

# PROGRAMME UPDATE



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

30 June 2004

The Federation's 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 181 countries. For more information: [www.ifrc.org](http://www.ifrc.org)

### In Brief

**Appeal No. 01.16/2004; Programme Update no. 01; Period covered: January to June 2004;**  
**Appeal coverage: 5.0%; Outstanding needs: CHF 6,245,867 (USD 4, 939,396 or EUR 4,084,935).**  
[\(Click here to go directly to the attached Contributions List \(also available on the website\)\).](#)

**Appeal target: CHF 6,574,216 (USD 4,937,451 or EUR 4,231,874)**

**Related Emergency or Annual Appeals:** [Namibia:Floods, Emergency Appeal no. 09/2004](#)

**Programme summary:** The [Namibia Red Cross](#) addresses basic needs of the most vulnerable communities in the areas of health and care, disaster preparedness and response, tracing and orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) by implementing community-based programmes in close cooperation with other stakeholders. The Namibia Red Cross is operating in seven regions i.e. Caprivi, Kavango, Kunene, Khomas, Ohangwena, Otjozondjupa and Karas. Five of these regions are in the northern part of Namibia, where 70% of the population is situated and the human development index is lowest.

*For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:*

- *In Namibia: Razia Essack-Kauaria, Secretary General, Namibia Red Cross, Windhoek; Email [secgen@redcross.org.na](mailto:secgen@redcross.org.na); Phone 264.61.23.52.16; Fax 264.61.22.89.49*
- *In Zimbabwe: William Corkill, acting Federation Head of Southern Africa Regional Delegation, Harare; Email [ifrczw02@ifrc.org](mailto:ifrczw02@ifrc.org); Phone 263.4.70.61.55/6; Fax 263.4.70.87.84*
- *In Geneva: Terry Carney, Federation Regional Officer for Southern Africa, Africa Dept.; Email [terry.carney@ifrc.org](mailto:terry.carney@ifrc.org); Phone 41.22.730.42.98, Fax 41.22.733.03.97*

*This Programme Update reflects activities to be implemented over a one-year period. This forms part of, and is based on, longer-term, multi-year planning (refer below to access the detailed logframe documents).*

*All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for a full description of the national society profile, please access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>*

### Operational Developments

Since its establishment in 1992, Namibia Red Cross continues to deliver humanitarian services and maintains its independent status as an auxiliary to the government of Namibia. Good governance and accountability to its stakeholders is the fundamental principles on which the national society operates. The mission of the Namibia Red Cross is to develop through the fundamental principles working partnership with identified vulnerable communities with a view to foster human dignity and improve their lives in accordance with the Fundamental principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

## **Namibia; Appeal no. 01.16/2004; Programme Update no. 1**

The Namibia Red Cross regional centres are run by regional managers and project officers who implement the projects with the assistance of 4,000 volunteers. At national level, Namibia Red Cross has a management structure consisting of three departments namely the finance and administration, operations and quality assurance, and information and resource mobilization departments reporting to the Secretary General. Additionally, there are national coordinators heading the health and care, disaster management, tracing and information dissemination and commercial first aid.

The constitution of Namibia Red Cross promulgates the governance and management structures and functions of the national society. A general assembly provides governance implementation through the national governing board and the regional committees. The Namibia Red Cross is in principle committed to building an institution that is financially self-sustainable with strong governance structures, effective and efficient management systems and capacity to deliver services to the most vulnerable. The challenges that the national society faces are; the improvement of the governance and management systems, capacity building of staff and volunteers, establishment of Namibia Red Cross presence through out the country and the alignment of programmes with defined needs and priorities of most vulnerable groups in a sustainable manner.

The increase of humanitarian needs in Namibia has put on lot of pressure on the capacity of Namibia Red Cross to intensify service delivery to the vulnerable communities. In order to effectively respond to these needs, it has become imperative for Namibia Red Cross to improve on organizational capacity, including the development of more focused programming and management structures. This has seen the restructuring of the Namibia Red Cross management positions and the establishment of an organizational development structure at national and regional levels that took place first quarter this year.

Health and care is more focused on HIV/AIDS related activities including OVC care and support, advocating for voluntary counselling and testing (VCT) and water and sanitation (WatSan) activities. Despite limited financial resources significant results were attained owing to the good partnership network and volunteer commitment.

In disaster preparedness intervention the Namibia Red Cross is benefiting from a well-established volunteer network active in all the regions where Red Cross is operating. Plans are underway to strengthen capacity of Namibia Red Cross staff and volunteers and the communities in disaster response, preparedness and early warning systems. This type of activities has become crucial, particularly in disaster prone regions such as Caprivi and Oshana.

The Namibia Red Cross disaster response capacity was demonstrated in the Caprivi floods operations where 20,000 people were affected in the Kabbe and Katima rural constituencies early March 2004. With support from the Federation regional disaster response team (RDRT) Namibia Red Cross managed to alleviate human suffering by providing shelter, water and sanitation facilities, and prevention of malaria. The national society managed to effectively respond to the flood disaster in Caprivi due to its well-established volunteer base and a good cooperation with public authorities. A total of 30 HBC facilitators from the affected areas have been mobilized and offered refresher trainings to provide services in the four established relocation camps for the internally displaced persons. They specifically cared for the PLHWA, provided health and hygiene education and support to OVC.

### **Health and care**

**Goal: The general health and reduction of HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted infections (STI) and other ailments of the vulnerable communities is improved and sustained through integrated community-based health care (ICBHC) interventions.**

**Objective: Vulnerability is reduced, care and support improved for 1,500,000 of targeted beneficiaries in 13 regions, by the end of 2007, in areas of HIV/AIDS, water and sanitation, malaria, TB, reproductive health and community-based first aid (CBFA) through the provision of an integrated and sustainable community-based programme.**

## **Progress/Achievements**

### **HIV/AIDS prevention**

During the reporting period a total of 290 community meetings were conducted by volunteers in the HBC project areas. The volunteers distributed 2,000 information, education and communication (IEC) materials and approximately 55,000 condoms. The Edutainment team composed of youth peer educators conducted public performances on prevention topics including stigma and discrimination reaching 6,500 people.

### **Care and support**

The HBC project being implemented in Khomas, Ohangwena Grootfontein and Caprivi continues to provide care and support to approximately 4,000 clients of whom 130 are newly registered. The Namibia Red Cross has established three new support groups in Ohangwena and Khomas regions.

The national society provided education support to OVC and 10,000 registered OVC received school uniforms. Additionally 80 OVC benefits from a drop in Centre in Kavango region where they are provided food and other essential necessities. Through a well-established referral system between the Ministry of Child and Welfare and the Ministry of Health and Social Services more OVC are being provided with additional support such as school and health fees exemption by the government.

### **Nutrition**

Volunteers conduct education on nutrition to clients in the HBC projects. Plans to start income generating activities could not materialise due to lack of funds.

### **VCT, Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission (PMTCT) and Highly Active Anti Retroviral Treatment (HAART) activities**

The VCT managed by Namibia Red Cross with financial support from Social Marketing Association (SMA) and Bristol Meyers Squib (BMS) has to date tested 100 people. People who tested positive are currently on treatment through support from BMS.

### **Advocacy**

The national society has managed to advocate for the rights of PLWHA<sup>1</sup> particularly through radio shows and public demonstrations. However the Namibia Red Cross is working on developing a more structured advocacy programmes.

### **Malaria Prevention**

Malaria prevention campaigns are integrated in all health education activities being carried out by volunteers.

### **Impact**

Clients as usual continue to receive the most needed psychological, emotional, social support from the Red Cross volunteers and have appreciated the service. The awareness raising efforts of the care facilitators among the community members through community meetings is improving the knowledge of the vulnerable people on HIV/AIDS. Myths and misconceptions about condoms are being reduced in schools and communities. Due to the meetings especially in Ohangwena HBC project there is remarkable acceptance of PLWHA and stigma and discrimination of the infected and affected is being reduced. Ohangwena HBC project has managed to refer 36 clients for ARV treatment as a result of the awareness created through the community awareness meetings.

More clients and their family members have better information on food and nutrition due to the education on diet by the care facilitators. Before the efforts to educate the clients and family members on nutrition, the community members and family members were ignoring the nutrition aspect for PLWHA. However, it is now evident that most clients and family members have taken nutrition as a priority.

---

<sup>1</sup> PLWHA – Persons living with HIV/AIDS

### **Constraints**

Namibia Red Cross received funding for HIV/AIDS activities from the Federation, Swedish Red Cross, Spanish Red Cross and BMS. The BMS are funding a programme on antiretroviral therapy linked to HBC and VCT, and Namibia Red Cross is one of the implementing partners. The funds from the BMS only cover certain geographical areas of the Caprivi region while the rest of the region where care facilitators were training using funds from the Federation is not covered. There is need to provide more resources to cover the food component, running costs for the trained care facilitators and establishment of income generating activities (IGA).

Namibia Red Cross Society also needs more funds to conduct training for volunteers on ARV in all the projects. The consortium and the Swedish Red Cross funding are not sufficient to cover all the costs on the programme budget. The national society has huge numbers of volunteers who are already on the programme especially the ones from Ohangwena project, which was once funded by the German Red Cross. There is need for more funds to cover allowances, running costs, salaries, HBC kits and uniforms for care facilitators

### **Water and Sanitation**

No funding was received through the Federation for the WatSan Appeal.

### **Progress/ Achievements**

There is a long-term water supply, sanitation and hygiene promotion project being carried in Kunene region on a bilateral basis with Belgium Red Cross. The Regional WatSan Delegate has given advice on this project to the Belgium Red Cross Desk Officer during the officer's mission to southern Africa in April. The project has had impact and indicates that Namibia Red Cross has the capacity to implement water supply, sanitation and hygiene promotion projects successfully.

### **Impact/ Constraints**

The major constraint is the fact that the Appeal project has not been funded. Although a reasonably wealthy country in the sub Saharan Africa context, the distribution of wealth is inequitable and the vulnerable in Namibia are as vulnerable as elsewhere in the region (source UNICEF). Water supply coverage, and the resultant health and livelihood impacts, is major problem for the poor in Namibia. A new strategy is required for WatSan in Namibia to raise this awareness with donors both within the Movement and amongst other donors both within the country and external to the country with the aim of mobilizing funding to scale up Namibia Red Cross water supply, sanitation and hygiene promotion projects in the country.

## **Disaster Management**

**Goal: The vulnerability of communities in all disaster prone regions is reduced through the design and implementation of appropriate disaster mitigation activities and disaster response programmes.**

**Objective: Prevention, preparedness and response capacities of communities living in disaster prone areas are strengthened, through the development of integrated strategies, systems, plans and activities hence reducing their susceptibility.**

### **Progress/Achievements**

Namibia Red Cross carried out a relief operation to assist flood victims in Namibia's Caprivi area following heavy rains in Angola and Namibia during the months of February and March. A multi-sectoral RDRT was sent to the area to conduct an initial assessment followed by a relief operation. The relief team consisted of four RDRT members from Namibia and one from Swaziland, with the Regional disaster Response Officer, Regional Water and Sanitation Officer, and Regional Information Delegate as technical advisors. Working in an integrated way with the government officials and other agencies the RDRT team and Namibia Red Cross provided non-food relief items, WatSan services and health promotion messages to over 3,000 internally displaced people (IDP) and to approximately 15,000 people affected by the floods.

**Namibia Red Cross capacity is enhanced in disaster management through capacity building and community empowerment**

A total of 30 HBC facilitators from the Caprivi floods affected areas were mobilized and offered refresher trainings in health and hygiene promotion to provide services in the four IDP camps.

The CRC supported the national society through conducting basic emergency response training for 11 national society officers from six regions, in early June.

**National society capacity in disaster management is strengthened and exhibiting minimum standards of well-prepared National Society in all disaster prone regions.**

The HBC volunteers were trained in health and hygiene promotion based on the [ARCHI](#) tool kit and SPHERE minimum standards; however there is need to train more human resources in basic disaster management.

**Better Programming Initiative (BPI) has been considered and gender diversity are integrated into all training programmes and activities.**

Neither BPI nor project planning process (PPP) training was conducted. However gender diversity is being taken into account throughout the national society's programme planning and the flood relief operation done taking into consideration the BPI framework approach.

**Community-Based Early warning systems (CBEWS) are in place and operational in all 13 regions benefiting the vulnerable communities by 2007.**

This is still in plans but insufficient funding is hampering the implementation of this expected result.

**CBEWS - situation monitoring systems and alert networks are in place.**

There is a need for CBEWS systems particularly in the Caprivi, which is currently the region most prone to disasters such as floods, droughts, and the high prevalence of HIV/AIDS.

**Sustainable food security initiatives incorporated into all relevant sector programmes.**

The national society continues to promote integration of sustainable food security initiatives in all its programmes and projects.

**Comprehensive contingency plans developed for likely emergencies/key sites.**

All non-food relief items that were in the national society's warehouse have been distributed to the flood victims in Windhoek and Caprivi. Some relationships have been created with local private companies such as Mobile Telecommunication (MTC) and Pupkewitz Holdings in providing relief assistance to flood victims.

**Promotion of networking amongst stakeholders and have clarified roles and responsibilities of all stakeholders.**

In the recent flood operation in Caprivi, the Red Cross team participates in regular co-ordination/task force meetings with the Regional Emergency Management Unit (REMU). In March, the Namibia Red Cross became a member of the Namibia Vulnerability Assessment Committee (VAC), which brings together various disaster/emergency role players from government, NGO and UN agencies.

**Namibia Red Cross disaster response capacity at all levels is improved.**

The national society is in the process of realizing this objective and an emergency response workshop has been planned for June 2004.

**All stakeholders exhibit acceptable and dignified standards in rendering humanitarian aid.**

The Red Cross team in the Caprivi flood operation promoted the use of SPHERE minimum standards in the operation and there has been great success.

**The disaster preparedness programmes' planning, design, implementation and monitoring of relevant local municipalities has improved**

The national society sensitized all stakeholders involved in the Caprivi floods operation with regards to preparedness for future disasters and the adherence to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (Sphere).

**Regional offices have improved their disaster prevention, preparedness and response capacities.**

Information dissemination on disaster management is an on-going effort of the national society and has been intensified since the floods erupted in Caprivi in March 2004.

**The tracing capacity is strengthened and the ability to restore family links improved**

Staff and volunteers are continuously being sensitized in the restoration of family ties. With the new offices in Grootfontein, Namibia Red Cross is now disseminating Red Cross messages on tracing in that town and its surroundings.

**Contingency plans are in place for elections .**

The Namibia Red Cross in conjunction with the ICRC is to conduct a two-day emergency response (safer access) workshop in preparation for the 2004 elections. The workshop is scheduled for 3-4 June; all regional officers and five staff from the headquarters are expected to attend and thereafter develop a plan of action. Some first aid materials will also be procured and contacts with the electoral commission will start.

**Impact**

The provision of shelter (tents, blankets and tarpaulins) to the flood affected communities in Windhoek and eastern Caprivi has prevented affected people from being exposed to rain, cold weather and live in dignity. Furthermore the health services which include WatSan being carried out are essential to prevent outbreak of malaria and water borne diseases. The Red Cross's intervention in both the Windhoek and Caprivi floods has exposed staff and volunteers to disaster situations and capacitated them to prepare and respond better in the event of future emergencies.

**Constraints**

Due to transportation problems there has been an occasional delay in delivering water to Lusese relocation camps, while a helicopter used by all relief workers in Caprivi floods operations could not cope, hindering progress in the implementation and timely delivery of services to the most needy. On the other hand, administrative procedures in getting funds from donors and the procurement of supplies for the construction of latrines have also contributed to delays. More than 800 tents provided to provide shelter for flood victims are not sufficient and the use of only one helicopter is delaying implementation of activities. The national society disaster management Appeal activities have not attracted any funding and this has negatively impacted on the implementation the planned activities.

**Coordination**

The emergency management units both at national and regional levels play a pivotal role in coordinating emergencies through out the country. This was so in Caprivi were a task force that meets regularly was set up to draw up plans of actions, allocate the necessary logistic needs in response to the Caprivi floods disaster. The national society coordinates with other organizations and committees like UN agencies, government disaster management unit, VAC and many others.

**Humanitarian Values**

**Goal: Increased tolerance, respect for human dignity and understanding of humanitarian values and the fundamental principles among policy makers and general public**

**Objective: Improved knowledge and humanitarian values, the fundamental principle and the role of Red Cross among policy makers and the general public.**

Namibia Red Cross is an auxiliary to the humanitarian services of its government and its programming is focused on assisting the most vulnerable communities. Therefore it is well placed to promote the understanding of

## **Namibia; Appeal no. 01.16/2004; Programme Update no. 1**

fundamental principles and humanitarian values and their dissemination plays a crucial role in promoting the image of the Movement and the Namibia Red Cross.

Intervention programmes to social and natural disasters that have affected Namibia such as HIV/AIDS, drought and floods have shown that there is a great need to improve on information dissemination to stakeholders. Prompted by some lack of understanding and knowledge on the role of the Red Cross among the general public and, to a certain extent policy makers, the Namibia Red Cross plans to intensify Red Cross initiatives awareness campaigns.

However the effective implementation of intervention programmes is hampered by lack of adequate manpower. Currently, the information department has one centralized Information Coordinator at head quarters who is also working as the Disaster and Tracing Officer. The process of identifying volunteers at regional level to channel and assist with information dissemination is underway.

To date, the Namibia Red Cross through media, consultative meetings with stakeholders and its volunteers has been engaged in dissemination activities, but this has to be intensified through community-based outreach programmes.

### **Progress/Achievements**

#### **Increased understanding of humanitarian values and principles.**

The national society continuously disseminates humanitarian values through meetings with stakeholders and a weekly radio programme. During the floods in Caprivi, the national society's personnel attended to a number of interviews with local and international media to update them on the situation and also to increase awareness on the humanitarian principles in providing assistance.

#### **Better understanding of Namibia Red Cross's role as an auxiliary to government.**

The edutainment unit held 22 shows in which auxiliary functions of the national society to the public authorities were outlined.

#### **Increased understanding of fundamental principles and humanitarian values and Namibia Red Cross mission and application thereof in the Namibian context.**

The majority of the national society's volunteers are youths who meet with staff regularly to discuss issues related to programmes or projects and establish how they are linked to fundamental principles and humanitarian values.

#### **Increased understanding of the Red Cross and Red Crescent movement's role, activities and fundamental principles.**

The Namibia Red Cross has appointed the wife of the Honourable Prime Minister, Mrs Joan Guriras as its Goodwill Ambassador. Her role is to promote volunteerism in Namibia, highlight specific needs among the national society's beneficiaries in crisis situations and raise awareness on the impact of HIV/AIDS on women and children

#### **Impact**

The Namibia Red Cross's cooperation with its beneficiaries, donors, media and other stakeholders has improved, thus mobilizing the power of humanity.

#### **Constraints**

Due to insufficient human and financial resources, leaflets, newsletters, translation of the seven fundamental principles and some of the planned activities have not been realized during this period. However, the ICRC and the Federation continues to support the national society's efforts and initiatives to disseminate information to its stakeholders through media coverage and newsletters.

## **Organizational Development**

**Goal: the lives of the most vulnerable people in Namibia are improved as the Namibia Red Cross works towards a well-functioning national society.**

**Objective: Improved capacity of Namibia Red Cross to design, implement and manage its strategic directions at all levels by 2007.**

### **Progress/Achievements**

#### **Governance and management structure and systems strengthened.**

The governing board is working on amending clauses in the Namibia Red Cross constitution; this will be presented in the coming Annual General Meeting in August 2004. Once approved at the annual general meeting the constitution shall clearly stipulate the functions of the governing board at all levels and its relations with the management. Federation Organizational Development delegate support has been requested for one year by the national society towards strengthening governance and management structures.

#### **Namibia Red Cross has functional structures and activities in all three regions.**

Following the restructuring that took place first quarter this year, all job descriptions are revised to stipulate performance indicators on which managers can be appraised against.

#### **Volunteer and membership management and database established**

National Society activities are being implemented in a professional and holistic manner. However, there is still need for improvement particularly in the areas of computer skills and project management evaluation.

#### **Strategic plans regularly evaluated and revised accordingly.**

The Namibia Red Cross five years strategy will end in 2005; during the national management and review meeting that took place in June 2004, it was resolved that an assessment is to be carried out on the progress of the strategy to pave way for the development of another strategy by November 2004.

The national society is currently working on developing long-term strategies to address HIV/AIDS pandemic in the areas of treatment and advocacy. The mass media initiative in partnership with 'Soul City' is another major programme that will be used as behavioural change of the Namibian society covering HIV/AIDS, gender, alcohol, domestic violence and social issues.

### **Impact**

The human resource assessments that were carried out in January resulted in the restructuring of the Namibia Red Cross management positions and the establishment of an organizational development structure at national and regional levels during the reporting period. This is intended improve the national society's organizational capacity including the development of more focused programme management processes.

### **Constraints**

Inadequate funding for the organizational development (OD) programme hindered the implementing OD planned activities.

[Contributions list below; click here to return to the title page and contact information.](#)

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
-------	----------	----------	------	-----------	------	---------

**CASH**

					<b>TOTAL COVERAGE</b>	
REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				<b>6,574,216</b>		<b>5.0%</b>
SWEDISH - RC				4,936	16.02.04	PROGRAMME SUPPORT DELEGATE
SWEDISH - RC				83,663	16.02.04	HIV/AIDS DELEGATE IN-COUNTRY COSTS
SWEDISH - RC		500,000	SEK	84,250	07.04.04	HIV/AIDS
SWEDISH - GOVT		500,000	SEK	84,500	19.05.04	HIV/AIDS
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				257,349	CHF	3.9%

**KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)**

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SWEDISH - RC				71,000	16.02.04	HIV/AIDS DELEGATE
<p>Note: due to systems upgrades in process, contributions in kind and services may be incomplete.</p>						
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				71,000	CHF	1.1%

**ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET**

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED				0	CHF	