

## About People in Need Zambia

People in Need opened its office in Western Province in 2017. Since then, it has been working to improve nutrition, health, food security, and livelihoods for vulnerable groups while also promoting good governance by engaging Civil Society Organizations in local and national advocacy initiatives. In the past, PIN Zambia has provided humanitarian aid and early recovery support to refugees from the Democratic Republic of Congo and has helped prevent and mitigate the impact of COVID-19 by improving WASH practices in rural and urban communities and health facilities. Currently, PIN is implementing a nutrition emergency project to reduce morbidity and mortality among children under 5 and pregnant and lactating women in response to the drought disaster in the Western Province. Additionally, PIN has been implementing projects related to biogas technology and biochar to improve food security for smallholder farmers.



Our donors:



People in Need is a non-governmental, non-profit organization founded on the ideals of humanism, freedom, equality, and solidarity in the Czech Republic in 1992. It has since grown to become one of the largest non-governmental organizations in Central and Eastern Europe. PIN primarily focuses on providing immediate humanitarian aid to people in need – in natural disasters and conflicts as well as on long-term assistance to people living in poverty and poor living conditions. It is currently operating in over 40 countries across Europe, Middle East, Asia, Africa and Central America.

[peopleinneed.net](http://peopleinneed.net)

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[facebook.com/PINZambia](https://facebook.com/PINZambia)



The World-Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) is an International Non-Governmental Organization with presence in over 100 countries, the organization was born from a drive to conserve wildlife and wetlands. WWF's mission is to stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature. In Zambia WWF, currently employs over 60 people, including officers in natural resources (Freshwater, Wildlife, and Forest) conservation, climate change adaptation, community based natural resources management (CBNRM), policy and advocacy, administration and financial management.

[worldwildlife.org](http://worldwildlife.org)

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[facebook.com/WWFZambia](https://facebook.com/WWFZambia)



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**August 2017**  
PIN starts its operations in Zambia and opens its head office in Western Province.

**September 2017**  
PIN commences its multi-sectoral project: 'Women in Innovation' which focuses on livelihood, nutrition, health, and market access.

**February 2018**  
PIN implements the 'Access to energy' project promoting biogas in Western Province.

**January 2019**  
PIN, in partnership with MDLA and funded by the EU focuses on promoting good governance and active citizenship in Luapula and Western Province.

**May 2019**  
PIN opens an office in Solwezi and the Meheba refugee settlement, where it provided humanitarian assistance and educational support.

**January 2020**  
PIN, in partnership with Zambia Red Cross, supports the drought response in Zambia and provides early recovery assistance to farmers in Western Province.

**July 2020**  
PIN implements emergency nutrition project funded by UNICEF

**2020 - 2021**  
PIN in a consortium funded by Czech provides WASH support to the COVID-19 response in Western Province and Lusaka.

**2021**  
PIN, in partnership with Keepers Zambia Foundation and the Czech University of Life Sciences in Prague, with funding from the Czech Development Agency introduced the project 'Through Biogas Technology Towards Higher Resilience of the Communities in Western Province'.

**2021**  
PIN implements the 'Livestock Integrated Initiative' which aims to contribute to enhance resilience to climate change and increased food, nutrition and income.

**2022**  
PIN implements an emergency nutrition project funded by Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic

**2023**  
PIN introduces and implements the 'Biogas Appliances' project that contributes to enhance food security and development of alternative income generating activities through promotion of innovative biogas appliances.

PIN launches and implements another emergency nutrition project funded by the Czech MFA. PIN launches another emergency nutrition project funded by the Czech MFA from 2023 to 2026

**November 2023**  
PIN launches the Enhancing Livelihood Opportunities through Ecosystem Protection project is funded by Jersey Overseas Aid (JOA) and Czech Aid and is being implemented by People in Need in partnership with World-Wide Fund for Nature (WWF).





Photo by Hronová Tereza

## Project Introduction

### Background

Western province has the highest rate of poverty in Zambia with 73% classified as extremely poor. Most households are dependent on subsistence and rain-fed agriculture production with very limited diversification. In addition, only 5% of rural population in Zambia have access to electricity and only 16% have access to clean fuels for cooking. Lack of alternative livelihood opportunities and energy poverty coupled with lack of awareness, capacities and inadequate formal and informal management structures manifest in forest degradation and poor rangeland practices. Impacts of climate change further exacerbate damage to the unique ecosystem of the Barotse Floodplain, which serves as the main source of livelihoods for local communities. Unsustainable rangeland practices such as human induced wildfires coupled with overgrazing and presence of fauna invasive species have serious effects on the ecosystem of the Barotse Floodplain. Furthermore, common alien invasive plants such as *Mimosa pigra* also threaten endangered and vulnerable species once more widespread in the Barotse Floodplain.

Mongu and Limulunga districts face all of the main problems described above. The districts were selected to complement other PIN and WWF interventions while considering the proximity of the Barotse Floodplain. The selection was further conducted through a consultative process with the government departments during the project design stage.

### Project Brief

The Enhancing Livelihood Opportunities through Ecosystem Protection project is funded by Jersey Overseas Aid (JOA) and Czech Aid and is being implemented by People in Need in partnership with World-Wide Fund for Nature (WWF). The project targets the unique socio-ecosystem of the Barotse Floodplain in Western Zambia and is being implemented in the districts of Mongu and Limulunga. The project promotes an integrated approach aimed at enhancing self-reliance of local communities while preserving the unique ecosystem of the Barotse Floodplain. The intervention will leverage nature-based solutions and focus on empowerment of local actors. As a result, conservation will become a livelihood potential in itself and will bring socio-economic benefits to the most vulnerable and deprived communities while also protecting the local environment.

### Overall Objective

- To contribute to the conservation of the local ecosystem, restoration of biodiversity and alleviation of poverty in Barotse Floodplain of Western Province.
- To create alternative and climate resilient livelihood opportunities for smallholder farmers through strengthened management of local ecosystem, development of alternative value chains and enhanced access to clean energy.

## Key Components

### Rangeland management

- Establishment of Rangeland Management Committees in cooperation with the Community-led with the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries and their capacity building in sustainable pasture and ecosystem management, management of wildfires, animal welfare, entrepreneurial skills and financial literacy.
- Development and implementation of rangeland management plans supported by participatory mapping, satellite imagery processing and GIS mapping.
- Community-led conservation campaign on removing *Mimosa pigra* to safeguard local ecosystem and increase area for sustainable grazing.

### Forestry management

- Establishment of community forest management groups in cooperation with the Forestry Department and their capacity building in sustainable forestry management, climate-resilient agroforestry practices and sustainable exploitation of non-timber products..
- Development of alternative value chains for non-timber forest products and support to small businesses.

### Access to clean energy

- Promotion of alternative fuel-saving energy solutions for cooking through advocacy, social and behavior change campaign and complementary action to ongoing fuel-saving energy interventions.
- Development of local market for biogas technology, linking small-scale farmers with established financial schemes and targeted training.



Photo by Grace Namakau Sikanda



### Target Groups

- **Smallholder farmers:** Through participation in rangeland committees and community forest management groups, target farmers will directly benefit from improved capacities in rangeland and forestry management, enhanced livelihood opportunities, development of alternative value chains and strengthened access to clean energy. This will contribute to enhanced food security and climate resilience of smallholder farmers and reduce poverty levels, with specific focus on female farmers through a gender-responsive approach. **Final beneficiaries:** Approximately 1 million people living in Western Province will benefit
- from strengthened natural resource management, restoration of biodiversity, safeguarding of local ecosystem, creation of alternative livelihood opportunities and enhanced access to clean energy solutions.

### Our partners and stakeholders

