Zambia's Lessons: Challenges and Lessons

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Outline of Presentation

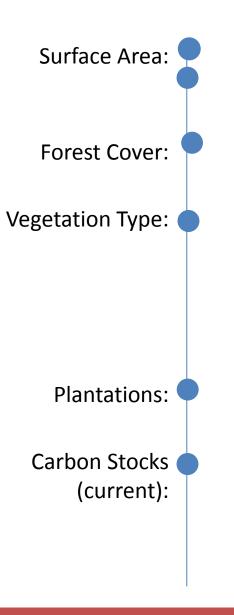i. Background to the REDD+ Readiness in Zambia

ii. Lessons learnt

iii. Background to the Zambia Integrated Forest Landscapes Programme

iv. Challenges and Lessons

ZAMBIA AT A GLANCE

SPECTACULAR WATERFALLS

COUNTRY CONTEXT

Surface Area:
752,614Km² with a population of 13 million

13 Mmillion

Forest Cover:
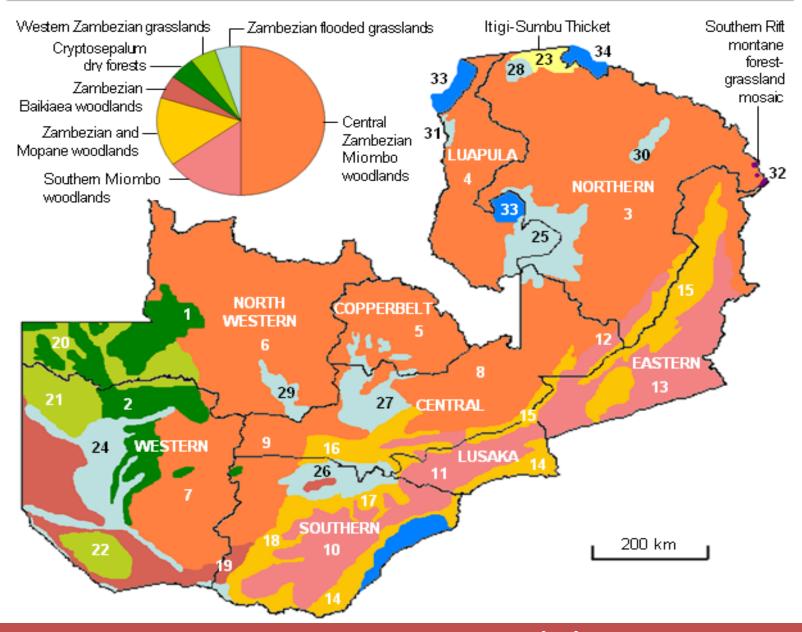49.9 million ha (66% of land cover)

Vegetation Type:
Miombo (**Semi-evergreen forests**); Baikiaea, Munga, Mopane, Kalahari woodlands (**Deciduous Forests**), Ripian, Swap, Parinari, Itigi, Lake basin Chipya (**Evergreen forests**), Termitary associated bushes (**Shrub thickets**), **grasslands**, and **wooded grasslands**

Plantations:
61,000 ha

Carbon Stocks (current):
2.9 billion m³ of growing stock
5.6 billion tonnes of biomass (below and above)
434 million tonnes as dead wood biomass
TOTAL: **6 billion tonnes (ILUA 2008)**
About **2.8 billion tonnes of Carbon stored in forests**

KEY TO ECOREGIONS *Chart slices are proportional to area of ecoregion*

REDD+ Process and Support in Zambia

National REDD+ Strategy

Defines and guides implementation of REDD+

UN-REDD Programme
- National Strategy developed
- National Forest Monitoring System
- REL/EL completed (now consultative)
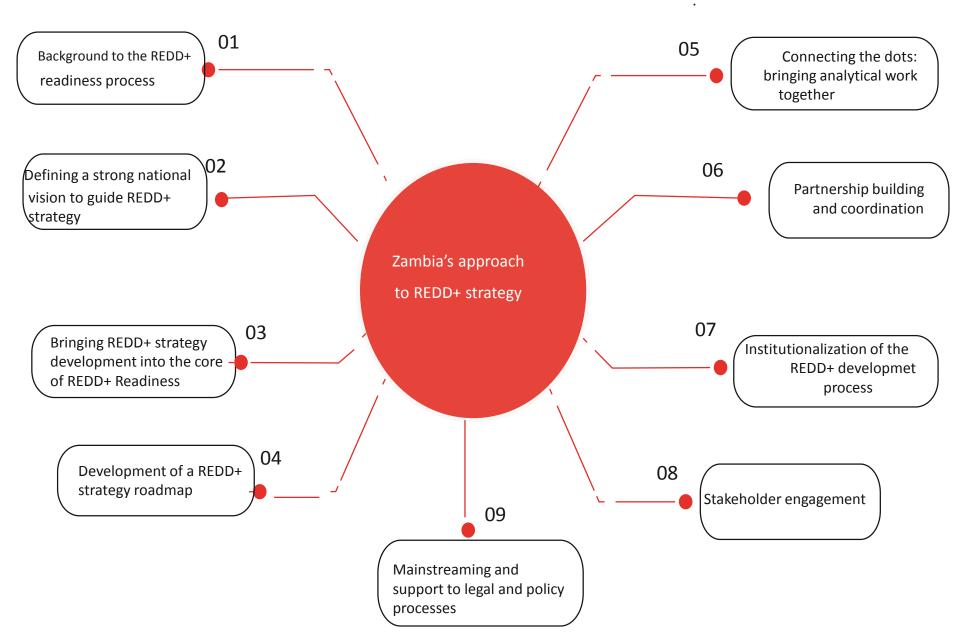- Currently working on SIS

Biocarbon Funds
- Field level implementation of Landscape approach based on National Strategy NOT PILOTING!
- Consultative process

Forest Investment Fund

- Developing a national Investment Plan
- Consultative in nature

Zambia's Approach to REDD+ readiness

01 Background to the REDD+ readiness process

02 Defining a strong national vision to guide REDD+ strategy

03 Bringing REDD+ strategy development into the core of REDD+ Readiness

04 Development of a REDD+ strategy roadmap

Zambia's approach to REDD+ strategy

05 Connecting the dots: bringing analytical work together

06 Partnership building and coordination

07 Institutionalization of the REDD+ developmet process

08 Stakeholder engagement

09 Mainstreaming and support to legal and policy processes

Main Achievements

- **Stakeholder consultations and capacity building in all the 10 provinces and attended by representatives from the 104 Districts**

- **Provincial multi-sector teams from Agriculture, Forestry, Planning and Civil Society put in place**

- **GIS Unit (Laboratories) established in all the 10 provinces**

- **Web portal established for National Forest Monitoring System (http://zmb-nfms.org/portal/)**

- **Land-cover Mapping and Forest Inventories conducted as a basis for FREL/FRL development**

- **Studies to understand current situation and gaps**

- **Draft National REDD+ Strategy developed**

Understanding Required Support for REDD+

1

Strategy Development

- **Define National Vision**
- **Develop Strategy**
- **Forest Reference Emission Levels**
- **Forest Monitoring System**
- **Safeguards information System**

2

Action & Investment

- **National Policy and legislation and improve planning**
- **Functional Local level management structures**
- **Alternative livelihoods and appropriate incentives**
- **Investments and livelihood activities**

3

Payments

- **Emission Reduction based on Strategy and local level action**
- **Assessment of performance and Reporting**
- **Incentives for actions**

Basis for Performance Based Payments

Lessons learned during Strategy development

- **REDD+ Readiness be facilitated by a single institution** in order to ensure coordinated efforts

- **National Strategy should be at the core of the REDD+ Readiness Process**

- **All the 4 REDD+ elements (Strategy, FREL/FRL, FMS, Safeguards)** must be handled at the same time as it will help in sequencing of activities

- **Avoid over ambitious programme** it may affect delivery of REDD+

- **REDD+ is not a panacea** to solve all problems but those defined by the country

Lessons learned during Strategy development

- **REDD+ is an incentive based mechanism** and hence there is need to explain it well to avoid creating over expectations.

- **Devolve financial and Programme Management** to implementing institutions to facilitate **leadership** and **ownership**

- **Supporting mainstreaming** of REDD+ into key national processes

- **Need to enhance** capacity development for key stakeholders

Direction of Reference Emission Level/Emission

- REDD+ in Zambia should be nationally owned and help meet national objectives

- Align with UNFCCC and consider other guidance, within capacity and consistent with national circumstances.

- Measuring performance should be more than just GHG emissions

- The focus should not be to only access carbon finance

- A global contribution can follow a nationally-focused Programme

- Consider a hybrid approach; can be dynamic, change over time

- Start at Sub-national level (landscape) and use national data

- Wait and see approach, while improving data and information

Some issues addressed by the Forests Bill 2015

- Carbon is a forest produce as well as a major forest produce (regulated);

- Empowers communities (citizens) to apply and manage forest (others have to partner with communities);

- Protected Area System expanded and includes JFM, Community Forests, Private Forests, Botanical Reserves;

- Benefit sharing covered in the Bill;

- Approved Management Plan basis for management of resources (governance, benefit sharing, partinerships)

Overall Government Direction for REDD+

- Government must have strong ownership and leadership of the programme both in terms of coordination and financing (flow of funds);

- Must use existing structures and not create new ones; NO PILOTING of programmes (design of programme based on experience)

- Capacity must be built for provincial and district structures;

- Progammes must be community based;

- Local level investment should focus on uplifting rural communities;

- Clear benefit sharing mechanism must be put in place;

- Develop local human resource

Challenges and Lessons in developing the Zambia Integrated Forest Landscape Programme

Program Overview

Objective

To promote reduced greenhouse gas emissions from the land sector, while simultaneously improving rural livelihoods and Biodiversity conservation and management.

Program Development Process:

Current Phase	Next Phase	Final Phase
Identification & Design	**Implementation Phase**	**Emissions Reductions Phase**

- **Managing Entity**
- **Geographical Area**
- **Implementation Strategy**

- **Interventions are carried out on the ground**

- **Payments for Emissions Reductions**

Main Program Goals

Increased Carbon Stocks

- REDD+ through avoided deforestation/forest conservation, sustainable agricultural land management resulting in improved soil carbon, and enhancement of carbon stocks through afforestation and reforestation
- Decreased deforestation through addressing meta and local level deforestation drivers
- Overall improved sustainable land management

Improved Livelihoods

- Payments for ecosystem services/conservation performance
- Improved rural livelihoods derived from better land management (NTFP, tourism, game ranching, eco-charcoal and alternative energy solutions, agriculture under CA, agricultural-based incentive payments for conservation compliance)

Institutional Strengthening & Coordination

- Forest management plans and community conservation plans that integrate agriculture with forestry/wildlife management plans
- District Advisory Management Committees that are sub-committees of the District Development Coordination Committee to oversee chief-level efforts to comply with targets that address drivers of deforestation and overall conservation, planning efforts and efforts to incentivize
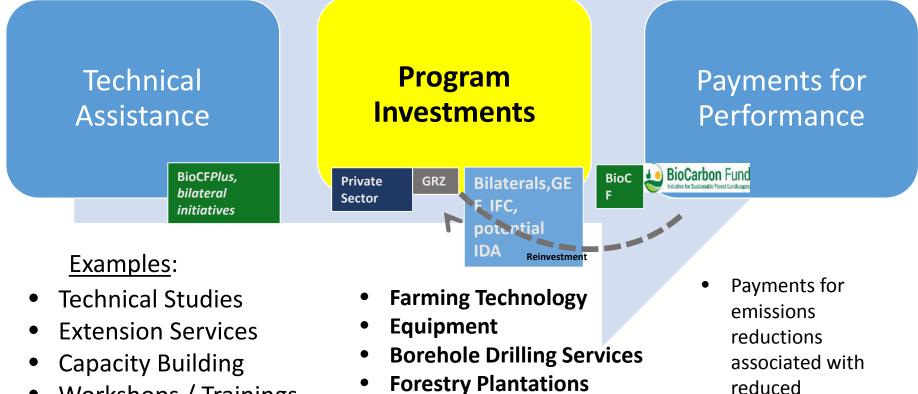
Biodiversity Conservation and Management

- Nationally strategic protected areas buffered by conserved forest areas of biodiversity significance.
- Conservation management of globally significant biodiversity in the Luangwa Valley improved through carbon payments, forest conservation and enhanced institutional capacity

Financing Model for Program

Program Financing Lifecycle

Technical Assistance	Program Investments	Payments for Performance
BioCF*Plus*, bilateral initiatives	Private Sector · GRZ · Bilaterals,GEF, IFC, potential IDA · *Reinvestment*	BioCF · BioCarbon Fund Initiative for Sustainable Forest Landscapes

Examples:

- Technical Studies
- Extension Services
- Capacity Building
- Workshops / Trainings
- Technology Test Pilots

- **Farming Technology**
- **Equipment**
- **Borehole Drilling Services**
- **Forestry Plantations**
- **Energy**
- **Tourism**

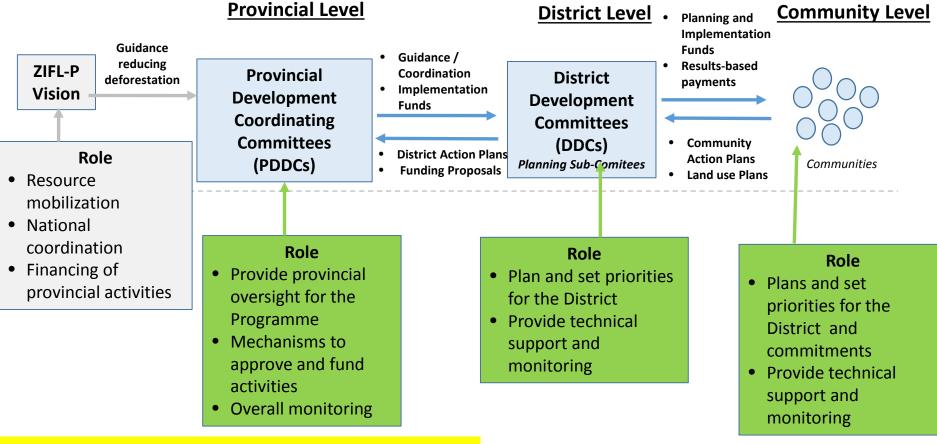- Payments for emissions reductions associated with reduced deforestation & forest degradation

18

Process for Programme Development

- Must be a consultative process and all studies must be validated by stakeholders before government considers them;

- All decisions and commitments will be based on Stakeholder consultative process before government considers them (government can not commit without stakeholders indicating the right direction)

- Source of financing for investments must be clear before start of Programme (private and public)

- Must be based on the National REDD+ Strategy
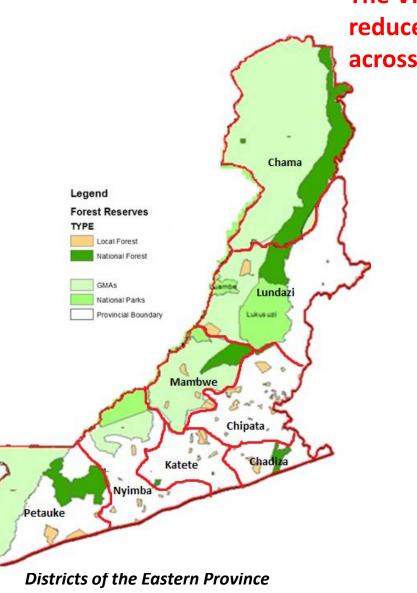
Vision on Governance: *How is it carried out?*

The Vision will govern through the institutional arrangements of the National REDD+ Strategy:

Consultation and capacity development at National Provincial and District levels

Provincial Level   **District Level**   **Community Level**

| ZIFL-P Vision | → Guidance reducing deforestation → | Provincial Development Coordinating Committees (PDDCs) | • Guidance / Coordination • Implementation Funds → ← • District Action Plans • Funding Proposals | District Development Committees (DDCs) *Planning Sub-Comitees* | • Planning and Implementation Funds • Results-based payments → ← • Community Action Plans • Land use Plans | Communities |

Role
- Resource mobilization
- National coordination
- Financing of provincial activities

Role
- Provide provincial oversight for the Programme
- Mechanisms to approve and fund activities
- Overall monitoring

Role
- Plan and set priorities for the District
- Provide technical support and monitoring

Role
- Plans and set priorities for the District and commitments
- Provide technical support and monitoring

Problem: Currently No Investment funding is secured!

Vision in Operation

The Vision will provide guidance on how to reduce deforestation at provincial level across all 9 districts, for example:

- **<u>What</u> types of interventions are needed across the province?**
  - Climate-Smart Agriculture?
  - Plantation forestry?
  - Irrigation?
  - New policies?
  - Etc.

- **<u>Where</u> are interventions needed? What parts of the Province?**
  - Which districts?
  - GMAs vs. Non-GMAs?
  - National Forests vs. Local Forests?
  - Communal lands?

- **What Institutional/Governance Framework shall the ZIFL-P link with?**
  - National REDD+ Strategy
  - Sixth National Development Plan ?? / Others?

Legend
Forest Reserves
TYPE
- Local Forest
- National Forest

- GMAs
- National Parks
- Provincial Boundary

Districts of the Eastern Province

Current process

- Commissioned three (3) Studies to help understand required actions in the Eastern Province
  - Drivers of deforestation
  - Needs Assessment
  - Visioning

- A consultative process to develop a provincial vision is currently in progress focusing on addressing deforestation. All 9 districts will be involved!

- Development of partnerships among Public, Private, Civil Society and Communities in terms of Coordination and potential financing (Government, USAID, COMACO and Biocarbon Partners, Cotton companies etc.) through a consultative process!;

- Consultation process to involve all the 9 Districts in the province and key private sector players

Challenges

- Biocarbon Funds only provides funds for Capacity development and Emission Reduction (Incentives), there is no investment financing;

- If capacity of communities is attained and there is no investment, the Programme CAN NOT deliver;

- Identification of willing partners is not easy as negotiations take long to find common ground (Public, Private, Civil Societies and communities have own objectives to achieve as well)

- Creating trust, transparency and honesty in negotiations is a challenge

- Aligning this Programme to the national process

Lessons Learnt

- It is possible to bring various stakeholders together although it is not a simple process

- Some Programmes running in the Province (Programme area) have provided different lessons to local stakeholders and it is these that are influencing the design of the Programme

- Technical understanding/design of a Programme may not always fit or directly link with reality in the field

Thank you very much
for your attention