

EL NIÑO ANTICIPATORY ACTION PLAN ZIMBABWE

OCT 2023 - MAR 2024
ISSUED NOVEMBER 2023



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COVER PHOTO: ZIMBABWE

"I believe that climate change has really reduced our harvest. It is hard for me to understand it and I can't think of any solution to it; I look to God for intervention", Esther, 61-year-old, married, a mother to nine children and grandmother to two. Photo: CARE

Part 1:

Context Overview

Zimbabwe has, over the years, grappled with the repercussions of the climate crisis, which have led to erratic rainfall patterns characterized by either severe floods or prolonged periods of drought. The nation has experienced a concerning trend of numerous regions reporting rainfall levels below the usual during what should be "normal" years. The upcoming El Niño event forecasted for 2023-2024, which is associated with drier-than-average rainfall, is poised to exacerbate this predicament. It is expected to intensify aridity, significantly impacting food and animal production across many areas, including those typically classified as "dry regions."

The El Niño phenomenon of 2015-2016 stands as a stark example of the devastating consequences. During this period, the country endured extreme dry spells and significantly reduced rainfall, severely affecting agricultural output and leading to adverse food and nutritional shortages. Zimbabwe received only 75 per cent of its typical annual rainfall. Meteorological reports indicate that the western and southern parts of the country, often considered the "dry areas," received less than 100mm of rainfall, a stark contrast to the normal range of 450-650mm. The late onset of the rainy season and the insufficient precipitation had detrimental effects on agriculture, contributing to food insecurity among the population.

During this period, the country identified 2.8 million people as being at risk of food insecurity. Global Acute Malnutrition rates soared to 5.7 per cent, marking the highest figure recorded in 15 years. Consequently, a state of drought disaster was declared on February 4, 2016, prompting a humanitarian appeal for \$1.5 billion to address urgent needs in food, nutrition, agriculture, water, education, and health sectors. The consequences extended beyond these sectors, affecting urban areas as well. Cities,

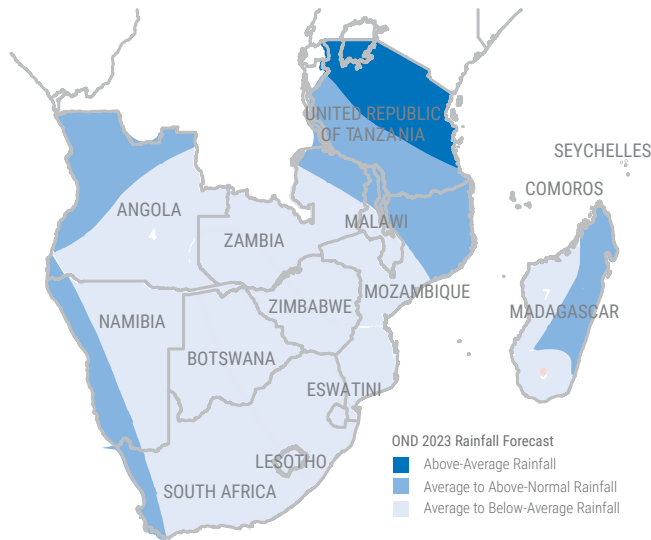
municipalities, and urban settlements had to endure prolonged water rationing schedules due to reduced water levels. Additionally, electricity generation at the country's hydroelectric power plants was significantly hampered. The ripple effects of the El Niño-induced drought permeated various sectors of the economy, with adverse impacts on manufacturing and energy industries. Nonetheless, the most severely affected sectors remained food and nutrition, agriculture, water, education, health, and wildlife.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) confirmed a strong El Niño event occurring between October 2023 and March 2024. This event is expected to have adverse effects on rainfall from October 2023 to March 2024, potentially leading to drought conditions in Zimbabwe. Anticipated outcomes include a delayed onset of rainfall and prolonged dry spells, which could significantly impact food production and disrupt the food supply chain. Regions with typically lower precipitation levels are particularly susceptible to experiencing drought, which may result in widespread crop loss, livestock fatalities, increased disease incidence, crop pests, and challenges related to water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH). These challenges, in turn, can have cascading negative effects on nutrition.

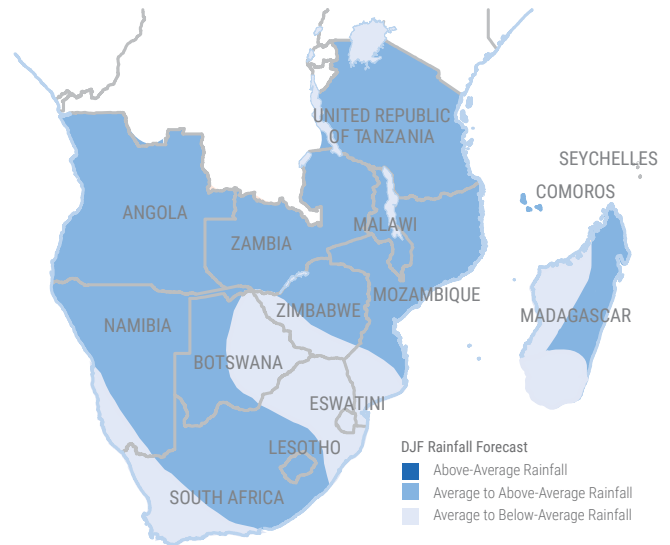
According to the available forecasts from the Meteorological Services Department (MSD), the confirmed El Niño episode is expected to be most strongly felt in the southern parts of the country, spanning from west to east. These areas, which also experienced high levels of food insecurity during the 2015/16 El Niño episode, include Matabeleland North, South, Midlands, Masvingo, and Manicaland. However, there were also pockets of food insecurity in the Northwest and Northeast regions.

SARCOF Rainfall Outlook

October to December 2023 (OND)



December 2023 to February 2024 (DJF)



These impending events pose a significant risk to Zimbabwe, potentially undoing the progress made in preventing, reducing, and managing malnutrition over the past decades. Undernutrition is a major contributor to nearly half of all deaths in children under 5 years of age, leaving children more vulnerable to common infections and diarrheal diseases while increasing the frequency and severity of illnesses such as measles,

malaria, and pneumonia. Moreover, undernutrition hinders recovery from illness. Research indicates that a severely wasted child faces up to 12 times the risk of death compared to a well-nourished child, while a moderately wasted child is three times as likely to face this risk. Consequently, it is imperative to implement strategies to prevent and manage life-threatening conditions, particularly in emergency situations.

Part 2:

Historical Impact of El Niño

Recently, Zimbabwe has been grappling with persistent droughts, exacerbating existing challenges such as low life expectancy and high emigration rates. The country has faced droughts in various years, including 1991 to 1994, 2002, 2004, 2012, 2016, and 2017. The 2012 drought, for instance, resulted in a staggering 45 per cent deficit in the country's main food source, maize, as reported by the FDI Global Food and Water Security Research Programme. During that year, approximately 1.4 million Zimbabweans were on the brink of famine.

The cumulative occurrence of these droughts in rural Zimbabwe since 2002 has led to a stagnation of rural livelihoods, which heavily rely on agriculture, as noted by the Meteorological Services Department in Harare, Zimbabwe. Regarding the upcoming El Niño season in 2023-24, while regional comparisons suggest a moderate impact, it's important to remember that the 2015/16 drought was classified as a "very strong" El Niño event, as highlighted by RIASCO in August 2023.

Moreover, there has been a concerning increase in Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) rates in districts like Kariba, Mudzi, and Matobo, as documented in the SMART Survey 2022. In 2022, the ZIMVAC rural report reported a GAM rate of 7 per cent. Stunting rates among children aged 0-5 years stood at 23.5 per cent (MICS 2019). Wasting increased significantly from 4.5 per cent to 7.2 per cent, and severe wasting rose from 2.1 per cent to 4 per cent between 2020 and 2022 (ZIMVAC 2022). Alarmingly, 83 per cent of Zimbabwe's children live in food poverty, lacking access to the diverse diets necessary for their full growth and development (MICS 2019).

The previous El Niño-induced drought in 2015/2016 had severe consequences, including livestock deaths, crop failures, crop pests, increased child labor, and

poor coping strategies. These conditions led to a surge in acute malnutrition cases in children under five years old, as reported in the FNC Report 2016. In 2016, the severe acute malnutrition (SAM) rate reached 5.7 per cent, surpassing the World Health Organization's (WHO) cutoff point of 5 per cent, and the SAM rate for children aged 6 to 59 months slightly exceeded the 2 per cent threshold for emergency response in Zimbabwe (UN Zimbabwe 2016:6). This increase in malnutrition was attributed to inadequate dietary diversity, suboptimal caregiving practices, and limited access to safe water, all contributing to a rise in diarrheal diseases, heightening the risk of mortality among malnourished children.

Zimbabwe Acute Food Insecurity Jul 2016 - Mar 2017



The 2015/2016 El Niño-induced severe water shortages, with safe water sources drying up, forced people to rely on unsafe water sources for drinking and domestic use, even sharing these sources with livestock. These shortages had extensive adverse effects on health, nutrition, school attendance, clinic operations, and the risk of violence. Women and

girls, traditionally tasked with water provision, faced elevated risks of gender-based violence (GBV) as they had to undertake longer journeys in search of water.

A study conducted by UNICEF and partners in Zimbabwe and other countries noted an increase in migration due to the lack of food and water, with

approximately one-third of migrants citing the lack of water as their primary reason for migration in Southern Africa. Efforts were made to mitigate water shortages, with 1.5 million people provided with access to safe water sources, but cholera cases were also reported during this period (RIASCO Report 2017)



MANZVIRE VILLAGE, ZIMBABWE

People receive food aid in Manzwire.

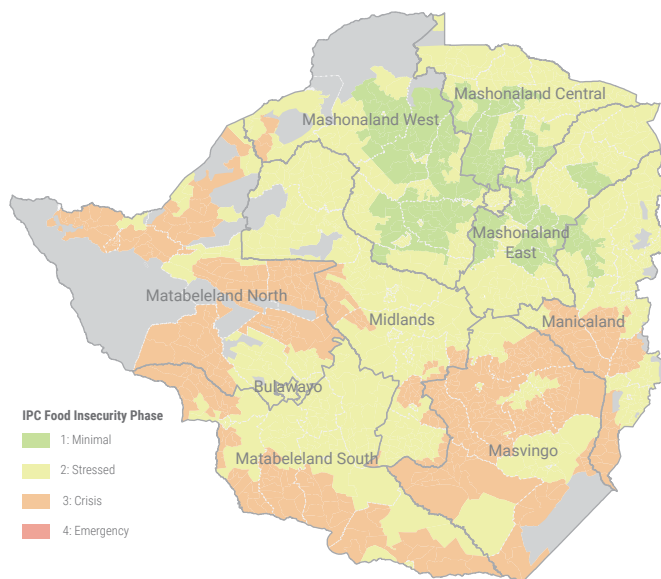
Photo: UNICEF / Karel Prinsloo

Part 3:

Current Situation and Possible Impact

El Niño-induced drought is expected to have several adverse consequences, including crop failures, livestock deaths, disruptions in water sanitation and social protection services, and the degradation of healthy food environments that support balanced diets. Anticipated outcomes include an increase in cases of Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) and Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM), accompanied by a heightened disease burden due to deteriorating Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) conditions. Additionally, there is a high likelihood of increased micronutrient deficiencies. As per the ZIMVAC rural 2023 report, an estimated 26 per cent of households, equivalent to 2.7 million people, may face food insecurity by January to March 2024, which is the peak period of food insecurity.

Zimbabwe Acute Food Insecurity October 2023 - January 2024 projected outcomes (FEWS NET)



El Niño will worsen the WASH situation in the drier provinces in Zimbabwe. The ZimVAC report also elaborated that at least 13 per cent of households in Matabeleland South and 11 per cent in Matabeleland North use surface water services and these are drier regions. Matabeleland North (Binga-36 per cent and

Bulilima-31 per cent) have the highest proportion of households drinking surface untreated water. The same province has the most districts with over 50 per cent of the households practicing open defecation (OD) and the province has been consistently having high OD proportions over the years. The situation is likely to be worsened by the El Niño phenomenon as these surface water sources are likely to dry up earlier than anticipated.

El Niño conditions can trigger various health issues, such as disease outbreaks, hunger, heat stress, mental health challenges, infectious diseases, and respiratory illnesses. The ongoing cholera outbreak is expected to worsen due to water scarcity, leading to the continued spread of diarrheal diseases. El Niño, which amplifies extreme weather events and global warming, has diverse health impacts, including an increased incidence of infectious and respiratory diseases. Mosquito-borne diseases, such as malaria, are also linked to higher risks during the El Niño cycle, as weather patterns significantly influence the spread of malaria, particularly in arid regions where significant rainfall can create ideal mosquito breeding sites.

The vulnerability of women and girls to Gender-Based Violence (GBV) is heightened during humanitarian crises, where violence and discrimination related to the emergency exacerbate pre-existing gender and social inequalities, as well as harmful traditional practices. Women and girls in drought-affected areas face increased risks as they are compelled to travel long distances to fetch water and food, elevating the threat of sexual violence. Additionally, disruptions in daily routines, as women and girls spend more time away from their homes in search of essential resources, can lead to tensions within households and an increase in intimate partner violence. Furthermore, the lack of water can disrupt education, as students spend

more time searching for water sources. El Niño not only magnifies existing vulnerabilities related to water, sanitation, and hygiene but also exacerbates them, affecting community social cohesion as localized conflicts may arise due to socio-economic and political challenges induced by emerging emergencies, diverting resources from developmental initiatives.

The economic strains brought about by El Niño can compound the challenges faced by the education sector. Decreased productivity in various economic sectors, reduced employment opportunities, and declining incomes can lead families to struggle with school-related expenses, potentially resulting in learners dropping out due to factors like child marriages, pregnancies, or child labor. This compromises their future prospects. The economic situation may also demoralize teachers, prompting some to seek opportunities abroad or engage in supplementary income-generating activities at the expense of delivering quality education. With 72

education districts, 10,517 primary and secondary schools, and over 4,700,000 learners, the impact of El Niño on education can be far-reaching and multifaceted.

Given that the country is still recovering from the impact of COVID-19 pandemic, an El Niño situation heightens the risk of negative coping mechanisms that can affect access to health and nutrition, education, WASH, and child protection services. Insights from previous disasters emphasize the importance of education and awareness campaigns regarding hazards related to changing weather patterns, the dissemination of life-saving information, promoting demand for access to and continuity of essential health and nutrition, WASH, education, and protection services. These are critical elements in reducing potential losses stemming from disasters. The health system is already overburdened with the current cholera outbreak which started in February this year and has so far led to more than 5,000 cases.

Districts with a forecast of rainfall anomaly and Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI) of >80%

Oct 2023- Dec 2023



Jan 2024- Mar 2024



Oct 2023 - Mar 2024



Part 4:

Forecast and Crisis Timeline

4.1 Forecast

According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the months of June, July and August have seen a warming of the Sea Surface Temperature of the East Pacific Ocean. This is known as the El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO which can lead to an El Niño situation resulting in higher precipitation in some parts for the world and lower precipitation in other parts, possible leading to drought, with parts of Southern Africa (including Zimbabwe) effected by the latter.

In addition, it is also confirmed that there will be a 90 per cent chance of the El Niño event impacting during the months of October to December 2023 to March 2024. The last quarter of the year is the typical window for planting and early crop development across the country. Delays in the onset of the rainy season, may lead to shorter windows for crop development and

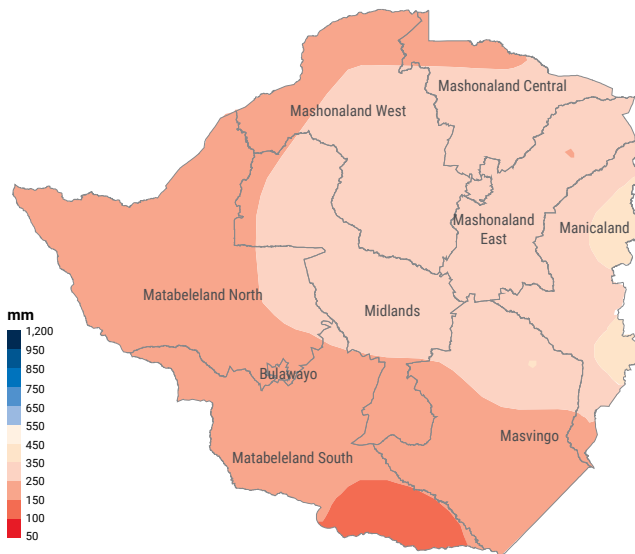
expose late planted crops to end of season dryness. The SARCOF and NARCOF seasonal outlooks indicates that a greater part of Zimbabwe is likely to get normal to below normal rainfall amounts until January 2024.

The SADC Climate Service Center are predicting that the western and southern parts of Zimbabwe are likely to be severely impacted. It should be noted that these conditions will affect areas in different ways. Crop losses in high-intensity production areas would likely impact not only local supplies, but also national availabilities.

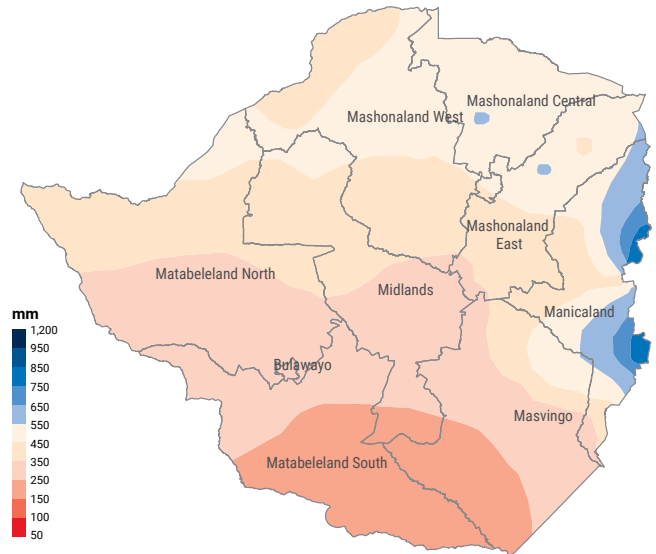
It should also be noted that the winter season has been higher than long term average air temperature as well as a decrease surface soil moisture. This condition will contribute to a greater impact of reduced precipitation leading to drought conditions.

NACOF Rainfall Outlook

(October - December 2023)



(January - March 2024)

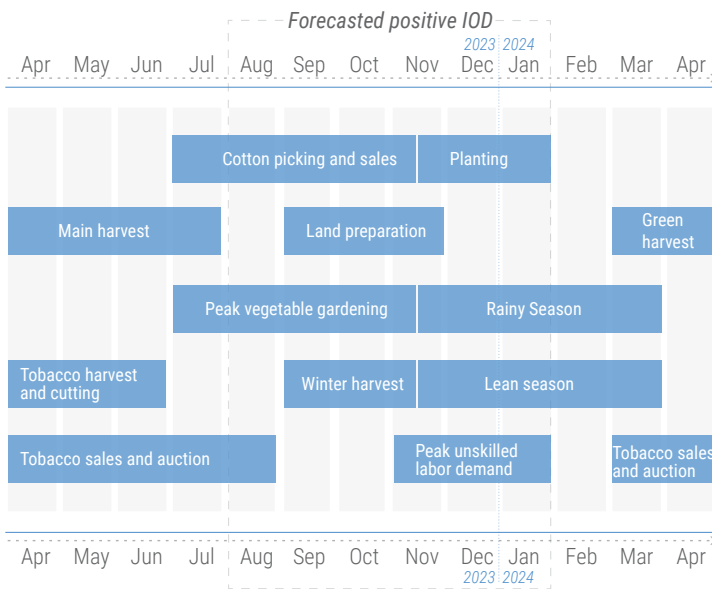


3.1 Crisis Timeline





It is also predicted that there will be a 90 per cent chance of the El Niño impacting during the months of November 2023 to February 2024, which are critical months for the crop growing season. This will lead to late start for the rains as well as potential dry spells which can be highly damaging for crop growth. The

SADC Climate Service Center are predicting that the western and southern parts of Zimbabwe will be highly effected. It should be noted that these conditions will affect areas in different ways. Higher crop dependent areas will experience crop losses with livestock dependent areas likely to experience animal mortality through lack of water, low pasture quality and increase in diseases such as Anthrax.

Seasonal Calender (FEWS NET)



POTENTIAL EL NINO RISKS

-  Drought conditions are expected in areas likely to experience reduced rainfall amounts and mid-season prolonged dry spells.
-  Dryness because of El Nino will increase the risks of flash floods as parched ground is less likely to absorb water.
-  Dry spells could result in inadequate grazing areas, leading to poor livestock conditions and diseases.
-  Extreme dryness, will exacerbate the WASH situation thereby increasing risks of waterborne diseases including the ongoing cholera outbreak.

Part 5: AA Response Strategy

4.2. Triggers for Zimbabwe

This plan is guided by AA efforts already underway in the country. In the months of July to September, the key triggers are ‘forecast based’ (mostly rainfall)

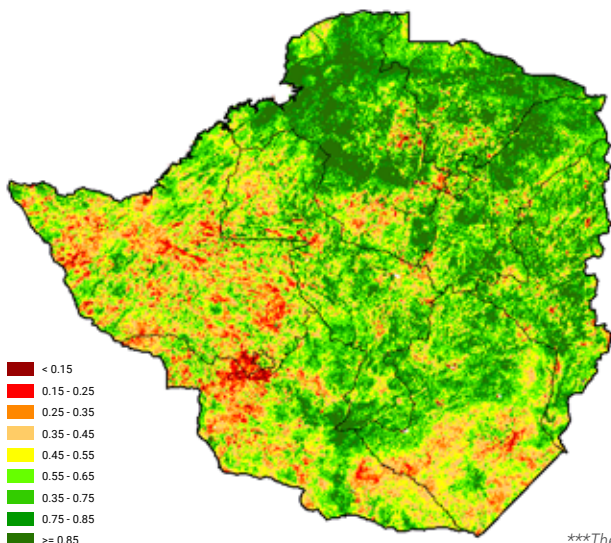
from SARCOF and NACOF. This is then followed by ‘seasonal and forecast’ triggers as the season unfolds (October through to March). Seasonal indicators include Agricultural Stress Index (ASI), soil moisture and Rainfall anomalies.

Indicators and Thresholds

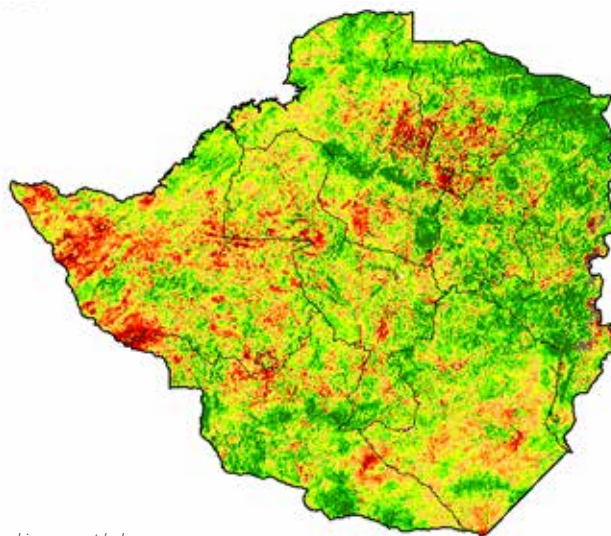
INDICATOR	SOURCE	THRESHOLD
ASI - Agricultural Stress Index System (contrast off and on season)	http://www.fao.org/giews/earthobservation/country/index.ang=en&code=ZWE	Is the map showing moderate sized areas in ASI % values 25 and below
		Is the map showing moderate sized areas in ASI % values 25 and 5
		Is the map showing moderate sized areas in ASI % values 55+
Soil Moisture Index	http://stream.princeton.edu/zim_app/	Is SMI level at normal to above normal range (0 to + 4)
		Is SMI level at greater than - 2 up to 0
		Is SMI level at - 2 up to - 4
Standardized Precipitation Index (SPI-3)	http://stream.princeton.edu/zim_app/	Is SPI-3 LEVEL at normal to above normal range (0 to + 4)
		Is SPI- 3 level at greater than - 2 up to 0
		Is SPI- 3 level at - 2 up to - 4

Vegetation Condition Index (FAO)

August 2022



August 2023



***The shade of red is per cent below average.

4.2.1 The Trigger Mechanism

When to act...

The El Niño consists of two types of triggers.

These include forecast-based triggers and observational triggers.

In line with the trigger system that was developed for this plan, anticipatory activities are split into two separate windows of action. Each trigger has its own activation window, which corresponds to one of two tailored packages of anticipatory activities as demonstrated in the below image.

Activities tied to the forecast-based triggers are primarily intended to reduce vulnerability under Window 1. Activities tied to the observational triggers are designed to improve capacity to cope with projected drought under Window 2.

Beyond meeting these criteria, all anticipatory activities for Zimbabwe are designed to build in and reinforce the existing and operational disaster response and management architecture.



Window 1 includes activities specifically designed to safeguard the food security and livelihoods of at-risk people as soon as there is an indication of drought in October to December period.



Window 2, beyond focusing on reducing vulnerability of people to food insecurity and loss of livelihoods, activities in Window 2 aim to improve the capacity of drought-affected people to cope across sectors from Jan-March.

4.3. Strategic Objective of the Plan

The AA plan will aim to:



Contribute towards improving WASH outcomes, reducing the risks of food insecurity among vulnerable communities, prevent negative coping strategies, and reduce loss and damages among drought-affected households.

The objectives of Anticipatory Action represents a distinct paradigm in humanitarian and development strategy, diverging significantly from traditional humanitarian response and long-term development programming. It entails taking proactive measures in anticipation of a crisis, either prior to the shock's occurrence or in the early stages of slow-onset situations, aiming to mitigate the shock's impact. These actions are initiated when there exists a high likelihood of such a shock happening and are characterized by their utmost time sensitivity.

Anticipatory action necessitates a proactive approach to pre-empt major shocks, mitigate impact, and minimize their potential repercussions on vulnerable populations. It encompasses three key components meticulously designed to enhance the speed and efficacy of interventions:

- Robust forecasting, which involves defining specific triggers or parameters.
- A country-level decision-making process closely linked to predetermined activities.
- Prearranged financing mechanisms.

There is a compelling rationale for implementing anticipatory action in Zimbabwe:

1. Anticipatory action serves as a preventive measure that reduces human suffering by mitigating the impact of crises, thus diminishing the humanitarian need.
2. Anticipatory action safeguards hard-earned developmental achievements and strengthens the

resilience of communities.

3. Anticipatory action is different from early response: While early response is swift and timely, it constitutes a reactive intervention triggered after a hazard has already materialized, aiming to address emerging or fully manifested humanitarian needs. In contrast, anticipatory action involves premeditated actions executed in response to an impending, high-probability shock.

In the Zimbabwean context, given the 90 per cent likelihood of an impending El Niño shock, it is imperative to execute interventions designed to address the impacts of a moderate to strong drought in a timely manner.

4.4. Core principles of the plan

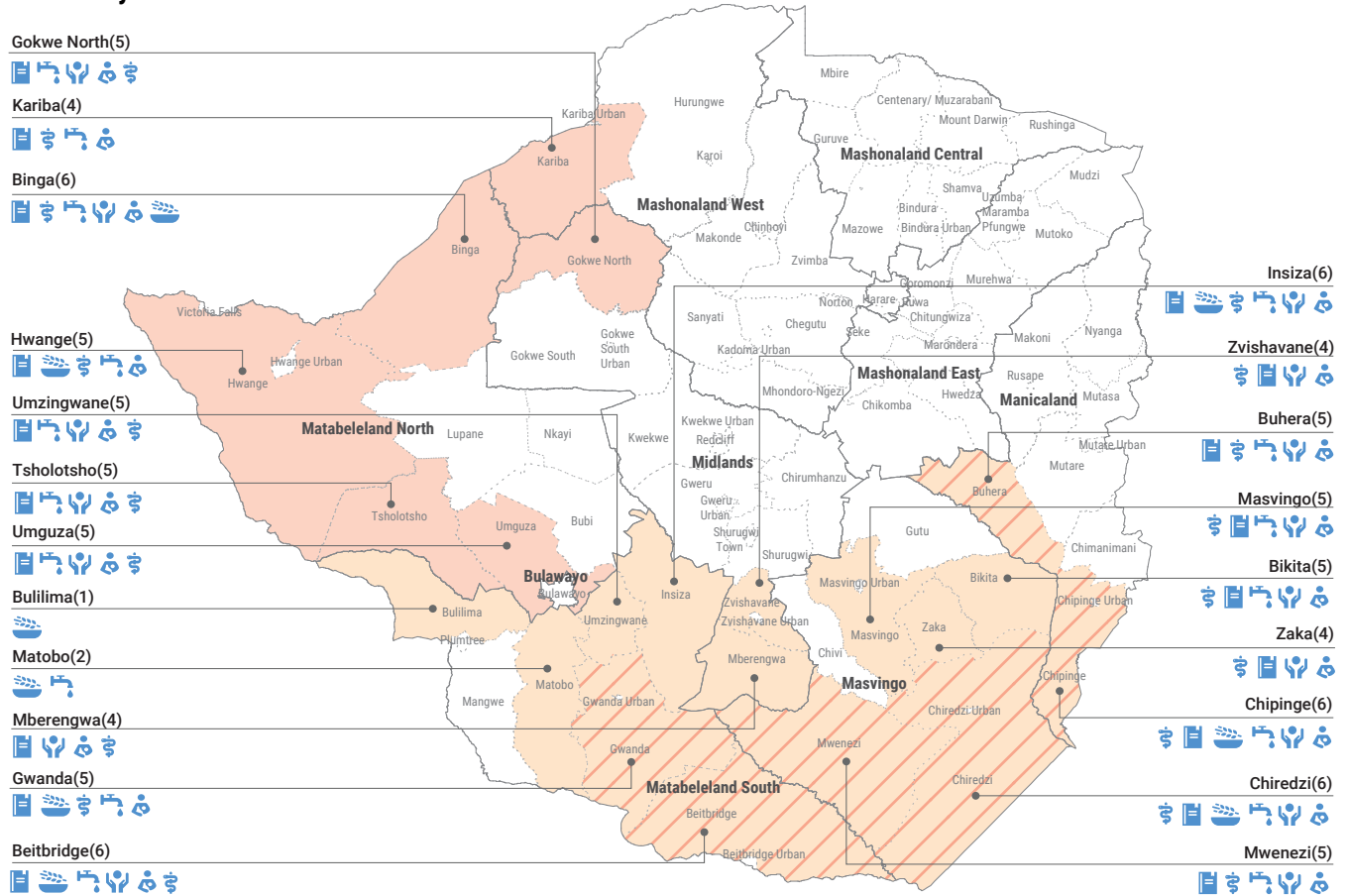
In pursuit of anticipatory action in Zimbabwe the following strategies should be considered:

1. **Multi-sectoral Approach:** Partners should prioritize comprehensive, co-targeted interventions whenever feasible to harness synergistic effects. The bundled delivery of services, such as combining school feeding with the provision of water services at educational institutions, can yield multiple benefits. It's important to note that these actions extend beyond addressing food security alone.
2. **Emphasis on Protection:** Designing interventions in advance offers an opportunity to elevate the overall quality of programming, with a particular focus on ensuring the centrality of protection concerns. It is of utmost importance that anticipatory actions are meticulously planned, executed, monitored, and evaluated through a protection lens. In alignment with the IASC centrality of protection policy and the "leaving no one behind" principle from the 2030 agenda, all partners engaged in anticipatory interventions bear the responsibility of guaranteeing that their responses do not exacerbate the vulnerability of communities to risks such as violence, insecurity,

extortion, and exploitation. Anticipatory actions must also be structured to benefit all communities, including local communities, displaced populations, returnees, and refugees, addressing their unique needs and considering potential barriers related to gender, age, disability, or social affiliations (clan). Moreover, proactive measures should be taken to mitigate the risks of violence that droughts could incite, leading to displacement and heightened humanitarian dependency.

3. **Cash-Based Approaches:** Cash assistance should be systematically evaluated as a response option. Humanitarian actors should collaborate to ensure that, where market conditions and operational contexts permit, cash becomes the preferred and default form of aid. A thorough consideration of cash-based assistance, on equal footing with in-kind aid, should be undertaken to determine the most appropriate response modalities.

Sectors by district



Sector by districts

Education Food Security Health WASH Protection Nutrition

Window by districts

One(Oct - Dec 2023) Two(Jan - Mar 2024) Both in window one and two(Oct 2023 - Mar 2024)

Part 6:

Sectoral Analysis

MANZVIRE VILLAGE, ZIMBABWE

Alex Shindezua Manzwire, a small-scale farmer from Manzwire Village, clear his field of weeds.

Photo: UNICEF / Karel Prinsloo



Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH)



PEOPLE IN TARGETED

339k

REQUIREMENTS

\$9.4M

DISTRICTS TARGETED

16

LEAD AGENCY

UNICEF

El Niño impacts will deplete ground water sources, causing a lower yield from boreholes resulting in challenges in accessing potable water. The risk of diarrheal disease including typhoid will increase worsening the situation in an ongoing cholera outbreak. The main objective of WASH in AA plan is to ensure the WASH Sector and partners have the capabilities to effectively respond to and meet the needs of those affected by the El Niño in a timely and relevant manner. The WASH sector will be guided by four (4) strategic result areas in delivering response actions: sufficient safe water to fulfil domestic needs, safe water handling, sanitation and hygiene practices, critical WASH supplies for the most vulnerable families and adequate, and functional national and sub-national coordination and surveillance mechanisms. The WASH Cluster will work in collaboration with the Nutrition, Education, Health, Food Security Protection Clusters.

Interventions

1. Pre-position and distribution of WASH Hygiene kits.
2. Promote safe water handling and storage, sanitation, and hygiene behaviors, especially through community volunteers, community and school hygiene clubs.
3. Increase access to safe and basic water services in communities, schools and health facilities.
4. Increase access to sanitation facilities for households in affected districts
5. Train village pump minders and provide bush pump spare parts.
6. Strengthen national, provincial, district and ward coordination mechanisms to ensure information management, reporting, surveillance, assessments and coordinated response.
7. Increase access to safe and sustainable water sources.

Education



PEOPLE IN TARGETED

171.3k

REQUIREMENTS

\$3.7M

DISTRICTS TARGETED

19

LEAD AGENCY

UNICEF

The impact of El Niño on education will be far-reaching and multifaceted by exposing learners to increased risk of water-borne diseases, halting ongoing school feeding programs, leading to decreased attendance and hindering the learning process. The education cluster's aim is to ensure that all girls and boys, school communities, and education personnel in Zimbabwe are safe and protected from hazards in and around schools and are active agents in reducing disaster risk and establishing a resilient education sector prior El Niño, during and after. The cluster will also coordinate

responses and if needed will cooperate with relevant sectors and clusters such as WASH, Health, Nutrition and child protection on responses that will lead to children returning to school or accessing alternative education.

Interventions

1. Increase access to alternative learning.
2. Pre-positioning and provision of teaching and learning materials.
3. Implement school feeding in affected districts.

Food Security and Livelihoods



PEOPLE IN TARGETED	REQUIREMENTS	DISTRICTS TARGETED	LEAD AGENCY
180.2k	\$6.9M	10	WFP/FAO

Food Security is expected to be the most affected sectors alongside nutrition, agriculture, water, education, health, and wildlife. The objective of Food Security and Livelihoods cluster El Niño AA plan is to reduce the potential impact of the forecasted El Niño through water, agriculture, livestock, food, training and information-based interventions. The cluster will work with the WASH, Health, Nutrition, Education clusters to deliver integrated AA interventions.

Interventions

1. Crop monitoring, spraying - FAW.

2. Acaracide distribution, dip tank repair, vaccinations distribution through voucher system.
3. Cash with training, cash for Work for water harvesting structures.
4. Training through Farmer Field Schools (Pfumvudza and water harvesting).
5. Disseminations of simplified weather and climate information to farmers and communities (October to Dec).
6. Provision of drought tolerant inputs (September to November) (13,190 Packets).

Health



PEOPLE IN TARGETED	REQUIREMENTS	DISTRICTS TARGETED	LEAD AGENCY
262.6k	\$2.9M	19	WHO

The Health System is already struggling with an ongoing cholera outbreak since February this year. The burden will increase as El Niño conditions are associated with high risk of increased deaths among under 5s due to malnutrition, diarrheal diseases, increases the frequency and severity of infections e.g., measles, malaria, pneumonia. The Health Cluster aims to provide comprehensive health care and support, through delivering quality essential primary health care and referral services including training of health care workers, providing prevention, treatment, and referral services and offering psychosocial support and community-based mental health care services. The anticipatory action activities will be implemented in collaboration with WASH, Child Protection, FSL, Nutrition, Education and Protection.

Interventions

1. Strengthen surveillance for malnutrition, acute watery diarrhea, vaccine.

2. Pre-positioning of essential and emergency medical supplies and continuous monitoring of these both at national and subnational levels.
3. Training and refresher training of health facility and community-based health care workers in disease surveillance (incl community and event-based surveillance).
4. Capacity building of Rapid Response Teams (mainly district and health facility).
5. Support clinical management of rape (CMR), management of survivors of GBV and strengthen referral pathways.
6. Procure and distribute emergency reproductive health kits including contraceptives .
7. Support the implementation of the Minimum Initial Service Package for Reproductive Health (MISP) during emergencies – training on MISP and kits, support and supervision, IEC.

Nutrition



PEOPLE IN TARGETED

9.3k

REQUIREMENTS

\$1.1M

DISTRICTS TARGETED

19

LEAD AGENCY

UNICEF

El Niño impacts are likely to increase the severity of malnutrition among under 5s. The Nutrition cluster's objective is to ensure all children and women at risk of malnutrition humanitarian crises benefit from diets, practices and services that protect, promote and support their survival and growth. The Nutrition Cluster will collaborate with WASH, Child Protection, Health, Food Security, Education and Protection.

Interventions

1. Screening on MUAC screening for identification, referral and quality treatment of children with wasting.
2. SAM Treatment and strengthen Care Group approach to enhance access to quality diets and services for prevention of all forms of malnutrition for children below five years, adolescents, and pregnant and lactating women.
3. Awareness-raising in communities on malnutrition and to maintain and improve the quality of services for the treatment of malnutrition through the primary healthcare platform as well as in referral hospitals.
4. Capacity building of community health care workers on counselling of PLWD and keeping HH and communities empowered to mitigate effects.

Protection



PEOPLE IN TARGETED

219.3k

REQUIREMENTS

\$4.7M

DISTRICTS TARGETED

16

LEAD AGENCY

UNFPA

El Niño anticipated drought is a major protection risk to vulnerable people in Zimbabwe. There is likely to be an increase of protection issues encompassing general protection, child protection and GBV. The cluster will aim to strengthen the capacity of the cluster and subsector (subcluster) systems for prevention of protection violations in humanitarian situations with a special focus on El Niño driven risks for various vulnerable groups of people including children, women, girls, PWDs, and the elderly. The cluster will engage other cluster and support with mainstreaming tools to ensure that anticipatory activities include and benefit equally affected people in communities. Including all vulnerable women, children, PwD and the elderly.

Interventions

1. Refresher training on protection mainstreaming, PSEA reporting mechanisms, Child protection, SGBV risks to partners, stakeholders and focal points in impacted districts.
2. Identification and assistance with referrals of persons with Disability, survivors of GBV and affected children.
3. Disseminate early warning information to enhance monitoring and prediction of risks to communities and relevant subnational and local authorities.
4. Implement surveillance, Children on the Move, Child labor, Children outside the family environment, SGBV survivors and affected community members across districts.
5. Cash assistance (cash for protection for SGBV survivors, dignity kits, accessing SGBV services).
6. Protection service and Mobility mapping, tracking of persons and children displaced by effects of El Niño. Develop plans and monitoring systems to address emerging migration patterns.
7. Flow monitoring at regular and irregular border crossing points to identify people on the move including vulnerable population groups as well as children and unaccompanied minors.
8. Training in positive parenting to child friendly structures, set up and Community GBV risk mitigation – setting up and running of women and safe spaces.
9. Provision of critical Child Protection services (CPiE, and SGBViE) for specialist and quality service provision.
10. Awareness raising and Sensitization to Child Protection Committees (CPCs) including campaigns, community dialogues) on both prevention and service provision.
11. Accountability to affected by engaging with communities (in local languages) and awareness focusing on potential effects and the anticipated extent of preparedness.

EI NIÑO ANTICIPATORY ACTION
ZIMBABWE

