



NAMIBIA RED CROSS SOCIETY ANNUAL REPORT 2018

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	2
ACRONYMS.....	4
FOREWORD	5
1. BACKGROUND	6
2. CONTEXT.....	6
3. PROGRAMME SUMMARY	7
3.1 Number of people reached through NRCS programmes in 2018.....	7
3.2 Volunteers.....	7
3.3 Partnership.....	7
3.4 Budget.....	8
3.5 Geographical coverage.....	8
4. HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES	8
4.1 HIV/AIDS.....	8
4.2 Orphans and Vulnerable Children	8
4.3 Community Mobilisation and Awareness Creation	8
4.4 Water Sanitation Hygiene Promotion (WASH).....	8
4.5 First Aid	9
5. Disaster Risk Management	9
5.1 Disaster Preparedness and Response.....	9
5.1.1 Programme Outcome results.....	10
5.1.2 Achievements	10
5.1.3 Constraints/challenges.....	10
5.2 Renewable Energy and Climate Change Mitigation.....	10
5.2.1 Water Infrastructure Installation	11
5.2.2 Energy Efficient Stoves	11
5.2.3 Solar Lights.....	12
5.2.4 Programme Outcome.....	12
5.2.5 Achievements	12
5.2.6 Constraints/challenges.....	12
5.3 Social Assistance	12
6. Organisational Development.....	12
6.1 Staff Movement	13

6.2	Board meetings	13
6.3	Regional Volunteers and Membership recruitments for 2018	13
6.4	Regional Youth Development	13
6.4.1	Educational Project	14
7.	Humanitarian Diplomacy	14
7.1	World Red Cross Day	14
7.2	International Humanitarian Law dissemination (IHL) dissemination to the military personnel	15
7.3	Media Management	16
7.4	Communication Policy and Communication Strategy	16
7.5	Printing of IEC materials	16
7.6	Special events	17
7.6.1	Inauguration of the Renewable Energy project: Kavango and Zambezi	17
7.6.2	NRCS and Chinese Embassy Health Promotion Day	17
7.6.3	National Clean-up campaign	17
7.7	Resource Mobilisation	17
7.7.1	Winter Drive (blanket collection) in partnership with Planet Radios	17
7.7.2	Coin collection	18
7.7.3	Support from the World Health Organisation	18
7.7.4	Support from Chinese Embassy	18
7.7.5	Stakeholders meeting	18
8.	LOOKING AHEAD	19

ACRONYMS

AECID	Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation
BRC	British Red Cross
CA	Conservation Agriculture
CLTS	Community Led Total Sanitation
DM	Disaster Management
EU	European Union
HHs	Households
HR	Office of Human Resources
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross
IFRC	International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
IHL	International Humanitarian Law dissemination
MAWF	Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry
NEI	Namibia Energy Institute
NRCS	Namibia Red Cross Society
NS	National Society
NUST	Namibia University of Science and Technology
PMS	Performance Management System
WASH	Water Sanitation Hygiene Promotion
WHO	World Health Organisation
WRCD	World Red Cross Day

FOREWORD

By Honourable Uahekua Herunga, *Acting Chairperson of the Namibia Red Cross Society*

The year 2018 was one of the most difficult years for the Namibia Red Cross Society (NRCS) as a result of a reduction in funding due to projects ending, especially those supported by the Global Fund. The reduction in funding led to the National Society streamlining all its activities as well as its human resources, leading to minimal performance of some branches and the entire organization.

However, the National Society received a boost from the Renewable Energy and Climate Mitigation project supported by the European Union and the Spanish Red Cross. The project supported the communities with solar pumping systems used for irrigation of their agricultural projects as well as the construction of energy efficient stoves. Renewable energy is the buzz word world-wide in the era of climate change, whereby erratic rainfalls and extended drought spells are being experienced in many countries including Namibia. It is important that communities adopt conservation farming agricultural practices in an effort to boost their yields and improve their food security at household levels. There is also a need to find ways of conserving the trees in order to prevent deforestation that can in turn contribute to climate change. Communities have to be encouraged to embrace the construction of energy efficient stoves in an effort to limit the usage of wood in order to conserve the environment.

In conclusion, it is important to note that in the work of the Red Cross Movement, effective partnership management is crucial. We therefore appreciate all our individual partners, including the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the Namibian Government. We look forward to a more productive 2019 accompanied by more support and new humanitarian initiatives from our partners, both local and international.

Hon. U. Herunga

Acting National Chairperson

3. PROGRAMME SUMMARY

3.1 Number of people reached through NRCS programmes in 2018

PROGRAMME/PROJECT	REGION	#BENEFICIARIES
HIV/AIDS	Otjozondjupa	265
OVC and Adolescents and Youth	Otjozondjupa	1070
Kids Clubs	Otjozondjupa and Omusati	420
Tuberculosis	Omusati	1213
Malaria		
WASH		
Hepatitis E	Khomas and Omusati	
Livelihood and Food Security	Zambezi and Kavango	942
Climate Change Mitigation and adaptation	Zambezi and Kavango	319 HH/1914 individuals Solar lanterns and energy efficient stoves
Drought Response-Food distribution	Kavango	877
TOTAL BENEFICIARIES		6701

3.2 Volunteers

The National Society struggled to recruit a reasonable number of volunteers and members in 2018 with only 150 recruited throughout the country. The challenges are attributed to the reduction in staff numbers at the various branches due to the ending of the Global Fund projects, which left most of the branches understaffed and being managed by volunteers.

The National Society estimates that it has around 3000 volunteers, with the biggest number being linked to the Home Based Care and the Community Mobilisation Projects which accounts for 400 volunteers, while the youth also represents about 20% of the figure. The main challenge that the volunteer programme faces is the lack of activities to engage them fully in the National Society's humanitarian activities throughout the country.

3.3 Partnership

There has been strengthened cooperation with existing partners such as Partner National Societies: the Spanish, British, Japanese and Chinese. The National Society continues to enjoy good support from Movement partners, especially the ICRC and the IFRC Nairobi, Pretoria and Zimbabwe delegations. Meanwhile, the National Society's relationship and cooperation with the government and other partners

such as the United Nations also remained strong and cordial in the areas of health, water and sanitation, livelihoods and renewable energy initiatives.

3.4 Budget

The Namibia Red Cross Society managed a budget amounting to N\$15 million with the biggest part supported by the European Union through the Renewable Energy and Climate Mitigation Project.

3.5 Geographical coverage

The Namibia Red Cross Society currently covers nine of the fourteen administrative regions of Namibia. There was an attempt in 2017 to open a branch in the //Kharas Region but the move has been discovered to be unsustainable and the branch has since been closed temporarily in 2018.

4. HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Community mobilisation through health related activities in partnership with other stakeholders is one of the National Society's strategic objectives in ensuring the building of a healthy community. In 2018, the National Society played a crucial role in the response to health emergencies such as Hepatitis E. Other intervention areas includes the ongoing HIV/AIDS prevention activities in the Otjozondjupa region supported by the Japanese Red Cross.

The TB project that was supported by KNCV also ended in September 2018, the project was an extension of the main project that was implemented in the Ohangwena region.

4.1 HIV/AIDS

The National Society reached 265 clients with HIV/AIDS prevention activities in the Otjozondjupa region. The activities included information dissemination and the distribution of condoms.

4.2 Orphans and Vulnerable Children

The National Society gave support to 100 Orphans and Vulnerable Children in Otjozondjupa region. This support was in the form of school uniforms, blankets and mattresses. The project was funded by the Japanese Red Cross. The National Society also implemented a school clubs project with the assistance of the youth volunteers attached to the NRCS through a partnership with the German Red Cross.

4.3 Community Mobilisation and Awareness Creation

Community mobilisation continued in the area of hygiene promotion with the recruitment and training of thirty five (35) volunteers to conduct information dissemination activities in Khomas (25) and Omusati (10) regions. Namibia has been battling the Hepatitis E outbreak since December 2017.

4.4 Water Sanitation Hygiene Promotion (WASH)

There were no Water and Sanitation projects implemented by the National Society in 2018 apart from hygiene promotion activities carried out by the NRCS volunteers in response to sporadic cases of Hepatitis E.

4.5 First Aid

The First Aid unit is potentially one of the core income-generation project of the Namibia Red Cross Society. The First Aid trainings were temporarily disrupted by the retrenchment of the First Aid Instructor and his change in contract to offer the training services as a consultant paid on commission basis. As a result the unit didn't generate income in 2018.

5. DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT

The Disaster Management (DM) department is a core unit that deals with hazards/disaster that causes any serious disruption of the functioning community that results in widespread losses and disruption that exceeds a community's ability to cope using its own resources e.g. floods and drought. The DM department mainly focuses on being on the community level to respond to any shocks in the communities through volunteer mobilization and stakeholder engagement.

The year 2018 was met with mixed perceptions in different geographical areas in Namibia. Overall the rainfall was good in great parts of the country but there were areas which received below average rainfall and resulted in poor grazing and water scarcity for livestock, and food insecurity at household level. The NRCS did not substantially respond to this areas, but was coordinating with the Directorate of Disaster Risk Management on the situation and the government managed to respond with distribution of relief food to households (HHs) in critical affected communities.

5.1 Disaster Preparedness and Response

The Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID) funded the extension of drought relief operation in Kavango West region with the provision of food parcels, Conservation Agriculture (CA) training and seeds distribution to vulnerable households.

The project aimed to contribute to the resilience of Masivi and Kaguni communities in Kavango West Region affected by food shortage due to limited access to inputs, exhausted soils fertility and a lack of knowledge on good agricultural practices. The project targeted 135 HHs (877 people) with 80% of HHs headed by women. The HHs received food parcels for the period of nine months, which contained a 25kg bag of maize meal, 2x 750ml bottles of cooking oil, 4x 400g tin of fish and 2x 1kg bag of salt per household.

<i>Food type</i>	<i>Quantity</i>
Maize Meal	33.8 (tons)
Cooking oil	2025 (litres)
Fish tin	2.2 (tons)
Salt	2.7 (tons)

Total food items distributed to 135HHs over 9 months

In addition to food parcels provision, the HHs heads received training in Conservation Agriculture to improve their land preparation techniques to enhance their production. The training was facilitated by local lead farmers trained by the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry (MAWF). The trainings took place at the beginning of the operation and at the end of operations, the HHs received improved rain fed crops seeds and training to boost their production for better harvest. The crops seeds provided were for

mahangu, maize, groundnuts and cowpeas, additional N.P.K fertilizers was provided at the end of the operation due to foreseen poor rain season 2018/19.

<i>Type</i>	<i>Quantity</i>
Mahangu	2 (tons)
Maize	1.4 (tons)
Ground nuts	540 (kg)
Cowpeas	540 (kg)
NPK (fertilizers)	1.7 (tons)

Total crops inputs distributed to 135HHs

5.1.1 Programme Outcome results

- Improved the food insecurity situation of targeted HH through access to food parcels.
- Strengthen the food security and livelihood of targeted HHs, mainly women headed HH, through the use of drought tolerant crop seeds, improved techniques of planting (CA).

5.1.2 Achievements

The operation managed reach 135 HHs at distributions, which was made fast and efficient by the use of the Mega V computer software. There were positive results seen after the first training and seeds distribution, as all HHs had good harvest especially for cowpeas and some sold surplus for extra income. The HHs saved some harvest as seeds for the upcoming season, and land preparation has improved.

The communities' leadership has supported the operation and really appreciated the assistance, while highlighting the difference the operation has made to most venerable HHs especially those headed by people living with disabilities.

The regional NRCS volunteers also played a major role in the operation, about 20 volunteers were actively involved throughout the operation and the community members were also quite eager to assist during the distribution.

5.1.3 Constraints/challenges

The operation involved moving large loads of food parcels and seeds, which at times put pressure on logistics e.g. not enough vehicles, trailer breakdowns, and manpower.

5.2 Renewable Energy and Climate Change Mitigation

Much of the planning and setting up of the project was already done in 2017, which made 2018 the year for implementation. The activities implemented ranged from water infrastructure installation, energy efficient stoves construction to the procurement and distribution of solar lights. This activities were coupled with awareness raising sessions in different communities on renewable energy and energy efficient technologies, with technical support from Namibia University of Science and Technology (NUST) through the Namibia Energy Institute (NEI).

5.2.1 Water Infrastructure Installation

The NRCS with technical support MAWF hydrology division has drilled 4 boreholes with solar powered installations in Mayana and Sharukwe (Kavango region) and in Muyako and Mpacha (Zambezi region). The communities with perennial streams and close to the river, solar powered floating water pumps and 20 000 litre tanks were installed in Sikondo (Kavango region) and in Saili, Walumba and Lyebangwe (Zambezi region).

The solar powered water infrastructure was aimed at community gardens in order to reduce the cost of fuel used to pump water with generators and to promote the use of green energy to mitigate the effects of emissions.

<i>Regions</i>	<i>Communities</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Total</i>
Kavango	Sikondo	10	5	15
	Mayana	34	8	42
	Sharukwe	19	5	24
Zambezi	Mpacha	15	0	15
	Mayako	10	1	11
	Saili	18	10	28
	Walumba	6	1	7
	Lyebangwe	11	4	15
Total				157

Shows the number of garden beneficiaries.

5.2.2 Energy Efficient Stoves

The energy efficient cooking stove idea originated in Uganda and was adopted and modified in Zimbabwe through that country's National Red Cross. The stove is constructed using local materials at no cost. The construction of demo energy efficient cooking stove component in Namibia was facilitated with technical assistance from Zimbabwe Red Cross and NUST.

The NRCS facilitated the training of 2 volunteers per beneficiary community on how to construct the cooking stove and acquire knowledge on the benefits of energy efficient cooking stove during community awareness raising sessions. The construction of two demo energy efficient cooking stoves per community was done afterwards.

The efficiency of the stove was tested by NUST and it proved to be more efficient than the traditional three stone open fire used for cooking. The stove has since been modified to fit the local context and named the "Elephant cooking stove" as it resemble the elephant trunk with its chimney shape.

The construction manual was developed and printed in English, Rukwangali and Silozi to be disseminated in communities and easy to replicate in HHs that want to construct Elephant cooking stove.

At the end, a total of 319 HHs who were interested in constructing an energy efficient cook were recorded, this was done for volunteers to assist in the construction at HHs and for the project to track the cascading effect.

5.2.3 Solar Lights

The last component was to promote the usage and distribution of solar lights in targeted communities. This activity initially targeted 200 HHs but due to the interest from communities after information sessions, a total of 319 HHs registered from all beneficiary communities.

As a result of the high demand and to promote ownership of the solar lanterns at HHs, an agreement was reached that the community will contribute 10% of the total lantern cost while the project would cover the remaining 90%. The NRCS procured 319 solar lanterns that also catered for mobile phones charging and distributed one per HHs to 195 HHs in Kavango and 124 in Zambezi.

5.2.4 Programme Outcome

- Targeted Households and small scale farmers increased the usage of selected renewable forms of energy and energy efficiency technologies in their daily life.
- Vulnerable communities of the targeted regions have increased awareness about the integration of renewable forms of energy into the rural community system

5.2.5 Achievements

The project has forged very important collaborations, especially with the Zimbabwe Red Cross. The collaboration with MAWF and NUST was also a great success as it yielded quality work and knowledge exchange.

The communities valued the interventions, as it has improved their livelihoods in terms of socio-economic and agricultural production. The Elephant cooking stove was adopted very fast and other communities not targeted, have shown interest in the energy efficient stoves.

5.2.6 Constraints/challenges

The time was very limited to complete all the work, and as the NRCS has very few staff it was a huge challenge.

5.3 Social Assistance

The Khomas region is prone to shacks fires especially in informal settlement around Windhoek. This affects the livelihoods of vulnerable HHs, and NRCS regional office was inundated with appeals for assistance.

In total of 374 victims approached the NRCS in 2018, and 90% of the victims homes were burned down to ashes. Though, the NRCS couldn't assist all victims it provided support such as provision of clothes, shoes and blankets to vulnerable HH's.

6. ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Human Resources department (HR) provides support to staff and volunteers in order to achieve the National Society's mission. It provides an organizational framework to recruit diverse workforce, select, classify, and coordinate employees' compensation and benefits, ensuring that policies are in place to guide staff members. The department also facilitates Payroll, Employee relations, Employment Equity, training and development, wellness and ensuring an environment that optimizes productivity to all staff.

6.1 Staff Movement

During the period under review, several staff members left the NRCS due to financial difficulty faced. In total, 23 employees left the National Society while one (1) person was recruited during 2018. The department also facilitated the recruitment of the New Secretary General Ms, Bernadette Bock who commenced her duties in October 2018.

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
RECRUITMENT	0	1	1
TOTAL RECRUITMENT	0	0	1
TRANSFER / PROMOTION	0	0	0
RESIGNATION	3	2	5
DEATH	0	0	0
DISMISSAL / TERMINATION	0	0	0
RETRENCHMENT	1	5	6
END OF PROGRAM / CONTRACT	5	7	12
TOTAL TURNOVER	7	12	24

Staff movement till December 2018

6.2 Board meetings

During the period under review, the department coordinated the extra ordinary board meeting held in Windhoek on 20 May 2018. The Board discussed the current financial situation faced by the National Society and the retrenchment to be taken to ease the financial trouble experienced through the salary bill. The Board also discussed the resignation of the Secretary General Ms Naemi Heita and appointed Ms Rosemary Nalisa as the acting Secretary General until the appointment of the new Secretary General.

6.3 Regional Volunteers and Membership recruitments for 2018

Membership of the NRCS is open to everyone without any discrimination based on race, gender, religious beliefs, language, class or political opinions. All the citizens and companies of this country can become members of the National Society can participate in its activities and be elected to positions of responsibilities.

The NS reached the target set of 168 members recruited for the year 2018.

6.4 Regional Youth Development

The Youth Programme is a flagship of the Red Cross Organization with the mission to engage young people on the quest to solving humanitarian issues which includes those faced by the youth themselves. Currently, within our current volunteer database, the Namibia Red Cross has over 100 youth active and reservist volunteers within the Khomas Region alone, mostly ranging from the ages of 20 – 30.

During the period under review the NRCS Youth also took up a promotional strategy to disseminate information to various university (UNAM and NUST) campuses to attract more youth to volunteers their time and skills. The visits resulted in 80 new volunteers signing up.

6.4.1 Educational Project

In 2018 the Namibia Red Cross Youth initiated and implemented an educational project that provided tutoring assistance in Mathematics, English and Peer Education to Primary Schools and Orphanages targeting learners from vulnerable backgrounds in Windhoek. During the period under review, over 40 learners from grade 4 – 6 got tutored through this project.



Learners being tutored by NRSC Youth

6.4.1.1 Challenges

- Learning challenges
- Inadequate facilities
- Lack of English Comprehension
- Lack of teaching materials

7. HUMANITARIAN DIPLOMACY

The Communication and Advocacy component was among the activities that were implemented extensively during 2018. Various platforms were used in advocating for support and exposing the plight of vulnerable communities, while highlighting the National Society's humanitarian action aimed at minimising the impact of poverty and other social ills.

The communication medium used include the NRCS Newsletters, press releases, contribution of news articles to the media as well as through the National Society's social media pages. Most of the communication disseminated was based on activities that the National Society is implementing individually and with the support of partners.

7.1 World Red Cross Day

The NRCS commemorated the World Red Cross Day (WRCD) with activities such as a street collection as part of the national blanket drive (winter drive). On the 8th of May the volunteers and staff took to the

streets where they collected money amounting to N\$4,100 which was used to purchase blankets for needy communities.



Volunteers conducted street collection on WRCD

The National Society and Planet Radios initially wanted to end the winter campaign with an official handover of blankets to the needy to coincide with the 8th of May, but this could not materialise. As a result the official handover was then moved to the 13th of May 2018. In total the National Society collected 120 blankets that were distributed to over 100 beneficiaries.



Blanket distribution in Kilimanjaro Informal Settlement

7.2 International Humanitarian Law dissemination (IHL) dissemination to the military personnel

The dissemination of IHL is the mandate of the National Society in line with the Geneva Conventions. NRCS with the assistance of the ICRC Pretoria Delegation conducted one training session at the Karibib Military base from the 26th to the 28th of November 2018. The training is usually conducted at the request of the military academy as per their training schedules or need.



Participants of the IHL Training at the Karibib Military Base

Twenty one (21) officers were trained in IHL Principles (Law of Armed Conflict). The following are among the modules covered: The role of the Namibia Red Cross Society in Namibia, Introduction to the ICRC and International Humanitarian Law, targeting, command responsibility, proportionality, protection of civilians, Law of Armed Conflict and Human Rights.

7.3 Media Management

The NRCS has adopted Social Media platforms as its main marketing tool in line with the emerging digital culture. The NRSC Facebook and Twitter accounts remained popular during 2018 and performed very well in 2018. Facebook received 1245 new Likes, while Twitter generated 4636 followers.

The National Society was also featured 32 times in the local media both on the electronic and print media.

7.4 Communication Policy and Communication Strategy

Policies and strategies are important tools to give direction and measure performance. The National Society developed a Communication Policy and Strategy that will be adopted by the Governing Board in 2019.

7.5 Printing of IEC materials

The Department supported the various departments in ensuring quality control on the designing and printing of documents, T-shirts and other visibility related materials. Not much materials were printed in 2018 due to the drastic reduction in projects.

7.6 Special events

7.6.1 Inauguration of the Renewable Energy project: Kavango and Zambezi

The official launch involved two official events at Muyako, Zambezi on the 10th of April 2018 and a similar event at Mayana, Kavango East on the 12th April 2018. The events included the unveiling of the solar powered water pumps connected to boreholes.

7.6.2 NRCS and Chinese Embassy Health Promotion Day

The Communications Department which is also responsible for partnership management participated in the organisation of a Health Awareness Day supported by the Chinese Embassy on the 16th of November. The activity held at the Havana Primary School was aimed at promoting good hygiene practices and raising awareness on Hepatitis E among the residents of the informal settlements. Among the services rendered on the day were hygiene promotion and First Aid as well as demonstrations on Chinese medicine such as acupuncture.



Chinese medicine demonstration



Heads of organisations that participated

7.6.3 National Clean-up campaign

The Namibia Red Cross Society staff and volunteers joined the whole nation on 25 May 2019 to conduct a national clean-up campaign initiated by the State President, Dr Hage Geingob that was aimed at promoting a clean environment. The campaign came after Namibia battled an outbreak of Hepatitis E in the capital Windhoek. The Namibia Red Cross selected the old age homes and orphanages as the areas where they cleaned.

7.7 Resource Mobilisation

7.7.1 Winter Drive (blanket collection) in partnership with Planet Radios

NRCS collected 120 blankets that were distributed to needy communities through its annual winter drive. The total of **N\$4100** in cash was collected through a street collection conducted on the streets of Windhoek in the second quarter of 2018. Planet Radios supported the drive with a donation of airtime worth **N\$67,767.00**.



7.7.2 Coin collection

The National Society has coin collection boxes at the Hosea Kutako and Eros Airports as well as the Safari Hotel. These sites collected a total of **N\$30,962.85** in 2018.

7.7.3 Support from the World Health Organisation

The National Society partnered with the World Health Organisation (WHO) and signed a six months agreement in which volunteers of the Namibia Red Cross Society are being used in disseminating health promotion information on Hepatitis E prevention. The WHO support amounts to **N\$600,765.00**. The six months agreement is effective from December 2018 to May 2019.

7.7.4 Support from Chinese Embassy

The NRCS and the Chinese Embassy signed a collaboration agreement to conduct a one day health awareness day in Havana. The support amounted to **N\$123,685.14** and was used in purchasing hygiene kits and other water and sanitation materials that were distributed to the community.

7.7.5 Stakeholders meeting

The Namibia Red Cross Society held a stakeholders meeting on the 13th February where information on NRCS activities was disseminated. For the first time the National Society brought in volunteers and beneficiaries to give testimonies on how they have benefitted from the NRCS humanitarian work/services/assistance. The testimonies proved to be the most interesting part for those who attended.

Some of the companies that attended pledged to give support of food parcels to some of the volunteers taking care of orphans and other vulnerable children as well as people living with HIV/AIDS.



8. LOOKING AHEAD

The current active projects will end within the first six month of 2019, more time will be spent on finalizing projects activities, assessment and reports to donors. With support of the partner NS especially the British Red Cross (BRC), NRCS is planning to hold a DM workshop to capacitate staff and stakeholder in applying RC tools and operations.

The year 2019 started off with unpleasant rainfall season onset which affect greater parts of the country due to El Niño effects. The rural subsistence communities, be it crops or livestock farmers will be severely affected and a national drought emergency could be declared in the 2nd quarter of the year.

As it stands drought is imminent, the NRCS DM department to engage IFRC and put plans in place to mobilize resources to prepare and respond to the situation. The situation will call for all stakeholders to work together during drought response operations, so NRCS need to partake in DRM meeting and working groups at all levels so that right information will be received at the right time for effective and efficient response.