

MARKET INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND PARTNERSHIPS IN MOZAMBIQUE



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Background

- Mozambique affected by natural disasters: floods in central provinces, cyclone in provinces of south and center, drought in the south
- National policies
- Food insecurity affecting 520,000 people in 2007
 - 3 vulnerability assessments including markets - 2007
 - FSN baseline in 2006
- Market information systems mainly oriented to trade promotion
 - 2 national market systems: SIMA and INFOCOM
 - Other sources of market information

SIMA - Agricultural Market Information System

- Created 1991, initially as part of MSU Food Security Project, now institutionalized
- At Ministry of Agriculture, Economics Directorate, Statistics Department;
- When the country's economic policy changed from centralized to free market economy, a need emerged to:
 - have a database on prices in different locations
 - Support the strengthening of market transactions
 - Monitor the impact of markets on food security
- Funded initially by USAID, fully funded by GOM since 2000/01
- Coverage: 24 markets in 10 provinces- in provincial capitals and at least 1 district /province with high potential in terms of production and trade

SIMA

- **Weekly data collection** on prices, availability, product flow, transport costs
 - Products (with high potential for trade and with impact on food security): maize, rice, groundnuts, beans, cassava, sweet potato and Irish potato; maize and wheat flour, oil and sugar:
 - Producers, wholesalers and retailers
- District enumerators and project national staff contracted by MSU, since 2000/01 contracts with Government
- Costs: 150,000.00 USD/year

SIMA products

- **Weekly National Market Bulletin- Quente Quente**, the only regular source of **national information on agriculture local products**, regional and international market of maize, soya, wheat and sunflower
- **Monthly provincial systems and Bulletins** in 5 provinces- geographical and local products coverage increased
- **Annual survey on market dynamics** in May-June with perspectives of agricultural marketing by rural traders: Flash (Inquerito de Janela= windshield survey)
- **Special studies** when needed/requested
- **Database** on commodity prices and flows, transport costs- widely used (national and international levels): Ministries, International Agencies, Universities, Consultancies, private sector
- Means of dissemination: email, fax, radio, Jornal Noticias, web: www.sima.minag.org.mz SMS (coming soon)

INFOCOM

- Ministry of Industry and Commerce (MIC)- DN Commerce
- Weekly bulletin on prices
 - products for human consumption (raw and industrial products: fish, eggs, sugar, maize meal, rice)
 - Collected in 66 supermarkets and market shops in provincial capitals
- Yearly bulletin (special edition)- includes projected food balance sheet at national and sub-national (north, central and south)
 - Maize, wheat, rice, sorghum and millet, cassava and other roots, beans, groundnut
- Supported by FAO, fully funded by GOV since 2007

Other sources of market information

- **Cross Border Trade Monitoring** (WFP/ FewsNet)
- **SETSAN/VAC annual assessments** include some market information that complements SIMA data
- **WFP-SENAC/ MINAG Market study 2005** for local procurement
- **WFP Community and Household Surveillance -CHS** (WFP bi-annual food security monitoring system) with qualitative market data from sampled rural communities
- **PAMA's (Support to Agricultural Market Programme) baseline** and continuous support to farmers organisations and rural traders of northern provinces to encourage information sharing.

Partnership

- **SIMA**: Min Commerce (MIC), WFP, FEWSNet, MSU, NGOs
- **INFOCOM**: MINAG-EW Dep, FAO
- **SETSAN**: VAC members (MIC, MINAG, MISAU, INGC, INE, WFP, FAO, UNICEF, EU, USAID, DFID, FEWSNet, SCF-UK, WVI, CARE,...)
- **PAMA** (funded by IFAD): MINAG-SIMA, MIC and NGOs

Audience

- **Large use of national market information (SIMA, WFP/ CHS, SETSAN, PAMA, NGOs) in/for**
 - Assessments: baseline, vulnerability analysis and specific market studies
 - Food balance sheet (as a supportive document)
 - Local purchase
- **Government:** Ministries and Institutions
- **PROAGRI** (donors group of Agriculture Sector)
- **Food Security Group**
- **FAO/IFAD/WFP Joint Programme** “Building Commodity Value Chains and Market Linkages for Farmers Associations in Mozambique” 2008-2009
- **Traders/** farmers organisation

Partnership and Audience: Lessons learnt

- Institutionalization of MIS
- Multi-sectoral assessments lead by Government
- Results of Sharing information
 - **Local Purchases** by WFP represents an important contribution to the country’s development besides the provision of Food Assistance
 - **Meetings** between M. Commerce, WFP, Oil and Sugar Processor Assoc., and other Producers Associations improved common understanding which had a positive impact on prices and product availability
- Continuous capacity building and combination of agriculture, marketing, credit and road conditions to promote markets, PAMA project contributed to closer interaction

Partnership and Audience: Constraints

- Limited **Government budget** and lack of flexibility to address unforeseen situations in the field.
- Irregular **fieldwork supervision** and **training of enumerators**
- **Limited communication facilities** at district level: difficult to get support to improve the system using cell phone for data collection for districts where there is no landline.
- **Enumerators** do not stay long in the system
- Data collection on Saturdays changed for Mondays to avoid payment of extra hours by Government (SIMA)

Partnership and Audience: Constraints

- **Reduced number of districts** because of difficult management of dispersed districts
- **Provincial systems** are not yet a priority of local authorities: Ex: part of planned budget of market information system used for other expenses and public radio charges
- Not enough **information on use of SIMA** products by people who has access to it (35% in all country, 66% in Nampula province (TIA, 2002)
- Limited **dissemination** of market information in rural areas using **community radio** in local languages

Partnership and Audience: Recommendations

- Increase **data collection coverage** and provincial sub-market systems for local information processing
- Wider **dissemination of** Market information (locally/ regionally , with bulletins in English)
- **Capacity building** in market analysis – methodologies and tools.
- Revitalize the SETSAN (Nat Secretariat for FSN) multisectoral market group

Linking Market analysis with decision-making

- Indication of availability and access at national level- food balance sheet
- Access to market is an indicator for geographical targeting for assistance
- Used by traders to decide where to buy and sell
- Negotiation power tool to producers
- Special studies on market dynamics
- More placement of market information in media
- Bulletins widely disseminated at national and regional level

Linking Market analysis with decision-making

- **Lessons learned**
 - On-going discussions on needs of food reserves for emergencies- physical vs financial
 - Debate on food vs. cash programming remains poorly documented
- **Constraints**
 - Price forecast is not done
 - Lack of adequate tools for different types of assessments and situations
 - Difficulties with supply assessments and missing information on quantities of local products available for traders

Linking Market analysis with decision-making

- **Recommendations**
 - Improve market analysis in Vulnerability Assessments for response options and local procurement recommendations
 - SIMA information to include quantities available at district and provincial levels
 - Market information could be more and better used by decision makers
 - Capacity building at all levels

**Muito
Obrigado!**

