

# President Peter Steyl's Presentation to the 72<sup>nd</sup> Congress of the Commercial Farmers' Union

# Realizing Zimbabwe's Agricultural Potential

# INTRODUCTION

- Revitalize Agriculture
- Build food and nutrition security
- Retool and Develop Irrigation
- Agro processing
- Markets

Irrigation is the Key

Potential 2 million Ha

Current developed irrigation 122 000 Ha

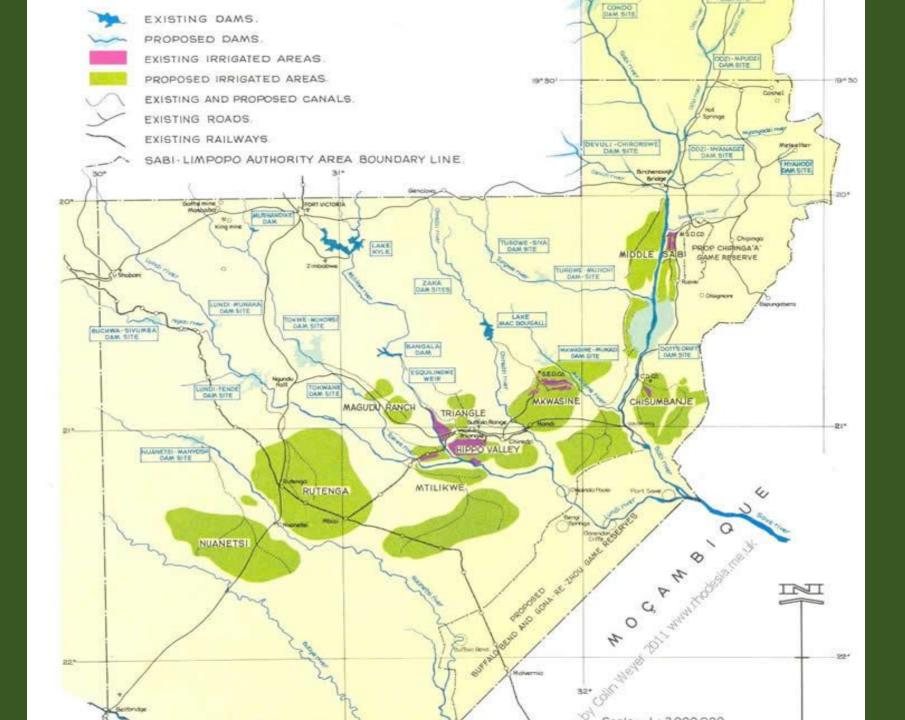
6% of our potential

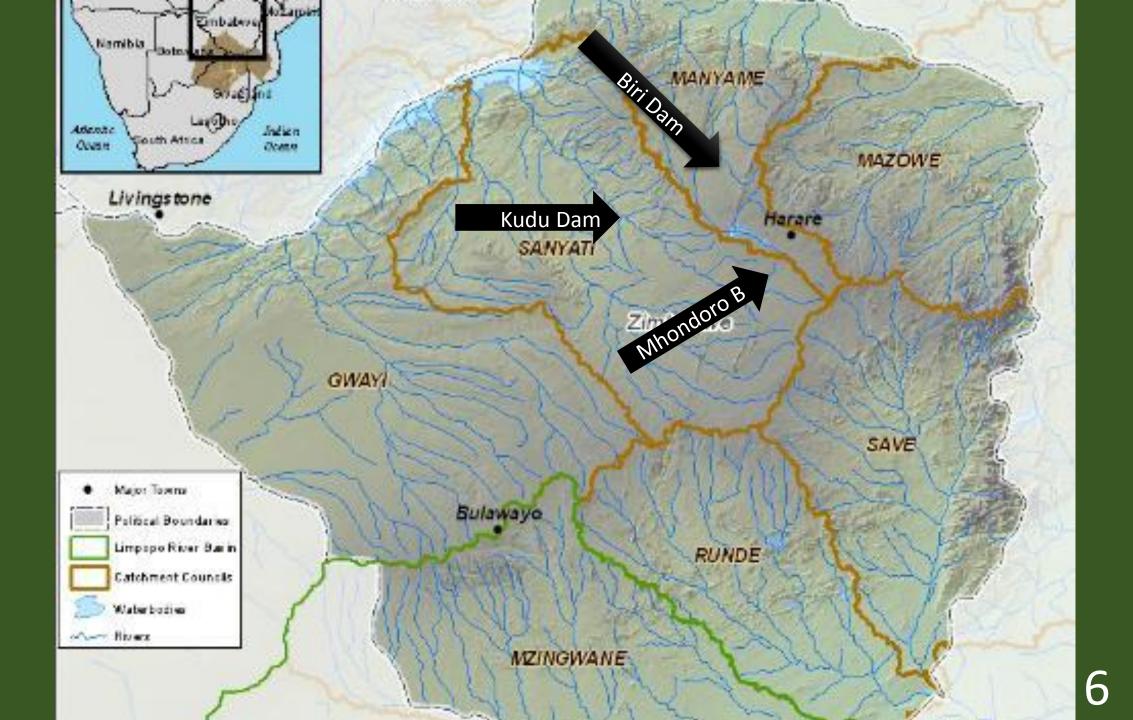
### The Golden Dawn Project Runde and Save River basins

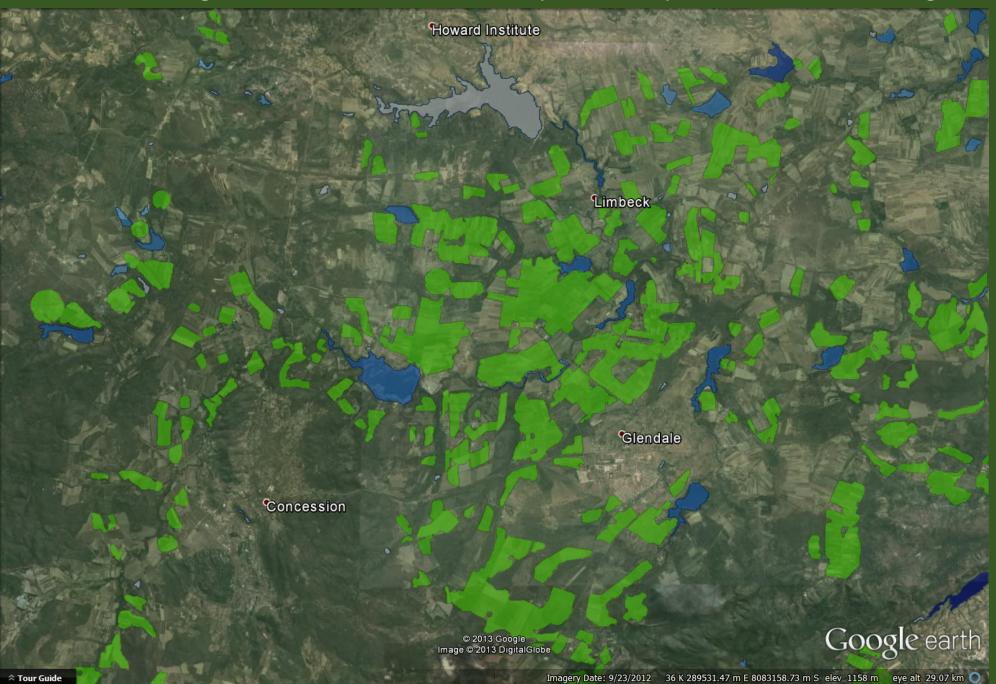
first proposed in the 60s and 70s.

405 000 hectares under irrigation

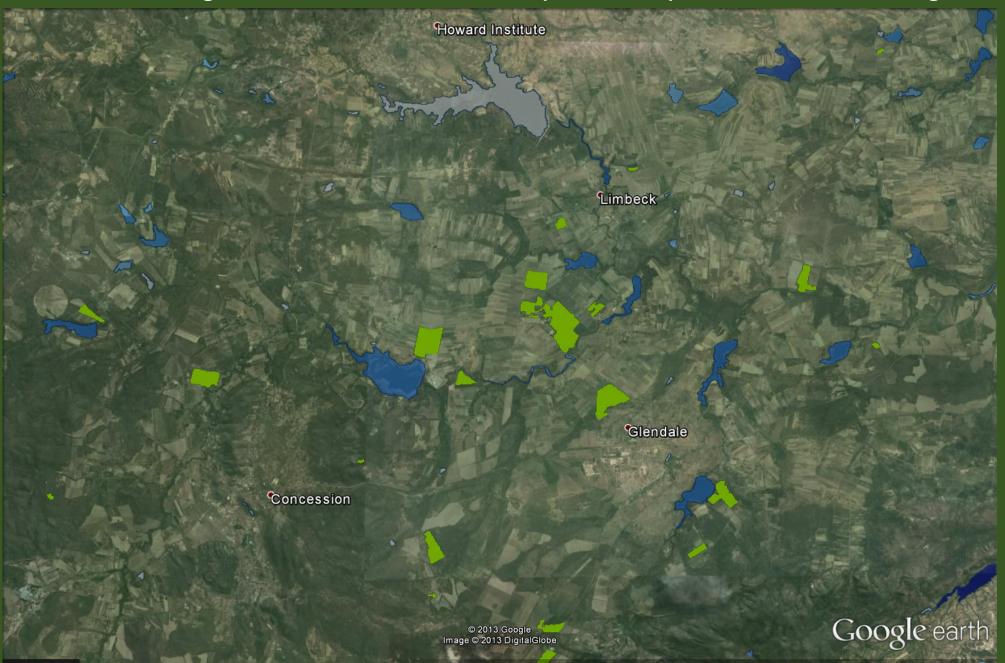
**Costing US \$ 5.6 billion over 25 years.** 





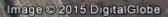


Zimbabwe Dams greater than 1 ha surface area (4485 dams) – with 2000 winter irrigation



#### Zimbabwe Dams greater than 1 ha surface area (4485 dams) – with 2013 winter irrigation

Imagery Date: 9/23/2012 36 K 289531.47 m E 8083158.73 m S elev 1158 m eye alt 29.07 km 🔘



Google earth

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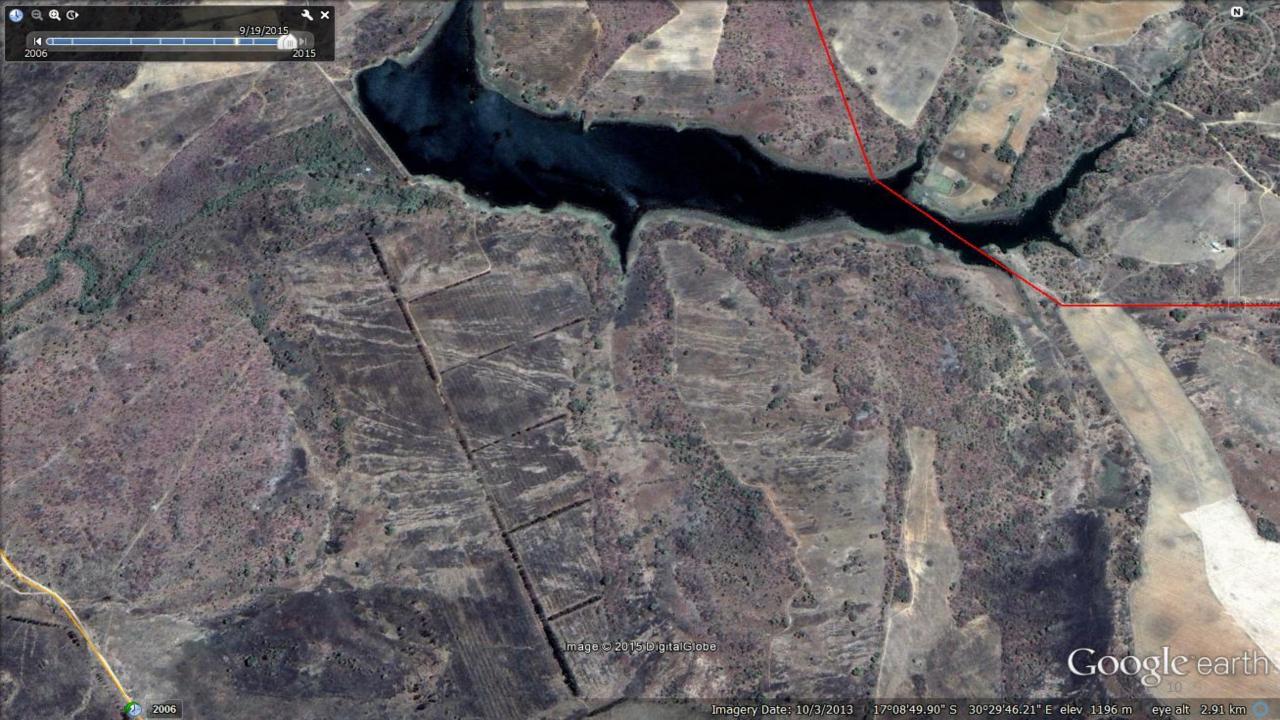
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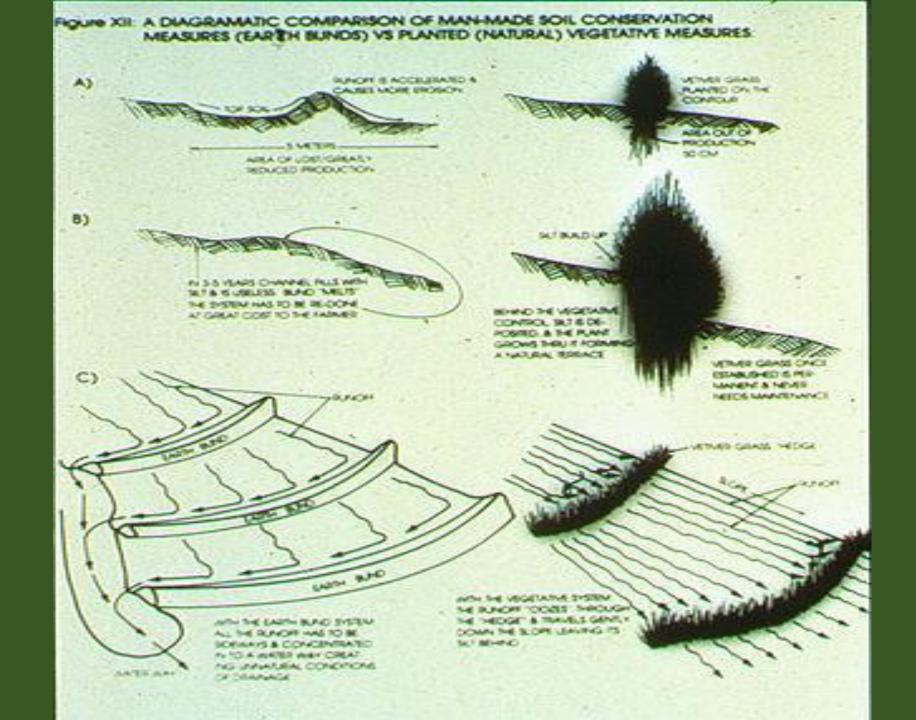


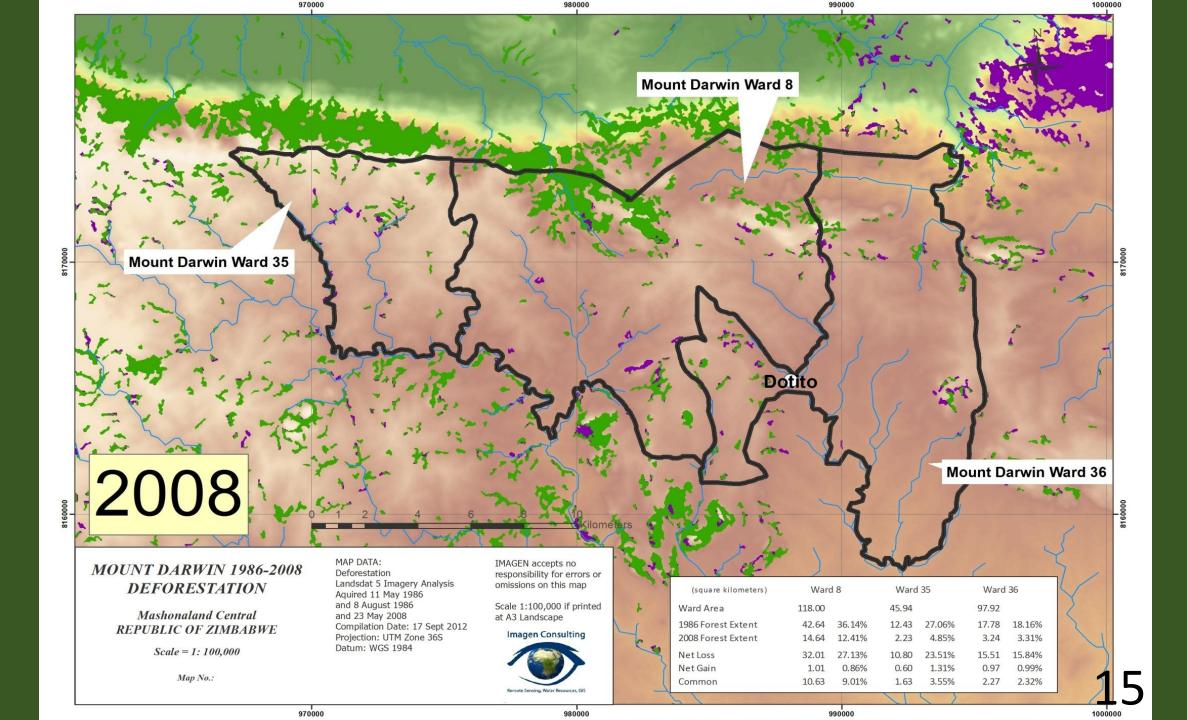
# The Miracle of Vetiver Grass (Chrysopogon zizanioides).

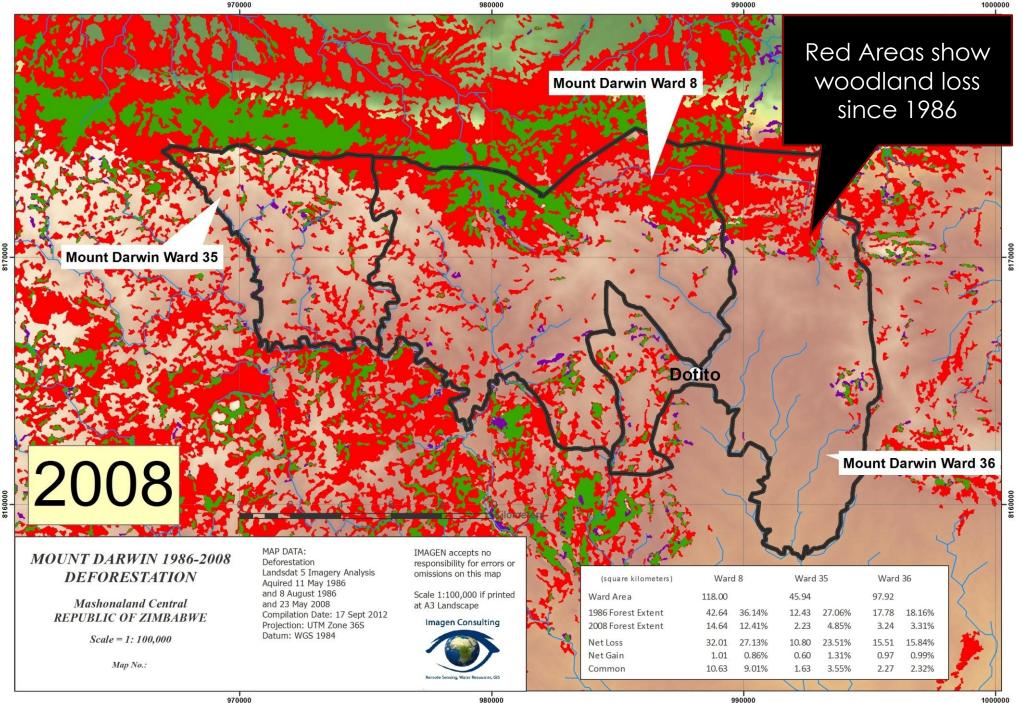
 Soil conservation and water quality management.

 Involves wide spread establishment of rows of vetiver grass to prevent soil erosion and river siltation.









# CATTLE INDUSTRY – Problems to address

Lack of Fencing

Disease control

Inbreeding

Over grazing

## Re vitalizing the Cattle Industry

- National herd 5.3 million,
- Small scale 80% of these,
- Annual 3% off take equating to 120 thousand cattle per year.
- Opportunity to improve quality and off take



A Breeding Program for the Future and the Benefits associated with a good program

- Exploit good traits of indigenous breeds
- Introduce quality indigenous bulls
- Castrate calves in tandem with the removal of inferior bulls
- Rotate superior bulls between villages to prevent inbreeding.
- Higher calving rates and Lower mortality rates.
- Increased off take.

# Creating an environment to realize our potential

- Create confidence by making secure, tradable and bankable land tenure for all Zimbabwe's farmers.
- Simple legal framework that foster equal rights and fairness which encourages investment in agriculture.

- Eradication all forms of Corruption
- Finalize compensation.

# Skills Development, Research and New Technologies • Farmers need to continuously improve skills.

Embrace new technologies.

Invest in research.

# Transport

### We need to upscale our rural road network

#### We need to invest in our railways.

## Ease of Export

## Electricity a driver of Agriculture

- Improve the efficiency of network saves 300 MW
- Adopt Smart meters
- Incentivize the adoption of solar power
- Re consider Sable Chemicals. 115 MW irrigate 162 000Ha

## An investor friendly regulatory Framework

•Tax laws

# RDC levies

## •Labour Laws



# Farmer Representation

25

The importance of Farmer Unions

A Regulatory Authority

• Unity

## In Conclusion...

#### Lets Look to a new dawn in the future – the Jewel of Africa

# Tatenda, Siyabonga, Thank you