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Final Report

Namibia: Population Movement

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF Operation	Operation n° MDRNA012
Date of Issue: 14 December 2021	Glide number: CE-2021-000028-NAM
Operation start date: 22 April 2021	Operation end date: 31 August 2021
Host National Society(ies): Namibia Red Cross	Operation budget: CHF 87,703
Number of people affected: 894 (308 HHs)	Number of people assisted: 2,425
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners currently actively involved in the operation: British Red Cross	
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: Omusati and Kunene Regional Councils, Office of Prime Minister (Directorate of Disaster Risk Management) and local communities.	

The major donors and partners of the Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) include the Red Cross Societies and governments of Belgium, Britain, Canada, Denmark, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, New Zealand, Norway, Republic of Korea, Spain, Sweden, and Switzerland, as well as DG ECHO and Blizzard Entertainment, Mondelez International Foundation, Fortive Corporation, and other corporate and private donors. On behalf of Namibia Red Cross Society (NRCS), the IFRC would like to extend gratitude to all for their generous contributions.

A. SITUATION ANALYSIS

Description of the disaster

The south-western provinces of Angola and regions in the north-western part of Namibia experienced abnormal below rainfall during the 2020/21 rainy season, which typically runs from November to April.

Angolans living in the border provinces with Namibia, the Cunene and Huila, are experiencing food and water shortages due to persistent drought with malnutrition widespread amongst these communities.

The provinces of Cuanza Sul, Benguela, Huambo, Namibe and Huíla are hardest hit by the drought situation which degenerated in December 2020. However, the south-western tip of Angola, is forecasted to receive normal to below-normal rain in the coming rain season, based on the released seasonal [outlook by SARCOF](#).



Registration of Affected Families © Namibia RCS

Starting March 2021, Angolans living in the border provinces of Cunene and Huila started crossing into Namibia at illegal entry points in Omusati and Ohangwena regions in search of food, water, medical services and employment opportunities. The regional councils (local authorities) recorded a total of 894 Angolan migrants in Omusati and Kunene regions, of which most are children, lactating mothers, and the elderly. In Omusati, the migrants are at Etunda in a designated place/camp while those in Kunene they are currently accommodated in three locations in Opuwo, which are next to community leader house/family members. The number of migrants grew throughout the operation as many more continued to cross into the country. On 24 March 2021, the office of the Prime Minister appealed to stakeholders to assist the affected migrants with food, shelter, blankets, water, sanitation, mosquito nets, toiletries, and cooking utensils.

On 02 April 2021, a CHF 87,70387 [DREF Grant](#) was allocated to Namibia Red Cross Society to provide emergency assistance to the migrants, to supplement support provided by the government and host communities.

Summary of response

Overview of Operating National Society Response

The Namibian Red Cross Society (NRCS) responded to the population movement crisis by assisting 2,425 people or 630 families. The National Society provided support in the areas of household items, WASH, and health education. The NRCS mobilized 20 volunteers in Kunene (8) and Omusati (12) regions to assist with the implementation of proposed activities.

Summary of NRCS Support provided by the National Society:

Activities				Total Items Distributed
	HHs	Male	Female	
Distribution of Tarpaulins	0	0	0	0
Distribution of Poles/Planks for shelter	0	0	0	0
Distribution of hand sanitisers	630	780	1645	17 x 25L
Distribution of jerry cans	320	350	800	640
Distribution of hygiene packs	630	780	1645	916
Distribution of hand washing station	630	780	1645	17
Aqua tabs	479	450	995	14325
Toilets	630	780	1645	20
Blankets	630	780	1645	1428

Materials to construct temporary shelter consisting of 616 tarpaulins and poles/timber for 308 were procured but were not distributed due to a hanging decision of the authority on the repatriation of migrants.

Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in Country

IFRC Southern Africa Cluster Delegation provided technical support throughout the operation. NRCS also works closely with ICRC Harare office, which offers support for communication activities as well as National Society development interventions. ICRC had offered to provide technical support to the National Society should the need arise in the restoration of family links (RFL) between displaced people and their families back home, however this service was not requested by the migrants.

The British Red Cross in-country delegate provides technical support on Forecast Based Finance (FbF), through a joint project supported by the British & German Red Cross. The National Society receives financial support from British and German Red Cross Societies towards disaster preparedness and National Society Development.

The National Society received technical support and coordinated with the British Red Cross in-country delegate during the design of this DREF operation.

Overview of other actors' actions in country

As auxiliary to the public authorities, NRCS maintains a strong relationship with government bodies through participation or collaboration with the National Disaster Risk Management Committee (NDRMC); Regional Disaster Risk Management Committee (RDRMC) and Constituency office. Namibia Red Cross Society worked in close collaboration with NDRMC, RDRMC, and Constituency Offices in the two regions.

An Executive Director of the Prime Minister's Office responsible for catastrophes convened meetings to establish a response strategy to support immigrants. The government supported the National Society with the transportation of relief items from Windhoek warehouse to Omusati and Kunene regions.

Needs analysis and scenario planning

The local government authorities conducted joint assessments with the Red Cross to confirm the preliminary status of the situation and started with the registration of the displaced. Immediate needs identified in both affected regions included shelter, food (government supporting), water and sanitation facilities as well as household items (blankets, mattresses, clothing and hygiene items). The Namibian and Angolan governments are continuing discussions on this situation to find a long-term solution. The timeline for this is yet to be finalised by the parties involved.

- **Shelter:** The migrants continue to live in poor quality shelter, in the open, as there is no shelter provided due to prolonged discussion regarding repatriation of the migrants. Due to long distances they had to travel, families could not carry household basic items such as utensils and blankets to Namibia.
- **Food:** Another need identified was food items. The persistent drought has forced families to cross into Namibia in search of food and while the government provided food to the vulnerable population, complemented by what the host communities mobilised, the needs remain.
- **Health:** The two regions continued receiving rain till end May 2021, and which was a health risk for the families living in the open space. Overcrowding and poor living conditions of migrants increase the likelihood of spreading of diseases such as Covid 19 and Tuberculosis (TB). The local health facilities are catering for sick migrants and Red Cross trained volunteers (COVID, TB, HIV, hygiene promotion, etc) and Ministry of Health and Social Services conducted health education to strengthen community-based health services.
- **Water, Sanitation, and hygiene (WASH)** conditions were very poor at all sites where migrants are accommodated. In Opuwo, the people struggled to get water and mainly depended on good Samaritans for safe water. The situation forces them to get water from unsafe sources e.g., from leaking pipes or stagnant water they come across. The group in Omusati Region was getting water from the canal, which was not safe for human consumption. The NRCS provided them with water purification tablets. No water borne diseases outbreak was reported during the implementation period of this operation.

Risk Analysis

The DREF operation, the needs assessment and its operational strategy considered the risks related to the current COVID-19 pandemic and is aligned with the IFRC global emergency appeal that supports National Societies to deliver assistance and support to communities affected or at risk of being affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The operational area was affected by diseases such as Covid-19 since the migrants were living in an unhygienic congested condition with no clean running water and proper sanitation, personal hygiene for immigrants was very poor for washing hands and bathing.

The activities followed the Ministry of Health and World Health Organization regulations on hygiene and social distancing, especially during the distribution of HHIs.

B. OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

The main objective of this operation was to provide emergency relief to 894 people (308 families) in the Kunene and Omusati region in the areas of shelter and household items, as well as health and WASH needs for Angolan migrants housed in the two regions.

By the end of the operation, the National Society had reached 2,425 people (630HH). More families continued crossing into Namibia during the operation. Many relief items were on sale during the procurement, so more were acquired, and this enabled the National Society to reach more families.

Proposed strategy

A total number of 20 volunteers were engaged in the operation, and their capacity strengthening focused in the areas of risk communication and community engagement (RCCE) and protection, gender and inclusion (PGI) to ensure services provided were not compromised in any way.

Sectoral activities implemented include:

a) Shelter and household essentials

The National Society had planned to procure and distribute emergency shelter materials such as tarpaulins and poles/timber for the construction of emergency shelter. Although procurement was done, no distribution was done as the consensus has not yet been reached regarding the repatriation or not of the migrants and as a result, delayed this intervention. In addition, 1,428 blankets were distributed to 630 families.

In addition to the assistance provided by the Red Cross, private security companies and host communities donated relief materials such as food and secondhand clothing. The government supported the National Society with the transportation and storage of relief items in both regions.

Only seven volunteers in Kunene region were trained in emergency shelter construction, due to challenges experienced with shelter construction.

b) Health and Care

NRCS ensured the provision of community-based control and health promotion by the 20 volunteers who were trained using the RCCE and ECV toolkit in the week of 22nd to 24th of April. Trained volunteers disseminated information in the community on Covid-19 as well as other relevant public health matters such as diarrhea and other water-related diseases, Tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS. Altogether 2,345 masks and hand sanitisers benefitted a total 630 families.

c) Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

In total, 916 hygiene kits were distributed for three months to 630 households. Hygiene kits included:

- 2x Toothpaste 100 ml
- 2x Bar soap 500g
- 1 x 500 g washing powder
- 1 x Vaseline 500g
- 1 x Sanitary pads in a pack of 10
- 1 x 20 ml basin
- 1 x toilet paper
- 1 x toothpaste
- 5 face cloths and
- 5 masks

In total, 14,325 aqua tablets were procured and distributed to 479 families in both regions. Some 17 hand washing stations were provided to promote hand washing and 640 jerry cans (25 liters) were provided for safe water storage.

Community engagement and accountability (CEA): With the help of community meetings, employees and volunteers interacted with the community and addressed issues including distribution strategies and how the communities felt about the products and services provided. There were suggestion boxes, which were held by the leaders of the community, and feedback was offered at meetings with them.

Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI): Like CEA, PGI was mainstreamed in the operation to guarantee gender, age, disability particular vulnerabilities and protection concerns were taken into account. In addition, sex, age and disability disaggregated had been collected and were used to inform services offered.

Operationally, continuous evaluation and monitoring ensured that services supplied were in line with changing conditions/needs on the ground. As part of the post-distribution monitoring process, comments were gathered on the appropriateness of relief goods provided and distribution methods employed. The migrants expressed their gratitude to the Red Cross and Namibians in general for helping them.

C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL PLAN

Indicators:	Target	Actual
% of affected households that improve their living conditions according to the emergency housing rules	100% or 308 HH	0
# of families provided with tarpaulins	308	0
# of tarpaulins replenished	616	0
# households benefiting from safe shelter messages	308	0
# of volunteers trained oriented on safe emergency shelter construction	20	7
# of coordination meetings attended	3	7
# of blankets distributed	0	1,428



Shelter

People reached: 2,425

Male: 780

Female: 1,645

Narrative description of achievements

The NRCS purchased tarpaulins but did not distribute them due to prolonged discussion on repatriation. The migrants expressed the need for blankets as it got cold at night in their makeshift shelters. The National Society got permission to utilise savings under sanitation budget line to buy blankets. In total 1,428 blankets were procured and distributed, 630 households each received 2 blankets although consideration was made to give 3 blankets to a few families with elderly persons. Seven volunteers were oriented on emergency construction; however, the rest could not be trained as the shelter construction activity was put on hold.

Challenges

- Migrants sleeping in the open, vulnerable to the weather and criminality, because the distribution of tarpaulins was put on hold.

Lessons Learned

- There is a need for stakeholders to continuously advocate for better services for the migrants.

**Health**

People reached: 2,425

Male: 780

Female: 1645

Indicators:

	Target	Actual
% of affected people targeted with community-based disease control	100% or 308 HH	204% or 630 HH
# of people reached with health messages	894	2,425
# of volunteers trained on health matters	20	20
% of affected population practicing good hygiene	80%	60%
# of IEC materials distributed	500	800
# of condoms distributed	500	956

Narrative description of achievements

NRCS distributed 17 jerry cans (25 litres of hand sanitizers) to both camps in the Omusati and Kunene regions. After receiving training on health matters, volunteers provided migrants with health information on covid-19, hepatitis E, and referrals for immunization and malnutrition, among other things. The health messages reached a total 2,425 people. A higher percentage of people was reached as more migrants continued arriving in Namibia during the implementation.

Some 2,345 masks were distributed as part of the hygiene kit given to the targeted families. IEC materials were given to the volunteers by the MOHSS for distribution, altogether, 800 pamphlets and brochures were distributed. In total 956 condoms were provided through local health facilities and distributed in the two regions.

Although health and hygiene messages were disseminated continuously in the camps, the practice of hygiene to a desired level was not possible due to lack of consistent availability of water.



Hygiene Awareness Session © Namibia RCS

Challenges

- Most Angolan immigrants had no identity documents, making it difficult to conduct a roll call to establish who was still present and who had left the camp, which posed a challenge during distribution of commodities.
- Distribution was also a bit challenging, because even migrants who had arrived before this dry spell claimed to have arrived this year. Volunteers worked closely with camp leaders to address this challenge.
- The number of immigrants continued to grow as they continued crossing into Namibia. Water unavailability was an issue in Opuwo, National Society continued advocating for the government to supply water to the migrants.

Lessons Learned

- Good relationship between volunteers and the migrants made the implementation of the operation easier.
- Learning cultural difference was a positive experience for both staff and volunteers.



Water, sanitation and hygiene

People reached: 2425

Male: 780

Female: 1645

Indicators:	Target	Actual
% of targeted people reached with WASH assistance	100 %	204%
# of WASH assessments carried out	2	1
# of coordination meetings attended	2	7
# of water purification tablets distributed	27,720	14,325
# of hygiene kits distributed	308	916
# of people reached with hygiene awareness messages	2,425	2,425

Narrative description of achievements

NRCS distributed 916 hygiene packs to 630 HHs in Omusati and Kunene regions; in Omusati, the distribution was done twice, and in Kunene three times. Most of the items were on sale, which allowed the National Society to get more to cover more households.

Namibia was approaching the start of winter at the start of the project's implementation, and most of the migrants were sleeping outside without blankets, which was one of the needs that the National Society identified during the implementation through community engagement; 1,428 blankets were procured and distributed.

To promote hygiene within the campsite, NRCS provided 17 hand washing facilities to the migrants. The volunteers provided health sessions to the migrants on WASH and encouraged them to wash their hands with soap on a regular basis. Ongoing assessment continued throughout the operation, engaging and consulting the beneficiaries on appropriateness of services being offered.

The NRCS also provided Aqua tabs for water purification and jerry cans for water storage to the migrants. The NRCS has constructed temporary 20 toilets for the migrants (15 Omusati) and (5 Kunene) to prevent open defecation and infections like Hepatitis E. The regional staff attended coordination meetings with key stakeholders at regional level.

Challenges

- Hand washing stations were few, and they couldn't accommodate all, however families were encouraged to share the facilities.
- The distribution of relief items in Opuwo was difficult as migrants move around town and settle in different locations.

Lessons Learned

Hygiene is key during the Covid-19 pandemic, therefore advocacy for consistent water supply and hand washing facilities needs to be sustained.

Strategies for Implementation

Outcome 1:

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of volunteers insured	20	20
% of operational decisions based on community feedback	70%	45%
# of monitoring visits	4	13
# of community meetings organized	3	10
# of IFRC monitoring visits	2	0
# of lessons learned workshop conducted	1	0

Narrative description of achievements
NRCS has a pool of volunteers insured on an annual basis including the ones who were involved in this operation. Community feedback on the need for blankets was considered and attended to accordingly. Coordination meetings were held with various key stakeholders, including local government regional and constituency councils, as well as community leaders. Two monitoring visits were conducted by head quarter officials to both regions; local monitoring visits were made by regional officers supported by the volunteers on the ground. IFRC could not conduct a monitoring visit due to travel restrictions during the implementation of the operation. The National Society could not hold the lessons learned workshop within the implementation timeframe because Covid-19 was at peak in Namibia towards the end of this operation, and regional offices do not have suitable facilities for virtual meetings.
Challenges
Communication was a challenge in some instances as a few migrants could not speak the local language.
Lessons Learned
Continuous engagement with the government is key when it comes to handling migrant related aspects.

D. Financial Report

The overall amount allocated for this operation was CHF 87,703 of which CHF 78,194 (89%) were expensed. A balance of CHF 9,509 will be returned to the DREF.

Explanation of variances:

- **Clothing and textile:** This budget line of CHF 6,375 was not foreseen at design stage but a need for blankets came up in the middle of the implementation, which was approved.
- **Water Sanitation and Hygiene:** Savings of CHF 11,753 as jerry cans were expensed to another line.
- **Teaching materials:** The budget line CHF 156 remained unspent because IEC were acquired from the MOH.
- **Utensils & Tools:** This expense of CHF 5,313 was for jerry cans that were initially budgeted under a different budget category.
- **Distribution & Monitoring:** Budget line underspent CHF 4,076 as most of relief items was transported by the government.
- **Transport and Vehicles Costs:** Although not budgeted, the expenditure of 3,322 CHF is due to fuel for monitoring that was booked here instead of travel budget line.
- **National Society Staff:** this budget line was wrongly coded hence the underspent with CHF 4,223, was meant to be for volunteer allowances.
- **Volunteers:** Budget line overspent by CHF 5,578 the volunteer allowances were budgeted under NS staff category.
- **Workshop and Training:** Budget line underspent by CHF 3,393 trainings costed lower than planned.
- **Travel:** Budget line underspent by CHF 4,936 all travels could no be realised due to travel restrictions and fuel was posted to transport and vehicle costs.
- **Office Costs:** This was wrong coding CHF 1,224; this was budgeted under general expenses.
- **Other General Expenses:** Budget line underspent by CHF 2,901, this is due to lower overall budget expenditure, which affected expenses such as NS admin fee.

Contact information

Reference documents



Click here for:

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

For further information, specifically related to this operation please contact:

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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.

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The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace

DREF Operation

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2021/04-2021/10	Operation	MDRNA012
Budget Timeframe	2021	Budget	APPROVED

FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT

Prepared on 17/Nov/2021

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

MDRNA012 - Namibia - Population Movement from Angola

Operating Timeframe: 02 Apr 2021 to 31 Aug 2021

I. Summary

Opening Balance	0
Funds & Other Income	87,703
DREF Allocations	87,703
Expenditure	-78,194
Closing Balance	9,509

II. Expenditure by area of focus / strategies for implementation

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
AOF1 - Disaster risk reduction			0
AOF2 - Shelter	23,234	19,888	3,346
AOF3 - Livelihoods and basic needs			0
AOF4 - Health	2,832	4,009	-1,177
AOF5 - Water, sanitation and hygiene	39,877	38,965	912
AOF6 - Protection, Gender & Inclusion			0
AOF7 - Migration			0
Area of focus Total	65,943	62,861	3,081
SFI1 - Strengthen National Societies	16,364	14,557	1,807
SFI2 - Effective international disaster management	533	541	-8
SFI3 - Influence others as leading strategic partners	4,331		4,331
SFI4 - Ensure a strong IFRC	533	234	299
Strategy for implementation Total	21,760	15,333	6,428
Grand Total	87,703	78,194	9,509

DREF Operation

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2021/04-2021/10	Operation	MDRNA012
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III. Expenditure by budget category & group

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
Relief items, Construction, Supplies	51,471	51,461	9
Shelter - Relief	11,368	11,611	-242
Clothing & Textiles		6,375	-6,375
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	37,443	25,691	11,753
Medical & First Aid	2,502	2,473	30
Teaching Materials	156		156
Utensils & Tools		5,313	-5,313
Logistics, Transport & Storage	5,943	5,190	754
Distribution & Monitoring	5,943	1,868	4,076
Transport & Vehicles Costs		3,322	-3,322
Personnel	4,911	6,266	-1,355
National Society Staff	4,536	313	4,223
Volunteers	375	5,953	-5,578
Workshops & Training	4,880	1,487	3,393
Workshops & Training	4,880	1,487	3,393
General Expenditure	15,146	9,018	6,128
Travel	6,256	1,320	4,936
Information & Public Relations		386	-386
Office Costs		1,224	-1,224
Communications	1,561	1,877	-315
Financial Charges	500	284	216
Other General Expenses	6,828	3,927	2,901
Indirect Costs	5,353	4,772	580
Programme & Services Support Recover	5,353	4,772	580
Grand Total	87,703	78,194	9,509