




Figure 1 illustrate Farmers observing crops in the Ohangwena Region

Appeal №: MDRNA014	To be assisted: 140,000 people (34,146 HHs)	Appeal launched: 06/09/2024
Glide №: DR-2024-000094-NAM	DREF allocated: 750,000 CHF	Disaster categorization: Orange
Operation start date: 30/08/2024	Operation end date: Date: 31/08/2025	

IFRC Secretariat funding requirement: 5 million CHF
Federation-wide funding requirement: 7 million CHF

TIMELINE

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- April 2024:** Government of Namibia releases Livelihood Vulnerability Assessment and Analysis Report for drought.
 - May 2024:** Government develops nationwide drought relief programme.
 - May 2024:** Government declares drought emergency.
 - September 2024:** IFRC launches Emergency Appeal for CHF 7 million to support Namibia Red Cross Society (NRCS) to cover 34,000 families; CHF 750.000 DREF allocated.
 - October 2024:** IFRC Pretoria cluster team deployed to support and strengthen NRCS to implement activities under the Appeal.

DESCRIPTION OF THE EVENT



Figure1: Projected situation October 24 to March 25, IPC Country Analysis.

For the past decade, Namibia has faced a prolonged drought, which has been exacerbated by the *el Niño* effect. This ongoing drought significantly impacts productivity, availability and access to food, leading to an increase in food insecurity and deterioration of livelihoods for vulnerable populations. Over the past 18 months, rainfall across Namibia has been minimal, with most of the country experiencing below-normal rains. This impacts crop and livestock production, causing price shocks, economic decline and unemployment.

On 22 May 2024, the President declared a state of emergency, and although food distribution is ongoing in all regions, additional resources are needed to reach all affected, as number of food-insecure households continues to increase. Furthermore, estimates indicate that the lack of adequate pasture, and water shortage, have adversely affected livestock production, and animals in the western and eastern parts of the country are in only fair to poor condition.

Severity of humanitarian conditions

According to the latest Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) report, published on 6 September, approximately 1.15 million people in Namibia - nearly

40 per cent of the population - faced severe food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or higher) between July and September 2024. This was in all 14 regions and represents an increase of approximately 800,000 people in food crisis since December 2022. The situation is expected to deteriorate from October 2024 to March 2025 as well, with the onset of the lean season and rising seasonal prices. Projections indicate that 1.26 million people (41 per cent of the population) will be in IPC Phase 3 or higher, with at least 100,000 in IPC Phase 4 ("emergency"). The hardest-hit regions include Khomas, Otjozondjupa, Omusati, Ohangwena, Kunene, Kavango West and Kavango East.

Namibia's deteriorating food security is mainly driven by dry spells and erratic rainfall. Water availability for crop production, livestock and domestic use is at the lowest level due to these climate shocks. Many households depend on crop and livestock farming, which relies heavily on seasonal rains. Consecutive years of low productivity are leading to a high market price for food commodities too. Moreover, unemployment is persistently high, at about 34 per cent, with many households left without a stable source of income. All of this is resulting in a deterioration of the food security situation for impoverished households, which in some cases can also lead to malnutrition.

Many households, especially those in communal farming areas, have reported depleting their food stocks from the previous season and are now largely reliant on market supplies and drought relief aid. Additionally, livestock production has suffered due to poor pasture conditions and water shortages, leading to fair to poor livestock body conditions, especially in the southern, western and eastern parts of the country.

Malnutrition is a growing concern, with **24 per cent** of children under 5 stunted (reduced growth relative to age), **6 per cent** experiencing wasting (weighing too little for their height) and **13 per cent** underweight. Within the period under review, there have been 1,101 deaths due to malnutrition in all 14 regions.¹

According to the Crop Prospects, Food Security and Drought Situation Assessment Report, released by the Ministry of Water and Land Resources (MAWLR) in March 2024, crop production was expected to decline

¹ [More than 1 100 die of malnutrition - News - The Namibian](#)

by 53 per cent. Many communal crop-producing regions also had below-average harvests due to erratic rainfall and extended severe dry spells that occurred in early January and throughout much of February and March 2024. **Approximately 54 per cent of smallholder farmers affected by the prolonged drought are women** who live in communal areas, where access to land and water is already challenging. And early 2025 will see the possible onset of *La Niña*, coinciding with the preparation of the fields. *La Niña* is projected to bring above-average rainfall, which could boost crop yields, and start reversing the food insecurity situation. To realize that potential, it's important to get seeds and farming inputs to farmers as early as possible.

On the other hand, *La Niña* could also bring floods in some flood-prone areas, and proliferation of pests is likely. Working with communities ahead of time and taking early action could help mitigate the negative impact of these events.

On livestock pasture availability, most regions of the country are experiencing poor grazing conditions due to insufficient rainfall and prolonged dry spells. This strains fodder supply, driving up demand for pastures and increasing fodder and hay prices. As a result, livestock body conditions are deteriorating, with many animals facing starvation, potentially leading to more deaths. Wildfires could further reduce pasture availability if the dry conditions persist. In a context where the livestock sector contributes to 10 per cent of GDP and income for 70 per cent of the rural population, this situation has had a major impact on household income. However, projections for an improved, above-average rainfall season in early 2025 could start reversing the situation. In the meantime, assistance to livestock herders is necessary in the form of fodder and water provision, and other livestock marketing incentives could make a difference.

On water access, water availability has significantly declined, with dam levels dropping by 14.7 per cent compared to the previous year. Water quality is also deteriorating due to drying catchments. In communal areas, damaged boreholes and theft of pumps are worsening the situation, especially in the northern regions. This is likely to increase water prices in urban and peri-urban areas. Additionally, potential conflicts over water usage for livestock in communal regions may arise due to mismanagement of funds from pump usage.

On markets, prices for staple crops like maize and millet are expected to continue to rise, further aggravated by weak purchasing power. This will only be reversed in the second half of 2025, if positive production resumes. Until then, continued support through the provision of humanitarian assistance and social safety nets will be lifesaving/life-sustaining for many households.

On inflation, due to ongoing shortages in the region, supply scarcities are anticipated from South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Additionally, rising fuel costs are expected to drive up transportation expenses, which will in turn increase the cost of food and services.

For health and nutrition, the reported crop failure, which has impacted food security, has also reduced food diversification both in markets and at the household level. As a result, micronutrient deficiencies are expected to emerge, particularly affecting children.

Socio-economic factors, such as poverty, inequality, urbanization (informal housing and settlements) and limited access to markets, will continue to grow. Approximately 43 per cent of Namibians live below the national poverty line, with the incidence of poverty being higher in rural areas (58 per cent) compared to urban areas (25 per cent). This could hinder people's ability to cope with and recover from shocks like floods or livestock loss.

Social tension is growing too, and drought significantly impacts household dynamics, particularly in households, as reduced food availability can lead to stress and tension. There may be conflict over resource allocation and financial strains due to rising food prices and reliance on aid. Overall, the effects of drought on food availability can strain families, emphasizing the importance of effective communication and support during challenging times.


1st PROJECTION: OCTOBER 2024 - MARCH 2025		
 <p>1.26M</p> <p>41% of the population analysed</p> <p>People facing high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above)</p> <p>IN NEED OF URGENT ACTION</p>	Phase 5	0 People in Catastrophe
	Phase 4	100,000 People in Emergency
	Phase 3	1,156,000 People in Crisis
	Phase 2	790,000 People in Stressed
	Phase 1	977,000 People in food security

Table I. Overview of food insecurity population: April through September 2024.

CAPACITIES AND RESPONSE

1. National Society response capacity

1.1 National Society capacity and ongoing response

The Namibia Red Cross Society (NRCS) is a national humanitarian organization established by an Act of Parliament in 1991 following Namibia's independence and it serves as an auxiliary to the public authorities. Following recognition by ICRC in 1993, NRCS was admitted as a member of the IFRC the same year. It is recognized by the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) as an auxiliary partner in disaster risk reduction and management (DDRM) and serves on the National Disaster Risk Management Committee (NDRMC), chaired by the Secretary to the Cabinet, and on other committees at the regional level.

As part of its internal support framework, NRCS employs 19 staff across multiple departments, such as Finance, Procurement, Food Security and Livelihoods, Disaster Management, Communications and Senior Management. These individuals contribute to the overall implementation of NRCS projects and offer technical assistance as needed. Additionally, NRCS has 11 branches and over 1,000 volunteers, who possess significant experience in managing both rapid and slow-onset crises through in-kind aid and Cash & Voucher Assistance (CVA). During the COVID-19 pandemic, NRCS demonstrated national reach as the main actor in preventing the spread of the disease via Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE), Health Promotion and Livelihood support, alongside the Government of Namibia.

1.2 Capacity and response at national level

The Government of the Republic of Namibia has approved and implemented a national drought relief programme per the country's National Drought Policy and Strategy, and this was extended for the 2024/2025 fiscal year to cover all 14 regions of the country with food assistance for 362,663 households. This programme (2024/2025) is comprised of (1) food assistance per household per month, (2) seed and horticulture provision at agricultural development centres, (3) livestock support programme with livestock marketing incentives, subsidies for transport to and from grazing areas, subsidies for lease of grazing, subsidies for purchase of animal feed, sale of subsidized animal feed to farmers, (4) provision of water including rehabilitation and installation of boreholes, extension of water pipelines and excavation of canals/earth dams for water harvesting and water tanker services. In collaboration with the Office of the Prime Minister, NRCS has also created terms of reference addressing gaps in needs, funding, coordination and implementation identified in the national drought relief programme. The emergency appeal's outputs and activities are guided by the priority needs of the affected populations and per the agreed support parameters with the Directorate of Disaster Management.

2. International capacity and response

2.1 Red Cross Red Crescent Movement capacity and response

2.1.1 IFRC membership

Currently there are no Participating National Societies present in Namibia, however British Red Cross, Spanish Red Cross, Netherlands Red Cross, German Red Cross and Japanese Red Cross have been collaborating in recent years and NRCS has implemented several programmes in partnership with them. NRCS continues to engage with PNSs as they support the response remotely too. Qatari Red Crescent Society has offered support by providing therapeutic feeding kits and assisting with food provision activities. NRCS is also looking to strengthen cross-border collaboration with neighbouring National Societies in countries also affected by the drought.

IFRC and NRCS will collaborate closely to re-establish coordination mechanisms with the membership, ensuring efficient implementation and preventing duplication of efforts. By encouraging coordination, NRCS and IFRC will seek to revitalize the support of PNSs and optimize their respective strengths and capabilities, thereby promoting a unified approach toward achieving the goals of the Emergency Appeal. This collaborative effort underscores IFRC's and NRCS's commitment to effective humanitarian action and sustainable development in the country. IFRC is actively providing technical support and regularly monitoring the situation.

Red Cross Red Crescent Movement coordination

ICRC is not present in the country, however NRCS is in close contact with and coordinating with the ICRC subregional office in Pretoria.

2.2 International Humanitarian Stakeholder capacity and response

International organizations significantly bolster Namibia's drought response through financial aid, technical expertise, innovative financing mechanisms and coordinated efforts with local authorities. Their contributions are vital for addressing immediate needs while also building long-term resilience against future droughts. Currently, the World Food Programme (WFP) is supporting drought response efforts in Kunene and Ohangwena and has been instrumental in addressing food insecurity. The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) has been involved in developing frameworks for Conservation Agriculture (CA) in Namibia, aiming to improve food security and resilience among farmers. Their initiatives focus on transitioning farmers to climate-smart practices that can better withstand drought conditions. FAO also supports vulnerability assessments and agricultural practices that mitigate the effects of climate change. Other United Nations agencies coordinate with the Namibian government to implement comprehensive drought response strategies as well. This includes assessing food security needs and facilitating humanitarian aid distribution across affected regions. The UN's involvement ensures that responses are aligned with national priorities and that resources are effectively mobilized. Additionally, organizations like the University of Namibia collaborate with international partners to assess historical drought impacts and develop effective monitoring systems. This research informs policy decisions and enhances the overall capacity for drought management in the country.

NRCS and IFRC will strengthen coordination with these agencies through government-led coordination forums and beyond, harnessing the experience and value that these agencies could add to NRCS's response.

3. Gaps in the response

Namibia faces significant challenges in its drought response, particularly as the country grapples with prolonged drought conditions exacerbated by climate phenomena like *el Niño*. There are approximately 1.2 million people in need of humanitarian assistance, representing about 40 per cent of the population. The government has launched its drought response plan, targeting 362,633 households, and humanitarian actors come in support of that target. However, needs remain largely unmet for a significant portion of the households.

Rising food insecurity: Recent reports indicate that nearly 1.2 million people face food shortages due to ongoing drought conditions, highlighting the urgent need for effective food assistance and other relief services, alongside drought incentives, such as cash, seeds and tools.

Impact of drought on vulnerable groups including marginalized populations: Drought has an impact for these groups. Livelihoods have been affected as many of these groups depend on crop production, livestock and collecting wild fruits, as well as fishing. As a result of persistent drought many are barely able to produce enough to feed their households. Many have lost livestock - a source of income - due to poor grazing and limited water.

Many families have developed negative coping strategies as they continue to suffer from the cycle of poverty. As household income levels continue to decrease and demands increase, families are forced to cut down on necessities, including meals. Additionally, families have resorted to selling off their livestock and agricultural tools to enable them to purchase maize.

Health implications brought on by the drought are primarily a result of below-average rainfall, poor crop production and the reduction of meals consumed in a day. Some communities reported cases of malnutrition coupled with reports of infant deaths due to lack of food.

Household income levels have decreased as a result of agricultural failures due to drought, which subsequently brings financial hardship on vulnerable communities. **Female-headed households** are in a particularly difficult situation, as men have migrated for income opportunities or to find grazing land, with some not returning, leaving the burden to fall on women. This creates additional responsibilities for women and coupled with a lack of knowledge and skills, leaving many women more vulnerable

Inadequate nutritional support: The drought has significantly increased malnutrition, leading to higher rates of acute and chronic malnutrition among vulnerable populations, particularly children and pregnant women. Reports indicate that many households are experiencing moderate to severe hunger, with a substantial number of children expected to fall into severe wasting if immediate action is not taken.

Insufficient access to safe water: Drought-affected areas have limited access to safe drinking water, which is crucial for maintaining crops and livestock, as well as for domestic consumption, hygiene and preventing waterborne diseases. The scarcity of water, or presence of unsafe water, increases the risk of gastrointestinal illnesses, further complicating health outcomes during the drought.

Health risks from contaminated water: As water sources dry up, communities may resort to using untreated water, leading to potential outbreaks of disease such as cholera or dysentery. This situation poses a significant threat to public health, especially among vulnerable groups.

Depleted resources: Herders are particularly affected due to inadequate grazing land and water resources, which have led to increased livestock deaths and further economic strain on farming communities.

OPERATIONAL CONSTRAINTS

Inflation and price shocks: The continuous decrease in productivity is resulting in inflation on food commodities and agricultural inputs. This is likely to persist until mid-2025, when positive yields are expected. Therefore, CVA programming and procurement will have to consider these increased costs, and find ways of not distressing the market further.

Additional climate shocks: While it is projected that 2025 could see an alleviation of the drought with positive impact brought by above-average rains, the operation will have to consider additional risks such as flash floods, pests or animal disease that could happen simultaneously. This will require a major effort to work with communities in readiness and early actions against these risks.

Access: Some drought-affected areas are extremely remote and require significant investment in supply chain, which could increase the cost of operations. These remote areas require significant investment to ensure sustainability, including rain harvesting and storage systems.

Social tensions: The drought has devastated both crop and livestock farming, particularly in northern regions, where rainfall has been inadequate, resulting in wilting crops and livestock deaths. With the population's dependence on rain-fed agriculture, the lack of natural resources is leading to social tensions within communities. Social cohesion therefore needs to be integrated in the response.

Transitioning to resilience building and recovery: Immediate action is necessary to bolster resilience among affected populations and ensure equitable food access. The situation underscores the need for comprehensive solutions that address both immediate needs and long-term agricultural sustainability to mitigate future risks and improve food security.

FEDERATION-WIDE APPROACH

The Emergency Appeal is part of a **Federation-wide approach**, based on the response priorities of the Operating National Society and in consultation with all Federation members contributing to the response. The approach, reflected in this Operational Strategy, will ensure linkages between all response activities (including bilateral activities and activities funded domestically), and will assist in leveraging the capacities of all members of the IFRC network in the country, to maximize the collective humanitarian impact.

The Federation-wide funding requirement for this Emergency Appeal comprises all support and funding to be channelled to the Operating National Society in the response to the emergency event. This includes the Operating National Society's domestic fundraising ask, the fundraising ask of supporting Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies and the funding ask of the IFRC secretariat. The operational strategy is crafted to align closely with the long-term objectives and priorities of the National Strategy (NS) while supporting the roll-out of drought-related activities that are complimenting the national government response plans to respond to drought in the country. These plans thoroughly outline the humanitarian needs identified by government.

To effectively address both immediate and long-term needs, NRCS will engage and work closely with the IFRC cluster delegation, various partner national societies and other humanitarian organizations. The objective is to reinforce technical capacities of NRCS to deliver key components of this strategy.

OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

Vision

Through this Emergency Appeal, NRCS aims to support 140,000 people (34,146 households) by providing direct humanitarian and recovery assistance to support the most vulnerable people affected by food insecurity, shortage of water and disrupted livelihoods. They will provide unconditional cash transfers aimed at meeting essential food and other basic requirements, including Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) needs; agricultural inputs; training programmes focused on climate-smart agriculture; Income Generating Activities (IGA); food conservation; and therapeutic feeding for severely malnourished children. All of these activities are designed to enhance household food security and diversify income and diets. This multifaceted approach not only addresses urgent food needs but also fosters sustainable agricultural practices, thereby contributing to long-term resilience against future food insecurity challenges. By integrating these efforts, the strategy aims to create a more robust framework for achieving comprehensive food security across affected communities.

The support provided will encompass a range of assistance measures, including the distribution of food aid, water supply interventions and livelihood protection activities. By addressing both the urgent needs and longer-term resilience, NRCS aims to not only alleviate current suffering but also to help build the capacity of these communities to withstand future shocks. In addition to immediate relief efforts, NRCS will work with local authorities and other humanitarian organizations to ensure a coordinated response, leveraging resources and expertise to maximize the impact of their interventions.

The strategy will prioritize the regions of Kavango East, Zambezi, Omusati, Ohangwena and Kunene over 12 months beginning September 2024 and running to August 2025. This appeal intends to address the most vulnerable individuals, facing acute food insecurity and requiring urgent intervention to mitigate the severe impact of prolonged drought, and priority will be given to individuals classified under IPC Phase 4 – “Emergency” for the next 12 months. The selected districts have been identified as some of the hardest hit by the ongoing drought

The response has been designed to extend beyond immediate crisis response too, offering continuous assistance as communities move into the winter and subsequent planting seasons. This approach seeks to bolster resilience against adverse climatic conditions and ensure ongoing support during critical periods for effective recovery and adaptation.

Anticipated climate-related risks and adjustments in operations

According to the seasonal forecast produced by the Namibia Meteorological Service, northern parts of the country will receive normal to above-normal rainfall from October to December ,2024, and from January to March 2025. This will result in the following key hazards:

Flooding: This will occur in low lying areas, making it difficult to access these areas during operations. Potential regions to be affected are Zambezi, Ohangwena, Kavango West and Omusati.

Public health risks: Northern regions, including Ohagwena, Omusati, Kavango West and Zambezi, are prone to waterborne diseases and malaria due to standing water, which will need intervention.

Agricultural disruption: Excessive rainfall could cause waterlogging in fields, resulting in crop damage and impacting food security. Potential regions to be affected are Zambezi, Ohangwena, Kavango West and Omusati.

Infrastructure and transportation disruption: Heavy rainfall may damage roads and bridges, making it difficult to reach some regions during operations, likely in Zambezi, Ohangwena, Kavango West and Omusati.

Targeting

People to be assisted

Through this Emergency Appeal, NRCS aims to support 140,000 people (34,146 households) by providing direct assistance across Kavango East, Zambezi, Omusati, Ohangwena and Kunene. NRCS is focusing on the population currently experiencing the most critical levels of food insecurity. The selected districts have been identified as some of the hardest hit by the ongoing drought, which has exacerbated food shortages and threatened the livelihoods of many residents. Eighty-five thousand individuals (17,000 households) classified as IPC “Emergency” phase will be prioritised through this intervention, and out of the total 140,0000 targeted by this Emergency Appeal, these are among the most vulnerable, facing acute food insecurity and requiring urgent intervention.

Based on consultations with the Office of the Prime Minister and other key players, NRCS will commence with community meetings within the targeted regions to sensitize them about the intervention. During this process the following will be discussed:

- Activities of the operation
- Type of assistance
- Number of target beneficiaries
- A detailed process of selecting beneficiaries
- Explain the beneficiary selection criteria, clarify the roles and responsibilities of NRCS and the local authorities in the selection/verification process

(The final beneficiary list will be shared with communities for verification.)

The support provided will encompass a range of assistance measures, including the distribution of food aid, water supply interventions and livelihood protection activities. By addressing both the urgent needs and longer-term resilience, NRCS aims to not only alleviate current suffering but also to help build the capacity of these communities to withstand future shocks. In addition to immediate relief efforts, NRCS will work with local authorities and other humanitarian organizations to ensure a coordinated response, leveraging resources and expertise to maximize the impact of their interventions.

Area	Multi-purpose cash transfers (HHs)	Food Security & Livelihoods (HHs)	WASH education, rehabilitation & construction of water sources (HHs)	Distribution of dignity kits targeting school children (HHs)	Health & Nutrition (HHs)	DRR: Early warning messages (HHs)	CEA and Protection education /campaigns (HHs)
Zambezi	1,000	1,000	6,800	2,000	6,800	6,800	6,800
Omusati	1,000	1,000	6,800	2,000	6,800	6,800	6,800
Ohangwena	1,000	1,000	6,800	2,000	6,800	6,800	6,800
Kunene	1,000	1,000	6,800	2,000	6,800	6,800	6,800
Kavango East	1,000	1,000	6,946	2,000	6,946	6,946	6,946
Total HHs	5,000	5,000	34,146	10,000	34,146	34,146	34,146

Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI) and Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA)

NRCS will embrace IFRC minimum standards for PGI in emergencies, which relate to the four Dignity-Access-Participation-Safety (DAPS) focus areas:

- Dignity: Recognizing that all people affected by drought have the right to life with dignity is embedded firmly in the fundamental principle of humanity and the humanitarian imperative.
- Access: Access to basic and life-saving services is grounded in humanitarian and human rights law. The programme will provide access for all individuals and groups within the affected population.
- Participation: The affected communities will have full, equal and meaningful involvement in decision-making processes and activities that affect their lives.
- Safety: Persons of all gender identities, ages, disabilities and backgrounds within affected communities have different needs in relation to their physical and psychological safety, NRCS will ensure that the assistance provided meets everyone's needs and concerns in an equitable manner.



NRCS has integrated CEA across all interventions and projects as well, including emergency appeals focusing mainly on the minimum key activities:

- Understand community needs, capacities and context.
- Carry out the assessment with transparency and respect for the community.
- Discuss response plans with communities and key stakeholders.
- Discuss and agree selection criteria and distribution processes with communities.
- Include community engagement and accountability activities and indicators in response plans and budgets.
- Regularly share information about the response with the community.
- Support community participation in making decisions about the response.
- Listen to the community.

PLANNED OPERATIONS


Through this Emergency Appeal, IFRC aims to support NRCS in the response to the drought and food security crisis affecting Namibia. The intervention is also part of a broader sub-regional scale-up planned by IFRC to address the worsening humanitarian and environmental conditions in southern Africa. This comprehensive effort intends to address the escalating challenges by integrating sustainable practices and improving community resilience. By doing so, it will significantly contribute to IFRC's pan-African Zero Hunger Initiative, which seeks to eradicate hunger and ensure food security across the continent through innovative and sustainable solutions. The "Response Pillars" described below are harmonized across the various countries with the support of technical experts. Activities implemented through this Emergency Appeal will evolve into multi-year food security and resilience programming, under the National Society Country Plan.

RESPONSE PILLAR 1: FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS


 Food Security and Livelihoods	Female > 18: 5,000	Female < 18: 4,855	705,000 CHF
	Male > 18: 4,800	Male < 18: 5,845	Total target: 20,500 people
Objective:	<i>To restore and improve the productivity, livelihoods and food security of drought-stricken communities.</i>		
Priority actions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training of farmers in climate-smart agriculture, including water harvesting and soil moisture retention techniques to improve productivity. - Distribution of agricultural inputs (drought-resistant crops, fruit trees). - Training of communities on home gardens, food preservation and handling - Distribution of vegetable seeds for nutritious home gardens. - Training in water harvesting and soil moisture retention techniques. - Vocational training in various trades to enhance income-generating opportunities for affected communities, including poultry farming, beekeeping and other small-scale businesses to reduce dependency on rain-fed agriculture. - Formulate readiness plans for floods and early action plans with communities. - Preparation and dissemination of weather-related early warning messages prior to planting season using public gatherings, radio programmes, social media and other media. 		
 Multi-purpose Cash	Female > 18: 5,000	Female < 18: 4,855	1,354,000 CHF
	Male > 18: 4,800	Male < 18: 5,845	Total target: 20,500 people
Objective:	<i>Enhance access to vital food, non-food items and essential services.</i>		
Priority actions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Distribute multi-purpose cash assistance to the most vulnerable households, ensuring that food needs and other basic needs are met, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Tendering process for CVA. o Registration and verification of selected households. o Conduct market assessments and continue monitoring for the targeted areas. o Establishment of Financial Service Provider FSP baseline for CVA; and 		

- Notification of FSPs to the operational areas and design of the intervention with selection of delivery mechanism.
- Develop community engagement materials and establish community feedback mechanisms.
- Conduct post-distribution monitoring on prices and markets.
- Capacity building on CVA for volunteers and staff.

RESPONSE PILLAR 2: HEALTH AND NUTRITION

	Health & Nutrition	Female > 18: 39,270	Female < 18: 32,130	287,000 CHF
		Male > 18: 30,870	Male < 18: 37,730	Total target: 140,000 people
Objective:	<i>To improve household nutrition and dietary diversity for families affected by drought.</i>			
Priority actions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct training for staff and volunteers on Measurement of Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC), training on Infant and Young Child Feeding Practices (IYCF), as well as on disease prevention. - Identification of malnourished children and Pregnant and Lactating Women (PLW), and referral for treatment at health centres. - Provision of therapeutic feeding to cover the gap between identification and treatment in health facilities. - IYCF awareness raising with communities, with the support of leaders and other stakeholders (CHWs, volunteers, etc). - Provide psychosocial support to families with cases of malnutrition. - Conduct educational campaigns focused on food preservation, handling and nutrition. 			



RESPONSE PILLAR 3: WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)	Female > 18: 39,270	Female < 18: 32,130	676,000 CHF
		Male > 18: 30,870	Male < 18: 37,730	Total target: 140,000
Objective:	<i>To enhance access to clean water for both domestic and agricultural purposes, as well as to promote behaviour change on hygiene practices.</i>			
Priority actions:	Mapping and identifying functionality of water sources, with:			


- Rehabilitation and maintenance of 15 water sources across the five regions (three per region);
- Training on and provision of low-cost, household water treatment units.
- Procurement and distribution of 10,000 hygiene or dignity packages across the five regions.
- Training on community-led total sanitation and support in developing community sanitation plans.
- WASH campaigns in communities and schools.
- Monitoring of constructed water sources; and
- Training of volunteers on WASH.

CROSS-CUTTING SECTORS


(PROTECTION, GENDER, AND INCLUSION [PGI], COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY [CEA], RISK REDUCTION, CLIMATE ADAPTATION, RESILIENCE AND RECOVERY)

 Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI)	Female > 18: 39,270	Female < 18: 32,130	243,000 CHF
	Male > 18: 30,870	Male < 18: 37,730	Total target: 140,000 people
Objective:	<i>To contribute to the protection and safety of the most exposed population cohorts and their access to humanitarian services.</i>		
Priority Actions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct PGI training for volunteers and staff. - Conduct campaigns on prevention of and response to sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and child safeguarding at the community level. - Set-up a referral mechanism for SGBV cases. - Provide school kits for girls as an incentive to reduce school dropout. - Raise awareness of PGI issues with community leaders and engage them in awareness raising activities. - Identify venues for meetings and trainings based on accessibility, ensuring that all people can access the sites. 		
 Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA)	Female > 18: 39,270	Female < 18: 32,130	12,000 CHF
	Male > 18: 30,870	Male < 18: 37,730	Total target: 140,000 people
Objective:	<i>To enhance community involvement throughout all phases of the response.</i>		
Priority actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Understand community needs, capacities and context through focus group discussions. 		


	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Carry out the assessment with transparency and respect for the community and discuss response plans with communities and key stakeholders. - Discuss and agree selection criteria and distribution processes with communities. - Regularly share information about the response with the community. - Support community participation in making decisions about the response. - Establish community feedback mechanisms such as help desk, toll free number. - Help desk will include representatives of beneficiaries, local leaders and people living with disability to ensure that PGI is mainstreamed. - Monitoring and reporting on feedback using public gatherings and other engagement sessions. - Training of staff and volunteers on CEA.
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 Risk reduction, climate adaptation and recovery	Female > 18: 39,270	Female < 18: 32,130	152,000 CHF
	Male > 18: 30,870	Male < 18: 37,730	Total target: 140,000 people
Objective:	<i>Building capacity for communities to prepare for future shocks.</i>		
Priority actions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training sessions on sustainable land management practices to prevent land degradation and improve resilience against drought. - Reforestation/afforestation - identify suitable locations for tree planting initiatives to restore degraded lands and improve water retention. - Dissemination of early warning messages guided by the upcoming seasonal outlook. - Revival and trainings of branch- and community-based disaster management teams. 		

Enabling approaches

 National Society Strengthening	Female > 18: NA	Female < 18: NA	1,346,000 CHF
	Male > 18: NA	Male < 18: NA	Total target: 19 staff and 1,000 volunteers
Objective:	<i>Strengthen and facilitate the capacity of NRCS to respond to shocks.</i>		
Priority actions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure that volunteers have the adequate conditions to perform, including training, insurance, equipment and allowances. - Develop a digitized volunteer data bank and management system. 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implement a volunteer recruitment campaign. - Improve digitization of the National Society, including IT equipment, internet connection and digital literacy for staff procurement of office equipment. - Improvement of branch infrastructure and office equipment. - Support the human resource costs of the National Society. - Develop a sound monitoring and reporting system for NRCS including finance, logistics and project management. - Develop a resource mobilization and partnership strategy for NRCS. - Training on IFRC fundamental principles and code of conduct.
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 Coordination and Partnerships	Female > 18: NA	Female < 18: NA	41,000 CHF
	Male > 18: NA	Male < 18: NA	Total target: 19 staff and 1,000 volunteers
Objective:	To enhance coordination measures during the response.		
Priority actions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strengthen coordination with government, especially ensuring alignment with government drought response plan. - Strengthen coordination with other stakeholders participating in drought response, including UN agencies, diplomatic community and other local NGOs/CSOs. - Continue to advocate for support on the response, working closely with regional structures, including the Southern African Development Community (SADC). - Although there are no Participating National Societies (PNSs) present in the country, NRCS continues to engage them as they support the response remotely. - NRCS is also looking to strengthen cross-border collaboration with neighbouring National Societies in countries also affected by the drought. 		

 IFRC Secretariat Services	Female > 18: NA	Female < 18: NA	184,000 CHF
	Male > 18: NA	Male < 18: NA	Total target: 19 staff and 1,000 volunteers
Objective:	<i>To promote effective support from IFRC per the NRCS request of international assistance.</i>		
Priority actions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Deployment of two surge staff to support the operation (Operations and Support Services coordinators). - Recruitment of operations staff to accompany NRCS in the long-term. 		

- Update the Security Risk Assessment and Minimum-Security Requirements for Namibia, with specific focus in operational areas.
- Support development of NRCS as mentioned above, including volunteer management, digitization, PMER, resource mobilization and branch infrastructure.
- Support coordination with PNSs that are interested in engaging in the Emergency Appeal and long-term support to NRCS.
- Continue to support with humanitarian diplomacy, advocacy and communications activities to raise the profile of the crisis.
- All IFRC must, and NRCS staff and volunteers are encouraged to, complete the IFRC Stay Safe 2.0 e-learning courses.

Risk management

IFRC will support the Namibia Red Cross Society in establishing a risk management framework for the operation. This includes a set of mitigation measures and clear responsibilities for implementation. Given that NRCS is strengthening its capacity, IFRC will ensure support with adequate staffing and refreshers on systems and procedures that must be in place. Below are examples of some risks.

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating actions
Human resources gap	Medium	High	Recruitment of national staff to support the implementation of the appeal.
Duplication of effort among key players	Low	Medium	Coordination with other stakeholders, and NRCS will ensure that they are informed and involved in the operation.
Exclusion and inclusion errors during identification, registration and verification of beneficiaries	Low	Medium	To work and involve relevant government ministries, traditional authorities, village development committees and beneficiaries during registration and verification process.
Lack of reporting capacity at NRCS	Medium	High	Ensure that adequate PMER framework and trainings are provided, and close follow-up from IFRC Cluster Delegation with support from Regional Office.
Inflation and market	High	High	A thorough market assessment will be carried out in advance, analyzing market conditions and understanding pricing trends. This proactive approach will help identify any potential challenges or opportunities within, enabling NRCS to adapt strategy accordingly.
Fraud and corruption	Low	High	NRCS will ensure transparency in all procurement processes, continuously evaluating suppliers' register and performing background checks on suppliers and contractors. This aims to ensure that all partners meet standards, enhancing the

integrity and reliability of the procurement process. By regularly reviewing supplier information and assessing their backgrounds, NRCS can mitigate risks and foster a more transparent and accountable supply chain.

Quality and accountability

Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) will be an integral component of project management. Monitoring will be achieved through ongoing assessment of activities looking at efficiency, effectiveness, relevance, sustainability, impact and challenges, and through identifying areas for improvement. The monitoring team, led by the Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation, and Reporting (officer will ensure project objectives are achieved based on performance indicators. Key components of the M&E tools include inputs, activities, outputs and outcomes with a range of indicators. Baseline data will be used to establish pre-project conditions relative to the project objectives. Through this experience, the National Society will learn what works well and what can be improved.

Sector	Indicator (s)	Target
Food Security and Livelihoods	# of households reached with farm inputs	5,000
	# of farmers trained in smart agriculture technologies	5,000
	# of households reached with vegetable seeds for nutritious gardens	5,000
	# of farmers trained in water harvesting and soil moisture retention	5,000
	# of vocational trainings for income-generating activities	1,000 farmers
	# of communities with readiness and early action plans	50
CASH	% of households that report being able to meet their basic needs	90%
	# of households successfully received cash	5,000
	# of volunteers, partners and staff trained on CVA	219
	# of market assessments conducted	5
	# of new FSPs procured	1
	# of staff and volunteers PDM data collection tools	219
	# instances of post-distribution monitoring conducted during response	5
	# of PDM reports produced	5
WASH	# of water sources rehabilitated	15
	# of low-cost water treatment units distributed	5,000
	# of hygiene/dignity kits distributed	10,000
	# of communities supported to develop Community-led Total Sanitation (CLTS) plans	50
	# of WASH campaigns promoted in schools and communities	250
	# of volunteers trained in WASH	100
	# of PDM reports produced	3
Health	# of staff and volunteers trained on IYCF, MUAC and disease awareness	100
	% of malnourished children/PLW identified and referred for treatment	100%
	# of people reached with IYCF awareness raising	140,000
	% of families with malnourished members receiving psychosocial support services PSS	90%
	# of cooking demonstrations conducted (monthly basis)	10
PGI/CEA	# of community meetings to discuss issues related to PGI	50

	# of staff and volunteers trained on PGI and CEA	200
	# of school kits distributed to girls	5,000
	% of response activities integrating CEA approaches in their activities	100%
	% of people surveyed who feel their opinion is taken into account in decisions about services, programmes and operations.	80%
	% individuals who trust authorities and Red Cross Red Crescent leading the response.	100
Coordination & Partnerships	# of membership coordination meetings promoted	4
	# of events promoting the work of NRCS	3
	# of cross-border, peer to peer coordination meetings	3
	# of international fora and meetings participated	1
NSD	# of volunteers supported	300
	# of volunteers recruited	100
	# of volunteer data bank and management systems finalized	1
	# of staff trained in digitalization	19
	# of branches supported	4
	# of NRCS resource mobilization strategies	1
Secretariat Services	# of surge staff deployed	2
	# of staff in country	1
	Updated MSR (Y/N)	Y
	# of HD and Communication events	2

FUNDING REQUIREMENT

Federation-wide funding requirement*

Federation Wide Funding Requirement including the National Society domestic target, IFRC Secretariat and the Partner National Society funding requirement	IFRC Secretarian Funding Requirement in support of the Federation Wide funding ask
7 million CHF	5 million CHF

**For more information on Federation-wide funding requirement, refer to "Federation-wide Approach".*

Breakdown of the IFRC secretariat funding requirement



OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

MDRNA014
NRCS Drought Response

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

Planned Operations	3,429,000
Shelter and Basic Household Items	0
Livelihoods	705,000
Multi-purpose Cash (MPC)	1,354,000
Health	287,000
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH)	676,000
Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI)	243,000
Education	0
Migration	0

Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery	152,000
Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA)	12,000
Environmental Sustainability	0

Enabling Approaches	1,571,000
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Coordination and Partnerships	41,000
Secretariat Services	184,000
National Society Strengthening	1,346,000

TOTAL FUNDING REQUIREMENTS	5,000,000
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All amounts in Swiss francs (CHF).

Contact information

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

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At the IFRC:

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For In-Kind donations and Mobilisation table support:

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- **For Performance and Accountability support (planning, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting enquiries) Regional Head of PMER & QA** Beatrice Atieno OKEYO, beatrice.okeyo@ifrc.org, Phone: +254732 40402

Reference



Click here for:

- [Emergency Appeal](#)
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