



The Luangwa Conservation & Community Fund



The Luangwa Valley has a beauty and magic obvious to every visitor but it can be a harsh and unforgiving place too, especially for local people, many of whom live by traditional subsistence farming. As each year passes, the land and wildlife are under increasing threats from the pressures of the 21st century and often these threats come from people just trying to feed themselves and their families. The age old conflict between man and environment is as relevant here as anywhere.

When you visit the Luangwa Valley you will probably be unaware of the everyday problems that face local people. Problems of growing enough to eat, of elephants raiding crops, of clean drinking water, of educating your children or of simply finding work.

Many of the safari operators and lodges of the Luangwa Valley have individually supported local community and conservation projects for some years but due to the recession, fewer tourists are visiting the area and donations to these projects have decreased.

To ensure the long term future of these projects some operators are introducing a Conservation and Community Fund and adding a small fee to their final invoice; \$10 on rates over \$300, \$5 on rates under \$299 and \$1 for camping, the proceeds of which will be split evenly between conservation (SLCS or NLCS) and community projects. They believe that their guests will be satisfied to know that they have contributed directly to ensuring the survival of Luangwa's wildlife as well as supporting the community.

PARTICIPATING LODGES

FLATDOGS CAMP
KAFUNTA SAFARIS
MFUWE LODGE AND
THE BUSHCAMP
COMPANY
SHENTON SAFARIS
REMOTE AFRICA
SAFARIS
ROBIN POPE SAFARIS

Conservation in South Luangwa



Some years ago safari operators, concerned about the amount of poaching and snaring in the Luangwa Valley got together to fund an anti-poaching unit known as Ratz. In 2003 Ratz was formalised within the Zambian Wildlife Authority to become the South Luangwa Conservation Society (SLCS).

SLCS is a non-profit community based operation committed to anti-poaching and snare removal. Their activities include sponsoring and co-ordinating village scout training programs, habitat and wildlife data collection, preservation of the Luangwa Valley's natural resources and the immobilisation and treatment of snared and injured wildlife. This is achieved by jointly managing forty Kakumbi Village Scouts in conjunction with the Kakumbi Community Resources Board.

Project Luangwa



From 2010 some lodges are going further still and forming Project Luangwa, a new charitable initiative that will create a more effective and holistic approach to community projects in the Luangwa Valley.

Project Luangwa will help co-ordinate and fund many of the safari lodges' existing projects alongside the development of new ones. By giving more children the chance of an education, developing schools, providing vocational training, and supporting the micro financing of small businesses, we believe that families will have a better chance of self-reliance and therefore a sustainable income for the years to come.