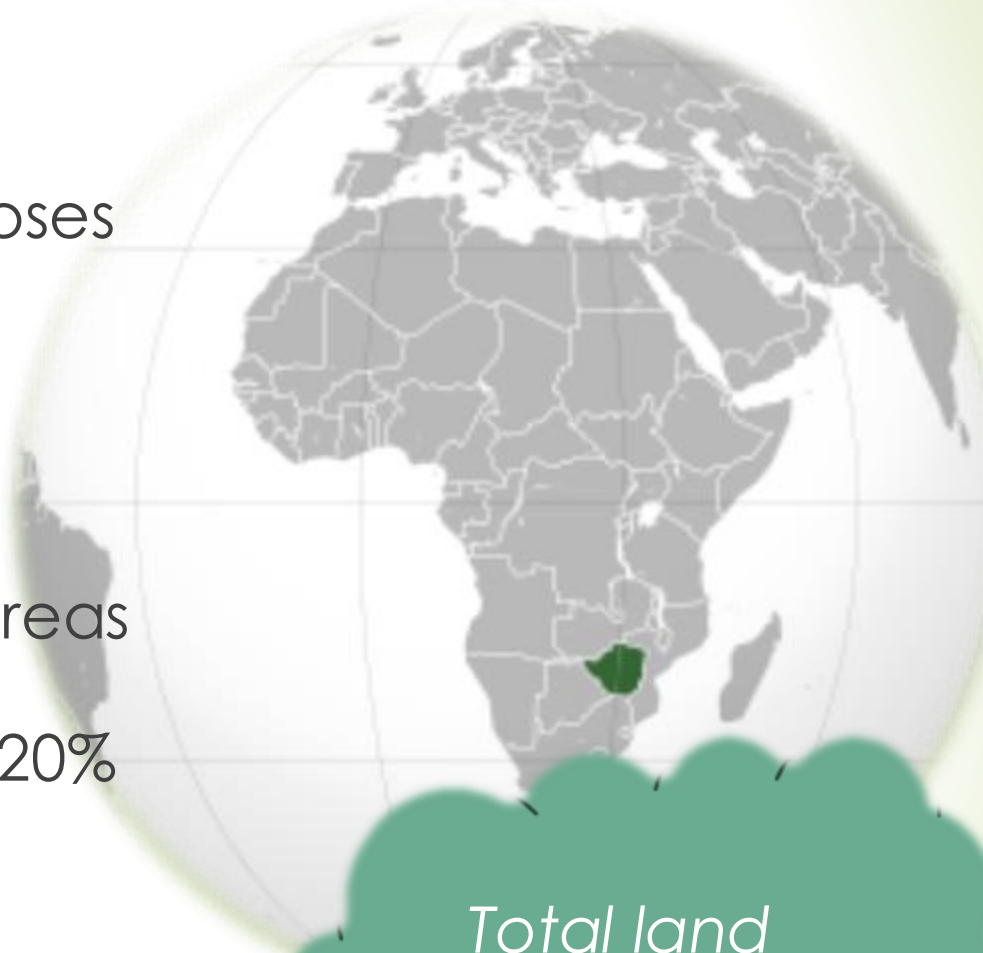
Implementation of the Framework of Action on Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture: Experiences from Zimbabwe

Onismus Chipfunde: BFA National Focal Point,
Ministry of Lands Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Rural Development

Importance of the Agriculture Sector to Zimbabwe

- Over 80 % of land used for Agricultural purposes
- Diverse range of production systems (crop, livestock, fruit plantations, forestry, others)
- Sector employs over 65% and most in rural areas
- Sector contribution to the Economy is up to 20%
- Government's thrust towards food self sufficiency and agriculture oriented economic development driven by the **Agricultural Food Systems and Rural Transformation Strategy**



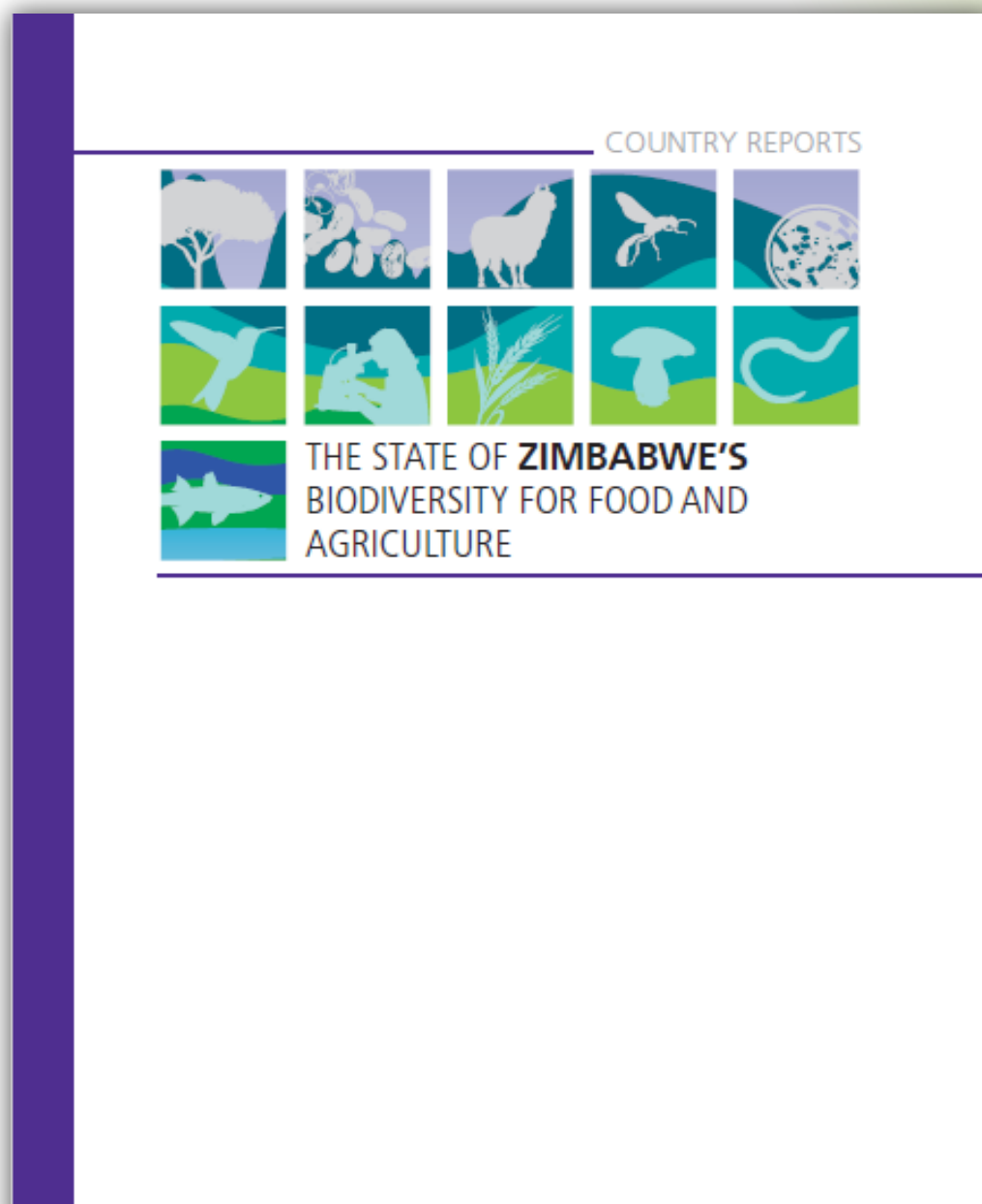
Total land area 39 million hectares

Production Systems in Zimbabwe

Sector	Production Systems	Approx Area
Livestock	Livestock grassland-based systems: Subtropics	>**5,6 mill** Beef, >**4.8 mill** goats, (CLAFA1 2023)
	Livestock landless systems: Subtropics	Dairy **+50000 herd**
Forestry	Naturally regenerated forests: Subtropics	**17 336 000ha** (2020 Global Forest Assessment Report)
	Planted Forests: Subtropics	**108 000ha** (2020 Global Forest Assessment Report)
Aquaculture	Self-recruiting capture fisheries: Subtropics	**9 836** MT (2020 CLAFA1)
	Culture-based fisheries: Subtropics	**7247** Fish ponds (2023 CLAFA1)
	Fed aquaculture: Subtropics	pens and cages
	Non-fed aquaculture: Subtropics	Stocking dams
Crops	Irrigated crops (other) : Subtropics	Ranges around **3, 7 million** ha for Cropping (2023 CLAFA1)
	Rainfed crops : Subtropics	
Mixed	Mixed systems	
Others	Apiculture, idible Insects, wild food plants, mushrooms etc	**146178** bee hives (2023)

Status of Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture

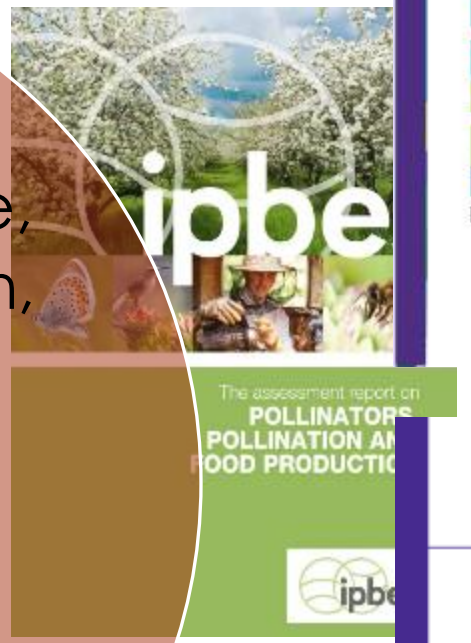
- Limited information on trends in diversity of marginalised crop plants, farmed animals, wild plants, animals that are harvested for food as well as micro-organism and invertebrate genetic resources
- Recent assessments point to decline in diversity of major agrobiodiversity species as a result of various threats and drivers
- **Climate change** induced natural disasters like droughts, floods, veld fires, invasive alien species, mining, human settlements and others

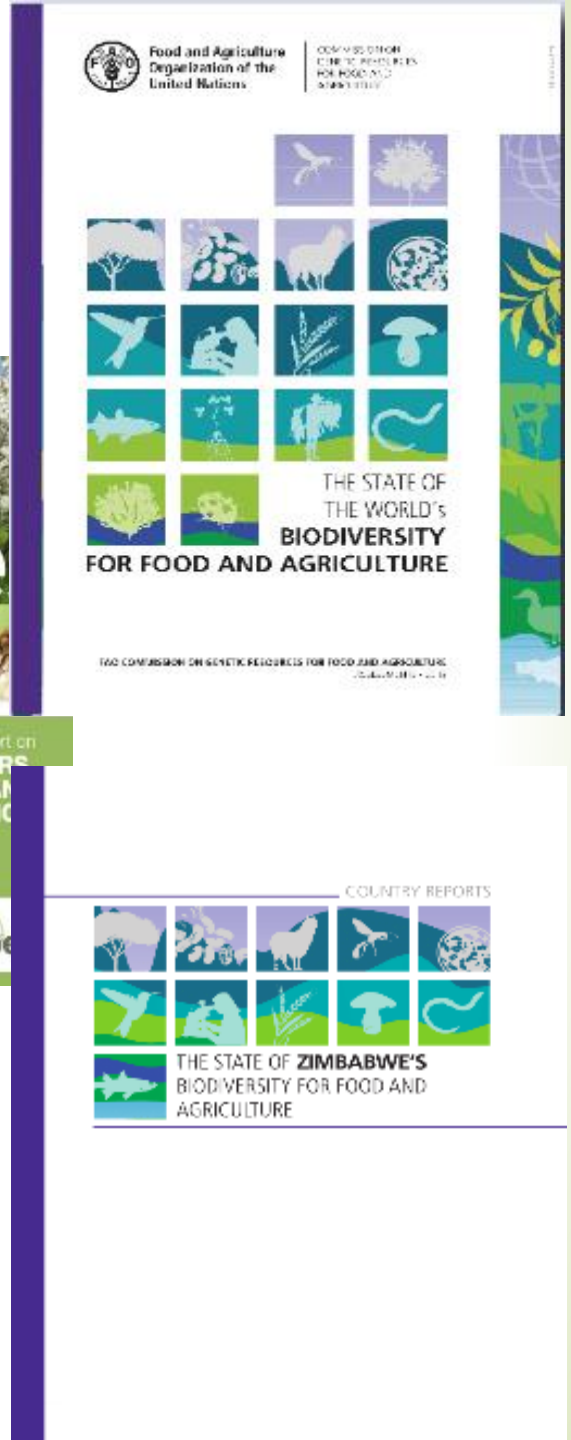


Key Drivers to Agrobioversity Loss

The Zim BFA report (2019) identifies, multiple drivers including

- climate change,
- overexploitation, overharvesting,
- pollution,
- overuse of external inputs and
- changes in land, water management .

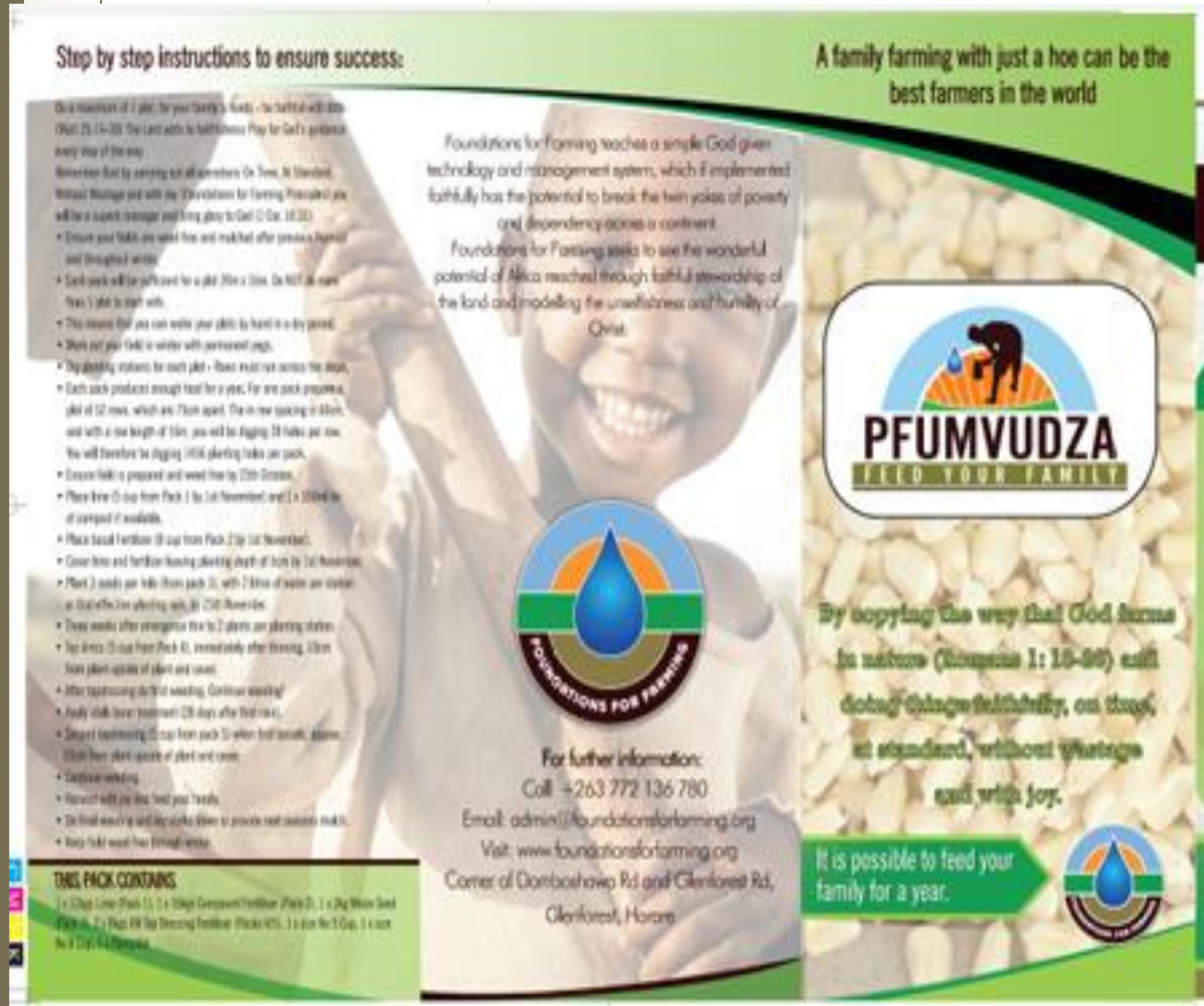


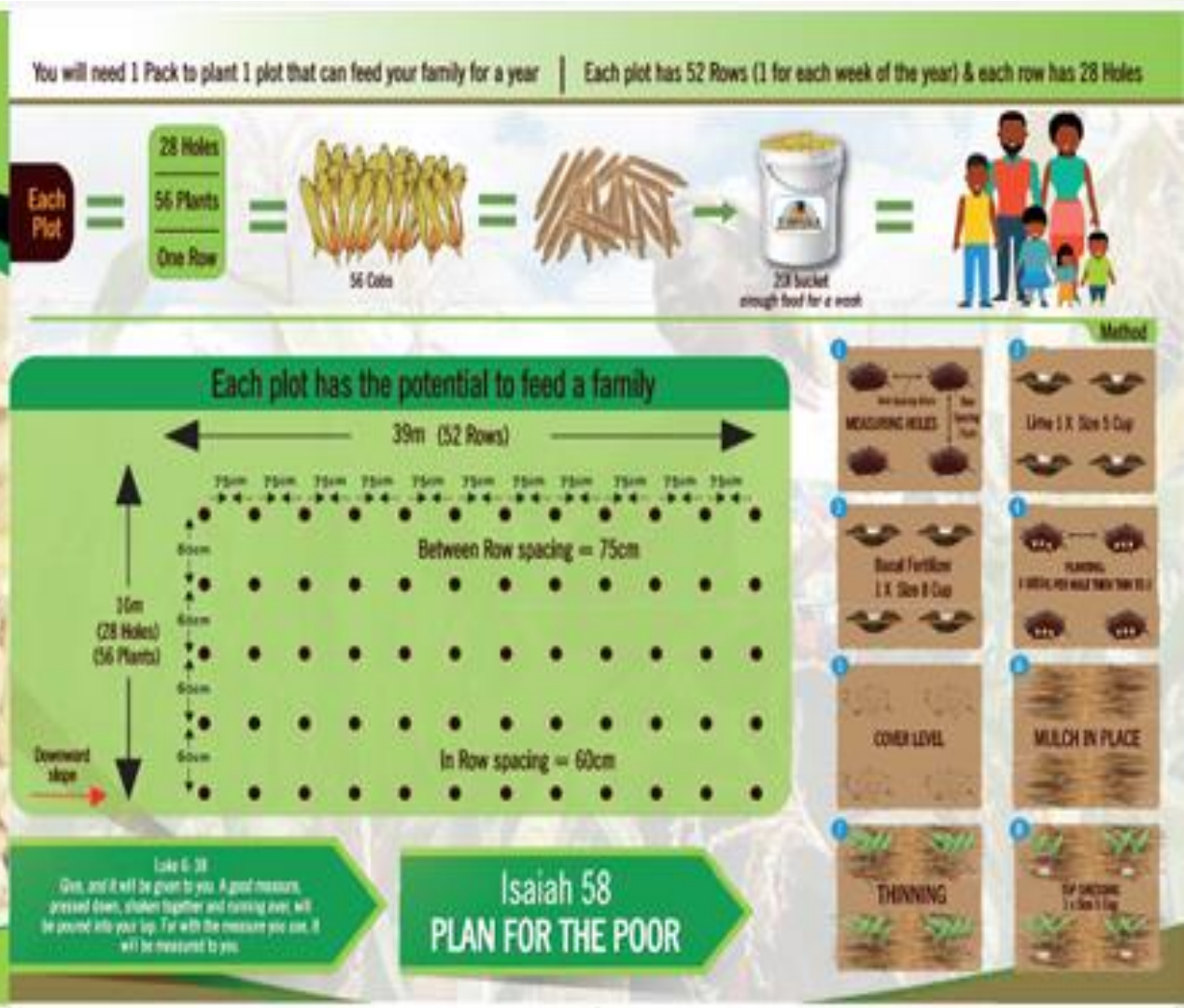


BFA Oriented Management Programmes

- Zimbabwe on its trajectory towards transforming Agriculture and Food Systems through the **Agriculture Food Systems Transformation Strategy (AFTS).**
- Several initiatives supporting agrobiodiversity management Rural Dev 8.0 eg **Pfumvudza/Intwasa**_Climate proofed input programme, Fruit tree, Poultry, Goat schemes
- Conservation of PGRFA and livestock germplasm by DR&SS-Artificial Insemination
- Community based initiatives conservation and managing genetic resources on farm e.g community seedbanks, apiculture
- **Key issue**: Limitated coordination of conservation programmes

Climate Proofed Food Production Scheme





Farmer Field Schools

Govt targets 35000 FFS

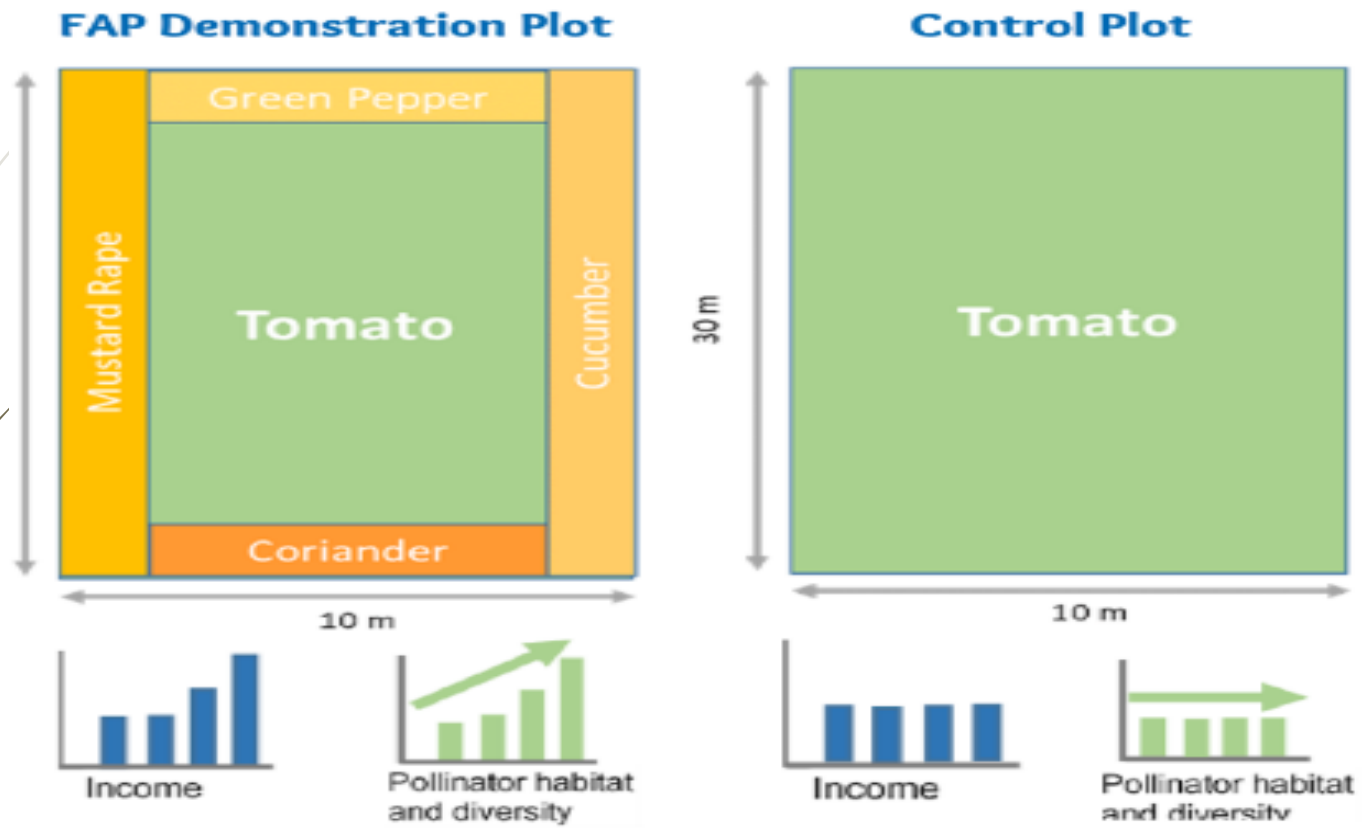
The Herald

HOME TOP STORIES NATIONAL BUSINESS SPORT ENTERTAINMENT @JAMWANDA2 ON SAT

September 9, 2022

Pfumvudza's Zunde raMambo farmer field schools takes off

Farming with Alternative Pollinators



UKaid from the British people

DARWIN INITIATIVE

ENVIRONMENT AFRICA

NUTRITION ACTION ZIMBABWE

ACTION AGAINST HUNGER

ACTION CONTRE LA FAIM

ACP MEAS 3 Project Strategic Focus

- FAO Strategy on Mainstreaming Biodiversity across Agricultural Sectors 2024-2027
- Enhanced mainstreaming of biodiversity
- Sound management of chemicals and waste in agriculture
- Implementation of MEAs
- Duration of the project 2021-2023

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Promotion of Biodiversity Friendly Practices through Farmer Field Schools

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Promotion of Biodiversity Friendly Practices through Farmer Field Schools

Testing Technologies through Famer Field Schools

Thematic Studies on BFA

Deliverable ref.	Study	Research lead, discipline, and affiliation
1	The costs and benefits for smallholder farmers using ecosystem-based agriculture production practices (e.g., agroecology, climate-smart agriculture, and organic farming, including the balance between external environmental costs and productivity benefits) are analyzed and established.	Mazvita Chiduwa PhD, Agroecology Specialist, Agronomy Research Institute.
2	The impact of Highly Hazardous Pesticides (HHPs) on livestock and the link with antimicrobial resistance is established.	Chrispen Murungweni PhD, Animal Scientist, Chinhoyi University of Technology.
3	The baseline needs, enablers, and barriers for the adoption of biopesticides, biofertilizers and other bio-agents vital for environmental sustainability and their potential link through PPP established	Shingirayi Nyamutukwa (Phd candidate); Entomologist, Plant Protection Research Institute
4	The impact of pesticides on pollinators in Makoni, Mt Darwin and Gokwe districts established.	Robert Musundire PhD, Professor of Entomology, Chinhoyi University of Technology.
5	The extent of how the curriculums for agricultural colleges and universities cover issues of climate-smart, agroecological and organic farming (theory and practice) is established.	Arnold Mashingaidze PhD; Professor of Agronomy; formerly of Chinhoyi University of Technology, now with JIMAT Consultants
6	National problem and needs (sustainability, standards, practices and value chains) for the organic sector established.	Akinson Tumbure PhD; Soil Scientist; Marondera University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology

Research and Development

- Twelve Research papers from 6 thematic studies on various issues on BFA
- Two papers already published
- Review of existing tertiary education curricular on coverage of BFA
- Knowledge generation, dissemination and awareness raising

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Management of Highly Harzadous Pestcides

- Zimbabwe Highly Hazardous Pesticides List updated, including criteria 8(conditions of use)
- Needs and risk assessment- focusing on-field use of shortlisted HHPs completed
- Highly Hazardous Pesticide Risk mitigation strategy and roadmap to phase out HHPs Developed
- 20 Officers from the MLAFWRD,MECTHI,EMA, TRB, and National Parks trained on the use of the Pesticide Registration Toolkit
- Toolkit as a tool aid in HHP reduction

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Enabling Policy and Institutional Frameworks

- Draft Agrobiodiversity Policy
- National Strategy and Action Plan for Animal Genetic Resources
- Integration of BFA into Agricultural Investment Plans (ZAIP, PAIPs)
- National Coordination platforms e.g. NBF/Pillar 8 Committee (Ministry of Agriculture & Ministry of Environment
- Designated Focal Point for the CBD in the Ministry responsible for Agriculture
- Action Plans for Agriculture relevant targets of the KNMGBF developed (target 6, 7 and 10) to be incorporated into the NBSAP

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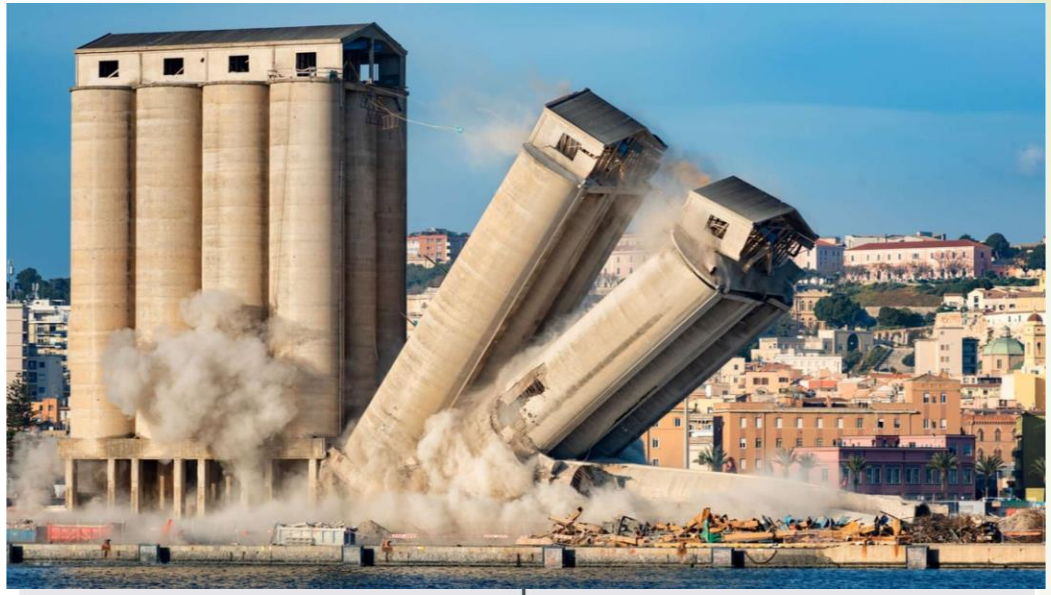
Key Lessons

- Partnerships (North South, South-South)
- Local cooperation among institutions
- Breaking the Silos (Whole of Gov, whole of society approach
- Sustainable Funding mechanisms (Value-Chain Financing) User pays principle
- Sustainable utilization of resources
- Heritage based approaches (Indigenous knowledge)
- Strategic Communication and Publicity



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TSURO

Community Technology Development Organisation

ZAGP Zimbabwe Agricultural Growth Programme

zoppatrust

Zimbabwe Small Holder Organic Farmers' Forum (ZIMSOFF)

Pelum Association