



**IPC Review and Planning Meeting
- FAO Offices –
18 June 2009**

Summary

ZimVAC is quite interested in the process and want to learn by doing through focusing initially on smaller geographical area under the competent guidance of IPC experts. IPC framework has certain attributes which can be used at national level and compared with already existing data/information collection systems. It is important to understand the extent to which they add up, strengths and weaknesses in order to understand the IPC. Honest feedback regarding the IPC process was highlighted as key component.

A number of issues were highlighted in the meeting:

Issues

- The meeting felt that there was need for clarity regarding the added value from using IPC in analysis comparing it within the context of information systems available. Cost and benefit analysis of using IPC. Given all the existing information systems, was IPC a priority for the country.
- An important added value of IPC was no need of conducting data collection but data gaps are there. How does then ZimVAC fill the gaps??
- It is difficult to get representative data at ward level, need a reality check in terms of smallest possible level for different outcomes. Analysis level of pitching IPC for it to be useful becomes important.
- ZimVAC felt that at this point in time it did not have sufficient understanding of what IPC is and value addition aspect. There is a lot more not understood about the IPC process.
- There was need for technical clarity through a discussion with IPC experts regarding indicators used for classification. Reference indicators seem to be both outcome and process indicators and how does analysts treat or weight them.
- Attempts should be made to get definitions of indicators used by different organizations and information collection systems and see how that fits into IPC reference table
- Southern Africa should come up with a decision/position on IPC's relevance to the region. IPC can also be adapted for the region through adding other indicators appropriate to the region such HIV/AIDS.
- Engage with thresholds for various indicators in order to disaggregate different geographical levels to avoid masking important differences. How do we get

already information being collected at provincial or sub-provincial level to be used nationally.

- Honest feedback from ZimVAC to Global IPC should be communicated to avoid the situation being viewed as an opportunity. Where IPC was born is different from Zimbabwe geographically and other socio-economic settings.
- Adoption is a process and takes time. ZimVAC want to learn more to allow us to get better understanding of how useful the tool is
- It is important to look at other factors which IPC conceptual framework is good at and see how those aspects can be incorporated into existing food security analysis.
- Expert opinion in Zimbabwe counts more but is not documented. How do we use this source of important information? Engage Global IPC technical team
- Quality of facilitators needs to improve and ZimVAC can influence who comes in order for it to understand
- Need for comparability if important at different levels, but is IPC the answer vs already systems present-VAC
- Should agree whether we engage in IPC- level of data collection
- Coordination aspect
 - Different data collection information systems with regards to key indicators
- Leverage funds by demonstrating that we need to do certain type of analysis

Way Forward

- Improve traditional information systems in order to close data gaps
- Lets influence the IPC process by becoming part of it as there are opportunities to learn, but need to configure how best to do it
- Communicate issues with Global IPC
- Zimbabwe need far much more resources for data/information gap filling
- Inventory of IPC indicators with more detail on geographical scale, reliability, information systems not covered etc **starting point** for piloting
- Concentrate/start with one district or area for piloting and learn from that.
- Can make use of Macro Indicators Monitoring System (MIMS)
- Need a hands on technical experts on IPC to guide the classification
- Need a programme of action/proposal- timetable next week

Appendix 1: List of Participants

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