Food Security Situation in Namibia

BY

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DEVELOPMENT DIALOGUE FORUM

Polytechnic Hotel School 22 August 2012
Mandate of MAWF

- To promote, develop, manage and utilize agricultural, water and forest resources.

- MAWF is guided by
  - The Namibian Constitution
  - Vision 2030
  - National Development 4
  - SWAPO Party Manifesto 2009
  - Strategic Plan 2008/9 – 2012/13
  - Millennium Development Goals
Background

- Vision 2030 commits the Government of the Republic of Namibia to devise programmes and projects to ensure food security (national and household levels).

- MAWF Strategic Plan identifies key strategic issues for national and household food security.

- National food security in Namibia is guided by the following key policies
  - Green Scheme Policy (2008),
  - Namibian Agricultural Marketing and Trade Policy and Strategy (2011)
  - Other Relevant Legislations

- The Ministry has been implementing programmes and development projects that are aimed at increasing food production in Namibia.
Green Scheme Programme

- Programme aims to encouraging the development of irrigation based agronomic production.

- Green Scheme has a total land allocation of 9,429 hectares (ha) of which 3,435 ha are under production in Karas, Kavango, Caprivi and Omusati regions.

- The Programme makes provision for Small Scale Farmers, occupying a total of 825 ha.

- Produces maize, wheat, rice, vegetables, bananas, dates and grapes

- MAWF has set a target of putting 27,000 ha of land under irrigation over a 30 year period.
Grapevine at Orange River Irrigation Project
Green Scheme Projects location and size of land allocated:
- Orange River Irrigation Project (300 ha), (Karas Region),
- Tantjieskoppe Irrigation Project (1,000 ha) (Karas Region),
- Hardap Irrigation Project (130 ha), (Hardap Region),
- Etunda Irrigation Project (1,200 ha), (Omusati Region),
- Shadikongoro Irrigation Project (1,000 ha), (Kavango Region),
- Ndonga Linena Irrigation Project (800 ha) (Kavango Region),
- Mashare Irrigation Project (200 ha) (Kavango Region),
- Uhvungu Vhungu Irrigation Project (600 ha) (Kavango Region),
- Shitemo Irrigation Project (1,000 ha) (Kavango Region),
- Musesse Irrigation Project (1,000 ha) (Kavango Region),
- Sikondo Irrigation Project (800 ha) (Kavango Region),
- Kalimbeza Rice Project (229 ha), (Caprivi Region).
National Horticulture Development Initiative

- Development of Fresh Produce Hubs at
  - Rundu (Kavango Region) – nearing completion
  - Ongwediva (Oshana Region) – nearing completion
  - Windhoek (Khomas Region) – to be commenced
    - For marketing of fresh produce, sorting, grading, branding, packaging and distribution in domestic and external markets

- Market Share Promotion
  - To increase the share of locally produced fruits and vegetables in the domestic market
    - The share has increased from 32 per cent (2010) to 37.5 per cent (2011)

- Orchard Development
  - To promote planting of fruit trees in various communities
    - 70,000 trees are planted of which 38,000 are fruit trees
    - 18 orchards with 8 trial plots established covering 230 ha
Green Scheme Harvest
Fresh Produce Hub - Ongwediva
Namfresh Brand
Dry Land Crop Production Programme (DLCPP)

- The programme aims to promote food security at household level through
  - provision of improved seeds and fertilizers as well as plowing and weeding services
- DLCPP is being implemented in the crop growing regions
  - Kavango,
  - Caprivi,
  - Oshikoto,
  - Oshana,
  - Ohangwena,
  - Omusati and
  - Northern Part of Kunene Region
- In 2011/12 financial year, 15,294 subsistence farmers benefited from the programme.
Government Tractors for the DLCPP
Kalimbeza Rice Project

- MAWF continued to develop Kalimbeza into a fully fledged rice production.
- Its objective is to promote the commercial establishment of rice production.
- To complement the production, the Ministry plans to construct a 2 x 700 metric tonnes (mt) rice silos.
- The long-term plan is to increase the market share of Namibian rice to estimated of 7 500 mt consumed in Namibia per annum.
- The Ministry envisage the development of rice irrigation projects at Bambi and Nkurenkuru (Kavango Region).
Rice Harvest at Kalimbeza
National Strategic Food Reserves

- National Strategic Food Reserves are support the Green Scheme and Dry Land Crop Production programmes.

- These facilities are constructed to guarantee national food security during natural crises such as floods and drought as well as to stabilize food prices due to inflation among others.

- Government has constructed Silos with the total storage capacity of 14,000 mt at
  - Katima Mulilo (6,000 mt) (Caprivi Region),
  - Rundu (4,000 mt) (Kavango Region),
  - Okongo (500 mt) (Ohangwena Region),
  - Tsandi (3,000 mt) (Omusati Region) and
  - Omuthiya (500 mt) (Oshikoto Region)

- Silos at Okongo and Omuthiya will be upgraded to 3,000 mt each, and Namibia will hold 20,000 mt of food reserves at any time.

- MAWF plans to have a Food Reserves with 60,000 mt capacity, equivalent to four months for emergency food relief.
Strategic Food Reserves at Tsandi
Livestock Production, Improvement and Animal Health Programme

• Surveillance and animal disease control
  – Identification of crossing points for animals between the borders of Namibia and neighboring countries
  – Construction of internal fences (Bwabwata Fence separating high risk area (FMD) of Caprivi Region and west of Mukwe Constituency in Kavango Region)
  – Vaccination of cattle in Namibia and southern Angola

• Marketing of livestock products from the Northern Communal Areas
  – Upgrading of abattoirs (Outapi and Eenhana)
  – Bull scheme – improve cattle breeds

• Namibian Livestock and Traceability System
  – Ear tagging (To date 830 000 cattle tagged)
  – Submitted a dossier to the World Organisation for Animal Health to declare the large area of the NCAs as free from FMD
**Food Security Situation**

- Recent crop assessment mission in the crop growing regions revealed that
  - Current harvest may be sufficient up to November for 50 per cent of households in Omusati and Ohangwena regions
  - Household food security are much better in Oshana and Oshikoto regions due to good harvest
  - Food relief is ongoing in the regions targeting households that were affected by floods and heavy rains.
Food Security Situation cont...

- National grain production is forecasted at 165,795 mt
  - 87,600 mt (white maize)
  - 63,700 mt (sorghum and pearl millet)
  - 14,500 mt (wheat)

- Forecasted area planted for 2011 / 2012 crop season is 311,638 hectares
Food Security Situation cont ..

- Cereal food supply and demand
  - Food balance indicates that;
    - 188 600 mt of grain is available for domestic consumption
      - 101 000 mt (white maize)
      - 63 900 mt (pearl millet and wheat)
      - 23 700 mt (wheat)
  - A shortfall of 125 100 mt of coarse grain has been noted
  - Pearl millet and sorghum deficit is not likely to be met with expected imports
  - White maize is used as a substitute product to meet the need of pearl millet consumers
Mahangu Plantation
Conclusion

- The Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry
  - will continue to expand its programmes and projects in order to fulfill its mandate of ensuring food security in Namibia.
I THANK YOU