

1- Identification

1.1 Project details

GEF ID	10192	SMA IPMR ID	85583
Project Short Title	North Western Zambia	Grant ID	S1-32GFL-000714
		Umoja WBS	SB-017844
Project Title	Ecosystem Conservation and Community livelihood enhancement in North-Western Zambia		
Project Type	Full Sized Project (FSP)	Duration months	Planned
Parent Programme if child project			Age
			Planned -original PCA
GEF Focal Area(s)	Focal Area Objective 1 - Mainstream biodiversity across sectors as well as within production landscapes and seascapes	Completion Date	
			28-Feb-26
Project Scope	National		Revised - Current PCA
Region	Africa	Date of CEO Endorsement/Approval	2-Jun-21
Countries	Zambia	UNEP Project Approval Date (on Decision Sheet)	19-Aug-21
GEF financing amount	USD 5,338,585	Start of Implementation (PCA entering into force)	1-Sep-21
Co-financing amount	USD 20,380,000	Date of First Disbursement	13-Sep-21
		Date of Inception Workshop, if available	29-Mar-22
Total disbursement as of 30 June	USD 500,000	Midterm undertaken?	No
Total expenditure as of 30 June	USD265,093.00	Actual Mid-term Date, if taken	
		Expected Mid-Term Date, if not taken	31-Aug-24
		Expected Terminal Evaluation Date	31-Aug-26
		Expected Financial Closure Date	31-Aug-27

1.2 EA: Project description

Project Summary The Ecosystem Conservation and Community Livelihood Enhancement in Northwestern Zambia project is a five-year project aimed at addressing the direct and indirect drivers of deforestation and the degradation of forest and agricultural lands. The Project will also address the barriers to sustainable management of forests and other natural resources and the barriers to the development of sustainable agriculture. This aligns with the priorities of the GEF-7 Impact Program (IP) on Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) in Drylands Landscapes. Project Objective: To strengthen community-based sustainable management of forest landscapes, and provide improved livelihood opportunities for targeted forest- dependent rural communities in Zambia's North West Province Implementation arrangement: The Implementing Agency is of the Ecosystem Conservation project is UNEP, with The Nature Conservancy as the executing agency and Forestry Department as the main governtman partners. Supporting Partners include Department of National Parks and Wildlife, Department of Agriculture, Trident Foundation Limited, West Lunga Conservation Project, WWF Zambia, Kasempa Conservation Foundation. Project Location The project operates in three districts in North-Western Zambia, each with distinct ecological features and community structures. The Ntambu CFMA (Mwinilunga District) benefits from co-financing from WWF and the West Lunga Conservation Project and has high biodiversity. The Kelongwa Makaba CFMA (Kasempa District) is part of the Greater Kafue Ecosystem, including two large CFMAs and five community forest management groups. The Kamikolo CFMA (Kalumbila District) faces an influx of migrants but benefits from relatively undisturbed forests and co-financing from First Quantum Minerals for at least the life of the mine, projected for another 17 years. Components Component 1: Developing the enabling regulatory, planning and governance frameworks for community-based, sustainable forest management: The Project will support forest communities with awareness raising on community forest management (CFM), assessment of forest biophysical condition and economic potential and the socio- economic importance of forest products, delineation of forests for community management of optimum geographic and economic scale, development of forest management plans, development of plans for equitable sharing of costs and benefits and application for legal recognition by government of the community forestry management areas (CFMAs) and associated community forestry management groups (CFMGs). Component 2: Promoting the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources in community-managed forests: The Project will assist communities to develop business plans and investment plans, will provide catalytic funding for productive investments and for the interim hiring of professional staff for CFMGs, and will help develop self- financing forest/natural resource management capacity. The Project will also provide training for developing capacities for good governance, natural resource management and enterprise development and will broker commercial relationships between communities and private actors in forest-based markets, including forest carbon, honey and other non-timber forest products. Component 3: Improved productivity, gender equality and climate resilience from sustainable agricultural practices: The Project will empower a network of agricultural extension officers, 'lead farmers' and other actors in the agricultural supply chain with knowledge and demonstrations to deliver extension and other market services in support of sustainable agricultural practices on the lands zoned for agriculture adjacent to community-managed forests. The aim of this component is to facilitate support to farmers to sustainably intensify production on existing agricultural lands, mitigating the need for agriculture to expand its horizontal footprint into forests and other wildlands.

1.3 Project Contact

Division(s) Implementing the project	Ecosystems	Executing Agency(ies)	THE NATURE CONSERVANCY
Name of co-implementing Agency		Names of Other Project Partners	
TM: UNEP Portfolio Manager(s)	Ersin Esen (a.i)	EA: Manager/Representative	Robert Munro
TM: UNEP Task Manager(s)	Daniel Pouakouyou	EA: Project Manager	Ethel Mudenda
TM: UNEP Budget/Finance Officer	George Saddimbah	EA: Finance Manager	Charles Mbugua
TM: UNEP Support/Assistant	Aska Ochiel/Elizabeth Goro	EA: Communications lead, if relevant	

2- OVERVIEW OF PROJECT STATUS

2.1 UNEP PoW & UN

TM: UNEP Current Subprogramme(s)
TM: PoW Indicator(s)

EA: UNSDCF/UNDAF linkages

EA: Link to relevant SDG Goals

Ecosystem Management
SP3: EAa (i,iii) and EAb (i,ii)
2018-2019 PoW and the 2018-2021 MTS

Strategic Priority 1: Prosperity
Strategic Priority 4: Planet

TM: UNEP previous Subprogramme(s)

EA: Link to relevant SDG Targets

SDG 5 (Gender Equality); SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities); SDG 13 (Climate Action); and SDG 15 (Life on Land).

5.a Undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with national laws.
10.1 By 2030, progressively achieve and sustain income growth of the bottom 40 per cent of the population at a rate higher than the national average
10.2 By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status
13.3 Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning
13.b Promote mechanisms for raising capacity for effective climate change-related planning and management in least developed countries and small island developing States, including focusing on women, youth and local and marginalized communities
15.6 Promote fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and promote appropriate access to such resources, as internationally agreed

2. GEF Core or Sub Indicators

TM: GEF core or sub indicators targeted by the project as defined at CEO Endorsement/Approval, as well as results

Indicators
4.1: Area of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity
11: People benefitting from GEF-financed investments
11.1: Male
11.2: Female

Targets - Expected value		
Mid-term	End-of-project	Total Target
50,000	130,000	130,000
3000	10000	10000
1950	5500	5500
1050	4500	4500

Materialised to date
207,000

Implementation Status

2023

2nd PIR

FY 2023

FY 2022

FY 2021

FY 2020

FY 2019

FY 2018

FY 2017

FY 2016

FY 2015

PIR #	Rating towards outcomes (DO) (section 3.1)	Rating towards outputs (IP) (section 3.2)	Risk rating (section 4.2)
2nd PIR	S	S	L
1st PIR	MS	S	L

The project's journey towards achieving its objectives has been a tale of progress and promise. The project has demonstrated satisfactory implementation progress, with an average of 69% completion of planned outputs across its components for Year 2 period. This is particularly evidenced by establishment of 12 CFMAs (in Ntambu project site), which have been recognized by government, and strengthening one already existing CFMA (Kelongwa Makaba Project site) which has ultimately led to the initiation of forest management activities which include forest protection through 66 trained HFOs, administrative operations, capacity building all CFMGs of which are encompassed in the Forest Management plans developed by all the 14 CFMGs across the 3 project sites. The project further propelled 13 CFMGs in developing gender responsive business plans and investment plans following a series of training, marking significant progress towards established viable enterprises that will aim at enhancing community livelihoods and incomes. In addition, the project has built capacity of GEF project implementing partners and govt staff in the project's M&E system, data collection and reporting through a series of trainings and on-site support. For outputs, more especially under component 3 which are facing delays or not yet started, the project has put in place strategies to address these challenges and remain on schedule. In attaining the project's commitment to gender-sensitive and sustainable forest management the Project's Gender Strategy and Action Plan have been finalized and will be operationalized during the second half of FY23, creating a solid foundation for achieving its overall objective and outcomes. The overall performance is in line with expectations and shows promising potential for successful project delivery.

The overall project performance towards achieving project outcomes is deemed satisfactory, with significant progress made across all project outcomes. The project has made significant strides as evidenced by significant key results, which includes with 207,000 hectares of dryland forests now covered by 13 recognized CFMAs in Ntambu and Kelongwa Makaba with forest management systems in place such as CFMG administrative systems, law enforcement, fire management plans and enterprise development. This milestone surpasses the initial baseline of 78,374 hectares at the project's start. The project endeavors to drive the CFMA to having more viable and sustainable systems of management as mid-term approaches.

The project risk rating remains Low, consistent with the risk assessment conducted during project development. While two new risks were identified, they have been consistently assessed as low and have not shown any changes that would warrant a different rating. Implementation has been smooth and has not encountered any significant issues that could lead to a shift in the risk rating. The project team will continue to diligently monitor and track these risks as the implementation progresses to ensure timely mitigation measures are applied if needed. The low risk rating reflects the project's effective risk management strategies and its ability to maintain a stable course towards achieving its objectives.

Despite generally satisfactory implementation performance, the project faces several challenges that require attention to ensure optimal progress. Firstly, the rainy season's adverse impact on road conditions and farmers' agricultural commitments hampers smooth project activities coordination and participation. Secondly, the high illiteracy rate in the communities impedes effective communication and understanding of key project information, leading to limited engagement. Thirdly, the lack of dedicated vehicles for Kamikolo and limited transportation resources from the TSU result in inefficiencies and delays in reaching project sites. Lastly, delayed alternative livelihood and enterprise support activities' implementation may affect community support and involvement. Addressing these challenges with targeted solutions will foster better implementation, ensuring the project's success in strengthening sustainable forest management and improving livelihoods for forest-dependent rural communities in Zambia's North West Province

EA: Summary of status
(will be uploaded to GEF Portal)

2.4 Co-finance

EA: Planned Co-finance

20380000

EA: Actual to date:**EA:** Justify progress in terms of materialization of expected co-finance. State any relevant challenges.

Progress in co-financing disbursements from partners were not consolidated to end of June 2023. This will be available in Dec 2023

2.5. Stakeholder

EA: Date of project steering committee meeting

27 Jul 2023

EA: Stakeholder engagement
(will be uploaded to GEF Portal)

Significant progress has been made in implementing the stakeholder engagement plan, with the various stakeholders fully involved in the project activities: Councils and municipalities have actively participated as key members of the District Implementation Team. They received training in GIS and were involved in geo-mapping for Community Forest Management (CFM) boundaries. The plan also includes engaging an ILUP consultant to work closely with the councils from the project site. Communities, traditional leadership, and marginalized groups have been engaged through awareness-raising efforts on CFM. The plan emphasizes adherence to the Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) process, ensuring their involvement in decision-making processes related to CFM investment, land use planning, benefit sharing plans, and more. Meetings and written information packages have been used to provide updates on project implementation, collect opinions and concerns, and address grievances. The stakeholder engagement approach is participatory, involving the communities in activities such as CFMA formation, boundary mapping, value chain identification, and biophysical assessments. A gender strategy and action plan has further been developed to promote the participation of marginalized groups. External stakeholders have been actively involved in the project through regular meetings, both virtual and physical, to exchange information, address concerns, and ensure resource planning and collaboration. Stakeholders have been part of project work planning and engaged with consultants for various consultancies. Quarterly newsletters and the Project Implementation Report (PIR) have been shared with stakeholders to keep them informed. Ministries and government departments have taken a proactive stance, particularly in policy review issues related to Community Forest Management, Data and information sharing protocols, including project data handling responsibility, have been prepared and signed. The project has facilitated meetings, monitoring visits, and engagements with key stakeholders, including permanent secretaries and the UNEP Task Manager and the GEF Operational Focal Point. Private sector players have also been engaged to create business opportunities. Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) have been signed with partners in the honey, legumes, horticulture, and livestock markets. The project has also collaborated with the Conservation Farming Unit for capacity building in Climate Smart Agriculture. Overall, the stakeholder engagement plan has resulted in enhanced collaboration and involvement of various stakeholders, increased awareness and participation among communities, and strengthened partnerships with external stakeholders and private sector players. Regular information sharing, addressing of concerns, and proactive policy review have contributed to the successful implementation of the project and the achievement of its goals.

TM: Does the project have a gender action plan?

Yes

2.6. Gender

EA: Gender mainstreaming
(will be uploaded to GEF Portal)

Gender mainstreaming efforts in the project are progressing as planned, with significant actions taken to ensure inclusivity and gender equality. The project initiated a thorough gender assessment and analysis in the project sites, leading to the formulation of a comprehensive gender action plan. This strategy has undergone rigorous stakeholder review and validation, ensuring that gender mainstreaming is guided by well-defined and appropriate actions.

To ensure gender balance in the activities implemented, the project has actively incorporated deliberate measures. For instance, in the training on business planning and investment planning, a total of 251 CFMG executive committee members were reached, with 136 males (53.7%) and 115 females (46.3%) participating. Similarly, for training in governance, administrative, and operational systems, 264 elected CFMG representatives were involved, with 130 females (49%) and 134 males (51%) actively participating.

However, the project has identified some gender disparities in the recruitment and training of Honorary Forest Officers (HFOs). Out of the 86 HFOs, 70 (81%) were males, and only 16 (19%) were females. This imbalance is primarily attributed to cultural norms that associate protection activities with physical attributes, traditionally considered as male tasks.

Recognizing the importance of addressing these disparities, the project is actively working to rectify such imbalances through its gender action plan that is planned to be operationalized at the start of the second half of FY23. This comprehensive plan aims to tackle the identified challenges, promoting equal opportunities and representation for all genders.

With a steadfast commitment to inclusivity and gender sensitivity, the project aims to create an environment where project beneficiaries and partners are capacity built to implement the action plan all individuals have equal access to resources, opportunities, and decision-making processes. By actively addressing gender disparities and implementing targeted actions, the project endeavors to ensure that women and men in the project sites can equally benefit from sustainable forest management initiatives and livelihood opportunities. Through these concerted efforts, the project strives to foster gender equality and social equity, empowering communities to thrive in harmony with nature.

2.7. ESSM

TM: Was the project classified as moderate/high risk at CEO Endorsement/Approval Stage?



No

TM: If yes, what specific safeguard risks were identified in the SRIF/ESERN?

TM: Have any new social and/or environmental risks been identified during the reporting period?



No

TM: If yes, please describe the new risks, or changes

TM & EA: Has the project received complaints related to social and/or environmental impacts (actual or potential) during the reporting period?



No

TM & EA: If yes, please describe the complaint(s) or grievance(s) in detail including the status, significance, who was involved and what actions were taken.

EA: Environmental and social safeguards management
(will be uploaded to GEF Portal)

During the period under review, the PIU had completed review of the guiding ESIS documents for implementation of safeguards and commenced development of detailed checklists for use by partners and the community beneficiaries in safeguards implementation and reporting especially as site specific activities commence in each of the three (3) sites.

EA: Knowledge activities and products
be uploaded to GEF Portal)

(will

The project has effectively generated knowledge management products, such as quarterly reports, semi-annual reports, comprehensive assessment reports, and both annual and quarterly newsletters. These informative materials play a crucial role in disseminating information and fostering organizational learning among stakeholders.

In addition to knowledge products, the project took a proactive approach to champion learning by facilitating the participation of 12 representatives from CFMGs and implementing partners in Zambia's inaugural Community Forest Management National Dialogue Conference. This momentous event, held from the 2nd to the 4th of November 2022, served as a dynamic platform to delve into the current state of CFM practices across the country.

During the conference, attendees had the opportunity to gain insights into best practices observed throughout the nation, while also addressing key challenges faced by different CFMGs and their implementing partners. Furthermore, the conference focused on identifying gaps and devising strategies to enhance the implementation of existing CFM regulations. The rich exchange of ideas, dialogues, and interactive sessions at the conference fostered a spirit of collaboration and camaraderie among the participants. The shared knowledge and experiences ignited a collective passion to advance sustainable forest management practices across Zambia.

Through these knowledge sharing efforts, the project has strengthened its commitment to transparency, accountability, and collaborative learning. The knowledge management products serve as guiding lights, empowering stakeholders to make well-informed decisions and take evidence-based actions.

The project's dedication to knowledge dissemination and fostering learning ensures that all involved are equipped with valuable insights and strategic tools to drive meaningful impacts.

To further enhance the knowledge management plan going forward the project intends to action a consultancy to develop a knowledge management system and begin review of curriculum to integrate CFM in tertiary institutions.

Please attach a copy of any products

EA: Main learning during the period

During the period under review, the following were the main learning: (a) That collaborative and strategic partnerships with local conservation organisations with similar conservation goals can lead to sustainable and long lasting results. A case in question has been the partnerships with WLCP in Ntambu site and Trident Foundation in Kamikolo site that has led to increased scale and impact through creation of additional CFMAs and supporting farmers in conservation farming respectively. (b) Patience is key in garnering community support to CFM built through consistent engagements, awareness creation and building community trust to see the benefits. (c) that provision of information in the local language enhances understanding and communication - a case of interpretation of CFM guideline posters and interpretation of CFM constitutions.

EA: Stories to be shared
(section to be shared with communication division/ GEF
communication)

Cultivating Success: The Kamikolo Trailblazers in Sustainable Agriculture

In the pursuit of advancing sustainable agricultural practices, the Kamikolo site has emerged as an exemplar of success and transformation. A carefully selected group of five lead farmers embraced the challenge of a trial aimed at exploring the merits of conservation farming, and their journey has yielded remarkable results worthy of detailed documentation and analysis. The engagement was a collaboration with Trident foundation and Good nature agro- who was identified as partner to build capacity and offer market off-take.

These pioneering farmers underwent comprehensive training in conservation farming techniques, equipping them with the necessary knowledge and skills to optimize their agricultural endeavors. Moreover, they were provided with high-quality 'Sugar bean' seeds, specially curated for their suitability to the local environment and crop requirements. The implementation of these enhanced farming methods, combined with the adept guidance of an experienced extension support team from Good Nature Agro, has yielded remarkable improvements in agricultural productivity.

Throughout the growth cycle, the transformation was undeniably significant. Previously modest harvests, with an average yield of 0.1 metric tons per lima, were elevated to a striking 0.3 metric tons per lima, showcasing a threefold increase in output. This significant enhancement in productivity has positioned these lead farmers as pioneering examples of the potential that conservation farming holds for sustainable and efficient crop cultivation across the project sites.

The success story does not culminate with increased yields alone; it extends to encompass the integration of the private sector in supporting and valuing sustainable agricultural practices. In addition to guaranteeing fair off-take agreements, Good Nature Agro, the market partner, offered a substantial purchase price of ZMW16 per kilogram. This noteworthy increase in the buying price, as compared to the prevailing local market rate of ZMW10 per kilogram, signifies the market's recognition and appreciation of high-quality, sustainably cultivated produce.

The reverberations of this success story extend far beyond the confines of Kamikolo, inspiring neighboring farmers and the entire community. The demonstrated potential for increased productivity, coupled with market integration and higher returns, has kindled hope and determination among farmers in the region.

The documentation of this achievement holds paramount importance in our technical report, as it signifies the successful convergence of scientific insights, community engagement, and market dynamics to foster transformative change. The journey undertaken by these five lead farmers embodies the essence of progress through evidence-based agricultural practices and the constructive collaboration of stakeholders..

3. RATING PROJECT PERFORMANCE

3.1 Rating of progress towards achieving the project outcomes (Development Objectives)

Project objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	EA: Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	TM Progress rating
Objective							
To strengthen community-based sustainable management of forest landscapes, and provide improved livelihood opportunities for targeted forest-dependent rural communities in Zambia's North West Province	a. Hectares of dryland forests and lands under improved, more sustainable management	189,339ha transferred to CFMG, but without viable SFM systems	50,000	130,000	207,000	Ontrack. To date, 207,000 ha of dryland covered by 13 recognized CFMAs with draft Forest management plans and 66 active HFOs (56 males, 10 females) deployed to support protection activities. An additional 60,000 ha of CFMA is pending recognition for Kamikolo with 20 HFOs (14 males, 6 females) deployed. This signifies an improvement from the baseline strides towards achieving more viable SFM systems. The project will continue working towards ensuring sustainable management of dryland forests and lands	HS
	b. % change in the income of women, men and youth from forest-based products and services.	TBD	No Target	15%	0	Ontrack. To date, the project has begun supporting 13 CFMGs through the drafting of business plans to be implemented through Interim Technical Business Units (TBUs) formed.	MS
Outcome 1							
Sustainable forest management (SFM) mainstreamed in local development plans in target Community Forest Management Areas (CFMAs)	a. Area covered by recognized CFMAs with operational forest/NR management systems	78374ha covered by existing CFMA in Kasempa District, but w/o viable management systems	120,000	120,000	207,000	Ontrack. The total area under recognized CFMA has increased from 78,374ha with no viable SFM systems at project start to 207,000 ha of dryland covered by 13 recognized CFMAs from Ntambu and Kelongwa Makaba with established and improved SFM systems. The 13 CFMGs have developed forest management plans that comprise activities that include law enforcement, fire management, beekeeping and area specific activities. Forest protection has begun through 66 Honorary Forest Officers (56 males, 10 females) deployed to support protection activities. An additional 60,000 ha of CFMA is pending recognition for Kamikolo with 20 HFOs (14 males, 6 females) recruited and trained.	HS
	b. Number of District Integrated Development Plans with SFM mainstreamed addressing gender equality	0	1	2	0	On track. Towards this indicator, the project selected Petauke Land alliance as a service provider to provide training in, and support participatory integrated land use planning (ILUP). Furthermore, all 14 CFMGs have developed Forest Management plans, including the development of NR management objectives and rules. The project further supported CFMG planning meetings with WDC to integrate CFM/resource plan into the ward development plans for 12 CFMGs in Ntambu. The project further completed training of CFMGs in fire management training across the three sites.	S
Outcome 2							
Improved management of forest resources enhances gender equality and contributes to enhanced welfare and livelihoods	a. Number of CFMG receiving funds from their investments and dispersing funds in accordance with their benefit sharing plan and investment plan.	0	3	6	0	Ontrack. The project has made significant progress with investment plans and benefit sharing mechanisms developed for 13 CFMGs. TBUs established and disbursement processes for seed money have commenced.	S
	b. % of men, women and youth satisfied with the current CFMG plan for equitable sharing of costs and benefits	N/a	Men 50% Women: 40% Youth: 30%	Men: 50% Women: 60% Youth: 50%	0	Ontrack. the project has made significant progress towards this indicator with CFMG plans with equitable sharing of costs and benefits has been developed for all 14 CFMGs across the three project sites. Project set to put in place CFMG audit system	S

	c. Amount of investments in community businesses made by Project and by CFMG beneficiaries disaggregated by gender	0	5000,000 by Project \$20,000 by CFMG Men: 55%, Women 30%, Youth 15%	\$1,259,000 by Project and \$100,000 by CFMG Gender targets: Men 45% Women 35% Youth: 20%	0	Ontrack. Project has begun facilitating the development of investment plans for the 13 business plans developed. The project further signed an MOU with Wuchi Wami Limited as a private sector partner to provide market off-take and technical support to honey producers in two project sites of Kamikolo and Kelongwa Makaba	S
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Outcome 3

Improved productivity, gender equality and climate resilience from sustainable agricultural practices on the lands zoned for agriculture adjacent to community-managed forests:	a. Number of farmers (disaggregated by sex and age) adopting gender sensitive sustainable agricultural practices	156 (69% Men, 11% Female)	3,000 new farmers; (60% men, 30% women, 10% youth)	10,000 45 % men, 35% women, 20% youth:	0	Ontrack. The farmers targeted for adoption of sustainable agriculture practice were planned to be in areas adjacent or close to the CFMAs. Therefore, the engagement of farmers was dependent upon the completion of the CFMA consolidation. Following the establishment of CFMAs, a partner (conservation Farming Unit) has been engaged and carried out a baseline survey of farmers and extension agents to establish a baseline for training and the extent and understanding of sustainable agricultural technologies in target smallholder communities around forested areas. The results of this survey have been used to identify potential farmers for adoption. So far a trial with 5 lead farmers from the Kamikolo site was undertaken. The farmers were supported with training in conservation farming, high quality 'Sugar bean' seed, and extension support through a private sector market partner. Average yields at harvest improved from the previous 0.1MT per lima, to 0.3MT per lima. This market partner also guaranteed off-take and purchased at ZMW16 per kilogram, which is significant rise in productivity and income from the local market price of ZMW10 per kilogram.	MS
	b. Area under more sustainable agricultural practices in number of hectares	52.1	3,000	10,000	0	Ontrack. To date CFU brought on-board as implementing partner to build capacity of farmers in CSA, in addition 5 lead farmers identified and trained in CSA by Good Nature Agro.	MS

For joint projects and where applicable ratings should also be discussed with the Task Manager of co-implementing agency.

3.2 Rating of progress implementation towards delivery of outputs (Implementation Progress)

Output	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of 30 June 2022 (%) (Towards overall project targets)	Implementation status as of 30 June 2023 (%) (Towards overall project targets)	EA: Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	TM: Progress rating
Under Comp 1					
Output 1.1 Comprehensive assessment of forests and communities in the project area – sex and age disaggregated	Yr 3: Q1	40%	78%	Started and On-track: Following revised workplan approved. Data collection has begun in the 3 project sites by EnviroFuture. Output was expected to be completed earlier but was affected by delayed start of project. However, to date, the project has successfully built capacity of 21 (17 male and 4 female) key district staff, forestry department and Project Implementation Unit (PIU) in GIS and successfully undertaken 6 preliminary awareness raising in the 3 project sites reaching 617 community members (334 males and 283 females)	HS
Output 1.2 In-depth awareness raising on inclusive, gender sensitive CFMA creation leading to the declaration by government of the new or modified CFMA/CFMG	Yr 3: Q1	30%	92%	Started On track. The project undertook detailed awareness raising on inclusive, gender-sensitive Community Forest Management (CFM) which ultimately led to the recognition of 12 new Community Forest Management Groups (CFMGs) in Ntambu by government and capacity enhancement of 1 CFMG in Kelongwa Makaba 1 covering 207,000 ha of CFMA formally recognized by govt following successful application. The recognition of the 12 CFMGs has resulted in secure land tenure which will ultimately lead to improved management and safe guarding of Biodiversity. The demise of HRH Chief Mkumbi has caused a delay in the formal recognition of Kamikolo CFMA in Kalumbila, but this shall be complete by Y3 Q1. The project further completed a gender assessment across the three project sites through which a detailed gender action plan	HS

Output 1.3: Sustainable forest and natural resource management promoted in gender responsive District Integrated Development Plans and CFMA management plans				Started and On track. During the period under review the project selected Petauke Land alliance as a service provider to provide training in, and support participatory integrated land use planning (ILUP). Furthermore, all 14 CFMG's have developed Forest Management plans, including the development of NR management objectives and rules. The project further supported CFMG planning meetings with WDC to integrate CFM/resource plan into the ward development plans for 12 CFMGs in Ntambu. The project further completed training of CFMGs in fire management training across the three sites. Draft fire management plans were developed	
	Yr 5: Q1	20%	39%		MU

Output 1.4: Knowledge management (KM) system developed in support of gender sensitive community management of forests and natural resources	Yr 3: Q2	0%	30%	Started and On-track following work plan revision. The project begun the process selecting for a consultant to develop a knowledge management system and facilitate integration of CFM into curricula at tertiary institutes. Further towards this output, the project facilitated the participation of 12 CFMG representatives and implementing partners in Zambia's first-ever Community Forest Management National Dialogue	MU
Output 1.5: Subsidiary legislation for forestry reviewed and revised in support of gender responsive sustainable forest management.	Yr 4: Q1	0%	0%	Not-started and on-schedule. Following Cabinet approval to review of the Forests act which posed the risk of not delivering output 1.5 on time, project requested for a revision of the implementation through the PSC. This was presented to PSC and was approved for revised implementation to FY 2025 Q1 after review of the Forest Policy and the Forests ACT	
Under Comp 2					
Output 2.1: Gender responsive business plans developed in support of each community forest management group	Yr 3: Q1	0%	74%	Started and On-track: 2 Main CFMG business plans were developed for Kelongwa-Makaba and Ntambu respectively following the training of 13 CFMGs (12 in Ntambu and 1 Kelongwa Makaba) in business plan development of which a total of 251 CFMG executive committee members were reached, (115 females and 136 males representing 46.3% and 53.7% respectively. The 12 CFMGs in Ntambu each developed their own micro business plans which were consolidated into one main business plan. The project plans to undertake training of Kamikolo CFMG in Business plan development in Year 3 Q1	S
Output 2.2: Gender responsive community based enterprises developed based on the business plans	Yr3: Q2	0%	65%	Started and On-track: Project facilitated the development of investment plans, with the Ntambu one completed. The Kelongwa investemnt plan also started and on track. Honey having previously been identified as a key value chain in all the three sites, the project signed an MOU with Wuchi Wami Limited as a private sector partner to provide market off-take, equipment and technical support to honey producers in two project sites of Kamikolo and Kelongwa-Makaba, where honey markets are inexistent, while the potential for production is immense. For the Ntambu site, the project will facilitate the establishment of a honey processing factory and is currently under contract development with WUCP, to provide oversight and management support for the construction and operationalization of the processing plant. Interim Technical Business Units have also been formed in the two project sites to spearhead enterprise activities. On resource protection, the project facilitated the identification and training of 86 Honorary Forest Officers (70 male, 16 female) across all sites to actively support the protection and conservation. The project Project facilitated recruitment of 2 CFMG technicians that is one Kelongwa Makaba CFMG and Ntambu CFMGs.	MS
Output 2.3: Capacities developed for gender responsive good governance, NRM and business management	Yr 3: Q4	0%	60%	Started and On-track: During the period under review, in-situ capacity building trainings were undertaken in two project sites, that is Kelongwa-Makaba and Ntambu. In Kelongwa-Makaba, the CFMG were trained in basic financial management and procurement systems. They were further supported with record books to anchor their payment and procurement systems. In Ntambu, following an initial Training Needs Assessment (TNA) for the twelve CFMGs, and guided by the CFMG training manual, the project trained 12 CFMG executive committees in good governance, leadership and basic Bookkeeping.	MS
Under Comp 3					
Output 3.1: Gender responsive network of actors developed and capacity built to develop sustainable agricultural practices on the lands zoned for agriculture, adjacent to community managed forests	Yr 3: Q1	0%	55%	Started and on-track. The project actioned Sub-award for Conservation Farming Unit (CFU) to build CSA capacity of farmers and change agents across all 3 project sites, and develop this network. Leading to that, the project also sanctioned an agriculture agriculture baseline survey of farmers and extension staff to understand current CSA practices and opportunities for promoting adoption in the 3 Project Sites.	MS
Output 3.2: Capacity building provided to encourage the adoption of gender responsive, sustainable agricultural practices in agricultural zones in villages adjacent to community forests	Yr 5: Q2	0%	10%	Started and on Track: Trial undertaken on 5 lead farmers from the Kamikolo site, who received training in conservation farming for sugar beans and supported with high quality. Through a private market partner, extension support was provided, and market off-take was guaranteed.	U

Output 3.3: Crop and livestock male, female and young farmers adjacent to CFMA's equally assisted to sustainably improve their productivity and net income	Yr. 4: Q1	0%	15%	Started and on Track: So far a trial with 5 lead farmers from the Kamikolo site was undertaken. The farmers were supported with training in conservation farming, high quality 'sugar bean' seed, and extension support through a private sector market partner. Average yields at harvest improved from the previous 0.1MT per lima, to 0.3MT per lima. This market partner also guaranteed off-take and purchased at ZMW16 per kilogram, which is significant rise in productivity and income from the local market price of ZMW10 per kilogram.	U
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The Task Manager will decide on the relevant level of disaggregation (i.e. either at the output or activity level).

4 Risk Rating

4.1 Table A. Project management Risk

Please refer to the Risk Help Sheet for more details on rating

Risk Factor	EA's Rating	TM's Rating
1 Management structure - Roles and responsibilities	<p>Low : Well developed, stable Management Structure and Roles/responsibilities are clearly defined/understood. Low likelihood of potential negative impact on the project delivery.</p> <p>Low : Steering Committee and/or other project bodies meet at least once a year and Active membership and participation in decision-making processes. SC provides direction/inputs. Low likelihood of potential negative impact on the project delivery.</p>	<p>Low : Well developed, stable Management Structure and Roles/responsibilities are clearly defined/understood. Low likelihood of potential negative impact on the project delivery.</p>
2 Governance structure - Oversight	<p>Low : Project progressing according to original work plan and Adaptive management is practiced and regular monitoring. Low likelihood of potential negative impact on the project delivery.</p>	<p>Low : Steering Committee and/or other project bodies meet at least once a year and Active membership and participation in decision-making processes. SC provides direction/inputs. Low likelihood of potential negative impact on the project delivery.</p>
3 Implementation schedule	<p>High: Major budget reallocation (>10%) across components or significant changes in budget lines (including any increase >5% from original budget) and Poor budget utilisation or exhaustion of PMC before project completion. High likelihood of negative impact on the project delivery.</p>	<p>Low : Project progressing according to original work plan and Adaptive management is practiced and regular monitoring. Low likelihood of potential negative impact on the project delivery.</p>
4 Budget	<p>Low : Funds are correctly managed and transparently accounted for and Audit reports provided regularly and confirm correct use of funds. Low likelihood of potential negative impact on the project delivery.</p>	<p>Low : Activities are progressing within planned budget and Balanced budget utilisation including PMC. Low likelihood of potential negative impact on the project delivery.</p>
5 Financial Management	<p>Low : Substantive reports are presented in a timely manner and Reports are complete and accurate with a good analysis of project progress and implementation issues. Low likelihood of potential negative impact on the project delivery.</p>	<p>Low : Funds are correctly managed and transparently accounted for and Audit reports provided regularly and confirm correct use of funds. Low likelihood of potential negative impact on the project delivery.</p>
6 Reporting	<p>Low : Sound technical and managerial capacity of institutions and other project partners and Capacity gaps were addressed before implementation or during early stages. Low likelihood of potential negative impact on the project delivery.</p>	<p>Low : Substantive reports are presented in a timely manner and Reports are complete and accurate with a good analysis of project progress and implementation issues. Low likelihood of potential negative impact on the project delivery.</p>
7 Capacity to deliver		<p>Low : Sound technical and managerial capacity of institutions and other project partners and Capacity gaps were addressed before implementation or during early stages. Low likelihood of potential negative impact on the project delivery.</p>

If any of the risk factors is rated a Moderate or higher, please include it in Table B below

4.2 Table B. Risk-log

Implementation Status (Current PIR)

1st PIR

Insert ALL the risks identified either at CEO endorsement (inc. safeguards screening), previous/current PIRs, and MTRs. Use the last line to propose a suggested consolidated rating.

Risk	Risk affecting:	Risk Rating							Variation respect to last rating	
	Outcome / outputs	CEO ED	PIR 1	PIR 2	PIR 3	PIR 4	PIR 5	PIR 6	Δ	Justification
Risk 1: Communities fail to develop capacities for accountability, transparency, sound management of funds and equitable sharing of costs and benefits.	Outcomes 1: Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) mainstreamed in local development plans in target Community Forest Management Areas (CFMAs)	L	L						=	No change from last rating
Risk 2: Inadequate support from district councils towards CFM development.	Outcomes 1: Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) mainstreamed in local development plans in target Community Forest Management Areas (CFMAs)	M	M						=	No change from last rating

Consolidated project risk		L	L						=	This section focuses on the variation. The overall rating is discussed in section 2.3.
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4.3 Table C. Outstanding Moderate, Significant, and High risks

List here only risks from Table A and B above that have a risk rating of M or higher in the current PIR

Risk	Actions decided during the previous reporting instance (PIRI-1 MTR)	Actions effectively undertaken this reporting period	Additional mitigation measures for the next periods
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	etc.)		What	When	By whom
Risk 2: Inadequate support from district councils towards CFM development.	No previous reporting	All participating Councils were officially written to be part of the district technical committee providing planning and implementation support and oversight. Since then the District Councils have been participating in some of the project activities through the District Planning Officers. Further more, MLGH has been given a seat on the Project Technical Committee. MLGH has participated in a number of high level activities which so far include GEF OFP monitoring visit, PTC monitoring, Project Steering Committee meeting and the PIR workshop. The progress so far gives better indication of adequate support towards CFM development and integration of CFM into the District Integrated Development Plans	Schedule meetings to Plan for rolling out Output 1.3 activities together with district council staff	August 2023 through December 2023	PIU, through the NRMS
Risk 8: Cabinet approval to review of the Forest Policy and the Forests Act poses the risk of not delivering output 1.5 on time because the subsidiary legislation review can not proceed review of principal legislation.	No previous reporting	Presented to PSC for approval to revise implementation period of activity 1.5 from Year one to year 4 after the principal legislation and Policy have been reviewed. The request was approved by the PSC	Schedule meetings with PSC and UNEP to alternatively revise Output 1.5 phrasing, that will instead be focused on providing support to review of legislation as an output which is within the project's control, as opposed to the actual revision of the subsidiary which is out of the project's control.	August 2023 through December 2024	PIU, through the PM
Risk 10: High: Major budget reallocation (>10%) across components or significant changes in budget lines (including any increase >5% from original budget)and Poor budget utilisation or exhaustion of PMC before project completion. High likelihood of negative impact on the project delivery.	No previous reporting	Presented budget issues to the PSC, which included, Inadequate Office and Utility Budget (\$25,000). Exhausted budget line. Insufficient funds to cover salaries for NRMS and BDS. Project target for enterprise seed money is in the Prodoc is US \$1,200,000, but the current budget allocation is the procurement plan is US\$ 700,000. PSC approved recommendations for UNEP and GEF to consider: a) budget upward adjustment for enterprise support b) budget review to reallocate funds to this budget line and C) approving additional funds to cover NRMS and BDS personnel costs for the entire project period which could be achieved through a budget variation. PSC recommended these to be further discussed during the mid term review.	Schedule meetings with UNEP to discuss budget issues prior and during Mid-term review. Discussions to be escalated to GEF secretariat by UNEP	September 2023 through December 2023	PIU, UNEP

High Risk (H): There is a probability of greater than 75% that **assumptions** may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face high risks.

Significant Risk (S): There is a probability of between 51% and 75% that **assumptions** may fail to hold and/or the project may face substantial risks.

Moderate Risk (M): There is a probability of between 26% and 50% that **assumptions** may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only modest risks.

Low Risk (L): There is a probability of up to 25% that **assumptions** may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only modest risks.

Project Minor Amendments

Minor amendments are changes to the project design or implementation that do not have significant impact on the project objectives or scope, or an increase of the GEF project financing up to 5% as described in Annex 9 of the Project and Program Cycle Policy Guidelines. Please tick each category for which a change occurred in the fiscal year of reporting and provide a description of the change that occurred in the textbox. You may attach supporting document as appropriate.

5.1 Table A: Listing of all Minor Amendment (TM)

Minor amendments	Changes	Minor amendments
Results framework	No	
Components and cost	No	
Institutional and implementation arrangements	No	
Financial management	No	
Implementation schedule	Explain in table B	
Executing Entity	No	
Executing Entity Category	No	
Minor project objective change	No	
Safeguards	No	
Risk analysis	No	
Increase of GEF project financing up to 5%	No	
Co-financing	No	
Location of project activity	No	
Other	No	

5.2 Table B: History of project revisions and/or extensions (TM)

Version	Type	Signed/Approved by UNEP	Entry Into Force (last signature Date)	Agreement Expiry Date	Main changes introduced in this revision
Original Legal Instrument					
Amendment 1	Revision				
Extension 1	Extension				

GEO Location Information:

The Location Name, Latitude and Longitude are required fields insofar as an Agency chooses to enter a project location under the set format. The Geo Name ID is required in instances where the location is not exact, such as in the case of a city, as opposed to the exact site of a physical infrastructure. The Location & Activity Description fields are optional. Project longitude and latitude must follow the Decimal Degrees WGS84 format and Agencies are encouraged to use at least four decimal points for greater accuracy. Users may add as many locations as appropriate. Web mapping applications such as [OpenStreetMap](https://www.openstreetmap.org/#map=4/21.84/82.79) (<https://www.openstreetmap.org/#map=4/21.84/82.79>) or GeoNames(<http://www.geonames.org/>) use this format. Consider using a conversion tool as needed, such as: <https://coordinates-converter.com> Please see the Geocoding User Guide by clicking [here](https://geportal.worldbank.org/App/assets/general/Geocoding%20User%20Guide.docx)(<https://geportal.worldbank.org/App/assets/general/Geocoding%20User%20Guide.docx>)

Location Name Required field	Latitude Required field	Longitude Required field	Geo Name ID Required field if the location is not an exact site	Location Description Optional text field	Activity Description Optional text field
Kelongwa Makaba CFMA	-13.804391	26.307556	12492700	Community Forest Management Area within Kasempa District	
Kamikolo CFMA	-11.94881	25.67374	12547092	Community Forest Management Area within Kalumbila District	
Chulu CFMA	-12.4712143	24.7961687	12547155	Community Forest Management Area Within Mwinilunga District	
Kahundule CFMA	-12.3537631	24.9508801	12547156	Community Forest Management Area Within Mwinilunga District	
Kanyamisovu CFMA	-12.3676641	25.0342282	12547157	Community Forest Management Area Within Mwinilunga District	
Kayisumpa CFMA	-12.3186912	24.9486147	12547158	Community Forest Management Area Within Mwinilunga District	
Kayonge CFMA	-12.3523909	24.6601626	12547159	Community Forest Management Area Within Mwinilunga District	
Kema CFMA	-12.3196491	24.9084903	12547161	Community Forest Management Area Within Mwinilunga District	
Kewundu CFMA	-12.414254	24.9733585	12547162	Community Forest Management Area Within Mwinilunga District	
Kimba CFMA	-12.4162615	24.8125849	12547163	Community Forest Management Area Within Mwinilunga District	
Makuya CFMA	-12.3396005	24.9950283	12547164	Community Forest Management Area Within Mwinilunga District	

Mumpulumba CFMA		-12.4937229	24.6073445
Muyange CFMA		-12.3751408	24.9587794
Ntambu Central CFMA		-12.3992241	24.9606909

[12547166](#)

[12547168](#)

[12547170](#)

Community Forest Management Area Within Mwinilunga District	
Community Forest Management Area Within Mwinilunga District	
Community Forest Management Area Within Mwinilunga District	

Please provide any further geo-referenced information and map where the project interventions is taking place as appropriate. *

<https://tnc.box.com/s/xzss7ufqi8zp0l7h8bzidrx5sqn0w4>

[Annex any linked geospatial file]