



the right to food

# SARM Food Security Meeting

David Mwaniki

*Kaya Kwanga Hotel  
27 -28 February 2006*

*Maputo Mozambique*

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## Executive Summary

This meeting was convened by the SARM group as part of the continuous regional management of the response. the five key objectives of the meeting;

1. Opportunity to strengthen joint planning on Food Security issues within the sub-region and get inputs from regional/international policy, communications, partnership development functions and external institution perspectives.
2. Opportunity to strengthen linkages with the International Food Security Network activities.
3. Reaffirm policy priorities on food security for the sub-region for 2006 and explore opportunities for partnerships with sub-regional/regional institutions.
4. To take stock of on-going food crisis emergency response activities and update on the contextual changes.
5. Networking, learning and sharing knowledge and experiences within the SARM, wider AAI team and other key actors.

### Current Situation

- 12 Million people are facing food insecurity in southern Africa in Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe, Lesotho and Swaziland.
- This Food Insecurity situation is chronic and there is increased vulnerability at household and community level
- There is a marked reduction in government ability to provide basic services
- Therefore it is no longer a case of disaster shocks but a humanitarian crisis caused by multiple layers of stressors and hazards (concentrated hazards). The crisis is not transitory.

The meeting brought together country teams from the sub region who shared their current interventions, proposed actions at policy and practice level. Partners and key stake holders including NEPAD, FAO, MUNAC, ISS and the IFSN, Swaziland Food Security Network were represented and they shared their current priorities and actions.

As part of the way forward there was a synthesis of country plans to highlight the new strategic direction and regional priorities in deepening and strengthening the response in the region. The strategic direction can be summarised as follows.

- Advocate and campaign for farmers' rights to land, water and seeds,
- Support local communities to develop sustainable livelihoods,
- Build and support civil society networks to secure the right to food,
- Promote constitutional change and/or legal actions to secure the right to food,
- Promote change on trade rules,
- Advocate for food security for people and food sovereignty for nations,
- Corporate control
- Mitigating of negative impact of climate change.

The leadership responsibility at country level for each identified priority was also secured;

- Strategic Grain Reserves management - **Malawi**
- Food Aid/Dumping - **Malawi**
- GMOs, Biotechnology Policies -**Mozambique**

- Targeted Safety Nets for Vulnerable groups, HIV/AIDS related Food Insecurity – **Zimbabwe**
- Sub-regional level long-term response interventions – **SARM**
  - State governance and accountability – links to NEPAP and APRM
  - Role of South Africa, private sector – policies propagated
  - Role of international actors (donors)

Engagement with people’s movement and opportunities for collaborative interventions with other stakeholders also emerged as a key issue to be addressed in future responses. The country plans articulated this approach and identified these stakeholders in their deliberations.

The need to have a sub-regional early warning system to guide timely actions at country and regional level was linked to fundraising and IPD support.

Documentation of best practice for shared learning and advocacy purposes was deliberated as another component that would also strengthen delivery of the communications strategic plan.

Cross thematic linkages (HIV/AIDS, Women’s rights, IFSN, communications, Partnership development, IECT) were highlighted as an approach to deepening program quality.

The Africa region re-affirmed its commitment to support the sub-region by securing additional technical capacity and nesting the regional food rights function within Southern Africa.

This meeting lasted two days and brought together the agencies food security practitioners and created the space for increased networking with regional institutions thematic teams and country level staff. As the first of the Southern Africa Regional Management group (SARM)’s quarterly food security meetings it created opportunities for the updating of the contextual analysis and the realignment of country level actions and regional priorities. These will be benchmarked against progress in the next quarterly meeting to be held in June.

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# Introduction

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## Background to the meeting

Actionaid's food security response in Southern Africa has been driven by the sub-regional analysis of the resulting vulnerability and food stress affecting Southern African countries. The experiences and learning from Actionaid's, 2002/2003 food security responses clearly demonstrated the need for regional appraisal, planning and implementation of food security responses.

In view of this sub-regional approach to the food security response, the SARM (Actionaid's Southern Africa Region Management) group has had two planning meetings in 2005; one to secure regional and international resources to support this response as well as clearly articulate the management arrangements, and the other a technical meeting to define clear policy and response priorities as well as a rights framework for the implementation of the response in the sub-region.

The SARM has in place a quarterly meeting schedule to support and sharpen the food security response and this meeting held in February was the first for the 2006 response year.

The participants were drawn from Actionaid country programs in the sub-region (Zimbabwe, Malawi, Mozambique, Lesotho, and Swaziland) as well as regional bodies and research institutions (NEPAD, ISS), international institutions (FAO), and country level food security networks (Mozambique MUNAC, Swaziland SFSN, and Zimbabwe WLZ). Other Actionaid thematic focal points (International Food Security Network, Africa policy function) were also represented.

The meeting was opened by Roberto Luis country Director AAI Mozambique and also current chair of the SARM group. In his welcome remarks reference was drawn to the various challenges facing the region and particular emphasis on food security responses in the various countries. The need to build on lessons from previous work was emphasised and the recognition of new knowledge was raised as an expectation. AAI Mozambique represented by the Director, extended their hospitality to all participants to the meeting.

## Purpose and meeting objectives

This meeting was convened by the SARM group as part of the continuous regional management of the response. This sub-regional response was envisioned to continue the practical and holistic analysis of the food crisis and also implement appropriate and effective programming options to mitigate the effects of the food insecurity in the region. As a SARM initiative, the country learning and regional opportunities presented space for AAI programming that attempted to address the chronic vulnerability now faced by communities across the borders of the countries in the sub-region.

The need to reflect on progress to date as well as cement sub-regional collaboration was central to the convening of this meeting.

Chris Kinyanjui, Director Actionaid Malawi as the sub regional lead on the food security response articulated the five key objectives of the meeting;

2. Opportunity to strengthen joint planning on Food Security issues within the sub-region and get inputs from regional/international policy, communications, partnership development functions and external institution perspectives.
2. Opportunity to strengthen linkages with the International Food Security Network activities.
4. Reaffirm policy priorities on food security for the sub-region for 2006 and explore opportunities for partnerships with sub-regional/regional institutions.
5. To take stock of on-going food crisis emergency response activities and update on the contextual changes.
5. Networking, learning and sharing knowledge and experiences within the SARM, wider AAI team and other key actors.



# Setting the Scene

## Current food security outlook – a regional overview of causal challenges

The regional food security outlook was shared in the meeting and this was underpinned by a presentation on the current immediate, medium and long term causes of food insecurity by Zvidzai Maburutse, the IECT focal point for Southern Africa.

As part of setting the scene this session facilitated a common understanding of the current and potential challenges to achieving food security without going into the quantitative food gaps country by country. The need for regional analysis of the current and future food security challenges in the region was stressed as a key to holistic programming.

The presentation captured the following highlights;

- ✚ 12 Million people are facing food insecurity in southern Africa in Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe
- ✚ Part of UN protracted Relief and Recovery program
- ✚ This Food Insecurity situation is chronic and there is increased vulnerability at household and community level
- ✚ Reduced government ability to provide basic services
- ✚ Therefore its no longer a case of shock but a humanitarian crisis caused by multiple layers of hazards (concatenated hazards).

### **Factors causing vulnerability of Vulnerability**

- ✚ Both immediate/ short term and long term/ underlying factors
- 1. HIV and AIDS: Highest in the region: An average of 19. 1 (range of 14-42%)
- 2. Impact of HIV and AIDS on hhs & communities:
  - a. decline in labour,
  - b. high dependency ratio,
  - c. burden of care increases in both financial and social terms especially on women and children
  - d. increased food insecurity,
  - e. increased orphans and vulnerable children and
  - f. loss of agricultural knowledge due to death of parents.
- 3. HIV/AIDS also undercuts the resilience, which households and communities draw upon to cope within periods of difficulty.
- 4. Extreme Poverty, poor policies and governance issues
- 5. Poverty
  - a. 5 countries are inn the last 15 in Human Poverty Index
  - b. Two-thirds of people live below US\$1 per day
- 6. Poor Policies:

- a. Lack of targeted Social protection safety nets (SAP) absence or mismanagement of SGR, Biotechnology, Regional Trade, Marketing and pricing policies. reliance on Food Aid, Funding of the FS programs by Govts

7. Governance Issues

- a. Violation of basic rights eg Zimbabwe, Lesotho
- b. Corruption
- c. Injustice and unequal distribution of resources

 Immediate causes

- Natural (drought and floods)
- Lack of productive assets (seeds, fertilizers, draft power, fuel, labour)

Comments from the Regional Policy Coordinator.

The regional policy coordinator Brian Kagoro shared policy and agency perspectives from the Africa regional team;

Key priorities expected by the region office from this sub-regional response would include the following;

1. That the response would include the partnering with peoples organizations and representatives of the agency of the poor.
2. That the rights framework would guide practical actions and policy direction.
3. That there should be an effort to leverage participatory tools and methodology to influence current policy and practice.
4. That the targeting should focus on women and children.
5. That the country programs should encourage the empowerment of communities and the self empowerment of their own staff for the prediction and response to future food stress situations.
6. That analysis must seek to understand where state led interventions have failed and seek to offer alternatives.
7. That all policy initiatives and priorities will need to secure country level sign off (from each country in the sub region) and that the policy and advocacy work would be led by the SARM group and not the SAPP team.
8. That the Africa regional office will seek to increase food security capacity by recruiting a food rights coordinator who would be based in the SARM sub-region.

This open session set the scene for the sharing of the sub regional response framework that was presented by Chris Kinyanjui.

## **AAI Sub - Regional rights framework for the food security response**

As part of the sub-regional response planning process, a rights framework was developed to guide country level and sub-regional initiatives. This framework was developed through a consultative process that culminated in a sub-regional planning meeting held in Malawi in November 2005.

The framework is underpinned by the right to food approach and seeks to ensure that all responses are in line with the corporate strategy rights to end poverty.

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The framework recognizes the need to build on previous and ongoing response work and is a supportive and facilitative guiding tool for the countries involved in the food security response.

## **The Response Framework**

### **Right to Food**

ActionAid International's response to the food crisis is premised on access to food being a right and a basic condition of life for every person. In this regard, the agency of poor, vulnerable and excluded people will be at the center of the response, while emphasising the responsibilities of the state and society towards them. The response will help poor and marginalized people affected by the crisis to recognise, promote and secure their basic right to food. Emphasis will be placed on supporting participatory vulnerability analysis by affected communities and building their capacity to demand their entitlements from duty bearers to ensure sustainable availability of and accessibility to food.

The response seeks to achieve a holistic approach to food security for the affected communities by:

- addressing immediate food needs through targeted food distributions to vulnerable groups such as under-five and primary school children, and those on HIV and AIDS home based care;
- supporting recovery from and mitigation of the impact of the food crisis through input distribution and the promotion of innovative food production approaches such as micro-irrigation and community grain banks;
- promoting minimum standards in the response as defined by international instruments such as Sphere Standards, Code of Conduct, People in Aid, national legal frameworks, and international humanitarian law;
- promoting accessibility to social safety net programmes that address other specific needs of the most vulnerable segments of the affected communities.

### **Evidence Based Advocacy and Policy influencing:**

#### 1. Action research:

Actionaid will support action research to generate the empirical and evidence based data required to strengthen the advocacy agenda and provide ground realities and the aspirations of the affected. Actionaid will invest in research aimed at building on the national and regional data sets with these findings. The action research will inform the design and implementation of the advocacy strategy at national, sub-regional, regional and international levels.

#### 2. Targets

Strong linkages will be made with national, sub-regional, regional and international food security policy and practice institutions to ensure that the ground realities remain on the agenda. Engagement with academic institutions and other think tanks will also be strengthened to secure cutting edge information and current thinking on both policy and practice issues.

#### 3. Key messages

Through the connectivity with grassroots communities, movements and organizations, the relevant and pertinent messages for advocacy will be developed and pursued to ensure that pro-poor and contextually representative agendas form the core of the advocacy strategy.

4. National policies, strategies and Legal frameworks

Actionaid will take cognisance of and critically engage with national food security policies and strategies with the view to influence those that do support the sustainable food and livelihood security of the poor and vulnerable communities. From a rights perspective, the existing legal frameworks (national, regional and international) will guide and support Actionaid's advocacy and food rights policy influencing agenda.

### **Analysis/Access to information**

1. Country Assessments

At country level, ActionAid will conduct structured food security appraisals to improve the understanding of the scale, magnitude and extent of the food stress situation in the operational areas, and will partner with other institutions to enhance this understanding in areas where Actionaid does not have coverage. These appraisals may consist of rapid assessments and/or situational reviews.

At sub regional level, Actionaid will maintain close watch and documentation of current sub-regional trends, gaps and key priorities for response. Partnership at this level will also be a preferred approach in deepening the analysis and scope of the appraisals.

2. PVA

Community level Participatory Vulnerability Analysis will be the primary methodology to analyse the impact of the food crisis at household level. Actionaid will endeavour to influence other national (VACs) and sub-regional (RVAC) assessment processes to incorporate the PVA methodology into their systems.

3. FIVIMS

Actionaid will maintain close interaction with various pilots of the FIVIMS (Food Insecurity and Vulnerability Incidence Mapping Systems) with the view to enrich the analysis and understanding of early warning information and response.

4. Access to Information

The analysis and information generated from this pillar of the framework will be deliberately and strategically shared with relevant actors to build on the country level and sub-regional data sets and information data bases.

### **Monitoring and Evaluation**

- Documentation
- Shared Learning
- Impact Assessment
- Innovation – replication and scale up



### Partnerships

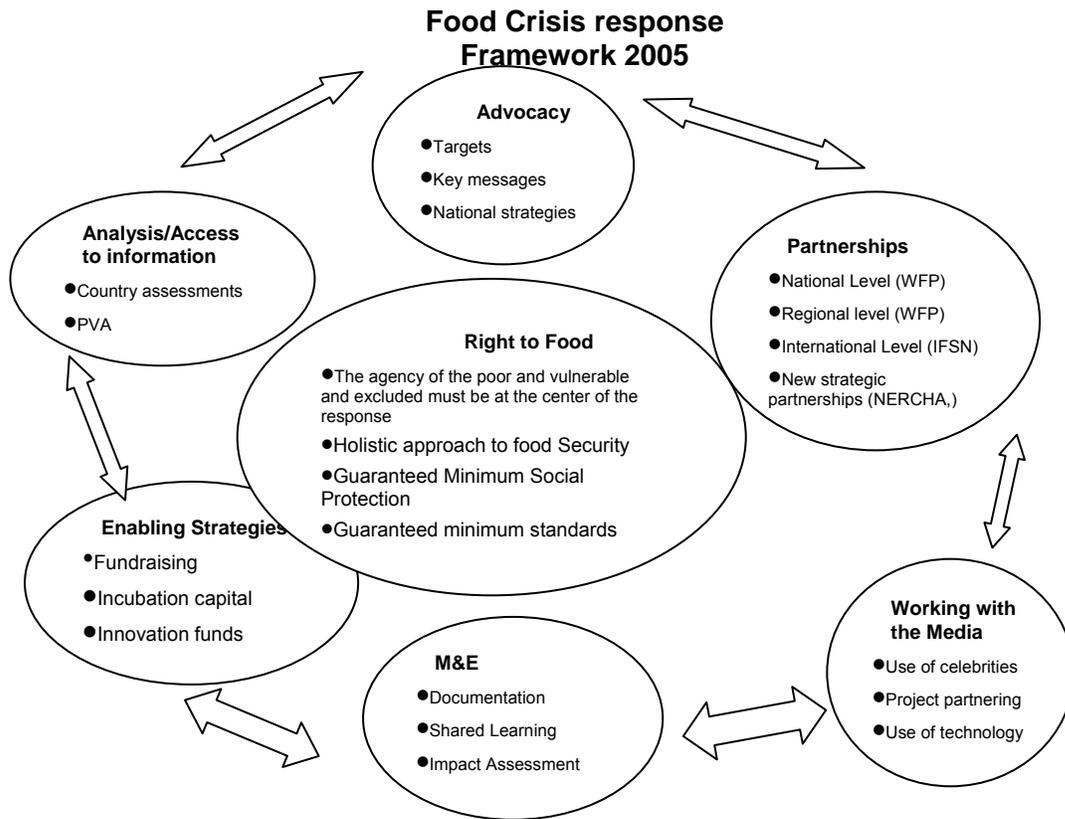
- National Level
- Regional level
- International Level
- New strategic partnerships (NEPAD, NERCHA, LAPCA etc)
- Private Sector
- Donors

### Working with the Media

- Use of celebrities
- Project partnering
- Use of technology

### Enabling Strategies

- Fundraising
- Innovation funds
- Capacity Building
- Quality Assurance Tools



# Current Situation

## Country Highlights

### Malawi:

#### Situation Analysis

- About 4.7 million people food insecure according the MVAC Nov 05
- Maize prices range between MK32- MK70 compared to MK17.50 the ADMARC price
- Floods affected 35,576 households ; 9,824 HA and 4,777 households1,375HA in our area (Nsanje)
- Army worms outbreak completely destroying 2,638 HA of maize

#### Condition of affected communities

The Dec 2005 preliminary results of the nutrition survey indicate an average GAM of 6.2% and Oedema at 2% which are on the higher side compared even to the last food crisis. There has been a significant increase in NRU admissions. An increase of 38% compared to same time last year and 63% from November to December. The total number of admissions in December 2005 was 1,410.

A Cholera outbreak has resulted in 650 suspected cases reported, 8 people confirmed dead. Affected communities have has to resort to coping mechanisms to manage the food stress and increased vulnerability resulting from the food crisis. These coping mechanisms include;

1. Food aid
2. Piece work,
3. Begging,
4. Government public works programme,
5. Selling assets (Pigs MK15,000 to MK7,000)
6. Prostitution
7. Scavenging
8. Alternative foods like wild fruits, ants, wild nuts

#### Scope of the National Response (Govt and other actors)

- Food aid (cereals – 50kg; pulses – 10kg; 3 litres oil but now only 1 litre) targeting 4,3 million people with a total of 49,130 Mt of food by WFP and DFID (supporting the government.)
- Fertiliser subsidy (from MK3100-Mk3600 to MK950)
- Provision of farm inputs.
- School feeding programmes,
- supplementary feeding,
- Treatment of severely malnourished children.

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### Actionaid Responses in Malawi

Actionaid international in Malawi started responding to the food crisis in the country towards the end of October 2005. Response will continue to March 06. A total budget **£ 382,465.00** has been allocated for this response in Malawi by Actionaid.

The country response has been holistic in addressing the food stress situation as well as some of the causal factors exacerbating the current crisis (see table below).

<b>Intervention</b>	<b>Target Group</b>
School Feeding	17,500 Children
Supplementary Feeding	4,602 Children
Distribution of Inputs	12,400 households
Training of Farmers	12,400 Households
Media Training	70 Journalists
Cassava and Sweet Potatoes	10,000 households
Policy and Advocacy	Policy makers
Nutrition Support for PLWHA's	Implementers trained
Irrigation equipment	210 households

**Actionaid Responses in Malawi Table 1**

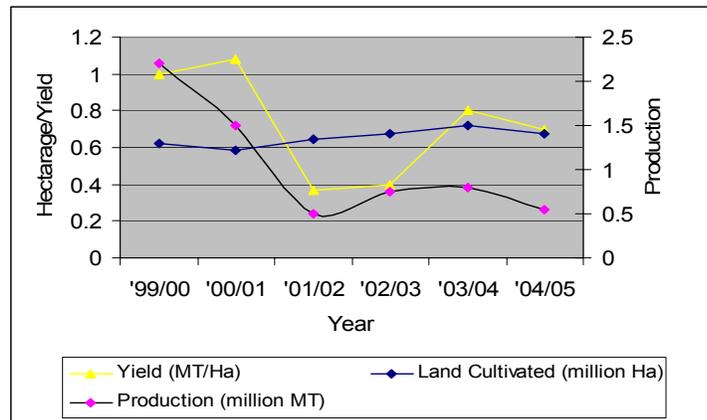


**Likuni Phala preparation for school feeding in Nsanje – Actionaid International Malawi**

## Zimbabwe

### Situation Analysis

- 1.6 million food insecure between July and September 2005.
- 2.9 million (36% of rural pop) by the end of March 2006
- Inflation up: (as at Feb 2006) 830% & rising.
- Up to 1.15 million hectares planted in 2005/2006 with yield of 725kgs/ha, expected output = 834 000 MT of maize & deficit of 566 000 Mt or 4.8 months of national consumption in 2006.



### Zimbabwe yield and production trends

#### Causal factors to Zimbabwe's food crisis

##### 1. Natural Causes

- ❖ Drought
- ❖ HIV and AIDS
  - declines in labour,
  - high dependency ratio,
  - increased food insecurity,
  - increased orphans and vulnerable children and
  - loss of agricultural knowledge due to death of parents.

##### 2. Bad Governance

- ❖ Poor planning (fertilizer & seed) always late
- ❖ lack of targeted safety nets for the poor and vulnerable
- ❖ The 'fast track' land reform
- ❖ Extreme poverty

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Scope of the National humanitarian response

The humanitarian response in Zimbabwe has been criticized for not being holistic to address the factors of vulnerability currently being experienced by the affected communities. It is noted to be short term in nature, focussing on immediate needs only and does not have any long term support to build sustainable livelihoods.

National priorities should include, raising agricultural productivity, fostering pro-poor economic growth, building institutional and human capacity, improving nutrition and health with specific focus on HIV and AIDS; and restoring good governance across all sectors of the state.

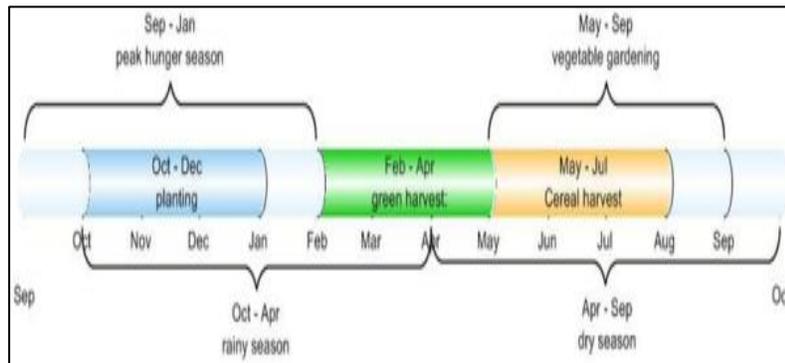
Actionaid Responses in Zimbabwe

- micro-irrigation technology to help the beneficiaries to produce food
- Provide OPV seeds for winter and summer cropping
- direct food aid through rations and vouchers
- training of farmers and partner organizations for capacity building

Plans are underway to strengthen this response by including research documentation and access to Information, capacity building of partners, advocacy and policy influencing and livelihoods restoration.



Low input vegetable gardens promoted in urban areas – Actionaid International Zimbabwe



Zimbabwe Food Security Calendar

## Swaziland

### Situation Analysis

Swaziland is one of the most heavily HIV/AIDS affected countries in the world. Prevalence rates amongst women attending ANC clinics have increased dramatically over the last decade, from 3.6% in 1992 to over 40% by 2004 (MOHSW, 2004). The impact of HIV/AIDS is increasingly being felt at all levels and across all sectors of society. Currently an estimated 13,000 people were on ARVs treatment by 2005. The current food crisis has increased vulnerability to the PLWHAs and they require food and nutritional support to maintain their well being and ART compliance. There are about 15,000 child headed households in the country, and an estimated 60,000 orphans. This number of OVCs is expected to reach 120,000 by 2010. The scale of the food insecurity in the country is evidenced by the fact that 25% of Swazis are currently on FOOD AID.

### Scope of National response

The national response is underpinned by the HIV/AIDS context in the country and the different actors involved are coordinated through the National Disaster Task force. The key actors in this response are;

- National Disaster Task Force
- VAC – NGOs, Early warning unit, METRO.
- Food Aid - WFP
- Food Security Consortium
- Community Food security responses
  - Indunkhulu project
  - NCPs
  - Govt.
  - Others including private sector.

### Planned AAI Swaziland response

The overall goal of Actionaid International's food security response in Swaziland is that "Poor and Excluded People in Swaziland, especially PLWHAs, OVCs and Women, will increasingly exercise their power to demand and secure their rights to food". The response in Swaziland is a new program which is in the start up phase. It is expected that the HIV/AIDS programming already underway will provide experiential support to this food security response.

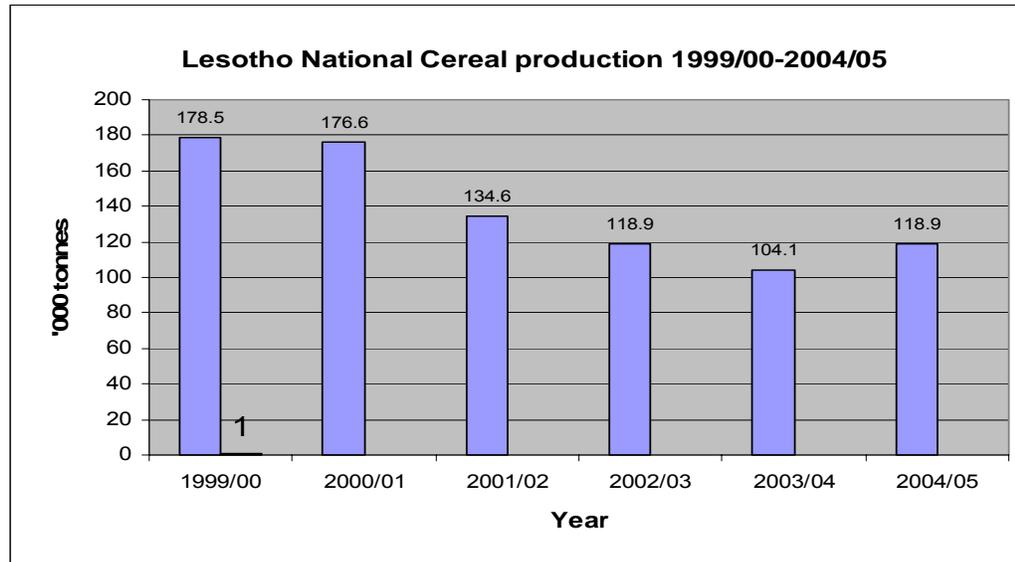
1. Provision of nutritional supplements for the wellbeing of PLWHAs and Advocacy for its national rollout.
2. Participatory Vulnerability Analysis (PVA) for pro-poor planning.
3. Community mobilization and training.
4. Promote the drip irrigation technology for nutritional gardens for PLWHAs and poor households
5. Support poor women and child headed households in poultry and livestock production through restocking programs.
6. Support poor women (WLHAs) and child headed households with appropriate water storage facilities in the draught and food insecure areas.
7. Work with the Swaziland food security consortium to promote shared learning and policy advocacy for effective and sustainable national Food security and livelihood programs
8. Recruit food security Officer to strengthen response capacity and provide technical support to partners.



## Lesotho

### Situation Analysis

Country profile: 2.2 Million people; total area 30,000 SQ miles; GDP \$402 per capita (2004). In over 60% of the communities where consultations were undertaken as part of the 2004/05- 2006/07 PRSP development, lack of food reported as a key feature of poverty- trend has been endemic since 1970 (Lesotho PRS 2005). Since the humanitarian crisis began in 2001, an estimated 700,000 dependant on food aid at one time or the other (LVAC Report, 2003). An estimated 548,800 people (about one third of the population) will have significant food deficit between June 2005 and March 2006 (LVAC).



**National cereal production trends in Lesotho**

### Determinant Factors

- Dependence on food imports against backdrop of low GDP (USD 402 per capita): in atypical year, about half of the food consumed in the country is imported;
- High and increasing levels of poverty- 58% of the population living below official poverty line;
- Loss of household income due to retrenchment from south African Mines- number of mine workers declined from about 126,000 in 1989 to 65,000 by second half of 2000 (UN 2000);
- Gaps in policy
- High unemployment level;
- Declining cereal production nationally and especially in the main producing districts of Butha- Butha, Berea, Leribe and Maseru (1999/00-2004/05),(FAO/WFP Crop and food and supply assessment mission report, June 2005);
- Impact of HIV/AIDS;
- Only 9% of land arable;

- Erratic rainfall patterns (recurring drought).
- Reduced use of inputs due to decreased purchasing power.
- Poor agricultural practices that results in low productivity.
- Poor support services that deal with short and long term food security
- Impact of food aid: Basotho are continual recipients of international food aid to date

#### The National Response Framework

The Millennium Development Goals: Global Level

- GOL has subscribed to and is committed to realizing the MDG target to eradicate poverty and hunger

NEPAD/CAADP: Regional Sector Strategy

- Increasing FS and reducing hunger
- Agricultural research technology dissemination and adoption

Vision 2020: National Goal

- Improved and sustainable FS for sustainable prosperity

Poverty Reduction Strategy: National Level

- Food Security is No 2 priority of the PRS.
- GOL recognises FS as a multifaceted challenge that includes production, availability, distribution, as well as household access to food.
- Commits to firstly support committed and vulnerable households
- Emphasis on strengthening partnership by working with NGOs that have a proven capacity to increase FS of the poor.

#### Planned AAI Food Security response

Actionaid International in Lesotho has been operational through the Support to the International partnership Against AIDS in Africa (SIPAA) program since 2004. The planned food security response in Lesotho will focus on household level interventions as well as address some of the structural factors through advocacy and policy influencing activities. These will include;

##### **Household Food Security:**

- Homestead garden promotion
- Child Rights ( School Gardening Programs)
- Small scale irrigation e.g. drip, roof water & small dams.
- Food utilization e.g. processing

##### **Policy Advocacy at the Macro Level**

- Safety nets and Social Protection for marginalized groups
- Mainstreaming HIV/AIDS and gender to FS programmes and vis-a vis.
- Rights Based Approaches
- Partnerships and Institutional Arrangements

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**Mozambique**

Situation Analysis

Currently 61 districts of the country's total 128 districts are severely affected by hunger, particularly in the southern and central parts of Mozambique. In May 2005, an estimated 55,000 people were in need of food aid in 32 districts from 7 provinces affected by food insecurity. In October 2005, urgent food aid needs had risen to 801,653 people requiring support in 61 districts of 10 provinces of the country. The highest incidence of food stress occurs in the arid and semi-arid regions of the provinces of Maputo, Gaza, Inhambane, Tete, Manica and Sofala, where water sources have dwindled. To compound matters, and paradoxically, extensive flooding has occurred since end of 2005, severely ravaging some districts of Sofala, a situation that prevails to date. Sofala has 26.5% HIV&AIDS infection rate, the highest in the country.

AAI response in Mozambique

Actionaid International in Mozambique has been involved in food security responses in the country over several years since inception in 1988. Since 2002, AAI Mozambique has been part of a sub-regional response to the food stress situation in the region. For the 2005-2006 year the interventions on the ground have focussed on three provinces and there is scope for this work to be scaled up to cover other affected areas (see table 2).

Province	Intervention	Beneficiaries
Maputo	Borehole rehabilitation and Community training. HIV/AIDS & Nutrition Drip irrigation kits	1,560 people 4 Farmers associations. 1,380 people
Zambezia	Seed and Food Fairs Drip irrigation kits	3,450
Sofala	Cassava & Sweet Potato seedlings Cashew nut tree plants (10plts each) Seedbanks: (2-3kg) Pineapple: (250plts) Drip irrigation kits	37,000 households 7000 households 33000 households 5000 households

**AAI Mozambique interventions - table 2**

Advocacy and policy influencing work is one of the pillars of this response and in this regard, AAI Mozambique has been involved in the following;

- a) Promotion of the concept of the introduction of planning mechanisms and integrated management of natural resources
- b) Promotion of programs aimed at securing rational management of surface waters through hydrological works for water storage, to minimize the negative impact of floods and drought, namely, by building.
- c) Conducted a GMO and food/seed coverage study to better inform all stakeholders on the current situation and implications of GMO varieties in Mozambique.

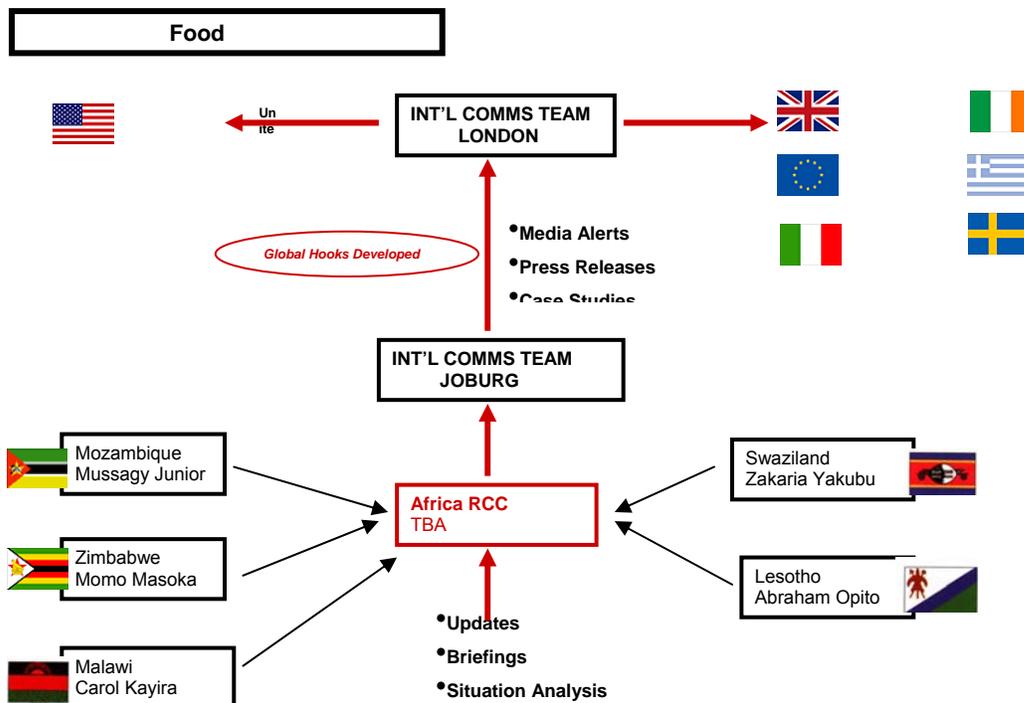
# Making it Work

## Internal Enabling Pillars

### AAI Communications

Actionaid International's sub-regional management team has put in place a communications strategic plan (available from the SARM) to support the regional food security response. This strategy is strengthened by Actionaid's international communications team through the existing communications structure (see schematic below)

The success of the communications strategy will hinge on the participation and meaningful input by the country teams in generating relevant information and data to generate "hooks" for the media and other information need points. The relevance of this strategic plan on fundraising and program learning was also highlighted as critical components.



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**Actionaid International Partnership Development team**

The IPD have been instrumental in supporting fundraising activities for the response in the region. A presentation was to the participants made by the Africa coordinator. This presentation highlighted the need for more coordination in fundraising but also raised the critical question of lead time for response. A proposed early warning system to secure early action was also proposed. Highlights from the presentation are captured below;

Moving forward in the response

1. Strengthening coordination of food security initiatives within the sub-region with clear mandate on fund raising plans and targets
  - Who is in charge?
  - When and what is needed where?
  - Setting and implementing monitoring, evaluation and monitoring plan?
2. We need AAI EWS and Monitoring system on:
  - PEST Indicators of food security
  - Food security situation (grassroots, national and sub-regional)
  - Engagement of others (who is doing what where).
  - Community involvement and other stakeholders on EWS
3. Establish clear fund raising strategies for emergencies and normal long term food security programmes;
4. Establish balance between national and sub-regional fund raising (for sub-regional work identify the hub of coordination)
5. Develop fund raising tools for emergencies (letters of appeals etc.)
6. Deepen research and analysis at national and sub-regional level;
7. Strengthen linkages between policy, communication, food rights and fund raising
8. Improve awareness through communication both internally and externally
9. Establish clear EWS – internally and externally;
10. Strengthen access to networks and information
11. Strengthening engagement as opposed to partnership by providing information, learning and lessons;
12. Influencing donors to support our viewpoint of poverty and not particularly to fund us.
13. Working from national to international
14. Being strategy led as opposed to donor led.

Spectrum of the partnership process

<b>Isolated engagement</b>	<b>Scoping</b>	<b>Considerable engagement</b>	<b>Emerging partnerships.</b>	<b>Established partnerships.</b>
With donor or isolated project funding. E.g. Finland, Greece	Basic research being conducted to assess potential for partnership development. E.g. Denmark, US Foundations	taking place but not systematically accessing funding. E.g. WFP, Japan	Agreed priority donor, contacts established, some funding accessed. E.g. Ireland, Ford Foundation, UNDP	Minimum 10 CPs engaging with donor, IPD partnership co-ordinator in post E.g. UK and EC

## Strategic Partnerships

### NEPAD

Actionaid will endeavour to work with and through others in the regional food security response as part of its commitment to the right to food as articulated in its response framework.

Key to this approach is the role of NEPAD in food and nutrition security. A presentation by NEPAD was made to the participants at the meeting and this generated a great deal of interest as well as highlighted some of the possible entry points for future collaborative work in the areas of food and nutrition security. Highlights from this presentation are documented here below;

*Goal of NEPAD agriculture is to increase production, eliminate hunger, reduce poverty, and improve food and nutrition security.*

### CAADP pillar 3

- Establish a high-level policy advisory board on hunger and malnutrition linked with national bodies
- Strengthen system of regionally coordinated national food reserves, based on strengthened early warning and information systems
- Develop coordinated action plan for nutrition, covering fortification of industrially processed foods, dietary diversification with nutritious crops, and local production, processing, and marketing

### Progress to date:

- Regional Implementation Planning meetings are now over
- CAADP needs to be taken to country level
- Pretoria CAADP retreat held to advance implementation
- RECs expected to identify Phase I countries to hold National Round Tables to align national agric. policies, strategies, and investment programs with core CAADP principles and targets
- Initiated on demand-driven basis, thru consultations between RECs and members countries
- Led by national stakeholders

NRT expected to:

1. build on country ongoing efforts
2. phase out key steps in implementing identified national priorities

### Implementation Approach

- Create and strengthen partnerships
- Mobilize resources
- Build on existing programmes
- Compliment ongoing efforts

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### Why Nutrition Security

Rationale:

Food Security is a necessary but **NOT** sufficient condition for Nutrition

- *Increased food production (diversified)*
- *Increased food security*
- *Nutrition Security (prevention of vitamin & mineral deficiencies)*
- *Enhanced human productivity & development*

### Key NEPAD Food security and Nutrition Programs

- Fortification including Bio-fortification
- Home Grown School Feeding Programme
- National strategic food reserves
- Policy Review and Advocacy

### Opportunities and Conclusion

- REC consultations completed
- Brainstorming on Food Security Pillar 3 achieved
- Project preparation underway for region and countries (SLM, Fisheries, Fertilizer)
- Palpable development partner interest and commitment in key areas; *nutrient rich foods, safety nets e.g. school feeding, food fortification, cassava, NERICA etc.*

Success of the NEPAD and Regional FSN programmes will depend on;

- Strong partnerships
- Commitment and coordination at RECs level
- Clear definition of priorities
- Availability of and prudent use of resources
- Capitalizing on successes

## CAADP PILLARS



Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Programme CAADP

## Strategic Partnerships Cont;

### FAO

As part of deepening the food security interventions in the sub-region, Actionaid has partnered with other agencies and organizations in the implementation of responses on the ground in the various impact countries. One such collaboration is that with FAO. Of specific interest in this collaboration is the opportunity to address special interest groups and specifically women and children who are a key priority area in Actionaid's global strategy.

### Promoting Women's Access to food – Presented by FAO

Households affected by adult morbidity, mortality and with a high demographic load are significantly more vulnerable to food security shocks than other Households (SADC RVAC May 2003). HIV/AIDS undermines food security in several ways (chief among them - impact on ability of households to produce food). HIV/AIDS results in the loss of productive family members and loss of Agricultural knowledge and skills, thus it has become increasingly difficult for households to meet their responsibilities especially food production.

Without reliable and varied food the population becomes more susceptible to disease and the sick deteriorate quickly

Women often suffer more greatly in HIV/AIDS-affected households. They often have to deal with the back-breaking combination of domestic chores and looking after the sick. Women are main producers of food and Widows are affected more by disinheritance. Biologically women are more likely to catch AIDS and they are often unable to express their wishes regarding safe-sex and choice of partners. In Chiredzi 72% women attending ANC are HIV positive

Three main challenges:

- Cost of food
- Availability of food
- Production

Data from ZIMVAC or other assessments does not provide sufficient data on HIV and food insecurity

### Multiple Stressors of Food Insecurity on Women and girls

1. The removal of widows from land, access only to remote fields left fallow has led to total output declines- Cases in Zambia, Northern Province.
2. The switch from labor-intensive crops to less demanding ones- eg cassava production as substitute for maize - Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe
3. The loss of transfer of knowledge of agricultural skills: increasingly common child-headed households without sufficient "know-how" - ill equipped to meet basic food needs
4. Animal husbandry and livestock production decline
5. Post-production food storage and processing is impaired by lack of knowledge or poor transfer of knowledge.
6. The continuous breakdown in support services- Extension staff also affected

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- 7. Low or non-existent credit for agricultural production - diverted for medical care, funeral expenses and food, results in reduction in crop yields and loss of income causing families to default on loan repayments or sell assets
- 8. Macro economics- availability and cost of agriculture inputs (seeds, fertilizer, tillage power), lack of incentives- -Producer price of controlled commodities (maize and wheat in Zimbabwe)

#### Possible Actions

- Through consideration of gender:
- responsible governments must be encouraged, as Africa's high vulnerability is a function of chronic stresses induced by poor or ineffective governance
- HIV/gender policy and strategy for Ministries of Agriculture
- Responses must be context specific- This is a challenge for scale up
- Important to link the micro, meso and macro levels for effective programming- (UNAIDS, NACS, Min of Health, Agriculture)
- Emergency relief and development relationship must be reviewed to prevent simple reactionary form of assistance such as food aid
- Preventing the spread of the infection is paramount – Link prevention programmes to food security (AA and ASOs in Zim)
- Linking HIV/AIDS and food security initiatives can most effectively be accomplished by the reciprocal incorporation of HIV/AIDS considerations into food security initiatives and the incorporation of food security objectives into HIV/AIDS programmes
- A people-centered, multi-sectoral, community-based approach to development
- Household community safety nets such as micro finance, savings schemes need to be promoted for the affected households.
- Utilization of food
- Scale up of interventions

#### FAO interventions and interests

Guided by triple threat in Southern Africa- Governance, HIV and food security (mainstream gender)

- Linking prevention, treatment and care with mitigation
- Studies on HIV/Agriculture interactions and responses
- Linking with regional frameworks to developing food security and HIV indicators to improve analysis
- Equipping partner organisations staff and MOA in HIV and gender mainstreaming for agriculture interventions - frameworks
- Land use techniques e.g. conservation farming, input usage,
- Input support-direct seed and fertilizer distribution (drought resistant seed a priority)
- Labour and time saving technologies??????
- Diversification- Cassava, Sweet potatoes, Agro forestry
- Promotion of small livestock- goats for milk and chickens (milk as substitute for PTCT)
- Livestock restocking, prevention from major diseases
- Irrigation for increased horticulture production
- Processing, post harvest, food safety
- Property and land rights
- Best practice documentation and implementation.

FAO currently collaborates at different levels with Actionaid in Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Malawi.

## **MUNAC**

The national farmers association in Mozambique has been a collaborative partner in the food security response in Mozambique. The participation of MUNAC at the meeting was another step forward in engaging with peoples organizations in the region.

An introduction to MUNACs role and purpose was presented to participants and has been summarised here below.

1. Supports peasants – defending food sovereignty and not food security
2. Empower farmers to find solutions to their problems
3. Provide technical training to farmers
4. Supports farmer friendly policies
5. Encourage retention of surplus crops
6. Produce materials (posters etc) to create awareness
7. Design specific programs for emergency situations
8. To create intra-provincial supply linkages to mitigate the effects of poor production

## **International Food Security Network**

### Objectives

- 1) Reinforcement of civil society in developing countries
  - Analysis and action capacities
  - Alliance building
  - Negotiations with governments
- 2) Debate at national level
- 3) Discussion and negotiations at international level

### Main Achievements

1. Budget Objectives Accomplished (82% of the previewed expenses executed)
2. 12 active networks in the three Southern priority regions, gathering around 350 organizations and networks. Negotiations with Governments in 6 countries
3. 45 events coordinated by the national networks involving more than 1600 persons in 2005
4. 32 researches accomplished and 10 published
5. Recognition by FAO and invitation to co-organize ICARRD
6. Invitation by EC to discuss new Food Security Thematic lines (south/south programme will be launched in 2007 as one of the results)
7. Launching of Central America Regional Network
8. International Alliance building with Farmer's Movements such as 'Via Campesina'

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### Priorities

1. Consolidate networks and improve quality
2. Launch networks in non core countries
3. Fund raising

### Conditions

- Increase coordination of all sub themes in the Food and Hunger thematic.
- Reinforcement of human resources dedicated to manage the project centrally.
- Recruitment of three Regional Coordinators, one for each region (Africa, Asia and Latin America & Caribbean).
- Assignment of the Global Steering Committee

### Potential for Southern Africa

1. National networks in two countries (Mozambique and Malawi)
2. On going country responses to the food crisis and direct or indirect presence in all countries
3. Communications team being build in the region , coordination in JB

### Limitations in Southern Africa

-Civil Society Networks in some of the countries  
-Access to information to be able to increase coordination at sub regional level, monitor crisis and influence donors such as DFID and ECHO

The presentation raised the question on the need to develop a sub-regional observatory on food security to enhance access to information.

# Way Forward

## Strategic Direction and Priorities for the Food & Hunger Theme

The deliberations captured renewed commitments on policy and practice options in the food security response in the sub-region from the different country teams. Country plans were developed and shared and the following regional priorities and strategic direction was agreed upon.

- ▶ Advocate and campaign for farmers' rights to land, water and seeds,
- ▶ Support local communities to develop sustainable livelihoods,
- ▶ Build and support civil society networks to secure the right to food,
- ▶ Promote constitutional change and/or legal actions to secure the right to food,
- ▶ Promote change on trade rules,
- ▶ Advocate for food security for people and food sovereignty for nations,
- ▶ Corporate control
- ▶ Mitigating of negative impact of climate change.

### **Policy Priorities, Leadership roles & Partnerships**

- ▶ Strategic Grain Reserves management - **Malawi**
- ▶ Food Aid/Dumping - **Malawi**
- ▶ GMOs, Biotechnology Policies -**Mozambique**
- ▶ Targeted Safety Nets for Vulnerable groups, HIV/AIDS related Food Insecurity – **Zimbabwe**
- ▶ Sub-regional level long-term response interventions – **SARM**
  - State governance and accountability – links to NEPAP and APRM
  - Role of South Africa, private sector – policies propagated
  - Role of international actors (donors)

### **Collaboration and Partnerships**

- Networks and alliances
  - ▶ SADC
  - ▶ FANRPAN
  - ▶ SARPAN
  - ▶ ISS – resource based conflict
  - ▶ NEPAD
  - ▶ WFP