



This action is funded by the European Union

**ANNEX 5**

of the Commission Decision on the Annual Action Programme 2015 in favour of Zimbabwe to be financed under the 11<sup>th</sup> European Development Fund

**Action Document for Resilience Building and Food and Nutrition Security Programme**

<b>1. Title/basic act/ CRIS number</b>	Resilience Building and Food and Nutrition Security Programme CRIS number: ZW/FED/038-193 financed under 11th European Development Fund			
<b>2. Zone benefiting from the action/location</b>	Zimbabwe, all regions			
<b>3. Programming document</b>	National Indicative Programme for Zimbabwe, 11 <sup>th</sup> European Development Fund (EDF)			
<b>4. Sector of concentration/ thematic area</b>	Sector 2: Agriculture based economic development			
<b>5. Amounts concerned</b>	Total estimated cost: EUR 20 398 000 <b>Total amount of EDF contribution EUR 15 000 000</b> This action is co-financed in joint co-financing by: UNDP: USD 1 000 000 FAO: EUR 300 000  Potential other donors: DFID: GBP 3 000 000			
<b>6. Aid modality and implementa- tion modality(ies)</b>	Project Modality Indirect management with United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)  Indirect management with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO )			
<b>7. DAC code(s)</b>	52010 Sector: Food Security Programmes			
<b>8. Markers (from CRIS DAC form)</b>	<b>General policy objective</b>	<b>Not targeted</b>	<b>Significant objective</b>	<b>Main objective</b>
	Participation development/good governance	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Aid to environment	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Gender equality (including Women In Development)	<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"/>

	<b>RIO Convention markers</b>	<b>Not targeted</b>	<b>Significant objective</b>	<b>Main objective</b>
	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"/>
<b>9. Global Public Goods and Challenges (GPGC) thematic flagships</b>	N/A (this is not relevant as Zimbabwe (by way of FAO) may be benefitting from the FIRST (Food and nutrition security Impact, Resilience, Sustainability, Transformation) and INFORMED (Information for Nutrition, Food Security and Resilience for Decision Making) programmes that are both funded under the GPGC			

## SUMMARY

In line with Specific Objective 3 of the Zimbabwe National Indicative Programme (NIP), Sector 2 (Agriculture-based Economic Development), the **overall objective** of the action is to enhance the food and nutrition status and the overall resilience capacities of target communities to better cope with stresses that repeatedly occur in Zimbabwe.

The need to enhance resilience<sup>1</sup> is necessitated by the increased exposure of vulnerable populations to internal and external shocks caused by both, human-induced and natural hazards. The starting point is addressing the persistent and chronic nature of food insecurity and child malnutrition, caused by poverty and cyclical humanitarian crises but needs to be tackled through strategies which address the underlying causes of peoples' vulnerability. The key drivers are weak institutions and governance exacerbated by climate change manifesting itself by the increasing frequency of seasonal droughts and floods, limiting the prospects for economic growth, poverty reduction and graduation from aid. In order to enhance people's resilience and to achieve better food and nutrition security, Zimbabwean communities should be encouraged to create more diverse, adaptive and stable means of livelihood as well as build an increased ability to adapt to climate change.

The proposed model of implementation will be carried out through Indirect Management with United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), building on previous funded actions.

Component 1 (Resilience) is a second tranche to UNDP-managed Zimbabwe Resilience Building Fund (ZRBF), already set up under the EDF Bridging Facility. This instrument has built in the necessary flexibility to promote timely and properly targeted initiatives over a medium to long term period and support the achievement of increased national resilience to food and nutrition security shocks. The action will ensure the long-term implementation and sustainability of the fund.

Component 2 is a continuation of support provided by FAO to the Ministry of Agriculture Mechanisation and Irrigation Development (MoAMID) and the Food and Nutrition Council (FNC), which will ensure that Nutrition is adequately addressed through the implementation of relevant policies and information systems, improve nutrition governance to achieve more effective coordination and accountability as well as better integration into agriculture development/programming.

Both actions will be complementary to any possible support that FAO will receive from the GPGC under INFORMED and FIRST.

<sup>1</sup> In the context of Zimbabwe, resilience has been defined as follows: "Resilience is the ability of people, households, communities, countries and systems to withstand, mitigate, adapt to and recover from shocks and stresses - without compromising their long-term prospects - in a manner that maintains or transforms living standards, reduces chronic vulnerability and facilitates inclusive growth." Joint EU Donor Resilience Strategy for Zimbabwe.

# 1 CONTEXT

## 1.1 Sector/Country/Regional context/Thematic area

As highlighted in the NIP, "*the EU will support economic development based on sustainable agriculture in order to assure food security and increased resilience of the most vulnerable populations (most of whom are women and children)*", and the overall purpose "*is the creation of a diversified, competitive and efficient sector which assures increased resilience, food and nutrition security at both the household and national levels*".<sup>2</sup>

The poverty report on the 2011-2012 PICES Survey<sup>3</sup> reveals that 72.3% of Zimbabweans are poor, whilst 16.2 % of the households are in extreme poverty. Female and child headed households are amongst the most vulnerable. With a nominal per capita income of USD 424, the 2013 United Nations Human Development Index (HDI) ranks Zimbabwe among low human development countries: 172<sup>nd</sup> out of 186 countries compared to 1998, when it ranked 130<sup>th</sup> out of 174 countries.

The agriculture sector plays a pivotal role in building resilience and could perform an implicit welfare safety net, and provide opportunities for labour-intensive growth that are relatively more pro-poor than in other sectors. 70% of the population are small holder farmers (often women) or agricultural workers. Years of protracted food aid programming have created a sense of dependency amongst the most vulnerable communities, especially in drier and more shock-prone areas.<sup>4</sup> Thus, households and communities have become trapped in poverty and food and nutrition insecurity and perceive food aid as a viable livelihood strategy. Interest in resilience building strategies to counter the crippling effects of food aid dependence in Zimbabwe is timely, both in terms of the pressing needs and opportunities for funding. The population groups most vulnerable to shocks are the rural and urban poor; communities that rely on rain-fed farming and pastoralists, with work burden increasing disproportionately for women and girls<sup>5</sup>. Enhancing resilience calls for a long-term approach, based on alleviating the underlying causes conducive to crises and enhancing capacities to better manage future uncertainty and change.

Chronic malnutrition (stunting) rather than acute malnutrition (wasting) is the major nutritional problem in Zimbabwe. Whilst the prevalence of acute malnutrition<sup>6</sup> and underweight has declined since the early 1990s, the prevalence of stunting has been progressively increasing over the years. According to the National Nutrition Survey in 2010, 87% (52 out of 60) of the rural districts in Zimbabwe had stunting rates above 30% and 24 of these districts have stunting rates of 35% and above. The remaining 13% have stunting rates above 20%. Despite the above, positive signal of reduction has been recorded during the recent years with a five percentage point reduction achieved (27% rate) according to the Zimbabwe Multiple Indicators Cluster Survey (MICS) 2014. Nevertheless, Zimbabwe is still only just below the threshold of being classified as a high prevalence country<sup>7</sup>. Evidence exists of a close correlation between stunting and the mother's level of education. Reducing the number of children affected by stunting is a multi-sector development priority that puts nutrition at the centre of efforts to build resilience in Zimbabwe<sup>8</sup>. Stunting has been outlined as a development priority in Zimbabwe in light of the 2010 National Nutrition Survey, when close to 34% of children 6-59 months old were shown to be suffering from chronic malnutrition. In addition, during the Nutrition for Growth Event in

<sup>2</sup> 11<sup>th</sup> EDF, National Indicative Programme for Zimbabwe, signed on 16 February 2015.

<sup>3</sup> Poverty, Income Consumption and Expenditure Survey 2013.

<sup>4</sup> Ndlovu, E. 2011. An investigation into the impact of prolonged food aid programmes on vulnerable populations in Zimbabwe: A case study of food aid programming in wards 9 and 10 of Matobo District in South Western Zimbabwe. Masters Thesis. University of the Free State.

<sup>5</sup> For example, women and girls are responsible for water collection in 86% of households and therefore especially vulnerable to water stress (Zimstats 2012).

<sup>6</sup> Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) at 3.3% (ZIMSTAT MICS 2014).

<sup>7</sup> In accordance with the WHO classification which states that prevalence rates 30-39% are in the high category and rates  $\geq$  40% are very high.

<sup>8</sup> Evidence exists for example of a close correlation between stunting and the mother's level of education. Areas of high cereal production (such as Mashonaland) otherwise categorised as "food secure" nevertheless have the highest prevalence of stunting.

London (June 2013), the Government of Zimbabwe committed to reduce levels of chronic under-nutrition by 40% by 2025 in line with the WHA targets. The proposed action, by ensuring inclusive programming with all stakeholders including direct beneficiaries, applies a Rights Based Approach<sup>9</sup>.

### ***1.1.1 Public Policy Assessment and EU Policy Framework***

The EU support to the agriculture-based economic development sector will contribute to the successful implementation of Zimbabwe's National Development Plans and Strategies as described in: the Zimbabwe Agenda for Sustainable Socio-Economic Transformation (ZIM ASSET), where food and nutrition security represent a priority cluster; the draft Comprehensive Agriculture Policy, National Trade Policy, Industrial Development Policy, National Food and Nutrition Security Policy (NFNSP) and the Zimbabwe Agriculture Investment Plan (ZAIP). This is also in line with the Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP) for Zimbabwe<sup>10</sup>.

The Zimbabwe NFNSP, developed with EU support provides the legal framework for the multi-sector and multi-stakeholder approach. The Implementation Plan/Matrix has been prepared to operationalise and cost the policy. The elaborate, multi-sector policy articulates the roles and responsibilities of all concerned sectors. This policy is extremely well formulated and relevant to the context in Zimbabwe and guides a multi-sector approach for addressing nutrition challenges in Zimbabwe.

A National Nutrition Strategy (NNS) 2014-2018 for Zimbabwe has been drafted (June 2014) but is not yet in the public domain. The NNS has two objectives: (i) to operationalise Commitment V of the NFNSP; and (ii) to contribute towards making further progress against other Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) targets. It has been developed by the Ministry of Health & Child Care (MoHCC) and the Food & Nutrition Council with the technical support of the relevant UN agencies. Commitment V of the NFNSP is to ensure nutrition security for all through the implementation of evidence-based nutrition interventions that are integrated within a broad public health framework including health services, water and sanitation.

The above sectors of intervention are also aligned with the EU Policy framework for development as set out in the Agenda for Change and the EU Communication "*EU policy framework to assist developing countries in addressing food security challenges*". This is complemented by:

- Communication 'Enhancing maternal and child nutrition in external assistance' (2013)
- Staff Working Document Nutrition Action Plan (2014)
- Communication 'EU approach to resilience – learning from food security crises' (2012)
- Action Plan for Resilience in Crisis Prone Countries 2013-2020

In addition this action will align with the EU Communication "A budget for Europe 2020" (COM(2011)500) to ensure proper mainstreaming of climate change and environment sensitive activities, while contributing to the 20% target on climate change until 2020.

### ***1.1.2 Stakeholder analysis***

Due to the range of basic and underlying causes of chronic malnutrition and the multifaceted nature of resilience in Zimbabwe, a wide range of stakeholders across a number of sectors are involved in these thematic areas.

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<sup>9</sup> Based on the Commission Staff Working Document: Tool-box, a Rights-based Approach, Encompassing All Human Rights for EU Development Cooperation.

<sup>10</sup>The CAADP is an initiative of the African union, a shared development framework aiming to accelerate growth and eliminate poverty and malnutrition among African countries through agriculture. One of the four pillars of the CAADP is "increasing food supply, reducing hunger and improving responses to food emergency crises".

During the identification and design phase of the projects funded under the Bridging Facility to ensure the development and implementation of the resilience agenda as well as strengthening the implementation of the National Food and Nutrition Security Policy and Strategy, a wide range of consultations took place together with relevant government ministries such as MoAMID and MoHCC and the Food & Nutrition Council (FNC), donors (including European Commission Humanitarian aid service and some Member States, notably DFID), UN agencies (WFP (World Food Programme), FAO, UNDP, UNICEF), non governmental organisations (NGOs), academia and research institutions. To date the stakeholders have agreed on: a) a definition of resilience in the context of Zimbabwe; b) a Zimbabwe resilience framework; c) principles underlying resilience building in Zimbabwe; and d) a joint donor disaster resilience strategy for Zimbabwe. Future steps include improving research for a better definition of the Resilience framework for Zimbabwe, the implementation of target intervention to increase resilience capacities of target communities and strengthened capacities of central and local government to ensure resilience focused service delivery.

In 2014 the EU took up the role of the SUN Donor Convenor for Zimbabwe. In this new leading role, the EU Delegation, with the support of the European Commission Nutrition Advisory Services (NAS), has carried out several consultations with a large spectrum of actors and agencies aiming to assess the main needs of the sector and effectively contribute to the launch of the SUN movement in Zimbabwe.

The EU Delegation has been actively working to develop the proposed action through a consultative process that has included various meetings that it organised to bring together all relevant players, including (i) the Government of Zimbabwe: in particular the Food & Nutrition Council (FNC) and the Ministry of Agriculture, Mechanisation & Irrigation Development (MoAMID); (ii) the UN community: UNDP, FAO, UNICEF and WFP; (iii) the NGO community: both implementing partners of the EU and other NGOs actively engaged in nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive interventions; and (iv) the SUN networks and v) other donors active in relevant sectors.

The identification of potential programme areas, target groups and beneficiaries will be further developed from an on-going process; this will also entail the compilation of existing and new data on a wide range of factors such as poverty, nutrition, chronic vulnerability analysis and household consumption trends. Those areas where high levels of chronic vulnerability and frequent shocks and stresses occur and that have often received repeated rounds of humanitarian assistance provide the starting point for identifying where to target resilience-building interventions.

### ***1.1.3 Priority areas for support/problem analysis***

Low agricultural productivity, a lack of resilience to shocks/stresses, high levels of food and nutrition insecurity as well as the increased adoption of negative coping mechanisms, are the result of complex interlinked factors, stemming from both a human-induced crisis of a political and economic nature and an extreme vulnerability to climatic shocks. Long term trends, such as the AIDS pandemic, food and nutrition insecurity, environmental degradation, migration, climate change and rapid urbanization, are part of a dynamic context which vulnerable communities in Zimbabwe have to contend with in developing their livelihoods, and in managing shocks and stresses. The assessment of context, capacities and needs of households/communities, and systems for resilience determine the entry point to focus on in programming for resilience in Zimbabwe.

In the formulation of the Action funded under the Bridging Facility, UNDP has identified several criteria that will be used for the initial targeting of programme areas, and additional characteristics that will be added based on each context. This approach provides a concrete and operational solution to the resilience building, which has to be context specific. The building

blocks of people’s lives such as social, human, financial/economic, natural/ environmental, political, and physical/technological assets form the basis for analysis and support. The selected focus sectors of interventions will be complemented by support to disaster risk reduction/climate change adaptation initiatives and the mainstreaming of gender and environment. The levels of interventions, national, provincial, district, or community/household is identified based on the needs and capacities at those levels.

A significant proportion of nutrition-related interventions are managed through the health sector and nutrition coordination is led by the MoHCC in close collaboration with the FNC. There is limited awareness of the contribution the agriculture sector can make to improve nutrition outcomes despite this being well articulated in the NFNSP. MoAMID has no nutrition unit or focal person and so insufficient attention is given to nutrition in the research agenda, in information systems, in the training curricular of agricultural extension staff and in planning and policy decisions. Coordination of nutrition initiatives within the Ministry is disjointed with fragmented approaches spearheaded by different departments. To further demonstrate this institutional weakness and the health focus of the nutrition agenda in Zimbabwe, it has been noted that the National Nutrition Strategy (NNS) 2014-2018 is primarily focused on the health sector with no clear involvement from the MoAMID; consequently any attempt at addressing the nutrition challenges through an agriculture and food security perspective is almost non-existent. Similarly, there is an increased awareness about the need to fund nutrition-sensitive interventions through agriculture as well as other sectors (social welfare and education). The EU has a unique opportunity to support both nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive interventions in Zimbabwe through the UN and other organisations, in line with its global commitment for nutrition.

**2 RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS**

<b>Risk</b>	<b>Level of Risk</b>	<b>Mitigation Measures</b>
Limited donor/EUMS commitment to respond to nutrition challenges	Medium	Current high level of interest/commitment and EU role as SUN Donor Convenor provides good leverage for lobbying.
No other donors participating in the pool funding for Resilience	Medium	EU and UNDP are working closely with DFID to develop business case for proposal for funding. Regular meetings with other donors will possibly open other opportunities for funding in the future.
Cooperation from all stakeholders	Low	All key stakeholders have been consulted and will regularly be consulted and involved in the activities proposed.
Stable political and macroeconomic environment.	Medium	There is not (or limited) possibility on the project side to apply mitigation measures.

<p>Willingness and <u>commitment</u> of relevant Ministries and agencies to fully cooperate <u>to revise</u> policies and processes <u>to become more efficient as well as promoting concrete initiatives and adequate budget allocations.</u></p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>Ministries and agencies have been involved from the onset in the identification/designing of the project and the project will guarantee an adequate level of ownership. Adequate level of commitment is sought from Government authorities before embarking in new project initiatives. Complementary institutional support programme foreseen under the 11<sup>th</sup> EDF NIP Bridging Facility. Land audit under way through a 10<sup>th</sup> EDF ad hoc programme to help sort out outstanding land tenure issues.</p>
<p><b>Assumptions</b></p>		
<p>Adequate level of participation and contribution from all concerned stakeholders</p>		
<p>Overall economic development supports improvements in the targeted sectors</p>		
<p>Proposed action will trigger more investment in resilience and nutrition challenges</p>		
<p>Unforeseen external shocks will not prevent implementation</p>		
<p>Sufficient resilience and nutrition focused expertise is available</p>		

### 3 LESSONS LEARNT, COMPLEMENTARITY AND CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

#### 3.1 Lessons learnt

The growing interest from various humanitarian and development partners to build more resilient communities in Zimbabwe has triggered focus on resilience sensitive programming. As part of the actions funded under the Bridging Facility, Mercy Corps and TANGO will carry out specific research on resilience as they have already done in a number of other African countries<sup>11</sup> and in order to better analyse the meaning and application of the resilience concept in the Zimbabwe context. An example of lessons learnt are documented by previous studies and projects implemented by Mercy Corps, TANGO and other agencies and as described in the EU Communication and Action Plan on Resilience:

- There is no blanket approach to resilience, therefore the need to understand what it means in any given context.
- There is a need to provide more multi-year funding with the budget flexibility to provide for relief in development strategies and to better manage risks caused by cyclical shocks.
- Resilience programmes can be supported by either humanitarian or development funding. For development donors, resilience funding would include contingency funding or similar mechanisms that allow protecting of development gains from risks caused by shocks/hazards. Contingency funds for crisis response need to be embedded into development programmes.

<sup>11</sup> Mercy Corps and TANGO What really matters for resilience: Exploratory Evidence on the Determinants of Resilience to Food Security Shocks in Southern Somalia- October 2013

Despite significant improvements in the prevalence of stunting have been recorded in recent years (from 32% in 2010 - DHS 2010-11 to the 27.6 recorded in the 2014 MICS), lessons learnt from on-going projects and from a number of recent studies and reports highlight the importance of tackling the still high rates of chronic malnutrition in Zimbabwe. This should be achieved through a more integrated and holistic approach to nutrition through both nutrition specific and nutrition sensitive programming and actions. The high prevalence of stunting in children under-five years of age remains the country's top nutrition challenge.

Some of the key lessons learned from the 10<sup>th</sup> EDF Ad Hoc allocations 2011/12 as well as the FSTP 2010 and 2012 can be summarized as follow:

- a. There is a need for adopting increased complementarities and holistic approaches to programming, especially to address the chronic malnutrition. Demonstrated by multi-sector approaches of previous WASH and FS/livelihoods projects;
- b. Past food security initiatives have shown a strong focus on hardware (infrastructure rehabilitation etc.) with limited attention to other key software components (such as capacity building, management skills, efficient market linkages etc.), essential for attaining more durable/sustainable results;
- c. Limited level of public commitment and participation in addition to free inputs programming, have exacerbated high level of donor dependency and reduced ownership;

### **3.2 Complementarity, synergy and donor coordination**

The proposed action is a continuation of actions funded under the Bridging Facility, which included studies focused on resilience and nutrition as well as the establishment of the ZRBF administered by UNDP. In addition, the proposed action will continue to build on agriculture and food security projects funded under the 10<sup>th</sup> EDF Ad Hoc allocations 2011/12 as well as the FSTP 2010 and 2012. These previous actions that provided support to the agriculture sector, have the final objective of contributing to enhanced resilience of target communities and mitigating the negative impact of under nutrition.

A Joint Donor Disaster Resilience Strategy for Zimbabwe was developed in 2014, in order to bring donors together on a single approach. Various donors in Zimbabwe are committed to joint programming and coordination ensuring that analysis and programme design incorporates current programmes, and vice versa. This ensures a long term perspective as current programmes which incorporate elements of resilience building are at different stages of design and implementation. While the Joint Donor Resilience Strategy was initially drafted by DFID and EU all other donors have been consulted for comments.

In 2014 there was a revitalisation of the informal Food Security/Agriculture donor group now chaired by USAID, this provides a platform for a number of like-minded donor meetings to build consensus. The group has decided to shift its focus to encompass the larger issue of resilience.

The EU has been appointed as SUN donor convenor for Zimbabwe; along with other established networks, it will play a catalytic role to ensure adequate contribution and participation from all concerned donors and agencies. This will certainly bolster the role and position of the FNC (Food and Nutrition Council) as the SUN national Focal Point with its national multi-sector coordination role.

The Government plays a key role in ensuring efficient coordination among various concerned stakeholders. The ZIMASSET has foreseen that while the Office of the President and Cabinet has the oversight responsibility in the Coordination of ZIMASSET, the actual implementation is done through four key clusters, the first one being the Food and Nutrition Security cluster. The system aims to create stronger synergic relationship among various stakeholders. The EU, other donors and key stakeholders (civil society, private sector) currently contribute to the

above national coordination forum through the Agriculture National Steering Committee (ANSC) which promote a common intervention strategy, aligned with Government policies. The Policy dialogue on agriculture related issues takes also place with various stakeholders through other thematic working sub-groups, in particular the livestock and irrigation working groups.

Important complementarities are built with other EU funded programmes, namely:

a. Health programme: at impact level, both actions (Health and Resilience/Nutrition actions aim, through different sectors of intervention, to jointly contribute to address chronic malnutrition in Zimbabwe. In this regard a similar impact indicator has been proposed on the reduction of stunting;

b. Agriculture economic growth: mitigating and preventing most vulnerable households to fall into wider destitution will eventually allow these communities to graduate from poverty and subsistence farming into more productive and business oriented farming practices (main target of the agriculture economic growth programme);

c. The support to Policy and Coordination, funded under the Bridging Facility, will contribute to complement the Institutional support foreseen in this action; synergies and complementarities will be sought as appropriate.

### **3.3 Cross-cutting issues**

**Environment and climate change** are central to the action proposed on resilience. Environmental degradation in the areas that will be targeted for the resilience component is synonymous with non-sustainable coping mechanisms. Climate change represents an additional set of challenges, intensifying pressure on the environment. A diverse set of income sources that are all based on agro-pastoral activities is unlikely to significantly reduce households' vulnerability to food security shocks. Sound and sustainable agricultural practices and other sustainable natural resource management activities are always an integral part of the EU engagement in the agricultural sector for livestock, crop production and horticulture.

**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 in particular recognising their role amongst the most vulnerable section of the population. The projects will ensure that a fair percentage of single women-headed households are selected in each group of beneficiaries targeted to benefit from the projects. Gender mainstreaming is recognised as a critical element of all future interventions. Empowering women as income-earners, decision-makers and primary childcare providers through targeted interventions is one of the pathways that yields the most effective results in addressing under-nutrition through agriculture. Female involvement in household decision making is strongly linked with greater household dietary diversity and less distressful coping in the face of the complex crisis. The above is in line with the National Gender Policy (2013-2017) and the role played by empowered women to achieve sustainable economic growth. In all different commitment under the Food and Nutrition Security Policy systemic consideration is also given on equity and gender.

**HIV/AIDS:** The economic crisis and HIV/AIDS have strongly affected the Zimbabwean population. At present, HIV/AIDS treatment and other major diseases remain difficult to access for the rural population, even when, at national level, donor programmes have greatly improved availability. Therefore the programme will ensure that extension services promote HIV/AIDS sensitive messages and the beneficiary population is aware of existing HIV/AIDS activities; in this regard linkages with specific health programmes will be also established.

## 4 DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

### 4.1 Objectives/results

The overall objective of this action is to enhance the food and nutrition status and the overall resilience capacities of target communities to better cope with recurrent stresses/shocks in Zimbabwe. This will contribute to Strategic Objective 3 of the National Indicative Programme (NIP) "Enhanced resilience, food security and reduced under-nutrition in children".

#### **Specific objective 1: Contribute to creating a resilient nation with the capacity to protect development gains against shocks and stresses and support inclusive economic growth.**

**Result 1.1:** Target communities' absorptive, adaptive and transformative resilience capacities increased and improved through the implementation of projects financed by the fund.

**Result 1.2:** Crisis Modifier window<sup>12</sup> enables appropriate, predictable, coordinated and timely responses to shocks (mainly via cash transfers) for communities in crisis.

**Result 1.3:** Resilience based research, analysis and information systems are tied into an overall nationally owned M&E framework.

**Result 1.4:** Strengthened transformative capacities of central and local government to ensure improved coordination, application of evidence in policy making and resilience focused service delivery.

#### **Specific Objective 2: The development of the national nutritional agenda and its integration into agriculture development/programming will contribute to reduced chronic malnutrition and a more resilient/productive nation.**

**Result 2.1:** Improved multi sector nutrition governance to achieve more effective coordination and accountability.

**Result 2.2:** A multi-sector national information system on food and nutrition security is established and implemented through better informed scientific evidence based analysis, surveys and assessments.

**Result 2.3:** MoAMID is enabled to better integrate nutrition in planning, policy, strategy development/operations. **Result 2.4:** A national nutrition education campaign is contributing to improved nutritional practices among the target population.

### 4.2 Main activities

#### **SO1. Resilience:**

Implementing agency: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

This action will be a continuation of the Zimbabwe Resilience Building Fund (ZRBF) financed under the Bridging Facility; it will provide additional funding to ensure a consolidation of the start-up phase as well as a long-term implementation and sustainability of the fund. This intervention will contribute to the achievement of SO 3 (R3.1) of the NIP. To ensure improved synergies between both actions (resilience and nutrition), the management of ZRBF (UNDP) will establish close dialogue and coordination with FNC, to ensure that nutrition concerns and related policies are properly embedded in the fund design and implementation.

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<sup>12</sup> Financing mechanism that allow the use of timely and predictable funding in the event of sudden shocks/crises affecting target communities.

In close coordination with the Government, opportunities for long terms financial sustainability of the fund will be also explored; this may include direct financial commitment from the Government as well as other contributions from external donors/stakeholders.

The objective of the ZRBF is to increase the absorptive, adaptive and transformative capacities of households and communities in the face of climate related shocks and stresses. The fund supports actions that are multi-sector, multi-level, multi-partner and that can be strategically and jointly planned and implemented with the communities at risk as well as the government bodies working to support them. Operating on the principles of joint programming, the fund provides a flexible, coordinated, timely and predictable mechanism to support the achievement of increased national resilience to food and nutrition security shocks aligning to nationally owned and nationally determined priorities. By offering the possibility of channelling donor contributions through one mechanism, it serves to facilitate and streamline donor contributions and align donor reporting. By improving coordination among all stakeholders, the fund also provides a forum for policy dialogue, and programmatic coordination and harmonization.

**Activities linked to Result 1.1:** based on the existing guidelines and operating procedures defined by the Bridging Facility project, UNDP will periodically launch calls for proposals, to finance activities that improve the absorptive and adaptive capacities of at risk households and communities. Ultimately these households and communities will be able to reduce their exposure to shocks and stresses through preventative measures and strengthened coping strategies which will also enable quicker recovery and mitigate negative impacts of shocks. Targeting focuses on most vulnerable rural communities, mostly relying on subsistence farming practices. Examples of interventions may include (but not limited to): community disaster management plans (preparedness/response), savings groups and access to financial services, climate smart agriculture techniques, climate smart irrigation systems, drought resistant variety development and marketing, livelihoods and crop diversification as well as nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive interventions. Funded projects will be closely monitored and periodic evaluations carried out to assess their performances and possibly inform improvements/changes to the programme.

**Activities linked to result 1.2:** The programme has a crisis modifier/risk financing mechanism that avails timely, appropriate and predictable funding for communities that experience shocks, should these occur during the life of the programme. Release of funds will be guided by operational guidelines on modalities, trigger indicators and thresholds. The impact and needs generated by the shocks (i.e. failed rainy season, floods) will be promptly assessed to determine the level and appropriateness of the required interventions, which may include, among others, timely and cost effective cash based initiatives. This crisis management tool will ensure that communities are able to recover quickly and minimise the loss of development investments and gains. The response would be cash-based, time-limited and build upon existing structures. Other donors will have the possibility to contribute to this window with their humanitarian funds, even when they are not a core donor of the resilience fund. This will bring about greater humanitarian aid coordination and offer value for money. However, it should be noted that this provision is mainly designed to support those communities target under the ZRBF as well as to respond to small scale and localised new crises. Larger humanitarian crises will be addressed through appropriate emergency response instruments.

**Activities linked to result 1.3:** Two main set of activities are foreseen:

a. Current resilience based information systems are continuously analysed/assessed for integration into the overall M&E framework. Collected data and results will be further disseminated to concerned stakeholders and practitioners for future programming and implementation. The development of information system will incorporate food security and nutrition analysis in tandem and synergy with result 2.2 on nutrition. Regular monitoring and review of the framework will be required to assess progress and enact necessary improvements.

b. The development of additional research and analysis will contribute to better inform programming for the future. Further, assessment of research gaps will be carried out to determine support to possible additional research initiatives in order to build evidence based for monitoring, evaluation and development of information systems.

**Activities linked to result 1.4:** Transformative capacities will be supported by aligning with and supporting existing relevant policy frameworks such as the food and nutrition policy, the national gender policy, the environmental act, the traditional leaders act, the Disaster Risk Management policy. Activities may include, among others: a) assessment of capacity building needs, b) design and support capacity building initiatives to ensure national ownership of the resilience agenda, c) promote linkages among key actors to reinforce level of cooperation, d) facilitate set up of strategic partnerships among key stakeholders, e) Dissemination of best practices to concerned departments/agencies. In particular, the Government participation in the management of the ZRBF will be key to ensure increased ownership and commitment to the resilience agenda by the Zimbabwe authorities. Support to capacity building initiatives for Government will also explore/analyse opportunities for an exit strategy and aspects of the (financial and technical) sustainability of the fund, which will ultimately lead to an increase level responsibility/commitment to take over the management of a similar fund.

## **SO 2. Nutrition**

Implementing agency: United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO)

This Action will contribute to further support the roll out and implementation of the National Food and Nutrition Security Policy and the National Nutrition Strategy. In particular, a strong focus will be on the promotion of a nutrition sensitive agriculture sector, aiming to enhance the capacities of the Ministry of Agriculture and other key actors to undertaking a more proactive role in the development of the nutritional agenda for Zimbabwe.

This action will also ensure a follow up of other previous EU supported FAO initiatives, namely: a) the support to coordination in the agriculture sector and b) the roll out an implementation of the Food and Nutrition Policy through the strengthening of both the Nutrition Council (FNC) and the Food and Nutrition Security Information systems, c) the Zvitambo study on "*Understanding the causalities of chronic malnutrition as a key bottleneck to strengthening resilience in Zimbabwe*", implemented under the Bridging Facility. It has also incorporated some of the key recommendation highlighted in the course of the recent NAS (Nutrition Advisory Services) mission (12/16 January 2015).

This action will contribute to the implementation of SO (Strategic Objective) 1 and 3 (sector 2) of the NIP (National Indicative Programme).

**Activities linked to result 2.1:** Technical assistance to ensure support FNC as the multi-sector government body responsible for overseeing the development of the nutrition policy, coordination and capacity development will be continued and consolidated under this action. Ongoing coordination activities with other programmes under the SUN (Scaling up Nutrition) initiative will be maintained and/or strengthened. In addition, in order to further strengthen the system of nutrition governance, the SUN Secretariat will be further capacitated to implement specific tasks such as results monitoring and resource tracking. To perform the above it is foreseen to support the position of a facilitator whose main role will be, among others, to facilitate information sharing across interested donors and between the respective SUN networks as well as facilitate the establishment and implementation of an accountability framework in Zimbabwe.

**Activities linked to result 2.2:** Through the auspices of the Food & Nutrition Council (FNC), technical capacity is mobilized through specific technical assistance to undertake a three-step exercise on food and nutrition security information and analysis:

- a) Initiate and reach consensus with the principal line ministries (with particular reference to the MoAMID) and the FNC on a set of SMART indicators relevant and necessary to monitor the situation of food and nutrition insecurity as well as resilience at the household and community level; and articulate the analytical framework for such monitoring;
- b) Identify gaps in the current range of information on food and nutrition security and resilience that need to be addressed to monitor these indicators and propose an analytical framework that will be applied to the monitoring and reporting process;
- c) Based on gaps identified by above assessment this project will provide support to the strengthening and implementation of relevant information systems e.g. development of a national information system on food and nutrition security (ISFNS).

In order to better inform a multi-sector national information system, support to specific research activities will be continued; this will further contribute to build additional scientific based evidence of underlining cause of under nutrition and appropriate response modalities. The above will aim to address, among others, issues of bio-fortification, drylands/drought resistant crop and livestock species, post-harvest storage and handling, causes and effects of micro-toxins on human nutrition as well as better Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) practices. As a follow up to activities funded under the Bridging Facility, the analysis and dissemination of ZVITAMBO SHINE findings will be strengthened. Based on the findings and recommendations originated from the above documents, a policy and strategy document is developed.

**Activities linked to result 2.3:** The main activities will consist in setting up a “nutrition hub” within the Ministry of Agriculture to facilitate mainstreaming of nutrition through the sector in accordance with the objectives of the ZIM ASSET and the ZAIP. This will contribute to : a) raising awareness across the different agricultural departments about how their services can contribute to better nutrition outcomes and deliver on the government’s political commitment to reduce chronic food and nutrition insecurity<sup>13</sup>; b) to better integrate nutrition into the agriculture research agenda, planning, policy and strategy development for the sector; c) to ensure that nutrition is integrated into the curricula of agriculture colleges and extension/advisory services (achieve better nutrition outcomes especially for smallholders farmers, d) strengthen the contribution of the Ministry of Agriculture to the nutrition debate within the Food & Nutrition Council and to enhance its position at a decentralised level as chair and convenor of the Food & Nutrition Security Committees.

**Activities linked to result 2.4:** The lack of awareness on nutritional matters along with prevalent cultural traditions (i.e. diet of mainly maize as key staple food) are estimated among the causes of inadequate nutritional practices and poor nutrition intake (micronutrients). This necessitates the design and implementation of awareness campaigns to ensure the adoption and uptake of best nutritional practices. In this regard, partners with extensive experience in the field of holistic, multi-sector approaches to addressing the key underlying causes of malnutrition will be engaged such as GOAL's (an Irish NGO) Nutrition Impact and Positive Practice -NIPP.

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<sup>13</sup> At the Nutrition for Growth Event in London June 2013, the Government of Zimbabwe committed to reduce levels of chronic undernutrition by 40% by 2025 in line with the WHA targets

### **4.3 Intervention logic**

The intervention logic behind the identified results and activities is based on the gaps identified during various analyses and assessment carried out as part of the formulation of this programme. Various shortcomings and gaps identified above (such as better focus on capacity building, holistic approach to programming, increased level of ownership, etc.) will be addressed in this action. In particular:

**Resilience:** the proposed intervention will contribute to strengthen the ability of target communities to resist and bounce back from stresses/shocks caused by both human-induced and natural hazards. Examples of actions: The use of drought resistant crops to address risk of failed rainy season in semi-arid zones and early warning systems. Government institutions will be capacitated to ensure increased ownership of the national resilience agenda and develop/enforce related policies and strategies such as Disaster Risk Management. The Crisis Modifier window will mitigate the impact of localised sudden onset disasters and contribute to relieve affected communities. The above will contribute to reduce the adoption of negative coping mechanism such as selling of productive assets and migration trend, therefore preserving development gains and maintain a productive livelihoods base.

**Nutrition:** strengthening the implementation of the national food and nutrition security policy and the adequate integration of its agenda in the agriculture sector shall contribute to a reduction of chronic malnutrition (stunting) in Zimbabwe. Considering the lifelong cognitive and physical deficits as well as health problems caused by chronic under-nutrition in children, the long term consequences (i.e. lower economic productivity, affected intellectual ability, reproductive performance, etc.) of stunting are therefore likely to have a considerable negative impact on the economic growth and GDP of the country. To this end, the proposed action aims to contribute to poverty alleviation, an improved economic growth and resilience of Zimbabwean communities.

As improved maternal and child nutrition is core to household resilience, the interaction between both planned action will be key to ensure necessary synergies and complementarities, minimizing risks of overlapping. To this end, dialogue and close cooperation among both implementing agencies will be ensured for example through a) participation to coordination fora and/or respective Project Steering Committee, b) set up of ad hoc meetings to analyse and implement areas of common interest such as the development of integrated information systems (R2.2 and R1.3) support to continue scientific evidence base analysis, c) promote complementary capacity building initiatives for Government authorities (R1.4 and R2.2), d) build coherence between activities funded under the ZRBF and promoted by the MoAMID (R2.3 and R1.1).

## **5 IMPLEMENTATION**

### **5.1 Financing agreement**

In order to implement this action, it is foreseen to conclude a financing agreement with the Government of Zimbabwe, referred to in Article 17 of Annex IV to the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement.

### **5.2 Indicative implementation period**

The indicative operational implementation period of this action, during which the activities described in section 4.2 will be carried out and the corresponding contracts and agreements implemented, is 60 months from the date of entry into force of the financing agreement.

Extensions of the implementation period may be agreed by the Commission's authorising officer responsible by amending this decision and the relevant contracts and agreements; such amendments to this decision constitute non-substantial amendment in the sense of Article 9(4) to Regulation (EU) 2015/322.

### **5.3 Implementation Modalities**

#### **5.3.1 Indirect management with an international organisation.**

##### SO 1: Resilience

This action may be implemented in indirect management with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in accordance with Article 58(1)(c) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 applicable by virtue of Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2015/323. This implementation entails the administration of the Zimbabwe Resilience Building Fund (ZRBF) as described in section 4.2; SO1 Resilience, above. The Fund will provide the necessary flexibility to support actions that are multi-sector, multi-level, multi-partner and that can be strategically and jointly planned with the communities at risk as well as with government agencies. This implementation is justified because UNDP has demonstrated long experience in resilience building, preparedness and prevention actions. UNDP has a long standing international mandate to support countries in their improvement of DRM (Disaster Risk Management). UNDP draws on experiences from around the world in peace and reconciliation, early recovery (Global Cluster lead) and/or climate changed focussed approaches to supporting vulnerable communities create resilience, growth and development. UNDP has a proven track record in swift and effective project implementation and fund administration with different types of fund mechanisms both in Zimbabwe and in a number of other countries. UNDP is a trusted partner of relevant Ministries and government offices and it has demonstrated a particular dynamism in adapting to an environment rapidly changing from a humanitarian into a development context. It has been chosen due to its comparative advantage of its experience in managing and administering similar types of fund mechanisms and its experience and reputation in implementing resilience programmes. UNDP has agreed to co-fund the action to an indicative amount of EUR 1 000 000, while there is the potential that other donors would contribute to the resilience fund as well.

The entrusted entity would carry out the following budget-implementation tasks: Indicatively the types of contracts that the administrative agent in charge of the direct administration of the fund (UNDP) will manage and be responsible for are: the contracting of grants with implementing partners (e.g. NGO's, local government) following calls for proposals to carry out resilience building projects at field level, and services contracts awarded to entities identified to provide technical assistance and consultancy services for capacity building and support services to the Fund activities and supply contracts for the procurement of supplies that will be needed to support field activities ;

The entrusted international organisation is currently undergoing the ex-ante assessment in accordance with Article 61(1) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 applicable by virtue of Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2015/323. The Commission's authorising officer responsible deems that, based on the compliance with the ex-ante assessment based on Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1605/2002 and long-lasting problem-free cooperation, the international organisations can be entrusted with budget-implementation tasks under indirect management.

Following a request received from UNDP, the Commission authorises that the costs incurred by the entrusted entity may be recognised as eligible as of 1 October 2015. This will ensure the smooth continuity of activities from the bridging facility programme and allow to design a predictable calendar of activities and to schedule calls for proposals that corresponds to the critical window of the Zimbabwe Agricultural season. This will be essential to achieve the objective of the fund "to provide a more coordinated, timely and predictable mechanism to

support the achievement of increased national resilience to food and nutrition security shocks aligning to nationally owned and determined priorities".

### **5.3.2 Indirect management with an international organisation.**

#### SO 2: Nutrition

This action may be implemented in indirect management with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in accordance with Article 58(1)(c) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 applicable by virtue of Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2015/323. This implementation entails the provision by FAO of technical and operational support to facilitate the implementation of national Food and Nutrition security policy and National Nutrition Strategy<sup>14</sup> as described in section 4.2; SO2 Nutrition, above. In particular, a strong focus will be on the promotion of a nutrition sensitive agriculture sector, aiming to enhance the capacities of the Ministry of Agriculture and other key actors to undertake a leading role in the development of the nutritional agenda for Zimbabwe. This implementation is justified because FAO has been a long standing trusted implementing partner of the EU in Zimbabwe and has been implementing a number of large food security, agriculture sector policy and coordination based initiatives. FAO has undertaken a leading role in the promotion of the nutritional agenda in Zimbabwe and was entrusted previous EU support to facilitate the implementation of the National Strategy for Food security and Nutrition. FAO has agreed to co-fund the action to an indicative amount of EUR 300 000.

The entrusted entity would carry out the following budget-implementation tasks: Indicatively the types of contracts that FAO will manage and be responsible for are service contracts to provide technical assistance and consultancy services for capacity building, nutrition activities, and support services.

The entrusted international organisation and the alternative entrusted international organisation are currently undergoing the ex-ante assessment in accordance with Article 61(1) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 applicable by virtue of Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2015/323. The Commission's authorising officer responsible deems that, based on the compliance with the ex-ante assessment based on Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1605/2002 and long-lasting problem-free cooperation, the international organisations can be entrusted with budget-implementation tasks under indirect management.

### **5.3.3 Indirect management with an international organisation (if negotiations fail with FAO)**

If negotiations with the above-mentioned entrusted entity fail, that part of this action may be implemented in indirect management with UNICEF. The implementation by this alternative entrusted entity would be justified because of a) the multi-years UNICEF experience and expertise in addressing nutrition issues both globally and in Zimbabwe, b) UNICEF's strong commitment to the implementation of the national Food and Nutrition Security policy, c) due to other competitive commitments, possible FAO inability to continue meeting high quality standards in service delivery in the nutrition sector. The alternative entrusted entity would take the lead in assisting FNC in the effective implementation of the Nutrition policy as described in this Action document.

This action may be implemented in indirect management with UNICEF in accordance with Article 58(1)(c) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 applicable by virtue of Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2015/323. This implementation entails the provision by UNICEF of technical and operational support to facilitate the implementation of national Food and Nutrition security

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<sup>14</sup> The National Nutrition Strategy will clearly articulate and cost nutrition specific actions for reducing stunting in Zimbabwe.

policy and National Nutrition Strategy<sup>15</sup> as described in section 4.2; SO2 Nutrition, above. In particular, a strong focus will be on the promotion of a nutrition sensitive agriculture sector, aiming to enhance the capacities of the Ministry of Agriculture and other key actors to undertake a leading role in the development of the nutritional agenda for Zimbabwe. This implementation is justified because UNICEF has been a long standing trusted implementing partner of the EU in Zimbabwe and has been implementing a number of large health related programmes. UNICEF is a key player in the promotion of the nutritional agenda in Zimbabwe.

The entrusted entity would carry out the following budget-implementation tasks: Indicatively the types of contracts that UNICEF will manage and be responsible for are: the contracting of grants with implementing partners (e.g. NGO's, local government) and services contracts to provide technical assistance, nutrition activities, and consultancy services for capacity building and support services.

The entrusted entity is currently undergoing the ex-ante assessment in accordance with Article 61(1) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 applicable by virtue of Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2015/323. The Commission's responsible authorising officer deems that, based on the compliance with the ex-ante assessment based on Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1605/2002 and long-standing problem-free cooperation, the international organisation can be entrusted with budget-implementation tasks under indirect management.

#### 5.4 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 in accordance with Article 22(1)(b) of Annex IV to the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement 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.

#### 5.5 Indicative Budget

Specific Objectives	EU contribution (EUR)	Indicative third party contribution (in currency identified)
5.4.1 Indirect management with UNDP – SO 1: Zimbabwe Resilience Building Fund	11 850 000	USD 1 000 000 GBP 3 000 000
5.4.2 Indirect management with FAO – SO 2: Nutrition sensitive Agriculture development	3 000 000	EUR 300 000
5.9 Evaluation	100 000	N.A.
5.10 Audit	50 000	
<b>Totals</b>	15 000 000	EUR 5 398 000 <sup>16</sup>

<sup>15</sup> The National Nutrition Strategy will clearly articulate and cost nutrition specific actions for reducing stunting in Zimbabwe.

<sup>16</sup> Using May Inforeuro rate conversions for USD and GBP, rounded to the nearest thousand EUR.

## **5.6 Organisational set-up and responsibilities**

### Component 1: Resilience

1. The Steering Committee (SC) is the highest body governing the Zimbabwe Resilience Fund. The SC is co-chaired by the Government and a Funding Partner. The funding partners will select annually a co-chair amongst themselves. UNDP will serve as the secretariat. The composition of the SC includes other funding partners, members from relevant government institutions (FNC, Department of Civil Protection DCP, MoAMID, etc.) as well as representative from the UN agencies and the NGO community. The Steering Committee composition ensures the principles of national ownership, inclusiveness and balanced representation, as well as the need to have a manageable size for effective decision-making. Allocation criteria will inform decisions on resource allocations and provides strategic direction in line with the relevant strategic development framework.

2. UNDP will manage the Zimbabwe Resilience Fund. Under the oversight of the Steering Committee, UNDP is responsible for ensuring overall financial management and attainment of programme results across all components of the programme. UNDP's role includes legal responsibility for the appropriate use of the funds as well as the performance of implementing partners. In areas where it has a comparative advantage as determined by the Steering Committee UNDP may implement some specific actions.

3. The Technical Committee (TC) chaired by a UN agency consists of government, funding partners, UN and NGO representatives with particular technical capacities within the areas of work relevant to the Fund. The duties and authorities of the Technical Committee are as follows: coordination, technical support, operational guidance, submitting ZRBF portfolio and performance report to the Steering Committee every three months.

4. The Fund Management Unit: ensures overall management (financial and administrative) of the fund as well monitoring and evaluation of activities financed by the fund. The Unit is located within UNDP and reports to the UNDP Country Director.

### Component 2: Nutrition

FAO will provide technical assistance and advisory services at various levels as described in previous section 4.1 as well as assume responsibility for ensuring overall financial management and attainment of programme results across all components. FAO role includes legal responsibility for the appropriate use of the funds as well as the performance of implementing partners

## **5.7 Performance 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 logframe matrix. The report 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).

## **5.8 Evaluation**

Having regard to the importance of the action, a mid-term and a final evaluation will be carried out for this action or its components via independent consultants contracted by the Commission.

The Commission shall inform the implementing partner at least 30 days 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.

Indicatively, two contracts for evaluation services shall be concluded under a framework contract in 2017 (mid-term) and 2020 (final).

## **5.9 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.

Indicatively, two contracts for audit services shall be concluded under a framework contract in 2020.

## **5.10 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 finalised at the start of implementation and supported with the budget indicated in section above 5.5.

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 delegation agreements.

The Communication and Visibility Manual for European Union External Action shall be used to establish the Communication and Visibility Plan of the Action and the appropriate contractual obligations.

However, no dedicated budget is foreseen in this programme for communication and visibility as it will be part of the Communication and visibility activities (such as launching events, and posting through various media services) integrated into the various programmes and related contracts; the proposed communication/visibility plan will be beforehand agreed with the EU Delegation.

**APPENDIX - INDICATIVE LOG FRAME MATRIX**

	<b>Intervention logic</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Baselines (incl. reference year)</b>	<b>Targets (incl. reference year)</b>	<b>Sources and means of verification</b>	<b>Assumptions</b>
<b>Overall objective: Impact</b>	Contribute to enhance the food security and nutrition status of target communities while increasing their resilience to recurrent stresses/shocks*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Adaptive capacity through livelihoods diversification, mitigation/preventive measures and disaster preparedness measured by number of people benefitting from EU livelihood support programmes.</li> <li>- Number of people in need of food assistance during lean season in years affected by shock</li> <li>- Prevalence of stunting in children under five years ** (9)</li> <li>- Number of households (HH) with access to improved safe drinking water and basic sanitation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Baseline 2014: 600.000 people</li> <li>- Baseline Lean season 2013-2014: 2 million people receiving food assistance</li> <li>- Baseline 2014: 27.6% stunting level</li> <li>Baseline 2014: 76.1% (use water sources) and 35% (use improve sanitation)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-2020: 20% increase of people benefitting from livelihood support programmes compare to 2014 baseline</li> <li>- 2020: reduced number of people in need of FA below 500,000</li> <li>- 2020: stunting is reduced &lt; 20 %</li> <li>-2020: &gt; 80 (water), &gt; 45% (sanitation)</li> </ul>	ZIMVAC MICS Nutrition survey FEWSNET	
<b>Specific Objectives</b>	SO1: Contribute to creating a resilient nation with the capacity to protect development gains against shocks and stresses and support inclusive economic growth*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- % share of Food expenditure for poor HH</li> <li>-% increase in agricultural productivity (ZIMVAC) ** (6,7)</li> <li>- % decrease in livestock mortality</li> <li>- prevalence of wasting in children aged &lt; 5 years ** (9)</li> <li>- Availability and overall quality of climate change and Disaster management plans (i.e. contingency)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Baseline 2014: 58% share household expenditure on food items</li> <li>Baseline 2014: 529 kg (maize + small grains)/HH</li> <li>Baseline 2012: 4.,03%</li> <li>Baseline 2014: 3.3%</li> <li>Baseline 2015: limited or no availability of (quality) climate change and Disaster management plans</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-2020: below 45% share on food expenditures</li> <li>-2020: &gt; 700kg/HH</li> <li>-2020: &lt; 2.5%</li> <li>2018: &lt; 2.5%</li> <li>- 2018: at least 1 EWS and contingency, response plan developed per Province</li> </ul>	ZIMVAC MICS Crop and Livestock assessments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Overall economic development supports improvements in the target sectors/areas</li> <li>- No of other donors participating in the pool funding</li> </ul>

	SO 2: The development of the national nutritional agenda and its improved integration into agriculture development/programming will contribute to reduced chronic malnutrition and a more resilient/productive nation*/**.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Minimum dietary diversity: percentage of children aged 6-23 months who received food from 4 or more food groups during the previous day (MICS) ** (9)</li> <li>- Percentage of children under 6 months who are exclusively breastfed (MICS) ** (9)</li> <li>- % percentage of households consuming at least 6 food groups (ZIMVAC).</li> <li>- % of children under five and pregnant women affected by anaemia ** (9)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Baseline 2014: 28%</li> <li>-Baseline 2014: 41%</li> <li>- Baseline 2014: 64%</li> <li>- Baseline 2012: 31% (children) and 26% (women)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-2020: 40%</li> <li>- 2020: &gt; 70%</li> <li>- 2020: &gt; 80% HH consume at least 6 food group</li> <li>- 2020: 17% (women) , 22% (children)</li> </ul>	ZIMVAC MICS Nutrition survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cultural acceptability of adopting improved nutrition practices</li> <li>- Adequate level of commitment from the MoAMID to develop a nutrition sensitive agenda</li> </ul>
	<b>Intervention logic</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Baselines (2015)</b>	<b>Targets (2019)</b>	<b>Sources and means of verification</b>	<b>Assumptions</b>
<b>Outputs</b>	<b>Result 1.1:</b> Target communities' absorptive, adaptive and transformative resilience capacities increased and improved through the implementation of projects financed by the fund.	- Implementation status of resilience building initiatives ** (6,7)	Baseline2015: launch/set up of the of programme	- 2018: all initiatives are being monitored and evaluated, and 70% scored successful	Programme monitoring mechanism and reporting	- Adequate level of quality proposals for resilience building initiatives
	<b>Result 1.2:</b> Crisis Modifier window enables appropriate, predictable, coordinated and timely responses to shocks for communities in crisis during the implementation of the project.	- Number of food insecure people receiving assistance through social transfer supported by the EU ** (10)	Baseline 2015: to be determine	- 2020: > 75% of target population have access to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round	Programme monitoring mechanism and reporting	- Capacity of UNDP to manage this response tool - Dimension of the crises which can be addressed with this instrument
	<b>Result 1.3:</b> Resilience based research, analysis and information systems are tied into an overall nationally owned M&E framework.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Implementation status of M&amp;E system</li> <li>-Status of development and institutionalisation of National Resilience framework</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Baseline 2015: current M&amp;E systems fragmented and/or not fully operational</li> <li>-Baseline 2015: Resilience analysis in its initial stage of development</li> </ul>	2018: Global M&E framework established and operational 2017: Resilience framework for Zimbabwe fully developed	Programme monitoring mechanism and reporting Researches /studies realised	- Adequate level of expertise and cooperation among concerned stakeholders to
	<b>Result 1.4:</b> Capacity of central and local government is strengthened to ensure improved coordination, application of evidence in policy making and resilience focused service delivery.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Level of Local Government and communities capacity to formulate and implement Disaster management plans and informal safety net ** (23)</li> <li>-Level of capacity of government to improve resilience focused service delivery</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Baseline 2015: Some existing plans but overall status still unknown</li> <li>- Baseline 2015: capacity building need to be further established/assessed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 2018: Disaster Management plans finalised in all target Districts/Provinces</li> <li>- 2020: improved capacity of target government to deliver resilience focused services</li> </ul>	Programme monitoring mechanism and reporting Policy updates and Government action plans	- Adequate level of commitment from concerned Government entities

	<b>Result 2.1:</b> Improved nutrition governance to achieve more effective coordination and accountability.	- Number of Provinces/District where FNC coordination mechanism are rolled out	-Baseline 2015: Coordination mechanism in place in 8 Province	- 2018/2020: FNC led Coordination systems rolled out in all ZIM Provinces/Districts	Programme monitoring mechanism and reporting	- Adequate level of commitment from concerned Government entities
	<b>Result 2.2:</b> A multi-sector national information system on food and nutrition security is established and implemented through better informed scientific evidence based analysis, surveys and assessments.	- Status of information systems  - Status of finalisation and dissemination of Shine research trial results	- Baseline 2015: existing information systems assessed  Baseline 2015: SHINE trial in its early stage of development	- 2020: at least four information systems integrated within a multisector framework  - 2020: SHINE evidence based results developed and disseminated	Programme monitoring mechanism and reporting	- Availability of information. - Adequate level of expertise available
	<b>Result 2.3:</b> MoAMID (Ministry of Agriculture) is enabled to better integrate nutrition in planning, policy, strategy development/operations.	- Status of successful nutrition sensitive initiative promoted by MoAMID (i.e. % Extension services integrating nutritional concerns in their profile) ** (9)	- Baseline 2015: nutrition sensitive agenda to be promoted at Ministry level	- 2018/2020: number and quality of nutrition sensitive initiatives implemented by MoAMID	Programme monitoring mechanism and reporting Government reporting and policies.	- Adequate level of commitment from the Ministry of Agriculture
	<b>Result 2.4:</b> A National nutrition education campaign is contributing to improved nutritional practices among the target population.	- Number. of population reached ** (9)	Baseline 2015: absence of large scale nutritional education campaign	- 2018/2020: Nutrition campaign achieved >2 m people	- Programme monitoring mechanism and reporting	- Level of acceptance and commitment from the target population

\* Indicator included in the programming document;\*\* Indicator can be matched with those of the EU Results Framework