



KARIBA REDD+ FOREST PROTECTION ZIMBABWE



**Saving forests, protecting wildlife and
changing lives**

Since the Kariba REDD+ (Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation) project launched in 2011, more than 18 million tonnes of CO₂ have been prevented from entering the atmosphere. The project has also supported the independence and wellbeing of local communities.

The Context

Zimbabwe has been torn apart by war, civil unrest, economic collapse and population growth. Over the past twenty years, desperate communities have delved deeper into the forests, clearing for farming and fuel for their rudimentary homes. As a result, more than a third of Zimbabwe’s majestic forests are now gone.

The Project

The Kariba project ensures that 785,000 hectares of forest and wildlife on the southern shores of Zimbabwe’s Lake Kariba are now protected. As one of the largest registered REDD+ project by area, it sits between the Chizarira, Matusadona and Mana Pools National Park (which is also a World Heritage Site), and Lower Zambezi National Park in Zambia. By connecting these four national parks and eight safari reserves, this project area forms a giant biodiversity corridor, ensuring the protection of an expansive rainforest and numerous vulnerable and endangered species, including: the African elephant, lion, common hippo, lappet-faced vulture and southern ground hornbill.

The Benefits

Beyond protecting the environment, a range of activities support the independence and wellbeing of local communities. Better health care is implemented through improving clinic amenities, infrastructural development such as new roads new boreholes improve daily life, while school subsidies are made available for the poorest quartile of the population. Project activities such as conservation agriculture, community gardens, beekeeping training, fire management and ecotourism create jobs and facilitate sustainable incomes that benefit the entire community.

So far, the project has trained 233 local people to generate profit from sustainable beekeeping.



30,000
lives

have been improved by better health measures and financial support to local clinics.



1,553
people

have profited from improved education through school fee subsidiaries and salary support for teachers.



42
jobs

created locally for project operations, creating new income streams and strengthening the economy.



2,256,534
tCo₂e

mitigated annually, directly contributing to climate change mitigation.

For more information on the UN Sustainable Development Goals, please visit: <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>

Official name: Kariba REDD+ Project | UNFCCC/markit/VCS link: https://mer.markit.com/br-reg/public/project.jsp?project_id=100000000001275 | UNFCCC/markit/VCS ID: 1275