



LESOTHO
Vulnerability
Assessment Committee

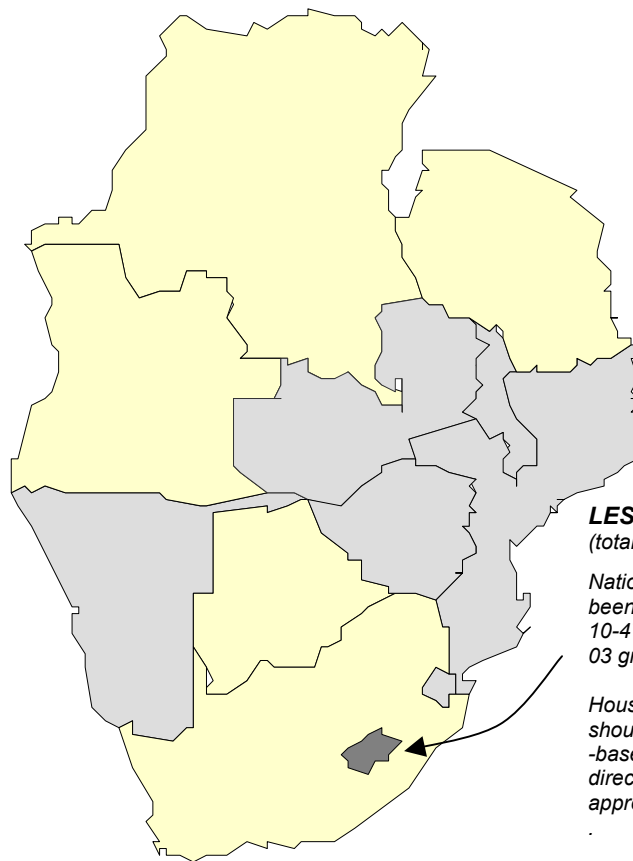
Lesotho Vulnerability Assessment Committee
in collaboration with the ...

SADC FANR Vulnerability Assessment Committee



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Vulnerability
Assessment Committee

Lesotho Livelihoods-Based Vulnerability Assessment (LBVA) April-May 2003



LESOTHO

(total population = 2,130,600)

Nation-wide food/income deficits have been variably incurred in the range of 10-47% of total food access in the 2002-03 growing season.

Household food insecurity 2003-04 should be addressed through livelihood-based interventions plus a range of direct food & income transfers where appropriate.

June 2003
Maseru

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Acknowledgements

After an initial planning phase in March, the Lesotho Vulnerability Assessment Committee (LVAC) third round emergency food assessment process began in earnest on 3rd - April 2003 with final preparations for an intense 8-days training of 21 field staff. It has culminated in the production of this assessment. During this process, many people have been involved.

The entire process (training, research, analysis and report writing) has been restricted to a period of five weeks. It has been guided and supported by the SADC FANR VAC. Two consultants from SCF(UK) Food Security Livelihoods Unit (FSLU) with assistance from Alex Rees of the UK supported the LVAC in the process.

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'M'apalesa Mothokho on behalf of the Lesotho VAC

June 2003

ACRONYMS

AIDS	:	Acquired Immuno-Deficiency Syndrome
BOS	:	Bureau of Statistics
CFSA	:	Crop & Food Supply
CFSAM	:	Crop & Food Supply Assessment Mission
DFID	:	Department for International Development
DMA	:	Disaster Management Authority
DPPA	:	Department of Planning & Policy Analysis
EMOP	:	Emergency Operations
FANR	:	Food, Agriculture & Natural Resources Department
FNCO	:	Food and Nutrition Coordinating Office
FAO	:	Food and Agriculture Organization
FEZ	:	Food Economy Zone
GOL	:	Government of Lesotho
HH	:	Households
HIV	:	Human Immuno-Deficiency Virus
Kcal	:	Kilo Calories
LVAC	:	Lesotho Vulnerability Assessment Committee
KG	:	Kilogrammes
MML	:	Maize meal
MOA	:	Ministry of Agriculture
MOHSW	:	Ministry of Health & Social Welfare
MP	:	Member of Parliament
MT	:	Metric tonnes
NEWU	:	National Early Warning Unit
NGO	:	Non-government organization
NVAC	:	National Vulnerability Assessment Committee
SADC	:	Southern African Development Community
SEG	:	Socio-Economic Groups
UNAIDS	:	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNICEF	:	United Nations Children's Fund
VAC	:	Vulnerability Assessment Committee
WFP	:	World Food Programme

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 Context and current situation

Lesotho has experienced two years of severely erratic weather conditions (2000–2002) culminating in the declaration of a state of famine in early 2002. Moreover, the country has experienced reduced (but positive) rates of economic growth since 2000. Production prospects in the current year (2002–2003) are only marginally better than the previous year. Although total seasonal rainfall totals reflect ‘normal’ conditions, detailed weather records suggest that both spatial and temporal distribution over the entire cropping season was generally poor. The South Western districts of Mafeteng, Mohale’s Hoek and Quthing experienced poor to very poor summer crop production. Mid season dry spells in January and February have generally depressed crop production across the country.

Consumer maize meal prices in urban areas increased by 20–40% and by anything from 30–50% in rural areas (depending on location) during 2002–2003. This has been a major shock for many whose food access is largely dependent on purchases of staple foods. Since December 2002, the level of food price inflation has considerably decreased in Maseru and the surrounding towns. Prospects for considerably lower prices for food imports 2003–2004 look good and if passed on to consumers should have positive impacts on overall welfare. Notwithstanding major relief and rehabilitation programmes in 2002–2003, estimates of the numbers of vulnerable in need, suggest that significant numbers of people are likely to remain vulnerable in 2003–2004. This is a function of high levels of chronic poverty, the cumulative effects of three years of depressed food production and incomes, plus the possibility that, in some locations, vulnerable groups in need may not have benefited from relief and other assistance in the period 2002–2003. Delayed agriculture inputs linked to the Government of Lesotho (GOL) Famine Relief Programme have significantly undermined the potential benefits of this programme. In fact by waiting for assistance, many people missed their limited window of opportunity in the 2002–2003 agricultural season.

1.2 The purpose and approaches:

- Review food security situation and response in 2002 – 2003 marketing year
- Develop projections for food security from April 2003 – March 2004.
- Identify appropriate food and non-food interventions.

The priority for this Third Round Lesotho country assessment has been a nation-wide Household Economy Approach (HEA) baseline update and risk mapping analysis.

1.3 Key findings

- The current humanitarian crisis in Lesotho is not just a consequence of severe climatic variability over the past three years. Chronic and worsening levels of poverty and declining livelihoods are a major factor in the crisis. Many underlying causal and structural problems need to be addressed to reduce the levels of poverty and halt the decline in livelihoods. The impact of HIV/AIDS is rapidly creating a large and chronically vulnerable population that will require recurrent support well beyond 2003–2004.
- Vulnerable populations (2003–2004) have to deal with the consequences of three years of poor agricultural production plus the growing consequences of HIV/AIDS. For many within the poorer groups, it is logical to assume that their stocks of food, livestock and cash savings are likely to be low or depleted. This situation needs to be taken into account in the relief response and other support planned for 2003–2004.
- The Famine Relief Programme 2002–2003 performed badly and had unforeseen negative impacts on the production of main cereal crops. The poor, who normally to sharecrop with the well-off, withdrew their fields from the sharecropping system when offered the subsidy by the GOL. Their performance was exacerbated by a general late arrival of these inputs across the entire country. They were unable to weed and control pests. As such many potential beneficiaries of this “agricultural recovery programme” missed a critical window of opportunity during the summer growing season.
- There is a lack of adequate targeting structures, mechanisms and relief capacity resulting in needy vulnerable people not benefiting from relief and assistance.

- At the food economy zone level, the net effects of adverse weather conditions on food and cash crop production, grazing conditions, as well as food price inflation and depressed market access for a number of commodities indicates:
 - A. A Best case scenario (assuming access to normal food stocks) where up to 70% of the rural population has been affected with the equivalent of a one to five month income/food deficit. The worst affected area is the Senqu River Valley where 100% of the population faces a five-month income/food deficit. In the Southern Lowlands 70% of the population faces a two-month income/food deficit. In the Mountains and Foothills between 40-50% of the population are similarly affected with a two-month income/food deficit. Up to 100% of the Northern Lowlands population is likely to experience a one-month income/food deficit and the Peri-Urban population is unaffected.
 - B. A Worst case scenario (assuming food stocks are depleted) where up to 84% of the rural population has been affected with the equivalent of a two and a half to six month income/food deficit. The worst affected area is the Senqu River Valley where 100% of the population faces a six-month income/food deficit. In the Southern Lowlands 100% of the population faces a three-month income/food deficit. In the Mountain and Foothills between 90-100% of the population are affected with a two and one half-month income/food deficit. Up to 100% of the Northern Lowlands population is likely to experience a two and one half-month income/food deficit.
- Major discrepancies in estimates going into national food balance statements compromised the use of the information as a planning and monitoring tool. The methods for its assessment need to be evaluated and harmonised. At a time when the GOL was appealing for assistance in early 2002 the National Cereal Balance statements were highly contradictory. Information continues to be unavailable in the timely manner.
- Although the coverage of the multi-sectoral issues has been limited in this assessment, the findings generally support perceptions of chronic levels of poverty and livelihood failures. Across the entire country growing levels of chronic poverty and HIV/AIDS induced vulnerability aggravate this situation.
- There is a need to strengthen the way that information (on production, population trends, livelihoods and hazard impacts) is summarised at appropriate levels of aggregation – such as the constituency, enumeration area, food economy, district and national levels. Greater emphasis should be placed on understanding socio-economic (wealth-based) differences at each level.
- Through the de-bulking of subsidised maize meal packs (12.5kg, 15kg & 50kg) poor consumers may not have benefited much from the intended subsidy. The subsidy should ideally be effective at the retail end of the trade and apply strictly to small transactions such as 1Kg, 2Kg and 5Kg packs/transactions.

1.4 Food security situation & response in 2002–2003 marketing year.

The main figures from the opening cereal balance April 2002 and estimates of commercial imports and food aid are presented in Table 1.

Table 1 Cereal Balance 2002-2003

	Total Cereals – Maize Wheat & Sorghum MT 000s
Total Domestic Availability	139.95
Opening Stocks	18.95
Domestic production	121.36
Total Utilization	412.20
Food Use	409.20
LS feed and seed use	3.00
Import Requirements	179.91
Anticipated commercial imports	147.00
Food Aid	32.91

Over the past marketing year, the monitoring of imports (up to the 31st March 2003) indicates deliveries of: food aid 25.61 (000) MT + commercial imports of 189.95 (000) MT = a total of 215.56 (000) MT.

1.5 Household level situation

The review of events in 2002-2003 indicates that more people were actually vulnerable than the numbers that benefited from the implemented interventions. Response efforts and achievements have gone a long way towards offsetting the worst of the impacts. In addition to the emergency relief programmes there has been a wide-ranging, but constrained, response to the immediate and underlying causes of the crisis. The Government of Lesotho (GOL) took on a number of recommendations in response to the acute situation affecting the country. However, it has taken time to get response and development programmes up and running and there have been major capacity problems and frequent delays.

1.6 Food security outlook for April 2003–March 2004

The NEWU figures indicate that:

Domestic cereal supply is estimated a 127.40 (000) tonnes; National consumption requirement is estimated at 394.83 (000) tonnes, and Import requirements are therefore 284.36 (000) tonnes. The situation in 2003-2004 is therefore little different from last year. Domestic supply is only about 6,000 MT up on last year. About 72% of total consumption requirements will have to come from commercial imports and food aid. In 2002-2003, food aid accounted for 11.9% of all imports.

This assessment analysed populations assuming two general livelihood circumstances – those with and without access to normal food stocks. The analysis indicates there will be food and income insecure populations throughout the country in the 2003-2004 consumption period. Using the ‘with’ access to food stocks scenario indicates a total food deficit of 33,200 to 64,700 tonnes and the ‘without’ access to normal food stocks indicates a total food deficit of 71,400 to 89,600 tonnes.

This level of range in total consequences highlights the critical importance of assessing and monitoring household food stocks over the next 4-12 months. Many households may start this consumption year with few carry over stocks. The worst affected area is the Senqu River Valley where 80-100% of the population may face a 42-47% deficit in their annual income/food needs; the second most affected area is the Southern Lowlands where 70-100% of the population may face a 14-24% deficit; the third most affected area is the Mountains where a 100% of the population may face a 8-20% deficit; the fourth most affected area is the Northern Lowlands where 50-90% of the population may face a 13-19% deficit in their annual income/food needs. The fifth most affected area is the Foothills where 40-100% of the population may face a 13-16% deficit in their annual income/food needs. The least affected area is the Peri-Urban FEZ where 0-50% of the population may face a 0-3% deficit and can therefore be ignored.

1.7 Linkages Between Food Security & HIV/AIDS, Health, Education, Child Protection, Water & Sanitation

The LVAC recognises that HIV/AIDS cannot be considered only as a ‘health sector’ problem and is committed to addressing the social, economic and broader institutional consequences of the pandemic. While poorly

understood at this stage, it is clear that the epidemic is having major impacts on nutrition, food security and agricultural production. The LVAC is planning a major follow-up on the impact of HIV/AIDS on livelihoods and food security in the second half of 2003.

1.8 Appropriate Food & Non-Food Interventions

Interventions to address the major food and income deficits need to be put in place. The numbers of people involved and the estimated levels of income/food deficit will require expanded levels of commercial imports, targeted general food distribution, continuing support for school feeding schemes, more effective subsidies on maize meal which target poor consumers, and a continuing of programme support for agricultural rehabilitation including seed, fertiliser input distribution plus tillage services. Broader based livelihood recovery programmes (that go beyond the agricultural sector) need to be identified.

In tackling the issues of targeting assistance for the most vulnerable and the HIV/AIDS affected, there are three broad areas of support that could be considered.

These are:

- **Consumption support initiatives:** food aid for the chronically ill, elderly and vulnerable female-headed households – moreover this should be done in recognition of the likely decreased mobility of affected households; continued support for school feeding programmes; appropriately targeted food for work programmes that include work that is consistent with the capacity and health status of those likely to be involved;
- **Productivity enhancing support** for the livelihoods of the most vulnerable (here a range of possibilities need to be explored and developed out of the main elements and activities that currently make up peoples' livelihoods);
- **Household and community safety net initiatives** including micro-enterprise developments; support programmes aimed at strengthening local social capital through support to extended family and community initiatives, and thirdly fundraising activities.¹

¹ See SADC FANR VAC – Towards Identifying Impacts of HIV/AIDS on Food Security in Southern Africa and Implications for Response; May 2003.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Background - Country context and current situation

This is the third in a series of rolling assessments planned under the UN WFP Southern Africa Crisis Response Implementation Strategy. It coincides with end of the 2002-2003 Lesotho marketing year and the beginning of the outlook-consumption-year 2003-2004. This is a time when annual food security reviews normally take place. The process has been coordinated and controlled by the SADC (national and regional) Vulnerability Assessment Committees (VACs). Moreover, this assessment has been used by the Lesotho VAC to develop capacity in Livelihood-Based Vulnerability Assessment (LBVA) and to better understand the situation.

The structural context defining the mountainous Kingdom of Lesotho among the poorest countries in the region remain little changed over the past two-to-three years.² Depressed employment opportunities, declining agricultural production, rising staple food prices plus the devastating effects of HIV/AIDS have undermined livelihoods. The shocks of erratic weather patterns (2000-2002) on a nation largely made up of “destitute,” “very poor” and “poor” has tipped the scales.

By February 2002, national, regional and international agencies were warned of an “emerging crisis situation” in Southern Africa. In Lesotho, the Prime Minister declared a “State of Famine” in April 2002. Also in April 2002, in response to a request from GOL, WFP and FAO carried out a joint Crop Food Supply Assessment Missions (CFSAM) and by July 2002 Lesotho had been incorporated as a beneficiary under a WFP Regional Emergency Operational Plan (EMOP). A total of 450,000 people were targeted for a general food distribution (GFD). In the interim and by June 2002 the Lesotho National Early Warning Unit (NEWU) & Bureau of Statistics (BOS) annual crop production survey considerably downgraded the WFP/FAO estimates of production short falls.³

A series of (multi-agency) rolling vulnerability assessments were conducted to provide sub-national food aid targeting details, to inform and guide on-going food security monitoring at the sub-national level and to reassess estimated needs in the light of new events and the actual outcome of critical assumptions underlying the CFSAM conclusions. It was generally assumed that the numbers of people in need would increase toward the “hungry season” – just before the next harvest. The July-August Lesotho Vulnerability Assessment Committee (LVAC) first-round assessment therefore provided new scenarios suggesting that the proportion of rural population requiring food assistance would rise to just under 600,000 by December 2002 and to 650,000 by February 2003. The second-round November-December LVAC assessment (using a revised methodology) defined yet a further overall increase in the total numbers of people in need of food aid. The figure rose to 760,000 people.

This assessment radically revised the estimates of earlier estimates for Quthing, Leribe, Quacha’s Nek, Thaba Tseka and Mokhotlong, while an additional 160-70,000 were added to Mafeteng, Maseru, Butha-Buthe, Berea and Mohale’s Hoek

The tonnage of food aid required by the WFP Lesotho EMOP was budgeted at 65,000 MT. Pledges to the WFP went up to 45,000 MT. However, out of the pledged amounts only 24,000 MT have been distributed by May 2003.⁴ Monthly monitoring of numbers of beneficiaries and tonnages for food aid distributed January-March 2003 indicate that 64-86,000 households (or approximately 320-430,000 people) have been benefiting from 3.5-4.0 thousand MT food per/month. This number of beneficiaries is about 40-56% of the November-December figure and somewhat less than the original estimate of total beneficiaries.

The emergency relief aspects linked to the EMOP have to be seen as part of a much wider national and international donor response to the symptoms, immediate and underlying causes of the crisis. The Government of Lesotho (GOL) took on a number of recommendations in response to the acute situation affecting the country. Collectively, these programmes have included:

- Expanded commercial imports of staple foods,

² These include, the low levels of per capita income, the level open unemployment (about 30%), the degree of inequality in the society, severe soil and land degradation plus other factors.

³ These annual estimates are generated from 80 Permanent Sampling Sites (PSS) x 5 crop cutting assessments in each location. The focus is on the summer Maize and Sorghum crops.

⁴ Source Mrs Moshi WFP email correspondence 9/5/03. NB. Elsewhere WFP records on status of commodities pledges and supplies for the Lesotho EMOP 10200 indicate 56,878 MT “Resourced”, 39,545 MT as “Delivered” and 10,413 as “Balance under delivery” - at 09-05-03. The implication is that there could be approximately 15,000 MT stock in country.

- **A GOL Famine Relief Programme of seeds, fertiliser and tillage input distribution worth M62.3 Million for the 2002-2003 production year,**
- **Expanded subsidies on maize meal,**
- **Seed distribution programmes by the Lesotho Red Cross,**
- **FAO Seed Procurement and Distribution,**
- **UNICEF Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) seeds and tools home gardening,**
- **DFID/Care International Livelihoods Recovery through Agriculture Programme (LRAP), and**
- **An expanded programme of school feeding schemes.**

It has taken time to get response and development programmes up and running. There have been major capacity problems and delays have been common. The late provision of agricultural inputs (especially tillage) within the GOL Famine Relief Programme has dramatically undermined the potential benefits of this programme.

3.1 The Analytical Framework:

The analytical approach adopted uses a Livelihood-based Vulnerability Assessment (LBVA) methodology incorporating Household Economy Analysis (HEA). As part of a general thrust promoting LBVA it was agreed that the LVAC would adopt a nation-wide HEA approach.⁵ In pursuing this objective, the LVAC has been able to build on an important body of data and information derived from poverty and livelihood studies,⁶ the EMOP documentation,⁷ plus the two previous rolling assessments. Collectively these documents have amassed a large amount of relevant information and to avoid unnecessary duplication this report assumes that readers are familiar with these core documents. This document must be read as the third in a series of assessments and where new information has become available or new analyses have been made, these are presented as updates. This is especially so for the multi-sectoral issues.

The Household Economy Approach (HEA) has involved a number of sub-activities:

- The updating of 15 baseline livelihood profiles⁸ in five food economy zones – to provide a more coherent picture about how people live and the options open to them in a normal year
- The investigation of whether there is a distinct and discernible “Peri-Urban” type of livelihood that should be incorporated into the existing livelihood profiles
- The identification and estimation of shocks on current year 2002-2003 production and supply conditions as well as market access situations
- The modelling of current year shocks on typical patterns of livelihood through a structured problem specification and scenario analysis, - to estimate the effects of coping strategies open to households and to identify who/where people are most at risk, and
- The subsequent identification of appropriate food and non-food interventions.

HEA is consistent with the existing SADC-FANR guidelines on vulnerability assessment.⁹ This approach is being widely implemented throughout the SADC region and has been guided by a recent regional consultation workshop held in Pretoria in March 2003. The approach provides an in-depth understanding as to how and to what extent a combination of external and internal factors affect livelihoods. Decision-makers can better predict the likely impact of shocks on given population groups, leading to more effective emergency and development response planning. Importantly, these updated livelihood baselines should remain valid for a number of years and can be used as an additional tool in future assessments. The LVAC can therefore place more emphasis on better monitoring the severity of hazards and shocks to livelihoods 2003-2006. Monitoring vulnerable populations should be the main emphasis now. The priority now needs to be focused more on the chronic problems of poverty issues and HIV/AIDS.

There is a clear need to respond to chronic and acute vulnerability that exists at the child, gender, household and community levels in Lesotho. HEA and other LBVA approaches can be used to address both food aid needs (short-term livelihood provisioning) and a broader range of interventions that could reduce household vulnerability. Approaches to latter include the protection of livelihoods through rehabilitation and safety nets (the prevention of the erosion of productive assets and the assistance in their recovery) and longer-term development of more resilient and sustainable livelihood systems.

The LVAC approach recognises that the HIV/AIDS epidemic is intensifying existing labour bottlenecks, increasing widespread malnutrition, weakening traditional mechanisms of support during crises, worsening problems of female-headed households, and deepening a range of macroeconomic problems. The impact of

⁵ For a fuller elaboration see – “An introduction to Save the Children (UK)’s Household Economy Approach and Riskmap programme,” (July 200) and The Household Economy Approach A resource manual for practitioners, (2000), London Food Security & Livelihood Unit SCUUK.

⁶ Care Turner, et. al. Livelihoods in Lesotho (2001) Care Lesotho, P.O. Box 682 Maseru 100 Lesotho, Poverty and Livelihoods in Lesotho, (2000) More than a Mapping Exercise, Sechaba Consultants, P.O. Box 0813 Maseru 105 Lesotho and Mosley, W. & Earl, J. RiskMap Final Report – Lesotho RiskMap Final Report - Lesotho

⁷ WFP (UN World Food Programme) “Southern Africa Crisis Response Implementation Strategy.” WFP Bureau for East and Southern Africa

⁸ See Mosley, W. & Earl, J. RiskMap Final Report – Lesotho. (1997) London Food Security & Livelihood Unit SCUUK

⁹ HEA has been a form of livelihoods approach without being named as such for about a decade before the major explosion of interest in the sustainable livelihoods concept about five years ago. There are considerable differences in emphasis between agencies around a ‘core understanding’ in the asset vulnerability framework. For a current review and discussion see Karim Hussein Livelihoods Approaches compared: A Multi-Agency Review of Current Practice, DFID & ODI October 2002.

HIV/AIDS on rural households means that they are more susceptible to external shocks and much less resilient. Lesotho could well emerge as an example of the so-called HIV/AIDS-induced ‘new variant famine’. This hypothesis suggests that Southern Africa is facing a new kind of acute food crisis. The prospects of a return to either sustainable livelihoods or demographic normality in the wake of the pandemic are slim. These issues will be pursued vigorously in the next six months.

3.2 Collection and analysis of data

This report has used three main approaches to its nation-wide collection of information. They are community-based focused group interviews (FGIs), district level key informant interviews and secondary data review and analyses.

All the main secondary sources reviewed for this assessment, are listed in the attached references. They include information on livelihoods, poverty studies, household crop & livestock statistics, crop & food supply assessment mission findings, macro-economic analyses, review of consumer price indices, population census data and projections, labour force surveys plus the current emergency operational planning documentation.

In preparation for the community based focused group interviews, 21 professionals from various government ministries attended a seven day HEA training programme, including four days of classroom preparation plus three days field testing and training in the use of methods. Eighteen of the trainees were subsequently grouped into six teams of three and were tasked with carrying out ten one-day consultative workshops with sampled communities. A total of 60 communities were selected - ten per FEZ.¹⁰ The field research teams were largely made up of team members who had been involved in the previous two rolling assessments. While very knowledgeable about Lesotho rural economy and livelihoods the field research teams were new to the HEA approach. Each team was therefore supported by experienced household economy analysis ‘mentors’ from Swaziland and Save the Children UK.

Information collection through key district informants focused on understanding the impact of hazards on current year production and supply of - food crops, cash crops, grazing, and gifts/relief. It also assessed changes in current year market access for - employment, livestock and livestock products, cash crops, non-food products, other trade commodities and food purchase markets. Comparative estimates of price changes 2002-2003 were made for staple foods and for the value of main livestock assets.

3.3 Multi-Sectoral Information

Multi-sectoral issues related to food security were addressed using a set of core issues and hypotheses identifying the main linkages between food and livelihood security and other sectors including health, HIV/AIDS, education, water supply and sanitation and child protection related issues. (See Appendix 3).

¹⁰ The villages sampled are listed in Appendix 2.

3.4 Data Analysis

Much of the information gathered has subsequently been summarized using the Risk Map (version 1.2) computerised database and analysis package.¹¹ HEA involves identifying food economy areas and populations,¹² identifying wealth groups and normal livelihood conditions, including access to food and cash income, linkages to markets, identifying potential coping strategies and it involves a problem specification process which calculates the likely shocks on each wealth group and food economy areas. Approximately 75-80% of the effort of the entire assessment has gone into this part of the exercise, recognising that further multi-sectoral and HIV/AIDS assessments are planned in the next six months.

The entire process of training, data collection, analysis and report writing took place between the 5th April and 16th May 2003.

The assessment represents the collaboration by a number of organisations and their staff. The organisations include the DMA, MOA&FS, MOHSW, MONR (DWA & LMS), FNCO, FMU, BOS, MITMC, MOLG-LUP, NULFOA, Caritas-Lesotho, CARE International Lesotho and SC(UK).

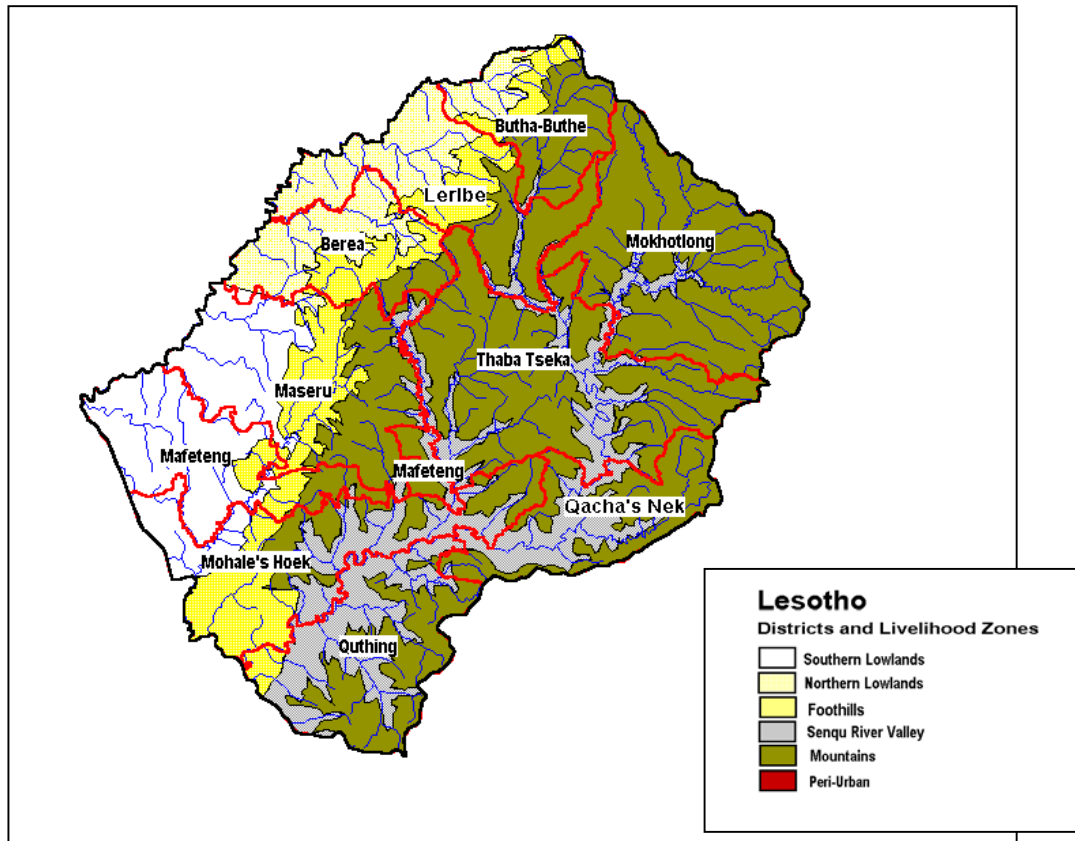
3.5 Livelihood/food economy zones

Lesotho is largely a mountainous country surrounded entirely by South Africa. It is divided into four agro-ecological Zones - Lowlands, Foothills, Mountains, and the Senqu River Valley. Lesotho's semi arid climate faces severe weather variability characterised by drought, heavy rainfalls, frosts, snow, hailstorms and even tornadoes. Due to acute shortage of arable land, the mountainous terrain, overgrazing, population pressure, soil erosion and declining fertility, national crop production has been steadily declining. Maize yields have fallen from 1400 Kg per hectare, in the mid - 70's to a current 450-500Kg per hectare.

¹¹ Riskmap is a computer programme developed by SCFUK. For further information contact the SCUK Food Security livelihoods Unit (FSLU) London.

¹² Population estimates for the food economy zones have been based on the figures established by Earl and Mosley in 1997, census population projections established in 1996 plus reconciliation with the most recent second round Nov-Dec assessment of district rural populations. Peri urban population figures remain an estimate based on the assumption that it approximates 20% of the current total urban population.

MAP 1.



The food economy zones (FEZ) have been constructed to coincide with the agro ecological regions (see Map 1). The Lowlands have been further divided into two parts - the more productive Northern part and the dryer/hotter Southern section. Small pockets of peri-urban areas surrounding some of the main towns in the lowlands form a sixth food economy zone. Detailed summaries for each FEZ are presented in Appendix 1.

The country is administratively divided into ten districts - Butha-Buthe, Leribe, Berea, Maseru, Mafeteng, Mohale's Hoek, Quthing, Qacha's Nek, Thaba -Tseka and Mokhotlong. The Lowlands support more than half of the national population. They monopolize 70% of the limited arable lands and provide most of the available non-agricultural employment. They are serviced by an extensive network of roads linking Maseru to the major national towns in the North and South. This road network is the gateway to South Africa. The Northern lowlands are the most agriculturally productive and experience more reliable rainfall. The Southern Lowlands are generally hotter and dryer. By contrast, the mountainous eastern side of the country is much less densely settled, arable land is scarce and communities are much more isolated from urban services and markets.

4. NATIONAL LIVELIHOOD/FOOD SECURITY: 2002-2003 CONSUMPTION YEAR

4.1 Crop and Food Supply

The main feature of the start of year cereal balance has been the wide differences in estimates of total domestic availability assessed by the FAO/WFP and the GOL National Early Warning Unit (NEWU). The Crop and Food Supply Assessment Mission (CFSAM) estimated total domestic availability of maize, wheat and sorghum at 73,800 tonnes. The April 2002 NEWU figures estimated 190,700 tonnes. This level of discrepancy was noted in the July-August assessment and it appears that there has been little retrospective analysis to compare the results from the different methodologies used by the separate agencies since the more detailed Bureau of Statistics (BOS) Crop Estimates were released in June 2002. At the time there was a clear urgency to build a better consensus between the UN agencies and the Government of Lesotho.

Since the May 2002 CFSAM and the presentation of the April 2002 balance sheet, the following figures (Table 2) provide a retrospective assessment a year later:

Table 2. NEWU National Cereal Balance Estimates in April 2002

STAPLE CEREAL SUPPLY SITUATION FOR 2002/2003 REFERENCE YEAR				
(All figures in '000 tonnes)				
YEAR 2002/2003	MAIZE	WHEAT	SORGH	TOTAL
A. DOMESTIC AVAILABILITY				
A.1. Opening Stocks as of 1st April 2002	12,43	6,16	0	18,59
A.2. Estimated Gross Domestic Production	81,71	15,00	24,65	121,36
A.3. Total Domestic Availability (A.1 + A.2)	94,14	21,16	24,65	139,95
B. REQUIREMENTS				
B.1. Gross Cereal Requirements	256,85	95,70	43,13	395,68
B.2. Carryover Stocks	10,00	20,00	0	30,00
B.3. Total Annual Requirements (B.1 + B.2)	266,85	115,70	43,13	425,68
C. SHORTFALL/SURPLUS (A.3 - B.3)	-172,71	-94,54	-18,48	-285,73
D. FOOD IMPORTS				
D.1. Total Received	148,42	67,14	0	215,56
Commercial	122,81	67,14	0	189,95
Programme and Targeted Food Aid	0	0	0	0
D.2. Due by end of March	-1,6	9,00	0	7,4
Commercial	-8,90	9,00	0	0,10
Programme and Targeted Food Aid	7,30	0	0	7,30
D.3. Total Planned Imports	146,82	76,14	0	222,96
Commercial	113,91	76,14	0	190,05
Food Aid	32,91	0	0	32,91
Closing Stocks as of 31st March 2002	19,36	14,05	0	33,68
PROJECTED SURPLUS/DEFICIT	-25,89	-18,40	-18,48	-62,77

- Revised estimates of Total Domestic Availability (maize, wheat & sorghum) 2002-2003 are: opening stocks 18.59 + domestic production 121.36 = 139.95 (000) MT.
- Total annual requirements is 425,68 000 MT.
- Revised import requirements are made up of: anticipated commercial imports 190.05 + food aid 32.91 = 222,96(000) of tonnes.

- **Best available evidence suggests that imports of: food aid as at the 31st March 2003 have been 25.61 + commercial imports 189.95 = 215.56 (000) of tonnes.**

While there is more or less good consensus on estimates of total utilisation, wide disparities on estimates of domestic availability give rise to equally wide disparities on estimates of import requirements. The use of the National Cereal Balance Sheet as a monitoring and planning tool was severely compromised in early 2002. Moreover, the absence of monthly reports for December 2002 through to March 2003 at the time of analysis has compromised the monitoring of actual flows of commercial imports & Food Aid.

4.2 Macro Economic trends

Lesotho's macro-economic trends have been well summarised by the WFP/FAO CFSAMs. The main features include an economic boom in the early to mid-1990s, when GDP grew at an average rate of 6.3 % per annum. Following the post civil-unrest period, (1998–99), economic growth has resumed at a lower rate of 2.4-3.2 % per annum. Unemployment remains as high as 30%.

4.3 Market Prices

From a period of relative stability, between October 2000 and July 2001, where the CPI ranged between 6.5-7.6% year on year inflation, the CPI subsequently peaked in April and May 2002 at 13.2-3.7%. Food and beverages peaked at 29.0-31.0 % with bread and cereals experiencing the highest levels of inflation at 39.8-42.2%. (NB This is an Urban CPI based on Maseru & surrounding towns). Since December 2002, the CPI has fallen to 7.7% in March 2003. Food & beverage inflation has fallen to 7.8% and bread and cereal inflation has dropped to 4.8%.

Between April 2002 to March 2003, estimates suggest anything between a 30-50% change in normal food prices, in the rural areas. The Senqu River Valley had the highest level of inflation at 50% and the mountains experienced 40% increases. The Northern Lowlands had the lowest levels of staple food price inflation of approximately 20%. Over all, rural food price inflation has probably been dampened by a 20-30% subsidy on maize meal.

Being linked to the South African Rand the currency has followed the dramatic strengthening of the Rand against major foreign currencies. Between April 2002 and March 2003, the exchange rate with the US dollar has strengthened from 10.5 to 7.1.

5.1 Household Food Security

At the outset of the current emergency there was no consolidated set of baseline information relating to household food security. Quick comparative analyses of the situation of household level food access were not readily available. For example, it was not possible to compare the patterns of food access across socio-economic wealth groups in different parts of the country.¹³ In an ideal world, up-to-date information on incomes and expenditures aggregated by wealth groups would also be available.

Different methods or approaches tend to generate varying perceptions of the reality on the ground. Over the past year it has been difficult to judge whether the assessments have measured new levels of acute vulnerability or are simply addressing expected levels of chronic vulnerability. It has also been difficult to directly compare the differences observed between the separate assessments – given different methods of aggregation and approaches. There have been wide ranging estimates of the degree of crop production failure in 2001-2002.

The FAO/WFP and the LVAC compiled three ‘snap-shots’ of household level food security between May 2002 and May 2003. At different points in time and using different methods, each has generated a particular view of the situation. Parts of the differences observed are simply methodological and as such the studies are not directly comparable. Crop and Food Supply Assessments have discrete objectives and functions. They focus on current food availability at high levels of aggregation - usually the district and national levels. However the current CFSAM with WFP input - partially address the situation at the household level. Differences between quite similar studies emerge simply as a consequence of the enormous information challenges posed by these assessments. Sometimes, assumptions adopted in studies differ. Occasionally, new and better quality information unexpectedly becomes available leading to radical revisions of earlier estimates.¹⁴ More often than not, the situation on the ground is dynamic and changing. Assessments need to be sensitive enough to observe and monitor these changes.

This Third Round assessment has generated a consolidated baseline of household food security information. A nation-wide HEA update of livelihood profiles in six food economy/livelihood zones has taken place. A total of 18 typologies of livelihoods have been described. They refer to three socio-economic groups (‘poor’, ‘middle’ and ‘rich’) located in six discrete geographic zones. These baselines provide both qualitative and quantitative descriptions. They are sufficiently robust to be used as a baseline against which modelling exercises examine the likely consequences of shocks on the livelihoods of various wealth groups and areas. Combined with other methods of assessment HEA and risk mapping analyses provide an additional tool and information with which to assess the current and future situations.

5.2 Shifting Perceptions of Household Food Security Needs 2002-2003

Following a second year of severe weather variability, and anticipating another poor harvest the GOL declared a state of famine in early 2002. The FAO/WFP CFSAM generated the first image of the situation.

¹³ The February 1997 Final RiskMap Report – Lesotho, provided some initial but dated information.

¹⁴ There is an important distinction between ‘vulnerability assessments’ and ‘needs assessments’. Vulnerability assessments are rapid – time-bound studies to provide early warning of the likely possible outcomes and to provide judgements on broad orders of magnitude of possible effects and needs. There are many logical and quite wide margins of error attached to the scenarios. They are based on the ‘best available information at the time’ and recourse to numerous assumptions. Needs assessments are much more detailed, extensive, in-depth and hence provide the necessary levels of information for a range of response programmes and interventions.

5.2.1 End of May 2002

The FAO/WFP CFSAM estimated that Lesotho faced an import requirement of 338,000 tonnes of which 147,000 tonnes would be food aid to be met by the government and external assistance. The mission estimated that 444,800 people throughout Lesotho would require emergency food assistance and that the districts hardest hit by the poor harvest were Qacha's Nek, Quthing, and Mohale's Hoek. The assessment recommended targeted emergency assistance of approximately 68,955 tonnes of food including maize, pulses and vegetable oil. The assessment made a number of other recommendations including the need to put in place an emergency agricultural inputs programme. It was recognised that not all individuals would require food aid for the whole year. The July WFP Crisis Response Implementation Strategy document identified female-headed households older (+65 years) household heads and households with high dependency ratios as the most food insecure. Ageing rural widows were exposed to the deepest poverty were seen as particularly food insecure.

5.2.2 Mid September 2002

Three months into the EMOP the First Round LVAC (July-August) assessment, calculated the percent and numbers of rural population in need of food aid from September 1st 2002 to March 31st 2003 (Table 3). It took into consideration the proportion of households residing in each livelihood zone and extrapolated survey figures on the proportion of households identified during the wealth ranking to area level estimates. This analysis incorporated elements of spatial (district areas), temporal (September, December 2002 and February 2003) and socio-economic (wealth group) targeting.¹⁵ The analysis did not spell out to what extent these changes in total numbers would change the total estimated tonnage of maize, pulses and vegetable oil. Population estimates of food need by district were tabulated on the basis of the estimated cereal gap assessed for each socio-economic group (Table 4). However, it was not clear whether there were any targeting priorities between the agro ecological or sub regions within the districts.

Table 3. Proportion of Rural Population with Food Assistance Requirement from September 2002 through March 2003

District	Proportion of Rural Pop in Food Economy Zones	% Rural Pop Need from Sept 02	# Rural Pop Need from Sept	% Rural Pop Need from Dec 02	#Rural Pop Need from Dec	% Rural Pop Need from Feb 03	# Rural Pop in Need from Feb 03
Butha Buthe	Lowland 50% Foothill 45% Mountain 5%	1	2,345	17	39,857	23	53,924
Leribe	Lowland 58% Foothill 22% Mountain 20%	10	11,850	18	21,329	23	27,254
Berea	Lowland 80% Foothill 20%	8	23,721	25	74,128	28	83,023
Maseru	Lowland 58% Foothill 25% Mountain 17%	1	2,085	6	12,507	9	18,761
Mafeteng	Lowland 90% Foothill 10%	8	23,450	26	76,212	30	87,937
Mohale's Hoek	Lowland 52% Foothill 15% Mountain 20% SR Valley 13%	4	8,208	25	51,303	28	57,459
Quthing	Mountain 36% SR Valley 64%	27	27,695	75	76,931	75	76,931
Qacha's Nek	Mountain 75% SR Valley 25%	12	8,855	64	47,228	64	47,228
Mokhotlong	Mountain 100%	13	18,718	68	97,912	68	97,912

¹⁵ See pp 24-26 Lesotho Emergency Food Security Report 16 September 2002.

Thaba Tseka	Mountain 100%	25	33,019	75	99,057	75	99,057
All Districts	Lowland 49% Foothill 16% Mountain 27% SR Valley 8%	9	159,946	33	596,464	36	649,486

Table 4. Average household cereal gap by food economy zone and socio-economic group.

Food Economy Zone	Socio-Economic Group	8 Month HH Cereal Gap or Surplus	Monthly HH Cereal Gap or Surplus	Food Assistance?
Lowlands	Middle	283 KG	40 KG	None
	Poor	-15 KG	-2 KG	None
	Very Poor	-246 KG	-31 KG	From December
	All Households	21 KG	17 KG	
Foothills	Middle	164 KG	21 KG	None
	Poor	-86 KG	-11 KG	From February
	Very Poor	-311 KG	-39 KG	From September
	All Households	-71 KG	-9 KG	
Mountains	Middle	82 KG	10 KG	None
	Poor	-197 KG	-25 KG	From December
	Very Poor	-340 KG	-43 KG	From September
	All Households	-86 KG	-11 KG	
Senqu River Valley	Middle	162 KG	20 KG	None
	Poor	-199 KG	-25 KG	From December
	Very Poor	-257 KG	-32 KG	From December
	All Households	-96 KG	-12 KG	
Rural Lesotho	Middle	156 KG	20 KG	
	Poor	-125 KG	-16 KG	
	Very Poor	-304	-25 KG	
	All Households	-60	-8 KG	

5.2.3 Mid February 2003

The Second Round (November-December) assessment concluded that the food security situation had worsened in terms of coverage with more areas drifting into food insecurity. The comparative analysis presented major revisions to the newly assessed end of year needs (Table 5).

Table 5. Changes in National and Sub-National Food Security from August to December 2002

District	Rural Population	August Assessment		December Assessment		Food Need Change	
		% Need	# People in Need	% Need	# People in Need	% Change	Population
Mafeteng	208,454	9%	18,761	46%	94,847	37%	76,086
Maseru	293,122	30%	87,937	47%	138,060	17%	50,123
Butha-Buthe	118,495	23%	27,254	37%	43,547	14%	16,293
Berea	234,451	23%	53,924	32%	74,555	9%	20,631
Mohale's Hoek	205,210	28%	57,459	30%	61,891	2%	4,432
Quthing	143,988	68%	97,912	64%	91,576	-4%	-6,336
Leribe	296,510	28%	83,023	23%	66,952	-5%	-16,071
Qacha's Nek	73,793	64%	47,228	56%	41,509	-8%	-5,719
Thaba Tseka	132,076	75%	99,057	65%	85,849	-10%	-13,208
Mokhotlong	102,573	75%	76,930	58%	59,492	-17%	-17,438
Total	1,808,672	36%	649,483	42%	758,278	6%	108,795

A quick comparative look at the estimates presented above suggests that the process of identifying the vulnerable, their location, their needs and their numbers, is a dynamic process of estimation. Moreover the derivation of the estimates has not always been as transparent as it should be (References to the methodologies/calculations used to generate these estimations have been either absent from the documentation or vague). There has been little discussion as to quite why and how the estimates have changed. Some of these changes could be due to estimation errors, changing methodologies, or an actual change in the number of people in need.

Further investigation is required to confirm the differences between the different time frames and using different methodologies. For example, the Second Round methodology may have systematically underestimated a number of sources of access to food within the districts of Butha-Buthe, Maseru and Mafeteng where lowland livelihoods are much more diverse. Another potential source of errors is the geographical breakdown by agro ecological zone per district. This breakdown was not used in both the First and Second Round assessments and generally information was summarised at the district level.

Regardless of the explanation for the differences, perhaps more revealing is the likely gap that will emerge between these assessments and the response programmes. Judgement on the latter is pending their full evaluation. This task will present a number of challenges – for example, assessing the benefits of a range of interlocking activities such as general food distributions plus the effects of maize meal subsidies. However, even at this stage, it seems likely that total response (numbers of tonnes food aid and numbers of beneficiaries) will be considerably less than estimated by the two earlier assessments.

This raises a number of questions and issues. The first is whether the response programme figures should be viewed as a better assessment of actual needs or is it simply a reflection of a constrained response capacity? Second, (assuming that the vulnerability assessments were not too far off the mark) will the lower than anticipated level of response leave significant numbers of needy people even more vulnerable in 2003-2004 than they were in 2002-2003? Third, the objective of using the rolling assessments to reassess estimated needs in the light of new events and information may be judged to have been weak. At this stage the extent to which the findings of the earlier two rounds of monitoring assessments modified the response programmes has been limited.

5.3 Relationship between Food Insecurity, HIV/AIDS, Health, Education, Child Protection and Water Supply & Sanitation.

This Third Round assessment took forward a number of multi-sectoral issues by presenting the framework to district level line-ministry staff and development committees (see Appendix 3). Within a very limited period of time, some initial qualitative observations were collected from district key informants. The levels of responses across the districts were quite varied. These form part of Appendix 3 and supplement the more detailed findings presented in the first two assessments. Though quite limited, this initial dialogue needs to be seen as part of a process and should be followed up in the next phase of LVAC work. The framework may well begin to generate a much richer level of feed-back. However, it should be noted that most of the emphasis in this Third Round Assessment was placed on generating an updated HEA baseline. This emphasis was justified in the light of a forthcoming HIV/AIDS and food security study that will take place within the next six-months. The analysis of these multi-sectoral linkages between food and livelihood security probably warrants a number of related studies.

5.4 Conclusions household food security review

Depending upon circumstances people have coped by using a combination of household level responses and by benefiting (or not) from a number of emergency response and other supportive policies and programmes. However this topic represents a major analytical challenge. The ability to cope with shocks is best assessed in relation to well-defined and credible livelihood profiles. Judgements here can therefore only be rudimentary. A number of other problems enter into this assessment. Vulnerable communities and groups may or may not have benefited from official assistance. Knowledge about people's cash savings, financial and near assets is very limited. Where available they have probably been used extensively. The implication is that in many cases they are well depleted. In constructing their assessment of the food balance the May 2002 CFSAM assumed that farmers (nation-wide) had no stocks due to the poor harvest in the previous year. Certainly it was not true for all wealth groups and areas – but perhaps it was a fair assessment of the overall situation. There are other issues, for example the maize meal subsidies that have been in effect could be judged to have had a broad beneficial effect on the welfare of the poor. However closer inspection suggests that the subsidy may have benefited wholesalers and traders more than the end users. The widespread practice of de-bulking (subsidised) 50kg bags of maize meal into much smaller quantities has seen little transfer of the subsidy into the unit price per Kg of maize meal purchased by the poor.

5.4.1 Multi-Sectoral Interactions

The LVAC recognises the priority of learning about the linkages between food security/livelihoods and other sectors. The practicality of incorporating multi-sectoral issues into the HEA FGIs in this round was very limited. The consolidated list of key questions relating Health and Nutrition, HIV/AIDS, Education, Water and sanitation and Child protection has spelt out a framework for analysis of these linkages. This is an important start and a dialogue has begun. At the same time, and in the context of an intensive livelihood/food security assessment, it is clear the multi-sectoral agenda can balloon into a huge and very demanding programme. (The amount of effort involved selecting the most appropriate indicators, scanning the secondary sources for existing information and assessing its reliability, choosing between techniques to collect the data and simply allowing enough time for consultation to secure appropriate levels of technical input are enormous). A considerable amount of time and effort needs to be put into the prioritisation of issues and on what represents an appropriate level of detail. Ideally a whole consultative dialogue, training and orientation for stakeholders in multi-sectoral analysis need to be put in place. In this round the dialogue with district level key informants has yielded a limited amount of qualitative information.

The November-December Second Round assessment surveyed a number of multi-sectoral themes and explored their links with the current levels of food insecurity. The coverage included the issue of chronic illness (a proxy for HIV/AIDS) a review of the incidence of key diseases and the evidence from nutrition surveillance data. The situation of water supply and sanitation was also surveyed and reviewed.

The correlation of prevalence of household levels of Chronic Illness with district level food gaps proved inconclusive. Comparative analysis of household data indicated that the average provisioning of cereals was 33 Kg/capita lower than in non-chronically-ill affected households. This indicates a clear link between chronic illness and food insecurity at the household level. Focussed group interviews plus other findings highlighted the growing importance of home-based care, the growing issues of care for orphans and that

chronically-ill households can partially off-set negative impacts on their agricultural production by entering into share cropping.

Hospital paediatric diarrhoea admissions and death statistics plus under-five out patient data (1999-2001) indicate that the incidence of diarrhoea has significantly diminished over time. Deaths and illness from Pneumonia has steadily increased.

According to the Food and Nutrition Coordinating Office (FNCO), severe malnutrition has been found to be higher in the mountain areas than in the lowlands. Stunting prevalence was 31% and ranged from 25% to 51% with the highest rates in males (33%) than females (28%). This is high according to WHO standards (30-40%). Wasting prevalence was 3.2%. Underweight prevalence was 15% ranging from 11% to 24%.

The Department of Rural Water Supply (DRWS) currently covers about 60% of the rural population, which means that approximately 40% of the population does not have access to safe water supplies. As with lack of potable water, inadequate sanitation also increases the risk of disease, subsequent illness and loss of productivity. This holds true for both food secure and insecure people and households. Varying levels of latrine ownership were reported during the assessment. (For further information readers are referred to pp 10-15 of the November-December assessment).

5.4.2 Coping strategies

The July-August assessment sought to establish whether and the extent to which households were engaged in consumption, income, expenditure, and migration coping strategies. Most rural households have changed the types, amounts, and frequencies of food consumed. The differences in consumption strategies adopted by different socio-economic groups are significant highlighting the situation of the poor. Village key informants prioritized the following as the most frequently employed income coping strategies adopted as a response to the food shortage: Brewing and selling beer, selling firewood and selling livestock, relying on gifts from relatives and neighbours and other activities. Over sixty percent of the villages surveyed indicated that households are migrating out permanently in search of food - most commonly to the Republic of South Africa or Maseru. (Readers are referred to pp 16-21 of the July-August assessment and pp 13 of the November-December assessment). Section 7 below provides information on coping strategies as they are linked to the updated baseline livelihoods.

5.4.3 Accuracy of predictions for the 2002-2003 year.

Clearly there is room for improvement in the accuracy of the predictions. A lot of good quality information gets gathered from sites all over the country but are subsequently analysed at high levels of aggregation. For example agricultural production collected at the agro ecological level within districts is summarised at the district or national levels. Much useful local level area information gets lost in the aggregation process. The BOS needs to manage all its data such that it can be aggregated at various levels – from the enumeration area or constituency level upwards. The importance of maintaining good time-series data must not be underestimated. Only on this basis can current year estimates be meaningfully compared with running averages. This information becomes indispensable in the analysis of trends or change.

6.1 Introduction

The household level projections below are based on an analysis of the effects of a number of potential and measured impacts on “normal” livelihoods. These baselines profiles are presented in Appendix 1. The main features of these livelihoods are summarised below.

The Southern lowlands are estimated to support 273,000 people. The four main elements in this food economy are food crops, paid employment, livestock and trade. Up to 44% of the population are estimated to be “poor” while 14% are considered to be “rich”. The poor utilize five sources for their food but are most dependent upon purchases that account for 47,5% of the total. The rich utilize three sources of food of which own food crops and own milk/meat products normally provides 70% of their total food access. All wealth groups earn cash incomes from a range of sources. The poor are highly dependent upon local wage employment as a source of income and they derive the smallest share of income from cash crops focussing narrowly on vegetables - surplus to their own needs. They are highly active in petty trade. In contrast to the rich, who have significant numbers of cattle, sheep and goats the poor are more often than not stockless.

The Northern lowlands occupy the most productive and better-watered arable lands in the country. They are estimated to support 435,000 people. The four main elements in this food economy are food crops, paid employment, cash crops and trade. Up to 47% of the population are estimated to be “poor” while 14% are considered to be “rich”. The patterns of access to food are similar to the southern lowlands with “poor” being the most dependent upon purchases. Crops and livestock sales form a more important of source of cash income for all the wealth groups in this food economy area. The rich earn over 50% of the cash earnings from crop and livestock sales. The poor are highly dependent upon local wage employment as a source of income while the rich gain 70% of their employment elsewhere - within country or in South Africa. While following the same general patterns of distribution across the wealth groups, livestock holdings in the area are generally higher.

The Foothills occupy a long strip of rugged and broken country that separate the mountains from the lowlands. They are estimated to support 346,000 people. Livelihoods are more agriculturally orientated as movement is limited by time or costs. Own food crops and own meat/milk consumption forms a large part to total food access. The four main elements in this food economy are food crops, livestock, paid employment and cash crops. Up to 58% of the population are estimated to be “poor” while 11% are considered to be “rich”. The contrasting patterns of access to food across the wealth groups are repeated in the food economy zone with the rich deriving as much as 75% of their normal food access from their own farms. Again the “poor” remain the most dependent upon purchases. Crops and livestock sales form an important of source of cash income for all the wealth groups in this food economy area. The rich earn over 60% of the cash earnings from these sources. Of all the wealth groups, the poor are the most dependent upon local wage employment as a source of income while the rich gain 70% of their employment elsewhere - within country or in South Africa. Livestock holdings in the area are high and middle and rich wealth groups have large flocks of sheep and goats exploiting the extensive rangeland and crop residues.

The Senqu River Valley dissects large parts of the mountains that occupy the eastern side of the country. It supports an estimated 346,000 people. The four main elements in this food economy are food crops, paid employment, cash crops and livestock. Up to 58% of the population are estimated to be “poor” while 12% are considered to be “rich”. The poor utilize six sources for their normal food access but are highly dependent upon purchases that account for 60% of the total. Both the middle and rich groups dependant on purchases – 35-40% of their total food access. The poor derives less than 20% of their cash income from cash crops and livestock sales. Their main cash earning activities focus equally on trade, non-food production and employment. The rich gain more than 60% of their income from cash crops and livestock sales. Livestock holdings in the area are high and middle and rich wealth groups have large flocks of sheep and goats exploiting the extensive rangeland and crop residues.

The Mountains are the least densely settled part of the country and communities tend to be much more isolated from services and markets. This zone supports approximately 290,000 people. The four main elements in this food economy are food crops, livestock, non-food production and cash crops. The key feature of this food economy area is the important role played by livestock. Livestock holdings in the area are very high and the middle and rich wealth groups have large herds of cattle and large flocks of sheep and goats. Up to 60% of the population are estimated to be “poor” while 16% are considered to be “rich”. While the poor utilizes six sources of food access they are highly dependent upon purchases. They account for 60% of their total food access. Own food crops and own milk/meat products normally provide 17,5%% of the total. The poor normally receive 15% of their food needs via gifts and relief. By contrast the rich produce 80% of their food needs from own food crops

and own milk/meat products. In the case of cash earnings, trade, non-food production and employment are the main sources for the poor. Their crop and livestock sales total less than 20% of total cash earnings. The rich derive 70% of their cash income from crops and livestock. For them, livestock is the most important source of income accounting for 40% of the total. Because of the isolation and difficulties in travel, there is high dependency on the local employment market for all wealth groups.

The Peri-urban food economy areas are estimated to support 118,000 people. The key livelihood features are firstly, the high dependence of the poor on local wage employment and secondly, the role of trade as the single most important source of cash for the rich.

Across the six food economy zones the poor are characterised by their lack of (or highly limited access to) surplus food or cash plus very limited ownership of livestock holdings and other capital assets. The middle and rich wealth groups had variable but significant 'normal' levels of surplus food and cash plus significant levels of livestock holdings and other stocks and capital assets – providing them with reserves with which to absorb shocks to their livelihoods.

6.2 Shocks 2002-2003

Because of poor rains, hot/dry periods, the late arrival of agriculture inputs and other factors, the main impacts considered in the analysis are, reduced food and cash crops production levels, reduced productivity of grazing lands, rising food prices, and various levels of constrained market access. The Problem Specification sheet presents a summary of the estimated shocks and their severity on various components of production and supply,¹⁶ market access¹⁷ and food price changes¹⁸ for each food economy zone. These specifications are drawn from summaries of the village key informant and district interviews, relevant secondary data - agro-meteorological reports and the results from the latest CFSAM (see Appendix 4). Team leaders were involved in this analytical process contributing to the judgements about the severity of hazard impacts in each food economy zone. NB. Food aid received in the current consumption year was presumed to be responding to deficits accumulated and brought forward from the previous production year and therefore gifts and relief have been set at normal for each food economy zone.

- Southern Lowlands: Food crop production is expected to be well below normal. Production within grazing areas is depressed and cash crops are expected to be very poor. Access to employment and livestock markets are both slightly depressed. Food price inflation in the year was 25% above normal.
- Northern Lowlands: Food crop production is expected to be below normal. While maize production was variable -quite low in some areas, while others were better off. Wheat production was relatively good this winter. Grazing areas are considered to have experienced normal conditions. Cash crops are expected to produce quite depressed. Access to employment markets is modestly depressed. In addition access to non-food production markets and other trade markets are quite depressed. Food price inflation in the year was 20%.
- Foothills: Food crop production and cash crops are expected to be well below normal. Grazing areas are just below. Access to employment and livestock markets are quite depressed. Access to non-food production markets is depressed. Food price inflation was 30%
- Senqu River Valley: Food crop production is expected to be a crop failure or very poor. Grazing conditions quite depressed. Access to employment and livestock markets is very depressed. In addition, access to non-food production, other trade markets and food markets have been assessed as depressed. Food price inflation in the year was the highest at 50%.
- Mountains: Food crop production is expected to be poor. Cash crops are slightly depressed. Access to employment, cash crop, non-food and food markets have also slightly depressed. Other trade markets are quite depressed. Food price inflation in the year was the second highest 40%.
- Peri-Urban Areas: Food crop production is expected to be quite depressed. Cash crops are only slightly down on normal. Access to employment markets is very depressed. Livestock market access was slightly

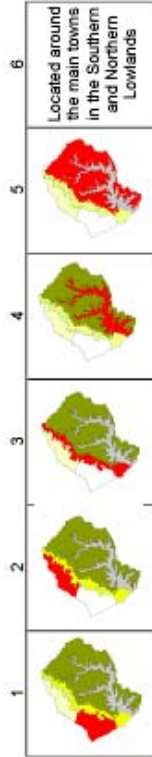
¹⁶ Changes are measured against a base index of 100 (Normal) – with a possible (below and above normal) range of 0-300.

¹⁷ There is a choice of six categories of market access – 100 (normal) and five categories of depressed access 75-100, 50-75, 25-50, 0-25 and 0 (market failure).

¹⁸ Food price changes are measured against an index of 100 (normal) - an entry of 120 is equivalent to a 20% increase in year-on-year food price inflation.

depressed. Non-food production and other trade markets are quite depressed. Food price inflation in the year was 30%.

Problem Specification for the Lesotho April-May 2003 Assessment



Food Economy Zone No.

Location

Food Economy Zone Name

Changes in "normal" production and supply conditions Index 100=Normal (Index range 0-300)

20-40	60-80	40-60	20-40	20-40	40-60
60-70	100	80-90	60-80	100	100
100	100	100	100	100	100
0-20	40-60	100	50-60	80-100	80-100

Production/Supply Changes

- Food Crops
- Grazing
- Relief/Gifts
- Cash Crops

Changes in "normal" market access - Index 100=normal (or one of 5 categories of depressed market access 75-100, 50-75, 25-50, 0-25 and 0)

75-100	50-75	50-75	25-50	50-75	25-50
75-100	100	50-75	25-50	100	75-100
100	100	100	100	75-100	100
100	75-100	50-75	50-75	75-100	50-75
100	50-75	100	50-75	50-75	50-75
100	100	100	75-100	75-100	100

Access to Markets

- Employment
- Livestock
- Cash Crops
- Non-food Production
- Other Trade
- Food Purchase

Change Food Price - Index 100=Normal (Index range 40-200)

125	120	130	150	140	130
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6.3 Crop & Food Supply: 2003-2004 consumption year

The features of the start of year cereal balance are summarised below (Table 6):

Total Domestic Availability (maize, wheat & sorghum) 2003-2004 are estimated at: opening stocks 33.68 + domestic production 93.72 = 127.40 (000) tonnes.

Import requirements are expected to be made up of: anticipated commercial imports 200 + 32.00 (000) food aid = 232.00 (000) of tonnes.

Table 6. NEWU National Opening Cereal Balance Sheet Estimates in April 2003

STAPLE CEREAL SUPPLY SITUATION FOR 2003/2004 REFERENCE YEAR				
All figures in '000 tonnes				
YEAR 2003/2004	MAIZE	WHEAT	SORGH	TOTAL
A. DOMESTIC AVAILABILITY				
A.1 Opening Stocks @ 1st April 2003	19.63	14.05	0	33.68
A.2 Estimated Gross Domestic Production	75.05	12.00	6.67	93.72
A.3 Total Domestic Availability (A.1 + A.2)	94.68	26.05	6.67	127.40
B. REQUIREMENTS				
B.1 Gross Cereal Requirements	262.29	100.33	32.21	394.83
B.2 Carryover Stocks	0	0	0	0
B.3 Total Annual Requirements (B.1 + B.2)	262.29	100.33	32.21	394.83
C. SHORTFALL/SURPLUS (A.3 - B.3)	-167.61	-74.28	-25.54	-267.43
D. FOOD IMPORTS				
D.1 Total Received	10.18	1.54	0.0	11.73
Commercial	10.18	1.54	0.0	11.73
Programme Food Aid	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Target Food Aid	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
D.2 Due by end of March	110.82	77.46	0.0	188.27
Commercial	110.82	77.46	0.0	188.27
Program Food Aid	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Target Food Aid	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
D.3 Total Planned Imports	121.00	79.00	0.0	232.00
Commercial	121.00	79.00	0.0	200.00
Food Aid	32.00	0.0	0.0	32.00
Closing Stocks @ 30th April 2003	20.25	11.48	0.0	31.73
PROJECTED SURPLUS/DEFICIT	-14.61	4.72	-25.54	-67.43

Given the expected large surpluses in RSA this year commercial and food aid imports will probably be sourced entirely from South Africa.

7.1 Interpreting the results

The results of the analysis are presented in Scenario One and Scenario Two. The first Scenario looks at the problem specification impacts assuming normal availability of food stocks. Scenario two looks at the problem specification impacts, assuming non-availability of food stocks. For each scenario, the analysis goes through a process of calculating the impacts on the food economy zone without any compensating steps generating a first measure called - the crude deficit. It then examines the use of options to make up the deficit using various coping strategies such as use of food stocks, increased use of wild foods, increased use of paid labour etc. A final result is presented after taking account of possible compensating steps. It is important not to interpret these figures on income/food deficits directly into tonnes of FOOD AID. Income deficits can lead to food deficits and equally food deficits can be remedied through various income transfer mechanisms.

The core summary measures include: the percentage of the population with an income/food deficit, an estimate total number of affected people, and the mean deficit measured as a percentage of annual food needs. Finally it presents high and low estimates of income/food deficit measured in tonnes of cereals. The figures in the two scenarios assess the consequences of the 'with' and 'without' access to food stocks. The full details of Scenario One and Scenario Two need to be carefully compared. The incremental reductions in the initial tonnage for the crude deficit indicate the likely degree to which each coping strategy may reduce the deficit. In Scenario Two the option to use normal levels of foods stocks has been switched off. After three years of adverse conditions a high level of depletion of stocks seems a logical assumption.

7.2 Results by Food Economy Zone

7.2.1 Results for Southern Lowlands

The problem impacted 100% of the population and generated an initial crude deficit of 30% of annual income/food needs. Under Scenario one, the final result after coping strategies indicates that 70% of the population are likely to experience a mean deficit of 14% of their annual food needs. This is estimated at 3000-12500 tonnes income/food deficit. However under Scenario two, final result after coping strategies and which assumes the non – availability of food stocks, indicates, 100% of the population is affected with a mean deficit estimated at 24% of their annual food needs. This is estimated at 11500-18000 tonnes income/food deficit. Under normal conditions it can be seen that household level food stocks have a significant impact on reducing the initial crude deficit. Increased use of paid labour and livestock sales also reduce the deficit. The other coping strategies of increased use of other trade and recourse to non-market re-distribution have no impact on the residual deficit.

7.2.2 Results for Northern Lowlands

The problem impacted 90% of the population and generated an initial crude deficit of 24% of annual food needs. Under Scenario one, the final result after coping strategies indicates that 50% of the population are likely to experience a mean deficit of 13% of their annual food needs. This is estimated at 2400-7100 tonnes income/food deficit. However under Scenario two, final result after coping strategies and which assumes the non – availability of food stocks, 90% of the population is affected with a mean deficit estimated at 19% of their annual food needs. This is estimated at 11900-13500 tonnes income/food deficit. Under normal conditions it can be seen that household level food stocks have a dramatic impact on reducing the initial crude deficit. Increased use of paid labour also reduces the deficit. The other coping strategies including increased use of livestock, other trade, non-food production and recourse to non-market redistribution have no impact on the residual deficit.

7.2.3 Results for Foothills

The problem impacted 100% of the population and generated an initial crude deficit of 21% of annual food needs. Under Scenario one, the final result after coping strategies indicates that 40% of the population are likely to experience a mean deficit of 13% of their annual income/food needs. This is estimated at 3200-4400 tonnes income/food deficit. However under Scenario two, 100% of the population is affected with a mean deficit estimated at 16% of their annual income/food needs. This is estimated at 9500-11400 tonnes income/food deficit. Under normal conditions it can be seen that household level food stocks have a significant impact on reducing the initial crude deficit. Increased use of paid labour and livestock sales also reduces the deficit. Other coping strategies have no impact on the residual deficit.

7.2.4 Results for Senqu River Valley

The problem impacted 100% of the population and generated an initial crude deficit of 55% of annual food needs. Under Scenario one, the final result after coping strategies indicates that 80% of the population are likely to experience a mean deficit of 42% of their annual food needs. This is estimated at 20900-25900 tonnes income/food deficit. However under Scenario two, which assumes the non – availability of food stocks, 100% of the population is affected with a mean deficit estimated at 47% of their annual food needs. This is estimated at 27200-29000 tonnes income/food deficit. Under normal conditions it can be seen that household level food stocks have a significant impact on reducing the initial crude deficit. Increased use of paid labour also reduces the deficit. Other coping strategies have no impact on the residual deficit.

7.2.5 Results for the Mountains

The problem impacted 100% of the population and generated an initial crude deficit of 26% of annual food needs. Under Scenario one, the final result after coping strategies indicates that 100% of the population are likely to experience a mean deficit of 8% of their annual food needs. This is estimated at 4200-14800 tonnes income/food deficit. However under Scenario two, 100% of the population is affected with a mean deficit estimated at 20% of their annual food needs. This is estimated at 10100-17500 tonnes income/food deficit. Under normal conditions it can be seen that household level food stocks have a significant impact on reducing the initial crude deficit. Increased use of paid labour and livestock sales also reduces the deficit. Other coping strategies have no impact on the residual deficit.

7.2.6 Results for the Peri-Urban area

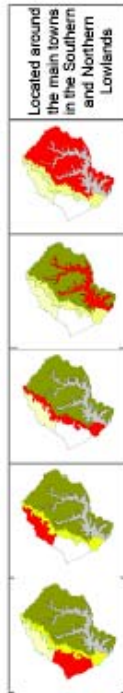
The problem impacted 50% of the population and generated an initial crude deficit of 14% of annual food needs. Under Scenario one, the final result after compensating steps indicates that there is no deficit. However under Scenario two, 30% of the population is affected with a mean deficit estimated at 3% of their annual food needs. This is estimated at 200-1200 tonnes income/food deficit. Under normal conditions it can be seen that household level food stocks have a significant impact on reducing the initial crude deficit. Increased use of paid labour also reduces the deficit. Other coping strategies have no impact on the residual deficit.

Scenario One

Results of the Lesotho April-May 2003 Simulation

Problem specification - normal availability of hh food stocks

Agro Ecological Zone
Food Economy Zone No.



Located around the main towns in the Southern and Northern Lowlands

Food Economy Zone Name Population in FEZ	Southern Lowlands	Northern Lowlands	Foothills	Senqu River Valley	Mountains	Peri Urban	Totals
	273000	435000	346000	346000	280000	118000	1808000

The Effects of the problem on the Food Economy Zone - with no compensating steps							
% of population with a deficit	100%	90%	100%	100%	100%	50%	
Estimation of affected population	273000	381500	346000	346000	280000	59000	
Mean deficit as % of annual food needs	30%	24%	21%	55%	26%	14%	

Crude deficit estimated by the simulation							
	18.7	15.0	14.2	32.8	17.5	0.3	

Use of options to make up the deficit - showing the incremental reductions in deficit with the application of each coping strategy - Tonnes 000s

	12.0	6.7	7.3	26.8	13.0	0
Use of food stocks	12.0	6.7	7.3	26.8	13.0	0
Increased use of wild foods	9.7	5.2	6.0	25.9	11.6	0
Increased use of paid labour	8.2	4.8	3.8	23.7	9.3	0
Increased sale of livestock	7.7	4.8	3.8	23.4	9.3	0
Increase in other trade	7.7	4.8	3.8	23.4	9.3	0
Increase in non-food production	7.7	4.8	3.8	23.4	9.3	0
Increased use of non-market redistribution	7.7	4.8	3.8	23.4	9.3	0

Final Result - after compensating steps							
% of population with a deficit	70%	50%	40%	80%	100%	0%	
Estimation of affected Population	191100	217500	138400	276800	288000	0	
Mean deficit as % of annual food needs	14%	13%	13%	42%	8%	0%	
Tonnes estimate (low)	3000	2400	3200	20800	4200	0	33700
Tonnes estimate (high)	12500	7100	4400	25900	14500	0	64700

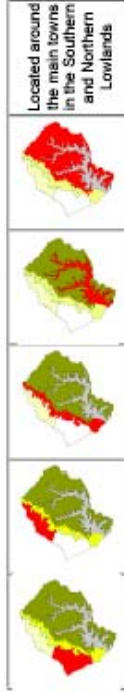
Scenario Two

Agro Ecological Zone
Food Economy Zone No.

Location

Results of the Lesotho April-May 2003 Simulation
Problem specification - non availability of hh food stocks

Lowlands Foothills Senqu River Valley Mountains



Food Economy Zone Name	Southern Lowlands	Northern Lowlands	Foothills	Senqu River Valley	Mountains	Pari Urban	Totals
Population in FEZ	273000	435000	346000	346000	290000	118000	1898000

The Effects of the problem on the Food Economy Zone - with no compensating steps

% of population with a deficit	100%	90%	100%	100%	100%	50%	
Estimation of affected population	273000	391500	346000	346000	290000	82600	
Mean deficit as % of annual food needs	30%	24%	21%	55%	26%	14%	

Crude deficit estimated by the simulation

Crude deficit est. by the simulation Tonnes (000)	18.7	13.9	14.2	31.3	13.8	21.2	2.3 - 0.8
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Use of options to make up the deficit - showing the incremental reductions in deficit with the application of each coping strategy - Tonnes 000s

Use of food stocks (Excluded from calculations)	18.7	13.9	14.2	31.3	13.8	21.2	2.3 - 0.8
Increased use of wild foods	16.4	12.7	13.3	30.9	12.7	20.1	1.3-0.2
Increased use of paid labour	14.7	12.7	10.4	28.0	10.1	17.5	1.3-0.2
Increased sale of livestock	14.7	12.7	10.4	28.0	10.1	17.5	1.3-0.2
Increase in other trade	14.7	12.7	10.4	28.0	10.1	17.5	1.3-0.2
Increase in non-food production	14.7	12.7	10.4	28.0	10.1	17.5	1.3-0.2
Increased use of non-market redistribution	14.7	12.7	10.4	28.0	10.1	17.5	1.3-0.2

Final Result - after compensating steps

% of population with a deficit	100%	90%	100%	100%	100%	30%	
Estimation of affected Population	273000	391500	346000	346000	288000	70800	
Mean deficit as % of annual food needs	24%	19%	16%	47%	20%	3%	
Tonnes estimate (low)	11500	11900	9500	27200	10100	200	70400
Tonnes estimate (high)	18000	13500	11400	29000	17500	1200	90600

Crude deficit est. by the simulation Tonnes (000)

Use of food stocks (Excluded from calculations)
Increased use of wild foods
Increased use of paid labour
Increased sale of livestock
Increase in other trade
Increase in non-food production
Increased use of non-market redistribution

% of population with a deficit
Estimation of affected Population
Mean deficit as % of annual food needs
Tonnes estimate (low)
Tonnes estimate (high)

7.3 Summary of Results

This Third Round LVAC assessment has generated two risk/livelihood mapping scenarios – ‘with’ and ‘without’ access to normal food stocks. They estimate that all food economy zones will be vulnerable to food and income insecurity in the 2003-2004-outlook consumption period. Across the entire country the ‘with’ access to food stocks indicates a total food deficit of 33700 to 64700 tonnes. The ‘without’ access to normal food stocks indicated a total food deficit of 70400 to 90600 tonnes. The worst affected area is the Senqu River Valley where 90-100% of the population may face a 42-47% deficit in their annual food needs. The second most affected area is the Southern Lowlands where 70-100% of the population may face a 14-24% deficit in their annual food needs. The third most affected area is the Mountains where a 100% of the population may face a 9-20% deficit in their annual food needs. The fourth most affected area is the Foothills where 50-90% of the population may face a 13-19% deficit in their annual food needs. The fifth most affected area is the Northern Lowlands where 30-100% of the population may face a 14-16% deficit in their annual food needs. The least affected area is the Peri-Urban FEZ where 0-30% of the population may face a 0-3% deficit in their annual food needs.

It is the hope of the LVAC, that this April-May assessment contains useful, relevant and timely information that will lead to more effective emergency and development response planning in the 2003-2004 period. Although it has set out to reflect on the experience of the 2002-2003 early warnings, rolling assessments and the emergency, the EMOP response programmes need their own independent evaluations. Much should be learned and documented concerning the response initiatives, capacity issues and the processes for targeting beneficiaries.

Internal and external factors affect household welfare in Lesotho. This assessment has therefore set out to provide information and analyses of how and to what extent a combination of current external hazards and internal vulnerability factors have affected (and are likely to affect) different regions and population groups in the outlook consumption period April 2003 to March 2004. The analysis systematically links information on 18 typical patterns of livelihoods in six food economy sub regions to judgements about current supply and production conditions, and market trends. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained in this report and that the judgement on food availability and food access are realistic.

The output is none-the-less based on a computer database and simulation. Vulnerability assessments are rapid – time-bound studies to provide early warning of the likely possible outcomes and to provide judgements on broad orders of magnitude of possible effects and needs. The results are presented as an aid to further analysis, field investigation and verification.

8.1 Policy issues

A clear distinction needs to be made between the policies and programmes that address structural and chronic conditions surrounding poverty and those dealing with acute vulnerability. If not, there is a danger that people's 'normal' lives are viewed as a long protracted disaster. Rather they need to be understood from a more proactive development perspective. How can we support and improve what are in effect quite resilient livelihoods? How can we mitigate against future vulnerability?

An aim of this report is to strengthen policy-making levels in order that decision-makers can better predict the likely impact of shocks on given population groups. As part of an institutional capacity building exercise, a next step in the LVAC process, will begin using these updated livelihood baselines for effective emergency and development response planning. In the months ahead, the LVAC can, as well, place a much stronger emphasis on monitoring the severity of hazards and shocks. The findings of this report clearly indicate that priorities now need to shift to a greater focus on the chronic problems of poverty issues and HIV/AIDS.

There is a clear and looming need to establish and learn from new programmes of support to mitigate and respond to the impacts of HIV/AIDS. Given the limited capacity of the current GOL social welfare programmes and, outside of an extension of the current EMOP/WFP umbrella, what kind of support could be put in place? How will the justifiable and recurrent consumption support initiatives (food aid for the chronically ill, elderly and vulnerable female and child-headed households) be financed, sourced and managed over the next few years?

8.2 Short-term emergency interventions

It is important to recognise that this is an early warning assessment and the findings cannot be transformed directly into a food aid response. Within the 'best' and 'worst' case scenarios mapped out in section 9 above, it is clear that food need assessments should be carried out nation-wide. However it seems logical in the first instance to prioritise the Senqu River Valley and the Southern Lowlands - given the anticipated level of deficit and that general food distribution (GFDs) responses seem to be one likely component of targeted assistance to these areas.

In the Northern Lowlands, Foothills and the Mountains food need assessments are probably in order, however shorter duration types of assistance (including forms of food aid) could be backed up with a range of livelihood interventions including support to the marketing and trade of staple foods especially maize meal.

Systematic analysis of the coping strategies linked to the livelihood profiles generated in this assessment indicates that food stocks (their maintenance and management), seeking enhanced employment opportunities and expanding livestock and livestock product sales have all contributed to the household's ability to deal with shocks to livelihoods. Supporting, developing and securing that these mechanisms can operate well in the near future is an important priority.

8.3 Recovery & longer-term interventions

The LBVA approaches, now being adopted in Lesotho can greatly assist in identifying both food aid needs (short-term livelihood provisioning) and a broader range of interventions that could reduce household vulnerability. This may include, protection of livelihoods through rehabilitation and safety nets (the prevention of the erosion of productive assets and the assistance in their recovery) and longer-term development of more resilient and sustainable livelihood systems.

For example, within the widespread phenomena of share-cropping arrangements that link poor and larger farmers at the community level, the pro-poor policies that have been implemented in the country so far, have failed to secure the supporting inputs of larger-scale farmers in poverty reduction initiatives. Arguably, the right kind of support for larger farmers could enhance smaller scale farmer livelihoods via employment generation, improved share-crop yields, improved productivity and higher net benefits for the poor. (Some of the key informants indicated that productivity from the fields of the poor worsened under the government input subsidies as most of the poor withdrew from the sharecropping with the better-off farmers. While the poor benefited from seeds, fertilizers and tillage services, they could not afford simple tasks such as weeding and herbicides applications provided under the pre-existing share cropping arrangements).

The updated livelihood baseline information indicates that agricultural incomes form only a small part of total household incomes. Therefore, in addition to agricultural rehabilitation initiatives, broader-based livelihood interventions need to be identified and considered. The Livelihood profiles in Appendix 1 can be utilised along with other livelihood-based analyses in this process.

8.4 Monitoring

Attention needs to be given to aligning population, production and hazard monitoring units in order to secure the best integration and use of regularly collected statistics. The same concerns apply to the collection and monitoring of a range of multi-sectoral indicators such as indicated in Appendix 3 of this report. The Sechaba Report *“Poverty and Livelihoods in Lesotho 2000- More than a Mapping Exercise”* provides an indication of the possibilities and potentials for this type of analysis.

It is critical that the BOS sets up a database system that regularly collects information which can be aggregated at various levels including - national, district, agro-ecological zones/food economy zones, constituencies, population enumeration areas (EAs) and others. It is more imperative that the Lesotho Database Project among others also set up a food security database system that present information according to food economy zones. The system will allow all the food security information users to better understand the food security situation at sub-national level.

For example, the annual BOS and the NEWU crop assessment uses permanent sampling sites and well established procedures. It should be easy to code the annual evidence from these sites with the above area identifiers plus references to many other basic variables. Information could then be aggregated at various levels according to user demands. In the past, too much emphasis has been placed on the national and district levels of aggregation. However production and hazard information (their severity and records of their effects) needs to take place at the sub-district level.

The NEWU and the DMA need to audit actual events of current year responses (and past emergencies) against the initial early warning assessments. It is important to learn from past experiences and events in order to improve the accuracy of early warning predictions and hence response planning and pre-positioning of resources. In the case of the national Cereal Balance, this process should be done annually. At the moment there appears to be little critical monitoring of forecast estimates against actual transactions and the use of this sort of monitoring to generate more accurate predictions for future forecasts. Currently the margins of error seem too large.

Macro economic and poverty trends need to be reviewed annually as part of the monitoring of the current context within which acute shocks (such as extreme weather or price changes) can be better understood. The levels of inequality and absolute levels of poverty in Lesotho are known to be high. For example, it is estimated that more than 60% of the population falls below an established poverty datum line. It is also asserted the greater part of this poverty is found in the rural areas. The implications of this are that perhaps 80% of the population in rural areas fall below minimum thresholds of access to basic services and levels of access to food and income. However, it is clear that in this context, small changes in macro economic conditions transform the estimates of the numbers of people considered to be ‘poor’, ‘vulnerable’ and ‘insecure’. The better monitoring of the underlying causes and structural problems of poverty and low incomes informs development responses and

disaster management preparedness. A worsening of the indicators will usually mean that more people will be vulnerable to shocks of known severity, because levels of vulnerability have increased.

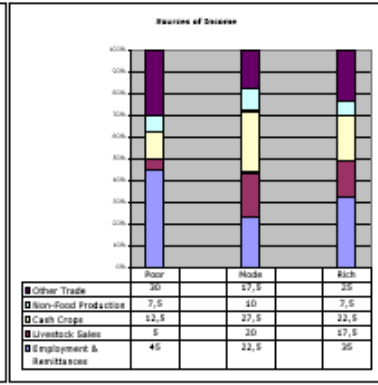
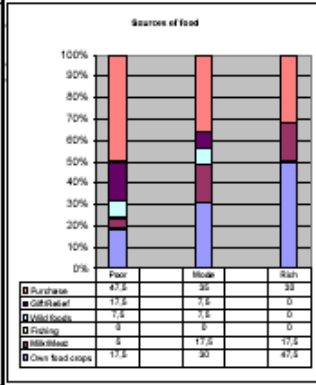
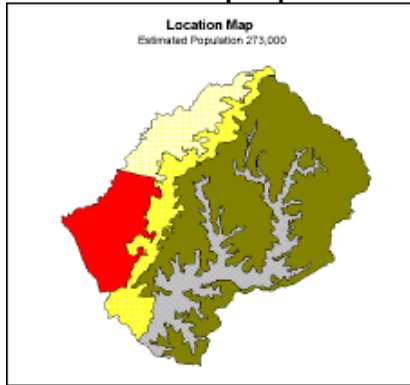
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Appendix 1

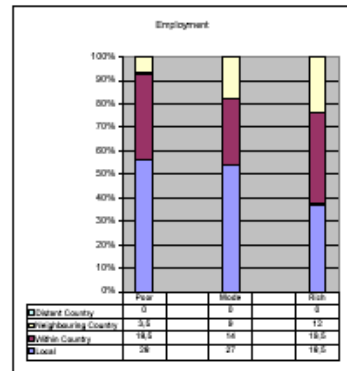
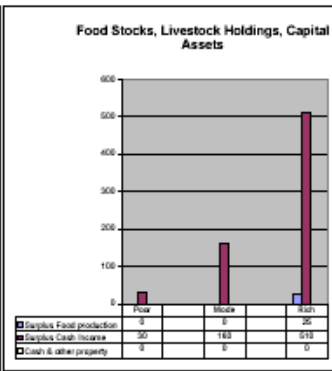
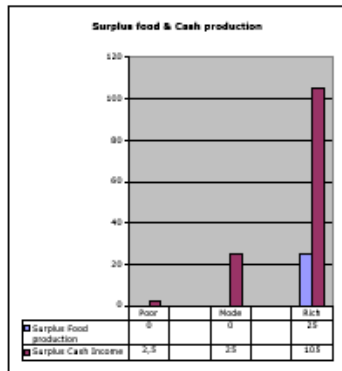
Southern Lowlands
Food Economy Baseline

Area	Pop (000)	Main elements of the food economy	Sources of Food						Sources of income in a Normal year								
			Estimated percentage share of total food access						Estimated percentage share of total income access								
			Poor		Mode		Rich		Poor		Mode		Rich				
		Rank	Element	Category	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Category	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High
Southern Lowlands	273000	1	Food crops	Own food crops	15	20	25	35	40	25	Employment & Remittances	40	50	20	25	30	40
		2	Paid employment	Milk/Meat	0	10	15	20	15	10	Livestock Sales	0	10	15	25	15	20
		3	Livestock	Fishing	0	0	0	0	0	0	Cash Crops	10	15	25	30	20	25
		4	Trade	Wild foods	5	10	5	10	0	0	Non-Food Production	5	10	5	15	5	10
		5	Non-food production	Wildlife	15	20	10	10	0	0	Other Trade	20	25	15	20	20	30
		6	Cash crops	Traps/pests	45	50	30	40	25	10	Total	80	100	80	110	80	120
		7	Remittances	Total	80	110	80	115	80	110							
		8	Wild foods														



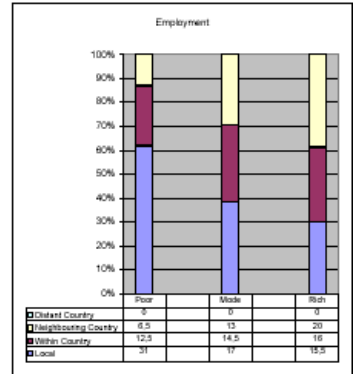
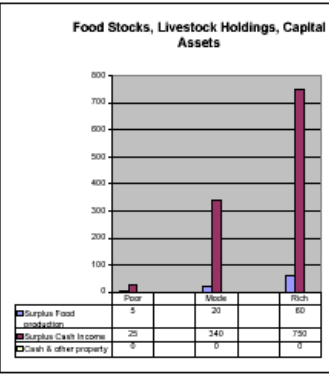
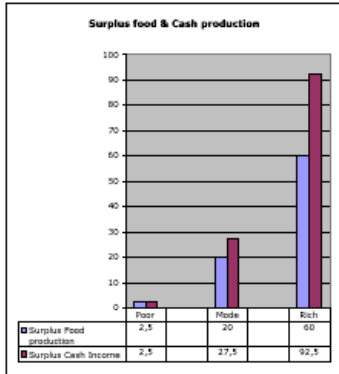
Normal surplus food production and cash income	Food stocks, livestock holdings and capital assets	Employment
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Category	Poor				Mode				Rich				Category	Estimated percentage share			
	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High		Low	High	Low	High
Surplus Food production	0	0	0	20	30	0	0	20	30	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Surplus Cash income	0.5	20	30	100	150	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Food stocks	0	0	0	20	30	0	0	20	30	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Livestock	0	60	40	200	270	150	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cash & other property	nd	nd	nd	nd	nd	nd	nd	nd	nd	nd	nd	nd	nd	nd	nd	nd	nd
Contrib of emp to tot cash income	50	54	37	25	32	50	54	37	25	32	50	54	37	25	32	50	54
Local	50	54	37	25	32	50	54	37	25	32	50	54	37	25	32	50	54
Within Country	7	18	24	18.5	18.5	7	18	24	18.5	18.5	7	18	24	18.5	18.5	7	18
Neighbouring Country	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Distant Country	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	50	100	100	100	100	50	100	100	100	100	50	100	100	100	100	50	100



Normal surplus food production and cash income	Food stocks, livestock holdings and capital assets	Employment
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Category	Poor		Mode		Rich		Category	Poor		Mode		Rich		Contrib of emp to 1st cash income	Estimated percentage share		Local	Within Country	Neighbouring Country	Guest Country	Total
	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High		Low	High	Low	High	Low	High		Low	High					
Surplus Food production	0	5	10	30	40	80	Food stocks	0	10	10	30	40	80	62	34	31					
Surplus Cash Income	0	5	20	35	55	130	Livestock	0	50	230	450	500	1000	25	25	32					
							Cash & other property	nd	nd	nd	nd	nd	nd	15	25	40					
														15	0	40					
														15	0	40					
														100	80	100					



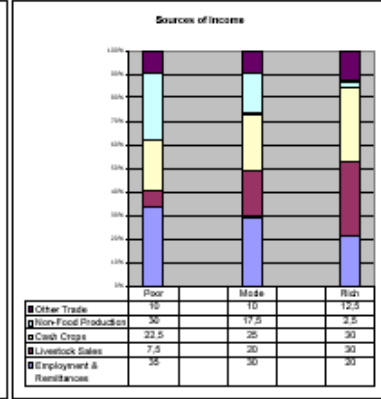
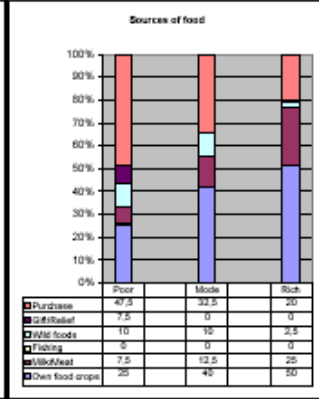
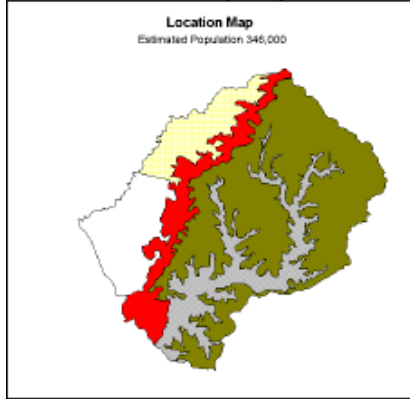
Labour Markets	Other Markets	Wild Foods (Index)	Redist (Index)	Distribution of Income (Index)
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Rank	Country	Neighbouring	Distant	Livestock	Cash Crops	Other Trade	Non-Food/Craft Production	Wild Foods (Index)	Redist (Index)	Distribution of Income (Index)
1	Maseru	1 South Africa	0	1 Maseru	2 Maputse	1 South Africa	1 Northern Lowlands	0	0	70%
2	Maputse			1 Northern Lowlands	1 Maseru					
3	Miotse				1 South Africa					
4	Mafeteng									

Further details on the main elements in the food economy

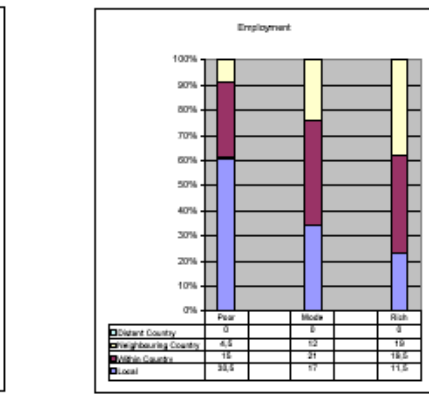
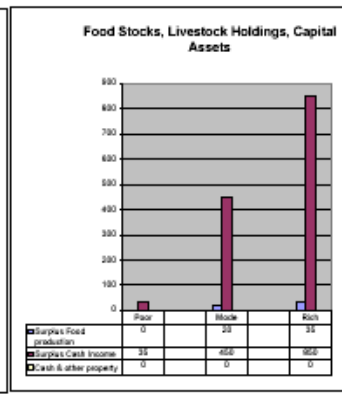
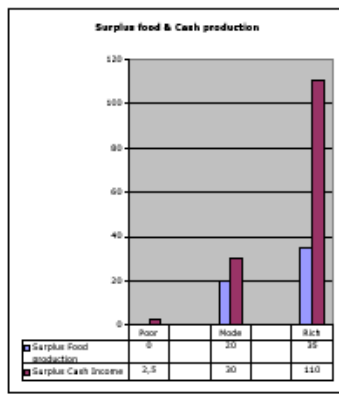
- Element Made up of:
- 1 Food Crops 1 Maize, 2 Sorghum, 3 Beans, 4 Pumpkin, 5 Vegetables, 6 Wheat, 7 Peas, 8 Potatoes
- 2 Paid Employment no details
- 3 Cash Crops 1 Beans, 2 Vegetables, 3 Maize, 4 Potatoes, 5 Sorghum, 6 Wheat, 7 Peas, 8 Daggas
- 4 Other Trade 1 Beer Brewing, 2 Selling Mohair/Wool, 3 Petty Trade, 4 Shop Owners, 5 Handicrafts, 6 Hiring Agriculture Equipment, 7 Hiring Horse Carts
- 5 Livestock 1 Cattle, 2 Sheeps, 3 Poultry, 4 Donkeys, 5 Horses, 6 Pigs
- 6 Non-Food Production 1 Fire wood, 2 Sand Collection, 3 Handicrafts, 4 Brick making, 5 Thatch Grass
- 7 Gift/Relief no details
- 8 Wild Foods 1 Semetsing, 6 Septisa, 8 Seroue, 4 Theepe, 5 Tihakoeakhomo, 6 Bobatsi, 7 Papisane, 8 Qhela

Area	Pop (000)	Main elements of the food economy	Sources of Food						Sources of income in a Normal year								
			Estimated percentage share of total food access						Estimated percentage share of total income access								
			Poor		Mode		Rich		Poor		Mode		Rich				
Poothills	346000	Rank	Element	Category	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Category	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High
		1	Food crops	Own food crops	20	30	35	45	45	35	Employment & Remittances	30	40	25	35	15	25
		2	Livestock	Milk/Meat	5	10	10	15	20	30	Livestock Sales	5	10	15	25	25	35
		3	Paid employment	Fishing	0	0	0	0	0	0	Cash Crops	20	25	20	30	25	30
		4	Cash crops	Wild foods	5	15	5	15	0	5	Non-Food Production	25	35	15	20	0	5
		5	Wild foods	Purchase	5	10	0	0	0	0	Other Trade	5	15	5	15	10	15
		6	Non-food production	Purchase	45	55	30	35	15	25	Total	85	125	80	125	75	115
		7	Wild foods	Total	30	115	80	150	80	115							
		8	Wild foods														
9																	



Normal surplus food production and cash income	Food stocks, livestock holdings and capital assets	Employment
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Category	Poor		Mode		Rich		Category	Poor		Mode		Rich		Contrib of emp to tot cash income	Poor		Mode		Rich	
	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High		Low	High	Low	High	Low	High		Local	Low	High	Low	High	Low
Surplus Food production	0	0	10	30	30	40	Food stocks	0	0	10	30	30	40	Local	85	34	23	23	23	
Surplus Cash Income	0	0	20	40	10	150	Livestock	0	15	200	100	600	1100	Within Country	30	40	30	30	30	
							Cash & other property	0	0	0	0	0	0	Neighbouring Country	0	24	33	33	33	
													Within Country	0	0	0	0	0	0	
													Neighbouring Country	0	0	0	0	0	0	
													Within Country	0	0	0	0	0	0	
													Neighbouring Country	0	0	0	0	0	0	
													Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	



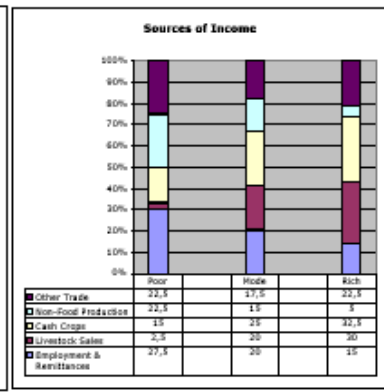
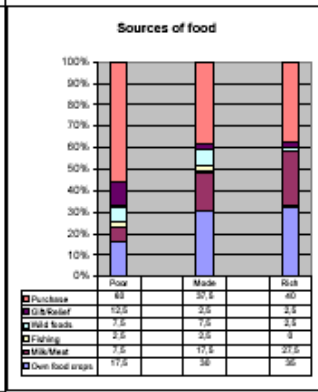
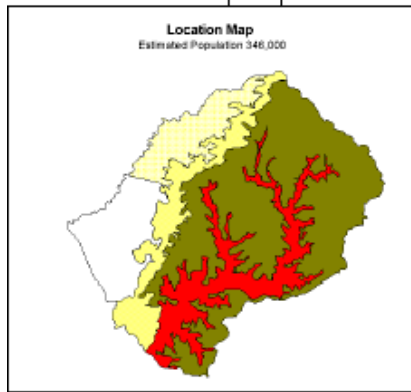
Labour Markets		Other Markets					Wild Foods (Index)	Redist (index)	Distributor of Income (Index)							
Rank	Country	Rank	Neighbouring	Rank	Distant	Rank	Livestock	Rank	Cash Crops	Rank	Other Trade	Rank	Non-Food/Craft Production			
1	Madagascar	1	South Africa	0		1	Buthe Buthe	1	Footfalls	1	Footfalls	1	Footfalls	0	0	70%
2	Lesotho					1	Footfalls									
3	Lesotho					1	Lesotho									
						1	Manufapa									
						1	Manufapa									
						1	Mohale's Hoop									
						1	Phanaka									

Further details on the main elements in the food economy

Element	Made up of
1 Food crops	1. Maize, 2. Sorghum, 3. Beans, 4. Wheat, 5. Peas, 6. Potatoes, 7. Pumpkins, 8. Vegetables
2 Livestock	No details
3 Paid employment	1. Vegetables, 2. Doggs, 3. Beans, 4. Potatoes, 5. Wheat, 6. Potatoes, 7. Maize, 8. Sorghum
4 Cash crops	1. Stone collection, 2. Stone cutting, 3. Firewood collection, 4. Handicrafts, 5. Fetching water.
5 Trade	1. Cattle, 2. Shoats, 3. Poultry, 4. Donkeys, 5. Horses, 6. Pigs
6 Non-food production	1. Brewing beer, 2. Selling Mohair, 3. Selling Handicrafts, 4. General petty trade, 5. Small shop operation, 6. Hiring out agricultural equipment, 7. Hiring out horse carts.
7 Relief/gifts	No details
8 Wild foods	1. Pappasane, 2. Tarane, 3. Leharaona, 4. Mobilo, 5. Mabelibela, 7. Chela, 8. Sepale

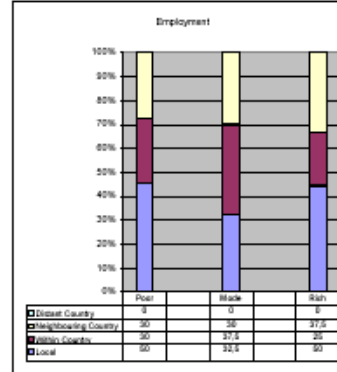
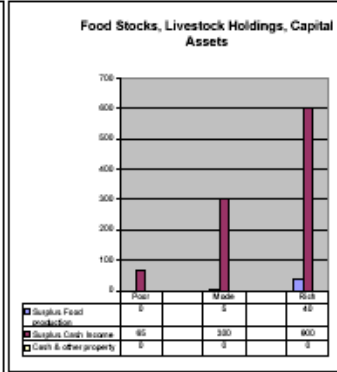
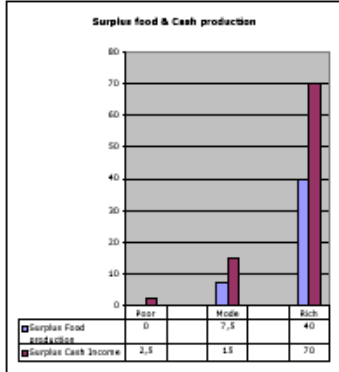
Sengu River Valley

Area	Pop (000)	Main elements of the food economy	Sources of Food						Sources of income in a Normal year							
			Estimated percentage share of total food access						Estimated percentage share of total income access							
Rank	Element	Category	Poor		Mede		Rich		Category	Poor		Mede		Rich		
Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	
Benqu River Valley																
348000	1	Food Crops	15	20	25	35	30	40	Employment & Remittances	25	30	15	25	10	20	
	2	Paid Employment	5	10	15	20	25	30	Livestock Sales	0	5	15	25	25	35	
	3	Cash Crops	0	5	0	5	0	0	Cash Crops	10	20	20	30	30	35	
	4	Livestock	5	10	5	10	0	5	Non-Food Production	20	25	10	20	0	10	
	5	Other Trade	10	15	0	5	0	5	Other Trade	20	25	15	20	20	25	
	6	Non-Food Production	50	65	35	40	35	45	Total	75	100	75	100	85	125	
	7	Gift/Relief	0	0	0	0	0	0								
	8	Wild Foods	0	0	0	0	0	0								



Normal surplus food production and cash income	Food stocks, livestock holdings and capital assets	Employment
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Category	Poor			Mode			Rich			Category	Poor			Mode			Rich										
	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low		High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High										
Surplus Food production	0	5	10	20	60					Food stocks	0	0	0	10	20	60					Contribution of emp to tot cash income	40	55	50	35	45	55
Surplus Cash Income	0	5	10	20	40	100				Livestock	0	150	200	400	450	750					Within Country	25	35	35	40	20	35
										Cash & other property	nd	nd	nd	nd	nd						Neighbouring Country	25	55	20	35	30	45
																					Within Country	45	6	0	0	0	0
																					Total	95	125	100	110	95	130



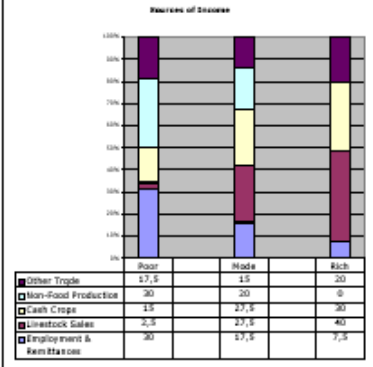
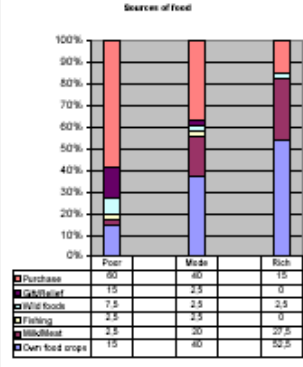
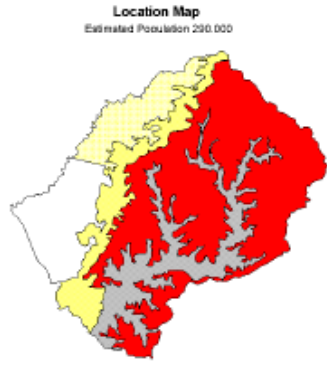
Labour Markets	Other Markets	Wild Foods (Index)	Redist (index)	Distribution of Income (Index)
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Rank	Country	Neighbouring	Distant	Rank	Livestock	Rank	Cash Crops	Rank	Other Trade	Rank	Non-Food/Craft Production	Wild Foods (Index)	Redist (index)	Distribution of Income (Index)
1	Misano	1 South Africa	0	1	Mashi	1	Quachas nek	1	Senou River Valley	1	Senou River Valley	0	0	70%
1	Mofaka Hoek			1	Mofaki	1	Quifing	1	South Africa					
2	Quifing			1	Quachas nek	1	Senou River Valley							
1	Senou			1	Senou/Beane	1	Thaba Tsaba							
3	Lebo			1	Thaba Tsaba									
3	Mafaka			1	Tsoana									
3	Quachas nek			2	Moveni									
4	Buffa Buffa													

Further details on the main elements in the food economy

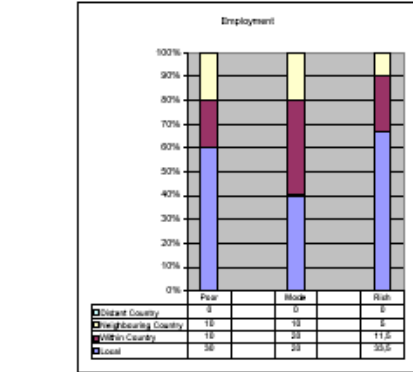
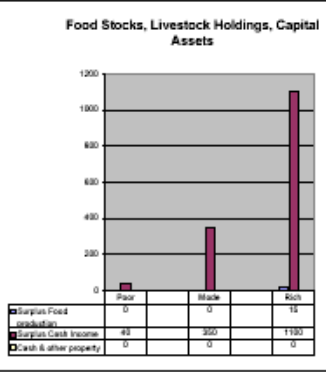
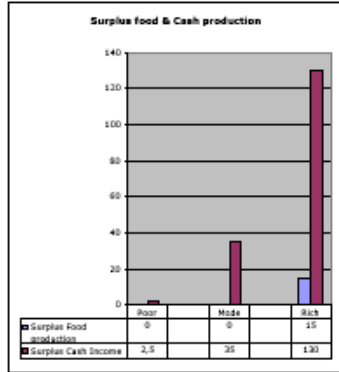
- Element Made up of:
- 1 Food Crops 1 Maize, 2 Sorghum 3 Beans, 4 Vegetables 5 Pumpkin, 6 Potatoes, 7 Peas, 8 Wheat
 - 2 Dist Employment no details
 - 3 Cash Crops 1 Beans, 2 Vegetables, 3 Potatoes, 4 Dappa, 5 Pumpkin
 - 4 Livestock 1 Shoats, 2 Cattle, 3 Poultry, 4 Donkeys, 5 Horses, 6 Pigs
 - 5 Other Trade 1 Beer Brewing, 2 Selling Moham/Wool, 3 Petty Trade, 4 Hiring Agricultural Equipment, 5 Shop Owners
 - 6 Non Food Production 1 Brick making, 2 Fire wood, 3 Sand Collection, 4 Stone Collection, 5 Stone cutting, 6 fetching Water, 7 Handicrafts, 8 Thatch Grass
 - 7 GAT/Relief no details
 - 8 Wild Foods 1 Theaps, 2 Senou, 3 Sepala 4 Qhala, 5 Lehansona, 6 Septisa, 7 Thakoeakhomo, 8 Papesana

Area	Pop (000)	Main elements of the food economy	Sources of Food						Sources of income in a Normal year								
			Estimated percentage share of total food income						Estimated percentage share of total income across								
			Poor		Middle		Rich		Poor		Middle		Rich				
Mountain	200000	Rank	Element	Category	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Category	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High
		1	Food crops	Own food crops	10	20	35	65	45	80	Employment & Remittances	25	35	15	20	5	10
		2	Livestock	Milk/Meat	0	0	15	25	25	30	Livestock Sales	0	0	25	30	35	45
		3	Non-food production	Fishing	0	0	0	0	0	0	Cash Crops	10	20	25	30	25	35
		4	Wild foods	Wild foods	5	10	0	0	0	0	Non-Food Production	25	35	15	25	0	0
		5	Wage employment	Orchardist	10	20	0	0	0	0	Other Trade	15	20	10	15	15	25
		6	Wild foods	Beeskeeping	55	65	35	45	10	20	Total	75	115	90	125	80	115
		7	Trade	Total	80	125	85	130	80	115							
8	Remitt/Grfts																
9																	



Normal surplus food production and cash income	Food stocks, livestock holdings and capital assets	Employment
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Category	Poor			Middle			Rich			Category	Estimated percentage share								
	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low		High	Low	High						
Surplus Food production	0	0	50	20	0	0	0	0	Food stocks	0	0	10	20	Local	60	40	87		
Surplus Cash income	0	0	75	45	90	180	2,800	200	500	850	1,350	Livestock	20	40	23	Within Country	20	20	50
												Cash & other property	nt	nt	nt	Neighbouring Country	0	0	0
																Distant Country	0	0	0
																Total	100	100	100



Labour Markets		Other Markets						Wild Foods (Index)	Redist (index)	Distribution of Income (index)
Country	Neighbouring	Distant	Livestock	Cash Crops	Other Trade	Non-Food/Craft Production				
1 Malawi	1 South Africa	0	1 Mountains	1 Mountains	1 South Africa	1 Mountains	0	0	70%	
2 Malawi			1 Mountains	2 Trade Taka	1					
3 Malawi			1 Mountains	3 Cattle	1					
			2 Northern Lowlands	3 Malawi	2					
			2 Cattle	3 Cattle	3					
			3 Cattle	3 Selenahong	3					
			3 Selenahong							

Further data on the main elements in the food economy

Element Made up of

1 Food Crops 1 Maize, 2 Wheat, 3 Peas, 4 Beans, 5 Vegetables, 6 Potatoes, 7 Lentils

2 Livestock 1 Cattle, 2 Sheep, 3 Poultry, 4 Donkeys, 5 Horses, 6 Pigs

3 Cash Crops 1 Vegetables, 2 Potatoes, 3 Diggins, 4 Wheat

4 Paid Employment no details

5 Non Food Production 1 Fire wood, 2 Handicrafts, 3 Stone Collection, 4 fetching Water, 5 Thatch Grass

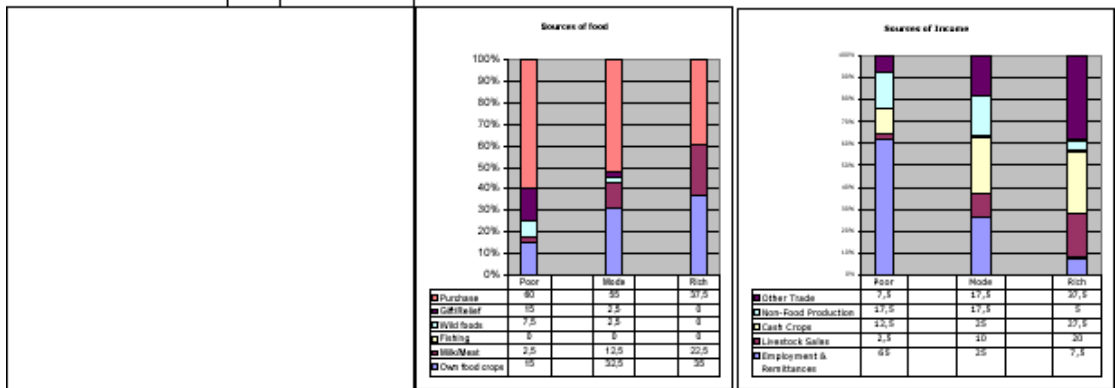
6 Other Trade 1 Beer Brewing, 2 Handicrafts, 3 Selling Mchizi/Wool, 4 Hiring Agricultural Equipment, 5 Petty Trade, 6 Shop Owners

7 Wild Foods 1 Sepals, 2 Serous, 3 Mopane, 4 Lalofobashi, 5 Bobatsi, 6 Tenare, 7 Papasane, 8 Semetang

8 Gift/Relief no details

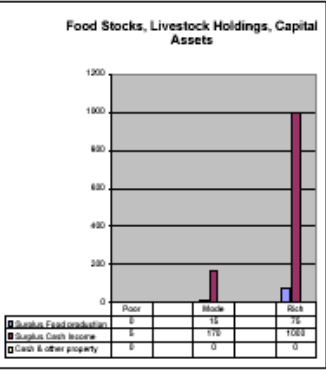
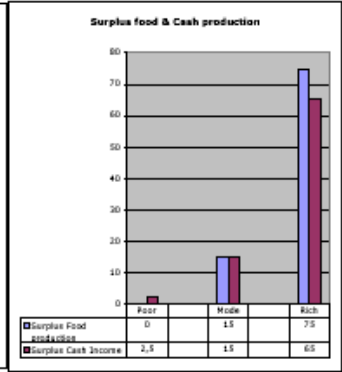
Peri-Urban Areas

Area	Pop (000)	Main elements of the food economy	Sources of Food						Sources of income in a Normal year					
			Estimated percentage share of total food access						Estimated percentage share of total income access					
			Rank	Element	Category	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	
Peri Urban	118000		1 Food crops	Own food crops	10/30	30/35	30/40	Employment & Remittances	65/75	60/30	5/10			
			2 Paid Employment	Milk/Meat	0/5	10/35	20/25	Livestock Sales	0/5	5/15	15/25			
			3 Cash Crops	Peas/beans	0/0	0/0	0/0	Cash Crops	10/15	20/30	25/30			
			4 Non Food Production	Wild Foods	0/10	0/5	0/0	Non-Food Production	10/25	10/25	0/10			
			5 Other Trade	Gift/Relief	10/25	0/5	0/0	Other Trade	5/15	15/20	30/25			
			6 Livestock	Purchase	55/65	45/65	35/40	Total	75/135	70/120	75/120			
			7 Gift/Relief	Total	80/120	85/125	85/105							
			8 Wild Food											



Normal surplus food production and cash income	Food stocks, livestock holdings and capital assets	Employment
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Category	Poor		Mode		Rich		Category	Poor		Mode		Rich		Contrib of emp to tot cash income	Estimated percentage share		Poor		Mode		Rich	
	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High		Low	High	Low	High	Low	High		Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High
Surplus Food production	0.0	10.70	50	100	Food stocks	0.0	10.70	50	100	Local	70	85	40	55	45	60						
Surplus Cash Income	0.5	10.70	35	95	Livestock	0.10	30.700	750	1700	Within Country	0	15	20	25	20	25						
					Cash & other property	not	not	not		Neighbouring Country	0	15	20	25	20	25						
										Foreign Country	0	15	20	25	20	25						
										Total	65	700	80	100	85	100						



Labour Markets	Other Markets	Wild Foods (Index)	Redist (index)	Distribution of Income (index)
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Rank	Country	Neighbouring	Deplant	Livestock	Cash Crops	Other Trade	Non-Food/Craft Production	Wild Foods (Index)	Redist (index)	Distribution of Income (index)
1	Malawi	1	South Africa	0	not	not	not	0	0	70%
2	Madagascar									
3	Mozambique									
4	Malawi									
5	Kenya									
6	Thailand									

- Further details on the main elements in the food economy
- Element Made up of
- 1 Food crops 1 Maize, 2 Sorghum, 3 Beans, 4 Wheat, 5 Peas, 6 Pumpkin, 7 Potatoes, 8 Vegetables
 - 2 Paid Employment no details
 - 3 Cash Crops 1 Beans, 2 Vegetables, 3 Peas, 4 Potatoes, 5 Wheat, 6 Sorghum, 7 Maize
 - 4 Non Food Production 1 Fire wood, 2 Handicrafts, 3 Fatch grass, 4 Sand collection
 - 5 Other Trade 1 Beer Brewing, 2 Petty Trade, 3 Shop owners, 4 Handicrafts
 - 6 Livestock 1 Cattle, 2 Steads, 3 culy, 4 Donkeys, 5 Horses, 6 Pigs
 - 7 Gift/Relief no details
 - 8 Wild Food no details

	District	FEZ	Village
TEAM 1	Mokhotlong	Mountain	Ha Janteu
	Mokhotlong	Mountain	Tsopoling
	Thaba-Tseka	Mountain	Pitseng
	Thaba-Tseka	Senqu River Valley	Khomo ea Mollo
	Thaba-Tseka	Mountain	Mantsonyane Ha Chooko
	Leربة	Mountain	Ha Lesaana
	Leربة	NLowland	Mate Ha Selebalo
TEAM 2	Butha-Buthe	NLowland	Ha Belo
	Butha-Buthe	NLowland	Ha Selomo
	Butha-Buthe	Mountain	Shishila
	Butha-Buthe	Foothill	Makeneng
	Leربة	Foothill	Tsehlanyane Ha Mali
	Leربة	NLowland	Ha Khabo
	Leربة	NLowland	Mathokoane Ha Libe
	Leربة	Foothill	Ha Letsie
	Berea	NLowland	Kolojane
	Berea	NLowland	Bolanku
	Berea	Foothill	Mokoallong
TEAM 3	Mafeteng	Foothill	Ribaneng Ha Lebona
	Mafeteng	SLOWland	Makoabating
	Mafeteng	SLOWland	Tebang
	Mafeteng	SLOWland	Qalabane
	Maseru	SLOWland	Reisi
	Maseru	Mountain	Ha Samuele
	Maseru	NLowland	Ha Makhallyane
	Maseru	NLowland	Masite
	Maseru	Foothill	Setieketseng
	Maseru	NLowland	Ha Katu
TEAM 4	Mohale's Hoek	SLOWland	Ha Taele
	Mohale's Hoek	Senqu River Valley	Phatlalla
	Mohale's Hoek	Senqu River Valley	Ha Lengau
	Mohale's Hoek	Senqu River Valley	Ha Lethena
	Mohale's Hoek	Senqu River Valley	Ha Putsoane
	Mohale's Hoek	SLOWland	Ha Mootsinyane
	Mohale's Hoek	SLOWland	Liphiring
	Mafeteng		Cleaning data
	Mafeteng	Foothill	Qiloane Ha Phafoli
	Mohale's Hoek	SLOWland	Litsoe'neng
	Mohale's Hoek	Mountain	Ha Leronti
	Maseru	NLOWland	Ha Mokhalinyane

Sector	Knowledge, Attitudes, Practice & Beliefs	Access issues	Availability & Quality of Services	Outcomes	Key Questions or Linkages with Food Security
Health & Nutrition	Hygiene practices Food storage/preparation Healthcare seeking behaviour	Affordability of medical care Distance/time/opportunity cost of seeking treatment	# clinics # health professionals availability of drugs	Morbidity Mortality Malnutrition Vaccination rates change	How does poverty/food insecurity affect nutrition status, and ability to access healthcare? How does the economic situation affect availability of healthcare?
HIV/AIDS	Sexual behaviour Cultural practices/beliefs Practices regarding care for orphans & vulnerable children Inheritance practices	Ability of HIV-affected households to meet food and non-food needs Ability of households to care for chronically ill & orphans Affordability of medical care (treatment of OIs and access to ARVs) & condoms Distance/time/opportunity cost of seeking treatment	# clinics # health professionals availability of drugs Availability of condoms Availability of testing and counselling services Availability of home-based care services	HIV prevalence (aggregated by age, gender, socio-economic group & location) Morbidity Mortality Malnutrition Livelihood security (food and cash access) aggregated by HIV status	How does HIV-affected status affect livelihoods? (what are the differences in food and income access, expenditure patterns, and asset holdings between different types of HIV-affected households and non-affected households?) How do livelihoods affect high-risk behaviour, and the ability to access healthcare?
Education	Cultural Values (especially education for boys & girls)	Affordability of education (fees, uniforms, books etc.) Distance/time/opportunity cost of attending school	# schools # teachers Availability of teaching materials Quality of teaching Relevance of curriculum	School enrolment and attendance Exam pass rates	Does hunger/poverty affect school attendance? Does education level affect food security status? How does the economic situation affect the provision of education services?
Water & Sanitation	Hygiene practices Water storage practices	Distance/time/opportunity cost of collecting water	# water points # latrines # water technicians availability of spare parts	Morbidity (especially due to water-borne diseases)	Is the use of and access to clean water and good hygiene related to food security? How does the economic situation affect the provision and maintenance of water and sanitation?
Child Protection	Cultural practices/beliefs Gender/power relations Practices regarding care for orphans & vulnerable children	Opportunity costs of respecting rights (e.g. to education, healthcare, leisure ...)	# social workers Availability of psycho-social support services Availability of legal services/protection	Levels of child abuse Malnutrition	Does food insecurity compromise children's rights? How does the economic situation affect the provision of child protection services?
Possible sources	Secondary data KAPB survey Rough Community level information	VAC & LBVA assessments	Secondary data Community/district-level interviews	Nutrition/health surveys DHS/Other secondary data School enrolment statistics	

Appendix 4

Appendix 4

2002-2003 District Maize production Tonnes - compared to the Ten-year mean 89/90 to 98/99

District-level estimate of % deviation from 'normal' summer production in 2002-2003

Year	District										Lesotho Total
	1 Butha Buthe	2 Leribe	3 Berea	4 Maseru	5 Mafeteng	6 Mohale's Hoek	7 Quthing	8 Quacha's Nek	9 Mkhotlong	10 Thaba Tseka	
1 89/90	11689	34869	31893	28015	25616	10153	11100	2157	5669	10415	171576
2 90/91	2471	12964	7557	7085	6984	2820	2052	1764	2664	2557	48918
3 91/92	1521	14083	9068	7886	10932	4393	3012	1907	2865	5406	61073
4 92/93	9518	25629	11068	28346	1558	1124	609	2030	4034	7889	91805
5 93/94	5356	38137	26591	22517	15125	12646	6626	3437	6203	12424	149062
6 94/95	8213	15845	14301	8191	406	2011	1191	914	4375	7998	63445
7 95/96	8774	35828	29610	38579	26232	13060	5607	3065	12252	15482	188489
8 96/97	7500	23862	21003	32035	15869	16123	5294	3587	6376	10401	142050
9 97/98	8409	2399	20251	21404	7178	18753	6958	1474	13860	17993	118679
10 98/99	7125	31384	16801	27562	5746	9722	6495	1120	5990	12614	124549
11 Sum	70576	235000	188143	221610	115646	90805	48944	21455	64288	103179	
12 9 year Mean	7842	26111	20905	24623	12850	10089	5438	2384	7143	11464	128850
13 Estimate 02/03	1900	9800	20100	12900	4300	3300	2600	900	1300	4300	61400
02/03 as % of											
14 9 year Mean	24%	38%	96%	52%	33%	33%	48%	38%	18%	38%	

Source: 1. lines 1-10 Lesotho Agricultural Situation report 1996/97 - 1998/99 BOS Lesotho
2. Line 13 - FAO/WFP CFSAM Estimates May 2003