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Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA) Botswana: Floods

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF Operation	MDRBW003
Date of issue: 11 March 2017	Date of disaster: 23 February 2017
Operation manager (responsible for this EPoA): Jamie LeSueur, Acting DM Coordinator, Southern Africa	Point of contact: Sethamiso Moritshane, DM Officer, Botswana RC
Operation start date: 10 March 2017	Expected timeframe: 3 Months
Overall operation budget: CHF: 82,958	
Number of people affected: 3,250 (650 HH)	Number of people to be assisted: 1,025 (205 HH)
Host National Society(ies) presence (n° of volunteers, staff, branches): 60 Volunteers, 20 staff members	
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners actively involved in the operation (if available and relevant): None	
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: Government	

A. Situation analysis

Description of the disaster

Between 18 and 23 February 2017, Botswana was hit by the tropical depression, ex-Dineo which caused significant flooding across the country. As a result of inundations, bridges have collapsed, roads have been closed, and health facilities have been flooded. The Government has closed schools in some districts to reduce the risk of children drowning, however in some districts children must still travel long distances to school in sometimes hazardous flood conditions. Gaborone Dam, the water source in the capitol city, was at high risk of overflowing, which posed a risk to those residing in flood plains adjacent to the river. The Department of Water Affairs has indicated that water levels from rivers and dams have increased significantly. To exacerbate the impact of the depression, ex-Dineo hit Botswana at the height of the rainy season, which had already over-saturated the ground and raised the likelihood of significant overland flooding. Throughout the 2016/17 rainy season, Botswana recorded precipitation levels ranging between 110mm and 220mm.

According to National Disaster management Office (NDMO), by the end of February 650 households had been severely affected by flooding as a result of ex-Dineo. Over 500 houses have been destroyed and infrastructure, telecommunication lines and livelihoods have been disrupted in the affected districts. The situation resulted in moderate population displacement, which required the hosting of some 300 households in community halls, schools and churches. Water sources have also been negatively affected, which poses a further threat to the displaced. Destroyed latrines, stagnant water, and contaminated boreholes have heightened the health risks as well as the risk of waterborne and communicable diseases. To ensure that the health profile of the displaced population does not deteriorate, preventative WASH interventions are a priority for the humanitarian community.

The Department of Metrological services is still anticipating continued heavy rains to spread across the country in the beginning of March. The National Society will continue conducting assessment during the operation to find if there are any needs arising.

Summary of the current response

Overview of Host National Society

The Botswana Red Cross Society (BRCS) has received, and continues to receive, requests for humanitarian relief support from the Government District Offices within the affected areas. In response to the effects of the overland

depression ex-Dineo, BRCS has participated in inter-agency assessments in five affected districts (Chobe, Okavango, Central, Goodhope, and Ngamiland) and provide rapid response support from its available stocks. Two districts (North East and Kweneng) are still not accessible due to flooding and this inaccessibility hindered response and assessment efforts. As flood waters recede, BRCS will support in coordinated assessment and response in these areas.

Thus far, BRCS has mobilized 60 volunteers in affected areas to conduct consolidated assessments with Government District Offices. BRCS has also supported with assessments of the suitability of evacuation centres for displaced populations in cooperation with relevant Government line ministries.

In the accessible districts, the National Society has distributed some relief items from its contingency stock, having reached nine villages in three districts. The following reflects this response effort:

DISTRICTS	VILLAGES	ITEMS DISTRIBUTED
CHOBE	Kavimba	10 tarpaulins; 10 kitchen sets
	Lesoma	6 tarpaulins; 6 kitchen sets
	Paragarungu	10 tarpaulins; 10 kitchen sets
	Kasane	15 tarpaulins;
	Kachikau	46 tarpaulins
OKAVANGO	Maun	15 tarpaulins
	Komana	10 tarpaulins
	Nxaraga	20 family tents
CENTRAL	Dukwi	20 tarpaulins

The stock that was used was left from previous operations and have been used in the small-scale disasters throughout the country. Currently the NS has limited capacity to provide support to the flood-affected population, which has left significant gaps in the response effort. Although the NS has the human resources capacity to respond, the current situation has stretched its available personnel. As such, the NS also proposes to train more volunteers to be able to respond in with the most affected areas.

Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in country

The IFRC Southern African cluster office will be supporting Botswana Red Cross during this operation. The National Society will keep updating the Cluster office with the progress of the operation. There are no other Red Cross Red Crescent Movement actors in-country.

Movement Coordination

The National Society will be sharing reports, updates with IFRC on the progress of the implementation.

Overview of non-RCRC actors in country

The Government has been involved in the flood response, having provided limited relief assistance, primarily food items and tents, to 150 households. Due to the limited resources and capacity of the Government, the NS was approached to provide support. In the country, there are few humanitarian organizations other than the Botswana Red Cross Society who are positioned to provide humanitarian support. As auxiliary to Government in disaster response, BRCS has a long-standing and complementary relationship with the Government of Botswana.

Needs analysis, beneficiary selection, risk assessment and scenario planning

The consolidated assessment report was issued on 23 February 2017 from National Disaster Management Office of the Government of Botswana. Based on this needs assessment, conducted in partnership with BRCS, 500HH (2,500 people) were identified as in need of immediate humanitarian assistance. The priority needs identified for the population were reported as: 1) shelter; 2) non-food items, including sanitation and hygiene support; and 3) food assistance.

Districts	Villages	Households in Need of Humanitarian Assistance
CHOBE	Kavimba	30
	Lesoma	15
	Paragarungu	30
	Kasane	20
	Kachikau	10
	Satau	20
	Kavimba	15
OKAVANGO	Maun	25

	Komana	18
	Shakawe	30
	Nxaraga	30
	Gumare	28
CENTRAL	Dukwi	28
	Nata	22
	Gweta	20
	Mannoxai	15
	Tsokotshaa	20
GOODHOPE	Mabule	30
	Good hope	15
	Letlhakane	20
NGAMILAND	Mohembo,	20
	Etsha 6	20
	Etsha 13	19
TOTAL: 500 HH (2,500 beneficiaries)		

Out of the 5 districts most affected, the NS proposes to support two (Chobe and Goodhope), which, as of early March 2017, were identified as having the highest proportion of need. The selection of the targeted areas was based on the assessment findings and gave special consideration to those who's houses were completely destroyed and are sheltering in public halls. At the same time, those communities not targeted by Government assistance or any other humanitarian support were prioritized. In the remaining districts, where the Government has provided items, the National Society will try to cover the shortfalls through local resource mobilisation efforts.

In terms of shelter, the household structures that have been most affected were made of mud and cow dung. Although they typically withstand rainfall and small-scale flooding, the scale of this crisis was such that many of the

walls were eroded, which resulted in structural collapse. Displaced populations have been housed in school halls and community centres, however authorities are pushing to close these temporary accommodation centres to avoid disrupting regular schedules and programming. A rapid shelter response is required to move these displaced populations from these temporary evacuation shelters back to their homes.

Risk Assessment

The Government is working on opening access and egress routes to cut off communities in order to open these areas for the provision of humanitarian assistance. However, as roads and bridges have been significantly damaged by the flooding, progress has been slow and implementation of the operation delayed. As some villages are entirely cut-off, they rely on boats as the primary means of access. However, when the rivers are over flooding, it is difficult to use this mode of transportation, which hinders response efforts.

Beneficiary selection

Beneficiary selection will be driven by the Red Cross/Red Crescent's Fundamental Principles and vulnerability profiles of the affected population. BRCS will ensure that interventions are aligned with its own as well as IFRC's commitment to take into account gender and diversity, for example by targeting women-headed households, pregnant or lactating women, and men and boys made vulnerable by the disaster, families that have not received any or sufficient assistance from the government or other organizations, those belonging to the socially vulnerable households, and those who lack relevant resources to cope with basic humanitarian needs on their own. Assistance to the intended beneficiaries will be coordinated with other humanitarian partners operating in the affected districts to ensure no duplication of service delivery.

B. Operational strategy and plan

Overall objective

To provide immediate relief assistance to 205 HH (1,025) most affected by the flooding associated with tropical depression ex-Dineo in the sectors of shelter, health, and water, sanitation and hygiene promotion (WASH).

Proposed strategy

The DREF operation will last for 3 months and will support continuous assessment and provision of emergency shelter materials and household NFIs, water purification inputs, and vector-control and hygiene items to 205 households most affected by the floods. The National Society for will focus on two of the most affected districts--Goodhope and Chobe.

Activity 1: The situation, including immediate risks, damages and potential needs is assessed. To complete this, the NS will continuously monitor and assess the situation within the affected areas, making amendments to the operational response strategy relative to the situation.

Activity 2: Vulnerable people's health and dignity are improved through increased access to appropriate health services. As such, the NS will procure and distribute mosquito nets (2 per household) to the affected population and conduct trainings on their safe and appropriate use. The NS will also train 20 volunteers in malaria, cholera, and diarrhoea prevention who will then disseminate this knowledge within the affected areas through social mobilization.

Activity 3: Vulnerable people have increased access to appropriate and sustainable water, sanitation and hygiene services. As such, the NS will address immediate safe water access requirements through the provision of NFI's and carrying out of a campaign to train the population on safe water storage and safe use of water treatment products. The NS will also support the hygiene needs of the population through the distribution of hygiene packs, production of IEC materials, and provision of training in priority hygiene and sanitation issues.

Activity 4: Communities in disaster and crisis affected areas restore and strengthen their safety, well-being and longer term recovery through shelter and settlement solutions. As such, the NS will address the immediate shelter needs of the affected population through the provision of emergency shelter materials and household NFIs. The NS will erect shelters using a design proven through previous disaster responses as long-standing and appropriate for the community context. The design is based on a build back better approach and has been implemented by the NS since 2008. It incorporates the use of rafters and gum poles, which are locally available,



Volunteers in shelter construction. Photo: BRCS

and makes efficient use of the IFRC standard shelter kit, which includes tools and two tarpaulins. Plastic sheeting will be used to temporarily repair houses that have been partially destroyed but are still deemed safe for residency. These sheets will be primarily used to repair partially damaged roof infrastructure.

The design of intervention is based on Sphere standards and adheres to international norms for effective humanitarian response. As articulated in the beneficiary selection section, the BRCS will prioritize assistance to those most vulnerable and take into consideration factors that exacerbate vulnerability including gender, disability, and chronic health problems. Affected communities will be engaged at all steps of implementation to ensure their active participation in the response. Feedback mechanisms will be put in place at public meeting areas for the communities to give feedback on the operation.

As above-average precipitation continues in many of the affected areas, the situation remains uncertain and this operational strategy will need to remain flexible and adaptable. As a preparedness measure, the NS will position itself in all affected areas of the country.

Operational support services

Human resources

The National Society will deploy 20 volunteers to the affected areas. Volunteers are specialized in shelter, health and water and sanitation activities. Also, two staff members will be responsible in the targeted areas to supervise the volunteers' activities and also to provide technical support.

Logistics and supply chain

Logistics planning, procurement, and stock management will be integral to the success of the operation. Proper adherence to logistics and standards will ensure that relief items are delivered to the appropriate locations on time and in the right quantities. Attention to detail will be required to handle any customs clearance as well as the transportation of goods from Gaborone to warehouses and the affected areas. A logistics officer from the National Society will be involved in mobilizing the relief items from the designated warehouses to be dispatched to the affected areas for distributions. The IFRC Regional Logistics Unit will support the NS with logistics as required.

Procurement Plan

All required materials will be procured per IFRC global logistics standards. IFRC logistics will directly procure those materials that can only be sourced outside the country and will also support the procurement processes for local procurement. A mobilisation table will be prepared to facilitate donations and ensure goods are sourced in an efficient way (GLS stock, donors earmarking, etc.). The DREF will replenish items distributed from BRCS contingency stock.

- Local procurement will be required for blankets, rafters, gum- poles, and buckets.
- International procurement will be required for shelter kits, jerry cans, water purification tablets, mosquito nets, sleeping mats, and plastic sheets.

Warehouse and Storage Plans

The National Society currently utilizes Government warehouses to preposition emergency stock. These will be used to support the implementation of the operation. Procured and mobilised items will be stored at these facilities or (preferably) delivered straight to the forward storage facilities in the affected districts. BRCS will ensure proper documentation of all transactions to ensure accountability and better performance monitoring. A detailed distribution plan will be developed for the rapid response.

Transport and vehicle needs

The National Society will deploy its own transport resources to support the operation. BRCS is planning to rent a truck to ease the delivery of relief items as well as shorten the delivery time. For the assessment teams, one car will be allocated from the NS fleet.

Information technologies (IT)

Though the telecommunication was affected, the government managed to repair some communication structures while in other areas is not the case. The National Society is working closely with the army to utilize their VHF radios where the telephone communication is still not working.

Communications

The National Society has a good communication strategy in place and media is engaged in during operations. At the moment the National Society has been invited in different media houses to inform the public about its position and provide safety tips to the affected population. The National Society will work closely with IFRC communication department by giving updates and stories from the field.

The National Society through its communication department will do advocacy activities with the support of the IFRC cluster office. The Communication team has a good working relationship with media houses in the country.

The role of the communication and advocacy activities will have the following objectives:

- To raise awareness to the affected communities on relief management
- To raise awareness on the Red Cross and addressing critical gaps in the response and ensure that the most vulnerable are receiving humanitarian support needed.
- To highlight that the approach in this operation is to empower the affected communities and build their resilience

All this will be done through collecting and documenting human interest stories, as well as case studies with key messages, lesson learnt and best practices.

Security

The security for the affected population and staff and volunteers is quite good. All security measures have been put in place to pave a friendly environment for the humanitarian aid to reach the beneficiaries without any hindrance. The National Society will continue to monitor the situation.

Planning, monitoring, evaluation, & reporting (PMER)

Monitoring visits will be conducted regularly with close collaboration with Government to assess the implementation of the operation. Monitoring will also particularly assess the treatment and storage of water through household surveys and household water quality tests. The National Society will ensure that the field offices provide updates on weekly basis to ensure that the implementation is efficient. Reports will be shared with IFRC office and the Government. At the end of operation, the National Society will conduct an evaluation to assess the overall impact of the operation. The evaluation will include an element to assess the use of the shelter kits.

Administration and Finance

The National Society will sign a Memorandum of Understanding with IFRC for the implementation of the operation. During the operation, the Finance Officers involved in the operation will work closely with field staff and will be responsible for accounting. The finance officers will also work closely with IFRC financial support to monitor the finance on the over-spending or low implementation risk.

C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL PLAN

Quality programming / Areas common to all sectors

Continuous assessment will be conducted to identify the arising needs of the affected population, and the proposed sectors will be integrated to ensure quality and efficiency during implementation. During the implementation, the National Society will ensure that sphere minimum standards are highlighted.

Outcome 1: The operation provides quality assistance to reflect the needs of the affected population													
Output 1.1: The situation, including immediate risks, damages and potential needs is assessed													
Activities	Week/Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Undertake continuous/ detailed assessments at all affected area		x			x				x				x
Conduct regular monitoring of activities		x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Detailed monitoring and assessment with support of Response Team		x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Attend regular coordination meetings at National and District Disaster Management Committees		x			x				x				x

Health & care

With the flooding, there is possibility of outbreak of diseases, in one district, there are reports from Ministry of Health about malaria outbreak, so far 2 people have died and 21 have been diagnosed with Malaria. The National Society is proposing to do awareness and health promotions to the affected communities combined with preventive measures and distribution of mosquito nets.

Outcome 2: Vulnerable people's health and dignity are improved through increased access to appropriate health services.													
Output 2.1: Communities are supported by NS to effectively respond to health and psychosocial needs during an emergency													
Activities	Week / Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Train 20 volunteers in malaria, cholera, and diarrhoea prevention measures in affected areas			x										
Conduct social mobilization on malaria, cholera and diarrhoea		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Procurement of 410 impregnated mosquito nets (x2 per HH)			x										
Distribution and sensitization on use of impregnated mosquito nets			x			x				x			x

Water, sanitation and hygiene promotion

Due to flooding, some dams and rivers have been over flooding which pose a risk of water contamination, though there are no reports of water contamination, there is a high risk of water contamination, in other areas, the Water Utilities cooperation has reported the burst of water pipes and some boreholes have submerged in the water, which has resulted in shortage of water. If this situation is not attended, it may pose a high risk of waterborne diseases. The National Society will work closely with public health to sensitize community members on hygiene promotion. The National Society will also teach and demonstrate to the communities how to treat water at household level specially to avoid waterborne disease.

Outcome 3: Vulnerable people have increased access to appropriate and sustainable water, sanitation and hygiene services													
Output 3.1 Communities are provided by NS with improved access to safe water.													
Activities	Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Training of volunteers on hygiene promotions techniques or activities that meet sphere standards			x										
Procurement of 205 foldable jerry cans			x										
Procurement of 410 buckets (x2 per HH)			x										
Procurement of 205 hygiene packs			x										
Carry out a campaign on priority hygiene and sanitation issues using appropriate channels of communication & methods. This will include a component of training the population of targeted communities on safe water storage and safe use of water treatment products.		x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x
Production of IEC materials with key messages on hygiene and promotion (pamphlets, posters, brochures)			x										
Procurement and distribution of water purification tablets			x										
Procurement of 2 water storage tanks and their accessories			x										
Monitor treatment and storage of water through household surveys and household water quality tests				x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

Shelter and settlements (and household items)

The nature of the flood emergency has resulted in the displacement of some 500HH. The BRCS will target the 205HH (1,025 beneficiaries) most vulnerable with immediate shelter and non-food items support to meet their emergency requirements. This activity will also include a training component for BRCS volunteers to guarantee that the shelters erected for the displaced are done so in line with global shelter standards and through a “building back better” approach.

Outcome 4: Communities in disaster and crisis affected areas restore and strengthen their safety, well-being and longer term recovery through shelter and settlement solutions.

Outcome 4.1. Short, medium and long-term shelter and settlement assistance is provided to affected households													
Activities	Week / Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Procurement and distribution of 1,025 blankets (x4 per HH)			x	x									
Procurement and distribution of 205 kitchen sets (x1 per HH)			x	x									
Procurement and distribution of 1,025 sleeping mats (x4 per HH)			x	x									
Procurement of 205 shelter kits (incl. 410 tarpaulins and 205 shelter tool kits)			x										
Procurement of 205 Plastic sheets (x1 per HH)			x	x									
Training and demonstration of tarpaulins constructions to volunteers and staff					x								
Procurement of gum poles for 205 Households (x4 per HH)			x	x									
Procurement of rafters for 205 households (x4 per HH)			x	x									

Budget

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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For Performance and Accountability (planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting enquiries)

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How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in Disaster Relief and 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.

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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.

DREF OPERATION

11/03/2017

MDRBW003 Botswana Floods

Budget Group	DREF grant budget
Shelter - Relief	14,760
Shelter - Transitional	0
Construction - Housing	0
Construction - Facilities	0
Construction - Materials	0
Clothing & Textiles	25,625
Food	0
Seeds & Plants	0
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	2,000
Medical & First Aid	0
Teaching Materials	0
Utensils & Tools	8,360
Other Supplies & Services	1,025
Emergency Response Units	0
Cash Disbursements	0
Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES	51,770
Total LAND, VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT	0
Storage, Warehousing	8,500
Distribution & Monitoring	0
Transport & Vehicle Costs	1,500
Logistics Services	0
Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	10,000
National Staff	0
National Society Staff	688
Volunteers	8,330
Total PERSONNEL	9,018
Consultants	0
Professional Fees	0
Total CONSULTANTS & PROFESSIONAL FEES	0
Workshops & Training	2,567
Total WORKSHOP & TRAINING	2,567
Travel	3,180
Information & Public Relations	1,000
Office Costs	0
Communications	60
Financial Charges	300
Other General Expenses	0
Shared Support Services	0
Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES	4,540
Programme and Supplementary Services Recovery	5,063
Total INDIRECT COSTS	5,063
TOTAL BUDGET	82,958