

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION REPORT

Project ID:	10412
Project Name:	Sustainable Luangwa: Securing Luangwa's water resources for shared socioeconomic and environmental benefits through integrated catchment management
Countr(ies):	Zambia
Implementing Agency:	WWF-US

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I. Overview

A. Description

Project name

Sustainable Luangwa: Securing Luangwa's water resources for shared socioeconomic and environmental benefits through integrated catchment management

Country

Zambia

GEF ID

10412

Implementing Agency

WWF-US

Executing Entity

Ministry of Green Economy and Environment (MoGEE); WWF
Zambia

Trust Fund

GET

Project Type

FSP

PIR Submission

9/11/2025

Fiscal Year , PIR Number

FY 2025 , 3rd PIR

Objective

To reduce forest and land degradation of the Luangwa Upper Sub-Catchment for enhanced protection of water resources, biodiversity and associated community livelihoods

B. Ratings and Disbursements

Implementation Progress

Moderately Satisfactory

Development Objective

Moderately Satisfactory

Overall risk

Moderate Risk

Project Financing

3,149,178.00

Cumulative Disbursement

1,487,629.44

C. Key Dates

CEO Endorsement/Approval

11/22/2021

Agency Approval

4/26/2022

Implementation Start 5/9/2022	First Disbursement 6/22/2022
Expected MTR 4/30/2025	Actual MTR
Expected Completion 6/30/2026	Actual Completion

II. PROGRESS STATUS AND ISSUES

A. Progress: Information on progress and outcomes of project implementation activities

The Development Objective (DO) rating for Y3 is Moderately Satisfactory and reflects a 63% achievement of the Results Framework targets. Whilst this represents a significant improvement from last year's DO rating, there were several indicators which could not be met this year. During boundary marking of the Mafinga Hills National Forest Reserve (MHNFR), contentions with local communities arose where the PA boundaries were alleged to be passing through villages thereby triggering safeguards and halting some work until a mutually-agreed upon resolution can be found. The halting of this activity affected many other proceeding ones because it is in the critical path of activities for improved management effectiveness. The delayed disbursement of funds (5-month delay from January to end of May) due to financial report revisions and an amendment to the grant agreement with WWF GEF also affected implementation of many activities especially those being done by sub-grant partners (service providers).

The Implementation Progress (IP) rating for Y3 is also Moderately Satisfactory and reflects a 62% achievement of the annual workplan targets, also reflecting an improvement over the last reporting period. Progress had significantly improved with the release of funds to partners responsible for undertaking the bulk of the project activities (COMACO, WECSZ, WARMA). However, the same delay in funds disbursement mentioned above caused the implementation of several activities to stall. This was preceded by yet another challenge where local communities in 3 villages on the south-eastern part of the MHNFR (between beacon A-B) contended that the boundary of the PA had passed through their villages with one village found to be entirely inside the PA.

The overall risk rating is Moderate. Out of the 10 risks identified during project development, 5 were rated High and 5 were rated medium risk. Further, during project implementation, 6 new risks have been identified, some of which are inherent to project design (such as unmet community expectations arising from differences in the manner that partner organizations incentivize rights holders, resistance to gender-inclusive practices) and some external ones (such as high turnover of staff members in executing entities, crop failure due to unpredictable weather patterns, limited financial sustainability of producer groups, and high breakdown rate of vehicles due to poor road network limiting COMACO's access for supporting markets). Out of these newly identified risks, 5 are Medium and 1 is low. After applying mitigation measures to all risks, at the end of Y3, the residual risk level for the project remains moderate.

Progress

Component 1 - Protected area management and establishment in the Luangwa headwaters

Outcome 1.1: Improved management effectiveness of the Mafinga Hills National Forest Reserve in the Luangwa headwaters (Mafinga District)

Output 1.1.1 Boundary demarcation of Mafinga Hills NFR (with beacons)

- 53km (75%) of the 70 kilometers of the total perimeter of the MHNFR has been cleared, marked and beaconed.
- 6 (out of target 9) standard beacons have been erected. The others could not be erected owing to the International Boundary with the Republic of Malawi that requires bi-lateral engagements at country level.
- Stakeholders have gained a clearer understanding of the true boundaries and significance of the Mafinga Hills National Forest Reserve (MHNFR), in accordance with Zambia's legal framework (SI No. 186 of 1972 and No. 158 of 1975). Much of the boundary marking (53 Km out of 71 Km of MHNFR demarcated with beacons) process was carried out with community consent, obtained through Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) from 426 members. The remaining 18 km is part of Malawi-Zambia border which awaits the engagement of Malawian authority. Much of this stretch is largely a rocky outcrop. This process was supported by a multidisciplinary team including government agencies, WWF, and traditional leaders from the Mweniwisi and Mwenichifungwe chiefdoms. Although this FPIC process was carried out with all communities in the area, it is not finalized as a section between Boundary beacons A and B is still under contention with communities who allege that it should be moved up northward, so that the villages remain outside the protected area. This consultation process will continue in the new year with the hope a resolution will be found.

Output 1.1.2 Participatory Forest Management Plan for Mafinga Hills NFR developed and endorsed

- Draft Participatory Management Plan developed (endorsement pending)
- 4 Community Forest Management Groups (CFMGs) have been formed (up to step 3) in Lighton, (Nsjenje Ward) Chipungu, Lua-Mafinga and Makombe (Musipizi Ward).
- 40 Honorary Forest Officers have been identified, recruited, and have had their details, including fingerprints submitted to the Zambian Police Service for Security Clearance.

Outcome 1.2: Enhanced protective status of the source of Luangwa River

- 10 Water Quality Monitoring (WQM) sites have been established at (Luangwa River-5), (Ntonga River-2), (Musipizi River-1)-Izinza River1), (Kaunga River 1)
- 2 Gauge Stations (out of a total target of 5) established at Kampubu Bridge and Ntonga River Bridge along the Luangwa River. Additionally, four community members (2 at each site) were trained to monitor and report on water levels and sediment flow in the targeted rivers and disseminate to stakeholders.
- As part of its role in establishing Water Resources Protected Areas (WRPAs), WARMA conducted a technical assessment to gather baseline data on water quality, sediment transport, and stream flow in the upper Luangwa River, including nine tributaries within a 15 km radius from the source in the Mafinga Hills. The study highlighted that the Chilera and Mulungwizi rivers in Isoka District are major contributors of sediment

due to their large catchment areas and seasonal flow. These findings support expanding the project to include Isoka and Nakonde, which is under discussion with the WWF GEF Agency. Based on the data, five gauge stations are planned for construction along the Luangwa River and its key tributaries.

- With technical support from WARMA, the project trained 53 community members in water quality monitoring, enabling them to assess nitrate and phosphate levels as well as water turbidity. Tools, equipment, and reagents were provided to support citizen science efforts. As a result, communities are now better equipped to make informed decisions about farming locations and to report on water quality to relevant stakeholders.

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- **Component 2 - Community Management of the Upper Luangwa Sub-Catchment (Mafinga District).**

- 1080 farmers have improved agroforestry and conservation farming practices

The project distributed 540,000 biodegradable tubes to support *Gliricidia sepium* nurseries, benefiting 1,080 farmers (562 women, 518 men) who established 329 community nurseries. From these, 184,000 seedlings were transplanted by 368 farmers (192 women, 176 men). The lower-than-expected transplant rate was due to drought and poor germination. The exact agroforestry area will be reported after GPS mapping is completed.

- Reported increase in household income from Conservation Agriculture Practices

During FY25, 91 farmers (59 women, 32 men) sold 7,641 kg of soybeans to COMACO, earning a total of ZMK 76,410.00. The competitive price of ZMK 10.00/kg helped boost farmer incomes and encouraged quality production.

- Community members have improved Seed Bank Management Practices

A total of 69 participants (47 men, 22 women), including Senior Lead Farmers and Producer Group Trainers, were trained in seed loan recovery and seed bank management to strengthen local seed systems. As a result, 2,939 kg of seeds were recovered across nine camps in Mafinga District—comprising 2,638 kg of beans, 142 kg of cowpeas, and 159 kg of soybeans. Seed recovery is ongoing to fully stock community seed banks.

- To improve monitoring and accurately measure the total area under conservation agriculture and agroforestry, GPS mapping has begun in the Mwinechifungwe chieftdom. This involves recording the geographic coordinates of all 2,640 beneficiary farm plots. This data is essential for tracking changes in land use, evaluating how widely practices are being adopted, and assessing the distribution and survival of *Gliricidia* seedlings. The GPS data collection process is currently ongoing.

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- **Component 3 - Knowledge management and monitoring and evaluation (M&E).**

Under this component, the following activities were facilitated and coordinated during FY25:

- 1 Project Communication Strategy has been developed, and concept note to validate has been prepared
- Facilitated 1 Project Implementation Support Mission conducted by the GEF Agency, WWF-ZCO and Ministry of Green Economy and Environment (MoGEE) – May 2025.
- 1 Joint Monitoring Supervisory (GEF OFP/MoGEE & WWF ZCO visit facilitated.
- 1 Mid Term Evaluation Review (MTR) activity supported, with site visits in June 2025
- Facilitated training of project stakeholders (35 government and 6 from Service Providers). 8 female and 33 males. Topics covered included Community Forest Management, M&E and Reporting and Safeguards, Gender Mainstreaming, Finance and Grant Management and Reporting.
- Produced 2 Project Progress Reports and 1 Project Implementation Report-PIR)

- Facilitated production of 2 Video Documentaries (aired on Prime Television Station).
Click [here](#) to access WARMA
Documentary <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1MXKRKiU7j3L4ZnpMDByvKoGm0pjTOGsM/view>
Click [here](#) to access Documentary on the distribution of inputs for Conservation of Agriculture
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/12XdUOnRcwLHbq3xjhq3kzyE4Spfi4W9O/view>

Strengths

Strong Institutional foundation

- The Government of Zambia plays a central role as the executing agency, lending crucial support and legitimacy to the project's activities.
- WWF Zambia's deep experience in conservation and sustainability contributed significantly to the successful delivery of project components.

Effective Partnerships

- Collaborations with COMACO, WARMA, and WECSZ bring diverse technical expertise, strengthening the project's ability to tackle conservation and resource management challenges.
- Subgrant partners, particularly COMACO with its long-standing presence in Muyombe, leveraged their intimate knowledge of the landscape and thematic experience to deliver more targeted and impactful interventions.

Community Engagement

- Well-executed outreach efforts helped build trust within communities, encouraging greater participation in project activities.
- Activities aimed at empowering communities, particularly women and youth, promoted deeper community involvement and ownership of conservation efforts.

Monitoring and Evaluation Framework

- A strong M&E system enabled continuous feedback and timely adjustments, enhancing the project's responsiveness and overall effectiveness.

Safeguards

The PMU received grievances related to the Boundary Clearing and Beaconing activities of the MHNFR, as well as some Conservation Agriculture activities executed by COMACO on behalf of the project.

Table 1. Documented grievances from community members

No.	Grievance	Village	Ward	Status
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1.	Non-Payment of Wages (a male youth)	Mweniwisi	Mafinga	Resolved. The person who participated in the boundary marking had submitted conflicting details for the payment to be successfully transacted, and this has been paid.
2.	Having been left out of the Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) Interventions	Damasco/Maliko-63 h/holds Lulindo-34 h/holds Malonje-41-h/holds (Total-138 h/holds)	Musipizi	Engaged COMACO, who has responded that these will be considered in the next phase. For context, COMACO was initially advised by the District Agriculture Office (DACO) in Mafinga that the villages in contention were counted as being part of Isoka district (outside project scope). However, the PMU engaged traditional leaders, COMACO and the DACO, and it was resolved that since they fall under the same chiefdom (Chief Mweniwisi) as the other villages, and more so that these villages lie on the periphery of the Luangwa river source which the project is trying to protect, COMACO agreed that these will be provided with the inputs in the next phase (farming season).
3.	Receiving undesired legume seed inputs such as groundnuts which do not thrive in their area instead of the seed crops preferred by local communities meant to promote Conservation Agriculture (CA)	Itukuta, Lunyika, Kaswa, Nabulembe, Lumbila, Choma, Kalao and Chumbu villages	Mafinga	Resolved after engaging COMACO who has promised to do more on engagement of farmers in order to establish their requirement. Feedback has been given to concerned farmers that this will be addressed.
4.	The stretch between beacon A and B is alleged to have put some villages within a protected area.	Kaisolele, Mukundalonde, Chibwe, Mupapa, Kawama and Maliko	Nsenje	Process of stakeholder engagement is underway with Forest Department

Emerging Safeguards issues around the Boundary Clearing and Beaconing of the Mafinga Hills National Forest Reserve (MHNFR)

- In line with the quest to deliver Output 1.1.1 Boundary Demarcation of Mafinga Hills NFR, the team facilitating boundary marking with beacons, comprised of officers from the Forest Department, Lands, Surveyor General and the National Remote Sensing faced resistance and experienced disputes from communities that have been living inside or on the periphery of the MHNFR. The safeguards triggers were stakeholder engagement, access to natural resources and use, and Community Health and Safety. The Ministry of Green Economy and Environment through the Office of the Principal Forestry Officer has already started a stakeholder engagement process with the traditional and civic leaders to reach a consensus. Prior to that, the Directors of Forestry and Environmental Management visited the project site to better understand the boundary dispute issue. This was preceded by the PMU engaging with the Office of the District Commission and the chief under whose jurisdiction this area falls.

Safeguards Screening of New Activities

- The project, in collaboration with the Wildlife and Environmental Conservation Society of Zambia (WECSZ), aimed to form Community Forest Management Groups (CFMGs). These groups were intended to help restore degraded land and empower local communities to manage their own natural resources. As part of the standard process, WECSZ participated in an engagement meeting where the Screening Tool was used. Some of the outcomes of the screening tool include environmental impacts resulting in permanent or temporal change in land use and land cover or typography and access restriction to natural resources. To address these, there will be regulated access to natural resources by community members through observance of by laws that will be mutually developed as part of the participatory management plans. Livelihood Restoration Plans are part of

these management plans, and will be co-designed in such a way that access to natural resources is maintained in a way that respects both people and nature.

Newly identified environmental risk

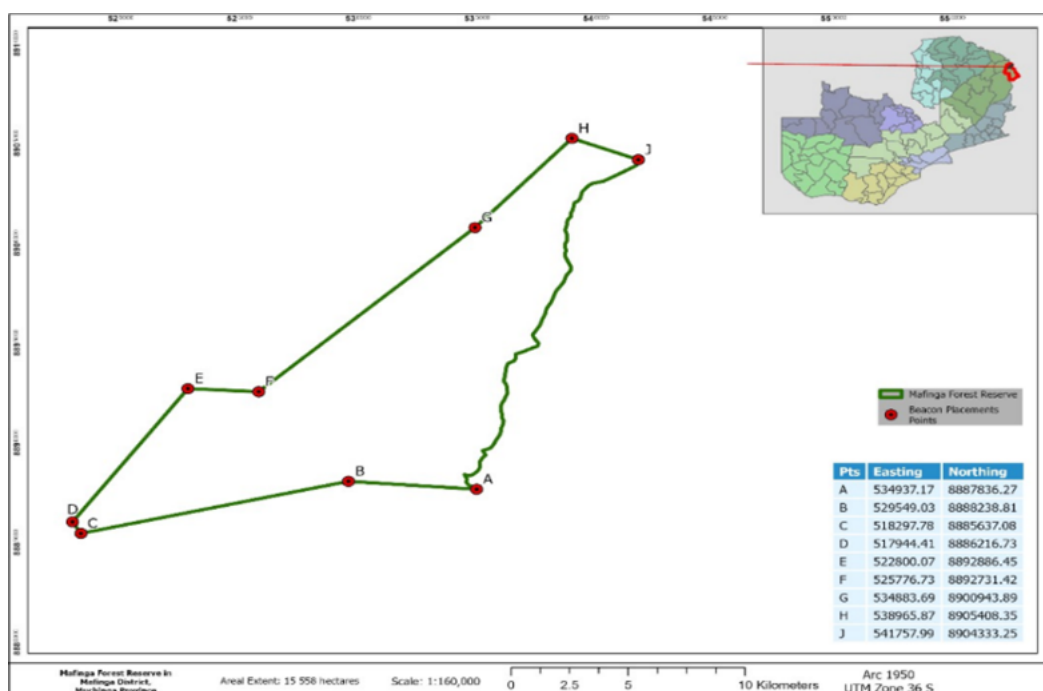
- **Cultivating along and within riverbanks and streams** - Community members are likely to oppose government regulations that prohibit farming within a buffer zone of 50 meters from riverbanks, as these areas are commonly used to access water.
 - o Mitigation measure: under output 1.2.1, the PMU will work alongside WARMA to implement and monitor the WRPA management plan with local stakeholders including CFMGs. Part of that work entails developing and implementing nature-based solutions for restoration and protection of the WRPA, e.g., a solar-powered irrigation scheme which would reduce erosion and help restore degraded land along the river banks in the WRPA. This activity will require thorough stakeholder engagement and consultation, development of livelihood restoration plans with communities involved in riverbank cultivation, and an assessment of the water resources available to functioning of the solar-powered irrigation system for the long term. The rapid assessment to inform establishment of irrigation schemes is already planned with the Ministry of Agriculture under the Mechanization Unit. This will not only mitigate the problem of riverbank cultivation but ensure that local communities are able to produce food all year round.

B. Challenges: Information on challenges of project implementation activities

Challenges

Contentions with the MHNFR Boundary Marking and beaconing exercise

During the boundary clearing and beaconing process, the technical team comprising of staff from the Forest Department, Surveyor General's Office (Ministry of Lands), the National Remote Sensing Center and WWF team working with traditional leaders and the community members experienced disputes on the stretch between beacon A and B where 6 villages - Maliko, Mukundalonde, Kaisolele, Chibwe, Mupapa and Kawama - are within or in the periphery of the MHNFR. Please see Safeguards section for more details.



Environmental and climate variability

Unpredictable climate patterns affected agricultural practices and water availability, complicating the implementation of project interventions. A significant drought during the middle of the growing season negatively influenced crop growth, with soybeans—one of the key crops—being especially affected. Extended dry periods caused plants to wilt during critical stages like flowering and pod development, resulting in low harvests and poor grain quality. In certain areas, farmers suffered almost complete crop failure, which had serious consequences for their livelihoods and access to food. One resulting lesson learned is that specific crops such as cowpeas cannot be grown in some project areas e.g. Nachisittu, so it will be distributed in other areas where it is likely to thrive better.

Weak Market Linkages despite strong production potential

COMACO provided farmers with enhanced legume seeds, estimating harvests of 75,000 kg of soybeans, 337,500 kg of groundnuts, and 68,000 kg of cowpeas based on typical yield projections. Despite this, only 7,500 kg of soybeans were sold through COMACO—just 10% of the anticipated amount. Observations from the field indicate that many farmers chose to sell to informal traders offering lower prices but immediate payment. This decision reduced the market value of their produce and excluded them from COMACO's premium pricing benefits. The situation underscores the need for better farmer awareness, more efficient crop collection systems, and a stronger presence of buyers at the community level.

Funding delays affected activity implementation

Funding delays due to financial report revisions and processing of an amendment to the grant agreement to increase obligated funds significantly hindered the timely implementation of essential project activities. Key interventions—such as sharing post-planting technologies and field monitoring by Lead Farmers using

COMACO's Better Life Books—were either postponed or reduced in scope. This disrupted the ideal timing for support during crucial crop development phases and weakened community involvement, ultimately diminishing both the impact and perceived value of the project's assistance.

Coordination across multiple agencies

- Coordinating among subgrant partners—COMACO, WARMA, and WECSZ—posed challenges in aligning goals and ensuring coherent execution strategies. These difficulties were reflected in issues with submitting reports in accordance with contractual requirements.
- Delayed communication, coordination and feedback between key project stakeholders and service providers occasionally led to delays in executing key activities and missed chances for effective collaboration, for instance, in establishing community nurseries to support restoration efforts along the Luangwa River.

Resource limitations

Some subgrant partners faced limitations in human resources, hindering their ability to deliver on commitments. Partners have since taken the initiative to engage community volunteers to address these limitations.

Community engagement

- The project has faced competition from other actors, such as the Biocarbon Partners (BCP) in the project area with similar goals but who are able to provide more monetary incentives to the communities for their participation. This has led to resistance or low engagement with the project's objectives in certain areas—such as the Sibuyembe community during the formation of Community Forest Management Groups (CFMGs). This increased participation from communities led to BCP acquiring much more land for CFMGs than what the project had targeted to achieve. Another reported prospective organization in the landscape is Zambia National Forest Conservation Organization.
- Traditional practices sometimes restricted the participation of marginalized groups, including women and youth, in project activities due to prevailing stigmas. To address this, the project team plans to include gender-specific initiatives such as adult literacy classes, community leadership and visioning to encourage female community leadership and morale.

C. Stakeholder Engagement

The PMU has completed comprehensive mapping of key stakeholders, including local communities, government agencies, NGOs, and private sector actors. Additionally, a few new stakeholders in the landscape have been identified:

- Government Agencies: Ministry of Small Scale, Medium Enterprise Development (Department of Cooperative Development) - Key partner in enhancing entrepreneurship, innovation in green business. Project will engage regarding polity and technical guidance on cooperative establishment.

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- NGOs: Adventist Development Relief Agency - ELSAM operating in Mweniwisi and Musipizi wards. Project will engage to coordinate and collaborate.
 - NGOS: Bio-Carbon Partners (BCP) - Working in Mafinga and Musipizi wards for carbon trading through CFMG approach. Project will engage to coordinate and collaborate.

Stakeholder Engagement Activities:

- Conducted various activities such as citizen science training and communication strategy meetings to share project goals, gather input, and promote collaboration. Detailed report for the Citizen Science training can be found [here](#).

Capacity Building:

- Delivered training to local communities on sustainable practices, including Citizen Science, Sustainable Agriculture Land Management (SALM), and Community Forest Management Groups (CFMGs), to boost their participation in project implementation.

Feedback Mechanisms:

- Set up tools like surveys and suggestion boxes to collect ongoing feedback. For instance, farmers highlighted issues such as drought and unsuitable seed varieties during engagement meetings.
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Challenges

- As mentioned in the Challenges subsection above, the project has faced competition from other actors in the project area with similar goals but who are able to provide more monetary incentives to the communities for their participation. This has led to resistance or low engagement with the project's objectives in certain areas—such as the Sibuyembe Community during the formation of Community Forest Management Groups (CFMGs).
 - **Limited Resources:** Financial and staffing constraints in some institutions like the Forest Department and WECSZ affected stakeholder outreach, particularly in remote areas.
 - **Communication Issues:** Language and literacy barriers made it difficult to effectively share information with some community members. In some cases, the team is able to work with community volunteers native to the area as translators, and is also working on translating COMACO's Better Life Book to increase accessibility.
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Key Outcomes

- **Greater Awareness:** Engagement efforts increased understanding of conservation and sustainable practices within communities.

- **Stronger Partnerships:** Collaboration among stakeholders improved, enabling joint initiatives and resource sharing (e.g., the project facilitated a motorbike to WECSZ during CFMG formation engagements and COMACO provided fuel for joint activities).
- **Community Ownership:** Enhanced engagement fostered a stronger sense of ownership and participation in managing local resources.
- **Responsive Planning:** Stakeholder feedback was incorporated into project planning, resulting in more relevant and effective interventions.

D. Gender Equality

The gender assessment or analysis and gender mainstreaming strategy/action plan (GEF-7). 30 /06 / 2025.

Over the past year, the Sustainable Luangwa Project has made notable progress in executing gender-responsive approaches. Despite ongoing challenges, the results reflect a positive shift toward gender equity and social inclusion in water resource management. Continued commitment and targeted actions will be essential to maintain and build on these achievements.

Progress

Component 1: Protected Area management and establishment in the Luangwa headwaters

Four Community Forest Management Groups (CFMGs) established (up to step 3) in partnership with WECSZ.

The initial steps (1 to 3) focus on awareness raising, boundary negotiation and mapping, and constitution formulation, election of office bearers and nomination of Honorary Forest Officers (HFOs). The middle steps (4 and 5) help the community to participate in the development and implementation of community forest management plan and completion of the application for agreement form attaching a map duly signed by the Chief and village headmen surrounding the selected forest area.

The membership breakdown is shown in the table below:

No.	Intervention Name	Chiefdom	Ward	Membership	Male	Female	Ha
1.	Lighton CFMG Exco	Mwenichifungwe	Ntonga	10	5	5	300
	Honorary Forest Officers (HFOs)	Mwenichifungwe	Ntonga	8	5	3	
2.	Chipungu CFMG Exco	Mweniwisi	Musipizi	10	5	5	1003.7

	Chipungu CFMG HFOs	Mweniwisi	Musipizi	9	7	2	
3.	MAKOMBE CFMG Exco	Mweniwisi	Musipizi	10	5	5	2066.9
	Makombe CFMG HFOs	Mweniwisi	Musipizi	10	7	3	
4.	LUA Mafinga CFMG Exco	Mweniwisi	Musipizi	10	5	5	219
	LUA Mafinga HFOs	Mweniwisi	Musipizi	5	5	5	
	Sub Totals						
	CFMGs			40	20	20	
	HFOs			37	24	13	
	TOTAL_Ha						3589.6

Component 2: Community Management of the Upper Luangwa Sub-Catchment (Mafinga District).

New and Lead Farmer training

- 20 lead farmers (18 male, 2 female) trained in Sustainable Agricultural Land Management (SALM) practices to facilitate knowledge transfer and ensure sustainability
- 2,640 new farmers (1,267 males, 1,373 females) trained in SALM practices, including conservation farming techniques, soil management, crop diversification, and sustainable land use strategies with noticeable results on farmers' improved capacity in Conservation Agriculture practices

Distribution of Farming Inputs, tools and equipment to community members for promotion of Conservation Agriculture practices – by the Chair of the project's National Steering Committee (NSC), MGEE Permanent Secretary Dr. Douty Chibamba

- 130 stakeholders participated
- Distributed 27,000kg of legume seeds to 2,148 farmers (1,196 females and 952 males)
 - o Groundnuts: 15,000 kg (848 farmers: 501 females, 347 males).
 - o Beans: 8,000 kg (800 farmers: 447 females, 353 males).

- Soybeans: 2,000 kg (100 farmers: 60 females, 40 males).
- Cowpeas: 2,000 kg (400 farmers: 208 females, 192 males).
- *Gliricidia sepium* Nursery establishment: distributed 65 kg of *Gliricidia sepium* seed and established 343 nurseries in 4 wards with a total of 143,319 seedlings, awaiting transport to farmers' fields.
- Mechanization support: procured 1,245 Chaka hoes and distributed to 1,245 farmers (687 females and 558 males) to enhance farming efficiency
- With the principle of seed bank development, farmers are now re-paying 30% of the seeds they received from the initial harvest so others can also benefit through seed recoveries – this will lead to the full 2,640 farmers that were trained on CSA to also receive inputs.
- 32 bicycles distributed to senior lead farmers
- 2 motorbikes for COMACO field staff to enhance mobility for execution of project activities

Community Engagement and Farmer Recruitment

- Awareness and sensitization meetings with 4,798 participants (2,765 females and 2,033 males). Recruitment criteria based on Camp Agriculture Committees (CACs) recommendations and also village headmen and women, and commitments and pledge to practice Conservation Agriculture practices

Community awareness

Awareness campaigns successfully engaged over 500 community members, emphasizing the importance of gender inclusion in water resource management. Citizen science data showed a nearly balanced gender representation—47% women and 53% men. Meeting attendance records also indicated growing community awareness of gender issues, as participants increasingly asked questions and proposed solutions during discussions.

Gender mainstreaming training

In the last quarter, sub-grant partners COMACO and WECSZ received training on gender mainstreaming. The sessions covered key concepts, objectives, and the Sustainable Luangwa gender strategy, including the Gender Action Plan and alignment with the government's 8th National Development Plan (8NDP). The training was facilitated by the Community Engagement and Gender Officer, along with the Provincial Gender Division Coordinator. As part of their implementation responsibilities, partners are expected to report on gender-disaggregated data and other relevant indicators.

Challenges

- **Cultural Barriers:** Traditional norms continue to hinder women's full participation in decision-making processes. Some communities still resist women's leadership roles.

- **Resource Limitations:** Limited funding for gender-specific initiatives has restricted the scope and reach of programs aimed at empowering women and promoting gender-sensitive practices.

Gender-sensitive indicators

- **Participation Rates:** Women and youth are actively engaging in training and activities such as compost making, CFMG formation, citizen science, and communication strategy meetings, showing growing confidence and potential. Whilst women's involvement in leadership roles still needs strengthening, engagement in leadership roles such as capacity building leadership and vision, provision of adult literacy among others remain a primary focus area of the project.
- **Community Attitudes:** Success stories reflect a positive shift in attitudes, with growing recognition of women's leadership potential and their role in water resource management.

Intermediate Results

- **Improved Collaboration:** Greater cooperation between men and women in community projects has led to more inclusive decision-making and better outcomes in water sustainability efforts.
- **Policy Advancements:** Local governance bodies have started adopting gender-sensitive policies, influenced by the project's advocacy work.
- **Enhanced Resilience:** Communities are now more resilient to climate challenges, thanks in part to women's active participation in sustainable practices. For example, Mary, a lead farmer from Muleya camp, shared that before the program, her harvests were insufficient. After receiving training in Sustainable Agriculture Land Management (SALM), she now produces enough to feed her family and sell surplus at the market, providing a stable income.

E. Knowledge Management

1. The Water Resources Management Authority (WARMA) held awareness raising stakeholder engagement meetings at Provincial, District and Community levels. Accompanied by the WARMA Director General and Key Technical Experts, WARMA highlighted their key mandates as it relates to the enhanced protection of the Luangwa Upper Sub Catchment with the support of the GEF7 Sustainable Luangwa Project. The link below provides details of the WARMA stakeholder engagement activities. [Here \(https://wwfint-my.sharepoint.com/personal/jchisha_wwfzam_org/_layouts/15/stream.aspx?id=%2Fpersonal%2Fjchisha%5Fwwfzam%5Forg%2FDocuments%2FFromGoogle%2FKnowledge%5FManagement%2FKnowledge%5FManagement%5FGEF7%5FSLP%2FVID%2D20240903%2DWA0002%2Emp4&referrer=StreamWebApp%2EWeb&referrerScenario=AddressBarCopied%2Evie w%2Eaa550d49%2D1d88%2D49dc%2D935b%2D1d41dbb32562\)](https://wwfint-my.sharepoint.com/personal/jchisha_wwfzam_org/_layouts/15/stream.aspx?id=%2Fpersonal%2Fjchisha%5Fwwfzam%5Forg%2FDocuments%2FFromGoogle%2FKnowledge%5FManagement%2FKnowledge%5FManagement%5FGEF7%5FSLP%2FVID%2D20240903%2DWA0002%2Emp4&referrer=StreamWebApp%2EWeb&referrerScenario=AddressBarCopied%2Evie w%2Eaa550d49%2D1d88%2D49dc%2D935b%2D1d41dbb32562) is the documentary clip for the WARMA Stakeholder Engagement meetings.
4. Official [Handover \(https://wwfint-my.sharepoint.com/personal/jchisha_wwfzam_org/_layouts/15/stream.aspx?id=%2Fpersonal%2Fjchisha%5Fwwfzam%5Forg%2FDocuments%2FFromGoogle%2FKnowledge%5FManagement%2FKnowledge%5FManagement%5FGEF7%5FSLP%2FVID%2D20250127%2DWA0000%2Emp4&referrer=StreamWebApp%2EWeb&referrerScenario=AddressBarCopied%2Evie w%2Ed1a531dc%2Da153%2D457b%2D8699%2D34f5aa8f3c3a\)](https://wwfint-my.sharepoint.com/personal/jchisha_wwfzam_org/_layouts/15/stream.aspx?id=%2Fpersonal%2Fjchisha%5Fwwfzam%5Forg%2FDocuments%2FFromGoogle%2FKnowledge%5FManagement%2FKnowledge%5FManagement%5FGEF7%5FSLP%2FVID%2D20250127%2DWA0000%2Emp4&referrer=StreamWebApp%2EWeb&referrerScenario=AddressBarCopied%2Evie w%2Ed1a531dc%2Da153%2D457b%2D8699%2D34f5aa8f3c3a) of farming inputs and tools

to selected farmers by the Project's National Steering Committee (NSC) Chairperson, who was flanked by the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Green Environment and Environment, Permanent Secretary for Muchinga Province, Mafinga Member of Parliament, Luangwa Landscape Manager, the Project Manager, high ranking government and COMACO representatives.

5. In terms of awareness raising, WECSZ produced 4 radio programmes, 1 TV News Item aired, and 2 Out-side Broadcasts. The recordings, topic and program schedule are shared [here](https://www.fint-my.sharepoint.com/my?id=%2Fpersonal%2Fjchisha%5Fwwfzam%5Forg%2FDocuments%2FIso%20FM%202024) for easier referencing: <https://www.fint-my.sharepoint.com/my?id=%2Fpersonal%2Fjchisha%5Fwwfzam%5Forg%2FDocuments%2FIso%20FM%202024>.

III: Minor Amendments

CONTEXT	
Result Framework	
Components and Cost	
Institutional And Implementation Arrangements	
Financial Management	
Implementation Schedule	
Executing Entity	
Executing Entity Category	
Minor Project Objective Change	
Safeguards	
Risk Analysis	
Increase of GEF Financing up to 5%	
Co-Financing	
Location of Project Activity	
others	

IV: Geographic Coordinates of Project Activities

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Mwenimpangala Primary & Secondary School	-10.248491	33.363072	

Location Description:

Musipizi Ward, Mafinga district

Activity Description:

: *Community engagement meeting (project awareness raising)*

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Nachisitu Primary School -	-10.004	33.281996	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Community engagement meeting (project awareness raising)

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Mweniwisi Primary School	-10.082383	33.146684	

Location Description:

Mafinga Ward, Mafinga district:

Activity Description:

Community engagement meeting (project awareness raising)

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Sichitambule Food Reserve Agency (FRA) Shade	-10.326575	33.122032	

Location Description:

Mafinga Ward, Mafinga district: Sichitambule Food Reserve Agency (FRA) Shade: *Community engagement meeting (project awareness raising)*

Activity Description:

Mafinga Ward, Mafinga district: Sichitambule Food Reserve Agency (FRA) Shade: *Community engagement meeting (project awareness raising)*

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
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Nsami Primary School	-10.118732	33.265661	
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Location Description:

Activity Description:

Nsenje Ward, Mafinga district: Nsami Primary School: *Community engagement meeting (project awareness raising)*

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Mulekatembo FRA Shade	-10.200949	33.315901	

Location Description:

Ntonga Ward, Mafinga district: Mulekatembo FRA Shade

Activity Description:

: *Community engagement meeting (project awareness raising)*

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
NTONGA STREAM (2)	-10.04501	33.085	

Location Description:

MWENEWISI VILLAGE

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
MUSIPIZI River	-10.01201	33.09513	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

musipizi Bridge

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
MAFINGA HILLS NATIONAL FOREST	-9.955556	33.19542	

Location Description:

Near the Luangwa river headwaters

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
CHALAMUKA VILLAGE	-10.21492	33.1146	

Location Description:

IN FUNGWE NF.NO.429

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
NTONGA STREAM	-10.21492	33.19525	

Location Description:

Mulekatembo

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
INZINZA STREAM	-10.05035	33.16371	

Location Description:

Senje Ward

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Mafinga District	-10.38333333	33.4	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Mulekatembo-ESMF Orientations

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Luangwa River	-10.05869	33.10403	

Location Description:

Damasika Village in Musipizi

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
MALUNGULE HOT SPRING	-10.03309	33.10487	

Location Description:

Mwenewisi Village

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
LUANGWA BRIDGE MWENEWISI	-10.15065	33.0123	

Location Description:

MWENIWISI CHIEFDOM

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Luangwa River Nakapanga Village	-9.87200	33.23671	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Water Quality Monitoring Site for Citizen Scientists. Musipizi Ward

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Luangwa River at Chiyombo village	-9.97	33.09	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Water Quality Monitoring Site for Citizen Scientists. Musipizi Ward

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
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Luangwa River at Kampumbu Road Bridge	-10.25	33.022	
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Location Description:

Activity Description:

Water Quality Monitoring Site for Citizen Scientists. Mafinga Ward

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Misipizi River at Malawi Road Bridge	-10.02	33.165	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Water Quality Monitoring Site for Citizen Scientists. Musipizi Ward

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Ntonga River at Mweniwisi Road Bridge	-10.078	33.147	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Water Quality Monitoring Site for Citizen Scientists. Mafinga Ward

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Kaunga River along Mweniwisi Road Bridge	-10.19	33.073	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Water Quality Monitoring Site for Citizen Scientists. Mafinga Ward

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Inzinza River at Mukundalonde Village	-10.083	33.271	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Water Quality Monitoring Site for Citizen Scientists. Nsenje Ward

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
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Luangwa River at Mchembele Village	-9.88	33.182	
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Location Description:

Activity Description:

Water Quality Monitoring Site for Citizen Scientists. Musipizi Ward

V. ANNEX

Uploaded Document

Document Category M and E Document	Title 10412_Y1 RF Tracking Report_July 2022-June 2023
Document Category M and E Document	Title 10412_Sustainable Luangwa_3rd PIR_FY25