

 Early Warning System

AFDB-P-ZW-AA0-026

Zimbabwe - Proposal for Humanitarian and Food Security Response to Mitigate the Impact of African Armyworm (AAW) In Zimbabwe - Appeal to the Special Relief Fund (SRF)



Quick Facts

Countries	Zimbabwe
Financial Institutions	African Development Bank (AFDB)
Status	Approved
Bank Risk Rating	U
Voting Date	2026-03-18
Borrower	Government of Zimbabwe - Ministry of Rural Development
Sectors	Agriculture and Forestry, Humanitarian Response, Technical Cooperation
Investment Type(s)	Grant
Investment Amount (USD)	\$ 1.00 million
Project Cost (USD)	\$ 1.00 million



Project Description

According to the Bank's website, this operation is an emergency humanitarian and food security response in Zimbabwe aimed at mitigating the impact of African Armyworm (AAW) and related pest outbreaks on agriculture and livelihoods. It responds to a severe nationwide outbreak affecting all 10 provinces and 33 districts, threatening staple crops such as maize, sorghum, millet, rice and wheat, and putting food security at risk. The intervention will support surveillance and early warning, emergency pest control measures, capacity building, and sustainable integrated pest management approaches. The total cost of the operation is USD 1,000,000, financed by the African Development Bank through the Special Relief Fund (SRF). The operation will be implemented by CIMMYT, working with the Government of Zimbabwe, notably the Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Rural Development, and in collaboration with partners such as TAAT, DPI, PPRI/Agritex, local governments, research institutions, NGOs, youth and farmer organisations.

The objective of the emergency assistance is to provide immediate support and effective response strategies to manage African Armyworm outbreaks in Zimbabwe, while strengthening farmers' resilience against future infestations through rapid response measures and sustainable pest control approaches. Specifically, the project seeks to deploy monitoring and early warning systems, implement chemical, biological, cultural and mechanical control measures, build stakeholder capacity, and promote integrated pest management for future outbreak mitigation.

The primary beneficiaries are food-insecure farming households in pest-affected areas across Zimbabwe, especially smallholder farmers whose crops and livelihoods are threatened by AAW and FAW infestations. The project targets 25,000 people to receive pest management kits and training, and 200 field extension staff to be trained in surveillance and containment. More broadly, the intervention is intended to protect vulnerable rural populations by reducing crop losses, improving household food consumption, and strengthening the capacity of farmers, extension workers, youth, local farmer organisations and affected communities to prevent and manage future pest outbreaks.



Investment Description

- African Development Bank (AFDB)

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Contact Information

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ACCESS TO INFORMATION

You can submit an information request for project information at: <https://www.afdb.org/en/disclosure-and-access-to-information/request-for-documents>. Under the AfDBs Disclosure and Access to Information policy, if you feel the Bank has omitted to publish information or your request for information is unreasonably denied, you can file an appeal at <https://www.afdb.org/en/disclosure-and-access-to-information/appeals-process>.

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Bank Documents

- [Appraisal Report \(EN\)](#)