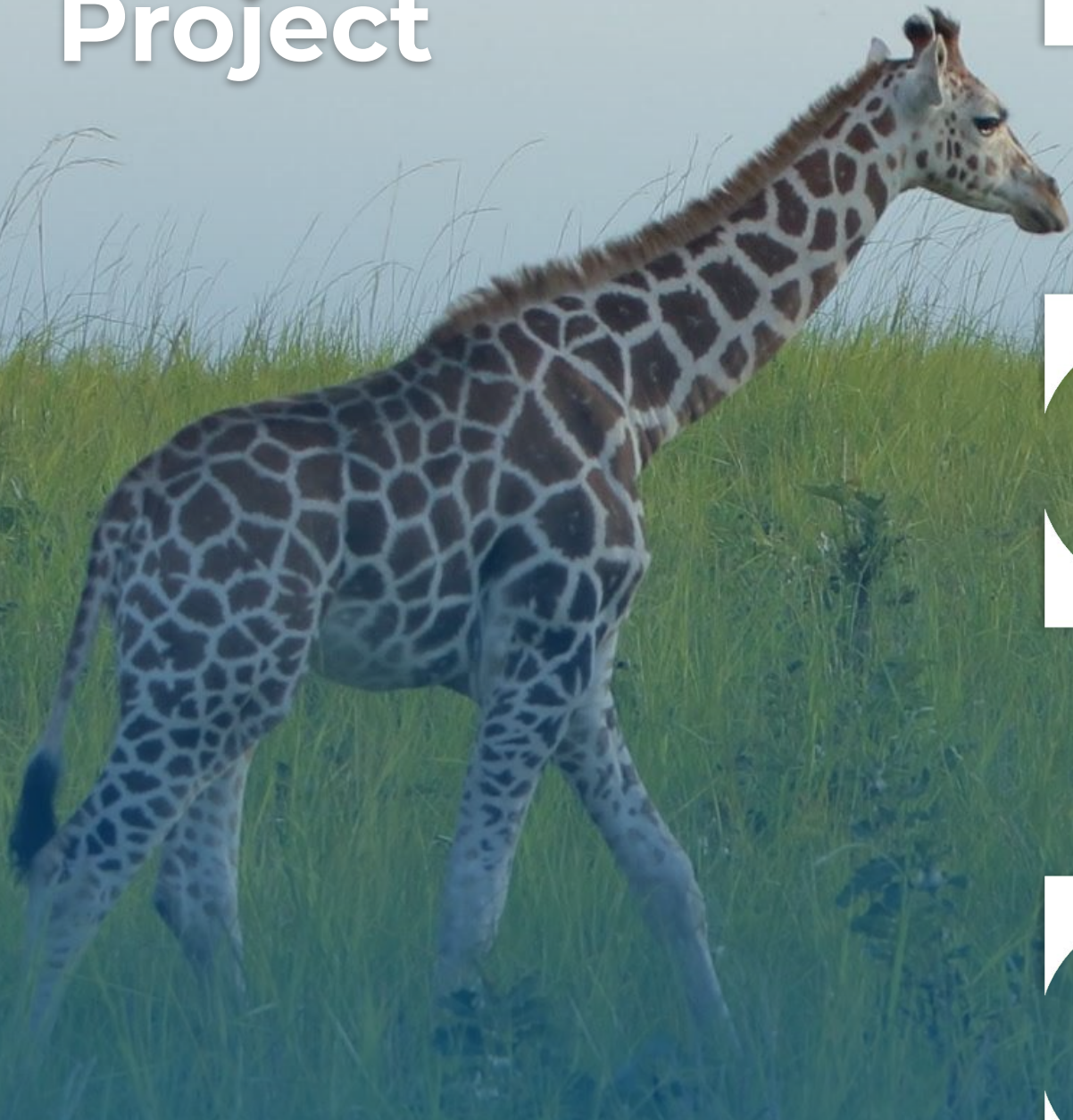


The Kariba Forest Protection Project



2020



@southpoleglobal

#OurClimateJourney

southpole.com

Sustainable development and environmental protection are creating lasting impacts at the Kariba project, thanks to dedication, perseverance and *your* support.

The climate crisis raged on in 2020. Global temperatures soared and emissions continued to rise, despite the pandemic. At the same time, commitment to tackle climate change gained momentum. Only with the support of ambitious, forward thinking organisations has the Kariba Forest Protection Project been able to keep delivering momentous environmental and social benefits to communities most at risk from the climate crisis.

KEY WINS 2020

A timely and proactive response to Covid by collaborating with government officials and NGOs helped ensure locals avoided the worst of the virus. Conservation farming also made significant progress with the endorsement and support of the Zimbabwean government.

KEY FACTS

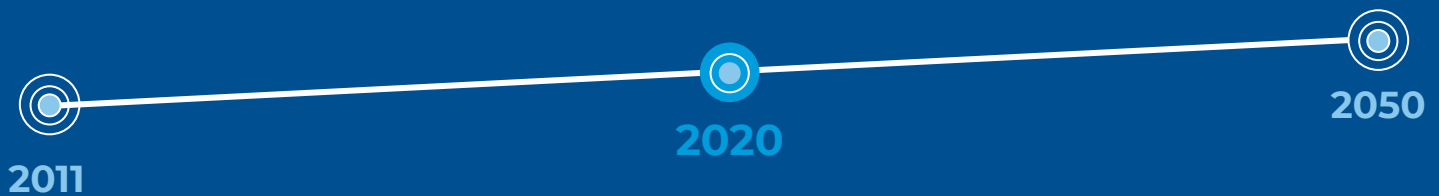
Prevented
**3.62 MILLION
TONNES**
of CO₂ from
entering the
atmosphere
this year

Protected
**784,987
HECTARES**
of forest in
Northern
Zimbabwe



LONG-TERM GOALS

The project is designed to look for solutions that will bring lasting impacts, ensuring the forest is protected and communities are thriving, long after the project ends. Expanding conservation farming is vital, as it both mitigates the effects of climate change and helps communities adapt.



Deforestation is the second largest contributor to the climate crisis.

It's hard to overestimate the importance of protecting the humble tree....

- During the rainy season, their roots help protect against soil erosion and act like giant sponges to create a natural buffer to floods.
- In the dry season, they provide shade and help the soil retain moisture.
- They also provide natural resources, a home for wildlife and regulate local temperatures and protect watersheds.

Maybe we should be asking, what don't trees do?



What's happened this year in Kariba?

JANUARY

2020 started on a high. There is growing awareness in schools and among farmers about climate change and what can be done to tackle it. With varying rainfall throughout the project area, people were motivated to prepare nutritional gardens using climate-smart techniques.



FEBRUARY

“What’s changed since you were young?” the team asked to older community members.

During the rainy seasons there was reliable rainfall for the crops and the rivers and springs were full. The boreholes and wells never dried up and there was abundant wildlife. In just 20-30 years, the seasons have become much more unpredictable. From drought, to floods which displaced 1000 people; climate change is becoming tangible.

MARCH

Renewable energy access for rural health clinics helps

to address the widespread lack of basic facilities. Providing clinics with cement, water access and clean energy, has been highlighted by community members given the multiple knock-on effects.

The team installed a solar panel at the Kasivu Clinic, so water can be boiled and materials sterilised using affordable electricity, keeping doctors and patients safe.



APRIL

Coordinating an emergency covid response.

While rural communities are less at risk from the pandemic, many of the local health clinics are underprepared for a health crisis..

To support government efforts, the project joined forces with NGO, Miracle Mission, to donate sanitizers, gloves, masks bandages and other medical & health supplies to Musambakaruma and Kasvisva clinics in Nyaminyami District.



MAY

Harvest is usually completed this month making it a busy period. While field days were postponed due to covid, Field Monitors and lead farmers were able to stay in touch with farmers and record yields. The benefits of conservation farming were being felt by farmers: the proof is in the vegetables!

JUNE

Coordinating an ongoing response to the pandemic

with food hampers containing nutritious meals for patients distributed to the Chunga Clinic; Siabuwa Hospital; Sinansengwe Clinic.

The project has also supported local authorities to urgently resolve a serious water crisis at Musamba clinic.



JULY

The unpredictable weather

over the past couple of years has pushed farmers to look for new ways to grow crops. Conservation farming techniques, such as using mulch helps retain moisture in the soil during drought. This keeps soil nutrient dense, so less land is cleared, while crops can withstand dry spells! Win, win.

**1.7 tonnes
of food**
produced
/hectare with
conservation
farming



AUGUST

Reports of elephants destroying a house and crops,

a pack of lions killing cows and hyenas attacking goats and cattle: living side by side with wild animals creates challenges.

The good work of the rangers has kept communities safe, but this highlights the importance of preserving natural habitats so communities and wildlife can continue to live peacefully.



SEPTEMBER

Pfumvudza is a type of conservation farming taught by the project to increase yields and keep soil healthy to counter the need to clear land when nutrients are depleted.

Now, Pfumvudza has been recognised by the Zimbabwean government. Thanks to the national scheme there are new demo plots and more resources. With the support from Kariba's existing champion farmers, **at least 3 x more farmers in the project area will be trained to use this approach!**



OCTOBER

Keeping wildfires under

control is top priority during the last months of the dry season. The bone dry ground makes the risks very high.

Local Fire Protection Committees are ready to spring into action should the fire guards built during the community early-burning exercises fail



179 team days

dedicated to preventing wildfires

NOVEMBER

Women empowerment was given a welcome boost with Binga's Chief Siabuwa's wife inviting the First Lady who was represented by **Deputy Minister of Women Affairs Hon. Jennifer Mhlanga**.

She visited the project area to see the various activities being pursued by women. She talked to them about local women leadership within conservation farming.

DECEMBER

Congratulations to everyone working at the project area,

despite the immense challenges this year they have shown resilience and forward thinking.

What better way to end the year than **winning 2 awards at the Zimbabwe National Edition of the Environmental, Responsible Business Summit!**



Voices of Kariba



Meet Steria Peturu.

Ms Peturu takes care of her grandchildren who have been orphaned by the aids pandemic over the years.

Since being introduced to the Kariba project, she says: "I know all will be well. We have a very nutritious garden which has very high yield, which has been made possible through all the training I received. We are now selling our vegetables daily along the Chirundu Highway and are taking enough money home each day to buy food for the whole family."

Meet Maxwell Dube.

Mr Dube is one of the project's star farmers and thanks to his success has donated the 64 saplings to be planted by the Early Church Ministries. These efforts are spearheading the reforestation programme in the project area.

He is now working closely with the project to establish tree nurseries in each Ward, if not village, within the project area. This will drive reforestation efforts and significantly reduce costs of purchasing saplings.



Meet Jenica Kanzambara.

Ms. Kanzambara is a member of Kubatana nutritional garden in Mbire. With the proceeds of the garden she was one of 7 garden members who managed to buy a goat each! 3 other garden members bought kitchen utensils.

Progress on the Sustainable Development Goals



1 NO POVERTY



USD 249,000+ generated for community members from beekeeping, moringa tree and community garden sales

2 ZERO HUNGER



18 Nutritional gardens are increasing food security in the project area



3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



14 health clinics

Supported with safe drinking water

4 QUALITY EDUCATION



18,000+ people have attended 430+ workshops on project-related activities, such as nutritional gardening and beekeeping to date



6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



37,000+ people have access to safe drinking water

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



22 permanent jobs created thanks to the project

9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE



USD 57,000+ spent on supporting health clinics and schools



13 CLIMATE ACTION



3,620,000 tCO₂e mitigated on average annually since 2011

15 LIFE ON LAND



784,987 hectares of forest protected
16 threatened or endangered species protected

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



International partnerships between local communities, national and international organisations and carbon experts to deliver sustainable, long-term benefits

Meet the team



Sara Betancur

Kariba Project Manager
South Pole



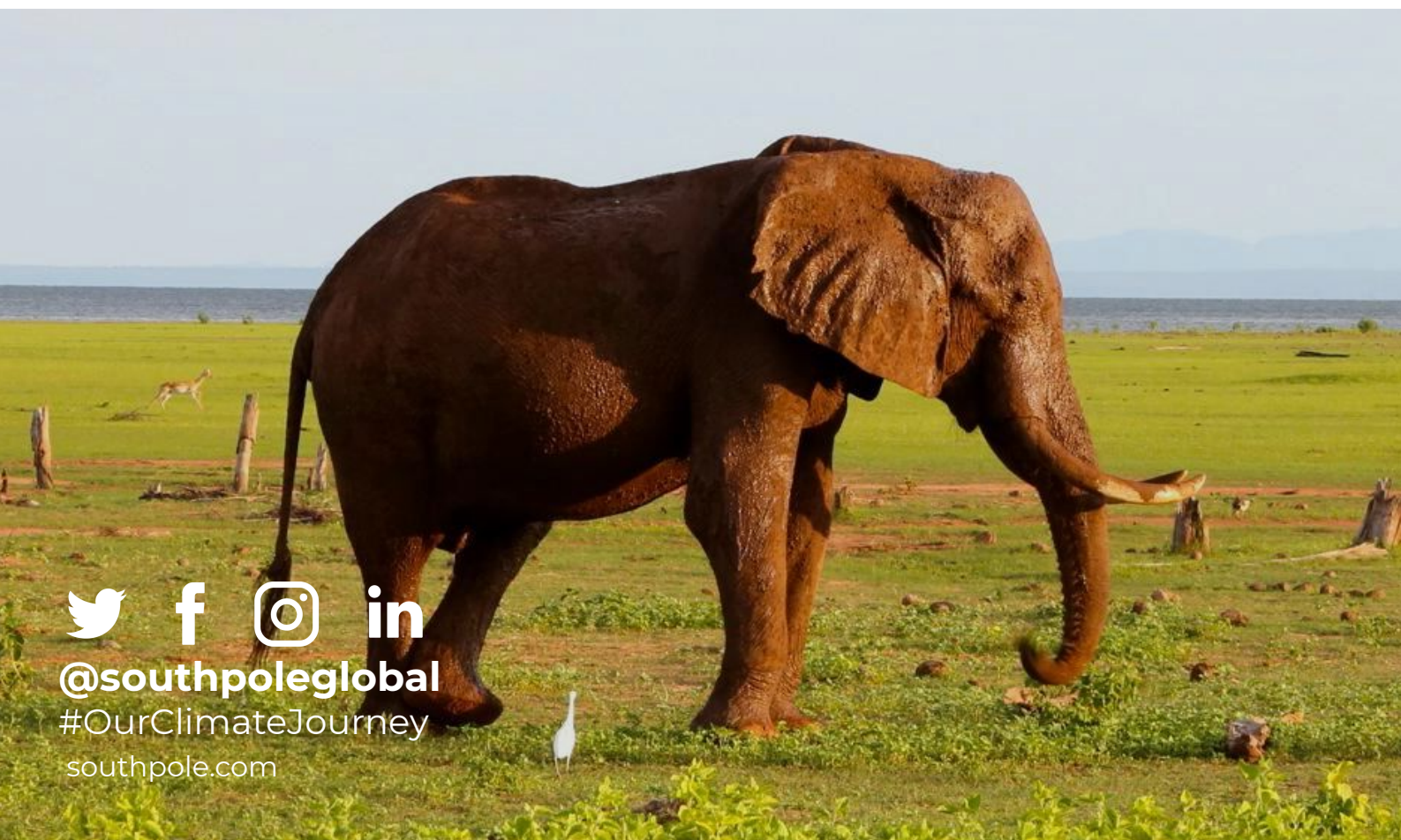
Carbon Green Africa

South Pole's local expert
project partner

*All that's left is **a big thank you to all the Kariba team**, who have risen to the challenge this year and continued as strong as ever. Special mention to Carbon Green Africa, who are always on hand to provide their expert advice at a moments notice.*

What's next?

- Sign-up to our next **Carbon Credits Masterclass** to learn how you can finance climate action
- Follow, like and share these stories!
- Visit southpole.com/projects how your support is funding many more climate-saving activities worldwide!



@southpoleglobal

#OurClimateJourney

southpole.com