



Zimbabwe

Nairobi, 20 September 2018

SITUATION

On the morning of Tuesday the 4 September 2018, the city of Harare in Zimbabwe, was hit by an outbreak of cholera .

The Government of Zimbabwe declared a state of emergency after the cholera and typhoid spread fast hit the capital city killing 28 people in 2 weeks and infecting over 7,000 people living in a high-density area. The disease affected the high-density suburbs which has poor sewage drainage and no clean water, and this situation is compounded by the fact that there is uncollected garbage and unsafe hygiene practices that have continued to spread the disease.

The problem is exacerbated by the lack of government resources to combat the spread of the disease as the Government took to social media to crowd source for funds to help treat and stop the spread of the water borne disease.

The highly contagious disease has resulted in high mortality rates caused by lack of a clean supply of water and enough medication for the treatment of the affected by Zimbabwe central and local Government. World Health Organization reported that the strain has proven to be resistant to the first line of antibiotics, further compounding the problem.

As a measure to access clean water, residents have dug shallow water wells and boreholes that have unfortunately since been proven to be not free from cholera. As a result, there has been a massive migration of people to areas like the province of Manicaland and Masvingo where cases have been also reported. The Government has since set aside treatment centres as they seek to quarantine infected persons.

NEEDS

The epidemic has put the city in a state of crisis. The epidemic affected persons find themselves in a desperate situation, with many unmet vital humanitarian needs such as access to: clean water, water purification substances, and access to information on how to prevent the spread of the disease

<input type="checkbox"/>	sufficient food
<input type="checkbox"/>	safe shelter and basic non-food items
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	basic health services and facilities
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	safe drinking water, as well as sanitation and hygiene infrastructure
<input type="checkbox"/>	livelihood activities
<input type="checkbox"/>	protection services
<input type="checkbox"/>	adequate nutrition

The dire situation is further compounded for the epidemic affected people with vulnerabilities. more specifically for woman and girls as the burden for basic hygiene and household water provision is upon them. There is a pressing necessity to provide immediate assistance to minimize loss of life and to ensure that the needs of the most vulnerable are covered first.

STAKEHOLDERS

The following national and international entities are present and doing their best to respond to the crisis:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	National government	Set up treatment centres. Sourced vaccines for the infected
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	UN Agencies	World Health Organization and UNICEF Assisting Government in sourcing medications
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	INGOs	Medicins Sans Frontiers assisting with drugs and information dissemination
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	National NGOs	Assisting with information dissemination

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Civil society groups	Information dissemination
<p>The emergency response is currently being coordinated by Ministry of Health and child welfare. To ensure that the humanitarian response is well coordinated and complementary, the ACT forum will take part in meetings with all relevant sector stakeholders (clusters and working groups) and establish an open line of communication with crisis affected persons and communities to ensure a humanitarian response based on participation and feedback.</p>		
ACT Alliance		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ACT Alliance has been working in Zimbabwe since 2000, now planning to help people affected by the epidemic	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ACT Alliance works in areas affected by the epidemic, and is assessing the impact of the disaster to better understand the needs and vulnerabilities	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	In collaboration with relevant stakeholders, the ACT forum has identified a gap in safe water provision, hand sanitisers, water purification, garbage clearing, educative information provision and has resolved that if funded, it will have the capacity to properly bridge the identified gap.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The ACT forum is planning on submitting a funding proposal (RRF) to provide safe water provision, hand sanitisers, water purification, garbage clearing, educative information provision to ensure that the epidemic affected persons' basic needs are met with regards to WASH.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ACT Alliance is ready to respond, providing Safe water bowsers, hand sanitiser kits, water purification kits and IEC materials to 70 000 affected persons in the coming months.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Furthermore, ACT Alliance will engage in advocacy on the national and international level to ensure that the voices of those affected by the epidemic are amplified.	

Any funding indication or pledge should be communicated to the Head of Finance and Administration, Line Hempel (Line.Hempel@actalliance.org)

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