RVAA
Regional Vulnerability Assesment & Analysis Programme

Roundup

"Informing Resilient livelihoods"

SOUTHERN AFRICA: June/July 2021

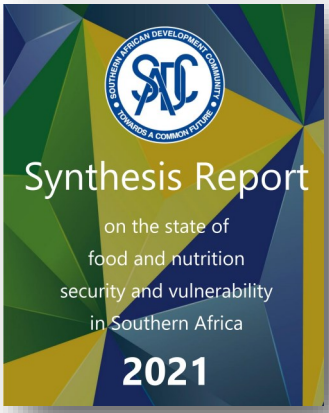
HIGHLIGHTS:

- **SADC 2021 Regional Annual Assessment Synthesis Report is now out and available online** (link)
- **47.6 million people** are food insecure, in the 2021/2022 marketing year based on vulnerability assessments and analyses results conducted so far for ten SADC Member States.
- **Madagascar:** About 1.14 million people are estimated to be facing high levels of acute food insecurity during the current period (April – September 2021) in the Great South of Madagascar. It is further projected that 1.31 million people will be facing high levels of food insecurity between October and December 2021 (IPC analysis).
- **Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC):** Between February and July 2021, around 27.3 million people are estimated to be experiencing high levels of acute food insecurity. It is projected that between August and December 2021 approximately 26.2 million people will be in high acute food insecurity

2021 SADC Regional Vulnerability Assessment Committee (RVAC) Technical Dissemination Forum (6-9 July)

The purpose of the meeting was to get an update on the state of vulnerability to food and nutrition security and livelihoods in the SADC region and to update key stakeholders on the progress made so far by the SADC RVAA Programme and present next steps.

The SADC 2021 Regional Annual Assessment Synthesis Report was produced by the the Regional Vulnerability Assessment Committee (RVAC), and approved by the Steering Committee of the SADC Regional Vulnerability Assessment and Analysis (RVAA) Programme, and the SADC Secretariat.



The 2021 SADC Regional Synthesis Report

- 47.6 million people are food insecure, in the 2021/2022 marketing years, according to the SADC Regional Synthesis Report
- This represents a 5.8% increase from last year and 52.3% above the 5-year average.
- The 2021 SADC Regional Synthesis Report is based on assessments and analyses from ten SADC Member States that shared their assessment results at the 2021 Dissemination Forum as well as other relevant secondary data sources:
- Assessment results were received from 10 Member States: (Botswana, DRC, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mozambique, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe).

The 2021 Regional Synthesis report will be updated in November 2021 with new data from **Angola, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Tanzania and Zambia.**

EVENTS

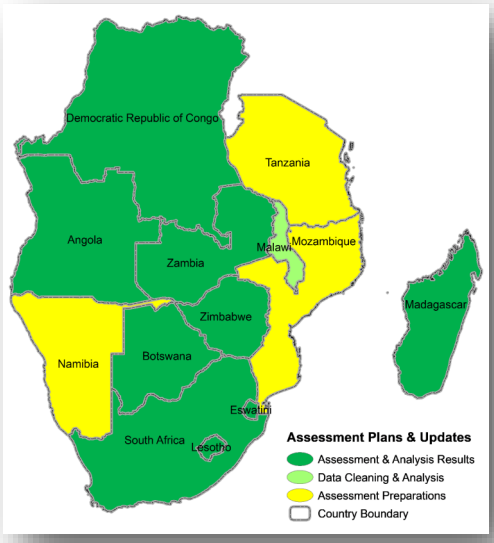
⇒ The World Food Programme (WFP) Regional Director for Southern Africa, meets the SADC Secretariat and the Regional Technical Support Team managing the SADC RVAA Programme.

⇒ SADC RVAA Programme Online Vulnerability Atlas Launched https://rvaaatlas.sadc.int/

⇒ Final evaluation of SADC RVAA Programme phase (2017-2022) underway.

20th SADC RVAA Programme Steering Committee Meeting (15 July)

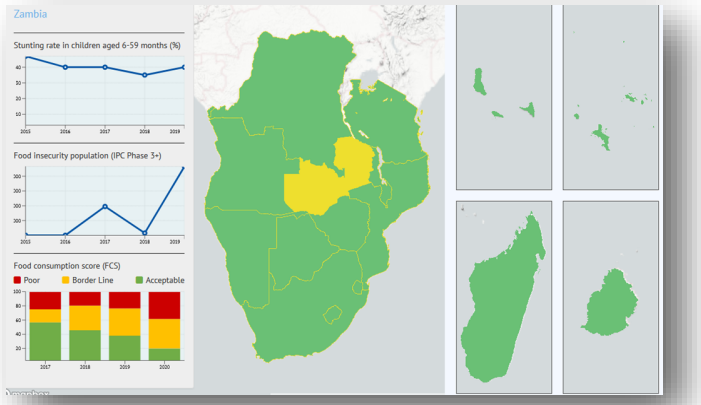
- Chaired by the Republic of Mozambique
- The committee approved the synthesis report and planned activities between July 2021 and March 2022.
- Amongst other nine decisions, the Committee urged the Secretariat to:
  (i) develop a transparent and inclusive road map for developing the Programme's management response to the RVAA Programme Final Evaluation and the Sustainability Plan 2022-2030: and
  (ii) organize an Extra-ordinary RVAC and Steering Committee meeting to validate and approve the Recommendations and Programme Management response of the RVAA Final Evaluation 2017-2022 and the RVAA Programme Sustainability Plan 2022 -2030.



SADC RVAA Programme Online Vulnerability Atlas Launched https://rvaaatlas.sadc.int/

The Online Vulnerability Atlas is designed to store and share data relating to food, nutrition and livelihoods security from 16 SADC Member States.

- It is freely accessible from any location in the world where there is internet connectivity. Users can find data, analyse trends across space and time, compare food security behaviour between and amongst different countries in the region and generate maps.



What they said..

"The idea of an Online Atlas came out of the need to respond to the strategic need to consolidate the gains of the RVAA Programme and add-value by making food and nutrition security information generated by 16 Member States easily accessible to a wide range of users working to improve the well-being of people in the SADC region."

Andrew ODERO,
Head of Vulnerability Assessment and Mapping (VAM)/RVAA Technical Support Team

MOZAMBIQUE

"*O Secretariado Técnico de Segurança Alimentar e Nutricional (SETSAN), na qualidade da Instituição que coordena a agenda de Segurança Alimentar e Nutricional (SAN) a nível Nacional, servirá do Sistema do Atlas RVAA, de um importante repositório da informação de Segurança Alimentar e Nutricional do País, bem organizada e conservada.*

Neste contexto, o Sistema Atlas para MOZVAC é um recurso que vai facilitar a pesquisa e disponibilização de informação de SAN Nacional como da Região a tempo e hora, onde e quando for necessário para apoiar a elaboração de Política e Estratégias de SAN e ainda na tomada de decisões com base em evidencia, tornando cada vez mais a prestação de serviço do SETSAN ao público, eficaz e eficiente".

António Pacheco Dias Lima

Director do Serviço de Informação de SAN

TANZANIA

"*Information that is relevant reliable timely clear and concise on current and projected conditions is fundamental for effective policy and strategic decisions. The atlas is there to save the purpose*".

Emmanuel K. EXPERIOUS

Tanzania VAC - Muchali Technical Focal Person.

ANGOLA

"*Com o sistema online do atlas os dados produzidos pelo VAC – AO estão agora mais visíveis e acessíveis as pessoas interessadas e preocupadas com a situação da Segurança Alimentar*"

Andrade SANTOS.
Cadeira no VAC: PontoFocal Atlas-AO

BOTSWANA

"*Quality data are the springboard through which policy makers positively, decisively and judiciously respond to food and nutrition insecurities. No theorising and no guessing necessary*"

Lesedi LEEPILE

Chief Health Officer, Monitoring and Evaluation; Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development and Rural Development

Gaomodimo NTLOTLANG
Chief Policy Analyst & Technical Manager, BVAC; Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development

KINGDOM OF ESWATINI

"*Vulnerability keeps changing its face, height and mass, the VAA keeps seeing all the changes and informing about them. Eswatini VAC will not tire to improve its tools and skills to always be above the challenge, in providing quality and comprehensive data timeously. The identity of the one individual in need of food has always been found by searchers of the same, through the vivid picture Eswatini VAC has always provided*".

Zandile MAVUSO
Disaster Manager-Eswatini VAC Chair

MALAWI

"*Any success, be it for a nation, organisation or an individual starts with data. Data is the heart of every good plan. The Atlas will help showcase the valuable data generated by the Malawi Vulnerability Assessment Committee (MVAC) over the years, thereby increasing its credibility and eventually uptake of VAA data*"

Victoria GERESOMO

MVAC Chairperson.

"The high levels of vulnerabilities that characterise the SADC region highlight the critical need for generating and providing decision makers with credible information to facilitate informed decisions to address emergency food and nutrition insecurity and development planning"

Domingos Zefanias GOVE
SADC Director, Food Agriculture and Natural Resources

Dr Menghestab Haile – UN World Food Programme (WFP) Regional Director for Southern Africa, meets the SADC Executive Secretary, and the Regional Technical Support Team managing the SADC-RVAA Programme

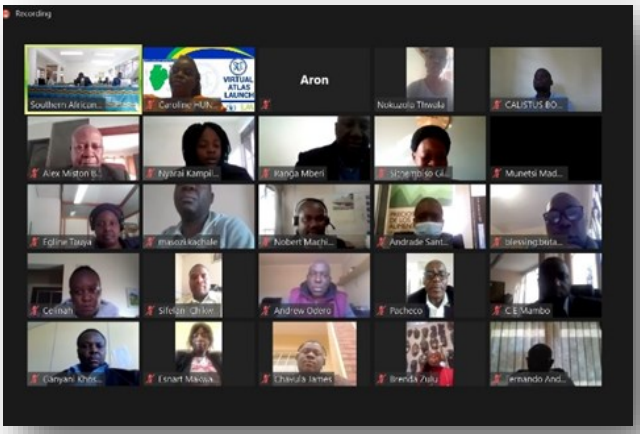
Dr Menghestab Haile had a virtual meeting with the SADC Executive Secretary, Her Excellency Dr Stergomena Lawrence Tax on 23rd July 2021.

- During the meeting SADC and WFP reaffirmed their commitments towards strengthening proactive and functional early warning systems to improve food and nutrition security and, ultimately, end hunger in the Region. Read More

On 20th July 2021 WFP Regional Technical Support Team managing the SADC RVAA Programme had a virtual meeting with Dr. Menghestab Haile, to familiarise him with the RVAA Programme objectives and activities.

- The Regional Director emphasized ensuring sustainability as the programme prepares handing over the activities to SADC Secretariat.

Webinar on data journalism/reporting with SADC Media in support to SADC RVAA activities (17th June)



- The webinar provided the opportunity for SADC Secretariat and RVAA team to explain the programme objectives and activities to the media (journalist / communication focal persons) and to raise awareness and emphasize on the need to report objectively on SADC RVAA Programme activities to key stakeholders.
- It also strengthened the capacity of the partner institution i.e. Southern African Research and Documentation Centre (SARDC) to contribute to SADC RVAA Programme goals over the longer term.

UPCOMING:

Virtual technical workshop on Communication, Policy and Resource Advocacy (CPRA)

- The purpose of the workshop is to socialise participants on the SADC RVAA Programme CPRA Toolkit as part of broader workstream facilitating the implementation of the SADC RVAA Programme CPRA Strategy that was approved at the 20th RVAA Programme Steering Committee meeting of 15 July 2021.
- Participants will also be familiarized with the functionality of the recently launched SADC RVAA Atlas, its capabilities and how the system can be of use to the NVACs
- **Save The Date 31st August and 1st September 2021**

Research and Evaluation

Reflection on Implications of the Covid-19 Pandemic on the Regional Vulnerability Assessment and Analysis (RVAA) Programme by Tafireyi Chamboko

- The study results show that a number of new ways of working and implementation that emerged include the increased use of secondary data, use of virtual platforms, increased use of technology in data collection, hybrid implementation modalities, decentralization of data collection, and mobile vulnerability assessment and mapping (mVAM).
- The key lesson is that these new ways of working provide cost effective alternative methods of programme delivery that need to be explored. COVID-19 is considered to be one of the emerging hazards that impact on people's vulnerability and livelihoods, and therefore has become one of the key drivers of the need for information. This has increased the demand for information from the NVACs.

- The main impact of COVID-19 on the institutionalization process has been the disruptions caused by the restrictions and the delays in terms of scheduling of activities. NVACs have not being able to complete some of the activities and in some cases there has been diversion of resources to other COVID-19 priority activities.
- Four RVAA COVID-19 scenarios are proposed. The most likely scenarios to occur in the region are characterized by high transmission of the virus and high economic impact of the disease in the period April 2021 to March 2022, and vaccines being effective in controlling the evolution of the virus in the period April 2022 to April 2027 as a significant proportion of the population in the Member States in the region are vaccinated.

Final evaluation of SADCRVAA Programme phase (2017-2022) underway

Objectives include but not limited to:

- To provide an objective/impartial assessment of whether planned outputs have been delivered and whether the outputs have led and/or contributed to the achievement of the anticipated outcomes.
- To examine progress in terms of sustainability of the RVAA system beyond the current donor funding.
- To provide recommendations on future programming, implementation modalities, strategic orientations, and partnerships.

VAA INSTITUTIONALISATION UPDATE SUMMARY

Member State	Index Baseline							Index Reapplication						Institutionalisation Strategy					Institutionalisation Operational Plan (IPOP) or			
	Support Requested	Baseline Index	RIST Process Report	MS Index Report	Index Baseline Validation	Index Baseline Validation Report	Index Improvement Roadmap	Support Requested (Y/N)	Index Re-application	RIST Process Report	MS Index Report	Index review validation	Index Improvement Roadmap	Support Requested	Engagement Process	RIST Process Report	Draft Strategy & Report	Strategy Approved	Support Requested	Operational Plan Drafted	Operational Plan Reviewed	IPOP Approved by Government
SADC Sec.																						
Angola																						
Botswana																						
DRC																						
Eswatini																						
Lesotho																						
Madagascar																						
Malawi																						
Mauritius																						
Mozambique																						
Namibia																						
Seychelles																						
South Africa																						
Tanzania																						
Zambia																						
Zimbabwe																						
Requested					In Progress							Completed							Declined			

Technical support:

⇒ Member States are reminded that technical support for the application of the VAA Institutionalization Index; review or crafting of VAA strategies; and development of operational plans is available on request.

⇒ Opportunity to access support will be coming to an end on 31 March 2022.

⇒ Member States are urged to upload VAA institutionalization information to the RVAA Atlas under the Open KM Menu.

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