

Southern Africa

Regional Update

WFP Executive Board

June 2007

Overview – Regional Situation

- The Southern Africa region recently affected by:
 - Floods in Mozambique, Zambia and Madagascar
 - Cyclones in Madagascar and Mozambique
 - Drought/Crop failure in Zimbabwe, Swaziland, Lesotho, southern Mozambique, Namibia and South Africa.

 - The **‘Triple Threat’**: food insecurity compounded by poverty, governance/capacity and HIV/AIDS affecting the most vulnerable populations
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ZIMBABWE

- ❑ The Government has declared 2007 as a drought year.
 - ❑ Hyper-inflation and devaluation.
 - ❑ Steep increases in price of basic food commodities.
 - ❑ **FAO/WFP CFSAM** report expected this week.
 - ❑ Cereal gap estimated to be 1 million tons.
 - ❑ Food assistance requirements about 350,000 tons cereals.
 - ❑ Beneficiaries expected 1 million by August and about 4.1 million at peak in January 2008.
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LESOTHO

- ❑ Pre-harvest assessment estimated production 40% lower than last year.
 - ❑ Rapidly rising prices in South Africa a major impact on many households access to food on the markets.
 - ❑ **FAO/WFP CFSAM** report to be finalized this week – estimates around 400,000 people affected and in need of assistance.
 - ❑ Prime Minister has indicated Government may appeal for assistance for 523,000 people in need.
 - ❑ WFP plans to help around 250,000 of those affected by the crisis.
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SWAZILAND

- ❑ Prolonged dry spells and high temperatures lowest harvest on record.
 - ❑ **FAO/WFP CFSAM** April 2007 estimated production 60% lower than last year.
 - ❑ Cereal prices more than doubled since January.
 - ❑ 410,000 people affected with WFP planning to support about 60% of them until the next harvest.
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MOZAMBIQUE

- ❑ WFP providing assistance to 100,000 people affected by cyclones through end of July.
 - ❑ Flood assistance for 200,000 people until July 2007.
 - ❑ Multi-sector **assessment** on-going
 - ❑ Dry spells affected southern and parts of central Mozambique. WFP plans to assist around 300,000 people from July to the next harvest.
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ZAMBIA

- ❑ Heavy rainfall caused flooding in 4 southern districts with an estimated 300,000 persons affected.
 - ❑ No **CFSAM** was requested by the government.
 - ❑ An **assessment** is in progress to provide updated needs and information on vulnerable groups.
 - ❑ WFP plans recovery support 140,000 flood affected persons.
 - ❑ Support will also planned for a targeted 537,500 other vulnerable people.
 - ❑ Current distributions well below planned levels due to lack of funding.
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MADAGASCAR

- ❑ Seven cyclones and tropical storms since January leading to floods, crop losses and significant damage to infrastructure.
 - ❑ Southern province of Tulear again affected by low rainfall and poor harvest expected.
 - ❑ **Multi-sectoral assessment** underway with results expected end of June.
 - ❑ WFP assisting about 181,000 people this month.
 - ❑ Depending on assessment results, WFP plans to support a peak of 350,000 people before the next harvest in February.
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MALAWI

- ❑ Government estimates maize crop production of 3.2 million tons - a surplus of 1 million tons.
 - ❑ Despite the good harvest, it is anticipated that vulnerable households will still have problems accessing food.
 - ❑ WFP will continue programmes to support OVCs and people affected by HIV and AIDS.
 - ❑ Development project on Support to Education before you for approval
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ANGOLA & NAMIBIA

- ❑ **Angola:** WFP programme phased down due to severe lack of funds. However, food insecurity persists.
 - ❑ Plan limited food assistance in 2007-2008 to the most vulnerable.
 - ❑ PRRO ends in April 2009 must decide on future role if any.
 - ❑ **Namibia:** Absorption by government grant system of 62,000 OVCs assisted by WFP expected by early 2008.
 - ❑ After PRRO ends most likely not expanded but discussion on-going with government.
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Response Mechanisms

- ❑ Regional PRRO will be extended until April 2008.
 - ❑ Budget revision needed to cover the increased needs especially for Zimbabwe.
 - ❑ Madagascar PRRO ends in June 2008 and able to cover the additional beneficiaries if fully funded.
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REGIONAL SURPLUSES

- ❑ **Malawi:** 1.1 million tons surplus with a carry over of 300,000 tons.
 - ❑ **Zambia:** 400-600,000 tons surplus (waiting for official government assessment) with 100,000 tonnes carry over stocks.
 - ❑ **Mozambique:** Estimated 700,000 tons surplus.
 - ❑ **South Africa:** no real surplus and already importing white maize from Malawi and Zambia.
 - ❑ **Total in region:** 2.5 million tons surplus with further 400,000 tons in carryover stock.
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Successor PRROs

- ❑ Nine of the ten countries with the highest HIV prevalence rates are in Southern Africa.
 - ❑ The impact of HIV and AIDS in is compounded by:
 - deepening food insecurity and poverty; and
 - weakening government capacity to respond.
 - ❑ Many households remain unable to meet their daily food needs despite increasing national food yields.
 - ❑ Chronic food insecurity increasing across Southern Africa, affecting millions of households.
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Successor PRROs

- Evaluation of the regional emergency response conclude one option to relieve chronic food insecurity and vulnerability is the promotion of social protection
 - Single country PRROs with focus on social protection.
 - Expected to be submitted to Executive Board as follows:
 - October 2007: Malawi and Mozambique
 - February 2008: Zambia and Zimbabwe
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Capacity Building. SADC Vulnerability Assessment Committee (VAC) System

- ❑ SADC VAC system has evolved since the Regional VAC was established as SADC FANR committee in 1999.
 - ❑ Comprised of National Vulnerability Assessment Committees (VACs) in most countries with a Regional VAC (RVAC).
 - ❑ National VACs conduct assessments to determine the number, nature and location of the most vulnerable populations.
 - ❑ WFP supports the RVAC with technical expertise (jointly funded FAO/WFP staff member in Gaborone)
 - ❑ WFP is supporting the Governments of Madagascar and Angola to establish national VACs.
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Thank you.