From late 2018 until March 2020, several countries in Southern Africa were affected by severe drought due to below average or erratic rainfalls and extreme temperatures. Resulting reductions in the crop and livestock production led to food insecurity, and exacerbated health vulnerabilities, malnutrition, and protection issues.

More than 18 million people were affected in Angola, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Lesotho declared a new drought emergency in October 2019, while national drought emergencies in Mozambique and Namibia were extended to March 2020.

In response, between January 2019 and March 2020, CERF allocated some US$69.3 million through CERF’s Rapid Response window targeting a total of more than 3.7 million people in the seven countries.* Funds enabled partners to provide life-saving assistance covering urgent water, sanitation, food, agriculture, health, nutrition, protection and education needs.

* Angola, Lesotho and Zimbabwe received two consecutive allocations each. Some beneficiaries may therefore have been targeted twice with assistance.
**Lesotho**
Supported life-saving activities in the water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), health, nutrition, and food security sectors and enabled various sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and child protection activities.

**Mozambique**
Scaled up drought response activities through provision of food assistance and livelihood support, treatment for malnourished people and access to water.

**Malawi**
Kick-started the lean season humanitarian response through the sectors of food security, nutrition, WASH, protection, and health.

**Zimbabwe**
Provided medical supplies and hygiene kits and enabled the provision of food and livelihood support, health care as well as child protection services, including psychological support.

**Angola**
Supported screening and treatment of malnutrition, agricultural inputs supporting livelihoods, access to safe drinking water, distribution of dignity kits and health care services as well as SGBV and child protection activities.

**Zambia**
Targeted priority IPC 3* and above districts providing emergency school feeding to 25,000 children in 50 schools, in addition to interventions in the nutrition, health, protection and WASH sectors.

*Integrated Phase Classification (IPC) Acute Food Insecurity - Phase 3 (Crisis)

**Lesotho**
Emergency food assistance and livelihood support and improved access to primary and reproductive healthcare services and drinking water.

**Namibia**
Nutrition treatments, ready-to-use supplementary food aids and livelihood support, SGBV and child protection activities, access to WASH facilities and health care services.

**Zimbabwe**
Drought response in the health, WASH, nutrition, protection, and food security sectors. The allocation was in response to drought and economic crisis.

**Angola**
SGBV and child protection mechanisms, restore food production capacities, nutrition treatment and health care services as well as improved access to water and education.

**CERF TIMELINESS**
To support the most urgent and time-critical life-saving assistance in response to a new emergency, CERF rapid response grants allow UN agencies to set project start dates up to six weeks prior to disbursement. This enables them to include immediate relief activities that started before formal allocation approval.

**ALLOCATIONS TIMELINE**

- **2019**
  - **Jan** 5.6M
  - **Feb** 5M
  - **Mar** 10.1M
  - **May** 6.3M
  - **Dec** 8M

- **2020**
  - **Jan** 3M
  - **Feb** 14.9M
  - **Mar** 3.5M

**ALLOCATIONS BY SECTOR**

- **Food Assistance** 28.6M
- **Nutrition** 11.4M
- **Water, sanitation and hygiene** 9.3M
- **Agriculture** 7.2M
- **Health** 6.3M
- **Protection*** 5.5M
- **Education** 0.9M

* Protection includes general protection, child protection, and protection against sexual and/or gender-based violence.

**ALLOCATIONS BY AGENCY**

- **WFP** 30.8M
- **UNICEF** 27.5M
- **FAO** 7.2M
- **WHO** 3.5M
- **IOM** 0.3M

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

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