

# EMERGENCY APPEAL



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies  
Fédération Internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge  
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja  
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

## NAMIBIA: CAPRIVI FLOODS

Appeal no. MDRNA003  
Glide no. FL-2007-000030-NAM  
22 March 2007

*The Federation's vision is to strive, through voluntary action, for a world of empowered communities, better able to address human suffering and crises with hope, respect for dignity and a concern for equity. Its 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 185 countries.*

### In Brief

**THIS EMERGENCY APPEAL SEEKS CHF 877,479 (USD 719, 245 OR EUR 545,018) IN CASH, KIND, OR SERVICES TO ASSIST 15,000 BENEFICIARIES (3,000 FAMILIES) FOR SIX MONTHS**

CHF 112,877 was allocated from the Federation's disaster Relief Emergency Funds (DREF) on 26 February 2007. For more details please refer to <http://www.ifrc.org/docs/appeals/07/MDRNA003.pdf>

[<Click here to link directly to the attached Appeal budget>](#)

The projects and activities described below are aligned with the Federation's Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity". These are:

- Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
- Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
- Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.
- Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.
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### The situation

Due to heavy rains, the Zambezi River burst its banks and has caused flooding in the Namibian Caprivi flood plains. The floods have affected four constituencies namely Kabbe, Katima Rural, Linyanti and Kongola. The government has evacuated people to higher ground whilst others have moved to temporary safer areas in the same vicinity. Some families have already taken their cattle and families to higher ground, especially those residing close to the river banks and the nearby flood plains.

The situation is deteriorating as many villages, fields, cattle and boreholes have been submerged, and people are living in harsh conditions without shelter, food and safe drinking water. The roads



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in the flood plains are no longer passable. The areas identified as most affected are Muzii, Mpukano, Ikaba, Ivilivinzi, Malindi, Masikili, Nsundwa, Ioma, Mahundu and Nankutwe, where houses and fields are submerged in water.

The government's Regional Emergency Management Unit<sup>1</sup> (REMU) estimates that 4,500 households have been affected and being relocated to four temporary relocation sites at Lusese, Schuckmansburg, Kabbe and Impalila. The government has hired boats and trucks to facilitate evacuation of the affected population to safety. Since the flooding started, seven people are reported to have died. In the resettlement camps, shelter, safe and adequate drinking water as well as personal health are of great concern and need to be urgently addressed.

### **Red Cross Red Crescent Action so far**

On February 26, the International Federation of the Red Cross allocated CHF 112,877 from its Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to Namibia Red Cross Society (NRCS). NRCS initiated the relief operation by conducting an assessment, developing a plan of action and registering beneficiaries. The Federation regional delegation in Harare deployed two regional disaster response team members; a water and sanitation (WatSan) technician and the regional disaster response senior officer, who assisted the NRCS with the initial assessment and coordination of the operation.

With support of the DREF Allocation; Namibia Red Cross has conducted the following activities;

- Distributed relief materials to 253 households (tents 25, tarpaulins 211, water treatment sachets 30,500, jerry cans 125, mosquito nets 158, soap 49 bars, blankets 360). Distribution is still ongoing.
- Conducted joint assessment with REMU and other NGOs.
- In the process of procuring relief items to replenish disaster management stock

NRCS has a strong home-based care (HBC) project in Caprivi Region. Due to the floods, some HBC clients have been relocated to safer grounds and are in need of continued care and support. The national society has therefore mobilised volunteers among the affected families, and has also deployed more volunteer, to ensure the continued care and support of the HBC clients. The Ministry of Health and Social Services is establishing a temporary health centre at the relocation sites which will cater for the medical requirements of the HBC clients.

### **The needs**

#### **Immediate needs:**

Approximately 15,000 people in the relocation camps are in immediate need of temporary shelter, food, clean safe water, sanitation as well as basic health and care facilities. Communities have been asked to take some household items with them to the relocation sites.

Humanitarian aid is being sought to cover the gaps in relief needs, as was detected in the assessments. There is a need to continue the evacuation operation as more people are still stranded in the flooded plains.

NRCS is targeting 3,000 most affected households in the four relocation sites for six months. Most of the affected communities have lost their crops and are not expecting any harvest.

NRCS requires the strengthening of its human resource capacity in water and sanitation, coordination, training of volunteers and information technology (IT)

#### **Longer-term needs**

- Reconstruction of shelters after water level has gone down.
- Strengthening the community-based early warning system for floods.
- Training and establishment of community disaster preparedness committees.

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<sup>1</sup> Regional Emergency Management Unit (REMU) is the government's Disaster Management Unit in Namibia.

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### **Coordination**

The government's Directorate of Disaster Management has the overall coordination role through REMU. The rescue and relocation of the affected communities is coordinated by REMU, who is making use of the Namibia Police's speed boats. The government will also use helicopters for aerial view/assessment of the affected areas.

At regional level, REMU has established a task force, which meets daily to coordinate activities. These meetings are attended by partners such as the Red Cross, World Food Programme (WFP), other non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and the local corporate sector. At the national level, NRCS attends meetings organised by the national Directorate of Disaster Management (DDM). The Red Cross local branch works in close collaboration with REMU in planning for activities such as identifying beneficiaries, conducting assessments as well as training of volunteers and staff.

In partnership with the Ministry of Rural Water affairs, the Red Cross has been tasked with the provision of safe drinking water and sanitation at four relocation sites. The relocation sites have water points which are in need of rehabilitation.

Through the coordination forum, the government will provide food and social services such as education, health centres and security to the affected population. Red Cross volunteers take part in the distribution of food. WFP has provided food for four months to orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) at relocation sites.

The government has allocated a warehouse to NRCS for the storage of relief items, situated 17km outside of Katima Mulilo (a city in Caprivi Region). A logistic team has been established by REMU of which the NRCS disaster management officer is a member. Relief items are transported from the warehouse to relocation sites by government trucks. The Red Cross will make three tents available to be used for temporary storage during distribution.

### **The proposed operation**

**Overall Objectives: Provision of shelter, water and sanitation, communicable disease prevention and distribution of non-food items to 3,000 affected household.**

**Objective 1 (Shelter): To provide temporary shelter to 3,000 households in the four relocation sites.**

#### **Activities planned to reach this objective:**

- Providing temporary shelter in the form of tarpaulins and plastic sheets to 3,000 households.
- Registering, verifying and distributing materials for the construction of temporary shelter as the beneficiaries arrive at the relocation sites.
- Procuring and distributing the following materials; 3,000 tarpaulins for temporary shelter; 50 family tents, 25 roles of plastic sheeting and 20 shelter construction kits.

**Objective 2 (Health): To facilitate community-based first aid and prevention of communicable diseases through health education and hygiene promotion at the four relocation sites over a period of six months.**

#### **Activities planned to reach this objective:**

- Training of 20 volunteers (five in Lusese, five in Kabbe and ten in Katima) on health education using the ARCHI<sup>2</sup> tool kit.
- Volunteers conducting community-based first aid, health promotion and awareness campaigns in relocation sites.
- Continue providing home-based care to relocated clients on NRCS programme.
- Procuring and distributing 40 volunteer kits (40 t-shirts, 40 bibs, 40 caps, information, education and communication (IEC) materials) for volunteers' social mobilisation activities.

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<sup>2</sup> **ARCHI** – African Red Cross/Red Crescent Society Health Initiatives 2010 builds on its strength: a Red Cross and Red Crescent presence in all 53 countries in Africa with more than two million volunteers. The overall goal of ARCHI 2010 is to improve the health of vulnerable people in Africa. Refer <http://www.ifrc.org/what/health/archi/>

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- Providing health education materials and translation of ARCHI tool kit into local languages.

### **Objective 3 (Water and Sanitation): To provide safe drinking water and sanitation at the four relocation sites namely Impalila, Schuckmannsburg, Kabbe and Lusese**

#### **Activities planned to reach this objective:**

- Distributing 540,000 water purification tablets (3,000 x 30days x 6months) for communities that have not been relocated.
- Rehabilitating three water points to supply water to the four relocation sites.
- Constructing 32 latrines (which requires 70 poles, 2,500 bricks, 40 sanitary platforms).
- Excavating 32 refuse pits.
- Facilitating and promoting disinfection and cleaning of latrines.
- Constructing 32 bathing shelters.
- Purchasing three water tanks (10,000 litres) for use at the sites.

### **Objective 4 (Relief items): To provide non-food items to 3,000 households at the four relocation sites over a period of six months.**

#### **Activities planned to reach this objective:**

- Procuring and distribute non-food items to families who have totally lost all their property and also according to needs as follows;
  - 36,000 bars of soap (two bars per month x 3000 x 6 months);
  - 3,000 mosquito nets distributed to children under five years and pregnant mothers;
  - 9,000 blankets distributed (three per household);
  - 1,000 cooking sets (kitchen set consist of five plates, five spoons, two cooking pots and six cups);
  - 3,000 jerry cans to be distributed to relocated households.

### **Objective 5: (Institutional development): NRC has appropriate and affordable organisation structures at provincial and branch levels, with equipment to improve the capacity in disaster response.**

- The regional IT officer is providing technical support to the national society.
- Procurement of laptop for the new WatSan officer.
- Procurement of generator to ensure continuous supply of power for the operation's office at the regional branch.

#### **Communications – Advocacy and Public information**

Communication facilities (internet and PC) at the NRCS Caprivi office have been impaired, which has made communication with headquarters, Federation and other partners difficult. NRCS requests support staff in information technology (IT) to assist with repairing computers and communication systems. The Caprivi office has radio communication, which is functional, but can only communicate with headquarters.

The Federation, through the national society, pays particular attention to the Fundamental Principles of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, giving special emphasis on voluntary service and humanity, gender equality and targeting women and children in the implementation of the intervention. This should help build a better understanding of the Red Cross/Red Crescent and encourage a better understanding of humanitarian relief surrounding floods emergencies. The Red Cross will enlist the participation of women and children as they are key actors in family health, and more specifically water and hygiene-related issues.

#### **Capacity of the national society**

NRCS has 12 regional disaster response team (RDRT) members available for deployment should further assistance be required for the operation. Currently, four NRCS RDRT trained staff person have been selected for the operation to complement the Caprivi regional staff. The NRCS Caprivi regional office has been involved in the flood relief operation in 2003 and 2004 and the branch is committed and has skilled volunteers.

The Caprivi floods operation team requires continuous Federation regional delegation support in coordinating the operation and putting operation systems in place for one month, while capacity building the NRCS regional office.

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A WatSan officer is needed to help build capacity in managing all WatSan related activities. Red Cross volunteers will continue with their activities as part of their routine work. In terms of transport resources, NRCS requires a land cruiser (4X4) with capacity to ferry volunteers and goods. NRCS will require assistance of trained health personnel to help coordinate health education activities.

Sufficient local staff and volunteers will be trained and motivated in order to ensure the capacity to respond to future floods is maintained. NRCS will ensure adequate stocks pre-positioned in the warehouse in Katima Mulilo for immediate disaster response. The NRCS Branch continues partnering with other stakeholders in disaster risk reduction programming and developing a flood contingency plan.

### **Capacity of the Federation**

The Federation regional delegation in Harare has been monitoring the floods situation in southern Africa, since the inception of the rainy season. The regional disaster management unit coordinates the meeting of a task force established to monitor and coordinate the response to various flood disasters in southern Africa.

The Federation regional delegation is assisting the NRCS through the deployment of a Regional technical support manager who is coordinating the operation as well as a WatSan technician from the Zambian Red Cross. The operational team provides overall technical support, setting up systems, supervising Caprivi regional staff, and training volunteers. There is also a need to support the relief operation through mobilization of resources.

### **Monitoring and evaluation**

NRCS Caprivi regional manager with the support from headquarters and the Federation regional delegation in Harare will closely monitor all activities of the operation. The operation will be for six months and the indicators to be monitored will be process indicators, taken from the action plan. An external evaluation will be conducted at the end of the operation. Capacity in reporting will be enhanced through technical support from the Federation regional delegation.

### **Budget summary**

See annex below.

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Secretary General

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*All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct](#) for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) in Disaster Relief and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response](#) (Sphere) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.*

*For longer-term programmes in this or other countries or regions, please refer to the Federation's Annual Appeal. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for national society profiles, please also access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>*

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[\*Budget below; click here to return to the title\*](#)

**NAMIBIA CAPRIVI FLOODS APPEAL BUDGET SUMMARY  
MDRNA003**

**Relief Needs**

Shelter	67,810
Construction materials	0
Clothing and textiles	97,920
Food	0
Seeds and plants	0
Water and sanitation	99,965
Medical and first aid	0
Teaching materials	7,100
Utensils and tools	45,000
Other supplies and services	57,600

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**Total Relief Needs** **375,395**

**Capital Equipment**

Land and buildings	0
Vehicles purchase	0
Computers and telecom equipment	9,240
Office/household furniture and equip.	0
Medical equipment	0
Other machinery and equipment	0

**Transport , storage and vehicles**

Storage - warehouse	6,538
Distribution and monitoring	105,000
Transport and vehicles costs	32,750

**Personnel**

International staff	0
Regionally deployed staff	35,250
National staff	98,950
National society staff	0
Consultants	20,000

**Workshops and training**

Workshops and training	3,500
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**General expenses**

Travel	16,800
Information and public relations	2,500
Office running costs	3,270
Communication costs	3,450
Professional fees	1,800
Financial charges	1,000
Other general expenses	105,000

**Programme support**

Programme support - PSR	57,036
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**Total Operational Needs** **502,084**

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**Total Appeal Budget (Cash & Kind)** **877,479**

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