

Zimbabwe Current Acute Food Insecurity Situation Overview

Created on: 11/Jul/2012

Key Outcomes for the Worst affected Area

Masvingo and Matabeleland South

Food Consumption: 42- 56% of the households poor to borderline consumption

Livelihood Change: no significant change

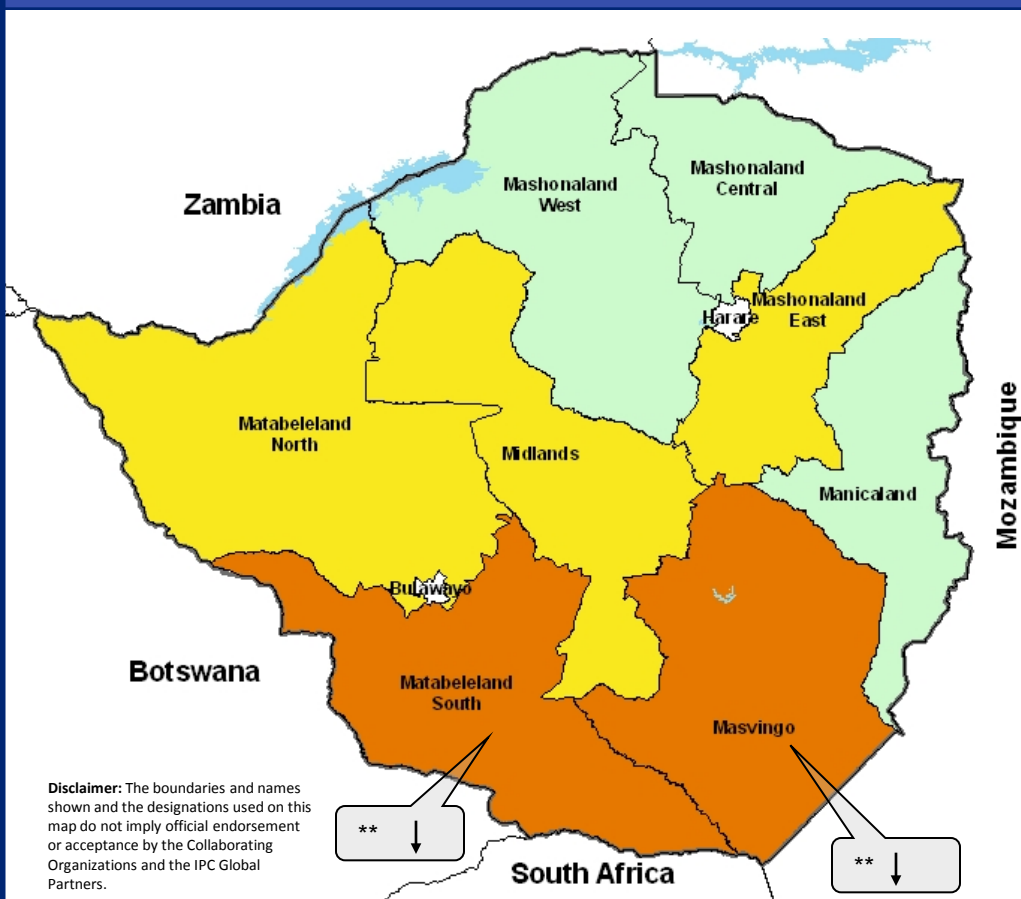
Nutrition: Acute malnutrition range from 2-4%

BMI <18.5: =17%

Mortality: under 5 mortality is 1-2/ 10 000/day

Summary of Causes, Context and Key Issues

The poor 2011/12 rainfall season significantly reduced household food production to below normal levels and limited the annual regeneration of grazing and replenishment of rivers and dams in the southern provinces. Greater than usual numbers of households are dependant on the market for their basic food needs. The food is generally available on the market but poor households are seriously constrained in accessing enough food of acceptable diversity. Access to food is further constrained by increased food(in particular staple) prices. Casual labour is the main source of income. It pays low and its availability is highly irregularity. The poor grazing in Matabeleland South is so severe that grazing animals has significantly deteriorated in both condition and value. Consequently, the livestock to maize terms of trade are highly in favour of staple cereal. The middle and better-off households in parts of Matabeleland South has started migrating northwards, earlier than normal, in search for better pastures for their animals.



Disclaimer: The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the Collaborating Organizations and the IPC Global Partners.

Key for Map

Acute Food Insecurity Phase

- 1 Minimal
 - 2 Stressed
 - 3 Crisis
 - 4 Emergency
 - 5 Famine
- Areas with Inadequate Evidence
 - Not Analyzed
 - Urban/Settlement
 - ! Area would likely be at least 1 Phase worse without the effects of humanitarian assistance

Key for Callout Boxes

- ↑ Improving
 - ↓ Worsening
 - ↔ Uncertain / No change
- Situation on Validity date**
- △ Acceptable
 - △△ Medium
 - △△△ High
- Confidence of analysis**
- Continuing Phase 3,4,or 5 for more than 3 years**
- 1 Low
 - 2 Moderate
 - 3 High
 - 4 Very High
- Chronic Food Insecurity Level (if available)**

For more information, contact

ymavhunga@sirdc.ac.zw
Food and Nutrition Council
SIRDC Complex
1574 Alpes Road
Hatcliffe
Harare

www.fnc.org.zw

Analysis Partners & Supporting Organizations



IPC Global Partners



Zimbabwe Projected Acute Food Insecurity Situation Overview

Valid from: February 2013

Created on: 11/Jul/2012

Key Outcomes for the Worst affected Areas:

Masvingo, Matabeleland South and Matabeleland North

Food Consumption: 42- 56% of the households poor to borderline consumption

Livelihood Change: no significant change

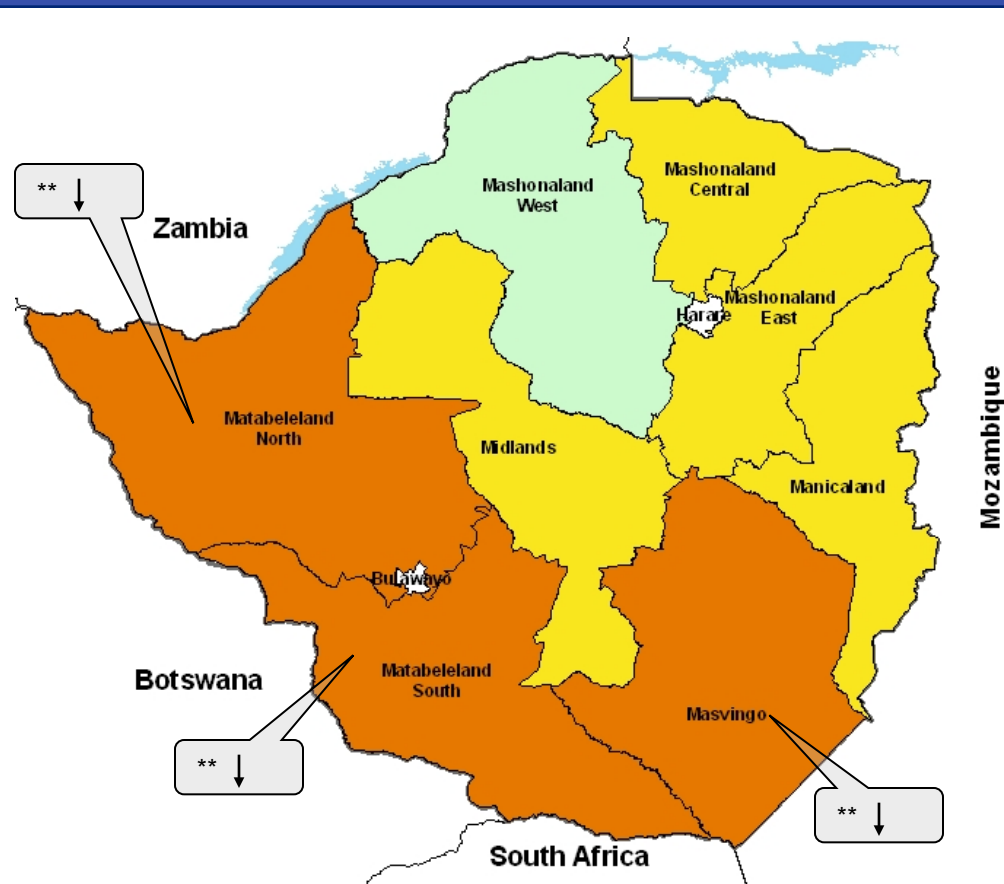
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yvavhunga@sirdc.ac.zw
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Part 2: Summary of Findings, Methods, and Next Steps

Key Findings and Issues

The food security situation is currently stable in the northern parts of the country and concerns are in the southern parts mainly Masvingo and Matabeleland South provinces which are currently in the crisis food insecurity phase. Currently, staple cereals are generally available throughout the country from both own production and the market, but low incomes and higher than normal prices of staple cereals are limiting household access, particularly in the southern provinces. About 40% of rural households had poor to borderline consumption reflecting generally limited diversity of food consumed. Due to lack of adequate water and grazing, particularly in Matabeleland South where livestock are a major livelihood source, household purchasing power has been severely constrained. While the malnutrition rates point towards a stressed food insecurity phase, the mortality rates pointed towards the crisis phase for the country. However, the nutrition and mortality levels are mostly resulting from non-food security related factor. In the projected food security scenario for January 2013 Matabeleland North is likely to deteriorate to a crisis food insecurity phase while Manicaland and Mashonaland Central provinces are expected to deteriorate to a stressed food insecurity phase.

Methods, Process & Key Issues

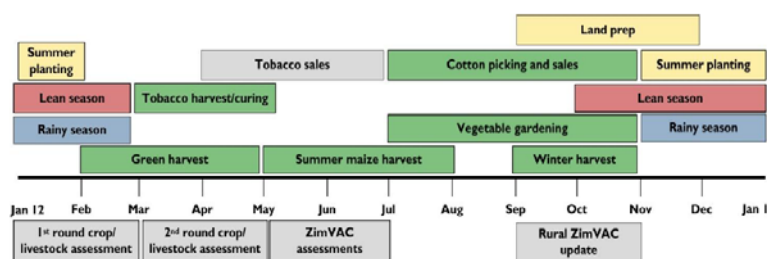
The IPC process began with the collection of information from various secondary sources. The information was then organized according to IPC contributing factors and outcome indicators. Major secondary sources included ZimVAC 2011, ZimVAC 2012, Ministry of Agriculture First and Second Round Crop and Livestock Assessments, The Zimbabwe Demographic and Health Survey 2011, Zimbabwe HEA Livelihoods Baselines, WFP Food Security Monitoring System, National Early Warning Unit Agricultural and Food Security Monitoring System, the Zimbabwe Meteorological Services, European Commission Joint Research Centre rainfall season monitoring information, National Nutrition Survey 2010, ZIMSTATS population data, ZIMSTATS income and price data and Mapping data from UN-OCHA-Zimbabwe.

The ZimVAC technical team considered several possible units of analysis such as district, Livelihood zone, and province, before agreeing on the province. This was due to limited time, human and financial resources as well as limited information available at livelihood zone level. Eight provincial groups were formed for the provincial level meta-analysis. Each group had a provincial representative, an Economist, Agronomist and other people familiar with the province. There were three Nutritionists present who shared their expertise with the rest of the groups. The analyses were primarily done in the small provincial groups using the IPC analysis worksheets. Plenary sessions were intermittently held to discuss issues arising and standardizing the analyses. Analysis outputs from each provincial teams were discussed and suggestions were made towards improving the outputs and incorporated into the analysis. The individual provincial analyses were synthesized into one national product showing the current and projected scenarios.

At the conclusion of the workshop, the groups identified the following challenges encountered during the IPC analysis:

- Difficulties in making interpreting statements and conclusion elements from the available data or information.
- Dealing with diverging evidence within the outcome indicators and the overall classification.
- Differences in methodologies used by the different secondary sources presenting different pictures to the technical experts
- Shortage of other key technical experts within the small groups such as nutritionists to interpret some of the evidence appropriately.
- Limited availability of data/information at household level constrained analysis at HAG level.
- The provincial level analysis masked the food insecurity variations within the province.

Food Security Seasonal Calendar and Monitoring Implications



Indicator	When to monitor
Prices of cereals and pulses	Throughout
Safe water availability	Throughout
Grazing availability	Throughout
Consumption coping strategies	October, January
Terms of trade	Throughout
Casual labour opportunities and rates	Quarterly
Start of the green and main harvest	January
Planting time	October
Season performance	From November
Disease outbreaks	Throughout

Recommendations for Next Steps for Analysis and Decision Making

The proposed ways forward was as follows;

- Disseminate the IPC product at national, provincial and district level in during the Annual Livelihood Assessment (ZimVAC) dissemination process: **August 2012**
- Share with key decisions makers at various administrative levels for feedback on their decision making needs: **September 2012**
- Conduct sub-provincial level analysis in a high priority province: **October 2012**.
- Update the IPC analysis: **June 2013** or earlier depending on changes on the assumptions informing the **January 2013** projection
- Improving analytical capacity with ZimVAC: **on-going**
- Cataloguing data gaps in the information system: **July 2012**
- Engage in National and Regional peer review of the outputs: **August 2012**

Contact for Further Information

IPC Technical Working Group: ymavhunga@sirdc.ac.zw
IPC Global Support Unit: www.ipcinfo.org

Current Populations in each phase													
Province	Total number of people	Phase 1		Phase 2		Phase 3		Phase 4		Phase 5		Phase 3 or Higher	
		%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.
Manicaland	1,372,859	92%	1,263,030	6.6%	90,609	1.4%	19,220					1.4%	19,220
Mashonaland Central	1,159,402	95%	1,101,432	5%	57,970		0						
Mashonaland East	1,094,038	57%	623,602	26%	284,450	17%	185,986					17%	185,986
Mashonaland West	1,017,185	83%	844,264	17%	172,921		0						
Matabeleland North	705,144	88%	620,527	22%	155,132		0						
Matabeleland South	701,770	44%	308,779	35%	245,620	21%	147,372					21%	147,372
Midlands	1,308,299	66%	863,477	34%	444,822		0					0%	
Masvingo	1,359,878	60%	815,927	18%	244,778	22%	299,173					22%	299,173
Total	8,718,575	74%	6,441,037	19	1,696,301	7%	651,751		-	-	-	7%	651,751

Projected Populations in each phase													
Province	Total number of people	Phase 1		Phase 2		Phase 3		Phase 4		Phase 5		Phase 3 or Higher	
		%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.
Manicaland	1,372,859	75%	1,029,644	17%	233,386	8%	109,829					8%	109828.72
Mashonaland Central	1,159,402	75%	869,552	25%	289,851								0
Mashonaland East	1,094,038	50%	547,019	30%	328,211	18%	196,927					18%	196926.84
Mashonaland West	1,017,185	83%	844,264	17%	172,921								0
Matabeleland North	705,144	20%	141,029	46%	324,366	32%	225,646					32%	225646.08
Matabeleland South	701,770	35%	245,620	30%	210,531	35%	245,620					35%	245619.5
Midlands	1,308,299	54%	706,481	46%	601817.54								0
Masvingo	1,359,878	40%	543,951	26%	353568.28	34%	462,359					34%	462358.52
Total	8,718,575	57%	4,927,559	29%	2,514,652	14%	1,240,380		-		-	14%	1,240,380