



"Enhancing Nutrition, Stepping Up Resilience and Enterprise"

**Bureau of Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance**

**Office of Food for Peace**

**OUTCOME MONITORING SURVEY REPORT FY18**

**Final Report  
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Submitted by



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## **ACRONYMS**

ABBS	Annual Beneficiary Based Survey
AMC	Asset Management Committee
ANC	Ante-Natal Care
ARR	Annual Results Reporting
DFAP	Development Food Assistance Program
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
EELT	ENSURE Extended Leadership Team
ENSURE	Enhancing Nutrition Stepping Up Resilience and Enterprise
ESC	Environmental Subcommittee
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
FFA	Food for Assets
FMNR	Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration
FNM	Female-No-Male
FY	Financial Year
HH	Household
ICRISAT	International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics
IPTT	Indicator Performance Tracking Table
LMMS	Last Mile Mobile Solutions
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MUS	Multiple-water User System
NRM	Natural Resource Management
PIRS	Performance Indicator Reference Sheet
PIT	Project Implementation Team
PLW	Pregnant and Lactating Women
PMP	Performance Management Plan
SAFIRE	Southern Alliance for Indigenous Resources
SNV	Netherlands Development Organisation
SO	Strategic Objective
SQL	Standard Query Language
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USG	United States Government

VS&L	Village Savings and Lending
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WMC	Watershed Management Committee
WUA	Water User Association
WV	World Vision

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Enhancing Nutrition Stepping Up Resilience and Enterprises (ENSURE), originally was a 5 year project which was supposed to end in June 2018 but was extended to February 2020. It is funded by USAID and is implemented in six districts in Manicaland and Masvingo Provinces by a consortium led by World Vision. The other consortium members are CARE, SNV, SAFIRE and ICRISAT. World Vision is the implementing lead in Buhera, Chipinge and Chimanimani Districts of Manicaland Province, while CARE is the implementing lead in Bikita, Chivi and Zaka Districts of Masvingo Province. The project aims to cushion vulnerable and food insecure Zimbabweans in the target districts. The main thrust of the project is to empower and capacitate poor, rural households in the targeted districts to become more food secure. The geographical scope of the ENSURE project was carefully selected to involve agro-ecological zones 4 and 5 where food insecurity is high and covering a total of 66 wards of which 32 wards are in Manicaland Province and 34 are in Masvingo Province. The ENSURE project is anchored on three main thematic areas namely maternal and child health (SO1), agriculture and economic development (SO2), and resilience (SO3). Gender is included as a cross cutting objective which has been embraced in this project in order to increase equity in access to resources among men and women.

### Project Objectives

ENSURE Program's goal is to contribute to improved food security of targeted communities and households in Manicaland and Masvingo Provinces by 2020. This goal shall be achieved through a holistic multi-sectorial approach pillared by three strategic objectives as outlined below:

Strategic Objective (SO) 1: Nutrition among women of reproductive age and children under 5 years improved.

**Intermediate Result 1.1:** Consumption of nutritious foods improved.

**Intermediate Result 1.2:** Prevalence of diarrhoea in children under 5 reduced.

Strategic Objective (SO) 2: Household income increased.

**Intermediate Result 2.1:** Agricultural productivity and production increased.

**Intermediate Result 2.2:** Increased net revenue from targeted value chains.

Strategic Objective (SO) 3: Resilience to food insecurity of communities improved.

**Intermediate Result 3.1:** Community disaster preparedness and management capacities improved.

**Intermediate Result 3.2:** Access to and management of disaster risk and mitigation assets improved.

Gender is a cross cutting pillar to address equity in access to resources.



## SCOPE OF WORK

The Annual Beneficiary Based Survey (ABBS) was undertaken by ENSURE in order to learn more about the degree of effectiveness and impact of the activities that are implemented in the targeted communities. These included tracking the adoption of behaviors and technologies that are being promoted out of the huge investments that ENSURE has undertaken in the targeted districts. Data was collected on only a random sample of beneficiaries. In this case a 12-month recall was used in the collection of all the required data.

The ENSURE ABBS exercises for FY16 and FY17 were carried out internally. As a way of relieving pressure of work from the staff, and also enhancing objectivity, the FY18 ABBS was awarded to an external contractor, Jimat Development Consultants. In addition, engaging the external contractor was envisaged to bring advantages of providing highly specialized expertise in the sampling methodology, data collection, analysis and qualitative follow up to have explanatory notes on performance of indicators. The focus of FY18 ABBS was on monitoring outcome indicators under each of the three strategic objectives.

The overall supervision of the work was done by the M&E Manager for ENSURE who provided guidance to Jimat Development Consultants. The following main activities were undertaken leading to the production of this report:

- a) Survey design/sampling plan;
- b) Enumerator training;
- c) Equipment and logistics;
- d) Data collection;
- e) Data entry and data cleaning; and
- f) Data analysis and report writing.

*Table 1: Sampled ENSURE Wards by District*

District	Sampled Wards
Buhera	19, 26 and 27
Chimanimani	6 and 8
Chipinge	3, 16, 26 and 27
Bikita	5 and 26
Chivi	13 and 20
Zaka	19, 21 and 24

## **SURVEY OBJECTIVES**

The main objective of the ABBS was to learn more about the degree of effectiveness and impact of the activities that were implemented in the communities. This covered ENSURE activities that were implemented in the target districts in FY18 which ran from October 2017 to September 2018. The focus of the assignment was to track adoption of behaviors and technologies that were being promoted under the program.

This included attributing the impacts to ENSURE, in light of a number of other organizations and government departments that are impacting on the households that participate in these activities.

### **Specific Objectives**

Under SO1, the ABBS assessed the adoption of nutrition and WASH practices that contribute towards;

- consumption of nutritious foods; and
- reduction in the prevalence of diarrhoea in children under 5 years.

The assessment included examining the manner in which household food consumption decisions were being made, the types of food and infant and young child feeding practices. Issues of WASH taking into account availability of toilets and hand washing facilities and their usage were also examined.

The survey sought to establish if mothers (pregnant and lactating women) received assistance from any adult members of their households on activities such as firewood collection, fetching water, performing activities in vegetable gardens and weeding in rain fed crop fields. In addition it sought to establish if women were accompanied by their spouses/partners for ANC visits during pregnancies. Table 2 summarises the distribution of respondents among pregnant and lactating women categories.

Under SO2 and SO3 the ABBS assessed the adoption of improved agricultural technologies and management practices that contribute towards:

- increasing revenue from target value chains;
- increasing community disaster preparedness and management capacities;
- improved access to and management of disaster risk and mitigation assets and
- improved women empowerment and equity in access to resources.

On assessing SO2 and SO3 the ABBS was interested in finding if the HHs have participated in ENSURE project activities over the 12 months in components such as producer and marketing groups, Village Savings and Lending (VS&L), Environmental Subcommittees (ESCs), Water Point User Committee (WPUC), Disaster Preparedness and Response Committee (DRR/DMC), Lead farmer groups, Food for Assets (FFA), Watershed Management Committee (WMC), Asset Management Committee (AMC) and Project Implementation team (PIT).

The ABBS sought to establish if the HHs have received any market and risk and early warning information from ENSURE promoted channels over the period. Furthermore the survey sought to establish if the beneficiaries had access to Disaster Risk Reduction Plans, Watershed Management Plans, Multiple-water User System (MUS) Plans and Natural Resources Management Plans.

Lastly it sought to establish the extent of adoption of natural resource management (NRM) technologies such as tree planting and management, Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR), beekeeping, dead level contours, Water and Catchment Management consisting of such infrastructure as drainage ditches for erosion control and storm drain.

## POPULATION

*Table 2: Interviewed population*

	Pregnant Women	Lactating Women	Children 6-23 Months			SO2 & SO3		
			Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total
Zaka	55	227	65	53	169	35	48	83
Chivi	55	91	70	48	98	26	44	70
Chipinge	258	320	14	18	296	66	60	126
Chimanimani	29	25	174	122	32	26	29	55
Buhera	111	104	53	45	118	20	24	44
Bikita	74	127	94	75	118	41	49	90
Total	582	894	470	361	831	214	254	468

## **METHODOLOGY**

The methodology involved the use of participatory approaches involving quantitative data collection and analysis techniques. A household survey using probability sampling methods was applied on SO1, SO2 and SO3 beneficiaries for some components while a census approach was used on SO2 and SO3 beneficiaries.

### **Data Collection Methods**

Quantitative data was collected from the primary sources, who are project participants in the three project components under SO1, SO2 and SO3. Data collection tools for this exercise for both the household survey and the census on components SO2 and SO3 were developed by ENSURE and have been used over the life of the project. They form part of USAID approved tools.

### **Household Survey**

A household survey using questionnaires was employed to collect primary data from representative samples of the project participants in the project area as follows:

1. 525 pregnant women;
2. 525 lactating women;
3. 525 children between 6 and 23 months of age; and
4. 525 beneficiaries under SO2 and SO3 combined.

The survey was conducted using ODK software on tablets. Completed questionnaires were uploaded onto the database at the end of each day and data analysis was done using STATA and SAS. Data collection was done concurrently in all the six districts. Interviews were done at the homestead of the sampled beneficiaries because there were WASH components (toilets, hand washing facilities and rubbish pits) which had to be observed by the Enumerators. The GPS coordinates for the homestead were recorded on the questionnaires. One questionnaire was used to collect data from the three SO1 samples using different skipping patterns.

The condition was that if a sampled beneficiary was not found they were not supposed to be replaced. Rather three visits would be made in an attempt to find them after which if still not found, the interview would be abandoned.

## Census

All the program participant farmer producer groups and natural resource managers numbering 12,863 in SO2 and SO3 were to be interviewed using participation performance tracking tools. The participants were interviewed while in groups and responded to questions in their individual capacities on the various services of the program. The condition was that interviews for groups could only be done if at least half of the group members were present. However when it proved difficult in some districts to satisfy this quorum requirement the condition was relaxed in order to allow interviews to be carried out with those members present. Asking individuals in the presence of their group members would help to guard against false responses given that other group members could potentially act as checks. When some members of the group forgot some issues, their peers or leaders would be able to help them. All the wards covered by the programme in each of the six districts were to be visited in order to reach out to all the farmer producer groups.

## **STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE I: Nutrition among women of reproductive age and children under 5 years of age**

Good nutrition early in life significantly contributes towards good physical growth, increased learning capacity and reduced susceptibility to infection and disease. Exclusive breast feeding during the first 6 months of life and the introduction of appropriate, nutritious complementary food in addition to continued breastfeeding from 6 months of age are one of the key strategies for child survival. The nutrition of infants and children from conception to 24 months of age is thus very important, in line with the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) 1,000 day approach.

To determine nutrient adequacy (dietary diversity) and energy intake from food other than breast milk (meal frequency) consumed by children aged 6-23 months, the complementary feeding practice indicators of minimum dietary diversity and minimum meal frequency were assessed. Minimum dietary diversity is a proxy for evaluating the adequacy of the nutrient content of food consumed while meal frequency is a proxy for determining the adequacy of food consumed to meet a child's energy requirements.

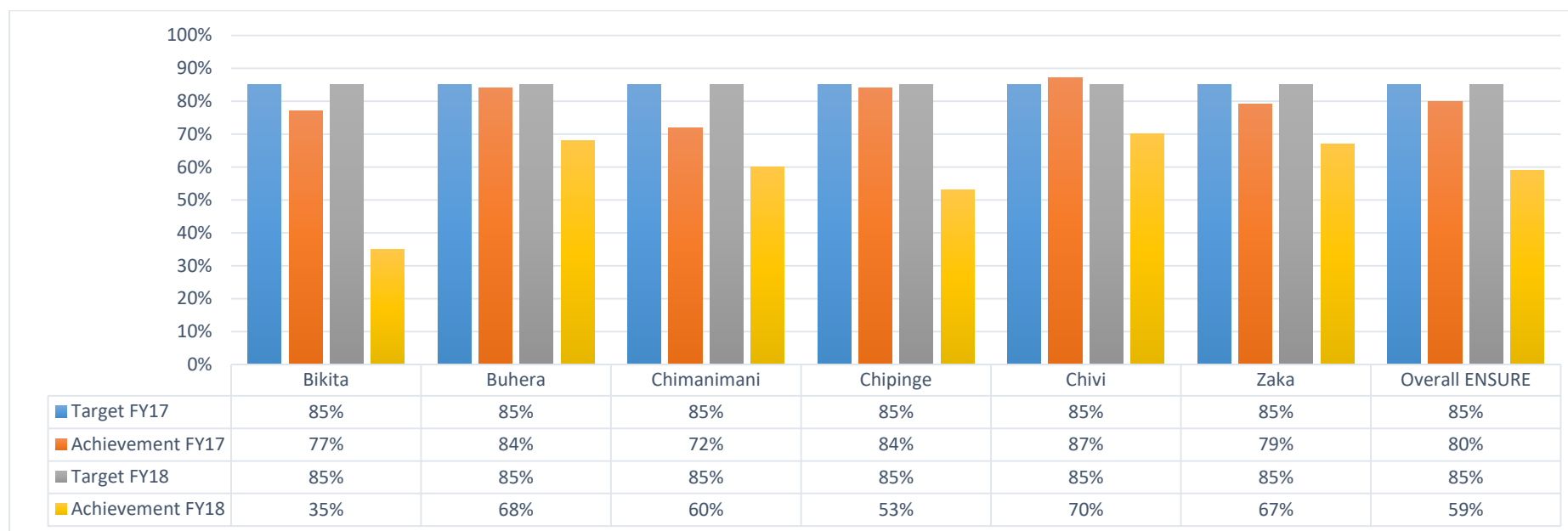
## 1.1 Exclusive Breastfeeding

Indicator 1.1.2.1: Percentage (%) of beneficiary children under 6 months of age on exclusive breastfeeding

Infants should receive only breast milk for the first 6 months of life. Exclusive breastfeeding for 6 months confers many benefits to both infants and mothers in addition to optimizing good health and growth outcomes.

Exclusive breastfeeding is one of the 12 behaviours being promoted by the ENSURE program. Feeding practices were assessed to demonstrate the positive behaviour of lactating mothers to Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) messages given to them by the ENSURE program.

Figure 1: Percentage of beneficiary children under 6 months of age on exclusive breastfeeding



The results show that 59% of beneficiary children less than 6 months of age were exclusively breastfed which is below the FY18 target of 85%. This is a decline of 21% from FY17. Bikita district reported the lowest percentage at 35% while Chivi district reported the highest percentage

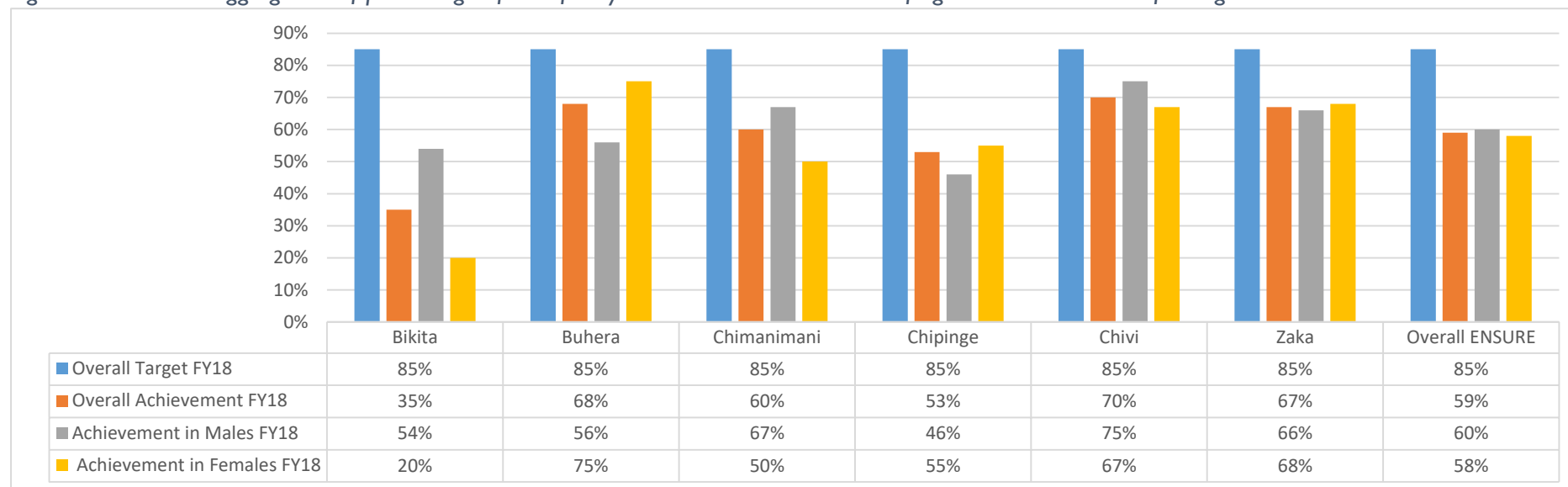
at 70%. The reinforcement or repetition of behaviours which did not perform highly in FY17 such as hand washing at the expense of this indicator resulted in a cohort of mothers not receiving the exclusive breastfeeding message as new mothers who have never heard the exclusive breastfeeding message continually fall pregnant.

When the indicator of exclusive breastfeeding is cross tabulated with the indicator for timesharing activities, it is evident that there is a significant relationship between exclusive breastfeeding and support received in vegetable gardening and weeding of 0.0154 and 0.0041 respectively as shown in Table 3.

*Table 3: P-values showing relationship between time-sharing and EBF (less than or equal to 0.05 is statistically significant)*

<b>EBF</b>	<b>Fetching Firewood</b>	<b>Fetching Water</b>	<b>Vegetable gardening</b>	<b>Weeding</b>
Coefficient	0.08766	0.08847	0.13477	0.15918
p-value	0.1159	0.1125	0.0154	0.0041

Figure 2: Gender disaggregation of percentage of beneficiary children under six months of age on exclusive breastfeeding



When data is disaggregated by gender, 58% female children compared to 60% male children less than 6 months of age were on exclusive breast feeding. Most children not on exclusive breastfeeding received plain water and thin porridge as a substitute to breast milk (see Figure 2).

## 1.2 Dietary Diversity (Children 6-23months)

### Indicator 1.1.1.1 Percentage (%) of beneficiary children 6-23 months of age who receive food from 4 or more food groups

Minimum Acceptable Dietary Diversity (MDD) was assessed by determining the percentage of beneficiary children 6–23 months of age who consumed food from at least 4 of the 7 food groups for breastfed children or 4 of the 6 food groups for non-breastfed children in the day preceding the survey. The seven food groups are as follows: Grains, roots, and tubers, Legumes and nuts, Dairy products (milk, yogurt and cheese), Flesh foods (meat, fish, poultry, and liver/organ meats), Eggs, Vitamin A-rich fruits and vegetables and Other fruits and vegetable. ENSURE through behaviour change messaging promotes that these two groups of children be fed foods from at least 4 food groups each day. Table 4 summarises the performance of the project under this indicator.



Table 4: Indicator 1.1.1.1: Percentage of beneficiary children 6-23months of age who receive food from 4 or more food groups

	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>Bikita</b>	<b>Buhera</b>	<b>Chimanimani</b>	<b>Chipinge</b>	<b>Chivi</b>	<b>Zaka</b>	<b>ENSURE Overall</b>
		↓	↑	↑	↓	↑	↓	↓
Target FY17	30.70%	55%	55%	55%	55%	55%	55%	55%
Achievement FY17		40.1%	30.4%	29.3%	26.1%	33.8%	47%	35%
Target FY18		38%	38%	38%	38%	38%	38%	38%
Achievement FY18		23%	39%	47%	17%	37%	27%	26%
Achievement in Males		24%	38%	57%	17%	33%	20%	25%
Achievement in Females		21%	40%	36%	17%	40%	33%	27%

The results show that ENSURE has not reached the target for this indicator over the periods FY16 (16% achieved versus a target of 50%), FY17 (35% achieved versus a target of 50%) and FY18 (26% achieved versus a target of 38%). The economic crisis currently being experienced in Zimbabwe reduced households ability to acquire and prepare diversified food or meals for the beneficiary children. The 2017 Zimbabwe Vulnerability Assessment Report (ZIMVAC) also reported a deteriorating MDD in 2017 of 13% compared to 18% in 2015.

When data is disaggregated to district level, Chimanimani had the highest MDD of 47%, followed by Buhera (39%), Chivi (37%), Zaka (27%) and Bikita (23%). The lowest percentage of beneficiary children 6-23months of age consuming food from 4 or more food groups was reported in Chipinge (17%). When data is disaggregated by gender, 27% of female children 6-23 months of age compared to 25% of male children consumed food from 4 or more food groups. Chimanimani district (57%) reported the highest percentage of male children 6-23months of age meeting MDD while both Chivi and Buhera districts (40%) reported the highest percentage of female children 6-23 months of age meeting MDD.

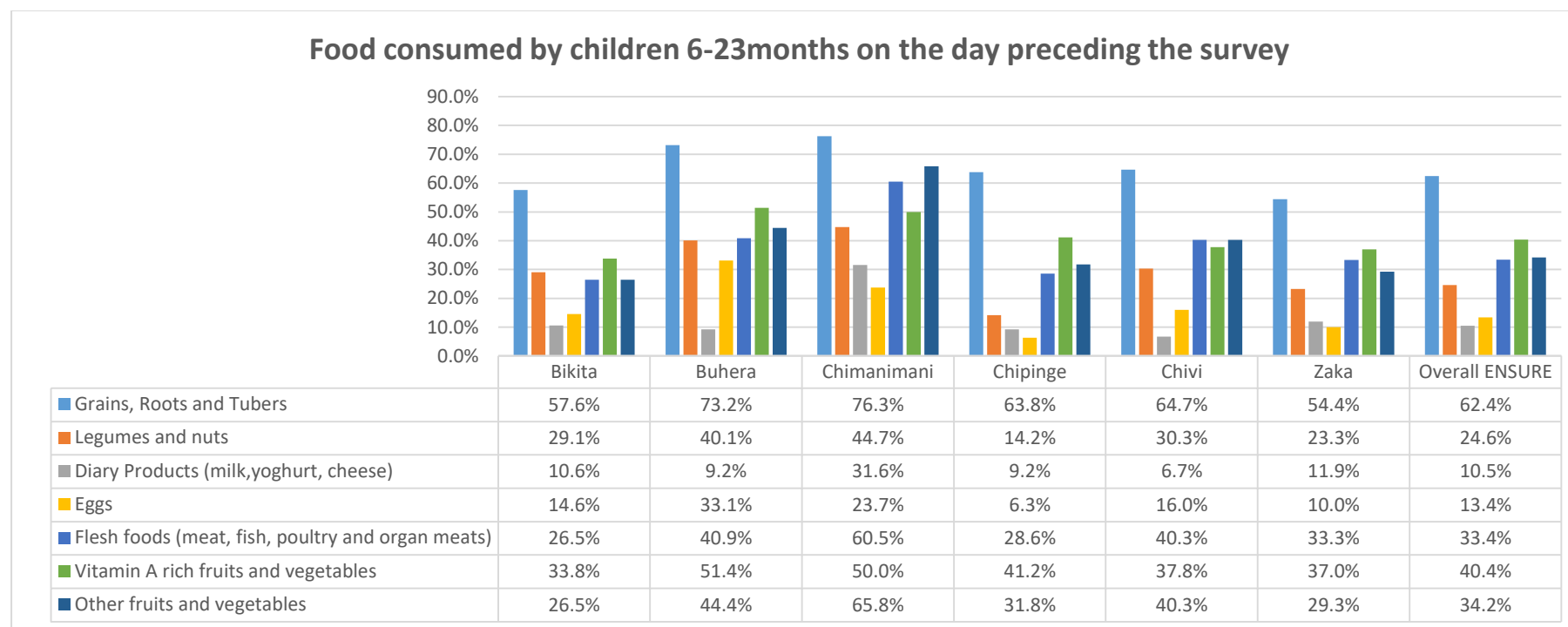
When this minimum dietary diversity is compared to time sharing activities, cross tabulation reveals that assistance in some targeted activities, namely fetching firewood, vegetable gardening and weeding had a significant relationship with MDD as p-values were less than or equal to 0.05 as shown in Table 5. This may be the reason why Chimanimani and Chivi districts that reported beneficiary women receiving greater support in time sharing activities had positive Infant and Young Child Feeding practices as these districts reported having MDD of 47% and 37% respectively.

Table 5: Table 5: P-values showing relationship between time-sharing and MDD (less than or equal to 0.05 is statistically significant)

Consumed 4 or more food groups	Fetching Firewood	Fetching Water	Vegetable gardening	Weeding
Coefficient	0.07836	0.0538	0.10086	0.08182
p-value	0.0093	0.0744	0.0008	0.0066

Figure 3 shows the frequency of the food consumed from the seven different food groups by beneficiary children 6-23 months of age on the day preceding the survey.

Figure 3: Food consumed by children on the day preceding the survey



The results show a high level of consumption of grains (62.4%) as compared to the other food groups, while the food groups of dairy products (10%) and eggs (13.4%) were the least consumed. This development can largely be attributed to the prevailing economic hardships limiting food diversity choices. However, percentages consumed for all food groups have increased compared to FY 17.

### 1.3 Meal Frequency (Children 6-23months)

Indicator 1.1.1.2: Percentage (%) of beneficiary children 6-23 months of age that receive minimal acceptable meal frequency

Minimum meal frequency is defined as two or more feedings of solid, semi-solid or soft food for children 6-8 months or 3 or more feedings of solid, semi-solid or soft foods for children 9 – 23 months who are breast fed children and four or more feedings of solid, semi-solid, soft foods or milk feeds for children 6-23 months with at least two of these feedings being milk feeds for non-breast fed children.

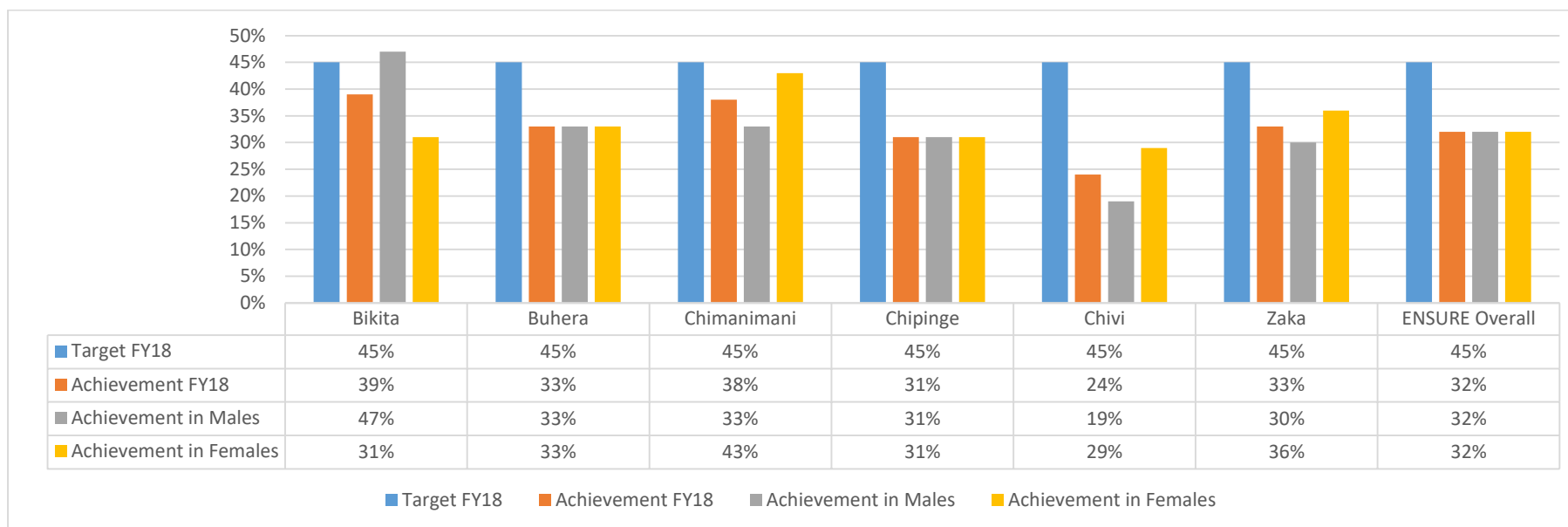
Minimum Meal Frequency was assessed by determining the number of meals beneficiary children 6-23 months consumed in addition to breast milk among breast fed children or milk feeds among non-breast fed children in the day preceding the survey.

Table 6: Percentage of beneficiary children 6-23months that receive minimum meal frequency

	Baseline	Bikita	Buhera	Chimanimani	Chipinge	Chivi	Zaka	ENSURE Overall
		↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
Target FY17	30.7%	60%	60%	60%	60%	60%	60%	60%
Achievement FY17		39.5%	33.9%	43.1%	36.7%	47.8%	46%	41%
Target FY18		45%	45%	45%	45%	45%	45%	45%
Achievement FY18		39%	33%	38%	31%	24%	33%	32%

Table 6 shows a decline to 32% in FY18 for minimum meal frequency compared 41% in FY17. In both years, minimum meal frequency was below the set targets of 45% in FY18 and 60% in FY17. The deteriorating economic situation led to an uncharacteristic increase in income seeking behaviours by women, which in turn reduced the time meant for child care activities. At provincial level, both Manicaland and Masvingo provinces had a minimum meal frequency of 32%. These findings are below the national average of 34.6% and the provincial findings for both Manicaland (40.4%) and Masvingo (36%) provinces respectively as reported in the 2015 ZDHS (Zimbabwe National Statistics Agency Harare, 2016). At district level, Bikita reported the highest minimum meal frequency at 39%, followed by Chimanimani (38%), Buhera (33%), Zaka (33%), Chipinge (31%) and lastly Chivi at 24%.

Figure 4: Gender disaggregation of percentage of beneficiary children 6-23 months of age that receive minimum acceptable meal frequency



When data is disaggregated by gender as summarised in Figure 4, the same percentage (32%) of female and male children 6-23 months of age reported consuming the adequate number of meals. In Bikita district, more male children reported receiving the minimum acceptable meal frequency (47%), while more female children reported receiving the minimum meal frequency in Chimanimani (43%), Chivi (29%) and Zaka (36%). Buhera and Chipinge districts reported an equal percentage of male and female children receiving the minimum acceptable meal frequency of 33% and 31% respectively.

A comparison of minimum meal frequency with time sharing activities reveals that assistance in time sharing activities does not influence meal frequency as p-values from this cross tabulation were all greater than 0.05 as shown in Table 6.

Table 7: P-values showing relationship between time-sharing and Minimum Meal Frequency (less than or equal to 0.05 is statistically significant)

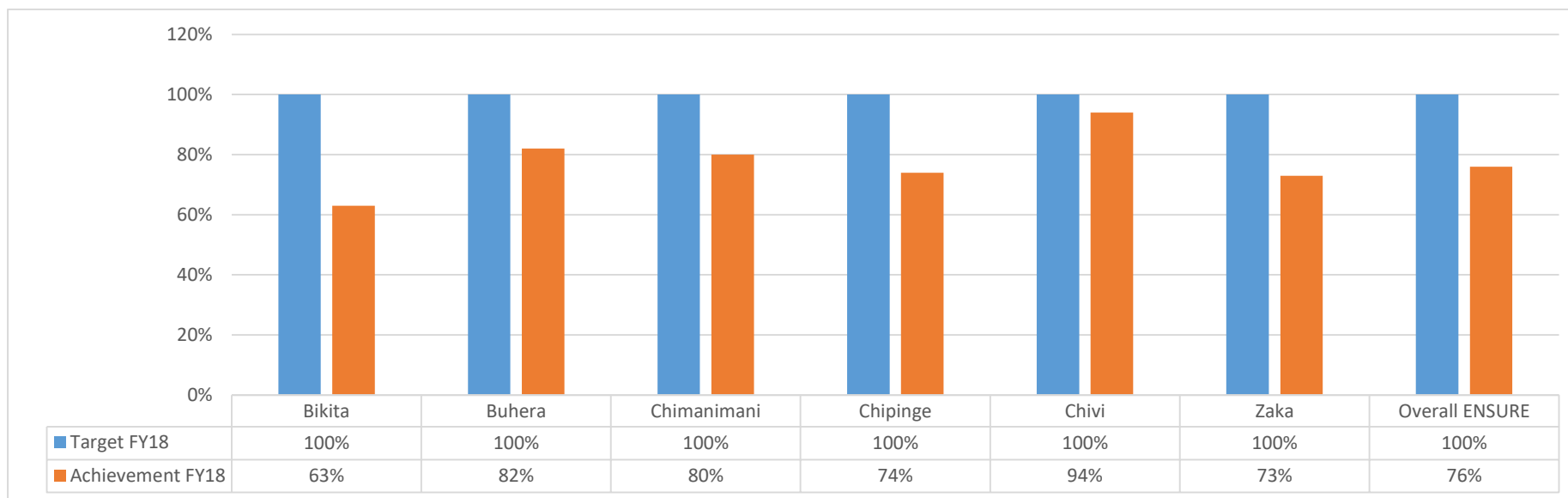
Minimum Meal Frequency	Fetching Firewood	Fetching Water	Vegetable gardening	Weeding
Coefficient	0.03412	0.00211	0.02612	0.05658
p-value	0.258	0.9442	0.3865	0.0605

#### 1.4 Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Indicator 1.1.1.7: Percentage (%) of recipient households sensitized on food storage and refuse disposal

The coverage of beneficiary households sensitized on correct food storage and refuse disposal during food distributions so as to minimize pollution of the environment and promote safe food storage was 76% against the FY18 target of 100%. This is a significant decline from a coverage of 97% reported in FY17 indicating a need to scale-up and strengthen sensitization efforts. The low achievement was attributed to some beneficiaries missing the pre-distribution address due to beneficiaries arriving late at Food Distribution Points. Chivi district had the highest coverage at 94%, followed by Buhera (82%), Chimanimani (80%), Chipinge (74%), Zaka (73%) and Bikita at 63% (see Figure 5).

Figure 5: Percentage of recipient households sensitized on food storage and refuse disposal

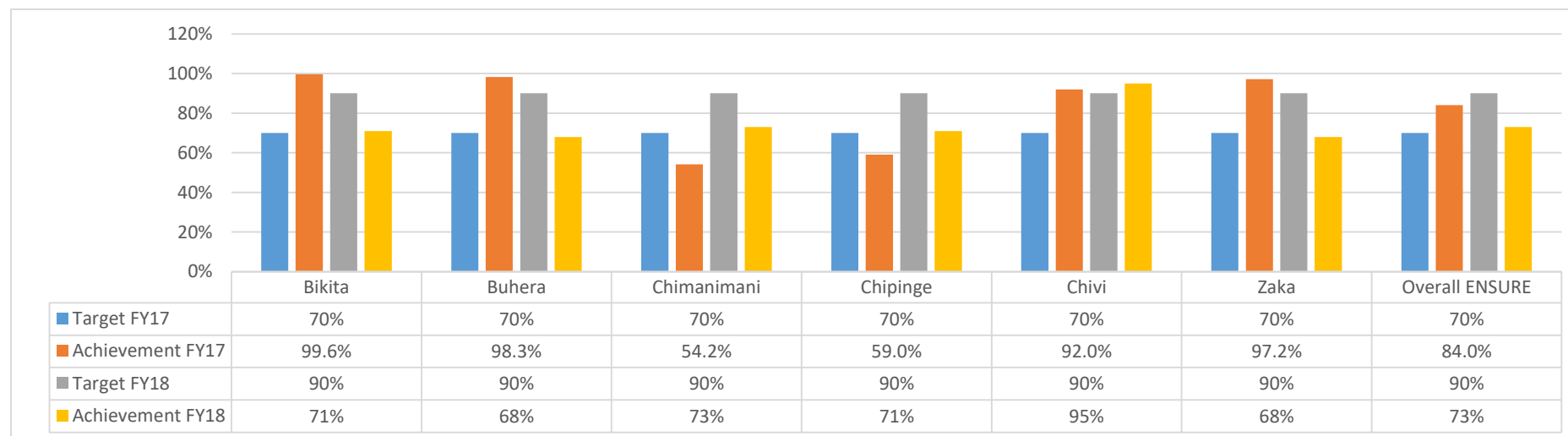


**Indicator 1.2.1.7: Percentage (%) of beneficiary households storing water in safe storage containers**

Safe water storage promotes hygiene and is directly related to provision of a clean and safe environment which if unavailable is one of the underlying causes of malnutrition.

There was an 11% decrease in the percentage of beneficiary households storing water in safe storage containers in FY18. In FY17, 84% of beneficiary households’ stored water in safe storage containers against a target of 70% while in FY18, 73% of beneficiary households reported storing water in safe storage containers against a target of 90%. In FY17, the target for this indicator was surpassed due to availability and affordability of storage containers with tight fitting lids. In FY18, communities reported not being able to replace worn out containers due to price hikes, hence the 11% decline of this indicator.

Figure 6: Percentage of beneficiary households storing water in safe storage containers



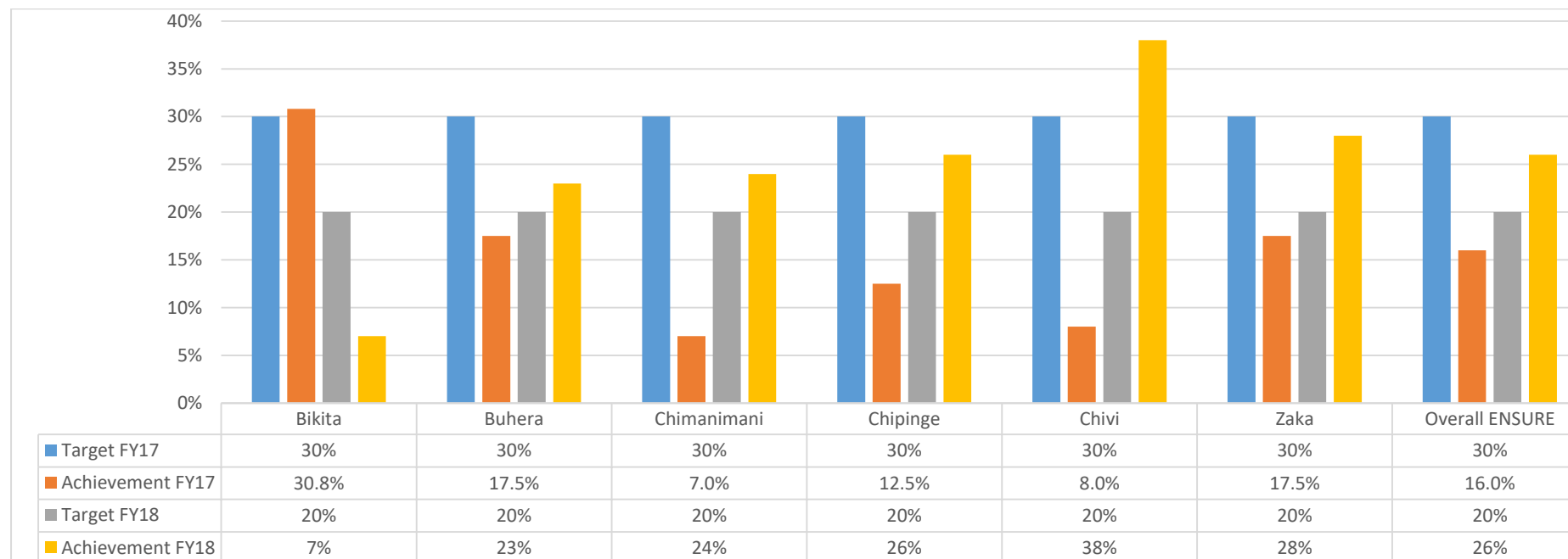
Indicator 1.2.1.8: Percentage (%) of beneficiary households with a hand washing facility with a cleansing agent and water at/by the latrine

Correct hand washing is a key strategy in prevention of diarrhoeal disease which adversely affects growth and health outcomes of infants and young children. The target for this indicator was surpassed as 26% of beneficiary households reported having a hand washing facility with a cleansing agent and water at/by the latrine in FY18 against a target of 20%. This was due to strengthened promotion of hand washing behaviour in FY18 by the ENSURE program. In FY17, only 16% of beneficiary households reported having a hand washing facility with a cleansing agent and water at/by the latrine. Lack of clean water to fill up tippy taps, lack of soap and destruction of tippy taps by animals, particularly goats, was the reasons given for households not having a hand washing facility with a cleansing agent and water.

When this indicator is disaggregated to district level, all districts with the exception of Bikita managed to surpass the district target of 20%. The highest percentage of beneficiary households that had a hand washing facility that contained water and a cleaning agent at/by the latrine was reported in Chivi (38%), followed by Zaka (28%), Chipinge (26%), Chimanimani (24%), Buhera (23%) and lastly Bikita at a very low 7%.

Surprisingly, Bikita district was the only district in FY17 to surpass the target of 30%. Investigations into the reasons behind this major decline, such as distances travelled to collect clean water are recommended.

Figure 7: Percentage of beneficiary households with a hand washing facility with a cleansing agent and water at/by the latrine



## 1.5 Behaviour Change Messaging

Indicator 1.1.3.1: Percentage (%) of beneficiary mothers or caregivers reporting receiving at least 3 of 5 targeted support activities to improve the consumption of nutritious food

Under the conceptual framework of nutrition, provision of adequate care to infants and young children from their mothers or care givers is one of the underlying determinants of child growth, development, survival and nutritional status. Support from other household members in performing activities typically carried out by women allows for time sharing and frees up time for mothers or caregivers to adequately care for



their children. There are a number of socio-cultural norms and practices that are a barrier to the adoption of behaviours promoted under SOI in the ENSURE program that would ultimately free up time for beneficiary mothers to allow them to better care for their children. Consequently, ENSURE recognizes the need to work with men to transform these norms and practices.

The percentage of beneficiary mothers and caregivers who received support to conduct at least three of the five targeted activities, namely fetching firewood, fetching water, weeding crop fields, gardening and being accompanied to Antenatal Care (ANC) visits was 79% in FY18 compared to a target of 86%. The same percentage was recorded in FY17.

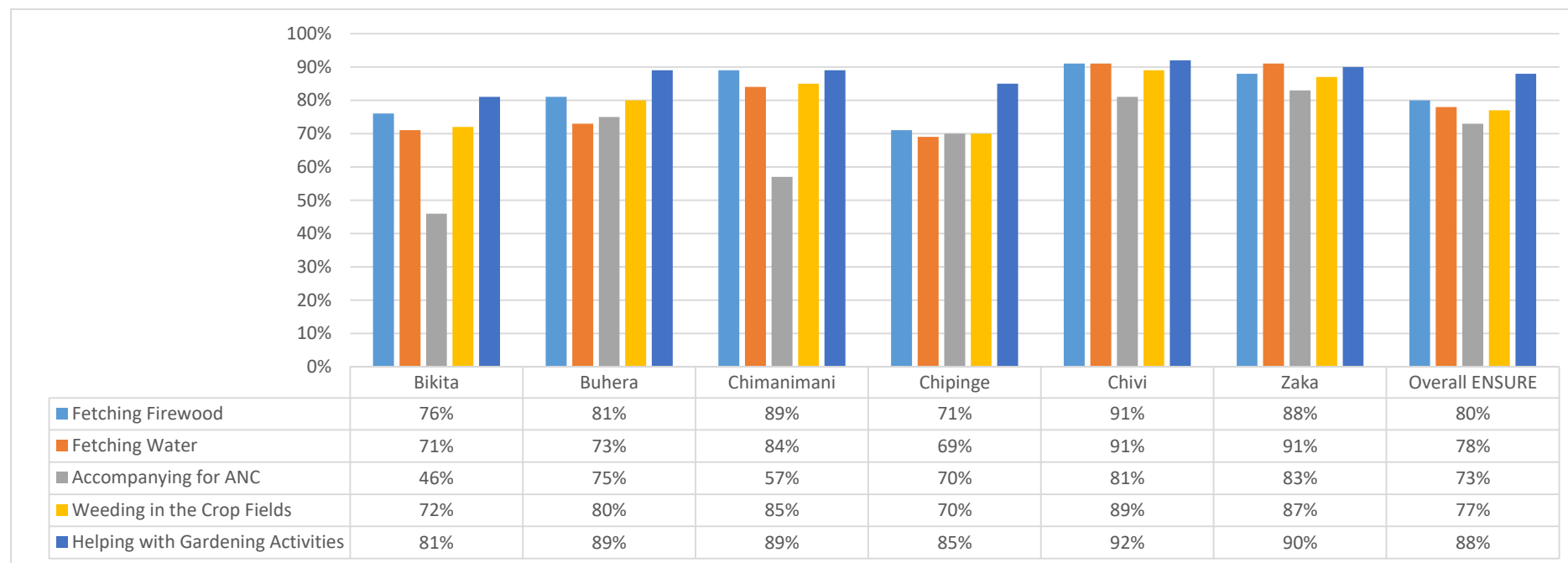
*Table 8: Percentage of beneficiary mothers or caregivers reporting receiving at least 3 of 5 targeted support activities to improve the consumption of nutritious food*

	<b>Bikita</b>	<b>Buhera</b>	<b>Chimanimani</b>	<b>Chipinge</b>	<b>Chivi</b>	<b>Zaka</b>	<b>Overall ENSURE</b>
	↓	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	
<b>Target FY17</b>	60%	60%	60%	60%	60%	60%	60%
<b>Achievement FY17</b>	88.0%	77.0%	75.0%	66.0%	81.0%	89.0%	79.0%
<b>Target FY18</b>	86%	86%	86%	86%	86%	86%	86%
<b>Achievement FY18</b>	75%	79%	85%	70%	90%	90%	79%

The districts that reported the highest percentage of beneficiary mothers or caregivers receiving support in at least three of the five targeted districts were Chivi and Zaka both at 90% overall, followed by Chimanimani (85%), Buhera (79%), Bikita (75%) and Chipinge (70%). When this indicator is compared to Indicator 1.1.2.1 on exclusive breastfeeding, it is interesting to note that both Chivi and Zaka districts reported the highest rates of exclusive breastfeeding at 75% and 71%, respectively.

The Figure 8 shows the frequency of gender related assistance for each of the 5 time sharing activities. The timesharing activity that received the greatest support was helping with gardening activities at 88%, followed by fetching firewood. The least adopted timesharing activity was men accompanying their spouses to ANC visits at 73%. This is, however, an increase from 64% reported in FY17. Both Chivi and Zaka districts had more than 80% of beneficiary mothers or caregivers reporting that their spouses accompanied them to ANC visits while Bikita (46%) and Chimanimani (57%) reported the least percentage of beneficiary mothers or caregivers receiving spousal support when attending ANC visits. The high percentages in spousal support in attending ANC visits also translated into high exclusive breast feeding rates in Chivi and Zaka districts.

Figure 8: Percentage of beneficiary mothers or caregivers receiving support from household members in five targeted timesharing activities



### Indicator 1.1.1.3: Percentage (%) of beneficiary women consuming iron rich foods

Consumption of iron rich foods is also a proxy for iron deficiency anaemia which can have detrimental health outcomes as it contributes to maternal mortality, foetal growth retardation and perinatal mortality (ZDHS 2015), (Zimbabwe National Statistics Agency Harare, 2016).

The percentage of beneficiary women consuming iron rich foods was assessed to demonstrate the positive behaviour of pregnant and lactating women in the consumption of recommended foods as per health and nutrition messages given to them by the ENSURE program.

Ninety-two percent of beneficiary pregnant and lactating women in the ENSURE program consumed at least one iron rich food in the day preceding the survey. This is below the FY18 target of 100% and is also a decline from FY17 where 97% of beneficiary women consumed at least one iron rich food the day preceding the survey. This can again be attributed to the deteriorating economic situation having an adverse

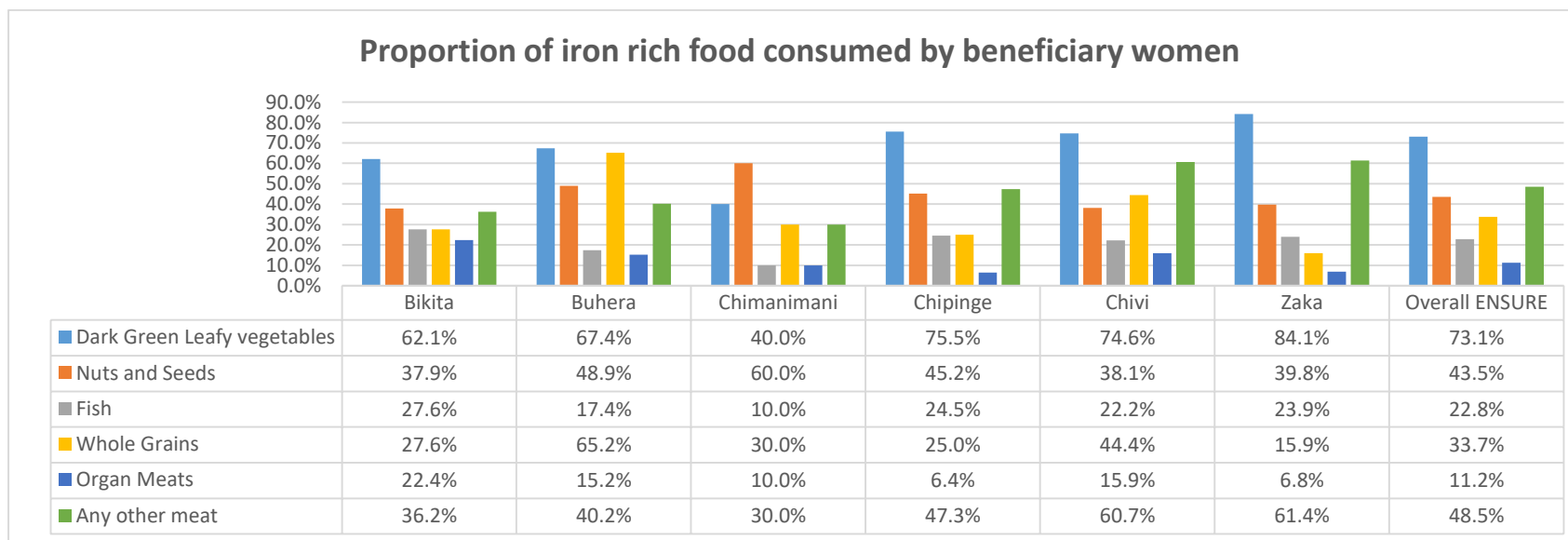
effect on food choices. All beneficiary women (100%) in Chivi district consumed at least one iron rich food the day preceding the survey while only 81% of beneficiary women in Bikita district consumed one iron rich food the day before the survey. Bikita district reported the lowest percentage among all districts. Zaka district was the only district to experience a marginal increase of 1% in the percentage of beneficiary women consuming iron rich foods.

*Table 9: Percentage of beneficiary women consuming iron rich foods*

	<b>Bikita</b>	<b>Buhera</b>	<b>Chimanimani</b>	<b>Chipinge</b>	<b>Chivi</b>	<b>Zaka</b>	<b>Overall ENSURE</b>
	↓	↓	↓	↓	—	↑	↓
<b>Target FY17</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
<b>Achievement FY17</b>	92%	98%	100%	95%	100%	97%	97%
<b>Target FY18</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
<b>Achievement FY18</b>	81%	96%	86%	91%	100%	98%	92%

Figure 9 shows the proportions of iron rich foods that women were consuming on the day preceding the survey. From the graph, most beneficiary women consumed dark green leafy vegetables (73.1%), followed by any other meat (48.5%) and beans, nuts and seeds (43.5%).

Figure 9: Proportion of iron rich foods consumed by beneficiary women



**Source: Survey Findings**

**Indicator 1.1.3.2: Percentage (%) of beneficiary women in union who make decisions over consumption of nutritious food at household level**

ENSURE is training men and women on the importance of women being allowed to exercise control over the consumption of at least 4 of the 7 nutritious foods groups listed below:

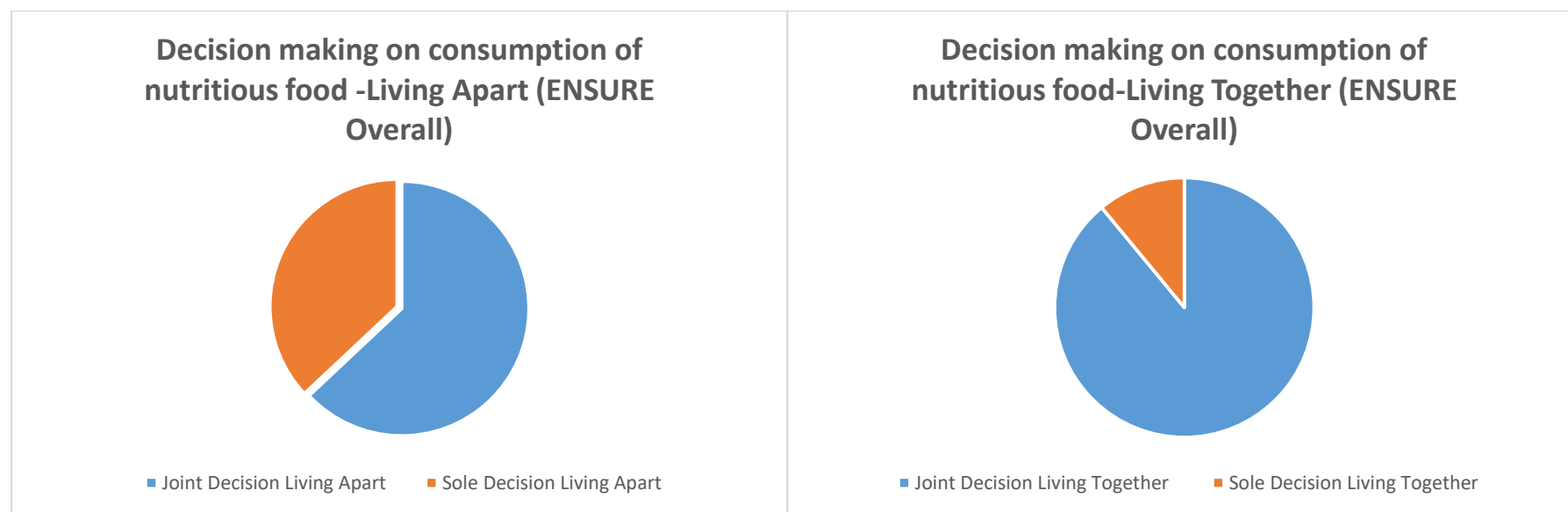
- Grains, roots and tubers;
- Legumes and nuts;
- Dairy products (milk, yogurt, cheese);
- Flesh foods (meat, fish, poultry and liver/organ meats);
- Eggs;
- Vitamin-A rich fruits and vegetables; and
- Other fruits and vegetables.

In the survey, the ENSURE program sought to establish if women were making decisions on how food is utilized. The results show that 37% of the women living apart from their spouses made sole decisions on how the food is utilised against a target of 50% while 11% of those living

with their spouses made sole decision on food utilisation against a target of 15%. These are a decrease from 46% and 82% respectively in FY17. This decrease is positive as it reflects the effectiveness of community level gender dialogues that resulted in the transformation of some social norms related household consumption of food as more men were involved in child feeding practices. Continued encouragement of women to engage in joint household decision making activities should be reinforced.

The district that reported the highest percentage of beneficiary women in a union who made joint decisions over consumption of nutritious food within their households was Chivi (99%) followed by Bikita (95%), Zaka (94%), Chipinge (89%), Chimanimani (87%) and Buhera (73%). The districts that reported the highest percentage of beneficiary women in a union who had sole decision making authority over consumption of nutritious foods within their households were Buhera (27%) and Chimanimani (13%). These 2 districts reported the higher percentages of beneficiary children 6-23months consuming food from at least 4 of the seven food groups, hence a higher dietary diversity (MDD).

Figure 10: Proportion of iron rich foods consumed by beneficiary women



## **STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2: Household income increased**

ENSURE engaged in activities that would equip HHs to increase production and improve post-harvest storage. It engaged participants in improved income generation and greater financial sustainability, and increased market integration through improved marketing skills and access to markets along selected value chains. Interventions targeted those with poor financial literacy, understanding, and resources (VSL groups composed of the very poor), as well as those who have some basic knowledge and capacity to engage in market development and interaction (producer groups composed of the poor).

Indicator number: 2.1.1.4

### **Indicator Title: Number of farmers and others who have applied improved technologies or management practices with USG assistance**

This indicator measures the number of direct participating farmers, ranchers and other primary sector producers as well as individual processors (not firms), rural entrepreneurs, traders, natural resource managers, etc., that applied improved technologies anywhere within the food and fibre system as a result of USG assistance during the FY 18. The improved technologies and management practices under this indicator are crop genetics, cultural practices, livestock management, pest management, soil related fertility and conservation, irrigation, climate mitigation, climate adaptation, marketing and distribution, post-harvest handling and storage, improved record keeping, budgeting and financial management. Table 10 shows the results of the survey and gives a comparison with the targets for FY18. A total of 8,200 farmers comprising of 2,444 men and 5,756 women adopted the various technologies and management practices promoted by the programme. This was against a target of 7898 farmers comprising of 2,523 men and 5,375 women. The ENSURE program achieved more than 100% in nine out of twelve of the improved technologies and management practice. The achievement rate for eight of the nine ranged between 104% and 137%. The ninth technology, climate adaptation had an outstanding achievement of 494% (see Table 10). Table 10 also shows a comparison of the achievement of results with those for FY17. The percentage achievements for all the technologies for FY18 surpassed those for FY17 except for livestock management which dropped from 229% to 126%, climate mitigation from 93% to 85% and improved record keeping from 109% to 96%.

Table 10: Number of farmers and others who have applied improved technologies or management practices

Technology Type	Bikita	Buhera	Chimanimani	Chipinge	Chivi	Zaka	Manicaland	Masvingo	ENSURE Actual	FY18 Target	FY18 % Achieved	FY17 % Achieved
<b>Producers eg Farmers, Fishers, Pastoralist and other primary sector producers</b>												
Crop genetics	1083	527	463	947	1354	1448	1937	3885	5822	5000	118	80
Cultural practices	1257	552	466	958	1358	1448	1976	4063	6039	5000	121	69
Livestock management	1213	491	491	999	1506	1575	1981	4294	6275	5000	126	229
Pest management	1173	554	424	958	1317	1317	1936	3807	5743	4500	128	60
Soil -related fertility and conservation	1238	516	461	819	1351	1446	1796	4035	5831	4260	137	92
Irrigation	412	81	299	804	914	271	1184	1597	2781	2200	126	59
Water Management - non irrigation	957	332	259	536	1124	1042	1127	3123	4250	3656	116	85

<b>Technology Type</b>	<b>Bikita</b>	<b>Buhera</b>	<b>Chimanimani</b>	<b>Chipinge</b>	<b>Chivi</b>	<b>Zaka</b>	<b>Manicaland</b>	<b>Masvingo</b>	<b>ENSURE Actual</b>	<b>FY18 Target</b>	<b>FY18 % Achieved</b>	<b>FY17 % Achieved</b>
based												
Climate mitigation	957	332	259	536	1124	1042	1127	3123	4250	5000	85	93
Climate adaptation	1960	604	688	1238	1493	1927	2530	5380	7910	1600	494	315
Marketing and Distribution	2029	578	589	1574	1443	1987	2741	5459	8200	7114	115	69
Post-Harvest Handling and Storage	1256	568	467	958	1368	1448	1993	4072	6065	7200	84	70
Improved record keeping, budgeting & financial management	2040	494	481	1531	1298	1746	2506	5084	7590	7898	96	109
Sex: Male	688	162	151	586	319	538	899	1545	2444	2523	97	-
Sex: Female	1341	416	438	988	1124	1449	1842	3914	5756	5375	107	-
Total	2029	578	589	1574	1443	1987	2741	5459	8200	7898	104	-



Technology Type	Bikita	Buhera	Chimanmani	Chipinge	Chivi	Zaka	Manicaland	Masvingo	ENSURE Actual	FY18 Target	FY18 % Achieved	FY17 % Achieved
<b>Others eg Individual processors( but not firms) Rural entrepreneurs , traders, natural resource managers</b>												
Climate mitigation	467	264	168	220	356	114	652	937	1589	1600	99.3	-
Marketing and Distribution	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Sex: Male	234	138	82	140	159	60	360	453	813	524	155	-
Sex: Female	233	126	86	80	197	54	292	484	776	1112	69.7	-
Total	467	264	168	220	356	114	652	937	1589	1600	99.3	-

Zaka district had the highest number of farmers adopting or practising crop genetics, cultural practices, livestock management, pest management, soil-related fertility and conservation and post-harvest handling and storage with 1,448; 1,448; 1,575; 1,317; 1,446; and 1,448 respectively. Chimanmani district had the lowest number of farmers adopting or practising the same technologies or management practices with 463, 466, 491, 424, 461, and 467 respectively. For pest management, Chivi district had the same highest figure of 1317 with Zaka district. In addition Chivi had the highest number of farmers practising irrigation and climate mitigation, 914 and 1,124 respectively. On the other hand,

for the same technologies the lowest numbers were found in Buhera (81) and Chimanimani (259) respectively. Bikita district had the highest number of farmers adopting or practising climate adaptation, marketing and distribution and record keeping, budgeting and financial management. Buhera district had the lowest number of farmers adopting the first two technologies with 604 and 578 respectively; while Chimanimani district had the lowest number of farmers adopting record keeping, budgeting and financial management practices.

A total of 1,589 other individual processors, rural entrepreneurs and natural resource managers adopted or practiced climate mitigation technologies against a target for FY 18 of 1,600 representing a 99.3% achievement. When disaggregated by sex the target for men of 524 was surpassed by a 155% (813) while only 69% (776) of the target for women (1,112) was achieved.

Indicator number: 2.1.2.2

**Indicator Title: Number of hectares under improved technologies or management practices with USG assistance**

Technologies to be counted here are agriculture-related, land-based technologies and innovations including those that address climate change adaptation and mitigation. The technology types are crop genetics, cultural practices, pest management, soil-related fertility and conservation, irrigation, climate mitigation and climate adaptation. The achievements under this indicator are non-cumulative. A total of 13,725.47 hectares were put under improved technologies throughout the ENSURE program districts, against a target of 18,288 hectares. Of this area 4,375.32ha were in Manicaland and 9,350.15ha were in Masvingo. At ENSURE program level, all the targets for the different technologies were surpassed by a margin ranging from 158% for crop genetics to 1,480% for soil-related fertility and conservation. The percentage achievements for FY18 were way above those for FY17 which were less than 50% for all technologies except for climate adaptation (91%) Table 6 presents the results for this indicator.

Table 11: Number of hectares under improved technologies or management practices

Technology Type	Bikita	Buhera	Chimanimani	Chipinge	Chivi	Zaka	Manicaland	Masvingo	ENSURE Total	FY18 Target	FY18 % Achieved	FY17 % Achieved
Crop genetics	400.08	646.6	391.11	678.163	1126.051	1508.21	1715.873	3034.341	4750.214	3000	158	16
Cultural practices	1753.6	1856.97	914.41	1603.94	3035	4561.55	4375.32	9350.15	13725.47	7000	196	34

Technology Type	Bikita	Buhera	Chimanimani	Chipinge	Chivi	Zaka	Manicaland	Masvingo	ENSURE Total	FY18 Target	FY18 % Achieved	FY17 % Achieved
Pest management	696.51	893.4	269.49	1042.271	806.2466	1220.04	2205.161	2722.797	4927.958	2400	205	12
Soil - related fertility and conservation	1156.34	971.77	643.42	761.883	1975.248	2634.605	2377.073	5766.193	8143.266	550	1480	43
Irrigation	119.1	28.55	111.9	319.748	173.357	117.69	460.198	410.147	870.345	100	870	10
Climate mitigation	361.3	849.85	75.589	16.88	134.006	528.32	942.319	1023.626	1965.945	500	393	0
Climate adaptation	1671.95	1097.28	725.37	1508.88	2758.8	3028.18	3331.53	7458.93	10790.46	-	-	91
Sex: Male	1786.283	1988.423	1038.854	2786.295	2389.646	4411.521	5813.572	8587.45	14401.0	5850	246	7
Sex: Female	4374.998	3666.998	2092.436	3161.178	7649.829	9187.07	8920.612	21211.9	30132.5	12438	242	-
Total	6161.281	5655.421	3131.29	5947.473	10039.47	13598.59	14734.18	29799.35	44533.5	18288	244	-

Zaka district recorded the highest number of hectares for crop genetics, cultural practices, pest management, soil-related fertility and water conservation, and climate adaptation with 1,508.2; 4,561.6; 1,220.0; 2,634.6; and 3,028.2 hectares, respectively. On the other hand Chimanimani had the least number of hectares under the same technologies with 391.1; 914.4; 269.49; and 725.4 hectares, respectively. For climate mitigation, Buhera (849.9) and Zaka district (528.3) surpassed the ENSURE overall target of 500 hectares. Chipinge had the least hectareage (16.9) under climate mitigation.

Indicator number: 2.2.2.3

**Indicator Title: % of beneficiary farmers that report having received market information**

A total of 69.7% of the SO2 project participants for ENSURE indicated that they receive marketing information from an ENSURE promoted source while 30.3% said they do not receive any market information. This is lower than the achievement for FY17 (76%)

Figure 11: Source of market information

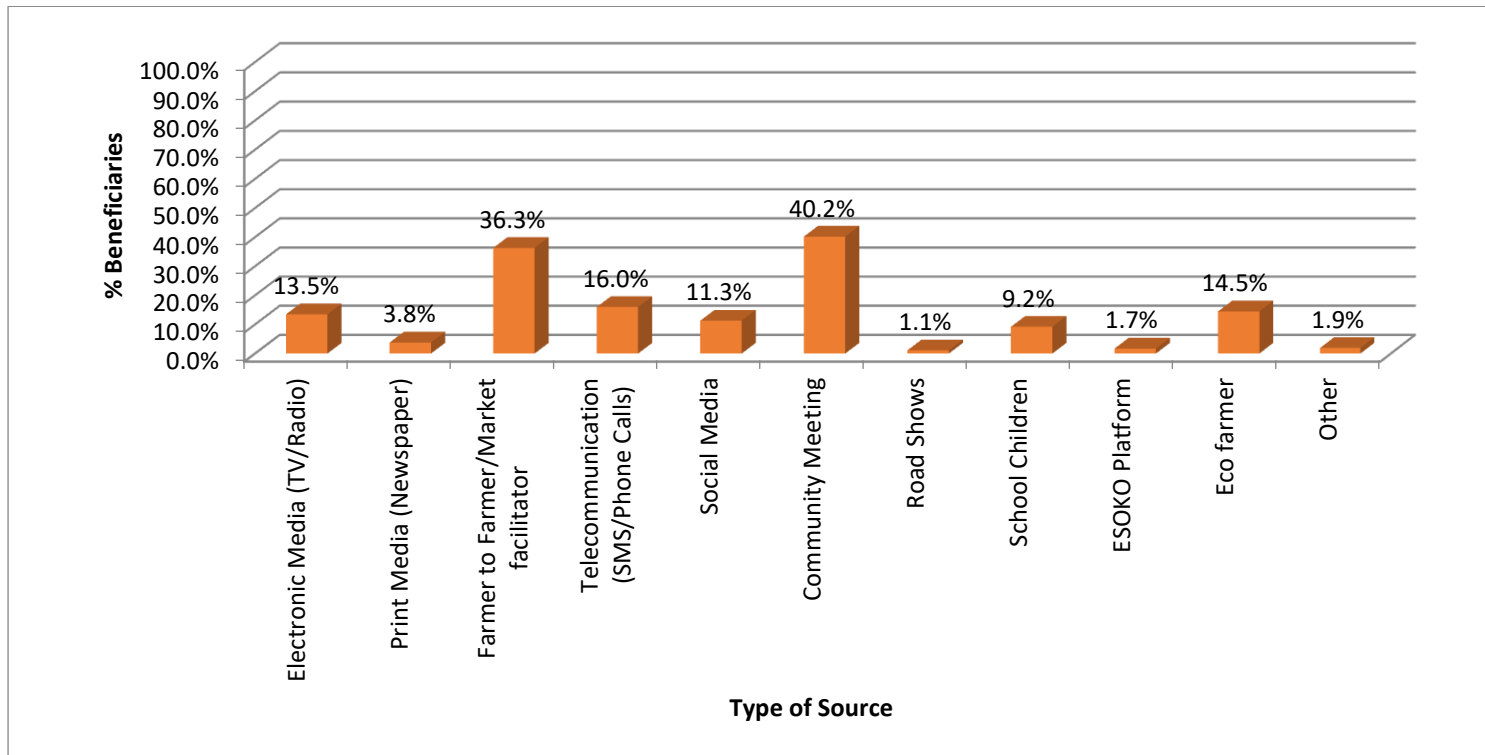


Figure 13 shows the source of the market information which was received by the 71% of the respondents. It shows that marketing information is mostly received through community meetings (40.2%), followed by farmer to farmer (36.3%), telecommunications (16.0%), eco-farmer (14.5%) and electronic media (13.5%). The least number of farmers received marketing information through road shows. The Esoko platform which was promoted by ENSURE program came second from last (1.7%).

Indicator number: 2.3.1

**Indicator Title: Value of income received from enterprises by VSL Clients and Producer Farmers**

This indicator measures value of income that is brought to the household by any member of the household regardless of type or size. The income is tracked from on-farm and off-farm enterprises by both VSL clients and producer groups. The total number of ENSURE programme VSL clients and farmers interviewed was 12,683 (see Table 7). A total of \$4,500,078.45 was received by VSL and Producer farmers. Producer farmers received \$3,073,938.45 of which \$1,802,107.20 was from on-farm enterprises and \$1,271,831.25. On the other hand VSL clients received a total of \$1,426,140.00 with \$686,144 coming from on-farm enterprises and \$739,996 coming from off-farm enterprises. Overall there was a 128% achievement in terms of the number of producer farmers and VSL clients and 165% achievement in terms of value of income they received against targets for the FY18. These achievements were higher than those for FY17 which were 103% and 125% respectively.

Table 12: Number of VSL and Producer Farmers and value of income received from their enterprises

	Bikita	Buhera	Chimani mani	Chipin ge	Chivi	Zaka	Manical and	Masvingo	ENSURE Total	FY18 Target	FY18 % Achie ved	FY17 % Achie ved
<b>Value of Income Producer Farmers &amp; VSL Clients Overall</b>	<b>1 114 436</b>	<b>261 130</b>	<b>285 747</b>	<b>993 678</b>	<b>572 675</b>	<b>1 272 412</b>	<b>1 540 555</b>	<b>2 959 523</b>	<b>4 500 078</b>	2,722,000	165	125
<b>Producer farmers &amp; VS&amp;L clients</b>	4 217	930	754	2 519	922 <sup>1</sup>	2 367	194 <sup>4</sup>	8 489	12 683	9 900	128	103

	Bikita	Buhera	Chimani mani	Chipin ge	Chivi	Zaka	Manical and	Masvingo	ENSURE Total	FY18 Target	FY18 % Achie ved	FY17 % Achie ved
<b>Overall</b>												
<b>Value of Income Producer Farmers Overall</b>	428 885	187 380	280 444	613 539	412 563	1 151 127	1 081 363	1 992 575	3 073 938	1,320,00 0	233	126
Income from Enterprises: On farm	248 898	93 696	133 236	390 080	258 904	677 293	617 012	1 185 095	1 802 107	580,000	311	122
No of farmers	2 184	643	747	1 823	1 517	2 042	3 213	5 743	8 956	4 400	204	109
Income from off Enterprises: Off farm	179 987	93 684	147 208	223 459	153 659	473 834	464 351	807 480	1 271 831	740,000	172	129
No of farmers	2 184	643	747	1 822	1 512	2 040	3 212	5 736	8 948	4 700	190	105
<b>Value of income VS&amp;L Clients Overall</b>	685 551	73 750	5 303	380 139	160 112	121 285	459 192	966 948	1 426 140	1,402,00 0	102	125

	Bikita	Buhera	Chimani mani	Chipin ge	Chivi	Zaka	Manical and	Masvingo	ENSURE Total	FY18 Target	FY18 % Achie ved	FY17 % Achie ved
Income from enterprises: On farm	318 968	24 802	3 163	212 440	59 797	66 974	240 405	445 739	686 144	632,000	109	137
No of Clients	2 033	112	6	696	318	325	814	676 <sup>2</sup>	3 490	4,900	71	103
Income from enterprises : Off farm	366 583	48 948	2 140	167 699	100 315	54 311	218 787	521 209	739 996	770,000	96	116
Number of clients	2 033	287	7	687	405	308	981	746 <sup>2</sup>	3 727	5,200	71	99

It is worth noting that the highest number of VSL clients and producer farmers combined (4,217) was found in Bikita and that this number is higher than the total for Manicaland (4,194). These results tally with those for indicator 2.1.1.4 where Bikita had the highest number of farmers practising marketing and distribution and record keeping, budgeting and financial management. The least number of participants were found in Chimanimani (754) of which only seven of these were VSL clients. However, although the highest number of VSL clients and producer farmers was in Bikita district the largest amount of money was received in Zaka district. This indicates that on average, the participants in Zaka made more money than those in Bikita district.

### **STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 3: Resilience to food insecurity of communities improved**

ENSURE built on the work of community disaster management empowering existing community structures to identify, anticipate, and mitigate known environmental risk factors to traditional livelihoods. The increased incidence and severity of drought and its impact on livelihoods necessitates adaptation and mitigation strategies that ensure resilience of households.

Indicator number: 3.1.1

**Indicator Title: Percentage of men and women reporting receiving risk and early warning information from source (e.g., media, peer to peer)**

At ENSURE program level 65% of men and 68% of women and overall 66.5% of the respondents reported having received risk and early warning information from sources promoted by the project. This represents an 83% achievement (65.5% against a target of 80%). The highest percentages were found in Bikita district with 92% for women and 93% for men. The lowest percentages for men were found in Chipinge (54%) and Zaka (54%) while the lowest percentage for women was found in Chipinge with 46%. Table 13 summarises the distribution of reporting on receiving of risk and early warning information and also compares with FY17 results. There was an increase in the overall percentage for Bikita from 85.2% to 92.5% and for Chivi from 48.7% to 73% while there was a drop for Buhera from 91.3% to 70%, Chipinge from 80.9 to 50% and Zaka from 74.6% to 60%.

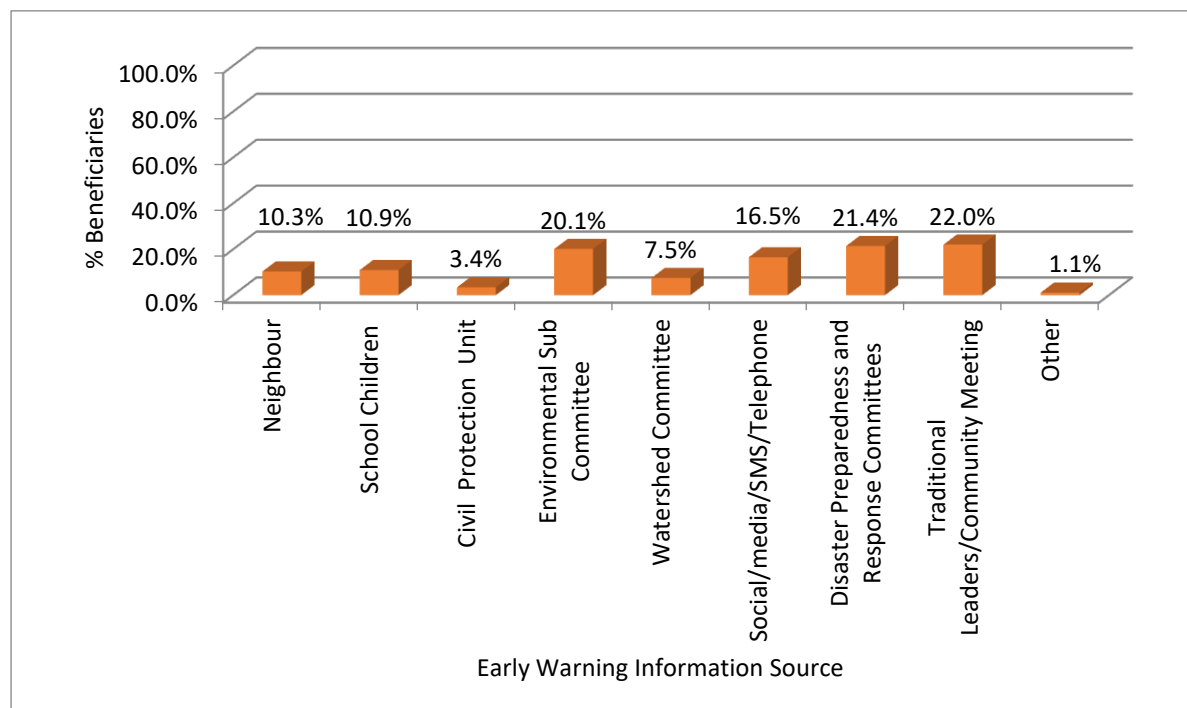


Table 13: Percentage of men and women who reported having risk and early warning information

	Bikita	Buhera	Chimanimani	Chipinge	Chivi	Zaka	Manicaland	Masvingo	ENSURE Total
Sex: Male	92	65	60	54	65	54	57.0	73	65
Sex: Female	93	75	62	46	80	65	56.0	78.0	68
<b>Overall FY18</b>	<b>92.5</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>66.5</b>
<b>Overall FY17</b>	<b>85.2</b>	<b>91.3</b>	<b>83.4</b>	<b>80.9</b>	<b>48.7</b>	<b>74.6</b>	-	-	<b>77.4</b>

Figure 12 shows the source of risk and early warning information. Traditional leaders or community meetings were top in disseminating this information. These were followed by DRR committees, Environmental sub-committees and social media. The Civil protection Unit was least on the list. The high percentages achieved in Bikita could imply that more people in that district participate in EMC, DRR and other traditional or community meetings where such information is disseminated. Using the same argument, it could mean that the men in Chipinge and Zaka and women in Chipinge have minimum participation in these meetings.

Figure 12: Source of risk and early warning information

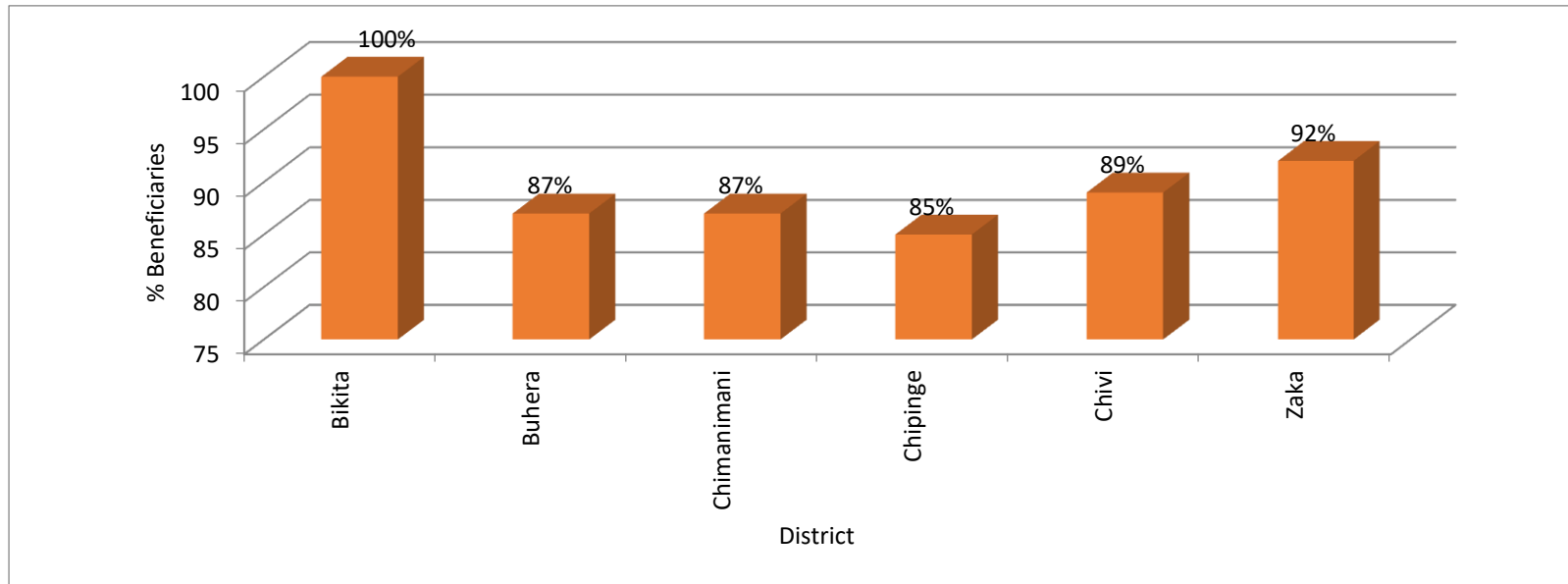


Indicator number: 3.2.1

**Indicator Title: Percentage of targeted households having access to one of the 4 measures for disaster risk reduction**

Overall at ENSURE programme level the percentage of households with access to one of the four DRR measures was 90%. The DRR measures are DRR Plans, Watershed Management Plans, Water User Association Plans, and Natural Resource Management Plans. Bikita achieved the target of 100% while Chipinge achieved least with 85% (see Figure 13).

Figure 13: Percentage of households that had access to one of the 4 DRR measures



The overall achievement for ENSURE was 90% which falls short of the 100% programme target.

## CONCLUSIONS

### Strategic Objective 1

FY 18 targets set for most indicators were not achieved under SO1. The main reason for not attaining FY18 targets is attributed to the deteriorating economic situation country wide. Indicators 1.1.2.1 (EBF) and 1.1.1.1 (MDD) show significant relationships with assistance received in some of the 5 targeted time sharing activities while 1.1.1.2 (MMF) does not show a significant relationship with any of the 5 time sharing activities.

### Strategic Objective 2

Programme targets for indicator 2.1.1.4 on the number of farmers and others who applied improved technologies and management practices and indicator 2.1.2.2 on area under improved technologies and 2.3.1 on value of income received by VSL clients and producer farmers were surpassed by margins of between 104% and 494%. Achievements on indicator 2.1.1.4 and 2.1.2.2 are confirmed by the high income received under 2.3.1. Most of the households confirmed having received market information which also plays an important role in the income received from both on-farm and off-farm activities. However, achievements at district level varied with some excelling while others under performed.

### Strategic Objective 3

ENSURE program surpassed targets for indicator 3.1.1 on the percentage of men and women who report having received risk and early warning information and indicator 3.2.1 on percentage of households who had access to one of the four DRR measures.