

FAO PLAN OF ACTION FOR ZIMBABWE (2010-15)

Transitioning Emergency into Rehabilitation and Development

Action Points for implementation of Plan of Action (2010-2015)

This brochure briefly describes the Plan of Action's (PoA) goal and proposed outcome. It also gives an overview of the pertinent issues for FAO Zimbabwe in line with the Strategic Focus Areas described in the PoA for 2010-15. This summary is expected to guide programmatic planning over the coming five years.

Goal

To improve rural livelihoods

Outcome

Improved food security through increased production and sustainable management of natural resources and the environment



Strategic Focus Area 1: Humanitarian-Livelihood assistance and increased food security

Development Objective: Improved food and nutrition security and livelihoods of vulnerable groups

Immediate objective: Target groups utilize inputs and apply recommended technical advice on agriculture, nutrition, and HIV/AIDS to improve food security

- Explore ways of ensuring that input packages for Natural Regions 4 and 5 are limited to technically sound choices
- FAO will conduct or commission livelihood studies to inform programming.

Emerging issues:

- Design and test vulnerability indicators and tools during the 2011/12 season
- Develop specific packages for social welfare cases and livelihood support based on agro-ecology and household preferences, among other factors
- Design minimum input packages and provide to all partners as guidelines, to be enforced by Government as chair of coordination. This will be achieved through impact assessments of different packages.



Strategic Focus Area 2: Increased productivity and commercialization of smallholders

Development objective: Improved agricultural (crops and livestock) productivity and commercialization of smallholders

Immediate objectives:

- Increased diversification and intensification in a sustainable manner
- Improved market linkages
- Increased resources for agricultural recovery

Emerging issues:

- Use of cell phones to collect and disseminate agricultural information
- Computerization of the Agriculture and Food Security Monitoring System
- Ensure a platform for learning from partners' experiences
- Encourage people to value trees, through incentives. The private sector should provide alternative sources of fuel, e.g. for tobacco curing. Carbon trade is an area worthy of investigation as a form of incentive.
- Activities integrating crops, forestry and livestock should be put in place.



Broiler project to increase incomes of smallholder farmers



Ploughing using a seed feeder

Strategic Area Focus Area 3: Strengthening agricultural and Early Warning Management Information Systems

Development objective: Increased Government of Zimbabwe coordination of agricultural activities

Immediate objectives

- Strengthened management information systems led by GoZ to produce reliable and timely information
- Greater technical guidance by GoZ to the humanitarian and development community

Emerging issues:

- The following will be included in all extension modules as cross-cutting issues:
 - Sustainable land management, forestry, environment
 - Climate change and adaptation
 - Gender and agriculture
 - Agricultural extension
- Promote bulking mechanisms by working with farmer groups and commodity associations to reduce transaction costs faced by smallholder farmers.