



## Lower Zambezi Conservation for Future Generations



## SwissAfrican Foundation Final Report 2022



## Support to Conservation Lower Zambezi Final Report: January – December 2022

### CLZ Background

Conservation Lower Zambezi (CLZ) is a non-governmental organisation committed to the protection of wildlife and to the sustainable use of natural resources in the Lower Zambezi, Zambia. Established in 1994, CLZ's mission focuses on three main pillars of support: Wildlife Protection, Environmental Education and Community Empowerment all working towards a mission of *"A valued, protected and thriving Lower Zambezi landscape"*. The organisation works in collaboration with Zambia's local wildlife authority – The Department of National Parks and Wildlife (DNPW) for over 25 years to ensure the sustainability of species in the Lower Zambezi and their ecosystems.

The Lower Zambezi National Park is home to an abundance of wildlife including a variety of ungulates, over 400 bird species, as well as several IUCN Red List species including lions, leopard, hippopotamus, African wild dog, African savanna elephant, pangolin, and African clawless otter. The Lower Zambezi Area Management Unit includes the Lower Zambezi National Park (4,092 km<sup>2</sup>) as well as the adjacent Chiawa (2,344 km<sup>2</sup>) and Rufunsa (3,179 km<sup>2</sup>) Game Management Areas (GMAs).

CLZ and Department of National Parks and Wildlife (DNPW) have been able to continue protecting this landscape with support donors like SwissAfrican Foundation. DNPW is severely underfunded and without this assistance, there would not be sufficient resources to maintain park security. Poaching is a major issue in the area for bushmeat as well as for ivory, pangolins, animal skins and other syndicated illegal wildlife trade products. In addition, encroachment in the north of the park, illegal mining, and charcoaling are threats to the wildlife and environment that would be far more prevalent without support to DNPW. With this support from SwissAfrican Foundation, CLZ and DNPW were able to maintain law enforcement objectives in 2022 and provide teams in the field with the resources and support needed to conduct patrols and conserve natural resources.

### Support Background

In the past, SwissAfrican Foundation has supported Community Scout and DNPW patrols in the Lower Zambezi. In 2021, support from SwissAfrican Foundation was used to support staff salaries and establish CLZ and DNPW's long-term training programme, which allowed CLZ to continue protecting wildlife, empowering communities, and educating youth in the region. In 2022, this support helped CLZ to conduct aerial patrols, develop key infrastructure, and support staff salaries for DNPW and CLZ's Operations Centre staff.

### Aerial Patrols

In 2022, CLZ's plane which further supports teams on the ground and detects illegal activities in the Lower Zambezi flew a total of 179.1 hours and was responsible for detecting 29% of the drying racks and 23% of the poacher's camps. Continued support from SwissAfrican Foundation supported a total of 21.13 hours of aerial patrols which have been critical in detecting illegal activity in the park and surrounding GMAs.

2022	Drying Racks	Poachers Camp	Elephant Carcasses	Illegal Mines
January	0	0	0	3
February	1	1	0	4
March	0	0	0	9
April	1	1	0	5
May	2	1	2	2
June	1	1	0	14
July	3	1	0	25
August	0	0	1	7
September	0	0	0	12

October	2	4	1	12
November	1	3	0	2
December	0	0	0	4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>99</b>



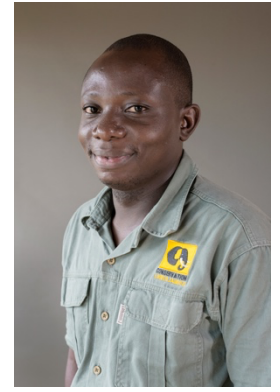
### **Infrastructure Development**

Funds from SwissAfrican Foundation alongside match funds and a portion CLZ's unallocated funds from donations also supported the construction of a storage facility for DNPW and Community Scout rations and equipment. In the past, CLZ has stored rations and supplies in recycled shipping containers. These containers have now been renovated and made into a more secure building to prevent animals such as rodents and termites from entering the area. This will help streamline monitoring and dispersal of stocks and equipment to ensure accountability and prevent waste.



### **Operations Centre Salaries**

Support from SwissAfrican Foundation has helped to cover a portion of CLZ's operational cost for staff salaries. The Operations Centre is the focal point of all law enforcement in region including, communications, data analysis, and intelligence. Through this support, salaries were supported for key personnel including CLZ's Operations Manager, Data Management Officer, and Data Management Assistant who use intelligence generated through collaboration with DNPW and data records from CLZ's 24-hour Operations Centre to target and coordinate patrols.



### **Recognition for Swiss African Foundation Funding**

CLZ would like to acknowledge and thank SwissAfrican Foundation for this critical, timely and necessary grant, allowing the organisation to continue to protect the wildlife of the Lower Zambezi.

Please see links below for SwissAfrican Foundation recognition on funding:

- CLZ Website: <https://www.conservationlowerzambezi.org/supporters/>
- CLZ January 2023 Newsletter story on the completion of the new stores. Will be published by February 12<sup>th</sup>.

### **Financial Expenditure Summary**

100% of Swiss African Foundation funding was spent in 2022 (aside from \$0.72) with the expenditure outlined below:

<b>Category</b>	<b>Spent</b>
Aerial Patrols	\$ 6,095.37
Infrastructure (CLZ Ration Storage)	\$ 6,803.91
Operations Centre Salaries	\$ 2,100.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 14,999.28</b>
<b>Remaining</b>	<b>\$ 0.72</b>



**THANK YOU TO SWISSAFRICAN FOUNDATION FOR SUPPORTING WILDLIFE CONSERVATION, COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT, AND ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION IN THE LOWER ZAMBEZI!**