

Impact of the Floods in the Valleys areas of COMACO in Lundazi and Chama Areas

Introduction

The valley has unpredictable type of rainfall. It is on very rare occasions that it has received average normal rainfall otherwise the obvious result is either a drought or floods.

The season of 2006 / 2007 the rainfall activity has been characterized by heavy down poll since end of December 2006 which first started with heavy leaching of soils resulting to stunted growth and yellowing of crops especially maize.

The rainy activity got worse and it has brought forth floods and water logging in most of the valley areas around waterbeds and fields respectively.

Details

1. Seed distribution for 2006/2007 COMACO farmers.

COMACO supplied inputs to farmers during the seasonal farming period of 2006/2007 in November/December 2006. This was aimed at meeting farmer food security and income needs after they yielded the products. CTC marketing targets were set to be able to meet the product market demand once all was in place.

The distribution of different seed types for PGs in the Valley and plateau areas of COMACO operational areas for the seasonal farming period 2006/2007 was done between in Nov 06 to Jan 07. Details of the schedule as below:

i) Rice Seed Distribution_2006/2007

Unit	Depot/Area	QTY Of Seed In (KG)	# Of Groups	# of Receipts			Expected Yield in KGs at 450 KGs per lima	Cost of Seed in ZMK at CTC Rate of 1100/KG
				Total	M	F		
Magodi	Magodi	1090	7	107	89	18	49050	1199000
	Kapichila	500	3	55	10	45	22500	550000
Chikwa	Chimphamba	2520	58	328	81	247	113400	2772000
	Manga	1000	22	126	47	79	45000	1100000
Chifunda	Luero	1500	12	146	74	72	67500	1650000
	Mapamba	1000	9	52	35	17	45000	1100000
Kazembe	Kazembe	500	10	177	105	72	22500	550000
	Zokwe	1660	13	127	49	78	74700	1826000
Chitungulu	Chitungulu	2000	18	135	90	45	90000	2200000
Zumwanda	Zumwanda	600	4	61	40	21	27000	660000
	Vuu	5	1	1	0	1	225	5500
Tembwe	Tembwe	1540	11	152	61	91	69300	1694000
Kambombo	Kambombo	1460	3	71	27	44	65700	1606000
	Total	15375	171	1538	708	830	691,875	16912500

ii) Soyabean Seed Distribution_2006/2007

Unit	Depot/Area	QTY Of Seed In (KG)	# Of Groups	# of Receipts			Expected Yield in KGs at 360 KGs per lima	Cost of Seed in ZMK at CTC Rate of 500/KG
				Total	M	F		
Chikwa	Manga	489	9	57	41	16	20520	244500
	Kanga	500	15	0	0	0	0	250000
Chifunda	Luero	500	3	25	5	20	9000	250000
Magodi	Magodi	8970	67	595	285	310	214200	4485000
	Kapichila	500	3	25	11	44	9000	250000
Chikomeni	Chikomeni	1000	14	68	33	35	24480	500000
Mwasemphangwe	Mwasemphangwe	1540	11	61	43	18	21960	770000
Zumwanda	Zumwanda	500	8	165	25	139	59400	250000
	Vuu	1,000	7	113	39	74	40680	500000
Total		14,309	137	574	482	656	399,240	7499500

iii) Groundnut Seed Distribution_2006/2007

Unit	Depot/Area	QTY Of Seed In (KG)	# Of Groups	# of Receipts			Expected Harvest In KGs at 320 KGs per Lima shelled	Cost of Seed in ZMK at CTC Rate of 4000/KG
				Total	M	F		
Chifunda	Luero	600		60	17	53	19200	2,400,000
Chikwa	Kanga	400		70	21	39	22400	1,600,000
Total		1000		130	38	92	41600	4,000,000

iv) Sweet Potatoe Vines

Unit	Depot/Area	QTY Of Seed In (Bundles of 50KG)	# Of Groups	# of Receipts			Expected Harvest In KGs for 1/4 lima of 600 KGs	Cost of Seed in ZMK at CTC Rate of 10000/50KG
				Total	M	F		
Chitungulu	Chitungulu	40	5	40	24	16	24000	400000
Chifunda	Luero	30	7	30	11	19	18000	300000
Chikwa	Manga	30	4	30	16	14	18000	300000
Total		100	16	100	51	49	60000	1,000,000

2. The Floods Impact on COMACO Farmers in Valley

The floods have brought about a number of destructive situations. The outline below provides for some of the scenario thus caused by the floods:

i. Houses of HHs collapsing

The impact of the excessive rains in the current rainy season has seen houses collapsing to which on record 4 have been reported in Chitungulu (2) and Kataba (2) respectively.

ii. Relocation of villages to Upper Land

There has also been some relocation of the villages from the lower land areas to some temporally location in the much upper land. Two villages from Kazembe and One from Chitungulu have done that over the same period.

iii. Fields flooded with water

The floods have also caused much damage caused by mainly water logging of fields. This is mainly attributed to busting of small river banks and the soil denudation. The other factor leading to this is the practice by most of the farmers to grow their crop near the river banks. The areas where this has had very devastating effects is Chifunda, Tembwe and Chikwa units.

iv. Excessive leaching

The crop of mostly cereal maize has been badly affected by leaching including other crops like sorghum and millet. This has left most the fields

v. Floods statistics for the Valley depots in Chama and Lundazi

Unit	Depot	Crop	# of farmers Affected	# of Limas
Chikwa	Manga	Rice	43	43
	Chipamba	"	11	11
Chifunda	Luero	"	28	28
	Mapamba	"	15	15
Kazembe	Zokwe	"	29	29
	Kazembe	"	23	23
Tembwe	Tembwe	"	120	118
			172	170

Floods Impact On Fields for CF Farmers on Their Maize and Rice Fields

Chiefdom	Depot	# of HHs (Farmers) Affected			Average HA destroyed
		M	F	TOTAL	
CHITUNGULU		178	113	291	291
KAZEMBE	Kazembe	293	54	347	347
	Zokwe	50	26	76	76
	Total	521	193	714	714
	Zimwanda	100	94	194	194
CHIFUNDA	Kasela	84	100	184	184
	Luero	244	310	554	554
	Mapamba	57	30	87	87
	Total	485	534	1019	1019
CHIKWA	Manga	136	133	269	269
	Chipamba	500	328	828	828
	Total	1006	727	1733	1733
Grand Total		2190	1567	3757	3757

3. The proposed strategy to address the imminent food insecurity levels.

The COMACO program through WCS support is proposing to avert looming food insecurity and less potential pressure on wildlife and its habitat.

- i. Seed mobilization (OPVs i.e. Soya beans, G/nuts, Rice)

To retain all stocks in Lundazi, Mfuwe, Feira and Chama lost in due to the floods. Sales to WFP at commercial seed cost

Rice local processing depending on quantities in stock

Maize sales for commercial purposes i.e. ingredient for Soya products

- ii. Sweet potatoes /Pulses

Timely planting of sweet potatoes vines, cowpeas and carioca beans

- iii. Enhancing poultry production initiatives