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Summary of Findings, Methods, and Next Steps

Key Findings and Issues

Key outcomes for the worst affected Districts (Balaka, Blantyre, Chikhwawa, Mulanje, Neno, Nsanje, Ntcheu, Phalombe and Thyolo):

Food consumption: About 39 per cent of the total population in the above districts have food gaps ranging from 3 to 8 months in the 2012/13 consumption year. Livelihood Change: "Poor" and some "Middle" Households will start using *Stress* coping mechanisms earlier than normal. Nutritional status: While no nutritional survey was conducted recently, previous reports as of 2011 indicate S*tress* levels of food insecurity. Mortality: Crude Death Rate (CDR) =0.5-1/10,000 persons/day indicating *Crisis* levels of food insecurity.

According to Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (MoAFS) third round crop production estimates this year, Malawi registered a 7% reduction in maize production as compared to last year. However, there was extremely low production especially for "Poor" and "Middle" Wealth Group Households for all key food and cash crops in the affected Districts. Significant reductions have also been registered in key cash crops such tobacco following the previous year's bad market season which resulted in reductions in area planted.

Following the Nation-wide Cotton Up-scaling Programme, area planted for cotton increased by 322%. There was however a reduction of 59% for tobacco production because most farmers were disincentivized with the poor prices the crop fetched during the previous season. The Cotton Up-scaling Programme also had serious displacement effects for staples in some areas, especially maize which was the most substituted in favour of cotton. Despite the increase in area planted with cotton, per capita production among the "Poor" and "Middle" Households was very low as with other key cash and food crops due to unfavorable weather conditions. There was also poor adaptability of the cotton seed used in the Scale Up Programme.

Based on seasonality trends and low production coupled with the recent devaluation in the affected Districts, maize prices are much higher this season compared to the last consumption season. As of mid-June 2012, maize was already selling at an average of K45/kg compared to K25/kg same time last year. Both MVAC and FEWSNET project that maize prices will remain above the normal seasonal trends for the remainder of the consumption season.

Methods, Process & Key Issues

The analysis used data from a number of sources. Key sources of most recent secondary data include MVAC annual assessment report, MoAFS crop estimates survey reports, MVAC field reports, WALA Annual Impact Survey report, FEWSNET Food Security Projection, DoDMA Humanitarian Reports, MVAC Livelihoods Baselines Reports, WFP CSFVA Report, Demographic and Health Survey from NSO, Integrated Household Survey (IHS) from NSO as well as Population and Housing Census for 2008.

The process started with MVAC expressing interest to pilot IPC Acute and Chronic Analyses. The RVAC IPC lead person (Regional Food Security Officer for FAO) briefed the MVAC on approval, budget and preparations for the training workshop. The training analysis workshop was preceded by an IPC awareness workshop by policy makers which was facilitated by the IPC GSU Trainer on 18th June 2012. The acute training and analysis workshop was conducted between 18th to 26th June involving almost all MVAC members.

By the end of the training and analysis workshop, the MVAC had managed to complete the Acute Analysis and had reached consensus on the mapping protocols for both the acute current and projected situation. A small team was assigned to complete the communication template.



Lean period will set in two months earlier than normal in July. Staple food and other basic commodity are projected to be higher than normal and will limit access to adequate food through markets. MVAC has recommended humanitarian interventions to start in August.

Recommendations for Next Steps

- 1. National Dissemination workshop scheduled to take place on the 21st of September 2012 with funding from the European Union (EU), through CARE & CISANET under the auspices of the LAGAFA Project.
- 2. District level Dissemination Workshops planned to be jointly conducted with MVAC report from 24th to 28th of September 2012 with funding from the EU, through CARE & CISANET under the auspices of the LAGAFA Project.
- 3. Update/complete TORs for TWG through the Task Force that was constituted during the Validation Workshop on the 17th of August 2012 since there is a gap for nutritionists.
- 4. Lobby the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security to adopt tools on the four Food Consumption Outcomes namely, the Household Dietary Diversity Score (HDDS), Food Consumption Score (FCS), Coping Strategies Index (CSI) and the Household Hunger Score (HHS) through the Task Force that was constituted during the Validation Workshop on the 17th of August 2012 in readiness for future IPC Analyses.
- 5. The MVAC IPC TWG needs to collect, consolidate and inventory relevant data well in advance before the actual analysis
- 6. Lessons learnt
 - a. A complete database containing all data required for IPC analysis is important and needs to be managed by the MVAC Secretariat.
 - b. There are a lot of data gaps while IPC requires extensive valid, accurate and reliable information. It's paradoxical for IPC analysis to require good quality data without due initial investment in the data collection. All relevant stakeholder Institutions should therefore invest in data collection.
 - c. Reviews MVAC output vis a vis IPC info requirements (Livelihoods thresholds not analyzed for MVAC (Household Economy Approach (HEA) outcomes. HEA template needs to be comprehensive to cover all required aspects and elements
 - d. MVAC IPC TWG needs to update the IPC map for the projected situation following the October/November Baseline updates.

	Part 3: Population Tables																
District	Total No. of	Affected Population	Period	Phase			Population in each phase							Phase 3 or Higher		Confidence	
	People				P1		P2		P3		P4		P5				Level
					%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	No.	%	
Nsanje	262035	105012	Current	2	60%	157023	40%	105012			_		_				***
	262035	105012	Projected	3	60%	157023	2%	5241	38%	99771					99771	38%	***
Chikhwawa	489030	275653	Current	2	44%	213377	56%	275653									
	489030	275653	Projected	3	44%	213377	18%	88025	38%	187628					187628	38%	***
Mwanza	99434	1404	Current	1	99%	98030	1%	1404			_						***
	99434	1404	Projected	1	99%	98030	1%	1404									***
Neno	130611	76302	Current	2	42%	54309	58%	76302			_						***
	130611	76302	Projected	3	42%	54309	13%	16979	45%	59323					59323	45%	***
Mangochi	916274	14340	Current	1	98%	901934	2%	14340									***
	916274	14340	Projected	1	98%	901934	2%	14340									***
Machinga	554840	20556	Current	1	96%	534284	4%	20556			_						**
	554840	20556	Projected	1	96%	534284	4%	20556									**
Dedza	686636	70406	Current	1	90%	616230	10%	70406									**
	686636	70406	Projected	1	90%	616230	10%	70406									***
Salima	383421	52468	Current	1	86%	330953	14%	52468									**
	383421	52468	Projected	1	86%	330953	14%	52468									***
Ntcheu	528088	135372	Current	2	74%	392716	26%	135372							_		***
	528088	135372	Projected	3	74%	392716	9%	47528	17%	87844					87844	17%	**
Blantyre	372843	115550	Current	2	69%	257293	31%	115550						—			***
	372843	115550	Projected	3	69%	257293	14%	52198	17%	63352					63352	17%	**
Zomba	625580	120397	Current	1	81%	505183	19%	120397			_			 			***
	625580	120397	Projected	1	81%	505183	19%	120397			_		_				**
Phalombe	346639	70178	Current	2	80%	276461	20%	70178									**
	346639	103992	Projected	3	70%	242647	10%	34664	20%	70178							***
Mulanje	550721	196847	Current	2	64%	353874	36%	196847									***
	550721	196847	Projected	3	64%	353874	1%	5507	35%	191340					191340	35%	***
Thyolo	612676	167021	Current	2	73%	445655	27%	167021							_		**
	612676	167021	Projected	3	73%	445655	6%	36761	21%	130260					130260	21%	***
Balaka	360252	208501	Current	2	42%	151751	58%	208501									***
	360252	208501	Projected	3	42%	151751	5%	18013	53%	190488	_				190488	53%	***
Chiradzulu	305692	0	Current	1	100%	305692											**
	305692	0	Projected	1	100%	305692					_						*
Aggregate Population in each Phase_Current						5594765		1630007									7224772
Aggregate Population in each Phase_Projected						5560951		584487		1080184	-	—	-				7225622
Aggregate Percentage_Current						77%		23%				—					
Aggregate Percentage_Projected						77%		8%		15%							





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