

# 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

## SWAZILAND

12 July 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. 01.18/2004; Programme Update no. 1; Period covered: January to June 2004;**  
**Appeal coverage: 12.5%; Outstanding needs: CHF 1,713,047 (USD 1,354,724 or EUR 1,120,370).**  
[\(Click here to go directly to the attached Contributions List \(also available on the website\)\).](#)

**Appeal target: CHF 1,958,344 (USD 1,470,780 or EUR 1,260,601)**

**Related Emergency or Annual Appeals: n.a.**

**Programme summary:** [The Baphalali Swaziland Red Cross Society](#) has made a positive impact in the communities where it provides HIV/AIDS activities. The Red Cross HBC facilitators are able to visit their clients regularly. The combination of poverty and the ever-increasing rate of HIV/AIDS have resulted in increased vulnerability of families, furthermore reducing their capacities to cope with these compounded shocks. This scenario has overburdened the health sector.

The national society has been able to respond swiftly to hail storm disaster victims through provision of shelter and other non-food items, allowing people to live with dignity.

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*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>*

## **Operatioal developments**

Swaziland is a small Kingdom located in southern Africa and most of its population rely on subsistence farming. The country suffered drought conditions in this year's agricultural season. According to the Vulnerability Assessment Committee (VAC) report published in March 2004, the rainfall for 2003/2004 divided the country into two distinct parts where the western third experienced a wet spell while the eastern two thirds experienced erratic rains. The poor rainfall in the two thirds of the country combined with other shocks such as HIV/AIDS and the country's inequitable income makes a high population vulnerable. It should be noted that the vulnerability has been worsened considering the country has suffered recurring droughts in 2002, continuing through to 2004. The Government of Swaziland declared a national disaster on 18 February 2004 based on the harrowing effects of drought, hailstorms and the HIV/AIDS pandemic.

## **Health and Care**

**Goal: A sustainable improvement in the general health and reduction in HIV/AIDS transmission of the targeted areas through provision of community-based health and care interventions.**

**Objective 1: HIV/AIDS: Holistic care and support provided to HIV/AIDS infected and affected people in targeted areas.**

**Objective 2: Social Welfare: The suffering of 500 destitute people is alleviated in all the regions.**

**Objective 3: Clinical Services: Primary health care services are provided to 45,000 clients in the three Baphalali Swaziland Red Cross clinics annually.**

### **Progress/Achievement**

**5,000 correctional services officers and inmate countrywide practice safer sex by 2004.**

Four counsellors have been trained in HIV/AIDS counselling to support the initiative in correctional services. Thirty (30) inmates have also been trained and 50 prison wardens sensitized on HIV/AIDS issues.

**Knowledge, attitudes, behaviour and practices of youth improved in targeted communities.**

A 26-member drama group has been established and performs HIV/AIDS awareness plays for the communities and schools. Eight communities have been sensitized to set up condom distribution outlets. The Piggs Peak youth recreational centre where HIV/AIDS prevention activities will be undertaken is two thirds completed.

**Establish a voluntary counselling and testing (VCT) centre to promote early diagnosis of HIV/AIDS at Sigombeni by 2004.**

Five volunteers have been trained in pre and post HIV/AIDS testing and counselling and are working with the patients at the clinics. A team for prevention of mother to child transmission (PMTCT) and VCT have been established.

**60% of children born from sero-positive mothers are HIV negative in Sigombeni clinic as a result of improved mother-to-child transmission services.**

The maternity ward will be fully operational by the end of 2004. Swiss Red Cross is assisting with setting up all the logistics for running the maternity ward. Education sessions on mother to child transmission (MTCT) during the antenatal clinic are continuing.

**The quality of life for 4,000 people with HIV/AIDS in all divisions is improved through the provision of home-based care services.**

A total of 50 branch members have been trained as new home based care (HBC) facilitators during this reporting period reporting and on-going care has been provided to 4,500 clients. There are a total 206 active care facilitators and two support groups with a membership of 442. The support groups have been given agricultural land, which will be utilized for gardening in the course of the year by the support group members. 1,500 children have been

## **Swaziland; Appeal no. 01.18/2004; Programme Update no. 1**

assessed and out of these 525 are identified for educational support. The six OVC<sup>1</sup> working group committees have held three meetings to discuss the welfare of children.

### **2,000 people living with HIV/AIDS and 5,000 orphans and other vulnerable children are food secure in five branches by 2004.**

Self help projects have been established in Silele and Hosea areas where indigenous chickens are supplied to the affected families to raise for both income and as a food source. The beneficiaries are educated on how to manage the chicken project and also on how to make maximum use of the food nutrient in the chickens.

#### **Impact**

The integration of HIV/AIDS and food security projects in areas such as Sigombeni and Silele is reaping fruits as the beneficiaries are now food secure and livelier. The fact that Baphalali Swaziland Red Cross targeted to work with the correctional services in educating the inmates has made the national society visible.

#### **Constraints**

As the activities increase there is a shortage of qualified staff. The delay in transfer of funds from the Federation derails the implementation of the planned activities.

#### **Coordination**

Baphalali Swaziland Red Cross works closely with government ministry of health, VetAid and National Emergency Response Committee for HIV/Aids (NERCHA). Some of the indigenous chickens supplied PLWHA were given by VetAid and NERCHA. There is positive collaboration and support between Swiss Red Cross, Federation and Baphalali Swaziland Red Cross.

## **Disaster Management**

**Goal: The vulnerability of the people affected by natural disasters is reduced.**

**Objective: The capacity of Baphalali Swaziland Red Cross to provide appropriate and timely support to people threatened or affected by disasters is increased.**

#### **Progress/Achievements**

The disaster management (DM) programme has not attracted much funding to carryout the planed activities except for the food security pilot project that is funded by the Finnish Red Cross. The DM programme is centered on one main expected result;

**National society capacity in disaster management is strengthened and exhibiting minimum standards of a well-prepared national society.**

A staff member of the national society was deployed in March 2004 to Namibia as part of the regional disaster response team (RDRT) for four weeks following flooding in the Caprivi area of Namibia. The experience gained during this mission will be explored in assisting the Baphalali Swaziland Red Cross in its preparedness planning for possible floods and other disasters.

The disaster manager attended a four weeks disaster management course, advanced level at New Chapter Management Consultancy. The course included management and planning in disasters. It gave the incumbent an insight on broad planning for disaster operations and this will be of value to the programme. 15 emergency response team focal persons from branches received training in safer access and on how to respond during conflicts. This activity was supported financially and technically by the ICRC Pretoria office. The training came at an opportune time where the Baphalali Swaziland Red Cross is reviving the emergency response teams in the branches and divisions. The trained focal persons will in turn arrange for the training of the other team members in their branches as a way of increasing the national society's disaster management capacity.

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<sup>1</sup> OVC - orphans and other vulnerable children

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Some parts of the country were severely affected by storms in late December 2003 to January 2004. The Baphalali Swaziland Red Cross was able to send a team of volunteers to carry out an assessment and provided assistance. Swiss Red Cross assisted with funding (CHF 77,000) for the purchase of tents, blankets and tarpaulins to support the affected population. In February 2004, the national society received technical support and funding (USD 1,500) for health education and hygiene promotion following cholera outbreak that affected a population of approximately 2,500. Following a government nurses' strike in February 2004 national society's nursing staff and volunteers who first aid trained provided services during the strike saving lives to a number of people who could not access services as a result of the strike.

### **Impact**

The response by the national society to the cholera outbreak in Manzini area saw the reduction of incident figures of patients with severe diarrhoea and vomiting dropping significantly. The food security pilot project has seen the improved livelihood of the most vulnerable as they can now generate food for own consumption and raising income for other basic necessities.

### **Constraints:**

The DM programme has not attracted enough funding through the Appeal, except through the food security pilot project and therefore most of the planned activities have not been implemented

### **Coordination:**

The Baphalali Swaziland Red Cross coordinates closely with the government departments, disaster management unit, VAC and other humanitarian organizations. This has facilitated sharing of information and avoiding duplication of efforts. The national society also coordinated well with the Ministry of Health during the cholera outbreak in Manzini.

## **Organizational Development (OD)**

**Goal: The lives of the most vulnerable in Swaziland are improved as Baphalali Swaziland Red Cross moves towards a well-functioning national society.**

**Objective: Baphalali Swaziland Red Cross becomes a well-governed and functional national society by 2007.**

### **Progress/Achievements**

#### **Branch Development.**

Baphalali Swaziland Red Cross has functional branches that are actively participating in project implementation and involving youths in all structures and activities. This year is the election year for branch, division and national executive committee (NEC) members. The branch committees have been elected in 25 branches out of 55 branches in all. In July 2004, there will be divisional elections; in August and September, NEC elections. This has to be followed by the induction and education of new committee members. Most of the trainings planned will be done when new committees are in place.

Five new branches have been established in Shiselweni/ Nhlengano division. The volunteer and youth policy will be adopted this year 2004 at the general assembly.

### **Finance Development, Human Resource and Administration**

Most of the expected results have not been achieved due to lack of funding. The national society now has a Delegate who is working partly on finance development and on food security since the beginning of May.

### **Progress/Achievements**

#### **Finance**

#### **Train financial staff on necessary skills.**

A two days workshop for account clerks on bookkeeping skills was held.

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### **Review accounting system.**

The accounting system is yet to be reviewed as the national society was still busy with external auditors and collecting some of their recommendations to form part of the review. The review and update of the finance procedures and policy is also on hold pending external auditors and recommendation.

### **Produce comprehensive monthly reports.**

Not yet achieved there is need to upgrade the present accounting system.

### **Monitor divisions on a monthly basis.**

The national society headquarters staff has visited each division.

### **Conduct exchange visits with sister societies**

The national society is planning to arrange for exchange visit in the second half of the year.

## **Administration**

### **Assets are easily identified**

Inventory and serial numbers for assets have been made.

### **Buildings and equipment well maintained.**

Most of the buildings and equipment have been maintained.

### **Donations used in an optimal manner.**

The national society has kept good records for receipt and distribution of donations to beneficiaries.

### **More office space available**

A subdivision of part of the conference hall has been done in an effort to create more space.

## **Human Resource**

### **Conditions of service reviewed and implemented.**

The conditions of service review will be done when the national society engages a consultant for technical assistance. Due to lack of funding the national society has not managed to engage a consultant

### **All staff conversant with all national society policies by 2004**

Policies have been circulated to all staff but there is need to discuss these in a workshop forum.

### **Appoint relevant and qualified staff.**

This expected result has been achieved as some qualified nursing staff have been appointed to the Red Cross clinics.

## **Resource Development**

### **Resource development strategy developed**

The national society is still working on the resource development strategy and the proposal of the resource development committee is to get the services of a consultant.

### **Headquarters and divisions generate enough income to cover core costs.**

Divisions have been visited with a view of finding a solution for the funding of core costs.

## **Information System**

### **Staffs at headquarters and divisional level have been trained according to their levels.**

Most staff has been trained in international computer driving licence (ICDL).

### **50 volunteers have been trained and utilize the computer-based training programme in two regions .**

10 volunteers have also been trained in ICIDL.

### **A reputable service maintenance company available**

The national society has managed to identify and engaged one reputable company to assist in the IT system.

**Security for all IT equipment provided at headquarters and in two regions.**

An inventory and serial numbers for IT equipment has been established.

**Impact**

Finance staff is able to produce comprehensive financial reports on time. Assets are easily identified and located following that they are now properly recorded. The well maintained buildings create a good image of the Red Cross structure to the public. Most staff and volunteers are able to use computers following their training in ICDL.

As Baphalali Swaziland Red Cross prepare for the elections, the branches are visited and there is interaction between the members/volunteers and staff on issues that will promote Red Cross activities in the branches. Volunteers and members find the time to interact amongst themselves and discover each other strengths as they campaign for the elections.

**Constraints**

The non availability of funds is hindering the implementation of most of the planned OD activities and as such this will impact negatively to the beneficiaries.

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

APPEAL No. 01.18/2004

## PLEDGES RECEIVED

14/07/2004

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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## CASH

						TOTAL COVERAGE
REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				1,958,344		12.5%
CASH CARRIED FORWARD				34,764		
FINNISH - RC		110,000	EUR	171,545	23.04.04	FOOD SECURITY
FINNISH - RC		25,000	EUR	38,988	17.05.04	ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				245,297	CHF	12.5%

## KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
Note: due to systems upgrades in process, contributions in kind and services may be incomplete.						
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				0	CHF	0.0%

## ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET

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