



Project Highlights

ZIMBABWE

“Improved livelihoods for smallholder farmers in Zimbabwe through improved coordination of agricultural assistance and improved farming practices”

Project code: OSRO/ZIM/301/USA

Donor: United States of America

Contribution: USD 750 000

Implementation: 7/03/2013 – 31/03/2014

Target areas: Zimbabwe



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Objective:	To strengthen the coordination of agricultural activities at the national, province and district levels, with Government institutions increasingly taking responsibility of these efforts.
Key partners:	Ministry of Agriculture, Mechanization and Irrigation Development (MAMID).
Beneficiaries reached:	Approximately 50 000 households benefited from a well coordinated and standardized market-based input assistance programme; 80 stakeholders on a monthly basis (for a total of 11 months) benefited from information shared at monthly Agriculture Coordination and Information Forum (ACIF) meetings; and 300 key persons working in the agriculture sector benefited from the dissemination of information through ACIF.
Activities implemented:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Assisted MAMID in organizing a national workshop to strengthen agriculture sector coordination mechanisms at the provincial and district levels.Assisted the Agricultural National Steering Committee (ANSC) in developing agricultural input guidelines for the 2013/14 agriculture season, which specified the use of market-based approaches and the payment of farmer contributions for any input assistance provided to targeted farmers.Supported the development of a national nutrition strategy.Organized two provincial ACIF meetings to support and strengthen the process of agricultural and food and security information sharing and dissemination.Supported the Agriculture and Food Security Monitoring System (AFSMS) to produce three AFSMS bulletins and present them to ACIF.Supported MAMID to undertake the 2013 First and Second Round Crop and Livestock Assessments, and the Zimbabwe Vulnerability Assessment Committee (ZimVac) to undertake the 2013 ZimVac Food Security Assessment.Assisted MAMID in developing a gender strategy and reviewing the HIV/AIDS strategy for the agriculture sector.
Results:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Enabled MAMID to assume increased national ownership of coordination mechanisms.Improved the effectiveness, impact and synergies of agricultural interventions across Zimbabwe.95 percent of ANSC stakeholders have adhered to the agricultural input guidelines.Information generated through AFSMS is now being used to feed into other assessments, such as for the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification and ZimVac.Findings from the 2013 First and Second Round Crop and Livestock Assessments and the 2013 ZimVac Food Security Assessment have formed the basis for planning, policy formulation and decision-making by the Government and the humanitarian community at both the national and subnational levels.