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Emergency Appeal Namibia: Food Insecurity

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Revised Appeal n° **MDRNA009**

3,300 households / 16,500 people to
be assisted

Appeal launched **29 September 2015**

Glide n° [DR-2015-000130-NAM](#)

100,137 Swiss francs DREF allocated

Revision no 1 issued **28 August
2016**

1,351,937 Swiss francs revised appeal
budget

Appeal ends **30 March 2017**
(extended by eight months)

1,208,179 Swiss francs funding gap

This Emergency Appeal seeks **1,351,937 Swiss francs** increased from **950,205 Swiss francs** to enable the **International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)** to support the **Namibian Red Cross Society (NRCS)** to reach **16,500 drought affected people** with a focus on livelihoods, nutrition, food security, and water sanitation and hygiene promotion for additional eight months. This revised appeal results in the introduction of direct cash transfer interventions and phase out from the soup kitchens due to high costs associated with managing the kitchens. The planned response also reflects the current situation exacerbated by El Niño climatic event that caused the worst drought in 35 years in Southern Africa.

Details are available in the [Emergency Plan of Action \(EPOA\)](#)

The disaster and the Red Cross Red Crescent response to date

October 2014 to February 2015:

Abnormally low rainfall patterns and prolonged dry spells.

January and February 2015: Heavy rainfall in the north caused flooding and washed away seeds causing poor germination.

September 2015: Emergency Appeal launched for 950,205 Swiss francs to support **11,500** people in 5 regions of Namibia.

April 2016: As a result of prolong drought caused by El Niño, operations update issued extending the operation to end July 2016.

May 2016: The IFRC announced 110 million Swiss francs, 4-year initiative to respond to the drought that is affecting millions of people across southern Africa.



A volunteer teaches hand washing to a beneficiary of the food assistance programme at Opuwo office soup kitchen

July 2016: The Government of Namibia declares a drought emergency with 589,839 people requiring immediate food assistance.

July 2016: Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) declares a drought emergency and launches a USD 2.7 billion appeal to support 40 million food insecure people.

August 2016: IFRC issues revised Emergency Appeal for 1,351,937 Swiss francs to support 16,500 people through cash transfer programming (CTP).

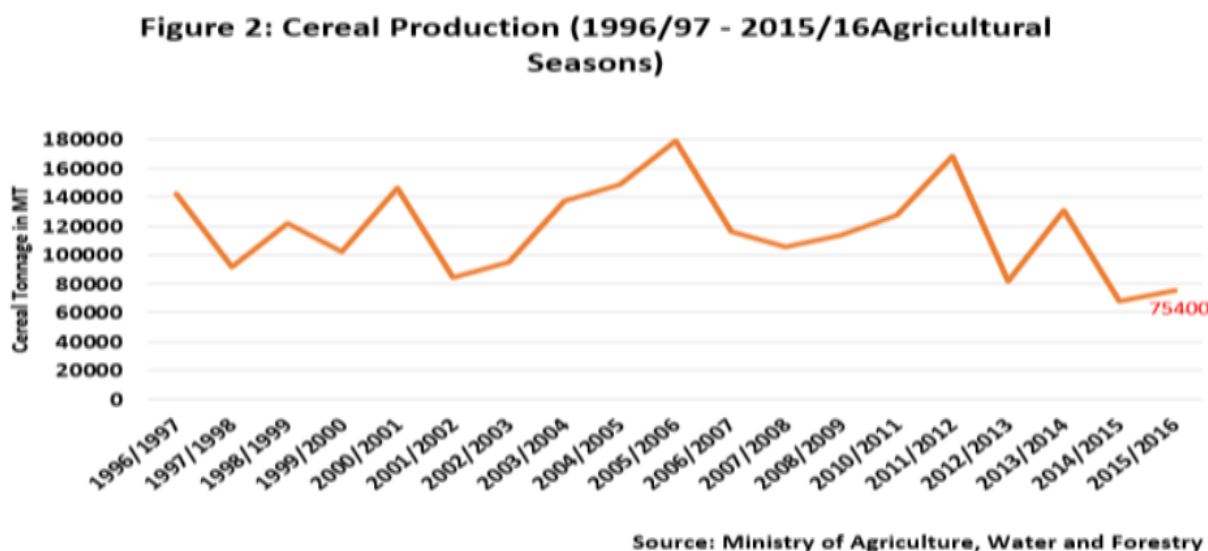
The operational strategy

Needs assessment and beneficiary selection

drought due to abnormally low rainfall patterns between October 2014 and February 2015 (the active rainfall period for commonly grown crops). In addition, the south and western parts of the country experienced abnormally prolonged dry spells (no rain recorded) between January and February 2015.

In July 2016, the government declared a national disaster. According to the assessment reports, 729,134 people (31.6% of the population) are food insecure with 595,839 people requiring immediate assistance.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry estimates below average cereal crop production at 75,300 metric tonnes for the 2016-2017 marketing year. With an annual national cereal consumption of 326,500 metric tonnes, this leaves a deficit of 251,200 metric tonnes to be covered under commercial imports.



The Government of Namibia is currently implementing a number of food security related initiatives, including drought aid relief (mostly maize meal). Funds have also been allocated for the drilling of boreholes to supply water for human and livestock, and a livestock marketing scheme to support farmers destock has been launched. However, there is a gap in meeting the needs of approximately 595,839 people who are reported to be in urgent need of food support, and the government has appealed for support.

NRCS will ensure that the selection of beneficiaries is consistent with the Red Cross commitment to gender equality and diversity, and to ensure non-discrimination in provision of services to the most vulnerable. NRCS is working with local authorities on identifying those most in need, as well as conducting Mid-Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC)¹ where necessary and referring malnourished children and people to local government offices for assistance. Based on the NRCS vulnerability selection criteria and government assessments, the selection criteria in the targeted communities include:

- a) Labour constrained households
- b) Households with malnourished clients
- c) Child, female and elderly-headed households

¹ Mid-Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) is the circumference of the left upper arm, measured at the mid-point between the tip of the shoulder and the tip of the elbow.

- d) Food insecure people living with HIV, and those on antiretroviral therapy and Tuberculosis (ART and TB treatment)
- e) Malnourished pregnant and breast-feeding women, and children under five years

To avoid duplication of services in this Emergency Appeal and other food security interventions, the National Society will ensure that communities targeted for agricultural support in Zambezi and Kavango regions are not part of the existing long-term food security projects. Lessons learned and good practices from the long term food security projects will be used to inform implementation of this operation, as the operation will use similar implementation approach.

Summary of response to date

- **Provision of immediate food needs:** Since October 2015, a total of 1,185 people have been provided with daily meals, in Kunene (562) and Kavango (623).
- **Water, health and hygiene promotion:** To date, 10 water points (out of the 11 targeted) in Kunene have been rehabilitated in collaboration with the local communities and the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry. The rehabilitated boreholes are benefiting approximately 4,000 beneficiaries. To promote safe hygiene practices, NRCS volunteers conducted hygiene education at soup kitchens. This reduces the potential for communicable disease transmission and infection by ensuring that safe hygiene is practiced prior to eating. An estimated 1,185 beneficiaries in Kunene and Kavango have been reached this way and volunteers continue to engage with beneficiaries.
- **Emergency Appeal visibility:** Two media tours were conducted. One by the National Society communications department and the other by the Communications Specialist from the Norwegian Red Cross Society, which sought to highlight the drought's impact on crops as well as profile the NRCS' soup kitchen operations. The stories and communications materials developed as a result of these missions were shared widely on various platforms. Finally, to increase the visibility of the operation, the NRCS procured t-shirts, overalls, aprons, and bibs for volunteers working at the soup kitchens in Kunene and Kavango.

The Operational strategy

NRCS will target the 6 **regions of Kavango, Kunene, Omusati, Oshikoto, Ohangwena and Zambezi**, which are among the worst affected in terms of food insecurity, and are where NRCS can provide added value as they are currently implementing various programmes in all six regions. A total target of 16,500 people will benefit from cash transfer, water rehabilitation and hygiene promotion activities and agricultural support.

Overall Objective: Improve the food and nutrition status of 3,300 households affected by the food crisis through a cash transfer programme, access to safe water, adapted farming techniques and livelihoods support across Kunene, Oshikoto, Omusati, Ohangwena, Kavango and Zambezi regions.

The food security response strategy includes cash transfers to 2,000 households in 2 constituencies of Epupa and Opuwo in Kunene region. For CTP the National Society will conduct direct cash distributions (cash in envelopes) to reach the targeted beneficiaries. This is the most feasible strategy given limited accessibility to banking facilities, mobile phones and mobile connectivity in the targeted districts. NRCS will train staff and volunteers in cash transfer programming using the IFRC 4-day cash transfer programme training package. In addition to the training of staff, NRCS will also put in place risk mitigation and monitoring mechanisms to ensure fraud control. Monitoring of the markets will also be conducted to check on the risk of inflation, adequacy of the cash transfer value as well as availability of food items in the targeted districts.

Additionally, NRCS will provide longer term, food security and livelihood support via provision of agricultural inputs per region, which will benefit 3,300 households and improve nutrition for 16,500 beneficiaries. Livelihoods will be supported through identification and training of 60 lead farmers. Lead farmers will be identified in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry, local traditional authorities and local councillors. Lead farmers will be responsible for cascading knowledge and skills to an additional 10 beneficiary farmers each.



To ensure access to clean water for consumption, the operation will support the rehabilitation of 16 strategically located wells/springs in Kunene region that will benefit 800 households. The identification of the water points will be done in collaboration with the local authorities and the Rural Water Supply Unit of the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry. Water point committees will be established and trained in the management of the water points, thereby enhancing the management and sustainability of the intervention.

The NRCS will conduct community hygiene promotion activities (in schools, at community gatherings and clinics) and during the planned operational activities to prevent the outbreak or spread of water borne diseases and cholera in all the targeted regions. HIV and AIDS prevention education will be provided alongside health and hygiene promotion activities. The NRCS will further consult the Ministry of Health and UNICEF to secure Information Education and Communication (IEC) awareness materials. This approach was implemented successfully in the 2013 emergency appeal operation.


Coordination and partnership

NRCS is working closely with in-country partners to ensure that there is coordinated implementation of the operation. Stakeholders include the Council of Churches in Namibia and UN Agencies such as UNICEF, OCHA, WFP, WHO and FAO. The NRCS maintains a good working relationship with stakeholders in the Government of Namibia, such as the Directorate of DRM.

Proposed sectors of intervention

	Livelihoods; Nutrition; Food security
Outcome 1: Immediate food needs of 2,000 beneficiaries are met	
Output 1.1: 2,000 households provided with cash to cover immediate food needs	
Activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design of beneficiary selection tools • Beneficiary selection and verification and accurate beneficiary records • Preparation of monthly distribution plan • Beneficiary training and sensitization on cash transfers • Staff and volunteers trained in CTP using the four day IFRC CTP training curriculum • Development of CTP monitoring tools • Community notification of distribution date and time • Distribution of cash to 2,000 households for eight months • Post distribution monitoring, market assessments, reporting and feedback to partners 	
Outcome 2: Livelihoods among targeted population are improved	
Output 2.1: Agricultural production capacity is increased through the provision of inputs and training to 3,300 farmers to improve food security of 16,500 people	
Activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and train 60 lead farmers (10 per region) in conservation agriculture and nutrition education • Cascading of trainings in best agricultural practices • Cascading of training to a target of 600 farmers by lead farmers • Procure and distribute maize and pearl millet (mahangu) seeds to 3,300 farmers • Post-distribution seed monitoring 	
	Water; Sanitation; Hygiene promotion
Outcome 3: Reduction in risk of waterborne and water related diseases in targeted communities	
Output 3.1: 800 families have access to safe and clean water for household and livestock consumption through community managed water sources	
Activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rehabilitation of 10 water points • Establish and train water point committees who will participate in rehabilitation activities and have ownership over the maintenance of the water points 	

Output 3.2: Hygiene promotional activities are conducted with the affected communities
<p>Activities planned:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training volunteers in hygiene promotion and nutrition education • Development Information Education Communication (IEC) materials on hygiene promotion • Conduct community hygiene promotion (including HIV and AIDS awareness) in conjunction with other planned activities

 Quality programming / Areas common to all sectors
Outcome 4: NRCS effectively implements the operation and improves their presence and communication within the affected communities
Output 4.1: The operation is informed by two-way communication with the community
<p>Activities planned:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project initiation meeting with all stakeholders • Initial assessments to identify water points and assess the market capacity • Procure open source data kit (ODK) equipment kit • ODK training • Beneficiary satisfaction survey using ODK • Establish beneficiary feedback mechanisms • Development of monitoring tools and systems • Post-feeding monitoring • Monthly and quarterly field visits • Final evaluation and lessons learnt workshop with local stakeholders
Output 4.2: The visibility of the NRCS is improved
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procurement of visibility material (Hats, T-Shirts and Bibs) • Conduct media tours and hold press conference

Programme support services

Human Resources

The NRCS National Disaster Manager will have overall management of the planning, implementation, reporting and other aspects of the operation, with support from eight resources at Headquarters: the National Disasters Risk Reduction Coordinator, PMER Officer, Finance Accountant, Logistics Coordinator, Water and Sanitation Coordinator, Finance Manager, Communications Manager, Organizational Development Manager. Altogether 11 staff members in the five districts will provide support for seven months: Regional Managers, Disasters Risk Reduction Officers, Water and Sanitation technicians supporting the rehabilitation (Kunene only), and at least 150 volunteers (number of volunteers may be scaled up as the activities increase in scale). IFRC Pretoria office will give technical and financial support to the operation. IFRC field support visits will be done on a quarterly basis or as needed to ensure that implementation is as per agreed Plan of Action.

Communications - advocacy and public information

Maintaining the profile of emergency operations is vital for fundraising and advocacy. NRCS will ensure that all stakeholders, including the beneficiaries, are kept informed of the operation and reporting is done within the agreed timeframes. The communication focal person will take regular trips to the target areas to gather data (beneficiary profiles, photos, video, web stories, case studies) and will ensure that information is disseminated using the electronic and print media. Regular press conferences will be held with the local media to share updates on the progress of the operation. Media tours will be conducted at the beginning and at the end of the operation to establish the situation prior support and after the support needed by beneficiaries due to drought situation.

Logistics

The NRCS has a well-established logistics division in place, complimented by IFRC technical support. The National Society has central warehouses in four regions of Ohangwena, Zambezi, Omusati and Oshikoto, and will rent warehouses for storage space where free space cannot be sourced.

The tools for farming and equipment for the soup kitchens will be procured locally. NRCS has on-going DRR projects in the regions, which will support identification of suppliers and efficient processes. The logistics department at Headquarters in Windhoek will ensure there will be no duplication and adherence to procurement policies.

Information and communication technologies

NRCS has fully functioning offices in nine regions which are well equipped with telephones and internet. These offices are further equipped with computers which would enable the timely preparations of reports during the response period.

Planning, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting (PMER)

NRCS in collaboration with the IFRC plan to use the existing guidelines related to disaster management during the operation including the knowledge built on the 2013/2014 drought response and extensive experience and existing tools in Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting. The PMER framework will include the review of documentation such as weekly, monthly and quarterly detailed narrative reports from the field. Meetings with key stakeholders, performance reporting, field visits to follow progress on implementation of activities will done on a regular basis. Furthermore, the beneficiaries in the targeted areas through Post-Distribution Monitoring surveys to capture their satisfaction towards the services received by them from operations will be conducted. Data collection tools will incorporate age and gender disaggregation. The NRCS staff and volunteers will receive training and technical support from the IFRC in using ODK.

Security

All RCRC personnel involved will be encouraged to complete the respective IFRC's e-learning programs, e.g. Volunteer security, Personal security, or Security Management. The NRCS will liaise closely with the respective branches, local authorities, Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and other International Organisations (IOs) to gather relevant information to monitor the security environment for the purpose of ensuring effective security management. The NRCS will advise IFRC Africa Security Coordinator on any developments in the security environment in order to allow adequate protection of personnel.

Budget

See attached IFRC Secretariat budget (Annex 1) for details.

Garry Conille
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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

17/08/2016

APPEAL

Namibia Food Insecurity

Budget Group	Multilateral Response	Inter-Agency Shelter Coord.	Bilateral Response	Appeal Budget CHF
Shelter - Relief	0			0
Shelter - Transitional	0			0
Construction - Housing	0			0
Construction - Facilities	0			0
Construction - Materials	7,474			7,474
Clothing & Textiles	0			0
Food	151,866			151,866
Seeds & Plants	0			0
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	20,948			20,948
Medical & First Aid	118			118
Teaching Materials	0			0
Utensils & Tools	102,745			102,745
Other Supplies & Services	5,040			5,040
Emergency Response Units	0			0
Cash Disbursements	485,000			485,000
Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES	773,190	0	0	773,190
Land & Buildings	0			0
Vehicles	0			0
Computer & Telecom Equipment	0			0
Office/Household Furniture & Equipment	0			0
Medical Equipment	0			0
Other Machinery & Equipment	0			0
Total LAND, VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT	0	0	0	0
Storage, Warehousing	0			0
Distribution & Monitoring	0			0
Transport & Vehicle Costs	39,255			39,255
Logistics Services	0			0
Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	39,255	0	0	39,255
International Staff	60,000			60,000
National Staff	0			0
National Society Staff	187,086			187,086
Volunteers	7,425			7,425
Total PERSONNEL	254,511	0	0	254,511
Consultants	0			0
Professional Fees	0			0
Total CONSULTANTS & PROFESSIONAL FEES	0	0	0	0
Workshops & Training	112,600			112,600
Total WORKSHOP & TRAINING	112,600	0	0	112,600
Travel	12,760			12,760
Information & Public Relations	9,500			9,500
Office Costs	20,180			20,180
Communications	6,396			6,396
Financial Charges	10,000			10,000
Other General Expenses	0			0
Shared Office and Services Costs	31,032			31,032
Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES	89,868	0	0	89,868
Partner National Societies	0			0
Other Partners (NGOs, UN, other)	0			0
Total TRANSFER TO PARTNERS	0	0	0	0
Programme and Services Support Recovery	82,513	0		82,513
Total INDIRECT COSTS	82,513	0	0	82,513
Pledge Earmarking & Reporting Fees	0			0
Total PLEDGE SPECIFIC COSTS	0	0	0	0
TOTAL BUDGET	1,351,937	0	0	1,351,937
Available Resources				
Multilateral Contributions				0
Bilateral Contributions				0
TOTAL AVAILABLE RESOURCES	0	0	0	0
NET EMERGENCY APPEAL NEEDS	1,351,937	0	0	1,351,937