



# Emergency Warehouse Assessment and Mapping

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## Contacts

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# Introduction

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The Department of Civil Protection requested the support of the Global Logistics Cluster Logistics Preparedness Project to identify potential emergency warehouse locations in preparedness for flood and lean season. The mapping needs to be completed before the end of October when the wet season begins.

The emergency warehouse assessments will be coordinated by a representative of the Provincial Development Coordinator office (PDC) guided by tools developed by the Preparedness Project working groups (Warehouse Assessment guidelines and Disaster Warehouse Flood map). It was agreed that the Preparedness project would sponsor the first two Provincial assessments as a capacity building exercise and to test the assessment tool. Following this, the PDC will continue the process for the remaining provinces and map the emergency storage locations.

The DoCP identified Masvingo and Mashonaland East as the highest risk and most needed assessment to pilot the process. The PDC, the District Development Coordinator (DDC), the local Government, World Food Programme (WFP) Field Office, the humanitarian partners, the army, and the private sector were engaged in the assessment of two risk locations in Masvingo. The PDC representative will continue the assessment for the remaining two areas in the province.

## Background

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Zimbabwe experiences multiple natural hazards, including cyclones, drought, floods, and heavy rains. Droughts affect rural and urban food security and water supplies on an annual basis, with increased reliance on food distributions during lean seasons. Recurring floods during the rainy season damage roads and infrastructures, particularly in remote districts.

The Department of Civil Protection does not currently have any warehouses across Zimbabwe. It is therefore important to identify existing structures or available land in high risk areas that could be utilised in the event of an emergency, in preparedness for the flood and lean seasons, or other large-scale disasters.

There is a shortage of appropriate warehouse space available in Zimbabwe. Currently Mobile Storage Units (MSUs) are being utilised to support emergency warehousing for lean season and were used to support the Cyclone Idai response. With potentially higher than normal rainfall predicted for the La Nina year, and the lean season temporary storage needs expected to be higher than last year, MSUs may not be able to cover all the emergency warehousing needs to support vulnerable populations across Zimbabwe.

In June 2020 the Warehouse Working Group formed through the Logistics Preparedness project developed Warehouse Assessment guidelines to assist in identifying the right warehouse options that are fit for purpose for both emergency situations and long-term programs. The Flood and Prepositioning Working Group under the Logistics Preparedness project also mapped out existing humanitarian agency warehousing with a flood overlay to assist in identifying gaps and needs.

Based on the flood mapping, lessons learnt from Cyclone Idai and last years lean season, Masvingo was identified as the priority area for the pilot assessment. WFP and humanitarian partners are using eight MSUs in the province and three more are to be installed by the end of the month due to the lack of warehouse space. The objective was to identify existing government owned structures or land for assessment that could be utilised quickly in an emergency, or potential private sector structures that could be rented.

## Objectives

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The objectives were to:

- Identify existing government owned structures or land for that could be utilised quickly in an emergency, or potential private sector structures that could be rented.
- Build capacity for the PDC to engage relevant stakeholders and conduct the emergency warehouse assessment.
- To test the effectiveness of the Warehouse Assessment guidelines for this purpose.

The following objectives were achieved during the activity:

- Stakeholder collaboration was built at provincial and district level for the common goal of emergency preparedness and response.
- Suitable emergency storage locations were identified in Rutenga, and it was agreed to collaborate to find more potential storage locations in Masvingo town.
- The Warehouse Assessment guidelines could effectively be turned into a DoCP specific SOP on how to conduct emergency warehouse assessments with an addition on how to coordinate an entry and exit stakeholder meetings and recording of humanitarian agencies present in a location.

## Methodology

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Prior to the trip, the Department of Civil Protection (DCP) engaged with the PDCs and the Global Logistics Cluster preparedness officer engaged with the WFP Field Offices to discuss the purpose of the assessment and to pre-identify sites for assessment prior to arrival.

### Entry meetings

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#### MASVINGO PROVINCE

##### *Masvingo*

Entry meetings were held with the Provincial Development Coordinator in Masvingo town who supported the need for the preparedness activity to identify emergency warehousing and welcomed the team. A representative from the PDC's office, Mr Leonard Mukodza (Administration Officer) was appointed to lead the assessments in the Province. Advice was provided on protocol for engaging government agencies before visiting the identified areas of the National Railway authority and Cold Storage Commission (CSC)

The Assessment Team engaged with the Mutare District Development Coordinator (DDC) who welcomed the team and advised of the sensitivities of viewing the sites without a proper discussion and approval from the owners. The DDC advised that Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere (CARE) had a preparedness warehouse in Masvingo and had offered space to government if they needed it in emergency. He did not believe additional space was required in preparedness and suggested the team visit the CARE warehouse for assessment. Arrangements would need to be made to view the National Railway authority and CDC at a later date for assessment.

##### *Rutenga*

Learning from Masvingo town PDC and WFP Field Office pre-organised a coordination meeting through the DDC, with the established District Civil Protection Committee (local authority, Rutenga Council, army, humanitarian agencies and private sector representatives) that may have suitable buildings or space available. All members were very supportive of the need for the

preparedness activity and joined the assessment team on site visits. This proved to be good practice and built local collaboration.

### MASHONALAND EAST PROVINCE DISTRICT

Pre-assessment discussions were held with DoCP and the PDC prior to the mission. The Logistics Preparedness Project expert met with the Harare field office representative Fortunate Chimwaza to brief on the process and outcomes. Fortunate Chimwaza accompanied Nyarai Aliji on the trip. Due to UN security requirements the team had to return to Harare each night leaving only a small amount of time to do assessments.

#### *Mudzi, Chikomba and Marondera*

The assessment team met with the DDC Mudzi, Mudzi Local Authority and DDC for Chikomba District. Facilities were identified for assessment that were within the distance and timeframe constraints

## **Assessment**

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The assessments were conducted using the Warehouse Assessment guidelines and checklist. The process was set up as a capacity building exercise to empower the DoCP, PDC office and DDC to do the assessments themselves so they could continue identifying and mapping for the districts/locations that the team could not get to due to time constraints. The process was piloted in Masvingo and then the best practice adopted for Mashonaland East.

### MASVINGO

#### *Masvingo Town*

The assessment team consisting of DoCP, PDC, and WFP assessed a warehouse currently utilised by CARE for Non Food Items (NFI) prepositioning to determine the usable capacity left for government emergency use. The Warehouse Assessment guidelines were used, and the structure was found suitable however there was insufficient space remaining for government use.

Approvals will be sought for the PDC to assess the National railway authority structures and land and CDC and further investigations will be conducted for other potential sites.

#### *Rutenga*

An assessment team consisting of DoCP, PDC, WFP, DDC, the local council, the army, humanitarian agencies and the private sector used the warehouse assessment guidelines to assess four sites. Three government owned sites were found suitable with little work required to be operational in the event of an emergency.

### MASHONALAND EAST

#### *Mudzi*

The assessment team consisted of DoCP, WFP, DDC and officials from Mudzi Rural Development Committee (RDC). Two sites were found.

#### *Chikomba*

The assessment team consisted of DoCP, WFP and DDC. One site was found suitable.

#### *Marondera*

The assessment team consisted of DoCP, WFP and DDC Marandora. Two sites were found suitable. The DDC continued to search and found an additional location the following week and the checklist was sent to the DoCP. This demonstrates sustainability for the process.

## Exit meetings

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Exit meetings were held on the final day with the Head of PDC, DoCP, and WFP Field Office to report on the assessment findings, and thank them for their support for the mission. During the exit meetings the DDCs were encouraged to continue the assessment process for the remaining identified locations and provide copies of the checklist to DoCP for compilation for warehouse mapping. The warehouse guidelines and checklists were provided to assist with this process

## Assessment Outcomes

The following section details outcomes specifically for the two Provinces.

Overall, the activity

- developed a good collaboration and network between the DoCP, PDC, DDC, WFP field offices, local council and humanitarian partner.
- built capacity in all participants to conduct emergency warehousing assessments and empowerment of the DDCs to continue the process.
- Ensured the provinces were better prepared for future emergencies by pre-identifying suitable storage, shelter and health site locations.

## MASVINGO

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### Masvingo town

- Assessment of the CARE warehouse identified that the facility was suitable however there was no space left in the warehouse or land for Government Emergency prepositioning or response as it was already at capacity with prepositioned NFIs (with the shelter items arriving next week)
- The PDCs office will continue to coordinate with the DDC for the assessment of the NRC and CDC facilities as there is currently no emergency warehouse capacity identified.
- The PDC is very supportive of the need to continue the assessments for the other risk areas, particularly those in threat of being cut off in floods. The DDC will be tasked to continue the assessments in Cheredzi and Chikombedzi.
- The PDC has recommended a bilateral meeting with WFP Field Office to identify government land or buildings that might be available to preposition food for the flood and lean season as WFP has insufficient space in its current warehouse site and has been unable to find any additional suitable storage locations.

### Rutenga

Of the four sites the DDC and local stakeholders identified three were found to be suitable for emergency warehousing /shelter:

- The Community Hall is currently being used by the NGO MDTC in support of lean season food distribution warehousing. This site has a warehouse with multiple rooms that can be used as offices and could store fridges and freezers securely for a medical emergency response if required. It has power and backup power. A large indoor space and two MSUs are being used to store food. The perimeter fencing could be extended to include another building and land for three additional MSUs for food or NFIs.
- The Central Mechanical Engineering Department (CMED) has a large piece of land with an unused shed approximately 175m<sup>2</sup>. It has power and a solar inverter, and an office space and kitchen onsite. There is an operating diesel and petrol fuel bowser on site currently rented and used by Rutenga fuels. The location with some minor ground compacting and gravel could host four MSUs with plenty of truck parking and turn around space and re-fuelling onsite. This facility could be used to house medical stores/high value goods inside the building, plus food and NFIs in MSUs.
- A large piece of government land over 3 hectares that has been designated for a hospital for the last two years is available and could be cleared very quickly of the shrubs. It has powerlines on site and a school across the road.

Multiple MSUs and/or community tents could be placed there. It could be used for an evacuation/ displaced person camp site with health clinic utilising the school as a child friendly space, or emergency field hospital or emergency storage area. It could also be used for helicopter landing.



Assessing three hectares of Government land Rutenga



Community Hall Rutenga

## MASHONALAND EAST

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### Mudzi

Two suitable locations were identified in Mudzi with some refurbishment needed:

- Mukoto RDC warehouse 12 x 6m located on 1 hectare of land located at the Nyamapanda Border Post. The facility was formerly a camp for immigrants run by International Organization for Migration (IOM). There are four offices on site, security fence, lighting, internet and 30M truck capacity. The facility also has a large semi open walled shed that could be weather proofed for additional storage of NSIs. There is sufficient space for MSUs. Facility is suitable but needs small refurbishment and reinforcement of perimeter fence to make it more secure. i.e. additional of razor wire.
- The Tsetse control facility is located along an airstrip 20km from the Nyamapanda border post making it accessible by road and air. It was formerly a Ministry of Agriculture and CMED depot. There is a 12m x 7m warehouse and 3500m<sup>2</sup> of land that could be used for MSUs. The electricity cable needs repair, internet and phone line is available. No borehole.

### Chikomba

- The DDC's office at Chikomba was identified as a potential emergency warehouse storage site. It is currently shared with Zimbabwe Electoral Commission (ZEC), the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Ministry of Lands. The facility has a land space of approximately 3000m<sup>2</sup> with two small offices and Government owned. There is electricity and a backup generator onsite, internet connectivity with a perimeter fence and guards. The facility is suitable for MSU installation with some ground preparation. The offices could be used to house valuable items such as medicines or small amounts of NFIs.

### Marondera

Two initial sites were identified by the assessment team during the visit. The DDC office continue the search the following week and forwarded a checklist with an additional suitable location. This demonstrated support and sustainability of the emergency warehousing activity.

- The Marondera stadium is a good facility with indoor storage areas under the seating and a 500m<sup>2</sup> outdoor space grass oval for MSU assembly. There is a perimeter fence, security guards and flood lighting. Electricity and internet is available

- The DDC’s office in Marondera has a land space of 300 m<sup>2</sup> structure onsite with perimeter fence and guards and accessible by road and 4km away from rail. It is suitable for a single MSU of 24 x 10m with some land preparation. No indoor storage space is available.
- The Grain Marketing board depot. There is a large 800m<sup>2</sup> area of land that can be used for MSUs



Mudzi warehouse, and open shed at former IOM immigration camp



Tsetse control facility Mudzi



Assessment team at Chikomba DDC office space



GMB office Marondera

## Next steps

The DoCP utilising the PDC and DDC’s will be encouraged to continue to identify emergency warehouse buildings and land and send the data for mapping.

The project will create a map outlining current and potential warehouse space with flood overlay and logistics information.

## Annex – Mapping data

Province	Location	GPS Lat (S)	GPS Long (E)	Description	Building space	Land space	Security	Power	Comments
Masvingo	Masvingo	-20.05972	30.818888	WH	700MT Currently full	Nil	Fenced and security staff, cameras	Yes	Full of pre-positioned NFIs. No capacity
Masvingo	Rutenga	-21.22809	30.729856	Land	Nil	3Ha	Nil yet	Power poles next door	Flat compact ground could be cleared, and perimeter fence added fairly quickly. suitable for MSU location or temporary structure. Will be built on at some point. Might be good for shelter/ camp site for displaced people.
Masvingo	Rutenga	-21.72079	30.8916	WH and land	approx. 175m <sup>2</sup>	fit 3 or more MSUs	Yes - perimeter fence with razor wire	Yes, and back up solar inverter	Small office and kitchen onsite as well as diesel and fuel station. Truck turnaround and parking space, internet fibre available but not connected. Fuel bowsers operating on site as small business. Government owned. could be utilised with one or two days' work. Suitable for Food and NFIs, or medical if fridge and freezer added.
Masvingo	Rutenga	-21.23804	30.729843	WH and land	400m <sup>2</sup> community hall with different compartments	Fenced area that can be expanded	Yes, perimeter fence and 3 security guards	Yes	Current site when not in peak of food distribution has space, can be expanded rapidly to include emergency relief items on a large scale. Accessibly with truck turnaround. Very suitable and could be used to store and separate Food and NFIs, lots of rooms that could be used as offices or house fridges and freezers for Health distributions. Fenced area currently fits 2 MSUs but can be expanded to include another 3 and an extra building
Mashonaland East	Mudzi	-16.96506	32.845247	buildings and land	12 x 6m WH open window shed, 4 offices	1 ha land space	Yes, perimeter fence, lighting	Yes	Located at Nyamapanda Border Post. Former IOM immigration camp. Internet available. suitable for emergency storage, shelter, temporary health post/clinic/isolation facility with MSU.

Mashonaland East	Mudzi	-16.9958	32.670943	building and land	7 x 12m	3500m <sup>2</sup>	yes, perimeter fence and burglar bars	No electric cable condemned	Tsetse control centre, former CMED centre, disused fuel tanks present, 20 km from border post.
Mashonaland East	Chikomba	-19.01217	31.022457	land		3000m <sup>2</sup>	yes perimeter fence and guards	yes and backup generator, internet available	Suitable for MSUs with small offices on site but will need some vegetation clearing. Need drainage as history of flooding in area.
Mashonaland East	Marondera	-18.13715	31.562918	land		500m <sup>2</sup>	yes, perimeter fence and flood lights	yes	Rudhaka stadium. May be under grandstand storage. Suitable for MSUs as is in dry season.
Mashonaland East	Marondera	-18.19114	31.547866	land		300m <sup>2</sup>	yes, perimeter fence and guards and outside lighting	yes	located within the CBD good for MSUs
Mashonaland East	Marondera	-18.18288	31.545390	land		800m <sup>2</sup>	yes, perimeter fence and guards and outside lighting	yes	electricity and internet available. Good for MSUs