
Project code: OSRO/SFS/604/CAN

Donor: Canada

Contribution: USD 1,907,810

Implementation: 14/12/2016–30/4/2018

Target areas: Eswatini, Malawi and Zimbabwe

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Objective:
To contribute to improved food security and nutrition for vulnerable households affected by the 2015/16 El Niño-induced drought, while protecting and gradually restoring agriculture-based livelihoods.

Key partners:
Ministry of Agriculture (Eswatini), World Food Programme (Eswatini), Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Water Development (Malawi), District Water and Sanitation Sub-Committees (Zimbabwe).

Beneficiaries reached: 14,850 households (2,500 in Eswatini, 7,500 in Malawi and 4,850 in Zimbabwe).

Activities:
- In Eswatini, 2,500 households were supported with livelihood emergency packages through the electronic voucher system, including seeds for maize, groundnuts, beans, and vegetables.
- Trained 625 lead farmers in climate-smart agriculture practices in Eswatini.
- In Malawi, supported 5,500 households through seed fairs.
- Provided 2,000 households in Malawi with irrigation and integrated watershed management equipment and activities.
- Trained 615 farmers on conservation agriculture, soil and water management and group dynamics and facilitation skills in Malawi.
- In Zimbabwe, rehabilitated 96 boreholes (84 manual hand pump and 12 solar-powered).
- Established community gardens at each of the solar-powered boreholes in Zimbabwe, where approximately 1,000 beneficiaries grew cabbages, onions, sugar beans and tomatoes.
- At the subregional level, trained 77 trainers (28 male, 49 female) on prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse among FAO beneficiaries, who in turn raised awareness on beneficiary rights and other protection issues at community level.

Results:
- Produced an average of 0.8 tonnes/ha of beans and 2.5 tonnes/ha of maize in Eswatini.
- Strengthened the technical capacities of beneficiaries.
- Improved the availability of quality seeds among farming families in project areas.
- Ensured access to safe and clean water for beneficiaries and their livestock.
- Contributed to reducing drought-affected populations’ dependency on food aid.
- Improved local farming systems and crop productivity.
- Provided 4,850 households (24,250 people) with improved access to safe and clean water in Zimbabwe.
- Raised awareness on sexual exploitation and abuse, rights and protection.