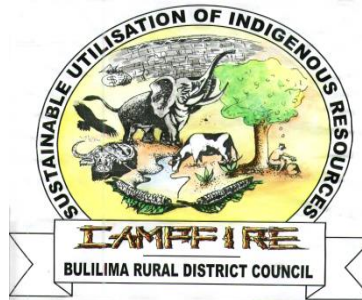


BULILIMA DISTRICT MASTER PLAN: REPORT OF STUDY



Bulilima District Vision and Mission Statement

'A strong and productive local economy capable of sustaining its district population by 2030', To improve the standard of living for the district population by providing quality infrastructure and social services

SUBMITTED BY: BULILIMA RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ASSISTED BY: PLAN AFRIC PVT LTD



Table of Contents

SUMMARY	13
1.1 Introduction	13
1.2 Bulilima in its Regional and Historical Setting	13
1.3 Natural Resources and Environment	14
1.4 Population.....	14
1.5 Economy and Employment	15
1.6 Social Infrastructure	16
1.7 Economic Infrastructure	16
1.8 Institutions.....	17
2 PART 2: INTRODUCTION	19
2.1. Reason for the Study	19
2.1.1 National Context	19
2.1.2 Vision 2030 and the National Development Strategy.....	19
2.1.3 Devolution and Decentralisation Policy	20
2.1.4 National Human Settlement Policy.....	20
2.1.5 Form and Content of a Rural Master Plan	20
2.1.6 Aims of the plan.....	20
2.1.7 Consultations and Local Participation.	21
2.1.8 Structure of the Report of Study	23

2.1	BULILIMA IN ITS REGIONAL AND HISTORICAL SETTING.....	23
2.1.1	Bulilima in its National and Regional Setting.	23
2.1.2	The Communal Lands.....	26
2.1.3	The Small Scale Commercial Farming Area.	27
2.1.4	The Large Scale Commercial Farming Area	27
2.1.5	The Resettlement Areas	27
2.1.6	Bulilima and Other related Districts	28
2.2	NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT.....	29
2.2.1	Geology.....	29
2.2.2	Soils.....	31
2.2.3	Bulilima Weather and Climate data.....	33
	Figtree	34
2.2.4	Vegetation.....	44
2.2.5	Topography and Landscape	48
2.2.6	Hydrology	48
2.2.7	Wetlands	52
2.2.8	Archaeological and Culturally Protected Monuments or Areas	52
2.3	ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES IN THE DISTRICT.....	53
3	PART 2: EXISTING SITUATION	61
3.1	EXISTING SITUATION	61
3.1.1	Population	61
3.1.2	Population Size and Distribution.	61

3.1.3	Migration.....	71
3.1.4	Fertility and Mortality Trends.....	76
3.2	ECONOMY AND EMPLOYMENT	78
3.3	AGRICULTURE.....	79
3.3.2	Agrarian issues.....	93
3.3.3	Irrigation	94
3.3.4	Future Plans for Irrigation.....	99
3.4	WILDLIFE	99
3.4.1	CAMPFIRE Programme.....	101
3.4.2	CAMPFIRE Revenue.....	102
3.4.3	Sustainability of the CAMPFIRE Programme.....	105
3.4.4	CAMPFIRE Supported Projects	106
3.4.5	Issues to be considered.....	107
3.4.6	The KAZA Programme in Bulilima District	109
3.4.7	Other Programmes: HABAKUK Trust.....	110
3.5	THE PUBLIC SECTOR.....	110
3.6	THE INFORMAL SECTOR.....	111
3.6.1	Activities in the informal sector.....	111
3.6.2	Fees and Licenses	111
3.6.3	Creating an Enabling Environment for the Informal Sector	112
3.7	THE SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE	113
3.7.1	EDUCATION INFORMATION	113

3.7.2	Health Facilities	119
3.7.3	Water Supply.	120
3.7.4	Community Facilities.....	121
3.8	ECONOMIC INFRASTRUCTURE	122
3.8.1	Water.....	122
3.8.2	Roads.....	125
3.8.3	Railways.....	132
3.8.4	Electricity.....	133
3.8.5	Road Network.	136
3.8.6	Proliferation of Human Settlements.....	136
3.8.7	Urban planning: The solution or trigger to informal settlements?.....	136
3.8.8	Local Government and Local authorities.....	137
3.8.9	Housing.	137
3.8.10	Housing Delivery	140
3.9	BULILIMA DISTRICT RURAL SERVICE CENTRES	142
3.9.1	Ranking of RSCs by services found in those centres	142
3.9.2	LIST OF BULILIMA BUSINESS CENTRES.....	144
3.9.3	Key Growth Nodes in Bulilima District	152
3.10	INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK	161
3.10.1	NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANISATIONS	161
3.10.2	INTRODUCTION	161
3.10.3	STAKEHOLDERS MEETING	162

3.10.4	FOOD AND NUTRITION	162
3.10.5	HEALTH SERVICES.....	163
3.10.6	GENDER EQUALITY AND CHILD PROTECTION	165
3.10.7	SANITATION AND HYGIENE.....	166
3.10.8	EDUCATION SYSTEM	167
3.10.9	POVERTY ALLEVIATION	167
3.10.10	LIST OF NGOS OPERATING IN THE DISTRICT.....	168
3.10.10.11.	VULNERABLE OR DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITY: THE SAN COMMUNITY	170
3.11	The Role of Traditional Leaders	174
3.12	PARASTATALS.....	174
3.12.1	Central Government Agencies.....	175
3.12.2	Ministry of Local Government Rural and National Housing	175
3.12.3	Ministry of Lands and Agriculture.	175
3.12.4	Ministry of Health and Child Welfare	176
3.12.5	Ministry of Education Sport and Culture.....	176
3.12.6	Ministry of Transport and Energy.....	176
3.12.7	Ministry of Public Service Labour and Social Welfare.....	177
3.12.8	Bulilima Rural District Council	177
3.12.9	The Role of the Councilors	179
3.12.10	The Administrative Structure of the Council	180
3.12.11	Departmental Functions	180

4 PART 3: CONCLUSION PROBLEMS AND ISSUES 187

4.1 National Regional Settings..... 187

4.2 Natural Resources and Environment..... 187

4.3 Environmental problems in Bulilima are: 188

4.4 Population..... 188

4.5 Economy and Employment 188

4.6 Social infrastructure 189

4.7 Economic infrastructure 190

4.8 Institutions..... 191

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1: Major Land Types in Bulilima.....26

Table 2: Bulilima and other related Districts28

Table 3: Some of the Rivers within the Bulilima District.....50

Table 4: Statistics of Human and Wildlife Conflict Cases from the year 2021 to the year 2023.....56

Table 5: Distribution of Foreign Born population67

Table 6: Reasons for Emigration.....69

Table 7: Distribution of Foreign Born population72

Table 8: Reasons for Emigration.....73

Table 9: Distribution of Population Age of 15 years and above in the District and Marital Status.....76

Table 10: Economically Inactive, Employed and Unemployed Population Bulilima District 78

Table 11.....88

Table 12: Wildlife Conservancies in the District and their Hectarage..... 100

Table 13: Major Wildlife Species in the District 100

Table 14: Wards under CAMPFIRE Programme 102

Table 15: CAMPFIRE Revenue and Dividends: Year 2021 - 2023 103

Table 16: Summary of the distribution of the CAMPFIRE Revenue: Year 2021 - 2023..... 104

Table 17: Showing source of Water..... 122

Table 18: Routes served by conventional buses in the district. 130

Table 19: Information on electricity and sources of water for bulilima R.S. centres 133

Table 20: Distribution of Households in Dwelling Units with Electricity in the District and Source. 134

LIST OF MAPS

Map 1: National Setting of Bulilima District: The district is in Natural Region IV.23

Map 2: Showing wards in the District.....25

Map 3: Geology Map30

Map 4: Soils Map32

Map 5: Showing Elevations33

Map 6: Land Cover Map for the Bulilima District (2020).....48

Map 7: Map of Zimbabwe Showing the location of the Gwayi Catchment, and also the
location of Bulilima District within the Gwayi Catchment.51

Map 8: Drought Prone Areas54

Map 9: Showing agro-ecological zones81

Map 10: Kavango-Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area109

Map 11: Educational Facilities Distribution117

Map 12: Distribution of Health facilities119

LIST OF FIGURES

<i>Figure 1: Monthly Temperature Variation</i>	35
<i>Figure 2: Variation in sunshine, humidity and precipitation days</i>	35
<i>Figure 3: Monthly Average Precipitation</i>	36
<i>Figure 4: Monthly Highest and Lowest Temperature Variation</i>	37
<i>Figure 5: Monthly Temperature Changes in Ndolwane</i>	37
<i>Figure 6: Precipitation, Humidity and Sunshine Variation in Ndolwane</i>	38
<i>Figure 7: Monthly Temperature Variation</i>	38
<i>Figure 8: Relationship between Precipitation and Temperature</i>	39
<i>Figure 9: Variation of Precipitation, Temperature and Humidity</i>	39
<i>Figure 10: Seasonal Rainfall by Ward</i>	41
<i>Figure 12: Rainfall Variation by Ward and Month</i>	41
<i>Figure 13: October 2023 Rainfall Distribution by Ward</i>	42
<i>Figure 15: Rainfall Variation by Ward in December</i>	43
<i>Figure 16: Rainfall Distribution in January 2024 by Wards</i>	43
<i>Figure 17: Population Distribution by Sex</i>	62
<i>Figure 18: Distribution of Population by Ward and Sex</i>	62
<i>Figure 19: Distribution of Population by Wards</i>	63
<i>Figure 20: Comparison of population growth over time</i>	64
<i>Figure 21: Population Change over Time</i>	64
<i>Figure 22: Distribution of Birth Registration</i>	65
<i>Figure 23: Distribution of Household by Ward</i>	66
<i>Figure 24: Distribution of Household Heads by Sex and Age</i>	66
<i>Figure 25: Migration Patterns in Bulilima District</i>	67
<i>Figure 26: Distribution of Emigrants by Sex</i>	69

<i>Figure 27: Migration Patterns in Bulilima District.....</i>	<i>71</i>
<i>Figure 28: Distribution of Emigrants by Sex.....</i>	<i>73</i>
<i>Figure 29: Occupations of Emigrants.....</i>	<i>75</i>
<i>Figure 30: CAMPFIRE Revenue Dividends</i>	<i>102</i>
<i>Figure 31: Distribution of Schools by Ward.....</i>	<i>113</i>
<i>Figure 32: Distribution of Pupils by Sex and Ward</i>	<i>114</i>
<i>Figure 33: Total Enrolments by Ward.....</i>	<i>114</i>
<i>Figure 34: Distribution of Teachers by Ward and Sex.....</i>	<i>115</i>
<i>Figure 35: Total Number of Teachers by Ward.....</i>	<i>116</i>

ABBREVIATIONS

AGRITEX – Agricultural, Technical and Extension Services

BRDC – Bulilima Rural District Council.

CAMPFIRE – Communal Areas Management Programme for Indigenous Resources
CEO - Chief Executive officer of the Local Authority

NGOs - Non Governmental Organisations.

PAAP – Poverty Alleviation Action Programme

RDDC – Rural District Development Committee

RIDA – Rural Infrastructure Development Agency.

RSC - Rural Service Centre

WASH - Water Sanitation and Hygiene

ZESA - Zimbabwe Electricity Supply Authority

ZINARA - Zimbabwe National Road Authority

ZINWA- Zimbabwe National Water Authority

NDS1 – National Development Strategy 1

SUMMARY

1.1 Introduction

The Master Plan is a statutory land use plan that guides Bulilima District Development in the next 10 to 15 years. The need for statutory Rural Master Plan is being prepared in accordance with Department of Spatial Planning and Development, Ministry of Local Government and Public Works as read into the President's call to Action: "Master Plan Preparation and the establishment of Department of Spatial Planning and Land Management at all Local authorities in Zimbabwe." And Part IV of the Regional, Town and Country Planning Act, Chapter 29:12, Revised Edition 1996 read with the Regional Town and Country Planning (Master and Local Plans) Regulations, 1977. It is in this context that Bulilima Rural Master Plan is being prepared. Facilitating local governance and rural development is the mission of the Bulilima Rural District Council (BRDC), a local government organization under the Ministry of Local Government, Public Works, and National Housing. The Rural District Council Act 29:13 governs BRDC and was used to create it by an act of parliament. It is one of Matebeleland South Province's seven administrative districts. The district was first established in 2002 following the division of the previous Bulilimamangwe Rural District Council. In 2003, Bulilima Rural District Council (BRDC) attained status.

1.2 Bulilima in its Regional and Historical Setting.

- Bulilima Rural District Council is a local government institution under the Ministry of Local Government and Public Works whose mandate is to facilitate local governance and rural development. The activities of the rural district council are governed by the Rural District Council Act (Chapter 29:13). The District was initially proclaimed in 2002 after the split of the former Bulilimamangwe Rural district Council. It then attained District status in 2003.
- Bulilima district is located in Matabeleland South Province, western Zimbabwe. The district is bordered by Mangwe district in the south, Tsholotsho district in the north, Umguza district in the east, and the Republic of Botswana to the west.

- Bulilima strength in the province is that it is strategically located on the Bulawayo-Botswana road which pass through Plumtree town from Zimbabwe and Botswana.
- The district lies in National Region IV, characterised by low rainfall and low agricultural potential. .
- Bulilima District has 22 wards: 17 communal, 3 old resettlement, one small commercial farming area, and one large commercial farming area (A1, A2, and A3).
- The 22 wards, namely are Figtree; Norwood; Somnene; Natane Bezu; Tshankwa; Gwambe; Matjinje; Nyele; Dombolefu; Vulindlela; Masendu; Gala; Huwana; Ndolwane; Madlambuzi; Hingwe; Malanswazi; Bambadzi; Makhulela; Dombodema, Ndiweni and Kham.

1.3 Natural Resources and Environment

- The district has a low altitude, is generally flat to undulating but is irregularly interrupted by granitic dwala, inselberg and castle dwala.
- The natural resource base is fragile and consists of poor soils and high summer temperatures which has resulted in evapotranspiration rates which exceeds rainfall amounts.
- The vegetation pattern in Bulilima is an interplay of ecological factors which has given rise to 5 main types: Gusu forests of *Baikiaea* and other related species of the Kalahari Sands; *Terminalia* tree savannah on sands and loamy sands; *Acacia* spp on clays, *Colophospermum* Mopane woodland and Mopane tree savanna and dry deciduous savanna.

1.4 Population

By national standards, the district's population density is low. As at 2022, Zimstat put the population at 85 600 made up of 39 488 Males and 46 112 Females. The district population distribution is highly decreasing as compared to 2002 census which was 94320 and in 2012, 90561 which had an annual decrease of -0.58% by 2022.

The district has a very young population: 44,865, or 52.4% of those under the age of 17, and 40735, or 47.6% of those in the economically active category. There is also a predominance of females, the ratio ranged from 86 males per 100 females in Bulilima (Zimstat, 2022), especially

the young adult age groups mainly due to high migration rated to South Africa and Botswana. The district as a whole has an apparent low population density. According to the 2022 Census, Matabeleland South has a land area of 54,172 square kilometres, resulting in a population density of 14 persons per square kilometre. The district is the second highest in Matabeleland South Province in proportion of households that lost members to emigration which was 59.1%, (Zimstat 2022).

1.5 Economy and Employment

Council vision and mission for Bulilima District is of building ‘A strong and productive local economy capable of sustaining its district population by 2030’ and to improve the standard of living for the district population by providing quality infrastructure and social services.

- The (2022) census used the new standards of measuring statistics on employment in line with the 19th International Conference on Labour Statistics (ICLS). It focused on the characteristics of employed persons in their main jobs. In Matabeleland South province, a total of 104,129 persons were currently employed of whom 68.8 percent were male and 31.2 were female. While for Bulilima District employment rate is at 6.0% and employment to population ratio by district was 13.0%, 5.3% Male and 7.6% Female.
- The provincial unemployment rate for Matabeleland South was 19.8%, Bulilima was the second from Beitbridge Rural with 28.1%.
- The district's primary economic sectors are agriculture, wildlife use, commerce, light and service industries, public sector, and informal sector. When considering the development of wealth and income, these sectors are important.
- To protect society and the environment, community farmers must modify their farming practices.
- The district's irrigation schemes are inadequate and the ones that are now in place include field structures that require maintenance. The district should encourage irrigation farming as a means of increasing agricultural yield and ensuring food security. Some of the irrigation schemes are Tshankwa irrigation is 25 ha, Moza irrigation is 96 ha, and Somnene irrigation is 21 ha.

- In the district, wildlife is growing more and more significant. It is necessary to support it as a particular kind of diversification for low-yield communal agriculture. Even while CAMPFIRE has increased in importance as a district economic driver, concerns about the program's sustainability require careful consideration. The use of wildlife is becoming increasingly significant on commercial farms, where it is associated with the expansion of the nearby tourism sector.

Campfire beneficiary wards: Nyele, Gala, Huwana, Makhulela, Bambadzi, Madlambudzi, Hingwe, Ndolwane, Malalume, Vulindlela, Dombolefu, Norwood, Dombodema, Khame.

1.6 Social Infrastructure

- Following the country's independence, major building and development projects were launched, and as a result, there are currently 64 primary schools, 20 secondary schools, and 22,247 primary school students enrolled. But a lot of schools lack basic supplies like tables and books and are ill-equipped.
- There are not enough postsecondary institutions to meet demand. Few local youths benefit from Solusi University, which is the only institution in the district.
- Bulilima has two rural health centers and sixteen clinics. A district hospital is required in Bulilima. The quantity of health facilities appears sufficient, but they still require additional staff, medications, and means of communication. Ambulances provide dependable transportation, which is very essential.
- In Bulilima, a variety of new community facilities are required, including sports facilities and community centers. The district has a very high unemployment rate, and one problem is a shortage of sporting facilities.

1.7 Economic Infrastructure

- The Zimbabwe National Water Authority Act of 1998 led to the creation of ZINWA, a parastatal agency responsible for water planning and bulk supply. To sustainably provide quality water through strategic infrastructure development and management to facilitate socio-economic transformation. The major sectors which are being planned for are the Agricultural Sector and the Communal areas.

- Domestic water supply in the rural areas of Bulilima District is provided from 1573 sources. They comprise boreholes and deep wells.
- Sand abstraction technology is also being undertaken in some parts of the district to supply water to communities, schools and clinics.
- The road network in the district consists of state roads (surfaced), state road (unsurfaced). Department of Roads, RIDA and RDC roads.
- People in the common areas reported that one of the main issues they faced was the crumbling condition of the roads and the buses, which did not run on schedule. When certain routes become inaccessible during the rainy season, bus operators leave them, which exacerbates the problem. It has been observed that there are issues with road maintenance and quality in the district.
- The most frequent routes served by public transportation are those connecting Plumtree Town to communal regions, Bulawayo and Plumtree Town, and Bulawayo and Botswana. The transportation options that connect these places are excellent and include private vehicles, buses, and commuter omnibuses.
- In Plumtree, there is rail transportation available for cargo. Nonetheless, there is little traffic.
- There is no airport or commercialized flights in Bulilima, but an airstrip exists close to Plumtree town.
- Bulilima district recorded the highest proportions of households with no electricity at 68.8 percent according to 2022 Census. ZESA's network is concentrated in Plumtree Town, the Large Scale Commercial Farming Areas and some major Mission Schools and Hospitals. In an effort to increase areas electrified in the district, grid electricity is at 2.1%, offgrid electricity 28.0% and 68.8% non within the districts.

1.8 Institutions

- Financial, material and technical support from being sought from multilateral and bilateral organizations to assist district development, especially in the fields of environment, gender and participation. The trust by some of these donors is to try and assist local organizations in achieving some of these goals by building their capacity.

- Non-governmental organizations have even gained much prominence in the district. They are funding projects and programmes in the district but their efforts lack coordination and an overall strategy that, hopefully this plan provide.
- There are several government agencies which operate at district level. The relationship between the RDC and some central government departments is undergoing significant change as decentralization proposals gather pace.
- Bulilima Rural District Council like most Rural District Councils is inadequately financed to meet the social and economic needs placed upon it. The lack of a sound economic base and reduced support from central government adds to the council problems. More sources of revenue have to be explored particularly, income generating projects, wildlife and tourism ventures.
- Bulilima staffing position is not adequate to meet current demands. As more responsibilities are added to the RDC there is need to upgrade the skills and enhance the capacity of its staff.
- There is need for the RDC to put in place incentives which may encourage more inward investment and incorporate these into a wider promotional strategy.

2 PART 2: INTRODUCTION

2.1. Reason for the Study

The government has acknowledged the necessity of a statutory master plan as a framework for district development in accordance with Department of Spatial Planning and Development, Ministry of Local Government and Public Works as read into the President's call to Action: "Master Plan Preparation and the establishment of Department of Spatial Planning and Land Management at all Local authorities in Zimbabwe." This realization resulted from the understanding that a long-term plan founded on a shared vision for the district's future was necessary to improve district development planning. A common vision for the district's future that is shared by all of its stakeholders has not always been realized in many district plans, or there has not been a sound assessment of the district's strengths and weaknesses. With the creation of the Rural District Council through the consolidation of the former Rural Council Areas, this necessity was highlighted. Amalgamation united heavily resourced areas both human and natural, as well as places with very few resources. Emphasis has centred on that part of the district that is administered by the Bulilima Rural District Council.

2.1.1 National Context

Bulilima District need a development framework in order to expand and the Master plan is being prepared within the context of key national policies and strategies under this framework that include the following:

2.1.2 Vision 2030 and the National Development Strategy

Aims to foster inclusive economic growth and address poverty resolutely thereby transforming Zimbabwe into an industrialising, knowledge based upper middle-income country that provides a high quality of life to its citizens by 2030.

NDS1 framework is organised around the key interconnected pillars that are aimed at achieving sustainable economic development namely, macroeconomic stability and financial re-engagement, inclusive growth, governance, infrastructure and utilities, social development in line with vision 2030 agenda. Economic growth through policy interventions and related increased investments in agriculture, mining, manufacturing, tourism, energy, public infrastructure, improved service delivery in education and health, as well as expanding the frontiers of the digital economy.

2.1.3 Devolution and Decentralisation Policy

In accordance with Zimbabwe's constitution, whose provisions call for a delegation of authority and responsibility to lower levels of government, the devolution and decentralization program has been implemented. Promoting sustainable development, accountability, inclusive and participatory governance, and socioeconomic development are some of its main objectives.

2.1.4 National Human Settlement Policy

National Development Strategy 1 and Vision 2030 serve as the foundation for the human settlement policy. In accordance with the NDS1, the goal is to address the growing housing waiting list so that Zimbabwe can have "well planned and well governed" human settlements by 2030.

2.1.5 Form and Content of a Rural Master Plan

A two-stage process results in a complete document known as a Rural Master Plan. In Stage 1, a study area is examined to determine its current state, issues, and development potential. Understanding and analyzing trends is another goal of the study in order to forecast potential problems in the future. The study serves as background information and the basis for the Written Statement, the second step that lays out a number of plans for the area's future expansion and development.

A Rural Master needs to allocate sufficient land and identify appropriate infrastructure in appropriate locations so as to enable the district to develop in an efficient and harmonious way. In addition, The Rural Master Plan provides policies and programs designed to strengthen the local economy and where possible assist in employment creation provide the basis for protecting the natural environment and allow for sustainable development and ensure the social and cultural needs of the people are catered for. Infrastructure, both social and physical with regards to identifying gaps in infrastructure provision so as to come up with policies and strategies to fill the identified gaps. Finally the Master Plan must also set down guidelines and principles to control development.

2.1.6 Aims of the plan

Master Plan's aim is to investigate several strategic issues that are identified in the district and to come up with a comprehensive statutory framework to guide, promote and control

development in the district. Several key issues were identified via desk studies, stakeholder consultations and ground truthing.

The aims of the Bulilima Rural Master Plan are as follows:

- To provide data and information that will support the Rural Master Planning process, establish the framework for a future planning system, and preserve the RDC's potential for planning and development.
- To establish, state, and defend policies and broad recommendations for sustainable development within the district to the RDC, the general public, the government, and other stakeholders.
- To create a statutory framework for the preparation of detailed plans at the local level, which in turn provide the necessary guidance for detailed development control, project implementation and coordination.
- To open up opportunities for investment and a wider use resources by public and private agencies.
- To provide for the sustainable use of natural resources of the district for the benefit of the people in the district and nation as a whole.
- To ensure people's participation in the overall planning and development of the district and thus make the Rural Master Plan reflect the priorities and needs of local communities.
- To involve key stakeholders at all parts of the process to ensure their support and participation in the development of the district.
- To assist the process of Rural District Council Capacity Building by providing a learning mechanism for strategic planning, at the district level.

The study's goal is to identify a set of issues based on in-depth investigation and comprehension of the Bulilima situation. These issues will serve as the foundation for ideas for future development in Stage two, the Written Statement.

2.1.7 Consultations and Local Participation.

The preparation of the Report of Study has been undertaken in consultation with both the Department of Physical Planning and Bulilima Rural District Council. They have provided

key information and have acted as a reference point to review progress and make comment on the study methodology. An Inception Report was submitted to Bulilima RDC and Department of Spatial Planning and Development.

The Report of Study is based on information gathered through a participatory approach. This involved working with the full range of both the public and private sectors in Bulilima and Gwanda, the provincial center, in order to obtain up to date and relevant information, as well as to appreciate the point of view of different sections of opinion in the district. Before data collection, a preliminary visit to the district was undertaken with the aim of initiating and introducing the planning process. A preliminary list of data available and key issues were identified as seen and experienced by the representative organizations. The preliminary visit represent an opportunity to explain the planning process clearly, particularly the participative approach to information gathering and later to plan formulation. Ownership of the plan by the people of Bulilima was strongly emphasized as this was considered to be critical during the planning and implementation process.

A consultation letters and meetings requesting specific information were also sent to a number of critical agencies who held vital data concerning the development potential of Bulilima.

Many Rural Service Centres were involved through a Business People questionnaire. The purpose of the Business survey was to supplement existing information from secondary data sources concerning service centres characteristics of the district's, its social and economic base, and the opportunities and constraints faced by Business People. The results of the survey are elaborated in the chapters that follow. Further questionnaires covered all of the commercial areas. Copies of the questionnaires and structured interview sheets are attached in Annex 1.

Stakeholder consultation included District Administrator, RIDA Field Officers for roads and water, the Provincial Agritex Officer, the Provincial Natural Resources Officer, Representatives of NGO's actively involved in the district, Ministry of Health Officials, District Staffing Officers and the Rural District Council's Officials.

Reprentattives from Chiefs, Headman, and Councilors in wards were edged to inform their areas of the process of Master planning process. The idea behind this approach was to provide a systematic coverage of the district for the purposes of information and opinion gathering for the Rural Master Plan and to establish the basis of ward planning within the district as long term participatory process.

2.1.8 Structure of the Report of Study

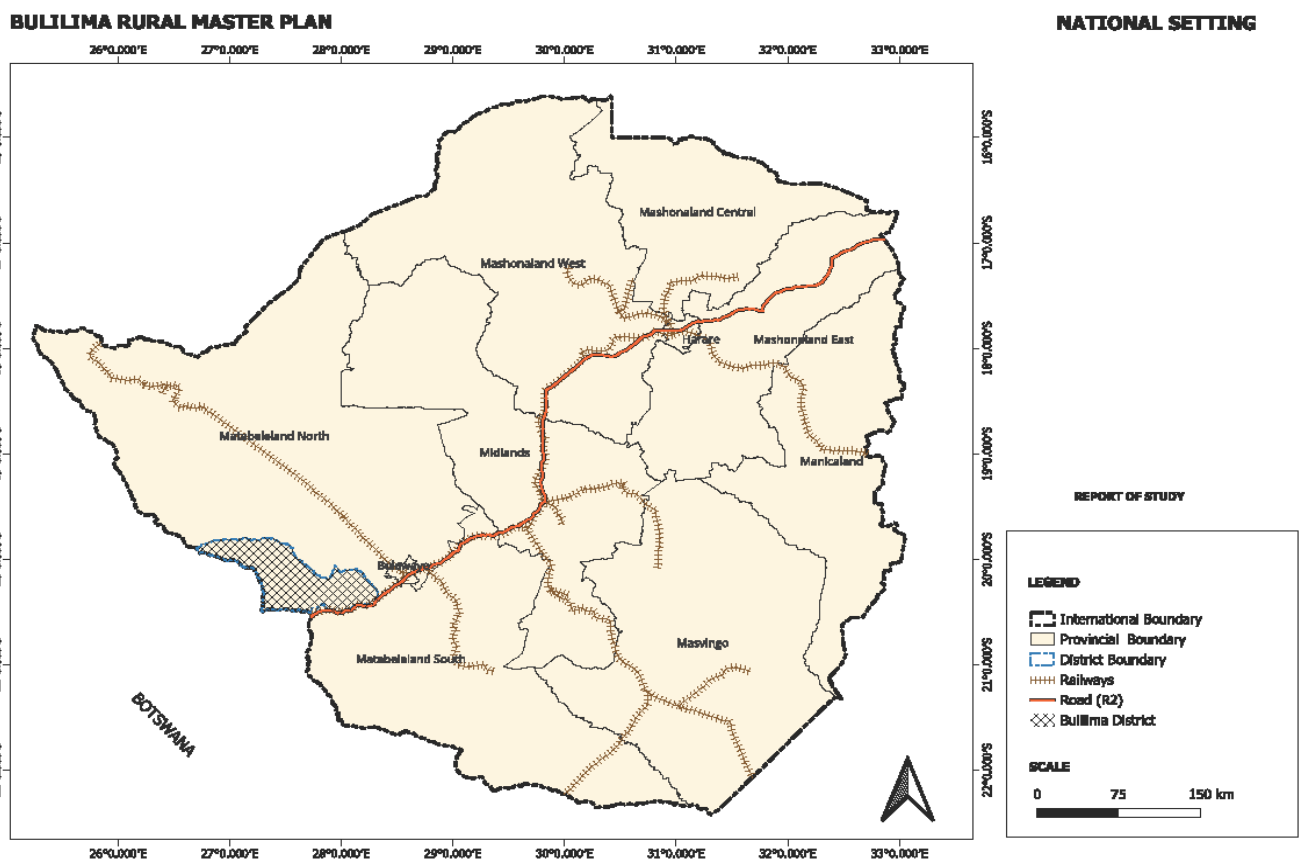
The fundamental results of the study into every facet of Bulilima development and probable future trends are presented in this paper. It combines issues highlighted, data analysis, and data capture. There are three sections to the report. The first section covers background information and contains an introduction on Bulilima's historic setting, regional context, and natural resource base. The current state of the population, economy, and employment, as well as the social and economic infrastructures, are examined in Part 2, followed by the institutional framework. The purpose of Part 3, which is the conclusion, is to summarize the primary issue and other points that need to be covered in the Written Statement.

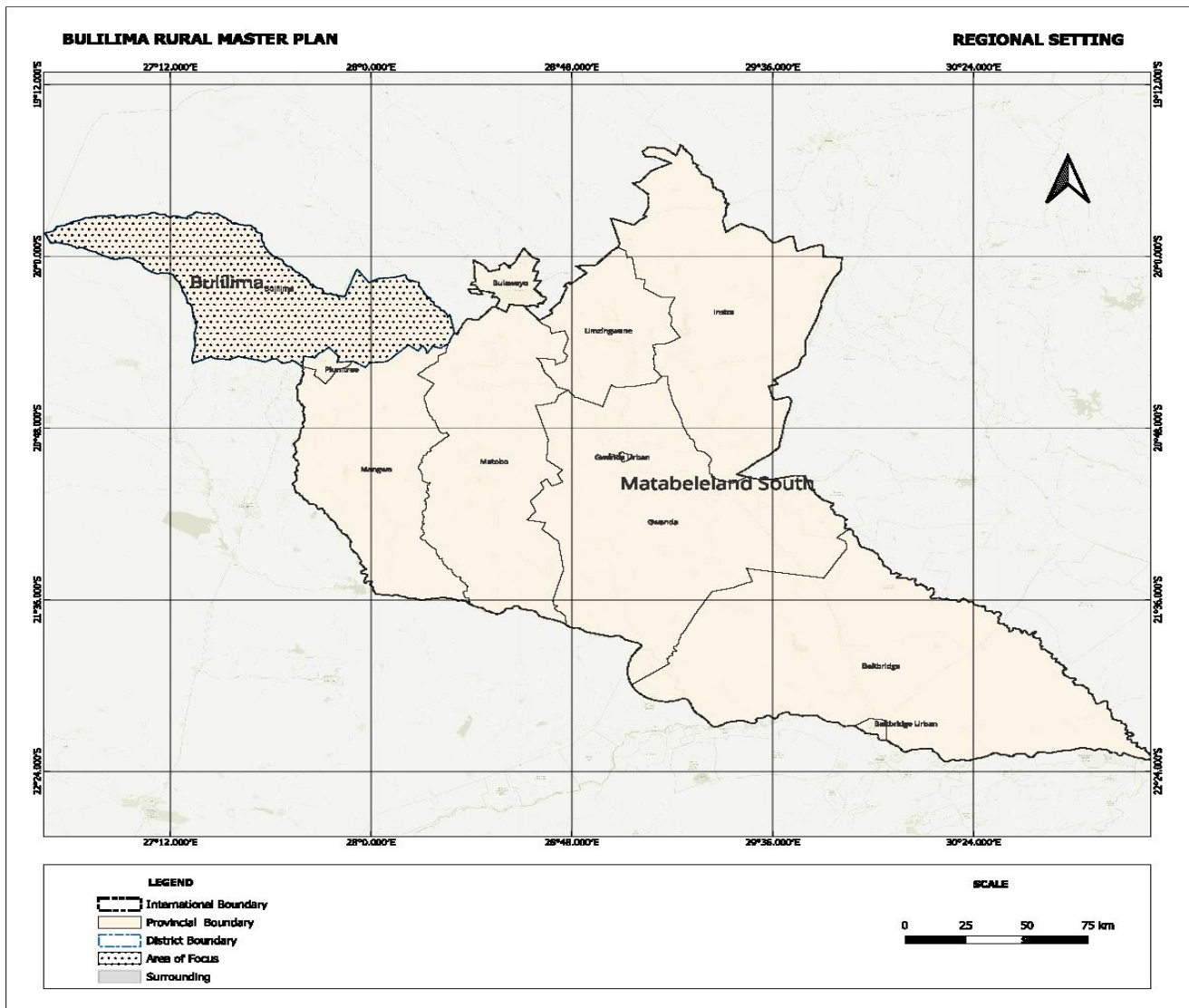
2.1 BULILIMA IN ITS REGIONAL AND HISTORICAL SETTING

This chapter seeks to place Bulilima in its geographic and historic setting.

2.1.1 Bulilima in its National and Regional Setting.

Map 1: National Setting of Bulilima District: The district is in Natural Region IV.





Map 2. Regional Setting of Bulilima District.

Bulilima District is located in the western section of Matabeleland South Province. Plumtree town is the main close town, and it is strategically placed about 100 kilometers south-west of Bulawayo and 94 kilometers from Francistown in Botswana, on the Bulawayo-Botswana railway line, 10 kilometers within the Zimbabwe/Botswana border. It is the port of entry into Zimbabwe from Botswana and was established in 1897 while the railway was being built. The town lies on the main road connecting Zimbabwe and Botswana. *See Map 1. National Setting of Bulilima District.*

Table 1 below shows the main categories of land types in the district in terms of their area:

Table 1: Major Land Types in Bulilima

Land Type Category	Area (Hectares)	Percentage%
Communal Areas	541395	75
Small Scale Commercial Farming Area	7849	1
Large Scale Commercial Farming Area	28925	4
Old Resettlement	72454	10
A1 Model	39 331	5
A2 Model	28219	4
A3 Model	18796	1
Total	736969	100
Total		736969

Source: Bulilima RDC (2024)

2.1.2 The Communal Lands.

Communal land is the largest farming sector in the district practiced by most of the wards and occupying about 75% of the land *Table 1*. Maize, pearl millet, sorghum, groundnuts, cowpeas, Bambara nuts, sweet potatoes, and Irish potatoes are the principal crops farmed in the district. The rainy season, which runs from November to March, is the primary cropping season. Situated in Natural Region IV. The district has small irrigation schemes in different wards.

Some communal farming communities, in the far north of the district in Maitengwe participate in Campfire Programmes. Campfire essentially establishes the ownership and control of local wildlife with the communities in which they occur. Income is derived from leasing hunting rights. Local income is considerably boosted by proceeds from the Campfire Programme which will be discussed in more detail in the chapter on the economic framework.

2.1.3 The Small Scale Commercial Farming Area.

There are Small Scale Commercial Farming Areas, Somnene. Somnene is situated some 40km north-west of Plumtree and occupy about 7849 hectares of land. Undertake mixed farming with cattle as an important component.

2.1.4 The Large Scale Commercial Farming Area

There is Large-scale commercial farming Bulilima District, Natural Region IV. Though there is considerable diversification into wildlife and some farms engage in dairy production, the majority of them are enormous cattle ranches. It occupies about 4% of the total area.

2.1.5 The Resettlement Areas

The Land Apportionment Act of 1930 and its subsequent amendments restricted

African people in Bulilima to designated areas, called Native Reserve Areas (later called tribal Trust Lands). European settlers were given the best land, and in the case of Bulilima came to occupy large cattle ranches on the higher ground that received the most rainfall. The Tribal Trust Land Areas, or Communal Lands as they are now called, occupied the driest zones and poorest soils. Increasing population pressure on the fragile environments of the Communal Land areas have caused continuous environmental problems and recurrent droughts ensure the impoverishment of the people. The Native Land Husbandry Act of 1951 sought to improve farming methods through a top-down imposed set of regulations. Such regulations sought to restrict cattle numbers, re-organise land use and establish conservation methods. In their context such an approach was oppressive and failed to address the critical issue of land ownership and land distribution.

After Independence in 1980 a national programme of re-settlement was embarked upon. Two re-settlement schemes were established in Bulilimangwe in 1981.

Dombodema covered some 65 788 hectares of land with a total number of 761 settlers. The second resettlement scheme is Norwood with 66 settlers occupying 7064 hectares of land. Both areas were developed under the Model a programme in which people were allocated 12 acres for crops with communal grazing for their cattle. In practice this approach was unsuitable for the district as maize is a long season growing crop and the district has a short rainfall period.

2.1.6 Bulilima and Other related Districts

The district shares a border with other districts in Matabeleland, namely, Tsholotsho and Umguza in Matabeleland North and Matobo, Mangwe, Plumtree in Matabeleland South. The district has a long border to the West and South with Botswana. The districts international, provincial and regional setting are depicted on *Map 1*. Bulilima relationship with other districts is shown in.

Table 2: Bulilima and other related Districts

Name of District/ Town	Population: 2022
Bulilima	86500
Matobo	95694
Gwanda Urban	27143
Gwanda Rural	124548
Umguza	113 785
Tsholotsho	115 785
Mangwe	65562
Umzingwane	71860

Source: Census 2022

Rural Service Centers make up the district's further significant centers. The majority of the businesses in these centers are shops, butchers, grinding mills, bottle shops, and grocery shops. Commerce has the potential to grow at the rural service centers.

The district's subregional position has a significant amount of possibilities for cooperation in terms of trade and communication, despite its periphery location.

Bulilima is ideally situated to benefit from Plumtree Town, Bulawayo City and other neighbouring nations like Botswana. The district faces disadvantages due to its placement in Natural Regions IV and its outlying location on both the provincial and national levels. Its vast potential for agriculture and wildlife, however, presents opportunities for growth.

2.2 NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT

The Bulilima district as a whole is predominantly rural, with no urban centres. Plumtree Town is the closest urban center. There are no industries, mines, or large commercial businesses in the district that provide employment. As a result, the natural resource base in the Bulilima district largely drives the economy and livelihoods of its people. People depend on agriculture, as well as the sale of wildlife and non-timber forestry products. This section of the report describes the district's general environmental settings and the natural resource base in terms of topography, climate, rainfall patterns, temperature, hydrological aspects, geology, soils, vegetation, and wildlife. It also highlights some of the major environmental problems being faced in the district, the measures being implemented to address those problems, the challenges being faced in implementing the mitigation measures, and proposals or recommendations made that are aimed at addressing the current and future environmental problems in the district.

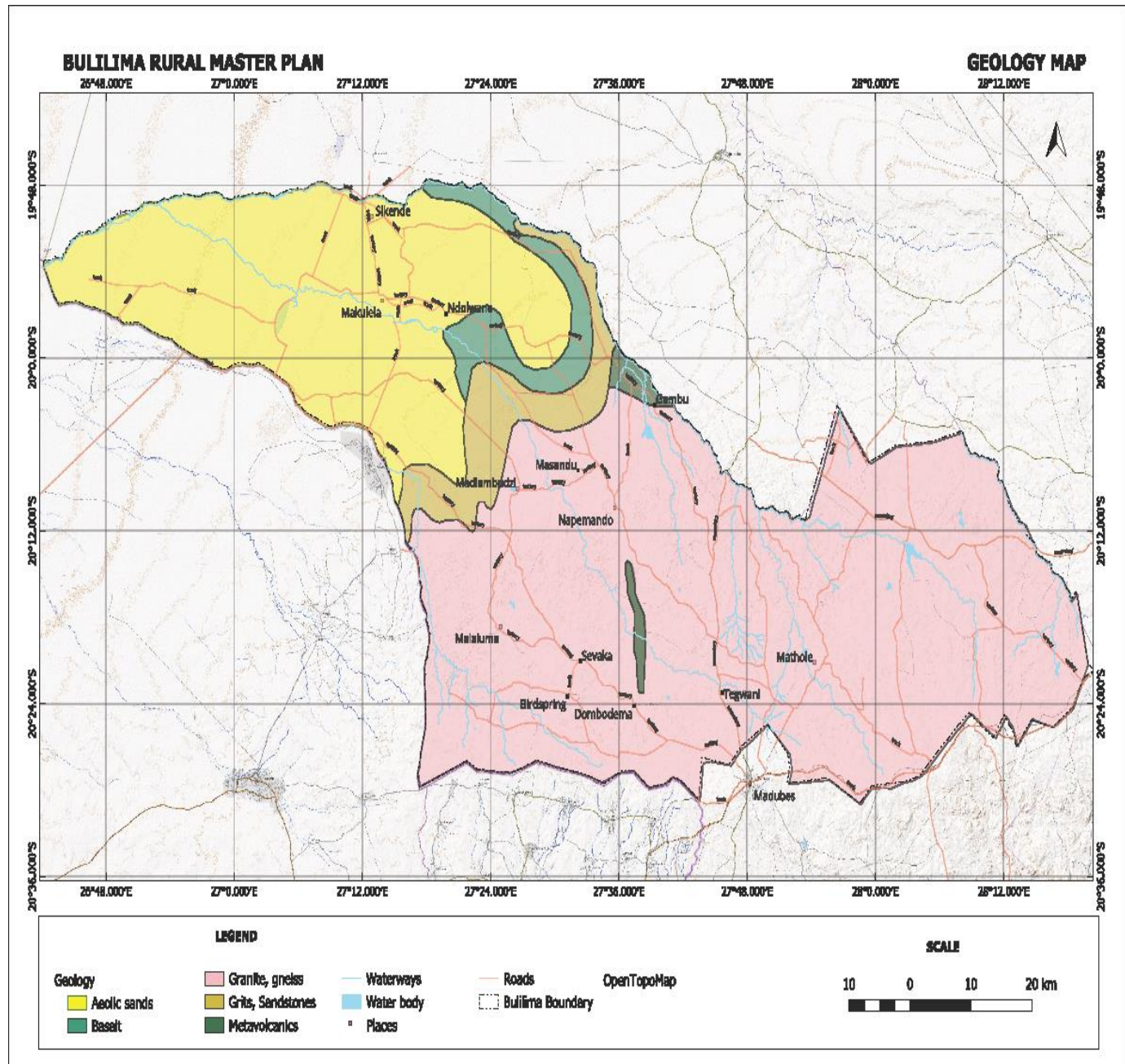
There is need to identify areas suitable for sustainable farming and conservation efforts. Areas along the Gwayi catchment for eco-friendly farming practices that utilize organic methods, promoting food security and environmental sustainability. The intention is to ensure the sustainable management of natural resources in the district so that they can sustain the social and economic activities of the people of Bulilima and that they will continue to be a source of livelihood.

2.2.1 Geology

According to the Zimbabwe Geological Survey Bulletin Number 80 (An Outline of the Geology of Zimbabwe), the district consists primarily of granite rocks, with gneisses and basalts occurring as well in some areas. Granite is the most dominant parent rock, constituting about 70% of the land area. The present-day granites are part of Zimbabwe's pre-Cambrian basement complex.

Denudation has removed the younger, overlying segments. The granites in the district are responsible for the sandy soils, topography, and landscapes. The other two rock formations in the district are important inasmuch as they affect soil quality. Gneisses are poor in weatherable minerals, and this inhibits soil formation. Basalts are predominantly found in the Nata-Maitengwe region, and are commonly linked to shallow and skeletal soils.

Map 4: Geology Map



2.2.2 Soils

In many instances in Zimbabwe, there is a very close relationship between the soil type and the underlying rock (Stagman 1978). Climate, topography, and ecological factors also contribute to the development of soil. In stable areas, the parent rock is the source of the soil, while the topography, climatic, and ecological conditions determine the maturity of the soil in terms of its depth, porosity, and fertility.

Eight groups make up Zimbabwe's soils: regosol (deep sands), lithosol (extremely shallow soils), vertisol (very active clay), siallitic (active clay), fersiallitic (mixed clay), para-ferrallitic (inert clay), ortho-ferrallitic (very inert clay), and sodic (a significant amount of sodium) (Hussein; Thompson, 1965).

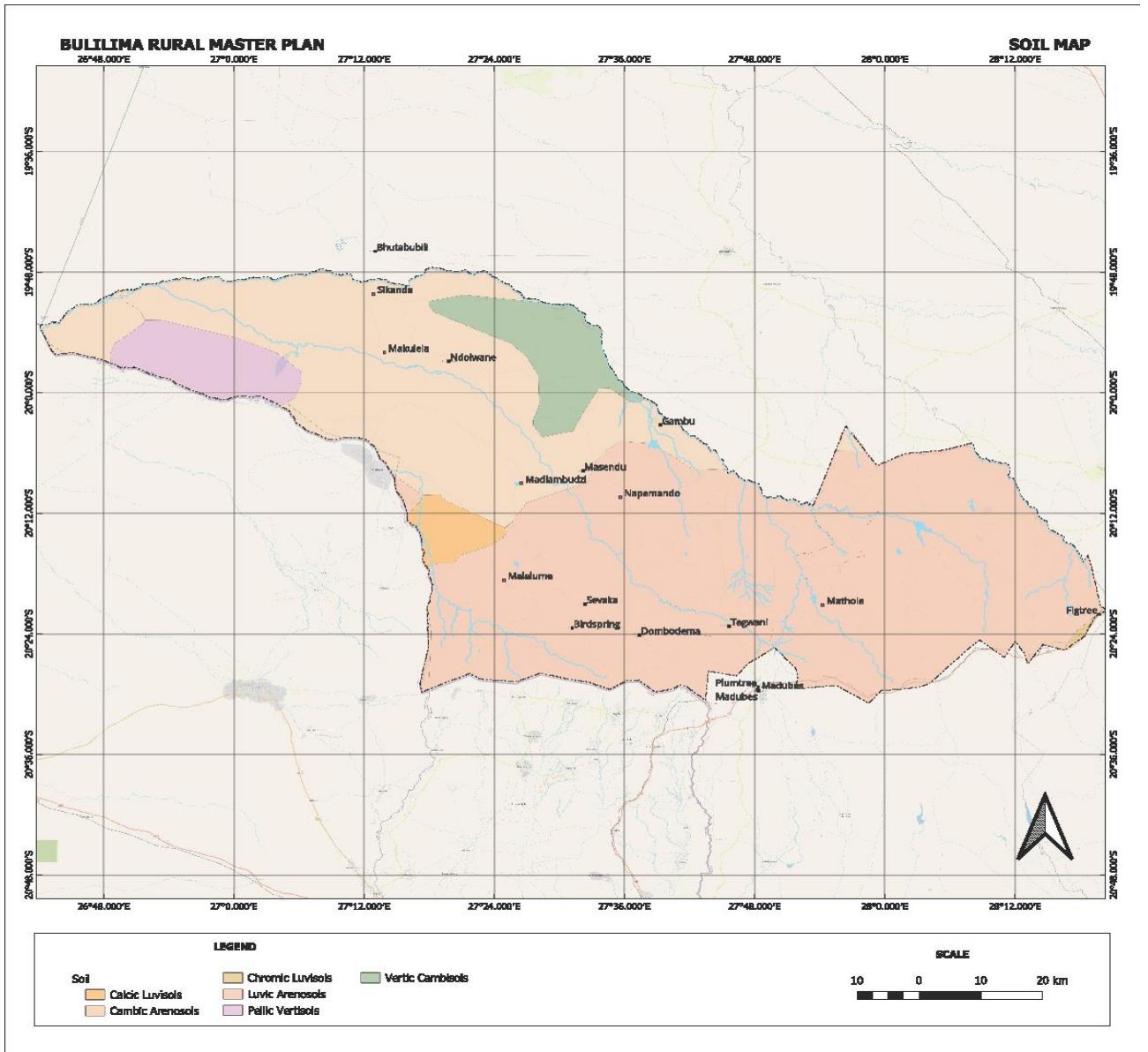
Soil characteristics are of profound importance to man, together with the vegetation it supports. Four main soil types are found in Bulilima District. These are either granite-derived or gneiss-derived. The final category consists of the Aeolian sands. Within these three broad soil classes occur localised pockets of clay soils along watercourses and sodic soils. Relevant characteristics of the main types are summarised below.

- Granite-derived soils are mostly greyish brown coarse-grained sands and loams. Apart from the loams, the soils are inherently infertile because they are highly permeable and this renders them vulnerable to rapid leaching of all bases released by weathering. Alternatively, they tend to be shallow and have a low water holding capacity.

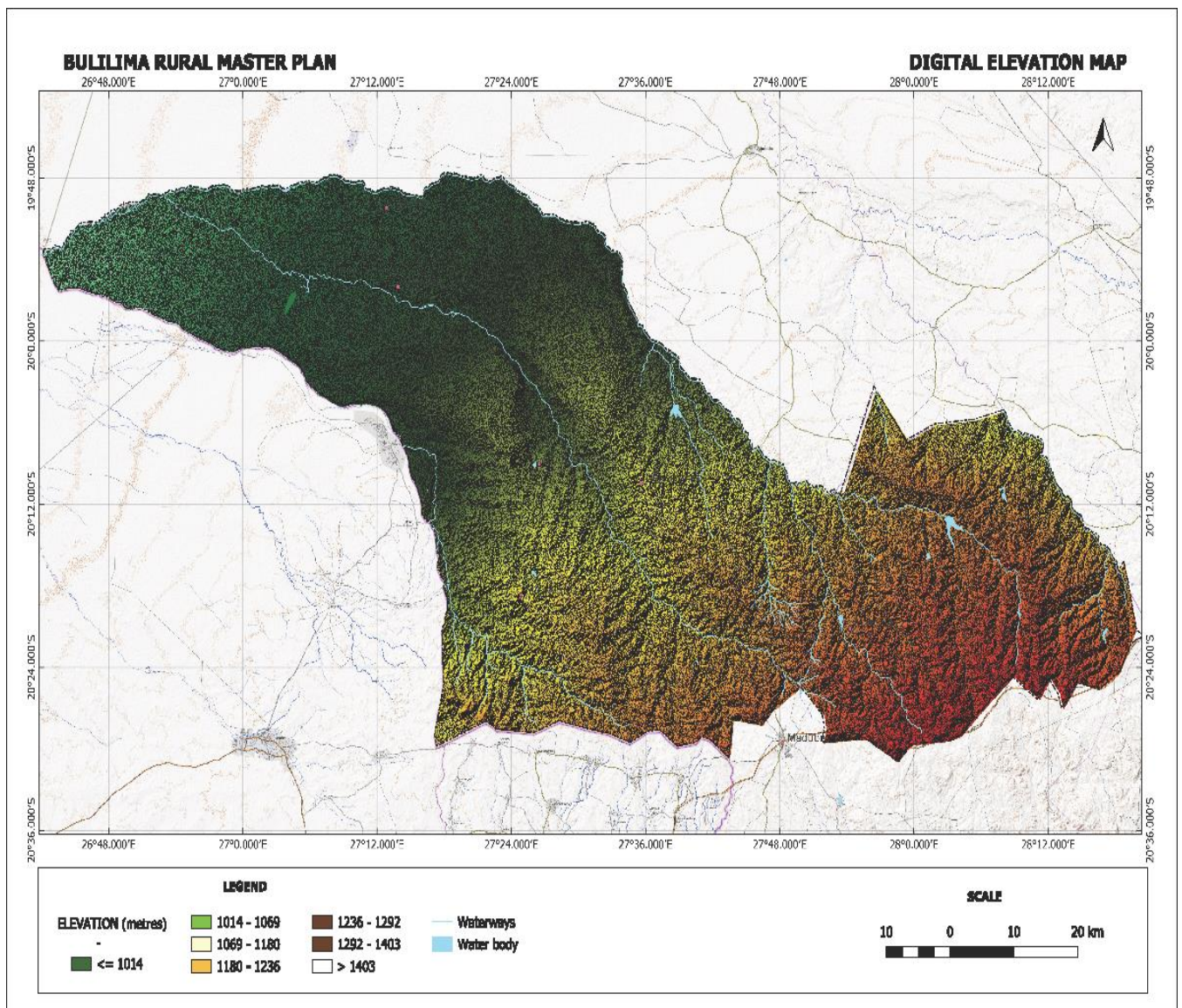
This tendency can induce severe moisture stress on crops and natural grasses, even during very brief dry spells during rainy season.

- Gneiss-derived soils are rich in weathered minerals and give rise to reddish brown medium textured soils. However acid gneiss produces shallow sandy soils of low fertility and low water holding capacity, Sodic soils have impermeable subsoil horizon which is very susceptible to erosion.
- The Kalahari sands are Aeolian in origin. They occur in the Maitengwe area in the extreme north. They share the inherent agricultural attributes of the granite-derived soils.

Map 5: Soils Map



Map 6: Showing Elevations



2.2.3 Bulilima Weather and Climate data

- Climate influences the extent of weathering and, consequently, the rate of soil formation. The climate of the district determines the number and diversity of specific vegetation species, as well as the types and varieties of crop and livestock production that can be done. Given that the economy and people's livelihoods in Bulilima depend largely on agriculture, climatic data for the district is very important in planning the growth of the district as well as the welfare of its people.
- According to the Zimbabwe National Geospatial and Space Agency's (ZINGSA) agro-ecological re-zoning map for 2020, the Bulilima district falls within natural agro-ecological

region IV. The region is suited for semi-extensive farming. It experiences a typical savannah climate with three main seasons: a hot and unreliable wet season from November to March/April; a cool, dry season from May to August (corresponding to winter in the Southern Hemisphere); and a hot, dry season in September/October.

- Temperatures are high in summer (26 - 30 degrees Celsius) and low in winter (15 to 18 degrees Celsius).
- Climatic conditions in a few selected centres of the district are illustrated in the pages that follow.

2.2.3.1 Temperatures

The Bulilima district receives relatively high temperatures throughout the year, with recorded maximum average temperatures ranging from 28°C to as high as 32°C and minimum temperatures ranging from 7°C to 19°C. The district experiences winter from May to August. June and July normally record the lowest temperatures, while October and November record the highest temperatures. The temperatures, however, tend to be higher in the south. The high temperatures that characterise the district throughout the year cause evapotranspiration to exceed rainfall in most months of the year. This is adversely affecting rainfed agriculture in communal lands and commercial farming areas. High temperatures necessitate that more water be used for crop irrigation. This also applies to the frequency of crop watering. Given that the district receives very low or unreliable rainfall, this has made rain-fed agriculture almost impossible in the district.

Figtree

Figure 1: Figtree Monthly Variations

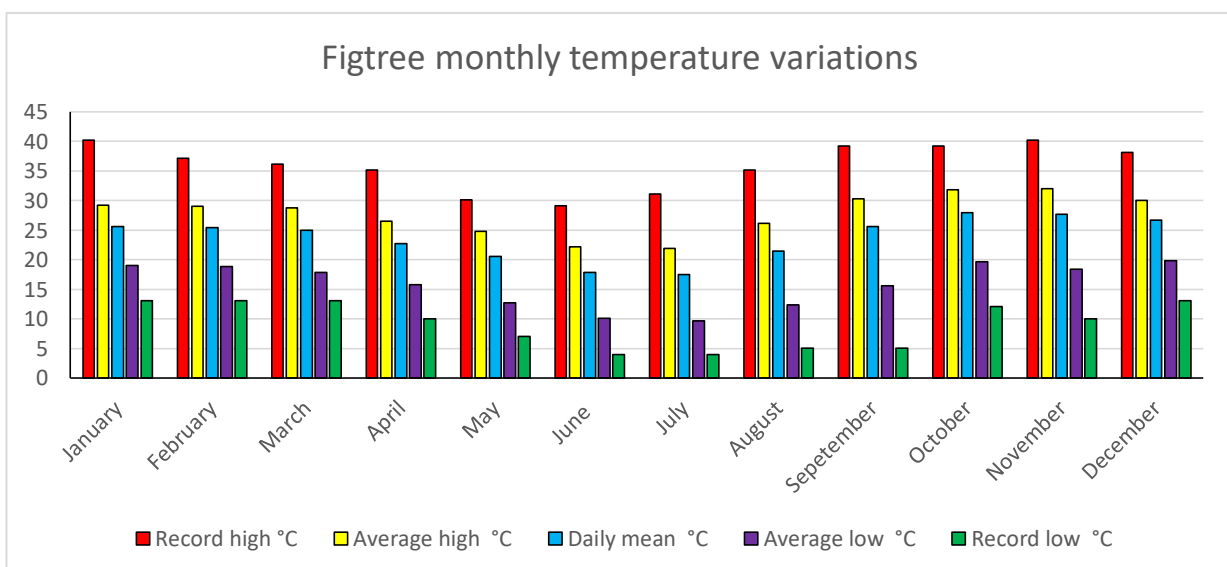


Figure 1: Monthly Temperature Variation

The diagram above indicate the variation of temperature in Figtree, Bulilima District. The highest range of temperature is around 40°C which is mainly reached in January and November. These are recorded as the hottest months. The minimum highest temperature is 29.15 degrees Celsius in the month of July which is the winter season. This indicates that Figtree is a hot area. The minimum lowest temperature which is 4.02°C is reached during the months of July and August making them the coldest months. Figtree can be noted to have temperatures ranging from 4.02°C and 40.2°C.

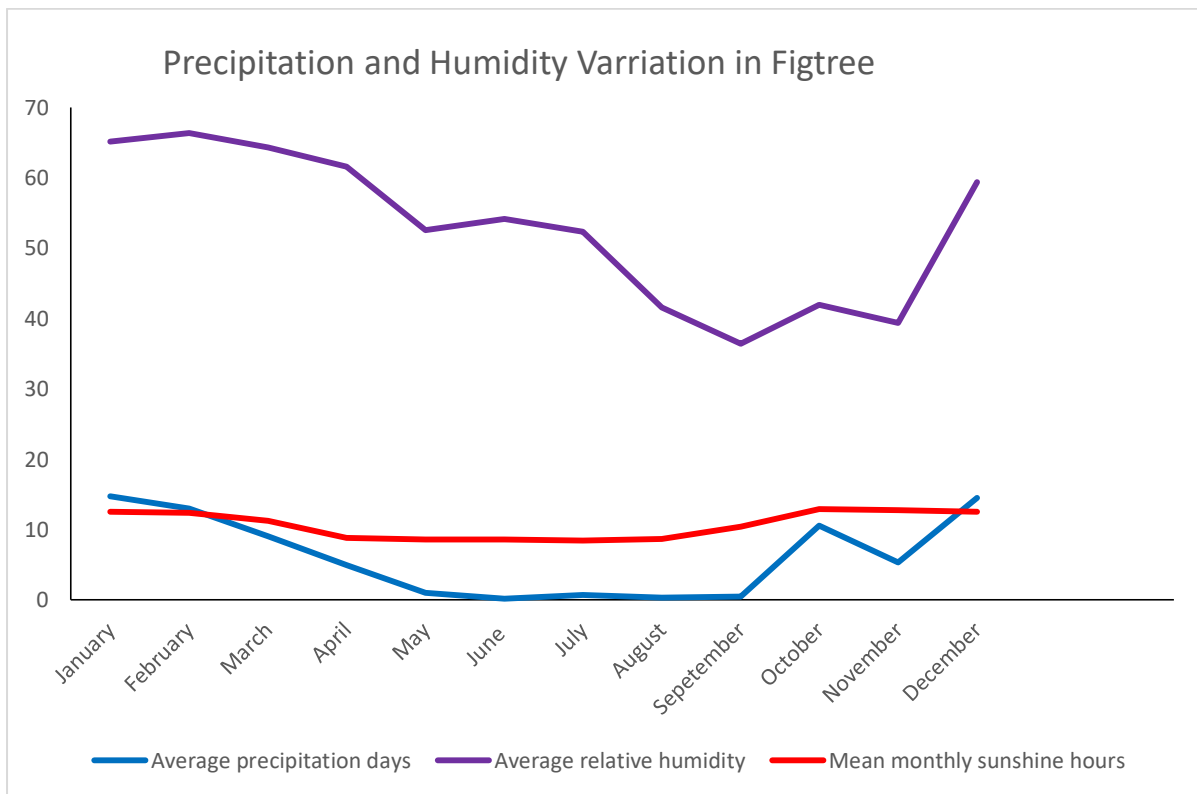


Figure 2: Variation in sunshine, humidity and precipitation days

The average humidity is very high during the summer season as compared to winter as well as the average precipitation days. It can be argued that January, October and December have the highest average days of precipitation as compared to May, June, July and August which tend to be the driest months of the year. Humidity level varies from 36.43 to 66.39.

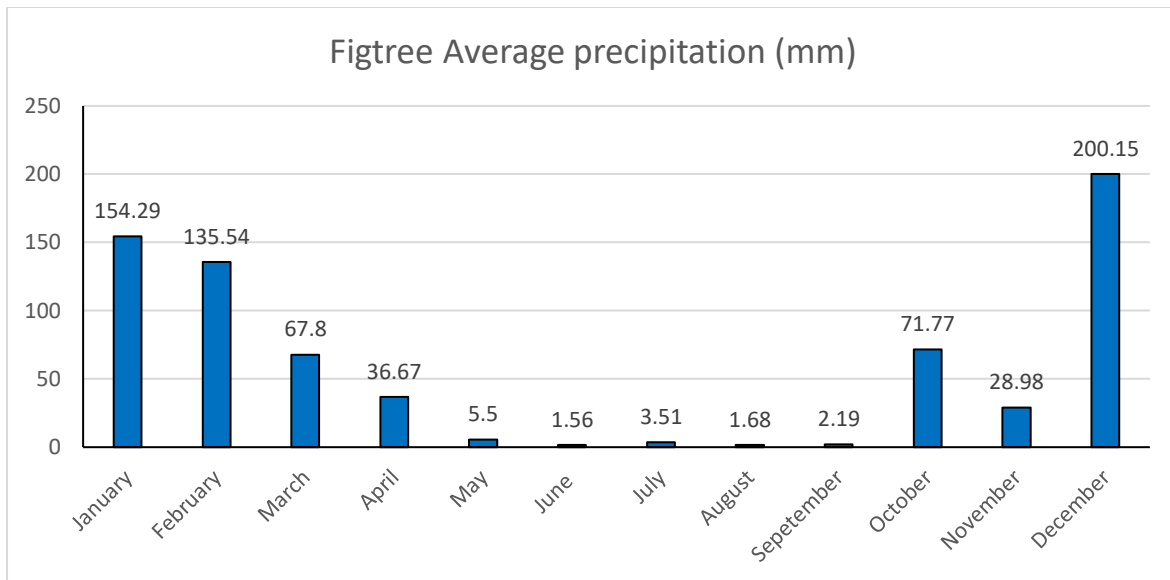


Figure 3: Monthly Average Precipitation

The diagram above indicates the average precipitation of Figtree. It can be noted that the highest rainfall is received in December followed by January and February. Though it is noted that rains used to be received from September with November and December having the highest rainfall, climate change has led to the shift in the rainfall season. It can be argued that the area receives less rainfall as its highest record is 200.15mm thus leading to droughts and crop failure. The period from May to September is the driest period of the year as indicated above in Fig 3.

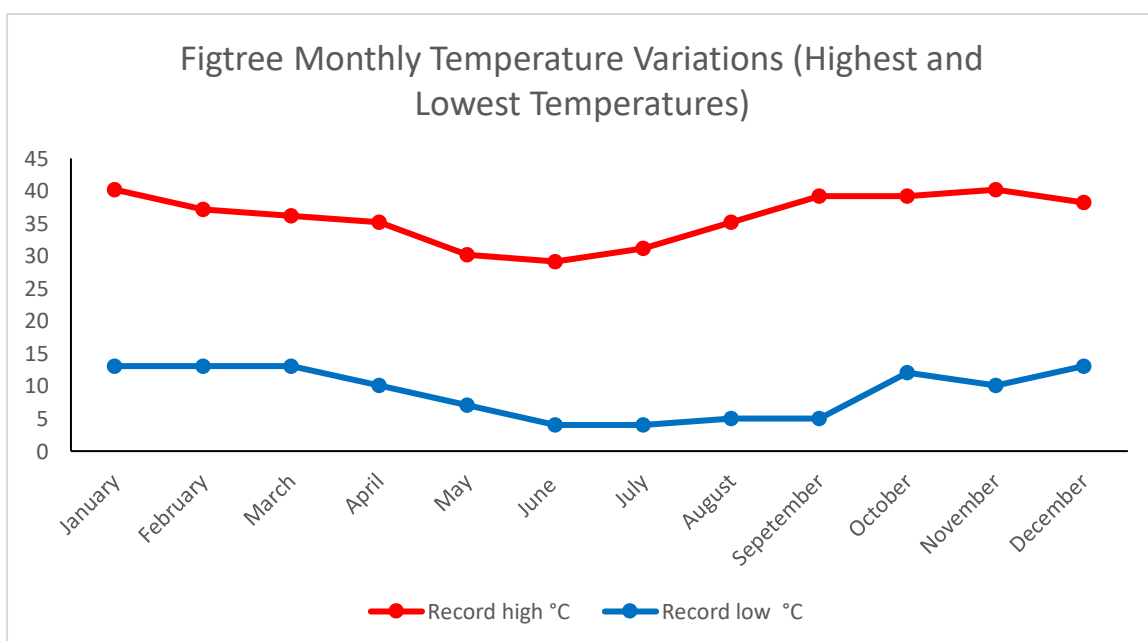


Figure 4: Monthly Highest and Lowest Temperature Variation

As presented in Fig 4 above, it can be noted that Figtree is a hot area with its highest temperature ranging between 29.15°C and 40.2°C. Most monthly temperatures are above 30°C. The lowest temperatures vary between 4°C and 13°C with the lowest temperature recorded in winter seasons.

Ndolwane

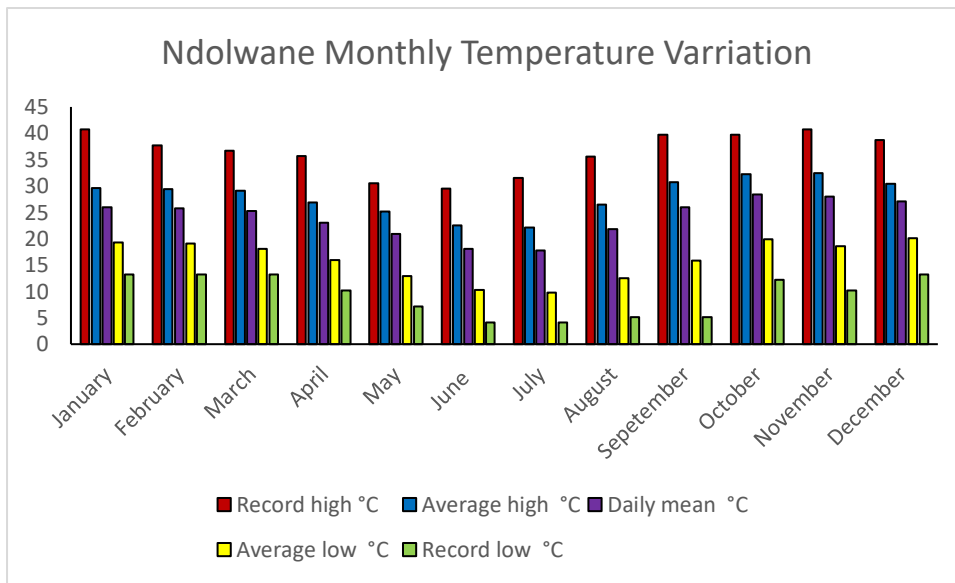


Figure 5: Monthly Temperature Changes in Ndolwane

The highest temperature in Ndolwane is recorded to be above 40°C with November and January being the hottest months in this area. Temperatures are lowest in June whose highest temperature is 29.52°C and its lowest record is 4.09°C. The lowest mean daily temperature is recorded in July which is 17.78°C. In other words, it can be noted that Ndolwane is a hot area within the district.

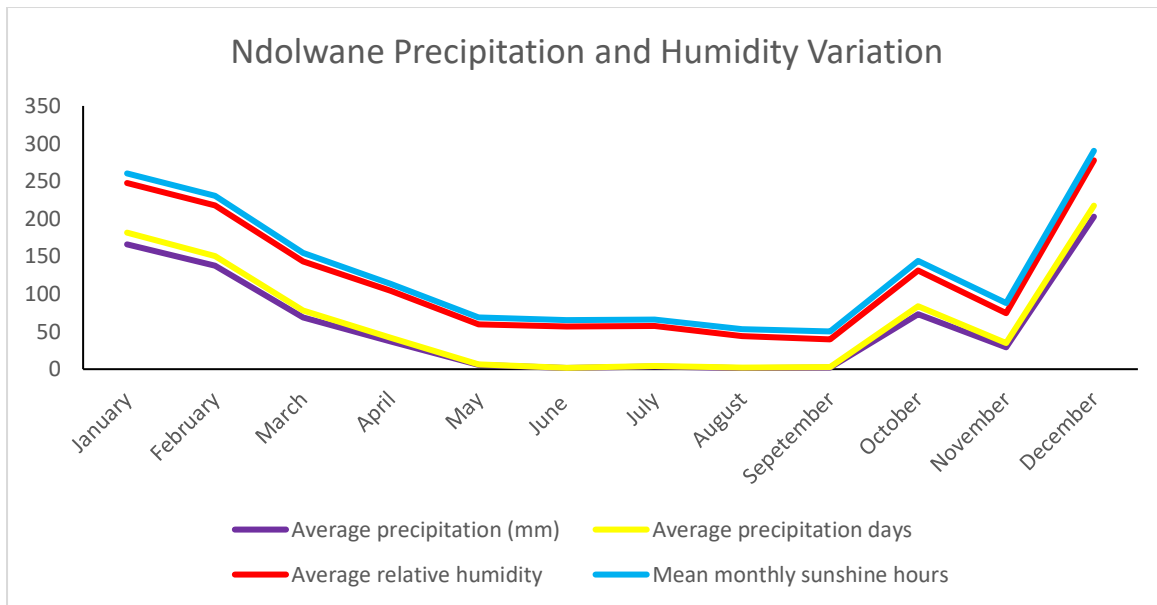


Figure 6: Precipitation, Humidity and Sunshine Variation in Ndolwane

Higher average precipitation days vary relevantly with the average precipitation as well as relative humidity and sunshine days. Precipitation is high in January, October and December which is the rainy season while low in the winter season. The average sunshine and humidity content tend to be interlinked as the higher the mean monthly sunshine is, the higher the relative humidity.

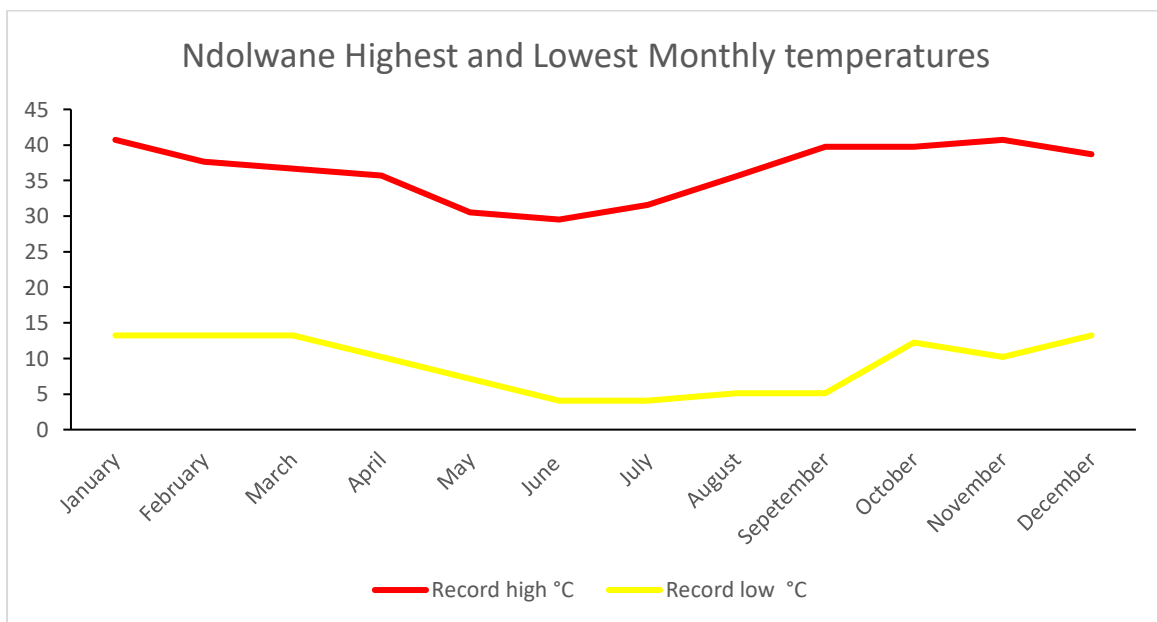


Figure 7: Monthly Temperature Variation

The diagram above indicate the variation of high and low temperature in Ndolwane. Highest temperature are most common September and April and temperatures decreases from May and August.

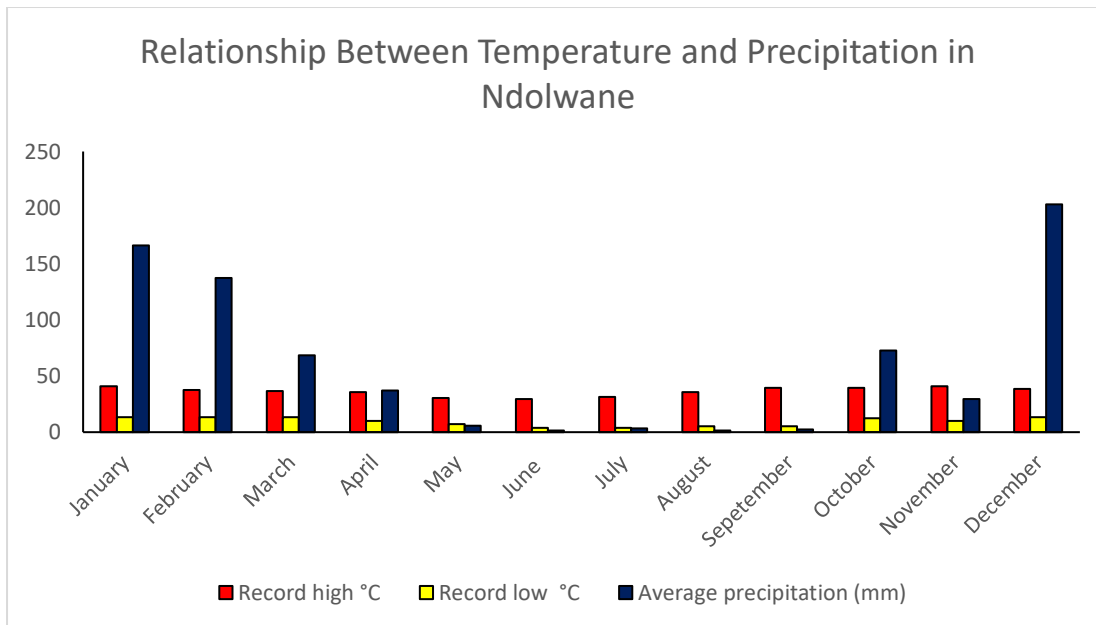


Figure 8: Relationship between Precipitation and Temperature

Fig 8 indicate that December, January and February are the most raining months in Ndolwane. When temperatures are low rainfall also tend to be low or absent. Winter season is the driest season in the area.

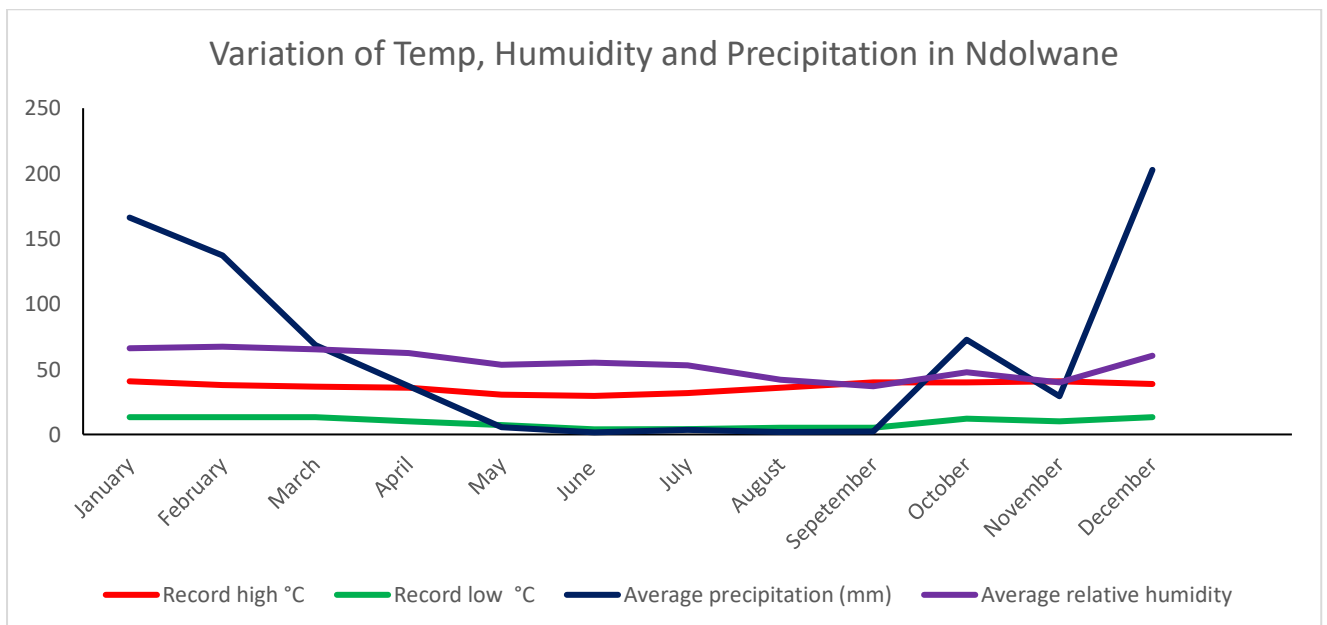


Figure 9: Variation of Precipitation, Temperature and Humidity

Precipitation is high in December among all the months with a record of 202.73mm. The rainy season stretches from December and February. Winter is the driest season with rainfall ranging between 1.7mm and 5.57mm with the lowest temperatures. Average relative humidity varies with time. Records

show that the average humidity is highest during the rainy season, with fluctuations ranging from 40 to 70.

2.2.3.2 Rainfall

The long-term average annual rainfall for the Bulilima district is around 602.4 mm, but there is considerable yearly variation. In some drought years, the total annual rainfall drops to 400mm or even less. The area is characterised by very short rain seasons, normally from November to March (the length of the rainfall season is between 105 and 120 days). January typically receives the highest rainfall amounts (about 120 mm). From May to June, there are dry winters with little or no rainfall. July to October are normally absolutely dry months. The driest weather is in August, when an average of 0.7 mm of rainfall occurs.

Bulilima primarily experiences orographic rainfall, characterised by heavy raindrops but of short duration. Rainfall typically drops from about 650 mm in the north to about 450 mm in the south. The average length of the rainy season also declines in a north-south direction, as does its reliability. The fact that the highest temperatures occur during the rainy season reduces the effectiveness of rainfall by inducing higher evapotranspiration and exposing crops to moisture stress.

Because of the low and unreliable rainfall and generally poor soils, the district is suitable for farm systems based on livestock and resistant fodder crops, as well as forestry and wildlife tourism. Rainwater harvesting techniques are required to capture the little moisture in the region. The risks of crop failure in the district are extremely high, and crop yields are generally low. First, the prevailing climatic regime implies that only small grains are feasible under rain-fed conditions. Secondly, viable perennial agriculture would require irrigation.

Bulilima is one of the hot and dry regions in Zimbabwe. It has been noted that the district receives minimum rainfall with its highest wards receiving 190mm of rainfall during 2023-2024 rainfall season. The minimum total rainfall were received in Ward 10 which had only 63mm throughout the rainy season. 10 wards from Bulilima District failed to receive 100mm of rainfall during the 2023/24 rainy season thus indicating the effects of the El Nino arising from climate change.

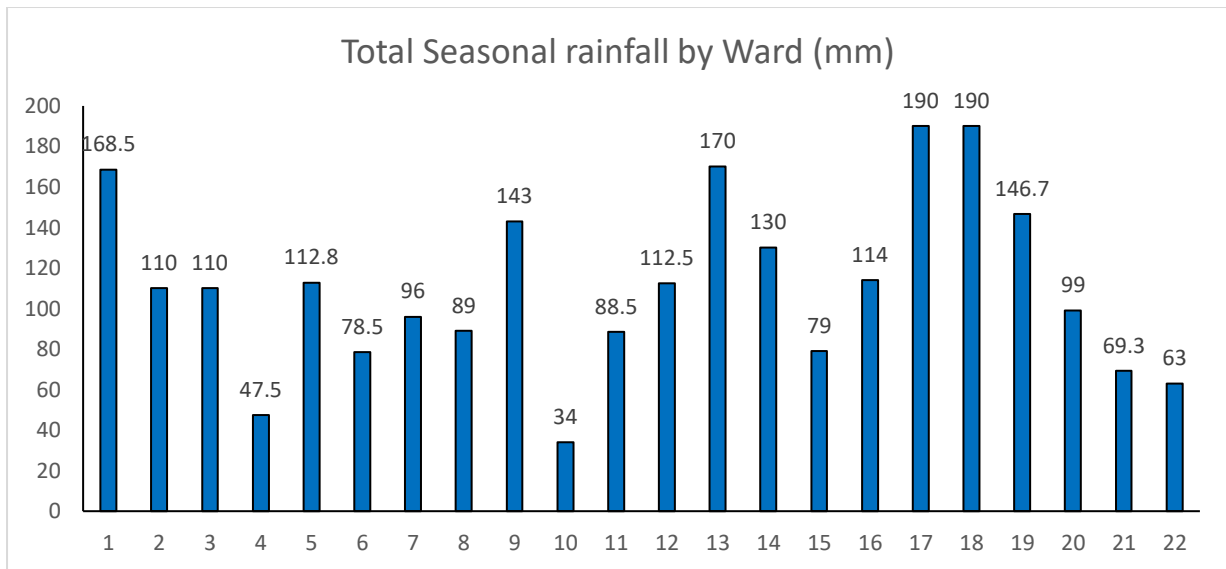


Figure 100: Seasonal Rainfall by Ward

Fig 2 present the distribution of rainfall among the wards in various months. It can be noted that December had the highest rainfall among all the month, with all the wards receiving rainfall.

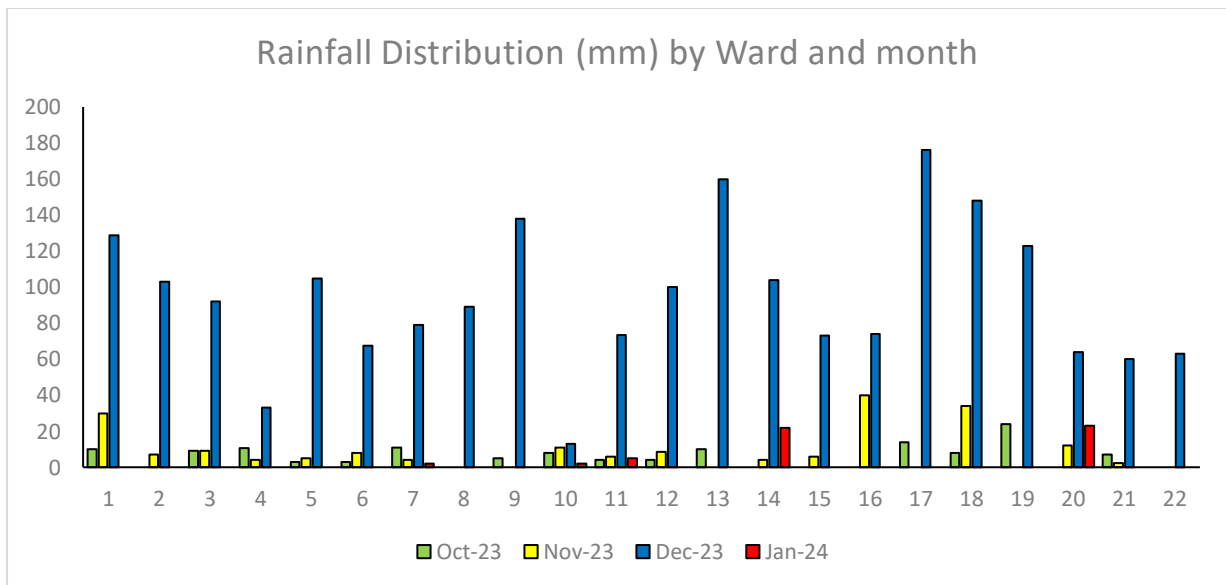


Figure 11: Rainfall Variation by Ward and Month

The chart below indicate the distribution of rainfall in the 22 wards of Bulilima during the month of October 2023. It can be noted that only 15 wards received rainfall during this month. The highest amount of rainfall is 24mm in ward 19 and most wards received 10mm and below with some receiving nothing.

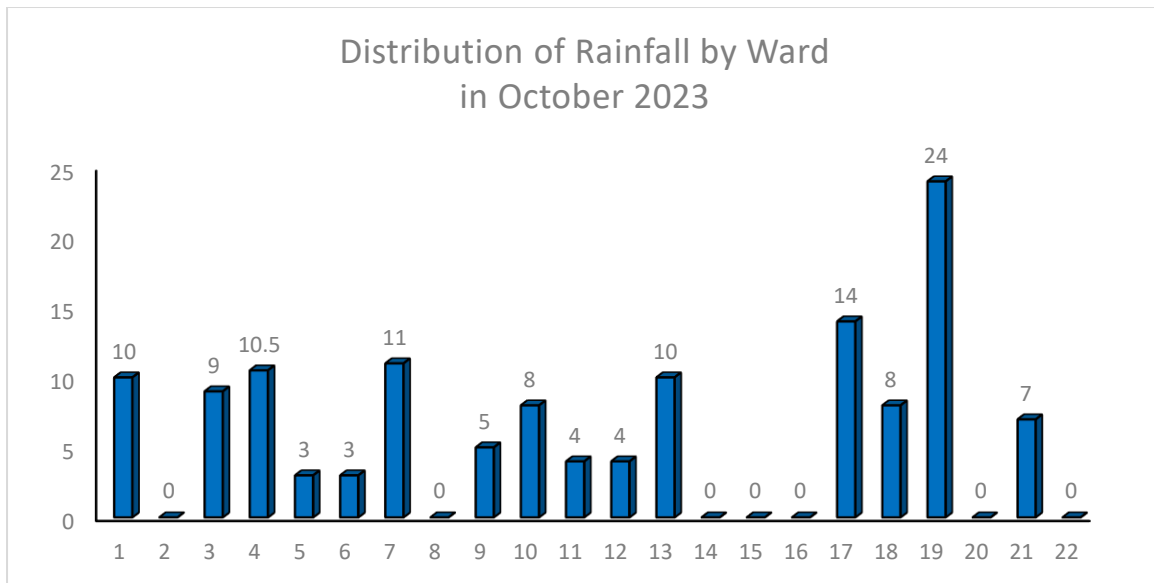


Figure 12: October 2023 Rainfall Distribution by Ward

It can be noted in Fig 4 that most wards received rainfall in Bulilima except for 6 wards. Wards 8 and 22 did not receive any rainfall in these two months (October and November). Only 3 wards had more than 25mm of rainfall with the rest less than 10mm as indicated below.

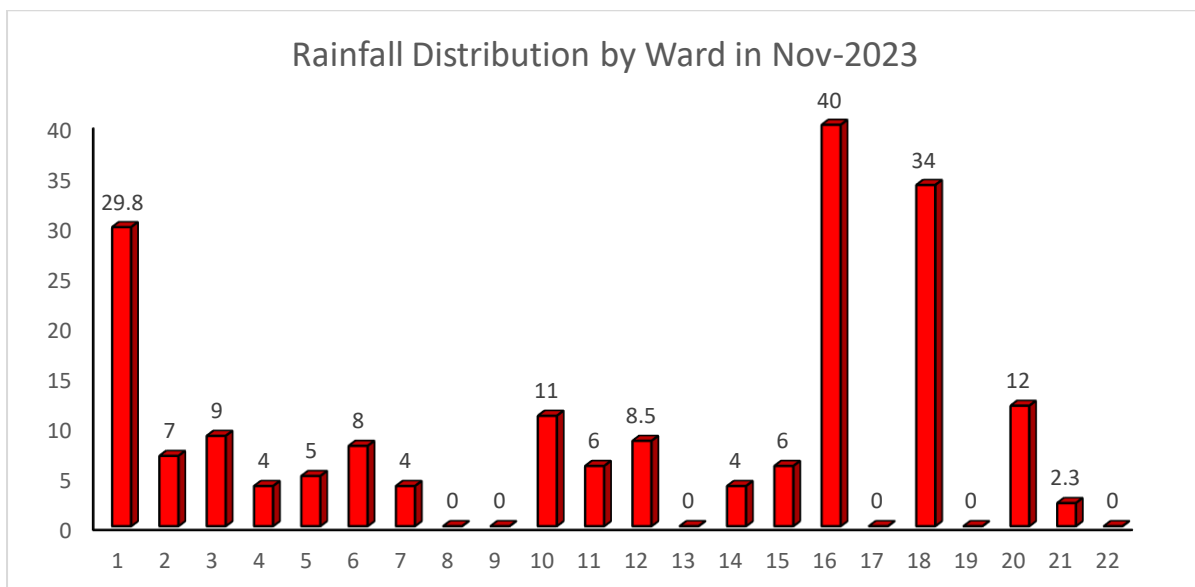


Figure 13: Rainfall Distribution By Ward (Nov 2023)

December was recorded to be the most raining month during the 2023/24 rainy season. All the wards managed to receive some rainfall with the minimum being 13mm in Ward 10. About ten wards received more than 100mm of rainfall which can be regarded as very little rainfall for farming and the recharge of water bodies.

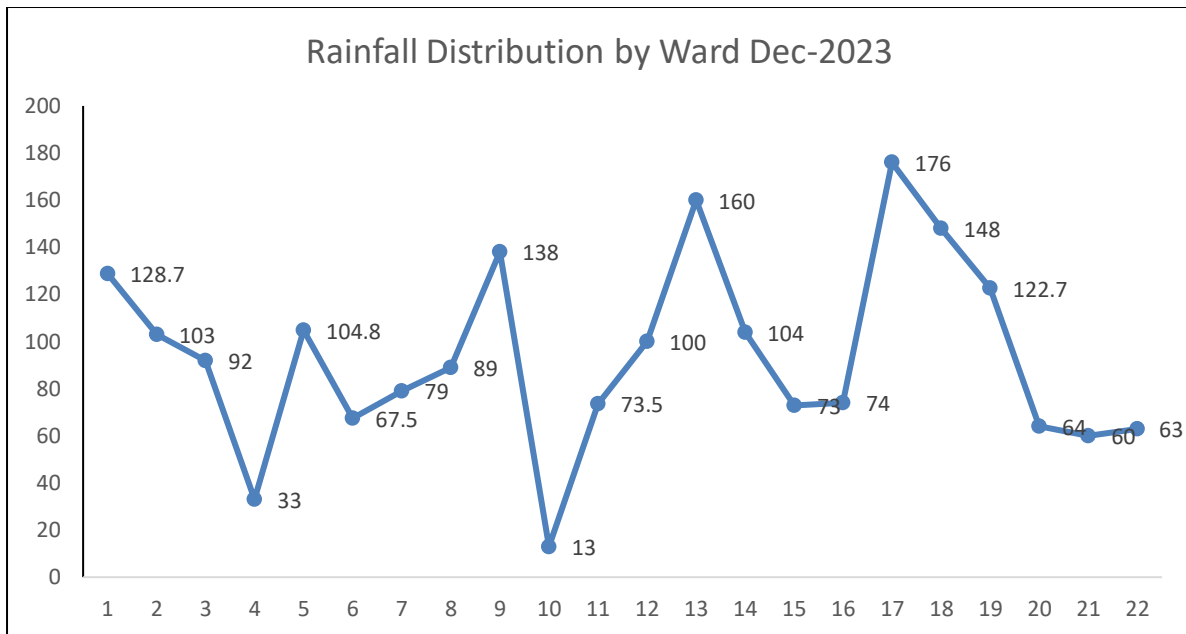


Figure 14: Rainfall Variation by Ward in December

It can be noted from the indications below that only 5 wards received rainfall in January 2024. The highest amount was received in Wards 14 and 20, which is less than 25mm. the month of January was recorded to be hot and dry in most of the wards. Wards 7, 10 and 11 had less than 5mm which is almost equal to nothing.

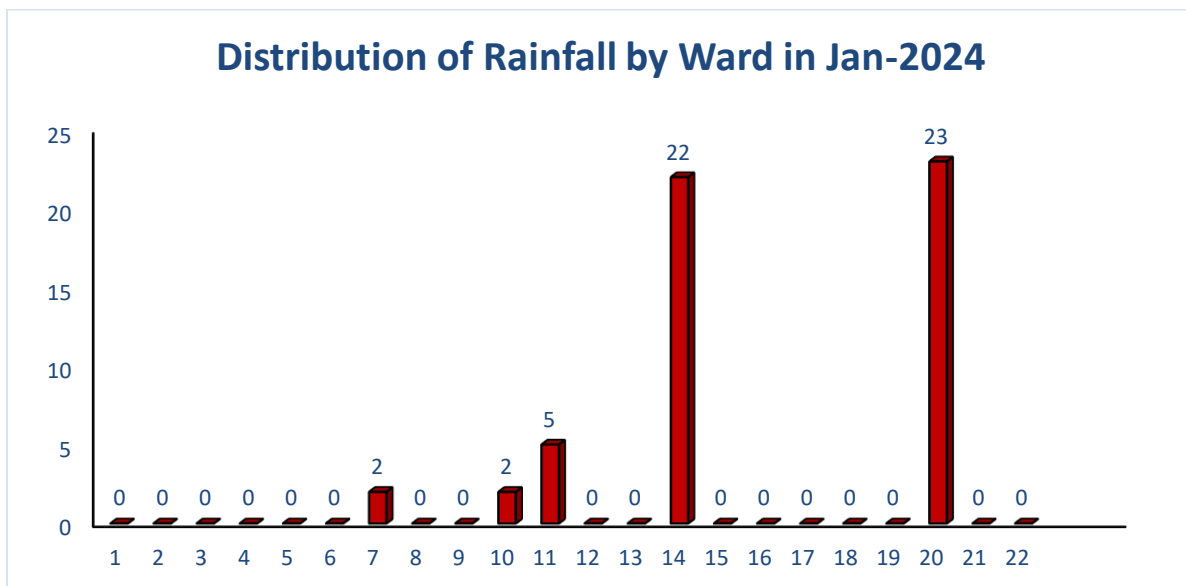


Figure 15: Rainfall Distribution in January 2024 by Wards

It is argued that due to climate change winter in Bililima is becoming warmer while the summer season is becoming hotter than usual. The mean annual temperature for Bulilima District ranges between 20-

22°C. Below are some of the variations in temperature recorded for Figtree and Ndolwane in Bulilima District.

2.2.4 Vegetation

The vegetation pattern in Bulilima district reflects an interplay of ecological factors, particularly climate and soils on the one hand, and human activities on the other. Species abundance and richness within the district are rapidly decreasing, such that the once-existing vegetation can no longer be found. This has been attributed to climate change, which has resulted in insufficient rainfall to support and sustain vegetation growth. Also to blame are human activities through human settlements, farming, infrastructure developments, livestock grazing, and the use of brushwood as a fence, among other activities. All these activities have resulted in vegetation disturbances such that the once-existing vegetation is no longer present. Vegetation and land disturbances, together with changes in climate, are favouring the growth of secondary vegetation and invasive vegetation in some areas, replacing the native vegetation.

According to a 2020 land cover map produced by the Forestry Commission Research Department, woodland covers 32.42% of the district, bushland covers 33.72%, cropland covers 33.78%, and 0.08% of the district is covered by water. (Refer to the land cover map)

A review of previous vegetation studies covering the Bulilima district and the field survey conducted as part of the masterplan studies revealed that the district has five main types of vegetation. These are described below using the Flora Zambeziaca characterisations and field relations observed from top land to valleys. However, not all the dominant species are listed in pure scientific descriptions. The focus here is on those species that not only stand out but are most commonly known and observable in their variation.

a.) Gusu forests of Baikiaea and other related species of the Kalahari Sands

This is a unique vegetation type in the country that occurs on the deep Aeolian sands. It is dominated by *Baikiaea plurijuga* (Umgusu, teak), *Pterocarpus angeolensis* (Uvagazi), *Guibortia coleosperma* (Umtshibili), *Riciodendron rautanenii* (Umgoma, a well-sought-after carving tree of value to the tourist industry, now at risk of overexploitation), *Azelia quanzensis* (Umkamba, pod mahogany), *Commiphora mollis* (Iminyela), and the occasional *Adansonia digitata* (baobab).

Grasses are poor wiry species, mostly *Aristida* spp., and some *Pogonarthria* spp., with a sprinkling of *Digitaria* (Umthando), *Eragrostis pallens*, and *Heteropogon* spp. (Inzala).

b.) Terminalia tree savannah on Sandy and Loamy sands:

This type occurs on the granites of the basement complex, which give rise to sands and loamy sand soils. It consists of *Terminalia sericia* (Umangwe, Nsusu) and *Burkea africana* (Umnondo) as the dominants on the higher ground and higher precipitation areas, with combinations of *Combretum* spp. (Umbondo, Umkhosikazi), *Peltophorum africanum* (Umsehla), *Pterocarpus angolensis* (Ivagazi), *Dombeva rotundifolium* (Umnwane), *Pseudolachnostylis maprouneifolia* (Umqhobampunzi, Muzilawa), *Linear discolor* (Isigangatsha), *Ozoroa reticulata* (Isafice), *Protea gagedi* (Isilalaba), *Piliostigma thonningii* (Ihabahaba), and *Rhus lancea* (umtshekisane).

There is categorization into subtypes. The well-drained uplands are dominated by the *Combretum collinum* large tree, *Terminalias*, and *Burkea africana*, among others, as one moves down the landscape. The content of *Peltophorum* and *Piliostigma* increases until *Terminalia* becomes dominant in the hanging vlei zone before the *Colophospermum* and the rhus take over in the sodic areas just before the stream, or sometimes a narrow meadow land bordering the streams. Grasses are dominated by *Hyperthelia* and *Hyparrhenia* spp. (uqunga, intungwa, thatch grass) and *Heteropogon* spp. (inzala). *Pogonarthria squarossa*, *Perotis patens*, and *Rhynchelytrun repens* are all associated species.

c.) Acaccia spp. on Clays.

This vegetation type is associated with basalt intrusions and metamorphic rocks of the goldbelt geological formation, which occur as intrusions into the basement complex granites. It is heavily browsed by goats and related wildlife species. A strong bushy tendency is observable, partly due to rainfall but also to browsing pressure. It tends to be less bushy in the commercial fanning areas where there is controlled grazing or where there are virtually no goats. The vegetation type consists of three sub-types: the shallow hill soil sub-type, the valley type, which is on black heavy clay vertisols, and the well-drained dark red to reddish brown basalt soils of the lower middleveld areas. The last subtype is a middle grade between the characteristics of the two catenaries' extremes that it relates to. Described below are the hill and valley sub-types.

- The Hill sub-type is a mixed formation with *Acacia nigrescens* (umkhaya), *Combretum apiculatum* (umbondo wentaba), *Dichrostachys cineria* (ugagu, mpangale), *Grewia* spp. (Umklampunzi, ubhuzu), and *Commiphora* spp. (iminyela).

Grasses tend to be very sparse in this subtype. Some of the species are *Aristida* spp., *Perotis patens* (bottle brush grass), *Schmidtia bulbosa*, and *Dichanthium papillosum*.

- The valley sub-type has very few trees, tending more towards grassland. The trees that occur in this type are *Acacia* spp. (Isinga), *Combretum* spp. (umbondo), and *Collophospermum mopane* (iphane). Otherwise, the grassland is a mixture of *Andropogon guyanus*, *Setaria* spp., *Dichanthium* spp., and its lookalike *Bothriochloa insculpta* in the better-drained places, and on to *Imperata cylindrica*, *Sporobolus* spp., and *Ischaemum* spp. in the poorly-drained areas.

d.) Collophospermum Mopane woodland and Mopane tree Savanna:

There are two main variants. The Mopane woodland occurs on the Kalahari sands, where it is mixed with alluvium. It supports very large trees of Mopane and *Combretum imberbe* (Umtswili), but with little improvement in grass species from the Kalahari sands. The Mopane woodland on clay is the other variant. Mopane is dominant with associates such as *Sclerocarva* spp. (Umganu), *Terminalia stuhlmannii* (Ivikane), and *Adansonia digitata* (Baobab). This variant has an extremely good grass species composition, with *Panicum* spp. (buffalo grass), *Enneapogon* spp., *Bothriochloa* spp., and *Dichanthium* spp. among other sweet veld grasses.

e.) Dry deciduous Tree savanna:

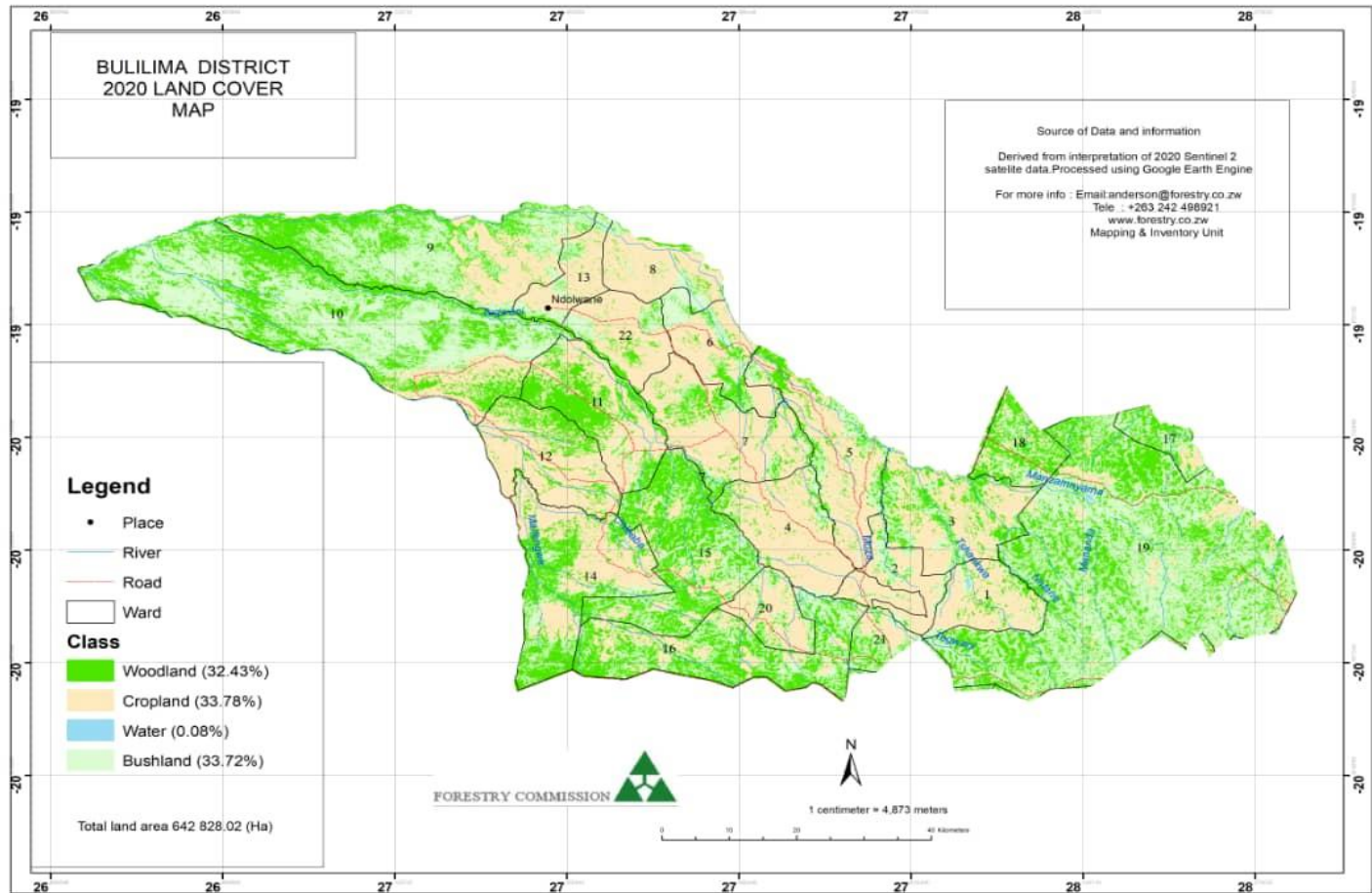
This is practically confined to Natural Region IV. On shallow basalt-derived gravel soils, stunted trees and shrubs of *Collophospermum Mopane*, *Commiphora afficana*, *C. molli*, *C. pyracanthoides*, *Combretum apicakatum*, *Boscia*, and *Sesamothamimo lugardii* species are most common.

The grass cover is relatively dense in Natural Region IV, especially in the commercial farming areas. The main grass species include *Byrrhena filipendula*, *Hyperthelia dissoluta*, *Chloridion cameranii*, *Schizachyrium*, *Pogonathria squarrosa*, *Heteropogon contortus*, and *Digitaria* spp. In Natural Region IV, *Eragrostis rigidior*, *E. gummiflua*, and *E. superba* tend to replace *Byrrhena* and *Hyperthelia*.

In the mixed Mopane veld, particularly where *Grewia* subspecies are common, grass cover may be dense. Such species are *Aragnotis rigidior*, *Schmidtia pappophroides*, *Urochloa pululano*, *Cenchrus ciliaris*, *Brachyaria*, *Digitaria* sp., and *Enneapogon cenchroides*. On sodic soils, grass cover is particularly poor, and only a few species, such as *Aristida*, survive. The grass cover of the Mopane veld is sensitive to grazing pressure, particularly after a succession of seasons with low rainfall. Perennial grasses under heavy grazing pressure tend to disappear and be replaced by annual grasses of inferior quality.

The grass cover is generally poor and consists mainly of annuals such as *aristida*, *digitaria*, *erogrotis*, and *enneapogon cenchroides*. Grazing potential is low, and intra-seasonal rainfall variation can have a considerable effect on the amount of dry matter produce.

Map 7: Land Cover Map for the Bulilima District (2020)



Source: Forestry Commission Research Department, 2020

2.2.5 Topography and Landscape

The Bulilima district, in general, slopes from south to north. The district's mean altitude is about 1,000 metres above sea level. The land is generally flat but is irregularly interrupted by granitic dwala, whaleback, inselbeg outcrops, and castle kopjes. This terrain not only provides gorgeous scenery for tourists, but it also provides a habitat for specific animals.

2.2.6 Hydrology

The Bulilima district is located in the Gwayi Catchment Council, under the Upper-Gwayi Sub-Catchment Council. The district has two main rivers, the Nata/Manzamyama and Tekwane Rivers that form the main drainage system northwest of the watershed. The two rivers link to the Soa Pan drainage system in Botswana. The Gwayi river system links a portion of the northeastern district, with the Norwich resettlement area

housing the watershed between it and the Manzamnyama river systems. Apart from the two main rivers, there are also several streams that criss-cross the district, forming part of the district's drainage system. The rivers within the district serve as the primary source of water for both humans and livestock, as well as the primary supplier of runoff water to the district's dams. However, all the rivers in the district are seasonal and ephemeral rivers and streams. The major rivers usually dry out towards the end of October. This has been attributed to poor rainfall received in the district, high evapotranspiration, and heavy siltation of rivers. This means water supply is a major challenge in the district. The community, livestock, and wildlife will have to rely mainly on boreholes. This puts a lot of pressure on boreholes and groundwater resources. In some seasons, boreholes also dry up during the September to November period, especially those that are not deep enough (less than 70m deep). This will force people, particularly women, to walk long distances to fetch water. Those who rely on boreholes to irrigate their crops also face the same problem.

Groundwater yield and availability within the district are mainly influenced by the parent rock. The Bulilima district is mainly overlain by the granite rock formation of the pre-Cambrian basement complex. The gneissose rocks and intrusive granites of the Basement Complex are devoid of any primary porosity, so the aquifer properties of these basement rocks are controlled by the degree of secondary porosity and permeability, often associated with fracturing, jointing, schistosity planes, and weathering. Two hydrogeological sub-units are recognised, each with a characteristic groundwater occurrence:

- The granite and gneiss below the African erosion surface; and
- The granite and gneiss below the post-African and Pliocene Quaternary erosion surfaces.

These aquifers have low groundwater development potential. The highest groundwater development potential is found in those areas possessing the deepest and most aerially extensive weathering, as on the larger African surface. Chemical weathering along faults, shear zones, and dyke contacts may produce equally important water-bearing structures. As a result, incorrectly sited boreholes can dry up during the dry season.

Table 3: Some of the Rivers within the Bulilima District

Name of the River	Name of the River
Maitengwe	Moza
Manzamnyama	Tegwane
Tjibabi	Ramakwebana
Ntoli	Sinotsi
Tshonsusu	Maneha
Mavukwana	Matelema
Makwa	Mpatshana

Source: Plan Afric, 2024

Map 8: Map of Zimbabwe Showing the location of the Gwayi Catchment, and also the location of Bulilima District within the Gwayi Catchment.



Source: Zimbabwe National Water Authority (ZINWA)

2.2.7 Wetlands

The Ramsar Convention on Wetlands (1971) describes wetlands as areas of marsh, fen, peatland, or water, whether natural or artificial, permanent or temporary, with water that is static or flowing, fresh, brackish, or salt, including areas of marine water the depth of which at low tide does not exceed six metres.’

There are two wetland areas in the district that were designated by the EMA. These are the Boyile wetland in Ward 5 and the Mahabangome wetland in Malalume (next to Moza irrigation) in Ward 14. According to the EMA Act, Chapter 20:27 of 2002, read together with SI 7 of 2007 and the National Wetland Policy of 2021, wetlands are protected areas that can only be used after given permission by EMA. This is due to their sensitivity. Wetland ecosystems are important ecosystems that provide many benefits to the environment and people, chief among the benefits being the ability of wetlands to support life.

The Boyile and Mahabangome wetlands have proven to be a source of hope in the district. The community has used the two wetlands as pastures for livestock and for vegetable farming, thereby providing a source of livelihood. To that end, the master plan considers ways to protect these wetlands so that they can continue to be of benefit to the community. It will be everyone’s responsibility to ensure the wetlands in the district are protected.

2.2.8 Archaeological and Culturally Protected Monuments or Areas

The National Museums and Monuments Act (Chapter 25: 11) which protects Monuments and Relics defines a monument as:

- a.) any ancient monument or
- b.) area of land which
 - is of historical, archaeological, paleontological, or other scientific value or interest; or
 - has a distinctive geological formation; or
- c.) waterfall, cave, grotto, avenue of trees, old tree or old building or remaining portion of an old building;
or
- d.) Other objects, whether natural or constructed by man, are of historical archaeological or other scientific value or interest.

There are three (3) culturally protected areas in the district. These are the Luswingo ruins in Ward 4, the Manyangwa Rainmaking Shrine in Ward 4, and the Matalitali ruins in Ward 18. These sites are of cultural significance and are protected by law, thus the National Museum and Monuments Act (Chapter. 25:11) and

the Traditional Leaders Act. Therefore, they require protection. Any proposal in this master plan shall not adversely affect such sites. This includes other sites or features that are not listed in this report but are of cultural importance.

2.3 ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES IN THE DISTRICT

a.) Deforestation: Deforestation is on the rise within the district and even at the provincial level. According to a 2020 report by the Forestry Commission of Zimbabwe, about 5000 ha of forest land are destroyed annually in the province. In Bulilima, the expansion of human settlements and agricultural land as well as infrastructure developments are some of the activities noted to be contributing to deforestation. People are also cutting down a significant number of trees for fuel or firewood. In the communal lands, people also use brushwood for fencing; this is also contributing to the loss of a significant number of trees in the district.

The loss of trees leaves the soil exposed and vulnerable to erosion. The removal of trees leads to desertification, the loss of top soil crucial for agriculture, the formation of gullies, and the indirect siltation of rivers and dams, as the eroded soil ends up in rivers and eventually in dams.

Mitigation Measures: The CAMPFIRE programme, through its ward CAMPFIRE committees, is doing a lot to educate the communities and discourage them from destroying trees. Communities are being encouraged to harvest dead wood instead of live wood. The RDC, together with the Forestry Commission, encourages the planting of trees in schools, particularly fruit trees. They are providing seedlings for free and often conduct tree planting campaigns across the district. This is meant to replace those trees that would have been destroyed. Non-governmental organisations have also come up with “SMART STOVES or TSOTSO STOVES” as a measure to curb deforestation. The stoves use very little wood.

b.) Climate Change: The Bulilima district, like any other district in Zimbabwe, is not being spared from the effects of climate change. The district has seen an increase in average daily temperatures, a decrease in average annual rainfalls, and false starts of the rainy season, which, when eventually started, will be very short and unreliable. The district is plagued by frequent droughts and has been ranked among the most drought-prone districts in the country by the National Integrated Context Analysis (ICA) (2022). Given

that the livelihoods of the people in Bulilima district depend largely on agriculture and natural resources, the effects of climate change are being felt heavily. ZIMVAC (2022) pronounced the district's high household food insecurity and malnutrition as the highest in the country. Climate change is also causing water shortages for humans, livestock, and wildlife. During the dry season, boreholes and dams dry up. People also blame it for the outbreak of several crop and livestock diseases, as well as pests that are alien to the area.

Though the causes of climate change are global in nature, it was also noted that some of the local practices of the community are also contributing to or aiding the impacts of climate change at the local level. These activities include the deforestation of trees and unsustainable agricultural practices.

Map 9: Drought Prone Areas



Source: National Integrated Context Analysis (ICA), 2022)

Mitigation Measures: To mitigate the impacts of climate change, communal farmers are being encouraged to grow drought-resistant crops or traditional grains such as millet, sorghum, and rapoko. The government has taken a deliberate stance to distribute traditional grains only in all regions that fall under agroecological zones IV and V, thus Bulilima district included. The government, through the district agriculture extension officers, is encouraging communal farmers to adopt conservation agriculture and to join the government's national Pfumvudza/ Intwasa programme. The government, through ZINWA and DDF, as well as NGOs, drilled boreholes across the district, which are now sources of water for humans, livestock, and wildlife. The Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) has also engaged several communities in the district, and they are running a vetiver grass planting programme. The vetiver grass is well known for its ability to thrive in harsh conditions. In this programme, the grass is meant to supplement livestock feed while at the same time controlling soil erosion by providing land cover. OXFAM and other NGOs also come up with watered community gardens as a mitigation measure to climate change.

c.) Wildlife poaching: The district is experiencing an increase in wildlife poaching. People, particularly from the nearby communities, are poaching wildlife at night using torches. Most poachers, however, are poaching for subsistence or "poaching for the pot" and not for sale. They use traditional hunting methods and equipment. The district hasn't experienced any commercial poaching.

The increase in wildlife poaching in the district is believed to be caused by food insecurities. People don't have anything to eat due to frequent droughts being experienced in the district. Droughts are affecting agriculture, which is the main source of livelihood for many people in the district.

Mitigation measures: The CAMPFIRE programme is one of the most successful measures implemented to curb wildlife poaching in the district. Through the CAMPFIRE programme, the RDC established CAMPFIRE ward committees, which, among other tasks, are responsible for monitoring and reporting wildlife poaching. The RDC also has wildlife rangers who do anti-poaching patrols in wildlife areas.

d.) Human and Wildlife Conflicts: Cases of human and wildlife conflicts are on the increase in the district, particularly in areas or communities around wildlife areas such as Maitengwe. Although there are no recent fatalities recorded, there are recorded complaints of livestock being killed by wildlife animals like lions and hyenas and crops and infrastructure being destroyed by elephants. The increase in human and

wildlife conflicts in the area is believed to be caused by several factors. Some of these factors are explained below:

- 1.) **Expansion of human settlements into wildlife areas:** human settlements are expanding and encroaching on wildlife areas. For example, areas like the Madlambuzi new resettlement areas. Some settlements are being cited on animal corridors.
- 2.) **Droughts:** Due to frequent droughts, there are fewer pastures for livestock to graze; as a result, people are taking their livestock into wildlife conservancies to graze. Some livestock die in the process. Droughts are also causing shortages of food and water for wildlife in the conservancies; as a result, some of the animals are entering the communal areas to look for food and water. In the process, they will destroy people's fields, destroy infrastructure, kill livestock, and injure people.
- 3.) **Too many animals:** Animals like elephants are now so many that they have exceeded the carrying capacity of the area. Some of these animals come from nearby Botswana. As a result, there is a shortage of food; hence, some of the animals are now moving into communal areas looking for food.

The following table highlights some of the recorded data on human and wildlife conflicts from 2021 to 2023.

Table 4: Statistics of Human and Wildlife Conflict Cases from the year 2021 to the year 2023

Year	Species	Reports Received	People Affected	Livestock Killed	Crop Fields Affected	Infrastructure Damaged
2021	Elephant	30	0	0	10 ha	40 km (fence)
	Lion	1	0	0	0	0
	Hyena	15	0	4 cattle; goats; 4 donkeys	3 0	0
	Jackal	20	0	25 goats	0	0

	Baboon	26	0	4 goats	4 ha	0
	Hippopotamus	3	1 injured	0	0.3 ha	0
2022	Hippopotamus	1	0	0	0	0
	Buffalo	1	0	0	0	0
	Hyena	2	0	2 cattle; 23 donkeys	0	0
	Elephants	25	0	0	10 ha	Fences, water points & dams
2023	Elephants	10	0	0	15 ha	1 garden
	Cheetah	1	0	1 cattle	0	0
	Baboons	1	0	0	2 ha	0
	Lions	1	0	0	0	0

Source: Bulilima RDC

Mitigation measures: To discourage people from invading or settling in wildlife areas, the RDC is conducting awareness campaigns. They are also constantly taking up repairs to fences around wildlife conservancies and water points within conservancies as a way to discourage animals from getting out of their areas. In some communal areas, the RDC, with the help of community members, has dug trenches

about 1 m deep and 1 m wide around wildlife areas to prevent wildlife like elephants from crossing into the communal areas. All problem animals found within communal lands are being captured and returned to the conservancies. If these animals pose a serious threat to people, they may be killed. The RDC has established Problem Animal Control Units, which are comprised of community-based rangers, to drive or scare away animals from people.

- e.) **Veld fires:** The district hasn't experienced serious cases of veld fires. This has been attributed to a shortage of grass cover. Veldt fires are only common in commercial farming areas, such as Figtree (Ward 19). The Figtree area has plenty of grass cover as compared to other parts of the district.

Mitigation measures: The RDC and EMA always encourage farmers in this area to construct fireguards around their farms as a mitigation measure. Anyone found without fireguards is fined. The farmers are also taught and reminded to observe the fire season, which starts in August and ends in September every year. The lighting of open and uncontrolled fires is discouraged during this period. During the fire season, EMA often conducts veldt fire-fighting trainings with farmers and other members of the community. They will receive training on extinguishing veldt fires.

- f.) **Floods:** The district normally experiences some flash flooding in areas like Huwana (Ward 8) and Bambadzi (Ward 10) during the rainy season. The terrain of the two areas, being too flat, prevents any run-off. This often creates waterlogged conditions or flash flooding. The district's flood risk, however, is very low.

Mitigation measures: As a district, they have established some disaster management committees or civil protection committees at both district and ward levels. The government, through the Civil Protection Unit department, has also managed to relocate people from some of the problem areas. However, some are resisting; some initially vacated the areas but later returned.

The UNEDP, through the Civil Protection Unit, also allocated an all-terrain vehicle to the district for use in disaster situations. However, despite these, the district's disaster preparedness is very poor. The committees don't have the necessary resources, and they also lack the necessary training on how to respond when disasters occur. The district has also come up with a disaster and risk management strategy for the district, but it's only a paper with no implementation.

g.) Lighting strikes: it has been reported that the district experiences a lot of lightning strikes every year. A significant number of people and livestock are struck by lightning every year, especially during the beginning of the rainy season. Most of the people who were struck by lightning were working in the fields. By then, there will be no grass cover; hence, there will be the tallest thing in the area, thus making themselves exposed to lightning strikes.

Mitigation measures: People are being educated about lightning strikes and are discouraged from working in the fields when there is lightning. They are encouraged to seek shelter whenever it is raining with lightning and thunder.

h.) Land degradation and soil erosion: this has been blamed on deforestation, overgrazing, and drought effects. These have left the soil exposed to agents of erosion. The other contributing factor was noted to be unsustainable agricultural practices by farmers. Gully formation is the most significant result of land degradation in Bulilima. Gullies emerge in the district's water courses, runoff areas, crop fields, and grazing areas. Gully development is caused by excessive clearance of vegetation cover, overgrazing, soil type, unsuitable land use, and veldt fires. Gullies are a common environmental hazard across Bulilima District, with an estimated more than 5 gullies per ward, posing a serious threat to community livelihoods. These gullies are encroaching on arable and grazing area, posing a hazard to livestock and grain production. Some wards feature deep gullies caused by a lack of ground cover and the fragility of the soils. Wards 1, 2, 5, 6, 11, 12, 15, 16, 17, 19, and 21 are severely endangered by gullies. Erosion has caused the formation of gullies such as the Hingwe gully in Ward 12, the Nswazwi gully in Ward 16, and the Gwambe gully in Ward 2, just to mention a few. These gulleys are now safety hazards to people and livestock, as well as a threat to the environment.

Mitigation measures: communities are being taught and encouraged to undertake sustainable agricultural practices. There is also a vetiver grass planting programme that has been introduced as a way to curb soil erosion while at the same time providing livestock feed. The district is also conducting gully reclamation exercises.

i.) Siltation: there is serious siltation of streams, rivers, and dams in the district. The causes of siltation may be many, but what is evident is soil erosion and stream bank cultivation. Siltation has resulted in the district being water-stressed. All the rivers and streams in the district are heavily silted and have been reduced to periodic and seasonal streams and rivers. This is directly and indirectly affecting the recharge of dams and, as a result, causing shortages of available water for irrigation and animals to drink.

j.) Improper waste management practices: The whole district does not even have a single designated waste disposal site. Therefore, waste management poses a significant environmental concern in the district, particularly at service centers where a high population density and significant waste generation occur (e.g., Madlambuzi, Ndolwane, etc.).

3 PART 2: EXISTING SITUATION

3.1 EXISTING SITUATION

3.1.1 Population

This section of the Report will focus on population issues that have a direct impact on Bulilima's development. These include population size and distribution, population composition, population migrations, growth, and population projections.

The 2022 Census gave the most up-to-date, comprehensive data on population and households. A sample survey was conducted for this study to acquire a better understanding of recent population changes and to supplement our knowledge of the district's socioeconomic circumstances. The survey results are also discussed here and in other pertinent chapters of the report.

3.1.2 Population Size and Distribution.

As at 2022, Zimstat put the population at 85 600 made up of 39 488 Males and 46 112 Females. The district population distribution is highly decreasing as compared to 2002 census which was 94320 and in 2012, 90561 which had an annual decrease of -0.58% by 2022. (100%) of the district's population lives in rural areas. However, due to ongoing droughts, more people are relocating to cities and neighboring countries such as Botswana and South Africa in pursuit of greener pastures.

If the 2002, 2012 figures are brought in for comparison purposes, then the district's population has decreased representing a -0.58% decrease in population during 2002 - 2022, a period of 20 years. The 2022 population figure for Bulilima constitutes 11.3% of the provincial population.

The distribution of adults and children is that 44 865 are children from the age of 0-17 years as to 40 735 adults from the age of 18 and above. In this case it can be noted that the district has more children as compared to adults. In comparison of men to female, it has been discovered that there are more women as compared to men. As indicated in fig 1 below.

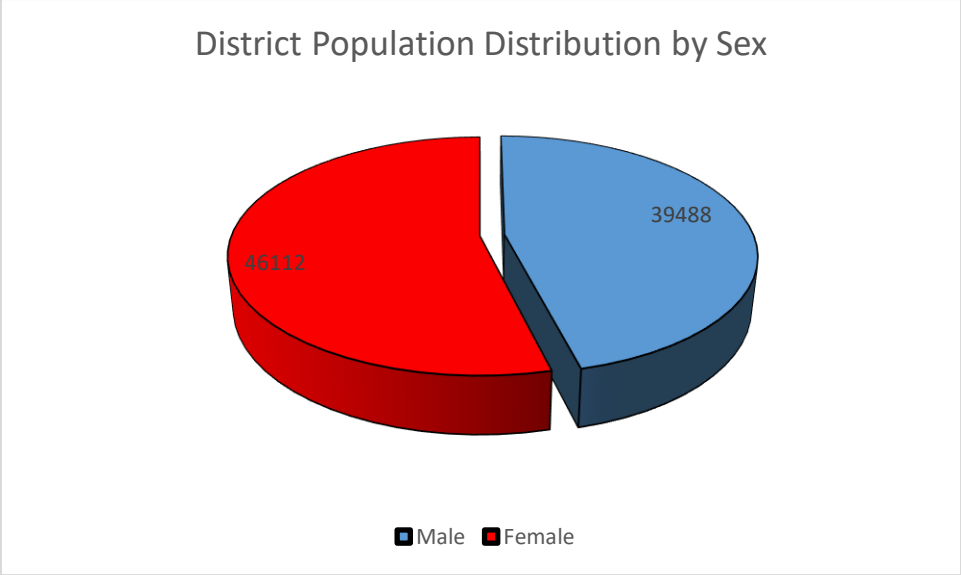


Figure 116: Population Distribution by Sex

Fig 2 indicate the distribution of population in various wards with sex variations. It can be noted that the population of women is higher than men in 21 wards and only Ward 16 has the male population above women. Ward 7 has the highest population for both men and women while ward 17 has the lowest figures.

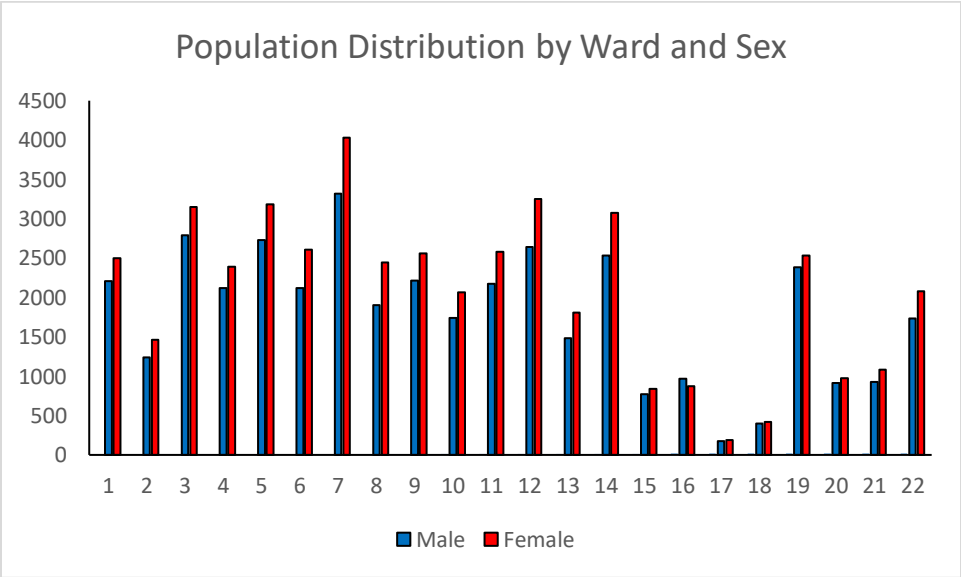


Figure 17: Distribution of Population by Ward and Sex

The distribution of population per wards indicate that Ward 7 has the highest population which is over 7349 people. Most wards ranges between 4000 and 6000 people. Ward 17 has the lowest population less than 500 people and ward 18 is also less than 1000 people.

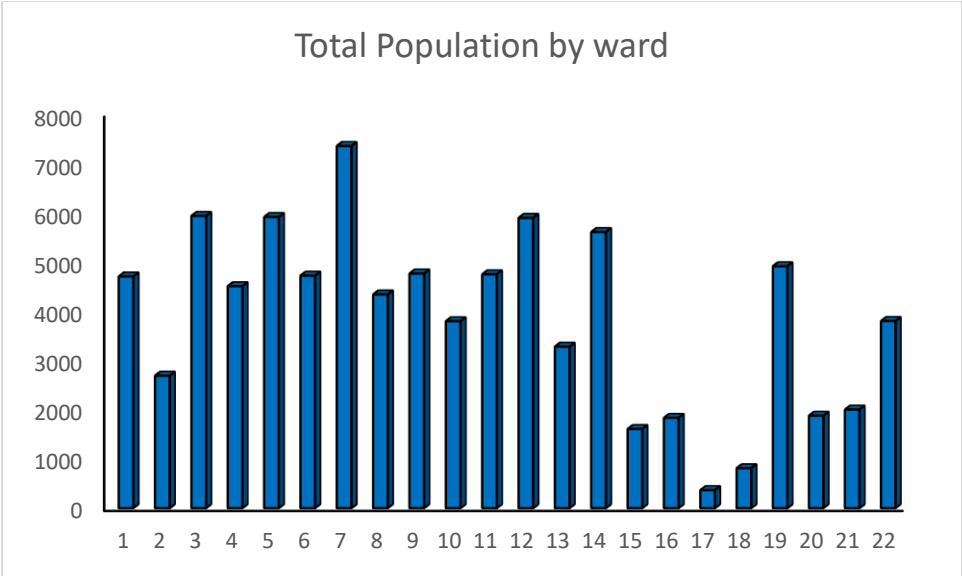


Figure 18: Distribution of Population by Wards

The distribution of population in Bulilima indicate a decrease in population from 2002 up to 2022 census. Population loss may be attributed to the migration of the people from the district in search of better opportunities. From 2012 to 2022, population in the district decreased by 5157 people while from 2002 to 2012 it reduced by 3563 people hence in this regard it can be noted that there is a continuous loss of people. This is represented in the graph below

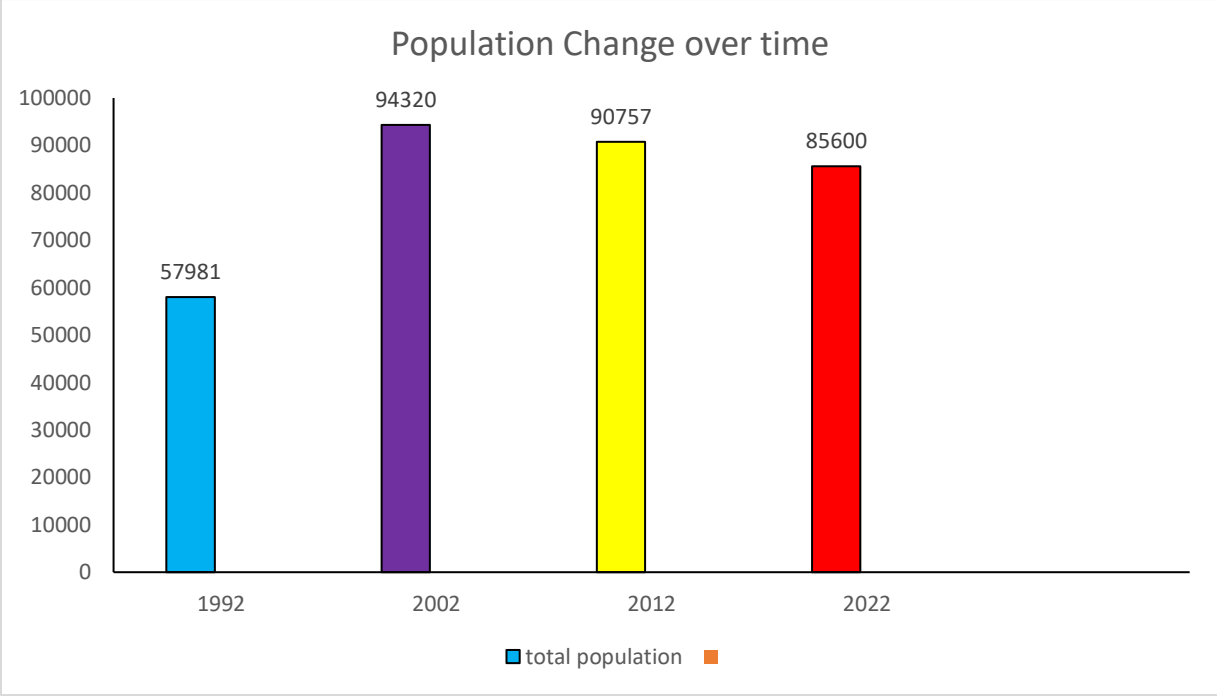


Figure 19: Comparison of population growth over time

Fig 3 below indicate population by sex comparing it from the year 2002 to 2022. It can be noted that women have always dominated the population of Bulilima. Both the numbers of men and women are reducing but men continues to be below the females.

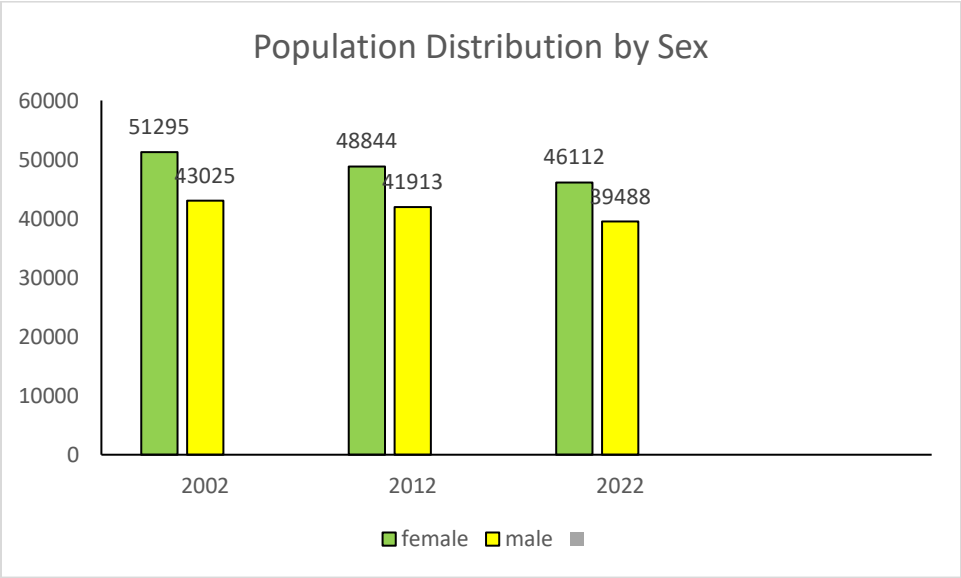


Figure 20: Population Change over Time

Source: ZIMSTAT (2022)

It has been noted that the distribution of registered births in Bulilima District is 72.6% and 27.4% are noted to be unregistered as indicated in fig 4 below.

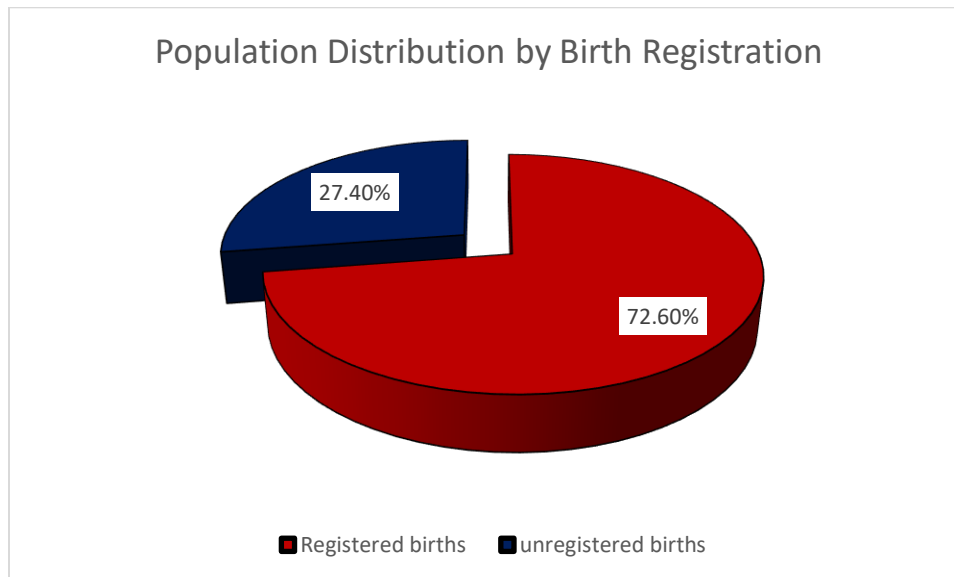


Figure 21: Distribution of Birth Registration

Source: ZIMSTAT (2022)

There are a total of 20837 households in the district of Bulilima. Ward 7 has the highest number of households and ward 17 has the least number of households in the district that are also below 100. More than half of the wards have a total number of households that are more than 1000.

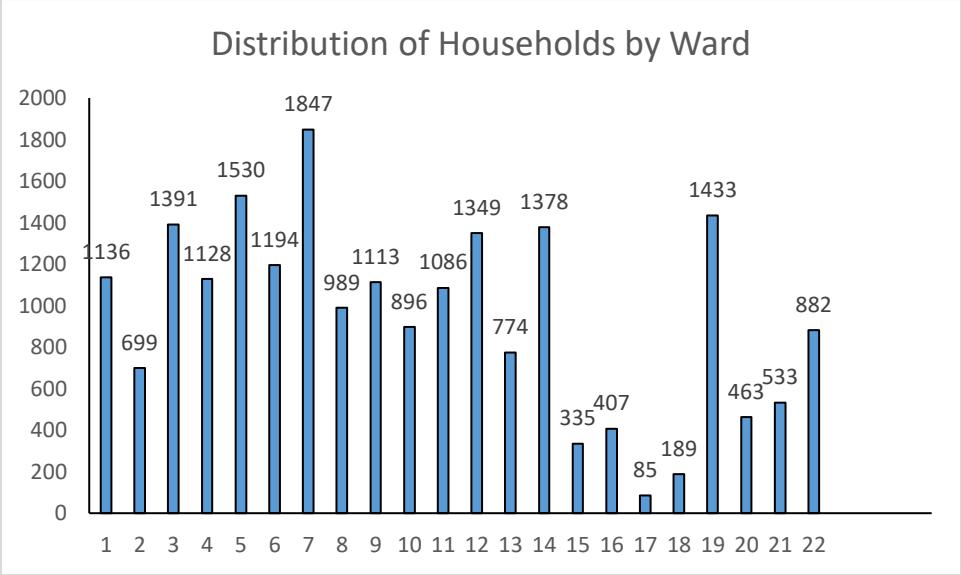


Figure 22: Distribution of Household by Ward

The distribution of household heads in Bulilima District has been found to be female dominant. Women have the highest percentage of household heads as compared to men in both adults and children. This is as a result of migration as men migrate to other places for better pastures. It can be noted that child-headed families exist within the district due to certain factors leading to such situations. It can be argued that one of the reasons for this is the movement of both parents to other districts, provinces and especially other countries for better opportunities.

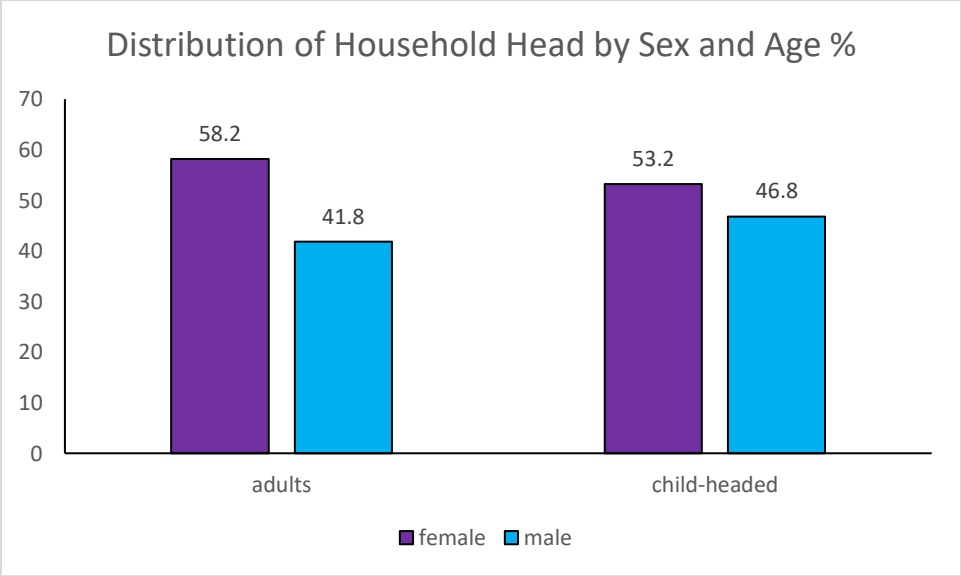


Figure 23: Distribution of Household Heads by Sex and Age.

Source: ZIMSTAT (2022)

Migration is one of the core reasons for population loss in the district. It has been noted that 59% of the households in Bulilima has lost its members due to migration as people move to other countries for better opportunities and standards of living. The fig below indicates the migration patterns in the district. As compared to other districts in Matebeleland South, Bulilima District has been found to have the highest number of emigrants.

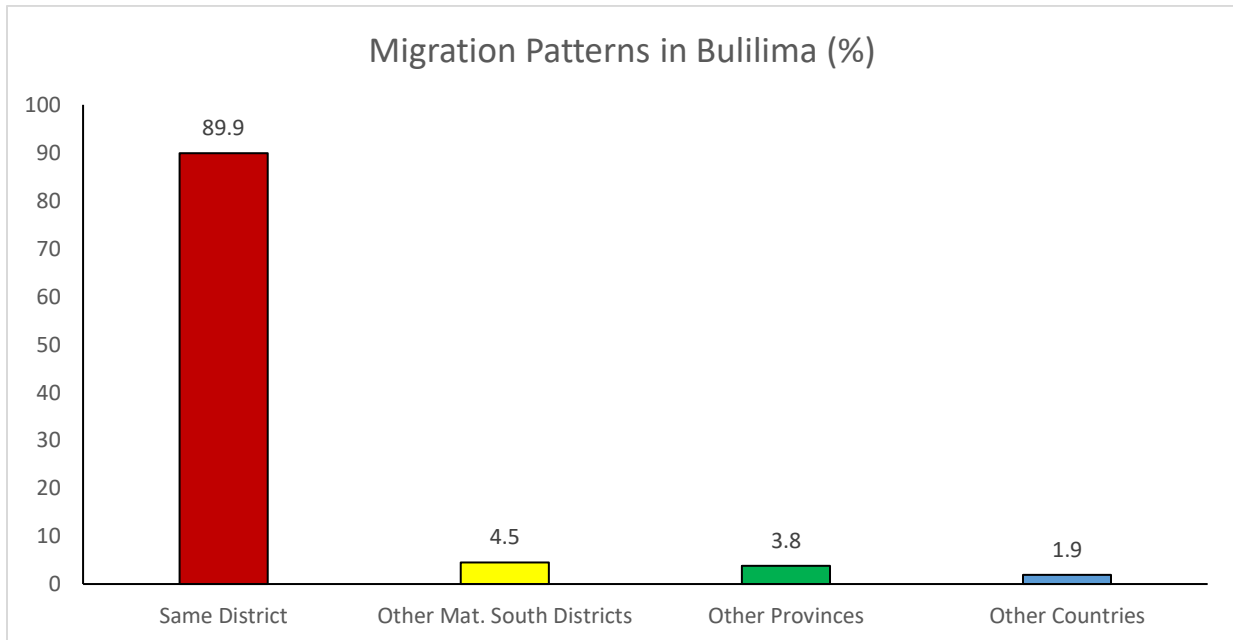


Figure 24: Migration Patterns in Bulilima District

Source: ZIMSTAT (2022)

Migration has been found to be the main source of income for the remaining households. Remunerations from the so-called injivas is argued to be the major driver of development in the district. The Rand is commonly used as most of the remuneration is from South Africa which has the highest number of emigrants. South Africa and Botswana are recorded to have the highest emigrants' statistics in the district.

Bulilima's Foreign-Born Population

Table 5: Distribution of Foreign Born population

Location	Total Number of Births
----------	------------------------

Zambia	35
UK	1
South Africa	5159
Namibia	3
Mozambique	7
Malawi	18
Botswana	798
Other EU Countries	1
Asian Countries	9
other African Countries	82

ZIMSTATS (2022)

In comparison of the distribution of emigrants by sex, it can be noted that there are more male emigrants than females. A total of 31 769 emigrants were recorded in the district. This is one of the main causing of population decrease.

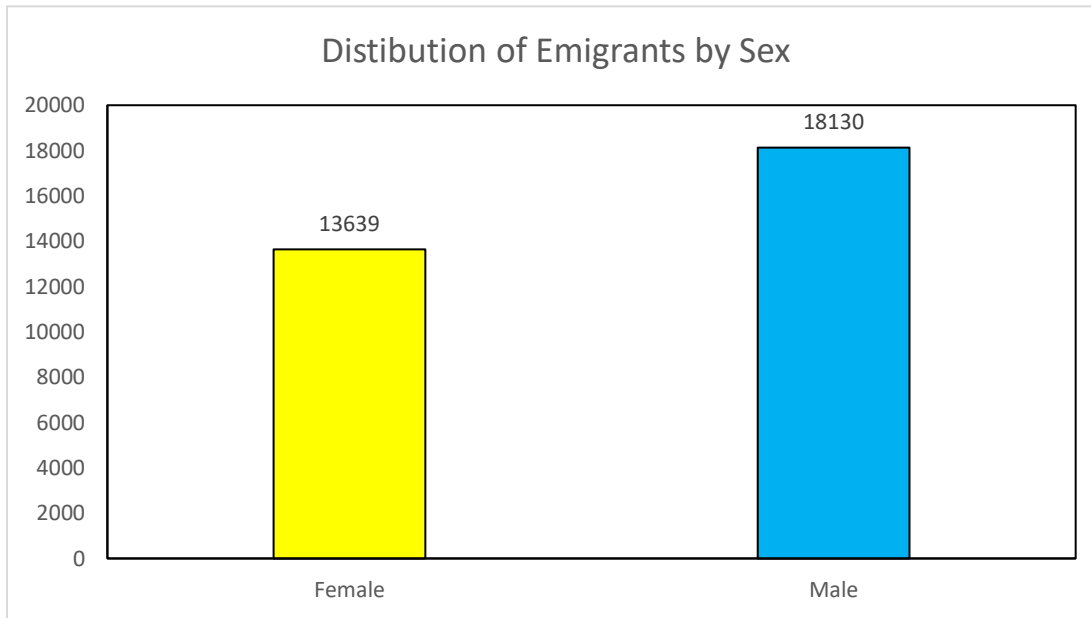


Figure 25: Distribution of Emigrants by Sex

Source: ZIMSTATS (2022)

Various reasons have been found to be the major cause of emigration in the district. Employment is the key reason for emigration as the absence of jobs in the district forces people to move to other areas to seek employment. Family reunion and marriages and education are also some of the leading reasons for the movement of people from Bulilima.

Table 6: Reasons for Emigration

Reason for Emigration	Total Number of People
Employment	29369
Permanent stay	189
Family reasons	1069
Education/training	878
Social displacement	9
Natural disasters	2

Health	63
Other	190

Source: ZIMSTATS (2022)

It can be noted that there is loss of skilled workers from Bulilima thus leading to skill deficiency in the District. It is noted that 96.3% of the emigrants were unemployed at the time of departure. It is noted that 6% of the total population in Bulilima is employed locally 5.3% being male and 7.6% female, thus leading to the migration of the people from the district. Unemployment rate in Bulilima is 57.3%. The figure below indicate the population of skilled workers from the district to other countries and provinces. It is discovered that the highest loss is the professionals and the service and sales workers which are over 1000 people. Unemployment is the most common push factor of migration in Bulilima District due to lack of activity and opportunities to cater for its population.

Population Distribution by sector in the District.

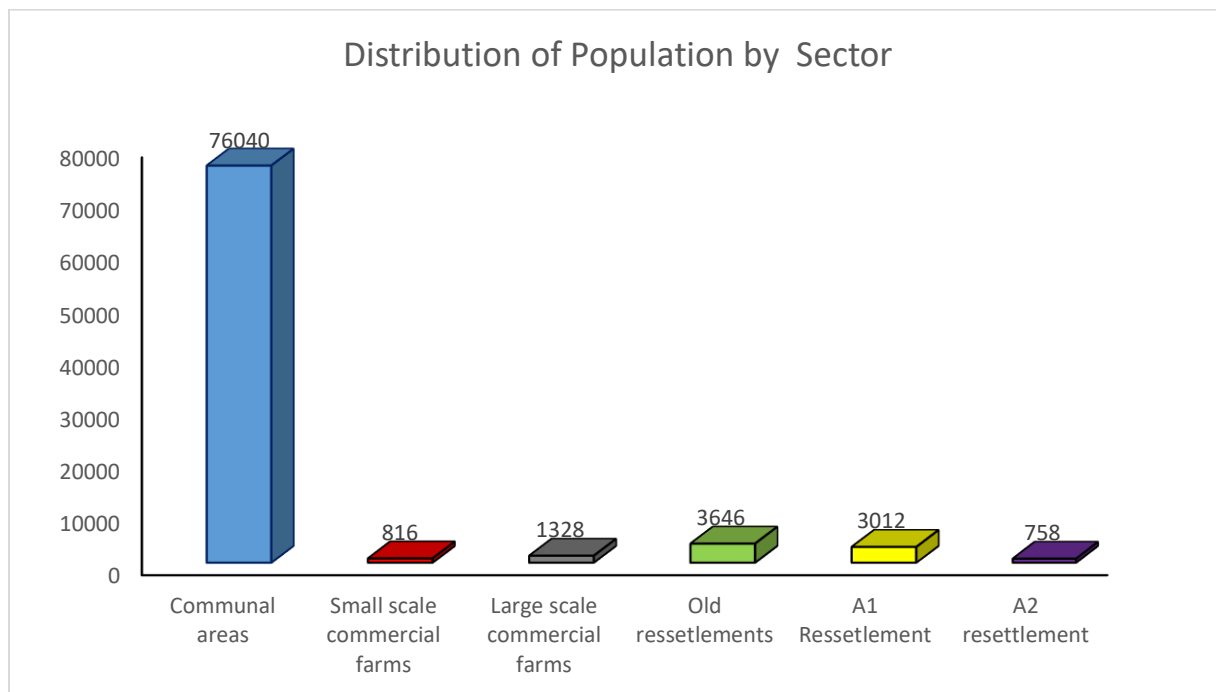


Figure 26: Distribution of Population by Sector

Source: ZIMSTAT (2022).

3.1.3 Migration.

One of the core reasons for population loss in the district. It has been noted that 59% of the households in Bulilima has lost its members due to migration as people move to other countries for better opportunities and standards of living. The fig below indicates the migration patterns in the district. As compared to other districts in Matebeleland South, Bulilima District has been found to have the highest number of emigrants.

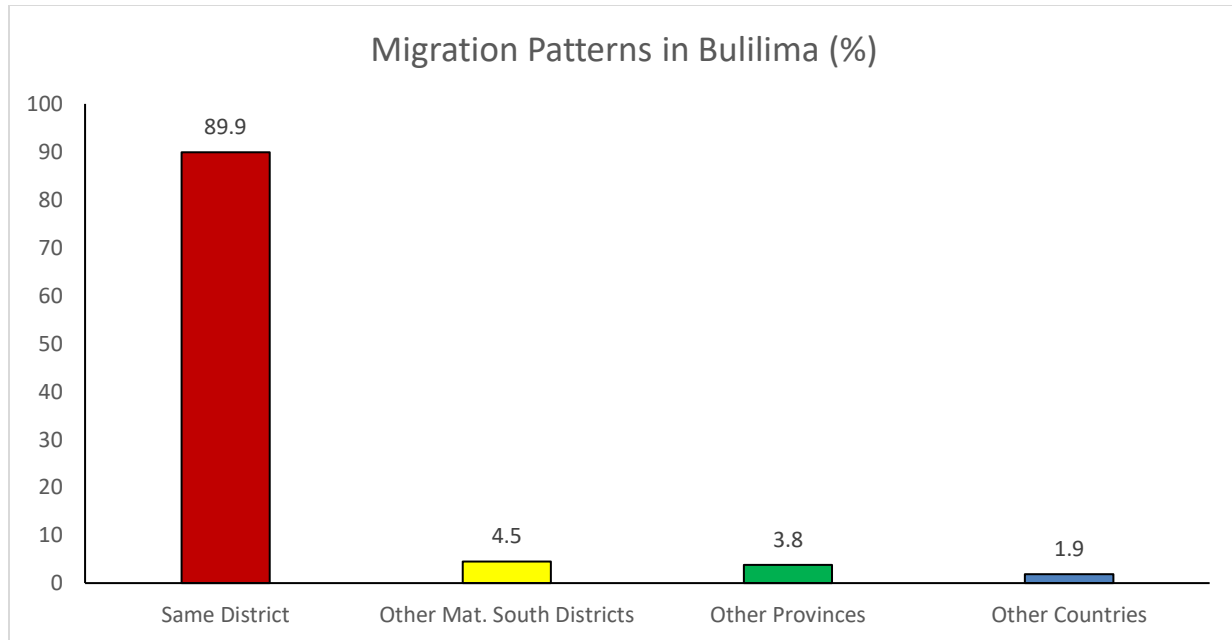


Figure 27: Migration Patterns in Bulilima District

Source: ZIMSTAT (2022)

Migration has been found to be the main source of income for the remaining households. Remunerations from the so-called *injivas* is argued to be the major driver of development in the district. The Rand is commonly used as most of the remuneration is from South Africa which has the highest number of emigrants. South Africa and Botswana are recorded to have the highest emigrants' statistics in the district.

Bulilima's Foreign-Born Population.

Table 7: Distribution of Foreign Born population

Location	Total Number of Births
Zambia	35
UK	1
South Africa	5159
Namibia	3
Mozambique	7
Malawi	18
Botswana	798
Other EU Countries	1
Asian Countries	9
other African Countries	82

Source: ZIMSTATS (2022)

In comparison of the distribution of emigrants by sex, it can be noted that there are more male emigrants than females. A total of 31 769 emigrants were recorded in the district. This is one of the main causing of population decrease.

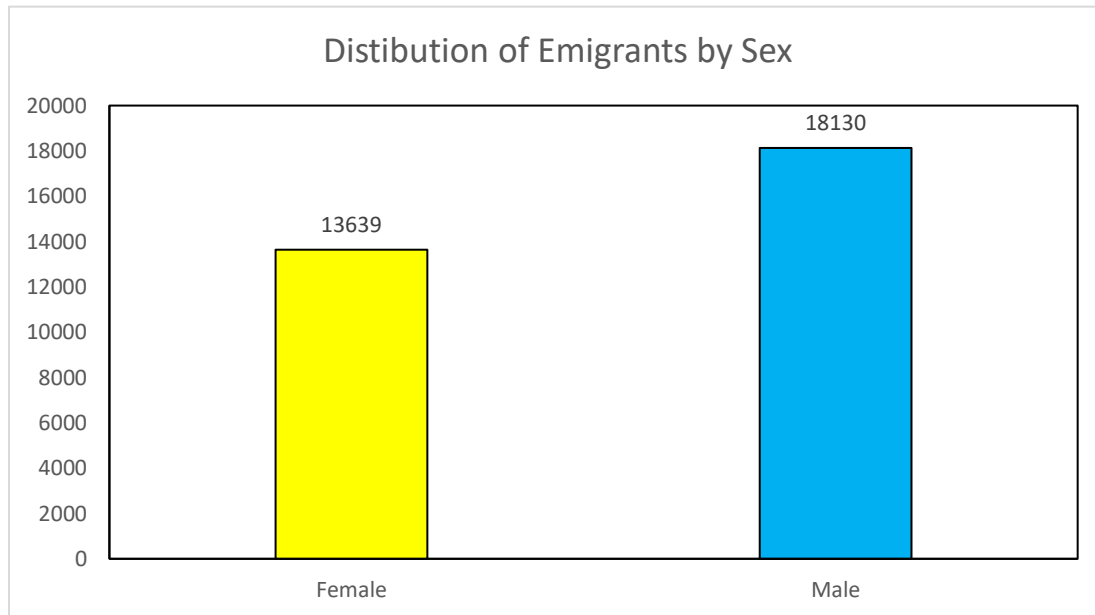


Figure 28: Distribution of Emigrants by Sex

Source: ZIMSTATS (2022)

Various reasons have been found to be the major cause of emigration in the district. Employment is the key reason for emigration as the absence of jobs in the district forces people to move to other areas to seek employment. Family reunion and marriages and education are also some of the leading reasons for the movement of people from Bulilima.

Table 8: Reasons for Emigration

Reason for Emigration	Total Number of People
Employment	29369
Permanent stay	189
Family reasons	1069

Education/training	878
Social displacement	9
Natural disasters	2
Health	63
Other	190

Source: ZIMSTATS (2022)

It can be noted that there is loss of skilled workers from Bulilima thus leading to skill deficiency in the District. It is noted that 96.3% of the emigrants were unemployed at the time of departure. It is noted that noted that 6% of the total population in Bulilima is employed locally 5.3% being male and 7.6% female, thus leading to the migration of the people from the district. Unemployment rate in Bulilima is 57.3%. The figure below indicate the population of skilled workers from the district to other countries and provinces. It is discovered that the highest loss is the professionals and the service and sales workers which are over 1000 people. Unemployment is the most common push factor of migration in Bulilima District due to lack of activity and opportunities to cater for its population.

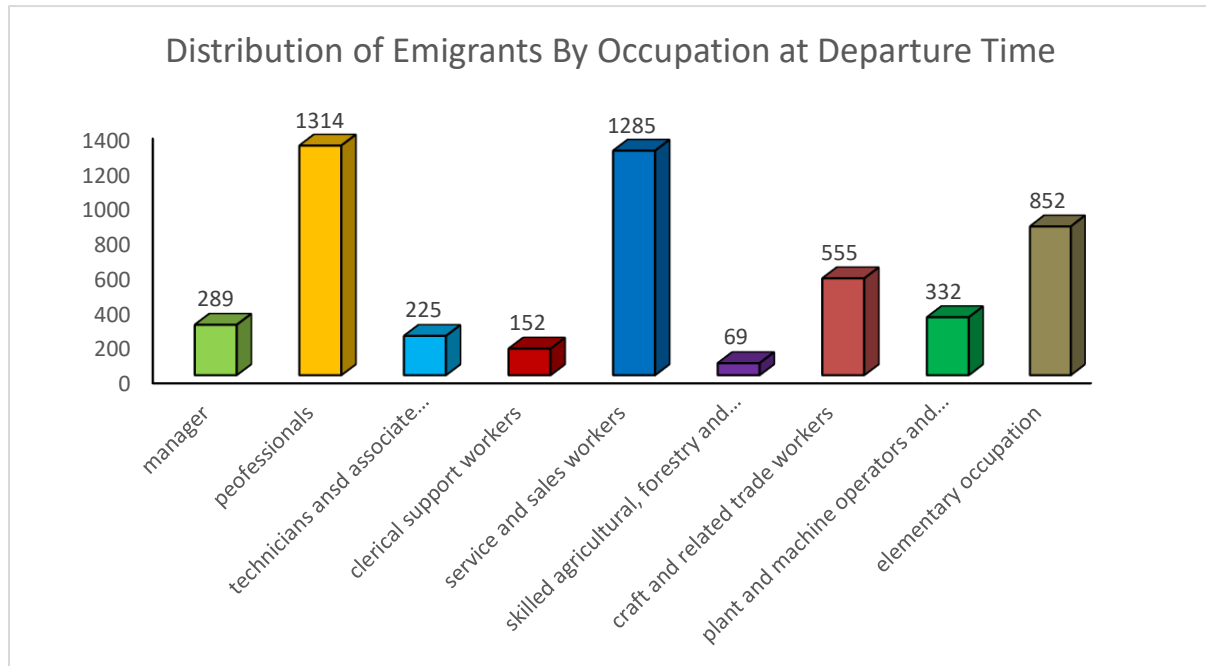


Figure 29: Occupations of Emigrants

Source: ZIMSTATS (2022)

Households in 2022

The 2022 Census revealed that Bulilima comprised 20,837 households, indicating that the average household size was 6.0. The Table 5 below sets out the number of households.

Household Size	Population	Number of Households
1	3778	3673
2	5458	2714
3	9615	3191
4	12984	3239
5	13611	2713

6+	40154	5307
Total	85600	20837

Source: ZimStat 2022.

Table 9: Distribution of Population Age of 15 years and above in the District and Marital Status.

<u>Status</u>	<u>%</u>
Never Married	22142
Married- civil marriage	1988
Married- registry customary	1716
Married-Unregistered	14506
Married cohorting	1017
Divorced	907
Separated	903
Widowed	4532
Not known	145
Total	47856

Source: ZimStat 2022

3.1.4 Fertility and Mortality Trends.

3.1.4.1 Crude Birth Rate

With a Crude Birth Rate of 23.1 and a General Fertility at 112.5, the district had Gross Reproduction Rate at 2.0 in 2022. The Total Fertility Rate was 3.6. The in-built youthfulness

of the population structure fuels the potential growth of the natural increase rate, but counter factors include the steadily declining number of children that each fertile women are having. National projections suggest that the natural increase rate of population will decline further over the plan period.

3.1.4.2 Crude Death Rate

In total, 7,347 deaths occurred during the 12 months preceding the census night, resulting in a Crude Death Rate (CDR) of 9.7 deaths per 1,000 persons. At district level, CDR ranged from 3.5 in Beitbridge Urban to 13.9 in Bulilima.

3.1.4.3 Mortality

Neonatal and Post-neonatal Mortality Rates

The provincial Neonatal Mortality Rate (NMR) and Post-neonatal Mortality Rate (PNMR) were 5.3 and 8.8 deaths per 1,000 live births respectively. NMR, being the number of deaths within the first month of life per 1,000 live births, it ranged from 3.2 in Mangwe to 8.4 in Plumtree district. Post-neonatal Mortality Rate, being the number of deaths after the 1st up to 11th month of life, it ranged from 2.8 for Plumtree to 14.0 for Gwanda Urban district, in Bulilima District Neonatal was at 5.6 and Post Neonatal 6.1.

3.1.4.4 Crude Death Rate

In total, 7,347 deaths occurred during the 12 months preceding the census night, resulting in a Crude Death Rate (CDR) of 9.7 deaths per 1,000 persons. At district level, CDR ranged from 3.5 in Beitbridge Urban to 13.9 in Bulilima

3.1.4.5 Infant, Child and Under 5 Mortality Rates

The Infant Mortality Rate (IMR), was 14.1 deaths per 1,000 live births. The IMR, being the probability of dying before the 1st year of life per 1,000 live births, For Bulilima it was 11.6

Child Mortality Rate (CMR) was 12.4 deaths per 1,000 children surviving to the first birthday. Child Mortality Rate, which is the probability of dying between exact age 1 and the 5th birthday per 1,000 children surviving to the first birthday, for Bulilima it was 19.2

Under 5 Mortality Rate (U5MR) was 26.5 deaths per 1,000 live births. Under 5 Mortality Rate, being the probability of dying between birth and exact age 5 per 1,000 live births, it ranged from 24.8 in Umzingwane and Beitbridge Rural to 30.9 in Bulilima and Plumtree districts.

3.1.4.6 Life Expectancy

In Matabeleland South, Life expectancy at birth, being the average number of years, a person is expected to live if prevailing mortality conditions remain constant, was 62.2 years compared to the national life expectancy of 64.7 years. Females had a higher life expectancy of 65.9 years while males had 58.4 years.

3.2 ECONOMY AND EMPLOYMENT

This section describes the major economic activities in Bulilima District and discusses the performance of the key productive sectors. Despite the fact that there are several economic activities in the district, unemployment has continued to grow and? It should be noted that local economic performance is influenced by national and international policies.

Employment and Unemployment

A situation where the supply of labour exceeds demand gives rise to unemployment. The provincial unemployment rate was 19.8 percent, Beitbridge Rural District had the highest 34.1%, followed by Bulilima with 28.1% and then Mangwe with 24.1%. The Employment to Population Ratio (EPR) was 23 percent at provincial level. Gwanda Urban had the highest EPR of 45.7 percent, followed by Plumtree, with 43 percent and Bulilima with the least at 13.0%. The economically active population are those people who were recorded as either working or seeking work who are within the ages 15 to 60. The economically inactive includes students, home keepers, the retired and the sick. The 2022 population census reveals that there are more males than females who are economically active.

Table 10: Economically Inactive, Employed and Unemployed Population Bulilima District

Category	Male	Female	Total
----------	------	--------	-------

Employed	3765	2469	6234
Unemployed	1265	1171	2436
Economically Inactive	15421	23562	38983

Source: ZimStat 2022

There are indications that the district's unemployment rate has gone up, which is partially because there are more school dropouts than there are available work prospects. Furthermore, industries that provide jobs are cutting back on workers in an attempt to boost output and earnings.

3.2.1.1 Existing economic sectors within Bulilima

Bulilima economic activities constitutes of the following main activities

- Agriculture
- Wildlife Utilization
- Commerce
- Public Service
- informal Sector

When considering the production of income and jobs, the aforementioned industries are important.

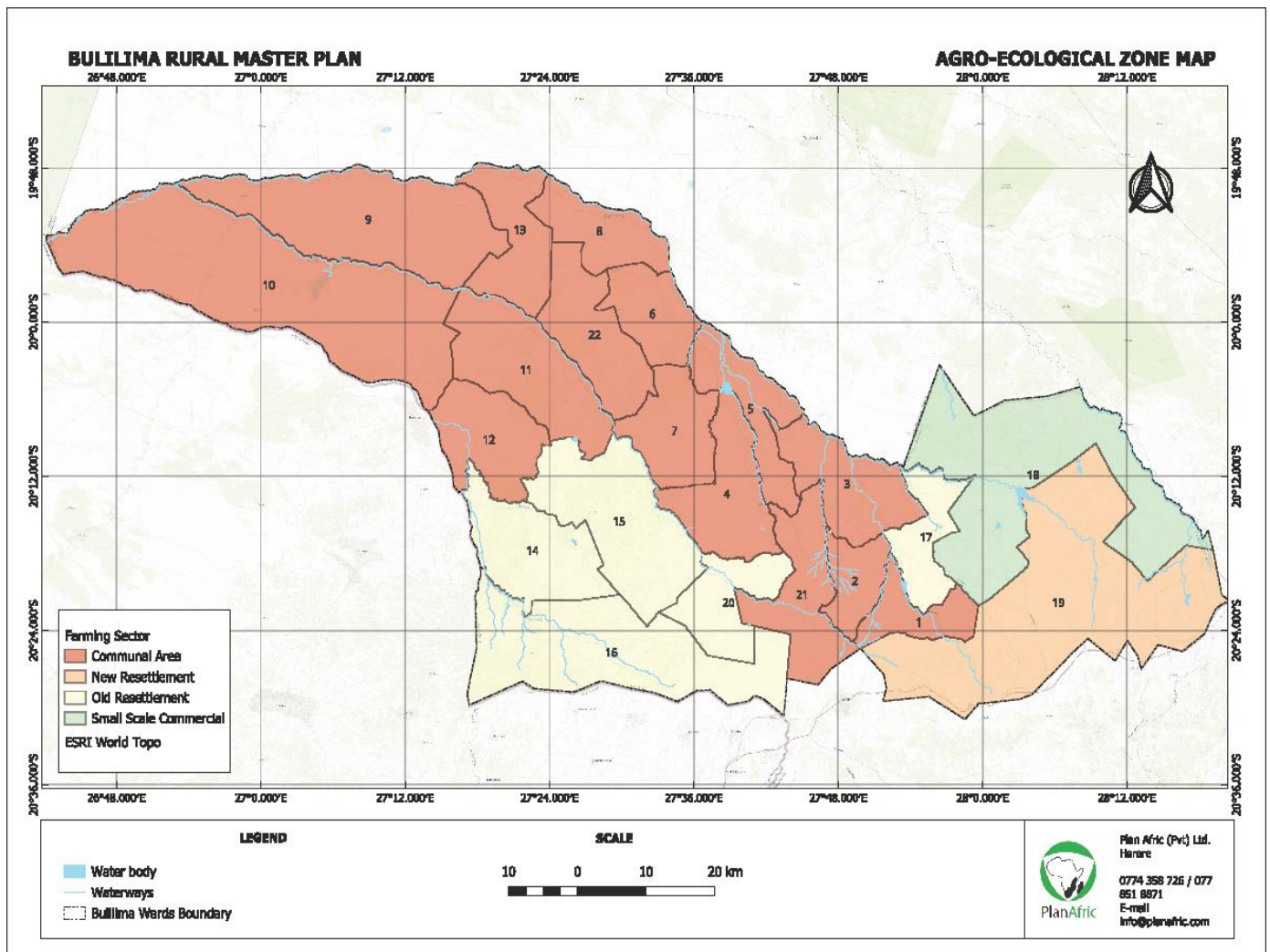
3.3 AGRICULTURE

The district lies in agro-ecological region IV. Due to the little rainfall in the area, it has been observed that cattle ranching is a better use of these agro-ecological zones than crop cultivation. Nonetheless, production of hardy crops for intensified production and yields, and typically somehow poor, and done only for basic subsistence. In favorable years, small grain yields can be reasonably good, with reserves held for drought years. The region

experiences fairly low rainfall of 450-650mm per annum which is uncertain for cash cropping except in certain very favorable localities where limited drought tolerant crops can afford a sideline. Season starts in mid November to end November and ends in mid March.

There is substantial agricultural potential in Bulilima District's hinterland. Because of their closeness to the Gwayi catchment, more areas for irrigated agriculture, since the existing scheme are few with the district. To determine whether crops, including maize, sorghum, and vegetables could flourish, an evaluation of the soil's fertility and water availability should be carried out. Market linkages can be developed with the main urban center in Plumtree to ensure farmers have access to broader markets.

Map 10: Showing agro-ecological zones



3.3.1.1 Dryland Crop Production

The district has twenty-two wards. It has all farming sectors, these are old resettlements, communal lands, large scale commercial farming, small scale commercial farming sector, A1, A2 and A3 models as follows

- i) Ward 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,20,21,22 - Communal Farming sector.
- ii) Ward 15,16,17-Old Resettlement Farming Sector
- iii) Ward 18- Small Scale commercial farming

iv) Ward 19 – A1,A2, and Large Scale Commercial farming sector

Type of crops grown in Bulilima District

Crop	Ha	Varieties	Average yield/ha	Agronomic practices
Maize	6424.8	SC 301	0,5t	<p>Conventional ploughing on the flat and Conservation Agriculture.</p> <p>Fertility management poor. Less use of inorganic and organic fertilisers</p> <p>Maize is the 2nd crop to be planted after groundnuts with the first effective rains.</p> <p>The crop is also given 1st priority in fertility management.</p>
		SC 401		
		SC 403		
		SC 513		
		SC 529		
		ZAP		
		61,65,43 and 55		
		Pioneer 2859		
		3253		
		30G19		
Zadzama tura				

		K2& Local varieties		
Pearl Mill et	7117,8 ha	PMV1,2 ,3 and 4 Tsholots ho bearded. Okashan a, Hungari a, Local varieties (sifumbat ha, tjizemb wana)	0,5t	Conventional ploughing. Planting on the flat.Lesshectrage under CA. Use of manure as basal application. Less inorganic fertilizer used.
Sorg hum	2565,1 ha	SV1,SV 2,SV4 Macia Shirikur e	0,4t	Conventional ploughing and planting on the flat with less hectrage under CA.

Local varieties

(Lunden de,

Isigobane,

Ngobela,

Mayakayaka)

G/nuts

2119,6 ha

Natal common,

0,3t

Groundnut crop is normally planted first before all other crops.

Makulurede,

Conventional ploughing and planting on the flat. Rare use of gypsum fertiliser as top dressing.

Valencia 1 and 2,

Flamingo,

Nyanda,

Ilanda.

Roundnuts	596,7ha	Local varieties	0,2t	Mainly a woman`s crop. Conventional tillage and planted on the flat. Late crop usually planted end December.
Cowpeas	972,9ha	IT18, CBC 1 and 2. Local varieties(Isipumu Kavadumo)	0,2t	Conventional tillage and planted on the flat
Sunflower	87,4ha			Scavenger crop.
Sweet potatoes	95,0ha		0,9t	Planted on ridges. A late crop.

3.3.1.2 Soil and Water Conservation Practices

CONSERVATION AGRICULTURE

- Dead level contours in combination with infiltration pits
- Ridges
- Potholing
- Tied ridges
- Buffer strips
- Infiltration pits
- Roof water harvesting
- Construction of small earth dams and water.

Common Post- Harvest Practices.

- Drying in cribs or emadwaleni (rock outcrop) or on the ground by the homestead.
- Threshing.
- Winnowing.
- Granary or use of drums, bagging or use of PIC bags.

Control of storage Pests.

- Use of Grain protectants (cooper shumba etc).
- Use of traditional methods e.g Ash (mutsviri), burning of cow dung and paraffin.

3.3.1.3 Source of Agriculture inputs and finance

- Presidential input programme through GMB
- NGOs agriculture input programs
- Agro yield (command agriculture).
- Buying from Agro dealers (Plumtree and Bulawayo).
- Neighbouring countries Botswana and South Africa.

3.3.1.4 Constraints faced in Improving Dryland Crop production and income generation for small scale farmers.

- Inavailability of agricultural inputs within the farmer locality (travel to Plumtree or Bulawayo).
- Long distances travelled to procure inputs.
- Farmers not taking farming as a business. Therefore, they don't invest much into farming.
- Low producer prices.
- Erratic seasons.
- Changing the farmers' mindsets in terms of area put under cultivation (maximising productivity). Instead of concentrating their resources (agricultural inputs, labour) on a small unit of area they cultivate big pieces of land without adequate resources.

3.3.1.5 Market

- Sell to individual customers and local business centres mainly Madlambuzi, Bhagani, Khame, Figree, Ndolwane and Masendu.
- Few farmers sell their produces in Plumtree town because of long distance and poor roads.

3.3.1.6 LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

Grazing systems

- Uncontrolled grazing system.
- Communal grazing.

Veld Type

Aristida-other species grassveld or grassveld/mixed aristida veld. This is a woodland with sparse and annual short and tall grasses. Rainfall is 400-650mm. Mainly found on fine grained kalahari sand and karoo sand stone. Sands commonly called "gusuveld". This is a sour veld. Potential grazing capacity 1 LU to 10-16ha. Dorminant tree are Terminaria sericea, Mopane, Burkea Africana, Combretum spp. and Acacia spp. Common grasses are Aristida

spp. associated with Eragrostis spp., Digitaria spp., Heteropogon, Panicum maximum, Urochloa and hypertheca spp.

The veld type is sensitive to overgrazing. Grass cover can be eliminated quickly with overgrazing. The poisonous plant Dichapetalum cymosum (umkauzan) is common in the northern parts of the district.

Grazing land ownership

- Grazing land is owned on a free lease hold from Government in the communal land and villagised resettlement. Local communities are responsible for managing the grazelands through their local structures.
- Recommended holding capacity-1 LU to 10ha.

Status of Grazelands

The grasslands have deteriorated with disappearance of perennial grasses. Erosion pavements have formed. In some areas bush encroachment is high. Grass density very poor.

Size of rangelands- 40% of the total land area of 715 545,4549ha

Accessibility to rangelands -free for all. No average size of grazing land accessed by a household in the communal land. In the villagised resettlement the size of rangeland per household is determined by the allocated grazing right which is 15 LUs per household.

Average livestock ownership/household.

Table 11

Livestock	Average ownership per household
Cattle	6
Goats	5
Indigenous Chicken	10

Donkeys	2
Sheep	2

Source: Agritex

Livestock types and breeds

- Cattle- hard mashona type that is tuli, nkone, brahman, afrikander, crossbreeds.
- Goats –Matabelegoats, Boer goats, red Kalahari & indigenous breeds
- Sheep-Black Persian, Sabi and Dorper.

Sources of livestock water

- Boreholes and dams

Extension Approach

- Conventional approach, Individual method, group method, farmer to farmer.
Participatory extension approach-FFS, LEAD farmer method Fairy Effective

Supplementary feeding Practices.

- Use of crop residues (maize Stover, groundnut hay, cowpeas hay)
- Hay bales.
- Fodder (lab lab)
- Commercial feeds (bought in)
- Chicken manure.
- Acacia pods and monkey bread (Piliostigimathorngii)

Source of Agricultural Inputs

- NGOs –cattle feeds & small livestock
- Bought in (Plumtree and Bulawayo)-(vet and medicine, commercial feeds).

- Hay bales-Commercial & A2 farmers
- Own feeds(crop residues & fodder crops)
- Govt livestock programs, fodder crops & tick grease programs

Markets

- Most of the the livestock sales are not organised markets, livestock prices are mainly negotiated between seller and buyer.
- Cattle sale pens within the District.
- Cattle sale pens outside district(Mainline in Mangwe)
- Private treaty (farmer to farmer).
- Butcheries –Plumtree and local.
- Abattoirs (Heads and hooves, Grills Byo), Mbokodo.

Background: Agrarian policy

One of the policy issues, which eluded successive colonial governments, is the whole issue of the nature of rights to land in the communal lands. Different policy regimes have tried to court what they understood to be customary law and found themselves instead chasing something whose character and values were fast being undermined by the urban culture which the colonial systems themselves established. The elusive aspect of customary systems have been that while they have sustained tremendous pressure from urban attitudes among black Zimbabweans they have also been the bastions of resistance thinking and black nationalism. The true identity of what can be called customary tenure was misunderstood by early colonialists; yet later day attempts to treat it as important and research into it are apparently fraught with artefact arising out of distortions caused by urbanization pressures. Most of the artefact seems to have come from a failure to clarify and elaborate the importance of legitimacy as opposed to legality in customary tenure systems. It is of value to keep this background in mind when analyzing past and present agrarian policy relating to the Communal lands.

Land tenure in the communal lands has followed a system that can only be described as expedient. It defies the commonly used definitions of property rights systems. Many published works carelessly describe the system as being somewhere between grades of open access, limited rights open access and common property rights; or, with the emphasis on the state control of permits to reside and use resources, i.e. “leasehold”. Yet the majority of works have simply hidden behind the term customary tenure, and failed to elucidate the essence of the tenure.

Where the land is held via a group right rather than an individual, certain conditions need to be satisfied to ensure good stewardship of the land. Prime among these is that the community has to have a common culture and spirituality. This common bond is the legitimate basis of the group’s relation with the land and with each other and the source of authority for tenurial rights. The role of the state in this scenario can only be to enshrine and protect this basic legitimate relationship with the land.

Sustainable Agriculture

Whilst traditional farming practices at the turn of the century were totally at one with nature, pressures on the land have increased dramatically and the practices which many communal land farmers are still trying to follow, must be modified if the land and society is to be protected.

It is very apparent that there are many difficulties associated with extensive dry land Farming. The cropping, even of traditional, drought resistant, small grain, staple cereals is unreliable. Essentially the district is a pastoral area suitable for extensive grazing of livestock. However, in the main, livestock numbers are determined by a biological stocking rate where livestock numbers are reduced through death in drought years and increase in seasons following a good rain. Although, there is much dependence on an income derived from the sale of livestock, especially goats, in such circumstances it is difficult to develop a commercial base for livestock husbandry.

Although improvements can be made within both communal livestock and crop husbandry, an alternative approach to improved agricultural production is the development of small-scale intensive farm plots. Where water is sufficient, a comparatively vast amount of production can be obtained from intensive small-scale individual or community irrigated gardens. Such gardens provide considerable benefit to the greater community through the introduction of fresh vegetables and through remuneration to the plot holders. They also make communities less dependent on urban markets and the handling fees which transporters and store holders have to cover. Similar small scale intensive units can be developed for the pen feeding of livestock which considerably increases the market value of slaughter stock and can also provide the further advantage of nutrient and revenue from milk from either goats or cows.

Where cropping is attempted, as much as possible, traditional crops should be grown. Particular attention should be paid to the most suitable crops and the correct short season varieties of those crops. In many years the season does not allow for a grain crop to reach maturity. However, crops such as millet and sorghum serve a dual purpose and can be used for livestock fodder if it becomes obvious that they would not be able to produce grain.

The fanning system, particularly on the sands, should revert back to the Alvord type rotation, plus the use of organic inputs. Intensification would need to be practiced through the use of water harvesting techniques such as tied ridging, supported by compost making in the cattle kraals. Cattle clearly have a role in this system. Bought in inputs should be minimized. Seed multiplication programmes should be initiated with a view to encouraging the use of non-hybrid seed, initially for the selection of high yielding varieties, then for extension. Such a programme will also help to save the seed from disappearing.

Large-Scale Commercial Farm Sub-sector

3.3.2 Agrarian issues

The farming system is generally one based entirely on ranching; but with feeding of nutritional supplements. Feeding is only in the form of a winter protein supplement and a summer supplement to correct for the soil induced phosphorus deficiency in the grass. There is no feeding of bulk.

The Land holdings range in size from tens of hectares to over ten thousand hectares. The modal size is the 2500-hectare farm which was the initial size used in the semi-arid areas of the country during the implementation of early land apportionment in the 1920s and 1930s. The merits and demerits of this farm size are discussed later in the analysis of key issues.

3.3.2.1 Crop production

Crop production as a dryland commercial venture in the district is virtually non-existent. There are few but significant irrigation-based enterprises in the district, as support enterprises to dairying, pen fattening of beef stock and as rations for labour on the ranches.

Irrigation is mainly from dams. The hydro-geology of the area indicates generally poor yields from underground sources. Sand abstraction is also well indicated in many localities, along the main rivers. The principal crops grown for feeding dairy cattle, for fattening beef stock and for labour rations are maize and sorghum.

3.3.2.2 Livestock Production

The main means of livestock production in the district is ranching. The agro-ecological potential of the district favors this form of livestock production. Various variations to the basic ranching model have been gone into by farmers over the years. This has been attempted in their quest to survive changing economic forces and in reaction to an unimaginative agrarian standard applied as a blanket ranch size during the initial land apportionments of the 1920s and 30s.

The conventional first line of development for any serious rancher has been to develop water, fencing, and to improve the proportion of grass to other non-tree life forms in the veld, through bush clearing. From this perspective most of the ranches in the highveld area were well developed. Sometimes the removal of bush and trees was excessive for modern

day multispecies concepts of veld utilisation and too much in favour of a monospecies of grazing animals.

The most popular model in the early years was the veld finishing model, where the principal product was fat stock coming out of the ranches as three to four and a half-year olds, depending on whether one was in the sweet or the sour veld areas. Upon this was developed various nutrition supplementation schemes starting with protein supplementation in winter, and eventually the discovery of the phosphorus deficiency associated with granite-based soils, leading to the summer supplementation of phosphorus. These were refined through research primarily at Matopos Research Station, in conjunction with feed companies, and most of all through the co-operation of practising farmers, into the present recommendations.

The second line of farming system change is that associated with the need to increase the through put of livestock. This is expressed in terms of increases in the proportion of breeding stock. It also helps to make up for the small size of standard farms" used for straight ranching operations. The young stock is sold off as feeders to feedlots, usually through auctions, at around 18 months. The absence of older stock in the resultant herd means a higher proportion of breeding females, and therefore a more efficient land grazing system.

3.3.2.3 Input supplies

Bulawayo is the main source of livestock feeds and supplements, fertilisers and agricultural chemicals, for both crop and livestock operations

3.3.3 Irrigation

Through the Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Rural Development, Government has come up with an Accelerated Irrigation Rehabilitation and Development Plan (AIRDP) to accelerate irrigation rehabilitation and development. The government is dedicated to developing irrigation systems as a long-term means of attaining agriculture that is both climate resilient and sustainable. The Ministry is targeting to increase cropping area under irrigation from 116 000 hectares to 350 000 hectares by 2025. The key issue is one of balance between grain and crops grown. Some of the irrigation schemes in the district include

Moza and Somnene. Like many other schemes in the country, the proportion of crops grown and yield levels do not justify irrigation development.

a) Maitengwe/Mabhongane Dam

Maitengwe/Mabhongane dam is one of the biggest earth dams in Bulilima located 126 kilometres Northwest of Plumtree Town. The dam wall alone is 9km long constructed on black soils. The dam that services 140 800 hectares of a wildlife area, breached its walls in 2013 and was never repaired. Wildlife species ranging from plains game to big species like elephants, lions, leopards and buffaloes depend entirely on this dam for water.

Benefits to Beneficiary Communities

Maitengwe/Mabhongane dam was constructed in the early 1950s specifically to support both wildlife populations found in the area as well as improve food security of the entire district through an irrigation scheme that used to produce wheat, maize, tobacco and vegetables for supply to the entire Boarding schools and vendors.

The irrigation scheme used to employ more than 200 workers who earned a wage and supported their families hence a big improvement on the GDP of the District and nationa at large.

What has to be done.

- Rehabilitation of the dam and revive the old irrigation scheme. This project will employ about 100 people to work on the scheme and earn a decent living. World Wide Fund for Nature through Kavango-Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Areas (KAZA TFCA) came in handy to contribute a sum of **USD\$120 000.00** towards the repairs of the dam against a required sum of **USD\$450 000.00** as per the assessment. The shortfall required to fully repair Maitengwe dam is **USD\$330 000.00**. As the rains were heavy in the season, very little could be done towards repairing the breached sections of the dam. The repair efforts should begin anytime soon as the

rains have subsided and communities from the CAMPFIRE beneficiary wards shall be mobilised to clear the embankments in preparation for the contractor to start work.

- The irrigation Scheme rehabilitation would require full participation by communities who have indicated willingness to do so once the process begins. The project would begin with 200 hectares of land and the area proposed to be under Cesvi would be 100 hectares. The type of soil at Maitengwe is good for planting wheat, sugar beans, paprika, saffron and any other cash crops like maize grain and garlic. Any winter crops like wheat would do best in that environment. It is estimated that the irrigation rehabilitation component would require the following activities:-

- i) Bush clearing which shall be done by community
- ii) Pegging of the scheme
- iii) Digging of canals for use of drip system and laying of pipes
- iv) Fencing of the scheme
- v) Repair of outlet/gate valves
- vi) Land preparation, purchase of inputs and planting
- vii) Solarisation and lighting of the scheme to prevent elephants from destroying the crops.

b) Tshankwa Irrigation

Tshankwa Irrigation scheme is currently operational but not on full scale. The scheme is 25 hectares in size and located in Tshankwa Ward 1, about 20km northwest of Plumtree Town. The irrigation scheme uses flood method of irrigation for watering and has 100 farmers who are plot holders in the project. Tshankwa Dam is 100 hectares in size and with 40 000 000m² of water if full to capacity. The dam is also perennial the dam is perennial experiencing its lowest capacity of 60% towards the end of each bad year. The irrigation

scheme grows crops for commercial purposes and these are sugar beans, garlic, cabbage and green mealies. The scheme has a capacity for expansion to accommodate 50 more plot holders. When put to full capacity Tshankwa can generate employment to 100 people who would be working on producing crops for export market. There is potential for the scheme to produce high value crops like soya beans, paprika and sugar beans and generate enough foreign currency that will bring a turn around in terms of economic development. The scheme is envisaged to bring enough foreign currency to sustain all operations of the project and ensure the scheme is extended to bring in more farmers. The current farmers are battling with clearing of water debt at Zinwa because the annual produce from the irrigation scheme is not breaking even. There is a situation that has tremendously reduced good harvest on the irrigation scheme.

What need to be done

- Tshankwa Irrigation scheme needs a complete overhaul.
- The scheme has a capacity for extension to include about 100 more plot holders. Tshankwa Irrigation scheme has a capacity of improving food security of the district by employing more than 300 people and can improve the GDP of the district, improve incomes and change lives of the residents for the better.

c). Somnene Irrigation

Sommene irrigation is located about 51 kilometres Northwest of Plumtree Town along Plumtree-Solusi Road. The scheme is serviced by Mananda Dam which is perennial and has a capacity of 500 000 000m² of water and is the biggest dam in Bulilima District at the moment. This dam is being managed by Zimbabwe National Water Authority that ensures that all plot holders pay for the water used on a monthly basis. Somnene Irrigation is in Figtree Ward 18, which is a small scale commercial farming area and is 20 hectares in size. However, Somnene as a ward comprises farmers who own plots and have better chances of producing more food from the scheme. The size of Mananda dam has capacity to support more than 400 plot holders if irrigation scheme is extended.

There is therefore a big potential for the Somnene irrigation scheme to grow as well. The scheme is envisaged to improve food security.

c) Milikatinde Irrigation

Milikatinde dam is located at Matjinge Ward 5, about 45 km North of Plumtree Town. The dam was built by Pro-Africa, which is a non-governmental organisation. The dam has a capacity of 45 000 000m² of water and is currently sustaining a small irrigation scheme with about 30 plot holders. At the moment the irrigation scheme is not fully utilised due to poor methods of irrigation that wastes water, which is by flooding. The water system is not conservative at all and quite a lot of water is wasted through run-off and seepage. Farmers at Milikatinde irrigation used to grow wheat, green mealies, sugar beans and cabbage and all for domestic consumption. There is need for a mind-set change for the farmers to think of producing cash crop for commercial purposes. The scheme has good land for possible expansion of the project to accommodate more plot holders. Cash crops that can be grown on the plots includes soya beans, wheat and paprika.

Some of the irrigation schemes include Homola in ward 12 which has a total area of 6 Hactres, Mbanga in ward 14, total area 4 Hactares, Ingwenya and Tongoli in ward 15 and total area 5 and 5 Hactres respectively.

Specialisation in irrigation farming should be explored in conjunction with a cash crop orientation to ensure an increased crop output.

By virtue of being in Region IV, where rainfall amounts are very low and the temperatures very high, crop production in the district is very low. Irrigation practices in a district such as Bulilima are bound to improve crop production. Despite the fact that there are some irrigation schemes they are very few relative to the size of the district. There is need for more schemes to be constructed and since the majority of the schemes are old and some of the in-field structures are in a bad state, repair work is needed.

It is important that the development of irrigation schemes be viewed in the context of land capability, viability, crop production potential and dam construction.

3.3.4 Future Plans for Irrigation

In addition to the rehabilitation plans of the existing schemes, there are some tentative proposals for more irrigation schemes in the district.

Challenges

- As agricultural plot holders are getting older, irrigation techniques aren't working to their full potential.
- Insufficient working capital
- The plot owners' inability to pay the ZINWA and ZESA bills.

3.3.5. Peri- Urban Farms.

Most of the farms are largely owned by private individuals sometimes even by absentee landlords. Most of this land is designated for agriculture to be practiced thereon. Most of the farms are vacant and some being practiced livestock production. Beef production is one of the major thriving farming activity that is being done in Bulilima due to region Iv that favor Livestock husbandry. The challenge is that Council should set aside land for urban agriculture in their spatial plans. But several legal instruments address urban agriculture in one way or another, for example the Regional Town and Country Planning Act: (Chapter 29:12; the Environmental Management Act Chapter 20:27. These laws mainly address concerns of environmental degradation that may arise from peri-urban agriculture practice. There is need for specific enabling legislation to be formulated for urban agriculture. The Local Authorities will negotiate with some private landowners and government where appropriate for the use of their vacant land for peri-urban agriculture or such land be subdivided for use by residents.

3.4 WILDLIFE

The district boasts a diverse range of wildlife species. This has seen the establishment of wildlife conservancies and hunting areas within the district, as well as wildlife management programmes like the Communal Areas Management Programme for Indigenous Resources (CAMPFIRE) and the Kavango-

Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area (KAZA). The district has three main wildlife conservancies. These are given in the following table.

Table 12: Wildlife Conservancies in the District and their Hectarage

Name	Area Covered in Ha
Maitengwe	140 800
Dombodema	53 183
Norwood (Area 2)	9 500

Source: *Bulilima RDC*

Table 13: Major Wildlife Species in the District

Name	Name	Name
Animals	Duiker	Sable
Elephants	Eland	Civet
Lion	Vervet Monkey	Steenbock
Leopard	Wildebeest	
Zebra	Serval	Birds
Warthog	Genet	Sangrouse
Kudu	Giraffe	Guinea
Jackal	S. Hyena	Pigeons/ Doves

Waterbuck	Hippo	Ducks
Baboon	Honeybaqdger	Francolin
Buffalo	Impala	
Bushbuck	Porcupine	
Caracal	Reedbuck	

Source: *Bulilima RDC*

3.4.1 CAMPFIRE Programme

The Communal Areas Management Programme for Indigenous Resources (CAMPFIRE) is a natural resources management programme that was introduced in the late 1980s. Until recently, it focused almost entirely on wildlife management; other natural resources were not seriously incorporated into the programme. This programme has been recognised as an innovative approach that:

- (a) Increases income-earning opportunities in poor communities.
- (b) Empowers communities to manage their natural resources and use them to shape their rural development.
- (c) It adds to biodiversity conservation as rural people have less incentive to poach and more incentive to conserve their valuable animals and plants.

The Campfire programme started in the area towards the end of 1989, when it was still Bulilimamangwe district. It started with seven wards. The seven wards were selected based on the historical right over the Maitengwe wilderness area, popularly known as LAGISA (meaning place where livestock graze). The project area was selected by virtue of being close to Hwange National Park, and the selected wards were those most affected by the problem animals, e.g., elephants, lions, and hyenas. Hence, it was thought necessary that the wards benefit from sustainable wildlife utilisation on the basis of local ownership. At the inception stage, there was a lot of resistance from the larger cattle owners who felt their interests would be prejudiced. Some believed that the government would diplomatically seize their land.

Today, the CAMPFIRE programme is still in existence. The programme has expanded and is now covering ten (10) wards. These are listed in the following table. In each ward, there is a CAMPFIRE committee, and at the district level, there is the inter-ward CAMPFIRE committee. The RDC chairs the inter-ward

committee, which consists of members selected from the ward committees. The tasks of the ward committees are to educate and mobilise the communities to stop wildlife poaching and deforestation and also to come up with community projects to be funded by CAMPFIRE revenue, among other tasks.

Table 14: Wards under CAMPFIRE Programme

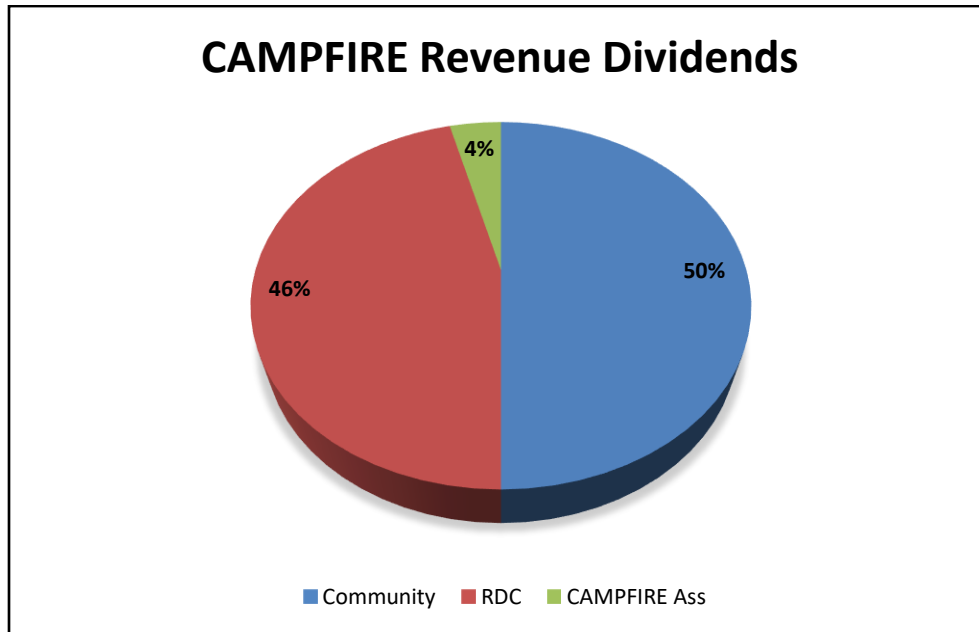
Ward Number	Ward Name
Ward 6	Gala
Ward 8	Huwana
Ward 9	Makhulela
Ward 10	Bambadzi
Ward 11	Madlambuzi
Ward 12	Hingwe
Ward 13	Ndolwane
Ward 14	Malanswazi
Ward 16	Dombolefu
Ward 22	Khame

Source: *Bulilima RDC*

3.4.2 CAMPFIRE Revenue

The current arrangement ensures that the community gets 50% of the revenue generated through the CAMPFIRE programme. The RDC gets 46%, and the remaining 4% goes to the CAMPFIRE Association of Zimbabwe.

Figure 12: CAMPFIRE Revenue Dividends



Source: *Plan Afric, 2024*

The current sharing structure of the CAMPFIRE revenue means the community is the biggest beneficiary of the CAMPFIRE revenue. The 50% community share is distributed to Wards under CAMPFIRE only and is mainly used to finance community projects in those wards. For example, the building of schools, community gardens, boreholes, etc. The following tables show the dividends of CAMPFIRE revenue for the year 2021 to 2023.

Table 15: CAMPFIRE Revenue and Dividends: Year 2021 - 2023

Year	Total Generated	50% Community Share	46% RDC Share	4% CAMPFIRE Ass Sha
2021 (ZWL)	\$2 048 409.43	\$1 024 204.715	\$942 268.3378	\$81 936.3772
2021 (USD)	\$27 954.50	\$13 977.25	\$12 859.07	\$1 118.18
2022 (USD)	\$109 550.00	\$54 775.00	\$50 393.00	\$4 382.00
2023 (USD)	\$121 240.00	\$60 620.00	\$55 770.40	\$4 849.60

Source: *Bulilima RDC*

Table 16: Summary of the distribution of the CAMPFIRE Revenue: Year 2021 - 2023

Summary of Income	Year 2021 (USD)	Year 2021 (ZWL)	Year 2022 (USD)	Year 2023 (USD)
Trophy Fees			\$123 500.00	\$140 000.00
Concession Fees			\$20 000.00	\$20 000.00
Camp Hire Fees			\$12 000.00	\$12 000.00
Permits			\$1 000.00	\$1 200.00
Grand Total			\$156 500.00	\$173 200.00
Less 30% withholding			\$46 950.00	\$51 960.00
Tax				
Total Due			\$109 550.00	\$121 240.00

Source: *Bulilima RDC*

The above tables show yearly variations in income from the CAMPFIRE programme. This is because the programme is also affected by developments in the global and national economies, as well as global market trends for wildlife-based products. For example, the Bulilima RDC reported that during the 2019–2022 COVID era, revenues were subdued due to COVID-imposed restrictions that restricted the global movement of people. This had a significant impact on their income flows because the majority of their clients (hunters) are from other countries.

However, despite these uncertainties, the CAMPFIRE programme remains and will continue to remain a source of hope for the beneficiary communities, which are largely poor, and for the RDC. The benefits being realised from the programme are appreciated and evident for everyone to see.

3.4.3 Sustainability of the CAMPFIRE Programme

While the RDC and the communities involved have made significant progress towards fulfilling their commitments to the CAMPFIRE Programme, it is crucial to ensure the programme's sustainability and independence from non-governmental organisations (NGOs). The RDC, who is now the leader and coordinator of CAMPFIRE in the district, is fully aware of the programme's activities and requirements. The RDC is confident that the programme can be sustained, but it requires the commitment and cooperation of all stakeholders involved. However, discussions held with the officials from the RDC responsible for overseeing the programme in the district and also with government departments and community representatives during the stakeholder consultation meeting held as part of the masterplan study programme revealed some concerns they have about the programme. The concerns raised are as follows:

- a.) The RDC raised that, as currently structured, some of the wards that are benefiting from the programme don't deserve to be part of it since they are not even closer to wildlife areas and are not affected by problem animals. Khame and Gala are two examples of these areas. For Khame, they said it was included because it was once one ward with Ndolwane, which is an affected area. Hence, since the ward was separated and Ndolwane and Khame are now two different wards, they suggest that Khame should be removed from the programme. For Gala, they noted that it was included in the programme by the mere fact that there was one woman who was killed by a stray buffalo. This particular incident occurred in the 1990s. For the RDC, the Gala is not a wildlife area and is too far from wildlife areas; hence, it doesn't deserve to benefit from the programme. Apart from the two areas mentioned, there are also other areas that need to be revisited; hence, the RDC is proposing the restructuring of the programme, including the benefiting areas.
- b.) The RDC noted that the current income from the programme is very low as compared to the needs of the community and also to make a huge impact on the benefiting communities. As such, they have directed the benefiting communities to halt the sharing of dividends among individual households. Rather, the communities are being directed to invest ward dividends in ward infrastructural projects. Recently, the benefiting communities were tasked with coming up with yearly community project proposals. Only the most viable and feasible projects are receiving funding from the programme. This arrangement, although it appears to be more ideal given the current incomes being received, is causing problems with some of the individual members of the benefiting communities who prefer individual investments to ward investments. They are complaining that they are not personally receiving anything from the programme,

yet the problem animals are destroying their personal investments. To that end, they don't see the benefits of continuing with the programme; hence, some of them are now becoming poachers.

- c.) The stakeholders raised that the tourism component of the programme seems to have been abandoned and there has been no investment at all in the chalets, roads, boating, fishing, etc. This leaves the sustainability of the programme in balance since the programme relies heavily on one source of income (trophy hunting) and, in some cases, on support from NGOs. They noted that the total dependence on wildlife trophy hunting makes the programme vulnerable to market forces and wildlife politics, which are beyond the control of the RDC and the communities.
- d.) Others noted that the current yields per year are not sufficient to meet the costs of investments requirement to make the programme economically viable and self-sustaining.
- e.) Others pointed out the need to diversify the CAMPFIRE programme to also include forestry areas, such that communities will also benefit from the sale of non-forest timber products like Mopane worms, Amarula oil and juice as well as honey from bee keeping etc.
- f.) Government interference in CAMPFIRE programmes: Stakeholders have reported instances of government interference in the CAMPFIRE programme, specifically through ZIMPARKS. They say this is causing confusion in the running of the program, as well as affecting the normal functioning of the CAMPFIRE Association of Zimbabwe. They accuse the government of trying to disband the CAMPFIRE Association of Zimbabwe and put all CAMPFIRE programmes under ZIMPARKS. They said if this successfully happens, it will bring more confusion into the programme since the two are under different ministries, thus the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Local Government.

3.4.4 CAMPFIRE Supported Projects

There is insufficient information to determine which members of the community have benefited from CAMPFIRE since the funds have been used for community infrastructure. One could argue that the benefits have probably been fairly and widely distributed. In Bulilima district, most of the funds that were distributed were donated to clinics, schools, and preschools. Some have also been used to establish community halls, community gardens, buying cattle supplements, rehabilitating boreholes, and water weirs, among other projects that are meant to benefit the community.

However, at the RDC level, the CAMPFIRE benefits are visible and clear for everyone to see. Besides getting revenue from the programme, the RDC has received various equipment and resources as part of the

CAMPFIRE programme from various CAMPFIRE partners. These include vehicles and motorbikes to enhance wildlife monitoring, communication equipment for wildlife rangers, firefighting equipment to control veld fires in wildlife areas, and training of wildlife rangers, among other benefits.

3.4.5 Issues to be considered.

Over and above the previously raised issues, the CAMPFIRE programme has made some remarkable achievements as it has enabled local people to appreciate the economic value of wildlife. However, it is not known whether CAMPFIRE has had a significant impact on illegal hunting by the local community. Informal evidence suggests that such hunting is still widespread. Wildlife is a valuable and controversial resource, so its management is very complex. At the national level, there are conflicts within and between the various groups who have an interest in wildlife and, therefore, in CAMPFIRE, such as those committed to conservation and those advocating tourism.

At the local level, there are conflicts between traditional inhabitants of the area and in-migrants and between RDC's and communities in terms of the distribution of wildlife income and the structure of the programme. The CAMPFIRE programme has great potential to generate revenue that could drive meaningful development in the district. This has been evidenced by the ever-increasing amount of revenue generated since the inception of the programme. However, efforts should be made to empower the local-level institutions to ensure that they can effectively manage the programme.

CAMPFIRE has, in general, increased the capacity at the ward level to plan and implement projects and handle funds and has made people more aware of their internal strengths and weaknesses and of the opportunities and constraints that their environment presents. However, despite dedicating considerable resources to capacity building, they have failed to provide the necessary level of support.

It is important that compatibility between crop farming and CAMPFIRE be established. This would guarantee that people do not perceive CAMPFIRE and animal husbandry as a threat to crop-based agriculture, but rather as evidence that these activities can coexist peacefully.

a.) The Kavango-Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area (KAZA) Programme

The Kavango-Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area, commonly known as KAZA, is the world's largest Transfrontier Conservation Area (TFCA) at approximately 520,000km². The cornerstone of KAZA was laid on December 7, 2006, when the ministers responsible for environment, natural resources, wildlife, and tourism in the Republics of Angola, Botswana, Namibia, Zambia, and Zimbabwe signed a Memorandum of Understanding to work towards the establishment of the TFCA. The Treaty formally establishing KAZA TFCA was signed in Luanda, Angola, in August 2011. This set the stage for a regionally integrated approach towards harmonising policies, strategies, and practices for managing the shared natural resources straddling the international borders of KAZA's five partner states. This regional integration approach seeks to derive equitable socio-economic benefits from the sustainable use and development of their natural and cultural heritage resources.

Occupying part of the Okavango and Zambezi River basins, KAZA encompasses areas within the borders of KAZA's partner states. The TFCA includes 36 formally proclaimed protected areas made up of a host of game reserves, forest reserves, game and wildlife management areas, and communal lands. Some of these protected areas have designated concessions for non-consumptive tourism development.

KAZA is endowed with a wide range of species diversity—flora and fauna. There are more than 3,000 plant species throughout the TFCA, of which 100 are endemic to the sub-region. KAZA also caters to large-scale migrations of megafauna, hosting the largest contiguous population of African elephants on the continent, making the African elephant a flagship species of the TFCA. KAZA is a key conservation area for threatened species such as the lion, cheetah, and African wild dog, of which an estimated one-quarter of the population is found in the TFCA. Researchers have identified over 600 bird species, along with 128 reptile species and 50 amphibian species.

Importantly, KAZA is home to renowned tourism destinations in the Southern African region, including Chobe National Park, Hwange National Park, Kafue National Park, and the Makgadikgadi Pans. The TFCA is also home to the Victoria Falls, a natural and cultural UNESCO World Heritage Site (mixed WHS) and one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World. KAZA harbours two additional mixed WHS: the Okavango Delta and the Tsodilo Hills.

source of water. The KAZA programme also donated a motorbike to be used by council wildlife rangers and an all-terrain vehicle to the council for use in wildlife monitoring programmes. It also donated fire-fighting equipment to the council and helped them establish a fire-fighting unit in the Maitengwe area. They are also helping communal farmers with farming inputs and implements. The programme also saw the drilling of solarized community boreholes as well as the establishment of community gardens in Huwana (Ward 8) and Malanswazi (Ward 14). It also financed the construction of Malalume and Mbimba clinics.

3.4.7 Other Programmes: HABAKUK Trust

Habakuk Trust is a non-governmental organisation that is also playing an active role in the management of wildlife resources in the district. The Trust is helping the RDC with software that supports the management of wildlife, offering trainings on sustainable wildlife management, and also offering support in the crafting of by-laws that promote the sustainable use of natural resources and their by-products. For example, it helped the RDC come up with a by-law on Mopane worms. The by-law, however, has not yet been put into use; it still awaits to be gazetted into law.

3.5 THE PUBLIC SECTOR

The public sector includes the Local Authority, Central Government and Parastatals.

Bulilima Rural District Council has offices in Plumtree town.

Central Government is a major employer in the district. Ministries such as Land and Agriculture, Local Government and National Housing, Health and Child Welfare, Justice, Home Affairs, Transport and Energy, Rural development and Water Resources and Education, Sports and Culture have a number of employees in the district. The Department of Customs and Excise and Immigration operate from Plumtree. Parastatals such as National Railways of Zimbabwe (NRZ), Grain Marketing Board (GMB) and the Zimbabwe Electricity Supply Authority (ZESA) are also employers working in Plumtree Town. However, despite the existence of these employment sectors there is an employment problem in the district, which is exacerbated by the absence of any major industrial developments. The failure of formal employment sectors to absorb most people in the district has played a part in adding to the informal sector.

3.6 THE INFORMAL SECTOR

In most Districts, the informal sector is growing in importance as a result of the nation's steadily rising unemployment rates. The best way to characterize the informal sector is as all employment that is mostly untaxed and typically unregistered. It usually happens outside, in the open, on a wasteland or in the streets near a gathering area. It could also happen in people's houses or modest workshops. This industry consists of small-scale product and manufactured goods sales. The industry differs in its level of organization. Some of the employees in the sector are managed by others, some of whom may even be relatives.

Given the nature of the sector's operations, it is exceedingly challenging to give precise information about the industry. In any case, the exact number of individuals working in the industry is uncertain and changes periodically. While certain operations that occur in public are visible, there are also certain covert activities occurring in residences and other buildings.

3.6.1 Activities in the informal sector

Informal sector activities include:

Ground vending of vegetables and fruits

Other street vending i.e. watches, leather goods, jewellery

Light manufacturing - welding, blacksmiths from home or on waste ground

Service industry - repairs of all kinds, hairdressing etc from home or from other premises.

3.6.2 Fees and Licenses

Informal sector activities are essentially deregulated and untaxed but the Local Authority seeks to gain revenue by charging vendors and hawkers. The charge has been a traditional one operated by Local Authorities.

3.6.3 Creating an Enabling Environment for the Informal Sector

There is need to create an enabling environment for the informal sector. This sector is making a significant contribution to the local economy by generating income for the poorest sections of the population. Some of the factors which need to be considered in an effort to assist the sector to flourish are: the provision of adequate space in which to undertake the various activities and assisting some of the businesses to make transition to the formal sector, thus encouraging job creation. The Master Plan will seek to include policies on all these matters.

However, there is great need to control and manage the informal sector in the interests of public health and safety. As a result, it is essential that the Local Authority monitor all the activities which may have an adverse effect on health especially activities such as cooking and the preparation of food and the selling of fruit and vegetables.

3.7 THE SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE

This chapter describes the existing range of facilities in education, health and other community facilities.

3.7.1 EDUCATION INFORMATION

At provincial level, literacy rate was 94.5 percent for males and 92.3 percent for females. The district has high illiteracy rate which is at 91.2% from the age of 15 years onwards, male letiracy rate is at 92.5 and female literacy rate 90.3 (ZimStat 2022). Out of the 134 schools in the district, 42 are electrified. The distribution of the schools is equitable with respect to population. There are eight schools in the district that provide advanced education. In the district, there are no nursery schools and thirteen community-based childcare centers. There is a single university and one single vocational training facility.

3.7.1.1 DISTRIBUTION OF SCHOOLS

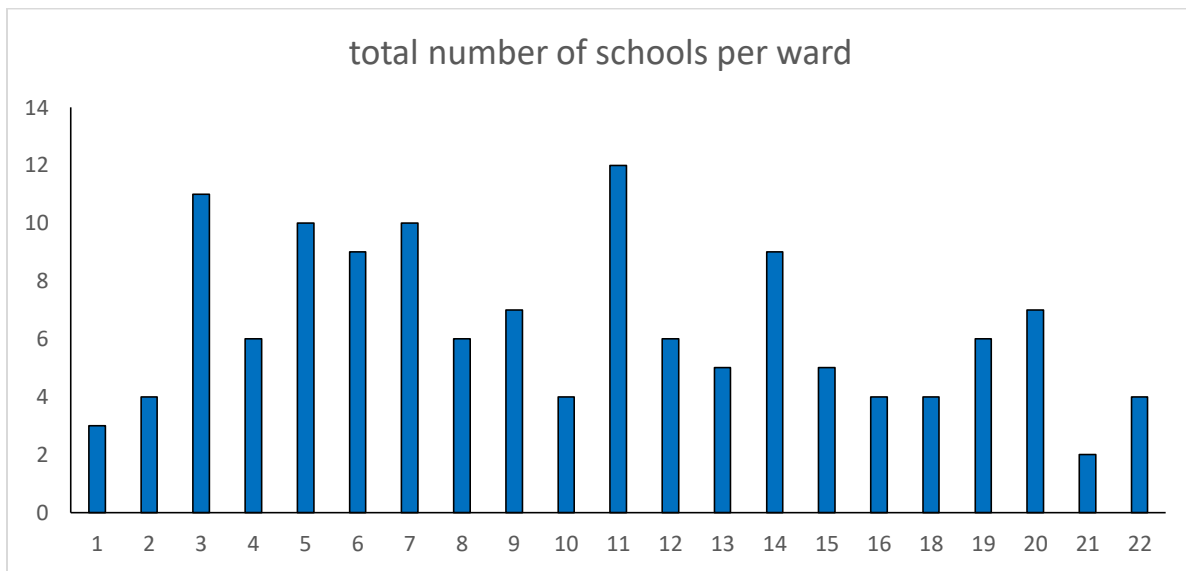


Figure 30: Distribution of Schools by Ward

It can be noted that the total number of female enrolments exceed male enrolments. This is a sign of women empowerment through the girl child. In most wards, female students are more than male students except for Ward 9, 15 and 18. The lowest number of female pupils is 212 pupils and 1302 pupils in ward 5. The lowest number of male is 205 pupils and 1441 pupils in ward 5.

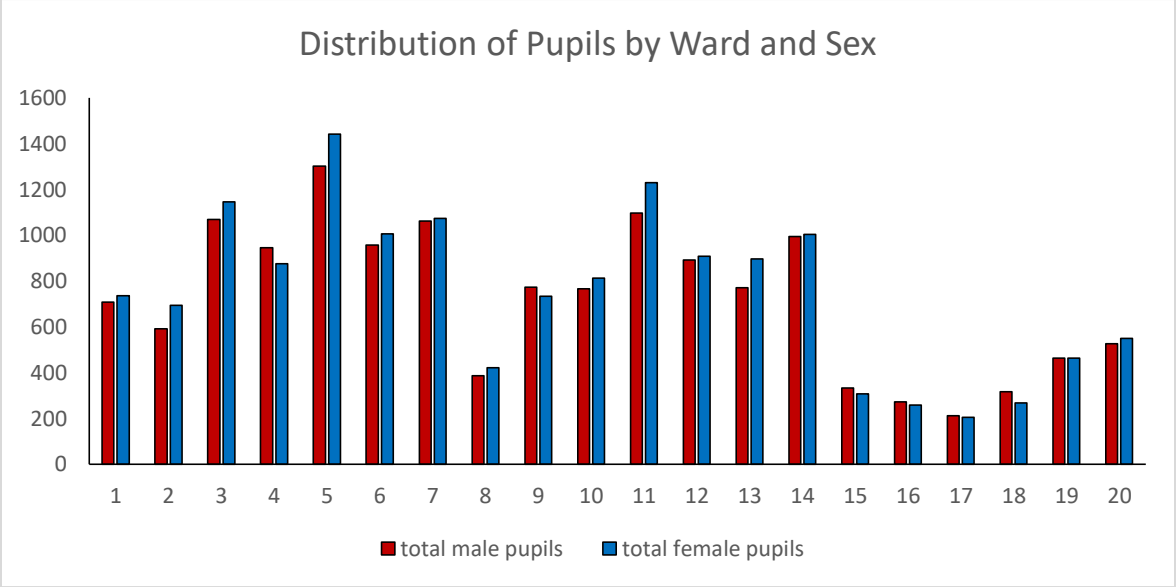


Figure 31: Distribution of Pupils by Sex and Ward

The total number of students varies from each ward. The highest number of student enrolments above 2000 are recorded in Wards 3, 5, 7, 11 and 14. Only six wards have enrolments less than 1000 students and this are wards 8, 15, 16, 18, 19 and 20. The rest have student enrolments between 1000 and 2000 students.

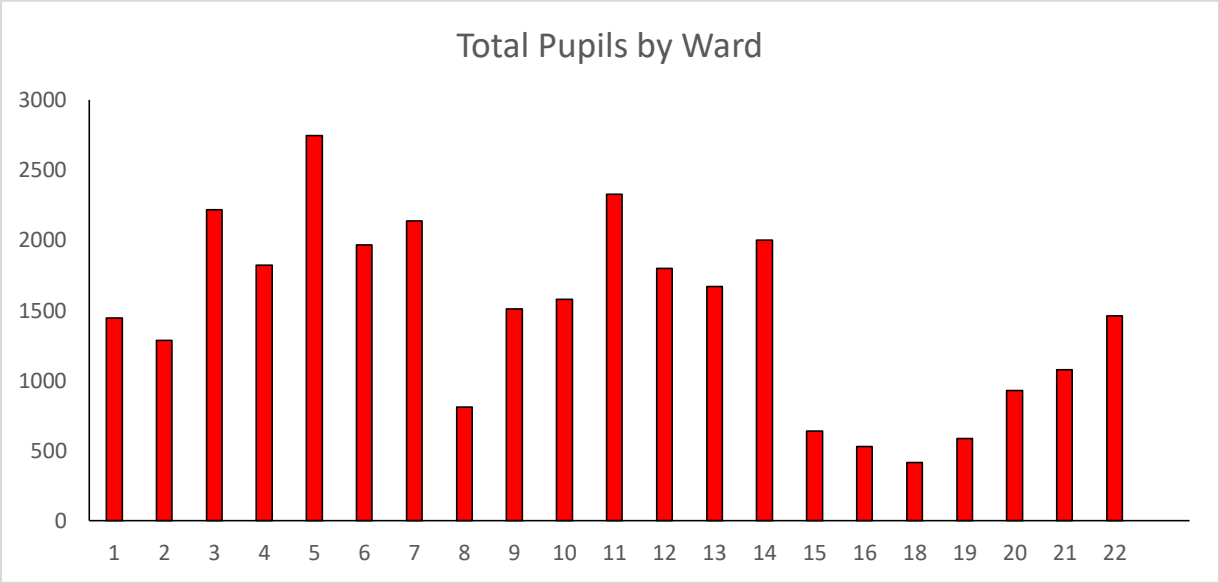


Figure 32: Total Enrolments by Ward

The diagram below shows the distribution of teaching staff by ward and sex. It can be noted that female teachers dominate most of the wards except Ward 21. Ward 18 has the lowest number of male teachers and the lowest number of female teachers is in Ward 18 as well. The number of teachers is proportional to the number of students and the distribution of schools per wards.

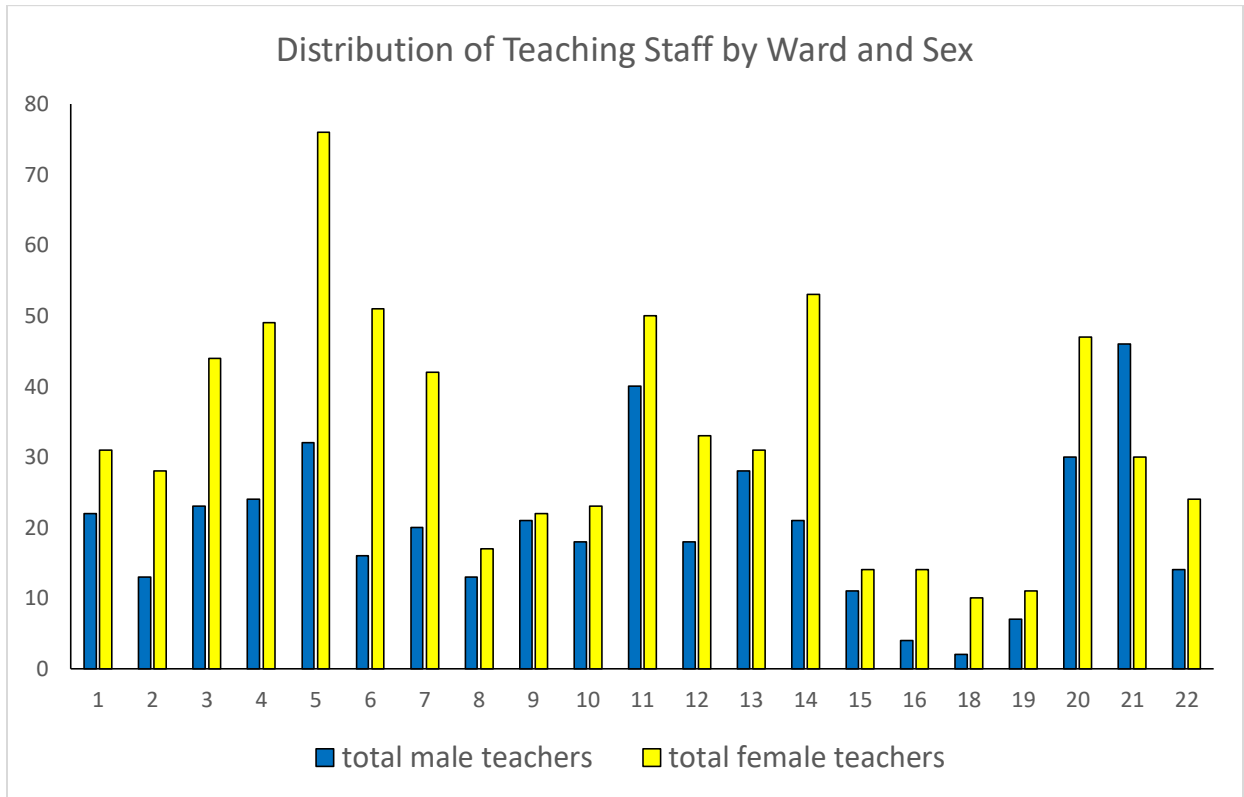


Figure 33: Distribution of Teachers by Ward and Sex

Fig 16 presents the total number of schools per ward. It can be noted that Ward 5 has the highest number of teachers in the whole district with 108 teachers and it has the highest number of enrolments. The lowest number of teachers is found in Ward 18 which has 12 schools. Only three wards have less than 20 teachers which are Wards 16, 18 and 19. It can be noted that these 3 wards also have the lowest number of student enrollments.

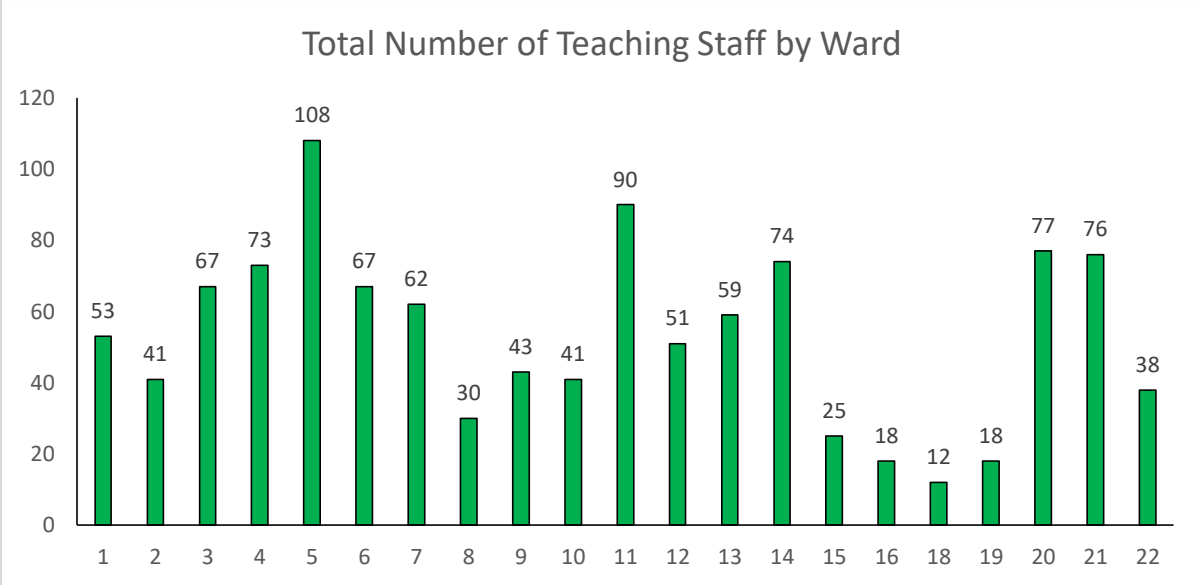
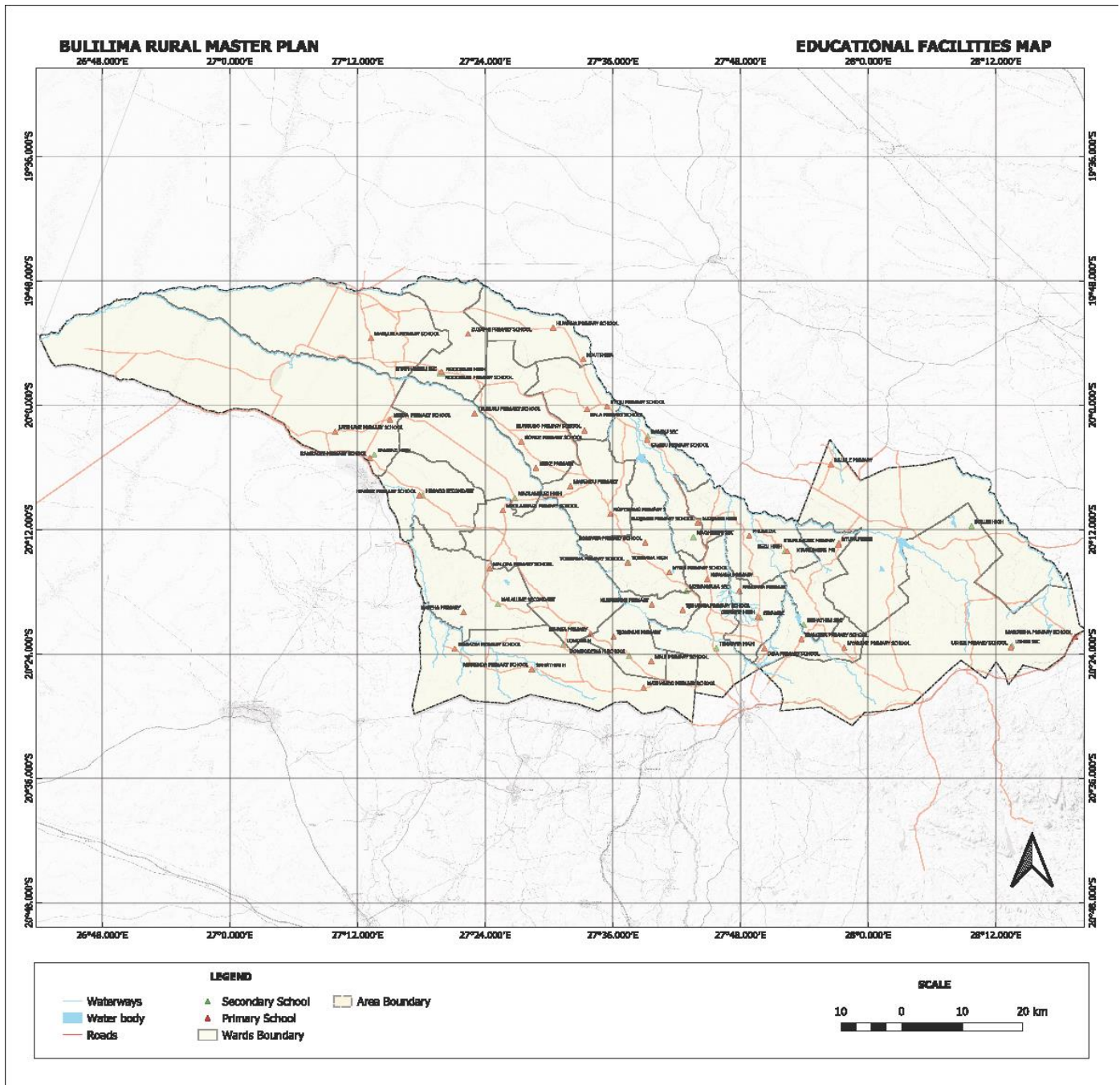


Figure 34: Total Number of Teachers by Ward

The Fig 17 indicate the distribution of population in the district according to various sectors. It can be noted that the highest population is settled in communal areas, followed by old resettlements. A2 farms has the least population among all the sectors.

Pre-school education is increasingly gaining ground in the district. The importance of this social facility as a preparation for primary education is now widely recognised. The scarcity of qualified educators and inadequate training facilities pose a threat to the advancement of preschool education. A portion of these preschools are housed in already-existing elementary schools.

Map 12: Educational Facilities Distribution



A number of children of school-going age in the district are not attending school and an increasing drop-out rate is being experienced at primary and secondary schools. It should be noted that when one looks at school enrollments, the; lower grades tend to have more pupils

than the upper grades and thus diminution increases at secondary school level. From the table above it can be noted that enrollment at primary schools is more than three times that at secondary schools. Some of the factors which contribute to reduce enrollment include:

- (a) Socio-cultural values: females tend to marry at an early age or are withdrawn from school by parents on the basis that higher education is for males
- (b) Economic variables: some parents cannot afford the fees required, especially at secondary schools. Whilst the social dimensions fund sometimes compensates for such vulnerable groups the limited funds under the SDF and lack of knowledge about its existence presents a problem.
- (c) Child labour: job opportunities in the commercial farming areas and job prospects in South Africa and Botswana contribute to a decline in the number of pupils attending secondary schools.

3.7.1.2 Tertiary Education

Education and training form an integral part of the country's human development programme. The success of a district is also dependent on the educational achievement, vocational qualifications and skills of the people. Unfortunately Bulilima lacks appropriate tertiary training institutions for local people. The only institute of higher learning in the district is Solusi University, which is a regional facility that attracts students from all over Africa, especially from the Seventh Day Adventist faith. Although entry is not restrictive, either in terms of faith or locality very few pupils from the district attain the necessary qualifications to gain entry.

The majority of school dropouts and young people in the district face disadvantages due to limited access to vocational training due to the absence of additional postsecondary educational institutions, both public and private. In order to give school dropouts and other young adults the skills they need to compete fairly on the job market, training programs, particularly those pertaining to vocational training, must be implemented.

Sikhathini, Bezu, Tokwana, Masendu, Matjinge, Lady Stanley, Huwana, Lady Baring, Makhulela, Mbimba, Madlambudzi, Hingwe, Malalume, Village 13, Nswazwi, Dombodema, Ndiweni, Solusi,

Source: District Stuffing. (2024)

Plumtree District hospital is the referral centre for the whole district. Extra facilities including additional wards, an administration block, pharmacies. The upgrading program for health, which was undertaken in the province, led to improvements to health facilities. In addition, Gambo Rural Health Centre was also constructed under CBOs- Community Based organizations and Germans. The distribution of health facilities is shown on Map 10. From the map it is clear the health facilities are located throughout the district though there are more health facilities in the northern parts of the district. Despite improvements to health services throughout the district some people still travel long distances to the nearest health facility

There are plans to upgrade Lady Stanley Rural Health Centre to a District Hospital to ensure that the new structure to be put up there will be in a position to service the District.

3.7.2.2 Health Facilities Challenges

- (a) The shortage of drugs was also indicated as a problem.
- (b) There is a need for telephone or some form of communication such as a radiophone in clinics.
- (c) Accessibility – there are few ambulances to reach all the areas with the district.

Whilst health facilities in the district may be considered to be adequate, some respondents indicated that some areas are inadequately served with health facilities so that some people have to travel long distances to the nearest health facility.

3.7.3 Water Supply.

Bulilima has a total number of 1396 boreholes. The National Planning Statistic is that there should be 250 people, per borehole. Currently, the figures in Bulilima are not too far outside

this standard figure but the problem is the distance that many people have to walk to get to their nearest water source. Planners have also ideally set a target of no more than 500 metres to the nearest water source. At present with the scattered nature of settlement patterns in the district many people can walk up to 2 or 3 kilometres for water and even greater distances when pumps breakdown or brothels dry following over-abstraction in poor rainfall seasons. Bulilima is the second largest that uses surface water

To achieve a standard of 250 people per boreholes and a maximum distance of 500 metres to the nearest water source another 400 to 600 boreholes are required.

As for appropriate technology the Model B bush pump is preferred by RIDA as it has fewer components and is easier to service. It also has fewer wearing parts and therefore lasts longer. In order to ensure adequate repair facilities for such things as broken borehole pump heads, mechanical equipment on piped water schemes etc., more local repair workshops are required in the district.

3.7.3.1 Wells

Bulilima district has a total of 177 wells. In theory there should be 150 people to a deep well and 50 to a shallow well. There is presently no well sinking programme being undertaken in Bulilimamangwe. When last operating the cost of well sinking can be

3.7.4 Community Facilities

The communal areas of and Ndiweni have community halls. There is no orphanage or old people's home in Bulilima district at the moment

3.8 ECONOMIC INFRASTRUCTURE

This chapter describe the existing range of facilities in water, roads, transport and other economic infrastructure facilities.

3.8.1 Water

3.8.1.1 An Overview of the Water Supply Situation in Bulilima District

In Matabeleland South, most of the households (33.6%), accessed water for general use from boreholes while 26.9 percent accessed the water from non-improved sources such as unprotected wells/springs, rivers, dams and rain water, (ZimStat 2022). The water supply situation in Bulilima District is precarious at best. Thekwane, Manzanmyama, and Maitengwe are the three main rivers in the district. Drainage flows into Botswana's Makarikari Pan in a northwesterly direction. There are 79 dams in the district, which are dispersed across the wards.

Table 17: Showing source of Water.

Boreholes	1396
Deep Wells	117
Latrines	10510
Rivers	95
Dams	79

Source: District Staffing. (2024)

The statistic water sources is comprised of boreholes, deep wells, piped water schemes and dams. In some cases permanent water supplies are derived from deep wells of up to 30 metres deep. This has to be critically analysed since there is very little ° munity recognition of them, particularly in the northern and western regions where boreholes which go down to 80 or more metres in many cases, are only seasonal.

3.8.1.2 Institutions of Government Responsible for the Planning of Water Supplies

The **Ministry of Environment, Water and Climate** is a government ministry, responsible for water resources management, rural development, climate and environment in Zimbabwe.

Ministry of Environment, Water and Climate.

This Ministry is charged with the national responsibility for the development of water resources throughout the country. The Ministry's role is performed through the Zimbabwe National Water Authority (ZINWA), a parastatal agency responsible for water planning and bulk supply. ZINWA was to manage water resources on a catchment basis with involvement of stakeholders in each catchment area. It is responsible for all government water supply facilities including the design, construction, operation and maintenance of public dams, treatment works, pipeline canals and pumping stations. The department is also responsible for the sale of portable or raw water under water agreements with the various sectors in urban, rural, industrial and agricultural sectors. It also carries out water resources evaluation, enforces water pollution regulations and also has the responsibility for the siting and drilling of boreholes. ZINWA, operates throughout the country through its Provincial offices which are headed by the Provincial Water Engineers. The District Development Fund which falls under this ministry, is also involved in the provision of waater in the communal lands.

The following sectors must be considered in any water plans: the agricultural sector, urban sector and communal sector.

The Agricultural Sector

Planning for agricultural water requirements is done through the Irrigation Liaison Committee. This committee considers proposals for dam construction from individual commercial farmers. Agritex evaluates irrigation developments from a technical and economic point of view. The evaluation process considers not only economic factors but also the environmental impact of the proposed dams, the users of the water from the proposed dams i.e. communal, resettlement or commercial farmers.

The Communal Areas

Supplies are provided by both the ZINWA and the RIDA. The two are in a position to site and sink boreholes particularly in the communal lands, with RIDA having added responsibilities for resettlement areas. A number of non-governmental organisations and other private individuals are involved in the provision of water in the rural areas.

Government Policy on Water

The overall objective of Government policy in relation to water resources include ensuring that water development is carried out in an optimum and orderly manner in the national interest. Additional objectives seek to cater for the growing demand for water in the rural and agricultural sectors and to ensure that the development in these sectors is not hindered by the shortage of supplies.

- a) Full exploitation of water of all internal rivers.
- b) Construction of small and medium sized dams where there is a local demand for water.
- c) Construction of small and medium sized dams as a food security measure.
- d) Construction of dams to meet the ever growing demands of urban settlements.
- e) Dams with a storage capacity of 5 million cubic metres to be built in each of the eight provinces based on the demand and economic considerations.
- f) Government ownership of major dams and the responsibility to sell water at prices that take into account capital and operational costs of the dam. Water resources development is therefore aimed at optimum usage of dam sites or river catchment areas having regard to present and future demands for water in the area concerned.

3.8.1.3 Sand Abstraction

Sand abstraction technology is being undertaken in some parts of the district to supply water to some communities, schools and clinics.

3.8.2 Roads

This section examines the road network in the district and their relationship to settlements. It also examines the importance of a reliable transport network to the various economic activities in the district. The degree of inter-district exchange (trade) and the movement of people depend among other things on transport networks especially the quality of roads.

The road network in Bulilima district consists of the following hierarchies:

- State road (surfaced)
- State road (unsurfaced)
- RIDA
- R.D.C roads

ROAD NETWORK

	Name of road	Length(km)	Road Authority
1	Plumtree-Madlambudzi	86.5	Department of Roads
2	Plumtree-Tsholotsho	42.2	Department of Roads
3	Plumtree-Ndolwane	70	Department of Roads
4	Plumtree-Somnene	44.6	Department of Roads
5	Maitengwe-Border Post	28.4	Department of Roads
6	Moza-Ntoli-Phakama	46.4	RIDA
7	Resettlement-Nswazi	37	RIDA
8	Madlambudzi-Jutjume-Mangubo	48	RIDA
9	Ntoli-Ndolwane	72	RIDA
10	Westfield –Bilingoma	37	RIDA
11	Malalume-Nswazi	19	RIDA
12	Moza-Tokwana	11	RIDA
13	Nyabane School	14	RIDA
14	Malitikwe-Masendu	26.7	RIDA
15	Mlomwe –Mbubuli	20.7	RIDA
16	Solusi- Sandown	18.1	Bulilima R.D.C

17	solusi- figtree	30.3	Bulilima R.D.C
18	Somnene	15.2	Bulilima R.D.C
19	Khoneni-Bhalule	8.3	Bulilima R.D.C
20	Mananda-Marula	33.8	Bulilima R.D.C
21	Mananda-Vunda	10.7	Bulilima R.D.C
22	Solusi- Norwood	6.8	Bulilima R.D.C
23	Fairveiw- Figtree	16.6	Bulilima R.D.C
24	Paul s Rest- Solusi Road	21.7	Bulilima R.D.C
25	Usher	18	Bulilima R.D.C
26	Watershed	2	Bulilima R.D.C
27	Nyabane-Syringa	13.8	Bulilima R.D.C
28	Sikhathini Clinic	0.3	Bulilima R.D.C
29	Plumtree-Diba	9.7	Bulilima R.D.C
30	Diba-Tshankwa irrigation	13.07	Bulilima R.D.C
31	Gwambe-Kandana-Bhagani	9.7	Bulilima R.D.C
32	Maplanka-Gwambe	9.1	Bulilima R.D.C
33	Langabe-Gwambe	6.1	Bulilima R.D.C
34	Bhidi Dip-Gwambe	3.8	Bulilima R.D.C
35	Maplanka-Langabe dip-Gwambe	9	Bulilima R.D.C
36	Ndiweni-Diba	9.3	Bulilima R.D.C
37	Manzamnyama	16	Bulilima R.D.C
38	Malebegwa-Bilingoma	10.8	Bulilima R.D.C
39	Matjinge-Gambo	19.9	Bulilima R.D.C
40	Sinotsi Dip-Bhalule	2.8	Bulilima R.D.C
41	Store-Moza Dip	0.45	Bulilima R.D.C
42	Nyele-Tshitaudze	7.6	Bulilima R.D.C
43	Headman Myenga	4	Bulilima R.D.C
44	Basipo-Tshitaudze	6.5	Bulilima R.D.C
45	Mzwanyane-Moza Diptank	10.5	Bulilima R.D.C
46	Tjehanga-Manyangwa	2	Bulilima R.D.C
47	Tjehanga-Tokwana	26.6	Bulilima R.D.C

48	Ndibilidza	11.6	Bulilima R.D.C
49	Makumbi-Nopemano	7.2	Bulilima R.D.C
50	Nopemano-Mangarame	15.5	Bulilima R.D.C
51	Kungubo-Gala	6	Bulilima R.D.C
52	Bhupila	7.7	Bulilima R.D.C
53	Mahame road	7.8	Bulilima R.D.C
54	Masendu R.S.C	4	Bulilima R.D.C
55	Kungubo-Temateme Clinic	10.3	Bulilima R.D.C
56	Ngwala-Gwamagwama	19.4	Bulilima R.D.C
57	Matiwaza-Zuzaphi	7.8	Bulilima R.D.C
58	Butshe-Gwamagwama	10.5	Bulilima R.D.C
59	Ndolwane-Sikente	17.4	Bulilima R.D.C
60	Huwana-Khame	13.2	Bulilima R.D.C
61	Makumbi-Gambo	8	Bulilima R.D.C
62	Khame-Zuzaphi	13.5	Bulilima R.D.C
63	Ntoli-Mazamnyama	1.8	Bulilima R.D.C
64	Makhulela-2.2 point	40.1	Bulilima R.D.C
65	Makhulela-Mabhongane	14.1	Bulilima R.D.C
66	Makhulela-Siwowo	3.3	Bulilima R.D.C
67	Jutjume-Maitengwe	26	Bulilima R.D.C
68	Ndolwane-Mafa	9.6	Bulilima R.D.C
69	Mbimba-New Centre	11.5	Bulilima R.D.C
70	Bhaninumba	13	Bulilima R.D.C
71	Mangubo-Madlambudzi	11.7	Bulilima R.D.C
72	Kupa-Tokwana	15	Bulilima R.D.C
73	Mbimba-Bambadzi	7	Bulilima R.D.C
74	Malopa-Hangaria	18	Bulilima R.D.C
75	Resettlement-Mkhomeni	15.4	Bulilima R.D.C
76	Malalume-Gotshombo	25	Bulilima R.D.C
77	Zwana-Hangaria	5	Bulilima R.D.C
78	Madlambudzi-Tsukuru	13	Bulilima R.D.C
79	Mboma-Masendu	19	Bulilima R.D.C

80	Village 13-Sevaka	4.6	Bulilima R.D.C
81	Village 13-Village 22	18.3	Bulilima R.D.C
82	Hingwe-Khandamhlophe	12.2	Bulilima R.D.C
83	Redhill	4	Bulilima R.D.C
84	Male-Thekwane	17	Bulilima R.D.C
85	Village 12-Luswingo	14	Bulilima R.D.C
86	Dombodema-Tjehanga	12.5	Bulilima R.D.C
87	Tjompani School	1.5	Bulilima R.D.C
88	Mnigau	3.5	Bulilima R.D.C
89	Male-School	6	Bulilima R.D.C
90	Mbwenda Village	5	Bulilima R.D.C
91	Lees	11.2	Bulilima R.D.C
92	Western Boarder	37	Bulilima R.D.C
93	Nyabane-Marula	11.5	Bulilima R.D.C
94	Dupute-Mpondo	11	Bulilima R.D.C
95	Gwambe-Mabungwe	4.6	Bulilima R.D.C
96	Madlambudzi-Bhangale	7.8	Bulilima R.D.C
97	Mbwenda-Tjaguta	13	Bulilima R.D.C
98	Mhuke-Masendu	8.1	Bulilima R.D.C

3.8.2.1 Surfaced State Roads

The road infrastructure in the district is inadequate, with the communal sections being the most severely afflicted. Since all forms of transportation pass through Plumtree, the district's main gravel roads contribute to the town's growth. At Plumtree, a number of businesses have sprung up to take advantage of the passing commerce from travelers and passengers.

3.8.2.2 Unsurfaced State Roads

There are several stretches of unsurfaced state roads in the district and the details are as follows:

- A major road in the District are unsurfaced or gravel roads such as to Madlambuzi, Ndiweni, Somnene, Ndolwane.
- It is noted that most of the areas in the district have gravel roads.

3.8.2.3 RIDA Roads

In addition to the national highways, the RIDA road department oversees a large number of roads in various categories. These serve as a link between the business centers and rural service centers. The majority of these roads are in extremely poor shape. The absence of bridges exacerbates the situation by making travel exceedingly challenging during the wet season. This road network falls under the jurisdiction of both RIDA and the Rural District Council for the entire district. RIDA has been in charge of maintaining it.

Although the Central Government and RIDA deserve praise for their efforts to develop roads throughout the district, it should be remembered that a major portion of the area lacks adequate road infrastructure.

3.8.2.4 Bulilima RDC Roads

There are some roads in the district which are under the jurisdiction of the Rural District Council. The Rural District Council has to maintain roads in all their areas, the commercial farming areas and the communal areas. However, the Rural District Council has to set aside some funds in the current financial year for road maintenance in some communal areas.

Generally it was noted that roads are poorly maintained, they need constant attention to ensure that they are usable throughout the year. Traffic volumes, especially buses constitute the larger volume of transport and this makes it necessary to constantly maintain those routes, which are used, by buses. Generally, people in the district expressed dissatisfaction with the condition of the roads and public transport system.

3.8.2.5 Public Transport

The majority of public transport trips are between Plumtree town and the communal areas and between Plumtree and Bulawayo. In the Plumtree town there are a few commuter omnibuses which serve people from Plumtree Town to RSCs that is Ndolwane, Smonene, Ndiweni. The

modes of transport vary from buses, commuter omnibuses. The public transport problem manifests itself throughout the year as buses leave origin places very early. However, the problem is compounded during the rainy season when bus operators due to inaccessibility abandon some routes.

3.8.2.6 Commuter Buses.

There are some private owned commuter omnibuses that operate in the District. The demand for public transport in the District is increasing. Such increasing demands may be expected to increase during the Master plan period.

3.8.2.7 Public Road Transport linking Plumtree and Bulilima District to communal areas

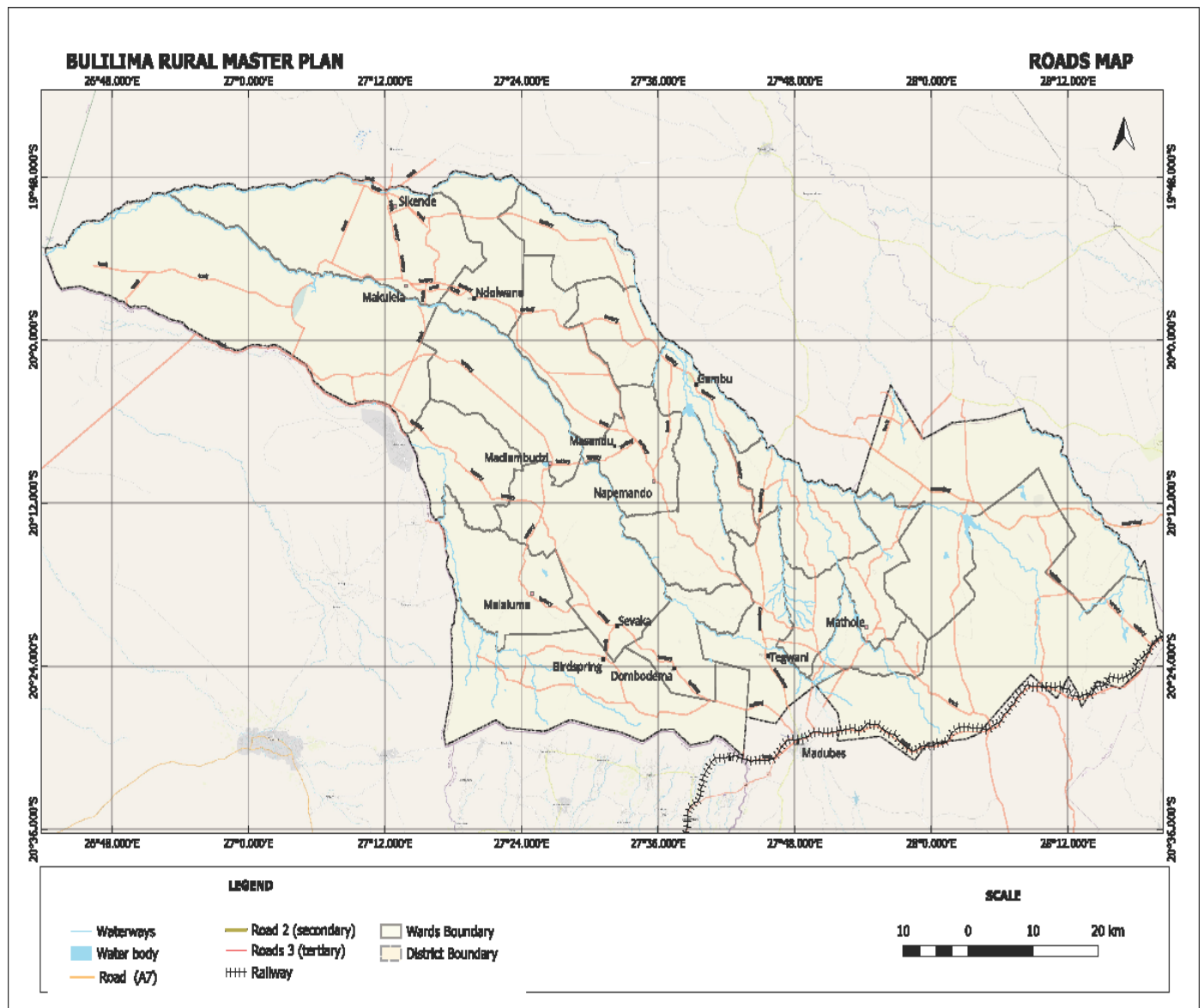
Bus transport in the district is the common mode of transport and there are bus companies plying various routes in the district. All of the communal areas in the district can be reached by bus from Plumtree. The present level of buses which are plying several routes in the district seems to meet demand but there is need for the buses to stick to them respective timetables. There are some local bus companies which operate between Harare, Bulawayo and beyond to Botswana. These buses also stop in Plumtree then connects Bulilima District. *Table* below shows routes taken by bus operators in the district.

Table 18: Routes served by conventional buses in the district.

ROUTE	CONVENTIONAL BUSES	COMMUTER OMNIBUSES	BENEFICIARY CENTRES	MAJOR
Plumtree- Dombodema- Maitengwe	1(registered)	+5 unregistered	Dombodema, Madlambudzi, Bambadzi	Malalume, Mbimba,
Plumtree-Nswazi- Maitengwe	1(registered)	+4 unregistered	Four and Half, Nswazi, Malalume, Bambadzi	Mbwenda, Hingwe,
Plumtree-Masendu- Ndolwane	Nil	+8 unregistered	Ndiweni, Bhagani, Masendu, Khome, Makhulela	Tokwana, Ndolwane,

Plumtree-Matjinge-Huwana	Nil	+3 unregistered	Ndiweni, Bhagani, Matjinge, Gambo, Ntoli, Huwana
Plumtree-Somnene	Nil	+1 unregistered	Tshankwa, Ntunungwe, Somnene
Ndolwane-Huwana-Somnene-Bulawayo	1(registered)	+3 unregistered	Ndolwane, Huwana, Ntoli, Sinotsi, Somnene

In order to meet the long-term demands of both consumers and bus operators, the Rural Master Plan may need to include additional bus operators. The facilities and services offered currently are hardly sufficient to meet demand.



Map 13: Showing Major Roads in the District.

3.8.3 Railways

There is one railway line in the Plumtree, which links Plumtree to Botswana. Passenger and goods trains utilise the facility. It has been noted that the existing railway facilities are coping with the current level of traffic, which is low, and in fact presently under-utilised. Unless there is a marked and dramatic increase in commercial activity in Plumtree, there will be no plans to expand the existing facilities. Most traffic which passes Plumtree station is in transit to Zambia and the Democratic Republic of Congo and in terms of total tonnage the amount actually consigned to Plumtree is presently not significant.

3.8.4 Electricity

The Zimbabwe Electricity Supply Authority (ZESA) is responsible for providing electricity to the District and surrounding areas. The present position is that power is taken off the national grid from an 88kv line, which is stepped down to 30kv at Spring Substation near Bulawayo. The 33kv line passes through Figtree Marula en route to Plumtree. From Figtree there also exists a 33kv line en route to Tsholotsho which is stepped down to 11kv which supplies Solusi. Another substation at Manila steps down power to 11kv to supply Manila and Plumtree town the substation steps down the power from 33kv to 11kv to supply the town and other areas such as Dombodema.

Table 19: Information on electricity and sources of water for bulilima R.S. centres

NAME OF RSC	SOURCE OF POWER	OF	SOURCE OF WATER	WASTE WATER	SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT
Figtree	Connected to ZESA	to	Ngulula Dam-through Zinwa	Temporary septic tanks though sewer designs are already in place and construction of 2 anaerobic ponds in progress	Rubbish pits *There are plans to survey a suitable place for a landfill
Madlambudzi	Connected to ZESA	to	1 Bush pump borehole and Madlambudzi dam untreated water	Blair toilets	Rubbish pits *There are plans to survey a suitable place for a landfill
Ndolwane	Connected to Ugesi mini-solar plant	to	1 bush pump borehole	Blair toilets	Rubbish pits *There are plans to survey a suitable place for a landfill
Somnene	Connected to ZESA	to	1 bush pump seasonal borehole	Blair toilets	Rubbish pits *There are plans to survey a suitable place for a landfill

Ndiweni	Connected to ZESA	1 solarised borehole with taps	Blair toilets	Rubbish pits *There are plans to survey a suitable place for a landfill
Masendu	Connected to ZESA	1 solarised borehole with taps	Blair toilets	Rubbish pits *There are plans to survey a suitable place for a landfill
Ntoli	Connected to ZESA	1 Solarised borehole with taps	Blair toilets	Rubbish pits *There are plans to survey a suitable place for a landfill
Malalume	Nil	1 borehole	Blair toilets	Rubbish pits *There are plans to survey a suitable place for a landfill

Source: Bulilima RDC (2024)

Households which had electricity constituted 45.8 percent of the province. Of these households with electricity 18.9 percent used grid electricity while 26.9 percent used off-grid electricity. Beitbridge Urban had the largest proportions (46.8%) of households using grid electricity. Matobo district had the highest proportion of households using off grid electricity at 35.2 percent. Bulilima district recorded the highest proportions of households with no electricity at 68.8 percent, (ZimStat 2022).

Table 20: Distribution of Households in Dwelling Units with Electricity in the District and Source.

Source	Number of Household
National Grid	626
Local Mini-Grid	40

Solar Power	5767
Generator	43
Wind	22
Biogas	11
None	14328
Total	20837

Source: ZimStat 2022.

The demand for power in the communal lands is very limited. At the moment the major snag to electrification in the rural areas is the settlement pattern which may necessitate more transformers which may end up being costly to the beneficiaries. However, despite problems such as the settlement pattern, ZESA is in a position to supply power following application though in some cases they may need to boost supplies by putting up more lines or transformers. As a result alternative sources of energy for the district have to be sought. Presently, solar energy is used in some homes, businesses, and educational institutions; however, it is not always dependable because it occasionally performs poorly. In the district, solar energy has not yet had much of an impact.

3.8.5 Road Network.

The road network in the district is mainly gravel roads except for major highways which are surfaced. Most of the gravel roads are in bad state and require maintenance. The gravel roads were eroded by the rains and use over the years and the rocks underneath have re-surfaced. There are strip roads mainly in the former commercial farming areas and these are also in a bad state requiring urgent maintenance. The roads are maintained by 3 road authorities which are Bulilima RDC, District Development Fund and Department of Roads.

3.8.6 Proliferation of Human Settlements

In recent years, the proliferation of informal settlements in cities and towns in the Global World is alarming. In Africa, approximately 61, 7% of the urban population resides in slums and informal settlement this figure continues to rise by the day (UNHabitat, 2014). By 2025 it is estimated that 1.4 billion people across the world will be living in slums (Todes, 2011: 116). Efforts to achieve the desired cities as envisioned in the New Urban Agenda, Sustainable Development Goals 11 and Africa Agenda 2063 seem to be utopia for the region (Parnell, 2016). In this quandary, human settlement development issues continue to decline as a political priority despite the growth of informal settlements (UN-Habitat, 2016: 47). Moreover, inappropriate urban planning ideologies and paradigms are often implemented in African cities and they have been responsible for the emergence of some informal settlements. (Watson, 2009; Cobbinah & Darkwah, 2016). If the current situation of informal settlements persists, social stability and internal order are threatened as a result of protests and riots from disgruntled citizens; health problems are likely to result and continue as evident from the endemic cholera outbreaks being witnessed recently in cities like Harare and Chitungwiza

3.8.7 1.5. Urban planning: The solution or trigger to informal settlements?

Planning is a futuristic process that seeks to alleviate the challenges that burden man. In this vein, planning plays a critical role in addressing the challenge of informal settlements because its objective is to promote human well-being through the allocation of scarce resources to the most efficient sectors of the community. Therefore, urban planning acts as a pathway towards achieving sustainable cities. However, Remise (2009) argues that this is not always the case in Africa where there are a plethora of challenges that persist amid urban planning initiatives. This is caused by unrealistic land and urban development standards and through encouraging inappropriate modernist urban forms.

(Remise, 2009; Watson, 2009). Cobbinah and Darkwah (2016) have argued that urban planning in Africa fails because it is not founded on the principle of sustainable development but remains largely a relic of colonisation. Watson (2009) highlight that urban planning in Africa will not have any impact on urban functionality and management as long as it continues to be rooted in the Western planning approaches and ideologies. Through urban planning, the sustainable city framework may be put to task to encourage the upgrading of human settlements. However, in Africa, informal evictions and demolitions are often adopted as a means of addressing informal settlements a process which contradicts the tenants of the sustainable city framework as the social component of development is compromised.

3.8.8 Local Government and Local authorities

It is recognized in Zimbabwe that a well function city is a result of an efficient local government system plus the quality and costs of services that it provides.

The traditional sources for urban and rural local authorities have been largely confined to property taxes on residential, commercial and industrial areas and fixed service or supplementary charges on high density areas. In both rural and urban areas, revenue from both licenses and fees levied on various activities are important sources of revenue. Central government also pays dues towards, road maintenance, health and educational facilities as well as advancing loans or devolution funds for capital developments to the local authorities. However councils have to make sure that they are not overburdened with debts and in the past. Debt management is an important aspect of urban management and government has tended to keep a tight reign on local authorities borrowing levels through the approval or rejection of applications for borrowing powers.

3.8.9 Housing.

National Development Strategy 1 (NDS1) states that;

Adequate housing that is secure, peaceful and has dignity is a fundamental right for every citizen. The Constitution of Zimbabwe, in Section 28, identifies shelter as one of the national objectives. As such, *“the State and all institutions and agencies of Government at every level must take reasonable legislative and other measures, within the limits of the resources available to them, to enable every person to have access to adequate shelter”*.

Situational Analysis

The TSP identified Housing Delivery as one of the Programs targeted for implementation under Priority Public Infrastructure. The focus was on prioritizing provision of housing stands and the requisite social amenities to address the housing backlog. Furthermore, all outstanding institutional accommodation projects that had stalled due to the economic challenges of the past decade were targeted for completion. Despite the aforementioned aspirations, the country continues to experience a huge housing backlog, particularly in urban areas.

In the absence of planned interventions to cater for the growing urban population, informal settlements have in some cases developed on untitled land in and around most urban areas. These settlements lack basic services and social amenities. The problem is further compounded by inadequacies of existing infrastructure to cater for the demands of the growing population. The delivery of affordable, sustainable, modern, functional housing and social amenities in urban and rural areas, thus, dovetails with Vision 2030 as espoused by His Excellency, the President, in 2018.

The delivery of affordable and quality settlements in urban and rural areas remains a huge challenge. Whereas the TSP pegged the housing backlog at 1.25 million units, the sector managed to record the following achievements: -

- Development of 164 195 fully serviced residential stands across the country;
- Development of 49 870 completed houses; and
- Rehabilitation and construction of social amenities infrastructure.

Delivery of affordable and quality settlements has been hindered by a number of challenges, notably:

- Macro-economic instability;
- Rapid urbanisation resulting in growth of informal settlements that lack title to land and access to basic services infrastructure;

- Limited investment in on and off-site infrastructure for the provision of basic services such as roads, water and sanitation services;
- Limited investment in social amenities that include schools, health and recreational facilities. This is more pronounced in new settlements and rural areas;
- Limited access to housing finance by land developers, institutional investors and households;
- Unaffordable serviced stands and housing units arising from overpriced services and products for property development and construction. As a consequence, some low income earners are opting for informal settlements to resolve their housing needs;
- Scarcity of land for housing development as well as a cumbersome land delivery process to convert virgin land to individualised freehold title. A growing demand for land and competing interest over land has negatively affected availability of land for social amenities such as schools and public health facilities;
- Environmental degradation;
- Lack of an up-to-date housing database for planning purposes including on demographics, housing, land and urban growth patterns;
- Poor urban and environmental planning practices, post-independence planning prioritising the development of rural areas above urban areas resulting in informal urban settlements;
- Outdated urban and building regulatory frameworks and outdated building standards resulting in overcrowded, inadequate and substandard houses;
- Weakening governance frameworks including local public institutions as well as citizen-led structures, failing to plan and manage settlements.

Delivery of Affordable and Quality Settlements in Urban and Rural Areas

Given the huge housing backlog and the inadequacies of attendant infrastructure, Government will, through the NDS1, prioritise citizens' access to affordable and quality settlements in urban and rural areas. In this regard, during NDS1, Government will take a holistic approach in planning for housing settlements, which will include planning for provision of key basic infrastructure such as ICTs for the development of smart settlements for both urban and rural areas. Outcomes of Delivery of Affordable and Quality Settlements in Urban and Rural Areas Delivery of affordable and quality settlements in urban and rural areas is not the sole responsibility of a single agency in Government. It is a shared responsibility with various contributing development partners in the public, private and nongovernmental sector as well as local communities, and international Development partners.

3.8.10 Housing Delivery

In 2008, for the first time in history, the global urban population outnumbered the rural population. This milestone marked the advent of a new 'urban millennium' and, by 2050, it is expected that two-thirds of the world population will be living in urban areas. With more than half of humankind living in cities and the number of urban residents growing by nearly 73 million every year it is estimated that urban areas account for 70 per cent of the world's gross domestic product and has therefore generated economic growth and prosperity for many.

Given the importance of this topic to global development efforts, recent movements pushing to address sustainable development from an urban perspective have taken place throughout the world. Results from this movement can be seen in the inclusion of a stand-alone goal on cities and urban development in the 2030 Agenda, Sustainable Development Goal 11, "make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable". There is also recognition of the cross-cutting nature of urban issues, which have an impact on a number of other Sustainable Development Goals, including SDGs 1, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 15, and 17, among others. UN-Habitat's complementary New Urban Agenda, adopted as the outcome document from the Habitat III Conference in 2016, seeks to offer national and local guidelines on the growth and development of cities through 2036.

Prior to the adoption of the 2030 Agenda, Millennium Development Goal 7, target 11, made a call for efforts to achieve, "a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers" by 2020.

Sustainable human settlements development was also discussed at the second and third sessions of the Commission on Sustainable Development. "Promoting sustainable human settlements development" is the subject of Chapter 7 of Agenda 21, which calls for 1) providing adequate shelter for all; 2) improving human settlements management; 3) promoting sustainable land-use planning and management; 4) promoting the integrated provision of environmental infrastructure: water, sanitation, drainage and solid waste management; 5) promoting sustainable energy and transport systems in human settlements; 6) promoting human settlements planning and management in disaster-prone areas; 7) promoting sustainable construction industry activities; and 8) promoting human resource development and capacity-building for human settlements development.

Paragraph 89 of the 2030 Agenda calls on major groups and other stakeholders, including local authorities, to report on their contribution to the implementation of the Agenda. Local and regional governments have a wealth of valuable experience in the "localization" of the 2030 Agenda, where they provide leadership in the mobilization of a wide range of stakeholders, the facilitation of "bottom-up" and inclusive processes, and the formation of multi-stakeholder partnerships.

Bulilima Rural district council, with its vast natural resources has the potential to grow and improve human settlements in most of its rural service centres and growth points. Particularly in Madlambuzi, Ndiweni, Ndolwane, Ntoli, Masendu, Figtree.

3.9 BULILIMA DISTRICT RURAL SERVICE CENTRES

3.9.1 Ranking of RSCs by services found in those centres

RANKING	NAME OF RSC	SERVICES OFFERED	LOCATION OF RSC
1	Figtree	Police Station, residential stands, commercial and industrial, AGRITEX, ZINWA water works, Hotel, base stations (Econet, telecel and Netone), cemetery, Railway station, Post office, Primary School, sewer and water reticulation ongoing, Netone Econet and telecel networks available, 2km section of tarred road joining the highway	-Along Bulawayo-Plumtree Highway (63km from Plumtree Town)
2	Madlambudzi	Police Station, High School, Clinic, Veterinary Offices, Community Hall, residential stands, commercial and industrial, RIDA(DDF), AGRITEX, ZINWA office, Registry office, Econet and Netone networks	-72km from Plumtree Town along Plumtree-Madlambudzi Road
3	Ndolwane	Primary school, High School, Rural Health Clinic, Veterinary Offices, residential stands, commercial and industrial, Ugesi mini-solar plant, aerodrome. Netone and Econet networks available	-92km from Plumtree Town along Plumtree-Ndolwane Road.
4	Ndiweni	Vocational Training Centre, shops, clinic, residential houses, Market stall, petrol	-15km from Plumtree Town along

		filling station, Netone, Econet and telecel networks available.	Plumtree-Tsholotsho Road.
5	Somnene	GMB depot, shops, residential houses, petrol filling station, police base, community hall, Econet and Netone networks available.	-42 km away from Plumtree along Plumtree-Somnene Road
6	Masendu	Clinic, Commercial shops, Primary school, Post Office, Cultural centre, Econet and Netone networks available	-59km away from Plumtree along Plumtree-Ndolwane Road
7	Ntoli	Rural Health Centre, Commercial shops, Primary school. Econet network available	+65km away from Plumtree and Moza-Ntoli-Phakama road
8	Malalume	Commercial shops, Primary&Secondary school, clinic (outside existing boundary).mobile networks limited.	58km from Plumtree along Plumtree-Madlambudzi Road.

Source: Bulilima Rural District Council (2024)

3.9.2 LIST OF BULILIMA

BUSINESS CENTRES

WARD NAME	CENTRE NAME	LAYOUT PLAN	YEAR DRAWN	COMMENT
Tshankwa	Nyabane 1	GB310	Nov-99	Established
	Nyabane 2	nil		Established
	Sikhathini	GB314	Nov-93	Established
	Sheila	nil		Established
	Gato	nil		Established
Gwambe	Diba	nil		Established
	Manqadi	nil		Established
	Gwambe 1	nil		Established
	Magabha	nil		Established
	Mabungwe	GA911	Nov-99	Established
	Kandana	nil		Established
Natane	Mbila	nil		Established

	Natane	nil		Established
	Bhidi	GB555	Nov-99	Established
	Bezu	nil		Established
	Phumuza	GA905	Oct-06	Established
	Dlemele	GB1064	Apr-23	Newly pegged
	Bilingoma/Mapango	nil		Established
Nyele	Tokwana	GB300	Nov-93	Established
	Tokwana 2	nil		Established
	Nyele	GB299	Nov-93	Established
	Hadzika	GB1020	Jul-02	New Centre
	Dubula	GB863	Nov-21	Newly pegged
	Zompata	GB1116	Jul-22	Newly pegged
	Makumbi	GB569	Dec-99	Established
Matjinge	Moza 1	nil		Established
	Moza 2	nil		Established
	Matjinge	GA910	Nov-06	Established
	Sinotsi	nil		Established

	Goba	GB557	Nov-99	Established
	Mangarame	nil		Established
	Gambo	nil		Established
Gala	Kungubo	nil		Established
	Ntoli RSC			Established
	Gala	nil		Established
	Garamtata	GB553	Dec-99	Established
	Bhembene	nil		Established
	Manguba	GB308	Nov-93	Established
	Phakama west	nil		Established
Masendu	khayalami	GB833	Jul-19	Newly pegged
	Nopemano	GB292	Nov-93	Established
	Mazwaligwe	nil		Established
	Masendu RSC			Established
	Nyabane	nil		Established
	Tondilambeli	GB933	Sep-20	Newly pegged
	Thandawani	GB1117	Jul-22	Newly pegged
Huwana	Ntambana	nil		Established

	Ndutshwa	nil		Established
	Ndonga	nil		Established
	Malambuka	nil		Established
	Huwana	nil		Established
Makhulela	Dupute	nil		Established
	Mtshwayeli	nil		Established
	Butshe	GB467	Apr-96	Established
	Makhulela	GB297	Nov-93	Established
	Makhulela 2	GB554	Dec-99	Established
Bambadzi	Mbimba	GB466	Apr-96	Established
	Jutshume	GB556	Dec-99	Established
	Mafa	nil		Established
	Bambadzi	GB293	Nov-93	Established
	Maitengwe border post	GA993	Mar-10	Established
	Zwana	nil		Established
Madlambudzi	Khandamhlope	GB463	Apr-96	Established

	Madlambudzi RSC			Established
	Tsukuru	nil		Established
	Bhangale	nil		Established
	Bhaningumba	nil		Established
Hingwe	Mangubo	GB468	Apr-96	Established
	Phumulani	nil		Established
	Hangariya	nil		Established
	Mathibe	GB870	Apr-20	Established
	Hingwe	GB291/1	Apr-96	Established
	Yisaya	nil		Established
	Mpoyi	GB465	Apr-96	Established
Ndolwane	Tshidiwe	GB832	Jul-19	Established
	Ndolwane RSC			Established
	Zuzaphi	nil		Established
	Woki	GA716	Oct-98	Established
	Malitikwe	GB470	Apr-96	Established

	Gwamagwama	nil		Established
Malanswazi	Malopa	GB341	Feb-94	Established
	Malalume RSC			Established
	Tjaguta	nil		Established
	Mafeha	nil		Established
	Gwembudzi	nil		Established
	Gotshombo	GA713	Oct-98	Established
Vulindlela	Village 1	nil		Established
	Mboma	nil		Established
	Village 13	nil		Established
	Sevaka	nil		Established
	Mkhomeni	nil		Established
Dombolefu	Village 15	nil		Established
	Village 17	GA951	Oct-08	Established
	Mbwenda	nil		Established
	Village 23	nil		Established
	Dombolefu	GA830	Sep-03	Established
	Village 25	nil		Established

	Village 27	nil		Established
	Village 28	no tracing number	Feb-02	Established
	nswazi 2	nil		Established
	Nswazi 1	GB301	Nov-93	Established
Mlomwe	Ntunungwe	nil		Established
	Vamba	nil		Established
	Tshankwa	nil		Established
	Mlomwe	GB574	Apr-00	Established
Somnene	Bhule	nil		Established
	Somnene RSC	GC369	Sep-00	Established
	Peace and Good Hope	awaiting approval		New Centre
	Ezihwabeni 1	nil		needs regularisation
	Ezihwabeni 2	nil		needs regularisation
	Norwood BC	GA481	Jan-93	Established
Figtree	Devondale BC			Newly pegged

	Paul Rest BC			Newly pegged
	Fairveiw	GA995	Mar-10	Established
	Figtree RSC			Established
	Watershed	GA994	Mar-10	Established
	Manda	GB1063	Apr-23	Newly pegged
	Mzwanyana	nil		Established
Dombodema	Four and Half	nil		Established
	Dombodema	nil		Established
	Gwakuba	nil		Established
	Nlibgwane	nil		Established
	Tjehanga 1	nil		Established
	Tjehanga 2	nil		Established
Ndiweni	Ndiweni RSC			Established
	Bhagane	nil		Established
	Ngwana	GB303	Nov-93	Established
	Pemu	nil		Established
Khame	Cingo	nil		Established

Gonde	GB461	Apr-96	Established
Tematema	GB460	Apr-96	Established
Khame	GB309	Nov-93	Established
Tjemahale	nil		Established
Bambanani/Sindisa	GB871	Jul-22	Established
Luvuluma	nil		Established
Muke	GB469	Apr-96	Established

The highlighted centres in green are the Rural Service Centres in the district

3.9.3 Key Growth Nodes in Bulilima District

a. Madlambuzi Rural Service centre

Bulilima District boasts a service center at Madlambuzi Business Centre, which is being regarded as a potential centre to serve as the district's central point.

Background:

Previously, Bulilima District lacked a designated service center, unlike its sister district, Mangwe, which has Ingwizi as its central point.

The absence of a service center posed challenges for residents who had to travel over 100 kilometers to access services in Plumtree Town.

Development and location:

Madlambuzi Business Centre has to be upgraded if it's to be regarded to serve as Bulilima District's service center. The rural service centre is located about 72km from Plumtree town, along Plumtree

madlambuzi road. The Rural service centre commercial centre is poorly planned and congested, leaving no space for expansion.

More than 150 families around the area will need to be relocated to create space for the expansion of commercial centre, residential suburb and some industries.

Alternative land has to be identified to relocate displaced families living within the boundaries of the service center.

Infrastructure development:

Madlambuzi boasts of the following services:

Police Station, High School, Clinic, Veterinary Offices, Community Hall, residential stands, commercial and industrial, RIDA (DDF), AGRITEX, ZINWA office, Registry office, Econet and Netone networks

Sewer and water reticulation has to be put in place by council to service the residential, commercial and industrial areas

Comparison with Mangwe: The goal is to match the development level of Mangwe District, which already has a tarmacked Ingwizi Service Centre.

Benefits:

Bringing services closer to people.

Facilitating industrial growth.

Enhancing convenience for residents.

In summary, the Madlambuzi Business Centre's transformation into Bulilima District's service center aims to improve accessibility, infrastructure, and overall development in the region. If properly planned Madlambuzi can function as the service hub for the Bulilima District, it is essential in offering a range of services and promoting development.

There are fifteen business centers in Bulilima District that act as important hubs for local services and business. These facilities are vital to the community's ability to access basic services and support business ventures. The following are some of the most important centers, albeit precise information on each is not easily accessible:

b. Figtree Rural Service Centre

Situated approximately 37 miles southwest of Bulawayo on the major Bulawayo-Plumtree route, the Figtree Rural Service Centre is roughly 63 kilometres away from Plumtree town. Figtree gets its name from a wild fig tree that, in the 1800s, visitors to the Matabele Kingdom had to wait around to receive permission to enter. Figtree is home to the one and only Bulawayo-Plumtree highway tollgate. Approximately 100 metres west of the main road lies the Figtree Business Centre, which is located after the tollgate heading towards Plumtree.

The business center has Figtree Hotel and Conference Centre, Seven Eleven Cocktail Bar, Seven Eleven General Dealer's shop with a Butchery and the S.t Nathaniel Hall. There's also a Post Office at the center, next to the Post Office is the Community Information Center which provides internet and computer services. Also Redwood Ultra City, a leisure centre is located in Figtree and there is a state of the art filling station less than 50m to the leisure centre. About 4 km from Figtree there is a Bazha turn, unpaved road which connects to Matopo-Kezi-Maphisa road. Francistown (Botswana) is a major town located close to Figtree and is 155 km away

Figtree lies inward 19. According to the 2022 Population and Housing Census Preliminary Report on Population Figures, Figtree has a total population of 4917 people: 2384 males and 2533 females. It is the 6th largest amongst the 22 wards in Bulilima District which has a total population of 85600 people.

Figtree currently has one small residential suburb called Garikai/ Hlalanikuhle which is controlled by the Bulilima Rural District Council. The suburb is located next to a police station. Masotsha Primary School is also located in Figtree.

Figtree combines essential services, business establishments, and residential areas, contributing to the district's growth.

Other Public, Commercial and residential facilities found in Figtree:

Police Station, residential stands, commercial and industrial, AGRITEX, ZINWA water works, Hotel, base stations (Econet, telecel and Netone), cemetery, Railway station, Post office, Primary School, sewer and water reticulation ongoing development that seeks to improve infrastructure and service delivery in Figtree. Netone Econet and telecel networks available, 2km section of tarred road joining the highway.

c. Ndolwane Rural Service Centre

The Ndolwane community, nestled deep in rural Bulilima District within Matabeleland South, approximately 92 kilometers (57 miles) from Plumtree Town, has recently reaped the benefits of a remarkable 100-kilowatt (KW) solar power project. This initiative was rolled out by Econet's Ugesi Energy as part of the "Re-Imagine Rural" program, championed by businessman and philanthropist Dr. Strive Masiyiwa. Let's delve into the details:

Solar Power Project:

Ndolwane was chosen as the pilot project for the Re-Imagine Rural Ugesi mini-grids. Ugesi Energy has successfully connected power to several key locations in Ndolwane. Some of which are:

Ndolwane Primary School, Approximately 10 shops at the business center, Ndolwane Rural Health Centre, A handful of farmers involved in poultry projects

The poultry projects are jointly funded by Ugesi Energy and Turning Matabeleland Green (TMG).

Although beneficiaries currently enjoy free electricity, plans are underway to install smart meters for billing purposes, with configuration expected to be completed soon.

Impact on the Community:

Ms. Simangaliso Khupe, a communal farmer, expressed how the solar project has significantly improved her horticulture endeavors. With solar-powered boreholes, farmers can efficiently water their crops, leading to increased productivity in market gardening.

Ms. Khupe is also a beneficiary of the TMG/Ugesi Energy poultry project, which has been made more accessible due to the availability of electricity.

Former local councillor Mr. Ian Matiwaza highlighted that solar power has brought smiles to the local community. Access to information and news through television and radio is now possible, enhancing their quality of life.

This solar initiative not only provides essential services but also empowers the Ndolwane community, fostering sustainable development and progress.

Economic Activities:

There is potential for Ndolwane Rural service centre to develop an expanding urban economy based upon its location and provincial setting, with good road network connecting it with the rest of the communal lands. The economy of Ndolwane have potential in the fields of Agriculture, Wildlife, timber and Hardwood as well as Hunting and Tourism. The region around Ndolwane Rural service centre is predominantly rural, with subsistence farming being a significant economic activity. Maize, sorghum, and livestock are commonly raised. The area also has potential for mining activities, including minerals such as gold and coal.

Ndolwane is known for its rich cultural heritage, including traditional music, dance, and storytelling. The local community celebrates various cultural events and festivals, showcasing their customs and traditions. The landscape around Ndolwane offers picturesque views of rolling hills, grasslands, and rocky outcrops.

Efforts are being made to improve infrastructure, access to clean water, and healthcare facilities in Ndolwane. The Bulilima Rural District Council and local organizations are working together to enhance the quality of life for residents.

d. Masendu Rural Service centre

The Masendu rural service centre in Bulilima District is a significant hub for the local community. It lies about 59km from Plumtree town along Plumtree Ndolwane road. Here are some of the developments and services found at Masendu Rural Service centre:

Clinic, Commercial shops, Primary school, Post Office, Cultural centre, Econet and Netone networks available

Community Information Centre:

The Masendu Community Information Centre (CIC) was opened to provide essential services such as banking, internet access, computer training, and money transfer services. The CIC has greatly benefited the local population, especially village heads like Mr. Lewis Wilson Dube, by bringing services closer to home and saving them the cost and trouble of traveling to Plumtree town. The Postal and Telecommunication Regulatory Authority (POTRAZ) aims to replicate the success of the Masendu CIC across the country, emphasizing the importance of technology in driving development.

The Masendu Clinic is part of the health and medical services available in the region, providing necessary care to the community.

These initiatives are part of the broader efforts to improve the standard of living and infrastructure in the Bulilima Rural District, as outlined in the district's strategic plan. The Bulilima Rural District Council is committed to service delivery, transparency, and developing a strong local economy by 2030.

e. Ndiweni

Bulilima District key growth node is the Ndiweni Rural Service Centre. The facility is located on the Plumtree – Tsholotsho road, approximately 15 kilometers from Plumtree Town. Though not as vibrant and thriving as other service centres, Ndiweni Service centre has the potential to grow in leaps and bounce. Ndiweni's economic possibilities are agriculture, Livestock and Commerce, given its proximity to Plumtree Town, where it can tap into the field of residential stands delivery,

commercial shops, and business shops as well as transport business. People can easily commute or drive to Plumtree town for business and work due to its closeness to plumtree.

Proximity and contiguity to Existing Housing and commercial settlement

The proximity of the Ndiweni to the Plumtree town limits, make Ndiweni rural Service Centre among other Service centres in the district, prime area suitable for urban development. Infrastructural services for urban development, such as water and sewerage services can be extended to Ndiweni RSC at a reasonable cost. This would facilitate the speedy and efficient development in Ndiweni Rural Service Centre.

Currently Ndiweni Service centre offers the following Services:

Vocational Training Centre, shops, clinic, residential houses, Market stall, petrol filling station, Netone, Econet and telecel networks available.

Ideally, Bulilima Rural District council is much more suited to establish its administrative offices at Ndiweni, a place with expanse of land and opportunities for growth.

f. Somnene Rural Service centre

Sommene is a Rural Service centre which lies about 42km from Plumtree along Plumtree Somnene road. Somnene ward is one of the areas where the Local Authority has more than 400 stands given to applicants for development into houses for accomodation. The business centre is fast growing in size with the population of the area expanding as well. It is envisaged that in a few years to come, the population of Somnene would have doubled from the current 361 households. It offers the following services:

Vocational Training Centre, shops, clinic, residential houses, Market stall, petrol filling station, Netone, Econet and telecel networks available.

g. Ntoli Rural service Centre

Ntoli is located 65km from Plumtree town, along Plumtree, Moza- Ntoli-Pakama road.

The Centre mostly comprise of Rural Health Centre, Commercial shops, Primary school. Econet network available

h. Malalume Rural Service Centre

Malalume lies about 58km from Plumtree town, along Plumtree Madlambuze road.

There are Commercial shops, Primary&Secondary school, clinic (outside existing boundary).mobile networks limited.

The district's sub regional position has a significant deal of possibilities for cooperation in terms of trade and communication, despite its periphery location

The district has a distinct advantage in terms of wildlife and tourism potential due to its placement in agro ecological regions IV, as well as its provincial and national boundaries, where it shares boundaries with Botswana long the Maitengwe border post. These factors allow for potential expansion and development.

The emergency of the cross border trading with neighboring countries has brought a lot of business and community development across the district. This is evidenced by the stocking of the groceries and general merchants' shops with goods brought from across the border. Those with families trading across borders (Injiva) have managed to facelift their rural homes with some building new homes with beautiful outward appearances and finishing.

Transport and Communication

The district is connected by a road network consisting primarily of gravel roads and a tiny length of asphalt road in the north-east part of Bulilima that runs from the Gwayi River to the border between the Somnene small-scale commercial farming region and Tsholotsho district. The principal state road, which is gravel, begins on the outskirts of Plumtree town and cuts through wards 21, 5, 4, 7, 6, 22, 13 to ward 9, dividing the district in two. The second state road begins on the outskirts of Plumtree town and runs through wards 15, 20, 15, 14, 12, and 10 to the Maitengwe border station. The third state road begins on the outskirts of Plumtree and cuts past Wards 19, 1, and 3 to Somnene, where it

joins the road from Bulawayo to Solusi is tarmac. Private automobiles provide the most reliable transportation. The road network is adequate, however the road conditions are bad.

Communication.

The district is served by both conventional and cellular telephone networks. The cellular system network (Netone and Econet) serves the majority of the district's wards, with the exception of Wards 10, 12, and 14 (36), which are only partially serviced. Because to their location near the Zimbabwe-Botswana border, these three wards gain the most from Botswana's cellular network.

Air Transport

There is no airport or any commercialised flights in Bulilima. An airstrip exists close to Plumtree town and in some other localities in the district, aerodromes exist as follows: Solusi, Madlambuzi, Ntoli, Maitengwe and Ndolwane.

3.10

INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

This chapter looks at the range of institutions in Bulilima. Their relationships and their scope of action.

Institutions that are operational in the district, which will be highlighted in the Report, include:

- Non-Governmental Organisations
- Parastatals
- Central Government Agencies
- The Rural District Council

In all cases the role of donor agencies is very significant. Donors provide support to all the other agencies in terms of either general programmes or specific projects. In some cases foreign countries provide direct funding for specific projects through Embassy or High Commission facilities. This report has not made an exhaustive study of all such donor support over the past years but does seek to highlight the prominent programmes, especially those that are currently operational or are known to be in the pipeline.

3.10.1 NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANISATIONS

3.10.2 INTRODUCTION

There are several Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) that operate within Bulilima RDC fulfilling several gaps in the social services system. A total of 20 NGOs are operating in the district. These NGOs work in close relation with the department of social services of the Rural District Council. In conjunction with United Nations goals for sustainable development it can be noted that the NGOs are taking initiatives to ensure that the Vision 2030 is achieved at a local level through their programs and projects in Bulilima Rural District. Some of the activities and projects being implemented are meant to alleviate poverty, promote gender equality and child protection, and improve the sanitation and hygiene of the people among others. It can be noted that the programs that are being done suit into the education, health, food security and social amenities. This report is

a summary of challenges faced in the district and the NGOs that are participating in solving these issues.

3.10.3 STAKEHOLDERS MEETING

A stakeholder meeting was done with various NGOs operating in the district to identify key issues that are being faced by the district. Various needs, interventions and proposals were raised in the focus group discussion. Some of the challenges that were identified includes unavailability of portable water, inadequate health services, poor education services, and food and nutrition deficiency among others. It is noted that the available NGOs are working towards the solving of these prevailing challenges being faced by the people using various methods that suits in their organisations specialization and goals. An overview of the findings from the discussions are presented in this report.

3.10.4 FOOD AND NUTRITION

Climate change has been noted to be one of the major challenges that is affecting food availability and nutrition. Dry spells are being experienced which are a result for the drying of water bodies and crop failure with the region. Small grain farming and livestock production have been found to be the survival strategies for food security in the district. Various initiatives have been done by the NGOs to ensure food security and improvement of nutrition through the distribution of food hamper and irrigation schemes projects.

1. Nutrition Action Zimbabwe

The nutrition action Zimbabwe is one of the NGOs operating in the district of Bulilima. The aim of this organization is to improve communities' absorptive adaptive and transformative capacities to improve social behavior and change strategies that improve practice resilience. The organisation is implementing the nutrition component program in the ERVHIZ project. The organization has certain initiatives that are being used to solve the challenge of food and nutrition. The outputs of the organization includes the strengthening capacity of government and community members to implement key nutrition approaches (FBDG, IYCF and Health Harvest) using the care group model in the district, including 6 others from Matebeleland South Districts. Lower-level nutrition governance structures were strengthened to support food and nutrition security activities. Care

groups have been capacitated to promote adoption of positive nutrition behavior. Adolescent girls and boys are being provided services for the prevention of overweight or undernutrition and micronutrient deficiencies. The organization has managed to pass information to women of childbearing age, PLW, mothers and caregivers of children U5 reached with nutrition training

3.10.5 HEALTH SERVICES

In a focus group discussion held with various stakeholders, it has been noted that the district is facing a lot of health challenges that are as a result of absence of a provincial hospital to carry out critical operation and offer important health services required by the communities. It has been discovered that there are few health facilities to serve the whole population with people travelling long distances to access health services. Apart from that the existing clinics are incapacitated with little medical facilities, insufficient staff and inadequate infrastructure to cater for all the people. There are no ambulances to cater for health emergencies in the district, inadequate mothers waiting rooms (maternity houses), absence of essential staff such as doctors, radiographers and oncologists among others.

The NGOs operating in the district within the health sector have come up with various initiatives to make services available and inclusive to all the people by facilitating health points where they visit the communities and provide services. Community outreaches, capacitation of community health workers, technical support by partners have helped in the improvement of people's health in the district. Thus it has been noted that NGOs are playing an important role in providing for the health of the people.

2. Umzingwane AIDS Network PVO 15/96

The organization is working towards the improvement of health services in the district through various projects. It can be noted that the organisation is implementing a program in the district known as the DREAMS- RISE Program running from 2021 to 2026. The focus area is on the prevention of HIV and child protection. Among the activities that are offered by this organization is the training of facilitators on Sinovuya curriculum, ISAL training of trainers, Sinovuya for parents and teens

seasons, PrEP for parents' sessions and monitoring ISAL groups and income generating. Through this program, 6 Sinovuya facilitators were trained while care givers out of the 593 got training and other training programs are still run in the province in a bid to eradicate HIV.

3. ZNNP

This is another organization that is working towards the eradication of HIV among the people in Bulilima District. It has been noted that the organization is running a program in the area and a number of activities are being done such as the demand creation for HIV services. This has led to the mobilisation of 6000 people living with HIV for various HIV services. Community dialogues are being held and 30 community leaders have been established to guide and conduct these dialogues. Besides that, consumer advocacy forums are being done and district stakeholders meetings are being held to initiate the program as well as the identification of advocacy issues around the district. A number of challenges have been identified related to the issues of non-disclosure, stigma and discrimination. Apart from that, religious and traditional believes and practices have been found to hinder and curbs people from freely accessing HIV services. It has being noted that budget constrains to cater for more people in the community to attend the community dialogues has led to the limitations in reaching all the people. The fear of being victimized has resulted in failure to disclose some of the illnesses that are happening in communities.

4. PSH-MAC Dreams Program

The DREAMS program is one of the programs that are being implemented in the district aim to solve health challenges that are being faced by the public. The program aim to prevent the transmission of HIV among adolescent girls and young women (AGYWs). The targeted age group is 15-24 years. This program provide rapid testing and offering Prep to HIV negative AGYWs. The other key area of the DREAMS programs, is to ensure that there is the prevention of unplanned pregnancies among the teenagers through the distribution of Family Planning Services in the communities. This program is being run in 22 wards in the district. The third goal of the program is to prevent the transmission of Sexually Transmitted Infections among AGYWs. The organization is offering screening, testing, health education, prevention kits (condoms) and treatment.

Achievements:

The DREAMS program is facing a number of challenges in the implementation of the program. Among them is the difficulties in reaching the targeted age group. Young women between 20-24 years have been identified to be difficult to reach as they do not come to acquire services regardless of the mobilisation being done through village health workers and counsellors. Another challenge is that though efforts are being done to reduce teenage pregnancies, the district still have high records of teenage pregnancies and school drop outs. Again partners of AGYWs who present with STIs do not go for treatment at nearest clinics.

5. JHWO

The JHWO organisation is also offering adherence support to the people through monitoring of viral load, CALHIV support groups, household hygiene counselling, EID tracking for HEI and conducting family case conferencing. This has resulted in the improvement of CALHIV (0-17) VL coverage from 38% to 84% in January 2024. A case management plan has also being developed and implemented for monitoring participants file and conducting home visits for priority cases.

3.10.6 GENDER EQUALITY AND CHILD PROTECTION

Gender equality and child protection are very essential for community as they protect the rights of every citizens. It has been discovered that the cases of SGBV are increasing in the district thus calling for measures for the protection of children and women. It has also being noted that men are also victims of SGBV hence the need to ensure that all members of the community are safe. It has been noted that due to absence of police bases in the wards most cases of violence are being left without attendance and not reported. In a bid to protect children and victims of SGBV, it has been discovered that NGOs have contributed through the establishment of foster homes where capacity building is ensured. There has been the distribution of bicycles to the communities to be used to transport victims to established places.

6. Family Support Trust- DREAMS CONSORTIUM

The Family Support Trust operates in the district providing services that aims at promoting gender equality and child protection. In a bid to end SGBV, the following activities are being done: provision of post violence care to SGBV survivors, male engagement meetings on SGBV, sensitization

meetings with caregivers on SGBV and safe dates training with the AGYWs. It has been discovered that the organization through its program has managed to provide services to the survivors.

7. JHWO

Interventions are being done by this organisation to ensure that the resident of Bulilima District have good mental health through the provision of psychosocial support to the beneficiaries in need of the services. Client are offered positive parenting sessions through Sinovuyo facilitators and 331 caregivers have been trained and are saving the district under the guidance of field facilitators.

8. Hand in Hand Zimbabwe

It has been noted that this organisation is one of the key players in promoting the equality of rights. It is discovered that among the aims of the organization is the training of people on gender and human rights issues, organizing and facilitating gender information campaign meetings, the sensitization of women and girls rights and gender champions training. This will reduce the number of gender based violence cases in the district. This will reduce the number of gender based violence cases in the district.

9. Designed For Resilience

This is a youth-led organization aiming to eradicate challenges faced by rural and urban communities, which are primarily rooted in the colonial era's flawed design. Through research, documentation, public lectures, and collaboration with tertiary students, our organization will generate evidence based, innovative and sustainable solutions to promote resilient and sustainable development.

3.10.7 SANITATION AND HYGIENE

Sanitation and hygiene have been discovered to be some of the challenges that are affecting the district of Bulilima. The absence of portable water has been found to be a threat to the outbreak of waterborne diseases. There are very few dams in the district that are neither accessible to all the people nor safe for household use. The available dams have been found to be silted and drying at a faster rate due to dry spell and drought. It was found that there are inadequate public toilets at various

public areas making them risk for human health. It has been noted that there are no infrastructure for waste water management and proper disposition of waste which is a threat to environmental health and the people. The NGOs have taken initiatives in ensuring that proper sanitation and hygiene is provided through the rehabilitation of dams and drilling of boreholes for the communities.

10. JHWO

3.10.8 EDUCATION SYSTEM

Education is encountering several challenges in Bulilima regardless of it being one of the fundamental drivers of social and economic development of a particular area. It has been discovered that the number of learners dropping out of school due to financial challenges in their families and the proximity of the Botswana boarder. Most students drop from school and migrate to Botswana where they sale cheap labour. Besides that it has been discovered that there are difficulties in acquiring education due to the proximity of the schools to homesteads as some students walk more than 10km to school. It is noted that there are few high schools in the district and most of the schools are not conducive for e-learning with very few dilapidated infrastructures. The JHWO is one of the organisation that are working in the district promoting the achievement of SDG4 on equal education. The organisation has been tracking attendance, retention and progression. Besides that stationery and sanitary wear have been distributed in schools leading to improved school attendance and progression to next levels. It has been noted that community engagements are being done as a strategy for building more infrastructures for education.

3.10.9 POVERTY ALLEVIATION

11. Hand in Hand Zimbabwe

Hand in Hand Zimbabwe is working towards the reduction of poverty in the district through various initiatives. It has been noted that organization is targeting to mobilize 70 Self Help groups and only 10 % of them have been mobilized. The program is aiming at training 490 members and 4 percent have been trained for far. Besides that the organization is aiming to train members on technical skills such as poultry, petroleum jelly, dilutable drink, floor polish, craft, and detergents and baking among others. These aim at increasing the skills of the people and allow them to generate income that will lead to the improved standards of living. The organisation is proposing to train more people on

environmental entrepreneurship, individual, group enterprises. This program aims at creating employment in the district, creating business clusters and assisting external micro finance schemes. This is not only aimed at poverty alleviation but also raise the economic status of the district and the national GDP.

3.10.10 LIST OF NGOS OPERATING IN THE DISTRICT

	Name of NGO	Operational area	Focus area
1	International Medical Corps	All Rural Health Centres	WASH response to covid-19 in health facilities, PPE, disinfection and infectious waste management
2	Hand In Hand Southern Africa	1,3,4,14,15,19,20,22	Economic growth and stability; Food and nutrition security through entrepreneurship development
3	Youth Edutainment Services Trust	All Bulilima wards	Community empowerment through combining education and entertainment
4	ZNNP+	All Bulilima wards	Advocates for the rights of PLWHIV through information dissemination and networking
5	Sizolwethu Mobile Health Trust	All Bulilima wards	Improvement of water supply and sanitation in school
6	Zimbabwe Health Interventions	All Bulilima wards	Implementing an HIV prevention programme under DREAMS targeted at young girls and women aged 9-24
7	Pro-Africa	5,14	Food and water security

8	Sustainable Agricultural Technology	All wards save for 19	Improve and increase rural households' resilience to food crisis and climate change
9	GOAL Zimbabwe	2,4,11,16,21	Enhanced Resilience to Vulnerable households In Zimbabwe(ERVIZ)
10	Save the Children	6,9,18,21	Child protection, Advocacy, Child rights governance, nutrition and Health
11	Hope for a Child in Christ	All Bulilima wards	Agriculture/women economic empowerment/livelihoods.
12	Reformed Church in Zimbabwe	All Bulilima wards	Provision of sustainable, affordable, equitable and accessible eye health services
13	ORAP	6,9,18,21	Nutrition and WASH(Hygiene promotion)
14	Umzingwane AIDS Network	All Bulilima wards	HIV/AIDS Prevention, Child Protection
15	Elevators Career Guidance & Youth Empowerment Organisation	All Bulilima wards	Youth empowerment
16	Orphans friend and community development trust(OFADCT)	All Bulilima wards	Human Capital Development; Youth, Sports and Culture; Social Protection

17	Family Support Trust	All Bulilima wards	Sexual and gender-based violence prevention and response
18	Matabeleland Aids Council	All Bulilima wards	HIV prevention
19	Jointed Hands Welfare Organisation	All Bulilima wards	Health, Social development, Disaster risk management, strategic information and knowledge management, resilience strengthening
20	Nutrition Zimbabwe	All Bulilima wards	To improve communities absorptive adaptive and transformative capacities, to improve social behavior, change strategies that improve nutrition practices resilience

3.10.10.11. VULNERABLE OR DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITY: THE SAN COMMUNITY

Bulilima District is one of the districts that has a special group of vulnerable community members called the San. The group is found in the Maitengwe wilderness area, bordering Tsholotsho to the north, Botswana to the south, and Hwange National Parks to the west. The San community is found in two villages, namely Sabasi and Gwamagwama. Before 1990, the San community lived in the Maitengwe wilderness, relying solely on traditional hunting and the collection of wild fruits for their survival. At the inception of the CAMPFIRE programme in the early 1990s, extensive engagement programmes were done by the Government of Zimbabwe through the Centre for Applied Social Sciences (CASS), Department of National Parks and Wildlife Management, to relocate them out of the Maitengwe wilderness to make way for wildlife conservation. As a result of these engagements, the group agreed to be relocated on condition that the Government of Zimbabwe would provide the necessary support they deserved to improve their livelihoods. These organisations supported the San

community by assisting them with building materials and farming implements for them to settle down. The group has a total population of about 493 people with 74 households. A total of 102 children between the ages of 5 and 12 go to Makhulela Primary School. There are also a total of 43 children of school-going age who are not going to school because of a shortage of decent clothing, a shortage of books, no fees, and, above all, the absence of food. The San community also has children below the age of 5, and the total number comes to 51.

Integration with other tribes

The objective of the Government of Zimbabwe, in relocating the San community from the wilderness into a new settlement area closer to other communities, was basically to try and integrate them with other tribes like the Ndebele and Kalanga people. However, integration is proving difficult because of the nature of the group, which is reserved and unwilling to mingle with other tribes. The group prefers a solitary life due to their unique cultural values. Exposing their culture to other tribes was not something they liked. Even intermarriages as a means of cultural integration are proving impossible.

Support rendered to the group

The CAMPFIRE programme helps them a lot through the distribution of game meat shot by clients on safari. Annually, a total of about 10 elephants are shot by clients, and meat is distributed to them as rations. They also benefit from the CAMPFIRE revenue, which is used to buy them farming inputs and implements, food supplements, and clothes, among other benefits. Recently, the Government of Zimbabwe, through the First Lady, Dr. Auxilia Mnangagwa, and under the government's mantra of leaving no one and no place behind, engaged the group, and it extended its support to them by drilling a borehole and distributing food hampers and clothing. The First Lady is also building a primary school to improve their academic status. The goal is to get them educated. The belief is that once they gain some education, they can effectively integrate with other tribes and engage in intertribal marriages. However, their culture is quite unique and important to preserve.

Every year, the First Lady conducts cooking competitions for the San women. The winning candidates go on to compete at the provincial level until they reach the national level. One woman

won at the provincial level and qualified for the national-level competitions in cooking traditional dishes.

Consultative Process on their needs

It has been reported that a Consultative Needs Assessment meeting with the San Community was conducted on January 25, 2024, where all 70% of the members attended. The meeting was conducted in their village and was attended by the village head, Matjena Moyo. The meeting revealed the necessary support they would require from well-wishers and potential donors.

a.) Solarisation of a borehole

The First Lady drilled a borehole for the San Community and installed a bush pump on it. The borehole is producing a good amount of water. The San community wants the borehole solarized and a 2-hectare garden established and fenced. The garden has to use a drip irrigation system for watering. They want this to be one of their few income-generating projects to improve the group's food security. Excess vegetables produced from this garden shall be sold to the surrounding communities, and funds generated will be used to buy text books and other items for school-going groups.

b.) Training in Income Generating Projects

The San Community wants assistance to support income-generating projects. From the consultations done, the following were noted:

- Women want training in baking, sewing, hairdressing, and general farming for business. They have a very big interest in learning new skills that would enhance their livelihoods.
- Some even suggested training in horticulture and general bookkeeping skills.
- As they do not have draft power, they suggested that a deliberate programme might be implemented by buying them a tractor and a trailer for ploughing their fields during the cropping season. The ploughing services could be extended to other communities around them, provided that the activities would generate income for them.

- A group of young ladies proposed that they would wish to go into poultry projects where they would produce eggs for sale and sell broilers to residents as an income-generating project.
- A group of young males were so keen to suggest that they would want to be trained in building as an income-generating activity. Builders in that area are in short supply, as evidenced by the builders building their school and coming all the way from Plumtree Town, which is 100 km away. Training and equipping the builders was suggested as one of the key projects.
- Currently, the San Community does not own any livestock but is hired to look after the livestock of other people and get paid. As a community, they want to own assets like goats, sheep, and even cattle. In the Kalanga culture, a community member who does not own assets like livestock is not eligible to participate in any development programs. As a result, any member of the community with no assets feels uncomfortable attending any development meetings.
- Makhulela Ward 9 grows quite a lot of pearl millet. The community expressed a desire for projects such as a grinding mill, which would process and package pearl millet for sale.
- The same community requested assistance in embarking on a fence-making project. The demand for fences is high in Makhulela. Communities in Makhulela frequently destroy vegetation by using trees to fence their crop fields, gardens, and homes. A fence-making project aims to foster a shift in the communities' mindset towards the conservation of vegetation. There should be a gradual transition from using fresh wood to fence crop fields and homes to using wire fencing.

The Role of the Masterplan in assisting Vulnerable Communities

The master plan exercise presents an opportunity to integrate this special group of vulnerable community members into the district's developmental agenda. The plan should address all of this community's special needs and make the community a special participant in the district's

developmental issues. This is in line with the government's mantra of leaving no one and no place behind.

In addition, the master plan should include measures to try and preserve the distinctive cultures and languages of this unique group, which are currently in danger of extinction.

3.11 The Role of Traditional Leaders

Traditional Leaders Act (Chapter 29:17) of Zimbabwe is a law that establishes local government and the appointment of traditional leaders, such as chiefs, headmen, and village heads. The Act also defines the roles and responsibilities of these leaders, and provides for the establishment of various assemblies and committees.

Traditional leaders were noted to have been parcelling communal land without the approval of the Local Authority thus in terms of Traditional Leaders Act (Chapter 29:17), in reference to allocation of Communal Land - (1) No land shall be allocated in terms of this Act except with the approval of the appropriate rural district council, which shall be the administrative authority with overall control over the use and allocation of all Communal Land. (2) The allocation of Communal Land in terms of this Act shall be carried out in accordance with the Communal Land Act [Chapter 20:04].

3.12 PARASTATALS

There are several parastatals at the district level, and their links with the RDC are crucial for the development of the district in the medium to long term. Key parastatals which are actively involved in the district include the Zimbabwe Electricity Supply Authority (ZESA), the National Railways of Zimbabwe (NRZ), Post and Telecommunication and Agricultural Rural Development Authority (ARDA). The parastatals deal with clients in a direct manner. However, in their long term plans and visions of demand there is need to liaise with the RDC in order to harmonise development in the district. Current sector Ministries assist Bulilima Rural District Council in several fields of activity:

- Spatial and land use planning.
- Design and construction of small to medium dams/ engineering works.
- Advise on agricultural projects, including dissemination of farmers' education.

- Water and sanitation projects and programmes.
- Livestock, Wildlife and Veld Management.

3.12.1 Central Government Agencies

There are several government agencies that operate development programmes and services at the district level. The process of decentralisation will eventually see many, if not most, of these functions performed by the RDC. However, the lack of capacity at the RDC is often cited as a critical obstacle to faster devolution of function.

3.12.2 Ministry of Local Government and Public Works

This is the parent ministry of the local authority responsible for supervising the local authorities and ensuring that they work within the provided legal framework. The

Ministry is represented at district level in two ways, firstly through the District

Administrator, whose main function is to coordinate development in the district. Secondly most of the resource, financial and developmental come from the central government. The local authority receives its grant through the ministry and specific measures are put in place to ensure compliance before the release of funds.

The relationship between the RDC and the MLGNH is crucial to the future development of the district. The Department of Physical Planning, which falls under this Ministry, is not represented at district level but a planner from the provincial offices is assigned to the district.

The national RDC Capacity Building programme has three key elements: Institution Building, Capital support and Training. The first two aspects are managed through a Provincial Support Team based in Gwanda. The Capital programme is now in operation and the district has identified a number of capital projects for implementation under the programme.

3.12.3 Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Fisheries, Water, Climate, and Rural Development

This Ministry provides district-level support to farmers through Agritex and the Department of Veterinary Services. Agritex extension officers reside in various localities and provide

advice and training, mainly to Master Farmers and such other farmers as are in easy reach. Formulate, review and implement viable agricultural policies, develop strategies to ensure food self-sufficiency and security as well as for export, develop strategies to rebuild the national herd and dairy herd, analyse, assess, monitor and evaluate the impact of the national agricultural and climate policies, provide agricultural engineering, mechanisation and irrigation services to the agricultural sector;

The strengthening for the administration of land between Rural District Councils is enable them to plan, implement and manage their own development programmes through a learning by doing process. The learning by doing process enabled Rural District Councils to adapt to a new culture of operation, which is commensurate with additional roles brought about by amalgamation.

3.12.4 Ministry of Health and Child Welfare

The Ministry has a strong representation at district level. It operates the district health centres and clinics The Ministry is advanced in preparing its plans for decentralisation, which include setting up a District Hospital with representation from the RDC and other local organisations as well as devolving the operation of its Rural Health Clinics to the RDC.

3.12.5 Ministry of Education Sport and Culture

The Ministry is represented at district level. It approves the construction of schools, teacher allocation and allocates capital funds through School Development Committees.

It is also responsible for the payment of all teachers' salaries. There are no immediate plans to decentralize the district education service.

3.12.6 Ministry of Transport and Energy

The Ministry is represented in the district through its road maintenance units.

Overall policy direction is centralised at national and provincial levels.

3.12.7 Ministry of Public Service Labour and Social Welfare

The Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare is responsible for the Poverty Alleviation programmers and undertook joint programming with Development Partners which has reduced chances of double dipping by households. In light of the projected 38% food insecurity, the re targeting exercise will be conducted by the Ministry to improve programming. There are advanced plans to implement a new Community Action project which is intended to provide support to the poorest sections of the community to develop social, environmental and infrastructural projects of their own choice and design.

3.12.8 Bulilima Rural District Council

The Rural District Council is administered by a legislative council of elected members from across the district. The Council comprises 35 councillors and some specially appointed members to serve interest groups such as chiefs. The RDC also comprises a range of professional and manual staff who carry out a wide range of functions The Elected Council makes policy decisions and the staff provide expert advice to the Councillors and administer and operate the district on a day to day basis following the policy of the Council and its committees. A chairperson chosen by the Councillors heads the elected Council and the paid officials from the council are headed by the Chief Executive Officer. The details of the respective elements of the Rural District Council area set out below:

3.12.8.1 The Committee Structure of Bulilima Rural District Council

The Rural District Council has certain committees of elected councilors, which are constituted and regulated in a manner prescribed by the Rural District Councils Act (Chapter 211). The committees are concerned with the detailed consideration of various aspects of local government work, and they formulate recommendations for submission to Council. They also act as a link between elected members and paid officers and are responsible for the control and supervision of departments of the Council. These committees are different from permissive committees which councils can opt to set up through their general enabling powers. In terms of the relevant statutes Rural District Councils must appoint a number of committees which have to include the Finance Committee of council. Bulilima Rural District Council has four standing committees which are:

- Finance, staffing and general purposes committee
- Town Board committee
- Roads committee
- Social Services committee
- Natural Resources and Conservation committee

The responsibilities of each committee is set out below:

3.12.8.2 Finance, Staffing and General Purposes Committee

The Finance, Staffing and General Purposes Committee shall have power to regulate-

- The collection of all income and the expenditure of all monies authorized in the confirmed estimates or supplementary estimates of council: and
- The overall financial affairs of the Council and its Committees; in the accordance with operational instructions or by laws, if any, of the Council.
- Responsible for all staffing matters i.e. recruitment, discipline and dismissals.
- Any other issues as and when delegated by Council.

3.12.8.3 Roads Committee

A roads committee shall have such powers relating to the construction and maintenance of roads as arc delegated to it by the Council.

- A Roads Committee shall have power to impose levies, rates, rents, charges, to borrow money, to appropriate property or make by-laws.

3.12.8.4 Social Services Committee.

The Committee is responsible for the following: -

- In charge of all health, education, and social services run by the council, including outreach programs, clinics, mobile clinics, primary and secondary schools, pre-schools, farms, village community workers, stadiums, community centers, and halls, as well as movie theater and library operations.
- A Social Services Committee shall not have power to impose levies, rates, rents, charges, to borrow money, to expropriate property or make by-laws.

3.12.8.5 Natural Resources and Conservation Committee.

The Natural Resources Committee shall perform its duties in terms of the Natural

Resources Act Chapter 150 and shall be responsible for;

- the preservation, protection and improvement of natural resources in its area and to make recommendations relating thereto the Council,
- subject to the Council, to inaugurate and undertake works and other measures for;
 - (i) Soil and water conservation in its area; or
 - (ii) The proper management and control of the use of natural resources, including any measures that a conservation committee may be authorized to undertake in terms of any other law.

3.12.9 The Role of the Councilors

The council members, who are the democratically chosen representatives of the Bulilima people, make decisions for the council. According to the Rural District Councils Act, council meetings are held once a month, while special sessions may occasionally be called to address a variety of concerns and make decisions on particular matters. The decisions taken by the various committees are the primary basis for council meetings.

Until they are adopted by the Council and become Council resolutions, the proposals of any committee are not binding decisions made by the Council. In addition to serving as the chair of all Council committees, the chairperson also preside over meetings in their entirety. Since each department within the Council is accountable to a committee, officers report on a variety of council operations, including the implementation of policy decisions to the councilors who serve on these committees. While the various committees make decisions, council personnel handles day-to-day operations and top officials in the respective departments advise the committee members.

3.12.10 The Administrative Structure of the Council

The Council's activities are co-ordinated by the Chief Executive Officer who is the chief legal advisor and the head of the management team of officers. The Chief Executive Officer is the main link between the Rural District Council and the Ministry of Local Government, Rural and Urban development on administrative issues. There are six Departments within the Council, each of which has specific functions and responsibilities and contributes to the overall administration, control and provision of services to Bulilima. The Departments are as follows:

- Administration
- Social Services

- Natural Resources

- Finance/Treasury

- Engineering

- Audit

The relationship between the various Departments of the Council and the committees may be seen in Figure 1. The heads of the Departments together with the Chief Executive Officer make up the management team.

3.12.11 Departmental Functions

The detailed functions of the different Departments are set out below: -

3.12.11.1 Administration (Chief Executive Officers Department)

- Policy Development, interpretation, implementation and review
- Creation of sound administrative systems
- Management of Council Committee work
- Information Management
- Assets management
- Human Resources development management
- Payroll management
- Servicing other departments
- Performance management

3.12.11.2 Finance/Treasury

- Revenue generation and collection
- Identification of new sources of revenue
- Maintenance of accounting records
- Preparation of financial reports
- Preparation of final accounts for audit
- Budgeting and budgetary control
- Debtors and creditors management
- Preparation of statutory returns
- Effecting payments
- Advisory role on financial issues

Bulilima Rural District Council Organogram.

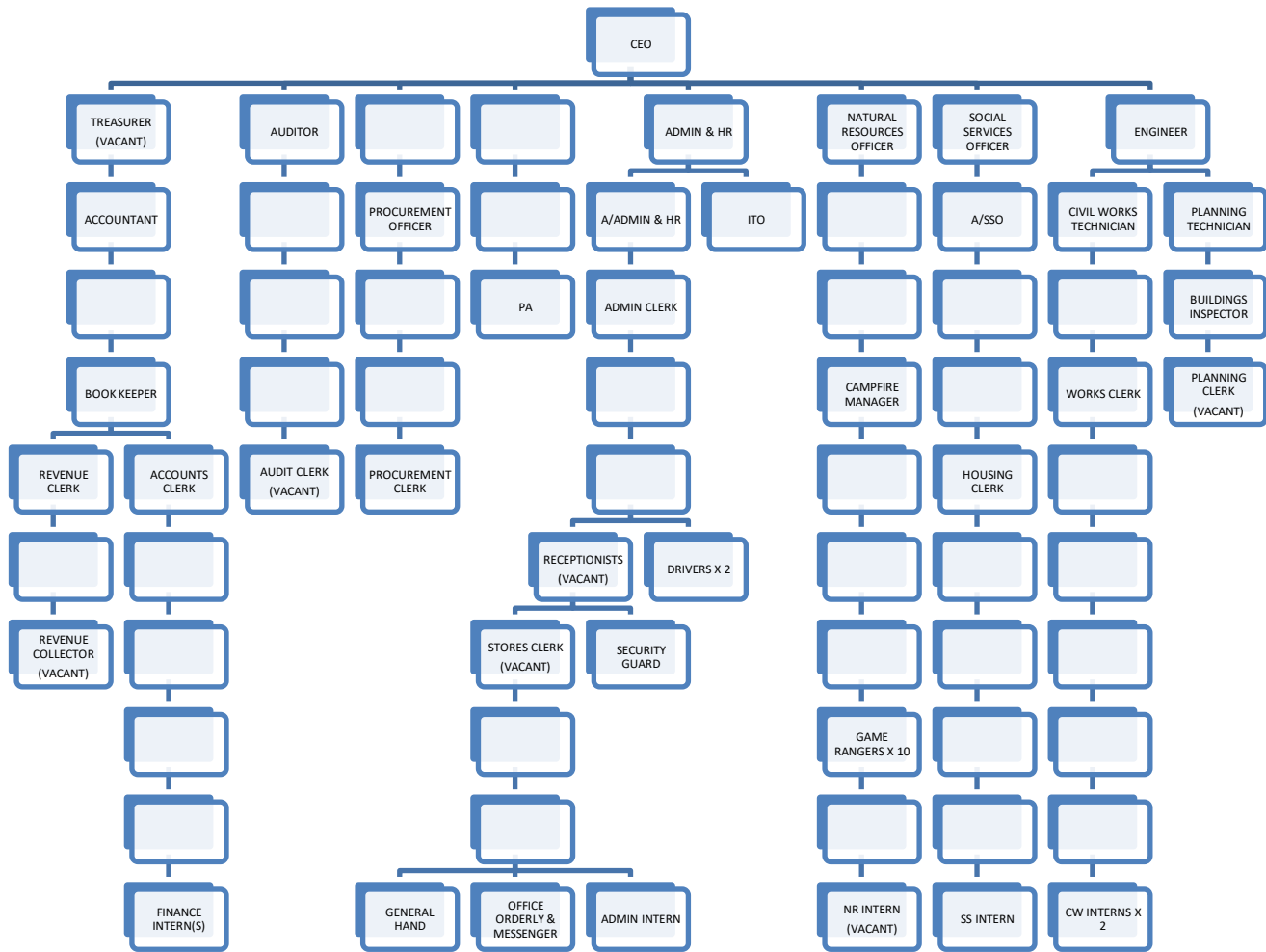


Figure: RDC Organogram.

Planning Projects

- General control of development — preventing illegal construction, substandard structures etc.
- Building and maintenance section responsible for council projects, inspection of building plans as well as buildings under construction in the area under Council, and compilation of reports thereof.
- Processing of applications on acquisition of commercial and industrial stands (regardless of location), maintenance of records thereof and general enquires related thereto.
- Advising the application on planning and development requirements pertaining to stand(s) being applied for (location of stand, pegs, water and sewer connections, servitudes and others).
- Administration of the Council's Workshop, repairs and maintenance of Council vehicles, plant and machinery as well as the Council's electrical services (fittings, repairs, street lights etc).
- Housing administration in terms of Council's incorporated by-laws and other policy (including registration of house seekers on the housing waiting list and the allocation of council - built accommodation.

Social Services

- Provide health and education services
- Provision of wash services
- Community empowerment through capacity building
- Delivery of housing and social amenities
- Facilitate provision of social safety needs
- Gender mainstreaming

Engineering.

- Development control.
- Infrastructure development and maintenance.

Audit.

- Coordinating entity wide risk management plan
- Evaluate and report on council compliance to policies, laws and regulatory issues
- Internal consultancy activity for effective and efficient procedures development
- Conduct value for money audits
- Evaluate that significant financial, managerial and operational information is accurate reliable and timely

Natural Resources.

- Disaster risk reduction
- Management, conservation, monitoring and control of natural resources
- Development of conservation by-laws
- Establishment and strengthening of natural resources institutions

Conservation

- Environmental Management Control.
- Facilitation of local economic development.

Networking and Capacity Building

In an effort to accomplish coordinated development in the District, the Bulilima Rural District Council makes an effort to establish connections with all pertinent administrative and development organizations.

Of particular importance in this respect are the Provincial Administrator and various sector ministries of central government. In addition, there is need to liaise with the District Administrator on all matters relating to rural hinterland.

The council is also experiencing a skills shortage among its own staff members. There is a need to consider hiring trained labor or identifying ways of improving the professional abilities of existing

employees, as well as generally increasing the Council's capacity to meet the growing needs of district planning and management.

Bulilima Rural District Council Finance

Bulilima, like most RDCs and towns, struggles to generate sufficient revenue to provide adequate service levels. Bulilima Rural District Council is currently dealing with the following issues:

- The district has low income from rates, fees, and licenses.
- Central government grants and loans are declining.
- High inflation and increasing costs.
- The Council's recurrent expenditure tends to be higher than capital expenditure.

Income

The grants received by the Rural District Council from Central Government related to devolution funds for projects and their health and educational services. The grants are used to meet a proportion of the salaries of health workers in the Council's clinics and to meet some aspects of recurrent expenditure. The government is also expected to refund to council health and educational fees of the poorest sections of the community who are exempted from payment.

Local Revenue

The major sources of the Rural District Council's own revenue are safaris, other fees and licences, rates, cattle levies, development levies and Campfire.

District Planning and Management

The Rural District Council do not have a planning department or a professional town planner and continues to rely on the support of the Department of Spatial Planning and Development for many planning services and advice. Department of Spatial Planning and Development

prepares housing and other layouts on behalf of the RDC, which approves such designs before they are formally submitted for approval by the ministry of Local Government and National Housing under the revised edition of the Regional Town and Country Planning Act. 1996.

The Rural District Council is the local planning authority in terms of the Regional Town and Country Planning Act and determines planning applications for development. Applications are analysed by the Projects and Planning Department. Since there are no statutory plans to guide decisions on planning applications reference is sometimes made to the existing layouts prepared by the RIDA some years ago.

Promotion and Incentives to developers

Bulilima Rural District Council lacks resources or expertise to mount a promotional campaign to bring investment into Bulilima. However, efforts have been made to attract potential investors into the District. The issue will need to be considered in terms of the economic and financial strategies of the Rural Master Plan so as to strengthen the Council's ability to attract inward investment.

4 PART 3: CONCLUSION PROBLEMS AND ISSUES

4.1 National Regional Settings

Bulilima district is strategically located, 100km south-west of Bulawayo and 94km from Francisc town and is close to the Bulawayo-Botswana railway line. Despite its Peripheral location the districts sub regional position offers potential for cooperation in terms of communication and trade.

The district falls within Natural Region IV, a region generally regarded as being of low agricultural potential, suited only for extensive farming such as livestock and game ranching.

4.2 Natural Resources and Environment

The district is home to four primary types of soils: gneiss-derived soils, granite-derived soils, weathered soils from the Gold Belt Complex, and aeolian sands. Despite being shallow, skeletal, and poorly developed, the soils are naturally fruitful. Nonetheless, they react favorably to the application of water.

The terrain is mainly flat and low altitude, creating a hot, dry atmosphere with rapid evaporation. Thus, in the majority of the year, evapotranspiration surpasses rainfall. The district's rivers are seasonal, making dam construction necessary to provide crop and livestock irrigation during the dry season when water becomes scarce for sustainable arable and pastoral agriculture.

The Bulilima District lies in agro-ecological region IV, It frequently experiences periodical droughts marked by dry periods in the middle of the season. The region experiences fairly low rainfall of 450-650mm per annum which is uncertain for cash cropping except in certain very favorable localities where limited drought tolerant crops can afford a sideline. It is recommended that land in this district should be utilized for ranching, along with hardy crop development for increased yields and production.

Five vegetation types exist in the district mainly: Gusu forests of Baikiaea and other related species of the Kalahari Sands, Terminalia tree savannah on sands and loamy sands, Acacia spp on clays, Collophospermum Mopane woodland and Mopane tree savanna and Dry deciduous savanna.

4.3 Environmental problems in Bulilima are:

- Deforestation - this is because a large number of people in Bulilima continue to use wood fuel and due to a lack of electricity or solar power in the communal areas where people use wood fuel as a major source of energy.
- Erosion - this is mainly due to poor settlements patterns and land use systems in the district.
- Siltation has been noted as a major problem in the district.
- Poor Urban Landscape - this is a result of lack of maintenance and effective development control.

4.4 Population.

- The district has a large youthful population, which has to be considered in the planning of educational, health and other facilities.
- There are more women than men in Bulilima, Males outnumbered females in only one ward out of the 22 wards that were counted at the 2022 Census.
- The district has generally low population densities by national standards, but the land's carrying capacity is likewise low.

4.5 Economy and Employment

- In view of high rates of unemployment in the district, which was estimated to be 28.1%, more opportunities for the economically active have to be sought in different sectors.
- Communal agriculture despite that it has very little returns is still the dominant agricultural activity.
- A cattle ranching is important throughout the district, and will remain so. There is need for more stock finishing and group finishing to improve sales.

- Deforestation, overgrazing, and inadequate soil management methods lead to the development of gullies, which are the leading cause of land degradation. There is a need to promote soil and water conservation measures in order to improve soil cover, conserve moisture, and retain water for agricultural output. Community-based approaches to gully management are recommended in order to ensure sustainability.
- The district has few irrigation programs, but like many other programs around the nation, their proportionate growth of grain crops is excessive. They do not support the growth of irrigation at lower levels. The development of cash crops must be encouraged in order to boost yields.

Water development, particularly irrigation, will provide the development engine in the district and is vital for district food security.

The CAMPFIRE programme has offered a new relationship between the communal farmer and wildlife resource and has brought important benefits. In addition, some commercial farmers have developed tourist accommodation on their farms and have increased the wildlife component of their stock.

An enabling environment for the informal sector has to be created in an effort to support the sector. An increasing number of families are now dependent on the informal sector for income and any future economic strategy for the district.

4.6 Social infrastructure

The pre-school education system should be well planned and coordinated so that it forms part of the district's educational system.

Whilst Primary and Secondary school facilities exist in the district, there is need to ensure that they are fully equipped. Other types of training facilities such as vocational training institutions need to be provided also.

Health facilities appear to be adequate but people have problems of access to the facilities. In addition, there is need to improve the transport network through the provision of more ambulances.

Piped water schemes, protected wells, boreholes as well as non-protected water supplies such as open wells, dams, pans and traditional seasonal wells in river beds constitute the main water sources.

There is a great dependence on ground water and boreholes for community water supplies in the district. There may, in fact, be an over-dependence on the potential for

- Many of the boreholes and wells in the district are only seasonal.
- Substantial number of boreholes and wells have dried up in the communal areas. These need to be rehabilitated and in some parts of the district additional boreholes are needed to replace shallow wells most of which have dried up.

4.7 Economic infrastructure

Pump committees need training in order to train and inform the communities on their responsibilities.

Dam sites have been identified in the district. However, several dam sites should be considered because of their vast potential for secondary purposes for irrigation and because of the benefit they have in increasing ground water reserves. Because of the vast amounts of erosion and siltation, the construction and rehabilitation of dams should be carried out with the maximum amount of community participation and awareness on the need for improved dam management and catchment area conservation.

Some households are accessing water from unprotected water sources for household requirements excluding drinking. This has resulted in the spread of water borne diseases and more water points are required in the district to increase access to safe water. Also rehabilitation of non-functional boreholes would go a long way in improving access to safe water

The condition of roads in the district clearly show that they need constant maintenance in an effort to ensure that all parts of the district are accessible.

Since buses travel through most of the district, it is important to make sure that the drivers follow their scheduled routes.

The district is connected to both cellular and fixed phone networks. The cellular system network (Netone and Econet) reach out to most of the wards in the district, in the exception of some wards where Telecommunication services are poor.

Although there is a demand for power in communal areas, it would be costly and much beyond the means of the community members to extend the service. For the common areas, alternative energy sources like solar power must be investigated and recommended.

4.8 Institutions

Government and other outsiders are crucial to the development of the district. However, a clear appreciation of the role of outsiders as facilitators, policy formulators, technical supporters and funding agents, should become a vital element of the capacity building programme.

NGOs are involved in the district and they are supporting a number of projects and programmes. NGOs are contributing to the achievement of several of the SDGs in the district of Bulilima. The participation of these organization and their intervention in solving several challenges arising in the social service department. There is a need to co-ordinate all of these efforts within an overall rural development strategy.

The district is home to a number of government organizations that carry out services and development initiatives at the district level. But many, if not most, of the RDC's functions will eventually be outsourced as part of the decentralization process.

The Council faces issues with a lack of expertise in the Planning Department. In order to fulfill the increasing needs of planning department, it is necessary to take into account hiring competent personnel as well as generally increasing the Council's capacity.

Report of Study: Stakeholder Meetings Attendees.



3/1/2024
BULILIMA RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

BULILIMA DISTRICT ATTENDANCE REGISTER

Males

Purpose of meeting: **EDDC Meeting (District Plan)**

Venue: **Council Boardroom**

Date of meeting/Workshop: **14/3/2024**

Ward/DHPT:

Total participants

Males:

Females:

No.	NAME	ORGANISATION VILLAGE	POSITION	ID NUMBER	SEX	CONTACT DETAILS	SIGNATURE
1	Nicholas	EDDC		14-02054828	F	0772432821	<i>[Signature]</i>
2	L. Majo	PSH - MAC	CHM	08-22052152	F	0771066807	<i>[Signature]</i>
3	W. buse	PSH - MAC	CHM	56-15101212	F	0786192035	<i>[Signature]</i>
4	S. Magera	N/C	5th	08-22052152	F	0771066807	<i>[Signature]</i>
5	M. Magera	N/C	5th	08-22052152	F	0771066807	<i>[Signature]</i>
6	M. Magera	N/C	5th	08-22052152	F	0771066807	<i>[Signature]</i>
7	M. Magera	N/C	5th	08-22052152	F	0771066807	<i>[Signature]</i>
8	M. Magera	N/C	5th	08-22052152	F	0771066807	<i>[Signature]</i>
9	M. Magera	N/C	5th	08-22052152	F	0771066807	<i>[Signature]</i>
10	M. Magera	N/C	5th	08-22052152	F	0771066807	<i>[Signature]</i>
11	M. Magera	N/C	5th	08-22052152	F	0771066807	<i>[Signature]</i>
12	M. Magera	N/C	5th	08-22052152	F	0771066807	<i>[Signature]</i>
13	M. Magera	N/C	5th	08-22052152	F	0771066807	<i>[Signature]</i>



2019-2020
MUNICIPALITY OF BANGOR
MUNICIPAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

33	MINOR'S ADVISORY	SMILE THE CHILDREN	KALAWAN	2019/08/18/01	M	0792 955 282	M
34	Ronald Haysene	NAC	NAC	08-295203256	M	0716 104 975	M
35	Rokson Mylar	PSR	PSR	07-0002000	M	0792 58 8805	M
36	Edmund Abon	ASA	ASA	12-2112111	F	0711 21 121	M
37	Ando n. murray	ODD	SDO	05-170612 114	F	0772 421 826	M
38	INITIATIVE	FOCUS/COMB	DFCC	05-1408 1345C	F	0855 66 674	M
39	SAMUEL K. BURE	BADC	STUDENT	50-16011531	F	045 006 873	M
40	ANTHONY NEUBE	BADC	STUDENT	35-07150465	F	090 300 2132	M
41	Imogene walton	PLAN MARK	REGISTRATION	07-17062345 M	M	0792 61 878	M
42	Overlapping Families	Govt. Zoning	Regulator	07-17062345 M	M	0713 74 551	M
43	ERISA DUBE	BADC	SSO	19-00202800	F	0712 251 392	M
44	Houssa Dahr	RZDC	Engineer	08-86141119	F	09863 63 429	M
45							
46	TONY	Plan. Eng. Pl.	315/Holmes	0925702 850	M	050 228 041	M
47	Gift Mawana	1	Owner	63-7120992	M	0722 699 111	M
48	MATTIUS SIVERER	CEADCT	PROBCT F.	08 115879 400	M	0717 760151	M
49	Mbonisi Mphahla M	B-Ride	ASSIST	52-0815114	M	0713 76 991	M
50	12/1/11 N. D. G. RICE	N. D. G. RICE	11 Rd	17-2038000	M	0773 885 993	M