

# Implementation Report

## Community Wetland Restoration Project January 2024 – December 2024

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### 1. Project Overview

- **Title:** Community Wetland Restoration Project
- **Location:** Barotse Floodplain, Senanga District, Zambia
- **Duration:** January – December 2024
- **Objective:** Restore degraded wetland ecosystems through community-led replanting, patrols, and awareness campaigns to enhance biodiversity and sustain local livelihoods.

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### 2. Background & Rationale

- The Barotse Floodplain wetlands are critical for biodiversity, fisheries, and community livelihoods.
- Overharvesting of reeds, illegal cutting, and climate pressures have degraded habitats.
- Community-driven restoration strengthens ecological resilience, aligns with Zambia's Wetlands Policy, and contributes to SDG 15 (Life on Land).

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### 3. Activity Components

- Training youth and community members in wetland ecology and restoration methods.
- Establishment of wetland patrol teams to reduce illegal harvesting.
- Replanting of reeds and aquatic vegetation in degraded areas.
- Community awareness campaigns on wetland conservation.

- Monitoring of biodiversity indicators (fish, bird nesting, reed cover).
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## 4. Execution Phases

### Phase 1 – Capacity Building (Jan – Mar 2024)

- 100 youth trained in wetland ecology, patrols, and restoration techniques.

### Phase 2 – Restoration & Patrol Establishment (Apr – Aug 2024)

- 20 ha of degraded wetland replanted with reeds and native plants; 4 patrol groups formed.

### Phase 3 – Community Awareness (Sep – Oct 2024)

- 8 community meetings and 2 radio programs conducted to promote sustainable reed use.

### Phase 4 – Monitoring & Evaluation (Nov – Dec 2024)

- Drone mapping of restored sites; biodiversity indicators tracked (bird nesting sites and fish populations).
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## 5. Implementation Timeline

- **Jan – Mar 2024:** Training of youth & community groups
  - **Apr – Aug 2024:** Restoration activities & patrols
  - **Sep – Oct 2024:** Community awareness campaigns
  - **Nov – Dec 2024:** Monitoring, evaluation, reporting
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## 6. Outcomes & Impact

- **Restoration:** 20 ha of wetlands restored with native vegetation.

- **Biodiversity:** Bird nesting sites increased; fish breeding grounds improved.
- **Protection:** Illegal reed cutting reduced by 35% due to patrols.
- **Community Engagement:** 1,200 people reached through awareness campaigns.

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## 7. Key Partners

- **Zambia Wildlife Authority (ZAWA):** Technical guidance and enforcement support.
- **Barotse Royal Establishment:** Community mobilization and cultural endorsement.
- **Senanga District Council:** Policy and logistical support.
- **Funding Partner:** International Wetland Conservation Fund.

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## 8. Beneficiary Testimonial

*“The wetland is alive again. We see more birds returning, and fishing is improving. Protecting this place means protecting our food and future.”* — **Imasiku, Fisherman, Senanga**

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## 9. Financial Report – Wetland Conservation Fund (\$95,000)

Budget Item	Amount (USD)	Description
Youth Training & Capacity Building	\$15,000	Training workshops, materials, facilitators
Restoration Materials & Labor	\$30,000	Reeds, aquatic plants, tools, transport
Patrol Establishment & Equipment	\$20,000	Patrol uniforms, boats, stipends
Community Awareness Campaigns	\$10,000	Meetings, radio programs, IEC materials
Monitoring & Biodiversity Surveys	\$10,000	Drone mapping, ecological surveys
Reporting & Dissemination	\$5,000	Reports, printing, media

Administration & Contingency	\$5,000	Coordination, overhead
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$95,000</b>	Funded by International Wetland Conservation Fund

## Summary

The Community Wetland Restoration Project successfully rehabilitated 20 hectares of degraded wetland in the Barotse Floodplain. By combining youth-led replanting, patrols, and community awareness, the project improved biodiversity, strengthened fisheries, and built local stewardship. With strong cultural and institutional support, it created a sustainable model for wetland conservation in Western Zambia.

### Approved by:



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Executive Director, Katupark Cooperative Society  
**Date:** 15th December 2024