
DIR30CC\1227

Strengthening the capacity of community institutions within CAMPFIRE in Zimbabwe

Zimbabwe's CAMPFIRE program was developed to sustainably manage natural resources while providing benefits for local populations. The program has however faced governance challenges including the failure to devolve rights and responsibilities to communities. To address these challenges community representatives formed a national body called Community CAMPFIRE Association of Zimbabwe. This project seeks to address the capability and capacity needs of this body and of local community institutions, including knowledge on natural resource governance, effective leadership and communication with their constituencies.

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Section 1 - Contact Details

PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

Title	Dr
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GMS ORGANISATION


Type	Organisation
Name	Wildlife Conservation Action
Phone (Work)	[REDACTED]
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Website (Work)	[REDACTED]
Address	[REDACTED]


Section 2 - Title & Summary


Q3. Title:


Strengthening the capacity of community institutions within CAMPFIRE in Zimbabwe

Please attach a cover letter as a PDF document.

 [WCA Cover Letter Darwin Initiative Capability and Capacity grant](#)

 23/10/2023

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 pdf 237.21 KB

Q4a. Is this a resubmission of a previously unsuccessful application?

Yes

Year of unsuccessful application:	Stage of application:	Application number (if known):
2022	Initial stage	DIR29CC\1152

Q5. Summary of project

Please provide a brief non-technical summary of your project: the capability and capacity problem/need it is trying to address, its aims, and the key activities you plan on undertaking.

Zimbabwe's CAMPFIRE program was developed to sustainably manage natural resources while providing benefits for local populations. The program has however faced governance challenges including the failure to devolve rights and responsibilities to communities. To address these challenges community representatives formed a national body called Community CAMPFIRE Association of Zimbabwe. This project seeks to address the capability and capacity needs of this body and of local community institutions, including knowledge on natural resource governance, effective leadership and communication with their constituencies.

Section 3 - Title, Dates & Budget Summary

Q6. Country(ies)

Which eligible country(ies) will your project be working in? Where there are more than 4 countries that your project will be working in, please add more boxes using the selection option below.

Country 1	Zimbabwe	Country 2	No Response
Country 3	No Response	Country 4	No Response

Do you require more fields?

No

Q7. Project dates

Start date:	End date:	Duration (e.g. 1 years, 8 months):
01 April 2024	31 March 2025	1 year

Q8. Budget summary

Year:	2024/25	2025/26	Total request
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Amount:	£92,216.00	£0.00	£
			92,216.00

Q9. Do you have proposed matched funding arrangements?

Yes

Please ensure you clearly outline your matched funding arrangement in the budget.

Q10. If you have a significant amount of unconfirmed matched funding, please clarify how you will fund the project if you don't manage to secure this?

International Institute for - Environment and Development (IIED), a partner in this project will provide up to 8 days of IIED staff time to the project. This contribution would be worth around £[REDACTED]. This project is an initial step in establishing the Community CAMPFIRE Association of Zimbabwe (CCAZ) as one of the critical stakeholders in natural resource management in Zimbabwe, as well as equipping CCAZ with the necessary knowledge and skills to effectively fulfil its functions. More funding will then be sought for conducting an in-depth assessment of capacity building needs and to conduct capacity building at the household level.

Section 4 - Project need

Q12. The need that the project is trying to address

Please describe evidence of the capability and capacity need your project is trying to address with reference to biodiversity conservation and poverty reduction challenges and opportunities.

For example, how have you identified the need? Why should the need be addressed or what will be the value to the country? Please cite the evidence you are using to support your assessment of the need.

Zimbabwe's Communal Areas Management Program for Indigenous Resources (CAMPFIRE) was one of the first examples of a community-based natural resource management (CBNRM) approach. It was established in the 1980s with the aim to conserve megafauna while enhancing rural livelihoods through the effective participation of communities and the generation of income through (mainly hunting) tourism (Harrison et.al., 2015). The program in the current form presents several weaknesses in its governance arrangements, which impact its success in achieving its conservation and poverty-reduction goals. One of the premises of the program was the devolution of rights and responsibilities to communities regarding the management of natural resources. However, full devolution was never achieved due to resistance from government actors. The main decision-making power in CAMPFIRE areas rests with the Rural District Councils (RDCs), who lease tourism and hunting rights to private sector operators (Mombeshora and Le Bel, 2010). The umbrella CAMPFIRE Association is dominated by RDC representatives and local communities feel that their concerns are not being addressed adequately by this body, and that the management of CAMPFIRE, including of the tourism revenues, lacks transparency.

For these reasons, community representatives recently created a national body called the Community CAMPFIRE Association of Zimbabwe (CCAZ). This young organization has several capability and capacity needs in order to effectively fulfil its functions, including knowledge on natural resource governance, effective leadership,

advocacy towards decision-makers, and communication with its constituency. At the local level, the existing CAMPFIRE community committees lack the capacities to adequately represent the concerns and serve the needs of their communities. A site-level assessment of governance and equity (SAGE) process in the Mbire CAMPFIRE area in October 2022, conducted by CCAZ with the support of IIED and Wildlife Conservation Action (WCA), identified several governance-related capability needs at the ward level (Franks, 2023, Chaukura and Lambini, 2022). These included strategies and skills for effective communication and information-sharing with community members, better financial management, and more knowledge on community rights and obligations under the CAMPFIRE program. Women and youth in particular feel that they are inadequately informed and that their voices are not sufficiently considered in the CAMPFIRE system.

The recent reviews of the Zimbabwe Wildlife Policy and the Parks and Wildlife Act recommended the further devolution of appropriate authority for natural resource management to local communities. However, there are also some concerns on the capability and capacity of these local communities to effectively manage their resources. This project will therefore address the capability and capacity needs of community CBNRM institutions at two levels: locally in the community CAMPFIRE committees, and nationally at the CCAZ governing body. This is expected to equip these institutions to better fulfil their functions in serving their community constituencies and to play an effective role in the necessary governance reforms of the CAMPFIRE program. These improvements in the short term (more efficient community committees) and medium term (improved governance in CAMPFIRE areas) will contribute to improving the delivery of the goals of the CAMPFIRE program in terms of conservation and poverty alleviation.

Section 5 - Darwin Objectives and Conventions

Q13. Biodiversity Conventions, Treaties and Agreements

Q13a. Your project must support the commitments of one or more of the agreements listed below.

Please indicate which agreement(s) will be supported.

- Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
- Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)
- Global Goals for Sustainable Development (SDGs)

Q13b. National and International Policy Alignment

Using evidence where available, please detail how your capability and capacity project will contribute to national policy (including NBSAPs, NDCs, NAPs etc.) and in turn international biodiversity and development conventions, treaties and agreements that the country is a signatory of.

The concept of sustainable wildlife management and utilisation is anchored in Zimbabwe's Constitution, in particular Section 13 (2) and (4) of the Constitution supports the participatory rights of communities in the management and utilisation. To exercise their constitutional right, local communities need the knowledge and skills necessary for effective management and benefit from natural resources. Zimbabwe's Wildlife Policy of January 1992 gave the Appropriate Authorities for wildlife management in communal lands to Rural District Councils. The policy also recognizes that the conservation of wildlife outside the Parks estate requires the cooperation of rural communities and that these communities must be the primary beneficiaries. This project's capability and capacity training would allow rural communities to fully participate and cooperate in management of these resources. In Zimbabwe both the Environmental Management Act and the National Environmental Policy and Strategies makes provisions for the right to access environmental information and this is one of the

challenges facing CAMPFIRE communities and will be covered by the training to ensure that CAMPFIRE committees can effectively communicate and share information with community members to increase transparency.

Zimbabwe is party to the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), having signed and ratified the convention in June 1992 and November 1994 respectively. This project will ensure that local communities are able to conserve biological diversity and use natural resources in a sustainable manner. In relation to the 30x30 target of the new Global Biodiversity Framework the project will be at the forefront of efforts in Zimbabwe to promote equitable governance and respect for rights in area-based conservation. Zimbabwe is part of the CITES treaty and this project will ensure that the objectives of CITES of conservation of endangered plants and animals from the threats of international trade and sustainable use and trade of these resources are met.

Section 6 - Method, Change Expected, Gender & Exit Strategy

Q14. Methodology

Describe the methods and approach you will use to achieve your intended capability and capacity Outcome and contribute towards your Impact. Provide information on:

- how you have reflected on and incorporated **evidence and lessons learnt** from past and present similar activities and projects in the design of this project.
- the specific approach you are using, supported by **evidence** that it will be effective, and **justifying why you expect it will be successful** in this context.
- how you will undertake the work (activities, materials and methods).
- what the **main activities** will be and where these will take place.
- how you will **manage the work** (governance, roles and responsibilities, project management tools, risks etc.).
- what practical elements will be included to embed new capabilities.

The main approaches that will be used in this project are the following:

1) Structured trainings for the members of the local community committees:

These trainings (one in each of the 5 districts over several days) will cover relevant areas of governance of conserved areas, and will address the key capacity gaps identified during the SAGE governance assessment in the Mbire CAMPFIRE area, and by CCAZ leadership.

Regarding governance, the trainings will make use of training modules developed by IIED and partners in Zambia, which will be adapted to the Zimbabwe context. The modules being developed so far are Participation and Law Enforcement, and two other modules on Benefit Sharing and Transparency are now being developed. These modules are based on several years of experience strengthening governance in CBNRM areas in Zambia, and on IIED's long standing research and development of governance-related tools.

Two key capability gaps identified during the SAGE assessment were transparency (regarding information sharing and management of benefits) and a lack of knowledge on rights and obligations under the CAMPFIRE program. These gaps will be addressed during the trainings by including skills-building sessions on financial management and communication, and legal empowerment sessions focused on the CAMPFIRE context. Training will also include sessions where the participants collaboratively develop key communication messages for CCAZ including content for various media like radio and newspapers.

2) Trainings and meetings of the CCAZ board members:

The CCAZ board members will convene twice in Harare during the project period. Each of these week-long gatherings will include time for formal meetings of the board, shorter formal trainings on key governance and

leadership issues, and meetings with government decision-makers to increase CCAZ's visibility and influence on policy.

3) Strengthening CCAZ's institutional capacities

CCAZ is a very young organization and this project will allow it to build enough capacities to solidify its structure and render it functional as a network and representative body of local communities. A full-time CCAZ Project Assistant will be hosted at WCA for the duration of the project (with the aim to extend this position through future projects), and a website and social media network will be developed to increase CCAZ's visibility and allow communication with its constituency.

The WCA team together with the CCAZ coordinator will coordinate the delivery of these trainings and will also seek the services of a consultancy team who will conduct the financial management and communication parts of the training. The WCA team will also facilitate some meetings for the CCAZ Board in Harare by connecting the Board with relevant stakeholders and key authorities in the various relevant government and private sectors.

Q15. How will you identify participants?

How did/will you identify and select the participants (individuals and/or organisations) to directly benefit from the capability and capacity building activities? What makes these the most suitable participants?

How will you ensure that the selection process is unbiased, fair and transparent? How have you incorporated GESI considerations in identifying participants?

The SAGE assessment carried out in Mbire district, identified the Ward CAMPFIRE committees as key actors in natural resource management at the community level. Therefore, this is the group that is mainly targeted by and will directly benefit from this project's capability and capacity building activities. The role of these committees is to manage community level CAMPFIRE activities and they are made up of elected community representatives from every village which falls within the Ward for which the subcommittee is established. All the committee members from the CAMPFIRE wards of the five target districts (Mbire, Nyaminyami, Binga, Chiredzi, Chipinge) will participate in the capability and capacity building activities.

The capability and capacity building activities will also directly benefit the governing body (Board members) of CCAZ. The Board is made up of 10 community representatives from the 10 main CAMPFIRE districts in the country. The Board is responsible for coordinating all CAMPFIRE producer communities concerned with the social, economic, development of the CAMPFIRE producer communities in Zimbabwe. The success of CCAZ and recognition of the organization as an important player rests on the capabilities and capacities of this Board. All members of the Board will participate and directly benefit from the capability and capacity building activities.

Q16. Gender equality and social inclusion

All applicants must consider whether and how their project will contribute to promoting equality between persons of different gender and social characteristics. Explain your understanding of how individuals may be excluded from equal participation within the context of your project, and how you seek to address this. You should consider how your project will proactively contribute to ensuring individuals achieve equitable outcomes and how you will engage participants in a meaningful way.

Gender equality within the community CAMPFIRE institutions means creating equal opportunities for women and men to participate and contribute to the management of natural resources. It means that no one will be prevented from reaching their full potential including taking leadership roles because of their gender. Gender equality puts equal value on the varying roles played by women and men within natural resource management. Women who participated in the SAGE assessment in Mbire mentioned that they feel that they are inadequately informed and that their voices are not sufficiently taken into account in the CAMPFIRE system. This is despite the

fact that women make up at least 40% of the Ward CAMPFIRE committees as well as the CCAZ Board. During the SAGE assessment the participation of women during the workshop was very low and sometimes they would also speak after much probing. The capability and capacity training will ensure that women within the CAMPFIRE committees and the CCAZ Board gain knowledge about their rights and roles in natural resource management as well as skills around communication and advocacy. This would enable them to fully participate in decision making, make their voices heard and also represent and stand up for the other women from the community.

Q17. Change expected

Detail the expected changes to both biodiversity and multi-dimensional poverty reduction, and links between them, that this work will deliver. You should identify what will change and who exactly will benefit a) in the short-term (i.e. during the life of the project – including capability and capacity building benefits) and b) the potential changes in the long-term (after the project has ended).

When talking about how people will benefit, please remember to give details of who will benefit, differences in benefits by gender or other layers of diversity within stakeholders, and the number of beneficiaries expected. The number of communities is insufficient detail – number of households should be the largest unit used.

The strengthening of the capability and capacity of community institutions involved in natural resource management will yield short term benefits for the institutions involved, and long-term benefits for the broader communities and stakeholders in CAMPFIRE areas.

In the short-term, the project will effect change at two levels:

- At the local (ward) level, the CAMPFIRE community committees will be better equipped to fulfil their roles. This will contribute to improvements in governance, notably transparency, participation, accountability and effectiveness: the committees will have more capabilities to inform and involve their constituent communities, including women and youth; will be better informed on their rights and obligations, and therefore better able to represent the interests of their communities and to play a leadership role in natural resource management; and improving their financial management skills will support more transparent management of the community benefits from the CAMPFIRE program

- At the national level, the increased capabilities and capacities of CCAZ will enable this recently created body to fully step into its role as a network and representative of local communities, and to be recognized as an important voice in matters of community-based natural resource management at national level. In the long term, the improved capacities of these community actors will contribute to improved governance of natural resources in the CAMPFIRE areas. It will also strengthen the voices of communities in policy and decision-making processes at the national level. These improvements in governance will in turn contribute to conservation and poverty reduction by strengthening the implementation of community-based natural resource management in the five targeted areas, and in Zimbabwe as a whole (Pinto & Dawson, 2023).

The improved capabilities and capacities of local community bodies will enable them to play their expected role in the future further devolution of natural resource management in the country. Specifically, improved participation, accountability and knowledge about rights and obligations is expected to increase a sense of ownership in the local communities over the conservation goals of the CAMPFIRE areas, and improve monitoring and enforcement on the ground. Increased transparency and other measures to promote more equitable sharing of community benefits will contribute to more effective poverty reduction through the CAMPFIRE program.

Q18. Sustainable benefits and scaling potential





How will the project reach a point where the benefits of strengthened capability and capacity can be sustained post-funding?

How will the capability and capacity be retained and remain available to deliver benefits in-country after the project? Is there potential for the new capability and capacity to renew itself or deliver additional capability and capacity, for example by building future environmental leaders beyond the project?

The trainings on governance foreseen in this project will build on training concepts and materials developed by IIED in Zambia, that will be adapted to the Zimbabwean context. The materials and approaches will remain available after the end of the project, and can continue to be used by CCAZ and WCA to scale up the SAGE assessments and trainings. CCAZ board members will be involved in the trainings at the local level, thereby solidifying their knowledge so that they can serve as future trainers and facilitators beyond the lifetime of the project. The building of CCAZ's institutional capacities (e.g. development of communication channels, hosting of a CCAZ Project Assistant at WCA) will put the organization in a position to develop their own future projects and activities, thereby contributing to the sustainability of this project's results.

This project is a first step in improving governance capacities and capabilities of CCAZ and local community institutions. The expectation is that at the end of the project period, CCAZ and WCA will be in the position to co-lead a larger project that will seek to scale the benefits in the five targeted areas and beyond. This foreseen next phase will work more broadly to address identified governance weaknesses in the CAMPFIRE areas. This will include a further development of the capabilities and capacities of the CAMPFIRE committees, but also of the broader communities that they represent. The CCAZ board members and the local community committees are expected to play an active role in these future activities, thereby applying and retaining the capabilities gained through this project.

If necessary, please provide supporting documentation e.g. maps, diagrams, references etc., as a PDF using the File Upload below:

-  [References WCA R30-DI-Capability-and-Capacity](#)
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Section 7 - Risk Management

Q19. Risk Management

Please outline the 6 key risks to achievement of your Project Outcome and how these risks will be managed and mitigated, referring to the Risk Guidance. This should include at least one Fiduciary, one Safeguarding, and one Delivery Chain Risk.

Risk Description	Impact	Prob.	Gross Risk	Mitigation	Residual Risk
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Fiduciary (financial)						
As the logistics of the trainings in the five districts will be organized by local counterparts (members of the CCAZ board or of the community committees), there is a risk of unintended or unaccounted use of funds.	Severe	Unlikely	Low	The project includes a part time position for financial management at WCA. This person will work with CCAZ and the local counterparts to ensure appropriate handling and reporting of expenses.	Low	
Safeguarding						
There is risk that during the training workshops there might be incidences of sexual exploitation, abuse or harassment as the participants will be spending a few days together in one place.	Major	Unlikely	Medium	Facilitators from CCAZ and/or WCA will be prepared and sensitized about the possible risks and tasked with monitoring and intervening should such incidents present themselves. WCA has safeguarding policies on sexual harassment, and the reporting procedures, and all participants will be provided with the policies.	Low	
Delivery Chain						
The capability and capacity of CCAZ will be strengthened mainly through training and there is a risk that some of the target participants might fail to avail themselves for the training.	Major	Unlikely	Low	The CCAZ board and the project assistant at CCAZ will be in charge of communicating and mobilizing their constituencies for the trainings.	Low	
Risk 4						
There is a risk that the resources to implement the project might not be adequate.	Severe	Rare	Low	The budget has covered the main aspects and activities of the project which should allow for the realization of the project outcome.	Low	
Risk 5						
There is a risk that the government may not accept CCAZ as legitimate which would possibly hamper some of the activities, because it could be seen as a competition to the existing CAMPFIRE association.	Major	Possible	High	Ensure that there is early and regular communication with government entities at district and national level about the goals and usefulness of CCAZ.	Low	
Risk 6						
There is a risk that there might be some political unrest in some parts of the country, due to the just ended elections in August 2023.	Major	Unlikely	High	The local situation in the targeted districts will be monitored and the schedule of local trainings will be handled with flexibility in order to adapt to the situation.	Low	

Q20. Project sensitivities


Please indicate whether there are sensitivities associated with this project that need to be considered if details are published (detailed species location data that would increase threats, political sensitivities, prosecutions for illegal activities, security of staff etc.).


No


Section 8 - Workplan


Q21. Workplan

Provide a project workplan that shows the key milestones in project activities.

 [WCA BCF Implementation Workplan 2024-25](#)

 23/10/2023

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Section 9 - Monitoring and Evaluation

Q22. Monitoring and evaluation (M&E)

Describe how the progress of the project will be monitored and evaluated, making reference to who is responsible for the project's M&E.

Darwin Initiative projects are expected to be adaptive, and you should detail how the monitoring and evaluation will feed into the improved delivery of the project including its management. M&E is expected to be built into the project and not an 'add' on. It is as important to measure for negative impacts as it is for positive impact. Additionally, please indicate an approximate budget and level of effort (person days) to be spent on M&E (see Finance Guidance).

The indicators of the project have to be measured at three levels:

Whether the participants of the trainings have increased their skills and knowledge (Output indicators 1.1. and 1.2.). This will be done by administering short questionnaires to participants at the beginning and end of the trainings

Whether the constituencies of the community institutions notice an improvement in governance and management due to the increased capabilities and capacities of these institutions (Outcome indicators 0.1. and 0.2.). To this end, the project will use the outcome harvesting method which the Zambia CBNRM Forum and IIED and have used in a similar project in Zambia (Pinto 2023) plus community-level focus groups for validation and quantification of improvements

Whether the institutional capabilities & capacities of CCAZ have increased and are being used to fulfil CCAZ's functions (Output indicators 2.1. and 2.2.). This will be ascertained through evidence from meeting reports and communication platforms

The only M&E method I that demands a significant investment in terms of staff time and travel is the outcome harvesting .

All M&E information will be disaggregated by gender so that any differences in outputs and outcomes between men and women can be identified.

Total project budget for M&E (£):	£ [REDACTED]
(this may include Staff and Travel and Subsistence Costs)	
Total project budget for M&E (%):	[REDACTED]
(this may include Staff and Travel and Subsistence Costs)	
Number of days planned for M&E	35

Section 10 - Indicators of Success

Q23. Indicators of success

Please outline the Outcome and Outputs of the project and how you will show that they have been achieved by using SMART indicators and milestones.

	SMART Indicator	Means of Verification
<p>Outcome</p> <p>The capabilities and capacities of local and national community institutions involved in CAMPFIRE are strengthened, leading to improved governance in CAMPFIRE areas</p>	<p>0.1. The level of satisfaction of local community members with the work of their CAMPFIRE committees has increased by 50% (disaggregated by gender)</p> <p>0.2. The level satisfaction of women regarding their influence on decision-making has increased by 50%</p>	<p>Outcome harvesting in the covered CAMPFIRE communities at the end of the project period plus focus groups for validation and quantification</p>
<p>Output 1</p> <p>The members of the community CAMPFIRE committees in five CAMPFIRE districts have the knowledge and skills to perform their governance roles more effectively and transparently</p>	<p>1.1. The understanding of 50% of CAMPFIRE committee members in five areas of the principles of good governance has increased</p> <p>1.2. The knowledge of 50 % of CAMPFIRE committee members in five areas about their rights and obligations under the CAMPFIRE program has improved</p>	<p>Questionnaires to committee members before and after the trainings</p>

Output 2	2.1. CCAZ is invited to participate in key events on natural resource management and speaks out on behalf of local communities 2.2. CCAZ shares information at least once a month (print, digital or in-person) with local communities in the CAMPFIRE areas	Reports and minutes of events, Newsletters, minutes of ward level community meetings, use of social media or messaging platforms
Output 3	<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>
Output 4	<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>

Activities

Each activity is numbered according to the Output that it will contribute towards, for example, 1.1, 1.2, 1.3 are contributing to Output 1.

- 1.1 Structured trainings of CAMPFIRE committee members and community leaders in 5 CAMPFIRE areas on governance (including rights and obligations under CAMPFIRE, information sharing and financial management)
- 1.2 Development (during training workshop) of strategies for improved communication and information dissemination between CAMPFIRE committees and communities
- 2.1. Two half-yearly meetings of the CCAZ board
- 2.2. Two structured trainings of CCAZ board members on governance
- 2.3. Two engagement meetings of the CCAZ board with national government and other key stakeholders
- 2.4 Development of a website, social media presence and members messaging platform for CCAZ
- 2.5. Project assistant staff position for CCAZ operations, hosted at WCA

Important Assumptions:


Please describe up to 6 key assumptions that, if held true, will enable you to deliver your Outputs and Outcome.


- 1. CCAZ is able to mobilise members of local CAMPFIRE community committees to attend the trainings
- 2. The capability and capacity gaps in the five selected CAMPFIRE areas are similar to the ones identified in the Mbire area through the SAGE process
- 3. Government institutions at national and district level do not actively work against CCAZ as a new civil society institution
- 4. The CCAZ board members continue their engagement throughout the project period and beyond
- 5. CCAZ is invited in meetings and workshops on natural resources management in the country
- 6. CAMPFIRE community committees and Board absorb what they learn


Section 11 - Budget and Funding


Q24. Budget

Please complete the appropriate Excel spreadsheet, which provides the Budget for this application. Some of the questions earlier and below refer to the information in this spreadsheet.

 [WCA BCF-Budget-under-£100K-MASTER-Apr23-](#)

 23/10/2023

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Q25. Alignment with other funding and activities

This question aims to help us understand how familiar you are with other work in the geographic/thematic area, and how this proposed project will build on or align with this to avoid any risks of duplicating or conflicting activities.

Q25a. Is this new work or does it build on existing/past activities (delivered by anyone and funded through any source)?

New Initiative

Please provide details:

This project is new work that seeks to address the capability and capacity needs of the local community institutions involved in the management of natural resources in Zimbabwe. In October 2022, CCAZ with support from IIED and WCA conducted a site-level assessment of governance and equity (SAGE) process in the Mbire CAMPFIRE and identified several governance-related capability needs at the level of the wards and the CAMPFIRE committees. These needs included strategies and skills for effective communication and information-sharing with community members, better financial management, and more knowledge on community rights and obligations under the CAMPFIRE program. This project is building on this assessment and providing the knowledge and skills needed to address these needs.

Q25b. Are you aware of any current or future plans for work in the geographic/thematic area to the proposed project?

No

Q26. Value for Money

Please demonstrate why your project is good value for money in terms of impact and cost-effectiveness of each pound spend (economy, efficiency, effectiveness and equity). Why is it the best feasible project for the amount of money to be spent?

The majority of the funds from this project will go into the capability and capacity training of CCAZ and little is going to the overhead expenses as WCA has funds from other grants that contributes to the overhead costs. The knowledge and the skills that the CAMPFIRE community committees and the CCAZ Board receive during the trainings can be transferred to other community members through the CAMPFIRE producer communities leading to natural scaling up and thus greater impact. The training for the CAMPFIRE community committees will be done in their respective wards and this will minimize costs in terms of transport and accommodation.

Q27. Capital items

If you plan to purchase capital items with Darwin funding, please indicate what you anticipate will happen to the items following project end. If you are requesting more than 10% capital costs, please provide your justification here.

N/A

Section 12 - Safeguarding and Ethics

Q28. Safeguarding

All projects funded under the Biodiversity Challenge Funds must ensure proactive action is taken to promote the welfare and protect all individuals involved in the project (staff, implementing partners, the public and beneficiaries) from harm. In order to provide assurance of this, projects are required to have specific procedures and policies in place.

Please upload the following required policies:

- **Safeguarding Policy:** including a statement of commitment to safeguarding and a zero tolerance statement on bullying, harassment and sexual exploitation and abuse.
- **Whistleblowing Policy:** which details a clear process for dealing with concerns raised and protects whistle blowers from reprisals.
- **Code of Conduct:** which sets out clear expectations of behaviours – inside and outside the workplace – for all involved in the project and makes clear what will happen in the event of non-compliance or breach of these standards, including compliance with IASC 6 Principles.

If any of these policies are integrated into a broader policy document or handbook, please upload just the relevant or equivalent sub-sections to the above policies, with (unofficial) English translations where needed.

Please outline how (a) beneficiaries, the public, implementing partners, and staff are made aware of your safeguarding commitment and how to confidentially raise a concern, (b) safeguarding issues are investigated, recorded and what disciplinary procedures are in place when allegations and complaints are upheld, (c) you will ensure project partners uphold these policies.

If your approach is currently limited or in the early stages of development, please clearly set out your plans address this.

We will ensure that we share our Safeguarding policy and the Code of conduct with all our Partners and collaborators as well as the CCAZ Board and the CAMPFIRE community committees so that everyone has a chance to read, understand and be aware of the contents of these policies. The Partners and collaborators will be supported by a training, communication and awareness program so they can fully understand the contents of the documents. Before the training workshops, the facilitators from CCAZ and/or WCA will be prepared and sensitized about the safeguarding policy and the code of conduct and on how to monitor and intervene should any issues in the safeguarding policy or code of conduct appear. Non-compliance with the policy and the code of conduct will result in disciplinary action and even dismissal from the Partnership of the training.

Section 13 - British Embassy or High Commission Engagement

Q29. British embassy or high commission engagement

It is important for UK Government representatives to understand if UK funding might be spent in the project country/ies. Please indicate if you have contacted the relevant British embassy or high commission to discuss the project and attach details of any advice you have received from them.

No

If no, why not?

Since this project is not working directly with any government agency and Zimbabwe is not politically unstable, we did not feel it was necessary or appropriate to ask our partners to talk to FCDO Embassy about the project.

Section 14 - Project Staff

Q30. Project staff

Please identify the core staff (identified in the budget), their role and what % of their time they will be working on the project.


Name (First name, Surname)	Role	% time on project	1 page CV or job description attached?
Moreangels Mbizah	Project Leader	10	Checked
Nokuthaba Nyathi	Project Officer	25	Checked
Ishumael Chahukura	CCAZ Project Assistant	100	Checked
Milliscent Matimbe	Finance and Admin Officer	15	Checked


Do you require more fields?


Yes


Name (First name, Surname)	Role	% time on project	1 page CV or job description attached?
Wilcox Jenje	Monitoring and Evaluation Officer	15	Checked
Phil Franks (IIED)	Technical support	5	Checked
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	0	Unchecked
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	0	Unchecked
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	0	Unchecked
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	0	Unchecked
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	0	Unchecked
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	0	Unchecked

Please provide 1 page CVs (or job description if yet to be recruited) for the project staff listed above as a combined PDF.

 [CVs of Project Staff](#)

 23/10/2023

 22:28:37

 pdf 1.2 MB

Have you attached all project staff CVs?

Yes

Section 15 - Project Partners

Q31. Project Partners

Please list all the Project Partners (including the Lead Partner who will administer the grant and coordinate delivery of the project), clearly setting out their roles and responsibilities in the project including the extent of their engagement so far.


Lead Partner name: Wildlife Conservation Action

Website address: www.wildlifeconservationaction.org

Why is this organisation the Lead Partner, and what value to they bring to the project? (including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):

Wildlife Conservation Action (WCA) is a local conservation organization whose mission is to build the capacity of local communities to protect and coexist with wildlife, while improving their livelihoods. WCA's core work is focused on building the resilience of communities living alongside wildlife to challenges including human-wildlife conflict and climate change that impact their livelihoods. WCA works with these communities in coming up with site-specific strategies to mitigate the impacts of human-wildlife conflict. WCA is one of the leading organizations in Zimbabwe around community-based conservation and natural resource management with a focus on putting communities first in conservation. WCA's experienced staff will be managing and coordinating this project. WCA is already working with some of these communities and has built strong relationship and trust with the communities.

International/In-country Partner In-country

Allocated budget (proportion or value): £ 

Represented on the Project Board (or other management structure) Yes

Have you included a Letter of Support from this partner? Yes

Do you have partners involved in the Project?

Yes

1. Partner Name:	Community CAMPFIRE Association of Zimbabwe
Website address:	N/A
What value does this Partner bring to the project? (including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):	CCAZ is a newly created umbrella body whose aims are to coordinate CAMPFIRE communities, to support their conservation, social and economic activities, and to represent their rights at national, regional and international level. Its board is composed of community representatives (including members of CAMPFIRE committees and traditional leaders) from CAMPFIRE areas across the country. CCAZ is one of the key beneficiaries of the project and will ensure the participation of its board members in the trainings and other activities. It will ensure communication with the local communities in its network to ensure coherence between the national and local level. Members of the CCAZ board will participate in the local trainings to support sharing of experiences and lessons learned, and to further develop their capacities for future upscaling.
International/In-country Partner	<input checked="" type="radio"/> In-country
Allocated budget:	£ [REDACTED]
Representation on the Project Board (or other management structure)	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes
Have you included a Letter of Support from this partner?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes

2. Partner Name:	International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED)
Website address:	www.iied.org
What value does this Partner bring to the project? (including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):	IIED has a long history of applied research on natural resource governance. In the last 8 years this research has increasingly focused on the governance of protected and conserved areas (PCAs), and the related issue of equity, including the development of a framework of principles of equitable governance that was endorsed by CBD parties at COP14. Based on this set of principles IIED has developed the Site Assessment of Governance and Equity (SAGE) tool which the key actors of a PCA use to assess governance/equity and plan and implement actions to improve. This SAGE tool has now been used by 65 PCAs across 24 countries and with the success of this tool IIED has become recognized as a global leader on equitable governance of PCAs. IIED will be responsible for adapting training modules on governance from a current project in Zambia, and for supporting WCA and CCAZ in developing the structured trainings on governance for the community institutions. This will be achieved by one in-country visit and punctual remote support.
International/In-country Partner	<input checked="" type="radio"/> International
Allocated budget:	£ [REDACTED]

Representation on the Project Board (or other management structure) Yes

Have you included a Letter of Support from this partner? Yes

3. Partner Name: *No Response*

Website address: *No Response*

What value does this Partner bring to the project?

No Response

(including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):

International/In-country Partner International
 In-country

Allocated budget: £0.00

Representation on the Project Board (or other management structure) Yes
 No

Have you included a Letter of Support from this partner? Yes
 No

4. Partner Name: *No Response*

Website address: *No Response*

What value does this Partner bring to the project?

No Response

(including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):

International/In-country Partner International
 In-country

Allocated budget: £0.00

Representation on the Project Board (or other management structure) Yes
 No

Have you included a Letter of Support from this partner? Yes
 No

5. Partner Name: *No Response*

Website address: *No Response*

What value does this Partner bring to the project?

No Response

(including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):

International/In-country Partner International
 In-country

Allocated budget: £0.00

Representation on the Project Board (or other management structure) Yes
 No

Have you included a Letter of Support from this partner? Yes
 No

6. Partner Name: *No Response*

Website address: *No Response*

What value does this Partner bring to the project?

No Response

(including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):

International/In-country Partner International
 In-country

Allocated budget: £0.00


Representation on the Project Board (or other management structure) Yes
 No


Have you included a Letter of Support from this partner? Yes
 No


If you require more space to enter details regarding Partners involved in the project, please use the text field below.

No Response

Please provide a combined PDF of all letters of support.

 [Support letters for WCA application-BCF](#)

 23/10/2023

 22:40:17

 pdf 602.08 KB

Section 16 - Lead Partner Capability and Capacity

Q32. Lead Partner Capability and Capacity

Has your organisation been awarded Biodiversity Challenge Funds (Darwin Initiative, Darwin Plus or Illegal Wildlife Trade Challenge Fund) funding before (for the purposes of this question, being a partner does not count)?

No

If no, please provide the below information on the lead partner.

What year was your organisation established/ incorporated/ registered? 01 January 2020

What is the legal status of your organisation? Other (if selected, please explain below)

Other explained Our organization is registered in Zimbabwe as a Trust.

How is your organisation currently funded? Our organisation has mainly been funded through grants from conservation organisations and foundations. To date funding has been received from USAID, World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), Lion Recovery Fund, African Wildlife Foundation (AWF), Tusk Trust, Dry Creek, Maliasili, Greater Plains Foundations and Oppenheimer Generations. The number of funders and the annual income has been steadily increasing since 2020.

Describe briefly the aims, activities and achievements of your organisation. Large organisations please note that this should describe your unit or department.

Aims Our aim is to champion community-based conservation and collaboration between stakeholders in order to promote human-wildlife co-existence and sustainable socioeconomic development of communities through capacity building, conservation science and education and sustainable livelihoods.

Activities Recruiting and training Community Guardians in the use of cutting-edge technologies like predator-proof livestock bomas, lion-lights, tracking and wildlife monitoring, for conflict mitigation. Similarly, we train them on livestock management systems, human-wildlife conflict (HWC) and natural resources management so that they can be local conservation champions in their communities.

Achievements We have trained over 15 Community Guardians and distributed more than 130 mobile bomas that helped communities secure their livestock and improve their household food security. We have also undertaken a national survey on human-wildlife conflict (HWC), that has been used to inform the HWC policy in Zimbabwe.

Provide detail of 3 contracts/projects held by the Lead Partner that demonstrate your credibility as an organisation and provide track record relevant to the project proposed.

These contracts/awards should have been held in the last 5 years and be of a similar size to the grant requested in your application.

Contract/Project 1 Title	Reducing and mitigating human-wildlife conflict and increasing the resilience of communities through HWC management, direct interventions, and local capacity building.
Contract Value/Project budget (include currency)	US\$ [REDACTED]
Duration (e.g. 2 years 3 months)	21 months
Role of organisation in project	Wildlife Conservation Action was sub-contracted by Ecodit to implement a human-wildlife conflict mitigation project under the USAID's Zimbabwe Resilience ANCHORS Activity.
Brief summary of the aims, objectives and outcomes of the project	The proposed project will focus on building the capacity of local communities to sustainably manage their wildlife and other natural resources by training and employing a team of Community Guardians who will be empowered to report and respond to HWC incidences, assist in the monitoring of wildlife movements, assist the community in setting up mitigation strategies as well as conducting environmental education and awareness within the community. These measures will result in a reduction in conflict incidences, reduction in livestock loss, improvement in community livelihoods and improvement in community attitudes towards wildlife.
Client/independent reference contact details (Name, e-mail)	Jeremy Swanson [REDACTED]
Contract/Project 2 Title	Nyaminyami Human-Wildlife Coexistence Project
Contract Value/Project budget (include currency)	US\$ [REDACTED]
Duration (e.g. 2 years, 3 months)	3 years
Role of organisation in project	Wildlife Conservation Action is the implementing partner, in collaboration with WWF Zimbabwe as the funding partner.

Brief summary of the aims, objectives and outcomes of the project

The aim of this project is to build the capacity of local communities to sustainably manage their wildlife and other natural resources by engaging Community Guardians and empowering them to respond to and report HWC incidences and assist with monitoring the movement of carnivores and other wildlife in their communities. Conservation education is also being used as a key tool to wildlife conservation and mitigation to promote coexistence and also ensuring safe movement of wildlife through communal lands and wildlife corridors, leading to the protection of these wildlife species.

Client/independent reference contact details (Name, e-mail)

Itai Chibaya
[REDACTED]

Contract/Project 3 Title

Promoting co-existence between communities and carnivores through Human-Wildlife-Conflict (HWC) mitigation in Nyaminyami District-Sebungwe Region.

Contract Value/Project budget (include currency)

US\$ [REDACTED]

Duration (e.g. 2 years, 3 months)

2 years

Role of organisation in project

Wildife Conservation Action is implementing this project as a grantee of the Lion Recovery Fund.

Brief summary of the aims, objectives and outcomes of the project

This project is focusing on reducing human-carnivore conflict, promoting coexistence, reducing poverty, improving community livelihoods and providing alternative livelihoods. These activities will help increase the resilience of lions and other wildlife populations, reduce habitat fragmentation and increase connectivity among lion populations in the landscape. Pro-active conflict mitigation measures (such as the engagement of Community Guardians, construction of predator-proof mobile bomas, reinforcing livestock kraals and training in livestock husbandry methods that reduce the risk of livestock losses) may not only reduce human-lion conflict in this area but also allow for the recovery of the lion population in the landscape.

Client/independent reference contact details (Name, e-mail)

Peter Lindsey
[REDACTED]

Have you provided the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts (or other financial evidence as indicated in the Finance Guidance)?

Yes

Section 17 - Certification

Q30. Certification

If this section is incomplete the entire application will be rejected.

Please note if you do not upload the relevant materials below your application may be made ineligible.

On behalf of the

Trustees

of

Wildlife Conservation Action

I apply for a grant of

£92,216.00

I certify that, to the best of our knowledge and belief, the statements made by us in this application are true and the information provided is correct. I am aware that this application form will form the basis of the project schedule should this application be successful.





(This form should be signed by an individual authorised by the applicant institution to submit applications and sign contracts on their behalf.)

- I have enclosed CVs for key project personnel, a cover letter, letters of support, a budget, logframe, theory of change, Safeguarding and associated policies, and project workplan.
- Our last two sets of signed audited/independently verified accounts and annual report (or other financial evidence – see Finance Guidance) are also enclosed.

Checked





Name Moreangels Mbizah

Position in the organisation Executive Director





Signature (please upload e-signature)
 [Signature Moreangels Mbizah](#)
 23/10/2023
 22:50:51
 pdf 47.73 KB

Date 23 October 2023

Please attach the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts or other financial evidence (see Finance Guidance)

 [WCA Financial Accounts Annual Report](#)
 23/10/2023
 23:32:54
 pdf 2.68 MB

Please upload the Lead Partner's Safeguarding Policy, Whistleblowing Policy and Code of Conduct as a PDF

 [Wildlife Conservation Action Safeguarding Policy and Code of conduct](#)
 23/10/2023
 23:01:58
 pdf 427 KB

Section 18 - Submission Checklist

Checklist for submission

	Check
I have read the Guidance, including the “Darwin Initiative Guidance”, “Monitoring Evaluation and Learning Guidance”, “Standard Indicator Guidance”, “Risk Guidance”, and “Finance Guidance”.	Checked
I have read, and can meet, the current Terms and Conditions for this fund.	Checked
I have provided actual start and end dates for the project.	Checked
I have provided my budget based on UK government financial years i.e. 1 April – 31 March and in GBP.	Checked
I have checked that our budget is complete, correctly adds up and I have included the correct final total at the start of the application.	Checked
The application been signed by a suitably authorised individual (clear electronic or scanned signatures are acceptable).	Checked
I have attached the below documents to my application: <ul style="list-style-type: none">a cover letter from the Lead Partner, outlining how any feedback received at has been addressed where relevant, as a single PDF.	Checked
• my budget (which meets the requirements above) using the template provided.	Checked
• a signed copy of the last 2 annual report and accounts for the Lead Partner (or other financial evidence – see Finance Guidance, or provided an explanation if not	Checked
• My completed workplan as a PDF using the template provided.	Checked
• a copy of the Lead Partner’s Safeguarding Policy, Whistleblowing Policy and Code of Conduct (Question 27).	Checked
• 1 page CV or job description for all the Project Staff identified at Question 29, including the Project Leader, or provided an explanation of why not, combined into a single PDF.	Checked
• A letter of support from the Lead Partner and partner(s) identified at Question 30, or an explanation of why not, as a single PDF.	Checked
I have been in contact with the FCDO in the project country/ies and have included any evidence of this. If not, I have provided an explanation of why not.	Checked
My additional supporting evidence is in line with the requested evidence, amounts to a maximum of 5 sides of A4, and is combined as a single PDF.	Checked
(If copying and pasting into Flexi-Grant) I have checked that all my responses have been successfully copied into the online application form.	Checked
I have checked the Darwin Initiative website immediately prior to submission to ensure there are no late updates.	Checked
I have read and understood the Privacy Notice on the Darwin Initiative website.	Checked

We would like to keep in touch!

Please check this box if you would be happy for the lead applicant (Flexi-Grant Account Holder) and project leader (if different) to be added to our mailing list. Through our mailing list we share updates on upcoming and current application rounds under the Darwin Initiative and our sister grant scheme, the IWT Challenge Fund. We also provide occasional updates on other UK Government activities related to biodiversity conservation and share our quarterly project newsletter. You are free to unsubscribe at any time.

Checked

Data protection and use of personal data

Information supplied in the application form, including personal data, will be used by Defra as set out in the **Privacy Notice**, available from the [Forms and Guidance Portal](#).

This **Privacy Notice must be provided to all individuals** whose personal data is supplied in the application form. Some information may be used when publicising the Darwin Initiative including project details (usually title, lead partner, project leader, location, and total grant value).

Project Title: **Strengthening the capacity of community institutions within CAMPFIRE in Zimbabwe**

	Activity	No. of months	Year 1 (24/25)			
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Output 1	<i>The members of the community CAMPFIRE committees in five CAMPFIRE districts have the knowledge and skills to perform their governance roles more effectively and transparently</i>					
1.1	Structured trainings of CAMPFIRE committee members and community leaders in 5 CAMPFIRE areas on governance (including rights and obligations under CAMPFIRE, information sharing and financial management)	4				
1.2	Development (during training workshop) of strategies for improved communication and information dissemination between CAMPFIRE committees and communities	4				
Output 2	<i>CCAZ is recognized and accepted by key stakeholders as an important actor in natural resource governance and advocates effectively for the interests of local communities</i>					
2.1	Two half-yearly meetings of the CCAZ board	2				
2.2	Two structured trainings of CCAZ board members on governance	2				

Project Title: **Strengthening the capacity of community institutions within CAMPFIRE in Zimbabwe**

	Activity	No. of months	Year 1 (24/25)			
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
2.3	Two engagement meetings of the CCAZ board with national government and other key stakeholders	2				
2.4	Development of a website, social media presence and members messaging platform for CCAZ	1				
2.5	Project Assistant for CCAZ operations, hosted at WCA	12				