



# ZAGP News

## The Newsletter for the Zimbabwe Agricultural Growth Programme (ZAGP)

ISSUE 1 May 2019

Welcome to the first issue of ZAGP News, the monthly newsletter for the European Union (EU) funded, Zimbabwe Agricultural Growth Programme (ZAGP). The newsletter is one of the channels for the sharing of programme information and updates of activities across the different provinces of Zimbabwe.

The livestock sector in Zimbabwe contributes significantly to the growth and development of the national economy. However, the sector faces several challenges, limiting its contribution to the national economy and adversely affecting the livelihoods and food security of farmers.

ZAGP is a response to tackle some of the challenges through financial support from the EU amounting to €47 million. The programme mainly targets small to large scale producers, private sector integrators, processors, private sector, research organisations, farmers unions, financial services providers, public and civil society bodies.

In this issue, we profile ZAGP and the interventions being implemented by the programme partners whose work

focuses on different value chains and projects within Zimbabwe's livestock sector. These include:

- **BEEF** - Beef Enterprise Strengthening and Transformation (BEST).
- **POULTRY** - Inclusive Poultry Value Chain (IPVC).
- **DAIRY** - Transforming Zimbabwe's Dairy Value Chain for the Future.
- **PIGS AND GOATS** - Value Chain Alliance for Livestock Upgrading and Empowerment (VALUE).
- Zimbabwe Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation Services (ZAKIS).
- Transforming Zimbabwe's Animal Health and Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS)/ Food safety Systems for the Future (SAFE).

It is our hope that the newsletter will contribute to the development and nurturing of relationships within different components of the programme in all the targeted areas.

We welcome feedback on this and any other issues of the newsletter. Please send your feedback to the contact details provided.

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## ZAGP IN BRIEF

The Zimbabwe Agricultural Growth Programme (ZAGP) has as its overarching objective to contribute to the development of a diversified and efficient agriculture sector that promotes inclusive green economic growth.

The ZAGP consists of five outcomes each addressing key constraints:

- 1: Increased production and productivity of the livestock sector
- 2: Livestock products have better access to markets and are more competitive
- 3: Increased public and private investment in targeted livestock value chains
- 4: Improved agricultural education systems and extension services
- 5: Institutions strengthened to develop and implement institutional and regulatory framework

ZAGP recognizes that value chains are dynamic, market driven systems to which support services and coordination are crucial. Increasing the added value (including salaries, profits, food value for consumers, tax revenues) and safeguarding sustainability, are key elements for inclusive green economic growth.

For this to take place, it is critical to facilitate the cooperation of public sector, private sector and communities. This will encourage an enabling policy environment, provision of appropriate services and the availability of relevant technology. It will also address the root causes of underperformance of the value chains.

To achieve the above ZAGP has as its main action the implementation of six grants. Four of the grants address livestock value chain development, one addresses the issues surrounding agricultural extension, research and innovation and the final grant focuses on animal health and food safety. The Technical Assistance to the ZAGP (TA ZAGP) plays a role in coordinating these activities.



ZAGP is set to revive the livestock sector in Zimbabwe, focusing on the beef, dairy, goats, pigs and poultry value chains. Knowledge and information systems and animal health and sanitary and phytosanitary food safety systems will be the cross-cutting themes within all the value chains.

## BEEF ENTERPRISE STRENGTHENING AND TRANSFORMATION (BEST)



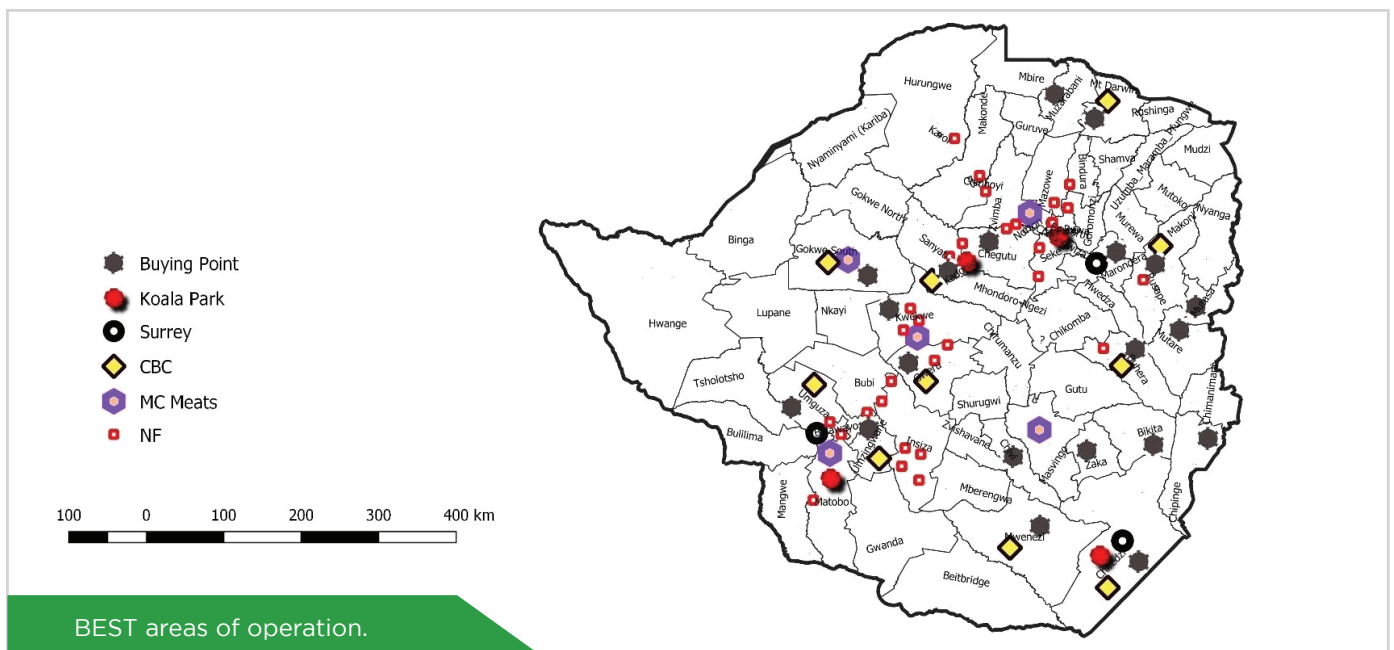
Targeting small to medium scale beef cattle farmers, BEST will improve the economic, social and environmental performance of beef value chain in Zimbabwe.

The Beef Enterprise Strengthening and Transformation (BEST) project is being implemented in five provinces of Zimbabwe (see map below). World Vision is partnering with Welthungerhilfe (WHH), Sustainable Agriculture Technology (SAT), Livestock and Meat Advisory Council (LMAC) and Zimbabwe Agricultural Development Trust (ZADT). The project seeks to create a robust, competitive beef value chain that promotes enhanced trade, employment creation, food security, and inclusive green economic growth by 2023 for 25,000 small to medium as well as commercial cattle farmers.

Sustainable private sector partnerships with beef farmers is the main activity, hence the participation of Sabie Meats, Koala Park, Montana Carswell Meats, Balu Pecan and Livestock Company, and Nurture Finance (NF) among others.

The key strategy for the project is the establishment of Cattle Business Centers (CBCs) managed by the private sector. The CBCs will create hubs of production, extension and marketing activities for beef farmers who will access input and output markets, financial and reproductive services, fodder production and husbandry training. A total of 10 main CBCs with 50 satellites are planned. Two of the CBCs will have irrigated pastures under centre pivots.

Other interventions seek to enhance the policy environment to reduce compliance costs, formulate a National Beef Strategy, establish the Zimbabwe Beef Producers Association and an online Livestock Information Management System. In addition, through the Nurture Finance model, beef producers will have access to genetically superior heifers and bulls through live importation of cattle.



BEST areas of operation.

For more details, please contact Mark Benzon - [mark\\_benzon@wvi.org](mailto:mark_benzon@wvi.org)

## INCLUSIVE POULTRY VALUE CHAIN (IPVC)



The overall objective of the Inclusive Poultry Value Chain (IPVC) project is the development of an efficient poultry value chain which contributes to inclusive green economic growth in Zimbabwe. The project is implemented by COSPE in partnership with Welthungerhilfe (WHH), Sustainable Agriculture Technology (SAT), Cultivating New Frontiers in Agriculture (CNFA), Zimbabwe Poultry Association (ZPA) and the Livestock and Meat Advisory Council (LMAC).

The broiler value chain was one of the fastest growing sectors in Zimbabwe during the last decade, with an estimated growth rate of 50% in three years (from 88,000 tons in 2012 to 132,000 tons in 2014). However, following a period of macroeconomic decline compounded by an outbreak of Avian Influenza in 2017, there has been an overall decline in growth of 10% in the sector.

Most of the broiler production is carried out by Small and Medium Producers (SMPs) whose recovery is vital for the inclusive growth of the sector.

The IPVC project therefore seeks to implement interventions to improve the productivity of the SMPs. This will be achieved by improving the economic, social and environmental performance of the poultry value chain and creating an enabling environment for a sustainable and inclusive poultry sector.

At least 10 integrators will be assisted to develop inclusive business models. The project targets 7,500 broiler and 2,500 egg SMPs who will benefit from improved social, environmental and economic performance of the value chain at all levels.

The project target areas are Bulawayo, Gweru, Harare, Mutare, and Masvingo.



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For more details about the IPVC project, please contact Cosimo Tendi - [cosimo.tendi@cospe.org](mailto:cosimo.tendi@cospe.org)

## TRANSFORMING ZIMBABWE'S DAIRY VALUE CHAIN FOR THE FUTURE



The project will strengthen understanding and regular measurement of dairy value chain performance and enable core value chain actors to improve their performance through upgrading and/or scaling up of activities.

This action aims to address the root causes of underperformance in the Dairy Value Chain (DVC) in Zimbabwe by strengthening the linkages between production, processing and financing. WeEffect, in partnership with Zimbabwe Association of Dairy Farmers (ZADF), Zimbabwe Farmers Union (ZFU) and Zimbabwe Dairy Industry Trust (ZDIT), seek to improve the economic, social and environmental performance of the DVC and also create an enabling environment for a sustainable and inclusive dairy sector.

Work will be undertaken with public and private sectors, NGOs, government service departments, processors and input suppliers.

Targeting small-holder, medium-scale and large-scale anchor farms, the project aims to establish dairy hubs and inclusive business models. The dairy hubs will strengthen service provision around Milk Collection Centres (MCC) and milk bulking points. The out-grower dairy models are expected improve milk aggregation and bulking. Inclusive business models will leverage private sector dairy integrators to provide access to new and more secure markets, access to training and other business support services.

Key changes being aimed for include:

- **Increased productivity:** feeding regimes that improve cow productivity from the current 3.6 litres per day per cow to above 15 litres per day per cow.
- **Increased production:** dairy breed improvement through Artificial Insemination and improved breeding services.
- **Increased profitability:** improving milk quality and adoption of low-cost renewable energy for milk cold chain development to reduce overnight milk losses at household level.
- **Improved access to finance:** promoting the establishment of multilateral partnerships that leverage investments in dairy productive assets and infrastructure.

For more details about the project, please contact Edson Chifamba - [edson.chifamba@weeffect.org](mailto:edson.chifamba@weeffect.org)

## TRANSFORMING ZIMBABWE'S ANIMAL HEALTH AND SANITARY AND PHYTOSANITARY (SPS)/ FOOD SAFETY SYSTEMS FOR THE FUTURE (SAFE)



The overall objective of the “Transforming Zimbabwe’s animal health and sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS)/ Food safety (FS) systems for the future” (SAFE) project, is to transform Zimbabwe’s animal health, sanitary and phytosanitary/food safety systems for improved livestock productivity, food safety and consumer safety to enhance market access.

SAFE is aligned to the locations of the ZAGP livestock value chains and the major ports of entry into Zimbabwe. (See map below).

To achieve the project objective, SAFE will focus on animal disease control and sanitary and phytosanitary and food safety services.

Animal disease control focuses on strengthening the regulatory function of the competent authority and leveraging on private sector financing to improve animal health service delivery. This is expected to enhance capacity for animal disease prevention, early detection, diagnosis and control thereby increasing productivity and quality as well as build the farmers’ confidence to pay for such services.

Sanitary and phytosanitary and food safety services focuses on strengthening institutional and regulatory capacity of the competent authorities, review of policies and regulations, standards development and supporting the development of effective and efficient quality assurance protocols.

### Key Collaborators:

- Public sector:
  - Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Water, Climate and Rural Resettlement
  - Ministry of Health and Child Care
  - Ministry of Industry and Commerce
- Private sector
  - Veterinary input services / suppliers
  - Food processors/ importers
  - Laboratory services providers
  - Professional associations
  - NGOs
  - Consortia in Value Chains projects
  - Farmer organisations and farmers

SAFE covers all provinces, districts, and major ports of entry into Zimbabwe



For more details about SAFE, please contact Basil Mugweni - Basil.Mugweni@fao.org

## VALUE CHAIN ALLIANCE FOR LIVESTOCK UPGRADING AND EMPOWERMENT (VALUE)



Value Chain Alliance for Livestock Upgrading and Empowerment (VALUE) seeks to positively impact on the economic opportunities for 800,000 goat farmers and 56,000 pig farmers, primarily small-scale producers who are currently stuck at different sub-optimal stages of commercialisation and economic growth.

ActionAid Zimbabwe is partnering with COSV and Mercy Corps to improve the capacity of smallholder farmers to improve their goat and pig breeds. Partnerships have also been established with private integrators including Sash Holdings (Shamiso Farm), Zvikomborero Farm, Michview Enterprises and Braford Investments, to link the farmers to viable markets.

Key activities will focus on:

- Improving production on the goats and pigs value chains (breed improvement).
- Improving organisational efficiencies and market competitiveness.
- Improving capacities of farmer bodies to represent and provide effective and efficient services to ensure regulatory control and compliance issues.
- Development and adoption of innovative and low-cost solutions to ensure compliance with regulations.
- Improved access to financial services and business development support for the VC actors.

Project activities will be implemented in Manicaland, Mashonaland East, Mashonaland West, Mashonaland Central, Matabeleland North and Matabeleland South provinces.

Key target groups

- Private integrators
- Small to medium scale goat and pork producing farmers
- Private businesses including independent butcheries
- Advisory and research organizations, Rural District Councils (RDC) and government technical ministries
- Farmers' unions
- Private providers of financial services



VALUE is expected to improve the capacity of smallholder farmers to improve their goat and pig breeds and also to assist them to access viable markets.

For more details about VALUE, please contact Newton Chari - [Newton.Chari@actionaid.org](mailto:Newton.Chari@actionaid.org)

## ZAKIS (ZIMBABWE AGRICULTURAL KNOWLEDGE AND INNOVATION SERVICES)



ZAKIS aims to establish, together with the Education, Research and Extension departments of the Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Water, Climate and Rural Resettlement, an integrated, dynamic market-oriented and farmer centred Agriculture Knowledge and Information Services system that meets the needs of a modern agriculture sector in Zimbabwe. The project promotes the essential working links between agricultural stakeholders to ensure relevant and up to date market-oriented knowledge for farmers and private sector.

ZAKIS promotes Agricultural Centres of Excellence (ACE) as a focal point. Two physical ACEs will be established at the Chibero Agricultural College (Mashonaland West) and Matopos Research Institute (Matabeland South).

Agricultural research, education and extension will work together with private sector and surrounding communities to provide a focal point for integrated knowledge and innovations services.

A Virtual ACE will open access to documents, learning, research and ideas to farmers, researchers, extension workers and educators across Zimbabwe.

ZAKIS has carried out an extensive inquiry process amongst farmers, private sector, extension, research and education departments, and NGOs, to identify the challenges and more importantly, the common vision for a thriving agricultural sector in Zimbabwe. The specifics of what stakeholders described and the project aims to deliver are:

- Building institutional capacity in research, education, extension, with a commercial orientation, working with the private sector, retaining skills and establishing the knowledge and capacity to:
- Develop Markets by establishing standards across value chains, appropriate finance, export/high value products, processing and value addition
- Increasing productivity with industrialisation, mechanisation, technology; climate smart and sustainable tools; establishing food and nutrition security
- Be an inclusive sector (youth, gender, unions, farmer voice)
- Have policies that create an enabling, dynamic, environment



ZAKIS is leveraging technology and innovation to improve the productivity and the environmental footprint of agriculture by developing a knowledge bank of innovative ideas and promoting best practices in sustainable efficient production among farmers

For more details about ZAKIS, please contact Tawanda Hove – [Tawanda.Hove@welthungerhilfe.de](mailto:Tawanda.Hove@welthungerhilfe.de)

## PROJECT NEWS

### VALUE Project Launched

ActionAid Zimbabwe (AAZ) in partnership with two non-governmental organisations, Mercy Corps and COSV and four livestock players, namely Sash Holdings (Shamiso Farm), Zvikomborero Farm, Michview Enterprises and Braford Investment launched a goat and pig value chain improvement project. The inception and launch meetings were held in Harare between 23 and 27 April 2019.

Follow the link for more information about the launch on <http://kubatana.net/2019/04/29/value-chain-for-pigs-and-goats-launched>

Participants in group discussions during the inception meetings.

