Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Water, Climate and Rural Resettlement

Meteorological Services Department of Zimbabwe

Overview of the Meteorological Services Department of Zimbabwe

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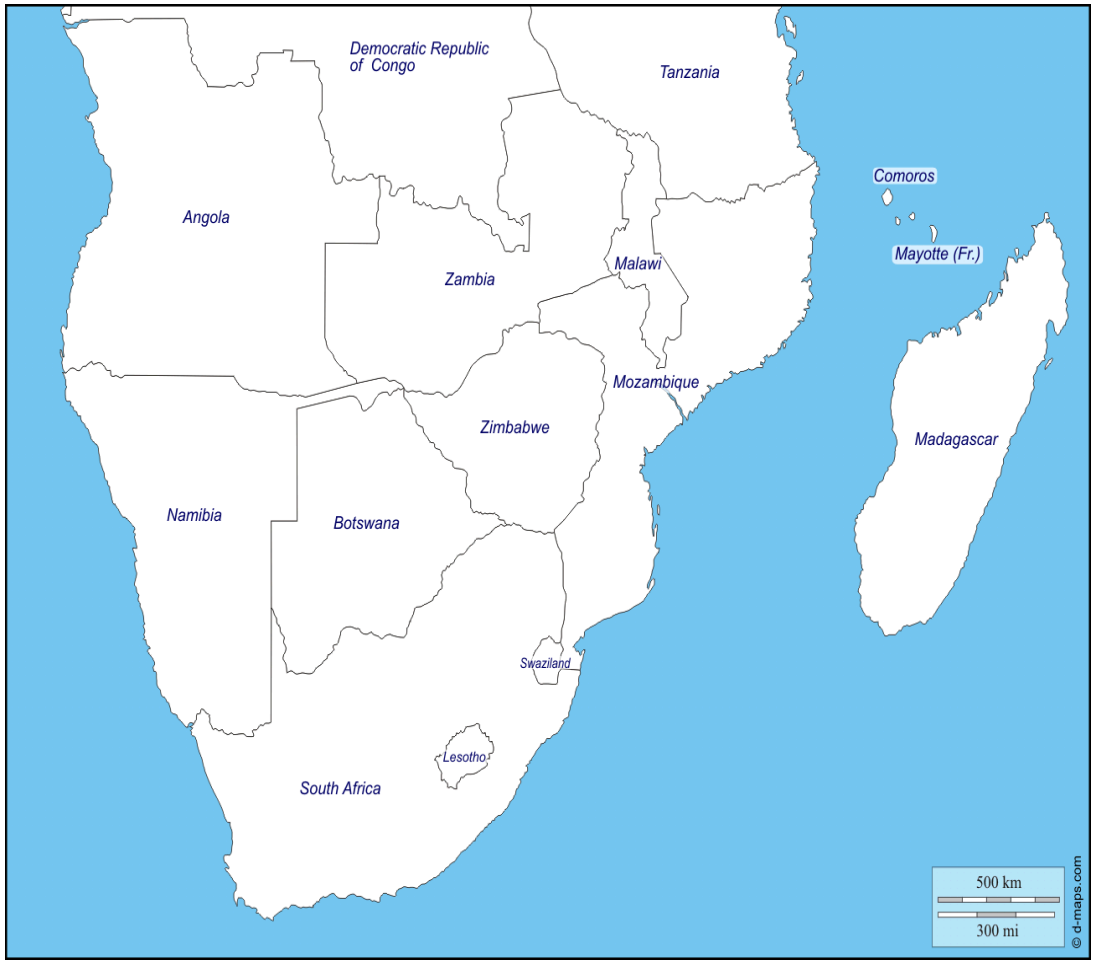
PR of Zimbabwe to WMO

Presentation Outline

1. Introduction and Background
2. Service Delivery Products
3. Achievements
4. Challenges and Opportunities

Introduction

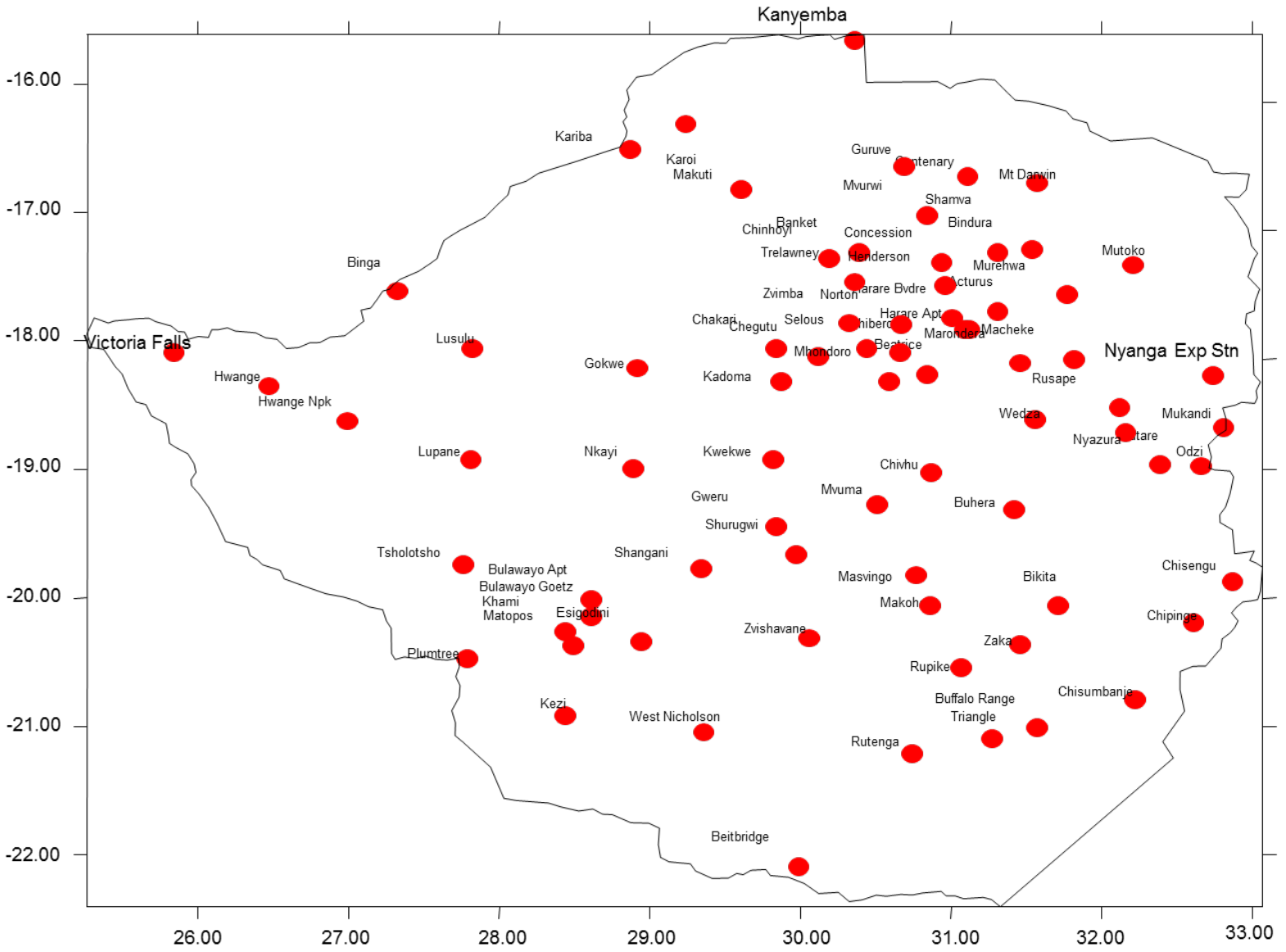


- Zimbabwe is a landlocked country located in southern Africa, between the Zambezi and Limpopo Rivers.
- Lies between latitudes 15° and 23°S, and longitudes 25° and 34°E
- It is bordered by South Africa to the south, Botswana to the west and southwest, Zambia to the northwest, and Mozambique to the east and northeast.
- The name "Zimbabwe" stems from a Shona term for **Great Zimbabwe**, an ancient ruined city in the country's south-east whose remains are now a protected site.

Systematic Observations

- Currently MSD has 47 synoptic stations
- 12 provide data to the Global Telecommunication System (GTS), nine (9) are Aviation stations, and one (1) is an upper air station.
- MSD also operates almost 500 volunteer rainfall stations and
- 20 AWS

Zimbabwe's Station Network



Products

- Daily weather forecasts
- 3 day and 10 day forecasts
- Seasonal forecasts
- Agro-meteorology and rainfall bulletins
- Advisories and warnings

Dissemination Platforms

- Early Warning Community Radios
- Social Media
- Virtual Weather Recording Studio
- WhatsApp
- Bulk Short Message Service
- Website
- Print and electronic media

Achievements

- ISO Certification (9001:2015)
- Observational network expansion and automation – AWS, AWOS and NWP.
- Recapitalization – Polar orbiting satellite receiver, TV studio.
- Public private partnerships -Oxfam, ZIMNAT, Econet, Red Cross, ZCFU, Dan Church aid, CaFOD and University of Zimbabwe.
- New product development such as the Farm Weather Bulletin.
- Enhanced communication with customers and stakeholders through social media platforms.

Challenges

- Low appreciation of socio-economic value of the Met services.
- Insufficient funding.
- Old and outdated equipment
- Low visibility of products and services
- Lack of effective mechanisms for collaboration with the academic institutions.

Challenges cont

- Reliance on external players (HPC, donated equipment).
- The climate data gaps and the management system has data format compatibility problems.
- Attrition of trained staff.
- Bad debtors. Cost recovery issues.
- Customers want products and services for free.

Opportunities

- Growing awareness of the public and the decision makers of how everyday life and the sustainable development of society are affected by the weather and climate especially after cyclone Idai
- Growing demand for a broad range of weather and climate services.
- Development partners as a potential source of funding of meteorological projects.
- Membership of WMO, ICAO, IPCC and SADC presents opportunities to benefit from programmes .Increased awareness in climate change and climate variability.
- Increased demand for meteorological information in the Agricultural and Aviation sectors.
- Partnerships with Private players.

Thank you!!!