



WFP Zimbabwe

Situation Report #5

10 March 2016

In Numbers

2.8 million people affected by drought

60 districts (all) affected

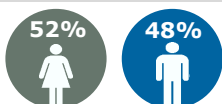
Over **1 million** beneficiaries received assistance in February

7,399 refugees assisted in February

Highlights

- United States Ambassador to Zimbabwe, His Excellency Mr. Harry K. Thomas Jnr, officially hands over a US\$10 million contribution to WFP at a signing ceremony held in Harare on 3 March, 2016.
- WFP extends its Lean Season Assistance (LSA) to April and brings forward the 2016/17 LSA to May.
- WFP undertakes an extensive district profiling exercise with donors and partners, targeting an initial 10 districts.
- The 2016/17 LSA Response plan which is valued at US\$229 million for the next 12 months has been launched.

Beneficiaries



Funding Update

Government Humanitarian Appeal

US\$1.5 billion (February — December 2016)

WFP Requirements

Lean Season Assistance (until March 2017) US\$ 224 million (net funding requirements)

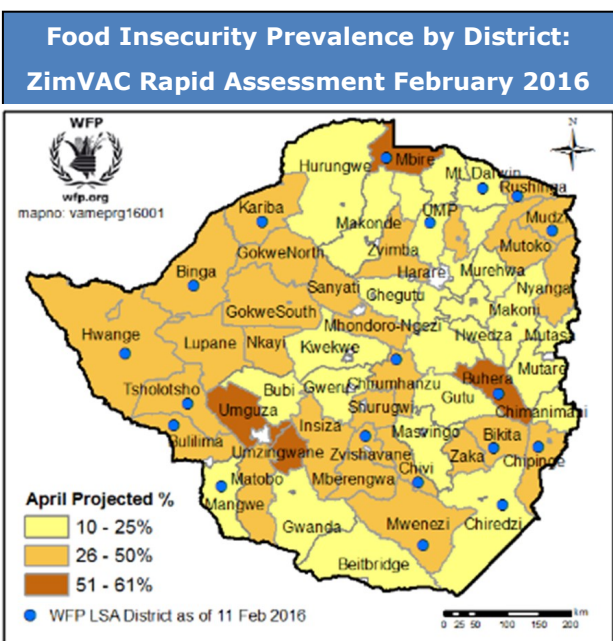
Situation Update

- Following two successive bad seasons, Zimbabwe is faced with the strongest and longest El Niño event in 35 years. Considering that the most prevalent sources of livelihood in rural Zimbabwe are largely rainfall and agricultural based (e.g. casual labour, and crop and livestock production) households ability to meet their foods needs has been severely decimated as a result of below normal rainfalls, and poor rainfall distributions. These circumstances have been further compounded by the reduction in value of the remittance inflows from South Africa as a result of the weakening Rand.
- Using the ZIMVAC projections and analysis of the estimated crop write offs as well as historical food security trends for the past five years as a baseline, WFP estimates the prevalence of food insecurity in the rural population to fluctuate from 30% in April and 49% (approximately 4.4 million people) during the peak of the lean season from January to March 2017.
- About 95% of the country has received below normal rainfall as at 2 March. However, there has been some improvement in Mashonaland East, Midlands and Matabeleland North. The improvement of rainfall activity across most parts of the country, should result in improved crop condition. Though most parts of the country had received 50% of the annual rainfall (as at 29 February).

WFP Response

Lean Season Assistance

- The United States Ambassador to Zimbabwe, Mr. Harry K Thomas Jnr, handed over a US\$10 million contribution to WFP on 3 March, 2016 at a signing ceremony attended by the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Local Government, Public Works and National Housing, the United Nations Resident Coordinator, other senior government officials, partners and members of the Press.



Zimbabwe: Responding to Humanitarian Needs

- In February, some 1 million drought-affected beneficiaries received assistance. WFP assisted an estimated 606,718 beneficiaries; 62% of the beneficiaries received a component of cash transfers either as a cash only ration (15%) or in-kind and complimentary cash (47%), whilst the remainder of the beneficiaries (38%) received in-kind only.
- An estimated 450,000 beneficiaries were assisted by other partners including the CARE-World Vision consortium under their respective Drought Response Cash Transfer Programme.
- WFP Zimbabwe has prepared a response plan aimed at, extending the current lean season by a month to April, and bringing forward the 2016/17 lean season start date to May compared to September in the last year. WFP's response seeks to provide immediate access to food for the most vulnerable while addressing the underlying causes of food insecurity and malnutrition. WFP plans to progressively scale up its response to match projected increases in food insecurity levels and reach 2.2 million people in January 2017.

Partnerships

- WFP and partners are planning to carry out an in-depth district profiling exercise, starting in 10 most food insecure districts in March 2016, and later expanding to all rural districts. This exercise will provide a granular understanding of the district characteristics feeding back into WFP's and the inter-agency response plan for Zimbabwe.

LSA Resourcing Update

- The resource situation remains unchanged with current received contributions standing at US\$23.5 million from USAID, US\$4.25 million from the UN Central Emergency Response Fund, US\$514,000 from the Government of Switzerland, up to 30,000 mt of in-kind maize from the Government of Zimbabwe, and US\$4.4 million from WFP's internal resources.
- WFP's 2016/17 response plan for both the LSA and PAC is valued at US\$229 million from April 2016 through March 2017 but currently faces a US\$224 million gap.

Other Programmes

Food Security Climate Resilience Facility (FoodSECuRe)

- Innovative facility to (i) trigger action before climate shocks occur to reinforce community preparedness and early response using climate forecasts; and (ii) provide large-scale multi-year financing to ensure

that high quality resilience building activities are accomplished at scale during post-disaster recovery operations.

- To date, 50 lead farmers and 500 beneficiary farmers have been trained as part of a pilot project in Mwenezi district in small-grain production using climate smart agricultural practices, agriculture as a business, and marketing. The trainings have been carried out jointly with Agritex. Further, the trained farmers were provided with input packs consisting of small-grain seed (sorghum and pearl millet) as well as fertilisers to enable them to plant 0.3 hectares each.
- Planting has started late due to the late on-set of the rainy season. However, crops are thriving due to current rainfalls, allowing to anticipate some harvest from the 424 plots that have been planted in the 5 wards that are part of the pilot in Mwenezi.

Support to Refugees

- 7,399 refugees received their cash transfers in February, registering a 5% increase from last month.
- The support to refugees at Tongogara, is fully funded up to August 2016, thereafter facing a US\$206,626 shortfall up to September 2016.

Health and Nutrition

- The Health and Nutrition programme in support of the Ministry of Health and Child Care, provided assistance to some 8,600 malnourished people living with HIV and/or TB, pregnant and nursing women, and children under age five.
- WFP, in consultation with the FNC Is currently in the process of identifying a consultant to develop and carry out a roadmap for a Cost of Hunger study scheduled for 2016.
- The start of WFP's micro-nutrient fortification programme aimed at addressing micro-nutrient deficiencies amongst children in Zimbabwe has been delayed due to funding challenges.

Food/Cash Assistance for Asset Creation

- The 2016 cycle of the Productive Asset Creation Programme scheduled to start in April urgently requires US\$7.7 million to ensure a timely start.
- Current available resources are sufficient for WFP to start in 6 of the 13 planned districts. These resilience building activities are critical in reaching our goal of eliminating hunger in Zimbabwe by 2030.

Contacts

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WFP Operations					
	Planned number of people (at peak)	Total requirements	Total received	6 month Shortfall % (US\$)	People Reached
		6 months (in US\$)	(in US\$)		(January distribution cycle)
Lean Season Assistance	821,460	65,155,507	15,603,037	49,552,469	606,718
Productive Asset Creation (2016 cycle)	150,000	12,700,469	5,000,000	4,527,010	n/a
Refugees	10,000	1,863,626	1,657,000	206,626	7,399
Health and Nutrition	26,000	1,011,565	400,000	611,565	8,600