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| | <p>Total estimated cost: EUR 26 000 000</p> <p>Total amount of EU budget contribution EUR 26 000 000</p> <p>This action is part of the Team Europe Initiative (TEI) on Greener and Climate Smart Agriculture, in support of identified climate smart solutions for Zimbabwe's agricultural sector, with a total indicative budget of 212 000 000 EUR. The EU contributes with 134 200 000 EUR. Contributions from Member States are as follows: Sweden: 21 800 000 EUR; France: 17 500 000 EUR; the Netherlands: 700 000 EUR and Italy: 3 800 000 EUR. Switzerland contributes 34 000 000 EUR.</p> |
| MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION | |
| 13. Type of financing | <p>Direct management through Grants (section 4.4.1)</p> <p>Indirect management with entrusted entity to be selected in accordance with the criteria set out in section 4.4.2</p> |

1.2 Summary of the Action

Most of the Zimbabwe's nearly 15-million people live in rural areas, highly dependent on livelihoods generated by natural resources, and are affected by diverse climate and economic shocks, including prolonged droughts and floods, and recurrent economic and financial crisis. As a response to this situation, communities are using their immediate environment to obtain the resources they need to survive. This involves over-exploitation of resources, including land, encroachment into protected areas and even poaching, hence generating a vicious circle of environmental degradation that exacerbates conflicts over access and control of resources as well as increasing human-wildlife conflict (HWC). Wildlife attitude surveys reveal that women and men often express quite different attitudes towards wildlife rights and hold distinct views on how to best manage HWC¹.

The landscape approach provides a holistic and integrated way to address the challenges of biodiversity loss, environmental management and resilience of rural communities in Zimbabwe. It recognizes the interdependence of social, ecological, and economic systems and aims to balance conservation and development objectives by promoting collaboration among multiple stakeholders.

With this approach, the Action is structured around two integrated pillars:

- 1) **Enhanced management of natural resources**, including ecosystems' integrity and the potential environmental services and economic benefits they can produce, promoting sustainable land use practices, developing and implementing adequate land and resources management plans. Calls for proposals will be launched for the implementation of activities under this pillar.
- 2) **Increased resilience levels of rural communities**, by a higher level of income from more diversified sources. This will involve diversification of livelihoods, higher agricultural productivity based on the adoption of climate-smart agricultural practices, agro-ecology and improved business models by smallholder women and men farmers based on circular economy principles, including the enhancement of Disaster Risk Management capacities at the local level. This pillar will be implemented through indirect management with an entrusted entity.

Agriculture related activities will be linked when possible with the other EU supported programmes in particular the TEI on Greener and Smart Agriculture: promotion of traditional grains, mechanisation, integration of agro-ecological practices, rangeland management and others. It also integrates comprehensively all aspects of value-chain development in traditional grains, taking into account all the steps of the value chain by supporting agri-business centres, input supplies, processing facilities, aggregation services and cold stores, market access, trade facilitation, support to private investments (through EIB credit facilities, EFSD+ guarantees) and renewable energies. It also

¹ Li, W. and Seager, J. 2023. In wildlife conservation, gender equality brings win-win returns. Development and a Changing Climate. World Bank Blogs online. Accessed through <https://blogs.worldbank.org/climatechange/wildlife-conservation-gender-equality-brings-win-win-returns>