

# **MOZAMBIQUE, BOTSWANA, SWAZILAND, ZIMBABWE: FLOODS**

10 March, 2000

*appeal no. 04/2000 (revision 2)*

*situation report no. 05*

*period covered: 7 - 10 March, 2000*

*Appeal 04/2000 was originally launched on 11 February 2000 for CHF 2,800,000. Responding to the evolving nature of the disaster, Revision No. 1 was issued on 25 February, 2000 with a particular focus on Swaziland, and reflecting a revised total budget of CHF 4,667,312. With the situation in the region continuing to worsen, revision no. 2 of Appeal 04/2000 including Zimbabwe was issued on 2 March, 2000, reflecting a total revised budget of CHF 11,346,464.*

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*While the floods are diminishing and rivers are receding to their normal levels in some areas of Mozambique, ongoing heavy rains continue to provoke renewed flooding, causing serious logistics constraints, particularly with air operations. Meanwhile, residents are returning to their homes or areas of origin and finding that the floods have swept away houses and all possessions. The Federation continues to assist the National Societies in each of the affected countries, but Mozambique remains the hardest hit and efforts are primarily focused on alleviating the situation and providing humanitarian assistance there. While the emphasis is on delivering food and non-food relief items, the Federation is also focusing on organising technical assistance to assess the health, water, and sanitation situation, monitoring the malaria and cholera conditions, and assessing the work to be undertaken in disinfecting water points, wells, and boreholes, as well as the drilling and construction of new boreholes. Reports indicate an excellent spirit of collaboration and cooperation between the Participating National Societies (PNSs), Operating National Societies (ONSs) and the Federation, particularly in Mozambique.*

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## ***The context***

The two cyclones which hit southeastern Africa produced heavy rains and strong winds throughout the region, causing overflowing rivers and pressure on dams, and resulting in widespread flooding in large areas of Mozambique, Swaziland, Botswana, Zimbabwe, and South Africa. Close to two million people

are estimated to be affected throughout the region. Main road and rail lines have been severed, with widespread damage to other infrastructure. Cultivated land was destroyed and it is feared that severe food shortages will occur in the longer term. In each of the affected countries, the Federation is coordinating the relief response with the respective National Societies, as well as with UN agencies and NGOs.

The first priority in the affected countries has been to rescue marooned people, then to provide basic relief assistance. To respond to the disaster and to support the Mozambican Red Cross (CVM) and the Botswana Red Cross (BRC), the Federation launched an appeal on February 11, and later extended it to Swaziland and Zimbabwe following a dramatic expansion of the affected area. The evolving nature of the situation together with the management and co-ordination requirements in the region required a major infusion of additional support.

## *Latest events*

In Mozambique, while search and rescue missions are now almost complete, according to the National Institute for Disaster Management (INGC) a group of some 20,000 persons was reportedly found stranded about 50 km from the town of Mabalane (Gaza province), and a major military and multi-agency effort is underway to provide emergency relief items for this group of people.

Currently, 74 accommodation centres are operational, but reports indicate that flood victims who sought shelter and assistance in temporary camps are heading back to their homes or areas of origin. Air assets have been fully utilised. Road access is expected to be further improved as the waters recede and emergency repair works continue.

The most frequently reported diseases continue to be malaria, diarrhoea, skin diseases, and respiratory diseases. Despite the number of cases of cholera reported in Maputo and Sofala provinces, there is no cholera epidemic. In Nova Mambone and Doane (Inhambane province), the number of cases of malaria has risen from 85 last week, to 340 today. The stock of medicines in each district is sufficient for the time being. These stocks will need to be maintained to ensure there is no interruption of treatment. One of the main difficulties continues to be the lack of access to certain areas.

Meanwhile, President Joaquim Chissano of Mozambique has said the number of people affected by the country's devastating floods had reached at least two million, and predicted that the death toll would run into thousands. The economy was still being assessed, but initial estimates for the repair of roads and bridges were currently at US \$89 million and mounting, with electricity infrastructure repairs to cost of US \$10 million.

WFP, the lead UN agency managing the international relief effort, indicated that a new appeal for Mozambique was under preparation for US \$27 million. Roughly a quarter of the country's farmlands are estimated to have been damaged in the flooding. Since the beginning of the operation, WFP reports that 1,464 mt of food have been delivered by air and road, and 125 mt of food was being delivered daily to flood victims throughout the country.

The overall relief effort has been handicapped by a lack of communications systems.

In Zimbabwe, while estimates of the numbers of affected people are still being verified, the working figure used by the humanitarian organisations present at a UNDP-organised meeting in Harare on 8 March focused on 96,000 affected people, 20,000 of whom are displaced. As rains continue in some areas, rehabilitation of infrastructure, houses and fields is being initiated where possible. Manicaland Province is one of the worst affected areas, with 3 out of the 7 Districts badly affected (Chipinge and Chimanimani being worst hit, and Mutare to a lesser degree). In these areas people were airlifted from tree tops and roofs at the beginning of the disaster. It is only this week that access by road has been possible. The government was only able to gain access to the area on Tuesday, 7 March, and is now

clearing fallen trees and assessing the damage to the infrastructure. On the route between Mutare and Chipinge South, 4 main bridges were swept away and 5 were partially damaged.

Meanwhile, Zambia has also been afflicted by floods. Following the opening of the spillway gates on Lake Kariba at the end of February, flooding occurred downstream over several days in areas along the Zambezi River, especially Luangwa and Chiawa Districts. Heavy rains in the upper catchments had filled the dam to capacity and pressure had to be released to avoid risking the dam. The Government announced that 7,000 people in Luangwa were affected and that 12,000 people in Chiawa were displaced. UNICEF reports 140 families affected. It is reported that maize crops have been swept away and that groundnuts and pumpkins are rotting under water. Farmers prematurely harvested their crops in some cases but food shortages are expected when these supplies are exhausted.

The Zambia Red Cross mobilised two assessment teams - one for Luangwa and one for Chavuma. They are being deployed with plastic sheeting, buckets and water treatment chemicals and a health kit containing chlorine and ORS. The Federation Delegation in Zambia is monitoring and supporting the Zambia Red Cross operation to address immediate needs.

## ***Red Cross/Red Crescent action***

### **Mozambique •**

#### ***Health:***

- Rains in Maputo were heavy enough to necessitate the evacuation of people evacuated in some locations and affecting the scheduled arrival of incoming relief flights.
- The Federation's health advisor has assessed several areas including Macia and Chokwe, locations along the Save river, and Nova Mambone, indicating the most urgent needs are in water sanitation around the Save river basin. Responding to the fact that people are moving back to their homes or areas of origin (camps will be empty in an estimated 3 weeks), Red Cross efforts will concentrate on their safe return and the re-establishment of a healthy environment, including the cleaning of the Chokwe hospital.
- The most common health problems are related to malaria, diarrhoeal disease, skin and respiratory tract diseases.
- The WHO has issued a Malaria Epidemic Risk Red Alert for the flooded areas for March, April and May, covering Zimbabwe, South Africa, Botswana and Namibia. The incidence is predicted to reach epidemic proportions and there are already reports claiming a four fold increase in certain geographical areas. Following up on the Mozambican health authorities and WHO reports from last week of more than 1,000 cases of diarrhoeal disease feared to be cholera, there appear to be no actual outbreaks. However, given the hazardous water and sanitation situation in many areas, stringent monitoring will be carried out.
- Comprehensive rehabilitation surveys are underway, establishing health priority needs, including water and sanitation, which will need to be addressed for the next 6 months.
- Adding to the overall dangerous situation is the threat of dislodged mines, a risk emphasised recently by the Mozambican President.

#### ***Water and Sanitation***

- A total of four Federation water and sanitation delegates are operational throughout the affected areas.
- Emergency water supply and latrine construction has taken place in several hard hit suburbs in Maputo, in collaboration with the government and MSF.
- A joint Federation/Oxfam/UNICEF/Government assessment mission to Gaza Province was carried out to assess water and sanitation needs, and to formulate a plan of action for Gaza. The Red Cross has proposed the following activities for the Macia and Chokwe area:
  - a. providing safe water supplies in the peri-urban and rural areas surrounding Chokwe, targeting those existing supplies damaged or polluted by the floodwaters. This will initially target 50 water points, and eventually over a period of 6 months target 150 water points

covering the needs of approximately 15,000-20,000 beneficiaries. The intervention will include the installation of water purification plants, chlorination of family wells, vector control, and assistance to local authorities in the rehabilitation of the power and water supply system.

- b. In the Mambone region, a first urgent measure will be the chlorination of some 2,500 family wells, as well as the rehabilitation of the wells.
- c. A further water and sanitation assessment for the Maputo area has started. A plan of action for the next six months will be established mainly focusing on the rehabilitation and disinfecting of water points, wells and boreholes, plus the drilling and construction of new boreholes.
- d. In the areas flooded by the Save River, the Federation and Mozambican Red Cross are planning to disinfect and clean 2,500 family wells as people return rapidly to their place of origin.

A parallel assessment is focusing on the water and sanitation situation in Beira.

### **Zimbabwe •**

The Zimbabwe Red Cross is represented by the Provincial Programme Officers (PPOs) and volunteers in the affected provinces. This week the Secretary General and the Disaster Coordinator have assessed the three most affected provinces prior to further interventions, and coordinating the operation with the authorities and aid organisations.

Each province is procuring and distributing relief items using resources released by the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF), as well as funds raised locally in Harare and within the affected provinces themselves. A Royal Netherlands Air Force aircraft arrived at Harare on 9 March, delivering 25 tonnes of cargo contributed by the Netherlands Red Cross. Some 7,000 blankets and 170 stretchers are being shipped to Maputo, and the remainder of the consignment (3,000 blankets, 80 rolls of plastic sheeting, and 110 stretchers) has been contributed to the Zimbabwe Red Cross operation.

In Matabeleland South, the evacuees previously housed in 9 camps have begun to return to their areas of origin, and are beginning to reconstruct their houses. During this period, tents are in urgent need, as well as material to repair their homes (tools, poles and cement). The Red Cross volunteers and members of the community who have received one week of training in health education are continuing to carry out health campaigns and assist in reconstruction work.

In Manicaland Province, the Red Cross has continued to procure the following relief items which were then air lifted to the inaccessible areas and distributed to beneficiaries: 3,000 kgs of mealie meal, 3,350 litres of cooking oil, 1,200 kgs beans, 260 kgs sugar, 75 kgs of Kapenta (dried fish), 375 kgs of salt, and 100 plates and mugs. In addition, 2,100 blankets (of which 100 were funded by the Manicaland Red Cross Province) have also been distributed and rain coats and gum boots, mosquito coils, milk and tea, were purchased to support volunteer groups. Because the relief items were air lifted to the affected areas and distributed under difficult weather conditions, the total number of beneficiaries is not yet known. With improved access to the areas, however, this information is expected to become available from the villagers.

The Red Cross has assisted and sheltered 125 people from the Tongogara refugee camp at the Red Cross premises. Because of the insufficient facilities there, they were moved to the community hall after a week and were then transferred back to the camp on Tuesday, 7 March.

Red Cross volunteers from Chipinge are assisting in health education and awareness campaigns carried out by the Ministry of Health. Education sessions are focusing particularly on water borne diseases, malaria and water/sanitation issues.

The major problem in Chipinge and Chimanimani is accessibility. The Red Cross PPO and volunteers were only able to gain access to the sites on Wednesday, 8 March. But even then, because of the heavy

rain fall, access to more remote villages became impossible during the visit because of the rising rivers. The magnitude of the disaster is, however, clear. In some places entire villages had been wiped out. Some areas of Chimanimani still remain to be accessed.

Manicaland Province has 120 active volunteers: 16 are in Chipinge, and 14 in Mutare. However, there has been no communication with the volunteers in Chimanimani due to the situation there.

The Red Cross is carrying out a household survey in close cooperation with the District Ward Counsellors (responsible for approximately 12 villages each) in the previously non-accessible areas of Chipinge and Chimanimani. The PPO, volunteers and the Ward Counsellor identify and train members of the community who are assisting in carrying out the survey, expected to have covered 400 households by Sunday 12 March, 2000.

In Masvingo Province, food and non-food items, including water purification tablets, have been distributed in the Bubi River area and Malipati in Chiredzi District. 2,000 blankets have arrived in Masvingo. Donations from the local community in the form of clothes, food and cash are still arriving. Because of the floods, many boreholes have broken down, shallow wells are polluted, and water borne diseases are on the increase. There has also been a dramatic increase in malaria cases. A Red Cross first aid team has been airlifted by helicopter to the Malipati area, to carry out health and sanitation education.

### **Delegates •**

The number of delegates for Maputo are being increased, with a focus on relief coordinators, logistics personnel, and administrative and finance delegates.

### **Assessment mission •**

The Federation and the respective National Societies are in the process of forming and fielding two assessment teams to respond to the need for Red Cross assistance beyond the immediate emergency phase, and to formulate a plan of action to effectively channel international support. The separate assessments will seek to support and complement the Mozambique Country Assistance Strategy and the Regional Assistance Strategy for Southern Africa. The following are the broad objectives of the mission:

- assess the overall situation: needs and capacities in the affected areas as well as the National Societies' capacity at the Headquarters and branch levels to respond, and determine what additional capacities are required.
- assess the health needs, taking into account the post disaster risks including cholera, malaria, and the need for a first aid and health education programme (ARCHI 2010 process), as well as the involvement of the public sector and NGOs.
- assess the needs in water and sanitation, hard and software, involvement of local structures and communities including Red Cross branches in education/awareness, rehabilitation and construction (already in progress in Mozambique), non-food item needs (shelter, clothes, household utensils, and agricultural tools). Disaster preparedness needs in local communities, and National Societies on central and branch levels will be identified.
- propose a broad plan of action for each country - taking into account an exit strategy - with an indicative budget that is realistic in terms of the capacity of the National Society to manage the programme, and which has realistic overall objectives and indicators to be achieved within a 6 to 12-month period.

## ***Outstanding needs***

The operation is in urgent need of cash contributions to effectively transport and deliver the in-kind assistance received to date. The following table reflects basic relief item needs specified by the field.

	<b>Mozambique</b>	<b>Zimbabwe</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Family tents</b>	3,000	5,000	8,000
<b>Plastic sheeting</b>	20,000	15,000	35,000
<b>Plastic rolls</b>	500	500	1,000
<b>Blankets</b>	25,000	20,000	45,000
<b>WHO Health Kits</b>	3	4	7
<b>Hospital tents</b>	-	5	5
<b>Mobile warehouses</b>	-	2	2
<b>Collapsible water bladders</b>	6	10	16
<b>Plastic buckets</b>	-	3,000	3,000
<b>Hand pumps</b>	20	20	40
<b>Water testing kits</b>	-	4	4
<b>Clean-up kits (sanitation)</b>	-	2,000	2,000
<b>Mosquito nets</b>	-	5,000	5,000
<b>Protective masks</b>	-	320	320
<b>Synthetic sleeping mats</b>	-	3,000	3,000

*Note: due to the limited storage capacity available at the airport in Mozambique and the ongoing logistics/transport constraints caused by bad weather, the Federation is attempting to clear and distribute existing stock. While donors are encouraged to prepare and communicate contributions for Mozambique, the actual despatch of goods should not occur before the mid to end of next week (22 - 24 March). Relief support intended for Zimbabwe should be despatched immediately.*

In addition, vehicles (both heavy transport trucks and light cars/pickups) to assist the logistics, assessment, and management and coordination of the operation both in Mozambique and Zimbabwe are also urgently required.

## **Contributions**

See Annex 1 for details (list of contributions) and the Logistics Pipeline Tracking update. All donors are encouraged to complete and submit Pledge Management Notes (PMNs) when a cash or in-kind contribution has been made or sent.

All in-kind consignments must bear a **Federation commodity tracking number**, allocated by the Federation Logistics Service. **Please contact Misha Chitahvili at phone +41 22 730 43 05, or by email: chitashv@ifrc.org**

*Please direct other operational questions or queries to Richard Hunlede, Federation Desk Officer; phone +41 22 730 3314, or email: Hunlede@ifrc.org*

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**Mozambique, Botswana & Swaziland: Floods**

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**APPEAL No. 04/2000 R2 PLEDGES RECEIVED**

03.10.2000

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

REQUESTED APPEAL	IN CHF		11,346,464		55.2%
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AUSTRIA - RC	1,500,000	ATS	175,665	02.24.2000	MOZ/BOTS (Rehabilitation)
BRITISH - GOVT/RC	228,000	GBP	590,520	17.02.2000	MOZAMBIQUE - relief supplies
BRITISH - RC	100,000	GBP	259,000	03.08.2000	MOZAMBIQUE
BRITISH - RC	100,000	GBP	259,000	03.10.2000	MOZAMBIQUE - NON-COSTS
BRITISH - RC	100,000	GBP	259,000	03.10.2000	ZIMBABWE - NON-COSTS
CANADA - RC	50,000	CAD	54,235	02.28.2000	MOZAMBIQUE AND BOTSWANA
CANADA - GOVT/RC	275,000	CAD	275,000	03.03.2000	MOZ/SWAZ/ZIMBABWE
CHINA - GOVT/RC	20,000	USD	31,480	03.03.2000	ZIMBABWE
CHINA - GOVT/RC	10,000	USD	15,740	03.03.2000	MOZAMBIQUE
DENMARK - RC			64,950	18.02.2000	MOZAMBIQUE
FINLAND - GOVT/RC	50,456	EUR	81,310	02.28.2000	MOZAMBIQUE
FINLAND - RC	33,637	EUR	54,206	02.28.2000	
HUNGARY - GOVT/RC	3,000,000	HUF	18,969	03.09.2000	MOZAMBIQUE
ICELAND - RC	1,000,000	ISK	21,895	14.02.2000	MOZAMBIQUE
IRELAND - RC	20,000	IEP	40,940	03.01.2000	MOZAMBIQUE
JAPAN - RC			154,000	03.02.2000	
KOREAN REP - RC			12,700	03.03.2000	
KOREAN REP - RC/PRIVATE			7,300	03.03.2000	
LIECHTENSTEIN - RC			150,000	03.10.2000	MOZAMBIQUE
MONACO - RC	200,000	FRF	49,160	03.03.2000	
NORWAY - GOVT/RC	3,000,000	NOK	593,925	23.02.2000	MOZAMBIQUE AND BOTSWANA
NORWAY - GOVT/RC	1,980,000	NOK	391,992	03.02.2000	
NORWAY - RC	220,000	NOK	43,554	03.02.2000	
OPEC FUND	200,000	USD	314,800	25.02.2000	MOZAMBIQUE
SWEDEN - GOVT/RC	1,250,000	SEK	233,375	15.02.2000	MOZAMBIQUE
SWEDEN - RC	2,250,000	SEK	420,075	03.03.2000	
SWITZERLAND - RC			100,000	03.09.2000	MOZAMBIQUE
AMERICAN - GOVT/MISSION	25,000	USD	39,350	03.06.2000	ZIMBABWE
AMERICAN - RC	75,000	USD	117,750	02.24.2000	
<b>SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH</b>			<b>4,829,891</b>	<b>CHF</b>	<b>42.6%</b>

**KIND AND SERVICES**

**(INCLUDING  
PERSONNEL)**

DONOR	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
BELGIUM - RC	350,000	BEF	13,981	03.01.2000	500 PLASTIC SHEETING
BRITISH-RC/GOVT	166,493	USD	271,425	02.17.2000	408 TENTS - MOZAMBIQUE
BRITISH-RC/GOVT	17,000	GBP	44,283	02.17.2000	RELIEF DELEGATE MOZAMBIQUE
BRITISH - RC			410,750	03.10.2000	MOZAMBIQUE - TENTS, SETS, JERRY CANS, AQUATABS AND SOAP
BRITISH - RC			406,500	03.10.2000	ZIMBABWE - TENTS, SETS, JERRY CANS, AQUATABS AND SOAP
NETHERLANDS - RC	111,650	NLG	81,679	03.02.2000	MOZAMBIQUE - BLANKETS, STRETCHERS, COOKING SETS, JERRY CANS, AND BUCKETS
NETHERLANDS - RC	217,650	NLG	159,225	03.02.2000	ZIMBABWE - BLANKETS, STRETCHERS, P. SHEETS, COOKING SETS, JERRY CANS, SOAP AND BUCKETS
SPANISH RC	1,810,100	ESP	17,538	02.17.2000	2300 BLANKETS MOZAMBIQUE
SPANISH RC	3,100,000	ESP	30,035	02.17.2000	500 KITCHEN SETS MOZAMBIQUE
GERMAN RC/GOVT				02.16.2000	TENTS - BOTSWANA
GERMAN RC/GOVT				02.16.2000	BLANKETS - BOTSWANA
<b>SUB/TOTAL</b>			1,435,416	CHF	12.7%
<b>RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES</b>					

**ADDITIONAL TO  
APPEAL BUDGET**

DONOR	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SPANISH RC	6,500,000	ESP	62,978	02/17/00	100 TENTS - MOZAMBIQUE
SPANISH RC	10,825,000	ESP	104,883	02/17/00	4 WATER MOBILE PLANTS - MOZ
SPANISH RC	793,500	ESP	7,688	02/17/00	2300 JERRY CANS - MOZ
AMERICAN - RC	25,000	USD	39,250	02.24.2000	SOUTH AFRICA
<b>SUB/TOTAL</b>			214,799	CHF	
<b>RECEIVED</b>					