



“Livelihood, food and nutrition security for smallholder women and men farmers affected by the El Niño-induced drought”

Project code: OSRO/ZIM/603/USA

Donor: United States Agency for International Development

Contribution: USD 1 975 111

Implementation: 16/9/2016 – 24/8/2017

Target areas: Gwanda, Umzingwane, Tsholotsho, Bulilima, Insiza Districts



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- Objective:** To safeguard farmers' livelihoods, avert hunger and make up for the loss of productive assets many communities experienced as a result of the El Niño-induced drought.
- Key partners:** 2 NGOs – LEAD and World Vision, Government line ministries and district extension workers.
- Beneficiaries reached:** 6 961 households from subsidized livestock feed, 8 618 households from subsidized grain and legume seeds, 271 extension staff, 4 756 smallholder farmers and 560 village health workers from training.
- Activities implemented:**
- 3 000 tonnes of livestock feed provided to Agricultural Development Associations (ADAs), who sold 2 998.4 tonnes at subsidized prices to drought-affected livestock farmers.
 - ADAs generated a sum of USD 284 348.21 from the stock feed sales, which were used to implement community-based projects.
 - 60 tonnes of crop and legume seeds were made available to 8 618 drought-hit farming families at subsidized prices through the ADAs.
 - 271 extension staff were trained and 53 crop and 9 livestock demonstrations were set up to promote good production practices among all farmers in targeted districts.
 - 560 Village health workers were trained in screening for acute malnutrition and provided with 400 mid-upper arm circumference tapes, screening sheets, community referral slips, counselling cards, Healthy Harvest training manuals and other key stationery.
- Results:**
- 27 817 cattle received feed, which improved their health and survival prospects.
 - ADA funds were used to undertake over 60 infrastructure construction and rehabilitation projects (solar-powered boreholes, warehouses, dams, feedlots, etc.), which contributed to enhancing communities' resilience.
 - Farmers were able to begin recovery following the drought thanks to the availability of seeds for planting during the main 2016/17 production season and attained harvests of 0.47 tonnes per hectare for sorghum and 0.39 tonnes per hectare for cowpea.
 - 37 851 children under the age of 5 years were screened monthly for malnutrition at community level. Of these, 823 were referred for treatment of both moderate and severe acute malnutrition.