

## **Zimbabwe**

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### **Smallholder Irrigation Revitalization Programme Supervision Report**

Mission Dates: 25 November - 5 December, 2019

Document Date: 27/04/2020

Project No. 2000001233

Report No. 5345-ZW

East and Southern Africa Division  
Programme Management Department



## Abbreviations and Acronyms

<b>AOS</b>	
<b>AWPB</b>	Annual Outcome Survey
<b>DOI</b>	Annual Work Plan and Budget
<b>ESIA</b>	Department of Irrigation
<b>ESMP</b>	Environment and Social Impact Assessments
<b>FaaB</b>	Environment and Social Management Plans
<b>FFS</b>	Farming as a Business
<b>FY</b>	Farmer Field School
<b>FGD</b>	Financial Year
<b>GHG</b>	
<b>GoZ</b>	Greenhouse Gas
<b>HH</b>	Government of Zimbabwe
<b>ICT</b>	Household
<b>ILO</b>	IFAD Client Portal
<b>IMC</b>	International Labour Organization
<b>IP</b>	Implementing Partner
<b>MLAWCRR</b>	Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Water, Climate and Rural Settlements
<b>MoU</b>	Memorandum of Understanding
<b>NCB</b>	National Competitive Bidding
<b>NO</b>	IFAD No-Objection
<b>NRM</b>	Natural Resource Management
<b>NRMF</b>	Natural Resource Management Facility
<b>OFID</b>	OPEC fund for International Development
<b>ORMS</b>	Operational Results Management System
<b>O&amp;M</b>	Operation & Maintenance
<b>PCU</b>	Project Coordination Unit
<b>PIM</b>	Project Implementation Manual
<b>PP</b>	Procurement Plan
<b>Procurement Act</b>	Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Assets Act, no. 5/2017
<b>Procurement Regulations</b>	Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Assets (General) Regulations, S.I. 5/2018
	Procurement Specialist
	Project Steering Committee
<b>PS</b>	Procurement Unit
<b>PSC</b>	Request for Quotations
<b>PU</b>	Social, Environmental and Climate Assessment Procedures
<b>RFQ</b>	Smallholder Irrigation Revitalization Programme
<b>SECAP</b>	Sustainable Land and Water Management
<b>SIRP</b>	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
<b>SLWM</b>	Water Users' Association
<b>UNCCD</b>	Value Chain
<b>WUA</b>	Withdrawal Application
<b>VC</b>	Women Empowerment in Agriculture Index
<b>WA</b>	
<b>WEAI</b>	

## A. Project Overview

Region:	East and Southern Africa Division	Project at Risk Status:	Not at risk
Country:	Zimbabwe	Environmental and Social Category:	B
Project Name:	Smallholder Irrigation Revitalization Programme	Climate Risk Classification:	2
Project ID:	2000001233	Executing Institution:	Ministry of Finance
Project Type:	Irrigation	Implementing Institutions:	Ministry of Finance
CPM:	Jaana Keitaanranta		
Project Director:	not available yet		
Project Area:			

Approval Date:	22/09/2016	Last audit receipt:	02/08/2019
Signing Date:	18/11/2016	Date of Last SIS Mission:	06/12/2019
Entry into Force Date:	18/11/2016	Number of SIS Missions:	6
Available for Disbursement Date:	29/05/2017	Number of extensions:	0
First Disbursement Date:	31/05/2017	Effectiveness lag:	2 months
MTR Date:	not available yet		
Original Completion Date:	31/12/2023		
Current Completion Date:	31/12/2023		
Financial Closure:	not available yet		

### Project total financing

<b>IFAD Financing breakdown</b>	Debt Sustainability Framework	\$25,456,158
<b>Domestic Financing breakdown</b>	Beneficiaries	\$2,869,000
	National Government	\$7,909,000
<b>Co-financing breakdown,</b>	OPEC Fund for International Development	\$15,000,000
<b>Project total financing:</b>		<b>\$51,234,158</b>

### Current Mission

Mission Dates: 25 November - 5 December, 2019

Days in the field:

Mission composition: Jaana Keitaanranta (IFAD CD and Team Leader), Andrew Macpherson (Lead consultant & Value Chain specialist), Francis Muiriri (Financial Management Specialist), Joylyn Ngoro (Targeting and M&E Specialist), Edith Kirumba (IFAD Environmental and Climate Programme Officer), Alessandro Neroni (Procurement Specialist)

Field sites visited:

## B. Overall Assessment

Key SIS Indicator #1	Ø	Rating	Key SIS Indicator #2	Ø	Rating
Likelihood of Achieving the Development Objective		4	Assessment of the Overall Implementation Performance		4

<b>Effectiveness and Developmental Focus</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Project Management</b>	<b>4</b>
Effectiveness	3	Quality of Project Management	3
Targeting and Outreach	4	Knowledge Management	5
Gender equality & women's participation	5	Value for Money	4
Agricultural Productivity		Coherence between AWPB and Implementation	3
Nutrition	4	Performance of M&E System	4
Adaptation to Climate Change	4	Requirements of Social, Environmental and Climate Assessment Procedures (SECAP)	4

<b>Sustainability and Scaling-up</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Financial Management and Execution</b>	<b>3</b>
Institutions and Policy Engagement	N/A	Acceptable Disbursement Rate	3
Partnership-building	3	Quality of Financial Management	3
Human and Social Capital and Empowerment	4	Quality and Timeliness of Audit	3
Quality of Beneficiary Participation	4	Counterparts Funds	4
Responsiveness of Service Providers	4	Compliance with Loan Covenants	4
Environment and Natural Resource Management	4	Procurement	3
Exit Strategy	4		
Potential for Scaling-up			

<b>Relevance</b>
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## C. Mission Objectives and Key Conclusions

### Background and Main Objective of the Mission

#### Background

The Smallholder Irrigation Revitalization Programme (SIRP) was approved by the IFAD Executive Board in September 2016 and the Financing Agreement between IFAD and the Government of the Republic of Zimbabwe was signed on 18 November 2016. SIRP is financed by the Government of Zimbabwe (GoZ), programme beneficiaries, IFAD and OFID. IFAD will finance 50% (US\$25.5 million) of overall programme costs on grant terms, under the Debt Sustainability Framework. The Government will finance taxes and duties (US\$7.7 million), representing 15% of total costs. Beneficiaries will contribute 6% of total programme costs, US\$3.3 million, in the form of financial contributions to operation and maintenance for rehabilitated infrastructure, cost sharing of post-harvest technologies, and in-kind contribution to soil and water conservation activities. OFID will finance 29% (US\$15.0 million) of programme costs, covering civil works related to irrigation rehabilitation and road improvement. The Loan Agreement between OFID and the Government of Zimbabwe was signed on 8 March 2018. SIRP is being implemented by the Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Water, Climate and Rural Resettlement (MLAWCRR) over a period of seven years. A start-up workshop was held in August 2017 and the programme was launched officially on 10 November 2017. Its completion date is 31 December 2023 and the closing date 30 June 2024.

The overall goal of SIRP is that rural households achieve food and nutrition security and are resilient to climate change effects and economic shocks in the programme districts. The programme development objective is that rural households sustainably increase their income in schemes and adjacent rainfed areas supported by the programme. The programme goal will be achieved by revitalizing existing high potential irrigation schemes and their adjacent rainfed areas (sub-catchment areas), which will result in: (i) an increase in production and productivity of selected commodities; (ii) an increase in annual household incomes; (iii) increased market integration; and (iv) a smallholder agricultural production system that is better adapted to climate change.

SIRP will revitalize 6,100 hectares (ha) in about 125 existing smallholder irrigation schemes, located mainly in communal and old resettlement areas in the semi-arid sections of natural regions III, IV and V in the provinces of Manicaland, Masvingo, Matabeleland South, and Midlands. The programme's target area contains about 47% of the country's estimated total irrigation-equipped area of about 13,000 ha.

The programme consists of two components as follows: Component 1: Sustainable smallholder irrigation development; and Component 2: Climate-smart agriculture and market access.

Despite the delays experienced by the programme over the last 2 years, programme implementation has seemingly gained momentum since the last June 2019 implementation support mission. SIRP has most of the technical assistance in place which includes specialists in business development services, natural resources management, rural sociology, post-harvest management, irrigation engineering and water user organisation. Although the project is still to engage a nutrition specialist, it is already working in partnership with Harvest Plus to conduct nutrition training for framers and frontline extension agents in low hanging fruit schemes. Feasibility studies have been complemented for the low hanging fruits for 750 ha and construction work for these schemes (Musikavanhu, Exchange, Rupangwana, Sebasa and Chikwarakwara) is commencing including rehabilitation of canals, borehole, fencing and toilets. As regards the second lot of irrigation schemes, in-house feasibility studies led by the Department of Irrigation for 1,019 ha are underway. In addition, the programme has concluded the procurement processes to engage private sector to carry out feasibility on 4,490ha - these studies are in initiating. The programme has also engaged in FFS training, mobilisation of WUOs, revival of environmental management committees, designing of various training manuals, establishment of demonstration plots as part of the activities under component 2.

At the time of the mission, the disbursement rate of IFAD grant was 16 %. The total budget for the year 2019 was of US\$5,6 million, including IFAD financing of US\$ 3,3 million (59 % of the total). As of October 15, the MLAWCRR had submitted two withdrawal applications (WAs) amounting to US\$683, 000. Three more WAs are expected to be processed during the last months of the year 2019, including two direct payments for feasibility studies, increasing the total disbursement rate for IFAD to roughly US\$1,5 million.

As the pipeline is solid, it is possible that the disbursements would increase from early 2020. As SIRP is strongly procurement driven, and the number of procurement processes is increasing drastically when feasibility studies are concluded, it is important that the overall planning process and the procurement function efficiently.

### Overall Assessment

The project has shown modest improvement in performance since the implementation support mission in May-June 2019. The highlights of this performance have included:

- Feasibility studies (FS) for 14 schemes, covering about 1,218 ha or 20% of the planned target have been completed;

- Eight teams, including six from two consulting companies, have been engaged to complete the remaining FS with the intention of having these completed according to the previous schedule outlined in the PDR;
- Adoption of improved methodology for FS activity that incorporates better levels of farmer participation and application of business principles;
- Significant procurement actions for a total of seven completed contracts with a total contract value of US\$776 654.40, covering items such as latrines, fencing, boreholes and canal rehabilitation;
- A TA has been recruited to guide Business Development Services (BDS) essential for training and orientation of farmers towards a viable commercial approach;
- Improved farmer participation in the feasibility study preparation, training in business services and in nutrition awareness.

To enhance the performance of the programme, the mission observed the following two Key observations with regards to the components:

*Beneficiary contribution:* This matter was raised in the Management Letter of 29<sup>th</sup> October 2019. It is important that participating farmers contribute to both the capital cost of scheme revitalisation as well as to the cost of scheme O&M. The contribution for capital costs can be “in kind” as an alternative to cash contributions. The mission notes that there has been some constraints to ensure the contribution for capital costs in the “low hanging fruit schemes”, due to the need to expedite the physical work in the light of delays being experienced. This carries the danger that the beneficiaries will not have sufficient ownership of the revitalised schemes. The mission recommends that the project revisits this issue in close consultation with beneficiaries and other stakeholders to make a workable arrangement for at least in-kind contributions for capital works.

*Capacity for Agritex:* Enhanced Institutional Capacity for Market-led Production. There has been activity in training of Agritex Staff in line with project needs. This has included the IMC training for transformation course, on the job training on methods to conduct value chain and market access studies, and Training for trainers on the Health Harvest manual for conducting nutrition education. This training and mentorship needs to be continued, and a schedule for systematic capacity building in line with the outcome of training needs assessment should be prepared. Agritex frontline staff need to be able to provide continuous training and mentoring of farmers, and not the once off training that was foreseen in the project design report.

## **Financial and Procurement matters**

*Procurement:* The Mission witnessed that procurement activities are progressing at a sustained pace. This is a notable improvement over the slow start observed at the beginning of the financial year and at the July 2019 Procurement Support Mission.

To keep this momentum going, the Programme is encouraged to improve the capacity of the procurement function by fast-tracking the recruitment of a Senior Procurement Officer, as recommended by the October 2019 IFAD Implementation Support Mission. This appointment could be initially for one year, with extension if required. The mission notes that there is a very large quantum of procurement required to be successfully completed by SIRP in the forthcoming two years for the project to achieve its objectives.

As of the time of the Mission, only 42.5% of procurement activities were concluded, 15% were in progress, and 42.5% were not initiated. The low implementation rate of the 2019 procurement plan is due to inaccurate and overambitious planning – which caused the 2019 procurement plan to only receive IFAD No-Objection in August 2019 - and to the aforementioned delays in starting procurement activities. The activities not initiated during the current financial year will be carried over to the 2020 procurement plan.

*Finance:* at the time of the mission, the disbursement rate of IFAD grant was 16% (US\$4.1 million out of USD\$25.5 million). The total budget for the year 2019 was of US\$5.6 million, including IFAD financing of US\$ 3.3 million (59 % of the total). As of October 15, the MLAWCRR had submitted two withdrawal applications (WAs) amounting to US\$684,000. Two more WAs are expected to be processed during the last months of the year 2019, including 2 direct payment for feasibility studies (US\$ 245,361.75 from IFAD and US\$ 53,538.18 from OFID). The direct payment (US\$ 53,538.18) from OFID will be the first disbursement from OFID under the OFID loan agreement.

## **The main objective of the mission**

From 25 November to 6 December 2019, IFAD fielded a supervision mission to Zimbabwe to review the implementation progress of the SIRP and to provide support to the programme team, as required, to enhance the strategic orientation of the programme and to increase efficacy and efficiency of implementation. Specifically, the mission focused on the following: (i) assessing the roles and capacity of the PCU, PTC, PSC, implementation partners in delivering the objectives of SIRP; (ii) assess how well the MPAT data has been incorporated, (iii) assess the overall progress in implementing the activities planned in the respective programme components compared to the AWPB 2019 and the Logical Framework focusing on the feasibility studies and conditions of preparedness for the full scale implementation; (iii) assess the targeting strategy, observe the coordination between the different components and provide technical recommendations, where needed; (iv) in conjunction with relevant programme stakeholders, identify and discuss actual

and potential/emerging problems and constraints, and agree on solutions, changes or improvements and accountabilities for their implementation; (v) review the role of the various TAs, assess their value added for the implementation and recommend plan of action in each thematic area based on the prevailing needs considering options such as (a) second phase of the TA either in Harare or at the district level, (b) converting some of the TAs to staff positions either through secondment or through a recruitment, and/or (c) identification on partnerships to give continuity in the technical areas; (vi) analyse the existing and potential role of the new implementing partners Harvest Plus and ILO in SIRP implementation and make recommendations how to formalize these partnerships, consider also other areas that would benefit from external partnerships; and (vii) based on the AWPB 2019 and the irrigation pipeline, review and discuss with the PCU and IPs the 2020 AWPB and procurement plan and the conditions that has to be in place for the successful implementation.

The mission took specific account of the MTR scheduled for the end second semester of 2020 and made proposals to facilitate the success of the review. The issues relevant for MTR include: documentation of working methods and strategies, identification of good and not so good practices with lessons learned, organization of data bases, appropriate registration of national (beneficiary and other) contributions to SIRP, etc.

The mission conducted a field visit to Exchange Irrigation Scheme (one of the low hanging fruit schemes) in Kwekwe District, Midlands Province on November 28.

The detailed discussions with the SIRP team and the IPs took place December 4. These spaces were used to discuss mission finding and agree on the follow-up actions and responsibilities with clear time lines. The formal wrap ups with the GoZ were scheduled to take place on December 5, but Government personnel were not available for these meetings.

### **Key Mission Agreements and Conclusions**

The project has shown modest but increasing improvement in performance since the implementation support mission in June 2019.

Component 1 (Sustainable smallholder irrigation development) aims to transform low-performing irrigation schemes into fully functional ones in terms of efficient water management and low-cost operation and maintenance by Irrigation Water User Organisations (IWUO). The programme will finance revitalisation of irrigation schemes in Natural Regions III, IV and V of Manicaland, Masvingo, Matabeleland South and Midlands provinces, while financing further scheme design studies nationwide. The Programme will develop a holistic approach and build institutional capacity of irrigators and government agencies to revitalise smallholder irrigation schemes.

Component 2 (Climate-smart agriculture and market access) aims to achieve sustainable crop production and farm competitiveness and profitability through improved market access, improved cropping intensities, increased adoption of improved varieties, improved access to inputs, better access to financial services, adoption of Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) and Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) practices and technologies for increased productivity, value addition and improved Natural Resources Management (NRM). The component targets both irrigation schemes and rainfed areas located adjacent to the irrigation schemes.

The project has shown modest but increasing improvement in performance since the implementation support mission in June 2019. The major achievements since the June 2019 implementation support mission are:

Feasibility studies (FS) for 14 schemes, covering about 1,218 ha or 20% of the planned target have been completed;

Eight teams, including six from two consulting companies, have been engaged to complete the remaining FS with the intention of having these completed according to the previous schedule outlined in the PDR;

Adoption of improved methodology for FS activity that incorporates better levels of farmer participation and application of business principles;

Significant procurement actions for a total of seven completed contracts with a total contract value of US\$776 654.40, covering items such as latrines, fencing, boreholes and canal rehabilitation;

All TAs (9) with the exception of that for Nutrition have been recruited to guide programme implementation and to provide trainings.

To enhance the performance of the programme, the mission observed the following two Key observations with regards to the components:

*Beneficiary contribution:* This matter was raised in the Management Letter of 29<sup>th</sup> October 2019. It is important that participating farmers contribute to both the capital cost of scheme revitalisation as well as to the cost of scheme O&M. The contribution for capital costs can be "in kind" as an alternative to cash contributions. The mission notes that there has been some constraints to ensuring the contribution for capital costs in the "low hanging fruit schemes" is actually made, due to the need to expedite the physical work in the light of delays being experienced. This carries the danger that the beneficiaries will not have sufficient ownership of the revitalised schemes. The mission recommends that the project revisits this issue in close consultation with beneficiaries and other stakeholders to make a workable arrangement for at



least in-kind contributions for capital works.

*Capacity for Agritex:* Enhanced Institutional Capacity for Market-led Production. There has been activity in training of Agritex Staff in line with project needs. This has included the IMC training for transformation course, on the job training on methods to conduct value chain and market access studies, and Training for trainers on the Health Harvest manual for conducting nutrition education. This training and mentorship needs to be continued, and a schedule for systematic capacity building in line with the outcome of training needs assessment should be prepared. Agritex frontline staff need to be able to provide continuous training and mentoring of farmers, and not the once off training that was foreseen in the project design report.

### **Cross-cutting themes**

The cross-cutting themes that the project focuses on include targeting, gender, women's empowerment and youth, nutrition, environment and natural resources management, climate change and partnership. This section brings out the key observations within these themes.

*Targeting and social inclusion:* The project is commended for coming up with a targeting and social inclusion strategy. The next stage would be to categorize the farmers in low hanging fruits schemes according to target group. Farmers are classified into 4 target groups based on their resource endowments (A, B1, B2 and C). Category A farmers are the vulnerable, poorer households with limited land and labour, and these qualify for humanitarian assistance. Category B1 (have land and limited labour) and B2 (have land and labour) are productive farmers and Category C farmers are resource endowed market-oriented farmers. The categorization of farmers will utilize a participatory wealth ranking process involving the farmers using their local definition of poverty and wealth. SIRP should already conduct targeting for the beneficiaries of Rupangwana Irrigation scheme expanded irrigation area as well as nutrition gardens. This will be to ensure that the 50% women and 30% youth quotas are met.

*Gender equality and women's empowerment* A gender sensitization course for IPs will be done in December 2019. In order to make SIRP gender transformative, the programme will focus on practical steps to enhance women's access to and control of productive resources, improving the participation of women in leadership and decision making as well as reduce the workload for women through the promotion of labour-saving technologies. Women's economic empowerment in rainfed areas will be achieved through the allocation of NRMF matching grants to women specific income generation projects. Women's leadership training will target for inclusion of women in Irrigation Management Committees, Natural Resources Management committees, farmers origination committees at grassroot level among others. With regards to labour saving technologies, it will be important to promote the use of energy efficient stoves in the target area on a cost sharing basis. In addition, all the sub-components will come up with a plan on the gender-sensitive intervention to be implemented in line with the respective component's objective.

*Environment and natural resources management:* SIRP is making good progress towards ensuring sustainable natural resources management in and around the schemes. In the year under review, the project has undertaken NRM reports for some schemes, held workshops to initiate or revitalise environmental sub- committees, and facilitated exchange visits for committees. The NRM TA is now fully on board and supporting the project; natural resource mapping and development of NRM plans are ongoing, an NRM manual has been developed, and training for extension officers and farmers on GAPs and NRM is ongoing. There is need to strengthen governance and benefit sharing mechanisms of the committees, and to continue building their capacity and that of the RDCs in NRM and monitoring. The project should explore the possibility of converting the NRM TA into a permanent position upon review of the available budget.

*Environment and Social Safeguards:* SIRP now has a comprehensive database of the 68 irrigation schemes it wants to consider for revitalisation. In line with IFAD's environment and social safeguards guidelines and GoZ environmental laws, there is need for the project to work closely with the Environment Management Authority (EMA) to ensure that Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs) and Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs) are developed for new schemes or those that will undergo expansion, and that comprehensive ESMPs are developed for schemes that will undergo rehabilitation. The project should explore the possibility to incentivise sound environmental management by EMA, through a request for cost waivers on fees charged by EMA to cater for certificates of compliance issued upon the completion of ESIAs and ESMPs. This can be done through inter-ministerial negotiations between the MLAWCRR and Ministry of Finance and Economic Development.

*Climate adaptation and mitigation:* SIRP is contributing to climate adaptation, mitigation and reduction of farmers' vulnerability through its investments and interventions in revitalisation of irrigation schemes and support for dryland farmers. Interventions include: climate smart agriculture practices; enhancing food security through promotion of improved varieties; GAPs; building the capacities of irrigators, WUOs and IMCs; income generation; promotion of drought tolerant crops; and woodlots. Feasibility studies are taking into account climate risks affecting schemes and dryland farmers. There is need to work closely with the meteorological department to ensure that weather and climate advisories are embedded into extension provision to farmers. To access additional resources from the GCF, the project should develop a concept note focused on climate proofing schemes and dryland farming and share it with IFAD for further development and submission to the GCF.

*Nutrition:* The partnership with Harvest Plus assisted to train extension workers on nutrition sensitive outcomes. There is

need to make SIRP more nutrition-sensitive by for instance: (i) promoting the growing of biofortified varieties such as orange fleshed sweet potato, iron beans, Vitamin A rich maize among others; (ii) encourage the consumption of the biofortified varieties and ensure that there is adequate distribution of seed and vines for sweet potato. There is also the need for policy dialogue to address the opportunities and constraints that affects the effectiveness of nutrition-sensitive intervention. Training in Good Agricultural Practices such as FFS has been conducted and this helps to increase production leading to increased diversity of nutritious foods. Nutrition education is critical to ensure that increased agricultural production is translated into healthier diets and better nutrition.

### **Management, M&E and knowledge management**

*Project management:* The performance of programme management has improved but needs further strengthening. The mission observed that there is inadequate follow up on critical issues to ensure that deadlines are met. In addition, the overall coordination of the technical, financial and procurement processes is inadequate. For example, withdrawal applications were submitted to IFAD with wrong signatures which means that they were not checked properly, and this has led to delays in the release of funds for feasibility studies. The ICP letter has been pending at Ministry of Finance and Economic Development for three months. Procurement planning and adjustments to procurement plans are made with delay, causing delays for procurement processes. The oversight role of the PSC is dormant. In addition, regular meetings, the PSC should conduct regular monitoring field visits and report on findings and recommendations. The project should adequately update the MLAWRR on progress and challenges facing the programme and seek early solutions before implementation is affected. The programme implementation manual (PIM) has not been updated since it was elaborated in 2017 and it need to be reviewed urgently to reflect current implementation mechanisms and to serve as a guiding document for SIRP.

There is inadequate staff capacity to implement the programme. Government should consider seconding permanent government staff to SIRP to speed up implementation. SIRP should follow up on the offer, by the Chief Director of Agricultural Research, Agritex and Education, to second a permanent Agritex staff to the programme. While the recruitment of TAs has augmented capacity, the mission recommends that the positions for NRM and Rural sociologist be converted into permanent seconded positions within the project. The mission recommends these positions, for Agritex, staff, NRM and Rural Sociologist, be filled by staff seconded after an internally competitive process. These appointed staff should not have to resign as civil servants. For the BDS function, it should be expanded to provide for one BDS TA for each province. The mission recommends that these be recruited through a competent service provider with sound rural business development credentials. The TA Irrigation Engineer role should continue, and he would work with the BDS teams and Agritex in providing oversight of the SPs undertaking FS activity, and subsequently, in development of business oriented irrigation operations. In addition, implementation of physical works will be led by the provincial and district teams with oversight for central government.

Project management is also hampered by inadequate office space and facilities. The PCU staff is scattered throughout different offices in the MLAWRR building, often in cramped conditions. There is inadequate internet access, a major constraint with so many functions, including procurement and disbursement, expected to be handled on-line. The ministry is requested to allocate better office accommodation for the PCU and enable procurement of essential internet facilities. Given the wide range of departments of MLAWRR engaged in SIRP, the mission is of the opinion that the PCU and seconded staff should be housed in the MLAWRR headquarters building.

*Monitoring and Evaluation:* It is commendable that the project has a functional M&E system. However, in order to maintain functionality, there is need to ensure that technical staff both from PCU and IPs are trained in basic M&E as well as on the use of the data collection templates that have been developed. Data validation and quality checks should be routinely conducted in order to avoid data inconsistencies. In addition to MPAT baseline, there is need to carry out specific scheme baseline studies. This will be done by the rural sociologist, and changes in these TOR will be discussed and agreed with the MLAWRR and the PCU prior to confirmation of the changes. As preparation for the MTR, the project should carry out the Annual Outcome Survey (AOS) before the MTR scheduled for June 2020. Resources for the AOS will be included in 2020 AWPB budget. The logframe indicators were reviewed and updated during the mission.

*Knowledge Management:* KM is the responsibility of M&E and KM officer. The mission observed that an assistant to the M&E and KM officer will be recruited in order to ease the workload of the M&E officer, possibly as a junior but well-qualified intern. The KM function should be the responsibility of all technical staff, who will be required to submit one KM product each year. The project should use regular M&E review platforms to discuss together with technical specialists, emerging lessons learned and best practices. Case studies can highlight successes made in various areas. KM should also inform policy on relevant themes aligned with project.

*Partnership Building.* The programme is taking initiatives to bolster partnerships with private sector actors and other agencies involved in irrigation and smallholder agriculture development. To date the programme has held a series of meetings with potential partners, including ILO, Harvest Plus, Technoserve, Zimbabwe Agricultural Development Trust and several potential off-takers. However, most of these contacts have not yet been firmed into MoUs. Moreover, there are numerous other potential partners in the public, private and NGO sectors that could be beneficially engaged with SIRP. Prominent amongst these is ICRISAT, especially as it has developed methodology which enables great gains in irrigation water-use efficiency. Other partnerships could be developed with NGOs currently active with the ongoing Livelihoods and Food Security Project (LFSP) which have significant expertise in development of rural value chains. It is

also appropriate for SIRP to develop partnerships with companies providing specialist services in solar irrigation technology and cold chain facilities, as well as with prominent off-takers of high value produce. Finally, it would be helpful for the programme to develop partnerships with financial institutions interested in supporting rural value chains.

### **Financial and Procurement matters**

*Procurement:* The Mission witnessed that procurement activities are progressing at a sustained pace. This is a notable improvement over the slow start observed at the beginning of the financial year and at the July 2019 Procurement Support Mission.

To keep this momentum going, the Programme is encouraged to improve the capacity of the procurement function by fast-tracking the recruitment of a Senior Procurement Officer, as recommended by the October 2019 IFAD Implementation Support Mission. This appointment could be initially for one year, with extension if required. The mission notes that there is a very large quantum of procurement required to be successfully completed by SIRP in the forthcoming two years for the project to achieve its objectives.

As of the time of the Mission, only 42.5% of procurement activities were concluded, 15% were in progress, and 42.5% were not initiated. The low implementation rate of the 2019 procurement plan is due to inaccurate and overambitious planning – which caused the 2019 procurement plan to only receive IFAD No-Objection in August 2019 - and to the aforementioned delays in starting procurement activities. The activities not initiated during the current financial year will be carried over to the 2020 procurement plan.

The Programme must also strengthen the collaboration between all Programme Units during drafting of the AWPB, to ensure the accuracy of estimated budgets, targets and procurement needs. This will allow the Procurement Unit to prepare a procurement plan that is accurate and realistic from the beginning of the financial year. The use of formal procurement requisitions must also be extended to procurements of works and services.

Given the high number of recently-signed contracts for consultancies and works, the Programme is also encouraged to improve contract management, mainly by ensuring that clearly-appointed Contract Managers use standardized contract monitoring forms to track deliverables under each contract assigned to them.

Finally, the Procurement Unit must improve the quality of documentation prepared for shopping procedures and must expedite procurement of individual consultants by using the selection of individual consultant method described in Section 66 of the Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Assets Act (Chapter 22:23).

*Finance:* at the time of the mission, the disbursement rate of IFAD grant was 16 % (US\$4.1 million out of USD\$25.5 million). The total budget for the year 2019 was of US\$5.6 million, including IFAD financing of US\$ 3.3 million (59 % of the total). As of October 15, the MLAWCRR had submitted two withdrawal applications (WAs) amounting to US\$684,000. Three more WAs are expected to be processed during the last months of the year 2019, including 2 direct payments for feasibility studies (US\$ 245,361.75 from IFAD and US\$ 53,538.18 from OFID). The direct payment (US\$ 53,538.18) from OFID will be the first disbursement from OFID under the OFID loan agreement.

The programme should have in place a system of tracking changes in authorised signatories. Whenever changes occur, prompt notifications should be sent to all institutions that held the previous list of signatories so that the old signatories are dropped and details of new ones recorded without undue delays. All efforts necessary should be employed to ensure that the list of authorised signatories is kept up to date at all times. This will ensure that there is no disruption of operations due to lack/unavailability of signatories to process programme transactions.

The programme does not have in place a system of stamping paid vouchers/invoices to cancel them upon payment. This presents the risk of presentation of such documents for double payment. We recommend that finance department introduces a "PAID" stamp to be applied on all payments made by the programme to ensure that the same cannot be erroneously presented for payment after the initial payment. The project coordinator should also as a practice when approving the payment voucher initial or sign on invoices attached to the payment voucher.

All payments made out programme funds should be fully approved/supported. There are cases of expenditure reported on SOEs that is not appropriately approved/supported. We noted a number of instances under training ad Workshops category, where the support documents used have not been reconciled to the advance taken. We recommend that the programme introduces a system of accounting for advances taken that will require prompt accounting for advances taken, reconciliation of advance to expense documentation presented and approval by the Project coordinator before recording of the expenditure in the programme books of account.

Recommendations arising out of the external audit have not been fully actioned upon. Bank reconciliations have not been updated to current month. The last signed bank reconciliations at the time of review are July 2019 (COBZ RTGS - GOZ ZWL\$), August 2019 (Nostro USD a/c), August 2019 for Designated A/c, Personnel files are not updated with full information on staff members, some assets in use have not been tagged and entered into the fixed assets register. The programme has some long outstanding staff advances with USD 5,511.20 is over 180 days old while USD 1,205.00 is over 150 days old. We recommend that management promptly addresses all issues/recommendations arising out of the external audits.

Targeting and social inclusion: The project is commended for coming up with a targeting and social inclusion strategy. The next stage would be to categorize the farmers in low hanging fruits schemes according to target group. This will be important in order to track farmers on the graduation from poor to higher income earning farmers. Farmers are classified into 4 target groups based on their resource endowments (A, B1, B2 and C). Category A farmers are the vulnerable, poorer households with limited land and labour, and these qualify for humanitarian assistance. Category B1 (have land and limited labour) and B2 (have land and labour) are productive farmers and Category C farmers are resource endowed market-oriented farmers. The categorization of farmers will utilize a participatory wealth ranking process using their local definition of poverty. SIRP should already conduct targeting for the beneficiaries of Rupangwana Irrigation scheme expanded area as well as nutrition gardens also taking into account that the 50% women and 30% youth quotas are met.

## D. Overview and Project Progress

**Component 1: Sustainable Smallholder Irrigation Development.** This component aims to rehabilitate 6,100 ha of existing irrigation schemes, while financing further scheme design studies for 2000 ha nationwide. The project reports that the key items of progress in 2019 are:

Under Sub-Component 1.1: Feasibility studies and scheme Rehabilitation:

1. Feasibility studies (FS) for 917 ha of proposed schemes have been completed by the DoI;
2. Of these, work has commenced on 353 ha;
3. A further 410 ha are now at tendering and contracting stages;
4. Two Private Consulting Companies have been engaged to carry out feasibility studies on 3,0994 ha, and one of these companies has now commenced work;
5. DoI has now revised its methodology for conducting of FS in line with an agreement reached in the previous mission; and,
6. Two TAs have been employed to work with DoI to add to analytical capacity.

Under Sub-Component 1.2: Improved Smallholder Irrigation Management:

1. 1. A total of 287 irrigators, from a target of 1,775, were trained in irrigation management;
2. There was no other reported activity under this sub-component.

Under Sub-Component 1.3: Enhancing institutional capacity for irrigation development:

1. 1. A total of 172 Government staff were trained in irrigation and irrigation O&M;
2. There were 29 ToT sessions conducted in irrigation O&M;
3. There was one study tour conducted to familiarize DoI engineers with various pumping options for smallholder irrigation; and,
4. One Irrigation Policy Workshop on WUAs was conducted in conjunction with FAO.

The following constraints affecting performance in C1 have been noted:

1. 1. Delays in the procurement of TAs has affected the preparation of feasibility reports and has resulted in slippage in carry out the planned activities;
2. Delays in the procurement of contractors for works has affected the timeline for implementation of planned works for which feasibility studies had been completed.
3. Delays in payment of recruited private Consulting firms for feasibility studies has affected the delivery of anticipated feasibility studies planned for this year.
4. The Unfavourable Macro-economic environment has tended to dissuade farmers from maintaining (O&M) savings in banks.

These constraints and others have delayed the FS process by almost a year compared to initial project design. In order to recover lost time, SIRP has recruited TAs to assist preparation of (in-house) FS and has contracted two Consulting firms to carry out FS. The contracted firms will be deploying six teams to carry out studies in all four provinces and the IPs will provide a further two more teams to simultaneously carrying out studies. It is expected that with 8 FS teams, schedule of FS activity will be restored to that planned by mid 2020.

**Component 2: Climate Smart Agriculture and Market Access:** This component aims to improve the productivity and sustainable production of agricultural commodities in both irrigated and rainfed areas, including farm profitability and household incomes by increasing market access and linkages. There is limited progress reported for Component 2. The following has been reported.

**Enhanced Agricultural Practices and Farmer Organizational Capacity:**

*Natural Resource Management:*

1. 9 workshops to revitalize NRM sub-committees conducted with a total of 539 (299 M ;236 F); 67 (28F:39M) members of the NRM committee trained on NRM M&E;
2. 5 Participatory Natural Resource Mapping Workshop conducted. (total 115 with 71M, 44F);
3. 5 exchange visits for Rupangwana and Fungai, Sebasa, Chikwarakwara and Exchange conducted; 946 farmers (480F: 466M trained on NRM focusing on environmental awareness soil and water conservation, soil erosion.

*Farmer Field Schools (FFS):*

1. 1. 11 FFS establishment and equipment; 344/1550 rainfed framers trained;
2. 3 demonstration plots established;
3. 78/108 IMC members and 10 extension staff trained in training for transformation.

*Gender Mainstreaming:*

1. 1. One TA Rural sociologist engaged;
2. 43 people (14F and 29 M) participated in data collection and 11 socio-economic analysis studies on irrigation schemes were conducted.
3. Participation at the International Day for Rural Women.

*Nutrition;*

1. 1. 3/9 cooking demonstrations conducted in Rupangwana, Sebasa and Exchange;
2. 2/9 nutrition demonstration gardens established;
3. 5/12 nutrition education training session conducted;
4. TOT for 26 extension workers (22M, 4 F) conducted;
5. nutrition sensitization workshop conducted by Harvest Plus 32 people (22F;10 M);
6. 340 farmers trained in Nutrition Behaviour Change by Harvest Plus;
7. 227 farmers (94M:135F) trained using Healthy Harvest Manual.

Agricultural Practices. Planned activities for this component include FFS and trainings in rain-fed areas. Eighteen FFS are in the process of being established. So far, 540 farmers (from a target of 880) have been trained in FFS establishment. However, none of the planned training for FFS facilitators has been accomplished. Three demonstration plots have been established, and training for irrigation scheme agriculture committees has been done for 78 members (target 108). There has also been one exchange visit (target 3).

*Business Development Services:* Broad-based training in agri-business development and marketing. A key achievement was the appointment of a BDSP who started work in August. Other key activities were.

1. Farmers in both dry land and irrigation areas are being trained in Farming as a Business (FaaB).
2. A ToT was conducted for local extension staff to build their capacity to train farmers. This was followed by a backstopping session where the trained extension workers trained farmers.
3. Training of farmers on business skills was conducted in all low hanging fruits schemes, with a total of 1 946 farmers (631M;1315F) have been trained on FaaB, both irrigators and dry land farmers.

In addition to this, a number of business linkages were initiated to enable schemes to engage with off takers and services providers that will enhance production and profitability of irrigation farmers. This also included linkages for dry land farming systems. Targeted linkages included off-takers, input suppliers, financial services and information service providers among others.

Rural Finance. The only significant activity under this heading was that 527 farmers (about 20% of annual target) were trained on record keeping, financial management and financing options for agriculture. All other planned activities were delayed, with the major cause being the delayed engagement of a specialist Rural Finance service provider.

*Post-Harvest Management:* Activities noted are:

1. One TA Post Harvest Management (PHM) specialist engaged, and the TA conducted a needs assessment on post-harvest management, and produced a Training Manual on post-harvest management of both horticultural crops and field crops;
2. TOT for 23(10F and 13 M) extension staff on Post-harvest management conducted;
3. A total of 130 farmers (65F;65M) have been trained in PHM; and,
4. Training for 20 youth (10 M: 10F) to deliver services to respective communities on post-harvest management specializing on metal silo fabrication was conducted.

**2:3: Enhanced Institutional Capacity for Market-led Production.**

Mentorship of Agritex Staff. The following has been reported.

1. 1. One TA for Training Needs Assessment engaged;

2. 10 Extension officers (7M and 3F) trained under the IMC training for transformation course;
3. On the job training on methods to conduct value chain and market access studies as part of capacity building to conduct feasibility studies was provided to 12 government officials (8M and 4 F) from AGRITEX and DoI;
4. Training for trainers on the Health Harvest manual for conducting nutrition education was provided to 26 Extension workers (22M:4F).

Partnership Building. The programme is taking initiatives to bolster partnerships with private sector actors and other agencies involved in irrigation and smallholder agriculture development. To date the programme has held a series of meetings with potential partners, including ILO, Harvest Plus, Technoserve, Zimbabwe Agricultural Development Trust and several potential off-takers. However, most of these contacts have not yet been firmed into MoUs. Moreover, there are numerous other potential partners in the public, private and NGO sectors that could be beneficially engaged with SIRP. Prominent amongst these is ICRISAT, especially as it has developed methodology which enables great gains in irrigation water-use efficiency. Other partnerships could be developed with NGOs currently active with the ongoing Livelihoods and Food Security Project (LFSP) which have significant expertise in development of rural value chains. It is also appropriate for SIRP to develop partnerships with companies providing specialist services in solar irrigation technology and cold chain facilities, as well as with prominent off-takers of high value produce. Finally, it would be helpful for the programme to develop partnerships with financial institutions interested in supporting rural value chains.

Policy Dialogue. There has been one Policy dialogue activity on the operationalisation of the National Agricultural policy Framework.

Challenges noted in the implementation of C2 included: (i) Limited farmer interest in training before infrastructure development; (ii) Delayed procurement of TAs to give strategic guidance to activities implementation has delayed overall programme implementation; (iii) limited opacity for Agritex frontline staff to be able to provide continuous training and mentoring of farmers and not the once off training that was foreseen in the appraisal report.

<b>Agreed Action</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Agreed Date</b>
<b>Recruit short term consultant to undertake value chain assessments as part of scheme feasibility studies</b>	PCU	01/2019
<b>Develop and appraise business plans to guide project investments in off-farm businesses</b>	PCU	01/2019
<b>Mobilise provincial based BDS TA in a phased manner starting with Manicaland</b>	PCU	04/2019
<b>Annual Audit</b> Annual Audit To be conducted and submitted to IFAD	PCU & Audit Firm	07/2019
<b>Procurement Training</b> IFAD to provide procurement training for SIRP personnel	IFAD & PCU	08/2019
<b>Technical Assistance Support</b> Investigate and report on strategy for provision of longer-term technical support for Irrigation Engineer, Nutrition, Gender, NRM, BDS and Post-Harvest.	PCU	08/2019
<b>Capacity building for Agritex Frontline staff</b> Agritex agrees on a schedule for systematic capacity building in line with the outcome of training needs assessment	PCU and Agritex	12/2019
<b>Accelerate project implementation</b> Provincial and district teams will lead field level implementation with backstopping from national agencies	PCU, IPs	12/2019
<b>Feasibility Studies</b> Speed up Implementation of FS	PCU	
<b>Feasibility Studies</b> Develop and Operationalise more concise and focussed FS methodology	PCU/DOI with IFAD support	
<b>Application of Participatory Approach</b> Full participation by Farmer/Clients in FS, Design and Construction	PCU/DOI & Agritex	
<b>Farmer Equity Contributions</b> Contribution of at least 10% of scheme investment cost in kind and/or cash	PCU/DOI & Agritex	

## E. Project implementation

### a. Development Effectiveness

#### Effectiveness and Developmental Focus

**Effectiveness****Rating: 3****Previous rating: 3****Justification of rating**

At the end of year 3, the project is lagging behind in implementation, with no physical results on the ground, which is reflected in the low financial progress. However, significant financial progress is expected in 2020 on (i) initiation of construction works starting at the end of Q4 (2019) and (ii) completion of feasibility studies for the irrigation schemes. There is scope to improve implementation of Component 2 activities following the recruitment of the TAs.

**Log-Frame Analysis & Main Issues of Effectiveness**

At the end of 2019, the project reached 2676 households (8% of targeted outreach) of which 1626 Male and 1049 Female. The progress against the project goal and development objective is summarised below:

**Goal:** Rural households achieve food and nutrition security and are resilient to climate change effects and economic shocks in the programme districts.

**Progress:** The goal has 3 indicators. With the baseline survey completed, the data is showing: (i) MPAT baseline on "Household Asset Ownership" is 3%; (ii) Baseline from Zimbabwe Demographic and Health Survey (2015) shows that "Reduction in chronic malnutrition" is 27%; and, (iii) MPAT baseline on "% households coping with the effects of climate change" is 51.5%. Impact will be measured at project completion.

**Objective:** Rural households sustainably increase their income in SIRP supported schemes and adjacent rainfed areas. The objective has 2 indicators and impact will be measured at mid-term and completion.

**Progress:** MPAT baseline completed showing: (i) Dietary Diversity Score is 3; (ii) Annual household income based on PICES report 2017 is \$1,337.

SIRP is yet to report on outcomes. Baseline studies have been completed and specific scheme baseline studies are planned. In preparation for the MTR, SIRP will conduct an Annual Outcome Survey.

Effective project implementation has been affected by slow progress in the development of feasibility studies and the subsequent physical infrastructure development. This is attributed to procurement delays. Project implementation has been effective for only 1.5 years due to start up delays. Performance for most of the planned activities and outputs has been below expectations. Feasibility studies for the majority of schemes are still ongoing, or not yet commenced. In order to speed up the roll out of physical investments, the project will need to ensure that there is (i) effective procurement and avoid delays; (ii) coordination between components 1 and 2; (iii) strengthened human capital support through converting TA support to full time positions and capacity building of frontline extension staff; and (iv) improved M&E system and (v) team work between project and implementing agencies staff. The mission observed that implementation by IPs staff at provincial and district level will improve sustainability and cost efficiencies due to proximity the grassroots. In addition, the participation of beneficiaries in the whole project cycle will increase ownership while staff at national level will provide the necessary oversight.

Since the project lost one year due to delayed start, project implementation will accelerate in the remaining 4 years. It is therefore imperative that the feasibility studies are completed without further delays. It will be important to guide and supervise the development of the feasibility studies to ensure design of good quality studies that are implementable. The project management role is provided for by the irrigation engineer, Agritex and DOI, while PCU is the Contract manager.

The theory of change and its assumptions are still valid.

<b>Agreed Action</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Agreed Date</b>
<b>Develop a master plan for the project activities</b> In collaboration with the different implementation partners, the project needs to prepare a master plan for all project activities with clear milestones until the end of 2022 considering the delays encountered. This will require a more strategic focus on key activities that need to be fast tracked (mainly feasibility studies and the pipeline for works), procurement processes and corrective actions that need to be in place.	PCU and implementing partners	01/2019
<b>FS Quality Control</b> Supervise feasibility studies to ensure quality	PCU and IPs	

**Development Focus**



### Justification of rating

Since the last mission, SIRP reached 1,396 HH (1130M and 266 FHH) to give a cumulative outreach of 2,676 (1626 M and 1049 FHH) against the design target of 27,500 HH. 200/500 government extension workers received training with a cumulative total of 258/500 to date. The target group consists of the poor households that includes women headed households and youths in Musikavanhu, Rupangwana, Exchange, Sebasa and Chikwarakwara Irrigation scheme. The schemes are located in the geographical targeted area. In year 3, the project outreach is still low. The project has a targeting and social inclusion strategy in place. Most training activities use an open invitation for those interested to participate. The mission observed that the training is highly appreciated by the target group, hence the need to expedite physical investments.

### Main issues

The targeting and social inclusion strategy utilises geographical, direct, community and self-targeting mechanisms. The targeting and social inclusion strategy should be discussed with IPs. The targets per the PDR comprise of 15,000 irrigator smallholder HH, 12,500 smallholder HH in the adjacent rainfed areas, 2000 youths and 500 government agencies staff. Women and youth consist of 50% and 30% of the beneficiaries respectively. In year 3 of the project, actual targeting is still below design, due mainly to start-up delays. However, targeting figures will improve after the ongoing feasibility studies are completed in early 2020.

*Poverty focus:* SIRP will complete the scheme beneficiary registrations for the initial “low hanging fruit” targeted schemes. With the assistance of TA rural sociologist, the beneficiaries for each scheme will be categorised into the different wealth categories/target groups with the participation of the local communities also adapting to the local definition of poverty. In rainfed areas, the project will ensure the inclusion of the poorest households to benefit from the NRMF and including women and youths' groups. For schemes with an expansion area, the selection of beneficiaries should be done before the commencement of construction works and the selection will be biased towards more youths and women. The TA rural sociologist role is critical to ensure that the targeting strategy is implemented hence the need to extend the duration of this position by one year.

*Youth focus:* Agriculture remains unattractive for youths. Few youths are plot holders, only gaining ownership through inheritance. SIRP youth strategy targets 10-30% youth in expanded irrigation areas. In addition to the 2000 youth to benefit from vocational training in irrigation O&M and post-harvest technologies, youth will be targeted under the NRMF for income generation projects. Youth entrepreneurship skills' groups of 10-15 youths in each irrigation scheme will benefit from the project as artisans, off-takers, producers or casual labourers. Youth vocational training in solar drying technology will be conducted in December 2019. SIRP should utilise vocational training centres to train the youth in order to reach the 2000 participant target. In addition, there is the need to continuously explore ways to attract youth participation through tapping into areas where youth are most likely to be interested in such as marketing using ICTs, value addition among others.

Training activities are open to all those interested. However, due to delayed physical rehabilitation, there is low turn up for training. Self-targeting for the NRMF is still to take off with the implementation of 9 nutrition gardens. 50-100 vulnerable HH per nutrition garden will benefit with 30% youth and 50% women. The M&E system uses participatory monitoring during bi-annual and annual review meetings. The mission observed the need for consistency in presenting sex and gender disaggregated data from scheme level. This observation stems from the data presented to the mission team at Exchange. However, it is noted that data is disaggregated in the logframe and gender sensitive indicators are used.

<b>Agreed Action</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Agreed Date</b>
<b>Provide a breakdown of beneficiary categories</b> Give a breakdown of beneficiaries according to the target categories (B1, B2, C, youth, women).	IPs, M&E officer	01/2019
<b>Engage youth beneficiaries</b> Engage stakeholders such as agriculture education department on ways to involve youth in agriculture	PCU	01/2019
<b>Review the targeting strategy for main project activities</b> Expedite the recruitment of Rural Sociologist to review the current draft targeting strategy for the main project activities.	PCU	02/2019
<b>Targeting and social inclusion strategy</b> Review the targeting and social inclusion strategy with IPs to familiarise with its practical use	TA, PCU and IPs	12/2019
<b>Beneficiary registration</b> Complete the beneficiary registration for the low hanging fruit schemes and use participatory methods to categorise them in wealth groups	TA, M&E specialist	12/2019
<b>Youth inclusion</b> Explore 2 or 3 concrete areas from the youth strategy to attract the participation of youth in agriculture	PCU and IPs	12/2019

**Gender equality & women's participation**

**Rating: 5**

**Previous rating: 4**

#### Justification of rating

63. Women's outreach is 39% and participation in training activities is high. During the field visit, the mission observed improved participation by women and good grasp of business planning, nutrition, NRM and understanding of feasibility studies. For instance, 51% of women participated in the NRM training. For decision making, there is need to increase women's participation in Irrigation Management Committees, which is currently below the 50% target. However, 42% of women in NRM Committees were trained on NRM M&E. In general women have limited access to and control of resources (capital, land and technologies). Feasibility studies propose irrigation technologies that ease workload for women for instance the use of solar powered pumps. Activities carried out included: (i) engagement of rural sociologist; (ii) conducting socio-economic and gender analysis for 7 schemes; (iii) gender learning tour to Guruve and Bindura to learn about Smallholder Horticulture Empowerment Project (SHEP) and Gender Action Learning System (GALS) approach; (iv) participation in the International Rural Women's Day in October 2019; and, (v) finalising WEAI report. SIRP will use the FAO GALS manual and a gender sensitisation training will be conducted in December 2019.

#### Main issues

The PCU value chain specialist is responsible for gender and is supported by gender focal points in IPs. In addition, SIRP recruited a TA Rural Sociologist to elaborate a gender strategy and action plan. SIRP has also conducted WEAI and results will be incorporated into the strategy. A workshop with SMLP project in Eswatini is proposed in January 2020 to exchange experience on how utilise WEAI results to sharpen respective country gender strategies. Since 2018, SIRP has been leading the celebrations of the International Day of Women (March) and the Rural Women (October). These events have been organized together with FAO, WFP and Ministry of Women Affairs Gender and Community Development. These events have focused on sharing of success stories of women entrepreneurs and discussing of challenges women still face in rural settings. These activities have been attended by men and women and they have received good publicity.

While it is commendable that SIRP is exploring the possibility of adopting the GALS approach, there is need to exercise caution since SIRP has limited human and financial resources to embark on a GALS approach. The approach taken should be in line with the gender strategy and should recognise the work already done on WEAI. A good option will be to adopt SHEP approach which contains elements of GALS and has already been institutionalised in Government through

Agritex. A number of Agritex staff including the SIRP Provincial Facilitator in Matabeleland South are already trained in this approach. Therefore, adopting this approach will be recommended since it does not require additional resources. Training on this approach could be done internally by Agritex.

The mission recommends that the project should put more emphasis on practical actions aiming at gender transformation: (i) to improve women's access to and control of resources; (ii) increase women's participation in leadership and decision-making positions in committees of rural organisations; and, (iii) in ensuring that there is alleviation on women's time poverty. Promotion of practical measures to ensure gender equality and participation will ensure that, not only the 50% women target is achieved in all activities, but also that their participation is of high quality. Practical measures to ensure maximum participation of woman include the holding of meetings after at a time when women have completed their household chores, provision of child care facilities during trainings/meetings, holding meeting close to villages among others. In terms of women economic empowerment, the NRMF matching grant facility should focus on strengthening specific women groups and support them with IGPs and entrepreneurial skills. Programmes on value addition will look into the promotion of labour-saving technologies such as energy saving stoves. Women's empowerment has been through training in entrepreneurial skills including FaaB, market access, good agricultural practices nutrition, post-harvest management among others. Participatory monitoring for gender impacts of programme activities will ensure that the women and men benefit equally from SIRP and that no gender is disadvantaged by programme interventions.

<b>Agreed Action</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Agreed Date</b>
<b>Gender sensitisation Training</b> Develop gender training manual and conduct gender mainstreaming and sensitisation training for all IPs and PCU and other stakeholders Partner with NGOs to train women and men In IMC on leadership skills.	MLAWCRR lead gender and IP gender focal points /partnerships	02/2019
<b>Workshop on WEAI</b> Organise a workshop in Eswatini to exchange experiences on WEAI results.	M&E and Coordinator	02/2019
<b>Implementation of gender Specific activities</b> Design a plan and implement the activities.	MLAWCRR lead gender and IP gender focal points	05/2019
<b>Women's and Youth Participation</b> Effective application strategy and entry points to enhance the participation and allocation of land within new/expanded schemes to women and the youth to undertake cropping activities	PCU	08/2019
<b>Identify a set of suitable entry points</b> Identify a set of suitable entry points for youth inclusion in SIRP implementation strategy, considering aspects as postharvest, technologies, enterprise development	PCU, TA Rural sociologist	09/2019
<b>Gender Sensitisation Training</b> Conduct gender sensitisation training for IPs and PCU that includes all approaches including SHEP and GALs	PCU	12/2019
<b>Resource allocation</b> Allocate NRMF resources to specific women and youth groups to increase their participation and economic empowerment.	Mechanisation, PCU	12/2019
<b>WEAI</b> WEAI Organise a workshop on WEAI between SIRP Zimbabwe and SMLP Eswatini to share ideas and experiences on WEAI results and how to use the results to consolidate and finalise the gender and youth strategies	PCU	02/2020
<b>Women Leadership Training</b> Conduct women leadership training programme for women in irrigation management committees and other rural committees	PCU	03/2020
<b>Apply a quota for both women and youth inclusion in selected activities</b> Apply a quota for both women and youth inclusion in selected activities	PCU	

### Justification of rating

SIRP is promoting diversified nutrition through food fairs, cooking demonstrations, nutrition gardens, nutrition education and training, and diversified crops. A nutrition mainstreaming strategy and action plan are under development. PHM training is ongoing within the project. SIRP has collaborated with Harvest Plus to promote behavioural change, bio-fortified foods, and healthy and nutritious local foods. There is need for the project to find an alternative solution to the current lack of a nutrition TA. SIRP should collaborate with the Food and Nutrition council to identify nutritional deficiencies in project regions and propose appropriate food production and diet measures and establish baselines and monitoring protocols for log-frame indicators on nutrition.

### Main issues

SIRP is progressively working to enhance diversified nutrition through various interventions and establishment of partnerships. Within the reporting period, the project has trained 26 extension staff through a ToT approach using the Health Harvest Manual. The training focused on healthy and balanced diet, vegetable proteins and complimentary carbohydrates, food storage, and nutrition for different age groups and gender, elderly and the sick. The partnership with Harvest Plus has already been formalized and Harvest Plus undertook a nutrition sensitization workshop which was attended by 32 teachers, extension workers, community health workers and local nurses. The training focused on nutrition and bio fortified foods. The training and awareness campaigns are being rolled out to farmers and local institutions.

The project is finalising its nutrition mainstreaming strategy and action plan. The draft action plan has also incorporated planned activities under the new partnership with Harvest Plus, which has undertaken activities such as cooking demonstrations in Musikavanhu and Rupangwana clusters. The dishes prepared included biofortified and local foods such as orange maize bread, iron bean, matemba and egg flour, baobab juice and yoghurt, and iron bean stew and vegetables among others.

The project has initiated post-harvest management training and already trained 23 ToTs and 130 farmers. TA to conduct research and development of post-harvest material and needs assessment has been engaged and data collection has begun. A training manual on post-harvest management was developed and is used for the trainings. PHM interventions include: improved granaries; low cost precooling/ temporary storage facilities for fresh produce; sorting, cleaning and packaging of sugar beans; solar driers for drying vegetables, tomatoes, fruits etc. Post-harvest starter kits were procured and distributed to 20 youth who underwent the training of artisans to fabricate metal silos. The youth will also be trained on Solar Drier Manufacturing in December 2019.

The NRMF will this year allocate money to the establishment of 9 nutrition gardens to cover 1ha of land, in response to the impacts of cyclone Idai. The designs and BoQs of these gardens have already been developed and 9 garden sites have been identified in low hanging fruit schemes, where some require drilling of new boreholes while others need rehabilitation. There is need for the project to look closely into how these gardens will be run, managed and sustained in the long run and the modality that would work best. This is with regards to the best placed entities to take care of the gardens, as well as financial and human resource needs beyond the project.

The project had recruited a nutrition TA, who resigned immediately after taking up the assignment. The TA was supposed to be engaged for a period of 1 year to lead nutrition mainstreaming in programme activities. The project therefore needs to find an alternative to this lack of a nutrition TA to ensure that project activities run smoothly and nutrition issues are well addressed. Moreover, although the log-frame identifies the need to reduce chronic malnutrition in children under five (weight for age), and promote diet diversity, it is still not clear whether project level baselines have been established and how monitoring is being done for purposes of reporting. The project also needs to work closely with the Food and Nutrition Council to identify nutritional deficiencies in project regions and propose appropriate food production and diet measures.

<b>Agreed Action</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Agreed Date</b>
<b>Update the nutrition TA expected deliverables/ tasks to fit purpose</b> Update the nutrition TA expected deliverables/ tasks to fit purpose	PCU	07/2019
<b>Review and modify the nutrition indicators</b> Review and modify the nutrition indicators as per the recommended ORMS and compendium of indicators for nutrition-sensitive agriculture	PCU	08/2019
<b>Review Nutrition Mainstreaming strategy /action plan</b> Review Nutrition Mainstreaming strategy /action plan	PCU	09/2019
<b>Develop nutrition situation analysis products to inform schemes feasibility studies</b> Develop nutrition situation analysis products to inform schemes feasibility studies	PCU	09/2019
<b>Identification of Regional Nutrition Deficiencies</b> Liaise with the Food and Nutrition Council to identify nutritional deficiencies in project regions and propose appropriate food production and diet measures	PCU	12/2019
<b>Log-frame Nutrition Indicators</b> Establish project level baselines and monitoring protocols for log-frame indicators on nutrition	PCU	01/2020

**Adaptation to Climate Change**

**Rating: 4**

**Previous rating: 4**

#### **Justification of rating**

SIRP is contributing to climate adaptation, mitigation and reduction of farmers' vulnerability through its investments and interventions in revitalisation of irrigation schemes and support for dryland farmers. Interventions include: climate smart agriculture practices; enhancing food security through promotion of improved varieties; GAPs; building the capacities of irrigators, WUOs and IMCs; income generation; promotion of drought tolerant crops; and woodlots. Feasibility studies are taking into account climate risks affecting schemes and dryland farmers. There is need to work closely with the meteorological department to ensure that weather and climate advisories are embedded into extension provision to farmers. To access additional resources from the Green Climate Fund (GCF,) the project should develop a concept note focused on climate proofing schemes and dryland farming and share it with IFAD for further development and submission to the GCF.

#### **Main issues**

The project is progressively enhancing climate adaptation and mitigation as well as minimising the vulnerability of farmers to climate shocks. Revitalising irrigated agriculture will be a major intervention towards adaptation. Other planned interventions include climate smart agriculture, GAPs, building the capacities of irrigators and their organisations, promotion of drought tolerant crop such as sorghum and groundnuts, weather information, woodlots, and use of renewable energy where applicable. Improving farmers' production through improved varieties, as well as linking them to markets is likely to generate them extra income and reduce their vulnerability to climate shocks.

Field visits revealed the need to improve the water use efficiencies of irrigation schemes, especially because some of them are highly affected by drought and extreme weather conditions. Furrow irrigation takes up a lot of water and it will be necessary to start piloting alternatives such as sprinkler irrigation to enhance efficiency and cost saving. It is encouraging that the PCU is now looking into areas where renewable energy maybe used in place of diesel or electricity. For instance, pumping of water into irrigation schemes using solar propelled pumps has been ear marked as one such area. Under the nutrition improvement aspects, use of solar driers for vegetables and fruits have been proposed as part of post-harvest loss management. In addition to other interventions targeted at dry land farmers around irrigation schemes, the project is encouraged to look into the possibilities of promoting water harvesting for domestic and farm use for each household as a

way to enable them to adapt to drought conditions, which are getting more frequent and severe.

While it is noteworthy that each feasibility study has a climate risk analysis section, the PCU should ensure that each scheme has a good analysis of current and future climate predictions and impacts on cropping and livelihood patterns. IFAD commissioned the University of Cape town to undertake a climate risk analysis study and the report is now out for Zimbabwe. This study will be useful in providing indications of future and current climate scenarios in each region, as well as current and projected impacts of climate on cropping and livelihood patterns. Furthermore, there is need for the project to work closely with the meteorological department and extension in order to ensure that weekly or monthly weather and climate advisories are downscaled at farmer level and embedded into extension messages to enable farmers make informed decisions and choices.

To augment resourcing towards climate proofing irrigation schemes and strengthening adaptation and mitigation among dryland farmers, the mission discussed with the PCU and collaborators the possibility to have GCF financing dedicated to climate proofing. The project welcomed this idea and indicated that they had already initiated discussions on the same with the Climate Change Department. IFAD will work with the project to develop a GCF concept note on climate proofing schemes and enhancing climate adaptation and mitigation among dryland farmers. The PCU should work with partners, TAs and service providers to develop the initial draft of the concept note and share it with IFAD for further joint development and eventual submission to the GCF.

<b>Agreed Action</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Agreed Date</b>
<b>Ensure concrete climate change considerations are mainstreamed into all project decision-making tools</b>	PCU/IPs	01/2019
<b>Development of GCF Concept Note</b> Develop a GCF concept note on climate proofing irrigation schemes and strengthening dryland adaptation and submit to IFAD	PCU, partners, TAs	02/2020
<b>Incorporate localised climate risk analyses</b> Incorporate localised climate risk analyses into feasibility studies, to better understand past, present and future climate risks and to develop and mainstream appropriate mitigation measures during implementation	PCU	
<b>Farmer Access to Climate and Weather Information</b> Liaise with the meteorological department to ensure that downscaled climate and weather information is regularly applied to inform extension provision to farmers	PCU	

## **b. Sustainability and Scaling up**

<b>Institutions and Policy Engagement</b>	<b>Rating: N/A</b>	<b>Previous rating: 4</b>
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### **Main issues**

The history of schemes being supported for revitalisation, and the diagnosis of the problems that have been observed provides information on techniques, policies and procedures which lead to partial or complete failure of schemes. These could include poor technical design, natural disasters (flood, cyclone etc), lack of provision for O&M costs, failure of public institutions to provide support and competing/unregulated use of water resources. Analysis of these factors should be done from information revealed in the FS reports. The factors can be grouped, with a hierarchy of the factors having the most severe impact. This should be presented through the PSC and onwards to relevant authorities. The factors should also be presented to farmers through their WUOs.

To strengthen the sustainability of the SIRP interventions, there is need to bolster NRM and climate resilience in the operationalisation of the schemes. The project in collaboration with IFAD is looking to submit a Proposal to the GCF to address issues around climate proofing the schemes and enhancing climate resilience among dry land farmers adjacent to the schemes. More work should go towards ensuring that the schemes can survive extreme weather events and remain functional over the long term.

Investments in participatory and community led Natural Resources Management are likely to bear fruit with regards to sustainability. However, there is need to ensure that the committees charged with overseeing these activities have



sufficient capacity, are well incentivised, and there are clear governance and benefit sharing mechanisms to guide their operations.

<b>Agreed Action</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Agreed Date</b>
<b>Analysis of reasons for scheme failure</b>  Using FS information, compile and analyse reasons that irrigation schemes require rehabilitation, for use by policy-makers	DOI, PCU	06/2020

#### Partnership-building

**Rating: 3**

**Previous rating: 3**

#### Justification of rating

The programme is taking initiatives to bolster partnerships with private sector actors and other agencies involved in irrigation and smallholder agriculture development. To date the programme has developed different levels of contacts with potential partners, including ILO, Harvest Plus, Technoserve, Zimbabwe Agricultural Development Trust and Environmental Management Authority and several potential off-takers. Moreover, there are numerous other potential partners in the public, private and NGO sectors that could be beneficially engaged with SIRP.

#### Main issues

While the programme has initiated contacts with potential partners, only one (with Harvest Plus) has so far resulted in an agreement (MoU). Draft MoU has been elaborated with Technoserve and ILO. Furthermore, there are several other entities that would provide support and benefits to SIRP. Prominent amongst these is ICRISAT, especially as it has developed methodology which enables great gains in irrigation water-use efficiency. Other partnerships could be developed with NGOs currently active with the ongoing Livelihoods and Food Security Project (LFSP) which have significant expertise in development of rural value chains. It is also appropriate for SIRP to develop partnerships with companies providing specialist services in solar irrigation technology and cold chain facilities, as well as with prominent off-takers of high value produce. Finally, it would be helpful for the programme to develop partnerships with financial institutions interested in supporting rural value chains.

The Project has developed a good working relationship/partnership with the Environment Management Authority (EMA). EMA is part of the project steering committee and is regularly consulted on matters related to environmental and social safeguards. They have also supported the project by providing training to the PCU and IPs on EIAs. As the project embarks on revitalisation and expansion of schemes, the role of EMA will be much more pronounced because they are charged with reviewing, approving and providing certificates upon completion of ESIA's and ESMPs. EMA has offices at national, regional and district levels, and it is critical that the project continues to engage with them regularly on safeguards and in the provision of technical inputs to their work in the field.

<b>Agreed Action</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Agreed Date</b>
<b>Review criteria for partnerships to emphasise key considerations</b>	PCU	12/2018
<b>Develop a list of potential partners from the feasibility studies and value chain analysis</b>	PCU	03/2019
<b>Formalize the partnerships</b>  Formalize the relationships with potential	PCU	01/2020

#### Human and Social Capital and Empowerment

**Rating: 4**

#### Justification of rating

Training has strengthened the capacity of women, men and youth in the targeted irrigation schemes and the adjacent rainfed areas. The beneficiaries have been empowered through their participatory involvement in consultation during feasibility studies design process. The mission observed that the beneficiaries at Exchange irrigation scheme had participated in the development of feasibility and were fully aware of the deliverables expected from the project as well as their own contributions to the successes of the scheme. In addition, the PCU M&E specialist attended the PRIME training in Turkey and PCU finance staff also attended training in Nairobi. More than 200 Staff members at Agritex, DOI and other government departments have benefited for training and mentorship in: training for transformation, irrigation operation and maintenance, nutrition, FFS, feasibility studies, farming as a business and natural resources management. Most of the training used the TOT approach and this will be rolled out to the farmers



## Main issues

Delayed implementation of physical infrastructure is starting to dampen the level of beneficiary participation. In addition, the mission also observed that the size of the matching grant under the NRMF may not be sufficient to empower many beneficiaries in the adjacent rainfed areas, hence the recommendation to review the grant to benefit more people. As confirmed during the last mission in October, the mission observed a strong commitment by implementing partners at field level despite the limited capacities among the extension staff. The training needs assessments that has been conducted will point to some of the areas to be improved. The needs assessment of IPs at the local levels including community water user groups (women and youths), farmer cooperatives and groups, irrigation service providers and producer marketing groups should be conducted.

As part of capacity building, 26 DOI staff (23 M and 3 F) conducted a study tour and visited 9 irrigation schemes in Manicaland, Masvingo and Mashonaland Central. They were exposed to different irrigation technologies with the aim to understand the cost-efficient and water efficient systems. Several TOT in irrigation O&M, nutrition, GAPs, FaaB, were conducted. Personnel also received mentoring and on the job training in value chain analysis, feasibility studies, development of tenders and participatory methods. This is expected to be cascaded to the beneficiary communities. There is need to establish systematic training for the farmers and the IPs, in particular Agritex.

<b>Agreed Action</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Agreed Date</b>
<b>Capacity development at local level</b>  Develop a capacity development plan for Agritex extension officers to continue training and mentoring farmers after the project has ended. This includes modernising training to include climate smart agriculture practices, value addition, mobile GPS tools for soil analysis, mechanisation, market access, nutrition, exchange visits and demonstration plots.	TA	12/2019

**Quality of Beneficiary Participation**

**Rating: 4**

**Previous rating: 4**

## Justification of rating

The mission noted that the quality of beneficiary participation is high in particular with conducting feasibility studies. Methods used include FGD, questionnaires, transect walks etc. The mission's visit to Exchange irrigation scheme revealed that both men and women were confident to speak in public and articulate the contents of the feasibility report. It will be important that the feasibility studies, that are being conducted by the private sector, adopt a similar participatory approach. This calls for close monitoring by the IPs. The participants were able to articulate what they had learned in the various training courses – nutrition, good agriculture practices, FaaB, post-harvest training etc, that they had attended. As schemes move into construction, it will be important to ensure participation of beneficiaries in scheme rehabilitation to enhance ownership and sustainability of the schemes. SIRP would need to agree with the communities on cash contributions towards O&M as well as towards capital costs. SIRP has developed a framework to capture in kind contribution by the community and this will be discussed with the farmers before it is operationalised.

## Main issues

SIRP is using participatory consultation methodologies for engaging with the communities. The vulnerable women and youth are consulted in FGD separately to allow them to speak out freely. However, close monitoring of the private sector companies undertaking feasibility studies will be required in order to ensure that they continue to use participatory methodology. The consultations result with the community are captured in the feasibility reports. The mission visit to Exchange irrigation scheme, revealed that both male and female farmers were aware of the contents of the feasibility report and they confirmed that they had been consulted in coming up with this report. Consultation involved everyone in the community including women, men and youth. Exchange irrigation scheme consist of some elderly members and the extension workers hold training in the villages in order to allow for maximum participation of the elderly community as well as women who are tied up with their reproductive roles.

Beneficiary contributions consists of (i) costs towards O&M which are paid annually; and (iii) cost share towards capital involvements. The beneficiaries have expressed willingness to make contributions towards O&M, in 2018 they made their first contributions of \$100/ha. However, in 2019, the farmers did not contribute due to a combination of factors: drought, prolonged non-functional irrigation operations, currency depreciation. Farmers failed to raise the amounts required since they are not in production. The feasibility studies should be clear on the contribution of farmers towards capital costs. SIRP developed a framework to capture community in kind contribution. The project implementation of physical works should be expedited so that farmers can practice what they have learned during the various training.

The NRM aspect of the project provides farmers with an opportunity to be meaningfully engaged and to actively participate. This is done through training activities, where farmers are engaged mapping their natural resources and

planning for their sustainable use. Training of environmental sub-committees that work closely with farmers on sustainable natural resources management is empowering them to better manage their resources. Farmers will also be involved in the provision of labour and locally available materials during land rehabilitation activities such as construction of gabions.

<b>Agreed Action</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Agreed Date</b>
<b>Discuss the grievance and redress mechanism, and the feasibility studies with the farmers</b>	PCU	01/2019
<b>Develop guidelines on the management and use for the O&amp;M fund</b>	PCU	02/2019

**Responsiveness of Service Providers**

**Rating: 4**

**Previous rating: 4**

#### **Justification of rating**

The programme has hired 9 out of the planned 11 service providers covering areas such as Training for Transformation, Natural Resource Management, Needs Assessment, BDS, Irrigation engineering (senior and junior specialists), water users, rural sociologist and post-harvest. The recruitment of the nutrition specialist did not materialize in the last moment as the preferred winning candidates cancelled her availability, after having signed the contract. The proposed engagement of a Rural Finance SP has been postponed for 2020. The programme has also proposed to recruit an Information Services SP. The programme has recently signed two important contracts with private firms to conduct feasibility studies on pre-selected irrigation schemes, producing detailed designs of the same and supervising contracted works relating to these schemes.

#### **Main issues**

The presence of TAs has significantly improved the implementation progress of the Programme, which is reflected in the Log Frame indicators, which shows progress in many areas previously marked zero.

Although the initial experience with service providers has been mainly positive, and in some cases excellent, SIRP has to improve the management of service providers, in the sense of planning of the timing of the service needed between procurement and technical teams, elaboration of performance-based contracting, cash flow plan versus deliverables, etc. The analysis of the work and responsiveness of SPs is not an issue; there is only the BDS SP and the firms conducting the FSs currently engaged, and this work appears to be satisfactory and responsive to needs and requests for professional support. Note however, that only one of the FS SPs is currently working, due to a procurement/payment issue that has not been resolved. As there are currently no other SPs engaged, there is little or no factual data to assess responsiveness.

**Environment and Natural Resource Management**

**Rating: 4**

**Previous rating: 4**

#### **Justification of rating**

SIRP is making good progress towards ensuring sustainable natural resources management in and around the schemes. In the year under review, the project has undertaken NRM reports for some schemes, held workshops to initiate or revitalise environmental sub-committees, and facilitated exchange visits for committees. The NRM TA is now fully on board and supporting the project; natural resource mapping and development of NRM plans are ongoing, an NRM manual has been developed, and training for extension officers and farmers on GAPs and NRM is ongoing. There is need to strengthen governance and benefit sharing mechanisms of the committees, and to continue building their capacity and that of the RDCs in NRM and monitoring. The NRM TA should be converted into a full-time position.

#### **Main issues**

The project is progressing well towards mainstreaming sustainable natural resources management and improving community based NRM planning. The Natural Resources Management Facility (NRMF) is almost fully set up and this year has committed to developing 9 nutrition gardens in response to the effects of cyclone Idai. Already, 9 garden sites have been identified and designs and BoQs developed as well. The NRMF will provide matching grants to farmers in adjacent dryland areas to undertake income-generating projects that incorporate NRM, e.g. soil and water conservation technologies and establishment of woodlots. An NRM training manual was developed to guide training activities. Extension officers and farmers have undergone training on various topics related to soil and water conservation, GAPs, and NRM related legislations among others. The project is developing NRM reports for each scheme. A review of the Sebasa irrigation scheme's NRM report reveals that the reports are quite comprehensive and provide valuable information on environmental and NRM challenges and propose solutions. The reports bring out the need for promoting written constitutions/bylaws within the committees that clearly outline the governance and benefit sharing mechanisms.

The project has undertaken 9 workshops to initiate/revitalise NRM sub committees at provincial and scheme level (4 provincial and 5 scheme level). The goal of the workshops was to engage stakeholders and design strategies to improve NRM in the provinces and schemes, and to identify challenges and opportunities for stakeholders to fully engage in their roles. At scheme level, natural resource planning was undertaken and NRM plans developed. Environmental sub-committees were facilitated to visit regions where NRM was well executed, for learning purposes. Five exchange visits were held for Rupangwana, Fungai, Sebasa, Chikwarakwara and Exchange schemes. Continuous capacity building of the committees, RDCs and relevant agencies will be critical to the success of NRM efforts.

The NRM TA has proved very valuable in fast tracking NRM related activities. The following has been achieved over the last few months: development of NRM tools to inform the feasibility studies development; developed the soil and water conservation training manual; undertook training and exchange visits as planned; facilitated participatory natural resources planning; developed NRM training reports, and developed one ESMP. Given the key role NRM and sustainable environmental management plays in this project, it is proposed that the NRM TA be converted into a full-time function of an Environment, Climate and Safeguards Officer within the PCU.

<b>Agreed Action</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Agreed Date</b>
<b>Explore the possibility of having a full-time Environment, Climate and Safeguards Officer for the Programme</b>  Explore the possibility of having a full-time Environment, Climate and Safeguards Officer for the Programme	PCU, EMA, PSC	07/2019
<b>Ensure that the NRM facility</b>  Ensure that the NRM facility is explicit about the linkages between the IGAs and NRM interventions and that the programme undertakes a stock take of the NRM needs and priorities in each site to inform group selection	PCU	08/2019
<b>Constitutions &amp; By Law Development</b>  Develop written constitutions/bylaws for committees, with clearly articulated governance and benefit sharing mechanisms	PCU	02/2020
<b>Full-Time NRM TA</b>  Convert the NRM TA into a full-time position within the PCU	PCU and MoA	

#### Exit Strategy

**Rating: 4**

#### Justification of rating

SIRP is being implemented by DOI, Mechanization and Agritex which are the departments in the Ministry of Agriculture. This ensures continuity of project objectives after the project has ended. SIRP has implemented important elements of exit strategy that include: (i) capacity building of Environmental Management Committees, Irrigation Management Committees and farmers among others. SIRP has also trained the government agencies staff that are responsible for programme implementation. SIRP has also established partnerships with Harvest Plus on nutrition sensitive agriculture is at advanced discussion with a number of other partners specializing as off takers (ITC), rural finance (ZADT), youth entrepreneurial skills (ILO), among others, with the view to sign MOU for collaboration. SIRP will leverage on these partnerships for sustainability of the programme. There is also collaboration with other government agencies that give support to the programme such as EMA, AMA, Climate Change department and the Ministry of Women Affairs. The engagement with youth in O&M and post-harvest guarantee succession planning as most of the irrigation scheme beneficiaries are elderly people. The programme uses a market driven approach and this ensures that the farmers are producing for ready markets resulting in higher incomes for farmers.

#### Potential for Scaling-up

**Rating:**

### c. Project Management

#### Quality of Project Management

**Rating: 3**

**Previous rating: 3**

#### Justification of rating

There has been some improvement in project management since the May-June implementation support mission. The

project coordinator (PC) is functioning soundly. He addressed the procurement shortcomings by hiring an international procurement specialist, to provide support for the procurement team in a moment when SIRP is entering to the new phase of implementation with massive infrastructure procurement processes. The PCU, as defined in the design, is complete, supported by the TAs the contracting of which was concluded in June/July 2019. The annual audit has been completed. The coordination between procurement and technical teams has improved.

However, the PSC is not assuming its intended function. There has been no meeting of the PSC in 2019.

The office space allocated to the PCU and other project staff is inadequate and needs improvement.

## Main issues

The following major issues need resolution:

1. 1. Procurement management. This remains a vulnerable area of the project needing attention, with delays being experienced above all in procurement planning and, in more complex and higher value purchases. This has had an overall negative effect, to the point where there are questions about the ability of the project to complete its work on schedule. An analysis conducted by the Mission reveals that the speed and quality of procurement activities has significantly improved in the second part of the financial year in part as the result of the technical assistance provided by an international procurement consultant. To keep this momentum going, the Programme is encouraged to fast-track the recruitment of a Senior Procurement Officer, as recommended by the October 2019 IFAD Implementation Support Mission.
2. PSC meetings. These are supposed to be held regularly, about every three months. The lack of a meeting means that members are not adequately briefed on successes and challenges facing the project and are thus unable to provide advice and support. In addition, the PSC is supposed to review and endorse the AWPB, which has not taken place.
3. The programme staff of 6 in Harare, and the TAs (4 at the time of the mission) are sharing 4 office spaces. Internet is very slow and often there is no connectivity. Now when the mission recommended some further staffing and the project is entering to use internet based ICP system, the conditions of the office space have to be addressed.

Permanent TA Positions	Date of mission	Responsibility	Deadline
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NRM, Irrigation Engineer and Rural sociologist to be made permanent positions through competitive secondment process</li> <li>Project to devise means of provision of BDS services in all provinces through procurement of a competent service provider.</li> </ul>	Nov-Dec 2019	PCU/PSC	31 Jan 2020
M&E	Date of mission	Responsibility	Deadline
Technical staff both from PCU and IPs are trained in basic M&E	Nov-Dec 2019	PCU	31 March 2020

ICP Users	Date of mission	Responsibility	Deadline
Confirm list of ICP Users	Nov-Dec 2019	PCU	10 Dec 2019
PSC Activity	Date of mission	Responsibility	Deadline
Schedule meetings for PSC Every quarter	Nov-Dec 2019	PCU/PSC	31 Dec 2019
PIM Update	Date of mission	Responsibility	Deadline

Review and update PIM	Nov-Dec 2019	PCU, TAs & IPs	31 March 2020
<b>PCU Office &amp; Internet</b>	Date of mission	Responsibility	Deadline
Provide improved office accommodation & internet facilities for PCU	Nov-Dec 2019	PCU & MLAWRR	31 March 2020

<b>Agreed Action</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Agreed Date</b>
<b>Second staff to PCU</b>  MLAWCRR seconds a Project coordinator and accountant to PCU until recruitment process is finalised.	PS Agriculture	12/2018
<b>Recruitment of Project Coordinator and Accountant</b>  Initiate the recruitment of the project coordinator and accountant as soon as possible and share with IFAD final ToRs, and recruitment process.	Director HR	12/2018
<b>Elaborate a plan for each TA considering if additional support is needed, when the current TA is ending.</b>  Elaborate a plan for each TA considering if additional support is needed, when the current TA is ending.	PCU	09/2019

**Knowledge Management**

**Rating: 5**

**Previous rating: 4**

#### Justification of rating

Although project implementation is still at its infancy, the KM strategy and plan is in place. Activities implemented include: a) Lessons learnt were documented from the 2 stakeholder workshops held to: (i) discuss sustainable irrigation management models; (ii) review meetings on improvements on irrigation feasibility study designs; b) 2 case studies on i) involvement of youth and ii) inclusion of disabled draft reports are available; c) 2 newsletters were produced; d) 2 success stories were developed on (i) adoption of post-harvest technologies and (ii) good agricultural practices; and e) Fact sheets on Climate Smart Agriculture, Nutrition, WEAI, FAAB, Post-Harvest were produced. KM activities are included in the AWPB with adequate budget. In addition, SIRP participated during the International Rural Women Day in Chimanimani (18 October 2019) as well as in a panel of experts to discuss the operationalisation of the National Agriculture Policy Framework (September 2019).

#### Main issues

The KM function is the responsibility of the M&E & KM Officer and staff have adequate capacity to address KM issues, although the workload is high. The mission recommends the recruitment of an assistant KM & Communication Officer to the M&E office, in order to ease the workload. The project conducted a review on methodology for conducting irrigation feasibility studies and the results were used to improve feasibility studies. The project also carried out a review meeting that drew on M&E data and the results are used to adjust programme implementation. A review workshop as held with all IPs and PCU staff in June. The lessons learned are evidence -based and of good quality. The WEAI results have been documented and a workshop to exchange experience and lessons learned between Zimbabwe SIRP and Eswatini SMLP is planned for January 2020.

The M&E and KM officer carries out quality control for KM products. The project team is documenting lessons learned which are then used for scaling up activities for instance the feasibility study methodology lessons learned is now used nationally (by DOI) and is not limited to the project area. The "sustainable irrigation models workshop" was mainly for policy dialogue to come up with a menu of policy options for adoption by government. The project has established a MIS at central level. However, a consultant is being recruited to establish a web-based data base that will be accessible at provincial and district level. Reports and other documents are accessible via the project website and electronically The KM plan has an adequate communication plan including: Facebook, watts up, twitter, newsletter, national press, banners, posters, radio and TV among others.

KM materiel should be produced systematically and shared with implementing partners through workshops, provincial and district offices and enhance the visibility and understanding of the project. The project website should also be regularly

updated. Documents, manuals, guidelines can be uploaded on the website for dissemination. In addition to technical aspects of SIRP, focus needs to be directed at crosscutting issues on gender, youth, climate change, nutrition and private sector engagement. The M&E and the Assistant KM & Communication Officer will be responsible to collate KM products for dissemination for different audiences in appropriate format. SIRP should also develop posters in rural areas to inform communities on relevant project events to allow for maximum participation.

Moreover, the project should approach KM from a holistic perspective with every technical staff in the project having a KM responsibility. This is because KM requires good understanding and analytics of the subject matter based on implementation. In most cases, the technical person is best placed to provide these analytics and to share successes and lessons from the field. The PCU could consider assigning a KM output for each technical staff annually. The Technical staff generates the material and data and transmits it to the KM and Communications Officers to process it further and disseminate. The project team should also make regular meetings to review implementation with a view to generating evidence and strengthening the KM function. SIRP management prioritises KM and participate actively in KM activities.

<b>Agreed Action</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Agreed Date</b>
<b>Elaborate the additional support needed</b> Elaborate the additional support needed to rollout the irrigation inventory and database to include the SIRP irrigation schemes	PCU and DOI	09/2019
<b>Develop guidelines and or templates</b> Develop guidelines and or templates to guide the consistent documentation of best practices, lesson learned and field stories to inform policy and decision-making processes	PCU	09/2019
<b>Recruit an Assistant KM &amp; Communications Officer</b>	PCU	01/2020
<b>Create and moderate farmers digital platforms to facilitate real-time feedback on the implementation status of the SIRP activities</b> Create and moderate farmers digital platforms to facilitate real-time feedback on the implementation status of the SIRP activities	PCU	
<b>Ensure all technical staff in IPs and PCU produce KM products annually</b>	PCU	

**Value for Money**

**Rating: 4**

**Previous rating: 4**

#### **Justification of rating**

The programme has contracted for feasibility studies in the third quarter of 2019. The studies are yet to complete and once the reports are available, the programme will be able to launch pending construction works. The costs of activities carried out so far will be best assessed when the skills and knowledge disseminated are applied fully to the operations of the project and the results are available for evaluation against the resources invested into the programme.

#### **Main issues**

Given that NRM and safeguards are key crosscutting aspects of the project, the mission appreciates the efforts made towards recruiting a TA for the next one year. To save on costs and enhance efficiencies, it is prudent that this TA is converted into a full-time position of the Environment, Climate and Safeguards Officer. The project should also liaise with MLAWCRR, EMA and MOFED to explore the possibility of having a cost waiver on the fees charged by EMA for provision of certificates upon the completion of ESAs and ESMPs. This waiver would save the project approximately 55,000USD.

**Coherence between AWPB and Implementation**

**Rating: 3**

**Previous rating: 3**

#### **Justification of rating**

For 2019, the disbursement against the AWPB reached 39% by 25 November 2019. This demonstrates that a large number of planned activities were not implemented. The first version of the AWPB had an ambitious budget of \$13 million and was subsequently revised to a realistic budget of \$6.5 million, which was approved in March 2019. Execution has been very slow. Physical annual and cumulative progress is at 42%, respectively. This compared to the annual progress



of 18.7% achieved in 2018.

### AWPB Inputs and Outputs Review and Implementation Progress

The focus during the implementation period was on: (i) Conducting of feasibility studies for 3270 ha; (ii) Commencing construction of Musikavanhu irrigation, Exchange, Sebasa and Rupangwana; (iii) Implementing project interventions in the 9 "low hanging fruit" irrigation schemes; (iv) Building the capacity of implementing Government Departments; (v) Training on M&E, data collection, processing and maintenance; (vi) Training Irrigation water user organizations (IWUOs) and IMC leaders on scheme governance; (vii) Conducting vocational training of selected youth in irrigation equipment repair and maintenance; and provision of starter kits to trained youth and (ix) Facilitating policy dialogue for the development of a legal framework for IMCs and IWUOs; and reviewing of water pricing

The project was successful in contracting 9 out of the 11 TA by the end of the first semester of 2019. Due to delays in procurement, construction works, which were expected to initiate in October 2019, will be starting in December 2019. The feasibility studies for the second lot commenced in November/December. Training in M&E was not done. The bulk of the training only took place in the last two months of this year after the TAs were recruited. Most of the activities will be carried forward to 2020.

To improve coherence between the AWPB and implementation, procurement and planned physical investment should take place timeously.

<b>Agreed Action</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Agreed Date</b>
<b>Revise the AWPB 2019</b>  Prepare a more realistic AWPB for 2019 with clear justification and key actions that will be put in place to accelerate the implementation of activities and ensure budget execution of at least 80%.	PCU/Implementing partners	12/2018

### Performance of M&E System

**Rating: 4**

**Previous rating: 4**

### Justification of rating

SIRP has maintained a functional M&E system that is coherent with the M&E plan. The log frame has age/sex disaggregated and baseline data, and is updated regularly. MPAT and WEAI baseline reports have been completed and baseline data has been incorporated in the logframe. Other baseline studies were in post-harvest management, NRM and BDS. Data is collected monthly using the M&E templates used in the production of timely monthly and quarterly reports. There is a need for data validation consistence of data and reporting quality. The M&E activities include surveys, routine monitoring, felid visits, review meetings, contract monitoring and special studies. Log frame Indicators were reviewed to allow for measurable indicators within the scope of programme.

### M&E System Review

Inadequate resources and staffing have been allocated for the M&E function. The mission recommends the recruitment of a data capture assistant to assist the M&E officer or the use university students interns for this position. SIRP has adequate information to allow for activities and output monitoring, however the project needs to carry out mini surveys and the annual outcome survey in order to track impact at outcome level. Ideally this will be conducted before the MTR in June and will be repeated yearly thereafter. The AOS and the additional staff resources will be incorporated in the 2020 AWPB.

The AOS will allow the project to review performance and outcome at the household level, assess the efficacy of its targeting strategy and provide early indication of its success or failure. The AOS is designed as a quick and short questionnaire survey covering a small, random sample of project participants. A small sample and short questionnaire of no more than 20 simple closed (yes/no) questions save time and money, and is relatively easier to arrange and to analyse than larger impact evaluation surveys. AOS can be implemented quickly and handled directly by project staff. Guidelines are available, and provide a step-by-step explanation of how to design, conduct and analyse AOS.

The IPs and M&E focal persons should be trained on how to use the SIRP M&E monthly templates in order to increase the accuracy and quality of data. In addition, there is need for validation of data from the field. The following M&E activities were conducted: (i) updating beneficiary data base, (ii) completion of WEAI and MPAT Baseline reports; (iii) review of tools (FGD guide, questionnaire, and key informants' interviews for conducting feasibility studies as well as WUO; (iv) review meetings on feasibility studies, biannual and quarterly review meetings; (v) routine monitoring visits were conducted by IPs, PF and M&E specialist. The M&E specialist was trained on M&E through PRIME. There will be a need to carry out the M&E training for PCU staff and IPs at all levels.

The mission validated the logframe data and only detected minor inconsistencies which were corrected. It will be important to ensure that the logframe is updated: (i) whenever there is information available; (ii) at least 6 months in preparation for progress report; and, (iii) before all IFAD supervision missions. The project is encouraged to use the log-frame for

planning since offers a clear snapshot for management and planning. The use of the log-frame promotes focusing on physical results and not only on financial expenditure. It shows progress on outputs and outcomes while the use of the AWPB risk focusing only on activities. The project should keep the log-frame outcome and output targets in mind when developing the AWPB. The reports presented to the mission did not have the log frame targets.

SIRP has not yet developed indicators to capture the environmental, social and climate impacts. Once the EIA and ESMP have been developed, indicators will be developed and incorporated in the operational matrix. Examples of indicators include: (i) Number of groups supported to sustainably manage natural resources and climate related risks; (ii) Number of households reporting adoption of environmentally sustainable climate resilient technologies and practices. The M& E data has been linked to KM, for instance the beneficiary registration had a number of disabled people. Hence the development of a case study on their involvement in smallholder irrigation schemes.

<b>Agreed Action</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Agreed Date</b>
<b>Finalize the Baseline survey</b>  The MPAT and WEAI analysis should be completed and a baseline report should be prepared and shared with IFAD for review. Once the baseline report is approved the baseline figures under the M&E system needs to be updated based on the baseline results.	M&E and KM officer	01/2019
<b>Update beneficiary registration</b>  Include additional indicators in the beneficiary registration/tracking form: crops cultivated, average yields, sales, prices, and contracts with buyers.	M&E and KM officer	01/2019
<b>Develop training participation data tool</b>  Develop training participation data tool to capture sex and age disaggregated data and completion of training packages as individuals and within households	M&E and KM officer	07/2019
<b>Complete the MPAT and WEAI baseline report</b>  Complete the MPAT and WEAI baseline report, share with IFAD for review and update the approved baseline figures on the M&E system	M&E and KM officer	09/2019
<b>Conduct basic M&amp;E training for both PCU and IPs at national, provincial and district and scheme level</b>	PCU	12/2019
<b>Finalise beneficiary registration data entry for low hanging fruit schemes</b>	PCU	01/2020
<b>Complete individual baseline for each scheme; utilise the feasibility studies to identify gaps in information, analysis and reports</b>	PCU	02/2020
<b>Conduct Annual Outcome survey</b>	PCU	04/2020

**Requirements of Social, Environmental and Climate Assessment Procedures (SECAP)**

**Rating: 4**

**Previous rating: 4**

#### **Justification of rating**

SIRP is a category B project with a moderate climate risk classification. The design proposed to minimise risks through solid site selection, scheme design processes and investments in the existing schemes. SIRP is committed to ensuring that it complies with SECAP guidelines and national laws, by development of ESMPs for all existing schemes and through carrying out ESIA's and ESMPs for any new scheme or existing schemes that will undergo area expansion. SIRP should work closely with EMA to ensure that certificates of compliance are issued and to explore cost waivers for ESIA's and ESMPs certificates, through inter-ministerial negotiations. There is need for more focus on social issues/risks affecting schemes and provision of mitigation actions during the development of ESIA's and ESMPs.



## SECAP Review

SIRP is a category B project that will develop 68 irrigation schemes of varying sizes. The project has now developed a comprehensive database of irrigation schemes that it will apply to rehabilitate and/or expand upon completion of ongoing feasibility studies. Ongoing feasibility studies, NRM reports and the SECAP review note at design already bring out some of these risks and the documents can act as a starting point in understanding the risks and potential mitigation measures. More effort should go towards ensuring that social issues and risks such as land and resource use conflicts are incorporated and appropriate mitigation actions in consultation with the communities and relevant agencies e.g. through grievance redress mechanisms.

According to the Environmental Management Act, EMA (2002), irrigation schemes established before the Act became effective should develop comprehensive ESMPs, whilst new schemes or expansion of existing schemes requires that ESIAs and ESMPs be developed. It is important that monitoring plans are developed to guide monitoring of the execution of the ESMPs. These GoZ national laws are largely in concurrence with IFAD's SECAP guidelines on rehabilitation and/or expansion of existing irrigation schemes. A prospectus will be developed for each scheme considered for financing under SIRP. The prospectus will provide information such as, (i) a description of the proposed project; (ii) current status of the project; and (iii) a description of the known or predicted environmental impacts. Based on this prospectus, EMA will determine the need for an ESIA, and the scope of that ESIA.

However, should the project opt to open up and develop new schemes, IFAD's SECAP guidelines expect that a project developing schemes above 100ha is a category A project and therefore ESIAs and ESMPs should be developed and IFAD's disclosure and approval procedures followed.

EMA provides approvals for ESIAs and ESMPs through review and award of certificates. The Agency has presence in the provinces and districts and therefore the project can make use of this human resource to ensure National laws are complied with and that they get all the technical support they need. EMA also provides capacity building to institutions/projects and conducts periodic monitoring of risk mitigation through site visits. The PCU is organising a three-day EIA course in collaboration with EMA, to train collaborating institutions such as DOI, AGRITEX, PCU, ZINWA and RDCs. The project should explore the possibility to incentivise sound environmental management by EMA, through a request for cost waivers on fees charged by EMA to cater for certificates of compliance issued upon the completion of ESIAs and ESMPs. This can be done through inter-ministerial negotiations between the MLAWCRR and Ministry of Finance and Economic Development. The EMA Act 2002 states that "the Minister, on the recommendation of the Agency and in consultation with the Minister responsible for finance, shall determine (a) such fiscal, economic or social incentives as are necessary for promoting the protection and management of the environment and the conservation and sustainable utilisation of natural resources.

It is commendable that the project has taken initiative to promote sanitation and hygiene within the schemes by constructing toilets and providing water points. This will go a long way in reducing health related risks.

<b>Agreed Action</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Agreed Date</b>
<b>Operationalize the grievance mechanism</b>	PCU	12/2018
<b>Stock take and integrate the impacts of Cyclone Idai</b>  Stock take and integrate the impacts of Cyclone Idai as well as propose mitigation, adaptation/coping measures into the existing and new ESIA's and ESMPs	PCU, EMA	08/2019
<b>Ensure that social issues and risks are comprehensively addressed within the Feasibility Reports, ESIA's and ESMPs</b>  Ensure that social issues and risks are comprehensively addressed within the Feasibility Reports, ESIA's and ESMPs	PCU, EMA	10/2019
<b>Develop monitoring plans to guide the monitoring of ESMPs and to inform execution of remedial measures</b>  Develop monitoring plans to guide the monitoring of ESMPs and to inform execution of remedial measures.	PCU, EMA	10/2019
<b>Fees for ESMPs etc</b>  Initiate an inter-ministerial negotiation towards ensuring that certificates fees charged by EMA for ESIA's and ESMPs are waived for SIRP	PCU, MoA	12/2019
<b>ESMPs for Existing Schemes</b>  Fast track the development of ESMPs for existing schemes requiring rehabilitation and develop ESIA's and ESMPs for existing schemes that will be expanded	PCU	03/2020
<b>Management of ESIA &amp; ESMPs</b>  Ensure that social issues and risks are comprehensively identified and mitigation actions provided for in the ESIA's and ESMPs, particularly grievance redress where there are conflicts	PCU	03/2020

#### **d. Financial Management & Execution**

**Acceptable Disbursement Rate**

**Rating: 3**

**Previous rating: 3**

##### **Justification of rating**

The conditions for disbursements have been met and in the 20 months of operation the project has disbursed USD 1.3M

##### **Main issues**

In year 2019 the project achieved a disbursement of 16% compared to 2018 which was 73% this was due to the non submission of Withdrawal Application as per the IFAD guidelines. The disbursement rates are expected to increase in 2020 when the feasibility studies will have been completed and construction works for the project started

<b>Agreed Action</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Agreed Date</b>
<b>Increase signatories in panel A</b>  LPA should update the list of authorised of signatories to the project operational account at CBZ and include PANEL A signatories	Project Accountant	05/2018
<b>Reallocation request for the category of salaries and allowances and</b>  Submit a reallocation request for category 200018 – Salaries and allowances to facilitate further withdrawals on the category.	Programme Coordinator	06/2019
<b>OFID loan disbursement for the first WA</b>  Submit a withdrawal application for first disbursement to OFID with a copy to IFAD accompanied by a request for a clearance letter by IFAD to OFID as provided for in the instructions for loan withdrawal	Programme Coordinator	07/2019
<b>Re-submission of un disbursed salaries and allowances</b>  Re-submit USD 46,112.13 in respect of salaries and allowances previously disallowed under WA number 10 once the reallocation request is approved	Programme Accountant/Assistant Accountant	07/2019
<b>Adjustment of next WA to recover USD 13,172.17</b>  Adjust the next WA with USD 13,172.17 over-claimed under WA 11.	Programme Accountant/Assistant Accountant	11/2019
<b>Withdrawal applications submission on time</b>  Submit withdrawal applications once expenditure reaches 30% of authorised allocation or lapse of 90 days from the submission of the previous withdrawal application	Programme Accountant/Assistant Accountant	11/2019
<b>Reallocation/ Revision of the budget</b>  Submit a reallocation/revision request for category 200008 – Consultancies to facilitate withdrawals on the category to cover expected budget overruns resulting from increased cost of feasibility studies.  The AWPB for 2019 has not yet been revised to accommodate the higher costs contracted for the feasibility studies.  The project has not followed its Financial Management manual, Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Assets Act and the Public Finance Management Act to check on adequacy of the funds for procurement and that the process is in line with the budget.	Project Accountant	12/2019
<b>Timely submission of WAs</b>  To accelerate disbursements to the project and In line with the Letter to Recipient provision on withdrawal applications, it is recommended that SIRP submits to IFAD a withdrawal application every 90 days even if the withdrawal amount requested has not reached 30% of the special account advance	Project Accountant	

#### **Fiduciary aspects**

**Quality of Financial Management**

**Rating: 3**

**Previous rating: 3**

## Justification of rating

The project has a functioning accounting software that can produce the required reports and the input of data into the system is up to date, this allows the budget monitoring and control

## Main issues

- The project faced the challenge in receiving of the funds requested through direct payments when the signatories that signed were not those already presented to IFAD, hence all changes on signatories should be promptly notified to IFAD for the processing of any Withdrawal Application.
- The project is also experiencing challenges with the receipt of bank statements to reconcile the designated account from the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe.
- The mission recommends that the project secures regular internal audit services to facilitate oversight and improvement of the control's
- The AWPB should be submitted to IFAD with request for No Objection by 01 November, 60 days before the beginning of the financial year. Budgeting should be a joint exercise with M&E and the finance teams taking an active role in order to avoid the late submissions experienced for the AWPB in the year 2019 and 2020.
- Expenditures reported in the Withdrawal Application should be reconciled to the advances taken and full supporting documentation should be attached or kept at the project for the expenditures. Attendance sheets for training/ workshops should also accompany the payments for catering services and accommodation.
- The recording of Salaries for the Assistant Project Accountant and the Value Chain Officer under consultancies should not be encouraged and since they are full time staff, they should be recorded under Salaries and Allowance category.
- The project finance team to have the quotations for procurement attached as supporting documentation for payments of goods and services procured.
- The WA11 overstated the amounts claimed on the SOE and the total of USD 13,172.17 should be deducted from subsequent WA claimed by the project.

<b>Agreed Action</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Agreed Date</b>
<b>Open an operational bank account</b> Open programme operational account with an international commercial bank with easy access to foreign currency resources.	LPA	12/2018
<b>Complete OFID loan disbursement arrangements</b>	PCU/MoF	12/2018
<b>Adjustment in preparation of Statement of Expenditures (SOEs)</b> Staff to attach field reports to their claims where an activity has been reported and claims on consultancy contracts can be done only when the activity is finalized, and bank charges to be re-looked at since they appear to be very high on the transactions.	Programme Accountant/Assistant Accountant	07/2019
<b>Internal Audit to be provided by CIA or seek authority for private firm to provide the internal audit</b> Follow up with the CIA to provide internal audit services or seek authority to engage a private company to offer internal audit services twice every year to the Programme	Programme Coordinator	08/2019
<b>Training on the SAGE accounting software for the accountant and assistants</b> The Programme Accountant has been recruited and , training for Accounts Assistant, the Chief Accountant on Sage Pastel to be facilitated.	Procurement Specialist	08/2019

<b>AWPB submitted late to IFAD for No Objection</b>  Budget performance for the current fiscal year is at 20% and the 2019 AWPB and the related procurement plan were submitted late to IFAD for No Objection that had an impact on the timeliness of activities implemented and the project should check timelines against the PIM	Programme Coordinator	11/2019
<b>preparing of goods received vouchers</b>  Goods received vouchers should be prepared for all goods purchased for use in the project. Copies should be distributed as required.	Programme Accountant/Assistant Accountant	11/2019
<b>Request for quotations for procured goods and services</b>  Complete documentation should be provided to finance to support procurement of goods/services. Request for quotations should be attached.	Procurement Specialist/ Programme Accountant/Assistant Accountant	11/2019
<b>Reconciliation of expenditure on SOEs</b>  All Expenditure on SOEs should be directly reconciled to the supporting documents	Programme Accountant/Assistant Accountant	11/2019
<b>Review and approval of accounting for advances</b>  The documents presented to finance to account for advances taken should be reviewed and approved appropriately. The project coordinator should approve the accounting for advances.	Programme Coordinator/ Programme Accountant	11/2019
<b>Maintenance of an attendance register</b>  Stationery for attendance registers at workshops should be standardised. All persons attending should sign for all days attended.	Programme Accountant/Assistant Accountant	11/2019
<b>Stamping of paid invoices</b>  All paid invoices should be stamped paid/cancelled upon payment.	Programme Accountant/Assistant Accountant	11/2019
<b>Arrangement for Internal Audit promptly</b>  Follow up with the CIA to ensure completion of internal audit review. Arrangements should be made for at least 2 reviews in a year.	Programme Coordinator	11/2019
<b>Timely processing of AWPB</b>  Budgeting process should be jointly carried out with M&E and Finance taking a lead. 2020 AWPB preparation process should be fast tracked to avoid further delays and ensure its approved in good time for implementation.	Programme Coordinator	11/2019
<b>Update of the personnel file</b>  The personnel files for project staff should be updated at all times.	Programme Accountant	11/2019

<b>Fixed assets register to be updated</b>  The fixed assets register should be updated and all assets tagged upon being brought into the project.	Programme Accountant/Programme Assistant Accountant	11/2019
<b>Segregation of duties</b>  Project should make arrangements to facilitate segregation of duties. We recommend that the project recruits an additional Assistant Accountant to enable proper segregation of duties.	Programme Coordinator /Programme Accountant	11/2019
<b>Policy on the justification of advances</b>  All overdue staff advances should be collected. The policy requiring retirement of advances within 14 days after return should be enforced	Programme Coordinator /Programme Accountant/Programme Assistant Accountant	11/2019
<b>Reconciliation of the Bank Accounts</b>  Bank Reconciliations should be prepared and reviewed/approved on a prompt basis.	Accountant/ Programme Assistant Accountant	11/2019
<b>Advising IFAD on the change in signatories</b>  List of bank signatories should be kept up to date and any changes to be notified to user institutions on a prompt basis	Programme Coordinator and Programme Accountant	11/2019
<b>Accounting Software training</b>  Arrange Sage Pastel training for accounts staff with the service provider	Procurement Specialist	11/2019
<b>Resolve bottlenecks on Funds flow</b>  MOFED, MLAWCRR and the PCU to have a meeting to resolve the bottlenecks in flow of funds from the Designated Account	PCU	
<b>Replacement of Key staff</b>  Recruit the key positions immediately	LPA	

#### Quality and Timeliness of Audit

**Rating: 3**

#### Justification of rating

The audit was received 2 months later than the deadline and so automatically by default the rating falls into a 3 although the report is informative and meets the requirements as per the standard and as a per IFAD guidelines.

#### Main issues

The audit was performed in accordance with the International auditing standards. The report received an unqualified opinion. The financial statements comply with the standards as adopted in the preparation of the financial statements. The report includes a management letter that includes management responses. The report was however received two months late from the deadline and by default this affects the rating given to a default 3.

#### Counterparts Funds

**Rating: 4**

**Previous rating: 4**

#### Justification of rating

The govt is providing funds to meet taxes and duties as well as In Kind contributions in form of office space and staff time.

## Main issues

- Funds transfer is affected by the fluctuation of the currency hence amounts transferred are less than the amounts to meet project obligations.

- GoZ has provided in kind contribution in the form of office space, staff time, among others which have not been quantified

-Beneficiaries have not made the required cash contributions in the year 2019 which has resulted from the slow pace of activities in the schemes. Contributions in kind by the beneficiaries have also not been quantified and incorporated into the project reports and the project should obtains input from all stakeholders so that the resulting framework when finalised will be understood and owned by all.

<b>Agreed Action</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Agreed Date</b>
<b>Evaluate Government in-kind contribution</b>  SIRP to evaluate forfeited revenue of provision of government in-kind contribution in form of housing, , payment of utilities and use of Government vehicles for noting.	PCU	06/2018
<b>Release government counterpart funds for project use</b>  Transfer government counterpart funds in excess of \$1.3 million held by the MLAWCRS into the project account	LPA	12/2018
<b>Clarification of beneficiary contribution</b>  Clarify with beneficiaries the amounts and basis of their contribution.	Programme Coordinator	11/2019
<b>Quantification of GoZ in-kind contribution</b>  Quantify and report in-kind GoZ contribution	Programme Coordinator/ Accountant	11/2019
<b>Quantify the beneficiary in-kind contribution</b>  Quantify and report in-kind Beneficiary contribution	Programme Coordinator/ Programme Accountant	11/2019
<b>Non quantification of the In Kind Contributions and volatile exchange rates</b>  The current monetary regime is unfavourable leading to erosion of value of the funds transferred as a result of the volatile exchange rates. Consequently, the availed funds may not be adequate at the time they are required to settle taxes. GoZ has provided in kind contribution in the form of office space, staff time, among others which have not been quantified	Programme Accountant/Assistant Accountant	12/2019

**Compliance with Loan Covenants**

**Rating: 4**

**Previous rating: 5**

## Justification of rating

The Programme is required to comply with the financing agreement by addressing delays in submission of AWPB, delays in annual audit and internal audits, submission of semi-annual progress reports.

## Main issues

A summary of compliance status is shown at appendix 3

<b>Agreed Action</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Agreed Date</b>
<b>The internal audit function to include SIRP in its audit program for 2019</b>	LPA/MoF	01/2019

## Procurement

### Procurement

**Rating: 3**

**Previous rating: 3**

#### Justification of rating

The Mission rated procurement as moderately unsatisfactory (3). This is due to significant procurement delays experienced during the first part of the FY, overambitious and inaccurate procurement planning, and instances of non-compliance with national procurement regulations. On a positive note, the Mission witnessed that procurement activities are not progressing at a sustained pace, which is a notable improvement over the low start observed at the beginning of the FY, and the Programme has followed-up on most of the procurement-related actions arising from previous IFAD missions.

#### Procurement Review

The PU consists of a PS and an Administrative Assistant. To reinforce procurement capacity, PCU is encouraged to fast-track the recruitment of a Senior Procurement Officer, as requested by IFAD in October 2019.

The 2019 PP format generally complies with IFAD requirements and each activity is identified by a ref. no. to the AWPB, but challenges were experienced with procurement timelines. In fact, while timelines are kept updated with actual dates of procurement, the PU is not sufficiently thorough and accurate in recording actual dates. Further, the PU is advised to use a revised timeline when in need to amend planned dates. The draft 2020 PP was assessed briefly and it is still subject to NO. Some shortcomings were identified and shared with the PU: a) lack of complete planned timelines for goods; b) inaccurate indication of prior/post review and procurement methods; c) lack of some activities foreseen in the 2020 AWPB.

As of the time of the Mission, only 42.5% of procurement activities were concluded; 15% were in progress, and 42.5% were not initiated. The low rate of implementation of the 2019 PP reflects the delays in initiating procurement activities, experienced during the first part of the FY, and the inaccurate and overambitious planning, which caused the 2019 PP to receive IFAD's NO only in August 2019.

A sample review of prior and post-review procurement activities revealed that:

- In one case (*i.e.* procurement of photocopiers), the PU did not apply the correct procurement method (shopping instead of NCB) and did not respect IFAD prior-review obligations;
- The PU must expedite procurement of individual consultants by using the procurement method described in Section 66 of the Procurement Act; and
- The use of formal procurement requisitions must be extended to procurements of works and services.

Finally, the quality of the shopping procedures should improve, as described below:

- Respect the indications contained in Section 17 of the Procurement Regulations;
- Always prepare a written request for quotations that includes technical specifications;
- Include a reference to the Revised IFAD Policy on Preventing Fraud and Corruption in its Activities and Operations in all issued RFQs;
- Always submit the RFQs to all tenderers on the same day and in writing, so as to increase fairness of the process;
- For works, always request a bid security or bid securing declaration from bidders; and
- For consultancies, always engage in formal contract negotiations.

Given the high number of recently-signed contracts for consultancies and works, contract administration/management needs to be strengthened. The PC must appoint a contract manager for each signed contract and ensure that the contract monitoring form shared by the Mission is employed and kept updated. Given the current uncertainties on contract administration/management, the Programme is not collecting performance securities from the contractors. The DoI and PCU will elaborate strategic guidelines to establish roles and responsibilities for contract management, which will be shared with IFAD for its review.

During the Mission, the PU prepared an electronic contract register based on the template shared by IFAD during the 2018 Supervision Mission. The PU shall maintain the contract register updated and share it with IFAD upon request.

Procurement documents are properly filed in separate folders, albeit with some cases of misfiling. Completeness of the files must be improved by including copies of all correspondence with bidders.



<b>Agreed Action</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Agreed Date</b>
<b>Expedite Procurement Processes</b>  The Project needs to ensure that procurement activities needed to catch up with the slow implementation pace are fast tracked by identifying a replacement for the Project coordinator and accountant that have recently left by outsourcing the recruitment process.	PMU/CPM	01/2019
<b>Recruitment of key staff of PCU</b>  To expedite the recruitment, PCU shall issue an RFQ to engage a recruitment and selection firm for the recruitment and selection of the Project Coordinator and Accountant. The mission prepared TORs and shared these with the a.i. PC for finalisation.	PMU/CPM	01/2019
<b>Contract register and contract management</b>  The project will start using the electronic format shared by the mission and submit the contract register to the CPM on a monthly basis.	PMU/CPM	01/2019
<b>Procurement Plan</b>  The procurement plan needs to be revised to accurately reflect prior review thresholds and activity thresholds in compliance with the LtB.	Procurement Unit	01/2019
<b>Procurement Plan to be Updated Regularly</b>  The Procurement Unit should ensure that the Procurement Plan be updated regularly and presented to the CPM upon each update. (at least every Quarter).	Procurement Unit	01/2019
<b>Processing Feasibility Studies for Batch 2a (5000 ha)</b>  Technical Evaluation on NOTUS	PCU	06/2019
<b>Submission of Musikavanhu Tenders to NOTUS</b>  Tender documents for 1) toilets, 2) boreholes and 3) tractors	PCU	07/2019
<b>Submission of Musikavanhu Tenders to NOTUS</b>  Tender documents for 1) Road Construction and 2) Fencing	PCU	07/2019
<b>Draft Tender Documents for 3 additional low hanging fruit schemes</b>  Draft Tender Documents for 3 additional low hanging fruit schemes (Exchange in Midlands, Rupagwana in Masvingo and Chikwarakwara in Matebeleland South) Documents available	DOI & PCU	07/2019
<b>Procurement of individual consultants</b>  For procurement of individual consultants, use the selection of individual consultant method described in Section 66 of the Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Assets Act (Chapter 22:23).	PS	12/2019

<b>Procurement Plan</b> Insert an actual date of procurement in the procurement plan as soon as possible, so as to improve the accuracy of timelines. Use a revised timeline when in need to amend planned dates without changing the timelines originally included in the procurement plan	PS	12/2019
<b>Performance securities</b> Collect performance securities from all contractors that signed a contract with the Programme	PS	12/2019
<b>Contract register</b> Maintain the contract register updated and share it with IFAD upon request.	PS	12/2019
<b>Procurement filing</b> Include copies of all correspondence with bidders in each procurement file.	PS	12/2019
<b>Register of Authorised Signatures</b> Employ a system of tracking changes in authorised signatories	PCU	12/2019
<b>Payment System</b> Employ a system of stamping paid vouchers/invoices	PCU	12/2019
<b>Accounting for Advances</b> Introduce a system of accounting for advances taken	PCU	12/2019
<b>Recommendations of External Audit</b> Fully action all recommendations	PCU	12/2019

#### e. Key SIS Indicators

<b>Likelihood of Achieving the Development Objective</b>	<b>Rating: 4</b>	<b>Previous rating: 4</b>
<b>Assessment of the Overall Implementation Performance</b>	<b>Rating: 4</b>	<b>Previous rating: 4</b>

#### Justification of rating

The project implementation performance has improved during the second half of 2019 and after having gradually improved the procurement (which has been a serious limitation in early 2019) the conditions have are there for a good progress in 2020. The management has to improve the overall planning and the PSC has to start more strategic role in the oversight. Overall financial management is solid but several inaccuracies reduce the ratings. These should be addressed.

#### F. Agreed Actions

<b>Agreed Action</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Agreed Date</b>
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Overview and Project Progress		
<b>Recruit short term consultant to undertake value chain assessments as part of scheme feasibility studies</b>	PCU	01/2019
<b>Develop and appraise business plans to guide project investments in off-farm businesses</b>	PCU	01/2019
<b>Mobilise provincial based BDS TA in a phased manner starting with Manicaland</b>	PCU	04/2019
<b>Annual Audit</b> Annual Audit To be conducted and submitted to IFAD	PCU & Audit Firm	07/2019
<b>Procurement Training</b> IFAD to provide procurement training for SIRP personnel	IFAD & PCU	08/2019
<b>Technical Assistance Support</b> Investigate and report on strategy for provision of longer-term technical support for Irrigation Engineer, Nutrition, Gender, NRM, BDS and Post-Harvest.	PCU	08/2019
<b>Capacity building for Agritex Frontline staff</b> Agritex agrees on a schedule for systematic capacity building in line with the outcome of training needs assessment	PCU and Agritex	12/2019
<b>Accelerate project implementation</b> Provincial and district teams will lead field level implementation with backstopping from national agencies	PCU, IPs	12/2019
<b>Feasibility Studies</b> Speed up Implementation of FS	PCU	
<b>Feasibility Studies</b> Develop and Operationalise more concise and focussed FS methodology	PCU/DOI with IFAD support	
<b>Application of Participatory Approach</b> Full participation by Farmer/Clients in FS, Design and Construction	PCU/DOI & Agritex	
<b>Farmer Equity Contributions</b> Contribution of at least 10% of scheme investment cost in kind and/or cash	PCU/DOI & Agritex	
Development Effectiveness		

<b>Develop a master plan for the project activities</b>  In collaboration with the different implementation partners, the project needs to prepare a master plan for all project activities with clear milestones until the end of 2022 considering the delays encountered. This will require a more strategic focus on key activities that need to be fast tracked (mainly feasibility studies and the pipeline for works), procurement processes and corrective actions that need to be in place.	PCU and implementing partners	01/2019
<b>Provide a breakdown of beneficiary categories</b>  Give a breakdown of beneficiaries according to the target categories (B1, B2, C, youth, women).	IPs, M&E officer	01/2019
<b>Engage youth beneficiaries</b>  Engage stakeholders such as agriculture education department on ways to involve youth in agriculture	PCU	01/2019
<b>Ensure concrete climate change considerations are mainstreamed into all project decision-making tools</b>	PCU/IPs	01/2019
<b>Review the targeting strategy for main project activities</b>  Expedite the recruitment of Rural Sociologist to review the current draft targeting strategy for the main project activities.	PCU	02/2019
<b>Gender sensitisation Training</b>  Develop gender training manual and conduct gender mainstreaming and sensitisation training for all IPs and PCU and other stakeholders Partner with NGOs to train women and men in IMC on leadership skills.	MLAWCRR lead gender and IP gender focal points /partnerships	02/2019
<b>Workshop on WEAI</b>  Organise a workshop in Eswatini to exchange experiences on WEAI results.	M&E and Coordinator	02/2019
<b>Implementation of gender Specific activities</b>  Design a plan and implement the activities.	MLAWCRR lead gender and IP gender focal points	05/2019
<b>Update the nutrition TA expected deliverables/ tasks to fit purpose</b>  Update the nutrition TA expected deliverables/ tasks to fit purpose	PCU	07/2019
<b>Women's and Youth Participation</b>  Effective application strategy and entry points to enhance the participation and allocation of land within new/expanded schemes to women and the youth to undertake cropping activities	PCU	08/2019

<b>Review and modify the nutrition indicators</b>  Review and modify the nutrition indicators as per the recommended ORMS and compendium of indicators for nutrition-sensitive agriculture	PCU	08/2019
<b>Identify a set of suitable entry points</b>  Identify a set of suitable entry points for youth inclusion in SIRP implementation strategy, considering aspects as postharvest, technologies, enterprise development	PCU, TA Rural sociologist	09/2019
<b>Review Nutrition Mainstreaming strategy /action plan</b>  Review Nutrition Mainstreaming strategy /action plan	PCU	09/2019
<b>Develop nutrition situation analysis products to inform schemes feasibility studies</b>  Develop nutrition situation analysis products to inform schemes feasibility studies	PCU	09/2019
<b>Targeting and social inclusion strategy</b>  Review the targeting and social inclusion strategy with IPs to familiarise with its practical use	TA, PCU and IPs	12/2019
<b>Beneficiary registration</b>  Complete the beneficiary registration for the low hanging fruit schemes and use participatory methods to categorise them in wealth groups	TA, M&E specialist	12/2019
<b>Youth inclusion</b>  Explore 2 or 3 concrete areas from the youth strategy to attract the participation of youth in agriculture	PCU and IPs	12/2019
<b>Gender Sensitisation Training</b>  Conduct gender sensitisation training for IPs and PCU that includes all approaches including SHEP and GALs	PCU	12/2019
<b>Resource allocation</b>  Allocate NRMF resources to specific women and youth groups to increase their participation and economic empowerment.	Mechanisation, PCU	12/2019
<b>Identification of Regional Nutrition Deficiencies</b>  Liaise with the Food and Nutrition Council to identify nutritional deficiencies in project regions and propose appropriate food production and diet measures	PCU	12/2019
<b>Log-frame Nutrition Indicators</b>  Establish project level baselines and monitoring protocols for log-frame indicators on nutrition	PCU	01/2020

<b>WEAI</b>  WEAI Organise a workshop on WEAI between SIRP Zimbabwe and SMLP Eswatini to share ideas and experiences on WEAI results and how to use the results to consolidate and finalise the gender and youth strategies	PCU	02/2020
<b>Development of GCF Concept Note</b>  Develop a GCF concept note on climate proofing irrigation schemes and strengthening dryland adaptation and submit to IFAD	PCU, partners, TAs	02/2020
<b>Women Leadership Training</b>  Conduct women leadership training programme for women in irrigation management committees and other rural committees	PCU	03/2020
<b>Apply a quota for both women and youth inclusion in selected activities</b>  Apply a quota for both women and youth inclusion in selected activities	PCU	
<b>Incorporate localised climate risk analyses</b>  Incorporate localised climate risk analyses into feasibility studies, to better understand past, present and future climate risks and to develop and mainstream appropriate mitigation measures during implementation	PCU	
<b>FS Quality Control</b>  Supervise feasibility studies to ensure quality	PCU and IPs	
<b>Farmer Access to Climate and Weather Information</b>  Liaise with the meteorological department to ensure that downscaled climate and weather information is regularly applied to inform extension provision to farmers	PCU	
<b>Sustainability and Scaling up</b>		
<b>Review criteria for partnerships to emphasise key considerations</b>	PCU	12/2018
<b>Discuss the grievance and redress mechanism, and the feasibility studies with the farmers</b>	PCU	01/2019
<b>Develop guidelines on the management and use for the O&amp;M fund</b>	PCU	02/2019
<b>Develop a list of potential partners from the feasibility studies and value chain analysis</b>	PCU	03/2019

<b>Explore the possibility of having a full-time Environment, Climate and Safeguards Officer for the Programme</b>  Explore the possibility of having a full-time Environment, Climate and Safeguards Officer for the Programme	PCU, EMA, PSC	07/2019
<b>Ensure that the NRM facility</b>  Ensure that the NRM facility is explicit about the linkages between the IGAs and NRM interventions and that the programme undertakes a stock take of the NRM needs and priorities in each site to inform group selection	PCU	08/2019
<b>Capacity development at local level</b>  Develop a capacity development plan for Agritex extension officers to continue training and mentoring farmers after the project has ended. This includes modernising training to include climate smart agriculture practices, value addition, mobile GPS tools for soil analysis, mechanisation, market access, nutrition, exchange visits and demonstration plots.	TA	12/2019
<b>Formalize the partnerships</b>  Formalize the relationships with potential	PCU	01/2020
<b>Constitutions &amp; By Law Development</b>  Develop written constitutions/bylaws for committees, with clearly articulated governance and benefit sharing mechanisms	PCU	02/2020
<b>Analysis of reasons for scheme failure</b>  Using FS information, compile and analyse reasons that irrigation schemes require rehabilitation, for use by policy-makers	DOI, PCU	06/2020
<b>Full-Time NRM TA</b>  Convert the NRM TA into a full-time position within the PCU	PCU and MoA	
<b>Project Management</b>		
<b>Revise the AWPB 2019</b>  Prepare a more realistic AWPB for 2019 with clear justification and key actions that will be put in place to accelerate the implementation of activities and ensure budget execution of at least 80%.	PCU/Implementing partners	12/2018
<b>Operationalize the grievance mechanism</b>	PCU	12/2018
<b>Second staff to PCU</b>  MLAWCRR seconds a Project coordinator and accountant to PCU until recruitment process is finalised.	PS Agriculture	12/2018

<b>Recruitment of Project Coordinator and Accountant</b>  Initiate the recruitment of the project coordinator and accountant as soon as possible and share with IFAD final ToRs, and recruitment process.	Director HR	12/2018
<b>Finalize the Baseline survey</b>  The MPAT and WEAI analysis should be completed and a baseline report should be prepared and shared with IFAD for review. Once the baseline report is approved the baseline figures under the M&E system needs to be updated based on the baseline results.	M&E and KM officer	01/2019
<b>Update beneficiary registration</b>  Include additional indicators in the beneficiary registration/tracking form: crops cultivated, average yields, sales, prices, and contracts with buyers.	M&E and KM officer	01/2019
<b>Develop training participation data tool</b>  Develop training participation data tool to capture sex and age disaggregated data and completion of training packages as individuals and within households	M&E and KM officer	07/2019
<b>Stock take and integrate the impacts of Cyclone Idai</b>  Stock take and integrate the impacts of Cyclone Idai as well as propose mitigation, adaptation/coping measures into the existing and new ESIA's and ESMPs	PCU, EMA	08/2019
<b>Elaborate a plan for each TA considering if additional support is needed, when the current TA is ending.</b>  Elaborate a plan for each TA considering if additional support is needed, when the current TA is ending.	PCU	09/2019
<b>Elaborate the additional support needed</b>  Elaborate the additional support needed to rollout the irrigation inventory and database to include the SIRP irrigation schemes	PCU and DOI	09/2019
<b>Develop guidelines and or templates</b>  Develop guidelines and or templates to guide the consistent documentation of best practices, lesson learned and field stories to inform policy and decision-making processes	PCU	09/2019
<b>Complete the MPAT and WEAI baseline report</b>  Complete the MPAT and WEAI baseline report, share with IFAD for review and update the approved baseline figures on the M&E system	M&E and KM officer	09/2019



<b>Ensure that social issues and risks are comprehensively addressed within the Feasibility Reports, ESIA's and ESMPs</b>  Ensure that social issues and risks are comprehensively addressed within the Feasibility Reports, ESIA's and ESMPs	PCU, EMA	10/2019
<b>Develop monitoring plans to guide the monitoring of ESMPs and to inform execution of remedial measures</b>  Develop monitoring plans to guide the monitoring of ESMPs and to inform execution of remedial measures.	PCU, EMA	10/2019
<b>Conduct basic M&amp;E training for both PCU and IPs at national, provincial and district and scheme level</b>	PCU	12/2019
<b>Fees for ESMPs etc</b>  Initiate an inter-ministerial negotiation towards ensuring that certificates fees charged by EMA for ESIA's and ESMPs are waived for SIRP	PCU, MoA	12/2019
<b>Recruit an Assistant KM &amp; Communications Officer</b>	PCU	01/2020
<b>Finalise beneficiary registration data entry for low hanging fruit schemes</b>	PCU	01/2020
<b>Complete individual baseline for each scheme; utilise the feasibility studies to identify gaps in information, analysis and reports</b>	PCU	02/2020
<b>ESMPs for Existing Schemes</b>  Fast track the development of ESMPs for existing schemes requiring rehabilitation and develop ESIA's and ESMPs for existing schemes that will be expanded	PCU	03/2020
<b>Management of ESIA &amp; ESMPs</b>  Ensure that social issues and risks are comprehensively identified and mitigation actions provided for in the ESIA's and ESMPs, particularly grievance redress where there are conflicts	PCU	03/2020
<b>Conduct Annual Outcome survey</b>	PCU	04/2020
<b>Create and moderate farmers digital platforms to facilitate real-time feedback on the implementation status of the SIRP activities</b>  Create and moderate farmers digital platforms to facilitate real-time feedback on the implementation status of the SIRP activities	PCU	
<b>Ensure all technical staff in IPs and PCU produce KM products annually</b>	PCU	
<b>Financial Management &amp; Execution</b>		

<b>Increase signatories in panel A</b>  LPA should update the list of authorised of signatories to the project operational account at CBZ and include PANEL A signatories	Project Accountant	05/2018
<b>Evaluate Government in-kind contribution</b>  SIRP to evaluate forfeited revenue of provision of government in-kind contribution in form of housing, , payment of utilities and use of Government vehicles for noting.	PCU	06/2018
<b>Release government counterpart funds for project use</b>  Transfer government counterpart funds in excess of \$1.3 million held by the MLAWCRS into the project account	LPA	12/2018
<b>Open an operational bank account</b>  Open programme operational account with an international commercial bank with easy access to foreign currency resources.	LPA	12/2018
<b>Complete OFID loan disbursement arrangements</b>	PCU/MoF	12/2018
<b>The internal audit function to include SIRP in its audit program for 2019</b>	LPA/MoF	01/2019
<b>Expedite Procurement Processes</b>  The Project needs to ensure that procurement activities needed to catch up with the slow implementation pace are fast tracked by identifying a replacement for the Project coordinator and accountant that have recently left by outsourcing the recruitment process.	PMU/CPM	01/2019
<b>Recruitment of key staff of PCU</b>  To expedite the recruitment, PCU shall issue an RFQ to engage a recruitment and selection firm for the recruitment and selection of the Project Coordinator and Accountant. The mission prepared TORs and shared these with the a.i. PC for finalisation.	PMU/CPM	01/2019
<b>Contract register and contract management</b>  The project will start using the electronic format shared by the mission and submit the contract register to the CPM on a monthly basis.	PMU/CPM	01/2019
<b>Procurement Plan</b>  The procurement plan needs to be revised to accurately reflect prior review thresholds and activity thresholds in compliance with the LtB.	Procurement Unit	01/2019

<b>Procurement Plan to be Updated Regularly</b>  The Procurement Unit should ensure that the Procurement Plan be updated regularly and presented to the CPM upon each update. (at least every Quarter).	Procurement Unit	01/2019
<b>Processing Feasibility Studies for Batch 2a (5000 ha)</b>  Technical Evaluation on NOTUS	PCU	06/2019
<b>Reallocation request for the category of salaries and allowances and</b>  Submit a reallocation request for category 200018 – Salaries and allowances to facilitate further withdrawals on the category.	Programme Coordinator	06/2019
<b>Submission of Musikavanhu Tenders to NOTUS</b>  Tender documents for 1) toilets, 2) boreholes and 3) tractors	PCU	07/2019
<b>Submission of Musikavanhu Tenders to NOTUS</b>  Tender documents for 1) Road Construction and 2) Fencing	PCU	07/2019
<b>Draft Tender Documents for 3 additional low hanging fruit schemes</b>  Draft Tender Documents for 3 additional low hanging fruit schemes (Exchange in Midlands, Rupagwana in Masvingo and Chikwarakwara in Matebeleland South) Documents available	DOI & PCU	07/2019
<b>Adjustment in preparation of Statement of Expenditures (SOEs)</b>  Staff to attach field reports to their claims where an activity has been reported and claims on consultancy contracts can be done only when the activity is finalized, and bank charges to be re-looked at since they appear to be very high on the transactions.	Programme Accountant/Assistant Accountant	07/2019
<b>OFID loan disbursement for the first WA</b>  Submit a withdrawal application for first disbursement to OFID with a copy to IFAD accompanied by a request for a clearance letter by IFAD to OFID as provided for in the instructions for loan withdrawal	Programme Coordinator	07/2019
<b>Re-submission of un disbursed salaries and allowances</b>  Re-submit USD 46,112.13 in respect of salaries and allowances previously disallowed under WA number 10 once the reallocation request is approved	Programme Accountant/Assistant Accountant	07/2019
<b>Internal Audit to be provided by CIA or seek authority for private firm to provide the internal audit</b>  Follow up with the CIA to provide internal audit services or seek authority to engage a private company to offer internal audit services twice every year to the Programme	Programme Coordinator	08/2019

<b>Training on the SAGE accounting software for the accountant and assistants</b>  The Programme Accountant has been recruited and , training for Accounts Assistant, the Chief Accountant on Sage Pastel to be facilitated.	Procurement Specialist	08/2019
<b>AWPB submitted late to IFAD for No Objection</b>  Budget performance for the current fiscal year is at 20% and the 2019 AWPB and the related procurement plan were submitted late to IFAD for No Objection that had an impact on the timeliness of activities implemented and the project should check timelines against the PIM	Programme Coordinator	11/2019
<b>Adjustment of next WA to recover USD 13,172.17</b>  Adjust the next WA with USD 13,172.17 over-claimed under WA 11.	Programme Accountant/ Assistant Accountant	11/2019
<b>Withdrawal applications submission on time</b>  Submit withdrawal applications once expenditure reaches 30% of authorised allocation or lapse of 90 days from the submission of the previous withdrawal application	Programme Accountant/ Assistant Accountant	11/2019
<b>Clarification of beneficiary contribution</b>  Clarify with beneficiaries the amounts and basis of their contribution.	Programme Coordinator	11/2019
<b>Quantification of GoZ in-kind contribution</b>  Quantify and report in-kind GoZ contribution	Programme Coordinator/ Accountant	11/2019
<b>preparing of goods received vouchers</b>  Goods received vouchers should be prepared for all goods purchased for use in the project. Copies should be distributed as required.	Programme Accountant/Assistant Accountant	11/2019
<b>Request for quotations for procured goods and services</b>  Complete documentation should be provided to finance to support procurement of goods/services. Request for quotations should be attached.	Procurement Specialist/ Programme Accountant/Assistant Accountant	11/2019
<b>Reconciliation of expenditure on SOEs</b>  All Expenditure on SOEs should be directly reconciled to the supporting documents	Programme Accountant/Assistant Accountant	11/2019
<b>Review and approval of accounting for advances</b>  The documents presented to finance to account for advances taken should be reviewed and approved appropriately. The project coordinator should approve the accounting for advances.	Programme Coordinator/ Programme Accountant	11/2019

<b>Maintenance of an attendance register</b>  Stationery for attendance registers at workshops should be standardised. All persons attending should sign for all days attended.	Programme Accountant/Assistant Accountant	11/2019
<b>Stamping of paid invoices</b>  All paid invoices should be stamped paid/cancelled upon payment.	Programme Accountant/Assistant Accountant	11/2019
<b>Arrangement for Internal Audit promptly</b>  Follow up with the CIA to ensure completion of internal audit review. Arrangements should be made for at least 2 reviews in a year.	Programme Coordinator	11/2019
<b>Timely processing of AWPB</b>  Budgeting process should be jointly carried out with M&E and Finance taking a lead. 2020 AWPB preparation process should be fast tracked to avoid further delays and ensure its approved in good time for implementation.	Programme Coordinator	11/2019
<b>Update of the personnel file</b>  The personnel files for project staff should be updated at all times.	Programme Accountant	11/2019
<b>Fixed assets register to be updated</b>  The fixed assets register should be updated and all assets tagged upon being brought into the project.	Programme Accountant/Programme Assistant Accountant	11/2019
<b>Segregation of duties</b>  Project should make arrangements to facilitate segregation of duties. We recommend that the project recruits an additional Assistant Accountant to enable proper segregation of duties.	Programme Coordinator /Programme Accountant	11/2019
<b>Policy on the justification of advances</b>  All overdue staff advances should be collected. The policy requiring retirement of advances within 14 days after return should be enforced	Programme Coordinator /Programme Accountant/Programme Assistant Accountant	11/2019
<b>Reconciliation of the Bank Accounts</b>  Bank Reconciliations should be prepared and reviewed/approved on a prompt basis.	Accountant/ Programme Assistant Accountant	11/2019
<b>Advising IFAD on the change in signatories</b>  List of bank signatories should be kept up to date and any changes to be notified to user institutions on a prompt basis	Programme Coordinator and Programme Accountant	11/2019
<b>Accounting Software training</b>  Arrange Sage Pastel training for accounts staff with the service provider	Procurement Specialist	11/2019

<b>Quantify the beneficiary in-kind contribution</b> Quantify and report in-kind Beneficiary contribution	Programme Coordinator/ Programme Accountant	11/2019
<b>Procurement of individual consultants</b> For procurement of individual consultants, use the selection of individual consultant method described in Section 66 of the Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Assets Act (Chapter 22:23).	PS	12/2019
<b>Procurement Plan</b> Insert an actual date of procurement in the procurement plan as soon as possible, so as to improve the accuracy of timelines. Use a revised timeline when in need to amend planned dates without changing the timelines originally included in the procurement plan	PS	12/2019
<b>Performance securities</b> Collect performance securities from all contractors that signed a contract with the Programme	PS	12/2019
<b>Contract register</b> Maintain the contract register updated and share it with IFAD upon request.	PS	12/2019
<b>Procurement filing</b> Include copies of all correspondence with bidders in each procurement file.	PS	12/2019
<b>Register of Authorised Signatures</b> Employ a system of tracking changes in authorised signatories	PCU	12/2019
<b>Payment System</b> Employ a system of stamping paid vouchers/invoices	PCU	12/2019
<b>Accounting for Advances</b> Introduce a system of accounting for advances taken	PCU	12/2019
<b>Recommendations of External Audit</b> Fully action all recommendations	PCU	12/2019
<b>Non quantification of the In Kind Contributions and volatile exchange rates</b> The current monetary regime is unfavourable leading to erosion of value of the funds transferred as a result of the volatile exchange rates. Consequently, the availed funds may not be adequate at the time they are required to settle taxes. GoZ has provided in kind contribution in the form of office space, staff time, among others which have not been quantified	Programme Accountant/Assistant Accountant	12/2019

<p><b>Reallocation/ Revision of the budget</b></p> <p>Submit a reallocation/revision request for category 200008 – Consultancies to facilitate withdrawals on the category to cover expected budget overruns resulting from increased cost of feasibility studies.</p> <p>The AWPB for 2019 has not yet been revised to accommodate the higher costs contracted for the feasibility studies.</p> <p>The project has not followed its Financial Management manual, Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Assets Act and the Public Finance Management Act to check on adequacy of the funds for procurement and that the process is in line with the budget.</p>	Project Accountant	12/2019
<p><b>Timely submission of WAs</b></p> <p>To accelerate disbursements to the project and In line with the Letter to Recipient provision on withdrawal applications, it is recommended that SIRP submits to IFAD a withdrawal application every 90 days even if the withdrawal amount requested has not reached 30% of the special account advance</p>	Project Accountant	
<p><b>Resolve bottlenecks on Funds flow</b></p> <p>MOFED, MLAWCRR and the PCU to have a meeting to resolve the bottlenecks in flow of funds from the Designated Account</p>	PCU	
<p><b>Replacement of Key staff</b></p> <p>Recruit the key positions immediately</p>	LPA	

## **Zimbabwe**

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### **Smallholder Irrigation Revitalization Programme Supervision Report**

#### **Logical Framework**

Mission Dates: 25 November - 5 December, 2019  
Document Date: 27/04/2020  
Project No. 2000001233  
Report No. 5345-ZW

East and Southern Africa Division  
Programme Management Department





## Smallholder Irrigation Revitalization Programme

### Logical Framework

Results Hierarchy	Indicators							Means of Verification			Assumptions
	Name	Baseline	Mid-Term	End Target	Annual Result (2019)	Cumulative Result (2019)	Cumulative Result % (2019)	Source	Frequency	Responsibility	
Outreach	1.b Estimated corresponding total number of households members							M&E system	Annually	M&E officer	Climate shocks do not cause farmers to discontinue their contributions to O&M of the scheme
	Household members	0	32 630	148 750	11 676	12 286	8.3				
	1.a Corresponding number of households reached							M&E system	Annually	M&E officer	
	Women-headed households	0	3 630	16 500	583	635	3.8				
	Non-women-headed households	0	2 420	11 000	1 362	1 423	12.9				
	Households	0	6 050	27 500	1 945	2 058	7.5				
	1 Persons receiving services promoted or supported by the project							Progress reports	Annual	MAMID PDU	
	Females	0	3 025	13 750							
	Males	0	3 025	13 750							
	Total number of persons receiving services	0	6 050	27 500	1 945	2 058	7.5				
Project Goal Rural households achieve food and nutrition security and are resilient to climate change effects and economic shocks in the programme districts	Reduction in the prevalence of chronic malnutrition children under five (weight for age)							Secondary data, ZIMVAC reports, ZNSA	Baseline, MTR, and completion	M&E officer	Macro-economic stability (A)
	Reduction in chronic malnutrition children	0	1	3							
	Improved household assets ownership index (RIMS)							Baseline, MTR and completion surveys	Baseline, MTR, and completion	M&E officer	
	Household assets ownership	0	5	20							
	Smallholder HH cope with effects of climate change (RIMS 1.8.5)							M&E system	Annual	M&E officer	

Results Hierarchy	Indicators							Means of Verification			Assumptions
	Name	Baseline	Mid-Term	End Target	Annual Result (2019)	Cumulative Result (2019)	Cumulative Result % (2019)	Source	Frequency	Responsibility	
	Households	0	7 600	22 100							
<b>Development Objective</b> Rural households sustainably increase their income in SIRP supported schemes and adjacent rainfed areas.	Diet Diversity Score							ZIMVAC; DDF; HDDS	Baseline, MTR, and completion	M&E officer	Macroeconomic stability maintained
	Diet Diversity score	5	9	12							
	Annual household income on irrigation schemes							ZIMVAC, ZNSA	Baseline, MTR, and completion	M&E officer	
	Annual household income	129	1 000	3 490							
<b>Outcome</b> Outcome 1a: Irrigation schemes fully operational	Incremental hectares of crop grown throughout seasons							Baseline, MTR and completion surveys	Baseline, MTR, and completion	M&E officer	Target group shoulders O&M
	Incremental hectares intensity (4,200 ha baseline; 1600 ha MTR; 5200 ha Completion)	100	175	175							
<b>Output</b> Output 1.1 a: Small-scale irrigation schemes revitalized	1.1.2 Farmland under water-related infrastructure constructed/rehabilitated							Progress reports	Semi-annually	DOI/M&E officer	Expertise to carry out the study is available Prices for material and works remain within assumed margins
	Hectares of land	0	1 840	6 100							
<b>Output</b> Output 1.2 a: Irrigators and their WUOs obtain knowledge in efficient irrigation management	Number of irrigators trained in irrigation management							Progress reports	Quarterly	DOI/AGRITEX	Training is demand-driven
	Irrigators trained	0	15 000	15 000	366	366	2.4				
	Men trained				189	155					
	Women trained				188	132					
	Young trained				0	0					
	Non-young trained				287	850					
<b>Output</b> Output 1.3 b: Enhanced capacity in Gov. staff on irrigation service delivery	Number of Government staff trained in irrigation and O&M selected topics							Progress reports	Quarterly	DOI/M&E officer	Staffing levels are maintained or increased at all levels
	Government staff trained	0	250	250	172	222	88.8				

Results Hierarchy	Indicators							Means of Verification			Assumptions
	Name	Baseline	Mid-Term	End Target	Annual Result (2019)	Cumulative Result (2019)	Cumulative Result % (2019)	Source	Frequency	Responsibility	
<b>Outcome</b> Outcome 2 a: Increased adoption of improved technologies and practices	Improved agricultural production: avg. yield increase (kg/ha) of main crops							Progress reports; PCR; IMC records;	Annual	M&E officer/AGRITEX	Target group increases market share of production
	Maize (MT/ha)	2	5	5							
	Beans MT/ha	1	1.75	1.75							
	Tomato MT/ha	10	30	30							
	Maize rainfed MT/ha	0.5	1	1							
	Sorghum rainfed MT/ha	0.7	1.4	1.4							
	Groundnut rainfed MT/ha	0.5	1	1							
	1.2.4 Households reporting an increase in production							Progress reports; AOS; IMC records	Annually	M&E officer/AGRITEX	
	Households	0	15	50							
	Total number of household members										
	Males										
	Females										
	Young										
	Not Young										
	Indigenous people										
	Non-Indigenous people										
	Women-headed households										
	Non-women-headed households										
	Households										

Results Hierarchy	Indicators							Means of Verification			Assumptions
	Name	Baseline	Mid-Term	End Target	Annual Result (2019)	Cumulative Result (2019)	Cumulative Result % (2019)	Source	Frequency	Responsibility	
	1.2.2 Households reporting adoption of new/improved inputs, technologies or practices							Progress reports; AOS; IMC records	Annually	M&E officer/AGRITEX	
	Households	0	15	50							
	Total number of household members										
	Males										
	Females										
	Young										
	Not Young										
	Indigenous people										
	Non-Indigenous people										
	Women-headed households										
	Non-women-headed households										
	Households										
<b>Output</b> Output 2.1 a: Strengthened capacity of farmers and their organizations	1.1.4 Persons trained in production practices and/or technologies							Progress reports	Quarterly	AGRITEX	VC actors are willing to cooperate; Training is demand driven
	Men trained in crop		4 125	13 750	553	605	4.4				
	Women trained in crop		4 125	13 750	615	676	4.9				
	Young people trained in crop		825	2 750	167	174	6.3				
	Not young people trained in crop		7 425	24 750	1 001	1 107	4.5				
	Total persons trained in crop	0	8 250	27 500	1 168	1 281	4.7				

Results Hierarchy	Indicators							Means of Verification			Assumptions
	Name	Baseline	Mid-Term	End Target	Annual Result (2019)	Cumulative Result (2019)	Cumulative Result % (2019)	Source	Frequency	Responsibility	
<b>Outcome</b> Outcome 2 b: Farmers benefiting from improved access to markets and financial services	2.2.6 Households reporting improved physical access to markets, processing and storage facilities							Progress reports; AOS; IMC records	Annually	M&E officer	Farmers understand market functions
	Households reporting improved physical access to markets										
	Households reporting improved physical access to processing facilities										
	Households reporting improved physical access to storage facilities										
<b>Output</b> Output 2.2 a: Strengthened business capacity of farmers and value chain actors	2.1.2 Persons trained in income-generating activities or business management							Progress reports	Quarterly	AGRITEX	VC actors are willing to cooperate
	Females		3 800	12 625	1 315	1 414	11.2				
	Males		3 800	12 625	631	699	5.5				
	Young		760	2 525	225	240	9.5				
	Not Young		6 840	22 725	1 721	1 873	8.2				
	Persons trained in IGAs or BM (total)	0	7 600	25 250	1 946	2 113	8.4				
<b>Output</b> Output 2.2 b: Value addition technology promoted at scheme and adjacent rainfed area	2.1.6 Market, processing or storage facilities constructed or rehabilitated							Progress reports	Semi-annually	AGRITEX/DOM	
	Storage facilities constructed/rehabilitated	0	50	125							
<b>Output</b> Output 2.3 c: Enhanced capacity in Gov. staff on service delivery	Number of Government staff trained in production, and market access							Progress reports	Semi-annually	AGRITEX	Staffing levels are maintained or increased at all levels
	Number of Government staff trained	0	500	500	258	302	60.4				
	Number of Government staff trained - male	0	400	400	179	212	53				

Results Hierarchy	Indicators							Means of Verification			Assumptions
	Name	Baseline	Mid-Term	End Target	Annual Result (2019)	Cumulative Result (2019)	Cumulative Result % (2019)	Source	Frequency	Responsibility	
	Number of Government staff trained - female		100	100	79	90	90				

## **Zimbabwe**

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### **Smallholder Irrigation Revitalization Programme Supervision Report**

#### **Appendix 1: Financial: actual financial performance; by financier by component and disbursements by category**

Mission Dates: 25 November - 5 December, 2019  
Document Date: 27/04/2020  
Project No. 2000001233  
Report No. 5345-ZW

East and Southern Africa Division  
Programme Management Department





## **Appendix 1: Financial: Actual financial performance by financier; by component and disbursements by category**

**Table 2A: Financial performance by financier as at 22 December, 2019**

Financier	Appraisal (USD '000)	Disbursements (USD '000)	Per cent disbursed
IFAD grant	25,500	4,126	16.18%
OFID loan	15,000	0	0.00%
Government	7,985	1,673	20.95%
Beneficiaries	3,280	2	0.06%
<b>Total</b>	<b>51,765</b>	<b>5,801</b>	<b>11.21%</b>

**Table 1B: Financial Performance by Financier by Component as at 22 November 2019 (USD'000)\*\***

	IFAD grant			OFID loan			Government			Beneficiaries			Totals		
Component	Appraisal	Actual	%	Appraisal	Actual	%	Appraisal	Actual	%	Appraisal	Actual	%	Appraisal	Actual	%
<b>1.0 Sustainable Smallholder Irrigation Development</b>	<b>10,174</b>	<b>789</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>13,808</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>4,733</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>2,238</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>30,953</b>	<b>1,022</b>	<b>3%</b>
1.1 Scheme Selection and Rehabilitation	7,211	418	6%	13,808	-	0%	3,693	35	1%	-	-	0%	24,712	453	2%
1.2 Improved Smallholder Irrigation Management	1,483	77	5%	-	-	0%	635	29	5%	2,238	2	0%	4,356	108	2%
1.3 Enhanced Institutional Capacity for Irrigation Development	1,479	294	20%	-	-	0%	404	167	41%	-	-	0%	1,883	461	24%
<b>2. Climate – Smart Agriculture and Market Access</b>	<b>12,135</b>	<b>873</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>1,192</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>2,326</b>	<b>454</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>1,042</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>16,695</b>	<b>1,327</b>	<b>8%</b>
2.1 Enhanced Agricultural Practices and Farmers' Organisational Capacity	4,989	111	2%	-	-	0%	495	0	0%	182	-	0%	5,666	111	2%
2.2 Market Access and Rural Finance Services	4,314	44	1%	1,192	-	0%	594	1	0%	863	-	0%	6,963	46	1%
2.3 Enhances Institutional Capacity for Market – led Agriculture Production	2,833	717	25%	-	-	0%	1,237	453	37%	-	-	0%	4,070	1,170	29%
<b>3. Programme Coordination</b>	<b>3,191</b>	<b>1,472</b>	<b>46%</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>926</b>	<b>432</b>	<b>47%</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>4,117</b>	<b>1,904</b>	<b>46%</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>25,500</b>	<b>3,134</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>15,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>7,985</b>	<b>1,117</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>3,280</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>51,765</b>	<b>4,253</b>	<b>8%</b>

\*\* Actual expenditure in table 2A differs from expenditure in table 2B. This is because 2A represents funds made available while 2B represents funds that have actually been spent.

**Table 1C: IFAD grant disbursements (SDR, as at 22 November 2019)**

Category	Category description	Original Allocation	Revised Allocation	Disbursement	W/As Pending	Balance	Per cent disbursed
200003	Works	4,300,000.00	4,300,000.00	0.00	0.00	4,300,000.00	0%
200008	Consultancies	2,950,000.00	2,950,000.00	346,171.67	0.00	2,603,828.33	11.73%
200013	Goods, Services and Inputs	3,500,000.00	3,500,000.00	877,870.01	0.00	2,622,129.99	25.08%
200016	Operating Costs	1,400,000.00	1,400,000.00	121,904.16	0.00	1,278,095.84	8.71%
200018	Salaries and allowances	1,200,000.00	1,200,000.00	447,411.54	0.00	752,588.46	37.28%
200019	Training	3,150,000.00	3,150,000.00	173,761.21	0.00	2,976,238.79	5.52%
270001	Authorised allocation	0.00	0.00	972,464.73	0.00	(972,464.73)	0%
290001	Unallocated	1,800,000.00	1,800,000.00	0.00	0.00	1,800,000.00	0%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>18,300,000.00</b>	<b>18,300,000.00</b>	<b>2,939,583.32</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>15,360,416.68</b>	<b>16.06%</b>

**Figure 1: IFAD Grant disbursement, comparisons between original and revised allocations and actual disbursement as at 22 November, 2019**

Category	Category description	Original Allocation	Revised Allocation	Disbursement	Balance	Per cent disbursed
200003	Works	4,300,000.00	4,300,000.00	0.00	4,300,000.00	0%
200008	Consultancies	2,950,000.00	2,950,000.00	346,171.67	2,603,828.33	11.73%
200013	Goods, Services and Inputs	3,500,000.00	3,500,000.00	877,870.01	2,622,129.99	25.08%
200016	Operating Costs	1,400,000.00	1,400,000.00	121,904.16	1,278,095.84	8.71%
200018	Salaries and allowances	1,200,000.00	1,200,000.00	447,411.54	752,588.46	37.28%
200019	Training	3,150,000.00	3,150,000.00	173,761.21	2,976,238.79	5.52%
270001	Authorised allocation	0.00	0.00	972,464.73	(972,464.73)	0%
290001	Unallocated	1,800,000.00	1,800,000.00	0.00	1,800,000.00	0%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>18,300,000.00</b>	<b>18,300,000.00</b>	<b>2,939,583.32</b>	<b>15,360,416.68</b>	<b>16.06%</b>

**Appendix 1: Compliance with legal covenants: Status of implementation**

Section	Covenant	Target/Action Due Date	Status/Date
<b>Section B.3</b>	Recipient to open and maintain a designated account denominated in US\$ at the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe to channel grant proceeds	Disbursement condition/Continuous	Complied
<b>Section B.4</b>	Open and Maintain a project account in US\$ at a Commercial Bank acceptable to the Fund to receive and hold the financing transferred from the Designated Account.	Continuous	Partial Compliance
<b>Section B.5</b>	Recipient shall provide counterpart financing for the Programme to cover taxes and duties levied in the implementation of the Programme.	Continuous	Complied/to be monitored throughout project period
<b>Section E.1 (a)</b>	Co-financing agreement between Recipient and OFID is not suspended, cancelled or terminated	Continuous	Will be monitored after entry into force of the co-financing agreement
<b>Section E.1 (b)</b>	Obtaining prior consent of the Fund for any waiver, suspension, termination, amendment or modification of PIM, or any provision thereof.	Continuous	Complied
<b>Section E.1 (c)</b>	Obtaining prior concurrence of the Fund for appointment, transfer or removal of Key Programme Staff from the PCU	Continuous	Complied
<b>Section E.2 (a)</b>	The Recipient shall have established within MLAAR a PCU.	Prior to disbursement	Complied
<b>Section E.2 (b)</b>	The Recipient shall have prepared a PIM in form and substance satisfactory to the Fund	Prior to disbursement	Complied
<b>Section E.2 (c)</b>	The Recipient is operating a fully functional accounting software in form and substance satisfactory to the Fund	Continuous	Complied
<b>Section E.3</b>	The agreement has been ratified by the Recipient	Continuous	Complied
<b>Schedule 3 Para 1</b> <b>Gender Strategy</b>	The Recipient to develop and implement a gender strategy to streamline gender concerns in all programme activities	Continuous	To be monitored during implementation.
<b>Schedule 3. Para 2</b> <b>Counterpart funds</b>	Counterpart funds are clearly identifiable in the financial management system and financial statements.	Continuous	Complied.
<b>Schedule 3 Para 3</b> <b>Land and Water Access</b>	Smallholder farmers to have full access to land along applicable customary and legal regulations. A prerequisite to the signature of such agreements shall be the prior formal establishment of the WUOs.	Continuous	Not yet complied/To be monitored during implementation.
<b>Schedule 3 Para 4</b>	Programme to be implemented in compliance with the main IFAD policies, strategies and procedures, including, IFAD's Natural Resources Management Policy, Climate	Continuous	To be monitored during implementation.

Section	Covenant	Target/Action Due Date	Status/Date
<b>Environmental and Social Due Diligence</b>	Change Strategy and Social, Environmental and Climate Assessment Procedures; and IFAD's Policy on Improving Access to Land and Tenure Security.		
<b>Schedule 3 Para 5 Transparency and internal control framework.</b>	The Terms of Reference of the external audit shall include a specific review of internal control environment. This covers all the systems, manual and IT.	30 September, each year	To be monitored during implementation.
<b>Schedule 3 Para 6 Internal audit</b>	The Internal Audit Department of MLARR will include the Programme in its yearly internal audit oversight plans. The implementation status of internal audit recommendations will be addressed and made available to the Fund	Continuous	Not complied FY2018. For FY 2019 audit in progress at time of mission.
<b>GC Section 4.02.b Withdrawals from the Loan and Grant Accounts</b>	No withdrawal shall be made from the Loan and/or Grant Accounts until the first AWPB has been approved by the Fund.	June 2018	Complied
<b>GC Section 7.01.b.ii AWPB</b>	LPA shall submit reviewed draft Project AWPB for each Project Year to the IFAD for comments no later than sixty (60) days before the beginning of the relevant Project Year	30 <sup>th</sup> October, each year	Not complied
<b>GC Section 7.03. Availability of Additional Resources</b>	In addition to the proceeds of the Financing, the Recipient shall make available to the Project Parties: such funds, facilities, services and other resources as may be required to carry out the Project in accordance with Section 7.01.	Continuous	To be monitored during implementation.
<b>GC Section 7.05. Procurement</b>	(a) Procurement of goods, works and services in accordance with the provisions of the GOS regulations, to the extent such are consistent with the IFAD Procurement Guidelines. Each Procurement Plan shall identify procedures which must be implemented by the Recipient in order to ensure consistency with the IFAD Procurement Guidelines	Continuous	Complied
	(b) The Fund may require that all bidding documents and contracts for procurement of goods, works and services financed by the Financing include provisions requiring bidders, suppliers, contractors, sub-contractors and consultants to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) allow full inspection by the Fund of all bid documentation and related records;</li> <li>(ii) maintain all documents and records related to the bid or contract for three years after completion of the bid or contract; and</li> <li>(iii) cooperate with agents or representatives of the Fund carrying out an audit or investigation.</li> </ul>	Continuous	To be monitored during implementation.

Section	Covenant	Target/Action Due Date	Status/Date
<b>GC:S. 7.8 (a) Insurance</b>	(a)The Borrower/ the Lead Project Agency shall insure all goods and buildings used in the Project against such risks and in such amounts as shall be consistent with sound commercial practice.	Continuous	Not complied. Cover for computers and office furniture expired 30 August 2019.
	(b)The Borrower or the Lead Project Agency shall insure the goods imported for the Project against hazards incident to the acquisition, transportation and delivery thereof to the place of use or installation in accordance with sound commercial practice	Continuous	To be monitored during implementation
<b>GC Section.7.11</b>	Appoint Project Coordinator and all other key Project personnel in the manner specified in the FA.	Complied	To be monitored during implementation
<b>GC Section 7.12 Project Parties</b>	Each Project Party shall, as required to carry out the Project in accordance with Section 7.01:  (a) promptly take all necessary or appropriate action to maintain its corporate existence and to acquire, maintain and renew its rights, properties, powers, privileges and franchises;  (b) employ competent and experienced management and personnel;  (c) operate, maintain and replace its equipment and other properties; (d) not sell, lease or otherwise dispose of any of the Project's assets, except in the normal course of business or as agreed by the Fund.	Continuous	Will be monitored during implementation
<b>GC Section 8.03 (a) Progress Reports</b>	Furnish to the Fund periodic progress reports in such form and substance as required	30 June and 31 <sup>st</sup> December of each year	Not complied
<b>GC Section 8.03 (b) MTR</b>	Jointly carry out a review of Project implementation no later than the midpoint of the Project Implementation	2021	Not yet due
<b>GC Section 9.02 Financial Reporting</b>	Deliver to the Fund detailed financial statements of the operations, resources and expenditures related to the Project for each Fiscal Year prepared in accordance with standards and procedures acceptable to the Fund and deliver such financial statements to the Fund within four (4) months of the end of each Fiscal Year.	30 April, each year	Not Complied
<b>GC Section 9.03 Audit</b>	(a)each Fiscal Year, have the accounts relating to the Project audited in accordance with auditing standards acceptable to the Fund and the Fund's Guidelines on Project Audits (for Borrowers' Use);	30 June, each year	2018 report filed late.

Section	Covenant	Target/Action Due Date	Status/Date
	(b)within 6 months of the end of each Fiscal Year, furnish to the Fund a certified copy of the audit report. The Borrower shall submit to the Fund the reply to the management letter of the auditors within one month of receipt thereof;		To be monitored during implementation
<b>GC Section 9.04. Other Financial Reports and Information</b>	<p>In addition to the reports and information required by the foregoing provisions:</p> <p>(a)The Borrower and the Project Parties shall promptly furnish to the Fund such other reports and information as the Fund shall reasonably request on any financial matter relating to the Financing or the Project or any Project Party.</p> <p>(b)The Borrower shall promptly inform the Fund of any condition that interferes with, or threatens to interfere with, the maintenance of Loan Service Payments.</p> <p>(c) The Project Member State shall promptly furnish to the Fund all information that the Fund may reasonably request with respect to financial and economic conditions in its territory, including its balance of payments and its external debt.</p>	Continuous	To be monitored as implementation continues



## **Zimbabwe**

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### **Smallholder Irrigation Revitalization Programme Supervision Report**

#### **Appendix 2: Physical progress measured against AWP&B**

Mission Dates: 25 November - 5 December, 2019  
Document Date: 27/04/2020  
Project No. 2000001233  
Report No. 5345-ZW

East and Southern Africa Division  
Programme Management Department



## Appendix 2: Physical Progress against AWPB

Behind Target (less than 55%)	<b>55%</b>	On Target (56 – 80%)	<b>80%</b>	Completed (81 - 100%)	<b>81%</b>	-	-	-	-
Component/ Sub-component or Output			Period: 01 <sup>st</sup> January 2019– November 2019			Cumulative Actual	Appraisal Target		Comments
	Indicator	Unit	AWP&B	Actual	%			%	
<b>Sub-Component 1.1 Scheme selection and rehabilitation</b>	Number of hectares of farmland under water-related infrastructure constructed/rehabilitated	ha	823	<u>0</u>	0%	0	6100	0	
	Number of hectares of farmland under water-related infrastructure rehabilitated	ha	353	0	26%	0	5100	0	<i>Contracts to rehabilitate the 5 blocks of Musikavanhu (353ha) have commenced and works are planned to be completed within 6 months</i>
	Number of hectares of farmland under water-related infrastructure expanded/extended	ha	340	0	19%	0	800	0	<i>Tenders for the rehabilitation of headworks, canals, toilets, fencing for Exchange, Sebasa, Rupangwana (340ha) underway. Works to commence before year end 2019</i>

	Number of hectares of farmland under water-related infrastructure rehabilitated with solar	ha	130	0	0%	0	200	0	- Tender for Boreholes with Solar PV minigrid systems is underway. Works will commence before year end
	Number of feasibility studies conducted	ha	3270	925	28%	1278	6100	21%	- In order to accelerate pace for feasibility studies 2x pvt consulting firms are carrying out studies covering 3099ha. Concurrently with pvt companies, SIRP/Dol are completing a total of 1019ha by Dec 2019
	Number of irrigation schemes constructed/rehabilitated	Schemes	5	0	12%	0	125	0%	- 5 Schemes of Musikavanhu works have commenced and will be completed in the next 6 months
	Number of irrigators trained in irrigation management	Irrigators	1775	287	16%	850	15,000	6%	- This activity was being done inhouse through the Dol, however in 2019, pvt service providers will recruited to carryout this function (ToRs have been prepared for this). At the same time contractors on ongoing works are required to carry out trainings on O&M.
	Number of irrigators trained in irrigation management	men	887.5	155	17%	351	7,500	5%	
	Number of irrigators trained in irrigation management	women	887.5	132	15%	499	7,500	7%	
	Number of irrigators trained in irrigation management	youth	177.5	28.7	16%	28.7	1,500	2%	
	Number of irrigators trained in irrigation management	non-youth	1597.5	258.3	16%	258.3	13,500	2%	

Number of WUOs supported	WUO	5	0	0%	0	700	0%	- This training is pending the outcome on the WUA strategy currently ongoing. The gaps to be identified in the study will be used to target suitable trainings for the WUO
Number of members of supported WUOs	Members	150	0	0%	0	15,000	0%	
Number of members of supported WUOs	men	75	0	0%	0	7,500	0%	
Number of members of supported WUOs	women	75	0	0%	0	7,500	0%	
Number of members of supported WUOs	youth	15	0	0%	0	1,500	0%	
Number of members of supported WUOs	non-youth	135	0	0%	0	13,500	0%	
Number of WUOs with women in leadership positions	WUO		0	#DIV/0!	0	280	0%	
Provision of starter kit for youth trained in irrigation equipment repair and maintenance	youthirr	72	0	0%	0	1,000	0%	-Local adverts have been displayed at various schemes, Selection of interest youths is ongoing.
Number of youth receiving vocational training on irrigation equipment repair and maintenance	youthirr	72	0	0%	0	1,000	0%	- See comment above
Number of youth receiving vocational training on irrigation equipment repair and maintenance	male	36	0	0%	0	500	0%	- See comment above

	Number of youth receiving vocational training on irrigation equipment repair and maintenance	female	36	0	0%	0	500	0%	- See comment above
	Number of beneficiaries providing financial contribution for the O&M	Beneficiaries	1775		0%	1107	15,000	7%	
	Number of beneficiaries providing financial contribution for the O&M	men	887.5		0%		7,500	0%	
	Number of beneficiaries providing financial contribution for the O&M	women	887.5		0%		7,500	0%	
	Number of beneficiaries providing financial contribution for the O&M	youth	177.5		0%		1,500	0%	
	Number of beneficiaries providing financial contribution for the O&M	non-youth	1597.5		0%		13,500	0%	
	Value of beneficiary contributions	USD/million	82300		0%	10422	1.5	694800%	
Sub-component 1.3: Enhanced institutional capacity for irrigation development								#DIV/0!	
	Number of Government staff trained in irrigation and O&M selected topics	total	150	172	115%	222	250	89%	-This figure includes engineers & technicians mentored by senior irrigation TAs during carrying out of Feasibility studies and contract management. Figure is also inclusive of 30 engineers mentored on pumping options for smallholder irrigation schemes.
	- Number of Government staff trained in irrigation and O&M selected topics	men	105	147	140%	179	175	102%	-This figure is the difference between total staff trained less women trained.

-Number of Government staff trained in irrigation and O&M selected topics	women	45	25	56%	43	75	57%	-This figure is the difference between total staff trained less men trained.
Number of TOT trained by DOI	Persons	28	29	104%	29	12	242%	
- Number of TOT trained by DOI	men	18	18	100%	18	8	225%	
- Number of TOT trained by DOI	women	10	11	110%	11	4	275%	
Number of study tours	staff	1	1	100%	1	2	50%	- A study tour to appreciate various pumping options was organised for Dool Engineers (drawn nationally)
Number of staff participating in study tours	total	20	30	150%	30	20	150%	
Number of staff participating in study tours	men	12	25	208%	25	12	208%	
Number of staff participating in study tours	women	8	5	63%	5	8	63%	
Number of stakeholder Dialogue Workshops on Water Pricing	workshops	6	0	0%	0	11	0%	-This activity is pending outcome from the study currently ongoing with the WUO TA
Number of participants	participants	200	0	0%	0	550	0%	- see comment above
Number of participants	men	100	0	0%	0	275	0%	- see comment above

	Number of participants	women	100	0	0%	0	275	0%	- see comment above
	Number of Stakeholder Dialogue Workshops on IMCs and WUA	Workshops	4	1	25%	1	11	9%	- 1 WUA/Irrigation Policy Workshop was done
	Number of participants	participants	200	90	45%	90	550	16%	-This activity is pending outcome from the study currently ongoing with the WUO TA
	Number of participants	men	100	60	60%	60	275	22%	-This activity is pending outcome from the study currently ongoing with the WUO TA
	Number of participants	women	100	30	30%	30	275	11%	-This activity is pending outcome from the study currently ongoing with the WUO TA
	Number of ToT courses on Data Collection Processing and Maintenance	Courses	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	8	0%	Fund reallocated
	Number of hectares under Feasibility Studies and Detailed Designs for irrigation	ha	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	2000	0%	Fund reallocated
<b>Climate-smart Agriculture and Market Access</b>									
<b>Sub-component 2.1 Enhanced Agricultural Practices and Farmers' Organizational Capacity</b>									
	Number of FFS established	FFS	30	18	60%	18	210	9%	18 FFS are in the process of being established in 2019. Groups were formed and enterprises were selected. Inputs were collected for various



								FFS. The other 12 were expected to be done following entering in the anticipated new schemes in 2019
number of members in FFS	Members	1550	503	32%	503	12,500	4%	An average of 25-30 people per group and other farmers are free to join during trainings
number of members in FFS	men	775	184	24%	184	6,250	3%	
number of members in FFS	women	775	319	41%	319	6,250	5%	
number of members in FFS	youth	155	67	43%	67	1,250	5%	
number of members in FFS	non-youth	1395	416	30%	416	11,250	4%	
number of FFS facilitators trained	FFS	12		0%	20	210	10%	These were planned for new scheme toto be targeted in 2019, however no feasibility study has been approved for the new schemes
Number of facilitators	men	6		0%	14	105	13%	
Number of facilitators	women	6		0%	6	105	6%	
Number of farmers in FFS trained	Members	1550	540	35%	540	12,500	4%	Most FFS were crop based and mobilasation has started towrads the season onset. More farmers will be trained in November- December period
Number of farmers in FFS trained	men	775	157	20%	157	6,250	3%	
Number of farmers in FFS trained	women	775	383	49%	383	6,250	6%	

	Number of farmers in FFS trained	youth	155	60	39%	60	1,250	5%	
	Number of farmers in FFS trained	non-youth	1395	480	34%	480	11,250	4%	
	Number of demonstration plots established on irrigation schemes	demo plots	7	16	229%	19	130	15%	3 demos are under establishment in Musikavanh and Rupangwana. Lad preperation has been completed and inputs delivered
	Number of beneficiaries participating in emo plots on irrigation schemes	persons	1598	383	24%	393	15,000	3%	Low farmer participation in demoplots due to shortages of water in irrigation schemes
	Number of beneficiaries participating in emo plots on irrigation schemes	men	799	152	19%	188	7,500	3%	
	Number of beneficiaries participating in emo plots on irrigation schemes	women	799	169	21%	205	7,500	3%	
	Number of beneficiaries participating in emo plots on irrigation schemes	youth	159.8	25	16%	32	1,500	2%	
	Number of beneficiaries participating in emo plots on irrigation schemes	non-youth	1438.2	279	19%	344	13,500	3%	
	Number of irrigation scheme agriculture committees trained	persons	108	78	72%	78	910	9%	Training for transformation on IMC was done focusing on governamce , financial literacy, scheme visoning
	Number of irrigation scheme agriculture committees trained	men	54	28	52%	28	450	6%	
	Number of irrigation scheme agriculture committees trained	women	54	13	24%	13	450	3%	

Number of irrigation scheme agriculture committees trained	youth	10.8	9	83%	9	91	10%	
Number of irrigation scheme agriculture committees trained	non-youth	97.2	34	35%	34	819	4%	
Number of farmers trained on irrigation schemes	persons	1598	306	19%	347	15,000	2%	Only 306 farmers trained on irrigation schemes under demoplots and agronomy due to non activity in most irrigation schemes
Number of farmers trained on irrigation schemes	men	799	152	19%	168	7,500	2%	
Number of farmers trained on irrigation schemes	women	799	154	19%	179	7,500	2%	
Number of farmers trained on irrigation schemes	youth	159.8	33	21%	33	1,500	2%	
Number of farmers trained on irrigation schemes	non-youth	1438.2	273	19%	273	13,500	2%	
Number of exchange visits	visits	3	1	33%	7	200	4%	
Number of participants in exchange visits	participants	30	188	627%	284	2,000	14%	1 field day conducted and 2 othre excahneg visits planned for December
Number of participants in exchange visits	men	15	103	687%	159	1,000	16%	
Number of participants in exchange visits	women	15	85	567%	145	1,000	15%	
Number of participants in exchange visits	youth	3	17	567%	27	100	27%	
								More participants as It was a field day however target participants per visit is 10

Number of participants in exchange visits	non-youth	27	171	633%	257	1,900	14%	
Number of Committee Members trained on NRM	persons	180	67	37%	67	2,500	3%	3 NRM ESC training done to date and others to be completed before year end
Number of Committee Members trained on NRM	men	90	39	43%	39	1,250	3%	
Number of Committee Members trained on NRM	women	90	28	31%	28	1,250	2%	
Number of Committee Members trained on NRM	youth	18	10	56%	10	250	4%	
Number of Committee Members trained on NRM	non-youth	162	57	35%	57	2,250	3%	
number of Exchange Visits on NRM	visits	9	5	56%	5	40	13%	Five schemes conducted NRM visits to date and the remainig is expected to be done before year end
Number of participants in exchange visits	participants	90	57	63%	57	400	14%	57 Participants (farmers and ESC members have participated in the 5 NRM exchange visits done to date.
Number of participants in exchange visits	men	45	36	80%	36	200	18%	
Number of participants in exchange visits	women	45	21	47%	21	200	11%	
Number of participants in exchange visits	youth	9	10	111%	10	40	25%	
Number of participants in exchange visits	non-youth	81	47	58%	47	360	13%	

Participatory Planning Workshop	workshops	9	5	56%	5	125	4%	5 NRM planning workshops conducted in 5 schemes. The rest will be completed before year end
Number of participants in planning workshops	participants	450	147	33%	147	12,500	1%	147 participants have participated in planning workshops. Less participants in Sebasa due to farmer complaints on training fatigue
Number of participants in planning workshops	men	225	68	30%	68	6,250	1%	
Number of participants in planning workshops	women	225	79	35%	79	6,250	1%	
Number of participants in planning workshops	youth	45	27	60%	27	1,250	2%	
Number of participants in planning workshops	non-youth	405	120	30%	120	11,250	1%	
Number of NRM plans developed	0	5	3	60%	3	125	2%	Draft NRM plans for Rupangwana, Exchange are being finalised and Sebasa NRM plan has been submitted
Number of farmers trained in greater scheme area on NRM	participants	950	785	83%	785	10,000	8%	785 farmers have been trained on NRM issues that include soil and water conservation, soil erosion, legislation governing NRM, deforestation, water harvesting
Number of farmers trained in greater scheme area on NRM	men	475	401	84%	401	5,000	8%	
Number of farmers trained in greater scheme area on NRM	women	475	383	81%	383	5,000	8%	
Number of farmers trained in greater scheme area on NRM	youth	95	56	59%	56	1,000	6%	

	Number of farmers trained in greater scheme area on NRM	non-youth	855	729	85%	729	9,000	8%	
	Number of Natural Resource Management Facilities established	NRMF	9	9	100%	9	125	7%	NRMF for this year is going towards establishment of Nutrition gardens as a responds to Cyclone Idai and Drought
	Number of income enenerating projects supported by the NRMF	projects	9	9	100%	9	375	2%	No contribution to be made since it's a respond to disaster
	Number of farmers withing groups supported by the NRMF	Farmers	900	0	0%	0	5,625	0%	No groups have been formed yet. Finalisation of NRMF concept note is in process
	Number of farmers withing groups supported by the NRMF	men	450	0	0%	0	2812	0%	
	Number of farmers withing groups supported by the NRMF	women	450	0	0%	0	2813	0%	
	Number of farmers withing groups supported by the NRMF	youth	90	0	0%	0	562	0%	
	Number of farmers withing groups supported by the NRMF	non-youth	810	0	0%	0	5063	0%	
	Total value of grants disbursed for the income generating projects	USD/millio n	146,880	108000	74%	108000	2	5400000 %	
	Value of beneficiary contributions	USD '000	13,104	1060	8%	1060	182	582%	
	Number of demonstrations on cooking/feeding	demo	9	3	33%	3	125	2%	3 cooking demo have been done to date in partnership with Harvest Plus. All 9 demo are earmarked for completion befor year end

Number of farmers participating in demo plots on cooking/feeding	participants	900	192	21%	192	12500	2%	192 farmers mosly women have participated in cooking demo done together with nutrition education. They had anopportunity to learn new nutritious receipes that intergrate local foods and biofortified foods
Number of farmers participating in demo plots on cooking/feeding	men	450	49	11%	49	2500	2%	
Number of farmers participating in demo plots on cooking/feeding	women	450	143	32%	143	10000	1%	
Number of farmers participating in demo plots on cooking/feeding	youth	90	20	22%	20	1250	2%	
Number of farmers participating in demo plots on cooking/feeding	non-youth	810	172	21%	172	11250	2%	
Number of demonstrations for nutrition gardens	demos	9	6	67%	6	125	5%	6 volunteers have established nutrition demoplots that demonstrated key nutritious crops that forms a balanced diet
Number of farmers participating in demo plots on nutrition gardens	participants	900	482	54%	482	5000	10%	Participants equiped with knowledge of what nutritious crops grow to improve their diet
Number of farmers participating in demo plots on nutrition gardens	men	450	145	32%	145	1000	15%	
Number of farmers participating in demo plots on nutrition gardens	women	450	337	75%	337	4000	8%	
Number of farmers participating in demo plots on nutrition gardens	youth	90	48	53%	48	500	10%	
Number of farmers participating in demo plots on nutrition gardens	non-youth	810	434	54%	434	4500	10%	
number of Nutrition education sessions	sessions	24	13	54%	13	250	5%	9 sessions were conducted based on Health harvest and 5 session using Health Plus

	Number of women participating in nutrition education sessions	Total	900	555	62%	555	14000	4%	partnership attracting 555 farmers
	Number of women participating in nutrition education sessions	men	450	141	31%	141	200	71%	
	Number of women participating in nutrition education sessions	women	450	414	92%	414	10000	4%	
	Number of women participating in nutrition education sessions	sessions	9	7	78%			#DIV/0!	
<b>Sub-component 2.2 Market Access and Rural Financial Services</b>	<b>Number of women participating in women empowerment</b>	Participants	688			0		#DIV/0!	
	Number of persons trained on TOT for FAAB	total	36	43	119%	43	250	17%	43 extension workers trained of 9 modules of FaaB to roll out to extension workers
	Number of persons trained on TOT for FAAB	men	18	28	156%	28	125	22%	
	Number of persons trained on TOT for FAAB	women	18	15	83%	15	125	12%	
	Number of farmers which are trained on FAAB	participants	1734	1946	112%	1987	25,250	8%	A total of 1946 farmers have been trained on FaaB using a roll out strategy done by extension workers. Farmers were trained on the 9 modules of FaaB
	Number of farmers which are trained on FAAB	men	867	631	73%	656	12,125	5%	
	Number of farmers which are trained on FAAB	women	867	1315	152%	1331	12,125	11%	
	Number of farmers which are trained on FAAB	youth	173.4	225	130%	229	2,525	9%	



	Number of farmers which are trained on FAAB	non-youth	1560.6	1537	98%	1574	22,725	7%	
	Number of scheme level Marketing Committees members trained	members	90	0	0%	0	1,250	0%	Planned for december, A training module has been developed
	Number of scheme level Marketing Committees members trained	men	45	0	0%	0	750	0%	
	Number of scheme level Marketing Committees members trained	women	45	0	0%	0	500	0%	
	Number of scheme level Marketing Committees members trained	youth	9	0	0%	0	125	0%	
	Number of scheme level Marketing Committees members trained	non-youth	81	0	0%	0	1,125	0%	
	number of local CBMF trained	trainees	87	0	0%	0	1,200	0%	Rural Finance component was not prioritised this year. Part of the funds were transferred to cater for feasibility studies
	number of local CBMF trained	men	43.5	0	0%	0	600	0%	
	number of local CBMF trained	women	43.5	0	0%	0	600	0%	
	number of local CBMF trained	youth	8.7	0	0%	0	120	0%	
	number of local CBMF trained	non-youth	78.3	0	0%	0	1,080	0%	
	number of ISALs established	ISALs	40.5	0	0%	0	375	0%	

number of members of ISALs	members	405	0	0%	0	7,500	0%	
number of members of ISALs	men	202.5	0	0%	0	3,000	0%	
number of members of ISALs	women	202.5	0	0%	0	4,500	0%	
number of members of ISALs	youth	40.5	0	0%	0	750	0%	
number of members of ISALs	non-youth	364.5	0	0%	0	6750	0%	
number of On-farm demonstration of post harvest technologies	demos	9	9	100%	9	375	2%	A concept note was developed to establish metal silo demo sites in each scheme. The silo metals are being procured
Number of farmers trained in post harvest	participants	900	605	67%	731	20,250	4%	A total of 605 farmers trained on post harvest Management focusing on horticultural and field crops. A batch of 475 farmers were trained using inhouse capacity. TA post harvest was later engaged and she developed a PH manual together with training manual. ToT for extension workers was done at rupangwana and exchange were a roll out strategy to farmers was developed. The target figure is expected to be completed by end of year
Number of farmers trained in post harvest	men	450	336	75%	379	10,125	4%	
Number of farmers trained in post harvest	women	450	269	60%	352	10125	3%	
Number of farmers trained in post harvest	youth	90	142	158%	153	1012	15%	
Number of farmers trained in post harvest	non-youth	810	463	57%	578	19238	3%	
Construction of multipurpose post harvest centre	centres	2	0	0%	0	125	0%	TA post harvest still conducting studies to recommend favourable PHM equipment for

									each scheme. BDSP is also working with to establish offtakers to facilitate demand driven investment on post harvest centres. This will be moved to 2020
	Value of farmers contribution to the construction of the post harvest centers	USD '000	1000	0	0%	0	375	0%	No contribution for this year
	Number of youth trained on vocational training	youth	72	20	28%	20	1000	2%	20 youth were trained on metal silo manufacturing. A workshop will be held to capacity build other 25 youth on silo dries and others will be trained on beekeeping
	Number of youth trained on vocational training	male	36	10	28%	10	500	2%	
	Number of youth trained on vocational training	female	36	10	28%	10	500	2%	
	Provision of starter kit for youth trained in post harvest	kits	72	20	28%	20	1000	2%	20 sets of starter kits were distributed to 20 trained youths
	Number of kilometres of roads constructed, rehabilitated or upgraded	km	14	0	0%	0	100	0%	Musikavanhu road construction has gone out for tender
<b>Sub-component 2.3 Enhanced Institutional Capacity for Market-led Production</b>					#DIV/0!			#DIV/0!	
	Number of AGRITEX staff trained and mentored	staff	100	258	258%	288	250	115%	258 Government staff have been trained to date on various themes that include Training for Transformation, ToT for NRM, Post harvest, FaaB, feasibility studies etc
	Number of AGRITEX staff trained and mentored	men	50	179	358%	198	125	158%	
	Number of AGRITEX staff trained and mentored	women	50	79	158%	90	125	72%	

Number of Study tours/Exchange Visits for AGRITEX	visits	1	0	0%	0	2	0%	A visit was being planned for Rwanda but have not yet materialised due to non response from Rwanda
Number of staff participating in exchange visits/study tours	staff	15	0	0%	0	20	0%	
Number of staff participating in exchange visits/study tours	men	8	0	0%	0	10	0%	
Number of staff participating in exchange visits/study tours	women	7	0	0%	0	10	0%	
Number of Stakeholder Dialogue Workshops	workshop	4	0	0%	0	11	0%	
Number of participants in stakeholders dialogue workshops	participants	200	0	0%	0	550	0%	Following further discussions, it was recommended that policy position to align to the national Agricultural policy. Consultation with thematic groups for 9 thematic focus for policy to explore opportunities for bringing more evidence to the policy framework
Number of participants in stakeholders dialogue workshops	men	100	0	0%	0	330	0%	
Number of participants in stakeholders dialogue workshops	women	100	0	0%	0	220	0%	
Number of Extension Worker Kits distributed	kits	50	0	0%	0	125	0%	A kit comprising of rain gauge, PH meter, rain coat, crop production manual, tape measure was requested for procurement last year

## **Zimbabwe**

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### **Smallholder Irrigation Revitalization Programme Supervision Report**

#### **Appendix 3: Compliance with legal covenants: status of implementation**

Mission Dates: 25 November - 5 December, 2019  
Document Date: 27/04/2020  
Project No. 2000001233  
Report No. 5345-ZW

East and Southern Africa Division  
Programme Management Department



### Appendix 3: Compliance with legal covenants: Status of implementation

Section	Covenant	Target/Action Due Date	Status/Date
<b>Section B.3</b>	Recipient to open and maintain a designated account denominated in US\$ at the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe to channel grant proceeds	Disbursement condition/Continuous	Complied
<b>Section B.4</b>	Open and Maintain a project account in US\$ at a Commercial Bank acceptable to the Fund to receive and hold the financing transferred from the Designated Account.	Continuous	Partial Compliance
<b>Section B.5</b>	Recipient shall provide counterpart financing for the Programme to cover taxes and duties levied in the implementation of the Programme.	Continuous	Complied/to be monitored throughout project period
<b>Section E.1 (a)</b>	Co-financing agreement between Recipient and OFID is not suspended, cancelled or terminated	Continuous	Will be monitored after entry into force of the co-financing agreement
<b>Section E.1 (b)</b>	Obtaining prior consent of the Fund for any waiver, suspension, termination, amendment or modification of PIM, or any provision thereof.	Continuous	Complied
<b>Section E.1 (c)</b>	Obtaining prior concurrence of the Fund for appointment, transfer or removal of Key Programme Staff from the PCU	Continuous	Complied
<b>Section E.2 (a)</b>	The Recipient shall have established within MLAAR a PCU.	Prior to disbursement	Complied
<b>Section E.2 (b)</b>	The Recipient shall have prepared a PIM in form and substance satisfactory to the Fund	Prior to disbursement	Complied
<b>Section E.2 (c)</b>	The Recipient is operating a fully functional accounting software in form and substance satisfactory to the Fund	Continuous	Complied
<b>Section E.3</b>	The agreement has been ratified by the Recipient	Continuous	Complied
<b>Schedule 3 Para 1 Gender Strategy</b>	The Recipient to develop and implement a gender strategy to streamline gender concerns in all programme activities	Continuous	To be monitored during implementation.
<b>Schedule 3. Para 2 Counterpart funds</b>	Counterpart funds are clearly identifiable in the financial management system and financial statements.	Continuous	Complied.
<b>Schedule 3 Para 3 Land and Water Access</b>	Smallholder farmers to have full access to land along applicable customary and legal regulations. A prerequisite to the signature of such agreements shall be the prior formal establishment of the WUOs.	Continuous	Not yet complied/To be monitored during implementation.
<b>Schedule 3 Para 4 Environmental and Social Due Diligence</b>	Programme to be implemented in compliance with the main IFAD policies, strategies and procedures, including, IFAD's Natural Resources Management Policy, Climate Change Strategy and Social, Environmental and Climate Assessment Procedures; and IFAD's Policy on Improving Access to Land and Tenure Security.	Continuous	To be monitored during implementation.

<b>Schedule 3 Para 5 Transparency and internal control framework.</b>	The Terms of Reference of the external audit shall include a specific review of internal control environment. This covers all the systems, manual and IT.	30 September, each year	To be monitored during implementation.
<b>Schedule 3 Para 6 Internal audit</b>	The Internal Audit Department of MLARR will include the Programme in its yearly internal audit oversight plans. The implementation status of internal audit recommendations will be addressed and made available to the Fund	Continuous	Not complied FY2018. For FY 2019 audit in progress at time of mission.
<b>GC Section 4.02.b Withdrawals from the Loan and Grant Accounts</b>	No withdrawal shall be made from the Loan and/or Grant Accounts until the first AWPB has been approved by the Fund.	June 2018	Complied
<b>GC Section 7.01.b.ii AWPB</b>	LPA shall submit reviewed draft Project AWPB for each Project Year to the IFAD for comments no later than sixty (60) days before the beginning of the relevant Project Year	30 <sup>th</sup> October, each year	Not complied
<b>GC Section 7.03. Availability of Additional Resources</b>	In addition to the proceeds of the Financing, the Recipient shall make available to the Project Parties: such funds, facilities, services and other resources as may be required to carry out the Project in accordance with Section 7.01.	Continuous	To be monitored during implementation.
<b>GC Section 7.05. Procurement</b>	(a) Procurement of goods, works and services in accordance with the provisions of the GOS regulations, to the extent such are consistent with the IFAD Procurement Guidelines. Each Procurement Plan shall identify procedures which must be implemented by the Recipient in order to ensure consistency with the IFAD Procurement Guidelines	Continuous	Complied
	(b)The Fund may require that all bidding documents and contracts for procurement of goods, works and services financed by the Financing include provisions requiring bidders, suppliers, contractors, sub-contractors and consultants to: (i) allow full inspection by the Fund of all bid documentation and related records; (ii) maintain all documents and records related to the bid or contract for three years after completion of the bid or contract; and (iii) cooperate with agents or representatives of the Fund carrying out an audit or investigation.	Continuous	To be monitored during implementation.
<b>GC:S. 7.8 (a) Insurance</b>	(a)The Borrower/ the Lead Project Agency shall insure all goods and buildings used in the Project against such risks and in such amounts as shall be consistent with sound commercial practice. (b)The Borrower or the Lead Project Agency shall insure the goods imported for the Project against hazards incident to the acquisition, transportation and delivery thereof to the place of use or installation in accordance with sound commercial practice	Continuous Continuous	Not complied. Cover for computers and office furniture expired 30 August 2019.  To be monitored during implementation
<b>GC Section.7.11</b>	Appoint Project Coordinator and all other key Project personnel in the manner specified in the FA.	Complied	To be monitored during implementation



<b>GC Section 7.12 Project Parties</b>	Each Project Party shall, as required to carry out the Project in accordance with Section 7.01: (a) promptly take all necessary or appropriate action to maintain its corporate existence and to acquire, maintain and renew its rights, properties, powers, privileges and franchises; (b) employ competent and experienced management and personnel; (c) operate, maintain and replace its equipment and other properties; (d) not sell, lease or otherwise dispose of any of the Project's assets, except in the normal course of business or as agreed by the Fund.	Continuous	Will be monitored during implementation
<b>GC Section 8.03 (a) Progress Reports</b>	Furnish to the Fund periodic progress reports in such form and substance as required	30 June and 31 <sup>st</sup> December of each year	Not complied
<b>GC Section 8.03 (b MTR Implementation</b>	Jointly carry out a review of Project implementation no later than the midpoint of the Project	2021	Not yet due
<b>GC Section 9.02 Financial Reporting</b>	Deliver to the Fund detailed financial statements of the operations, resources and expenditures related to the Project for each Fiscal Year prepared in accordance with standards and procedures acceptable to the Fund and deliver such financial statements to the Fund within four (4) months of the end of each Fiscal Year.	30 April, each year	Not Complied
<b>GC Section 9.03 Audit</b>	(a)each Fiscal Year, have the accounts relating to the Project audited in accordance with auditing standards acceptable to the Fund and the Fund's Guidelines on Project Audits (for Borrowers' Use); (b)within 6 months of the end of each Fiscal Year, furnish to the Fund a certified copy of the audit report. The Borrower shall submit to the Fund the reply to the management letter of the auditors within one month of receipt thereof;	30 June, each year	2018 report filed late.  To be monitored during implementation
<b>GC Section 9.04. Other Financial Reports and Information</b>	In addition to the reports and information required by the foregoing provisions: (a)The Borrower and the Project Parties shall promptly furnish to the Fund such other reports and information as the Fund shall reasonably request on any financial matter relating to the Financing or the Project or any Project Party. (b)The Borrower shall promptly inform the Fund of any condition that interferes with, or threatens to interfere with, the maintenance of Loan Service Payments. (c) The Project Member State shall promptly furnish to the Fund all information that the Fund may reasonably request with respect to financial and economic conditions in its territory, including its balance of payments and its external debt.	Continuous	To be monitored as implementation continues