



© Kristy Siegfried/IRIN

HIGHLIGHTS

- The 2012/13 rainfall season was erratic, with torrential rainfall early in the season followed by dry conditions over parts of the region.
- Insufficient rains and drought-like conditions in the west and south-west of the region led to a poor agricultural season and death of livestock, resulting in heightened food insecurity.
- Armyworm and red locust outbreaks in Southern Africa, although largely contained, may lead to secondary outbreaks this year.
- Locust invasion in Madagascar continues to pose a significant threat to food security and livelihoods, with an ongoing three-year eradication campaign which requires further funding.

FIGURES (SADC)*

Number of Countries	15
Total Population	167 m
Total number of people affected by floods	±518,000
Total number of people at risk of food insecurity	12.4 m
Estimated number of cholera cases in 2013	8,798

*Not including DRC

In this issue

2013: A year in review P.1

Insight into 2014 P.5

2013: A year in review

Southern Africa is a region traditionally vulnerable to variable weather conditions, which often negatively impact on the lives and livelihoods of communities. Floods and dry conditions in the region directly affect crop production, livelihoods and food security of a population that depends on season-to-season harvests. Often associated with weather patterns, epidemic outbreaks also continue to be recorded throughout the region. This bulletin outlines the different humanitarian challenges faced by the region throughout 2013 and provides some insight into the current humanitarian situation at the start of 2014.

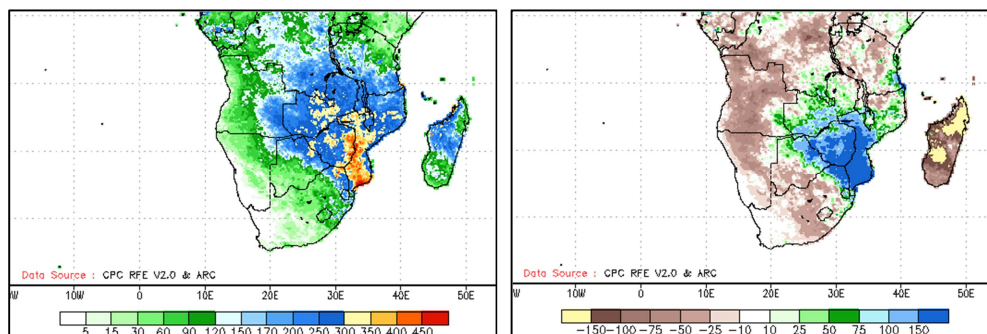
A wet January that led to flooding

The 2012/13 rainfall season was erratic, with the first half (October 2012 to early February 2013) characterized by widespread torrential rainfall over the central and eastern parts of Southern Africa which resulted in flooding in Botswana, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe. In southern Malawi, 173,000 people were affected and 33,000 people displaced.

From January 2013 onwards, Mozambique experienced the worst floods since the year 2000. By June, 250,000 people were affected and 117 lives lost. The Government of Mozambique coordinated the response from early stages of the crisis, and mobilized resources, but these were insufficient to meet the immediate assistance to affected population and reconstruction needed. A total of US\$17.9 million was contributed throughout 2013 towards assistance and recovery of flood affected Mozambique, through UN agencies and programmes and other NGO partners and donors such as IFRC, World Vision International, Oxfam International, Samaritan's Purse, MSB and others.

Madagascar was hit by two cyclones at the end of January and February 2013. Tropical Cyclone Felleng caused 9 deaths, displaced 964 people and flooded 393 houses on the east coast. Tropical Storm Haruna caused more than 26 deaths, injured at least 127 people, displaced 6,000 people and affected an estimated 42,000 in the south-western coast.

30-Day Rainfall: 28 Dec 2012 – 26 Jan 2013
Total Precipitation Precipitation Anomaly



Source: NOAA

The total amount of people affected by floods and storms in southern Africa decreased to 518,000 in the 2012/13 season, compared to 554,000 in 2011/12.

Summary of Southern Africa flood season 2012/13

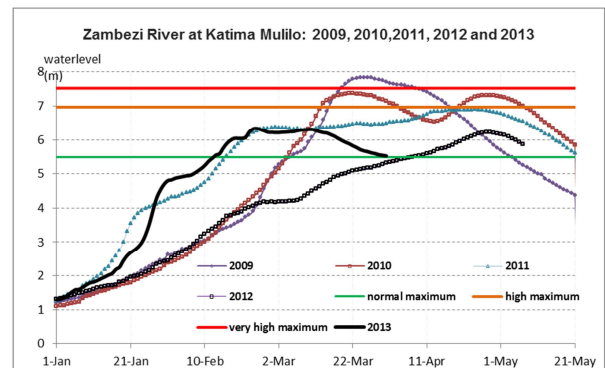
Country	No. of People affected by floods/storms	No. of deaths
Mozambique	250,000	117
Malawi	172,955	0
Madagascar	42,964	26
Zimbabwe	22,535	3
Namibia	11,000	0
Angola	5,785	23
Botswana	4,210	0
Seychelles	2,000	0
Zambia	1,800	0
South Africa	Low thousands	10
Mauritius	Low thousands	11
Swaziland	1,219	1
Comoros	860	0
Total	±518,000	>191

Source: OCHA, UNRCO, IFRC, media, respective governments. Data partial and incomplete.

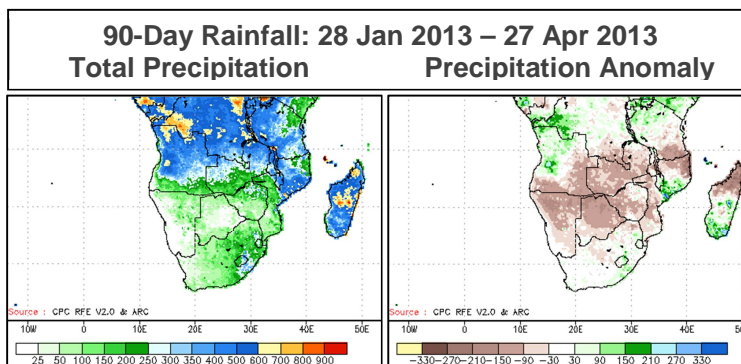
Approximately 518,000 people were affected by floods and storms during the 2012/2013 season, compared to 708,000 in 2010/11 and 554,000 in 2011/12, and it is clear that Governments in the region - supported by United Nations Humanitarian Country Teams (HCTs) and other partners - moved forward in building preparedness and response capacity such as early interventions and development of response plan to address the immediate needs of affected people.

Dry conditions gripped the region

The second half of the 2012/13 rain season - February, March and April - saw an unusual decrease in rainfall and subsequently water levels, mainly over the west and central parts of the region. The Zambezi River at Katima Mulilo in northern Namibia provides a good illustration: a steep increase in water levels in late January 2013 sparked fears of serious flooding by mid-March; however, a sudden cessation of rains caused the Zambezi River level to drop dramatically at Katima Mulilo.



Source: Namibia Hydrological Services



Source: NOAA

Confirming from FEWS NET reports, prolonged dry spells and persistent drought conditions occurred in northern Namibia, southern Angola, Zambia, southern Zimbabwe, south-east Botswana, and north-western

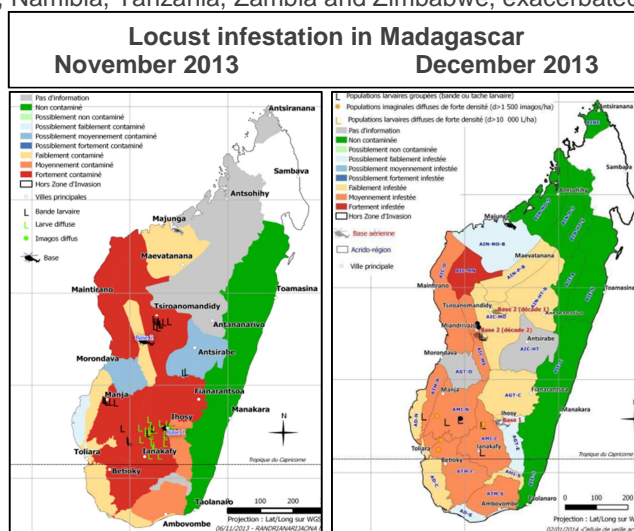
According to FAO, the locust infestation faced by Madagascar threatened the livelihoods of 13 million people in the country, 9 million of whom earning a living from agriculture.

South Africa, as well as in Malawi and northern Mozambique. Crop failure and a high amount of cattle deaths resulting from these weather conditions had a significant impact on the livelihoods of southern African communities. Drought-related emergencies were declared in [Angola](#), [Botswana](#), [Namibia](#), [Zimbabwe](#) and the [North West Province of South Africa](#) by mid-2013.

Pest infestations: a vulnerable agriculture

[Armyworm outbreaks](#) occurred during the 2012/13 agricultural season in Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe, exacerbated by weather conditions. The outbreaks were largely contained due to rapid responses and changing weather.

In Madagascar, a national emergency was declared in November 2012 due to locust invasion in the south and south-east of the country. According to [FAO](#), the locust plague faced by the island threatened the livelihoods of 13 million people in the country, 9 million of whom earning a living from agriculture.



The Malagasy Ministry of Agriculture, supported by FAO, launched a [three-year response plan](#), which commenced in September 2013. However, by December 2013 a total of 9,670 ha in western Madagascar were [contaminated](#), and 960 ha eaten by larvae. The anti-locust campaign of 2013/14 ensured that 18,900 ha were protected and 49,364 ha treated. So far, out of the \$43.9 million required, \$26.2 million have been received. However, the [latest FAO update](#) stressed a funding gap of \$17.7 million required for the two remaining phases of the campaign (2014 to 2016).

The humanitarian challenge of food insecurity

Food security situation in southern Africa

Country	Number of people at risk of food insecurity 2013/14	Number of people at risk of food insecurity 2012/13	Population
Madagascar**	3,957,618	N/A	22,293,914
Zimbabwe	2,206,924	1,670,000	13,724,317
Malawi	1,850,000	1,970,000	15,906,483
Tanzania	1,615,445	N/A	47,783,107
Namibia	778,504	75,000	2,259,393
Botswana	372,479	N/A	2,003,910
Swaziland	289,920	116,000	1,230,985
Lesotho	223,055	726,000	2,051,545
Mozambique	212,000	N/A	25,203,395
Zambia	209,498	63,000	14,075,099
Angola	700,000*	367,000	20,820,525
Total	12,415,443	Incomplete	167,352,673

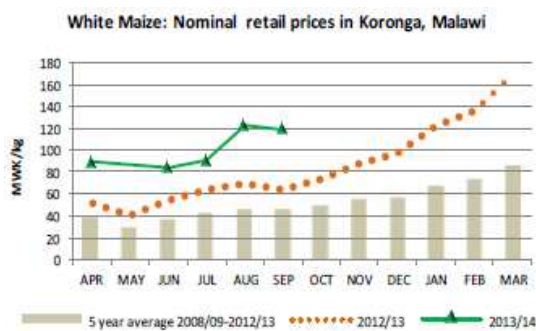
*Households. ** Figures from [FAO/WFP CFSAM Oct. 2013](#) Source: SADC, World Bank

In Namibia, after severe dry conditions during 2013, the amount of food insecure people increased by 900 per cent, from 75,000 people to 779,000.

Madagascar continues to struggle with widespread food insecurity, particularly in the south. A combination of damage to agricultural lands due to floods and tropical storms in early 2013; insufficient rains throughout the remainder of the year; and a devastating locust infestation, are some of the primary reasons for persistent food insecurity in the country.

In Namibia, after severe dry conditions during 2013, the amount of food insecure people increased by 900 per cent, from 75,000 people to 779,000. On 17 May 2013, the Namibian President declared a [national drought emergency](#). The Directorate of Disaster Risk Management (in the Office of the Prime Minister) drafted a [National Drought Emergency Response Plan](#) (July 2013-March 2014) with the support of humanitarian partners. Measures included cash grants to food insecure households, distribution of food, provision of clean Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) measures. By the end of 2013, according to [UNICEF assessments](#), food security conditions were still critical. The Governments of South Africa and Canada, and the Canadian National Committee for UNICEF contributed further funds. Early 2014 [forecasts and assumptions](#) are strongly pessimistic over the food security and drought conditions in the country.

Zimbabwe also suffered from poor rainfall in the 2012/13 season, particularly in the southern and western regions, which resulted in poor cereal harvests. According to [FEWS NET](#), targeted households have been receiving assistance since October 2013 through the WFP Seasonal Targeted Assistance (STA) programme and the Government's Cash Transfer programme. The Cash Transfer programme targeted 318,000 people in December. The STA programme originally targeted 2.2 million currently food insecure people, but due to funding gaps, half rations were being distributed to only 1 million of the beneficiaries as of January 2014.



Source: FEWS NET

In many parts of Malawi, the monthly average price of maize, the main staple, saw a steep increase three times of above that average from June to September 2013. This was because the 2012/13 growing season had been – as in previous years - affected by localized, but widespread, dry spells and floods from December 2012 to March 2013, not only in the disaster-prone south, but also in the traditional food surplus areas of the central and northern regions. This put approximately 1.46 million people in a state of food insecurity by June 2013, with assumptions of 1.9 million people by the end of 2013. The Government of Malawi submitted a Response Plan with a budget of \$110 million, and a funding gap of \$74 million. Throughout 2013, according to [FTS data](#), the total amount of CERF contributions was of \$11.2 million and a further \$42 million from donor countries through humanitarian partners sent for food insecurity relief and other risk reduction and resilience measures for food security.

Lesotho showed a marked improvement in food security in 2013, with a 70 per cent decrease in the number of people food insecure due to stable food prices and government and humanitarian interventions in response to the 2012 food security crisis (which saw more than a third of the population classified as food insecure). These include projects that addressed the immediate needs of the most vulnerable using resilience building approaches, which are expected to continue to yield results in Lesotho.

Angola was particularly affected by numerous epidemics during 2013.

Epidemics continue to affect communities in Southern Africa

Southern Africa: Cholera cases and deaths, 2013

Country	Cases	Deaths
Angola	6,655	86
Mozambique	1,869	19
Tanzania	270	17
Namibia	3	0
South Africa	1	1
Total	8,798	123

Source: WHO

towards the end of 2013. Malaria affected large numbers of Angolans, with 15,000 cases registered overall and 75 deaths in the first quarter of 2013.

Southern Africa remains extremely susceptible to epidemic outbreaks. Angola was particularly affected by numerous epidemics during 2013. An estimated 6,655 cholera cases were reported, including 86 deaths, by December 2013 according to WHO. The Angola Ministry of Health also reported an epidemic of dengue fever (over 900 cases and 10 deaths) and an outbreak of measles in 60% of the municipalities

For the first time in years, Malawi where cholera is endemic, did not have any reports of cholera in 2013.

In response to the regional cholera situation, the Joint Cholera Initiative for Southern Africa (JCISA) - a joint regional cholera prevention and control mechanism - was established by WHO, UNICEF, OCHA and OXFAM. As part of the activities of JCISA, a consultant was recruited to support the initiative by assessing conditions in priority countries (Angola, Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe) and developing relevant guidance packages. In 2013 workshop was held with National Governments (country cholera prevention committees and SADC Secretariat and control plans are now being developed into a joint sub-regional proposal.

In Madagascar, between 300 and 600 cases of [bubonic and pneumonic plague](#) are reported annually. Usually the plague period is October to March. The plague season arrived early in 2013, with 42 deaths and 84 cases between September and December in the north, northwest, southwest regions and the central highlands.

Insight into 2014

During the 2013/14 wet season Malawi and Zimbabwe heavily affected

As for the current season, heavy rains have started to be reported in January 2014, leading to floods in Zambia, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Malawi and Madagascar, affecting an estimated 130,000 people.

In Malawi, storms towards 24 December 2013 across the country as well as floods and strong winds in the central and southern regions affected a total of 32,335 people.

In [Zimbabwe](#), 400 families needed to be evacuated on 3 February while another 4,000 were at risk in Chivi and Masvingo districts after levels at Tokwe-Mukorsi dam rose rapidly, threatening communities within the dam basin, according to the Department of Civil Protection (DCP). As precipitation forecasts have been announcing further rains, 40,000 people are also at risk downstream of the dam. On 12 February 2014, President Robert Mugabe declared a [state of emergency](#) and submitted an [emergency appeal](#) of \$19,694,093 to the international community.

Insect infestation in the region: slight improvements with the anti-locust campaign in Madagascar, while armyworm outbreaks loom in the rest of the region

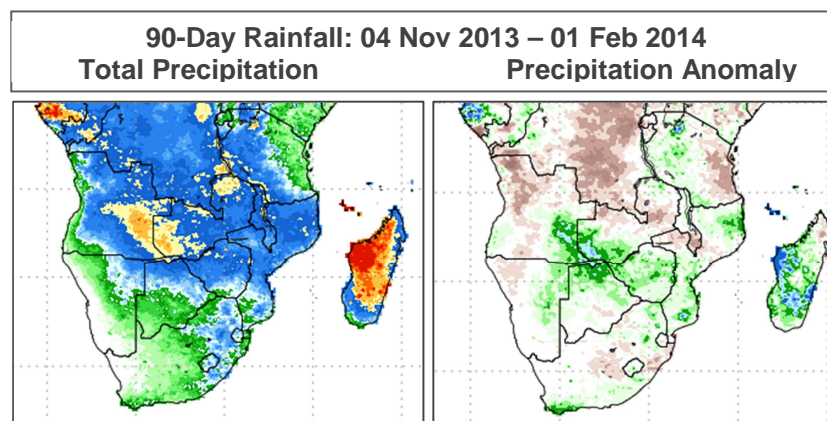
In 2014, [insect infestations](#) remain a serious threat to livelihoods in Southern Africa. According to [the UN Resident Coordinator's Office in Malawi](#), between late December 2013 and of January 2014, armyworm outbreaks affected 2,481 ha of crops and secondary infestations are highly possible during the coming months. According to the [SADC Regional DRR Update of February 2014](#), armyworm outbreaks have also

Insect infestation threats are still present in Malawi and Madagascar, exacerbated by heavy rains.

damaged crops in Zambia and will possibly spread to neighbouring countries including Mozambique, Tanzania and Zimbabwe.

Food insecurity: still a challenge in 2014

The beginning of 2014 has seen already several threats to food security in the region. Insect infestation threats are still present in Malawi and Madagascar, exacerbated by heavy rains. Most of Angola, west and south of Namibia and west and south of South Africa continue to experience lower than average rains, and the planting season has been erratic in most countries due to inconsistency of rains. This will inevitably have a negative influence on the already severe situation of food insecurity for the population, according to [FEWS NET forecasts](#).



Epidemic threats at the onset of 2014: resources mobilized to confront an outbreak of cholera in Namibia and plague in Madagascar

The northern region of Namibia experienced a cholera outbreak in January 2014, with 361 suspected cholera cases in Kunene Region since 16 November 2013, of which 11 deaths were recorded. While the Government of Namibia has stated that the outbreak in Kunene Region has stabilized, it is the view of [WHO](#) that a major outbreak remains a possibility: cases continuing to be reported, drought conditions are leading to unsafe water collection, poor sanitation practices are widespread, and we are moving into the most active period of the flood season. Therefore, WHO and UNICEF applied for and received an Emergency Cash Grant of \$62,900 which will be used to support the distribution of household water treatment and case management items. Implementing partners include the Ministry of Health and Social Services, UNICEF, WHO, Namibia Red Cross Society, Caritas Namibia, and the Namibia Council of Churches.

Concerning ongoing effort against the plague in Madagascar, so far this year the IFRC has allocated 137,131 Swiss francs of its Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF) for immediate support to the Malagasy Red Cross Society, according to the 17 January 2014 [press release](#) by the IFRC.

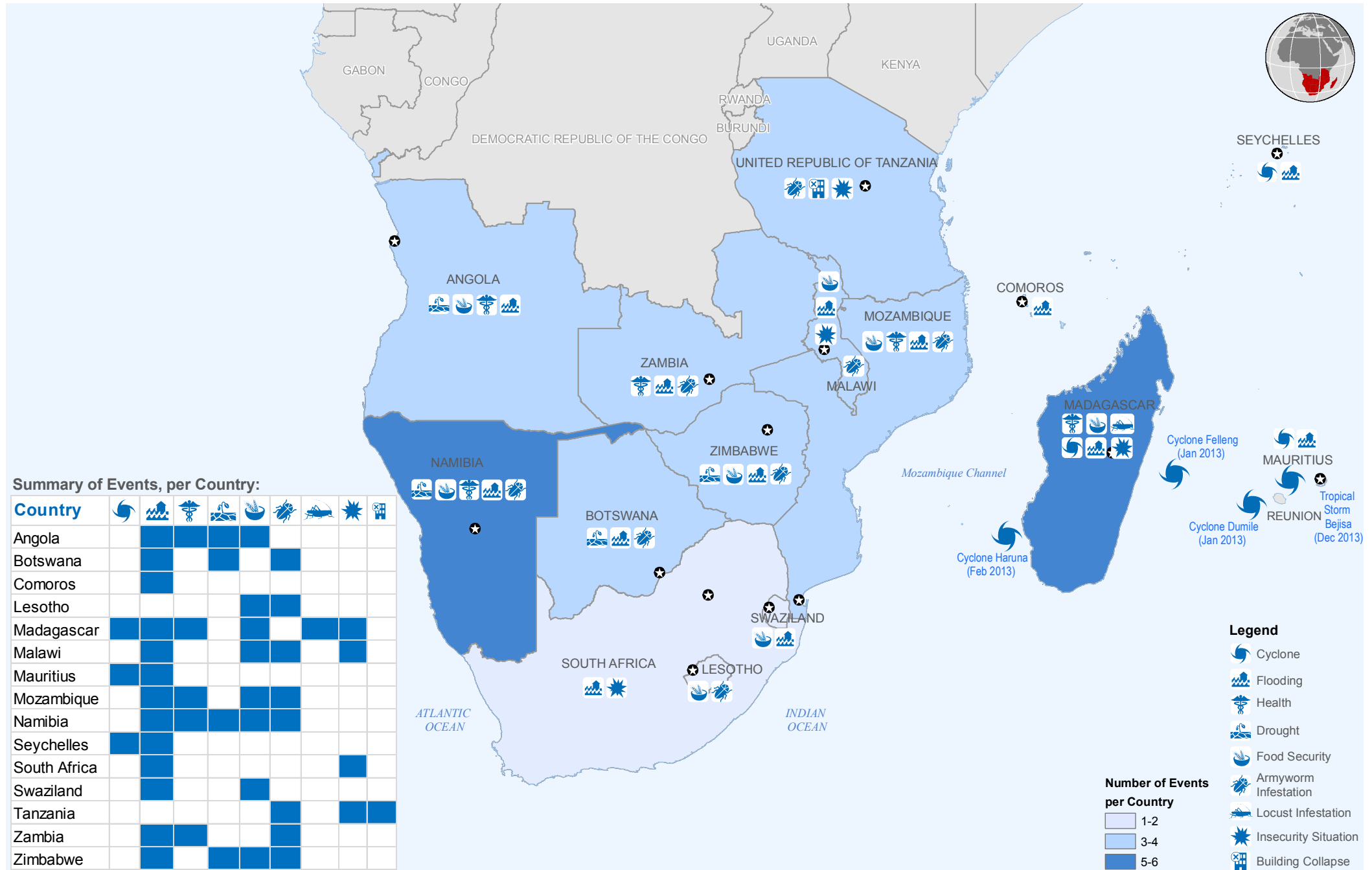
For further information, please contact:

Ignacio Leon-Garcia, Head of Office, OCHA ROSA, leoni@un.org, Tel. (+27) 82 908 1338

Hein Zeelie, Reports Officer, OCHA ROSA, zeelie@un.org, Tel. (+27) 82 908 1441

OCHA humanitarian bulletins are available at www.unocha.org/rosa | www.unocha.org | www.reliefweb.int

SOUTHERN AFRICA: Relevant Humanitarian Events (2013)

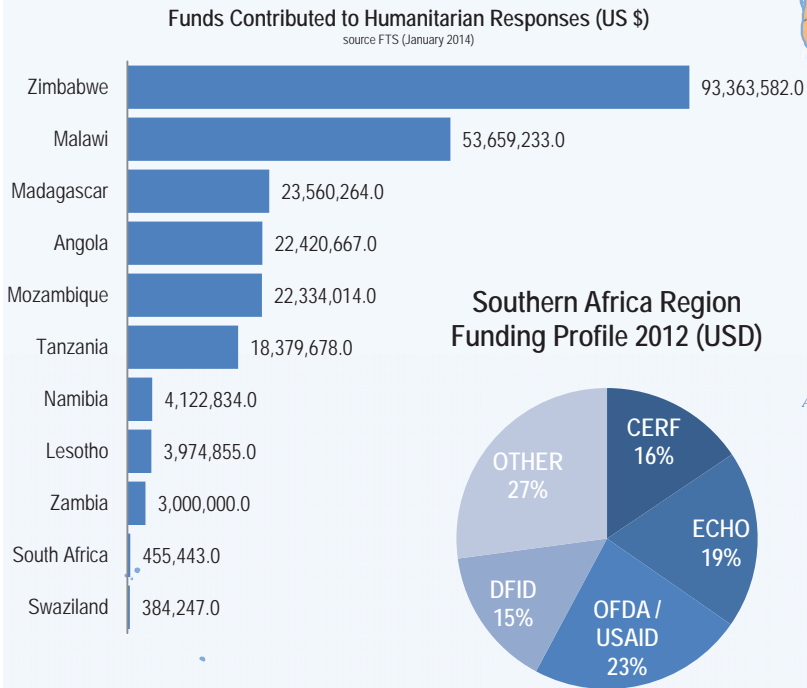
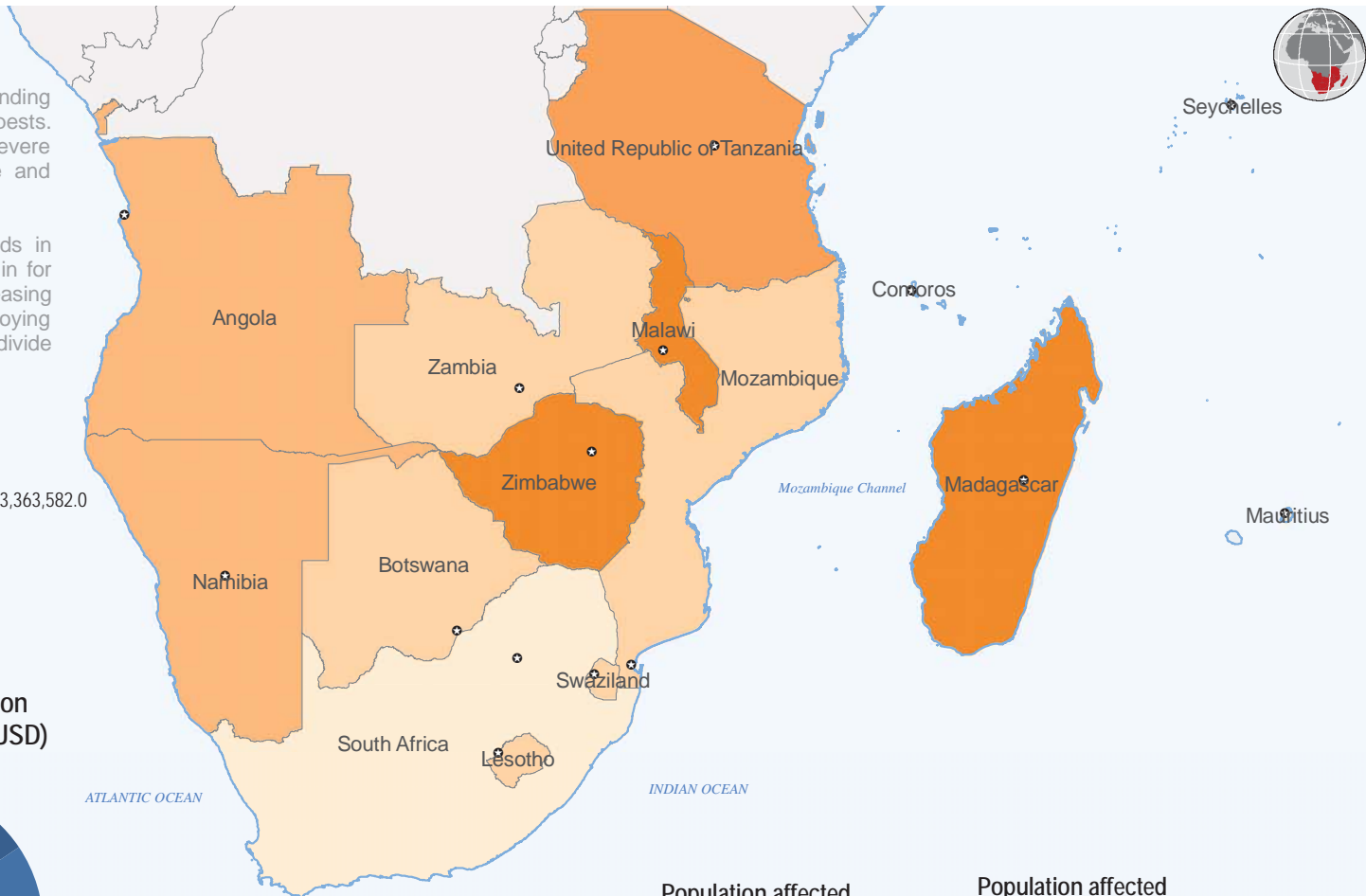


The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Humanitarian Overview

Southern Africa is prone to multiple, frequently repeating and compounding shocks, including drought, floods, cyclones, epidemics and crop pests. These shocks, occurring against a backdrop of poverty, have severe impacts on food and livelihood security, attested to by pervasive and extreme rates of chronic child malnutrition.

The region's crumbling infrastructure cannot support current trends in population growth and urbanization, and the lack of basic services in for example health care and education only contributes to increasing vulnerability, feeding a vicious cycle that can only be broken by employing new approaches that bridge the humanitarian and developmental divide and build the resilience of communities.



Population affected by Disasters & Hazards

- Flooding (2012- 2013)
- Food and Livelihood Insecurity 2013

Population affected by Disaster & Hazards (2012 -2013)

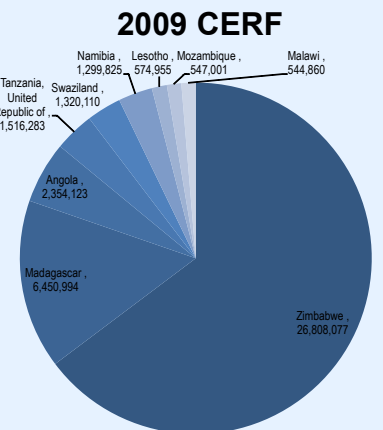
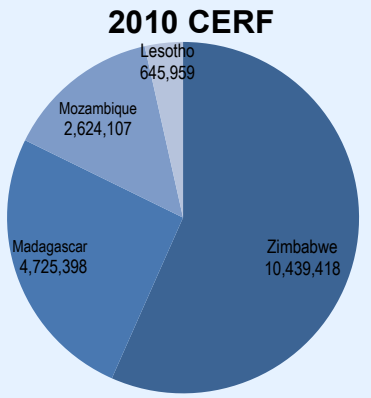
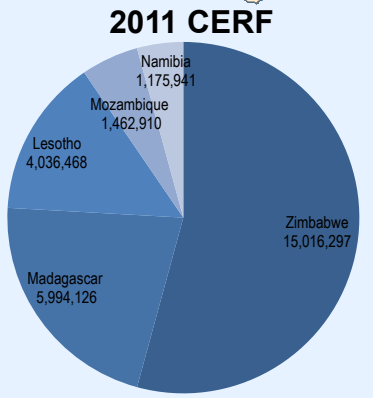
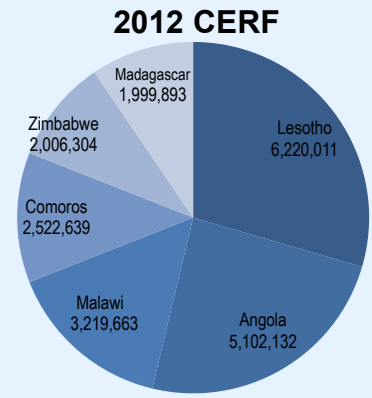
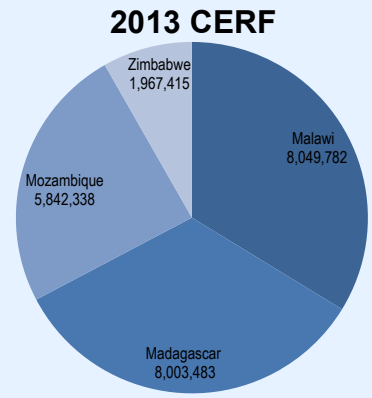
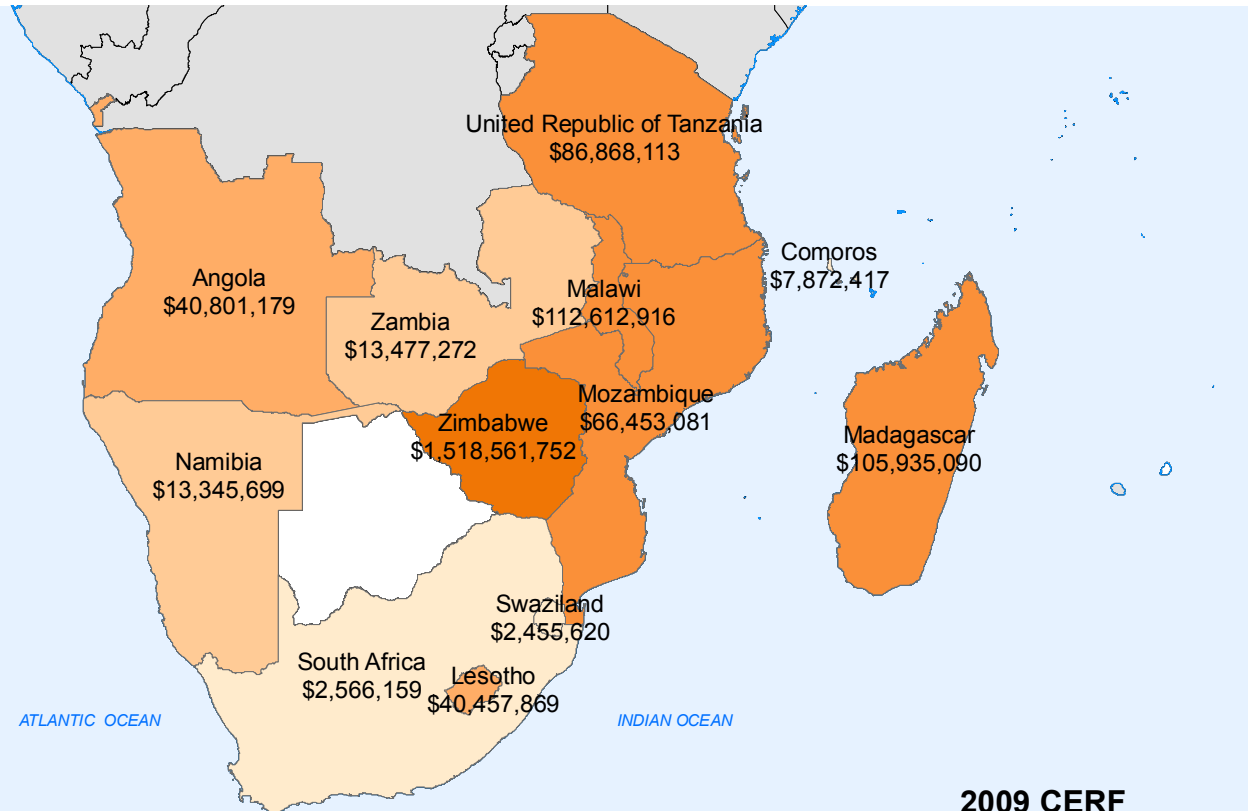
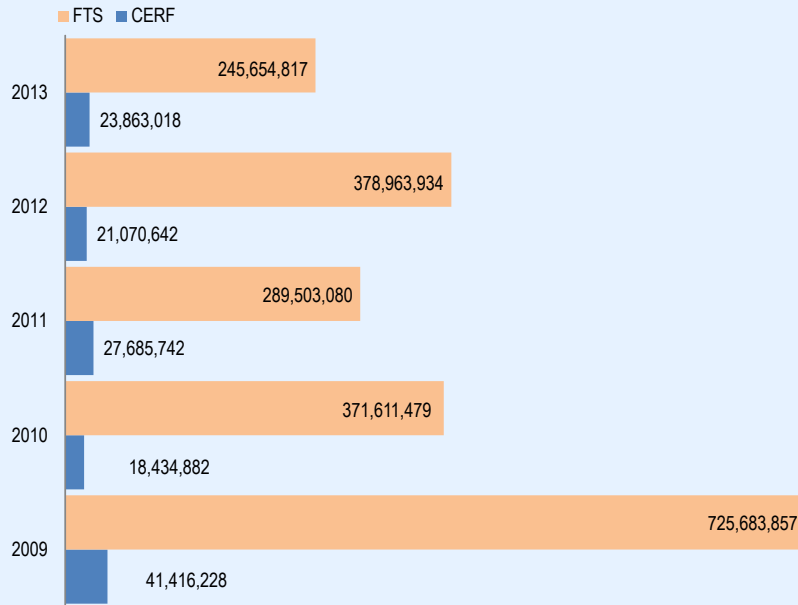
- < 100,000
- 100,001 - 500,000
- 500,001 - 1,000,000
- 1,000,001 - 2,000,000
- > 2,000,000

NOTE: The countries in RED have had an appeal or a CERF in 2012 - 2013

	ANGOLA	BOTSWANA	COMOROS	LESOTHO	MADAGASCAR	MALAWI	MAURITIUS	MOZAMBIQUE	NAMIBIA	SEYCHELLES	SOUTH AFRICA	SWAZILAND	TANZANIA	ZAMBIA	ZIMBABWE
	5,785	4,200	30,063	5,000	42,964	172,955	1,000	250,000	11,000	2,000	5,000	1,219		1,800	22,535
	700,000*	372,479		223,055	3,957,618	1,850,000		212,000	778,504			289,920	1,645,445	209,498	2,206,924
Total	5,785	376,679	30,063	228,055	4,000,582	2,022,955	1,000	462,000	789,504	2,000	5,000	291,139	1,645,445	211,298	2,229,459

* Angola Food & livelihood insecurity numbers are Households

TOTAL CERF ALLOCATION & FTS CONTRIBUTIONS (US Dollars) 2009 - 2013

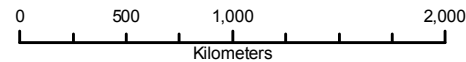


Creation date: 8 January 2014 Map ID: ROSA_235V02

Sources: CERF, WFP, FAO, OCHA, UNDP, GAUL, UNCS, FTS, SADC.

Feedback: ocharosa@un.org Cartography by: OCHA ROSA

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.



Legend

International Boundary

FTS \$ (2009 -2013) Total Per Country

- 2,455,620 - 10,000,000
- 10,000,001 - 30,000,000
- 30,000,001 - 60,000,000
- 60,000,001 - 120,000,000
- 120,000,001 - 1,518,561,752