LIVELIHOOD BASELINE ASSESSMENT REPORT
NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2021

MATEBELELAND SOUTH | MASVINGO PROVINCES
ZIMBABWE

IOM UN MIGRATION

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DEFINITION OF KEY TERMS

- Internally displaced person (IDP) A person who flees his or her State or community due to fear or dangers for reasons other than those which would make him or her a refugee. A displaced person is often forced to flee because of internal conflict or natural or man-made disasters. This exercise also considers people/households with homes that were totally or partially damaged who either moved from or remained at their own homesteads as IDPs such that their habitual residences are compromised.

- Returnees refers to a person returning to his or her country of origin or habitual residence usually after spending at least one year in another country. This return may or may not be voluntary.

- Affected population refers to the people who are still living with the negative effects of for instance natural disasters, pandemics and economic shocks (including IDPs).

- Vulnerable host households are households from within the communities which are characterized by child headed, chronically ill headed, elderly headed, single women headed households, households with members living with chronically illnesses or with disabilities among other vulnerabilities.

METHODOLOGY

Through the inception meeting done at district level with stakeholders from the Ministry of Local Government, Housing and Public works, Ministry of Public Service and Social welfare, Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Rural Resettlement, Ministry of Women Affairs, Community, Small and Medium Enterprises Development, wards to be assessed were identified. The baseline assessments were then conducted in the prioritized wards through focus group discussions with the ward key informants who included ward councillors, ward secretaries, village heads, extension workers, VHWs and representatives of the vulnerable groups.

Data collection enumerators recruited at district level, were trained on the administration of baseline questionnaire with data collection done through mobile devices. Key informant mobilization was done through and in coordination with the office of the District Civil Protection Committee.

Livelihood Baseline Assessment Report Masvingo & Matabeleland South Province (November 2021)

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INTRODUCTION

Cyclone Idai, which affected Zimbabwe in March 2019, particularly impacting Manicaland and Masvingo provinces caused tremendous damage to infrastructure, household shelters and community livelihoods. Despite support from government and partners to the communities so far, there are still glaring residual needs in the affected communities which is hindering of the achievement of durable solutions.

The advent of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 further exacerbated the need for humanitarian assistance to most of the population as the pandemic adds another significant shock to the economy, increasing poverty and inequalities. This pandemic poses a profound risk for communities in fragile contexts, particularly for internally displaced persons (IDPs), host communities, and migrant returnees from neighboring countries who were forced to come back home due to the impact of the pandemic.

Since the COVID-19 imposed movement restriction measures worldwide, more than 485,000 Zimbabwean migrants have returned to Zimbabwe (*IOM POE Weekly Update 72*), the majority from mostly South Africa, fearing personal safety and economic hardships, expecting to obtain a job opportunity and reintegrate in their communities. The pandemic increased the pressure in communities already highly affected by recurring shocks (flooding, droughts, food insecurity) in Matabeleland South province.

Addressing the vulnerabilities of returnees and displaced population is critical, and IOM with funding from the Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA) is providing multisectoral assistance through Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) and income generating activities to promote reintegration and build resilience of IDPs, returnees and vulnerable host communities in Masvingo Province.

From 9 November to 1 December 2021, IOM conducted inception meetings at Provincial and District level and livelihood baseline assessments to identify the most vulnerable Districts, the needs and to estimate the number of people in need in Bikita, Chivi and Chiredzi districts of Masvingo Province.

KEY FINDINGS

2 PROVINCES   **6 DISTRICTS**   **29 WARDS**

616 IDP households
3,062 Individuals

3,493 Returnee households
17,165 Individuals

7,387 host community households
36,599 Individuals

In **79%** of the assessed wards, drinking water was the most urgent need

Poultry was indicated as the most feasible and conducive livelihood activity in **83%** of the assessed locations

In **83%** of the assessed wards, job loss was the major reason for return.

Livelihood Baseline Assessment Report
Masvingo Province
(November 2021)

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KEY FINDINGS

3 DISTRICTS   14 WARDS   ASSESSED

387 IDP households
1,897 Individuals

318 Returnee households
1,221 Individuals

2,608 host community households
12,204 Individuals

In **64%** of the assessed wards, drinking water was the most urgent need

Poultry was indicated as the most feasible and conducive livelihood activity in **82%** of the assessed locations

In **all** of the assessed wards, job loss was the major reason for return.
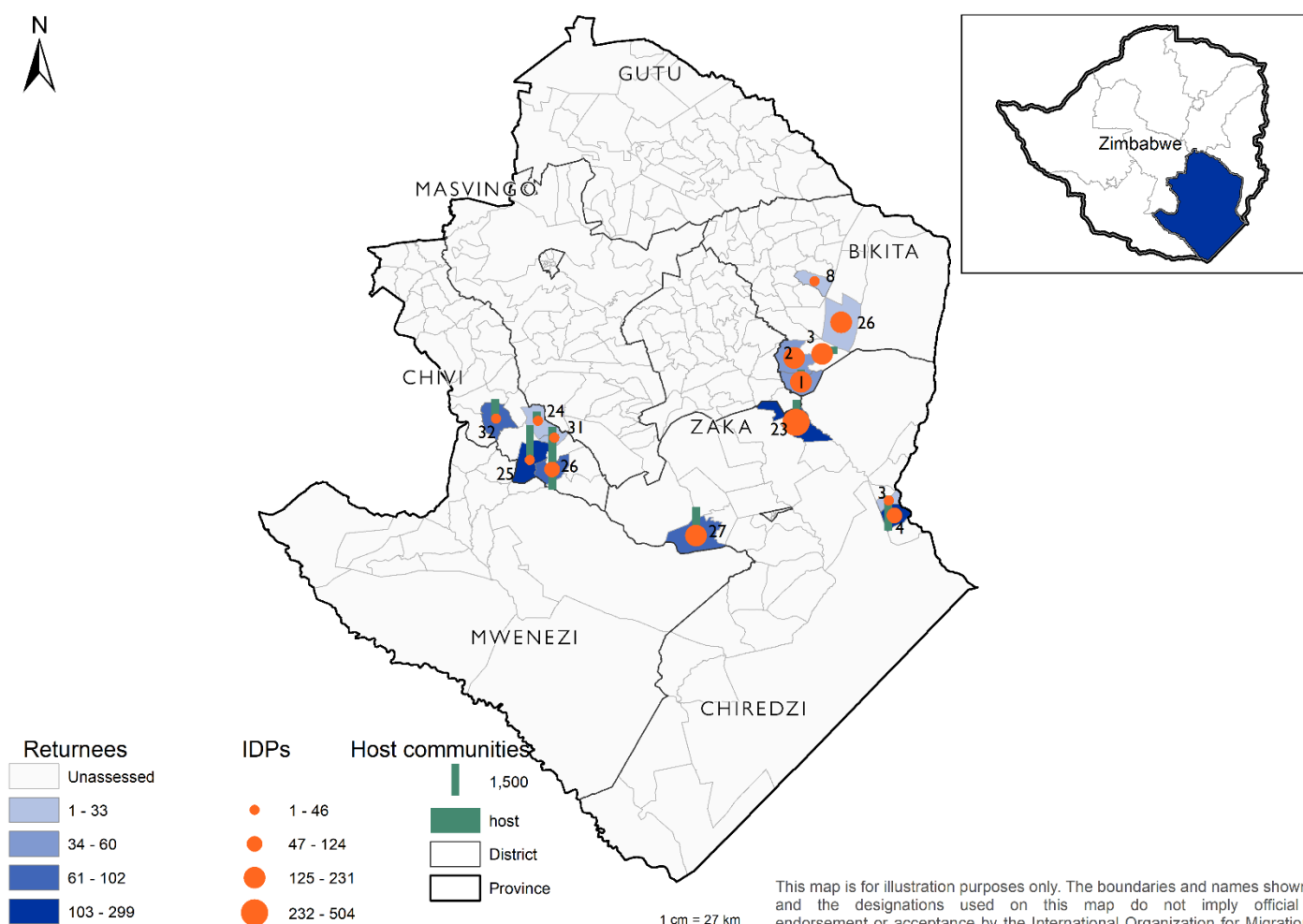
ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW

The map shows the distribution of IDPs, returnees and host communities identified in all the three districts assessed. Overall, IOM-DTM has so far identified 387 IDP households, 318 returnee households and 2,608 vulnerable households in host communities throughout the 14 wards assessed in Masvingo province. Chiredzi district reported the highest number of IDPs individuals (905), followed by Bikita district with 805 IDP individuals and Chivi district with 187 IDP individuals. A total of 280 villages were listed as having the targeted beneficiary categories across the 14 prioritized wards, five in Bikita, five in Chivi and four wards in Chiredzi.

Chivi district recorded the highest number of vulnerable individuals (6,261) within the host community as compared to Chiredzi and Bikita with 3,968 and 1,975 individuals respectively. Chivi also recorded the highest number of returnees (546), followed by Chiredzi (520) and Bikita (155). Economic shocks that have repeatedly affected the country have contributed towards the migration of Zimbabwean nationals to neighboring countries and overseas in search of better opportunities. With the advent of the COVID-19 pandemic, job loss, unemployment and economic hardships were said to have contributed towards the return of migrants back to Zimbabwe.

Drinking water, food, education and civil documentation were the top four priority needs highlighted by key informants in the assessed wards.

MAP SHOWING THE DISTRIBUTION OF IDPS, RETURNEES AND VULNERABLE HOST COMMUNITIES IDENTIFIED IN MASVINGO PROVINCE
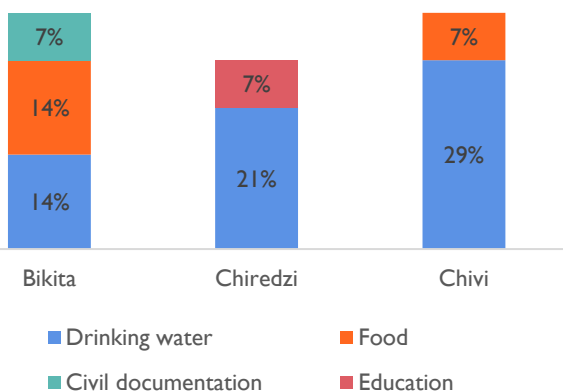

This map is for illustration purposes only. The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the International Organization for Migration.
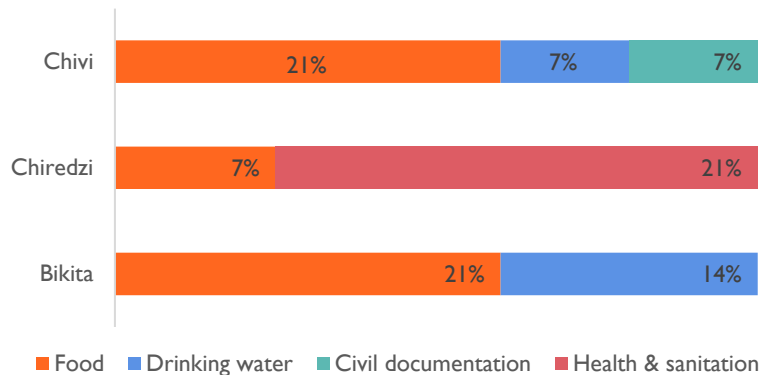
PRIORITY NEEDS AND ASSISTANCE

- As figure below shows, the majority of the assessed wards in Masvingo province (64%), reported drinking water as the first most important need, 21 per cent reported food while civil documentation and education were reported as the first most priority needs by seven per cent of the assessed wards each.

- Food is the most needed second priority needs in Chivi (21%), Bikita (21%) while in Chiredzi, health and sanitation were reported as the first second priority by 21 per cent. Drinking water was selected by 21 per cent while civil documentation was reported by seven per cent of the assessed wards.

- Shelter and housing featured among the third most priority need in Bikita most probably since it was affected by cyclone Idai in 2019 and violent storms there after. In Chivi key informants are interested in infrastructure while in Chiredzi the common third most priority need was financial support for livelihood activities.

First Most Urgent Need

Legend: ■ Drinking water ■ Food ■ Civil documentation ■ Education

Second Most Urgent Need

Legend: ■ Food ■ Drinking water ■ Civil documentation ■ Health & sanitation

* Please note that due to rounding off the total may be below 100%

LIVELIHOOD PREFERENCES

Of the identified villages in each ward, 82 per cent reported poultry as the most feasible livelihood activity in the region. Soap making and carpentry were also selected among the activities that could be viable. A household or individual assessment of the beneficiaries is critical in ensuring that only the activities the beneficiaries could manage are implemented. Availability of inputs also plays a vital role in ensuring success.

Prioritized Livelihoods
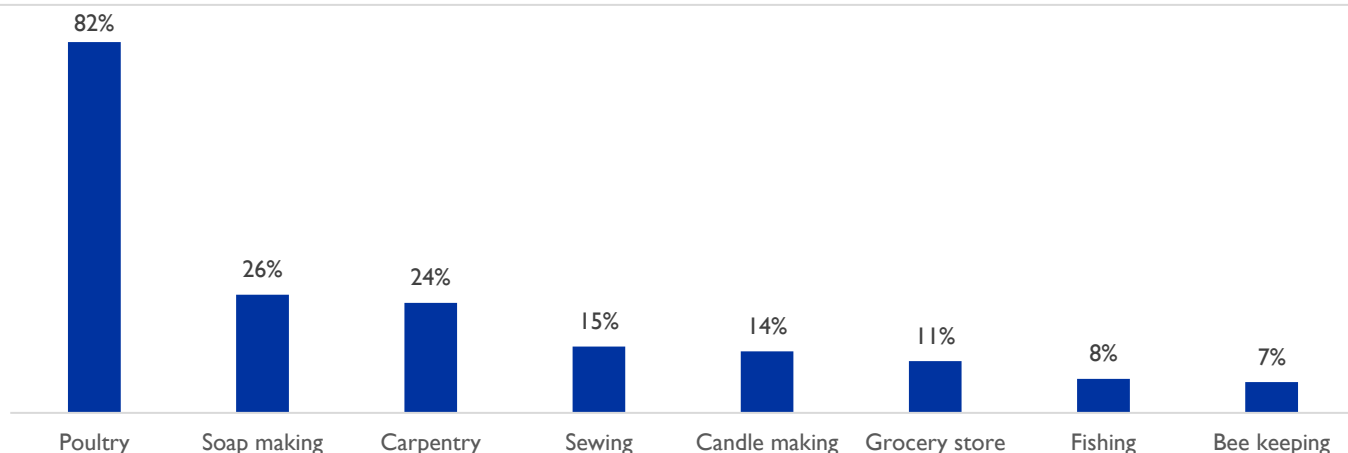
* Please note that multiple answers were possible for this question

Multisectoral Livelihood Baseline Assessment Report (November 2021)

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BIKITA DISTRICT

5 Wards Assessed	**161** IDP Households	**31** Returnee Households
118 Prioritized Villages	**805** IDP Individuals	**155** Returnee Individuals

395 Households with **1,975** Vulnerable Individuals in Host Communities

District Estimated Target Population by Vulnerability Category and Ward

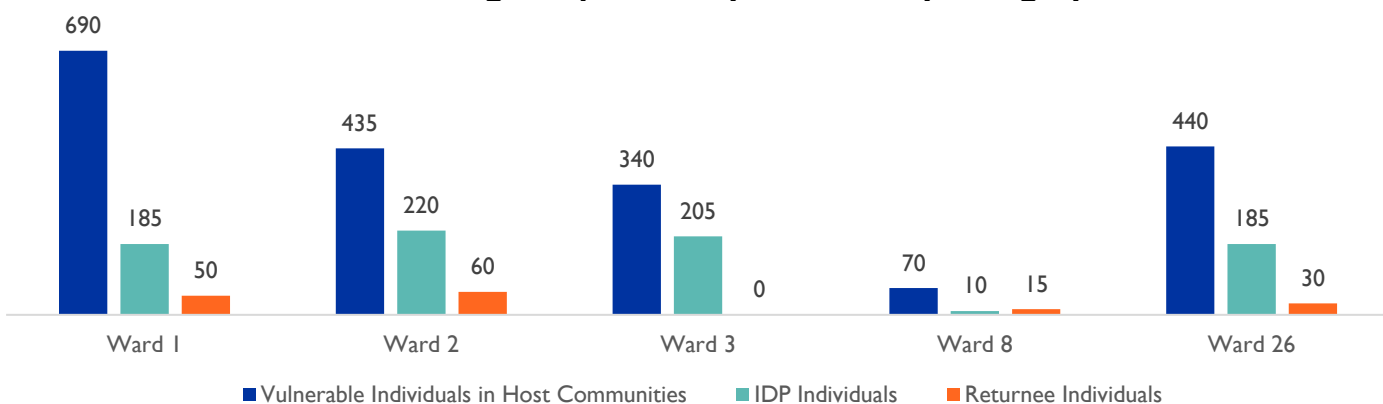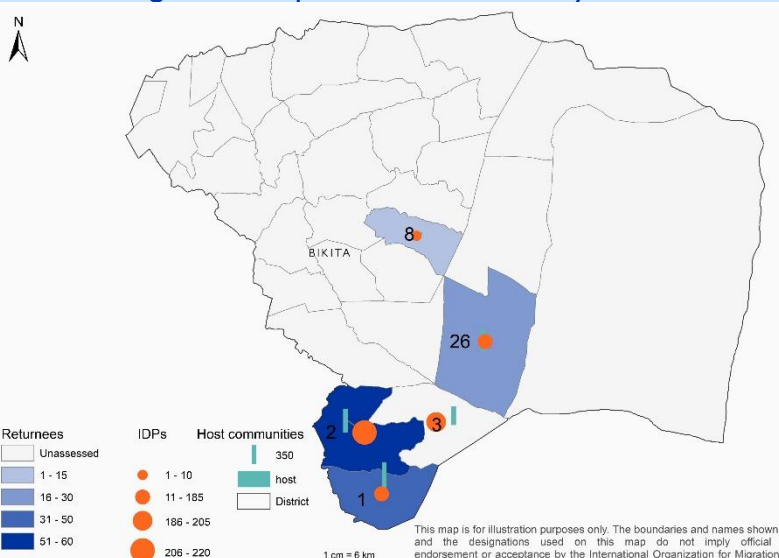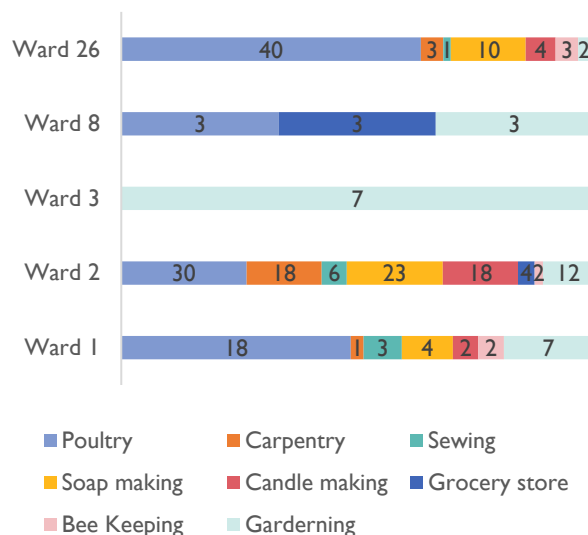| Ward	Vulnerable Individuals in Host Communities	IDP Individuals	Returnee Individuals
Ward 1	690	185	50
Ward 2	435	220	60
Ward 3	340	205	0
Ward 8	70	10	15
Ward 26	440	185	30

■ Vulnerable Individuals in Host Communities ■ IDP Individuals ■ Returnee Individuals

Target Groups Distribution By Ward

Returnees
- Unassessed
- 1 - 15
- 16 - 30
- 31 - 50
- 51 - 60

IDPs
- 1 - 10
- 11 - 185
- 186 - 205
- 206 - 220

Host communities
- 350
- host
- District

1 cm = 6 km

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Preferred Livelihoods

Ward	Poultry	Carpentry	Sewing	Soap making	Candle making	Grocery store	Bee Keeping	Gardening
Ward 26	40	3		1	10	4	3	2
Ward 8	3				3			3
Ward 3								7
Ward 2	30	18	6	23	18	4	2	12
Ward 1	18	1	3	4	2	2		7

■ Poultry ■ Carpentry ■ Sewing
■ Soap making ■ Candle making ■ Grocery store
■ Bee Keeping ■ Gardening

The information reported is an analysis from the data collected on 118 villages located in five wards. Bikita district has more IDPs than returnees as it was affected by cyclone Idai whilst vulnerable individuals within the community are the highest. Market availability and ease of management were some of the cited reasons for choosing poultry which is the most predominantly selected activity. Gardening was selected by a sustainable number of villages to be more feasible, unfortunately this livelihood is not supported by the ongoing IOM project.

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CHIVI DISTRICT

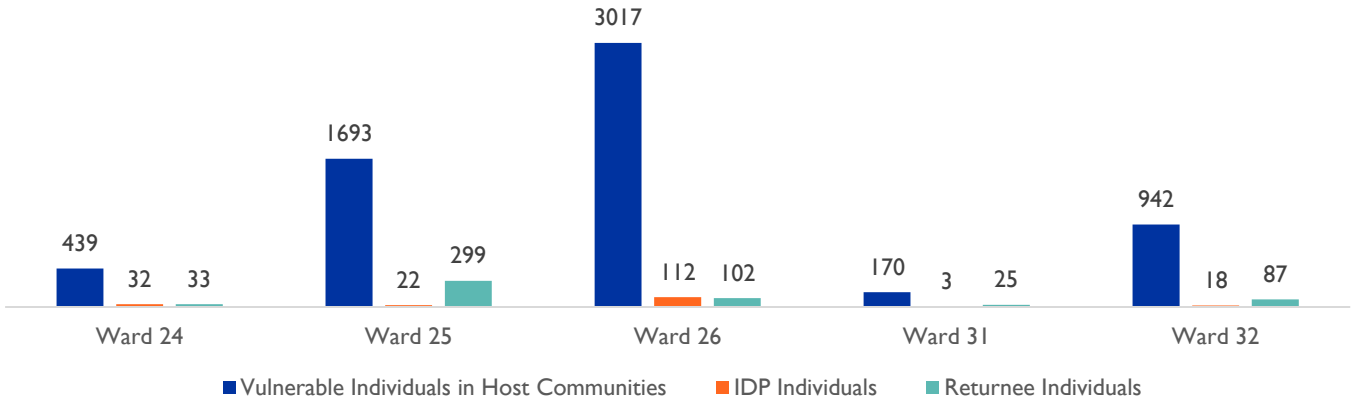| **5** Wards Assessed	**53** IDP Households	**144** Returnee Households
138 Prioritized Villages	**187** IDP Individuals	**546** Returnee Individuals

1,343 Households with
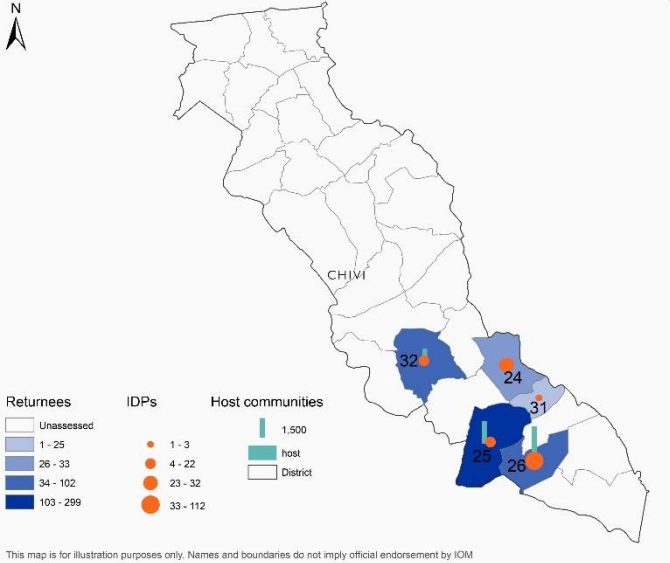**6,261** Vulnerable Individuals in Host Communities

District Estimated Target Population by Vulnerability Category and Ward

- Ward 24: 439, 32, 33
- Ward 25: 1693, 22, 299
- Ward 26: 3017, 112, 102
- Ward 31: 170, 3, 25
- Ward 32: 942, 18, 87

■ Vulnerable Individuals in Host Communities   ■ IDP Individuals   ■ Returnee Individuals

Target Groups Distribution By Ward

CHIVI

Returnees
- Unassessed
- 1 - 25
- 26 - 33
- 34 - 102
- 103 - 299

IDPs
- 1 - 3
- 4 - 22
- 23 - 32
- 33 - 112

Host communities
- 1,500
- host
- District

This map is for illustration purposes only. Names and boundaries do not imply official endorsement by IOM

Preferred Livelihoods

- Ward 32: 31, 6, 2, 9, 6, 6, 7
- Ward 31: 7, 1, 1, 3, 2, 1
- Ward 26: 45, 28, 8, 5, 2, 2
- Ward 25: 24, 5, 4, 6, 4, 4
- Ward 24: 12, 3, 3, 6, 2

■ Poultry   ■ Carpentry   ■ Sewing   ■ Soap making
■ Candle making   ■ Grocery store   ■ Bee Keeping

The information reported is an analysis from the data collected on 138 villages located in five wards. Chivi district has more returnees and vulnerable individuals than IDPs which could be attributed the dry weather conditions that have driven the district to rely on cross border activities. Poultry is the most predominantly selected activity mainly because of past successful similar livelihoods implemented by other humanitarian partners in the assessed wards.

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CHIREDZI DISTRICT

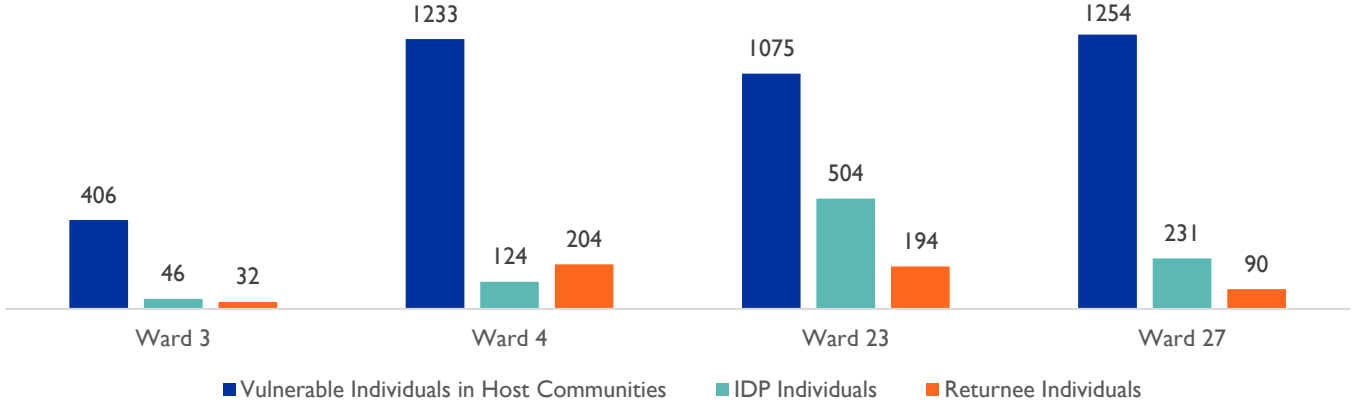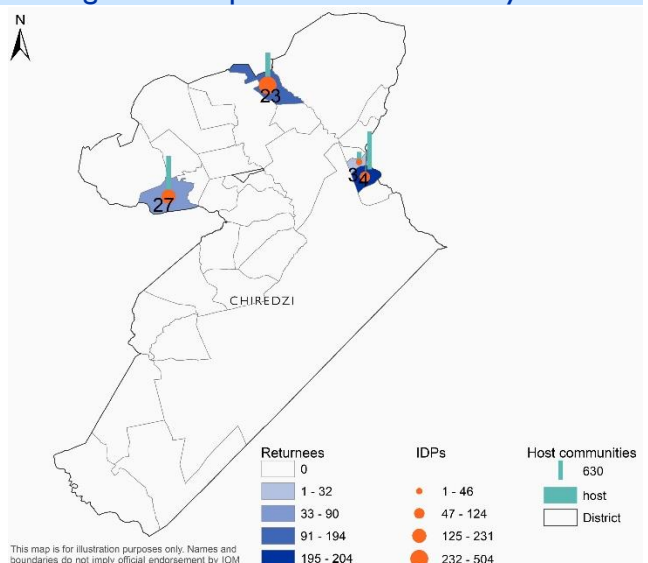|		
4 Wards Assessed	**173** IDP Households	**143** Returnee Households
24 Prioritized Villages	**905** IDP Individuals	**520** Returnee Individuals

870 Households with
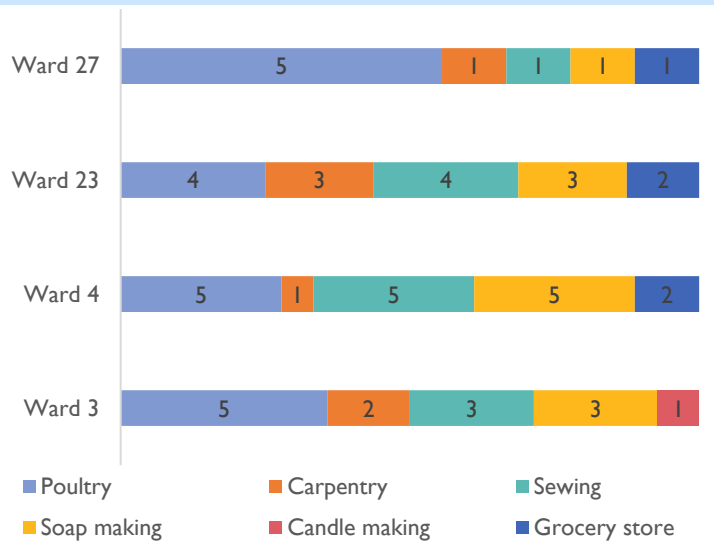**3,968** Vulnerable Individuals in Host Communities

District Estimated Target Population by Vulnerability Category and Ward

- Ward 3: 406 (Vulnerable Individuals in Host Communities), 46 (IDP Individuals), 32 (Returnee Individuals)
- Ward 4: 1233, 124, 204
- Ward 23: 1075, 504, 194
- Ward 27: 1254, 231, 90

■ Vulnerable Individuals in Host Communities ■ IDP Individuals ■ Returnee Individuals

Target Groups Distribution by Ward

This map is for illustration purposes only. Names and boundaries do not imply official endorsement by IOM

Returnees
0
1 - 32
33 - 90
91 - 194
195 - 204

IDPs
● 1 - 46
● 47 - 124
● 125 - 231
● 232 - 504

Host communities
630
host
District

CHIREDZI

Preferred Livelihoods

- Ward 27: Poultry 5, Carpentry 1, Sewing 1, Soap making 1, Grocery store 1
- Ward 23: Poultry 4, Carpentry 3, Sewing 4, Soap making 3, Grocery store 2
- Ward 4: Poultry 5, Carpentry 1, Sewing 5, Soap making 5, Grocery store 2
- Ward 3: Poultry 5, Carpentry 2, Sewing 3, Soap making 3, Candle making 1

■ Poultry ■ Carpentry ■ Sewing ■ Soap making ■ Candle making ■ Grocery store

The information reported is an analysis from baseline data collected on 24 villages located in four wards. Chiredzi district has more IDPs than returnees as it was affected by cyclone Idai and human induced displacements whilst vulnerable individuals within the community are the highest. Market availability and ease of management were some of the cited reasons for choosing poultry which was selected by 79 per cent of the villages. Soap making and sewing were also more preferred than carpentry and candle making.

KEY FINDINGS

3 DISTRICTS   **15 WARDS**   **ASSESSED**

229 IDP households
1,165 individuals

3,175 Returnee households
15,944 individuals

4,779 host community households
24,395 individuals

In **93%** of the assessed wards, drinking water was the most urgent need

Poultry was indicated as the most feasible and conducive projects in **89%** of the assessed locations

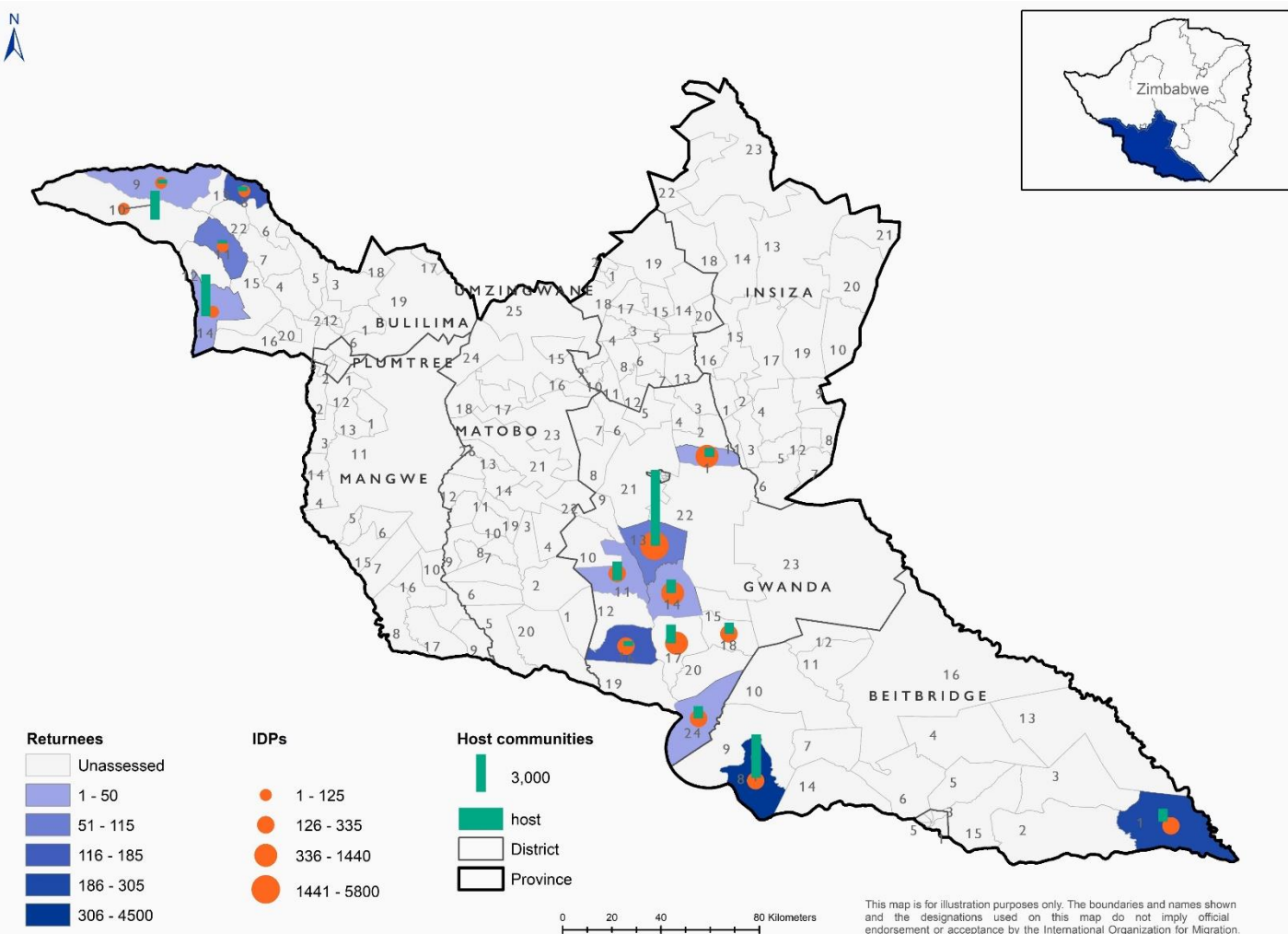In **93%** of the assessed wards, unemployment was the major reason for return.

ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW

The map shows the distribution of IDPs, returnees and host communities identified in all the 3 districts assessed. Overall, IOM-DTM has so far identified 229 IDP households, 3,175 returnee households and 4,779 vulnerable households in host communities throughout the 15 wards assessed in Matabeleland South. Beitbridge district reported the highest number of IDPs at 455 individuals, followed by Gwanda district with 370 IDP individuals and Bulilima district with 340 IDP individuals. A total of 85 villages were listed as having the targeted beneficiary categories across the 15 prioritized wards, eight in Gwanda, five in Bulilima and two wards in Beitbridge.

Due to its proximity to the neighbouring countries, South Africa and Botswana, Matabeleland South witnesses a high volume of migratory flows resulting in recording the highest number of returnees. Gwanda recorded the highest number of returnees (10,805), followed by Beitbridge (4,805) and Bulilima (334). The shortage of water in the region had a negative impact to the communities and was mentioned as the top priority need with education and food being highlighted as the second most urgent need. The vulnerability of the 24,345 people from the host community is linked to the dry weather conditions in Matabeleland South that are not conductive for rain-fed farming and that resulted in food shortages.

## MAP SHOWING THE DISTRIBUTION OF IDPS, RETURNEES AND VULNERABLE HOST COMMUNITIES IDENTIFIED IN MATABELAND SOUTH

Returnees
- Unassessed
- 1 - 50
- 51 - 115
- 116 - 185
- 186 - 305
- 306 - 4500

IDPs
- 1 - 125
- 126 - 335
- 336 - 1440
- 1441 - 5800

Host communities
- 3,000
- host
- District
- Province

0   20   40   80 Kilometers

This map is for illustration purposes only. The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the International Organization for Migration.

PRIORITY NEEDS AND ASSISTANCE

- As figure below shows, All of the assessed wards except one in Gwanda, reported drinking water as the first most important need. Key informants who were part of the focus group discussion held reported that the communities are facing shortage of safe drinking water.

- The shortage of water in the province is worsened by below normal rainfall received by the districts every rain season. Humans and animals share the same water sources exposing these community members to various health risks.

- In Beitbridge district, each of the two wards reported food and drinking water as the second most important needs. However, in Gwanda district, majority of the wards reported access to income (25%) and food (25%) as the second most important needs. Ward 13 in Gwanda which reported food as the most urgent need, indicated drinking water as the second most urgent need.

First Most Urgent Need
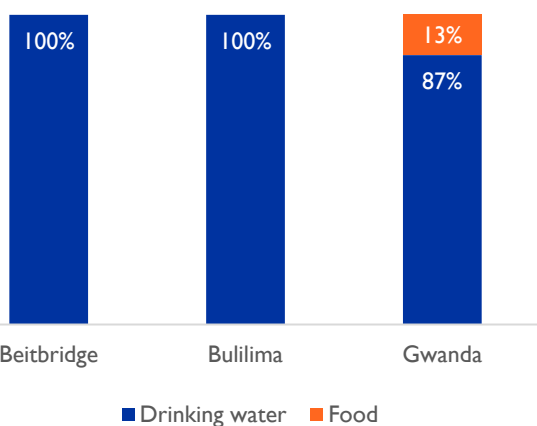
Second Most Urgent Need
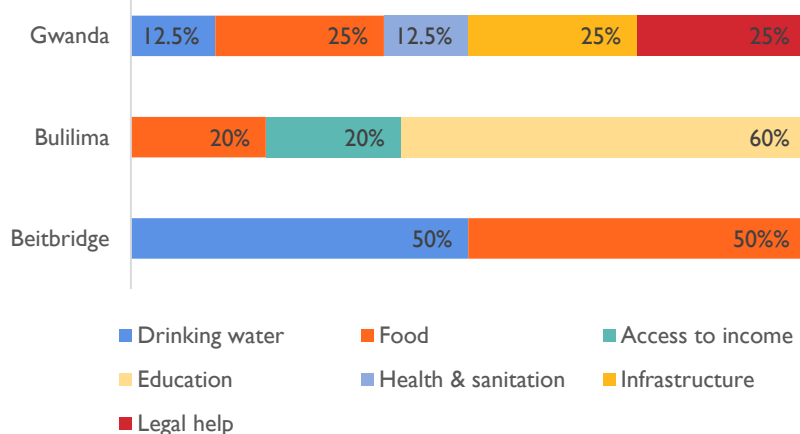
LIVELIHOOD PREFERENCES

- Technically, having access to resources in both countries, people in Matabeleland South highlighted that they have easy access to groceries which are cheaper in the neighbouring countries. However, what they need most is the money to be able to purchase those necessities.

- Of the identified villages in each ward, 89 per cent reported poultry as the most feasible project in the region. The other projects such as candle making were highlighted as not ideal since families have access to cheaper and durable lighting sources such as solar lanterns which might in-turn have a negative effect on the market of candles and even groceries.
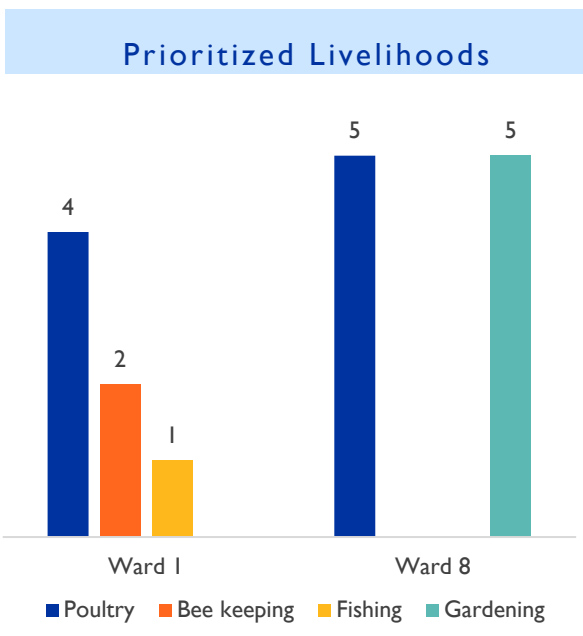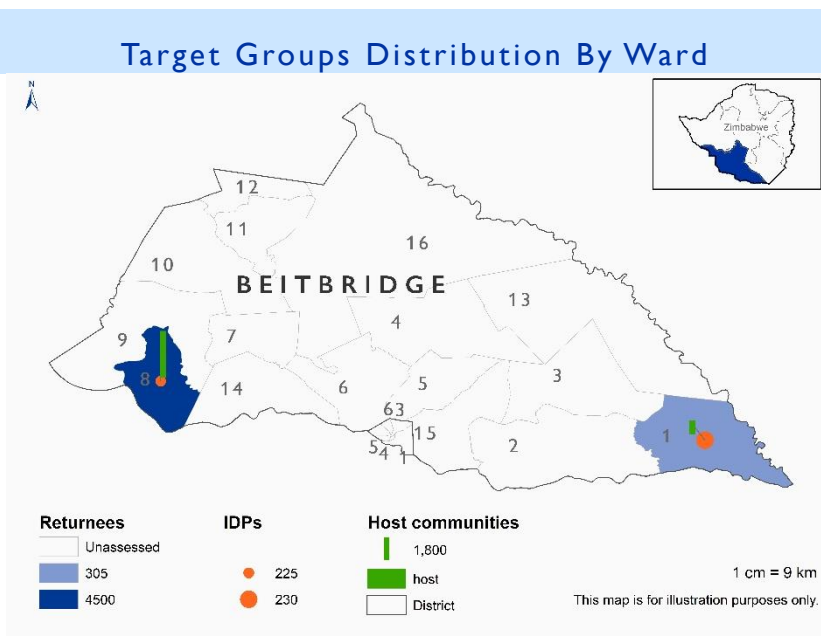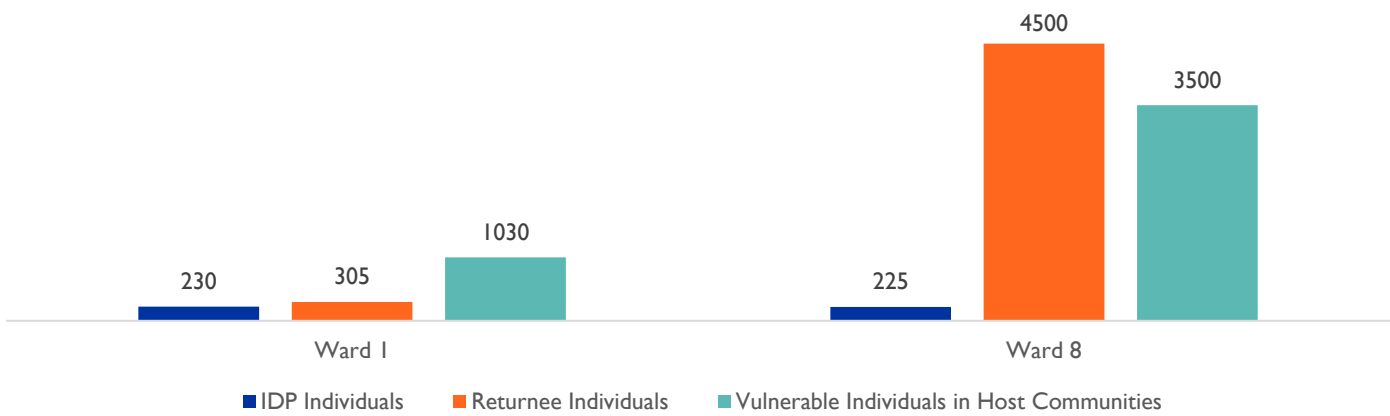
Prioritized Livelihoods

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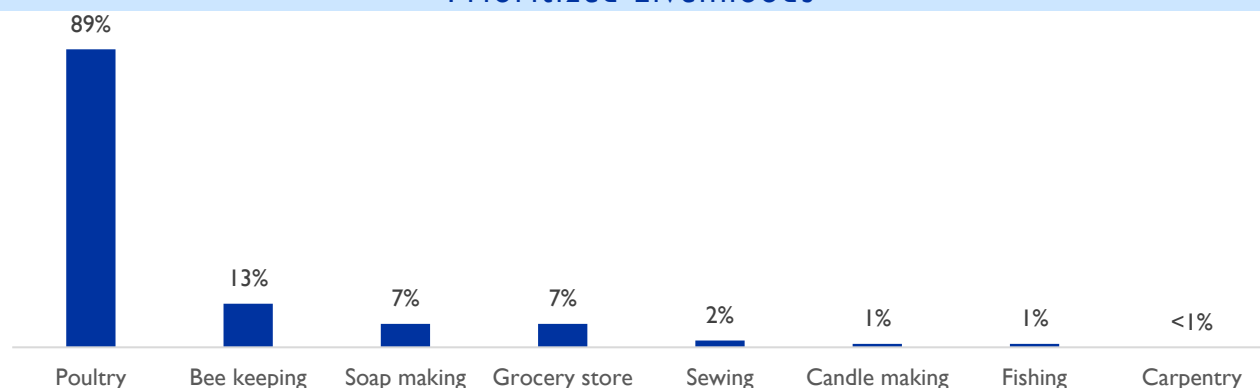
BEITBRIDGE DISTRICT

2 Wards Assessed	**91** IDP Households	**961** Returnee Households
10 Prioritized Villages	**455** IDP Individuals	**4,805** Returnee Individuals

906 Households with **4,530** Vulnerable Individuals in Host Communities

District Estimated Target Population by Vulnerability Category and Ward

Ward 1: IDP Individuals 230, Returnee Individuals 305, Vulnerable Individuals in Host Communities 1030

Ward 8: IDP Individuals 225, Returnee Individuals 4500, Vulnerable Individuals in Host Communities 3500

■ IDP Individuals ■ Returnee Individuals ■ Vulnerable Individuals in Host Communities

Target Groups Distribution By Ward

Zimbabwe

BEITBRIDGE

Returnees
Unassessed
305
4500

IDPs
● 225
● 230

Host communities
1,800
host
District

1 cm = 9 km
This map is for illustration purposes only.

Prioritized Livelihoods

Ward 1: Poultry 4, Bee keeping 2, Fishing 1

Ward 8: Poultry 5, Gardening 5
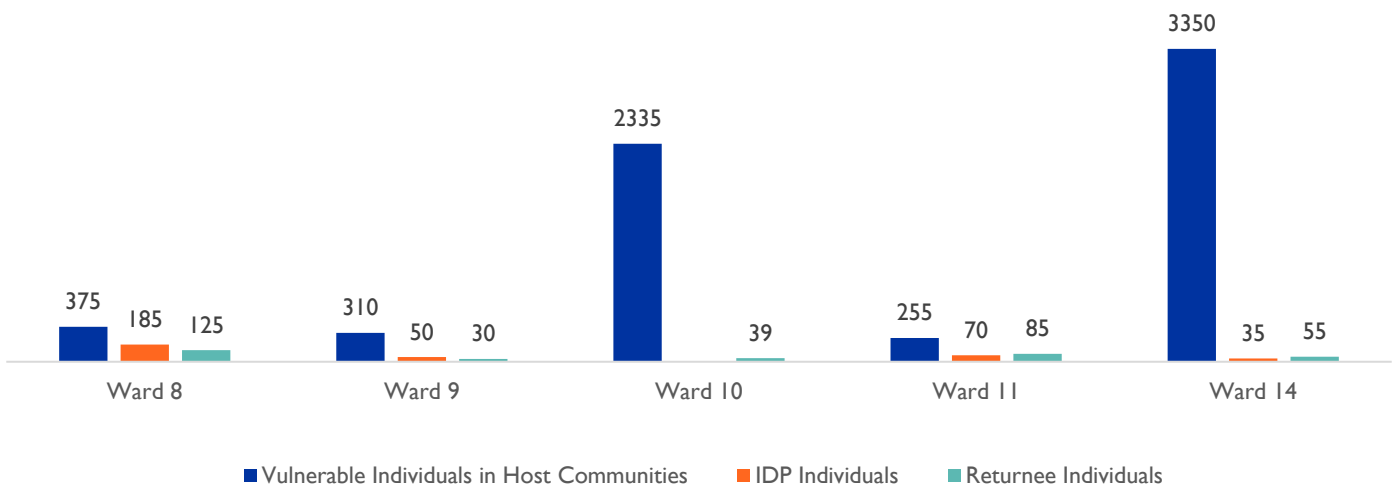
■ Poultry ■ Bee keeping ■ Fishing ■ Gardening

The information reported is an analysis from the data collected on 10 villages located in ward 1 and 8. Beitbridge district is characterized with a lot of migrant returnees from South Africa and the most common reported reason for return is job loss and unemployment (100%). Market availability, ease of management and availability of space were some of the cited reasons for choosing poultry.
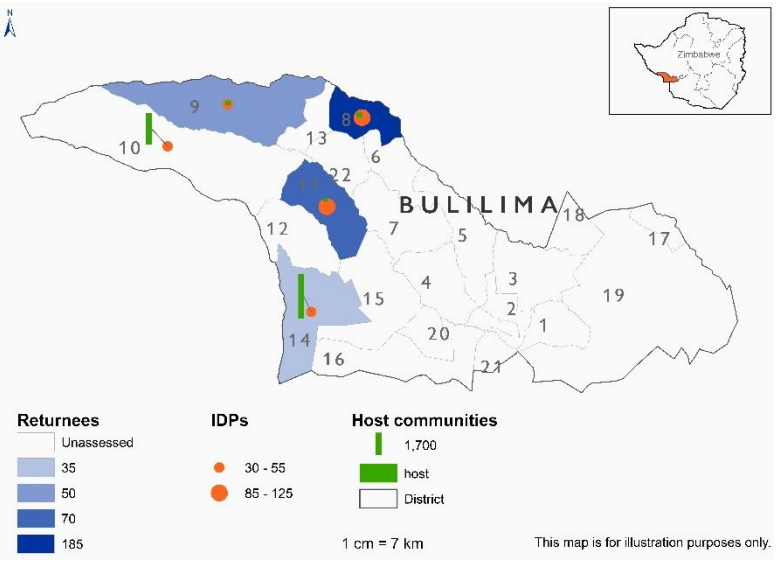
Multisectoral Livelihood Baseline Assessment Report (November 2021)

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BULILIMA DISTRICT

5 Wards Assessed	**64** IDP Households	**65** Returnee Households
27 Prioritized Villages	**340** IDP Individuals	**334** Returnee Individuals

1,325 Households with
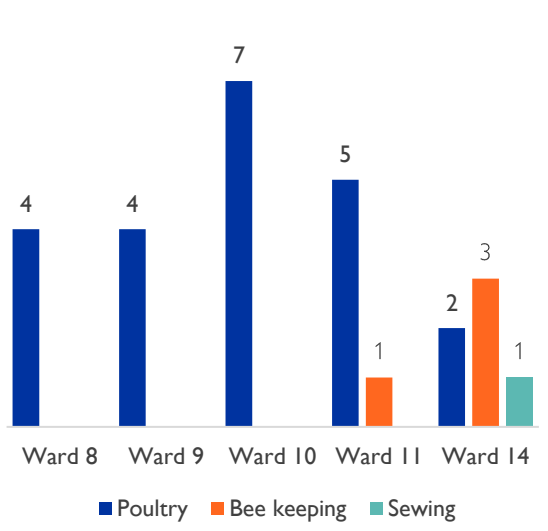**6,625** Vulnerable Individuals in Host Communities

District Estimated Target Population by Vulnerability Category and Ward

Legend:
- Vulnerable Individuals in Host Communities
- IDP Individuals
- Returnee Individuals

Values:
- Ward 8: 375, 185, 125
- Ward 9: 310, 50, 30
- Ward 10: 2335, 39
- Ward 11: 255, 70, 85
- Ward 14: 3350, 35, 55

Target Groups Distribution By Ward

Returnees
- Unassessed
- 35
- 50
- 70
- 185

IDPs
- 30 - 55
- 85 - 125

Host communities
- 1,700
- host
- District

1 cm = 7 km
This map is for illustration purposes only.

Prioritized Livelihoods

Values:
- Ward 8: 4 (Poultry)
- Ward 9: 4 (Poultry)
- Ward 10: 7 (Poultry)
- Ward 11: 5 (Poultry), 1 (Bee keeping)
- Ward 14: 2 (Poultry), 3 (Bee keeping), 1 (Sewing)

Legend:
- Poultry
- Bee keeping
- Sewing

The information reported is an analysis from the data collected on 27 villages. Due to water shortages in the district, drought and food shortages are imminent with many resorting to migrating to the neighbouring South Africa and Botswana to meet that needs. Poultry and bee keeping the most preferred or feasible project in the district.

GWANDA DISTRICT

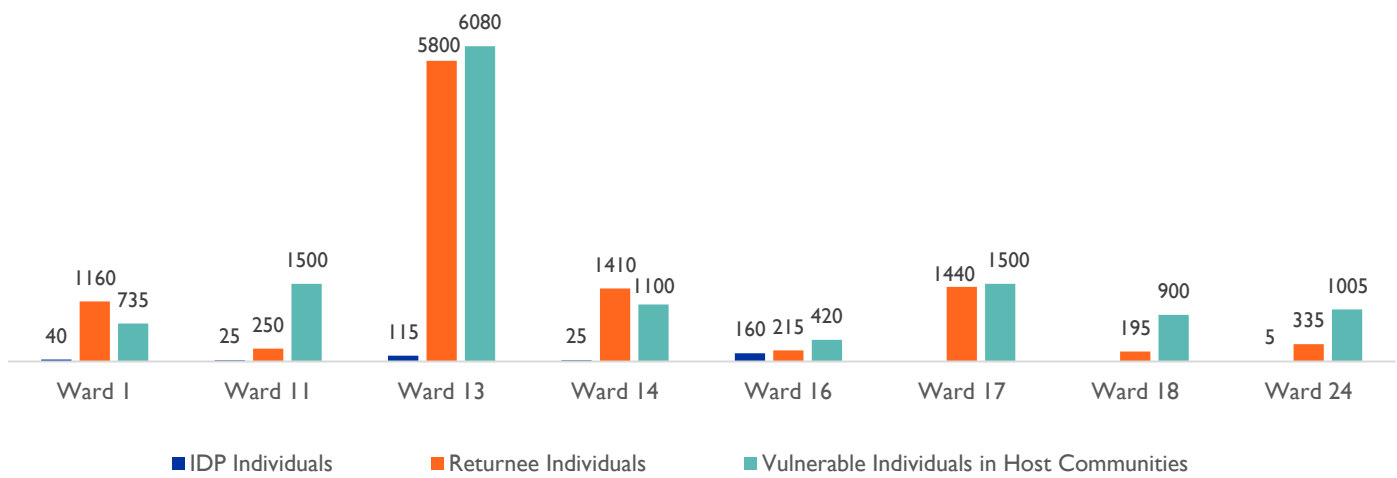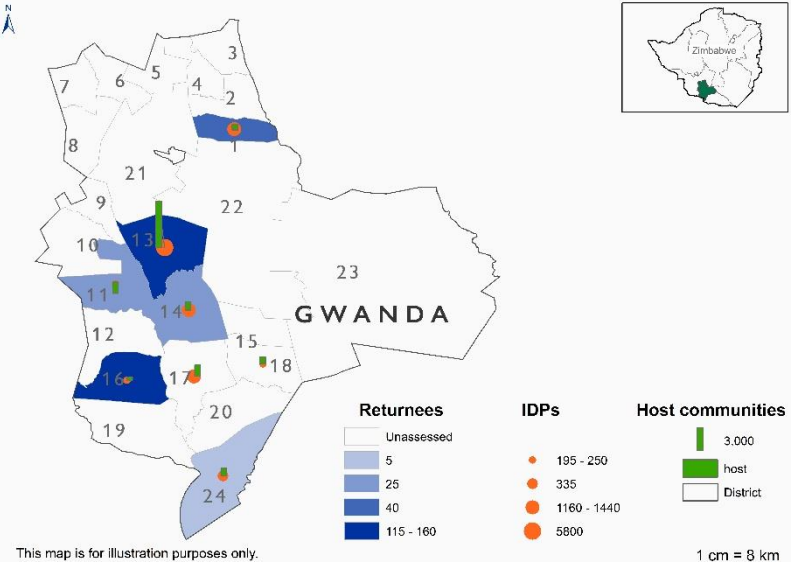|		
8 Wards Assessed	**74** IDP Households	**2,149** Returnee Households
48 Prioritized Villages	**370** IDP Individuals	**11,000** Returnee Individuals

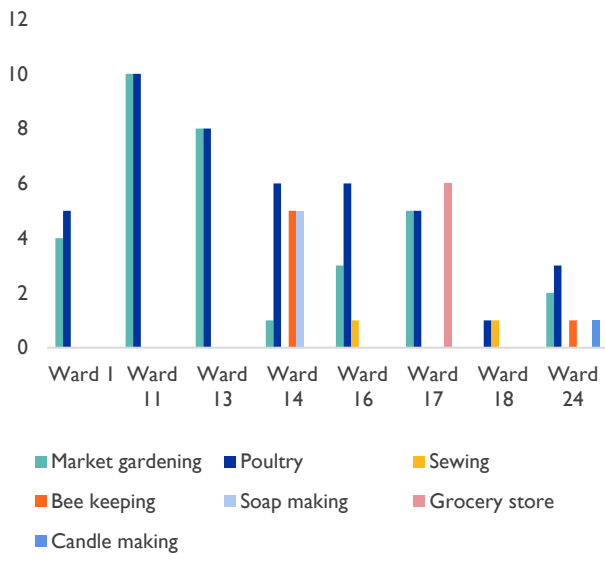**2,548** Households with **13,000** Vulnerable Individuals in Host Communities

District Estimated Target Population by Vulnerability Category and Ward

Legend: IDP Individuals · Returnee Individuals · Vulnerable Individuals in Host Communities

Ward 1: 40, 1160, 735
Ward 11: 25, 250, 1500
Ward 13: 115, 5800, 6080
Ward 14: 25, 1410, 1100
Ward 16: 160, 215, 420
Ward 17: 1440, 1500
Ward 18: 195, 900
Ward 24: 5, 335, 1005

Target Groups Distribution By Ward

This map is for illustration purposes only.

Returnees: Unassessed, 5, 25, 40, 115 - 160
IDPs: 195 - 250, 335, 1160 - 1440, 5800
Host communities: 3.000, host, District
1 cm = 8 km

Prioritized Livelihoods

Legend: Market gardening · Poultry · Sewing · Bee keeping · Soap making · Grocery store · Candle making

The information reported is an analysis from the data collected on 48 villages. Vegetables are very scarce in Gwanda district. There is a huge potential market for market gardening in the district resulting in targeted beneficiaries opting for this activities if the resources permit. Poultry, mainly road runners is the second most feasible livelihood project highlighted by key informants.

CONCLUSIONS

The DTM assessments' primary objective was to provide information on the estimated number, location, priority needs, multisectoral needs and intended livelihood activities of displaced persons, returnees and vulnerable host communities.

The assessments focused only on Bikita, Chiredzi and Chivi districts of Masvingo province and Gwanda, Beitbridge and Bulilima of Matabeleland province which were confirmed to be having the highest numbers of either migrant returnees, IDPs and vulnerable host communities by the provincial stakeholders.

Drinking water was reported to be the most urgent need in the majority of districts assessed. Poultry was indicated as the most feasible and conducive livelihood in the majority of the assessed wards.

Due to easy management, conducive environments and availability of skills, majority of wards assessed in Matabeleland South indicated that goat rearing and piggery are some of the most feasible livelihood activities that can thrive.

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