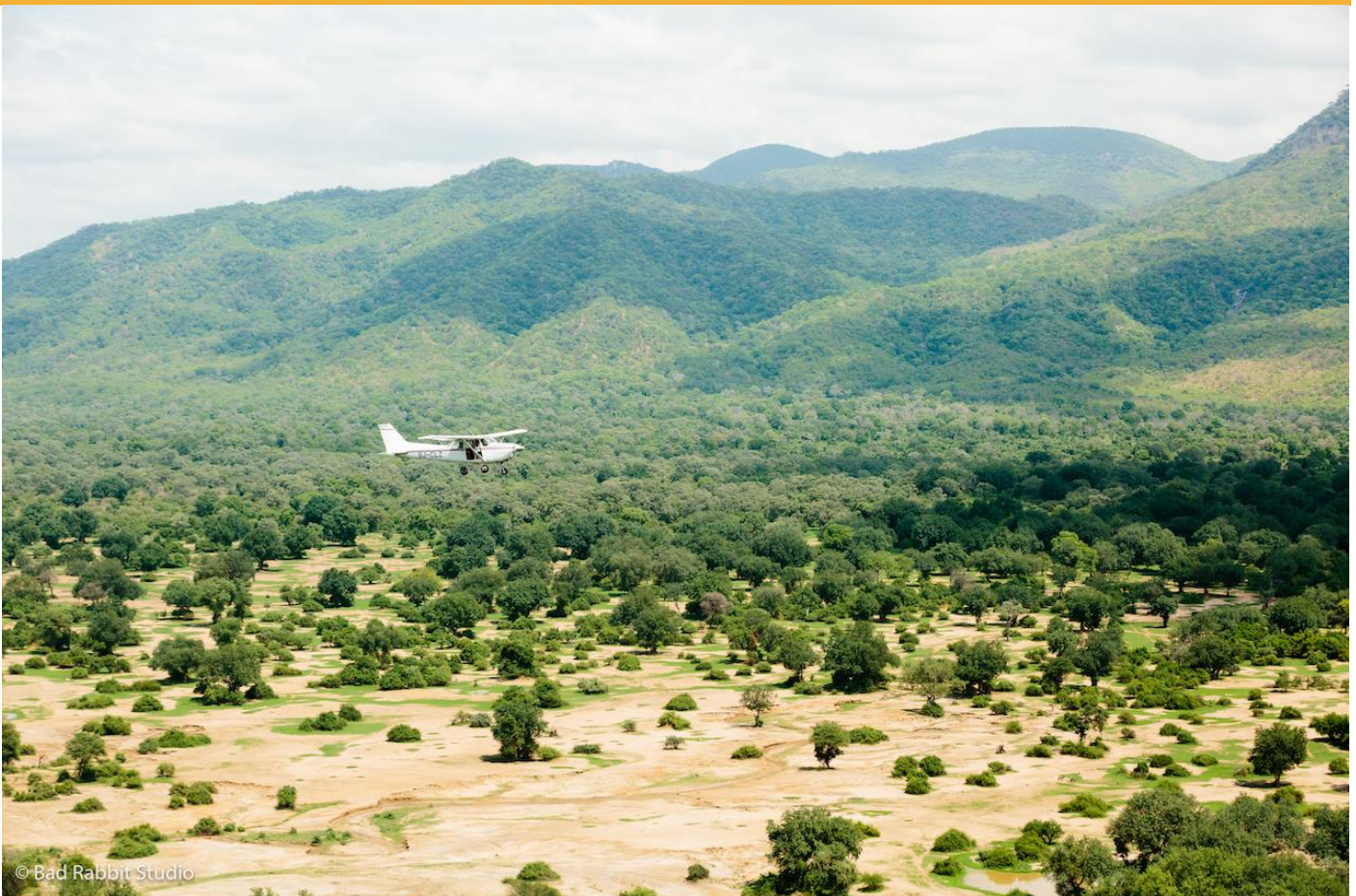


Lower Zambezi Conservation for Future Generations



SwissAfrican Foundation Final Report 2023



Support to Conservation Lower Zambezi

Final Report: January – December 2023

CLZ Background

Conservation Lower Zambezi (CLZ) has been dedicated to safeguarding wildlife and promoting sustainable resource use in the Lower Zambezi since its establishment in 1994. Through its focus on Wildlife Protection, Environmental Education, and Community Empowerment, CLZ collaborates with the Department of National Parks and Wildlife (DNPW) to sustain the diverse species and ecosystems in the region. This collaborative effort contributes to the overarching goal of creating a valued, protected, and thriving Lower Zambezi landscape.

Conservation Lower Zambezi (CLZ) has been dedicated to safeguarding wildlife and promoting sustainable resource use in the Lower Zambezi since its establishment in 1994. Through its focus on Wildlife Protection, Environmental Education, and Community Empowerment, CLZ collaborates with the Department of National Parks and Wildlife (DNPW) to sustain the diverse species and ecosystems in the region. This collaborative effort contributes to the overarching goal of creating a valued, protected, and thriving Lower Zambezi landscape.

The collaborative efforts of CLZ and DNPW, supported by donors like SwissAfrican Foundation, have played a crucial role in protecting the Lower Zambezi landscape. This assistance is vital, especially given the severe underfunding of DNPW, which affects park security. The support has enabled the effective tackling of issues such as poaching for bushmeat, ivory, pangolins, and illegal wildlife trade products. Additionally, threats like encroachment, illegal mining, and charcoaling have been mitigated, preserving the wildlife and environment. The backing from SwissAfrican Foundation has empowered CLZ and DNPW to uphold law enforcement objectives, conduct patrols, and ensure the conservation of natural resources in 2023.

Support Background

In the past, SwissAfrican Foundation has supported our Community Scout and DNPW patrols in the Lower Zambezi. In 2022, the support from SwissAfrican Foundation helped CLZ to conduct aerial patrols, and support staff salaries for DNPW and CLZ's Operations Centre staff, as well as the Basecamp staff. Again in 2023, SwissAfrican Foundation have come through with the same support as last year and we are extremely grateful to have donors fill this vital gap in our funding needs.

Aerial Patrols

In 2023, CLZ's plane which provides aerial support to teams on the ground and detects illegal activities in the Lower Zambezi flew a total of 137.9 hours. These patrols are critical in getting to areas that are difficult to reach by foot or vehicle – these eyes in the sky allow for better overall surveillance and can feed important intelligence to the teams on the ground. Continued support from SwissAfrican Foundation supported a total of 10.4 hours of aerial patrols which have been critical in detecting illegal activity in the park and surrounding GMAs.



Operations Centre Salaries

Support from SwissAfrican Foundation has helped to cover a portion of CLZ's operational cost for staff salaries. Our Operations Centre team play a crucial role in supporting DNPW with the technical aspects of anti-poaching operations. In December, members of our operations team attended the Earth Ranger Users Conference in Cape Town, South Africa, this is a powerful tool that allows integration with other software – making it possible to view multiple assets in one interface, which has changed the game in monitoring and what we are able to read from the data coming in from the field, which in turn improves how we can react and plan patrols. With your support, salaries were covered for key personnel including CLZ's Operations Manager, Data Management Officer, and Data Management Assistant who are on call 24/7 as operations are ongoing to ensure protection is prioritized throughout the National park and surrounding Game Management Areas. As this is the main hub for communications and the strongest pillar in our Law Enforcement programme, it is crucial to have this base covered and we are very grateful to have this support.



CLZ Basecamp salaries

The conservation heroes are not always the ones on the frontline of the action. Many of our team form the foundation of our Basecamp which ensure that everything continues to work and function on an everyday basis. The funding that SwissAfrican Foundation contributes towards our Basecamp staff play an important supportive role in keeping our basecamp running efficiently which is the base from which all our projects are built from. Historically, it is not easy to find a donor who is open to covering these costs, and so our appreciation to the SwissAfrican Foundation is great.



Recognition for Swiss African Foundation Funding

CLZ would like to acknowledge and thank SwissAfrican Foundation for this critical, timely and necessary grant, the contribution you make goes a long way in supporting the staff who carry out the important work that we do on the ground which is fundamental in allowing the organisation to continue to protect the wildlife of the Lower Zambezi.

Please see link below for SwissAfrican Foundation recognition on funding:

- CLZ Website: <https://www.conservationlowerzambezi.org/supporters/>

Financial Expenditure Summary

100% of Swiss African Foundation funding was spent in 2023, we used a portion of the allocated aerial operation budget to fill a gap in the Operations centre as seen in the expenditure table outlined below:

Category	Budget	Spent	Remaining
Aerial Operations	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 3,694.50	\$ 305.50
Staff Salaries	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -
Operations Centre	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 9,305.50	\$ (305.50)
Total	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 0.00



THANK YOU TO SWISSAFRICAN FOUNDATION FOR SUPPORTING WILDLIFE CONSERVATION, COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT, AND ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION IN THE LOWER ZAMBEZI!