

Lower Zambezi Conservation for Future Generations



SwissAfrican Foundation Final Report 2024



Support to Conservation Lower Zambezi Final Report: January – December 2024

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.

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. In the remote and challenging terrain of the Lower Zambezi, DNPW, and CLZ face the hurdle of limited cellular coverage. To overcome this communication gap and ensure the success of conservation efforts, CLZ relies on InReach devices and VHF radio communication. InReach devices, enable real-time data collection and enhancing team safety for the rangers in the field. These devices establish a reliable link between the remote locations and CLZ's Control Room, facilitating the seamless flow of information. With the ability to transmit data instantly, rangers can update the Control Room about their current location, wildlife sightings, emergency situations, or any incidents related to illegal activities.

Support Background

SwissAfrican Foundation (SAF) has historically supported CLZ's Community Scout and DNPW patrols in the Lower Zambezi. In 2022 and 2023 the support from SAF helped CLZ to conduct aerial patrols, and support staff salaries for DNPW and CLZ's Operations Centre staff, as well as the Basecamp staff. In 2024, we presented SAF with funding gaps in need of support, and they committed to funding the DNPW Wildlife Police Officers and staff who are stationed at Kulefu and the operations base staff situated at CLZ/DNPW Control Room.



Supporting Kulefu & the Control Room

CLZ relies on inReach devices and VHF radio communication for real-time data collection and safety in our area of operation. Efficient operations depend on clear communication between the CLZ/DNPW Control Room and forward operating bases—Kulefu and Chilapira. Kulefu is the Law Enforcement operating base station situated inside the Lower Zambezi National Park, and Chilapira is the radio mast on top of the Zambezi Escarpment that transmits radio communications across the valley floor, this base is in need of 24/7 surveillance.

SAF support has helped fund the operation of the Control Room and Kulefu’s operating base by supplying rations, salaries, transport, VSAT, equipment, and consumables. Furthermore, this support has enabled DNPW ground patrols, CLZ led aerial patrols, and the ongoing operation of the Legal Program enhancing law enforcement, and wildlife protection in the Lower Zambezi.

Due to the continued efficient running of the Control Room, which is monitored 24/7 with vital communications, and the forward operating base of Kulefu inside the park providing access to remote areas in threat of illegal activities, DNPW and CLZ have had the following successes in 2024:

Patrol person-day	Suspects arrested	Ammunition confiscated	Firearms detained	Snares removed	Bushmeat confiscated
15,716	63	494	41	467	1159.72 kg



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/>
- CLZ annual report: <https://view.publitas.com/clz/clz-impact-report-2023/page/36-37>
- CLZ Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/reel/C4Dt3YzqDUz/?igsh=bWx5d3FiNzJuNnJy>

Financial Expenditure Summary

100% of Swiss African Foundation funding was spent in 2024 as seen in the expenditure table outlined below:

Project Budget (USD)				
Budget Code	Project Activity	Budget	Actual	Remaining
1	DNPW /CLZ Control Room	18,000.00	18,000.00	-
2	Kulefu	3,500.00	3,500.00	-
	Balance	21,500.00	21,500.00	-



THANK YOU TO SWISSAFRICAN FOUNDATION FOR SUPPORTING WILDLIFE CONSERVATION IN THE LOWER ZAMBEZI!