



BOTSWANA RED CROSS SOCIETY/BOTSWANA/SOUTHERN AFRICA
JANUARY-DECEMBER 2017 REPORT



Photo caption and credit: Moshupa First aid action team (Photo by BRCS)

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1.0 Programme purpose

Botswana Red Cross Society (BRCS) Strategic plan 2011-2015 recommends that the organisation builds credibility through regular reportage and feedback to stakeholders and partners. Hence presentation of this report covering the months of January to December 2017 to management, donors and concerned stakeholders. Due to the nonexistence of the new strategy BRCS remained committed to drive towards its vision guided by the current Strategic plan 2011-2015 which aims;

- To Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disasters and crises
- Enable healthy and safe living
- Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace

The achievement of the above strategic aims is driven under 5 BRCS programmes and support departments which are Disaster Risk Reduction and Emergency response programme, Health and Care programme, Refugee Health & Psychosocial Support programme, Rehabilitation programme, Branch Development and Youth programme. The support departments are Marketing and Communication, Finance, Planning Monitoring and Evaluation, Human Resources and Administration.

2.0 Programmes summary

All activities have been implemented based on the 2017 integrated work plan and IFFRC 2020 strategy. In order to achieve more with less all programmes integrated more in implementation of activities especially, during field monitoring visits, trainings and outreach.

2.1 Financial situation

Below is a list of current BRCS funding sources

Table 1: BRCS Donors 2013

Donor	Purpose of funding
IFRC	Disaster Relief Operation (DREF) in Northern Botswana
Ministry of Health	Rehabilitation Centres
Office of the President	Disaster Management
UNHCR	Refugee Programme
PEPFAR (Centres for Disease Control)	ARVs for Refugees
The Global Fund	Malaria
ICRC	Information & Restoration of family links and communication department
Belgium Red cross society	First aid
Italian red cross society	Rehabilitation

2.2 No of people reached

BRCS planned to reach a total of 200,000 people through its programmes in 2013. 77 346 people have been directly reached this year whilst 1 million were indirectly reached through media outreaches (Radio and

television). The number of people directly is lower because many activities were not implemented due to funding constraints.

2.3 Our partners

- Government of Botswana,
- Media (Botswana Gazette and The Voice newspapers, Radio Botswana 2 and Botswana Television)
- Botswana Chamber of mines
- Business communities

International including movement partners

- Belgium Red Cross society: training of First aid trainer of trainers and development of First aid strategy.
- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR): Care and Support for refugees
- Centres for Disease Control (CDC): Scaling-up access to Antiretroviral Treatment (ART) for refugees in Botswana.
- International Federation of Red Cross (IFRC): DREF operation
- International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC): Restoration of family links and communication department
- UNICEF – assisting with construction of toilets at Dukwi refugee camp.
- Italian red cross society – expansion of the rehabilitation centres and services

3.0 Situation/Context Analysis

Between the 18th -23rd February 2017 the Country was hit by cyclone Dineo which has caused massive destructions across the country. Bridges collapsed, roads were closed, and some schools were closed as students did not have access and hospitals were also flooded. The water source in the Capital City, (Gaborone Dam) which was dry for the past months is at high risk of over flooding and there were people who stay along the river stream. The cyclone has covered the whole country and the needs have increased due to that the cyclone came at time when the country was experiencing heavy rainfall since last year's rainy season. The rainfall recorded countrywide ranges from 110mm-220mm. The departments of Water Affairs reported that the water levels from rivers and dams have highly increased.

The National Society conducted the detailed assessment which shows that the affected communities will stay long to recover due the magnitude of the destruction especially shelter. The assessment also indicated that most of the affected victims come from low income households which means they will not recover soon. The major developments that were done in the affected districts, government did temporarily emergency bridges as the roads were cut off. Apparently the

water is still visible in the affected districts hence makes it difficult for government to construct permanent bridges.

The other major development that was done was to restore the water source as was indicated in the initial assessment that the water source was contaminated. Before the water source was restored, the National Society assisted the affected communities especially in Gweta with treated water and also provides water tanks in strategic places in line with sphere standards, where communities should not fetch water far from their homes.

The interventions from National Society included hygiene promotions, distribution of treated water, distribution of mosquito nets, shelter through construction of tarpaulins, distribution of household essentials such as mattresses, blankets, jerry cans, kitchen sets. The National Society also builds capacity of responders on proper construction of shelter and on hygiene promotions

4.0 Progress towards outcomes

4.1 Disaster Risk Reduction and Emergency Response Programme

The Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Emergency response programme aims to promote disaster preparedness planning, and response to disasters as guided by the BRCS Disaster Management Plan (DMMP), BRCS Strategic plan 2011-2015, National Disaster Management Plan (NDMP) and the Hyogo Framework of Action. The BRCS, DMMP identifies and categorizes services that BRCS intends to focus on 3 areas which are; Response, Community Based disaster risk reduction Programmes, and Advocacy. The programme does this through building capacities within the National Society structures, among stakeholders and communities. It also offers Tracing and Restoration of Family Links services and promotes community based First Aid.

4.1.1 Outcomes/ Expected results

Disaster preparedness

- Increased technical and program management capacity are an integrated part of national and local disaster response systems
- National Society has strengthened volunteer capacity in disaster management and disaster risk reduction methodologies and practices

DRR - Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction

- Community members increase their knowledge of the disaster hazards and risks facing their community
- Communities are better prepared to respond on their own to disaster events
- Communities are organized to take action and effectively partner with local government and key stakeholders in disaster management

4.1.2 Achievements

In the months of January to December the department participated in disaster preparedness, and response activities to mitigate the impact of disasters in the country, activities organized by key stakeholders instrumental in disaster planning and response in the country including trainings to build capacity of volunteers.

Trainings conducted	Target group	Outcomes
Training on shelter constructions	Volunteers	20 volunteers were trained on shleter constructions. The volunteers used the training skills to reach to 3000 people contrywide b construction of tarpulins to the affected areas.
Hygiene promotions	Volunteers	Due to the intensive promotion campaigns by the volunteers, there was no recorded cases of cholera and malaria

4.1.2.1 Disaster Preparedness and response

- In response to the effects of cyclone Dineo, Botswana Red Cross participated in relief management to the affected districts. From the 5 districts that were affected, the National Society responded to 2 districts (Goodhope and Central) due to that the government has assisted in other districts. The total number of households assisted by the National society was 500 households (2,500 people. Though the National Society was not present in all the affected districts, the NS provided support to other affected district by assisting with relief items such as family tents, tarpaulins, kitchen sets and jerry cans. The response activities includes construction of emergency shelter, distribution of households items such as blankets, kitchen sets, mattresses/sleeping mats , jerry cans, hygiene packs. Other distributed materials include mosquito nets, water purification tablets. During the distribution other awareness creation activities were run concurrently with distribution activities, the awareness activities were hygiene promotions on malaria, cholera. The volunteers from the affected areas participated in the distribution activities and this was done in collaboration with local authorities. The national society assisted 250 household from the 605 affected in Tutume sub district.
- Mabule village was among the villages that were seriously affected by ex-Dineo cyclone. The National society conducted needs assessment in conjunction with the area social worker. A total of 60 households (300 people) were affected but the National society only assisted the 50 households (250 people) basing on their vulnerabilities. About 25

volunteers participated in the relief exercise. The response activities implemented in Mabule was only shelter as it was one of most affected sector compared to other areas.

- Kanye Program Officer attended district disaster meeting on the 13th of October 2018 where the district identified issues that need to be attended to. It was discovered during the meeting that most village don't have situational analysis.
- Nxaraga Red Cross branch responded to disaster incidents by donating 14 tarpaulins, blankets and clothes to families whose houses had collapsed due to heavy rains.
- Red Cross branches across the country are actively involved in disaster response and preparedness even to areas which are not prone to disaster.

4.1.2.2 International meetings for future collaborations

The UN Agency in Botswana in collaboration with National Disaster Management Office conducted a two days orientation workshop on the Emergency Response Preparedness and development of Contingency plan. The orientation was conducted by the United Nations office of Coordinating Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) regional Office in Pretoria from the 7th-8th November 2017 in Gaborone, Phakalane. The stakeholders who attended the workshop were members of National Disaster Management Technical Committee (NDMTC) and the UN agency in Botswana, and present were, UNAIDS, UNFPA, UNICEF and IOM.

4.1.2.3 Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction (CBDR)

CBDR activities focused on continuous training of volunteers and stakeholders at community and national level to improve the disaster preparedness and response capacities. The BRCS DMP recommends that Volunteers must be trained in disaster management and Community first aid as the development of volunteers is crucial. Below are the implemented activities under CBDR.

- 20 volunteers from 8 branches across the country were trained on shelter construction and hygiene promotion. The volunteers were trained in order to improve skills within branches to respond during disasters.
- BRCS participated in district disaster assessments by Officers and volunteer action team plays a chital role in ensuring that the red cross is regarded a important stakeholder in disaster issues.
- Natale branch assisted 3 families with clothes, food and tents after their houses had burnt down. Again 40 families were provided with counselling and referred to local clinic and other service provided.

4.1.2.4 Community based First Aid

Community based First Aid is recommended as a key service to be provided during disasters in the BRCS DMP which informed activities. 450 community members in Kanye, Dukwi, Moshupa, Gaborone and Serowe benefitted from community based First Aid. On the 12th August to 13th August the Serowe first aid team which comprises of 28 First Aid action team volunteers provided First Aid during the constituency athletics competitions – war level under the Ministry of Youth Empowerment, Sport and culture development, 50th anniversary celebration for Botswana Democratic Party and Mmabesi 200 events. 9 First Aid volunteers for Manu branch also attended to approximately 400 athletes during regional competition for junior school in August. Dukwi volunteers provided first aid services to various sporting events in the camp and surrounding villages. The team participated in three distinctive events; in August during the junior school ball games in Moseitse and Dukwi villages. 29 students were provided with First aid during the three day games.

All this was contributed to the trains given to the branches across the country where 18 trainers of trainers were trained. The National society has realised a growth in first aid coverage and their involvement in the sporting events across the country

4.1.2.6 Partnerships

The department attended the following meetings and forums to maintain and sustain partnerships

- National Disaster Management Technical Committee (NDMTC), convened by NDMO on 26th September to share updates regarding Disaster management issues in the country and to prepare for the Preparedness conference and International Disaster Risk Reduction Day. At the end of the meeting the department shared the information/updates with field offices for the message to be cascaded to volunteers/communities
- For the year 2017, the National Society met with UN Agencies to discuss possible partnership and collaboration on key focus areas. BRCS met with UNDP to discuss on possible collaboration. Firstly the NS representatives briefed the UNDP about the Red Cross mandate and its scope of work. Other discussions were on financial support especially on capacity building on disaster risk reduction and preparedness.
- At the district level, the Programmes Officers also attended quarterly District Disaster Management meetings. During these meetings the National Society was tasked to work closely with area social workers during emergencies.
- The National Society has built a strong partnership with Botswana Defence Force through their trainings on peace keeping & peace-building exercise. The training attracts the SADC stand-by forces that are trained to be peace-keepers under the African Union and United Nations. The role of the BRCS is to assist the military to incorporate the humanitarian aspects in their integrated missions. The Issues of Geneva convention and International Humanitarian Law are key aspects in these training.
- BRCS in 2017 forged a partnership with Botswana Prisons at Centre for Illegal Immigrants where migrants are detained. The role of BRCS is to assist government in ensuring that the rights of migrants are respected and the BRCS provide the RFL services within the detentions centres in collaboration with ICRC.

4.1.2.8 Challenges DRR & Emergency Response

- Sustainability of food security projects remained compromised by an excessive heat wave; low rainfall and high volunteer turn over.
- Gweta and Nata and Gweta farm require a new sustainability strategy to bring it to full scale production. The two farms are no longer operational.
- Donor funding remained low over the course of the year leading to constraints to implement all planned activities.
- The department was faced with financial challenges to implement the planned activities. The other challenge that was faced by the department is unskilled volunteers on disaster management, which makes it difficult for the National Society to respond to emergencies in the country.



Photo caption and credit: Disaster action team during shelter training (Photo by BRCS)

4.2 Branch Development

The mandate of the Branch Development Programme is youth and volunteer management. It is also to ensure that BRCS has functioning branches that have the capacity to implement humanitarian activities to address the needs of the vulnerable in their respective communities. This year the programme remained focused on promoting renewal of individual and branch membership for the year 2017, recruitment of new members, induction of new branches and information dissemination on BRCS and principles of the movement. Another priority for this year was ensuring that the governance structure in all levels is strengthened and elect new committee as the National society constitution.

4.2.1 Outcomes/Expected results

- BRCS has vibrant branches delivering quality services through their local volunteers
- Improved implementation capacity at branch and divisional level
- BRCS has well established youth structures with comprehensive programs

4.2.2 Achievements

The following outputs have been realised towards achievements of the planned outcomes under Branch Development.

Table 2: Number of Branches and volunteers 2017

District	No of branches	No of volunteers	Registered branches for 2017	School clubs
Kgalagadi	5	233	4	0
Southern / Kweneng & Kgatleng	8	116	5	2
North East Division	4	438	3	1
Northern (Okavango)	8	177	4	5
Ngamiland	4	133	4	0
East Central	3	79	3	0
Total	42	1276	23	8

There is a decline in number of branches as compared to past year.

4.2.2.1 Status of branches and Formation of Red Cross School Clubs

- BRCS has a total of 23 branches consisting of 705 members. All 23 branches have a minimum of 20 members and are all registered with BRCS headquarters as per requirements of the constitution. 17 branches continued to conduct minimal activities such on health and care, Disaster management, First Aid and Community based rehabilitation (CBR) through existing Volunteer Action Teams (VATs). The number of VATs increased during the reporting period as a new team of FA action team was added to each branch after training which as supported by Belgium red cross society..

- 23 out of 42 of the BRCS Branches, have been registered according to the BRCS constitution and have a total of 1094 volunteers. Out of that number are 267 registered youth members. All the 23 branches registered with headquarters.
- The number of Red Cross school clubs is growing. To date BRCS still has 9 Red Cross School clubs. Volunteers in the districts where BRCS has field offices and branches continued to approach schools to promote establishment of Red Cross clubs. The establishment of school clubs helps to groom citizens, who value humanitarian work, understand Red Cross movement work early and promotes participation.
- Through collaboration with the District Multi-Sectoral AIDS Coordinating (DMSAC) across the country, all Officers participate in the district planning and play a important role in representing the red cross. Branches with school clubs were briefed on the role of the volunteers during school clubs.
- The 2017 world Red Cross was celebrated per divisions. The southern division donated sanitary pads and toiletry to women shelter organisation.

4.2.2.2 Branch activities

The southern division was the busiest division in the country throughout the year as they embarked on several humanitarian initiatives listed below;

- Kanye branch participate during the agricultural show from the 5th to 8th august 2018 where there provided first aid services to the public and also disseminated on the Red Cross work and program offered. A total of 400 peoples visited the Red Cross stall while 1500 condoms were distributed. The Red Cross volunteers cared for the unaccompanied children from the age of 5 to 11 years who were provided with snacks and water.
- During the month of December Kanye, Moshupa and Kasane organised Christmas parties to 275 OVC. The activity is an annual event and is sponsored by local business community in those areas.
- Gaborone branch was part of the health and safety team during the BDF annual day celebration where they provided first aid. Among other activities the branch also provided first aid coverage during health and wellness day for UB students, Lekganyane clinic official opening and first awareness at assemblies of God.
- Gaborone branch also organised toiletry trolley – this event was prior to the Red Cross day with the objective of collecting sanitary pads and toiletry which will be donated during the red cross day. Volunteers were placed in different Choppies station to make the collection and explain the objective to benefactors. A total of 24 tooth paste, 39 toilet papers, 13 sanitary towels, 9 tooth brushes and 30 bathing soap were collected.
- As a way of motivating other volunteers Gaborone and Moshupa organised activities geared to appreciate the work done by the volunteers. Moshupa branch celebrated volunteer day while

Gaborone had an appreciation dinner to its members. Both activities were held on the 8th of December 2017 at Cresta President Hotel. A total of 50 volunteers attended the event.

- Serowe branch also continues to excel in selling the Red Cross program as well as provision of first aid services in different events across the village. A total of 28 volunteers were trained on first aid through the Belgium funds. This training has awarded the branch an opportunity to expand its services. In 2017 alone the branch has covered 10 different events where they provided the first aid services and a total of at least 3000 people were covered through the program. It is through this program also that the branch raises funds by charging a few percentages towards refilling of the first Aid kits.
- Ngamiland Division has 4 registered active branches in First Aid during sports activities and disaster relief. These are Nxaraga, Tsau, Maun and Shakawe. The Maun Branch has established a good relationship with the business community that has led to the branch attending international health day and wellness events across the district. Maun branch also conducted a social service activity during the festive holiday where the volunteers visited the Letsholathebe and Maun general hospital to motivate patients and spend quality time with them. The branch donated Christmas hampers to 150 patients.
- Nxaraga branch responded to disaster incidents by donating 14 tarpaulins, blankets and clothes to families affected by the disaster.
- Kasane, Nxaraga, and Shakawe branches carried out community services which included litter picking and cleaning of the office compound.
- All the branches during their activities carried out information and dissemination of the Red Cross movement, fundamental principles and the BRCS program.
- Natale branch is actively involved in community rehabilitation program and a total of 10 people are enrolled on the program.

Ngamiland Division has 4 registered active branches in First Aid during sports activities and disaster relief. These are Nxaraga, Tsau, Maun and Shakawe. The Maun Branch has established a good relationship with the business community that has led to securing different donations to 5 families consisting of 16 individuals. Some of the donations were directly from the branch. The categories of beneficiaries were 9 orphans, 3 elderly men with poor health and disabilities, and a family with a child with disability. The orphaned children received 3 windows, window panes and 3 doors which were fitted by volunteers to renovate her house.

In 2017 the program saw an increase in number of volunteers participating in the minimal programs as well as volunteer action teams.

4.2.2.3 Technical support to branches and divisions

- The branches in Northern (Chobe), Southern and Ngamiland areas were visited by Field and Programmes officers once a month to motivate committees to continue recruiting new members,

register branches as required by the BRCS constitution, meet regularly and give them support in planning implementation of minimum branch activities. The BRCS, Secretary General (SG) visited southern Division branches in 2017. The branches were able to meet and interact with the Secretary General. This visit motivated the branches as there were able to report to the BRCS leadership their work and challenges.

- In November 2017 the BRCS team conducted branch assemblies in 17 out of 23 registered branches where new committees were elected as the BRCS constitution.

4.2.2.4 Partnerships and Information Dissemination by volunteers

3187 individuals were reached with information dissemination about the history of the Red Cross, principles, the work of BRCS and volunteerism in meetings and events facilitated by partners and stakeholders (, Department of Roads Transport & Safety-District Commissioner`s Road Safety Workshop, Botswana Consumer Fair 2017, Lady Khama Charitable Trust family fun day, Machaneng community culture day and Tutume Road Safety campaigns). Dissemination not only helps communities to know about the Red Cross, generates their interest to volunteer and address humanitarian needs of their communities under the Red Cross banner. Volunteers in Kanye took advantage of Kgotla meetings to conduct information dissemination.

The Dukwi branch was actively involved in commemoration of national and international activities such month of youth against AIDS, international day, World refugees day, World red cross day, international men days, 16 day of activism against violence on women and children, world AIDS day and month of prayer against AIDS.

4.2.2.5 Challenges –Branch Development

- High turnover of trained volunteers. Field offices are assisting branches to attract professional volunteers through information dissemination exercises to fill the gap. Other offices conduct ongoing in-house refresher trainings for new volunteers.
- Lack of transport to reach out to areas outside where Field offices are based
- Low motivation of volunteers and high expectation from programmes.
- Poor governance structure

4.3 Health & Care programme

The Health & Care programme exists to contribute to the eradication and mitigation of the impact of HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis (TB), Malaria, plight of orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) and shortage of Safe Blood in Botswana. According to the BRCS 2011-2015 Strategic plan the Health and Care program intends to address the above health challenges and their effects aligned to national legislative frameworks and policies. The programme further aims to contribute to the reduction of deaths, illnesses, impact of diseases public health emergencies, to promote respect for human dignity, reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion.

4.3.1 Outcome/Expected results

- The level of community health knowledge is increased through the development and distribution of health related information, education and communication (IEC) materials
- The level of community health and wellbeing is improved through the provision of care and support
- Reduced number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies

4.3.2 Achievements

4.3.2.1 Malaria project

The BRCS has partnered up with Ministry of health to train Red Cross volunteers and civil society organisation for both pandemic and non-pandemic malaria areas. This project intends to educate the community on Malaria, its symptoms and ways of prevention. The over roll of the program is to have zero malaria cases in Botswana.

Around 125 volunteers were trained across the country into 5 districts (2 from non-pandemic area and 3 from pandemic area). The BRCS through this program was able to make partnership and revive relationship with key stakeholders especially in areas where there are no branches. This also promoted the visibility of the organisation.

- From 50 trained volunteers 26 are Red Cross members from non-pandemic area. Southern division alone had 14 volunteers trained on the program from 6 branches.
- Areas were the red cross branches where dormant were revived
- Kasane branch has engaged 20 volunteers from Kasane, Plateau and Kazungula in partnership with District health management team to educate and distribute long lasting insecticides treated nets (LLNs) for 14 days. The campaign was from the 20th February to the 5th of March. The campaign was under the theme: Hug Up” campaign

4.3.2.1 Peer education

- Although there were no trains conducted in this year the volunteer continue to carryout peer education programs across the country. There have established Red Cross school clubs where they exchange information on health related issues. 8 school clubs were formed in this year with a total of 100 members.
- Shakawe branch participated in the Malaria indoor residual spraying campaign and commemoration at Xakao village in the Okavango area. This was made possible through the malaria trains conducted.
- 22136 condoms were distributed in Kanye, Moshupa, Natale, Tonota, Shashemooke and Kgalagadi during community health outreaches. Condom distribution is one of the key approaches to fighting unwanted pregnancies, STIs including HIV & AIDS. Tonota distributed 8000 condoms alone through the partnership the branch has with DMSAC on condom education and distribution. Through the partnership BRCS and DMSAC promotes the triple C approach; Consistent, Correct, Condom use.
- Tonota branch embarked in a campaign to share and educate the in and out of school on sexual reproductive health in collaboration with the District Health management team.

- Kasane office provided parent to child communication workshop in three schools. The goal of the workshop was to inspire parents and children to seek out and use the best of appropriate communication tools, channels and approaches.

Table 3: Peer education & CTBC statistics January –December 2017

Peer education activities	
Activity	Total reach
Condom distribution	22136
Malaria facilitators trained	125
Community reached with health education (sexual reproductive health)	198
Active peer educators in communities	48
Parent to child communication	48 students ; 17 caretakers and 5 teachers
School clubs	
# of school clubs established	8
# of students registered in school clubs	100
# of school club activities carried out	24

4.3.2.2 Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC)

Table 4: OVC project statistics

Activity	Number reached per area				
	Kasane	Natale	Moshupa	Kanye	Total
Registered OVC	70	72	70	50	262
Number attending kids Club activities	70	50	42	36	198
Number trained on Peer Education	8	0	0	2	12
Grannies Clubs and active members	8	12	0	0	20
Number of families	24	30	18	25	97
Number of livelihood projects	8	2	0	0	10
Number of study Clubs	1	1	1	1	4
Number of active OVC mentors	16	18	18	8	60
Number of trained OVC mentors	14	0	0	13	27

BRCS established OVC program in Moshupa, Kanye and Kasane. At the end of 2017 the program areas had registered and supported 262 OVCs, from 97 families with support of 60 active volunteers. Activities in the quarter include vulnerability assessments to identify more beneficiaries of the program in Moshupa and Natale, home visits, kids' clubs activities, grannies clubs meetings and livelihoods/self help projects.

- All project areas carried out Kids' club sessions on a monthly basis. The sessions provided a platform for OVC to interact and offer each other motivation. They covered different activities aimed at building the children's self worth and confidence. Due to lack of funding to provide snacks during kids club sessions number so children participating decreased overtime. Activities on

hero and memory book development to strengthen children's coping capacities with loss and different life stressors were incorporated in the kids' club sessions.

- The Kasane office through its mentors conducted book cover campaign on the 31st August 2017 to 1st September from 1200hrs to 1500hrs daily. The purpose of the campaign was to source donation for standard 7 students in preparation for their exams. The community donated pencils, pens, rubbers, sharpeners and plastic covers.
- Weekly kid's club sessions are accrued in Kasane, Kanye and Moshupa where mentors and PCV assist mentees to have time to study and do homework. Different stakeholders are invited to take part during these sessions. In Kasane guidance and counselling teaches visited the clubs twice this year to offer counselling to the mentees.
- Moshupa OVC's were taken for a day retreat at Lions Park as another way of exposing them to different environments. A total of 50 OVC participated and were given food hampers.

4.3.2.3 Safe blood/ recruitment of volunteer blood donors

The BRCS has long stopped this program due to financial constraints however volunteer are encouraged to recruit the public to donate blood especially holidays. Few volunteers reported to be still donating blood but there are doing on voluntary basis.

There is need to revive this program especially there is shortage of blood as reported by the relevant ministry. It was noted that the public is no longer keen to donate blood as before therefore the Red Cross was encouraged to recruit volunteer to donate blood.

4.3.2.4 Programme meetings

The department through the Malaria project visited all implementing districts to conduct trainings. From this visits the program was able to identify other program gaps and recommended that volunteers need to be capacitated to close the gaps.

Achievement of the Malaria projects

- Okavango, Ngami, Chobe, Tutume, Bobirwa, Boteti, Kgalagadi, Kweneng, Central, Southern and north east areas were visited in this quarter
- A total of 57 people were trained through the program

4.3.2.5 Staff and Volunteer welfare

On monthly basis the BRCS staff conduct wellness activities and once a year there go for a retreat. These sessions are meant to promote team work and motivate each other. Member of staff take a lead in organizing each session to expose them to in a leading role.

Moshupa and Gaborone branch also had appreciation session where most performing volunteers were awarded with certificates.

4.3.2.6 Public Health initiatives

BRCS has joined hands with the Ministry of Health to support the 2017 National Measles campaign across the country. An estimated 500,000 children aged 9 months to 5 years, were given the measles vaccine, while those aged 6 months to 5 years were given the Vitamin A supplement. Children aged 1 to 5 years were given chewable tablets for de-worming. The annual campaign took place in all health facilities and other designated points in all districts in Botswana.

BRCS also joined other Civil Society Organizations and partners during breast feeding at Thamaga. Its purpose was to encourage to breast feed. The event was held at the Kgotla.

4.3.2.7 Challenges-Health & Care

- Volunteer motivation remains a challenge resulting in volunteer turn over.
- Lack of support by some teachers in schools which leading to postponement/cancellation of school outreach activities
- Lack of acceptance of the Peer education outreach in school because BRCS training is not BOTA accredited. Schools now have accredited Peer education trainings.
- Inactive volunteers
- The main challenge for the program is funding as most of its program are not funded.

4.4 Rehabilitation Programme

The BRCS Rehabilitation programme provides stimulation, vocational training and community based rehabilitation (CBR) services to People living with Disabilities (PLWD) in Botswana through Tlamelong Rehabilitation centre, Tshimologo Stimulation Centres and Sefhare Stimulation Centre. The overall aim of BRCS Rehabilitation services is to promote integration of PLWD in mainstream society through inclusion and community support.

- Tshimologo and Sefhare Stimulation Centres both provide early childhood care services to support children with disabilities and developmental delays to reach their full potential for preparation to enrol in normal schools or special centres where their needs can be thoroughly met. Children enrolled at the stimulation centres are identified by Red Cross volunteers through the CBR programme. CBR services include assessments of PLWD to recommend them for stimulation and community education to ensure that they enjoy the same opportunities as others to live independent and productive lives.
- Tlamelong Rehabilitation Centre admitted 25 youths with physical disabilities and all set for examination at the end of the year. The centre runs a 2 year program on vocational training on textile,

horticulture and business management. . All trainees admitted in Tlamelong are in the ages of 18-25years. The trainees were equipped with skills in activities of daily living/ independent living, social interaction, non-formal education (how to read and write), therapeutic and recreational, indoors and outdoors sports and exercises through an in-house physiotherapist. On the 3rd of November 2017 the centre held a graduation for 25 students and during the graduation a total of 12 donors who have been supporting the centre were appreciated

4.4.1 Outcome/Expected results

- Physical & mental functional ability is improved
- The rights of people living with disabilities are promoted
- The impact of BRCS rehabilitation interventions is well tracked and documented

4.4.2 Achievements

Table 5: Rehabilitation services January-December 2017

Activity	Number reached
No of Tlamelong students	25
No of learners Sefhare stimulation centre	19
No of learners Tshimologo stimulation centre	41
Clients reached-CBR and physiotherapy	266

4.4.2.1 Stimulation services

A total of 60 children in the ages of 2-12 years with mild mental retardation, Down syndrome, autism, and speech impairment enrolled in Tshimologo Stimulation Centre (41) and Sefhare Stimulation Centre (19, 7 of who are OVC) continued to be provided stimulation services. All the children enrolled had special needs -and needed a lot of training on Activities of Daily Living (ADL) skills, speech, pre - literacy skills, rhymes which were done. The stimulations prepared the children for enrolment in mainstream schools. In Sefhare Stimulation Centre 1 child passed on due to illness in 2017. Other children of school going age are not performing well. They will continue being enrolled in the centre to continue with the stimulation programme in 2016.

Tshimologo Stimulation Centre prepared and participated in the 2017 Special Olympics National games held in Francistown on the 11th of May 2017. There were line of activities which included the regional games, workshops and monitoring visits. Tshimologo stimulation centre during this events fully participated as well as housed some of the schools taking part Participating in the games helped the students to interact with others, gain Olympic experience and develop their athletic potential. Two of our teachers are trained as coaches in swimming.

The Ministry of Health conducted a tour and assessment of all BRCS rehabilitation centres in October. The purpose of the visit was to enable the Ministry of Health to re- familiarize themselves with the operations of the 3 Centres, establish if BRCS is operating the facilities according to country standards and Ministry expectations as requested in previous visits. The delegation was satisfied with the status of the facilities. In order for BRCS to continue receiving funding from the Ministry of Health for rehabilitation, visits of this nature are expected for the Ministry to determine if BRCS is fulfilling its contractual obligations.

4.4.2.2 Community based rehabilitation (CBR)

A total of 28 people living with disabilities (PLWD) in 3 villages (Tlokweg, Modipane and oodi) received community based rehabilitation services provided by Tlamelong Rehabilitation Centre. Tlamelong physiotherapist carried out 2 assessment session to Sefhare stimulation centre and 7 clients were given therapy.

4.4.2.3 Vocational training

- BRCS admitted 26 students with disabilities in Tlamelong Rehabilitation Centre for vocational studies in Horticulture and textile 2016. 25 remaining trainees sat for their Final examinations provided by the national examining body, Madirelo Training and Testing Centre at the end of 2017. The examinations will lead to certification of the trainees.
- All trainees received literacy classes to enable them to read and write to prepare them for either employment or income generating activities upon completion of their studies. The initiative increased their literacy levels and enabled them to read and write well.
- The trainees graduated from the vocational programme on the 3rd of November 2017, in Tlamelong. The graduation was successful. Each trainee received starter pack equipment as part of the graduation package. The graduation day was graced by different government official and donors. Also during the graduation 12 donors were issued with appreciation certificate.

4.4.3.1 Vocational Training assessments

Tlamelong Rehabilitation Centre conducted vocational training assessments for potential trainee candidates to be enrolled for the 2018-/2019 academic year on the 13th of November to the 17th November 2017 at the Centre. The assessments were done by the Rehabilitation Technicians from Sefhare, Tlamelong Rehabilitation Centre and the Physiotherapist.

Eight seven (87) clients were assessed from 10 districts in Botswana. Only thirty-two (32) young adults with different type of disability were selected and admitted. all the 32 are expected to register on the 8th of January 2018.

Figure 1: Types of disabilities amongst assessed candidates

Group	male	Female	Course
Physically disabled	06	08	18
Intellectual disability	06	10	14
Combined disability	01	0	0
Total	14	18	32

The table graph shows the distribution of types of disabilities for admitted candidates. From the assessments carried out, it was realized that though the Social workers/Rehabilitation Officers were well informed about the requirements for the vocational assessments ahead of time they still brought potential candidates with severe mental retardation instead of physically disabled candidates.

Assessment recommendations

- The Botswana Red Cross Society (BRCS) rehabilitation team must visit pre – selected districts to carry out assessments for identification of potential candidates for enrolment
- The assessments must be conducted on an ongoing basis to avoid extended assessments and under enrolment
- Social Workers and Rehabilitation Officers must be given a pre-assessment tool a month before assessments start. This will help them identify the correct cases for assessments

4.4.2.5 Partnerships

BRCS acknowledges the need for local and international partnerships in dispensing humanitarian services.

The following were activities that the rehabilitation centres engaged with partners

- On the 21st of September 2017 there was an official handover of horticulture project donated by Lady Khama Charitable Fund to the BRCS Secretary General by the President Lieutenant General Dr Seretse Khama Ian Khama. Other Government officials graced the event.
- On the 7th July 2017, fairground holding also donated kitchen appliances and utensils to Tlamelong rehabilitation centre..
- On the 6th October 2017, Gabs Rugby Hogs official handed over a dining hall to the centre. Gabs Rugby Hogs renovated the hall but putting new floor tiles and coryutains.
- Tlamelong rehabilitation continues to collaborate with Tlokweng community and other non government organisation within their localities. in 2017 the centre managed to attend number of activities some of which includes: community services day with education centre on the 27th January 2017, kgotla meeting on the 9th February 2017 with department of Social & Community Development, partnership meeting with Nkaikela youth group and BOFWA on the 13th February with an aim to empower women, attended an open day on the 29th November at I AM special education society and on the 7th November the centre attended inauguration ceremony at CEHOYO conducted by department of social and community development in Tlokweng.
- On the 14 January 2017 Tshimologo simulation centre took part in the first Day care centre expo in the north east region which attracted 30 pre-school out of 63 schools in Francistown. This expo gave us an opportunity to reach out to the community in Francistown and surrounding areas we manage to disseminate information about Botswana Red Cross Society.

- Tshimologo simulation centre on the 11 May 2017 attended pre-school meeting at civic hall in Francistown, the purpose of the meeting was to fill the yearly forms for statistics of pre-school.
- On the 20 October 2017, following the refurbishment of the Tshimologo simulation Centre by Botswana prison department the building was handed back for use. The ceremony was attended by Divisional commander North Mr. Sekano Sekano Deputy Mayor of City of Francistown Mr. Godisang Radisego, Area parliament officer Mr. Masunga, All government officials, Media, parents, students and the community. On his part Mr Sekano Sekano said the prison department has adopted the Centre and will keep on helping the Centre.
- On 12 August 2017 Special Olympics organised a Family forum workshop in Francistown for the North region schools. They invited 4 students, 2 parents and 2 staff members from each school. The purpose of the health forum is to teach family members of athletes certain aspects like nutrition, health, HIV/AIDS, mental health. Relationship issues, Lion Club involvement, basic Special Olympics and athlete leadership. A physical trainer was engaged every morning from Monday to Friday.
- On the 13th September 2017 Sefhare local clinic conducted a school health visit and 8 children were assessed and refereed to different specialist.
- Sefhare simulation conducted a graduation party which was combined with Christmas party. seven children graduated and registered to the local school.

4.4.2.5 Challenges-Rehabilitation

- Due to late disbursement of funds from the ministry some centres has high water and electricity bills. This high electricity bills especially for Tlamelong has contributed to poor production of vegetables.
- Clients of Tshimologo Stimulation Centre are defaulting on payments for both physiotherapy and stimulation.

4.5 Refugee Health & Psychosocial Support programme

BRCS strategy 2011-2015 commits to address the humanitarian concerns posed by population movement in Botswana as agreed upon between state parties to Geneva conventions and the International movement of the Red Cross Red Crescent at the 30th International Red Cross Conference of 2007. Hence the National Society involvement in refugee and asylum matters in partnership with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

At the end of 2017 Botswana hosted a total of 2126 refugees and 354 asylum seekers in the country. There are no significant changes in target population and the current population. The target population was 2845 (2114 refugees and 731 asylum seekers as November 2016). The majority of refugees remaining are from Namibia, Zimbabwe and Somalia. BRCS provided the following services to refugees; Psychosocial support (Counselling, care and support to OVC and victims of sexual and gender based violence-SGBV), HIV prevention, treatment and care (BRCS runs an ART clinic targeting refugees only in Dukwi Refugee Camp), Sanitation (Hygiene promotion and managing litter collection and disposal for the camp), and Restoration of family links (Tracing and family reunification)

Table 6: Refugees & asylum seekers in Botswana

Name of Beneficiaries:			
Age Group	Male (in absolute numbers)	Female (in absolute numbers)	Total (in absolute numbers)
0-4	146	126	272
5-17	345	325	670
18-59	1030	446	1476
Over 59	47	15	62
Total:	1568	912	2480
Major locations:		Dukwi Refugee Camp	

Name of Beneficiaries:			
Age Group	Male (in absolute numbers)	Female (in absolute numbers)	Total (in absolute numbers)
0-4	8	8	16
5-17	19	30	49
18-59	57	25	82

60 and >	0	2	2
Total:	84	65	149
Major locations:	Francistown Centre for Illegal Immigrants		

4.5.1 Outcome/Expected results –ART Services

- % of HIV positive people of concern (PoCs) eligible for ART who receive antiretroviral therapy
- Extent people of concern (PoCs) have access to HIV services
- % children under 12 months old who have been issued birth certificates by the authorities
- % of separated families seeking reunification that are reunited
- Extent that known GBV survivors receive support
- Extent of community's efforts to address SGBV
- Extent GBV response mechanism against perpetrator effective
- Extent people of concern (PoCs) have access to secondary and tertiary health care
- Prevalence of severe acute malnutrition
- % of households with drop-hole latrine or drop-hole toilet
- % of older persons with access to services for their specific needs
- % of people of concern (PoCs) with disabilities with access to services for their specific needs
- % of people of concern (PoCs) with psycho/ social needs with access to services for their specific needs

4.5.2 Achievements

Table 7: ART services in Dukwi refugee camp

Activity	Male	Female	≤ 15 years	+ 15 years	Total
# actively on HAART	242	97	14	325	339
New initiations	6	1	0	7	7
On 2 nd line	4	4	2	6	8
Lost to follow up	1	0	0	1	1
Transfer outs	1	4	1	4	5
Deaths	1	0	0	1	1

4.5.2.1 Antiretroviral treatment

New initiations-During the reporting period, 7 persons were initiated on Highly Active Antiretroviral Treatment (HAART) bringing the current total number of people who are actively receiving HAART to 339.

4.5.2.2 Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission of HIV (PMTCT)

6 HIV positive pregnant women were booked for ANC. There were three (3) babies who were tested, two (2) babies tested negative and one (1) is waiting for PCR results..

Table 8: PMTCT statistics January-December 2017

Activity	Total
# of Pregnant women who delivered	9
# Tested and know status	13
# of women with positive status booking for ANC	6
# tested positive in current pregnancy	0
# initiated on HAART	0
# of HIV exposed babies tested at 6 weeks of age	7
# of HIV exposed babies testing positive	0
# of HIV infected babies initiated on HAART	0
# of Babies on CTX	9

4.5.2.3 Care and support

- Voluntary testing and counselling:** The Government clinic provides voluntary counselling and testing services to refugees and asylum seekers. Some persons of concern also access the service from Private Testing Centres, for example, Tebelopele VCT Centre. Botswana Red Cross Society promotes voluntary HIV testing and counselling. Since January, 194 individuals tested for HIV in Dukwi Clinic. 12 tested HIV positive and were referred to Botswana Red Cross Society for HIV/AIDS treatment services (see table below).

Table 9: Summary of Voluntary Counselling and testing services in Dukwi Clinic – statistics

Months	# tested for HIV	# tested HIV positive and referred to BRCS for treatment
January to March	81	5
April to June	113	7
July to September	46	1
October to December	88	0
Total	328	13

4.5.2.4 HIV/AIDS Prevention

- BRCS continues to deliver HIV/AIDS support services for people living with HIV. The service is tailor made to peer support and livelihoods to empower people living with HIV.
- The adults maintain a support group for people living with HIV. Nineteen (19) persons are actively involved in the support and held 5 monthly meeting since January.

HIV Prevention and reproductive health

- Health and HIV/AIDS education promoted through door to door education and clinic health talks facilitated by 5 community mobilisers (volunteers) and youth friendly lifeskills. In January to March, 785 community members were reached through health education. This increased by 717 people reached between April and June and in July to September 718 people reached and 752 people reached between Octobers to December.
- In January to March, a total of 8542 condoms were distributed to individuals in the 15 outlets in the camp. This increased by 5921 condoms distributed in April to June 2017. In July to September, 10160 condoms were distributed, while in October to December 4606 condoms were distributed. (Total of 29229).
- In efforts to promote HIV prevention and contributes to the global strikes in ending AIDS, Botswana Red Cross Society continues to target the refugee community with various HIV prevention approaches. We commemorated Month of Youth against HIV campaign's with the theme "HANDS UP FOR #HIV PREVENTION" which simply urges everyone to take some responsibility towards the fight against HIV by actively engaging in HIV prevention measures amongst others is consistent and proper condom use, voluntary male circumcision, HIV voluntary counselling and testing. The event took place in the month of April 2017 instead of March to target youth in during school holidays. The various activities included a community reach - out, clinic talks; and community HIV voluntary counselling and testing day. In total, 87 youth were reached.
- Moreover, candlelight memorial was commemorated on Sunday 21st May 2017. The theme was "Ending AIDS together". The churches in the camp were fully engaged to mobilize their congregation as well as take part in the events of the day. It was successful as 150 people were in attendance.
- The events include a massive wellness day in collaboration with other stakeholders in the camp under the theme "MY HEALTH MY PRIORITY" The campaign took place in October and its main objectives was to find out what the community is doing to keep themselves fit and bridge the knowledge gap through information sharing, promoting active lifestyle through jogging aerobics and healthy living as well as guide and increase the prevention and control measures of HIV/AIDS. Reaching a target of 150 people
- **.Commemoration of World AIDS day** on 3rd December implemented as an opportunity for people to unite in the fight against HIV, show their support for people living with HIV and remember those who have died. This year, the theme remained the same, GETTING TO ZERO"-meaning Zero new HIV

infections, Zero AIDS-related deaths, and Zero AIDS related discrimination. The event reached at least 420 individuals with information through dramas, speeches and songs. Other activities of the event included a couple's walk, soccer games and health tests to promote health seeking behaviours. 45 undertook Body Mass Index tests and Diabetes tests & 35 individuals tested for HIV, only 2 with HIV positive results.

4.5.2.5 General social welfare of refugees

Restoring Family links: Communication between refugees in the camp and their loved ones was restored through sending out 55 Red Cross Messages to their families and contacts in countries of origin. Family tracing for family reunification purposes was initiated for 2 orphans to reunite with their uncle in united state of America. The process is on-going. A second family is also supported for initiate family reunification in Australia. All the family reunification requests are awaiting response from the children's countries of origin. The service is availed to refugees to restore lost family contacts. To maintain communication between families and their separated members, since January, 67 family contacts were enabled between separated families' members through RED CROSS 5 Tracing requests were received from other countries for individuals in Francistown Centre for Illegal immigrants. In promoting the use of restoration of family links services, a total of 177 individuals were reached through information sharing.

Community's efforts to address SGBV

- Since January, four (4) awareness raising meeting on SGBV prevention and response was conducted reaching 377 individuals.
- 72 persons received psychosocial support SGBV incidents. The support reaches both the victims and perpetrators.
- BRCS and the refugee community observed the 16 days of activism against gender based violence on women and girls, from 25th November to 10th December. A launch was held with walk and information dissemination sessions and there were 123 people in attendance.

Support to children

BRCS implements targeted activities relating to improving the welfare of refugee children and below is what has been achieved

- Botswana Red Cross Society (BRCS) continues to provide children and youth friendly services mainly through the youth centre. The centre is opened daily with access to internet, television and a small library.

- Moreover, 251 children were reached through recreational and library activities in January to March; and 184 in April to June, 457 in July to September and 537 in October to December (note: possibility of double counting due to children benefitting from more than one recreational programme).
- BRCS commemorated Month of Youth against HIV campaign's with the theme "HANDS UP FOR #HIV PREVENTION" which simply urges everyone to take some responsibility towards the fight against HIV by actively engaging in HIV prevention measures amongst others is consistent and proper condom use, voluntary male circumcision, HIV voluntary counselling and testing. The event took place in the month of April 2017 instead of March to target youth in during school holidays. The various activities included a community reach - out, clinic talks; and community HIV voluntary counselling and testing day. In total, 217 youth were reached.
- The events include a massive wellness day in collaboration with other stakeholders in the camp under the theme "MY HEALTH MY PRIORITY" The campaign took place in October and its main objectives was to find out what the community is doing to keep themselves fit and bridge the knowledge gap through information sharing, promoting active lifestyle through jogging aerobics and healthy living as well as guide and increase the prevention and control measures of HIV/AIDS. 150 people were reached through the campaign.
- 167 children participated in weekly life skills sessions (including Sexual and Reproductive health education) in January to March. In April to June, 215 children were reached with life skills and other youth centre recreational activities; and in July to September 221 children were reached with life sessions, and in October to December 376 children were reached.
- Since January, 37 unaccompanied, separated (UASC), orphans and vulnerable children have supported with monthly hygiene items to relief their hygiene needs. All the children benefitted from fleece blankets and clothes donations to reduce vulnerabilities.
- 4 children living with disability were monthly supported with nappies; supported with travels to access medical services and referrals done for appropriate care in different service providers.

Access to secondary and tertiary health care

- To augment Dukwi Clinic delivery of medical services to the refugees and asylum seekers, BRCS seconded a Medical Doctor to the clinic for weekly patients' consultations.
- BRCS also supports Dukwi Clinic through ambulance services for referrals; purchasing and supply essential drugs for 15 individuals to address drug shortages sometimes experienced. 26 Persons of concern were supported with spectacles through a private optician to improve eyesight. No patients received spectacles in July to September due to delays in receiving the quarter funding.
- The referral mechanisms are established and maintained by Dukwi clinic. In January to December, 113 patients were supported to access secondary and tertiary health care services in the country. The support outside the peripheral area, which is outside Francistown and Tutume Sub-District) include travel, accommodation and meals funds.

4.5.2.6 Sanitation

BRCS maintained 527 family latrines and only 5 communal latrines. Families using the 5 communal latrines are supported with hygiene supplies to clean and reduce possibilities of disease outbreaks.

Since January,

- 53 refuse bins were maintained and 12 rentals skips rubbish collected and disposed at a designated landfill by the identified private company (monthly).
- 30 full latrines were drained
- 8 sanitation laborers' are also retained to with general litter keeping and management of litter bins in the camp.
- 1368 persons reached with house to house environmental health education and 6 clean-up campaigns.

LITTER MANAGEMENT & COLLECTION: BRCS outsources litter collection services from a private company. 12 rental skips are availed around the camp. Collection and disposal to a designated landfill outside the camp is monthly done by the private company. Other available litter bins are also used by the community for litter collection.

4.5.2.7 Challenges-Refugee Health & Psychosocial Support

- The project has a small number of staff members overwhelmed by the broad scope of work. This delays implementation activities.
- The project funding has come to an end

5. Support departments

The departments that are responsible for supporting the various programmes in BRCS are the Finance, Human Resource and Administration, Records Management and Marketing and Communications (MCM) department. These departments are further tasked with driving the organisational development component of the BRCS Strategy 2011-2015.

5.1 Marketing and Communication

The Marketing and Communications (MC) department coordinates all marketing & communications functions of BRCS including information dissemination to increase public knowledge on the fundamental Principles of the Red Cross and International Humanitarian Law (IHL). It also coordinates the First Aid training Unit. The department aims to advance BRCS ability to deliver messages effectively and consistently in a manner that fosters the organization's strategic mission, vision, image and reputation. The department has reinforced good media relations through advocacy, use of various publicity mechanisms leading to increase in visibility and relevance of BRCS in the country positioning it as a brand.

5.1.1 Outcomes/Expected results

The department has 3 proposed outcomes for 2013 which are

- Increased public awareness of BRCS activities
- Improved skill in saving lives
- Enhanced Brand Activities

5.1.2 Achievements

The department conducted over 20 information dissemination sessions and trainings for disseminators. the department conducted such sessions in the following departments: Ministry of youth empowerment, sports & culture development rebranding, Botswana consumer fair, Botswana defence force day commemoration, world aids day, Huawei wellness day, DVET wellness day and department of youth sports and culture wellness. The dissemination focused on the work of BRCS, BRCS Programmes, explaining the auxiliary role of BRCS, Red Cross principles, marketing BRCS commercial First Aid trainings and proposing formation of Red Cross

clubs. One of the main achievements for the department was the commemoration of the World red cross day which was held on the 26th of May 2017 under the theme ' everywhere for Everyone with Kagiso women shelter. Some of the activities included:

- In 2017, a dissemination session was conducted at the BDF to ensure and reinforce the understanding and respect for RCRC principles, emblem and IHL.
- In March 14th 2017 the communication department supported Gaborone branch volunteers with information packs comprising of brochures, pamphlets, facts sheets and RFL kits in order to conduct an information dissemination and recruitment drive. the activity was conducted in UB and from the activity 60 potential volunteers were reached and they expressed a desire to join the movement.
- The department conducted trains for 60 volunteers across the country as information disseminators.



Pic illustrating one of the disseminators workshop

5.1.2.2 First Aid

- 992 people were trained 90% of who were Red Cross members/ volunteers were trained in Basic First Aid. The ongoing trainings, in First Aid for individuals and the corporate sector have been done to equip more people with the skills of saving lives through First Aid in the country and to generate income for the National Society. This initiative is contributing to improving safety measures in organisations in Botswana as recommended by the occupational safety legislation in Botswana.
- New edition of First aid manual for mines produced through support from Botswana Chamber of mines. This is new development which enables the NS to provide the best training for the mines. the manual will be part of package for the trainings offered to the mines
- In 2017 the NS was also granted accreditation by Botswana Qualification Authority (BQA), the institution as a reliable and credible training centre.
- The department also through its trained volunteers continue to provide first aid services to the community and during local and international events. A total of 3000 people were reached with first aid messages during such events.
- P 1,909,797.00 revenue was raised by the department through ongoing First Aid trainings

5.1.2.3 Media

In order to promote the visibility of BRCS nationally and to reach the nation with Red Cross news the media (radio, television and print) was engaged for interviews on the following activities. BRCS continue to have a good network and healthy relationship with media houses. In 2017 BRCS has enjoyed increased media visibility mainly centred on humanitarian activities and BRCS calendar events such as the Red Cross day, world first aid and world refugee day. The NS has headlined news in local newspapers, radio and television, stories on tracing, disaster response and other humanitarian activities have been published throughout the year.

- 3 different newspapers featured BRCS 2017 activities and donations in 2017. The following activities took place; master card foundation donation, distribution of DREF materials and the Word Red Cross day.
- 2 radio interviews with RB 2 were held. The purpose of the radio shows was to disseminate the BRCS programs and update the public about the Disaster relief emergency funds operation in Gweta and Mabule.
- Dada foundation annual blanket donation – the event was featured on |BTV news where the Secretary Genera gave an interview on the importance of CSR and how Dada foundation has

annually donated to BRCS and other beneficiaries. Another event which was featured on BTV breakfast show was on the 14th February 2017 to disseminate information about the RC and create publicity about the school uniform donation through the master card foundation.

Public social media interactions were increased by updating the BRCS Facebook page with ongoing BRCS activities to interact mainly with the digital active youth to attract them to the activities of the National Society. At the end of 2017 the Face book page has received over 1,550 likes and thousands of visitations to read stories of BRCS work posted on the page per day.

5.1.2.4 Partnerships

1. **Partnership with Fairground holdings:** In 2017, BRCS partnered with Fairgrounds holdings to renovate Tlamelong School kitchen. The project was completed and handed over to the centre on the 18th of July 2017.
2. **The first aid department and mines:** in 2017 the BRCS first aid department secured a new business with two mines where it provided first aid kits audit. this new business biasted the overall First Aid revenue for the year 2017.
3. **Malaria project** – the NS and ministry of health partnered to training civil society organisation on malaria prone area and non pandemic areas.
4. **UNICEF funding:** the NS secured funding for building toilets at Dukwi refugee camp.

5.1.2.5 Challenges-Marketing & Communication

- Lack of funding to fulfill advertising needs especially for First Aid so to generate maximum income through reaching a broader audience. Advertising can also help in recruiting new volunteers.
- There have also been challenges of low IEC material this year which compromised distribution and dissemination efforts. At least the Journal assisted in this regard.

5.2 Finance

The Finance department not only managed the resources of BRCS but also drove identification and pursued opportunities for sustainable financing mechanisms.

5.2.1 Outcomes/Expected results

- Effective financial management systems, procedures and tools are in place and systematically used
- BRCS has well defined finance and resource mobilisation policies in place for effective management of the national society
- BRCS has well set up divisional offices that are effectively networked with the head office
- BRCS has capacity to mobilise resources and its own sustainability is enhanced through implementation of well designed income generating programmes

5.2.2 Achievements

2017 has been a difficult period for the finance department as some major projects came to an end and only short term partnerships were made which only offer small funding.

- Renting of Mogocho houses for residential purposes.
- The 2015 audit started but has not yet been completed.

5.2.3 Challenges

- Missing information about most of the newly identified old plots of BRCS which were never archived.
- Loss of funding from major projects
- Pending audit report

6. Contributing to longer-term impact

6.1 Planning Monitoring & Evaluation

The department of planning monitoring and evaluation is responsible to gather data on key milestones and achievement of National Society on a monthly and quarterly basis. This was done for purposes of measuring progress towards achievement of the vision as set out in the strategy, identification of challenges, lessons and recommendations for improving services, building organisational memory, building a resource base for fundraising and reporting to the Red Cross movement, stakeholders and donors.

In 2017 the department was not functional as there was no officer responsible to collect and analyse data. This led to loss of information and difficult in measuring the overall performance of the organisation.

7. Looking ahead

BRCS continued to promote its brand and services in the country to attract volunteers to the National Society. Branches continued to be encouraged to renew membership, recruit volunteers and hold branch assemblies in preparation for the 2017 elections for office bearers of the National Executive Council (NEC). According to the BRCS Constitution, branches and divisions are compelled to hold their assemblies prior to the elective General Assembly. Humanitarian financing is increasingly reducing and BRCS is actively continuing to identify funding opportunities to sustain its activities/ programmes.

8. How we work

BRCS is a member of the IFRC which comprises of 189 National Red Cross Societies around the world. All IFRC 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 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 nonviolence and peace.

Find out more on www.ifrc.org or www.botswanaredcross.org

Contact information

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9. Annexes

Annex 2: Beneficiaries of Disaster Relief Materials in January 2017 (DREF)

Tutume Sub-District										
Village	No of	Family	Materials Distributed							
	Households	Members	Family	Tarpaulins	Shelter tool kits	Kitchen sets	Hygiene pack	Blankets	Mattress	Jerry cans
		Tents								
Zoroga	50	100	0	50	50	100	100	100	50	100
Gweta	75	150	0	50	50	50	50	50	100	50
Goodhope -Sub-District										
Mabule	25	250	0	50	50	50	50	50	50	50
Total	150	600	0	150	150	200	200	200	200	200

Annex 3: List of meetings and monitoring visits conducted by Rehabilitation Team

In Sefhare area the School head and Rehabilitation Officer represented BRCS at the following meetings;

- On the 16th May 2017 home economist officer from Mahalapye council department of pre- school visited the centre. The purpose of the visit was to monitor and observe nutrition for the student.
- On the 17th May 2017 attended a meeting with the district official. The meeting was about licensing of the preschool and duration for the whole process.

In Francistown Tshimologo Stimulation Centre attended the following meetings;

- Special Olympics meetings –where the venue of the 2017 National Special Olympic Games was announced (Francistown on the 25-29 October 2017). The Northern region special Olympic committee which BRCS is a member will be hosting.
- Disability Day Commemoration meeting –held in Francistown, different committees were formed to prepare for the day
- Visit by the ministry of health – the visit was conducted on the 12th October 2017 by the ministry to conduct budget for 2017/ 2018 presentation, head counts and also to familiarise the human resource officer and finance officer with the centre.
- Parents and Teachers meeting –to prepare for the upcoming farewell party for the outgoing students scheduled for 15 November 2017.