



DREF n°: MDRNA011	GLIDE n°: FR-2020-000174-NAM
Operation update n° 1; 08 December 2020	Timeframe covered by this update: 05 August to 03 December 2020
Operation start date: 05 August 2020	Operation timeframe: 06 months (new end date: 28 February 2021)
Funding requirements (CHF): CHF 92,961	DREF amount initially allocated: CHF 92,961
N° of people being assisted: 1,200 people (200 HH)¹	
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners actively involved in the operation: British and Spanish Red Cross Societies	
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: Erongo Regional Council, Walvis Bay Municipality and Private Companies	

Summary of major revisions made to emergency plan of action:

This Operations Update seeks a no cost timeframe extension of two months (new end date: 28 February 2021) to enable IFRC and Namibia Red Cross complete the procurement process to replenish items utilized during the response to the fire accident. This challenge is due to change in global stock borrowing system, with a new lead time for delivery in mid-February 2021.

A. SITUATION ANALYSIS

Description of the disaster

Following the devastating fire that broke out on 26 July 2020, affecting the Otweya informal settlement in Walvis Bay Rural Constituency, Erongo region, about 154 households/924 people were directly affected, with more than 150 houses destroyed. The fire destroyed half of the shacks in the informal settlement with affected families losing everything ranging from food, shelter, and other household belongings as they could hardly salvage anything. Some 46 additional families living in the informal settlement were not affected by the fire but had their structures removed to limit the spreading of fire. As such, they could salvage the materials to rebuild their houses as well as their household items.

A [DREF operation](#) was launched following this incident, to provide relief to all 924 people (154 families) affected in Otweya informal settlement, Walvis Bay Rural Constituency, for a period of 4 months.

Summary of current response

Overview of Host National Society

The Namibia Red Cross has no branch in the affected region/area, however, it deployed its two Disaster Management staff to carry out assessments together with the government authorities, engage stakeholders, carry out beneficiary identification and verification and distribute the relief items. Namibia Red Cross Society (NRCS) responded to the fire incident and supported the affected families through the activities below:

¹ There is an average of six people per household in the area.

Activities	People/Households reached (where applicable)				# of item distributed
	Total	HHs	Male	Female	
Provision of Family tents	188	60	89	99	60 Tents
Distribution of 154 Family kits	924	154	443	481	154 Family kits
Distribution of hand sanitizers		254			508 x 330ml
Distribution of mask	200				200 x face mask
Distribution of hygiene pack		200			Mix hygiene items
Volunteer mobilization and training on RCCE/ECV	11		2	9	

The relief materials distributed were part of the IFRC preparedness stock (funded by British Red Cross) kept in strategic locations within the Southern Africa Cluster. It is this stock whose replenishment has been delayed due to change in global stock borrowing system.

Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in country

Refer to [EPoA](#) for details on RCRC Movement in country.

Overview of non-RCRC actors in country

See [EPoA](#)

Needs analysis and scenario planning

Needs analysis

The needs of affected people is as described in [EPoA](#) and have since been addressed.

Operation Risk Assessment

The only risk which was anticipated and materialized is the delay in procurement of items to be replenished. Although the risk was anticipated and requesting the operation timeframe to be four (4) months to ensure completion of the process was taken as a mitigation measure, the process is yet to be completed. This is because there are changes in the global stock borrowing system. Now, the lead time for completion of this process is mid-February, which would amount to six months operation timeframe – maximum eligible by the DREF procedures. As such, the risk remains that if procurement is not completed, the regional stocks used to respond to the fire accident would not be replenished.

Another risk in the [EPoA](#) which remains relevant, is COVID-19 pandemic spread. The risk analysis for this threat and mitigation measures remain relevant.

B. OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

The main objective of this DREF operation is to provide emergency relief to 924 people (154 families) in Otweya informal settlement in the areas of shelter and household items, as well as the health needs of people housed in evacuation centres.

To date, the NS has reached 1,200 people (200 HH) through this intervention as the NS could reach additional 276 (46 HH) with hygiene packs.

Proposed strategy

A total number of 11 volunteers have been engaged in the operation, capacity building in the area of RCCE, CEA, and PGI have been prioritized to ensure services provided are not compromised in any way. Red Cross volunteers have been providing relief and creating awareness among the affected population.

To date, activities implemented include:

a) Shelter & household essentials

The NRCS focused on the provision of immediate shelter services to households who have been displaced by the fire. As per plan, the National Society carried out the following activities:

- Distribution of 60 family tents (1 per household), and this has in total benefited 188 people (89 females and 99 males).

- Distribution of 154 household kits (1 per household), altogether 154 household benefitted from the kits (310 females and 298 males).
- Volunteers have been raising awareness on protection, gender-based violence, fire safety and information on where to look for help is part of the awareness package. The training that was given to the volunteers mainstreamed these elements.

The relief items distributed are part of the IFRC pre-positioned preparedness stocks (family tents and household kits) stored in NRCS warehouses in Windhoek. The relief items were funded by British Red Cross and were released by IFRC Nairobi Logistics office for immediate use and replenishment.

Apart from support given by the Red Cross, the private sector donated relief items, which complemented what the government and Red Cross provided. The government transported the relief items from Windhoek to Walvis Bay, while the Walvis Bay Municipality provided the storage space.

b) Health and care

NRCS ensured provision of community-based disease control and health promotion by the 11 volunteers who were trained using the RCCE and ECV toolkit the week of the 17th of August 2020. Trained volunteers have been disseminating information in the community on COVID-19 as well as other relevant public health matters such as diarrheal diseases, TB, and HIV/AIDS. Overall, 350 condoms provided by the Ministry of Health have been distributed since the beginning of the operation.

Hygiene items including bars of soaps and cloth masks have been distributed to all 154 families to promote hand hygiene. The kits included toothbrushes and toothpaste as well as sanitary pads for women of childbearing age - enough for three months.

Community engagement and accountability (CEA): Through community meetings, staff and volunteers engaged the community and discussed aspects such as distribution plans and feedback on the items and services provided. Suggestion boxes were also used, kept by the community leaders and feedback was given during community meetings.

Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI): Like CEA, PGI has been streamlined throughout the operation to ensure gender, age, disability specific vulnerabilities and protection risks are taken into account. In addition, sex, age and disability disaggregated data have been collected and were used to inform services offered.

Continued assessments and monitoring have been an integral part of the operation and this ensured that the services provided are in line with the evolving situation/needs on the ground.

Post-distribution monitoring sessions were carried out to understand the use of distributed items and get feedback on the relevance of relief items provided as well as distribution approaches used. Beneficiaries appreciated the support provided with most recommending that food should have been considered as most people have lost their income due to Covid-19.

C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL PLAN

 <p>Shelter People reached: 924 Male: 443 Female: 481</p>		
Outcome 1: Shelter Outcome 1: Communities in disaster and crisis affected areas restore and strengthen their safety, well-being and longer-term recovery through shelter and settlement solutions		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
% of affected households that improve their living conditions according to the emergency housing rules	100% or 154 households	154 households
Shelter Output 1.1: Shelter and settlements and basic household items assistance is provided to the affected families.		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of families provided with tents	60 tents	60 tents

# of families provided with household kits	154 HH	154 HH
# of joint assessments carried out with NS participation	1	2
# of coordination meetings attended	3 meetings	5
# of shelter items replenished	60 tents and 154 household kits	Not yet done
Shelter Output 1.2: Technical support, guidance and awareness raising in safe shelter design and settlement planning and improved building techniques are provided to affected households		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
# households benefiting from safe shelter messages	154 HH	154 HH
# of volunteers trained on safe shelter	15 volunteers	11 volunteers
Progress towards outcomes		
<p>As highlighted during the assessment, one of the pressing needs of the affected population was shelter and household items. The NRCS distributed 50 tents and 154 household kits to the families affected. Dissemination of fire safety messages by the volunteers was done on a regular basis to reduce similar incidences in the future. The team conducted coordination meetings with the Erongo Regional Council, Walvis Bay Municipality and the Erongo Ministry of Health and Social Services to outline how the National Society will support the affected families, this helped eliminate duplication of services by stakeholders.</p> <p>Challenge: The replenishment process experience due to change in global stock borrowing system and stock is only expected in Namibia mid-February 2021.</p> <p>Limitation on number of people allowed to gather due to Covid-19 lengthened the distribution process.</p>		

	Health People reached: 1,200 Male: 576 Female: 624	
	Health Outcome 2: The immediate risks to the health of the affected populations are reduced through improved access to medical treatment	
Indicators:	Target	Actual
% of affected people targeted provided with hygiene items to reduce immediate risks	100% or 154 households	200
Health Output 2.1: Improved access to health care and emergency health care for the targeted population and communities.		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
Number of hygiene packs distributed	154 hygiene packs	200 hygiene packs
Health Outcome 4: Transmission of diseases of epidemic potential is reduced		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
% of affected people targeted with community-based disease control	100% or 154 households	100%
Health Output 4.1: Community-based disease control and health promotion is provided to the target population		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
Percentage of people reached with information to reduce their health risk factors	50%	100%
Health Output 4.6: Improved knowledge about public health issues among target population in Walvis Bay area		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
Number of people reached with health messages	924	1,200 people

Number of volunteers trained on health matters	15	11
Number of IEC materials distributed	500	550
% of affected population practicing good hygiene	80%	TBD
Health Output 4.7: Control of endemic transmissible diseases during emergencies		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
Number of condoms distributed	200	350
Number of hygiene packs distributed	154	200
Progress towards outcomes		
<p>The National Society procured and distributed 200 hygiene packs that were distributed to all affected families. The pack consisted of soap x 3 (175g), toothpaste x 3 (100ml), toothbrush x 6, sanitary pads and tampons x 3 packs, Vaseline x 1 (450ml), hand sanitiser x 1 (500ml), disposable gloves x 2 pairs, face mask x 2, and diapers x 1 pack (50).</p> <p>The RCCE/EVC training that was carried out for the volunteers include introduction to prevention of diseases such as HIV/AIDS and TB as well promotion of general hygiene. IEC materials were printed and distributed, using already approved materials from the Ministry of Health. It is worth noting that the Covid-19 cases in Walvis Bay have gone down and all movement restrictions have been lifted. Residents are required to use masks mandatory and social distance.</p> <p>Overall, NS reached more people than planned with hygiene kits and sensitization, summing up to 1,200 people (576 males and 624 females).</p> <p>Challenge: Social distancing is a general challenge as the living space for the families are limited.</p>		

Strategies for Implementation		
Outcome 1:		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
Number of volunteers insured	15	11
% of operational decisions based on community feedback	At least 70%	TBD
# of monitoring visits	4	3
# of community meetings organized	At least 3	5
# of IFRC monitoring visits	2	1
# of Lessons learned workshop conducted	1	Due next week
Progress towards outcomes		
<p>The National Society decided that the 11 volunteers mobilised would be from part of the NS volunteers insured through IFRC on an annual basis. On an ongoing basis, community meetings are organised to for dissemination of information and distribution of relief items. Community meetings formed the basis of community feedback to the National Society.</p> <p>Challenge: Due to the absence of a RC branch in the area, supporting volunteers was a bit challenging as it was being be done remotely. The Covid-19 travel restrictions have not allowed IFRC to conduct any supervisory visits to the implementation area to date.</p>		

D. Financial Report

The overall budget for this operation is CHF 92,961, of which CHF 32,604 (most expenses still in the field) has been spent to date.

Reference documents



Click here for:

- [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**.