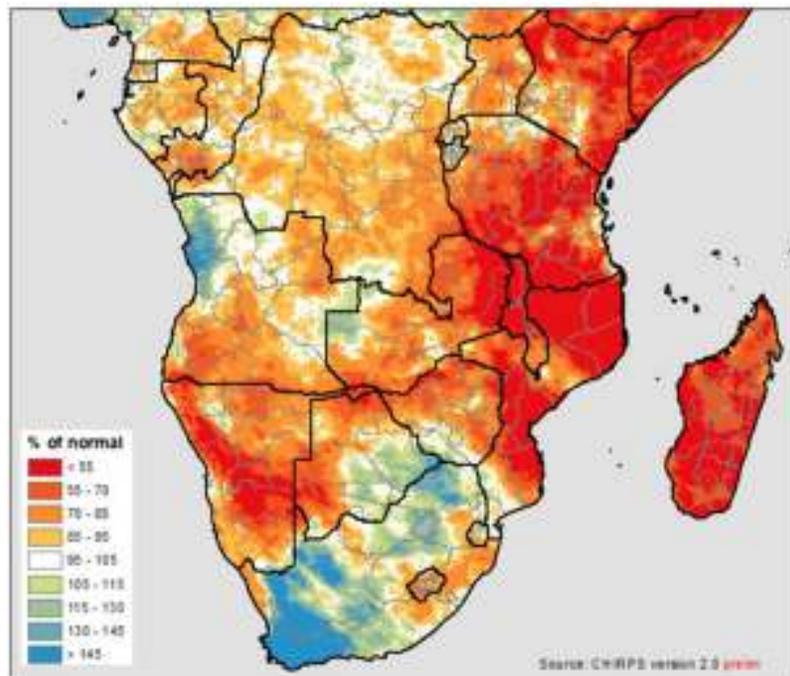


Key Highlights

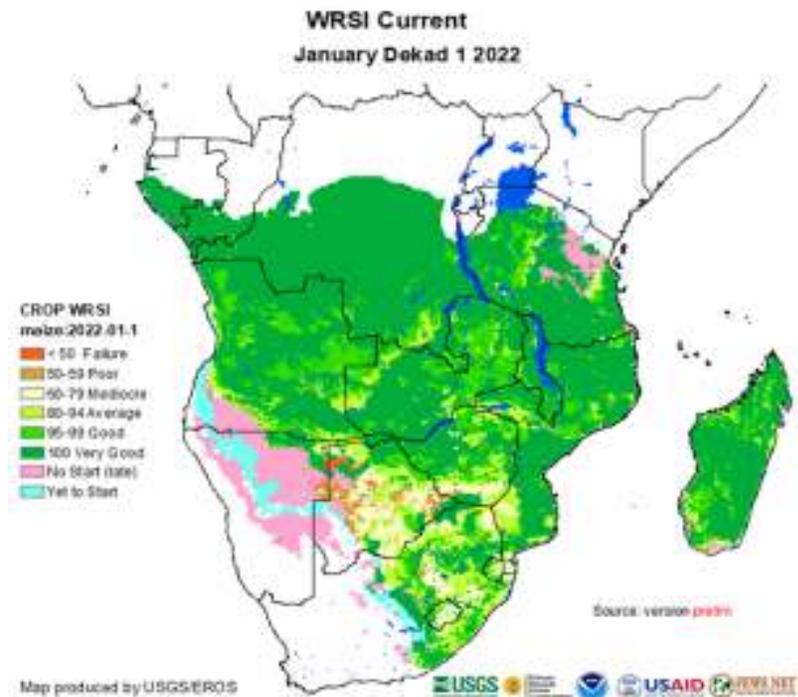
Joint WFP/FEWSNET/FAO Report
January 2022

Progression of the Agriculture/Rainfall Season

Extreme dryness: cumulative rainfall compared to normal, Oct 1 - Dec 10, 2021



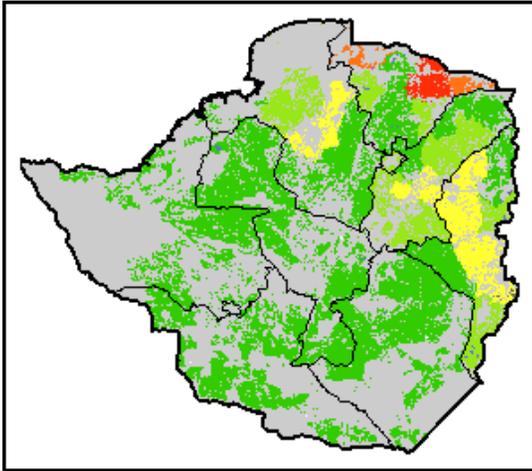
Improved rainfall and WRSI, Dekad 1 January, 2022



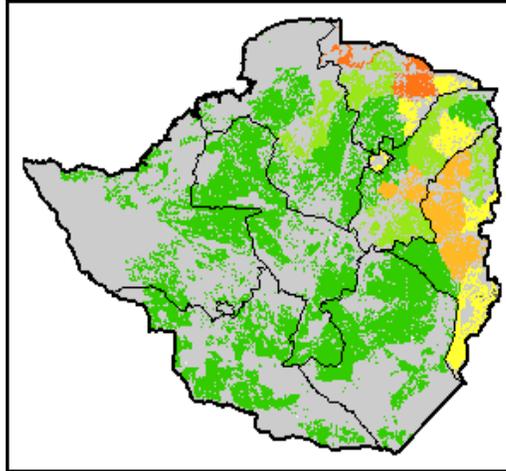
Progression of the Agriculture/Rainfall season

FAO Agriculture Stress Index System

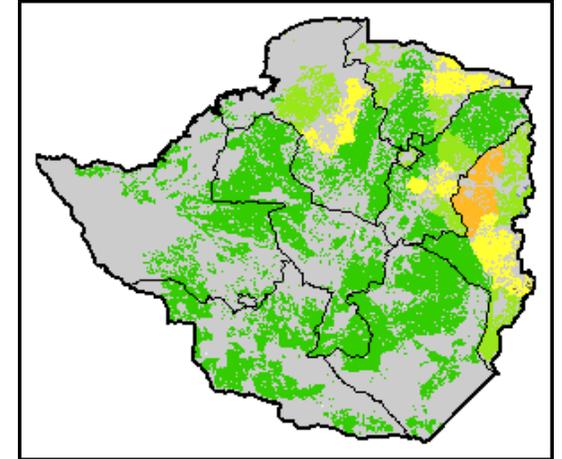
Dekad 1_Dec



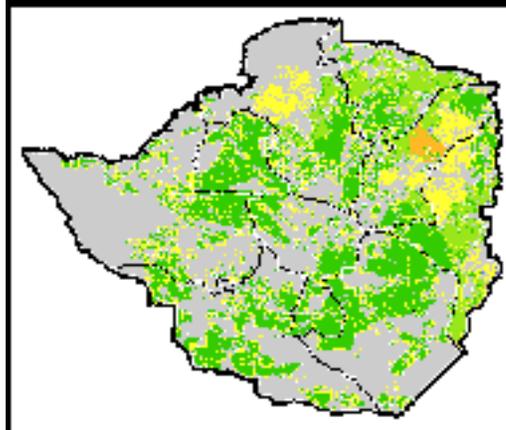
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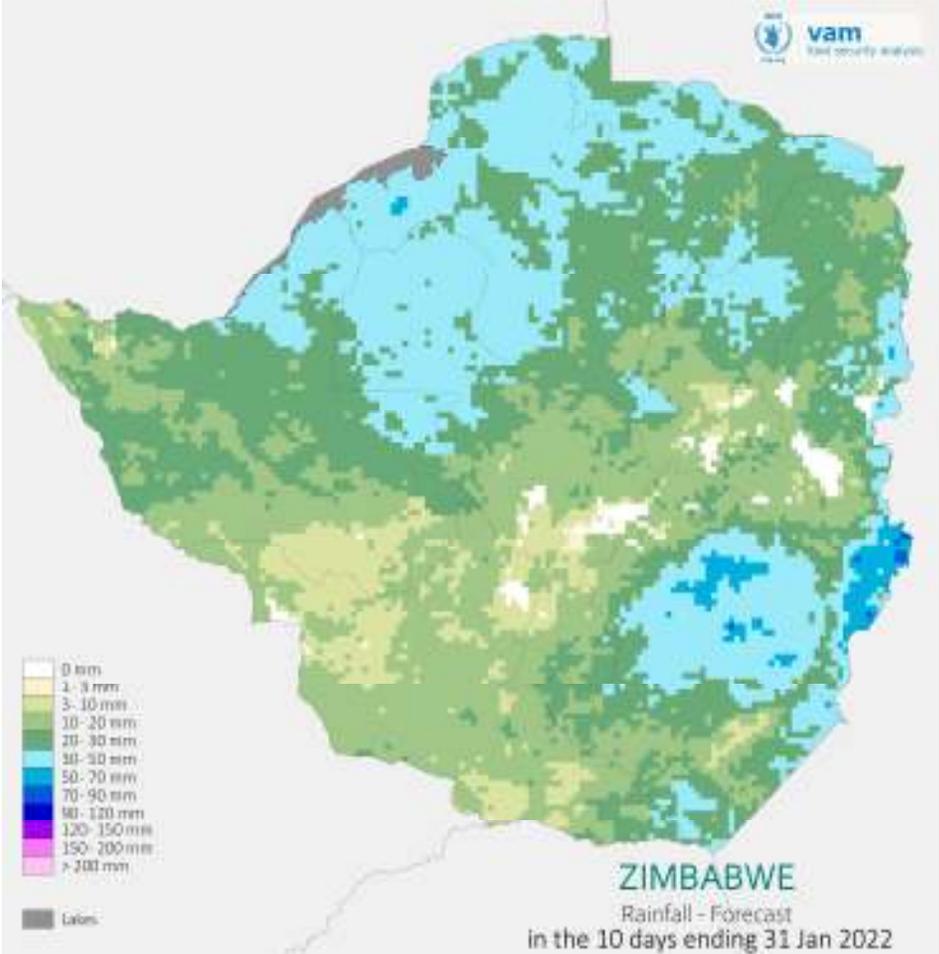
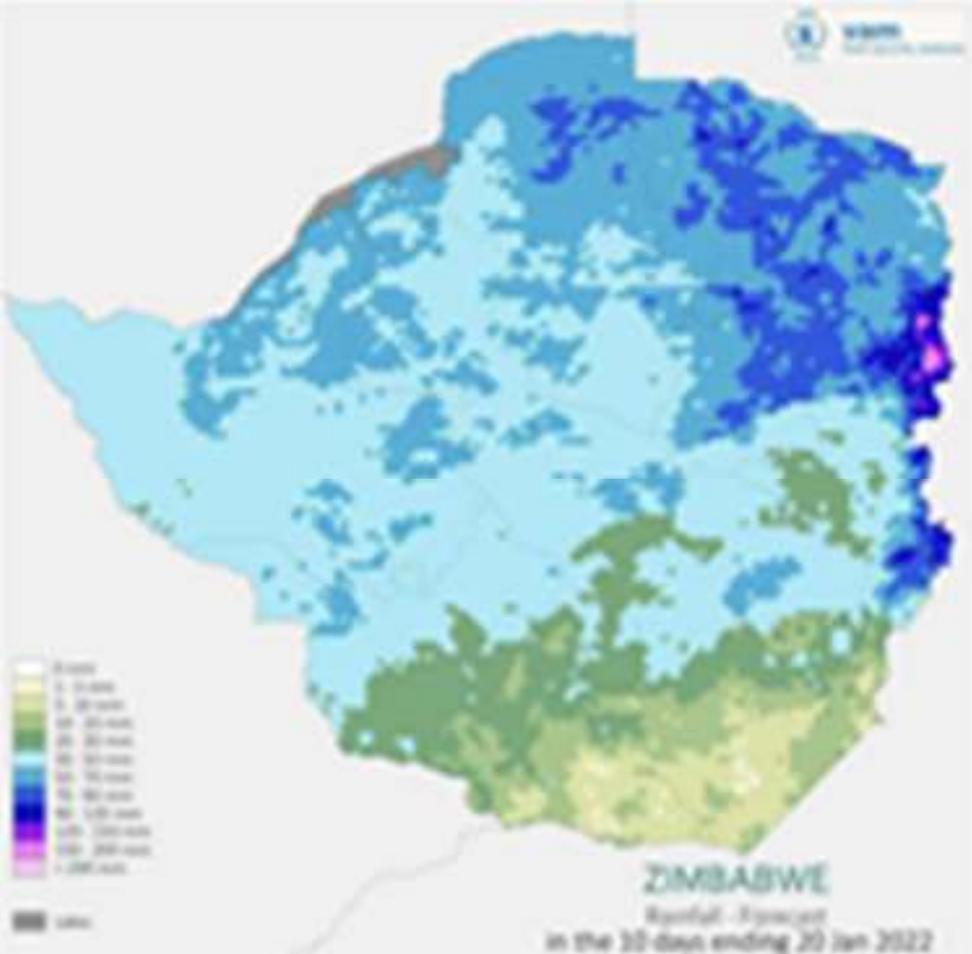
Dekad 3_Dec



Dekad 1_Jan



WFP Climate & Earth Observation Unit



Progression of the Agriculture/Rainfall season

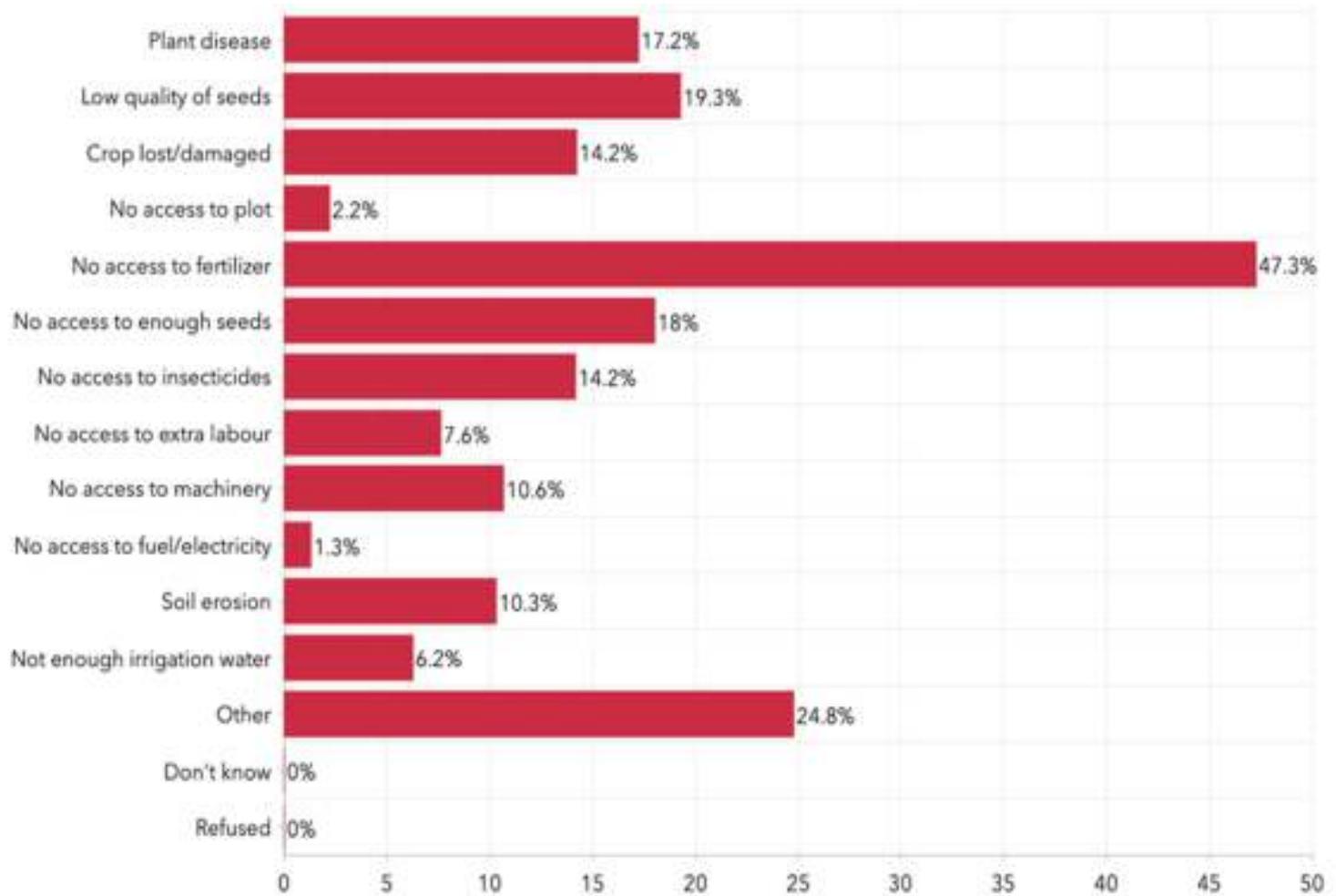
WFP Climate & Earth Observation Unit

- Rainfall received in the northern parts of the country (surplus producing), remained below normal.
- Long dry spells experienced throughout most of the country in December resulted in wilting of crops in some areas and farmers were encouraged to replant, some however reported facing challenges in accessing inputs.
- The latest WFP 10-day rainfall outlook i.e. until 20 January 2022 predicts normal to below-normal rainfall across most of the country, with some parts in the north-east and south-west likely to receive above normal amounts.

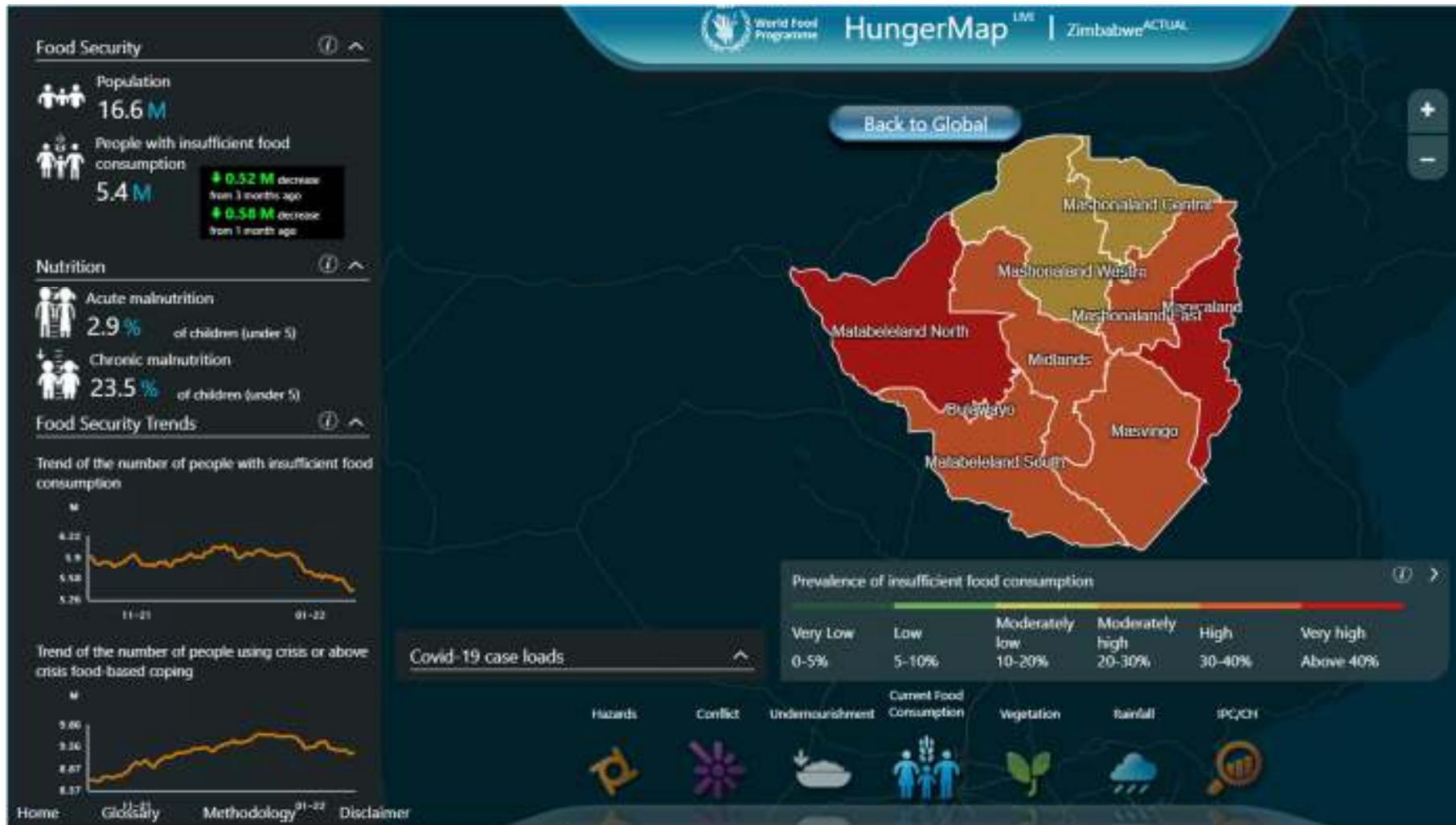
Progression of the Agriculture/Rainfall season

- Impacts of a poor, false and late start of the 2021-22 rainfall & agricultural season to persist into the second half (Jan-Mar) of the season;
- Below normal cropped areas anticipated across most parts of the country for the season;
- Below normal demand and opportunities for on-farm (casual) labor experienced/expected; normal to below normal labor payment rates
- Accumulated moisture deficits in parts of eastern Zimbabwe expected to continue even if the rainfall situation improves
- Poor crop input access for most small holder farmers expected to persist due to below normal income and high/above average commodity prices
- Top dressing fertilizer shortages likely to remain and negatively impact yields across most areas
- Heavy, persistent rains in some areas (esp. northern & central areas) in early January led to waterlogging, soil leaching, poor weed control, & poor chemical applications

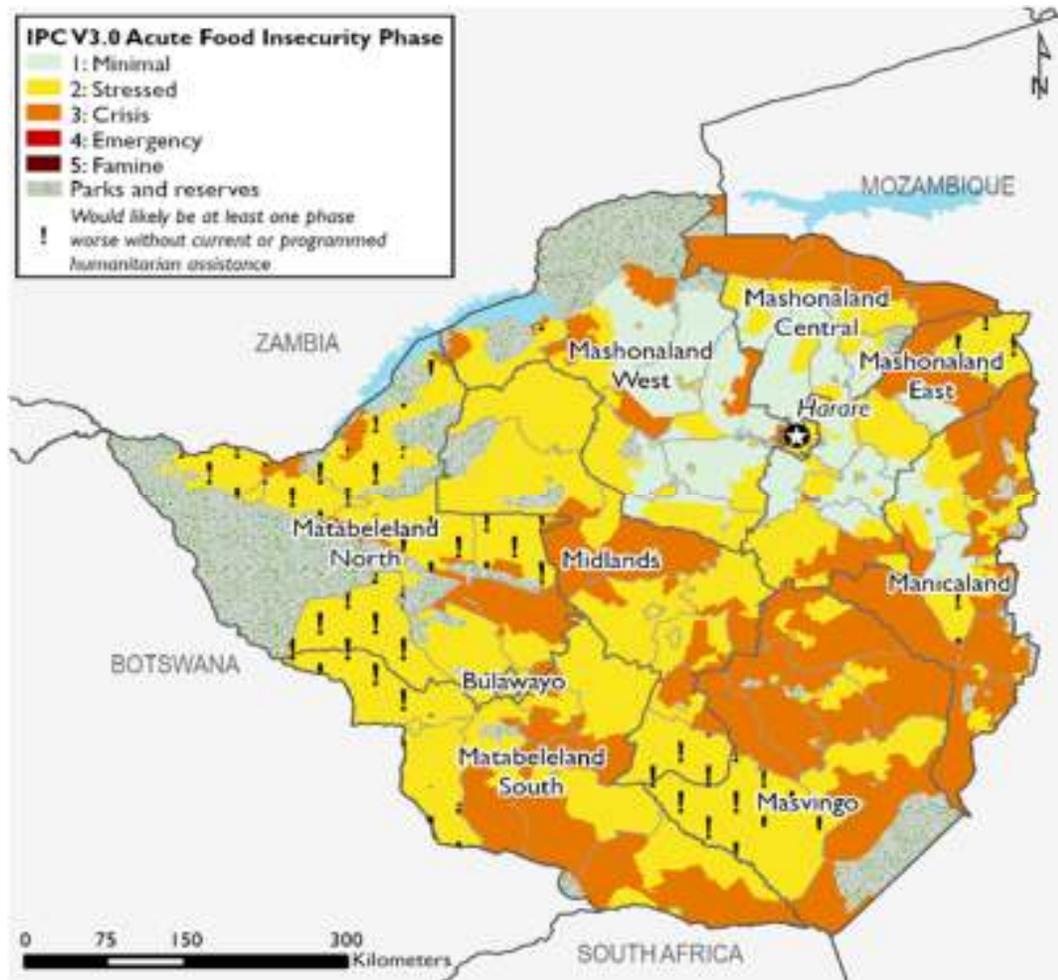
Shocks to production reported Nov-Jan



Food Security Situation



Projected food security outcomes February to May 2022



FEWS NET classification is IPC-compatible. IPC-compatible analysis follows key IPC protocols but does not necessarily reflect the consensus of national food security partners.

Source: FEWS NET

Markets conditions

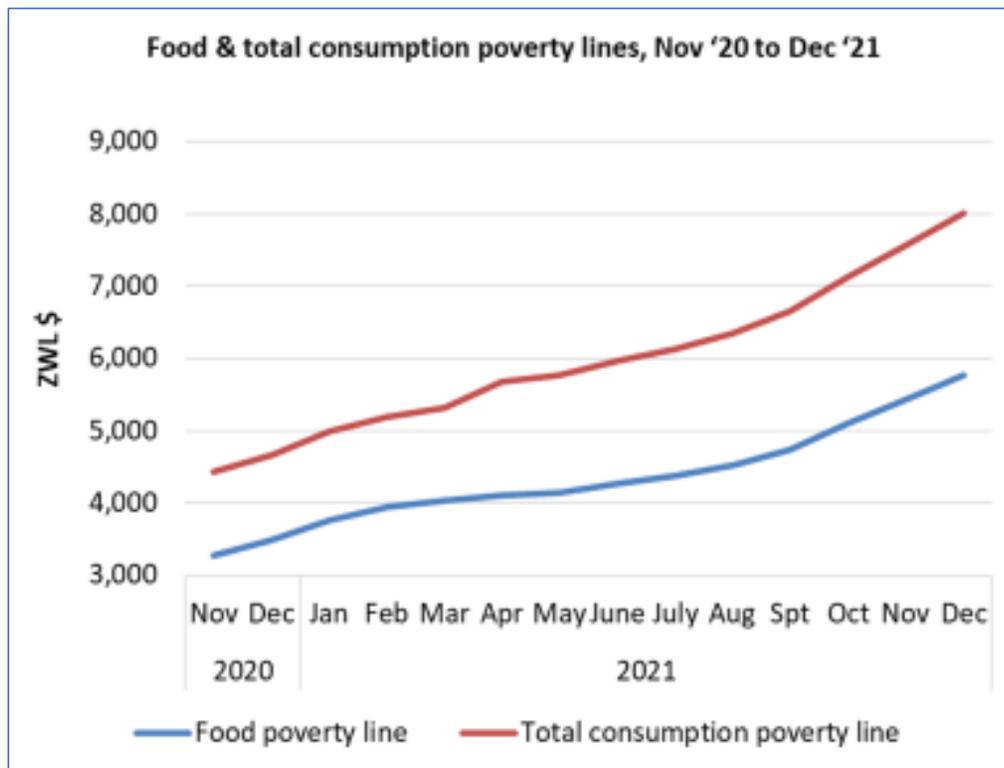
- Maize grain availability remained low in Dec - available in only 6% of all monitored rural and urban markets which is typical during the lean season, though the situation has been exacerbated by centralized marketing enforced by the government in favor of GMB.
- Maize meal was generally available in urban markets, whilst less 50% of rural markets indicated availability.
- The supply of other food commodities remained generally stable being available in at least two thirds of the markets.
- Prices of food commodities in USD remained stable in the month of December compared November 2021 whilst in local currency (ZWL) terms, there was a general price increase.

Macro-Economic Situation

- Official monthly food inflation rate was estimated at 6.2 percent in December 2021 Increase from mid-2021 when it was 1% around May.
- Upward trend at the end of 2021 was caused by a period of currency weakness, particularly in the parallel market.
- Result was increase in prices but those in USD terms were more stable.
- The increase in the pump price for diesel and petrol in October was also a contributory factor.
- Despite moderate rise in food price in the last two quarters of 2021, these were stable when compared with inflation rates in 2020. Main reason - large domestic 2021 cereal harvest & overall more stable exchange rate.



Macro-Economic Situation – Poverty lines pp



- Most households subsisting below the poverty lines
- Poor household (rural and urban) access to basic food and other non-food needs to be very constrained

Source: ZIMSTAT

Livelihoods Update

- Own-produced 2021 household food stocks depleted in most deficit-producing areas; market purchases and humanitarian assistance the main sources of food through March 2022
- Own-produced 2021 food stocks still available in most surplus-producing areas and can last through March; but stocks depleted for poor households
- Anticipated below normal incomes from most typical livelihood activities such as casual labor, crop sales, livestock sales, remittances, cross border trade
- Petty trade and informal mining are increasing as livelihood and coping activities
- Despite anticipated continued high COVID-19 infections, govt is likely to maintain COVID-19 restrictions that will allow for significant economic and livelihood activities.
- Transport challenges and high transport costs negatively impacting some livelihood activities and access to markets
- Above average dam levels, water availability and access for livelihood purposes expected throughout the outlook period in most areas. Dam levels reportedly averaging 83% of capacity compared to an average 64% this time of the year. Some small and medium dams already full, earlier than typical.