



## Reforestation Project in Zimbabwe

This forest conservation project in Northern Zimbabwe reduces deforestation and forest degradation through a range of different activities. Hence, it provides sustainable livelihood opportunities for poor communities in a region still suffering heavily from deforestation, poverty, and drought.

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The collapse of Zimbabwe's agricultural production, as well as population growth, has led to significant forest degradation.

This has had a strong impact on native ecosystems, which were no longer managed sustainably.

About 3% of Northern Zimbabwe's forest cover has been lost per year, wildlife populations have partially collapsed, and Zimbabwe now has one of the world's lowest Human Development Index scores.

The project aims to reduce deforestation and forest degradation through a range of activities. These include the establishment of nutritional gardens, conservation agriculture, honey production, forest fire prevention, and enhanced wildlife conservation. There is also direct support in the provision of basic equipment needed for the administration and management of the project, such as computers, printers, bridge repairs and uniforms for community guards. In addition, locals are supported in setting up their own sustainable businesses that allow a living in line with conservation requirements. This includes low-emission brick making, native fruit tree cultivation, and the establishment of beekeeping, with honey sales greatly contributing to family incomes.

**Project type:** REDD+ (Reducing emissions from degradation and deforestation).

**Emission reduction:** The first certificates were issued in September 2013. Within 30 years, a reduction of about 52 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub> is planned (this is approximately equivalent of the total yearly emissions of Switzerland).

**Project standard:** The project is verified in accordance with the strict CCBS Gold Standard as well as with the VCS standard.



The local community itself has initiated this project, which has rooted the project strongly in the region.

## SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC BENEFITS

- Several **healthcare centers** have been supplied with basic medical equipment; refurbishments are planned.
- More than ten **schools** will get repaired, and are provided with roofing and furniture.
- **School fee subsidies** will be available through the project for the poorest quarter of the local population.
- A **bridge** has been repaired, and several hundred kilometres of bush roads are being repaired every year
- **Boreholes** are being refurbished, which will benefit a large number of families.
- **Community nutrition gardens** are being established, with already eleven in operation and another 50 in planning. About 40 families can secure their vegetable supply per garden.
- Direct employment opportunities have been generated for about **60 local people** for project operations such as community scouts, staff for fire prevention measures, nutritional garden establishment, and water pump maintenance.
- Conservation farming and other non-destructive farming approaches are taught in the project's **agricultural classes**.

## ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

- The project will help **preserve biodiversity corridors** between four national parks, which are crucial for endangered or vulnerable species
- Game scouts will help to **reduce wildlife poaching**; this will also reduce the occurrence of wildfires, which are often caused by poaching activities.
- Through the introduction of **conservation agriculture** such as anti-erosion terracing techniques and low tillage farming, soil degradation is avoided.
- Use of **organic fertilizer** (manure, poultry litter, and dead organic matter) is given priority over chemical fertilizer.
- Forest fires can be avoided and tamed through education and training on **fire prevention and firefighting**.

Would you like to support the Project "Reforestation in Zimbabwe" by purchasing carbon credits?

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**Location:** The REDD+ project is located on the shores of Lake Kariba in Northern Zimbabwe. It connects several National Parks and Game Reserves.



## Communication kit

- Factsheet
- High resolution photographs
- Video
- Special: Honey from the local production can be shipped upon request



## Guaranteed Swiss Climate Quality for credible offsetting

- High standards for projects (Gold Standard or equivalent)
- Additionality of the projects
- External validation and verification
- Social and economic benefits
- Complete transparency through deposition of the certificates in a public registry (Market registry)