

possibility of fortifying the sorghum meal with legumes and micronutrients.

- In an effort to address the nutritional requirement of the beneficiaries, the program should consider provision of other commodities e.g. legumes using the Market Assistance approach.

## **6.2 Recommendations for extension / expansion of MAP**

Extension and or expansion of MAP into other urban areas will be guided by the following:

- the level of success of the pilot program;
- the level of “need” as defined by the degree and level of vulnerability of the low income households;
- the possibility of success of the program in the prospective areas e.g. milling capacity and transportation.

Clearly, MAPP was successful in Bulawayo city. The level of need in Bulawayo is high because of the constant increase in the cost of commodities e.g. the price of maize meal doubled in June after the 87.5% increase in the producer price of maize. The monthly budget for a family of six which was quoted at Z\$968,485.00 in March increased to Z\$1,069,300.00 in May. Since there has been no corresponding increase in the salaries, several low-income households are and will continue to experience budget deficits. The need for assistance of the low-income household is high. It is highly recommended that MAP be extended in Bulawayo city. In addition, MAP should expand into the peri-urban areas of Bulawayo.

The prevailing economic climate has created a large proportion of low-income, food insecure, households in the major cities of Zimbabwe. Without relevant data on vulnerability of the low-income households, it would be difficult to rank the cities so as to identify where MAP is most required. However, given the team’s understanding of the situation in Zimbabwe, we estimate that the MAP would most likely succeed and have impact in the cities located in the semi-arid regions i.e. Masvingo and Beit Bridge. It is the team’s opinion that due to their location, Chitungwiza and Harare can better access cereals as they are in the cereal producing regions of Zimbabwe. It is therefore recommended that MAP be extended to other cities in Zimbabwe and selection will be based on the level of ‘need’ and chances of success of the program.

Success of the pilot program in Zimbabwe indicates the possibility of success of market assistance programs in other countries that experience market failures. Feasibility studies should therefore be conducted to determine the appropriate implementation strategy and possibility of success of MAP in target countries.