

# The Zimbabwe Resilience Building Fund (ZRBF) High Frequency Monitoring Bulletin



Sweden  
Sverige



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## Note to the Reader

The purpose of the ZRBF High-Frequency Monitoring Bulletin is to avail real-time data and information on identified and agreed trigger indicators for the activation of the crisis modifier, performance monitoring, programming and other decisions for the overall ZRBF adaptive programme management. Information presented in this bulletin is readily available in the HFM Online Database, accessible using this URL <https://197.155.231.242/undp/ZRBF/HFMS/index.php>.

The bulletin contains official information for the month of April 2021 collected from various sources by ZRBF partners and government stakeholders and analysed by ZRBF PMU. The High Frequency Monitoring Bulletin is a product of collaboration between the ZRBF Partners and other government agencies. For questions and comments regarding this bulletin, kindly get in touch with Vhusomuzi Sithole ([vhusomuzi.sithole@undp.org](mailto:vhusomuzi.sithole@undp.org)), Fadzai Ncube ([fadzai.ncube@undp.org](mailto:fadzai.ncube@undp.org)) or Shupikayi Zimuto ([shupikayi.zimuto@undp.org](mailto:shupikayi.zimuto@undp.org)).

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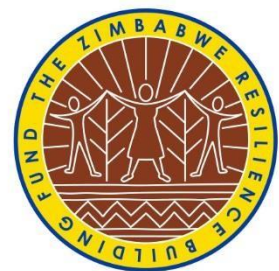
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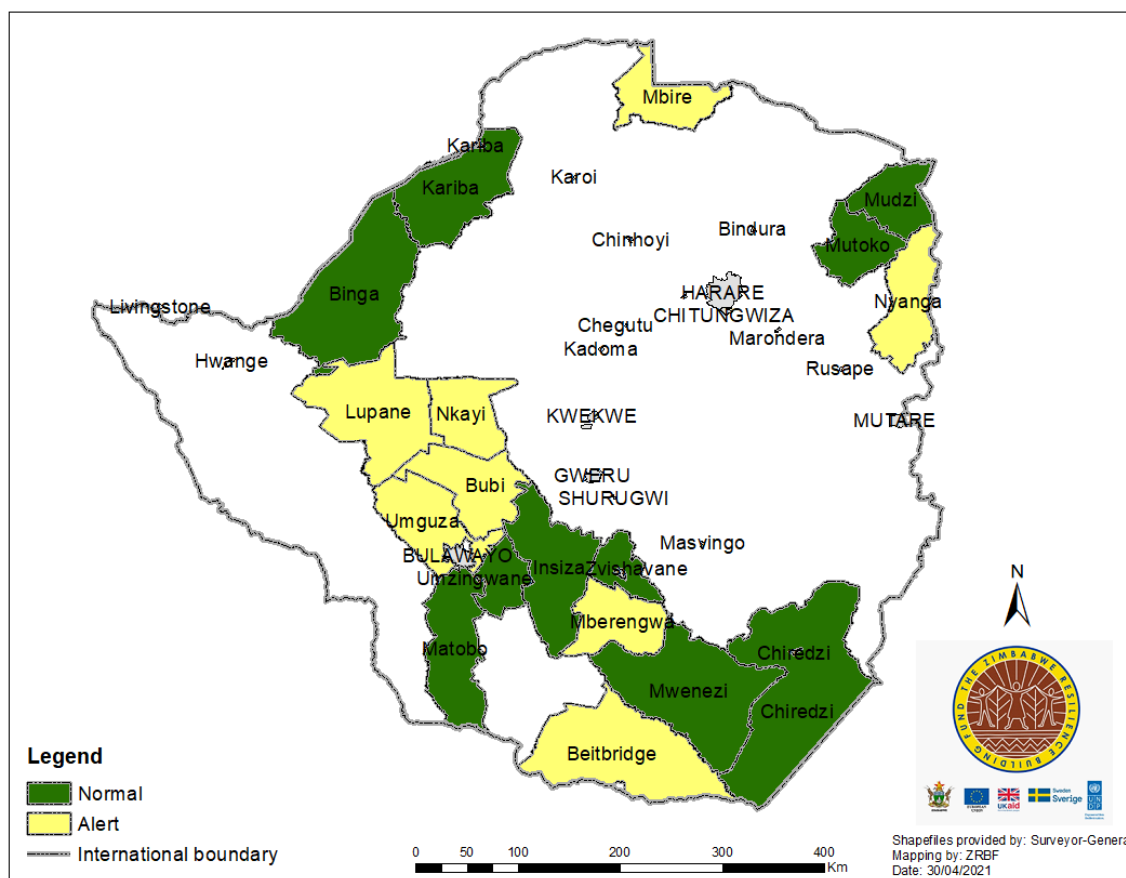


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# 1. Overall Results and Implications

## Summary Classification



## Key Highlights

According to the High Frequency Monitoring (HFM) classification, all the 18 districts were in the Alert category. The following micro indicators, which in the Emergency Stage, drove this overall classification.

- Cattle Price in Beitbridge, Chiredzi and Mwenezi
- Goat Price in Beitbridge, Chiredzi and Mwenezi
- Indigenous Chicken Price in Beitbridge, Chiredzi and Mwenezi
- Maize Price in Beitbridge, Chiredzi and Mwenezi
- Other Diseases in Mudzi and Mutoko districts
- Pearl Millet Price in Beitbridge, Chiredzi, Insiza and Mwenezi
- Rapoko Price in Chiredzi and Mwenezi
- Sheep Price in Beitbridge, Chiredzi and Mwenezi
- Sorghum Price in Beitbridge, Chiredzi and Mwenezi



## 2. Status Update Macro-Indicators

### 2.1 Vegetation Condition Index

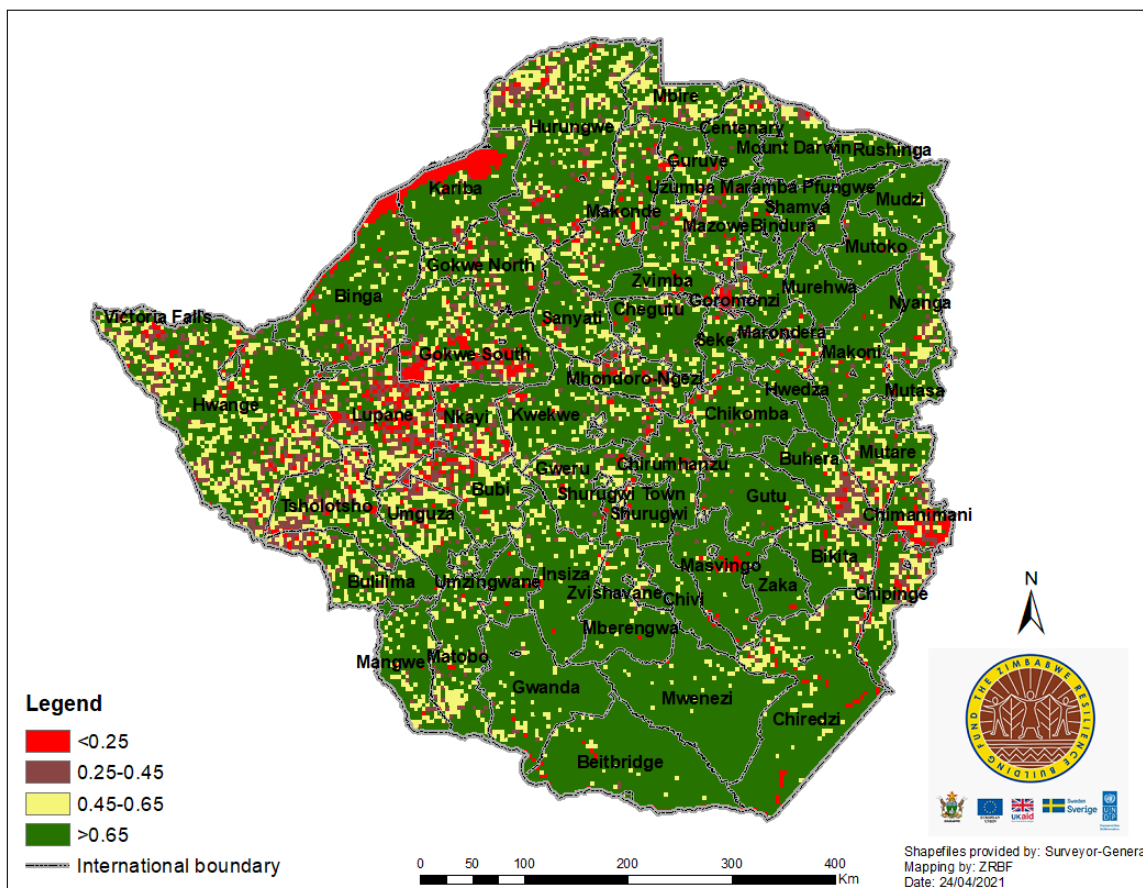


Figure 1: Vegetation Condition Index for April 2021

The Vegetation Condition Index shows improving vegetation condition in some districts culminating in the following classification:

- a) Normal (Beitbridge, Insiza, Kariba, Mberengwa, Mudzi, Mutoko, Mwenezi, Normal, Umzingwane and Zvishavane),
- b) Alert (Binga, Chiredzi, Matobo, Mbire and Umguza), and
- c) Alarm (Bubi, Lupane and Nkayi)

District	VCI values	Crisis Modifier
Beitbridge	0.71	Normal
Binga	0.63	Alert
Bubi	0.43	Alarm
Chiredzi	0.60	Alert
Insiza	0.74	Normal
Kariba	0.67	Normal
Lupane	0.38	Alarm
Matobo	0.52	Alert
Mberengwa	0.78	Normal
Mbire	0.54	Alert
Mudzi	0.88	Normal
Mutoko	0.85	Normal
Mwenezi	0.76	Normal
Nkayi	0.41	Alarm
Nyanga	0.84	Normal
Umguza	0.63	Alert
Umzingwane	0.69	Normal
Zvishavane	0.79	Normal

### 3.2 Real-time water levels in major rivers

Water levels figures were not yet available at the time of publication.

### 3. Summary of Broad Classification: Micro Trigger Indicators

The micro-indicator data from the 18 reported districts reflect conditions in the four broad classes of indicators, biophysical, production and access indicators, which were mostly in the Alert category slightly deteriorating from the categories for the past month.

- ✦ Biophysical indicators were in Alert in all districts except Mberengwa, Mudzi and Mutoko which were in the normal.
- ✦ Production indicators were mainly in the Normal for thirteen districts.
- ✦ Access indicators were in the Alert category in 12 districts. Distance to water sources for households in Alert in almost all districts.
- ✦ Bubi and Nkayi districts were in the Alert while the rest were in the Normal category

**Table 2: Trigger Indicator summary for April 2021**

District	Biophysical Indicators	Production Indicators	Access Indicators	Trade Indicators
Beitbridge	Alert	Alert	Alert	Normal
Binga	Alert	Normal	Alert	Normal
Bubi	Alert	Normal	Normal	Alert
Chiredzi	Alert	Normal	Alert	Normal
Insiza	Alert	Normal	Alert	Normal
Kariba	Alert	Alert	Alert	Normal
Lupane	Alert	Normal	Normal	Normal
Matobo	Alert	Alert	Normal	Normal
Mberengwa	Normal	Normal	Alert	Normal
Mbire	Alert	Alert	Alert	Normal
Mudzi	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal
Mutoko	Normal	Alert	Alert	Normal
Mwenezi	Alert	Normal	Alert	Normal
Nkayi	Alert	Normal	Normal	Alert
Nyanga	Alert	Normal	Alert	Normal
Umguza	Alert	Normal	Alert	Normal
Umzingwane	Alert	Alert	Alert	Normal
Zvishavane	Alert	Normal	Normal	Normal

## 4. Detailed Micro Trigger Indicators Update and Proposed Mitigatory Activities

### 4.1. Biophysical Trigger indicators

**Table 3: Biophysical trigger indicator summary for April 2021**

Biophysical Indicators				
District	Pastures Availability	Rainfall	State of Water Sources	Mid-season Dry Spells
Beitbridge	3	460	4	0
Binga	3	No data	3	0
Bubi	3	No data	3	0
Chiredzi	3	30.81	3	0
Insiza	3	No data	3	0
Kariba	3	No data	3	0
Lupane	3	No data	3	0
Matobo	3	No data	3	0
Mberengwa	3	No data	3	0
Mbire	3	No data	3	0
Mudzi	3	No data	3	0
Mutoko	3	No data	3	0
Mwenezi	4	0.41	3	0
Nkayi	3	No data	3	0
Nyanga	3	1650	No data	0
Umguza	3	No data	3	0
Umzingwane	3	No data	3	0
Zvishavane	4	213	4	0

- ✦ There was rainfall recorded across all 18 districts. Nyanga received heavy rains of 1650mm which was in the Emergency while Beitbridge received 450mm (Alarm).
- ✦ Pasture availability was in the Alert category for 16 districts with pastures expected to last 3-6 months.
- ✦ 15 districts had state of water sources in the Alert category.
- ✦ There were no mid-season dry days.

### Proposed Mitigation Activities

Depletion of grazing pastures was recorded in 15 districts which were in the Alert and Alarm categories. Farmers are encouraged to find alternative food sources to feed their cattle. Those with crop residues should preserve it for fodder and do urea treatment to add some nutritional value to the dry stover. With water sources already affected by unpredictable rainfall, the availability of water is key to prevent and protect farmers from losing the progress made over the past years and mitigate their exposure to COVID-



19. ZRBF consortia working together with water and sanitation committees should continuously do field assessments with the view to support the rehabilitation of non-functional water points.

#### 4.2 Production Trigger indicators

**Table 4: Production trigger indicator summary for April 2021**

Production Indicators						
District	Crops Pest and Diseases Outbreaks	Crop Condition	Livestock Body Condition	Number Livestock Poverty Deaths	Reported Cases of Livestock Diseases	Reported Cases of Waterborne Diseases
Beitbridge	2	3	3	0	649	No data
Binga	No data	No data	2	0	0	No data
Bubi	No data	No data	2	0	0	No data
Chiredzi	2	3	2	0	45	No data
Insiza	No data	No data	2	0	0	No data
Kariba	No data	No data	2	0	0	No data
Lupane	No data	No data	3	0	58	No data
Matobo	No data	No data	3	0	12	No data
Mberengwa	3	No data	2	0	676	No data
Mbire	No data	No data	2	0	0	No data
Mudzi	3	3	3	0	0	No data
Mutoko	2	3	2	0	77	No data
Mwenezi	3	3	3	0	20	No data
Nkayi	No data	No data	2	0	0	No data
Nyanga	No data	4	2	0	289	No data
Umguza	No data	No data	2	0	0	No data
Umzingwane	No data	No data	2	0	0	No data
Zvishavane	2	No data	3	0	666	No data

- ✦ Livestock diseases cases are still high in April, with Beitbridge, Mberengwa and Zishavane recorded high cases leading to the Emergency categorisation.
- ✦ There was no data for water-borne diseases across all districts.
- ✦ Livestock Body condition has deteriorated in all districts and is in Alert in 12 districts., this has been caused by the deteriorating pastures.

#### Proposed Mitigatory Activities

To reduce livestock starvation, there is a need to scale up the bush meal business model throughout the eighteen ZRBF targeted districts. Assessments should be carried out in areas with an abundance of

indigenous trees which can be used with fodder and crop residues to supplement the survival of the livestock. There is a need to strengthen the 'sustainable supply of acaricides to communal dip tanks model' by ensuring that cattle owners are sensitized and adequately educated on the benefits of investing in the procurement and use of acaricides.

### 4.3 Access Trigger Indicators

**Table 5: Access trigger indicator summary for April 2021**

Access Indicators				
District	Distances to Water Sources for Households	Number of Meals	School Attendance	Water for Livestock Trekking Distance
Beitbridge	2	No data	No data	2
Binga	1.5	2	No data	2
Bubi	3	2	No data	3.5
Chiredzi	1.18	3	3	1.56
Insiza	1	3	3	2
Kariba	1.5	2	No data	2
Lupane	2	3	4	2
Matobo	2	3	4	2
Mberengwa	1.41	2	4	1.34
Mbire	2	2	No data	2
Mudzi	1.414	3	4	0.81
Mutoko	0.4	3	4	0.5
Mwenezi	1.74	3	3	1.75
Nkayi	3	2	No data	3.5
Nyanga	1	No data	No data	2
Umguza	2.5	3	No data	2.5
Umzingwane	2	3	No data	2
Zvishavane	1.51	3	4	1.53

- ✦ Distance to water sources is in the Alert category in 15 districts, the distance to water sources has gone up slightly, with two districts recording an average of 3km
- ✦ 12 districts are in the Alert category for Water for livestock trekking distance.
- ✦ 6 districts where households were eating an average of 2 meals and are in the Alert category. Due to the increase in prices of food commodities, households have reduced meals to two per day to cope.
- ✦ School attendance data was normal for the majority of districts.

### Proposed Mitigatory Activities

Consortia working in communities that endure long distances to access water for domestic and livestock consumption. Arbitrary increases of prices of basic commodities, reduced flow of remittances and fiscal space for social protection programmes and a frozen labour market have been identified as some of the drivers of the recent surge in the number of households eating an average of 2 meals.

#### 4.4 Trade Trigger Indicators

**Table 6: Trade trigger indicator summary for April 2021**

District	Cattle Price	Goat Price	Indigenous Chicken Price	Maize Price	Pearl Millet Price	Rapoko Price	Sheep Price	Sorghum Price
Beitbridge	321	35	6	7	7	No data	50	7
Binga	320	12	6	9	9	No data	28	9
Bubi	400	33	8.3	12	8	8	39	8
Chiredzi	328	32	6	7	8	9	51	7
Insiza	450	50	6	6	7	No data	60	7
Kariba	336	32	6.4	5	No data	5	64	5
Lupane	400	40	6	6	6	8	50	6
Matobo	450	40	6	7	7	9	50	6
Mberengwa	450	35	5	6	8	10	60	8
Mbire	229	28	4	10	8	8	45	8
Mudzi	242	27	5	5.76	8.26	10.78	42	6
Mutoko	350	30	5	5	8	10	50	8
Mwenezi	387	46	6	7	7	10	82	7
Nkayi	480	28	8	8	8	8	31	8
Nyanga	350	35	5	4	6	6	70	2
Umguzwa	250	30	5.55	8	5.55	8	60	8
Umzingwane	500	28	5.55	8	5.55	8	44	5.55
Zvishavane	400	40	5	7	8	10	60	6

- Trade Indicators were converted to USD using the prevailing interbank rate on the 30<sup>th</sup> of April 2021.
- Trade indicators were mainly in the normal category for all commodities.

#### Proposed Mitigatory Activities

Cattle farming has the potential to increase the overall income of the farmers and raise their standard of living. Farmers are encouraged to have a sense of business, be able to sell their products where and when it is most profitable and plan production to take advantage of the most favourable markets. With USD valuations for livestock, farmers may position themselves well to take advantage of niche markets that may add value to their cattle.