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Food security in southern Africa in relation to regional factors

MARIT BERCHNER – MERCATOR FELLOW ON INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

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Overview

- 1) Food security in southern Africa
- 2) Economic factors
- 3) Social factors
- 4) Environmental factors
- 5) Conclusions





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1) Food security

Reminder: Millennium Development Goals

- | | | |
|---------------|---|--|
| Target
1.C | Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger | 1.8 Prevalence of underweight children under five years of age |
| | | 1.9 Proportion of population below minimum level of dietary energy consumption |



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1) Food security

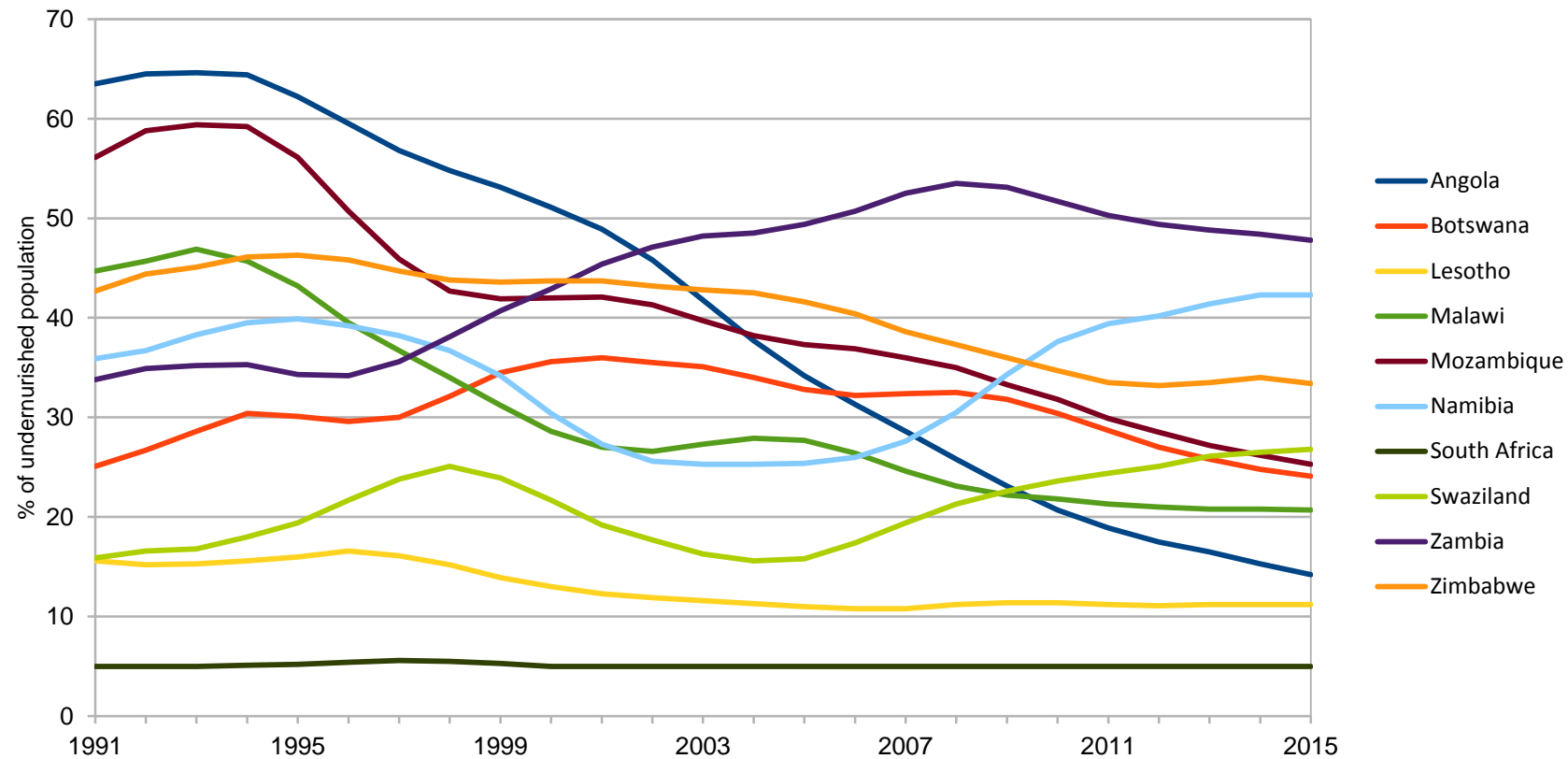
Underweight children: data gaps / inconsistencies

Ranging between 5.8 % (Swaziland in 2010) and 16.7 % (Malawi in 2014) (World Bank)



1) Food security

Prevalence of undernourishment in southern African countries, 1991-2015





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2) Economic factors

Role of **inclusive** economic growth

Role of economic slowdown?

Fluctuations in oil prices

Investments in agricultural infrastructure declining, peak of OECD ODA in 2013

Agriculture: 8% of GDP in SADC region, above 28% if middle income countries excluded (migration)



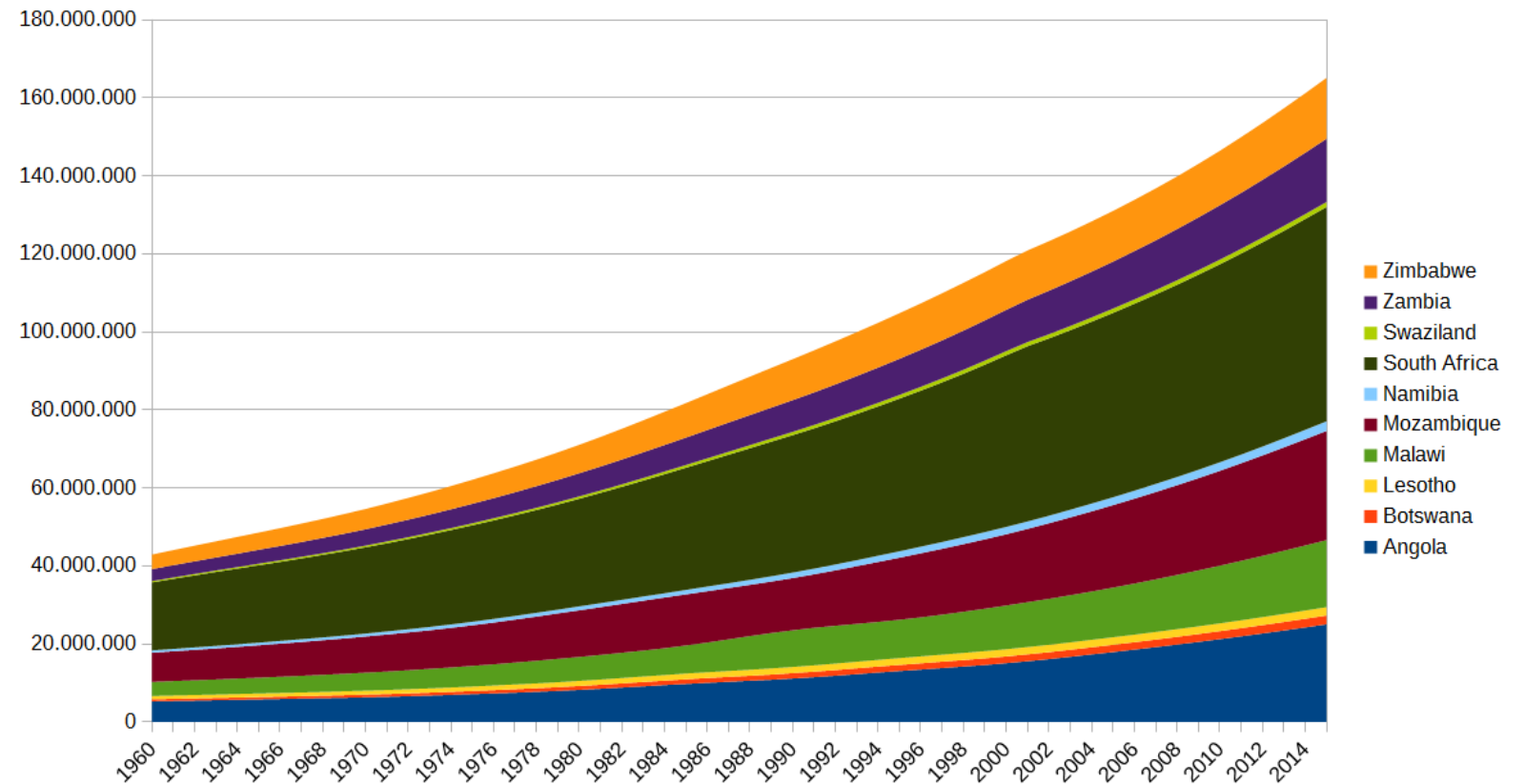
3) Social factors

Urbanization

Shift in dietary preferences

Population growth

Link nutrition – migration





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4) Environmental factors

Agricultural growth in the region achieved through expansion of agricultural land, not productivity improvements (cf. investments)

Habitat shrinkage, fragmentation, degradation

About 65% of arable land in SSA is degraded – estimated \$68bn/year

Illegal fishing activities, overfishing, impacting lakes, rivers and marine resources

Climate change



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5) Conclusions

*„If countries in the region don't work on these issues together,
they will all be in trouble.“*