

MAANA002

30/04/2012

**This report covers the
period 1/01/2011 to
31/12/2011**

*Orphan and vulnerable children
pictured at their school receiving
educational material in Caprivi
region, 2011. Photo NRCS*



In brief

Programme outcome

In line with International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies' (IFRC) Strategy 2020, Namibia Red Cross Society strategic plan 2011-2015 provides guidance to the implementation of programmes and the 2011 operation. The main expected outcome of NRCS programming is that communities are resilient to disasters and public health emergencies, with protected livelihoods and strengthened capacity to recover from disasters and crises, with healthy and safe living, social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.

The National Society is committed to provide excellent humanitarian services to those affected by disasters such as the seasonal floods, HIV and AIDS, food insecurity and other vulnerabilities thereby contributing to the realisation of national and global agenda goals such as Vision 2030; improving quality of life of the vulnerable communities, Millennium Developmental Goals; eradicating poverty and hunger and Saving lives, protecting livelihoods, and strengthening recovery from disasters and crisis as well as IFRC Strategy 2020.

Programme summary

The 2011 operation was dominated by disaster response interventions due to the severe floods that hit the northern parts of the country mainly Caprivi, Ohangwena, Oshana, Omusati, Oshikoto and Kavango region. The situation initially unfolded in the Karas and Erongo with approximately 12,000 people affected by the floods from the Orange River and from Kuiseb river. In total, an estimated number of 500,000 people were affected. 60,000 were displaced; 23,275 were in relocation camps and 108 flooding related deaths were reported. In Oshana region in particular, the water levels rose

and reached the highest levels which resulted in more households relocating to higher grounds. Namibia Red Cross Society responded by distributing immediate relief assistance to the affected communities with the support from IFRC and working closely with government in carrying out rapid assessment both at national and community level. The emergency response activities were implemented through a six-month floods response operation which ended in September.

While responding to the flood affected communities, through its volunteers the national society continues to deliver comprehensive services in an integrated approach. Activities on health education, hygiene, HIV/AIDS prevention; treatment adherence, Support of OVC and TB information dissemination were carried out in relocated camps. Red Cross Volunteers based in these camps are trained and have full responsibility of managing the camps, through which Red Cross interventions were easily implemented.

By building community resilience, some initiatives continue to receive important focus such as: disaster preparedness; disaster risk reduction; home based care and water and sanitation in areas where access to clean water and hygiene promotion remains a challenge, especially in the relocated camps. The implementation of programmes have been supported by consistent monitoring of activities and evaluation to ensure quality delivery of services, build positive impact and increase accountability to beneficiaries and partners.

The National Society continued to strengthen its' regional branches, through capacity building of the workforce, membership recruitment and improvement of volunteer management to scale-up its' services in a more efficient and effective way.

The national society appreciates the support of both local and international partners, for the contributions made to the Annual Appeal as well as the Emergency Appeal.

Financial situation

The total 2011 budget is CHF 1,550,716, of which CHF 565,577 (36%) was covered during the reporting period (including opening balance). Overall expenditure during the reporting period was CHF 450,312, corresponding to 29% of the budgeted amount and 80% of the available funding.

[Click here to go directly to the attached financial report](#)

Number of people we have reached

An estimated number of 683,427 people have directly benefited from NRCS services in 2011 and an additional 20,000 more are expected to be reached in 2012.

Table below indicates the breakdown of people reached through different programme

Programme	People Reached	Description
Disaster Response	500,000	Benefited from relief item distributed, relocated to high grounds, health education and disaster risk reduction activities.
HIV/AIDS	33,758	Home Base Care (home visits) and OVC

Programme		support
Water, Hygiene and Sanitation	149,170	Benefited from constructed water points rehabilitated and toilet facilities
Gender	499	Gender related trainings and workshop
Total	683,427	All programmes

Our partners

The NRCS received financial and technical support from the following Movement partners during 2011; Netherlands, Norwegian, Japanese, Swedish, Spanish, Belgium-Flanders and German Red Cross societies as well as the IFRC and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). The National Society also worked closely with UN agencies, government-based and international Organizations like the UNFPA, WHO, WFP, International Organization for migration and the global Fund (in partnership with the Ministry of Health). Collaboration with various government ministries and NGOs continued at all levels. The IFRC and National Society wish to thank all partners for their collaboration and support during the year.

Context

In March 2011, Namibia received severe floods in the northern part of the country, which was declared a disaster as it affected almost half of communities located in the flood prone areas. Due to the floods, 108 people drowned, 60 000 were displaced, 23,275 people were gathered in relocation camps (9,364 families) and altogether 200,000 people's livelihoods were destroyed. The floods resulted in the destruction of houses and crops, as well as roads and other infrastructure, making many communities inaccessible and only reachable by helicopters and boats. This had an adverse impact on the implementation of other NRCS programmes in the affected areas. It also put a strain on NRCS' staff and volunteers, who were over-stretched during the National Society's floods response operation. Similarly, due to flood response, the implementation of other activities such as dissemination of information on the Red Cross and membership recruitment went to a standstill. Field work (home visits and community meetings) stopped as volunteers' movement to various villages was restricted by high levels of water. However, substantial effort was provided to the communities in the relocated camps. Through the implementation of the emergency appeal, the national society managed to effectively respond to the needs of the floods affected people.

One of the impacts of flood is food insecurity or hunger. After crops and vegetable gardens were destroyed, communities are left with insufficient food to take them to the next season. With half of the population depending mainly on subsistence agriculture for their livelihood, communities had to rely on government drought relief for food. Namibia has been faced with recurrent droughts and floods resulting in accumulating food deficits coupled with extreme poverty in rural areas. NRCS therefore continued to support communities with food security initiatives, strengthening communities' resilience through better disaster preparedness strategies and disaster coping and recovery mechanisms.

Despite natural disaster constraints, with support from the IFRC and other Movement partners and community participation, NRCS continued providing services to vulnerable people in an integrated and sustainable approach.

Progress towards outcomes

1. Disaster Management

Outcomes

Programme Component 1: Community-Based Disaster Preparedness
Outcome 1: The human, financial, material resources, and disaster management systems and procedures are enhanced through the implementation of a Disaster Management Master Plan (DMMP).
Outcome 2: Improved disaster preparedness systems and response mechanisms
Outcome 3: Improved NRCS capacity for disaster preparedness

Achievements

- Namibia Red Cross Society' International Disaster Response Laws, Rules and Principles (IDRL) programme was signed followed by an agreement between NRCS and IFRC to delegate a technical person to support the National Society on IDRL. A Legal Researcher was hired to conduct the legal preparedness research. The findings of the research were shared with various stakeholders. The government showed interest and would include the findings of the research in the draft Disaster Management Bill, to increase the country preparedness. NRCS staff and Volunteers in all regions affected by the floods received thorough training during the operation. All flood affected regions have developed disaster response contingency plans with the assistance of NRCS facilitating the process.
- In Caprivi, this year's flooding experience has demonstrated the impact of disaster preparedness activities on early warning systems conducted under Zambezi River Basin Initiative (ZRBI). Communities indicated positive reaction to river rising and flooding warnings. As a result, a total of 88 villages have been relocated permanently to higher grounds both in Caprivi and Kavango Region. Communities were engaged in the identification of higher ground locations and preparation of these areas as reception centres for evacuations.

Outcomes

Programme Component 2: Disaster Response
Outcome 1: Disaster response mechanisms are improved to ensure timely response to minimize the impact of emergencies and disasters on affected populations.

Achievements

After the floods, a state of emergency was declared on 29 March 2011. NRCS and stakeholders conducted rapid assessments to monitor the situation while also responding to the needs of the affected households. The floods response covered all 7 floods affected regions. The response operation was focused on the relief distribution and community education on disease prevention to help the community to cope with the situation as well as minimise the impact of floods on their living conditions. Through IFRCs Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF), 9,364 households received relief items. A total of 11,225 bed nets and 7,500 dignity kits were procured and distributed. The Society managed to distribute 5,354 jerry cans and 2,785,736 water makers in the relocated camps. Distribution continued in all the relocation centers in all the affected regions. The Society also

managed to put up 191 pit latrines and 131 bathing shelters both for women and men in all the different camps.

During the disaster recovery phase, NRCS supported 70 families with materials to construct their houses. The households chosen were the most vulnerable such as child headed families, widows and elderly women. These beneficiaries have been engaged in determining the type of shelter materials to be provided. The targeted beneficiaries are elderly woman, disabled groups, female and child headed households as well as PLWHIV. The program is expected to be completed by December 2011.

Outcomes

Programme Component 3: Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction

Outcome 1: Community knowledge and awareness of the hazards and risks enhanced and development of local risk reduction strategies built on traditional coping mechanisms is increased.

Achievements

Most communities in Caprivi and Kavango regions demonstrated understanding of the importance of identifying hazards and risks by engaging themselves in disaster early warning activities. They have created platforms where they share emerging issues usually facilitated by community leaders (Headmen). Some villages have prepared exit roads to be used for evacuations. Approximately 15,000 household displaced relocated permanently to high grounds in all regions. This signifies a better coping mechanism leading to fast recovery systems. Further, the national society is embarking on implementing shelter recovery program. The initiative is looking into building permanent shelter using corrugated iron, poles, nails and rafters. The appeal budget will be revised to accommodate the shelter program. Funds acquired from AID/OFDA and some of the funds earmarked for shelter are being utilised for the implementation of the shelter recovery program.



Tree planting training at Lisikili area. Photo: NRCS

As part of local risk reduction strategy, the Netherlands Red Cross funded a climate change initiative to support the planting of trees in Caprivi. Communities were mobilized to partake and take ownership of this initiative. Focus was placed on planting indigenous trees that can be used for traditional medicines, firewood and shelter building. This contributes to forestry management and community livelihoods improvements. Thus far, 448 households have planted fruit trees and more still growing in Lisikili village, Caprivi region.

The food security initiative has largely contributed to disaster risk reduction in terms of engaging communities into agricultural projects. During the reporting period, NRCS provided 5 support groups in Kavango, Caprivi and Ohangwena region with agricultural inputs for their gardening projects. The materials received include: spades, watering cans, pangas, rakes, handforks, and wheelbarrows,

measuring tapes, hoes, mesh wire and seeds. The findings from project assessment on seeds and advanced agricultural techniques indicated tremendous improvement in vegetable production, produced for their own consumption and income generating. These initiatives are funded by FAO through the IFRC, Swedish Red Cross and Spanish Red Cross.

Zambezi River Basin Initiative

Achievements

In an effort to increase the access to adequate and nutritious food commodities among communities along the Zambezi river basin, the IFRC and FAO submitted a joint food security proposal to USAID, which was approved during this period. Focus under this joint initiative is on emergency food security production, along with research on drought tolerant as well as pest and disease resistant cash crop varieties. While the FAO will provide agricultural production technical support and capacity building, the IFRC will coordinate and assist NRCS with procurement of inputs as well as performance and accountability. Gardening projects are being developed in Caprivi, and support groups under HBC are the main beneficiaries.

2. Health and Social Services

Outcomes

Programme Component 1: Community-based Health

Outcome 1: Communities' capacity to reduce their own vulnerability to health hazards and injuries through knowledge of community-based health and first aid (CBHFA).

Outcome 2: Communities are protected from tuberculosis (TB) through adequate surveillance, preparedness and response measures.

Outcome 4: Prevalence of malaria in children under five years, pregnant women and people living with HIV (PLHIV) has decreased in NRCS operating areas.

Achievements

Malaria

The malaria project in Caprivi ended its first phase in December. Results from a baseline survey conducted in May indicated the need to double up the distribution of insecticide treated bed net (ITNs) to all households to achieve universal coverage. The gap in the number of LLINs needed to achieve universal coverage was 54%. An estimated 43% (95% confidence interval [CI] 35-50%) of persons of all ages slept under an ITN during the night before the survey and 94% of the ITNs were used the previous night. The project focused on dissemination of information and promotion of the usage of LLIN bed nets. NRCS volunteers consistently monitor the use of bed nets by visiting the households and collect information on bed nets on a monthly basis. A follow-up survey which ended recently, finds that communities have difficulty accessing bed nets after the floods. NRCS is looking into sourcing bed nets from MoHSS for distribution in the targeted area. Moreover, communities demonstrated an increase in malaria knowledge.

Tuberculosis

The TB programme was implemented in the three regions of Omusati, Caprivi and Ohangwena and ended May 2011. The closing figures have shown a total of 491 new patients registered under the community-based Directly Observed Therapy (CBDOTS) programme in all three regions; 8 new defaulters were reported and they were all followed-up and put back on treatment; and 494 TB patients benefited from nutritional support from these regions. It was noted that there is good drug adherence among TB patients under CBDOT as the programme managed to bring all defaulters back on treatment. There is also a good collaboration between home based care volunteers and TB field promoters, thereby enhancing the defaulter tracing of TB/anti-retroviral therapy (ART) patients. The volunteers trained on TB are continuing to take care of the TB patients after the Global Fund project has come to an end.

Community Based First Aid

The NRCS First Aid project has been on hold for a while and during the second half of the year, the unit started with preparation activities to revamp the project funded by the Belgium Red Cross. Currently, the recruitment of staff and orientation is completed. The team undertook an exchange visit to South Africa Red Cross. The sharing of experiences gave the team the understanding of how to operate first aid services, both commercial and community based. Project Cycle Management training was conducted successfully and eight (8) NRCS staff were trained and received certificates. The training included information on how to design a project and roles involved at each stage of the project cycle from initiation to evaluation. So far, 15 volunteers from Khomas region were trained on First Aid, Level one. The team developed the draft NRCS First Aid Policy, which is due for adoption by the board in the first quarter of 2012.

HIV and AIDS

Outcomes

Programme: HIV and AIDS
Outcome 1: Reduced exposure to possible HIV infection and improved quality care among HIV/AIDS Vulnerable communities.
Outcome 2: Improved quality comprehensive care and support for people living with HIV (PLHIV) and orphans and vulnerable children (OVC)
Outcome 3: Improved impact mitigation action and reduced stigma and discrimination

Achievements

Prevention activities remain the main strategy in the fight against new HIV infections. Some key activities include condom distribution, peer education, and IEC materials. The period under review recorded 228,291 condoms distributed, 22,481 people reached with IEC materials and 70,596 people reached with preventive messages through peer education. Although figures fluctuate every year, within the number of people reached with these activities, evaluation studies have indicated that there is an increase in HIV incidences due to cases related to reproductive health. The study confirmed that HIV positive mothers are keen to have children and often conceive without medical supervision. There is an increase of 18,891 condoms distributed this year however, though still no clear indicators of measuring condom use.

By expanding care, treatment and support, the focus is on support for HBC clients and OVC, concentrating on treatment adherence, psychosocial support and materials.

A total of 33,156 clients are currently in care excluding OVC. These clients are being supported through home visits by Red Cross Volunteers. The figure has decreased with 1,190 people. This can be attributed mainly due to discharge either due to recovery or death. At least 207 clients were discharged while 98 died. Approximately 23,169 clients are on ART and 2,639 are on TB treatment. Adherence to ART and TB treatment has improved and there are currently 157 HIV/AIDS support groups in the programme. The Tusano (post club) project aimed at encouraging PLHIV to join support groups left a legacy of active support group members who are engaged in various income generating activities.

There are currently 6,648 OVC in care (2,248 boys and 4,400 girls). The figure relatively doubled in comparison to 37999 in 2010. The OVC programme in Kavango and Otjozondjupa region resumed and 1000 new OVC were identified through Vulnerability Capacity Assessment. Children in care received hygiene packs, school uniforms and casual wear, school fees (i.e. exempted from school fees), blankets and Christmas gifts (see photo on cover page). However, the national programme is experiencing shortage of material support for the OVC support package, which is mainly due to funding drying up from RNE, COW and the EU project in Ohangwena. Approximately, 345 OVC were discharged from the program and no deaths were recorded this year.



A complete shelter for OVC and family. Photo: NRCS



Guardians receiving goats. Photo: NRCS

The OVC programme constructed and rehabilitated shelter to restore dignity in the lives of affected families. NRCS has assisted a family of 4 to construct the sleeping room made out of traditional material. In Kavango region, the OVC project engaged in livelihood support for the guardians as well as NRCS volunteers.

The guardians and volunteers in clubs received 2 oxen and 1 cow per club. The oxen will be used for ploughing. The Shunyungwe guardians' club members received 15 goats with the support from the food security project (DRR). NRCS delivered the

goats to the Club with medicine to treat the goats. The idea behind the initiative is that, once the goats multiply the guardians can sell and the profit made from the projects is to support OVC within

the surrounding communities. NRCS will request the ministry of Agriculture for technical support and assist on the monitoring process of this initiative.

Outcomes

Programme Component: Water and Sanitation

Outcome 1: Access to safe water, sanitation facilities and hygiene promotion in identified vulnerable communities is increased

Achievements

The water and sanitation project in Kunene and Ohangwena regions came to an end in April 2011. A new phase of funding is continuing for the next four years in the same regions inclusive of Kavango region. During the period under review, the project has been continuing with the carried over activities from the ACP2 funding which ended April. Out of 24, 11 water points were handed over to the communities. In total 53 villages are still remaining to complete ACP2 commitments. Fifteen villages were trained in care taker training. In Kunene, 13 rehabilitations are completed. The other carry-over activities have yet to be started (Kunene: 2 springs, 17 new handdug wells; Ohangwena: 8 new handdug wells). Total number 251 latrines were installed from the target of 250 latrines.

There is an improvement on making safe water accessible to communities in Kunene as more additional water facilities are provided to communities. The hygiene promotion campaign remains a strategy to assist communities to break out of harmful cultural norms that exposes them to sickness and water borne diseases. Refresher training for eight volunteers was conducted to review important facts of hygiene promotion in the community and give basic information on the use of drama skills for hygiene promotion.

The end of ACP 2 project evaluation has also showed positive impact of the project including an improvement in knowledge of water related diseases, as well as changed attitudes and improved hygiene practices among targeted communities. The new project phase is currently finalizing the baseline survey in all three regions.

3. Organisational Development

Outcomes

Programme component: Leadership and Management Development

Outcome 1: NRCS leadership (governance and management) capacity increased in developing and implementing policies and strategies for optimal organization, performance and accountability.

Achievements

The national society has a well-represented governing board that draws its board members from all the 8 regional board committees in the regions. With its presence in the communities through its projects, NRCS has gained respect among the vulnerable. Functional governance structures are in place in all 8 of the Regions (Omusati, Kavango, Ohangwena, Kunene, Khomas Oshikoto, Otjozondjupa and Caprivi) and meet regularly. Ohangwena and Kunene regions demonstrated knowledge on how to conduct assemblies and the skills were transferred to Omusati with support from Belgium Red Cross Flanders and Swedish Red Cross funding in 2011. Although it has been a challenge to mobilise Red Cross members and communities to attend regional board elections in the past, Omusati region scored with the attendance of 290 NRCS members at the regional & constituency elections meeting. The National Governing Board established resource mobilization sub-committees to deal with fund raising initiatives.

Outcomes

Programme Component: Branch Development
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Outcome 1: Regional offices are strengthened and have capacity to effectively and efficiently deliver services to the vulnerable communities
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Achievements

The Organizational Development unit organized a three day lessons learned workshop for all regional branch staff to review operation procedures and progress made in the three years of the ICB fund implementation. The purpose of the meeting included sharing of experiences and identification of areas for improvement in the operation. The meeting resolutions are expected to help staff to perform better and achieve increased results. The National Society was assisted by professional volunteers in the area of photography, website development, event organization and general administration at regional branch offices.

Outcomes

Programme components: Volunteers and membership management

Outcome 1: Increased sustainable membership base and volunteers of the national society

Achievements

The national society is working on improving its current membership base. Membership IEC Materials have been developed to enable the national society to recruit more members. IEC materials are distributed to all regions to use during membership recruitment campaigns. Some are being distributed at local airports and in all Namibia Red Cross Society public events. Membership guideline has been drafted and will be finalised.

The national society has approximately 4,000 volunteers and the volunteer management capacity has been improving through the development of the Volunteer Policy & Management Guideline. Twelve regional staffs were trained in volunteer management in 2011.

Outcomes

Programme Component: Youth Red Cross Development

Outcome 1: Increase % of NRCS youth responding to the needs of vulnerable people in their communities
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Achievements

Red Cross youth initiative has been carried out in three regions with funding from Belgium Red Cross Flanders. This year, (Eenhana) Ohangwena region had an exchange visit with Harlebeck youth team for a period of one month to strengthen the local youth committees operations and promote networking and international friendship. Some of the exchange visit achievements included; development of annual youth activity plan, build networks with local school clubs to strengthen youth activities in the region and enhanced ideas on fundraising initiatives and the exchange visit to Harlebeck in 2012. Further, Kunene elected constituency youth committees and participated in the youth expo, a platform used to recruit more Red Cross members. All three regions were trained in youth leadership training.

4. Humanitarian Diplomacy

Outcomes

Programme Component: Principles and Values

Outcome 1: Increased understanding and respect of FP/HV, the emblem and Humanitarian laws
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Outcome 2: Increased % of NRCS partners responding to the needs of vulnerable people

Outcome 3: NRCS is able to meet at least 50% of its core costs by the end of 2015 toward sustainability
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Achievements

NRCS continue to disseminate the Fundamental Principles through its network of volunteers. The information usually shared through various platforms; community meetings, home visits, press conferences, regional business shows and youth expo. Society used the opportunity to spread messages on respect for gender and diversity. With the support from ICRC, NRCS trained the high level military personnel to ensure the understanding of the International Humanitarian Law, Emblem of humanity and Geneva Conventions.

In 2011, NRCS with support from ICRC continued to pursue its goal of strengthening organizational capacity in communication, information, dissemination, and advocacy for a good corporate image. The Unit focused on the creation of awareness about NRCS through information dissemination, radio talk shows, media field trips, press conference and press releases. The Unit produced quarterly newsletters and they were distributed to the branches. The focus was to ensure that media

attended the press conferences and covered the events. The national society appeared 40 times in the media (TV, radio and newspapers).

During this period, resource mobilization training was conducted for the resource mobilization regional committees of Kunene and Otjozondjupa. A considerable amount of funds was collected through various initiatives. The airport and hotel collection boxes initiative raised a total of CHF 1,150 (9,709 Namibian dollars). The National Society donated CHF 1,184 (10,000 Namibian dollars) to Algino Bertolini, a child in need of a liver transplant after a public call by parents. Another amount of CHF 1,184 (10,000 Namibian dollars) was raised from the Namibian public through a fundraising campaign. These kinds of activity will be hosted frequently and continuously through ongoing collaboration with Mobile Telecommunication (MTC).

Constraints or Challenges

- As a number of areas in the Ohangwena region were severely affected by floods, some activities related to volunteer/youth development had to be put on hold until the situation improved.
- Lack of adequate funds for NRCS' website revamp project resulted in only limited progress being made with this activity.
- The theft of coins and vandalizing of the collection box placed at the airport posed a security concern to the collection boxes initiative. Following this, there is a plan to replace the box with a metal one.

Working in partnership

The IFRC and ICRC's continued financial and technical support is enabling the NRCS to achieve its goals of serving the vulnerable communities in Namibia. In addition, the National Society has formed partnership with the Netherlands, Norwegian, Spanish, German, Swedish and Belgium Red Cross Societies, the Ministry of Health and the Global Fund – Namibia. Through these partnerships, NRCS strengthens its' relationships for better coordination and improved service delivery at all levels. There is however a need to formalize these partnerships through the signing of Memoranda of Understanding, to ensure sustainability of programmes.

Since 2008, NRCS has had an agreement with UNFPA to fund activities related to gender during emergencies. The National Society has also been engaged with the United Nations Volunteers and National Planning Commission as part of a committee formulating a National Volunteer Policy. It continues to collaborate with various government ministries and NGOs at all levels. NRCS enjoys the support of local companies such as Mobile Tele Communication, Namibia Airports Company, Woermann Brock, Safari Hotel and Kalahari Hotel in their involvement in fundraising activities.

Contributing to longer-term impact

NRCS programmes attempt to find synergies within national and international strategies, in order to improve the quality of lives of vulnerable communities. Programmes are aligned with IFRC's

Strategy 2020 and meet the objectives of the Johannesburg Commitments. The programmes focus on involving and strengthening the capacity of the communities so that they are able to address their own vulnerabilities. The focus is on Community empowerment targeting more women than men following an increase of female headed households, as a result of HIV related mortality.

With capacity building in floods response, the volunteers and staff are equipped and have the ability to respond to future disasters. Incorporation of messages targeting gender violence is being encouraged by all volunteers, as gender based violence is on the increase in Namibia. The collaboration between the NRCS and Ministry of Agriculture at the regional level has greatly improved in food security interventions. The National Society, through the usage of a database, was able to continuously monitor the progress and impact of its water and sanitation project.

Looking ahead

The current year, NRCS will strengthen its first aid unit with support from the Belgium Red Cross. Focus will be on both commercial as well as community-based first aid. Strengthening NRCS' disaster preparedness capacity remains the top priority for the National Society. In terms of humanitarian diplomacy, the priority is still on information dissemination so that membership recruitment reaches its set targets. In this regard, efforts will continue to be made in the area of mobilization of youth to join the Red Cross. Strengthening of planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting systems will also remain high on the agenda for the National Society.

How we work

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

The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

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Saving lives, changing minds.



The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of nonviolence and peace.

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