

73RD INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING











Theme: Innovation and research in agriculture water management to achieve sustainable development goals



24th International Congress on Irrigation and Drainage & 73rd IEC Meeting
3-10 October 2022, Adelaide, Australia



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DEVELOPING EFFECTIVE INSTITUTIONS FOR IRRIGATION SERVICES, INCLUDING CAPACITY BUILDING OF DIFFERENT STAKEHOLDERS, A CASE OF ZIMBABWE

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"INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON "INTEGRATED APPROACHES TO IRRIGATION MANAGEMENT IN THE FUTURE"

Adelaide, Australia







Background

- The Government of Zimbabwe has designated irrigation development as a critical intervention and a key accelerator of agricultural development.
- NDS 1 seek to develop irrigated area from the current 185 000ha to 350 000ha by 2025 pusuant to vision 2030.
- this requires Agile Institutions both in Govt and Private sector including NGOs
- There's high expectations, trail of failed efforts across all farming categories
- Need for sustainable irrigation management models



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- □ irrigation has the potential to increase agricultural productivity by at least 50% in Africa, but it is unlikely that more than 1–10% of the irrigation potential can be implemented in some countries over the next 20 years.
- When it comes to capacity building in the irrigation and wider water resources sector, the key requirement is to establish the capability in the various stakeholder communities (including farmers, service providers and agencies, politicians, donors, and the broader society) to critically assess the needs of the local situation
- communication between these various stakeholders and negotiating
- leveling the playing field between the service provider and the service users





- Many governments and civil society organisations place a high priority on the development of information management systems and skills
- fragile macro economic environment, climate change, poor transport network, incompetent markets and weak institutional and policy frameworks.
- Since the early 1930's irrigation development in Zimbabwe has been guided by policies and strategies developed for other sectors of the economy. These policies and strategies make reference to irrigation where it is relevant and convenient to them.
- Dialogues and experimentation with smallholder irrigation policy development, provided fertile ground for experimentation in SHI





- This has led to the following:
- i.Incomprehensive guidelines on irrigation development, operation and maintenance.
- ii.Unclear project ownership
- iii.Unsustainable plot sizes
- iv.Incomprehensive participatory approach on irrigation development.
- v.Unclear definition and duplication of roles by governments departments and agencies
- vi.Unbearable cycle of rehabilitation and development of new schemes
- vii.Production and productivity has been very low to the extent that farmers fail to pay for operation and maintenance costs.







- In an effort to address the sustainability, productivity and capacity utilization challenges in the prime agricultural lands, Statutory Instrument (SI) 38 of 2021, Irrigable Areas Regulations(Control) was promulgated.
- Major Institutions involved in Irrigation Development
- Department of Irrigation development
- AGRITEX
- ZINWA- Zimbabwe National Water Authority
- ARDA- Agricultural and Rural Development Authority
- DDF- District Development Fund





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research methodology

- explanatory theoretical paper which utilized literature reviews, feedback from stakeholder workshops, key informant interviews, evaluation of policy impacts, the writers experience combined with logical thinking.
- Pragmatism research phylosophy-...all knowledge is socially constructed, considers reality to be a normative concept and believe that reality is what works.
- conducted as a case study and focused on existing institutions and policy and strategy documents from the government of Zimbabwe





results and discussion

- The ultimate goal for irrigation development is to guarantee food security and income generation in the face of climate change and weather variabilities.
- Zimbabwe has 450 smallholder irrigation schemes dotted around the country 13 000 ha functional, 2 000ha rehabilitation
- schemes are being managed by Irrigation Management Committees (IMCs) which represent a loose coalition of farmers supported by extension workers.
- the issue of management models has remained topical...business management model is therefore required to address these challenges and make the schemes viable, profitable, and sustainable businesses, ultimately become commercial entities.



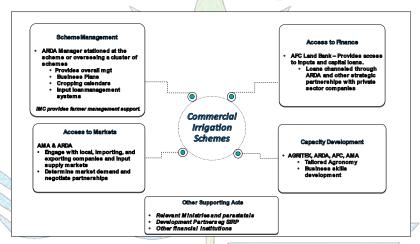
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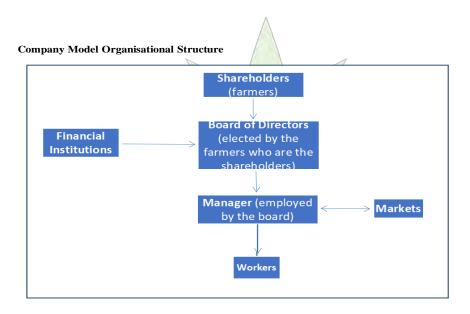
Scheme Business Manager Model















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FARM MANAGER MODEL ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE









Individual Farmer Model

As defined in its name, individual communal farmers is responsible for all decisions, including resource mobilisation.

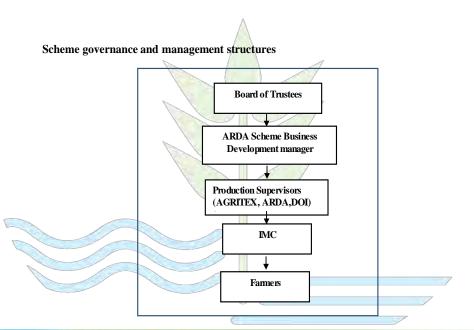




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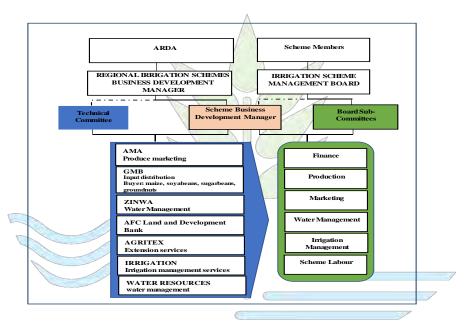
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Conclusions

- in order for the scheme to be sustainable, organizational structures must be reviewed and better defined roles and responsibilities of current institutions, particularly irrigators, ARDA, AGRITEX, IMCs, ZINWA, and the Department of Irrigation.
- Before fully committing to the process, stakeholders must be persuaded of the immediate and and also their involvement.
- poor policy implementation strategies and an absence of funding







- Creation of a new institution mandated to deal with productive use of agricultural water is being suggested.
- This institution is envisaged to merge the disagreggated capacities found in the various institutions (ARDA, DOI, ZINWA, DDF, AGRITEX) dealing with irrigators.







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