



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



UN
environment
programme

UN-REDD
PROGRAMME

COMMUNITY FOREST MANAGEMENT GROUPS IN NORTH WESTERN PROVINCE, ZAMBIA

Covering the districts of Kalumbila, Mwinilunga,
Manyinga, Ikelenge and Kabompo

// Assessment report //



COMMUNITY FOREST MANAGEMENT GROUPS IN NORTH WESTERN PROVINCE, ZAMBIA

Covering the districts of Kalumbila, Mwinilunga,
Manyinga, Ikelenge and Kabompo

// Assessment report //

Cassandra Lundu
Amanda Bradley
Maria Ruiz-Villar

Required citation:

Lundu, C., Bradley A. & Ruiz-Villar, M. 2025. *Community forest management groups in North Western province, Zambia. Assessment report – Covering the districts of Kalumbila, Mwinilunga, Manyinga, Ikelenge and Kabompo*. Rome, FAO. <https://doi.org/10.4060/cd7952en>

The designations employed and the presentation of material in this information product do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) concerning the legal or development status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The mention of specific companies or products of manufacturers, whether or not these have been patented, does not imply that these have been endorsed or recommended by FAO in preference to others of a similar nature that are not mentioned.

The views expressed in this information product are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of FAO.

ISBN 978-92-5-140391-4

© FAO, 2025



Some rights reserved. This work is made available under the Creative Commons Attribution- 4.0 International licence (CC BY 4.0: <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/legalcode.en>).

Under the terms of this licence, this work may be copied, redistributed, and adapted, provided that the work is appropriately cited. In any use of this work, there should be no suggestion that FAO endorses any specific organization, products, or services. The use of the FAO logo is not permitted. If a translation or adaptation of this work is created, it must include the following disclaimer along with the required citation: “This translation [or adaptation] was not created by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). FAO is not responsible for the content or accuracy of this translation [or adaptation]. The original [Language] edition shall be the authoritative edition.”

Any dispute arising under this licence that cannot be settled amicably shall be referred to arbitration in accordance with the Arbitration Rules of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL). The parties shall be bound by any arbitration award rendered as a result of such arbitration as the final adjudication of such a dispute.

Third-party materials. This Creative Commons licence CC BY 4.0 does not apply to non-FAO copyright materials included in this publication. Users wishing to reuse material from this work that is attributed to a third party, such as tables, figures, or images, are responsible for determining whether permission is needed for that reuse and for obtaining permission from the copyright holder. The risk of claims resulting from infringement of any third-party-owned component in the work rests solely with the user.

FAO photographs. FAO photographs that may appear in this work are not subject to the above-mentioned Creative Commons licence. Queries for the use of any FAO photographs should be submitted to: photo-library@fao.org.

Sales, rights, and licensing. FAO information products are available on the FAO website (www.fao.org/publications), and print copies can be purchased through the distributors listed there. For general enquiries about FAO publications, please contact: publications@fao.org. Queries regarding rights and licensing of publications should be submitted to: copyright@fao.org.

Cover photograph: © FAO/Peter Banda

CONTENTS

ABBREVIATIONS	VI
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	VII
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	VIII
1. INTRODUCTION & CONTEXT	1
1.1 UN-REDD programme 2023–2024 in Zambia	1
1.2 Community Forestry in Zambia	3
2. OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSESSMENT	5
3. METHODOLOGY	6
4. STATUS OF EXISTING CFMGs	8
4.1 Governance and participation	10
4.2 Rights and institutional setting	13
4.3 Availability and use of natural resources	18
4.4 Benefits, benefit sharing mechanisms and finance	22
4.5 Forest/land management practices, capacities and learning	30
4.6 Threats and challenges perceived by CFMGs	33
4.7 Community forestry status and the way forward for provincial and district government institutions	36
5. POTENTIAL EXPANSION of CFMGs in NORTH WESTERN PROVINCE	40
5.1 Ikelenge District	43
5.2 Kabompo District	47
5.3 Kalumbila District	51
5.4 Manyinga District	55
5.5 Mwinilunga District	59
6. PROPOSED ROADMAP OF COMMUNITY FORESTRY IN NORTH WESTERN PROVINCE	63
7. CONCLUSIONS	66
References	69
Annexes	70

FIGURES

1. Location of 5 target districts in North Western Province	2	29. Forest restoration suitability in Manyinga District	58
2. The seven steps of community forestry establishment in Zambia	4	30. Vegetation types in Mwinilunga District	59
3. Map of the assessed CFMGs	8	31. CFMGs in Mwinilunga District for which spatial data is available	59
4. Map of vegetation types in North Western Province	19	32. Potential expansion of CF in Mwinilunga district	62
5. Major watersheds in North Western Province	21	33. Tree cover change in Mwinilunga District	62
6. Vegetation types in Ikelenge District	43	34. Relative ecosystem services potential in Mwinilunga District	62
7. Community forestry management groups in Ikelenge district	43	35. Forest restoration suitability in Mwinilunga District	62
8. Potential expansion of CF in Ikelenge district	46		
9. Tree change in Ikelenge District (2000–2023)	46		
10. Relative ecosystem services potential in Ikelenge District	46		
11. Forest restoration suitability in Ikelenge District	46		
12. Vegetation types in Kabompo District	47		
13. CFMGs in Kabompo District for which spatial data is available	47		
14. Potential expansion of CF in Kabompo district	50		
15. Tree change in Kabompo District (2000–2023)	50		
16. Relative ecosystem services potential in Kabompo District	50		
17. Forest restoration suitability in Kabompo District	50		
18. Vegetation types in Kalumbila District	51		
19. Community forestry management groups in Kalumbila District	51		
Figure 20. Potential expansion of CF in Kalumbila district	54		
21. Tree cover loss in Kalumbila District (2000–2023)	54		
22. Relative potential ecosystems services in Kalumbila District	54		
23. Forest Restoration suitability in Kalumbila District	54		
24. Vegetation types in Manyinga District	55		
25. CFMGs in Manyinga District	55		
26. Potential expansion of CF in Manyinga district	58		
27. Tree cover change in Manyinga District (2000–2023)	58		
28. Relative ecosystems services potential in Manyinga District	58		

TABLES

1. Motivations for CF establishment from the community perspective	9
2. Gender disaggregation in the assessed CFMG Executive Committees	12
3. Progression of CFMGs in North Western Province through the 7-Step process of CF development	14
4. District Forestry Department Capacities	16
5. Forest regime types in North Western Province	18
6. Plants and animals identified by communities as present in the assessment area	20
7. Top 5 products collected by women and challenges for collection and selling	24
8. Top 5 products collected by men and challenges for collection and selling	25
9. Example of two CFMG benefit sharing plans	28
10. CFMG access to finance	29
11. Priorities of community men and women for acquiring new livelihoods skills	32
12. Internal threats, status, and support needed	34
13. External threats, status, and support needed	35
14. Strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats in relation to potential CF strategies: Feedback from district workshops	37
15. Land cover and land use in Ikelenge District	44
16. Land cover and land use in Kabompo District	48
17. Land cover and land use in Kalumbila District	52
18. Land cover and land use in Manyinga District	56
19. Land cover and land use in Mwinilunga District	60
20. Analysis of CF-related opportunities in Ikelenge District	82
21. Analysis of CF-related opportunities in Kabompo District	83
22. Analysis of CF-related opportunities in Kalumbila District	84
23. Analysis of CF-related opportunities in Manyinga District	85
24. Analysis of CF-related opportunities in Mwinilunga District	86



ABBREVIATIONS

BCP	Bio Carbon Partners
CF	Community Forestry
CFMA	Community Forestry Management Agreement
CFMG	community forestry management group
CFMP	community forest management plan
DC	District Commissioner
DFNRMP	Decentralized Forest and other Natural Resources Management Programme
DFO	District Forest Officer or Office
DPO	District Planning Officer
FD	Forestry Department
GMA	Game Management Area
GRZ	Government of the Republic of Zambia
HFO	Honorary Forest Officer
KCC	Kabompo Community Carbon
MoA	Ministry of Agriculture
NGO	non-governmental organization
NHCC	National Heritage and Conservation Commission
NWFP	non-wood forest product
PES	Payment for Environmental Services
PFO	Provincial Forestry Officer or Office
REDD	reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation
SG	Savings Group
SI	Statutory Instrument
TNC	The Nature Conservancy
WDC	Ward Development Committee
WLCP	West Lunga Conservation Project

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This report was written by Cassandra Lundu, Amanda Bradley and Maria Ruiz-Villar, and reviewed by Brian Ross, Moses Kaumba, Sara Casallas, Manuel Estrada, Matteo Cortese, David Gritten, Darren Johnson, Soalandy Rakotondramanga, Wesley Roberts, and David Sabogal. Maps were prepared by Teopista Nakalema.

Key partners in this research include the Forestry Department, local communities and their traditional leaders, carbon development partners, private sector companies, local authorities, and various government departments, such as the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), the National Heritage and Conservation Commission (NHCC), and other initiatives collaborating with communities in the province (e.g. UNEP, USAID, conservation NGOs). Key findings of the research were reviewed and validated through discussions with provincial and district Forestry Department officers.

The research team wishes to express its gratitude to the following individuals:

Traditional Chiefs

HRH Chief Ntambu

HRH Acting Chieftainess Mukumbi

HRH Chief Sailunga

HRH Snr. Chief Sikufele

Forestry Department

Serah Lunda	<i>Provincial Forestry Office</i>
Muyunda Mulako	<i>Provincial Forestry Office</i>
Maxwell Phiri	<i>Provincial Forestry Office</i>
John Yowela	<i>Provincial Forestry Office</i>
Paul Kanema	<i>Ikelenge District Forestry Office</i>
Mwayanguba Masialeti	<i>Ikelenge District Forestry Office</i>
Jameson Mapupu	<i>Kabompo District Forestry Office</i>
Corinthian Mukombo	<i>Kabompo District Forestry Office</i>

Floret Mwansa	<i>Kabompo District Forestry Office</i>
Shadreck Bwalya	<i>Kalumbila District Forestry Office</i>
Chibuye Chishala	<i>Kalumbila District Forestry Office</i>
Collins Kyombela	<i>Kalumbila District Forestry Office</i>
Thumah Moono	<i>Manyinga District Forestry Office</i>
Vincent Hanyama	<i>Mwinilunga District Forestry Office</i>
Josephine Kashanga	<i>Mwinilunga District Forestry Office</i>

Other Government Stakeholders

Emmanuel Akatama	<i>Ministry of Agriculture, Ikelenge</i>
Hubert Chinyanga	<i>Kabompo District Commissioner</i>
Sally A. Malebele	<i>Kabompo District Council</i>
Kasonde Mwenya	<i>Ministry of Agriculture, Kabompo</i>
Titus Nsachikwa	<i>Kalumbila Town Council</i>
Mubuyaeta Mutakala	<i>Ministry of Agriculture, Kalumbila</i>
Brenda Sankisa	<i>Kalumbila District Commissioner</i>

Brenda Mukwakwa	<i>Manyinga District Commissioner</i>
Cosmas Kasaro	<i>Ministry of Agriculture, Manyinga</i>
Shala Mushala	<i>Manyinga District Council</i>
Lota Kaponda	<i>Manyinga Town Council</i>
Hungwa Mubawa	<i>Manyinga Town Council</i>
Zindaba Zifa Ziwa	<i>Ministry of Agriculture, Mwinilunga</i>
Hon. Shadrack Munjonga	<i>Council Chair</i>

Carbon project developers

Chewe Chiti	<i>Barrick Lumwana Corporation</i>
Newton Moyo	<i>Biocarbon Partners</i>
Sarah Knight	<i>Kabompo Community Carbon/ Dongwe</i>

Vincent Chingembu	<i>Kabompo Community Carbon/ Dongwe</i>
Akabiwa Mukelabai	<i>Tricarbon Partners</i>

NGOs

Eneya M'simuko	<i>The Nature Conservancy</i>
Ethel Mudenda	<i>The Nature Conservancy</i>
Innocent Kayumba	<i>West Lunga Conservation Project</i>
Steven Munyandi	<i>West Lunga Conservation Project</i>

Lewis Sakuwaha	<i>West Lunga Conservation Project</i>
Innocent Samwimbila	<i>West Lunga Conservation Project</i>
Professor Royd Vinya	<i>West Lunga Conservation Project</i>
Jimmy Muwowo	<i>WWF</i>

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Zambia has adopted community forestry (CF) as an approach that recognizes the crucial role of local communities in sustainable forest management. Since 2014, policies and legislation have enabled local communities to form community forest management groups (CFMGs), granting them legal authority to manage forests and regulate the use and sale of forest products and ecosystem services. State and non-state actors in Zambia are supporting CF to realize its full potential, both for forest ecosystems and rural communities.

In recent years, an increasing number of CFMGs have sought formal recognition, with 127 groups currently in the process of development in North Western Province, mostly driven and supported by forest carbon project initiatives. As of early 2024, none of those 127 CFMGs have fully completed the formal seven-steps process: 50 percent are at step 5 (CF agreement); 23 percent are at step four (Management planning and forest management rules) 11 percent are at step 3 (CFMG constitution); 16 percent are at step 1 (CF process initiation).

The UN-REDD Programme has supported this assessment of existing and potential CFMGs in Zambia's North Western Province, focusing on five of the province's 11 districts. The assessment is designed to inform national CF efforts by state and non-state actors, support communities as local climate actors, and catalyse finance for climate action at local and jurisdictional levels. The assessment framework was based on a guide developed by the Regional Community Forestry Training Center (RECOFTC), which focuses on the following five key interlinked principles:

1. Effective governance and participation
2. Rights and institutional settings
3. Availability of natural resources
4. Addressing community needs
5. Adaptive management and learning

1. EFFECTIVE GOVERNANCE AND PARTICIPATION

CFMGs in North Western Province consist of clusters of villages, averaging nine but sometimes reaching 55 villages. Many of these community forest areas are large, which creates coordination and logistical challenges and often limits the capacity of CFMGs to effectively manage their forest area. Additionally, the geospatial boundaries of some CFMGs are unclear, which affects governance.

Some CFMGs are relatively well organized, with established executive committees, clear roles, agreed rules, and respected election and decision-making processes. However, gaps remain in defining membership (including gender disaggregation), promoting gender equality, conducting regular assemblies, ensuring transparency through proper documentation and dissemination of decisions, and establishing grievance mechanisms. In addition, access to relevant data on forest resources and economic opportunities could enhance community participation, and decision-making. External technical and financial support to CFMGs has been identified as a critical factor in launching and sustaining the process, particularly in the early stages.

The development of strong local governance systems is a long-term and continuous process. The current situation in North Western Province, where carbon partners are promoting and facilitating the rapid establishment of CFMGs, presents an opportunity to expand and strengthen CF. It also highlights the need to ensure that CFMGs have sufficient ownership and local leadership to progressively develop their own local governance systems, based on their experience and lessons learned. The large areas managed by CFMGs, often driven by the generation of sufficient carbon credits, raise concerns about their

capacity to effectively manage their territories. However, if carbon projects are well-designed and implemented, they hold significant potential to enhance local governance, community livelihoods, and promote sustainable forest management over the long term.

2. RIGHTS AND INSTITUTIONAL SETTINGS

While the community forestry legal framework that defined a seven-step process for devolving forest rights to rural communities was in place by 2018, most CFMGs in North Western Province are still in the early stages of development. Of the 127 CFMGs in North Western Province, 64 have submitted their community forestry agreements and are waiting for approval by the **Forestry Department (FD)**. Delays in approval of CF agreements (step 5 in the CF development process) and the subsequent development of management plans (step 6) are likely related to the increasing number of applications and the need to strengthen the capacities of CFMGs and the FD at provincial and district levels. These delays hinder the potential of CFMGs to capture the full economic benefits of their forest areas, and to enjoy their full rights. The fulfilment of the seven CF steps, and related acquisition of rights to control access and use of forests, would be a boost to enforcement efforts, enterprise development, and carbon markets access.

Despite these delays, most CFMGs feel their tenure rights over forest areas are secure in the long term. However, some communities express concerns about external pressures from mining and logging, highlighting the need for intersectoral collaboration (i.e. between forestry and mining institutions), as well as regular monitoring by a fully resourced FD to enforce community forestry rights.

Provincial and district FD offices play a crucial role in facilitating and coordinating the development of CF, but face challenges such as insufficiently trained staff, inadequate equipment, and limited financial resources. These gaps lead to administrative delays, unclear community forest boundaries, and reduced effective support to CFMGs in achieving economic benefits. Carbon developers and NGOs help fill some gaps, but these groups have diverse motivations and levels of commitment. FD staff at the subnational level need training and support to enhance coordination, enforcement, and engagement in CF.

3. AVAILABILITY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Zambia's NW Province is rich in natural resources, featuring extensive forests (72 percent of the provincial area is forested) (Zambia Statistics Agency, 2023) and rivers that support diverse flora and fauna of global significance. The province is home to the headwaters of major rivers like the Zambezi and Kabompo, which are crucial for drinking water, irrigation, fisheries, transport, and Zambia's energy security. Forests protect these vital water sources, provide numerous forest products and ecosystem services that rural communities use and trade, and offer untapped potential for local economies. However, forest resources face threats from agricultural expansion, charcoal production, growing mining activities, and logging interests.

4. ADDRESSING COMMUNITY NEEDS

The forests of North Western Province provide local communities with a range of benefits, including forest products harvested for consumption and trade (e.g. timber, fuelwood, charcoal, and non-wood forest products (NWFPs)), ecosystem services (e.g. protection of water supplies, biodiversity conservation, carbon sequestration), and cultural and spiritual values. Given that a significant proportion of the population lives below the national poverty line (61.6 percent

in North Western Province [Zambia Statistics Agency, 2023]) and depends on farm income (70.3 percent of households in North Western Province [IAPR, 2019]), many of these resources are essential for daily survival.

Local women and men actively collect forest products, often for trade, but they face numerous challenges from collection to sale. While honey enterprises have received external support, other forest value chains remain underdeveloped. Most NWFP collectors lack reliable market information, value addition opportunities such as processing and storage, and entrepreneurial capacities.

CFMGs in North Western Province have significant potential to benefit from carbon credit revenues linked to forest conservation and restoration. It is the province with the highest concentrations of carbon storage (55.5 tons/ha), which are threatened with increasing rates of forest loss (GoZ, 2016). According to the geospatial analysis (see section 5) there is as well high potential for restoration. All but three of the 24 CFMGs surveyed are engaged with carbon project developers, but progress depends on the approval of CF agreements and the legal transfer of carbon rights. CFMGs often lack knowledge about carbon markets, their precise role in carbon project activities, and potential opportunity costs, making it challenging to negotiate fair compensation for their contributions to emission reductions. Support measures could include studies on the status of carbon projects in Zambia; capacity development for CFMGs; enhanced FD coordination and regulation; and facilitated dialogue among all parties to develop a common understanding and improve collaboration.

There are existing experiences of payments for forest and water ecosystem services (PES) in North Western Province. For instance, communities in Ikelenge District received payments from **ZESCO** (state-owned power company) for tree planting and reforestation, benefiting hydroelectricity production. These PES initiatives could be strengthened and expanded.

Investments in sustainable forest management, agroforestry, ecotourism, PES, NWFP-based enterprises, cooperatives, and carbon trading are either rare or in the early stages in North Western Province. **The UN-REDD Programme** and other initiatives have undertaken studies on NWFP value chains to identify potential forest products and services for sustainable livelihood development. Further targeted studies and investments, focusing on both men and women, are needed to maximize the forests' contribution to local economic growth.

Most CFMGs have drafted benefit-sharing mechanisms, which are required for the formal establishment of CFMGs. However, these often lack clarity and do not account for operational costs or revenue sharing with carbon developers or other external partners. The mechanisms do not have specific provisions for women, youth, or other specific community groups.

Community access to financial services for forest management and small enterprise development is limited. While over half of the CFMGs have village savings groups, fewer have microfinance institutions in their villages, and only one has a bank account. The UN-REDD assessment identified a few financial institutions in three of the five targeted districts, but as of December 2023, there were none in **Ikelenge** and **Manyinga**.





5. ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT AND LEARNING

Communities hold traditional beliefs that support sustainable forest management, reflecting their deep respect for nature. Management practices that CFMGs apply include regular patrols (undertaken by only 13 of the 24 CFMGs assessed due to lack of enforcement rights prior to CF formalization and lack of external support), monitoring of harvesting (of timber for household use and NWFPs), forest awareness campaigns, enforcing penalties, and constructing fire breaks. Training for Honorary Forest Officers (HFOs)¹ and provision of equipment and stipends have improved the regularity and effectiveness of patrols, reducing some illegal activities.

However, CFMGs have not yet engaged in other forest management practices, such as thinning, restoration, or establishment of tree nurseries, mainly due to the lack of approved forest management plans and the need for technical and financial support. Many groups are concerned about late-season fires used to clear miombo woodlands or for agricultural expansion and seek assistance on fire management.

Community members possess valuable forest-related skills, including knowledge of forest species, beekeeping, carpentry, thatching, and traditional medicine. Many expressed strong interest in learning new skills, particularly for improving livelihoods. Men showed greater interest in beekeeping, fishing, bricklaying, and carpentry, while women preferred skills related to processing herbal medicines, financial management, and adding value to NWFPs.

¹ The designation of HFOs is part of the Government strategy to empower local communities to ensure adequate protection and management of forests. According to the Forests Act, 2015, HFOs are appointed by the Minister and are given either general authority or authority in a specific geographical area (such as a CF area). HFOs are authorized to exercise the functions and perform the duties of an authorized officer.

Perceived threats and challenges

Stakeholders identified common threats and challenges, which they are already trying to address. Internal challenges for CFMGs include governance issues (such as mistrust, misunderstanding, and low meeting attendance), insufficient support and resources for effective management of their forests (e.g. patrols), unsustainable practices (including late-season burning, chitemene, caterpillar harvesting, and charcoal production), and difficulties in developing livelihoods (such as limited market access and absence of processing techniques and equipment). External threats include the lengthy process for formal establishment of the CFMGs, unsustainable logging, mining activities, infrastructure development, human-wildlife conflict, and arson.

The way forward

Zambia has created a progressive legal framework for community forestry, leading to a steady increase of CFMGs, with most communities feeling their rights are secure in the long term. Several CFMGs in North Western Province have made notable progress, effectively organizing themselves and engaging in economic activities. To advance further, it is essential to:

- i Develop capacities**
- ii Strengthen partnerships**
- iii Promote self-sufficiency and the realization of economic benefits**
- iv Sustain financial and technical support, especially in the early stages**
- v Generate and disseminate information and knowledge**
- vi Recognize and share successes**

A proposed roadmap (see section 7) outlines specific recommendations for impactful technical and financial support.

New areas for potential CF expansion have been identified in the five districts (see section 5), along with priority zones for protecting ecosystem services, supporting forest restoration and addressing tree loss. However, it is recommended to initially focus efforts on strengthening existing CFMGs, which can serve as models for replication. The status of CFMGs in North Western Province is dynamic and evolving. The 24 assessed CFMGs were identified as the ones with more perceived potential (see annex H). However, they still need significant further technical and financial support. Among the total 127 CFMGs in North Western Province, there are other CFMGs that were not assessed but that may also have potential for success and would need support in their process.

The FD is crucial for advancing of CF in North Western Province. Its roles include supporting the design and implementation of forest management plans, facilitating forest-based enterprises and income generation, conducting geospatial mapping and boundary registration, and undertaking joint monitoring.

Future support to CFMGs as local climate actors should explore diverse CF strategies and sources of income, allowing communities to set their own pace and scope. With the right enabling conditions, investments in forest ecosystem services, value chains, eco-tourism, and agroforestry can be profitable, equitable, and sustainable. These investments offer a viable pathway to low-emissions, resilient, and sustainable development at the local level.





01.

Introduction



1.1

UN-REDD Programme 2023–2024 in Zambia

The UN-REDD Programme, as part of FAO's ongoing support to Zambia, provides technical assistance to the Ministry of Green Economy and Environment (MGEE) through the Forestry Department (FD). This support aims to enhance Zambia's efforts to reduce emissions by developing a jurisdictional programme that facilitates local climate action in North Western Province. The UN-REDD Programme focuses on five districts in North Western Province: Ikelenge, Mwinilunga, Kabompo, Manyinga, and Kalumbila. These districts, located in the headwaters of the Zambezi and Kabompo River basins, are home to vital forest landscapes. These areas are critical for Zambia's water security, energy production, and the provision of essential ecosystem services, making them key targets for community forest management and carbon sequestration efforts.

UN-REDD technical assistance provided to the FD comprises four interrelated workstreams:

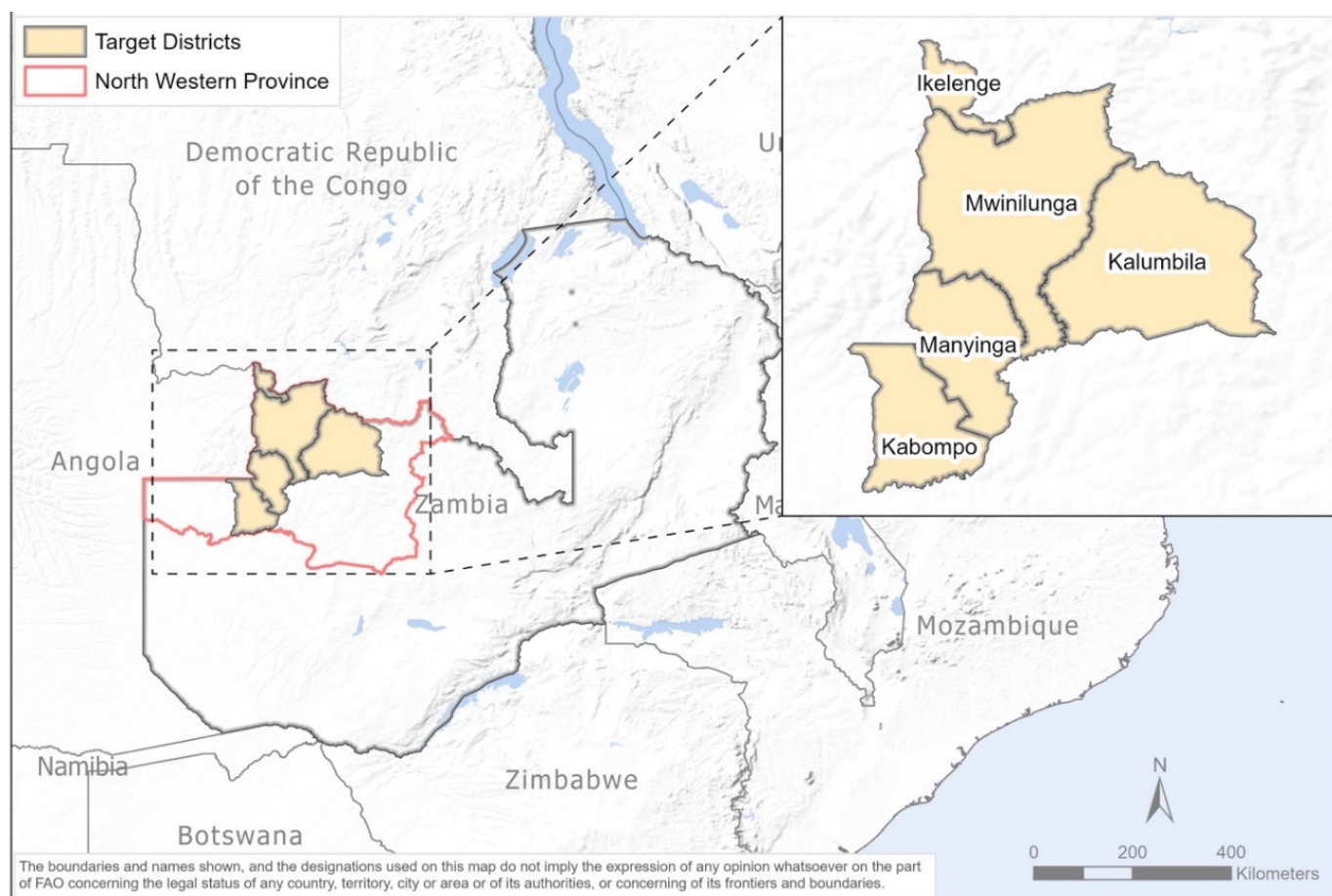
- Assessment of existing and potential community forest management groups (CFMGs) to inform support strategies for enhancing community forest management in the Province.
- Evaluation of the nexus between forest cover and water ecosystem services to understand their mutual impacts and inform forest conservation efforts.
- Assessment of non-wood forest product (NWFP) value chains to identify sustainable economic opportunities for local communities.
- Study of rural finance to explore opportunities for improving access to funding for community-driven forest management initiatives.

This study concerns the first workstream, with research conducted between 2023 and 2024.



// FIGURE 1 //

Location of 5 target districts in North Western Province



Source: Authors' elaboration based on administrative boundaries from official national datasets. Map prepared by FAO with support from the UN-REDD programme. Date: May 2024.

Note: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

1.2

Community Forestry in Zambia

Community Forestry (CF)² is a national approach initiated under the National Forestry Policy (2014) and legalized by the Forests Act (2015), with two parallel goals: enhancing forest management, and unlocking the full potential of sustainable forests use for local economic development. The National Forestry Policy (2014) recognizes the need to empower local communities and traditional leaders to ensure adequate protection and management of forests. It recognizes that forest dependent communities are the best stewards of their local forest resources if their forest rights are secure. Forest communities have both the most to lose from forest destruction and the most to gain from its good management.

The Forests Act of 2015 and the CF Regulations of 2018 assign legal authority to local communities to manage forests, including the power to develop and enforce their own regulations (i.e. by-laws), even to the extent of excluding access to outsiders. Communities organize themselves into community forest management groups (CFMGs) to protect and manage nearby forests, guided by locally prepared regulations and community forest management plans (CFMPs). Under the CF approach, the CFMG and the Forestry Department (FD) establish a legal agreement for local communities to protect and manage a specified community forest area and derive benefits from it. The benefits to communities include direct legal access and control over the use and sale of non-wood forest products (NWFPs), carbon rights, and other intangible benefits such as ecosystem services. Recently, the role of CFMGs in carbon sequestration has become more prominent. CFMGs, under the Forests Act, are entitled to manage forest carbon stocks. For carbon developers to facilitate transactions on behalf of a community, the community must first formally transfer these rights through the submission and approval of Form VII by the FD. Many communities rely on carbon developers for support throughout this process, often lacking access to education, neutral guidance, or independent facilitation.

Community forests can be established in open areas, game management areas (GMAs), and local forest areas, but currently they cannot be established in forest reserves or areas designated for timber or mining concessions.

The National Guidelines for Community Forestry in Zambia were developed with support from the Decentralized Forest and other Natural Resources Management Programme (DFNRMP) (2015–2017). This programme was a collaboration between the governments of Zambia and Finland, targeting communities in Muchinga and North Western provinces. The first CFMGs in North-Western Province were formed during the implementation of the DFNRMP, while additional CFMGs were formed under a Global Environment Facility (GEF) project titled “*Strengthening Management Effectiveness and Generating Multiple Environmental Benefits within and Around the Greater Kafue and West Lunga National Parks in Zambia*”, which ran from 2015 to 2020.

To facilitate community forestry development in Zambia, the National Guidelines outline seven steps, which aim to ensure that the CF process is highly participatory yet practical and feasible enough for consistent replication nationwide. The seven steps for CFMG formation are:

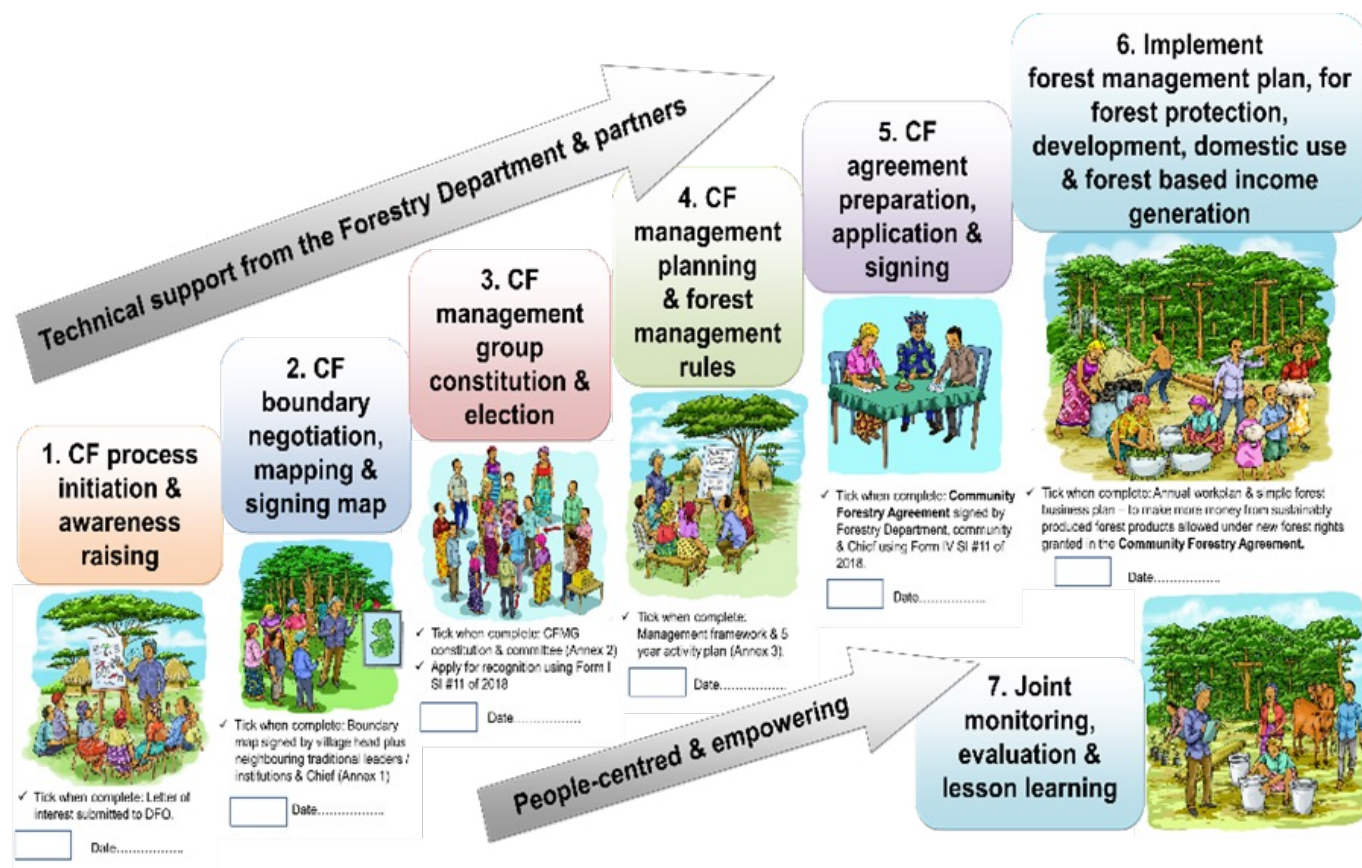
- I CF process initiation
- II CF mapping
- III CFMG constitution
- IV CF management plan
- V CF agreement
- VI Forest management plan
- VII Monitoring and evaluation

see details in Figure 1

² Community forestry (CF): “Strengthening the stewardship of forests on customary land through communal control, use and management, while balancing responsibilities with attractive legal rights, to end uncontrolled forest loss and incentivise community-driven sustainable forest management.” (GoZ, 2018).

// FIGURE 2 //

The seven steps of community forestry establishment in Zambia



Source: Ministry of Lands & Natural Resources. 2018. National guidelines for community forestry in Zambia.

https://ziflp.org.zm/download/community/Draft_National_Guidelines_Community_Forestry_Zambia_WOut_Annexes_Jul2018.pdf

Under current legal provisions, the Director of Forestry has 21 days upon receipt of the community forestry (CF) recognition application to approve or reject it and 60 days for the review of the application for the CF Agreement. Although these time limits aim to prevent delays in the CF development process, they have proven ineffective, with many community forest management groups (CFMGs) experiencing significantly longer wait times for official recognition.

However, since the passage of the CF legislation in 2018, there has been a significant increase in the establishment of new community forest areas in North Western Province and across the country. With

growing recognition that community-based resource management can be an effective strategy to conserve forests and mitigate climate change, NGOs, development agencies, and the private sector have increased their support to encourage communities to initiate the CF process. While traditional donor funding drives many of these efforts, some external partners, including private sector companies, have a longer-term objective of securing finance through carbon markets. Many CFMGs already understand the types of activities that may generate carbon revenues: forest protection, conservation agriculture, tree planting, fire management, boundary clearing, and woodlot management, among others.



02.

Objectives of the assessment



This community forest management group (CFMG) assessment has two main objectives. The first objective is to inform the development of community forestry in North Western Province, with a view to enhancing its effectiveness. A better understanding of the status of CFMGs in the focus districts will generate important knowledge, lessons, and recommendations that will be applicable to both government and non-government efforts to improve and expand community forestry across the country.

The second objective is to generate qualitative and quantitative data that will contribute to the development of a proposal to the Green Climate Fund (GCF) for enhancing local climate action in the focus districts. The development of this proposal is a collaboration between the Government of the Republic of Zambia (GRZ) and FAO.

03.

Methodology



The methodology for this assessment is based on a community forestry assessment framework developed by RECOFTC, called *Community Forestry Participatory Assessment*. This framework establishes a set of key principles around which criteria and indicators are linked. These principles help to define the enabling conditions that make community forestry successful. The following five principles adopted for this analysis include:

I Effective governance and participation

Effective governance, in which all relevant groups, especially marginalized groups, including women, youth, and ethnic minorities, participate in decision-making processes.

II Rights and institutional settings

Community forestry user groups have their rights to land and natural resources recognized. Statutory and customary laws establish the basic principles for how people interact with each other and use their forest resources. This includes the right to access, withdraw, manage, include or exclude other users, and to inherit

III Availability of natural resources

Sufficient high-quality natural resources to support the sustainable management of forested landscapes and to enhance community livelihoods.

IV Addressing community needs

Community forestry user groups develop their livelihoods by benefiting from products and services from community forests. Equitable benefit-sharing among user group members is an essential component.

V Adaptive management and learning

Community forestry user groups can develop their own capacities to identify challenges and opportunities; design plans to manage their natural resources; and implement collective actions in response. They also learn from the process and increase their adaptive capacity to respond to subsequent challenges and opportunities.



Acknowledging the importance of participatory methods and wide consultation with various stakeholders, a variety of research methods were used to collect data for this assessment, as described below:

Literature review / secondary data collection:

The research team reviewed the community forestry legal and policy framework as well as relevant project reports and analyses from the recent past. In addition, the team liaised with the Forestry Department (FD) to collect community forestry data, including the list of existing sites and geospatial coordinates.

Community focus group discussions (FGDs):

In consultation with the FD, the research team selected a sample of 24 CFMGs in **North Western Province**, with priority given to those that were more advanced in the application process. Focus group discussions (FGDs) with CFMGs across the five target districts were organized, including seven CFMGs during a pilot testing phase in July 2023 and 17 additional communities assessed during a field data collection phase from September to October 2023, for a total assessment of 24 CFMGs. In total, 324 villagers — including 183 men and 141 women — participated in the FGDs. The questionnaire template, the list of assessed CFMGs, and a short profile of each CFMG are included in Annexes A, B, and G.

Key informant interviews:

To learn more about community forestry development in North Western Province, with a particular aim to better understand carbon trading initiatives, the research team organized interviews with seven organizations and companies (referred to as ‘carbon developers’) involved in carbon trading in the Province.

Geospatial analysis:

To inform and complement the CFMG assessment with better information on forest cover and land use, a geospatial analysis of the Province and focus districts (Mwinilunga, Kabompo, Manyinga, Kalumbila, and Ikelenge) was conducted. This analysis was based on data either publicly available or shared by the FD or carbon developers.

Stakeholder consultation workshops at district and national level:

Five district workshops were conducted to evaluate the overall environment supporting community forestry and the potential for CFMG expansion within the respective districts. Stakeholders attending included representatives from key entities such as the District Forestry Department, Ministry of Agriculture, and the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development (specifically, district planners). Participants used large A0-size district maps produced by a geospatial specialist to discuss natural capital, land use, and various enabling conditions in the district in the context of community forestry development and potential expansion. Following the district-level workshops, a national stakeholder validation workshop was held in Solwezi on 22 November 2023, wherein the initial results of the CFMG assessment were presented and discussed among stakeholders. An additional validation workshop was held in Lusaka on 24 April 2024 with FD officers from district, provincial, and national levels to review the findings and discuss data needs. A representative of **USAID** also attended this meeting to discuss the **CFMG portal**, an online platform designed to visually portray the growing database of CFMGs across Zambia: <https://cfmg.mgee.gov.zm/cfmg/map>

04.

Status of existing CFMGs

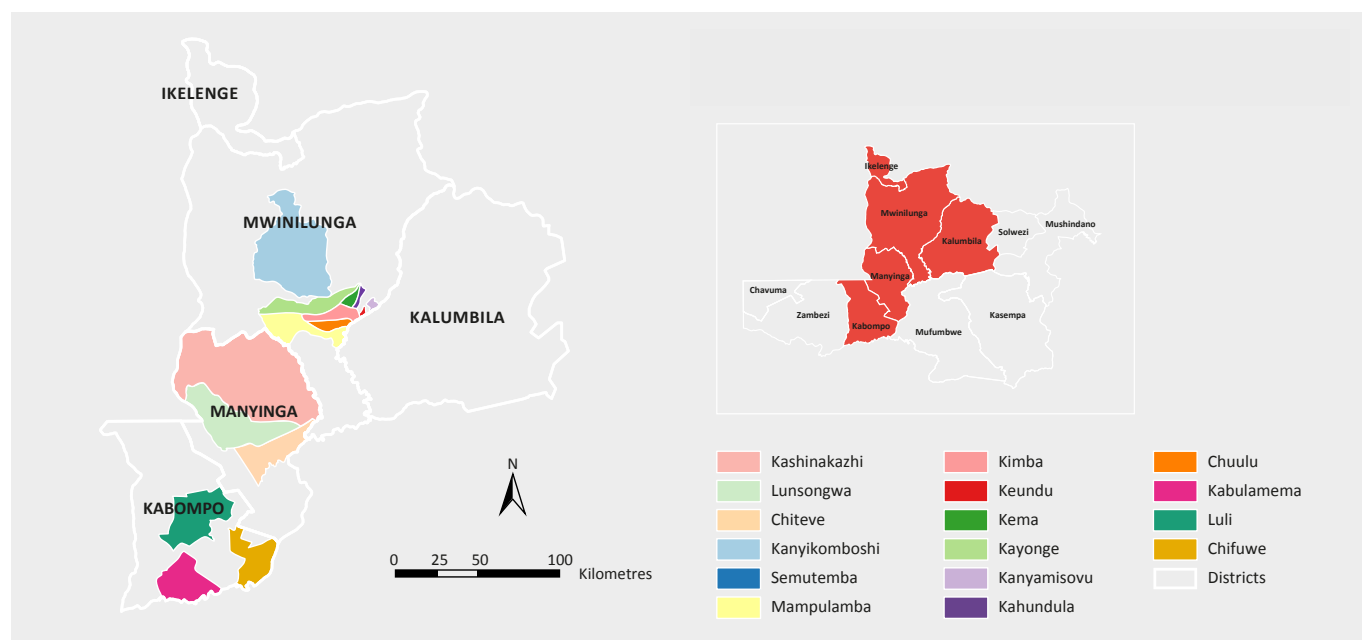


The 2018 Community Forest Management Regulations created important new opportunities for communities to gain long-term management rights over forest resources. As of early 2024, a total of 127 communities have embarked on the process of establishing community forest management groups (CFMGs) in North Western Province (Source: North Western Province Forestry Department). In the 24 communities surveyed, the support of an external partner was a critical factor in launching and sustaining the community forestry development process. Based on the assessment, most CFMGs have been initiated due to the growing potential for carbon finance in the Province, with carbon project developers being the main source of financial and technical support to CFMGs.

While precise areas for some CFMGs are not yet known³, at the time of writing, spatial data was available for 16 CFMGs covering a total of 1 343 611 hectares in the Province. Based on available data, the average size of a CFMG in the province is 83 976 hectares. In relation to local capacity to manage forests — given that several villages may jointly manage a community forest area — the geographic size of most individual CFMGs is very large. This presents many challenges for sustainable management, given finite resources and limited technical capacity.

// FIGURE 3 //

Map of the assessed CFMGs



Source: Authors' own elaboration based on administrative boundary data from official national sources. Map prepared by FAO with support from the UN-REDD programme. Date: May 2024.

Note: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

³ At the time of writing, Coordinates were available only for 16 CMFGs out of the 24 assessed CFMGs. The geospatial boundaries of some CFMGs were not fully clear. For some CFMGs, it was unclear whether received shapefiles represented a CF area or instead an entire chiefdom or ward. Additional work is needed to clarify boundaries and improve the accuracy of CFMGs shapefiles. The FD requires additional technical and financial support to continue the process of participatory mapping.

While carbon trading was listed among the community motivations for CF establishment, communities also cited a wider range of reasons for pursuing community forestry. Table 1 shows the scope and interests expressed by the 24 communities in the assessment to engage in CF.

// TABLE 1 //

Motivations for CF establishment from the community perspective

MOTIVATION	# OF CFMGS CITING THIS REASON
Ensure sustainable management of forests for future generations	24
Address deforestation challenges	24
Generate income/enhance livelihoods through carbon trading	21
Generate income/enhance livelihoods through tourism	12
Protect ecosystem services	11
Protect biodiversity	10
Generate income/enhance livelihoods through NWFPs and forest enterprises	9
Secure ownership and rights	5

Source: Authors’ own elaboration.



4.1

Governance and participation⁴

The principle of effective governance and participation is a fundamental aspect of community forestry (CF) establishment, operation, and ongoing sustainability. Typical characteristics of good governance are that it is participatory, consensus-oriented, accountable, transparent, responsive, efficient, equitable, inclusive, and follows the rule of law. This assessment explored several aspects of governance

CFMG membership

CFMGs are typically formed by a village or group of villages. In some cases, up to 55 villages make up one CFMG (i.e. Katumba CFMG) while the average number of villages forming a CFMG was 9. CFMG membership is open to all community members residing near the forest areas. Some community members indicated that all Zambian nationals over 18 years old and residing in the relevant area automatically become part of the CFMG. Others indicated that it is necessary to be a resident in the village for at least two years to join

the CFMG. Only 13 of the 24 CFMGs have generated a register of their members; moreover, sex-disaggregated data is generally not available (i.e. no tally had been made). Only one of the 24 CFMGs surveyed has introduced membership fees.⁵ While registers of members may seem a minor concern, proper documentation for the CFMG and its activities (i.e. patrol reports, meeting minutes) can increase the group's transparency and accountability and therefore contribute to good, effective governance.

Organization and leadership

In general, CFMGs are led by an executive committee responsible for managing the CF application process and day-to-day operations. The executive committee usually includes core positions such as Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary, Vice Secretary, and Treasurer. Most committees also include positions such as Head of Forest Protection, Head of Enterprise, Head of User Groups, Head of Honorary Forest Officers, and certain trustees. Office bearers are democratically elected, with terms of office ranging from three to five years. The democratic election process is open to all community members, who are invited to participate in a general assembly. Villagers express general satisfaction with the executive committees, the election process, and the committee's management and decision-making, which is mostly viewed as fair and transparent (note: gender issues are discussed below).

In some communities, traditional chiefs (mostly men, although there are two female chieftainesses in the Province) have played very active roles in CF establishment. Generally, traditional chiefs are given the position of 'CFMG Patron' and assume high-level, symbolic responsibilities such as endorsing the application for CFMG recognition. Some chiefs are also very active in raising awareness about the importance of forest protection, for example, through radio programmes. A few chiefs have witnessed the impact of CF in Zambia's Eastern Province, where the country's longest-standing CF and carbon trading activities have centred, and have been inspired to bring CF to their chiefdom in North Western Province. When a chief passes away (as has recently been the case with the late Chief Mukumbi, Chief Matebo, and Chief Musele of Kalumbila District), a recent decision driven by the FD now allows for the appointment of an interim chief to assume duties, avoiding delays in the CFMG registration process.

Decision-making processes

According to most CFMG constitutions reviewed, CFMGs are required to hold quarterly general assembly meetings, while executive committee members should meet monthly. In practice, the groups tend to meet on an ad hoc basis, depending on need. Topics typically discussed during meetings include fire management, forest patrols, and updates on the CFMG application process. Important

decisions are presented by the executive committee to the general assembly for consideration by all members. Communities seem confident in their ability to make good decisions for managing their forests; however, they could benefit from better data (e.g. forest monitoring data, data on biodiversity, watersheds, and ecosystem services) to inform their decision-making.

⁴ This section links to the principle of 'Effective governance and participation' in the RECOFTC framework.

⁵ Chiteve CFMG in Manyinga District was collecting membership dues of K150 per year (USD 5.75).

Gender equality and social inclusion

CFMGs generally reflect traditional social norms in North Western Province, resulting in limited participation of women and other marginalized groups, which impacts representative decision-making and consent. There is an observed gender imbalance in the male-dominated executive committees, where women represent only 36 percent of committee members (see Table 2). The barriers that women face include long travel distances to meeting places, restrictive husbands, and heavy household burdens, including

childcare and fuelwood collection. When they do attend, some women report lacking the confidence to speak up and share their ideas. To address these barriers, some CFMGs have taken actions such as forming women-only sub-committees where women can discuss issues more freely. Some facilitators also promote ideas from women and encourage their participation. Additionally, efforts have been made to appoint women lead farmers and to include women in Honorary Forest Officer (HFO) training.



// TABLE 2 //

Gender disaggregation in the assessed CFMG Executive Committees

DISTRICT	NAME OF CFMG	WOMEN	MEN
Ikelenge	Kelundu	4	7
Kabompo	Kabulamema	3	9
	Chifuwe South	3	9
	Luli	4	8
Kalumbila	Jimakamu	4	8
	Kamikolo	5	7
	Kasombo	2	10
	Katumba	2	8
Manyinga	Chiteve	4	6
	Kashinakazhi	2	8
	Lunsongwa	5	7
Mwinilunga	Chisasa	2	8
	Chuulu	5	7
	Kahundula	6	5
	Kanyamizovu	2	10
	Kanyikomboshi	6	4
	Kayonge	3	9
	Keema	4	8
	Keundu	5	7
	Kimba	2	10
	Makasa	6	6
	Mumpulumba	12	10
	Muzhila	5	5
	Samuteba	5	7
TOTAL		101 (36 %)	183 (64 %)

Source: CFMG field assessment.

Conflict resolution

The CFMGs in the assessment have not yet experienced serious internal or external conflicts, as the majority are still in the initial stages of formation. The few conflicts that have occurred are related to land tenure and issues of mistrust. For example, some community members were reluctant to identify community forest areas for fear that the land would be taken from them by outsiders. Conflicts within the CFMG have arisen when certain members engage in activities that harm the environment. For instance, arguments have occurred over the practice of cutting down trees to harvest caterpillars; some community members oppose this practice, while others see no significant issue with it.

Additionally, conflicts have emerged from fire incidents caused by community members. Some CFMGs expressed frustration that villagers perceive a power vacuum before the CF Agreement is

signed, allowing them to overharvest forest products. Furthermore, a perceived lack of transparency on the part of executive committee members has contributed to tensions in some communities, where members suspect information is being withheld, particularly in cases involving timber permits. There have also been conflicts over transportation and the use of personal vehicles. These challenges highlight the need for effective communication, education, and open and transparent decision-making processes within the CFMG to prevent misunderstandings and conflicts.

None of the CFMGs have a formal (written) grievance redress mechanism in place. However, they generally assume that any conflict that arises would be resolved by the executive committee, with unresolved cases being escalated to the Chief or Chieftainess for final resolution.

4.2

Rights and institutional setting⁷

This section describes the extent of the devolution of rights to communities engaged in CF, including tenure rights such as the rights of access, use, management, ownership, and exclusion (collectively referred to as a 'bundle of rights'). These rights may be either customary (based on longstanding customs) or statutory. Generally, if communities enjoy broad, secure, and long-term rights to forests and other resources, they are more likely to feel a sense of ownership and motivation to invest in sustainable management (Sunderlin and Liddle, 2014; Larson and Chhatre, 2013). In addition, this assessment reviews the institutional setting, focusing on the Forestry Department (FD), other government actors, and carbon developers (see also Annex F).

CFMG establishment and process for formal registration

Under Zambia's CF legal framework⁸, rights are progressively transferred to communities as they accomplish the seven steps in the development process described in Section 1. The most critical steps in this process are Step 5, when the community's CF Agreement is signed, and Step 6, when the forest management plan is approved. Upon signing the CF Agreement, the community obtains management rights to the CF area in perpetuity. Step 5 involves submitting an application to the Director of Forestry (in Lusaka), so that the CFMG can be granted the full rights and responsibilities it is entitled to under the Forests Act of 2015 and the Community Forestry Regulation of 2018.

With a CF Agreement formally in place, the community gains the right to enforce its rules and implement its management plan, balancing protection, development, and sustainable use. CF rights in Zambia are perpetual, and unlike requirements in many other countries, there is no need for renewal.

This assessment reviewed how communities in North Western Province have progressed through the 7-Step CF development process to determine how the process of securing rights is functioning. Table 3 shows a summary of the status of CFMGs in terms of the CF steps for the Province as a whole and for the 24 CFMGs targeted in this assessment:

⁷ This section links to the principle of 'Rights and institutional setting' (same) in the RECOFTC assessment framework.

⁸ A list of relevant laws and policies is found in the reference section.

// TABLE 3 //

Progression of CFMGs in North Western Province through the 7-Step process of CF development

CF STEP	OUTPUT	(1) CFMGs IN NORTH WESTERN PROVINCE	(2) 24 CFMGs TARGETED IN THIS ASSESSMENT	TIME LIMITS
Step 1. CF process initiation & awareness raising	Statement of Intent	20	0	No time limit
Step 2. CF boundary negotiation, mapping & signing map	Boundary map	0		No time limit
Step 3. CF management group constitution & election	CF Constitution Application for recognition (Form I)	14	7	21 days for FD to respond
Step 4. CF management planning & forest management rules	CF Management Plan & Rules	29	3	No time limit
Step 5. CF Agreement preparation, application & signing	CF Agreement (Form 7)	64	14	90 days for community to submit agreement 60 days for FD to approve or reject
Step 6. Implementation forest management plan for forest protection, development, domestic use and forest-based income generation	CF Management Plan	0	0	No time limit
Step 7. Joint monitoring evaluation & lesson learning		0	0	No time limit
TOTAL		127	24	

The assessment revealed that none of the 127 CFMGs have fully completed the formal seven-steps process: 50 percent are at step 5 (CF agreement); 23 percent at step 4 (CF management planning & forest management rules) 11 percent are at step 3 (CFMG constitution); 16 percent are at step 1 (CF process initiation). Many of the CFMGs are stalled at step 5: they submitted their CF Agreement applications at the beginning of 2023 and at the time of writing they had not yet received a response. The 60-day response period for the FD to respond to applications has already lapsed leaving the communities and their partners in suspense. Communities have not received any formal communication as to what is causing the delay. However, conversations with the FD

attribute the delay to changes in FD leadership at a national level as well as incomplete documentation submitted by groups seeking recognition.

These delays have hindered progress in the implementation of most activities planned by CFMGs and their partners. Communities without an approved CF Agreement are not able to effectively defend their forests because they have no legal authority to protect them. Only once a CF Agreement is in place can CFMGs enforce the rules laid out in their CF Agreement with legal backing. However, some CFMGs attempt to enforce access rights to resources within their areas even prior to official recognition of their CF Agreements.



Under standard CF Agreements, all members of the community (i.e. all residents in participating villages) have free access to collect forest products for home consumption. However, the collection of forest products for commercial purposes is restricted and requires authorization from the CFMG executive committee.

Additionally, outsiders (e.g. non-CFMG members, villagers from neighboring communities) are not allowed to enter the community forest area without permission from the CFMG executive committee. Some CFMGs charge a fee for such permits, providing a potential source of revenue.

The assessment also examined the perception of tenure rights and community security regarding their CF rights. Even though most CFMGs have not yet obtained their legal agreements, they appear relatively confident about the future security of their rights. Most CFMGs believe that they will be able to resist pressure on their

forests through regular patrolling. Nevertheless, some communities expressed concern about increasing pressure from mining activities in North Western Province. In addition, communities noted that some government officers have allowed outsiders to cut trees in the CF area without informing community members, raising doubts about respect for the community's rights and the integrity of the forest areas.

Institutional support framework

A supportive institutional setting is critical for forest governance in the context of community forestry, providing the legal and policy framework (summarized above in Section 1.1), as well as enforcement, technical support, and funding to advance CF initiatives. This section provides background on the relevant government actors and carbon developers active in the focus districts.



Forestry Department (FD)

The FD, under the Ministry of Green Economy and Environment, is mandated to manage, protect, and conserve Zambia's forests to ensure sustainable utilization. The FD is led by the Director of Forestry, who is based in Lusaka, but the department has staff in each Province of Zambia. Provincial FD staff supporting community forestry include the Provincial Forestry Officers (PFOs), District Forestry Officers (DFOs), and forest rangers. These staff conduct forest extension activities, forest patrols, and may also be involved in issuing timber concession licenses.

The growing focus on community forest management has provided the FD with opportunities to ensure that more forest areas are protected by communities. However, the FD faces numerous challenges in monitoring CFMG activities and supporting carbon project developers' efforts. District forestry offices are understaffed and cannot effectively cover the large areas under their mandate with limited resources. Moreover, district forestry staff often lack access to forest data, proper equipment, including technical forestry instruments, and basic office supplies. Some DFOs do not have vehicles for proper forest monitoring, and the few available vehicles, donated by the DFNRM project several years ago, require frequent servicing and repairs to remain operational.

// TABLE 4 //

District Forestry Department Capacities

DISTRICTS	IKELANGE	KABOMPO	KALUMBILA	MANYINGA	MWINILUNGA
# of FD staff	2	4	2	3	4
# of FD staff supporting CF (M/F)	2	3/1	2/0	2/1	3/1
# of vehicles					
— truck	0	0	0	0	0
— car	1 old vehicle	2	0	1	1
— motorbike	1	2	2	0	1
# of computers	3 computers	2 computers	1 laptop 1 desktop	2 computers	2 laptops

While the **Forestry Department (FD)** holds the central mandate for community forestry (CF) development, other government institutions and private actors in North Western Province also play important roles in facilitating CF, as described below.

Local Councils under the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development

In Zambia, the Local Council's Planning Unit is tasked with crafting and implementing district-level **Integrated Development Plans**, ensuring comprehensive and coordinated development efforts across various sectors, including forestry.

Provincial Administration Office under the Cabinet Office

This is the central government's representation within each Province in Zambia (separate from the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development) and is responsible for disbursing funds through the provincial administration.

Provincial Agricultural Officers under the Ministry of Agriculture

A representative of the Ministry of Agriculture typically participates in CFMG elections as an observer. This institution works with farmers, training them in **conservation agriculture**, a potentially complementary activity to community forestry.

Provincial Livestock and Fisheries Officer under the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries

The Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries promotes income-generating activities in communities related to livestock raising and improved fisheries management. These activities are potentially complementary to community forestry work.

Provincial Community Development and Social Services Officers under the Ministry of Community Development and Social Services

The Ministry of Community Development and Social Services is involved in community awareness-raising sessions and takes a lead facilitation role during CFMG elections.

Provincial Traditional and Chief's Affairs Officers under the Ministry of Traditional and Chief's Affairs

The Ministry of Traditional and Chief's Affairs plays a critical role in community forest management programs. This institution is responsible for engaging village headmen and Chiefs. Forestry officers usually start by engaging this ministry each time they intend to pay a courtesy call to the Chief and subsequently visit communities involved in CF management. This ministry advises on protocols to be followed when meeting the Chief.

Carbon developers in North Western Province

The assessment collected information on the carbon developers with activities or partnerships in the target districts of North Western Province. In total, six carbon developers were identified, including NGOs and private sector entities: West Lunga Conservation Project (WLCP), Kabompo Community Carbon, Dongwe Community Carbon, Barrick Gold Corporation, TriCarbon Zambia, Biocarbon Partners, and Terra Global Capital. Some carbon developers have been long established in the Province, while others have only recently started activities. Some appear to be reducing their activities in the Province. Additional information on each carbon developer is found in Annex F.



4.3

Availability and use of natural resources⁹

This section describes the natural resources in **North Western Province**, aiming to assess whether there are sufficient high-quality natural resources to support the sustainable management of forested landscapes and to enhance community livelihoods. It draws on geospatial data and discussions with communities and district stakeholders. A more geographically focused district-level analysis of natural resources is found in Section 5.

Land cover and use

North Western Province covers an area of 125 827 km², representing 16.8 percent of Zambia's total land area. The Province is bordered by Angola to the west, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) to the north, Zambia's Copperbelt Province to the east, Central Province to the southeast, and Western Province to the south and southwest (see Figure 1).

North Western Province is the most forested area of the country (9 million hectares are covered by forests, representing 72 percent of the

provincial area and 19 percent of the country's total forest cover). It contains the largest intact forests and the highest concentrations of carbon storage (55.5 tons per hectare). The Province has 62 gazetted Forest Reserves covering an area of 2 532 176 hectares, representing 21 percent of the total land surface area of the Province. In addition, there are 35 National Forests covering 2 045 181 hectares and 27 Local Forests covering 486 990 hectares (Source: Provincial FD).

// TABLE 5 //

Forest regime types in North Western Province

TYPE	# OF AREAS	HECTARES (1000)
Forest reserves	62	2 532
National Forests	35	2 045
Local Forests	27	486
Total land area	n/a	12 500

⁹ This section links to the principle of 'Availability and use of natural resources' in the RECOFTC assessment framework.

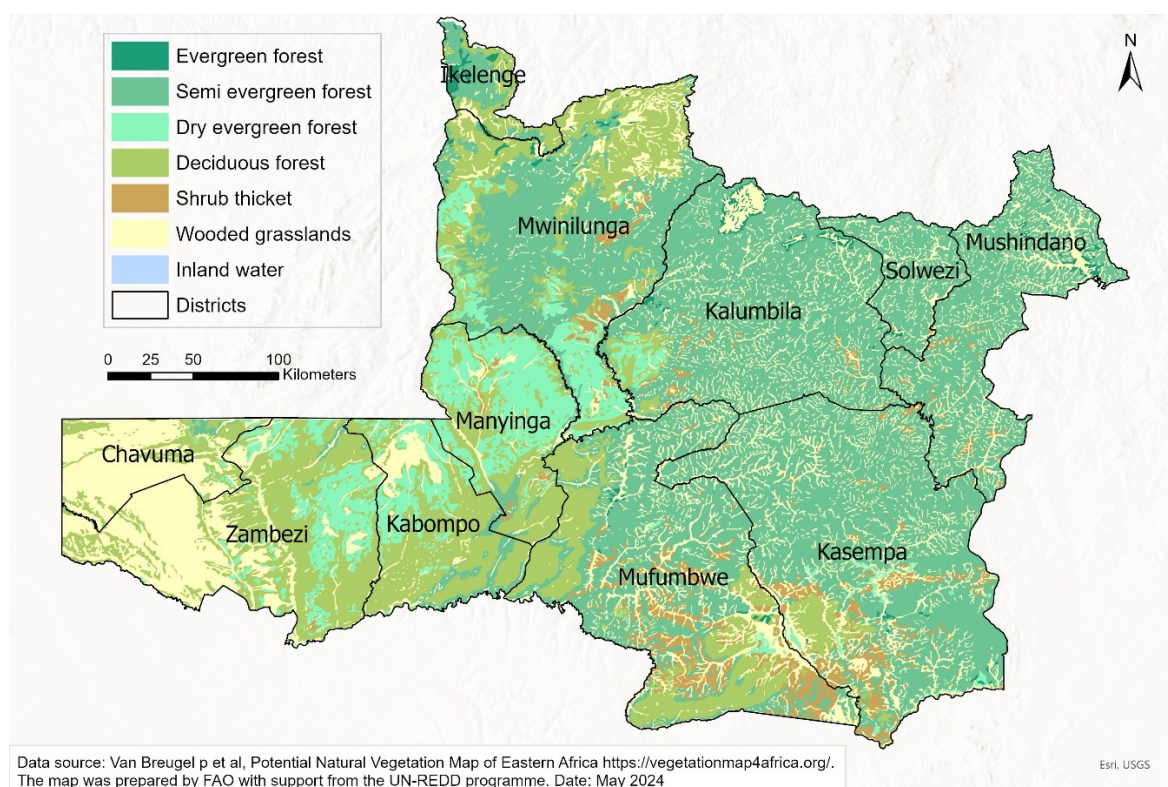
Vegetation in North Western Province is characterized by pristine miombo woodlands with *Brachystegia* genus¹⁰ as the dominant species, as well as vast tracts of dry evergreen forests featuring an abundance of the Mavunda tree species (*Cryptosepalum exfoliatum*), named after the butterfly *Mylothris mavunda*. Forest areas are interspersed with seasonally flooded, large grassy plains called *dambos*.¹¹ Miombo woodland mixed with smaller wetlands provides habitat for many species, such as the African elephant (*Loxodonta africana*), African wild dog (*Lycaon pictus*), sable antelope

(*Hippotragus niger*), black rhino (*Diceros bicornis*), and Lichtenstein's hartebeest (*Sigmoceros lichtensteinii*) (Hollingsworth *et al.*, 2015). However, populations of most of these animals are very low in North Western Province, particularly outside West Lunga National Park, although with better protection, there is high potential for restocking.

These forests are threatened by agricultural expansion driven by population growth, loss of soil fertility, high market demand for crops, weak land tenure, and lack of law enforcement (Phiri, 2023).

// FIGURE 4 //

Map of vegetation types in North Western Province



Source: This map was prepared with the support of the UN-REDD Programme based on information from Van Breugel, P.; Kindt, R.; Lillesø, J.-P.B.; Bingham, M.; Demissew, S.; Dudley, C.; Friis, I.; Gachathi, F.; Kalema, J.; Mbago, F.; Moshi, H.N.; Mulumba, J.; Namaganda, M.; Ndangalasi, H.J.; Ruffo, C.K.; Védaste, M.; Jamnadass, R.; Graudal, L. 2015. The potential natural vegetation (PNV) map of eastern and southern Africa. CIFOR. <https://www.cifor-icraf.org/knowledge/publication/25645/>

Note: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

¹⁰ *Brachystegia* is a genus of tree of the subfamily Detarioideae native to tropical Africa. Trees of the genus are commonly known as miombo and are dominant in the miombo woodlands of central and southern tropical Africa. The Zambezian region is the centre of diversity for the genus.

¹¹ A dambo is a class of complex shallow wetlands in central, southern and eastern Africa, particularly in Zambia, Malawi and Zimbabwe. They are generally found in higher rainfall flat plateau areas and have river-like branching forms which in themselves are not very large but combined add up to a large area. Dambos have been estimated to comprise 12.5% of the area of Zambia (Wikipedia).

Topography and precipitation

The topography of **North Western Province** is mostly undulating, varying between 1 075 metres and 1 300 metres above sea level. The Province lies in Zambia's high-rainfall area. In the Province, rainfall

generally increases from south to north, ranging between 1 000 and 1 500 millimetres annually.

Biodiversity

Given its rich forest and water resources, North Western Province has high biodiversity, including important tree and wildlife species. Community members expressed interest in conserving biodiversity

and noted the region's tourism potential as potential drivers of benefits. Communities were asked to identify some of the important plant and animal species found in their forest areas, which are listed below.

// TABLE 6 //

Plants and animals identified by communities as present in the assessment area

PLANTS

Common name	Scientific Name
Sugar plum	<i>Uapaca kirkiana</i>
Mukwa	<i>Pterocarpous angolensis</i>
Mupundu	<i>Parinari culatelifolia</i>
Mupapa	<i>Brachystegia spiciformis</i>
Rosewood	<i>Dalbergia latifolia</i>
Mufungo	<i>Anisophyllea boehmi</i>
Musase	<i>Faurea saligna</i>
Mufinsa	<i>Syzygium cordatum</i>
Kalunguti	<i>Erythrophleum africanum</i>
Mutondo	<i>Julbanadia paniculata</i>
Kasongole	<i>Strychnos cocculoides</i>
Mutobo	<i>Isobertia angolensis</i>
Mubanga	<i>Brachystegia spiciformis</i>
Mwidi	<i>Diplorincois condylocarpon</i>
Musamba	<i>Brachystegia utilis</i>
Mutobo	<i>Syzygium cordatum</i>
Mwidima	<i>Diospyros batocana</i>

WILDLIFE

Common Name	Scientific Name
Warthog	<i>Potamochoerus larvatus</i>
Impala	<i>Aepyceros melampus</i>
Common Duiker	<i>Sylvicapra grimmia</i>
Water buck	<i>Kobus ellipsiprymnus</i>
Guinea fowl	<i>Numida meleagris</i>
Wild rat	<i>Rattus norvegicus</i>
Puku	<i>Kobus vardonii</i>
Pangolin	<i>Smutsia temminckii</i>
Porcupine	<i>Hystrix cristata</i>
Snakes	<i>Multiple species</i>
Birds	<i>Multiple species</i>
Zebra	<i>Equus burchelli</i>
Eland	<i>Taurotragus oryx</i>
Hippopotamus	<i>Hippopotamus amphibius</i>
Bush buck	<i>Tragelaphus scriptus</i>
Honey badger	<i>Mellivora capensis</i>
Elephant	<i>Loxodonta africana</i>

Source : Authors'own elaboration.

Note: CFMG field assessment

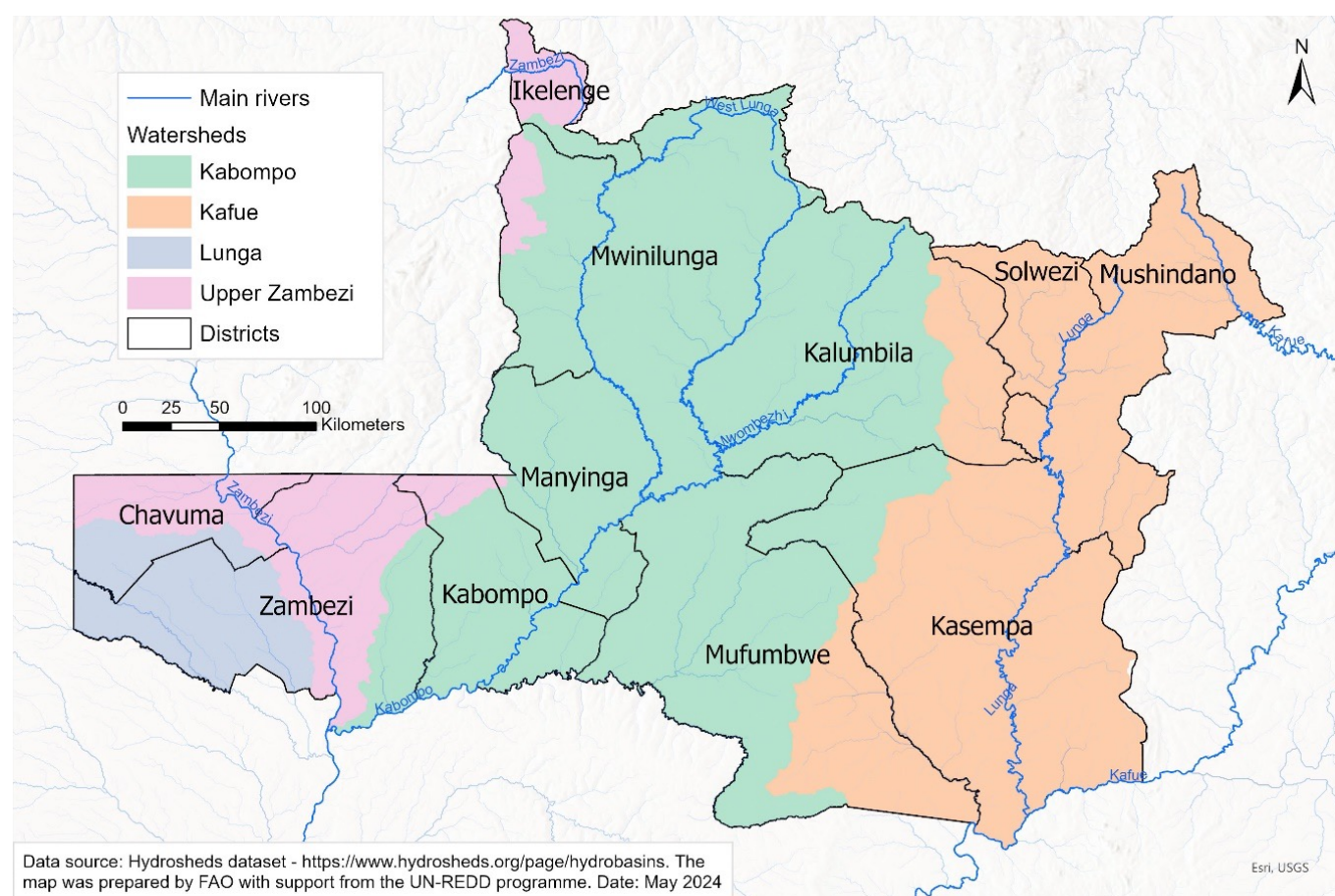
Ecosystem services

The headwaters of the Zambezi River are located in two watersheds found in North Western Province: the Upper Zambezi, which drains from Angola, and the Kabompo, which is mostly in Zambia's North Western Province. A section of the Kafue River and some

of its tributaries are also located in North Western Province. The Kafue River basin is one of the largest in Zambia, providing major inputs to the Zambezi River where it drains. Its headwaters are also considered part of the headwaters of the Zambezi River.

// FIGURE 5 //

Major watersheds in North Western Province



Source: This map was prepared with the support of the UN-REDD Programme based on information : HydroSHEDS. n.d. HydroBASINS. [Cited 9 February 2025]. In: HydroSHEDS. <https://www.hydrosheds.org/page/hydrobasins>

Notes: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

The most important ecosystem services that communities identified were water sources. They identified larger rivers such as the Zambezi, Kabompo, Mumbezi, Meheba, Lunga, Kapundu, Kasanjiku, Kalaba, Nguluwi, Manyinga, Mafwe, Chifuwe, and Dongwe rivers, as well as numerous smaller streams, including Kabulamema, Kauweji, Chikonkwelo, Chihumune, Lwamaziya, Lwansomba, Kamukumbi, Chifukuseki, Kasumpa, Wisaki, Kabamba, Bikwekwe, Kema, Kwanjika, Sange, Mumpulumba, Kanyisombo, Keundu,

Kangwadi, Kamalolu, Katooka, Kasombo, Kanzhiye, Muzhimbezi, Kamwezhi, and Chintapa streams.

These rivers and streams are important for fishing, drinking water for villagers and livestock, washing, bathing, gardening, and for molding blocks for construction purposes. Dams on some larger rivers could present an opportunity for payment for ecosystem services. Communities could play an important stewardship role for

water-based ecosystem services, particularly in the face of climate change, which threatens to undermine hydropower generation. Forests provide several water ecosystem services for the hydropower industry, including cloud generation and rainfall regulation, water flow regulation, and reduction of soil erosion and related dam sedimentation and damage to turbines (FAO, 2018).

In summary, North Western Province harbors abundant natural resources, boasting globally significant biodiversity, rich mineral resources, and vital ecosystem services. Communities rely on many of these resources for their subsistence, and these resources hold promise for delivering lasting benefits to the local population by alleviating poverty and enhancing livelihoods. Concurrently, some of these resources attract the interest of private sector entities whose

motivations often prioritize personal or corporate profit, yet they also generate much-needed investment capital and infrastructure. The mining sector has already committed sizeable investments in the Province (e.g. Barrick Gold Corporation) and spurred in-migration, while carbon market investments are growing. Charcoal production is also threatening the Province's forests, as evidenced by charcoal depots along the main roads. Many residents rely on charcoal for their energy needs, with demand heightened by frequent electricity shortages driven by drought conditions. More frequent droughts have put massive pressure on Zambia's national grid, which is mostly fed by hydropower. The Government of Zambia can play a pivotal role in safeguarding forests and related water services, while strategically planning and coordinating development initiatives within the Province.

4.4

Benefits, benefit sharing mechanisms and finance

The forests of **North Western Province** provide a range of benefits to local communities, from forest products harvested for home consumption or commercial trade to ecosystem services (e.g. water, carbon, biodiversity), as well as cultural and spiritual values. Given that a significant proportion of the population in North Western Province lives below the national poverty line (61.6 percent) and depends on farm income (70.3 percent of households), many of these resources are essential for daily survival.

However, forest investment strategies that could enhance and diversify those benefits are either rarely found or at a nascent stage (e.g. sustainable forest management, agroforestry, sustainable charcoal production, ecotourism, payment for environmental services, non-wood forest product (NWFP) businesses and cooperatives, and carbon trading).

This section reviews the collection and use of forest products by men and women in community forest areas and the livelihood benefits they derive. The assessment also sought to determine how benefits are shared among CFMG members and communities, and to identify perceived needs for improving livelihoods, including areas where support is sought (e.g. development of forest value chains). Access to markets and financial capital are also discussed.





© FAO/Christine Coppinger

Forest products collected by women and men

During the assessment, men and women were separated into groups and asked to name the five most important forest products they collect. They were also asked to name some of the challenges they face in the collection and marketing of these products. While there were some similar answers between both male and female groups (e.g. caterpillars and mushrooms), men were more engaged in the collection of honey, timber poles, and fibres, while women specialized in collecting orchids (harvested for their tubers as a local delicacy called *chikanda*)¹², medicinal plants, and wild fruits.

Some products are only sold or exchanged locally or used for household consumption, while others are traded commercially either through middlemen or directly in markets.

Products harvested mainly for household consumption or local exchanges include poles and fibres used for fencing, roofing, and basketry, as well as medicinal herbs that support traditional healing in the village. Currently, there are no significant commercial markets

for all of these products. Villagers tend to use a barter system, exchanging these forest products for items such as secondhand clothes, pots, and palm oil.

By contrast, other products such as honey, caterpillars, mushrooms, orchids, and wild fruits are traded commercially. However, commercial activities are generally limited in scale, with CFMG members citing low market prices, lack of bargaining power, and the long distance to markets as key challenges. Nevertheless, forest products remain an important source of cash income for many households.

Currently, communities do not control the quantity of products collected from the forest but intend to do so once rights for CF management planning have been transferred to them. Most CFMGs foresee controlling the collection of products for commercial sale and assigning Honorary Forest Officers (HFOs) to support enforcement. Any extraction beyond the established limits will be penalized.

¹² See more detail on *chikanda* production here:

https://www.traffic.org/site/assets/files/3006/traffic_pub_bulletin_26_2_orchid_trade_tanzania_zambia_for_chikanda.pdf

// TABLE 7 //

Top 5 products collected by women and challenges for collection and selling

PRODUCT FAVORED BY WOMEN	CHALLENGES FOR COLLECTION	SOLD IN MARKET	CHALLENGE FOR SELLING
Caterpillars (i.e. <i>Mayungu Tunkubyu</i> - found in shells and harvested from trees and underground)	• Accidents • Snake bites • Stings by wasps	Yes	• Low pricing by foreigners Mostly barter system in exchange for plates, pots, clothes, cooking oil and chinkondia (palm oil) • Low demand • Long distance to the market
Mushrooms (i.e. <i>Ndondola</i> - bark mushroom, <i>Winja</i> , <i>Tente</i> , <i>Buhavwa/Chikonkolowa</i> , <i>Kansala nsala</i> (brown mushroom), <i>Kanchinani</i> red mushroom) <i>Butondo</i> (yellow mushroom)	• Getting lost in the bush • Injuries • Wasps • Snake bites • No means of preservation • Lack of knowledge on poisonous mushrooms	Yes	• Low pricing • Long distance to the market • Few markets
Orchids (Chikanda)	• Injury from sharp grass during harvesting • Snake bites • Breaking of hoes • Getting lost in the bush	Yes	• Long distances to the market • Prices are dictated by the buyers
Wild fruits (i.e. <i>Nfungo</i> (<i>anysoiphilia Boehii</i>), <i>Masuku</i> (<i>Uapaca Kirkiana</i>), <i>Mupundu- Parinari</i> , <i>Musombo Jojo</i> (<i>Ntungulu- Afromomium</i>))	• Snake bites • Hanging trees and thorns • Ditches • Heavy to carry • Rotting. No preservation	Yes	• Sold by the roadside and at the market • Rotting • Low prices
Medicinal herbs	• Long distance to the forest • Snake bites • Errors due to difficulty in tree identification • Thorns • Difficulty digging the roots • Heavy to carry	No	• Usually not sold at the market but used by the community members

Source : Authors'own elaboration.

Note: CFMG field assessment.

// TABLE 8 //

Top 5 products collected by men and challenges for collection and selling

PRODUCT FAVORED BY MEN	CHALLENGES FOR COLLECTION	SOLD IN MARKET	CHALLENGE FOR SELLING
Honey	• Lack of personal protective equipment (PPE) • Inadequate harvesting tools • Stings • Long distances to collection points • Snakes in the hive • High bee mortality rate • Cutting rope for hanging • Inadequate storage	Yes	• Honey rejected by buyers if found with water • Only one buyer • Inadequate beekeeping knowledge leads to poor quality honey and low prices • Buyers do not pay immediately • Buyers get box wax and honey for one price
Mushrooms	• Rotting • Snake bites • Heavy rain destroys product • Getting lost • Long distances • Crumbling during transportation	Yes	• No preservation so mushrooms rot • Difficulties reaching the market (long distance and transport is hard to come by and expensive) • No processing
Caterpillars	• Snake bites • Falling from trees • Mixed types when harvesting • No personal protective equipment • Long distances • Loss of caterpillar habitat due to fire, land conversion, and deforestation	Yes	• Lack of market • Middlemen use tricks when measuring to shortchange the seller • Long distance to the markets
Poles	• Axe accidents • Falling trees/branches • No transportation	No	• Poor market thus only sold locally
Fiber	• Accidents during harvesting • Snake bites	No	• Poor market thus only sold locally • Only harvested upon request

Source : Authors'own elaboration.

Note: CFMG field assessment.

Value chains and CF investment strategies

As noted above, both women and men actively collect forest products for commercial trade, though they express several key challenges. External partners have provided some support for honey enterprise development; however, support for the development of other forest products has been very limited. Most collectors of non-wood forest products (NWFP) lack reliable information on markets, processing and storage techniques, and prices. To date, there has been limited research into the range of forest products that could be sustainably harvested and marketed by communities.

A forest inventory that includes NWFPs and value chain assessments is ongoing with UN-REDD support and will help identify the products and services with potential for supporting sustainable livelihood development. These assessments could guide interventions related to small business planning, investment in forest-based small enterprises, and support for community cooperatives. Initial findings suggest that honey and mushrooms appear to be the most promising value chains in the target area. In areas where they thrive, mushrooms can provide collectors with

significant extra income during the harvesting seasons. However, the development of a robust value chain is hindered by several factors, including a lack of knowledge, insufficient financing for processing facilities (even for basic solar driers), and the absence of structured local markets.

The demand for honey is substantial both domestically and internationally, according to stakeholders. In North Western Province, a few honey factories and private buyers are present. Despite this potential, beekeepers face several challenges, including the high costs of modern beehives, limited access to finance for essential equipment, and poor road infrastructure. Additionally, the honey value chain suffers from an inadequate policy framework and a lack of standardized quality regulations. The assessment of forest value chains is reviewing bottlenecks and barriers, as well as strategies to overcome these. A gender perspective within these reports will be important to ensure that both men's and women's needs and interests are considered in the context of potential future support.

Payment for ecosystem services

There are some experiences of payment for ecosystem services (PES) in North Western Province. In Ikelenge District, local communities, ZESCO (a state-owned power company), and the FD are undertaking a tree planting and reforestation programme in two catchment areas where forests have been severely degraded by agricultural practices: (1) the source of the Zambezi River in Kalene Hills, and (2) the Lunzua River catchment area.

Across these two catchment areas, 10 000 tree seedlings have been planted to date. This tree planting programme includes (i) a community empowerment component, whereby the capacity of

communities is developed, (ii) the tree planting activities (currently the FD identifies the restoration sites and species, and provides seedlings from a nursery at the University of Copperbelt, but intends to involve communities in future seedling production); and (iii) payment of incentives for the contribution of the local population (approximately USD 240 at planting, and USD 120 for maintenance per month during six months of the year).

This initiative in Ikelenge District shows the potential for interlinked forest-water-climate positive actions that result in benefits for local communities.



Carbon trade

At the national level, the Government of the Republic of Zambia (GRZ) launched a National Strategy to Reduce Deforestation and Degradation in 2015,¹³ and more recently, a subnational jurisdictional approach to REDD+ has been initiated in Eastern Province¹⁴. However, the voluntary carbon market has garnered more local interest in recent years. Carbon trade is an area for potential future CFMG benefits, and as mentioned, several carbon developers have expressed interest and are supporting the establishment of CFMGs for future partnerships in carbon trading. All but three of the 24 CFMGs surveyed have already aligned with carbon project developers. However, interactions between CFMGs and carbon developers have been limited in scope due to delays in the CFMG recognition process.

Carbon developers require the transfer of carbon rights from the community before moving forward with significant project design, development, and implementation. Since carbon projects require large technical and financial investment, few carbon developers are willing to fully engage without a permit in place, which must be approved by the FD (i.e. Form VII). On one hand, these delays provide an opportunity for communities to learn more about carbon markets and prepare themselves for negotiation and implementation. Still, long delays are causing frustration among both carbon developers and communities eager to generate carbon benefits.

The requirement for large areas of forest for project development has resulted in communities claiming extensive areas for CF, often distant from their villages. Rather than one cohesive village managing a smaller forest area, many villages are joined together to manage larger areas, theoretically leading to economies of scale for carbon project development; however, this often creates

coordination and logistical challenges. There have been limited efforts to explain carbon markets, opportunities, and risks to communities, and benefit-sharing plans remain unclear. There is no well-informed neutral body to help communities evaluate or advance these project propositions.

Many carbon project developers have focused on securing rights to potential project areas and carbon rights, while lacking resources to invest in CF management activities and forest-based livelihoods. This latter support is presumably tied to the success in earning carbon revenues; however, it can take a few years from project initiation to validation, verification of emissions reductions, and credit issuance. Due in part to delays in processing CF agreements related to carbon rights (Form VII), one carbon developer (i.e. Biocarbon Partners (BCP)) has reduced its planned engagement in North Western Province.

Rapid carbon project development has also presented challenges for district and provincial FD offices, which are obligated to review CF applications and provide extension services and law enforcement in all forest areas. Forest officers have limited capacity and resources to support these processes. Moreover, since very few forest officers have remote sensing and GIS skills, numerous issues have arisen with overlapping boundaries between CFMGs, timber concessions, and forest reserves.

Nevertheless, based on interviews with several carbon project developers, there is considerable potential for voluntary carbon market projects aimed at forest conservation and restoration, including initiatives focused on averting deforestation and promoting afforestation/reforestation efforts.

¹³ More information can be found at: <https://faolex.fao.org/docs/pdf/zam181907.pdf>

¹⁴ For more information, about the Eastern Province sustainable jurisdictional Landscape Program in Zambia, see <https://ziflp.org.zm/ep-jslp/>. Zambia is in the process of establishing rules and regulations associated with carbon projects which would include guidance regarding nesting and Article 6. At present there are a number of jurisdictional programs either planned or implemented where nesting will be required. The most notable program is the Zambia Integrated Forest Landscape Project (ZIFLP) supported by the BioCarbon Fund Initiative for Sustainable Forest Landscapes (ISFL) in the Eastern Province. At present there are two large project level VCS projects operational in the area so the ZIFLP will need to establish an approach to nesting which could potentially be replicated elsewhere. WeForest is looking to establish a jurisdictional program in Muchinga and another carbon partner is in the process of developing a reference level for the North Western Province. As such these programs will need to engage directly with government on issues relating to nesting and Article 6. Zambia is also in the process of updating their forest policy and will be following that up with an updated forest act which should provide ample opportunity to address outstanding issues related to jurisdictional nesting and Article 6.

Benefit-sharing mechanism

The benefit-sharing mechanism (BSM) for all CFMGs is typically embedded in each CFMG's constitution. This mechanism delineates the percentage allocations for Chiefs, CFMGs, and forest user groups. However, it is unclear to what extent these internal BSMs have been put into practice.

Regarding the sharing of carbon benefits, community members reported that carbon developers openly explained the proposed carbon BSM to them and that it was a transparent process. However, specific percentages were not recalled by all community

members, perhaps because most CFMGs were not directly involved in designing the benefit-sharing plan. It was noted during the assessment that CFMGs established under the DFNRMP project initially did not have a BSM, as the project's primary purpose was forest protection. These CFMGs are now gradually being integrated into benefit-sharing schemes supported by carbon developers, alongside plans to expand the community forest areas.

Below are examples of BSM allocations in two of the assessed CFMGs in North Western Province.

// TABLE 9 //

Example of two community forestry management group benefit sharing plans

ALLOCATION	KAYONGE CFMG	KANYIKOMBOSHI CFMG
Senior Headman	2%	2%
HFO / Forest protection HFO / Forest protection	2%	20%
Government	2,5%	0%
CFMG Committee / Administration	5%	10%
Scholarship fund	0%	20%
Traditional Chief	3,5%	5%
Community / community development	85%	33%
Vulnerable community members	0%	10%
	100%	100%

Source : Authors' own elaboration.

Note: CFMG field assessment.

The benefit-sharing mechanisms presented are limited in scope and tend to omit allocations for operating and management costs of the CFMG (both fixed and variable costs). They also fail to anticipate or describe revenue sharing with carbon or other external partners. CFMGs have little knowledge or understanding of carbon markets, their role in carbon project activities, and potential opportunity costs, making it very difficult for them to negotiate fair compensation

for their participation, efforts on the ground, and contribution to emissions reductions. Without government regulation that prioritizes the best interests of communities, the fair division and distribution of potential carbon benefits rely on the goodwill of the carbon developers and/or wider market dynamics within the global carbon trade in terms of quality and integrity of projects.

Access to finance

Due to NGO and project support in the Province, more than half (54 percent) of the 24 CFMGs assessed reported the presence of village savings groups (SGs). However, according to a recent UN-REDD Rural Finance Assessment in the area (Cortese et al., 2024), existing CFMGs have very little direct experience with savings groups. Moreover, most SGs interviewed for the assessment were mainly women’s SGs that use their savings for commerce-related activities (but only in a few cases linked to honey or mushroom sales). Nevertheless, these SGs enhance financial literacy among local communities, which is broadly useful. Almost half of the CFMGs (46 percent) report at least one active microfinance institution in

their area, while about 33 percent have two or more institutions to choose from. Thirteen CFMGs had no access to financial institutions in their vicinity, and only one of the 24 CFMGs had opened a bank account. In late 2023, the UN-REDD Rural Finance Assessment identified several financial institutions working in at least three of the five targeted districts in North Western Province (i.e. Kalumbila, Mwinilunga, and Kabompo), namely: NATSAVE Bank, First National Bank (FNB), Vision Fund MFI, Madison Finance MFI, Atlas Mara Bank, and Agora MF. There were no financial institutions present in Ikelenge and Manyinga districts as of December 2023.

// TABLE 10 //

CFMG access to finance

TYPE OF FINANCE MECHANISM	# CFMGs (OF 24)
Have village savings groups	13
Have 2 or more microfinance institutions active in the village	7
Have 1 microfinance institution active in the village	4
Have a CFMG bank account	1

Source : Authors’own elaboration.

4.5

Forest/land management practices, capacities and learning¹⁵

Community forestry initiatives often attribute their success to building on existing local knowledge, traditions, and practices. External support to enhance skills, capacities, and collaboration can catalyze new opportunities for growth. The assessment team therefore sought to identify relevant existing practices and skills among CFMGs, as well as the priorities among women and men for future learning and capacity development.

Traditional forest practices

Communities demonstrate a reverence for their natural surroundings, particularly evident in their preservation of certain trees. Traditional management practices may continue to influence the sustainability of forest resources (Douda et al., 2016). For example, certain significant tree species, like *Diplorhynchus condylocarpon* (locally known as *mwenge*), are associated with bad luck, resulting in reluctance to cut them down. Similarly, the *muyumbu tree* (*Julbanadia paniculata*), once utilized for ancestral worship, is perceived to possess spiritual significance, with some communities refraining from cutting it due to the belief that it brings rain.

Communities claim that trees such as *Upeka kirkiana* (locally known as *Masuku*, a wild fruit tree) and riverine trees receive extra protection. Traditional forest management practices endure, with special attention given to trees like *Ficus elastic cilembalemba* (locally known as *mutate*), valued for its roots' medicinal properties aiding in childbirth and abortions. Many communities have strict prohibitions against cutting down trees used for medicinal purposes, ensuring their preservation for future generations. Other deterrents to indiscriminate tree felling revolve around tales of mythical forest fires and respect for the deceased. These customs, while fading, support harmony between humans and nature, preserving biodiversity, cultural heritage, and the overall well-being of the community.

Forest and land management practices

Ideally, forest patrols should be conducted regularly to monitor forests for illegal activities. The CFMGs supported by the **West Lunga Conservation Project (WLCP)** conduct regular forest patrols; however, many other CFMGs were unable to do so due to financial constraints and/or the long distances to the forests. Only 13 of the 24 assessed CFMGs confirmed conducting regular forest patrols.

CF forest patrols are generally carried out by Honorary Forest Officers (HFOs), fire leads, and executive committee members, requiring resources such as bicycles, food rations, uniforms, phones, allowances, knapsacks, and fire beaters. Patrols have proven effective in deterring destructive activities and in documenting offenses like illegal charcoal kilns and logging. Some CFMGs have organized awareness-raising campaigns and enforced penalties, contributing to notable improvements. Others intensify the patrols during NWFP harvesting periods to monitor the quantities being removed from the forests, including monitoring products being

extracted for commercial purposes. Strategic measures, such as constructing fire breaks and deploying guards, have further enhanced community resilience against these threats. Nevertheless, documentation of patrols is limited, with most patrol information being communicated verbally.

Other than enforcement activities and some fire management (e.g. early season burning), interviewed CFMGs have not yet engaged in other forest management practices such as tree nursery establishment, forest restoration, assisted natural regeneration, or thinning, due to a lack of technical support and approved forest management plans. The development of the Community Forestry Management Plan (CFMP) is a key step in CF development (Step 6) and serves as a tool to guide the implementation of sustainable management practices. Most CFMGs require technical and financial support to put the CFMP into place, which is currently lacking. The approved process is described in Box 1 below.

¹⁵ This section links to the principle of 'Adaptive management and learning' in the RECOFTC assessment framework.

// BOX 1 //

Summary of the Community Forestry Management Plan (CFMP) development process (Step 6 of the CF development process)

- A** Along with the CFMG executive committee, gather representatives of all forest user groups.
- B** Develop a participatory resource map identifying all types of forests, uses, and users. Identify a transect walk path on the map, cutting through different forest types.
- C** Conduct a rapid forest resource assessment in the forest during the transect walk.
- D** Review existing forest management and use practices, and discuss how to improve the productivity of the forest.
- E** Develop a 5-year forest management matrix, which includes a forest product supply and demand analysis, and the development of actions for protection, development, use, and marketing of forest products, as well as local bylaws.
- F** Raise awareness of the management plan and bylaws, including penalties for rule breakers.

Source: **Ministry of Lands & Natural Resources**. 2018. *National guidelines for community forestry in Zambia*. https://ziflp.org.zm/download/community/Draft_National_Guidelines_Community_Forestry_Zambia_WOut_Annexes_Jul2018.pdf

Existing skills and capacities

Community members around forest areas possess skills that could contribute to the sustainable use of natural resources. Existing skill sets include knowledge of forest species and their uses, carpentry (including the production of mortars and pestles, cupboards, beds, cooking sticks, traditional canoes, door and window frames, tables, chairs, and benches), and handcrafts (including carvings, baskets, reed mats, drums, and cooking sticks). Other skills include beehive making and beekeeping, conservation agriculture, fishing, herbalism (traditional medicine), and thatching.

Interest in future learning and skills

The communities were interested in learning a variety of different forest-related skills, with some notable differences between the priorities of men and women. Most learning priorities were related to livelihoods improvement, while only financial management, fire management, and training of Honorary Forest Officers (HFOs) were related to CF governance. Men expressed stronger interest in beekeeping, fishing, bricklaying, and carpentry, while women favoured processing of herbal medicines, financial management, and training in NWFP value addition. Women also expressed interest in some areas not directly related to forests, such as knitting, tailoring, and home gardens.

// TABLE 11 //

Priorities of community men and women for acquiring new livelihoods skills

SKILLS / LEARNING PRIORITIES	# OF CFMGS CITING THIS INTEREST	PRIORITY RANK FOR WOMEN	PRIORITY RANK FOR MEN
Beekeeping - modern beehive making and management	17	1	1
Improved fishing methods and fishponds	16	3	2
Bricklaying	15	3	2
Carpentry	12	2	3
Mushroom preservation	8	5	6
Honey processing	8	5	4
Processing and branding of herbal medicine	7	4	7
Financial management	6	3	9
Processing of wild fruits into fruit jam	6	6	7
Entrepreneurship and business skills	6	7	5
Training of HFOs	6	6	5
Value addition training	6	5	8
Fire management	5	6	6



© FAO/Wesley Wakunuma

4.6

Threats and challenges perceived by Community Forest Management Groups

This section describes some of the threats and challenges from the community perspective, including threats from within and outside the community.

Internal threats and challenges

Communities report several common threats and challenges, with varying levels of success in addressing them. Some issues, such as late-season fires, *chitemene* (slash-and-burn agriculture), and charcoal production, are improving mainly due to awareness-raising efforts by the CFMG. Two communities noted that they are now connected to the electricity grid, reducing their reliance on charcoal production. While widespread rural electrification is a costly undertaking, universal access to electricity by 2030 is a goal within the country's 2022–2026 Strategic Plan of the Rural Electrification Authority.¹⁶

However, other issues, such as unsustainable harvesting of caterpillars and tree bark (for traditional beehives), are worsening despite awareness-raising initiatives and patrols. These efforts may prove insufficient to address the threats, necessitating longer-term solutions supported by external assistance, potentially involving the introduction of alternative livelihood strategies. Other internal challenges, detailed in the table below, relate to CFMG governance (e.g. mistrust, lack of attendance, women's participation), market access for forest products, and support for patrols.

¹⁶ For more information, see Strategic Plan 2022–2026 at <https://www.rea.org.zm/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/REA-2022-2026-Strategic-Plan.pdf>

// TABLE 12 //

Internal threats, status, and support needed

INTERNAL THREATS	STATUS	SUPPORT NEEDED
Conflicts due to mistrust / misunderstandings with the executive committee (e.g. they have sold land to outsiders)	Getting better	Training for CFMG Executive Committee on leadership, management, communication
Low meeting attendance due to lack of direct benefits and loss of income, also leading to poor women's attendance	Ongoing	Development of forest livelihoods and sustainable sources of income for CFMGs (e.g. carbon, tourism, PES).
Infrequent patrols due to lack of support and motivation, long distances (no vehicles), and large areas	Ongoing	Review of CF area and location, daily wages for patrols (linked to sources of income)
Late season burning	Getting better	Continued awareness raising, fire management
Chitemene system (slash and burn farming system)	Getting better	Continued awareness raising, land-use planning
Unsustainable harvesting of caterpillars	Worsening	Alternative livelihood solutions
Traditional bark hive making	Worsening	Alternative hive solutions, technical support on beekeeping
Charcoal production	Getting better	Sustainable charcoal solutions Alternative energy sources Connection to electricity grid
Lack of market for forest products	Ongoing	Value chain support
Lack of preservation or processing techniques for forest goods (mushrooms, fruits) leading to spoilage	Ongoing	Technical support for processing and preservation, including phytosanitary measures.

External threats and challenges

Several threats originate outside the community but have the potential for significant impact on the community. These include delays in processing CF applications, illegal logging, human wildlife conflict, and arson. District level stakeholders highlighted several threats including infrastructure development, expansion of

mining, and felling of rosewood and other luxury timbers. These threats are largely beyond the control of the CFMG; however, with the support of partners (e.g. government and NGOs), they may be mitigated. The table below indicates possible support to address these external threats.



// TABLE 13 //

External threats, status, and support needed

EXTERNAL THREATS	STATUS	SUPPORT NEEDED
Delays in processing the CF Agreement by the FD, hindering implementation of forest management activities	Ongoing	Capacity building and technical support (i.e. mapping) to the FD
Illegal tree felling by outsiders /with permits (e.g. Chinese companies with concession permits) as well as those without documentation.	Worsening	A functioning grievance mechanism with FD involvement
Human wildlife conflict especially with elephants moving closer to settlements	Worsening	Protection of wildlife habitat, game management reserves
Arsonists deliberately frustrating conservation efforts after hearing that the area will be protected	Ongoing	Increased support for patrols
Infrastructure development	Ongoing	Environmental and social impact assessment
Increased mining /extractive industries	Ongoing	Zoning to avoid high biodiversity, fragile ecosystems

4.7

Community forestry status and the way forward for provincial and district government institutions

Consultations with relevant stakeholders were organized through half-day workshops in each of the five target districts and in Solwezi, the provincial capital of North Western Province. These workshops were attended by district forestry officers, officers from the Ministry of Agriculture, and district planners from local councils. Additional discussions were held with District Commissioners and Council Secretaries.

Workshop participants discussed the status of CF and several strategies for forestry sector development around CFMGs. The strategies — including sustainable forest management, agroforestry, carbon trading, NWFP businesses, sustainable charcoal production, payment for environmental services, and tourism — were analyzed using a Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats (SWOT) framework. Table 14 below presents the combined results from all districts, while individual district tables can be found in Annex E. Stakeholders noted that most strategies have both strengths and weaknesses. Common themes emerged, such as the importance of generating income and livelihood benefits, inadequate funding and infrastructure, and the need to strengthen technical knowledge and capacities. Additionally, there appear to be limited examples of current investments in these strategies, except for some support in the honey value chain.



// TABLE 14 //

Strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats in relation to potential CF strategies: Feedback from district workshops

CF STRATEGIES	STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES	OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
SFM (including legal timber production)	• Available human resource labour • High forest cover with potential to contribute to conservation • Communities demonstrate positive attitude towards rules • Enhanced forest regeneration • Increased revenue from forest products and sustainable flow of income to households • Availability of equipment • Increased employment through participation of local communities • Support to other value chain players	• Inadequate funding • Limited FD staff to oversee/coordinate • Inadequate equipment (tools & transport)	• Contributes to more stable rainfall • Improved livelihoods and income generation • Poverty reduction and increased food security • Sustainable supply of NWFPs • Beekeeping • Improved collaboration with local and external partners • Enhanced forest protection • Carbon trading • Job creation • Enhanced ecosystem opportunities • Poverty reduction • Forest conservation • Market linkages • Promotion of cultural diversity • Access to credit finance • Promotes local investment	• Political interference also from traditional leaders • Late season fires • Deforestation due to mining, agricultural expansion, and district infrastructure development • Forest degradation • Illegal allocation of forest cover • Increased cases of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) early pregnancies • Illegal immigrants • Increased crime rates • Negative attitude from local communities • Conflicts over land • High competition on forest resource use • Deforestation
Agroforestry	• Availability of human resources (i.e. trained staff) • Availability of cooperating partners (e.g. ZESCO) • Availability of land and water sources for agroforestry practices • Availability of appropriate agroforestry species • Good rainfall patterns • Income generation • Preservation of ecosystem • Sustainable agricultural crop production	• Slow adoption rates • Inadequate transport • Inadequate inputs • Inadequate funding • Lack of knowledge • Poor soil type (sandy) • Lack of awareness	• Improved crop yields (food security) • Improved soil fertility and reduced erosion • Income generation and improved livelihoods • Improvement of degraded/ poor soils • Consistent supply of forest products • Reduced pressure on forests • Increased fauna • Increased forest cover • Increased rainfall	• Slow adoption rates • Negative attitude from local communities

CF STRATEGIES	STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES	OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
Carbon trading	• Availability of partners / carbon developers • Availability of forest areas/ forest cover • Willingness by communities to give out land • Forest conservation • Income generation	• Lack of knowledge and awareness • Lack of transparency • Long and unnecessary delays in endorsement from traditional leaders • Inadequate FD staff to coordinate • Inadequate funding	• Income generation • Improved livelihoods • Reduced carbon emissions • Forest conservation / enhanced protection • Infrastructure development • Diversification of economy • Increased support from traditional leaders and authorities • Promotion of local businesses • Infrastructure development • Knowledge exchange • Job creation	• Deforestation • Wildfires • Forest degradation • Imbalanced biodiversity • Lack of transparency • Increased crime and witchcraft • International politics (Interference from Western powers) • Conflicts due to high competition over forest resource use
NWFP businesses	• Availability of NWFPs • Adequate forest cover as a source of NWFPs • High production of NWFPs • Existing business enterprises • Stable rainfall patterns • Availability of water bodies • Source of nutrition • Available markets	• Poor harvesting methods • Poor processing and preservation methods and equipment/facilities • Poor access to market • Lack of knowledge	• Increased household income leading to poverty reduction • Enhanced forest management • Increased foreign exchange through exports • Business opportunities (processing plants) • Improves the ecosystem • Job creation	• Wildfires • Production of NWFPs is seasonal • Forest deforestation and degradation • Over harvesting of NWFPs • Some products are perishable
Sustainable charcoal production	• Availability of raw materials • Support from carbon developers • Support from partners (e.g. FAO, FQM, Trident) • Enhanced forest management • Increased household income • Reduced forest degradation • Available market • Available human resources	• Lack of knowledge on sustainable charcoal production • Lack of material equipment • Expensive materials • Slow adoption rates • Inadequate staff to support	• Enhanced forest management • Reduced forest degradation • Reduced carbon emissions • Availability of market • Sustainable forest management • Innovation of alternatives to charcoal • Promotion of forest value chains • Reduced carbon emissions • Enhanced income levels	• Deforestation • Slow adoption rates • Disturbance of ecosystem

CF STRATEGIES	STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES	OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
Payment for ecosystem services¹⁷	• Availability of ecosystem services (Zambezi source) • Increased revenue • Job creation • Rich biodiversity • Availability of multi-sectorial institutions	• Inadequate infrastructure limiting access to the site for protection activities • Inadequate funding • Poor multi-sectoral coordination • Lack of awareness • Inadequate human resources with training and transport • Lack of knowledge on ecosystem services • Inadequate multisectoral policies	• Promotion of cultural beliefs • Revenue generation • Job creation • Increased awareness • Improved livelihoods through revenue generation • Biodiversity conservation • Training infrastructure development • Research promotion • Promote tourism • Ecosystem conservation	• Environmental degradation • Biodiversity degradation • Resistant to change by some sectors • Degradation of ecosystems • Very costly to set up ecosystem service
Tourism	• Availability of tourism sites (Zambezi source, Zambezi rapids) • Availability of facilities • Job creation • Availability of hospitality industry • Availability of game • Cultural diversity • Income generation • Revenue generation • Increased foreign exchange • Increased cultural diversity	• Inadequate infrastructure (e.g. road network) • Lack of accommodation • Some benefits do not trickle down to communities • Lack of human power (tourism office) • Lack of knowledge on tourism sites • Lack of marketing strategies • Lack of community involvement • Inadequate funding • Increased cases of HIV and other communicable diseases • Encroachment on animal/forest space • Lack of knowledge	• Income generation (including foreign exchange) • Infrastructure development • Job creation • Infrastructure development • Business opportunity • Job creation • Increased income • Improved livelihoods • Enhanced natural resource protection	• Higher crime rates • Increase in prostitution • Increase of communicable diseases • Loss of cultural values/identity due to intermarriages • Poaching • Deforestation • Poor sanitation • Bureaucracy in setting up tourist sites

¹⁷ PES discussions focused primarily on water ecosystem services.



05.

Potential expansion of community forest management groups in the North Western Province



Given that CF is recognized as one of the most effective strategies for protecting forests and watersheds, restoring forest landscapes, and supporting local livelihoods, the assessment also aimed to identify the potential for CF expansion in North Western Province. This analysis was conducted through consultations with relevant stakeholders, alongside a geospatial analysis based on remote sensing data. The priority areas for CF expansion — identified through both the geospatial analysis and consultations — are presented in a map for each district.

Consultation workshops

During consultations with provincial and district government institutions (see Section 4.6), discussions were facilitated using large A0-size maps displaying existing land cover. Several criteria were identified as important for the potential establishment of new CF areas, including:

Stakeholder interest

Interest of local stakeholders, particularly local communities, traditional chiefs, and the Forestry Department.

Recognition of rights linked to good management

Areas of forest well-managed by communities but not yet officially involved in CF.

Absence of other claims

Available forest areas without other land-use claims (concessions, GMAs, reserves, or other CFMGs), free from encroachment and located near village(s).

Restoration potential

Areas of degraded forest, grasslands, shrublands, and barren land with forest restoration potential.

Absence of chiefdom conflict

Areas without conflicts between or within chiefdom boundaries.

Watershed protection

Watershed areas with potential for water-related environmental service payments.

Areas of reasonable size

Areas large enough to yield significant benefits but within manageable capacity.

Biodiversity conservation

Areas with significant biodiversity where communities could contribute to conservation and potentially develop ecotourism.

Opportunity to reduce deforestation

Areas with high tree cover loss where community management could mitigate deforestation.

Geospatial analysis

A geospatial analysis was conducted using maps of vegetation types, tree cover change, forest restoration suitability, potential for ecosystem service provision, and watersheds. The analysis faced limitations due to both data availability (e.g. maps for some existing CFMG areas, mining/timber concessions, chiefdoms, hydroelectric dams, and village locations) and data accuracy (some map layers are

global, reducing precision at local levels, particularly for restoration suitability and ecosystem services). Despite these limitations, the geospatial analysis provides a basis for discussion and decision-making within the districts, which can be integrated with other socio-economic and administrative information. Box 1 details the map layers used in the geospatial analysis.

// BOX 2 //

Map layers used in the geospatial analysis

VEGETATION TYPES

Potential Natural Vegetation (PNV) is defined as "vegetation that would persist under current conditions without human intervention." It serves as a baseline or null model to assess the vegetation that could naturally occur in a landscape under existing climate and soil conditions, including those altered by human activityⁱ.

TREE COVER LOSS (2000–2023)

The Global Forest Change (GFC) dataset provides global data on forest extent and change from 2000 to 2023, derived from time-series analysis of Landsat images with a spatial resolution of 30 m. For this assessment, district-level tree cover loss maps were generated using the SEPAL platformⁱⁱ.

FOREST RESTORATION SUITABILITY

This suitability map was produced using the SEPAL platform, analyzing ecological data on forest restoration along with information on restoration benefits, costs, and risks. Locations where benefits are high relative to costs and risks indicate areas where restoration is likely to succeed sustainably. Note that large grid squares appear due to input data's spatial limitations, which could be resolved with high-resolution local data, if availableⁱⁱⁱ.

RELATIVE TOTAL POTENTIAL ECOSYSTEM SERVICES PROVISION

The total potential services include water, carbon, nature-based tourism, hazard mitigation, timber (commercial and domestic), fuelwood, grazing, wildlife, non-wood forest products, wildlife disservices, aquatic fisheries (commercial and artisanal), and environmental quality^{iv}.

WATERSHEDS

The headwaters of the Zambezi River are located in two watersheds: the Upper Zambezi, which drains from Angola, and the Kabompo, largely in Zambia's North Western Province. A section of the Kafue River and its tributaries are also located in North Western Province. The Kafue River basin, one of the largest in Zambia, flows into the Zambezi River^v.

Notes:

ⁱ More information can be found at: <https://vegetationmap4africa.org/>

ⁱⁱ More information can be found at: <https://sepal.io/>

ⁱⁱⁱ More information can be found at: <https://www.science.org/doi/10.1126/science.aax0848>

^{iv} More information can be found at: <https://www.policysupport.org/costingnature>

^v More information can be found at: <https://www.hydrosheds.org/page/hydrobasins>

5.1

Ikelenge District

5.1.1

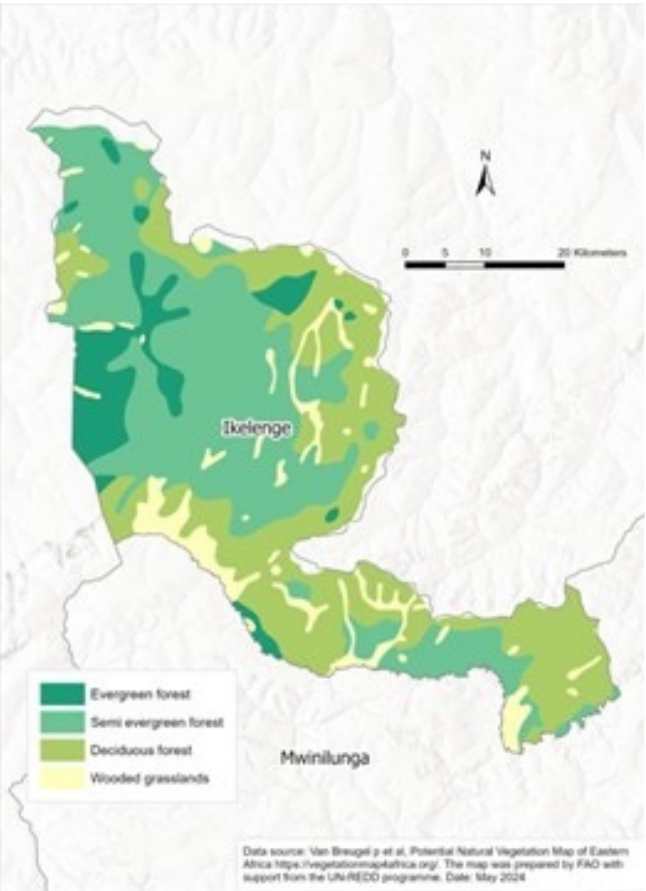
Forests and Community Forest Management Groups in Ikelenge District

Ikelenge District, located at the northern tip of North Western Province, covers an area of 2 219 km² and has a population of 44 775, with a density of 20.2 people per km² (Zambia Statistics Agency, 2022). The district includes the Kalene Hills, the source of the Zambezi River, and the Zengamina Mini Hydro Power Plant.

Semi-evergreen forest dominates the district’s central area, with large expanses of deciduous forest and smaller patches of evergreen forest, mostly in the northeast. There are eight CFMGs in the district, each at different stages of development.

// FIGURE 6 //

Vegetation types in Ikelenge District

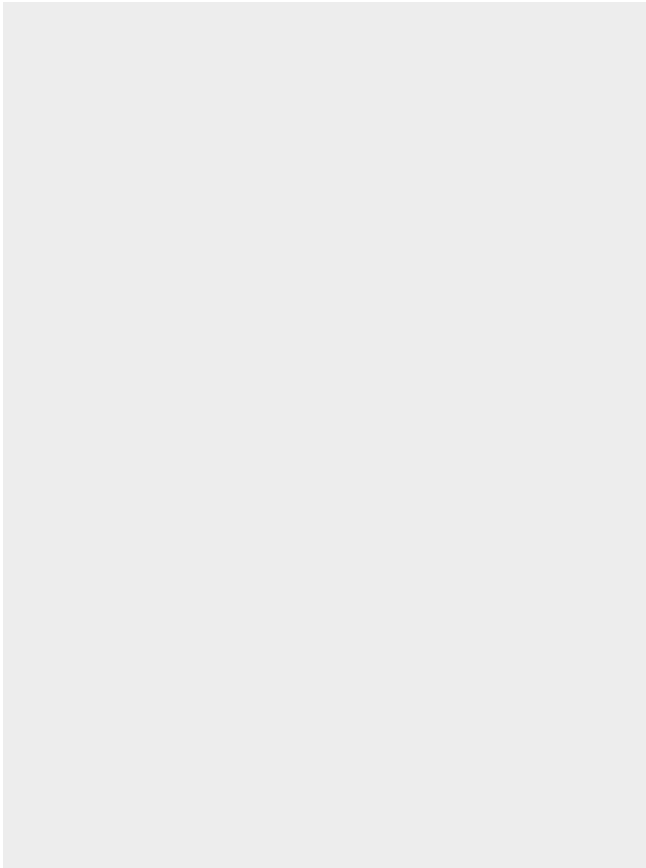


Source: Van Breugel et al. Potential Natural Vegetation Map of Eastern Africa. Map prepared by FAO with support from the UN-REDD programme. Date: May 2024.

Notes: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map. CFMG spatial data was not available at the time of writing.

// FIGURE 7 //

Community forestry management groups in Ikelenge district



Notes: At the time of writing, CFMG data for Ikelenge district was not available.

Ikelenge District has experienced extensive tree cover loss since its designation as a new district in 2011. The growth of concrete block-making businesses has worsened this issue, as builders rely on raw materials sourced from local forests to meet the demand for construction materials for residential and business purposes. Consequently, illegal logging has intensified to fulfill this demand.

The District Forestry Office has limited capacity to support community forestry in Ikelenge. There is neither a district plan

nor budget allocation for CF, and only two staff members are available to support CF activities. One of the main challenges for CF development in Ikelenge is the high demand for charcoal and its increasing production. Many community members are involved in this value chain as producers, sellers, and consumers. In recent years, Biocarbon Partners (BCP) initiated seven forest carbon projects in Ikelenge District. However, BCP has recently reduced its support for CF development in Ikelenge.

// TABLE 15 //

Land cover and land use in Ikelenge District

TYPE	AREA (HA)
Total land area	220 116
Vegetation type	
Deciduous forest	77 420
Dry evergreen forest	n/a
Evergreen forest	20 229
Semi evergreen forest	95 280
Shrub thicket	n/a
Wooded grasslands	19 190
Land use	
Forest reserves	20 121
Game management areas	n/a
CFMGs	n/a
Concessions	n/a
Tree cover loss 2000–2023	11 253

Source: Authors' elaboration.

Efforts to raise community awareness and sensitize residents on the importance of forests have been initiated by the Forestry Department (FD) with support from Biocarbon Partners (BCP), resulting in some observable changes. These include signs of natural regeneration in certain areas, such as the Kelondu CFMG, and a decrease in the expansion of crop fields.

Several traditional chiefs in Ikelenge are actively involved in CF, including Chieftainess Ikelenge, Chief Nya Kaseya, Sub-Chief Mwinilombe, Chief Kanongesha, and Sub-Chief Mukangala.

5.1.2

Expansion of CF in Ikelenge District

In Ikelenge District, community forestry initiatives have been established in many areas in collaboration with carbon developers, leaving relatively limited space for potential CF expansion.

Nevertheless, stakeholders consulted identified several areas where CF could potentially be expanded in the future, including Jimbe Central, Kudikwata, Nyakaseya Central, Kafweka, Kaswaswa, Kasenga (Ikanka area), and Kanyikamba (see Figure 7). Kasenga, in particular, was noted as an area of interest to Stanbic Bank, the National Heritage Conservation Commission, and WWF, who plan to support forest restoration activities in this area due to its importance as a catchment for the source of the Zambezi River. Additionally, this area is part of the focus area for the World Bank-funded Green Resilient and Transformational Tourism Development Project (GREAT-TDP), which emphasizes nature-based solutions.

The geospatial analysis identified priority areas for forest conservation, restoration, and ecosystem service protection, as indicated in Figure 8–11:

Tree cover loss (2000–2023) (red) (Figure 9) appears throughout the district, with hot spots forming a belt across the district's middle. In some cases, these hot spots overlap with potential restoration sites. Understanding and addressing the drivers of tree cover loss in these areas will be crucial before commencing restoration activities.

Areas of high potential ecosystem services (green) (Figure 10) are located in the lower eastern tail of the district (near the West Lunga River), in the central western area, and at the northern tip. The central western part of the district overlaps with evergreen forest.

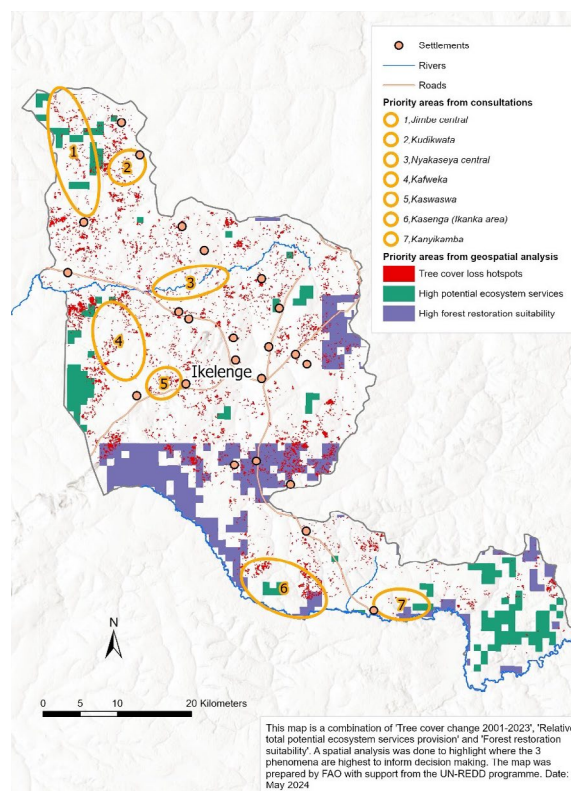
Forests with high restoration potential (purple) (Figure 11) are primarily situated in the middle of the district, with another sizeable patch in the upper eastern side. These areas are dominated by dry deciduous forests and wooded grasslands.



// FIGURE 8 //

Potential expansion of CF in Ikelenge district

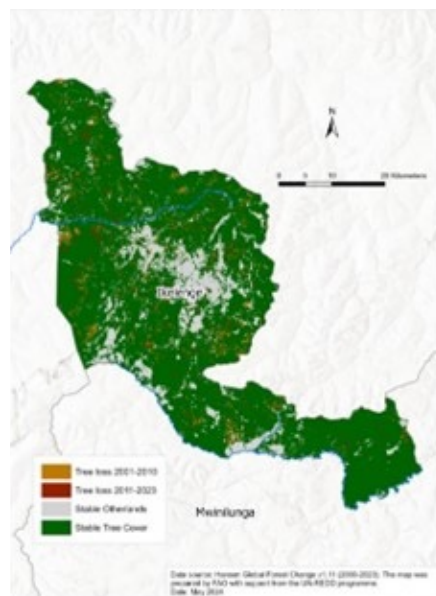
Source: FAO, 2024. Spatial analysis based on Tree cover change 2001–2023, Relative total potential ecosystem service provision and Forest restoration suitability. Prepared with support from the UN-REDD programme. Date: May 2024.



Note: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

// FIGURE 9 //

Tree change in Ikelenge District (2000–2023)

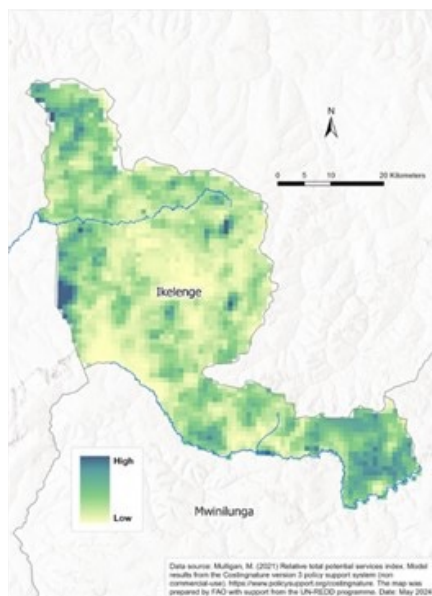


Source: Hansen Global Forest Change v1.11 (2000–2020). Map prepared by FAO with support from the UN-REDD programme. Date: May 2024.

Note: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

// FIGURE 10 //

Relative ecosystem services potential in Ikelenge District

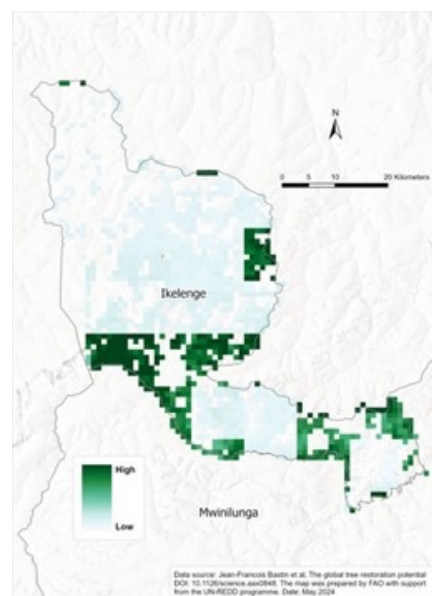


Source: Mulligan, M. (2021). Relative total potential services index, based on model outputs from Co\$tingNature v3. Map prepared by FAO with support from the UN-REDD programme. Date: May 2024.

Note: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

// FIGURE 11 //

Forest restoration suitability in Ikelenge District



Source: Bastin, J-F. et al. The global tree restoration potential. DOI: 10.1126/science.aax0848. Map prepared by FAO with support from the UN-REDD programme. Date: May 2024.

Note: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

5.2

Kabompo District

5.2.1

Forests and Community Forest Management Groups in Kabompo District

Kabompo District covers an area of 7 199 km² and has a population of 65 760, with a density of 9.1 people per km² (Zambia Statistics Agency, 2022). At the time of the field research, Kabompo District had three Community Forest Management Groups (CFMGs): Luli, Chifuwe South, and Kabulamema (see Figure 13). However,

the Forestry Department (FD) later reported that the Luli CFMG initiative had been discontinued in 2024. The district’s vegetation is dominated by deciduous forest in the south and dry evergreen forest and wooded grasslands in the north (see Figure 11).

// FIGURE 12 //

Vegetation types in Kabompo District

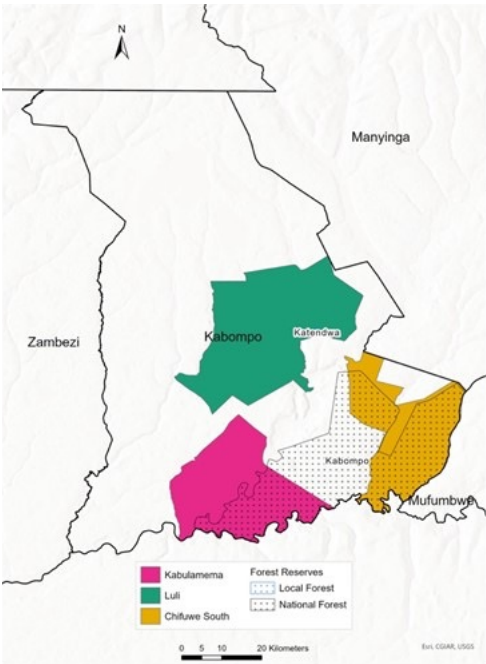


Source: Van Breugel et al. Potential Natural Vegetation Map of Eastern Africa. Map prepared by FAO with support from the UN-REDD programme. Date: May 2024.
Note: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

Communities in Kabompo District rely heavily on honey production, particularly around Chifuwe South, Kabulamema, Mabebe, Kayombo, and Chikolonga. The district also contains important water resources, such as the Kabompo River, and significant wetland areas, including Kayombo, Kamwezhi, and Katuba.

// FIGURE 13 //

CFMGs in Kabompo District for which spatial data is available



Source: Authors’ elaboration based on available CFMG spatial data. Map prepared by FAO with support from the UN-REDD programme. Date: May 2024.
Note: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

Significant changes in the forest landscape have occurred in Kabompo District due to agricultural activities within and around community forest areas. These activities have led to forest degradation, marked by rapid tree cover loss. Forest reserves have also been adversely affected, with unsustainable caterpillar harvesting, late burning practices, and illegal logging contributing to this degradation.

Of particular concern is the situation around Chifuwe South CFMG, where years of tree cover loss have severely depleted forest resources. Timber harvesting is actively taking place in Kabulamema, Mabebe, Mumbezhi, Mulembu, Mufuliwanjamba, and Biyeke. Currently, rosewood trees are being felled extensively due to illegal logging, posing an imminent risk of rosewood extinction in the district.

Other valuable species, such as Mukwa and Mupapa, are now also being targeted.

In addition to agriculture and unsustainable logging, Kabompo District's forests are threatened by mining activities, particularly in the Kamwezhi area.

// TABLE 16 //

Land cover and land use in Kabompo District

TYPE	AREA (HA)
Total land area	712 313
Vegetation type	
Deciduous forest	405 177
Dry evergreen forest	146 481
Evergreen forest	n/a
Semi evergreen forest	61 284
Shrub thicket	20
Wooded grasslands	98 169
Land use	
Forest reserves	115 232
Game management areas	n/a
CFMGs	219 365
Concessions	n/a
Tree cover loss 2000–2023	35 512

Source: Authors' elaboration.

Support for CF in Kabompo District is provided by two forestry officers with a quarterly budget of Zambian Kwacha (K) 3 000 (USD 114). There is no external support from NGOs, but several

traditional chiefs — Senior Chief Sikufele, Chief Chiyengele, and Chief Kalunga — are supportive of CF efforts.



5.2.2

Expansion of CF in Kabompo District

The local population and other stakeholders in Kabompo District have expressed interest in expanding community forestry, primarily as a strategy to address illegal activities and protect and restore forests, especially given the limited resources of the Forestry Department. Areas identified for potential expansion include Kayombo (under Chief Chiyengele), which faces significant illegal logging, as well as Chikonkwelo, Mbulundu, and Chikenge, all of which have high potential for forest restoration (see Figure 14).

Each of these areas has been highlighted either due to ongoing illegal logging activities or their suitability for increased forest protection and restoration. However, it was noted that some of these areas overlap with potential plans for a legal cannabis cultivation scheme overseen by the Zambia National Service.

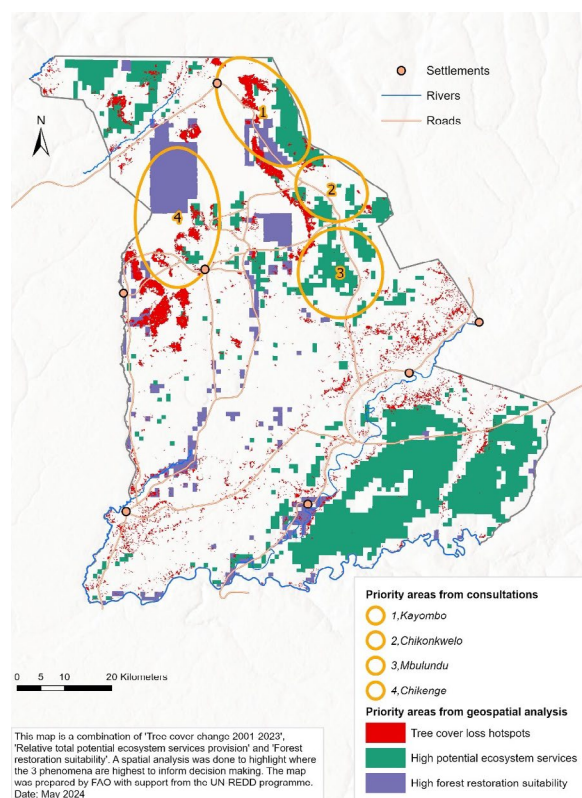
According to the geospatial analysis (see Figure 15–17):

- **Tree cover loss** is mainly occurring in the northern half of the district, with smaller-scale loss observed in a belt across the southern part of the district (Figure 15).
- **High potential for protecting ecosystem services** lies in the southeast of the district (deciduous forest), with additional smaller areas in the north and northeast (a mix of dry evergreen and deciduous forest). The southeastern areas coincide with existing CFMGs and national forest, so efforts could be focused on raising awareness about the importance of these ecosystem services, strategies to protect them, and potential PES (Payment for Ecosystem Services) opportunities for CFMGs (Figure 16).
- **Greatest potential for forest restoration** lies in the north of the district, with smaller patches in the south. Some areas in the south may overlap with Kabulamema CFMG and could be explored for community-led restoration activities (Figure 17).

// FIGURE 14 //

Potential expansion of CF in Kabompo district

Source: Tree cover change 2001–2023; Relative total potential ecosystem services provision; Forest restoration suitability. Map prepared by FAO with support from the UN-REDD programme. Date: May 2024.



Note: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

// FIGURE 15 //

Tree change in Kabompo District (2000–2023)

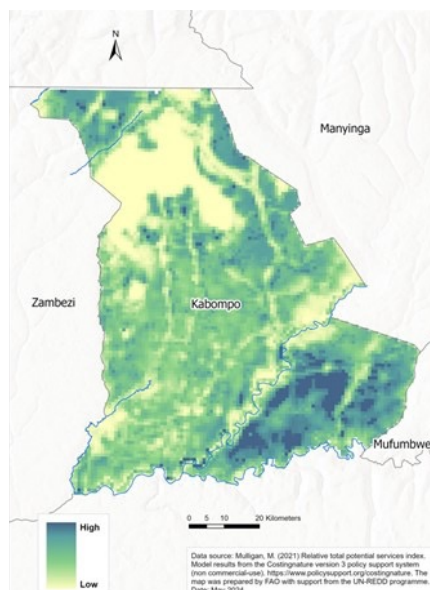


Source: Hansen Global Forest Change v1.11 (2000–2023). Map prepared by FAO with support from the UN-REDD programme. Date: May 2024.

Note: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

// FIGURE 16 //

Relative ecosystem services potential in Kabompo District

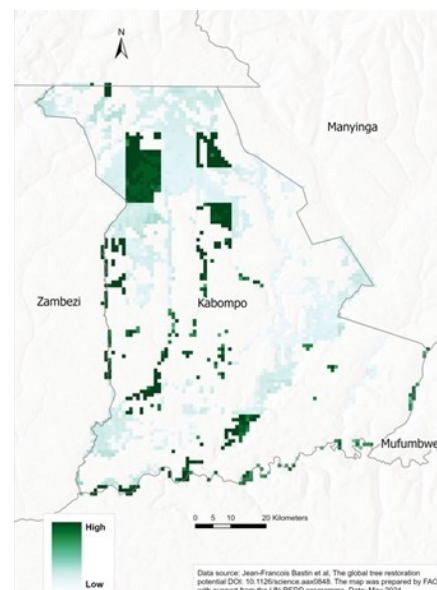


Source: Mulligan, M. (2021). Relative total potential services index, based on model outputs from Co\$tingNature v3. Map prepared by FAO with support from the UN-REDD programme. Date: May 2024.

Note: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

// FIGURE 17 //

Forest restoration suitability in Kabompo District



Source: Bastin, J-F. et al. The global tree restoration potential. DOI: 10.1126/science.aaa0848. Map prepared by FAO with support from the UN-REDD programme. Date: May 2024.

Note: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

5.3

Kalumbila District

5.3.1

Forests and Community Forest Management Groups in Kalumbila District

Kalumbila was declared a district in 2015, named after a copper mine of the same name. The district covers an area of 16 456 km², with a population density of approximately 10.8 people per km². The district's elevation ranges from 1 000 to 1 564 meters above sea level (Kalumbila Integrated Development Plan, 2022). The population has been growing rapidly, at an estimated rate of 4 percent, and was most recently recorded at 177 067 people by the Zambia Statistics

Agency (ZSA, 2022). Thirteen Community Forest Management Groups (CFMGs) have been established, with stakeholder partners including the Barrick Gold Corporation, The Nature Conservancy, and the West Lunga Conservation Project. The district's forest cover is primarily composed of semi-evergreen miombo woodlands (see Figure 18).

// FIGURE 18 //

Vegetation types in Kalumbila District



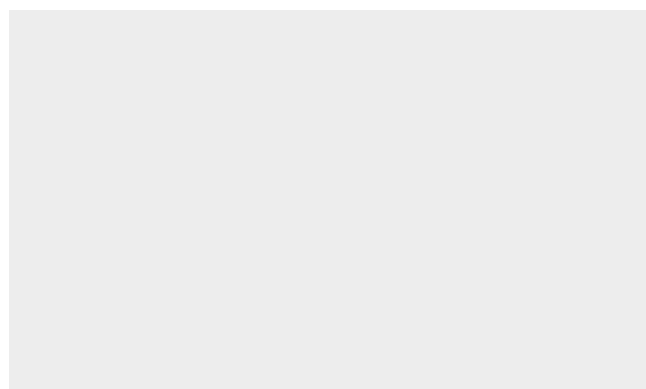
Source: Van Breugel et al. Potential Natural Vegetation Map of Eastern Africa. Map prepared by FAO with support from the UN-REDD programme. Date: May 2024.

Notes: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map. CFMG spatial data was not available at the time of writing.

In Kalumbila District, the forest remains largely intact despite ongoing human activities that threaten it, including agriculture, mining, and infrastructure development. Alongside Barrick Gold Corporation¹⁸, FQM Trident Limited is another mining company active in the district, with an investment of nearly USD 2 billion.¹⁹

// FIGURE 19 //

Community forestry management groups in Kalumbila District



Notes: At the time of writing, CFMG data for Kalumbila district was not available.

Tree cover loss due to timber production is concentrated in Ngazhi, Lunjhi, and the lower Mumbezhi areas. The Kasombo region has experienced significant changes in the forest landscape, primarily due to encroachment from nearby farms. Near the Jimakamu CFMG — which includes the areas of Kanyinya, Jilendula, Mujanji,

¹⁸ For more information see Reuters, October 2023: <https://www.reuters.com/markets/commodities/barrick-gold-invest-nearly-2-bln-zambia-mine-raise-copper-output-2023-10-04/>

¹⁹ For more information see Sandvik/International Mining: <https://im-mining.com/2022/02/21/first-quantum-owned-kalumbila-minerals-changes-name-to-fqm-trident-to-better-reflect-three-licence-identity/>

and Mankanda — the forest cover remains largely intact, according to district stakeholders. Honey production is a common livelihood activity in areas such as Mumena, Chovwe, Mukumbi, and Chief Matebo's area.

The district forestry office in Kalumbila has limited capacity, with only two officers assigned to support CF. There is no specific budget allocation for community forestry support.

// TABLE 17 //

Land cover and land use in Kalumbila District

TYPE	AREA (HA)
Total land area	1 642 756
Vegetation type	
Deciduous forest	54 802
Dry evergreen forest	38 150
Evergreen forest	33 938
Semi evergreen forest	1 204 906
Shrub thicket	26 427
Wooded grasslands	283 933
Land use	
Forest reserves	392 099
Game management areas	316 326
CFMGs	n/a
Concessions	n/a
Tree cover loss 2000–2023	53 238

Source: Authors' elaboration.

5.3.2

Expansion of Community Forestry in Kalumbila District

Workshop participants identified the following areas for potential CF expansion:

- Kainya area under Chief Kainya, a vast forest area
- Kasombo area under Chief Matebo
- Shilenda area, also under Chief Matebo, where charcoal production could be addressed
- Luuma area
- Katumba area

Each of these areas was selected due to its accessibility and potential for carbon benefits through reduced deforestation, particularly with possible partnership support from Barrick Lumwana Mine. Another key factor is the availability of large forest areas in need of

protection. Additionally, participants highlighted specific areas of degradation along the Kasempa and Mwinilunga roads.

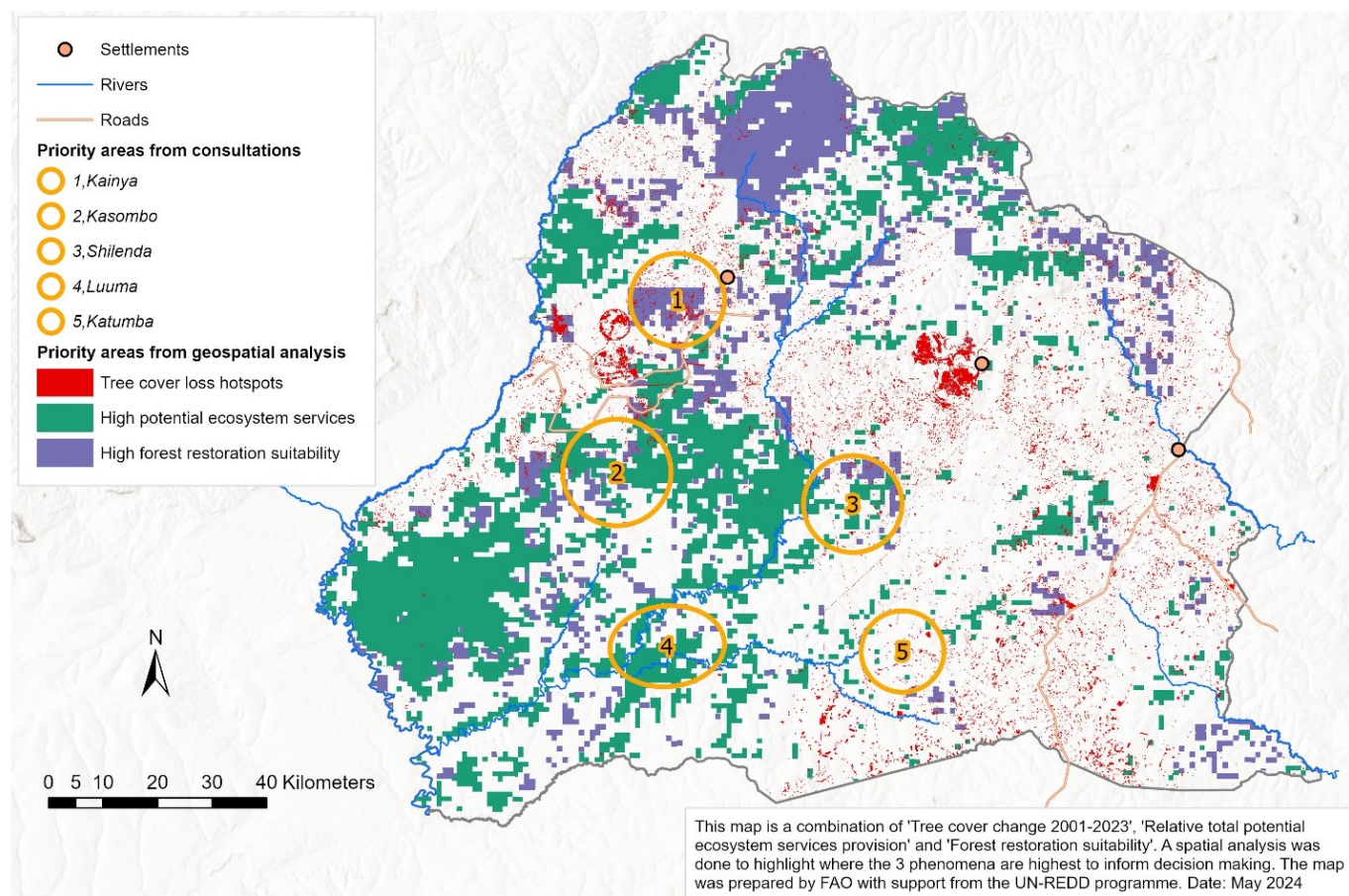
The results of the geospatial analysis indicate:

- The highest tree cover loss in the district is centred around Kalumbila town in the upper central part of the district (see Figure 21).
- Areas with high potential ecosystem services are primarily located in the northern and western parts of Kalumbila District, covered by semi-evergreen forest and smaller patches of dry evergreen forest and wooded grasslands (see Figure 22).
- Areas with restoration potential are concentrated in the northern part of the district in regions with wooded grasslands (see Figure 23).



// FIGURE 20 //

Potential expansion of CF in Kalumbila district



Source: Tree cover change 2001–2023; Relative total potential ecosystem services provision; Forest restoration suitability. Map prepared by FAO with support from the UN-REDD programme. Date: May 2024.

Notes: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

// FIGURE 21 //

Tree cover loss in Kalumbila District (2000–2023)

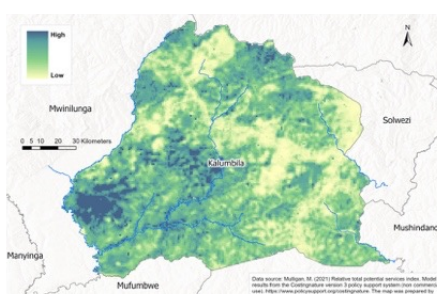


Source: Hansen Global Forest Change v1.11 (2000–2023). Map prepared by FAO with support from the UN-REDD programme. Date: May 2024.

Notes: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

// FIGURE 22 //

Relative potential ecosystems services in Kalumbila District

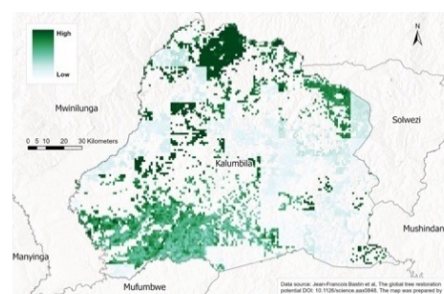


Source: Mulligan, M. (2021). Relative total potential services index, based on model outputs from Co\$tingNature v3. Map prepared by FAO with support from the UN-REDD programme. Date: May 2024.

Notes: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

// FIGURE 23 //

Forest Restoration suitability in Kalumbila District



Source: Bastin, J-F. et al. The global tree restoration potential. DOI: 10.1126/science.aax0848. Map prepared by FAO with support from the UN-REDD programme. Date: May 2024.

Notes: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

5.4

Manyinga District

5.4.1

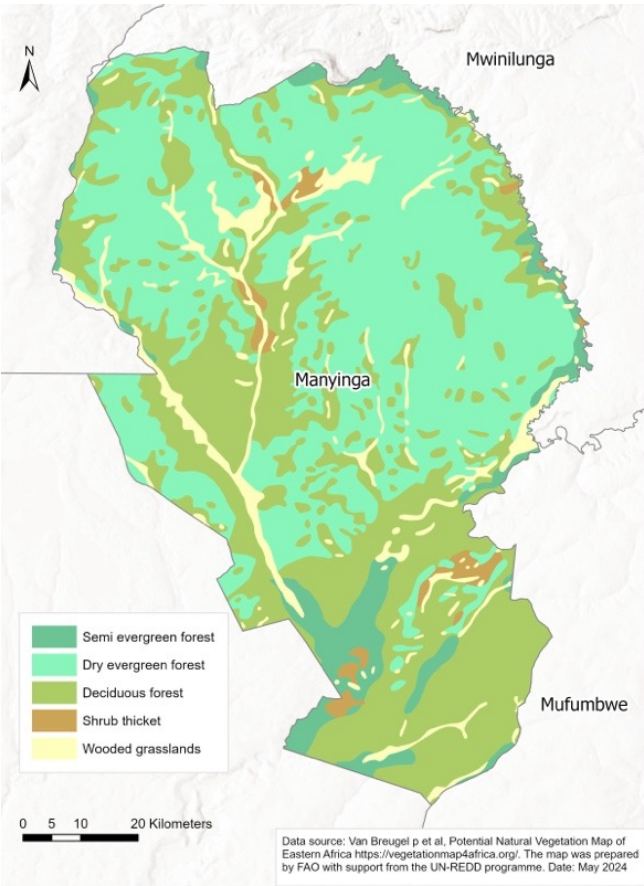
Forests and Community Forest Management Groups in Manyinga District

Manyinga was established as an independent district in 2012 and covers an area of 7 480 km². The district has experienced rapid population growth, reaching 75 030 people (Zambia Statistics Agency, 2022), with a current density of approximately 10 people per square kilometer. Manyinga District contains extensive areas of dry evergreen and deciduous forest (see Figure 22). There are

seven Community Forest Management Groups (CFMGs) in the district (see Figure 23), supported by partners such as the West Lunga Conservation Project, Kabompo Community Carbon, World Vision, and the Save Environment and People Agency (SEPA). Senior Chief Sikufele and Chief Chiyengele also play a role in guiding CF development in the district.

// FIGURE 24 //

Vegetation types in Manyinga District

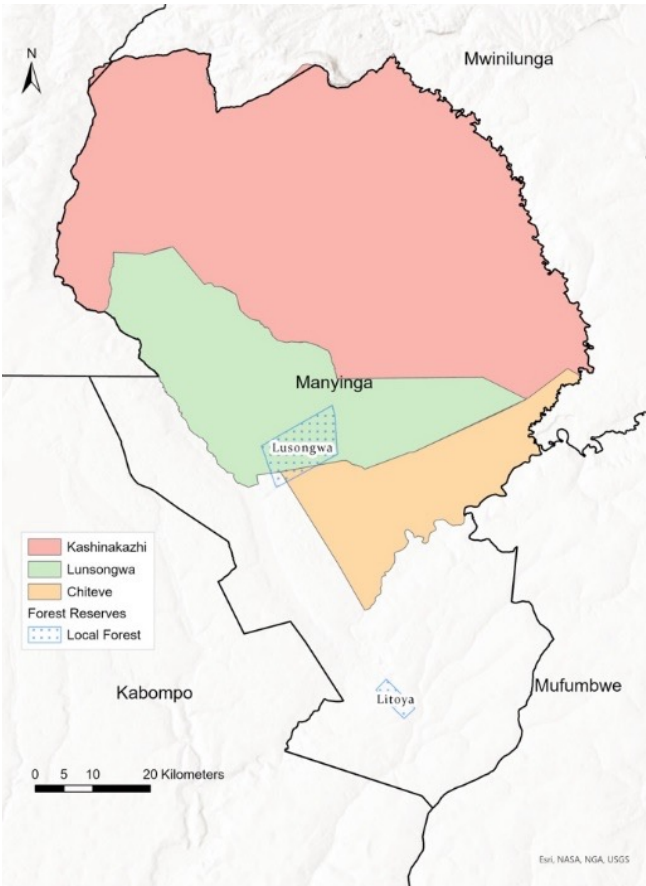


Source: Van Breugel et al. Potential Natural Vegetation Map of Eastern Africa. Map prepared by FAO with support from the UN-REDD programme. Date: May 2024.

Notes: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

// FIGURE 25 //

CFMGs in Manyinga District



Source: Authors' elaboration based on available CFMG spatial data and official administrative boundaries. Map prepared by FAO with support from the UN-REDD programme. Date: May 2024.

Notes: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

Manyinga District contains numerous wetland areas, including Luansongwa, around Manyinga Stream, in Lwamzhiya, and around the Chongo Stream. These wetlands provide essential ecosystem services and support important biodiversity.

In Manyinga District, selective felling of specific high-value timber species, such as rosewood, has caused a decline in tree populations and led to forest degradation. Rosewood is highly combustible, so leaving branches behind after cutting can amplify wildfires and hinder regeneration. Timber production occurs in areas such as Kashinakazhi (Lwamazhiya, Kambamba, Luansongwa, Mwabaloba, Chibeba) and Chiteve (Chitampaloba and Mukundwizhi). In some cases, logs are being sold directly, while in other locations, sawmills

process sawn lumber. The Luansongwa area has been particularly affected. Tree felling for caterpillar harvesting and late-season burning are additional challenges. Honey production takes place in Kamyezhi, Ndunga, Luansongwa, and Kambuluma.

The district Forestry Department (FD) has two staff members assigned to support CF, and they engage in forest patrols, extension services, afforestation, and revenue generation. Occasionally, they conduct field visits to verify information in CF applications (e.g., Kashinakazhi CFMG). An annual budget of Zambian Kwacha (K) 3 000 (USD 113) has been allocated for forest extension services. The district forestry officers have expressed interest in additional capacity development, particularly in GIS skills.

// TABLE 18 //

Land cover and land use in Manyinga District

TYPE	AREA (HA)
Total land area	741 283
Vegetation type	
Deciduous forest	279 255
Dry evergreen forest	348 915
Evergreen forest	n/a
Semi evergreen forest	46 763
Shrub thicket	13 279
Wooded grasslands	52 194
Land use	
Forest reserves	11 711
Game management areas	348 047
CFMGs	531 896
Concessions	n/a
Tree cover loss 2000–2023	21 283

Source: Authors' elaboration.



© FAO/Wesley Wakunuma

5.4.2

Expansion of Community Forestry in Manyinga District

Participants in the Manyinga District Workshop noted that local residents have expressed interest in expanding CF. Several areas identified for CF expansion include (see Figure 26):

- The Ndunga area under Chief Chiyengele, extending from Mbambo to Ndunga, which has good forest cover and honey production areas.
- The Kandala area (Chongo Ward) under Headman Kazaka.

Both areas have extensive forest cover and potential for restoration. The Ndunga area under Dilamba ward was also suggested for future CF expansion, along with restoration needs in the Luansongwa and Litoya forest reserves.

The results of the geospatial analysis (see Figure 26–29) indicate:

- Tree cover loss is concentrated in the southern end of Manyinga District, an area of dry evergreen forests with few or no CFMGs (based on available CFMG data at the time of assessment). This

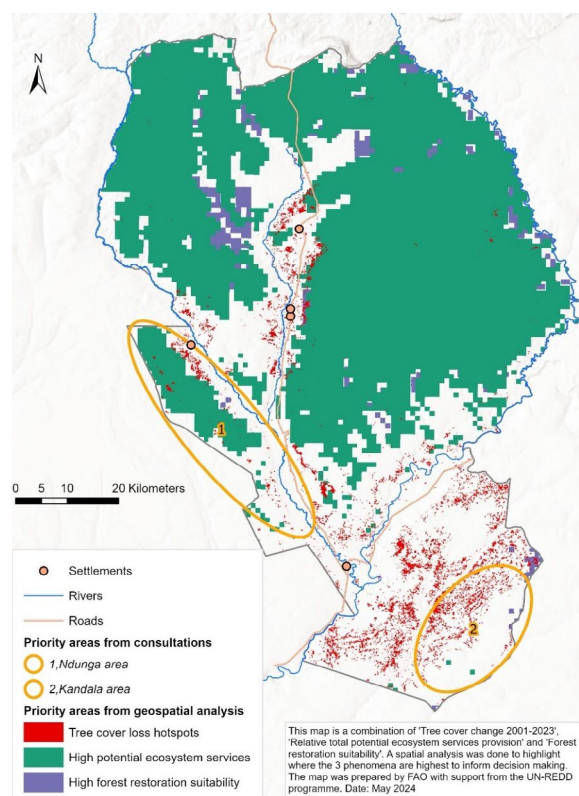
area may hold potential for initiating or strengthening CFMGs to prevent further tree cover loss in this important watershed. PES (Payment for Ecosystem Services) could offer an opportunity to incentivize forest protection efforts (Figure 27).

- Tree cover loss is also observed around the Nyela River, with encroachment into the forested northern part of the district. In these areas, the FD, in partnership with existing CFMGs, could focus their enforcement efforts to help mitigate this trend (Figure 27).
- There is high potential for ecosystem services in the upper half of the district, which largely aligns with extensive areas of dry evergreen forest and existing CFMG sites (Figure 28).
- The analysis shows potential for forest restoration in small patches along forest edges near the Nyela River and along the border with Mwinilunga. Remote sensing analysis suggests that areas directly adjacent to the river are swampy and may not be suitable for tree planting (Figure 29).

// FIGURE 26 //

Potential expansion of CF in Manyinga district

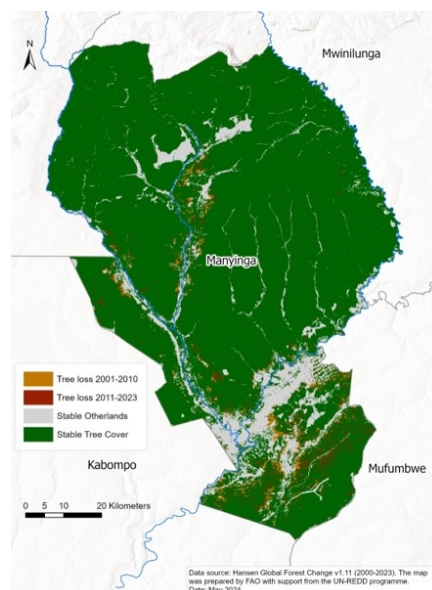
Source: Tree cover change 2001–2023; Relative total potential ecosystem services provision; Forest restoration suitability. Map prepared by FAO with support from the UN-REDD programme. Date: May 2024.



Note: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

// FIGURE 27 //

Tree change in Manyinga District (2000–2023)

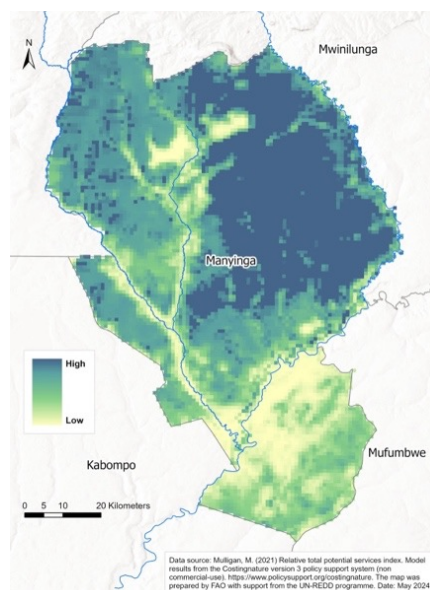


Source: Hansen Global Forest Change v1.11 (2000–2023). Map prepared by FAO with support from the UN-REDD programme. Date: May 2024.

Notes: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

// FIGURE 28 //

Relative ecosystem services potential in Manyinga District

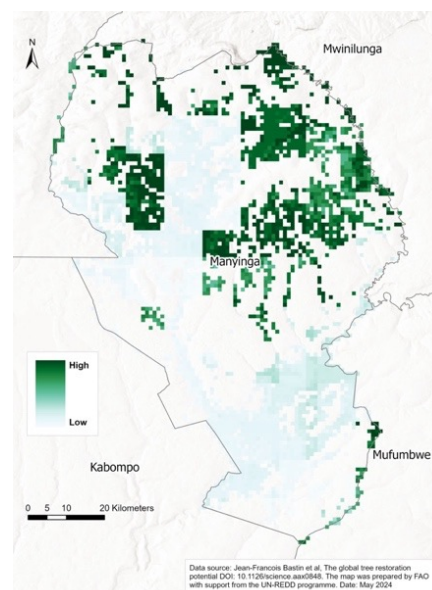


Source: Mulligan, M. (2021). Relative total potential services index, based on model outputs from Co\$tingNature v3. Map prepared by FAO with support from the UN-REDD programme. Date: May 2024.

Notes: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

// FIGURE 29 //

Forest restoration suitability in Manyinga District



Source: Bastin, J-F. et al. The global tree restoration potential. DOI: 10.1126/science.aax0848. Map prepared by FAO with support from the UN-REDD programme. Date: May 2024.

Notes: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

5.5

Mwinilunga District

5.5.1

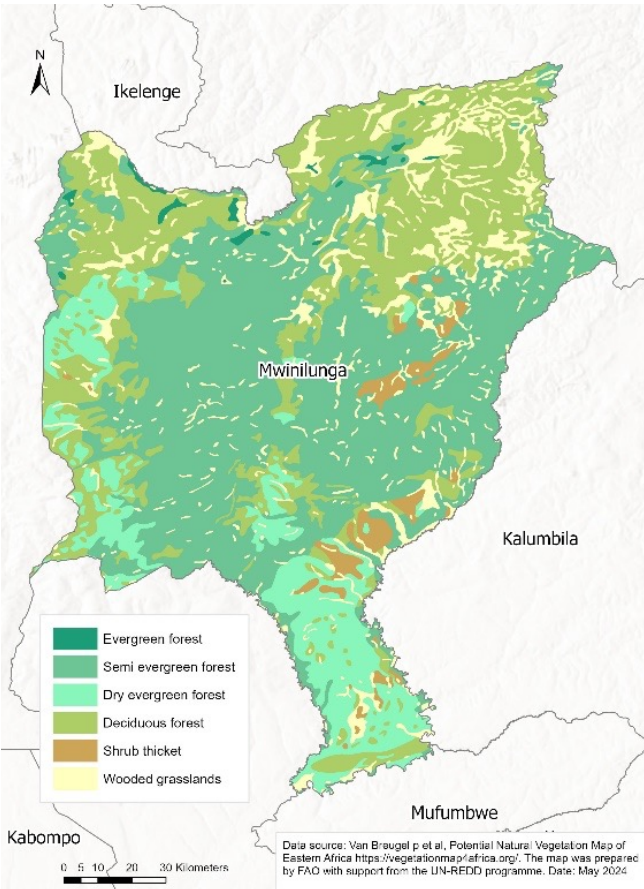
Forests and Community Forest Management Groups in Mwinilunga District

Mwinilunga District is one of the fastest-growing districts in terms of population, driven by expanded mining investments that are attracting an influx of people. The district covers 18 941 km² and has an estimated population of 136 770, with a density of 7.3 people per km² (Zambia Statistics Agency, 2022). Extensive areas

of semi-evergreen, dry evergreen, and deciduous forest types are found throughout the district (see Figure 30). Approximately 44 Community Forest Management Groups (CFMGs) have been established in Mwinilunga District (see Figure 31).

// FIGURE 30 //

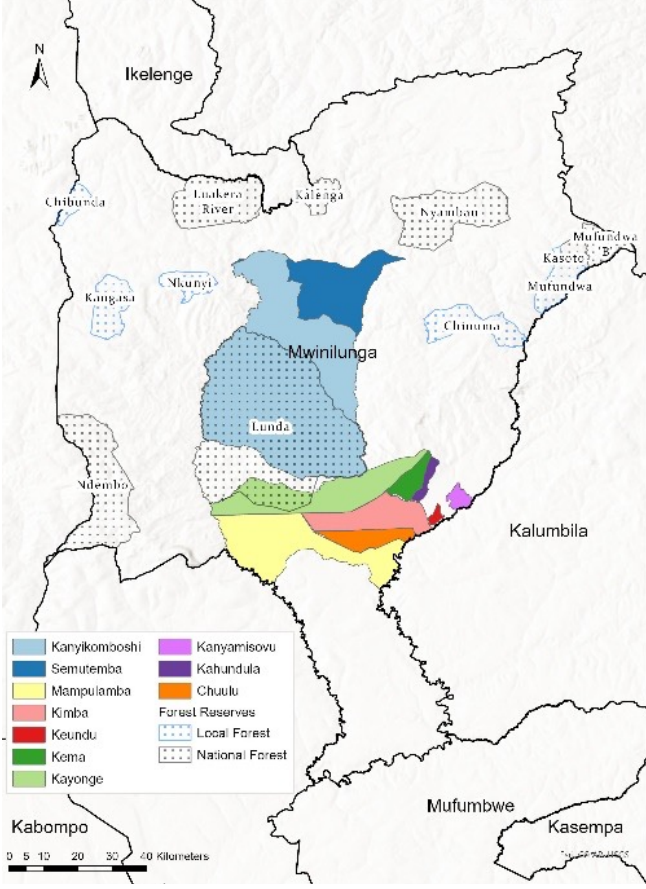
Vegetation types in Mwinilunga District



Source: Van Breugel et al. Potential Natural Vegetation Map of Eastern Africa. Map prepared by FAO with support from the UN-REDD programme. Date: May 2024.
Notes: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

// FIGURE 31 //

CFMGs in Mwinilunga District for which spatial data is available



Source: Authors' elaboration based on available CFMG spatial data and official administrative boundaries. Map prepared by FAO with support from the UN-REDD programme. Date: May 2024.
Notes: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

In Mwinilunga District, forested areas typically feature dense vegetation, although some forests are impacted by mining exploration activities. Chief Ntambu's chiefdom contains particularly lush and abundant forests, largely due to the efforts of CFMGs to reduce destructive practices such as late-season fires.

Mwinilunga is dominated by mavunda-type miombo woodlands. In some areas, such as those under Chiefs Sailunga, Kakoma, and Chibwika, forests are well protected; however, other areas have been negatively affected by agricultural encroachment, settlements, and mining activities. There are 20 CFMGs in the district, supported by various partners (12 with the West Lunga Conservation Project (WLCP) and 5 with Kabompo Community Carbon (KCC)). World

Vision is also considering support for carbon project development with local communities. In addition to CF areas, the district has eight forest reserves and five local forests. Key water sources include the Lunga and Kabompo rivers, Chibesha Lake, and Nyambwezi Falls. Honey collection is common across the district, especially in areas like Chibwika, Ntambu, Kanongesha, Sailunga, and Kanyama.

Within the district Forestry Office, four staff members (including one woman) are assigned to support community forestry, although no specific budget has been allocated. Nevertheless, these staff members engage in forest patrols, extension work, nursery management, and plantation management

// TABLE 19 //

Land cover and land use in Mwinilunga District

TYPE	AREA (HA)
Total land area	1 871 650
Vegetation type	
Deciduous forest	519 403
Dry evergreen forest	219 686
Evergreen forest	11 966
Semi evergreen forest	863 115
Shrub thicket	48 207
Wooded grasslands	208 825
Land use	
Forest reserves	379 385
Game management areas	303 300
CFMGs	592 350
Concessions	n/a
Tree cover loss 2000–2023	43 864

Source: Authors' elaboration.

5.5.2

Expansion of Community Forestry in Mwinilunga District

Areas for potential expansion of community forestry in Mwinilunga District have been identified through stakeholder consultation and geospatial analysis.

Stakeholders identified specific areas (also shown in Figure 32) where community forestry could be expanded:

- **Kakhozi area**
- **Luakera National Forest** (also in the Kakhozi area), with potential for restoration activities
- **Chizhinga, Makasa, Kamanengu, and Chilembalemba**
- **Chief Kakoma's area**, which includes interspersed plains and forested areas
- **Kazozwa and Chisengisengi areas** under Chief Sailunga
- **Ntambu Sachitolo** under Chief Kanongesha, an area experiencing increasing agricultural activities and unsustainable caterpillar harvesting

The geospatial analysis (see Figure 32–35) indicates:

- The **highest tree cover loss** is scattered across the district, primarily near roads and settlements (Figure 33).

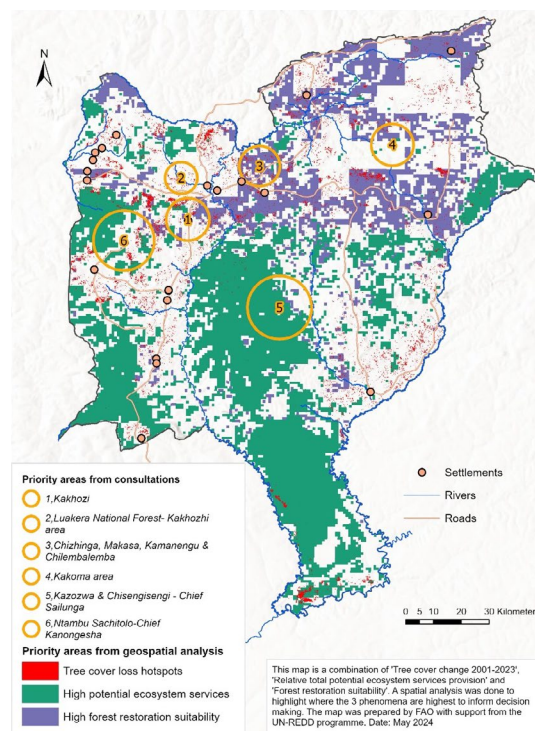
- Forests providing the **highest ecosystem services** (in green) are concentrated in the district's centre, with smaller scattered areas in the southeast and southwest. The central forest areas overlap with existing CFMGs, suggesting a need for community awareness and exploration of how CFMGs can be supported to conserve and sustainably manage these forests and their valuable ecosystem services. The potential for PES (Payment for Ecosystem Services) could be explored in these areas. Some other areas with high ecosystem service value in the southeast and southwest appear to overlap with forest reserves, presumably providing some level of protection. However, other high ecosystem service areas that are not within reserves or existing CFMGs could be considered for establishing new CFMGs (Figure 34).
- **Highest restoration potential** (shown in purple) is located in the district's northern part, where community-led restoration activities could be implemented (Figure 35).



// FIGURE 32 //

Potential expansion of CF in Mwinilunga district

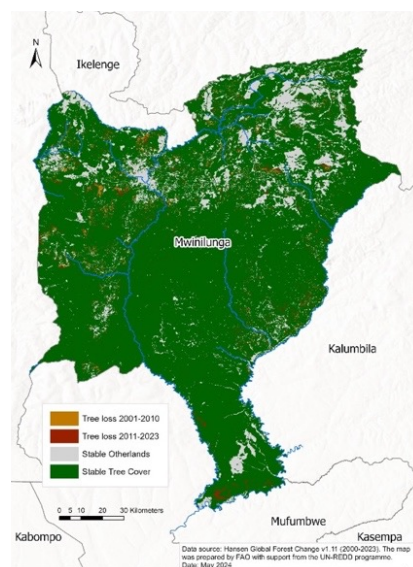
Source: Tree cover change 2001–2023; Relative total potential ecosystem services provision; Forest restoration suitability. Map prepared by FAO with support from the UN-REDD programme. Date: May 2024.



Note: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

// FIGURE 33 //

Tree change in Mwinilunga District (2000–2023)

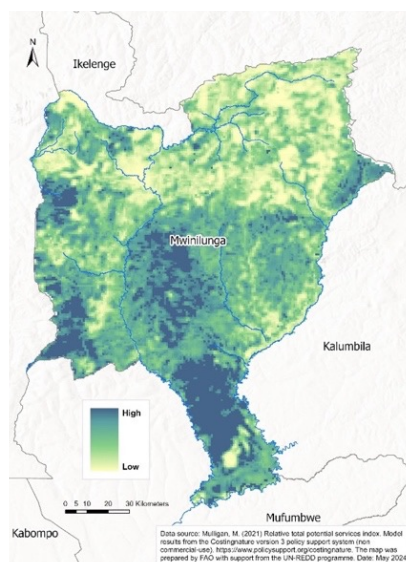


Source: Hansen Global Forest Change v1.11 (2000–2023). Map prepared by FAO with support from the UN-REDD programme. Date: May 2024.

Notes: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

// FIGURE 34 //

Relative ecosystem services potential in Mwinilunga District

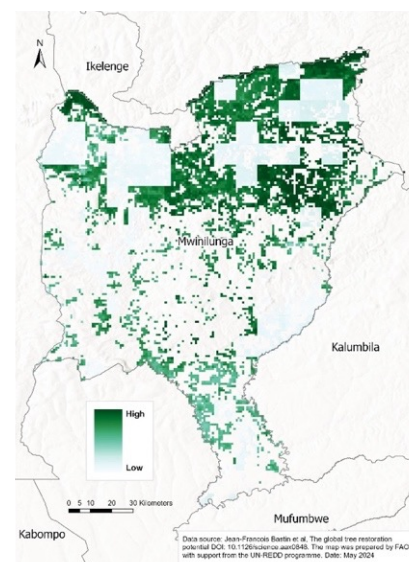


Source: Mulligan, M. (2021). Relative total potential services index, based on model outputs from Co\$tingNature v3. Map prepared by FAO with support from the UN-REDD programme. Date: May 2024.

Notes: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

// FIGURE 35 //

Forest restoration suitability in Mwinilunga District



Source: Bastin, J-F. et al. The global tree restoration potential. DOI: 10.1126/science.aax0848. Map prepared by FAO with support from the UN-REDD programme. Date: May 2024.

Notes: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

In all districts, the suggested areas for CF expansion result from remote sensing biophysical data and stakeholder recommendations, primarily from the Forestry Department (FD). Final decision-making will require consultation with the respective local communities to ensure alignment with community interests.

06.

Proposed roadmap of community forestry in North Western Province



This section summarizes key gaps according to each principle in the research framework and provides a set of recommendations to form a roadmap for the continued development of community forestry in North Western Province.

Governance and participation

Key gaps: limited community leadership in CF processes; insufficient access to data and knowledge for informed decision-making; lack of technical training tailored to community needs; unclear membership definitions and processes, with gender disparities

in participation; irregular patrols and weak law enforcement; lack of grievance resolution procedures; irregular assemblies and inadequate documentation and dissemination of CFMG decisions and activities; insufficient transparency and accountability.

Key recommendations:

- Support CFMGs in collecting and analyzing data on forests and ecosystem services to strengthen decision-making, supplemented with additional data and training.
- Help CFMGs compile and regularly update membership lists (and, where necessary, assist in defining membership criteria). Consider collecting membership fees from defined members or the entire community.
- Promote women's participation and decision-making through awareness-raising sessions (for the entire community), women-only subcommittees, and quotas.
- Support the participatory development of community rules and regulations, along with awareness-raising and enforcement.
- Equip mixed-gender patrol teams to patrol regularly, with a system for reporting. Encourage more community members to become Honorary Forest Officers and receive training.
- Facilitate and technically support participatory land and forest management planning activities to promote better landscape governance.
- Support grievance redress mechanisms at the district and provincial levels to handle complex issues beyond the scope of local chiefs or those involving potential conflicts of interest.
- Extend training to district forestry officers to enhance their roles as facilitators and technical advisors.

Rights and institutional setting

Key gaps: delays in processing CFMGs' formalization, particularly CF agreements and management plans; need to develop and enforce

of CFMGs' local regulations; overlapping CFMG boundaries; FD's limited capacities, resources and equipment to more effectively support CFMGs.

Key recommendations:

- Support finalization of CFMGs' formalization process.
- Provide training for district forestry officers on community forestry legislation, GIS, and remote sensing.
- Improve coordination among FD HQ, provincial, and district staff through regular meetings, reporting, and clear division of roles and responsibilities, as well as strengthen intersectoral collaboration with relevant ministries.
- Develop tools to facilitate registration, monitoring, and support for CFMGs.
- Promote collaboration with relevant sectors to avoid duplication and leverage mandates.
- Equip district forestry officers to deliver CF extension services and law enforcement support.
- Explore revenue-sharing models (e.g., carbon initiatives) to support district and provincial FD offices with equipment, vehicles, operations, and staffing.
- Support a participatory process to address boundary overlaps and adjust boundaries as needed, considering community capacity.
- Streamline the CF approval process and enhance transparency in land-use decisions through improved information sharing (e.g., an open data website).
- Consider integrating the Forestry Department's "Forest Reserve Concessions" with CF management to enhance institutional sustainability for both models.

Availability and use of natural resources

Key gaps: limited data on natural resources, including biodiversity, watershed, and forest data (inventory, conditions, and impacts).

Key recommendations:

- Collect and synthesize relevant local and district-level data (e.g., on biodiversity, water quality, forest conditions) to support natural resource management planning and decision-making.
- Establish community-involved monitoring systems for natural resources and biodiversity, including real-time alerts, and encourage communities to use monitoring data to manage resources sustainably.
- Facilitate provincial-level sustainable development planning to prevent adverse impacts on forests from extractive industries and other large-scale projects.
- Increase awareness of biodiversity conservation and engage additional partners/funding resources for capacity development, research, and protection efforts.

Benefits, benefit-sharing mechanisms, and finance

Key gaps: limited information and capacities to realize CF benefits, including forest-based small enterprises; limited understanding of

carbon markets; poor access to financial services, investment capital, and markets; lack of transparency in benefit-sharing agreements.

Key recommendations:

- Support CFMGs in establishing a capital base that supports their regular functioning, exploring multiple and complementary sources of financing (e.g. businesses based on forest products or services; carbon credits, PES linked to water; community fees; etc.)
- Generate a better understanding of the issues, experiences, lessons learnt, and opportunities related to forest carbon market initiatives among local communities and the government.
- Empower local communities through unbiased training and capacity development by a neutral facilitator to make more informed decisions and effectively negotiate their participation in voluntary carbon markets at their own pace.
- Strengthen the institutional capacities of national and sub-national governments to regulate the expansion of forest carbon markets, while also considering how these projects are nested under the national REDD+ program (Article 6 of the Paris Agreement).
- Provide neutral advice to communities in the facilitation of benefit sharing agreements.
- Institute regulations on benefit sharing to ensure that communities receive equitable benefits (e.g. *Tanzania's Environmental Management (Control and Management of Carbon Trading) Regulations, 2022 under Government Notice No. 636 of 2022*).
- Further explore the potential for payment for environmental services particularly for communities protecting important watersheds.
- Support forest value chains through formation of community cooperatives (or strengthening of user groups); technical support on harvesting plans, processing (including equipment), business planning, and marketing; and access to investment capital²⁰. Draw on existing skills and interests and ensure that both women's and men's priorities are addressed.
- Assist CFMGs to increase financial literacy, open bank accounts, increase revenues (e.g. membership dues), and manage finances transparently.
- As recommended by the Rural Finance Assessment (*UNREDD document in preparation, 2024*), facilitate establishment of a harmonized blended finance mechanism, leveraging private and development finance as well as investments from public expenditure. The assessment also recommended support to Financial Institutions in designing specific concessional loans (mixed with grants) for CFMGs to develop forestry and sustainable agriculture.
- Enhance access to credit for investment in forest enterprises and value chains through collaboration with microfinance institutions, expansion of village savings groups.

Forest/land management practices, capacities, and learning

Key gaps: lack of training and support on skills development and on forest management practices such as restoration, tree nursery

establishment, etc.; lack of consistent support for forest patrols.

Key recommendations:

- Identify more HFOs and provide support in terms of training, food rations, transport and mobile phones/GPS for effective communication.
- Recognize and build on traditional knowledge while responding to the needs and preferences of CFMG members. Support awareness raising, training and coaching on forest governance topics including leadership, gender, facilitation skills, financial literacy/financial management.
- Support training and services for livelihoods development, where possible based on existing skills and interests expressed by CFMG members (paying attention to gender).
- Provide technical support for the development and implementation of sound forest management plans (based on participatory forest inventory), thereby expanding the range of activities and practices that CFMGs can engage in (e.g. tree nursery establishment, forest restoration, assisted natural regeneration, thinning).

²⁰ Positive examples of support by the NGO COMACO to the honey value chain in Eastern Province are noteworthy.



07. Conclusion



North Western Province has the highest forest cover in Zambia and is home to abundant biodiversity and essential ecosystem services. Forests in North Western Province play a crucial role in efforts to combat climate change and support the development of a national green economy. However, these forests face increasing pressure from population growth, demand for agricultural products, infrastructure development, extractive industries, and weak law enforcement.

Despite these challenges, the Province holds significant opportunities for sustainable development through community forestry initiatives. Empowering local communities to manage forest resources can protect vital ecosystems while promoting sustainable livelihoods. This approach aligns with climate goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and enhance local resilience.

Several CFMGs in the region have made notable initial progress. Some CFMGs have successfully enforced forest protection measures, including self-funded patrols and the appointment of Honorary Forest Officers, and have engaged in sustainable practices, particularly when economic benefits are involved. CFMGs have also developed livelihood activities such as mushroom drying and honey harvesting. These groups have effectively organized and connected with buyers, particularly in the honey sector, and have improved financial sustainability through membership fees or partnerships with organizations like ZESCO.

External partners often provide crucial support. Even minimal support — such as patrol materials, training, awareness-raising, and livelihood enhancements — can mobilize communities and strengthen both men's and women's commitment to sustainable forest management. CFMGs are already playing a vital role in conserving critical areas, including the source of the Zambezi River, and the leadership of local authorities, including traditional chiefs, has been a significant contributing factor.

This promising initial progress must be sustained. Further technical and financial support for CFMGs is essential to ensure that communities can fulfill their key role as climate actors and realize the full socioeconomic and environmental benefits of CF.

The 16 CFMGs in the table below have been identified as those with the greatest perceived potential among the 24 initially selected.

These groups have shown leadership, readiness, and capacity to organize themselves, establish governance systems, and take a more active role in managing and benefiting from their forest landscapes. Many of these CFMGs have already gained momentum with support from NGOs or companies, making it critical to maintain this strategic support.

The status of CFMGs in North Western Province is dynamic and evolving. The 24 assessed CFMGs were identified as the ones with more perceived potential. In general, they have shown leadership, readiness and capacity to organize themselves, established governance systems, and have taken a more active role in managing and benefiting from their forest landscapes.

These 24 sites still need further technical and financial support. Annex H provides details of their specific status and needs. Among the total 127 CFMGs in North Western Province, there are other CFMGs that were not assessed but may also have potential for success and would need support in their process.

The Forestry Department, with technical assistance from FAO, can play a key role in coordinating and facilitating community forestry initiatives, strengthening law enforcement, and enhancing local capacities. However, it is crucial that local communities remain central to the development of community forestry, with adequate facilitation and support to strengthen their systems of local governance.



To support the continued development of community forestry, the following recommendations are particularly strategic:

Develop Capacities

Maintain ongoing training in CFMG's governance, financial management, entrepreneurship, informed decision-making, and effective forest management. Strengthen in parallel the capacities of FD facilitate CFMGs process and provide technical support.

Strengthen Partnerships

Facilitate stronger partnerships among CFMGs, between CFMGs and FD (e.g. joint monitoring), and with the private sector (e.g. potential buyers to develop stable markets for forest products).

Encourage Self-Sufficiency

Support the realization of economic benefits through multiple forest livelihoods and sources of income at individual and community level. Promote initiatives that increase the financial independence of CFMGs, such as membership fees, climate finance, carbon credits and PES, and other community-led fundraising efforts.

Sustain financial and technical support

Continue providing training and resources that accompany the CFMG process, particularly during early phases until CFMGs progress in their own governance and financial independence.

Generate and disseminate information and knowledge

(e.g. forest status, products and forest-water ecosystem services; markets for forest products; carbon trading) to support informed decision-making by CFMGs and the government.

Recognize and Share Successes

Identify successful CFMGs as models to inspire and guide new groups across Zambia, scaling community forestry to other regions.

In addition to CFMGs, carbon developers and NGOs have emphasized the need for capacity development at the district level, regular coordination, and clear guidelines to attract and regulate carbon investment. Given the interconnectedness of CFMGs and carbon projects in North Western Province, this feedback should inform future strategies.

Finally, while carbon trading remains a key driver for community forestry development, it is crucial to explore diverse strategies that support community forestry at a pace and scope set by the communities themselves. With the right enabling conditions, investments in ecosystem services, forest value chains, tourism, and agroforestry can be profitable, equitable, and sustainable. Together, these investments offer a viable pathway to low-emissions, resilient, and sustainable local development.

REFERENCES

- Cortese, M.P., Mboozu, V., Moonga, R., Ross, B., Lundu, C., Kaumba, M. & Ruiz-Villar, M. 2025. *Rural finance assessment in North Western Province, Zambia – Covering the districts of Kalumbila, Mwinilunga, Manyinga, Ikelenge and Kabompo*. Rome, FAO. <https://doi.org/10.4060/cd7026en>
- FAO. 2025. *Finance options to enable community forestry and climate action in North Western Province, Zambia – Technical brief*. Rome.
- FAO. 2018. *The State of the World's Forests*. Rome. [Cited 9 February 2025]. Available at: <https://www.fao.org/policy-support/tools-and-publications/resources-details/en/c/1144279/>
- GEF-7 & UNEP. 2021. *Ecosystem Conservation and Community Livelihood Enhancement in North-Western Zambia (Project Document)*. [Cited 9 February 2025]. Available at: https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/10192_project_document.pdf
- Government of Zambia. 2016. *Integrated Land Use Assessment (ILUA II)*. Lusaka.
- Hicks, C., Kandel, S., Bullock, R. & Tran, T. 2024. *Demonstrating the Social and Environmental Impacts of Community Forestry*. The UN-REDD Programme. [Cited 9 February 2025]. Available at: <https://www.un-redd.org/post/demonstrating-social-and-environmental-impacts-community-forestry>
- Hollingsworth, L.T., Smith, J. & Green, P. 2015. *Fire Management Assessment of Eastern Province, Zambia*. USDA Forest Service. [Cited 9 February 2025]. Available at: https://www.fs.usda.gov/rm/pubs_journals/2015/rmrs_2015_hollingsworth_l001.pdf
- IAPR. 2019. *Rural agriculture livelihoods survey 2019 report*. [Cited 9 February 2025].
- Larson, A.M. & Chhatre, A. 2013. *Inclusion, Equity, and Rights: Community Forestry and the Reduction of Poverty and Vulnerability in Nepal*. *Ecology and Society*, 18 (2). [Cited 9 February 2025]. <https://doi.org/xxxx>
- Ministry of Lands & Natural Resources. 2018. *National guidelines for community forestry in Zambia*. [Cited 9 February 2025]. Available at: https://ziflp.org.zm/download/community/Draft_National_Guidelines_Community_Forestry_Zambia_WOut_Annexes_Jul2018.pdf
- Phiri, D., Banda, M. & Tembo, R. 2023. *Agricultural expansion into forest reserves in Zambia: A remote sensing approach*. *International Journal of Remote Sensing*, 44(5). [Cited 9 February 2025]. Available at: <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/10106049.2023.2213203>
- RECOFTC. 2020. *Community Forestry Participatory Assessment: A Guide for Practitioners*. Bangkok, RECOFTC. [Cited 9 February 2025]. Available at: <https://www.recoftc.org/sites/default/files/publications/resources/recoftc-0000363-0001-en.pdf>
- Sunderlin, W.D. & Liddle, M. 2014. *Forest Tenure Reform: Impacts and Implications for REDD+*. *Forests*, 5 (8): 1656–1671. [Cited 9 February 2025]. <https://doi.org/xxxx>
- United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific. *What is Good Governance?* [Cited 9 February 2025]. Available at: <https://www.unescap.org/sites/default/files/good-governance.pdf>
- Zambia Statistics Agency. 2022. *2022 Census of population and housing*. Lusaka. [Cited 9 February 2025]. Available at: <https://www.zamstats.gov.zm/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/2022-Census-of-Population-and-Housing-Preliminary.pdf>
- Zambia Statistics Agency. 2023. *Highlights of the 2022 poverty assessment in Zambia*. Lusaka.
- Community forestry laws and policies in Zambia:**
- *The Forests Act, 2015*. Available at: <https://www.parliament.gov.zm/sites/default/files/documents/acts/The%20Forest%20Act%202015.pdf>
 - *Forests (Community Forest Management) Regulations, 2018* (S.I. No 11 of 2018). Available at: <https://www.fao.org/faolex/results/details/en/c/LEX-FAOC174187/>
 - *National Guidelines for Community Forestry in Zambia, 2018*. Available at: https://ziflp.org.zm/download/community/Draft_National_Guidelines_Community_Forestry_Zambia_WOut_Annexes_Jul2018.pdf

ANNEX I . LIST OF CFMGS VISITED IN NORTH WESTERN PROVINCE

#	DISTRICT	NAME OF CFMG	GIS COORDINATES	DATE OF VISIT (DD.MM.YYYY)	PARTICIPANTS IN FGD (M/F)	PARTNER
1.	Ikelenge	Kelundu	n/a	29.07.2023	9 (6M,3F)	None
2.	Kabompo	Kabulamema	0176988 8467002	06.10.2023	14 (8 M, 6 F)	Kabompo Community Carbon (KCC)
3.		Chifuwe South	0212323 8481314	05.10.2023	12 (8M,4F)	KCC
4.		Luli	0186661 8501216	04.10.2023	10 (6M,4F)	KCC
5.	Kalumbila	Jimakamu	03453904 8643620	20.09.2023	11 (6M, 5F)	Barrick Lumwana
6.		Kamikolo	n/a	28.07.2023	10 (5M, 5F)	The Nature Conservancy (TNC)
7.		Kasombo	0365353 8629795	19.09.2023	12 (M7, 5F)	Barrick Lumwana
8.		Katumba	0401476 8627995	18.09.2023	18 (12M, 6F)	Barrick Lumwana
9.	Manyinga	Chiteve	n/a	25.07.2023	13 (10M, 3F)	KCC
10.		Kashinakazhi	0202331 8578754	03.10.2023	10 (5M,5F)	KCC
11.		Lunsongwa	n/a	26.07.2023	11 (8M, 3F)	KCC
12.	Mwinilunga	Chisasa	0294542 8638694	30.09.2023	14 (10M, 4F)	KCC
13.		Chuulu	0269756 8621400	28.09.2023	12 (7M,5F)	West Lunga Conservation Project (WLCP)
14.		Kahundula	0276006 8632751	28.09.2023	12 (5M,7F)	WLCP
15.		Kanyamizovu	n/a	03.08.2023	13 (10M,3F)	WLCP
16.		Kanyikomboshi	n/a	31.07.2023	16 (11M, 5F)	KCC
17.		Kayonge	0272578 8643392	27.09.2023	32 (14M,18F)	WLCP
18.		Keema	0273556 8638623	27.09.2023	32 (14M,18F)	WLCP
19.		Kewundu	0279728 8627934	26.09.2023	15 (4M,11F)	WLCP
20.		Kimba	0276249 8626941	29.09.2023	15 (7M,8F)	WLCP
21.		Makasa	0256014 8718485	22.09.2023	10 (5VM,5F)	KCC
22.		Mumpulumba	n/a	31.07.2023	28(10M,8F)	WLCP
23.		Muzhyila	0258664 8725278	23.09.2023	10 (5M,5F)	N/A
24.		Samuteba	0246082 8701103	24.09.2023	13 (8M,5F)	KCC

ANNEX II. SURVEY QUESTION TEMPLATE – CFMG

FIELD DATA COLLECTION ON EXISTING CFMGs (Community based Forest Management Groups)

NAME OF CFMG:

NAME OF VILLAGE(s):

NO. OF PEOPLE ATTENDING THE MEETING (M/F):

INFORMATION TO BE COLLECTED *PRIOR* TO THE MEETING

Province	North Western
District	
GPS Coordinates of meeting place	
CFMG Key Contact & Tel.	
Name of facilitator / interviewer	
Name of Note-Taker	
Date(s) of Field Visit	
No. Hectares of CF	
CF Map (GIS/Sketch Map/None)	

INFORMATION TO BE COLLECTED *DURING* THE MEETING

Brief history and date of initiation	
What is the main purpose of forming the CFMG?	
• Production of forest products, agroforestry • Forest services (tourism, carbon trading) • Livelihood improvement/poverty alleviation • Protection of ecosystem services (e.g. water, soil, biodiversity) • Protection of property rights • Religious or cultural objectives • Restoration	
External partner:	
External support received (training, etc.)	

Principle 2: Effective Governance and Participation

Indicators:

- 2.1 Frequency and importance of elections (turnout, number of male/ female candidates, participation)
- 2.2 Perceptions of the value of participation in elections
- 2.3 Perceptions of the efficiency and effectiveness of grievance redress mechanisms

CFMG MEMBERSHIP	How many individual members in the CFMG (male / female)?
	What is the percentage versus members of the overall community?
CF STEP	Show the CFMG poster to the group. Determine which stage the CFMG has reached.
BENEFIT SHARING	Does the CFMG have a signed benefit sharing agreement? YES/NO
	Does the CFMG have a BSM or a constitution that outlines BSM? If YES, please describe it.
	How do people in the community get to know about benefit sharing? How is the information shared?
LEADERSHIP	What is the leadership structure of the CFMG?
	How many women and men are in CFMG leadership?
	What is the role of the traditional chief in the CFMG or CF management? Is he active?
CFMG FUNCTIONING AND ELECTIONS	How long is the term of office for CFMG leaders?
	How often does the CFMG meet?
	What sort of topics are covered in the meetings?
	How are decisions made in the CFMG?
	What activities does the CFMG coordinate or lead with the community?
GENDER EQUALITY AND SOCIAL INCLUSION (GESI)	Are there barriers for women to fully participate (come to meetings, etc.)? If YES, what are they?
	Does the CFMG take deliberate actions to help women participate in meetings and decision making? If YES, what actions?
CONFLICT RESOLUTION GRIEVANCE MECHANISM	What types of conflicts occur in the CFMG, if any?
	How does the CFMG address conflicts or grievances that may arise?
PATROLLING	Are forest patrols being organized? If YES, how often?
	Who participates?
	What support/resources are available?
	Does the CFMG compile any data from patrols? If YES, what type of data?

Principle 3: Rights and Institutional Setting

Indicators:

- 3.1. Type of customary practices employed by CF user groups
- 3.2. Type and strength of legal rights employed by CF user groups
- 3.3. Type of institutions that support CF rights (in awareness and action)

PERCEPTIONS OF TENURE SECURITY, INCLUDING:

- Access
- Withdrawal
- Exclusion
- Duration

Are there any restrictions to forest access and harvesting for CFMG members? (Explain)

Are there any restrictions to forest access and harvesting for outsiders? (Explain)

Does the CFMG have the right to arrest offenders or confiscate products they collect?

Do you think the CF will be safe from outside pressures in the future? (Why or why not?)

How long do you think the CFMG will have control over the community forest area?

Principle 1: Availability of Natural Resources

Indicators:

1. Diversity of resource type, amount and seasonal availability by type (and climate change mitigation potential)

MAIN FOREST TYPE

Description of forest

PERCEIVED FOREST CONDITION AND HEALTH? HAVE IT CHANGED IN RECENT YEARS?

Describe the forest health and any changes in recent years

BIODIVERSITY VALUES

Important species, wild animals. Separate between the plants and the animals

ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

Water sources, Fishing areas, Soils to be protected, landslides to be prevented, etc. Describe any related management practices: I.e. riparian forests, slope stabilization using trees, planting of specific trees and plants for their water services (they use less water, improve soil infiltration), thinning, restoration etc.

SPIRITUAL OR CULTURAL VALUES

Are there sacred places?

Principle 4: Addressing community needs

Indicators:

- 4.1 Uses of natural resources (builds on principle 1)
- 4.2 Perceived community needs for improving livelihoods
- 4.3 Type of products and services to respond to these needs

- 4.4 Access to physical infrastructure (e.g. electricity, sealed roads) and financial facilities (e.g. access to credit)
- 4.5 Type of benefits received by different CFMG members (e.g. women/men, youth and disadvantaged groups)
- 4.6 Characteristics of process to ensure equitable benefit sharing (e.g. transparency)

LIST TOP FIVE PRODUCTS COLLECTED FOR HOUSEHOLD USE IN THE CF

- Timber, charcoal
- Thatching grass, wild fruits
- Mushrooms

List 5 top products collected **by men**

Product	Challenges or risks for collection	Sold in the market? (Y/N)	Challenge for selling?

List 5 top products collected **by women**

Product	Challenges or risks for collection	Sold in the market? (Y/N)	Challenge for selling?

SUSTAINABILITY OF FOREST PRODUCTS

Does the CFMG control how much products are extracted? If YES, how is this monitored?

CARBON TRADE

Is forest carbon a part of your CFMG activity? If YES, please tell me about the carbon project initiative.

Who is the CFMG partner for carbon?

TRADITIONAL FOREST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Do you have any traditional forest management practices? If YES, are they still in use?

- Guarding spirit forests
- Plants for religious or cultural reasons
- Special harvesting practices passed down by elders

SPECIAL SKILLS • Forestry • Accounting • Handicrafts • Business, etc.	Are there people in the community with special skills that help to manage and benefit from forest?
INTEREST IN FUTURE LEARNING AND CAPACITY BUILDING	What types of skills training would you like to receive in the future?
ACCESS TO RESOURCES OR FACILITIES	Does the CFMG have a bank account or a treasury? If YES, how is the money managed and how much funds are available?
	Does the CFMG collect dues? If YES, how much and when?
	Are there credit institutions (such as microfinance institutions or banks) or village banking or village savings groups? If YES, what type of groups?
	Who is engaged with these opportunities for credit (enterprises, cooperatives or women's groups)?
	What types of forest activities require access to credit?
MARKET AWARENESS	How do people know the market prices for forest products?
	Is there access to telephones?
	Is there access to internet?

Principle 5: Adaptive management and learning

Indicators:

5.1 Opinions of CFMG members on opportunities and threats when managing their community forest, including how they were identified

5.2 Opinion of CFUG members of their capacity to opportunities and challenges over the past 12 months

5.3 Opinion of key lessons and measures that CFUG has learnt from their experience over the past 12 months

OPPORTUNITIES	Has community forest management created any new OPPORTUNITIES for the CFMG in the past 12 months? If YES, what have they been?
----------------------	--

CHALLENGES	Has community forest management created any new CHALLENGES for the CFMG in the past 12 months? If YES, what have they been?
LESSONS	What are the key lessons learnt so far? What do you want to improve in the future?
OPEN DISCUSSION	Any information that the community would like to add.
	Any issues of concern?
	Any questions?



ANNEX III. SURVEY QUESTION TEMPLATE – DISTRICTS

DISTRICT LEVEL SURVEY AND MAPPING EXERCISE TO ASSESS THE POTENTIAL FOR NEW CFMGs

District Profile: [name of district]

Primary objectives: (1) Analyze the potential for new CFMGs; (2) Assess the enabling environment for CF in the district.

CFMG Status & Potential: On the basis of the geospatial analysis (Obj. 1)

- Validate geospatial analysis through FGD with district level stakeholders
- Use A0 district level maps to facilitate discussion
- If possible overlay plastic sheet to the A0 map and allow participants to use markers to make corrections or additions to the map.
- Take a photo of the map and detailed notes on the discussion

FOREST COVER, TYPES AND TRENDS	Description of forest
EXISTING CFMGs	Confirm # of CFMGs, approximate locations
LAND USES & CONCESSIONS	Describe land uses in the district, areas under different tenure regimes Mining, timber, Agricultural zones (?)
ECOSYSTEM SERVICES	Water sources, biodiversity hotspots, carbon, tourism, hazard mitigation, NWFP areas etc.
FRAGILE ECOSYSTEMS	Ex. Steep terrain, key fragile watersheds
AREAS FOR CFMG EXPANSION	Describe areas including approximate # ha, existing plans/partners (people nearby)
AREAS FOR FOREST RESTORATION	Describe including approximate # ha, existing plans/partners (grasslands, degraded areas)
LOCAL INTEREST / DEMAND FOR CF	What is the level of interest of local people to expand CF in the district? (villages without CFMG, or other areas, what is distance that people are willing to go to manage forest)
OTHER	Add any other useful information collected related to this principle

CF Enabling Environment (Obj. 2)

Conduct focus group discussion to assess the enabling environment at district level

POLICY OBJECTIVES OF THE CBF REGIME

How is the CF legislation being implemented in the district?
Have objectives been set for support to CF development in the district?

INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF CBF REGIMES INTO GOVERNMENT POLICY, LEGISLATION, PLANNING AND PROGRAMMES

Has there been a CF planning process at district level?
Is there a CF unit at district level?
How many staff support CF (in their job description)?
Is budget (govt.) allocated to CF in the district? If so, how much (per year)?

CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS TO REPRESENT CBF STAKEHOLDERS

Are civil society groups / NGOs supporting CF in the district? If so, list and describe their roles

RIGHTS ASSOCIATED WITH CBF REGIMES

How strong are the following rights: (this could be at CFMG level or district level, but maybe not both, facilitator should know what is guaranteed in the law, discussion focuses on whether district stakeholders are aware and if law is being implemented)

- Access (right to enter the forest)
- Withdrawal (right to extract products from the forest)
- Management
- Exclusion (right to determine who has access and to exclude outsiders)
- Alienation (right to sell or lease management and exclusion rights)

RESPONSIBILITIES ASSOCIATED WITH CBF REGIME

Rate the extent to which the following enable or constrain CF (idea is to ID bottlenecks, places where FAO could come in to help):

- Registration of the CFMG
- Preparation of the management plan
- Carrying out a forest inventory
- Obtaining approval to harvest NWFPs
- Obtaining approval to graze animals
- Obtaining approval to harvest fuelwood
- Obtaining approval to harvest timber
- Obtaining approval to transport or sell forest products
- Paying tax to the government on harvest or sale of forest products
- Other bottlenecks

OTHER GOVERNANCE

- Who are the traditional leaders in the district? Do they contribute to CF development?
- How are land, forest and resource conflicts at the local level resolved? What role does the district play?

ECONOMIC BENEFITS

Conduct a SWOT analysis for each type of opportunity:

- SFM (including legal timber production)
- Agroforestry
- Carbon trading
- NWFP businesses
- Sustainable charcoal production
- Payment for ecosystem services (difficult?)
- Tourism
- Other

CAPACITY AT DISTRICT LEVEL

- How many forest officers at the district level (M/F)?
- What training do these officers have and what additional training is needed?
- Describe the office(s) and equipment (computers, vehicles, etc.)
- What forest management activities are conducted? How often?
- What law enforcement activities are conducted? Please give some details.

SUPPORT TO CFMGS

- Ask the following:
- What technical, financial or in-kind support has the district provided to the CFMGs (which ones)?
- What CFMG support needs are you unable to meet? What is needed?

OTHER

Add any other useful information collected related to this principle

ANNEX IV. SURVEY QUESTION TEMPLATE – CARBON DEVELOPERS

Partner Profile: [name of partner, location]

Methodology:

- Read background on partner website (if available) and fill in the form as much as possible
- Conduct Interview with key staff
- Request support on CFMG profiles (if relevant)

NAME OF INTERVIEWER	
DATE OF INTERVIEW	Day / month / year
NAME AND CONTACT INFORMATION OF INTERVIEWEE	Name: Tel: Email (repeat if more than one person):
MISSION AND MAIN ACTIVITIES	Summarize the overall mission and key activities of the partner in North Western Province
DISTRICTS WHERE PARTNER IS ACTIVE IN NORTH WESTERN PROVINCE	Name of district(s)
KEY DATES (YEAR IS OK)	Establishment date of organisation: Start of activities in North Western Province: Start of CBF activities:
STAFF	# of staff # of staff working on CBF in North Western Province
CBF /CARBON ACTIVITIES	
KEY ACHIEVEMENTS RELATED TO SUPPORT	Describe
NUMBER OF CFMGS RECOGNIZED AND IN PROCESS OF BEING RECOGNIZED THROUGH YOUR SUPPORT	Provide number of recognized CFMGS Provide number of CFMGS in process of being recognized
NUMBER AND SIZE OF CFS MANAGED OR TO-BE-MANAGED BY CFMGS WITH YOUR SUPPORT	Provide number of CFs and overall hectareage

HOW ARE THESE PROJECTS IMPROVING COMMUNITY CAPACITIES?	Describe
NEEDS FOR ANY ADDITIONAL SUPPORT	
ISSUES AND CHALLENGES FACED IN PROVIDING SUPPORT TO CFMGS	Describe
DESCRIBE SUSTAINABILITY PLAN FOR THE CFMGS THAT YOU SUPPORT.	Describe
INTERACTIONS WITH / SUPPORT FROM DISTRICT GOVERNMENT / FORESTRY OFFICE (PERMITS, ETC.)	Describe
HOW CARBON REVENUES ARE/WILL BE DISTRIBUTED? (THE SPLIT, THE FREQUENCY, ETC.)	
WHICH ACTIVITIES/RESULTS ARE BEING/WILL BE REWARDED?	
HOW WILL THE ACTIVITIES BE MONITORED AND VERIFIED?	
WHAT IS YOUR ASSESSMENT OF COMMUNITY PERCEPTIONS ABOUT CARBON PROJECTS?	
OTHER COMMENTS / ISSUES / RECOMMENDATIONS	Open discussion
WHO ELSE SHOULD WE SPEAK TO ON THESE TYPES OF ISSUES?	

ANNEX V. DISTRICT SWOT ANALYSES

// TABLE 20 //

Analysis of CF-related opportunities in Ikelenge District

CF STRATEGIES	STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES	OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
SFM (including legal timber production)	• Available human resources • Communities demonstrate positive attitude towards rules • High forest cover	• Inadequate funding • Inadequate transport • Limited staff	• Stable rainfall. • Sustainable supply of NWFPs • Forest resource preservation. • Income generation	• District infrastructure development • Political interference
Agroforestry	• Human resource • Availability of cooperating partners (ZESCO)	• Slow adoption rates. • Inadequate transport and funding	• Increased yields • Improved soil fertility • Income generation	• Slow adoption rates
Carbon trading	• Availability of partners • Availability of adequate forest cover	• Inadequate transport	• Income generation • Improved livelihoods • Reduced carbon emissions	• Deforestation • Wildfires
NWFP businesses	• Availability of NWFPs • Adequate forest cover (Source). • Availability of business enterprises	• Poor harvesting methods • Poor processing and preservation methods • Inadequate marketing strategies	• Income generation • Poverty reduction • Enhanced forest management	• Wild fires
Sustainable charcoal production	• Availability of raw materials	• Lack of knowledge on sustainable charcoal production	• Enhanced forest management • Reduced forest degradation	• Deforestation • Slow adoption rates
Payment for ecosystem services²¹	• Availability of services (Zambezi source)	• Inadequate infrastructure • Poor road network to ecosystem sites	• Promotion of cultural beliefs • Revenue generation	• Environmental degradation
Tourism	• Availability of tourism sites (Zambezi source, Zambezi rapids) • Availability of facilities	• Inadequate infrastructure • Lack of accommodation • Poor road network	• Income generation (FOREX) • Infrastructure development	• High crime rates • Diseases • Prostitution

²¹ PES discussions focused primarily on water ecosystem services.

// TABLE 21 //

Analysis of CF-related opportunities in Kabompo District

CF STRATEGIES	STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES	OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
SFM (including legal timber production)	- Enhanced forest regeneration - Increased production of forest products - Forest conservation - Increases revenue - Sustainable flow of household income	- Limited FD staff to oversee/coordinate - Inadequate funding	- Stable rainfall pattern - Beekeeping - Increased production of NWFPs	Late season fires
Agroforestry	- Trained staff - Availability of land for agroforestry practices - Availability of appropriate agroforestry species	- Inadequate funding - Lack of knowledge	- Improvement of degraded/ poor soils - Reduced soil erosion - Supply of forest products - Reduced pressure on forests	Slowness in adopting new innovations
Carbon trading	- Availability of forest areas/ forest cover - Available carbon developers - Income generation	Lack of knowledge	Forest conservation	- Forest degradation - Imbalanced biodiversity
NWFP businesses	- Available forest cover. - High production of NWFPs - Increased Household income generation	Lack of knowledge on preservation	- Available market - Reduced poverty	Seasonal production of NWFPs
Sustainable charcoal production	Availability of raw materials	Lack of knowledge	- Enhanced forest management - Reduced carbon emissions	Slow adoption rates/levels
Payment for ecosystem services	- Increased revenue - Job creation	- Inadequate staff - Inadequate funding	n/a	n/a
Tourism	- Job creation - Availability of tourism sites	Some benefits do not trickle down to communities	Enhanced foreign exchange	- Increase of communicable diseases - Loss of cultural values/identity due to intermarriages

// TABLE 22 //

Analysis of CF-related opportunities in Kalumbila District

CF STRATEGIES	STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES	OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
SFM (including legal timber production)	• Availability of manpower • Availability of equipment • Availability of forest cover	• Inadequate manpower • Inadequate funding • Inadequate transport	• Improved collaboration with local and external partners • Enhanced forest protection • Improved livelihoods • Carbon trading • Job creation • Enhanced ecosystem opportunities • Poverty reduction	• Deforestation due to mining, agricultural expansion, and infrastructure development • Forest degradation • Illegal allocation of forest cover
Agroforestry	• Availability of manpower • Availability of land and water bodies • Good rainfall pattern	• Inadequate funding • Slow adoption rates	• Improved livelihoods • Improved crop yields (food security)	• Slow adoption rates
Carbon trading	• Availability of adequate forest cover • Willingness by communities to give out land • Availability of carbon developers	• Lack of transparency • Inadequate knowledge • Delays in endorsement from traditional leaders	• Infrastructure development • Forest conservation • Improved livelihoods • Diversification of economy • Increased support from traditional leaders and authorities	• Lack of transparency • Increased crime and witchcraft • Deforestation
NWFP businesses	• Availability of forest cover • Stable rainfall pattern • Availability of water bodies	• Lack of knowledge on preservation • Inadequate knowledge on harvesting	• Availability of market	• Forest degradation • Poor harvesting methods • Over harvesting of NWFPs
Sustainable charcoal production	• Availability of raw materials • Support from carbon developers e.g FAO, FQM, Trident	• Lack of material/equipment • Lack of knowledge • Expensive materials • Slow adoption rates	• Availability of market • Sustainable forest management • Reduced carbon emissions	• Slow adoption rates
Payment for ecosystem services	• Rich biodiversity • Availability of multi-sectorial institutions	• Poor multi-sectoral coordination • Inadequate multisectoral policies	• Job creation • Increased awareness • Improved livelihoods • Biodiversity conservation • Revenue generation	• Biodiversity degradation • Resistant to change by some sectors
Tourism	• Availability of tourism sites • Availability of hospitality industry • Availability of game • Cultural diversity	• Lack of human power (Tourism office) • Lack of knowledge on tourism sites • Lack of marketing strategies • Lack of community involvement • Inadequate funding	• Job creation • Infrastructure development • Foreign exchange	• Poaching • Deforestation

// TABLE 23 //

Analysis of CF-related opportunities in Manyinga District

CF STRATEGIES	STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES	OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
SFM (including legal timber production)	• Employment • Participation of local communities • Revenue generation • Support to other value chain players	• Inadequate funding • Inadequate human resources • Inadequate equipment (tools & transport)	• Forest Conservation • Poverty reduction (Food security) • Market linkages • Promotion of cultural diversity • Access to credit finance • Promote local investment	• Political interference • Interference from traditional leaders • Increased cases of HIV/Early pregnancies • Illegal immigrants • Increased crime rates • Negative attitude from local communities
Agroforestry	• Afforestation • Income generation • Preservation of ecosystem • Sustainable agricultural crop production	• Poor soil type (sandy) • Inadequate funding • Inadequate transport	• Increased fauna • Increased forest cover • Increased rainfall • Increased yields	• Negative attitude from local communities
Carbon trading	• Income generation • Forest conservation	• Inadequate awareness	• Reduced carbon emissions • Promotion of local business • Infrastructure development • Knowledge exchange	• International politics (Interference from western powers) • Deforestation
NWFP businesses	• Income generation • Improves ecosystem • Source of nutrients • Job creation	• Inadequate knowledge on preservation • Poor storage facilities • Poor access to market	• Increased forex through exports	• Deforestation • Some products are perishable
Sustainable charcoal production	• Enhanced forest management • Increased household income • Reduced forest degradation	• Lack of tools/materials • Inadequate knowledge	• Innovation of alternatives to charcoal • Promotion of forest value chains • Reduced carbon emissions	• Deforestation • Disturbance of ecosystem • Slow adoption of innovation
Payment for ecosystem services	• Income generation • Revenue generation • Job creation • Ecosystem conservation	• Lack of awareness • Inadequate funding • Inadequate human resource and transport • Inadequate training	• Training infrastructure development • Research promotion. • Promote tourism	• Degradation of ecosystems
Tourism	• Income generation • Revenue generation • Increased foreign exchange • Increased cultural diversity	• Increased cases of HIV and other communicable diseases • Encroachment on animal/forest space	• Infrastructure development • Business opportunity	• Poor sanitation • Increase in diseases • Increase in crime

// TABLE 24 //

Analysis of CF-related opportunities in Mwinilunga District

CF STRATEGIES	STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES	OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
SFM (including legal timber production)	• Availability of forest cover • Availability of human resources	• Inadequate staff • Inadequate funding	• Job creation • Improved revenue • Improved livelihoods • Enhanced forest protection	• Conflicts over land • High competition on forest resource use • Deforestation
Agroforestry	• Availability of human resources	• Lack of inputs • Lack of awareness	• Improved soils • Improved yields	• Slow adoption rates
Carbon trading	• Available forest cover • Available partners • Available human resources	• Lack of knowledge • Inadequate staff • Inadequate funding	• Job creation • Improved livelihoods • Enhanced forest protection	• Conflicts over land • High competition on forest resource use • Deforestation
NWFP businesses	• Availability of NWFPs • Adequate forest cover (Source of NWFPs)	• Lack of knowledge. • Poor harvesting methods • Lack of preservation knowledge	• Income generation • Business opportunities (processing plants)	• Deforestation • Late fires
Sustainable charcoal production	• Availability of raw material • Available market • Available human resources	• Lack of knowledge • Inadequate staff	• Enhanced income levels • Improved revenue • Enhanced forest management	• Deforestation
Payment for ecosystem services	• Available natural habitat	• Lack of knowledge on ecosystem services	• Income generation • Increased revenue • Ecosystem/environment conservation	• Very costly to set up ecosystem service
Tourism	• Availability of tourism sites	• Lack of knowledge • Inadequate infrastructure	• Job creation • Increased income • Improved livelihoods • Enhanced natural resource protection	• Poor road network • Bureaucracy in setting up tourist sites

ANNEX VI. CARBON DEVELOPERS & OTHER ACTORS

CARBON PARTNER

West Lunga Conservation Project (WLCP)

GENERAL DESCRIPTION & ROLE

Established in 2014, the West Lunga Conservation Project (WLCP) works in partnership with the Department of National Parks and Wildlife (DNPW), local government, communities and the private sector to rehabilitate, restore and protect ecosystems in the West Lunga National Park and surrounding game management areas with the long-term goal is to make the landscape ecologically, socially and financially sustainable. WLCP commenced support to CF activities in 2019 and more recently is engaging in carbon trading

NO. OF CFMGS SUPPORTED

12 recognized; 14 not yet recognized

DISTRICTS OF OPERATION

- Kabompo
- Kalumbila
- Kasempa
- Manyinga
- Mwinilunga

CHIEFDOMS OF OPERATION

- Chibwika
- Chizela
- Matebo
- Ntambu
- Sikufele

ACTIVITIES

- Community forest management and enterprise development.
- Establishing local governance structures to facilitate carbon projects.
- Community livelihood support includes supply of hives for beekeeping and marketing support for honey.
- Formed the Ntambu Beekeeping Association (an umbrella group). 10 percent of the profits go back to a community fund to improve livelihoods.
- Currently building a honey processing plant with procurement of 1200 beehives.

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES & NEEDS

- Business and enterprise training for CFMGs
- Processing of herbal medicines
- Capacity building for the FD staff
- Need for additional funding after the GEF project comes to an end

CARBON PARTNER**Kabompo Community Carbon / Dongwe Community Carbon****GENERAL DESCRIPTION & ROLE**

Kabompo Community Carbon and Dongwe Community Carbon are two companies under the same management but operating in different areas of the province

NO. OF CFMGS SUPPORTED

Kabompo: 8 CFMGS recognized; 9 CFMGS not yet recognized
Dongwe: 5 CFMGS recognized; 7 CFMGS not yet recognized

DISTRICTS OF OPERATION

Kabompo:

- Kabompo
- Manyinga
- Mwinilunga

Dongwe:

- Kasempa
- Mufumbwe

CHIEFDOMS OF OPERATION

Kabompo:

- Sikufele
- Kanongesha
- Sailunga
- Kakoma

Dongwe:

- Kasempa
- Chizera
- Mufumbwe
- Mushima

ACTIVITIES

- Carbon trading is currently the main activity.
- Aims at involving the community in a sustainable manner, emphasizing environmental and forest protection.
- Allows the community to choose activities ranging from conservation agriculture, fishponds etc.
- Currently undertaking the FPIC process with discussions focused on the partnership agreement and establishing the boundaries for the CF area.

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES & NEEDS

- More community sensitization on carbon trading.
- Forest management guidance for communities, e.g sustainable harvesting of mushrooms, fibers and other products, fire management, effects of poaching.
- Training of CFMG executive committee members on good governance.
- Additional funding is needed to expand the team.
- Sensitization training for the project team on traditional lifestyles.

CARBON PARTNER**Barrick Gold Corporation****GENERAL DESCRIPTION & ROLE**

Barrick Gold Corporation, a prominent mining company in Zambia, primarily focuses on the Lumwana copper mine in Kalumbila district (near Solwezi). This mine is one of the largest copper producers in Zambia. Barrick Gold Corporation's operations have been subject to scrutiny due to environmental and social concerns, particularly regarding land displacement, community relations, and environmental impact. Barrick Gold Corporation has been involved in various carbon offset initiatives, particularly through its efforts to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions associated with its mining operations, with the aim to be net zero by 2050. The company has implemented projects aimed at reducing its carbon footprint, such as energy efficiency improvements, renewable energy adoption, and reforestation efforts

NO. OF CFMGs SUPPORTED

4 CFMGs not yet recognized

DISTRICTS OF OPERATION

Kalumbila

CHIEFDOMS OF OPERATION

- Matebo
- Mukumbi
- Mumena

ACTIVITIES

- Community sensitization meetings and FPIC
- Forest protection activities (e.g. patrolling)
- Alternative livelihoods
- Capacity building on sustainable farming methods
- Introduction of energy efficient stoves

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES & NEEDS

The project is understaffed and there is a need for more human resources

CARBON PARTNER**TriCarbon****GENERAL DESCRIPTION & ROLE**

TriCarbon is a small Zambian company working to develop community forest carbon offset projects to conserve local biodiversity and improve livelihoods

NO. OF CFMGs SUPPORTED

7 CFMGs not yet recognized

DISTRICTS OF OPERATION

- Kalumbila
- Kasempa
- Mufumbwe

CHIEFDOMS OF OPERATION

- Ingwe
- Chizela

ACTIVITIES

- Formation of CFMGs to venture into carbon
- Feasibility studies for livelihood development potential
- Community sensitization sessions
- Agroforestry activities with small farmers to improve revenues

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES & NEEDS

- Facing challenges with finances
- Support to finalize the establishment of the CFMGs so that they are recognized
- Support for livelihood activities

CARBON PARTNER**Terra Global Capital (TGC)****GENERAL DESCRIPTION & ROLE**

TGC is an American private sector firm working globally to develop carbon projects and markets. The company aims to partner with the government of Zambia to support a jurisdictional approach in North Western Province with the development of a FREL for the province and a feasibility study

NO. OF CFMGs SUPPORTED

No direct support, but partners with TriCarbon which has facilitated the establishment of CFMGs in several districts

DISTRICTS OF OPERATION

- Kalumbila (indirect)
- Kasempa (indirect)
- Mufumbwe (indirect)

CHIEFDOMS OF OPERATION

n/a

ACTIVITIES

Not yet started activities

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES & NEEDS

None

CARBON PARTNER**Biocarbon Partners (BCP)****GENERAL DESCRIPTION & ROLE**

BCP is a Zambia-headquartered social enterprise that develops forest carbon projects. The company has more than 300 staff across the country. BCP also works in other provinces including Eastern province where community members have received tangible benefits from its REDD+ projects. Recently, BCP has been scaling back its activities in North Western Province

NO. OF CFMGs SUPPORTED

In North Western Province the project covers 14 chiefdoms

DISTRICTS OF OPERATION

- Ikelenge
- Kasempa
- Mufumbwe
- Mushindamo
- Mwinilunga

CHIEFDOMS OF OPERATION

- 14 chiefdoms in North Western Province
- Nakaseya
 - Mwinyilamba
 - Mukankala
 - Kamikamba

ACTIVITIES

- BCP has been active in over 32 chiefdoms and partnered with the Luangwa community forest project.
- Currently assessing the willingness of communities and stakeholders to participate in a carbon project.
- Engaging stakeholders and awaiting approval from the provincial administration to implement a carbon project

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES & NEEDS

- BCP will appreciate the lessons learnt from the CFMG assessment to help them advance more quickly.
- Need support working with government partners

The Nature Conservancy (GEF-7 Project)

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) is implementing the GEF-funded *Ecosystem Conservation and Livelihood Project* in North Western Province. The project began in 2021 and will end in 2026 with a budget of USD 5.34 million, targeting Kasempa, Kalumbila, and Mwinilunga districts.

The strategic objective is to mainstream biodiversity across all sectors and promote integrated natural resource management to address land degradation. The project addresses both direct and indirect

causes of deforestation and degradation of forest and agricultural land. TNC has partnered with the West Lunga Conservation Project (WLCP), providing support for the livelihoods component. To date, the project has established 13 recognized CFMGs.

TNC has identified a need for startup capital for forest value chains and additional training for CFMGs on topics such as administration, contract negotiation, and general CFMG operations.

USAID Alternatives to Charcoal (A2C) Project

Through the *Alternatives to Charcoal (A2C) Project*, USAID is working to reduce deforestation linked to charcoal production in Kalumbila, Lufwanyama, Solwezi, and Mumbwa districts. The main interventions focus on Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA), non-timber forest product (NTFP) value chain assessments, and

forest protection and management. The project is coordinated with district councils responsible for spatial planning, and USAID A2C has partnered with Barrick Lumwana Mine to implement CFMG activities.

Peace Corps Volunteers

The Peace Corps is active in North Western Province, with volunteer projects in Solwezi, Kasempa, and Mwinilunga. Sponsored by the United States Government, volunteers work at the grassroots level

for a minimum of two years. These volunteers could offer valuable insights into local community conditions and potentially support capacity development in community forestry.

World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)

WWF has been working in the Upper Zambezi sub-basin through a programme titled *Resilient Zambezi River Basin for the Benefit of People and Nature*. This freshwater programme, which began in 2017, focuses on the hydrology of the Kabompo sub-basin and the Barotse landscape. The project is implemented across eight districts: Ikelenge, Mwinilunga, Mufumbwe, Kalumbila, Kasempa, Manyinga, Kabompo, and Solwezi.

WWF is also running a restoration project at the source of the Zambezi River, partnering with the National Heritage and

Conservation Commission (NHCC), the Forestry Department (FD), and Stanbic Bank. WWF is currently in discussions to initiate a carbon project at the Zambezi source. WWF has also partnered with the WLCP and the Department of National Parks and Wildlife (DNPW) to protect wildlife in the Kabompo ecosystem and collaborates with the Water Resources Management Authority (WARMA) and the Zambia Environmental Management Agency (ZEMA) to monitor hydrology and mining activities.



ANNEX VII. EXISTING VCS REDD PROJECTS IN ZAMBIA

PROJECT NAME	PROPONENT	METHODOLOGY
<u>COMACO South Landscape Management Project</u>	Community Markets for Conservation (COMACO)	VM0042: VM0048
<u>COMACO Landscape Management Project — South</u>	Community Markets for Conservation (COMACO)	
<u>COMACO Landscape Management Project — West</u>	Community Markets for Conservation (COMACO)	VM0015, VM0017
Kafue Zambezi Community Forestry Project	BioCarbon Partners	VM0015: VM0048
Lavushimanda Community Conservation Project	Multiple Proponents	VM0009
Integrated REDD+ Project in Zambia	Kanaka Management Services Private Ltd.	VM0015
Itabu REDD+ Project in Zambia	Multiple Proponents	VM0015
Lower Zambezi REDD+ Project	BioCarbon Partners	VM0009
COMACO Landscape Management Project	Community Markets for Conservation (COMACO)	VM0015, VM0017
Musokotwane REDD+ Project	Zambruss Enterprises	VM0009
Luangwa Community Forests Project	Multiple Proponents	VM0009

ANNEX VIII. COMMUNITY FOREST MANAGEMENT GROUP PROFILES

#	DISTRICT	CFMG	CHIEFDOM	AREA (HA)	N. VILLAGES	N. MEMBERS	CF STEP
1.	Ikelenge	Kelundu	Ikelenge	394	4	500	4
2.	Kabompo	Chifuwe South	Sikufele	769	5	n.a.	3
3.		Kabulamema	Sikufele	32 058 (48 000)	5	n.a.	3
4.		Luli		n.a.	4	n.a.	3
5.	Kalumbila	Jimakamu	Jimakamu (a.i)	n.a. coordinates recently collected	4	n.a.	3
6.		Kamikolo	Mukumbi	55 385 (50,000)	14	n.a.	3
7.		Kasombo	Matebo	n.a. (10 000, in the process of expanding to 135 000)	4	n.a.	3
8.	Manyinga	Katumba	Mumena	n.a.	55	n.a.	3
9.		Chiteve	Sikufele	34 921	4	46	5
10.		Kashinakazhi	Sikufele	106 485	6	n.a.	5
11.		Luansongwa	Sikufele	66 301	22	7 025	5
12.	Mwinilunga	Chisasa	Sikufele	n.a. (20 829)	4	200	5
13.		Chuulu	Ntambu	39 799 (10 648)	15	280	5
14.		Kahundulu	Ntambu	1990 (2 142)	13	310	5
15.		Kanyamisovu	Ntambu	3,192	12	400	5
16.		Kanyikomboshi	Sailunga	90 000 (164 953)	5	3 337	5

#	DISTRICT	CFMG	CHIEFDOM	AREA (HA)	N. VILLAGES	N. MEMBERS	CF STEP
17.	Mwinilunga	Kayonge	Ntambu	47 203	10	121	5
18.		Kema	Ntambu	5 265	14	307	5
19.		Kewundu / Keundu	Ntambu	1 708	18	347	5
20.		Kimba	Ntambu	35 667	18	359	5
21.		Makasa	Kanyama	140	9	405	4
22.		Mumpulumba	Ntambu	10 648 (45 919)	12	310	5
23.		Muzhila	Kanyama	346 (60)	4	n.a.	4
24.		Samuteba	Sailunga	60 322 (60 372)	5	50	5

* Data on CFMG area from FD. In those cases that the CFMG or its partners reported different figures, it is indicated in brackets.



ANNEX E. DETAILED COMMUNITY FOREST MANAGEMENT GROUP PROFILES

The following community forest management group (CFMG) profiles were developed by Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) with support from UN-REDD Programme, based on data collected during a focus group discussion with the community in October 2023.



Chifuwe South Community

BASIC DATA

PROVINCE	North Western Province
DISTRICT	Kabompo
VILLAGES	Mapolongo, Kamaondo, Sakalongolo, Chifuwe South and Minunga
KEY CONTACT	Thomas Pundu
TOTAL NUMBER OF CFMG MEMBERS	All community are members. No register available
HECTARES OF CF	769
CFMG STAGE:	Step 3

Brief history

In March 2023, Kabompo Community Carbon (KCC) and the Forestry Department (FD) convened a meeting with all community members to raise awareness about the establishment of a Community Forest Management Group (CFMG) and its associated benefits. Following community agreement, ongoing awareness-raising efforts were conducted, culminating in the submission of recognition documents to the FD. The CFMG has received support for its application to be formally recognized.

Main objective of the Community Forest Management Group

The main objectives of Chifuwe South CFMG are to engage in carbon trading, manage forests for economic benefits, and maintain ecosystem health.

Community Forest Management Group governance and rights

• CFMG organization and decision-making

The Community Forest Management Group (CFMG) elected its executive committee through a democratic process involving all community members. The executive committee consists of nine men and three women, each serving a three-year term. General meetings and awareness-raising sessions have been held to emphasize the importance of tenure rights and foster a sense of ownership.

The CFMG organizes meetings to raise awareness among community members and to consolidate the necessary documentation for its application for official recognition by the Forestry Department (FD). Decision-making generally involves community consultation to ensure inclusive participation.

• Gender equality and social inclusion

With women representing only 25 percent of CFMG leadership (three women out of 12 members of the executive committee), gender equality remains a concern, as several barriers hinder women's participation. Some women are unable to attend meetings due to household responsibilities, while long distances to the meeting venue further limit their participation.

Pregnant women often face challenges in attending meetings, particularly when antenatal care appointments coincide with CFMG meeting days. Additionally, poor communication networks make it difficult to inform community members about upcoming meetings.

• **Rights of use and access**

Currently, the CFMG has not imposed restrictions on forest product access due to its early stage of formation. Once the CFMG is recognized, it will be able to enforce the constitution and management plan, as it will have the authority to take action against offenders.

• **Conflict resolution and grievance mechanism**

The community faces concerns related to the FD’s possible degazetting of the forest to establish the CFMG. A major issue in

this regard is the control of beehives in the forest and challenges in accessing and collecting firewood.

Availability and use of natural resources

Forest depletion, particularly due to the felling of rosewood trees, has been notable. The key wildlife species found in the community forest include duikers (*Cephalophinae*), giant rats (*Cricetomys emini*), bush pigs (*Potamochoerus larvatus*), monkeys, and honey badgers (*Mellivora capensis*).

Important plant species include Mupapa (*Afzelia quanzensis*), Rosewood (*Guibourtia coleosperma*), Pterocarpus chrysothrix Taub, Parinari curatellifolia, and Isoberlinia angolensis. The Kabompo, Chifuwe, and Dongwe rivers provide essential ecosystem services. The community also collects various non-wood forest products.

// TABLE E1.1. //

Top five forest products collected by women and men

	PRODUCT #1	PRODUCT #2	PRODUCT #3	PRODUCT #4	PRODUCT #5
WOMEN	Mushrooms	Caterpillars	Wild fruits	Firewood	Herbal medicine
MEN	Honey	Mushrooms	Caterpillars	Poles	Fibers

Source: Authors’ elaboration.

Benefits, benefit sharing, and access to finance

Benefit-sharing mechanisms are outlined in the CFMG constitution, specifying percentage allocations for community members and stakeholders. Carbon trading, a primary focus, is facilitated through a partnership with Kabompo Community Carbon (KCC).

Forest and land management practices, capacities, and learning

The CFMG has not yet begun activities with community forest members. Patrols have also not been organized, pending formal recognition of the CFMG.

Traditional practices include restricting tree cutting around streams,

based on the belief that such actions lead to adverse consequences. The Kafundula tree is associated with bad luck.

Community skills include forest protection, traditional beehive making, metal fabrication, fish basket weaving, mat making, and carpentry. Future learning interests include mushroom preservation, modern beehive making, fish farming, nursery establishment, livestock rearing, gardening, mushroom cultivation, and forest product value addition.

Threats and challenges

The CFMG faces challenges such as late-season fires, illegal timber harvesting, and unsustainable caterpillar collection. Limited enforcement authority over these issues exacerbates the situation.



Harvesting forest products also poses risks, including snakebites, accidents, getting lost, and falling from trees while collecting wild fruits. Community members sometimes struggle to correctly identify medicinal plants and properly store forest products. Market access constraints mean that prices for non-wood forest products are largely dictated by buyers.

The Chifuwe South Community Forestry Management Area (CFMA) covers the entire Chifuwe South ward and includes a significant portion of the nearby forest reserve. Typically, CFMAs do not overlap with gazetted forest reserves; however, the boundaries for this CFMA were approved by the FD at district and provincial

levels. This may have been an oversight or a special arrangement, an issue that requires clarification with the FD.

If the overlap was unintentional, the CFMA boundaries may need revision. However, if the inclusion of the forest reserve was deliberate, additional support may be required to ensure adequate and effective forest management.

Future plans and aspirations

Resource mobilization is identified as a priority for the CFMG, with financial support needed to conduct forest patrols while awaiting formal recognition.

// FIGURE E1.1. //

Chifuwe South CF map

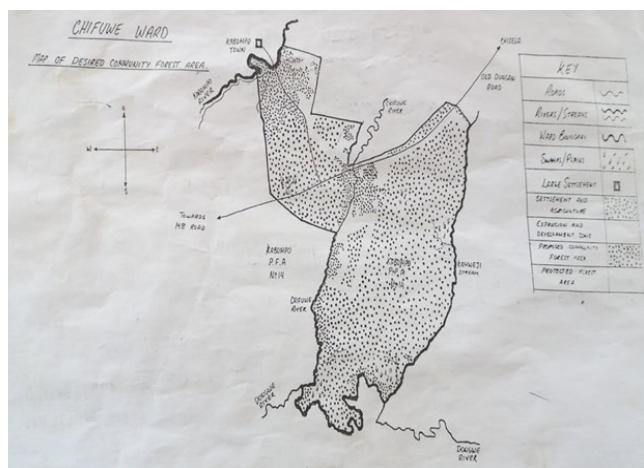


Source: Authors' elaboration using Geographic Information System (GIS), with CFMA boundary overlaid on Google Satellite imagery.

Notes: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

// FIGURE E1.2. //

Sketch map of Chifuwe South CFMG



Source: Authors' elaboration, based on community-provided sketch mapping.

Notes: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

Chisasa Community

BASIC DATA

PROVINCE	North Western Province
DISTRICT	Mwinilunga (Chief Sailunga)
VILLAGES	Fundamukanwa, Mbemba, Kashambila and Mukamba
KEY CONTACT	Samakayi
TOTAL NUMBER OF CFMG MEMBERS	200 (120 men, 80 women)
HECTARES OF CF	20 829 ha
CFMG STAGE:	Step 5

Brief history

The Chisasa community was established in August 2022 with support from Kabompo Community Carbon and the Forestry Department (FD). Awareness-raising sessions were held to help community members understand the concept of a Community Forest Management Group (CFMG), its benefits, and the steps required to establish one. Following these sessions, the community expressed interest and initiated the formation process.

Main objective of the CFMG

Chisasa CFMG aims to engage in carbon trading and improve livelihoods through forest protection and sustainable management.

CFMG governance and rights

• CFMG organization and decision-making

The Chisasa CFMG executive committee consists of ten members (two women and eight men) with a five-year term of office. General assemblies are held every two months, and executive committee members meet monthly. Community discussions focus on forest management, developments related to the CFMG formalization process, anticipated outcomes of carbon trading, and the importance of forest protection.

• Gender equality and social inclusion

Women represent 40 percent of the CFMG membership (80 women out of 200 CFMG members) and 20 percent of CFMG leadership.

Barriers to women's full participation include long distances to meeting places, discouragement from jealous husbands, difficulties for pregnant women to attend, and a lack of food during meetings. The executive committee makes efforts to encourage women's participation.

• Rights of use and access

There are no restrictions on local community members obtaining forest products for personal use, but those collecting for sale face restrictions. Outsiders are not allowed due to concerns that government officers may permit tree cutting without the community's knowledge.

• Conflict resolution and grievance mechanism

The community resolves conflicts through discussions, involving the headman if needed. Patrolling of the community forest occurs monthly, with a duty roster determining who is on patrol.

Availability and use of natural resources

The Chisasa community forest area is home to important wildlife and plant species. Key wildlife species include giant rats (*Cricetomys emini*), blue duikers (*Philantomba monticola*), rabbits (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*), porcupines (*Hystrix cristata*), bush babies (*Galago crassicaudatus*), baboons (*Papio cynocephalus*), and snakes (*Serpentes*).

Important plant species include *Uapaca kirkiana*, *Pterocarpus angolensis*, *Parinari curatellifolia*, *Pterocarpus chrysotrix*, rosewood (*Guibourtia coleosperma*), and *Ansellia boehmii*.

Ecosystem services include several streams such as Kamukumbi, Chifukuseki, Makuya, Muzimbezi, Abombo, and Kabiwele, which contribute to biodiversity.

// TABLE E.2.1 //

Top five forest products collected by women and men

	PRODUCT #1	PRODUCT #2	PRODUCT #3	PRODUCT #4	PRODUCT #5
WOMEN	Herbal medicine	Mushrooms	Wild fruits	Caterpillars	Orchids
MEN	Honey	Firewood	Timber	Mushrooms	Thatched grass

Source: Authors' elaboration.

Benefits, benefit-sharing mechanism, and access to finance

Carbon trading motivates the community to avoid cutting trees. The CFMG does not have a bank account but keeps funds collected from charcoal permits and penalties with the executive committee treasurer. Community members have no meaningful access to credit, which is needed for various activities, but Atlas Mara Bank has a retail branch in the vicinity.

The community has established a benefit-sharing arrangement in its constitution, allocating contributions to the chief (5%), the senior headman (2%), and a scholarship fund (20%).

Forest and land management practices, capacities, and learning

Patrolling of the community forest occurs monthly, with a duty roster determining who is on patrol. However, patrols are infrequent because the forest is located approximately twenty-two kilometres from the CFMG village area. Traditional practices, such as maintaining dual fields and protecting certain tree species, continue.

The community possesses skills in carpentry, handcrafts, boat making, and drumming. Future learning interests include Honorary Forest Officer (HFO) training, financial management, beekeeping,

carpentry, bricklaying, conservation farming, leadership skills, fire management, oxen farming, and livestock rearing.

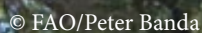
Threats and challenges

Late-season fires, illegal tree cutting, and the expansion of new agricultural areas pose threats to the forest. The community faces challenges when collecting forest products, including snake bites, insect stings, and difficulties in selling products such as honey. Information on market prices is obtained from nearby shops and schools.

The greatest challenge is the long distance between the village and the forest, which affects the monitoring of illegal activities. Community members often spend nights in the forest, putting themselves at risk. Additional challenges include a poor telephone network and lack of internet access.

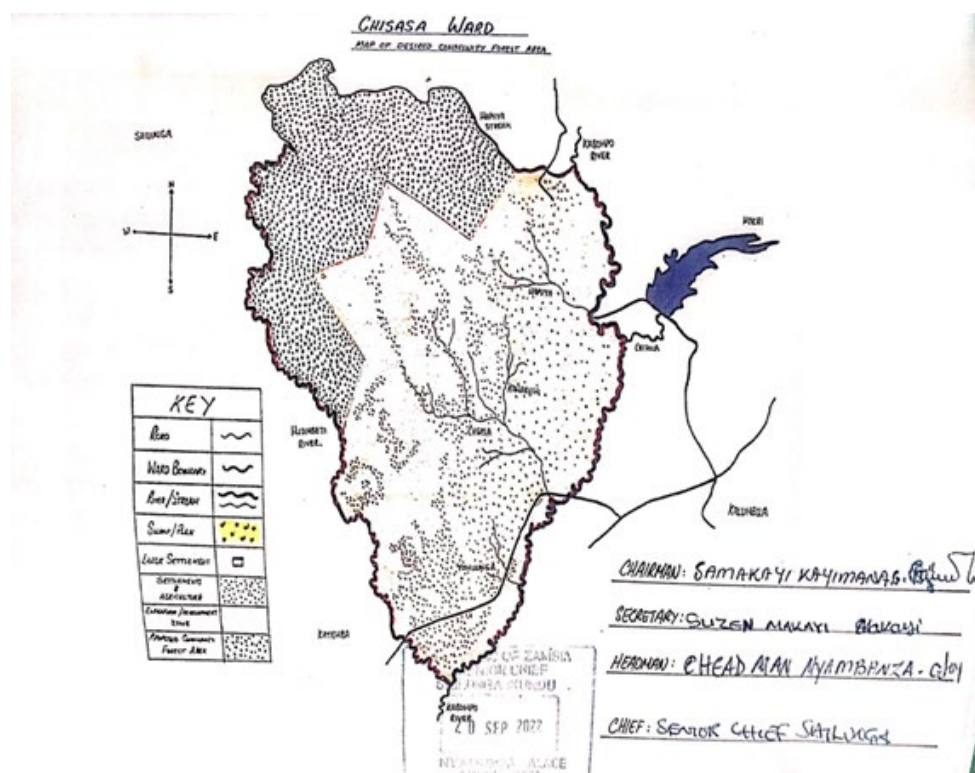
Future plans and aspirations

The community believes that engaging in carbon trading will generate income, enabling them to construct schools, drill boreholes, and assist vulnerable members. They anticipate that involvement in carbon trading will lead to overall improved livelihoods and a reduction in crime rates. Looking ahead, the community expresses a desire to be connected to markets in the future.



// FIGURE E2.1. //

Sketch map of Chisasa CFMG



Notes: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

At the time of publication, satellite map for this community management group was not available.

Chiteve Community

BASIC DATA

PROVINCE North Western Province

DISTRICT Manyinga

VILLAGES Jilendula, Mankanda, Kanyinya and Muyangi

KEY CONTACT Kamondo Davies

TOTAL NUMBER OF CFMG MEMBERS 46 (9 women, 37 men)

HECTARES OF CF 34 921 ha

CFMG STAGE: Step 5

Brief history

Chiteve Community Forest Management Group (CFMG) was established in 2016 under the Global Environment Facility five project, overcoming initial challenges with the traditional Chief's approval. Since two thousand twenty-one, the CFMG has been receiving support from Kabompo Community Carbon. Although no training sessions have taken place yet, the group is anticipating future training opportunities.

Main objective of the CFMG

The overarching goal of forming Chiteve CFMG is to protect the forest, recognizing its significance in providing essential resources and sustaining future generations.

CFMG governance and rights

• CFMG organization and decision-making

Chiteve CFMG operates with a democratically elected executive committee consisting of ten members, including representatives from user groups, the Chief, Kabompo Community Carbon, and the Forestry Department. Despite the constitution stipulating quarterly meetings, the CFMG has convened less frequently. Decision-making topics include forest protection, illegal timber monitoring, updates on Form Seven signing by the Forestry Department, and the appointment of Honorary Forest Officers.

• Gender equality and social inclusion

Women represent nineteen percent of the CFMG membership, with nine women out of thirty-seven members, and forty percent of the CFMG leadership, with four women out of ten executive committee members. Challenges hindering women's participation, such as the perception of a lack of immediate benefits and the distance to meetings, are acknowledged. Women often perceive forest protection as a role for men. Special efforts are being made to encourage female involvement.

• Rights of use and access

Chiteve CFMG members require permission to harvest forest products for sale in large quantities, while collection for home consumption does not require approval. Outsiders are not allowed to collect forest products without permission from the Chief. The CFMG executive committee also issues fishing permits.

• Conflict resolution and grievance mechanism

The CFMG currently faces conflicts with some timber harvesters who claim to have licenses from the Forestry Department. The CFMG addresses conflicts and grievances by involving government institutions, such as the Forestry Department and the Council, including the headmen.

Availability and use of natural resources

The Chiteve forest cover has been decreasing over time due to timber logging. Unsustainable harvesting of non-wood forest products, such as mushrooms, honey, and caterpillars, is a common issue in the area. The diverse wildlife species found in the community

forest include bush pigs (*Potamochoerus larvatus*), blue duikers (*Philantomba monticola*), bushbucks (*Tragelaphus scriptus*), and *Brachystegia utilis*. The Kamwezhi and Chintapa streams provide ecosystem services.

// TABLE E.3.1 //

Top five forest products collected by women and men

	PRODUCT #1	PRODUCT #2	PRODUCT #3	PRODUCT #4	PRODUCT #5
WOMEN	Mushrooms	Caterpillars	Herbal medicines	Orchids	Fish
MEN	Honey	Thatched grass	Fiber	Timber	Poles

Source: Authors' elaboration.

Benefits, benefit-sharing mechanism, and access to finance

The Community Forest Management Group (CFMG) constitution outlines a transparent benefit-sharing mechanism in partnership with Kabompo Community Carbon. Carbon trading, the primary reason for forming CFMGs, is anticipated, but benefits have yet to be received. The absence of a bank account poses a financial challenge. The CFMG treasurer keeps the money collected from membership fees. The group also seeks financial credit to support the honey, caterpillar, and chikanda businesses.

Forest and land management practices, capacities, and learning

Chiteve CFMG has yet to commence activities and organize forest patrols. A designated area known as Ulia is considered a burial site for babies, and no trees are cut down in this area.

Community skills include the making of handicrafts, honey extraction, timber harvesting, thatching grass, and collecting poles. Capacity-building needs include beekeeping, mushroom harvesting and preservation, conservation farming, caterpillar harvesting, forest management, tree planting, and fire management.

The Chiteve community has expressed interest in future learning opportunities in areas such as fish farming, beekeeping, fire management, conservation farming, gardening, bookkeeping,

processing of wild fruits, and processing of herbal medicine, as well as additional skills training for young people.

Threats and challenges

In Chiteve CFMG, challenges arise during the collection and sale of forest products, including issues with perishable items, hazardous bush conditions, river crossings, and snake bites. Community members endure a demanding five-hour walk to reach the forest area boundary. Additional threats include late-season fires, charcoal production, intimidation by armed forest concession owners, and ongoing concerns over land grabbing.

Future plans and aspirations

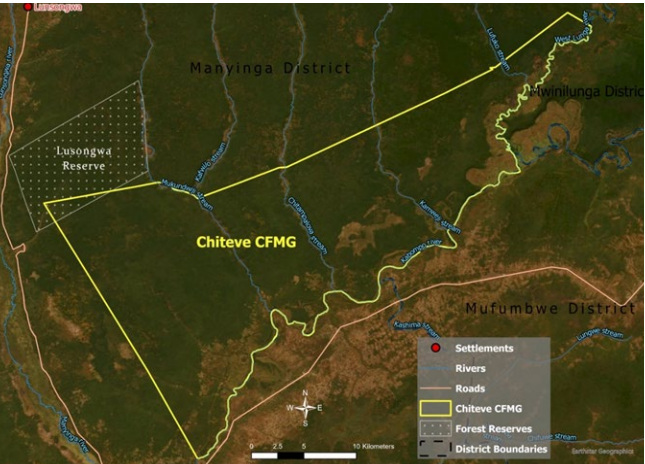
No opportunities have been identified, though the community has raised concerns over the delayed signing of Form Seven, which has affected the implementation of activities.



© FAO/Peter Banda

// FIGURE E3.1. //

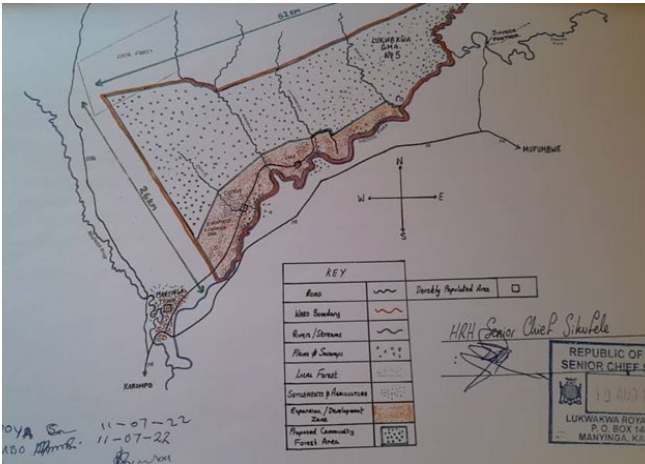
Chiteve South CF map



Source: Authors' elaboration using Geographic Information System (GIS), with CFMA boundary overlaid on Google Satellite imagery.
Notes: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

// FIGURE E3.2. //

Chiteve CF Sketch Map



Source: Authors' elaboration, based on community-provided sketch mapping.
Notes: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

Chuulu Community

BASIC DATA

PROVINCE	North Western Province
DISTRICT	Mwinilunga (Chief Ntambu)
VILLAGES	Makaliki, Sakamwanga, Mwanza, Kasonga, Nyantombu, Sakhata, Muyinda, Mpampa, Chiyanga, Nyailunga, Chuulu Nyamwana, Chikayi, Machoni, Mukambi
KEY CONTACT	Andrew Kalikowa
TOTAL NUMBER OF CFMG MEMBERS	280 (120 women, 160 men)
HECTARES OF CF	10 648 ha
CFMG STAGE:	Step 5

Brief history

The community forestry initiative began in August 2021 after a visit from the West Lunga Conservation Partner to raise awareness about Community Forest Management Group (CFMG) processes and potential benefits. Following this visit, a constitution was drafted, and elections were conducted. In addition to the West Lunga Conservation Partner, other external partners include the Forestry Department and The Nature Conservancy.

Main objective of the CFMG

The CFMG was established with the primary objectives of engaging in carbon trading, securing property rights, managing forests, and deriving associated benefits.

CFMG governance and rights

• CFMG organization and decision-making

The CFMG holds democratic elections to select the executive committee through a general assembly to which all community members are invited. The current committee consists of twelve members, including seven men and five women, who serve a five-year term. General assembly meetings take place twice a year, while

executive committee meetings are held monthly, focusing on planning awareness campaigns and community education. The Chief serves as the patron, overseeing CFMG activities. Members are encouraged to contribute ideas, some of which are put to a vote.

• Gender equality and social inclusion

Women represent sixty-six percent of the CFMG membership, with eighty women out of two hundred members, and forty-one percent of the CFMG leadership, with five women out of twelve members of the executive committee. Despite facing obstacles, particularly related to limited education and opposition from husbands preventing their wives' involvement, the CFMG actively promotes women's participation by establishing subcommittees and appointing women as lead farmers.

• Rights of use and access

CFMG members have access to the forest for personal use, with restrictions placed only on those collecting for commercial sale. Outsiders require permits, and the CFMG has enforcement authority over offenders. The CFMG envisions sustainability and reduced pressure on the forest through established rules and regulations. Members understand that their rights are long-term.

• **Conflict resolution and grievance mechanism**

Conflicts, often stemming from a lack of transparency, are addressed during executive committee meetings.

Availability and use of natural resources

The Chuulu forest thrives due to conservation efforts, supporting diverse wildlife and important plant species. The aquatic ecosystem includes rivers such as Kabompo and Kasanjiko, along with various streams.

Wildlife present in the area includes elephants (*Loxodonta*), buffaloes (*Bubalus bubalis*), snakes (*Serpentes*), pukus (*Kobus vardonii*), giant rats (*Cricetomys emini*), porcupines (*Hystrix cristata*), duikers (*Cephalophinae*), sable antelopes (*Hippotragus*

niger), hippopotamuses (*Hippopotamus amphibius*), warthogs (*Potamochoerus larvatus*), elands (*Taurotragus oryx*), zebras (*Equus burchellii*), and impalas (*Aepyceros melampus*).

Important plant species include *Uapaca kirkiana*, *Pterocarpus angolensis*, *Parinari curatellifolia*, rosewood (*Guibourtia coleosperma*), and *Fauria saligna*.

In terms of ecosystem services, several rivers, including Kabompo and Kasanjiko, along with streams such as Sange, Mumpulumba, Chwalukuta, and Luampemba, provide essential resources. Additionally, six graveyards have been identified as areas of important spiritual value.

The table below presents the forest products most frequently collected by women and men for household use.

// TABLE E.4.1 //

Top five forest products collected by women and men

	PRODUCT #1	PRODUCT #2	PRODUCT #3	PRODUCT #4	PRODUCT #5
WOMEN	Herbal medicines	Mushrooms	Wild fruits	Caterpillars	Orchids
MEN	Honey	Mushrooms	Caterpillars	Herbal medicines	Fibers

Source: Authors' elaboration.

Benefits, benefit-sharing mechanism, and access to finance

The formation of the Community Forest Management Group (CFMG) has facilitated training opportunities, business development, and partnerships with projects such as the Global Environment Facility seven. The CFMG has received external support, including training for Honorary Forest Officers, entrepreneurship, and conservation farming. Additional assistance has come in the form of food rations, allowances, bicycles, fire beaters, knapsacks, and other resources.

Under the CFMG's benefit-sharing mechanism, which is discussed during the general assembly, the chief and the senior headman receive five percent and two percent, respectively.

The CFMG does not collect dues or hold a bank account. One credit institution, Atlas Mara, operates in the area; however, there has been little engagement by the CFMG so far. Telephone service is reliable, but there is no internet access.

Forest and land management practices, capacities, and learning

Forest patrols are conducted regularly by Honorary Forest Officers, fire leads, and executive committee members, aided by resources such as bicycles, food rations, uniforms, phones, allowances, knapsacks, and fire beaters. These patrols have been effective in deterring destructive activities, including charcoal kilns and illegal logging. The Chuulu community faces threats such as late-season fires and illegal logging; however, CFMG initiatives, including awareness-raising efforts and penalties, have contributed to improvements. Strategic placement of fire breaks and guards further enhances the community's resilience.

Traditional forest management practices persist, with the mutata tree being safeguarded due to its roots being used for abortion and to facilitate safe childbirth. Conservation agriculture demonstration plots have also been established.

The community possesses diverse skills, including carpentry (having adopted modern beehives), handcrafts (producing reed mats), crafting axe handles, and bricklaying. The community has expressed interest in future learning opportunities, including beekeeping, mushroom preservation, processing wild fruits into jams, packaging herbal medicine, preserving orchids, conservation farming, and fish farming.

Threats and challenges

The community faces various challenges. In relation to collecting forest products, risks include insect bites and accidents. There are also limited markets for forest products and a lack of access to investment capital. Long distances to markets and difficulties in selling in bulk have posed further challenges.

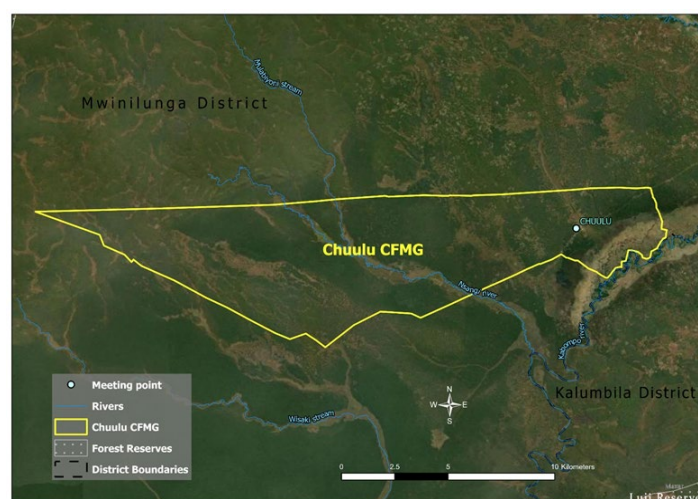
Honey harvesters sometimes delay in collecting the honey, resulting in losses when the bees consume their own honey. The community has attempted to regulate the quantities of honey harvested through self-imposed rules. Despite the potential for tourism, human-wildlife conflict is increasing as elephants move closer to community households.

Future plans and aspirations

To enhance their activities, the community requires additional training and access to credit for various purposes, including beekeeping, fire management (currently equipped with one fire beater), acquisition of processing and preservation equipment for non-timber forest products, timber processing, poultry farming, and fish farming.

// FIGURE E4.1. //

Chuulu South CF map



Source: Authors' elaboration using Geographic Information System (GIS), with CFMA boundary overlaid on Google Satellite imagery.

Notes: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

At the time of publication, satellite map for this community management group was not available.



Jimakamu Community

BASIC DATA

PROVINCE	North Western Province
DISTRICT	Kalumbila
VILLAGES	Jilendula, Mankanda, Kanyinya and Muyangi
KEY CONTACT	Yolisa Mpasa
TOTAL NUMBER OF CFMG MEMBERS	n/a
HECTARES OF CF	n/a
CFMG STAGE:	Step 3

Brief history

Jimakamu Community Forest Management Group (CFMG) was established after Barrick Lumwana Mine initiated contact with local chiefs in February 2023. Community leaders were engaged, and subsequent awareness-raising activities were conducted. Additional groups were included in the CFMG in mid-July of the same year. The primary external partner for Jimakamu CFMG is Barrick Lumwana Mine, which has also facilitated the training of ten Honorary Forest Officers at Zambia Forestry College.

Main objective of the CFMG

The primary objectives of Jimakamu CFMG include the production of forest products, agroforestry, and forest services, including tourism, carbon trading, and the protection of ecosystem services such as water, soil, and biodiversity.

CFMG governance and rights

• CFMG organization and decision-making

Jimakamu CFMG has democratically elected an executive committee consisting of twelve members, including eight men and four women, each serving a three-year term. Although the CFMG constitution mandates quarterly meetings, the group has convened less frequently. Decisions are typically made by the executive committee, which then shares information with the community for overall decision-making.

The traditional Chief serves as the patron and actively participates in CFMG meetings. A representative of the Chief, usually the headman, is always present at CFMG meetings.

• Gender equality and social inclusion

Women represent thirty-three percent of CFMG leadership, with four women out of twelve members of the executive committee. Challenges related to women's participation, including shyness, lack of confidence, and resistance from spouses, have been acknowledged. Others feel that the meetings will not benefit them in any way. The CFMG is actively working to overcome these barriers through extensive community discussions and engagement with school headteachers to promote women's involvement.

• Rights of use and access

Jimakamu CFMG restricts access to the community forest, requiring permission from the executive committee. Community members are informed about these rules, reinforcing the importance of controlled access.

• Conflict resolution and grievance mechanism

Conflicts arising from fears of land grabbing have been addressed by the executive committee, with conflict resolution involving discussions and, if necessary, escalation to the Chief.

Availability and use of natural resources

Forest areas, including Kanyinya, Mujanji, Makanda, and Jilendula, remain largely intact. The diverse wildlife species found in the community forest include antelopes (*Hippotraginae equinus*), deer (*Cervus elaphus*), honey badgers (*Mellivora capensis*), bush babies (*Galago crassicaudatus*), pangolins (*Smutsia temminckii*), squirrels (*Paraxerus cepapi*), eagles (*Haliaeetus vocifer*), guinea fowls (*Numida meleagris*), hares (*Lepus europaeus*), and tortoises (*Testudinidae*).

Important plant species include *Anisophyllea boehmii*, *Pterocarpus chrysothrix* Taub, *Uapaca kirkiana*, *Erythrophleum africanum*, *Parinari curatellifolia*, *Pterocarpus angolensis*, and *Strychnos cocculoides*.

Kaweelu, Katooka, Kifulomabwe, Kamujiji, and Kampwezi streams, along with Moosa Hill and Nyango Dam, provide important ecosystem services, including fishing areas.

// TABLE E.4.1 //

Top five forest products collected by women and men

	PRODUCT #1	PRODUCT #2	PRODUCT #3	PRODUCT #4	PRODUCT #5
WOMEN	Mushrooms	Caterpillars	Wild fruits	Munkoyo roots	Orchids
MEN	Honey	Thatched grass	Mushrooms	Timber	Wild fruits

Source: Authors' elaboration.

Benefits, benefit-sharing mechanism, and access to finance

The constitution outlines a benefit-sharing mechanism, with a carbon trading partnership established with Barrick Lumwana Mine. However, the absence of a bank account for the Community Forest Management Group (CFMG) poses a financial challenge. The benefit-sharing mechanism has been explained to community members during the general meeting.

Credit institutions exist in the community, including Zanga Zikwane, village banking, and the savings bank, though none of the CFMG members currently participate in these.

Forest and land management practices, capacities, and learning

The CFMG has not yet started conducting activities with community members. Forest patrols are also not yet organized, pending formal recognition of the CFMG.

Traditional practices include restricting tree cutting near water sources, in graveyards, and of any type of fruit tree. Tree cutting is only permitted with authorization from the headmen or Chief.

Community skills include making handicrafts, tables, chairs, cooking sticks, mortars and pestles, traditional basket weaving, bamboo crafting, conservation farming, and traditional bark hive making. The community has expressed interest in learning new skills, including tailoring and design, carpentry, catering, gardening, financial management, metal fabrication, electrical installation and repair, conservation farming, fish farming, chicken rearing, livestock rearing, and beekeeping.

Threats and challenges

Jimakamu CFMG faces threats such as indiscriminate tree cutting, late-season burning, bark hive harvesting, charcoal production, illegal logging, poaching, and non-compliance with CFMG rules. These challenges persist, as the community is not yet authorized to take action until the CFMG is officially recognized.

Additional challenges arise during the collection and sale of forest products, including the spoilage of perishable items, inadequate markets, and risks such as snake bites. Some products, such as orchids, require significant labour, while certain mushrooms become scarce due to late-season burning. The long distance to markets further complicates the sale of forest products.

Future plans and aspirations

Opportunities created through Honorary Forest Officer training, conservation education, and collaboration with Barrick Lumwana Mine and the Forestry Department have resulted in positive changes,

including reduced charcoal production. The CFMG aspires to excel in forest management, effectively address challenges, and benefit from carbon trading to support infrastructure development.

Note: At the time of publication, maps for this community management group were not available.



Kabulamema Community

BASIC DATA

PROVINCE	North Western Province
DISTRICT	Kabompo
VILLAGES	Kapona, Kaande, Biyeke, Kabulamema, Kaminyonde
KEY CONTACT	Kemses Mupila
TOTAL NUMBER OF CFMG MEMBERS	All community members-No register
HECTARES OF CF	48 000 ha
CFMG STAGE:	Step 3

Brief history

Kabulamema Community Forest Management Group (CFMG) was established in 2021 following engagements with Kabulamema Organic Producers and Processors Organization and the Forestry Department. CFMG application procedures began in two thousand twenty-two, and Kabompo Community Carbon joined to support the initiative in March two thousand twenty-three.

Main objective of the CFMG

The primary objectives of Kabulamema CFMG are forest preservation, sustainable management, carbon trading, establishing ownership and rights, and the production of forest products.

CFMG governance and rights

• CFMG organization and decision-making

The CFMG has democratically elected an executive committee consisting of twelve members, including nine men and three women, each serving a three-year term. General assembly meetings take place three times a year and are also convened when urgent matters arise. Meetings primarily guide members through the formation stages, as the group is still in its early stages. The community makes decisions through discussions and voting on proposed ideas.

The traditional Chief serves as the patron of the CFMG and plays a key role in ensuring its success by raising awareness among members about the importance of conservation and respect for boundaries. The Chief also signs official letters from the CFMG.

• Gender equality and social inclusion

Women represent thirty-six percent of CFMG leadership, with three women out of twelve executive committee members. Barriers to women's participation include domestic responsibilities and the need to travel long distances to attend meetings and activities. The extensive walks required for awareness-raising meetings discourage attendance. Others feel that the meetings will not provide them with tangible benefits.

• Rights of use and access

As the CFMG is still in its early stages, no restrictions have yet been imposed on forest product access. The current approach for offenders is confiscation, with plans to enforce regulations once the group is formally recognized.

• Conflict resolution and grievance mechanism

Internal conflicts are resolved through committee discussions and, if necessary, escalated to the Chief or legal authorities.

Availability and use of natural resources

Rosewood depletion and illegal tree cutting threaten biodiversity, with increasing targeting of *Pterocarpus angolensis* and *Afzelia quanzensis*. Illegal loggers cut trees without engaging in reforestation, leading to reduced forest diversity.

Wildlife species found in the community forest include duikers (*Cephalophinae*), snakes (*Serpentes*), giant rats (*Cricetomys emini*), bush pigs (*Potamochoerus larvatus*), monkeys (*Chlorocebus pygerythrus*), honey badgers (*Mellivora capensis*), and tortoises (*Testudinidae*).

Important plant species include *Afzelia quanzensis*, rosewood (*Guibourtia coleosperma*), *Swartzia madagascariensis*, *Pterocarpus chrysothrix* Taub, *Parinari curatellifolia*, and *Isoberlinia angolensis*.

The Kabompo and Dongwe rivers, along with Kabulamema streams and Kapona Dam, provide essential ecosystem services, including fishing areas.

The table below presents the five most frequently collected forest products by women and men.

// TABLE E.4.1 //

Top five forest products collected by women and men

	PRODUCT #1	PRODUCT #2	PRODUCT #3	PRODUCT #4	PRODUCT #5
WOMEN	Mushrooms	Caterpillars	Wild fruits	Firewood	Herbal medicine
MEN	Honey comb	Thatched grass	Charcoal	Poles	Fibers

Source: Authors’ elaboration.

Benefits, benefit-sharing mechanism, and access to finance

The constitution outlines benefit-sharing percentages, with the carbon trading partnership with Kabompo Community Carbon as a primary focus. Various non-wood forest products are collected.

Community members participate in cooperatives, women’s clubs, and social welfare groups that support vulnerable populations. The Community Forest Management Group (CFMG) does not have a bank account, but several financial institutions operate in Kabompo town, including Agora, Atlas Mara, and the Constituency Development Fund.

Forest and land management practices, capacities, and learning

The CFMG has not yet started conducting activities with its members. Forest patrols are also not yet organized, pending formal recognition of the CFMG.

Traditional practices include restricting the cutting of certain tree species, which are believed to be poisonous and capable of causing harm.

Community skills include fishing, drum making, traditional beekeeping, carpentry, canoe making, fishing basket weaving, mortar and pestle making, grass thatching for houses, and the production of axe and spear handles. The community has expressed interest in learning new skills, including fruit processing, tailoring, bricklaying, and carpentry.

Threats and challenges

Kabulamema CFMG faces threats from timber extraction, late-season fires, charcoal production, bark hive harvesting, and land clearing for agriculture. These issues are worsening, and the CFMG feels unable to take action. However, unsustainable caterpillar harvesting has declined due to awareness-raising efforts. The CFMG often confiscates axes from those engaging in illegal tree cutting and caterpillar harvesting.

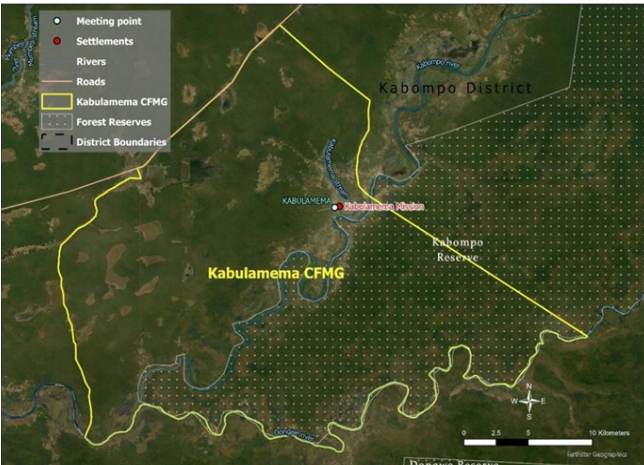
The long travel distance to meetings discourages participation.

Future plans and aspirations

The formation of the CFMG has created new opportunities. The CFMG aspires to excel in forest management and effectively address challenges.

// FIGURE E6.1. //

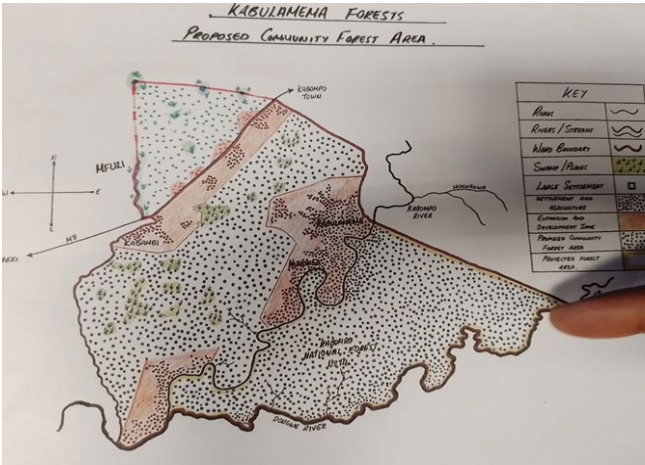
Kabulamema South CF map



Source: Authors' elaboration using Geographic Information System (GIS), with CFMA boundary overlaid on Google Satellite imagery.
Notes: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

// FIGURE E6.2. //

Kabulamema CF Sketch Map



Source: Authors' elaboration, based on community-provided sketch mapping.
Notes: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.



Kahundula Community

BASIC DATA

PROVINCE	North Western Province
DISTRICT	Mwinilunga (Chief Ntambu)
VILLAGES	Mulangu, Kahundula, Saulimbi, Kapila, Musumali, Katochi Nyihamba, Chiselele, Morozyhi, Kakundi, Musombela Nyakudenga and Sankhoha
KEY CONTACT	Maggie Chilombo / 0764808671
TOTAL NUMBER OF CFMG MEMBERS	310
HECTARES OF CF	2 142 ha
CFMG STAGE:	Step 5

Brief history

The Kahundula Community Forest Management Group (CFMG) was established in June 2021 after the concept was introduced to the Chief by the West Lunga Conservation Project. The community was informed about CFMG processes and benefits. Subsequently, a constitution was drafted, and elections were held.

The CFMG has so far received support from the West Lunga Conservation Project, the Forestry Department, and the Global Environment Facility seven project through The Nature Conservancy and the Conservation Farming Unit.

Main objective of the CFMG

The main objective of the CFMG is to manage forests and derive benefits for livelihoods improvement and ecosystem services, as well as to engage in carbon trading.

CFMG governance and rights

• CFMG organization and decision-making

The executive committee consists of eleven members, including five men and six women, who were democratically elected for a five-year term. Decision-making involves initial discussions within the executive committee, followed by community voting. The Chief

actively engages in community awareness-raising, conflict resolution, and regular meetings, including a general assembly held every three months and monthly executive meetings.

• Gender equality and social inclusion

Women represent fifty-four percent of CFMG leadership, with six women out of eleven members of the executive committee. Women are actively encouraged to participate in leadership roles, with the formation of women's subcommittees. The executive chair and vice-chair are also women.

• Rights of use and access

CFMG members face no restrictions when collecting forest products for personal consumption, but commercial collection is restricted. Outsiders require permits to enter the community forest.

• Conflict resolution and grievance mechanism

The group has not reported any serious conflicts to date and indicates that improved conservation practices have generally been accepted within the community. The CFMG has a process by which conflicts or grievances are initially addressed by the executive committee. If a resolution is not reached, the issue is escalated to the senior headman and, if necessary, to the Chief.

Availability and use of natural resources

The forest has experienced an increase in tree density and canopy cover due to prohibitions against destructive practices. Wildlife species, including bushbucks (*Tragelaphus scriptus*), duikers (*Cephalophinae*), snakes (*Serpentes*), pangolins (*Smutsia temminckii*), giant rats (*Cricetomys emini*), various birds, and tortoises (*Testudinidae*), have returned.

Important plant species include *Uapaca kirkiana*, *Pterocarpus angolensis*, *Parinari curatellifolia*, *Pterocarpus chrysotrix*, rosewood (*Guibourtia coleosperma*), *Fauria saligna*, *Anisophyllea boehmii*, and *Albizia identifolia*.

Aquatic ecosystems contribute to overall biodiversity and include the Kasanjiko River, as well as the Kasumpa, Kabamba, and Bikwekwe streams.

// TABLE E.7.1 //

Top five forest products collected by women and men

	PRODUCT #1	PRODUCT #2	PRODUCT #3	PRODUCT #4	PRODUCT #5
WOMEN	Mushrooms	Caterpillars	Herbal medicines	Chikanda	Wild fruits
MEN	Honey	Mushrooms	Wild fruits	Caterpillars	Herbal medicines

Source: Authors' elaboration.

Benefits, benefit-sharing mechanism, and access to finance

The group has benefited from training support through the Global Environment Facility seven project and other initiatives in business management and conservation agriculture. Honorary Forest Officers have been provided with bicycles to aid forest monitoring activities.

The Community Forest Management Group (CFMG) has signed a benefit-sharing agreement, which was decided through a general assembly meeting. One and a half percent of proceeds are allocated to the Chief, with just over two percent going to the senior headmen, while the remaining funds are presumably allocated to the CFMG itself.

The CFMG does not charge membership dues, nor does it have a bank account. Any funds managed by the CFMG are handled by the group's treasurer. A savings group operates for both men and women, and the main financial options available include the Constituency Development Fund and Atlas Mara, which has a branch in the vicinity.

Forest and land management practices, capacities, and learning

Forest patrols, led by Honorary Forest Officers, are conducted regularly. Offenses such as illegal charcoal kilns and unauthorized

logging are documented and submitted for action. The CFMG collaborates with the community on fire management activities.

Kahundula community members have benefited from diverse training opportunities in business, Honorary Forest Officer duties, and conservation agriculture. Recognition from institutions such as the Global Environment Facility and FAO has been instrumental in advancing community efforts. Transportation for Honorary Forest Officers has improved through the provision of bicycles.

In the future, the group would like capacity-building or training in fish farming, modern beekeeping and honey processing, non-wood forest product value addition, entrepreneurship, carpentry, and metallurgy.

Threats and challenges

The community faces challenges such as accidents, snake bites, product spoilage, wasp stings, and late-season fires. Market-related challenges include limited access to markets, unfair pricing, and transportation issues. Other concerns include the opportunity costs of attending meetings, the shift away from traditional practices, and inadequate transportation during emergencies.

The community emphasizes the need for intensive and detailed training sessions, as well as readily available transport for market exploration.

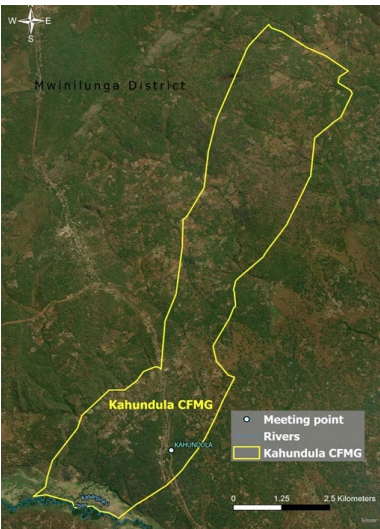
Future plans and aspirations

In the future, the group hopes that their local hospital will offer a greater range of medical expertise. The CFMG aspires to provide

scholarship opportunities for community members and would like access to improved transportation to facilitate the collection of forest products and their sale in markets.

// FIGURE E7.1. //

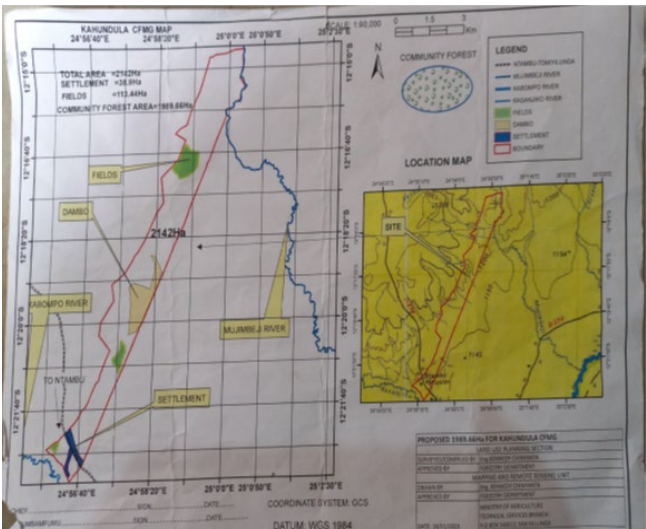
Kahundula South CF map



Source: Authors' elaboration using Geographic Information System (GIS), with CFMA boundary overlaid on Google Satellite imagery.
Notes: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

// FIGURE E7.2. //

Kahundula CF Sketch Map



Source: Authors' elaboration, based on community-provided sketch mapping.
Notes: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.



Kamikolo Community

BASIC DATA

PROVINCE	North Western Province
DISTRICT	Kalumbila
VILLAGES	Kafuka, Kiyombo, Mwanaute, Kyabu, Masoko, Kitesheni, Nseke, Muluka, Kasema, Myanvuyu, Kiponga, Nzumani, Mumbamun'gaya, Mumba Kisafwa
KEY CONTACT	Mr. Gospel Kafuka
TOTAL NUMBER OF CFMG MEMBERS	n/a
HECTARES OF CF	50 000 ha
CFMG STAGE:	Step 3

Brief history

Kamikolo Community Forest Management Group (CFMG) was formed in 2022 following awareness-raising initiatives led by The Nature Conservancy and the Forestry Department. The CFMG has received assistance in various areas, including conservation agriculture, the provision of maize and bean seeds, training in beekeeping, and guidance on processing and value addition for *intungulu*, *masuku*, and mushrooms.

Main objective of the CFMG

Developed with the support of the late Chief Mukumbi, the CFMG's objective is to ensure that communities continue to access benefits through improved forest protection. In addition to agricultural activities, the CFMG recognizes the importance of forest-based livelihoods and hopes to engage in carbon trading in the future.

CFMG governance and rights

• CFMG organization and decision-making

The CFMG includes an executive committee, four trustees, and twenty Honorary Forest Officers. The executive committee meets twelve times per year and emphasizes the importance of expediting official government recognition of the group, which has been delayed due to the passing of Chief Mukumbi. The delay has limited CFMG activities.

The CFMG holds elections in which community members vote for the executive committee, whose members serve three-year terms. Decisions regarding forest protection activities are made during committee meetings.

• Gender equality and social inclusion

The CFMG reports active involvement of women in the group and confirmed women's access to meetings and productive resources. However, members also noted that some women face barriers to full participation due to various factors, including:

- Disapproval from their husbands
- Misunderstanding of the CFMG's purpose
- Low literacy levels
- The need to travel long distances to attend meetings
- Family responsibilities
- Limited benefits received so far, which reduces incentives for involvement

• Rights of use and access

Community members have free access to the community forest areas but must obtain permission from the executive committee to extract forest products. Extraction for home consumption is free, but commercial activities require payment of a fee.

The community understands its ability to transfer rights to the community forest area, which is linked to potential future engagement in carbon markets.

• **Conflict resolution and grievance mechanism**

The CFMG has not reported any significant conflicts to date. However, when conflicts arise, the executive committee is the first to handle them. If a resolution is not found, issues are escalated to the sub-chief and, if necessary, to the Chief for a final decision.

During the early stages of CFMG registration, a difference of opinion led to another community withdrawing a large portion of forest from the overall plans, requiring remapping of the community forest area.

Availability and use of natural resources

Kamikolo’s forest is reported to be in good condition and improving due to increased CFMG protection efforts.

Wildlife species present in the forest include impalas (*Aepyceros melampus*), monkeys (*Chlorocebus pygerythrus*), giant rats (*Cricetomys emini*), nsamba (*Varanus niloticus*), guinea fowls (*Numida meleagris*), pangolins (*Smutsia temminkii*), snakes (*Serpentes*), crocodiles (*Crocodylus acutus*), fish, birds, and blue duikers (*Philantomba monticola*).

Forest products found in the area include wild mushrooms, *chikanda* (orchids), honey, traditional medicines, *munkoyo* roots, thatching grass, and poles.

// TABLE E.8.1 //

Top five forest products collected by women and men

	PRODUCT #1	PRODUCT #2	PRODUCT #3	PRODUCT #4	PRODUCT #5
WOMEN	Traditional medicine	Mushrooms	Wild fruits	Chikanda	Honey
MEN	Honey	Traditional medicine	Thatching grass	Fuelwood	Charcoal

Source: Authors’ elaboration.

Benefits, benefit-sharing mechanism, and access to finance

The community benefits from forest products, despite not yet having a signed community forest agreement in place. The main challenge in formalizing this agreement has been the passing of the late Chief Mukumbi. There appears to be some confusion within the Community Forest Management Group (CFMG) and the Forestry Department about how to handle situations in which there is an acting leader in place. However, recent discussions with the Forestry Department indicate that this issue is being clarified.

As with other CFMGs, access to finance is limited. The group does not have a bank account and does not collect membership fees. A sum of eight hundred kwacha is currently held for safekeeping by the treasurer. The group hopes to leverage its position to increase access to finance in the future, supporting the growth of small businesses in the area.

Forest and land management practices, capacities, and learning

As mentioned, the community does not yet have an approved agreement granting them management rights over their community forest area. However, they are actively working toward formal recognition and are already undertaking patrols in anticipation of approval. Patrols take place three times per month, with female Honorary Forest Officers participating alongside other members.

Some traditional forest management practices are maintained, including avoiding the cutting of fruit-bearing trees or those that provide traditional medicines. Similarly, trees located in riverine areas or around graveyards are not cut down.

Members of the CFMG possess various skills, including bark hive production for traditional honey collection, carpentry (such as making doors, tables, and chairs), artisanal crafts including basketry

and washing basket production, bed construction using bamboo, and the manufacturing of cooking sticks and fishing baskets.

The CFMG has expressed interest in future training and capacity-building in areas such as tailoring, conservation farming, cookery, beekeeping, food preservation and value addition, fish farming, cattle rearing, pig farming, and poultry production. They have also highlighted the need to construct a bulking centre for products from the area.

Threats and challenges

Kamikolo CFMG identified several potential threats, with the most pressing issue being the delay in receiving official recognition from the Forestry Department. This limitation restricts the benefits that can be generated, and the group is eager to receive recognition to enable participation in carbon trading.

Note: At the time of publication, maps for this community management group were not available.

Other challenges include late-season fires, excessive tree cutting for pole production, poor market access due to the distance to markets, unfair purchasing practices (as customers use larger measuring containers that reduce fair pricing for the community), post-harvest losses of collected non-wood forest products, and the threat of snakebites. Additionally, poor internet access has been noted as a constraint.

Future plans and aspirations

While the group has not clearly articulated its future plans, it is evident that they have an interest in participating in carbon trading and see it as an opportunity for community benefits.

The group also hopes to leverage official recognition as a CFMG to improve access to finance for entrepreneurs in the area.



Kanyamisovu Community

BASIC DATA

PROVINCE	North Western Province
DISTRICT	Mwinilunga (Chief Ntambu)
VILLAGES	Kutemba, Sakachimbi, Muchanka, Fungula, Kapekeli, Chifita, Chiyena, Kameya, Kasoka, Chichonyi, Kalunga and Ndongu
KEY CONTACT	Sylvester Ndumba
TOTAL NUMBER OF CFMG MEMBERS	400
HECTARES OF CF	3 192 ha
CFMG STAGE:	Step 5

Brief history

Kanyamisovu Community Forest Management Group (CFMG) was established in 2018 with support from the West Lunga Conservation Project. It originated from an awareness-raising campaign aimed at securing community engagement. Initially met with resistance, the community eventually embraced the initiative in two thousand twenty-two.

Main objective of the CFMG

The primary objectives of Kanyamisovu CFMG are to develop community livelihoods, protect forests, and reduce poverty through carbon trading.

CFMG governance and rights

• CFMG organization and decision-making

Membership in Kanyamisovu CFMG is open to all community members. The CFMG has elected an executive committee consisting of twelve members, including ten men and two women. Executive committee leaders are chosen through general elections conducted via secret ballot. Any community member aged eighteen years and above is eligible to stand for office, with a term of office lasting five years.

General meetings take place on the fifth of each month, with the most recent annual meeting held in late June in collaboration with West Lunga staff. However, members may also convene for extraordinary meetings as needed. Topics discussed during meetings include forest management, forest protection, and awareness-raising efforts. Decisions are made collectively through voting.

The Chief serves as the patron and assists with conflict resolution and community awareness-raising related to fire management.

• Gender equality and social inclusion

Women represent sixteen percent of CFMG leadership, with two women out of twelve members of the executive committee. Barriers to women's participation include household responsibilities, a lack of understanding of the potential benefits, and the prioritization of farming activities.

• Rights of use and access

Kanyamisovu community members are granted access to extract forest products. Individuals from outside the Kanyamisovu community must seek permission from the CFMG committee.

• Conflict resolution and grievance mechanism

The CFMG does not currently face any conflicts. Should conflicts arise, issues will be brought to the senior headman for resolution.

Important plant species include *Pterocarpus chrysanthrix* Taub, rosewood (*Guibourtia coleosperma*), and *Faurea saligna*.

The Kabompo River, along with the Kanyamisovu, Kalalamakushi, Muzhimbezhi, Kamukofwa, and Kabwelela streams, provides essential ecosystem services.

Availability and use of natural resources

The community forest supports diverse wildlife species, including impalas (*Aepyceros melampus*), giant rats (*Rattus norvegicus*), and blue duikers (*Philantomba monticola*).

// TABLE E.9.1 //

Top five forest products collected by women and men

	PRODUCT #1	PRODUCT #2	PRODUCT #3	PRODUCT #4	PRODUCT #5
WOMEN	Herbal medicines	Caterpillars	Mushrooms	Wild fruits	Herbal medicines
MEN	Honey	Thatched grass	Honey	Fibers	Mushrooms

Source: Authors' elaboration.

Benefits, benefit-sharing mechanism, and access to finance

The establishment of the Community Forest Management Group (CFMG) has created opportunities for the training of Honorary Forest Officers in forest protection, fire management, business and enterprise development, and poultry management through training provided by the Conservation Farming Unit.

The constitution outlines a benefit-sharing mechanism, incorporating a carbon trading partnership with the West Lunga Conservation Project. However, the CFMG faces financial challenges due to the absence of a bank account. The benefit-sharing mechanism is transparent, with detailed explanations provided to community members, including the specified percentages. Unfortunately, no credit institutions operate within the community.

Forest and land management practices, capacities, and learning

Kanyamisovu CFMG actively engages in awareness-raising activities, particularly focusing on forest fire management. The organization receives support from the West Lunga Conservation

Project for natural resource management awareness-raising, while The Nature Conservancy collaborates on fire management alongside the West Lunga Conservation Project and the Forestry Department. Awareness-raising efforts cover the steps of CFMG formation and training in fire protection.

Forest patrols are conducted by CFMG executives and village Honorary Forest Officers. The training of Honorary Forest Officers enhances their ability to lead patrols and collaborate with community members. Additionally, the CFMG follows traditional practices by restricting the cutting of certain trees in graveyards.

In Kanyamisovu, community members possess a range of skills, including basketry, carpentry, bricklaying, crafting traditional drums and axes, weaving traditional mats, and brewing traditional beer such as imbote and kachasu. They are also proficient in traditional beehive making, crafting cooking sticks, operating trading shops, and constructing huts.

For future learning needs, the community has expressed interest in training programs focused on value addition and preservation, marketing, tailoring, beekeeping, carpentry, poultry farming, bricklaying, pig farming, and carbon trading.



Threats and challenges

Kanyamisovu CFMG faces various threats, including caterpillar harvesting, firewood collection, farming, and charcoal production. The community also faces challenges in the collection and sale of forest products, such as a lack of market opportunities, difficulties in processing and preservation, the absence of storage facilities, transportation barriers to markets, and issues related to underpricing, particularly concerning honey, due to a lack of processing tools and equipment.

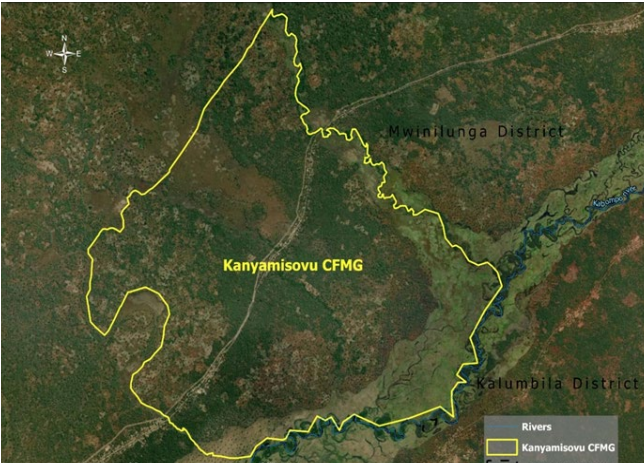
// FIGURE E9.1. //

Future plans and aspirations

The Kanyamisovu community hopes to establish a borehole and hammermill in the future. Additionally, there is a need for a health clinic, as the nearest hospital is located nearly twenty kilometers away in Ntambu.

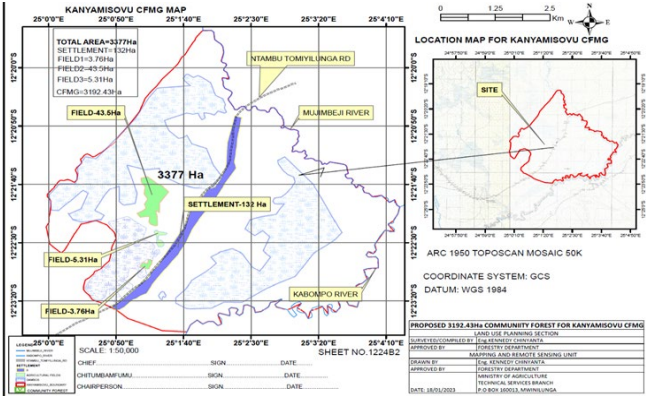
// FIGURE E9.2. //

Kanyamisovu CF map



Source: Authors' elaboration using Geographic Information System (GIS), with CFMA boundary overlaid on Google Satellite imagery.
Notes: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

Kanyamisovu CF Sketch Maps



Source: Authors' elaboration, based on community-provided sketch mapping.
Notes: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

Kanyikomboshi Community

BASIC DATA

PROVINCE	North Western Province
DISTRICT	Mwinilunga
VILLAGES	Moyela, Sanvula, Chipotola, Ilunga, Impulumba
KEY CONTACT	Moyela Peter
TOTAL NUMBER OF CFMG MEMBERS	3337 members
HECTARES OF CF	164 953 ha
CFMG STAGE:	Step 5

Brief history

The residents of the Kanyikomboshi community have faced challenges, particularly deforestation. In 2021, Kabompo Community Carbon engaged with the senior headman and later with Chief Sikufele to emphasize the importance of forest conservation and its benefits. Kabompo Community Carbon organized awareness-raising campaigns, leading to the realization of the need for a Community Forest Management Group (CFMG), which was established in the same year.

The community collaborates with the Government of the Republic of Zambia for empowerment and forest preservation. The group's activities have included member awareness-raising, boundary identification, surveying community challenges such as the lack of boreholes, and village banking. The CFMG has received training in forest protection and support for constructing a camp house near the forest.

Main objective of the CFMG

The primary objectives of the CFMG are to enhance community livelihoods, protect the forest, and alleviate poverty through carbon trading.

CFMG governance and rights

• CFMG organization and decision-making

The CFMG's membership has steadily increased, driven by growing community awareness of its benefits. An executive committee consisting of eleven members leads the CFMG, along with fifteen appointed Honorary Forest Officers. Committee members serve a three-year term and are elected through community consensus.

Meetings are held monthly for the executive committee and every three months for all CFMG members, covering topics such as forest protection, carbon trade benefits, and awareness-raising. While awaiting the Forestry Department's signing of Form Seven, which was submitted in May two thousand twenty-three, the CFMG does not yet have a signed copy of the community forest agreement. The benefit-sharing mechanism is transparent and embedded in the constitution, with all CFMG members involved in its development.

• Gender equality and social inclusion

Women actively participate in decision-making, yet some encounter barriers such as household duties, overprotective spouses, and the perception that forest-related work is exclusively for men.

• Rights of use and access

CFMG members have the right to enter the community forest with committee permission. Individuals from neighboring towns or villages who are not part of the CFMG are not permitted entry. While carbon trading is included in CFMG activities, the transfer of carbon rights is still pending.

• **Conflict resolution and grievance mechanism**

During the early stages of CFMG formation, some communities that were originally involved declined to continue their participation due to concerns about losing control of their land. Any conflicts that arise are reported to the senior headman, after which the executive committee convenes to find a resolution. If the committee is unable to resolve the issue, the matter is escalated to the Chief.

Availability and use of natural resources

The community forest has experienced improved tree cover since the adoption of sustainable management practices. However, wildlife populations have declined, with only small duikers remaining in significant numbers.

Important tree species in the area include *Pterocarpus angolensis*, rosewood (*Guibourtia coleosperma*), and *Fauria saligna*.

Several streams, including Lwambimbi, Kamanu, Kamabama, and Shilamu, provide essential ecosystem services. Sustainable forest management practices continue to be implemented.

// TABLE E.10.1 //

Top five forest products collected by women and men

	PRODUCT #1	PRODUCT #2	PRODUCT #3	PRODUCT #4	PRODUCT #5
WOMEN	Masuku	Herbal medicines	Caterpillars	Fibers	Munkoyo roots
MEN	Honey	Mushrooms	Caterpillars	Thatching grass	Fibers

Source: Authors' elaboration.

Benefits, benefit-sharing mechanism, and access to finance

Benefit-sharing arrangements have been included in the Community Forest Management Group (CFMG) constitution, with percentages of proceeds allocated to all members of the group. A transparent decision-making process was undertaken to determine the structure of the arrangements and the relevant percentages.

The group is still awaiting an agreement from the partner that has been engaging them on potential carbon project development. The group does not have a bank account and reports that they do not have access to any funds, as they do not collect dues.

Forest and land management practices, capacities, and learning

The group lacks external support for forest patrols and relies on volunteers to conduct these activities.

Specialized skills within the community include making various handmade items. The community has identified capacity-building needs in carpentry, metal fabrication, conservation farming,

fish farming, livestock rearing, and beekeeping. Access to credit is essential to support conservation farming, beekeeping, and afforestation efforts.

Threats and challenges

The community faces various challenges, including late-season fires, threats of witchcraft when arresting offenders, and illegal logging. Honorary Forest Officers lack uniforms for identification, which hinders the prosecution of offenders.

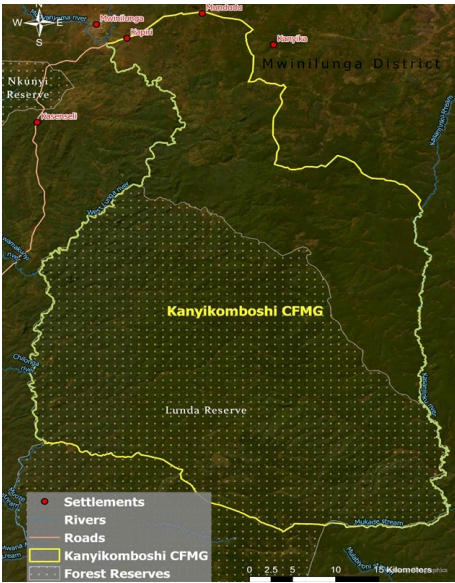
The extraction of non-wood forest products presents additional difficulties, such as distant markets, snake bites, and transportation challenges. Other concerns include tree cutting for caterpillar harvesting and delays in signing Form Seven. Furthermore, some community members remain unaware of the CFMG and its objectives.

Future plans and aspirations

The CFMG has successfully prevented a large land concession and illegal mining operations. Honey harvesting has been identified as a key opportunity for future expansion.

// FIGURE E10.1. //

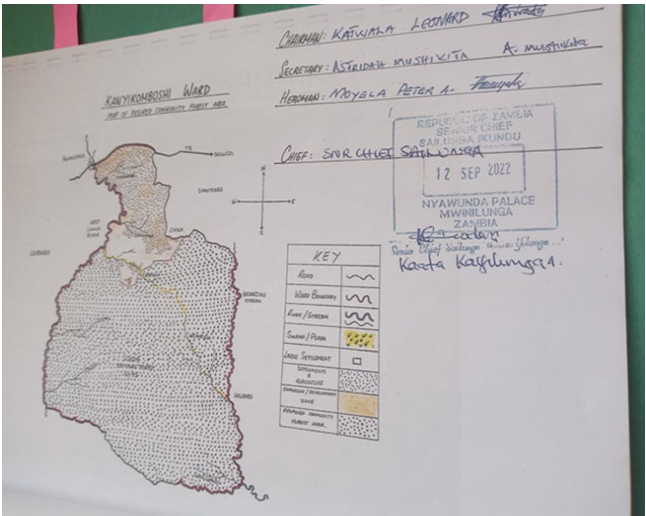
Kanyikomboshi CF map



Source: Authors' elaboration using Geographic Information System (GIS), with CFMA boundary overlaid on Google Satellite imagery.
Notes: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

// FIGURE E10.2. //

Kanyikomboshi CF Sketch Map



Source: Authors' elaboration, based on community-provided sketch mapping.
Notes: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.



Kashinakazhi Community

BASIC DATA

PROVINCE	North Western Province
DISTRICT	Manyinga
VILLAGES	Mayau, Kakongi, Mwenga, Kashinakazi, Kanyisombu, Chabuyoki
KEY CONTACT	Mr. Jimmy Munyenu
TOTAL NUMBER OF CFMG MEMBERS	n/a
HECTARES OF CF	106 485 ha
CFMG STAGE:	Step 5

Brief history

The Kashinakazhi Community Forest Management Group (CFMG) was established in 2018 with support from the Global Environment Facility five project. However, formalization was hindered by the project's conclusion. In two thousand twenty-one, Kabompo Community Carbon initiated efforts to raise awareness in the community about the importance of conservation. Subsequently, the Chief approved the partnership between Kabompo Community Carbon and the Kashinakazhi community, aligning with the community's vision for forest protection. To date, external support has been limited to the registration process.

Main objective of the CFMG

The primary objectives of the CFMG include the conservation of natural resources for current and future generations, carbon trading, improving livelihoods through forest protection and management, and identifying partners for marketing community products.

CFMG governance and rights

• CFMG organization and decision-making

The Kashinakazhi CFMG does not have a membership register but specifies eligibility criteria in its constitution. An elected executive committee of ten members, including eight men and two women,

oversees CFMG affairs and serves three-year terms. The traditional Chief plays an active role, particularly in conflict resolution.

Meetings have not been held as frequently as planned. Discussions have primarily focused on fire prevention and sustainable harvesting.

• Gender equality and social inclusion

Women represent twenty percent of CFMG leadership, with two women out of ten executive committee members. Barriers preventing women's participation include household responsibilities, prioritization of farm work, and a perceived lack of benefits. However, the CFMG provides a platform for women to speak during meetings and encourages their participation in voting.

• Rights of use and access

Access and harvesting rights are pending formal approval, exposing the CFMG to threats such as illegal timber production. Despite these limitations, the CFMG believes forest protection will be upheld once its legal rights are formalized.

• Conflict resolution and grievance mechanism

Although the CFMG does not have a written grievance mechanism, conflicts are addressed by the executive committee. If internal resolution fails, issues are escalated to the headman or Chief.

Availability and use of natural resources

The Kashinakazhi forest is an open and healthy ecosystem that supports a variety of flora and fauna. Wildlife species include warthogs (*Potamochoerus larvatus*), blue duikers (*Philantomba monticola*), brown duikers (*Sylvicapra grimmia*), waterbucks (*Kobus*

ellipsiprymnus), impalas (*Aepyceros melampus*), and bushbucks (*Tragelaphus scriptus*).

Important tree species include *Uapaca kirkiana*, *Pterocarpus angolensis*, *Parinari curatellifolia*, *Brachystegia boehmii*, rosewood (*Guibourtia coleosperma*), *Isobertia angolensis*, *Pericopsis angolensis*, *Diplorhynchus condylocarpon*, and *Syzygium cordatum*.

Rivers and streams provide essential ecosystem services, including the Manyinga River and the Lwamazhiya, Luansongwa, Kalandilu, and Kakaban'ga streams. The community places spiritual value on its old graveyards.

// TABLE E.11.1 //

Top five forest products collected by women and men

	PRODUCT #1	PRODUCT #2	PRODUCT #3	PRODUCT #4	PRODUCT #5
WOMEN	Herbal medicines	Mushrooms	Wild fruits	Caterpillars	Fibers
MEN	Honey	Thatching grass	Poles	Firewood	Fibers

Source: Authors' elaboration.

Benefits, benefit-sharing mechanism, and access to finance

The community focuses on the sustainable harvesting of products such as caterpillars, mushrooms, wild fruits, herbs, and fibers. Carbon trading is part of Community Forest Management Group (CFMG) activities and is anticipated to bring benefits once carbon credits are earned and sold.

The CFMG does not have a bank account and does not collect membership dues, relying instead on a women's savings group. Product prices are determined based on the previous year's rates, demand, and the urgency of sellers. The community has mobile network coverage and internet access for smartphones.

Forest and land management practices, capacities, and learning

The CFMG is waiting for full recognition from the Forestry Department to expand its activities, but it has already undertaken awareness-raising efforts related to fire management.

The group follows traditional forest management practices, which include not cutting fruit trees, trees with cultural significance, or trees located in graveyards.

Certain trees, such as mwidima (*Diospyros batocana*) and mwidi, hold cultural significance, and their use is guided by traditional beliefs. Some community members believe that those who cut these trees will not be able to marry or have children. The community also traditionally protects fruit trees and trees in graveyards.

The community possesses specialized skills, and future learning interests include beehive making, herbal medicine processing, conservation farming, caterpillar and mushroom processing, and fish farming.

Among the traditional skills practiced by villagers are the making of reed mats and baskets, honey production using traditional hives, and blacksmithing.



Threats and challenges

Challenges include delays in the signing of agreements by the Forestry Department, which has slowed progress and reduced incentives for undertaking related activities. The community, facing illegal activities, has not initiated patrols due to the CFMG’s lack of enforcement rights. Honorary Forest Officers have been identified but are still awaiting training.

Threats such as illegal tree cutting, late-season fires, and unsustainable harvesting are gradually decreasing due to awareness-

raising efforts. However, uncontrolled burning and illegal tree felling remain major challenges.

Future plans and aspirations

As a newly formed group, the CFMG has not yet created significant opportunities. Training and learning opportunities are still pending, but the group would like Honorary Forest Officers to be trained in advance of official recognition to help deter illegal cutting. The group also hopes to access seed funding to enable more effective operations once it is officially recognized.

// FIGURE E11.1. //

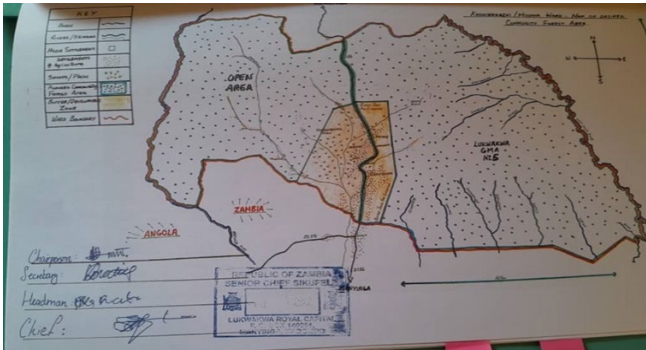
Kashinakazhi South CF map



Source: Authors’ elaboration using Geographic Information System (GIS), with CFMA boundary overlaid on Google Satellite imagery.
Notes: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

// FIGURE E11.2. //

Kashinakazhi Sketch Map



Source: Authors’ elaboration, based on community-provided sketch mapping.
Notes: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

Kasombo Community

BASIC DATA

PROVINCE	North Western Province
DISTRICT	Manyinga
VILLAGES	Shilenda, Kalobanzovu, Kasombo, Kankanga
KEY CONTACT	Kayebeta Robbie
TOTAL NUMBER OF CFMG MEMBERS	All community members-No register
HECTARES OF CF	10 000 ha (in the process of expanding to 45 337 ha)
CFMG STAGE:	Step 3

Brief history

Kasombo Community Forest Management Group (CFMG) was established in February 2023 with support from the Forestry Department and Barrick Gold Corporation. One of the major achievements so far has been the training of Honorary Forest Officers, including two women and eight men, at Zambia Forestry College.

Main objective of the CFMG

The primary objectives of Kasombo CFMG include forest protection, generating income through tourism, collecting non-wood forest products, and engaging in carbon trading.

CFMG governance and rights

• CFMG organization and decision-making

The executive committee consists of ten members, including eight men and two women, who serve a three-year term. General assembly meetings for the community take place annually, while executive committee meetings are held every three months. The Chief serves as the patron and is actively involved in the CFMG. Decision-making involves community gatherings.

• Gender equality and social inclusion

Women represent twenty percent of CFMG leadership, with two women out of ten members of the executive committee. Several barriers discourage women's participation in leadership positions. Some women are unaware of meetings, while others are prevented from attending by their husbands. In some cases, women have been asked to step down from executive positions by their spouses. The CFMG is working to address challenges in female participation by encouraging more women to take part, aiming to meet the government's guideline of more than forty percent female representation.

• Rights of use and access

There are currently no restrictions on accessing the community forest or forest products, as the CFMG has not yet been officially recognized.

• Conflict resolution and grievance mechanism

Initial conflicts regarding land grabbing were resolved through education. The executive committee handles conflicts and escalates unresolved issues to the Chief if necessary.

Availability and use of natural resources

Changes in the forest due to distant and internal farming have been observed, but the forest remains largely intact.

Important wildlife species found in the community forest include duikers (*Cephalophinae*), impalas (*Aepyceros melampus*), guinea fowls (*Numida meleagris*), giant rats (*Cricetomys emini*), bush pigs (*Potamochoerus larvatus*), elephants (*Loxodonta africana*), and buffaloes (*Bubalus bubalis*).

Important plant species include *Uapaca kirkiana*, *Anisophyllea boehmii*, *Strychnos spinosa*, *Pterocarpus chrysotrich* Taub, *Parinari curatellifolia*, *Faurea saligna*, *Syzygium cordatum*, and *Isobertia angolensis*.

The Meheba and Mumbezhi rivers, along with the Kasombo and Musangwe streams, provide important ecosystem services.

// TABLE E.12.1 //

Top five forest products collected by women and men

	PRODUCT #1	PRODUCT #2	PRODUCT #3	PRODUCT #4	PRODUCT #5
WOMEN	Mushrooms	Wild vegetables	Wild fruits	Orchids	Munkoyo roots
MEN	Firewood	Honey	Chikanda	Planks	Mushrooms

Source: Authors' elaboration.

Benefits, benefit-sharing mechanism, and access to finance

Barrick Lumwana Gold Corporation and the Forestry Department have introduced the concept of benefit sharing. Community members and leaders subsequently discussed the provisions for inclusion in the draft constitution. However, this document has not yet been signed.

The CFMG does not have a bank account, but some members belong to a village savings group in Shilenda village. Other active microfinance institutions include Vision Fund, the Constituency Development Fund, and Zanga Zikwane.

Forest and land management practices, capacities, and learning

The Community Forest Management Group (CFMG) has not yet started conducting activities with its members, as consent from the Chief is still pending. The CFMG also seeks to reassure local farmers that their land will not be taken as a result of the establishment of the community forest. Forest patrols are also not yet organized, pending formal recognition of the CFMG.

Traditional practices include restricting tree cutting in graveyards. The *muombo* tree (*Brachystegia spiciformis*) may only be touched by traditional leaders, and no one is permitted to cut it. This tree is rarely seen and is typically planted by the leaders.

The CFMG references a traditional story regarding the *mulende* tree, which may only be cut if the person removing it first takes off their clothing. Since no one wants to be seen naked in public, the tree remains untouched. This story serves as a traditional conservation technique to prevent people from cutting down the *mulende* tree.

Community skills include handicrafts, such as the production of cooking sticks, mortars and pestles, stools, benches, tables, doormats, bamboo reclining chairs, traditional baskets (including those used for fishing), and grass brooms. Many community members also practice conservation farming.

The community has identified future learning and capacity-building needs in fruit processing, tailoring, bricklaying, carpentry, improved farming systems, beekeeping, fish farming, livestock rearing, village chicken rearing, and driving.

Threats and challenges

Threats to the forest include late-season burning, charcoal production, poaching, deforestation, and illegal logging. Land clearing for agriculture continues to worsen due to the lack of formal community forest recognition. However, awareness-raising efforts have led to an improvement in the use of traditional beehives.

Future plans and aspirations

The development of skills in using GPS to locate points within the community forest area demonstrates a practical application of knowledge acquired during training. A growing appreciation for the importance of forest management among community members reflects a successful capacity-building initiative.

Engagement with institutions such as Barrick Lumwana Gold Corporation and the Forestry Department highlights collaborative efforts and opens opportunities for further cooperation.

Note: At the time of publication, maps for this community management group were not available.



Katumba Community

BASIC DATA

PROVINCE	North Western Province
DISTRICT	Kalumbila
VILLAGES	Kilungi Zone villages 55
KEY CONTACT	Harrison Kangombe Fischer
TOTAL NUMBER OF CFMG MEMBERS	n/a
HECTARES OF CF	n/a
CFMG STAGE:	Step 3

Brief history

Katumba Community Forest Management Group (CFMG) was initiated between September and October of 2022 following community awareness-raising on REDD+ projects by Barrick Gold Corporation. The community was inspired to establish the CFMG by the prospect of conserving part of the forest for carbon trading.

External partners include the Forestry Department, Barrick Gold Corporation, and USAID. The CFMG has received support in the form of training on agriculture, conservation management, carbon trading, and basic law enforcement for Honorary Forest Officers at Zambia Forestry College.

Main objective of the CFMG

The primary objectives of Katumba CFMG are carbon trading, tourism, livelihood improvement, and the protection of ecosystem services for future generations.

CFMG governance and rights

• CFMG organization and decision-making

The CFMG has an executive committee consisting of twelve members, elected democratically. Meetings are planned every three months but have been held less frequently due to the lack of formal recognition of the CFMG. Topics discussed during

meetings include the importance of protecting and conserving the forest and strategies for enhancing livelihoods.

The Chief serves as the patron of the community forest, actively supporting the establishment of the CFMG. Membership is based on a minimum residency of two years in the community, and decisions are made through executive committee discussions and community consensus.

• Gender equality and social inclusion

Women represent sixteen percent of CFMG leadership, with two women out of twelve executive committee members. The low number of women in leadership is attributed to the fact that women do not tend to vote for female candidates. However, the limited female representation has led to deliberate efforts to encourage women's participation, including awareness-raising and sending two female Honorary Forest Officers to Zambia Forestry College.

• Rights of use and access

The CFMG constitution requires individuals to obtain permission before entering the community forest area, and outsiders must seek authorization from the executive committee. The current lack of formal recognition limits enforcement capabilities. At present, confiscation is the primary approach for dealing with offenders, with plans to enforce regulations once recognition is granted.

• Conflict resolution and grievance mechanism

Conflict resolution involves community awareness meetings and a disciplinary committee. If necessary, issues are escalated to Barrick Gold Corporation and the Forestry Department.

Important plant species include *Syzygium cordatum*, *Pterocarpus angolensis*, *Albizia andianthifolia*, *Faurea saligna*, *Parinari curatellifolia*, and *Azelia quanzenensis*.

Ecosystem services are provided by the Mafwe River, Kazhiba, Myangwe Dam, and Kanzhiye Stream.

Availability and use of natural resources

Initially, the forest remained intact; however, in recent years, some areas have experienced tree cutting.

// TABLE E.13.1 //

Top five forest products collected by women and men

	PRODUCT #1	PRODUCT #2	PRODUCT #3	PRODUCT #4	PRODUCT #5
WOMEN	Mushrooms	Fruits	Orchids	Wild vegetables	Herbal medicine
MEN	Honey	Mushrooms	Orchids	Fibers	Planks

Source: Authors' elaboration.

Benefits, benefit-sharing mechanism, and access to finance

The Community Forest Management Group (CFMG) constitution outlines benefit-sharing arrangements with Barrick Gold Corporation to support local livelihoods. However, the community has a limited understanding of carbon trading.

The community does not have a bank account, but nearby banking options, including Natsave, Stanbic, and Unifi, are available. There are no village banks in the area.

Forest and land management practices, capacities, and learning

The CFMG has been involved in agricultural cooperatives, though some community members continue engaging in charcoal production since the cooperatives have only provided inputs to a small number of people.

Traditional practices include refraining from cutting the *kalembalemba* tree, as well as other trees believed to be highly poisonous.

Members of the CFMG have skills in handicrafts, fabricating wooden cooking sticks and agricultural implements such as hoes and axe handles, as well as crafting stools, benches, tables, bamboo chairs, and traditional baskets.

The community has identified future learning and capacity-building needs in catering, tailoring and design, poultry raising, conservation farming, livestock rearing, carpentry, bricklaying, conservation agriculture, beekeeping, food preservation methods, and fish farming.

Threats and challenges

Katumba CFMG faces threats from the unsustainable harvesting of caterpillars, wild fruits, orchids, medicinal plants, illegal honey collection, and charcoal production. The situation is worsening, and communities feel unable to take action since the CFMG has not yet been officially recognized.

The CFMG has made efforts to confiscate axes from those engaged in tree cutting and caterpillar harvesting. Another challenge relates to the misconception that the community has sold its land.



© FAO/Peter Banda

Future plans and aspirations

The community aims to organize training for Honorary Forest Officers, awareness-raising from various institutions, and patrolling efforts to establish a charcoal-free area. The CFMG

seeks to foster community benefits and ensure environmental protection for future generations.

The community has designated a site for its office and is awaiting support for construction.

Note: At the time of publication, maps for this community management group were not available.

Kayonge Community

BASIC DATA

PROVINCE	North Western Province
DISTRICT	Mwinilunga
VILLAGES	Muzyhikwa, Chitembeya, Mubeku, Dongha, Kayonge, Ngalaso Molowa, Mongu, Mpoya and Kawayawaya
KEY CONTACT	Patrick Kantumoya
TOTAL NUMBER OF CFMG MEMBERS	121 (61 men, 60 women)
HECTARES OF CF	47 203 ha
CFMG STAGE:	Step 5

Brief history

The Kayonge Community Forest Management Group (CFMG) was established in July 2021 following a visit from the West Lunga Conservation Project. The project raised awareness about CFMG processes and benefits, leading to community interest and the formation of the group.

To date, the CFMG has received support in the form of training in forest law enforcement for Honorary Forest Officers, training in conservation farming, food rations and allowances for Honorary Forest Officers, bicycles, and office supplies.

Main objective of the CFMG

The primary objective of the CFMG is carbon trading, alongside managing forests for the benefit of the community.

CFMG governance and rights

• CFMG organization and decision-making

The CFMG has a democratically elected executive committee consisting of twelve members, including nine men and three women, who serve five-year terms. The executive committee holds meetings regularly to discuss fire management, forest regulations, and community compliance with protection plans.

General assembly meetings take place twice a year, while executive committee members meet every month.

The traditional Chief, Chief Ntambu, actively participates in the CFMG, assisting with conflict resolution and serving as a liaison for development work.

• Gender equality and social inclusion

Women represent forty-eight percent of CFMG membership, with fifty-four women out of one hundred twelve members, and twenty-five percent of CFMG leadership, with three women out of twelve executive committee members. Barriers to women's participation include lower literacy levels and time constraints. Efforts to encourage female involvement include the formation of women's subcommittees and the appointment of women as lead farmers.

• Rights of use and access

Community members are allowed to collect forest products for personal consumption, with restrictions applied to those collecting for commercial sale. Outsiders are required to obtain permits.

The community understands that they have perpetual rights to the forest and believes it will be protected through the established rules.

• **Conflict resolution and grievance mechanism**

Conflicts, often arising from unauthorized caterpillar harvesting, are resolved by the executive committee, although there is no formal grievance mechanism in place.

Availability and use of natural resources

The Kayonge community forest has flourished due to community efforts to prevent destructive practices.

Wildlife species found in the forest include impalas (*Aepyceros melampus*), snakes (*Serpentes*), squirrels (*Paraxerus cepapi*), foxes (*Vulpes vulpes*), pangolins (*Smutsia temminckii*), bush babies (*Galago crassicaudatus*), and giant rats (*Cricetomys emini*).

Important tree species include *Uapaca kirkiana*, *Pterocarpus angolensis*, *Parinari curatellifolia*, *Pterocarpus angolensis*, *mukwa* (*Pterocarpus chrysothrix* Taub), *mukula* (*Guibourtia coleosperma*), and various *Brachystegia* species.

Ecosystem services recognized in the landscape are primarily aquatic and include numerous streams such as Kema, Kanyisombo, Kankolonga, Mangalangu, Kasanjiko, Muzhyimbezhyi, and Wamilendi, all of which contribute to the area’s biodiversity.

Graveyards, along with the Kerora and Kachachala Hills, hold spiritual significance for the community.

// TABLE E.14.1 //

Top five forest products collected by women and men

	PRODUCT #1	PRODUCT #2	PRODUCT #3	PRODUCT #4	PRODUCT #5
WOMEN	Herbal medicine	Mushrooms	Wild fruits	Caterpillars	Orchids
MEN	Honey	Firewood	Timber	Mushrooms	Thatched grass

Source: Authors’ elaboration.

Benefits, benefit-sharing mechanism, and access to finance

Community members collect various forest products but face challenges such as snake bites and limited market access. Carbon trading serves as an incentive for the community to avoid cutting trees. Traditional practices, such as maintaining dual fields and protecting certain tree species, continue.

The community has expressed interest in learning new skills, including fish farming, rice-growing techniques, modern beekeeping, mushroom processing, cooking, sewing, poultry production, carpentry, and goat rearing.

A benefit-sharing arrangement has been established, with contributions allocated to the Chief at five percent, the senior headman at two percent, and a scholarship fund at twenty percent.

The Community Forest Management Group (CFMG) does not have a bank account but keeps funds collected from charcoal permits and penalties with the treasurer. At present, these funds amount to one hundred kwacha. Community members have no meaningful access to credit, which is needed for various activities, although Atlas Mara Bank has a retail branch in the vicinity. Poor telephone networks and a lack of internet access are additional challenges.

Forest and land management practices, capacities, and learning

The CFMG has created opportunities for Honorary Forest Officers, including training, employment, and the provision of bicycles. The group has also facilitated conservation agriculture, collaboration for carbon trading, and ongoing office construction.

Challenges arise from deliberate efforts to disrupt conservation efforts, such as acts of arson. However, lessons learned include the use of beehives to encourage community forest patrols.

Honorary Forest Officers conduct patrols and submit reports to the head of forest protection, who oversees the officers within the CFMG. Offenses such as charcoal kilns and illegal logging are documented.

Traditional practices include leaving lands fallow for at least one year, early burning of underbrush, and protecting trees located in graveyards. Some villagers possess traditional skills such as basket making, weaving mats, crafting drums, and making sieves. They also have knowledge of traditional medicine and the plant species used for treatment.

The community has identified training needs in areas such as fish farming, modern beekeeping, honey processing, modern carpentry, orchard development, poultry and livestock rearing, and rice production.

// FIGURE E14.1. //

Kayonge CF map



Source: Authors' elaboration using Geographic Information System (GIS), with CFMA boundary overlaid on Google Satellite imagery.

Notes: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

Threats and challenges

Threats to the forest include late-season fires, illegal tree cutting, and the expansion of agricultural areas. However, the enforcement of penalties for violators has led to improvements. A fine is levied on anyone found breaking community rules, with a minimum penalty of five hundred kwacha paid to the CFMG executive committee.

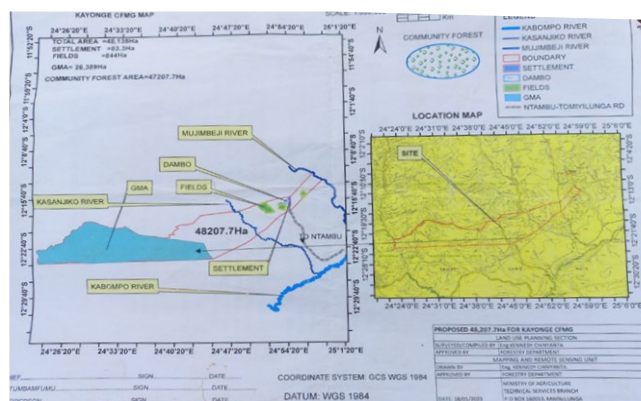
Future plans and aspirations

The community has identified the following future priorities:

- Enhancing market linkages to improve product sales
- Gaining access to electricity
- Improving road networks and transportation access
- Promoting gender equality

// FIGURE E14.2. //

Kayonge CF Sketch Map



Source: Authors' elaboration, based on community-provided sketch mapping.

Notes: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.



Kelonde Community

BASIC DATA

PROVINCE	North Western Province
DISTRICT	Ikkelenge
VILLAGES	Kasanyinga, Kankawami, Sapilinga, Isokasoka and Inswana Kabinda
KEY CONTACT	Chiwaya Grace
TOTAL NUMBER OF CFMG MEMBERS	500
HECTARES OF CF	394 ha
CFMG STAGE:	Step 4

Brief history

Kelonde Community Forest Management Group (CFMG) was established in 2015 following an awareness-raising meeting conducted by the Decentralized Forest and Natural Resources Management Programme. With support from the Chief and the headmen, the community formed an interim committee in the same year. The executive committee was elected in two thousand sixteen, and despite a pause in activities after two thousand eighteen, the CFMG is currently at the fourth step of community forest implementation.

Main objective of the CFMG

The main objective of forming the Kelonde CFMG is to stop deforestation, protect forests, and commit to biodiversity conservation, particularly safeguarding the source of the Zambezi River.

CFMG governance and rights

• CFMG organization and decision-making

The Kelonde CFMG has an executive committee consisting of eleven members, who were democratically elected. The initial term of office for the executive committee was two years, but the group remained inactive from its formation in two thousand seventeen until recently, when the West Lunga Conservation Project became a partner in two thousand twenty-two.

Decisions are made by the executive committee in consultation with the headmen. The executive committee meets frequently to plan patrols and coordinate activities.

• Gender equality and social inclusion

Challenges that hinder women's participation include pregnancy, childcare, fatigue, funeral attendance, and illness. The CFMG is actively working to overcome these barriers by involving women in user groups.

• Rights of use and access

Access to the community forest by outsiders requires permits obtained from the executive committee, with an associated fee. Products collected for home consumption are exempt from this requirement.

The community engages in various activities, including herbal medicine collection, mushroom harvesting, fiber collection, gathering *chikanda*, thatching grass, and wild fruit gathering.

Patrols are conducted by Honorary Forest Officers and supported by the National Heritage Conservation Commission, which works with conservation assistants responsible for overseeing the Zambezi source. A verbal report is provided after each patrol.

• Conflict resolution and grievance mechanism

Conflicts sometimes arise due to poverty-related food insecurity and political interference. The CFMG executive committee, headmen, Chief, and Forestry Department intervene whenever disputes occur.

Availability and use of natural resources

There has been a notable improvement in the availability of natural resources, attributed to increased awareness-raising within the community. This positive change is evident in the natural regeneration of the area, with a significant shift away from cultivating crop fields within the community forest area.

Wildlife species found in the area include wild rats (*Rattus norvegicus*), snakes (*Serpentes*), bush babies (*Galago crassicaudatus*), impalas (*Aepyceros melampus*), squirrels (*Paraxerus cepapi*), and various bird species. The Zambezi River provides essential ecosystem services.

The most important forest products collected by both men and women include mushrooms, herbal medicines, wild fruits, thatching grass, and orchids.

Benefits, benefit-sharing mechanism, and access to finance

The CFMG constitution outlines a transparent benefit-sharing mechanism. While there is no carbon trading partner, the CFMG is

interested in expanding the community forest area.

Identified activities requiring credit access include beekeeping with modern beehives, procurement of solar dryers, acquisition of honey processing machines, and fish rearing. The CFMG has a bank account where money from ZESCO and membership fees are collected. Additional funds were received from ZESCO for trees cleared during roadway construction.

Forest and land management practices, capacities, and learning

The CFMG is implementing various activities, including managing user groups that oversee nearly forty beehives, fish farming through four fishponds provided by the Decentralized Forest and Other Natural Resources Programme, and tree planting in collaboration with ZESCO Limited, with approximately seven thousand seedlings raised.

Other ongoing activities include early burning, routine patrols for forest monitoring, and resource management for mushrooms, fibers, and medicinal plants. Patrols are conducted frequently, alongside tasks such as caring for planted seedlings, weeding, mobilizing community members, and extending forest boundaries. There is also an ongoing project for the construction of a site office.

As part of traditional practices, certain trees are restricted from cutting, as they are believed to bring misfortune in marriage.



Community members have skills in carpentry, basketry, craft-making, beehive construction, and beekeeping. The community has identified additional training needs, including carpentry, tailoring, conservation farming, tiling, sewing, gardening, bricklaying, and fish farming.

Threats and challenges

The CFMG faces various threats, including late-season fires, bark hive harvesting, tree cutting for caterpillar collection, charcoal production, and honey harvesting that involves tree felling.

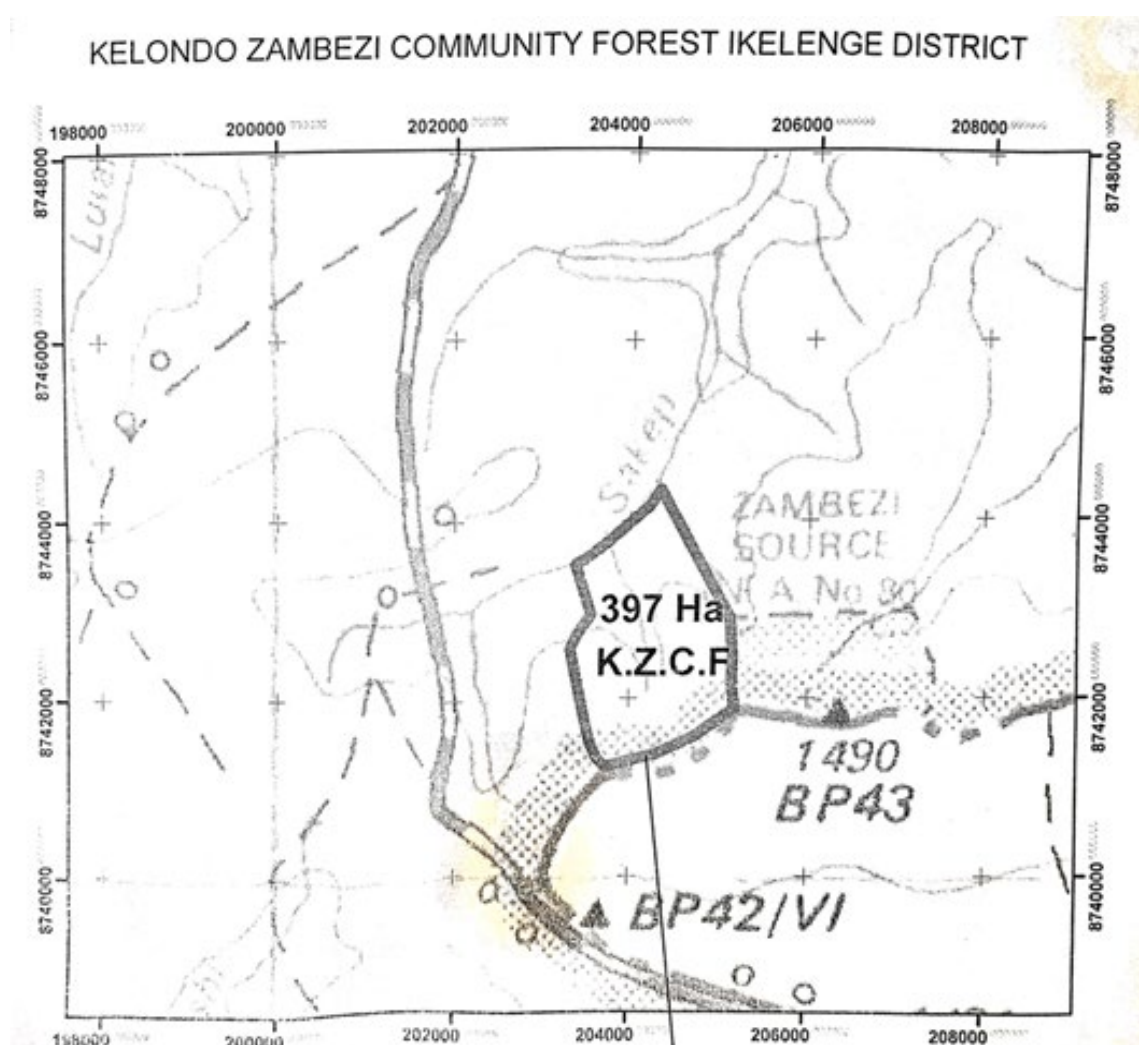
The group also experiences challenges such as wild bushfires and the theft of beehives. During the collection and sale of forest products, additional difficulties include product spoilage, a lack of market linkages, inadequate transport for products, and the absence of permits for traditional medicines.

Future plans and aspirations

Kelundu CFMG aspires to receive support in the form of capital, savings groups, trade school assistance, tailoring, fertilizers, fingerlings for fish farming, beekeeping training, and the establishment of a solar dryer.

// FIGURE E15.1. //

Kelundu CF map



Source: Authors' elaboration, based on community-provided sketch mapping.

Notes: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

At the time of publication, satellite map for this community management group was not available.

Kema Community

BASIC DATA

PROVINCE	North Western Province
DISTRICT	Mwinilunga (Chief Ntambu)
VILLAGES	Kapokoso, Kazumba, Mutonde, Mbinga, Sondonghu, Katama Kambungu, Kashikishiki, Munkonku, Chiposa, Chibalasa, Kamocha, Kaheha and Bulaya
KEY CONTACT	Edson Nkala
TOTAL NUMBER OF CFMG MEMBERS	307 (196 women, 111 men)
HECTARES OF CF	5 265 ha
CFMG STAGE:	Step 5

Brief history

The Kema Community Forest Management Group (CFMG) was initiated in 2020 through the Global Environment Facility GEF5 project and gained momentum in two thousand twenty-one. The West Lunga Conservation Project, The Nature Conservancy, the Global Environment Facility seven project, the Forestry Department, and the Conservation Farming Unit have all provided support to the CFMG. Assistance has included training for Honorary Forestry Officers, conservation farming, business development support, and the provision of essential supplies.

Main objective of the CFMG

The objectives of the Kema CFMG include resource conservation, enterprise development, improved livelihoods, carbon trading, and the protection of ecosystem services.

CFMG governance and rights

• CFMG organization and decision-making

The Kema CFMG promotes effective governance and participation through the benefit-sharing mechanism embedded in its constitution. The executive committee, elected for five-year terms, consists of twelve members, including eight men and four women. Monthly executive committee meetings address issues related to

fire management, information sharing, and community awareness-raising. General assemblies are held twice a year.

The Chief actively participates, prioritizing conservation, supporting awareness-raising, and requiring all institutions to inform him of their community work. The CFMG engages in various activities with the community, such as awareness-raising, brick molding for office construction, and joint efforts to protect forests and prevent fires.

• Gender equality and social inclusion

Women represent thirty-three percent of CFMG leadership, with four women out of twelve members of the executive committee. Deliberate efforts are being made to ensure gender equality in CFMG matters. Women are actively involved, and the elected vice-chairperson is a woman. A women's subcommittee consisting of ten members has been established.

• Rights of use and access

Community members are permitted to collect forest products for home consumption, with restrictions on caterpillar collection to prevent tree cutting. Outsiders must pay for a permit to collect forest products. The community believes that future pressure on community forests will be reduced due to the constitution and established rules.

• **Conflict resolution and grievance mechanism**

No significant conflicts have been documented. However, established protocols allow for the chairperson of the CFMG executive committee to call a meeting to discuss and resolve issues when conflicts arise.

Availability and use of natural resources

The forest supports diverse wildlife and plant species. Aquatic ecosystems, including several streams such as Kema, Kwanjika, Kankolonga, Lukwekwe, Kasanjiko, Keundu, and Kadupichipi, contribute to biodiversity.

Important wildlife species found in the area include birds, waterbucks (*Kobus ellipsiprymnus*), pangolins (*Smutsia temminkii*), elephants (*Loxodonta africana*), porcupines (*Hystrix cristata*), buffaloes (*Bubalus bubalis*), and giant rats (*Cricetomys emini*).

Key plant species include *Uapaca kirkiana*, *Pterocarpus angolensis*, *Parinari curatellifolia*, *Pterocarpus chrysothrix*, and rosewood (*Guibourtia coleosperma*).

// TABLE E.16.1 //

Top five forest products collected by women and men

	PRODUCT #1	PRODUCT #2	PRODUCT #3	PRODUCT #4	PRODUCT #5
WOMEN	Mushrooms	Caterpillars	Wild fruits	Herbal medicine	Orchids
MEN	Honey	Mushrooms	Thatched grass	Herbal medicine	Fibers

Source: Authors' elaboration.

Benefits, benefit-sharing mechanism, and access to finance

The Kema community collects various forest products, including herbal medicines, honey, mushrooms, fiber, caterpillars, wild fruits, and orchids.

Benefit-sharing arrangements have been established in the constitution, allocating five percent to the Chief, two percent to the senior headman, and ten percent for administration.

Other benefits include training for Honorary Forest Officers, the provision of bicycles and smartphones for Honorary Forest Officers and lead farmers, and conservation agriculture training by the Conservation Farming Unit.

Forest and land management practices, capacities, and learning

Forest patrols, conducted monthly by Honorary Forest Officers and executive committee members, receive support in the form of

bicycles, food rations, uniforms, and allowances. Patrol sheets are submitted to the head of the forest management committee.

Traditional forest management practices remain in place, including early burning, the use of fireguards, and restrictions on tree cutting in graveyards.

Skills within the community range from traditional basket making and reed mat production to blacksmithing, handicrafts, bricklaying, and carpentry.

The community has expressed interest in future learning opportunities, including herbal medicine processing, modern beekeeping, honey processing, modern carpentry, poultry farming, livestock rearing, conservation farming, tailoring, mushroom preservation, packaging of herbal medicine, market linkages, business management, and planning.

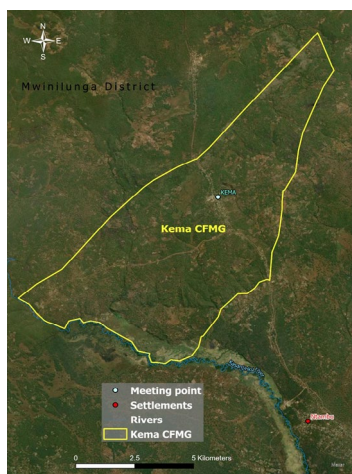


Threats and challenges

The community faces threats from charcoal production, timber cutting, late-season fires, and illegal timber harvesting for planks. Mitigation efforts include issuing permits, conducting frequent Honorary Forest Officer patrols, raising awareness through community meetings, and imposing penalty fees for illegal logging.

// FIGURE E16.1. //

Kema CF map



Source: Authors' elaboration using Geographic Information System (GIS), with CFMA boundary overlaid on Google Satellite imagery.

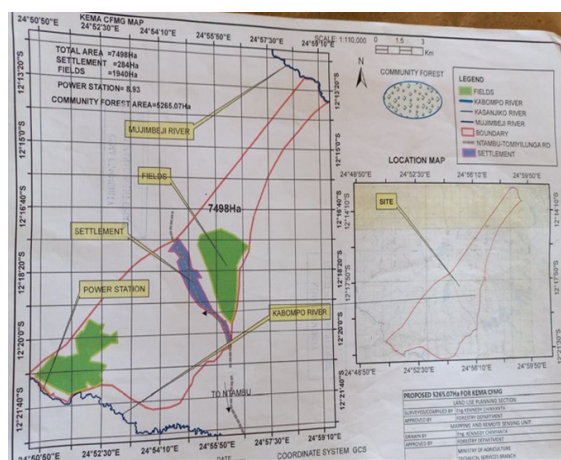
Notes: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

Future plans and aspirations

The introduction of beehives is expected to encourage community-led patrols. Future aspirations include improved access to boreholes, the provision of on-grid electricity through ZESCO connections, the development of dams, and the construction of an office. The community also partners with the West Lunga Conservation Project for carbon project development.

// FIGURE E16.2. //

Kema Sketch Map



Source: Authors' elaboration, based on community-provided sketch mapping.

Notes: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

Keundu Community

BASIC DATA

PROVINCE	North Western Province
DISTRICT	Mwinilunga (Chief Ntambu area)
VILLAGES	Samadengu, Sampoku, Kanyambila, Chaparoka, Muhinyi, Kilio, Ukwita, Kambidima, Chipeshi, Machanganyi, Kasamu, Dickson, Kalota, Katolo, Katontu
KEY CONTACT	Juliet Sweli
TOTAL NUMBER OF CFMG MEMBERS	347 registered (219 women, 128 men)
HECTARES OF CF	1 708 ha
CFMG STAGE:	Step 5

Brief history

The Keundu Community Forest Management Group (CFMG) commenced activities in July 2021, undertaking processes such as community awareness, constitution development, community forest demarcation, selection of Honorary Forest Officers, and the application for legal recognition.

The Global Environment Facility seven project, The Nature Conservancy, and the West Lunga Conservation Project have provided support, including training for Honorary Forest Officers, the provision of bicycles, and food rations for patrols.

Main objective of the CFMG

The CFMG aims to engage in carbon trading and sustainable natural resource management to enhance livelihoods through forest enterprises.

CFMG governance and rights

• CFMG organization and decision-making

Governed by a community-formulated constitution, the CFMG has an executive committee consisting of twelve members, including seven men and five women, each serving a five-year term. The total CFMG membership stands at sixty-two, with forty

percent women and sixty percent men, comprising twenty-five women and thirty-seven men.

Regular general and executive meetings focus on forest protection, planning, and infrastructure development, with the Chief actively supporting CFMG activities. The Chief serves as the patron of the CFMG and is responsible for reinforcing CFMG rules as well as sanctioning lawbreakers.

• Gender equality and social inclusion

Women represent forty percent of CFMG membership, with twenty-five women out of sixty-two members, and forty-one percent of CFMG leadership, with five women out of twelve members of the executive committee.

Active female participation is encouraged through subcommittees, and women generally appear to be more engaged in CFMG activities than men.

• Rights of use and access

Community members can freely collect forest products for construction, while outsiders must seek permission. The CFMG enforces compliance through arrests and confiscations, and a fine system helps deter illegal activities. The community believes that the long-term sustainability of forest products is supported by the rules in place and the community's commitment to forest protection.

• Conflict resolution and grievance mechanism

The CFMG previously experienced land conflicts, as some community members feared that government officials intended to take over the land. Other conflicts arose due to fires caused by community members.

Most conflicts are resolved through general assemblies. However, if the conflict involves an individual, it is addressed by the executive committee.

Availability and use of natural resources

Forest cover has improved due to sustainable practices and the conservation of essential tree and wildlife species.

Important tree species include *Uapaca kirkiana*, *Pterocarpus angolensis*, *Parinari curatellifolia*, *Sterculia quinqueloba*, and *Adansonia digitata*.

Wildlife species found in the area include rabbits (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*), giant rats (*Cricetomys emini*), guinea fowls (*Numida meleagris*), various bird species, and snakes (*Serpentes*).

Small streams such as Keundu and Kawazika contribute to the area's ecosystem services.

// TABLE E.17.1 //

Top five forest products collected by women and men

	PRODUCT #1	PRODUCT #2	PRODUCT #3	PRODUCT #4	PRODUCT #5
WOMEN	Herbal medicine	Mushrooms	Wild fruits	Caterpillars	Orchids
MEN	Honey	Mushrooms	Caterpillars	Herbal medicine	Wild fruits

Source: Authors' elaboration.

Benefits, benefit-sharing mechanism, and access to finance

A variety of forest products are collected for sale or home consumption, though challenges such as short shelf life and price control by buyers remain. Products collected include mushrooms, wild fruits, herbal medicines, caterpillars, and orchids (*chikanda*). Honorary Forest Officers accompany villagers to ensure sustainable harvesting practices and prevent overextraction.

Opportunities created through the Community Forest Management Group (CFMG) include training for Honorary Forest Officers, the provision of bicycles, and the establishment of a honey factory. No significant challenges have arisen, and carbon trading is seen as a promising venture.

Access to village banking is available in Shilenda village. Vision Fund, Agora Microfinance, and the Constituency Development Fund were also reported as additional financing options.

Forest and land management practices, capacities, and learning

Honorary Forest Officers conduct daily patrols, with community members occasionally joining. Support in the form of bicycles, food rations, uniforms, and tools facilitates monitoring efforts, and reports are submitted using the pre-loaded Open Data Kit on mobile phones.

Certain traditional forest management practices continue, such as announcing early burning, imposing restrictions on tree use, and avoiding the cutting of specific trees such as *mwidima* (*Diplorhynchus condylocarpon*) and *kafundula*. Villagers also refrain from cutting trees in graveyards and believe in cleansing areas where healing can take place.

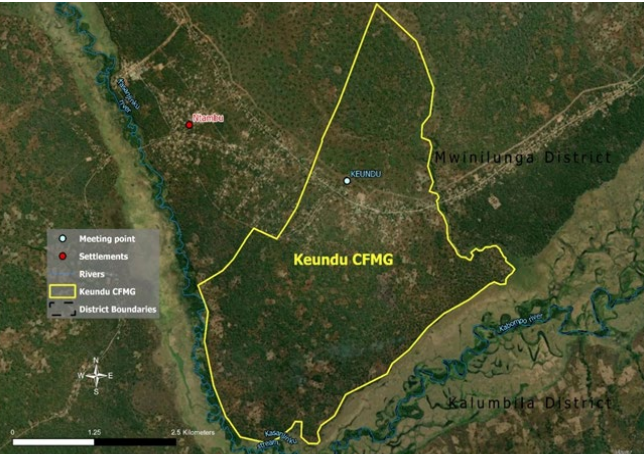
Traditional skills within the community include beekeeping, handicrafts, bricklaying, and carpentry. The community has identified a need for further capacity-building in areas such as processing and value addition for non-wood forest products, modern beekeeping, modern carpentry, tailoring, and fish farming.

Threats and challenges

Threats contributing to forest loss include charcoal production, late-season fires, and tree cutting for firewood and bark hives. These activities are being mitigated through the introduction of a fine system for those engaged in prohibited activities.

// FIGURE E17.1. //

Keundu CF map



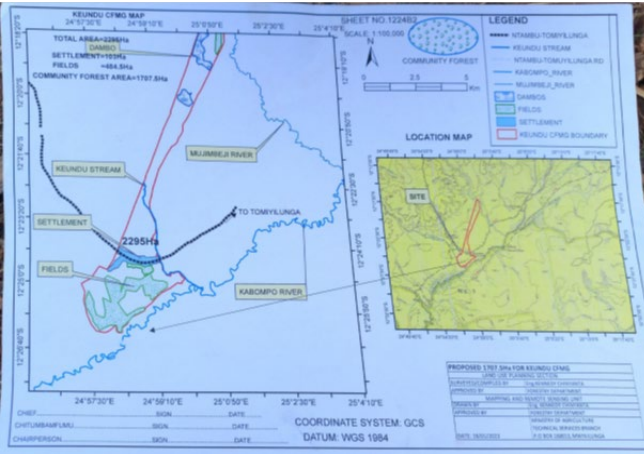
Source: Authors' elaboration using Geographic Information System (GIS), with CFMA boundary overlaid on Google Satellite imagery.
Notes: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

Future plans and aspirations

Carbon trading, with the West Lunga Conservation Project as a partner, remains the primary goal for forming the CFMG. Additional future priorities include the drilling of boreholes to provide clean water and improved access to health facilities.

// FIGURE E17.2. //

Keundu CF sketch map



Source: Authors' elaboration, based on community-provided sketch mapping.
Notes: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.



Kimba Community

BASIC DATA

PROVINCE	North Western Province
DISTRICT	Mwinilunga (Chief Ntambu)
VILLAGES	Lupiya, Kalufyamy, Lwendu, Chitendi, Chimwanga, Masamba Kaluwazhi, Chitembu, Kadimbili, Sondo, Malaya, Sakayomu Kinembelo, Mukwati, Katota, Kimba, Chandenda, Nkomba Masachi, Mbumbulu, Kapenda and Kambongu
KEY CONTACT	Robinson Kabinda
TOTAL NUMBER OF CFMG MEMBERS	359 members (190 females; 169 males)
HECTARES OF CF	35 667 ha
CFMG STAGE:	Step 5

Brief history

Kimba Community Forest Management Group (CFMG) was the first community group to be formed in Chief Ntambu's chiefdom in 2018 under the Global Environment Facility five project. Awareness-raising sessions were conducted on forest management, and a constitution was developed, which included an election process to determine CFMG leadership.

Main objective of the CFMG

The main objective of forming the CFMG is to manage forests and derive benefits and livelihoods from ecosystem services, including carbon trading.

CFMG governance and rights

• CFMG organization and decision-making

The executive committee for the Kimba CFMG consists of twelve members, with seventeen percent women and eighty-three percent men, including two women and ten men. The term of office for committee members is five years.

General assemblies are held every three months, while the executive committee meets every month. Community awareness strategies are implemented during these meetings to encourage and motivate CFMG members. The CFMG collaborates with the community in organizing awareness meetings on forests and fire, mobilizing the community for fire management, and molding bricks for the construction of the CFMG office.

• Gender equality and social inclusion

Women represent seventeen percent of CFMG leadership, with two women out of twelve executive committee members. Women are encouraged to participate in decision-making positions. The CFMG ensures that women face no barriers to participation by forming a women-led subcommittee and user groups for non-wood forest products.

• Rights of use and access

The CFMG currently has no restrictions for local community members collecting forest products for personal consumption. However, products collected for sale are restricted. Outsiders are not permitted to harvest resources due to concerns that government officers may authorize tree cutting without the community's knowledge.

• **Conflict resolution and grievance mechanism**

The Chief actively participates in conflict resolution when needed. No additional conflict resolution mechanisms were identified.

Availability and use of natural resources

The Kimba community forest provides habitat for various wildlife species, including bushbucks (*Tragelaphus scriptus*), blue and common duikers (*Philantomba monticola* and *Sylvicapra grimmia*), buffaloes (*Bubalus bubalis*), baboons (*Papio cynocephalus*), sable antelopes (*Hippotragus niger*), pukus (*Kobus vardonii*), snakes (*Serpentes*), and tortoises (*Testudinidae*).

Important plant species include *Uapaca kirkiana*, *Pterocarpus angolensis*, *Parinari curatellifolia*, rosewood (*Guibourtia coleosperma*), and *Anisophyllea boehmii*.

Ecosystem services include the Lunga and Kabompo rivers, as well as the Kasumpa, Wisaki, and Kasangi streams. Additional ecosystem services are provided by the Nsaangu, Mbongu, Kanyansa, and Luweli hills, which are among the tallest in the province and offer a panoramic view of the landscape.

// TABLE E.18.1 //

Top five forest products collected by women and men

	PRODUCT #1	PRODUCT #2	PRODUCT #3	PRODUCT #4	PRODUCT #5
WOMEN	Herbal medicine	Mushrooms	Honey	Caterpillars	Orchids
MEN	Honey	Fruits	Caterpillars	Mushrooms	Herbal medicine

Source: Authors' elaboration.

Benefits, benefit-sharing mechanism, and access to finance

Provisions related to benefit-sharing are included in the Community Forest Management Group (CFMG) constitution. The community believes that the formation of the CFMG has created opportunities for recognition by institutions such as the West Lunga Conservation Project, the Global Environment Facility, and FAO.

The community has initiated a project to mold bricks for the construction of an office for the CFMG and has participated in training activities, including conservation farming and modern fire management techniques.

Access to finance is available through village banking schemes, involving both men and women, as well as through Vision Fund and a branch of Atlas Mara Bank.

Forest and land management practices, capacities, and learning

Forest patrols are conducted by Honorary Forest Officers and the fire management team. Offenses such as the presence of charcoal kilns and illegal logging are documented through photographs, but no physical arrests have been made. Honorary Forest Officers submit patrol sheets to the head of forest protection.

The community has developed various skills, including carpentry for benches, mortars, and pestles; handcrafts such as carvings, baskets, and reed mats; and the production of axe handles and cooking sticks. Additionally, community members engage in fishing, conservation agriculture, and modern beehive making.

The community has identified a need for future learning in areas such as fish farming, modern beekeeping, honey processing, and processing and value addition for non-wood forest products, including herbal medicine, mushrooms, and fruits.



© FAO/Cassandra Lundu

Threats and challenges

Illegal tree cutting and timber production pose challenges, as the community believes that foreign entities, mainly Chinese companies, have been granted concession licenses and are harvesting within the community forest areas.

The collection of non-wood forest products from the community forest presents additional challenges, including snake bites, insect stings, and accidents when harvesting honey. The lack of protective clothing further increases risks.

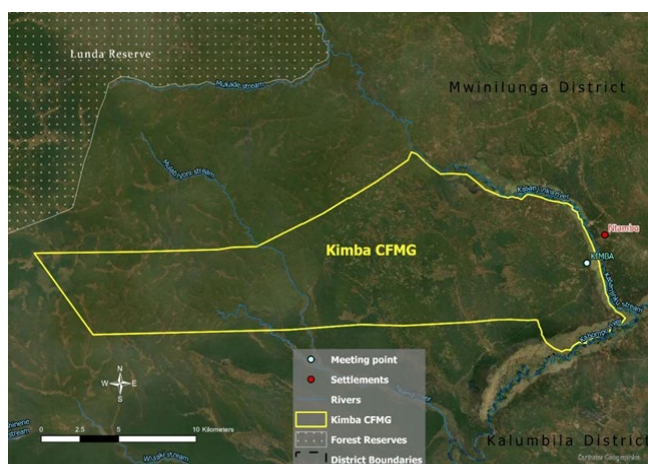
Selling collected forest products remains difficult due to the absence of storage facilities and the long distances required to reach markets. Market prices are typically determined based on information heard on the radio, consultations with traders, and communication with other sellers via phone.

Future plans and aspirations

Carbon trading is one of the main objectives for forming the CFMG, with the West Lunga Conservation Project serving as the carbon partner.

// FIGURE E18.1. //

Kimba CF map

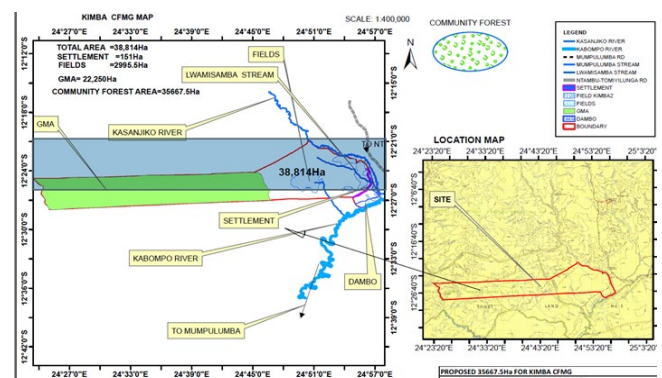


Source: Authors' elaboration using Geographic Information System (GIS), with CFMA boundary overlaid on Google Satellite imagery.

Notes: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

// FIGURE E18.2. //

Kimba CF Sketch Map



Source: Authors' elaboration, based on community-provided sketch mapping.

Notes: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

Luli Community

BASIC DATA

PROVINCE	North Western Province
DISTRICT	Kabompo
VILLAGES	Katendwa, Samasang'a, Nyachihawa, Kasalya and Kakonge
KEY CONTACT	Allan Chimbwili
TOTAL NUMBER OF CFMG MEMBERS	All community members-No register
HECTARES OF CF	Area is mapped but forest size is unknown by the committee
CFMG STAGE:	Step 3 (process discontinued in 2024)

Brief history

The Community Forest Management Group was officially formed in May 2023. Although the process began in two thousand twenty-one, substantial work commenced in February two thousand twenty-two. Representatives from the Forestry Department and Kabompo Community Carbon collaborated with the Chief and the community to raise awareness about the importance of forest conservation and its associated benefits. During a subsequent meeting, they addressed questions and conducted elections to establish the committee.

The CFMG process was discontinued in two thousand twenty-four. The community forest area had to be reduced due to overlapping land uses and jurisdiction across two districts, limiting its potential for carbon trading.

Main objective of the CFMG

The main objectives of the Luli CFMG are carbon trading, forest conservation, and benefiting from ecosystem services, with the goal of securing ownership of forests to prevent uncontrolled destruction.

CFMG governance and rights

• CFMG organization and decision-making

The Luli CFMG executive committee consists of twelve

members, including four women and eight men, with a term of office lasting five years.

The CFMG members have met twice to raise awareness about carbon trading and elect the executive committee. They are currently engaged in boundary verification and mapping.

• Gender equality and social inclusion

Women represent thirty-three percent of CFMG leadership, with four women out of twelve executive committee members. The CFMG is still in the early stages of formation.

• Rights of use and access

There are no restrictions for community members accessing and harvesting products from the forest. Outsiders are required to pay or compensate the CFMG or the Chief for harvesting any forest products. The CFMG does not have enforcement authority to arrest offenders.

• Conflict resolution and grievance mechanism

There have been disputes in the past related to concerns that land was being confiscated and disagreements over boundaries. Although no formal mechanism exists, Chief Sikufele and Chief Kalunga have helped resolve such grievances.

Availability and use of natural resources

The area comprises an open forest called the Katendwa local forest, which is home to impalas (*Aepyceros melampus*) and important tree species such as *Azelia quanzensis*, *Pterocarpus angolensis*, *Julbernardia paniculata*, and *Guibourtia coleosperma*.

Ecosystem services are provided by streams, including Chinkokwelo, Katuba, and Chihumune, which are also regarded as sacred.

The forest ecosystem is degraded due to unsustainable caterpillar harvesting, late-season fires, and logging.

The top five products collected by men and women are listed in the table below.

// TABLE E.19.1 //

Top five forest products collected by women and men

	PRODUCT #1	PRODUCT #2	PRODUCT #3	PRODUCT #4	PRODUCT #5
WOMEN	Mushrooms	Caterpillars	Fish	Firewood	Herbal medicine
MEN	Honey	Mushrooms	Thatched grass	Poles	Rafters

Source: Authors' elaboration.

Benefits, benefit-sharing mechanism, and access to finance

As the community is still in the early stages, there is no benefit-sharing mechanism in place. However, some initial discussions have taken place. The Community Forest Management Group (CFMG) does not collect dues or hold a bank account.

Some village microfinance institutions are active, including Agora Credit, the Constituency Development Fund, Atlas Mara, and Caritas. Telephone and internet access are reliable, with MTN and Airtel networks available.

Forest and land management practices, capacities, and learning

Traditional forest management practices exist, including conservation farming, crop rotation methods, restrictions on cutting wild fruit trees, and forest conservation to support beekeeping.

Forest patrols occasionally take place, with both headmen and executive committee members participating. However, no data is currently compiled from these patrols.

The community possesses various skills, including the production of fishing baskets, brooms, mats, traditional hive beekeeping, boat making, and carpentry.

Threats and challenges

The community forest faces threats such as illegal timber harvesting, charcoal production, unsustainable caterpillar collection, and late-season fires. These threats are worsening due to the lack of enforcement by CFMG members against offenders.

The Luli community also faces challenges in the collection and sale of forest products, including getting lost in the forest, wasp stings, snake bites, high pricing imposed by foreign buyers, fatigue, long distances, accidents when cutting trees, a lack of protective wear for forest work, and difficulties in identifying mushrooms and orchids.

A critical challenge for Luli community forest has been the call from the Forestry Department to reduce its area due to its overlap with two districts, Kabompo and Manyinga, and other land uses. At the time of writing, the CFMG process had been discontinued, and the partner was no longer supporting the initiative.

Future plans and aspirations

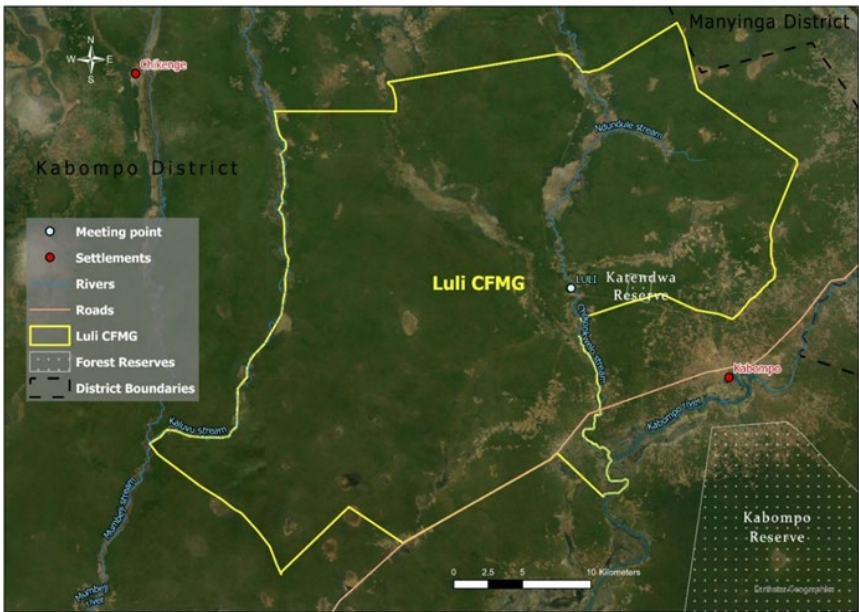
The community has expressed interest in training opportunities for Honorary Forest Officers on forest law enforcement, as well as training and support in bricklaying, modern beekeeping, carpentry, conservation agriculture, horticulture and grafting, gardening, knitting, and tailoring. There is also interest in improving access to medicine and developing fishponds.

Before the discontinuation of the process, the community aimed to generate carbon benefits with the support of Kabompo Community Carbon.

The community's request is for the government to promptly transfer rights to them, enabling the implementation of activities.

// FIGURE E19.1. //

Luli CF map



Source: Authors' elaboration using Geographic Information System (GIS), with CFMA boundary overlaid on Google Satellite imagery.

Notes: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

At the time of publication, CF sketch map for this community management group was not available.



Lunsongwa Community

BASIC DATA

PROVINCE	North Western Province
DISTRICT	Manyinga
VILLAGES	Ngungungu, Kapanda, Kabwasa, Kapinyoko, Kambungo, Pemba, Kasweka, Impoza, Kamitobo, Muyutu, court village, Chikuyu, Kalungulungu, Kanyamanzhi, Katong’a, Kalemoni, Kahaku, Maseka, Chiyung’u, Hamukandu, Kamema, Kapidi
KEY CONTACT	Jackson Kalezhi
TOTAL NUMBER OF CFMG MEMBERS	7 025 members
HECTARES OF CF	66 301 ha
CFMG STAGE:	Step 5

Brief history

The Lunsongwa Community Forest Management Group (CFMG) was established in July 2023 and is currently awaiting the signing of Form Seven by the Forestry Department. The primary external partner for Lunsongwa CFMG is Kabompo Carbon Partners. The CFMG has received training in fire management, and the Forestry Department has conducted awareness-raising sessions for the communities regarding CFMG formation and forest management.

Main objective of the CFMG

The primary objective of Lunsongwa CFMG is to safeguard and ensure the sustainable management of forests, aiming for ongoing benefits from forest products, biodiversity conservation, and improvements in livelihoods.

CFMG governance and rights

• CFMG organization and decision-making

The Lunsongwa CFMG has democratically elected an executive committee consisting of ten members, each serving a three-year term. Elections are open to local community members, with the only requirement being possession of a National Registration Card

and belonging to the community. Every community member is considered part of the CFMG.

The community meets every three months, with additional ad hoc meetings called as needed. The Chief serves as the patron of the CFMG, actively participating in discussions and serving as a signatory to all applications.

During meetings, Lunsongwa CFMG engages in discussions on various crucial topics, including forest protection and management strategies, fostering both community and CFMG development, implementing fire protection measures, and improving community communications. These discussions provide a platform for collaborative decision-making and planning to achieve sustainable forest management, community advancement, and effective fire prevention.

• Gender equality and social inclusion

While most women in Lunsongwa CFMG participate freely in meetings, some face challenges due to household responsibilities, family issues, or objections from men. Efforts are made to ensure women's inclusion, and one traditional leader in the community is a woman.

• **Rights of use and access**

CFMG members face no restrictions in accessing the forest and collecting non-wood forest products, while outsiders must obtain permission from the CFMG executive committee. Timber loggers holding concession licenses from the Forestry Department are still required to seek approval from the executive committee to prevent unauthorized timber harvesting within the community forest.

• **Conflict resolution and grievance mechanism**

Conflicts related to concerns about land grabbing have been resolved through discussions and, if necessary, escalation to the Chief.

Availability and use of natural resources

The forest provides diverse products such as mushrooms, trees, honey, medicinal roots, bamboo, and thatching grass.

Important wildlife species include snakes (*Serpentes*), duikers (*Sylvicapra grimmia*), monkeys (*Chlorocebus pygerythrus*), fish, and waterbucks (*Kobus ellipsiprymnus*).

// TABLE E.20.1 //

Top five forest products collected by women and men

	PRODUCT #1	PRODUCT #2	PRODUCT #3	PRODUCT #4	PRODUCT #5
WOMEN	Mushrooms	Orchids	Wild fruits	n/a	n/a
MEN	Honey	Thatched grass	Poles	Fiber	Construction material

Source: Authors' elaboration.

Benefits, benefit-sharing mechanism, and access to finance

The constitution outlines benefit-sharing under the carbon trading partnership with Kabompo Carbon Partners. Carbon trading is pending the transfer of rights.

The lack of a bank account poses financial challenges, and there are no financial institutions in the community apart from savings groups. The benefit-sharing mechanism has been discussed with community members during the general meeting.

Forest and land management practices, capacities, and learning

The Community Forest Management Group (CFMG) has not yet started activities or forest patrols due to resource and financial constraints.

Traditional forest management practices include restrictions on cutting trees near water sources and graveyards, as well as

restrictions on cutting fruit trees. Permission is required from the headmen or the Chief before any tree is cut.

Existing community skills include carpentry, brickmaking, craftwork, tree nursery management, boiler making, and metallurgy.

The community has expressed interest in future learning opportunities in bricklaying, carpentry, tree nursery management, tailoring, metal fabrication, and the preservation of non-wood forest products.

Threats and challenges

Lunsongwa CFMG faces threats such as late-season fires, timber logging, traditional bark hive harvesting, shifting cultivation, poaching, and the unsustainable harvesting of *chikanda* and caterpillars.

Challenges during the collection and sale of forest products include long distances to resources, snake bites, accidents involving axes, and the risk of falling from trees.



Future plans and aspirations

The community expects to benefit from capacity-building initiatives by the Forestry Department. Additionally, the community is

committed to conserving the forest for the benefit of future generations.

// FIGURE E20.1. //

Lunsongwa CF map



Source: Authors' elaboration using Geographic Information System (GIS), with CFMA boundary overlaid on Google Satellite imagery.

Notes: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

// FIGURE E20.2. //

Lunsongwa CF Sketch Map



Source: Authors' elaboration, based on community-provided sketch mapping.

Notes: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

Makasa Community

BASIC DATA

PROVINCE	North Western Province
DISTRICT	Mwinilunga
VILLAGES	Mutombu, Samasang'a, Kalimotu, Saiwanu, Kankung'a, Kakombo, Saimbwendi, Mapanda, Makachi
KEY CONTACT	Mr. Jack Mwinikalombi
TOTAL NUMBER OF CFMG MEMBERS	Total 405
HECTARES OF CF	140 ha
CFMG STAGE:	Step 4

Brief history

The Makasa Community Forest Management Group (CFMG) was established in 2015 under the Decentralized Forest and Natural Resources Management Project with support from the Finnish government and the Forestry Department. The CFMG has received support in beekeeping, training for Honorary Forest Officers, and fish farming. However, the fish farming initiative was unsuccessful due to the drying up of a stream.

Main objective of the CFMG

As one of the first ten pilot CFMGs in Zambia, its primary objectives include forest management, livelihood improvement, ecosystem service protection, and forest restoration.

CFMG governance and rights

• CFMG organization and decision-making

The CFMG democratically elects an executive committee consisting of twelve members, including six men and six women, each serving a two-year term. Despite limited financial support, the CFMG meets every three months to strategize on activities, including fire management and fundraising.

The traditional Chief plays a crucial role in introducing CFMGs to the community, authorizing their establishment, and enforcing

laws. The community actively participates in various activities, such as forest product fairs, events, and training sessions when opportunities arise.

• Gender equality and social inclusion

Women represent fifty-five percent of CFMG membership, with four hundred sixteen women out of seven hundred forty-six members, and fifty percent of CFMG leadership, with six women out of twelve members of the executive committee.

Efforts are made to encourage inclusive participation, with a deliberate policy to involve women in decision-making positions.

• Rights of use and access

Community members manage the extraction of non-wood forest products, which is allowed only for home consumption. Outsiders are not permitted to harvest resources.

The community believes they will maintain long-term control over the forest.

• Conflict resolution and grievance mechanism

Conflicts are resolved through committee intervention, with the Chief stepping in if needed.

Availability and use of natural resources

The community forest maintains dense forest cover, which has improved over time.

Important tree species include *Pterocarpus angolensis*, *Isobrerlinia angolensis*, *Pericopsis angolensis*, *Adansonia digitata*, *Uapaca kirkiana*, *Buffia baguette*, *Marquesia macroura*, and *Anisophyllea boehmii*.

Wildlife species found in the area include duikers (*Cephalophinae*), guinea fowls (*Numida meleagris*), foxes (*Vulpes vulpes*), wild snakes (*Serpentes*), rabbits (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*), and otters (*Potamogale velox*).

Fishing areas and water sources include the Lunga and Kapundu rivers, as well as the Kaudembidambi, Kafumpa, and Kamalolu streams.

// TABLE E.21.1 //

Top five forest products collected by women and men

	PRODUCT #1	PRODUCT #2	PRODUCT #3	PRODUCT #4	PRODUCT #5
WOMEN	Herbal medicine	Mushrooms	Wild fruits	Caterpillars	Orchids
MEN	Honey	Fine grass	Fibers	Herbal medicine	Mushrooms

Source: Authors' elaboration.

Benefits, benefit-sharing mechanism, and access to finance

The Community Forest Management Group (CFMG) has a constitution that includes penalties for those who break the rules. Community members are allowed to collect forest products, with the exception of honey, which is regulated. Outsiders must obtain permission from the CFMG executive committee to harvest non-wood forest products.

There is interest in carbon markets, but no activities have been initiated.

The CFMG does not have a bank account, but the treasurer currently holds five hundred kwacha on behalf of the group. Access to finance is available through Atlas Mara Bank, the Constituency Development Fund, and women's savings groups. Some cooperatives also access financing.

Forest and land management practices, capacities, and learning

Forest patrols occur at least twice a week, involving Honorary Forest Officers, CFMG executive committee members, and occasional

participation from community members. Challenges include unsustainable harvesting of forest products and late-season burning, but awareness-raising efforts have led to gradual improvements.

Community members possess skills in carpentry, beehive making, traditional and modern crafts, fishing basket production, drum making, hive construction, cooking stick carving, blast furnace metalwork, and reed mat weaving.

Future learning needs identified by the community include entrepreneurship skills, advanced beekeeping, conservation farming, tailoring, and the expansion of savings groups.

Threats and challenges

Challenges include a lack of transportation for patrols, limited access to mushroom drying facilities, and insufficient tools. The community also struggles with access to consistent and affordable transportation.

Threats to the forest include late-season burning, illegal tree cutting, poor harvesting techniques, the expansion of agricultural fields, and timber production.

Recently, a forest concession license holder was observed cutting timber inside the community forest area without the community's consent. When questioned, the loggers claimed to have a concession license issued by the Forestry Department. This situation has arisen due to unclear demarcation between the timber concession area and the community forest area.

Future plans and aspirations

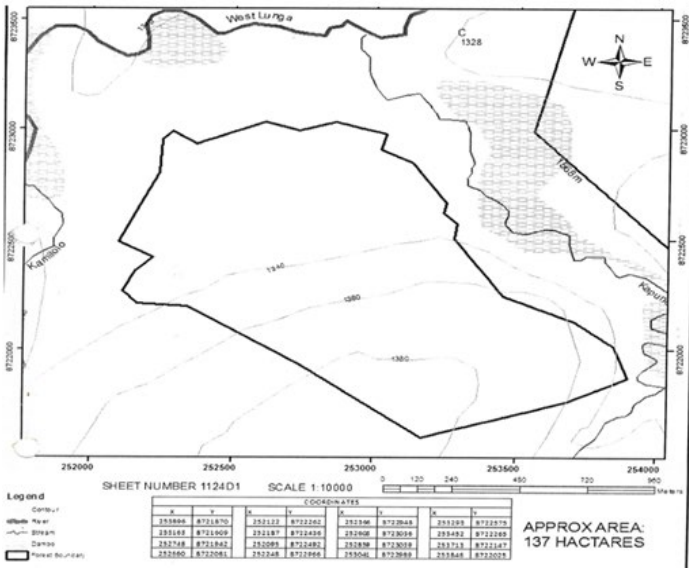
The community has expressed interest in carbon trading, but no partnership has been established. They hope to generate income through conservation and carbon sales.

Additional future objectives include:

- Improving access to electricity through the Zambia Electricity Supply Commission,
- Accessing better markets for forest products,
- Acquiring personal protective equipment to address safety concerns such as snake bites, bee stings, and allergies caused by grass,
- Addressing transportation challenges.

// FIGURE E21.1. //

Luli CF map



Source: Authors' elaboration, based on community-provided sketch mapping.
Notes: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.
At the time of publication, satellite map for this community management group was not available.



Mumpulumba Community

BASIC DATA

PROVINCE	North Western Province
DISTRICT	Mwinilunga (Chief Ntambu)
VILLAGES	Chuulu, Malata, Mukoya, Kasongi, Muswila, Kalondongoma, Kamena, Kachongu, Muyila, Mwimana, Nyamwana and Muke
KEY CONTACT	Yuda Chandenda
TOTAL NUMBER OF CFMG MEMBERS	310
HECTARES OF CF	49 919 ha
CFMG STAGE:	Step 5

Brief history

Mumpulumba Community Forest Management Group (CFMG) was established in 2022 after communities mobilized themselves, recognizing the natural resources available in the area. The CFMG has signed an agreement for recognition with the Director of Forestry at step five, but rights have not yet been transferred to the communities. The external partner is the West Lunga Conservation Project.

Main objective of the CFMG

The main objective of Mumpulumba CFMG is to protect the community forest area to derive benefits for current and future generations.

CFMG governance and rights

• CFMG organization and decision-making

The governance structure consists of elected committee members and a subcommittee for women, with monthly and biannual meetings. The Mumpulumba CFMG has a democratically elected executive committee consisting of twelve members and a women's subcommittee with thirteen members. All serve a term of five years.

Candidates for elections must be community members and are

nominated from within the community. The executive committee meets monthly on the fifteenth, and general CFMG members meet twice a year. Topics discussed include forest management planning, fire management awareness, performance evaluation, and recommendations. The CFMG chairperson determines meeting dates.

• Gender equality and social inclusion

Women face barriers to full participation due to long distances to meeting locations, lack of interest, and limited knowledge or awareness. The CFMG addresses these challenges by forming a women's subcommittee and encouraging women to voice their concerns and raise issues during the main executive meetings.

• Rights of use and access

Mumpulumba CFMG restricts access to the community forest by outsiders, requiring permission from the executive committee. The CFMG enforces penalties for violations of access rules.

• Conflict resolution and grievance mechanism

Although the CFMG has not yet encountered conflicts, the executive committee would deliberate on conflict issues, with the support of traditional leadership and the West Lunga Conservation Project in case of disputes.

Availability and use of natural resources

The forest condition has improved, leading to increased honey production due to greater tree flowering.

Important tree species include *Pterocarpus angolensis*, rosewood (*Guibourtia coleosperma*), and *Sterculia quinqueloba*.

The area supports diverse wildlife, including elephants (*Loxodonta africana*), buffaloes (*Bubalus bubalis*), hippos (*Hippopotamus amphibius*), and crocodiles (*Crocodylus acutus*). Other species present include common duikers (*Sylvicapra*

grimmia), bush pigs (*Potamochoerus larvatus*), blue duikers (*Philantomba monticola*), sitatungas (*Tragelaphus spekii*), bushbucks (*Tragelaphus scriptus*), porcupines (*Hystrix cristata*), wild dogs (*Lycaon pictus*), and foxes (*Vulpes vulpes*).

The Kabompo River provides essential ecosystem services.

// TABLE E.22.1 //

Top five forest products collected by women and men

	PRODUCT #1	PRODUCT #2	PRODUCT #3	PRODUCT #4	PRODUCT #5
WOMEN	Honey	Chikanda	Mushrooms	Caterpillars	Munkoyo roots
MEN	Herbal medicine	Wax	Bamboo	Thatching grass	Wild fruits

Source: Authors’ elaboration.

Benefits, benefit-sharing mechanism, and access to finance

The Mumpulumba community has a benefit-sharing mechanism outlined in its constitution. The primary purpose of forming the Community Forest Management Group (CFMG) is to generate carbon benefits, with the West Lunga Conservation Project providing support.

There is no bank in the area, and the CFMG does not have a bank account. The absence of a local bank poses a financial challenge.

Forest and land management practices, capacities, and learning

The Mumpulumba CFMG organizes forest patrols with the community, compiling reports and sharing them with the West Lunga Conservation Project.

Traditional practices include prohibitions on cutting trees along streams or rivers and restrictions on cutting fruit-bearing trees. The *muyombo* (*Brachystegia spiciformis*) tree is considered a spirit tree and is not cut, as it is believed to bring rain.

Threats and challenges

The Mumpulumba CFMG faces threats such as a lack of interest from community members in joining the CFMG, late-season fires, and a potential loss of interest due to delays in realizing benefits.

Challenges in collecting and selling forest products include the perishability of products, unsafe bush conditions, river-crossing hazards, and snake bites. Additional difficulties include a lack of honey harvesting equipment and personal protective equipment, conflicts with wildlife such as elephant attacks, and inadequate transportation for both collecting forest products and traveling to markets.

Future plans and aspirations

Opportunities created through training for Honorary Forest Officers, conservation education, and collaboration with the West Lunga Conservation Project and the Forestry Department have contributed to positive changes, including reduced charcoal production.

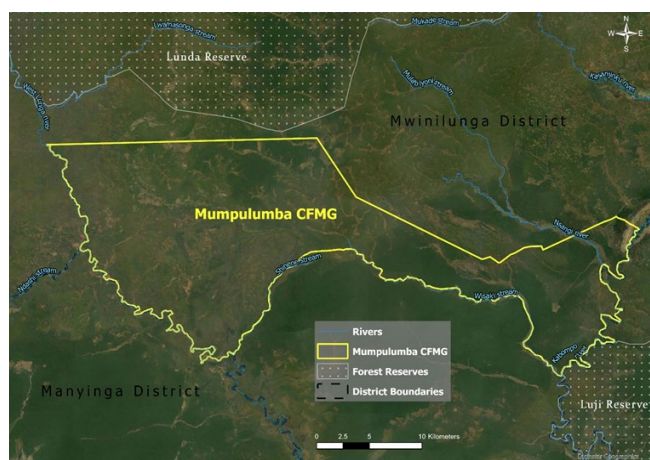
The community, however, has expressed concerns over the delayed signing of Form Seven, which has affected the implementation of activities.

Group photo of the Mumpulumba CFMG members © FAO



// FIGURE E22.1. //

Mumpulumba CF map

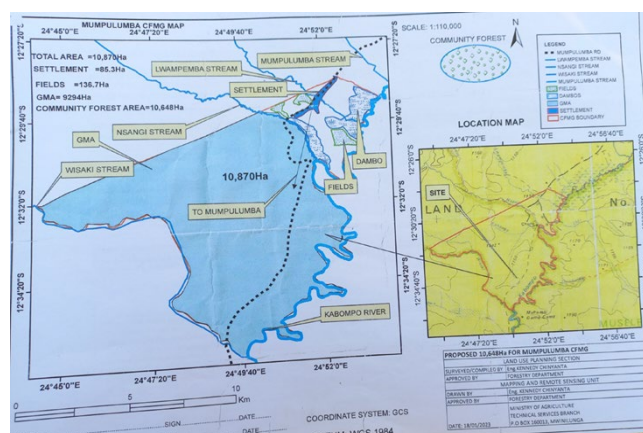


Source: Authors' elaboration using Geographic Information System (GIS), with CFMA boundary overlaid on Google Satellite imagery.

Notes: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

// FIGURE E22.2. //

Mumpulumba CF Sketch Map



Source: Authors' elaboration, based on community-provided sketch mapping.

Notes: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

Muzhila Community

BASIC DATA

PROVINCE	North Western Province
DISTRICT	Mwinilunga
VILLAGES	Kafwali, Sampuli, Maidon and Sebente
KEY CONTACT	Happy Kamwana
TOTAL NUMBER OF CFMG MEMBERS	All community members
HECTARES OF CF	346 ha
CFMG STAGE:	Step 4

Brief history

Muzhila Community Forest Management Group (CFMG) was established in 2015 under the Decentralized Forest and Natural Resources Management Project, supported by the Finnish government and the government of Zambia. It was among the first pilot CFMGs in Zambia.

The CFMG has previously received support in beekeeping, training for Honorary Forest Officers, and savings group initiatives. Additionally, goats were provided through a "Pass on the Gift" initiative. The Finnish government also supplied beehives, although they are not currently in use.

Main objective of the CFMG

The CFMG focuses on forest management and livelihood improvements. The group recognizes that their efforts contribute to ecosystem services such as improved rainfall and air quality.

CFMG governance and rights

• CFMG organization and decision-making

Led by an executive committee of ten members elected for a two-year term, the CFMG meets every three months, while the executive committee meets more frequently.

Activities include boundary marking, monitoring livelihoods such as goat rearing under the Pass on the Gift initiative, and raising community awareness. The Chief and headman both support the CFMG, with the headman providing updates to the Chief.

• Gender equality and social inclusion

Women represent fifty percent of CFMG leadership, with five women out of ten members of the executive committee. Women are encouraged to fully participate in CFMG activities and attend meetings.

• Rights of use and access

Access to non-wood forest products is restricted, requiring a receipt from the CFMG executive committee. Outsiders are not allowed entry into the forest, and the community has the authority to confiscate products from offenders.

The community is concerned about the potential impact of mining on the community forest.

• Conflict resolution and grievance mechanism

Conflicts, including poaching and challenges related to the Pass on the Gift initiative, are resolved by the executive committee. In more complex cases, the Chief and the Forestry Department are involved.

Availability and use of natural resources

The forest has grown denser over time, supporting various wildlife and important tree species.

Wildlife species present in the area include duikers (*Cephalophinae*), guinea fowls (*Numida meleagris*), snakes (*Serpentes*), impalas (*Aepyceros melampus*), wild rats (*Rattus norvegicus*), and waterbucks (*Kobus ellipsiprymnus*).

Important tree species include *Pterocarpus angolensis*, *Isoberlinia angolensis*, *Parinari curatellifolia*, *Anisophyllea boehmii*, *Pericopsis angolensis*, *Albizia adianthifolia*, and *Uapaca kirkiana*.

Rivers and streams such as Lunga, Kapundu, Kamalengi, and Kapundu are integral to the community forest landscape.

// TABLE E.21.1 //

Top five forest products collected by women and men

	PRODUCT #1	PRODUCT #2	PRODUCT #3	PRODUCT #4	PRODUCT #5
WOMEN	Herbal medicine	Mushrooms	Wild fruits	Caterpillars	Orchids
MEN	Honey	Herbal medicine	Poles	Thatching grass	Fibers

Source: Authors' elaboration.

Benefits, benefit-sharing mechanism, and access to finance

Opportunities have been created for the community through the availability of wild fruits and honey production. Potential partnerships for carbon trading are being explored.

Abundant non-wood forest products, including mushrooms, caterpillars, *chikanda*, herbal medicine, and wild fruits, are present.

The community does not have access to credit and seeks financial support for activities such as caterpillar collection, honey production, *chikanda*, and mushroom businesses.

The area has good internet connectivity through three network service providers: MTN, Zamtel, and Airtel.

Forest and land management practices, capacities, and learning

Joint patrols, conducted at least twice a week, involve the executive committee and Honorary Forest Officers. Threats include charcoal production, bark hive making, and unsustainable caterpillar harvesting. Improved reporting has led to charges being filed against offenders.

Certain traditional practices contribute to forest management, such as leaving tree stumps for coppicing rather than uprooting trees, as well as prohibiting tree cutting in graveyards.

The community possesses skills in carpentry, handicrafts, and drum making.

Future learning interests include knitting, business skills, financial management, and bricklaying.

Threats and challenges

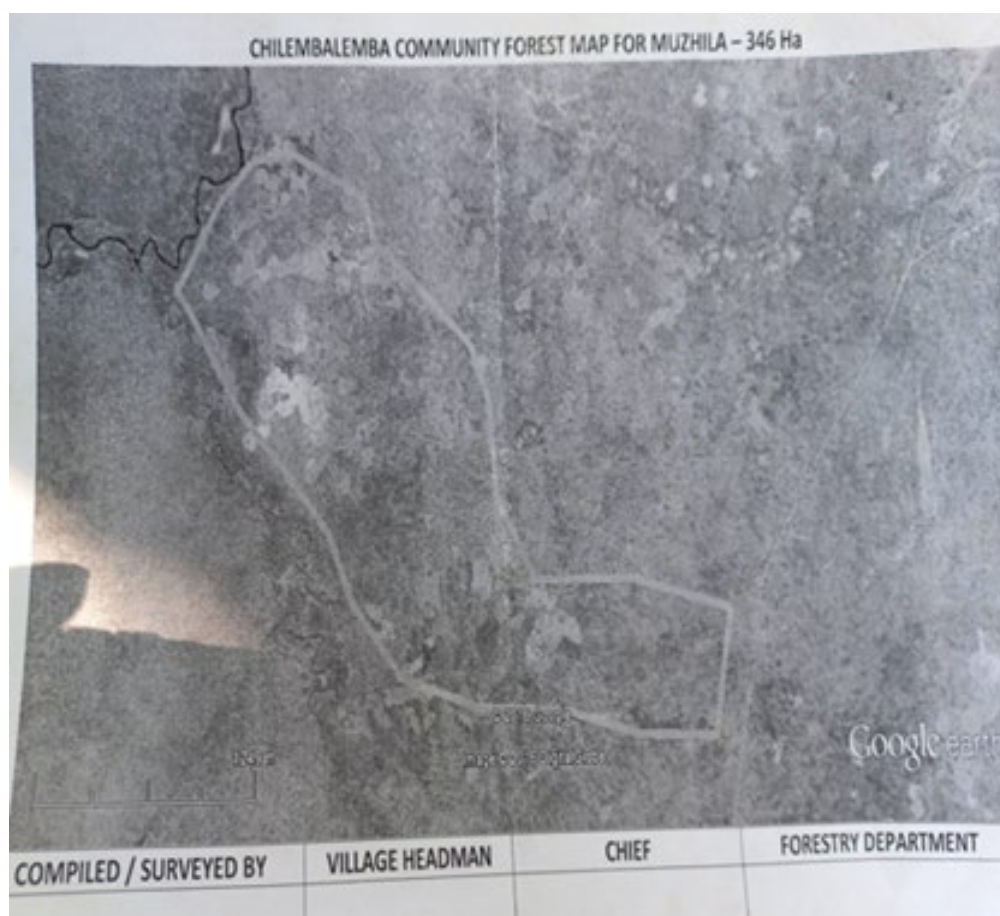
Challenges include a lack of proper markets and low prices dictated by buyers. There is only one off-taker for honey, who offers low prices.

Future plans and aspirations

While there is no current carbon partner, Muzhila CFMG is interested in exploring carbon trading. The CFMG has created opportunities for the Muzhila community by improving the availability of wild fruits such as *masuku* and honey.

The community believes there is potential for carbon trading, though no partner has been identified. They also wish to expand the community forest area to generate carbon revenues.

// FIGURE E23.1. //

Muzhila CF map

Source: Authors' elaboration based on Google Earth imagery.

Notes: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

At the time of publication, a better quality map for this community management group was not available.



Samuteba Community

BASIC DATA

PROVINCE	North Western Province
DISTRICT	Mwinilunga
VILLAGES	Samuteba, Nyangombe, Matavu, Katambe, Minyanga
KEY CONTACT	Solomon Mpoyu
TOTAL NUMBER OF CFMG MEMBERS	50 members (31 men, 19 women)
HECTARES OF CF	60 372 ha
CFMG STAGE:	Step 5

Brief history

The Samuteba Community Forest Management Group (CFMG) was established in June 2022 following awareness-raising activities conducted by Kabompo Community Carbon and the Forestry Department on the importance of tree preservation in the communities. An executive committee was elected shortly thereafter.

Support has been provided for the establishment of the CFMG, including sensitization, elections, and documentation processing.

Main objective of the CFMG

The CFMG focuses on forest preservation, livelihood enhancement through mushrooms, *chikanda*, herbs, and fruits, benefiting from ecosystem services, and carbon trading.

CFMG governance and rights

• CFMG organization and decision-making

An elected executive committee consisting of twelve members, including seven men and five women, leads the CFMG. The committee meets monthly to encourage community forest conservation. The Chief actively supports the CFMG and sends a representative to meetings.

• Gender equality and social inclusion

Women represent thirty-eight percent of CFMG membership, with nineteen women out of fifty members, and forty-two percent of CFMG leadership, with five women out of twelve members of the executive committee.

Women face barriers such as travel distance, social norms, menstrual cycles, and pregnancies, all of which hinder participation. To support women's involvement, the group contributes money to provide motorbike transportation for them to attend meetings.

• Rights of use and access

The CFMG has existing rules requiring members to obtain permission from the executive committee to enter the community forest. Outsiders must also receive permission from the executive committee and must be escorted by Honorary Forest Officers.

The community retains the right to confiscate illegally obtained products from the forest but does not have the authority to make arrests.

• Conflict resolution and grievance mechanism

The CFMG has experienced conflicts, mainly related to administrative issues such as timekeeping in meetings and differing expectations among members and leadership, particularly regarding the use of personal transportation for CFMG activities.

Conflicts are handled by the CFMG executive committee. If a resolution cannot be reached, issues are escalated to the village headman.

Availability and use of natural resources

Challenges related to bark hive harvesting and tree cutting for caterpillar collection have been addressed through awareness-raising efforts and the establishment of the CFMG.

// TABLE E.24.1 //

Top five forest products collected by women and men

	PRODUCT #1	PRODUCT #2	PRODUCT #3	PRODUCT #4	PRODUCT #5
WOMEN	Mushrooms	Caterpillars	Herbal medicine	Wild rats	Wild fruits
MEN	Honey	Mushrooms	Fibers	Caterpillars	Herbal medicine

Source: Authors' elaboration.

Benefits, benefit-sharing mechanism, and access to finance

The Community Forest Management Group (CFMG) has a benefit-sharing agreement that allocates five and a half percent of proceeds to the executive committee, with fifty percent going to the community.

Key non-wood forest products include honey, mushrooms, fiber, caterpillars, medicinal herbs, and wild fruits.

The CFMG does not have access to a bank account but does maintain a mobile money account. Members pay an initial due of ten kwacha, followed by five kwacha per month. The group's current holdings total one thousand two hundred fifty kwacha.

Financial opportunities are theoretically available through branches of Atlas Mara Bank, Agora Microfinance, Vision Fund, a women's savings group, and a village banking scheme open to both men and women.

Kang'wandi forest, where the community forest is located, is home to various wildlife and important tree species.

Wildlife species found in the area include warthogs (*Potamochoerus larvatus*), impalas (*Aepyceros melampus*), duikers (*Cephalophinae*), guinea fowls (*Numida meleagris*), and giant rats (*Cricetomys emini*).

Important tree species include *Pterocarpus angolensis*, rosewood (*Guibourtia coleosperma*), mukula (*Pterocarpus chrysotrix* Taub), mupapa (*Afzelia quanzensis*), mushokotu (*Faurea saligna*), and musamba (*Brachystegia utilis*).

Ecosystem services are provided by the Kasanjiku, Kalaba, and Nguluwi rivers, as well as the Kadavwa, Wamizezi, and Kangwadi streams.

Forest and land management practices, capacities, and learning

Monthly patrols involve committee members, headmen, and community members, though transportation remains a challenge.

Threats to the forest include charcoal production and traditional bark hive making. Awareness-raising efforts have improved the situation, but challenges persist, particularly illegal timber harvesting. The CFMG addresses this issue by confiscating illegally harvested timber.

Certain traditional practices are observed, such as avoiding specific forest areas, collecting fruits with one hand, and refraining from cutting trees at graveyards.

Community members possess skills in handicrafts, pit sawing, business operations, and carpentry. The community has expressed interest in learning financial management, tailoring, modern beehive management, entrepreneurship, fish farming, honey processing, and beehive making. Access to credit is also a priority.

Threats and challenges

Challenges faced during the collection of forest products include snake bites, getting lost in the forest, and a lack of protective clothing.

Generating income from the sale of forest products remains difficult due to low prices, limited preservation equipment, and a shortage of buyers. Additional income loss is experienced due to divided attention and a lack of motivation for patrols, as there is no support for food rations. Some community members remain skeptical about the initiative's benefits.

// FIGURE E24.1. //

Samuteba CF map



Source: Authors' elaboration based on Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community.

Notes: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.

Future plans and aspirations

While there are plans for carbon trading, implementation has been delayed due to the lack of an agreement with the Forestry Department.

The formation of the CFMG has created opportunities to develop partnerships with FAO, the Forestry Department, and Kabompo Community Carbon. Increased awareness-raising efforts have led to improved forest protection within the community.

// FIGURE E24.2. //

Samuteba CF Sketch Map



Source: Authors' elaboration using Geographic Information System (GIS), with CFMA boundary overlaid on Google Satellite imagery.

Notes: Refer to the disclaimer on page ii for the names and boundaries used in this map.



ISBN 978-92-5-140391-4



CD7952EN/1/12.25