



Joint Floods Assessment by SARCS, IFRC and local authorities with support from South Africa Defence Force (SADF)

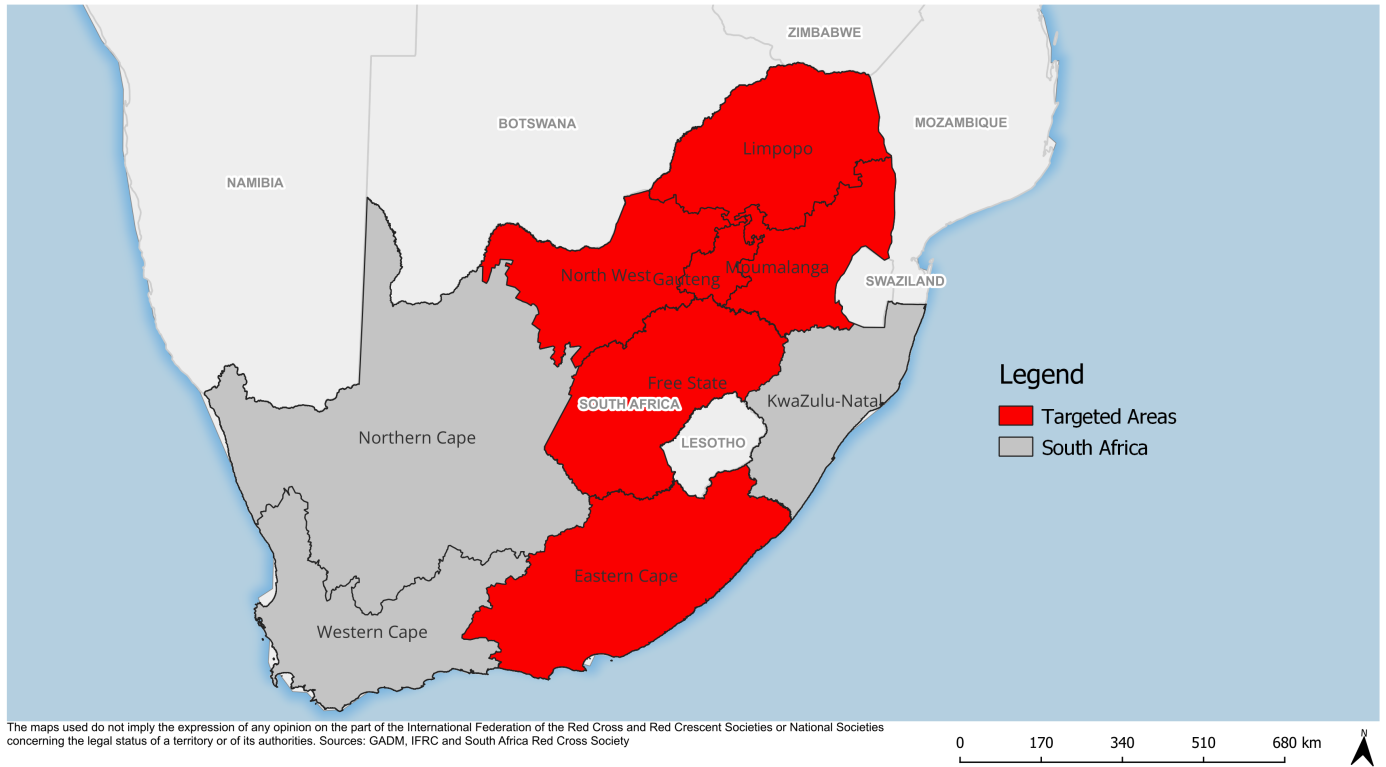
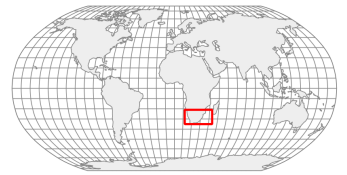
Appeal: MDRZA013	Total DREF Allocation CHF 499,978	Crisis Category: Yellow	Hazard: Flood
Glide Number: FL-2022-000382-ZAF	People Affected: 56,177 people	People Targeted: 12,500 people	
Event Onset: Sudden	Operation Start Date: 2022-12-24	New Operational end date: 2023-06-30	Total operating timeframe: 6 months
Additional Allocation Re- quested 148,025	Targeted Areas:	Eastern Cape, Free State, Gauteng, Limpopo, Mpumalanga, North-west	

Description of the Event



South Africa Floods 2023

07/03/2022 • MDRZA013 • FL-2022-000382-ZAF



The maps used do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies or National Societies concerning the legal status of a territory or of its authorities. Sources: GADM, IFRC and South Africa Red Cross Society

South Africa Rainfall Mapping (https://www.weathersa.co.za/Documents/Corporate/Medrel13Feb2023_13022023134027.pdf)

What happened, where and when?

The South African Weather Services issued a media release on the 9th of December 2022, indicating parts of Gauteng Province and North West Province were negatively affected by floods that hit hardest areas like parts of Soweto, Erkhuleni, Johannesburg, Vereeniging, Brakpan (Gauteng Province), and Rustenburg, Bojanala (North West Province). Joint rapid assessments coordinated by Gauteng and North West Provincial Disaster Management Centers (PDMCs) in collaboration with other government sector Departments revealed that 40,000 people had been affected. Some affected populations were evacuated to 2 community centers. The National Society, through the DREF, has been providing support to 6,500 people (1,300 households) in the areas of WASH, Health, and, Multipurpose Cash.

As of 19th February 2023 in Gauteng province, the Vaal Dam had reached its full capacity, which resulted in the opening of 12 gates to release the water. This has resulted in flooding downstream of the Vaal River especially in the Free State, North West, and Northern Cape Provinces. (<https://www.gov.za/speeches/12-flood-gates-remain-open-vaal-dam-communities-urged-move-high-lying-areas-19-feb-2023>). The forecast released by SAWS was expecting another severe impact due to Tropical storm Freddy landing. The possible scaled-up of NS intervention was then considering also the scope of Freddy which were finally no more a risk after it decrease on intensity on week 23 to 27th February.

This overflow of water is happening in a context of already severe impact of floods since early february. Indeed, from the 2nd week of February 2023, South Africa has been receiving again heavy rains consecutively which has resulted in the manifestation of ground surface water saturation being witnessed mid-February. The South Africa Weather

Service's (SAWS) flood threat was released, informing that the surface trough of an easterly wave of a slow-moving upper-air cut-off low-pressure system, which wreaked havoc in Limpopo, Mpumalanga, and KwaZulu-Natal and was moving over the western interior creating a convergence zone over Gauteng and the eastern parts of the North West provinces. Despite the dissemination efforts conducted by National Society to minimize the impact of floods, the continuous heavy rains experienced resulted in flooding in most parts of the country in the early hours of the 13th of February. The continuous rainfall experienced in the second half of February has resulted in excessive ground saturation causing a sharp rise in dam levels.

In line with the above, the impact of the recent floods strained the existing DREF operation for Gauteng and North West provinces as other areas within these provinces (North West - Klerksdorp and Mafikeng then Gauteng Province - Vaal and Vereeniging) have now been affected. Stocks that were replenished have now been depleted to reach the newly affected areas.



Distribution of hygiene packs at evacuat Floods impact to food security and livelihoods.

Scope and Scale

South Africa has faced severe rainfall since the launch of the operation which deteriorated the floods situation evaluated in December. Heavy rain and overflowing rivers affected 7 provinces in the country/ Eastern Cape, Free State, Gauteng, Limpopo, Mpumalanga, North-west.

- As stated in the initial operation, flood events from the 11th of December posed a great threat to communities especially the ones living along riverbanks, flood plains, swampy areas, and low-lying areas. In addition, limited drainage, and absorption of run-off from roads and paved surfaces due to soil saturation resulted in incidents of floods in parts of Gauteng and North West provinces. The assessments revealed more than 40,000 people (8,000 households) were affected. These included all people affected by the floods. Out of this total, about 3,826 households have been significantly affected (3,326 in Gauteng and 500 in North West) and many have been displaced. Households displaced are those that experienced significant damage to their livelihoods, food stock, and shelter. Residents lost their belongings and livelihoods, furniture, legal documents, etc, leaving them destitute and traumatized.

- Second wave of heavy rainfall were recorded on February. The level of flooding incidence led on 13th of February 2023, to the government to declared a National State of Disaster to enable an intensive, coordinated response to the impact of floods that are affecting Mpumalanga, the Eastern Cape, Gauteng, KwaZulu-Natal, Limpopo, the Northern Cape and North West provinces. Mpumalanga and the Eastern Cape provinces had been receiving rains as early as the 8th of February and were identified as the hardest hit out of the 7 provinces. Impacts of the floods included over 48 fatalities reported, 12 people reported missing, 1,568 people (the bulk being in Eastern Cape with 1,259 people) have been displaced, and are now accommodated in 12 evacuation centers (inclusive of the 1 under the 11th December floods). Additionally, several homes have been flooded, vehicles swept away by floodwaters and overflowing dams and sewerage facilities, to the loss of basic infrastructure and damage to roads, bridges, and a Limpopo hospital.

On 19th February 2023 the Vaal Dam in Gauteng province reached its full capacity and water was released, causing more floods downstream of the Vaal River especially in the Free State, NorthWest, and Northern Cape Provinces. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/12-flood-gates-remain-open-vaal-dam-communities-urged-move-high-lying-areas-19-feb-2023>). The forecast released by SAWS was expecting another severe impact due to Tropical storm Freddy landing. The possible scaled-up of NS intervention was then considering also to include in addition to the floods worsened by the above impact the forecasted impact of Tropical Cyclone/storm Freddy expected to land on 23 to 27th February. Thankfully, no further significant incidences were recorded, limiting the impact to the already which were finally no more a risk after it decreased on intensity on week and the forecasted impact has then not happened.

A total of 4709 households (16,177 people) have been affected. From the 11th of December to date, flooding incidences in the 7 provinces have affected a total of 56,177 people (40,000 people from the 11th of December and 16,177 people from the recent floods).

The damaged infrastructure especially roads, bridges, schools, and health facilities greatly affects children of school-going age to access education in Mpumalanga (Nkomazi Municipality) and Eastern Cape (Chris Hani district) and community members especially pregnant women, lactating mothers, and caregivers of children under the age of 5 years and those on chronic medication do not have access to health services in areas where roads and bridges were damaged by the floods.

The above impact of recent floods is stretching the National Societies' capacity and ability to cope since it has been responding to occasional flooding since December 2022 and the stock levels have now depleted countrywide. The National Society has been working tirelessly with the different government sectors to ensure response initiatives are not duplicated and meet the most vulnerable communities.

In preparation for the anticipated increase in rainfall, the National Society with the government is providing early warning messages in the areas projected to be affected. This messaging includes informing the local residents of evacuation centers should the rains increase. Additionally, vehicles have been sent to the provinces for further support. The ex-cyclone made landfall in South Africa, with the Kwa Zulu Natal, Limpopo, and Mpumalanga provinces experiencing heavy rainfall.

Summary of changes

Are you changing the timeframe of the operation	Yes
Are you changing the operational strategy	No
Are you changing the target population of the operation	Yes
Are you changing the geographical location	Yes
Are you making changes to the budget	Yes
Is this a request for a second allocation	Yes
Has the forecasted event materialize?	No

Please explain the summary of changes and justification

The President of South Africa made a national declaration of floods disaster in 7 out of 9 provinces (Mpumalanga, Limpopo, Eastern Cape, Free State, KwaZulu Natal, Gauteng, and North-West) on the 13th of February following reports ranging from flooded homes, material swept away by floodwaters and overflowing dams and sewerage facilities, to the loss of basic infrastructure and damage to roads, bridges, and a hospital in Limpopo. In the

agricultural sector, farmers have suffered crop and livestock losses, and anticipate further losses as the South African Weather Service predicts that current heavy rains will persist.

As of 19th February 2023 in Gauteng province, the Vaal Dam reached its full capacity and water was release, causing more floods downstream of the Vaal River especially in the Free State, North West, and Northern Cape Provinces. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/12-flood-gates-remain-open-vaal-dam-communities-urged-move-high-lying-areas-19-feb-2023>). The forecast released by SAWs was expecting another severe impact due to Tropical storm Freddy landing. the possible scaled-up of NS intervention was then considering also the scope of Freddy which were finally no more a risk after it decrease on intensity on week 23 to 27th February and the forecasted impact has then not happen.

On the 16th of February, following the alert of the SADC Climate Services issued about the intense Tropical Cyclone Freddy that would make landfall from 21-26th and cause changes in weather systems with Botswana, Eswatini, and South Africa projected to experience heavy rainfall.; SARCS has revised the initial response and stands ready to expand its response to the additional floods and the impact of Freddy while disseminating early warning messaging in the Limpopo and Mpumalanga provinces.

Through the ongoing operations of floods in KwaZulu Natal, Gauteng, and North-West, where the National Society was already providing support to 6,500 people, SARCS has been active in providing relief interventions using pre-positioned stock and local donations to recently affected communities in Mpumalanga, Limpopo, Eastern Cape, and Free State. At least 2,500 people have been directly reached with immediate relief. Following the incidence of floods recorded from the 13th to the 19th, where there is now a wide gap in the communities that are in need of humanitarian assistance.

Due to the above, the National Society is requesting

- A DREF extension of an extra 3 months to cover the additional 5 affected provinces and to scale up the intervention in the same areas to be able to reach its target of 12,500 people who are in the shelters and surrounding areas, covering affected Households in overall 7 provinces (5 additional).
- All efforts will aim at restoring human dignity by providing beneficiaries with options to prioritize their needs and accommodate their preferences even in responding to humanitarian crises. As such, the Cash support will cover 2,000 HH. This is an additional 700 HH living in shelters that will be supported by multipurpose cash.
- The National Society will look to also increase the number of volunteers to 150 to support the intervention.
- The intervention is extended for additional 3 months, making this DREF a 6-month operation.
- Second allocation requested of CHF 148,047. Total budget CHF 500,000.

Current National Society Actions



Food distribution to affected communities that are not able to access : Distribution of hygiene packs in evacuation centre

SARCS has been collaborating with Provincial Disaster Management Centers (PDMCs), Local municipalities, and other government sector Departments

<p>Assessment</p>	<p>which include the Department of Social Development (DSD), the Department of Home Affairs, South Africa Social Service Agency (SASSA) to conduct joint needs assessments to affected people in the 7 provinces that have been recently affected by the floods. It has been noticed that some of the communities which were affected by floods in December 2022 have also been recently affected. Other areas outside the Emergency Appeal (EA) were affected in KwaZulu Natal (New Castle) and areas outside the Floods DREF, North West (Deelpan and Klerksdorp) and Gauteng (Vaal, Vereeniging) were affected.</p>
<p>Community Engagement And Accountability</p>	<p>SARCS has community volunteers who are trained in Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) and are currently activated to ensure that they fully engage affected communities with operations initiatives using participatory methods which promote contribution and input about issues affecting their lives. CEA continues to be the central approach of the operation, and it is strengthened through established relations with the communities at risk through the Red Cross's previous dissemination. An additional 90 volunteers have been activated to support assessments and response interventions following the recent floods.</p>
<p>Coordination</p>	<p>SARCS activated its National Response Team (NRT) and Emergency Operation Centre (EOC) following the initial flooding. The NRT closely coordinates operation interventions with the Provincial Response Team (PRT) ensuring that the Branch Response Teams (BRT) are well coordinated and provide timely updates. Internal coordination of logistics, communication, and any skill gaps that might be identified are easily addressed through the established coordination system which strengthens SARCS's capacity for major responsibilities of this nature.</p> <p>The above-mentioned teams have continued to be responsible for ensuring SARCS participation, coordination, and collaboration with the government and other stakeholders at all levels. This ensures proper coordination of interventions to avoid duplication. Whilst carrying out assessments, the team members meet daily to review the information collected. Following assessments, the team would meet weekly in line with the provincial Joint Operation Centre (JOC) meetings.</p> <p>During the December floods, SARCS has been active in the Gauteng and North West province to respond and activated 60 volunteers and 20 staff members to conduct assessments and provide immediate relief and support services to affected people. Following the 13th February declaration. SARCS activated an additional 90 volunteers and 20 staff to carry out assessments and provide immediate relief. To date, the National Society has provided relief items such as clothes, blankets, mattresses, Psychosocial First Aid (PFA), and Restoring Family links.</p>
<p>Livelihoods And Basic Needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The National Society provided hot meals to the people evacuated from Gauteng and North West December floods. Two evacuation centers were made available, though only one remains open housing 217 adults and 17 children. • Cash installment to the 1300HH initially targeted is completed. • Following the state of disaster declaration on the 13th of February, assessments conducted by SARCS revealed that floods robbed people's food security and livelihoods across all 7 affected provinces. Farmers' crops were washed away and have lost their livestock to the floods. Those involved in goods trading and local catering or food services on a small scale lost their stock to the floods. This exposes them to social insecurity and poverty as they have lost

	<p>their means of livelihood and fail to provide for the basic needs of themselves and their families. A total of 12 evacuation centers have been established and the National Society is currently providing hot meals in 2 evacuation centers.</p>
<p>Protection, Gender And Inclusion</p>	<p>SARCS has made efforts in promoting Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI) in evacuation centers. The trained volunteers and staff have been involved in GBV awareness in shelters and affected communities. In the recent floods, SARCS has intensified its collaborations to enhance Child Protection in Emergencies (CPiE), especially in the 12 established shelters where a total of 1050 people have been reached with GBV and CPiE awareness.</p> <p>At least 512 people have been supported with Restoring of Family Links (RFL) services (free phone calls, charging, internet connection, etc). Most of the people accommodated in evacuation centers in Mpumalanga province (Nkomazi Municipality) are mostly undocumented migrants from Mozambique due to the affected areas' proximity to border lines. Protection of human rights has been ensured by local authorities and humanitarian actors like SARCS by ensuring that there is no discrimination against such groups of people in response interventions.</p>
<p>Health</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The health of individuals affected by the floods continues to be a need.- Since December floods, the National Society continues to provide the affected communities with Psychosocial First Aid. Great trauma has been experienced by the affected communities, especially among those who were internally displaced and lost all their belongings and livelihoods. SARCS has managed to provide Psychosocial First Aid to 920 people in Mpumalanga and Eastern Cape. More follow-up sessions are required to ensure affected people recover from the trauma caused by the floods. There is a need to reach other affected communities and provide PFA. • SARCS has also been engaging with the Department of Social Development (DSD) in all response interventions to ensure a clear referral pathway for PSS cases that requires advanced counselling and intervention. SARCS volunteers and staff collaborate with DSD social workers and authorities to strengthen Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) to affected communities and more support is needed for the National Society to reach other adverse communities. • Given the threat of COVID-19, measles, and cholera, the National society has managed to conduct health sessions to raise awareness, particularly in the shelters.
<p>Water, Sanitation And Hygiene</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From the December floods, the National Society conducted health and hygiene promotions which is an activity that has continued under the recent flood response. • Additionally, with support from a local donor, the National Society managed to distribute 250 hygiene kits with mainly women and girls in the evacuation centers receiving the bulk. • The impact of recent floods caused great damage to infrastructure and is affecting the efficient supply of basic services like water and electricity supply to most affected communities. SARCS intends to intensify WASH awareness to curb water-borne diseases, especially considering that 5 cholera cases were recently recorded in South Africa.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During flooding incidence of December 2022, the government made available 2 evacuation centers to accommodate households that were displaced in Gauteng and North West provinces. One of these 2 evacuation center has been closed down with only one remaining accommodating 217 adults and

Shelter, Housing And Settlements	<p>17 children.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ The National Society has supported 1,300 households with multipurpose cash, □ SARCS has also covering households in the evacuation centers and in the surrounding at-risk communities. □ Following the floods that were declared a national disaster on the 13th of February 2023, eleven (11) additional centers were established as evacuation centers, bringing the total number of people displaced by floods to 1,568 people. SARCS managed to provide children's clothes to 5 centers, hot meals to 2 shelters, blankets and mattresses to 2 shelters, and 250 hygiene packs to 3 shelters. <p>The National Society has supported 1,300 households that are in the shelters and surrounding areas and will upscale the support to include another 1,200 households.</p>
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Movement Partners Actions Related To The Current Event

IFRC	<p>The IFRC continues to provide technical guidance to the National Society for flood preparedness and the implementation of the DREF operation. On the 1st of February, IFRC and an ECHO representative conducted a field visit to Gauteng to assess the progress of the operation. The IFRC is not providing assistance with the DREF operational update. in response to the recent floods, an IFRC delegate was deployed to join the National Society team in Mpumalanga to support communication coverage.</p>
ICRC	<p>The ICRC continues to support the National Society and for this operation provided first aid kits to attend to people who may require First Aid.</p>
Participating National Societies	<p>There are no PNS in-country or supporting the operation.</p>

Other Actors Actions Related To The Current Event

Government has requested international assistance	<p>Yes</p>
National authorities	<p>The government response remains the same for every disaster response. The government through Cooperate Governance and Traditional Affairs (COG-TA) and Disaster Management Centers (DMCs) identified community halls in which the affected people were accommodated. Department of Social Development (DSD) provided psychosocial support (PSS) and some blankets.- More so, they are responsible for coordinating relief from other humanitarian organizations that provided relief to affected people to avoid duplication of services. Department of Education (DOE) is actively involved in assessments of the impact of floods on schools and devising ways to have children resume school soon. With regard to shelter interventions, the Department of Human Settlement (DHS) is engaging with local authorities (traditional and municipality) to attain safer land to assist displaced people with longer and safer shelter interventions.</p>

UN or other actors

South African Weather Services (SAWS) continuously provides weather updates including early warning messages that have assisted the National Society to stay informed and updated on weather conduction. Additionally, the SAWS updates assist the National Society with accurate messaging when disseminating to vulnerable communities. With the current threat of ex-cyclone Freddy, the National Society is utilizing information from the SAWS, translating it into a language the local communities understand, and disseminating it, particularly to those communities in flood-prone areas.□

□

The Gift of the Givers has provided relief materials in the form of food parcels and hygiene kits in all the affected provinces. It is reported that they reached over 2000 households. Additionally, Unicef provided hygiene kits in the Eastern Cape and reportedly reached 400 people.

Are there major coordination mechanisms in place?

The coordination mechanisms for disasters remain standard. There are Joint Operation Committees (JOC) which were activated by Disaster Management Centre (DMC) at all levels which are national, provincial, district, and local municipality levels and SARCS actively participates at all levels to strengthen its auxiliary role. DSD is responsible for coordinating relief from both the government and other partners involved in this response operation.□

□

More so, Community Police Forum (CPF) has been responsible for mapping and allocating shelter halls to accommodate displaced people. DSD is providing psychosocial support (PSS) and some blankets. More so, they are responsible for coordinating relief from other humanitarian organizations that provided relief to affected people to avoid duplication of interventions. SARCS ensures active participation at all levels to ensure proper coordination of its response interventions.

Needs (Gaps) Identified



Shelter Housing And Settlements

The recent floods caused damage to a total of 4,709 households across the affected provinces (1938 Mpumalanga, 807 Limpopo, 724 Eastern Cape, 453 Gauteng, 366 KwaZulu Natal, 300 North West, and 121 Free State). This has worsened the burden the National Society has been experiencing in responding to the December floods as the prepositioned stock is depleted. In total, 11 additional shelter settlements are established where people are leaving. The families, as for the incidence of floods in December are missing household items and basic needs. The National Society would need to upscale its support to reach an additional 1,200 households while previous 1,300 households have already benefited of essential household items needed as blankets and mattresses. The procurement and distribution as for the first round will follow guidance from the government.



Livelihoods And Basic Needs

The devastating floods have robbed people's food security and livelihoods across all 7 affected provinces. Farmers' crops were washed away and have lost their livestock to the floods. This exposes them to social insecurity and poverty as they have lost their means of livelihood. There is a need to support such families with interventions that will enable them to meet their urgent basic needs.

In response to the recent floods, some partners were able to reach the 868 households housed in the evacuation centers leaving a gap of 700 households. The families are facing same challenges initially assessed with pressure or destruction of their income, challenge for them to meet their basic needs and livelihoods.



Protection, Gender And Inclusion

Through collaborations with government sectors, especially local municipalities, SARCS has ensured that PGI is integrated so far by raising SGBV, PSEA, and Child Safeguarding awareness in evacuation shelters. So far there have been no recorded cases of abuse, especially among women and children in the shelters. Still, the overcrowding in established shelters exposes women and girls to increased risks of sexual assault. More so, the destruction of livelihoods and delayed response interventions to affected communities might push women and girls to resort to sexual favors for monetary gains. Utilization of facilities that are not user-friendly to people living with disabilities results in them being excluded from using sanitation facilities available at evacuation centers.

SARCS will ensure that the community feedback mechanism that is to be set up will include a confidential mechanism to receive, handle and respond to sensitive complaints, including reports of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and potential sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) by SARCS staff and volunteers. Volunteers will disseminate information on various services available and how to access them.

Following recent floods, many households have lost their belongings which include identity documents, food stock, clothes, bedding, and household gadgets and equipment. Vulnerabilities in the affected population have been exacerbated leaving many people, especially women, and girls at high risk of Gender Based Violence (GBV) and Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA).

Besides the Department of Social Development (DSD), there are no other partners that are supporting PGI. The National Society will thus increase awareness and education to cover the additional 11 centers and surrounding communities.



Health

Floods impact has caused immense stress and trauma experienced by the affected families. A number of people were left distressed and worried about the loss of their assets and means of livelihood. DSD provides PSS support though is not able to reach all the affected households. There continues to be a need for SARCS to complement the government's support. As the government has professional social workers, during the response to floods, SARCS would provide Psychosocial First Aid, and the government would come when individuals require counseling or other mental health interventions. During assessments, community members indicated mental support as a priority. The National Society will thus scale up its health promotion and awareness as well as the provision of PFA in the additional 11 evacuation centers and the surrounding areas. An additional 90 volunteers will be engaged to support the health activities.

South Africa has 5 cases of cholera and one reported death. It is imperative that through this operation communities are made aware and vigilant to practice good hygiene practices.



Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

With the recent floods, 1,568 internally displaced people have been placed in 12 evacuation centers and will need access to clean drinking water, and hygiene promotion on disease outbreaks. Water and sanitation infrastructure (community and household level) has also been damaged by the flood's impact. Portable water and hygiene packs were identified as priority needs in shelters.

The National Society provided hygiene promotion and awareness in the affected communities as well as in 2 evacuation centers reaching its target of 6,500 people. though with the newly targeted 12,500 people, the National Society would need to upscale its support and also increase the volunteer support to 150 volunteers.

Operational Strategy

Overall objective of the operation

The initial overall objective of the operation was to respond to the immediate humanitarian needs of approximately 2500 most vulnerable households (12,500 people) affected by the December floods through the provision of a multipurpose cash grant, WASH, health services, and shelter in the Gauteng and North West provinces for a period of 6 months.

Following the recent floods that wracked an additional 5 provinces, the overall objective of this operation is to expand on the initial objective and respond to the immediate humanitarian needs of approximately 2,500 most vulnerable households (12500 people). This is accumulative of the target population of 1,300 households (6,500) people that were affected by the December floods and 1,200 households (6,000) people affected by the recent floods.

The National Society requests an extension of the operation to be able to expand to include Mpumalanga, Eastern Cape, Limpopo, and the Freestate for a full period of 6months.

Operation strategy rationale

The operational strategy rationale sought to address the needs that were identified during the Rapid Needs assessment during the December floods where the National Society sought to support 1,300 households (6,500 people). With the recent floods, the number of people increased, raising the number of people targeted by the National Society to 2,500 households (12,500 people). The National Society is also anticipating the impact of the

ex-cyclone Freddy that is projected to affect Limpopo and surrounding areas. The ongoing assessments and the anticipated effects of the ex-cyclone Freddy may further inform the operation strategy if ever there are any changes in needs or if a revision of strategy is required to ensure an effective and integrated response.□

The operational strategy also aims to mitigate the combined impacts of floods, COVID-19, measles, and the threat of cholera. □

□

SARCS response plan continues to comprise 3 main phases in which collaborations with the government and other partners will be maximized.□

- Respond to immediate humanitarian relief, ensuring that affected persons in SARCS operational areas are safe and that their basic needs are met□
- Assist affected communities to stabilize and ensure they are provided with safe evacuation shelter□
- Focus on early recovery through integrating Cash Voucher Assistance (CVA) and in-kind relief in its response efforts to address the humanitarian crises following the floods that different sectors which include WASH, Multipurpose cash grants, Health, and Shelter. □

□

The Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF) support to SARCS from the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) will cover the following;□

- Detailed assessments in the additional 5 affected provinces. Following the recent floods, the total number of 7 provinces will be reached in order to get an overall overview of needs per specific context.□
- Immediate relief which includes blankets, mattresses, and hot meals.□
- Scaling up multi-purpose grants to 2000 households.□
- Capacity building and sensitization to 150 volunteers on CVA, PGI, and CEA to support the ongoing operations.□
- Visibility materials and protective clothing for the operation response team.

Targeting Strategy

Who will be targeted through this operation?

Following the recent floods that hit an additional 5 provinces the total affected population has increased to 56177 people and among them, 28680 people are in dire need of humanitarian assistance. The National Society's current target is 6,500 people and is looking to reach an additional 6,000 people, making a total of 12,500 people through the same operation strategy interventions.□

□

The National Society is targeting 2,500 households with priority given to child-headed households, people living with disability, and those with very low incomes. The targeted provinces for this operation will be Mpumalanga, Limpopo, Eastern Cape, Free State, Gauteng, and North West. The DREF will also target migrants which are affected and accommodated in shelters, especially in Mpumalanga and Limpopo.□

The targeting for this DREF operation aims to address the needs highlighted in the sectors below; □

- Shelter□ □
- Livelihoods□
- Health and care□
- WASH□

□

SARCS recently provided Cash Voucher Assistance (CVA) under the current Emergency Appeal in Kwa-Zulu Natal province which involves cash transfer through mobile money to 1,500 households at a value of R2250 for a once-off cash distribution. In 2021, the National Society also implemented CVA in Gauteng and Kwa-Zulu Natal under the Urban Violence DREF where 1,636 households were given cash transfers through mobile money at R1000 a month for 2 months, which also included migrants. Through Shoprite and Checkers supermarket chains, with the support of the International Organisation on Migration (IOM) between February and March 2021 and 1,900 PepsiCo vouchers in May 2021 across all provinces. SARCS managed to secure Nedbank as the financial service provider (FSP) for the thunderstorms DREF, which was also utilized for the Urban Violence DREF. IFRC Southern Africa Cluster Delegation will support the National Society to establish a longer agreement.

Explain the selection criteria for the targeted population

As part of the CEA approach, SARCS utilized a verification process that engaged key role players like DSD and the traditional leadership council to verify the selected households to ensure that the selection criteria are respected and

properly followed. In addition, the section criteria were shared widely through trusted channels of communication which include community engagement forums which are usually spearheaded by traditional leaders and local authorities to ensure that people understand why they have or have not been selected, to minimize community tensions. □

□

The National Society staff and volunteers are also collecting feedback and complaints of targeted households during the selection and throughout the operation, based on the channels identified during the needs assessment as preferred by the affected communities. Feedback continues to be shared and analyzed at HQ to refine the selection process and criteria if necessary and ensure that complaints regarding the selection of community members are investigated and addressed in a timely manner. □

□

Priority on targeting and selection of additional beneficiaries will be given to the elderly above 70 years, people living with disabilities, child-headed households, and low-income households with children below the age of 5 years. Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) will form an integral part of this response and during the development of selection criteria, the community members will be involved to ensure that they understand the targeting and beneficiary selection process. □

□

The National Society targets to reach a total of 12,500 people (2,500 households) after the country experienced flooding in 7 provinces which include Mpumalanga, Limpopo, Eastern Cape, KZN, Gauteng, North West, and Free State. These people will be reached through various relief interventions listed above.

Total Targeted Population

Women:	3,000	Rural %	Urban %
Girls (under 18):	4,500	20.00 %	80.00 %
Men:	1,800	People with disabilities (estimated %)	
Boys (under 18):	3,200	2.00 %	
Total targeted population:	12,500		

Risk and security considerations

Please indicate about potential operational risk for this operations and mitigation actions

Risk	Mitigation action
Continuous rainfall and possible widespread flooding will overwhelm the National Society.	Maximize dissemination of possible erratic and irrational changes in weather patterns as reported by South African Weather Services (SAWS) to ensure that beneficiaries are evacuated to safer places where the risk is minimal or manageable. SARCS will intensify resource mobilization efforts.
Delayed disbursement of funds for the operation	SARCS will ensure the submission of all needed documentation and make regular follow-ups with the cluster office to ensure timely implementation during the operation
Delays with FSP contractual process would delay cash distributions	SARCS will ensure FSP contracts are signed and in place pre-disaster.
Delays with Procurements for the operation due to unfamiliar procurement procedures.	SARCS has engaged with the IFRC to give a briefing on procurements. This way ensures that the correct proce-

dures are followed timeously.
the first round procurement has also establish path that will help to complete the second round easily. Also, guidance from Government on minimum request-ed standards are already provided.

Please indicate any security and safety concerns for this operation

Promote gender disaggregated space in the evacuation centers to ensure Protection of Gender and Inclusion (PGI). □


□

The environment of informal settlements will have its own local security context that needs to be considered. These areas can become volatile – reference South Africa - Urban Violence (MDRZA010). Project-based risk assessments will be carried out and measures identities to mitigate risks. □

□

COVID-19 prevention messaging will also be conducted in areas where SARCS will be responding. PPE will be distributed to staff and volunteers involved in the response.

Planned Intervention

	Water, Sanitation And Hygiene	Budget		CHF 12,031
		Targeted Persons		12500
Indicators		Target	Actual	
Trained staff and volunteers deployed		150	80	
People reached through access to WASH activities		12500	6500	
Progress Towards Outcome				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A total of 60 volunteers have been trained so far in hygiene promotion. - Hygiene promotion activities have been occurring concurrently with health promotion. 				

	Protection, Gender And Inclusion	Budget		CHF 1,388
		Targeted Persons		12500
Indicators		Target	Actual	
Train staff and volunteers deployed		190	80	
Progress Towards Outcome				
60 Volunteers and 20 staff have been sensitized on SGBV, Child Protection, PSEA, and PGI. Through collaboration with the Department of Social Development, safe referral pathways for patients needing counseling were created and will be referred to should they require further assistance.				

	Community Engagement And Accountability	Budget		CHF 9,254
		Targeted Persons		12500
Indicators		Target	Actual	
Trained staff and volunteers deployed		150	60	
Percentage of community members who find that information shared is useful, clear and actionable.		85	35	
Number and type of methods established to share information with communities about what is happening in the operation,		3	2	

including selection criteria if these are being used

Progress Towards Outcome

60 volunteers have been oriented on CEA. The National Society is engaging community leaders during assessments and planned to target them.

	Secretariat Services	Budget	CHF 3,085
		Targeted Persons	3
Indicators	Target	Actual	
Monitoring missions	3	1	


Progress Towards Outcome

IFRC conducted 1 field monitoring so far with the donor ECHO and has been providing technical and communications support to the National Support.

	National Society Strengthening	Budget	CHF 70,085
		Targeted Persons	190
Indicators	Target	Actual	
Volunteers insured	150	60	
Lessons learnt workshop	6		
NHQ field missions	12	2	

Progress Towards Outcome


The National Society managed to conduct some of the field supervision and has been engaged in 2 Field missions providing technical support to the team who are actively involved in the operations.

	Shelter Housing And Settlements	Budget	CHF 63,238
		Targeted Persons	5000
Indicators	Target	Actual	
Households received blankets	1000		
Households received mattresses	1000		

Progress Towards Outcome


The National Society collaborated with the government and other stakeholders to conduct assessments in 2 provinces that were affected in December and are recently involved in the same collaboration for other 5 affected provinces.

As procurements are bulk, the National Society sought the technical support of the IFRC who are assisting in ensuring the alignment with IFRC procurement guidelines.

	Multi-purpose Cash	Budget	CHF 326,832
		Targeted Persons	12000
Indicators	Target	Actual	
Trained volunteers and staff deployed	150	60	
Detailed assessments reported	1	1	
Housholds recieved cash grangts	2000	0	

Progress Towards Outcome

- A detailed assessment was carried out to determine the exact needs as well as the damages caused by the floods. The findings from the assessment confirmed to support interventions listed in the operations strategy and also identify the most vulnerable populations.
- The National Society has managed to identify and register beneficiaries which have been shared with the FSP and awaiting the facilitation of payment once the amended agreement is finalized.
- Validation of financial service provider
- In preparation for the cash distributions, 60 volunteers were trained on basic CVA.
- Deployment of 60 volunteers to support and monitor the cash transfer process to the beneficiaries. An additional 90 will be deployed for the extension of areas.
- Cash distribution done to 1300 Families. Additional 700 to benefit from MPC.

	Health	Budget	CHF 14,067
		Targeted Persons	12500
Indicators	Target	Actual	
Trained volunteers and staff deployed	150	60	
People reached through access to PFA	12500	6500	

Progress Towards Outcome

A total of 60 volunteers have been trained so far and 6 sessions have been conducted on hygiene promotion. PFA and PSS services are provided in 12 shelters and sensitization of COVID-19, measles, and cholera is ongoing.

About Support Services

How many staff and volunteers will be involved in this operation. Briefly describe their role.

SARCS activated 150 volunteers and 40 staff members for flood response. The staff involved in this operation includes a technical team from Head Quarters which includes Disaster Management, Branch Development, Health, Training, Restoring Family Links, PMER, Finance, Communications, 2 provincial managers, 4 branch managers, and field staff. The 150 volunteers are evenly distributed in affected areas. □

The branch staff and provincial managers are responsible for regional coordination, guiding the proceedings at the community level, and implementation of the operation. Volunteers are key in assessment, data collection, and the feedbacking office on ground operations.

Will surge personnel be deployed? Please provide the role profile needed.

If there is procurement, will it be done by National Society or IFRC?

The procurements continue to remain the National Societies' responsibility. The National Society has an FSP agreement with Nedbank and is in the final stages of finalizing another agreement with Standard Bank. Unfortunately, there have been some delays in having the current agreement with Nebbank extended to include the target population for the cash distributions under this operation. □

□
There have been delays in the procurement of relief items by the National Society following the intended bulk purchase which exceeds IFRC cluster approval and requires regional review. With the National Society experiencing this for the first time, this has caused delays to have all expected requirements.

How will this operation be monitored?

The Provincial Managers and their teams are responsible to monitor the project continuously and to report weekly to the Programmes Managers at the National office. At the same time, financial reports are prepared by the Provincial Finance Administrators. The Provincial Managers have weekly meetings with the project team to discuss the challenges and achievements of the project. The Provincial Managers then have biweekly meetings with the Programmes Manager and National Finance Administrator to review budget implementation. The Provincial Managers consolidate monthly and final reports on the activities and submit to the National office. The national office staff provides oversight, technical support, and monitoring project implementation. □

□
IFRC delegates or representatives will also provide technical support to the National Office team and Provincial Managers. IFRC representatives will conduct field monitoring to see the project implementation and provide feedback on submitted reports (both narrative and financial)

Please briefly explain the National Societies communication strategy for this operation.

SARCS has a communications unit, which works closely with different media houses to ensure that SARCS interventions are well published, and communities and stakeholders will be aware of SARCS readiness and early action interventions. Updates on the operation will be shared on the National Society's social media networks (websites, Facebook, Twitter). The National Society will also collaborate closely with the IFRC communication focal person for technical support to ensure sufficient media coverage of the response. Operations teams will utilize visibility clothing and equipment during the operations to ensure easy identification and avoid harm. Both the SARCS and IFRC communications officers will be actively engaged to ensure proximity support to the operation. □

□
Since the South African Weather Services has warned that the rains will continue to pour SARCS Provincial and Branch Managers will convey early warning messages in the communities through loudhailers, group WhatsApp messages, and local Radio interviews.

Contact Information

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

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[Click here for the reference](#)