



## FOOD SECURITY

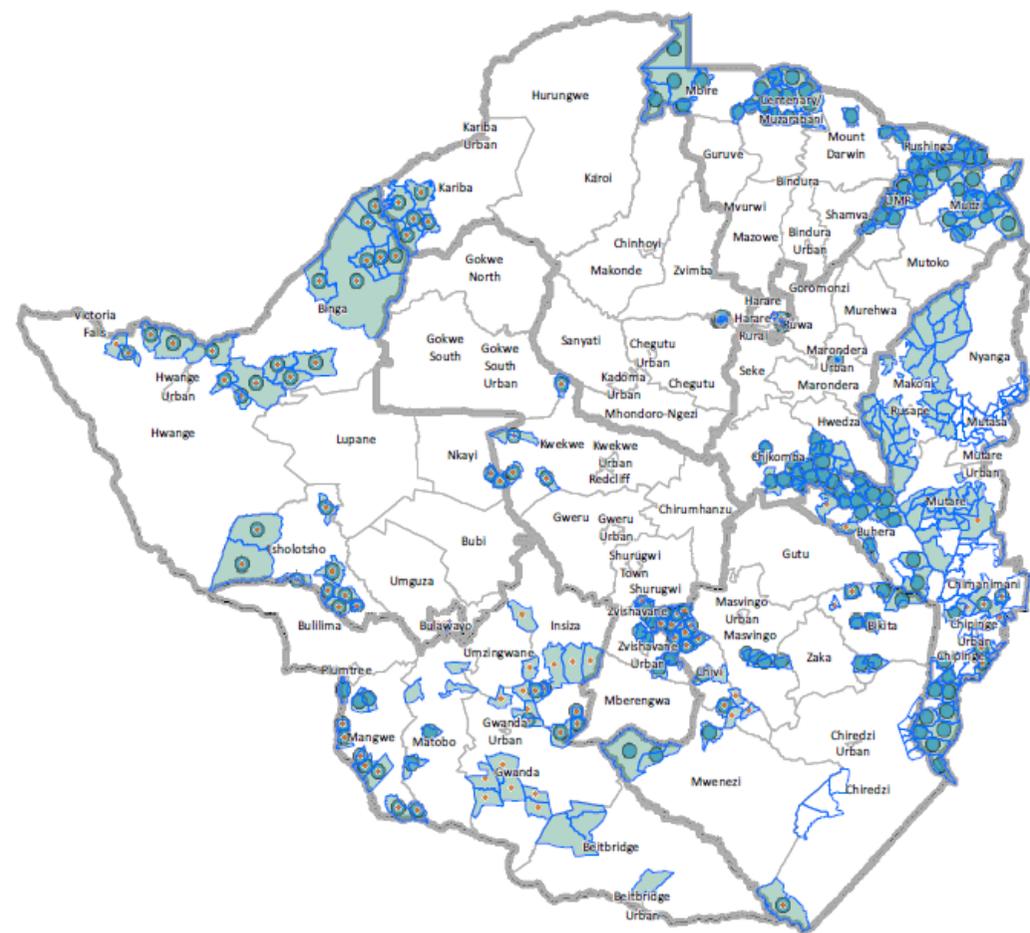
- In response to a **significant increase in COVID-19 cases**, the Government announced stricter containment measures on July 21, in particular restricting all movements except essential services. This is expected to limit household income and access to food among low-income households. (FEWSNet July FS Outlook.)
- The impact is expected to be harder on urban populations, as they rely heavily on income from sources such as street vending, trading, casual labour and market gardening. The number of **urban food insecure is expected to rise to 3.3 million people** for the October to December 2020 period, up from 2.2 million at the same time in 2019. (WFP FS Projections, May 2020)
- In rural areas, the number of food-insecure people is estimated by WFP internal analysis to climb to **5.3 million** for the October to December 2020 period, up from 3.58 million at the same time in 2019 according to IPC analysis. This is due to stocks dwindling following the recent drought-hit harvest and the reduction of remittances. (WFP FS Projections, May 2020)



## AGRICULTURE

- Zimbabwe is expected to have above-average **deficits of about 1.1 million MT of cereals** and atypically high import volumes from South Africa. (FEWSNet Regional Maize Supply Outlook)
- Due to below-normal grain supplies, **formal and informal imports continue, which is atypical in the post-harvest period**. Some farmers mainly from surplus-producing areas continue to deliver grain to the Grain Marketing Board (FEWSNet July FS Outlook.)
- The Government announced new producer prices for maize for the 2020/21 marketing season, at approximately **USD 202 per tonne (ZW\$16,153 per tonne), down from 389 USD per tonne last season.** (FAO)
- African Migratory Locusts (AML) were reported** in Chiredzi district. This poses a serious threat of severe crop destruction if swarms form during the rainy season. FAO has developed a response strategy in support of the government. The government will set up Locust control Units and Community Surveillance Committees with the support of FAO (FAO)

## FSL interventions: Implementation of COVID-19 mitigation and protection measures as of July 2020



### Legend

- WASH(Adding soap to basket)
- Health(Medical Officer/referral services)

- Response coverage
- Messaging coverage

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Website: <https://fsccluster.org/zimbabwe> - Prepared by: FSC IM  
Map Reference: FSC\_COVID-19\_mitigation\_measures  
Data source: Covid-19 mitigation measures: FSC Partners - Boundaries: OCHA

## MACROECONOMIC SITUATION

- Zimbabwe is facing one of the worst economic crises in its history. **Annual inflation was estimated at 737% in June**, down from 787% in May, although month-on-month inflation increased from 15% in May to 32% in June 2020. (WFP July FS Outlook)
- Food remains the main driver of inflation, with overall **annual price increases estimated at 836% in June 2020**, down from 956% in May 2020. Prices of basic food commodities increased by an average of 19% over the month of July 2020. (WFP July FS Outlook)
- The depreciation of the ZWL to USD exchange rate on the parallel market slowed following the introduction of the auction system; however, **parallel market rates remain at least 20 percent above** the official rate. (FEWSNet July FS Outlook.)

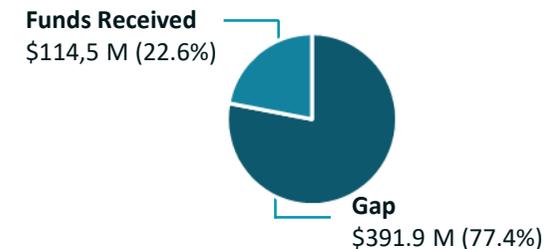
## Highlights

- WFP projections indicate that by year's end, the number of food-insecure people in Zimbabwe will have surged by almost 50% compared to the same period last year, rising to **8.6 million = 60% of the population**.
- Year-on-year **inflation of basic food commodities was estimated at 836%** in June 2020.
- COVID-19 cases, in Zimbabwe increased from 985 cases on July 12 to **5,643 cases and 150 deaths by August 19, 2020**.
- Zimbabwe's major Food Security Assessment, **ZimVAC, data collection has been finalized** and the final report is expected in September.

## FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS (FSL) CLUSTER COORDINATION

- The HRP 2019 was revised through a COVID-19 addendum to reflect the pandemic: new targets were raised to **4.6 million food-insecure people and 1.5 million vulnerable farmers**.
- The 27 FSL Cluster partners reported **reaching over 700,000 people with either in-kind food, cash or voucher distributions in July**, in both rural and urban areas. In addition, 128,000 vulnerable farmers received with agricultural support.
- To adapt their activities to COVID-19, **8 partners added soap into their distributions, reaching 205,000 beneficiaries**. Further, 12 partners now display COVID-19 IEC materials during their FSL interventions, reaching 439,000 beneficiaries. 9 partners have also included health and referral services available for 381,000 beneficiaries at intervention sites.
- The national cash working group approved the updated Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) value for **urban cash-based transfers, from 9 USD to 12 USD per person per month**. Given the need for improved hygiene measures to contain the COVID-19 pandemic, soap was also added to the MEB food basket.

## FSC Funding Requirements



## Key Documents Released in July

- FSL Cluster July Map Atlas
- FSL Cluster July Dashboard
- FSL Cluster Online Partners Presence Map
- FSL - Nutrition June Map
- FAO-WFP Early Warning Analysis of Acute Food Insecurity Hotspots conducted in July 2020
- WFP July FS Outlook
- FEWSNet July FS Outlook