

CRIDF in Lesotho

An overview of projects the Climate Resilient Infrastructure Development Facility (CRIDF) has engaged with in Lesotho

Lesotho has a population of 2.3 million and is a landlocked country surrounded entirely by its larger neighbour, South Africa. It is a lower middle income country and is home to the headwaters of the Orange-Senqu River Basin, the largest transboundary river basin that is entirely within the Southern African Development Community. CRIDF has supported the reduction of non-revenue water in Lesotho through computer modelling and by providing infrastructure to manage water demand. The Facility has worked in close association with Lesotho's Water and Sewerage Company (WASCO) and with the Orange-Senqu River Commission (ORASECOM) in order to build climate resilience for the poor.

Infrastructure planning and development in the Orange-Senqu Basin (Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa)

CRIDF is helping the Orange-Senqu River Commission to integrate climate resilience into the planning and development of water infrastructure: a key part of the ORASECOM strategy. This will ensure water and food security for the rural poor, and in so doing reduce vulnerability to climate change.

2017–ongoing

Managing water demand in Maseru (Lesotho)

CRIDF worked with the Water and Sewerage Company of Lesotho on installing infrastructure to improve water supplies for the poor in Lesotho's capital city of Maseru. CRIDF's support included revising and expanding the hydraulic model for the city, and



improving its accuracy. It also provided support for one of the 20 water pressure zones in Maseru, which serves around 30,000 people out of a city population of 250,000. Tasks included constructing manholes, installing additional meters, logging pressure flow and training WASCO staff in order to reduce leakage in the city. The project helps reduce non-revenue water in terms of both physical water losses and commercial losses within the WASCO billing system. It is also expected to have additional benefits, including improved

water quality downstream, especially during drought conditions, with fewer river abstractions. CRIDF is now coordinating an approach to leverage financing for implementing the project in other areas of the city.

2013–2017

See map: project number 1



ORASECOM engagement (Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa)

CRIDF supported the Orange-Senqu River Commission in the design, execution, analysis and dissemination of its second Joint Basin Survey, which was used to determine the state of the basin's water quality. The survey identified actions needed to address water quality monitoring, hydropower and irrigation releases, and acid mine drainage, and promoted the use of EcoStatus assessment methods to monitor environmental concerns.

2013–2015

Useful links to the CRIDF website

[CRIDF tools and tables](#): guidance and learning produced by the programme

[CRIDF case studies](#): a demonstration of the work delivered so far by the programme

[CRIDF infographics](#): useful statistics from CRIDF countries

[CRIDF countries](#): more from the CRIDF country overview series

ABOUT CRIDF

The Climate Resilient Infrastructure Development Facility (CRIDF) is a DFID (UK Aid) supported programme working to provide long-term solutions to water issues that affect the lives of the poor in Southern Africa. Our focus is to work together with organisations to show them how they can better build and manage their own water infrastructure to improve people's lives. Because rivers, lakes and river basins cross borders, CRIDF is working with 12 different countries in Southern Africa that share water resources. In so doing, CRIDF aims to improve the lives of over 200 million people, many of them extremely poor.

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