



# **SADC Regional Vulnerability Assessment and Analysis Synthesis Report 2015**

## **State of Food Insecurity and Vulnerability in the Southern African Development Community**

Compiled from the National Vulnerability Assessment Committee (NVAC)  
Reports presented at the Regional Vulnerability Assessment and Analysis  
(RVAA) Annual Dissemination Forum on 24 July 2015  
in Johannesburg, Republic of South Africa.

**October 2015**

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## LIST OF ACRONYMS

<b>BFHS</b>	Botswana Family Health Survey
<b>BVAC</b>	Botswana Vulnerability Assessment Committee
<b>CHS</b>	Community and Household Surveillance
<b>COE</b>	Centre of Excellence
<b>DHS</b>	Demographic and Health Survey
<b>DRC</b>	Democratic Republic of Congo
<b>FAO</b>	UN Food and Agriculture Organisation
<b>FANR</b>	Food Agriculture and Natural Resources
<b>FEWSNET</b>	Famine Early Warning System Network
<b>FMD</b>	Foot and Mouth Disease
<b>FOB</b>	Free on Board
<b>GDP</b>	Gross Domestic Product
<b>HDI</b>	Human Development Index
<b>HEA</b>	Household Economy Analysis
<b>ICP</b>	International Cooperating Partners
<b>IPC</b>	Integrated Food Security Phase Classification
<b>MICS</b>	Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey
<b>MDHS</b>	Malawi Demographic Health Survey
<b>MoF</b>	Ministry of Finance
<b>MT</b>	Metric Tonnes
<b>MS</b>	Member States
<b>NamVAC</b>	Namibia Vulnerability Assessment Committee
<b>NHDS</b>	National Health Demographic Survey
<b>NGO</b>	Non-Governmental Organisation
<b>NVAC</b>	National Vulnerability Assessment Committee
<b>RSA</b>	Republic of South Africa
<b>RVAA</b>	Regional Vulnerability Assessment and Analysis
<b>RVAC</b>	Regional Vulnerability Assessment Committee
<b>SGR</b>	Strategic Grain Reserve
<b>SADC</b>	Southern African Development Community
<b>SANHANES</b>	South Africa National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey
<b>SARCOF</b>	Southern Africa Regional Climate Outlook Forum
<b>SAVAC</b>	South Africa Vulnerability Assessment Committee
<b>SOWC</b>	State of the World's Children
<b>SVAC</b>	Swaziland Vulnerability Assessment Committee
<b>UNICEF</b>	United Nations International Children's Fund
<b>UNIMA</b>	University of Malawi
<b>U/R</b>	United Republic
<b>VAA</b>	Vulnerability Assessment and Analysis
<b>VAC</b>	Vulnerability Assessment Committee
<b>WFP</b>	United Nations World Food Programme
<b>ZVAC</b>	Zambia Vulnerability Assessment Committee
<b>ZimVAC</b>	Zimbabwe Assessment Committee

# **SADC Regional Vulnerability Assessment and Analysis Synthesis Report 2015**

## **1. Introduction**

### **1.1 Background**

The Southern African Development Community (SADC) and its Member States are committed to addressing food security, poverty and livelihood vulnerability. Most governments in the SADC Region have made consistent use of vulnerability assessment data and information generated by National Vulnerability Assessment Committees (NVACs) and the Regional Vulnerability Assessment Committee (RVAC) for input to policy and programming to address challenges in food security, poverty and vulnerability.

The mandate of the Regional Vulnerability Assessment and Analysis (RVAA) programme is to “strengthen national and regional vulnerability analysis systems in order to inform policy formulation, development programmes and emergency interventions that lead to a reduction in vulnerability”. The Regional Vulnerability Assessment Committee (RVAC) and the NVAC system is more than a data generation mechanism: its intention is to engage and influence policy uptake and implementation consequences, to ensure VAA efforts will achieve the intended impacts.

For more than a decade, the NVACs have been conducting vulnerability assessments in the region. The vulnerability assessments mostly utilize livelihood-based approaches to VAA, which among other things assess the interactions between food production, prices, income, and expenditure patterns to determine households’ response to various stressors to livelihoods.

Each year, the SADC RVAA Programme organises an Annual Dissemination Forum which begins with a meeting of technicians from the RVAC and NVACs followed by a Senior Policy makers meeting to officially release results of the assessments. These forum is designed for sharing information on the food security and vulnerability situation in the Region. In the former, the meetings of more technical nature allow NVACs to highlight, review and debate the findings of the vulnerability assessments.

The 2015 Regional Annual Dissemination Technical Forum took place from 21st to 23rd July 2015 at the Southern Sun Hotel in Johannesburg, Republic of South Africa. It was attended by NVACs from all Member States except Madagascar and Mauritius. The Senior Officials meeting of Member States was also held at the same venue on 24 July 2015. This high level meeting endorsed the draft Regional Synthesis Report on the State of Food and Livelihoods Vulnerability in the SADC Region presented in this report.

This report provides an overview of the food security and livelihoods situation in the region for the 2015/16 marketing season as discussed at the Dissemination Forums.

Chapter one provides the introduction, objectives of the meeting and approaches and methods used. Chapter two presents the regional social economic summary. The chapter builds partly on secondary sources for issues such as malnutrition and HIV/AIDS prevalence, while NVAC data is the basis for information on crop production, cereal prices, and food

security trends and livelihood vulnerability. Chapter three presents the main conclusions and recommendations of the Dissemination Forum. Chapter four provides highlights on the situation of individual Member States, while chapter five provides an overview of on-going work on emerging issues in the regional Vulnerability Assessment and Analysis (VAA) work presented at the Annual Dissemination Forum.

## **1.2 Objectives of the 2015 RVAA Dissemination Forum**

The main objective of the 2015 Dissemination Forum was to share and disseminate information from the national vulnerability assessments for the 2015/16 consumption year. The specific objectives were to:

1. To disseminate identified threats and opportunities for food security and vulnerability during the 2015/16 consumption year
2. To highlight the depth and levels of food insecurity and vulnerability in the Region for the 2015/16 consumption year.
3. To discuss and endorse actionable recommendations to address food insecurity and vulnerability in the Region.

## **1.3 Approaches and methods**

The National Vulnerability Assessment Committees (NVAC) used a range of approaches to undertake the 2015 assessments. These include qualitative and quantitative methods such as household surveys and key informant interviews, using such tools as the livelihoods analytical framework and others.

The design of the assessment methodologies, geographical coverage and depth of analysis by the National Vulnerability Assessment Committees was largely dependent on the technical capacity within the NVACs; external technical support sourced; financial resources, and time available to carry out the assessments.

The NVACs also used secondary data during the assessments, which included information from previous years' assessment reports, population figures from the National Statistics Offices, meteorological information, baseline livelihood data from NVACs, crop estimates reports by government and reports from various development partners and NGOs in the countries

Methodological limitations to the current assessments vary from assessment to assessment, including: Current assessments are limited to rural areas; insufficient data disaggregation by gender; in some cases lack of up to date data on livestock, fisheries, and non-cereal crop production.

## 2.0 Regional Summary

### 2.1 Regional social and economic context

As shown in Table 1, the SADC Region's population is young, with more than 75% being below 35 years of age. The economic growth rate for 2015 is projected at 3.8%. With unemployment rates ranging from 1.7% to 51%, to lift the large numbers of people living on less than 1 USD out of poverty a day, the economic growth is required to turn into employment opportunities. The Region has a very high prevalence of HIV/AIDS, with an average of 12.6%, adding considerably to levels of vulnerability.

Table 1: Key Data Regional Social Economic Overview

Socio-economic issue	Data
Population	292 Million
Life expectancy	52.8 years
Population under 35 years	76%
Human Development Index*	0.338 - 0.771 (2013)
Adult Literacy	50.6% - 85.1 (2012)
Unemployment	1.7 – 51% (2011)
Real GDP Growth	3.8% (2013), 3.4 % (2014)
Economic Growth Rate	3.8% (2015 expected)
Inflation – SADC (Harmonised Consumer Price Index)	6.3% (2014 expected)
11 out of 15 MS	Have 32% of pop. living on less than \$1/ day
HIV and AIDS	Average 12.6% (HIV positive pop age group 15-49)

Source: SADC Secretariat Statistics Unit

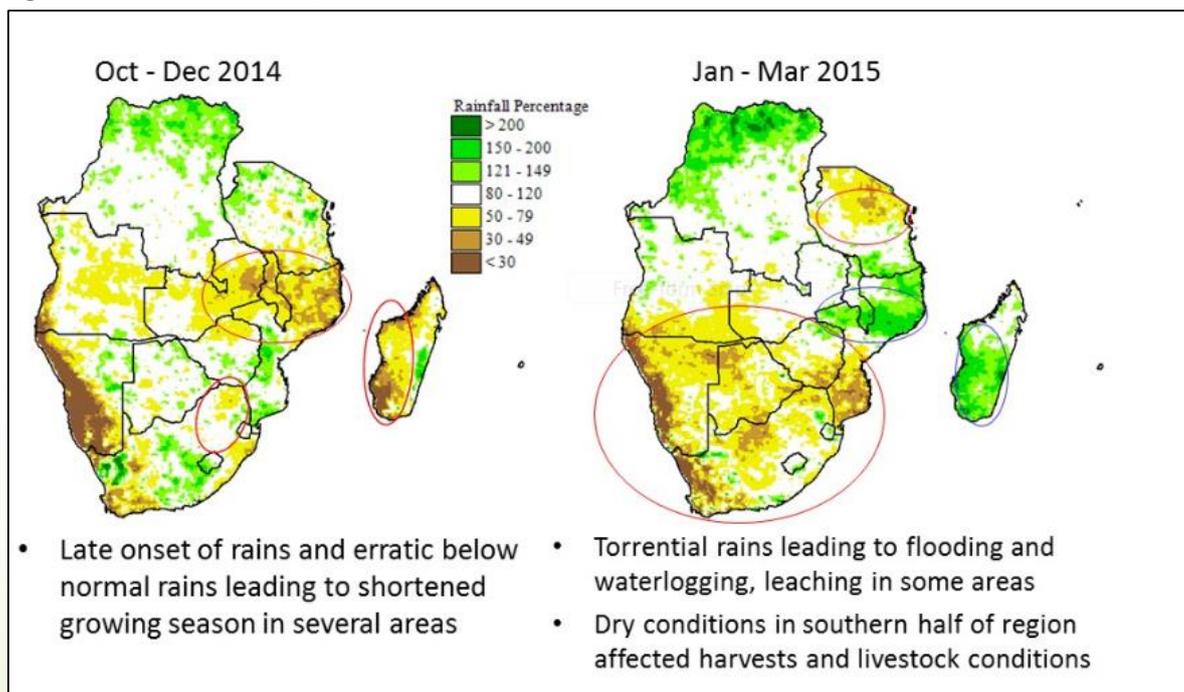
\*Human Development Index (HDI) is a composite score of life expectancy, education and income indicators, where 1.0 represents the highest score.

## 2.2 Summary of current hazards and shocks

### 2.2.1 Climatic hazards

The region faced a number of climatic hazards, including low and poorly-distributed rainfall; a late, erratic start of the rainfall season; in combination with flooding and waterlogging in some areas. The region experienced extended dry spells (severe dry conditions) and abnormally high temperatures.

Fig. 1: Overview of the 2014/15 Rainfall Season



Source: SARCOF 2015

In January 2015, excessive rains in some areas led to flooding, water logging and leaching, with Malawi and Madagascar in particular affected. Starting in February 2015, a period of forty days without rainfall shaped the cropping season in many countries, including Botswana, Namibia, Botswana, and South Africa. In March 2015, a prolonged period with little or no rainfall resulted in reduced yields in Angola, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, U/R Tanzania, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The outlook for the 2015/2016 rainfall season includes the El Nino phenomenon, a weather event with changes in pressure, wind and rainfall patterns over the Pacific Ocean that can cause major global weather fluctuations. Historically, several areas in Southern Africa has experienced enhanced dryness associated with El Nino. Other factors may also influence the season, and dampen or amplify the impact of El Nino.

### 2.2.2 Food prices, inflation and unemployment

Macro-economic hazards such as rising unemployment and food prices also created hazards for some population groups. In Lesotho, the purchase power has worsened compared to the reference year 2009/2010, when one kg maize meal cost 3 Maluti as

against the current 6.9 Maluti. In Malawi, inflation is currently reported at 19.4%. In South Africa, the unemployment rose to 26.4% in the first quarter of 2015, the highest since 2003.

### 2.2.3 Livestock conditions

Other hazards included livestock diseases (Foot and Mouth Disease), and migratory pest outbreaks. Prolonged drought over the past years have in some places led to deteriorating livestock conditions. In Botswana, current grazing and water conditions will not sustain livestock until the next rainy season. In Namibia, grazing in most parts of the country is reported as poor, as pastures that had not recovered from previous dry seasons were affected by the poor rainfall performance.

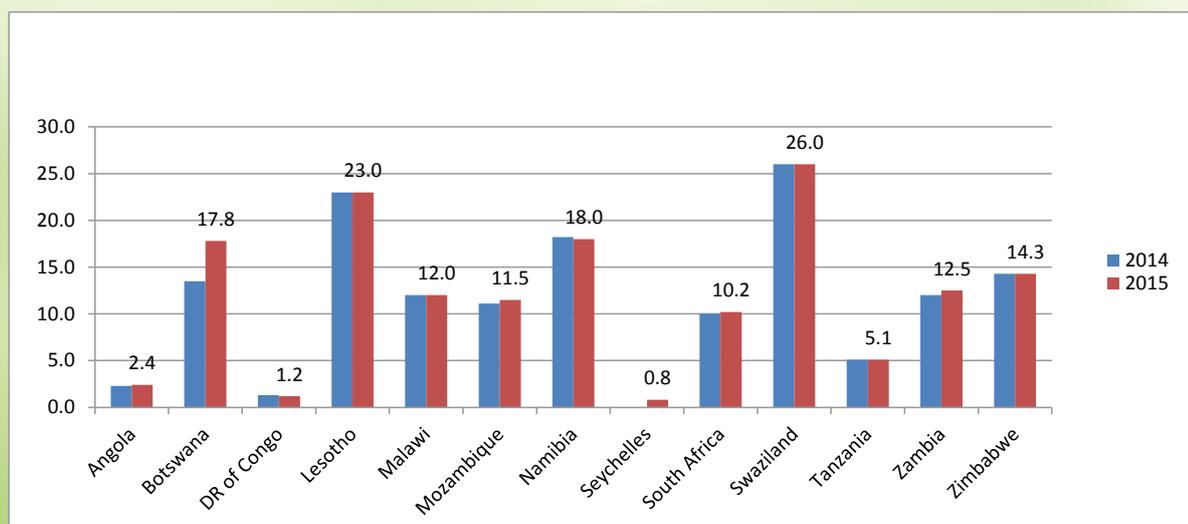
### 2.2.4 Climate change

SADC countries' vulnerability to climate change is caused by the interaction of climatic changes with social, economic, and other environmental factors. The SADC RVAA Climate Change seminar in Durban in May 2013 identified climate change as a strategic focus of VACs, pointing to identification of key indicators and VAC data for targeted climate change analysis as a priority. The impact of climate change is felt on agriculture and fisheries and through increased occurrence of extreme weather events, with knock-on effects on vulnerability and food security. With no direct link being made, this year South Africa is experiencing a growing water crisis, with full supply capacity approximately 12% less than the corresponding period in 2014.

### 2.2.5 HIV and AIDS

Figure 2 shows that nine countries in the Region have an HIV prevalence above 10 per cent. The high level of HIV prevalence in the region has severe impact on individual and household vulnerability and food and nutrition security.

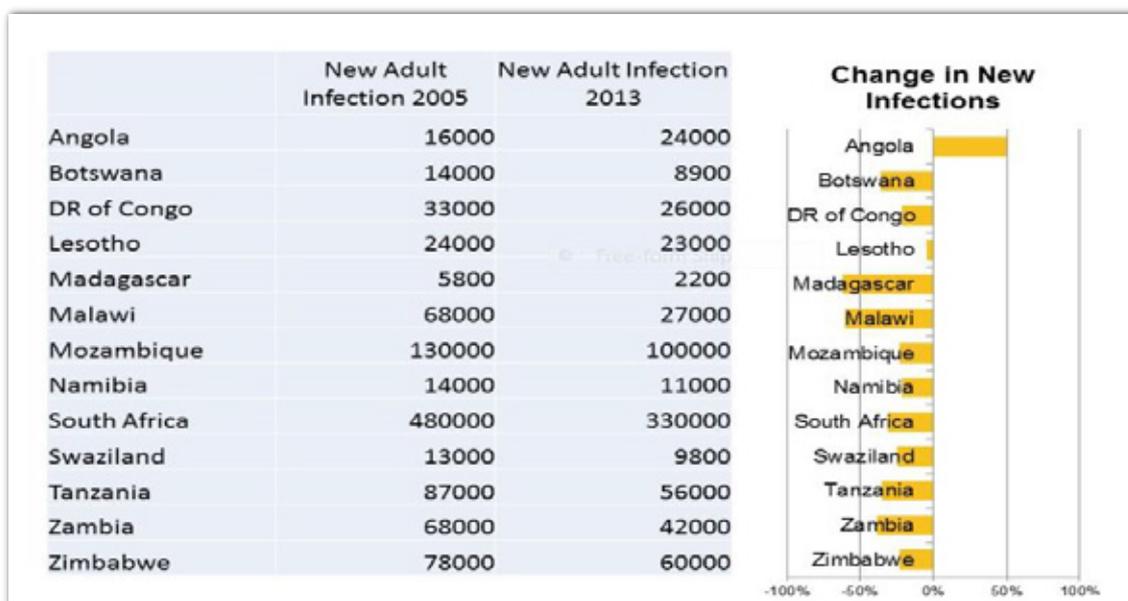
Fig. 2: HIV prevalence in the SADC Region in percent



Source: Data presented by NVACs (except for Angola: UNAIDS 2014 and 2015; Mozambique UNAIDS 2014)

The SADC Region however, is making progress in reducing the number of new HIV infections, as shown from Figure 3 below, highlighting the decrease in new infections from 2005 - 2013. Except for Angola, all countries have been successful in limiting the number of new infections.

Fig. 3: New HIV Infections 2005 and 2013



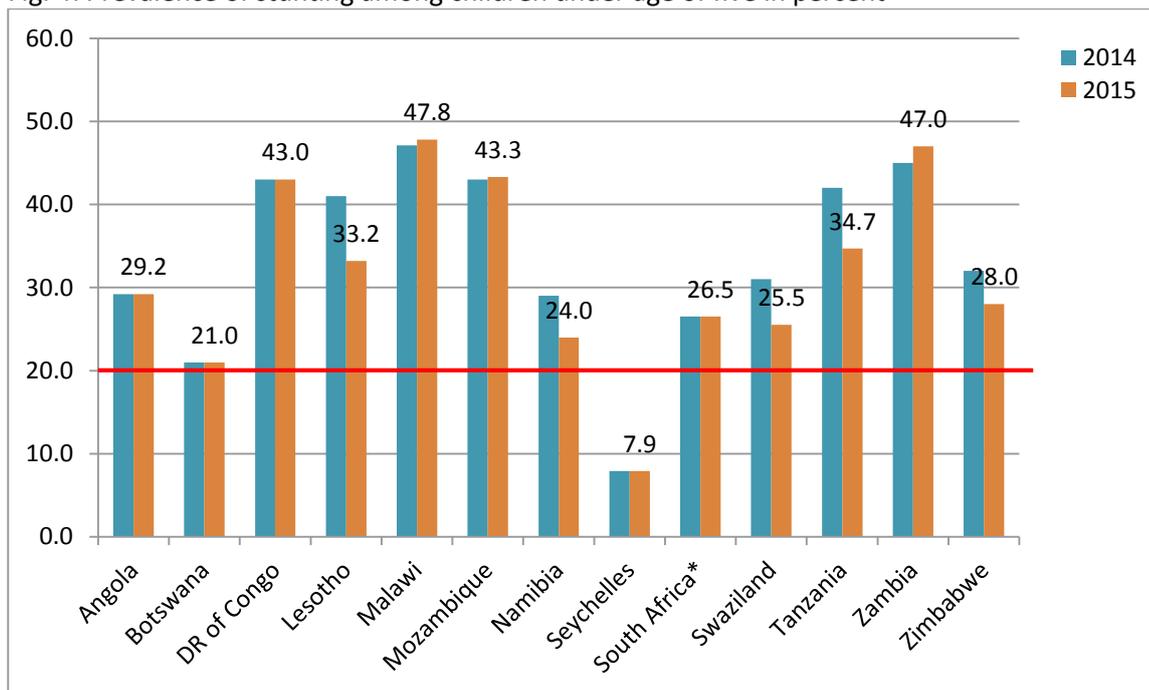
Source: Data presented by NVACs, complemented with UNAIDS 2015.

## 2.2.6 Malnutrition

Nutrition status is a result of complex interaction between food consumption and the overall status of health and care practices. Stunting (Height-for-Age) is an indicator of growth retardation and cumulative growth deficits reflecting lack of adequate nutrition over a long period of time. Stunting is indicative of chronic nutrition insecurity and increases children's vulnerability to shocks such as food price increases, drought, floods, etc. Stunting has a negative impact on child growth and development, school performance and productivity.

Figure 4 shows that 11 countries have stunting rates above 20%, the level deemed unacceptable by WHO. Four countries have severely high stunting rates above 40% (DRC, Malawi, Mozambique, and Zambia), while Lesotho and U/R Tanzania have high rates of malnutrition between 30% to 40%, according to WHO standards. However, against the last reporting period Lesotho, Namibia, Swaziland, U/R Tanzania and Zimbabwe, showed a decrease in stunting rates.

Fig. 4: Prevalence of stunting among children under age of five in percent



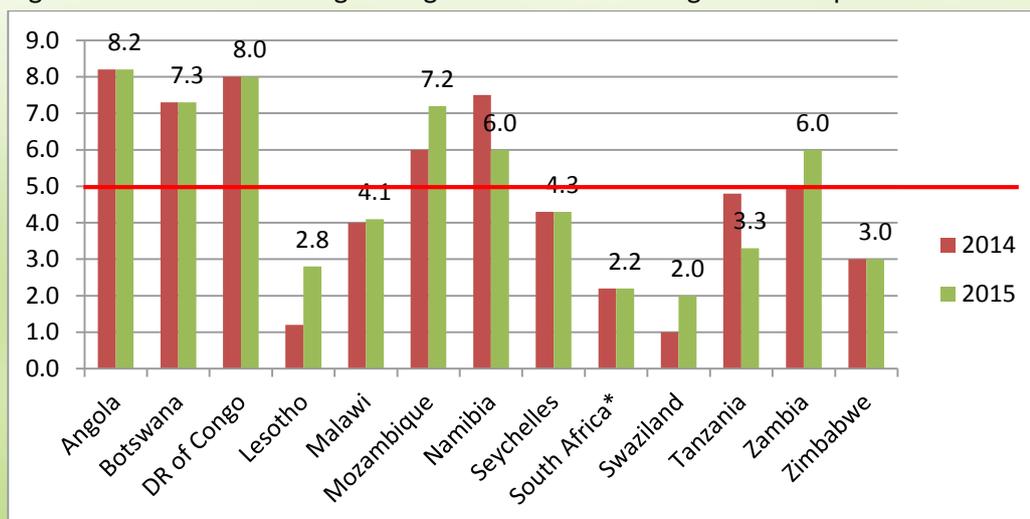
Stunting rates unacceptable above 20%

Source: Data presented by NVACs based on latest available survey (Except Angola, Lesotho, Malawi which used State of the World's Children (SOWC) 2015).

\*South Africa: data for children under 3 years of age

Wasting (Weight-for Height) shows lack of adequate nutrition in the period immediately preceding a survey e.g. during a growing season, and is the impact of recent food security and vulnerability. As seen in the Figure 5 below, Angola, Botswana, DRC, Mozambique, Namibia, and Zambia record wasting rates above 5%, the level deemed unacceptable by WHO standards.

Fig. 5: Prevalence of wasting among children under the age of five in percent



Wasting rates unacceptable above 5%

Source: Data presented by NVACs based on latest available survey (Except Angola, Lesotho, Malawi which used SOWC 2015).

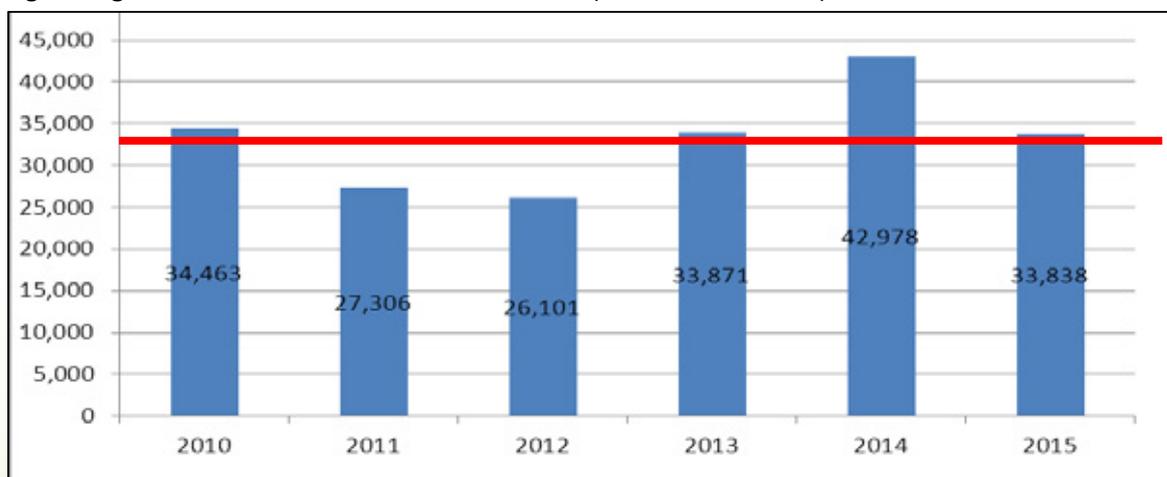
\*South Africa: Data for Under 3 years of age

## 2.3 Food security and vulnerability

### 2.3.1 Overview of 2013/2014 season: crop production

The region experienced a weak performance of the 2014/2015 crop production season: Cereal harvest decreased by 21% to 33.8 million metric tonnes in 2015, down from 43.0 million metric tonnes in 2014. It should be noted that 2014 was a bumper harvest year, and the 2015 crop production is still 3% above the average of the last five years. The reduction in production is mainly attributable to the rainfall conditions in some areas and extended rainfall and flooding in other areas. Figure 6 below shows the five-year cereal production trend for reporting countries. The table indicates an annual production for 2015/2016 around the five-year production average of 33 million metric tonnes.

Fig. 6: Regional Cereal Harvest Trend 2010 – 2015 ('000 metric tonnes)



Source: SADC National & Regional Early Warning Systems for Food Security.

#### *Non-cereal food crops*

Moreover, production of non-cereal food crops, including roots and tubers, bananas, plantains, beans and other such crops, was also negatively impacted by the unfavourable rainfall performance.

### 2.3.2 Outlook of the 2014/2015 marketing year

A demand and supply analysis that includes existing grain reserves shows that the Region (excluding Madagascar, Mauritius and Seychelles) recorded an overall cereal deficit of 7.90 million tonnes for 2015/16 marketing year.

Table 2: All Cereals Balance Sheets for 2015/16 Marketing Year ('000 metric tonnes)

ITEM	Ango	Bots	DRC	Leso	Mala	Moz	Nam	RSA	Swa	Tan	Zam	Zim	SADC
<b>A. Domestic Availability</b>	<b>1800</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>1533</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>3086</b>	<b>2728</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>15646</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>9636</b>	<b>4297</b>	<b>1089</b>	<b>40395</b>
<b>A.1 Opening Stocks</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>3202</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1150</b>	<b>1411</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>6556</b>
Formal/SGR	182	31	0	75	0	137	0	3202	2	1150	1411	217	6432
On Farm	9	0	0	8	10	81	-	0	1	0	0	0	109
Other	0	0	0	0	8	0	-	0	2	0	0	5	15
<b>A.2 Gross Harvest</b>	<b>1789</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>1533</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>3067</b>	<b>2510</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>12444</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>8486</b>	<b>2886</b>	<b>867</b>	<b>33839</b>
<b>B. Gross Domestic Requirements</b>	<b>4096</b>	<b>441</b>	<b>2811</b>	<b>389</b>	<b>3607</b>	<b>3903</b>	<b>292</b>	<b>15391</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>8258</b>	<b>3038</b>	<b>2276</b>	<b>44720</b>
<b>C. Desired SGR Carryover Stocks</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>1898</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>455</b>	<b>3578</b>
<b>D. Domestic Shortfall/Surplus</b>	<b>2115</b>	<b>-479</b>	<b>-1278</b>	<b>-222</b>	<b>-671</b>	<b>-1175</b>	<b>-234</b>	<b>-1643</b>	<b>-138</b>	<b>928</b>	<b>759</b>	<b>1642</b>	<b>-7903</b>

Source: SADC National & Regional Early Warning Systems for Food Security. SGR: Strategic Grain Reserve

In more detail, the Region recorded the following deficits for key cereals in the 2015/2016 marketing year:

- maize (-2.64 million tons),
- wheat (-3.23 million tonnes),
- rice (-0.72 million tonnes) and
- sorghum/millet (-1.31 million tonnes).

In terms of the Region's main staple, maize, only the following countries have recorded surpluses:

- South Africa (0.31 million tonnes),
- U/R Tanzania (0.81 million tonnes) and
- Zambia (0.88 million tonnes).

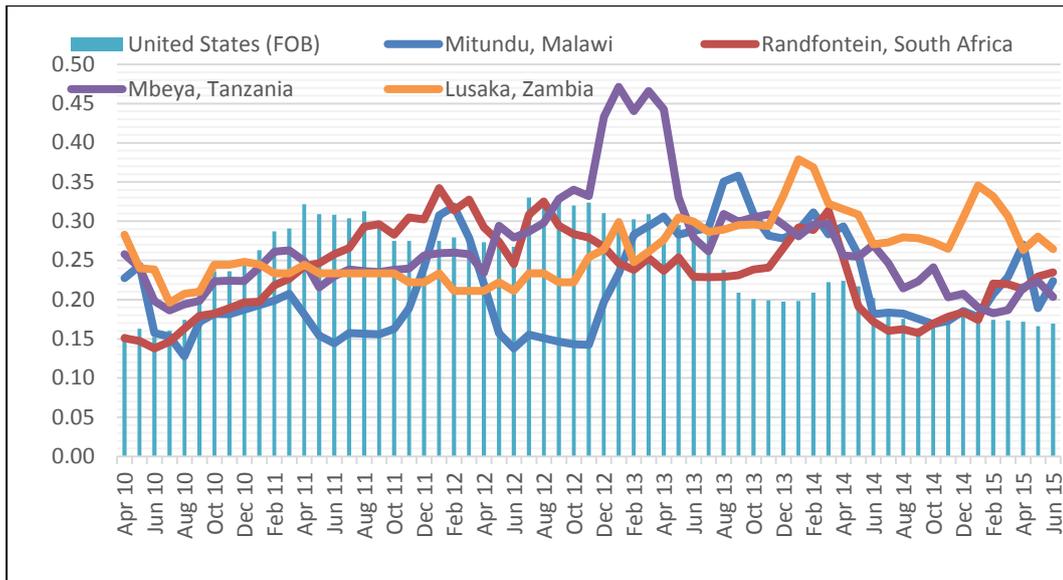
Of note is the relatively low surplus before the desired Strategic Grain Reserve carry-over in South Africa, which regularly serves as the maize exporting source for maize importing countries in the Region.

### 2.3.4 Maize price trends

Figure 7 shows the maize price trends for the 2014/15 marketing year for selected key markets. To note is that:

- Maize prices across the region are currently above the international prices (US Yellow).
- Maize prices in the main surplus producing countries (South Africa, U/R Tanzania and Zambia) have remained above the international prices since August 2013.

Fig. 7: Maize Price Trends for Surplus Producing Countries 2010 – 2015 (USD/kg)

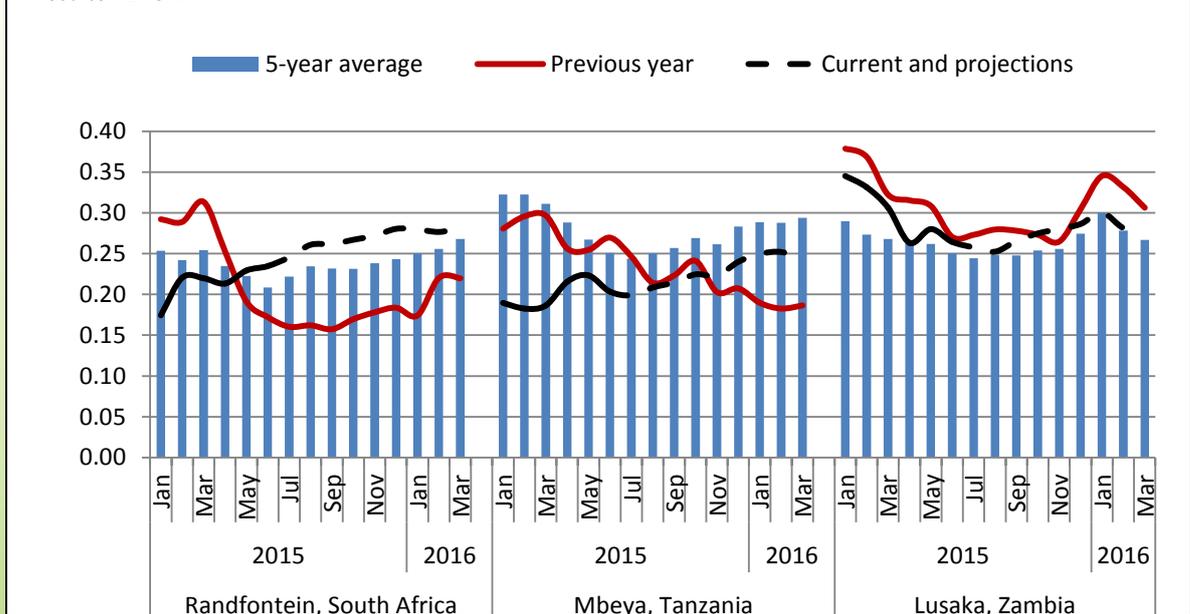


Source: FEWSNET, Southern Africa. FOB: Free on Board: The seller pays for transportation to port of shipment and loading.

Figure 8 shows maize price projections for the 2015-16 marketing year for selected countries against the world price (US). The maize prices in South Africa are expected to remain above average. As South Africa is a major maize exporter to the Region, South African prices have implications for the MS in the Region relying on import of maize and maize meal from South Africa.

Fig. 8: White Maize Price Projections in South Africa, Tanzania and Zambia

Source: FEWSNET



## 2.4 Results of Vulnerability Assessments

### 2.4.1 Definitions and approach

The SADC RVAA system uses the following definitions for food security and vulnerability:

#### **Food and nutrition security**

- When all people at all times have physical, social and economic access to food which is safe and consumed in sufficient quantity and quality to meet their dietary needs and food preferences, and is supported by an environment of adequate water and sanitation, health services and care, allowing for a healthy and active life.

#### **Vulnerability**

- Inability of people or households to cope with a defined hazard or shock.

#### **Approach**

- The analysis that has been used to determine the vulnerable and food insecure populations is based on the livelihoods approach which takes into account all the means by which households obtain and maintain access to income, food and other essential resources to ensure their immediate and long-term survival e.g. crops, livestock, labour, remittances etc.

Food insecurity in the Region is caused by a number of factors, such as:

- Reduced crop production due to e.g. poor rainfall;
- reduced casual labour opportunities and unemployment especially for economically disadvantaged households;
- the high prevalence of poverty in the Region affecting the ability of the population to cope with shocks;
- the impact of HIV and AIDS which remains significant across the Region;
- civil unrest in part of countries such as the Democratic Republic of Congo;
- crop pests and diseases;
- livestock diseases;
- natural disasters such as flooding and drought; and
- impact of climate change such as increasing average temperatures.

All the above factors are taken into account when determining the food insecure population.

### 2.4.2 Trends in population at risk and livelihoods insecurity

At the time of writing, the following eleven Member States had data available on food insecure populations: Botswana, DRC, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, U/R Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The synthesis of the food security and vulnerability assessments conducted by these countries shows that the number of people at risk of food and livelihoods insecurity has increased to 27.4 million people against 24.3 million people for last year. This is an increase

by 13%. The general increase in the number of food insecure populations is attributed to the decreased crop production in the Region.

Compared to the previous season, Malawi, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe recorded major increases in the food insecure populations. On the other hand, Mozambique and Swaziland recorded decreasing numbers of food insecure people.

Table 4: Trend in Food Insecure Population

Country	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2014/ 15 vs 2015/ 16	5 Yr Avg	5 Yr Avg vs 2015/16
Angola			367,190	700,000					
Botswana				28,936	29,306	30,318	3%	29,121	4%
DRC	5860872	5,445,000	6,395,448	7,318,639	6,591,535	6,591,535	0%	6,322,299	4%
Lesotho	200,000	514,000	725,519	223,055	447,760	463,936	4%	422,067	10%
Malawi	508,089	272,502	1,972,993	1,855,163	1,312,376	2,833,212	116%	1,184,225	139%
Mozambique	350,000	245,000	270,000	212,000	150,000	137,784	-8%	245,400	-44%
Namibia	42,100	243,474	74,711	778,504	117,662	370,316	215%	251,290	47%
South Africa	14,556,256	12,895,000	13,643,775	13,775,320	14,069,662	14,069,662	0%	13,788,003	2%
Swaziland	160,989	88,511	115,713	289,920	223,249	206,367	-8%	175,676	17%
Tanzania	1,141,214	1,618,795	1,472,127	828,063	424,136	424,136	0%	1,096,867	-61%
Zambia	53,629	74,804	62,842	209,498	351,267	798,948	127%	150,408	431%
Zimbabwe	1,287,937	1,390,000	1,668,000	2,206,924	564,599	1,490,024	164%	1,423,492	5%
<b>SADC**</b>	<b>24,161,086</b>	<b>22,787,086</b>	<b>26,768,318</b>	<b>28,426,022</b>	<b>24,281,552</b>	<b>27,416,238</b>	<b>13%</b>	25,284,813	8%

## 3.0 Main Conclusion and Recommendations

### 3.1 Key conclusion

Overall, most parts of the Region received late and erratic rains, combined with torrential rains in some areas, resulting in a poor crop production season in most countries. The cereal harvest decreased by 21% over last season, which however was a very fruitful harvest season, and is 3% above the five-year average, leading to an overall cereal deficit of 7.9 million metric tonnes. Production of roots, tubers, bananas and pulses was also affected by the poor growing season in countries reporting on these agricultural products.

For the countries having reported assessments at the time of writing (Botswana, DRC, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe), the projected number of food insecure people in the 2015/2016 season increased by 13% to 27.4 million, up from 24.3 million people last year. These groups are in need of humanitarian assistance to varying degrees. The main contributing factor to the increase is the impact of the poor rainfall season, combined with flooding in some areas, and its negative impact on the agricultural season.

Unacceptably high rates of stunting persist in most countries, indicating chronic poverty and food and nutrition security. The high stunting rates impacts on child growth and development and, in a longer perspective, on national economic development. The region has a very high level of HIV prevalence, with eight countries having HIV prevalence rates above 10%. In most member states, continuing high levels of poverty, with 11 of 15 member states having about 1/3 of the population living on less than one USD a day, accompany relatively high economic growth rates. Social security programmes in countries such as South Africa and Botswana cushion the poor and very poor populations against hardship.

### 3.2 Policy recommendations

In order to address the food insecurity and livelihoods vulnerability outlined in this report, the SADC VAA dissemination forum made the following recommendations for consideration by governments, international cooperating partners and civil society organisations:

Member States and their partners are requested to:

#### **In the short-term:**

1. provide immediate relief to meet the needs of 27.41 million vulnerable people in the Region requiring food and non-food assistance; and
2. provide targeted support packages to the assessed vulnerable people to assist recovery and build resilience.

#### **In the medium to long-term:**

1. promote and scale-up appropriate technologies including climate smart agricultural practices;
2. scale-up provision of primary health care services, including nutrition, water and sanitation in line with approved Regional Food and Nutrition Security Strategy;
3. take measures to promote water conservation techniques, efficient use, re-use and recycling of water and where possible encourage and advocate for rain water harvesting;

4. operationalise disaster risk reduction strategies (preparedness, mitigation and recovery) to improve the resilience of communities;
5. allow export of surplus maize to food deficit Member States in order to ensure Regional food security; and
6. institutionalise the NVACs into government structures to ensure sustainability and effective operations.

### **3.3 Cost-benefit observations**

To put into perspective the relationship between benefits and costs of VAA assessments, the SADC RVAA Programme makes the following observations:

- The NamVAC 2015 Annual Assessment is the basis for the Government of Namibia's Interim Drought Relief Programme, which has a budget of Namibian Dollars 359 million, or USD 20.3 million. In comparison, funding resources of the assessment amounted to Namibian Dollars 1,428,523, or USD 105,950.
- The MVAC 2015 Annual Assessment is the basis for the Government of Malawi's 2015/2016 Food Insecurity Response Plan, which has a total budget of USD 148.4 million. In comparison, the planned assessment activity budget (annual VAA forecast; market assessment; IPC acute) amounted to USD 192,000.
- The ZimVAC 2015 Annual Assessment is the basis for the Zimbabwe UN Resident Coordinator's Response Plan Zimbabwe: Food Insecurity 2015, which has a total budget of USD 132.2 million. In comparison, the funding resources of the assessment amounted to USD 407,000.
- The estimated cost of the three above assessments amounts to USD 704,950. In comparison, the budgets of corresponding relief programmes amount to USD 300.1 million.
- The three assessments may inform also long-term development planning. Quantifications of these programmes is more challenging, as no direct programme budget is available.
- Direct comparisons between the costs of the mentioned assessments would be misleading, due to use of different VAA approaches, methods, and coverage areas of the assessments.

## 4.0 Country Highlights

### 4.1 Introduction

This chapter describes per Member State social and economic highlights, as available information permits, and issues of crop production, vulnerability and food and nutrition security. NVAC reports form the basis for information, in some cases with additional economic data from the World Bank.

#### Botswana

Mining is the predominant sector, accounting for 20% of GDP. The average GDP growth was 4.4% for 2014, down from 5.9% in the previous reporting period. The inflation rate declined to 4.4% in 2014, down from 4.5 the previous year.

Impressive indicators in health and education show social progress, while the level of unemployment at 20% (2013) and poverty remain of concern. The poverty index, which monitors the percentage of the population living below the national poverty line, stood at 19.3% in 2009/10. In terms of malnutrition, the stunting prevalence rate is 21%, while wasting is 7.3%, both above the level acceptable by WHO standards. Along the Kalahari desert districts appear to have persistently high malnutrition rates.

The agricultural sector, still recovering from years of consecutive drought, experienced dry spells and high temperatures from January to March 2015, resulting in complete crop failure in most districts. The total areas planted in 2014/15 is estimated at 245,530 hectares, down from 368,000 in 2013/14 – this is a reduction of 67%. Projections indicate that cereals will be in shortage, resulting in food price increases and possible food insecurity at household level. In the livestock sub-sector, the current grazing and water conditions will not sustain the livestock until the next rainy season.

Government has expanded the social safety programmes in recent years, including: Food Relief Services providing supplementary feeding to primary schools and health facilities; the Poverty Eradication Programm, which aims to improve livelihoods of the poor and vulnerable by income generating activities; the Ipelegeng programme providing temporary relief to vulnerable groups. GOB adopted a number of recommendations by the BVAC, including provision of a second meal at primary schools in Rural Administrative Districts (RAD); double food rations for vulnerable groups countrywide; and a 25% subsidy to farmers on crops and animal inputs.

#### DRC

The DRC Government has launched a series of reform programmes with the objective to make DRC a middle income country by 2030. GDP per capita has grown significantly and stands at USD 475 in 2014 , up from USD 260.5 in 2009. The annual GDP economic growth rate for 2014 stood at 8.9%. Annual inflation is stable at 1.03%, down from 46% in 2009.

The macroeconomic indicators remain positive, but ensuring that the economy contributes to social and human development continues to be a challenge. The economic growth is

driven by the mining, trade and construction sectors, which create relatively few jobs. In terms of malnutrition, the stunting rate is severely high at 43% (2013), the equivalent of 6.7 million children under five, while 22.5 % or 3.6 million children are underweight. Wasting is 8%, also above the acceptable level according to WHO.

Production of cereals, roots and tubers and other agricultural products has been relatively stable over the past five years. Price monitoring reveals that prices have increased significantly since 2005 but appear to have tailed off in 2015. According to the IPC analysis of December 2014, approximately 6.59 million people or 11% of the rural population face an acute food crisis (IPC Phase 3 or 4). The challenges are primarily found in the eastern provinces where 61 districts are partially or fully in phase 3 (crises) and seven districts are in phase 4 (emergency). About 28 million people (54% of rural households) are food insecure, according to the Comprehensive Food Security and Vulnerability Assessment of 2011/12.

## **Lesotho**

The average GDP growth is reported at 2.0%, while inflation stands at 7.2 % (2010-2014 ). The unemployment rate is 25%. The poverty index of the previous reporting period showed that 57% of the population were living below the national poverty line, noting that the amount of money remitted within and outside of the country had decreased mainly due to closure of local textiles factories, mining strikes and retrenchment in RSA. The HIV/AIDS prevalence is 23%. The prevalence of stunting has reduced to 32.2%, down from 41.6% the previous reporting period.

Generally, the 2014/2015 agricultural season was poor: The on-set of rain was late in most areas, and early frost affected germination of plants in the mountains. A dry spell in February combined with hailstorms in some districts also affected production. The land area planted is 19% less than last season. Generally, the cereal production has declined and the lean season is expected to start in August 2015, earlier than normal.

Prices of basic commodities have increased due to inflationary pressure. As an example, maize meal has increased to an average of Maloti 6.9 per kg, as compared to Maloti 3 per kg during the baseline period in 2009/2010. Poor and very poor households are expected to experience income loss, as most of their income sources are reducing, including agricultural labour. Social safety nets are increasing in terms of coverage and price.

The affected population stands at about 464,000 people, an increase against last year's figure of approximately 448,000. These figures however, do not take into account the existence of social safety nets and social transfer programme. Taking into account such social safety nets, the number of people needing assistance is approximately 180,000. The estimated requirement for intervention is 6,931 MT of maize or the cash equivalent of Maloti 46.59 million/USD 3.73 million.

## **Malawi**

The real GDP growth is expected to increase to 5.4% in 2015, up from 5% in 2013. Inflation is currently (2015) estimated at 19.4%, a decrease against 23.9% the previous year. The population living below the national poverty line is 50.7%; of these 25% are categorized as ultra-poor. HIV/AIDS prevalence is 12%. In terms of nutrition, stunting is severely high at 47.8%.

A number of negative events severely hampered the agricultural season: The late onset of rains delayed the production season by 30 to 40 days; the country received heavy and continuous rains between the end of December and the first two weeks of January 2015, resulting in widespread floods; dry-spells followed the floods between February and March 2015, destroying crops before they could reach maturity. On 13 January 2015, the Head of State declared a national disaster in 15 of 28 districts.

For the staple food maize, MVAC estimates the 2015 production at 2.776 million metric tonnes, a 30% decrease over last year's production of 3.978 million MT. The affected population requiring humanitarian assistance includes 2.833 million people, requiring assistance for three to eight months, to a maize equivalent of 124,183 MT, or a cash equivalent of MK 18.627 billion (USD 33 million). Based on the MVAC report the Government of Malawi developed the 2015/2016 Food Insecurity Response Plan to a total value of USD 148.4 million. MVAC will carry out lean season monitoring in October and November 2015.

## **Mozambique**

The GDP real growth rate is 7.3% as of 2013, and the monthly inflation currently negative at -0.46%. The percentage of chronic food and nutrition insecure people stands at 24% of total population. In the Human Development Index, measuring a score of life expectancy, education and income indicators, where 1.0 represents the highest score, Mozambique stands at 0.47 (2010). The HIV prevalence rate is 11.5%. On malnutrition, stunting is severely high at 43.3%, down from 48% in 2003, while the wasting prevalence rate is at 7.2%, both above the WHO acceptable level. A total of 21% of children under five are underweight (nutrition figures from 2013).

Excessive rainfalls and flooding in the north and central part of the country, and drought and dry spells in the southern parts of the country stymied the agricultural production season. The agricultural production estimate for all cereals is approximately 2,510,000 metric tonnes, a minor reduction over the previous year, while the production of roots and tubers increased by 3% to some 9,782,500 metric tonnes, up from some 9,495,700 the previous season. In livestock production, to note are increases in chicken meat production by 24.7% and in small ruminant meat by 65.2%. Fish production also increased by approximately 9%.

The number of acute food insecure populations (IPC Phase 2) is about 138,000, located primarily in Gaza and Inhambane Province year, where people are utilizing atypical survival strategies. While other provinces also experience food stress, these populations are better able to afford the minimally adequate food consumption.

## **Namibia**

In 2014, real GDP grew by 4.5% , while the inflation rate stands at 3% as of June 2015. The Namibia Labor Force Survey Report indicate that 28% of the labour force are unemployed (2014), while the Poverty Headcount from Namibia Poverty Mapping (2011) indicates that 27% of the population are living in poverty. The prevalence of HIV/AIDS is 18%, also as of 2012/2013. The malnutrition prevalence rate for stunting has reduced to 24%, down from 29% the previous reporting period, while wasting stands at 6%, also as of 2013.

Shocks and hazards in the season include drought, late onsets of rains, prolonged dry

spells and erratic and insufficient rains. This resulted in a very poor crop harvest and crop failure, poor pasture and livestock conditions, low milk production, water shortages and limited access to natural resources for income in the form of marula fruits, thatching grass and others. An outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) in the northern part of country added to hazards. Food price increases represent a challenge for those rural households that depend on the market for staple foods. The cumulative impact of drought and floods over the previous years has depleted the resilience of households.

The aggregate cereal figures show a production of 67,800 MT or 46 % below the average and 17% below the 2012/2013 drought season. Communal maize production figures show a production 80% below the average. The domestic cereal requirement shows a deficit of 209,000 MT.

Using the Household Economy Approach, the number of people facing a survival deficit amount to about 370,000, a significant increase from some 118,000 the previous season. The total population at risk of a livelihood deficit and requiring some form of assistance is about 578,480 □ a figure similar to that of the previous season. The current food deficit amounts to 36,605 MT or a cash equivalent of approximately N\$ 270.52 million (USD 19.393 million).

## **Seychelles**

Average GDP growth was 2.8% in 2014, while the inflation rate was 2.5% that same year. In terms of nutrition, the percentage of children who are stunted stands at 7.3%, while 4.3% are wasted. An increasing challenge is overweight among children. Major hazards encountered included changes in seasonal rain patterns and pest (the hairy caterpillar). Seychelles faces special challenges in vulnerability an island state susceptible to tropical storms and climate change.

## **Republic of South Africa**

Real GDP growth stands at 2.1% in the first quarter of 2015, according to Statistics SA. The Consumer Price Inflation increase was at 5.0% in mid-2015, against 6.6 % the previous year. In the first quarter of 2015, unemployment rose to 26.4% – the highest in the last ten years.

The estimated HIV rate is 10.2% according to Stats SA. On nutrition, the stunting prevalence is 26.5% as per the most recent South Africa National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (SANHANES) of 2012. Over the past ten years, South Africa has made strong progress in reducing the percentage of households experiencing hunger, which decreased to 13.4% in 2012, down from 29.3% in 2002. However, since 2011, this percentage has largely remained static. In 2014, the percentage of people experiencing inadequate or severely inadequate access to food was 26.4%, or 14.1 million people, up from 13.8 million in 2013.

Access to food is primarily a function of household cash income, and salaries remain the main source of livelihoods for 58.4% of households. Only for 1.9% of households is agriculture the main source of income; moreover, less than 20% of households are involved in agricultural production at all.

South Africa experienced drought in large parts of the country in the 2014-2015 agricultural season, leading to a 30% decrease in maize (white and yellow) production. However, the previous season's plentiful cereal harvest leaves a significant opening stock, and with imports, South Africa will be able to meet the national demand for food. Other shocks include labour unrest, especially in the mining sector, which can contribute to the number of persons having limited food access in some provinces. Social programmes provide an important safety net for large numbers of people, but do not present a long-term sustainable solution to poverty elimination.

## **Swaziland**

GDP growth stood at 2.3% (2012), with inflation at 5.7% as of 2014. The unemployment rate is 28.1% (2014). Swaziland's current health challenges include promoting primary health care and immunization programmes, and reducing the prevalence of HIV, which stands at 26% (2007 figures). In malnutrition, the stunting prevalence rate has decreased to 25.5% (2014), down from 30% the previous reporting period.

The major hazards were long dry spells leading to crop failure and dry grazing lands. The agricultural output of maize at 99,162 MT is about 18% below the result of last season.

In the 2016/2016 consumption season, the population at risk of food insecurity is approximately 201,000, down from 223,250 people in 2014/2015. Recommendations from the SVAC include: crop diversification; production of crop resistant crops in the Lubombo region, and making use of the irrigation infrastructure – developed for sugarcane production – for maize production by re-assigning utilization of land.

## **U/R Tanzania**

In 2014, the average GDP growth was 7.2%, while inflation reached 6.5% (2015). The poverty index stood at 33.4% (2012 figures). The HIV/AIDS prevalence is 5.1% (2011/12 figures). About 40% of the population have access to safe water in rural areas; while in urban areas the figure is 74% of the population. In terms of malnutrition prevalence, the stunting rate is severely high at 42% (2010), with underweight at 16% and wasting at 5%. Global acute malnutrition rates are 3.1% for girls under five and 0.2% for boys under five.

The VAC estimates that an average rainfall season with poor distribution and dry spells will lead to a drop in crop production in the 2014/2015 production season. Staple food prices are increasing since January 2015.

The VAC identified as food and nutrition insecure about 424,400 people in 21 councils, down from approximately 800,000 last season; however, this figure however will be updated by the comprehensive food and nutrition security assessment that will take place in October 2015. The current analysis estimates the food requirement in the 21 councils to be 9,916 MT, for the period March to April 2015.

## **Zambia**

The average GDP growth is 7%, balanced with the inflation rate also 7%. The unemployment level stands at 19% (all figures 2012). The prevalence of HIV/AIDS is 12.5%. In terms of malnutrition, the stunting prevalence rate is severely high at 47% – the second highest

after Malawi – and wasting stands at 6%. Of other socio-economic indicators, access to safe drinking water is reported as 62% (2010), while primary school attendance is 82.8% (2010).

Shocks and hazards in the 2014/2015 season included prolonged dry spells and poor rainfall distribution, which shortened the growing season. The ZVAC in-depth assessment covered 48 districts of a total 103 districts in Zambia. In these 48 assessed districts, the maize production of amounted to 1.3 million metric tonnes.

The assessment showed that more than 430,000 households have been affected by the dry spells. Approximately 47% of this population have poor or borderline food consumption score, with men more likely to be affected. As we move towards the strain of the lean season, some 131,000 households or approximately 800,000 people will require food assistance. The assessment also showed that the assessed districts are likely to experience water shortages, with 20% of the population already feeling the strain. This likely will increase the nutrition and disease burden at household level. Apart from food provision, ZVAC recommendations include sinking of boreholes, strengthening of livelihood diversification programmes, and scaling up of supplementary and therapeutic feeding programmes in districts with high malnutrition rates.

## **Zimbabwe**

The average GDP growth was 4.4% (2012), with a 2.2% inflation rate. The Poverty index, the percentage of the population living below the national poverty line, is 62.6%. The employment rate stands at 92.3%. HIV/AIDS prevalence is 14.3%. In terms of malnutrition prevalence, the stunting rate is 28%.

The ZimVAC assessment indicates that maize production has decreased significantly to about 742,000 MT, down from approximately 1,456,000 MT the previous season, resulting in a likely cereal deficit of 650,000 metric tonnes. The previous season's bumper harvest will, however, go some way to alleviate the deficit. The poor rainfall distribution during the season is the main cause for the poor harvest.

In the period from October to December 2015, ZimVAC estimates that approximately some 924,000 people will be food insecure, rising to an estimated 1,490,000 people in the peak hunger period, from January to March 2016. In this period, the cereal requirement is estimated at an equivalent of 55,131 MT of maize.

Recommendations by ZimVAC include: promotion of crop diversification; intensification in agriculture through private sector investment for technology development to increase production and productivity; policy interventions to reduce the cost of money transfers; promotion of productive safety net programmes, for example with community initiatives linked to public works programmes in road management.

## **5.0 Presentations on Emerging Issues in VAA**

### **5.1 Integrated Phase Classification for Food Insecurity (IPC) - Chronic**

The IPC Chronic analysis was developed to provide critical information to support decision makers with information for medium and long-term development objectives, as opposed to the IPC Acute analysis, which informs short-term relief objectives. IPC Chronic concerns persistent food insecurity due to structural causes and is based on an analysis of conditions under non-exceptional circumstances. The IPC Chronic analysis has a 3-5 year validity as it reflects changes that happen gradually and slowly, and it focuses equally on quality and quantity of diet. The IPC Chronic includes four levels of chronic food insecurity, ranging from no chronic food insecurity to severe chronic food insecurity. The IPC Chronic makes conclusions on severity, magnitude and immediate and underlying factors of chronic food insecurity. Currently DRC; Lesotho; Mozambique; and U/R Tanzania are planning IPC Chronic Food Security Analysis activities.

### **5.2 Urban vulnerability**

By 2030, half of Africa's inhabitants will be living in urban areas, and in Sub Saharan Africa the annual urban growth rate is 4.6%. In South Africa, 60% of the population is already urban. Against this backdrop, the SADC RVAA Programme and Member States have identified the need to expand rural vulnerability assessment and analysis to urban areas. A draft guideline has been developed based on three aspects of urban assessments – baseline assessments, regular assessments and rapid onset assessments – and which includes a number of urban assessment and analysis tools. The finalisation of the framework will be based on piloting followed a by broader roll out at country level in the Region. In the current workplan, the following countries intend to engage in urban assessment, either as an assessment or by taking part in cross-country exchange visits to urban assessment and analysis activities: Botswana, DRC, Lesotho, Mozambique, Namibia, and Swaziland, South Africa and U/R Tanzania.

### **5.3 Nutrition integration in the Limpopo Province livelihood baselines**

South Africa has underlined the importance of ensuring nutrition security through enacting a National Policy on Food and Nutrition Security in 2013. SAVAC has worked to integrate nutrition information into baselines through endorsement of a framework that combines the Household Economy Approach and tracking of key food and nutrition indicators to overcome the limitations of each approach. Noting across four livelihood zones the existence of moderate hunger in 17 to 25% of households and high levels of stunting among under-fives, the study concluded that social grants contributed significantly to incomes of poor households, and that while households generally were able to meet energy requirements, diets were generally poor. This could result in micro-nutrient deficiencies.

## 5.4 Presentation of the MVAC Proof of Concept (climate change) study

The action research group represented by Professor Blessings Chinsinga from University of Malawi presented the main findings of the MVAC proof of concept study on climate change, focusing on the analysis of the policy context. The study took departure in the DfID Sustainable Livelihoods framework and the Keely and Scones Policy Politics framework. This framework focuses on policy narratives, actors, and key interests and power relations, seeing policy as a chaos of purposes and accidents, while a more conventional framework sees policy as the proceeding of distinct phases and a linear progression. Describing the formal policy process in Malawi from the first round crop estimates to the Parliamentary Budget Process, the presenter outlined the dominant narrative on the MVAC, as a provider of short-term humanitarian food security information. In recommendations, he pointed among other to evidence-based capturing of positive deviance: why some regions and areas cope well with climatic shocks, while other remain vulnerable to similar shocks?

## 5.5 Center of Excellence update

The cooperation on the SADC RVAA Center of Excellence (COE) started in 2006 with the University of KwaZulu-Natal. Today it further includes the following institutions: Chancellor College and Bunda College, University of Malawi; University of Namibia; University of Zimbabwe, and Sokoine University of Agriculture U/R Tanzania.

The COE Coordinator presented findings from evaluations of courses carried out in the past workplan. Short courses carried out in the past year included:

Institution	Course	Timing
University of KwaZulu-Natal	Vulnerability Concepts and Analysis for Food Security	13 – 24 October 2014
Sokoine University of Agriculture	Nutrition Assessment and Surveillance for Food Security	16 – 27 February 2015
University of Namibia	Geographic Information Systems (GIS) for Food Security	23 March – 2 April 2015

The latest curriculum review was held in 2012, and a new curriculum review is now required. French and Portuguese speaking partner institutions are expected to join the COE in the next financial cycle.

Courses planned for the 2015-2016 work plan include the following short courses:

Institution	Course	Proposed timing
UNIMA (Bunda College and Chancellor College)	Policy Analysis, including Poverty Measurement	September 2015
University of Zimbabwe	Climate Change Analysis for Food Security	Jan – Feb 2016
University of KwaZulu-Natal	Food Security and VAA, Measuring and Monitoring for VAA, Market Analysis	October – November 2015
Sokoine University of Agriculture	Nutrition Assessment and Surveillance	February – March 2016

## **Annex: Regional and Available Country Summaries**

### Regional Socio - Economic Context

Population	292 million people
Life expectancy	52.8 years
Population under 35 years	76% (approx. 222 million people)
Human Development Index	0.338 - 0.771 (2013)
Adult Literacy	50.6 - 85.1% (2012)
Unemployment	1.7 - 51% (2011)
Real GDP	7.1% (2013)
Economic Growth Rate	5.2% (2015 expected)
Inflation	5.6% (2015 expected)
HIV and AIDS	12.6%

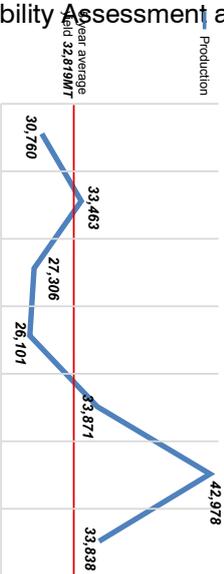
### Overview 2014/15 Crop Production Season

The region faced the following climatic hazards:  
 • Low, erratic start of the season  
 • Late, poorly-distributed rainfall  
 • Flooding, waterlogging, and leaching  
 • Extended dry spells (severe dry conditions)  
 • Abnormally high temperatures

Other hazards included livestock diseases (FMD), migratory pest outbreaks, and macro economic hazards (rising unemployment and food prices)

### Crop Performance: 2014/15 Agricultural Season

Cereal harvest decreased by 21%, from 42.98 million tonnes in 2014 to 33.81 million tonnes in 2015. This is still 3% above the average of the last five years.



Production of non-cereal food crops (roots and tuber crops, bananas, plantains and pulses) were also negatively impacted by the unfavourable rainfall performance.

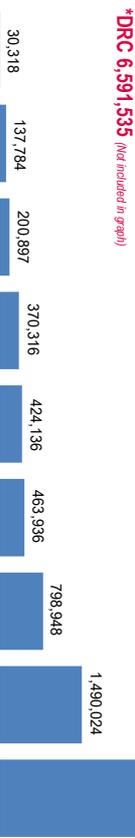
### Overview of the 2015/16 Marketing Year: Cereal Balance

Demand and supply analysis shows that the Region (excluding Madagascar, Mauritius and Seychelles) recorded an overall cereal deficit of 7.90 million tonnes for 2015/16 marketing year:  
 • Maize (-2.64 million tons),  
 • wheat (-3.23 million tonnes),  
 • rice (-0.72 million tonnes) and  
 • Sorghum/millet (-1.31 million tonnes).

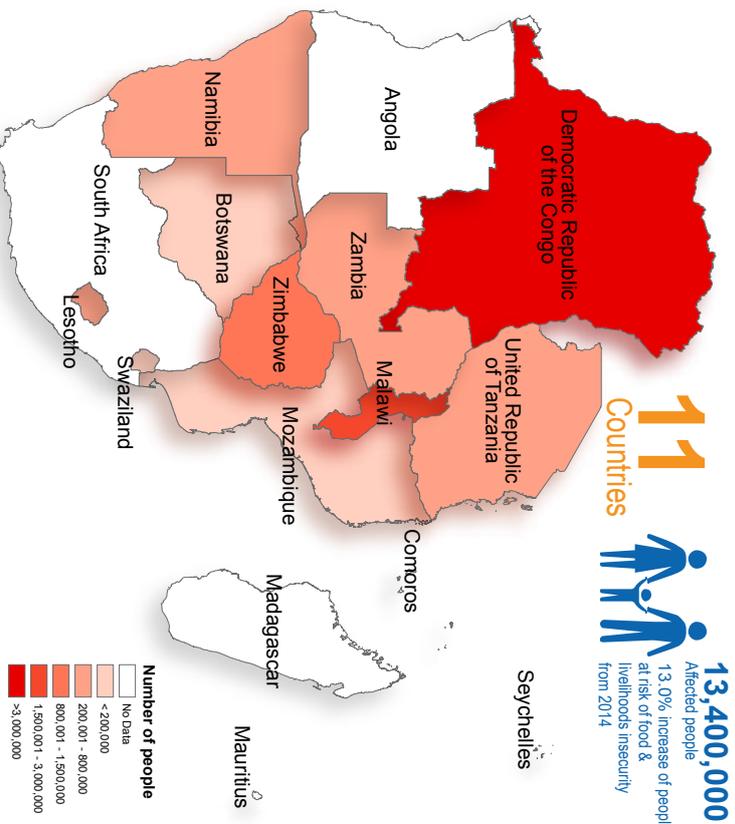
- The following countries have recorded maize surpluses:
- South Africa (0.31 million tonnes),
- Tanzania (0.81 million tonnes) and
- Zambia (0.88 million tonnes).

Sources: SADC RMA, Vulnerability Assessment Committee, NVAcs, LandsScan2010, CSO, UNDP-HDR, UNICEF, WORLD BANK, The Boundaries and names on these maps don't imply endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations

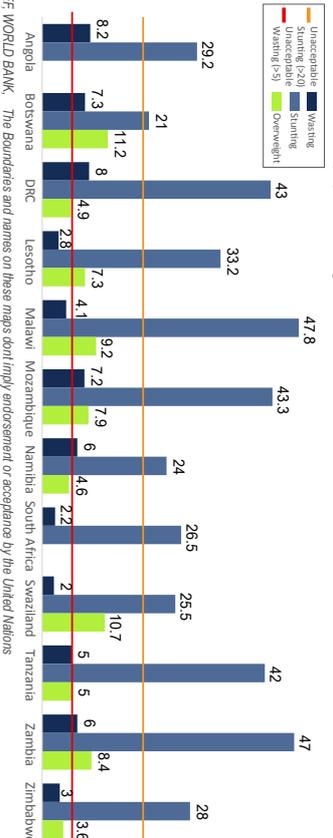
estimated food insecure population by country for the 2015/16 lean season



### Population at risk of food and livelihoods insecurity



### Malnutrition Rates (%) in the Region 2014/15



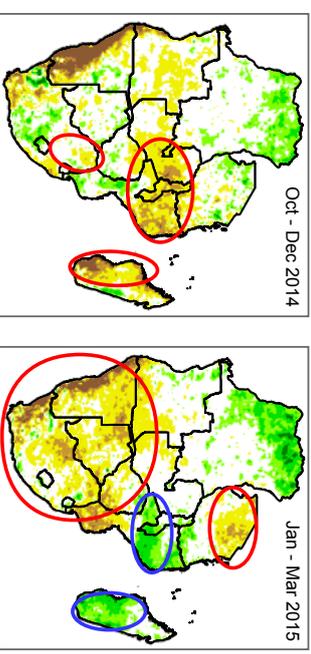
### Main Outcomes and Findings of the VACs

Given the hazards faced, the number of food insecure people in the countries providing data increased by 13% (13.4 million this year compared to 10.3 million for last year) which was an above average year.

The exceptions were Mozambique and Swaziland where numbers continued to decrease.

In comparison to last year major increases in food insecure population are noted in Malawi, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe

### Overview of the 2014/15 Rainfall Performance



Late onset of rains and erratic below normal rains led shortened growing season in several areas

- Dry conditions
- Heavy rains & flooding

Torrential rains leading to flooding and waterlogging, leaching in some areas affected harvests and livestock conditions



### Recommendations on Food & Nutrition Security

In Short Term:

1. provide immediate relief to meet the needs of 13.4 million vulnerable people in the region requiring food and non-food assistance; and
2. provide targeted support packages to the assessed vulnerable people to assist recovery and build resilience.

In Medium/Long Term:

1. promote and scale-up appropriate technologies including climate smart agricultural practices;
2. scale-up provision of primary health care services, including nutrition, water and sanitation in line with approved Regional Food and Nutrition Security Strategy;
4. take measures to promote water conservation techniques, efficient use, re-use and recycling of water and where possible encourage and advocate for rain water harvesting;
5. operationalise disaster risk reduction strategies (preparedness, mitigation and recovery) to improve the resilience of communities;
6. allow export of surplus maize to food deficit Member States in order to ensure Regional food security; and
7. institutionalise the NVAcs under national legislation to ensure sustainability and effective operations.



# BOTSWANA

## Vulnerability Assessment Committee Results 2015



# OCHA

### Regional Socio - Economic Context

Population	2.03 million people
Life expectancy	68 years (2011)
Population Growth Rate	1.0%
Human Development Index	0.683 (2013)
Adult Literacy	85.1% (2012)
Employment Rate	80.0% (2014)
Average GDP Growth	6.0% (2013)
Under 5 Mortality Rate	47 per 1,000 live births
Initiation	4.4% (2014 average)
HIV and AIDS	17.6%

### Crop Production Season Overview 2014/15

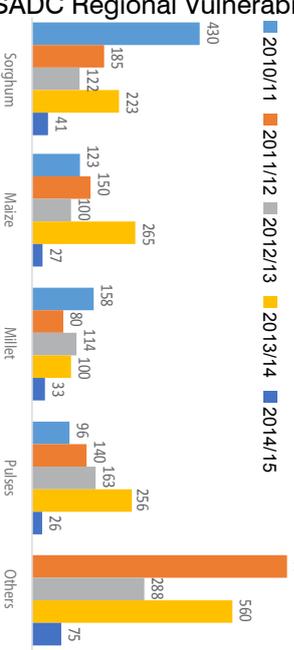
Total Areas planted in 2014/15 is estimated at 245 530 ha as compared to 368 000 ha planted in 2013/14. A reduction of 67% from the previous year.

- The dry spell and high temperatures experienced from January 2015 to end of March 2015 negatively affected crop development which resulted in complete crop failure in most districts.

Generally, there is going to be a shortage of cereals, and the country may have to augment cereals through imports. This will result in food price increases and possible food insecurity at household level hence anticipating strain on the Social Safety Nets (SSN). This situation is not helped by the fact that most countries in SADC are experiencing similar drought conditions.

### Forecast Yields for Period 2010 - 2015 (MT)

Yield forecast for 2014/15 are much lower than those of 2012/13 and 2013/14, as shown below. These very low yield estimates are the basis for the low estimated national production of the country outlined.



### Livestock Season Overview 2014/15

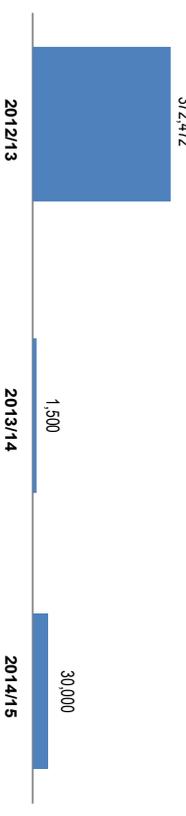
- The current grazing and water conditions will not sustain livestock until the next rainy season.
- The forage is expected to decline in the winter season, hence less pasture available for livestock before the next rainy season.
- The 2014/15 agriculture season is undoubtedly a drought year, and this will negatively affect the performance of the sector

### Nutritional Situation of Children under 5

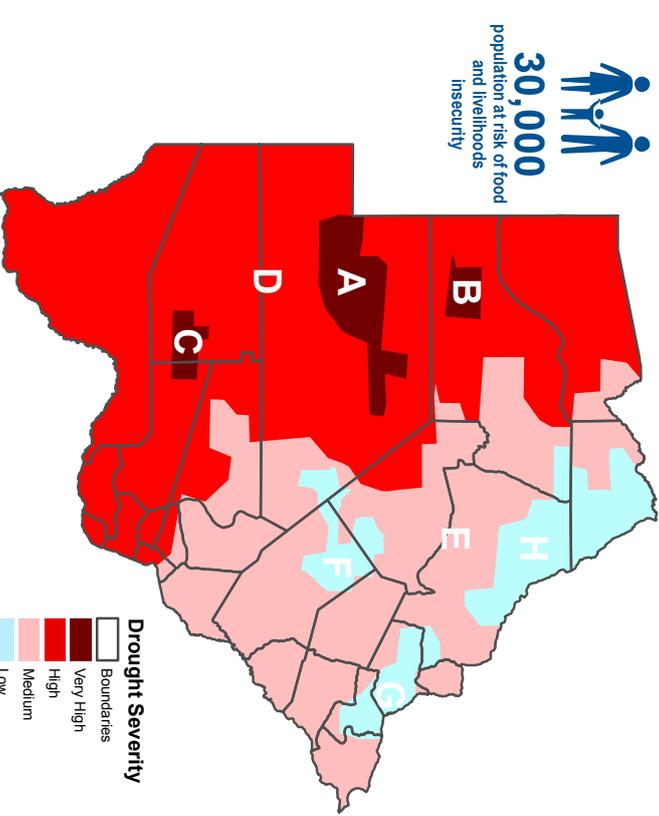
Household food insecurity caused by the poor performance of the agricultural sector in the year 2014/2015 is likely to increase malnutrition rates among the vulnerable group. Districts along Kgalegaal appears to have persistently high malnutrition prevalence, followed by central parts of the country.

Sources: SADC RIVA, NVAGs, LandScan2010, DMS, UNDP-HDR, UNICEF, WORLD BANK, MICS

### Population at risk of food and livelihoods insecurity trend



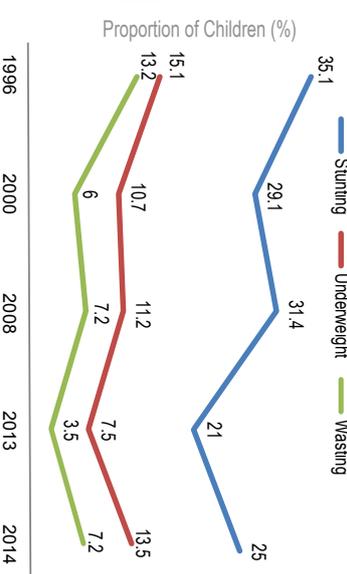
### May 2015 to April 2016 Drought Severity



### Drought Severity Overview

- Most Areas : Drought hot spots includes Regions A, B, C
- Medium risk: E
- Low risk Areas: Region H, F, G
- Very high risk areas are places with rainfall deficit of more than 50%.
- High - risk areas are places with deficit between 25% & 50%.
- Medium risk areas: places with deficit between 10% 25%
- Low risk areas: rainfall deficit of greater than 5% and a surplus of less than 10%.

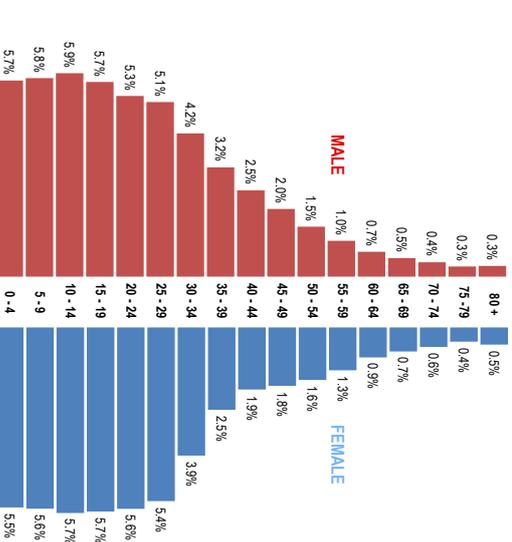
### Malnutrition Rates (%) 2014/15



### Key Recommendations

- Provision of a Second Meal at primary schools in RAD Settlements
- Provide double food ration for Vulnerable Groups (Under 5, 5-6 Years, TB Outpatients, Lactating and Expectant mothers) countrywide.
- Provide direct feeding to children (0-59 months) who are moderately malnourished and continue to provide ready to use therapeutic foods for severely malnourished children.
- Provide funds for emergency water supply projects to augment the human current water supply situation.
- Provides a 25% subsidy to farmers on crop and animal inputs from Government supported Supply Centers.
- Pay 85% of the 2014/15 seasonal loans to farmers eligible under the Agricultural Credit Guarantee Scheme (ACGS) who secured their loans through Citizen Entrepreneurial Development Agency (CEDA) and National Development Bank (NDB).
- Utilize funds available from its current budget for construction and maintenance of firebreaks

### Population (Male & Female) Source: Landscan 2010





# DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

## Vulnerability Assessment Committee Results 2015



# OCHA

### Regional Socio - Economic Context

Population	78.4 million people
Life expectancy	51.8 yrs (female), 48.2 yrs (Male)
Population Growth Rate	0.304 (2013)
Human Development Index	0.304 (2013)
Adult Literacy	56.3% (2013)
Employment Rate	7.5% (2013)
Average GDP Growth	146 per 1,000 live births
Under 5 Mortality Rate	1.4% (2015 expected)
Inflation	0.8 & 0.4 (female/male - 15-24 yrs)
HIV and AIDS	

### Summary Results / Findings

57.8% de personnes vivent avec une consommation alimentaire pauvre et limite (MICS 2010);  
 6.59 millions de personnes (environ 11% de la population rurale) sont en phase de crise alimentaire et des moyens d'existence aigüé (IPC, 12<sup>e</sup> Cycle, Décembre 2014)  
 54% de ménages ruraux (environ 28 millions de personnes) sont en insécurité alimentaire (CFSVA, 2011-2012)  
 7 territoires en phase d'urgence (Phase 4): Katanga (Manono, Mitwaba et Pweto), Maniema (Puné), Sud-Kivu (Shabunda), Orientale (Itumu) et Equateur (Boende);  
 61 territoires sont totalement ou en partie en crise (Phase 3)  
 65 territoires sont sous pression (Phase 2)  
 12 territoires n'ont pas été classifiés.

### Production per year

Produits	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	Moyenne sur 5 ans	2014	%
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
Céréales	1 473 060	1 473 641	1 474 222	1 474 804	1 475 386	1 474 223	1 475 968	+0.11
Racines et tubercules	15527824	15548170	15568488	15588891	15609388	15568552	15629949	+0.39
Légumineuses à graine	563 012	566 869	570 801	574 812	578 904	570 880	583 080	+2.14
Autres produits	806 442	807 776	809 112	810 451	811 792	809 115	813 135	+0.50

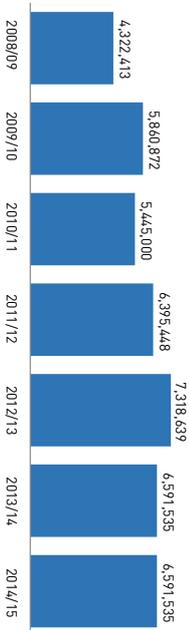
Source : SNSA/Ministère de l'Agriculture et du Développement Rural - Annuaire des statistiques agricoles 2000-2006, 2007-2011, 2008-2014 (en préparation)

Légende : Céréales (maïs, riz)  
 Racines et tubercules (manioc, patate douce, pomme de terre, igname, taro)  
 Légumineuses (haricot, niébé, arachide soja)  
 Autres produits (banane douce, banane plantain)

### Crop Price Overview 2014/15

L'INS révèle pour les 12 fonctions de l'indice des prix à la consommation des biens et services une tendance à la hausse malgré une stabilité observée au premier semestre 2015. Il s'agit des produits alimentaires et boissons non alcoolisées, articles d'habillement et chaussures, meubles, articles de ménage et entretien courant de la maison, transports, loisirs et cultures, restaurants et hôtels, boissons alcoolisées et tabac, logement, eau, gaz, électricité et autres combustibles, santé, communications, enseignement, et biens et services divers.

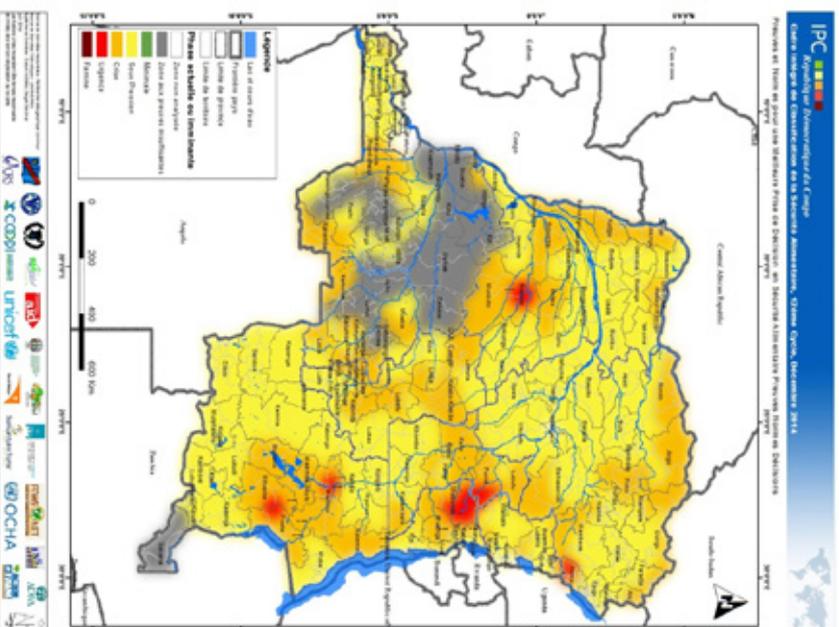
### Population at risk of food and livelihoods insecurity trend



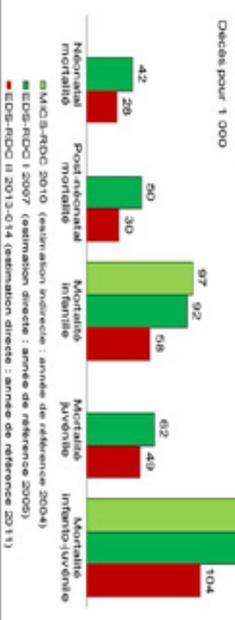
### May 2015 to April 2016 Projected Livelihood Outcomes



**6.59 M**  
 population at risk of food and livelihoods



### Child Mortality



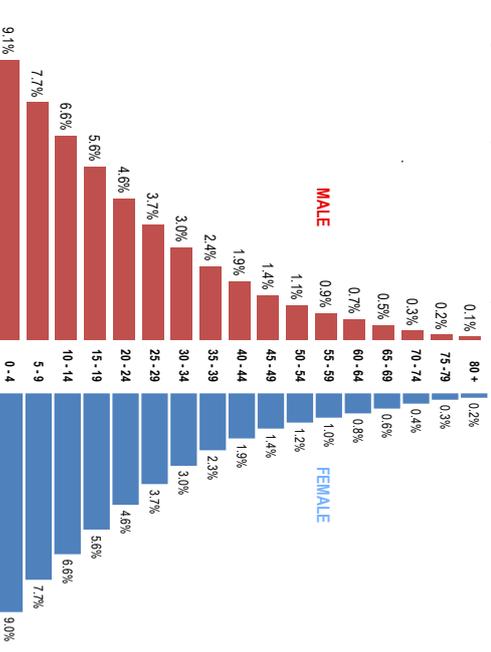
### Main Conclusions

Situation nutritionnelle préoccupante:  
 Plus de 4 enfants sur 10 (43%) souffrent de la malnutrition chronique;  
 8% sont atteints d'émaciation ou malnutrition aigüe;  
 23% présentent une insuffisance pondérale;  
 6.7 millions d'enfants avec malnutrition chronique globale et 3.6 millions avec malnutrition chronique sévère;  
 1.2 millions d'enfants avec émaciation globale et 468 000 enfants avec émaciation sévère;  
 3.6 millions d'enfants avec insuffisance pondérale globale chronique et 1.1 millions avec insuffisance pondérale sévère.

### Key Recommendations

50.2% de ménages ont accès à l'eau potable en 2012. Les ménages urbains et ceux avec un niveau de bien-être socio-économique élevé ont plus accès aux sources d'eau améliorées: 85.1% de ménages urbains contre 30.6% de ménages ruraux;  
 18% de la population des ménages utilisent les installations sanitaires améliorées non partagées. Soit 21% en milieu urbain et 17% en milieu rural.

### Population (Male & Female) Source: Landscan 2010





## Regional Socio - Economic Context

Population	2,08 million people
Life expectancy	48.2 years
Population Growth Rate	1.0%
Human Development Index	0.486 (2013)
Adult Literacy	75.8% (2012)
Employment Rate	75.0% (2011)
Average GDP Growth	6.50% (2013)
Economic Growth Rate	5.20% (2015 expected)
Inflation	5.90% (2015 expected)
HIV and AIDS	23.0%

## Overview 2014/15 Crop Production Season

The late start of season - limited moisture at start of season affected planting- including early frost in some places

- Land area planted has dropped by 19% compared to last season and 29% compared to reference period
- All districts dropped compared to reference period; only Maseru, Butha-Butha and Qacha's Nek have not declined.

Generally cereal production has declined; Maize has decreased across all districts except Maseru and Leribe. Sorghum decreased in all districts and Wheat decreased except in Leribe, Mafeteng and Quthing.

The general poor performance of cereal production has led to a reliance on imported cereals.

District	Maize	Sorghum	Wheat
Qacha's Nek	-92%	-89%	-93%
Mohale's Hoek	-75%	-80%	-88%
Maseru	30%	-64%	-82%
Mafeteng	-72%	-92%	
Quthing	-67%	-75%	81%
Berea	-53%	-84%	
Butha Butha	-10%	-57%	-51%
Thaba Tseka	-77%	-90%	-80%
Leribe	4%	-81%	179%
Mokhotlong	-43%	-58%	-55%

## Overview 2014/15 Marketing Year

Worsening purchasing power in all districts due to increase in staple food prices and/or decrease in income amounts.

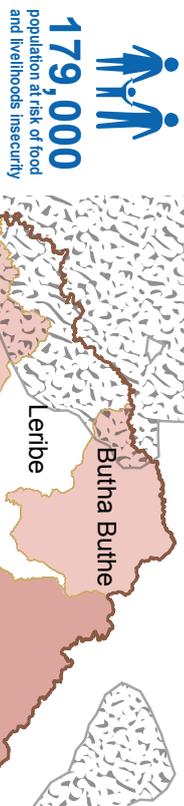
Price increased from M3 to M6.90 for 1kg (for 12.5kg from M37.50 during baseline to M86.26). Price has doubled.

With unstable incomes food and non food access among poorer households is likely to be a challenge as the year progresses

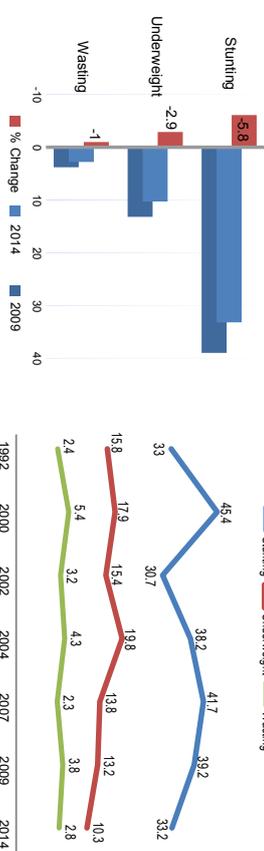
## Population at risk of food and livelihoods insecurity trend



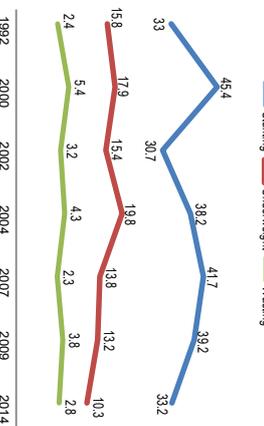
## May 2015 to April 2016 Projected Livelihood Outcomes



## Percentages of children under age 5 classified as malnourished - Lesotho



## Malnutrition Rates (%) 2013/14



## Overview 2014/15 Livestock

The livestock census indicates 8% National increase in sheep and goats though there is a significant decrease in Qacha's Nek mainly due to livestock theft and diseases followed by Mafeteng, Mohale's Hoek, Thaba Tseka and Maseru.

Cattle herd size has declined by 7% in Qacha's Nek, Thaba Tseka, Mokhotlong followed by a marginal increase in Berea compared to reference year.

Increase in livestock price ranging from 15 – 86% for cattle and 15 – 60% for shoats and an increase in both prices and quantity of wool and mohair.

## Key Findings

LVAC 2015 results indicates a deterioration in food security situation with population in need from 447,760 in the previous season to 463,936 this season (increase in prevalence from 26% to 33%)

\*\*\*NOTE: THIS RESULT IS IN THE ABSENCE OF SAFETY NETS WHICH INCLUDE SCHOOL FEEDING, CASH AND FOOD TRANSFERS AS WELL AS GRANTS BY THE GOVERNMENT AND NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS.

## Key Recommendations

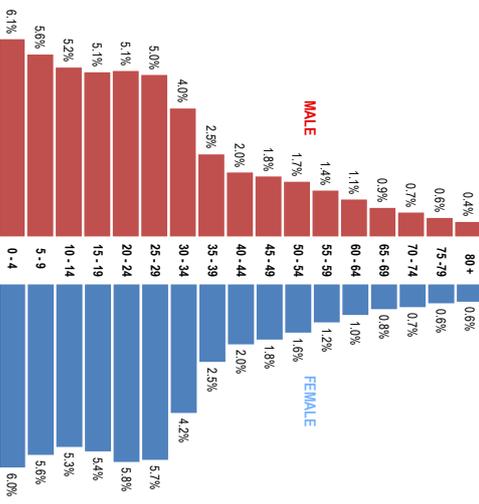
179,944 people in need of immediate assistance while 174,607 people will need intensive screening to determine beneficiaries from non beneficiaries of different safety nets.

Targeting of farmers that were adversely affected by the poor weather conditions in the season 2014/15

Intensify resilience building by concentrating on increasing capacity of communities to withstand effects of hazards and this should be linked to the resilience framework currently under development

## Population (Male & Female)

Source: Landscan 2010



Sources: SADC RIVA, NVAGs, LandScan2010, CSO, UNDP-HDR, UNICEF, WORLD BANK, Compiled by OCHA--July 2014. The Boundaries and names on these maps don't imply endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations



**Regional Socio - Economic Context**

Population	16.3 million people
Life expectancy	49 years
Population Growth Rate	2.8%
Human Development Index	0.414 (2013)
Adult Literacy	74.8% (2012)
Employment Rate	92.0% (2013)
Average GDP Growth	5.40% (2013)
Under 5 Mortality Rate	112 per 1,000 live births
Inflation	18.4% (2015 expected)
HIV and AIDS	12.0%

**Summary Results / Findings**

The affected population that will require humanitarian assistance is estimated at 2,833,212 people for a period of 3 to 8 months from October 2015 to March 2016.  
 The estimated requirement for intervention for the 3 to 8 months period is 124,183 MT of maize equivalent (USD 33,500,000) (out of the total 886,204 were in hard hit flooded areas and 1,947,008 were in areas largely affected by dry-spells).  
 Twenty-five (25) districts (4 in the north, 8 in the centre and 13 in the south) have been affected.

**Maize Production per year**

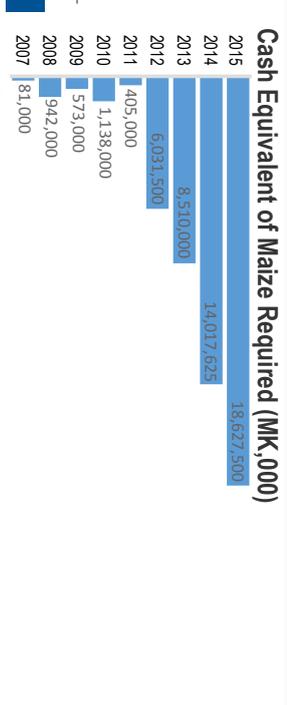
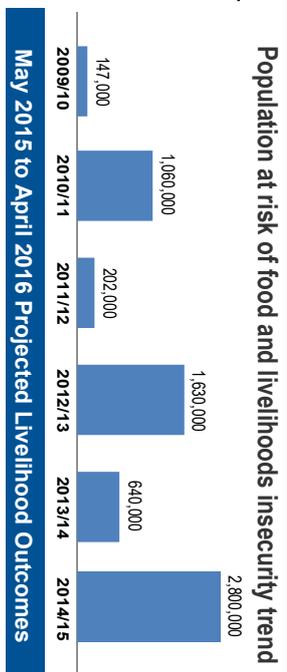
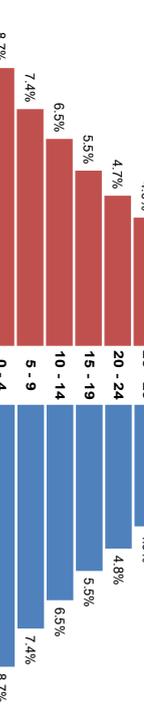
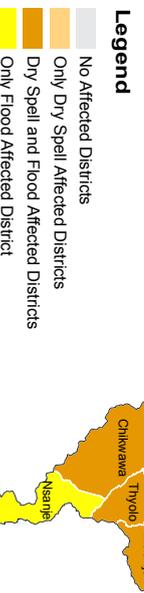


**Crop Production Season Overview 2014/15**

The production season delayed by between 30 to 40 days due to late onset of rains.  
 The country then received heavy and continuous rains between end December and first two weeks of January 2015, resulting in widespread floods and wash-aways. (The head of State declared a national disaster covering 15 of 28 districts; on 13th January, 2015).  
 The floods were followed by dry-spells between February & March, 2015, destroying crops before maturity.



Figure 1: Flooded Crop Land, Malawi (Source: RVAC)



**Main Conclusions**

- Main staple production forecast for 2014/2015 indicates a 30% drop compared to last season. The country has posted a deficit of 223,723 MT.
- Peak price of maize (during the lean period Oct to March) will depend on stable availability/distribution of maize on the market. This will depend on govt. and private imports and the role that ADMARC will play on the market.
- Irrigation prospects are projected to dwindle due to early cessation of rains
- Labour (Ganyu) prospects are projected to remain constant while rates are expected to drop as many people will be selling labour.
- The estimated affected population that will require humanitarian assistance is estimated at 2,833,212 people for a period of between 3 to 8 months and will need 124,183 metric tonnes of maize equivalent or USD 33.3 million.

**Key Recommendations**

- Government and partners should move swiftly to assist the affected 2,833,212 people to ameliorate suffering.
- ADMARC should ensure that maize is available throughout the country at affordable price to protect the vulnerable (should play its social role of cushioning people from 'vulture' traders).
- Irrigation needs to be promoted in areas where there water bodies and residual moisture.
- Government and relevant stakeholders should continue championing building community resilience against effects of extreme weather events.

**Population (Male & Female) Source: Landscan 2010**

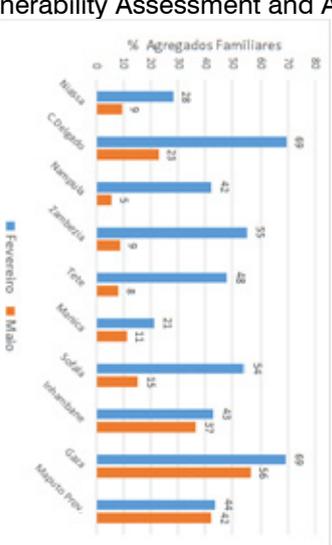


## Regional Socio - Economic Context

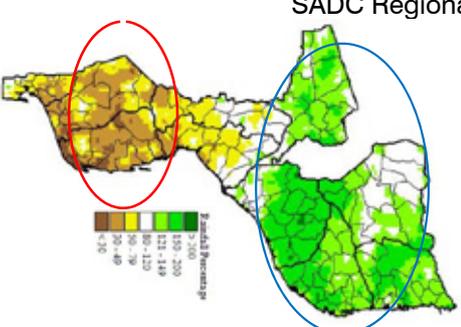
Population	25.7 million people (2015)
Life expectancy	53.5 years
Population Growth Rate	2.0%
Human Development Index	0.393 (2013)
Adult Literacy	56.1% (2012)
Employment Rate	91.7% (World Bank)
Average GDP Growth	7.3% (2013)
Under 5 Mortality Rate	64 per 1,000 live births
Initiation	-0.46% (2015 expected)
HIV and AIDS	11.5%

## Food Access Trend February to May 2015

February to May: significant reduction in the proportion of families with difficulties in accessing sufficient food; a higher proportion of households with difficulty in accessing enough food in Gaza (56%), Maputo Province (42%) and Inhambane (37%)



## Hazards Overview 2014/15

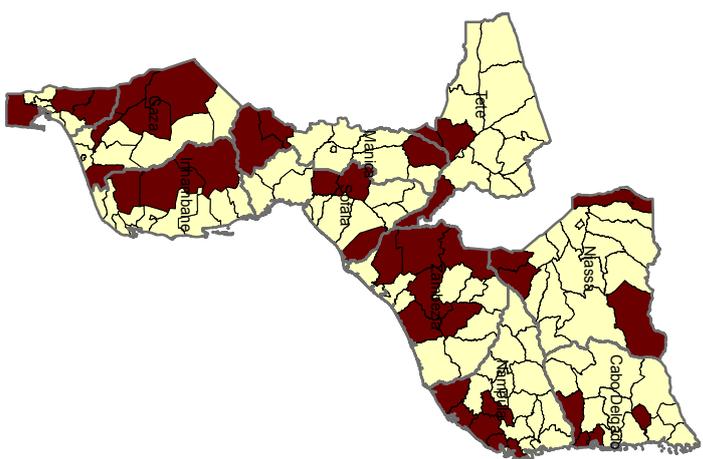


## Population at risk of food and livelihoods insecurity trend



## Acute Food Security Assessment Districts

138,000 population at risk of food and livelihoods insecurity

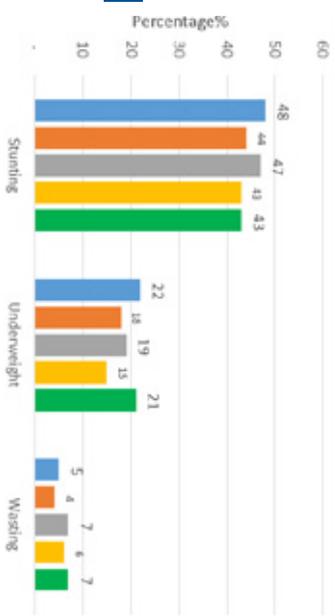


Legend  
 Boundaries  
 Assessed Districts

## Context and Process

- Objectives**
- Assess the acute food security and nutrition situation after shocks;
- Methodology**
- Quantitative acute assessment
  - Survey coverage:
    - 45 of 128 districts in 10 provinces;
    - 2935 HHs interviewed;
    - 395 focus group and 60 markets;

## Malnutrition Rates (%) 2014/15



## Conclusions

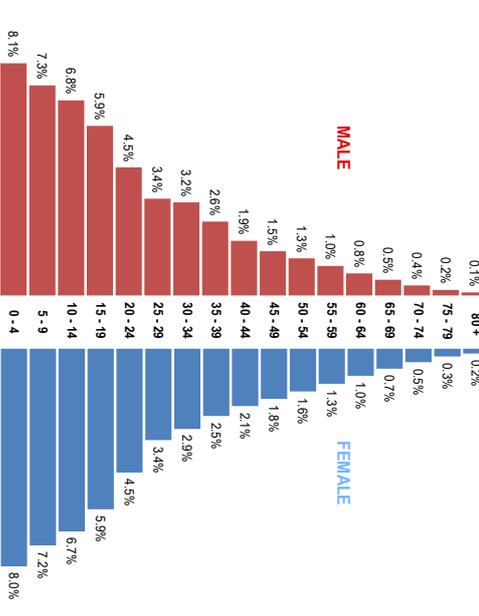
The food insecurity situation is worrying in the provinces of Gaza and Inhambane which until May had a significant number of people (137 764 people) using atypical survival strategies to rectify the food deficit.

## Key Recommendations

To protect the livelihood of affected households in Gaza and Inhambane, there is need for interventions aimed at stabilizing food consumption. Interventions may be in the form of food for work.

There is need for continuous monitoring until the months of January and February 2016.

## Population (Male & Female) Source: Landscan 2010



Sources: SADC RIVA, NVACS, LandsScan2010, CSO, UNDP-HDR, UNICEF, WORLD BANK, MICS, Compiled by OCHA- September 2015. The Boundaries and names on these maps don't imply endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations



**Regional Socio - Economic Context**

Population	2,11 million people
Life expectancy	64.5 years
Population Growth Rate	2.0%
Human Development Index	0.624 (2013)
Adult Literacy	88.8% (2012)
Employment Rate	83.0% (2011)
Average GDP Growth	5.00% (2013)
Under 5 Mortality Rate	50 per 1,000 live births
HIV and AIDS	18.0% (2013)

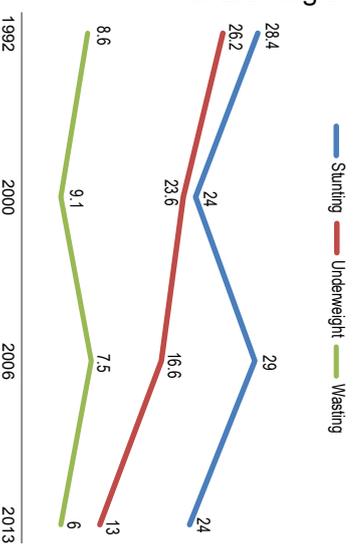
**Overview 2014/15 Crop Production Season**

- Crop Estimates indicated extremely poor crop harvest in all dry land crop producing regions
- Aggregate cereal production (white maize, pearl millet, sorghum and wheat) is estimated at 67,800 MT
- Reflecting a reduction of 46% below average and 49% lower than previous season
- Also 17% lower than the 2012/13 drought season
- 38,100 MT white maize, 15,300 MT pearl millet, 1,700 MT sorghum and 12,700 MT wheat.
- Maize in communal area is 80% below average and 73% lower than the previous season.
- Pearl millet declined by 74% below average and 65% lower than last season.
- Sorghum is 79% below average and 60% lower than last season's harvests.
- Wheat 21% above average and 23% higher than last season.
- Cereal deficit of 209,100 MT under normal circumstance is covered through imports.

**Overview 2014/15 Livestock**

- Livestock condition range between fair to good in most areas.
- Reflecting a reduction of 46% below average and 49% lower than previous season
- North east grazing range between poor to good
- North central regions grazing range between fair to very poor
- North west (Karas Region) grazing is critically poor to poor in most areas
- Grazing in the Otjozondjupa region range between poor to good
- Erongo Region, poor grazing in the communal areas and commercial areas reported fair to good grazing.
- Hardap and //Karas regions reported fair to poor grazing conditions in the communal areas

**Malnutrition Rates (%) Trend 1992 - 2013**

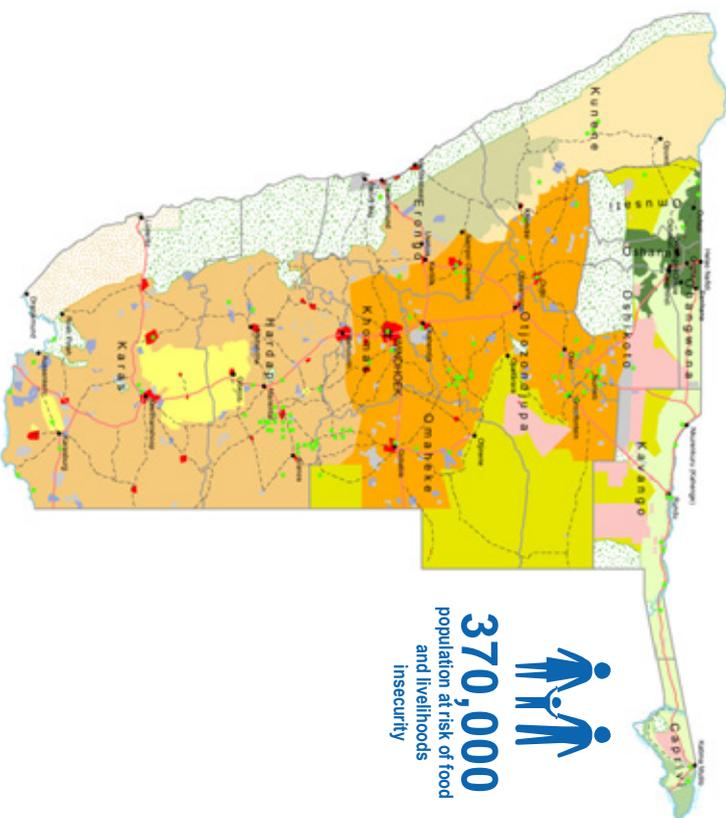


Sources: SADC RIVA, MOHSS, LandScan2010, CSO, UNDP-HDR NAMMAAC, WFP. Compiled by OCHA - July 2014. The Boundaries and names on these maps don't imply endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations

**Population at risk of food and livelihoods insecurity trend**



**May 2015 to April 2016 Livelihood Zones**



**Legend**

- Region boundaries
- Major towns
- Capital
- Perennial rivers
- Trunk roads
- Main roads

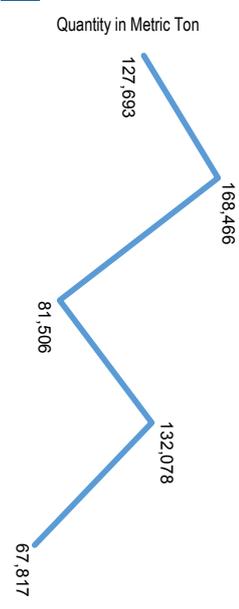
**Livelihood Zones**

- Government
- Protected parks and reserves
- Restricted area
- Parastatal
- Urban and peri-urban
- Karas cattle and small stock
- North-central upland cereals and non-lean income
- Central lowland maize and cattle

**Livelihood Zones (Detailed)**

- Northern border upland cereals and livestock
- Oneset-Onaheke-Otjozondjupa cattle ranching
- Communal exclusive rangelands
- Central lowland cattle ranching
- Erongo-Karas small stock and natural resources
- Resettlement area
- Southern livelihood small stock
- Southern communal small stock
- Intensively cultivated farms

**Aggregate Cereal Trend (MT) Trend 2010 - 2015**



**Impact of Hazards**

- Reduced agricultural Labour employment Opportunities by 5% - 70%.
- Reduced maize production by 90% in the Lowland Maize and Cattle livelihood zone covering the low land of Zambezi and Karango East and West regions.
- Limited and late provision of subsidised ploughing services by the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry.
- Less resilient households due the cumulative impact of floods and drought over the years.

**Key Recommendations**

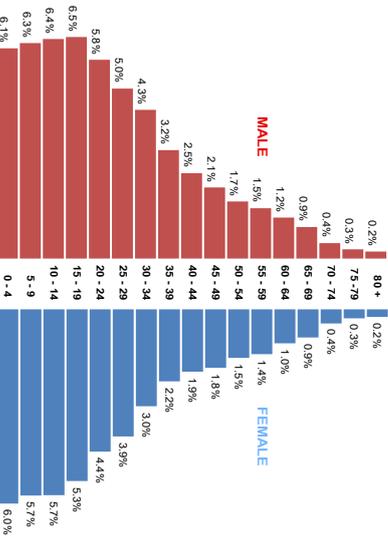
Targeted food assistance to be considered for period up to March 2016, for households facing survival deficit and conditional assistance to be considered for households facing livelihood protection deficit.

Productions of improved pearl millet seeds under irrigation by Green Schemes during off-season for the next cropping season be implemented as approved in the interim drought program.

Implementation of the medium to long term measures stipulated in the interim drought program (livestock marketing incentives, transports and lease of grazing, livestock fodder/hay and animal health packages to farmers and water provision) be continued.

Regular monitoring of key vulnerability indicators (staple prices, livestock prices, grazing, water etc).

**Population (Male & Female) Source: Landscan 2010**





# SWAZILAND

## Vulnerability Assessment Committee Results 2015



# OCHA

### Regional Socio - Economic Context

Population	1.12 million people
Life expectancy	47.8 years
Population Growth Rate	1.0%
Human Development Index	0.148 (2013)
Adult Literacy	87.8% (2012)
Employment Rate	71.9% (2014)
Average GDP Growth	2.3% (2013)
Under 5 Mortality Rate	67 per 1,000 live births
Initiation	5.70% (2015, CSO)
HIV and AIDS	26.0% (2009)

### Objectives of Assessment 2014/15

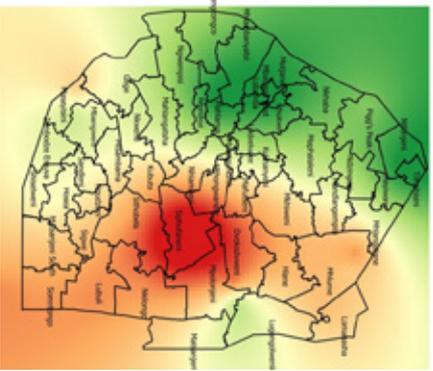
To assess the status of livelihoods and vulnerability in rural households and provide timely information for programming and decision making.

- To understand the different capabilities (assets) of households to cope with crises such as droughts, floods, economic fluctuations, plant or animal pests and diseases.
- Use the Household Economy Approach to get the numbers of people food insecure for the consumption period 2015-2016.

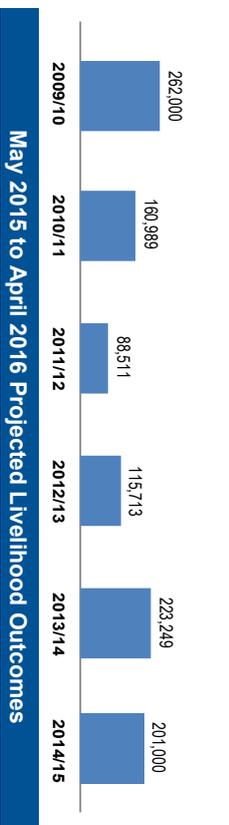
### Challenges & Hazards (2014 - 2015)

- Long dry spells
- Crop failure
- Dry grazing lands
- Institutionalisation of the Swazi VAC
- Late disbursement of funds
- Dry grazing lands

### Hazard Map - Crop Failure

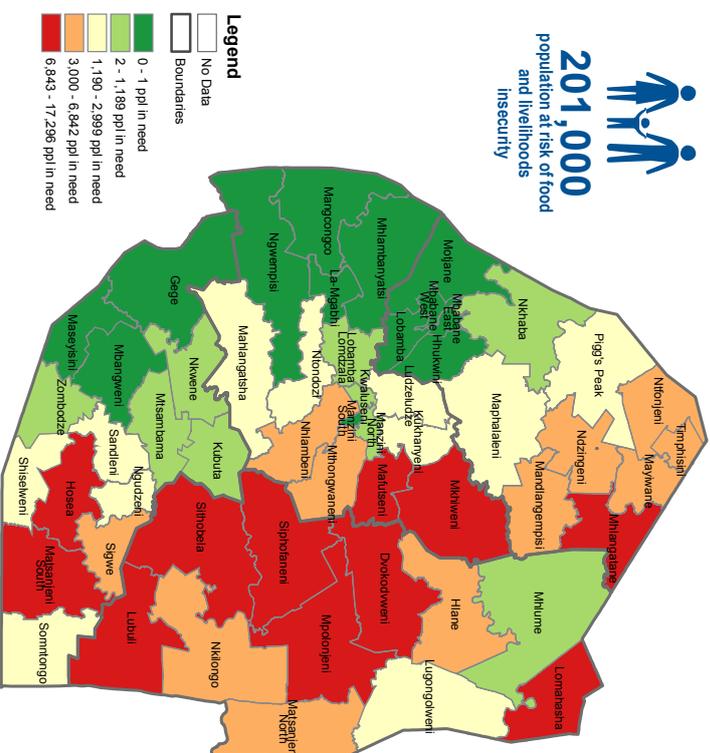


### Population at risk of food and livelihoods insecurity trend

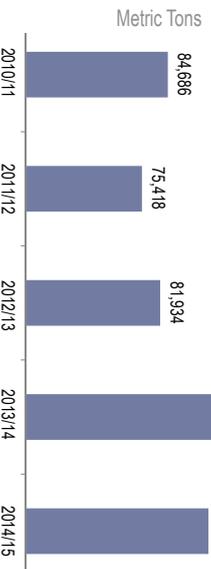


### May 2015 to April 2016 Projected Livelihood Outcomes

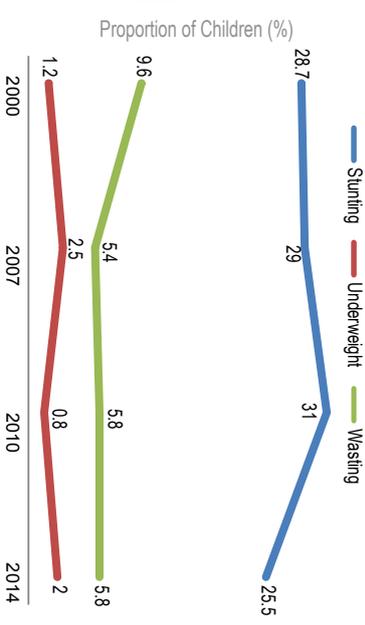
201,000 population at risk of food and livelihoods insecurity



### Maize Production 2010 - 2015



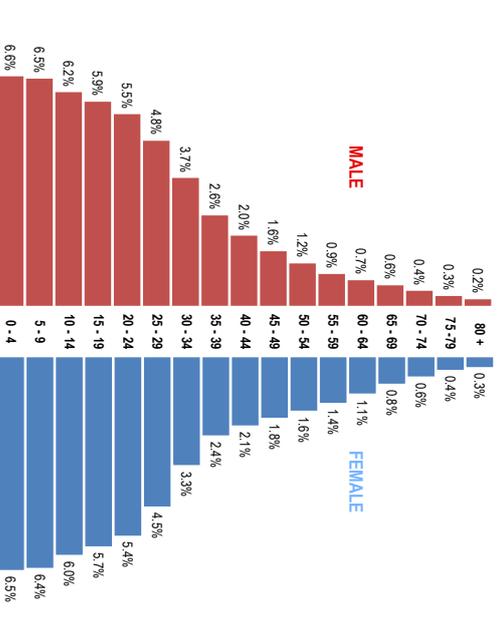
### Malnutrition Rates (%) 2014/15



### Key Recommendations

- Crop diversification (not only maize) especially in the Lubombo region and production of drought resistant crops in this region.
- Use of the existing irrigation infrastructure for sugar cane plantations.

### Population (Male & Female) Source: Landscan 2010





### Regional Socio - Economic Context

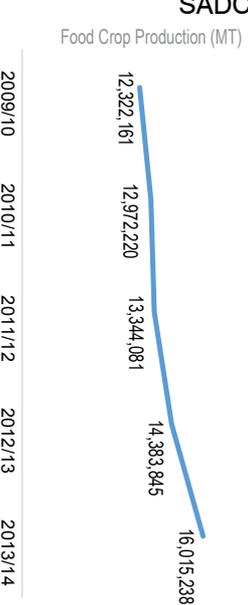
Population	44.9 million people
Life expectancy	58 years
Population Growth Rate	3.0%
Human Development Index	0.488 (2013)
Adult Literacy	73.2% (2012)
Employment Rate	89.3% (2011)
Average GDP Growth	7.2% (2014)
Under 5 Mortality Rate	51 per 1,000 live births
Inflation	6.5% (NBS, 2015 expected)
HIV and AIDS	5.1%

### Crop Production Season Overview 2014/15

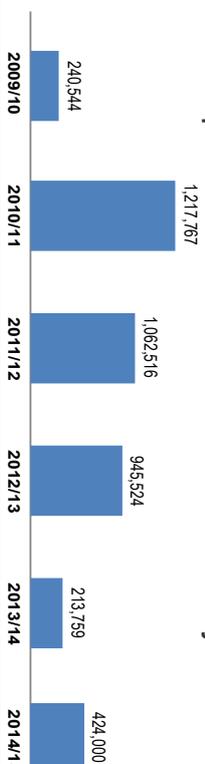
- Major hazards/stocks in 2014/2015 season
- Rainfall onset: Late onset of seasonal rains (Long rains-Masika).
- Dry spells: Prolonged dry spell in all seasons (Vuli, Masika and Msimu).
- Rainfall distribution: Poor rainfall distribution in all three seasons (Nov-Dec 2014 short rain season, Nov 2014 - April 2015 rain season and March - April, 2015 long rain season).
- Destructive animals

- Vuli rainfall season (October - December, 2014 season over bimodal areas)
  - Mostly above average rainfall performance but poor distribution caused withering of crops leading to poor crop production in those areas.
  - Masika rainfall season (March - May, 2015 season over bimodal areas)
  - Mostly above average to average rainfall performance but late onset caused crop failure leading to crop poor production in those areas.
  - Msimu rainfall season (November 2014-April, 2015 season over unimodal areas)
  - Mostly average rainfall performance but poor rainfall distribution and long dry spell durations at tasselling and flowering stages caused crop failure leading to poor crop production in those areas.
- Central areas of the country are expected to have below average food production due to poor seasonal rainfall distribution.
- Western areas are expected to have average food production except few districts in Tabora region which are expected to have below average production.
- Southern regions are expected to have below average food production due to poor rainfall distribution
- Northern regions are expected to have below average crop production due to late onset of masika seasonal rains leading to shorter season and crop failure.

### Food Crops Production (2009/10 -2013/14) Trend

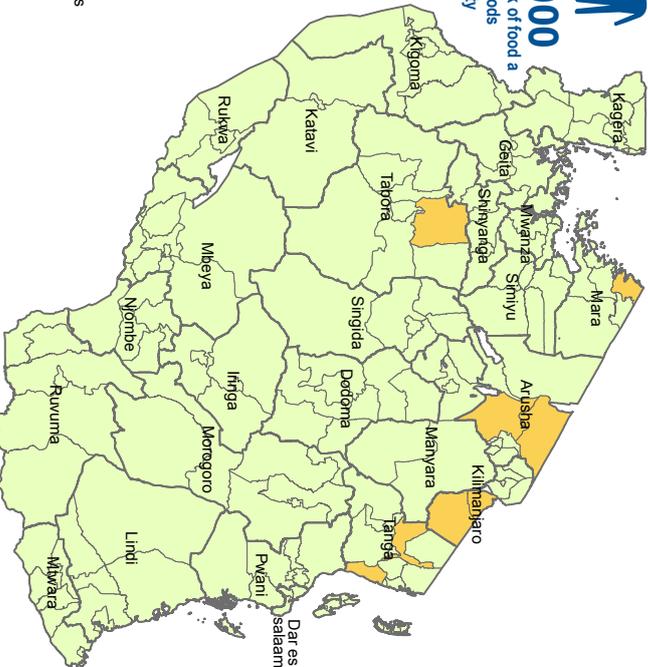


### Population at risk of food and livelihoods insecurity trend

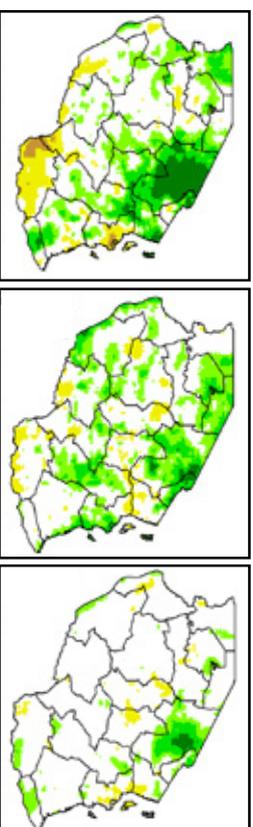


### Food Security Situation Intergrated Phase Classification (IPC)

**424,000** population at risk of food and livelihoods insecurity



### Average Rainfall



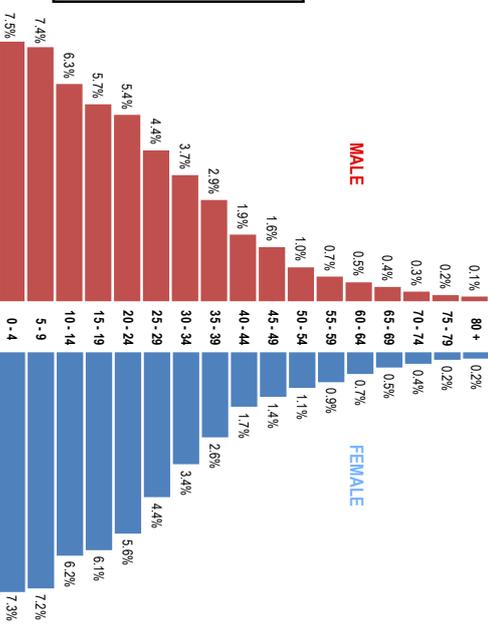
### Key Outcomes & Findings 2014/15

- 21 councils were identified to be under stress.
- 424,136 people (7% of the total) in 21 councils were identified to be food and nutrition insecure.
- 9,916.9 MT of maize equivalent was recommended for this population between March and April, 2015
- However, 1,148,288 people were projected to be food insecure in May 2015.
- Market condition: Staple food prices were showing increasing trend from January 2015.
- Livestock's condition was good favored by pasture and water availability.

### Key Recommendations

- Continuous monitoring of areas identified to be at risk of food and nutrition insecurity between June and September 2015.
- To provide food and seed aid.
- To promote households good use practice of food crop harvested during the 2014/15 production year.
- Improvement and construction of roads in the rural areas.
- Enhancement of rehabilitation and establishment of irrigation schemes.
- Promote the use of early maturing and drought tolerant crops like cassava and millet.
- Strengthening of the livestock early warning system to ensure sustainable food security.
- Continue to strengthen input supplies programme to smallholder farmers.
- Strengthen construction of water facilities such as boreholes and dams in areas with poor or low access to safe drinking water.
- Distribution of subsidies seeds and fertilizers for next production year.
- The government should be in the fore front to spread the collective warehouse based marketing system to as many regions and districts as possible to provide markets for food crops.

### Population (Male & Female) Source: Landscan 2010





## Regional Socio - Economic Context

Population	13.7 million people
Life expectancy	57.0 years
Population Growth Rate	3.0%
Human Development Index	0.561 (2013)
Adult Literacy	71.2% (2012)
Employment Rate	84.0% (2011)
Average GDP Growth	7.00% (2013)
Under 5 Mortality Rate	87 per 1,000 live births
Inflation	7.0% (as of July 2015)
HIV and AIDS	12.5%

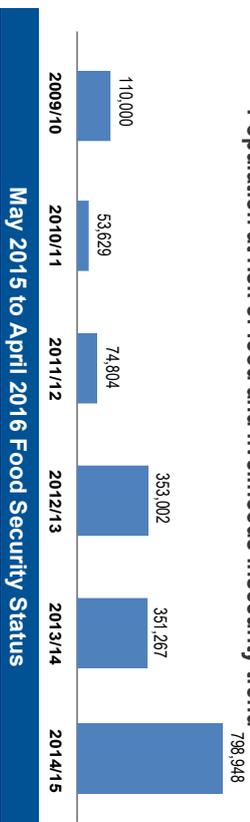
## Major Shocks & Hazards - Rainfall Performance 2014/15

- Prolonged dry spells then experienced from 2nd deked of February 2015 to the 3rd deked of March, 2015.
- The Prolonged dry spells were experienced in Western (all districts), Southern (all districts), Eastern Province (all districts), some parts of Central, Luapula, Muchinga, North-western and Lusaka Provinces being severely affected.
- The prolonged dry spells coupled with poor rainfall distribution shortened the growing season.

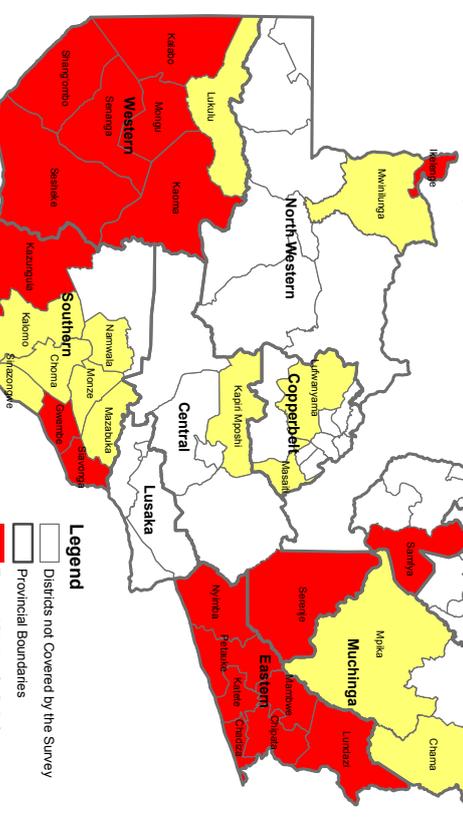
## Overview 2014/15 Crop Production Season

- Results of the assessment showed that production of maize in most of the districts reduced by as much as 38 percent.
- Production of the 2014/2015 season stood at 1.3 million MT for the 48 districts.
- Sales estimated at 595,989 MT of maize and 597 MT green away.
- The total balance of the cereal likely to be held at the household level therefore stood at 695,500 MT.
- Grazing and pasture also suffered from the same prolonged dry spells – a situation that may not help farmers get a premium price for the livestock.

## Population at risk of food and livelihoods insecurity trend

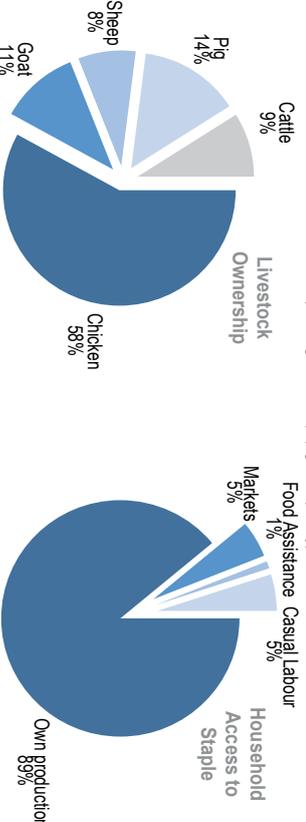


## May 2015 to April 2016 Food Security Status



## Livestock Overview 2014/15

Overall, 70% of households owned livestock (cattle, goats, sheep, pigs and poultry).



## Nutrition Overview 2015/16

- MUAC results showed that 2.2% children were at risk of severe wasting, 3.2% were at risk of moderate wasting and 94% of the children were not at risk of wasting at all in the assessed districts. 1% had oedema.

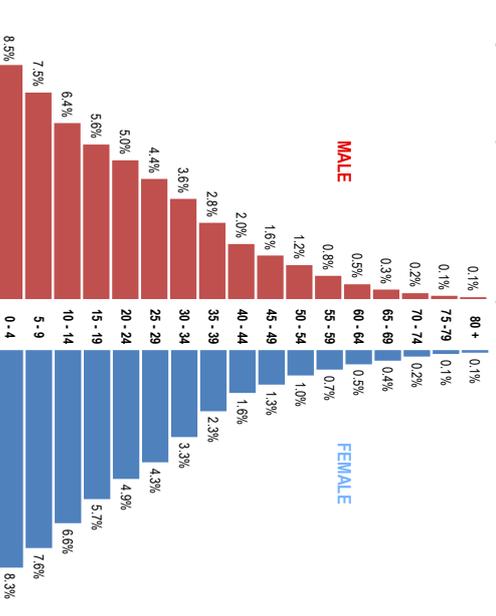
## Key Findings

- More than 430, 997 households have been affected by the prolonged dry spells in the assessed districts.
- Prolonged dry spells affected household food production which ultimately will affect food security especially as households move towards the lean period. Owing to this, 31 districts in six provinces would require food assistance.
- Since majority of household incomes are agricultural based, it is likely that the devastation effects suffered this season may affect next season's production.
- Assessed districts are likely to face water shortages with assessment results showing that a fifth of the population are already feeling the effects. This is likely to push up nutritional and disease burden at the household level.

## Key Recommendations

- Provision of relief food to 131,158 households (798,948 people) in 31 districts.
- Rehabilitation and sinking of boreholes.
- Provision of inputs to 45,079 households in 27 districts.
- Scaling up livelihood diversification programmes.
- Strengthen CF implementation and provision of appropriate technologies for small scale farmers.
- Strengthen epidemic preparedness.
- Scaling up supplementary and therapeutic feeding programmes in selected districts where malnutrition is high.
- Encourage construction of toilets in assessed districts.
- Conduct sensitization campaigns in affected districts.

## Population (Male & Female) Source: Landscan 2010





## Regional Socio - Economic Context

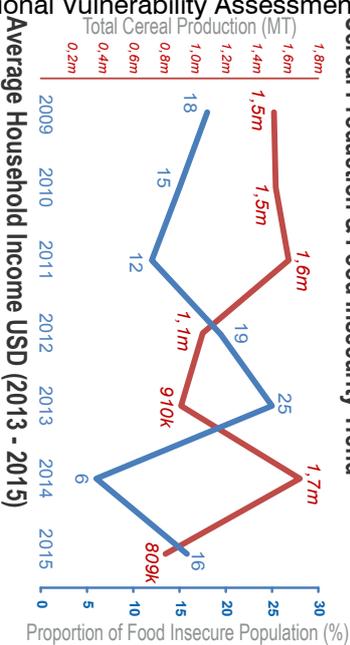
Population	13.1 million people
Life expectancy	51.0 years
Population Growth Rate	3.0%
Human Development Index	0.492 (2013)
Adult Literacy	83.6% (2012)
Employment Rate	92.3% (2011)
Average GDP Growth	4.00% (2013)
Under 5 Mortality Rate	89 per 1,000 live births
Initiation	2.20% (2015 expected)
HIV and AIDS	14.3%

## Crop Production Season Overview 2014/15

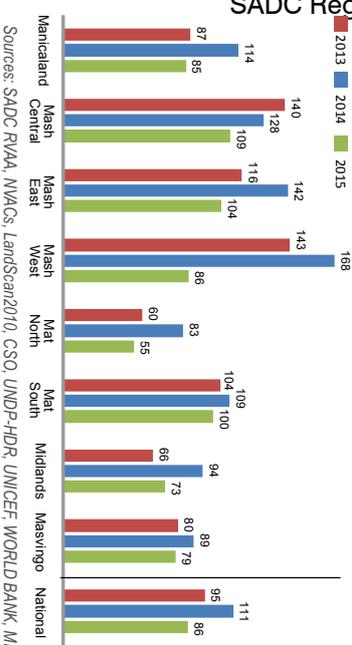
Zimbabwe maize production dropped by as much as 49% from the average with a likely cereal deficit of 650 000 MT.

- Last season's bumper crop and large stocks will help to minimize some of the negative effects.
- Crop production deficits were caused by poor rainfall distribution during the season.
- In the early stages (October-November), there were significant rainfall deficits and delays to the start of the growing season in Zimbabwe.
- From mid-January to late March, drier than average conditions affected the key development stages of the staple maize crop in most parts of the country.
- Continuous heavy rainfall during mid-December to mid-January led to flooding in some areas.
- This also caused further damage to croplands and additional loss of production in these areas.

## Cereal Production & Food Insecurity Trend

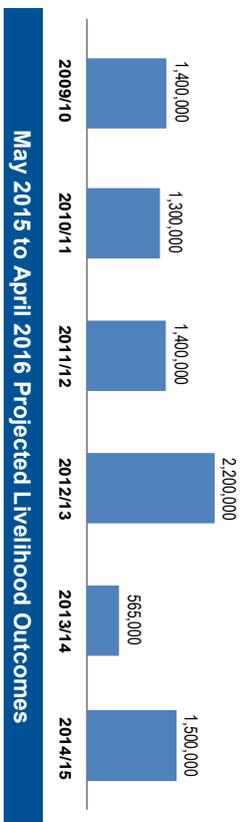


## Average Household Income USD (2013 - 2015)

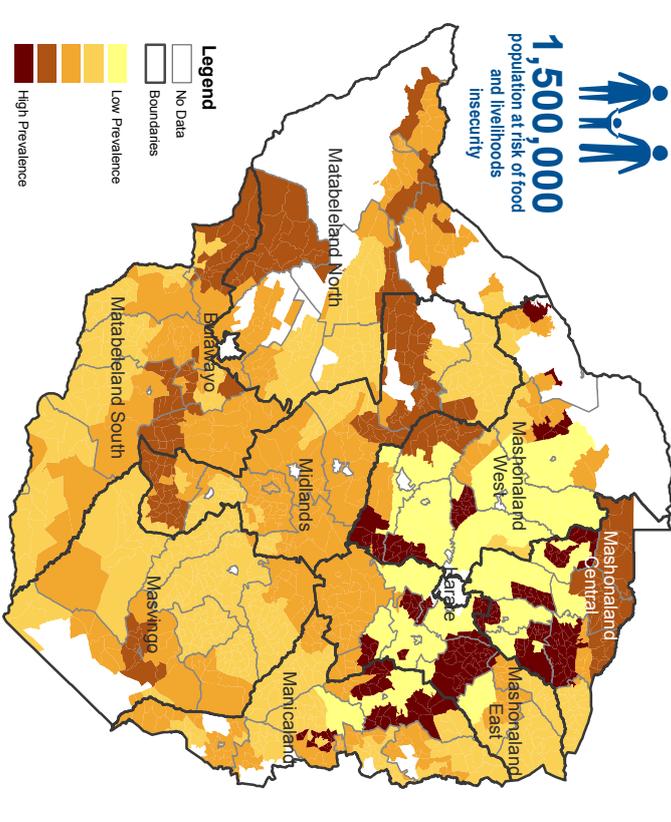


Sources: SADC RIVA, NMACs, LandsScan 2010, CSO, UNDP-HDR, UNICEF, WORLD BANK, MICS

## Population at risk of food and livelihoods insecurity trend



## May 2015 to April 2016 Projected Livelihood Outcomes



## Situation Overview

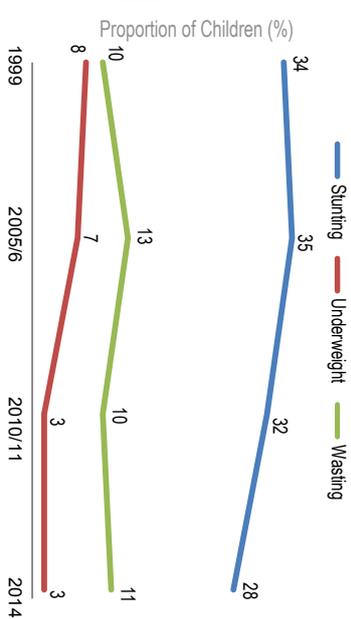
The ZIMNAC 2015 rural livelihoods assessment indicated that approximately 10% of the rural population is projected to be food insecure for the period of October - December 2015 and that 16% of the rural population is projected to be food insecure for the period of January - March 2016.

Demand for cereals is high in the southern provinces, following very poor harvests. The 2014-15 total cereal production for all provinces was lower than the previous season and the five-year average. Most markets in these southern provinces have limited supplies of grain due to poor inflows from distant source areas (Mashonaland, parts of Midlands and Manicaland) which experienced lower than usual production.

Zimbabwe currently has a national cereal deficit of around 650 000 MT for the 2015-16 consumption year. The Grain Marketing Board's (GMB) Strategic Grain Reserve levels are reportedly 76 percent below their minimum required. Grain deliveries to the GMB are very low this year, with only 29 percent (1,500 MT) received as of early July, compared to 40,000 MT by the same time last year. WFP is currently implementing a Food for Assets (FFA) program (between May and November) in 9 priority districts, targeting a total of nearly 18,000 beneficiaries.

The Boundaries and names on these maps do not imply endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations

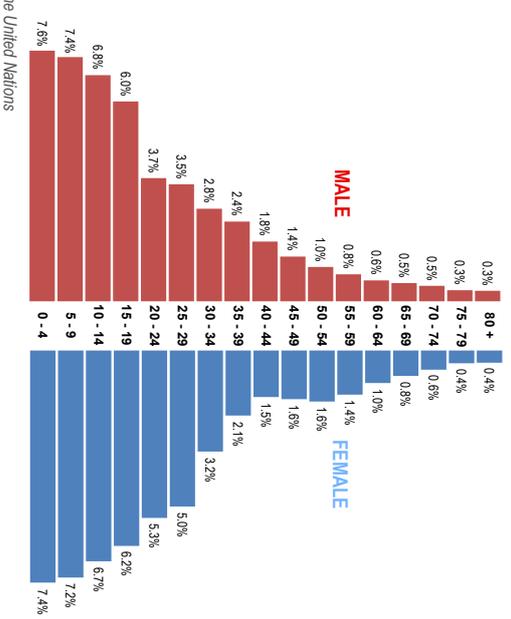
## Malnutrition Rates (%) 2014/15



## Key Recommendations

- There is need for agriculture intensification and crop diversification to increase production, productivity and reduce on labour costs.
- There is need to promote use of cash based transfer modalities in order to promote local economy where feasible.
- Promotion of farming as a business through strengthening of extension systems.
- A continued enabling environment is needed to harmonize stakeholders, to effectively and efficiently respond to the prevailing cereal requirement of 650 000 MT.
- With the decrease in average household incomes, there is need to strengthen rural livelihoods, through mechanisms such as increase and stabilise productivity and incomes through productive asset creation.
- In response to the emerging community challenges the promotion of productive safety net programmes should be prioritized.
- There is need to ensure that policies and programmes reflect and respond to the persistent threats to food and nutrition security

## Population (Male & Female) Source: Landscan 2010



## **Annex: RVAC Dissemination Meeting Programme**



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**Programme for the 2015  
SADC Regional Vulnerability Assessment Committee (RVAC)  
Technical Dissemination Meeting  
21 – 23 July 2015  
At Southern Sun Hotel, Oliver Tambo Airport, Johannesburg,  
Republic of South Africa**

The main focus of the Technical Dissemination Meeting will be the preparation and endorsement of the Regional Annual Assessment Report for SADC by the SADC RVAA Steering Committee. The Meeting will also discuss emerging issues of relevance to regional Vulnerability Analysis and Assessment (VAA), challenges to implementing VAA, as well as future planning needs of NVACs RVAA Programme planned activities.

**Objectives of the technical dissemination meeting:**

- 1. Prepare dissemination of the results of the 2015 vulnerability assessments;**
- 2. Discuss emerging issues and implications for VAA at country level;**
- 3. In view of the delayed start of the extended RVAA Programme, to discuss and agree required actions for the Updated RVAA Programme Work Plan and Budget for the period April 2015 to March 2016;**
- 4. Country preparations for 3rd and 4th quarter VAA activities: Individual session with each NVAC to go through work plan activities implementation planning / actions, timing and budget.**

To achieve these objectives, the Technical Dissemination Meeting will be structured in three sessions as follows:

- Session 1: Introduction and seasonal overview  
Session 2: Presentation and discussion of emerging issues in VAA  
Session 3: Reports from the National Vulnerability Assessment Committees (NVACs) and Discussions (30 min presentation + 10 min discussion).

In their briefing reports, NVACs are requested also to present major challenges to carrying out their Annual Assessment and suggested solutions going forward.

Session 4: Drafting of Regional Synthesis Report + in a separate session with each NVAC planning for 3rd and 4th Quarters Work Plan activities implementation / actions, timing and budget

The methodology used will be both plenary sessions and group work in order to allow rich and dynamic interactivity whereby sharing of experiences is promoted to nurture the achievement of the objectives.

Presentation and reporting guidelines to be used by NVACs are attached.

Presentation and reporting guidelines to be used by NVACs are attached.

Day 1 – Tuesday 21 July		
Time	Activity	Rapporteur
08.00 – 8.30	• Participant's registration	• SADC RVAA PMU
<b>Session 1: Introduction and seasonal overview</b>		
08.30 – 9.00	• Introductions	• SADC RVAA PMU
09.00 – 9.10	• Welcome by Representative of South Africa	• Republic of South Africa
09.10 – 9.20	• Official Opening Remarks by Zimbabwe, SADC Chair-country	• Zimbabwe
09.20 – 9.30	• Purpose and objectives of the meeting	• SADC RVAA PMU
09.30 – 10.00	• Seasonal rainfall review/early outlook	• SADC Secretariat
<b>Session 2: Presentation and discussion of emerging issues in VAA and related matters</b>		
10.00 – 10.30	• IPC Chronic Presentation	• IPC Coordinator
10.30 – 11.00	<b>Tea/Coffee</b>	
11.00 – 11.25	• Update on the <b>Urban Vulnerability Assessments and Methodology Development</b>	• SADC RVAA PMU TA Technical Lead
11.25 – 11.50	• Presentation on <b>Nutrition Integration</b> in Limpopo baselines	• SAVAC
11.50 – 12.50	• Presentation of the <b>MVAC Proof of Concept (climate change)</b> study	• Professor Blessings Chinsinga, University of Malawi
12.50 – 13.00	• Presentation by the <b>RVAA Centre of Excellence: Status of courses in 2015</b>	• RVAA Centre of Excellence
12.50 – 14.00	<b>Lunch</b>	
<b>Session 3: Reports from the National Vulnerability Assessment Committees (NVACs) and Discussions (30 min presentation + 10 min discussion)</b>		
14.00 – 14.40	• Mozambique VAA Report	• Namibia
14.40 – 15.20	• Angola VAA Report	• Lesotho
15.20 – 15.50	<b>Tea/Coffee</b>	
15.50 – 16.30	• DRC VAA Report	• South Africa
16.30 – 17.10	• Swaziland VAA Report	• Malawi
17.10 – 17.20	• Announcements/Wrap up of the day	• SADC RVAA PMU

<b>Day 2 – Wednesday 22 July</b>		
<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Rapporteur</b>
08:25 – 08:30	• Recap of Day 1/Announcements	• SADC RVAA PMU
08.30 – 9.10	• Zimbabwe VAA Report	• Tanzania
09.10 – 9.40	• South Africa VAA Report	• Swaziland
09.40 – 10.10	• Tanzania VAA Report	• Botswana
10.10 – 10.40	<b>Tea/Coffee</b>	
10.40 – 11.20	• Malawi VAA Report	• Zambia
11.20 – 12.00	• Botswana VAA Report	• Mozambique
12.00 – 12.40	• Zambia VAA Report	• Angola
12.40 – 13.40	<b>Lunch</b>	
13.40 – 14.20	• Namibia VAA Report	• DRC
14.20 – 15.00	• Lesotho VAA Report	• Zimbabwe
15.00 – 15.30	<b>Tea/Coffee</b>	
15.30 – 15.45	• Seychelles presentation of status	• Forum
15.45 – 16.15	• Madagascar presentation of status	• Madagascar
16.15 – 16.30	• Mauritius presentation of status	• Mauritius
16.30 – 16.40	• Announcements/Wrap up of the day	• SADC RVAA PMU
<b>Day 3 – Thursday 23 July</b>		
<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Rapporteur</b>
<b>Session 4: Drafting of Regional Synthesis Report + in a separate session with each NVAC planning for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Quarters Work Plan activities implementation / actions, timing and budget</b>		
08.25 – 08.30	• Recap of Day 2/Announcements	• SADC RVAA PMU
08.30 – 10.30	• Drafting of Regional Synthesis Report by a Core Group	• SADC RVAC Members
08.30 – 10.30	• Country preparations for 3 <sup>rd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> quarter VAA activities: NVACs go through work plan activities implementation planning / actions, timing and budget with PMU and RVAC members	• NVACs and RVAC Members
10.30 – 11.00	<b>Tea/Coffee</b>	
11.00 – 12.00	• Drafting of Regional Synthesis Report by a Core Group	• SADC RVAC Members
11.00 – 12.00	• Country preparations for 3 <sup>rd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> quarter VAA activities: NVACs go through work plan activities implementation planning / actions, timing and budget with PMU and RVAC members	• NVACs and PMU and RVAC Members
12.00 – 13.00	• Presentation of draft Synthesis Report	• SADC RVAA PMU
13.00 – 14.00	<b>Lunch/Departure for Non RVAC Members</b>	
14.00 – 17.00	• Quarterly RVAC Meeting	• RVAC members

## **Annex: List of Participants**



**REGIONAL VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT ANALYSIS (RVAA)  
DISSEMINATION TECHNICAL MEETING  
29<sup>TH</sup> JUNE – 2<sup>ND</sup> JULY 2015  
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