









Zim Mushroom Spawn Solutions: empowering mushroom farmers through local mother spawn production

Overview

Main partner	Dedicated to driving change through North-South cooperation, <u>Future of Hope vzw (FoH)</u> , works towards a just and sustainable future for all. It focuses on supporting innovative, diaspora-inclusive initiatives that promote sustainable livelihoods, foster social integration, and empower individuals to reach their full potential while protecting nature and culture, particularly in Africa.	
Associate partner	<u>The Future of Hope Foundation (TFoHF)</u> is an organisation headquartered in Zimbabwe and founded in 2013. Its mission is to capacitate, collaborate with, support and mentor marginal and vulnerable members of society through entrepreneurial and self-development initiatives.	
Budget	€ 92,260.80	
Duration	12 months (September 2025 - August 2026)	
Sustainable Development Goals	   	

Project design

Context & needs	Despite Zimbabwe's growing recognition and effort to advance the mushroom production as a climate-resilient and affordable protein source, 50% of FoHF farmers in Zimbabwe report average losses of 60% due to poor local spawn quality. Particularly given the Zimbabwe's economic reliance on climate-sensitive crops, further promoting innovative and sustainable production techniques remains a key priority. This project addresses the need for local expertise with a multi-stakeholder approach and a focus on oyster mushrooms, which are widely grown in Zimbabwe due to their simple low-cost cultivation techniques.
General objective	Establish a resilient and self-sufficient mushroom value chain in Zimbabwe thereby reducing reliance on imported material and facilitating preservation.
Specific objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthening local capacity through training and coaching 20 stakeholders in advanced spawn production techniques for mother culture and spawn production, and enhance local capacities in producing high-quality mother spawn. Establishing two interconnected Mother Spawn Centres of Expertise (CoE) capable of producing mushroom mother culture and spawn, facilitating preservation and experimenting with diverse varieties suitable for cultivation environments similar to that of oyster mushrooms. Developing a sustainable and affordable mushroom spawn supply chain for smallholder farmers by establishing an open-source mother spawn bank.
Target groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20 fungiculture entrepreneurs (70% female, 30% male). Institutions involved in spawn and mushroom production. Over 10,000 smallholder growers and 190 agro-fungi dealers previously trained by FoHF.

Programme of activities

