WFP News Video:
EL Nino’s Hidden Impact on People living with HIV/AIDS

Location: Zimbabwe
Shot: 7-9, Sep 16
Language: English
TRT 3:14

Shotlist:
:00-:20
Farmer’s fields near Chivhu, Zimbabwe
Shot: 9, Sep 16
Farmers trying to prepare land for upcoming planting season. In 2016 many farmers have unsuccessfully tried to plant maize several times. Due to El Nino related drought, up to 4.1 million people, almost half the population, in rural areas will be affected by food insecurity during the peak hunger period (January – March 2017). In October, 3.39 million people are in need of urgent food assistance. In 20 districts, the levels of food insecurity lie between 50% and 79%.

:20-:32
Nutrition Clinic-Bulawayo, Zimbabwe
Shot: 7, Sep 16
The nutrition situation has also deteriorated: four districts in Zimbabwe are above WHO thresholds for ‘serious’ malnutrition rates. It is estimated that 196,000 people, including children, are living with HIV in the 15 districts worst affected by drought. Food insecurity increases the risk of HIV infection and default on care especially by young people, women and girls.

:32-:51
Nutrition Clinic-Bulawayo, Zimbabwe
Shot: 7, Sep 16
Senzelwe Moyo and her 2 year old son are both HIV positive. The red indicator on the arm band shows that he is extremely malnourished and needs to be in a hospital. He has also tested positive for TB. Hunger reduces people resistance to disease-especially people who are HIV positive. WFP will provide them with special fortified foods.

:51-:58
Nutrition Clinic-Bulawayo, Zimbabwe
Shot: 7, Sep 16
SOT: Sister Caroline Mukozho, Nurse (English):
“The child is refusing to take the medicines because, normally, she is saying, they don’t have enough food to take.”

:58-1:02
Nutrition Clinic-Bulawayo, Zimbabwe
Shot: 7, Sep16
Senzelwe Moyo and her 2 year old son

1:02-1:28
Harare, Zimbabwe
SOT, Niels Balzar, WFP Zimbabwe (English)
Shot: 9, Sep16
“Over the last couple of months, we have seen increasing rates of malnutrition in various parts of the country due to the El Nino induced drought. That also has an impact on people living with HIV/AIDS in that they will not be able to access enough food which they need necessarily to ensure the drugs they are taking every day are having their intended effects.”

1:29-1:40
Plumtree, Zimbabwe
SOT Sipiwe Moyo (English)
Shot: 7, Sep16
“I get maybe 45-50 KG’s if we’ve got rains. But last year I only got 10KG’s or so. This year it was worse.”

1:40-1:57
Plumtree, Zimbabwe
SOT Sipiwe Moyo (English)
Shot: 7, Sep16
To help vulnerable communities like Sipiwe’s struggling with both the drought brought on by El Nino and HIV, WFP provides a combination of food and cash. (US$5/household member/month). The cash enables them to buy a variety of fresh foods and helps the local economy. When staples, like the white corn being distributed here, are not available in the local market WFP provides the food.
2:37-2:46
Plumtree, Zimbabwe
Sipiwe Moyo preparing her dinner
Shot: 7, Sep 16

2:46-2:52
Plumtree, Zimbabwe
SOT Sipiwe Moyo (English)
Shot: 7, Sep 16
“I feel dizzy, it’s better if I have something in my stomach”

2:53-3:00
Plumtree, Zimbabwe
Sipiwe Moyo eating her dinner
Shot: 7, Sep 16

3:00-3:09
Plumtree, Zimbabwe
SOT Sipiwe Moyo (English)
Shot: 7, Sep 16
“Most of us are not well, as I have said before, so, how are you going to live if you don’t have food?”

3:09-3:14
Plumtree, Zimbabwe
Sipiwe Moyo eating her dinner
Shot: 7, Sep 16

ENDS

1. The impacts of El Nino pose a serious challenge to the global goal of Ending AIDS by 2030.

2. People living with HIV (PLHIV) are particularly vulnerable to food insecurity. There is a correlation between food insecurity and treatment adherence, retention and success. PLHIV who initiate treatment while severely malnourished are two to six times more likely to die in the first six months of treatment.

3. There is also a correlation between El Niño-induced drought and HIV infection rates; a 2014 study of 18 El Niño affected countries in sub-Saharan Africa, including Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Swaziland,
Zambia, and Zimbabwe found that infection rates in HIV endemic rural areas increased by 11% for every recent drought.

4. Food insecurity can pressure households and individuals into unsustainable or harmful coping strategies, including risk behaviors (e.g., transactional sex), which drive new HIV infections.

Some Stats:
- In 2015 UNAIDS estimates 14.7% of adults between the age of 15 to 49 are living with HIV in Zimbabwe. (http://www.unaids.org/en/regionscountries/countries/zimbabwe)
- Southern Africa accounts for one-third of all PLHIV worldwide.
- ZimVAC estimates that 2.2 million people will require immediate food assistance across 60 rural districts through September 2016. Through the peak of the lean season (January – March 2017) it is estimated 4.1 million people will be in need of food security support.
- An estimated 7.5 million people in highly-impacted Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe currently require assistance to meet their basic food & nutrition needs.
- Zimbabwe’s Vulnerability Assessment Committee (ZimVAC) estimates that 4.1 million people, some 44% of the rural population, will be food insecure by the first quarter of 2017. This figure represents a 47% increase in needs compared to the previous year.
- Many of the districts in Zim hardest hit by El Nino also have among the highest rates of HIV in the country.
- From January to July 2016 in Zimbabwe, 4,000 children aged 6 to 59 months and 226 children less than 6 months have been admitted for severe acute malnutrition treatment in the 20 most affected districts. Of the 4,000 children treated for SAM, 59 per cent were tested for HIV and of those tested 258 (11 per cent) were HIV positive (http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/riasco_action_plan_update_n01_14sept2016.pdf)
- Zimbabwe: The humanitarian situation continues to deteriorate. Results from the 2016 Zimbabwe Vulnerability Assessment Committee show that approximately 4.1 million people (42 per cent of the rural population) will require food assistance during the peak hunger period of January to March 2017 - the highest since 2009. Levels of food insecurity increased significantly in all 60 districts, with some districts recording levels as high as 79 per cent. Nutrition indicators have also deteriorated, with 15 districts with a global acute malnutrition rate of more than 5 per cent, and 2 districts above 8 per cent. This is unprecedented in Zimbabwe, where global acute malnutrition rates have traditionally remained within the
‘acceptable’ range of less than 5 per cent. The country is in the process of reviewing its Humanitarian Response Plan and will have updated figures in September.
(http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/riasco_action_plan_update_no1_14sept2016.pdf)

WFP is the world's largest humanitarian agency fighting hunger worldwide, delivering food assistance in emergencies and working with communities to improve nutrition and build resilience. Each year, WFP assists some 80 million people in around 80 countries.

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