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Zimbabwe Stakeholder Mapping Report: Manicaland Province

Dominica Chingarande and Prosper Matondi

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Summary

Manicaland Province is located in eastern Zimbabwe, spanning over different natural regions. The physical and natural context provides economic opportunities in the production of a variety of horticulture crops and a variety of fruits, tea, and coffee, making agriculture a key driver of the economy. Nevertheless, the availability of other resources, such as diamonds, also influences the economic activity of the province.

The stakeholder analysis is based on a review of the literature, complemented with insights gathered through focus group discussions, meetings with provincial leaders, and key informant interviews. This process led to the identification of stakeholders involved in food security programming.

The findings reveal that there is a diverse group of stakeholders in Manicaland province. These actors represent diverse interests and ways of engaging with the population. The public sector has significant influence in the province due to the variety of natural resources in the province, which are regarded and managed as a national asset rather than a provincial asset.

Food security is a priority within the development assistance. Several committees operate in the seven districts across the province. The linkages of stakeholders in the food security practice has been contextual, influenced by the occurrence of adverse natural events and overall development trends. Actors related to humanitarian/emergency assistance are present as a result of previous droughts and Cyclone Idai, which hit the province in 2018. The Government, through the Provincial Office, offers wide support, gathers and processes evidence, and coordinates within central government and with local authorities. The Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Water and Rural Resettlement (MLAWRR) plays a critical role in coordinating all agricultural activities. The Department of Agricultural, Technical and Extension Services (AGRITEX) works directly with farmers to promote and provide support for the adoption of good agricultural practices, particularly in capacity building related to climate change response. The private sector is also an important actor through the provision of goods and services, employment possibilities, and some philanthropic private foundations. Other entities such as United Nations agencies, the World Bank, and international and local non-governmental organizations have been also active in the province. Traditional leaders and their strong cultural rooting are highly respected in the province. The Manyika and Ndau manners have been particular grounding in the province, with effects on the way resources are distributed, owned, and used. Lastly, a variety of faith-based organizations play an important role in some areas with respect to health and nutrition matters.

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List of Acronyms

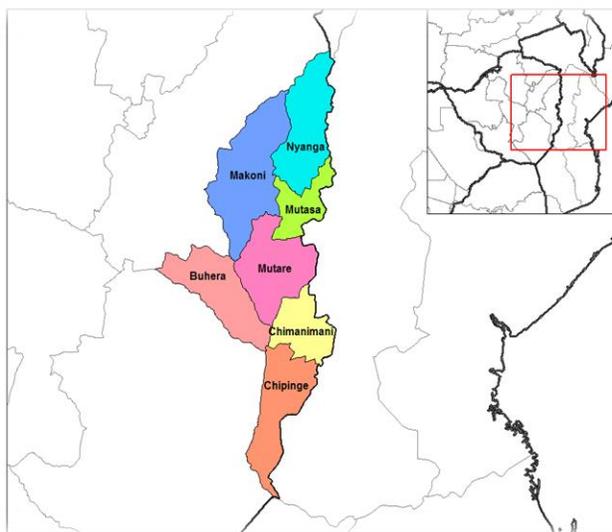
AGRITEX	Agricultural, Technical, and Extension Services
CSB	Corn Soya Blend
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DFID	Department for International Development
DFSA	Development Food Security Assistance
ENSURE	Enhancing Nutrition, Stepping Up Resilience and Enterprise
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FEWSNET	Famine Early Warning Systems Network
FFP	Food for Peace
FTLRP	Fast Track Land Reform Program
GBV	Gender Based Violence
GMB	Grain Marketing Board
GMO	Genetically Modified Organisms
GoZ	Government of Zimbabwe
HCT	Humanitarian Country Team
LSA	Lean Season Assistance
MT	Metric Ton
MLAWCRR	Ministry of Land, Agriculture, Water, Climate and Rural Resettlement
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
ORAP	Organization of Rural Associations for Progress
RDC	Rural District Council
SAFIRE	Southern Alliance for Indigenous Resources
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WASH	Water Sanitation and Hygiene
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization
WV	World Vision
ZESA	Zimbabwe Electricity Supply Authority
ZIMVAC	Zimbabwe Vulnerability Assessment Committee
ZRBF	Zimbabwe Resilience Building Fund

I. Background

Introduction to Manicaland Province

Manicaland, a province in eastern Zimbabwe with an area of 36,459 square kilometers, is a strategic gateway to Mozambique. Its 1.8 million residents make up about 13.6 percent of the national population (ZIMSTAT, 2017). The province is divided into seven administrative districts: Buhera, Chimanimani, Chipinge, Makoni, Mutare, Mutasa, and Nyanga (Figure 1). With a population density of 42 people per square kilometer, Manicaland is denser than the national average of 31 people per square kilometer. Poverty rates are high in the densely populated districts of Buhera and Chimanimani. The province includes a broad variety of natural regions, giving it capacity for a range of agricultural activities from the high rainfall areas of the Vumba Highlands in Region I to the dry and hot areas of Middle Save in Region V.

Figure 1. Districts in Manicaland



Agricultural production consists of both subsistence tillage and commercial activities. Tea, coffee, timber, horticulture, seed potato, and dairy farming account for most agricultural output. Cotton, sorghum, and millet are grown in the drier parts of the province. The Nyanga, Vumba, and Chimanimani administrative districts are marked by mountainous terrain that distinguishes them from the rest of Zimbabwe. Mount Nyangani in Nyanga district is the highest mountain in Zimbabwe at 2,592 meters of altitude.

Methodology and Analysis Framework

To ensure future food security programming is evidence-based, a literature review was undertaken, supplemented by specific insights gathered from provincial stakeholders. Food and nutrition security is defined as being achieved “when adequate, safe, and nutritious food is available, accessible to, and well utilized by all individuals at all times to support a healthy and productive life” (USAID 1992). Focus Group Discussions in the province were made up of experts in a variety of programming areas informing food security. Individual interviews were also undertaken with leaders and heads of organizations in public, private and civil society organizations in the province (CSO). Furthermore, the team used the literature of the province to generate a list of stakeholders categorized by sector, level, areas of operations/programming, and nature of food security activity. The stakeholder analysis identified institutions and individuals with significant influence on food security by virtue of their office and their level of participation in decision making. Discussions with the coordinator of nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) and the communications head for Provincial Food and Nutrition Security in Manicaland were essential in developing an understanding of key authorities influential in ensuring food security and development on the local level. Members of the Mutasa District and Food Nutrition

Security who work at the Rural District Council level also discussed food security issues with members of the research team.

The stakeholder analysis provides the context to understand when and whether a change in approach may be merited in the future. Influencing factors are based on an exposition of broader structural issues in the economy at large and in the agriculture sector in the province. This analysis of stakeholder performance is of paramount importance to understand food issues in the province and the desired scope of future interventions. Given the persistence of regression into food insecurity for most households in Manicaland province (ZimVAC, 2019), the stakeholder mapping report widely assists in exploring linkages in food security practices, thus potentially contributing to an increased understanding of future programming potential. The province as a unit of analysis was adopted and appropriate to current emphasis on the decentralization of governance systems that is a priority in Zimbabwe.

2. Summary of Key Policies, Strategies and Plans

This section describes the various policies, strategies, and plans informing food security interventions in Zimbabwe. Provincial and district plans are guided by these documents. In Manicaland province, the provincial plan was not ready, pending submittal of plans from several districts.

Government of Zimbabwe Policies, Strategies and Plans

Zimbabwe's Food and Nutrition Security Policy

Food and nutrition security is a key priority for the Government of Zimbabwe. That commitment is evident in the prioritization of its Sustainable Development Goal 2, (End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture) as well as its 2013 Food and Nutrition Security Policy, to promote and ensure adequate food and nutrition security for all people at all times, particularly among the vulnerable and in line with Zimbabwe's cultural norms (Government of Zimbabwe 2013). Under the policy, cash is generally the preferred form of food assistance transfer, however, food may be more appropriate in food deficit areas or where markets are not working.

After the massive Cyclone Idai slammed into Zimbabwe in March 2019, the government, with technical support from the World Bank, the United Nations (UN) and the European Union (EU), began developing a Zimbabwe Recovery and Resilience Framework for multisectoral and sustainable recovery of cyclone affected communities. The focus is ensuring linkages between humanitarian and recovery/resilience building.

Zimbabwe National Nutrition Strategy, 2014-2018

A National Nutrition Strategy was developed to operationalize Commitment 5 of Zimbabwe's Food and Nutrition Security Policy. The Commitment states that government is committed to ensuring nutrition security for all through evidence-based nutrition interventions within a broad public health framework

that includes health services, water, and sanitation. The strategy addresses infant malnutrition, stunting, young child malnutrition, nutrition related non-communicable diseases, and micro-nutrient deficiencies in children and adults.

Zimbabwe National Food Fortification Strategy, 2014-2018

Zimbabwe launched the Zimbabwe National Food Fortification Strategy in 2015. The food vehicles for industrial fortification included sugar, cooking oil, meal, wheat, and flour. The implementation of this strategy was heavily affected by foreign currency shortages in the country. The mandatory food fortification was passed on April 28, 2018, being a legal instrument that allows a variety of foods to be fortified. However, there has been a challenge on active engagement and participation of citizens. The Food and Nutrition Council (FNC) pushed for an advocacy and communication strategy through a multisectoral approach that has a strong emphasis on awareness on the value of fortification. The business sector, mostly those involved in food processing, has been invited at various fora to promote fortification. Due to high pricing costs and slow sells, there has been a reduction in fortification, and it is usually prioritized within the context of donor assistance. The Ministry of Health and Child Care coordinates the food dietary guidelines aimed at promoting healthy eating and lifestyles. In times of food insecurity and shortages, these could be set aside as fighting hunger becomes a key priority.

The Transitional Stabilization Program, 2018-2020

The Transitional Stabilization Program, 2018-2020, is a document that outlines policies, strategies, and projects that guide Zimbabwe's social and economic development interventions up to December 2020, simultaneously targeting immediate quick wins and laying a robust base for economic growth for the period 2021-2030. It is also underpinned by measures to stimulate agricultural production, with an emphasis on boosting farm productivity and farm yields for food security.

The Policy Framework for Productive Community Works

The Policy Framework for Productive Community Works and the Social Transfers Policy Framework identify two principal groups requiring social welfare assistance: households that are labor constrained and those that are able to provide labor. The first group is assisted through the Harmonized Cash Transfers Program, which incorporates a range of interventions including health and education grants, while the second group is supported through Productive Community Works, which provide short-term relief through the payment of wages in exchange for work. The idea is for the productive community works to contribute to longer-term economic growth through improvements to basic infrastructure and the restoration of the local environment, and ultimately enhance the livelihoods of the most vulnerable and marginalized groups through increased productivity and self-reliance (Government of Zimbabwe 2013). This policy discourages free handouts of food or cash to affected households, preferring routing support through participation in community works that create productive assets. Many development partners in Zimbabwe have already begun to support non-labor constrained households through Food/Cash-for-Assets projects.

Donor Policies, Strategies and Plans

USAID Food Assistance and Food Security Strategy, 2016-2025

USAID's 2016–2025 Food Assistance and Food Security Strategy's vision is, 'A world free from hunger and poverty, where people live in dignity, peace, and security,' with the goal of improving and sustaining food security, as well as promoting nutrition security. The strategy's focus on nutrition security signals the importance of a wide range of nutrition, sanitation, and health factors that, together with the stable availability of and access to nutritious food, contribute to improved food security outcomes. The strategy of Food for Peace also embraces the critical role of both in-kind and cash-based food assistance and the importance of building resilience. It prioritizes the use of modalities and project activities that enable vulnerable households to manage risks and protect their productive assets as early as possible in the recovery process.

USAID Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Strategy, 2014-2025

Among other things, the Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Strategy aims to reduce chronic malnutrition, measured by stunting of 20 percent or more, through long term malnutrition programming linked to humanitarian response in chronically vulnerable communities to enhance their resilience in the face of climate related shocks and stresses, among others. It emphasizes the importance of better coordination of nutrition efforts across health, agriculture, Office of Food for Peace, humanitarian and resilience programs, and making Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) more nutrition sensitive. It also supports maternal nutrition, optimal breast feeding and appropriate complementary feeding through dietary diversity in children 6-23 months of age.

Zimbabwe United Nations Development Assistance Framework, 2016-2020

Zimbabwe United Nations Development Assistance Framework (ZUNDAF) supports national development priorities and advances the attainment of SDGs as well as other international commitments, norms, and standards. Different agencies draw their mandate from this framework.

FAO Country Programming Framework (2016-2020)

The United Nations agency responsible for food security, FAO, is responsible for Outcomes 1 and 2 of ZUNDAF focus on promotion of food security in country. These two outcomes, as stipulated by the FAO Country Programming Framework, 2016- 2020, are:

- Outcome 1: Food and Nutrition Security targeting households in rural and urban areas have improved food and nutrition security;
- Outcome 2: communities are equipped to cope with climate change and build resilience for household food and nutrition security

Specifically, the framework places emphasis on:

- a multi-sectoral approach to address food and nutrition insecurity,
- facilitation of risk sensitive and sustainable agricultural production in line with international environmental obligation,

- prioritization of support to implementation of proven high impact interventions enabling households and communities to ensure maternal, adolescent, infants, and young children food and nutrition security,
- prioritization of capacity development of national institutions and support frameworks that increase agricultural production and productivity,
- promotion of interventions to improve post-harvest management and consumption of diversified nutritious food,
- facilitating access to resources for women and youth in order to increase food and nutrition security,
- strengthening climate adaptation and mitigation, disaster risk management, proper land use, and rehabilitation of productive assets to build community resilience, particularly for vulnerable populations in a gender sensitive way.

To address stunting, a multi-sectoral and targeted approach will be used: community engagement, coordination and collaboration across sectors to enhance convergence of interventions, behavior change communication for the uptake of nutrition services, and adoption of practices that promote good nutrition. Partnerships with the private sector and academics to support the implementation of the Food Fortification Strategy will be developed through Scaling Up Nutrition business networks. In line with the Food and Nutrition Policy and the National Nutrition and Food Fortification Strategies, the UN prioritizes delivery of high impact nutrition interventions based on global guidance and evidence. It is supporting Zimbabwe in its attainment of World Health Assembly targets for increasing rates of exclusive breastfeeding, reducing stunting, and controlling obesity by 2025.

UNICEF Country Program, 2016-2020

UNICEF's Country Program for Zimbabwe focuses on a number of thematic areas. The Health and Nutrition Program will contribute to equitable access to and use of high impact, cost effective, and quality health and nutrition interventions and practices among pregnant women, newborns, children, and adolescents. Interventions to address stunting will focus on maternal nutrition, timely initiation of and exclusive breast feeding for the first six months, continuation of breast feeding to 24 months with appropriate complementary feeding practices, addressing micronutrient deficiencies among children 6-59 months, and the management of severe acute malnutrition. The WASH program will contribute to disaster risk preparedness and response, strengthening cross sector linkages, emphasizing child health, and prevention of stunting as well as rehabilitation of infrastructure.

World Food Program's Country Strategic Plan for Zimbabwe, 2017-2021

Through its Country Strategic Plan (CSP) for Zimbabwe, WFP will maintain its humanitarian assistance capacity while sharpening its focus on supporting social protection and resilience agendas with a view to achieving zero hunger. WFP aims to build on its innovative work in knowledge and evidence generation while strengthening systems and institutions responsible for achieving zero hunger in Zimbabwe. In view of persistently high rates of chronic undernutrition, WFP will integrate consideration of nutrition issues into all parts of its portfolio. It will use gender and protection analyses to inform development and implementation of the CSP and ensure a gender-sensitive and "do no harm" approach throughout the portfolio. This CSP supports the Government in achieving the following strategic outcomes:

- Food-insecure people, including refugees, in the most affected districts are enabled to meet their basic food and nutrition requirements during severe seasonal shocks or other disruptions.
- Children in prioritized districts have stunting rate trends in line with the achievement of national and global targets by 2025.
- Smallholder farmers in Zimbabwe have increased access to well-functioning agricultural markets by 2030.
- Food-insecure rural households and smallholder farmers achieve food security and resilience to repeated exposure to multiple shocks and stressors.
- The social protection system enables that chronically vulnerable populations throughout the country are able to meet their basic needs all year round.
- Partners in Zimbabwe are reliably supported by world-class, cost-effective, and efficient supply chain services.

EU's National Indicative Program, 2014-2020

The National Indicative Program (NIP) for Zimbabwe focuses on three main areas, namely, Health, Agriculture-based economic development and Governance, and Institution Building. During the period 2014-2020, the EU's support to the agriculture sector will include three dimensions of social, economic, and environmental sustainability. The overall purpose is to create a diversified, competitive, and efficient sector which:

- assures increased resilience and food security at both the household and national levels;
- contributes to employment and income generation,
- improves the supply of raw materials for industry,
- contributes to improved export earnings and therefore to enhanced economic growth and stability

The EU will also play an important role in the sector through the development of value chains while contributing to the creation of an enabling business environment.

In this NIP, within the link between relief, rehabilitation, and development framework, the food assistance provided through EU humanitarian instrument has been replaced by the EU's developmental response, which attempts to address structural factors underpinning the food security crisis through support to improve agricultural productivity. EU assistance will mainstream environmentally friendly practices and adaptation to climate change in all sectors.

3. Summary of Programs and Projects

The Zimbabwe Resilience Building Fund

One pillar of support toward resilience programming in Manicaland province is the Zimbabwe Resilience Building Fund, a long-term development initiative with an overall objective of increasing the capacity of communities to protect development gains in the face of recurrent shocks and stresses, and enabling them to contribute to the economic development of Zimbabwe. The Zimbabwe Resilience Building Fund is supported by the Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Water, Climate, and Rural Resettlement (MLAWCRR), the European Union (EU), the Embassy of Sweden, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and the United Kingdom's Department for International Development (DFID). The interventions are all geared toward increasing community capacity to withstand shocks and stresses. The Fund is also supporting national surveys critical for resilience programming such as livelihoods and vulnerability assessments, poverty surveys, and agriculture related surveys. This objective is reached through multi-stakeholder implementation of three interlinked multi-sectorial outputs, namely:

- Application of evidence in policy making for resilience increased by setting up an independent base of evidence for program targeting and policy making (including M&E) and promoting capacity assessment and building of central and local government partners to improve application of evidence
- Absorptive, adaptive, and transformative capacities of at-risk communities increased and improved by setting up the Multi Donor Fund, which allows partners to come together around the Resilience Framework and principles to improve adaptive, absorptive, and to a certain extent transformative capacities of the targeted communities.
- Timely and cost effective response to emergencies rolled out via existing safety net and other relevant programs achieved by setting up a risk financing mechanism providing appropriate, predictable, coordinated, and timely response to risk and shocks to benefitting communities, from a resilience perspective.

The Zimbabwe Resilience Building Fund program is being implemented across a number of provinces including Masvingo, Matabeleland North and Manicaland. The findings of an impact evaluation of the program in 2018 revealed that communities in these provinces still exhibit low levels of resilience, expressed in terms of various outcomes, including high rates of poverty as measured by the multi-dimensional poverty index, and poor rates of food security as measured by the food consumption score. The three types of capacities, absorptive, adaptive and transformative, were noted to be low. This was evidenced by lack of savings and limited access to formal and informal support services, limited diversification of livelihoods, low production of climate resilient crops, low access to key basic services such as veterinary and Agricultural, Technical, and Extension Services (AGRITEX), and low access to markets and infrastructure (Oxford Management Policy 2018).

The program provides important lessons on the challenges to food security, which is a donor priority. It is noted that a primary objective for most households within the smallholder sector is to produce staple crops for subsistence, which is why in the 18 districts of the Zimbabwe Resilience Building Fund this has been promoted. However, the great majority of the same households engage with the markets for white maize, that is a high preference. And though promoted, the market for small grains has shifted to be a delicacy of the affluent, consumed inconsistently. Development of a market for small grains, though excellent for climate responses and better for nutrition, lags in the larger markets. Few private sector

companies have expressed an interest in small grain commercialization, thus NGOs and small enterprises engage in small-scale sales. In general, smallholders sell at least some of their produce and buy some of their inputs — tools, seed, fertilizer, agrochemicals, veterinary medicines, etc. Nonetheless, beyond the village lie sources of better livelihoods for farmers: improved technology embodied in inputs and machinery, irrigation equipment, technical advice, credit to finance investment and innovation on the farm, and markets for surplus produce. Hence when farmers link to input suppliers, banks, processors, traders, and exporters, they can benefit.

USAID/Food for Peace Development Food Security Activities

From 2013 to 2018 USAID funded a Food for Peace Development program aimed at addressing underlying causes of food insecurity in Manicaland and Masvingo provinces. The program, Enhancing Nutrition, Stepping Up Resilience and Enterprise (ENSURE), was a US\$55 million project targeting 215,000 households implemented by World Vision, Care International, SNV, a not-for-profit international development organization based in the Netherlands, and Southern Alliance for Indigenous Resources (SAFIRE) to improve nutrition, increase income, promote community resilience, and bolster environmental sustainability and gender equality. ENSURE supported pregnant and lactating mothers and children under five years of age, with a particular focus on those under two years as well as vulnerable households, through in-kind food assistance. Food/cash for assets was also applied as a means of supporting resilience based infrastructure and environmental projects as well as agricultural production. The aim was to reduce high levels of stunting. Although significant achievements were registered in terms of behavior change on gender related norms on food consumption, task sharing, appreciation of the nutritious value of small grains, exclusive breast feeding, and infrastructure development through food for asset projects, Cyclone Idai erased many of these gains, destroying infrastructure and disrupting livelihoods.

Livelihoods and Food Security Program

The Livelihoods and Food Security Program (LFSP) includes components to strengthen agricultural markets, financial support services, and nutrition and social protection. The LFSP is a GBP45 million program funded by DFID and designed to improve food security and nutrition of Zimbabwean farmers and consumers. The LFSP targets smallholder farmers in eight diverse agroecological districts of Northern and Eastern Zimbabwe, addressing constraints to productivity, market participation and the supply and demand of nutritious foods. The LFSP-MD component facilitates access to markets for smallholder farmers in crop and livestock value chains by partnering private sector off-takers who take farmer produce from farm to fork. In Manicaland, the LFSP-MD component has contracted Molus Meats, which buys broiler chickens from smallholder farmers in Mutasa, Mutare and Makoni Districts. In Mount Darwin, the LFSP-MD is working with 558 Meats, which provides the off-take market for smallholder farmers in the communal areas of Mt Darwin in the goat value chain. Michview provides off-take markets in the goat value chain in Matabeleland North province. One of its main successes has been to push for the biofortification of staple foods to enrich nutrition. That has also spread to other districts and provinces.

4. Stakeholders on Food Security and Nutrition in the Province

Manicaland Province has a variety of stakeholders supporting food and nutrition security programs that connect and interact in diverse ways, based on specific interests and mandates, and operate at high or low intensity, based on circumstance. These stakeholders operate at different administrative levels and include government units and public sector representatives (including the FNC and GMB); rural district councils; chiefs; NGOs; religious groups; private sector groups (businesses, private voluntary organizations, private trusts, etc.); traditional leaders and councilors; and provincial, district, ward, and village-level representatives and committees that focus on several food security-related matters.

Some stakeholders focus on promoting food production, while other stakeholders focus on broader food security matters. The government at the provincial level has a wide variety of coordinating institutions. The Provincial Office, led by the Provincial Administrator, usually coordinates efforts and resources through the Provincial Food Nutrition and Security Committee. This mandate on facilitating food security is part of the provincial economic growth and social well-being role. While these organizations have a wider set of mandates, food security is prominent. The relationships between the organizations are highly centralized, with reporting being done through a variety of platforms. The micro- and meso-level actors deal with matters of community mobilization and are channels for disbursing food assistance. The coordination of smallholder farmers is limited due to lack of economies of scale in Manicaland Province. Though there is evidence of trade, availability of products suffers from low volume, poor quality, weak links, and limited competitiveness given the high transaction costs.

The private voluntary organizations are overseen by the Ministry of Public Services and Social Welfare, and private trusts are registered in the Deeds Registry under the Ministry of Justice and Parliamentary Affairs. Some district-level committees are specific to those areas and influence food and nutrition in national government agencies and the non-state sector. A number of private companies also provide services and products, and these are registered under the local authorities, in accordance with the Ministry of Industry Companies Act.

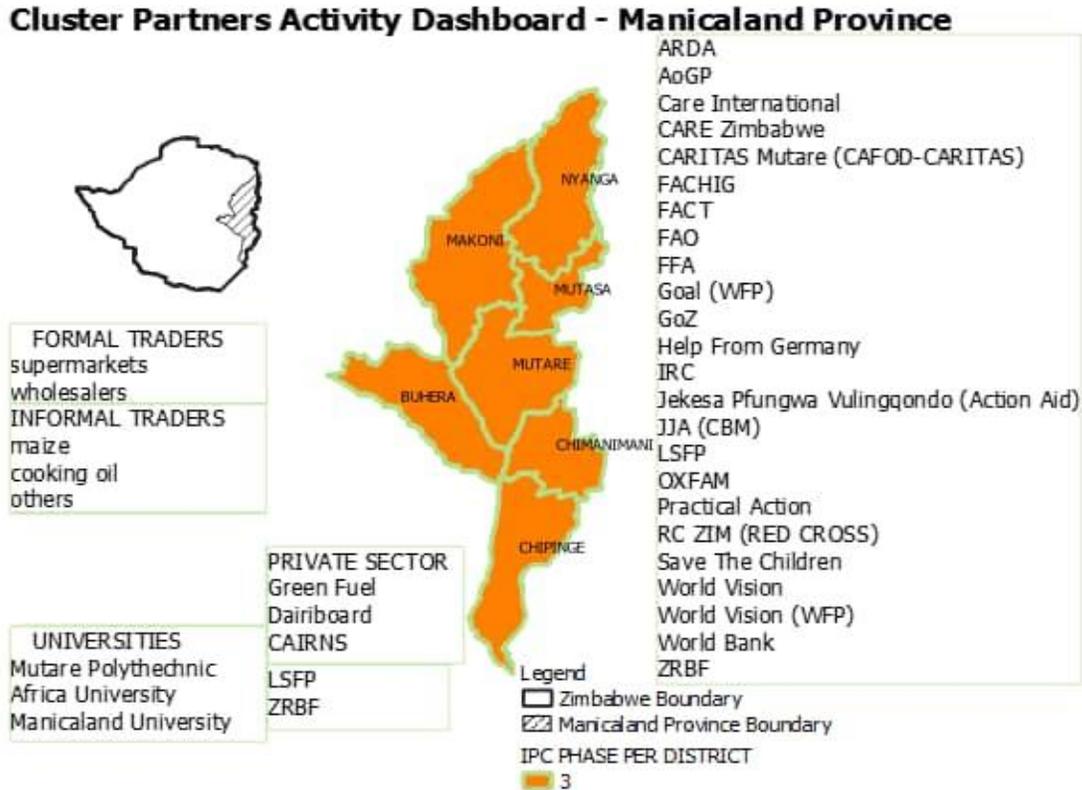
The stakeholders also play a role in the implementation of the Food and Nutrition Policy. At the subnational level, the nature of the human capital, physical infrastructure, and finance and investment climate systems is usually limited. The actors in Manicaland are expected to facilitate information and knowledge with feedback to the districts, ward committees, and village committees.

The committees are usually set up to deal with particular food- and health-related matters. There is a dense and varied network of committees in each community supporting crop and livestock production, access to health care, and behavioral change. These committees, together with the government service providers, coordinate the access to seeds, credit, tillage, extension, technology, animal health, child nutrition, and health care. There is also a strong movement to address sociocultural issues, such as patriarchal systems that restrict the role of women and girls in decision-making over ownership control of production resources. In other cases, movements engage with some religious institutions that do not allow for hospitalization, thus compromising children.

Making these elements function effectively and bring development that is sustainable requires the development processes to be facilitated in a way that ensures that communities and households are involved in matters of their development and at the same time to also facilitate their access to goods

and services. Due to the complex interplay of factors linked to food and nutrition security, diversity of players in the sector is inevitable. Some identified during the mapping exercise and from literature are depicted in Figure 2.

Figure 2. Cluster Partners Activity Dashboard



Stakeholders and Their Roles

Government and Local Authorities

The Government of Zimbabwe has a responsibility for food security as a national priority, which cascades into provinces such as Manicaland. The most important structure of food security is the Provincial Administrators office which coordinates all food security related work. In Manicaland province specific responsibilities are shared among ministries, with Department of Social Services playing a role in coordinating food distribution to the most vulnerable, including elderly, orphans, and disabled. During severe drought, the Department of Local Government coordinates with the Department of Social Welfare (DSW), with administrative assistance from other government departments such as AGRITEX and the Department of Veterinary Services, which focuses on the well being of livestock.

While the government is a key actor in food security policy and interventions, it works closely with local authorities and traditional leaders in managing food availability when there is low food production. Traditional chiefs, headmen, and village leaders are part of the structures of local government and they fall under the Ministry of Local Government. Ordinarily, local authorities such the Rural District Councils facilitate developmental work. The District Development Fund, part of the office of the

President and Cabinet, has a wider mandate on rural infrastructure that could be used for making food available in the province, but it lacks the resources to be effective. That leaves local authorities largely responsible. No longer receiving sufficient government funds, the Rural District Councils depend on service fees from residents to be functional, and usually the services are poor. The prevailing economic crisis has forced local authorities to spend more time on revenue collection, rather than focusing on planning and strategizing about service provision. They rarely participate in food security matters, which are managed through the Provincial Food Security and Nutrition Committees. The government (at different levels) usually dominates the committees that are also at district, ward and village level. Some NGOs participate in an ad hoc manner, and it was noted in the focus group discussions that this could be the most convenient platform for bringing stakeholders together. All developmental projects that come to the province should be cleared by the Ministry of Local Government at national, provincial/regional and district levels. Rural District Councils also make it mandatory for NGOs operating in their areas of jurisdiction to sign Memorandums of Understanding with them before implementing a project.

The government food security program has various institutional layers, as managed by the Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare, with the Ministry of Lands, Agriculture Water and Rural Resettlement (MLAWCRR) and the Grain Marketing Board (GMB) parastatal being a key anchor. In the regions that cover Manicaland, the GMB has 13 depots located in the 7 districts of Manicaland. All were established in the province between 1960 and 2001. This means that the GMB—and, therefore, the government—has not invested in the storage system. A major issue between the private sector and government has been whether the GMB should play a role in the grain markets. The GMB plays a significant role during times of drought and staple food shortages. During years of surplus of staple foods, GMB also processes other commodities, such as tea, coffee, cooking oil, etc. This changing of roles means that the GMB interferes with private market players, whose sole business may be in one commodity value chain. When the GMB re-enters the grain purchase markets, they retain sole mandate and become an actor that determines what millers of maize should get and at what price. Private sector interests argue for liberalization of the markets, but the government is loath to do so. Grain is a staple commodity, essential for food security. And even in times of robust grain production, urban dwellers depend on stability in the markets for access to affordable grain and maize.

The GMB depots have multiple functions. They receive grain from farmers, and they pay for it at a government mandated price made public during and after the harvest. The GMB also imports maize and wheat, which are then acquired by private processors at a prescribed price. The GMB pays for grain and wheat at international prices, and subsidizes the grain for the processors, therefore ensuring stability in food security. The depots also distribute agricultural inputs for government programs including social welfare and school feeding programs. The depots also mill grain and sell processed grain products and stock feed. Other functions of the depots include services such as fumigation and assisting in the government drought relief program.

Surplus of maize and grain is limited in Manicaland. Most maize grown in the province is consumed locally, with very small quantities reaching the formal market. The province is therefore not a major grain producing area in Zimbabwe. This affects grain market dynamics in significant ways, as urban consumers, and those in provinces such as Manicaland with wider diverse commercial agriculture in other commodities other than grain, benefit. At the national level, government has control of the GMB maize producer price, which it set at of US\$242 per metric ton, payable to farmers in RTGS dollars based on the prevailing foreign currency interbank market rate in July, 2019. Often, since the GMB sells

maize to millers at a subsidized price, the review of the maize producer price does not translate into an upward adjustment in the retail price of meal.

Emergency food needs in the intense lean season between January and March necessitate the need for food security interventions in the province. Where there are no government or NGO programs, households are dependent on borrowing maize for repayment later in the season. The government also has a program for food distribution, managed through Ministry of Labor and Social Services (MLSS), for senior citizens and orphans. This is based on lists compiled by the district Office of Social Services, utilizing professional research and targeting to limit the ability of manipulation by political parties. In most of the eastern part of the province, land is used for horticulture and forestry. In those areas, income from sale of crops and timber enables farmers to buy corn meal on the markets.

A nationally recognized traditional institutional intervention is the chief's granary (zunde ramambo), which is common throughout rural areas, including Manicaland province. In this program, traditional leaders have long allocated land to produce food for the vulnerable. The program developed into the provision of inputs and community labor pooling program for the disadvantaged. Zunde ramambo is also used to grow and store grain for communal use. During times of plenty, the grain serves the needs of the disadvantaged. When food supplies are low, the stock is also used to support the poor. In the Ndebele communities in Zimbabwe the tradition is still called "Isiphala SeNkosi". In the food mobilization agenda, there is a large gathering of people taking part in a preparing the land, and cultivation for food that would be stored, managed and distributed to the disadvantaged.

Through free subsidies (Presidential Inputs Program), Zimbabwe's government supports traditional leaders. But the program remains informal, varying with contemporary government laws and imbedded social, economic and political mechanisms. Often the subsidies include either a store of grain at the residence of the local chief, or a communal plot where communities pool labor to cultivate the land and manage the crops.

While it is common for many members of the community to participate in planting and harvesting of crops, there are no mechanisms for monitoring distribution of outputs. According to interviewees, with little centralized leadership over communal storage and cultivation, the programs are dependent on households for contributions of resources, labor and technical expertise. As people become individualized, the program suffers, as there is no local community recognition and/or commitment. Diaspora remittances have also been a key factor in lagging interest in local communal food security programs. As certain families become dependent on remittances, communal plots are seen as peripheral, despite their use in meeting the needs of the vulnerable, such as the elderly, orphans and the disabled.

NGOs in Manicaland Province

Non-governmental organizations in Manicaland include: Toward Sustainable Utilization of Resources (TSURO), with a focus on permaculture, Students Partnership Worldwide¹, which works on youth awareness ventures, Chimanimani Business Trust (CBT), which funds business projects, Africa University, which offers leadership training and policy advocacy, and the Centre for Renewable Energy

¹ International non-governmental organization which has been renamed to "Restless Development".

and Environmental Technology (CREET), which focuses on utilization of resources found in the province.

Many non-governmental organizations focus on family planning, health and nutrition, given the high levels of poverty found in some districts. Key local organizations include Family Aids Community Trust (FACT) with a main presence in Makoni, Rusape and Chimanimani. Its primary programming promotes health and nutrition through practical community projects. Institute for International Development (IID) in Mutare, Mutasa and Chimanimani works to facilitate development and governance related issues. In Buhera, Chimanimani and Chipinge, Southern Africa for Indigenous resources (SAFIRE) undertakes community work on natural resources management through rehabilitation of land in major catchments. It also promotes nutrition related issues. In Chimanimani, Intermediate Technology Development Group (ITDG) has been key in establishing small dams and improving land management. It promotes the production and marketing of mushrooms to improve nutrition and generate income. Institute of Environmental Studies (IES) at the University of Zimbabwe has promoted the capacity of communities in Chimanimani to organize to more effectively manage and utilize Baobab and other woodland-based natural resources to sustain natural resource based enterprises. The University of Zimbabwe's Development Technology Center (DTC) promotes the production, processing and marketing of cassava in Chimanimani to improve household food security and increase household incomes. The Center works primarily with farmers growing cassava on a small scale in Rusitu, Chikukwa and Shinja.

Development Partners Supporting NGOs

High poverty levels in Manicaland make it a beneficiary of food security programming by a wide variety of international, donor-supported development partners. CARE International, PLAN Zimbabwe, Save the Children, SOLIDAR MED, Oxfam, Christian Care, Goal Zimbabwe, Mercy Corps, and World Vision are all operational in the province. They pursue poverty alleviation, development education, dam rehabilitation, market linkages, and processing of agricultural and natural resources commodities to earn income. Addressing food emergencies is a priority for most of the international NGOs, with local partners engaged as food distribution agents. Donors provide funds for food assistance, which is used to buy food, often from international markets. Foods prioritized include maize grain, cooking oil, and pulses. Recently in Manicaland the WFP has prioritized local procurement of grain within the province, aggregating and redistributing to households in need. 'Domestic' food assistance interventions such as school feeding plans, free food parcel programs, and food for assets programs also play a role. But food assistance as a stand-alone intervention creates dependency. In some cases, local politicians use food assistance as a tool to retain power, leading to the destruction of food systems from production through sale.

Collaborations between international stakeholders and the private sector also take place. Both WFP and FAO have been testing a model with PALLADIUM and formerly GRM to implement the Livelihoods Food Security Program (LFSP) in the Mutasa and Makoni districts. One NGO, Environment Africa, seeks to educate the local community on the benefits of environmental conservation, promoting the implementation of environmentally friendly projects such as bee keeping and the establishment of tree nurseries.

Major international NGOs working in Manicaland, primarily on emergency food delivery during times of crisis, include Christian Care, World Vision, Care International, Africare, World Lutheran Federation, Plan International, Catholic Relief Services, Save the Children, International Rescue Committee, and

HELP Germany. The World Bank has also mobilized US\$75 million in response to Cyclone Idai, to be implemented by NGOs in the affected districts.

Private Sector

Involvement of private sector partners in development is proving to be one of the most sustainable ways to perpetuate community development and business potential in Manicaland. The donor community has woken up to that possibility and many of them prefer public-private sector partnerships because they can ensure project continuity after donor funding ends. There is a need to incentivize the private sector to participate in community development projects, not just for public relations, but as social enterprises to bolster the communities from which they draw resources. Adequate policy instruments are needed to promote public-private partnerships that take into consideration business interests as well as social development priorities.

Much of the food is distributed in Manicaland through trade and market transactions. However, the private sector plays a significant role in control of food markets, despite intermittent government interventions. The private sector Grain Millers Association negotiates for exclusive financial deals that depend on volume of product supply. This benefits them, as in a liberalized market for grains they import wheat and tend to offer prices that benefit their shareholders. The private sector in Manicaland, as in all other provinces, also plays a role in financing agriculture and therefore in the food security architecture. Most commercial banks underwrite the financing and insurance of government inputs. The command agriculture has largely been implemented by an exclusive private sector entity selected by government, though in the current season it opened to more players to handle financing with project expenditure of more than US\$3 billion.

Several agricultural companies play a significant role on the economy of the province. The horticulture value chain has remained a consistent contributor, with vegetables and fruits such mangoes and pineapples processed in the province. Some companies, such as Cairns Food Limited, have invested in boosting smallholder vegetable production in Chipinge, Chimanimani and Buhera, and potato production in Nyanga. In response to private sector market guarantees, smallholder farmers have organized to sell produce in bulk to markets outside Manicaland. Several international NGOs have provided assistance to the farmers, while private sector companies such as Matanuska Bananas prefer producers to collectively supply to their main market sorting center in Harare. Cairns has been promoting groups in Cashel Valley to provide produce in bulk to their refurbished processing plant in Mutare city. The market assistance by the companies and NGOs has enabled smallholder farmers to become increasingly competitive.

The eastern part of the district in Region I and IIb is rich in forestry resources, comprising both indigenous and exotic forestry plantations, mainly pine, eucalyptus, and wattle. Four large companies, the Forestry Commission, Wattle Company, Rothmore Forests, and Boarder Timbers own and operate large saw mills at Charter, Tilbury, Gwindingwe, Chisengo, and Martin Forestry, employing thousands of people. A number of small-scale timber processing enterprises, mainly manufacturing furniture, are in operation, and there is significant potential for timber processing industry growth.

The private sector in the province is backed by a number of smallholder associations. While coffee and tea growers are still recovering from the impact of the Fast Track Land Reform of 2000, both the Tea Growers Association and the Zimbabwe Coffee Millers Association supply international distributors. The Tea Growers Association, established in 1988, with a membership of 600 tea producers, sells tea to

the GMB enterprise unit and Rose Commons. The Zimbabwe Coffee Millers Association, made up of more than 2,000 smallholder growers, markets coffee to international firms. Among fruit growers, the major associations are the 3,500 member Fruit Growers Association and the 22 member Banana Producers Association. The Fruit Growers Association was established in 1998 through the amalgamation of master farmer clubs, with the core purpose of improving marketing of fruits and reducing post-harvest loss. Initial funding for its establishment was provided through the Agricultural Development Authority.

Gaps and Priorities in Food Security in the Province

It is essential to break the cycle whereby rural households cultivate a single crop, preventing farmers from full participation in available markets. A pattern of a silo based production systems has been noted historically, and over time has been culturalized, based on norms and beliefs. Rural households devote time to crop production, followed by harvest, then engage in small gardening, then sell livestock, and prepare for the next season. This production cycle internalizes practices and outcomes, and is not well integrated into markets. For example, while the market demands fresh vegetables and meat throughout the year, there are serious production breaks that affect market supply. The space is usually filled by commercial producers, who often cannot meet market demand and have to seek permits to import meat and vegetables. Thus agriculture remains underdeveloped and lacks stimulus for its commercialization within the control of smallholder capabilities and factors of production at their disposal.

In order to address food insecurity in Manicaland, there is a need for investment to address persistent malnutrition. The issue should be addressed directly through programs to produce adequate and diverse foods. An explicit nutrition program should be promoted in all seven districts of the province, by first determining the level of nutritional status for various social and economic groups to identify the most vulnerable sections of the population, and then designing the most effective and cost-efficient instruments to meeting nutritional needs. Building and strengthening market intervention is a key priority for the province. In summary the key challenges are:

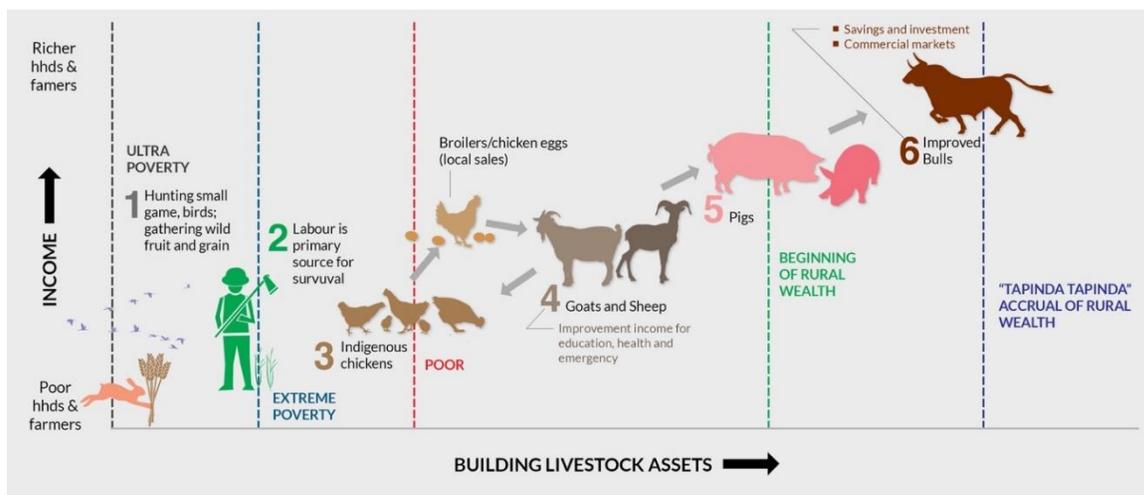
- Limited nutrition education at household levels, contributing to a narrow understanding of nutrition interventions.
- Lack of diverse food utilization and more information about how to effectively use alternatives to bread and maize. The province already grows yams, cassava, sorghum, and potatoes.
- Limited technology to process foods such as cassava, yams, and small grains discourages farmers from producing the commodities.
- Smallholder farmers faced by challenges of drought have limited options for resilience in their production systems. Irrigation development is expensive at the household level, though good perennial water sources are available.
- The gender gap and youth demographic dividend are still major challenges, given deep cultural attitudes affecting resource allocation, including access to land.

Opportunities on Leveraging Current Initiatives

Social and economic development, based on cultural development and influence, should form the anchor of progressive engagement on food security management cooperation in Manicaland. Addressing incompatibilities and unequal development among different areas or peoples requires building community assets with local leadership. Critical to that end are:

- Building assets for women and youth: Women in rural areas are more responsive toward marketing small livestock than cattle. Cattle, in most instances, are owned by men, but goats and sheep can be owned by women and youth. Small livestock sales have therefore been an effective vehicle to empower disadvantaged women and children (Figure 3).
- Building community and household economic assets: For development to take root, there is a need to build household assets. This can be done at different levels by developing skills, opening financing and investment channels, and creating employment. These efforts would be supported in the presence of a clear provincial plan and vision that could be developed following the decentralization efforts.
- Facilitating entrepreneurship associations: Associations can be key players in the productive sector, especially in agriculture, with side benefits of enhancing food security and income through surplus food production and commercial investments within the capacity of the smallholder sector. Such associations should be the vehicle for lobbying local authorities and financing organizations for resources to members. To this end, civil society organizations can promote and assist in setting up Informal Sector Associations in the districts of Manicaland. The most prominent ones were in Chipinge District, where the Platform for Youth Development (PYD) has been consistent in defending the livelihoods of the local communities through advocacy and awareness programs. The work of the PYD has been significant in coordinating secretariat needs at the district level. There is greater awareness of the devolution agenda in the district, and there is also government support and increasing awareness within the context and spirit of the 2013 constitution.

Figure 3. Building Livestock Assets



Source: Ruzivo Trust (2019)

Improving Development Coordination and Food Security

Poor coordination and planning among stakeholders in development can be a potential threat to development entry. However, there is need for a strong institutional framework which calls for multidisciplinary interaction involving all relevant disciplines and ministries working together in the planning process. In Manicaland province, the Food Security Cluster has a provincial committee made up of NGOs. They meet and share updates, which are disseminated widely on the national Food Security Cluster website. However, promoting coordination of various stakeholders at the provincial level remains a challenge. Some possible entry points:

- Establishing a provincial platform for information and knowledge sharing: many of the respondents were not knowledgeable about their province. They are limited to either their disciplines, geographical areas of operation. The knowledge and skills need to be shared in the province so all relevant actors help each other define a vision and plan for the province. It is important to invest in communication and information gathering systems so that people in the province are aware of what is transpiring.
- Facilitating the capacity for a self-drive mindset at all levels: where communities are capacitated to have confidence in themselves and be able to question and act based on their self-belief to get together to solve the existing problems than waiting for outsiders. It also means investing in lifelong learning (culturally based on promoting dialogue) based on the rich repository of knowledge of surviving in harsh environments and economic realities. Residents may not be able to make policies, but they should use the space afforded them as a tool for articulating economic development issues. For this to happen, opportunities exist for focusing on capacity building at the provincial level across a range of issues, including accountability, negotiation, and conflict resolution, among other skills.
- Responding to droughts in the province: Drought is more than a biophysical event. It is a constant threat to the under-resourced communal farmers in Manicaland, who are also dealing with other stressors to their livelihoods. Addressing the biophysical event in isolation can lead to failure and, in some cases, can undermine the capacity of farmers to adapt. While irrigation is key, it should be recognized that livestock production by households shows strong adaptive capacity. Still, that should not be a definitive indicator of adaptive capacity, as there might be other factors to consider.
- Multi-sectoral approaches: The Food Nutrition Council objective of addressing child stunting through the Multi-Stakeholder Community Based Model has shown potential. Facilitating an organic platform that moves communities toward social investment is crucial to fuel enterprise. When people acquire assets, they get invested in protecting them.
- Humanitarian assistance: One of the entry points of the civil society organizations in the province can be through offering humanitarian assistance for broad support to livelihoods. Most households given temporary shelter after Cyclone Idai have yet to be provided with permanent structures and access to land that is secure and can allow them to produce food. They can offer services such as trainings on disaster preparedness rescue, relief, and other appropriate post-disaster assistance.

Enhancing Climate Proof Food Systems

In view of climate change, communities no longer easily understand food systems, and many households regress into food deficit. Manicaland public sector officials interviewed said that investing in community knowledge on food diversity, ecosystem conditions, seasonal patterns, methods of harvesting, and protection of the land are key to climate proofing agriculture.

A climate change has progressed, climatic variability and shocks have become common, placing crop-skewed and silo-based production patterns at serious risk. The 18 districts where the Zimbabwe Reliance Building Fund is being implemented, and where more emphasis has been placed on crops, face challenges induced by climate variability. Constant changes in annual rainfall patterns affect production and the ability of rural households to plan, particularly in the absence of reliable weather information. Some mitigation has been proposed, based on introducing more drought tolerant crops, such as small grains. Sadly, tolerance still does not equate to resistance, as is often seen when crops are subjected to extreme weather-related phenomena such as the El Niño or conversely, La Niña. In any case, almost all the districts are in arid or semi-arid areas of Zimbabwe, where rain-fed crop production does not produce enough even for household consumption, let alone marketing. Most of the districts are in Matabeleland North and South, long been regarded as “cattle country” in Zimbabwe.

Support to households in producing their own food using land, water, and physical and human resources is part of the work addressing against food insecurity. Work done by NGOs such as ENSURE in Buhera, and climate response work by Oxfam and partners in Chimanimani, Chipinge, and Buhera, has proved that where irrigation infrastructure has been developed by communities, there is demonstrated dramatic reduction in food insecurity at the household level. Supporting food production for household consumption was key to the success of households that engaged with the climate response projects. Another component of addressing food insecurity is in increasing household food access and production by linking it with marketing systems that can absorb surpluses from household fields and gardens to ensure a source of cash for food purchase.

Working with established and verifying committees than starting new ones

It is imperative to identify the key players in food security program designs and to engage through dialogues to account for the successes and failures of past projects. The process of engagement can start at the village level, making use of grassroots structures such as village development committees. The issues raised at the village level can then be taken up to ward development committees and then moved further up until they receive the attention of the policy makers. Development partners involved in knowledge work can also play a part by highlighting critical issues affecting people in the form of police briefs. Provincial Food Nutrition Security Councils are required to facilitate and participate in food and nutrition security assessments, surveillance and early warning activities. This specifically includes participating in collection, analysis and use of information and ensure it is used at the sub-national level. It also entails ensuring information distinguishes between chronic, transitory, and acute vulnerability to food and nutrition insecurity, and warranting that information is shared with other actors at the sub-national level. Finally, it is essential that information is in place to inform action and ensure preparedness, disaster prevention and mitigation, and social assistance interventions that enhance food and nutrition security.

5. Conclusion

Manicaland province is rich in resources and possesses significant natural resources. Yet, it is not providing adequately for its own people. Through this report, we have identified key areas of socio-economic action, and approaches that communities are using on the ground to address their economic challenges. Promising opportunities involve using these approaches as a basis for enhancing food security. We found that effective and efficient resource utilization will depend on collaboration between the private sector, civil society organizations, and state institutions to ensure various interventions are synergized in plans at the provincial level.

However, these multi-stakeholder platforms and initiatives involving different development agencies, government, local civil society organizations, and the private sector are limited. The result is widespread horse-trading, with different stakeholders fighting for limited resources. A provincial plan that incorporates food security elements and the participation of a variety of stakeholders provides hope for synchronizing and creating a strong food security architecture for Manicaland. Annual provincial planning conferences offer a clear opportunity for integrating these efforts.

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Annex I. Description of the districts in Manicaland Province

Buhera is in natural rainfall regions III, IV, and V, which are perennially characterized by poor rainfall. There are 33 administrative wards. Unlike some districts, Buhera comprises only communal farmland, and part of the catchment area is bordered by three main rivers: the Save River to the North East, the Nyazvidzi to the west, and the Devure to the South. The district covers 5,364 square kms of land (536,400 ha). The main livelihood strategies in the target wards in Buhera are crop production (gardens and rain-fed); livestock rearing; illegal selling of firewood/charcoal; crafts; village savings and loans; beekeeping; gathering wild fruits such as baobab (*Adansonia digitata*), nyii (*Berchemia discolor*), and makwakwa (*Strychnos madascariensis*); and casual labor in exchange for food and cash. Buhera is highly prone to drought and mid-season dry spells that affect agricultural productivity, which is the main source of livelihoods in the district. In region III, which is the Birchenough Bridge area, families rely on incomes from irrigation produce and are engaged in arts and crafts.

Chimanimani covers an area of approximately 3,353 square kms, with an average population density of 31.91 people per km². Chimanimani district has the smallest population of all districts in the Manicaland Province of Zimbabwe and is the second smallest district there. The Chimanimani district has all the five agro-ecological regions of Zimbabwe, including high and poor rainfall areas, high rocky mountain ranges, and low-lying hot areas. The major land use patterns in the district include commercial farming for timber production, tea production, coffee production, and flower production by commercial farmers. On the other hand, there is also communal subsistence farming where the farmers produce maize, finger millet, beans, vegetables, citrus fruits, bananas, and wheat. Some farmers keep cattle, goats, and chicken for domestic and small-scale commercial purposes. Most commercial estates are located in the district that receives high rainfall (+1000mm annually). Region II makes up 10.7 percent of the district; region III is 14.3 percent; region IV is 6 percent; and finally region V covers the rest of the district. Regions IV and V are where the bulk of the communal people are located; the average rainfall received there is 300 mm annually. The district has a highly rugged terrain typified by the Chimanimani Mountains. These rugged terrains are found in the high-rainfall areas of the Commercial Timber estates and the Rusitu area. Some of the rugged terrains are found in the agro-ecological regions III to V, such as the Biriiri, Nyanyadzi, and Mhakwe areas. The altitude of the district ranges from 6,000 m in the eastern side to 1,600 m in the Chimanimani ranges.

Chipinge is located in the southeastern part of Manicaland close to the border with Mozambique and shares borders with Chiredzi, Buhera, and Chimanimani. The district has 38 administrative wards, with 8 urban and 30 rural. Chipinge District lies in a valley with characteristics of natural regions I and V. The hot climate and high rainfalls are well suited to agriculture, and the local farmers grow tea in Tanganda, as well as coffee, bananas, and macadamia nuts. The surrounding mountain slopes are covered with pine and wattle plantations. Dairy farming in Southdowns is also a main farming activity in the area, which has prompted the establishment of cheese and other dairy products processing factories in the town. The district sits at an elevation of 1,108 meters above sea level, and it has an estimated surface area of more than 5,370 square km². Many parts of the district are prone to flooding. Chipinge District receives rainfall ranging from 300 to 1 200mm per annum depending on altitude and temperature variations. Chipinge District has a total population of 333,689, of which 57,061 are children under 5 and 78,417 are women of childbearing age, according to the 2012 population census.

Mutasa borders with Makoni District as well as Nyanga to the north, Mutare rural to the southwest, and Mozambique to the east. The district has 31 wards, of which 13 are to the north, which is Honde Valley. Six wards are in the southern parts, while 12 are in the central part of the district. It falls under natural regions I, II, and III and covers a total area of 2,744 square kms. These regions are characterized by high annual rainfall of above 1,000 mm in regions I and II. In region I, rain is received throughout the year and is suitable for intensive agricultural. Agriculture is the main source of livelihoods in the district. The district receives adequate rainfall, and crop production performs fairly well. Communities are able to grow a variety of crops throughout the year. Food availability and access is not a challenge in the district, with the exception of a few wards in the northern parts of the district. Food insecurity levels are normally very well below the national average. The district also relies on casual labor opportunities from the district's tea, fruits, and timber estates and also employment from gold mining companies in the district.

Makoni is approximately 3,017 square kms and borders with Mutoko to the north, Murewa to the northwest, Macheke to the west, Buhera to the south, Mutare to the southeast, and Nyanga to the northeast. Makoni District lies mostly in natural regions (NR) IIb, III and IV. The central region of the district mainly lies in IIb which is suited for intensive farming systems based on crops and/or livestock production, and this is where the majority of the small-scale farmers are located. The northern part of Makoni District lies in NR 2b, while the southern area lies in natural regions IIb, III and IV. NR II receives between 750 to 1000 mm of mostly reliable rainfall. It is suitable for the production of maize, tobacco, cotton, and wheat, as well as for intensive livestock production. Areas in NR III, meanwhile, receive between 500 to 700 mm of rainfall per annum, with relatively high temperatures and infrequent, heavy falls of rain; it also subject to seasonal droughts. The district has a considerable amount of dams, amounting to a total of 225, with a combined capacity of 88,601 m³. These dams are utilized for irrigation and household water consumption.

Nyanga has all the agro-ecological regions, from region I to V, and receives an average annual rainfall ranging from below 450 mm to above 1,000 mm. About 50 percent of the wards are in agro-ecological region V, which receives very low rainfall (an average of below 450 mm) and is prone to droughts and prolonged mid-season dry spells. There are many farming sectors in the district; the largest one is communal farming, which is mainly concentrated in the valley in regions III, IV and V.

Mutare Rural is divided into two: east (Zimunya) and west (Marange). Zimunya stretches from the Eastern Highlands (Bvumba) to the Odzi River to the west. Marange starts from the Odzi River and stretches westward up to the Save River, where it borders Buhera District. The major source of livelihood is subsistence farming, but climate change, constant droughts, land reform, and erratic rainfall has meant impoverishment of many households in Mutare Rural. The discovery of the diamond fields has mainly been a curse, leading to conflicts. Before then, the majority of people in Marange used to eke a living through making and selling reed baskets. Perennial droughts also forced villagers to collect baobab fruits, which are in abundance in the area for sale in Mutare.

Annex 2. Stakeholders in the province

Table 1. Stakeholders present in Chimanimani Rural District

Organization	Area of work	Wards covered	Target groups	From	End
Caritas	Food security Sustainable Agriculture development Child protection Youths and women		2 400 households 10 Agritex Staff 120 lead farmers	2010	2018
Celuct	Conservation Farming Perma-culture Conflict Management Child Protectio Funded by WFD and EWDE)	1,2,4,8,10,20,2 1	Chikukwa Community Orphans and other vulnerable children	2011	2019
Restless Development	Youths development Livelihood projects Funded by EU	2,3,4,7,17	Youths in and out of school	2013	2018
Towards Sustainable Use of Resources Organization (TSURO)	Environment and Agricultural development Climate Change adaptation Funded by EWDE DFID WFD	Active in 21 wards except wards 14 and 11	Farmers	2009	2018
World Vision Zimbabwe	OVC Community development Water and Sanitation	2,3,4,5,6,8,17,1 8,18,20 (ADP) 2, 3,4,5,6,8,9,18,1	World Vision Hong Kong (ADP) USAID (ENSURE)	2007	2022

Organization	Area of work	Wards covered	Target groups	From	End
	Disaster risk reduction Food security and nutrition	9,20 (ENSURE)			
Jekesa Pfungwa	Enterprise and development program	13, 14, 21, 22	6 Self Help Groups 527 entrepreneurs 56 saving clubs 300 commodity association members	2014	2018
LEAD	Crop development Market linkages (funded by USAID)	4,18	500 households	2016	2020
CISDE	Livelihoods and climate change	Ward 3	Vulnerable communities (UNDP/GEF project)		

Table 2. Stakeholders present in Buhera Rural District

Organization	Area of work	Wards covered	Target population	MOU
World Vision Zimbabwe	Water and sanitation, support, food security. Provision of medical supplies to HBC	ADP:Wards 11,12,18,25,26,27 ENSURE Wards 11,12,17,19,25,	OVC and school pupils	
Goal Zimbabwe	Wash, Cash transfers, Livelihoods, health and nutrition	10,15,16,19-28,29.	ALL	
Action Aid	Water provision	28 and 30	ALL	2016
SAFIRE	Bee keeping. Honey processing, irrigation, conservation farming	25,28,30	Farmers	2016
LEAD	Capacity building, value addition and nutrition, hygiene education, gender mainstreaming		Youths and women	2015-2020
SHDF	Skills training, Saving and lending schemes, Market linkages with farmers	15-23,32	Woman	2015-31 August2020
CAMFED	Girl child OVC educational support	2;5;14;23	Girl child	

Organization	Area of work	Wards covered	Target population	MOU
CWGH	Community participation in improving health and quality of life in communities of Buhera.	1-33	Community Health Support	
RUJEKO HBC	Home based Care and Livelihoods	6,7,10,11,13,14,15,22-33	OVC, Youths and Adults	2015
Natural Farming Network	Agricultural, Technical and farming input support.	24,27-30,33	Farmers	
Plan International	Disaster response	ALL	Schools	
NOCCA	Development models, skills training, entrepreneurship dev, project leadership skills	32,29,28,26,25,24,22,21,18,16,10,7,6,4,3,1.	Churches and community	2014
PSI	Improving health standards			

Table 3. Stakeholders present in Makoni Rural District

Organization	Area of work	Wards covered	Target population	Years carrying out activities	Funding	Line ministry
ActionAid Zimbabwe	Sexual and reproductive health Anti-GBV campaign Capacity building of community and local government structures Livelihood and climate justice Emergency response and humanitarian work Child sponsorship Education WASH activities Nutritional support e.g. school feeding	1,2,3,4,5,15,16,19,27,28,29,30,35 & 36	65,000	14	Regular giving Child Sponsorship) & Institutional Funding (Donors)	Local Government, Agritex, Min. of Education, Min. of Women Affairs, Min. of Youth, Min. of Health, Min. of Water and Climate, SMEs

Organization	Area of work	Wards covered	Target population	Years carrying out activities	Funding	Line ministry
Child line Zimbabwe	Child protection	All rural and urban wards of Makoni district	All children (0 – 17yrs) and young women (18-24 yrs)	5 years	FACT	Social Welfare, Min. of Women Affairs, Small and Medium Enterprises Development
Zimbabwe Africa Trust	Upgrading of shallow wells and installation of Elephant Pumps Economic empowerment through Business Skills training	12, 16	All household with shallow wells that have perennial water	8 years	The Africa Trust (UK)	Local Government, Min. of Health, DDF

Table 4. Stakeholders present in Chipinge Rural District

Organization	Area of work and coverage	Current MOU	End of activities (year)	Funding
World Vision ENSURE	DRR, Nutrition & Health Wards: 1, 4, 16, 21, 22, 24, 25, 27, 18, 29)	2009	2017	World Germany
Plan Zimbabwe	Education (wards 13, 14, 2921, Health And Disability Livelihoods; Disaster Risk Management; Child Protection; PAC (16 wards)	2006	2016	UK France Netherlands Japan Canada USA
Zimbabwe Red Cross Society	Health & Social Services Food Security Livelihoods First Aid Disaster Risk Reduction (16 wads)			International Federation Of Red Cross And Red Crescent Societies
FINTRAC	Agricultural Development Organization (5 wards)	2011	Renewed On Yearly Bases	STAMP Zim - Aide
International Rescue Committee (IRC)	Disaster Risk Management (7 wards) Agriculture and Food Security WASH	2013	Renewed On Yearly Bases	
Nzeve Deaf Children	Disability Awareness and Education ISAL (Internal Savings and Lending Group)	2014		World Education Of Australia
SAFIRE	Food and Economic Security	2011	2014	CIDA

Organization	Area of work and coverage	Current MOU	End of activities (year)	Funding
	Livelihoods			
Chipinge Children's Hope	Underprivileged Children In Assistance (8 Urban 30 Rural)	2014	2014	NAP
SNV Netherlands Development Organization	Agriculture Renewable Energy WASH			Netherlands USAID Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA) DFID FAO UNDP
LEAD TRUST	9 Wards	2014		USADF
ST Peters Community Care Programme (DOMCCP)				
Goal Zimbabwe				
Jesuit Refugee Service				
The Africa Development Mission Trust				
Terre des Hommes Italia				
Youth Alive				
Youth REACH International				
KAITE		2011		
United Nations Development Programme				
World Food Programme	Food And Security			
Family Support Trust	Health	2016		
International Relief Development	WASH	2011		
Norwegian People Aid		2012		
AFRICAID	HIV/AIDS Testing & Prevention Child Protection	2016		USAID
Lighthouse Mission Trust	Education Food Security	2016		
COPAZ	Education	2016		
Sustainable Agriculture Technology	Environmental Preservation	2016		European Union
Save the Children International		2016		
African Development Trust Mission		2015		
Community Technology Development Organization				

Table 5. Stakeholders present in Mutasa Rural District

Organization	Area of work	Wards covered	Target beneficiaries	Years carrying out activities	Funding	Line Ministry
Africaid Zvandiri	Health Support	All	1,673		Social Service	Min of Health and Child Care
Biomedical Training Institute	Health Research	1,2,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,17,20	10,000 individuals	14 years	Bill Gates Foundation UNSNH	Min of Health
Childline	Welfare support	All wards	10,000 children	2years	Fact	DPT of social Welfare
Christian Care	Water and sanitation	3,9,10,27,28	10,524	3years	UNICEF/DFID	Min of Health and Child Care
Dcaire BRTIAPP	Agricultural Support	14,11,19	1,000 farmers	25years	GAIA Movement	Government
Diocese of Mutare Community Care Program (DOMCCP)	Health, human rights support	5,6,7,8,9,10,11,15,16,17,18,19,20	4,358 people	10years	Trocaire	Min of Health Women Affairs
Family Aids Care Trust	Health Nutrition, Education, Child Protection	All 31	9,175	3years	USAID	Social welfare
Family Health International(FHI360)	Health support	All 31	18,478	3years	USAID	Min of Health and child care
Fortune Development Centre	Wash ,social, tourism, infrastructure development	10	1,930	4years	Inno Energy Select	ZTA,DDF
Goal Zimbabwe	Agricultural support	6,7,8and 19	1,368	8years	Netherlands Agency for Development	Min of Agriculture
Jekeza Pfungwa	Food and Nutrition	17,18,19 and 20	100 farmers	5years	We effect	Min of Agriculture
Justice for Children	Legal Resoure	All 31	500 people	3years	European Union	Min of Legal Affairs
Nzeve	Welfare support	All 31	190 people	5years	Tear Fund AUS	Dpt of social welfare

Organization	Area of work	Wards covered	Target beneficiaries	Years carrying out activities	Funding	Line Ministry
Peace building and Charity Development Foundation	Humanity and Social Welfare	1 to 30	101 local leaders	18 years	UN Women	Dpt of social Welfare
Pimai Christian Care Centre	Food and Nutrition, Education, Health Welfare	30,4 and any other when need	1,800 school children	9 years	Hands at working Africa, peoples church Canada	Dpt of social welfare
Plan International	Education, Gender, Social Welfare, and Health	All Wards	16,862	33 years	DFID Steps for Children WFP	Min of Education and social Service
Practical Action	Agriculture, Welfare support	1 to 30	1,803	4years	FAO,DFI D	Min of Agriculture
Simukai Child Protection	Child Protection	3,5,6,7,10,17 and 24	10,053 households	3years	Plan International	Dpt of social welfare
World Vision	Agriculture, health and education support	1,3,4,9,28,29 and 30	45,235	19years	US Individuals	Min of Agriculture, social services and Min of Health
Zimbabwe Africa Trust	Water and Sanitation	All 31	20 households	9 years	The Africa Trust	Min of Health of Women Affairs
Chiedza Community Welfare Trust	OVC,Maternal Health	12,13,14,15,16,17,21,22&23	800 people	14years	SAT,Elma and Solon Foundation	Min of Health Min of Women Affairs

Table 6. Stakeholders present in the City of Mutare

Organization	Area of work	Wards covered	Target beneficiaries	Year start of activities	Funding	Line Ministry
OPHID	OI operations	All Clinics	8423	To be advised	USAID	MOHCC
FHI360 Imhuli Imhuli	Maternity Health	Sakubva/Dangamvura	47 271	To be advised	USAID	MOHCC
CESSHAR	Promoting community services focusing on HIV prevention	All wards	6000	2007	Global Fund	MOHCC
PSI	New Start Centre VMC Condom distribution	All wards	201 155	August 2018 2000	SIDA USAID	MOHCC
FACT	Provision of HIV services in Mutare Urban	All wards	201 155	2019	USAID	MOHCC

Table 7. Stakeholders present in Mutare Rural District

Organization	Area of work	Wards covered	Year start of activities	Current MOU	Line Ministry
Plan International	General Development Work, with a special emphasis on child welfare issues education, health, sanitation.	Social Services covering 32 wards except Mtanda, Burma Valley, Vumba & Nyagundi4 - 3 052 People living with HIV/AIDS 21850 Vulnerable households	1987	Yes	Department of Social Welfare
Catholic Development Commission [CADEC]		Social Services in Dora ward 5 Chishakwe ward 15 Gombakomba ward 6 Total = 1500	1993	Yes	Department of Social Welfare
World Food Programme	Relief Issues especially on climatic conditions i.e. food distribution	Social Services	1993	Yes	Department of Social Welfare
Catholic Relief Service [CRS]	Relief issues, humanitarian assistance programs	Social Service	1993	Yes	Department of

Organization	Area of work	Wards covered	Year start of activities	Current MOU	Line Ministry
	to improve people's lives				Social Welfare
International Organization for Immigration [IOM]	Relief issues especially with mobile people. Education, food distribution, health	Social Services in Odzi commercial 3 Chimoio 4 Odzi Township 31 Nyamajura 1	2006	Yes	Min of Prim & Sec Education, Dept Of Social Welfare
Mercy Corps	Relief work and improvement of psychosocial support for the vulnerable in water & sanitation (trainings on water systems) Cholera outbreaks	Social Services in Dora clinic 5 Matanda clinic 18 Chishingwi b/bridge clinic masasi mafararikwa 16 Zimunya 32 Chiadzwa 30 Buwereimwe 23	2010	Yes	Dept of Social Services, DDF
Christian Care	Relief and development work, health, electrification	Social Services covering Mpudzi/Murare 22 Chimoio 4 Ngomasha 12 Munyororo 27		Yes	Min of Health
Manicaland Development Association [MDA]	Community Development, particularly in the rural areas				
Family Aids Caring Trust [FACT]	HIV/AIDS awareness issues	Social Services in all wards		Yes	Min of Health
Zimbabwe National Red Cross	Para-medical training in First-Aid and home nursing, plus general relief work. Training of volunteers water	Social Services and Food Security IN ward 16 Chiadzwa 30 Ngomasha 12 Munyarari 20 Mpudzi/Murare 22 Takarwa 17 Munyororo 27 Vumba 33			Department of Social Welfare
Southern Alliance For Indigenous Resources [SAFIRE]	A rural organization dealing with indigenous resources for the disadvantaged especially mental cases	Social Services			

Organization	Area of work	Wards covered	Year start of activities	Current MOU	Line Ministry
Africa Self-Help Assistance Program [ASAP]	Training people to be self-reliant, money lending for projects	Social Services	2011	Yes	
Farm Orphans Support Trust (FOST)	Helping AIDS orphans on farms, AIDS awareness and inputs for gardening Needs assessment and self-targeting	Social Services offered in Burma Valley 7 Odzi commercial 3	2011	Yes	Agritex
Environment Africa Zimcare Trust [Chengetai School]	Environmental issues Education of intellectually challenged pupils.	Social Services	2011	Yes	EMA
Swedish Organization for Individual Relief (SOIR)	Community work, specializing in helping needy individuals with drugs and paying school fees	Social Services in Dora 5 Gandai 13 Dora B 35	2011	Still To Renew	Department of Social Welfare
Mutare Legal Project Centre	Legal representation for disadvantaged people , peace building, national healing	Target at: Chishakwe 15 Takarwa 17 Gombakomba 6			
National Council for the Disabled Persons in Zimbabwe	Umbrella body that deals with people with disabilities.	Social Services	2011		Department of Social Welfare
National Association of Non-Governmental Organizations [NANGO]	Umbrella body for all NGOs in Manicaland				
International Rescue Committee (IRC)	WASH and Health care	Social Services and Infrastructure and Utilities put up in Chishingwi Muradzikwa 26 Nyachityu 10 Mavhiza 24 Chishakwe 15 Mpudzi/Murare 22 Nyagundi 34	2009	Yes	Min of Health, DDF
Organization For Public Health Intervention and Developments [OPHID Trust]	Socio-social support under five OVC and health issues in all clinic in the district.	Social Services		Still To Renew	Min of Health
Land 'O' Lakes	Goats projects pass on program in Mpudzi/Murare 22 Ngomasha 12 Nhamburiko 11	Social Services	2010	Still To Renew	Agritex

Organization	Area of work	Wards covered	Year start of activities	Current MOU	Line Ministry
DOMCCP	Training of AIDS care givers	Social Services		Yes	Ministry of Health
SAT	Agricultural Inputs in all Wards	Food Security		Yes	Agritex
Farm Community Trust	Seed input and home based care at Odzi Commercial 3 Burma Valley 7	Food Security		Yes	Agritex
Caritas	Gardening in Dora 'A' Gombakomba 6 Dora 'B' 35 Chishakwe 15	Food Security		Yes	Agritex
MCHIP	Health issues	Social Services			Min of Health
PACDEF	Training programs	Social Services	2011	Yes	
Pump Aide	Maintenance of boreholes	Social Services	2011		DDF
Legal Resources Foundation	Human Rights	Social Services			
UNICEF	Education and Health	Social Services	2008		
Practical Action	Electrification	Infrastructure & utilities / Social Services			
Zimbabwe National Association of the Deaf	Assistance to people with disability	Social Services	2011	Yes	
Justice for Children Trust	Provide legal advice to Children related issues	Social Services	2012	Still To Renew	Department of Social Welfare
International Relief & Development	Relief activities i.e. drought	Social Services and food security	2009	Yes	Agritex
Operation Hope Zimbabwe	Poverty eradication	Food security	2011	Yes	Agritex
Capernaum Trust	Assisting with educational scholarship	Social Services	2012	Yes	Department of Social Welfare
Care At The Core of Humanity (CATCH)	Legal Assistance	Social services	2014	Yes	Department of Social Welfare
Musasa	Shelter of violence victims women and children	Social Services	2014	Yes	Min of Women Affairs
Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)	Poverty Alleviation in Selected wards	Social Services and Infrastructure & Utilities	2014	Still To Renew	Min of Education, Health
DOCAS	Poverty Alleviation in Selected wards	Food Security	2014	Yes	Agritex
Welt Hunger Hilfe	Food security, water and sanitation	Food Security		Yes	Agritex

Organization	Area of work	Wards covered	Year start of activities	Current MOU	Line Ministry
Cluster Agricultural Development Services (CADS)	Livestock Production	Food Security	2014	Yes	Agritex
International Institute for Development Facilitation (IIDF) Trust	Youth and Community Projects	Social Services	2014	Yes	Justice
Nzeve	Disability awareness in Laa wards	Social Services	2014	Yes	Department of Social Welfare
Zimbabwe Women's Bureau	Projects in all wads	Social Services	2014	Yes	Min of Women Affairs
Youth Reach International	Sports for development, Youth Empowerment and Health Care Training for Youths	Social Services	2015	Yes	
Linkages For Economic Advancement Of The Disadvantaged (LEAD)	Agricultural production, market linkages, households assets and incomes, nutrition and hygiene	Food Security and Social services	2015	Yes	Agritex
Higherlife Foundation Of Zimbabwe	Educational scholarship, disadvantaged and academically talented children	Social Services	2015		Min of Prim & Sec Education
Youth Alive Zimbabwe Trust	HIV & AIDS, Reproductive Health Education, Youth Skills Development Activities, Child Protection	Social Services	2017	Yes	Min of Health
SAFAIDS	HIV & AIDS, GBV Prevention	Social Services	2016	Yes	Min of Health
Africaid	HIV Testing Services, Community Adolescent Treatment Support	Social Services	2016	Yes	Min of Health
Mwana Trust	Education, Health, Livelihoods, WASH, GBV, etc.	Social Services	2016	Yes	Min of Primary and Secondary Education
FHI360	Reproductive Health, Palliative Care, Palliative Treatment, HIV & AIDS, TB	Social Services	2016	Yes	Ministry of Health
Childline Zimbabwe	Counseling and Psychosocial Support Service, Cases of Child Abuse and Protection	Social Services	2014	Yes	Department of Social Welfare

Organization	Area of work	Wards covered	Year start of activities	Current MOU	Line Ministry
Simukai Child Protection Program	Relief Activities, HIV & AIDS	Social Services	2015	Yes	Department of Social Welfare, Min of Prim & Sec Education
Pastoral Care and Counselling Services	Counselling and Psychotherapy	Social Services		Yes	Department of Social Welfare
CARE International in Zimbabwe	Agricultural Technical Assistance, developing and managing water resources, provision of humanitarian release in times of emergencies,	Social Services	2017	Yes	DDF