



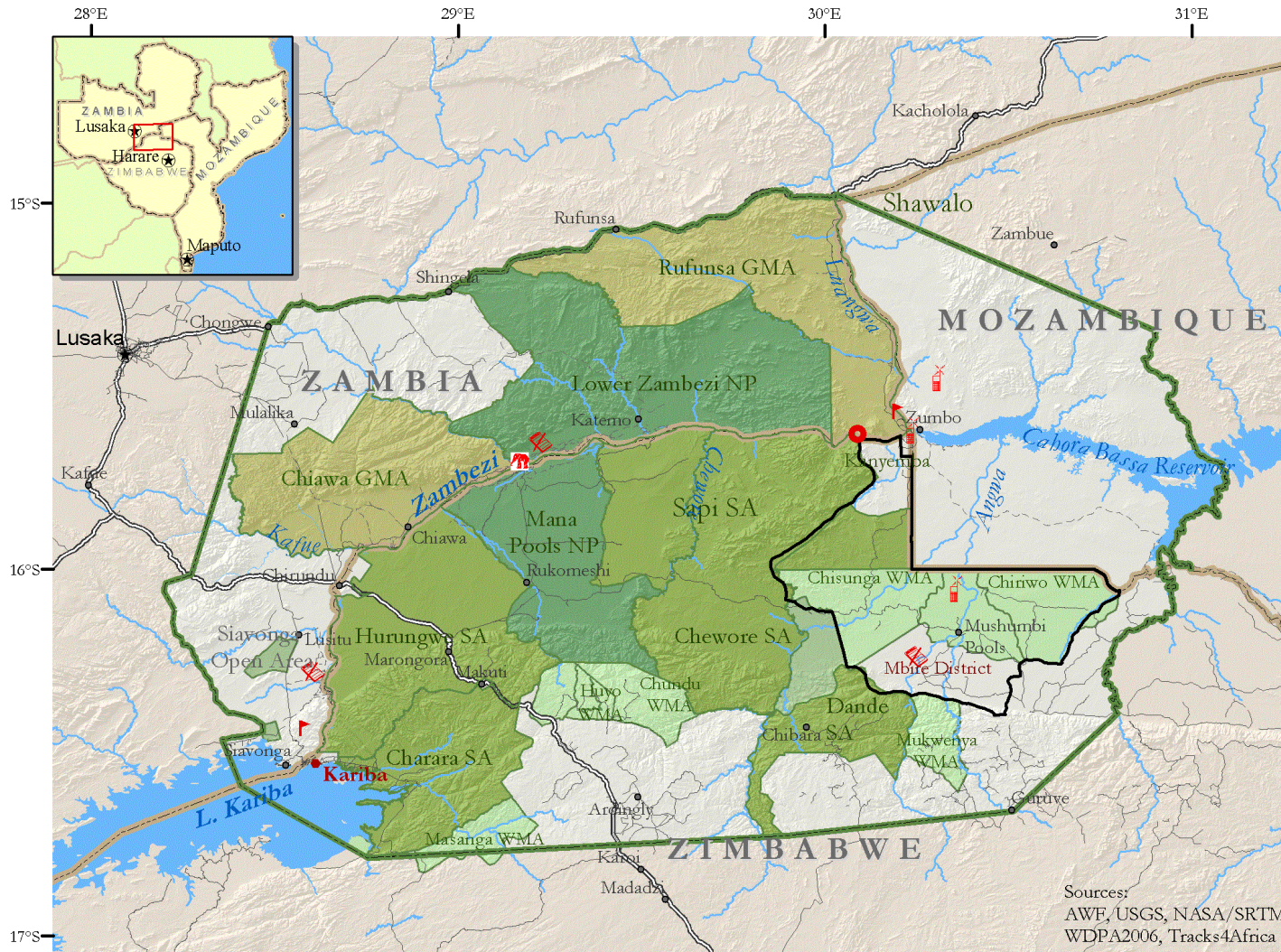
# Linking Food Security and Biodiversity Conservation: Zambezi Heartland Case

15 September 2011



AFRICAN WILDLIFE FOUNDATION®

# Zambezi Heartland Regional Context



Zambezi Heartland:  
Regional Context

- AWF Heartland
- National Park
- Safari Area
- Game Management Area
- Wildlife Management Area
- Other Protected Area
- Mbire District
- AWF Office

AWF Conservation Action 2010-11

- Conservation Agriculture
- Conservation Enterprise
- Improve Management
- Resource Monitoring and Enforcement
- Elephant Conservation

Sources:  
AWF, USGS, NASA/SRTM,  
WDPA2006, Tracks4Africa

AWF Spatial Analysis  
Laboratory, Oct-10





# Threats to Biodiversity Conservation

## Deforestation for charcoal



Trees ready for charcoal production



Primitive charcoal kiln



Charcoal ready for the urban market

# Threats Cont'd

- Incompatible land uses
- Human Wildlife Conflict esp. with elephants
- Rampant poverty



# Why AWF links Agriculture and Conservation?

- Landscape economic and ecological viability achievable when all aspects of the rural livelihoods & economy are strengthened, AND agriculture is a key pillar in the Zambezi case.
- Agriculture offers opportunities to diversify AWF's traditional enterprise portfolio.
- Intensification of agriculture in appropriate areas helps mitigate human – wildlife conflict, reduces illegal resource extraction, and contributes to ecosystem health.



# Key project components

- Training of extension workers & focal farmers
- Supply of input packs
- Monitoring and evaluation
- Field days
- Exchange visits



# Crop Variety Categories

- Cereals
- Legumes
- Agroforestry
- Local vegetables
- Chili pepper





# Extension team & Crop Fields



*Sorghum & a legume – 100% soil cover (soil fertility & fodder)*



*Guar, Cowpea, Maize*

*Green gram (soil fertility & food) & pearl millet*

# Other Complementary FS Strategies



Capture fisheries by formally organized fishing groups – associations or co-operatives



Small livestock production focusing on goats



# Key lessons in the Zambezi Case Study

Smart partnerships essential – exemplified by having:

- Golden Valley Agricultural Research Trust (GART)
- Ministry of Agriculture & Cooperatives (MACO)
- Siavonga District Council
- Local NGOs (Harvest Help, Siavonga Nutrition Group)
- Traditional Authorities



# Key lessons & challenges Cont'd

- Inadequate scale, both spatially (no. of hectares) and number of farmers involved
- Multiplicity of support agencies, whose approach and techniques were often disjointed and weak result in weak impacts
- Inadequate appreciation of the link between agriculture and biodiversity conservation
- Prevalent culture of dependence on food-aid relief
- Low crop yields that rendering market linkages unviable
- Farmers with CA experience performed better than new entrants



# Key Next Steps for AWF

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- Replicate CA techniques among more farmers in appropriate zones within the landscape
- Roll out PLUP in other areas
- Establish and strengthen CBOs
- Inform AWF's Agriculture Strategy from lessons learned in the pilot case studies





*THANK YOU*

19/06/2004

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