

Detailed Implementation & Financial Report

Community Conservation – Forest Guardianship Initiative January – December 2024

1. Project Overview

- **Title:** Community Conservation – Forest Guardianship Initiative
- **Location:** Senanga District, Western Province, Zambia
- **Duration:** January – December 2024
- **Objective:** Restore degraded riverine forests and strengthen community-led biodiversity protection through tree planting, patrols, and conservation education.

2. Background & Rationale

- Riverine forests in Senanga face deforestation due to fuelwood harvesting and illegal logging.
- Youth are often excluded from formal conservation programs despite being key agents of change.
- This project engaged young people as “forest guardians” to restore habitats, reduce poaching, and increase biodiversity resilience.
- It supports Zambia’s Forest Policy, climate commitments (NDCs), and SDG 15 (Life on Land).

3. Activity Components

- **Tree Nurseries:** Raised and distributed 10,000 seedlings (indigenous species).
- **Community Patrols:** Established 4 youth patrol groups for forest monitoring.
- **Awareness Campaigns:** Conducted 12 sensitization sessions in schools and communities.
- **Bylaw Development:** Worked with local leaders to introduce community-led conservation bylaws.

4. Detailed Execution Phases

- **Phase 1 – Planning & Nursery Establishment (Jan – Mar 2024):** Site selection, seed collection, nursery establishment.
- **Phase 2 – Planting & Patrol Group Formation (Apr – Jul 2024):** Distributed seedlings; formed and trained 4 patrol groups.
- **Phase 3 – Awareness & Bylaw Development (Aug – Oct 2024):** School and community campaigns; facilitated bylaw drafting.
- **Phase 4 – Monitoring & Handover (Nov – Dec 2024):** Survival rate surveys; handover of patrol responsibilities to community.

5. Implementation Timeline

Phase	Timeline
Nursery Establishment	Jan – Mar 2024
Planting & Patrol Groups	Apr – Jul 2024
Awareness & Bylaws	Aug – Oct 2024
Monitoring & Handover	Nov – Dec 2024



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6. Outcomes & Impact

- **Restoration:** 25 hectares restored through 10,000 seedlings planted.
- **Community Engagement:** 4 youth patrol groups active; 12 schools engaged in awareness drives.
- **Governance:** 3 community bylaws adopted to reduce illegal logging and poaching.
- **Biodiversity:** Poaching incidents reduced by 30%; wildlife sightings increased.

7. Key Partners

- **Forestry Department:** Technical support on tree species and nursery management.
- **Barotse Royal Establishment:** Traditional governance and bylaw endorsement.
- **Local Schools:** Hosted awareness campaigns.
- **Community Leaders:** Mobilized support and oversight.

8. Youth/Community Testimonials

"I planted trees where the soil was bare. Now we see life returning — birds, shade, and pride in our land."

— Mwaka Liyalii, Youth Volunteer

9. Financial Report – Donor Grant (\$85,000)

Budget Item	Amount (USD)	Description
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Nursery Setup & Seedlings	\$20,000	Seed collection, nursery establishment, tools
Patrol Group Formation	\$15,000	Training, uniforms, patrol equipment
Awareness Campaigns	\$10,000	Materials, school sessions, community events
Tree Planting Operations	\$20,000	Transport, labor, monitoring
Governance & Bylaw Support	\$5,000	Community consultations, drafting, meetings
Monitoring & Evaluation	\$10,000	Survival surveys, biodiversity tracking
Administration & Contingency	\$5,000	Coordination, overhead
Total	\$85,000	

10. Summary

The Forest Guardianship Initiative demonstrated the power of youth-led conservation in restoring degraded habitats and protecting biodiversity. By combining ecological restoration, governance reform, and youth empowerment, the project created lasting conservation impact in Senanga. The model is replicable in other forest-dependent communities across Zambia.

Approved by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mercy Ndhlovu'.

Mercy Ndhlovu

Executive Director