

Guidelines for Livestock Management and Infrastructure Development Programme Phase II

1.0 Introduction

In September 2009, the Ministry of Agriculture reviewed the Livestock Management and Infrastructure Development (LIMID) Programme. LIMID is one of government programmes that are aimed at improving food security and poverty eradication. It was first implemented on 1st April 2007. Two years after its implementation, the Ministry of Agriculture commissioned an internal evaluation to review the LIMID Programme in seven districts (i.e., Southern, Kgalagadi, Kweneng, Central, North West, South East and Kgatleng). The purpose of the review was to determine whether LIMID Programme was realizing its objectives and to learn lessons towards improving it. A sample of 412 beneficiaries, out of a total of 829 beneficiaries who were initially interviewed in the baseline study, were interviewed on the survey based evaluation. The survey method measured the outcome and the impact of the programme.

LIMID Phase I comprised seven packages with the three (3) packages focused on resource-poor households (i.e., smallstock, guinea fowl and Tswana chickens) and the remainder was for infrastructure development which included animal husbandry and fodder support, borehole/well equipping, borehole drilling and reticulation and borehole/well purchase, as well as, cooperative poultry abattoirs.

The results of the study showed that the infrastructure development component was accessed by only 2.43% people and the majority of the beneficiaries were males. The low uptake of this component is attributable to high contributions that farmers had to pay before grants could be disbursed.

The participation of youth in the LIMID Programme was low (15%) across the villages and was only restricted to the resource-poor packages. The results of LIMID evaluation demonstrated that females participated in LIMID in large numbers than males, especially in the resource-poor component.

The study showed that smallstock (sheep and goats) population increased from 9007 to 11405, representing an increase of 25.4%. Kgatleng district achieved the highest increase in smallstock population of 47.85% (395 to 584), followed by Kgalagadi and Kweneng with 39.52% (2057 to 2870) and 25.20% (861 to 1078), respectively. Across the districts, smallstock population on average increased by 25.4%. On the other hand, Tswana chickens increased by 11.94% while guinea fowl decreased.

About 98.06% beneficiaries said that LIMID should be continued while the remainder gave no views on whether the Programme should or should not be continued. The reasons given by beneficiaries for the continuance of LIMID included: it improves the lives of the poor (40.05%); it helps to alleviate poverty (15.29%); it gives farmers who did not benefit from the previous Government support schemes the opportunity to benefit too (14.81%); it creates self-employment opportunities (10.92%); it promotes and increases livestock ownership (9.92%); it encourages the youth to venture into agriculture (7.77%); it is a source of livelihood to households (3.40%) and others (0.97%).

2.0 Objectives of LIMID Programme

The objectives of LIMID II are to:

1. Promote food security through improved productivity of cattle, smallstock and Tswana chickens;
2. Improve livestock management;
3. Improve range resource utilization and conservation;
4. Eradicate poverty; and
5. Provide infrastructure for safe and hygienic processing of poultry (meat).

3.0 Operational Procedures and Guidelines

LIMID support is a once off programme for all packages except animal husbandry and fodder support. For animal husbandry and fodder support package, only one entity (kraal, crushes etc.) can be applied for at a time. The animal husbandry and fodder support is for farmers in communal areas only.

A farmer who benefited as a member of a group will be considered to have benefited and thus cannot apply for the same assistance as an individual. No farmer will be given support to establish goat/sheep project if there is ample evidence that the support will lead to overexploitation of range resources e.g., overgrazing.

4.0 Selection Criteria

4.1 Abattoirs

The selection criteria for poultry abattoirs are:

- 4.1.1 The support scheme targets small-scale poultry (broiler) producers;
- 4.1.2 A minimum of 15 producers are required to form a cooperative;
- 4.1.3 The group (cooperative) should develop a constitution and register with the Commissioner of Cooperatives or Registrar of Societies;
- 4.1.4 The applicants shall undergo training in cooperative management conducted by the Division of Agricultural Cooperatives of the Ministry of Agriculture; and
- 4.1.5 The cooperative shall slaughter a minimum of 100 000 birds per month.

4.2 Tswana chickens

The selection criteria:

- 4.2.1 To qualify for 90% grant, an applicant should own 11 to 20 goats/sheep or 3 to 4 cattle and 0 to 10 goats/sheep or 1 to 2 cattle for 100% grant;
- 4.2.2 Applicants shall attend training in poultry husbandry management organised by the Department of Animal Production (DAP);
- 4.2.3 Where possible birds should be sourced within the vicinity of the project area;
- 4.2.4 Breeding stock should be aged 5 to 12 months only; and
- 4.2.5 Buying prices for adult Tswana chickens are P55 for female and P65 for male.

4.3 Smallstock

For smallstock package, a farmer will be assisted to buy a maximum of 29 female goats/sheep (doe/ewe) and a male (buck/ram) depending on the price. The following factors should be considered:

- 4.3.1 Applicants shall attend training in smallstock husbandry management organised by DAP;
- 4.3.2 Animals should be sourced within the vicinity of the project area where possible;
- 4.3.3 Breeding stock should be aged 1 to 3 years;
- 4.3.4 Applicants should indicate where their stock will be watered by providing proof of watering agreements;
- 4.3.5 Prices of smallstock should not exceed P1000 for a doe/ewe and P2000 for a buck/ram; and
- 4.3.6 To qualify for 90% grant, an applicant should own 11 to 20 goats/sheep or 3 to 4 cattle. On the other hand, to qualify for 100% grant an applicant should own 0 to 10 goats/sheep or 1 to 2 cattle.

5.0 Resource-poor Component

As mentioned earlier, resource-poor components comprise smallstock and Tswana chickens. This component is for citizens who own up to four (4) cattle or up to 20 sheep/goats. Additionally, the applicant should earn P150 per month with dependents or P120 per month without dependents. Farmers can only apply for one package.

5.1 Smallstock

This package assists resource-poor to purchase smallstock and veterinary requisites. As shown in Table 1, maximum grant is P12 000.

Table 1 Smallstock Maximum grant - P12 000

Category	Flock/herd size	Farmer contribution	Grant
I	0 – 10 sheep/goats or 0 – 2 cattle	0 %	100 %
II	11 – 20 sheep/goats or 3 – 4 cattle	10 %	90%

5.2 Tswana chickens

This package assists resource-poor farmers to rear Tswana chickens. The grant will also be used to purchase feeds, veterinary requisites, stock and equipment. Table 2 gives maximum grant for Tswana chicken package. As indicated in Table 2, a farmer will be assisted to buy 21 hens (female birds) and 4 cocks (male birds).

Table 2 Tswana chickens **Maximum grant - P10 000**

Category	Flock/herd size	Farmer contribution	Grant
I	0 – 10 sheep/goats or 0 – 2 cattle	0%	100%
II	11 – 20sheep/goats or 3 – 4 cattle	10%	90%

6.0 Infrastructure Development Component

The infrastructure development component can be broadly categorized into (a) water development, (b) animal husbandry and fodder support and (c) abattoirs. Water development (i.e., borehole drilling, equipping, reticulation and purchase) packages are available to farmers who own livestock and the contribution is based on the number of livestock the farmer owns. Furthermore, animal husbandry and fodder support (i.e., kraal, crush, loading ramp, fodder processor etc.) is available to individuals or groups of livestock farmers and the contribution is based on whether a farmer applies as an individual or a group member.

The poultry abattoir package gives small-scale poultry farmers support to establish slaughtering facilities to produce wholesome meat in order to penetrate the market. The packages under infrastructure development component (except abattoirs) are presented in Tables 3 to 12.

6.1 Borehole drilling

This package assists farmers to drill boreholes only.

Table 3 Borehole drilling **Maximum grant - P120 000**

Category	No. of cattle	Farmer(s) contribution	Grant
Individual	61-100	50%	50%
Group with 2-9 members	61-200	40%	60%
Group with >10 members	61-200	30%	70%

6.2 Borehole /well equipping

This package is for farmers who have already drilled boreholes and/or leased boreholes. The minimum lease period for leased boreholes shall not be less than 10 years.

Table 4 Borehole/well equipping Maximum grant - P40 000

Category	No. of cattle	Farmer(s) contribution	Grant
Individual	1 - 60	50%	50%
Group with 2-9 members	61- 200	40%	60%
Group with >10 members	61-200	30%	70%

6.3 Water reticulation

This package assists farmers to reticulate water from a water point to the grazing areas or kraals.

Table 5 Water reticulation Maximum grant - P120 000

Category	No. of cattle	Farmer(s) contribution	Grant
Individual	61-100	50%	50%
Group with 2-9 members	61-200	40%	60%
Group with >10 members	61-200	30%	70%

6.4 Borehole/well purchase

This package assists farmers to purchase existing boreholes/wells.

Table 6 Borehole/well purchase Maximum grant - P120 000

Category	No. of cattle	Farmer(s) contribution	Grant
Individual	61-100	50%	50%
Group with 2-9 members	61-200	40%	60%
Group with >10 members	61-200	30%	70%

6.5 Livestock Water Development for Small Herd Owners in Communal Areas

This is a special package which targets groups of farmers who own 1 to 40 cattle each in areas with little underground water resources. The package assists farmers to equip existing boreholes and to reticulate water. The group should comprise a minimum of 15 members. In this package, no contributions are required from farmers.

6.6 Animal Husbandry and Fodder Support

This package comprises construction of kraals, crushes, loading ramps, fodder barns and purchase of fodder processors (Tables 7 to 9).

Table 7 Fodder processor **Maximum grant - P12 000**

Category	Farmer(s) contribution	Grant
Individual	80%	20%
Group (2-9 members)	50%	50%
Group (>10 members)	30%	70%

Table 8 Kraal, crush and loading ramp **Maximum grant - P28 000**

Category	Farmer(s) contribution	Grant
Individual	80%	20%
Group (2-9 members)	50%	50%
Group (>10 members)	30%	70%

Table 9 Fodder barn **Maximum grant - P15 000**

Category	Farmer(s) contribution	Grant
Individual	80%	20%
Group (2-9 members)	50%	50%
Group (>10 members)	30%	70%

6.7 Poultry abattoir

This package assists small-scale poultry farmers to establish slaughtering facilities to produce wholesome meat products. Assistance will be given to a group of small-scale poultry farmers (a cooperative) that will normally comprise a minimum of 15 members. The maximum grant for abattoir is P4 000 000. The Ministry of Agriculture shall construct and operate these abattoirs until such time that they are profitable. The

Ministry will gradually relieve itself of the management of the facilities by either handing them over to local authorities or sell them to private sector/parastatals as may be determined appropriately.

7.0 Application Requirements

The application requirements outlined below apply to all LIMID components. These include:

- 7.1 All applicants shall be Botswana citizens aged 18 years and above;
- 7.2 Applicants should have valid Omang (Botswana identity);
- 7.3 Applicants for infrastructure development component should own either cattle and/or smallstock;
- 7.4 Applicants shall not source stock (i.e., animals, equipment etc.) from their parents and siblings. In addition, applicants cannot buy from their own companies;
- 7.5 Smallstock obtained using LIMID funds shall be ear tagged upon receipt for ease of identification;
- 7.6 Cattle owners should have registered brands;
- 7.8 Cattle should have Livestock Identification and Traceability System (LITS) bolus inserted;
- 7.9 Suppliers of smallstock should have proof of ownership verified by the local extension agents and/or traditional leadership (*Bogosi*);
- 7.10 The owner(s) of a borehole/well willing to form a group with other farmer(s) for the purpose of equipping shall have written agreement and state the number of years he/she would be with the group. The Commissioner of Oaths will sign the agreement and all group members will be required to have a copy of the agreement;
- 7.11 Groups formed for the purpose of acquiring grants from the LIMID programme will be required to draw a constitution, which will be approved by the Commissioner of Cooperatives.
- 7.12 Applications must be accompanied by at least three quotations from suppliers and service providers. Where there is full evidence of shortage of suppliers and service providers, a justification letter signed by the

extension agent and/or *Bogosi* will be required to accompany the application forms; and

- 7.12.1 Applicants must state the number of livestock they own which will be verified by the local extension agent and/or *Bogosi*.

8.0 Application Procedures

- 8.1 Applications from extension areas shall be submitted to the DAP district offices across the country. The LIMID officer shall verify that all the necessary information and documents have been provided and that the applications comply with the selection criteria before they are submitted to the Committees (district and headquarters) for evaluation.
- 8.2 Family groups shall be allowed as long as each individual has his/her own cattle and brand certificate.

9.0 Terms and Conditions

- 9.1 Applicants must sign a Memorandum of Agreement with Government stating conditions of the assistance.
- 9.2 Couples married in community of property will be regarded as one individual for the purpose of application or group membership.
- 9.3 Ten years will be regarded as the minimum period the group can stay together.
- 9.4 Ministry of Agriculture shall not be held accountable for agreements made between applicants and suppliers/service providers, e.g., drillers;
- 9.5 Livestock shall remain the property of the government for a period of five years.
- 9.6 Breeding stock for smallstock will not be sold within three (3) years. However, offsprings can be sold immediately after weaning (i.e., 6 months). As regards Tswana chickens, offsprings can be sold from one day old onwards.
- 9.7 For infrastructure development component, the project shall remain government property for 10 years.
- 9.8 Farmers who benefited from LIMID Phase I Programme will not be assisted with the same component.

9.9 A beneficiary is expected to have completed a project within six months after the approval of the project by District Economic Development Committees except for poultry abattoirs.

9.10 If funds are not disbursed within six months following approval by the committees, they will be forfeited.

10.0 Monitoring and Evaluation

The responsibilities of district offices, extension staff and farmers (beneficiaries) are presented in the sections below.

10.1 District Office

The district office will keep a register of approved projects and provide updates on project progress on monthly basis.

10.2 Extension Support

10.2.1 Department of Agribusiness Promotions (DABP) and DAP will facilitate development of the constitution.

10.2.2 Farmers shall be trained on smallstock and poultry management.

10.2.3 Regular refresher courses in relevant disciplines will be organised for extension staff.

10.2.4 Subject matter specialists from DAP will monitor projects and mentor beneficiaries.

10.2.5 Quarterly visits shall be undertaken to monitor progress e.g., births, mortality, sales etc. Data will be recorded by the local extension agents and presented to the District offices for consideration on monthly basis.

10.2.6 The Range Management Section (Ministry of Agriculture) in collaboration with Range Ecology Division (Ministry of Wildlife and Tourism) shall monitor the state of the range lands from each district. This information from monitoring process will indicate whether the range resources are well managed or not. The monitoring report will be presented to the District offices and Ministry of Agriculture (Headquarters) for consideration.

10.2.7 The local extension agents should confirm through visits and written evidence that drilling has been completed.

10.3 Farmers' roles

- 10.3.1 Farmers shall on a monthly basis keep a record of production data such as the number of animals reared, births, deaths, sales etc.
- 10.3.2 Farmers shall be responsible for maintenance of their projects.
- 10.3.3 In cases where the farmer has been given a grant to drill a borehole, he/she or designated representative shall be present during the drilling process to certify that in deed the borehole has been drilled.

11.0 LIMID Committees

There shall be three committees which will evaluate applications. These are District Economic Development Committee, Ministry LIMID Committee and Appeals Committee. The functions of these committees are presented below.

11.1 District Economic Development Committee

This committee will vet and adjudicate applications for resource-poor, animal husbandry and fodder support packages i.e. low cost packages. District Economic Development Committee will also evaluate applications for water development and poultry abattoirs then forward them to Ministry LIMID Committee for approval or rejection.

11.2 Ministry LIMID Committee

This committee vets and adjudicates applications for poultry abattoirs and water development. It comprises six members from DAP (smallstock, poultry, Project Coordination sections), and DABP and Department of Veterinary Services(DVS). The Ministry LIMID Committee is chaired by the Deputy Director of Animal Production. DAP is the secretariat.

11.3 Appeals Committee

The Appeals Committee considers and adjudicates appeals from applicants whose applications were rejected by the lower Committees. The Appeals Committee comprises Heads of Divisions (Livestock Services, Ruminants, Non-Ruminants and Project Development and Support Services) and two representatives from DVS and DABP. The Committee is chaired by the Director of Animal Production and DAP is the secretariat. Applicants that are not satisfied with the decisions of the Appeals

Committee may appeal to the Minister of Agriculture. The Minister's decision shall be final.

