

THE ROLE OF MARS IN DISASTER MANAGEMENT



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because every life counts

Because every life counts

KEY STRATEGIC ROLES

- Communication
- Co-ordination of rescue teams at a disaster scene
- Triaging
- Pre-Hospital Patient management & Patient evacuation
- Training

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COMMUNICATION

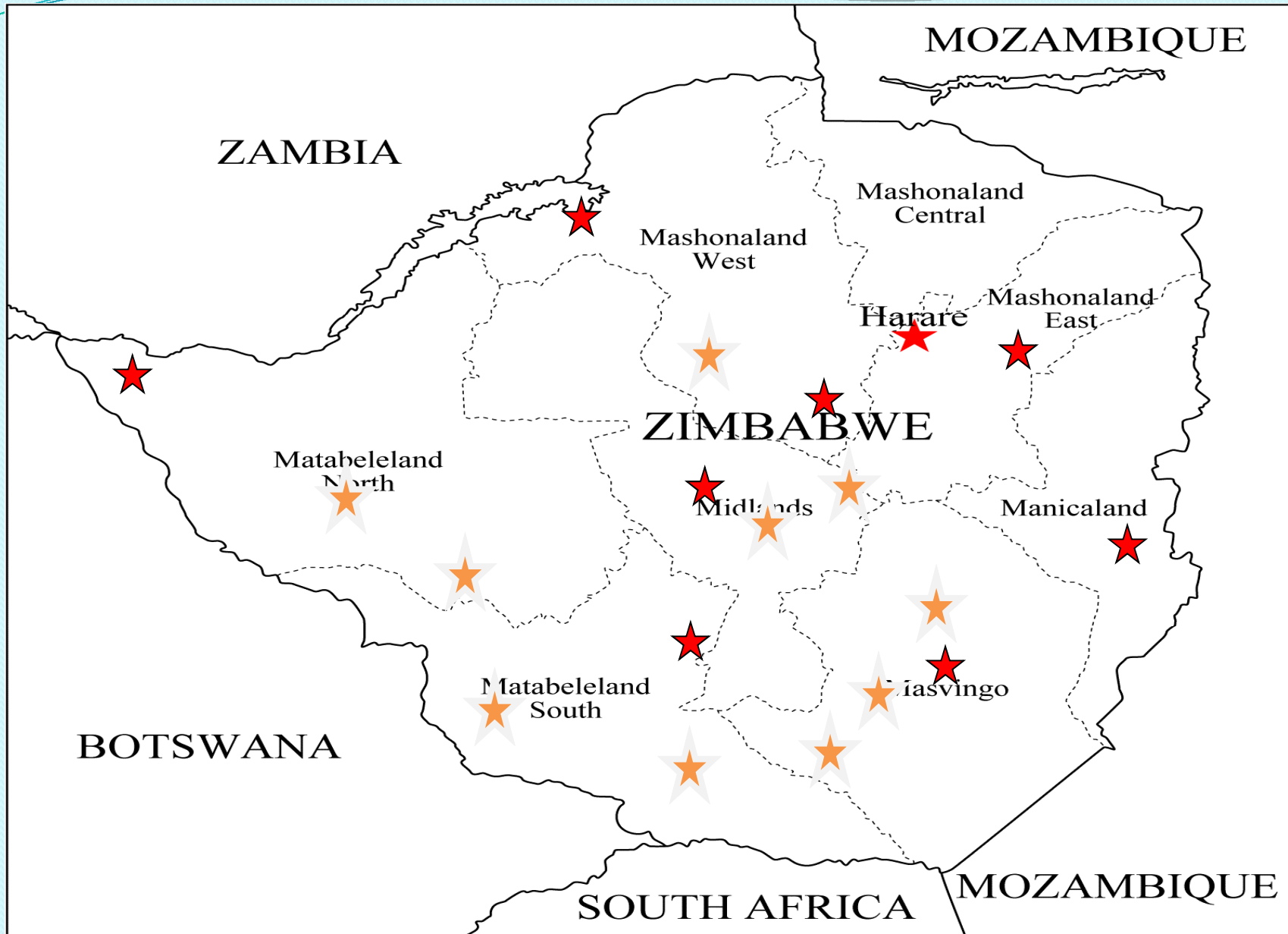


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COMMUNICATION

- Communication is key to the ambulance services, as it links the service provider to the scene.
- MARS operates in partnership with all major communication service providers and has the following emergency lines
 - 112 -Econet
 - 114 -NetOne
 - As well as a number of Tel-one lines in its numerous branches (04-771221 Emergency only)
- Contact Persons and Contact Facility Networks
 - All provincial, district and private hospitals are part of our contact facility network
 - We have contact persons in every province and district including areas where we have no physical presence

Contact Facility Network Map



Co-ordination of rescue teams

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CO-ORDINATION OF RESCUE TEAMS

- In cases of disasters MARS is a key and focal player in a team of rescuers.
- On receipt of a disaster call, MARS alerts all the necessary players in the Emergency Rescue service
- MARS coordinates the handling and transportation of the patients at scene
- MARS' team of well trained staff are great team players to ensure that many lives are saved.

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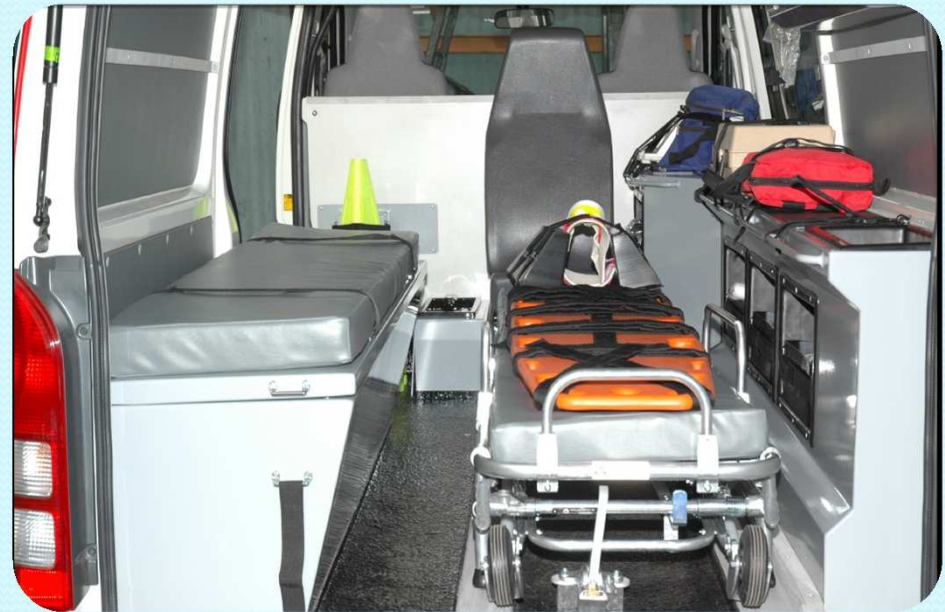
Critical Partners

- Police
- Fire Brigades & Ambulance services
- Army
- Air force
- Zimbabwe Traffic Safety Council
- Civil protection
- C A A Z
- Other Private Ambulance Services
- Hospitals (Public and Private)
- VID

Triaging

- Triaging involves an assessment of the extent of injury of patients. This enables the rescue team to attend to and evacuate the most critical patients first.
- Triaging will also determine the most appropriate medical facility for the patients.
- MARS has highly skilled staff to manage the critically injured at scene and during patient evacuation

Pre-Hospital Patient management & Patient evacuation



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TRAINING



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EMS Training School

- Initially MARS sought competitive EMS training from neighboring South Africa and Queensland Ambulance service of Australia
- The school subsequently got affiliated & registered with RCSA & AHA following training received from these institutions
- Back home, MARS spear headed the establishment of AHPC as a governing board for EMS training and operations

How to improve Disaster Management

- There is an on-going change in disaster management and patient evacuation systems, hence there is need for:
 - Attending international conferences/workshops and meetings
 - Information dissemination through skills training and knowledge sharing at meetings
 - Professional body to ratify new guidelines and operations
 - Mitigation efforts through joint campaigns to prevent disasters
 - First responder protocols

Disaster Preparedness

- Capacitate Disaster Preparedness Teams at all levels through training and equipment supplies
- Duty free medical and rescue equipment for private ambulance services that participate in disaster management
- Frequent mock rehearsals at all levels and monitoring by the national disaster team
- **Introduction of a national toll free emergency number that will enable the distressed caller to access all emergency services.**

Some Major Disasters Managed

- Vic Falls NRZ passenger train disaster
- Mhunga bus disasters (all of these)
- Tenda bus disasters
- Charles Prince plane crash
- NRZ Harare station passenger train crash
- Pioneer – Chinhoyi bus disaster
- Nyanga ZNA disaster
- Selous bus disaster with joint response with the army
- Livingstone Helicopter crash – including the mock airport plane crash

THANK YOU
WELCOME ON BOARD
THE MEDICAL FLYING
WING OF AFRICA
MEDICAL AIR
RESCUE SERVICES
(MARS)

