



Project Highlights

ZIMBABWE

“SUPPORT TO SMALLHOLDER FARMERS IN ZIMBABWE THROUGH IMPROVED AGRICULTURE (CROP AND LIVESTOCK) PRODUCTIVITY AND MARKET-BASED INTERVENTIONS 2010”

Project code: OSRO/ZIM/005/EC

Donor: European Union

Contribution: EUR 7 million

Implementation: 22/12/10–21/08/12

Target areas: Nationwide

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- Objective:** To create a conducive environment which reduces the dependency of vulnerable rural communal households on humanitarian assistance and improves their livelihood outcomes.
- Key partners:** AGRITEX, Department of Veterinary Field Services, Department of Livestock Production and Development, and nine NGOs.
- Beneficiaries reached:** 582 055 households (cattle dipping); 936 500 households (Newcastle disease vaccination); 3 194 households (small stock production); and 10 000 households (contract farming).
- Activities implemented:**
- 3 821 dip tanks received 18-months' supply of chemicals, 3 cattle dip tanks repaired and 7 goat dip tanks constructed.
 - Livestock Development Committees set up for each dip tank and 12 573 members trained – along with 1 500 veterinary extension agents and 1 039 dip tank assistants – in disease surveillance, dipping methods and dip tank management.
 - 4 185 150 cattle dipped, benefiting over 580 000 cattle owners.
 - 3 194 households received livestock (chickens, layers, pigs, goats), veterinary supplies, building materials, animal feed and extension support to initiate small stock production.
 - 52 households received apiculture equipment and training to start honey production.
 - National Veterinary Laboratory provided with equipment and materials to produce I2 vaccine for Newcastle disease, and 30 million doses produced and disseminated.
 - 91 935 people trained as community-based vaccinators and over 8 million birds vaccinated against Newcastle disease in each of two vaccination phases.
 - 10 000 farmers contracted by 9 private companies to grow various crops – 50 percent of inputs provided by FAO and 50 percent by companies, to be repaid after harvest.
 - Three studies conducted: (i) on buffalo-cattle interaction and potential spread of transboundary diseases in the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Conservation Area; (ii) a feasibility study on communal game ranching in semi-arid southeastern lowveld and Zambezi Valley; and (iii) a national tick distribution map.
- Results:**
- Dipping led to reduction of 4 percent in reported cases, and drop from 40.5 percent (2010–11) to 34.4 percent (2011–12) in deaths associated with tick-borne diseases.
 - Small stock producers increased their income and consumption of protein.
 - 85 percent of villages now have capacity to carry out Newcastle disease vaccination when provided with vaccines.
 - Contract farming participants saw profits between USD 20 and USD 301 – despite some challenges regarding low prices and payments.