

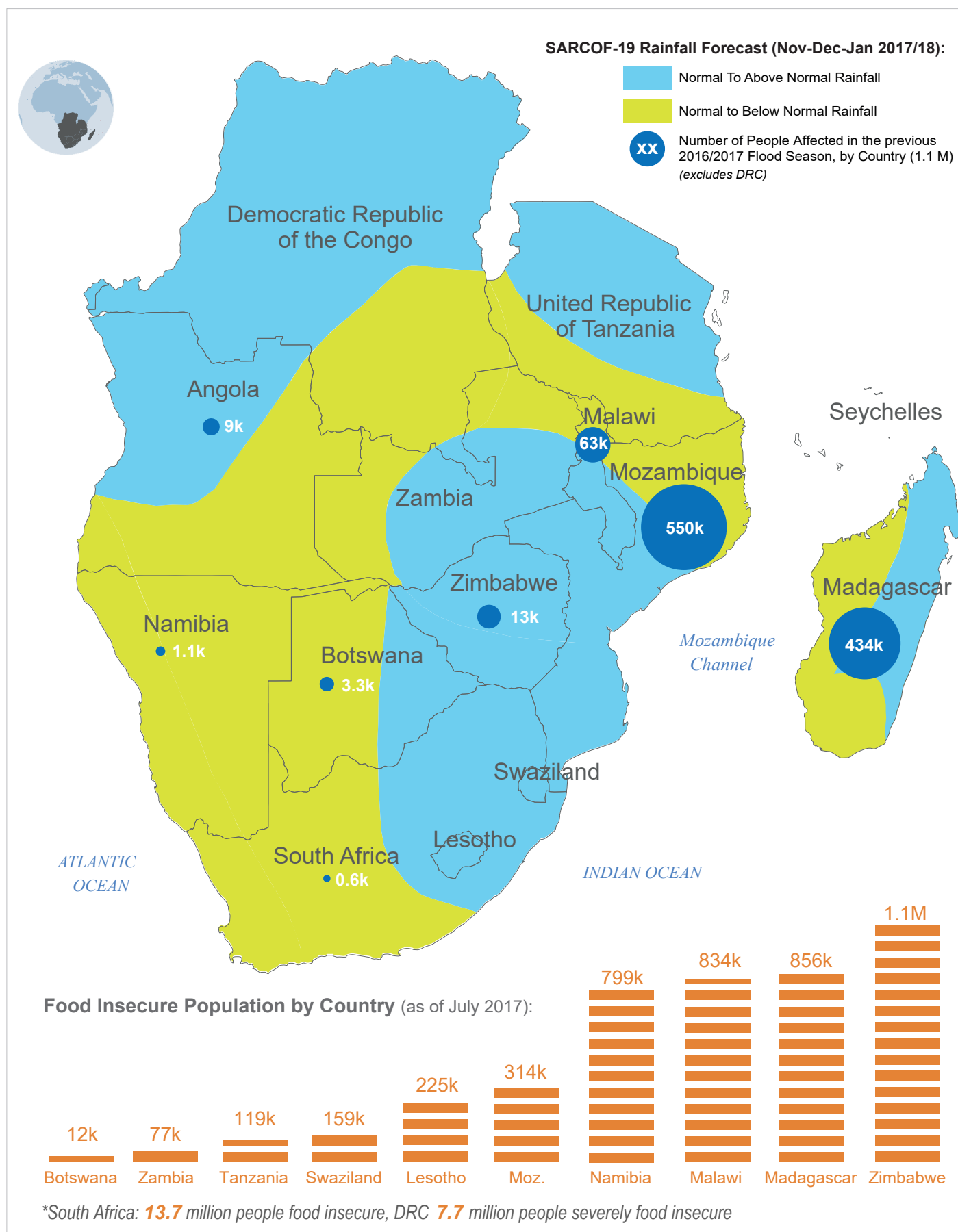
# RIASCO HUMANITARIAN OUTLOOK FOR **SOUTHERN AFRICA**

— NOVEMBER 2017-APRIL 2018 —

Photo: OCHA



## SOUTHERN AFRICA OVERVIEW MAP (October 2017)



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# 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Southern Africa continues to recover from the 2015/2016 El Niño-induced drought, which by January 2017 had affected about 41 million people across the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC)<sup>1</sup>. The substantial government- and SADC-led response, supported by \$900 million from the international humanitarian community<sup>2</sup>, empowered farmers to take advantage of a good 2016/2017 rainfall season, delivering an April 2017 cereal harvest 3 per cent above the 5-year average.

However, at least 5 million people across the region continue to require emergency humanitarian assistance<sup>3</sup>. Most Southern Africans rely on rain-fed subsistence farming, which is vulnerable to even the slightest shock, attested to by high levels of child malnutrition<sup>4</sup>. New outbreaks of highly pathogenic avian influenza are impacting poultry and wild bird populations. The Fall Armyworm (FAW), a new pest to the region, has the potential to cause widespread crop damage and has already been reported in 11 SADC countries.

Normal to above-normal rainfall is predicted for the second half of the upcoming rainy season (January to March 2018). While conducive to agricultural production, the rains will inevitably lead to flooding, and tropical cyclones will likely affect Indian Ocean Countries. Most at risk of flooding are Mozambique, Madagascar, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Swaziland and Malawi. Cholera is endemic to several Southern African countries, and flooding will exacerbate poor water and sanitation conditions, which in Madagascar is contributing to an unprecedented urban plague outbreak. New and old conflicts in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) continue to affect Southern and Eastern Africa as people cross international borders in search of safety.

The population of SADC has doubled since 1990 to about 333 million people<sup>5</sup>. Over the past six years the region has recorded economic growth of around 4.4 per cent<sup>6</sup>, which is far below the SADC growth target. Yet even this meagre growth does not necessarily improve the lives of the most vulnerable in society. As summarized by the African Development Bank in their 2015 flagship report: "Poverty and inequality reduction has remained less responsive to growth successes...Africa's recent economic growth has not been accompanied by a real structural transformation"<sup>7</sup>. Southern Africa accounts for six of the world's 10 most unequal countries<sup>8</sup>. The region remains the global epicenter of the HIV epidemic with 8 countries having a prevalence above 10 per cent.

Malnutrition remains high in the region, with 13 of the 15 countries reporting stunting prevalence above 20 per cent, and 7 countries reporting stunting prevalence above 30 per cent. Similarly, prevalence of global acute malnutrition (GAM) is >5 per cent in 8 of 15 countries in the region, with the highest reported national prevalence in Madagascar at 8.6 per cent<sup>9</sup> (13.9 per cent at district level)<sup>10</sup>. Prevalence of acute malnutrition and admissions are expected to increase in the region as a result of the lean season from October through March and partners are preparing contingency plans including nutrition response activities for the upcoming lean season.

<sup>1</sup> SADC Regional Humanitarian Final Report (March 2017): <https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/southern-eastern-africa/document/sadc-regional-humanitarian-response-final-report-march>.

<sup>2</sup> Funding data for the 7 RIASCO priority countries: Angola, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Swaziland and Zimbabwe. See <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/report-riasco-action-plan-el-ni-o-induced-drought-southern-africa-20162017>

<sup>3</sup> Excludes DRC and South Africa.

<sup>4</sup> See <https://reliefweb.int/report/madagascar/southern-africa-malnutrition-snapshot-july-2014>

<sup>5</sup> World Bank. <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.POPTOTL?page=2>. Retrieved 10 Oct 2017

<sup>6</sup> SADC Committee of Central Bank Governors. <https://www.sadcbankers.org/EconomicData/Pages/RecentDev.aspx>. Retrieved 10 Oct 2017.

<sup>7</sup> See <https://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/poverty-and-inequality-reduction-has-remained-less-responsive-to-growth-successes-across-the-continent-says-afdb-african-development-report-2015-15984/>

<sup>8</sup> Beegle, Kathleen, Luc Christiaensen, Andrew Dabalen, and Isis Gaddis, 2016, *Poverty in a Rising Africa*, Washington, DC: World Bank

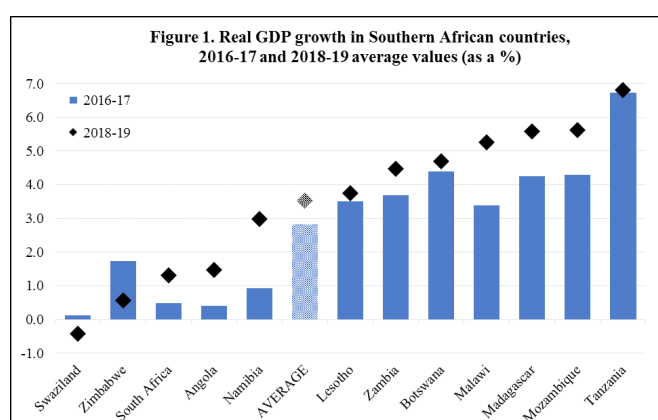
<sup>9</sup> 2017 SADC RVAA Synthesis Report

<sup>10</sup> 2017 Madagascar SMART Survey

## 2. MACRO-ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

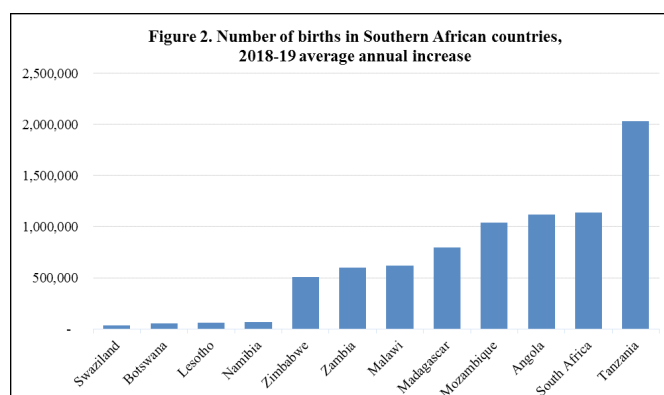
In Southern Africa, sustained population growth, modest economic growth, and pervasive inequality have combined to cause a drop in relative poverty but a rise in absolute poverty. Some 88 million people across Southern Africa are estimated to be living in extreme poverty (i.e. living on less than US \$1.90 per day). There is a direct relationship between poverty and inequality, including gender inequality, in the region, leading to chronic vulnerability.

The near-term economic outlook for Southern African countries is overall positive, but limited, and varies significantly from country to country. When comparing the past two years (2016-17) with the forthcoming two-year period, real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth is expected to improve marginally, from 2.8 to 3.5 per cent, on average, across the region (Figure 1). However, there is significant variance in the pace of growth. For example, four countries are expected to undergo rapid expansion beyond five per cent per year over the near term (Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania), while four are projected to grow at less than two per cent (Angola, South Africa, Swaziland, Zimbabwe).

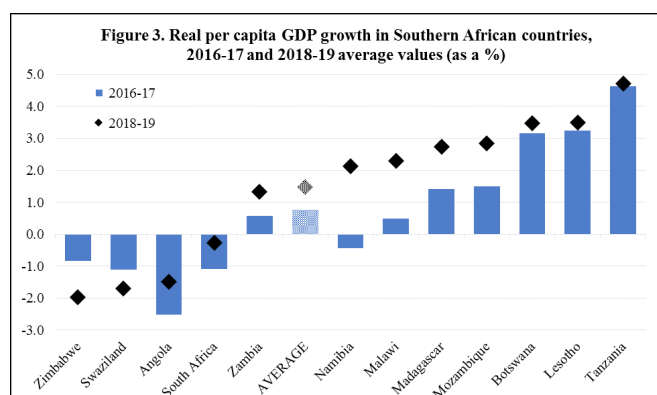


Source: UNICEF ESARO calculations based on the IMF's World Economic Outlook database (October 2017)

More worrisome is that economic growth is not keeping up with population growth. On aggregate, Southern African countries will welcome 8 million new lives each year in 2018 and 2019 (Figure 2). This amounts to more than 1 million per year in Angola, Mozambique and South Africa, and more than 2 million in Tanzania. Once factoring in these demographic changes, the near-term economic outlook turns much less favorable. In per capita terms, real GDP growth falls to a sluggish 1.5 per cent for the region, on average (Figure 3). Only one country is projected to experience per capita income growth over four per cent over the next two years, while four countries will be in the negative (Angola, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zimbabwe).



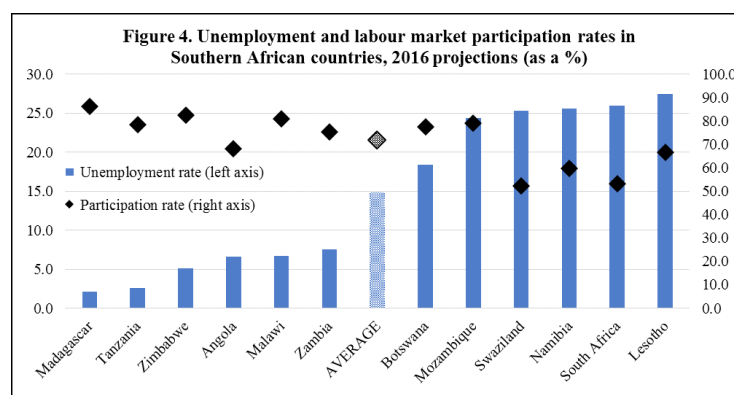
Source: UNICEF ESARO calculations based on UNDESA World Population Prospects 2017 (medium variant)



Source: UNICEF ESARO calculations based on the IMF's World Economic Outlook database (October 2017)

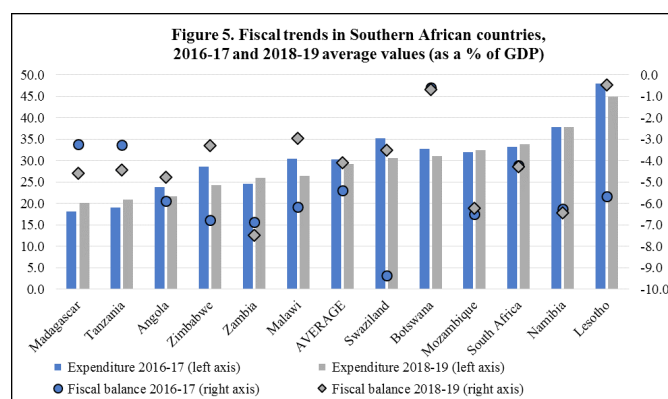
Economic growth is also failing to generate enough jobs. Although difficult to measure, the latest estimates indicate that unemployment is a pervasive challenge for Southern African countries, resulting in chronic vulnerability. The overall regional rate was around 15 per cent as of 2016, which is high (Figure 4). However, one in four or more persons in Lesotho, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa and Swaziland are without a job, which has huge

implications for livelihoods security. The extent of the challenge is further revealed when reviewing the labour market participation rate, which captures the number of people who are either employed or actively looking for work. Under this metric, around 30 per cent of persons who could be working in Southern African economies have entirely stopped looking for a job, on average (also Figure 4). This number reaches nearly one in two in Lesotho and South Africa, underscoring the severity of the jobs and livelihoods crises facing many countries.

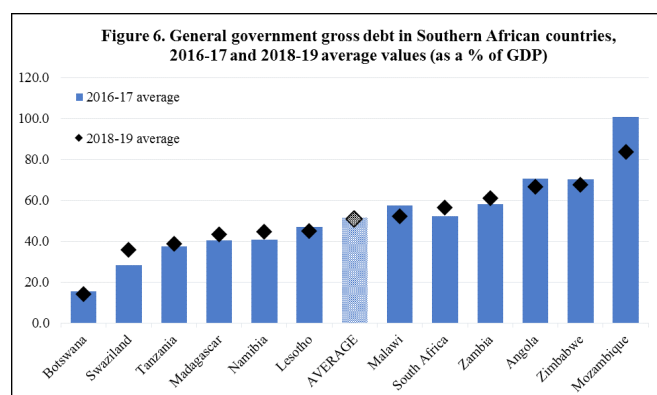


Source: ILOSTAT (retrieved November 2017)

In terms of government finances, the majority of governments are moving toward fiscal consolidation in order to reduce deficits. As a regional aggregate, total government expenditure is expected to decline from 30.3 to 29.1 per cent of GDP when comparing the 2016-17 and 2018-19 time periods; this should transform into improved fiscal deficits – the difference between total government revenue and expenditure – by about 1.3 per cent of GDP, on average (Figure 5). In total, seven governments are decreasing spending by an average of 2.8 per cent of GDP. Lesotho, Malawi, Swaziland and Zimbabwe are projected to undergo the steepest cuts, by more than 3.0 per cent of GDP when comparing 2016-17 and 2018-19 spending values. In contrast, several governments are ramping up overall spending, including Madagascar and Tanzania by nearly 2 per cent of GDP.



Source: UNICEF ESARO calculations based on the IMF's World Economic Outlook database (October 2017)

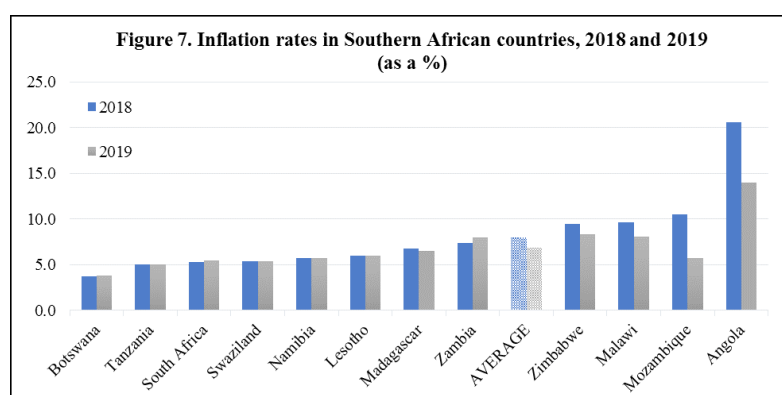


Source: UNICEF ESARO calculations based on the IMF's World Economic Outlook database (October 2017)

In line with fiscal consolidation, government debt levels are expected to taper, albeit slightly. For the group of Southern African countries as a whole, total gross debt is expected to fall from 51.5 to 50.8 per cent of GDP when comparing the 2016-17 and 2018-19 time periods (Figure 5). Mozambique's debt levels are expected to improve dramatically (by more than 17 per cent of GDP), as are Malawi's (by 5 per cent of GDP). However, debt is forecasted to increase in six countries, led by Swaziland (at nearly 8 per cent of GDP) and followed by Namibia and South Africa (at around 4 per cent of GDP). According to the criteria outlined in the IMF's latest Debt Sustainability Framework<sup>1</sup>, Angola, Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe could experience distress over the near term due to their prevailing debt levels and policy environment.

<sup>1</sup> Available at: <http://www.imf.org/en/Publications/Policy-Papers/Issues/2017/10/02/pp082217LIC-DSF>

Lastly, governments are paying increasing attention to containing changing price levels. The overall inflation rate is projected to be around 8.0 per cent in 2018 and 6.8 per cent in 2019 for the region, on average. Countries which have recently experienced inflation near or above 20 percent, including Angola, Malawi and Mozambique, are all expected to improve over the near term. Angola does remain high, but is trending toward single digits. The other major concern is Zimbabwe. Although its days of hyperinflation ended with the introduction of a basket of foreign currencies in 2009, it continues to issue bond notes (at parity with the U.S. dollar), which could potentially drive prices far beyond the current forecasts.



Source: IMF's World Economic Outlook database (October 2017)

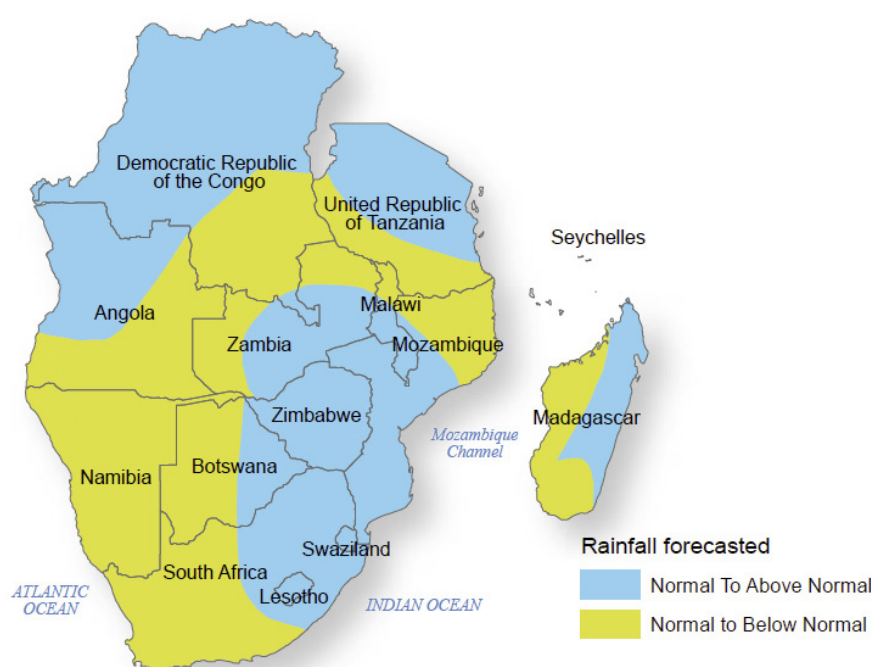
In sum, Southern African countries are facing several macroeconomic risks over the near term. The biggest concern is that economic growth is not keeping pace with demographic growth and further failing to supply sufficient jobs. As a result, any major external shocks, such as a natural disaster or a sudden drop in global commodity prices, could have a severe impact on livelihoods. The other worrisome trend is fiscal consolidation. As many governments are scaling back spending, it will be important to monitor investments in key livelihood and social programmes and services, as reductions in investments could further increase household level vulnerabilities.

### 3. REGIONAL SEASONAL RAINFALL FORECAST

The Southern Africa Regional Climate Outlook Forum (SARCOF) issued its preliminary regional seasonal forecast for the October 2017 to April 2018 rainfall season<sup>11</sup>. Overall, the region is expected to receive normal to below-normal rainfall for the first half of the season (October to December 2017), followed by normal to above-normal for the second half (January to March 2018). However, northern South Africa, southern Zimbabwe and northern Zambia are expected to receive normal to above-normal rainfall over the entirety of the season. The El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) is neutral, meaning that it does not provide forecast data, making local factors more significant and prediction more difficult.

#### SOUTHERN AFRICA REGIONAL CLIMATE OUTLOOK SUMMARY (2017)

NOVEMBER 2017 TO JANUARY 2018



#### 3.1 POTENTIAL HUMANITARIAN IMPACTS

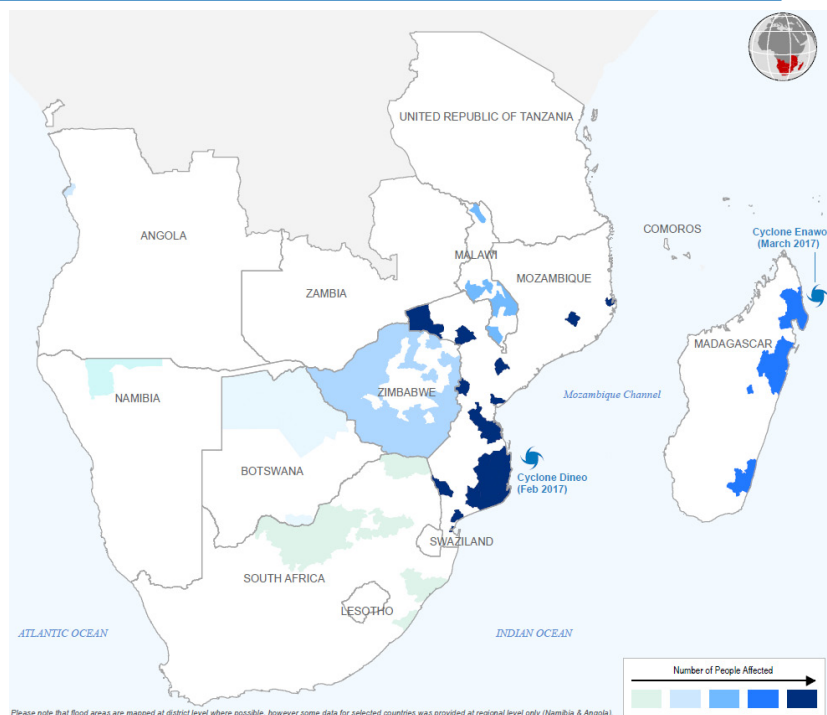
Every year floods affect hundreds of thousands of people across Southern Africa - more than a million people were affected during the October 2016 to May 2017 season, for example<sup>12</sup>. The risk of floods will increase as the 2017-2018 rainy season progresses, with heavier rains expected from January 2018, coupled with the effects of cumulative waterlogging. Countries most at risk are Mozambique, Madagascar, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Swaziland and Malawi (the latter historically vulnerable).

The forecast cannot predict tropical cyclones. However, given their high historical frequency and the above average rains expected during the most cyclone-active period (February to March), preparedness is crucial, especially for the Indian Ocean island countries and Mozambique. The region has already been affected by two cyclones this year in February and March 2017 respectively, when Tropical Cyclone Dineo affected 550,000 people in Mozambique and Tropical Cyclone Enawo affected 434,000 people in Madagascar.

<sup>11</sup> See SARCOF Press Release: <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/statement-twenty-first-annual-southern-africa-regional-climate-outlook-forum-sarcof-21>.



## SOUTHERN AFRICA: FLOODS AND CYCLONE (RAINFALL SEASON OCT 2016 - MAY 2017)



Heavy rains cause pools of stagnant water and overflowing sewage systems, which increases the risk of water-borne diseases, especially cholera, which is endemic in several countries in the region. Of most concern is Tanzania, where a cholera outbreak has been ongoing since August 2015, with 3,801 cases and 64 deaths reported on mainland Tanzania (case fatality rate 1.7 per cent) from 1 January to 10 November 2017, along with 358 cases and 4 deaths (case fatality rate 1.1 per cent) on Zanzibar Island. In the past 12 months cholera outbreaks have been also recorded in Angola (linked to outbreaks in DRC<sup>13</sup>), Zambia, Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Malawi.

While floods and waterlogging often damage crops, the forecast bodes well for the April 2018 harvest (and thus food security) across the region, including the exporting countries of Zambia and South Africa. This indicates the potential for a continuation of the region's recovery from the El Niño drought-affected April 2016 harvest. However, above-normal rainfall does not necessarily translate into above-average harvests, which depend on temporal and local rainfall distribution in addition to rainfall total. Rains could start late and fall all at once. The forecast also cannot predict whether the rainfall will come from destructive cyclones, which affect Indian Ocean countries' crops/harvests every year, especially Madagascar and Mozambique.

<sup>13</sup> <https://reliefweb.int/report/madagascar/who-afro-outbreaks-and-other-emergencies-week-41-7-13-october-2017-data-reported>.

## 4. FOOD, LIVELIHOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY

### 4.1 REGIONAL FOOD PRODUCTION, INCLUDING THE IMPACT OF FALL ARMYWORM

Good rains coupled with governments' drought recovery interventions have contributed to a significant increase in maize production in Southern Africa in 2017. The heavy rains in some areas also helped suppress the impact of the Fall Armyworm (FAW), a new pest to the region, which has already invaded 11 SADC countries. Temperatures were also below average for much of the season, which reduced evapotranspiration.

#### MAIZE PRODUCTION AND PRICES

For the 12 countries that provided SADC with maize production data (excluding DRC, Madagascar, Mauritius, and Seychelles), production increased by 28 per cent from 33.8 million tons in 2016 to 43.3 million tons in 2017. Several countries recorded significant production increases over the previous years: Lesotho nine-fold, Zimbabwe quadruple, Swaziland triple, and South Africa double. International cereal imports have ceased, as domestic supplies are adequate.

Maize prices have been decreasing rapidly in most Southern African countries since the beginning of the harvest period in April 2017, and the region is expected to be cereal sufficient during the 2017/18 consumption year. Country level cereal deficits are likely to be low given the above-average net supplies in South Africa and Zambia this year and sufficient supplies in Malawi and Mozambique. Flows from within the region will most likely address the deficits in Botswana, Namibia, Lesotho and Swaziland that rely heavily on South Africa as well as typically surplus-producing Tanzania. Large surpluses in South Africa will most likely be exported internationally while those in Zambia may supply the East African market, which has some cereal deficits. Maize grain prices are likely to trend at levels much lower than those of the 2016/17 consumption year and similar to or below five-year average levels due to above average supply.

#### FALL ARMYWORM

FAW<sup>14</sup> was first reported in Southern Africa in December 2016 and has since spread to all SADC countries except Lesotho and the island states. According to SADC<sup>15</sup>, uncontrolled FAW infestations can cause total crop losses. Preliminary assessments conducted between February and April 2017 found that approximately 356,000 hectares of crops were affected by FAW infestations in seven SADC Member States (Botswana, DRC, Malawi, Namibi, South Africa, Swaziland and Zambia, with no data available on other affected states). In Zambia, \$3 million was allocated in 2017 for replanting affected farms. FAW will likely become a significant problem for the region. It is a quarantine pest and could impact on import bans. There is therefore an urgent need to understand the adaptation, population dynamics and dispersal factors of the pest in this new environment<sup>16</sup>.

Farmers have and will continue to develop their own methods of tackling FAW. Several countries have already adopted the approach of creating national FAW task forces or committees, chaired by respective ministries of agriculture and representing the scientific community, the private sector, farmers' organizations and others. These committees are tasked to develop guidelines for rapid impact assessment, develop national contingency and action plans, develop a brochure for best FAW control, engage with the relevant regulatory authorities to fast-track registering of control chemicals and monitor the status of FAW in the country.

### 4.2 FOOD INSECURITY

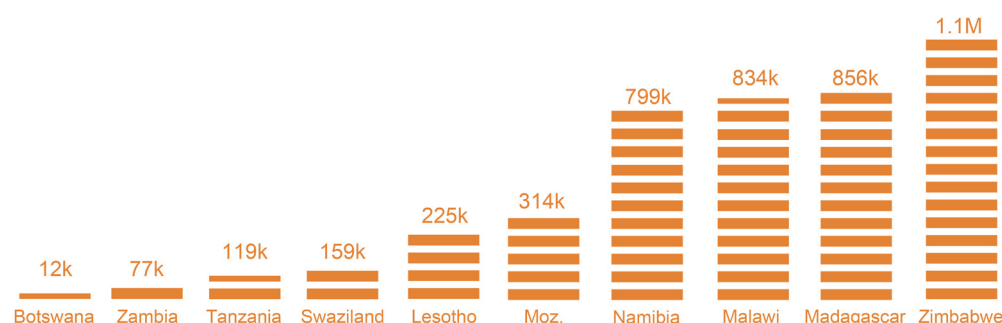
The number of people requiring food assistance has decreased commensurate to the improved harvest, falling to about 25 per cent of the 2016 figure: from around 41 million to around 5 million. However, pockets of significant food insecurity requiring humanitarian assistance will persist, as is the case in southern Madagascar, where more than 400,000 people remain in Crisis (IPC Phase 3).

<sup>14</sup> Source: <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/transboundary-threats-food-and-nutrition-security-southern-africa-issue-1-april-june>.

<sup>15</sup> SADC Regional Vulnerability Assessment and Analysis Synthesis Report 2017.

<sup>16</sup> For more information about fall armyworm and FAO's response - <http://www.fao.org/food-chain-crisis/how-wework/plant-protection/fall-armyworm/en/>

# FOOD INSECURE POPULATION, BY COUNTRY (AS OF JULY 2017)



\*South Africa: **13.7** million people food insecure, DRC **7.7** million people severely food insecure

Source: SADC/VAC, Fewsnet, WFP, FAO, OCHA, Humanitarian Partners

## 4.3 MALNUTRITION

Prevalence of acute malnutrition and admissions are expected to increase in the region from October 2017 through to March 2018. Integrated Phase Classification for Acute Malnutrition (IPC AMN) analyses were recently undertaken in Mozambique and Madagascar, finding average Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) levels of more than 5 per cent, and as high as 13.9 per cent. Key drivers of malnutrition in the Grand Sud of Madagascar were identified as inadequate food intake, inadequate access to food, and diseases (diarrhoea, malaria and acute respiratory infection). The districts of Amboasary (13.7 per cent GAM) and Beloha (13.9 per cent GAM) were most affected by malnutrition, and classified as Serious (IPC AMN Phase 3) for both current and projected periods<sup>17</sup>. The remaining six districts were classified as Alert (IPC AMN Phase 2) for the projected period, with the lowest GAM prevalence in Taolagnaro (8.1 per cent). Integrated Phase Classification for Acute Malnutrition (IPC AMN) is a set of protocols to classify areas based on the prevalence of acute malnutrition, identify major contributing factors to acute malnutrition, and provide actionable knowledge by consolidating wide-ranging evidence on acute malnutrition and contributing factors. It is a process for building technical consensus among key stakeholders.

Partners are preparing contingency plans and nutrition response activities for the upcoming lean season. In Mozambique, active screening and treatment services delivered through mobile brigades will target districts classified as Alert/Serious (Phase 2/3) in the May 2017 Integrated Phase Classification for Acute Malnutrition (IPC AMN) analysis. A Surveillance Technical Working Group was recently formed in Madagascar to address nutrition surveillance planning for end of 2017 onward. IPC AMN analysis in Mozambique was based on SMART surveys in three districts and Rapid Assessments using Mid-Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) in 17 districts<sup>18</sup>. The analysis, valid for March to April 2017, classified two districts (Chiúre and Namuno in the province of Cabo Delgado) as IPC AMN Phase 4 (Critical) with prevalence of GAM by MUAC in six communities in these districts ranging from 8.2 to 18.3 per cent. Two districts (Mutarara in Tete and Ancuabe in Cabo Delgado) were classified as IPC AMN Phase 2/3 (Alert/Serious). Across the 20 districts covered, about 30,000 children were experiencing different forms of acute malnutrition. The IPC AMN projection for October 2017 to February 2018 indicates that the situation may deteriorate due to the expected reduction in food security and increase in diseases, compounded with a possible reduction of child care during these months.

## 4.4 HIGHLY PATHOGENIC AVIAN INFLUENZA VIRUS (HPAI H5N8)

Household poultry stocks constitute more than 80 per cent of the African continent's poultry population. In many households, women, youth, children and the vulnerable (old and disabled people) manage poultry. The occurrence of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in Africa is therefore a major concern.

Since October 2016, H5N8 HPAI has been spreading globally via wild and migratory birds, affecting at least 90 species of wild birds and/or domestic birds in 47 countries in Asia, Europe and Africa. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), 'HPAI A(H5N8) viruses have the potential to cause human infections, although, based on the limited information obtained to date, the likelihood is low'.

<sup>17</sup> Nutrition data used for the IPC AMN analysis (valid for March to May 2017 with a projection from June to September 2017) was derived from SMART surveys conducted in eight districts of the Grand Sud.

<sup>18</sup> Minimum Criteria for Different Source of Information Used in the IPC for Acute Malnutrition: [http://www.ipcinfo.org/fileadmin/user\\_upload/ipcinfo/docs/IPC\\_Acute\\_Malnutrition\\_Addendum2016.pdf](http://www.ipcinfo.org/fileadmin/user_upload/ipcinfo/docs/IPC_Acute_Malnutrition_Addendum2016.pdf)

In sub-Saharan Africa, HPAI (H5N1 and H5N8) outbreaks were primarily confined to West Africa up until January 2017, when Uganda confirmed the first ever outbreak in the East African region. More recently, outbreaks of HPAI H5N8 have been reported in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Zimbabwe and South Africa. Early estimates suggest the outbreak will cause about \$60 million in damages in South Africa's Western Cape Province poultry trade alone<sup>19</sup>.

## 5. CONFLICT IN DRC: IMPLICATIONS FOR SOUTHERN AFRICA

### 5.1 BACKGROUND TO THE DRC SITUATION<sup>20</sup>

The DRC has been characterized by armed conflict and general insecurity for decades, and remains one of the world's most complex and long-standing humanitarian crises. Apart from the decades-long conflict areas in eastern DRC, new conflicts have emerged in Kasai, Haut Katanga and Tanganyika provinces over the past 12 months<sup>21</sup>. In Greater Kasai - a central region that until recently had been relatively calm - a new conflict erupted in August 2016, after President Kabila refused to officially recognize a newly appointed customary chief who was subsequently killed by Government forces and replaced by a Kabila-appointed successor. This triggered the displacement of more than 1.4 million people from August 2016 to August 2017, including more than 30,000 people who sought asylum in neighbouring Angola. The displacement, destruction and looting of homes, health centers and schools have worsened adversity in one of the country's poorest regions: some 2.75 million people are now severely food insecure in the Greater Kasai region. Although small-scale returns to limited areas have begun, the situation remains fragile, and people affected by the Kasai crisis are expected to continue to need humanitarian assistance in the months ahead. Meanwhile, the DRC Presidential elections have been postponed until December 2018, perpetuating political uncertainty and the potential for popular unrest in urban areas due to the economic slowdown.

### 5.2 HUMANITARIAN IMPLICATIONS FOR NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES<sup>22</sup>

#### 5.2.1 Angola<sup>23</sup>

More than 32,000 people have sought safety in Angola's Lunda Norte Province since April 2017. The refugees, most of whom fled the Greater Kasai region, have reported indiscriminate mass killing of unarmed civilians, rape, burning of villages, dismemberment and other grave human rights abuses; together with shortages of food and basic goods and services.

Recently, some 13,000 Congolese have reportedly repatriated spontaneously from Angola to Kamonia and Tshikapa. However, the security situation in the Kasai region remains uncertain, humanitarian organizations in Angola are prepared to continue to provide protection and assistance to refugees who choose to remain. The Government of Angola has identified the site of Lóvuva, some 94 km west of Dundo, to host DRC refugees and the resettlement has commenced. Refugee food security status remains stable and nutritional status appears to have improved. Moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) stands at 1.5 per cent and no cases of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) have been reported as per the latest assessment by MSF (as of August 2017). Resources are urgently required to continue providing support to vulnerable refugees fleeing the conflict in Kasai. The Inter-Agency Appeal for Angola<sup>24</sup> requests \$65.5 million, of which only \$21.3 million has been received. WFP expects a pipeline break from January 2018. Recently some 13,000 Congolese have repatriated spontaneously from Angola to Kamonia and Tshikapa.

<sup>19</sup> <https://citizen.co.za/news/south-africa/1674873/bird-flu-costs-the-western-cape-an-estimated-r800m-in-production-losses/>

<sup>20</sup> Sources: IRIN: <https://www.irinnews.org/analysis/2017/07/31/briefing-conflict-kasai-drc>; OCHA: <https://reliefweb.int/report/democratic-republic-congo/drc-more-1-million-people-uprooted-their-homes-lingering-violence>

<sup>21</sup> Established by UNHCR through debriefings with asylum seekers from the DRC.

<sup>22</sup> Sources: UNHCR, OCHA, WFP

<sup>23</sup> Sources: <https://reliefweb.int/report/angola/wfp-angola-situation-report-1-1-september-2017>

<sup>24</sup> <https://reliefweb.int/report/angola/angola-inter-agency-refugee-appeal-april-december-2017>



### 5.2.2 Zambia

In Haut Katanga and Tanganyika provinces of DRC, an armed group known as Elema, a term that implies “people fighting for justice”, has taken up arms against President Kabila, stating that he is in office illegally. Clashes between Elema and the Congolese armed forces have led to a small influx into Northern Zambia at Nchelenge, with more than 7,300 DRC refugees arriving in Zambia since 30 August 2017.

Kenani transit centre was established on 8 September 2017 in response to the influx of refugees from DRC. The Government of the Republic of Zambia, through the Office of the Commissioner for Refugees, supported by UNHCR and working with other partners, coordinates and leads the emergency response. There is a need for increased humanitarian assistance, especially to ensure water, sanitation and food.

In the event of intensified fighting, many of those displaced inside DRC are expected to continue to seek asylum in Zambia in the coming months. Such a situation is expected to generate an upsurge of refugees arriving into Zambia mainly in the Northern and Luapula provinces. In the event that the clashes spread across Western Katanga province, increased cross border displacement is anticipated to take place with a sizeable number of refugees entering into North-Western province and Copperbelt of Zambia.

Zambia has an encampment policy for hosting refugees and newly recognized individuals arriving through Nsumbu, Kaputa and Mpulungu are transferred to Meheba refugee settlement while those arriving through Chiengi are accommodated in the two Kenani Transit Centers in Luapula Province. In the event of a larger influx, the need for an alternative refugee settlement, closer to the areas of arrival would arise. As a priority preparedness activity the Government of Zambia is exploring a sizeable site to establish a new Refugee Settlement in Luapula province. Reception and transit facilities in border areas are very limited, and in case of a mass influx, would have to consist of using public buildings and ad hoc facilities yet to be identified as temporary transit shelters. Since the beginning of 2017, Zambia Red Cross Society with the financial contribution of UNHCR has set up reception facilities at five border entry points (Mpulungu, Chiengi, Nsumbu, Kaputa and Nchelenge) and has facilitated temporary accommodations for new arrivals. A small quantity of NFIs have been prepositioned/provided to Zambia in the main entry points in the Luapula and Northern provinces to facilitate the reception of asylum seekers currently arriving in relatively small but steadily growing numbers. In case of massive inflows, the five rub halls that UNHCR has recently procured will be erected to store NFIs in Mpulungu and Kenani.

### 5.2.3 Malawi

An estimated 1,700 DRC refugees have entered Malawi to date in 2017.

### 5.2.4 Zimbabwe

As at the end of December 2017, it is projected that 4,000 new arrivals from DRC would have entered Zimbabwe bringing the total refugee population to around 21,600. An additional sum of \$12 million will be required to assist this additional population.

## 6. COUNTRY READINESS<sup>25</sup>

### 6.1 LESOTHO

#### 6.1.1 EMERGING ISSUES

- **Political situation:** The country has held three national elections in five years (2012, 2015 and 2017), each of which have been the result of the collapse of coalition governments. In the most recent elections (3 June 2017), Prime Minister Thomas Thabane's party won the most seats, but not enough to form a government. The current government is composed of four coalition parties. On 5 September 2017, Prime Minister Thomas Thabane confirmed the death of army chief Lieutenant General Khoantle Motsomotso, who was allegedly shot in his office by soldiers who were being investigated for the assassination of the previous army commander, Maaparankoe Mahao, in 2015. Following the killing, SADC sent a ministerial fact-finding mission to Lesotho and recommended the deployment of a contingent force to Lesotho.
- **Food insecurity:** In June 2017, the Lesotho Vulnerability Assessment Committee and partners conducted the first integrated rural and urban vulnerability assessment, as well as an IPC assessment and the regular crop forecast, assessing food security, agricultural production, nutrition and WASH needs in the 10 districts of Lesotho. The results forecast the highest national crop production in a decade. Nonetheless, the assessment projected a total of 307,000 people (224,700 people in rural areas and 82,300 people in urban areas) to be in IPC Phase 3 (Crisis) and Phase 4 (Emergency) in the period October 2017 to March 2018, due to the expected lean season and the concurrent potential rise in staple prices.
- **Child protection and gender-based violence:** A UNICEF, Ministry of Social Development (MoSD) and World Vision Lesotho joint rapid assessment covering six districts (Mokhotlong, Thaba Tseka, Qacha's Nek, Mafeteng, Mohale's Hoek and Quthing) found that 58 per cent of children are exposed to sexual violence while 52 per cent are subjected to neglect. Other protection issues, include an increase in child marriage, separated/unaccompanied children, child labor, increased levels of psychosocial distress, sexual exploitation at workplaces and human trafficking.

#### 6.1.2 PRIORITY PREPAREDNESS ACTIVITIES

There is a need to set-up adequate emergency preparedness measures through a holistic and multi-hazard approach including based on lessons learned from previous emergency responses, to allow for better preparedness, early warning and early action in case of future shocks. In this regard, priority inter-sectoral preparedness activities in the period from October 2017 to March 2018 are to:

- Monitor the national meteorological situation during the period October-December 2017 with authorities.
- Develop a joint communication strategy to be used commonly with authorities in case of a delayed onset of rains, in order to keep local communities and donors promptly informed.
- Draft a multi-hazard contingency plan with scenarios, thresholds and triggers for early actions in case of future El Nino/La Nina episodes.
- Advocate to operationalize the national early warning system – a functional early warning system will allow to design a timely and targeted response to possible future shocks that can be more cost-efficient and needs informed.
- Support national partners and stakeholders in strengthening their emergency preparedness under the leadership of the Government of Lesotho.

<sup>25</sup> Based on information received from the UN Resident Coordinators Office

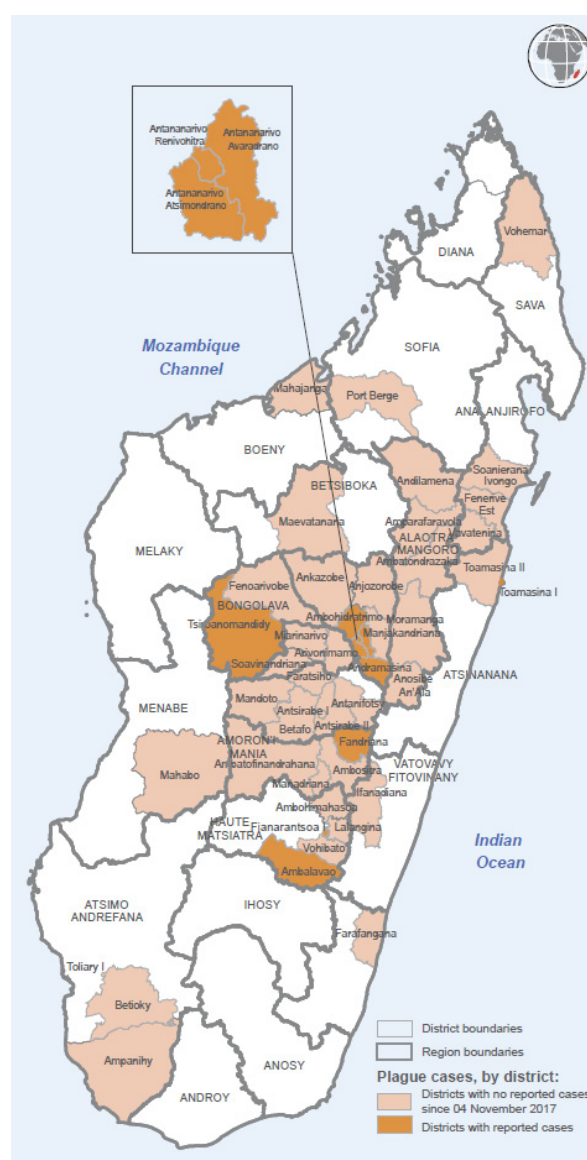
### 6.1.3 MAIN CHALLENGES

- Non-functioning early warning system for the collection and dissemination of data/information, due to the lack of capacity, qualified personnel and resources within disaster management authorities (DMA). This also includes the disease surveillance system.
- Insufficient multi-sectoral data availability, collection and surveillance at national level due to the lack of of/ insufficient tools, coordination, funding and qualified staff.
- Lack of regular and coordinated multi-hazard assessments and mapping as well as information exchange/ sharing forums.
- Inoperative Emergency Operations Centre for multi-agency coordination, decision-making and information management.
- Lack of institutional authority and capacities within DMA to take timely actions, responsibilities on disaster risk reduction (DRR) and emergency preparedness and response (EPR) policies and activities.
- Lack of institutional frameworks for addressing GBV concerns in disasters.
- Lack of proper buy-in for the resilience strategy of Government and corresponding alignment of resources to implement key components of the strategy.
- Outdated national contingency plans, including the Multi-Hazard Contingency Plan.
- Lack of data analysis on migration (internal and international) trends and its potential humanitarian impact on the adults and child migrants themselves and their families, including children left behind.

## 6.2 MADAGASCAR

### 6.2.1 EMERGING ISSUES

- **Plague outbreak:** On average, Madagascar records between 300 and 600 cases of plague during the annual September-to-April Plague season. The current plague season started a month early and has been predominantly of the pneumonic form (61 per cent), which is highly transmissible between humans and, without appropriate treatment, is rapidly fatal. Outbreaks have been concentrated in densely populated cities and other non-endemic areas, where there is little experience responding to plague. A total of 2,267 cases had been recorded with 195 deaths as of 18 November. Although there has been a decrease in new cases in recent weeks, there remains the possibility of a further spike during the remainder of the Plague season.
- **Cyclones, floods and landslides:** Based on the 2017-2018 cyclone season forecast, two to four cyclones are expected to hit the country before end of March 2018. The most probable scenario in the revised national contingency plan predicts 1.4 million people affected, of which 750,000 will be displaced. The main humanitarian needs for those affected people are predicted to be: temporary shelter, access to potable water and hygiene, access to food, access to basic health care and reproduction health, strong logistical assets to support assessment and response, and agriculture recovery.
- **Political situation:** The political situation in Madagascar remains fragile following the Parliament's vote to impeach President Hery Rajaonarimampianina in May 2015, which was overturned by the Constitutional Court.



## 6.2.2 FUNDING, COORDINATION AND RESPONSE

A high level inter-Ministerial coordination forum, chaired by the Prime Minister, has been established to provide strategic and policy direction to the plague outbreak response. The health response is coordinated by the Ministry of Public Health, co-led by WHO and supported by agencies and partners, in accordance with the national contingency plan related to major epidemics and pandemics. The National Bureau of Risk and Disaster Management (BNGRC) has been mandated by the Prime Minister to ensure cross-sectoral response coordination. Each sector is represented within this inter-sectoral strategic coordination group. In complement to the national structures, the Humanitarian Country Team, chaired by the Resident Coordinator of the United Nations System, has established a strategic coordination platform. As of 31 October, total financial contributions received for the plague response stood at \$11.3 million.

Because of the direct or indirect involvement of other sectors in this response, the National Bureau of Risk and Disaster Management (BNGRC) has been mandated to ensure crosssectoral response coordination as decided by the Prime Minister in consultation with the Ministers concerned. Each sector is represented within this inter-sectoral strategic coordination group. As necessary, the Prime Minister chairs a highly level meeting to determine strategic directions of responses. In a similar way, the Country Humanitarian Team, chaired by the Resident Coordinator of the United Nations System, also meets for strategic coordination with its partners.

## 6.3 MOZAMBIQUE

### 6.3.1 EMERGING ISSUES

- Flood risk: According to the seasonal forecast for Mozambique, there is a moderate to high risk of floods from January to March 2018 in eight river basins in the South (Incomati), Central (Save, Buzi, Pungue, Savane, Licungo) and North regions (Messalo, Megaruma). Urban flooding is also expected throughout the season in Maputo, Matola, Beira and Quelimane cities.
- Food insecurity: Based on the latest food security assessment (July 2017) conducted by Mozambique's Technical Secretariat for Food Security and Nutrition (SETSAN), about 361,000 people are projected to face severe food insecurity (IPC 3) from October 2017 to March 2018, while the nutrition situation is expected to deteriorate with elevated caseloads of acute malnutrition in eight districts. Due to increased food security, social concerns are expected to arise.
- Fall Armyworm: FAW has been present in Mozambique since January 2017, and is causing yield losses, especially in Maputo, Manica, Zambézia and Niassa provinces. It is expected that the pest will affect the 2017/2018 growing season.
- Cholera: The likelihood of a cholera outbreak is high in the upcoming months. There are already unconfirmed reports of cholera in Nampula Province and Memba District which are under investigation and verification.
- Plague risk: In light of the plague outbreak in neighbouring Madagascar, preparedness efforts have commenced in Mozambique.

### 6.3.2 PRIORITY PREPAREDNESS ACTIVITIES

The priority inter-sectoral preparedness activities from October 2017 to March 2018 are to:

- Preposition emergency supplies in areas identified as at high risk of floods, identify transit areas, and build awareness of local Government and communities in flood-risk areas.
- Prioritize prepositioning of WASH and health emergency supplies (chlorine, emergency medical kit) for treatment of cholera and diarrheal diseases.
- Strengthen the early warning system for floods and cyclones.
- Develop contingency plans reflecting the emerging issues and with practical actions to ensure appropriate humanitarian assistance and protection: floods, cyclone, food and nutrition insecurity, FAW, cholera and plague.
- Send alert letters to provinces on plague.



- Agree beforehand with Government and partners on the humanitarian food assistance approach: targeting criteria, conditionality vs unconditionality, transfer values, response modalities: in kind, cash based transfers, etc.
- Ensure fast and clear procedures for importation of emergency/ humanitarian items.
- Ensure continued access to health services, protection, food and WASH, particularly targeting the vulnerable groups.
- Equip the Government/agricultural authorities technically and financially to deal with FAW: surveillance, training, control, etc.
- Liaise and coordinate with municipal authorities on emergency preparedness interventions needed for the season.
- Ensure government support/commitment on the timely importation of food and non-food items in case of humanitarian assistance.
- Optimize existing humanitarian coordination structures and mechanisms.

### 6.3.3 MAIN CHALLENGES

- Lack of common understanding regarding the SETSAN projection on people that may face food and nutrition insecurity and long-term impact of emergency situations and drought at different levels (including for health and protection).
- Limited funding:
  - To support the Action Plan developed by Ministry of Agriculture to mitigate/manage FAW.
  - For the Contingency Plan.
  - To implement important preparedness measures.
- Limited coordination capacity within Government and among partners and Government at provincial/district level before and during the management of disasters.
- Limited cluster member engagement in preparedness planning (4W, stocks, etc.).
- Delayed detection and sharing of disease outbreak information.
- No commonly agreed assessment tool and methodology for rapid onset disasters.
- Delays in the activation of red alerts which has implications for resource allocation and operationalization of the emergency plans.

## 6.4 SWAZILAND

### 6.4.1 EMERGING ISSUES

- Wind storms causing loss of assets and damage to houses.
- Heavy rain, flooding and impact on infrastructure.
- Disease outbreaks and implementation of response plans using a multisector approach.
- Flooding and impact on the education sector.
- Waterlogging and impact on agricultural production.

### 6.4.2 PRIORITY PREPAREDNESS ACTIVITIES

- Sector coordination.
- Issuing and dissemination of timely alerts.
- Monitoring of rivers and dam levels.
- Weather forecasting and dissemination of information.
- Procurement and prepositioning of stocks.

### 6.4.3 MAIN CHALLENGES

- Information and knowledge management (data access to early warning and early action by lead sectors, mapping and profiling of hazards).
- Community level participation /involvement in preparedness planning.
- Logistics planning and availability.
- Funding for the response.
- Adequate resourcing for interventions.
- Local authority contingency plans.

## 6.5 TANZANIA

### 6.5.1 EMERGING ISSUES

- Potential increased influx of refugees from DRC by the end of the year.
- Continued/increased cholera outbreak as the rainy season starts. Tanzania has been battling a cholera outbreak since 2015.
- Localized floods, causing destruction of livelihood and housing, but of a smaller geographical scope.

### 6.5.2 PRIORITY PREPAREDNESS ACTIVITIES

- Under the refugee response coordination model, ensure preparedness to manage a large influx of refugees in a short period of time and with no additional space allocated/ designated as refugee camp.
- Improve communication channels to improve timely communication and information sharing.
- Update the Emergency Response Plan for the UN system, and ensure up-to-date emergency contact information for key stakeholders.

### 6.5.3 MAIN CHALLENGES

- Capacity in the RCO and UN system for emergency matters.
- Lack of engagement by the Government partners in preparedness planning.

## 6.6 ZAMBIA

### 6.6.1 EMERGING ISSUES

- Cholera: Some 109 cases of cholera, including two deaths, have been confirmed in Lusaka since the outbreak began on 4 October. The outbreak is related to poor water and sanitation infrastructure. WHO is supporting the Ministry of Health in its response and issuing regular reports. However, the response is limited by inadequate supplies and logistics.
- Food security: The metrological outlook for Zambia is favorable. The rainy season has commenced in the North and will commence in all other regions by end of October through mid-December. Thousands of farmers will soon plant maize. However, those who planted pulses (cow peas) six months back found that at harvest time (June – July), market prices plummeted and endured severe financial loss. The FISP e-Voucher will target 1 million farmers.
- Refugee influx: If the conflict in DRC escalates, more refugees are expected to arrive in Zambia.

### 6.6.2 PRIORITY PREPAREDNESS ACTIVITIES

- Roll-out of IPC methodology: To improve Zambia's ability to monitor and forecast food security and nutrition outlooks, the IPC Global Support unit based in Johannesburg, South Africa, held a high-level awareness meeting on 11 September 2017 and a technical session on 12 September, 2017 to sensitize high level decision

makers and technical officers on the IPC framework, its purpose, approach and value of the IPC for decision making purpose. The September meetings forged a commitment by stakeholders to support the roll out the IPC methodology. The IPC Global Support unit will organize technical workshops in early 2018 to explain the full methodology behind this module. As for detecting acute malnutrition, this is presently a challenge since Government structures do not collect data for this condition. The IPC Global Support unit will work with DMMU and other stakeholders to establish mechanisms and practices to enable such collection of data.

- Refugee influx preparedness: As a priority preparedness activity the Government of Zambia is exploring a sizeable site to establish a new Refugee Settlement in Luapula province.

## 6.7 ZIMBABWE

### 6.7.1 EMERGING ISSUES

- Political situation: In November 2017, the former President, Robert Mugabe, fired the former Vice President, Emmerson Mnangagwa. This was followed by unrest within the ranks of the ruling party and the military, culminating in the military taking over power on 15 November. After nearly a week of uncertainty and extensive negotiations, Robert Mugabe resigned as President on 21 November, paving the way for a transition of power. As at 22 November, next steps for the appointment of an interim President remain under discussion and the overall political trajectory remains unclear. Elections were initially scheduled to take place in 2018.
- Rainy season: Floods are expected, especially in early 2018.
- Transboundary pests: There are concerns over transboundary pests and diseases, including FAW, foot and mouth disease, and avian influenza, all of which are affecting Zimbabwe.
- Food security: The latest Zimbabwe Vulnerability Assessment Committee (ZimVAC) 2017 Rural Livelihoods Assessment Report projects 1.1 million people to be food insecure in the peak of the lean season (January to March 2018).
- Economy: The socio-economic situation is volatile, with reports of inflation and shortages of basic commodities over the past few weeks.

### 6.7.2 PRIORITY PREPAREDNESS ACTIVITIES

- Updating the joint national contingency plan and sectoral response plans, with a focus on flood preparedness, for the period November 2017 to October 2018.
- Joint UNCT contingency planning for the elections (ongoing).
- Continued monitoring of socio-economic indicators, including on inflation/market price monitoring.
- Ensuring support to the most vulnerable (including the 1.1 million food insecure people in the first quarter of 2018) through existing UN/NGOs resilience-building and development programmes, and mobilizing additional donor support as needed where there are gaps.

### 6.7.3 MAIN CHALLENGES

- Limited RCO humanitarian coordination capacity in case of large-scale emergencies (currently, one UNDP supported international consultant until end February 2018).

## 7. LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ART	Antiretroviral Therapy
AWD	Acute Watery Diarrhea
CERF	Central Emergency Response Fund
CLTS	Community Led Total Sanitation
CMAM	Community-based Management of Acute Malnutrition
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
DRM	Disaster Risk Management
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
ECD	Early Childhood Development
ENSO	El Niño Southern Oscillation
EWS	Early Warning Systems
FFA	Food Assistance for Assets
FISP	Farmer Input Support Programme
GAM	Global Acute Malnutrition
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
IFRC	International Federation of Red Cross
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IPC	Integrated Food Security Phase Classification
MAM	Moderate Acute Malnutrition
MUAC	Mid-Upper Arm Circumference
NRU	Nutrition Rehabilitation Units
NVAC	National Vulnerability Assessment Committees
PLHIV	People Living with HIV
PSEA	Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse
RIASCO	Regional Inter-Agency Standing Committee
RUSF	Ready-to-Use Supplementary Food
RVAA	Regional Vulnerability Assessment and Analysis
SARCOF	Southern Africa Regional Climate Outlook Forum
SAM	Severe Acute Malnutrition
SFP	Supplementary Feeding Programme
SMART	Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions
VAA	Vulnerability Assessments and Analysis
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene international borders in search of safety





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