

# Institutional & policy mechanisms for ecosystem restoration: ILCs' perspectives



Capacity-building workshop  
for Southern and Eastern  
Africa on ecosystem  
conservation and restoration  
to support achievement of the  
Aichi Biodiversity Targets:  
Livingstone, Zambia, 12 to 16  
May 2014



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Penninah Zaninka.**  
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# Targets

**Global Target:-**Policy, legal and institutional tools to address T5, 11 & 15.

**Target 5 -.** By 2020, the rate of loss of all natural habitats.... is at least halved & ... brought to close to zero, & degradation... is reduced.

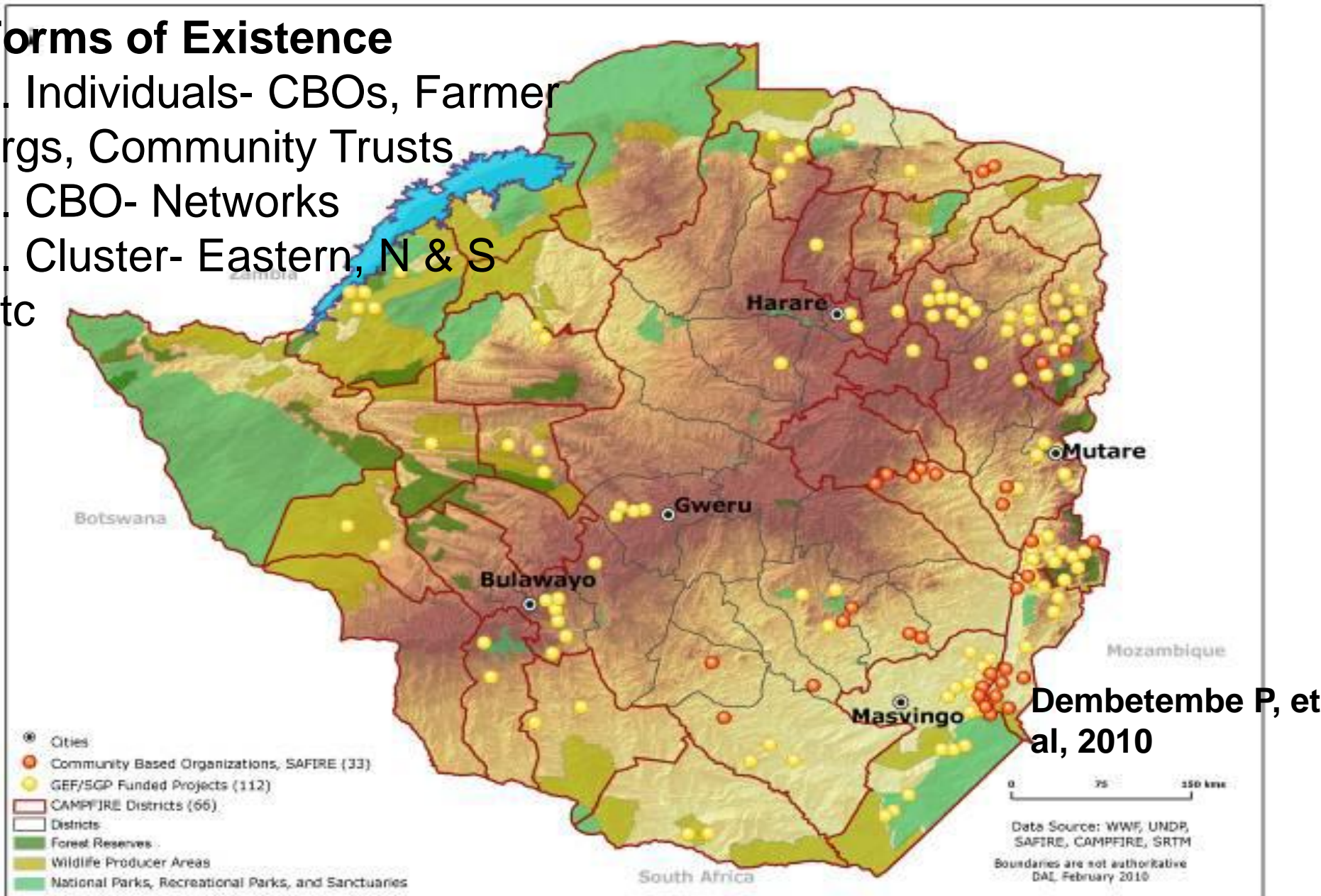
**Target 11 -** By 2020, at least 17% of terrestrial & inland water, & 10% of coastal & marine areas... are conserved through effectively &.....

**Targets-15-** By 2020, ecosystem resilience and the contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks has been enhanced, through conservation and ... restoration of at least 15 per cent of degraded ecosystems, thereby ... to combating desertification.

# CBNRM in Zimbabwe

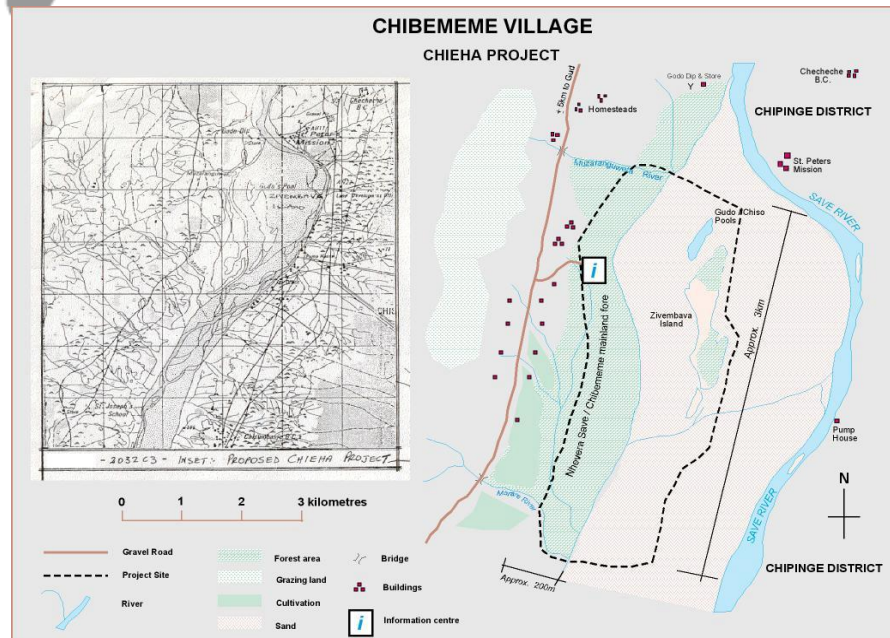
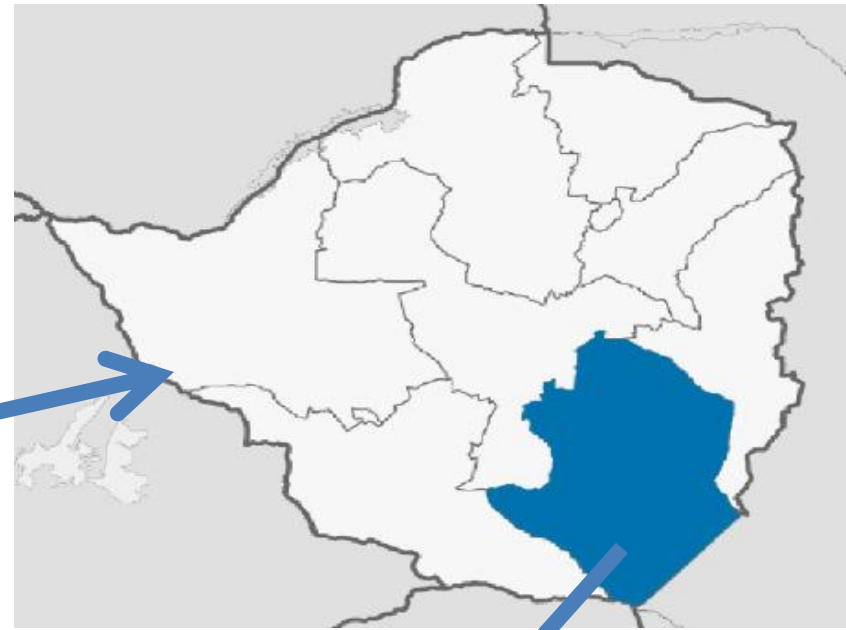
## Forms of Existence

1. Individuals- CBOs, Farmer orgs, Community Trusts
2. CBO- Networks
3. Cluster- Eastern, N & S etc





# Geographical location



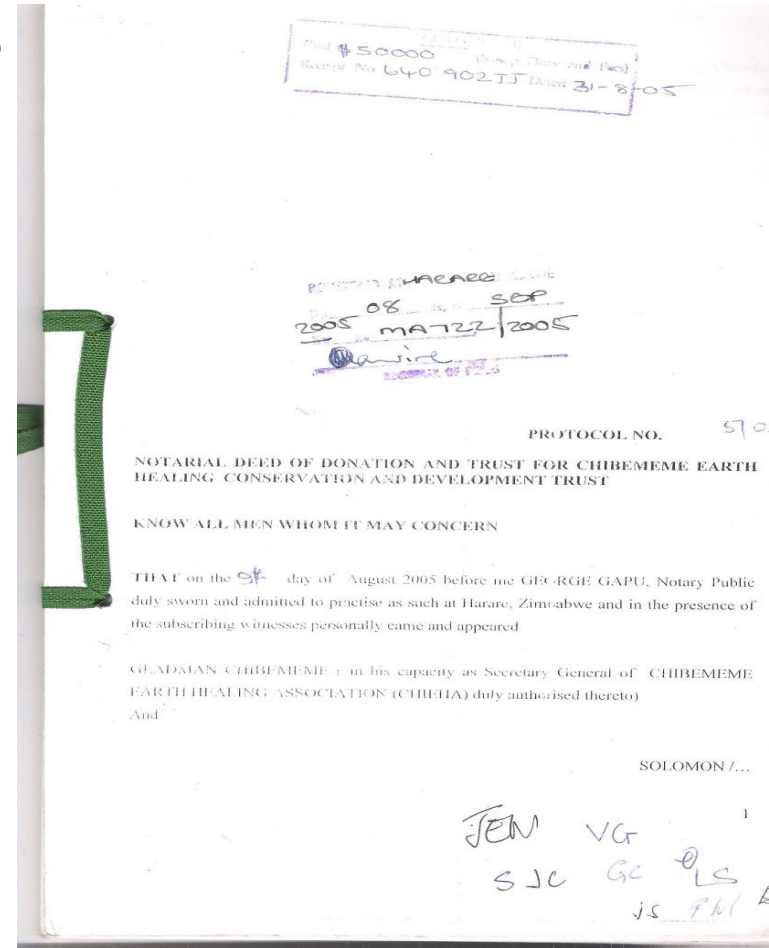
# Chibememe Healing Earth Healing Association, 1998

A community based organisation. Operating in Chibememe village & its environs.

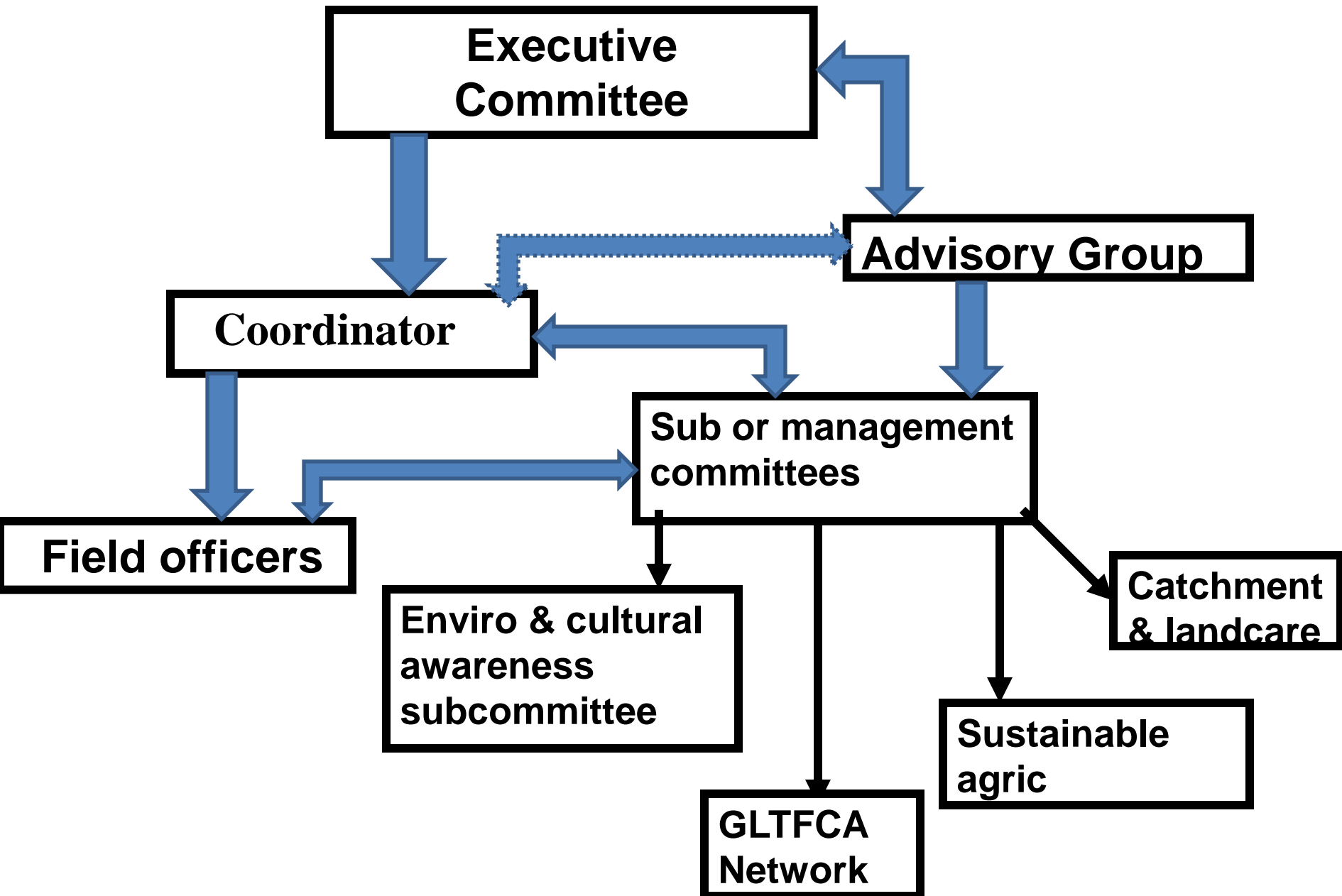
- **UPSCALED** to more than **10 other community groups**.
- **2004 Equator Initiative & a 2002 NRB Conservation winner.**
- **Member of the ZIMSOF eastern cluster**
- **Member of the eastern cluster GEFSGP**

## Programmes:

- 1. Environmental & cultural awareness**
- 2. Earth Healing and Landcare**
- 3. Sustainable energy**
- 4. Sustainable agriculture/ small grain**
- 5. Income Generation (Ecotourism)**
- 6. GLTP Rural Communities' Network**



# Organogram



**CHIEHA & SE Lowveld - > 500 km from Harare, Falls in Semi-arid Region 5, of Zimbabwe.**

**Rainfall 450mm/ Annum & unreliable, Temp- > 30°C**

**Drought prone area but there is life**

- 
- Poor yield due to unreliable & inadequate rainfall;**
  - Limited livelihood options**
  - Problem-loss of forests – Need to address the problem**

- Save forest lands & biodiversity**
- Improved livelihoods**



# Restoring culture & Biodiversity: Zivembava

## Island & Chibememe mainland forest

- Land, Forests and trees are managed as sacred places for the performance of rituals including rain making ceremonies. Example is the Zivembava Island in Chibememe Village. Managed by the Chibememe villagers using both traditional and modern systems. (Target 18)





# Catchment management: silt traps



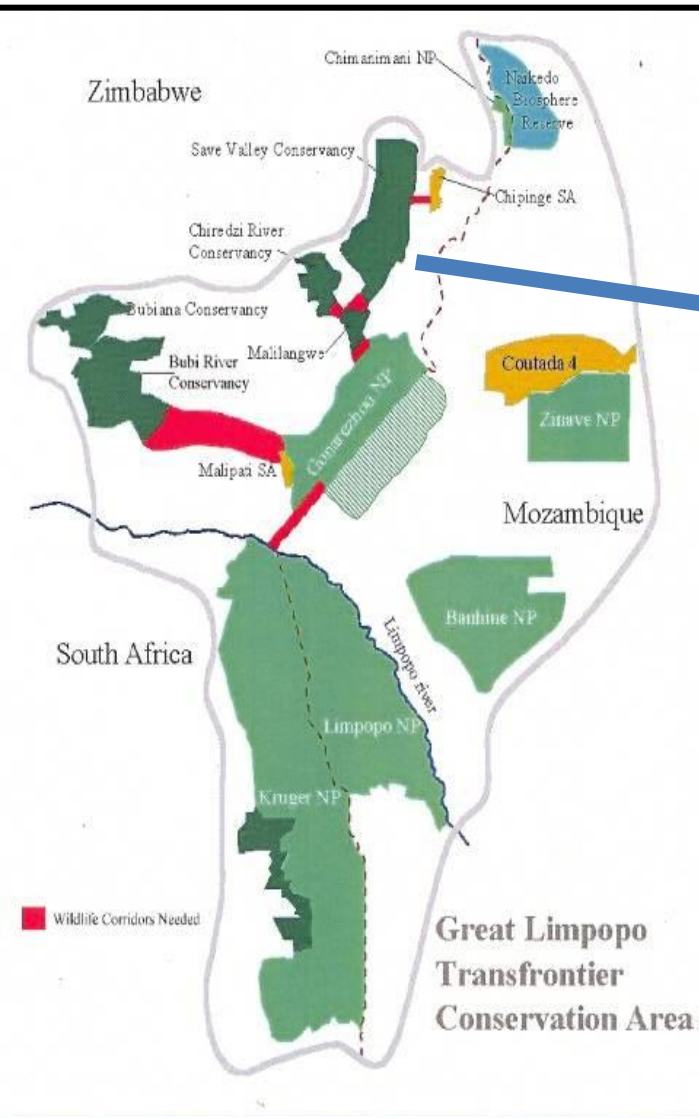
**Catchment management for improved livelihoods**

- Fish from the river
- Grazing for livestock
- NTFP- e.g; Fruits, thatch grass



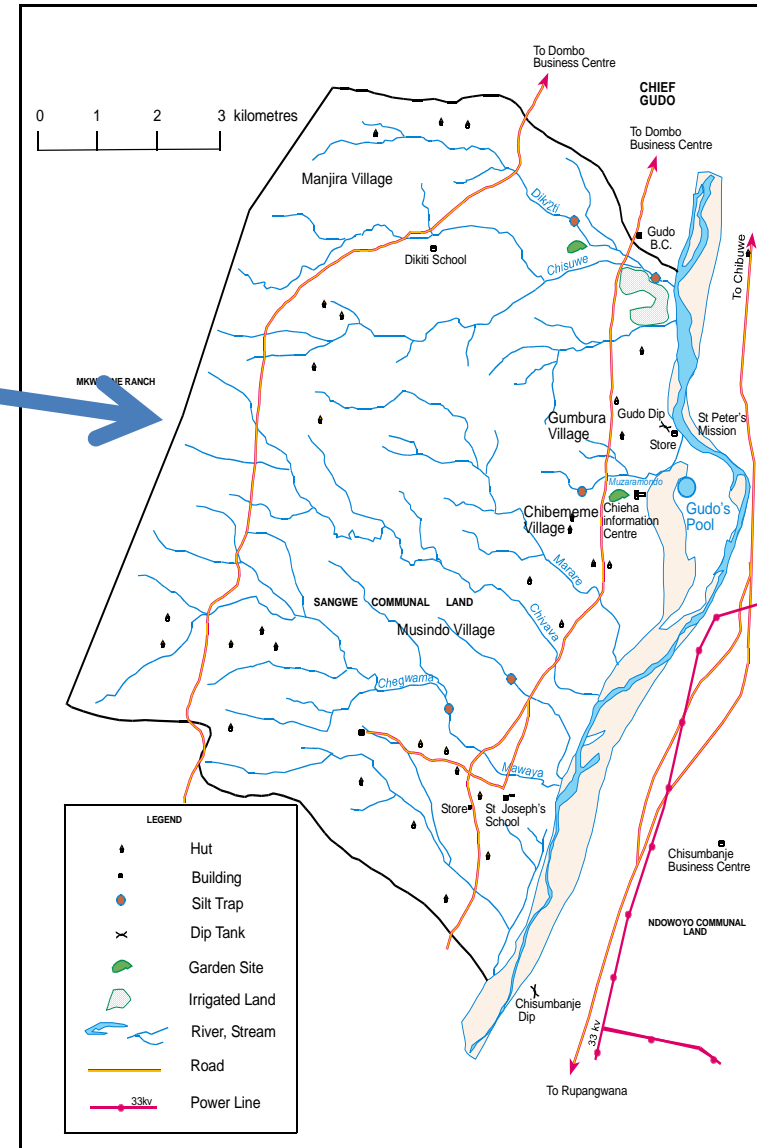


# Eco-ethno-tourism opportunities: Great Limpopo Transfrontier Conservation Areas



ILCs to speak for themselves,  
“...and not for others to speak on our behalf”  
(Herald, 2003:2)

“...extensive consultation be a pre-requisite to the process leading up to the signing and beyond the signing of the [TFCA] treaty





# Camping and activities in the Chibememe mainland forest & Zivembava Island Forest



**- Researchers**  
**- Workshops at the CHIEHA centre**  
**- Development and cultural tourists**

Masvingo Star, 15-21 December 2000. Page 12

Page 14 Masvingo Star 15-21 December 2000

## Chibememe villagers start on ambitious ethno-tourism venture

By Wonder  
Chatsanyuka

MUCH to their anticipation, Chibememe villagers in the South East Lowveld of Zimbabwe who started on an adventurous ethno and eco-tourism project last year have begun to conserve and sustainably utilize their habitat to improve their standard of living.

The Chibememe villagers living close to the Save Valley Conservancy, Malilangwe Conservancy and Gonarezhou National Park in Masvingo province have started to benefit from their projects which utilises the island that has been a source of attraction for tourists and they encourage to appreciate their culture and the island. Zivembava Island is a natural island forest on the Save river in the Sangwe communal land, in Chiredzi district.

The island has a rich diversity of medicinal herbs, fodder tree species and indigenous fruit trees.

A variety of birds and animal life is found both on the Island and in the adjacent mainland forest.

According to the latest issue of the United Nations



SOME people have yet to appreciate the value of maintaining and sustaining the environment particularly those who engage in the wanton destruction of trees.

Environmentalists say Zivembava is a "Sangwe" word which when translated into Shona means "Zambuko" and when translated into English means a ford or a gate or crossing place.

The island is also believed to have been a crossing point of Ndau people of Mount Selinda fleeing from the "steam engine" of the early British settlers in the 1890s.

This tradition of fleeing a steam engine is commonly known as the Gandapanzi or Jerimapimbiro tradition.

period. Chief Tagurana Chousanga Chihungwe Gudo of the Tribal Trust lands with his popular Ilwato or mukumbi (traditional canoe) used the island for the same purpose. Zivembava island therefore becomes the linch-pin of traditions of tribes in and around the south east lowveld of Zimbabwe.

The villagers have organised themselves into the Chibememe Earth Healing Association (CHIEHA) and are actively promoting their wonderful





## Viewpoint



### Hail Chibememe community

Villagers in Chibememe have started on a venture that is set to bring them as a community immense benefit in revenue.

It is heartening that rural communities have taken a major step to empower themselves while at the same time engaging in sustainable environmental conservation practices.

In the past the local villagers and other indigenous people have viewed any tourist venture as a preserve of whites. People have never taken time to think what it is that makes their white counterparts look like they are more enterprising than them.

Whites have turned the wilderness into premier tourist attraction in the form of conservancies right under the locals' noses. They have made huge sums of money and earned the country loads of foreign currency from those tourists who have the money to spend by simply turning what locals thought were inhabitable places into tourist havens.

All it needed was for them to find out what the tourist needed - a panoramic view of wildlife in its natural habitat - not in zoos - under traditional grass thatched 'chalets' which are no more than modern types of traditional huts.

Instead the local has measured his status by the size of the modern brick under asbestos sheet house, missing a lovely opportunity to exploit the comparative advantage traditional huts have as a form of attraction for foreigners. Alongside that realisation, rural communities could have raked in millions for flaunting to the world that uniqueness African life under open skies is.

Now that seems to have changed and locals are getting into mainstream tourism industry.

It only takes guts and a willingness to learn from others for a community to do something that will enhance the quality and standard of their lives.

The Chibememe community has just revived a cultural practice and turned it into a potential money-spinning venture.

That alone, shows a radical change from the erstwhile mindset that it is only institutions which can do something for a community such as theirs.

It is such a mindset which has left many a rural person thinking donors and the government owe them a living.

There are other numerous potential sites which could be

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# cultural restoration: Ndongo ruins

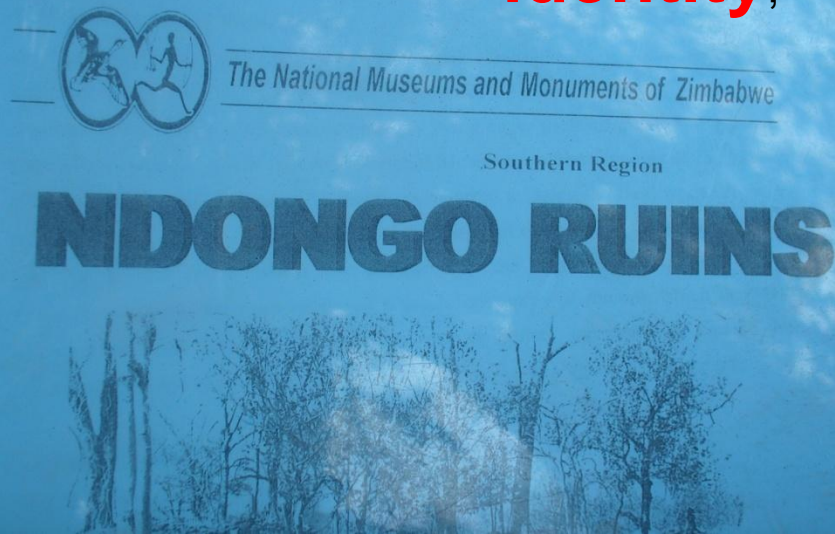




# Dry land Forests & their environs are cultural assets



**Pride in local culture & self identity;**





# Energy problems





# Sustainable energy programme

Addressing deforestation through provision of sustainable energy





# Livelihoods/Poverty: Forest products





# Addressing poverty: Inter and multiple cropping





# Traditional seed & food celebrations 05/11/13





# Benefits and cost of managing forest ecosystems





# Global ILC policy engagement

International process



resources or a Party that has acquired the genetic resources in accordance with the Convention]] [country of origin], unless otherwise determined by that Party.

[Where applicable [national] law [or international law] recognizes that indigenous and local communities [own genetic resources]] [own or otherwise have the right to [provide]] [grant] access to genetic resources[, as applicable]], the PIC of ILCs shall be obtained.

Parties shall [[seek]] [obtain] their prior informed consent.]] [take legislative, administrative and policy measure as appropriate] with the aim of ensuring that these genetic resources are accessed with the prior informed consent or approval and involvement of these indigenous and local communities.]

n accordance with paragraph 2 of Article 15 of the Convention, all

9: 9,248 English (U.K.)

- **NATIONAL POLICY ENGAGEMENT : NBSAP Process**

**Chipangura Chirara** To abbie jiriAllain ChimaniChimani Anne Madzara and 22  
More...

- *22 Apr 2014*
- Dear Colleagues



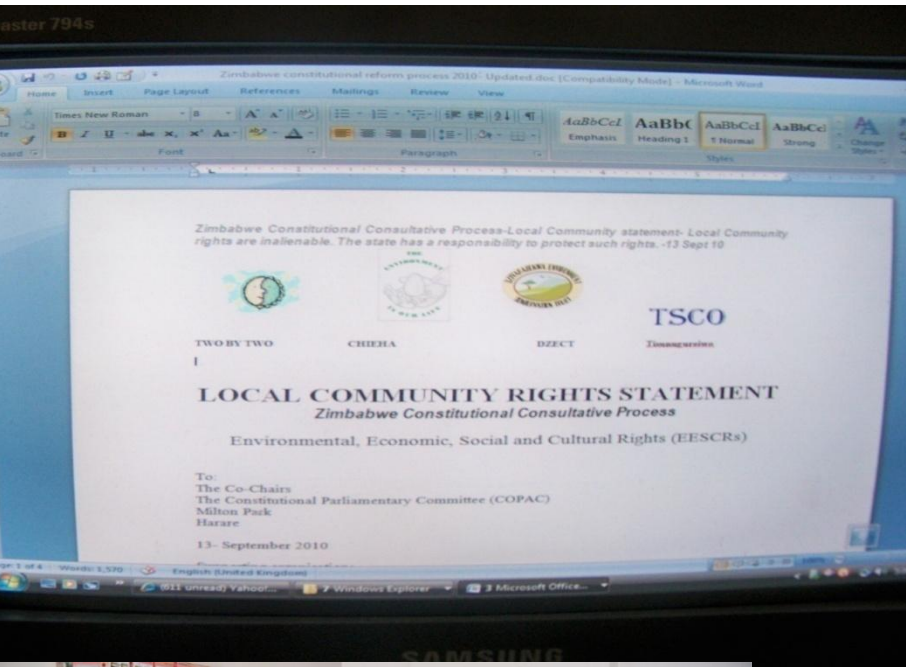
When we developed Biodiversity Targets, we did not develop a national target for Aichi Target 18 as members thought that issues for this target were covered elsewhere. Local communities, represented by the Chibhememe Earth Healing Association, think that there is need to develop a national target for Aichi Target 18 (which is specific to indigenous communities). I have attached the request from Gladman Chibhememe, and also the targets and indicators we have agreed on so far. If you are agreeable, we can use the background information provided by CHIEHA and I can moderate the development of the target.

Kind regards,

Chip



# Zimbabwe constitutional Reform process 2010-13

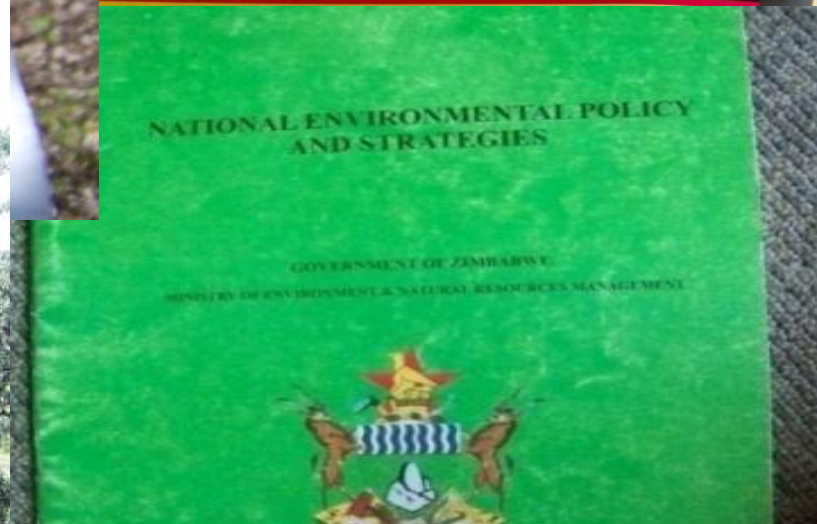
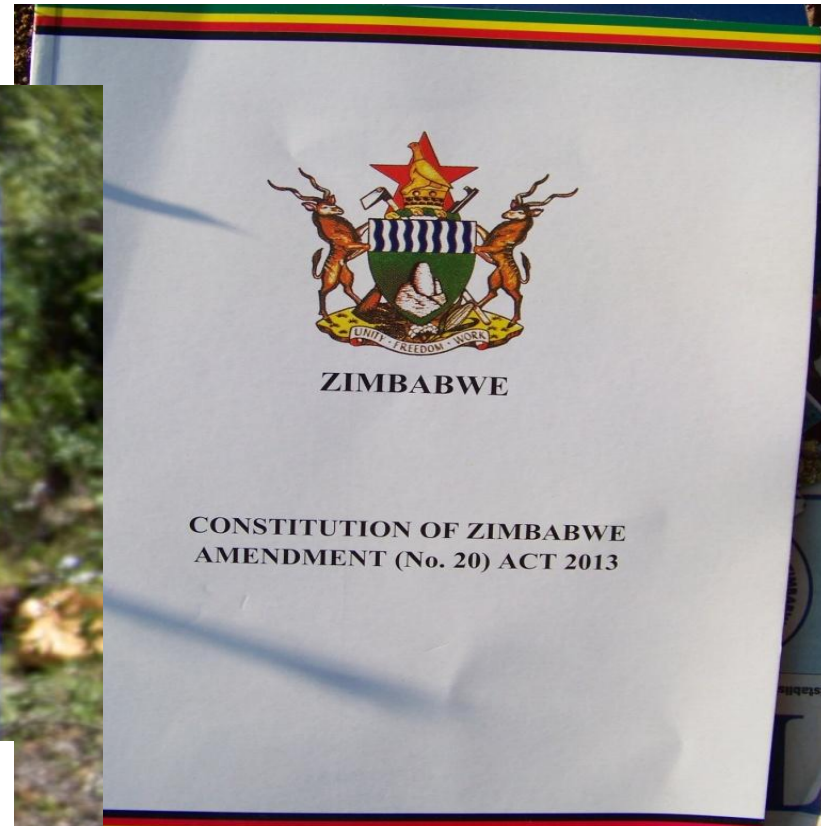




# National Policies and Constitutional reform Engagement (2009 to 2013)

23/02/10 - Zimbabwe Constitutional Reform  
- Nyanga - Collectively

- Right to own natural resources
- Right to a clean & healthy environment
- Right to benefit from natural resources
- Right to traditional use of our resources





# Constitutional & Policy provisions (2010-2013)

- **1. Constitution of Chapt 2, Para13(4)**, “The State must ensure that *local communities benefit* from the resources in their areas.”
- **2. Chapter 2, Para 16(3)**, “the state ... & agencies of govt... at all levels must take measures to ensure due respect for the *dignity of traditional institutions.*”
- **3. Chapter 2, Paragraph 18(2)**, “The State and all institutions ...must take practical measures to ensure that all local communities *have equitable access to resources* to promote their development.
- **4. Chapter 2, paragraph 33** of the constitution mandates the State to, “... take measures to preserve, protect indigenous knowledge systems, including knowledge of the medicinal and other properties of animal and plant life possessed by local communities and people.”



## **18 Fair regional representation**

(1) The State must promote the fair representation of all Zimbabwe's regions in all institutions and agencies of government at every level.

(2) The State and all institutions and agencies of the State and government at every level must take practical measures to ensure that all local communities have equitable access to resources to promote their development.

## **19 Children**

(3) Measures referred to in this section must protect and enhance the right of people, particularly women, to equal opportunities in development.

(4) The State must ensure that local communities benefit from the resources areas.

## **33 Preservation of traditional knowledge**

The State must take measures to preserve, protect and promote indigenous knowledge systems, including knowledge of the medicinal and other properties of animal and plant life possessed by local communities and people.



# National Environment and Strategies of 2009

- 1. General Principle 15; SDs; Par 5** which calls for stakeholders to;  
“Support community –based initiatives that promote conservation of wildlife and agro-biodiversity including **Community Conservation Areas (CCA)**, Community seed banks & non-timber forest product.”  
*(Target 11).*
- 2. Guiding Principle 18, SDs, Par 3** which calls for stakeholders to;  
“*Encourage and facilitate communities and community based organizations to set aside and assume responsibility for community conservation areas within or adjacent to transboundary conservation areas.*” *(Target 11).*
- 3. Guiding Principle 37, Strategic Directions (SD);** “ ...**encourage the formation of strong farmer organizations** able to promote sustainable agriculture & agro-processing at the grassroots level”.



# Lessons and benefits for engaging ILCs in implementing targets 5, 11 & 15

- Protection & recovery of land & forest resources .
- Improved resources availability & livelihoods for ILCs (poverty red).
- Promoted **diversified ways** of using forests & land e.g tourism.
- Social *empowerment* of disadvantaged rural peoples.
- Enabled ILCs to take **more control over development activities** .
- **Influenced** local, national and international **policy**
- Involving ILCs-**cost effective-use local** capacity, knowledge & resources
- Builds on local institutions & skills (**Now in policy & constitution**).
- Assist states to fulfil their obligations- CBD, Rio declaration Princip 22.
- ILCs have a right to participate in processes that affect their lives.
- **Opportunity for upscaling -LCs learn more easily from each other.**
- Its **morally, socially or ethically up right** (social responsibility).



# Challenges facing ILCs in their efforts restore ecosystems

- **Reluctance** by various stakeholders to recognise and respect ILCs' efforts.
- Lack of **participation and recognition in policy development and implementation & TFCA** processes.
- Lack of **Access to Long Term Finance Mechanism** for ILC development initiatives.
- **Lack capacity** for ILCs.
- **Trivialisation and marginalisation** of Indigenous Knowledge systems in the implementation of the targets.
- No proper **benefit sharing systems** in the area of ecosystem restoration. *Limited incentive to ILCs.*
- There are numerous costs incurred by ILCs associated with restoration (e.g.; loss of land, loss of livelihood, cultural displacement- Batwa).



# How to effectively engage ILC in achievement of target...?



## What should be done?

- Work directly with existing & new ILCs institutions **building on their efforts.**
- **Recognize ILCs& IKS as crucial** restoration work.
- Promote the **full & effective participation of ILCs in the restoration & governance** of forest ecosystems including PAs (e.g. ICCAs).

- **Build the capacity** of ILCs.
- Ensure that Target 18 (on traditional knowledge (TK) and customary sustainable use is considered in the whole process.
- Provide **sustainable financial** mechanisms to support LCs.
- Ensure **ILCs own & determine their development process** through creating an **policy environment** .
- Ensure that the **voices of ILCs** are heard in **development of policies** for the implementation of the targets.