



UNIDO/UNEP/GEF Project

Renewable Energy Based Electricity Generation for Isolated Mini-Grids in Zambia

Objectives:

- Setting up of three rural mini grids based on solar, biomass and small hydro power technologies
- Building national manufacturing capacity based on renewable energy technologies
- Promoting a national level financial mechanism
- Strengthening policy planning mechanisms and institutional set up to promote public private partnerships in the renewable energy sector

Project Description:

UNIDO is executing a GEF funded project to promote renewable energy based electricity generation for isolated mini-grids in Zambia. The project has a total budget of US\$ 7.506 million with a GEF grant amounting to US \$ 2.950 million and co-financing to the tune of \$ 4.556 million.

The project aims at establishing three mini-grids powered by renewable energy sources

(solar, biomass and small hydro) in off-grid rural communities.

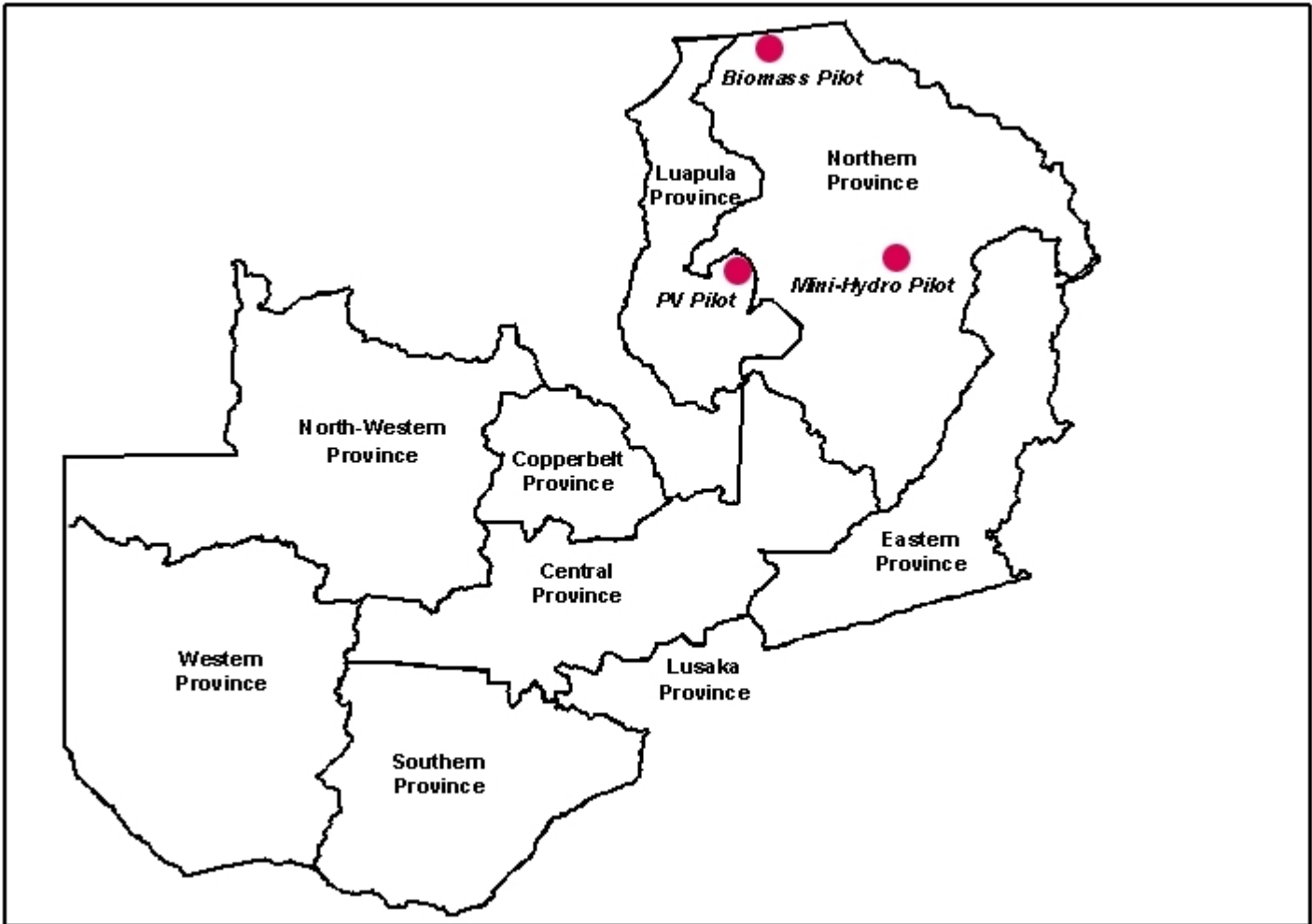
The generated electricity will be used for income generating activities in targeted communities and for other energy services. To ensure local ownership, the communities, individual consumers, the public utility and investors will actively contribute to the programme.

The project will install a biomass gasifier based power plant (1MW capacity) for electricity generation at Kaputa, a small hydropower station (1 MW capacity) at Shimunenga linking with productive uses and a solar energy mini-grid to introduce solar lanterns for fishing activities at night.

The project will also contribute to a legal, institutional and policy framework that provides a favourable environment for the commercial deployment of renewable energy based mini-grids in rural areas of Zambia. This is expected to sustain further expansion of the market of these technologies.



Map of Zambia



Location of Minigrad Sites in Zambia