### SOUTHERN AFRICA REGIONAL FOOD SECURITY UPDATE

**JUNE 9TH 2010**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Updates</th>
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</table>
| Lesotho       | - Results of the crop forecasting by the Bureau of Statistics show higher maize production (98,035 MT) compared to last year’s production of 57,127 MT.  
- The LVAC has undertaken its annual post-harvest livelihoods assessment from 25 May - 2 June and data analysis is ongoing.  
- Households assisted with planting inputs through the EU Food Facility generally planted larger areas than those not assisted. |
| Madagascar    | - Producer price of rice is currently very volatile in main rice granary of Madagascar.   
- Following the passage of The MTS Joel, the southern areas received abundant rainfall over the last two weeks. |
| Malawi        | - The general food security situation in the country is normal following the 2009/10 harvest, apart from some households in four districts in the southern region that were severely affected by long dry spells. 45,364MT of maize is required to meet the Missing Food Entitlements (MFEs) from April 2010 to March 2011.  
- The new ADMARC selling price for maize is MK60/kg. |
| Mozambique    | - The Crop and Food Supply Assessment joint mission MINAG-FAO/WFP (CFSAM 2010) requested by Minister of Agriculture, following concern over poor crop forecast in February and March, as a result of prolonged dry spells in the south and parts of the centre. The fieldwork of the CFSAM 2010 is already concluded, the report will be available at the end of this month.  
- SETSAN/GAV is preparing the quantitative vulnerability assessment to food security and nutrition, to be conducted in June/July 2010. |
| Namibia       | - Namibia Early Warning and Food Information Unit predict that the country’s 2009/2010 harvest is expected to be normal to slightly above normal.  
- Access to food remains a concern in the north/north-eastern parts of the country which were affected by floods.  
- Being part of the Southern African trade and customs union and with its currency linked to the rand, Namibia’s markets are closely linked to those of South Africa. |
| South Africa  | - Projections for the current 2010/11 maize marketing season indicate that South Africa will have a surplus of 2,652 million tons of maize at the end of April 2011.  
- The projected bumper maize harvest in South Africa has depressed maize prices in South Africa to levels last seen in the 2005/06 marketing year. |
| Swaziland     | - Harvesting of maize and cotton is ongoing but estimates are that the 2009/2010 season maize harvest has increased by 6% compared to 2008/2009.  
- The VAC annual assessment data collection has been completed and data analysis started on 14th May and is currently ongoing.  
- Farmers have started harvesting and selling cotton to the only ginnery in the Lowveld. |
| Zambia        | - The country has recorded another surplus maize harvest.  
- The ZamVAC has just concluded the flood impact assessment data collection in areas affected by flood in 2009/10 rainy season  
- First level cleaning for household level data for the CVAA is currently in progress. |
| Zimbabwe      | - Prices of maize grain have been declining in most areas in line with the harvest period. The GMB has revised back the maize producer price to the original US$265 from the US$325 that had been announced in April 2010.  
- The Government has requested for a short CFSAM |
**SOUTHERN AFRICA REGIONAL FOOD SECURITY UPDATE: LESOTHO**

**Updated – 09 June 2010**

**Highlights**
- Results of the crop forecasting by the Bureau of Statistics show higher maize production (98,035 MT) compared to last year’s production of 57,127 MT.
- The LVAC has undertaken its annual post-harvest livelihoods assessment from 25 May - 2 June and data analysis is ongoing.
- Households assisted with planting inputs through the EU Food Facility generally planted larger areas than those not assisted.

### Agriculture Situation

- The Bureau of Statistics (BoS) crop assessment estimated area planted to maize to be 122,828 ha and the yield at 0.8 t/ha. Estimated maize production was 98,035 MT. Although a larger area of 141,606 ha were planted during the 2009/09 season, the total maize production during that season at 57,126 MT was lower due to yields (0.42 t/ha) that were nearly 50% lower than those estimated for the current season.
- Projections by the BoS put sorghum area planted at 30,504 ha and the yield at 0.92 t/ha.
- The May 2010 Lesotho Meteorological Services Agro-met bulletin indicated that harvesting had commenced and land preparation for winter cropping was ongoing in some areas. Temperatures were normal for the month of May in most places with Semonkong reporting higher than normal temperatures.
- Results from post-planting survey of vulnerable farming households assisted by FAO through the EU Food Facility Programme indicated that beneficiary households planted larger areas than non-beneficiaries.
- The LVAC has completed data collection for the 2010/11 assessment. The preliminary findings are expected in the second week of June.

### Food Availability

- The planned imports for the 2009/10 season amounted to 147,000 MT. The slight increase in production this season could reduce the expected imports by a fraction, though not by much. The NEWU has not yet released the 2010/11 balance sheet as they are waiting for BoS to release latest estimates.
- Projections by the BoS put sorghum area planted at 30,504 ha and the yield at 0.92 t/ha.
- The May 2010 Lesotho Meteorological Services Agro-met bulletin indicated that harvesting had commenced and land preparation for winter cropping was ongoing in some areas. Temperatures were normal for the month of May in most places with Semonkong reporting higher than normal temperatures.
- Results from post-planting survey of vulnerable farming households assisted by FAO through the EU Food Facility Programme indicated that beneficiary households planted larger areas than non-beneficiaries.
- The LVAC has completed data collection for the 2010/11 assessment. The preliminary findings are expected in the second week of June.

### Food Access/Prices

- WFP pipeline for vulnerable group feeding in Lesotho is under resourced. A shortfall of 3595 MT is indicated between February and July 2010.
- According to WFP monitoring reports, as of April, urban prices declined by 4 percent compared to the previous month; while there was no change in rural prices.
- Fuel prices remain the same as last month. Petrol prices had increased by 1 percent from April; diesel by 3 percent and paraffin by 4 percent. Since January this year, fuel prices have been increasing.
- The Bureau of Statistics has estimated the annual inflation rate at 4.2 percent at the end of March (from 4.3% in February). Food inflation continues to decline; having dropped from 3.5% in February to 3.0% in March.

### Nutrition, Health and Food Utilization

- The Food and Nutrition Coordinating Office (FNCO) and WFP in partnership with Ministry of Health and Social Welfare (Family Health Division), Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security National University of Lesotho, and UNICEF, have undertaken a food consumption study in the Mountain Livelihood zone. The results show that 75% of calories come from carbohydrates.
- The Government is experiencing the reduction in the Southern Africa Customs Union revenue and this has negative impact on the government budget. This figure declined from 35% in 2009/10, and will further reduce to 17% in 2010/11, putting much pressure on the Government.
- According to the 2010 budget speech, the preliminary estimate for economic growth in 2009 is 2.1 percent compared to 4.4 percent in 2008, which represents a decline of over 50 percent. It is expected that the mining, manufacturing and telecommunications will boost the economy and increase the growth to 3.6 percent.
SOUTHERN AFRICA REGIONAL FOOD SECURITY UPDATE: MADAGASCAR

Updated – 09 June 2010

Highlights

- Producer price of rice is currently very volatile in main rice granary of Madagascar.
- Following the passage of The MTS Joel, the southern areas received abundant rainfall over the last two weeks.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agriculture Situation</th>
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<th>Nutrition, Health and Food Utilization</th>
<th>Comments</th>
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<tr>
<td>• South areas benefit from rainfall last weeks with the passage of The MTS Joel. It may be favourable for current crops (Cassava, potatoes and black eyed peas).</td>
<td>• All markets remain well-stocked with domestic rice.</td>
<td>• Real consumer price of rice is currently lower than average of the last three years.</td>
<td>• According to DHS surveys conducted by National Institute of Statistics in 2008-2009, Malnutrition, especially among children, remains a major concern. Situation seems more critical in Amoron’i Mania and Anosy regions.</td>
<td>• Preliminary findings of the Multi-cluster Rapid Assessment Mechanism Mc RAM May 2010 conducted in the capital: - Compared to May 2009, proportion of HH in Severe Food Insecurity has slightly decreased (from 35% to 29%). This can be explained by the fact that May 2009 was just near the pick of the political crisis (end January to March 2009) where prices were still high and economic activities were in slowdown. - However, this proportion is the same as in November 2009 which is normally the beginning of the lean season. It could reflect a gradual deterioration of the situation. - In fact, despite of instability of source of revenue and stagnation of its level, HH can maintains their diet as diversified as last year because of availability of main foods and stability or drop of their prices.</td>
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<td>• Otherwise, about 100,000 ha have been infested by locusts in the Southern of the central Madagascar since last April. Damage in corn and rice crops could be very significant.</td>
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<td>• Moreover, producer price is very volatile. In May, 10th for example, it fell drastically from 600 Ariary to 200 Ariary (a drop of 67%). Farmers want to rapidly sell their products in order to pay off their debts toward microfinance. However, their threshold of profitability is around 600 Ariary per kilo of paddy. Purchasing power of those producers is then quietly fragile.</td>
<td>• Progress in reproductive health and child immunization coverage has been identified. 62% of 12 to 23 month children were fully immunized against major childhood diseases. This proportion was 36% in 1997. Rate of contraceptive use by women has increased from 5% in 1992 to 29% in 2008-2009.</td>
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<td>• According to FAO projections in early May 2010, the country is expected to have a reduced and below average coarse grain crop production this year due to drought in the South</td>
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<td>• Among other basic products, price of sugar is rising slightly and reached its level of 2007.</td>
<td>• Fertility of women in Madagascar remains high with an average of 4.8 children per woman. 32% of adolescents 15-19 years have already started their reproductive life. This level of fertility has declined compared to previous surveys. And rates vary between regions (3.4 children per woman in Analamanga to 6.5 in Vatovavy Fitovinany). Fertility remains higher in rural than in urban areas.</td>
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SOUTHERN AFRICA REGIONAL FOOD SECURITY UPDATE: MALAWI

Updated – 09 June 2010

Highlights

• The general food security situation in the country is normal following the 2009/10 harvest, apart from some households in four districts in the southern region that were severely affected by long dry spells. 45,364MT of maize is required to meet the Missing Food Entitlements (MFEs) from April 2010 to March 2011.

• The new ADMARC selling price for maize is MK60/kg.

Agriculture Situation | Food Availability | Food Access/Prices | Nutrition, Health and Food Utilization | Comments
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• Despite the prolonged dry spells which affected most parts of the country, the 2nd Round crop estimates by the Ministry of Agriculture predicts a national harvest of 3.2 million MT of maize, which would result in over 0.5 million MT surplus above the national requirements of 2.45 million MT.
• The Malawi VAC (MVAC) has collected and analyzed data on food security situation in all regions in the country. The official results are expected to be released soon. However, the preliminary figures show that 1.061 million people in all 13 southern districts and one each in the central and northern regions will require an equivalent 45,364 MT of maize assistance from June 2010 to March 2011.
• In general, food security situation currently remains favourable for most households in the country following the 2009/10 growing season harvest.
• However, some households in Balaka, Chikhwawa, Nsanje, and Zomba districts will harvest little or none at all and need assistance as early as May-June 2010. Preliminary MVAC analysis results indicate that there are about 718,000 people that are food insecure in the eight southern Malawi districts of Balaka, Chikhwawa, Mwanza, Neno, Nsanje, Phalombe, Thyolo, and Zomba in May 2010.
• The Humanitarian Response Committee meeting approved food distributions to food insecure people from April-September 2010. Decision for assistance from October 2010 to March 2011 awaits approval of guidelines for Cash as an option for humanitarian assistance.
• The market price for maize in May 2010 was slightly lower than that in the previous month. The average selling price of maize in May 2010 at local market was MK30.87 ($0.20) per kg compared to April average of MK37.57 ($0.25) per kg.
• When compared with the previous year, maize price for May 2009 was at MK34.19 ($0.22) per kg. This shows that the price decreased in May 2010 by 21% compared to April 2010 and by 9% compared to April 2009.
• The new ADMARC price for maize in 2010 is MK60 ($0.39) per kg. As a result many ADMARC depots are not selling because the local maize vendors are selling maize at a lower price averaging Mk40.79 ($0.27) per kg this year.
• The CFSA study conducted by the MVAC with WFP support found lower levels of wasting in the North (2.6%) compared to Central (3.9%) and South (3.6%) similar pattern were observed for underweight (9.6%). Prevalence of underweight was highest in the South (12.2%) followed by Central (10.7%) regions. The prevalence of stunting, however, was highest in the North (65.3%) compared to the Central (57.6%) and Southern (59.1%) regions.
• For women, 9.2% had a BMI of less than 18.5 kg/m², 9% were underweight (< 45 kgs) and 4% were stunted (< 145 cms).
• The Government has verbally requested WFP to coordinate food distributions.
• The Government plans to approve drawdown of maize required from the Strategic Grain Reserve (SGR).
• In general food is available in most households in the country from own production or procurement from the markets.
• While food availability is expected to remain satisfactory countrywide with a predicted surplus of 0.5 million at national level, some households in the southern region harvested little or none at all. The affected households will require food assistance as early as May-June up to March 2011.
• The food needs will continue rising as the season progresses.
SOUTHERN AFRICA REGIONAL FOOD SECURITY UPDATE: MOZAMBIQUE

Updated – 09 June 2010

Highlights

- The Crop and Food Supply Assessment joint mission MINAG-FAO/ WFP (CFSAM 2010) requested by Minister of Agriculture, following concern over poor crop forecast in February and March, as a result of prolonged dry spells in the south and parts of the centre. The fieldwork of the CFSAM 2010 is already concluded, the report will be available at the end of this month.
- SETSAN/GAV is preparing the quantitative vulnerability assessment to food security and nutrition, to be conducted in June/July 2010

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<td>• According to the CFSAM, poor rainfall in the central and southern parts of the country affected production unlike in the northern parts where rains were generally normal with good maize harvests. In general the situation is not as severe as was feared after MINAG’s preliminary assessments in February and March. Late start of rainfall (Nov/Dec) in south of central region was followed by relatively dry conditions with erratic and weak rainfall for up to 2 months after first planting. The floods situation in the Zambezi river floodplains was exacerbated by Cabora Bassa releases. Significant losses of rainfed rice due to drought, especially in Maganja da Costa District in Zambézia Province is reported. All areas in the southern region experienced a prolonged dry spell after first planting. Poor maize production is compared with last year but still better than previous years. Production of sorghum, millet and cassava is similar to previous years. Production of cowpea, pigeon pea and groundnut is satisfactory.</td>
<td>• According to the CFSAM, the overall balance sheet this year is expected to be positive. • In addition, there is maize surplus in the North, where there are large stocks still remaining in warehouses from last year’s harvest. • Nearly 460,000 people are moderately food insecure and will require relief food assistance to meet basic dietary intake from April 2010 until March 2011. This population mostly includes poorer households with limited ability to cope with recurrent shocks, located mainly in areas that were affected by this season’s drought and floods.</td>
<td>• According to the CFSAM, prices are lowering but remain all much higher than before high food prices in 2008. In southern region prices are very high (2 times the price in the north) and people in south depend on purchase mainly. • It seems that prices were not competitive enough with South African prices to export to Zimbabwe or Malawi. • Fuel price and feed industry are among the reasons for continuous high food prices in the South.</td>
<td>• No recent information • SETSAN/GAV is preparing the quantitative vulnerability assessment to food security and nutrition, to be conducted in June/July 2010</td>
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<td>• Production of sorghum, millet and cassava is similar to previous years. Production of cowpea, pigeon pea and groundnut is satisfactory. There were increased infestations by the elegant grasshopper. The May 2010 Pest Situation Report by the International Red Locust Control Organisation for Central and Southern Africa (IRLCOCSA) reported quelea bird outbreaks in Chokwe Irrigation Scheme which caused damaged to irrigated rice (planted on 7,300ha), Chemical control of 8 roosts with an estimated 14 million birds was undertaken by IRLCOCSA and the Ministry of Agriculture Lethal yellowing of coconut is reportedly threatening livelihoods in coastal Zambézia and Sofala. According to the May 2010 FEWSNET report for Mozambique, the second cropping season is so far progressing satisfactorily. If moisture is favourable during the critical water requirement stage in June, then the second crop could provide an important source of food and income and improve household food security.</td>
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<td>• The Second cropping season was launched by the Government and started in April. It provided planting material for maize, wheat, beans, potato, vegetable seed, tractors, hand-held cultivators and pumps. Government is also giving support to agriculture through Action Plan for Food Production (PAPA) and the Seven Million district programme.</td>
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SOUTHERN AFRICA REGIONAL FOOD SECURITY UPDATE: NAMIBIA

Updated – 09 June 2010

**Highlights**

- Namibia Early Warning and Food Information Unit predict that the country’s 2009/2010 harvest is expected to be normal to slightly above normal.
- Access to food remains a concern in the north/north-eastern parts of the country which were affected by floods.
- Being a part of the Southern African trade and customs union and with its currency linked to the rand, Namibia’s markets are closely linked to those of South Africa.

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<td>Namibia Early Warning and Food Information Unit predict that the country’s 2009/2010 harvest is expected to be normal to slightly above normal. It is estimated that the aggregate coarse grain production will be at around 134,000 tones, representing an increase in output of over 10 percent above the average and almost 25 percent increase when compared to the 2008/2009 harvest.</td>
<td>Taking into account the estimated grain production of about 139,000 MT in 2008/09, it is projected that the country will need to import 150,000 MT of grain during the 2009/10 marketing year (FAO/WFP).</td>
<td>Nevertheless, access to food remains a concern in the north/north-eastern parts of the country which were affected by floods. The Government of Namibia is providing food aid and other assistance to the victims of the floods and has so far not appealed for international assistance. WFP is monitoring the situation carefully.</td>
<td>The 2006 Demographic Health Survey (DHS) found that 29% of Namibia’s children were stunted, 17% were underweight and 7.5% were acutely malnourished.</td>
<td>Being a part of the Southern African trade and customs union and with its currency linked to the rand, Namibia’s markets are closely linked to those of South Africa. Namibia relies primarily on its own maize meal, beef and other food products to ensure food availability at national level and there are efforts to increase production levels of other foodstuffs such as fruits and vegetables and other cereals. Namibia’s strong commercial sector and good infrastructure is critical to fill any gaps through imports from Southern African markets.</td>
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- The annual food consumer price index trend over the last four months shows a decline from 6.4 in November 2009 to 5.3 in February 2010. However, there are indications that the price of maize meal, the staple diet for many Namibians, will increase by 10-15% later this year. The electricity and fuel costs are also on the rise.
- Approximately 77% of acutely malnourished children found in the north-eastern part of the country.
- The National Alliance for Improved Nutrition in Namibia has developed a concept note for a food consumption and micronutrient deficiency survey and plan to move forward with the design of the survey tools with technical assistance from GAIN and DSM.
SOUTHERN AFRICA REGIONAL FOOD SECURITY UPDATE: SOUTH AFRICA

Updated – 21 May 2010

Highlights
- Projections for the current 2010/11 maize marketing season indicate that South Africa will have a surplus of 2,652 million tons of maize at the end of April 2011.
- The projected bumper maize harvest in South Africa has already begun to depress maize prices in South Africa to levels last seen in the 2005/06 marketing year.

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<td>Projections by SAGIS</td>
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<td>• Projected commercial maize production has increased by 1.64% to 13.317 million MT from the 22 April 2010 forecast of 13.102 million MT.</td>
<td>The estimates released on 20 May 2010 confirm the existence of a bumper commercial maize harvest in South Africa. The domestic supply/demand position indicates a surplus of over 4 million MT which can be made available for export to destinations within and outside of the region.</td>
<td>Although South Africa’s food inflation is higher than that of most developed countries; the steady decline over since January 2009 has been maintained. In March food inflation rates were down to 1.3%; from 1.8% in February.</td>
<td>The infant mortality rate was 49/1000 live births in 2009 (State of the World’s Children report, 2009). The main cause of under-five mortality is AIDS, representing 35% of all deaths in that age group.</td>
<td>Government is partnering with agriculture and health institutions such as FAO, ARC, UNICEF, and other stakeholders to improve the existing food security initiatives e.g. Comprehensive Rural Development Programme (CRDP), community seed production schemes and nutrition interventions e.g. national vitamin A campaign.</td>
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<td>• This production is from an estimated area of 2,742 million ha, a figure that is 314,900 ha more than the 2008/09 final estimate of 2,427 million ha. Of this total area, white maize constitutes 1,720 million ha with a projected production of 7,999 million MT and yield of 4.86t/ha.</td>
<td>• Maize produced by the developing sector (mainly for substance) stands at 605,865 MT (up from 468,683 MT last season). The availability of this maize will delay the need to source maize from the markets for households in this sector.</td>
<td>• The average spot price for white maize on SAFEX fell from R1150/MT in February to R1118/MT in March and to a low of R1103/MT at the end of April.</td>
<td>• The electricity price hikes announced by Eskom are of big concern. So are the increases in minimum farm labourers wages and the fuel levy, that are expected to negatively affect the 2010/11 seasons.</td>
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<td>• The area planted to maize in the non-commercial agricultural sector is estimated at 520,940 ha, which represents an increase of 11.1 % compared to the 468,683 ha of the previous season. Due to favourable production conditions, the expected maize crop for this sector is 605,864 tons, which is 17.3 % higher than the 516,633 tons of last season.</td>
<td>• The production forecast for sorghum is 267,693 MT from 86,675ha, representing a 1.93% increase over the 262,633 MT of the previous forecast. The sorghum yield is projected at 3.09t/ha. Wet weather in April and May has slowed the harvesting process and is reducing the quality of the crop in some places.</td>
<td>• Maize produced by the developing sector (mainly for substance) stands at 605,865 MT (up from 468,683 MT last season). The availability of this maize will delay the need to source maize from the markets for households in this sector.</td>
<td>• According the estimates released on 6 May 2010, the final production estimate for the 2009 commercial winter wheat was 1,958 million MT.</td>
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<td>• The production forecast for sorghum is 267,693 MT from 86,675ha, representing a 1.93% increase over the 262,633 MT of the previous forecast. The sorghum yield is projected at 3.09t/ha. Wet weather in April and May has slowed the harvesting process and is reducing the quality of the crop in some places.</td>
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SOUTHERN AFRICA REGIONAL FOOD SECURITY UPDATE: SWAZILAND
Updated – 19 May 2010

**Highlights**
- Harvesting of maize and cotton is ongoing but estimates are that the 2009/2010 season maize harvest has increased by 6% compared to 2008/2009.
- The VAC annual assessment data collection has been completed and data analysis started on 14th May and is currently ongoing.
- Farmers have started harvesting and selling cotton to the only ginnery in the Lowveld.

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<td>The projected Maize production has increased from 70,672 MT last year to 75,068 MT forecasted for the current marketing season (2010/2011). This can be attributed to an increase in the area planted; however the yield per hectare remained low and in some areas is lower than 2009/10 season.</td>
<td>Swaziland gets all its maize imports from South Africa. The country imports a significant amount of yellow maize for the animal feed industry. Last season, a total of 31,000 MT was imported as against 24,000 MT of white maize. The remaining white maize import gap could have been covered through unrecorded maize meal imports by supermarket chains.</td>
<td>Food price increases have also come down, as experienced by other BLNS1 – with food inflation rates reduced from 1.88% in February 2010 to 1.11% in March.</td>
<td>Malnutrition in young children (&lt; 5 years) was most recently measured in the National Nutrition Survey which took place in 2008. Overall, only 1.1% of the children are wasted (low weight-for-height) and was slightly higher in rural areas compared to urban.</td>
<td>The VAC annual assessment has been completed and data analysis is on-going.</td>
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<td>Cotton delivered to the local cotton ginnery amounts to a total of 1,382Tonnes with a value of E6, 005,937 which was paid to the farmers. The harvesting of cotton is still continuing.</td>
<td>Between April and May 2010, a total of 7367.34mt of white maize was imported in April. There was a sharp increase in the white maize imported in May as 5701.99mt was brought into the country.</td>
<td>Maize grain prices range from E150-000 to E200-00 per 50 kg maize bag in rural (informal), there has been a drop in the prices of maize in the urban markets as a 50kg bag now costs E100-00 as opposed to the previous E115-00 (NMC).</td>
<td>Stunting or chronic malnutrition was found to be around 40 percent and was also slightly higher in children from rural areas.</td>
<td>The Country launched it the 2011-2015 UNDAF and Complimentary Country Assessment.</td>
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<td>Preliminary indications are that the cotton harvest will be higher than previous season. Figures will be available at the end of the harvest in August.</td>
<td>The country has seen another increase in the fuel prices from the beginning of May – petrol increased from E7.25 to E7.75 ($1.00 to $1.07 / litre) and the price of diesel from E7.45 to E8.00 ($0.11 to $1.2/ litre). The price of paraffin has also increased which will affect those who rely on it for cooking and heating as the winter season is about to start. This is the second fuel increase in a space of month. There are high prospects that fuel prices will decrease before the end of June as prices in South Africa have already decreased.</td>
<td>The Swazi VAC has collected nutrition data in the 2010 post-harvest assessment and findings will be made available in June.</td>
<td>The country is currently undertaking the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) as part of monitoring progress of MDGs. Data collection for this survey will commence on the first week of July 2010.</td>
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1 Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, Swaziland
SOUTHERN AFRICA REGIONAL FOOD SECURITY SITUATION UPDATE: ZAMBIA

Updated – 09 June 2010

**Highlights**
- The country has recorded another surplus maize harvest.
- The Zambia Vulnerability Assessment Committee has just concluded the flood impact assessment data collection in areas affected by flood in 2009/10 rainy season.
- First level cleaning for household level data for the CVAA is currently in progress.

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<td>An estimated 2,800,000 MT of maize has been recorded for the 2009/10 agricultural season, representing a 48% increase from last season.</td>
<td>The total available maize for the 2010/11 marketing season is about 3,100,000 metric tonnes and out of this, maize required for human consumption is about 1,320,000 metric tonnes and FRA intends to keep 200,000 metric tonnes in strategic reserves leaving a surplus of 1,000,000 metric tonnes for export.</td>
<td>The annual inflation rate marginally dropped from 9.2% in April to 9.1% in May, 2010 probably due the decrease in prices of some food items as the new harvest enters the markets.</td>
<td>The Jesuit Centre for Theological Reflection, which is a respected research institution in Zambia, has attributed high levels of child malnutrition to poverty compounded by high food prices affecting low income households.</td>
<td>Although the grain prices are likely to fall from the current year’s high levels partly due to the fact that there has been a large carryover of maize from last season coupled with bumper harvest recorded this season, the reduction in price may not be as much as anticipated due to increased fuel prices which will result in high transportation cost.</td>
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<td>Government has awarded contracts to three companies to deliver fertiliser across the country for the 2010/11 growing season.</td>
<td>With the new crop marketing season entering the second month, the increase in the supply of maize on the market has not yet resulted in significant reduction in the prices of maize meal.</td>
<td>Despite the reduction in the price of staple food that has led to the slight decrease in annual inflation rate, the cost of a basic food basket for a family of six rose from K901,250 in April to K924,950 in May, 2010 in Lusaka.</td>
<td>Since the global high food in 2008, food prices in Zambia have remained relatively high and this coupled with high levels of poverty makes food access in urban areas a very big challenge especially for the low income household. This therefore undermines the effort of reducing child malnutrition in the country.</td>
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<td>Production increases are likely to pose a big challenge to maize marketing especially for the small scale farmers who do not have easy access to export market. The Food Reserve Agency’s capacity to buy from small scale farmers is limited. This exposes the farmers to unscrupulous businessmen who will be buying the maize below the government floor price, a situation that might result in reduced planted areas for maize during the next season.</td>
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<td>Fuel subsidy withdrawal by the Energy Regulation Board led to the recent increase in fuel prices by up to 13 per cent and is likely to trigger price increases of food and no-food items due to high production costs with subsequent negative impacts on consumers. The worst hit will be the low income households in urban areas who are already struggling to meet their basic food needs.</td>
<td>The ZamVac is currently preparing data from the Comprehensive Vulnerability Assessment Survey for analysis.</td>
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<td>The Zambia Vulnerability Assessment Committee (ZamVac) has just concluded the flood impact assessment data collection in areas affected by floods during the 2009/10 rainy season.</td>
<td>The Zambia Vulnerability Assessment Committee (ZamVac) has just concluded the flood impact assessment data collection in areas affected by floods during the 2009/10 rainy season.</td>
<td>Despite the bumper harvest recorded this season, there is still a possibility that some households in areas affected by floods will have problems accessing food. ZamVac’s findings from the flood impact assessment will provide details.</td>
<td>Despite the good crop recorded this season there a possibility of pockets of food insecurity in the flood affected areas and the outcome of the VAC flood impact assessment will help inform the extent of crop damage and levels of food insecurity in those areas.</td>
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**SOUTHERN AFRICA REGIONAL FOOD SECURITY UPDATE: ZIMBABWE**

**Updated – 09 June 2010**

**Highlights**
- Prices of maize grain have been declining in most areas in line with the harvest period. The GMB has revised back the maize producer price to the original US$265 from the US$325 that had been announced in April 2010.
- The Government has requested for a short CFSAM

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<th>Agriculture Situation</th>
<th>Food Availability</th>
<th>Food Access/Prices</th>
<th>Nutrition, Health and Food Utilization</th>
<th>Comments</th>
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<td>The 2010 2nd Round Crop and Livestock Assessment report has been released. The combined cereal production is estimated at 1,521,460 MT for 2009/2010 against a national cereal requirement of 1,991,000 MT (1,707,000 MT) which gives a cereal deficit of about 469,540 MT (185,540 MT). The 2009/2010 maize production is estimated at 1,327,572 MT from a planted area of 1,803,542 ha with an average yield of 0.7 t/ha. The government has however, requested for a CFSAM.</td>
<td>The 2nd Round Assessment indicates that 29 rural districts produced less than requirements assuming even distribution and a per capita consumption of 133kg. In general the food security situation has improved with the current harvest. Deficit areas are mainly in (Matabeleland South, Masvingo, parts of Midlands and Manicaland Provinces). The May 2010 ZimVAC Rural Livelihoods Assessment report, likely to be released mid-June, will indicate both the levels and distribution of the food insecure population for the 2010-11 consumption year and also the relative ranking of the food security situation in wards within each of the 60 rural districts.</td>
<td>As expected during harvests period, open market prices of maize grain have generally declined. Fortnightly price decreases have been in the range 17% to 25% since the beginning of April 2010.</td>
<td>The Government, UNICEF and other partners are currently analysing results of the 2010 National Nutrition Survey which was conducted in Jan 2010 and included approx. 50,000 children &lt;5 years of age from 60 rural districts.</td>
<td>The year-on-year inflation for the country rose from 3.5% in March 2010 to 4.8% in April 2010 according to the Central Statistical Office. However, the agency reported that food inflation was declining.</td>
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<td>The Government has targeted to plant 45,000 ha of wheat, corresponding to 5,400 MT of seeds, 22,500MT basal fertilizer and 18,000MT top dressing fertilizer. USD 10 million will be made available for the purchase of fertilisers and seed. Fertiliser will be sold to farmers by GMB at USD 7 per 50kg bag. As at 3rd of June 2010, area prepared for winter wheat was 7,995 ha of which 4,328Ha had been planted. Electricity and input shortages have been reported.</td>
<td>According to the Agriculture &amp; Food Security Monitoring System (AFSMS) implemented by AGRITEX in 198 sentinel sites, during the first week of May 2010, cereals were available in 80% of sites (for anyone wanting to buy), up from the 72% reported in April.</td>
<td>The prices of maize meal have however not started showing signs of decline. The commodity is still readily available on both urban and rural markets trading from US$0.44 to $0.88 per kilogram for unrefined brands. The highest prices are being recorded in Matabeleland North.</td>
<td>The 2009 MIMS report, 35% of children &lt;5 years are stunted (37% rural, 30% in urban areas); 2% are wasted; Underweight is 12% in rural areas and 9% in the urban.</td>
<td>Economic recovery has been slow with industrial capacity utilization improving slightly from 10% to around 30% since the introduction of multi-currencies in early 2009.</td>
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<td>Urban farming has been highly applauded and encouraged for contributing towards urban food security. In Harare alone more than 12,000 hectares of land were planted in the 2009-10 cropping year, After resistance from cotton farmers, the government announced new producer cotton prices with lowest grade at US$0.33/kg and highest at US$0.42/kg.</td>
<td>On average households are expecting cereal stocks from the current harvest to last about 4 months. This does not necessarily mean that households will face starvation because other means of obtaining grain are available to the households such as purchases from other farmers, local and distant markets.</td>
<td>Tobacco prices have fallen significantly from as high as US$4/kg at the start of the marketing season to as low as US$1/kg due to high production and low international prices as the anti-tobacco lobby intensifies.</td>
<td>The Zimbabwe National Statistical Agency (ZimSTATS) has started on plans for the 2010 National Census. Accurate population figures are key in food security estimates.</td>
<td>Between March and May a significant proportion of rural households earned incomes from casual labour mostly on-farm, but this is likely to fall as the harvest period closes.</td>
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Other Countries

Angola

According to the FAO Crop Prospects and Food Situation Report, No. 2 May 2010 Angola’s maize and coarse grain are projected to be lower than in 2009 but still at nearly average level for the country. However, the country had replenished stocks (mostly maize) in the last season and could use some of them to meet consumption requirements and minimize imports during the 2010/2011 consumption period.

Botswana (Updated May 6th)

The estimated total area planted for both Communal and Commercial sectors is 127,020 ha which is 39% of the 325,000 ha cultivable land countrywide. The estimated total cereal production is 61,686 MT which represents only 31% of the 200,000 MT estimated national requirement for major cereals (sorghum, millet and maize). Cereal importation is still anticipated in the country to augment for the shortfall.

Areas in Kgalagadi North, Ghanzi, Palapye, Bobirwa, North East, Tonota and Nata which have reported poor to fair grazing, need to be reassessed by the end of May 2010 given the prevailing situation. High livestock population has been reported in Ngamiland and if not managed, it may result in overstocking and overgrazing in the district. Even though livestock condition and water availability have generally improved following the experienced rains, the rangelands have been affected by heat stress resulting in poor quality grasses in Bobirwa, Palapye, Nata, Tonota and Kgalagadi North. These imply that the prevailing conditions will not be able to sustain livestock until the next raining season, should the same conditions persist on these areas mention.

Acknowledgments

We are grateful to the respective country teams from the various Agencies in providing contributions to this report. Additional information is obtained from relevant websites as reflected in the main body of the report where applicable.

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