

Challenges and Opportunities Southern Africa Region (ODJ)



WFP Executive Board
October 2007



Chronic Vulnerability

- Southern Africa epicenter HIV/AIDS Pandemic
 - alarming prevalence rates
 - deepening poverty
 - weakening government capacity to respond
 - increasing number orphans and vulnerable children (OVCs)
- Increasing chronic food insecurity
- Acute life-threatening food insecurity when exposed to shocks



Climate Change

- Drought cycles more frequent
- Increased risk of flooding and cyclones
- Re-think agricultural policies and methods
- Strengthen government capacity in early warning and preparedness systems



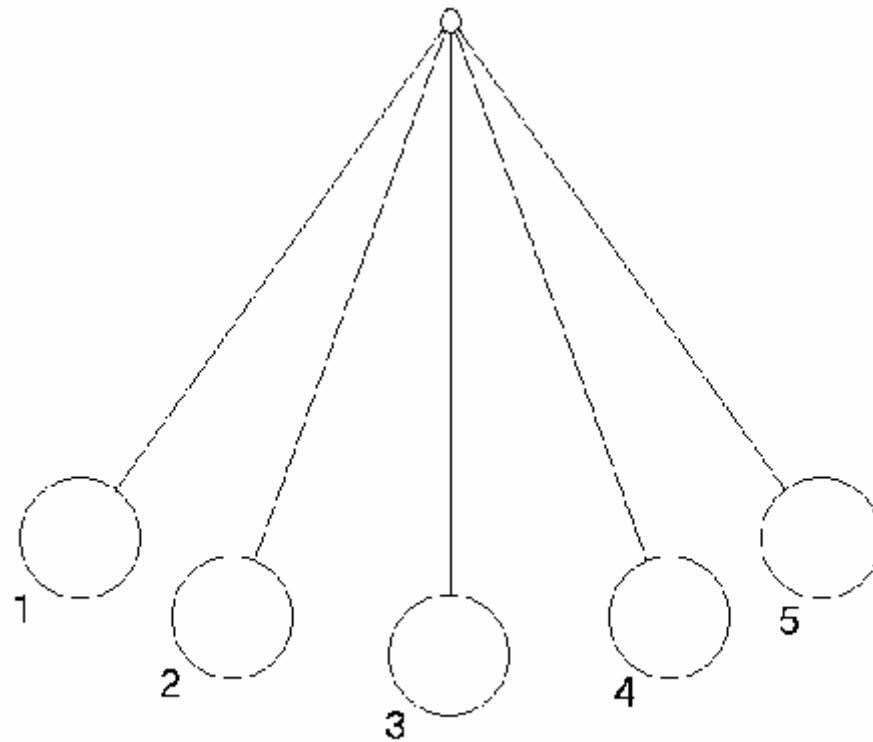
A Humanitarian Challenge

Responses must address:

- acute short term needs caused by drought, floods and cyclones
- longer term needs mitigating chronic vulnerability



Pendulum versus Continuum





Local Purchases

- Support agriculture through local purchases
- Since 2002 WFP purchased over 2 million tons of food in southern Africa
- Emphasis on small scale purchases



Capacity Development

- Assessments, preparedness and disaster management
- Technical support to SADC and national bodies to increase capacity in vulnerability assessments and analysis
- INGC Mozambique government's capacity to better respond to disasters and floods



UN Regional Directors Team

- Contributes to harmonization and UN Reform
- Provides programme support to UNCTs
- Promotes partnerships with regional entities



Social Protection Frameworks

- Social protection programmes in situations of high chronic vulnerability
- For WFP food insecurity and nutritional support are key entry points
- Capacity of governments to implement programmes needs to be augmented

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