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THIS ACTION IS FUNDED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION

ANNEX

of the Commission Decision on the financing of the Annual Action Programme 2020 in favour of the Republic of Zimbabwe

Action Document for “Support to vulnerable people in Zimbabwe”

| | | |
|--|---|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Title/basic act/ CRIS number | Support to vulnerable people in Zimbabwe CRIS number: ZW/FED/042-673 financed under the 11 th European Development Fund (EDF) | |
| 2. Zone benefiting from the action/location | Zimbabwe The action will be implemented nation-wide. | |
| 3. Programming document | National Indicative Programme (NIP) for the Republic of Zimbabwe 11 th European Development Fund (EDF) | |
| 4. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) | Main SDGs: 1: No Poverty, 2: Zero Hunger, 6: Clean water and sanitation Other significant SDGs: 5: Gender Equality, 8: Decent work and economic growth, 13: Climate Action | |
| 5. Sector of intervention/ thematic area | Sector 2: Agriculture based economic development - Specific Objective n. 3: Enhance Resilience, food security and reduced under-nutrition in children | DEV. Assistance: YES ¹ |
| 6. Amounts concerned | Total estimated cost: EUR 12 500 000 Total amount of EDF contribution EUR 12 500 000 | |
| 7. Aid modality(ies) and implementation modality(ies) | Project Modality: Indirect management with the entity(ies) to be selected in accordance with the criteria set out in section 5.4.1. | |
| 8 a) DAC code(s) | Main: Developmental areas: 430 Other multisector, 43010 (Multi sector assistance) 43060 (Disaster Risk Reduction), 43072 (Household food security program) | |

¹ Official Development Assistance is administered with the promotion of the economic development and welfare of developing countries as its main objective.

| | | | | |
|---|---|--------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| | 311 Agriculture, 31120 (Rural development) | | | |
| b) Main Delivery Channel | Multilateral Organisation 40000 | | | |
| 9. Markers (from CRIS DAC form)² | General policy objective | Not targeted | Significant objective | Principal objective |
| | Participation development/good governance | <input type="checkbox"/> | X | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Aid to environment | <input type="checkbox"/> | X | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Gender equality and Women's and Girl's Empowerment ³ | <input type="checkbox"/> | X | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Trade Development | X | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Reproductive, Maternal, New born and child health | X | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Disaster Risk Reduction | <input type="checkbox"/> | X | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Inclusion of persons with disabilities | X | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Nutrition | <input type="checkbox"/> | X | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | RIO Convention markers | Not targeted | Significant objective | Principal objective |
| | Biological diversity | X | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Combat desertification | X | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Climate change mitigation | X | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Climate change adaptation | <input type="checkbox"/> | X | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | 10. Internal markers⁴ | Policy objectives | Not targeted | Significant objective |
| Digitalisation ⁵ | | X | | |
| Migration ⁶ | | X | | |
| 11. Global Public Goods and Challenges (GPGC) thematic flagships | N/A | | | |

² When a marker is flagged as significant/principal objective, the action description should reflect an explicit intent to address the particular theme in the definition of objectives, results, activities and/or indicators (or of the performance / disbursement criteria, in the case of budget support).

³ Please check the Minimum Recommended Criteria for the Gender Marker and the Handbook on the OECD-DAC Gender Equality Policy Marker. If gender equality is not targeted, please provide explanation in section 4.5.Mainstreaming.

⁴ These markers have a different scope/rationale than the DAC codes. Posting criteria related to the encoding of the financial breakdown in CRIS/ABAC

⁵ Please refer to the instruction notes Ares(2019)4143016 dated of 01/07/2019 and Ares(2019)5219708 dated of 13/08/2019.

⁶ Please refer to note Ares(2019)627611 of 04/02/2019.

SUMMARY

The humanitarian crises escalated in Zimbabwe during the last year as a consequence of a deteriorating economic situation combined with a severe drought that undermined agricultural production.

The UN estimates that 6.7 million people are currently in need of humanitarian assistance since they do not have enough food to meet their basic requirements. In August 2019 the government of Zimbabwe declared the State of National Disaster and appealed for international humanitarian assistance. The UN has prepared a USD 715 000 000 Humanitarian Response Plan to support the population in need throughout 2020 and possibly beyond.

There are no real indications that the economy, currently in deep recession, will recover in the next year, on the contrary it is expected that the situation will further deteriorate. Harvest predictions are worrisome; the country expects a 1 million metric tons grain deficit, when total domestic requirements are close to 2 millions tons.

The EU has mobilized significant resources for humanitarian assistance through ECHO and is supporting resilience building as part of the National Indicative Programme. Given the vulnerability to climate change and unfavorable outlook more needs to be done, in particular to help rural communities depending on agricultural production. It is necessary to strengthen the humanitarian – development nexus, by supporting phasing out from humanitarian aid, restore resilience of rural communities and promote sustainable livelihood.

The proposed action will enable rural households to cope better with the current crisis situation. This will be achieved by assisting them in rebuilding farming and livestock activities. Furthermore, rural communities will receive support to access safe water, hygiene and sanitation (WASH). As an option of last resort, the action may provide localized food assistance to address severe food insecurity.

1. CONTEXT ANALYSIS

1.1 Context Description

The government of President E.D. Mnangagwa, sworn in in September 2018, is facing a multitude of fiscal, budgetary and currency challenges together with unsustainable debt levels. In response to these challenges the government adopted the Transitional Stabilisation Programme (TSP) with a set of reforms to be achieved from October 2018 to December 2020. Few reforms have so far been implemented, hence undermining the confidence of the international community.

Economic growth has slowed down dramatically. Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is estimated to have shrunk by 8.3 % in 2019 while the year-over-year inflation rate reached 400 % in November 2019. Meanwhile the economy ‘informalised’ almost entirely with negative repercussions on wage levels and public revenue generation. The agriculture sector, once the backbone of the economy, is at a downward trend since 2000 when the fast track land reform started. Today the agricultural productivity is the lowest in southern Africa and huge parts of fertile land are lying idle. The production of the 2018/19 season was significantly compromised by a severe drought, leaving the country with a gap of 800,000 metric tons of grain required to match the annual national demand of

2.3 million metric tons (all types of grain including feed grain). Also for the future it is expected that adverse climate conditions will impact negatively on agricultural production⁷.

Provision of basic services, such as health, education and safe drinking water is no longer meeting the needs. The population is also suffering from restricted availability of fuel, electricity and agricultural inputs. Due to the high inflation the population is constantly losing purchasing power and increasing shares of income have to be spent on food products.

According to the national poverty line, 70 % of Zimbabweans are considered poor and some 6.7 million people (representing almost half of the population) are in need of some relief assistance.

In August 2019 the government of Zimbabwe declared a State of National Disaster and appealed for international humanitarian assistance. The UN has prepared a USD 715 000 000 Humanitarian Response Plan to support the population in need throughout 2020 and possibly beyond.

1.2 Policy Framework (Global, EU)

This action will help vulnerable people whose livelihoods are compromised, being primarily based on small scale agricultural production. These people face a high risk of increasing poverty level and further erosion of the limited availability of productive assets.

The proposal is aligned with and will contribute to the EU policy framework for development as set out in the EU consensus on development and the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development. Moreover the action will take into account or contribute to:

- The EU Communication ‘EU policy framework to assist developing countries in addressing food security challenges’ (2010)
- The 2017 Joint Communication to the European Parliament and the Council: ‘A Strategic Approach to Resilience in the EU's external action’ accompanied by the Joint Staff working document: ‘Report on the consultation on Resilience as a strategic priority of the external action of the European Union’ as well as the Action Plan for Resilience in Crisis Prone Countries 2013-2020
- EU Gender Action Plan 2016-2020

1.3 Public Policy Analysis of the partner country

The action will contribute to the Zimbabwean National Development Plans and Strategies, with particular reference to:

- *Transitional Stabilization Programme (TSP) 2018-2020*, which the government launched in late 2018 in a bid to boost economic recovery. The TSP strives to operationalize Vision 2030 which seeks to transform Zimbabwe into middle-income country by 2030. The vision places economic development at its core and aims to attain an improved quality of life for all citizens. Improved resilience to cope with the current crisis through this action is an important building block in this regard.

⁷ Climate Risk Profile (January 2020), USAID.

- *Zimbabwe National Agriculture Policy Framework (ZNAPF)* of 2019 aiming at promoting agricultural productivity and enhancing prosperity through backward and forward linkages with input supply and processing industries.
- *National Food and Nutrition Security Policy (NFNSP)*, launched in 2013 as a framework for the multi-sector and multi-stakeholder approach for addressing nutrition challenges in Zimbabwe.
- The 2015 *Resilience National Framework for Zimbabwe*, for which the action is of strategic importance.
- *National Gender Policy 2013-2017*, seeking to “achieve a gender just society where men and women enjoy equality and equity and participate as equal partners in the development process of the country. In providing specific support to women in the current crisis situation the action will contribute to the policy goal which is “To eradicate gender discrimination and inequalities in all spheres of life and development.”
- The National Climate Policy and the National Climate Change Response Strategy are Zimbabwe’s national instruments to address climate change. A National Adaptation Plan is under development.

1.4 Stakeholder analysis

Key stakeholders include the local government and administration (e.g. district development authorities as well as the district bodies of the ministries of agriculture, land and rural resettlement; public services, labour and social welfare) and traditional leaders. While government capacities are limited, they have demonstrated commitment and dedication to assist in the planning and implementation of comparable development actions. UN agencies, such as WFP and FAO as well as international and local NGOs will be critical for the implementation of the action. Most of them demonstrated their capacities through their involvement in other development and/or humanitarian actions. Vulnerable farming communities will be the target beneficiaries of the project.

1.5 Problem analysis/priority areas for support

Zimbabwe has enormous potential for sustained growth and poverty reduction given its endowment of natural resources including fertile land, existing stock of public infrastructure and its comparative highly skilled human resource base. During the past years however, the country has experienced significant macro-economic, social, political and climatic challenges. This evolved into an economic recession with GDP shrinking by 8.3 % in 2019. Hyperinflation and the devaluation of the local currency have massively eroded people's purchasing power.

The current humanitarian and food security crisis is being addressed thanks to the support provided by the international community (see section 1.1). There are no signs that the economy will recover in the short term, on the contrary a much below average harvest is predicted for 2020. The situation is further aggravated by a poorly performing livestock sector, which has also suffered from the drought. A swift recovery of the livestock sector, which is an important value chain for small scale farmers in the dry regions of Zimbabwe, is unlikely.

Lack of timely available and overpriced agricultural inputs combined with shortages of fuel and electricity have further reduced expectations for the next harvest. The ongoing economic crisis and repeated production deficits make small farmers extremely vulnerable and exposed to asset depletion. FAO expects that about 2 million small farmers would require some kind of assistance to cultivate in the 2020/21 agricultural season.

At this stage it is not possible to predict how the economic and food crisis will evolve until next harvest period in April/May 2021. It is likely that the international community will be willing to provide assistance throughout the current year through the Humanitarian Response Plan. Based on past experience it is unlikely that the government will provide assistance and relief to the needy population to the extent required. There is no sign that an economic turnaround will happen soon, but it is hoped that the country will not slip into chaos.

Given these uncertainties a flexible approach should be pursued composed of the following elements:

- Assisting rural households to recover farming activities including targeted support to livestock production.
- Improving access to safe water and sanitation as a complementary action.
- Providing food and nutrition support in well-defined emergency situations.

2. RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS

| Risk | Level of Risk | Mitigation Measures |
|--|----------------------|--|
| Recurrent climatic induced shocks will continue to affect target populations. | High | Short term assistance is part of the action logic aiming to contribute to long term adaptation of natural resources management including agricultural production. |
| Unpredictable development of the socio-economic situation with negative impact on household income and purchasing power. | High | The action will be flexible and able to address to a certain extent such unpredictability. |
| Politically motivated market and price manipulations. | High | The focus of the action is to enhance food self-sufficiency at household level and therefore exposure to this risk is limited. Procurement of inputs in bulk quantities through tender will limit this risk. |
| Politicisation of Aid. | Medium | Complain mechanism and other accountability mechanism are already in place. |
| Gender discrimination is an ongoing challenge in rural areas. | Medium | Based on past experience the action will provide tailored support to women and will make local authorities and traditional leaders aware that this required to reach the objectives of the action. |
| Overlapping and possible contra-productivity of support actions implemented by different entities. | Medium | Promote transparency and coordination among actors. |
| Continued Covid-19 pandemic may affect negatively on timely project implementation. | Medium | Adhere to preventive and safety measures and use protective means to avoid spreading the virus through project actions in full compliance with government directives. |

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| Assumptions |
| Relevant public stakeholders are facilitating implementation of actions at local level. |
| Required inputs are available at acceptable prices. |
| Climate conditions are favourable for agricultural production. |

3. LESSONS LEARNT AND COMPLEMENTARITY

3.1 Lessons learnt

The EU together with other donors is funding the Zimbabwe Resilience Building Fund (ZRBF) to enhance the resilience of the rural population, mostly depending on agriculture for their livelihood. In response to the current humanitarian crisis significant international assistance (including ECHO) was mobilised to address the short-term humanitarian challenges. It is important that humanitarian actions complement development actions and that humanitarian issues are integrated into development and vice versa. Therefore good coordination on the ground is indispensable to ensure complementary and reciprocal reinforcement of the different types of actions.

The ZRBF address a multitude of challenges that the rural population is facing with an articulated tailor-made support that is justified for long term interventions. The proposed action aims at bridging humanitarian aid with resilience-type development programmes such as ZRBF. With a planned duration of two years, the action needs to be more selective than the ZRBF and focus on specific issues only. Nevertheless, the ZRBF provides a lot of relevant experiences for the design of this action and implementation at local level. Of particular importance is to benefit from the ZRBF on how to promote gender equality.

3.2 Complementarity, synergy and donor coordination

The action will strengthen the humanitarian-development nexus by building as much as possible on humanitarian assistance provided in response to the current humanitarian crisis by a whole range of partners. The action will complement and/or explore synergies with the following actions:

- It will synergize with actions promoted under the Humanitarian Response Plan and those funded by ECHO.
- It will complement the EU funded health programme by improving food security and access to safe water, hygiene and sanitation services.
- To a certain extend it will complement the Zimbabwe Agriculture Growth Programme (ZAGP) by supporting livestock beyond the outreach of the ZAGP.
- Zimbabwe Resilience Building Fund (ZRBF) is targeting 18 vulnerable districts to improve resilience. The proposed action will predominantly support further vulnerable districts but with more focused interventions.
- It will complement the ‘Accelerated Community Action for Reducing Stunting in Zimbabwe’ by addressing food insecurity and access to WASH services.

The EU remains committed to the timely exchange of information and coordination of short, medium- and long-term humanitarian and development actions in line with the Action Plan for Resilience in Crisis-Prone Countries 2013-2020. This include leading to common analysis of crises, coherent and comprehensive joint response plans and promotion of nexus focused humanitarian-

development initiatives. Coordination among actors intervening in the same area will be promoted by the EU Delegation.

4. DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

4.1 Overall objective, specific objective(s), expected outputs and indicative activities

The **overall objective** of this action is to contribute to the well-being of households in vulnerable situations in the face of economic and climate induced shocks and stresses in Zimbabwe.

Specific objective:

The specific objective of the action is: rural households resilience to food crises and climate change is increased.

The action will focus on small-scale farmers who are depending mainly on agriculture and livestock for their livelihood. For the identification of benefitting communities, support provided by other interventions (e.g. ZRBF) will be considered to avoid overlapping. As argued in section 1.6, it is not possible to predict how the economic and food security crisis will evolve until the harvest period in April/May 2021. Therefore, the action needs to be flexible to allow that the 3 outputs are adapted to existing needs in the targeted districts:

Output 1: Small-scale farmers are enabled to recover farming activities and to improve livestock production.

Output 2: Local communities access to WASH services is improved.

Output 3: Local communities are protected against severe food insecurity.

Main activities.

Activities mentioned below are non-exhaustive and might be modified and complemented to respond to local needs and opportunities.

Activities linked to output 1:

The action will help small-scale farmers improving their agriculture production. This will include promoting timely access to agricultural inputs such as seeds and fertilisers. In order to make farming more climate resilient a combination of different seed varieties will be provided (e.g. small grains and short cycle legumes) and climate smart agriculture techniques and practices promoted. The latter will include the use of agro-ecological practices in order to increase the diversity of production, reduce the need for external inputs and preserve soil and water resources. Post-harvest and simple storage techniques might be considered to create community-based food reserves to overcome the lean season. Small scale gardening for nutritional purposes might be promoted if water resources are available or can be secured at low costs. Market based programming could be supported and actions to mitigate price increases/negative effects on already fragile markets.

Livestock (e.g. cattle, goats and sheep) is an important value chain for small scale-farmers producing in the drought prone areas of Zimbabwe. The project will assist livestock producers by addressing some common animal health issues as well as training of pasture management and simple techniques on fodder harvesting and preservation. The project will also encourage farmers to use manure to fertilise fields.

Activities linked to output 2:

Access to clean water, sanitation and hygiene represent for many rural communities an increasing challenge. It harms human health but also negatively impacts on livestock production. The action will support primarily the rehabilitation and improvement of existing water resources, increasing existing storage facilities and addressing hygiene issues. Exceptionally the action may consider building new water structures. Rehabilitation of existing infrastructure and any new structures will take into account the impacts of climate change (i.e. groundwater recharge capacities and drainage systems),

Activities linked to output 3:

The action shall provide timely food assistance support only if food security status of target populations is seriously undermined (IPC 3 or above) and as complementary support to large scale humanitarian operations. Assistance should target households with a focus on women and children (including women and child headed households). Transfer modalities may be provided through cash based or in-kind response depending on local circumstances. Cash/food for work might be a further option to contribute to food security while help to address community needs.

4.2 Intervention Logic

The action will focus on small-scale farmers assisting them in their farming activities with the aim to enhance their resilience to economic and climate-induced shocks. The in-built flexibility and the consideration of access to safe water and food assistance will allow the action to achieve its specific objective in a situation where future developments are not predictable. Achievement of the SO is also based on holding some of the key assumptions, including in particular a) socio-economic situation improve and/or do not further deteriorate and negatively impact household income and purchasing power, b) absence of major climatic shocks or outbreaks of disease on livestock and crops, c) required inputs are available at acceptable prices. Increased production and productivity will ease access to better income and basic services such as education and health, hence contributing to improved households well-being.

The action is a further commitment of the EU to overcome the current crisis situation the population of Zimbabwe is facing. While ECHO is focusing on humanitarian needs, the ZRBF is aiming to enhance resilience of the rural population in selected districts through a comprehensive set of actions. The proposed action is aligned to the humanitarian-development nexus. It builds on humanitarian assistance by improving livelihood through promoting the production capacity of small-scale farmers.

4.3 Mainstreaming

Gender: Particular attention will be given to gender-related issues and the situation of women due to their significant role in the agricultural sector and the fact that they are especially exposed to crisis situations. To this end the action will support women specifically, which will be further enhanced by making local authorities and traditional leaders aware about the benefits this approach will generate.

Human rights: The action will not address human rights by large. It will focus on the right to food by promoting food production, aiming to create more food resilience people. In justified situations the project will address food insecurity ensuring that this particular aspect of human rights is respected as well as the right to safe water equally addressed by the action if relevant.

Environment and climate change: This action will promote a more climate sensitive agricultural production by introducing drought resistance varieties and the combined planting of different staple crops including legumes. This together with the use of compost and animal manure as fertiliser will

help preserve soil quality. The action will further address animal husbandry by promoting grazing techniques which will contribute preserving the local natural habitat.

4.4 Contribution to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

This intervention is relevant for the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It contributes primarily to the progressive achievement of SDG(s) 1 No Poverty, 2: Zero Hunger, while also contributing to 5: Gender Equality and 6: clean water and sanitation and 13: climate action.

5. IMPLEMENTATION

5.1 Financing agreement

In order to implement this action, it is foreseen to conclude a financing agreement with the partner country.

5.2 Indicative implementation period

The indicative operational implementation period of this action, during which the activities described in section 4 will be carried out and the corresponding contracts and agreements implemented is 36 months from the date of entry into force of the financing agreement.

Extensions of the implementation period may be agreed by the Commission's responsible authorising officer responsible by amending this Decision and the relevant contracts and agreements.

5.3 Implementation of the budget support component

N/A

5.4 Implementation modalities

The Commission will ensure that the EU appropriate rules and procedures for providing financing to third parties are respected, including review procedures, where appropriate, and compliance of the action with EU restrictive measures⁸.

5.4.1 Indirect management with an international organisation

This action may be implemented in indirect management with one or more entity(ies) which will be selected by the Commission's services using the following criteria:

- Substantial experience in the sectors covered by this action in Zimbabwe;
- Regular working relationship with relevant ministries with a focus on sectors related issues covered by this Action;
- Experience in implementing large size actions in close cooperation and partnership with Government and other stakeholders including NGOs/CSOs;

The implementation by this(ese) entity(ies) entails the achievement of all specific objective and outputs described in section 4.

⁸ www.sanctionsmap.eu Please note that the sanctions map is an IT tool for identifying the sanctions regimes. The source of the sanctions stems from legal acts published in the Official Journal (OJ). In case of discrepancy between the published legal acts and the updates on the website it is the OJ version that prevails.

5.4.2 Changes from indirect to direct management mode due to exceptional circumstances

If the negotiation with International Organisation fails or if indirect management with an International Organisation is not possible due to circumstances outside of the Commission's control, the alternative implementation modality is direct management through grant(s).

(a) Purpose of the grant(s)

The grants will contribute to the achievement of the specific objective of the action and all related outputs as described in section 4.

(b) Type of applicants targeted

Potential applicants will be non-profit making NGO or CSO with legal personality.

5.5 Scope of geographical eligibility for procurement and grants

The geographical eligibility in terms of place of establishment for participating in procurement and grant award procedures and in terms of origin of supplies purchased as established in the basic act and set out in the relevant contractual documents shall apply, subject to the following provisions.

The Commission's authorising officer responsible may extend the geographical eligibility on the basis of urgency or of unavailability of products and services in the markets of the countries concerned, or in other duly substantiated cases where the eligibility rules would make the realisation of this action impossible or exceedingly difficult.

5.6 Indicative budget

| | EU contribution | Indicative third party contribution, |
|--|-------------------------------|---|
| Objective 1: Rural households are enabled to cope better with the current crisis situation. 5.4.1 Indirect management with International Organisation | 12 350 000 | 0 |
| 5.9 Evaluation & 5.10 Audit / Expenditure Verification Procurement (direct management) | 150 0000 | N.A. |
| 5.11 Communication and visibility | Included in Objective 1 above | N.A. |
| Totals | 12 500 000 | 0 |

5.7 Organisational set-up and responsibilities

A project Steering Committee (SC) will be set up as the highest body governing the programme. The implementing partner will serve as the secretariat. The composition of the SC includes members from relevant government institutions as well as representative from relevant stakeholders. The Steering Committee composition ensures the principles of national ownership; inclusiveness and gender balanced representation, as well as the need to have a manageable size for effective decision-making.

As part of its prerogative of budget implementation and to safeguard the financial interests of the Union, the Commission may participate in the above governance structures set up for governing the implementation of the action.

5.8 Performance and Results monitoring and reporting

The day-to-day technical and financial monitoring of the implementation of this action will be a continuous process and part of the implementing partner's responsibilities. To this aim, the implementing partner shall establish a permanent internal, technical and financial monitoring system for the action and elaborate regular progress reports (not less than annual) and final reports. Every report shall provide an accurate account of implementation of the action, difficulties encountered, changes introduced, as well as the degree of achievement of its results (outputs and direct outcomes) as measured by corresponding indicators, using as reference the Log-frame matrix. SDGs indicators and, if applicable, any jointly agreed indicators as for instance per Joint Programming document shall be taken into account.

Reports shall be laid out in such a way as to allow monitoring of the means envisaged and employed and of the budget details for the action. The final report, narrative and financial, will cover the entire period of the action implementation.

The Commission may undertake additional project monitoring visits both through its own staff and through independent consultants recruited directly by the Commission for independent monitoring reviews (or recruited by the responsible agent contracted by the Commission for implementing such reviews).

5.9 Evaluation

Having regard to the importance and nature of the action, a final and/or ex post evaluation(s) will be carried out for this action or its components via independent consultants, contracted by the Commission or via an implementing partner.

It will be carried out for accountability and learning purposes at various levels (including for policy revision), taking into account in particular the innovative, multi sectors and complex nature of the programme.

The Commission shall inform the implementing partner at least one month in advance of the dates foreseen for the evaluation missions. The implementing partner shall collaborate efficiently and effectively with the evaluation experts, and inter alia provide them with all necessary information and documentation, as well as access to the project premises and activities.

The evaluation reports shall be shared with the partner country and other key stakeholders. The implementing partner and the Commission shall analyse the conclusions and recommendations of the evaluations and, where appropriate, in agreement with the partner country, jointly decide on the follow-up actions to be taken and any adjustments necessary, including, if indicated, the reorientation of the project.

Evaluation services may be contracted under a framework contract.

5.10 Audit

Without prejudice to the obligations applicable to contracts concluded for the implementation of this action, the Commission may, on the basis of a risk assessment, contract independent audits or expenditure verification assignments for one or several contracts or agreements.

It is foreseen that audit services may be contracted under a framework contract.

5.11 Communication and visibility

Communication and visibility of the EU is a legal obligation for all external actions funded by the EU.

This action shall contain communication and visibility measures which shall be based on a specific Communication and Visibility Plan of the Action, to be elaborated at the start of implementation.

For the purpose of enhancing the visibility of the EU and its contribution to this action, the Commission may sign or enter into joint declarations or statements, as part of its prerogative of budget implementation and to safeguard the financial interests of the Union.

In terms of legal obligations on communication and visibility, the measures shall be implemented by the Commission, the partner country, contractors, grant beneficiaries and/or entrusted entities. Appropriate contractual obligations shall be included in, respectively, the financing agreement, procurement and grant contracts, and contribution agreements.

The Communication and Visibility Requirements for European Union External Action (or any succeeding document) shall be used to establish the Communication and Visibility Plan of the Action and the appropriate contractual obligations.

It is foreseen that actions for communication and visibility will be implemented by the implementing partner.

6. Pre-conditions

N/A

APPENDIX - INDICATIVE LOG FRAME MATRIX

| | Intervention logic | Indicators | Sources and means of verification | Assumptions |
|----------------------------------|---|---|--|--------------------------------|
| Overall objective: Impact | Contribute to the well-being of households in vulnerable situations in the face of economic and climate induced shocks and stresses in Zimbabwe | <p>1 Prevalence of households with moderate or severe hunger (HHS- Households Hunger Scale)</p> <p>2 Multidimensional Poverty Index</p> | <p>1. <i>ZIMVAC</i></p> <p>2. <i>PICES (Poverty, income, Consumption, Expenditure survey)</i></p> <p>3. <i>ZIMSTAT Nutrition survey</i></p> <p>4. <i>FEWSNET</i></p> | Not applicable at impact level |

| | | | | |
|---------------------|---|---|--|---|
| Specific Objectives | SO: Rural households resilience to food crises and climate change is increased. | <p>1.1 Number of households supported by the project do not require any food assistance during the lean season</p> <p>1.2 Average Food based Coping Strategy Index score for households in targeted communities</p> | <p>1.1 ZIMVAC (Zimbabwe Vulnerability Assessment-Food and Nutrition Council)</p> <p>1.2 Crop and Livestock assessments (MLAWCRR-Minister of Land, Agriculture, Water, Climate Change and Rural Settlement)</p> | <p>Socio-economic situation does not seriously negatively impact household income and purchasing power</p> <p>Relevant public stakeholders are facilitating implementation of actions at local level.</p> |
| | Intervention logic | Indicators | Sources and means of verification | Assumptions |
| Outputs | Output 1: Small scale farmers are enabled to recover farming activities and to improve livestock production. | <p>1.1 Number of farming households has timely access to agriculture inputs (seed, fertiliser etj.)</p> <p>1.2 Number of hectares planted</p> <p>1.3 Livestock mortality rate is decreased</p> <p>1.4 Number of farming households adapting climate smart agriculture techniques/practices.</p> | Programme monitoring and reporting | <p>Climatic conditions are favourable to agricultural and livestock production</p> <p>Inputs are available at acceptable prices</p> <p>Farmers are adopting climate smart agriculture practices</p> |

| | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|--|
| | <p>Output 2: Local communities have access to WASH services.</p> | <p>2.1 Number of households with access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation</p> <p>2.2 Increased adoption of hygiene practices</p> | <p>2 Programme monitoring and reporting</p> | <p>Clean water sources are available within acceptable distances</p> |
| | <p>Output 3: Local communities are protected against severe food insecurity.</p> | <p>3.1 Number of severe food insecure people assisted with relief food assistance, disaggregated by sex and age</p> | <p>Programme monitoring and reporting</p> | <p>Food is available at local market to affordable prices</p> |