

# Zambia CBNRM Forum

## Summary of LeAP – IWT Endline Survey Questionnaires



March 2022

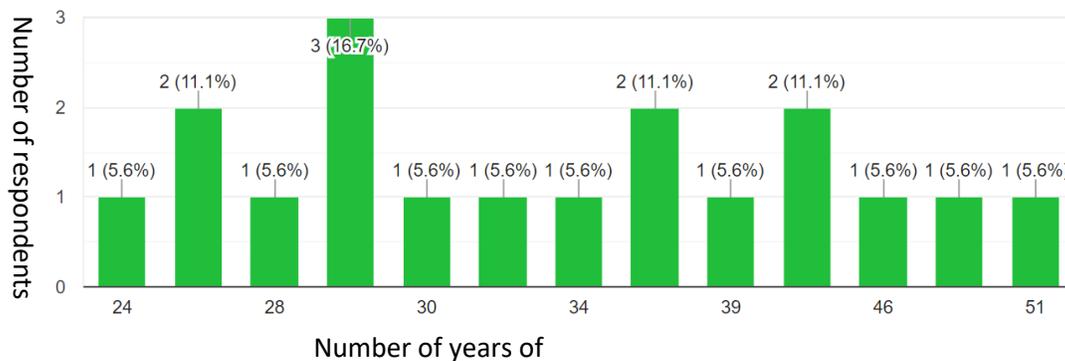
Lusaka Zambia.

## SUMMARY REPORT

The endline survey comprised respondents from the LeAP National dialogue and the CRB regional meetings. A total of 18 respondents responded to the online survey, with more female (66.7%) respondents compared to male (33.3%) respondents. The majority of the respondents were from Lusaka (38.9%), with the fewest from Nkeyema (11.1%).

A total of 94.1% of respondents are aware that there is a big problem with poaching and illegal wildlife trade (IWT), implying that the project has created more awareness and sensitization towards IWT.

**Age category response to the end line survey**



*Figure 1: perception of communities in stopping poaching & IWT*

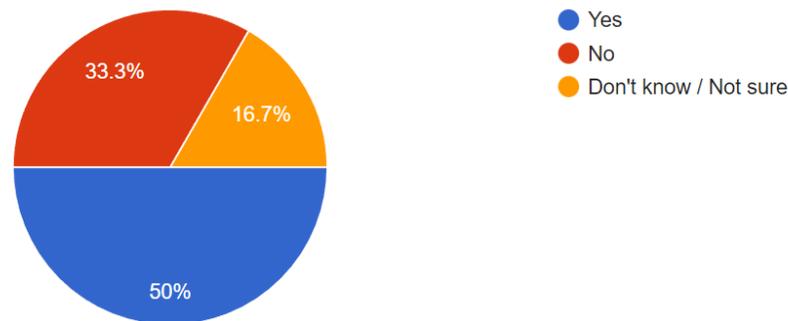
### **Communities awareness towards poaching and IWT in Zambia**

The communities feel this way because:

- They have seen poached wildlife several times and have witnessed wildlife officers arresting poachers.
- There are a lot of statistics on poaching cases
- There is illegal game meat on the market

- Some reports from the wildlife department indicate some incidences and people have been arrested for illegal possession of game meat.
- The high rate of poaching activities being reported and several poachers being apprehended by the Department of National Parks and Wildlife (DNPW) and communities.
- The experience of poaching and timber trading in Game Management Areas (GMAs) and other parts of the country
- The number of cases reported in DNPW reports, in the media, and game meat availability without legal sources on the market.
- Fewer animals are being seen in the protected areas
- Several people have been arrested for poaching and IWT.

**Percentages of respondents aware of problems with poaching and IWT in their area**



*Figure 2: Response of the problems*

In addition to this, several species are at risk of poaching and IWT. These include elephants, pangolins, antelopes, buffaloes and big cats. A total of 50% of respondents are aware that there are problems with poaching and IWT in their area, as observed above (figure 3).

Responses included:

- There are no statistics of any cases

- Some community members are being apprehended by our village scouts in the GMAs and the National Parks. Some are taken to courts for trial and be imprisoned for poaching wildlife.
- Lusaka has just one National Park which is well protected
- They are not close to the GMAs
- Others are arrested for poaching
- Law enforcement officers are apprehending suspects
- There is a lot of wildlife trafficking being recorded
- The natural resources are also seen to be depleting
- There are a lot of incidences and media reports
- Population of some animal species has reduced significantly
- The number of people who have been arrested for poaching and IWT is a lot

The following reasons were given for local people engaging in poaching and IWT:

- Poverty
- No benefits seen from wildlife and a lack of income-generating activities
- Looking for income and alternative livelihoods
- They want quick money without realizing the negative impacts it can cause
- For economic stability
- Poverty and lack of knowledge on the importance of these resources
- Lack of flexibility on agricultural loans
- Less sensitization to legal hunting processes

All respondents feel they should be involved in stopping poaching and IWT, due to the following reasons:

- Biodiversity conservation is essential for human existence
- So that communities can have ownership of wildlife, which will reduce poaching
- Everyone has a responsibility to create awareness on the negative effects of IWT

- We need to protect our wildlife resources, raise awareness and employ of local scouts to reduce IWT
- If empowered with livelihood projects and skills, communities can stop poaching
- As a community we have a stake because these are public resources and contribute to the development of the community
- Community sensitization about the importance of wildlife in national and rural development can reduce IWT
- The community has the power to influence decisions
- We need to share the knowledge and educate communities by providing capacity building on how they can sustain themselves without engaging in poaching
- Illegal wildlife activities call for a holistic approach in curbing them
- These are shared resources so if misused we will lose out
- They need to have a stake and ownership over wildlife in their areas. That way they will protect wildlife from within and outside
- Because they were once custodians of animals
- The natural resources belong to us and benefit us more than any other community. This generation and others to come will suffer more if we don't use it sustainably now
- They are willing to conserve wildlife and its habitat as long as they see the benefit
- Poaching is people-driven and solved by people.

### **Consultation on tackling poaching and IWT**

A total of 61.1% feel the government hasn't consulted them on their view on the approaches they could use to tackle poaching and IWT, compared to 38.9% who think they have. Responses include:

- They could make input into the review of the policy on CBNRM and Wildlife Act
- They have attended various management planning meetings
- They have been engaged in meetings and CBNRM learning group workshops

- They have also advocated against IWT and help communities directly in the capacity building
- They have also been involved in community-level meetings with CRBs and stakeholders.

### Approaches government should use to tackle poaching and IWT

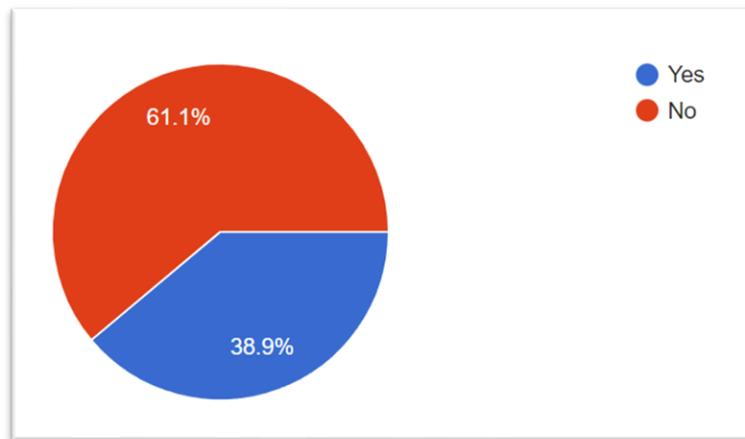


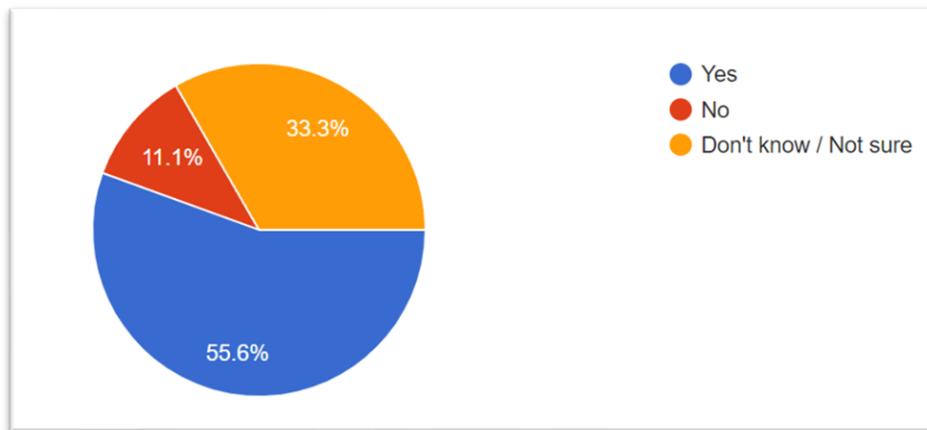
Figure 3: Percentage of people's views of either being consulted or not to tackle IWT

Compared to 3yrs ago 55.6% feel the government would ask for their views on tackling poaching and IWT and only 11.1% feel they wouldn't be approached by the government as seen in Figure 5. This would be attributed to a lot of factors but others feel so due to the following reasons;

- They feel the government doesn't prioritize conservation as top 5 important part of their government system
- Sometimes local knowledge is not recognized or respected
- They are yet to see the stance of the new government on conservation and tourism
- The government seems to value community partnership more than before
- They have also been involved in various stakeholder meetings on tackling poaching and IWT.
- They also feel the previous approach did not yield results.
- They feel the government is all-inclusive and some community members will be involved in tackling poaching and IWT.

- There is also interest in collaboration to protect wildlife by the government and the communities.

**Governments likelihood to engage respondents on the approach to use to tackle poaching & IWT**



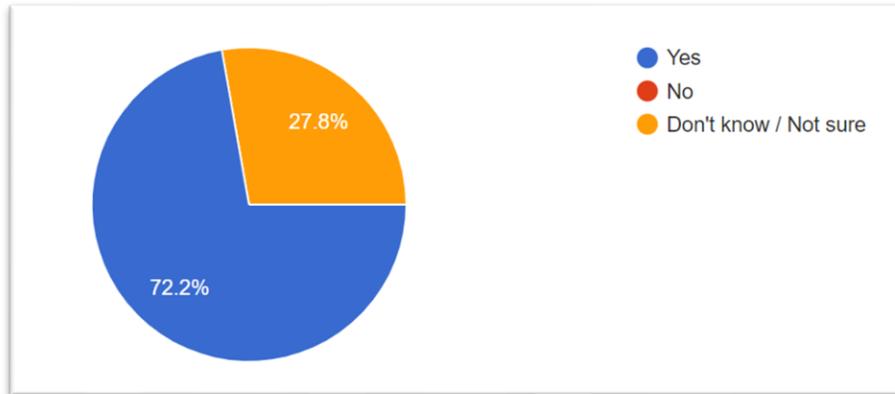
*Figure 4:percentage of views to use to tackle poaching & IWT*

Three years ago certain roles in the conservation sector were not recognized by the government. However, three years down the line 72.2% of the respondents feel the government is more likely to recognize their role in the laws and policies they make towards tackling poaching and IWT and only 27.8% don't think so, as seen in figure 6 below. This could be due to the following attributes;

- The community has taken certain steps that have progressed and challenged the government.
- Maybe the newly formed ministry of green economy, if decisions shall be allowed from bottom-up approach then we shall be highly considered.
- The minister made a statement on how the government is committed to supporting wildlife conservation.
- The community voice is now more heard than before.
- We are not consulted on decision-making matters.

- The youths seem to be in the spotlight to convey and deliver adequate information on the different perspectives of conservation.
- The community voices are now more heard than before as government is all-inclusive.
- Because of the ability to advocate and lobby for a change of legislation now.

**Governments’ recognition of the respondent’s roles’ in the laws and policies makes**

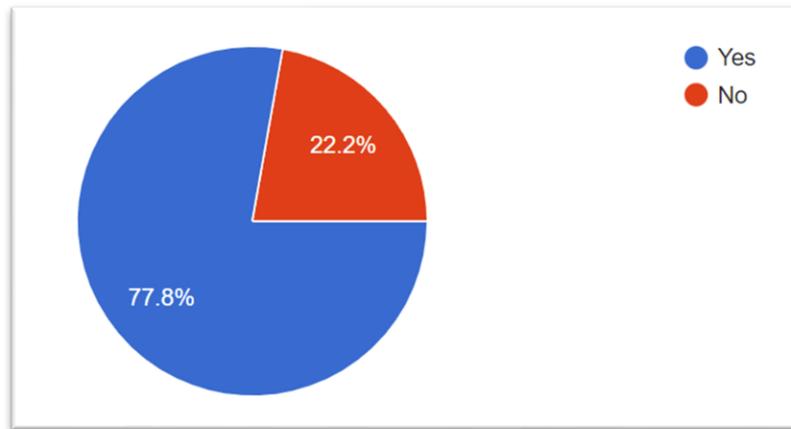


*Figure 5: Percentage of governments recognition of the roles*

**Projects who work with communities**

Projects	Community role
North Luangwa conservation project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sensitization and advocacy to local community involvement in the management of natural resources.</li> <li>- Encourage the CRB anti-poaching committees</li> </ul>
Game rangers international	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To share with CBNRM forum challenges facing and measures to be taken in Namwala GMA.</li> </ul>
BIOPAMA EGC project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Support in anti-poaching campaigns and raising awareness</li> </ul>
Forest landscape restoration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sensitization and compliance with landscape management</li> </ul>

## Community involvement in NGO or donor projects to tackle poaching & IWT



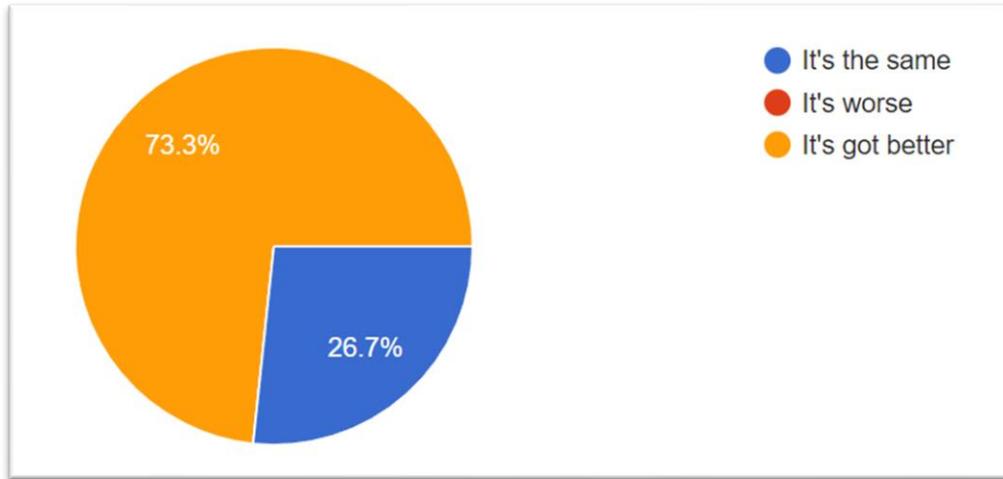
*Figure 6: Percentage of community involvement in donor or NGO projects*

The above (figure 7) shows that 77.8% of respondents are involved in projects tackling poaching and IWT whilst only 22.2% reported that they are not involved. Based on this analysis, 73.8% of the community feels the level of engagement has gotten better whilst 26.7% feel the level of engagement is still the same (as seen in figure 8 ). Responses include:

- The projects have grown significantly extending its work to communities
- There is more community uptake of project initiatives.
- Initially communities perceived these institutions as enemies but now they are considered as partners in conservation.
- There are more interactive meetings with the wildlife department.
- The communities are showing commitment once we give them an income-raising project.
- The communities now have a clearer understanding of the global conservation movement and the importance of biodiversity conservation.
- Fewer cases are now being recorded.
- There is better information flow and active participation.
- The community forest has improved wildlife protection and conservation efforts.

- At least after meeting with the community, there is a reduction in the number of poachers being arrested in the community.

### Changes in community's level of engagement



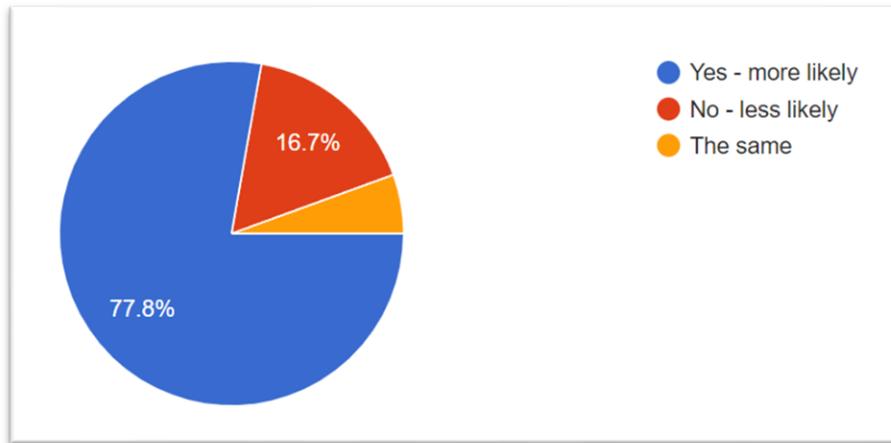
*Figure 7: Percentage of community's level of engaged compared to 2018*

Compared to 3 years ago, 77.8% of the community members think they are more likely to be involved in projects to tackle poaching and IWT as seen in (figure 9) below. The feeling is so due to the following reasons;

- More communities are sensitized to projects that deal with natural resources management
- There is also an increase in partnership meetings
- The communities have shown commitment whenever they are given tasks to do with anti-poaching
- Despite certain communities not having projects that are directly related to poaching and IWT, the communities are now more aware of poaching and IWT and also are playing a bigger role in combatting poaching.
- There are governance issues that are being tackled and these will improve on the governance at the local level to continue supporting the wildlife industry

Based on these outcomes, the communities would like to be 100% involved in more anti-poaching projects.

**Perceptions on the likelihood of project implementers involving communities in projects to tackle poaching and IWT**



*Figure 8: Percentage of likelihood involvement in tackling IWT*

### **Policy makers (NGO representatives, government officials, and others)**

Several organizations have engaged themselves in the fight against poaching and IWT. The respondents were primarily from the following organizations: DNPW, Frankfurt Zoological Society, North Luangwa Conservation, ZCBNRM Forum. The positions held included the following: Director, Head of Department, Project Manager, Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, Field Staff.

A total of 94.4% mentioned that they are aware that there is a big problem with poaching and IWT in Zambia. Responses included:

- The animals that were previously seen in the area are no longer seen
- The reports in the press and cases reported by law enforcement authorities
- There are also several reported poaching and IWT incidents
- The results from the law enforcement officers indicated that cases are high
- They also feel that IWT doesn't benefit the community but only individuals

Several species are at risk which includes the following; antelopes, buffalo, wildebeest, elephants, pangolins, monkeys, and others. The communities have a 100% role in helping stop poaching or IWT. This is because:

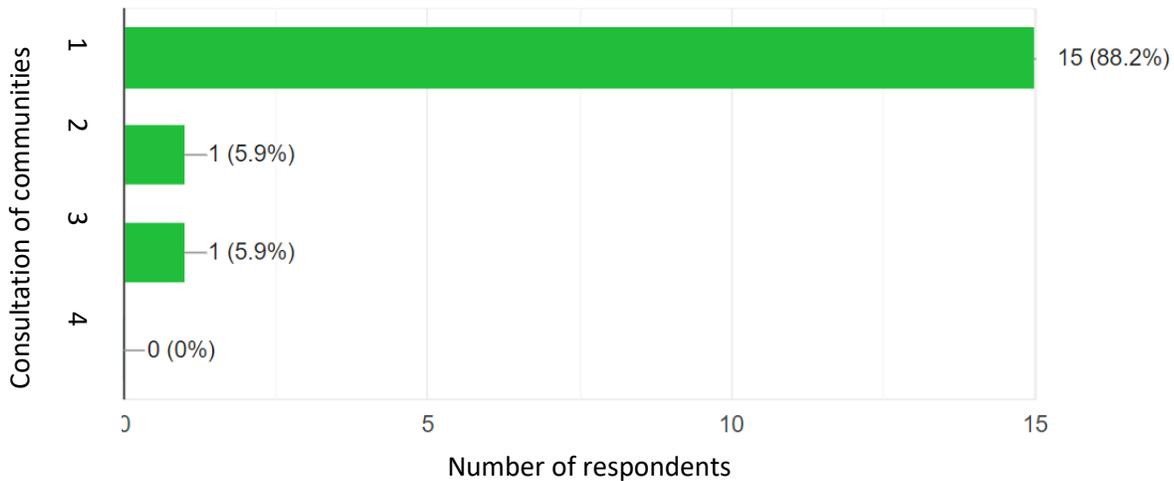
- The communities are custodians and live side by side with wildlife
- They are owners of wildlife resources
- Local communities live with animals hence management starts with them
- Poachers come from communities, who at times also help poachers

There are certain roles that communities need to have in the fight against poaching and IWT. These roles include the following;

- Awareness creation and reporting suspects
- Involving local scouts in anti-poaching awareness and workshops
- Sensitization and reporting to offenders on time and forming community watch groups

- The need to safeguard and patrol the premises by reporting any illegal activities taking place to the chiefs or authorities
- Law enforcement, raising conservation awareness, promoting alternative livelihoods
- Continue sensitizing the communities and their people on the benefits of natural resources over damaging them through unsustainable approaches
- Have meetings and discourage the traders since most cases they are from within the community.

**Consultation of communities on approaches of tackling poaching & IWT compared to 3yrs ago**



*Figure 9:percentage of community consultation compared to 3yrs ago*

**Key:**

1. I am more likely to support community consultation about IWT decision-making.
2. I am less likely to support community consultation about IWT decision-making.
3. My opinion has not changed
4. Not sure/I don't know.

About 88.2% of the participants said that they would consult communities to get their views on poaching and IWT as compared to 3yrs ago, as seen in figure 10 above. This was so due to the following reason;

- The methods are so far yielding good results
- Seasoned professionals in community-based conservation and are also in constant contact with communities living in GMAs.
- Increased awareness and partnership
- Local communities should feel the ownership of their resources
- They are also in a much better position to lobby and advocate for communities
- Communities are integral in stopping IWT
- The project officer position is a link between the community and other stakeholders that have to convey and communicate information both ways to improve governance and management of natural resources
- They've local knowledge and are a part of the problem and therefore part of the solution
- The level of engagement is better than before.

Policies are always ideal in any form of conservation activity. In this survey, 29.4% of respondents indicated that they are aware of Zambian policies and strategies that have been published in the last 3 years that adequately emphasize community engagement approaches in tackling poaching and IWT. Amongst the policies/strategies they indicate include the following;

- The draft National CBNRM policy
- Community engagement strategy
- Benefit-sharing policy

## Awareness of any Zambian national policies and strategies published in the last 3 years

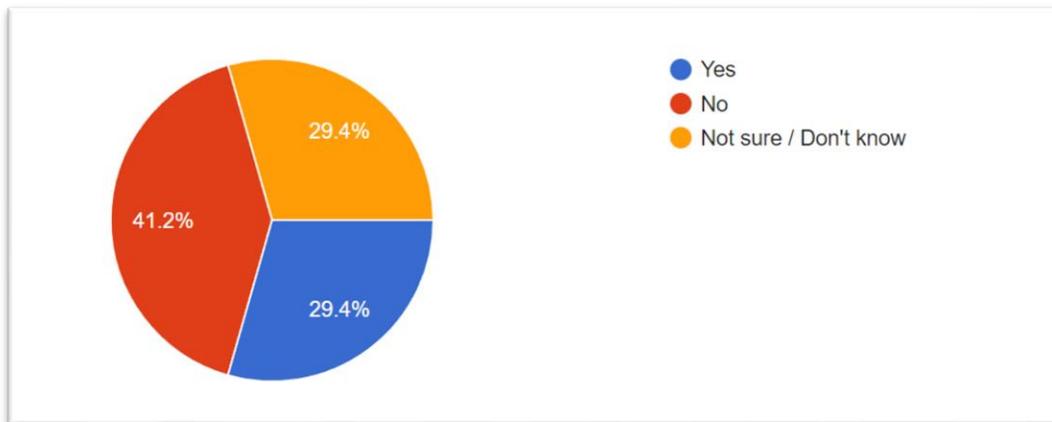


Figure 10: percentage of awareness and Zambian national frameworks published in the last 3yrs.

Generally, the Zambian national policies and strategies do not adequately emphasize community engagement approaches in tackling poaching and IWT. In this regard, 41.2% of the respondents felt there is a representation in the Zambian policies in tackling poaching and IWT whilst 52.9% felt there isn't enough representation and 5.9% were not sure, as seen in (figure 11).

A total of 88.2% of respondents reported that they are implementing an intervention to tackle poaching and IWT. The interventions being implemented include:

- Scout salary support and CRB capacity building
- Education awareness programs
- Funding gaps in governance, law enforcement training, application and benefit-sharing, transparency, and accountability.
- Anti-poaching and elephant and rhino protection
- Community law enforcement
- Anti-poaching awareness
- Community scouts
- Working on creating awareness and enhancing governance and equity around natural resources management in GMAs.
- Community sensitization

- Community education and community scouts patrol
- Some community members received livelihood projects to stop them from poaching and IWT.
- In meetings and workshops organized by the Zambia CBNRM Forum

Implementing organizations are as follows:

- Frankfurt Zoological Society
- Department of National Parks and Wildlife
- Community Resources Board
- Zambia CRB association
- Forestry Department
- Zambia CBNRM Forum
- GEF project
- Wildlife crime prevention

There are also several species at risk and these include the following; Rhinos, elephants, buffaloes, lions, hippos, pangolins, wild dogs, ground hornbills, sable antelopes, wildebeest, and other small ungulates.

## Community engagement strategies

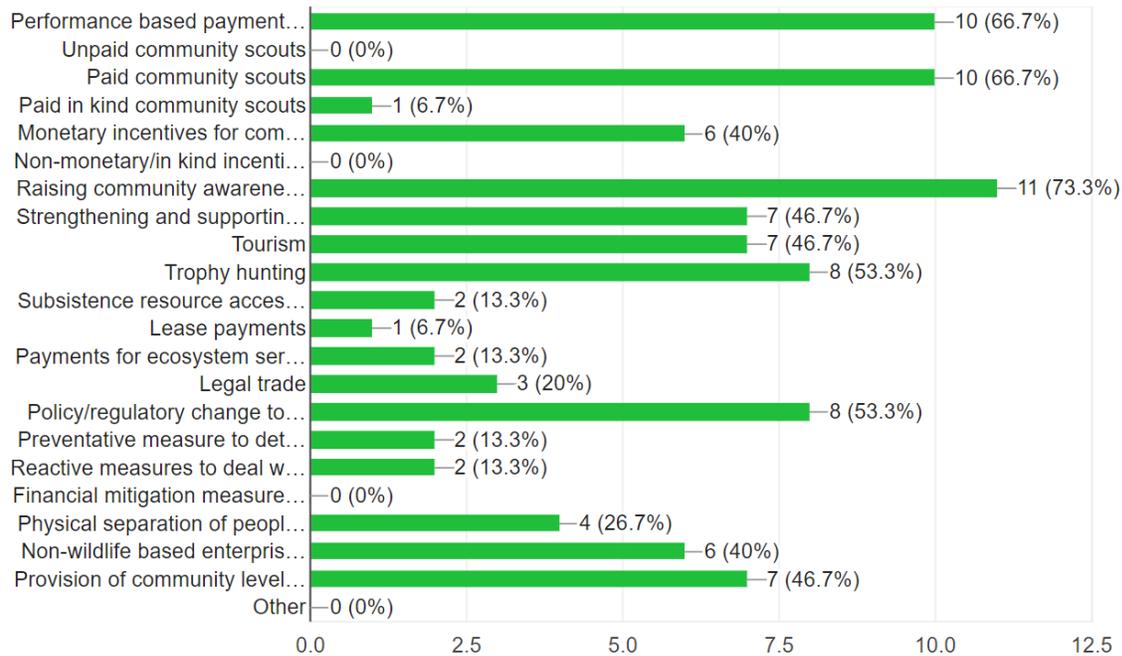


Figure 11: types of community engagement strategies that the community is using:

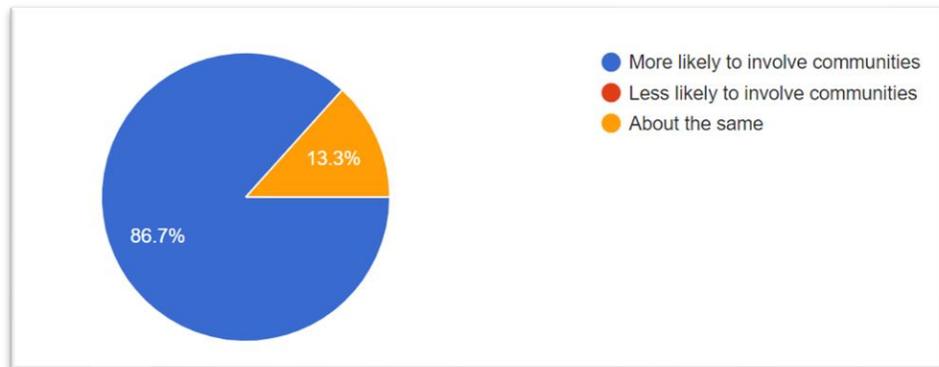
In all these interventions, the communities' responded that the intervention has 100% of strategies that engage communities in tackling poaching and IWT. There are also several community engagement strategies that the interventions (as observed in figure 12) above are using and these include at least; 73.3% of the respondents indicated raising community awareness about wildlife crime, penalties, and sanctions, whilst 66.7% of the respondents indicated performance-based payments, incentives for patrolling/guarding.

### Project comparison to 3years ago in community engagement

Compared to 3years ago there was an 86.7% feeling from respondents of communities being likely to be involved in the design and implementation of interventions to tackle poaching and IWT in Zambia. This was because:

- Because the communities' capacity has now been built and they are well able to participate in the process
- The methods are working and there are more community programs now.
- The success of the CBNRM lies in the community as they are key stakeholders and shareholders
- There are more engagement meetings planned
- They are living in the GMAs thus the more need to be engaged
- The roles held in the organization involves working with communities and other actors in conservation
- Communities now easily report cases as they are now partners and have regular meetings too
- The communities are already involved but enhancement still needs to be done
- Communities are also vital to resource protection.

#### **Design and implementation of interventions to tackle poaching and IWT in Zambia**



*Figure 12: percentage of communities involved in the design & implementation of interventions to tackle poaching & it*

In addition to this, in the last 3 years, 41.2% of the respondents reported that they have been involved in activities related to IWT and communities led by the Zambia CBNRM forum, which involved the attendance at the National Dialogue which was held in March 2020 or involvement in the development of a National Framework on communities and IWT. Whilst this was the case 58.8% of the respondents reported that they were not involved in any of such activities. Amongst the 41.2% respondents, they felt so because;

- They have attended 3 consecutive AGMs organized by the Zambia CBNRM forum
- They attended the national dialogue and other planning meetings
- They have also been involved as members of the forum on different programs under LEAP
- They have also been involved in CBNRM learning groups
- They have input into the draft CBNRM policy
- Others attended the community engagement in combatting IWT in Kenya and also attended the CBNRM learning groups workshops.

Due to this 90.9% of the respondents mentioned that their involvement in IWT related activities, the March 2020 National dialogue, and development in the national framework will make them more likely to engage communities in anti-poaching efforts. For example, by consulting them about their views, involving them in project design and implementation, or emphasizing their role in national policies and strategies. This is so because;

- Communities are now enlightened because of the different project activities in their areas
- The communities also get more active when involved
- More community engagement activities and reporting measures through ODK reports
- There is increased awareness, funding, and collaboration
- Because the forum creates a platform for community engagement sharing ideas and experiences on how IWT cases could be reduced
- They also have meetings in the community
- The project focuses on creating opportunities for local/site level interactions among actors and this brings out serious issues with proposed actions
- Communities will feel ownership and take charge

## Conclusion

Since communities have a major role in helping stop poaching and IWT as they are the front liners, they too need to be protected from human-wildlife conflict. The constant community involvement in tackling IWT will eventually lead to a change of the mindset of the communities to take conservation seriously for their intended benefits and also for the future generation.

The government has also recognized the efforts of the communities in tackling IWT and is also helping increase partnership with different NGOs like BCP, COMACO, FZS, and others. These NGOs are at least helping the CRBs and taking developmental activities to the communities. The constant exchange visit amongst the CRBs and their involvement in different regional, national and local projects has had a great impact on the resource protection and sustainability of the natural resources even amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite most of the communities still in adverse poverty, the projects dealing with anti-poaching activities are hence helping curb poaching and IWT. The communities still need the government to do more, ranging from job opportunities, constant community engagement, policy involvement like the CBNRM policy draft, and many more that will not leave them vulnerable to illegal activities as means of survival.

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