

Name:	7. COPING WITH DROUGHT AND CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE CHIREDDI DISTRICT		
Region	Africa	Country	Zimbabwe
Ecosystem	Rangelands & grasslands; Agriculture		
Nature of approach	Assessment of vulnerability; Improvement in capacity, design and policy measures (identifying and/or developing adaptation approach); Implementation of EBA measures (pilot schemes, natural resource management)		
Description of approach	<p>Objective/Expected outcomes For the last 30 years Zimbabwe has experienced dramatic losses in agricultural production resulting in critical food and fuel shortages. Coupled with the economic and political constraints, drought and climate change are testing the limits of agricultural production in Zimbabwe. With approximately 70% of Zimbabwe's population deriving their livelihoods from subsistence agriculture and other rural activities, the most noticeable effects of these droughts are the devastating impacts on food security and the livelihoods of the poor. As part of a regional programme of Coping with Drought and Climate Change (CwDCC) projects (also in Ethiopia, Kenya, and Mozambique), the project set out to support effective adaptation among subsistence farmers by promoting sustainable livelihoods for drylands, enhancing the use of early warning systems, and integrating climate risk management.</p> <p>Actions Through projects in six locations in the Chiredze District, the project worked with rural farming communities to reduce their vulnerability to predicted increased drought, through adopting a range of sustainable agricultural approaches including crop diversification, grazing management, woodland management, community seed producers' networks, training of communities in pasture management, establishment of fodder banks, and commercial seed production. Community-based natural resource management is also helping to conserve wetlands and forests that provide important ecosystem services. Monitoring of climatic information was also undertaken along with river basin analysis to support the production of a community-based drought mitigation and preparedness plan and a catchment management plan that enable management of water from the rivers that the communities depend on.</p> <p>Results achieved Uptake of alternative sustainable agricultural approaches is being achieved through farmer managed trials, which enabled early screening of options that would not be easily adopted by farmers because of the constraining farmers' circumstances. Diversification ensures flexibility in resources and income generation, which is vital to the ability of communities to adapt to the adverse effects of climate change such as drought.</p> <p>Lessons learned The project sought to learn from past interventions that were known to work in the area, including the results of seed trials that had been carried out by NGOs.</p>		
Type of organisation	Government; UN Agency	Name of organisation:	Government of Zimbabwe; UNDP
Further information and contact details	<p>GEF Database –Zimbabwe: http://gefonline.org/projectDetailsSQL.cfm?projID=3156</p> <p>ALM Project Website: http://www.adaptationlearning.net/projects/zimbabwe-coping-drought-and-climate-change</p> <p>Contact: UNDP Regional Technical Advisor, Jessica Troni, E-mail: Jessica.troni@undp.org or Project Coordinator, Dr. Leonard Unganai, Email: cwd@ecoweb.co.zw</p>		