

ACTION-RESEARCH PROJECTS DEVELOPMENT AND
FACILITATION FOR NATIONAL AND LOCAL
GROUPINGS FOR THE STRENGTHENING RESEARCH
AND INNOVATION IN
NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT AND WASTE
MANAGEMENT IN SOUTHERN AFRICA REGION
(RINaWa) PROJECT









Report on the Training Workshop on Action Research Projects – Lusaka, Zambia

November 2023

Table of Contents

1	Introduction	2
2	Workshop Overview	2
3	Workshop Content and Key Reflections	3
4	Training Methodology	4
5	Learning Outcomes	4
6	Participants' Feedback	5
7	Impact and Future Applications	6
8.	. Conclusion	6
9.	. Recommendations	6
	Annex 1: List of Participants: Natural Resources and Waste Management Vi Zambia	orkshop 8
	Annex 2: Lusaka – Zambia Training Evaluation Form Data	9
	Annex 3: Programme for Action Research Training – Zambia: 30th October – 1st N 2023	ovember 11
	Annex 4: Google Drive Links To Photos and Training Materials	14
	Annex 5: Attendance Register	15

1 Introduction

From the 30th of October to the 1st of November 2023, an Action Research Training Workshop was conducted by Skyberry Botswana in Lusaka, Zambia. The workshop's objective was to introduce participants to Action Research, emphasising how it can be used to address waste and natural resources management in Zambia. Expectations were that at the end of the training workshop, participants should have acquired a better understanding, awareness and knowledge of Action Research, well enough to enable them to conduct or partake meaningfully in Action Research for Waste Management and Natural Resources Management initiatives in Zambia. A comprehensive evaluation tool would assess the levels of awareness and knowledge acquired by participants. It was also expected that insights from the Zambia training workshop evaluation would be used to improve future training in Tanzania and Mozambique, similarly to how the training in Zambia benefited from insights from the Malawi training.

2 Workshop Overview

The workshop was divided into two major activities. The first two days focused on lectures and discussions, and the third day was dedicated to learning exchange visits to waste treatment facilities in Lusaka. Participants were drawn from representatives of government institutions, the private sector, and academic and community-based organisations that deal with waste and natural resources management in Zambia (Annex 1). The workshop was attended by twenty-five (25) participants from different organisations, including representatives of CBOs, CSOs, and IPLCs in Zambia. Representatives from MWEKA, CWMAC and Repensar also attended the workshop.



Figure 1: Workshop participants during a learning exchange visit to learn the Natural Waste Management initiatives practiced in Kasisi Agricultural Training Centre

3 Workshop Content and Key Reflections

The workshop was structured into several sections, which included the following: i) Introduction to Action Research; ii) Action Research topic selection; iii) Action Research problem identification and analysis; iv) Formulation of Action Research questions and objectives; v) Action Research Design and Methodology; vi) Developing a Plan of Action and Implementation; and vii) Guidelines on proposal writing. At the beginning of the workshop, a quick survey was conducted to establish awareness and knowledge of Action Research among the participants. Only four (4) of twenty-two (22) participants were familiar with Action Research, and those were from academia. This is a critical revelation because it suggests that crucial basic concepts in such a training workshop must be introduced diligently to ensure that participants are on the same level.

Meanwhile, participants were introduced to innovative ways of identifying and analysing the core research problem and subjecting such a problem to in-depth analysis (Figure 2).

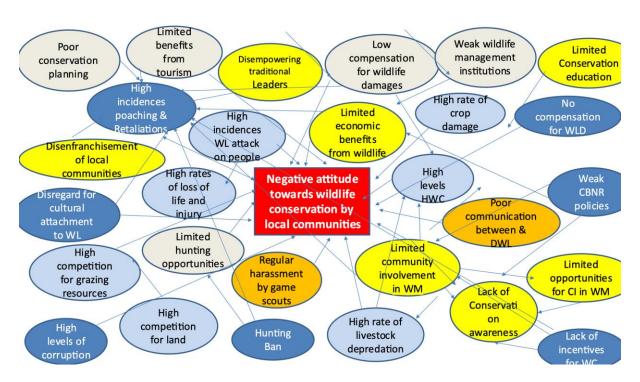


Figure 2: An example of a problem analysis diagram which was highly appreciated by the trainees.

During different sessions, participants demonstrated a good understanding of all the topics presented, evidenced by the relevant questions and contributions to the discussions during lecture sessions and group work. However, it was very critical to repeatedly express and emphasise the difference between action and traditional research. Initially, participants seemed not to get the difference between the two, but later got it, particularly during group work sessions. Group work was fascinating because participants openly and freely engaged one another and shared their understanding. The outcome of group work sessions was very good because critical aspects, such as the research questions, were jointly formulated.

4 Training Methodology

The training workshop was structured according to a series of lectures, followed by group work and plenary group presentations (Figure 3). Lectures were delivered through PowerPoint presentations, and interactive discussions were encouraged. Participants were allowed to ask questions for purposes of clarity and elaboration. For group work, participants were divided into two groups. Group 1 was the Natural Resources Group, and Group 2 was the Waste Management Group. At the end of each lecture, a group assignment was given to the participants, who then went on to deliberate on the assignment and presented their output to the workshop.

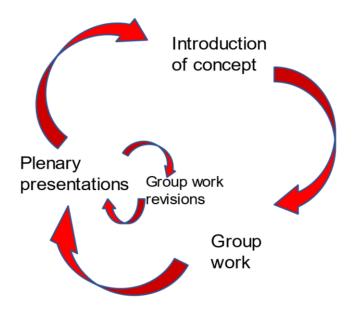


Figure 3. An illustration of the training approach

Participation and interaction were intense during group work and plenary presentations, indicating that participants understood what was taught. It was also evident that selected examples were beneficial and facilitated the understanding and internalisation of critical concepts.

5 Learning Outcomes

The training also sought to aid the participants in creating proposals for Action Research projects. Some key takeaways that the participants pointed to include the following:

- Sustainable Practices and Solutions: Participants learnt that Action Research in NRM and WM leads to identifying sustainable practices and solutions. These include more efficient resource utilisation, recycling and waste reduction strategies, and developing eco-friendly technologies.
- Community Engagement and Social Impact: Participants also learned that Action Research typically involves working closely with communities and stakeholders. One of the key lessons is the importance of community engagement in resource and waste management. Participants noted how to effectively involve local communities in

- decision-making processes, create awareness about the impact of their actions, and develop culturally and socially acceptable strategies.
- Adaptive Management: Participants further learned that Action Research often highlights the need for adaptive management in the context of NRM and WM. The research process highlights the importance of ongoing monitoring, evaluation, and adjustments in resource and waste management practices.
- Methodology and Practical Skills: One of the primary objectives of an Action Research workshop is to impart a strong understanding of the research methodology. Participants noted improvements in knowledge related to design, planning, and the effective execution of Action Research projects. Participants also now understand the need for practical data collection, analysis, and interpretation skills.
- Reflection and Continuous Improvement: There is tremendous value in ongoing reflection on research processes and findings. Participants are better positioned to understand how to use feedback and self-assessment to make improvements, adjust research strategies, and refine interventions.

The participants also noted that some of the critical skills obtained from the workshop included: i) identifying the difference between traditional research and Action Research, ii) identifying the difference between project topics and titles, iii) the importance of assigning stakeholder roles in project implementation, iv) developing an Action Research problem statement and Action Research questions, v) undertaking problem analysis, vi) developing an Action Research plan and differentiating this from the implementation plan, and vii) using the scoring matrix when choosing a project.

6 Participants' Feedback

Participants were requested to evaluate the training, and their responses are presented in the table below. Based on the evidence below, the training was well received and very impactful because over 85% of the respondents responded positively regarding their understanding of different topics. (Annex 2).

The positive feedback from participants was also reflected in the general comments below, which were extracted from the evaluation forms:

- a) The training was interactive, but materials should have been shared each day
- b) Training should be allocated more time
- c) Beautifully done
- d) The training should have extended invitations to other stakeholders
- e) Looking forward to another stakeholder meeting
- f) Need to
- g) Keep it up Skyberry, with innovation training
- h) The programme was too compacted, it needed more time
- i) Need for advance communication with all requirements/logistical arrangements to avoid surprises
- i) Training better conducted away from busy CBD, traffic
- k) I was expecting t-shirts/shirts from Skyberry Botswana
- I) The room was kind of small
- m) Next time the training should be out of Lusaka
- n) Appreciated the selection of topics
- o) This will help me with proposal writing skills for my academic and personal/professional work

- p) The AR topic should be taught in all countries
- q) Thank you for the opportunity and lessons
- r) Well-planned, interactive and integrated training

Topics that could have been included in the training

- i) Monitoring and Evaluation
- ii) The connection between WM and NRM

7 Impact and Future Applications

The participants demonstrated an affinity towards learning and, based on the feedback provided, were positively impacted by the training sessions and related discussions. It was also clear that participants understood the learning materials imparted. As seen from their evaluation form responses (see Annex 2), many participants described Action Research as an approach to project development, highlighting significant components such as consultations, planning, action, reflection and redesign.

8. Conclusion

The workshop objectives were adequately fulfilled by all standards, with all the learning objectives met. Participants were well introduced to Action Research and acquired basic and requisite knowledge that will enable them to participate in the planned call for concept notes competently, as well as in any other future project and programme design opportunities. However, while participants acquired the essential knowledge and skills required to participate meaningfully in Action Research, there was evidence that they would need further guidance and mentorship since it takes time to acquire research competencies. A two-day training is not enough to develop all the necessary competencies, but it is adequate to introduce participants to key concepts. The time allocated to the training was a limiting factor because it was too short to enable more detailed engagement and elaboration of some topics. Trainees lamented the limited time and suggested that more time should be allocated to the training in the future.

9. Recommendations

Based on insights and lessons learnt from the Zambia training workshops, the following recommendations are proposed to possibly enhance the effectiveness of delivery and impact of future training workshops:

- a) Formalities and presentations which do not directly contribute to the training should be minimised to release time that can be used for training, particularly group work.
- b) Two (2) additional days should be added to the training schedule to enable participants to practice proposal development and writing so that they internalise vital skills and techniques. This is critical because Action Research efforts emanating from a poorly developed proposal will not be successful and will not attract funding.
- c) At the end of the training workshop, participants should deliver a draft proposal as a product or output of the hands-on training.

d) As demonstrated in the two (2) examples used in the training, academic research institutions, public research institutions, and private researchers always play a crucial role in the development and implementation of Action Research initiatives throughout the world. Therefore, an institutional arrangement is recommended to allow institutions with research competencies in natural resources and waste management to provide leadership in the development and implementation of Action Research projects in the RInaWa Project countries and the region at large.

Annex 1: List of Participants: Natural Resources and Waste Management Workshop Zambia

No	Name	Organisation	Category	Contact /email
1	Dr Rodgers Lubilo	Zambia CBNRM	NRM	0975382662
		Forum		rlubilo288@gmail.com
2.	Francis Sakala	Zambia CBNRM	NRM	0978231252
		Forum		Sakalafrancis2@gmail.com
3.	Isaac Banda	Zambia CRB	NRM	0776161150
		Association		<u>Isaacbanda91@yahoo.com</u>
4.	Mutende Simwanza	Zambia CBNRM Forum	NRM	mutendemmah.simz@gmail.com
5.	Cecilia Banda	Zambia CBNRM Forum	NRM	0969261991 ceciliadbandah@gmail.com
6.	Lilian Chama	ZEMA	WM	lckalenge@gmail.com
7.	Yotam Mkandawire	AZAG	WM	yotammkandawire4@gmail.com
8.	Harrison Tembo	Management Learning Centre	WM/NRM	managementlearningcentre@gmail.com
9.	Towa Chilongo	E-tech waste management	WM	towa@etech.co.zm
10.	Friday Phiri	Environmental Specialist	WM	fphiri200@gmail.com
11.	Danny Choba	Stitching Waste Zambia	WM	dannychobazm@gmail.com 0979309684
12.	Haroon Witi	HW- Solid Waste Management	WM	witiharooni@yahoo.com 0979409636
13.	Name to be provided	Waste Management Association of Zambia	WM	0979409636
14.	Name to be provided	Klinit Limited	WM	0977786917
15.	Michael Mwandira	Castrone West Collectors	WM	cantroneenterprise@yahoo.com 0978722875
16.	Sandra Njongolo	CCZ	WM	Schibwe98@gmail.com +260 978722875
17.	Dr. Garikai Membele,	University of Zambia	WM	garikai.membele@unza.zm
18.	Mr Mweene	WWF Zambia	NRM	mchaambwa@wwfzam.org
19.	Avelesi Phiri	Department of Livestock- Kalomo	NRM	phiriaveless@gmail.com
20.	Clarence Muzyamba	ZEHEST	WM	muzyambaclarence@gmail.com
21.	Giveness Chuzu	Mburuma CRB	NRM	
22.	Elisa Daka	Nyalugwe CRB	NRM	
23.	Haggai Chansa	Nsama CRB	NRM	
24.	Dimas Mulyandambo	Kasempa CRB	NRM	Dimasmulyandambo2017@gmail.com
25.	Annety Kumoyo	Mufulani CRB	NRM	annetykumoyo2@gmail.com

Annex 2: Lusaka – Zambia Training Evaluation Form Data

Question	Scored more than 3	Neutral (score 3)	Scored less than 3
	#of participants	#of participants	#of participants
To what extent did the training meet your expectations?	27	2	0
How do you rate this training overall?	27	2	0
Topics			
What is your appreciation of the selected Topics			
Introduction to Action Research (AR)	23	4	
AR Topic Section	23	4	0
AR Problem Identification and Analysis	23	4	0
AR Research Questions	23	4	0
AR Objectives	23	4	0
AR Research Design	23	4	0
Collaboration and Engagement	23	4	0
Development of an Action Plan	23	4	0
Implementation of Interventions	23	4	0
Guidelines for Proposal Writing	26	1	
Learning and Exchange site visit (WM)			
Learning and Exchange site visit (NRM)			0
My knowledge and skills have increased	24	3	0
What is your appreciation of the training materials?	27	0	0
Facilitator			
What is your appreciation of the Trainer			
Score			
Demonstrated knowledge of the subject	27	0	0
Clear and understandable	27	0	0
Responsive to questions	27	0	0
Able to motivate participation	27	0	0
Was there sufficient time for discussions?	24	2	1
How was the time allocations per topic?	15	4	8
Logistics			
How do you rate the training location?	19	4	4

How do you rate the overall organisation of the training?	26	1	0
How do you rate organisers'	24	0	3
response to participants needs?			

Annex 3: Programme for Action Research Training – Zambia: 30th October – 1st November 2023

DATE	TIME	TOPIC	SESSION	RESPONSIBL E
Day 1	08:30 - 08:40	Registration and housekeeping	Host	Skyberry Botswana
30 th October 2023	08:40 – 08:50	Introductions	Plenary	Skyberry Botswana
	08:50 – 09:40	Keynote Address/ Welcome Remarks	Plenary	TBC
	09:40 – 09:50	RINaWa Project Brief	Plenary	Skyberry Botswana
	09:50 – 10:00	Objectives of the Training	Plenary	Facilitator
	10:00 – 10:15	Baseline Study Results (Zambia Highlights)	Plenary	MWEKA
	10:15 – 10:25	Introduction to Action Research	Lecture	Facilitator
	10:25 – 10:55	Action Research topic selection	Lecture	Facilitator
	10:55 – 11:20	TEA BREAI	K	
	11:20 – 11:50	Action Research topic selection	Group Work	All
	11:50 – 12:10	Action Research topic selection	Group Presentation	All
	12:10 – 12:30	Action Research problem identification and analysis	Lecture	Facilitator
	12:30 – 13:00	Action Research problem identification and analysis	Group Work	All

	13:00 – 14:00	LUNCH		
	14:00 – 14:15	Action Research problem identification and analysis	Group Presentation	All
	14:15 – 14:45	Formulation of Action Research questions and objectives	Lecture	Facilitator
	14:45 – 15:30	Formulation of Action Research questions and objectives	Group Work	All
	15:30 – 16:00	Formulation of Action Research questions and objectives	Group presentation	All
	16:00	End of Day 1 – Housekeeping announcement	Plenary	Skyberry
Day 2	08:30 - 08:45	Recap of Day 1	Plenary	Facilitator
31st October 2023	08:45 – 09:00	Malawi Learning & Exchange Highlights	Plenary	Facilitator
	09:-00 – 09:30	Action Research Design and Methodology – Data Collection and Analysis Techniques	Lecture & Discussions	Facilitator
	09:30 – 10:00	Collaboration and Engagement	Lecture & Discussions	Facilitator
	10:00 – 10:30	Developing an Action Plan	Lecture	Facilitator
	10:30 – 11:00	TEA BREAK	(
	11:00 – 12: 00	Developing an Action Plan	Group Work	All
	12:00 – 13:00	Developing an Action Plan	Group Presentations	All
	13:00 – 14:00	LUNCH		

	14:00 – 15:00	Implementation of Interventions	Lecture & Discussions	Facilitator
	15:00 – 15:30	Guidelines on Action Research proposal writing	Lecture & Discussions	Facilitator
	15:30 – 16:00	Guidelines of developing Action Research projects	Lecture & Discussions	Facilitator
	16:00 – 16:30	Draft Communication Strategy for RINaWA	Lecture & Discussions	REPENSAR
	16:30 – 16:50	Draft Communication Strategy Action Plan	Group Work	REPENSAR
	16:50 – 17:00	Closing and Way Forward	Skyberry Botswana	Skyberry Botswana
	17:00 – 17:10	End of Workshop – Housekeeping announcement	Plenary	Skyberry Botswana
Day 3	09:00 -	Learning and Exchange Visi	t to an NRM Site	
1 st November 2023	12:00	Convene at meeting point with participants and driv	e to site	
		Introductory address		
		Site Orientation and presentation by site visit repres	sentatives	
		Learning and exchange, and discussions		
Day 4	09:00 -	Learning and Exchange Vis	sit to a WM Site	
2 nd November 2023	12:00	Convene at meeting point with participants and drive to	site	
		Introductory address		
		Site Orientation and presentation by site visit representa	tives	
		Learning and exchange and discussions		
		Workshop Evaluation		

Annex 4: Google Drive Links To Photos and Training Materials

To view photos, training materials, evaluation form summary and other take-aways from the workshops, click on the following link to the online drive

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1IYMu2S-TAnUABIgs6aWX0IRG-mo65ydA?usp=sharing

Annex 5: Attendance Register

No.	Name	Organization -	email & Phone	Gender	30th Oct	31st Oct	1st Nov	2nd Nov
1.	HARDON WITH	WASTE MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION OF BAMBA	Witharoonicyahooria		100	18.	COV	771
2.	FRIDAY PHIRI	AFRICAN GROUP OF NEGOTIATORS ON CLIMI	of Com	M	Skinger	Dorryme	Boxwel	
3.	BANDA	Zambia Commonty Base Natural Resource Man For	grail com	F	Birly	Burges	Da.	Burele
4.	TENBOU. H	Dengember	managem leans	m	STA "	THE STATE OF THE S	A fin	
5,	CHARSA HARRAT	AJAMA CRB	chansachrispme haggas Qgmedir Gu	M	A R	1 Se	Jan Se	Q-59
6.	Francis Sakt	ZCBARMIT.	20 gmail con	M	1	# 6	- H	1
7.	DIMAS MILES DAONES	KASEMPS CRB	dimas mulyandambo2012 Egan		1 Sauce	- Facción	San	1 Dans
3.	Votam Mundavir	. –			· III	WH.		
2.	THOKOZANI MKAKA	LILONGUE CITY CON	tho Kom Koka agmanlia		TANK	TANK	TAR	THE
0.	MANAMER	ZHET	Zehogs @hasman.	A	Assorben	Arobijamba C	CANCE	MED
1.		MYASUGWE CRB	0776975872	M	Basa.	- Dava	Dusa	- Day
2.	innety Kumaya	Mufulani CRB	097351169%	f	AX	AK	A	A
	-SAIAC BANDA		0776161150	m	Dun 2-	Bur?		
			sauchandagle	ychoo co	om			

No.	Name	Organization	email & Phone	Gender	30th Oct	31st Oct	1st Nov	2nd Nov
14.	PROSPER F. MUNISI		prosper, munisi e	W	A Comment	Auros	A	A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A
15.	WARGARES H. NAIPOSM	MWCKA TZ	mayosha & Julio a 4259 8702999 8		Miliposha	CANC	202b	Chris
16.	Tozya Mwandia	Catrone Enterprise	atroneenterprise	M		T.M.	13	
17.		conservation	Schibwegs@gmail	F	B+	\$ hu.	A .	**
18.			es Phinerelos Em		Mai			
19		Passion for Wildle	Le Sinz Egman	۵۸	Ath	the f	all	
20		MBURUMA		F	Re	Pre	The state of the s	ar
21		KLINIT LTD	1 uswill deophine @ gov 260977786917	F F	8.	#5		
22	2. Judy Mumsa	N	Chury 2ado Kegnaris.	con F	88	8	\$	H
23	3. GARINATI MEMBELE	University of	garikaimembele a yahoo.com	m	Où.	Cti	Qu	di
24	LUNGU JOSEPH EMMANUEL		Jonx t2004 Dyahoo.		#16	# 1		
25	De RODGERS LUBILO	"Zoithem	rlubito288 egael	1.1	me	ph	A	Z
26.	Roziba Chiban	Daybern 2 Bodrans	Korbai Osbyber	7 5	Kich	KOS	KC 9	, Ko-

0.	Name	Organization	email & Phone	Gender	30th Oct	31st Oct	1st Nov	2 nd Nov
27.	OSADI VEBASITILE	SKIBGERI BOTS	magnotallis Bamall.	F	400-	To to	HS .	4
28.	Adelson	Repensar	adelson mutembaze 9 mail, com	M	Ay	Auf	Au	A4
29.	Banjango	Argonal	A STATE OF THE STA	m	7	事一"	7	
30.	Botholos	Steppeny	Telegraphical agreed		15-	B	**	15
31	M.C. Bongara	Sky Berry	caster "bongonese"	n	4			
32	Sandra Nion 90 10	community	Schipweg8@ gmail. Com	F	Den.	*	\$ S	- A.
33	Kumoyo	CRB	Ogmail.com	f	Adx	CANCA	in Cou	pean turie
3.	4. CLAPACE MUZYAMBA	ZEHEST	Zehestat hotmaili	M	Alassamba	DARSambo	Austraba .	Auguston Do
3.	5. Margaret Nayosh	MWEKA	mnaiposha @ jahoo.	F	Milaiposta.	Alaposta.	Maipoda.	Mujosha
30	JUDY MUMBA	KLINIT LID	chutyzad ox @gmail.	com F	57	80	st .	50
37	FELISTUS AGAN	ZCBPRMF	Much felictus	F	D min 5	A PELLET	A plucy	Mynnx
38			0		7			