COVID-19 and Food Crises

Monitoring, Anticipation and Reaction
Why is risk monitoring and evidence gathering critical and urgent?

- Full effects of COVID-19 on food security uncertain - interplay of many factors (gov. measures, existing vulnerabilities, health systems, other shocks etc);
- Critical to urgently start building an understanding of potential impacts, collect **empirical** evidence, and formulate a strategy e.g. GHRP revisions; June 3\(^{rd}\), July 15\(^{th}\) and August 26\(^{th}\)
- Aim is to set up risk monitoring and assessment systems which can continue beyond COVID-19 to effectively anticipate disaster impacts to improve programming, messaging and advocacy; Early Warning, Early Action
Impacts on agricultural outputs

- Needs to consider critical risks, including:
  - Reduced access cropland and grazing land;
  - Reduced access to inputs (labour, seeds, fertilizers);
  - Further shocks that may affect production e.g. FAW;
  - Coping strategies of farmers, traders, suppliers etc.
Impacts on food access

-- Accessibility and functioning of local markets including transportation of food (link to UNDP projects);
- Food prices;
- Availability of food in the markets as well as in terms of food stocks;
- Supply issues between rural and urban areas;
- Coping strategies of households, negative.
Impacts on humanitarian assistance

- Did funds for humanitarian assistance reduce since the start of the COVID-19 emergency?
- Did restrictions on movement affect the delivery of support to vulnerable households?
- Are there any alternative delivery options to reach beneficiaries under these exceptional circumstances?
How will it be done?

- Zimbabwe selected as priority country due to current emergency – close support from HQ
- Remote data collection in most cases (phone, web-based / social media, RS, secondary);
- Agreement with Geopoll, other call centers, for primary data collection
- Triangulation with other data sources (ZimVAC, VAM, FEWSNET, etc)
- Periodicity: at least quarterly (depending on scenarios),
Questionnaires

- Household survey
- Agricultural inputs vendors survey
- Food traders survey (assistance from WFP)
- Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES) 30 day recall
- Key informant interviews with local extension officers
Next steps

First Round Rapid Assessment to inform GHRP revision – June 3rd:

• Due to time constraints focus on current IPC Phase 4 and Hurricane Idai affected districts

Second Round National Level to inform July GHRP Revisions and Beyond

• Need cooperation from stakeholders e.g. ZIMVAC and NGO partners
Please stay in touch

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