



**ZIMBABWE LIVESTOCK FOR ACCELERATED RECOVERY AND IMPROVED
RESILIENCY (ZRR)**

Quarterly Report

July – September 2012

Agreement AID-OFDA-G-12-00032

**USAID/ZIMBABWE
OFFICE OF FOREIGN DISASTER ASSISTANCE
SOUTHERN AFRICA**

Submitted to:

USAID/OFDA

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS..... IV

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY..... 1

SECTION I: INTRODUCTION 1

 1.1 PROGRAM OVERVIEW 1

 1.2 ADMINISTRATION, OPERATIONS AND CROSSCUTTING ISSUES..... 1

SECTION II: PROGRAM ACTIVITIES 1

 2.1 SUMMARY OF PROGRAMME ACTIVITY ACHIEVEMENT 1

 2.2 INTERMEDIATE RESULT NO.1: INCREASED GOAT PRODUCTION & MARKETING BY VULNERABLE HOUSEHOLDS & COMMUNITIES..... 3

 2.3 INTERMEDIATE RESULT NO.2: INCREASED COMMUNITIES' CAPACITY FOR & PRACTICE OF SUSTAINABLE RANGELAND MANAGEMENT 3

 2.4 INTERMEDIATE RESULT NO. 3: INCREASED CAPACITY OF AND ACCESS TO ANIMAL HEALTH & LIVESTOCK EXTENSION SERVICES 3

 2.5 OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS..... 3

SECTION III: ACHIEVEMENT OF RESULTS 5

SECTION IV: CHALLENGES AND LESSON LEARNED 8

SECTION V: CONCLUSIONS AND NEXT STEPS 8

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ACHM	Africa Centre for Holistic Management
CLW	Community Livestock Worker
EMMP	Environmental Monitoring and Mitigation Plan
HLLM	Holistic Land and Livestock Management
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
OFDA	Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance
PMP	Performance Monitoring Plan
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
ZRR	Zimbabwe Livestock for Accelerated Recovery and Improved Resilience

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Key Achievements (July – September, 2012):

- Completed and submitted the program deliverables: baseline report, work plan and EMMP.
- Trained 717 farmers: 572 on goat housing and dentition; 145 on goat production as a business.
- 58 Community Livestock Workers (CLW) were identified for training and support.
- Four project staff trained on Holistic Land and Livestock Management (HLLM) conducted by the Africa Centre for Holistic Management (ACHM).
- 10 goat producer groups were formed.

SECTION I: INTRODUCTION

1.1 PROGRAM OVERVIEW

On May 16, USAID's Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) and Land O'Lakes International Development signed an agreement for Land O'Lakes to implement the Zimbabwe Livestock for Accelerated Recovery and Improved Resiliency (ZRR) project. ZRR aims to combat the negative effects of years of detrimental government policy and severe economic decline in Zimbabwe, which, coupled with a series of droughts and unpredictable rainfall, have decimated the small livestock sector. Through May 15, 2014, ZRR will provide training in livestock production, restock household herds, build community capacity in rangeland management, develop rangeland management plans, revive the livestock infrastructure, and link producers to markets. The project has been in start-up mode and the main activities have been focused on procurement of all required assets and hiring of project staff. Project staff was recruited, except one field officer, who will be hired in the coming quarter.

1.2 ADMINISTRATION, OPERATIONS AND CROSSCUTTING ISSUES

Administration: The project is nearly fully staffed; only one more Field Officer to be hired for Mutare.

Environmental Compliance & Gender: ZRR is mainstreaming environmental issues both at household and group levels, principally through holistic rangeland management activities. An Environmental Monitoring and Mitigation Plan (EMMP) was completed and circulated to all project implementation staff.

Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E): Land O'Lakes completed the ZRR baseline survey, which was submitted to OFDA on August 15th 2012. The ZRR work plan, the EMMP and the Performance Monitoring Plan (PMP) were also completed and submitted to OFDA during this quarter.

SECTION II: PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

2.1 SUMMARY OF PROGRAMME ACTIVITY ACHIEVEMENT

Quarterly activities implemented were derived from the project annual work plan with adjustment in accordance with field demands at the beginning of the quarter.

Table 1. Achievement of Planned Activities, July-Sept 2012

ACTIVITIES	Jul-12	Aug-12	Sep-12	Comments
Weekly report				Achieved
Monthly Report				Achieved
Quartely Report				Achieved
New Staff Training				Achieved
ACHM Training				Achieved
Stakeholder Engagement Meetings				Achieved
RDDC Meetings				Achieved
Full Council Meetings				Achieved
Community Mobilisation				Achieved
Training of trainers at ACHM				Achieved
Identification and selection of CLWs for training and certification				Achieved
CLW Activities				
Beneficiary Registration and Verification				1627/2000
Farmer group auditing				Ongoing
Goat production Training				
Goat Housing				572 trained
Goat health				Not achieved
Goat Nutrition				Not achieved
Ear Tagging				Not achieved
Goat Dehorning				Not achieved
Goat Castration				Not achieved
Goat Breeding				Not achieved
Kid Management				Not achieved
Goat Business Training				
Setting up and strengthening of goat producer associations				Not achieved
Farm business management training				145 trained
Goat Restocking				
Pass on of goats distributed in the ZDL project to ZRR households				Not achieved

Several of the topics on goat production training were not covered since field staff spent more time than expected on ensuring stakeholder engagement. For the same reason, field staff also did not have sufficient time to organize the pass-on of goats to ZRR households. These activities will be carried out during the next quarter.

2.2 INTERMEDIATE RESULT NO.1: INCREASED GOAT PRODUCTION & MARKETING BY VULNERABLE HOUSEHOLDS & COMMUNITIES

Farmer Training on Goat Production

Land O'Lakes trained a total of 717 farmers during this quarter; 572 on goat housing and dentition, and 145 on goat production as a business. The training informed farmers on the requirements for proper goat housing, such as ventilation, roofing and adequate space for the goats to move freely. On dentition, farmers improved their capacity to determine a goat's age by its teeth, an important tool for better management, particularly concerning breeding. The goat production business training concerned identifying business opportunities, seeking capital opportunities, calculating risk, persuasion and networking, formulation of business plans and information seeking. The project facilitated formation of 10 goat producer groups (against the targeted five), eight in Manicaland Province and two in Matabeleland Province.

2.3 INTERMEDIATE RESULT NO.2: INCREASED COMMUNITIES' CAPACITY FOR & PRACTICE OF SUSTAINABLE RANGELAND MANAGEMENT

Holistic Land and Livestock Management Training for Staff

Four ZRR project staff participated in four weeks of training (in two phases) on Holistic Land and Livestock Management (HLLM) conducted by project partner Africa Centre for Holistic Management (ACHM). The training focused herd management, land planning for grazing, holistic grazing planning, low stress herding and humane handling, land monitoring and improving crop field soils. After being trained, Land O'Lakes field staff carried out community mobilizations to roll out the rangeland management strategy so as to begin application of HLLM training.

2.4 INTERMEDIATE RESULT NO. 3: INCREASED CAPACITY OF AND ACCESS TO ANIMAL HEALTH & LIVESTOCK EXTENSION SERVICES

Identification of Community Livestock Workers

So far, 58 Community Livestock Workers (CLW) were identified for training and support. The project aims to train 50 CLWs.

2.5 OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS

Needs Assessment

During the quarter under review, Land O'Lakes completed a needs assessment in Matabeleland South and Manicaland provinces. Five districts were identified for activities, namely Mutare Rural, Makoni, Buhera, Bulilima and Mangwe.

The purpose of the assessment was to identify a potential partner of choice for the implementation of the ZRR project and administer a goat producer group assessment tool on existing producer groups. Two potential partners are ICRISAT and Catholic Relief Services (CRS). Both partners are engaged and meetings were conducted to map out potential areas of collaboration. Existing producer groups supported by the potential partners were identified and itineraries were drawn up. Assessments were conducted on a total of 11 sites - 7 with ICRISAT and 4 with CRS sites. Districts covered include Matobo, Gwanda, Insiza, Bulilima, Mangwe and Beitbridge.

CRS was chosen as the partner of choice, as CRS and Land O'Lakes activities are complementary. Land O'Lakes will build on and add value to existing platforms; for example, CRS has focused on installation of structures like dip tanks and sales pens, and Land O'Lakes will provide training. The field officer appointed to Matebeleland South will cover Bulilima (Ward 11, Madlambuzi) and Mangwe (Ward 4 Tshitshi).

Stakeholder Engagement

Engaging stakeholders has been one of the main activities carried out in the quarter. Land O'Lakes met Rural District Councils, Councilors, CRS, ORAP and other government departments. Memoranda of Understanding were signed with all the district councils in the areas where the project is being implemented.

Beneficiary Registration

Land O'Lakes started beneficiary registration in the project operating areas. To date, 1,627 farmer households have been registered as potential beneficiaries. The project aims to work with 2,000 beneficiary households by May 2014.

Identification of Demonstration Plots

Land O'Lakes has mobilized farmers to identify 16 demonstration plots for fodder production as the rainy season approaches. To date, 25 kg of sugar graze and 20 kg of velvet beans have been distributed in each district for the demo plots. The project can only get certified seed for sugar graze and velvet beans, and there has been a challenge in accessing certified seeds for other fodder crops, such as sun hemp.

Community Mobilization

During the quarter, nine communities were mobilised at the ward level. These mobilization activities were carried out to appraise the community's interest and capacity to participate in project activities. Land O'Lakes first conducted assessments of groups working with the Rebuilding Livelihoods and Resiliency in Zimbabwe project (funded by USAID and implemented by Land O'Lakes), to gauge the functionality of the groups' committees. Farmers in all the project sites welcomed the Land O'Lakes' initiative to collaborate with them on goat production.

SECTION III: ACHIEVEMENT OF RESULTS

Table 2. PERFORMANCE DATA TABLE

Zimbabwe Livestock for Accelerated Recovery and Improved Resiliency		Start Current Year	1 Oct 2011	Start Project	16 May 2012	Year	1	Current Work Plan Start date:			
Agreement No.	AID-OFDA-G-12-00032	End Current Year	30-Sept-12	End Project	15 May 2014	Quarter	2	15 May 2012			
No.	Performance Indicator (*)	Unit of Measure	Disaggregation	Remark	Baseline		FY1 - May-Sep 2012		Total		Comments
					Year	Value	Target	Actual	Target	Cumulative	
SO: Reduce risk through enhanced institutional and community capacities to respond to and mitigate the effects of disasters, strengthen the resiliency of vulnerable communities, and reduce exposure to hazards through the effective use of goats and rangeland management.											
A	Number of animals benefitting from or affected by livestock activities	Number	Total	Annual Value	2012	0	620	0	6200	0	The target was not achieved because field staff spent more time than expected on ensuring stakeholder engagement and HLLM training
B	Number of people benefitting from livestock activities	# of individuals	Total, Gender	Annual Value	2012	0	1240	717	6200	717	The target was not achieved because field staff spent more time than expected on ensuring stakeholder engagement and HLLM training
C	Number of veterinary interventions, treatments or vaccinations administered	Number	Total	Cumulative	2012	0	0	0	2000	0	
D	Number of animals treated or vaccinated	Number	Total	Cumulative	2012	0	0	0	1500	0	
E	Number of individuals participating in disaster risk reduction activities	# of individuals	Total, age and gender, type of training, CLW, training	Cumulative	2012	0	1240	717	6200	717	The target was not achieved because field staff spent more time than expected on ensuring stakeholder

No.	Performance Indicator (*)	Unit of Measure	Disaggregation	Remark	Baseline		FY1 - May-Sep 2012		Total		Comments
					Year	Value	Target	Actual	Target	Cumulative	
			of trainers, Farmer training								engagement and HLLM training
F	Percentage of beneficiary households with improved productive asset base	Percentage	Total, Gender	Cumulative	2012	0%	0%	0	60%	0	
G	Percentage of beneficiary female headed households with improved productive asset base	Percentage	Total	Cumulative	2012	0%	0%	0	60%	0	
IR1 Increased goat production asset building and improve access to markets by vulnerable households and communities											
1.1	Number of households trained or receiving technical assistance in goat production and marketing	# of hh	Total, Gender	Annual Value	2012	0	400	717	2000	717	Surpassed quarter target
1.2	Average value of Assets (tools, Livestock, domestic) In targeted Participating Households	US\$	Total	Average	2012	1914	1914	1914	2070	1914	No other surveys were completed after the July baseline. There has been no change in value.
1.3	Number of households receiving goats from the program and participating in producer groups	Number	Total, gender	Annual Value	2012	0	0	0	600	0	
1.4	Number of goat producer groups formed or strengthened	Number	Total	Annual Value	2012	0	5	10	10	10	Surpassed quarter target
1.5	Proportion of producer group membership comprised of females	Percentage	Total, gender	Cumulative	2012	0	20%	0	30%	0	Target not met as Beneficiary registration is still in progress
1.6	Number of producer groups linked to markets	Number	Total	Annual Value	2012	0	0	0	10	0	
IR2: Increased communities' capacity for and practice of sustainable rangeland management											
2.1	Number of CLW's trained in farm and sustainable rangeland management techniques	# of individuals	Total, gender	Annual Value	2012	0	0	0	50	0	58 identified for training and support
2.2	Number of individuals trained in improved farm and rangeland management techniques	# of individuals	Total, gender, type of training, CLW, TOT, Farmer training	Annual Value	2012	0	1240	0	6200	0	The target was not achieved ; field staff spent more time than expected on ensuring stakeholder engagement and HLLM training

No.	Performance Indicator (*)	Unit of Measure	Disaggregation	Remark	Baseline		FY1 - May-Sep 2012		Total		Comments
					Year	Value	Target	Actual	Target	Cumulative	
2.3	Number of grazing management plans developed and utilized by communities	Number	Total	Annual Value	2012	0	0	0	6	0	
2.4	Communities applying improved farm and sustainable rangeland management techniques	Number	Total	Annual Value	2012	0	0	0	6	0	
2.5	Number of hectares (ha) under improved land management	Number	Total	Cumulative	2012	100	100	0	2000	0	The target was not achieved because field staff spent more time than expected on ensuring stakeholder engagement and HLLM training
2.6	Percentage of community farmers applying improved farm and sustainable rangeland management techniques	Percentage	Total, gender	Cumulative	2012	0	0%	0	50%	0	
IR3: Increased capacity of and access to animal health and livestock extension services											
3.1	Number of CLW's trained	# of individuals	Total, gender	Annual Value	2012	0	0	0	50	0	58 identified for training and support
3.2	Percentage of CLWs utilizing their training and skills to train farmers	#of individuals	Total, gender	Cumulative	2012	0	0%	0	60%	0	Training not yet underway
3.3	Number of women responsible for making household decisions in veterinary care and management of their goats	# of individuals	Total	Cumulative	2012	1891	1891	0	2480	0	Training not yet underway
3.4	Number of households served by CLWs	# of HH	Total, gender	Annual Value	2012	0	0	0	2000	0	CLW training not yet underway

SECTION IV: CHALLENGES AND LESSON LEARNED

The project is only able to procure certified seed for sugar graze and velvet beans, and there is a challenge in accessing certified seeds for other fodder crops, such as sun hemp.

SECTION V: CONCLUSIONS AND NEXT STEPS

5.1 CONCLUSION

Land O'Lakes is on track with rapid start-up of the ZRR program. The baseline was completed and submitted to OFDA, and the workplan and PMP have been prepared and submitted. Almost a quarter of the 3,100 targeted farmers were trained on improved goat production, and ACHM trained four project staff on HLLM. Farmers will benefit from support on rangeland management by these staff in the next quarter. Over 50 CLW were identified, and their training will be organized in the months. Five districts have been identified for activities following the needs assessment, and potential partners identified include ICRISAT and CRS. Staff has organized several meetings with government departments as well as beneficiaries to improve stakeholder commitment to the project's objectives and to register target beneficiaries, of which over 80% of the 2,000 have been identified in nine communities. Seeds have been distributed for establishment of 16 demonstration plots in the coming rainy season.

Next Steps

INTERMEDIATE RESULT NO.1: INCREASED GOAT PRODUCTION & MARKETING BY VULNERABLE HOUSEHOLDS & COMMUNITIES

The focus of the next quarter will be on registration of the remaining 373 project beneficiaries, to reach the project target of 2,000 beneficiaries.

INTERMEDIATE RESULT NO.2: INCREASED COMMUNITIES' CAPACITY FOR AND PRACTICE OF SUSTAINABLE RANGELAND MANAGEMENT

The project will procure eight movable kraals which will be piloted in different project areas. Each site will formulate community rangeland management strategies. Six hundred goats will be procured and distributed to the farmers using the voucher system.

INTERMEDIATE RESULT NO. 3: INCREASED CAPACITY OF AND ACCESS TO ANIMAL HEALTH & LIVESTOCK EXTENSION SERVICES

The project will train all 58 identified CLWs on goat production and rangeland management.