



Date: 8 September 2025 (Evening 6.30 TO 9.00PM)

Location: Hilton Hotel, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Host: AUC, FSC and AFF

Introduction

The Zámiba Heritage concept is an African-led initiative promoting the protection, conservation, restoration, and sustainable use of forest landscapes. Zámiba aims to drive collective action across nations by promoting Sustainable Forest Management (SFM), demonstrating verified certification impact, and advancing innovative financing and sustainable business models. This approach directly aligns key the Second Africa Climate Summit (ACS2) themes, including nature-based solutions, green growth, and just transitions.

Africa holds 20% of the world's forest resources, including the Congo Basin—the second-largest tropical rainforest globally, its share of benefits from the global trade in forest products is a mere 3%, has the highest rate of deforestation globally, which threatens vital ecosystem services, forest—based enterprises, local livelihoods, and climate resilience.

FSC Global Development GmbH · ic.fsc.org · FSC® F000100
 Adenauerallee 134 · 53113 Bonn · Germany
 T +49 (0) 228 367 66 0 · F +49 (0) 228 367 66 65
 Geschäftsführer | Director: Dr. Subhra Bhattacharjee und/and Marion Barriskell.
 Handelsregister / Commercial register: Bonn HRB12589

FSC International Center gGmbH · ic.fsc.org · FSC® F000100
 Adenauerallee 134 · 53113 Bonn · Germany
 T +49 (0) 228 367 66 0 · F +49 (0) 228 367 66 30
 Handelsregister | Commercial Register: Bonn HRB12589



Zámba responds to this urgency by combining forest certification, sustainable business models and the supply of documentable ecosystem services and its impact on landscapes.

Led by a consortium of governments, civil society, and international organizations, and coordinated by FSC Africa, Zámba aims to scale transformative forest stewardship across the continent.

Alignment with ACS2 priority themes

Nature-based solutions:

- Bringing 30 million hectares threatened with degradation and loss under sustainable forest management by 2035
- Restoring 5 million hectares of degraded forest landscapes restored
- Increasing Africa's share of the global economic value of the forest sector
- 1,000 forest-based green enterprises
- 10 million households benefiting directly or indirectly

Regional & cross-border collaboration:

- Coalition spans 24 countries in Central, West, East, and Southern Africa
- Strategic partnerships with COMIFAC (Commission des Forêts d'Afrique Centrale (Central African Forests Commission), CAFI (Central African Forest Initiative), AFR100 (African Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative), UNEP Africa (United Nations Environment Programme Africa) and others

Just transitions:

- Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities at the center
- Strong gender and youth engagement frameworks
- Country-led business models.

Innovation:

FSC Global Development GmbH · ic.fsc.org · FSC® F000100
Adenauerallee 134 · 53113 Bonn · Germany
T +49 (0) 228 367 66 0 · F +49 (0) 228 367 66 65
Geschäftsführer | Director: Dr. Subhra Bhattacharjee und/and Marion Barriskell.
Handelsregister / Commercial register: Bonn HRB12589

FSC International Center gGmbH · ic.fsc.org · FSC® F000100
Adenauerallee 134 · 53113 Bonn · Germany
T +49 (0) 228 367 66 0 · F +49 (0) 228 367 66 30
Handelsregister | Commercial Register: Bonn HRB12589



- Verification of ecosystem services via FSC tools
- Support carbon finance models aligned with Article 6.4 of the Paris Agreement
- Landscape-level interventions co-designed with Governments and other local actors
- Transformed business culture that promotes trade in sustainably produced goods and services.

Current status and achievements (FSC Africa to date)

- **Countries engaged:** 14 governments in formal or informal dialogue with Zámbe
- **FSC-certified forest area:** Over 10+ million hectares in Africa
- **Ecosystem service claims:** 05 verified impact projects across Congo Basin and Southern Africa.
- **Market impact:** Forest management certification, businesses based on sustainable supply chains, chain of custody certificates and verified ecosystem services claims increasing across Congo Basin, Southern Africa, and East Africa.

Impact and vision

Zámbe envisions a future where forests are protected and productively managed to:

- Support national development and climate goals
- Secure financing for restoration and SFM
- Deliver measurable climate, biodiversity, and social co-benefits.

Dinner format

- Welcoming remarks and dinner
- Short presentation on Zámbe
- Panel Discussion
- Closure