

Investing in Carbon Programming for People and Planet

Why Carbon Programming in Zambia?

Zambia faces an urgent climate and environmental crisis. Each year, the country loses over **172,000** hectares of forest—driven by poverty, unsustainable agriculture, charcoal production, and illegal logging. More than **5.2 million hectares** of land are now degraded, undermining food production and pushing families deeper into poverty.

At the same time, climate change is accelerating soil erosion, unpredictable rainfall, and declining fertility are reducing agricultural productivity—while increasing the cost of living and migration pressures in rural communities.



The Opportunity: Carbon Programming with Impact

World Vision Zambia (WVZ) is leveraging its deep community footprint and expertise to pioneer **carbon programming that restores degraded landscapes, captures carbon, and delivers sustainable livelihoods.**

We believe carbon markets offer an opportunity to unlock long-term financing for **climate mitigation, adaptation, and inclusive development**—while achieving measurable reductions in greenhouse gas emissions.



Our Flagship Project: CIRCLE

Community-Initiated Regeneration for Carbon and Livelihoods Enhancement (CIRCLE) is WVZ's first carbon initiative, currently advancing through the international carbon verification process. With Government of Zambia endorsement (No Objection Letter received), the project is now in Phase II: Development of the Mitigation Activity Design Document (MADD).



Project Goal

To restore and regenerate 10,000 hectares of degraded land in Chipili and Chifunabuli Districts (Luapula Province), using Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR) and agroforestry, while diversifying local livelihoods and generating verified carbon credits.



Project Impact:

- Annual GHG reduction: ~264,297 tCO₂e
- 20-year crediting period: >5.28 million tCO₂e in emissions reductions.
- Diversified Livelihoods

Integrated Carbon Solutions

World Vision Zambia is developing a diverse carbon programming portfolio, combining environmental impact with community development. We are ready to scale across five priority carbon project types:

➤ Afforestation, Reforestation & Revegetation (ARR)

- Restore forest cover and enhance carbon sinks using FMNR, agroforestry, and community land-use planning.
- Expand on existing FMNR business plan targeting 2 million hectares of restoration by 2033.

➤ Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

- Install clean water systems (solar-powered boreholes) to reduce dependence on firewood for boiling water. Between 2021 and 2024, WVZ already has reached more than 750,000 through the construction of over 900 hand pumps; and over 300 solar powered piped water systems.
- Reduces deforestation and household emissions while empowering women and girls.

➤ Regenerative Agriculture

- Promote low-till farming, cover crops, biochar, and agroforestry to sequester carbon in soil while improving food production. Between 2021-2024, we trained 44,675 farmers in climate smart agriculture techniques in 17 districts.
- Models: Climate Smart Agriculture, On-farm FMNR, and Farming God's Way.

➤ Renewable Energy

- Scale up access to clean energy (solar, biogas) to reduce reliance on charcoal and kerosene.
- Builds on current solar projects with opportunity for expansion to rural energy access. WVZ has set-up mini-solar grids with 58 KW in Eastern and 45 KW in Southern provinces.

➤ Waste Management

- Convert livestock and organic waste into biogas for cooking and lighting.
- Reduces methane emissions while providing affordable clean energy.

Why Partner with World Vision Zambia?

✓ Proven Community Model

We don't parachute in. We work with communities—building trust, empowering local ownership, and embedding sustainability. We currently have 30 Area programs operating across 9 provinces in Zambia, reaching 1.7 million on an annual basis.

✓ Carbon Credits with Purpose

Invest in carbon credits that do more—supporting livelihoods, education, water access, and gender equality alongside climate goals.

✓ Institutional Readiness

WVZ has technical staff trained in nature-based solutions, climate-smart agriculture, and carbon project development. We also maintain active partnerships with ministries, local governments, and traditional authorities, including an MoU with Ministry of Green Economy and Environment.

**SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
GOALS**
CONTRIBUTIONS



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