

MBERENGWA DISTICT Food and Nutrition Security Profile





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FOREWORD

The Government of Zimbabwe aims to meet national targets under the National Development Strategy 1, Sustainable Development Goals, including Zero Hunger by 2030, with the support of the United Nations World Food Programme and other development partners. Evidence and knowledge are the starting point to ending hunger and improving nutrition. Hence policies and programmes need to be based on accurate and reliable data and information to make a difference in people's lives. In view of the above, the District Profiles were developed to provide evidence-based information for programming by the Government, UN, and development partners. This process was led and hosted by the Food and Nutrition Council (FNC), supported by WFP, and with the participation of Government Ministries and NGOs through a multi stakeholder consultative process.

The country has continued to experience climatic and economic shocks. While recurring droughts, erratic rainfall, and poor harvests have been the drivers of food insecurity in rural areas, economic challenges remain as one of the major drivers of food inaccessibility in urban areas. From, these existing challenges were further compounded by the effects of COVID-19 and the lockdown measures which were put in place to curb its spread. To understand the evolving changes, it was necessary to update all the 60 rural District Profiles to more accurately identify and address the humanitarian and programmatic needs in Zimbabwe. The 2016 District Profiles had reached their full life span of five years.

The District Profiles were compiled using other existing information products such as the ZimVAC Livelihoods Assessment Reports, national Integrated Context Analysis (ICA), the Seasonal Livelihood Programming (SLP), and community action plans, among other key reference documents. The district profiles provide ward-level analysis as well as insights for programmatic needs at sub-district level. These are developed as a public good to support Government, UN and developmental partners in the design, targeting and implementation of humanitarian, resilience and development programmes.

These risk profiles provide a comprehensive sub district level overview focusing on infrastructure, water and sanitation, communication, livelihoods, poverty, climate, crops, livestock, markets, hazards and shocks, development indicators and priorities, food and nutrition security conditions, and recommendations.

It is my greatest hope that all stakeholders will find this updated information useful in further refining their programmes and targeting criteria for the development of Zimbabwe.

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ACRONYMS & Abbreviations

AARDS Agricultural Advisory Rural Development Services

ADSL Asymmetric Digital Subscriber Line

ARI Acute Respiratory Infections

BEAM Basic Education Assistance Module

CA Conservation Agriculture

CAMFED Campaign for Female Education

DDC District Development Coordinators Office

DSTV Digital Satellite Television

FDMSP Food Deficit Mitigation Strategy Programme

GMB Grain Marketing Board

HHs Households High Risk HR

ICT Information and Communication Technology

ISALS Internal Savings and Lending Scheme ISFM Integrated Soil Fertility Management **IYWD** Institute of Young Women Development

LR Low Risk LS Loamy Sands

Large Scale Commercial Area LSCA Minimum Acceptable Diet MAD Moderate Acute Malnutrition MAM MDD Minimum Dietary Diversity MDF Minimum Meal Frequency

Medium Grained MG

Ministry of Health and Child Care MOHCC NGO's Non-Governmental Organizations

ORA Old Resettlement Area **PWD** Public Works Department RBF Results Based Funding

RWIMS Rural WASH Information and Services Management System

Sands S

SLP Seasonal Livelihood Programming **SSCA** Small Scale Commercial Area STI's Sexually Transmitted Infections

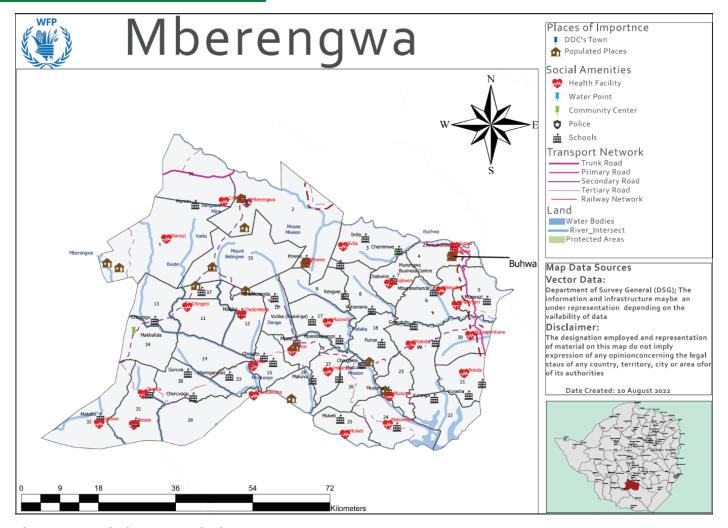


Figure 1: Map of Mberengwa District

Mberengwa district is one of the eight (8) districts in Midlands province. The district is located in the Southern part of the province. It shares boundaries with Mwenezi district to the South, Chivi to the East, Zvishavane district to the North, Insiza and Gwanda districts to the West. The district has a total land coverage of 494, 340 hectares and has 37 administrative wards (33 communal wards and 4 resettlement wards: table 1) and four (4) constituencies namely Mberengwa East, Mberengwa West, Mberengwa North and Mberengwa South.

From 1960 to 2011, Mberengwa district fell under Agro-ecological Regions IV and V (semi-arid and arid regions) which receive low rainfall of below 650mm (Vincent and Thomas, 1960). However, due to climate change and varying rainfall trends over the past five (5) years, Mberengwa was subdivided into three (3) agro-ecological Regions, namely, region IV, V and VI. The regions IV, V and VI - are semi-intensive farming (650-800mm), Semi-intensive farming (450-650mm) and extensive farming which receives less than 450mm (Mugandani et al., 2012) respectively. The district is prone to drought and prolonged mid-season dry spells. Temperatures are generally high, usually reaching a maximum of above 38°C.

Communal farming is the biggest farming sector in the district covering about 75% of the total area and practised by 84% of the total population. Most of the households in Mberengwa rely on subsistence farming for their livelihoods. Crop production is low due to moisture stress. Drought tolerant crops are recommended for farmers to have better yields. The district is endowed with abundant minerals such as gold and chrome. These create livelihood opportunities for the communities through employment as well as informal small-scale mining.

Remittances also contribute significantly to the livelihoods of this community as some household have members who are employed in local cities and neighbouring countries, especially South Africa. The district has sixteen (16) chiefs, two (2) headmen, 1,128 village heads. It has a 2021 projected population of 215, 793 with 40, 632 women of child-bearing age. The district has one (1) district service centre which is Mataga Growth Point, rural service centres and other business centres. The main activities within main business centres are informal trading, small to medium enterprises and commercial sex work. The economic activities in the district include gold mining and panning, crop and livestock production, formal and informal trade and cross border trading.

2. Agriculture Information

2.0. Natural Regions and Climate

Mberengwa District is located south of the Midlands Province. In 2016 Mberengwa had two (2) Regions IV and V. In 2021 Mberengwa was further subdivided into three (3) natural regions III, IV, V and Va, which are characterized by poor rainfall, numerous seasonal dry spells and frequent droughts. A total of twenty-two (22) wards fall in natural region Va which is characterized by extensive farming. Eleven (11) wards lie in natural Region III which is characterized by semi-intensive agriculture while five (5) wards lie in natural Region IV which is characterized by semi-intensive farming (Table 2). The area has a mean annual rainfall of 350mm. Rainfall ranges from 300mm to 680mm. Effective rainfall (start of season) is usually received by end of November. There are mid-season droughts, making dryland crop production difficult. Frequent droughts are also experienced in the area.

Table 1: Mberengwa District Ward Number and Names

Ward Number	Ward Name
1	Wanezi
2	Large Scale
3	Muchembere
4	Zvomukonde
5	Murerezi
6	Mbuyanehanda
7	Mataruse
8	Vutsanana
9	Rengwe
10	Chomusenda
11	Cheshanga
12	Ruremekedzo
13	Chizungu A
14	Chebvute
15	Chegato
16	Danga
17	Maziofa
18	Mataga
19	Bhinya Road
20	Ngungumbani
21	Nyamhondo 2
22	Nyamhondo 3
23	Musume
24	Makuwerere
25	Mketi
26	Chingoma B
27	Chingoma A
28	Dunda
29	Mahlebadza
30	Vukomba
31	Mushandirapamwe
32	Bangwe
33	Chingechuru
34	Chizungu B
35	Mt Belingwe
36	Neta
37	Bvute

Table 2: Summary of Natural Regions by Ward

Past Natural Region	Characteristics	Wards	New Natural Region	Characteristics	Wards
IV	Crop and Livestock production, receives around 650mm annual rainfall	1, 2, 3, 36, 35, 6 and 9,	III	Semi-Intensive farming	1, 2, 11, 12, 13, 29, 31, 34, 35, 36 and 37
V	Suitable for livestock production, receives low rainfall less than 650mm Crop production through irrigation	3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11 - 34 and 37	IV	Semi-intensive farming	2, 3 , 7, 8 and 9
	Crop production through irrigation		Va	Extensive farming	33, 32, 31, 30,2 9, 28, 27, 26, 25, 24, 23, 22, 21, 20, 19, 18, 17, 16, 15, 14, 2 and 4
Source: ZINGSA					

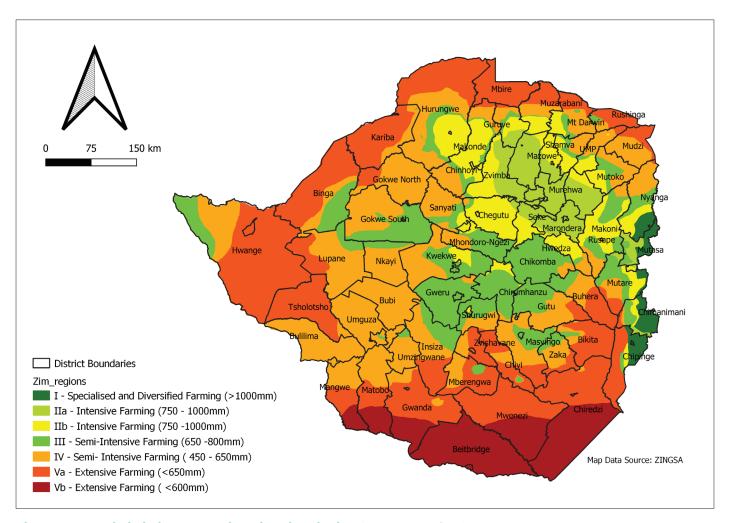


Figure 2: Map of Zimbabwe Natural Regions by District (Source: ZINGSA)

The table below presents summary information on soil types, rainfall totals, farming sector and crops grown by ward.

Table 3: Mberengwa District soil Types, Rainfall, Farming and Crops Grown

Ward	Soil Type	Rainfall (2021)	Farming Sector	Crops Grown
1	Black clay soils	788	OR	Maize, sorghum, groundnuts
2	Black and red clay soils	802	A1/LSCFA	Maize, sorghum, groundnuts
3	Shallow sandy loam soil, often acidic with granite as the parent material	621	CA	Maize, sorghum, groundnuts, finger millet
4	Brown clay and loamy clays with chromate as the dominant parent material	680	CA	Maize, sorghum, groundnuts
5	Sand soils with some portions of sandy loam, with granite and chromite in variable portions. Shallow topsoil is a major characteristic of arable land and grazing area	596	CA	Maize, sorghum, groundnuts, finger millet
6	Brown clay loam and loamy clays with chromites as the dominant parent material	645	CA	Maize, sorghum, groundnuts, finger millet
7	Light, shallow sandy, dry sandy soils with very low organic matter and low in fertility. Granite is the dominant parent material	632	CA	Maize, sorghum, groundnuts, finger millet
8	Light, shallow sandy, dry sandy soils with very low organic matter and low in fertility. Granite is the dominant parent material	457	CA	Maize, sorghum, groundnuts, finger millet
9	Sandy loam and loamy sand soils with moderate depth and gravel dominating subsoil	540	CA	Maize, sorghum, groundnuts, finger millet
10	Sandy loam and loamy sand soils with moderate depth and gravel dominating subsoil	933	CA	Maize, sorghum, groundnuts, finger millet
11	Sandy loam and loamy sand soils with moderate depth and gravel dominating subsoil	505	CA	Maize, sorghum, groundnuts, finger millet
12	Sand soil with portions of sandy loam and granite as the parent material	1,050	CA	Maize, sorghum, groundnuts, finger millet
13	Shallow sand gravel soils dominated with quartz and granite as parent material	349	CA	Maize, sorghum, groundnuts, finger millet, pearl millet
14	Shallow sand gravel soils dominated with quartz and granite as parent material	573	CA	Maize, sorghum, groundnuts, finger millet
15	Shallow sand gravel soils dominated with quartz and granite as parent material	775	CA	Maize, sorghum, groundnuts, finger millet
16	Sands and sandy loam soils with portions of deep grey vlei soils derived from granite.	736	CA	Maize, sorghum, groundnuts, finger millet
17	Deep sandy loam and loamy sands, with granite as dominant material	1.100	CA	Maize, sorghum, groundnuts, pearl millet
18	Deep sandy loam and loamy sands, with granite as dominant material	567	CA	Maize, sorghum, groundnuts, pearl millet
19	Variable portions of sandy and sandy loam of moderate depth.	588	CA	Maize, sorghum, groundnuts, pearl millet
20	Brown clay loam and loamy clays with chromites as the dominant parent material	810	CA	Maize, sorghum, groundnuts
21	Variable proportions of shallow brown sandy loam soils and sandy soils	981	CA	Maize, sorghum, groundnuts
22	Variable proportions of shallow brown sandy loam soils and sandy soils	343	CA	Maize, sorghum, groundnuts

Table 3: Mberengwa District Soil Types, Rainfall, Farming and Crops Grown (continued)

Ward	Soil Type	Rainfall (2021)	Farming Sector	Crops Grown
23	Variable proportions of shallow brown sandy loam soils and sandy soils. Small portions of grey vlei soil are noticed	1,055	CA	Maize, sorghum, groundnuts, pearl millet
24	Variable proportions of shallow brown sandy loam soils and sandy soils. Small portions of grey vlei soil are noticed	375	CA	Maize, sorghum, groundnuts, pearl millet
25	Variable proportions of shallow brown sandy loam soils and sandy soils. Small portions of grey vlei soil are noticed	340	CA	Maize, sorghum, groundnuts, pearl millet
26	Shallow sandy loam to sand soils, often acidic with granite as the and chromite as parent material	375	CA	Maize, sorghum, groundnuts
27	Shallow soils, often acidic with granite as the parent material.	834	CA	Maize, sorghum, groundnuts
28	Shallow soils, often acidic with granite as the parent material.	771	CA	Maize, sorghum, groundnuts
29	Shallow soils, often acidic with granite as the parent material.	1,020	CA	Maize, sorghum, groundnuts, finger millet
30	Shallow soils, often acidic with granite as the parent material.	1,011	CA	Maize, sorghum, groundnuts
31	Shallow soils, often acidic with granite as the parent material.	389	CA	Maize, sorghum, groundnuts
32	Highly porous sandy soils with portions of grey vlei soils and granite as the parent material	460	CA	Maize, sorghum, groundnuts, finger millet
33	Highly porous sandy soils with portions of grey vlei soils and granite as the parent material	460	CA	Maize, sorghum, groundnuts, finger millet
34	Highly porous sandy soils with portions of grey vlei soils and granite as the parent material	359	CA	Maize, sorghum, groundnuts, finger millet
35	Red clay soils	785	A1	Maize, sorghum, groundnuts,
36	Black and red clay soils	890	A1	Maize, sorghum, groundnuts
37	Highly porous sandy soils with portions of grey vlei soils and granite as the parent material	875	CA	Maize, sorghum, groundnuts, finger millet
Source	: AARDS			

2.0.1. District Average Crop Yields (Cereals)

Table 4 presents annual crop yields for the past five cropping seasons (2016/17 - 2020/21)

Table 4: Mberengwa Average Crop Yields (Per Hectare) - Cereal

Crop	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Maize	0.5	0.48	0.16	0.17	0.5
Sorghum	0.3	0.4	0.22	0.21	0.4
P/millet	0.3	0.3	0.19	0.18	0.8
F/millet	0.3	0.4	0.18	0.22	0.5
Source: AARDS					

2.0.2. Factors Affecting Crop Production

Major factors affecting crop production in the district include:

- •Drought.
- •Prolonged dry spells.
- •Pest and diseases.
- •Shortage of inputs.

2.1. Seasonal Livelihood Calendar

2.1.0. Rainfed Agriculture Cropping Calendar

Table 5: Calendar of Farming Activities for Field Crops

Farming Activity	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Land preparation												
Planting												
Weeding and pest control												
Harvesting												
Post harvesting								'	'			
Source: AARDS												

Rainfed agriculture is the main source of livelihood in Mberengwa district and households spend the greater part of the year engaging in agricultural activities. Farmers usually do their land preparation activities from May to October (soon after harvesting until the first effective rains). However, in poor rain years, land preparation may stretch beyond October when onset of rain season delays. In good rain years, early planting of crops usually start from October to February.

Small-grain crops such as rapoko, sorghum and millet are the ones usually planted in October while waiting for effective rain to plant maize and other crops that need higher moisture to thrive. Weeding and control of pests starts soon after planting and ends few weeks after planting. Harvesting of maize is usually done in March and April but harvesting of small-grain continues until June depending on when the planting and growing windows ended. Post harvesting activities are done between May and September with those activities done for maize starting earlier and those for rapoko, sorghum and millet ending in September.

Farmers in Mberengwa district also take part in horticultural activities. This is said to have a significant contribution to the income generation for the female and old age headed households which cannot go for artisanal mining and gold panning. Some of these households are members within different irrigation schemes though some have their small private gardens where they grow vegetables for sale and family consumption.

2.1.1. Horticultural Cropping Calendar

In Mberengwa district, leaf vegetables, cabbages and tomatoes are grown throughout the year as these are needed in everyday meal of every household. However, these do well between July and December as they are affected by many pests (locusts, crickets etc) and diseases in times outside these months (Table 6).

Table 6: Calendar of Farming Activities for Horticultural Crops

able 6: Calendar of Farming Activities for Horticultural Crops														
Vegetable type	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec		
Butternut														
Cabbage														
Carrot														
Cucumber														
Onion														
Potato														
Water melon														
Leaf vegetables														
Tomatoes														
Source: AARDS						Source: AARDS								

Butternuts and cucumbers are grown from August to February while carrots are grown between February and September. Farmers cited those butternuts and cucumbers do not do well in peak winters and they tend to replace them with carrots and onions. Few farmers grow potatoes and those who go for potatoes usually plant them from February, July and October because they also do not thrive well in winter. Mberengwa district is one of the districts which supplies watermelons to towns such as Gweru and Masvingo. The watermelons growing farmers usually plant from July to September.

2.2. Livestock

Mberengwa district keeps the following types of livestock, cattle, sheep, goats, pigs, donkeys, chickens, ducks, turkeys, guinea fowls, and rabbits.

There were fluctuations on livestock population and this was caused by deaths (diseases, injury, predators starvation), theft, births, sales, slaughter and purchases.

There were also some factors which include poor nutrition and poor management.

2.2.0. Mberengwa Livestock Trends

Livestock populations fluctuate depending on livestock mortality rate caused by diseases, injuries, predators', starvation, theft, births, sale, slaughter, poor nutrition poor management and purchases among many other factors.

Table 7: Mberengwa District Livestock Trends

Year	Beef Cattle	Donkeys	Sheep	Goats	Pigs	Rabbits	Ind. Chickens	Turkeys	Guinea Fowls
2016	115, 238	4, 133	2, 940	104, 122	310	4, 315	199, 724	12, 958	13, 343
2017	109, 647	12, 119	5, 405	104, 283		3, 869	259, 694	15, 033	8, 873
2018	169, 346	25, 181	3, 472	136, 842	173	6, 594	407, 175	21, 576	15, 714
2019	126, 644	12, 744	2, 399	99, 561	590	3, 988	333, 433	8, 223	8, 152
2020	136, 512	18, 833	3, 089	122, 415	412	4, 793	257, 331	13, 068	10, 500
2021	150, 891	30, 503	4, 135	140, 873	571	1, 823	254, 401	12, 567	8, 804

2.2.1. Main Types of Livestock Ownership - Based on Secondary Data from Surveys/Assessments

Table 8 presents average livestock holdings by type and by ward.

Table 8: Average Livestock Holding Per Ward

Ward (or Dip	Average Cattle	Average Goats	Average Sheep	Average Chicken
Tank)	Holding	Holding	Holding	Holding
1	5,134	5,307	307	5,144
2	5,911	8,966	246	4,866
3	5,234	6,519	110	12, 680
4	2,763	4,226	40	8,656
5	4,112	4,810	199	7,042
6	2,019	2,611	19	12,173
7	5,060	6,519	196	13,678
8	5,200	3,935	40	15,514
9	3,507	1,704	123	4,125
10	3,905	2,115	35	6,336
11	3,650	2,207	31	5,331
12	3,350	2,000	70	5,981
13	3,999	2,264	75	3,400
14	6,191	1,392	108	3,619
15	1,421	3,935	85	9,896
16	3,935	1,423	85	5,251
17	2,939	4,502	76	4,534
18	7,992	4,735	57	14,345
19	7,186	4,215	158	19,010
20	5,048	4,477	102	12,118
21	8,649	1,093	267	8,045
22	6,498	2,487	16	8,621
23	5,159	2,455	62	9,021
24	3,798	7,932	13	3,793
25	3,234	4,534	55	2,700

Table 8: Average Livestock Holding Per Ward (continued)

Ward (or Dip Tank)	Average Cattle Holding	Average Goats Holding	Average Sheep Holding	Average Chicken Holding
26	3,521	3,322	14	2,660
27	2,407	2,740	95	5,481
28	2,578	233	40	1,038
29	3,998	1,298	88	13,000
30	4,596	1,845	63	11,005
31	4,700	6,870	75	2,462
32	4,540	5,632	40	2,566
33	3,131	1,908	56	10,618
34	2,552	3,146	75	2,340
35	4,829	3,704	95	3,760
36	5,314	6,566	196	3,124
37	2,370	1,480	262	2,310

2.3.0. Main Livestock Diseases

Table 8 presents average livestock holdings by type and by ward.

Table 9: Main Livestock Diseases

Livestock Disease	Wards Mostly Affected (Number and Name of Wards Affected)
Rabies:	18 (Mataga), 1 (Wanezi), 2 (LSCFA), 14 (Chebvute)
Newcastle disease:	No outbreak
Anthrax	No outbreak
Foot and mouth:	No outbreak
Lumpy skin	5 (Murerezi)
20 (Ngungumbane)	42
Heart water	All wards (1 - 37)
Theileriosis	4 (Zvomukonde), 5 (Murerezi), 6 (Negove), 7 (Mataruse)

2.3.1. Dipping Facilities

Table 10: Dipping Facilities

Number of Dip Tanks	Number of functional Dip Tanks	Number of Dip Tanks Currently Under Rehab	
69	69	38	31

2.3.2. Animal Health Centres

Table 11: Mberengwa Animal Health Centre

Table III I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I						
Number of functional Animal Health centres	10					
Number of Non-functional animal health centres	12					
Number of Community Animal Health Workers/Paravets	483					

2.3.3. Livestock Holding

Table 12 Mberengwa Livestock Holdings

	Number of Households	% Who Own Cattle	% Who Own Goats				
All Households	42, 404	63	63				
Farm Households	39, 598	67	67				
Non-Farm Households	2, 806	-					

2.3.4. Distribution of Herd Size

Table 13: Mberengwa Distribution Herd Size

Number of Livestock Per Household	Cattle	Goats
0		
<5	23,943	17,014
>5	2,587	9,516

2.4. Other Livestock Establishments

Table 14: Mberengwa Other Livestock Establishment

Type of Establishment	Number of Establishments
Aquaculture (capture fisheries)	
Aquaculture (ponds)	5
Apiculture	6
Dairy farms	
Feedlots	5
Fodder production	0

2.4.0. Challenges Faced by Livestock Farmers

There are quite a number of challenges being faced by livestock farmers ranging from pests and diseases; stock theft; poor livestock markets, poor grazing land etc as shown in (Table 15).

Table 15: Challenges Faced by Livestock Farmers

1.	High costs of drugs hence ineffective control of internal and external parasites control
2.	Destruction of grazing area by illegal settlers and gold panners
3.	Poor stock feed during the dry period
4.	Little attention to livestock production by extension staff
5.	Poor markets
6.	Stock- theft
7.	Limited capital
8.	Animal pests and diseases.
9.	Poor breeding stock
10.	Few farmers interested in fodder production.
11.	Pests and diseases.

3. Mean Annual Rainfall

Generally, the district of Mberengwa receives below average rainfall and this is the major cause of food insecurity in most wards. There has been an upward trend in the number of wards receiving food assistance in the district for the past five (5) years. Table 16 shows the mean annual rainfall trend (2016 - 2021) per ward.

Ward Number	2016 Rainfall in mm	2017 Rainfall in mm	2018 Rainfall in mm	2019 Rainfall in mm	2020 Rainfall in mm	2021 Rainfall in mm
1	380	1,023	402	345	620	788
2	546	891	710	248	393	802
3	343	387	367	375	1,054	621
4	450	837	362	431	1,111	680
5	570	524	456	390	490	596
6	212	912	292	315	417	645
7	360	410	385	412	1,198	632
8	335	415	362	388	1,162	457
9	345	404	387	560	487	540
10	381	1,340	706	696	362	933
11	219	515	512	118	475	505

Table 16: Mberengwa 2016-2021 Mean Annual Rainfall Trend (continued)

Ward Number	2016 Rainfall in mm	2017 Rainfall in mm	2018 Rainfall in mm	2019 Rainfall in mm	2020 Rainfall in mm	2021 Rainfall in mm
12	450	950	480	650	750	1,050
13	815	645	259	305	831	349
14	320	915	625	631	420	573
15	421	824	235	259	193	775
16	421	824	215	274	153	736
17	510	1,001	312	304	601	1,100
18	321	456	358	432	456	567
19	330	515	511	309	301	588
20	344	670	570	375	272	810
21	405	707	397	741	332	981
22	315	170	280	160	457	343
23	859	872	504	302	405	1055
24	892	754	233	240	1072	375
25	310	175	281	157	453	340
26	852	796	248	328	1,072	375
27	437	890	251	271	201	834
28	435	848	230	261	198	771
29	410	722	405	805	350	1,020
30	311	905	528	731	315	1,011
31	957	603	245	395	947	389
32	523	872	603	908	607	460
33	740	620	680	590	420	460
34	803	667	254	275	797	359
35	556	840	790	260	390	785
36	330	720	320	410	380	890
37	320	1,180	804	715	350	875

According to the rainfall patterns for the past five (5) years, rainfall patterns have been categorized into five (5) major categories. The first category has five (5) wards which are Wards 5, 9, 11, 18 and 19 which received rainfall less than the 650mm and is considered to be inadequate. Due to the inadequacy of rainfall in these wards they have been the most affected in terms of food security.

The second category has five (5) wards which are Wards 3, 6, 7, 8 and 14 which received rainfall below average for four (4) years within the past five (5)years. Moreso, these wards received significant amount (effective rain) of rainfall for only one (1) year within the period under review. They are also considered among the wards which are food insecure.

The third category has thirteen (13) wards which received some average rainfall for only two (2) years in the past five (5) years. These are Wards 1, 13, 15, 16, 17, 20, 26, 27, 28, 31, 32, 33 and 36. This makes these communities susceptible to food insecurity and has been among the wards which receive food assistance perennially for the past five (5) years.

Wards 2, 4, 17, 21, 23, 24, 29, 30, 34 and 35 received effective rainfall for three (3) years within the past five (5) years resulting in them being relatively food insecure in the period under review. This constitutes category four (4).

Only three (3) wards which are wards 10, 12 and 37 receive effective average rainfall for four (4) years in the past five (5) years and are in category five (5).

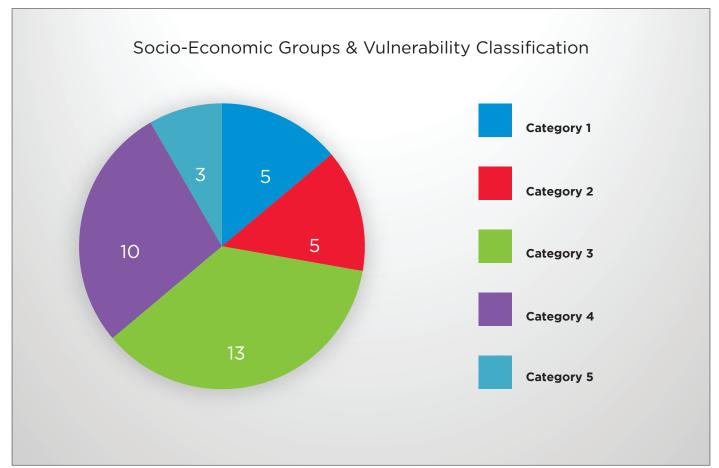


Figure 5: Mberengwa Mean Annual Rainfall Categories in Which the Wards Received Rainfall

4. Hydro-geological Conditions, Water and Sanitation

4.0 Major Dams in the District

Mberengwa district has a total of four (4) major dams and several small dams which are supporting some thriving irrigation schemes and horticultural activities for instance Rwavamutangwi and Zvavachari (table 17 and 18). The number of major dams has not changed since 2016. There are five (5) wards benefiting from Mundi Mataga dam and Biri dam. Ward 22 benefits from Vurusha dam and Ward 12 benefits from Chimwechegato.

Major Dams in Mberengwa and Wards Benefiting from the Dams

Table 17: Mberengwa Major Dams

Major Dams in the District	Wards Benefiting from the Dams
Mundi Mataga	18, 19, 23, 26 and 27
Biri	18, 19, 23, 26 and 27
Vurasha	22
Chimwechegato	12

At ward level there are ward based small dams, which communities' benefit from these small dams. They are able to conduct horticultural production, livestock watering and household activities. However, these dams are seasonal and perennial.

Table 18: Mberengwa Ward-Based Dams

Ward Number	Ward Name	Major Dams in the Ward 2016	Major Dams in the Ward 2022
1	Wanezi	3	2
2	Large scale	7	9
3	Muchembere	0	2
4	Zvomukonde	0	2
5	Murerezi	2	4
6	Mbuyanehanda	0	1
7	Mataruse	0	6

Table 18: Mberengwa Ward-based Dams (continued)

Ward Number	Ward Name	Major Dams in the Ward 2016	Major Dams in the Ward 2022
8	Vutsanana	0	2
9	Rengwe	0	4
10	Chomusenda	0	3
11	Cheshanga	2	4
12	Ruremekedzo	2	2
13	Chizungu A	0	4
14	Chebvute	0	5
15	Chegato	2	4
16	Danga	0	4
17	Maziofa	2	6
18	Mataga	4	8
19	Bhinya Road	0	4
20	Ngungumbani	1	4
21	Nyamhondo 2	0	8
22	Nyamhondo 3	3	3
23	Musume	0	5
24	Makuwerere	4	2
25	Mketi	0	3
26	Chingoma B	1	3
27	Chingoma A	4	4
28	Dunda	0	2
29	Mahlebadza	0	3
30	Vukomba	5	3
31	Mushandirapamwe	2	7
32	Bangwe	2	8
33	Chingechuru	0	2
34	Chizungu B	0	3
35	Mt Belingwe	1	3
36	Neta	0	1
37	Bvute	0	1

Table 19: Summarizing Ward-based Water Source Status

Ward Number	Ward Name	Main Water Sources / Ward 2016	Main Water Sources /Ward 2022	Functional Boreholes	Non- functional Boreholes	Reasons for the Non- Functioning of the Boreholes	Reasons for Improvements/ Deterioration Compared to 2016			
1	Wanezi	26	26	21	5	Reduction of	Increase in			
2	Large Scale	34	37	31	6	water sources is attributed to	the number of boreholes			
3	Muchembere	18	18	17		drying holes	relates to new			
4	Zvomukonde	24	29	27	2	due to climatic conditions.	drilling and mechanisation			
5	Murerezi	22	25	22	3		done by either			
6	Mbuyanehanda	26	30	28	2	Worn out of spare parts.	DDF, RDC or			
7	Mataruse	19	21	20	1	Shortage	Development partners like			
8	Vutsanana	13	13	9	4	of pump minder tool	CARITAS, LID,			
9	Rengwe	19	19	19		kits including those of DMT.	kits including those of DMT.			LDS, CARE, Showers of
10	Chomusenda	11	11	11		DAAT LUU	Blessing and			
11	Cheshanga	16	16	14	2	DMT mobility challenges.	World Vision.			
12	Ruremekedzo	23	29	24	5					
13	Chizungu A	19	19	18	1					
14	Chebvute	14	14	14						

Table 19: Summarizing Ward-based Water Source Status

Ward Number	Ward Name	Main water Sources /Ward 2016	Main water Sources /Ward 2022	Functional Boreholes	Non- functional Boreholes	Reasons for the non- Functioning of the Boreholes	Reasons for Improvements/ Deterioration Compared to 2016
15	Chegato	26	28	23	5	Community	Increase in
16	Danga	20	20	18	2	based	the number
17	Maziofa	14	17	15	2	management concept	of boreholes relates to new
18	Mataga	31	32	31	1	compromised	drilling and
19	Nyamhondo 1	24	24	20	4	by community poverty and	mechanisation done by either
20	Ngungumbani	20	20	18	2	hence their	DDF, RDC or
21	Nyamhondo 2	22	26	23	3	failure to	Development
22	Nyamhondo 3	14	15	13	2	repair their broken-down	partners like CARITAS, LID,
23	Musume	25	28	25	3	boreholes	LDS, CARE, Showers of Blessing and World Vision.
24	Makuwerere	24	26	25	1		
25	Mketi	19	19	16	3		
26	Chingoma B	42	43	39	4		
27	Chingoma A	22	22	19	3		
28	Dunda	18	21	19	2		
29	Mahlebadza	18	21	18	3		
30	Vukomba	19	21	19	2		
31	Mushandirapamwe	36	37	34	3		
32	Bangwe	18	19	17	2		
33	Chingechuru	19	19	18	1		
34	Chizungu B	4	6	5	1		
35	Mt Belingwe	20	20	17	3		
36	Neta	24	32	31	1		
37	Bvute	4	6	5	1		
	Total	767	827				

4.1 Water and Sanitation Information Distribution of Boreholes by Wards

Reduction of water sources is attributed to drying boreholes due to climatic conditions, worn out parts and shortage of pump minders and kits. There is also the problem of borehole flooding which needs flushing. Communities are failing to adopt the CBM concept due to poverty. Poorly built latrines collapsed due to cyclones. Funds scarcity for rehabilitation and maintenance also contribute to reduction of functional water and sanitation facilities. Sixty (60) boreholes were drilled between 2016 and 2022. This relates to the drilling done by DDF, RDC or the development partners such as Caritas, LID Agency, LDS, CARE and World Vision. Table 19 presents Mberengwa borehole distribution.

4.2 Sanitation Facilities

Table 20 below shows households access to toilets and hand washing facilities by ward.

Table 20: Mberengwa Distribution of Sanitation Facilities

Ward	Total Villages Enumerated	Total HH Enumerated	Percentage Of HHs With Any Type of Latrins	Percentage of HH With Improved Type of Latrine In Use	Percentage of HHs With Hand Washing Facility in Use
1	13	1,273	84	16	52
2	40	1,740	89	11	80
3	54	1,569	61	39	39
4	29	1,633	80	20	26
5	45	1,686	100	0	43
6	45	1,760	78	22	30
7	38	1,145	100	0	57
8	46	1,188	100	0	11
9	42	1,038	71	29	9

Table 20: Mberengwa Distribution of Sanitation Facilities (continued)

Ward	Total Villages Enumerated	Total HH Enumerated	Percentage Of HHs With Any Type of Latrins	Percentage of HH With Improved Type of Latrine In Use	Percentage of HHs With Hand Washing Facility in Use
10	37	894	68	32	15
11	38	1,126	73	27	39
12	44	1,230	78	22	26
13	32	1,030	58	42	48
14	28	905	67	33	30
15	33	1,048	58	42	22
16	36	1,014	60	40	12
17	62	1,139	70	30	74
18	47	1,750	81	9	12
19	40	1,745	44	56	20
20	23	906	51	49	49
21	33	1,187	76	24	7
22	43	970	43	57	53
23	23	1,201	87	13	10
24	31	1,131	46	54	19
25	26	960	70	30	4
26	42	1,252	50	50	36
27	42	1,187	85	15	12
28	30	974	77	23	19
29	38	1,222	89	11	25
30	33	1,183	85	15	70
31	62	1,540	78	22	25
32	32	1,484	70	30	11
33	31	769	66	34	16
34	27	789	89	11	34
35	29	1,259	70	30	15
36	23	1,251	76	24	68
37	10	255	73	27	15

5. Education Information

The number of primary and secondary schools have remained the same since 2016 (Table 21) and these are owned by government, rural councils, churches, communities, and mines (Table 22). The number of schools offering special needs are presented in (Table 22) and distribution by wards is presented in (Table 23).

5.0. Number of Schools in Mberengwa District

Table 21: Number of Schools in Mberengwa

Year	Primary	Secondary	High Schools	Private Colleges
2016	109	46	19	2
2022	109	46	19	2

5.1 Summary of Primary and Secondary Schools

Table 22: Number of Primary and Secondary Schools in Mberengwa

Type of Schools	Number of Primary Schools	Number of Secondary Schools
Government primary schools	0	2
Rural District Primary schools	104	39
Church run primary schools	2	5
Private primary schools	0	0

Table 22: Number of Primary and Secondary Schools in Mberengwa (continued)

Type of Schools	Number of Primary Schools	Number of Secondary Schools
Community run schools	1	0
Numbers of mine run schools	2	9
Total number of primary schools in the district	109	29

Table 23: Schools Offering Special Needs Education in Mberengwa

Year	Primary	Secondary	Total
2016	7	2	9
2022	7	2	9

Table 24: Number of Schools Per Ward

Ward	Primary Schools	Secondary Schools	Ward	Primary Schools	Secondary Schools
1	2	1	20	2	2
2	5	1	21	3	1
3	4	2	22	2	1
4	4	1	23	2	
5	4	2	24	2	1
6	3	1	25	2	1
7	2	1	26	4	1
8	4	2	27	2	1
9	2	1	28	2	2
10	2	1	29	4	1
11	3	1	30	3	1
12	3	1	31	5	1
13	2	2	32	5	
14	3	1	33	1	1
15	2	1	34	1	
16	4	1	35	2	1
17	2	2	36	3	1
18	5	1	37	1	
19	4	2			

5.2 Pass Rate for the Year 2016 and 2022

Table 25 and 26 shows the Pass and girls drop rates respectively. The Ordinary and Advanced level results for the year 2022 are pending. Nearly eighty-four (84) girls dropped out of school in 2016 as compared to 440 in 2021. The high dropout rate can be attributed to the Covid-19 induced lockdown.

Table 25: Pass Rate for the Year 2016 and 2022 in Mberengwa District

Year	Grade 7	'O' Level	'A' Level
2016	42.28	36.64	91.81
2022	27.13	Pending	Pending

5.3 Girls Who Drop Out Due to Pregnancy and Early Marriages

Table 26: Mberengwa Girls Drop Out Due to Pregnancy and Early Marriages

Year	Primary	Secondary	Total
2016	Nil	84	84
2021	Nil	440	440

5.4 Causes of Dropout Among Learners

- ·Lack of money to pay fees.
- Poor livelihood.
- Pregnancy.
- •Early marriages.
- •Some learners drop out of school and embark on illegal gold panning.

5.5 Effects of Covid-19 on Teaching and Learning

- •The Covid-19 induced look downs have negatively affected teaching and learning.
- •The contact time between learners and teachers has been reduced.
- •Learners continue to lose out on valuable learning time and this affects mastery of subsequent concepts.
- •Most schools have inadequate resources and equipment to promote online learning/teaching such as computers, radios and cell phones.
- •The cost of data is beyond the reach of most parents and schools as a result online learning/teaching is a pipe dream
- •Most schools in the district are not connected to the national electricity grid and are incapable of harnessing solar power to promote online learning. Online learning is an illusion to these schools.
- •The long periods of absence from school have resulted in high dropout rates due to early marriages and pregnancy among girls.

5.6 School Feeding Programme

Table 27: Mberengwa School Feeding Programme

Year	Primary	Secondary	Total
2016	109	Nil	109
2022	109	Nil	109

The school feeding programme is on-going in all primary schools. However, the schools are not currently feeding learners because they have run out of supplies.

6. Common Hazards

Mberengwa District is affected by a number of hazards and these hazards differ from ward to ward. More common hazards in Mberengwa district include: drought, Covid-19, lightning, floods, hailstorms, heavy winds, crop and livestock pest and diseases (Table 28).

Mberengwa District also experiences the below anthropogenic activity related disasters:

• Collapsing of mines .

Table 28: Mberengwa Common Hazards

Hazard	Disaster Risk Assessment and Wards at Risk	Risk Rating	Affected Elements i.e. Assets Population Groups, Livelihoods, Environment Infrastructure etc	Why Affected/ Reasons Why Vulnerable
Floods	5	High Risk	Infrastructure was destroyed houses were affected reduced to rabbles. Field crops were affected by water logging, livelihood	
	13	High Risk	Infrastructure and livelihoods,	Cyclones and excessive rains affected Mwanezi river causing flooding which affected the road network.
	15	High Risk	Infrastructure and livelihoods	Cyclones and excessive rains affected Mwanezi river causing flooding which affected the road network.
	28	High Risk	Infrastructure and livelihoods	Due to excessive rains Machingwe river flooded affecting many households.
	34	High Risk	Infrastructure and livelihoods	Cyclones and excessive rains affected Mwenezi river causing flooding which affected the road network
	6	Low Risk	Infrastructure and livelihoods	

Table 28: Mberengwa Common Hazards (continued)

Hazard	Disaster Risk Assessment and Wards at Risk	Risk Rating	Affected Elements i.e. Assets Population Groups, Livelihoods, Environment Infrastructure etc	Why Affected/ Reasons why Vulnerable
Drought	37, 34, 33, 32, 31, 30, 29, 28, 27, 26, 25, 24, 23, 22, 21, 20, 19, 18, 17, 16, 15, 14, 5, 4 and 3	High Risk	Livelihoods, Crops, livestock, waters and sources.	Due to climate conditions livelihoods, Crops, livestock, waters and sources were affected
	1, 7, 9, 10, 12, 13, 16, and and 34	Medium	Livelihoods, Crops, livestock, waters & sources	
	1, 2, 35 and 36,	Low	Livelihoods, Crops, livestock, waters & sources	
Covid-19	All wards were affected by Covid-19		Livelihoods, human death.	Covid-19 lockdowns restrictions affected markets, affected hospitals resources, education and employment Covid-19 virus affected the district caused human death.
Heavy winds	4, 13, 34 and 36	Medium risk	Infrastructure	Due to tropical storms heavy wind has been experience in various wards.
Crop pest and diseases	All the 37 wards	High risk	Field crops, livelihoods. nutrition, livestock feed.	Due to climate changes there have high temperatures in the districts resulting to outbreak diseases.
Livestock pest and diseases (Internal and external parasite)	All the 37 wards	High risk	Livelihoods, livestock, nutrition.	Due to high price of livestock inputs which is beyond reach of most farmers has resulted to increase of livestock pest and diseases.
Mine collapsing	2, 15, 35 and 36	Medium risk	Infrastructure, human death, livelihood, farming activities	Due to the method used to extract gold in these wards, the methods have caused collapsing of mines.
For update	d population fig	jures, refer to	Zimstat Census report (https	://www.zimstat.co.zw)

Hazards such as drought, pests, diseases and mine collapse are the most common as they have the highest occurrence frequency and some usually occur concurrently. In the previous five (5) years, each year recorded these hazards in the district.

6.1 Rain Season Onset Hazards and Chronic Hazards

Table 29: Mberengwa Rain Season Onset Hazards and Chronic

Ward Number	Ward Name	Sudden Onset Hazards	Chronic Hazards	
1	Wanezi		Crop and livestock pest and diseases, Covid-19	
2	Large scale commercial farming area		Crop and livestock and diseases, Covid-19, mine collapsing	
3	Muchembere		Drought & crop and livestock diseases, Covid-19	
4	Zvomukonde	Heavy winds	Drought, Covid-19 human, human wildlife conflict	
5	Murerezi	Floods	Drought, crop and livestock pest & diseases ,Covid-19	
6	Mbuyanehanda	Floods	Drought, Covid-19, crop and livestock pest & diseases	
7	Mataruse B2		Drought, crop and livestock pest and diseases, Covid-19	
8	Mataruse B1		Drought, crop and livestock pest and diseases, Covid-19	
9	Magamba		Drought, crop and livestock pest and diseases, Covid-19	
10	Baradzanwa		Drought, crop and livestock pest and diseases, Covid-19	

Table 29: Mberengwa Rain Season Onset Hazards and Chronic (continued)

Ward Number	Ward Name	Sudden Onset Hazards	Chronic Hazards
11	Cheshanga		Drought, crop and livestock pest and diseases, Covid-19
12	Ruremekedzo/Mabika		Drought, crop and livestock pest and diseases, Covid-19
13	Chizungu A	Hail storms, floods & heavy winds	Drought, crop and livestock pest and diseases, Covid-19
14	Chebvute		Drought, crop and livestock pest and diseases, Covid-19
15	Chegato	Floods	Drought, crop and livestock pest and diseases, Covid-19
16	DangaMposi		Drought, crop and livestock pest and diseases, Covid-19
17	Maziofa		Drought, crop and livestock pest and diseases, Covid-19
18	Mataga		Drought, crop and livestock pest and diseases, Covid-19
19	Bhinya Road		Drought, crop and livestock pest and diseases, Covid-19
20	Ngungumbane		Drought, crop and livestock pest and diseases, Covid-19
21	Nyamondo 11		Drought, crop and livestock pest and diseases, Covid-19
22	Nyamondo 111		Drought, crop and livestock pest and diseases, Covid-19
23	Musume		Drought, crop and livestock pest and diseases, Covid-19
24	Makuwerere		Drought, crop and livestock pest and diseases, Covid-19
25	Mketi		Drought, crop and livestock pest and diseases, Covid-19
26	Chingoma B		Drought, crop and livestock pest and diseases, Covid-19
27	Chingoma A		Drought, crop and livestock pest and diseases, Covid-19
28	Dunda	Floods	Drought, crop and livestock pest and diseases, Covid-19
29	Mahlebadza		Drought, crop and livestock pest and diseases, Covid-19
30	Vukomba		Drought, crop and livestock pest and diseases, Covid-19
31	Mushandirapamwe		Drought, crop and livestock pest and diseases, Covid-19
32	Bankwe		Drought, crop and livestock pest and diseases, Covid-19
33	Chingechuru		Drought, crop and livestock pest and diseases, Covid-19
34	Chizungu B	Floods, hail storms and heavy rains	Drought, crop and livestock pest and diseases, Covid-19
35	Mt Belingwe		Drought, crop and livestock pest and diseases, Covid-19, mine collapsing
36	Neta	Heavy winds	Drought, crop and livestock pest and diseases, Covid-19, mine collapsing
37	Bvute		Drought, crop and livestock pest and diseases, Covid-19

7. Markets

7.1 Livestock Markets

In Mberengwa the livestock market system has not changed since 2016. There are no organized livestock markets in most wards. Livestock market is dominated by farmers and middlemen who offer very low prices to the consumers. Formal markets are rarely organized and held. However, when held they are done at centralized places such as Mataga, Mberengwa Centre and Kotokwe. However, many farmers are not able to participate as a result of high transport costs to travel from their wards to the centralized places. Local butcheries form a significant market for livestock, but farmers reported being offered low prices. Beef committees have also created at local level such as school, mine, business centre, clinics etc. Most of livestock private buyers in Mberengwa district are from Bulawayo and Zvishavane and they do so for meat selling in butcheries.

Table 30: Mberengwa Average Livestock Price Trend

Livestock	Livestock Average Price (US\$)		S\$)	Type of Market
Туре	2016	2019		
Cattle	300	350	400	Farmer to Local butcheries, farmer to farmer, public done by Council & VET at various centres, Farmer to Private buyers, Farmer to beef committees.
Donkeys	100	100	120	Farmer to farmer
Sheep	60	60	90	Farmer to farmers & farmer to private buyers at a small scale.

Table 30: Mberengwa Average Livestock Price Trend (continued)

Livestock	Average Price (US\$)			Type of Market
Type	2016	2019		
Indigenous chickens	5	5	7	Farmer to local butcheries, farmer to farmer, farmer to food outlet operators.
Broilers	7	7	7	Farmer to local butcheries, farmer to farmer, farmer to food outlet operators
Turkeys	25	30	30	Farmer to farmer
Ducks	10	12	12	Farmer to farmer
Rabbits	5	6	6	Farmer to farmer

The most expensive livestock in Mberengwa district is cattle and is considered as the source of wealth in rural communities. Donkeys are needed for transport and drought power, and this makes them being the second most expensive livestock n the district.

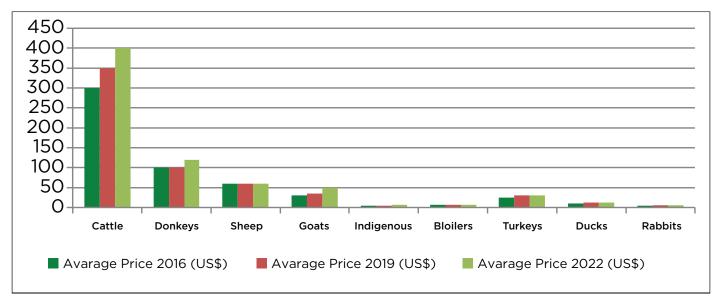


Figure 6: Mberengwa Livestock Price Trend

In 2016 livestock market prices in Mberengwa were low. However, for the past five (5) years the price trend had been gradually increasing. Due to inflation and multi-currency regime and policy changes (S1, 127) livestock prices increased e.g. in 2016 an average beast was pegged at 300 USD and it rose to 400 USD in 2021.

7.2 Crop Produce Markets

Mberengwa district has six (6) major crop market, which are Mberengwa centre, Mbuya Nehanda, Jeka, Mataga, Yorks and Masase. These are the same markets functioning for the past five (5) years except for Bonda in ward 21 which is now idle in terms of crop market. Yorks are now more active and have been recognized as one of major crop markets. These markets sell maize, pulses and horticultural produce. Furthermore, for the past five (5) years the Grain Marketing Board depot at Mataga has been buying and selling grain and pulses at a larger scale. Most of the farmers are being encouraged to sell their crop produce at GMB depot.

2016 Crop Markets

Table 31: Mberengwa Crop Markets 2016

Table 31. Piberengwa Grop Plankets 2010				
Ward	Name of Market			
2	Mberengwa Centre			
6	Mbuya Nehanda			
14	Jeka			
18	Mataga			
21	Bonda			
31	Masase			
Total	6			
Source: AARDS				

2021 Crop Markets

Table 32: Mberengwa Crop Market 2021/22

Ward	Name of Market		
2	Mberengwa Centre		
6	Mbuya Nehanda		
14	Jeka		
18	Mataga (GMB & Mataga market)		
35	Yorks		
31	Masase		
Total	6		
Source: AARDS			

Table 33: Mberengwa Crop Commodity Availability Market

Market Name	Ward Number	Commodity	Source of Commodity	Availability
Mataga Council market	18	Horticultural produce, cereals and Pulses	Irrigation schemes, and Horticultural gardens, household production, GMB, external supplier	Field produce is mostly available in May to September due to excess produce in stocks at household level. The Field produce is in short supply from October to April. Horticultural produce are available all year depending on production calendar.
Mberengwa Centre Council Market	2	Horticultural produce, Cereal, and Pulses	Irrigation schemes, Horticultural gardens, household production, and external suppliers.	Field produce is mostly available throughout the year due to accessibility from external supplier enabled by improved road conditions. Horticultural produce are available all year due to large number of external suppliers providing the markets with produce from various areas outside the district.
Jeka Market	14	Horticultural produce, Cereal, and Pulses	Irrigation schemes, and household production, Horticultural gardens	Field produce is mostly available in May to September due to excess produce in stocks at household level. The Field produce is in short supply from October to April. Horticultural produce are available all year depending on production calendar.
Mbuyanehanda	6	Horticultural produce, Cereal, and Pulses	Horticultural gardens and household production	Field produce is mostly available in May to September due to excess produce in stocks at household level. The Field produce is in short supply from October to April. Horticultural produce are available all year depending on production calendar
Masase	31	Horticultural produce, Cereal, and Pulses	Horticultural gardens and household production. Horticulture produce from external supplier	Field produce is mostly available in May to September due to excess produce in stocks at household level. The Field produce is in short supply from October to April. Horticultural produce are available all year depending on production calendar.

Table 33: Mberengwa Crop Commodity Availability Market (continued)

Market Name	Ward Number	Commodity	Source of Commodity	Availability
Yorks	35	Horticultural produce, Cereal, and Pulses	Cereals and Pulses from Household production	Field produce is mostly available in May to September due to excess produce in stocks at household level. The Field produce is in short supply from October to April. Horticultural produce are available all year provided by external suppliers to the market. There is limited horticultural farming in Yorks most horticultural produce is produced for mostly consumption at household level.

7.2.1. Crop Market Challenges

The service provider (GMB) in Mberengwa is experiencing challenges of poor road conditions resulting to low deliveries at the major service provider (GMB) and high transport cost affecting service provision resulting in low deliveries at the service providers.

The traders also experience difficulties when transporting their produce to selling points due to poor road networks and conditions. Some produce are seasonal or not available when in a drought year. Therefore when the produce is off season they have to travel long distances to get the produce experiencing high transport costs. In good consumption years the produce floods the markets resulting in price reductions. Unavailability of proper storage for perishable produces resulting to low sales causing losses.

Most buyers on the crop market in Mberengwa district experience a challenge of counterfeit products due trader's maximization of products. The buyer experience another challenge in high prices pegging by the trader due unavailability of crop produce, production and transport cost. Mberengwa district commonly use black market rates thereby causing the distortion of prices affecting the buyer procuring the produce on higher price.

Table Showing Prices and Availability of Basic Commodities in the District as of November 2016

Table 34: Mberengwa Commodity and Average Prices 2016

Ward		Cor	nmodity A	vailabilit	У				Averag	e Price		
	Maize Meal	Maize Grain	Cooking Oil	Beans	Small Grains	Rice	Maize Meal/ 10kg	Maize Grains/ Bucket	Cooking oil/2lts	Beans/ 500g	Small Grains/ Bucket	Rice/ 2kg
1							\$6	\$8	\$4	\$2.5	\$10	\$2.5
2							\$6	\$8	\$4	\$2.5	\$10	\$2.5
3					×		\$6	\$8	\$4	\$2.5		\$2.5
4					×		\$6	\$8	\$4	\$2.5		\$2.5
5					×		\$6	\$8	\$4	\$2.5		\$2.5
7					×		\$6	\$8	\$4	\$2.5		\$2.5
8					×		\$6	\$8	\$4	\$2.5		\$2.5
9					×		\$6	\$8	\$4	\$2.5		\$2.5
10					×		\$6	\$8	\$4	\$2.5		\$2.5
11					×		\$6	\$8	\$4	\$2.5		\$2.5
12					×		\$6	\$8	\$4	\$2.5		\$2.5
13					×		\$6	\$8	\$4	\$2.5		\$2.5
14							\$6	\$8	\$4	\$2.5	\$10	\$2.5
15							\$6	\$8	\$4	\$2.5	\$10	\$2.5
16							\$6	\$8	\$4	\$2.5	\$10	\$2.5
17					×		\$6	\$8	\$4	\$2.5		\$2.5
18							\$5.5	\$7.5	\$3	\$2.0	\$9.50	\$2.0
19							\$6	\$8	\$4	\$2.5	\$10	\$2.5

Table 34: Mberengwa Commodity and Average Prices 2016 (continued)

Ward		Co	mmodity A	vailabilit	ty				Averag	e Price		
	Maize Meal	Maize Grain	Cooking Oil	Beans	Small Grains	Rice	Maize Meal/ 10kg	Maize Grains/ Bucket	Cooking oil/ 2lts	Beans/ 500g	Small Grains/ Bucket	Rice/ 2kg
20							\$6	\$8	\$4	\$2.5	\$10	\$2.5
21							\$6	\$8	\$4	\$2.5	\$10	\$2.5
22							\$6	\$8	\$4	\$2.5	\$10	\$2.5
23							\$6	\$8	\$4	\$2.5	\$10	\$2.5
24							\$6	\$8	\$4	\$2.5	\$10	\$2.5
25							\$6	\$8	\$4	\$2.5	\$10	\$2.5
26							\$6	\$8	\$4	\$2.5	\$10	\$2.5
27							\$6	\$8	\$4	\$2.5	\$10	\$2.5
28							\$6	\$8	\$4	\$2.5	\$10	\$2.5
29							\$6	\$8	\$4	\$2.5	\$10	\$2.5
30							\$6	\$8	\$4	\$2.5	\$10	\$2.5
31							\$6	\$8	\$4	\$2.5	\$10	\$2.5
32							\$6	\$8	\$4	\$2.5	\$10	\$2.5
33							\$6	\$8	\$4	\$2.5	\$10	\$2.5
34					×		\$6	\$8	\$4	\$2.5		\$2.5
35							\$6	\$8	\$4	\$2.5	\$10	\$2.5
36							\$6	\$8	\$4	\$2.5	\$10	\$2.5
37					×		\$6	\$8	\$4	\$2.5		\$2.5
KEY			Available					×	Not Availa	able		

Cereal Availability and Prices Per Ward as of November 2021

Table 35: Mberengwa Food Commodity Availability and Prices

Ward	Maize Meal	Maize Grain	Beans	Other Small Grains	Rice	Maize Meal \$/10 kg	Maize Grain \$/ Bucket	Beans \$/500g	Other Small Grains \$/ Bucket	Rice \$/2kg
1				×		5.00	6.00	\$1.00	×	\$2.00
2				×		5.00	6.00	\$1.00	×	2.50
3		×		×		5.00	×	\$0.90	×	\$ 2.00
4	×	×		×		×	×	\$0.90	×	\$1.90
5	×	×		×		×	×	\$ 1.50	×	\$ 2.00
6	×	×		×		×	×	\$ 1.50	×	\$ 2.00
7	×	×	×	×		×	×	×	×	\$2.20
8	×	×	×	×		×	×	×	×	\$2.20
9		×		×		\$4.60	×	\$1.00	×	\$1.80
10		×		×		\$ 4.00	×	\$1.00	×	\$ 1.90
11		×		×		\$ 4.00	×	×	×	\$2.00
12		×		×		\$ 5	×	\$1	×	\$ 2.00
13		×		×		\$ 5	×	\$1	×	\$ 2.00
14		×		×		\$ 4	×	\$1	×	\$ 2.00
15		×		×		\$ 4.50	×	\$1	×	\$ 2.00
16		×		×		\$ 5	×	\$ 1.00	×	\$ 2.00
17		×		×		\$ 4.00	×	\$ 0.90	×	\$1.90
18		×		×		\$4.00	×	\$ 0.90	×	\$ 1.80
19		×		×		\$4.00	×	\$1.00	×	\$ 2.00
20		×		×		\$5.00	×	\$1.00	×	\$2.00
21		×		×		\$ 4.00	×	×	×	\$2.00

Table 35: Mberengwa Food Commodity Availability and Prices (continued)

Ward	Maize Meal	Maize Grain	Beans	Other Small Grains	Rice	Maize Meal \$/10 kg	Maize Grain \$/ Bucket	Beans \$/500g	Other Small Grains \$/ Bucket	Rice \$/2kg
22		×		×		\$ 4.00	×	×	×	\$2.00
23		×		×		\$5.00	×	\$1.00	×	\$2.00
24		×		×		\$ 5.00	×	\$ 1.00	×	\$ 2.00
25		×		×		\$4.6	×	\$1.00	×	\$ 2.00
26		×		×		\$ 4.50	×	\$ 1.00	×	\$ 2.00
27		×		×		\$4.00	×	\$1.00	×	\$ 1.80
28		×		×		\$4.00	×	\$1.00	×	\$ 1.80
29		×		×		\$ 4.50	×	\$ 1.00	×	\$ 2.00
30		×		×		\$ 4.60	×	\$ 1.00	×	\$ 2.00
31		×		×		\$ 4.50	×	\$ 1.00	×	\$ 2.00
32		×		×		\$ 4.60	×	\$ 1.00	×	\$ 2.00
33		×		×		\$ 4.60	×	\$1.00	×	\$ 2.00
34		×		×		\$ 4.00	×	\$1.00	×	\$ 1.90
35				×		\$5.00	\$6.00	\$1.00	×	\$2.00
36				×		\$5.00	\$6.00	\$1.00	×	\$2.50
37		×		×		\$4.00	×	\$1.00	×	\$1.80
KEY			Available				×	Not Availa	ble	
Source	Source: District Food and Nutrition Committee and LID Agency -WFP Markets Monitoring Survey									

Availability Comparison

In 2016 maize meal and maize grain were available at ward based markets in all the wards unlike in 2021 when maize grain was being sold in four (4) wards out of thirty-seven (37) wards. This means the availability of maize grain at ward level is critically low. The farmers reported that the maize grain is being sold at GMB therefore the ward-based market have run dry. Furthermore, some farmers have also reported that there are no surpluses to sell. Many have reserved their stocks for consumption. In 2021 maize meal availability at ward-based markets is high, only a few wards had no maize meal on the market.

Pulses specifically beans in 2016 were available in almost 37% of the wards unlike in 2021 the availability of beans on the market at ward level is very low, all the markets recorded no availability of beans.

In 2021 rice was the most available commodity in all the markets at ward level and in 2016 rice was also available at ward level at all the thirty-seven (37) wards.

Average Prices Comparison

Maize meal have been reported to be available in most of ward level markets expect for two (2) in 2021. A 10 kg packet of maize meal in 2021 was selling at USD 4.00 to USD 5.00. In 2016 the maize meal was available however the prices were pegged higher than in 2021 – with a 10kg maize meal packet pegged at USD 5.50 to USD 6.00.

Maize grain in 2016 was 100% available at ward level market and the prices were pegged at USD 8.00 per bucket unlike in 2021 a bucket of maize meal was pegged at USD 6.00 and only four (4) wards were selling the maize grain.

In 2016 the cost of beans at ward level market was very high, USD500 grams was pegged at USD 2.00 to USD 2.50. In 2021 the 500 gram was pegged at USD 0.90 to USD 1.00.

Small grains in 2021 were reported to be unavailable at the market therefore there was no recorded prices. However in 2016 some wards had small grains on the ward level market and a bucket of small grains was pegged at USD10.00.

Assessing the commodity available rice is the most available commodity from 2016 to 2021. In 2016, 2kg of rice was pegged at USD 2.00 to 2.50. In 2021 the 2kg rice was pegged at USD 1.80 to USD 2.50, the prices differ with the brand.

7.2.2 Food Commodity Market Challenges

Service Provider

•They depend on trader purchases if goods are not purchased on time some products might expire causing losses.

Trader

- •Mberengwa traders are affected by high transport due to long distances, most of Mberengwa traders buy from suppliers out Mberengwa or out of Zimbabwe (South Africa).
- •In a typical consumption year Mberengwa traders experience lower sales as many depend on household produce. During this period many are able to generate income and travel to purchase commodities on wholesale which is cheaper.

Buyer

- •The food commodities consumers are affected by the varying price exchange market on the Mberengwa markets. The market commonly uses black market rates which are higher resulting to high price pegging.
- •The buyers in Mberengwa are affected by unavailability of variety of brands on commodities and of some basic commodities e.g. beans .

Market Seasonal Calendar

Table 36: Mberengwa Market Season Calendar in a Typical Consumption Year

ITEM	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Food purchases												
Lean/hungry Period												

In typical consumption year food purchases are not done throughout the year due to food availability at household level. From April to July food purchases are usually low and households are usually food secure unlike in a drought year where household will be insecure during this period.

Calendar of Food Purchases- Drought Year

Table 37: Mberengwa Market Season Calendar in a Drought Year

ITEM	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Food purchases												
Lean/hungry Period												

In drought year food purchases are done throughout the year. The drought year is characterized by food insecurity throughout the year.

8. Means of Livelihoods and Challenges

8.0. Describe Main Livelihood Zone the District Falls Into

Mberengwa District falls under (two) 2 major livelihoods zone, that is middle veld and low veld livelihood. Middle zone consist of (two) 2 zones namely Northern cattle and cereal farming and Matabeleland Mid/Highveld Communal. The low veld livelihood zone has one (1) zone which is Mwenezi, Chivi and south Midlands Lowland Communal.

Types of Other Livelihood Activities Engaged by Households

Table 38: Mberengwa Types of other Livelihood Activities

Ward	Perennial	Seasonal
1	Mining, trading	Crop and livestock production, beer brewing
2	Mining, trading, commercial sex work	Crop and livestock production
3	Trading	Crop and livestock production
4	Trading	Crop and livestock production
5	Trading	Crop and livestock production, beer brewing
6	Trading	Crop and livestock production
7	Trading	Crop and livestock production
8	Trading	Crop and livestock production
9	Trading	Crop and livestock production
10	Trading	Crop and livestock production
11	Trading	Crop and livestock production
12	Trading	Crop and livestock production
13	Trading	Crop and livestock production

Table 38: Mberengwa Types of other Livelihood Activities (continued)

Ward	Perennial	Seasonal
14	Trading	Crop and livestock production
15	Trading	Crop and livestock production
16	Trading	Crop and livestock production
17	Trading	Crop and livestock production
18	Trading	Crop and livestock production, fisheries
19	Trading	Crop and livestock production
20	Trading	Crop and livestock production
21	Trading	Crop and livestock production, beer brewing, amarula nut value adding, fisheries
22	Trading	Crop and livestock production fisheries,
23	Trading	Crop and livestock production fisheries,
24	Trading	Crop and livestock production, fisheries
25	Trading	Crop and livestock production, amarula nut value adding
26	Trading	Crop and livestock production
27	Trading	Crop and livestock production
28	Trading	Crop and livestock production
29	Trading	Crop and livestock production, beer brewing
30	Trading	Crop and livestock production
31	Trading	Crop and livestock production
32	Trading	Crop and livestock production
33	Trading	Crop and livestock production
34	Trading	Crop and livestock production
35	Trading, commercial sex work mining,	Crop and livestock production
36	Trading	Crop and livestock production
37	Trading	Crop and livestock production

8.1. Main Challenges Affecting Livelihood Activities.

Drought has affected various livelihoods in Mberengwa district for the past five (5) years mainly agro-based e.g. field crop production and livestock production.

Crop and livestock pest and diseases are also another major challenge affecting Mberengwa livelihoods such as crop and livestock production.

High cost of agricultural inputs affects crop and livestock production forcing farmers to produce on a smaller scale hence low profit.

Poor market linkages also affect farmers' produce ending up selling the produce locally at low costs.

Covid-19 also affected various households markets, due to lockdown restrictions the access markets were restricted affecting cross boarder trading. At household level Covid-19 many household depending on vending were highly affected and facing problem of reduced income.

Mining activities have been affected by methods used to extract gold, the methods have low output hence income is low.

8.2. Summary of Source of Income

- •Crop production.
- •Livestock production.
- Mining.
- •Trading.

Table 39: Mberengwa Economic Zones and Wards

Economic Zones	Description	Wards
Middle veld livelihood zone (Northern cattle and Cereal farming)	This is a vast livelihood zone spread across (ten) 10 districts in Mashonaland East, Midlands and Mashonaland West provinces of Zimbabwe. The majority of farmers in this cereal producing and small scale cattle ranching zone are A1 and A2 farm holders. The zone is typically food secure and high incomes can be earned from cattle sales, tobacco and cotton sales. Poor households (including ex-commercial farm workers) depend on seasonal farm labour – found on productive old resettlement and small-scale commercial farms – as well as opportunistic gold panning. Market gardening is also a common income generating activity.	1, 2, 35 and 36
Middle veld Livelihood zone (Matebeleland mid / high veld communal)	The zone is located in the Southern part of Zimbabwe. Covering low lying areas and some mountainous parts of Matobo, Gwanda, and Umguza, Bubi, Umzingwane, Insiza and Mberengwa districts. Livelihoods in this zone are characterised by (mainly) cattle husbandry and the rain-fed cultivation of maize, sorghum, pulses and sweet potatoes. Poor farmers subsist partly on their own crop production but, more importantly, on cash income earned from local and cross border employment, beer brewing or gold panning on the various rivers	3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 25, 26, 27, 28, 30, 31, 33, 34 and 37
Low veld Livelihood zone Mwenezi, Chivi and south Midlands Lowland Communal	This zone is found in communal lands in several districts including Mwenezi, Chivi, Southern Mberengwa and Western Masvingo. Households combine some cereal and cash cropping (a precarious venture in such a lowland area) with livestock production and market purchases. Casual work opportunities are found on plantations, estates and mines within the zone as well as further afield. A number of rivers provide gold panning and some fishing opportunities. Nonetheless, this is an area of chronic poverty and food insecurity.	21, 22, 23, 24, 29 and 32

Mberengwa District Livelihoods Calendar in a Normal Vs Bad Season

Table 40: Mberengwa Livelihood Seasonal Calendar

Month	ldentifiable Risks	Coping Strategies in Good Season	Coping Strategies in Bad Season	Persons Involved
January	Cyclones Livestock diseases Disrupted garden activities by rainfall	Summer cropping activities i.e. weeding (hand pulling) Top dressing fertilizer application Casual labour Continued dipping of cattle Broiler and indigenous poultry production Casual labour Small backyard gardens ISALS	Summer cropping activities i.e. weeding (hand pulling) Top dressing fertilizer application Casual labour Continued dipping of cattle Broiler and indigenous poultry production Casual labour Small backyard gardens ISAALS	Women Men Children Youth Men Women and children Women Children Youth
February	Dry Spell	Summer cropping activities Gardening Indigenous poultry production Small and large ruminants Brewing Mkumbi/beer Casual labour Fishing Welding Carpentry Petty trade Mining	Summer cropping activities Gardening Indigenous poultry production Small and large ruminants Brewing Mkumbi Casual labour Fishing Welding Carpentry Petty trade Mining	Women and children Women and children Men Women Youth All

^{*}NB the livelihoods in rural areas are routine and they differ from the resource constrained and resource endowed. These categories of people are A, B1, B2 and C farmers.

Table 40: Mberengwa Livelihood Seasonal Calendar (continued)

Month	Identifiable Risks	Coping Strategies in Good Season	Coping Strategies in Bad Season	Persons Involved
March April	Dried annual water sources Insufficient food reserves	Summer cropping activities Gardening Indigenous poultry production Small and large ruminants Brewing Mkumbi/beer Casual labour Fishing Welding Carpentry Petty trade	Summer cropping activities Co-operative gardens done on perennial water sources ISAL's Moulding bricks Indigenous poultry Fishing Brewing Mkumbi Welding Carpentry Petty trade	Women and children Women Men All Women
May	Dried annual water sources Insufficient food reserves	Gardening Indigenous poultry production Small and large ruminants Brewing beer Casual labour Fishing Welding Carpentry Petty trade Mining	Co-operative gardens done on perennial water sources Isaals Moulding bricks Remittances and gifts Fishing Mining	Women and children Women Men All All
June	Dried annual water sources Insufficient food reserves Malnutrition	Gardening Indigenous poultry production Small and large ruminants Brewing beer Casual labour Fishing Welding Carpentry Petty trade Mining	Cooperative gardening on perennial water sources Indigenous poultry Remittances and gifts	Women Women and children Women and Children All
July	Dried annual water sources Insufficient food reserves Malnutrition Household food security low Insufficient water for livestock	Gardening Indigenous poultry production Small and large ruminants Brewing beer Casual labour Fishing Welding Carpentry Petty trade Mining	Cooperative gardening on perennial water sources and marketing of horticultural produce Indigenous poultry Remittances and gifts Relying on distance sources and boreholes Brick moulding	Women Women and children Women and Children All Men and youth
August	x Dried annual water sources Insufficient food reserves Malnutrition Household food security low Insufficient water for livestock	Gardening Indigenous poultry production Small and large ruminants Brewing beer Casual labour Fishing Welding Carpentry Petty trade Mining	Cooperative gardening on perennial water sources and marketing of horticultural produce Indigenous poultry Remittances and gifts Relying on distance sources and boreholes Brick molding Fishing	Women Women and children Women and Children All Men and youth All

Table 40: Mberengwa Livelihood Seasonal Calendar (continued)

Month	Identifiable Risks	Coping Strategies in Good Season	Coping Strategies in Bad Season	Persons Involved
September	Dried annual water sources Insufficient food reserves Malnutrition Household food security low Insufficient water for livestock	Gardening Indigenous poultry production Small and large ruminants Brewing beer Casual labour Fishing Welding Carpentry Petty trade Mining	Cooperative gardening on perennial water sources and marketing of horticultural produce Indigenous poultry Remittances and gifts Relying on distance sources and boreholes Brick moulding Fishing	Women Women and children Women and Children All Men and youth All All
October	Dried annual water sources Insufficient food reserves Malnutrition Household food security low Insufficient water for	Summer cropping Indigenous poultry production Small and large ruminants Brewing beer Casual labour Fishing Welding Carpentry Petty trade Mining	Summer cropping Cooperative gardening on perennial water sources and marketing of horticultural produce Indigenous poultry Remittances and gifts Relying on distance sources and boreholes Brick moulding Fishing	Women Women and children Women and Children All Men and youth
November	livestock Dried annual water sources Insufficient food reserves Malnutrition Household food security low Insufficient water for livestock Expensive agric inputs	Summer cropping Indigenous poultry production Small and large ruminants Brewing beer Casual labour Fishing Welding Carpentry Petty trade Mining	Summer cropping Cooperative gardening on perennial water sources and marketing of horticultural produce Indigenous poultry Remittances and gifts Relying on distance sources and boreholes Brick moulding Summer cropping	All Women Women and children Women and Children All Men and youth All All
December	Dried annual water sources Insufficient food reserves Malnutrition Household food security low Insufficient water for livestock Expensive agric inputs	Summer cropping Indigenous poultry production Small and large ruminants Brewing beer Casual labour Fishing Welding Carpentry Petty trade Mining	Summer cropping Cooperative gardening on perennial water sources and marketing of horticultural produce Indigenous poultry Remittances and gifts Relying on distance sources and boreholes Brick moulding Summer cropping	Women Women and children Women and Children All Men and youth All All

9. Nutrition and Health

Mberengwa District has four (4) Malnutrition Stabilization Centres (SC) i.e. Mberengwa Hospital, Musume Hospital, Masase Mission Hospital and Mnene Mission hospitals. It also has thirty-six (36) health facilities that offer outpatient therapeutic program (OTP) for the management of acute malnutrition. Partners supporting nutrition programs in the district include World Vision and Nutrition Action Zimbabwe. In 2021 the district started implementation of care group model in some wards to support infant and young child feeding.

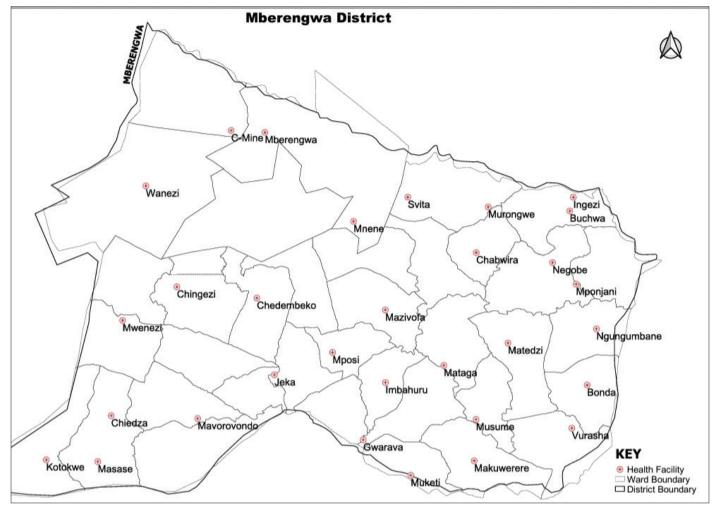


Figure 7: Mberengwa MoHCC Map

Table 41: Mberengwa Health Facilities Per Ward

Number	Name of Health Centre	Ward	Authority (e.g. Council, Government, Private)	Number of VHWs (Village Health Workers)	Number of Nurses
1	Mberengwa Hospital	2	Gvt	20	30
2	Mnene Mission Hospital	2	Mission	10	42
3	Musume Mission Hospital	23	Mission	9	18
4	Masase Mission Hospital	31	Mission	10	8
5	Jeka Rural Hospital	15	Gvt	13	24
6	Mataga Clinic	18 and 26	Gvt	14	9
7	Chingezi Clinic	11 and 35	Council	8	3
8	Mavorovondo	30 and 14	Gvt	9	3
9	Kotokwe Clinic	32	Council	6	3
10	Matedzi Clinic	19	Council	8	3
11	Neta Clinic	36	Gvt	7	3
12	Mwanezi	13 and 34	Gvt	10	3
13	Gaha Clinic	29	Council	7	2
14	Vutsanana RHC	8	Council	9	3
15	Chabwira Clinic	7	Council	8	3

Table 41: Mberengwa Health Facilities Per Ward (continued)

No	Name of Health Centre	Ward	Authority (e.g. Council, Government, Private)	Number of VHWs (Village Health Workers)	Number of Nurses
16	Murongwe RHC	3	Council	9	3
17	Ingezi Clinic	4	Gvt	7	2
18	Vurasha	22	Gvt	12	3
19	Wanezi	1	Gvt	9	1
20	Negove Clinic	6	Gvt	10	2
21	Mposi Clinic	16	Council	8	3
22	Chidembeko Clinic	12	Council	8	
23	Makuwerere Clinic	24	Council	10	3
24	Ngungumbani Clinic	20	Council	9	2
25	Gwarava	28	Government	8	3
26	Maziofa Clinic	17	Government	9	3
27	Chaza Clinic	10	Council	7	3
28	Mponjani Clinic	5	Government	8	3
29	Bonda Clinic	21	Council	8	3
30	Imbahuru Clinic	27	Council	7	3
31	Mketi Clinic	25	Council	10	3
32	Svita Clinic	3	Government	10	3
33	Sandawana Clinic	33	Government	7	2
34	Buchwa Clinic	4	Government	5	1
35	Chiedza	31	Council	7	3
36	ZPC	2	Government		

Malnutrition Trends

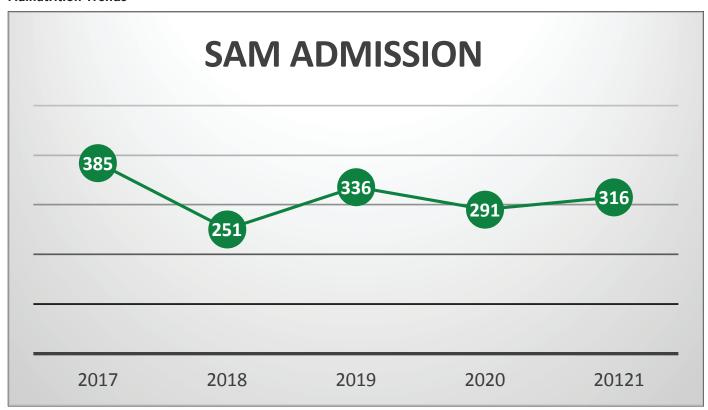


Figure 8: Mberengwa DHIS SAM Admissions

For the past five (5) years (2017-2021), information from the DHIS showed that SAM admissions were fluctuating with most number of cases recorded in 2017. Cases were lowest in 2018 (251cases). From 2020 the cases are showing an increase. According to the 2018 NNS, GAM rate at Mberengwa District is at 0.2%, MAM rate is at 2.0%. Stunting rate is high in the district (26.7%). A consolidated effort is required from all sectors to address the underlying causes of stunting in the district. Wasting is at 1.3% and overweight according to the NNS 2018 survey is at 2.1%. According to the DHIS tool LBW (Low Birth Weight) is at 4.9% in the district.

9.1. Malnutrition, HIV and TB

9.1.0. HIV/AIDS Prevalence

According to the information from the district Aids Council, Mberengwa District has an estimated HIV/AIDS prevalence of 18.73% (Zimbabwe National and sub national HIV estimates report). All Health Centres in the district are offering OI/ ART services with the support from the Government, ZHI and AFRICAID, and male circumcision.

9.1.1. TB Prevalence

18.73% ((Zim Mberengwa district has (two) 2 gene experts for TB (in Mnene and Musume). According to information from MOHCC TB Unit, TB prevalence for 2021 is at 106 per 100, 000 people. Male patients constitute 61.6% of the total cases. This could be due to mining activities in the district.

Table 42: Mberengwa District Malnutrition Prevalence

Indicator	Prevalence (%)
Moderate Acute Malnutrition	2.0
Severe Acute Malnutrition	0.2
Stunting	26.7
Overweight and obesity	2.1
Low Birth weight	4.9
Prevalence of HIV in women 15 -49 years	18.73
Prevalence of TB	106 per 100, 000

9.2. Feeding Practices in Children Under 2 Years of Age

According to the 2018 National Nutrition Survey, 80% of children in Mberengwa district were exclusively breastfed (EBF). EBF rates decreases as infants gets older, from 4 to 6 months there is a high temptation to introduce other foods and for working women distance from between home and workstation affects Exclusive Breastfeeding; Longer distances results in early introduction of other foods and formula feeds. Some traditional beliefs are also having a huge bearing on young mothers' decision to breastfeed. Consultation during training of Village health Workers has shown that cultural beliefs have a big negative impact on exclusive breast-feeding rates in the district. Community health workers were trained on Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) in 2021 to improve IYCF practices. According to the survey 75.6% of children were initiated on breast milk in the first hour. Community IYCF activities in the district are being done by Community Health Workers.

9.3. Exclusive Breastfeeding Situation Analysis

According to the 2018 National Nutrition Survey, 80% of children in Mberengwa district were breastfed. EBF rates decreases as infants gets older, from 4 to 6 months there is a high temptation to introduce other foods and for working women distance from between home and workstation affects Exclusive Breastfeeding; Longer distances results in early introduction of other foods and formula feeds. Some traditional beliefs are also have a big bearing on young mothers' decision to breastfeed, consultation during training of Village health Workers have shown that cultural beliefs have a big negative impact on exclusive breast-feeding rates. Community health workers were trained on IYCF in the 3rd quarter of 2021 in order to improve IYCF practices. According to the survey 75.6% of children were initiated on breast milk in the first hour.

9.4. Complementary Feeding Trends

According to the 2021 ZimVAC (Zimbabwe Vulnerability Assessment Committee) survey, only 9% of children are consuming acceptable diet. Only 26% of children were reported to consume at least five (5) food groups. Complementary feeding rates indicators have been fluctuating since 2016. Effects of periodic seasonal droughts, severe dry spells coupled by hyperinflation and the effects of Covid-19 were the main contributory challenges to the fluctuating rates.

Table 43: Feeding Practices for Children Under 2 Years of Age

Feeding Practice	(%) Proportion of Children Meeting Required Minimum
Minimum Meal Frequency	24
Minimum Dietary Diversity	26
Minimum Acceptable Diet	9
Excusive Breastfeeding	80
Bottle Feeding	10

9.5. Food Consumption Patterns by Women and in the Households

According to the ZimVAC 2021 survey, only 30% of Households had acceptable food consumption patterns. 70% of Households are consuming borderline to poor food consumption patterns. The percentage of women consuming iron rich foods in the district increased from 75.3% in 2020 to 79.4% in 2021. There are various programs being done in the district by government and partners to improve Iron Consumption among WCBA (Women of Child Bearing Age).

Table 44: Food Consumption Patterns by Women and the Households

Indicator	Percentage
Minimum dietary diversity - women	35.5
Iron rich foods	79.4
Vitamin A rich foods	82
Protein Rich Foods	65
Household Food Consumption Score	30

9.6. Top Ten Common Diseases in the District

Table 45: Top Ten Diseases in the District

<u> </u>
Disease/Condition
1. ARI (Acute Respiratory Infections) diseases
2. Skin diseases
3. Hypertension
4. Injuries
5. Asthma

Disease/Condition
6. Diabetes
7. Diarrhoea
8. Eye diseases
9. Malnutrition
10. Ear conditions

9.8. Prevalence of Mortality in Women

Table 46: Prevalence of Mortality in Women

	Percentage
Maternal Mortality Ratio	0.6:10,000

10. Food Security Section

Table 47: Food Insecurity Trends

District_Name	FS_2016/17	FS_17/18	FS_2018/19	FS_2019/20	FS_2020/21	FS_2021/22
Mberengwa	65	11	23	64	58	36

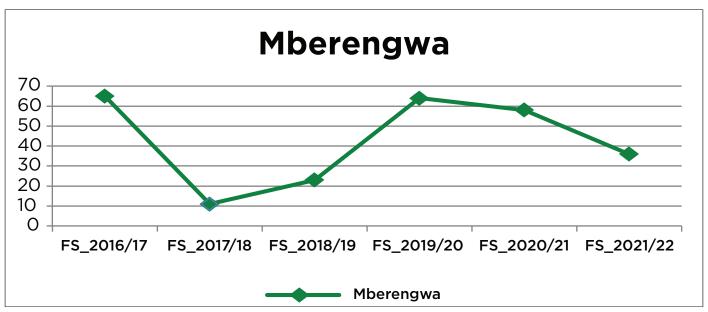


Figure 9: Food Insecurity Trend

Mberengwa district for the past 5 years has experienced drought due to climate conditions. The percentage of food insecurity has been fluctuating due to in consistency in the amount of rainfall received in the district. In 2016 /17 recorded the highest level of food in security with 65 % of the total district population being food insecure. The following year which is 2017/18 a sharp decrease food insecurity recording 11 % of the total population being food insecure. 2018/19 and 2019/20 the food insecurity percentage increased due low rainfall experienced the district. In 2020/21 the district received above normal rainfall resulting in a slit decrease of food insecurity from 64 % to 58%. 2020/21 there was poor rainfall distribution, leaching and water logging affecting the food security situation in the district. 2021/22 recorded 36% from 58% due to the sufficient food stocks with the previous harvest.

10.1. Chronic and Transitory Food Security

Table 48: Chronic and Transitory Food Insecurity

Chronic Food insecurity	Transitory Food insecurity
3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21,	1, 2, 35 and 36
22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34 and 37	

Mberengwa district has a total of thirty-seven (37) wards, of the thirty-seven (37), thirty-three (33) wards are communal and heavily depended on rain fed agriculture where no or little harvest is recorded due to inadequate rainfall. Due to inadequate rainfall these thirty-three (33) wards are affected by chronic food in security.

Out of the Mberengwa thirty-seven (37) wards, four (4) have been classified to be transitory food insecurity. Due to average rainfall rich soil type and average land size (4 hectare per households), these wards have been able to produce higher yield to sustain their households.

10.2. Socio-economic Groups and Vulnerability Classification

Table 49: Vulnerability Classification Groups

Table 15. Valificrability Glassification Groups							
GROUP A Resilient Farmers benefiting from growth development	These farmers have their means of production for instance, farming implements, access to irrigation, have access to water supply, have their own lands, access to inputs, have adequate labor to carry out all farming activities, produce enough to supply the markets, have best infra structure housing, well liked to the markets, have best farming and livestock practices. These are very innovative farmers, they access to remittances, they have income generation projects, they produce in excess, have sufficient food stocks and are not included in any food assistance programs.						
GROUP B Food secure farmers if no major shocks	These farmers are rarely affected with shocks. They are food secure. In terms of productive assets they have access to arable land, hired labour and can make use of household labour. They have access to water, able to buy themselves inputs, they have good infrastructure for projects. These farmers are early adopters of innovation, have access to remittances, and are the least ranked on food insecurity. They are not included in food assistance programme, however are included input assistance programme.						
GROUP C Highly food insecure from the previous shocks / consecutive shocks	These farmers are highly food insecure due to shocks, they have small arable land, make use of household labor. Cannot purchase their own inputs, they are highly ranked on food assistance and inputs programme. They have limited access to water sources. These have average to poor infrastructure for farming activities, small to none remittances, late adopters and have limited productive assets.						
GROUP D Highly food insecure - including destitute	These households are highly vulnerable and depended on social protection programs. These include, elderly, persons with disabilities, child headed households, chronically ill and destitute. These households are highly food insecure, have no means of production, poor production, poor infrastructure for farming .						

10.2.1. Visible Vulnerabilities Among Socio-economic Groups

- •Poor farmers produce less than required.
- •Farmers fail to secure farming inputs resulting low yield.
- •Consumption of low-quality food.

10.2.2. Coping Strategies

- •Farmers have changed their farming strategies and crops.
- •Dietary changes.
- Rationing strategies.
- •Decrease number of people eating together, meals and portions.

Table 50: Livelihood Coping Strategies

District	Livelihoods Based Coping Strategies						
	Not Copying	Stress	Crisis	Emergency			
Mberengwa	73.8	8.5	12.1	5.6			

10.3.3. Ranking of Food Insecure Households

Table 51: Seasonal Calendar

Food insecurity	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Typical consumption year												
Drought year												

10.4. Food Aid Trends

Table 52: Food Aid Trend (WFP)

Ward	Partner	Donor	2019 /20 Aps	Donor	2021/22 Aps	Food Rations Per AP
3	LID Agency	Swedish Government	3,732	USAID	1,505	
4	LID Agency	Swedish Government	4,966	USAID	1,838	
5	LID Agency	Swedish Government	5,762	USAID	3,792	
6	LID Agency	Swedish Government	6,086	Non LSA		
7	LID Agency			USAID	963	
8	LID Agency	Non I CA		USAID	1,214	
9	LID Agency	Non LSA	2,588	USAID	921	
10	LID Agency			USAID	1,842	
11	LID Agency	Swedish Government		USAID	964	
12	LID Agency	Non LSA		USAID	2,023	
13	LID Agency	Swedish Government	3,508	USAID	2,312	
14	LID Agency	Non LSA		USAID	1,812	
15	LID Agency	Swedish Government	2,714	USAID	3,128	
16	LID Agency	Noval CA		USAID	2,608	
17	LID Agency	Non LSA		USAID	1,813	
18	LID Agency	Swedish Government	5,599	USAID	2,041	
19	LID Agency	Swedish Government	5,156	USAID	3,371	7.5kgs cereal, 1.5 kgs
20	LID Agency	Swedish Government	2,515	USAID	2,401	pulses & 0.75kgs veg
21	LID Agency	Swedish Government	3,321	USAID	1,235	oil
22	LID Agency	Swedish Government	3,354	USAID	1,068	
23	LID Agency	Swedish Government	3,774	USAID	2,207	
24	LID Agency	Swedish Government	3,648	USAID	2,636	
25	LID Agency	Swedish Government	2,907	USAID	926	
26	LID Agency	Swedish Government	4,853	USAID	3,050	
27	LID Agency	Swedish Government	2,957	USAID	2,239	
28	LID Agency	Swedish Government	3,135	USAID	998	
29	LID Agency	Swedish Government	4,385	USAID	2,298	
30	LID Agency	Swedish Government	3,160	USAID	1,176	
31	LID Agency	Swedish Government	5,625	USAID	2,665	
32	LID Agency	Swedish Government	4,151	USAID	3,193	
33	LID Agency	Swedish Government	1,980	USAID	801	
34	LID Agency	Swedish Government	2,567	USAID	2,475	
37	LID Agency	Swedish Government	1,150	USAID	634	
			Total APs 93,593		Total APs 62,149	

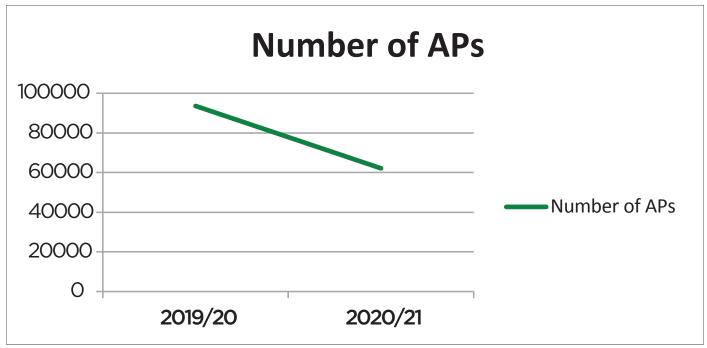


Figure 10: Mberengwa WFP LSA Food Assistance Trend

Mberengwa district received in-kind lean season assistance in year 2019/20 and 2021/22. In 2019/20 the LSA programme assisted 93, 593 APs and 2021/22 the LSA programme assisted 62, 149 APs the caseload is lesser than 2019/22.

11. District Development Priorities

Table 54: District Priorities by Wards

Rank	Development Priority	Wards Targeted	Comments
1	Health services and related infrastructure improvement	All the 37 wards	There is a limited number of health facilities resulting in congestion at the available health centres
2	Road infrastructure development	All the 37 wards	Poor road conditions within the district
3	Water Supply - boreholes, piped water schemes	All the 37 wards	There is shortage of portable water in the district
4	Irrigation infrastructure	1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 35 and 36	These wards have some perennial dams
5	Livestock disease surveillance and control	All the 37 wards	All wards are affected by livestock pests and diseases
6	Income Generation Projects promotion	All the 37 wards	There is some high rate of unemployment in the district

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Ward	Hs	# of Health Facility	Functional Boreholes	% Improved Latrines	Livelihood Zone	Livelihood Zone Description	Agro- Ecological Zones	Source of Income	Coping Strategies	Drought Prone	Flood	Average Cattle Ownership	Average Goats Ownership	Average Sheepownership	Average Poultry Ownership	Ward Priority
	1,273	-	21	91	Middle veld livelihood zone (Northern cattle and Cereal farming)	Small scale cattle ranching zone are A1 and A2	=	Crop and livestock production, beer brewing	Casual labour, beer brewing, gold panning	Low		4	4	0	4	Health services, road infrastructure, water supply and livestock
2	1,740	M	33 33	F	Middle veld livelihood zone (Northern cattle and Cereal farming)	Small scale cattle ranching zone are A1 and A3	=	Crop and livestock production	Casual labour, beer brewing, gold panning	Low		м	ın	0	м	Health services, road infrastructure, water supply and livestock
M	1,569	7	17	39	Middle veld livelihood zone	Cattle husbandry and the rain-fed cultivation of maize, sorghum, pulses and sweet potatoes	2	Crop and livestock production	Casual labour, beer brewing, gold panning	high		м	4	0	8	Health services, road infrastructure, water supply and livestock
4	1,633	7	27	20	Middle veld livelihood zone	Cattle husbandry and the rain-fed cultivation of maize, sorghum, pulses and sweet potatoes	Va	Crop and livestock production	Casual labour, beer brewing, gold panning	high		2	м	0	S	Health services, road infrastructure, water supply and livestock
2	1,686	1	22	0	Middle veld livelihood zone	Cattle husbandry and the rain-fed cultivation of maize, sorghum, pulses and sweet potatoes	Va	Crop and livestock production, beer brewing	Casual labour, beer brewing, gold panning	high	high	2	м	0	4	Health services, road infrastructure, water supply and livestock
9	1,760	1	28	22	Middle veld livelihood zone	Cattle husbandry and the rain-fed cultivation of maize, sorghum, pulses and sweet potatoes	Va	Crop and livestock production	Casual labour, beer brewing, gold panning	High	low	1	1	0	7	Health services, road infrastructure, water supply and livestock
7	1,145	1	20	0	Middle veld livelihood zone	Cattle husbandry and the rain-fed cultivation of maize, sorghum, pulses and sweet potatoes	2	Crop and livestock production	Casual labour, beer brewing, gold panning	Moderate		4	9	0	12	Health services, road infrastructure, water supply and livestock
00	1,188	-	o o	0	Middle veld livelihood zone	Cattle husbandry and the rain-fed cultivation of maize, sorghum, pulses and sweet potatoes	2	Crop and livestock production	Casual labour, beer brewing, gold panning	High		4	м	0	13	Health services, road infrastructure, water supply and livestock
o	1,038	0	19	29	Middle veld livelihood zone	Cattle husbandry and the rain-fed cultivation of maize, sorghum, pulses and sweet potatoes	2	Crop and livestock production	Casual labour, beer brewing, gold panning	moderate		8	2	0	4	Health services, road infrastructure, water supply and livestock
0	894	-	11	32	Middle veld livelihood zone	Cattle husbandry and the rain-fed cultivation of maize, sorghum, pulses and sweet potatoes	≡	Crop and livestock production	Casual labour, beer brewing, gold panning	moderate		4	7	0	7	Health services, road infrastructure, water supply and livestock
11	1,126	1	14	27	Middle veld livelihood zone	Cattle husbandry and the rain-fed cultivation of maize, sorghum, pulses and sweet potatoes	≡	Crop and livestock production	Casual labour, beer brewing, gold panning	high		м	2	0	S	Health services, road infrastructure, water supply and livestock
22	1,230	-	24	22	Middle veld livelihood zone	Cattle husbandry and the rain-fed cultivation of maize, sorghum, pulses and sweet potatoes	≡	Crop and livestock production	Casual labour, beer brewing, gold panning	moderate		м	7	0	Ω.	Health services, road infrastructure, water supply and livestock

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Ward	H.	# of Health Facility	Functional Boreholes	% Improved Latrines	Livelihood Zone	Livelihood Zone Description	Agro- Ecological Zones	Source of Income	Coping Strategies	Drought Prone	Flood	Average Cattle Ownership	Average Goats Ownership	Average Sheep Ownership	Average Poultry Ownership	Ward Priority	
13	1,030	-	81	42	Middle veld livelihood zone	Cattle husbandry and the rain-fed cultivation of maize, sorghum, pulses and sweet potatoes	e >	Crop and livestock production	Casual labour, beer brewing, gold panning	moderate	high	4	2	0	м	Health services, Road infrastructure, water supply and livestock	
4	908	0	41	33	Middle veld livelihood zone	Cattle husbandry and the rain-fed cultivation of maize, sorghum, pulses and sweet potatoes	Va	Crop and livestock production	Casual labour, beer brewing, gold panning	high		7	2	0	4	Health services, road infrastructure, water supply and livestock	
15	1,048	-	23	42	Middle veld livelihood zone	Cattle husbandry and the rain-fed cultivation of maize, sorghum, pulses and sweet potatoes	Va	Crop and livestock production	Casual labour, beer brewing, gold panning	high	high	-	4	0	on.	Health services, road infrastructure, water supply and livestock	
91	1,014	-	81	40	Middle veld livelihood zone	Cattle husbandry and the rain-fed cultivation of maize, sorghum, pulses and sweet potatoes	Va	Crop and livestock production	Casual labour, beer brewing, gold panning	moderate		4	-	0	N	Health services, road infrastructure, water supply and livestock	
17	1,139	-	15	30	Middle veld livelihood zone	Cattle husbandry and the rain-fed cultivation of maize, sorghum, pulses and sweet potatoes	Va	Crop and livestock production	Casual labour, beer brewing, gold panning	high		ъ	4	0	4	Health services, road infrastructure, water supply and livestock	
81	1,750	-	31	o o	Middle veld livelihood zone	cattle husbandry and the rain-fed cultivation of maize, sorghum, pulses and sweet potatoes	Va	Crop and livestock production, Fisheries	Casual labour, beer brewing, gold panning	high		ις.	м	0	ω	Health services, road infrastructure, water supply and livestock	
19	1,745	-	20	56	Middle veld livelihood zone	cattle husbandry and the rain-fed cultivation of maize, sorghum, pulses and sweet potatoes	Va	Crop and livestock production	Casual labour, beer brewing, gold panning	high		4	2	0	F	Health services, road infrastructure, water supply and livestock	
20	906	-	18	49	Middle veld livelihood zone	cattle husbandry and the rain-fed cultivation of maize, sorghum, pulses and sweet potatoes	Va	Crop and livestock production	Casual labour, beer brewing, gold panning	high		9	S	0	13	Health services, road infrastructure, water supply and livestock	
21	1,187	-	23	24	Low veld livelihood zone	cereal and cash cropping	Va	Crop and livestock production, beer brewing , Amarula nut value adding , Fisheries	Casual labour, beer brewing, gold panning	high		7	1	0	7	Health services, road infrastructure, water supply and livestock	
22	970	1	13	27	Low veld livelihood zone	cereal and cash cropping	Va	Crop and livestock production Fisheries,	Casual labour, beer brewing, gold panning	high		7	м	0	o o	Health services, road infrastructure, water supply and livestock	
23	1,201	-	25	13	Low veld livelihood zone	Cereal and cash cropping	Va	Crop and livestock production Fisheries,	Casual labour, beer brewing, gold panning	High		4	2	0	ω	Health services, road infrastructure, water supply and livestock	
24	1,131	1	25	54	Low veld livelihood zone	Cereal and cash cropping	Va	Crop and livestock production, Fisheries	Casual labour, beer brewing, gold panning	High		M	7	0	м	Health services, road infrastructure, water supply and livestock	
25	096	-	91	30	Middle veld livelihood zone	Cattle husbandry and the rain-fed cultivation of maize, sorghum, pulses and sweet potatoes	e >	Crop and livestock production, Amarula nut value adding	Casual labour, beer brewing, gold panning	High		M	ω	0	м	Health services, Road infrastructure, water supply and livestock	

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	0 1,252 0	39	20	Σ Ξ	Middle veld livelihood zone	Cattle husbandry and the rain-fed cultivation of maize, sorghum, pulses and sweet potatoes	^a	Crop and livestock production	Casual labour, beer brewing, gold panning	High		м	м	0	2	Health services, road infrastructure, water supply and livestock
1	1,187	61	51	Σ Ξ	Middle veld livelihood zone	Cattle husbandry and the rain-fed cultivation of maize, sorghum, pulses and sweet potatoes	\alpha \	Crop and livestock production	Casual labour, beer brewing, gold panning	High		0	2	0	ις.	Health services, road infrastructure, water supply and livestock
1	1 1	61	23	ΣΞ	Middle veld Livelihood zone	Cattle husbandry and the rain-fed cultivation of maize, sorghum, pulses and sweet potatoes	^a	Crop and livestock production	Casual labour, beer brewing, gold panning	High	High	м	0	0	-	Health services, road infrastructure, water supply and livestock
1	1,222 1	81	E	L. ZC	Low veld livelihood zone	Cereal and cash cropping	=	Crop and livestock production, beer brewing	Casual labour, beer brewing, gold panning	High		М	-	0	F	Health services, road infrastructure, water supply and livestock
I .	1,183	61	51	Σ Ξ	Middle veld Iivelihood zone	Cattle husbandry and the rain-fed cultivation of maize, sorghum, pulses and sweet potatoes	e>	Crop and livestock production	Casual labour, beer brewing, gold panning	High		4	7	0	o o	Health services, road infrastructure, water supply and livestock
İ	1,540 2	34	52	Σ Ξ	Middle veld livelihood zone	Cattle husbandry and the rain-fed cultivation of maize, sorghum, pulses and sweet potatoes	=	Crop and livestock production	Casual labour, beer brewing, gold panning	High		м	4	0	7	Health services, road infrastructure, water supply and livestock
1	1,484	71	30	L. ZC	Low veld livelihood zone	Cereal and cash cropping	\\a	Crop and livestock production	Casual labour, beer brewing, gold panning	High		м	4	0	2	Health services, road infrastructure, water supply and livestock
1	769	18	34	Σ Ξ	Middle veld Iivelihood zone	Cattle husbandry and the rain-fed cultivation of maize, sorghum, pulses and sweet potatoes	۸a	Crop and livestock production	Casual labour, beer brewing, gold panning	High		4	7	0	71	Health services, Road infrastructure, water supply and livestock
	789	и	F	Σ Ξ	Middle veld Iivelihood zone	Cattle husbandry and the rain-fed cultivation of maize, sorghum, pulses and sweet potatoes	\ \	Crop and livestock production	Casual labour, beer brewing, gold panning	Moderate	High	м	4	0	м	Health services, road infrastructure, water supply and livestock
	1,259	71	30	Σ <u>ε</u> ξ δ Ο Φ	Middle veld Ivelihood zone (Northern cattle and Cereal farming)	small scale cattle ranching zone are Al and A2	\ \	Crop and livestock production	Casual labour, beer brewing, gold panning	Low		4	м	0	м	Health services, road infrastructure, water supply and livestock
	1,251	31	24	far () Fi X	Middle veld livelihood zone (Northern cattle and Cereal farming)	small scale cattle ranching zone are A1 and A3	Na Va	Crop and livestock production	Casual labour, beer brewing, gold panning	Low		4	വ	0	2	Health services, road infrastructure, water supply and livestock
	255	ıs	27	_ ≥ ∟	Low veld livelihood zone	cereal and cash cropping	Va	Crop and livestock production	Casual labour, beer brewing, gold panning	High		o o	9	-	o.	Health services, road infrastructure, water supply and livestock

Annex

District Profiling Team

	District Team	
Name	Designation	Organisation
Stewart Chiwanga	DDDO	Local Government
Brighton Makumbe	District Nutritionist	Mohcc
Fortunate Mlambo	SDO	DSD
Mudzidzwa Petronella	A/Livestock Officer	AARDS
Florence Mupedza	Mberengwa Activity Supervisor	Lid Agency

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