

# Annual report



International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

## Namibia

MAANA002

30 April 2011

This report covers the period  
01/01/10 to 31/12/2010



Learners visiting NRCS stand at Ongwediva annual trade fair 2010

## In brief

**Programme outcome:** The Namibia Red Cross Society (NRCS) is well known for its work across the country both at national and grassroots level. As the only humanitarian organization in Namibia, the National Society is committed to providing excellent humanitarian services to those affected by disasters such as seasonal floods, HIV and AIDS, food insecurity and other vulnerabilities. The Red Cross is supporting the government in their humanitarian tasks according to the priority needs of the people in the country. Autonomous to the government, the National Society (NS) cooperates with government at different levels in the prevention of disasters, promotion of health and the mitigation of human suffering through various programmes for the benefit of the communities.

The National Society operation is guided by series of strategic documents and frameworks to provide holistic and realistic approaches to reach vulnerable people with quality services in a sustainable manner. In line with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) Strategy 2020, the expected programme outcome is that communities are resilient to disasters and public health emergencies, with protected livelihoods and strengthened capacity to recover from disasters and crises, with healthy and safe living, social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace. The NRCS health programme is also guided by the Strategic Framework for Integrated Health and Social Services Programmes in Southern African as well as the Millennium Development Goals. Priority areas for NRCS were also informed by national strategic frameworks such as Namibia Vision 2030, the National Development Plan, the National Strategic Framework for HIV and AIDS, Tuberculosis (TB) plan, Malaria plan, Food Security Strategy and Disaster Management Strategy.

**Programme(s) summary:** During 2010, NRCS provided services to Namibian communities with the aim of reducing vulnerability and enhancing human dignity. Through the four core programme components: Humanitarian Diplomacy, Health and Care, Disaster Management and Organizational Development, NRCS's programme activities have been implemented both in parallel and in an integrated way, and have aimed to reach as many people as possible with quality services.

Through its communication and advocacy unit, NRCS actively disseminated information about its programmes and services to the communities through newsletters, annual reports and other promotional brochures to create an understanding of NRCS's mission and vision as well as fundamental humanitarian principles and values.

The health and care programme is intended to reduce individual and community vulnerability and thus foster healthy and safe living. In so doing, NRCS provided humanitarian services to vulnerable people in the country. Under the HIV and AIDS home-based care (HBC) project, a coverage of 31,966 clients accumulated over a period of 5 years with 673 new clients reached in 2010. The HBC clients are beneficiaries of activities designed to: prevent further infections, expand care treatment and support and reduce stigma and discrimination. Through the community TB care project, NRCS has been involved in community awareness activities, mainly focused on adherence to treatment, prevention and referral for medical care. The projects are strong in three regions and supported by the Global Fund – Round 5, which is ending May 2011.

Water supply and sanitation activities continued in Kunene and Ohangwena regions with funding from the European Union (EU), Belgian and Swedish Red Cross. To date the projects have supplied rural communities with clean water by constructing water points, rehabilitating existing water points, promoting hygiene through conducting health and hygiene sessions and construction of pit latrines.

The NRCS disaster management department has been the most active in the past few years in responding to floods and health emergencies. Namibia experienced floods and about 110,000 people were affected in Oshana, Kavango and Caprivi regions. A total of 23,782 people were relocated to reception centres with 8 deaths recorded in 2010. Given the increase in emergencies, NRCS scaled-up its preparedness and response interventions. It made a continuous effort to build capacity and pre-position relief stocks. As a result, staff, volunteers and communities are being empowered through community-based risk reduction interventions.

Organizational development has focused on strengthening membership of the NS and improvement of volunteer management throughout the country. The department reached major milestones in terms of setting up structures at branch levels as well as strengthening the capacity of the NS leadership at all levels. The department's mandate and activities are to ensure that the regional branches are strengthened in promotion and operationalization of humanitarian principles and values, as well as to scale-up its services in more efficient and effective way.

**Financial situation:** The original 2010 budget was CHF 1,744,995 of which CHF 866,295 (50 per cent) was covered during the reporting period (including opening balance). Overall expenditure during the reporting period was CHF 753,176 (87 per cent of available funds and 43 per cent of the original budget).

[Click here to go directly to the financial report](#)

**See also:**

[MDRNA005](#): DREF (CHF 156,697) allocated to support NRCS in delivering immediate assistance to 15,000 people affected by floods in Kavango and Caprivi regions.

**Number of people we have reached:** An estimated 85,000 people benefited from health and care and 50,000 from disaster management programmes.

**Our partners:** NRCS worked in partnership with the Ministry of Health and is a sub-recipient of Global Fund Round 5. The partnership is for the promotion of community-based TB care. The NS is also a sub-recipient of Rolling Continuation Channel (RCC) Global Fund Grant of which NANASO is the Principal recipient. NRCS received technical and financial support from the following Movement partners - Netherlands, Spanish, German, Swedish and Belgium-Flanders Red Cross Societies. The NS also enjoys the financial and technical support in all areas from IFRC and ICRC. The NS also collaborates with various government ministries and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) at all levels. The resource mobilisation division enjoys the support of local companies such as MTC, Namibia Airports Company, Woermann Brock, Safari Hotel and Kalahari Hotel.

The NRCS and IFRC want to thank partners and contributors for their response to this appeal.

## Context

Evidently the effects of HIV and AIDS is reversing development gains, thus Namibia cannot hope to achieve economic growth and development without comprehensive efforts to deal with the pandemic across all sub-sectors. The number of OVC in Namibia is increasing and it is projected that by 2021, Namibia will have approximately 250,000 orphans under the age of 15. The rights of these children to health, education, a caring family environment and full participation in society may be under threat. Namibia has one of the highest TB incidences in the world. The need to promote community contribution to care as part of National Tuberculosis Programme activity is particularly urgent. Due to the magnitude of the TB epidemic and its correlation with HIV and AIDS, the situation demands the mainstreaming of TB into the broad national response to HIV and AIDS.

Extreme poverty is common in rural areas and in northern regions (which are also predominantly rural). Namibia is the most arid country in sub-Saharan Africa with 80 per cent of the land classified as arid, and 20 per cent as semi-arid. This makes the country prone to recurrent droughts and food deficits. Lack of adequate natural fresh water resources also exacerbates food production capacity and increases vulnerability among communities. Half of the population depend on agriculture (mainly subsistence) for its livelihood.

The anticipated effects of climate change could have potentially negative impact on the ability of the government to fulfil its developmental obligations. The government through its various agencies and departments and in full partnership with the non-governmental and private sectors have and will continue to develop and adopt pre-emptive, preventative and corrective actions to address environmental and climate change issues. The arid environment, recurrent drought and desertification have contributed to make Namibia one of the most vulnerable countries. The economy is very dependent on agricultural production and this is threatened by the negative impacts of climate change. The main hazards in Namibia have been droughts and floods in some areas such as Caprivi, Oshana, Ohangwena and Omusati, affecting food production, livestock and water resources. The past three years flooding in the northeast and western parts of Namibia are unusual in these areas and clearly indicate the effects of climate change.

## Progress towards outcomes

### Disaster Management

**Programme Component: Community-based Disaster Preparedness**

**Outcome 1: The human, financial, material resources and disaster management systems and procedures are enhanced through the implementation of Disaster Management Master Plan (DMMP).**

### Achievements

NRCS developed a DMMP that was reviewed and finalised in 2010. The DMMP is aligned to the government's master plan on disasters.

In collaboration with the Caprivi regional council, a village based disaster risk management committee was established at Lisikili area in Caprivi region. These are coordinating bodies aimed at strengthening disaster response by directing early warning and early action at community level. Eighty-eight households in Kavango and Caprivi region were sensitised with disaster preparedness information focusing on early warning systems. The NS also conducted disaster management training (to develop contingency plans) for communities and government officials in the Kavango, Caprivi, and Omusati regions that reached 183 participants.

**Outcome 2: The capacity and efficiency of disaster management mechanisms are improved to ensure optimal disaster preparedness.**

### Achievements

In improving the NRCS capacity for disaster preparedness focusing on building the capacity of its team, the NRCS participated in the simulation exercise, conducted in collaboration with the Office of the Prime Minister, UNOCHA and the Regional Councils. The exercise was aimed at testing the preparedness level of the team and to pre-test the contingency plans of the Regional Disaster Risk Management Committees.

**Outcome 3: RFL (Tracing Services) are effectively provided to respond to emerging needs within the framework of its Disaster Preparedness and Response Programs.**

### Achievements

During the period under review, family link services were requested and provided to Namibian residents. Three cases of tracing were successfully conducted during the period under review, a total number of 322 Red Cross messages (RCMs) were exchanged; 204 RCMs collected, 112 RCMs distributed and 118 RCMs received. Under the family visit programme, 369 family members visited their 122 relatives in prisons by May 2010.

### Constraints or Challenges:

The frequent floods compromises the implementation of the planned activities as the NS disaster management shifts focus to response. Similarly, limited funding and the process delays that lead to late disbursement of funds from the Federation also derail the implementation plan.

### Programme Component: Disaster Response

**Outcome 1: Disaster response mechanisms are improved to ensure timely response to minimise the impact of emergencies and disasters on affected populations.**

### Achievements

The NRCS provided relief items to a total of 23,789 beneficiaries in all the three regions of Oshana, Kavango and Caprivi affected by flooding. The floods operation mainly focused on the provision of shelter, clean water, sanitation, hygiene promotion and relief items distribution to 110,000 affected people. The relief items distributed included tarpaulins, black sheets, bed nets, soap, water makers, tents, blankets and jerry cans. All relocation camps were provided with constructed pit latrines. Supported by the IFRC Southern Africa Regional Representation (SARO) NRCS managed to respond to the needs of 23,789 beneficiaries relocated to safe grounds.

**Table 1: Population affected in the three regions**

Region	Caprivi	Kavango	Oshana	Total
People Affected	50,000	30,000	30,000	110,000
People relocated	17,109	5,533	1,140	23,789
Number of deaths	8	0	0	8

### Constraints or Challenges

The disaster response operation of 2010 exhausted all relief items and the NS does not have any prepositioned stock in case of an emergency. There is a need to mobilize resources for restocking the relief items and pre-positioning in the disaster prone regions.

## Programme Component: Food Security

### Outcome 1: Household food availability is improved.

#### Achievements

A total of 150 households (103 female-headed households and 47 male-headed households) benefited from seeds distribution, (2kg Kangara, 2kg Okashana and 2kg Macia) in the Mpungu and Mukwe constituencies in the Kavango Region. The support was in response to the plight of the people affected by HIV and AIDS especially those on treatment specifically targeting HBC clients, OVC guardians and flood affected households.

The community of Linyati Constituency in Caprivi region, severely affected by floods in 2010 and relocated to higher grounds, were provided with millet, ploughing chains and maize seeds per household through the recovery programme. In total, 191 households (956 people) were supported. NRCS (OVC Project) supported six OVC support groups with gardening tools and seeds.

### Outcome 2: Household food utilization is improved

#### Achievements

Under this outcome, NRCS focused on improved food security at household level for the food insecure families that include the resource poor and HIV and AIDS affected families. Through the gardening projects, there are two leadership associations established in Okauva and Eenhana settlements to engage communities in income generation activities. Approximately seven support groups with a total number of 104 members have vegetable garden through the support of NRCS food security project and are progressing well in Caprivi Region. These gardens supply Katima Mulilo town with vegetables. A 5,000-litre water tank was provided to the project while a borehole is planned to be constructed for this project in 2011 budget.

Four support groups with 48 members were supported to start their own goats and poultry projects. Each member was given a goat and two chickens.

In total, 73 goats and 365 chickens were distributed among support groups. Chickens and goats were procured and distributed to individual's association members and 28 OVCs living with HIV and AIDS at Kasheshe and Liselo also benefited from the poultry support in Caprivi region.



Garden at Mpach in Caprivi Region



Goats at Ikumwe in Caprivi Region

**Table 2: Support provided in the different regions**

Region	Type of support
Caprivi	132 Goats, 365 Chickens Variety of seeds for gardens, fencing material and tanks and pipes
Kavango	Fertilizer, spades, watering cans, pangas, rakes, measuring tapes, hoes and

	seeds (Cabbage, Onions, Beetroot and Carrots)
<b>Kunene</b>	Irrigation system for the Opuwo OVC Community Garden project
<b>Ohangwena</b>	22 Goats Fencing material Brick making equipments, 2 x brick moulds, cements

### **Outcome 3: Household access to food is improved**

#### **Achievements**

Several trainings were undertaken to strengthen the groups and community skills. Two food security officers visited complementary projects in Lesotho to acquire additional knowledge on supporting the implementation of the local food security programme. Similarly, an excursion tour was arranged for the Kavango regional team to visit project-implemented activities in the Caprivi Region. The aim was to expose staff to some of the successful projects in order to facilitate replication of the initiatives in the Kavango Region.

#### **Constraints or Challenges:**

- Funds allocated for this programme was relatively low and thus compromised the effectiveness of the activities.
- Flooding also severely affected crops and vegetable gardens supported through the food security programme.

With the recurrent floods in regions, there is a need to engage into water harvesting projects that should be planned and implemented to minimize the gardening water shortages. Training is essential to ensure sustainability of these projects and specific community initiated projects need to be supported to minimize donor dependence.

## **Health and Care**

### **Programme Component: Community-based Health**

#### **Outcome 1: Communities' capacity to reduce their own vulnerability to health hazards and injuries through knowledge of community-based health and First Aid (CBH&FA) is increased**

#### **Achievements**

In 2010, NRCS trained eight people on commercial First Aid. The NS does not have a First Aid instructor at the moment, and is in the process of re-organizing its First Aid unit in order to expand the training and provision of First Aid.

With the support of SARRO, NRCS started training staff members and volunteers on human pandemic preparedness (H2P). A total of 60 participants were trained in three out of 13 regions in Namibia, namely; Ohangwena, Khomas and Otjozondjupa region.

#### **Outcome 2: Access to immunization services to children under five increased in NRCS target areas.**

#### **Achievements**

The NRCS volunteers who participated in the countrywide H1N1 immunization were oriented on H1N1 during the mass immunization campaign. NRCS also received 40 post exposure prophylaxis (PEP) kits, kept in the central warehouse in Windhoek to be dispatched accordingly (when and where the need is).

#### **Outcome 3: Communities are protected from tuberculosis (TB) through adequate surveillance, preparedness and response measures.**

## Achievements

The TB regional coordinator for Caprivi Region was recruited in August 2010 and has been going through capacity building training supported by SARRO. A total of 91 field promoters of Omusati, Caprivi and Ohangwena received a TB refresher training over 4 days. This training has fully involved the DTC's from the MoHSS. TB Field promoters conducted 3,996 sessions on TB/HIV and AIDS via group community sensitisation out of the targeted 2,650 sessions in 2010.

Sixty per cent of TB defaulters were successfully traced and put back on treatment in comparison to 42 per cent in 2009. The IFRC maintained active membership of the Stop TB partnership whereby NRCS benefit from this initiative.

## Constraints or Challenges

- Lack of transport to support integrated tracing of TB and HIV outreach and tracing services in order to maximise adherence amongst TB and HIV patients.
- Heavy rainfall and floods led to difficulties in accessing health or DOT facilities. In addition, floods washed away the roads, limiting the DOT supporters' direct contact with their patients on regular basis.
- The above challenges do not only affect the project performance but also lead to patients interrupting TB treatment and eventually defaulting TB treatment.
- Distance that TB volunteers have to travel to monitor and support families and patients in applying DOT for TB patients are long in some catchment areas, hampering desired outcomes or desired DOTS.

## Programme Component: Emergency Health

**Outcome 1: Communities have access to curative, preventative and promotional health services during emergency and/or disaster situations.**

### Achievements

During the floods disaster at the beginning of the year, NRCs ensured the provision of relief, health and care service to the families affected and displaced by floods in the Kavango and Caprivi Regions. The NRCS trained volunteers conducted relief distribution, community sensitisation on GBV, reproduction health and hygiene promotion reaching 300 people in relocation camps.

NRCS also facilitated the provision of clean water and sanitation facilities for the communities in relocation camp, also befitting the host communities. With support of the Red Cross volunteers, the camps were maintained clean and water safely kept for domestic use.

## Programme Component: Water and Sanitation (WatSan)

**Outcome 1: Access to safe water, sanitation facilities and hygiene promotion in indentified vulnerable communities in increased**

### Achievements

NRCS aims to reduce death and sicknesses caused by water related diseases due to poor water and sanitation. The WatSan intervention reduces death and sicknesses resulting from water related diseases by promoting better hygiene practices through conducting Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation sessions. The incidence of water-borne diseases is also dealt with by providing communities with sanitation facilities, accessing water of better quality, quantity and reliability, while capacitating communities to manage and protect their water sources.

During the reporting period, NRCS WatSan project conducted health and hygiene session in 12 schools, 4 cleaning campaign in Ohangwena region, reached 164 villages with participatory hygiene and sanitation transformation, 14 permanent VIP latrines to 10 mobile schools and 11 radio dissemination messages. Most activity has greatly surpassed the project targets.

The project had a target of 75 boreholes and 27 hand-dug wells to be protected, rehabilitated and repaired, in 2010, 11 protections of new hand dug wells was completed in the Kunene region. In total 16 out of the targeted 46 wells are protected since the project inception. Of the 11 protection

completed 2 hand dug wells were fitted with the Rope and Washer pump (Elephant Pump). In addition, 7 new springs were protected and extended. Relatively, 5 water points and three mobile schools were handed over to the communities.

In order to increase the capacity to implement WatSan activities, NCRS conducted training to build capacity of staff and volunteers in community-based management, operation and maintenance. Five day training for 11 volunteers on Water Points Association/Water Point Committee formation training followed by refresher training took place in Eenhana, Ohangwena region. Two project staff attended a capacity building (WatSan kit 5) Workshop in Matuu, Kenya.

#### **Constraints or Challenges:**

Due to limited funding support, the project was not able to meet the toilet demand of the communities. There has been high demand of VIP latrines than what the project can provide. General observation illustrates that few women are represented in the key position of the water points committee.

## National Society Development (NSD)

**Outcome 1: NRCS leadership (governance and management) capacity increased in developing and implementing policies and strategies for optimal organisation, performance and accountability.**

#### **Achievements**

During the year, the NSD department implemented activities to ensure that the NRCS reaches its goal of becoming a well-functioning NS. The NRCS is establishing and developing its branches to be viable and vibrant units that will lead the NS to a well functioning organisation. It further endeavours to become a well functioning organisation with well-defined policies, system and procedures in place to ensure efficient and effective management of the organization.

The NRCS managed to establish structures in all the six constituencies of the Caprivi Region in which the Zambezi River Basin Initiative is implemented. The period under review witnessed the setting up of 15 youth structures in Ohangwena and Kavango region from regional, district and constituencies level. Structures are also established in Oshikoto region in the seven constituencies during this period.

#### **Programme Component: Branch Development and Volunteer Management**

**Outcome 1: NRCS branches are viable and vibrant with sound volunteer and local youth network management systems.**

#### **Achievements**

Regional staff and constituency board committee members (30 participants) were trained on branch development and volunteer management, which enhances the members understanding of Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, its operations and how to strengthen their branches, which would contribute to a well-functioning NS. The NSD department conducted a branch development workshop in the Oshikoto Region, for the newly elected members from six respective constituencies in the region. The training covered legal frameworks, volunteer development, branch development, action planning and branch self-assessment under the Intensified Capacity Building Plan supported by the IFRC

The Volunteer Policy and Management Guidelines and Youth Policies were developed and endorsed. The policies were disseminated in Kavango, Ohangwena and Kunene regions.

A one-day information dissemination membership recruitment drive was undertaken in Otjiwarongo, Otjozondjupa region. One-week membership recruitment was undertaken in two constituencies of Otjozondjupa region whereby 56 new members were recruited. Khomas region recorded 30 new members registered during the Haiti Gala Dinner in Windhoek.

Ohangwena region recruited 27 new members and 52 in Kavango region respectively. A total of 165 new members were recruited in 2010.

Building the capacity of volunteers, two CBH&FA multiplier workshops were conducted in the Caprivi and Otjozondjupa Regions. A total of 60 volunteers were trained in CBHFA to be cascaded further to the communities in 2011.

### Constraints or Challenges

- It has been a challenge to replicate CBH&FA multipliers due to a lack of funding in reproduction of manuals and workshops. Therefore, more funding should be sourced through other NRCS programmes to assist with implementation of CBHFA activities and human resource capacity building.
- Secondly, it is noted that, youth structures, are being set with no funds earmarked for training of newly elected committees on branch development, resource mobilization and future sustainability of youth structures. It is then recommended that, other NRCS programmes should budget for youth activities in the regions as part of integration of NSD activities in to their programmes.
- Expanding to two more regions and working with more youth is still recommended.
- There is a need to develop a membership recruitment guideline to ensure recruitment of more members.

### Programme Component: Resource Development

**Outcome 1: NRCS resource base is improved and ensures sustainability of programmes.**

**Outcome 2: NRCS has a well-functioning internal and external communication system supported by a reliable information technology infrastructure.**

### Achievements

Resource mobilization unit through various activities strives towards enabling NS to meet its core cost and functions without relying heavily on foreign donor funding. As such, considerable amount of funds was collected through various initiatives amid challenges. The Airport and Hotel collections initiative raised a total of N\$ 53,957.24 during reporting period.

The NRCS joined the IFRC worldwide to raise funds for the people of Haiti after their country was hit by a 7.0 magnitude earthquake on the 12 January 2010. NRCS partnered with other local organisations such as MTC, the Auas Rotary Club, Democratic Media Holdings, the Council of Churches in Namibia and the National Youth Council. Activities such as Gala dinner, a music concert an SMS line and a memorial service are planned to fundraise in honour of the Haitians. The local Haiti campaign managed to raise N\$402,000.00 and the funds have already been transferred to the Federation Haiti Relief Fund Account.



Head of Africa Zone- IFRC, Alasan Senghore receiving the cheque from NRCS Secretary General, Dorkas Kapembe-Haiduwa

Training for five regional resource mobilisation committees was conducted, five regional branches; Kavango, Caprivi, Oshikoto, Ohangwena and Omusati are trained. The establishment of the committees aims to decentralise the resource mobilisation activities and empower the regions to be able to generate funds for their branches. The training covered important areas such as the NS current funding situation, sources of funding, how to identify donor, possible funding activities, skills required in fundraising, the importance of a good public image and public relations, how to approach donors and board responsibilities in fund raising.

## Constraints or Challenges

- Acquiring long-term funding support in the country has been a challenge as most companies prefer to give once off donations. There is a need to increase dissemination and marketing plan to make companies understand the need for long-term funding.
- There are no youth volunteers in Khomas region; which is a major setback for resource mobilisation activities.
- Lack of viable business ventures for the NS also affects its resource base.

# Principles and Values

## Programme Component: Promotion of Fundamental Principles and Humanitarian Values

**Outcome 1: Knowledge, understanding and application of the Fundamental Principles and Humanitarian Values are enhanced at all levels of the organisation (including non-discrimination, non-violence, tolerance and respect for diversity and gender).**

### Achievements

The communication unit is responsible for the formulation, design and implementation of the NRCS' public relations/communication strategies including media relations, promotion of principles and values aimed at promoting the image, profile and activities of the Red Cross to the general public and stakeholders. The main objective of communication unit is to strengthen organizational capacity in communication, information dissemination and advocacy for a good corporate image.

During the reporting period, 20 community volunteer disseminators selected from Kavango, Grootfontein and Caprivi branches were trained to effectively disseminate the Red Cross principles and values. Staff members and regional board members were part of the training.

The communication unit continues to maintain its relation with media house in the country. Several interviews and media debriefing were conducted. The NRCS donated International Humanitarian Law books to the University of Namibia Law faculty and Okahandja Military School on the 6 May 2010. The books were obtained from the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

**Outcome 2: The Fundamental Principles and Humanitarian Values are internalized and practiced at all levels of the organization (leadership, management, staff corps and the communities served).**

### Achievements

Through execution of various activities, the understanding of the Red Cross as well as the work of the NS has improved. Trained Red Cross volunteers disseminate the Red Cross information in their respective districts, constituencies and regions, creating more awareness on the Red Cross. NRCS members, staff, volunteers and community members understand the Fundamental Principles of the Red Cross Movement and the Humanitarian Values. Further Humanitarian diplomacy is being pursued through various medium of networking establishment, communication and advocacy with local, national and international stakeholders.

## Programme Component: Operationalization of Fundamental Principles and Humanitarian Values

**Outcome 1: The dissemination of Fundamental Principles is incorporated into all NRCS programmes and activities**

### Achievements

Through meetings that hosted the public, NRCS has used the platform to profile its work and mobilize the power of humanity in assisting vulnerable communities in accordance with the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement's Fundamental Principles. In 2010, information dissemination

was done during the following events; World Red Cross week, Ongwediva Trade Fair and International Volunteers Day/World Aids Day.

### Constraints or Challenges

- Lack of funding support continued to threaten the resource mobilisation efforts and the communication activities. NRCS to consider integrating the communication budget in all project budgets.

## Working in partnership

The IFRC and ICRC's financial and technical support to the National Society enabled it to achieve its goals of serving the vulnerable communities in Namibia. The NS has partnered with the Ministry of Health, Netherlands, Spanish, German, Swedish and Belgium Red Cross Societies and the MoH Global Fund – Namibia. Through these partnerships, the NS has strengthened its relationships for better co-ordination and improved service delivery at all levels. There is however a need to formalise these partnerships through the signing of Memoranda of Understanding, to ensure effectiveness and sustainability of programmes.

Since 2008, the NS has an agreement with the UNFPA on gender related aspects during emergencies. In terms of refugees repatriation Namibia Red Cross works closely with UNHCR and Ministry of Home Affairs. The NS is engaged in partnership with UNV and National Planning Commission and is part of the committee that is formulating a National Volunteer Policy. The office of the Prime Minister provides financial support and is also a primary partner in terms of disaster management. The NS also collaborates with various government ministries and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) at all levels. The resource mobilisation division of the NS Society enjoys the support of local companies such as MTC, Namibia Airports Company, Woermann Brock, Safari Hotel and Kalahari Hotel.

## Contributing to longer-term impact

The NS programmes are geared to find synergies within national and international strategies, in order to improve the quality of lives of the vulnerable, through the implementation of programmes in the core areas: promotion of Humanitarian Values and Fundamental Principles, health and care, food security, disaster management, organisational development, resource mobilisation and development of partnerships.

Community empowerment programmes will continue to target more women than men, following the increase of female-headed households, as a result of HIV related mortality. With capacity building in floods response aspects, the volunteers and staff are better prepared to respond to future disasters. Incorporation of messages targeting gender violence is being encouraged by all health educators. The good collaboration among the WatSan partners resulted into greater impact among the targeted communities. Collaboration between the NRCS, Ministry of Agriculture at the regional level has greatly improved in food security activities.

## Looking ahead

Resource mobilisation activities will be continued to ensure the NS realises its target of becoming a financially self-reliant organisation. The other priority for the 2011 will be the continued consolidation of the programmes through CBHFA, so that synergy and cohesion is created. Strengthening disaster preparedness of the NS remains the top priority of the NS. In terms of humanitarian diplomacy, the priority is on information dissemination so that membership recruitment reaches its set targets. NRCS aims to conduct a major campaign on information dissemination to create awareness of the Red Cross and its programmes among the public.

**All 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.**

The IFRC's vision is to:

Inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.

## Contact information

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