SITUATION OVERVIEW

More than 2.3 million people are expected to be severely food insecure during the lean season (October 2019 – March 2020) in Zambia, according to the latest Integrated Phase Classification (IPC) analysis, with four districts—Sioma, Lunga, Shang’ombo and Gwembe—classified as Emergency (IPC Phase 4). The devastating combination of prolonged and severe drought in the Western and Southern provinces of Zambia over the last two rainy seasons (2017 and 2018), and floods in the north, has led to increasing hunger. The 2018-2019 rainfall season was one of the poorest that the southern half of Zambia has faced since 1981, according to the Zambia Meteorological Department, negatively impacting on crop production and consequently food availability and food access. Pest infestations and livestock disease outbreaks, including foot-and-mouth disease and fall army worm, have further aggravated the situation, and 58 districts have registered a significant decline in maize production, the main staple food item in Zambia, according to the Zambia Vulnerability Assessment Committee (VAC) report.

Acute malnutrition (wasting) has risen to nearly 6 per cent across the nine provinces of Zambia, according to the VAC, and decreased access to clean water has increased the risk of communicable disease outbreaks, such as typhoid and cholera. At least 64 per cent of the affected population relies on unsafe water sources water and 95 per cent do not treat their water before use. The reduced quantity and quality of water is particularly impacting women and girls, who are facing challenges in maintaining menstrual hygiene. The drought has also forced women and girls to travel further, and spend more time and effort, to collect water, exposing them to additional risks. At the same time, there has been an increase in Zambia is also responding to a Vaccine Derived Polio Virus Type 2 (VDPV2) and has launched an immunization campaign targeting more than 478,500 children in the northern part of the country.

As of November 2019, the Humanitarian Country Team has mobilized US$36 million ($16 million committed and $20 million received, including $8 million from the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF)) against the Humanitarian Appeal requirement of $89.5 million. The appeal was launched in October 2019 to support the Government’s response efforts. These resources have enabled humanitarian partners to kick start activities in all sectors. More funding is, however, required urgently to prevent the humanitarian situation from deteriorating as the country approaches the peak of the lean season.

KEY FIGURES

- People in need: 2.3 million
- People targeted: 2.3 million
- People severely food insecure: 2.3 million

FUNDING: ZAMBIA HUMANITARIAN APPEAL 2019

- TOTAL REQUIREMENTS (US): $89.5 million
- FUNDED: 22%
- RECEIVED (US): $20 million

Requirements by sector (million $)

- Food Security: 54.3
- Early Recovery: 13.1
- Health: 6.4
- Protection: 5
- WASH: 4.7
- Nutrition: 4.4
- Education: 1.7

Contribution by donor (million $)

- United Kingdom: 16.3
- CERF: 8
- Sweden: 4
- Canada: 1.5
- Italy: 0.6
- Germany: 0.3
- Others: 5.4

Sources: 1. Zambia Humanitarian Appeal, 2. Zambia VAC, 3. Received bilaterally from partners and donors
**SECTOR OVERVIEW***

### Education

**Needs**
Due to the drought and lack of food at household level, children are having reduced meals, which leads to an increase in school absenteeism and dropouts. According to recent assessments by Save the Children, 11 per cent of children were absent from school between January and April 2019. Other reports indicate that 75 per cent of children missed school two to three times a week since the third term started in October 2019.

**Response**
Emergency school feeding targeting 25,000 children in the two most affected districts of Gwembe in Southern Province and Shangombo in Western Province, using CERF funds, will start in January 2020 at the start of the new school term and continue until April 2020.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding Requirements</th>
<th>People Targeted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>$1.7 MILLION</strong></td>
<td><strong>90K</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Food Security

**Needs**
An estimated 2.3 million people are projected to face severe food insecurity in Zambia from October 2019 to March 2020, including nearly 412,000 in Emergency (IPC Phase 4). The 2019 Crop Forecast Survey (CFS) of May 2019 highlighted that most of Central, Eastern, Lusaka, Southern and Western provinces have been affected by prolonged dry spells and experienced an overall 50-60 per cent reduction in maize production. Only 39 per cent of households had cereal stocks to last more than six months. As families deplete their stocks, the number of people requiring emergency food support during the lean season (October 2019 – March 2020) is likely to increase if no immediate support is provided.

**Response**
Some 900 metric tons of pulses have been procured, and additional 800 metric tons is being procured from local suppliers and repackaged into standard family size quantities. This will support 267,582 people for one month. In addition, WFP has selected, vetted and procured trucking services from 13 companies which have been issued contracts to deliver food to the affected districts. Food will be delivered to government-contracted NGOs for onward distribution in the first week of December 2019. To complement food security activities, UNICEF has provided emergency cash transfers for 23,000 household, out of 97,000 targeted, in the four districts in IPC Phase 4.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding Requirements</th>
<th>People Targeted</th>
<th>Procured Pulses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>$54.3 MILLION</strong></td>
<td><strong>2.3M</strong></td>
<td>&gt;900MT</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Nutrition

**Needs**
Drought conditions have negatively impacted the nutrition conditions of children under the age of 5 and of pregnant and lactating women. Acute malnutrition (wasting) has a prevalence of nearly 6 per cent across the nine most-affected provinces of Zambia. Out of the 87 districts assessed, 24 indicated prevalence of wasting above the national prevalence of 4 per cent, according to the Vulnerability Assessment Committee (VAC) analysis. Other districts with medium severity of wasting include Mongu, Limulunga, Luano and Ngabwe, with the prevalence of 11 per cent each. Siavonga, Sinazongwe, Kazugula, Namwala, Lunga, Kaoma and Nkewema indicate medium wasting prevalence of 10 per cent.

**Response**
UNICEF and Nutrition Sector partners are providing SAM treatment for children under age 5 in drought-affected districts. The sector has screened more than 31,492 under-five children for acute malnutrition and has integrated MUAC screening into integrated management of acute malnutrition database for routine monitoring. 2,700 cartons of 14kg RUTF have been procured and distributed in November to treat 699 children. Facilities in the four targeted districts (Sioma, Lunga, Shang’ombo and Gwembe) received technical support and mentorship from district, provincial and national levels. At least 615 health workers and community volunteers have been trained on Nutrition Data Management and Outpatient Therapeutic Programme screening and treatment in all priority districts.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding Requirements</th>
<th>People Targeted</th>
<th>Screened Children</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>$4.4 MILLION</strong></td>
<td><strong>589K</strong></td>
<td>&gt;31,400</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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*Early Recovery projects, including on Education, Food Security and Nutrition, have been integrated under relevant sectors for clarity in reporting on overall funding against each sector.*
Gaps overview

Out of $89.5 million required under the HRP, less than 20 per cent has been received by partners, with a further 17 per cent pledged but not yet received. Under-funding has hampered the ability of partners to implement projects in the HRP. For example, funding has not yet been received to provide seeds and other agricultural inputs for the current agricultural season. This will impact food security in the next harvesting season. Due to limited local availability of pulses in Zambia, WFP has to look for regional and international suppliers. WFP is working with DMMU to close the gap. However, the effort is constrained by lack of funding.

Protection

$5.0 MILLION
Funding Requirements

1.8M
People Targeted

Needs
The drought has exposed women, children and girls to protection risks. Increased movement of people in search of food and water, further exposes women and girls (especially pregnant and lactating women) to sexual abuse, exploitation and unsafe migration including human trafficking. Typically, women and girls walk long distances in search for food, water and firewood or move within or across borders in search of alternative livelihood opportunities.

Response
Key messages on Prevention against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) in four local languages have been developed to be distributed in the most drought-affected districts. Discussions on strengthening accountability to affected populations are ongoing through the Protection Sector group which also works with relevant Government departments. An outline is being developed on how to strengthen existing referral pathways for gender-based violence at national-level.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

$4.7 MILLION
Funding Requirements

100K
People targeted

20K
People reached

20% of target reached

Needs
At least 64 per cent of drought-affected people are using water from an unimproved source and 95 per cent of the population do not treat their water before use, and this increased prevalence of diarrhoea disease in drought-affected districts. Lack of water following failure of previous two rainy seasons impacting both humans and animals and agricultural production. Overall, assessments in November have identified that more than 20,000 drought-affected people do not have access to clean and safe water.

Response
One new borehole constructed in Batoka; 80 non-functional boreholes rehabilitated in Choma, Kalomo (Kasikili and Sipatunyana) and eight additional borehole sites identified to improve access to safe water. In Batoka, water sources are being chlorinated for use by humans and domestic animals. WASH assessments were conducted in Gwembe, Choma and Kalomo districts to better establish the impact of the drought on women, men, girls and boys. Through these interventions, the WASH sector reached at least 20,000 people in November 2019.

Coordination

Needs
This emergency requires the close coordination of all stakeholders. The interaction with Government and frontline ministries, UN agencies and operational partners is vital in rolling out the multi-sectoral humanitarian support to complement Government’s interventions. Continuous tracking of response progress, funding availability and resource capacity is key to ensure critical gaps are identified and addressed.

Response
The Government Disaster Management and Mitigation Unit (DMMU) is leading the humanitarian response in Zambia in partnership with the UN Resident Coordinators Office (RCO) with support from OCHA. Since October 2019, seven sector coordination platforms are holding weekly coordination meetings. The DMMU and RCO have also been holding weekly national level inter-sector coordination meetings. All coordination meetings’ schedules and locations are now available on HumanitarianResponse.info. An interactive organizational presence map showing real time presence per sector and district can be found online at https://bit.ly/2pS85Oh. To ensure accountability and transparency, OCHA is working with sectors and donors to finalize online tracking of contributions via the global Financial Tracking Service (FTS), in line with projects in the Humanitarian Appeal.