

Rapid Response Fund (RRF)

Section 1: Overview of response		
Zimbabwe		Emergency Response to Drought in Buhera and Mwenezi Districts
Summary	Methodist Development and Relief Agency (MeDRA)	Lutheran Development Services (LDS)
Implementation period	1 November 2019 31 January 2020 3 (months)	1 November 2019 31 January 2020 3 (months)
Geographical area	Buhera District	Mwenezi District
Sectors of response	<input type="checkbox"/> Shelter / NFIs <input type="checkbox"/> Health <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WASH <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Food Security	<input type="checkbox"/> Shelter / NFIs <input type="checkbox"/> Health <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WASH <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Food Security
Targeted beneficiaries (per sector)	Households affected with Food insecurity due to drought in Buhera.	Household affected with Food insecurity due to drought in Mwenenzi.
Requested budget (USD)	\$ 49,000 (USD)	56,000 (USD)
Is there an updated ACT Forum EPRP?		Yes
Section 2: Narrative Summary		
<p>Background</p> <p>In early August 2019, the government of Zimbabwe declared the 2018/19 drought and cropping season “a state of national disaster,” and appealed for international humanitarian assistance due to poor 2019 harvests caused by the El Nino phenomenon. The Zimbabwe Vulnerability Assessment lean season report (2019) noted that several areas in Zimbabwe continue to be in Crisis (IPC Phase 3). The lean period will run between October 2019 and April 2020. Manicaland and Masvingo Provinces are some of the worst affected with maize production averaging only about 30 percent of the five-year average. Communities living in (Buhera and Mwenezi are particularly food insecure (at 64 % and 50 % respectively). Vulnerable communities have no food stocks and are reliant on market purchases and are further constrained by limited purchasing power. Market prices on staple foods (Maize) and fuel continue to increase daily, putting staple foods out of reach of most poor households due to cash shortages. Below average incomes and high agriculture input costs are anticipated to affect preparations for the 2019/20 agriculture season. High prices and commodity shortages exacerbated by the new fiscal and monetary policies increasingly affect key livelihoods and coping strategies for poor households reducing access to casual labor.</p>		
<p>Humanitarian Needs</p> <p>An estimated 31 percent of Zimbabwe’s rural population (2,878,957 persons) require urgent action to protect and save livelihoods, reduce food consumption gaps, and minimize acute malnutrition. 10% of the food insecure population have been classified to be in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency) while 20% are in IPC Phase 3.</p> <p>Households with minimal or depleted cereal stocks are becoming more dependent on market purchase for food supply.</p> <p>There is also the fear of spread of water-borne diseases due to the scarcity of water during the dry season. There is an urgent need to provide food to affected communities and improve access to clean and safe water and training on basic hygiene to curb spread of diseases.</p>		

Affected communities also need assistance with market linkages as the markets are depressed and there is need for an intervention that ensures that communities can purchase food from the market. Food vouchers from reputable and reliable retailers will be one way of ensuring that community get the required food packs.

The affected communities face water shortages. WASH interventions will ensure that communities have access to safe, clean water and that they are trained in basic hygiene to minimise the outbreaks and spread of water borne diseases.

The communities need resilience building to ensure that they can prepare and to cope with the negative effects of climatic changes. This includes training on the crops to plant and how to best protect the yields and fields.

Capacity

MeDRA and Lutheran Development Services (LDS) have experience in responding to various natural emergencies. For example, 2016, MeDRA responded to drought by supporting affected communities with food and non-food items.

In a more recent response (2018), MeDRA through an ACT Alliance appeal and other partners such as UnitingWorld and All We Can assisted the communities that had been affected by cholera and typhoid outbreak.

LDS also responded to floods in Muzarabani District and prolonged drought and have periodically responded to the needs of internally displaced people during the 2008 politically related violence. Both agencies are also currently supporting communities recently affected by Cyclone Idai through WASH and support of non-food items in 2019.

Proposed response

Overall goal: Reduce acute food insecurity and reduce human suffering in Buhera and Mwenezi districts.

The objectives are:

1. To provide 410 affected households with food relief in 2 districts
2. To provide access to clean and safe water
3. To provide safe water through distribution of water guard/aquatabs and hygiene kits.
4. To train affected communities on better hygiene practices and distribute IEC materials

Activities:

Provision of Food

1. Conducting needs Assessment.
2. Identification and verification of food insecure households.
3. Conducting markets Assessments and identification of vendors
4. Disbursement of vouchers to food insecure households
5. Multi Stakeholder Markets meetings
6. Post Distribution Monitoring

Provision of Safe water

1. Technical assessments for water points
2. Purchase of spare parts.
3. Rehabilitation of boreholes
4. Distribution of water treatment chemicals for water treatment
5. Training in health and hygiene practices
6. Establishment/strengthening of health clubs
7. Distribution of Non-Food Items
8. Distribution of Information, Education Communication Materials (IEC).

Expected results

1. Affected communities have access to food
2. Affected communities have access to safe and clean water
3. Affected communities have increased knowledge on health and hygiene

Areas: Buhera and Mwenezi

Target population is 500 households affected by the drought from both districts.

Does the proposed response honour ACT's commitment to Child Safeguarding? Yes No

Problems	El-Nino induced drought has resulted in crop failure and causing poor harvests, making affected communities' food insecure.
Target beneficiaries	The RRF will target 500 food insecure households (40% Female headed households). Households with disabled persons and the elderly will be given preference
Main activities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Distribution of vouchers to 500 households to improve food access. 2. Provision of safe water including rehabilitation of 4 water points and training on basic hygiene including water treatment in 8 months. 3. Strengthening of 6 health clubs with a focus on health and hygiene practices.
Specific objective(s)/ Outputs	<p>410 families are supported with food relief through food vouchers.</p> <p>Sustainable markets developed in multi stakeholder meeting</p> <p>6 Communities strengthening in participatory health and hygiene education</p> <p>4 boreholes rehabilitated</p> <p>IEC and water treatment chemicals distributed, and hygiene trainings held.</p>
Overall objective / Outcome(s)	<p>Improved food access for drought affected communities</p> <p>Improved access to safe water and improved hygiene practices among drought affected communities</p> <p>Increased knowledge in health and hygiene education</p>

Reporting Schedule

Type of Report	Due date
Situation report	30 November 2019
Final narrative and financial report (60 days after the ending date)	30 March 2020
Audit report (90 days after the ending date)	30 April 2020

Monitoring and evaluation

A needs assessment will be conducted at the beginning of the project to identify beneficiaries as stipulated in the selection criteria. During the project period, collection of data (on specific indicators) will be done regularly by MeDRA and LDS project staff.

Post-distribution monitoring of NFI kits will also be conducted through project site visits. During distribution, formal and informal discussions with beneficiaries and stakeholders will be held in order to collect information on efficiency of the project, more especially on the effectiveness of the vouchers and address any bottlenecks that may be experienced.

Related shortcomings and constraints will be addressed during the project period. A situation report will be done during the project period and two months after the end of the project. The Sitrep will be analysed to guide the effective and efficient implementation in the remaining project period.

ACT Humanitarian Officer based in the Nairobi office, and other ACT Regional staff will support the requesting members through this process including guidance from ACT Regional Representative, Africa support on ACT policies and procedures important to be noted during this response.

Section 3: ACT Alliance coordination

Coordination

Coordination with other stakeholders including Government and UN designated offices will be done through attending cluster coordination meetings. Overall, World Food Program will be responsible for coordinating the activities of all responding agencies to the crisis and MeDRA will be responsible for attending these meetings.

A monitoring and evaluation framework will be shared with both agencies so that the information collected will be relevant and comparable. ACT Forum Coordinator will play a central role of liaising with the requesting Members and with ACT Secretariat. Meetings will be held monthly to determine progress and relevance of activities; Coordinator will call for the meetings. Coordinator will also accompany Members on some of the visits to monitor progress. An online platform with the requesting members and the Coordinator will be set up to ensure rapid communication and resolution of any implementation challenges faced.

Zimbabwe ACT Alliance Coordinator will support the coordinating function by liaising with ACT Regional Office in Nairobi. The co-ordination team will comprise of Zimbabwe ACT Alliance co-ordinator, MeDRA and LDS Program Heads,

All materials will have the ACT Alliance logo on them. Other ACT Members, local councils, government ministries and Churches with community presence will assist in community education. The ACT Forum will be responsible for overall supervision of the project and Coordinator will report progress to the Forum for further guidance, feedback and any necessary support.

Implementation arrangements

LDS and MeDRA will be the requesting members of this project and both have local churches in the project areas. MeDRA will work in Buhera while LDS will work in Mwenezi. The 2 Members will write their reports both narrative and financial and the Coordinator will have the responsibility of sending consolidated reports to ACT Secretariat. The 2 members will attend the cash transfer cluster meetings for ease of co-ordination of the activities with other members of the cash cluster, and provide feedback to the ACT Zimbabwe Forum.

Human resources and administration of funds

Requesting members will have oversight in management of programme funds. Funds will be sent directly to the requesting members through the ACT appeal mechanism system.

One Program Officer (budget holder) will be responsible for the oversight of the budget and will work with local churches on ground to support the implementation of the project. International logistic guidelines will be followed and products/services selected based on the price, availability and quality. The project finances will be audited according to ACT guidelines.

The Zimbabwe ACT Forum Coordinator will coordinate other efforts in the implementation of the project and will work together with the Programs Officer responsible within the requesting members. Programs Officers and Monitoring and Evaluation Officers will meet once a month for regular review of the project against the targets. Progress reports and end of project report will be written by the Programs Officers with the support of the Finance Officers who will compile the financial report.

Communications

The Zimbabwe ACT Forum Coordinator will be the communication focal point for the intervention. She will attend cluster and response coordination meetings with other Organisations. During ACT Zimbabwe Forum bi-monthly Forum meetings, other ACT members in Zimbabwe will be updated on the progress of the intervention and receive any necessary input/feedback. Achievements and progress will be posted on ACT Alliance facebook page (Africa) and the Coordinator will post updates on other relevant sites. The Community of Practice Platform in the Forum will also be an avenue where the Coordinator will post updates to the 25 Partners who are part and they will further pass the information down. Branding of ACT Alliance will be done on all IEC materials produced.

Section 4: Budget Summary

ACT RRF BUDGET TEMPLATE						
Budget rate			1.00			
Requesting ACT member:	MeDRA & LDS					
RRF Number:	RRF No. 16					
RRF Title:	Response to Drought in Zimbabwe					
Implementing Period:	01.11.2019-31.01.2020					
				RRF Budget	RRF Budget	
				USD	USD	
National program staff						
1.1.	Program Officer			4'341	4'341.0	
1.2.	M & E Officer			3'504	3'504.0	
1.3.	Field Officer			3'500	3'500.0	
1.4.	ACT Alliance Forum Coordinator			5'400	5'400.0	
	TOTAL PROGRAM STAFF			16'745	16'74	
2	PROGRAM ACTIVITIES					
2.1.	Shelter and settlement / Non-food items			0	0.0	
2.2.	Food security			58'200	58'200.0	
2.2.1	Vouchers			58'200	58'200.0	
2.3.	Water, sanitation & hygiene (WASH)			11'258	11'258.0	
2.3.1	Borehole rehabilitation			1'346	1'346.0	
2.3.2	Water treatment chemicals			3'000	3'000.0	
2.3.3	Soap			2'600	2'600.0	
2.3.4	IEC Materials			3'312	3'312.0	
2.3.5	PHHE			1'000	1'000.0	
2.4.	Health / Nutrition			0	0.0	
	TOTAL PROGRAM ACTIVITIES			69'458	69'45	
3	PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION					
3.1.	Needs Assessment			1'400	1'400.0	
3.2.	Communication / visibility			840	840.0	
3.3.	Distribution of NFIs			1'860	1'860.0	
3.4.	Monitoring & evaluation			1'860	1'860.0	
3.5.	Audit			4'000	4'000.0	
	TOTAL PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION			9'960	9'96	
4	PROGRAM LOGISTICS					
	Transport (of relief materials)					
4.1.	Rental of Vehicles			1'975	1'975.0	
4.2.	Fuel- Motor bike			1'121	1'120.5	
	TOTAL PROGRAM LOGISTICS			3'096	3'09	
	TOTAL DIRECT COST			99'759	99'75	
	INDIRECT COSTS: PERSONNEL, ADMINISTRATION & SUPPORT					
e.g.	Staff salaries					
	Salaries e. g % for Programme Director)			2'550	2'550.0	
	Salaries e. g % for Finance Director)			1'188	1'188.0	
	Salaries for accountant and other admin or secretarial staff)			1'203	1'203.0	
	Office Operations					
	Office Utilities			240	240.0	
	Communications					
	Telephone and fax			60	60.0	
	TOTAL INDIRECT COST: PERSONNEL, ADMIN. & SUPPORT			5'241	5'24	
				5%	5%	
	TOTAL EXPENDITURE			105'000	105'00	
	TOTAL EXPENDITURE inclusive International Coordination Fee			105'000	105'00	
	BALANCE REQUESTED (minus available income)			105'000	105'00	

ACTION

The ACT Secretariat has approved the use of US \$ 56,000 for LDS and \$49,000 for MeDRA) from the Global Rapid Response Fund (GRRF19) and would be grateful to receive contributions to wholly or partially replenish this payment. Should there be an appeal for this emergency, the RRF payment will be considered as an advance.

For further information please contact:

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