

FINAL REPORT



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
Fédération Internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

KENYA DROUGHT

3 January 2006

INTERIM FINAL REPORT

The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization and its millions of volunteers are active in over 181 countries.

In Brief

Appeal No. 18/2004; Final Report; Period covered: 17 August 2004 to 31 May 2005; Final appeal coverage: 63.1%.

Appeal history:

- Launched on 17 August 2004 for CHF 3,561,767 (USD 2,785,900 or EUR 2,311,300) for 6 months to assist 200,000 beneficiaries. Refer to http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?04/1804.pdf
- Operations Update no. 1 refer to http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?04/180401.pdf
- Operations Update no. 2 decreased the Appeal budget to CHF 2,121,677 and increased the number of beneficiaries to 308,000. Refer to http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?04/180402.pdf
- Operations Update no. 3 refer to http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?04/180403.pdf extended the operating timeline until 31 May 2005. Budget and beneficiary levels remained as presented in Operations Update no. 2. refer to Disaster Relief Emergency Funds (DREF) allocated: N/A

Related Emergency or Annual Appeals: East Africa sub-regional programmes, 2005 Annual Appeal no. 05AA004. Refer to http://www.ifrc.org/cgi/pdf_appeals.pl?annual05/05AA04.pdf. This Appeal includes Kenya, Rwanda and Uganda.

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All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) in Disaster Relief and is committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (Sphere) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable

For longer-term programmes in this or other countries or regions, please refer to the Federation's Annual Appeal. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for national society profiles, please also access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

Background and Summary

The Federation issued an Emergency Appeal for CHF 3,561,767 to enable the Kenya Red Cross to assist 308,000 of the most vulnerable drought-affected people, including 40,000 children, in the districts of Kwale in the Coast province and Makueni in the Eastern province in agreement with local and national authorities, over a period of six months. However, upon the request of the district steering committees of Kwale and Lamu districts, the Kenya Red Cross was assigned Lamu for the general distribution of food items, while Makueni was reassigned to African Medical and Research Foundation (AMREF). Nevertheless, the national society was given a partner agency role for food distribution in Makueni with food and support costs funded by World Food Programme (WFP). As a result, the budget for the Appeal was revised downwards to CHF 2,121,677, whereas the number of beneficiaries increased to 308,000. The Kenya Red Cross also included funding for the seed component and supplementary feeding into the Appeal, and the provision of farm tools was removed in accordance with the policy of the agriculture sub-committee of the Kenya Food Security Steering Group (KFSSG).

The drought operation's closing date had been scheduled for 28 February 2005. However, due to the prevailing drought condition which was confirmed through a Kenya Red Cross assessment carried out in January 2005, it was decided that this operation be extended by an additional three months to come to a close on 31 May 2005.

Nevertheless, the revised timeframe for this drought operation did not allow for the conclusion of all the activities of the planned operation. These include the water and sanitation projects that require a great deal of time for community mobilisation activities and involvement in order for them to be sustainable; the performance of seeds could not be assessed since harvesting took place in July/August 2005; HIV/AIDS awareness campaigns took at least six months after the peer educators' training to eventually become long term activities. One key observation during this operation, specifically with regard to the unimix distribution in Mtito Andei in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, was that 80 per cent of the children had not been immunized.

Coordination

The national society is a member of the KFSSG which coordinated an inter agency assessment targeting the most severely affected areas. The joint assessment team included representatives of the Office of the President; WFP; World Vision; United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF); CARE; Oxfam; and AMREF.

The Emergency appeal was developed in close coordination with UN agencies, and complemented the strategies outlined in the UN Flash Appeal for Kenya (which WFP and UNOCHA – United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs – prepared based on the above assessment) issued on 10 August 2004. The Kenya Food Security Meeting (KFSM) which comprises the office of the President, the Kenya Red Cross, World Food Programme (WFP) and other humanitarian organizations was mandated to oversee the drought operation countrywide.

The private sector in Kenya also launched several local appeals towards which individuals, corporate bodies and the media houses contributed both cash and in-kind (food).

Analysis of the operation - objectives, achievements, impact

Goal: To assist 308,000 targeted beneficiaries cope with the present drought, reduce its impact and initiate recovery activities.

Objective 1: Transport and distribute adequate food rations to the drought affected populations in the districts of Kwale and Lamu, and purchase and distribute supplementary food in Kwale, Makueni and Lamu.

Achievements:

In Kwale, Makueni and Lamu, food from the government and WFP was distributed to 390,237 beneficiaries for six months at a 75% ration level. The number of vulnerable people was, however, more than that targeted and the national society filled in the gap with food donated by the general public, the corporate sector and local organisations.

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125 MT of unimix was purchased and distributed to children, and those affected by HIV/AIDS in Lamu, Makueni and Kwale districts in July 2005 and August 2005.

Impact:

This objective has contributed towards the reduction of malnutrition levels amongst the under-five children and immunity boosting of HIV/Aids patients.

Constraints:

The distribution of unimix was hampered due to delays in obtaining a duty waiver from the Kenya Revenue Authority.

Objective 2: Assist the target population in recovering from drought through support to their agricultural livelihood.

Achievements:

In addition to the 50 MT of seeds distributed to 10,000 people in Mwingi, Kit, Meru, Malindi and Kilifi districts during the October-December 2004 short rains, 250 MT of assorted drought resistant seed varieties were purchased and distributed to over 35,000 farmers in Kwale, Makueni and Lamu districts during the April/May 2005 rainy season. The seed distribution targeted the worst hit divisions in the districts, as well as medium agricultural potential divisions in the three districts.

As a result of planting early maturing seed varieties, especially in the medium agricultural potential areas within the districts, over 50% of the harvest may be realised since rains there were more reliable. The savings made as a result of relief seed distribution in the three districts went towards purchasing food.

The relief distribution programme provided income to the local businessmen, especially transporters.

Impact:

The agricultural livelihood of the target population has been strengthened.

The levels of income have increased, resulting in improved standards of living amongst the target population.

Constraints:

In the target divisions (i.e. low agricultural potential areas), seeds performance has been very low with less than 10% or no harvest being realised. After germination, maturation could not be realised due to the low rainfall whereas in some cases germination was not realised at all in these areas. In the breeding stations green grams, millet and cowpeas performed poorly as a result of poor rains.

Objective 3: Reduce morbidity and vulnerability from water borne diseases by improving access to safe drinking water for 26,800 beneficiaries including 24 institutions; promoting environmental sanitation in the districts of Makueni and Kwale.

Achievements:

In Kwale, seven water project committees (shallow boreholes in Kilimangodo, Maledi, Amphorae, Mwakijembe and Mwangulu of Lungalunga, Mwereni and Ndavaya locations, Msambweni division; Bahakwenu community water project in Taru location, Samburu Division; and Samburu-Vigurungani water project in Samburu division) were trained in management of water supplies to prepare them to operate, maintain and manage the facilities to be rehabilitated.

All the materials for the Kwale water projects were procured and delivered on site in May 2005. Civil works were completed by mid August 2005.

Sanitary facilities in institutions and public places were completed by mid August 2005.

In Makueni, training of three water project committees was carried out. Survey and designs for the water projects and implementation of earth dam desilting, borehole drilling and installation and a pipeline extension took place between July/August 2005.

Impact:

21,500 people will benefit from extension and rehabilitation of Bahakwenu community water project and Samburu-Vigurungani water projects and 1,000 others from rehabilitation of five boreholes in Kwale.

Improved hygiene practices and behaviour and hence improved health conditions of the communities as a result health education.

Increased awareness on water borne and other diseases.

Constraints:

Schools and medical institutions were not provided with water trucking services owing to unforeseen logistics and coordination problems.

Objective 4: Reduce vulnerability to, and impact of HIV/AIDS by encouraging behaviour change, communication and improved care and support for persons living with HIV/ AIDS (PLHWA)

Achievements:

30 peer educators were trained in June 2005 and are equipped to carry out outreach activities in HIV/AIDS.

Nutritional supplements were distributed to PLHWA.

Impact:

More awareness on HIV/AIDS has been created, thus contributing towards the reduction in the spread and effects of the pandemic.

The nutritional supplements have contributed to boosting the immunity of PLHWA, thereby enabling them to live productively in the community.

Constraints:

Equipment for Makueni has been withheld at the national society's Headquarters due to security concerns at the branch offices. Once rehabilitated and strengthened, the equipment will be transferred to the branch to enable it carry out HIV/Aids awareness campaigns in the district.

Objective 5: Advocate in favour of the drought affected population and contribute to conflict prevention efforts

Achievements:

The national society published the second *Reach Out* Special Edition Newsletter in March 2005 on the drought operation and the first newspaper supplement in two leading newspapers in December 2004. Articles and features on the drought have been published in the local and international media as well as other publications, while three operations updates have been produced and posted on the Federation website. These have been instrumental in giving information about the cooperation of the national society with various stakeholders and partners, as well as sharing information on the progress of the drought operation.

Red Cross personnel in the operation featured in the media over 60 times¹ promoting the Movement and highlighting the drought intervention strategies. The national society is now better equipped to handle the media. Relationships have also been enhanced with the local administration as well as with the government.

¹ A service agreement was entered into with Steadman and Associates, a media monitoring and research company to monitor coverage of the national society's drought activities in the media.

The national society managed the process of printing of 500 T-shirts and the production of a video in August 2005.

Impact:

The national society played a strong role in creating awareness and advocating for understanding among Kenyans about the suffering of millions of drought stricken people. This advocacy role resulted in increased partnerships with hundreds of members of the corporate sector, embassies, NGOs and the general public which, in turn, helped increase the favourable image of the national society in the public as well as promoting the Red Cross as a credible humanitarian organisation.

More people from the corporate sector, embassies, government, NGOs, communities and the public appreciate more the humanitarian work of the national society and now understand the principles, ideals and mission. This has opened up avenues for support to other activities of the national society.

Objective 6: Strengthen the capacity of the Kenya Red Cross Society (Headquarters, Makueni, Kwale and Lamu branches) and empowering the target community to minimize the long-term effects of the drought.

Achievements:

The logistics and accounts officers in Kwale branch were inducted on logistics and procurement procedures respectively with a view to improving the warehouse inventory systems and financial management at the branch.

30 volunteers from Makueni and Lamu have been trained on community based targeting and distribution (CBTD) of relief items with a bias towards seed distribution. They have also been trained on basic crop husbandry practices so as to pass the same to farmers during seeds distribution and crop performance monitoring. Food monitors who are also branch volunteers and trained on CBTD by WFP conducted this activity in Kwale.

Early warning systems have been put in place.

Lamu and Kwale have been supported with a computer, laptop, printer and photocopier for better monitoring and reporting, thus enhancing the capacity of the branch to communicate and produce timely reports.

Impact:

The national society's disaster preparedness and response capacities in drought situations in Kwale, Makueni and Lamu branches have been significantly strengthened, which process has, in turn, contributed towards more empowered communities in these areas.

Constraints:

- Equipment for Makueni has been withheld at the national society's Headquarters due to security concerns at the branch offices. Once rehabilitated and strengthened, the equipment will be transferred to the branch.
- Internal wrangles and infighting within the Makueni branch management committee hampered progress on the planned procurement training.

Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement -- Principles and initiatives

This operation strives to promote the Algiers Plan of Action and ARCHI 2010 through its health and care; and water and sanitation objectives. The Federation's Strategy 2010 is advanced through the drought operation's capacity building objective. This operation similarly upholds the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement principles of humanity and impartiality.

National Society Capacity Building

Increased collaboration saw the respective branch volunteers improve their coordination skills with Ministry of Agriculture and Office of the President personnel to oversee seeds distribution involving the allocation planning, distribution, monitoring and evaluation of crop performance.

60 representatives of the projects and volunteers from the Kwale and Makueni branches have been trained in Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation (PHAST), and are carrying out hygiene and sanitation promotion.

Public address systems and generators have also been delivered to Kwale and Lamu districts to facilitate HIV/AIDS awareness campaigns.

The procurement of a video camera and editing suite to facilitate video coverage on the drought operation will increase media coverage through the supply of footage to media houses after events and activities. The national society has also procured digital cameras which have been used to promote advocacy in publications, as well as on Federation's website.

Lessons learned

The following follow-up measures are recommended but not limited to:

Implementation of water and sanitation projects (both software and hardware); these projects need to be constructed adhering to all technical specifications and the water management committees need to be further trained on operation and maintenance of water supplies. The beneficiary communities should be fully involved in all stages of project implementation so that they can own the project. This is the only way to make them sustainable.

The water and sanitation projects in this operation address the needs of a very small percentage of the vulnerable people in the districts and thus there is need to support the branches to implement more projects. These are expensive projects and thus require more donor support.

The HIV/AIDS pandemic cannot be addressed in a short time. The already concluded activities should therefore form a basis for further HIV/AIDS programmes in the targeted branches. The remaining HIV/AIDS programme activities should therefore be integrated into the national society's strategic and annual work plans.

Seed distribution is a very important component in addressing food insecurity in drought prone areas and should thus be promoted in the target districts. Fruit farming thrives in drought prone environments (especially Makueni district) and should also be encouraged and promoted. This venture coupled with water projects suggested above could raise the peasants' income considerably.

Continued media publicity of the national society activities and drought operation gives the public and donors a transparent account of how their funds have been utilised. This activity should be continuous.

The capacity of the three branches needs to be strengthened through training of Red Cross Action Teams. The national society should consider employing branch coordinators for Lamu and Makueni branches to oversee the smooth conclusion of the remaining drought activities under this appeal and any future programmes.

The national society should consider having food security projects in drought prone areas of its branches. These projects will have long-term benefits on the drought-affected populace.

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| <p>Special note: This Interim Final Report is being issued without the financial report. The Final Report, comprising of the final financial report and this narrative report, will be issued shortly.</p> |
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