

# Emergency appeal



International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

## Namibia: Floods

Emergency appeal n° MDRNA006  
GLIDE FL-2011-000007-NAM  
8 April 2011

This Emergency Appeal seeks CHF 1,811,530 in cash, kind, or services to support the Namibia Red Cross Society to assist 37,457 displaced people/ 9,364 families for six months.

CHF 296,472 was allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support this operation. Unearmarked funds to replenish DREF are encouraged.

The Namibia Red Cross Society (NRCS) is requesting for international assistance through the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) to scale up and otherwise continue the response operation in the country. The support is aimed at assisting families affected by floods. Government declared the floods a national emergency on 29 March 2011.

The river water levels in northern Namibia are already 30-40 cm higher than the peak period of the emergency flood conditions of 2009 which affected 350,000 (17% of the population). The most severe flooding is currently occurring in the regions of Oshikoto, Oshana, Ohangwena and Omusiti. Heavy flooding has to date displaced 37,457 people and destroyed houses and crops, as well as roads and other infrastructure. Some communities affected are not reachable as roads have been destroyed. The affected people are in dire need of relief assistance in the form of food, shelter, blankets, bed nets, clean water, sanitation and hygiene and health education.

The DREF allocation received from the International Federation of Red Cross was utilised during the initial rapid assessment and relief operation. Since the DREF operation was launched the flood situation has worsened, necessitating the launch of this emergency appeal in order to continue to support and reach more people.

This emergency appeal will target these most vulnerable 9,364 displaced families, providing support in the form of relief items, emergency shelter, emergency health, water and sanitation, and hygiene promotion. It will also seek to enhance the capacity of the National Society to deliver an effective response during this operation and in the future.

This operation is expected to be implemented for a period of six months, and will therefore be completed by 30 September 2011; a final report will be made available by December 2011 (three months after the end of the operation).



Figure 1: Displaced Population at Oshoopala camp without shelter

[<click here to view the attached Emergency Appeal Budget; or here to view contact details>](#)

## The situation

On 29 March 2011, the government of Namibia declared a national state of emergency to respond to large-scale flooding in the northern parts of the country. The declaration was based on the results of a rapid assessment conducted on 25 to 27 March 2011. The NRCS reports that to date 37,457 people have been displaced and houses, roads, bridges, business centres, crops and road network and other infrastructures have been destroyed in Cuvelai basin which includes Ohangwena, Oshana, Oshikoto and Omusati. Some communities have been cut off from schools, health clinics, and other social amenities.



Figure 2: Flooded buildings in Okalongo, 7 April

The water level in Oshakati in the Oshana Region is the highest recorded and more people have been affected than in the 2008 and 2009 floods. The hydrology division is warning of more flooding in the Cuvelai from Angola as more rains are projected.

The water level in the Caprivi and Kavango is also threatening. The Kavango River is at 8.2m while the Zambezi River is rising at 6.50m both of which are above their normal levels by 85%. The response operation in all these affected regions is underway and assessments and evacuations also continue.

Table 1 below shows the total population that is displaced. Some have been accommodated in tents while the majority does not currently have shelter. The numbers reflect the situation as of end-March, but continue to grow.

The difference between 2011 and 2009 floods demonstrates the potential of the Zambezi River Basin Initiative (ZRBI) to strengthen the capacity<sup>1</sup> of communities in floods mitigation by establishing and reacting to early warning systems. This is evidenced by the swift and effective resources mobilization of people, money and other assets to address the sanitation needs of communities relocated to higher ground. To date a total of 31 villages have been relocated permanently to higher ground in the Caprivi Region and 57 households in the Kavango Region.

The NRCS participated in the initial national assessment and identified the needs in the affected regions. Urgent support was provided to the relocated communities. Through the ZRBI, the NRCS also engaged the communities in the identification of locations on higher ground and preparations of these areas as reception centers during disasters.

However, access to water and sanitation still pose a challenge as the number of displaced population continues to rise. The NRCS has started mobilizing the regional staff and trained volunteers in Omusati, Oshana, Ohangwena, Oshikoto, Kavango, Kunene and Caprivi Regions, where the response operation is underway.

The government has activated its contingency plan and evacuation of the elderly is underway. According to police about 35 people died of drowning.

In the south, the start of 2011 saw Noordever and Ausenkeer areas in the Karas region around the Orange River, experiencing increased rains and high river flows arising from the open gates of the Vaal and the Bloemfontein dams. Initially the total population relocated was 12,000 but the situation has normalised and the majority have returned to their respective homesteads.

Table 1: Population displaced in 2011 floods end March

Region	Total displaced population
Caprivi	15,000
Kavango	2,500
Ohangwena	3500
Omusati	4,100
Oshana	10,357
Oshikoto	To be confirmed*
Kunene	2,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>37,457</b>

Source: Government Regional Council 2011  
\* presumed to be 158 as of end March

<sup>1</sup> Community disaster teams ,water and sanitation teams and health teams

## Coordination and partnerships

### *Internal*

The operation will be led by the NRCS. Working with their regional offices, the headquarters of NRCS will coordinate the internal response, ensuring that support reaches the most affected areas, and that information gathered from continuous assessments is integrated into the response plan.

At regional level, the IFRC Southern Africa regional office will coordinate with movement partners present in Namibia and also within the region to enhance mobilization of financial resources. Where needed, the IFRC Southern Africa regional office will identify suitable staff to be deployed to assist the national society in its response activities using the framework of regional disaster response teams (RDRT).

### *External*

At national level, the operation is being coordinated by the Office of the Prime Minister's Directorate of Disaster Risk Management, while Regional Disaster Risk Management Committee (RDRMC) coordinates within Namibian regions. The NRCS is working closely with the Government through participation in the RDRMC. The regional coordination is headed by the Regional Council through the Regional Governor who is the chairperson of the RDRMC. Based on the contingency plans, the regions have sectors headed by ministerial structures and NRCS provides auxiliary support as deemed necessary through the Fundamental Principles governing the Red Cross movement.

The NRCS also participates in all sectoral committees and takes part in rapid assessment teams established by government in collaboration with the UN agencies.

At Southern Africa regional level, the IFRC is a member of the Regional Inter-Agency Standing Committee Office (RIASCO) team and attends regular coordination meetings where humanitarian updates are discussed. IFRC also shares updates about Movement activities in emergency response to support a coordinated response at the regional level. IFRC is part of an interagency assessment team which is now carrying out an in-depth assessment of the flood situation.

## Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Under the DREF allocation, the NRCS has provided water purification sachets, blankets, kitchen sets and hygiene packs to the affected communities along the Orange River in the south, Caprivi in the north east, in Kavango and the four north western regions of Omusati, Oshana, Oshikoto and Ohangwena. The construction of latrines and construction of bathing shelters is underway. See table below.

**Table 2: Pit latrines constructed and bathing shelters**

Region	Pit latrines	Bathing shelters
Caprivi	150	22
Oshana	20	10
Ohangwena	5	3
Omusati	3	3
Kavango	6	4
Kunene	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>42</b>



**Figure 3: Latrine construction at Oshoopala camp**

## The needs

**Beneficiary selection:** The beneficiaries affected by the floods have been identified through joint assessments by the NRCS and regional disaster councils. Further information on affected beneficiaries is being gathered through the national society in the affected areas in the course of implementing the current

response. Those affected show a high degree of vulnerability, having lost their basic resources and assets including houses and livelihoods.

A total of 9,364 households/37, 457 people require urgent relief assistance.

**Immediate needs:** The affected families urgently need shelter, blankets, jerry cans, bed nets, hygiene information, clean water and sanitation to reduce the impact of floods for six months. The DREF funds acquired for the initial operation, though permitting a timely initial response, are inadequate to meet the needs of these 9,364 households.

**Longer-term needs:** Post-emergency, through the Zambezi River Basin Initiative, the NRCS will continue to support the restoration of livelihoods and the reinforcement of coping mechanisms as well as creating community resilience.



Figure 4: Plastic sheets being used for shelter

## The proposed operation

The NRCS is currently utilizing the initial DREF funds allocated, focusing on relief distribution to reduce the impact of floods.

### Relief distributions (basic non-food items)

<b>Outcome: 9,364 flood affected households are provided with appropriate non-food relief items</b>	
<b>Outputs:</b>	<b>Activities planned</b>
9,364 households receive relief items such as blankets and hygiene kits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conducting continuous assessments in the affected areas.</li> <li>• Distributing blankets and soaps to the relocated.</li> <li>• Providing technical and financial support in logistics, warehousing and distribution.</li> <li>• Monitoring and evaluating the relief activities and providing reports of relief distributions.</li> </ul>

### Emergency shelter

<b>Outcome: 9,364 households have access to a safe and adequate emergency shelter</b>	
<b>Outputs:</b>	<b>Activities planned</b>
The targeted 9,364 displaced families are provided with shelter materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Distribution of tarpaulins and framing materials as needed to the affected 9,364 families.</li> </ul>

### Emergency health and care

<b>Outcome: Health risks, morbidity and mortality resulting from the emergency are reduced among the affected population through the provision of health promotion, preventive, community-level and PHC services to households in affected regions for six months.</b>	
<b>Outputs:</b>	<b>Activities planned</b>
Mortality and morbidity of 37,457 beneficiaries as a result of the emergency are prevented through a primary health care oriented programme.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide first aid and referral services for affected communities through 100 volunteers in the coming six months.</li> <li>• Distribute mosquito bed nets within the two months of the operation.</li> <li>• Refresher training for 100 volunteers on communicable disease surveillance in coordination with MoH and District Health Offices.</li> </ul>
The resilience of the community is improved through better health awareness, knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refresher training for 100 community-based volunteers on health promotion as well as 'hang up/keep up' of bednets.</li> <li>• Sustain health promotion campaigns within the affected population</li> </ul>

and behaviour change.	<p>focusing on malaria targeting 9,364 households in affected areas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support and provide printed and other materials to be used in the health promotion campaign (such as posters, flyers, manuals, educational materials, etc).</li> <li>• Train 50 more volunteers in the Community Based Health &amp; First Aid (CBHFA) approach to health education to better respond to issues surrounding the current emergency while emphasizing prevention and thereby minimize future disease outbreaks.</li> </ul>
-----------------------	---

### Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

<b>Outcome: The risk of waterborne diseases is reduced through the provision of safe water, adequate sanitation as well as hygiene promotion to 9,364 families in the affected regions for six months.</b>	
<b>Outputs:</b>	<b>Activities planned</b>
Safe water is provided to 9,364 families while damaged systems are restored.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Distributing household level water storage (i.e. jerry cans) to the affected families.</li> <li>• Distribution and training on water Purification sachets/Tablets (WPT).</li> </ul>
Appropriate sanitation, including excreta disposal, solid waste disposal and drainage, is provided to 9,364 families in the affected regions for six months.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creating defecation fields.</li> <li>• Building pit latrines in relocation centres.</li> <li>• Facilitate vector control and prevention measures in collaboration with government.</li> <li>• Provide domestic solid Waste disposal facilities.</li> </ul>
The health status of the population is improved through behaviour change and hygiene promotion activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refresher training for 100 community-based volunteers on PHAST/in emergencies.</li> <li>• Conduct hygiene promotion campaigns within the affected population focusing on behaviour change.</li> <li>• Provide IEC materials for health promotion campaign.</li> </ul>

### Logistics

<b>Outcome: Relief operations supported, delivering a range of relief items in line with the operational priorities.</b>	
<b>Outputs:</b>	<b>Activities planned</b>
The operation has coordinated mobilization of relief items and efficient dispatch of goods to the final distribution points.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Procure and distribute relief stocks and controlling supply movements to end user.</li> <li>• Monitor and evaluate relief activities and reporting on the relief distributions.</li> <li>• Facilitate appropriate warehousing and transportation to distribution points.</li> </ul>

### Communications – Advocacy and Public information

The NS with technical support from the regional office will conduct awareness and publicity activities including field trips to sensitise the public and media on the situation on the ground and the humanitarian response. They will also work with programme teams to develop beneficiary communications that support programme objectives in decreasing the vulnerability of the affected populations. Volunteers will also disseminate the principles and values of the Movement during their response operation.

<b>Outcome: Regular credible and reliable information to the public is provided</b>	
<b>Outputs:</b>	<b>Activities planned</b>
A steady flow of timely and accurate information between	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct awareness campaigns through print and electronic media.</li> </ul>

field and other stakeholders is maintained.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support field staff in producing regular field updates for sharing with stakeholders.</li> <li>• Develop/adapt IEC materials for public education on impact of floods.</li> <li>• Ensure the visibility of the Red Cross in response operations.</li> <li>• Collaborate and support other NS programmes to produce IEC material and develop social mobilisation campaigns.</li> <li>• Collect visual materials of the operation.</li> <li>• Organize at least one media tour to the operation area.</li> <li>• Strengthen the communication capacity of the national society.</li> </ul>
---	---

### Capacity of the National Society

The NRCS has shown growth in its capacity to respond to emergencies over the last few years, The NRCS has at its disposal trained staff and volunteers in disaster response. Its National Disaster Management Response has gained experience from previous disasters, especially in the Caprivi Region. The National Disaster Response Teams (NDRT) has jointly carried out simulation exercises and develops contingency plans in readiness for the flooding season. These exercises were supported by the Office of the Prime Minister, OCHA and the Regional Councils. There is a pool of more than 4,000 volunteers who can be mobilised country-wide to respond to disasters. These volunteers have been capacitated in the field of hygiene promotion, water and sanitation, gender issues and trained to respond to disasters. The NRCS has at its disposal 5 RDRT trained staff and 1 emergency response unit (ERU) trained staff on watsan.

### Capacity of the IFRC

The IFRC will provide programme coordination ,technical support and capacity building in the needed sectors such as health, watsan and disaster management for the implementation of the operation . The Federation at regional level has logistical, warehousing and communication capacity to support the national society where the needs may arise. The Regional Office through the DM Task force will closely monitor the situation and share updates with partners to ensure a quality and coordinated response..

### Budget summary

See attached budget (Annex 1) for details.

Matthias Schmale  
Under Secretary General  
Disaster Response and Early Recovery Division

Bekele Geleta  
Secretary General

## How we work

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.

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.

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 non-violence and peace

## Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

- In Namibia: Dorkas Kapembe-Haiduwa, Secretary General; Tel no +264 61 413750; email: [dorkas.kapembe-haiduwa@redcross.org.na](mailto:dorkas.kapembe-haiduwa@redcross.org.na)
- In IFRC Southern Africa Region: Ken Odur, Regional Representative, Johannesburg, Email: [ken.odur@ifrc.org](mailto:ken.odur@ifrc.org), Phone: +27.11.303.9700, Fax: + 27.11.884.3809; +27.11.884.0230
- In IFRC Africa Zone: Head of Operation; Dr. Asha Mohammed, Email: [asha.mohammed@ifrc.org](mailto:asha.mohammed@ifrc.org); Tel: +27.11.303.9700; +27.11.303.9721; Fax: +27.11.884.3809; +27.11.884.0230
- In IFRC Southern Africa Region : Regional Disaster Management Coordinator; Farid Abdulkadir Email: [farid.aiywar@ifrc.org](mailto:farid.aiywar@ifrc.org); Phone: Mobile: +27.83.440.0564 Tel: +27.11.303.9700; +27.11.303.9721; Fax: +27.11.884.3809; +27.11.884.0230
- In Geneva: Christine South, Operations Coordinator for Southern Africa region; phone: Tel +41 22 730 4529; fax: +41 22 730 0395; email: [christine.south@ifrc.org](mailto:christine.south@ifrc.org)

*For Resource Mobilization and Pledges*

- **In IFRC Africa Zone:** Ed Cooper; Resource Mobilization and Performance and Accountability Coordinator; Johannesburg; Email [ed.cooper@ifrc.org](mailto:ed.cooper@ifrc.org); Phone: Tel: +27.11.303.9700; Fax: +27.11.884.3809; +27.11.884.0230

*For Performance and Accountability (planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting (enquiries))*

- **In IFRC Africa Zone:** Robert Ondrusek; Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Delegate, Johannesburg; email: [robert.ondrusek@ifrc.org](mailto:robert.ondrusek@ifrc.org); Phone: Tel: +27.11.303.9744; Fax: +27.11.884.3809; +27.11.884.0230

[<Emergency Appeal budget below; click here to return to the title page>](#)

**BUDGET SUMMARY**

Budget Group	Multilateral Response	Inter-Agency Shelter Coordination	Coordinated Support (ERUs)	TOTAL BUDGET CHF
Shelter - Relief	282,766			282,766
Shelter - Transitional				0
Construction - Housing				0
Construction - Facilities / Infrastructure	3,500			3,500
Construction - Materials	6,500			6,500
Clothing & Textiles	143,325			143,325
Food				0
Seeds & Plants	0			0
Water & Sanitation	289,000			289,000
Medical & First Aid	6,300			6,300
Teaching Materials	10,000			10,000
Utensils & Tools	36,000			36,000
Other Supplies & Services & Cash Disbursements	368,470			368,470
ERU (Emergency Response Units)				0
<b>Total Supplies</b>	<b>1,145,861</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,145,861</b>
Land & Buildings				0
Vehicles	0			0
Computer & Telecom	0			0
Off/House Equip-Audiovisual Equipment	0			0
Office/Household Furniture & Equipment	0			0
Medical Equipment				0
Other Machinery & Equipment				0
<b>Total Land, vehicles &amp; equipment</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Storage	45,000			45,000
Distribution & Monitoring	20,000			20,000
Transport & Vehicle Costs	252,000			252,000
<b>Total Transport &amp; Storage</b>	<b>317,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>317,000</b>
International Staff	0			0
Regionally Deployed Staff	3,000			3,000
National Staff	19,000			19,000
National Society Staff	77,600			77,600
Other Staff benefits	49,406			49,406
Consultants	20,000			20,000
<b>Total Personnel</b>	<b>169,006</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>169,006</b>
Workshops & Training	8,000			8,000
<b>Total Workshops &amp; Training</b>	<b>8,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8,000</b>
Travel	5,000			5,000
Information & Public Relation	9,000			9,000
Office Costs	6,100			6,100
Communications	0			0
Professional Fees				0
Financial Charges	6,000			6,000
Other General Expenses	0			0
<b>Total General Expenditure</b>	<b>26,100</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>26,100</b>
Cash Transfers to National Societies	0			0
Cash Transfers to 3rd parties				0
<b>Total Contributions &amp; Transfers</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Program Support	110,563	0	0	110,563
<b>Total Programme Support</b>	<b>110,563</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>110,563</b>
Services & Recoveries				0
Shared Services	35,000			35,000
<b>Total Services</b>	<b>35,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>35,000</b>
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>1,811,530</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,811,530</b>
<b>Available Resources</b>				
Multilateral Contributions	0			0
ERUs contributions	0			0
<b>TOTAL AVAILABLE RESOURCES</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>NET EMERGENCY APPEAL NEEDS</b>	<b>1,811,530</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,811,530</b>