WeForest
Making Earth Cooler

Katanino
Zambia

Mid-year report 2020

Ensuring full local responsibility for the forest

The Katanino Forest Reserve in the Copperbelt Province protects part of the Kafue River, the second largest river in Zambia. This region has seen heavy deforestation and forest degradation in the past five years, with charcoal production being one of the main causes.

WeForest is protecting and restoring the Reserve and its buffer zone with activities that are specifically designed to ensure the local community become the guardians of their forest.

Marginalised and vulnerable groups, and particularly women, are typically the primary users of the natural resources here, so it is crucial that we ensure that these groups are represented and can participate meaningfully. WeForest works together with the Zambian Forestry Department and the Katanino Forest Trust to implement the forest restoration work.

Our goals for the Katanino project:

2020 goals:

200 farmers are enrolled in the programme and trained in assisted natural regeneration and sustainable harvesting practices

Effective **law enforcement** is in place across the Reserve

By 2030:

Protect and restore **5,300 ha** and **6,360,000** trees in the Reserve and buffer zone, using **ANR, enrichment planting & agroforestry**

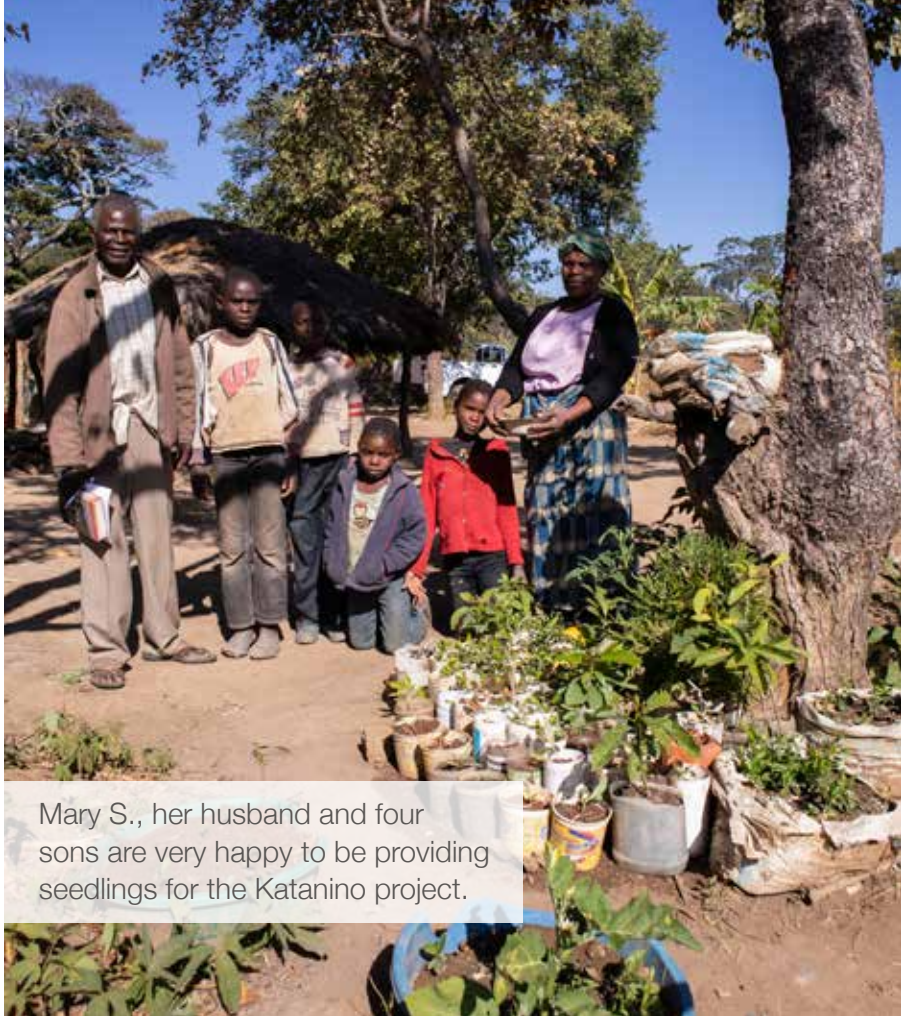
What's new in Katanino?

Recent highlights from the field

By June we had almost met our target of 200 farmers enrolled in the project: 190 farms were visited and registered for forest restoration by assisted natural regeneration. To date, 1000 beehives have been installed in the homesteads of 144 male and 46 female farmers. Honey harvesting will take place for the first time in December, and after that there'll be two harvests per year.

Our goal in Katanino is to raise almost 100,000 tree seedlings each year for enrichment planting - which means extra trees are planted where the indigenous species is not present anymore or will not regenerate naturally - across about 100 ha. In 2020, 26 home-based nurseries were engaged to provide around 52,000 of the year's quota of seedlings, which will be planted on abandoned charcoal kiln sites in the reserve.

These nurseries are run by women farmers who have already been

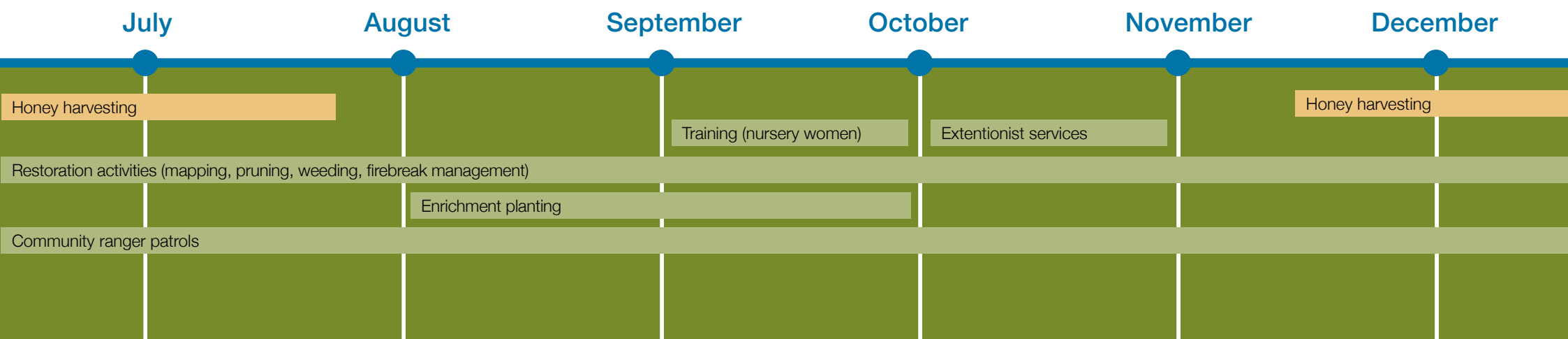


Mary S., her husband and four sons are very happy to be providing seedlings for the Katanino project.

trained in nursery establishment. One of these is Mary S. from Fisenge, who already has an active fruit tree nursery with many lemon tree seedlings. For the Katanino project she will grow 200 seedlings of the typical miombo tree species *Julbernardia paniculata* and *Brachystegia boehmii*. Seeds are collected from local forests, so the species being grown depends on their availability locally.

The first case of COVID-2019 was reported in the country in March. The government banned mass gathering of more than 50 people, and meetings of 10-50 people were limited to two hours. Being a rural community, Katanino was spared from the high infection rates and as a result, with social distancing and wearing face masks we were able to continue with all our planned activities. To prepare the communities for the fire management activities in April, headmen were involved at an early stage so they could then hold small meetings in their respective villages rather than having one big briefing session.

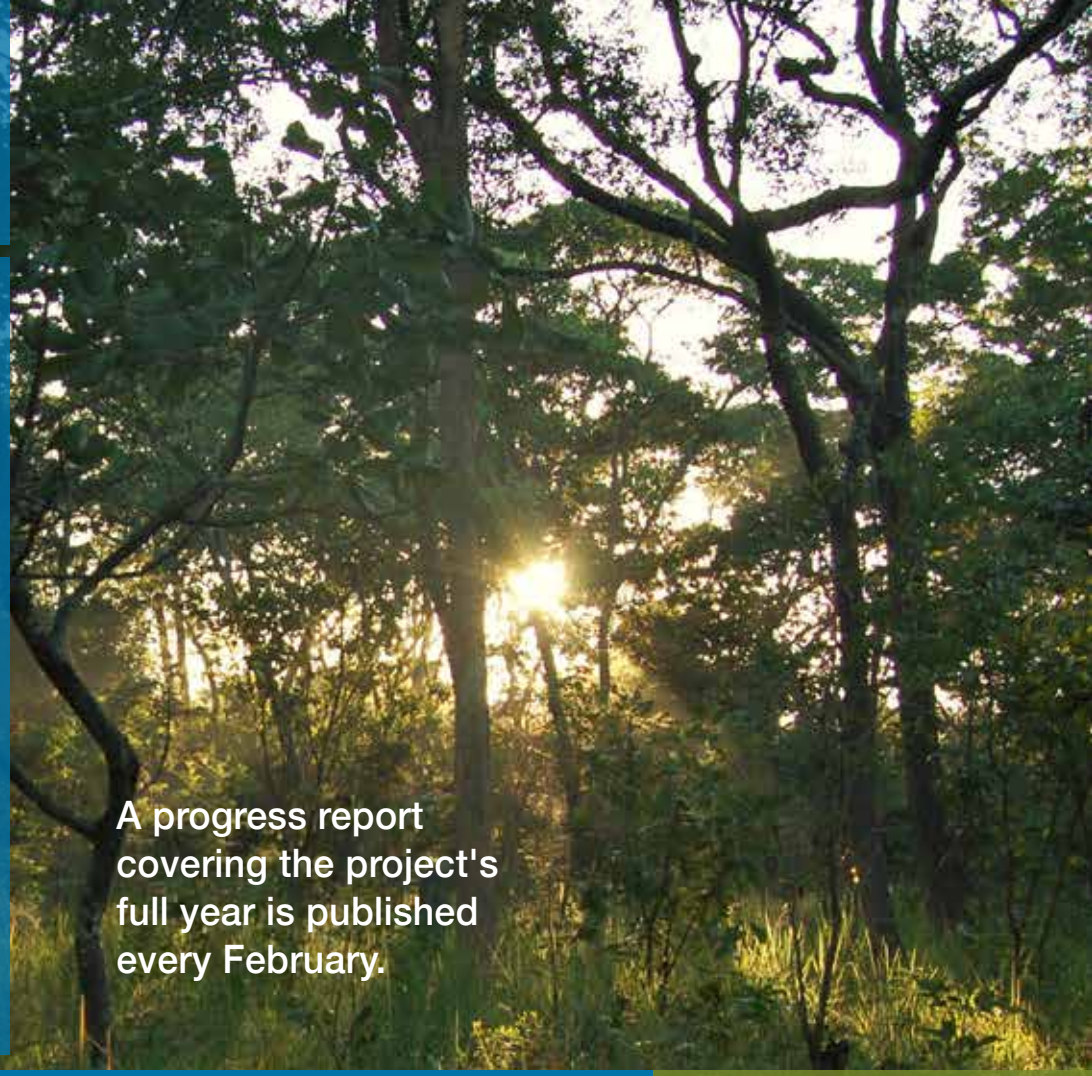
The team took care to protect against COVID-19 as they carried out an inventory of the Reserve from February to May 2020 - the first in 10 years.



What's next?

- The Multisectoral Forest Management Plan, which ensures that all stakeholders have a common understanding of how to manage the forest, will be developed.
- Fruit tree planting has been delayed till next year, so enrichment planting of indigenous miombio species within the reserve is taking place instead. So far, two out of five areas have been mapped.
- Several Conservation Agriculture demonstration plots are already in place, and training is hoped to begin in October, starting with about 20 farmers at this pilot stage.
- Honey harvesting will take place for the first time in December. Between then and now, it's important that the hives are protected from fires and pests.

Stay up-to-date with our interactive Zambia Katanino map.



A progress report covering the project's full year is published every February.

How do we know our restored forests are growing and making an impact?

Every hectare under restoration is mapped with GPS points to generate polygons (areas on a map) that are assigned to sponsors. Permanent monitoring plots are established in our sites and our forestry and science teams conduct surveys to monitor progress of biomass growth, tree density, survival rate and species diversity, among other indicators. Where social impacts are also critical, we measure socio-economic indicators such as the number of beneficiaries, people trained, and income generated from forest-friendly livelihood activities.

Please visit our **Why and How** webpage for more information.

Check out our great new photos from the project on **Flickr**, and don't miss the latest **Zambia video**!

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