



Strengthening coordination and information systems in response to drought conditions and other hazards threatening food security, nutrition and livelihoods in southern Africa

Project code: OSRO/SFS/801/USA

Resource Partner: United States of America

Contribution: USD 900 000

Implementation: 23/07/2018–31/07/2019

Target areas: Southern Africa



Contact

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- Objective:** To safeguard livelihoods, food security and nutrition of vulnerable communities and households affected by the drought and other hazards in southern Africa.
- Key partners:** Ministries of agriculture, Southern African Development Community (SADC), Famine Early Warning Systems Network, World Food Programme, United Nations Children's Fund and United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.
- Beneficiaries reached:** Ministries of agriculture, SADC, Regional Inter-Agency Standing Committee (RIASCO), Food and Nutrition Security Working Group, Resilience Working Group, Non-governmental Organizations and humanitarian actors.
- Activities implemented:**
- Provided 12 food security information updates to monthly humanitarian planning events under the RIASCO platform.
 - Trained 25 national level analysts on the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification for Acute Malnutrition Analysis Version 3.0 in Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique and Zambia.
 - Trained 23 livestock specialists on Good Emergency Management Practices to strength response to animal health emergencies.
 - Trained 34 veterinary officers in Zambia on foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) diagnostics, surveillance and monitoring tools to control the new East African strain of FMD.
 - Conducted 16 missions, including to Malawi to investigate FMD outbreaks and develop a response strategy, to Namibia, Malawi and Tanzania to build emergency response capacity to anthrax outbreaks, and seven to Mozambique to assist in the response to Cyclones Idai and Kenneth.
 - Trained 30 veterinarians and animal health technicians on Participatory Epidemiology, Participatory Disease Surveillance, syndromic approaches, risk assessment and on the Global Animal Disease Information System-Event Mobile Application.
 - Procured and distributed 900 bucket traps, 6 132 lures and 3 066 kill strips to control fall armyworm (FAW) in Angola, Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Namibia and South Africa and supported the development of a FAW Action plan in Tanzania.
 - Trained 30 FAW National Taskforce members on FAW Monitoring and Early Warning Systems (FAMEWS), risk modelling and impact assessments and trained 330 extension staff on FAMEWS mobile application.
 - Trained 36 district extension officers in Zambia on control of cassava brown streak disease and Ugandan cassava brown streak virus and produced and distributed 2 000 informational brochures to raise farmer's awareness.
 - Procured 396 items to diagnose anthrax, 30 sets of protective gear (each set containing a mask, laboratory coat, gloves and rubber boots) for staff responding to the outbreak and produced and distributed 900 leaflets to raise awareness on anthrax in Namibia.

Results:

- Improved the quality of agriculture, food security and nutrition information at national and regional levels, with 85 percent of SADC countries utilizing information produced to inform response planning.
- Strengthened early warning systems and response mechanisms for transboundary crop and livestock pests and diseases, building the capacity of government staff, particularly on FAW and FMD.
- Enhanced disaster preparedness and response through improved national and regional capacity and coordination, with nine countries sharing information.