This document details the IFRC’s support in areas agreed upon with the relevant National Society. The IFRC seeks resources to carry out this country/cluster plan listed here as funding requirements.
Zimbabwe is a low-income, food deficit country in Southern Africa, affected by erratic weather patterns that have a negative impact on crop harvests and livelihood prospects and often lead to food insecurity. The country lies in a semi-arid region with limited and unreliable rainfall patterns and temperature variations. The onset of rains and tropical cyclones have become more unpredictable and have increased in the frequency and intensity. Changes in climate have resulted in more arid environments for agricultural production, which has shifted Zimbabwe’s five main agro-ecological zones (or ‘natural regions’) progressively deteriorating crop production.

Climate change is having an adverse effect on a variety of socio-economic sectors in Zimbabwe, especially Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), agriculture and health. Climate-induced water stress also threatens to decrease the quantity and quality of drinking water in rural and urban areas, reducing the run-off necessary to sustain the country’s hydro-electric power supply. This also has a negative impact on agricultural productivity.

The country is also experiencing widespread poverty, limited employment opportunities, liquidity challenges, recurrent climate-induced shocks and economic instability. All of these challenges are contributing to limited, adequate access to food, with undernutrition rates increasing as a result, especially in rural districts where diets lack diversity.
The Zimbabwe Red Cross Society is a humanitarian and developmental organisation, working as an auxiliary to the Government in emergency and developmental contexts but also independently and through community structures. The National Society was established in 1981 and recognised by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in 1983, when it also became a member of the International Federation of the Red Cross.

With a presence in all ten provinces in Zimbabwe, the National Society operates 168 branches in total, providing emergency response and developmental programming to vulnerable communities and individuals. The National Society maintains a large volunteer-based network to provide its services, supported by staff based in Harare and in branch offices throughout the country, and an extensive membership network.

The National Society is focused on climate change mitigation activities, ensuring:

- Food security, livelihoods protection and promotion among vulnerable communities
- Building resilient communities
- Engagement with healthy communities
- Organisational strengthening
- Resource mobilisation
MEMBERSHIP COORDINATION AND MOVEMENT FOOTPRINT

The National Society in Zimbabwe has been receiving support from the British Red Cross, Danish Red Cross, Finnish Red Cross and Belgian Red Cross for the past 8 years. These National Societies provide support for disaster risk management, emergency response and first aid capacity development activities.

The British Red Cross assists the National Society in delivering Community, Engagement and Accountability (CEA) initiatives, as well as supporting emergency response capacity for areas affected by Cyclone Idai.

The Danish Red Cross supports the Development of FBF capacities and helps to strengthen the role of youth participation.

The Finnish Red Cross supports Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Education in Emergencies (EiE) capacity development in schools, as well as climate change mitigation and adaptation promotion.

The Belgian Red Cross supports first aid capacity development.

The ICRC is also collaborating with the National Society to provide Restoring Family Links (RFL) activities, the majority aimed at supporting migrants tracing and safer access. A Movement Cooperation Agreement is now in place, providing the parameters for coordination.

The National Society sustains strong institutional relations with agencies through its auxiliary role to the Government and works with them consistently to carry out its humanitarian actions. Due to its unique mandate, and ongoing humanitarian interventions in Zimbabwe, the National Society sustains an unmatched institutional relationship with authorities at all levels. This facilitates rapid initiation of efforts and promotes the continuous involvement of relevant agencies in the monitoring and coordination of activities.

Partnerships have also been forged with external organisations. The National Society in Zimbabwe’s COVID-19 response was supported and financed by global partners, including UNICEF, Coca Cola Foundation, Nestle Zimbabwe, Norvatis and Standard Chartered Bank. These partnerships have strengthened the National Society’s capacity to provide communities and key structures improved access to adequate water, sanitation and hygiene services to help reduce virus transmission.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Partner</th>
<th>Climate</th>
<th>Crises</th>
<th>Health</th>
<th>Migration</th>
<th>Inclusion</th>
<th>Engaged</th>
<th>Accountable</th>
<th>Trusted</th>
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The main climate change risks in Zimbabwe stem from increasing temperatures, more variable rainfall, and the intensification of extreme weather events. The ongoing impact of these climatic challenges is projected to cause changes to the growing season, with significant implications for yields and national revenues. Increasing frequency and length of mid-season dry spells has resulted in crop failure in rain-fed farming systems, leading to severe water stress and agricultural drought.

The southern provinces of Zimbabwe are severely affected by the impact of the climate crisis on agricultural practices, where the majority of smallholder farmers, especially women, depend on rainfall to maintain food and income security. To combat this, the National Society aims to strengthen the capacities of vulnerable smallholder farmers through the Farmer Field Schools approach. The provision of peer-to-peer support to scale up climate-resilient agriculture will also increase the resilience of these communities, with access to resilient inputs, markets, and actionable climate information.

**ACTIVITIES**

- The IFRC will support the National Society to train volunteers, staff and communities on climate change
- The IFRC will support the National Society to conduct climate risk assessments
- The IFRC will support the National Society to provide field-based training and technology investments for farmers on rain-fed farmlands for climate resilient water management
- The IFRC will support the National Society to develop and strengthen community led early warning systems and promote innovations that reduce carbon footprint, deforestation and enhance energy saving adaptations

**Funding requirement in Swiss francs** 100,000

**People to be reached** 97,000

**97,000 people enabled to act ahead of predicted crises by forecast-based financing and delivery mechanisms**
The increasing frequency and intensity of extreme weather events is continuing to affect at-risk communities in Zimbabwe, with infrastructures suffering damage due to natural hazards like the Idai disaster. There is also an increasing geographic range of infectious diseases in the country that threaten public health and are particularly dangerous for vulnerable people, namely those living with HIV/AIDS or disabilities, and the elderly.

**ACTIVITIES**

- The IFRC will support the National Society to develop early warning systems to identify and forecast disasters and improve access to information at community level
- The IFRC will support the National Society to provide cash assistance
- The IFRC will support the National Society to develop Emergency Response Procedures
- The IFRC will support the National Society to establish a business continuity plan
- The IFRC will support the National Society to strengthen resource mobilisation capacity and an accountability systems
- The IFRC will support the National Society to establish pre-disaster agreements for resourcing response
Zimbabwe's health system is fragile due to enduring hyperinflation and political instability. There is low access to health care, high teenage fertility, a prevalence of communicable and non-communicable diseases and natural and human-made disasters.

The country's health system has been affected by the socio-economic conditions that have prevailed and endured over earlier decades and that have led to a collapse of primary health care. Marginal developments have been made in water and sanitation provision, as well as disease prevention at community level. Climate change will continue to influence changes to the range of infectious disease vectors, including the geographical range of malaria and other mosquito-borne diseases, and affect increases in the prevalence of diarrheal diseases and of water-borne pathogens such as cholera. An increase in cardio-respiratory morbidity and mortality can also be linked to ground level ozone levels.

The erratic water supply situation in Zimbabwe has already contributed to an increase in water-borne diseases. Zimbabwe is one of only a few countries in Africa where water and sanitation coverage decreased between 2000 and 2015. The regression in progress can be attributed to a lack of investment in new infrastructure, but it is primarily due to a lack of systems and financial resources to keep existing infrastructure functional. A nationwide cholera epidemic in 2008, one of the largest outbreaks in recorded history, affected over 100,000 people and killed over 4,000. Sporadic cases of cholera also occurred in 2018. The potential for cross-contamination of water and sanitation systems makes recurrent outbreaks of cholera during the rainy season a major risk factor during flood emergencies.

The National Society aims to leverage volunteers and its access to communities to support the delivery of the Health and WASH infrastructure, by providing health and hygiene education, responding to health emergencies and strengthening first aid service provision.

**TARGET 4.1**

50 staff and 2,500 volunteers trained on first aid

**ACTIVITIES**

- The IFRC will support the National Society to develop Health, WASH and commercial first aid strategies
- The IFRC will support the National Society to provide equipment to clinics for screening and treating non-communicable diseases and other public health emergencies
- The IFRC will support the National Society to train staff and volunteers in basic psychosocial support (PSS) and psychological first aid
- The IFRC will support the National Society to rehabilitate boreholes within communities

4,000 people killed by cholera in the 2008 outbreak

Funding requirement in Swiss francs 300,000
People to be reached 50,000
Migration and population movements are on the increase in Southern Africa, with international migration activities including intra-regional movements by refugees, undocumented and seasonal labour migrants. These migrations involve more than 7 million economically active people, seasonal workers and an unspecified number of undocumented migrants. Migration is not always unidirectional or permanent and it is characterised by various forms of circular and return migration.

Household members move between rural and urban areas to exchange goods, labour and money. High levels of mobility across the socio-economic spectrum result families divided geographically between rural and urban areas, or between countries. Migration within and beyond Southern Africa is often driven by the pursuit of better economic opportunities.

Migration in this region involves regular and irregular migrants, victims of trafficking and smuggling, asylum seekers, refugees, returnees, mobile and migrant workers, and internally displaced persons (IDPs). In recent years, the National Society was required to respond to migration triggered humanitarian situations, such as the xenophobic attacks in South Africa. There are many other humanitarian needs when people are on the move and the National Society requires adequate preparedness to respond.

**ACTIVITIES**

- The IFRC will support the National Society to provide information on safe migration to people on the move
- The IFRC will support the National Society to provide Restoring Family Links (RFL) services and basic needs assistance to displaced and migrating people
- The IFRC will support the National Society to advocate for the development of a national migration and displacement strategy
- The IFRC will support the National Society to prepare response stocks, including temporary shelter and non-food item packages, for quick response to natural disasters and political displacement
The promotion of gender equality is a priority for the Government of Zimbabwe. The Constitution provides a strong framework for the protection and promotion of the rights of women, men, girls and boys in Zimbabwe, recognising the equality of all persons and explicitly outlawing discrimination on the grounds of sex or gender. In addition, the Ministry of Women’s Affairs supports the promotion of gender equality across all government programmes, using the National Gender Policy. Despite having progressive laws and treaties in support of gender equality, implementation of these remains a significant challenge.

Patterns of violence against children are divided by gender in Zimbabwe, with boys far more likely to experience physical punishment, while girls are more vulnerable to sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) both at home and at school. Deep-rooted, harmful African customs and cultural practices continue to compromise the fundamental rights of women and girls in Zimbabwe. 84% of water-carrying for household use in Zimbabwe is undertaken by women and young girls. Menstrual health and hygiene remain major challenges, particularly for adolescent girls who are often unable to attend school due to a lack of adequate sanitary resources.

The National Society intends to integrate Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI) approaches into its processes to eliminate these harmful practices, focusing on the most vulnerable to ensure that dignity, access, participation and safety for women and girls is protected. This also enhances the National Society’s ability to provide timely, effective humanitarian assistance to those who need it, ensuring that vulnerable groups are empowered and protected from abuse, violence and exploitation.

The IFRC will support the National Society to reconstruct classrooms and provide educational materials following disasters.

The IFRC will support the National Society to mainstream PGI in all programmes.

The IFRC will support the National Society to review Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting (PMER) tools to include PGI.

The IFRC will support the National Society to train volunteers on Gender, Protection and Inclusion approaches.

The IFRC will support the National Society to undertake a gender and diversity organisational assessment.

The IFRC will support the National Society to train women and people living with disability in Disaster Risk Reduction and emergency response.
ENABLER 1
ENGAGED WITH RENEWED INFLUENCE, INNOVATIVE AND DIGITALLY TRANSFORMED WITH GREATER EMPHASIS ON NATIONAL SOCIETY DEVELOPMENT

The IFRC will support the National Society in Zimbabwe to strengthen its engagement with partners within and outside of the network, and to working collectively on the key challenges facing the most vulnerable communities in Zimbabwe.

The IFRC will provide communications and public advocacy resources and advice to the National Society, increasing impact and nurturing public trust and understanding of its roles and activities. The National Society will strengthen its communications and ensure that profiling of activities is carried out to keep track of its performance. Volunteers and staff will be trained in community engagement skills and the communication strategy and feedback mechanisms will be reviewed.

The IFRC will support the National Society to ensure that relevant organisations are well informed about the role and activities of the National Society and the IFRC, participating in humanitarian working group forums to connect with other facilitators.

The IFRC will support the National Society to develop data tools, ensuring that programming provokes public behaviour change within communities, integrating CEA initiatives and informed by science and data.

The IFRC will provide training on change and innovation for National Society staff and volunteers, ensuring that the IFRC’s approaches are being implemented in National Society programming.

The IFRC will support the National Society to strengthen staff and volunteer skills in digital processes, develop platforms for information sharing and networking and to use information and communication technology tools for social development.

Funding requirement in Swiss francs
30,000

ACTIVITIES

- The IFRC will support the National Society to draw attention to National Society activities
- The IFRC will support the National Society to train volunteers and staff on community engagement skills, data literacy and data development, and change and innovation
- The IFRC will support the National Society to boost domestic resource mobilisation with a digital fundraising platform
- The IFRC will support the National Society to develop a strategic plan for 2030
- The IFRC will support the National Society to share information, network and strengthen volunteer management systems
ENABLER 2
ACCOUNTABLE WITH AN AGILE MANAGEMENT AND A RENEWED FINANCING MODEL WITH GREATER EMPHASIS ON NATIONAL SOCIETY DEVELOPMENT

Funding requirement in Swiss francs
30,000

The IFRC is strengthening organisational risk management culture at all levels with a clear link to accountability and quality assurance and will support the National Society to provide risk management training to its volunteers and staff.

The IFRC is developing a strategy and plan of action to mitigate the risk of fraud, corruption, sexual harassment, exploitation and abuse. The National Society in Zimbabwe will develop and disseminate a PSEA policy and provide its staff and volunteers training on PSEA.

ACTIVITIES

- Provide risk management training to staff and volunteers to ensure accountability at all levels
- Develop and disseminate PSEA policy and train staff and volunteers
ENABLER 3
TRUSTED BY COMMUNITIES, OWNED AND VALUED BY THE MEMBERSHIP WITH GREATER EMPHASIS ON NATIONAL SOCIETY DEVELOPMENT

The IFRC will support the National Society in Zimbabwe to become the trusted partner of choice for local humanitarian action, with the capabilities to act in the global network.

The National Society will re-establish the core group of volunteers in order to create a diversified base of volunteers. Needs assessments will be conducted to determine the developmental needs of vulnerable communities in Zimbabwe.

The National Society will improve its financial sustainability through investment in its three pillars, accountability and systems development, resources mobilisation and vision and mandate. The National Society will also develop its 2020-2030 strategic plan and strengthen its accountability measures.

The National Society will ensure that it has guidelines, tools and mechanisms in place to prevent, manage and address integrity and reputational risks. Alongside its existing policies on fraud, corruption and harassment among others, the National Society will develop a PSEA policy to address sexual exploitation and abuse, as well as a child safeguarding policy. The National Society will also institutionalise the role of security management in the system.

The IFRC will prioritise volunteer development and youth action as critical catalysts of behavioural change and local action, ensuring access and nurturing trust in all contexts. Volunteers and young community-based drivers of change will contribute to decision-making, innovation and strengthening the domestic network in Zimbabwe. The National Society will also support its youth leadership to participate in youth networks, including the 2021 Pan Africa Youth Conference and General Assembly.

The National Society will encourage people living with disability, women, girls and other marginalised groups to continue participating in volunteer groups and encourage new members to join as well, ensuring a diverse volunteer and member network that reflects the diversity of local communities.

The National Society will strengthen mechanisms to protect volunteers, promote psychosocial wellbeing and provide greater support to those killed or injured in the line of duty, and their families. Psychosocial training will be provided for volunteers and their safety and security will also be improved through insurance policies.

The National Society will create a Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) performance measurement framework, delivering training to its staff and volunteers to ensure that the approach is integrated into all

ACTIVITIES
• The IFRC will support the National Society to determine the developmental needs of the communities
• The IFRC will work with the National Society to support youth leadership to participate in youth networks, including the 2021 Pan Africa Youth Conference and General Assembly
• The IFRC will support the National Society to provide psychosocial training to volunteers and improve the safety and security of volunteers through insurance
• The IFRC will support the National Society to develop a framework for Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) and integrate CEA into all programmes and operations
• The IFRC will support the National Society to establish community feedback and complaints mechanisms to guide the work of the National Society

Funding requirement in Swiss francs
20,000
The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) is the world’s largest humanitarian network, with 192 National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and around 14 million volunteers. Our volunteers are present in communities before, during and after a crisis or disaster. We work in the most hard to reach and complex settings in the world, saving lives and promoting human dignity. We support communities to become stronger and more resilient places where people can live safe and healthy lives, and have opportunities to thrive.

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