



PRO-NATURE ENTERPRISES FOR THE PEOPLE OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

In the drylands of southern Africa, many communities have a long tradition of keeping livestock. However, increased socio-economic pressures mean that land degradation is increasing on communally owned grazing areas. This problem is particularly pronounced in the Trans-Frontier Conservation Areas (TFCA) of Southern Africa, which cut across national jurisdictions due to wildlife migration trends. Degraded rangelands lose their optimal capacity to regenerate pastures for both wildlife and livestock, accelerating further degradation and resulting in increased competition for resources between human and wildlife leading to conflicts.

Similarly, the aquatic ecosystem of Lower Zambezi is vulnerable and could suffer from rapid degradation of its fisheries if the balance between the various actors and their effects on the environment is broken. The fisheries resources characteristic of this area is currently used by various actors and communities on both sides of the border (Zambia and Zimbabwe), often with diverse interests, socio-economically sub-optimal, and potentially ecologically destructive ways.

In a negative feedback loop, these degrading systems jeopardizes important conservation efforts targeted at these cross-border areas and a significant part of the formal economy (tourism).

Through the Pro-Nature Enterprises project, Conservation International and partners intend to strengthen community-based natural resources management by setting up conservation agreements with local communities, to create enabling social, economic and environmental conditions to promote biodiversity conservation, as well as development of sustainable “nature-friendly” enterprises that benefit local communities — while making them more financially self-sufficient.

FUNDERS

AFD French Development Agency
(Agence Française de Développement)
FFEM (Fonds Française pour L’Environment Mondial)

TOTAL INVESTMENT

AFD Grant: 5 million €
FFEM Grant: 2.6 million €
Co-Finance: 4 million €, EU 500K € (Botswana)

DURATION

2020-2026

OBJECTIVES

- Conserve and restore 1 million hectares of critical habitats (rangelands restoration)
- Develop sustainable fisheries co-management systems between communities and tourism operators for 250 kilometers along the trans-frontier lower Zambezi river (sustainable fisheries)
- Benefit 30,000 people (more than half of them women) through nature-friendly livestock, fisheries and tourism enterprises
- Secure at least 6 investments in community-based enterprises by private sector partners and impact investment funds
- Document and disseminate lessons learned



INDICATORS TO BE TRACKED

- Restoration of vegetation cover and vegetation diversity of rangelands
- Improved livestock quality
- Reduction in human-wildlife conflicts due to predation and competition for pastures
- Ecologically healthy fisheries in the Lower Zambezi
- 30,000 people are benefitting from nature-friendly enterprises including sustainable livestock, tourism, and agriculture (disaggregated by gender)
- Length of river under conservation agreements with communities
- 150 people fully employed and 200 partly employed to provide tourism and conservation related services

PARTNERS AND SITES

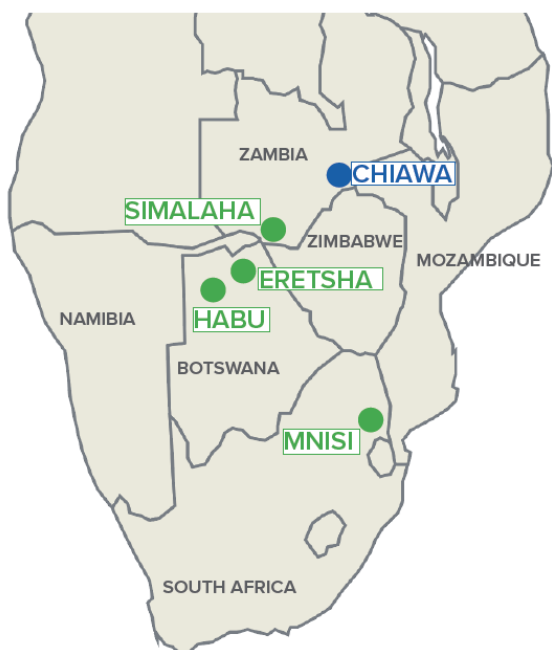
Mnisi, South Africa | Conservation South Africa

Habu, Botswana | Wild Entrust

Eretsha, Botswana | Communities Living Among Wildlife Sustainably (CLAWS)

Simalaha Community Conservancy, Zambia | Peace Parks Foundation

Lower Zambezi – Mana Pools TFCA, Zambia | Conservation Lower Zambezi (CLZ)



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This project is co-financed by the French Development Agency.