



## Sustainable Agriculture and Natural Resource Management Collaborative Research Support Program

SANREM CRSP  
Office of International Research, Education, and Development  
Virginia Tech (0378)  
840 University City Blvd., Suite 5&7  
Blacksburg, Virginia 24061

Phone: (540) 231-1230  
Fax: (540) 231-1402  
sanrem@vt.edu  
[www.oired.vt.edu/sanremcrsp](http://www.oired.vt.edu/sanremcrsp)

### **Trip Report: Zambia November 4 - 16, 2007**

John Fay  
Consultant, Financial Analyst

**Purpose of Trip:** Perform research to assess COMACO's opportunity to access Carbon Finance mechanisms through existing or potential activities around renewable energy, conservation farming or reforestation projects

**Sites Visited:** Lusaka – Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) Zambia HQ  
Mambwe – COMACO Regional Trading Centre  
World Food Programme (WFP) Lusaka  
Secretariat of the Designated National Authority (DNA) for the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) – Zambia

**Description of activities:**

The main intent of my SANREM research in November 2007 was to ascertain if opportunity exists to access carbon finance opportunities through COMACO activities. I performed significant advanced research prior to the trip in regard to possible markets for carbon credits, voluntary with the Chicago Climate Exchange (CCX) and mandatory with Kyoto-led Clean Development Mechanism (CDM). In-country, my work first involved sensitizing key COMACO staff on the opportunity carbon finance presents, I met with Dr. Dale Lewis (WCS Zambia Country Director), Whiteson Daka (Mambwe Field Extension Lead) and Nemiah Tembo (Lundazi Field Extension Lead). These meetings also were used to better understand the scale and type of COMACO conservation farming, investigate renewable energy inputs such as solar fences and research ongoing and potential reforestation opportunities. I also met with the office of the Secretariat of the Designated National Authority (DNA), Mr. Ephraim Shitima, Principal Environment Management Officer for the CDM in Lusaka. While no CDM projects in Zambia have gained approval to date, an emphasis is just now being placed on accessing CDM markets, evidenced by a Zambian delegation of 20 people will be attending the next round of Kyoto talks in Bali in December 2007. On November 16, I attended the morning session of "2007 Nobel Peace Prize and Climate Change Symposium", an event funded by the Royal Norwegian Embassy and put on by the Energy and Environment Research Group (EERG) at the University of Zambia, Lusaka. This provided excellent insight into Zambia's involvement in Climate Change mitigation (CDM projects) and Adaptation (preparing for new weather patterns), which further confirmed the commitment of both donors and government officials in Zambia.

In addition, I performed financial analytical research which would help put COMACO's activities into the overall state of the economy of the Luangwa Valley, particular in context of the costs of external aid to the area, and in context of cost of replication of the model. These data were in part prepared for an upcoming COMACO-sponsored roundtable meeting with Zambian government Ministers, local officials & chiefs, NGOs and other key stakeholders throughout the Luangwa Valley. . This meeting will also help explore opportunities for partnership and support for common objectives with stakeholders in the Luangwa Valley. The data were collected and subjected to a preliminary analysis, useful for a working meeting document on:

1. Market opportunities arising from COMACO's impact on community organizations and land use practices as additional avenues for sustaining COMACO
2. Economic costs of food aid relief – past, present and future scenarios for Luangwa Valley
3. Private sector models for poverty reduction: fact or fantasy?

Primary sources of data included WCS and WFP staff and their financial records. In addition to use for this stakeholder meeting, these data will contribute toward an overall assessment of COMACO's ability to achieve economic sustainability.

### **Suggestions and Recommendations:**

I believe carbon finance is an excellent opportunity for COMACO to generate additional revenue streams which can help increase rural livelihoods and assist with the organizations financial sustainability. My recommendation is to continue research on how COMACO activities help to generate emission reductions, and then determine the best mechanism to generate credits, either voluntary emission reductions (VERs) or certified emission reductions (CERs). There are many pathways to generate carbon credits, depending on the amount of risk the project is willing to bear, therefore continued research is necessary to navigate appropriately the nuances and pitfalls of the emerging carbon market.

Additionally, technical expertise will need to be leveraged going forward in order to quantify carbon emissions from COMACO operations. I suggest identifying an individual through the SANREM grant to perform this activity.

### List of Contacts Made:

Name	Title/Organization	Contact Info (address, phone, email)
Patrizia Papinutti	WFP Program Officer	Patrizia.papinutti@wfp.org
Liisa Perkkio	WFP	Liisa.perkkio@wfp.org
Ephrem Shitima	Principal Environment Management Officer /Secretariat of the DNA for the CDM	260.1.229.417, esmwepya@yahoo.co.uk