

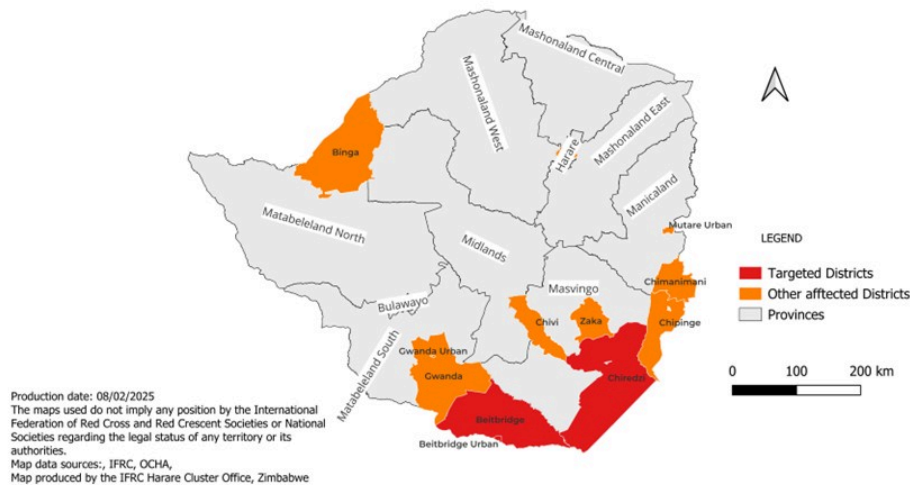


Picture showing some Non Food Items distributed in the two districts

Appeal: MDRZW027	Total DREF Allocation: CHF 374,996	Crisis Category: Yellow	Hazard: Flood
Glide Number: -	People Affected: 41,475 people	People Targeted: 10,000 people	
Event Onset: Sudden	Operation Start Date: 05-02-2026	New Operational End Date: 31-08-2026	Total Operating Timeframe: 6 months
Reporting Timeframe Start Date: 05-02-2026		Reporting Timeframe End Date: 24-07-2026	
Additional Allocation Requested: 0		Targeted Regions: Masvingo, Matabeleland South	

Description of the Event

Zimbabwe : Flood DREF Intervention Area Map



Internal

Map showing affected districts and targeted districts

Date of event

24-01-2026

What happened, where and when?

Zimbabwe faced a severe and evolving flood emergency during the 2025/26 rainfall season that lasted until March with persistent heavy rains and storm events across the country. Especially from January to February. Between 13 and 24 January 2026, intense rainfall caused dam spillages, riverine overflow, and flash flooding in multiple areas, and the situation, which began in early January, worsened further in late January. This escalation led the Department of Civil Protection to request support from the Zimbabwe Red Cross Society to deliver lifesaving assistance to affected families. For all February 2026, Hydrological conditions remained extremely concerning. According to the Zimbabwe National Water Authority (ZINWA), several major dams were full or over-spilling, including Tugwi Mukosi, Manjirenji, Manyuchi, and Bubi-Lupane dams, significantly increasing downstream flood risk. Controlled and uncontrolled spillages have already resulted in river flooding, marooning of communities, damage to agricultural land, and destruction of bridges and irrigation infrastructure.

At least 109 people were confirmed dead due to rainfall-related incidents, including drowning, people being swept away by floodwaters, and lightning strikes, while 61 people were injured. Nationwide, an estimated 8,295 households (41,475 people) were affected, with many families displaced and in urgent need of shelter and basic assistance. Several communities were cut off as damaged infrastructure led to marooning incidents where floodwaters severed access routes. (Data as of 25 Jan. 2026)

For weeks, the conditions isolated communities, restrict humanitarian access, and further disrupt access to social services, particularly for learners who cross rivers or travel long distances to reach schools. With that situation prolonged to march, the access and limited assistance available make the need for displaced communities still persistent. ZRCS DREF operation bridging that gap.





ZRCS volunteers conducting beneficiary validation before distribution



Affected beneficiary receiving her set of NFIs



ZRCS Project Coordinator engaging with community before distribution



Non Food Items ready for distribution

Scope and Scale

Flooding has severely affected several provinces in Zimbabwe after heavy rains were received from the 13th to the 24th of January, resulting in significant humanitarian impacts, infrastructure damage, and loss of life. Low-lying rural areas, informal settlements, and communities located near rivers have been disproportionately affected, with access challenges continuing to slow assessments and response efforts.

As of 25th January, Government data from the Department of Civil Protection (DCP) reported at least 109 deaths, 61 injuries, and 8295 households directly affected, representing an estimated 41,475 people impacted nationwide. Fatalities have resulted from drowning, lightning strikes, collapsing structures, and vehicles being swept away while attempting to cross flooded rivers. Flood and storm incidents have been recorded in Manicaland, Masvingo, Midlands, Mashonaland Central, Mashonaland East, Mashonaland West, Matabeleland South, Matabeleland North, Harare Metropolitan, and Bulawayo Metropolitan Provinces, affecting both rural and urban communities.

ZRCS assessment later confirmed the significant unmet needs with important vulnerabilities, especially in 2 provinces, Masvingo and Matabeleland South, that were most affected by the floods, with Beitbridge and Chiredzi receiving less assistance due to inaccessibility issues and resource constraints from the government, and these are areas where the NS has yet to render any assistance despite the need.

- At least 334 houses have been damaged, along with 236 schools and 15 health facilities. In addition, 21 bridges and numerous road networks have been washed away or rendered impassable, significantly constraining humanitarian access and disrupting the delivery of essential services. Damage to transport infrastructure has further limited mobility for affected populations and delayed emergency response operations. Multiple roads and bridges have been washed away or severely damaged, including community access bridges in Zaka, Buhera, Beitbridge, Gwanda, and Mashonaland Central, as well as major highways such as Chirundu Road, Nyamapanda Road, and Victoria Falls Road.
- In urban areas, prolonged rainfall and poor drainage have led to severe flooding and road degradation in Mbare, Chitungwiza, Kuwadzana, and Waterfalls, rendering sections impassable. These conditions have disrupted school attendance, delayed emergency response, and limited access to health facilities and essential services. The education sector has been particularly affected, with reported 236 schools damaged, including the destruction of classrooms and Blair toilets, forcing learners to share overcrowded facilities, use unsafe sanitation options, or suspend classes altogether.

Across the provinces, the floods have had a substantial impact on livelihoods, but particularly for rural households that rely on subsistence farming, livestock, and informal income sources. Floodwaters have destroyed crops, agricultural inputs, household assets, and small businesses, exacerbated food insecurity and reduced household coping capacity. Poor households, female-headed households,

and those dependent on seasonal agriculture are particularly vulnerable to prolonged economic stress as recovery options remain limited.

Public services have also been disrupted, with damage to schools leading to interruptions in education and damaged health facilities reducing access to essential healthcare. Flooding has compromised water and sanitation systems in several areas, increasing the risk of water-borne diseases such as cholera and acute watery diarrhoea. Children, older persons, people with disabilities, and individuals with chronic illnesses face heightened risks due to displacement, reduced mobility, dependency on caregivers, and challenges accessing health and protection services.

Source Information

Source Name	Source Link
1. Herald online	https://www.heraldonline.co.zw/govt-ready-for-rainy-season-disasters
2. The Southern Environment	https://thesouthernenvironment.org.zw/epworth-under-water-flash-floods-expose-illegal-settlements-crisis
3. Climate Brief	https://climatebrief.co.zw/2026/01/26/rains-claim-89-lives-in-zimbabwe
4. ReliefWeb	https://reliefweb.int/report/zimbabwe/zimbabwe-severe-weather-and-floods-media-noaa-cpc-echo-daily-flash-26-january-2026
5. Newsday	https://www.newsday.co.zw/local-news/article/200050706/zim-faces-heavy-rains-flash-floods
6. Newsday	https://www.newsday.co.zw/local-news/article/200050732/red-cross-on-high-alert-as-heavy-rains-trigger-flood-fears
7. Zimgazette	https://zimgazette.com/zimbabwe-intensifies-relief-operations-as-floods-kill-over-80-destroy-homes/

Summary of Changes

Are you changing the timeframe of the operation	Yes
Are you changing the operational strategy	Yes
Are you changing the target population of the operation	No
Are you changing the geographical location	No
Are you making changes to the budget	No
Are you requesting an additional allocation?	No



Please explain the summary of changes and justification:

This Operational update is issued to inform stakeholders and ZRCS and the IFRC-DREF on the revisions made to accommodate challenges faced on the CVA approach.

Changes consist of:

- A 1-month timeframe extension which will bring the DREF to a maximum of 6 months implementation timeframe eligible for yellow crisis. End date changing from 31.07.2026 to 31.08.2026.
- Operational changes requested: ZRCS is requesting a replacement of voucher assistance with in-kind food/basic needs assistance in rural areas. Associated budget reallocations from CVA to basic-needs distributions. Related Budget revisions are done to cover the in-kind distribution within the initially approved IFRC-DREF allocation of CHF 374,996.

Reason for the changes: While most relief activities have been completed, delays were encountered in implementing the CVA component due to successive modality changes—from cash to vouchers (March–June), and now from vouchers to in-kind assistance following an unsuccessful procurement process (June - July). Despite launching the tender twice, the NS received only two bids, with just one being viable; the selected supplier offered either direct commodity delivery or digital vouchers. The NS is choosing Commodities direct delivery (in-kind livelihood package) as the fastest and most feasible solution within the remaining implementation timeframe.

In light of these challenges, ZRCS has ensure adequate coordination with both communities and authorities. The National Society's Finance Commission has aligned their recommendation to replace voucher assistance with an in-kind distribution of basic household items. The value of the assistance will remain unchanged at the equivalent of USD 15 per person per month for three months, with all items distributed in a single distribution. Subsequently the NS would like to also change the multi-purpose cash transfer budget to also include these food and basic needs commodities.

Progress since last update: Other relief assistance and cash transfer in urban areas are completed. the cash transfer to the 137hh in rural districts was completed by week 24 JULY.

IFRC Network Actions Related To The Current Event

Secretariat	The IFRC secretariat provides technical and financial support to ZRCS through the Harare Country Cluster delegation. It plays an essential role in ensuring the effective coordination within and outside the movement. The technical support is also provided through the existing capacity at the delegation level, but also at the regional level. The IFRC Secretariat has been providing support for a range of health and WASH activities that have significantly contributed to the epidemic's response, such as cholera prevention efforts in Zimbabwe and strengthened ZRCS's capacity to fulfil its mandate in responding to public health emergencies. IFRC is equally supporting the NS access funds from the DREF anticipatory action pillar, and ZRCS currently has an active Cholera simplified EAP and is almost submitting a drought EAP.
Participating National Societies	The Netherlands Red Cross Society has been active in setting up an Emergency Operation Centre for the Zimbabwe Red Cross Society, and this has been provided remotely. The Finnish RC has been supporting the NS in various preparedness and response programs (including the currently pre-positioned and distributed material) and operations and will be integrated in this response. The British RC are equally playing a similar role and will be integrated.



ICRC Actions Related To The Current Event

ICRC is not in country and has not directly supported the response, but they have an RFL programming in Beitbridge which could assist should there be need for retracing initiatives.

Other Actors Actions Related To The Current Event

Government has requested international assistance	No
National authorities	Local authorities have actively coordinated response and Rapid Needs Assessment at community level to ensure that there is effective response to assist the affected communities. In addition, food items have been prepositioned at provincial level to allow rapid response and provision of food to the affected communities.
UN or other actors	UN and other actors have been active in hygiene promotion, for example Oxfam has provide soap to support hand washing for the flood affected households in Epworth in Harare.

Are there major coordination mechanism in place?

Since the launch of the DREF operation, robust and well-structured coordination mechanisms have been established and sustained at national, provincial, and district levels, enabling a coherent and adaptive flood response. Initial inception meetings organised by ZRCS with government authorities, civil protection structures, and partners set a shared operational framework, which has since been reinforced through regular coordination meetings. These platforms ensured continuous information sharing, harmonised interventions across sectors, and provided a forum to validate operational adjustments, including shifts in cash modalities and budget reallocations, based on evolving evidence.

At the national level, flood response coordination is led by the responsible disaster management authority through an inter-agency coordination platform that brings together government ministries, UN agencies, NGOs, and the Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement. Sectoral coordination is conducted through national clusters and working groups chaired by line ministries, where ZRCS actively participates, contributes to joint assessments and response planning, and shares operational data, ensuring alignment with national priorities. At the district and local levels, coordination is led by District Disaster Management Committees and local authorities, with ZRCS branches and volunteers playing a central role in assessments, early warning dissemination, beneficiary registration, and service delivery, and in some areas co-leading community-level response coordination.

This multi-level coordination structure has been critical to evidence-based decision-making, enabling joint rapid needs, market, feasibility, and gender assessments that confirmed priority needs and justified maintaining the overall response strategy while introducing targeted adjustments. While some coordination gaps were identified, including limited leadership presence in specific thematic areas and overlaps in reporting, these are being actively addressed through clearer role delineation and improved information sharing. Overall, coordination since the DREF launch has been effective, responsive, and instrumental in ensuring a flexible, accountable, and needs-driven response.



Needs (Gaps) Identified



Shelter Housing And Settlements

Flooding and strong winds have caused extensive damage to housing across informal settlements, semi-formal areas, and rural villages in multiple flood-prone districts, including Manicaland (Mutare, Chipinge, Chimanimani), Matabeleland South (Gwanda), and southern districts such as Beitbridge and Chiredzi. Over 500 households in areas including Binga, Mutare, Epworth, Gwanda, Beitbridge, and Chiredzi have reported partial or complete destruction of dwellings, with common impacts including roof loss, structural collapse, and severe cracking, forcing families to shelter with relatives or rely on makeshift arrangements. In rural areas, housing damage is compounded by the loss of essential household items such as blankets, clothing, cooking utensils, and sleeping materials, while in urban areas flooding inside dwellings has destroyed bedding and other basic items despite more limited structural damage. These conditions have left affected households exposed to harsh weather, overcrowding, and heightened protection and health risks, underscoring the urgent need for emergency shelter assistance, including tarpaulins, plastic sheeting, and complementary NFIs, with priority given to female-headed, elderly-headed, and disability-affected households with limited ability to self-recover.

ZRCS priority intervention targeted distribution of shelter NFIs over the next 3 months to Beitbridge and Chiredzi, targeting 334 households where gaps remained by the launch of this DREF. In initial response, ZRCS has distributed blankets, tarpaulins, soap, water buckets, and other non-food items (NFIs) to a number of households in affected areas. The communities are yet to get assistance on NFIs with government supporting with clothes and 2 bags of cement (for Beitbridge) which will be distributed concurrently with our NFIs. The tarpaulins are still needed for communities to build temporary and transitional shelter using the 2 bags of cement from government for foundation and a wall from tarpaulins which they will improvise once they are able to buy relevant construction materials. During the shelter training for volunteers done from the 15th and 16th in Chiredzi and 18th to the 19th for Beitbridge, the needs for NFIs remain high with some affected members still staying with relatives and in need of shelter, and other basic needs. All is now set for NFI distributions from the 8th to the 13th of June and beneficiary lists and distribution plan has been developed, shared and approved with stakeholders.

Recovery efforts will integrate Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), Build Back Safer/Better (BBSB), and Anticipatory Action (AA) through community awareness sessions, training on resilient construction (e.g., elevated foundations, flood-resistant materials) and early warning integration.



Livelihoods And Basic Needs

Affected households in Beitbridge and Chiredzi districts have lost household items, maize and small livestock stocks, and income sources from subsistence farming, gold panning, or informal vending due to heavy rains, river overflows, and displacement. The affected households are in need of food and other basic needs. Whilst they have received NFIs from ZRCS and stationery from other partners, there has not been any food assistance. With the voucher system having failed, ZRCS will do an in-kind basic needs distribution targeting the same affected rural households who received WASH and Shelter assistance. A total of 1455 people will be assisted each getting items valued at \$45 (\$15 per month by 3 months) which will be a once off distribution to cut on transportation costs. The items to be distributed will consist of mealie-meal, vegetable oil, sugar, salt, rice, bathing soap, washing powder, petroleum jelly, soya chunks, tea leaves and flour. These were the prioritised commodities by the communities during the needs assessment survey conducted. After the distributions, post distributions monitoring will be done.



Multi purpose cash grants

Affected households in Beitbridge and Chiredzi districts have lost household items, maize and small livestock stocks, and income sources from subsistence farming, gold panning, or informal vending due to heavy rains, river overflows, and displacement. Cash assistance will be used for urban areas in line with government policy. Cash will be delivered via mobile money platforms like EcoCash, Mukuru or OneMoney. A rapid assessment of markets was done and cash transfers in urban areas are feasible. A once off distribution of cash will be done. For cash transfers in urban areas mobile money transfers are available and the market is readily available. The cash assistance is targeting the urban community who are yet to get any assistance thus they still need the assistance to replace lost household items and clothes. The cash transfers will also assist those that might want to relocate as the municipality has plans to demolish some of the hostels that are at risk of flooding. A verification exercise has been done by volunteers using the beneficiary distribution lists created after the registration process. The supplier for cash transfers has already been engaged and is validating distribution list before proceeding with



cash transfers. For CVA, the plan is now to concurrently distribute cash and food commodities and have the post distribution monitoring done at once for both



Health

Flooding in Chiredzi and Beitbridge districts exacerbates health risks, including injuries from debris and swift waters, drowning incidents, and secondary outbreaks like cholera due to disrupted WASH services. Flooding has increased public health risks through stagnant water, damaged sanitation facilities, and unsafe water consumption. These conditions elevate the likelihood of water-borne diseases while also increasing malaria risk due to mosquito breeding. Some households include chronically ill members and elderly individuals who are particularly vulnerable in emergency settings with limited access to preventive health support. Identified health needs include mosquito net distribution, basic first aid capacity at community level, and integrated health and hygiene messaging linked to WASH interventions.

Communities lack immediate response capacity, with limited access to basic emergency care amid strained health facilities. Current structures in the affected areas show shortages in trained responders and essential supplies to handle flood-related emergencies. No prepositioned first aid resources exist locally, delaying life-saving interventions for the affected people. To address these gaps, the operation will train 40 Red Cross volunteers in Basic First Aid, enhancing rapid response to flood injuries and integrating cholera awareness. Additionally, 18 First Aid Kits will be prepositioned in high-risk communities, ensuring immediate availability for search-and-rescue and basic trauma care during the imminent rainy season peak.



Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

Flooding has severely disrupted water supply and sanitation services across multiple flood-affected communities in Zimbabwe, including Gwanda, Beitbridge (Matabeleland South), Chiredzi (Masvingo), Epworth (Harare), and Chipinge (Manicaland), significantly increasing the risk of waterborne diseases such as cholera and diarrhoeal outbreaks. Floodwaters have contaminated surface and groundwater sources and damaged or destroyed latrines, particularly in rural and low-lying areas and displacement settings, leaving many households without safe drinking water or adequate sanitation. In Chiredzi, 65% of assessed households lack access to functional latrines due to collapsed or flooded toilets, while nearly half rely on unprotected water sources and 50% report consuming unsafe water. In Beitbridge, sanitation gaps are pronounced in rural wards, where 40% of households lack latrine access and 29% depend on unsafe water sources, despite partial coverage by boreholes and council water systems that remain vulnerable to contamination during floods.

These conditions present an urgent public health risk, underscoring the need for immediate WASH interventions to prevent disease outbreaks. Priority needs confirmed include the provision of hygiene kits, water treatment supplies, sanitation support, and hygiene promotion, alongside rehabilitation or protection of existing water sources. These findings aligned with initially prioritised intervention that will continue through the end of the DREF intervention, ensuring a risk mitigation in the affected communities and enhancing WASH practice.

In response, the Zimbabwe Red Cross Society DREF operation aims to provide hygiene kits to affected households in Beitbridge and Chiredzi, containing soap, sanitary pads, toothbrushes and toothpaste, handwashing buckets, and towels, to support basic hygiene practices and reduce the spread of communicable diseases in flood-affected communities.



Protection, Gender And Inclusion

Flood-affected populations in Zimbabwe face pronounced protection, gender, and inclusion (PGI) risks driven by displacement, housing damage, and pre-existing vulnerabilities, particularly in flood-prone districts such as Chipinge, Chimanimani, Beitbridge, Chiredzi, and Epworth.

The representation of vulnerable groups in the affected areas is captured in the assessment, highlighting the need for PGI integrated consideration in the intervention. Female-headed households represent a significant share of those affected (35% in Beitbridge and 19% in Chiredzi), alongside elderly-headed households (32% and 15%, respectively), both of which experience heightened risks due to limited livelihood options, reduced physical capacity for recovery, and increased caregiving responsibilities. In addition, households including persons with disabilities (12% in Beitbridge and 6% in Chiredzi) require assistance that is accessible, inclusive, and tailored to specific needs. Pregnant and lactating women, while forming a smaller proportion of the affected population, face elevated risks to health, dignity, and safety, particularly in overcrowded evacuation centres or temporary shelter arrangements. Across affected areas, loss of privacy, family separation, overcrowding, and damaged housing increase exposure to gender-based violence (GBV), sexual exploitation,



abuse, and exclusion from assistance, disproportionately affecting women, children, older persons, and persons with disabilities.

To address these risks, ZRCS will deliver community awareness sessions on GBV prevention and response, emphasizing survivor-centered approaches. These sessions will enhance local understanding of GBV risks in flood contexts, promote prevention measures such as safe spaces and reporting mechanisms, and foster community accountability in collaboration with government partners and local authorities.



Community Engagement And Accountability

ZRCS recognizes communities as active partners in flood response, prioritizing two-way communication, feedback, and accountability to ensure equitable, culturally sensitive assistance. In districts like Beitbridge, Mutare, Chimanimani, Chipinge, Gwanda, Epworth, and Chiredzi - where flooding displaces many households - CEA will mitigate risks of exclusion, build trust, and enhance program effectiveness amid vulnerabilities like GBV and disease outbreaks.

ZRCS will establish community feedback desks at evacuation sites and distribution points, staffed by trained ZRCS volunteers for real-time complaint handling and suggestion boxes.

Conduct participatory sensitization sessions on entitlements and feedback channels, using local languages (Shona, Ndebele) and accessible formats for people with disabilities.

Digital CEA via ZRCS Facebook/X/ and WhatsApp channel updates transparent aid updates.

These efforts ensure communities shape responses, upholding Core Humanitarian Standards (CHS) and fostering resilience through anticipatory action awareness.

Any identified gaps/limitations in the assessment

The assessment identified several gaps and limitations that may affect the overall response. Unmet and partially met needs remain in shelter, WASH, and health, particularly in hard-to-reach and recently affected areas.

Resource shortages, including limited funding, relief supplies, and trained personnel, are constraining the scale and speed of interventions.

Operational challenges such as damaged infrastructure, access constraints, and limited local response capacity continue to hinder full coverage.

Coordination challenges include inconsistent information sharing and overlapping assessments among partners, leading to gaps in service delivery in some locations. In addition, the needs of vulnerable groups, notably displaced households, older persons, people with disabilities, and female-headed households, may not have been fully captured and require targeted follow-up assessments. Whilst some areas have received assistance, the hard-to-reach areas of Beitbridge and Chiredzi are yet to be supported.

Operational Strategy

Overall objective of the operation

This IFRC-DREF Operation aims to respond to the effects of floods to minimize the loss of life of 10,000 people affected by floods by providing lifesaving and relief activities, including shelter, cash assistance, relief distribution, Health, Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), livelihoods and basic needs, Community Engagement and Accountability and Protection, Gender and Inclusion in target districts prioritizing those with highest numbers of displaced by the floods, for a period of 6 months.

Operation strategy rationale

The operation was initially designed to deliver immediate lifesaving and relief assistance to 2,000 households (10,000 people) affected by floods in Chiredzi District (Masvingo Province) and Beitbridge District (Matabeleland South Province) through an integrated package of



cash assistance, non-food items, food and humanitarian services to protect dignity, wellbeing, and safety.

This strategy is maintained as it was harmonised and confirmed relevant through coordination platforms at provincial and district inception meetings with government and partners. It also aligns with rapid needs assessments, market and feasibility assessments and the Rapid Gender Analysis conducted in coordination with other actors. Findings from these assessments, completed in March, confirmed that the priority needs and vulnerabilities identified at the outset remained unchanged, supporting the decision to maintain the overall strategy. Few changes highlighted in this update are mainly related to the cash modality and budget reallocations to address gaps in shelter materials and operational resource deployment.

Access to Basic need and livelihoods - through cash and in-kind distribution

Based on assessment and due to the inability to obtain a government waiver for cash transfers in rural areas, NS has revised the initial MPC strategy to include a cash transfer in Urban areas targeting 137hhs and voucher assistance in Rural areas for 363hhs. Beneficiary lists have already been validated for both revised assistances.

- For the cash transfer, the list of beneficiaries was submitted to the Financial Service Provider, and transfers done week of 24 July 2026. 137 households reached in Beitbridge Urban, where the modality remains feasible and compliant with government regulations.
- The initial target of Voucher assistance changed in June is now shifted to in-kind assistance in rural areas, targeting 1,455 people (363 households) in Beitbridge and Chiredzi. This represents a shift from cash intervention to a livelihood and Basic needs commodities distribution. This shift will both align with Government policy banning cash transfers in rural areas and address failure to get a trader with all prerequisites to do voucher assistance. Families targeted here will receive a one-off distribution of food and basic needs commodities with a value equivalent to the originally planned voucher assistance (approximately USD 45 per person). The assistance package will include essential food and household items such as mealie meal, rice, vegetable oil, sugar, salt, soya chunks, tea leaves, flour, bathing soap, washing powder and petroleum jelly. A single distribution cycle will be conducted to maximize efficiency and minimize transportation and operational costs. The targeted households have also already been identified and registered. With the procurement process completed and only final approval of the selected supplier option pending, distributions are expected to be completed within the requested one-month no-cost extension, bringing the operation end date from 31 July 2026 to 31 August 2026. The extension will also allow sufficient time to conduct Post-Distribution Monitoring (PDM) and finalize operational close-out activities.

This is harmonised with the Department of Social Development. Furthermore, rapid needs assessments, beneficiary registration, and market and feasibility assessments already conducted in Beitbridge and Chiredzi confirmed the appropriateness of this approach and informed targeting, while also identifying longer supply distances for rural traders, necessitating a one-time disbursement to mitigate high transportation costs exacerbated by poor road networks. To date, the suppliers for food and basic needs have been identified, assessed and it has been confirmed they have the capacity to deliver within one week.

Shelter and household support 334 HH (1,670 people): Many homes were destroyed or damaged by flooding, leaving families exposed to weather and health risks. Immediate shelter support protects lives and dignity, while “Build Back Better” guidance ensures future reconstruction is more resilient to seasonal floods. This operation targets flood-affected households whose homes were destroyed or severely damaged, with prioritization guided by detailed household-level assessments. The NS is prioritizing procuring tarpaulins, torches and blankets for these households. Distributions have resumed on 8 June 2026 and will be completed by 13th. This date is confirmed and communicated to all relevant stakeholders. Each distribution day includes registration verification, beneficiary verification, item issuance, household-level briefing on item use, and post-distribution monitoring (PDM) will be done from 22 June.

As planned, 40 volunteers have been trained on temporary shelter construction and safe local building techniques. They are deployed to strengthen community-level BBB understanding with intensive sessions held during distributions, laying the groundwork for safer recovery and reconstruction.

WASH intervention was designed to reach 2,000 households (10,000 people) with essential support to reduce public health risks associated with flooding. To date, 40 volunteers have been successfully trained in hygiene promotion and deployed for Hygiene promotion and sanitation awareness sessions have been initiated. Already reaching at least 400 households (2000 people) each volunteer targeting a minimum of 10 households after the training and over 10 000 people reached through radio sessions.

The strategy also prioritised the distribution of WASH NFIs to 500 households (2,500 people), but also the provision of dignity kits to 1,375 women and girls to support hygiene, dignity, and protection over a three-month period. Procurement of WASH NFIs and dignity kits is now complete, and distributions will be done from the 8th of June to 13th concurrently with shelter materials. WASH Kit include soap, sanitary towels, toothbrushes and toothpaste, Aqua Tabs, buckets, towels, and water storage containers. The distribution will be reinforced with integrated hygiene promotion and risk communication.

The Emergency Health intervention early response included the Basic First Aid and Psychological First Aid were to be delivered in the early stages while PFA was to continue through the 4 months to strengthen community-level emergency response and psychosocial support. Second priority was to reach 10,000 people with integrated health and WASH promotion, ensuring key health prevention linked to water borne and vector borne diseases are mitigated. To date, all 18 First Aid Kits planned have been fully procured and are pre-positioned in high-risk communities, and 40 volunteers have been successfully trained in Basic First Aid and Psychological First Aid, enhancing preparedness for injuries and psychosocial needs arising from floods. In addition, procurement of the 1,000 mosquito nets is nearly complete and pending delivery, positioning the operation to proceed with distributions in line with the original emergency health



strategy once supplies are received.

Protection and inclusion: For identified risks and considering the demographics highlighted in the assessment, ZRCS will ensure equitable access to services while preventing and responding to violence, discrimination, and exclusion. To mitigate these risks, ZRCS will integrate protection-sensitive and inclusive programming across all sectors to ensure equitable access to assistance while preventing violence, discrimination, and exclusion among flood-affected populations. Key actions include the provision of dignity kits for women and girls, inclusive and safe delivery of cash, and in-kind assistance, and community engagement to promote safe access, dignity, and participation. ZRCS will also strengthen protection and safeguarding through community awareness on GBV prevention and response using survivor-centred approaches, training 40 volunteers on PGI and referral pathways, establishing and reviewing referral mechanisms through a one-day workshop. Both for IFRC and NS intervention teams, there will be a reinforced safeguarding measures through staff and volunteer briefings, Code of Conduct signing, zero tolerance to PSEA, and accessible reporting mechanisms at community level.

Targeting Strategy

Who will be targeted through this operation?

This operation will target flood-affected households in the most severely impacted areas, prioritizing those with the highest humanitarian needs and lowest coping capacity. The primary target groups include displaced families, households whose homes have been damaged or destroyed, and communities with limited access to safe water, sanitation, and basic health services. Particular focus will be placed on vulnerable groups such as female-headed households, older people, people with disabilities, pregnant and lactating women, and households with young children, as they face heightened risks during floods and have reduced ability to recover independently.

Targeting is based on the severity of impact, level of vulnerability, and gaps in assistance identified through rapid needs assessments and coordination with local authorities and partners. Vulnerable groups will be identified using community-based selection, engagement with local leaders and volunteers, and clear vulnerability criteria to ensure assistance is equitable, inclusive, and reaches those most in need, while avoiding duplication with other actors. The affected households have been identified and registered using Kobo collect and beneficiary distribution lists have been shared and approved by stakeholders.

Explain the selection criteria for the targeted population

The selection of the targeted population is guided by the severity of flood impact, level of vulnerability, and unmet humanitarian needs, as identified through rapid needs assessments and coordination with local authorities and partners. Chiredzi and Beitbridge were selected as there has not been much assistance rendered, regardless of the huge impact. Priority is given to households whose homes have been damaged or destroyed, displaced families, and communities with limited access to essential services such as safe water, sanitation, shelter, and basic health care, as these groups face immediate life-saving needs and reduced coping capacity.

Vulnerability criteria are applied to ensure the most at-risk groups are reached, including female-headed households, older persons, people with disabilities, pregnant and lactating women, households with young children, and chronically ill individuals. Selection is conducted using a community-based and transparent process, supported by local leaders and trained volunteers, to verify needs and avoid exclusion or duplication. This approach ensures assistance is needs-based, equitable, and prioritizes those least able to cope or recover without external support



Total Targeted Population

Women	2,640	Rural	95%
Girls (under 18)	2,860	Urban	5%
Men	2,340	People with disabilities (estimated)	3%
Boys (under 18)	2,160		
Total targeted population	10,000		

Risk and Security Considerations (including "management")

Does your National Society have anti-fraud and corruption policy?	Yes
Does your National Society have prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse policy?	Yes
Does your National Society have child protection/child safeguarding policy?	Yes
Does your National Society have whistleblower protection policy?	Yes
Does your National Society have anti-sexual harassment policy?	Yes

Please analyse and indicate potential risks for this operation, its root causes and mitigation actions.

Risk	Mitigation action
Safeguarding risks.	ZRCS and IFRC will ensure all staff, volunteers, and partners are trained on IFRC safeguarding standards and prevention to prevent exploitation and abuse. Complaints and feedback mechanisms will be accessible and confidential, with clear referral pathways for protection concerns where identified. Referrals will be organised jointly with relevant entities, ensuring the protection of survivors. Regular monitoring will be conducted to uphold accountability and safeguard the affected populations. The safeguarding risk will be evaluated in all the sectoral interventions, ensuring minimal exposure is created by the proposed intervention.
Health risks, including vector-borne and waterborne illnesses, may also affect both staff and beneficiaries.	To mitigate these risks, the National Society has prioritized health prevention with basic training for volunteers who will be



informed to protect themselves and disseminate prevention messages to communities also at risk.

For the ongoing cholera threat, NS is strengthening the readiness in the concerned affected areas and will monitor the expansion of the outbreak to the Floods targeted zones.

Please indicate any security and safety concerns for this operation:

The flood operation involves several security and safety concerns that could affect personnel, volunteers, and affected communities. Security risks include working in areas with limited law enforcement presence, potentially high-crime zones, or communities affected by social tensions, which could pose threats to staff and volunteers during field activities. Safety risks include flooding-related hazards such as unstable or damaged infrastructure, strong currents, slippery terrain, and the risk of waterborne diseases, as well as exposure to extreme weather conditions.

To mitigate these risks, the National Society will implement strict safety protocols, including the use of personal protective equipment (PPE), Safe transport and access routes, buddy systems for field teams, and regular risk assessments. Security briefings will be conducted for all personnel, and incident reporting and communication protocols will be established to ensure rapid response in case of emergencies. IFRC support may be provided for security guidance, training, and monitoring throughout the operation.

Has the child safeguarding risk analysis assessment been completed?

Yes

Planned Intervention



Shelter Housing And Settlements

Budget: CHF 100,635

Targeted Persons: 1,670

Targeted Male: 827

Targeted Female: 843

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of people provided with Household items including Tarpaulins, Blankets and torches	1,670	1,670
# of households reached with awareness creation on safe local building techniques	334	500
# of volunteers trained on shelter construction	39	40

Progress Towards Outcome

Progress

- Beneficiary selection and registration (Coordination with other relevant sectors for integrated programming including government and other stakeholders.
- Awareness raising on safe local building techniques to local builders done during registration and hygiene promotion by volunteers.
- Procured 1000 tarpaulins, 1000 blankets, 500 solar lights, and 500 plastic sheeting to be distributed at once in June.



Training of 40 volunteers on temporary shelter construction and on information dissemination.

- 2 temporal shelters constructed for affected households during the shelter construction training.

Ongoing and to be done

- Post Distribution Monitoring of the use of distributed shelter and household items.



Livelihoods And Basic Needs

Budget: CHF 66,748

Targeted Persons: 1,455

Targeted Male: 655

Targeted Female: 800

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of households receiving food and basic needs assistance according to the planned assistance package	363	0
% of targeted households reporting that the assistance received met their immediate food and basic needs during the response period.	90	0
% of targeted households receiving the full assistance package within the planned implementation period and without major distribution issues reported.	80	0
% of households reporting satisfaction with the appropriateness and quality of the assistance received.	80	0

Progress Towards Outcome

Following the shift on the cash strategy to blend cash transfer in urban areas and in-kind distribution in rural targets, the following activities have already been conducted to reach the 363hhs in Rural Areas:

- Suppliers engaged to check capacity to distribute basic needs commodities
- Survey conducted to get priority needs from the affected households
- List of commodities to be distributed finalised
- Beneficiary distribution lists developed and verified

Activities to be sped up as part of this update

- Finalize supplier engagement and purchase/ delivery of in-kind food and basic needs commodities.
- Organize transportation and distribution logistics for rural Beitbridge and Chiredzi districts.
- Distribute food and basic needs commodities to 1,455 people (363 households) through a one-off distribution. Equivalent to the planned voucher assistance value.
- Conduct distribution monitoring to ensure assistance is delivered according to planned standards and beneficiary lists.



Multi Purpose Cash

Budget: CHF 48,605

Targeted Persons: 685

Targeted Male: 309



Targeted Female: 376

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of people receiving Multipurpose cash transfers	2,500	685
# of Post Distribution Monitoring	1	0
% of surveyed people whose households indicated they should be satisfied with the amount received	80	0
% of surveyed people whose households received MPC are satisfied with the time/period that they received.	80	0

Progress Towards Outcome

Progress

- Detailed market assessment done in the two districts.
- Selection of Financial service provider completed.
- Identification of communities to receive cash grants a
- Beneficiary lists have been finalised, validated, and approved. Lists were developed from community targeting exercises and local authority verification and have been approved by the District Civil Protection Committee and local leadership in each location
- Multi-Purpose Cash Transfers to 137 HH (685 people) in Beitbridge urban for a t rate of USD 45 per person. One off installment. As for the balance of 337hhs or 1455 people of rural parts of the districts and wont be receiving cash as described under the strategy. refer to livelihood assistance.

Activities to be sped up as part of this update

- Conduct Post Distribution Monitoring for the cash integrated to the relief items PDM.



Budget: CHF 10,951

Targeted Persons: 2,500

Targeted Male: 1,125

Targeted Female: 1,375

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of First Aid Kits Procured	18	18
# of Households receiving Mosquito nets	500	500
# of volunteers trained on Basic First Aid, PFA and safe referrals	40	40
# of people receiving mosquito nets	2,500	2,500



Progress Towards Outcome

Progress

- Procurement of Mosquito nets complete -
- Procurement of 18 First Aid Kits complete, with 2 per province.
- Trained 40 volunteers in Basic First Aid and Psychological First Aid -Providing PSS and Psychological First Aid services.
- 1000 stickers for buckets delivered (IEC)
- Continue to provide PSS and Psychological First Aid services.
- Localised referral pathway services for MPHSS to be mapped. National referral pathways already mapped and available.
- Distribution of 1000 Mosquito nets for 500 households

To be done

PDM



Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

Budget: CHF 48,074

Targeted Persons: 10,000

Targeted Male: 4,500

Targeted Female: 5,500

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of people reached with WASH NFIs	2,500	2,500
# of Volunteers trained on Hygiene Promotion	40	40
# of people reached with hygiene promotion messaging	10,000	2,000
# of women and girls reached with dignity kits	1,375	1,375

Progress Towards Outcome

Progress

- Sensitized population of targeted communities on safe water storage and safe use of water treatment products.
 - WASH NFIs now delivered in the NS warehouse comprising of 1000, 1500 bars of soap, 200000 water purification tablets, and 1375 Dignity kits, awaiting distribution.
 - Trained 40 Volunteers in Hygiene Promotion, with 20 volunteers trained per district.
 - 40 hygiene promotion sessions done in villages reaching over 500 people.
 - Distribution of WASH NFI and dignity kits planned for the first week of June and completion by latest 12th June.
- Dignity kits (paper, toothpaste, towel, bathing soap, pads, pants and toothbrush) for 1375 women and girls sufficient for 3 months.
- hygiene promotion and sanitation awareness sessions to reach 10,000 people in the two districts using the IEC material printed.
 - Ongoing
- Conduct Post Distribution Monitoring.



Protection, Gender And Inclusion

Budget: CHF 2,288

Targeted Persons: 10,000

Targeted Male: 4,500
Targeted Female: 5,500

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of Volunteers trained on PGI and referral pathways	40	40
# of PGI awareness sessions conducted	4	2
# of people reached through Community awareness on safeguarding and zero tolerance to PSEA	10,000	2,000
# of Rapid Gender analysis conducted jointly with other actors	1	1

Progress Towards Outcome

Conducted orientation session and training for 40 volunteers on PGI and referral pathways.
Code of contact cascaded to 42 volunteers inclusive of PGI focal point persons.
Community awareness on safeguarding and zero tolerance to PSEA and establishing reporting mechanisms.
Rapid Gender analysis in coordination with other actors.
Review of referral pathway done with 42 volunteers and stakeholders for Chiredzi and Beitbridge.
500 people reached with Red Cross principles and ZRCS code of conduct.



Community Engagement And Accountability

Budget: CHF 9,848
Targeted Persons: 10,000
Targeted Male: 4,500
Targeted Female: 5,500

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of people reached with floods awareness messaging	10,000	10,000
# of volunteers and staff trained on CEA	40	40
# of community dialogues and FGDs done	4	2
% Operational complaints received and responded to by the NS	100	100

Progress Towards Outcome

- Development of 30 second flood early warning messages in Venda, Shona and Shangani languages.
- 300 Radio sessions aired for flood early warning 30 second jingles.



- 10 live radio sessions for ministry of health and childcare.
- Recruitment and training of 40 volunteers/ focal persons on RCCE.
- 2 Community dialogue meetings on floods and post floods discussions.
- Complaints and feedback mechanisms will be in place at distribution sites and via hotline channels and suggestion boxes and will be shared with IFRC as reports are produced.



Coordination And Partnerships

Budget: CHF 15,119

Targeted Persons: 100

Targeted Male: 45

Targeted Female: 55

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of inception meetings	2	2
# of Monitoring visits	4	1
# of exit strategy meetings	1	0

Progress Towards Outcome

- Held inception meetings (Provinces and districts).
- Support Civil Protection Committee meetings.
- Provincial and branch monitoring and supervision.
- Engagements for NS to support distribution of cement support from department of civil protection in Beitbridge.

To be done:

Exit strategy survey

Lessons Learnt Workshop



Secretariat Services

Budget: CHF 18,604

Targeted Persons: 10

Targeted Male: 4

Targeted Female: 6

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of Monitoring Visits	3	2
# of Lessons Learnt workshops attended	1	0

Progress Towards Outcome

- Provide remote and field monitoring.
- Provide technical and coordination support through technical and support team.
- Provide Communications support to profile the work of the IFRC and NS.



National Society Strengthening

Budget: CHF 54,123

Targeted Persons: 60

Targeted Male: 27

Targeted Female: 33

Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of Volunteers engaged	40	40
# of volunteers supported with insurance coverage	40	40
# of lessons learned workshops conducted	1	0

Progress Towards Outcome

- Salaries for March, to June
- Volunteered engaged.
- Allocated vehicles from IFRC Fleet.

About Support Services

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

A total of 40 volunteers and 6 staff are involved in this operation. PMER and finance support operations management at HQ and branches to oversee the implementation and reporting.

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

Procurement for this operation will be led by the National Society, in line with its procurement procedures and IFRC standards, with technical oversight and support from IFRC where required. Procurement will primarily involve local suppliers to ensure timeliness, cost-effectiveness, and support to local markets, with international procurement considered only if items are unavailable locally or do not meet required quality standards.

Procured items will be used mainly for direct distribution to affected households, with limited replenishment of pre-positioned stocks as needed. The tendering process for distribution items is expected to take approximately 2–3 weeks, depending on market availability and urgency.

For Cash Assistance now limited to transfer to 137hhs, a Financial Service Provider is already identified/being finalized, and feasibility



assessments are guiding the selection to ensure reliability, coverage, and compliance with IFRC CVA standards.

For the commodities distributions, supplier is identified through diligent tender process. ZRCS's plan is to complete the basic needs trader engagement by the week of 27 July 2026 and start distributions week beginning August..

How will this operation be monitored?

The operation will be monitored through a combination of routine field monitoring, reporting systems, and coordination reviews to track progress and effectiveness. The National Society (NS) will lead day-to-day monitoring through branch staff and trained volunteers, using activity tracking tools, distribution reports, beneficiary lists, and post-distribution monitoring (PDM) to assess coverage, timeliness, and quality of assistance. Data will be compiled at the branch and headquarters levels and shared regularly with IFRC.

Progress will be tracked against planned activities, timelines, and key indicators, including the number of households assisted, timeliness of distributions, functionality of services (e.g. access to safe water), and beneficiary satisfaction and feedback. Community feedback and complaints mechanisms (CFM) will be used to assess accountability and response quality. IFRC monitoring visits will be conducted as needed, either through in-country staff or surge support, to provide technical oversight, verify implementation, and support corrective actions. Monitoring findings will inform ongoing adjustments and final reporting on operation results.

- A team of distribution supervisors, community volunteers, and Monitoring & Evaluation staff will oversee each distribution day.
- Post-distribution monitoring (PDM) is scheduled for 2–3 weeks after distributions in each location to assess coverage and usage.
- Complaints and feedback mechanisms are in place at distribution sites and via hotline channels; logs will be shared with IFRC as reports are produced

Please briefly explain the National Societies communication strategy for this operation

The National Society will implement a comprehensive communication strategy to ensure timely, accurate, and transparent information sharing throughout the operation. Internally, coordination and updates will be maintained through regular team briefings, WhatsApp groups, email updates, and reporting tools to keep staff and volunteers informed of progress and operational changes.

Externally, the NS will communicate with stakeholders, partners, and the public using press releases, social media updates, community meetings, and radio announcements, ensuring affected communities receive clear information about available services, eligibility, and feedback mechanisms.

A community engagement approach will be used to promote two-way communication, allowing beneficiaries to raise concerns and provide feedback.

IFRC will support with communication and advocacy expertise, including media liaison, social media management, and storytelling, while the NS will lead content generation and community-level messaging, ensuring consistent, inclusive, and culturally appropriate communication throughout the operation.



Budget Overview



DREF OPERATION

MDRZW027 - Zimbabwe Red Cross Society Floods

Operating Budget

Planned Operations	287,149
Shelter and Basic Household Items	100,635
Livelihoods	66,748
Multi-purpose Cash	48,605
Health	10,951
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	48,074
Protection, Gender and Inclusion	2,288
Education	0
Migration	0
Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery	0
Community Engagement and Accountability	9,848
Environmental Sustainability	0
Enabling Approaches	87,847
Coordination and Partnerships	15,119
Secretariat Services	18,604
National Society Strengthening	54,123

TOTAL BUDGET	374,996
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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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[Click here for the reference](#)

