

Tree Planting & Habitat Restoration in Barotse Floodplain (2024)

1. Project Overview

- **Objective:** Restore degraded ecosystems in the Barotse Floodplain by establishing community nurseries, planting trees, and training youth in habitat restoration to enhance biodiversity and climate resilience.
 - **Location:** Barotse Floodplain, Western Province, Zambia.
 - **Timeline:** March – December 2024.
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2. Background & Rationale

- **Context:** The Barotse Floodplain, a Ramsar site, is under pressure from deforestation, charcoal production, and unsustainable farming. These practices are threatening biodiversity and local livelihoods.
 - **Rationale:** Reforestation and habitat restoration not only improve ecological balance but also enhance local resilience to climate change while creating youth-led green jobs.
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3. Activity Components

a) Tree Nursery Establishment

- Established 4 nurseries producing 15,000 seedlings of indigenous species.

b) Tree Planting & Habitat Restoration

- 10,000 seedlings planted across 15 hectares of degraded land.
- Community bylaws enforced to protect planted areas.

c) Youth & Community Training

- 200 youth trained in nursery management, restoration techniques, and environmental stewardship.
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4. Detailed Execution Phases

Phase 1: Nursery Establishment & Training (Mar–May 2024)

- Set up nurseries with community involvement.
- Trained youth in seed collection, germination, and nursery management.

Phase 2: Planting & Restoration (Jun–Sep 2024)

- Transplanted 10,000 seedlings into degraded areas.
- Used Assisted Natural Regeneration (ANR) techniques to protect young trees.

Phase 3: Awareness & Community Bylaws (Jul–Oct 2024)



- Conducted 6 community sensitization meetings.
- Supported enactment of local bylaws against illegal cutting.

Phase 4: Monitoring & Reporting (Nov–Dec 2024)

- Conducted survival rate assessments.
- Compiled photo documentation and final restoration report.

5. Implementation Timeline

Phase	Timeframe	Key Activities
Nursery Setup	Mar–May 2024	Establish 4 nurseries, youth training
Planting	Jun–Sep 2024	10,000 seedlings planted on 15 ha
Awareness & Bylaws	Jul–Oct 2024	Community sensitization, bylaws enacted
Monitoring & Reporting	Nov–Dec 2024	Survival tracking, final report

6. Outcomes & Impact

- **Land Restored:** 15 hectares rehabilitated.
- **Seedlings Planted:** 10,000 seedlings established.
- **Youth Engagement:** 200 youth trained and mobilized.
- **Policy Change:** Community bylaws adopted to curb deforestation.
- **Biodiversity Gains:** Return of pollinators and increased ground cover observed.

7. Key Partners

- **District Forestry Office:** Technical guidance in nursery establishment and restoration.
- **Barotse Royal Establishment:** Endorsed bylaws and mobilized community support.
- **Local Youth Groups:** Active in nursery management and planting.

8. Youth & Community Testimonials

- *“We planted trees where our land was bare. Now, birds and bees are returning — it feels like life is coming back.” — Mutinta Musole, Community Farmer*
- *“The training gave me skills I never had before. Now I am helping run our community nursery and teaching others.” — Joseph Linyung, Youth Trainee*



Approved by:



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