

Enhancing Livelihoods Through Livestock Revitalization and Nutritional Garden Training Sessions



Practical livestock feed formulation

Mimosa organized two impactful capacity-building programs focused on enhancing food security and economic resilience within the community through the Livestock Revitalization and Nutritional Garden initiatives. The nutritional garden training programs took place at four community gardens established in the constituencies of local chiefs: Chief Mafala, Chief Mazvihwa, Chief Mapanzure, and Chief Masunda. Mimosa implemented these training sessions in collaboration with AGRITEX, the University of Zimbabwe Research team, Friends of the Environment (FOTE), and the Veterinary Services department. The goal of the initiative is to empower community members with the skills necessary for successful horticulture and animal husbandry.

The service providers conducted comprehensive, hands-on training sessions that will revolutionize the community's perspective on land use. The training emphasized the principles of sustainable farming, ensuring that local gardens and livestock become not only sources of nutrition but also a basis for sustained economic empowerment.

The research team from the University of Zimbabwe conducted a specialized training program on livestock revitalization. The training sessions on livestock and fodder production took place across five chiefdoms: The focus was on transforming the community's view of

livestock from mere communal farming to a profitable income-generating enterprise. Emphasis was placed on the importance of proper nutrition as the first line of defense for maintaining a healthy herd. Participants received practical training on advanced fodder production techniques for producing high-quality haylage and silage, ensuring livestock remain adequately nourished. The primary aim of the training was to educate communities to move beyond subsistence farming and instead adopt farming practices that promote empowerment and long-term sustainability.



Horticulture Training at Chief Mafala's nutritional garden

Skills development has been identified as one of the key enablers for such transformation. Horticulture farmers were taken through comprehensive production courses that involve experience sharing, real-world application and benchmarking.