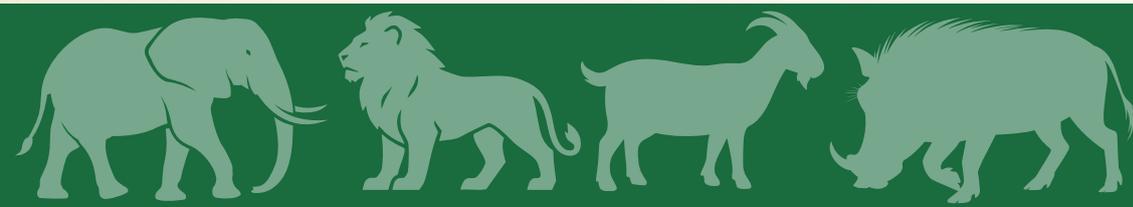


# STATUS REPORT



## EASTERN REGION



2025

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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# ACROYNOMS

ADMADE	Administration Management Design
CBP	Bio-Carbon Partners
CBNRM	Community Based Natural Resource Management
CRB	Community Resources Board
ER-CRBA	Eastern Region Community Resources Board Association
DNPW	Department of National Parks and Wildlife
FZS	Frankfurt Zoological Society
GMA	Game Management Area
HWC	Human Wildlife Conflict
LCFP	Luangwa Conservation Forest Programs
USAID	United States Agency for Information Development
VAG	Village Action Group
WPO	Wildlife Police Officer
WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature

## ABOUT THE REGION

Forests are an important component of the natural capital of Zambia and provide benefits critical for rural populations, urban areas, the national economy, and the global community. Out of the country's total land area of 75.3 million hectares estimates of the remaining forested areas range from 39 to 50 million hectares. The eastern region is one of the regions found in Zambia Forest and has engaged in different activities such as conservation of natural resources, forest, Animals, Fish and many others nature resources. The region is involved in developmental activities and improving livelihoods of the community members living around the GMAs through different initiatives and other activities such as Gardening, fish farming and many others.



**Figure 1: Map for lower Zambezi National Park and GMAs.**

The landscape covers 7 GMAs (Petauke GMA, Chisomo GMA, Sandwe GMA, Lupande GMA, Lumimba, Musalangu GMA and Munsamadzi GMA), surrounding the four national parks (South Luangwa, Lukusuzi, Luembe and North Luangwa national parks) with 17 CRBs of which 15 are active. The region has all kinds of species that are well protected. Among the four National Parks, South Luangwa Nation Park is largest Nation Park and has high concentration of the wild dog, 60 different animal species such as Lions, Zebra, Antelopes and hippos, over 400 species of bird such as pelicans, herons, canine bee eaters and more. The south Luangwa is also known as the home of the Thornicroft giraffe which is endemic to the park.

## The table below show the list of GMAs that are in the region

SN	Name of the	Measurements
1	Lupande	4840
2	Lumimba	4500
3	West petauke	4140
4	Sandwe	1530
5	Chisomo	1410
6	Munyamazi	1220
7	Musalangu	5112

### WHAT MAKES THE REGION OUTSTANDING?

South Luangwa National Park stands out as Zambia's largest national park in the region, hosting a high concentration of African wild dogs, over 60 mammal species including lions, zebras, antelopes, and hippos, and more than 400 bird species such as pelicans, herons, and carmine bee-eaters. The park is the exclusive home to the endemic Thornicroft's giraffe, a subspecies unique to this area. The GMAs collectively protect a wide array of wildlife, forests, and aquatic resources, enhanced by community-led conservation efforts.

### COMMUNITY CONSERVATION IN THE REGION

To achieve global targets of protecting biodiversity, conservation centres around the people living in GMAS, people that know and people that depend on their livelihood on environment including forests, lakes and wildlife. Eastern region CRBs appreciate the participation of communities and the efforts that is applied to improve the status of the region in conservation.

Eastern region has worked hard to create jobs for communities. CRBs have managed to employ 200 Community Scouts, Book Keepers and Executive Officers etc. the CRBs also engage the communities during early burning activities and when having other developmental projects such as building of infrastructures, income generating initiatives such as bee keeping, fishery groups,

## REGION ACHIEVEMENTS

### Community Development

Success comes up when people agree to work together, have the same goal to achieve their objectives, it is for this reason that the eastern region Community Resources Board has many projects in different VAGs which are born out of the Community voices were people are free to suggest and come up with projects of their choices



## REGIONAL QUARTERLY MEETING

The Eastern Region Community Resources Board Association held their quarterly meetings on and the meeting comprised of the Eastern Region CRBA, Department of National Parks and Wildlife, Bio-Carbon Partners, Zambia Community Resources Boards Association and Forestry Department.



**Figure 2 : Quarterly meet in Eastern Region**

## Income generating initiatives

The ER-CRB generates its revenues from hunting and carbon, these incomes generated from the animal fees are not only used for consumption but for other developmental programs meant to improve the living standards of the communities for instance, starting businesses and projects that will help the CRB to run its cost without any financial challenges. On a positive note, Some CRBs have managed to buy hammer mills, started gardening and built guest houses etc, which are generating income for management of their CRBs.

## Law enforcement

The WPO and community scouts has the responsibility to make sure that our Wildlife resources are well managed and protected. The CRB makes sure that their community scouts are well kitted with full uniforms and well remunerated monthly. Department of National Parks is fully supporting the CRB with Training, Equipment and Technical guidance. They work together with the CRB in resolving Human Wildlife Conflicts (HWC) and also to sensitize the communities on anti-poaching activities and their penalties.

# THREATS TO THE GMAS PERFORMANCE IN THE REGION

## Encroachment

Encroachment into Game Management Area (GMAs), and national parks through Human settlement is the major challenge face by the region. It was noted that encroachers search for agricultural land which has resulted in degradation and depletion of wildlife in the region. Currently, encroachment has occurred in all GMAs due to agricultural activities which has resulted into degradation of GMAs also not been spared from encroachment.

The region has continued to conduct community sensitizations across all the chiefdoms, and have involved traditional leaders for support and guidance on how to carry out the sensitization process as it easier to capture the attention of the communities as they have more influence as the custodian of the land to influence decisions. This has helped the region in reductions of the encroachment settlers.

## Climate Change

Climate change poses major risks to global biodiversity as it affects ecosystems processes and in the ER-CRB, Climate change impacts were severe as they brought water shortages due to persistent droughts. It has also presented threats to wildlife resources and consequently wildlife-dependent livelihoods in the region. The alterations brought by climate change poses direct and indirect effects on species through reductions in population size and shifts in species distributions.

## Human Wildlife Conflict

Human Wildlife conflict is a serious concern affecting much of the region today, eastern region experienced a lot of HWC's as reported and concerns raised at household level. Wildlife can at times be a danger to community members in GMAs and other protected areas whilst on the other hand can become its greatest natural asset.

## CHALLENGES FACED BY CBOS

Poor coordination is the major challenge in the region among CRBs, CFMGs and other CBNRM structures, this has affected the implementation of planned activities and problem resolutions are difficult to attain as parties don't want to agree on certain decisions pertaining to the GMAs and other natural resources.

Disbursement of funds by the DNPW to communities has resulted in poor performance in implementing activities and drawing reports due to inadequate income generation from the hunting blocks this has led to some CRBs not to have revenues as they are fully dependant on animal fees.

## CONCLUSION

BNRM is meant to support local people who reside with the resources, contribute to environment and assist in expanding wildlife economy. Below is a list of some of the things that CBNRM can do;

·Empower local communities

- Promote social and gender equality
- Combat wildlife crime, encroachment and other threats
- Create new business opportunities

## PARTNERS IN THE REGION

Eastern region acknowledges partners (Bio-carbon partners, TNC, CSL, COMACO and World Bank) for making conservation of biodiversity and other natural resources possible in the region.

The Nature  
Conservancy



THE WORLD BANK



[WWW.ZCRBA.COM](http://WWW.ZCRBA.COM)