



The Katanino Forest Landscape Restoration Project

Mid-Year Impact Report
January - June 2025



**Katanino, Copperbelt
Province, Zambia**
Miombo Belt



Timeline:
2019 - 2029



Main implementing partner:
WeForest Zambia



Targeted ecosystem:
Miombo woodlands



North Swaka #7191
Imanda #7190

In this sixth year, we are intensifying M&E and advancing preparations for the empowerment and progressive autonomy of the Katanino Forest Trust and the five VNRCs (Village Natural Resources Management Committees).

Activity update



Improving forest governance and stewardship

- The project successfully achieved external verification for the second time by **Preferred by Nature** under the Ecosystem Restoration Field Verification Standard V3.1.
- Government auditors rated the Katanino Forest Trust as ‘good / effective’ after a successful system and compliance audit.
- **233 forest patrols** were conducted, documenting 53 illegal activities.
- The five Village Resources Management Committees and Cooperatives were supported with capacity assessments, meetings and mentorship sessions.
- The project took part in the International Women’s Day, celebrating women's achievements and calling for more cross-sectoral inclusivity to empower women.



Restoring and conserving at-risk forests

- **181,801 pine and agroforestry seedlings** were planted.
- **30 VRMC leaders and community members** participated in fire management planning meetings to prepare for early burning in the forest reserve.
- **Fire response teams** were established in each of the five project zones.
- **25 community members** attended training on fire response and management.
- **5 camera traps** have been set up to monitor wildlife.



Forest Camp
June 2025

Case study

The project hosted Copperbelt University students for an educational field tour led by Dr. Zulu, providing hands-on exposure to environmental and natural resource management. The visit, part of their academic fieldwork, featured interactive discussions and showcased the project's integrated approach to forest restoration, sustainable livelihoods, and community-based conservation.



Case study

The project successfully underwent its second Preferred by Nature (PbN) external audit, which was the first conducted under PbN’s new standards by independent auditors. This audit specifically assessed the livelihood activities implemented by the project and included direct interaction with participating farmers. Following the evaluation, the project was certified compliant with the new standard.



Introducing forest-friendly livelihoods

- **153 farmers** attended five Climate Smart Agriculture field days.
- An exchange took place between the Copperbelt Project and the Katanino Project to facilitate learning on Bokashi composting for crop production.
- **126 school pupils** from six schools joined sessions promoting environmentally responsible practices, and in five of six schools, conservation agriculture and agroforestry production units were set up, with 1950 seedlings planted.
- **440 beekeepers**, of which 75% were female, joined a refresher training in beekeeping.
- **1400 beehives** were baited and 750 hives were repaired. A total of 4989 hives have been hung in 998 beekeeping plots during the full project.
- A successful renegotiation of comb honey price took place - increasing the price from ZMW 20 per kg to ZMW 22.5 per kg.
- **29 households** received two goats each.



July 2025
Masaiti District

Case study

Pupils participated in quizzes, debates, and exchange visits to promote local ownership and long-term commitment to sustainable forest management. These activities tested conservation knowledge, highlighted the project's impact on environmental education, and inspired youth to become future stewards of natural resources. In the picture, students are being guided by the teacher on how the quiz will proceed.

>> Looking forward

Activities for July - December 2025 include:

- Reviewing the final draft of the Forest Management Plan.
- Ensuring forest bylaws are approved and registered.
- Continuing the facilitation of Forest Reserve Patrols.
- Spotting and fighting any wildfires that occur in the forest reserve.
- Monitoring seedling survival rates and joining National Tree Planting Day activities.
- Continuing to implement the school outreach program and tree planting activities.
- Supporting agroforestry, beekeeping, chicken and goat rearing and pine plantation activities.

Stay up-to-date

-  Visit the [project page](#)
-  Explore the [interactive map](#)
-  Check out the project [photo album](#)
-  Look out for the annual project report in 2026

