the present capacity to implement water and sanitation projects.

- To provide regular field support to the branches.

- To improve health education.

Activities carried out during this period consisted of the construction of water points and boreholes, rehabilitation of handpumps and construction of latrines in Maputo, Gaza and Tete provinces. Latrine construction has been initiated in Sofala, Manica, Zambezia and Niassa provinces. A company has been contracted to drill boreholes in Manica, Sofala, Niassa and Tete provinces.

Four MRCS staff participated in the Water and Sanitation disaster preparedness exercise in Harare.

#### **Social welfare •**

The general objective is to relieve the effects of social problems among the most vulnerable population, particularly people in resettlement areas, in areas most affected by war, destruction and/or natural disasters, and in peri-urban areas, strengthening their capacity to resolve their problems and complementing efforts by the government and other NGOs.

The specific objective of the street children programme which was included in the 1999 Emergency Appeal is to promote the integration of children in difficult circumstances in the family and community by means of a series of activities in Street Children centers in Maputo and Beira. To address this objective, routine activities have continued at the centres, and the Social Area Coordinator participated in a meeting of the CABAC (Children Affected by Armed Conflict) seminar held in Geneva.

#### **Youth •**

The MRCS Youth programme is integrated into the social welfare programme, with the main activity consisting of a mine awareness programme.

The specific objectives are to:

Raise awareness amongst the population on the danger of land mines.

Improve and maintain danger signals in mine affected areas.

Contribute to the creation of a data base on accidents and areas with landmines at provincial and national levels.

Promote assistance to the victims of landmines.

284 mine awareness sessions were held and 128 local committees were set up. Supervision visits were made to Inhambane, Gaza, Maputo Province and Maputo City, as well as to Tete and Cabo Delgado. Training in mines awareness was held in the provinces of Manica, Maputo Province and Zambezia. Coordination meetings were held in Maputo Province, and with Handicap International with whom discussions continue on whether the MRCS should assume responsibilities in certain areas. Some 299 new youth members were recruited, 40 new groups were created, and 6 restructured. A seminar was held in Gaza on volunteer management and governance.

#### **Institutional Development/Resource Development (ID/RD) •**

The general objectives of the programme are to consolidate the MRCS's basis, to improve the quality and integration of its programmes in a sustainable way, and to disseminate the fundamental principles of the Red Cross, and the humanitarian ideals of peace, reconciliation and mutual assistance. Specific objectives supported by the Federation are to:

consolidate the legal basis of the institution.

develop the operational and management capacity of the MRCS .

improve planning and budgeting procedures.

continue development of human resource management and administration.

The main thrust of the Federation's ID/RD programmes in Mozambique are to support the MRCS in retooling itself from a large relief-oriented organisation dependent on outside resources into a self-sustainable one able to address long-term development and service-delivery to the community.

## ***Outstanding needs***

The main problem facing the Federation operations in Mozambique has been a lack of funds for Delegation management and coordination support costs. Actual programmes have been affected to the extent that fewer monitoring and supervision visits have been carried out than planned. In addition, the lack of timely salary payments as well as the postponement of volunteer incentives have both had a negative impact on programmes. Implementation of the crucial mine awareness programme, for example, has unfortunately been postponed for this reason.

## ***External relations - Government/UN/NGOs/Media***

Frequent favourable reports on the MRCS appear in the Mozambican media. A new English language publication, "Mozambique In View", had a one page article on the MRCS on 16 July entitled: "Tide high for Red Cross". The occasion was the conferring of honorary membership to several prominent personalities when celebrating MRCS 18 "birthday" (10 July). President Chissano who is now honorary President of the MRCS and made a speech which was transmitted by TV.

## ***Contributions***

See Annex 1 for details.

Peter Rees-Gildea  
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 Operations Funding and  
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 Director  
 Africa Department

**MOZAMBIQUE**

ANNEX

**APPEAL No. 01.20/99**

**PLEDGES  
 RECEIVED**

12/03/99

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

REQUESTED	IN			1,488,595	01/01/99	57.27%
APPEAL-----						
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BRITISH - RC		80,000	GBP	185,256	03/01/99	WAT/SAN
CANADIAN - RC/GOVT		120,000	CAD	106,000	02/03/99	HEALTH PROGRAMMES
DANISH - RC		131,090	DKK	28,197	03/08/99	SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION
FINNISH - RC/GOVT		30,274	EUR	48,387	07/07/99	COMMUNITY HEALTH PRG
FINNISH - GOVT		29,512	EUR	47,337	11/15/99	HEALTH PROGRAMMES
ICELANDIC - RC		2,000,000	ISK	40,664	04/01/99	ID PRG
ICELANDIC - RC				87,700	07/12/99	MISSION PEDRO SIMOES
SWEDISH - RC		315,255	SEK	56,777	02/23/99	SOCIAL WELFARE, ST CHILDREN
SWEDISH - RC/GOVT		200,000	SEK	36,020	02/15/99	ID
SWEDISH - RC/GOVT		1,200,000	SEK	216,120	02/15/99	MINE PROJECT
<b>SUB/TOTAL</b>				852,458	CHF	57.27%
<b>RECEIVED IN CASH</b>						

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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