

Social Inclusion and Stakeholder Engagement in Zambia Integrated Forest Landscape Project

Zambia Integrated Forest Landscape Project's (ZIFL-P) investments aim to directly benefit at least 214,955 persons with at least 30 percent of the female in Eastern province (EP) which population is about 1.7 million.

Social Safeguards. The social risks associated with ZIFL-P has been assessed as Substantial. This is due to challenges associated with past and future encroachment of protected areas, potential risks of elite capturing benefits, and risk of increased vulnerability of women and disadvantaged groups.

The Stakeholder risk was rated Substantial because of (i) potential for re-emergence of civil disturbances, (ii) weak multi-sectoral coordination, and (iii) possible inadequate benefits sharing and funds flow associated with the ERPA due to risk of elite capturing the benefits and excluding some stakeholders, particularly underserved members of the communities. Mitigation measures have been elaborated. The National SESA Technical Working Group has been established to provide guidance on issues of environmental and social safeguards, including on engagement of underserved and vulnerable groups.

In Zambia's Eastern Province (EP), the majority of 1.7 million people live in rural areas, and their livelihoods are dependent on natural resources. A study of rural livelihoods with over 4,000 respondents in Eastern Province found that 84 percent depend on the forest for consumption, and 19 percent depend on the forest for income (USAID, 2016). Living Conditions and Monitoring Survey of the Zambia Central Statistical Office reported that 70 percent of the population in the Eastern province is poor (Living Conditions Monitoring Survey, 2015). According to the 2013–14 Zambia Demographic and Health Survey, the nutrition indicators for the EP stand 20 percent for overweight or obese women and at 43 percent for stunted children under five. Women and children are the most vulnerable to the problems related to nutrition because of their socioeconomic characteristics.

Forest- dependent Indigenous Peoples and vulnerable groups. Vulnerable groups in Zambia's EP are female-headed households, landless and land-poor households, households without livestock and without labor, other marginalized households such as

households supporting or headed by children, the elderly, people with HIV/AIDS, the terminally ill, and the disabled. The OP 4.10 was not triggered as no group in the program area meet with its criteria.

Elements of Indigenous Peoples Plan (IPP) are included in Social Development Plan (SDP), with measures for providing culturally appropriate economic and social benefits for vulnerable groups, engaging them in consultations conducted in culturally appropriate manners with materials and FGRM procedures translated into the Afan Oromo language (local language). Woreda/community level consultations took into consideration the social and cultural diversity of the forest communities with respect to their forest management and utilization practices. The program ensures Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) with the underserved people, which include ethnic minorities, pastoralists and other designated disadvantaged people living with disabilities or HIV/AIDS.

Gender. The majority of small and medium farm households in Zambia are headed by men, while 26 percent are headed by women. Livelihoods amongst the rural population are mainly land-dependent. Access to land for women is constrained in Zambia, with 80 percent of female-headed households owning less than 2 ha of land. Women provide more than 60 percent of the agricultural labor force but do not have the same access to productive inputs (land, finance, and information), which makes women more vulnerable to the negative impacts of climate variability and related shocks. Furthermore, 43 percent of male-headed households engage in crop commercialization, while only 29 percent of female-headed households are able to move beyond subsistence farming. Women do not have equal voice and power on a national, local, or household level. Some ZIFL-P activities could potentially worsen gender inequality if not carefully conceived and implemented. For example, CSA practices may have undesired effects on workload, assets, crop residues, food and nutrition security, mechanization, and extension. CSA may shift labor input from plowing, which is traditionally based on male labor, to ripping and increasing land preparation, which is more traditionally seen as female work. CSA practices may require substantial investments of time, labor, or cash, which often are considerable constraints for women.

ZIFL-P supported the training of women on climate-smart agricultural (CSA) practices. The project is mindful of the possible negative impacts of CSA practices on women's workload and promotes labor-saving technologies to limit barriers of women to adopt these methods. The project will also provide funds for CSA and other livelihood activities through community grants and technical support consultancies. Groups such as existing cooperatives, women's groups, producer organizations, or newly established groups will be eligible to receive matching grants to conduct livelihood interventions like CSA, the introduction of poultry or small ruminants, smallscale agro-processing, and small-scale irrigation. Additionally, through the dissemination of improved cookstoves, another component of ZIFL-P, women, and children will benefit from cleaner indoor air and can save money and time that would otherwise be spent purchasing or collecting fuelwood. ZIFL-P seeks to address inequities in human capital, economic empowerment, and voice-based on the findings and recommendations of the Gender Assessment and Strategy which is underway and will be completed by the end of 2019.

Result Framework for ZIFL-P has one higher level indicator on people in targeted communities with increased monetary and non- monetary benefits, and two intermediate indicators disaggregated by gender: direct project beneficiaries, and farmers adopting improved agricultural technologies.

Stakeholder Engagement. In order to ensure that all stakeholders are fully aware and well equipped to participate fully in the project activities, ZIFL-P developed a communication and citizens engagement strategy (CCES). The CCES profiles and outlines the implementation plan for all the target groups including rural communities, service providers, the media, civil society, and community-based organizations.

District Development Coordinating Committee (DDCC) provides policy guidance on development projects in the districts, and District Planning Sub-Committee (DPSC) is a multi-stakeholder team consisting of technical staff, traditional representatives and civil society partners provide the day to day overall coordination and is responsible for advising, reviewing and recommending community subprojects from Wards and Communities.

The Chipata Roundtable was established to provide a forum for Government and non-governmental stakeholders to discuss major environmental threats to the Luangwa Valley ecosystem and is chaired by the provincial permanent secretary (PS), with the active participation of chiefs and civil society. The Chipata Roundtable serves as an important platform for ZIFL-P to engage other stakeholders on project activities.

Feedback and Grievances Redress Mechanism. The ZIFL-P FGRM has been designed to provide a timely, responsive and effective system of resolving community groups or individual's grievances in the areas of implementation. It is a process starting at the district level, through the Provincial administration, to the National level. It is a multi-stage process that ensures that all stakeholders from the community level to the National office are involved in finding solutions to the grievances raised by the targeted communities. At the community level, the project grievance redress structure is linked to the existing traditional authority structure as this already provides for resolving conflicts in the communities. This ensures accessibility to the FGRM as the traditional structures are close to the people. The Focal Point in the community is the Village Secretary and supported by the Project Committee Chairperson. The Focal Person is someone with knowledge of the local and/or official language of communication and able to record the grievances where

need be. The Project has also initiated a training program to train staff, Focal Points, community members, and other stakeholders how to handle grievances and why the FGRM is important to the project's success.

FGRM website: <u>http://ZIFL-P.org.zm/feed-back-grievances/</u> FGRM phone: +260 761 800 523

Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Framework.

Indicator	EOP Target	EOP Target % Women	FY18 Results	FY19 Results
T1.1 Number of people reached with benefits from ISFL programs	61,623	30%	0	2,787 (37% women)
T2.O1.5 Land users who have adopted sustainable land management practices as a result of ISFL support	14,285	30%	0	0
CC.P.2 Number of stakeholders consulted on ISFL programs following WB safeguard policies (% women)	Indicator will be reported on each year, targets will not be included		1,000 (no disaggregation reported)	1,000 (no disaggregation reported)

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