Stakeholder Engagement Plan - Zimbabwe

The proposed project has been developed based on multi-stakeholder discussions and participation of a wide range of stakeholder groups throughout the project design and feasibility study. Under the leadership of the Government of Zimbabwe, primarily the Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Climate, Water and Rural Resettlement (MLACWRR), the project team analyzed the climate change risks affecting Zimbabwe and identified high impact interventions to adapt to and build resilience to climate change for the vulnerable rural population. Throughout the process, the project consulted with a GoZ Think Tank comprised of participants from relevant ministries, parastatals and NGOs for discussion, feedback and endorsement of the project targets, theory of change and prioritized interventions. Relevant stakeholders to be involved in project implementation, M&E and post project O&M were also consulted during the process and have taken part in the feasibility study field visits and data collection. Key stakeholders in project implementation include the Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Climate, Water and Rural Resettlement (MLACWRR), primarily the Departments of Economics and Markets, Irrigation, Agricultural Extension Service and Research and Specialist Services (E&M, DoI, AGRITEX, DR&SS); and the Ministry of Environment, Water and Climate, primarily the department of Climate Change Management and Meteorological Services (CCMD, MSD), as well as the parastatal Zimbabwe National Water Authority (ZINWA). WFP will take the role of service provider in rolling out the PICSA activities.

The targeted communities have been engaged through the feasibility study processes, and their needs and views are reflected in the proposed interventions. Civil society organizations, non-governmental organizations and private sector players have been engaged in the process, providing technical advice and expressing interest in the proposed project. (please see the Stakeholder Consultations Report, Annex XIII (d1) for details).

Stakeholder engagement in project implementation will start with inception workshops to kick off the project.

- A national level inception workshop, led by the MLACWRR will present the project to national level stakeholders to confirm a shared understanding of project objectives, go through the project theory of change and implementation plan, discuss and agree roles and responsibilities, get stakeholder feedback and recommendations for project implementation and introduce the project support team to stakeholders. The inception workshop will also provide a detailed overview of UNDP-GCF reporting and M&E requirements and procedures for oversight.
- Similarly, three provincial inception workshops will be held with relevant provincial and district level stakeholders to kick start and support implementation at the provincial and district level.

In addition to this, informal stakeholder engagement will also take place. The project intends to emphasize regular review and learning events to support adaptive management and learning across the responsible partners and the project implementation areas. The project PMU is shared with the Zimbabwe Resilience Building Fund, facilitating a larger knowledge and evidence base to draw from and a wide range of stakeholders to learn with. This will support the project in drawing on and promoting best practice across the country. The regular monitoring, learning and review events will also allow for stakeholders to raise issues of concern and grievances to be addressed.

Each project output will be delivered in close collaboration with key stakeholders:

Output 1:	Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Climate, Water and Rural Resettlement (MLACWRR), namely the Department of Irrigation and AGRITEX will support the project team in implementing this output. Following capacity building, the Department of Irrigation will play a lead role in rolling

	out climate resilient irrigation infrastructure. The DFID supported *Climate Resilient Infrastructure Development Facility* may provide technical advice in the process of climate proofing irrigation schemes. As the DoI is mainly present at provincial level, the district and ward level AGRITEX officers will support smallholder farmers' Irrigation Management Committees in irrigation schemes in appropriate, climate-smart and effective irrigation scheduling and cropping, while also supporting farmers on rain fed farmland to harvest rainfall
	and conserve soil moisture efficiently. AGRITEX will be trained to take up this responsibility and will take part in the setup of irrigation scheme IMCs and take the lead in the running of farmer field schools. The project also has a strong focus on ensuring gender equal participation in the IMC's and will engage with local women's groups in carrying out gender equality and women empowerment training. An NGO will be competitively procured to carry out the gender component for output 1 and 2, and it is expected that the gender equality and women's empowerment trainings may build on the successful experiences of OXFAM implementation of the Gender Action Learning System as part of the DFID-supported Livelihoods and Food Security programme in Northern Zimbabwe. In addition to these stakeholders, the private sector value chain actors and financial institutions will be engaged in terms of ensuring that IMC's are able to strike up contracts with private sector players on inputs and produce markets to facilitate a sustained income and ensure continued generation of finances for operations and maintenance for the scheme.
Output 2:	Ministry of Agriculture, Mechanisation and Irrigation Development, namely AGRITEX and the Department of Research and Specialist Services, will support the project team in implementing this output. AGRITEX is present at the provincial, district and ward levels and have direct and frequent engagement with smallholder farmers. DR&SS is present at the provincial level and has several research programs focused on climate-smart agriculture and conservation agriculture with smallholder farmers. The CGIAR research institutions ICRISAT and CIMMYT are hosted at DR&SS research stations and collaborate closely with the department on CSA. This output focuses on promoting and anchoring climate-smart agriculture practices with smallholder farmers on drylands as well as irrigated land. In doing so, the project will make use of the successful experience of a combination of farmer field schools and innovation platforms as piloted by DR&SS in collaboration with CGIAR partners. This allows for climate-smart agricultural best practices to be adapted to a Zimbabwean context and developed together with a group of smallholder farmers before being scaled out through extension services and farmers' own engagement with their peers. Also, the Innovation Platforms provide a space for developing inclusive and climate resilient marketing links between smallholder farmers and private sector – building trust and business linkages and facilitating impactful private sector investments into the smallholder agriculture sector. A research institution or NGO with experience in linking smallholder farmers and private sector through innovation platforms for climate-smart agriculture practices and markets will be procured to run the Innovation Platforms in close collaboration with DR&SS and AGRITEX. Output 2 also has a strong focus on gender equality, recognizing that the majority of smallholder farmers are women and that gender equal opportunities and women empowerment are key to maximize productivity. A NGO will be competitively procured to carry out the gender component for both Outputs 1 and 2, and it is expected that the gender equality and women empowerment trainings may build on the successful experiences of

	OXFAM implementation of the Gender Action Learning System, as part of the DFID supported Livelihoods and Food Security programme in Northern Zimbabwe.
Output 3:	Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Climate, Water and Rural Resettlement (MLACWRR), namely the Meteorological Services Department and the parastatal ZINWA, are the key stakeholders supporting implementation of this output. MSD will lead the work on setup and maintenance of automated weather stations, the development of a seasonal forecasting system targeting farmers through the PICSA methodology and the systematic dissemination of this information to farmers to support climate-smart agricultural decision making. AGRITEX will be a key stakeholder in developing the seasonal forecast to fit farmers' needs and to disseminate forecasts. WFP will take the role of service provider in the roll out of the PICSA training as well as support the interagency group on development of seasonal forecasting, based on the organizations ongoing and planned work on climate information systems and early warning in Zimbabwe and collaboration with the University of Reading, which has developed the PICSA methodology. In order to strengthen and sustain local academic capacity on the climate
	information systems, the University of Midlands and possibly other Universities like the University of Zimbabwe will be part of the PICSA trainings, roll out and season forecasting. ZINWA, on the other hand, will lead the work on setting up and maintaining the hydro equipment, the water resource modelling and dissemination of information to farmers and catchment councils on climate-smart and efficient water usage. The development of water resource products and their dissemination will happen in close collaboration with the Department of Irrigation and AGRITEX as well as farmers own organizations, primarily IMCs.

Activity	Sub-activity / input	Timing	Objective	Location	Target Participants
All	National inception workshop	Year 1 (within the first six months)	Establishment of shared understanding of project objectives, roles and responsibilities, guidelines for project implementation and road map for implementation among stakeholders	Harare	National stakeholders: MLACWRR departments and ZINWA, development partners, farmers associations, private sector, NGO's and research institutions
	Provincial inception workshop	Year 1 (within the first six months)	Establishment of shared understanding of project objectives, roles and responsibilities, guidelines for project implementation and road map for implementation among stakeholders	Mutare, Masvingo, Bulawayo	Provincial stakeholders: MLACWRR departments and ZINWA, development partners, farmers associations, private sector, NGO's and research institutions
1.1	1.1.1 Climate proofing and revitalizing existing irrigation infrastructure and equipment in 21 irrigation schemes (see Irrigation Sub Assessment for detailed description)	Year 1-3	Rehabilitation/construction of irrigation infrastructure and equipment	Mutare, Masvingo, Bulawayo	Contractors, DOI, IMCs
	1.1.2 Training of 21 Irrigation Management Committees (IMCs) in climate-adapted O&M and monitoring, and establishment of O&M funds	Year 2, Year 4, Year 6	Focus on a) climate adapted operations and maintenance of irrigation systems, b) project planning and monitoring methods c) organizational management and administration, conflict resolution, and establishment and	Mutare, Masvingo, Bulawayo	Provincial DoI, district and ward level AGRITEX staff, IMCs
			fiscal management of O&M Funds		

	1.1.3 Field visits and technical advisory support by DOI to IMCs to support climate-resilient O&M and operationalization of the O&M funds (years 2 through 4) based on detailed O&M plan	Year 1-2	Facilitation of effective consultations and training with IMCs	Mutare, Masvingo, Bulawayo	Provincial DoI and district level AGRITEX staff, IMCs
	1.1.4 Learning and knowledge exchange workshops across IMCs to improve coordination and scaling up of climate resilient irrigation systems (9 provincial district level peer meetings)	Year 2, Year 4, Year 6	Focus on learning and coordination, particularly within catchments	Manicaland, Masvingo, Matabeleland South provinces	IMCs, DoI
1.2	1.2.1 Field-based training of 6,900 lead rain fed farmers in 230 Farmer Field Schools in rainwater harvesting, soil moisture management techniques and water efficiency practices (six sessions over two years for each FFS of 30 lead farmers each)	Year 2, Year 4, Year 6	The FFS is a highly participatory process that builds farmers knowledge, support their practice and encourages them to share with/engage the wider community	137 climate vulnerable wards in Manicaland, Masvingo, Matabeleland South provinces	DR&SS provincial staff, AGRITEX district and ward level staff, lead farmers, wider community
	1.2.2 Procurement and installation by farmers of technologies to implement climate resilient water resource management in rainfed farmlands	Year 2-6	With increased technical capacities technologies are procured and installed to implement more efficient water resource management	137 climate vulnerable wards in Manicaland, Masvingo, Matabeleland South provinces	DR&SS provincial staff, AGRITEX district and ward level staff, lead farmers, wider community

	1.2.3 Participatory workshops and onsite assistance by lead farmers to facilitate farmer-to-farmer learning to scale up implementation of climate-resilient water resource management (Two open community learning days per FFS, under AGRITEX supervision)	Year 2-6	The FFS is a highly participatory process that builds farmers knowledge, support their practice and encourages them to share with/engage the wider community	137 climate vulnerable wards in Manicaland, Masvingo, Matabeleland South provinces	137 climate vulnerable wards in Manicaland, Masvingo, Matabeleland South provinces
2.1	2.1.1 Technical assistance, trainings and meetings to establish, operationalize, and coordinate five multi stakeholder Innovation Platforms (through quarterly meetings over four years) across 15 districts and one national-level Platform (through biannual meetings over four years) for upscaling diversified climate resilient production and access to markets	Year 2-5	The IP is a highly participatory forum, where farmers experiences from FFS are shared and developed, where farmers and value chain actors consult on how best to develop value chains and where stakeholders across the value chain are connected. The national level IP draws on systematically identified and evidence based good practice to influence policy and financial decisions to reflect lessons learnt from stakeholders' experience and out scale good practice through the extension system	Manicaland, Masvingo, Matabeleland South provinces - National level – Harare	DR&SS provincial staff , AGRITEX district and ward level staff, lead farmer representatives, private sector, research institutions National level DoI, DR&SS and AGRITEX staff at director and technical level, private sector players, research institutions, NGO's, farmers org. representatives

	2.1.2 Develop crop specific production and market strategies for use by all relevant value chain actors for climate-smart production and market access (two-day strategy development workshops per platform per year over 4 years and at least five plans)	Year 2-3	IP constituents discuss goals, objectives, outputs, inputs for selected commodities and agree on strategy. IP constituents develop partnerships for value chain development.	Manicaland, Masvingo, Matabeleland South provinces	IP constituents from farmers organizations, input providers, buyers, AGRITEX, others.
	2.1.3 Technical assistance (including legal support services to farmer organizations) to facilitate and formalize public-private partnerships across value-chain actors to upscale climate-resilient agricultural markets	Year 2-5	Multi-stakeholder partnerships identify contractual and other legal requirements to expedite value chain development, along with capacity gaps.	Manicaland, Masvingo, Matabeleland South provinces	IP constituents from farmers organizations, input providers, buyers, AGRITEX, others.

	2.1.4 Technical assistance and business planning and management training to smallholder farmers, particularly women (under a ward-based gender equality action learning program and women financial empowerment training programme) and financial intermediaries to enable access to finance for sustained scaling up climate resilient agriculture (three programmes promoting Women's leadership through economic leadership, gender equity and empowerment)	Year 2-5	Multi-stakeholder partnerships identify business development and management requirements to expedite value chain development, along with capacity gaps.	Manicaland, Masvingo, Matabeleland South provinces	IP constituents from farmers organizations, input providers, buyers, AGRITEX, others.
2.2	2.2.1 Training of Trainers (155 national, provincial, district and ward level AGRITEX staff), particularly women, to conduct Farmer Field Schools in 15 target Districts of southern Zimbabwe	Year 1-2	Training in FFS facilitation	Mutare, Masvingo, Bulawayo	Provincial and district level AGRITEX staff, lead farmers
	2.2.2 Organization and operationalization of 251 Farmer Field Schools for promotion of climate-resilient agriculture in the 15 Districts	Year 1-5	Identification of participants, learning site establishment	137 climate vulnerable wards in Manicaland, Masvingo, Matabeleland South provinces	Smallholder farmers, lead farmers, AGRITEX district and ward level staff

	2.2.3 Procurement of inputs and technologies (e.g. seeds, tools, fertilizers) to implement CSA packages on 6900 lead farmer plots	Year 1-5	Procurement of necessary inputs for learning sites	137 climate vulnerable wards in Manicaland, Masvingo, Matabeleland South provinces	Lead farmers, AGRITEX
	2.2.4 Workshops and on-site assistance by lead farmers to facilitate farmer-to-farmer learning to scale up implementation of climate-smart agricultural practices and cropping systems (One community open day per FFS. Under AGRITEX supervision, each lead farmer engages additional 10 farmers each through workshops and on-site assistance)	Year 1-5	Lead farmers meet at learning sites with groups of farmers in their wards to discuss and analyze climate resilient agricultural techniques and practices, then follow up with visits to farmer fields.	137 climate vulnerable wards in Manicaland, Masvingo, Matabeleland South provinces	Lead farmers, participating smallholders, AGRITEX
2.3	2.3.1 Upgrade ICT/GIS data collection/sharing platforms and protocols for knowledge management on climate resilient agricultural systems and livelihoods across knowledge centers in participating agricultural colleges and research centers.	Year 1	Technical assistance to upgrade platforms and protocols	National, provincial, district level	AGRITEX, DR&SS, MSD

	2.3.2 Generation, codification and knowledge exchange across agricultural colleges and research	Year 2-7	AGRITEX staff identify lessons from experience with climate-smart agricultural practices and technologies, draft	National, provincial, district level	AGRITEX, DR&SS
	centers for climate resilient agriculture		knowledge products and disseminate across and interact with ag colleges and research centers.		
	2.3.3 Impact evaluation and codification of best practices/lessons for systemic, evidence-based learning to scale-up resilient agricultural livelihoods	Year 7	Project components evaluated for impacts, conclusions and lessons are codified, and results disseminated to policy makers for potential scaling up support.	National, provincial, district level	MLACWRR
3.1	3.1.1: Install 12 automatic weather stations to cover key agricultural zones and 10 automatic low-cost rainfall/weather stations to improve rainfall monitoring in the three catchments	Year 1-2	Weather stations installed in key areas of agro-ecological zones.	Mutare, Masvingo, Bulawayo	MSD, AGRITEX
	3.1.2: Install 10 water level/gauging stations at strategic points in the three catchments	Year 1-2	Water level gauging stations installed in strategic points of the three catchments	Mutare, Masvingo, Bulawayo	MSD
	3.1.3: Upgrade systems and institutional capacities for hydrometeorological data transmission and processing to enable localized weather, climate and	Year 2-3	MSD, AGRITEX, DR&SS staff capacities and systems are upgraded to efficiently process data transmission and processing.	Mutare, Masvingo, Bulawayo	MSD, DR&SS, AGRITEX

	hydrological model forecast generation				
	3.1.4: Train MSD, ZiNWA, DR&SS/AGRITEX officials, community observers (low-cost stations) in collecting data, operating and maintaining equipment	Year 2-3	Institutional staff and community observers receive training.	Mutare, Masvingo, Bulawayo	MSD, ZINWA, DR&SS, AGRITEX, smallholder community observers

3.2	3.2.1: Develop information products, incorporating indigenous knowledge, that strengthen existing national satellite/ observation-based weather, 10-day and seasonal forecasts and advisories targeted to smallholder farmers	Year 2-6	This involves a consultative process with CIS users, as per the PICSA methodology, multi stakeholder forums working across institutional boundaries at national through to local level. A key aspect is to ensure that advisories are targeted, easy to understand and accessible to beneficiary farmers.	Mutare, Masvingo, Bulawayo	WFP, AGRITEX, DR&SS, MSD, smallholder farmer representatives

	3.2.2 Train national level ZINWA staff (partnering with UoZ) in the use of water resource models (2 trainings in WEAP and Pitman models) as well as ingesting input data from weather/climate observations and forecasts	Year 2-3	ZINWA staff receive technical training in water resource modelling.	Mutare, Masvingo, Bulawayo	ZINWA, MSD
	3.2.3 Develop regular hydrological forecasts, incorporating daily updates of hydromet observations and forecasts	Year 2-6	Using data and capacities from previous inputs and sub-activities, develop periodic hydrological forecasts.	National, provincial, district level	MSD, ZINWA, DR&SS, AGRITEX
	3.2.4: Disseminate climate information through mobile phones, community radio, community meetings and local posters and bulletins (costs of SMS messaging, design and formatting advisories, community radio programmes, 20 community meetings)	Year 2-7	MSD and AGRITEX disseminate climate information using existing and novel communications systems.	National, provincial, district level	MSD, AGRITEX
3.3	3.3.1: Training of local level DoI,	Year 2	Local level institutional staff receive training	District level	DoI, ZINWA, AGRITEX
	ZiNWA and CC staff in data analysis and production of information products (based on observed and forecast water levels and weather/climate forecasts) for water resource management		for production of information products.		

	3.3.2: Participatory training of farmers and district and local level intermediaries – including Agriculture Extension, MSD and IMC staff - in interpretation and use of climate and weather information products for crop/water management	Year 2-7	Farmers and local level authorities and institutional staff receive training to interpret and use agroclimatic information for crop/water management.	District and ward level	AGRITEX, MSD, IMCs, other smallholder representatives
	3.3.3 Set up communication and database systems to facilitate climate information management (equipment and communication materials) at three agricultural training colleges - Masvingo, Makoholi, and Esigodin (printing and distribution materials, translation into local languages, communication costs)	Year 3-5	Systems set up to facilitate information management, including equipment and communication materials, as well as translation into local languages.	Masvingo, Makoholi, and Esigodin	AGRITEX, DR&SS