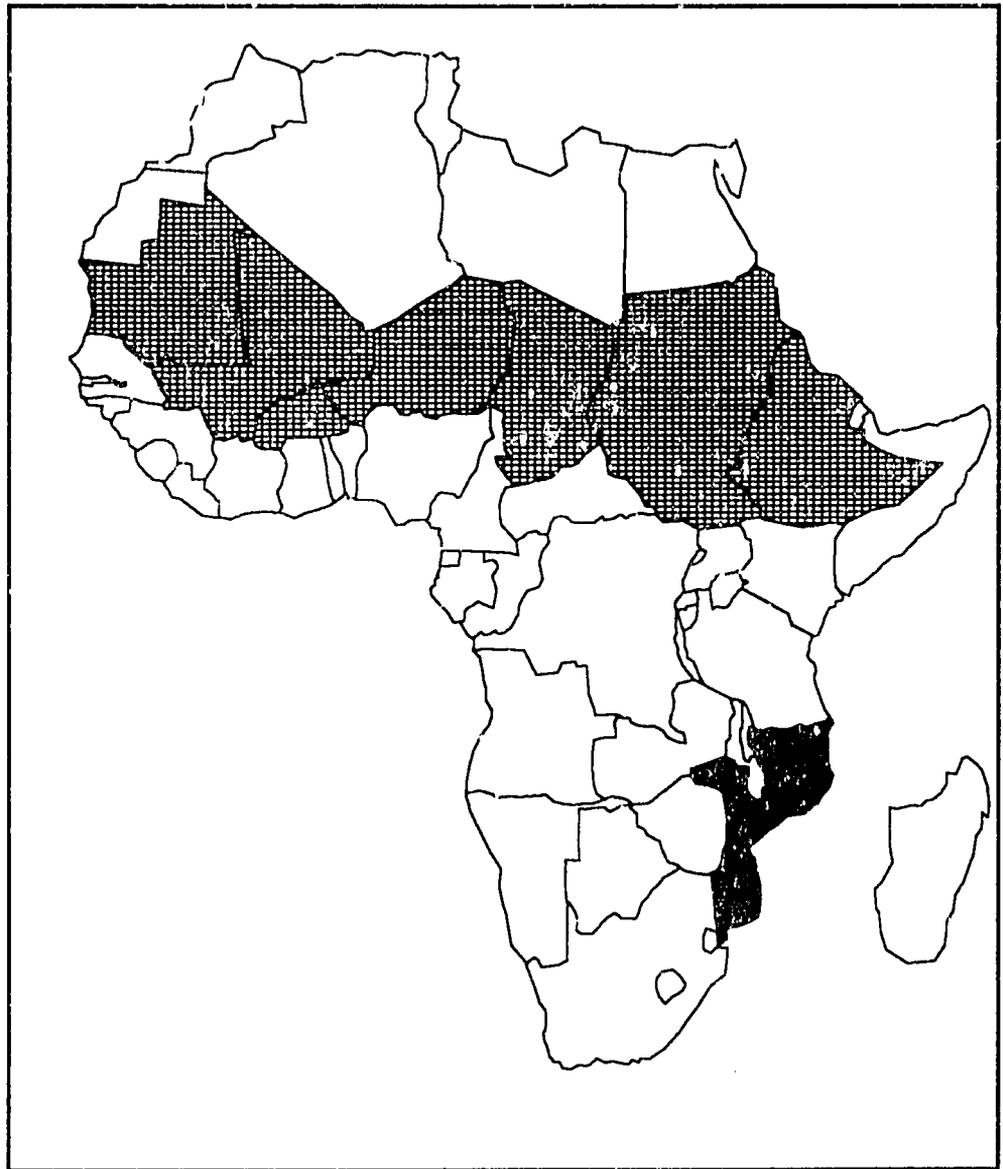


Report Number 6
November 1986

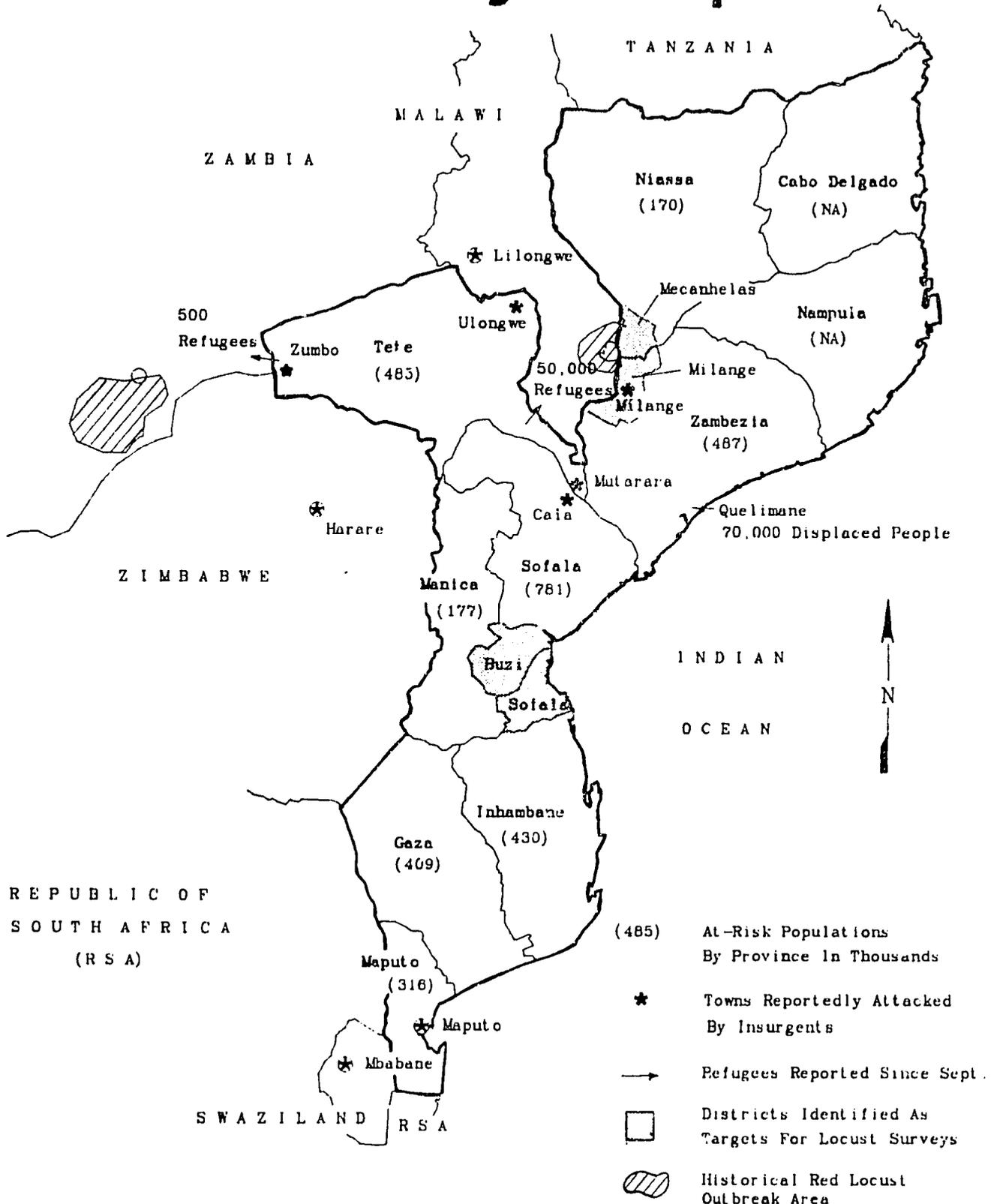
FEWS Country Report

MOZAMBIQUE



Africa Bureau
U.S. Agency
for International
Development

Summary Map



Famine Early Warning System Country Report

MOZAMBIQUE

Estimated Food Needs Increase

Prepared for the
Africa Bureau of the
U.S. Agency for
International Development

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November 1986

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INTRODUCTION

This is the sixth of a series of monthly reports issued by the Famine Early Warning System (FEWS) on Mozambique. It is designed to provide decisionmakers with current information and analysis on existing and potential nutrition emergency situations. Each situation identified is described in terms of geographical extent and the number of people involved, or at-risk, and the proximate causes insofar as they have been discerned.

Use of the term "at-risk" to identify vulnerable populations is problematical since no generally agreed upon definition exists. Yet it is necessary to identify or "target" populations in-need or "at-risk" in order to determine appropriate forms and levels of intervention. Thus for the present, until a better usage can be found, FEWS reports will employ the term "at-risk" to mean...

...those persons lacking sufficient food, or resources to acquire sufficient food, to avert a nutritional crisis, i.e., a progressive deterioration in their health or nutritional condition below the status quo and who, as a result, require specific intervention to avoid a life-threatening situation.

Perhaps of most importance to decisionmakers, the process underlying the deteriorating situation is highlighted by the FEWS effort, hopefully with enough specificity and forewarning to permit alternative intervention strategies to be examined and implemented. Food assistance strategies are key to famine avoidance. However, other types of intervention can be of major importance both in the short-term and in the long run, including medical, transport, storage, economic development policy change, etc.

Where possible, food needs estimates are included in the FEWS reports. It is important to understand, however, that no direct relation exists between numbers of persons at-risk and the quantity of food assistance needed. This is because famines are the culmination of slow-onset disaster processes which can be complex in the extreme.

The food needs of individual populations at-risk depend upon when in the disaster process identification is made and the extent of its cumulative impact on the individuals concerned. Further, the amount of food assistance required, whether from internal or external sources, depends upon a host of considerations. Thus the food needs estimates presented periodically in FEWS reports should not be interpreted to mean food aid needs, e.g., as under PL480 or other donor programs.

FEWS is operated by AID's Office of Technical Resources in the Bureau for Africa in cooperation with numerous USG and other organizations.

SUMMARY

Mozambique suffered a major economic setback in October when 61,000 Mozambican miners lost their jobs due to a work ban declared by South Africa. Unless these miners can find alternative employment in Mozambique, the ban could affect the ability of the affected families to purchase food commodities in the commercial market. According to foreign news reports, insurgents reportedly attacked and captured five towns in the provinces of Tete, Zambezia and Sofala. The same reports indicate rebels control more territory than at any time since Mozambique gained independence in 1975. Between 50,000 and 70,000 refugees fled into Malawi between the end of September and October 10 in order to escape fighting in Mutarara District of Tete Province. The at-risk rural population is estimated to be 3,255,000 people, an increase of 166,000 people from the October report. USAID estimates a cereal requirement of 623,200 mt for the crop year 1986/1987 with 295,000 mt remaining to be covered by donors. Based on recently revised rural at-risk figures, Mozambique is estimated to require an additional 74,300 mt of cereal between December 1 and April 30 to feed its affected population.

Issues

- o The recent change in leadership in Mozambique comes at a difficult and unstable time. A crucial issue is how quickly the new leadership can find a solution to the civil strife afflicting the people of Mozambique.
- o Rebels have not cooperated in allowing food shipments to affected population; under their control. As rebels gain control of territory in Mozambique, it is becoming increasingly difficult to distribute relief to at-risk populations in rebel held territory.

Key November Indicators

- o The regional locust situation in southern Africa must be monitored through November and December. The amount and distribution of rains over the next two months will determine whether soil moisture conditions are favorable for hatching locusts.
- o The rainy season should be well under way, and recently planted crops should be benefitting from the rains.

ECONOMICS

The South African Government, in response to alleged Nkomati Accord violations by Mozambique, has declared a ban on renewing the work contracts of approximately 61,000 Mozambican miners and an undetermined number of farm laborers working in South Africa. According to the work ban declared on October 8, work contracts will not be renewed, and Mozambican workers will be repatriated as their contracts expire. Approximately 1,400 Mozambican miners will remain employed in South Africa since they

were recently recruited under new contracts prior to the declared ban. A train carrying the final group of 240 Mozambican workers entered South Africa on October 28.

The ban could conceivably add to the at-risk population within Mozambique. Workers returning from South Africa must seek alternative work in Mozambique. If there are not enough jobs to assimilate the returnees, families previously dependent on South African employment might be unable to afford the purchase of food or other basic commodities. The average monthly wage of Mozambican miners in South Africa is about 440 rand (US \$172). By the end of their contract period this year, Mozambique workers will have remitted about 100 million rand (US \$39,062,500) to families in Mozambique through deferred remuneration and monthly payroll savings deductions.

LOCUSTS

The locust situation in Mozambique is not serious at present. Localized hatching and invasions of Brown and Red Locusts from neighboring countries are feared. The fears could be realized if November and December rains create favorable locust hatching conditions in Zambia and the recessional area of Lake Chilwa in Malawi (Map 1). A Committee for the Locust Prevention and Control Program has been established under the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) in Mozambique. Provincial officers of the MOA have orders to monitor the locust situation, and prepare an inventory of available pesticides within each province. The MOA intends to preposition 1,000 liters of pesticides within unspecified regions of Mozambique in the event a locust problem develops. An inventory of airplanes and other spraying equipment is also being conducted.

Representatives from the MOA conducted field surveys of historic locust breeding areas in Buzi and Sofala Districts, and counted two locusts (species unspecified) per square meter (Map 1). The MOA considers this an acceptable level. However, control measures will be enacted if locust counts reach 6-10 locusts per meter. Presence of insurgents near the Malawi border area of Lake Chilwa prevented the MOA from conducting field surveys between the Districts of Milange and Mecanhelas. The Lake Chilwa area is an historic outbreak area for Red Locusts.

Planes equipped for spraying are available in Zambia and Zimbabwe. According to a USAID Mission cable (Sept. 17), the British are expected to finance spraying operations in Mozambique pending reevaluation of the locust situation between December and January. The MOA is requesting USAID assistance in funding visits by a consultant

knowledgeable about locusts in southern Africa. A locust specialist is needed to assist in identifying locusts, and advise in prevention and control measures.

In addition to potential localized outbreaks of locusts, Mozambique faces possible regional locust migrations from other countries in southern Africa. Brown locusts are hatching in the South African provinces of Western Transvaal, Eastern Cape, Northern Cape and the Orange Free State. The MOA fears a potential locust plague; however, recent cables from USAID in South Africa indicate the situation is under control. The South African Government has 304 ground spraying teams deployed in 59 magisterial districts of South Africa. Botswana anticipates locust invasions from South Africa in early December. In response, the Government of Botswana has assembled ten ground spraying teams in southern districts of Botswana.

REFUGEES

The armed insurgency continues to generate refugees seeking safety in neighboring countries. The town of Zumbo (population 3,000) in Tete Province was deserted following an attack on October 6 by Renamo insurgents. According to the Herald of Harare, Zimbabwe, 500 civilians fled the area into the Zambian border district of Luangwa. On September 23, 50,000 civilians and 1,000 militiamen fled Mutarara District (also in Tete Province) into Malawi to escape intense fighting in the district. The Malawian ambassador to Mozambique, according to Johannesburg's The Star, noted that 70,000 Mozambicans have crossed into Malawi between the end of September and October 10 as a result of fighting. A September report by the State Department's Bureau For Refugee Programs, identified 10,000 Mozambique refugees in Malawi at the end of August. It would appear, as a result of recent reports, that between 60,000 and 80,000 Mozambican refugees are presently in Malawi.

The Johannesburg Domestic Service, reports that 54,000 Mozambicans have been repatriated over the past three years, but an estimated 230,000 illegally remain in South Africa. Although insurgency is the major cause for the current exodus to South Africa, other factors in the past have included famine and unemployment. Approximately 60,000 war refugees fled Mozambique into South Africa since March of this year, and many are settled in camps in Gazankulu or areas in Lebowa and KaNgwane. In Mhala District of Gazankulu (RSA), 500 refugees are settled each month.

**POPULATIONS
AT-RISK**

Due primarily to the continuing insurgent activity, the estimated rural at-risk population increased by 166,000 from the 3,089,000 rural at-risk figure presented in the October report (Table 1). The provinces of Sofala, Zambezia and Tete contribute the largest numbers of estimated rural at-risk people, with 54 percent of the total concentrated in these three provinces (Map 2).

The Government of Mozambique (GOM) reduced the estimate of the number of at-risk people in Niassa Province by 273,000 after a joint USAID/GOM fact finding team visited the province in October. For this reason, Niassa dropped from 4th rank in October to 8th rank in November in terms of the total number of at-risk people by province. The majority of Niassa's rural population are deemed self sufficient according to the fact finding mission. The remaining increases and decreases in the at-risk populations by province are a result of a reassessment by the USAID Mission in late September. The Mission figures in Table 1 provide the most reliable current information; the at-risk figures presented in the October report were noted as being from unverifiable sources.

There are 24,000 people displaced by insurgent activity in Cuamba District of Niassa Province, and 70,000 displaced people in the city of Quelimane, Zambezia Province.

Table 1: Estimated Rural At-Risk Populations (Thousands) Ranked At-Risk Population in November

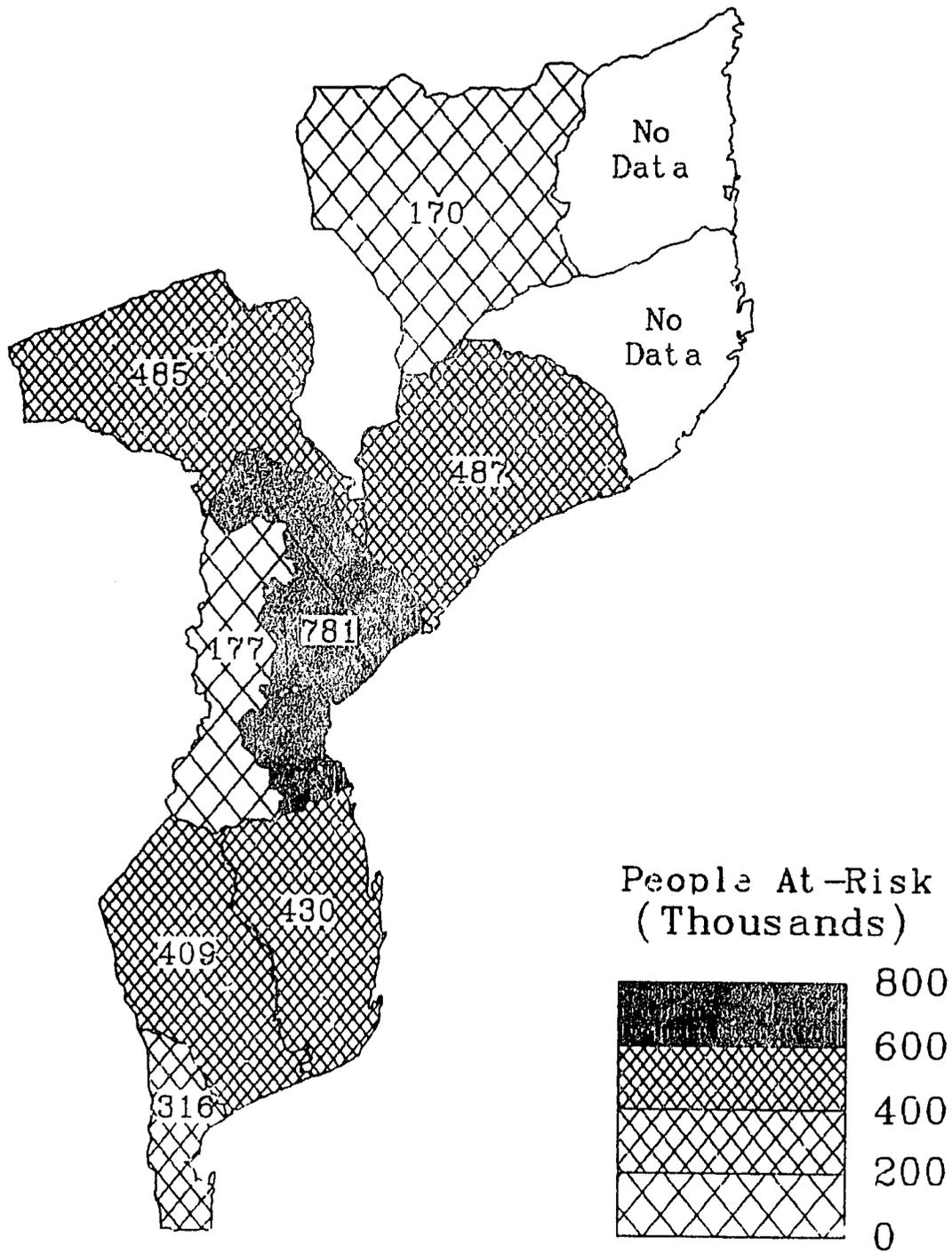
Province	1986 Pop.	November At-Risk	% Of Prov.	October At-Risk	October Rank	Change At-Risk
Sofala	1,252	781	62.4	570	2	211
Zambezia	2,935	487	16.6	870	1	-383
Tete	963	485	51.8	330	3	155
Inhambane	1,138	430	37.8	320	5	110
Gaza	1,142	409	35.8	208	7	201
Maputo	1,488	316	21.2	120	8	196
Manica	753	177	23.5	228	6	-51
Niassa	593	170	28.7	443	4	-273
Nampula	2,757	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Cabo Delgado	1,079	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Total	14,100	3,255	25.8	3,089		166

Sources: USAID Mission Cables Sept. 25 and Oct. 29.

NA: No Data Available.

(-): Denotes Negative Number

RURAL AT-RISK POPULATION MOZAMBIQUE



FEWS/PWA November, 1988

**FOOD
REQUIREMENTS**

On May 1, the beginning of the crop year, the estimated affected population included 1,848,000 rural at-risk and 3,030,000 urban people, or a total of 4,878,000 affected people (Table 2a). Since then, the USAID Mission in Maputo increased the estimated rural at-risk by 1,407,000 people, which results in a total of 6,285,000 affected people. Current USAID estimated food needs, however, are still based on the May 1 at-risk figures.

**Table 2a Affected Population, Millions of People
(May 1, 1986 - April 30, 1987)**

	Urban	Rural	Total
USAID			
May 1 - April 30	3.030	1.848	4.878
Revised			
May 1 - Nov. 31	3.030	1.848	4.878
Dec. 1 - April 30	3.030	3.255	6.285

Sources: USAID/FVA and USAID Mission Cables

The per capita cereal requirements, according to USAID, is 350 grams per day. The May 1 USAID estimate of at-risk populations results in a total cereal requirement of 623.3 mt for the crop year, with an unmet cereal requirement of 295,705 mt as of November 25 (Table 2b).

**Table 2b Estimated Cereal Needs, Thousands of mt
(May 1, 1986 to April 30, 1987)**

CEREAL NEEDS	USAID	Revised
Urban	387.1	387.1
Rural	236.1	310.4
Total	623.2	697.5
AVAILABLE (Net)		
Internal Market	84.4	84.4
Stocks	37.2	37.2
Commercial Imports	30.7	30.7
Total Available	152.3	152.3
ESTIMATED DEFICIT	470.9	545.2
FOOD AID (As of Nov 25)		
Delivered	63.4	63.4
Unscheduled Pledges	111.8	111.8
Total	175.2	175.2
UNMET NEEDS	295.7	370.0

Source: USAID/FVA, November 1986.

Per capita ration: 350 g/day (127.75 Kg/year)

The rural at-risk population has, by USAID estimates, increased since May 1 by 1.407 million, resulting in a current affected population of 6,285,000 people (Table 2a). This substantial increase in at-risk population increases the cereal requirements between December 1, 1986 and the end of the crop year (April 30, 1987), by 74,300 metric tons for a total crop year requirement of 697,000 mt (Table 2b). The unmet cereal deficit, based on the revised estimate, is 370,000 mt.

ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICTS

One of the underlying objectives of the FEWS project is to perform a geographic analysis of factors contributing to potential emergency situations. In order to better analyze the geography of famine, the FEWS project is developing, for target countries, a set of maps which include second and third level administrative units. In Mozambique, third level administrative units are termed districts (Map 3). The information used to create the district level map for Mozambique was obtained from several sources, some of which date from the colonial era. For this reason, the district names and boundaries cannot be considered authoritative. However, as additional verifiable sources become available, the map will be revised, and reprinted. The FEWS project will welcome information or current source material which can be used to verify district boundary locations and names.

