

Above—Two new pumps installed at the scheme

Below– Construction of the gabion to protect the pipes



SMALLHOLDER IRRIGATION REVITALISATION PROGRAMME

Old Biri Irrigation Schemes

FACT SHEET

Scheme location

The project is located in Mberengwa district, ward 26; 125km from Zvishavane town. The project is located on the international Grid Reference : 20°50'52.35"S ; 30°10'4.03"E

Scheme History

Biri Extension is in region 5 with average rainfall of 450mm/ annum, which does not sustain successful crop production. A government initiative to construct Mataga DAM for irrigation was completed in 2004. The dam has a design 10% yield of 17 million m³ which can irrigate up to 1000ha. Biri Extension Scheme was Commissioned in 2005 as one of the early blocks that are part of the proposed Mundimataga cluster Schemes 1000ha

Scheme size	117 hectares
Beneficiaries	
Females	115
Males	158
Total beneficiaries	273
Land holding /household	
0.5 hectares per household	

- Existing Canal irrigation system was not performing efficiently due to old infrastructures.
- Scheme experienced heavy shortage of irrigation water caused by loses from won out old canals; poor abstraction of water by won out pump units.
- The operation of scheme was also threatened by potential damage of the only conveyance pipeline that runs from dam to field at river.

Scope of works

- Installation of two new pumps
- Construction of gabions for pipe protection
- Construction of canals and drains

Progress to date

Complete

Type of irrigation

Pumped surface system (canals)

Contractor

Manah Building Construction

Contract Value

- US\$225, 537.74

Crop production in the scheme

Wheat, sugar beans, maize, groundnuts and paparika

Current crops in the scheme





Reasons for rehabilitation

Wheat

66 hectares at booting stage

Training received under SIRP

Training in Good Agricultural Practices Farming as A Business Operations, Maintenance and Governance Gender Nutrition Building Vocational youth training





