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Operation Update Report

Southern Africa: Drought (Food Insecurity)

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Emergency appeal n°: MDR63003	GLIDE n°:
Operation update n° 1: 21 July 2020	Timeframe covered by this update: December 2019 – May 2020
Operation start date: 11 December 2019	Operation timeframe and end date: 14 months, 10 February 2021
Funding requirements: CHF 7.4 million	DREF amount initially allocated: CHF 768,800
N° of people being assisted: Botswana: 7,750 - Eswatini: 25,000 - Lesotho: 23,000 - Namibia: 18,000 Total: 73,750 people (14,750 households)	
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners currently actively involved in the operation: American Red Cross, British Red Cross; Canadian Red Cross; Finnish Red Cross; Netherlands Red Cross; Spanish Red Cross; Swedish Red Cross	
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: Governments of Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho and Namibia; Government of Japan; Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), United States Agency for International Development (USAID); World Food Programme (WFP); Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO); GIZ; and UNICEF.	

<Please click [here](#) for the budget and [here](#) for the contacts>

Summary:

The operation update reflects the current situation and information available – both affected by the Covid-19 circumstances.

The first months of the operation were comprised of fundraising and preparatory activities to set up cash/voucher support for target households. Covid-19 containment measures, including lockdowns, border closures, movement and assembly restrictions as well as safety distancing protocols were instituted in all the four countries in late March 2020 following the declaration of a state of emergency in each country. The measures affected planned implementation, causing delays, but the National Societies have mostly found ways to adapt to the circumstances and have been able to advance despite them, while simultaneously undertaking large scale Covid-19 operations. The operational strategy has not been adapted per se due to Covid-19, changes have been made merely in practicalities, while the needs created by Covid-19 are addressed through the Covid-19 operation.

During the reporting period **Botswana Red Cross Society** carried out all the preparatory activities to start food distributions for 150 households, which were carried out in May 2020. The National Society had to change their implementation modality to in-kind food deliveries to the homes of households instead of voucher distributions due to national lockdown measures. Rains also improved pasture availability in the country easing pressure on the need of fodder distributions, allowing the Botswana Red Cross Society to focus on food distributions. Gardening support activities will be started in June 2020, based on a voucher modality.

Baphalali Eswatini Red Cross Society reached 2,300 households with mobile cash distributions by the end of May 2020 and was looking to continue distributions further distribution rounds to the same households in June 2020. Support to households establishing keyhole gardens is planned to start in June-July 2020. While initial plan is to carry these out through in-kind support, it is now foreseen to utilize cash/vouchers for them.

Lesotho Red Cross Society (LRCS) distributed already three rounds of mobile cash to 2,005 households by the end of May 2020. LRCS was looking to finalize its distribution rounds in June 2020 and then move on to support also gardening activities, implemented through vouchers.

Namibia Red Cross Society (NRCS) with the support of British Red Cross delegate carried out needs and cash feasibility assessment in the targeted Kunene region in March 2020. Based on the assessment, NRCS is looking to focus its intervention in one constituency instead of two, priorities being in water point rehabilitations and cash for basic needs more so than in gardening support. NRCS next steps are to carry out household identification and financial service provider procurement for the cash distributions.

Following fundraising efforts and partner engagement the Appeal has attracted CHF 2 033 199 funding and was 26,41% Covered at the time of reporting. The implementation rate at the end of May 2020 stands at CHF 1 290 056

A. SITUATION ANALYSIS

Description of the disaster

Regional

Southern Africa had over 11 million people¹ experiencing crisis or emergency levels of food insecurity (IPC Phases 3 and above) in nine countries (Angola, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe) at the end of 2019 and projected for the first half of 2020. As of the beginning of November 2019, Angola, Botswana, Lesotho and Namibia declared states of drought emergencies, requiring international assistance to address the worsening food insecurity.

In Southern Africa, planting of the 2019-2020 main season cereals started in mid-October and November 2019 with a generally timely onset of the rains in most areas. However, from mid-October to mid-December, rainfall was erratic across central and southern parts of the region with periods of long dry spells and above-average temperatures, followed by short periods of rain.

While much of the north of the region received sufficient rains, parts of northern Namibia, Lesotho, Botswana received below-average rainfall and in some areas, dry conditions were exacerbated by above-average temperatures. This followed 2018 severe main season drought, which impacted water levels and crop yields across many of the same areas affected by drought in 2019^{2,3}.

In response to the increasing food insecurity situation, Governments across the region developed national mitigation and response plans, allocated emergency response funds, and called on the humanitarian community to provide additional support. In-country, Government-led coordination mechanisms have been set up to ensure that any response interventions address the most in-need communities, and that resource mobilization efforts are properly managed.

The National Societies have supported their respective Governments with additional assessments and consultations to determine areas and sectors for potential interventions. This multi-country Emergency Appeal covers Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho and Namibia, while the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement network already has ongoing emergency operations also separately in Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe, reaching 207,055 people (41,411 households) with food security related interventions. In addition, Governments and other external partners are responding in other geographical areas and this Appeal was designed to focus on areas where humanitarian gaps existed.

United Nations (UN) agencies developed a multi-sectoral Regional Appeal to address emergency needs in 10⁴ countries over a period of nine months (October 2019 to June 2020). UN agencies in Malawi, Lesotho, Namibia, Zambia, Zimbabwe accessed the Central Emergency Response Funds (CERF) and humanitarian responses are ongoing. The Southern African Development Community (SADC) works with national Governments to explore sub-regional and regional funding opportunities such as through the Africa Development bank (AfDB) and the World Bank.

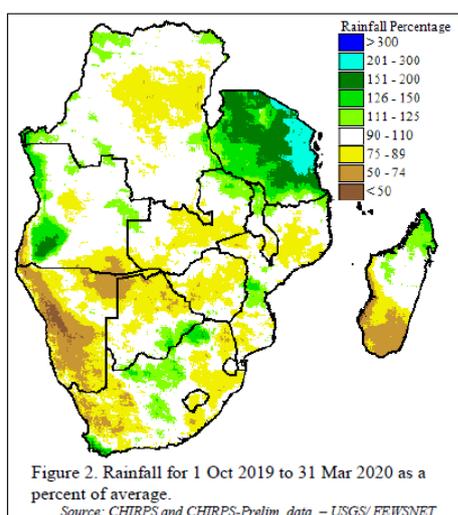
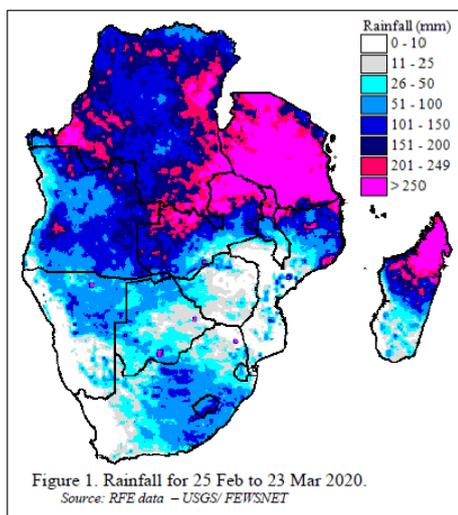
Regional Climate crisis trends and outlook - Past rainfall and weather outlook for southern Africa

¹ UN Joint Call for Action to Address the Impacts of Climate Change and a Deepening Humanitarian Crisis in Southern Africa

² Global Agricultural Monitoring, Special Report, 17 Jan 2020

³ The European Centre for Medium – Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF)

⁴ Refer to the UN Joint Call for Action for overlapping countries.



The poor seasonal rainfall distribution affected harvest prospects negatively in many areas in the southern half of the region. Rainfall improved in central parts of the region in February 2020, benefitting crop conditions for some areas, but for many crops, the rains came too late to save it from permanent wilting.

Reports indicate that in some of the areas where little planting had been done due to dry conditions, or where permanent wilting had occurred, planting and replanting

of maize crops respectively was done with the January 2020 rainfall. While in the past, some January planted crops have successfully reached maturity and resulted in good harvests, statistically the chance of this occurring is low, since rains normally start winding down in late March. Short term forecasts suggest that low rainfall is likely through early March in some central parts of the region areas, further reducing chances of a successful January-planted crop⁵

As a result of the high rainfall that occurred in January and February 2020, several areas also reported flash flooding, which in some cases destroyed crop fields. Drought conditions again affected pasture and water availability resulting with Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho and Namibia introducing subsidies for livestock feeds and veterinary medicines. Botswana also for the first time allowed temporary export of live cattle, with 26, 848 cattle exported to Namibia and South Africa. In addition, an outbreak of the African Migratory Locust has been reported in Botswana and Namibia, where the staple crop, Maize, have been affected. The governments are leading the pest control and response.

It is thus important to notice that although rain improved in some parts of the region, the negative effects of floods and locust invasions will further exacerbate the already prevailing food insecurity situation, in addition to Covid-19 mitigation measures.

Covid-19 and Food Security in Southern Africa

Southern Africa has also been hit by the novel coronavirus disease (Covid-19), further exacerbating food insecurity in the region that was already high. The pandemic and related containment measures erode community coping capacities and deepen food and nutrition insecurity of vulnerable households and individuals, while also increasing adjacent social issues, such as gender-based violence. The number of vulnerable people is likely to increase and include new people struggling to meet their needs. The immediate impact of Covid-19 will largely be realized on the urban poor dependent on informal employment, businesses and markets that have been disrupted by the movement restrictions and lockdowns put in place to control the virus. Although the region holds sufficient exportable cereal stocks (mainly South Africa), national lockdowns are reducing availability as well as access to food among the vulnerable due to disruptions on the supply chain.

The Southern Africa Development Community Governments have agreed on measures to facilitate cross border transport operations to ensure that the food supply chain not be disrupted. They have also put in place various social and basic food consumption protection measures, and safeguards for continued agricultural production and input supply chains. Diverse varieties of food are nevertheless becoming unavailable, inaccessible and unaffordable to the most vulnerable households. Increase in prices for some staple foods coupled with reduced household income during the lockdowns have a negative impact on the nutrition situation in the region especially for young children and pregnant and lactating women. Households are likely to adopt negative coping strategies including reducing frequency, quantity and quality of foods to adapt to the lockdown measures. With this background, it is expected that acute malnutrition across the wider South African Development Community region may increase by up to 25% over the remainder of 2020.⁶

Country by Country Analysis

Botswana

Botswana has experienced recurrent drought for several years and was affected four times in the last five years. Indeed, the 2018/19 rains are described as the lowest in the country in three decades. These consecutive rainfall deficits resulted

⁵ SADC Agromet Update Issue 4: Season 2019-2020

⁶ SADC Food Security Quarterly Update Issue 3, April 2020: Season: 2019-2020, January to March 2020

in the worst ever vegetation condition index, 2018/19 cereal production was 5,356 MT as compared to the 66,093 MT harvested in 2017/18 season, making just about 2% of national cereal requirement that stand at 300,000MT⁷.

In October -December phase of the 2019/20 rainy season the country received very low rainfall, significantly below normal rates both in distribution and time. Little rains were accompanied by strong winds and very high temperatures at an average of 26oc (78.80f). Some areas also experienced flash floods following heavy downpours of a day or two in one area. These brought hope to farmers, some even ploughed utilising the little moist received. This false hope was short lived. The fragile seedlings and grass perished due to high temperatures and the short-lived moisture, worsening effects of the drought. Area planted this season (2019/20) has declined as compared to last season. Production is expected to be comparable to last year, however still significantly below average to long term. In the first quarter of 2020 the south eastern part of the country received above average rainfall permitted regrowth of pastures. At the same time, fall armyworm and corn cricket has been reported in the central and southern parts of the country affecting crops.

On 20 May 2019 the Government of Botswana declared a state of drought emergency, calling upon all state parties to work together and assist in drought effects mitigations. This after undertaking a drought and Household Food Security (DHFS) assessment in the later parts of March 2019. Despite Government actions to address the effects of the drought emergency as outlined in the mitigation plan for the period July 2019 to June 2020⁸ (e.g. increasing the subsidy on livestock feed to 35%, provision of double supplementary feeding rations for children aged six to 59 months, distribution of basic food packages in 'deserving' districts, and introduction of special food packages for moderately and severely underweight children), some gaps still exist, especially for very vulnerable households who may not be on the Government support system for one reason or another. About 38,000 people were projected to be food insecure for the peak lean season of January to March 2020⁹.

Botswana has a strong social protection system that would normally identify the most vulnerable people and households for support but individuals who are not registered on the Government safety net registers are left out. Botswana Red Cross Society (BRCS), through its social support and rehabilitation service programmes for children with disabilities, has evidence of vulnerable households which do not benefit from the Government social support system. BRCS will thus focus on implementing activities to ensure inclusion, address the emergency needs and contribute to recovery of the most vulnerable and marginalized households in the communities it serves.

Covid-19: Botswana is a net importer of food grains and cereals. Closed borders have a negative impact on the supply of food, which again contributes to price inflation at market lever. This is already apparent in the country and in the operations budget. The lockdown may also cause devastating economic impact on the informal workers and small businesses. In rural areas, the livestock sector represents 87% of the agriculture's contribution to the GDP, but as market demand decreases, incomes from the livestock sector may decline.

Eswatini

In Eswatini the dry period coincided with the agricultural growing season that leads to harvesting in May and June. The risk of a failed harvest was high at the time of forecasting. The most vulnerable populations faced limited access to food since late 2018. Another failed harvest would seriously affect their food consumption and limit their capacity to accumulate agricultural inputs for the following growing season. Hence the immediate priority for the humanitarian sector in the country was to limit the severity of the current crisis and address the immediate food security needs of the most vulnerable in the months before the possible harvest period.

In Eswatini, the population are facing severe acute food insecurity, and thus in need of urgent humanitarian assistance (Integrated Phase Classification) (IPC 3+¹⁰ levels), was projected at 238,000, i.e. approximately twenty five percent of the entire population. It was estimated that 47,000 people would face emergency (IPC4) levels between October 2019 and March 2020. The main areas of concern according to the IPC and Vulnerability Assessment and Analysis (VAA) 2019 assessments were the regions of Lubombo and Shiselweni and, to a lesser degree, Hhohho. It is projected that severe food insecurity in Lubombo can impact 35% of the total population, while in Shiselweni this could be 30%

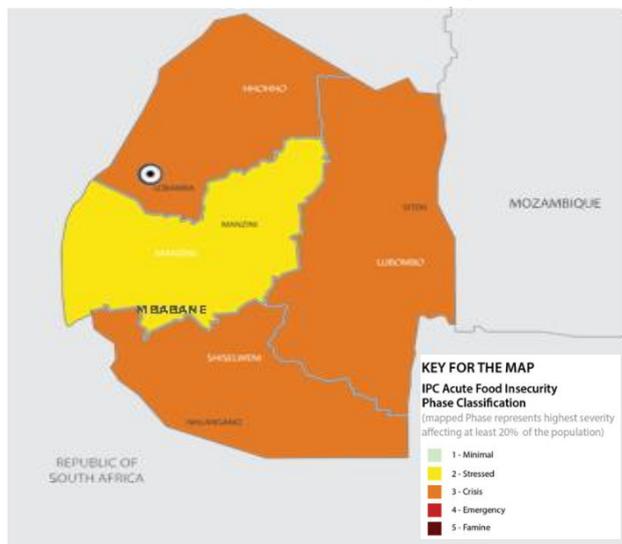
⁷ Summary report for the drought and household food security vulnerability assessment 2018/2019

⁸ Botswana Drought Mitigation and Response Plan, June 2019

⁹ SADC Synthesis report on the state of food and nutrition and vulnerability in southern Africa, 2019

¹⁰ IPC Scale: 1= Generally Food Secure, 2=Borderline Food Secure, 3=Acute Food and Livelihood Crisis, 4= Humanitarian Emergency, 5= Famine/Humanitarian Catastrophe

The National Society intervened earlier in 2019 in two constituencies in Shiselweni (Somntongo and Matsanjeni South), and WFP's lean season assistance programme covered constituencies in Lubombo. In a coordinated manner, WFP and



*Eswatini Acute Food Insecurity IPC Map
Oct 2019 - March 2020*

Finnish Red Cross and British Red Cross have agreed to cover all top priority constituencies in Lubombo and Shiselweni; with the Baphalali Eswatini Red Cross (BERCS) taking responsibility for the four most affected constituencies in Shiselweni (Somntongo, Matsanjeni South, Sigwe, and pockets in Hosea). WFP in turn took on responsibilities for priority constituencies in Lubombo and Hhohho. With this arrangement and based on the resources available to both organisations, all top priority constituencies are covered, and the interventions can reach a higher percentage of the most affected population.

In the above-mentioned regions, it is estimated that 40% of the rural population is in IPC 3 with pockets of the population in IPC 4. The situation in these regions is more acute as they are historically dry areas with limited access to water. They are prone to dry spells, fall armyworm infestation, livestock diseases and other pest outbreaks. These regions have a population of close to 70% under the poverty line, and high unemployment. HIV prevalence surpasses 25%, and due to subsequent high death rates, the prevalence of child-headed households is also high.

BERCS agreed with national authorities to focus its food security operation on the region of Shiselweni. The food security crisis is further exacerbated by high reliance on subsistence agriculture which is highly susceptible to climatic shocks. The increase in staple maize meal prices further erodes food access by particularly poor and very poor households. The households that are most affected are in the following zones: Dry Middleveld, Lowveld, and Cattle and Maize. Shiselweni also presents the highest prevalence of severe child malnutrition in the country, with 2% wasting for children under five years, and 23.1% stunting.

According to the [Eswatini VAA \(July 2019\)](#) the communities in Shiselweni with the highest incidence of severe food insecurity are: Sigwe, Matsanjeni South, and pockets in Hosea. Throughout the continued food security crisis experienced by Eswatini in 2019, there has been a minimal response from Government authorities and humanitarian actors. Except for the Red Cross, which supported 2,000 households (HHs) in Shiselweni region between May and August 2019, only the WFP initiated a lean season assistance programme in Lubombo and Hhohho in November 2019. No other organisations were responding to or mobilising support. The Movement (BERCS, Finnish Red Cross, British Red Cross) have been at the forefront in raising awareness of the situation in Eswatini and actively mobilising resources to respond¹¹.

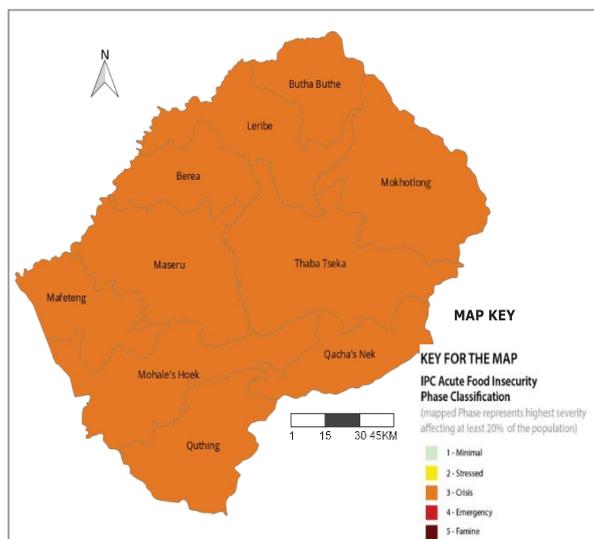
Update at first quarter of 2020: While overall the crop outlook now looks better than last year for most farmers, the southern part of the country, where BERCS operation takes place, experienced below average rain conditions during the growing season, in part due to a delayed onset of rains, as well as dry conditions in February 2020. According to the Ministry of Agriculture pre-harvest assessment of the agricultural production season undertaken at the end of January 2020, late onset of rains caused a significant delay in planting in most areas of the country. Farmers in the country were, as of early January to early March, encouraged to continue planting other crops such as grain legumes, dry beans, cowpeas, sweet potato, in anticipation of the rainfall season being favorable until the crops reach maturity (continuing up to end April). Fall Army Worm (FAW) remains a challenge and the farmers could apply very few means of control.

Lesotho

Recurrent drought events in Lesotho are the main cause of food insecurity, affecting crop production and food prices, livestock prices, as well as having a serious impact on child nutrition status and health.

¹¹ Eswatini VAA 2019, OCHA Food Security Update (October 2019), IPC Acute FS Analysis (July 2019); WFP Eswatini Transfer Value Determination Paper (October 2019)

The 2018 rains were very poor, resulting in a decline in food production of 68% in 2019. In 2019 and 2020 drought effects intensified, affecting thousands of people and leading to increase in acute malnutrition cases and severe water shortages for both humans and livestock. The difference between the current situation and the last major drought which affected the country in 2015/16 (when the lowlands were mostly affected), is that this time the entire country is badly affected and currently classified as IPC 3 (Crisis).



Lesotho Acute Food Insecurity IPC Map Oct 2019 - March 2020

According to the IPC acute food insecurity analysis, it was projected that 433,000 people (30% of the rural population) will face acute food insecurity (IPC 3 and above) from October 2019 to March 2020. The Government officially declared a state of drought emergency on 30 October 2019 and has since developed a national mitigation and response plan to run until June 2020. The Government has also set up ministerial and technical committees to boost the capacity of the Disaster Management Authority (DMA) at national and district levels to coordinate the mitigation and response interventions.

United Nations agencies respond mainly in the lowland districts, building on the WFP chronic food insecurity programme. However, limited humanitarian assistance has been delivered to the mountain districts, despite all the 10 districts of Lesotho being classified as IPC 3 (Crisis); and the situation is expected to worsen. Already, the current planting season for the mountain districts is lost, even if good rains are received because planting in the mountainous areas should have been completed by October 2019, to ensure that crops are harvested before the 2020 cold

season sets in. Significant gaps exist in the humanitarian response, especially for 'hard to reach districts' in the mountains. This will be the focus of the Lesotho Red Cross Society (LRCS) under this multi-country Emergency Appeal; in terms of response and recovery interventions.

Update at the end of first quarter 2020: consumption of green maize, beans and peas was improving household food access after prolonged periods of food insecurity caused by an extended lean season following a delayed start of the season. The most vulnerable households may engage in early harvest and drying of maize due to acute food insecurity. Localized frost events were observed in the LRCS targeted highlands indicating that frost remains a risk to unharvested maize as it begins the dry down stage. Although production is likely to be below average, the harvest is expected to improve food security outcomes between May and August 2020 to Stressed (IPC Phase 2) as the dry harvest begins and a reliance on market purchases are reduced. Crisis (IPC Phase 3) levels are forecasted to return in September 2020, as food stocks from harvest diminish and the impact of the decline in remittances due to Covid-19 becomes more pronounced and begins impacting household purchasing power ¹².

Namibia

Namibia was affected by prolonged dry weather in the 2018/19 cropping season. This led to below average production in 2019, severe water shortage and poor pasture conditions. This in turn affected livestock conditions, causing a massive drop in prices as well as trade value (e.g. rate at which a goat is exchanged for maize). The long dry spell also resulted in increased livestock mortality, with the Ministry of Agriculture estimating that 59,000 animals (mainly cattle) were lost as a result of drought. Consequently, the Government of Namibia declared a state of drought emergency in May 2019, triggering reallocation of Government resources to respond to the crisis. According to IPC Analysis carried out in October 2019, between October 2019 and March 2020, an estimated 430,000 people are facing severe acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3+) and require urgent humanitarian action. The eight most affected regions are Hardap, Kavango East, Khomas, Kunene, Ohangwena, Omusati, Omaheke and Zambezi and are classified as being in IPC Phase 3 (Crisis).

In the projection period between April and September 2020, an estimated 360,000 (15% of the population) people were expected to experience severe acute food insecurity, mainly in Hardap, Kavango East, Khomas, Kunene, Omaheke and Zambezi regions. The rest of the regions are expected to have slight improvement in the food situation after the harvest¹³.

¹² FEWS NET Lesotho Remote Monitoring Update April 2020

¹³ IPC Acute Food Insecurity Analysis, Government of the Republic of Namibia, October 2019.

CURRENT: OCTOBER 2019 - MARCH 2020		
430,000 18% of the population	Phase 5	0 People in Catastrophe
	Phase 4	0 People in Emergency
People facing severe acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3+)	Phase 3	430,000 People in Crisis
	Phase 2	850,000 People in Stress
IN NEED OF URGENT ACTION	Phase 1	1,140,000 People minimally food insecure

PROJECTED: APRIL - SEPTEMBER 2020		
360,000 15% of the population	Phase 5	0 People in Catastrophe
	Phase 4	0 People in Emergency
People facing severe acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3+)	Phase 3	360,000 People in Crisis
	Phase 2	840,000 People in Stress
IN NEED OF URGENT ACTION	Phase 1	1,220,000 People minimally food insecure

Update after first quarter of 2020: Despite a delay in the onset of the 2019/2020-rainfall season, most parts of the country received good rainfall during December 2019 and January 2020 resulting in improvements in grazing conditions, water supply and livestock body conditions. However, the area around southern Angola and north and western Namibia, where also the Red Cross target area Kunene lies, remain unfavourable due to persistent dry conditions through much of the season. Drought conditions continued to impact the livelihoods of various communities negatively in those areas. Regarding crop production, average planted area is estimated at 71% of last season and 9% below the average area planted. Good crop prospects were however marred by the Fall Armyworm outbreaks in the crop producing regions with the damage being more severe in the Zambezi region, but mild to moderate also in other regions. Household food security remains weak in various parts of the country, particularly in the rural areas where most households are reported to have no food reserve left following a failed agricultural production due to severe and devastating drought conditions experienced last season.¹⁴

Summary of current response

Finnish Red Cross seconded a delegate to the IFRC Southern Africa Cluster office as of the beginning of April 2020 to support IFRC in coordinating this multi-country Emergency Appeal for an initial 6-month period. While carrying out this duty from a distance due to global and local travel restrictions, the delegate support was timely given the simultaneous start and scale-up of Covid-19 response which has required significant Cluster staff engagement.

Botswana

Botswana Red Cross Society (BRCS) has designed a relief programme to augment government efforts to reduce the impacts of droughts. BRCS support targets 1550 households in four districts that were worst hit by drought, namely Central, Southern, South East and Kgalagadi North. The operation is implemented in 12 communities within these districts where BRCS already has capacity: Kang, Lehututu, Lekgwabe, Mabule, Kanye, Moshupa, Tlokweg, Sefhare, Mmadinare, Tonota, Shashemooke and Dukwi.

To date BRCS has organised stakeholder consultations, carried out household assessments and identified beneficiaries, procured suppliers and goods, reprioritised and adjusted activities to Covid-19. Distributions were started at the time of writing this report in May.

BRCS intervention planning was shared for inputs at district level and were informed by stakeholder consultations. The government of Botswana is leading the drought response in the country and BRCS as an auxiliary held national level stakeholder consultations with the National Disaster Management Office, different departments at the Ministry of Agriculture Development and Food Security and the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development, as well as with District Development Committees, sub district and village extension teams at district level. Consultations are an ongoing process continuing throughout the intervention.

For community identification, the National Society district teams together with Headquarters staff liaised with district stakeholders to identify potential households and undertook households' assessments with support from the Social and Development departments. Where the district government had already started profiling, they provided potential lists of households for BRCS endorsement, while in most cases assessments were conducted by BRCS. BRCS plan is to assist beneficiaries who will not benefit from government support due to shortage of resources.

¹⁴ SADC Food Security Quarterly Update Issue 3, April 2020: Season: 2019-2020, January to March 2020

BRCS human resources are stretched due to ongoing Covid-19 response needs coupled with public limitations, restrictions. Food security being a priority issue, the National Society is committed to continuing the implementation of the drought operation alongside the Covid-19 operation and utilizes available volunteer resources to support the staff. Delays can be expected in paperwork and thereby also in operational activities.

BRCS does not have partner National Societies present in the country. The IFRC is represented by a disaster management coordination based in the capital, Gaborone, since the end of January 2020. The National Society works closely with the IFRC Cluster and ICRC in South Africa on the development of the National Society and increasing fundraising opportunities.

BRCS is a member of the National Disaster Management Technical Committee and thus experiences strong cooperation with the Government of Botswana in disaster/emergencies responses. The Society contributed to the Government led drought assessment.

Eswatini

Disaster Management (DM) work is core to the work of BERCS operations and the National Society has extensive experience in responding to localised emergencies in the country. Working closely with communities in affected areas, protection, gender and inclusion (PGI) considerations are mainstreamed into operations, to define the criteria used to identify the populations most vulnerable to effects of hunger and to ensure that the most deserving people are reached with humanitarian assistance.

By the end of the reporting period, BERCS have completed preparatory activities of the intervention and the first round of cash distributions, with the consecutive rounds planned for May-June. The preparatory activities included for instance consultations and meetings with communities and local authorities, beneficiary identifications and registrations, as well as volunteer briefings. A baseline survey on the target household's food consumption score (FCS) and coping mechanisms were carried out alongside the registration. Out of the total respondents, 13% scored Acceptable, 29% scored Fair, and 58% scored Poor. Price monitoring has also been carried out, while a market assessment is being prepared, to be conducted together with the WFP. The assessment was slightly delayed due to Covid-19 limitations on volunteer trainings and logistics. Meanwhile telephone consultations are planned with bigger markets.

BERCS has implemented cash-based interventions since 2016 and has gained substantial experience in managing such emergency operations. The 2020 cash-based intervention under this Emergency Appeal and Finnish Red Cross and ECHO support is a continuation of a 2019 programme that was funded by the Finnish Government Ministry of Foreign Affairs humanitarian funding. BERCS is supported in country by Finnish Red Cross delegate.

The selected communities have a local Red Cross branch and volunteers have been assigned to the two projects; 12 volunteers in each constituency work for the two projects simultaneously. The local BERCS branches are governed by a regional branch, located in the town of Nhlngano. The regional branch is staffed by one field officer and one field assistant. The local Red Cross branches do not have paid staff, only volunteers.

Lesotho

LRCS have completed preparatory activities and started distributions already in the first quarter of the year. Preparatory activities included for instance stakeholder meetings to identify and coordinate on targeted areas and transfer values for planned support, beneficiary identification, verification and registration, financial service provider (FSP) procurement, as well as suggestions boxes for community feedback. The entry point for beneficiary selection was through verification and validation of National Information System for Social Assistance (NISSA) for all humanitarian actors responding to drought. Distributions were started in March and continued in April, reaching 2005 households.

The national society has two programmes, namely; Disaster Management that aims to improve the capacity of communities and National Society to respond to disasters through capacity building and community empowerment. Health and social services that aims at reducing the number of illnesses, deaths, and impact from diseases and public health emergencies by improving the quality of life of People Living with HIV and AIDS and other chronic illnesses, including vulnerable communities, through provision of Primary Health Care Services as well as First Aid training. LRCS operates in all ten districts of Lesotho and has approximately 10,000 volunteer base who carry out almost 90% of the humanitarian work of the national society. This Emergency Appeal response is in line with National Society's 2018 to 2022 strategic plan on strengthening and enhanced disaster and environmental management systems. The current actions build upon the National Society's history of Disaster Response actions that foster community resilience in natural and manmade disasters.

IFRC is not represented in-country in Lesotho but is supporting LRCS covid-19 response in addition to this Emergency Appeal, and a British Red Cross seconded delegate was deployed in country to support the design of the intervention. Of partner National Societies, Belgium Red Cross supports LRCS's First Aid in schools and disaster response, ICRC supports a Restoring Family Links project and German Red Cross is piloting forecast based financing project. LRCS adolescence corner in Health facilities is supported by Shoken Fund, and Wales is supporting WASH and Hygiene promotion in school.

The Disaster Management Authority (DMA) at national level (including Disaster Management Forum) and the District Disaster Management Team (DDMT), which includes representatives of various ministries, are in place in country. LRCS is a member of the DMA and, therefore, enjoys strong cooperation with the Government in disaster/emergencies responses. The National Society contributes to the FSL, nutrition, health and WASH Clusters of the Authority.

Lesotho has social safety nets in place through its Ministry of Social Development which provided financial resources to support the chronically most vulnerable families and elderly through pensions provided by the Ministry of Finance. This assistance is managed through a domestic database that covers most of the rural population (socio-economic ranking of households through community targeting approach), called NISSA (National Information System for Social Assistance).

LRCS currently partners with UN agencies, other international organizations and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) through the DMA. In response to drought, United Nations/WFP and World Bank are currently implementing a six-month cash transfer project in the northern and southern regions of Lesotho respectively. This is to support the immediate food assistance needs.

Namibia

Namibia Red Cross Society (NRCS) was supported by British Red Cross delegate to carry out a needs and markets assessment and cash feasibility study in the first quarter. The mission was cut slightly short due to foreseen Covid-19 containment measures but provided the National Society with most recommendations needed for moving forward in designing the response. Covid-19 operational planning and implementation have taken up much of NRCS human resources since then (the end of March) and together with Government imposed movement restrictions and assembly limitations have achieved limited advances in the implementation of this drought operation. It is expected that progress would pick-up again towards the second half of the second quarter.

NRCS has over 8 staff and 80 volunteers who are involved in various community-based interventions, including food security programming. NRCS has branches in eight regions, but covers ten regions through its operations: Zambezi, Kavango-East and West, Otjozondjupa, Ohangwena, Oshikoto, Oshana, Kunene, Omusati and Khomas. The NRCS supports the Government of Namibia in their humanitarian efforts according to the priority needs of the people in the country. The National Society has strong Government and community relations in areas that are affected by drought. Additionally, the National Society has established good working relationships in all the regions with other stakeholders through existing coordination platforms.

Complementing Government efforts on food security and nutrition in the country, NRCS works closely with the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry as well as the Ministry of Health and Social Services to identify vulnerable areas where the Society can add value to the lives of people using its comparative advantages of wide coverage of ground structures.

There is no IFRC representation in Namibia, but NRCS is supported by British Red Cross, German Red Cross and Spanish Red Cross and the partners have kindly offered their delegate support also to the Emergency Appeal planning. NRCS has funding also from USAID and the German and Japanese Governments for rehabilitating water points, as well as from the WFP for in-kind food distributions.

Needs analysis and scenario planning

Regional: A small component of the Emergency Appeal has a regional focus on providing technical, surge and operational support across the southern Africa region, including for other countries with ongoing Emergency Appeals (Malawi, Mozambique and Zambia) to ensure continuous needs analyses and timely updates/revisions as may be necessary. This regional component is also important as food insecurity may trigger people to move in search of better opportunities. This process will also link to long-term resilience building and strengthening National Societies to streamline cross-cutting components of Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA), Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI) and strengthening communication, monitoring systems and the documentation and sharing of lessons learnt to improve the IFRC's capacity for evidence-based advocacy.

Botswana



Regional Socio-Economic Context

Total population:	2.2M (2017)	Rural population:	0.78M (36% total population)
Life expectancy	68 yrs (2011)	Unemployment Rate	17.6% (2017)
Population Growth Rate	1.69% (2017)	Average GDP Growth	4.5% (2018)
Human Development Index	0.717 (2017)	Under 5 Mortality Rate	37.6 per 1,000 live births
Adult Literacy	88.7%(2015/18)	Inflation	3.2% (2018)
		HIV and AIDS	20.3% (2018)

Figure 1: Source: Botswana Vulnerability Assessment Committee Results 2019- Food Insecurity Situation

The preliminary assessment indicated that more than 38,000 people would be food insecure in the months from January to March 2020, with the potential of malnutrition in some areas. The above accumulates to about 9,500 households spread across disadvantaged regions like Ngamiland, Kgalagadi, Southern and Central districts.

Immediate needs of affected communities were in areas of livelihoods and basic needs support - food for both people and livestock as well as capacity to strengthen food production - with consideration for how PGI increase vulnerability and how this can be addressed, as this can have a multiplier effect on the health and wellbeing of individuals in and families in affected communities.

After assessments in the first quarter of 2020, BRCS concluded that people's food needs are most pertinent, exacerbated by Covid-19 containment measures, while rains received had alleviated the pressure of fodder for animals.

Eswatini

Eswatini Annual Vulnerability Assessment and Analysis Report (July 2019) indicated that there was a decline in cereal production due to recurrent droughts mostly affecting the Lowveld and dry Middleveld in the Shiselweni, Lubombo and Hhohho regions. Eswatini cereal needs stood at 167, 882 MT and yet the domestic cereal availability was 96 773, leaving a shortfall of 71 109 MT. According to the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification, an estimated population of 200,000 (20 % of the rural population) were in severe acute food insecurity areas, out of which 157,000 people facing a Crisis situation (IPC, Phase 3). About 47,000 people were facing an Emergency (IPC, Phase 4) and 370,000 people in a Stressed situation (IPC, Phase 2). The priority needs are therefore in food and in supporting continued food production. Food support needs are exacerbated by the Covid-19 situation.

Lesotho

Following the LVAC report issued in June 2019, and the rapid assessment run in November 2019, all 10 districts were declared in IPC 3 for the period of October 2019-March 2020.

In total, 25% of the population were projected to be food insecure, i.e. half a million of the national population, of which 430,000 people in rural areas reliant on agriculture to sustain their source of food and income. Approximately 70,000 people were projected to be affected in urban settings.

Moreover, people's livelihoods were already depleted by repeated droughts, leaving them highly vulnerable. It has damaged livestock trading, impacting livestock conditions which had not fully recovered from 2018/2019 lean season. This increases the death rates of livestock as well as prices and quality of wool and mohair (another source of income for families). Due to the poor start of the planting season, production prospects and labour opportunities (as it mostly limited to agriculture labour and remittances) are below average and force poor households to rely on market purchases to access food, though their low purchasing power is limiting access to adequate quantities of food.

The state District Disaster Management Teams (DDMT) monitor the situation and provide updates on affected communities, water availability, crops and livestock and possible protection issues that will need mitigating in this operation. As coping mechanisms, it has been noted that in order to cope, communities' resort to labour migration, selling assets and forcing children into early marriage and child labour. Mitigating the impacts of food insecurity on children, adolescent girls and women will be crucial to protecting these vulnerable groups from sexual and gender based violence.

Namibia

The late onset of the rainy season and early departure induced a shorter rainy season punctuated by dry spells that affected ground and surface water recharge, thereby accelerating dry conditions. Further, excessive heat that ensured heightened effective evapo-transpiration that increased dryness. As such, water levels in most water bodies have gone low and dried up, creating numerous waters needs for domestic use and livestock.

Specific impacts in the critically affected communities, alongside agriculture (food insecurity), include a reduction in access to clean and safe water for human and animal consumption and for agricultural production. The Government of Namibia, with the support of its stakeholders, carried out IPCS Acute Analysis in October 2019¹⁵. The report was published in January 2020 and shared with key stakeholders in disaster management, including NRCS. The IPC clearly states the affected populations in terms of numbers, sectors and geographical areas. According to the report, the critically affected sectors include food security, health, education, WASH, energy and livestock diseases.

To address the identified food insecurity needs, NRCS will employ both longer-term livelihoods support and basic immediate needs support.

B. OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

Proposed strategy

Botswana

Following assessment results and Covid-19 implications, as well as limited funding available under the EPoA, BRCS decided to prioritise the use of resources for food support and gardening supplies to people and to deprioritise fodder for the time being.

BRCS original plan was to provide people with vouchers for food. Growing concerns of the spread of Covid-19 during the reporting period made it difficult however for suppliers to commit to proposed supply and distribution of goods. This first delayed procurement of suppliers and later the restrictions adopted by the government of Botswana to observe extreme social distancing and the associated limits on travel affected the voucher plans. Community could no longer access suppliers to collect food packages, so BRCS moved to procure the food stuffs and arrange for in-kind distribution to target households by volunteers. This requires more volunteer and logistics resources than foreseen but can be managed within the existing budget framework. At the same time, the restrictions and strict controls at borders, meant suppliers were faced with increased logistical costs and are passing these costs to consumers. Therefore, there has been an observed increase in commodity prices, that affects the previously planned prices for food packages, quantities and package contents. The National Society is looking to return to voucher distributions when feasible.

Similarly, the Covid-19 containment measures in force in the country meant that face-to-face CEA activities, such as briefings on the distributions could not be safely implemented as planned, but were instead carried out by phone communications, which included also key messaging related to Covid-19 prevention measures. Trainings for communities will not be organised before it is deemed safe to do so. BRCS is planning to maximise on the available CEA funding and to create synergies under the simultaneous drought and Covid-19 operations to create a unified BRCS hotline for communities to provide feedback and to get information. At the moment, feedback is collected through continuous consultations at different levels.

Eswatini

The operation planned to provide cash-based assistance to 5,000 households during the peak of the hunger gap, i.e. from February to May. This will be followed by support for the construction of back-yard gardens for 1,000 households during the period June – August 2020 and improved seed distribution for 1,000 households during the planting season in September 2020.



Two beneficiaries cashing out at mobile merchant in Sigwe

The operational strategy remains essentially the same, per available funding. Covid-19 related limitations and restrictions in Eswatini meant however adjustments to the implementation practicalities and delays: large distributions had to be broken down to accommodate only allowed number of people at once. This meant several smaller events instead of a big one, many more days and much more human resources and logistics involved. Logistics in general have required a lot of changes and additional time to abide by distancing protocols and to keep everyone safe – communities, volunteers and staff alike.

BERCS as well as its financial service providers have experienced delays in completing essential paperwork while observing distance working requirements resulting in slight delays in some transfers. Post distribution monitoring and exist surveying have been carried out via phone instead of face-to-face, with reduced sample sizes and targeting only

¹⁵ http://www.ipcinfo.org/fileadmin/user_upload/ipcinfo/docs/IPC_AcuteFoodInsecurity_Namibia_2019Oct2020Sept.pdf

those with phone access. All these examples demonstrate first and foremost the flexibility, creativity and willingness of the National Society to advance and carry out quality programming despite restrictive circumstances. Similar adjustments may be required also in the remaining operational months.

Covid-19 has also exacerbated food insecurity in Eswatini, prompting the government to start the provision of support for over 300 000 people in need for 3 months (May to July 2020). The National Disaster Management Agency convened a food security cluster meeting with relevant stakeholders (NGOs) to plan around the intervention. The National Society as a member of the Food Security Cluster participated in the discussions and was allocated 10 constituencies (6 in Hhohho region and 4 Shiselweni region) to provide support through the government intervention. Unfortunately, the areas where the Emergency Appeal is implemented were not given to the National Society which puts pressure for the National Society to conclude all activities within the specified time to allow smooth transition to the Government support. Pressure is high as the lean season is approaching its end and delays seem probable with the following distributions.

Lesotho

The relief activities of unconditional cash transfer are planned for a period of 3 months from March to May 2020. Then followed by the conditional cash transfer where target households will rehabilitate or establish community assets from June-August 2020. The target households will still receive transfer value of (10 CHF) which is 151 Maloti per member of household to cover food basket gap as per LVAC 2019, rapid assessment conducted in October 2019. In addition, 2760 targeted households will receive agricultural input for the next planting season, out of 2760, 200 will be selected lead farmers.

Similar to the other countries, Lesotho is also impacted by Covid-19 containment measures limiting public gatherings and enforcing distancing. This has affected LRCS's implementation practicalities requiring adaptations but has not implicated changes in the operational strategy.

LRCS aims to support the poorest targeted families not covered by existing social assistance and other humanitarian actors in this period of limited labor opportunities and food production. LRCS expects to provide financial assistance during this emergency time and to engage with those communities through the identification and development of community assets that will support resilience and recovery of communities.

Finally, as a last phase of the intervention, LRCS wants to ensure families involved in farming as per normal livelihoods, have the agricultural inputs to plant for the next season and support their food security for the next marketing year (2020/2021). LRCS will implement seed fairs (as farmers rely on retained seeds, today mostly depleted with recurring droughts or eaten), and training on climate smart agriculture and food conservation/preparation.



2 Sim card distribution in Lesotho

Namibia

Based on the recommendations of the needs assessment carried out during the first quarter recommended the National Society to focus the intervention in line with available funding, resources and capacities to one constituency in Kunene region. NRCS has therefore proposed to focus on Khorixas for the time being. In Khorixas gardening is not a priority as much as in Sesfontein, so NRCS plans to prioritise immediate food support through cash transfer assistance and the rehabilitation of water points in Khorixas.

C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL PLAN

Botswana



Livelihoods and basic needs

People reached: 150 HH (approx. 750 people)

Male: NS is working to collect detailed breakdown information.

Female:

Outcome 1: Communities, especially in disaster and crisis affected areas, restore and strengthen their livelihoods

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of people reached with livelihoods support	1,550 HH (7750 ppl).	0
Output 1.2: Basic needs assistance for livelihoods security including food is provided to the most affected communities		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of households receiving food vouchers	300 HH (1500 ppl).	150
Output 1.3: Household livelihoods security is enhanced through food production, increased productivity and post-harvest management (agriculture-based livelihoods)		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of households receiving garden tools and seeds.	1000 HH	0
# of households receiving livestock feed vouchers.	250 HH*	0
# of PDM and Post-Harvest Monitoring done	n/a	0
Output 1.4: Community awareness activities on livelihoods strengthening and protection are carried out with target communities and public actors.		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of people reached with CEA messages	7750 ppl	2515
Progress towards outcomes		
<p>For much of the reporting period, BRCS carried out preparatory activities, including stakeholder consultations, community/household assessments for beneficiary identification and registration. BRCS was able to identify 2515 potential beneficiaries for the time being. Due to Covid-19 containment measures affecting prices, procurements, logistics and overall planning, BRCS was slightly delayed in its distributions. Distributions were started in May, reaching at first 150 HH. Distributions are planned to continue in June.</p> <p>Due to nationwide movement restrictions related to Covid-19 containment measures, BRCS adjusted its food support modality from vouchers to in-kind food parcels to be delivered to households houses.</p> <p>BRCS needs assessment revealed also that rains had alleviated the pressure on fodder need, while food support needs persisted and were in general exacerbated by Covid-19 border closures, limitations and restrictions. Therefore, to prioritise in line with available funding, BRCS is focusing on the food needs and deprioritises fodder for the time being. BRCS is looking to start the gardening support as a second priority after food support in June-July.</p> <p>Community briefings on the voucher modalities were not conducted due to adjusted plans, but communities were informed through alternative safe means, i.e. mobile phones, about the changes and the forthcoming in-kind support and deliveries.</p>		

Strengthen National Society		
Outcome 1: National Society capacity building and organizational development objectives are facilitated to ensure that National Societies have the necessary legal, ethical and financial foundations, systems and structures, competences and capacities to plan and perform		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
Improved NS Capacity to respond timely and appropriately during emergencies.	n/a	n/a
Output S1.1.4: National Societies have effective and motivated volunteers who are protected		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of volunteers that participated in the operation	50	20
Output S1.1.6: National Societies have the necessary corporate infrastructure and systems in place		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of Senior management team, Board members and Branch committees that participated in the OCAC process	35 ppl	0

Progress towards outcomes
<p>Volunteers have an important role in BRCS intervention, they were engaged in the community/household assessments carried out to identify and register households, and the adjusted distribution plans with in-kind deliveries will require much more volunteer hours than foreseen with the original voucher modality. BRCS volunteers are also sought for by the Botswanan government for their response purposes attesting to the capacity of BRCS and its volunteers – 150 of them were engaged in government food distributions in May</p> <p>BRCS has initial plans to embark on OCAC process supported by IFRC Southern Africa Cluster. The Cluster NSD delegate was supposed to visit BRCS in March/April for planning purposes, but this plan is suspended for now due to Covid-19 restrictions.</p>

International Disaster Response		
Outcome S2.1: Effective and coordinated international disaster response is ensured:		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
Quality planning and implementation ensured	n/a	n/a
Output S2.1.1: Effective and respected surge capacity mechanism is maintained.		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
Provided support for initial operational start-up	n/a	2
Output S2.1.3: NS compliance with Principles and Rules for Humanitarian Assistance is improved		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of coordination and stakeholder engagement meetings done	n/a	narrative
Progress towards outcomes		
<p>The designing of the intervention was supported by IFRC surge DM delegate for one week in February in addition to which the IFRC Cluster Operations Manager, was involved to support notably beneficiary identification in country in February.</p> <p>As of February there is IFRC DM Delegate in-country to coordinate IFRC's ECHO funded Regional Disaster Risk Reduction project in cooperation with SADC. Being in-country the delegate is able to support the National Society also in the other ongoing operational management and act as link between the IFRC Cluster and the National Society.</p> <p>There are very few humanitarian organisations in country and while more could be done in terms of coordination, the Government of Botswana is leading all emergency responses, including targeting. BRCS therefore also carried out consultations for the intervention with different national stakeholders: The National Society successfully consulted 3 ministries, 4 districts, 8 subdistricts and 12 villages during initial stakeholder consultations, including Ministry of Presidential Affairs and Administration National Disaster management Office; Ministry of Agriculture Development and food security Department of Crop Production, Department of Animal Health and Production and Department of Horticulture; Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development Department of social protection and Rural development council secretariat. At community level BRCS consulted Village Development Committees, and the Village Extension Teams made up of representatives of all Extension Departments in the village. Consultations at each level are ongoing processes expected to continue throughout the intervention.</p>		

Effective, credible and accountable IFRC		
Outcome S3.1: The IFRC secretariat, together with National Societies uses their unique position to influence decisions at local, national and international levels that affect the most vulnerable.		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
Increased Government support to NS	n/a	n/a
Output S3.1.1: IFRC and NS are visible, trusted and effective advocates on humanitarian issues		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of initiatives supported by Government	n/a	narrative
Outcome S3.2: The programmatic reach of the National Societies and the IFRC is expanded.		

Indicators:	Target	Actual
Improved funding for emergency appeal from cooperates and national institutions.	n/a	1
Output S3.2.3 National Societies are supported in resource and partnership development (from both domestic markets and foreign sources).		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
Developed resources mobilisation strategy	1	narrative
Output S4.1.3: Financial resources are safeguarded; quality financial and administrative support is provided contributing to efficient operations and ensuring effective use of assets; timely quality financial reporting to stakeholders		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of reports submitted timely	12	3
Progress towards outcomes		
<p>The Government of Botswana supports BRCS and its social protection programme. BRCS is included in the national DM structures at all levels. Also in relation to the drought/food insecurity response, the Government is leading the response planning and for instance subsidises livestock.</p> <p>A team of IFRC Southern Africa Cluster visited BRCS in February to have a skills-sharing workshop on a variety of NSD topics, including strengthening BRCS auxiliary role, as well as resource mobilization and development. As a follow-up, BRCS has developed its own resource mobilization and fund-raising ideas and have been approaching various organisations for funding opportunities. This particular Emergency Appeal has so far attracted pNSs and foreign government humanitarian funding. However, BRCS has been able to attract private sector and UNICEF/UNDP funding for its Covid-19 intervention. IFRC Cluster Communications Officer shared tips on National Society visibility and profiling communication.</p> <p>Given the first quarter was mainly preparatory activities, reporting was started in April.</p>		

Eswatini

	<h3>Livelihoods and basic needs</h3> <p>People reached: 14,379 people, Male: 6661 Female: 7718</p> <p>Out of whom 167 household heads (113 females and 54 males) are living with disabilities</p>	
	<p>Outcome 1: Communities, especially in disaster and crisis affected areas, restore and strengthen their livelihoods</p>	
Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of people reached with livelihoods support	5,000 HH	2,300 HH
Output 1.2: Households are provided with unconditional/multipurpose cash grants to address their basic needs		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of households reached through cash transfers	5000 HH	2300 HH
# of PDM carried out	4	2
Output 1.3: Household livelihoods security is enhanced through food production, increased productivity and post-harvest management (agriculture-based livelihoods)		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of families supported with backyard gardens	1000 HH	0
# of people reached through training sessions	500 HH	0
Progress towards outcomes		
<p>By the end of May BERCS had covered 2300 households with multipurpose cash transfers with the first transfer round reaching 14,379 people (7718 females and 6661 males; out of whom 167 household heads 113 females and</p>		

54 males) are living with disabilities. Out of the total 2300 HH, 921 in Sigwe received also their second transfer, while the 1379 HH in Hosea was pending reporting and transfer between BERCS and IFRC. The pending 2nd, 3rd and 4th rounds are delayed, but will be carried out asap in June and the beginning of July
The distributions were preceded by stakeholder consultations, assessments, identification, selection and registrations, FSP procurements and volunteer briefings/trainings.

Post-distribution monitoring (PDMs) was carried out after both rounds of cash transfers to beneficiaries:

1st PDM

- 194 people interviewed (160 females and 34males)
- 1person reported to have been unsafe at cash out point due to having to travel a long distance.
- 96% people reported no security incidence, while 4% recorded some.
- 96 % of respondents were able to name at least one mechanism they could use if they wanted to make a complaint or give feedback to Red Cross. The most common mechanisms mentioned were calling a toll-free number (48% of the respondents), calling Red Cross office (20%) and calling Red Cross staff or volunteer (11%).

2nd PDM

- 67 people interviewed (9 males and 58 females)
- 98,5% of the respondents stated they felt safe when cashing out the payment
- 5% reported that a security incident related to the project had happened. Two of the cases were violence against or between people receiving the money, one violence against cash provider and one robbery. These incidents have been followed-up and mitigation measures are considered to prevent such issues happening
- 100% of the respondents reported having used some money for food. That was followed by health (45%) and coal, wood or paraffin (42%).

87% of the respondents, reported increase in prices of basic food products compared to the last payment.

The result is confirmed by market price monitoring conducted by National Society, which shows an increase between weeks 14-20 average prices of rice 10%, vegetable oil 5% and beans 5%.

The National Society and WFP had planned to conduct a market assessment, but due to Covid-19 precautions the discussions were not been finalized in the reporting period. While the exchange of data collection tools were completed, the planning was frustrated by assembly restrictions for volunteer trainings on market assessment, and the lockdown restricting transportation and movements. The assessment is rescheduled for May.

Outputs under 1.3 are planned from June onward.

Strengthen National Society

Outcome 1: National Society capacity building and organizational development objectives are facilitated to ensure that National Societies have the necessary legal, ethical and financial foundations, systems and structures, competences and capacities to plan and perform

Indicators:	Target	Actual
Improved NS Capacity to respond timely and appropriately during emergencies.	n/a	n/a

Output S1.1.4: National Societies have effective and motivated volunteers who are protected

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of volunteers that participated in the operation	50	22

Output S1.1.6: National Societies have the necessary corporate infrastructure and systems in place

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of volunteers trained on CEA	n/a	22
# of assessments carried out	n/a	1
# of volunteers who have signed Code of Conduct	n/a	tbs

Progress towards outcomes

BERCS has engaged and trained/briefed 22 volunteers for the intervention (18 female, 8 male. One has dropped out thence having gained employment) and maintains good volunteer management practices: Volunteer database has been developed and volunteers were insured. In the kick-off meeting volunteers were oriented on the project, on Kobo, and on PGI and CEA. A full training on PGI and CEA was planned for March/April with IFRC engagement but had to be cancelled due to Covid-19 travel limitations. Awareness sessions were nevertheless carried out. On 18 March, a refresher meeting with the volunteers was held, where the project activities were run through, along with the tasks of the volunteers per activity. The RCRC Principles and Code of Conduct were reiterated. The Code will also be signed by all volunteers when the next face to face sessions are again possible after Covid-19

restrictions. Lead volunteers were selected per constituency to assist in handling some concerns from the volunteers and psycho-social support is made available, but no reported needs for now. Volunteer meetings are carried out monthly, together with open and constant communication to allow volunteers to register or report issues. WhatsApp group is also used for communication, especially during Covid-19 safety measures. Transport for volunteers was provided for some activities especially in cases where they contribute their time and efforts outside of their chiefdoms.

A baseline survey on the target household's food consumption score (FCS) and coping mechanisms were carried out alongside beneficiary registration. Out of the total respondents, 13% scored Acceptable, 29% scored Fair, and 58% scored Poor.

Households targeting and registration were informed by PGI issues, while a full baseline PGI assessment was not carried out as planned due to scheduling conflicts, and later with travel restrictions enforced by governments in the fight against COVID-19 pandemic. The households selection criteria consider the inclusion of the elderly, chronically ill, disabled and child headed households. Monitoring tools also consider PGI. The PDM tool and has questions on issues of gender-based violence and follow up actions are taken when reported. Focus group discussions sought perceptions of women on being part of the programme and how that impacts life in the household.

Communities are well engaged in the operation: households selection was done by the community members themselves. They followed the selection criteria used under the food security coordination which is:

- Chronically ill household head
- Disabled (physically/mentally) household head
- Child headed household
- Household with pregnant or lactating mothers with children under 5 years
- Elderly (above 60) headed household
- Widow living with orphans under 17 years
- Single parent headed household with children under 5 years
- Household with depleted assets

The community nominated each household, discussed and agreed on the selection criteria that qualifies that individual. If two or more criteria are met, then he or she was listed as a household for assistance. The initial lists were approved and stamped by the Chiefdom Inner Council and later handed over to the Project Team.

The initial Chiefdom lists were then used as reference for the households Registration which was done through Kobo. Households convened at their respective chiefdoms and were interviewed and registered by the trained BERCS volunteers. Information collected were the household demographics: name and surname of household head, ID and cell phone number of household head, household breakdown (sex and age), household vulnerability, as well as the food consumption and coping mechanisms. The initial lists were then used as basis for verification. The team targeted 11% of the total number of households in both constituencies, but only reached 8% (some areas were hard to reach, and beneficiaries were not found at their houses). Households sampled for the verification were randomly selected but also included those with inconsistent or incomplete data. Some of the key things verified were the selection criteria, family size, ID number and cell phone number of the beneficiaries.

For continuous community feedback BERCS set up a hotline with the support of and hosted at WFP. Feedback and complaints are received and acted upon. A summary sheet is updated regularly, tracking the feedback and complaints received through the different mechanisms, and its status (if resolved or still open). As of reporting time, 18 complaints were received, 13 were resolved and 5 are yet to be resolved. All the complaints were about delayed payment from Red Cross side on the monthly allocation. Due to Covid-19, non-essential services traders, were not operational leading to non-procurement of suggestion boxes.

International Disaster Response		
Outcome S2.1: Effective and coordinated international disaster response is ensured:		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
Quality planning and implementation ensured	n/a	✓
Output S2.1.1: Effective and respected surge capacity mechanism is maintained.		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of surge deployment to BERCS and IFRC support missions	n/a	5
Output S2.1.3: NS compliance with Principles and Rules for Humanitarian Assistance is improved		

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of coordination and stakeholder engagement meetings done	n/a	2
Progress towards outcomes		
<p>IFRC is not directly represented in-country in Eswatini, but Finnish Red Cross delegates were deployed bilaterally in the country to support BERCS in its overall cash/food security operation planning, as Finnish Red Cross is the main bilateral partner and contributor to BERCS operation, with the support of ECHO funding. One delegate was deployed to support in designing the overall intervention, two were engaged to support the procurements, particularly for the Financial Service Provider, and financial management set-up, and two persons to support the implementation through quarters one and two, benefitting the coordination of the two sides of BERCS' operation.</p> <p>In the beginning of the intervention, constituency and chiefdom sensitization meetings were conducted to present information on the project to local stakeholders and to agree allocation of households per chiefdom. In addition, a project kick-off Meeting was organized in January 2020, attended by 30 participants (12 female and 18 male) from different stakeholder organisations mainly working in the region as well as BERCS staff and volunteers. One coordination meeting and one stakeholder meeting have been organized besides the introductory meetings.</p>		

Effective, credible and accountable IFRC

Outcome S3.1: The IFRC secretariat, together with National Societies uses their unique position to influence decisions at local, national and international levels that affect the most vulnerable.

Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i>Increased Government support to NS</i>	n/a	n/a
Output S3.1.1: IFRC and NS are visible, trusted and effective advocates on humanitarian issues		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of initiatives supported by Government	n/a	narrative
Output S4.1.3: Financial resources are safeguarded; quality financial and administrative support is provided contributing to efficient operations and ensuring effective use of assets; timely quality financial reporting to stakeholders		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of reports submitted in a timely manner	12	4
Progress towards outcomes		
<p>The Government of Eswatini supports BERCS' health operations and staff as well as its disaster management. A recent example, the Government started the provision of support for over 300 000 persons in need due to Covid-19. The National Disaster Management Agency convened a food security Cluster meeting with relevant stakeholders (NGOs) to plan around the intervention. BERCS as a member of the Food Security Cluster participated in the discussions and was allocated 10 constituencies (6 in Hhohho region and 4 Shiselweni region) to provide support through the government intervention.</p> <p>BERCS started reporting on advancements after the first quarter's preparatory activities.</p>		

Lesotho



Livelihoods and basic needs

People reached: 8309

Registered verified beneficiaries: 2101 female adults, 2068 male adults, 846 children 0<5 years of age and 3006 children 5-17 years of age. Of the beneficiaries, 222 live with a disability.

Outcome 1: Communities, especially in disaster and crisis affected areas, restore and strengthen their livelihoods

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of people reached with livelihoods support	4600 households (23,000 people) with cash	0

	2760 households (13800 people) with agro-support	
Output 1.3: Household livelihoods security is enhanced through food production, increased productivity and post-harvest management (agriculture-based livelihoods)		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of households receiving garden tools and seeds	2760 HH	0
Output 1.5: Households are provided with unconditional/multipurpose cash grants to address their basic needs		
# of households receiving unconditional cash	4600 HH 1-3months 2600 HH 4-6months	2005
# of households receiving conditional cash (Cash for Assets),	2,000 households (10,000 people) upon details from registration	0
# of PDM and PHM carried out	2	1
Progress towards outcomes		
<p>LRCS has started the operation with unconditional cash grants, while the agricultural inputs are planned for August and lead farmers training for June-July. For the cash grant distributions, preparatory activities were carried out in the first quarter and first transfers also made already during it. Preparatory activities included community and stakeholder meetings, households' identification, verification and registration, procurement of financial service provider as well as suggestions boxes for community feedback. Distributions were started in March and continued in April and May.</p> <p>Stakeholder meetings were carried out with national Disaster Management Authority, District Disaster Management Teams, Ministry of Social Development and local authorities, as well as with other governmental and non-governmental organisations. The Government welcomed LRCS to implement the activities in all proposed districts and community councils. Consultations were followed by households' identification, selection validation and registration. LRCS had access to deploy 10 DDMT per district to oversee and support the verification and validations exercise. In addition, 10 volunteers were engaged per district and trained in the use of ODK for beneficiary registration, baseline and price-monitoring.</p> <p>In all districts the entry point for households' targeting, selection, verification and registration was National Information System for Social Assistance (NISSA) database/list, which was triangulated with community targeting. Households were verified based on the following criteria: Vulnerable food insecure households, this include household classified under ultra-poor households without any social grant as per NISSA; Child headed Households; Vulnerable Household with people living with disability without any social grant.</p> <p>LRCS identified 2005 HH (of which 1016 are female headed) comprising 2101 female adults and 2068 male adults, 846 children 0<5 years of age and 3006 children 5-17 years of age. Altogether 222 of the identified potential beneficiaries live with a disability.</p> <p>LRCS initially targeted 4 districts that are located in the highlands and mountainous range of the country. This included Butha Buthe, Thaba Tseka, Mokhotlong and Qacha's Nek, focusing mainly on hard to reach communities councils that are prone to early frost and located within the highest altitude. However, through National humanitarian agencies mapping response plan that was done in January in partnership with UN agencies, Humanitarian actors and World Bank under the coordination of DMA, LRCS dropped one district. Qacha's Nek was dropped from LRCS intervention as World Food Program covered the entire district.</p> <p>The initial plan was to target 4,600 households in all districts however, the Emergency Appeal was not fully funded, then household target was reduced to 2,005 HH.</p> <p>Feasibility study for the food insecurity situation and market assessment was carried out in Thaba-tseka, Mokhotlong and Butha Buthe Districts. The assessment indicated that unconditional and unrestricted mobile cash transfer would be feasible for this emergency response and that markets were functional in all towns. In addition, the network coverage for two mobile operators was also assessed. Selection of Mobile service provider for the cash transfer was done considering each network coverage in different regions. Both Vodacom and Econet were selected, through a tender process supported by procurement and IFRC technical delegate.</p> <p>LRCS market assessment concluded that on average, there was 5% increase in food prices as compared to the baseline, due to limited access to commodities influenced by COVID-19 lockdown regulations.</p> <p>PDM results showed that in comparison to baseline, there is an improvement on household's food consumption scores where majority (74.6%) of the households fall within adequate category, as opposed to 34.4% at baseline.</p>		

Mokhotlong had the highest proportion of households with poor food consumption (28.8%), followed by Thaba Tseka (28.1%), Butha Buthe (14.3%). The survey revealed that majority (51%) of the respondents rely on humanitarian assistance for a living. In comparison with the baseline there is a slight improvement from 30% to 14.6% on HH who don't have access to income. In the first month after distribution, 93% of HH spent their income on food and less than 1% indicated to spend income on other items, such as house rent, loan repayment, education, agricultural inputs and purchasing on other household goods. The survey revealed that 70% of HH heavily relied on humanitarian assistance to purchase food from the market. The other most common food sources include own production (19%), and gift from relatives (8%). Undesirable sources such as credit have shown a downward trend from 5% to 3% when compared to the results of the previous baseline. However, 19% rely on own production which include production such as summer vegetables and little harvested grains from the field. Of the respondents, 51% indicated decision on the use of cash are mostly with the females (wife) as it entails mostly expenses on food, while 18% reported husband, 14% and 16% reported collaboration of all household members and wife and husband respectively.

Good mobile network coverage enabled smooth operation of mobile wallet to both agents and target households. As a result of the first cash distribution, retailers indicated an improvement in community purchasing power hence improving the economy of the local market, according to LRCS PDM.

Strengthen National Society

Outcome 1: National Society capacity building and organizational development objectives are facilitated to ensure that National Societies have the necessary legal, ethical and financial foundations, systems and structures, competences and capacities to plan and perform

Indicators:	Target	Actual
Improved NS Capacity to respond timely and appropriately during emergencies.	n/a	n/a

Output S1.1.4: National Societies have effective and motivated volunteers who are protected

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# staff salaries contributed	15	9
# of volunteers and staff trained on Level One Cash	150	15
# of volunteers and staff trained in climate smart agriculture	25	0

Output S1.1.6: National Societies have the necessary corporate infrastructure and systems in place

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of Senior management team, Board members and Branch committees that participated in the BOCA process	15ppl	0

Progress towards outcomes

LRCS has nine staff members engaged in the operation and 18 technical volunteers to support project implementation. BRC seconded IFRC surge capacity was deployed to Lesotho in January for a period of 3 months to support design and set-up the intervention, including financial service provider procurement.

LRCS volunteers have gained strong experience of cash programming already in earlier years' operations and there is a pool of volunteers who keep capacitating new volunteers. 15 volunteers were trained earlier (not under this EA) and were regularly refreshed/supported in their skills.

Induction workshop was conducted for staff and volunteers in February to give an overview of the project and prepare everyone for the response. The workshop included for example: code of conduct, communication, finance procedures, project delivery modalities, project staff and volunteers' roles and responsibilities, key messages about community participation in targeting and beneficiary registration, Open data kit (ODK) training, report writing and tracking of indicators. To ignite the day, the Secretary General facilitated in LRCS Overview session which entails the structures of the society, Mission and Vision. While the Department of Human resource and administration. The workshop attracted 31 persons from district level (Professional Technical Volunteers, Project Officers and Divisional Secretaries) as well as the Headquarters (Human Resource and Administration, Office of Secretary General, Communications, CEA, Finance, Logistics, fleet services, PMER Office and Disaster Management). All in all, it can be said that LRCS capacity to respond was improved greatly already with this all-encompassing workshop for everyone.

LRCS reports also continuous support from the South African cluster on regular basis in Communication, Finance, CEA and PGI as well as overall coordination of the operation.

Trainings on climate smart agriculture are planned for after this reporting period.

LRCS has carried out BOCA and is planning to engage board members and district branch staff in the processes.

Output S2.1.3: NS compliance with Principles and Rules for Humanitarian Assistance is improved

Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i>NS is compliant with Principles and Rules for Humanitarian Assistance</i>	n/a	narrative

Progress towards outcomes

LRCS has taken due measures to ensure that everyone in the operation is aware of the Code of Conduct, their duties and responsibilities and as well as with other good humanitarian practices, such as ensuring community participation (see induction workshop under Output 1.1.6). Furthermore, LRCS assures that in all its activities it does not only concentrate on acute or chronic disabilities it further pays special attention to gender, disability, age in order to accumulate all community groups in its intervention.

LRCS is currently mainstreaming CEA in all programmes, to allow communities to fully engage and participate in all activities within different stages of the project cycle. Therefore, CEA activities commenced from the targeting exercise where communities were given priority to select vulnerable food insecure household using community-based targeting approach. Further, LRCS introduced a Complaints, Feedback and Response Mechanism's (CFRM), consisting of Suggestion box, Toll free line, and Help desk. 60 suggestion boxes were placed in 60 DPs, and 60 help desks were established in all DPs. Toll Free line is based in Maseru Headquarters and administered by CEA officer. These mechanisms allow communities to freely voice out their grievance's and provide two-way feedback. Close monitoring is done to ensure that complaints are addressed in time depending on the type of complaint. In the PDM conducted by LRCS, 89% of respondents were aware of their right to complain and participate in all levels of the project cycle.

During reporting period common complaints concerned delayed transfers and the transfer value. On the basis of the delayed cash transfer CEA officer and mobile network operators established that households had lost their sim card, while some blocked the pin code. The funds were reversed, and volunteers were deployed to re-register those who blocked their pin code and re-distribute lost sim cards. Then payment was therefore processed within two days. As for the complaint on transfer value, LVAC technical team agreed on M151 per household member after considering the food basket gap.

Communication is another critical component for visibility of the whole operation. IFRC Cluster office supported this component at the initial stage of the development of the appeal. The Red Cross is one of the leading organizations in the Drought Response in Lesotho and have been invited to different media platforms to outline their response plan to draught. LRCS communication department had also collected various case studies, articles, videos and pictures.



Livelihoods and basic needs

People reached: 0

Male:

Female:

Outcome 1: Communities, especially in disaster and crisis affected areas, restore and strengthen their livelihoods

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of people reached with livelihoods support	3,600 households (18,000 people).	0

Output 1.2: Basic needs assistance for livelihoods security including food is provided to the most affected communities

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of households receiving food support cash/in-kind	2,500 HH (12,500 ppl).	0

Output 1.3: Household livelihoods security is enhanced through food production, increased productivity and post-harvest management (agriculture-based livelihoods)

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of households receiving garden tools and seeds	3,600 HH	0

Output 1.4: Community awareness activities on livelihoods strengthening and protection are carried out with target communities and public actors.

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of people reached with CEA messages	7750 people	0

Progress towards outcomes

Needs assessment, market assessment and cash feasibility studies were carried out in Q1. Based on assessment results, providing unconditional/multipurpose cash grants was feasible, if the right delivery modality is found. The transactions in communities are monetised, markets exist and did not risk major disturbances because of the influx of cash. The assessment recommended to consider National Society capacities and to focus implementation in one constituency in line with available funding. FSP selection was not completed during the assessment mission, which was cut short due to looming Covid-19 containment measures. State of emergency and lockdowns were put in place simultaneously and the National Society started planning and responding to Covid-19 needs. This tied up the limited NRCS human resources and the National Society was not able to proceed with the drought Emergency A implementation since the assessment. The National Society is looking to provide an updated plan per the available funding in May, focusing on one constituency, Khorixas, where priorities are on cash for food support and water point rehabilitations.

Strengthen National Society

Outcome 1: National Society capacity building and organizational development objectives are facilitated to ensure that National Societies have the necessary legal, ethical and financial foundations, systems and structures, competences and capacities to plan and perform

Indicators:	Target	Actual
Improved NS Capacity to respond timely and appropriately during emergencies.	n/a	n/a

Output S1.1.4: National Societies have effective and motivated volunteers who are protected

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of volunteers that participated in the operation	50	0
# of trainings given to volunteers	2	0

Output S1.1.6: National Societies have the necessary corporate infrastructure and systems in place

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of volunteers trained on CEA	n/a	0
Progress towards outcomes		
NRCS was fully participating and engaged in the design and planning of the intervention and the EPoA in the first quarter of 2020. Covid-19 however stalled to progress with preparatory activities for this Emergency Appeal in late March, and NRCS limited human resources were consumed and stretched by the Covid-19 operational planning and response from the end of March onward. NRCS is expected to proceed in June, but a revision of plans may also come into question given the delays.		

International Disaster Response

Outcome S2.1: Effective and coordinated international disaster response is ensured:

Indicators:	Target	Actual
Quality planning and implementation ensured	n/a	n/a
Output S2.1.1: Effective and respected surge capacity mechanism is maintained.		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of surge deployment to NRCS and IFRC support missions	n/a	2
Output S2.1.3: NS compliance with Principles and Rules for Humanitarian Assistance is improved		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of coordination and stakeholder engagement meetings done	n/a	narrative
Progress towards outcomes		

IFRC Cluster operations manager visited NRCS in January-February to provide technical support in the design of the EPoA, accompanying the National Society team in Stakeholder meetings at National and Regional level, as well as with FAO and WFP. NRCS has also bilateral support from British Red Cross, German Red Cross and Spanish Red Cross and the partners have kindly offered their delegate support also to the Emergency Appeal planning. British Red Cross delegate was engaged to carry out a needs and markets assessment and cash feasibility study together with the National Society in the first quarter, and Spanish Red Cross delegate in Namibia seconded to British Red Cross is providing technical support to the NS in livelihoods programming. The following Stakeholder consultations were included in the assessment in March in both Sesfontein and Khorixas:

- Discussions with regional and constituency administrative authorities and their technical staff, and relevant facilities.
- Focus group discussions with affected communities
- Questionnaires administered through KoBo platform to 359 heads of households in Sesfontein, and to further 195 in Khorixas constituency.
- Key informant interviews: Key informants included traditional leaders, traders and shop managers, health staff, teachers.
- Visit to communities and direct observations

Effective, credible and accountable IFRC

Outcome S3.1: The IFRC secretariat, together with National Societies uses their unique position to influence decisions at local, national and international levels that affect the most vulnerable.

Indicators:	Target	Actual
Increased Government support to NS	n/a	-
Output S3.1.1: IFRC and NS are visible, trusted and effective advocates on humanitarian issues		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of initiatives supported by Government	n/a	1

Outcome S3.2: The programmatic reach of the National Societies and the IFRC is expanded.

Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i>Improved funding for emergency appeal from cooperates and national institutions.</i>	n/a	0
Output S3.2.3 National Societies are supported in resource and partnership development (from both domestic markets and foreign sources).		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i>Developed resources mobilisation strategy</i>	n/a	1
Output S4.1.3: Financial resources are safeguarded; quality financial and administrative support is provided contributing to efficient operations and ensuring effective use of assets; timely quality financial reporting to stakeholders		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of reports submitted in a timely manner	12	0
Progress towards outcomes		
<p>NRCS gets an annual allocation from the Government and works closely together notably at the Regional level. NRCS has an existing resource mobilisation strategy, but it hasn't been reviewed under/in relation to this Emergency Appeal.</p> <p>NRCS has had challenges in progressing with the preparatory activities of the intervention as well as reporting after the first quarter owing to Covid-19 operational pressures.</p>		

D. Financial Report

The funding requirement of the Emergency Appeal operation reduces to CHF 7.4 M from the CHF 7.7 M. The reduction in the funding requirements reflects National Societies' priorities and planned activities. This however may be further adjusted to the changing operational context and needs.

Expenditure follows the operating budget. There appears a notable variance of CHF 35 037 on AOF1 Disaster Risk Reduction. However, this amount is operational provisions transferred to the National Society, but not yet reported. The transferred working advance has been coded wrongly; the eventual expenditure will follow the operational budget. The same is true for the CHF 4 632 variance on AOF3.

Reference documents



Click here for:

- Previous Appeals and updates
- Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA)

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How we work

All IFRC 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 the **Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian 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:



Save lives,
protect livelihoods,
and strengthen recovery
from disaster and crises.



Enable **healthy**
and **safe** living.



Promote social inclusion
and a culture of
non-violence and peace.

Emergency Appeal

INTERIM FINANCIAL REPORT

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2019/12-2020/6	Operation	MDR63003
Budget Timeframe	2019/12-2021/2	Budget	APPROVED

Prepared on 19 Jul 2020

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

MDR63003 - Southern Africa - Drought (Food Insecurity Crisis)

Operating Timeframe: 11 Dec 2019 to 11 Feb 2021; appeal launch date: 11 Dec 2019

I. Emergency Appeal Funding Requirements

Thematic Area Code	Requirements CHF
AOF1 - Disaster risk reduction	0
AOF2 - Shelter	0
AOF3 - Livelihoods and basic needs	6,150,000
AOF4 - Health	0
AOF5 - Water, sanitation and hygiene	0
AOF6 - Protection, Gender & Inclusion	0
AOF7 - Migration	0
SFI1 - Strengthen National Societies	675,000
SFI2 - Effective international disaster management	875,000
SFI3 - Influence others as leading strategic partners	0
SFI4 - Ensure a strong IFRC	0
Total Funding Requirements	7,700,000
Donor Response* as per 19 Jul 2020	2,034,702
Appeal Coverage	26.42%

II. IFRC Operating Budget Implementation

Thematic Area Code	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
AOF1 - Disaster risk reduction	2,162	532	1,630
AOF2 - Shelter	0	0	0
AOF3 - Livelihoods and basic needs	671,654	721,329	-49,675
AOF4 - Health	0	0	0
AOF5 - Water, sanitation and hygiene	0	0	0
AOF6 - Protection, Gender & Inclusion	0	0	0
AOF7 - Migration	0	0	0
SFI1 - Strengthen National Societies	404,706	375,888	28,818
SFI2 - Effective international disaster management	1,030,517	222,006	808,511
SFI3 - Influence others as leading strategic partners	18,067	0	18,067
SFI4 - Ensure a strong IFRC	50	50	0
Grand Total	2,127,156	1,319,805	807,351

III. Operating Movement & Closing Balance per 2020/06

Opening Balance	0
Income (includes outstanding DREF Loan per IV.)	2,781,983
Expenditure	-1,319,805
Closing Balance	1,462,178
Deferred Income	0
Funds Available	1,462,178

IV. DREF Loan

* not included in Donor Response	Loan :	768,800	Reimbursed :	0	Outstanding :	768,800
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Emergency Appeal

INTERIM FINANCIAL REPORT

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2019/12-2020/6	Operation	MDR63003
Budget Timeframe	2019/12-2021/2	Budget	APPROVED

Prepared on 19 Jul 2020

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

MDR63003 - Southern Africa - Drought (Food Insecurity Crisis)

Operating Timeframe: 11 Dec 2019 to 11 Feb 2021; appeal launch date: 11 Dec 2019

V. Contributions by Donor and Other Income

Opening Balance							0
Income Type	Cash	InKind Goods	InKind Personnel	Other Income	TOTAL	Deferred Income	
American Red Cross	379,337				379,337		
British Red Cross	357,929				357,929		
DREF Allocations				768,800	768,800		
Finnish Red Cross	339,942		22,800		362,742		
Japanese Red Cross Society	88,665				88,665		
Red Cross of Monaco	42,780				42,780		
Swedish Red Cross	243,961				243,961		
The Canadian Red Cross Society (from Canadian Gov	102,960				102,960		
The Netherlands Red Cross	113,774				113,774		
The Netherlands Red Cross (from Netherlands Govern	321,035				321,035		
Total Contributions and Other Income	1,990,383	0	22,800	768,800	2,781,983	0	
Total Income and Deferred Income					2,781,983	0	