



“Building resilience for zero hunger: Increasing small grains production and productivity”

Project code: OSRO/ZIM/604/WFP

Donor: World Food Programme

Contribution: USD 542 111

Implementation: 1/9/2016 – 30/6/2017

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



Contact

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- Objective:** To contribute to household food security by increasing the production and productivity of drought-tolerant small grains.
- Key partners:** Ministry of Agriculture Mechanization and Irrigation Development's extension service, AGRITEX, and WFP.
- Beneficiaries reached:** 5 389 farmers, in addition to 53 AGRITEX extension workers and 10 000 indirect beneficiaries.
- Activities implemented:**
- Trained 53 ward-based AGRITEX extension workers to improve the adoption of climate smart agriculture practices and small grain production.
 - Extension workers trained 409 lead farmers who then trained 4 899 beneficiary/mentored farmers from WFP's Lean Season Assistance programme.
 - 26 945 kg of sorghum seeds, along with 269 450 kg of basal fertilizer and 293 950 kg of top dressing fertilizer were distributed to the 5 389 lead and mentored farmers – 52% of whom were women.
 - 20 field days were conducted – one per ward – to provide the larger community with an opportunity to learn from the participating farmers, reaching 10 000 farmers.
- Results:**
- Beneficiary farmers surpassed average yields in their districts – from 0.25 tonnes/ha to 0.6 tonnes/ha in Mudzi District and 1 tonne/ha in Rushinga District.
 - Beneficiaries produced almost 2 390 tonnes of sorghum grain, 46% of which was sold as surplus to the Grain Marketing Board, WFP and other actors.
 - Farmers received between USD 55 and USD 300 in cash – depending on quantity sold and market – enabling them to meet other household needs, including school fees, clothes, hospital bills, etc.
 - Facilitated the creation of marketing linkages to enable farmers to sell their surplus produce, enabling beneficiaries to both generate income in the short term and have an outlet for their produce in the future.