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Zimbabwe Food Security Desk Research: Masvingo Province

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Summary

This report presents the findings of a desk research of the food security situation in Masvingo Province. The desk research was complemented by primary data collected for a market study in the same province. The desk research focused on greater understanding of food accessibility, availability, utilization, nutrition, and gender and intersectionality issues, as well as lessons learned from past food assistance programs. A central aspect of the research is to understand factors behind food security or lack thereof in Masvingo Province. Through this study, we identify the risks, opportunities, constraints, and impacts on the achievement of outcomes in human development influenced by the agriculture and food security sectors.

Masvingo Province is a food deficit area. The province experiences food insecurity due to a number of factors that include poor rains, unfair pricing mechanisms, high input prices, lack of access to markets, land tenure insecurity, limited availability of agricultural extension services, and animal diseases. As a result, households in Masvingo Province are abandoning farm-based livelihoods.

Food access is mostly affected by policy and infrastructure challenges. Policy trials and inconsistencies, high transport costs, distance to markets, isolation of some areas during the rainy season, exchange rate-induced price variability, and cash shortages affect food accessibility in the province. Due to gender roles and time use, more women than men are affected by inaccessibility of food.

Diets are mainly cereal based, contributing to nutritional deficiencies. Undernutrition and malnutrition rates are high. Owing to this situation, a number of state and non-state actors implement food assistance programs in the province, using in-kind, cash/food for assets, cash transfers, and vouchers—all with the aim of producing long-term food security and dietary impacts, better management of shocks and stresses, and putting households on a resilient pathway.

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List of Acronyms

AGRITEX	Agricultural Technical and Extension Services
CNFA	Cultivating New Frontiers in Agriculture
CSB	Corn Soya Blend
DFID	Department for International Development
DFSA	Development Food Security Assistance
ENSURE	Enhancing Nutrition, Stepping Up Resilience and Enterprise
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FEWSNET	Famine Early Warning Systems Network
FFP	Food for Peace
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
FTLRP	Fast Track Land Reform Program
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
GMB	Grain Marketing Board
GMO	Genetically Modified Organisms
GoZ	Government of Zimbabwe
HCT	Humanitarian Country Team
LSA	Lean Season Assistance
MLAWCRR	Ministry of Land, Agriculture, Water, Climate and Rural Resettlement
MT	Metric Ton
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
ORAP	Organization of Rural Associations for Progress
SAFIRE	Southern Alliance for Indigenous Resources
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
WFP	World Food Program
WHO	World Health Organization
WV	World Vision
ZESA	Zimbabwe Electricity Supply Authority
ZimVAC	Zimbabwe Vulnerability Assessment Committee
ZRBF	Zimbabwe Resilience Building Fund

I. Introduction and Background

Background, Justification, and Objectives of the Research

Zimbabwe is a landlocked low-income, food-deficit country in southern Africa. The country has been facing numerous challenges since the late 1990s; these have negatively affected the food security situation. Among these challenges are widespread poverty, HIV and AIDS, limited employment opportunities, liquidity challenges, recurrent climate-induced shocks, and economic instability, all of which have contributed to limited adequate access to food (WFP, 2017). The agricultural sector, which is the primary livelihood for 70 percent of the population, was dominated by large commercial farms until the Fast Track Land Reform of 2000. Now 90 percent of farmers are smallholders, who work 73 percent of the agricultural land (Moyo, 2011). Smallholder farming is characterized by low productivity, lack of access to markets, lack of competitiveness, limited access to extension services, finance, and inputs, as well as frequent experience of adverse weather events. Land tenure is also a major constraint to production, especially among women. Only 20 percent of women involved in agriculture are landowners or leaseholders, which places them at a disadvantage because they lack collateral for accessing credit (Chingarande, 2009). These challenges have exacerbated Zimbabwe's food security situation to "serious," according to the 2017 Global Hunger Index (where it ranked 108th of 119).

Between 2009 and 2014, an average of 1 million people (8.3 percent of the population) were food insecure, of whom 38 percent were chronically food insecure. An analysis of food security in Zimbabwe over a period of five years reveals that the number of food insecure people has been increasing, from 2,629,159 people in the 2015/16 season to 4,071,233 people in the 2016/17 season. And although the 2017/18 season saw a drop to 1,052,768, it was followed by an increase to 2,423,568 and 5,529,209 in the 2018/19 and 2019/2020 seasons, respectively (SADC, 2019). Food insecurity is a complex problem with direct and underlying drivers that involve many sectors and contextual factors. The definition of food and nutrition security by the Committee on World Food Security (2012) is "when all people at all times have physical, social and economic access to food which is safe and consumed in sufficient quantity and quality to meet their dietary needs and food preferences and is supported by an environment of adequate sanitation, health services and care allowing for a healthy and active life."

In this context, USAID's Office of Food for Peace (FFP) began providing recovery and development support following the relative stabilization of the economy in 2010. However, the period of stabilization did not last long and recurrent economic and environmental shocks continued to affect the country. FFP awarded two development food security assistance (DFSA) projects in 2013: Amalima and Enhancing Nutrition and Stepping Up Resilience (ENSURE). Amalima is implemented by Cultivating New Frontiers in Agriculture (CNFA) in Matabeleland North and South provinces, and ENSURE is implemented by World Vision in Manicaland and Masvingo. Both programs work with rural communities to improve food security, nutrition security, and resilience to recurrent shocks and stressors.

FFP is considering the design of new DFSA activities in Zimbabwe in the provinces of Manicaland, Masvingo, and Matabeleland North. This food security analysis is intended to inform the design of a potential solicitation and to serve as a publicly available resource for potential implementing partners for applications. This report is focused on Matabeleland North Province. It provides background on the food and nutrition-security situation and recent trends in the province; relevant strategies, initiatives,

and programming in the area; key gaps and priorities for improving food and nutrition-security; and an analysis of implications USAID should be aware of for program design in the province. This review and analysis will guide both USAID/FFP and applicants' strategy for food assistance and resilience in Zimbabwe, with a particular focus on Masvingo Province. It serves to provide potential USAID/FFP partners with an analyses of context, stakeholders, lessons learned, and best practices as they relate to food and nutrition-security, nutrition, poverty, and resilience in Masvingo Province.

Methods

This review is based on desk research about aspects that are relevant to food security in Masvingo province. The review presents insights from a provincial perspective to ground future food security programming in evidence. To complement the information available, the research team conducted focus group discussions and key informant interviews drawing on experts in a variety of programming areas that are relevant for food security. Individual interviews were also undertaken with local leaders and heads of organizations in the public, private, non-governmental, and civil society organizations in Masvingo Province (see Annex I for further details).

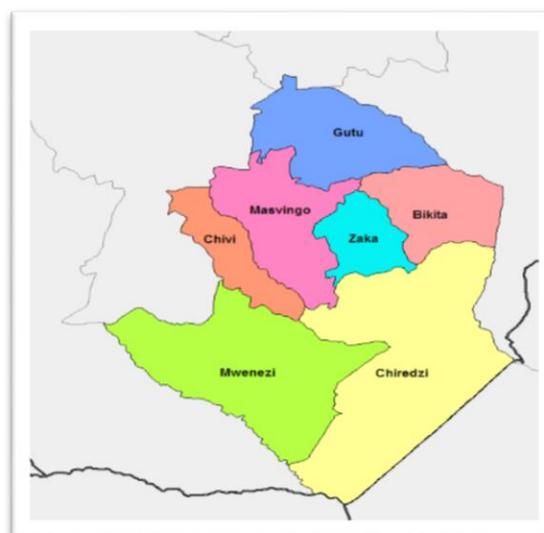
2. Contextual Overview and Analysis

Description and Analysis of the History, Context, and Operating Environment

Masvingo has an area of 56,566 square kilometers, broken in seven administrative districts (Figure 1): Mwenezi, Gutu, Zaka, Bikita, Chivi, Chiredzi, and Masvingo rural, which surrounds Masvingo administrative town. It has a population of about 1,553,145, which is approximately 11.5 percent of the national population (ZIMSTAT, 2017). The province has a population density of 27 persons per square kilometer, against a national average of 31 persons per square kilometer.

The districts are run by rural district councils (RDCs), which are composed of members elected from the wards in the district and led by a Chief Executive Officer (CEO) employed by the council. Gutu is in the north, and Mwenezi and Chiredzi are in the south and east, respectively. The districts have administrative and business centers at levels of growth points or small business centers. The Government, with its sectoral structure with ministries, operates largely at the RDC level and shares responsibilities with local authorities on the RDC. After the Provincial Administrator, the third-tier head of government is the District Administrative (DA), who has responsibility for government services, including coordination of food security matters. The DA works in close collaboration with the Department

Figure 1. Districts of Masvingo



of Social Welfare. This office is gaining importance in the context of the devolution agenda, as required under Amendment 20 of the 2013 Constitution. Traditional leaders are also an important constituency. The President of the Chiefs' Council is from Masvingo Province, making traditional issues of paramount importance in key sociocultural and livelihoods activities. The province has a fair share of private-sector businesses, from street vending (registered and unregistered), formal grocery shops, hardware shops, manufacturing entities, high producers of stock feeds, and retailers of agricultural inputs.

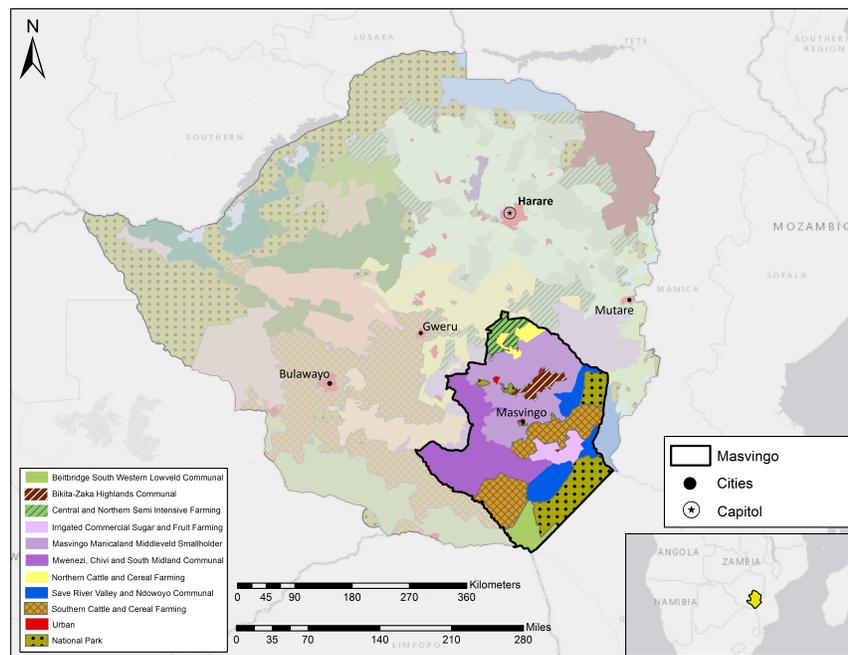
The governance and administration structures are centralized, making it possible for the government to coordinate development matters. All of the structures are within the purview of the Ministry of Local Government and National Housing. This Ministry oversees the traditional authority with regard to governance and food security matters. The DAs retain supervisory powers, and are backed by the line ministries and employers—in this case, the Public Services Commission. The oversight role of the commission is critical, not only in the context in which it pays salaries but also in how it defines the conditions of service and expected outputs. Understanding this structure across the three targeted provinces matters because the government has its own line of authority for the coordination of food security. However, whenever a drought or emergency crisis happens, the local government takes charge of coordination, and retains the Department of Physical Planning (DPP), the District Development Fund (DDF), and the Civil Protection Unit. While government gets donor assistance in food security and general livelihoods, it still retains this authority to operate outside the development partner's agreements. The coordination of all efforts matters in terms of reaching the most vulnerable in food security.

Agriculture and Livelihoods

Masvingo is the most heavily dammed province in Zimbabwe and has high potential for irrigation systems development (see Figure 2). According to the provincial administrator and the members of the Provincial Food and Nutrition Committee, a key

to development is utilization of water resources in the province. In addition, poverty reduction could be stimulated by resuscitating irrigation schemes that have been defunct, while also developing medium to small dams, including weirs in areas with high population of potential farmers. Leveraging these resources for smallholders will not only transform the province, but also address the national agricultural investment needs of Zimbabwe. However, it was noted that such

Figure 2. Livelihoods of Masvingo



Source: FEWS NET, 2011.

solutions cannot come from Government alone; they also requires support from the private sector in particular, as well as development partners who have traditionally supported a wide variety of projects in communal areas in the seven districts in Masvingo Province.

The province is dominated by the Save, Runde, Mwenezi, and Limpopo river systems, which drain directly into the Indian Ocean. Big rivers that flow through Zaka District include the Chivaka, Shange, and Chiredzi. There are many dams in the province that are under the management of Runde Catchment committee: Tokwe Mukosi in Chivi District, Manjirenji Dam in Chiredzi, Bangala Dam in Bikita, Lake Mutirikwe in Masvingo, Manyuchi Dam in Mwenezi, and Bindamombe Dam in Chivi. The Tokwe Mukosi is the largest inland dam in the country, with a capacity of 1.8 billion cubic meters and a flood area covering more than 25,000 hectares. Manjirenji Dam has total capacity of 284.2 million cubic meters, and the catchment area is 1,536 km². Bangala Dam has a total capacity of 126.6 million cubic meters, with a catchment area of 5,830 km². Mutirikwe Dam, formerly Lake Kyle, is the second-highest concrete arch dam in Zimbabwe after Kariba Dam. The dam was built to provide irrigation water to farming estates on the low veld and has a capacity of 1,378 million cubic meters. Manyuchi Dam is in Mwenezi District and is the third largest in the Limpopo basin, with a full storage capacity of 309 million cubic meters.

The combined large dams can support farming of a variety of food crops throughout the year, as the province has the best soils (*wondo*), which are salty with higher nutritional soil content than most parts of Zimbabwe. Masvingo Province is relative a semi-arid province, and the dams are key to providing water for irrigation in the cropping areas. The largest sugar cane-producing companies, such as Tongaat Hullets and Greenfuel, have large irrigation schemes for sugarcane production. They set aside some land for a smallholder irrigation scheme for food production. However, the potential is yet to be fully harnessed, which could be a long-term development investment strategy that requires private-sector funding. And as with all large dams, there is the additional benefit generating hydroelectricity for feeding to the national grid.

Natural Resources and Agribusiness in Masvingo Province

Masvingo Province has a variety of economic drivers that, if leveraged, could transform the province into an industrial hub. The province produces sugarcane and fruits but does not have a canning plant for fruits with potential to absorb smallholders into the employment value chain and provide smallholder farmers with income opportunities. The informal market has grown larger, particularly at the numerous business centers that have few formal structures for business. The marketing of produce such as crops, cattle, and small livestock is largely not documented making it difficult to draw firm conclusions about whether such activities help in food security. Food commodity markets in the province are dynamic - there are different commodities that are imported from outside the country that dominates. Nevertheless, certain seasonal food crops have surpluses that enter the highly competitive markets. Livelihood activities for most households in Masvingo are centered on vending and petty trading rather than agriculture.

Drought-tolerant and sturdy mopane trees are found throughout the province. The province is also rich in wildlife animals, with Gonarezhou National Park and conservancies such as the Save and Malilangwe, which also attract tourists in the province. However, the presence of these conservancies have led to serious human-wildlife conflicts affecting local people's livelihoods, as will be discussed in sections below. As a province with many dams, initiatives such as irrigation schemes aquaculture, and

apiculture are some of the livelihoods options that may be considered for the area. Fish and honey based on the high density of medium to large dams can be strategically tapped to develop markets and enable people to purchase foods. The influx of imported agricultural product on the shelves is overwhelming evidence of a gap in the market that is being satisfied by foreign products. Support should not be limited to primary production but should address all components of the value chains, to include processing, marketing, and linkages to finance. Integration of other components such as group savings and lending will help the communities to save while also providing access to capital for investing in their project ventures, including food-related production. The people of Masvingo's most valued possessions are cattle as this determines the status of men in their villages. Resistance to commercialization has, however, locked many people in communal areas into a cycle of poverty. A large number of cattle possessed is a sign of wealth, despite a food and material poverty levels that are on the high side (ZIMSTAT, 2003).

Infrastructure to Enable Accessibility to Food in Masvingo Province

Masvingo Province has accessible and strategic road and rail networks, including the Harare-Beitbridge highway, Masvingo-Bulawayo highway, and Masvingo-Mutare highway that connect to Forbes Border Post bordering Mozambique. The trunk road and railway infrastructure has deteriorated over the years (Harare-Beitbridge), the road network that spreads to Mutare and much of the road network connecting the districts requires rehabilitation, reflecting depressed economic activities in many districts. Such a network enables trade with both Mozambique and South Africa. The province has two airstrips: Buffalo Range Airport in Chiredzi town and Masvingo airport in Masvingo town.

The province has a good communication system, with almost 90 percent phone coverage by all networks (NetOne, Econet, and Telcel). It is only the remote parts such as Malipati, Chivi, and Bikita where cell network coverage is not efficient at times. Energy infrastructure exists through the national grid system owned and run by the Zimbabwe Electricity Supply Company (ZESA) as a holding company with subsidiaries with regional offices that provide services. However most of these roads and railway infrastructure are in bad shape as the rural district council and district development fund (DDF) is severely resource constrained.

Food security is a national priority for Zimbabwe, and Government has invested in a range of key human development programs necessary for economic development. While in all districts education infrastructure is valued, there is scope for increasing the role of research organizations and institutions to account for food nutrition in the province. There several vocational training centers and universities in the province, such as the Great Zimbabwe University (GZU), Masvingo Polytechnic and Teachers College, and Morgenstar Teachers College. These provide potential on scaling up nutrition (SUN) in the areas of nutrition research and providing information for specific decision-making at the provincial level. In addition, the training platforms for both the academics and teachers can make it possible to grow the SUNRAP academia network. The colleges are useful for training capacity development. There are significant health services institutions that deals with clinical and nonclinical aspects of nutrition, as key to food security.

3. Sectoral and Thematic Review and Analysis

The 1992 USAID Policy Determination defined food security as having three major dimensions that this report considers: availability, accessibility, and utilization.

Food Availability

Availability of food refers to the physical presence of food, whether in markets, on farms, or through food assistance. This section therefore considers food availability from this perspective.

Food Availability through Agricultural Production

Small-scale farmers (which are mostly family farmers) dominate the production of foods that are consumed at household level in the majority of subsistence situations. Large-scale farmers dominate in areas such as sugarcane, large-scale commercial cattle ranching, and sale of game meat, while smallholders dominate the production and collection of insect-based protein (mopane worms in Mwenezi, *harurwa* in Bikita and Zaka). Food production in Masvingo Province is based on farming activities, and the crops grown include maize (the staple food crop), millet, rapoko (finger millet), sorghum, groundnuts, roundnuts, soya beans, sugarcane, and fruits. Livestock production is mostly centered on cattle, goats, and sheep, with indigenous poultry being important for meat and eggs, although the existence of large and small hatcheries such as Masvingo Chicks have improved the supply of day-old chicks in the province.

Most of the seven districts in Masvingo have several programs, usually funded by development partners through local and international NGOs that compete among themselves and are poorly coordinated. They undertake initiatives such as nutrition gardens, weirs, and solar within the same environment. Much of the donor-founded and -funded projects have been abandoned, as there is always the inclination to “always start something, even, that which has failed,” noted one interviewee.

Land, Production, and Food Security in Masvingo

Access to land and land tenure impact production levels and food security. Although the literature on beneficiaries of the Fast Track Land Reform Program (FTLRP) is dated, the scenario has not significantly changed from 2003. The FTLRP restructured agrarian relations in favor of a diverse group of farmers; however, struggles over land continue to be underpinned by class, gender, age, and ethnicity (Mkodzongi and Lawrence, 2019). Although statistics on land ownership by age could not be established, Scoones *et al.* (2019) has reported the realities of the experiences of young people who have been left out of land redistribution as a result of the myth that young people are not interested in farming. Some young people who fail to secure viable livelihoods in cities have decided to go back to the countryside to try farming but have faced challenges of access to land. As a result, they have been forced to stay with parents or the extended family in order to gain access to a piece of land for farm-based livelihoods (Scoones *et al.*, 2019). Despite differences in culture and other belief systems in the various provinces, women and young people in all provinces have not accessed land as much as men. Statistics for

Masvingo Province show that female-headed households did not benefit as much as the male-headed households from the fast track land reform exercise for both the A1 and A2 models (Table 1). Models A1 and A2 are the two resettlement models that were used under the Fast Track Land Reform Program. The former was intended at decongesting communal areas, while the latter was aimed at creating a cadre of black commercial farmers and was based on the concept of full cost recovery from the beneficiary.

Table 1. Gender and Access to Land in Masvingo Province

District	A1 Model			A2 Model		
	Males (#)	Females (#)	Total (#)	Males (#)	Females (#)	Total (#)
Chiredzi	6,009	1,589	7,598	349	52	401
Gutu	4,741	673	5,414	74	9	83
Masvingo	1,717	327	2,044	129	3	132
Mwenezi	6,559	1,055	7,614	157	*	157
Mberengwa	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chivi	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	19,026	3,644	22,670	709	64	773

Source: Presidential Land Review Committee Report, 2003 (p. 120)

Interviews with stakeholders revealed that people have land but are facing serious challenges that are forcing them to give up farm-based livelihoods that no longer provide them with sufficient income and access to food. These challenges include unfair pricing mechanisms, high input prices, climate change, insecurity of tenure, and lack of access to markets, resulting in some farmers giving up farming because of the losses they incur every agricultural season. The ENSURE and Amalima Baseline Survey also observed the challenges of lack of equipment, fertilizer, inputs, water, fuel limited access to vaccines, and preventive services (USAID, 2015).

Land tenure insecurity is extremely high in the country, and agricultural production has suffered as a consequence. Very few farmers, especially A2 farmers, have secured 99-year leases, thereby fueling suspicion that only politically connected individuals can secure them. The leases have also been problematic and in most cases unworthy as collateral for bank loans (Mkodzongi and Lawrence, 2019). Table 2 shows the production statistics that reveal that since 2017, there has been a decrease in average household grain production, as reported by ZimVAC (2019).

Table 2. Masvingo Province Maize and Small Grains Production Figures, 2017–2019

Commodity	Maize (kg)			Small Grains (kg)		
	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
Production in 000kg	356.7	378.1	204.8	86.1	33	47.8

Source: Authors' analysis based on ZimVACs 2016–2019.

Community-level production constraints also include poor irrigation systems, roads, market access, limited availability of agriculture extension services, and input supplies (USAID, 2015). The FAO

Country Program Framework (CPF) (2012–2015) reports that because of land reform in Zimbabwe, farmers have become more heterogeneous both in production orientation and productivity, requiring varied approaches to adequately satisfy their needs. At the same time, the country experienced brain drain, which has affected the quality of agricultural research and extension. The need for extension services has also been expanded by climate change and variability, which has caused crop and animal diseases of diverse nature. All these circumstances have differential impacts on male and female farmers, creating a need for extension service provision that caters to both gender groups. Furthermore, the number of extension workers is not commensurate to the numbers of farmers, affecting the service they can provide to farmers.

The findings of an impact evaluation of the ZRBF program in 2018 revealed that communities in Zimbabwe's provinces, including Masvingo, still exhibit low levels of resilience, expressed in terms of various outcomes: high rates of poverty as measured by the multidimensional poverty index and poor rates of food security as measured by the food consumption score. The three types of capacities—absorptive, adaptive, and transformative—were noted to be low as well, as evidenced by lack of savings and limited access to formal and informal support services; limited diversification of livelihoods and low production of climate-resilient crops; low access to key basic services such as veterinary and agricultural extension (AGRITEX) services; and low access to markets and infrastructure (Oxford Management Policy, 2018). Development partners have therefore introduced farmer-to-farmer extension to complement public extension in delivering extension services to smallholder farmers (Dube, 2017).

ZimVAC (2019) attributed the food deficit in Masvingo Province to various factors, including:

- Droughts that have affected crops and caused death of livestock, especially cattle used as draught power
- Unaffordability of agricultural inputs for communal farmers
- Use of retained seed with reduced vigor
- Rising prices of basic goods
- Animal and crop diseases
- Effects of cyclones, which have affected production yield levels as well as access to and availability of food

Food availability in parts of Masvingo Province has been affected by Cyclone Idai, which affected Chivi and Zaka districts (IPC, 2019). The average household cereal production in the province in 2018/19 agricultural season was 204.8 kg of maize and 47.8 kg of small grains (ZimVAC, 2019). Maize production in the province declined from 378.1 kg in 2017/18 to 204.8 kg in 2018/19 season. On average, cereal stock of 49.9kg was reported in Masvingo (ZimVAC, 2019). There is a significant decrease (63.7 percent) in cereal stock from 2018 to 2019 (ZimVAC, 2019). The province is estimated to have produced only 30 percent of the five-year average (IPC, 2019). The table below is a summary of population in need of food and the required metric tons of cereals. Table 3 shows an estimated need for food assistance in the form of cereals based on the population in need.

Table 3. Cereal (Food) Requirements in Masvingo Province as of 2019

District	Population in need	Required cereal (Metric Tons)
Chiredzi	165,247	24,457
Bikita	76,034	11,253
Gutu	109,988	16,278
Chivi	149,365	22,106
Mwenezi	121,639	18,003
Zaka	146,894	21,740
Masvingo	144,916	21,448
Total	914,083	135,285

Source: ZimVAC, 2019.

Masvingo is reported to have contributed 6 percent maize to the national reserves and 16 percent sorghum (Agricultural Sector Survey, 2019). The highest prevalence of livestock diseases (35 percent) was experienced in the province (IPC, 2019). A study carried out by ZimVAC (2019) show that maize meal was not readily available in Zaka District (ZimVAC, 2019). Bikita (88.7 percent), Zaka (86.2 percent), and Masvingo (84.4 percent) districts were severely affected by fall armyworm (FAW) in the 2018/19 agricultural season, and this reduced food availability in the province (ZimVAC, 2019).

One challenge also affecting food security in Masvingo is the issue of post-harvest losses due to poor crop management. Farmers in Masvingo Province face difficulties in storing produce after harvest. Crops such as maize are stored in primitive granaries called *tsapi* or *huzo*, where the commodity is vulnerable to rodents, also known as *zviphukuto* in vernacular language, and this considerably affects the quality of the maize. The absence of modern storage facilities will result in the commodity fetching low grades, and the final price of the product will be very low. In addition, due to frequent floods over the years, the road network has been paralyzed. Therefore the few transporters that sacrifice to ply these routes charge prices that are beyond the reach of many farmers, forcing farmers to sell produce to local buyers who buy at below-market price, especially in districts such as Zaka, Mwenezi, and Bikita.

The loss of cattle is also common in Masvingo, in particular due to tick-borne diseases, and this affects most parts of the province. The Government, through the Department of Veterinary Services, has responded to emergency situations through facilitating treatment. However, given the resource constraints, farmers often are expected to seek private treatment for their cattle. However, communal stallholder livestock farmers practice free grazing systems, which often means high levels of contamination and difficulties of treating livestock. In districts such as Chiredzi and Mwenezi, the Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) is a regular occurrence because of cattle and buffalo interactions. Communal farmers do not commercialize their herds, and the culling happens because livestock succumb to diseases. According to the provincial nutritionist, they wait for “miracles to treat their livestock” and seek treatment at the point of death. Sometimes, the livestock left to wonder is stolen or killed by predators, and yet the livestock owners do not change their mindset of having a big herd and managing the herd better. Stakeholders revealed that the mentality of wanting to have large numbers without selling some to keep their herds is often overlooked, in a case where human poverty is endemic.

Food Availability through Food Assistance

The province had several food assistance programs implemented by the Government's department of Social Services, international donors, local NGOs, international non-governmental organizations (INGOs), and United Nations (UN) agencies. These agencies use different approaches including social protection, resilience building, emergency recovery, and long-term development initiatives to promote food security. The modalities used include in-kind, cash/food for assets, cash transfers, and vouchers. Only two programs are flagged out here, the ENSURE project and the ZRBF, as the Stakeholder Mapping report sheds more light on the food security programs in the province.

ENSURE Project

Since 2013, USAID has been funding the ENSURE project (2013–2020) in Masvingo Province (Bikita, Chivi and Zaka), a \$55 million project targeting 215,000 households implemented by World Vision, Care International, SNV (an international development nonprofit), and Southern Alliance for Indigenous Resources (SAFIRE) and aimed at nutrition improvements, increased income, community resilience, environmental sustainability, and gender equality. The project supports pregnant and lactating mothers and children under five years of age, with a particular focus on those under two years, as well as vulnerable households through in-kind food assistance. Food/cash for assets is also applied as a means of supporting resilience-based infrastructure and environmental projects as well as agricultural production. The aim is to reduce high levels of stunting in the province.

Zimbabwe Resilience Building Fund

One major type of support toward resilience programming is the Zimbabwe Resilience Building Fund, a long-term development initiative with the overall objective of contributing to increased capacity of communities to protect development gains in the face of recurrent shocks and stresses, enabling them to contribute to the economic development of Zimbabwe. The ZRBF is supported by the Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Water, Climate and Rural Resettlement (MLAWCRR), the European Union (EU), the Embassy of Sweden, the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), and the UK Department for International Development (DFID). The interventions are all aimed at achieving increased resilience capacities of communities to withstand shocks and stresses. The fund also supports national surveys critical for resilience programming, such as livelihoods and vulnerability assessments, poverty surveys and agriculture related surveys. This objective is reached through multi-stakeholder implementation of three interlinked multi-sectorial outputs, namely:

- Application of evidence in policy-making for increased resilience, which is achieved by setting up an independent base of evidence for program targeting and policy-making (including monitoring and evaluation) and promoting capacity assessment and building of central and local government partners to improve application of evidence.
- Absorptive, adaptive, and transformative capacities of at-risk communities increased and improved via the setting up of a multi-donor fund that allows partners to come together around the resilience framework and principles to improve adaptive, absorptive, and to a certain extent transformative capacities of targeted communities.
- Timely and cost-effective response to emergencies rolled out via existing safety net and other relevant programs, which is achieved by setting up a risk-financing mechanism that provides appropriate,

predictable, coordinated, and timely response to risk and shocks to benefitting communities, from a resilience perspective.

Food Access

Factors Determining Food Access

Access to food refers to the ability of households to procure a sufficient quality and quantity of food (USAID, 2016). Issues of policy and infrastructure play a significant role, as Zimbabwe's food markets respond to particular policy inducements. The drought and floods have also been significant factors, especially due to existing serious food challenges. In general, Zimbabwe has opened up the economy to imports since 2000 though in some recent years, such as in 2016, it has tried to control what the country could import. However, lack of production and related impacts on manufacturing has meant that the country has remained open to imports. The competitiveness of actors at the production base measured against product origin makes Zimbabwe one of the most expensive countries to produce food (FAO, 2011). Market liberalization reforms led to a tremendous increase in agricultural production costs, particularly for stock feeds, fertilizer, transport costs, and agricultural equipment, compared with agricultural prices. In fact, the dollarization of the economy and attempts to reverse it in 2019 have created serious inflationary and exchange rate problems. The low productivity of the economy has significantly impacted the agriculture sector. Key challenges relate to policy challenges, inconsistencies, and reversals, with national budgetary plans suffering from these reversals. Key economic actors are left in confusion as they try to maneuver through these rapid policy changes and regulations, which are unleashed without adequate time to understand and adjust production systems. Therefore, province markets face several key challenges.

Masvingo has food grain storage depots in all its districts. The Government has a strategy for national storage through the GMB silos: at the appropriate time for building district food stockpiles, it moves grain to depots that manage distribution through the Department of Social Welfare. In general, the means for securing food is through enhancing domestic production, importation, and public stockholding. Domestic production serves as an insurance against risks associated with imports but also has its own risk of unstable production influenced by climate shocks, which in the case of Masvingo meant food destroyed on the land and in the granaries and homes when Cyclone Idai affected Chivi and Zaka districts. Stockholding is an effective measure for sudden food shortages, but it is effective only in a short run. The optimum combination of production, storing, and enhancing food in the markets is essential in order to attain food security effectively at an affordable cost.

Food Costs¹

In Masvingo, key factors cited as affecting food availability include food price fluctuations related to the volatile exchange rate. In the province, commodities are priced differently depending on whether one is buying in RTGS, bond cash, EcoCash (mobile), or U.S. dollars. Furthermore, despite the

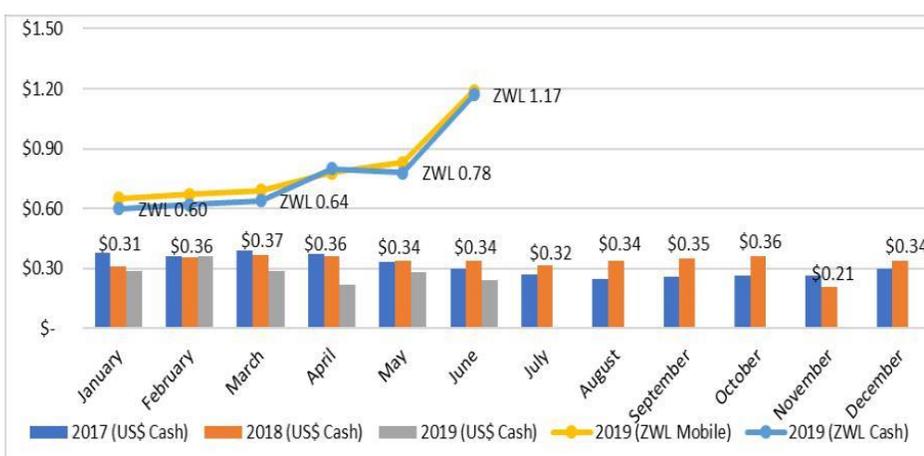
¹ More information about the market context in Masvingo Province is available in the Zimbabwe Market Study: Masvingo Province Report, available at <https://www.rtachsn.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/RTAC-Zimbabwe-Market-Study-Masvingo-Province.pdf>

pronouncement of a mono-currency system in July 2019 through Statutory Instrument 142, traders are still using U.S. dollars. In 2019, there has been a rapid rise in the price of food, while income-earning opportunities are fewer because of the costs of business, including trade, which is a main preoccupation of the people in the province. There has been a significant rises in the prices of maize meal, bread, and cooking oil, which have forced many households in the province to seek these food items in Harare, where it usually is available through informal channels. Across most of the food retailing, there is an informal price standardization determined by trade competition in the markets.

Between July and September 2019, food availability and access (particularly to maize) was feared to be affected by the enactment of Statutory Instrument 145 of 2019 (Grain Marketing Control of Sale of Maize Regulations, 2019), which made the GMB the sole buyer of maize as people held on to their stock, awaiting changes in policy or better still promotion of underhand dealings at the black market in search of attractive producer prices. The Statutory Instrument was repealed in September 2019, allowing free trade of maize by both individuals and companies. Overall, there was a sharp increase in ZWL prices of maize grain in the month of June 2019 compared to May 2019, by an average of 46 percent (WFP, 2019). This had implications on food access to the most food insecure households as affordability became an issue, making it difficult for them to access essential food commodities from the markets.

A survey conducted by the World Food Programme (WFP) across different markets in Zimbabwe (including Manicaland) in June 2019 found that maize grain was reported to be available in the market at an average price of ZWL\$1.17/kg for bond note payments and ZWL\$1.19/kg for EcoCash mobile money payments (Figure 3). The average maize grain price in June 2019 was reported to be 33 percent higher compared to ZWL\$0.78/kg reported in May 2019 for bond note cash payments. In June 2019, maize meal, which is an alternative to maize grain, was reported available at an average price of ZWL\$2.01/kg for bond note payments, which is 40 percent higher compared to May 2019 and 3 percent lower than prices recorded in the mobile money payments, averaging at ZWL2.07/kg. In June 2019, sorghum was being sold at an average price of ZWL\$1.17/kg for bond cash payments and at ZWL\$1.17/kg for mobile money payments (WFP, 2019). Annex 2 presents maize grain price information as collected by WFP and partners for a variety of markets in October 2019 (round 16th) in the framework of the emergency market monitoring efforts. Prices in Chiredzi and Mwenezi were higher than the national average for payments done in mobile money or bond notes. Prices in Masvingo were below the national average. Prices for other markets are not available.

Figure 3. Maize Grain Price Trends



Note: These figures represent averages across districts surveyed and do not refer specifically to price levels observed only Masvingo markets.

Source: WFP, 2019.

For sugar beans (Figure 4), the WFP 2019 survey revealed that sugar beans were available at an average price of ZWL\$11.24/kg, which is 42 percent higher compared to ZWL\$6.48/kg recorded in May 2019. During the same period, mobile money payments were being charged at 5 percent higher than those in bond notes, citing commission charges of money withdrawals by money traders. Mobile money payments increased to an average of ZWL\$11.87/kg from

ZWL\$6.99/kg in May 2019—a 75 percent increase compared to June 2018's at ZWL2.99/kg. Sugar beans remains the most easily accessible source of protein to poor households compared to meat probably due to its easiness to produce and also its adaptability to diverse climatic and environmental conditions. In October 2019 (Annex 2) the price of pulses in Masvingo and Mwenezi were below the national average, while prices in Chiredzi were higher. Prices for other markets are not available.

Vegetable oil was observed to be selling at an average price of ZWL\$14.13/L for bond note purchases and ZWL\$14.70/L for mobile money payments in June 2019 (Figure 5). These prices are 100 percent and 87 percent higher than prices observed in May 2019 for both bond and mobile money payments respectively. On average these prices are 92 percent higher when compared to May 2019 prices (WFP, 2019). In October 2019 (Annex 2) the price of vegetable oil in Masvingo and Mwenezi were below the national average, while vegetable oil was more expensive in Chiredzi. Prices for other markets are not available.

The official proclamation of the Zimbabwean dollar as sole legal tender through Statutory Instrument 142 of 2019 has led to significant price spikes for

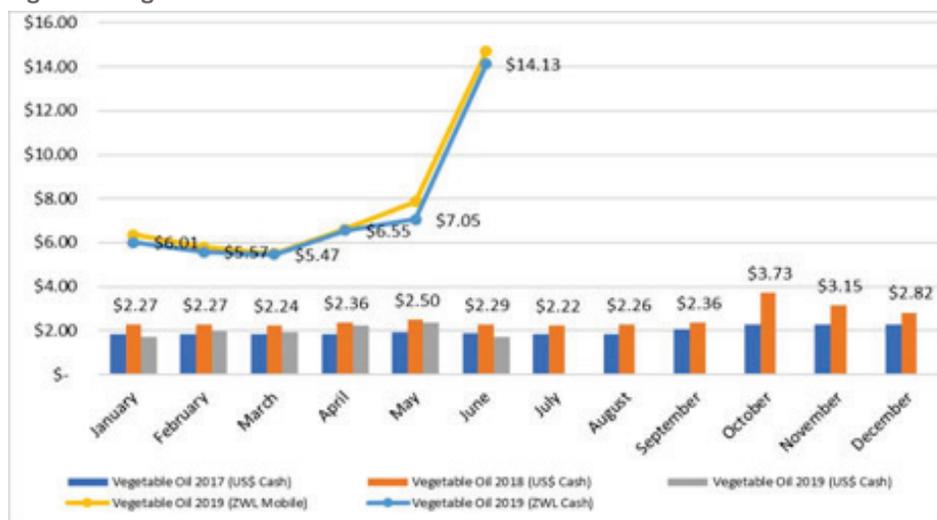
Figure 4. Pulse Price Trends



Note: These figures represent averages across districts surveyed and do not refer specifically to price levels observed only Masvingo markets.

Source: WFP, 2019.

Figure 5. Vegetable Oil Price Trend



Note: These figures represent averages across districts surveyed and do not refer specifically to price levels observed only Masvingo markets.

Source: WFP, 2019.

commodities pegged in ZWL dollars. Prices of most food commodities on the market remained stable in U.S. dollar terms but are very high in terms of the recently introduced Zimbabwean dollar (WFP, 2019). Where traders were afraid of accepting U.S. dollars, the ZWL dollar equivalency pegged at the black-market exchange rates have been observed pushing the price beyond the reach of the poor majority and vulnerable households (WFP, 2019). This reality calls for a rethinking of the mode of transfer—either cash or in-kind for the emergency food assistance—being given to beneficiaries under the cash-based programs to ensure that they are cushioned from the rising food price inflation.

Economic Shocks

At a national level, the most prevalent economic shocks reported by rural households were food price changes (93 percent) and cash shortages (81 percent). The statistics for Masvingo Province are presented in Table 4.

Table 4. Forms of Economic Shock Experienced in Masvingo Province

Economic Shocks	Proportion of households experience the shock in Masvingo Province	National (%)
Food price changes	82	93
Livestock price changes	53	60
Cash shortage	76	81
Loss of employment	6	6
Drought	54	47
Livestock death	33	30
Livestock diseases	35	
Crop pests	47	38
Human–wildlife conflict	6	

Source: ZimVAC, 2019.

The most prevalent natural shocks in the province are drought (54 percent), crop pests (47 percent), and livestock disease (35 percent). Overall, in all aspects, the shocks in Masvingo are comparable with national figures. Although Masvingo has low prevalence of human wildlife conflict (6 percent), there are concerns of destruction of crops in areas around the Save Conservancy.

Household Coping Strategies

When households encounter food security challenges, they cope by either changing consumption patterns or employing some strategies at their disposal to increase their access to food. The coping strategies have been classified into three categories of stress, crisis, and emergency, based on their severity according to the WFP technical guidance note on Consolidated Approach to Reporting Indicators of Food Security (CARI)—November 2015.

Table 5. Categorization of Coping Strategies

Category	Coping Strategies
Stress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selling household assets to buy food • Spending savings on food • Borrowing money from formal lender to buy food • Selling more livestock than usual to buy food
Crisis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing non-food expenditure to buy food • Selling or disposing of productive assets to buy food • Withdrawing children from school because of hunger
Emergency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selling house or land to buy food • Selling last breeding livestock to buy food • Begging to get food

Source: ZimVAC, 2019

In Masvingo, mining is an important activity, and food security needs to be understood in the context of how the mining sector provides income and food purchasing power for many households. Gold mining is the major mining activity undertaken by independent private miners. Renco Mine, a gold property owned by Rio Tinto, which is located 75 km southeast of Masvingo, is currently producing very little gold compared to areas like Chakari and Shurugwi. In Bikita, there is the Bikita Minerals, located 60 km east of Masvingo, which produces lithium and gold.

Beyond water and minerals, the other significant natural resources include mopane trees in Mwenezi, Chiredzi and parts of Chivi. These trees provide mopane worms, which are significant for their high nutrition and their values on the local and national markets. In districts such as Bikita, Zaka, and Masvingo, people consume *harurwa*, an edible insect with high levels of essential nutrients and antioxidants. Research by Masundire at the Chinhoyi University of Agriculture (CUT) shows that the insects contain some flavonoids, a nutrient group most famous for its antioxidant and anti-inflammatory health benefits. *Harurwa* provides 12 amino acids, three of which are often lacking in the predominantly cereal-based diets consumed. In the southern parts of the province, there is a vibrant trade of *harurwa*, which allows for poor households to have some level of disposable income for food. The management of these nature resources face challenges due to climate change. In many cases, this means the outbreak of mopane worms and *harurwa* has been limited to a few years than was the case in the past. As delicacies, it may mean that the households will lose an important food on their diets, as they will market all they collect in any season to maximize income rather than use it on household nutrition.

Food Utilization and Nutrition

Food utilization refers to the ability of individuals to properly select and absorb nutritious food and is closely connected to stability, which is the capacity to sustain acceptable nutrition over time (USAID, 2016). The results of the Zimbabwe National Nutrition Survey (2018) show that Masvingo Province has a household diversity score of 5 food groups out of 12. This indicates that there has been no significant change since the ENSURE and Amalima Baseline Survey in 2015 whose results indicated that in Masvingo Province, consumption of grain was high while consumption of legumes, nuts, eggs, and meats were low (USAID, 2015). Dietary diversity was lacking particularly among women age 15-49 and children under 5 years of age. The proportion of households that had not consumed vitamin A-rich foods and protein-rich foods from animal and plant sources in Masvingo Province was 9 percent and 21.4 percent, respectively (Zimbabwe National Nutrition Survey, 2018). The ENSURE Gender Analysis further established that food taboos for pregnant women played an important role in limiting consumption of some foods, particularly consumption of eggs (USAID, 2014). Forty-four percent of women age 15-49 in Masvingo Province had diets that met the required minimum diversity (Zimbabwe National Nutrition Survey, 2018). This calls for interventions addressing dietary diversity since improving women's diets means improving their health and their ability to work for themselves and their families; ultimately, it also contributes to gender equality outcomes. In addition, it contributes positively to pregnancy outcomes and children and infants' health and nutrition.

Given that diets are mainly cereal based, where food is available, it is not necessarily nutritious, causing people to suffer micro-nutrient deficiencies (iron, iodine, folate, vitamin A, and zinc). Undernutrition and malnutrition rates are high, especially in rural districts where diets lack diversity—maize being the main staple—and are poor in essential nutrients (SADC, 2019). Coupled with the low production levels highlighted earlier in this report, crop yields for all commodities except small grains do not last for a year, with six months, October to March as the most difficult months for households in terms of access to food, as households do not have their own stocks and are accessing all food from purchases. As a result, Masvingo Province has a high rate of malnutrition. In 2019, the prevalence of Global Acute Malnutrition was at 0.22 percent; the prevalence of Severe Acute Malnutrition rate was at 0.3 percent (ZimVAC, 2019). At 23.8 percent, Masvingo Province still registers high prevalence of stunting among children between 0 and 59 months old, which is above the World Health Organization (WHO) thresholds of 20 percent (ZimVAC, 2019). However, this proportion has decreased about three percentage points with respect to 2015 levels (27 percent as reported in the 2015 Demographic Health Survey).

Social Factors

The people of Masvingo are embedded in the informal sector for income earning, jobs, services, goods, foods, creating a huge complex market place. The trading activities involves tactfully sourcing and selling scarce commodities in the uncertain environment where people have to constantly change what they are involved in. Cross-border trading has changed beginning in the 2000s as more people across ages and ethnicities have migrated to South Africa. Trade relations have changed with a stronger role played by women (Muzvidziwa, 2005). Women have increasingly populated trade and have become the main interlocutor of bringing goods to Zimbabwe, while also selling various products, including agricultural produce such as bambara nuts (*nyimo*), groundnuts (*nzungu*), mopane worms, and fresh and dried vegetables. The tradition of men going to South Africa has been decreasing and thus gender relations

have been transformed. However, there is room still for better understanding, given the generally high rates of gender-based violence (GBV) (Muzvidziwa, 2005).

Understanding how small traders negotiate their way past international borders is fundamental to the growing power of smallholders in the marketplace. For survival, smallholders are becoming more astute and pushier and adopting several strategic methods of passing through visible and invisible roadblocks. Women traders succeed in weaving through international borders and dealing with police authorities and at times corrupt, rent-seeking officials. These women use practices including developing strong ties with the border officials who regulate movement of goods between Zimbabwe and South Africa. Other women traders do pay duties or find ways of bribing officials. Sometimes, they said, when they get there, the authorities will be in no mood to negotiate passage, and sometimes, the officers abruptly change (Muzvidziwa, 2005).

Youth

Many young people in Masvingo Province have built their livelihoods on trading agriculture commodities locally and regionally. A few of the youths are involved in agricultural services and processing sectors. Agriculture in Masvingo is rainfall dependent, despite having the largest number of dams. In the new schemes, such as irrigation around Tokwe Mukosi, there is severe competition for access to land, and youths of Masvingo have lost out. What they lose in terms of crop production is also repeated in losses with livestock, due to heat stress, new forms of diseases, and the intensity of livestock diseases. These diseases pose the risk of reduced production, income, employment, and—hence—food security (ZimVAC, 2019).

Though young people enter agriculture, a large number exited as they looked for job opportunities in towns. However, the low capacity in job creation in manufacturing and services means that many young people in Masvingo cannot be absorbed into the labor force, which undermines their current and future food security. There are many organizations trying to interest youths in the agriculture development sector. Interviews with stakeholders revealed that though the pace is slow, there are signs of change, with organizations such as the Community Tolerance Reconciliation and Development (COTRAD) at the Great Zimbabwe University collaborating with other youth community-based organizations in Masvingo Province in engendering a positive community life. The Masvingo Youth Network, Youth Forum, Chivi Youth Forum, Gutu Youth Forum, Forum for Democracy, and Dzimbahwe Poets are all likely partners in leveraging food security through production and processing. COTRAD has also built networks with other youth organizations in the form of the Student Solidarity Trust and the Youth Empowerment and Transformation Trust.

4. Review of Lessons Learned

Good practices from USAID/FFP and other Donor Programming

A good practice promoted by the ZRBF program cited earlier in this report is the building of evidence to inform both policy and programs, including production of analytical products such as the Multiple Hazard Index Mapping of the country; the Correlation Analysis between hazards and wellbeing

outcomes; the Problem Tree Analysis to understand root causes of the problems identified in the areas that are prone to multiple hazards; and the Gender, Climate and Livelihoods Analysis in some of the more vulnerable areas. However, a major critique of the ZimVAC surveys that should be addressed is that they do not include all variables typically needed to measure resilience, such as the social capital index, data to compute bonding and bridging social capital separately, and data to compute transformative capacity (USAID, 2018).

There is limited recognition that certain market factors and functions play significant roles in determining household food security and nutrition. Above market pricing for maize creates access challenges for the producers who are net consumers of grain, due to low productivity. Currently traders and processors shun engaging smallholder farmers due to high transaction costs. There is insufficient investment in processing, storage and value-addition, which limits the opportunities for smallholders to engage national and regional markets.

The GMB is mandated to ensure the maintenance of the strategic grain reserves as physical stock of 500,000 tons and 450,000 tons in funds to enable the importation of grain for the country. Due to funding and storage challenges, the GMB has failed to maintain strategic grain reserves or stock. The utilization of the strategic grain reserve (SGR) is also not transparent, and a comprehensive Cereal Balance Sheet incorporating all the key sources of cereals, *i.e.* production, stocks, and imports, is not shared with the stakeholders to facilitate informed decision-making.

Inadequate response to climate and disaster risk. The food systems in the country have largely been unsustainable. The majority of the farmland lies in Natural Regions IV and V, which are not suitable for rain-fed crops, possibly with the exception of drought-resistant small grains. There is also an inadequate use of climate-resilient agricultural practices such as conservation agriculture. The input programs are also not promoting agricultural diversification due to the focus on maize even in areas that are not suitable for it.

Lack of sustained advocacy to enhance awareness on food and nutrition security issues. Acceptance of practices that prevent malnutrition requires longer-term behavioral change and needs continued focus on nutrition-sensitive and specific approaches to encourage behavior change over the long term. There is growing evidence that multi-sector interventions have great potential to reduce stunting in children; however, it is not always possible to galvanize organizations to adopt nutrition-sensitive approaches in their programming.

Low coverage of high-impact nutrition interventions. A good practice by the ENSURE program was the centrality of gender and resilience in addressing food insecurity challenges. Significant achievements were registered in terms of behavior change on gender-related norms on food consumption, task sharing, appreciation of the nutritious value of small grains, exclusive breastfeeding, and involvement of women in tasks traditionally meant for men in food for asset projects. Food distribution should therefore be complemented by behavior change programs linked to challenging negative social norms, recipes for the food distributed, and appreciation of the nutritional value of certain foods such as small grains.

Lessons learned on food assistance, particularly regarding quantities of cereals and pulses, were that although beneficiaries felt that the quantities were sufficient, they preferred all children under five to benefit from ENSURE because pregnant mothers found it difficult for children of such ages to watch them eat. They were then forced to share with all children in the household who were not supposed to

benefit from the ration, resulting in ration dilution. Furthermore, in the absence of in-kind food assistance targeting other household members, the whole family would share the ration meant for pregnant and lactating mothers and children under two. As a result, the ration would not last for the intended duration and would not serve the intended purpose of reducing stunting. Due to the cost of cooking oil, beneficiaries also used the vegetable oil meant for the corn soya blend (CSB) to prepare other meals and prepared CSB without vegetable oil. An increase in pregnancies by those households wishing to benefit from the program was also noted.

Conclusions

The Government of Zimbabwe has joined other countries throughout the world in ratifying key international instruments that safeguard the right to food and seek to improve food and nutrition security. The commitment is further demonstrated by the development and implementation of several national policies and strategies that create an enabling policy environment. These policies include a comprehensive Social Transfer Policy Framework, the Food Deficit Mitigation Strategy, the National Food Fortification Strategy, and the Drought Mitigation Strategy and Action Plans. The policies and strategies signal a transition by policymakers toward a long-term developmental approach to asset creation activities that respond to a wide variety of shocks and stresses. However, a gap remains on the implementation of high-impact interventions for the prevention of malnutrition in food-insecure provinces such as Masvingo.

Despite substantial progress in the reduction of the prevalence of acute malnutrition, treatment of sick children with acute malnutrition remains a critical gap. Life-saving therapeutic nutrition commodities constitute the main cost in treating acute malnutrition. Currently, the procurement of these commodities is heavily dependent on donor support.

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Raft of policy measures in different sector that are linked

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- Food Deficit Mitigation Strategy
- Infant and Young Child Feeding Policy, 2013
- National Food Fortification Strategy, 2014
- National Nutrition Strategy for Zimbabwe, 2014–2018
- PMTCT & Pediatric HIV Prevention, Treatment & Care National Plan, 2014–2018
- Reproductive Health Policy and Maternal and Neonatal Health Road Map, 2007–2015
- Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN)
- Social Transfer Policy Framework
- Zimbabwe Drought Risk Management Strategy

Annex I. Organizations Interviewed

Table 6. List of Organizations Interviewed

Organization	Area/field
RUDO	Livelihoods, development, mining, WASH
Great Zimbabwe University	Food security, development
Provincial Food and Nutrition Security Council	Food security
Centre for Gender in Masvingo	Food and nutrition security and issues of women's land rights
Hope Tariro Trust	Youth
Masvingo Association of Residential Care	Urban issues of poverty and WASH
Local NGO	Livelihoods, food security, child welfare
Provincial Administration	Public sector
Ministry of Health and Child Care	Nutrition, public sector
Social Welfare	Social welfare

Annex 2. Food prices in October 2019

Table 7. Maize Grain Prices, October 2019

Maize Grain							
Market	Availability	USD	Rands	Bond Notes	Mobile Money	Bond 11/10/2019	%Bond Note Price Change
Chiredzi	0%	\$0.34	ZAR 5.71	ZWL 3.43	ZWL 4.00	ZWL 2.29	50%
Masvingo	0%			ZWL 2.53	ZWL 2.80	ZWL 2.23	13%
Mwenezi	2%			ZWL 3.43	ZWL 3.71	ZWL 2.31	48%
National Average	10%	\$0.32	ZAR 5.71	ZWL 3.16	ZWL 3.36	ZWL 2.34	13%

Source: Extracted from WFP, 2019 (page 1).

Table 8. Sugar Bean Prices, October 2019

Sugar Beans							
Market	Availability	USD	Rands	Bond Notes	Mobile Money	Bond 11/10/2019	%Bond Note Price Change
Chiredzi	100%			WVL 55.02	ZWL 60.82	ZWL 22.53	144%
Masvingo	100%			ZWL 19.12	ZWL 20.67	ZWL 15.81	21%
Mwenezi	69%	\$2.49	ZAR 34.18	ZWL 24.66	ZWL 25.64	ZWL 27.30	-10%
National Average	61%	\$2.43	ZAR 33.40	ZWL 32.64	ZWL 33.94	ZWL 22.80	16%

Source: Extracted from WFP, 2019 (page 3).

Table 9. Vegetable Oil Prices, October 2019

Vegetable Oil							
Market	Availability	USD	Rands	Bond Notes	Mobile Money	Bond 11/10/2019	%Bond Note Price Change
Chiredzi	100%			ZWL 29.79	ZWL 31.63	ZWL 27.81	7%
Masvingo	100%			ZWL 20.88	ZWL 22.81	ZWL 13.33	57%
Mwenezi	95%	\$1.69	ZAR 22.86	ZWL 21.54	ZWL 23.30	ZWL 20.96	3%
National Average	96%	\$1.66	ZAR 22.58	ZWL 23.02	ZWL 25.55	ZWL 21.65	3%

Source: Extracted from WFP, 2019 (page 4).