



# THE ZAMBEZI RIVER TRAIL

A community-owned tourism corridor  
along the Upper Zambezi

# WHAT WE ARE BUILDING

The Zambezi River Trail is a deliberately structured, multi-day walking trail following the Upper Zambezi from Livingstone to Kazungula. It covers 75 kilometres over five days, with fixed daily distances, defined overnight stops, and a transparent operational model that keeps value in local hands.

It is designed for independent travellers who want a real journey rather than a packaged experience. Walkers move through riverine forest, floodplain, islands and community land, staying in simple but well-managed chalets and island camps owned and operated by local communities.

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This is not an extractive tourism product.

It is infrastructure for long-term, community-owned livelihood along the river.

The trail generates income daily; it supports employment directly; It funds restoration of the river landscape. And it creates a durable economic corridor rather than a single lodge or project.

The planned public launch is Easter 2027.

# WHY THIS TRAIL EXISTS

Modern tourism in Africa is often inaccessible, expensive, extractive, or disconnected from the communities it passes through. The Zambezi River Trail was designed to offer something fundamentally different.

It provides a rare combination: a properly structured, affordable, multi-day journey that is well managed, safe, and directly benefits the people who live along the river. Ownership sits with communities. Income is distributed daily. Maintenance and stewardship are funded by the trail itself.

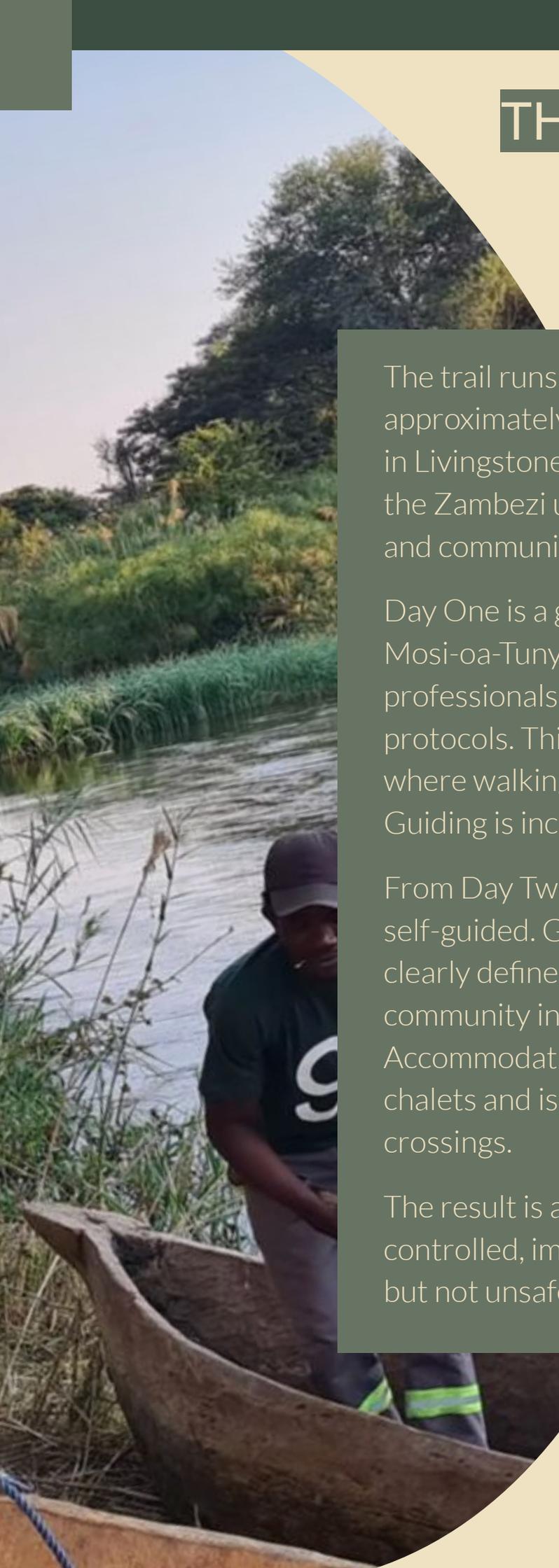
The trail is not positioned as luxury.

It is positioned as honest, grounded and fair.

It attracts travellers who value authenticity, transparency and real impact, while building long-term economic resilience for the river communities who host them.

Over time, this approach generates sustained local employment, reinforces community-led conservation, and cultivates shared stewardship of the river. It supports long-term economic stability while establishing a connected tourism corridor rather than a single, isolated site.





# THE INCREDIBLE TRAIL EXPERIENCE

The trail runs for five days and four nights, covering approximately 15 kilometres per day. Walkers begin in Livingstone and finish near Kazungula, following the Zambezi upstream through changing landscapes and communities.

Day One is a guided walking safari through Mosi-oa-Tunya National Park, led by licensed professionals operating under national park protocols. This is one of the few parks in Zambia where walking is permitted in Big Five habitat. Guiding is included, and wildlife encounters are real.

From Day Two onwards, the trail becomes self-guided. Guests walk independently between clearly defined overnight points, supported by community infrastructure along the route. Accommodation alternates between riverbank chalets and island camps, accessed via short boat crossings.

The result is a journey that feels structured but not controlled, immersive but not artificial, independent but not unsafe.

# A FUNDAMENTALLY

# DIFFERENT TOURISM MODEL

This is not a lodge.

This is not a once-off experience.

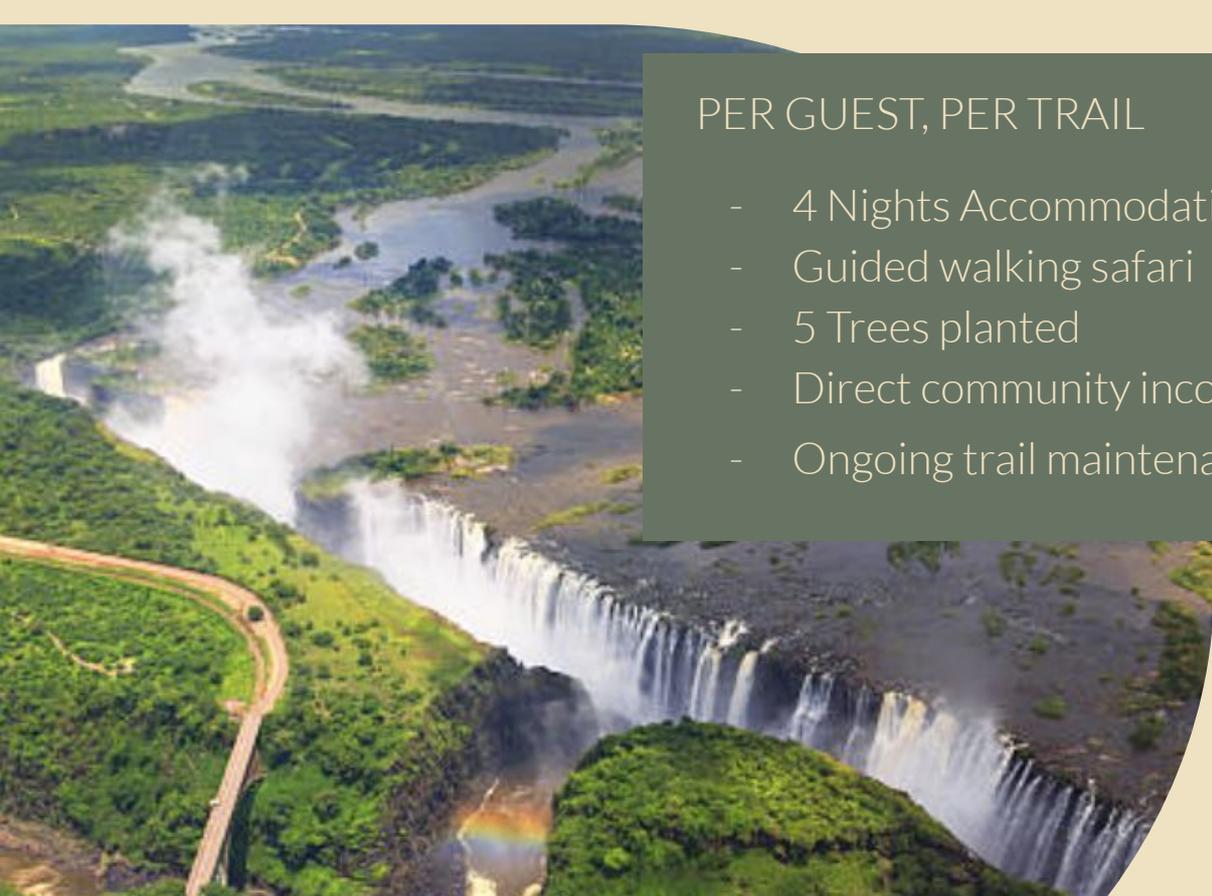
This is not tourism built on exclusion.

The trail is priced at USD 300 per person, making it genuinely accessible while remaining financially viable. Every dollar is deliberately allocated across community income, maintenance, conservation, and operations.

Guests are not abstract contributors. They are directly funding:

- Community hosts
- Trail upkeep
- Park protection
- Tree planting
- Long-term river stewardship

The model is simple, transparent, and fair by design.

An aerial photograph of a river flowing through a lush green landscape. The river has a wide, shallow section with a small waterfall or dam structure. A dirt road curves along the left bank. In the foreground, a large waterfall cascades down a rocky ledge into the river. A rainbow is visible in the mist created by the waterfall. The background shows more of the river winding through the forest.

PER GUEST, PER TRAIL

- 4 Nights Accommodation
- Guided walking safari
- 5 Trees planted
- Direct community income
- Ongoing trail maintenance

## THE NUMBERS

\$300 USD per person Trail Fee

24 Walkers per day

5 Day walking adventure

## DAILY FUNDING MODEL

\$20 host community

\$10 trail maintenance

\$10 park fees

\$7.50 Food Forest Foundation

\$7.50 Copperfield AgroVentures

\$5 tree planting & aftercare

This ensures both environmental protection and operational viability

## CLEAR ECONOMICS

## NOT VAGUE IMPACT

### THIS STRUCTURE ENSURES:

Predictable daily income

Built-in maintenance funding

No reliance on donations

Clear accountability

Direct benefit to trail hosts

This is not speculative tourism.  
It is structured economic infrastructure



# WHAT INVESTMENT

## ENABLES US TO DO

The current investment round establishes the core infrastructure required to launch the Zambezi River Trail and operate it safely and professionally from day one.

Phase One focuses on building four community-based lodge hubs along the river corridor and establishing the shared operational systems that support guiding, hosting, conservation and programme governance.

**Total capital requirement: USD \$350,000**

This funding covers the infrastructure, equipment and Year-One operational capacity required to launch the programme.

### THIS INCLUDES:

- Lodge and accommodation infrastructure
- River transport and mobility systems
- Communications and field safety equipment
- Health, safety and compliance systems
- Trail cutting and maintenance systems
- Market gardens and tree nurseries
- Operations, tools and resilience systems
- Year-One staffing provision

All equipment has been specified for durability, repairability and suitability for remote, off-grid river environments.

This is not aesthetic spend.  
It is operational infrastructure.

# JOBS CREATED

## NOT JUST PROMISED

The staffing model is practical and labour-driven. Each of the four lodge hubs supports restaurant staff, shop attendants and nursery teams. In addition, the system includes shared roles: manager, driver and reception.

These are not symbolic positions.

They are consistent monthly incomes in rural river communities where economic opportunities are otherwise extremely limited.

Because the trail is designed to be permanent infrastructure, these roles are not temporary. They grow stronger as trail usage increases.

### FT EMPLOYEES PER HUB

- 1X Restaurant Attendant
- 1x Shop Attendant
- 2x Nursery team members

### SHARED ACROSS TRAILS

- 1x Manager
- 1x Driver/s
- 1x Receptionist/s



# DESIGNED FOR

# DURABILITY NOT FRAGILITY

## OPERATIONAL RISK HAVE BEEN MITIGATED UPFRONT

Accommodation is simple, robust and repairable.

Transport systems are designed for river conditions.

Equipment is selected for longevity, not polish.

Trail maintenance is funded daily by users.

Staffing is embedded locally rather than imported.

This reduces dependence on external systems and increases local ownership.

## ECONOMIC RISK IS ALSO MITIGATED

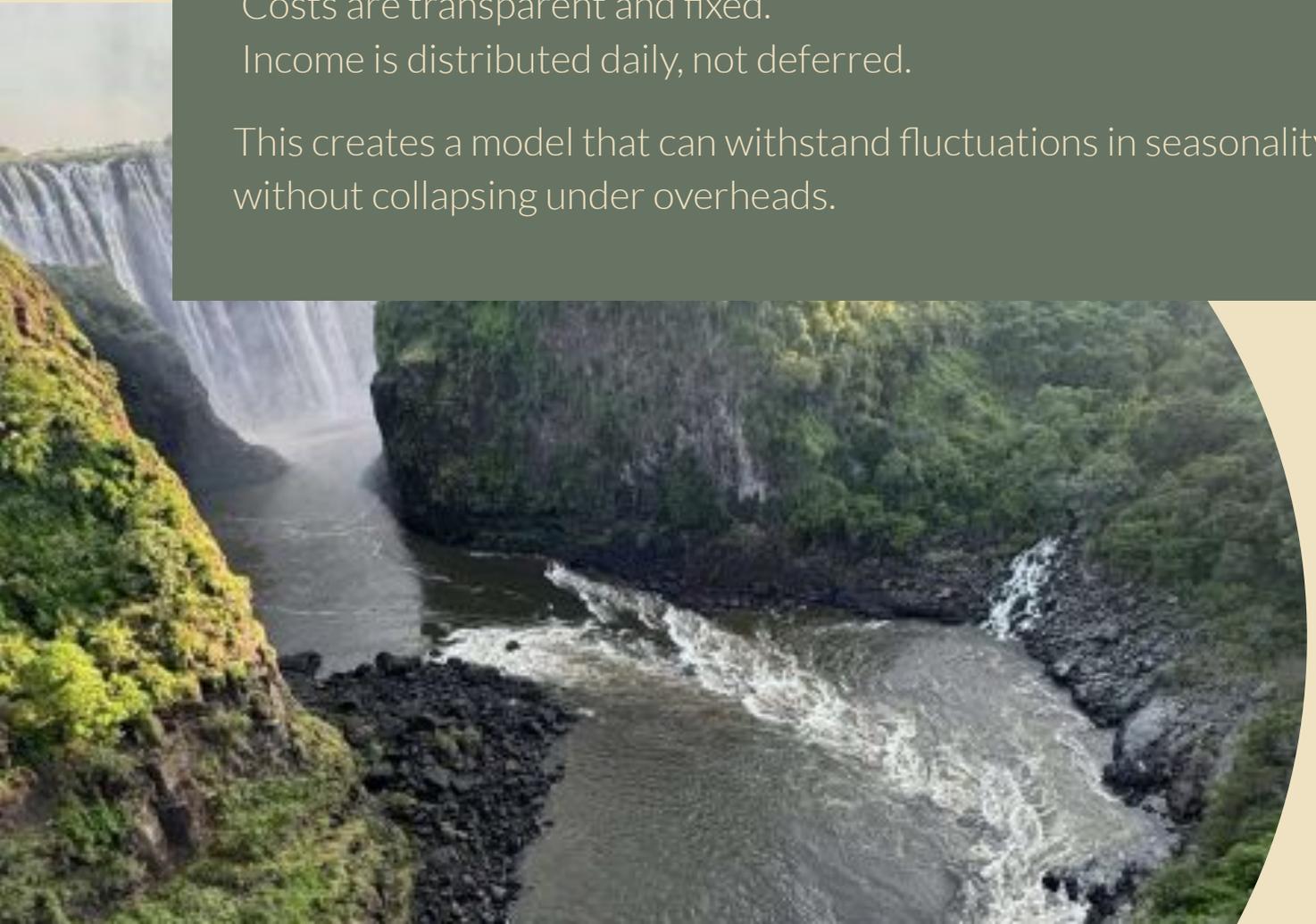
The trail is affordable rather than elite, widening the market.

Daily capacity is capped to protect experience quality.

Costs are transparent and fixed.

Income is distributed daily, not deferred.

This creates a model that can withstand fluctuations in seasonality without collapsing under overheads.



# THE INCREDIBLE TRAIL EXPERIENCE

The Zambezi River Trail is not positioned as a tourism product alone. It is positioned as the spine of a broader river-based economy.

Over time, the trail supports:

- Community-run accommodation
- Local food production
- River restoration
- Craft and enterprise development
- Youth employment pathways
- Conservation stewardship

Each lodge hub becomes more than a stop. It becomes an anchor point for regeneration along the river corridor.

This is how impact becomes durable: not through one-off interventions, but through infrastructure that communities can grow into over decades.



# WHY THIS OPPORTUNITY

## STANDS APART

This is investable because it is structured, specific, and grounded in reality.

There is a defined product.

There is defined demand.

There is a defined price.

There is a defined cost base.

There is defined ownership.

There is defined impact.

The model does not rely on scaling hype or fragile projections. It relies on real travellers walking real kilometres, paying a fair fee for a real experience that delivers real benefit.

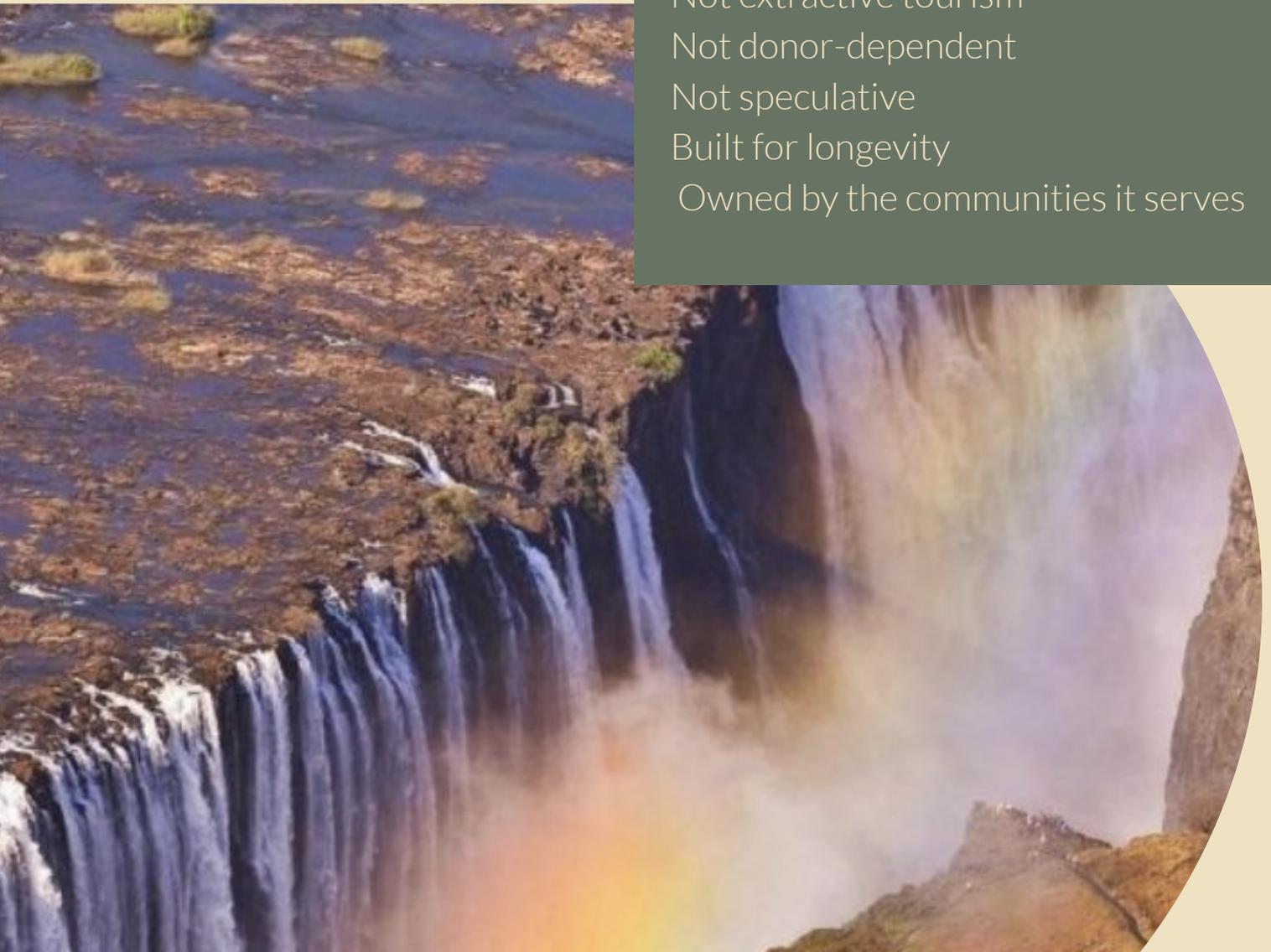
Not extractive tourism

Not donor-dependent

Not speculative

Built for longevity

Owned by the communities it serves



# AN INVITATION TO INVEST IN ENDURING INFRASTRUCTURE

This is an opportunity to fund tangible, practical infrastructure that will shape livelihoods along the Upper Zambezi for decades to come.

The budget is clear.

The model is grounded.

The need is real.

The upside is durable.

We welcome serious conversations, site visits, and deeper due diligence.

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