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Emergency Appeal Operation Update Namibia: Drought Response

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Emergency appeal n° MDRNA008
GLIDE n° DR-2013-000062-NAM
Operation update n°1
14 Sep, 2013 (date issued)

Period covered by this update: 07 to 13 Sep 2013.

Summary:

During the week, Ohangwena and Kavango regions trained volunteers in community infant and young child feeding (IYCF). The training attracted 40 volunteers in Kavango region and 118 volunteers in Ohangwena region. The training is one of the activities funded by UNICEF. Two soup kitchen sites were completed in Ohangwena region and the sites will be operational in the coming week.



Left, participants demonstrating hand washing, right Participants in a group discussion: Photo by RDRT

The Situation

Soup Kitchen

Soup kitchens in Kunene and Kavango continue to provide hot meals to beneficiaries, the total number of beneficiaries served in Kavango region this week was 1,815 out of which 635 beneficiaries were served at the Red Cross office soup kitchen and 1,080 were served at the kitchen site in Omega Clinic. While in Kunene region, a total number of 3,255 beneficiaries were served, 1,106 at the soup kitchen in the Red Cross office, 1,066 in Katutura soup kitchen and 1,083 at Donkerhoek soup kitchen in Khorixas. Construction of two soup kitchens has been completed in Ohangwena, the beneficiaries have been identified and registered, and preparation of food is due to start on Monday in the coming week.

Table showing number of beneficiaries fed

Region	Kitchen site	No. of beneficiaries previously fed	No. of beneficiaries fed this week	Total No. of beneficiaries so far fed from the start
Kunene	Red Cross office	3,855	1,106	21,928
	Katutura	2,657	1,066	
	Donkerhoek (Khorixas)	3,074	1,083	
Total no. fed in Kunene		9,586	3,255	
Kavango	Red Cross office	3,312	635	
	Omega 1 Clinic	3,960	1,180	
Total no. fed in Kavango		7,272	1,815	
Total No. of beneficiaries fed in Kunene and Kavango during the week		16,858	5,070	

Nutrition

Nutrition training on Infant and Young child feeding for community volunteers was conducted in Kavango and Ohangwena regions. The training attracted 40 volunteers in Kavango and 128 volunteers in Ohangwena. Topics covered during the training included exclusive breastfeeding, complementary feeding, recommended infant and child feeding practices and Middle Upper

Arm Circumference (MUAC) measurements.

Middle Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) measurements were not taken this week as the regions were busy conducting IYCF training.

Table showing MUAC Measurements

Region	No. of previous MUAC Measurements			No. of this week's MUAC Measurements			Total No. of children so far measured
	Fully malnourished	Moderately malnourished	Not malnourished	Fully malnourished	Moderately malnourished	Not malnourished	
Kunene	7	3	0	0	0	0	143
Kavango	9	13	111	0	0	0	
Totals	16	16	111	0	0	0	

WatSan

In Ohangwena region, water purification tablets were distributed to 21,000 beneficiaries, this was done in 49 villages in Okongo constituency, while in Omundaungilo, water purification tablets were distributed to 500 beneficiaries. In Kunene region, the following activities were undertaken during the week.

1. Preparation and analyzing data from the baseline survey
2. Preparation for distribution of WatSan kit 2 items
3. 6 volunteers trained in the distribution techniques
4. Distribution of 3 WatSan Kit 2 items in 4 villages in Epupa along the Kunene River

Resource mobilization

The trial run of three months for the Namibian helping Namibians Campaign has ended, this means that all boxes used for the collections countrywide will be removed from the stores, and a proper inventory of all collected items will be done to establish the quantity and value of items donated. The NS also received another donation of N\$160,000 from NIP.

Upcoming plans

1. Final completion of WatSan baseline report
2. Continuation of distribution of WatSan Kit 2 items in Kunene
3. Setting up soup kitchens in Opuwo and Outjo
4. Continuation of nutrition activities
5. Continuation of soup kitchen services
6. Preparation of the distribution report in Kunene

HR recruitments

All positions for drought response staff have been re-advertised, this follows a failed recruitment in the first attempt where most applicants indicated high salary expectations far beyond what is being offered by the NS. Shortlists are due to be done after the deadline for applications.

Coordination and partnerships

The NS had coordination meeting with Office of the Prime Minister (OPM); this was to discuss delivery of food items donated by OPM to the regional offices.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The NS is providing hot meals to drought affected community in Kunene and Kavango; soup kitchen constructions have been finalized in Ohangwena. Nutrition training has been conducted in Kavango and Ohangwena regions and implementation of nutrition activities under the UNICEF supported project is ongoing, water purification tablets and hygiene kits have been

distributed in Ohangwena and Kunene regions.

Progress towards outcomes

Food security, nutrition and livelihoods

Outcome 1: At least 2,000 Orphan and Vulnerable children, disabled and elderly people have improved access to sufficient nutrition food in the targeted areas for up to six months

Outputs (expected results)	Planned activities
<p>Integrated needs assessment and baseline completed</p> <p>Provide cooked meals at the four regional soup kitchens to 2,000 of the most vulnerable individuals in the four regions for six months (two times a day).</p> <p>Strengthen and establish a total of four kitchen gardens for supporting feeding scheme</p> <p>4 regions = 4 kitchens = feeding 2,000 in total (500 per kitchen)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Designing of methodology and questionnaires for integrated WASH, Food Security and Nutrition assessment → Household Economy Security technical support → 40 volunteers are trained to assist government for targeting and food distribution (10 in each affected area) → Support 2000 individuals (500 most vulnerable individuals each in the four regions). → Procure cooking materials for each kitchen in each region. These will include 2 big pots, one stove with two plates, 500 plates, 5 washing dishes and 500 spoons per region. → Procure foods items for soup kitchen (Maize meal 176.4 MT, Beans 3.15 MT, Fish 1.6 MT, Beef 1.6 MT, cooking oil 1.6 MT and vegetable 5.25 MT) The ratio was calculated using standard calculator. → Train 40 volunteers (10 per region) in food preparation → 10 volunteers cook and provide meals to beneficiaries per region → Establish one community group (fifteen members per group) per garden that will work on the gardens entailing beneficiaries of the feeding schemes. If necessary, gardening activities will start November and December during rainfall season. The community groups will also benefit from the tanks to be provided all though the gardens will be next to river or water points. → Give one training and follow-up support to each community groups on gardening (soil preparation, compost making, planting, pest and diseases control, watering and harvesting) → Procure vegetable seeds for the gardens (including Cabbages, Tomatoes, Lettuce, Rape, Carrot, Beetroots, Spinach, Onion and Green peppers), 350 kg per community group. → Procure tools that will be used in the gardens (8 watering cans, 8 digging forks, 8 rakes, 3 spraying cans, 5 spades, 3 wheelbarrows, 15 gloves, 2 generators, 4 roles of steel wires, 2 roles of soft wires, 2 roles of diamond wire, 56 poles, 2 gates, 25 cement, 4 black pipes, 4 tanks and tank stands each garden) → Procure other gardening inputs such fertilizers and weed killers → Support soil preparation, planting, weeding, disease and pest control and harvesting by NRCS volunteers and Government extension workers.
Progress	→ Five soup kitchens have so far been established, three in Kunene region and two in Kavango region, these have so far provided hot meals to a total of 21,928 beneficiaries.

Outcome 2: At least 80 per cent of under 5 children have access to community based nutrition and during the drought emergency in four northern regions of Namibia

Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
<p>80% of households with mothers and caregivers of children under 5 years of age receive nutrition education and counseling and hygiene promotion</p> <p>100% of children under 5 years from the target regions, identified as being severely</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Conduct a minimum of two TOTs in C-IYCF, acute malnutrition screening and WASH hygiene promotion (PHAST) for 350 volunteers → Cascade C-IYCF, acute malnutrition screening and hygiene promotion to health volunteers in Kavango, Ohangwena, Oshikoto and Kunene regions. Target 80% (280) of 350 volunteers over 12 month period. → Develop a household monitoring and record keeping template for use by 350 trained health volunteers → Develop and set up strong referral linkages to existing health facilities implementing the Nutrition, Assessment, Counseling and Support (NACS) programme. → Develop a referral tool that links pregnant and lactating women, infants and young children to health facilities for treatment and management of severe acute malnutrition. → Orientate Government Health Committees including the Regional Aids Coordinating Committee (RACOC) and Constituency Aids Coordinating Committee (CACOC) in the

malnourished are referred to health facility services for management and treatment	target regions on the expanded scope of practice of health volunteers
Community demand for maternal, infant and young child nutrition	
Progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Nutrition training on Infant and Young child feeding for community volunteers was conducted in Kavango and Ohangwena regions. The training attracted 40 volunteers in Kavango and 118 volunteers in Ohangwena. → Middle Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) measurements have so far been taken on 133 children in Kavango and 13 out of the 113 children were found moderately malnourished while 9 were found malnourished. In Kunene, MUAC measurements have been taken on 10 children, 7 out of the 10 were found malnourished and were referred to hospital for treatment.
Outcome 3: Reduced food insecurity among 4,000 affected rural households through inputs, support and training.	
Outputs (expected results)	Planned Activities
4,000 households provided with seeds and 150 lead farmers trained in good farming practices and provided with fertiliser	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Carry out continuous assessments of food security, nutrition and livelihoods → Identify 150 lead farmers (37 per region) → Distribute maize and pearl millet (mahangu) seeds to 4,000 and 2,000 households respectively and fertilizers to 150 lead farmers. (25 kg of maize seed, 25 kg of mahangu seed per household and 50kg of fertilizer per lead farmer) for a field of up to 4 ha. → Distribution of tools to 4,000 households (each household will receive one hoe). → Community sensitization and training on best agricultural practices → Identification of drought tolerant crop varieties → Train 150 lead farmers in conservation agriculture and usage of drought tolerant, early maturing crops varieties and introduction to livestock and rangeland management → Four training in seed selection and preservation for 300 follower farmers conducted by lead farmers. → Conduct a training on post harvesting and storage handling training for 150 lead farmers → Seed multiplication demonstration → Monitoring of progress for the targeted farmers by NRCS regional officer and extension technicians. DRR and Monitoring and Evaluation coordinators will conduct quarterly field visits for monitoring purpose.
Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion	
Outcome 4: 11,000 families have access to safe and clean water for emergency domestic and livestock consumption.	
Outputs (expected results)	Planned Activities
85% of target beneficiaries reports access and use of safe drinking water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Distribution of water purification tablets to 11,000 households → Distribution of jerry cans to 11,000 households → Training of 11,000 households on use of water purification tablets at time of distribution and in follow up home visits. → Distribution of plastic water tanks (5,000L) for 24 community groups, Directorate of Water Supply, Sanitation and Coordination will be filling water in the tanks
Increased access to water for livestock.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Rehabilitate 5 water points
Progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → In Ohangwena, Water purification tablets have been distributed to 21,000 beneficiaries in 49 villages in Okongo constituency, while in Omundaungilo, water purification tablets were distributed to 500 beneficiaries. 20,000 sachets of water purification tablets donated to councilors of Oshikango and Omundaungilo constituencies are due to be distributed. → In Kunene region, the WatSan RDRT is preparing and analyzing data from the baseline survey and 6 volunteers were trained in distribution techniques of WatSan kits. 3 WatSan Kit 2 items were distributed in four villages in Epupa along the Kunene river.
Outcome 5: Increased hygiene knowledge for community members in the targeted areas	

Outputs (expected results)	Planned Activities
Hygiene promotion activities which meet Sphere standards in terms of the identification and use of hygiene items provided to target population.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Training 350 volunteers in hygiene promotion using PHAST. → Community education on hygiene promotion → Provide hygiene kits to volunteers
Outcome 6: To provide access 450 individuals to sanitation facilities in relocation areas of San communities in Oshikoto region for	
Outputs (expected results)	Planned Activities
85% target population reports access and regular use of sanitation facilities provided	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Train 15 volunteers in emergency latrine construction → Consultation with affected population to determine latrine design and location → Construct 22 latrines at a camp for 450 relocated individuals → Awareness raising on the use of the latrine by NRCS volunteers

Challenges

1. MUAC screening have not been happening during the last two weeks, this was partly because the screening was mostly being done by the regional managers who have a lot of activities to undertake, however, volunteers have now been trained in MUAC screening and its hoped that this will help to speed up the implementation of nutrition activities.
2. Recruitments of drought response staff have to date not been successful; this is because the first attempt failed as applicants indicated high salary expectation which was far beyond what is in the NS basket. One person was interviewed but didn't accept to be based in the field. However, all the positions of drought response staff have been re-advertised.