ENSURING NUTRITION, TRANSFORMING & EMPOWERING RURAL FARMERS & PROMOTING RESILIENCE IN ZIMBABWE (ENTERPRIZE)

GRANT PROJECT FACT SHEET (2020 Edition)

PROJECT BRIEF

- US$8.8 million for the 6 year programme
- December 2014 – April 2021
- The project is part of the Livelihoods & Food Security Program (LFSP) implemented in Mashonaland Central, Manicaland & Midlands provinces
- Funded by: The Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) and managed by the United Nations Food & Agricultural Organization (FAO) and Palladium

PROJECT LOCATION

Bindura, Guruve and Mt Darwin

DID YOU KNOW?

- More than 68% of the country’s population of 16 million lives in rural areas*
- Agricultural activities provide employment & income for 60% -70% of the population*
- Many farmers are constrained by:
  - limited capacity to operate in agricultural markets
  - inadequate technical skills and knowledge to improve productivity
  - lack of access to capital to expand their production**

** (ZimStat) Inter-Censal Demographic Survey, 2017
*** (ZimStat) Zimbabwe Smallholder Agricultural Productivity Survey 2017 Report

PROJECT GOAL

The goal of the project is to improve food and nutrition security of 60,000 farming households in Bindura, Guruve & Mt Darwin districts. The project also uses the Gender Action Learning System (GALS), a community-led empowerment methodology based on principles of inclusion to improve income, food & nutrition security of vulnerable people in a gender-equitable way.

Key project outcomes include:

- Increased consumption of diverse & nutritious foods
- Increased agricultural productivity
- Increased income

Partners

Farmers’ Association of Community Self-Help Investment Groups, Mercy Corps, International Crop Research Institute for Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) and World Vision Zimbabwe
HOW THE PROJECT WORKS

The project aims to improve the food and nutrition security of 60,000 farming households in Bindura, Guruve and Mt Darwin districts under Mashonaland Central Province. To strengthen and increase the resilience of smallholder farming families, the project uses the pluralistic extension approach to capacitate farmers on climate smart agriculture for enhanced productivity and improved household nutrition and income through the following interventions:

- **Plurastic Extension Services** through capacitating and strengthening existing public, private, community and ICT based extension systems. These services speak to climate resilient agriculture practices and low input sustainable agriculture while raising awareness on nutrition sensitive agriculture, post-harvest handling and storage techniques. These also include production and consumption of small livestock.

- **Nutrition services and behaviour change communication** - The project promotes the production, processing and consumption of diversified foods including bio-fortified crops, while raising awareness on food safety and utilization of locally available nutritious foods. Farming households are also encouraged to support community-Infant and Young Child Feeding (c-IYCF) through the Care Group model.

- **Rural Finance and Market Development** through enhancing local economic development for locally based farmer group enterprises as well as linking smallholder farmers to viable input and output markets. This also includes facilitating inclusive access to financial services building on: i) Community based internal savings and lending ii) Community Based Micro-Finance trainings for enhanced financial literature and intelligence.

- **Gender Mainstreaming** through promoting gender equality as a social investment and catalyst for increased household and community resilience using the Gender Action Learning System (GALS) methodology.