



- The estimated number of food insecure population at SADC Regional level is 51.8 million people during the 2021/22 Season.
- The estimate is based on 13 out of a total of 16 SADC Member States that actively conduct vulnerability assessments and analysis in their respective countries
- This number of food insecure population represents an increase of 5.4% compared to 2020/21 food insecure population estimates.
- The trend shows that since 2017/18 to 2021/22 the numbers of food insecure population estimates have increased steadily.
- This increase is partly attributed to increased focus on urban vulnerability.
- Table 1 on the right indicates the food insecure population at SADC Member State and Regional levels from 2017/18 to 2021/22 and
- Graph below provides a trend in the increase of food insecure population at regional level overtime.

Food Insecure Population Estimates 2021/22 Season in SADC Region (23 March 2022)

SADC MS	2021/22	2020/21	2019/20	2018/19	2017/18
Angola	1,580,000	1,051,800	1,139,064		749,500
Botswana	36,171	35,237	38,300	35,055	12,000
Comoros					
DRC	27,300,000	21,800,000	15,878,661	7,249,998	7,700,000
Eswatini	317,000	366,261	232,373	122,086	159,080
Lesotho	470,000	582,169	433,419	308,966	306,942
Madagascar	1,310,000	554,000	916,201	1,261,323	855,796
Malawi	1,650,000	2,617,989	1,126,147	3,306,405	1,043,000
Mauritius					
Mozambique	1,900,000	2,358,927	1,648,646	891,000	313,481
Namibia	750,000	481,090	289,644	257,383	798,384
Seychelles					
South Africa	11,377,565	11,377,565	13,670,000	13,930,354	13,700,000
Tanzania	592,000	488,661	985,267		118,603
Zambia	1,589,000	1,976,351	2,330,182	954,120	77,000
Zimbabwe	2,942,897	5,454,270	5,529,209	2,423,568	1,052,768
SADC Region	51,814,633	49,144,320	44,217,113	30,740,258	26,886,554

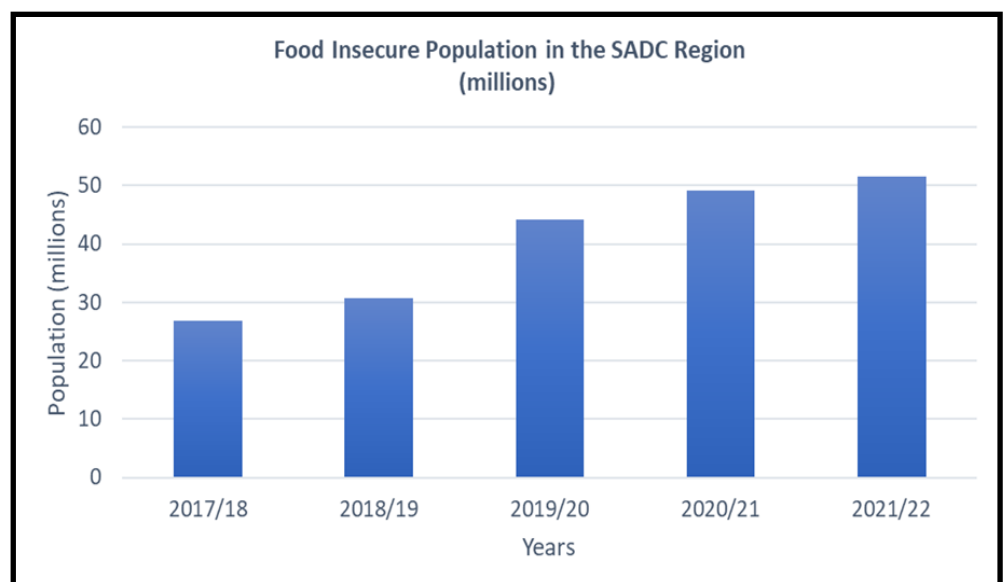
Food Insecure Population at SADC Regional level from 2017/18 to 2021/22

Contributing factors

The main factors contributing to vulnerability and food insecurity situation in the SADC Region include the following:

- Favourable rainfall experienced in South Africa, Malawi, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.
- Flooding and a destructive cyclone season experienced in Mozambique, Madagascar, Zimbabwe, Eswatini, Malawi, Botswana, and South Africa.
- Drought and localized prolonged dry spells in Angola, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Namibia, Madagascar, and Mozambique.
- COVID-19 which has disrupted supply chain systems and led to reduction in household purchasing power because of low or lack of incomes.

Continued on pg 2



Trend in the increase of food insecure population at regional level overtime,

Cont. from pg 1...

The main factors contributing to vulnerability and food insecurity situation in the SADC Region

- Food and non-food price increases.
- Conflict in Carbo Delgado in Mozambique and Ituri, Tanganyika, and Kassai provinces of DRC, and Madagascar. Civil unrests in Eswatini and South Africa.
- Crop Pests’ infestation: African Migratory Locust (AML) outbreaks with sightings reported in Angola, Botswana, Namibia, Zambia, and Zimbabwe;
- Desert Locusts in the Kilimanjaro region of Tanzania; Brown Locusts in South Africa; and Fall Armyworm (FAW) in Malawi, Namibia, Tanzania and Zimbabwe.
- Human disease outbreaks (Cholera in Mozambique and DRC, malaria, and HIV/AIDS).
- Volcanic eruption in southern DRC, Goma area.
- Livestock disease outbreaks: Avian Influenza (HPAI–H5N1) in commercial chickens in South Africa; Foot and Mouth Disease in Namibia and Zambia, lumpy skin disease.
- Wildfires and Human-wildlife conflicts.

- The Sustainability Plan provides specific actions to be undertaken by the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Secretariat to sustain the Regional Vulnerability Assessment and Analysis (RVAA) Programme for the period 2022 to 2030 and beyond.
- The RVAA Programme is currently in its third and final phase with donor support ending in March 2022. The sustainability report provides a course of action to sustain the services and operations of the RVAA Programme post-financial and technical support of donors and service providers.
- A pragmatic and viable plan provided in this report consists of actionable steps including governance, capacity development, resourcing, and knowledge building for the VAA.

Regional Vulnerability Assessment and Analysis Programme Sustainability Plan 2022-2030

Anticipatory Action Sensitization Workshop for National Vulnerability Assessment Committees (NVACs) in Southern Africa (24th & 25th March 2022)

The RVAA Programme is collaborating with the Regional Anticipatory Action Working Group (RAAWG) to host a virtual training on Anticipatory Action for NVACs

- The RAAWG is supported by the inter-agency secretariat composed of WFP, FAO and the IFRC in Southern Africa.
- (RAAWG), aims at promoting a regional approach and platform for knowledge sharing, cooperation, and peer-to-peer learning in Southern Africa.
- The RAAWG serves as a platform for information sharing, inter-agency coordination, and joint advocacy. Gathers evidence and best practices on early warning and anticipation initiatives in Southern Africa to support the development of a mainstreamed anticipation agenda and align standards,

Workshop objective: to enhance the understanding of the National Vulnerability Committees in SADC member countries on Anticipatory Action approaches and tools.

Expected Outcomes

- Enhanced awareness of Anticipatory Action fundamentals and approaches
- Forge Partnerships between SADC RVAA, NVAC’s and Anticipatory Action WG and its members

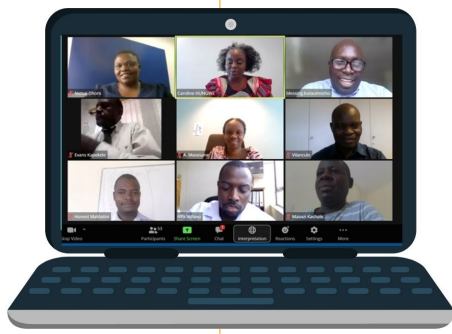
SADC RVAA VAA Quality Assurance Framework Developed

This SADC RVAA programme developed a VAA Quality Assurance Framework to support and guide quality assurance in the undertaking of vulnerability assessments and promoting effective use of the results. The effectiveness of the intervention’s planning and management decisions relies on the quality of the VAA information.

- The methodology involved undertaking relevant consultations with different SADC RVAA System stakeholders. Identifying and reviewing relevant literature of vulnerability assessments and analysis, and quality assurance.
- The VAA Quality Assurance Framework was validated by RTST and NVACs during the Regional Learning and Pre-Assessment Technical Virtual Workshop
- National Vulnerability Assessment Committees (NAVAC) urged to deliberately and systematically mainstream Quality Assurance (QA) in all aspects of their Vulnerability Assessments and Analyses processes to ensure good quality in both the processes and their outputs.



Figure 1: Main components of the Quality Assurance Framework (QAF)



VIRTUAL MEETINGS Chaired by Malawi



VICTORIA GERESOMO
Malawi VAC Chairperson

**21 – 22 MARCH
AND
28 MARCH 2022**

Regional Learning and Pre-Assessment Technical Virtual Workshop (28 February to 3 March 2022)

- This was the last planning workshop coordinated by the SADC RVAA Technical Workstream.
- The objectives of the workshop were to reflect and share experiences of previous assessments and plan for 2022/23 assessments and monitoring activities.
- Victoria Geresomo (Malawi) as the RVAC Chair, officially opened the meeting

The workshop had 4 sets of presentations: -

- NVACs presentations on institutionalization, reflections and experiences from the previous assessments and analyses.
- On assessments and monitoring plans for 2022/23.
- On thematic studies demonstrating integration of emerging issues and
- Presentations made by International Cooperating Partners (ICPs) on how NVACs can improve their assessments and adhere to international standards in conducting assessments

Regional Vulnerability Assessment Committee RVAC meeting (21 and 22 March 2022) and

Annual Organisation Meeting (AOM) 21st Programme Steering Committee (PSC) Meeting (28 March 2022)

- The meeting AOM will be in two parts; a Regional Vulnerability Assessment Committee (RVAC) meeting to be held on 21st and 22nd March 2022, and a Programme Steering Committee (PSC) to be held on the 28th March 2022. The RVAC meeting, as a technical committee meeting, will be attended by National Vulnerability Assessment Committee (NVAC) Chairpersons and NVAC Technical Officer per Member State.
- Permanent Secretaries/Director-Generals responsible for NVACs and the NVAC chairpersons participate in the PSC meeting.

The objectives of the RVAA AOM are to:

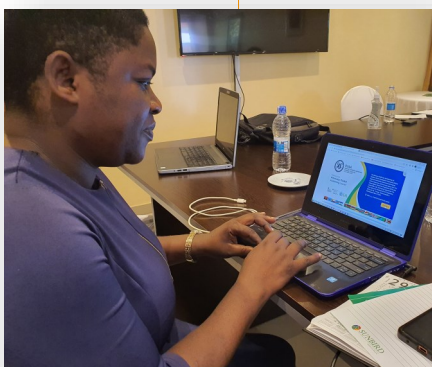
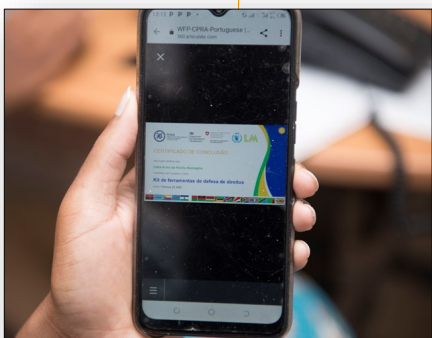
- Discuss and approve the National and Regional Vulnerability Assessment Committee (NVAC and RVAC) workplans and budgets for the 2022/2023 financial year;
- Consider and approve the RVAA Programme Phase 3 (2017 - 2022) Final Evaluation Report and the Management Response to the Evaluation; and
- Consider and approve the RVAA Programme Sustainability plan 2022-2030.

NEW FREE DIGITAL TOOL HELPS SADC MEMBER STATES IN FORMULATING AND IMPLEMENTING EFFECTIVE POLICY AND RESOURCE ADVOCACY



e-learning Advocacy Toolkit course

- The 60 -minute self-paced e-learning Advocacy Toolkit course, available in
 - ⇒ **English:** <https://rvaa.sadc.int/lms/en>;
 - ⇒ **French:** <https://rvaa.sadc.int/lms/fr>;
 - ⇒ **Portuguese:** <https://rvaa.sadc.int/lms/pt>;
- It is designed for NVACs in SADC Member States with technical or non-technical background. Those outside the VAA system who want to learn the basics about Communication and Advocacy can also take this e-learning course.
- Participants will be guided through key principles of advocacy and steps to develop effective and efficient Advocacy strategies.



“This “Advocacy” tool is a resource that as the SADC Secretariat we are glad to be part of it, conceiving, dissemination and its facilitation in terms of its intentions in regional integration and national development, as we advance food security assessments and analysis in order to influence policy, programming as well as long-term planning” noted **Sithembiso GINA, Senior Officer, DRR Unit, SADC Secretariat.**

Sharing and linking evidence to inform responses

- Communication and Advocacy play a catalytic role in strategic engagement and lobbying key stakeholders for essential support necessary for sustainability of the RVAA System in the region.
- Communication helps to facilitate access, capacity to use and uptake of credible data and information. NVACs can interpret the data into insights and tell the story on the status of food and nutrition or vulnerability and livelihoods security to targeted stakeholders. Sharing stories and deliberate messages, through diverse forms and channels enhances the targeted audiences’ knowledge and understanding of the situation on the ground.
- Through Advocacy NVACs can persuade and influence decision makers and compel them to take specific action in support of VAA processes.
- Decision-makers are likely to invest resources towards interventions when they have a better understanding of the nature and scale of the issues based on VAA information, disseminated through communication and advocacy

“Our work seeks to meet the needs of vulnerable populations through the delivery of quality services - saving lives and changing lives. Critical to this work is early warning, preparedness and the generation of vulnerability evidence coordinated by the SADC RVAA. Evidence must be timely distributed widely, efficiently, and effectively to raise awareness and influence design of appropriate interventions by decision makers. Advocacy that influences programme design policy planning and budgeting is the pinnacle of all the technical work we do with NVACs in the SADC region. The culmination of all our technical outcomes is demonstrated when the evidence we have generated is practically used and translates to Governments acting on people’s needs or policy action. So, strategic communication, engagement and lobbying through advocacy highlights the SADC RVAA contribution for the transformation of livelihoods and building resilient households.”

Andrew ODERO,

Head of Vulnerability Assessment and Mapping (VAM)/RVAA Tech Support Team

“NVACs need to go beyond just producing assessment results, and deliberately convert these results into tailor made information products that are designed for different communication channels to reach different decision makers for maximum impact. This focus call for a set of skills which few NVACs can claim to have, and the SADC RVAA Programme is committed to support NVACs to address this potential limitation”

Regional Technical Services Manager (TSM) Blessing Butau-Mocho.

Research, Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning

The joint final evaluation of SADC RVAA Programme phase (2017-2022) report is under review. 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.
- The evaluation will provide recommendations to inform future programming, strategic orientations, partnerships and implementation modalities. The data collection phase of the evaluation has been successfully concluded. Upon completion of quality assurance processes the draft evaluation report will be shared with NVACs and other programme stakeholders for comment.
- The evaluation is expected to be concluded at the end of March 2022.



Data and Information Management

SADC RVAA Programme Online Vulnerability Atlas click here to access <https://rvaaatlas.sadc.int/>

Since the launch of the SADC RVAA online Vulnerability Atlas in July 2021, the Secretariat has embarked on sustained efforts to raise public awareness of the Atlas and to promote its use.

- Training of NVAC technical officers in the use and updating of the Atlas databases and repositories have been undertaken.
- The SADC ICT officers were trained to maintain and improve the Atlas system which is hosted at the SADC Secretariat
- The Atlas is designed to store and share data relating to food, nutrition and livelihoods security from 16 SADC Member States.
- 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.



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