

## GEF Small Grants Programme

### Global Support Initiative for Indigenous Peoples and Community-Conserved Territories and Areas (ICCA-GSI)

#### ZAMBIA

### Global Context

With the adoption of the 2010 CBD 2020 Aichi targets, attention has been focused on recognizing and supporting the vital role of indigenous peoples and local communities (IPLCs) in conserving biodiversity outside the framework of formally-gazetted and managed government protected areas. To this end, the Global Support Initiative for Indigenous Peoples and Community-Conserved Territories and Areas (ICCA-GSI) was formed in 2014 to broaden the diversity and quality of governance types and protected areas (PAs) and conserved areas (CAs) which contribute to the CBD Aichi Targets.



The Hamenga spiritual pond

The ICCA-GSI is a multi-partnership initiative delivered by the UNDP-GEF Small Grants Programme (SGP) in 26 countries, with \$16.3m funding provided by the Government of Germany, through its Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) International Climate Initiative (IKI). Key partners include the Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD), Global ICCA Consortium, IUCN's Global Programme on Protected Areas (IUCN GPAP) and the UN Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP WCMC).

### Goals

ICCA-GSI's central goal is to improve the recognition, support and overall effectiveness of ICCAs for biodiversity conservation through sustainable livelihoods and self-strengthening of ICCAs. Its work focuses on **Aichi Target 11** (increasing PA coverage), **Aichi Target 14** (safeguarding ecosystems and increasing the effectiveness of its services), and **Aichi Target 18** (Protecting traditional knowledge). ICCA-GSI support is provided at three levels thru:

- (i.) Direct financial and technical support to community-based action and demonstration for the self-strengthening of ICCAs leading to ecosystem protection, legal empowerment, sustainable livelihoods and poverty reduction.
- (ii.) National legal, policy and other forms of support to enhance ICCA recognition and conservation, including governance assessments of protected and conserved areas; and
- (iii.) Global and regional networking, knowledge production and exchange support between national CSO initiatives.



A local community member in her field, with indigenous, early-maturing cassava

### Country Programme Strategy

Zambia is endowed with abundant natural resources and rich biological diversity manifested in its wetlands and rivers, flora and fauna and agrobiodiversity. The mainstay of Zambia's economy is natural resource-based, predominantly in agriculture, mining, forestry, fisheries, tourism and hydro-power generation. Moreover, about 80% of Zambia's population are directly dependent on natural resources for fuel, food, income, raw materials and medicines. Despite such critical importance, the value of ecosystems and biodiversity are not fully appreciated.

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In Zambia, the importance of biodiversity and its contribution to the provision of ecosystem goods and services for national economic development and livelihoods is highly recognized, with its first National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAP1, 1999) used to guide their implementation of the CBD's objectives for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. In 2015, the NBSAP-2 was developed to respond to Zambia's current development challenges and fit within the emerging global discourse on addressing biodiversity loss. According to the NBSAP2, one of the key drivers of biodiversity is the irresponsible utilization of biodiversity. These include large-scale mining and irresponsible trade of biodiversity that pose demands that exceed the regenerating ability of biodiversity.

Such unsustainable utilization patterns also erode community activities that are based on local wisdoms. Zambia's indigenous peoples (IP) have long preserved biodiversity and their surroundings in accordance with the cycles of nature, both in volume, time of utilization and method of utilization. While Zambia's forestry and agrarian policies have undergone reforms for biodiversity conservation, there is still no firm recognition and protection for IP rights in its Conservation Laws.

To this end, the ICCA-GSI portfolio of projects in Zambia aims to increase the recognition of ICCAs through implementation of various activities. Firstly, a scoping study of Zambia's ICCAs was undertaken to evaluate the different conditions and challenges, and strategies on various ways to strengthen the capacities of IPLCs and ICCA networks were provided thereafter. Secondly, existing policies related to ICCAs are being analyzed and recommendations are being provided to bridge gaps in national and local strategies. Subsequently, individual projects are being implemented to address threats such as declining use of traditional practices and knowledge, over-exploitation of natural resources, and the absence or lack of governance plans through (i) the documentation of traditional knowledge (TK) aimed at protecting ICCA sustainable and equitable methods of development, policy influence, inter-generational transfer and sustainable income-generating options; (ii) capacity building in conservation and management of customary forests and utilization of non-timber forest products; and (iii) strengthening of people's conservation alliances to support the ICCA movement.

### Project Portfolio

Project Name	Implementation Period
Supporting Indigenous and Local Community Conservation Territories and Areas (ICCAs) In Zambia: Setting Cornerstones	Dec 2016 – Dec 2019
Legal Analysis to assess the impact of laws, policies and institutional frameworks on Indigenous peoples and Community Conserved Territories and Areas (ICCAs)	July 2018 – June 2019
Strengthening Indigenous Cultural Conservation for Chilyabufu Community Co-Benefits.	Nov 2018-Dec 2020
Improving Livelihoods, Preserving Indigenous Cultural Practices and Forest Biodiversity.	Nov 2018-Dec 2020
Supporting Conservation of Sacred Natural Sites of Indigenous Peoples and Promoting Community-Based Ecotourism in Kaindu Chiefdom	Nov 2018-Dec 2020
Supporting Preservation of Indigenous Culture for Enhanced Conservation of Biodiversity and Improved Livelihood in Ntambu.	Nov 2018-Dec 2020
Conservation of Hamenga Ponde and Amulando cattle crossing and improved livelihoods of Batwa people.	Nov 2018-Dec 2020
Community Conserved Areas of Namaanza and Namuswa – Choma in Choma District of Zambia.	Nov 2018-Dec 2020
Cooma Chiefdom Kakuyu Shrine Protection	Nov 2018-Dec 2020

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