



Learning Network Meeting 2022 – *Balancing Production and Protection*

Private sector partnerships are key to improve sustainability of community enterprises that rely on nature and its resources. This year’s Conservation Stewards Program (CSP) Learning Network Meeting (LNM) invited its global network of Conservation Agreements (CA) partners to Ghana for a knowledge-sharing week on best approaches to link nature-friendly community enterprises with supply chains.

The Conservation Agreement Tool

The CA tool has been implemented by over 30 organizations in 19 countries since 2005. The meeting was an opportunity for implementers to share their feedback on the tool and the realities of implementation. Insights from varying experiences will be used to further refine the tool’s field guide and training material to better reflect practicality. The review of the tool was supported by lessons learned from implementing partners including Conservation South Africa and Keystone Foundation-India.

Economic and Social Factors Affecting Uptake of Conservation Actions

Presentations and discussion determined that the decision to conserve already considers costs and benefits before conservation actors intervene. Sustainable Economic benefits and alignment with social norms can contribute to the shifts to pro-environmental behavior even in the absence of incentives.



Second in-person Project Steering Committee Meeting held in Ghana

During the visit to Ghana, the Pro-nature enterprise project’s implementers were also able to get together and have their second in-person steering committee meeting. In addition to providing feedback of progress and sharing with peers, implementers had the opportunity to input into the project’s draft gender action plan as well as the learning topics listed under Component 4 of the project. The next project steering committee meeting is set for South Africa in the first half of 2023 and enterprise development will be the focus as implementers visit the Kruger-to-Canyons landscape.

Participants of LNM visited Shea Butter processing cooperatives in Damango, Ghana that is being supported by the LNM hosting partner, NOE and Savannah Fruits company. The site visit provided a learning experience of the outcomes (successes and challenges) of linking community enterprises with private sector.





Conservation South Africa -

Kruger2Canyons (South Africa)

- Number of cattle currently in the program: **8 461**
- Total number of hectares under planned grazing system: **9 500ha**
- **6** grazing plans active, includes the two most recent villages added, Share and Clare A
- **8** conservation agreements active
- 3 cattle sales, 3 villages: **R420 899.00** generated from **61** cattle sold, **28** sellers (23M:5F)
- Animal Production and Market Access Training



Communities Living Among Wildlife Sustainably (CLAWS) – Eretsha (Botswana)

- Number of cattle currently in the program: **617**
- Total number of hectares under planned grazing system: **5 700ha**
- **2** active communal herds
- Bought phosphate supplementary licks for both herds to alleviate phosphorus shortage in the forage
- Vaccinated all cattle in both herds against common diseases in the area (anthrax, botulism, black quarter and FMD by veterinary services)
- Started preparations for first mobile quarantine intake due November
- Project created part time job opportunities for women for boma repairs and for harvesting of fodder



Conservation Lower Zambezi – Lower Zambezi (Zambia and Zimbabwe)

- Joint patrols with the Department of Fisheries have commenced. The patrols have enabled identification and intervention of various illegal activities.
- Governance trainings facilitated by the Zambian Community Resources Board Association (ZCRBA) with Chiawa and Luangwa CRBs
- An Enterprise Development feasibility analysis has been conducted and a report is expected in December. The feasibility was conducted by Prospero Zambia and is aimed at identifying potential Enterprise Development opportunities in Lower Zambezi.



Wild Entrust – Habu (Botswana)

- Number of cattle currently in the program: **430**
- Total number of hectares under planned grazing system: **6 360ha**
- **2** active communal herds in place
- Hired an Enterprise Development Coordinator to focus pro-nature enterprises
- Department of Forestry and Range Resources (DFRR) trained **51** participants in basic bush fire management
- Started preparations for first mobile quarantine intake due November



Peace Parks Foundation – Simalaha Community Conservancy (Zambia)

- Currently have **75** farmers (3F:72M) signed up as participating farmers
- Number of cattle currently in the program: **539**
- **2** active communal herds
- Certificate ceremony held for the 24 Eco-rangers that recently completed eco-ranger training
- Learning exchange to Kafue and Mazabuka and Exchange Visit Feedback sessions held with the Magumwi and Sibbulo VAGs
- All cattle dewormed and 88 Heifer cattle vaccinated for Brucellosis

Upcoming Activities

- Continuation of profiling Enterprise Development Opportunities
- Baseline data collection (Social and Ecological) in Lower Zambezi
- CA feasibility Analysis in Kanyemba, Zimbabwe
- Baseline Ecological Data Collection in Simalaha
- Primary Animal Healthcare training in Botswana by Afrivet
- First intake of cattle in Botswana sites to the mobile quarantine

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