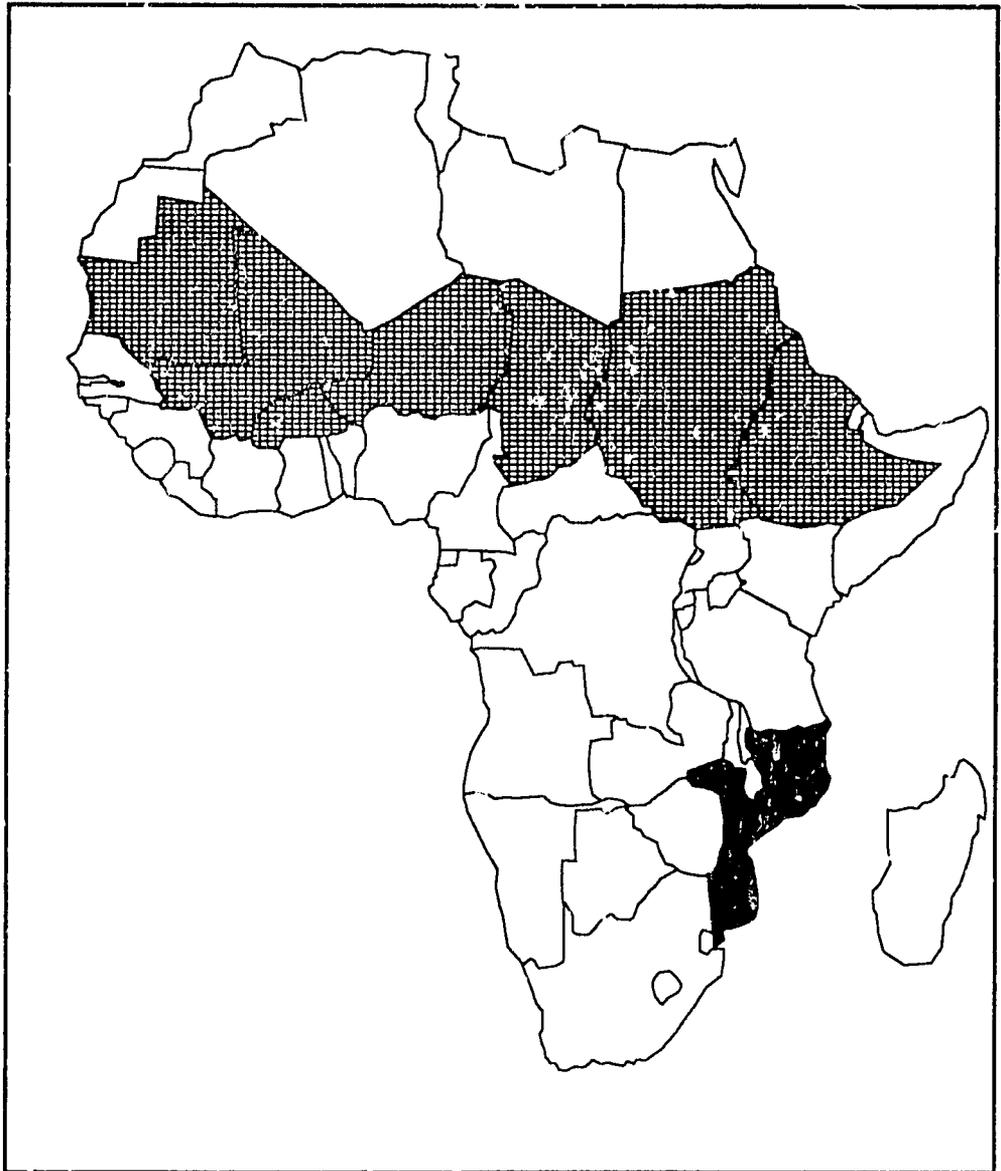


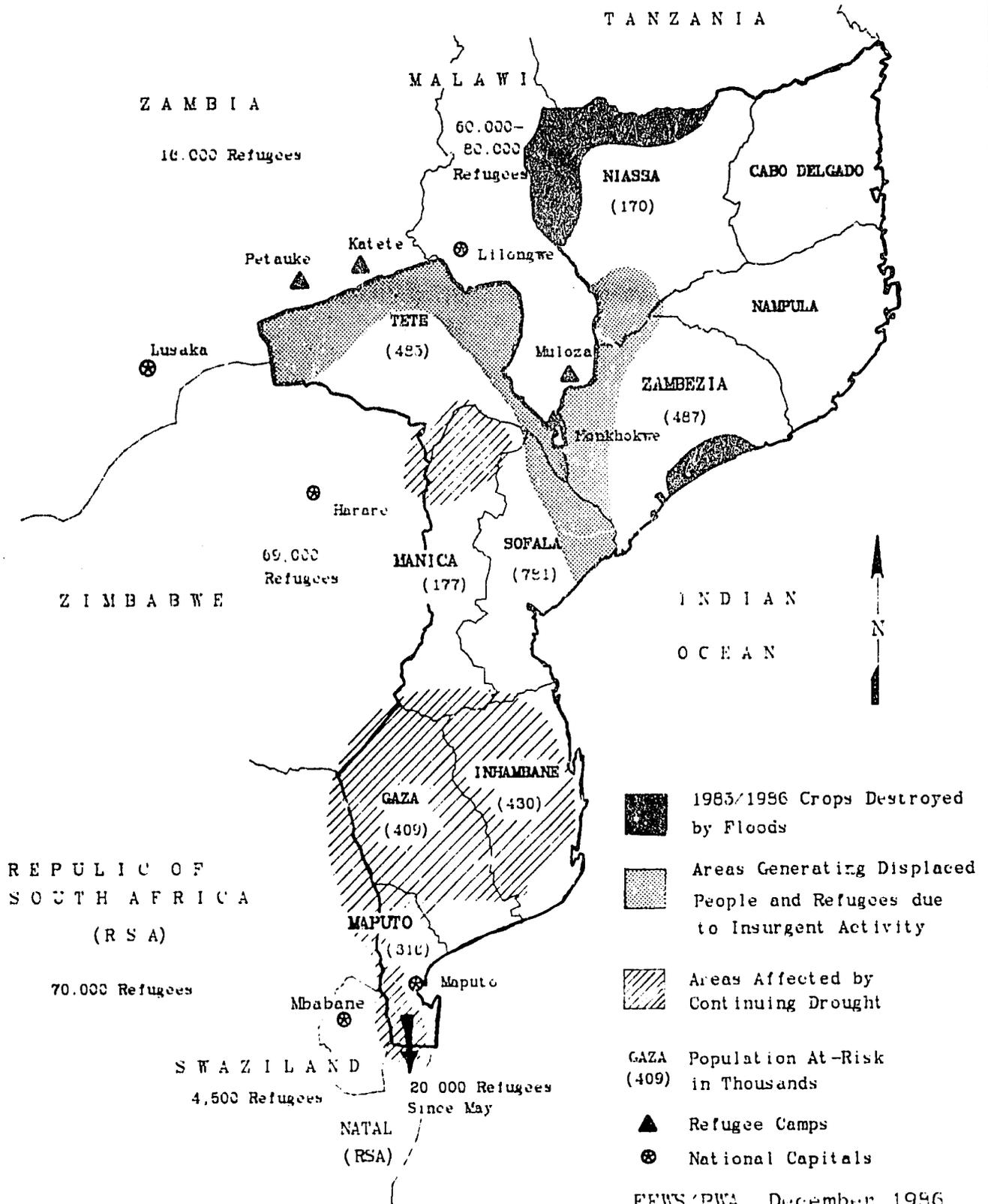
Report Number 7
December 1986

FEWS Country Report MOZAMBIQUE



Africa Bureau
U.S. Agency
for International
Development

Summary Map



-  1985/1986 Crops Destroyed by Floods
-  Areas Generating Displaced People and Refugees due to Insurgent Activity
-  Areas Affected by Continuing Drought
- GAZA Population At-Risk (409) in Thousands
-  Refugee Camps
-  National Capitals

MOZAMBIQUE

A Review of At-Risk Populations

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

Prepared by
Price, Williams & Associates, Inc.
December 1986

Contents

Page

i	Introduction
1	Summary
2	Refugees
3	Populations At-Risk
4	Zambezia Province
4	Sofala Province
4	Tete Province
5	Niassa Province
5	Manica Province
6	Inhambane Province
6	Gaza Province
7	Maputo Province

List of Figures

Page

3

Table 1

Populations At-Risk

8

Map 2

General Reference

INTRODUCTION

This is the seventh 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

The living conditions of Mozambican refugees in Malawi are reportedly improving with medical care provided by Malawian medical authorities, and food distribution provided by the Red Cross and a Catholic relief organization. There are shortages of clothing and shelter in refugee camps in Malawi as well as at centers for displaced people within Mozambique. Refugees in Zambia are being provided agricultural supplies in order to become self sufficient in food production. An influx of 20,000 refugees into Natal, South Africa, is causing a crisis due to shortages in available food commodities. Zambezia, Sofala and Tete Provinces continue to generate the largest numbers of at-risk people due primarily to insurgent activity which is disrupting agricultural production and displacing people. In addition to food, at-risk populations within these provinces require clothing, shelter and medicines. The dry months lasting from May through October exacerbated the drought affecting the southern provinces of Gaza, Inhambane, and Maputo. Hunger related deaths and severe malnourishment are reported in Gaza and Inhambane Provinces. These provinces require assistance in the form of food, medicine and water.

Issues

- The distribution of food aid in Mozambique is complicated by routine sabotage of roads and railways, the lack of spare parts to maintain a working fleet of trucks, and rebel control of areas containing affected populations. The GOM is increasingly relying on airlifts to provide relief assistance, but this is costly and may be inadequate if the demand for food aid continues to increase with no corresponding improvement in ground transport capabilities.
- There are sizable differences between the GOM and USAID estimates of people at-risk within certain provinces. This disparity could result in food aid not being allocated to provinces where the need is greatest either in terms of the size of the affected population, or the severity of malnutrition within provinces.

Key December Indicators

- Mozambique is nearly halfway through the rainy season which normally lasts from October through April. Rains were below normal in October and November, but recent reports indicate near normal rainfall throughout the country in the beginning of December. Crops should be well above ground by now.
- Mozambique is scheduled to receive a December shipment of 1,873 mt dry milk, 458 mt butter oil, 1,058 mt butter, 367 mt cheese, and 882 mt wheat from the United States.

REFUGEES

Most of the 60,000 to 80,000 Mozambican refugees in Malawi are from the border districts of Milange, Mutarara, Caia, Angonia, and Macanga. These refugees have few possessions, since many fled their homes with only the clothes they were wearing. Refugees returning from camps in Malawi report that, due to a shortage of housing, many Mozambicans are living in the open. These reports, however, have not been substantiated.

The living conditions at the Muloza refugee camp in Mulanje District of Malawi, have improved for the 10,000 refugees living there (Map 1). According to reports from the Pan African News Agency (PANA), medical authorities in Malawi are providing medical care. Both the Malawi Red Cross Society and CARITAS, a Catholic relief organization, are supplying food to the camp. Representatives of The Malawi Red Cross report that food distribution at all refugee camps in Malawi conforms to international standards, and that food supplies are coming from the International League of Red Cross Societies in Geneva (LICROSS). The Catholic Mission at Gambula reports that 1,740 blankets, 1,000 hoes, and 25 bags of maize were recently distributed to refugees at Muloza. Plastic sheets, presumably to be used for shelter, were distributed to 720 families.

Nearly 800 Mozambique railway employees and their families, who had sought safety in Malawi after the town of Mutarara was attacked by rebels on September 26, were repatriated on November 19. The railway employees stayed nearly 2 months at the Mankhokwe refugee camp in Nsanje District of Malawi (Map 1).

In Zambia, approximately 19,000 Mozambican refugees are being sheltered in camps at Chadiza, Katete, and Petauke. Refugees in these camps will be provided hoes, seed, and other agricultural supplies by the UN High Commission on Refugees (UNHCR) through the Red Cross. The plan was implemented in response to a request by the refugees who want to become more self sufficient in food production, and less dependent on food aid.

Representatives of Operation Hunger report that since May, nearly 20,000 refugees have fled from southern Mozambique into the province of Natal, South Africa. The refugees are reportedly fleeing the fighting, economic depression, and near famine conditions in Mozambique. Many of the refugees have relatives on the South African side of the border, but the large influx of people into this drought-stricken area has severely strained the supply of available resources. Operation Hunger plans to substantially increase aid to the region in early 1987.

**POPULATIONS
AT-RISK**

On October 18, the Department for Preventing and Combatting Natural Calamities (DPCCN) of Mozambique issued the August/September Monthly Newsletter in which the at-risk situation in Mozambique is summarized by province. Although the information is somewhat dated, it is useful since it identifies factors contributing to the increase in at-risk estimates, and areas particularly affected within provinces. As the newsletter was published at the end of the dry season, the reported effects of the drought are particularly pronounced in the southern provinces. The rains began poorly in October and November, but December rainfall is reported to be good. Nevertheless, it will likely take several years of normal rains to alleviate the effects of the drought.

Both the current USAID at-risk figures and the official Government of Mozambique DPCCN figures were issued in late September (Table 1). At the national level, the USAID and DPCCN rural at-risk figures are within 4 percent of each other, with the USAID estimate slightly higher. This is due, in part, to the fact that the DPCCN newsletter did not provide a rural at-risk figure for Gaza Province. USAID identifies Sofala Province as containing the highest number of at-risk people, whereas the DPCCN considers Zambezia to be the most affected province. Both estimates agree, however, that the provinces of Sofala, Zambezia and Tete contain the largest concentrations of at-risk people due primarily to the disruption caused by insurgents.

**Table 1: DPCCN and USAID Estimated Rural At-Risk
Population in Thousands, As of September**

Province	1986 Pop.	USAID At-Risk	% Of Prov.	DPCCN At-Risk	% Of Prov.	Food Needs Dec 1-April 30 (000's mt)
Sofala	1,252	781	62	571	46	30 - 41
Zambezia	2,935	487	17	847	29	26 - 45
Tete	963	485	52	458	48	24 - 26
Inhambane	1,138	430	38	430	38	23
Gaza	1,142	409	36	NA	NA	22
Maputo	1,488	316	21	271	18	14 - 17
Manica	753	177	24	95	13	5 - 9
Niassa	593	170	29	443	75	9 - 23
Nampula	2,757	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Cabo Delgado	1,079	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Total	14,100	3,255	26	3,115	22	165 - 172

NA: No Data.

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

August/September Newsletter, DPCCN Mozambique, Oct 18.

Assumed ration 350 grams/person/day, from Dec. 1 - April 30.

Zambezia Province

The DPCCN regards Zambezia as the most seriously affected province with an estimated 847,000 at-risk people. The USAID estimate is 487,000, or roughly one half of the GOM figure. The difference of 360,000 in estimated at-risk people is fairly significant. This disparity between estimates might be attributed to the difficulty in estimating an at-risk population which, due to fighting, is in a considerable state of flux.

Earlier this year, crops were reportedly flooded in the coastal districts of Nicuadala and Maganja da Costa leaving nearly 10,000 people without food. Armed insurgency has also had a significant impact on agricultural production. According to PANA, agricultural production has declined 50 percent, but the time period for this decline was not specified. Districts most affected by insurgency are those bordering the Zambezi River and Malawi. Displaced people are reportedly fleeing fighting in the districts of Milange and Morrumbala for safety in Tete Province as well as neighboring Malawi. Nearly 70,000 displaced people are reported in the city of Quelimane. People in unspecified districts are reported to be wearing tree bark for cover due to a lack of clothing.

Zambezia is scheduled to receive 11,000 mt of cereals this year, but DPCCN/Zambezia has only two trucks of seven ton capacity available to distribute the food. Food deliveries have been made by road and sea to Chinde, Maganja da Costa, Pebane, Nicuadala, and Inhassunge Districts where there are a reported 98,000 displaced people in addition to the 105,000 classified as at-risk. In September, an airlift to Quelimane provided 10 tons of clothes, medicines, plastic tarpaulins, and miscellaneous items.

Sofala Province

There is little information regarding at-risk factors affecting Sofala province, except that the problems stem from a combination of lingering drought and rebel activity. The DPCCN estimates 571,209 people affected in the province. Sofala, according to the USAID estimate, is the most affected province with 781,000 people at-risk. People are reported fleeing from the districts of Cheringoma, Caia, Chemba, and Maringue into Tete Province to escape fighting. In September, the DPCCN conducted three airlifts which transported 30 tons of corned beef, clothes and medicines to Beira.

Tete Province

The need for food assistance is increasing in Tete Province due to considerable insurgent activity within the northern portion of the province. The DPCCN estimates

458,000 at-risk people within the province, which is close to the 455,000 estimated by USAID. People within Tete Province are being displaced by fighting, and the number of at-risk people within Tete is also being increased by people fleeing from Morrumbala and Milange Districts of Zambezia Province, and the districts of Cheringoma, Caia, Chemba and Maringue in Sofala Province (Map 2). In September, the DPCCN estimated that 80% of Changara's population may face severe food shortages by November. There is little or no infrastructure in place for accommodating the rapid increase in displaced people. At a center for displaced people in Moatize, the displaced live under trees in order to escape the elements. Children are reported to be extremely malnourished.

Niassa Province

Niassa traditionally produces surplus harvests. However, due to excessive rains from October 1985 through February 1986, crops were destroyed in areas bordering Malawi and Tanzania. In the southern part of the province, insurgent activity has disrupted agricultural production. At the end of September, the DPCCN and USAID both reported that 443,000 people were at-risk of food shortages. In October, USAID reduced the estimated number of people at-risk to 170,000 after a USAID fact finding team visited the province and determined the rural population to be largely self-sufficient.

Due to regular disruption of the Nacala/Lichinga railway, there are shortages of food, consumer goods, fuel, and spare parts for trucks and agricultural machinery. As of October, Niassa had received only four train shipments of commodities for the year. Cuamba District is the most seriously affected (Map 2). During the month of September, the DPCCN conducted two airlifts to Cuamba with a total of 21.5 tons of maize flour, medicine, and miscellaneous items. Four airlifts to Lichinga during the same period carried a total of 39.6 tons of sugar, rice, dried fish, powdered milk, medicines, clothes, and spare parts.

Manica Province

The DPCCN estimates 94,810 people are at-risk in Manica Province, whereas USAID/Maputo estimates almost twice as many people at-risk. The majority of affected people are found in the northern districts of Tambara, Guro, and Barue. These districts, according to the DPCCN, had insufficient harvests earlier this year due to inadequate rains. People in these provinces are eating wild plant roots and wearing tree bark for clothing. In September, the DPCCN estimated a need for 5,120 mt of cereals over the next 6 months in addition to unspecified amounts of oil, powdered milk, sugar, maize and peanut seed, and fertilizer.

Inhambane Province

Both USAID and the DPCCN estimate that there are 430,000 at-risk people in Inhambane. The population within 50 km of the coast has adequate supplies of cassava and vegetables for consumption. In the interior sections of the province, however, drought conditions continue to threaten the population. The DPCCN estimates that the drought could claim lives if no organized relief efforts are conducted.

Severe water shortages are reported in Mabote, Funhalouro, Tome, and Morrumbene. Deaths attributed to starvation have been reported in Funhalouro this year, and malnutrition is widespread. Mabote has not received any rains since March of 1986, and although people are growing vegetables in the district capital, localities surrounding the town are seriously affected by drought. The population is switching from maize to the more drought resistant manioc for food production. In the interior of Mabote district, people are relying on wild fruits for food. Others are walking up to 160 km to reach food distribution sites. The most affected localities in Mabote District are Papatane, Benzane, Zimale, Tanguene, Mapanzezi, and Chitanga. In the southern portion of Inhambane Province, the district of Panda is also severely affected by drought as are the nearby localities of Macavelane, Djodjo, and Mawayela. DPCCN reports five new villages have been established in the area for drought-affected people. As of September, the DPCCN was still waiting for donor response to an appeal for tankers to supply water from Massinga to these districts. Food distribution capability is limited due to shortages of tractors and trailers.

A three-pronged assistance strategy is recommended by the Provincial Government of Inhambane. The interior districts of Panda, Funhalouro, Mabote, and inland Govuro require immediate emergency assistance for food and water. Rehabilitation is required for northern portions of Inhambane's coastal zone including Vilanculos, Inhassouro and coastal Govuro. Longer term agricultural development projects should be implemented in central and southern coastal areas including Massinga, Morrumbene, Inhambane, and Inharrime since these districts are viewed as more productive, and could serve as potential food suppliers to the drought prone interior portions of Inhambane.

Gaza Province

In September, USAID estimated 409,000 people at-risk in Gaza. The DPCCN August/September newsletter did not provide an estimate of the affected population. Drought is the primary problem in Gaza. The districts of Guija, Massingir, Chicualacuala and the area north of Chibuto

have reported only scattered rains since 1980. According to the September DPCCN report, the interior portions of Gaza had not received any rains this year. Although the coastal areas reported good rains earlier this year, the second planting failed due to a drought in March in which only one rainfall was recorded. Several hunger-related deaths are reported in Gaza by the DPCCN. The provincial government is encouraging farmers to plant in low lying areas along water bodies, but rivers and ponds have dried up. The GOM believes that areas along the Limpopo River could be irrigated if pumps were available. North of Chibuto in Maqueze and Nalazi localities people walk up to 37 kilometers in search of water.

The district of Chicualacuala is in need of four wheel drive trucks to reach outlying localities for food distribution. In the Chipimbe locality of Chicualacuala, hunger related deaths and malnourishment are reported. Other severely affected localities in Chicualacuala include Saute, Massangene, Pafuri and Combomune. The rivers in Chicualacuala are reportedly dry, and people are receiving water from Zimbabwe twice a week by train. A shipment of 1,000 tons of maize was received in September from Zimbabwe. Oxfam/UK has begun a project to bore two holes in the district capital which will be used for drinking water and irrigation. Clothing, medicine, and food are needed in Chicualacuala.

Maputo Province

Nearly 270,870 people are at-risk in Maputo Province, according to the DPCCN. This compares with the 316,000 affected people estimated by the USAID. Both drought and bandit activity are identified as contributing to the suffering. The districts of Magude, Moamba, and Matutuine are identified by the DPCCN as particularly affected. In Magude District, nearly 100,000 people are at-risk of hunger and the cattle may die due to insufficient pasture lands. Nearly 90,000 people in Moamba are affected by drought. There has been influx of displaced people from surrounding districts who are seeking respite from drought and insurgent activity. In September, the DPCCN estimated Maputo District would require 14,627 tons of cereals for the next 6 months.

General Reference



• Approximate locations of district capitals and other localities identified in this report.