

# BEEF ENTERPRISE STRENGTHENING & TRANSFORMATION

## GRANT PROJECT FACT SHEET (2020 Edition)



### PROJECT BRIEF

- 8,448 million Euros
- February 2019 - January 2023
- Funded by:  
European Union (EU) under the Zimbabwe Agricultural Growth Programme (ZAGP)
- Sustainable private sector partnerships: Montana Carswell Meats, Paper Hole Investments, Sabie Meats, Bellevue Abattoirs, Outback Livestock Company, Balu Pecan & Livestock Company

### DID YOU KNOW?

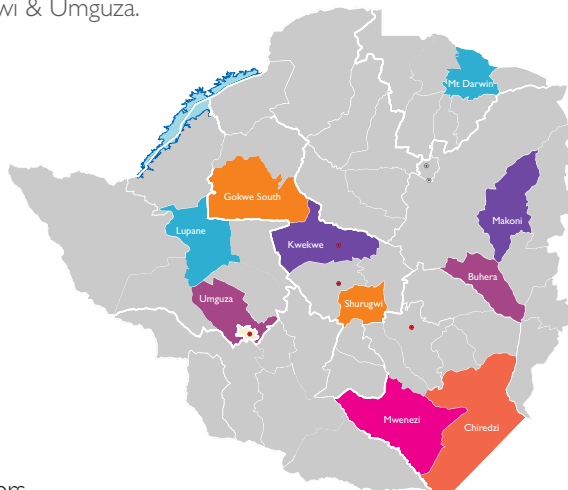
- Agricultural activities provide employment & income for 60% -70% of the population\*
- The national beef cattle herd declined by 5.7% from 5,774 525 cattle in 2018 to 5,443,770 cattle in 2019\*\*
- Regulated livestock markets, which offer better returns, are mainly limited to Masvingo and Matabeleland provinces\*\*
- Many farmers are constrained by:
  - limited capacity to operate in agricultural markets
  - inadequate technical skills and knowledge to improve productivity
  - lack of access to capital to expand their production\*\*

\* According to Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO)

\*\* Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Water & Rural Resettlement-second Round Crop & Livestock Assessment Report 2019/2020 Season

### PROJECT LOCATION

Buhera, Chiredzi, Gokwe South, Kwekwe, Lupane, Makoni, Mt Darwin, Mwenezi, Shurugwi & Umguza.



### PROJECT GOAL

The goal of the project is 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.

#### Key project outcomes include:

- Increased production and productivity of an environmentally sustainable beef value chain
- An enabling environment for a sustainable & inclusive beef value chain, among others

#### Partners

Livestock & Meat Advisory Council, Nurture Education Program Trust, Sustainable Agriculture Technology, Welthungerhilfe, World Vision & Zimbabwe Agricultural Development Trust

Implementing partners



## HOW THE PROJECT WORKS

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The project seeks to create a robust, competitive beef value chain that promotes enhanced trade, employment creation, food security, and inclusive green economic growth through the following interventions:

- **Better functioning beef value chain** for more decent jobs for farmers, youths and women
- **Beef value chain transformation** for improved revenue and profits
- **Public Private Partnerships** for accelerated and sustainable beef value chain development
- **Embracing inclusive green economic growth** for sustainable beef farming

The key strategy for the project is the establishment of **Cattle Business Centers (CBCs)** managed by the private sector. The CBC acts as a livestock agribusiness hub with supporting infrastructure, **where farmers can access extension, input and output marketing and financial services**. Physical infrastructure that is currently being constructed at the CBCs include solar powered boreholes, 60 head capacity feedlots, biogas digester, storage rooms, offices, livestock inputs sales facilities among others. The CBC is also a center of excellence for livestock activities where good animal husbandry practices and all the **innovations around livestock production** are practiced and demonstrated for adoption and replication by the wider community of farmers.

The BEST project is **constructing 10 main and 50 satellite Cattle Business Centers** across Zimbabwe's rural areas. Two of these 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 importation of live cattle.



*A farmer checking Rhodes Reclaimer (high nutrient grass) for feeding cattle at 8 weeks post emergence, Lapache Estate, Mwenezi, Masvingo*

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