





Locally-Led Resilience: Enhancing Community-Based Disaster Preparedness and Climate Adaptation in Rural Manicaland and Masvingo

Consultation Report May - June 2024



DAPP and EMA during with the Key Stakeholder Consultations, here with Bikita Rural District, Ministry of Women Affairs, Community, Small & Medium Enterprises Development (MWACSMED)

1. Background

This report presents the results of initial consultations held in May and June 2024, as part of the development of a Concept Note, which will be submitted to the Adaptation Fund (AF) a first time in July-August 2024.

The proposed project is being developed collaboratively by the Environmental Management Agency (EMA) of Zimbabwe and Development Aid from People to People (DAPP) Zimbabwe. The project is intended to address the pressing climate resilience needs of rural communities in eastern Manicaland and northeastern Masvingo, most specifically extreme weather events and changing precipitation patterns. The project is scheduled to commence in 2026 and will span four years, focusing on empowering local communities to adapt to the impacts of climate change through a comprehensive and inclusive approach, focused on Disaster Risk Management and Adaptation of Rural Livelihoods.

In a first step in the development of the Concept Note, representatives from DAPP Zimbabwe consulted a variety of stakeholders at the District Level, in the 4 targeted Districts in two Provinces (*Manicaland Province – Chimanimani and Chipinge Districts, and Masvingo Province – Bikita and Masvingo Rural Districts*).

The purpose of the consultations was to gather initial inputs from the local stakeholders regarding the project design and the development of the Concept Note, and the identification of actual needs on the ground.

2. Summary of the Proposed Project

The proposed project "Locally-Led Resilience: Enhancing Community-Based Disaster Preparedness and Climate Adaptation in Rural Manicaland and Masvingo" in eastern Manicaland and northeastern Masvingo aims to enhance the resilience of rural communities to climate change impacts through a comprehensive, community-driven approach. The project focuses on strengthening local capacities for disaster risk management and adaptation, improving the resilience of physical and natural assets, and promoting climate-resilient livelihoods and food security. By leveraging local knowledge and fostering community ownership, the project aims to ensure that interventions are tailored to specific needs and conditions of the target areas

Key activities would include training and equipping Civil Protection Committees (CPCs), supporting local emergency response and adaptation planning, strengthening early warning systems (last mile), establishing and strengthening climate-proof physical and natural infrastructure, and supporting sustainable climate-resilient agricultural practices and livelihoods through a locally-led approach (Farmers' Clubs and Cooperatives).

Funding entity	Adaptation Fund (AF)
Implementing Entity	Environmental Management Agency (EMA)
Executing Entity	Development Aid People to People (DAPP), part of the Humana People to People Federation.
Estimated timeline (<i>optimistic scenario</i>)	<u>Start date</u> : January 2026 <u>End date</u> : January 2030
Project locations	Manicaland (<i>Chimanimani and Chipinge</i> districts) and Masvingo (<i>Bikita and Masvingo</i> rural), Zimbabwe.
Climate Problems to address	Increase in extreme weather events (<i>cyclones, floods</i>), dry spells and droughts, and changing weather patterns, severely affecting the natural environment, livelihoods and food security.
Intended Outcomes	 To enhance knowledge and capacity for climate resilience and emergency preparedness To increased resilience of physical and natural assets To improve climate-resilient livelihoods and food security
Targeted project participants	16 Ward Civil Protection Committees; 80 Village Civil Protection Committees; 4 Centres of Community Practice; 80 Farmers' Clubs or Organizations; 4,000 Farmers; <i>Estimated: 40,000 direct beneficiaries</i>

The table below includes the key information of the project:

3. Objective and Structure of Consultations at District Level

Objective

Overall, the objective of the consultations was to gather inputs and information at the District-level regarding the targeted interventions in DRM and Adaptation.

Specifically, the objectives were to:

- Gather information on climate vulnerabilities and needs in the Districts;
- Validate and inform the further design of the logical framework and project approach;
- Understand already ongoing initiatives in the Districts, and gaps to be addressed;
- Suggest new activities that meet the specificities of the intervention areas and the needs of the beneficiaries;
- Identify roles and responsibilities of the various stakeholders especially at local levels.

Dates

Consultations took place on the following dates:

- Chimanimani District: May 21-22, 2024;
- Chipinge Districts: June 10-11th 2024
- Bikita District: June 12th 2024
- Masvingo Rural District: June 13th 14th 2024

Structure

The consultations consisted of the following approaches:

- Bi-lateral meetings between the project proponents and District-level entities;
- Group workshops with District Officials;

During the consultations, project officials from DAPP Zimbabwe presented a project brief, which included an intended project approach, as well as a set of guiding questions, and facilitated discussions around the main project ideas and proposed activities.

Consultations were both general to the project objectives, as targeted to the specific expertise of the officials that participated in the meetings.

Information Presented

The following information was presented to the consulted institutions:

- Project Brief
- Logical Framework Draft
- Draft of the Institutional Arrangements
- Set of Guiding Questions

The information was shared in printed documents, and later shared through email with all people consulted.

4. Main Recommendations and Conclusions

4.1 Chimanimani District

Dates:

May 21-22, 2024

Institutions consulted:

- District Environmental Office (EMA);
- District Council;
- District Development Coordination Office (DDC);
- Civil Protection Unit (CPU);
- District Agricultural Extension Office (AGRITEX);
- District Health Department
- District Medical Officer (DMO) & Assistant District Health Services Administrator (ADHSA);
- Department of Social Development (DSD);

Key recommendations and project response:

The below table summarizes the main recommendations and inputs received by the stakeholders (grouped by topic), as well as how the project intends to respond and update its design:

Recommendation	Project Response ¹
DRM: There are Emergency Preparedness Plans at District- and Ward-level that are currently being finalized. The project shall aim to fund activities in those plans, once they are finalized. Information dissemination systems should be strengthened, especially with early warnings, so they reach everyone. Indigenous knowledge systems could be integrated and systematized into the EWS systems. Village-level CPCs shall be trained and village- level planning for adaptation and emergency response should be facilitated. Emergency shelters shall be strengthened and better equipped, with special focus on: (i) first aid kits; (ii) clothes and blankets; (iii) sanitation facilities.	The interventions proposed are included in the log frame and initial activity design, in Output 1.1 that focuses on disaster risk preparedness and adaptation capacities. The project intends to work with Village CPCs on planning for adaptation and disaster response, in alignment with the ward-level Emergency Preparedness Plans. CPCs will be empowered and included in the last mile of EWS, and in the management and strengthening of Emergency Shelters. The project shall work in close coordination with the Civil Protection Unit at District Level to ensure that all information is shared, and plans can be updated frequently.
<u>WASH</u> : the coverage of access to sanitation and clean water is only about 50% in the District. Further WASH activities are required for more coverage, especially in the light of cholera outbreaks resulting from the floods.	The project includes activities around Water and Sanitation, under Component 1 in terms of communication packages around safe water use and sanitation, and in terms of infrastructure in Component 2, which is targeting natural and physical assets. The project will work with communities and provide small inputs so they can build their own sanitation facilities.
Land Degradation: Cyclones and storms cause a lot of landslides, and natural systems are being affected. There is a high need for active land restoration. A possible activity could be to implement food-for-work schemes, in which the communities can work to restore the affected lands in exchange for food or cash.	The project includes activities centered around resilience of natural systems. The project will work in close collaboration with the district environmental officers in the identification of specific actions to be conducted. Sustainable Land Management and protection of the environment will be included in the Farmers' Clubs training programmes.

¹ The eventual size of the project and its interventions will be subject to budget constraints and more detailed planning in the Full Proposal development stage.

<u>Access to water for agriculture</u> : in the drier areas of the district, access to water for irrigation is a major issue. It is suggested to include technologies/ approaches that can capture some of the rainwater during the rainy season, including rainwater harvesting, weirs and tapping of water from rivers during rainy season. In addition, the project shall also include groundwater recharge activities, so aquifers are not depleted. Existing dams should be rehabilitated and maintained better.	The project includes a set of activities (Output 3.1) that addresses water for agriculture. During full proposal development, the project shall do a more detailed assessment and identification of potential interventions that are feasible and have shown to be effective. Priority will be given to rehabilitate existing infrastructures, and improving Operation &Maintenance systems. An activity will be added to focus on groundwater recharge. DAPP shall consult its partner organizations in the Humana People to People network where groundwater recharge has been successfully applied. Additional collaboration with relevant government departments will be sought to develop a technically sound and feasible set of activities.
<u>Crops and alternative productions</u> : due to the droughts and changing weather patterns, maize production is affected. Successful practices that need scaling up, include: (i) promoting Conservation Agriculture in maize cropping systems (among others); (ii) promoting small grains (pearl millet, sorghum); (iii) fenced horticulture plots; (iv) village greenhouses. In terms of alternative productions, the following show a lot of potential: Fish Farming, Beekeeping, Mushrooms. In addition, the project could explore nature-friendly micro-enterprises, for example focusing on recycling/upcycling.	The project includes a set of activities (Output 3.2) on climate-resilient agricultural practices. Through the Farmers' Clubs and the demonstration plots to be established, the project will demonstrate the suggested practices. The project will establish Centres of Community Practice, in which integrated farming systems will be demonstrated. This will include all of the suggested practices that have shown to be effective in the targeted areas. Micro-grants and business development training will be provided to cooperatives so that alternative productions can be established, such as beekeeping, mushroom farming, and greenhouses. For the fish farming activity, AgriMarine Zimbabwe (private sector) will be engaged.
<u>Post-harvest management</u> : about 30% of harvests are being lost, due to poor post-harvest practices. Especially in years of drought, this causes situations of hunger. The project shall train extension workers as well as communities in good practices for storage, especially at household level. Hermetic bags offer a good solution, but there are equally some good traditional methods that could be scaled up. In terms of food processing, fruit dryers have shown to be successful.	The project includes an activity on post-harvest management with a specific focus on food storage systems. Priority will be given to training extension workers and dissemination of good models and practices at the village level. Farmers' Clubs and cooperatives will be capacitated accordingly, and small inputs will be provided.
<u>Livestock</u> : Drought causes challenges with livestock, especially cattle. As their nutritional status decreases, their fertility rates dramatically decline. It is suggested to work with a holistic approach, addressing nutrition for livestock, and suggested to focus on short-cycle/small livestock such as goats, chicken and rabbits. With goats, special emphasis shall be placed on clean housing.	The project will focus primarily on short-cycle/small livestock production, such as goats, chicken and rabbits. Small demonstrations will be implemented with Farmers' Clubs and cooperatives, so people can learn and adopt at their own homestead or farm. Good practices will be disseminated, in cooperation with AGRITEX. A sub-activity to address nutrition and fodder for livestock will be included.
<u>Vulnerable Groups</u> : The project shall pay attention to vulnerable groups, especially children and people with disabilities. Vision-impaired people shall not be forgotten, and Braille should be included.	DAPP will engage some of its long-term partners that specialize in working with People living with Disabilities to support the detailed design of activities during implementation. The emergency shelters shall be strengthened with a specific focus on women and children and their protection post-disaster.

There is absolutely no doubt that there is strong needs in the 3 district for our Adaptation interventions. This is despite the wide spread thinking that there is over layering of developmental approaches and programming.

4.2 Chipinge District

Dates: June 10-11th 2024

Institutions consulted:

- 1. District Development Coordinator (DDC) & Head of the CPU
- 2. Chipinge Rural District Council (**RDC**)
- 3. Environmental Management Authority (EMA)
- 4. Ministry of Agriculture (AGRITEX)
- 5. Meteorological Services Department (MSD)
- 6. Department of Social Development (DSD) (Former Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare)
- 7. Ministry of Women Affairs, Community, Small and Medium Enterprises Development (MWACSMED
- 8. Ministry of Local Government
- 9. Director of Green Institute (Development Partner)
- 10. Vemuganga FM

Key recommendations and project response:

The below table summarizes the main recommendations and inputs received by the stakeholders (grouped by topic), as well as how the project intends to respond and update its design, accordingly:

Recommendation	Project Response
Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Emergence Preparedness and Response Mechanisms: Mechanisms: We had long discussion with the Head of The Civil Protection Unit CPU. The issues that came to fore are	The interventions proposed are included in the log frame and initial activity design, in Output 1.1 that focuses on disaster risk preparedness and adaptation capacities.
the following in priority sequence of priority:	On Disaster Bisk Boduction proportionage and
 Inadequacy of bankable infrastructure: The district has no Emergency shelters during disasters they rely with public shelters like schools and churches building to use them as emergence evacuation sites/centres. This is not feasible because now Government through Ministry of Education have declared the schools as no go areas that must only be used for their original purposes and also some of the buildings were built a long ago and are getting into dilaridation acendition. 	On Disaster Risk Reduction, preparedness and response mechanisms and the interconnected early warning systems, the Project will work on strengthening on the existing infrastructure are existing but not function, Infrastructure is not there so they were taking on procurement of building model emergency shelters.
work with CPU on strengthening the existing	
structure through renovations and having emergence tents and equipment available, with special focus on: (i) Medical first aid kits; (ii)Food banks(through the GMB) iii. clothes and	
blankets; (iii) Ablution and sanitation facilities to	
avoid risks of Disease outbreaks such as Cholera and Malaria	The project intends to work with Village CPCs on
 Non Functionality of Committees: Every Ward makes a Ward Disaster Management Plan that informs and Ward and Village Disaster Committees are in place. They need constant refresher cause and also resources for them to have coordination meetings and motivation to action these plans 	planning for adaptation and disaster response, in alignment with the ward-level Emergency Preparedness Plans. CPCs will be empowered and included in the last mile of EWS , and in the management and strengthening of Emergency Shelters. The project shall work in close coordination with the Civil Protection Unit at District Level to
• Lack of effective early warning systems. There is a need innovation around Early warning systems	ensure that all information is shared, and plans can be updated frequently.

in order to reach hard to reach areas. The information dissemination channels systems should be strengthened, and standardized so that at every level there is adequate and correct knowledge. The police who are the most key member of the CPU must be equipped with primary resources for them to be able to discharge their duties with swiftness that meets the turnover standards that are a requirement of an emergency response.	The project will have activities that focusing on promoting, Indigenous Knowledge Systems (IKS) enhance the need to formalize through the involvement of Chiefs and document Indigenous Knowledge Systems and to be integrated and systematized into the EWS systems and in local vernacular so that they are understood.
2. (WASH) Water Sanitation and Hygiene: Water is a major challenge in Chipinge just like in the rest of the districts we consulted has challenges with safe drinking water and for other majority of household activities, e.g. cooking, bathing and washing laundry. Cyclone Idai, destroyed the water reticulation system, and those affected were now relying on sources either far away or not suitable for human consumption, according to the Chimanimani District Environmental Officer, results from the water samples from majority of the destroyed sources showed that the water was not satisfactory for human consumption. Water is also critical for women's hygiene SRH, in terms when women go on their cycles and particular during maternity period in local Health facilities.	The project includes activities around Water and Sanitation, under Component 1 in terms of communication packages around safe water use and sanitation, and in terms of infrastructure in Component 2, which is targeting natural and physical assets. The project will work with communities and provide small inputs so they can build their own sanitation facilities. The Project will have activities around hygiene promotion that supported water safety through Point of Use Water Treatment (PoUWT), household solid waste management, excreta disposal, and hand washing behaviors, as part of community actions contributing to the reduction of the risk of WASH related communicable diseases, in the light of cholera outbreaks resulting from the floods.
3. Access to water for agriculture: Water for Agricultural production is a big hindrance to agro based productions. About 85% of the population in the rural wards survive on communal farming as their main source of both food and income security. There are 30 Wards in Chipinge district. These wards are divided 2 faces. The upper Chipinge which wards, 9,8,11,15 and 19 this is a very wet area which in dry seasons they receive normal rainfall and in normal seasons they receive above normal rainfall. It is these wards that are prone to climate induced disasters like floods. The geographical lowveld of the district is very dry area. This consists of wards 1,3,4, 5,7, 16 up to 30.People have been producing white maize as their staple food. The past 7 years they have not received normal rainfall. The rivers which are the traditional sources of irrigating the gardens for horticulture crops like, tomatoes, peas etc are have dried up with high siltation levels even for Country's national landmark rivers like Save and Runde .	The project includes a set of activities (Output 3.1) that addresses water for agriculture. During full proposal development, the project shall do a more detailed assessment and identification of potential interventions that are feasible and have shown to be effective. Priority will be given to rehabilitate existing infrastructures, and improving Operation &Maintenance systems. An activity will be added to focus on groundwater recharge. DAPP shall consult its partner organizations in the Humana People to People network where groundwater recharge has been successfully applied. Additional collaboration with relevant government departments will be sought to develop a technically sound and feasible set of activities.
4. <u>Crops and Livestock alternative productions:</u> Due to the prolonged droughts, the main crops of choice do not survive the extreme heat and weather conditions leading to acute hunger. Climate Smart successful practices that need scaling up, include includes: (i) Agro-Ecology (formerly Conservation Agriculture) in maize cropping systems, like limited tillage, mulching, agroforestry & intercropping (ii) promoting small grains (pearl millet, sorghum); (iii) fenced and greenhouse horticulture plots, among others.	The project includes a set of activities (Output 3.2) on climate-resilient agricultural practices. Through the Farmers' Clubs and the demonstration plots to be established, the project will demonstrate the suggested practices. The project will establish Centres of Community Practice, in which integrated farming systems will be demonstrated. This will include all of the suggested practices that have shown to be effective in the targeted areas.

In terms of alternative productions, Chipinge district is dominates with Macadamia nuts, Avocado production and Beekeeping, however farmers lose a lot of money due to lack of value addition initiates and non-structured resilience markets. The following show a lot of potential in the wet upper Chipinge: Fish Farming, the Government has kick started initiatives that speak to this. There is need to organise farmers build their capacity through promoting value addition training and structure their production in order for them to have regularized markets and involving local Government like Rural District Council to enact By Laws that protects and insulates farmers from unscrupulous offtakers and self-styled middlemen Drought causes challenges with livestock value chain, especially cattle. The main challenges are lack of pastures where they can feed in order to have good weight which determines their dollar value on the markets. Furthermore their nutritional status decreases due to lack of natural grazing hectarage or good fodder, their fertility rates dramatically decline. It is suggested to work with a holistic approach, addressing nutrition for livestock, and suggested to focus on short-cycle/small livestock such as goats, chicken and rabbits. Goats need to be improved breeding due to sharp increase inbreeding that have affected the size of goats that fetches the absolute minimal market prices.	Micro-grants and business development training will be provided to cooperatives so that alternative productions can be established, such as beekeeping, mushroom farming, and greenhouses. For the Fish Farming activity, Agrimarine Zimbabwe (private sector) will be engaged. The project will focus primarily on short-cycle/small livestock production, such as goats, chicken and rabbits. Small demonstrations will be implemented with Farmers' Clubs and cooperatives, so people can learn and adopt at their own homestead or farm. Good practices will be disseminated, in cooperation with AGRITEX. A sub-activity to address nutrition and fodder for livestock will be included.
5. <u>Post-harvest management:</u>	The project includes an activity on post-harvest
About 30% of harvests are being lost, due to poor	management with a specific focus on food storage
post-harvest practices. Especially in years of drought,	systems. Priority will be given to training extension
this causes situations of hunger. The project shall train	workers and dissemination of good models and
extension workers as well as communities in good	practices at the village level. Farmers' Clubs and
practices for storage, especially at household level.	cooperatives will be capacitated accordingly and
Hermetic bags offer a good solution, but there are	techniques on storage facility upgrading and tracking
equally some good traditional methods that could be	of food loses to be tracked from the field since the
scaled up. In terms of food processing, fruit dryers	surveys prove the stock borer starts in the fields before
have shown to be successful.	harvest commences.
6. Land and Environmental Degradation Sustainable Land Management approaches are really needed in the district. Land degradations, formation of gullies that cause massive soil erosion There is rampant charcoal production in Wards that are closer to the urban Chipinge, in particular Ward 5 and that putting in a lot of stress on the already strained natural ecosystems; this is a very lucrative Income generation source due to the Transboundary proximity with Mozambique where trees are facing total extinction. So the recommendation is that there is great need on building biodiversity economy, integrating it to our other interventions.	The project includes activities centered on resilience of natural systems. The project will work in close collaboration with the district environmental officers in the identification of specific actions to be conducted. Sustainable Land Management and protection of the environment will be included in the Farmers' Clubs training programmes.
7. <u>Vulnerable Groups:</u>	DAPP has a good track record of working with and
The other issue that was common is Social Inclusion	will engage its long-term partners like Leonard
and basic human rights for people with disability,	Cheshire Disability Zimbabwe (LCDZ) and Christian
Child protection and Orphans project shall pay	Blind Mission (CBM) that specialize in working with
attention to vulnerable groups, especially children and	People living with Disabilities to support the detailed
people with disabilities. The District DSD Officer also	design of activities during implementation.

revealed that majority of children in the affected	The emergency shelters shall be strengthened with a
communities were psychologically affected by so	specific focus on women and children not least orphan
many factors around the Cyclone incident and its	with disabilities and their protection post-disasters.
aftermath. The district has no facilities for those living	
with disabilities for example, brails and wheelchairs	
this are coupled with training of facilitators to manage	
children with disability.	

4.3 Bikita District

Dates: June 12th 2024

Institutions consulted:

- District Development Coordinators Office,
- Bikita Rural District Council
- District Development Coordination Office (DDC);
- District Agricultural Extension Office (AGRITEX);
- Ministry of Women Affairs, Gender, Small and Medium Enterprises
- Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture \
- Environmental Management Agency district office
- Rural Infrastructure Development Agency

Key recommendations and project response:

The below table summarizes the main recommendations and inputs received by the stakeholders (grouped by topic), as well as how the project intends to respond and update its design, accordingly:

Recommendation	Project Response
<u>DRM:</u> Floods and drought are the major climate hazards faced in the district which falls under agro- ecological region 3 and 5. The districts have 32 wards and only 5 wards fall under region 3. The project should therefore integrate the provision of emergency community safe shelters with adequate food banks as part of disaster preparedness for extreme weather events such as the cyclone Idai experienced in 2019.	The project will build capacities of ward and village level civil protection committees as well as strengthen local level early warning systems as part of the response measures.
Civil protection committees at district, ward and village levels need to be trained on disaster management and drills should be regularly conducted as part of disaster preparedness.	
Water Bikita district is traditionally dry, and water is a perennial challenge. The El Nino weather phenomenon, which results in lower rainfall patterns and extreme weather events, has compounded the situation. Many hand pumped boreholes have dried up. This has put added pressure on the few remaining functional bush pump. It was therefore recommended that any climate change adaptation people centred response should address water challenges issues. It was highlighted that Ward 24, 25 and 26 in ressetlement áreas are lagging behind in terms of water and sanitation issues	The project will support climate proofed water and sanitation infrastructure. Furthermore the project will implement small-scale water solutions for agriculture and establish and promote small scale irrigation systems.
<u>Livestock</u> It was highlighted that in Bikita district livestock is an integral part of the smallholder farming system through the provision of draught power, manure, milk, meat and income but however cattle production is heavily being impacted by climate change. Droughts of increasing frequency and severity are a threat to the sustainability of livestock production in particular cattle in the district. Therefore a recommendation was made that small stock, including goats, sheep and poultry are more resilient to climate change impacts in addition to their complementary role in providing a source of meat, cash income, manure and other household needs and therefore should be promoted as one of the adaptation initiative. Conditions of pastures are very poor and require supplementary feeding. Furthermore, almost a third of livestock in the district died due to January disease in the past 2 years.	The project will support integrated livestock production activities
<u>Crop Production</u> Erratic rainfall that leads to poor yields and district stakeholders were recommending that región 5 which constitute the greater part of the district is suitable for small grains production. Furthmore due to shortages of wild food there is increased human-wildlife in áreas bordering Save conservancy and	The project will implement climate smart agriculture interventions and establish and demonstration plots for climate –resilient agriculture

National Park áreas. It was recommended that any Climate Change adaptation	and	integrated	farming
intervention should try and address human-wild conflict which is further	syster	ns.	
worsening food shortages. The following are some of the suggested value			
chains which can be developed within the district: Sorghum, Pearl Millet,			
Rapoko, Guava, bee keeping, Sesame which is slowly eliminating cotton a once			
thriving crop in the district.			

4.4 Masvingo Rural District

Dates: June 13-14th 2024

Institutions consulted:

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- 1. Acting District Development Coordinator (ADDC)
- 2. Masvingo Rural District Council
- 3. EMA, Provincial Manager
- 4. Department of Social Development (DSD), former Ministry of
- 5. Ministry of Agriculture AGRITEX department
- 6. Ministry of Women Affairs Community Small and Medium Enterprises Development (MWACSMED)
- Ministry of Youth
 Rural Infrastructure Development Agency (RIDA), formerly DDF
- 9. Meteorological Services Department (MSD)

Key recommendations and project response:

The below table summarizes the main recommendations and inputs received by the stakeholders (grouped by topic), as well as how the project intends to respond and update its design, accordingly:

Recommendation	Project Response
Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Emergence Preparedness and Response Mechanisms: In Masvingo district they have 33 Wards. Out of these wards 3, 8 and 33 are the most prone to natural disasters because they are exposed to the wet wind belt that interfaces with the Mozambique, Chipinge and Bikita wet corridor which cyclone hit the hardest. They have DRR Plans and Emergency Preparedness Plans at District at Ward-level that are currently being finalized. Their main key challenges are on functionality of the Civil Protection structures at ward level. The lack resources to fully equip the emergency response structures in order to reduce the period of responding to disasters and emergencies. Another issue is on the unavailability of innovative Early warning systems as such information dissemination systems should be strengthened, especially with early warnings, so they reach everyone. Indigenous knowledge systems could be integrated and systematized into the EWS systems. Village-level CPCs shall be trained and village-level planning for adaptation and emergency response should be facilitated and have designated and equipment in the shelters well before any disaster.	The interventions proposed are included in the log frame and initial activity design, in Output 1.1 that focuses on disaster risk preparedness and adaptation capacities. On Disaster Risk Reduction, preparedness and response mechanisms and the interconnected early warning systems, the Project will work on strengthening on the existing infrastructure are existing but not function, Infrastructure is not there so they were taking on procurement of building model emergency shelters. The project intends to work with Village CPCs on planning for adaptation and disaster response, in alignment with the ward-level Emergency Preparedness Plans. CPCs will be empowered and included in the last mile of EWS , and in the management and strengthening of Emergency Shelters. The project shall work in close coordination with the Civil Protection Unit at District Level to ensure that all information is shared, and plans can be updated frequently. The project will have activities that focusing on promoting, Indigenous Knowledge Systems (IKS) enhance the need to formalize through the involvement of Chiefs and document Indigenous Knowledge Systems and to be integrated and systematized into the EWS systems and in local vernacular so that they are understood.

(WASH) Water Sanitation and Hygiene:	The project includes activities around Water and
According to the District Water Technician within the Rural Infrastructure Development Agency RIDA water supply and sanitation in Masvingo City is increasingly threatened by institutional weaknesses, unfavorable water governance structures, and financial instability. Safe drinking water continues to be a great challenge. He went on to quote that according to the recent evaluations identified population growth, poor infrastructure, economic challenges and climate change as the major challenges affecting efficient water delivery. They said the observations are that the areas that were affected by cyclones conversely, the heavy rainfall and flooding damaged water sources and sanitation facilities, for example the streams carry runoff and waste into streams and lakes, and contaminate Climate triggered disasters by natural hazards have almost doubled compared to these have made Climate-resilient WASH needs investment in Masvingo district almost no untenable. Their recommendation was that any programme design must focus on WASH programmes climate- ready. This means ensuring WASH infrastructure and services are sustainable, safe and resilient, and that	Sanitation, under Component 1 in terms of communication packages around safe water use and sanitation, and in terms of infrastructure in Component 2, which is targeting natural and physical assets. The project will work with communities and provide small inputs so they can build their own sanitation facilities. The Project will have activities around hygiene promotion that supported water safety through Point of Use Water Treatment (PoUWT), household solid waste management, excreta disposal, and hand washing behaviors, as part of community actions contributing to the reduction of the risk of WASH related communicable diseases, in the light of cholera outbreaks resulting from the floods.
WASH systems contribute to community resilience.	
 Access to water for agriculture: Water for Agricultural production is a greatest challenge facing food security in the district. They said about 72 % of the small holder farmers in the district lack adequate access to improved water for agricultural production. Wards 23- 31 fall under ecological region 5. Wards 22, 24, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30 34 and 35 receive below 450 mm per annum. Wards 6, 7,8,12, 13 14, 32 receive between 750- 1000 mm per annum. Farmers have now been advised to migrate to small grains but there is major resistance due to various factors. The main one being attitude change people are used to consuming white maize meal (Sadza). Others in particular Women feel the Small Grains are too labour intense this adds burden to their household workload. The other existing programmes in the district are: 	The project includes a set of activities (Output 3.1) that addresses water for agriculture. During full proposal development, the project shall do a more detailed assessment and identification of potential interventions that are feasible and have shown to be effective. Priority will be given to rehabilitate existing infrastructures, and improving Operation &Maintenance systems. An activity will be added to focus on groundwater recharge. DAPP shall consult its partner organizations in the Humana People to People network where groundwater recharge has been successfully applied. Additional collaboration with relevant government departments will be sought to develop a technically sound and feasible set of activities.
 i. The R4 done by Zambuko Trust with funding from USAID. The consortium also has CIMMYTY, Aquaculture Zimbabwe. ii. USAID funded FARM activity, with SNV, focusing on market development. iii. CTDO, SAT, COSPE (an Italian organisation) WHH and Women and Land 	
 i. The R4 done by Zambuko Trust with funding from USAID. The consortium also has CIMMYTY, Aquaculture Zimbabwe. ii. USAID funded FARM activity, with SNV, focusing on market development. iii. CTDO, SAT, COSPE (an Italian organisation) WHH and Women and Land Implementing the Seeds for the Future 	
 i. The R4 done by Zambuko Trust with funding from USAID. The consortium also has CIMMYTY, Aquaculture Zimbabwe. ii. USAID funded FARM activity, with SNV, focusing on market development. iii. CTDO, SAT, COSPE (an Italian organisation) WHH and Women and Land Implementing the Seeds for the Future Crops and Livestock alternative productions: 	The project includes a set of activities (Output 3.2) on climate-resilient agricultural practices. Through the

Masvingo has been significantly affected by climate change-induced hazards, which include drought, shifts in the rainy season and floods, crop and livestock pests and diseases, and heatwaves. The farmers have ventures at big scale production of Sesame without even limited to no Agritex extension services promoting the value chain. The challenge is on informal markets mainly Mozambique offtakers buying this product. The other common recommendation in the 4 districts consulted is for farmers to do small livestock; in Masvingo in particular they wanted farmers to promote Turkey meat production for it has much more value than chickens.	established, the project will demonstrate the suggested practices. The project will establish Centres of Community Practice, in which integrated farming systems will be demonstrated. This will include all of the suggested practices that have shown to be effective in the targeted areas. Micro-grants and business development training will be provided to cooperatives so that alternative productions can be established, such as beekeeping, mushroom farming, and greenhouses. For the Fish Farming activity, Agrimarine Zimbabwe (private sector) will be engaged. The project will focus primarily on short-cycle/small livestock production, such as goats, chicken and rabbits. Small demonstrations will be implemented with Farmers' Clubs and cooperatives, so people can learn and adopt at their own homestead or farm. Good practices will be disseminated, in cooperation with AGRITEX. A sub-activity to address nutrition and fodder for livestock will be included.
Post-harvest management: Post-harvest losses occur due to high moisture, pest and rodent damage, and fungal or bacterial infections present in stored grain. Poor handling techniques during harvesting and transportation of produce to storage facilities also contribute to losses. Further and based on the available statistics, Post- Harvest losses alone, estimated at 20 to 30% in storage alone, can be as high as 40 percent when including field, transportation, handling and processing	The project includes an activity on post-harvest management with a specific focus on food storage systems. Priority will be given to training extension workers and dissemination of good models and practices at the village level. Farmers' Clubs and cooperatives will be capacitated accordingly and techniques on storage facility upgrading and tracking of food loses to be tracked from the field since the surveys prove the stock borer starts in the fields before harvest commences.
Land and Environmental Degradation The District department of EMA in Masvingo said Climate change is a major contributor to environmental degradation because it can cause soil erosion, which is the process of wearing away the land surface by the action of natural forces such as wind, water, and ice. They went on to say Climate Change can cause an increase in the intensity and frequency of storms, worsening erosion. According to him, scientifically when land is degraded; soil carbon can be released into the atmosphere, along with nitrous oxide, making land degradation one of the biggest contributors. He said in the district human activities due to lack of sufficient agricultural produce are causing pollution or degrade the quality of soils and land utility. It negatively affects food production, livelihoods, and the production and provision of other ecosystem goods and services. In the most dry areas of Masvingo districts already evidently you can see signs of desertification is a form of land degradation by which fertile land has become desert due to unsustainable agricultural practice like growing crop varieties that consumes firewood at production .	The project includes activities centered on resilience of natural systems. The project will work in close collaboration with the district environmental officers in the identification of specific actions to be conducted. Sustainable Land Management and protection of the environment will be included in the Farmers' Clubs training programmes.

5 Annexes

5.1 <u>Attendance List</u>

Institution/Organization	Representative consulted
Chimanimani	
District Development Coordinator's Office &	Mahoso Evidence, Personal Assistant to the District
Coordinator of Civil Protection Unit	Development Coordinator
Chimanimani Rural District Council (RDC)	Mr. Chinamira Bongai, Senior Admistration Officer
Environmental Management Authority (EMA)	Prosper Kaneta, District Environmental Officer
Environmental Management Authority (EMA)	Anesu Kapiya, Trainee, Assistant DEO
Ministry of Agriculture (AGRITEX)	Mr. Alfred Samutsu, District AGRITEX Officer
Department of Social Development (DSD) (Former	Mr. Tatenda Chipfuwa, District DSD Officer
Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social	
Welfare)	
Ministry of Health and Child Care	Dr. Donatas Mugari, District Medical Officer
Ministry of Health and Child Care	Mr. Bonface Chikata, District Environmental &
	Health Officer (DEHO)
Chipinge	
District Development Coordinator's Office	Mr. Chamunorwa Salani, Administration Officer
Chipinge Rural District Council (RDC)	Mr. Rodrick Manhondo, Environmental Management
	& Adaptation Officer
Environmental Management Authority (EMA)	Mr. Llyod Chimuzu, District Assistant Officer
Ministry of Agriculture (AGRITEX)	Mr. Rungano Dickson, District Agronomist
Meteorological Services Department (MSD)	Mrs. Lydia Masengu, Met Services Dept Technician
Department of Social Development (DSD) (Former	Mr. Thembinkosi Gumbo, District Social
Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social	Development Officer
Welfare)	
Ministry of Women Affairs, Community, Small and	Mr. Kudzai Chiripashi, District Development Officer
Medium Enterprises Development (MWACSMED	
Director of Green Institute (Development Partner)	Mr. Blessing Matasva, Executive Director
Vemuganga FM	Mr. Effort Manono, Executive Production Officer
<mark>Bikita</mark>	
District Development Coordination Office (DDC);	Mr. Peter Mateu, District Economic Planning Officer
Bikita Rural District Council	Engineer Arnold Mtuke, Acting Chief Executive
	Officer
Environmental Management Agency (EMA,	Ms Vainah Makuyana, Assistant District Officer
District Agricultural Extension Office (AGRITEX);	Mr. Cephas Mugari, District AGRITEX Officer
Ministry of Women Affairs Community Small and	Mr. Victor Mugame, Community Development
Medium Enterprises Development (MWACSMED)	Officer
Ministry of Women Affairs Community Small and	Mr. Graduate Mudyawabikwa, BCDO
Medium Enterprises Development (MWACSMED)	
Ministry of Youth Development, Indigenisation and	Ms. Belinda Mangwayana, Youth Development
Economic Empowerment	Officer
Rural Infrastructure Development Agency (RIDA),	Ms. Eunica Chiome, District Officer
formerly DDF)	
Masvingo Rural District	
District Development Coordinator's Office	Acting District Development Coordinator (ADDC)
Masvingo Rural District Council	Mr. Luke Dzvairo, Head of Environmental &
	Agriculture
Environmental Management Agency (EMA,	Mr. Muusha Provincial Manager
Department of Social Development (DSD), former	Mr. Zhou Maxwel, District DSD Officer
Ministry of	
Ministry of Agriculture AGRITEX department	Mugari Eliphas, District AGRITEX Officer
Ministry of Women Affairs Community Small and	Ms. Ziso Piwai K, Community Development Officer
Medium Enterprises Development (MWACSMED)	

Ministry of Youth Development, Indigenisation and	Sifiso Machako, District Youth Officer
Economic Empowerment	Miss Tavara Mudukuti, Youth Coordinator
Rural Infrastructure Development Agency (RIDA),	Mr. Paul Mhondera, District Water Engineer
formerly DDF)	
Meteorological Services Department (MSD)	Mr. Benson Mangwiro, District Met Technician

<u>Chimanimani</u>

Registry of attendees to c			
	istrict-level consultation (Ad	aptation Fund /EMA /DAPP p	roject)
Name	Position	Institution	Contact details : email/telephone 15 AC
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<u>Chipinge</u>

[to add attendance sheets]



Bikita





Registry of attendees to district-level consultation (Adaptation Fund /EMA /DAPP project)

<u>Masvingo Rural</u>

[to add attendance sheets]

Contact details : email/telephone	tobestta zug sacc	the top 200 821					
Institution	Nutrungo hural	AHPP ZW					
Position	CEO	Chunger Findmer					
Vame	HR.T.N. Wildren	HOWALCRAY (CHIRDIN					
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5.2 Pictures of the Consultations





[to add a few pictures]

<u>Chipinge</u>

Locally-Led Resilience: Enhancing (District Consultations Attendance Re	Community-Based Disaster Preparister: CHIPINGE RURAL DIST	aredness and Climate Adapta TRICT	tion in Rural Manicaland (
1 Full Names	Position/Designation	Institution	Habe 227 204
1 Chankunaring Salan	STUCKHMW UFFICK	NO. PAR	the Chilin
2 Redrick Manha noto	Management officer	Council & Rucht & ADA	1715841440
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Bikita Rural District pictures





Masvingo Rural District in Pictures





5.3 Information shared with the stakeholders

Adaptation Fund Project Brief

Project name (TBC): Building communities' resilience to climate-induced disasters and climate change through improved disaster preparedness, livelihoods and adaptation practices in rural wards of Manicaland and Masvingo provinces.

Funding entity:	Adaptation Fund (AF)			
Implementing Entity:	Environmental Management Agency (EMA)			
Executing Entity:	Development Aid People to People (DAPP), part of the Humana People to People network			
Estimated timeline	Start date: January 2026			
(optimistic scenario):	End date: January 2030			
Collaborating entities/consulted:	Africa University in Manicaland and Great Zimbabwe University in Masvingo Provinces; Civil Protection Units (CPU); Environmental Management Agency (EMA @ district level); District Development Coordinators, Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Rural Ressetlement- AGRITEX department; Meteorological Services Department; The Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare – Department of Social Development; Ministry of Women Affairs Community Small and Medium Enterprises Development (MWACSMED); The Ministry of Health and Child Care MoHCC (District level- DEHO); Development Partner.			
Project location (TBC):	Manicaland (<i>Chimanimani and Chipinge</i> districts) and Masvingo (<i>Bikita and Masvingo</i> rural), Zimbabwe.			
Climate Problems to address:	Increase in extreme weather events (cyclones, floods), and dry spells and droughts. Changing weather patterns, affecting food production.			
Project Summary:	 The Project aims to enhance the adaptive capacity and effectively reduce disaster risk vulnerability of rural agricultural communities in disaster-prone areas of Manicaland and Masvingo Provinces. This will be done through three components/objectives: 1- To enhance Knowledge and Capacity for Climate Resilience and Emergency Preparedness 2- To increased Resilience of physical and natural assets 3- To improve Climate-Resilient Livelihoods and Food Security 			
Targeted Participants:	16 Ward Civil Protection Committees; 80 Village Civil Protection Committees; 4 Centres of Community Practice; 80 Farmers' Clubs or Organizations; 4,000 Farmers <i>Estimated: 4,000 direct beneficiaries</i>			

Project Design:

Outcome 1: Enhanced Knowledge and Capacity for Climate Resilience and Emergency Preparedness

Output 1.1: Strengthened community capacity in disaster risk management, emergency response and locally-led adaptation.

Build capacities of ward- and village level Civil Protection Committees.

Strengthen last-mile connectivity of Early Warning Systems.

Formulate and update community-based emergency response plans.

Develop Community Adaptation Action Plans

Output 1.2: Strengthened awareness, knowledge and knowledge management

Implement communication package for climate resilience, disaster preparedness and improved nutrition and health.

Address specific gender barriers hindering meaningful participation of women and vulnerable groups

Knowledge Generation and Exchange

Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability, Learning and Dissemination of Results Outcome 2: Increased Resilience of physical and natural assets

Output 2.1: Critical local infrastructure is upgraded to resist climate-induced extreme weather events.

Establish and/or strengthen emergency shelters, that account for the safety and specific needs of women and children.

Implement farm- and community-level adaptive measures for disaster preparedness

Climate-proof of water and sanitation facilities

Establish and/or strengthen disaster-proof Food Storage systems

Outcome 3: Improved Climate-Resilient Livelihoods and Food Security

Output 3.1: Community water resources are more climate-resilient, and are sustainably managed with equitable access

Identify and implement small-scale water solutions for agriculture.

Establish and promote small-scale irrigation systems.

Output 3.2: Gender-responsive, climate-resilient agricultural systems are strengthened.

Support the establishment of Farmers' Organizations and Village Cooperatives.

Establish and operate Centres of Excellence / Communities of Practice for Climate-Resilient Integrated Farming Systems.

Establish and operate Demonstration/Communal Plots for climate-resilient agriculture, and integrated farming systems.

Support implementation of climate-resilient agriculture farms.

Promote integrated livestock/fish farming

Establish community gardens to enhance nutrition security.

Output 3.3: Increased and diversified income through the development of small-scale, climate-resilient enterprises.

Support the establishment and operationalization of Village Cooperatives and Micro-enterprises.

Improve access to markets, value-chain integration, microfinance and business development services.

Provide small grants to micro-enterprises and cooperatives

Rationale for site selection (preliminary data):

Vulnerability	Climate rationale
Low adaptive capacity: Manicaland is 5 th and Masvingo is 6 th (out of 8) in Adaptive Capacity ranking (IFAD, 2020)	Shrinking of the rainfall season (south Manicaland/east Masvingo up to 20 days)
Shock Exposure is high: Masvingo is 1 st and Manicaland 2 nd in SH Index (ZIMVAC 2022)	Longer Dry spells in Manicaland dry spells (5 to 10 days longer in Northern Manicaland) Predicted decrease of rainfall in southern and
Food security at crisis stage: southern Manicaland and east Masvingo – data 2024-(<i>pending</i> <i>historical data</i>)	eastern Zimbabwe (NDC) High and very-high Drought vulnerability.
Heavy reliance on rainfed agriculture– (available data on irrigation?)	High exposure to droughts : 78% (Man) /87% (Masv) of HH reporting drought/prolonged mid- season dry spells- ZIMVAC 2022
High Land /Water Degradation: East of Manicaland scores high in L/WD Index (LDN, 2017)	Tropical storms projected to intensify in target area (Eastern highlands).
High population with unimproved water access :31% (Masv.) and 20% (Manic.) of HH	
Early Warning Systems not fully used: 83% of HH receives info, only 56% uses the info (ZIMVAC 2022)	
Civil protection committees' operationalization status at the district/village level? – (<i>to be found out</i>)	



Questions for District level authorities:

- 1- Do you think the interventions proposed are filling the needs of vulnerable communities?
- 2- How do you think we should collaborate /build on existing structures and work with existing institutions?

- 3- What are the existing structures at community level regarding civil protection, water management, and Seed/food storage? Are they functional? How do they work?
- 4- What do you think are the main gaps in community/village level disaster preparedness?
- 5- What do you think are the main issues for farmers in terms of adaptation to climate? Water availability, existence of irrigation structures, need of extension services, need of inputs for adaptation.
- 6- What are the main issues for farmers to thrive? Bargaining capacity, lack of organization, quality of production, vulnerability to changing weather patterns.
- 7- What are the main value chains are being developed in the target districts? How are these working? How can we get this information?

- 8- With the lessons you have learned after Cyclone Idai, what do you think could have been done differently in terms of assets protection? (storage, WASH infrastructure, quality of shelters, Non food items received, etc. What solutions that are locally available- do you think could have helped to improve the outcomes after the disaster occurred? How do you think people could have been better prepared?
- 9- What ongoing projects in the target areas we should try to seek synergy, collaboration?

10- What other local organizations /institutions we should consult with?

- 11- Do you have any specific suggestion on how to engage women and youth in the project?
- 12- Any other recommendation /suggestion?