



## STRENGTHENING FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY ANALYSIS IN NAMIBIA

Eliminating hunger requires enhanced national capacity to predict, detect and track risks and their potential impact on rural communities.

In Namibia, WFP supports government efforts to establish a system that monitors changes in food security over time, down to the household level. WFP also works in partnership with government to strengthen the Namibia Vulnerability Assessment Committee (NamVAC) to undertake regular food and nutrition assessments to enhance understanding of food security situations and inform appropriate long-term response options.

### Food Security Analysis - activities

#### Food Security Analysis:

- > conduct food and nutrition security assessments to determine who is food insecure; how many are food insecure; where they live; why they are food insecure; how the situation is likely to evolve; and what should be done to respond to their needs.
- > design a national food and nutrition security plan to provide a framework for nationwide food security analysis.



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### Food and Nutrition Security Monitoring System (FNSMS):

- > establish a system to track food security changes over time and space, provide information on deteriorating situations and trigger in-depth assessments and responses.
- > collect primary data on food security and nutrition regularly at household level in selected sentinel sites across the country.
- > provide a comprehensive food security outlook that integrates relevant food security indicators and analyses the four security dimensions (food availability, food access, food utilization, stability).



### Developing capacities in Food Security Analysis:



- > develop capacities of NamVAC and Regional Councils in food and nutrition security data collection and analysis using advanced technologies and analytical tools such as; mobile data collection platforms and the Consolidated Approach for Reporting Indicators of Food Security (CARI).
- > facilitate exchange visits with countries that have successfully implemented food security monitoring systems to share best practices and promote skills and knowledge transfer, infusion and cross fertilization of ideas.



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### Food Security Analysis - key achievements

As a result of WFP support, the following actions have been taken in Namibia to improve food security analysis:

- > A Food and Nutrition Security Monitoring Plan (FNSMP) has been developed to implement and guide food security monitoring activities in the country.
- > Periodic food security monitoring activities are carried out in selected sentinel sites to assess food insecurity at household level. Food security monitoring bulletins are produced twice a year in between the annual Crop and Food Security Assessments and the annual Vulnerability Assessment and Analysis. The bulletins provide early-warning information for timely, evidence-based decision-making and response.
- > Sentinel sites for collecting household food security information have been identified and established. Food security monitoring has been piloted successfully in 36 sentinel sites in six regions (Kunene, Omusati, Ohangwena, Omaheke, Zambezi and //Karas).



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- > In February 2014, selected technical members of NamVAC paid an exchange visit to Lesotho to learn from the Lesotho national food security monitoring system. Lessons from this study informed the establishment of Namibia's Food and Nutrition Security Monitoring System.
- > New methodologies and tools have been introduced into food and nutrition analysis and reporting in Namibia. Examples are the use of Emergency Food Security Assessment (EFSA) methodology in 2013 and CARI and open data kit (ODK) in 2015.
- > Many training programmes using WFP guidelines have been implemented to strengthen knowledge of food security concepts and improve food security data collection and analysis at national and regional levels.



### Evidenced-based decisions on food security

- > A rapid EFSA conducted in 2013 to assess the impact of the 2012/2013 drought on rural livelihoods informed a subsequent State of Emergency declaration by the President and Cabinet's decision to establish a national food and nutrition security monitoring system to enhance early warning, preparedness and response.



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