

PROPOSAL TO THE AFRICAN ELEPHANT FUND STEERING COMMITTEE

1.1 Country:	ZAMBIA
1.2 Project Title:	HUMAN-ELEPHANT CONFLICTS VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT AND MITIGATION TOOLS IN ZAMBIA
1.3 Project Location:	GAME MANGEMENT AREAS AND OPEN AREAS OF ZAMBIA
1.4 Overall Project Cost:	US \$ 40,000.00
1.5 Project Duration:	10 MONTHS
1.6 Project Proponent:	ZAMBIA WILDLIFE AUTHORITY
1.7 Name of Project Supervisor:	THE DIRECTOR GENERAL, ZAMBIA WILDLIFE AUTHORITY
1.8 Address of Project Supervisor:	ZAMBIA WILDLIFE AUHTORITY PRIVATE BAG 1, CHILANGA - ZAMBIA
1.9 Telephone Number:	+260 211 278 524
1.10 Email:	info@zawa.org.zm
1.11 Fax:	+260 211 278 524
1.12 Date proposal submitted:	24 th November, 2014
1.13 Submitted by:	Susan SIAMUNDELE Warden Game Management Areas /Human-Wildlife Conflict

2.0 Project Summary

The goal of this proposed project is to assess Human Elephant Conflicts (HEC) and understand the dynamics of Human Elephant Conflicts in the two (2) selected Game Management Areas (GMAs) and open areas considered as hotspots of Human Elephant Conflicts in Zambia with to explore other mitigation strategies. This project is motivated by the need to reduce and mitigate Human Elephant Conflicts that has had adverse impact on food security, livelihoods of local communities and survival of the elephants. The project will run for period of ten(10) months.

To achieve this goal, the project will employ innovative and collaborative partnerships with Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) such as Conservation Lower Zambezi, Wild-Wide Fund for Nature (WWF, Zambia) and African Wildlife Foundation (AWF) to work with affected communities to collect data, analyse and map the occurrence of Human Elephant Conflicts hotspots.

The anticipated outcome of this project will be to develop strategies that will reduce and mitigate HEC and enhance mutual co-existence of elephants and people in the focus GMAs. The project will also enhance monitoring of HEC and therefore ensure informed decisions in the management of HECs.

3.0 Which Priority Objectives and Activities

This project fall under priority objective 3: Reduce Human-Elephant Conflict (HEC). The proposed activities of the project are as follows:

Objectives 1: To assess the livelihood vulnerability of the people in Lupande and Chiawa Game Management Areas caused by increased number of the elephants

- 1.1 Conduct a desk review on the existing information on vulnerability caused by HEC
- 1.2 Workshop for experts to develop of tools for use in the Vulnerability Assessment
- 1.3 Conducting of the Vulnerability Assessment in the two GMAs
- 1.4 Identify the Team leader and team to conduct the Vulnerability Assessment
- 1.5 Workshop for experts to develop the Response Strategy

Objective 2. To design and develop a response strategy with tools to addressing the livelihood vulnerability caused by HEC (not on this funding)

- 2.1 Review the best Response Strategies to HEC in the region and disseminate the most

successful to site-based project

2.2 Engage a consultant to review the best practices and adaptation

2.3 Hold one day stakeholders meeting for adoption of the new Response Strategy

Objective 3. To mobilise community support and ensure equal partnerships in the implementation and promotion of the Response Strategy to the vulnerability

3.1 Hold high level meeting stakeholders meeting to promote the new Response Strategy

4.0 Project Rationale

The Luangwa valley has the highest Elephant population in Zambia. About 70% of the elephant population in Zambia occur in the Luangwa valley. Human populations have also been steadily increasing due to the expanding tourism and agricultural activities. Consequently, HEC have become widespread as a result of inevitable human and wildlife interactions. The conflicts include the crop damage, injuries and deaths caused to humans, losses of livestock and damage to water points, granaries and other properties. Communities incur huge direct and indirect costs while sharing the same environment with the elephants. Chiawa GMA also shares similar human-wildlife conflict problems / issues.

The focus of the project is the South Luangwa and Lower Zambezi area in Lupande and Chiawa Game Management Areas respectively. The two areas have recorded increasing trends in HECs. In Lupande GMA for instance, HEC conflicts increased by 90% from 301 in 2009 to 572 reports in 2010. Elephants caused damage exceeding 52% of the annual crop production and more than 95% of HEC reports were attributed to crop damages, destroying the very livelihood of the poor populace of the rural areas (Nyirenda *et. al* 2011). For the period January to April 2007, the Lower Zambezi area reported 104 HECs of which Tonga-Sikongo Open Area accounted for 47 per cent of all reports received, followed by Chiawa GMA at 29 per cent, with the rest being accounted for by Rufunsa GMA.

The project will therefore provide a basis for the adoption and implementation of HEC solutions for farmers and the Zambia Wildlife Authority. Apart from enhanced food security and livelihoods, the community in Lupande and Chiawa GMAs will subsequently have increased income generation thereby reducing poverty. The project will enhance tolerance for wildlife through environmental awareness, improved levels of local support for wildlife conservation programmes, thereby reducing illegal wildlife related activities, minimize retaliation killing by the local communities and avoid removal of immature trophy animals from their populations. The project will therefore compliment conventional law enforcement to prohibit illegal wildlife crimes.

5.0 Detailed Project Proposal

Planning Phase

The main activity in the planning phase will be conducting community sensitization meetings in the Lupande and Chiawa Game management Areas. Develop a Human Elephant Conflict Plan in partnership with Lupande and Chiawa Community Resources Boards in collaboration with NGOs such as Conservation Lower Zambezi, WWF and AWF who have been working with the communities in mitigating the effects of Human wildlife Conflicts.

Procurement Phase

This phase will involve the purchase of goods and services for the project. As a new Unit in the ZAWA The following items will be procured:

- Two Computers, one as a database while the other for field use
- One printer

Implementation Phase

The project will be implemented by the Zambia Wildlife Authority in partnership with identified NGOs and local communities in the focus GMAs. It is expected to be implemented within 10 months, commencing in January, 2014 through to October, 2014. The project will be supervised by the Projects Coordination Office under the Director Generals Office of the Zambia Wildlife Authority.

Evaluation Phase

The Human Wildlife Conflict Management will co-managed by CITES Unit of the Zambia Wildlife Authority at head and will implement the project while the Projects Coordination Unit under the office of the Director General will provide supervision and backstopping on the monitoring. The project will be evaluated with the means of verification specified in the attached logical framework.

Reporting Phase

The Zambia Wildlife Authority will submit the Vulnerability Assessment report as required by the African Elephant Fund Steering Committee. This report will serve as a basis for preparing the project terminal statement under the responsibility of the Zambia Wildlife Authority in accordance to terms developed by the African Elephant Fund Steering Committee.

Impacts of the Project

The goal of the project is to reduce human elephant conflicts and understand the dynamics of human elephant conflicts in the lower Zambezi and South Luangwa ecosystems. The impacts of the projects among others will include:

- i. Improve the current HEC data collection and reporting existing in Lupande and Chiawa Game Management Area.
- ii. Enhance active involvement and participation of community members
- iii. Improve elephant tolerance within the community
- iv. Increased food security

6.0 Project Timeline

Planning Phase – January, 2014

Procurement Phase – February 2014

Implementation – March – June, 2014

Evaluation Phase - August - September, 2014

Reporting Phase – October, 2014

Budget

7.0 Has this project received or been pledged any other sources of funding?

There is no pledge of additional funding so far.