

# EARLY ACTION PROTOCOL OPERATIONS UPDATE

**Zimbabwe |Drought**

09 September 2024



*Zimbabwe Red Cross Society Volunteer and PMER Officer during the distribution of Corn Soya Blend to various schools in Binga as we kick start implementation of the trigger 2 activities in Binga district, Matebeleland North, Zimbabwe. Photo credit: Paul Moyo, ZRCS DM Coordinator.*

EAP No: <b>EAP2022ZW01</b>	Operation No: <b>MDRZW020</b>	EAP Approved: <b>12/12/2022</b>
Trigger Date <b>24/08/2023</b>	Early Action timeframe: <b>16 Months</b>	EAP revised Timeframe: <b>12/12/2022-31/12/2024</b>

**Budget: 549,318 CHF**  
**To assist: 21,000 Persons**

# EARLY ACTION PROTOCOL

## Activation Overview

The Zimbabwe Red Cross Society is implementing the second trigger activities following the activation of its Early Action Protocol for drought. This was done following the declaration of a state of disaster by the Government of Zimbabwe based on the rainfall patterns that were observed during the 2023/24 Season which was significantly affected by the El Nino conditions. An El Nino induced drought has occurred and the President of the Republic of Zimbabwe has since declared a state of disaster. This acted as a trigger for the second level of early action, namely Cash Voucher Assistance and supplementary feeding for school children for three months.

The IFRC approved the implementation of these activities in June 2024. The early actions including cash assistance and distribution of Corn Soya Blend to schools in the five (5) targeted wards in Binga were to be implemented until September 2024 with subsequent post distribution monitoring in October, however the operation received a no cost extension until November 2024.

On the 26 August 2024, the Government of Zimbabwe through the Department of Social Services issued a directive to all humanitarian partners to adapt direct in-kind food distributions within their areas of operations to ensure that rural households had access to basic food particularly cereals. As a result, ZRCS has changed the intervention modality from Cash and Voucher Assistance to in-kind or food distributions as directed by Government of Zimbabwe. The Lessons learnt workshop will be done during the month of November 2024 and final reporting completed in December 2024. A revision of the EAP will also be done in November 2024 in preparation for resubmission to IFRC in December 2024.

### Early action targeting:

#### **1. In-kind / Food distributions September 2024 to November 2024 Targeting 785 Households (3410 individuals) in ward 9 and 10.**


Beneficiary selection for the recipients was done in a participatory and inclusive approach with full community and government stakeholder involvement. Targeting was done using a village ranking form at village level according to the community's own determined criteria but guided by Department of Social Development and ZRCS vulnerability criteria. Beneficiary selection was supported by Department of Social Development and the District Development Coordinator's offices. In addition, beneficiary households were identified in line with the budget allocation. Engagement of a supplier or services provider is ongoing and the first food delivery and distribution is targeted for the last week of September 2024. The next food distribution will be conducted in October 2024 and the last distribution in November 2024. Beneficiary list verification has been conducted in both targeted wards (ward 9 and 10) in preparation for food distribution to ensure that any irregularities are captured and corrected before distributions are conducted. Beneficiaries verifications and community engagement is expected to continue until all 3 distribution cycles are completed.

#### **2. School supplementary feeding of 10176 learners to reduce absentees between September 2024 to early December 2024.**

The target for this action is 11 primary schools in the 5 targeted wards as recommended by the Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education. 6 schools also have Early Childhood Education (ECD) satellite centres that will be supported through the main learning institutions, and this gives a total of 20 centres. Corn Soya Blend (CSB), supplementary pots and cleaning utensils have been procured and distributed to the respective schools during the school holidays (in August 2024) to ensure that upon opening date for the third term, schools are ready to start food preparation and feeding activities.

## Early Action Overview

### PLANNED OPERATIONS

 <b>Livelihoods</b>	Female > 18: <b>3961</b>	Female < 18: <b>3375</b>	<b>199,285 CHF</b>
	Male > 18: <b>3375</b>	Male < 18: <b>2875</b>	AP Code: <b>007</b>
<b>Indicator:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of people reached with food assistance in 2 wards – 3,410 people.</li> <li>Number of learners reached with school supplementary feeding to reduce absentees 4899 boys :5277 girls. <b>Total:</b> 10176</li> </ul>		
<b>Priority Early Actions: For Second Trigger</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Beneficiary selection and registration.</li> <li>Beneficiary verification for food assistance.</li> <li>Post distribution monitoring assessments.</li> </ol>		
<b>Food Distribution Activities</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Food distributions will be conducted in Binga district targeting a total of 785 households and 3410 individuals in ward 9 and ward 10. Food distribution will improve access to food to communities affected by drought targeting elderly, child headed households, People with Disability (PWD), pregnant and Lactating women and chronically ill.</li> <li>This intervention will be implemented from September 2024 to November 2024 with 3 food distribution cycles. The project intends to distribute cereal in the form of mealie meal with 10kgs distributed per person. Department of Social Development (DSD) will, supervise and monitor distribution of food with support from District Developmental Coordinator's office. ZRCS volunteers will assist with community mobilisation, and community members or beneficiaries off load the food commodities before distributions. A help desk with be established during food distributions to receive, record and respond to complaints and feedback provided by beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries.</li> <li>Post Distribution Monitoring will be conducted two weeks after food has been distributed to check on food utilisation, check whether beneficiaries received the correct quantities and ascertain whether food reached intended beneficiaries or not in line with the selection criteria.</li> <li>The project will conduct pre-distribution address and share information on food rations, number of cycles and other relevant information related to the project.</li> </ol>		
<b>Schools Feeding</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Distribution of Corn Soya Blend, cooking pots and cleaning utensils to 11 schools and their satellite centres in the 5 wards.</li> <li>Monitoring of school feeding programme in the 5 wards.</li> <li>Engagement of stakeholders such as Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education and Department of Social Development (DSD) to support school feeding.</li> </ol>		

## Enabling approaches

 <b>Coordination and Partnerships</b>			<b>2,462 CHF</b>
	AP Code: <b>118, 119, 127, 128</b>		
<b>Objective:</b>	Continued engagement with the Community of Practice and Technical Working Groups to monitor drought hazards in Zimbabwe.		
<b>Priority Early Actions:</b>	<b>Engagement with external partners</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Continued representation and coordination within the community of practice and technical working groups.</li> </ul> <b>Movement Cooperation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b. Continued engagement with Movement actors to guide and review the implementation of the EAP.</li> </ul>		
<b>Narrative description of achievements</b>	The NS has been attending the National Anticipatory Action Technical working group where the stakeholders have been exchanging ideas sharing learnings.		
 <b>National Society Strengthening</b>	Female > 18:	Female < 18:	<b>35,686 CHF</b>
	Male > 18:	Male < 18:	AP Code: <b>124</b>
<b>Objective:</b>			
<b>Early Action Activities:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. District Field Officer at 100% of USD2086 per month.</li> <li>2. PMER Officer at 50% of USD2050 per month.</li> <li>3. Disaster Preparedness Officer 65%.</li> <li>4. Bank Charges.</li> <li>5. NS Admin Cost (7% of budget).</li> <li>6. Vehicle Lease.</li> </ol>		
<b>Narrative description of achievements</b>	The staff supported the activation of the first and second trigger early action activities in Binga district and the first trigger activities were successfully implemented.		

## Contact information

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

### In the Zimbabwe Red Cross-National Society

- **Secretary General** Elias Hwenga, [eliash@redcrosszim.org.zw](mailto:eliash@redcrosszim.org.zw)
- **Operational coordination:** Mathias Begede, [begedem@redcrosszim.org.zw](mailto:begedem@redcrosszim.org.zw)

### In the IFRC

#### IFRC Regional Office

- **IFRC Regional Office for Africa Manager**, Preparedness and Response Rui Oliveira, [rui.oliveira@ifrc.org](mailto:rui.oliveira@ifrc.org) +254780422276.

#### IFRC Country Cluster Support Team:

**IFRC Country Cluster Head of Delegation:** John Roche, [john.roche@ifrc.org](mailto:john.roche@ifrc.org) +263772128648

**IFRC Country Cluster Operations Coordinator:** Vivianne Kibon [Vivianne.KIBON@ifrc.org](mailto:Vivianne.KIBON@ifrc.org)

#### For IFRC Resource Mobilization and Pledges support:

**Head of Partnerships and Resource Development** Louise Daintrey, [Louise.DAINTREY@ifrc.org](mailto:Louise.DAINTREY@ifrc.org)

#### For In-Kind donations and Mobilization table support:

- Allan Kilaka Masavah, **Head, Global Humanitarian Services & Supply Chain Management, Africa;**  
Email: [allan.masavah@ifrc.org](mailto:allan.masavah@ifrc.org)

#### For Performance and Accountability support:

Beatrice Atieno OKEYO, **Head of PMER & QA**, [beatrice.okeyo@ifrc.org](mailto:beatrice.okeyo@ifrc.org) Phone: 254732 404022

### Reference



Click here for:

- Previous Appeals and updates
- Budget