

LZRP

THE WORLD'S MOST IMPACTFUL REDD+ PROJECT

As the first REDD+ Project in Zambia, the Lower Zambezi REDD+ Project (LZRP) pioneered development of forest conservation projects in the country.

The LZRP REDD+ project area, known as Rufunsa Conservancy, covers 40,126 hectares of threatened Miombo forest in Lusaka Province. The area strategically protects 61km of the Lower Zambezi National Park boundary, providing an important buffer zone between Park wildlife and local communities.

Lion, sable and roan antelope are among many species found in the Lower Zambezi REDD+ Project area. The ecosystem is also one of Africa's ten last lion strongholds, and home to one of the regions largest elephant populations.

In cooperation with 5,031 local community members, the project develops sustainable land use practices which conserve threatened forests and wildlife while also investing in development for rural communities.

Since its inception in 2012, the LZRP baseline and subsequent studies have proven the project has significant impact in forest protection and community development in Zambia, as well as contributing to climate change mitigation globally.

40,126 hectares

5,031 community beneficiaries

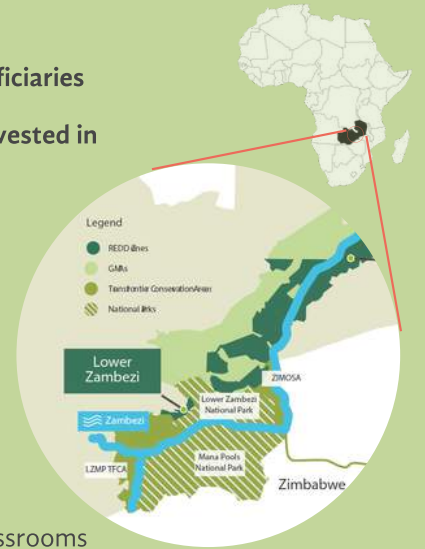
US\$500,000 directly invested in local communities

Livelihood projects:

Eco-Charcoal
Honey - 5,000 hives
Conservation Farming

Infrastructure projects:

Boreholes
Hammer mills
Health clinic
Teacher's houses & classrooms



The co-benefits of this project support 16 of the 17 United Nations SDGs.



LZRP was the first project in Africa to achieve triple gold CCB validation.



LZRP has received 5 consecutive verifications to VCS global standards.

IMPACTS



COMMUNITY

80% of households experiencing increased income

500+ students benefiting from education investments

67% of fresh water in the area provided by project boreholes

4 x increase to household income



CLIMATE

Helps to avoid 160,000 tons of carbon emissions per year

750+ farmers trained in land use methods that reduce forest loss

Eco-charcoal project sustainably producing 250+ tons annually



BIODIVERSITY

40,126 hectares of wildlife habitat protected

Data collection on endangered species populations and movement

Lions returning to the area for the first time in 10 years