

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 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 network pressures and water demand; working in close association with Lesotho's Water and Sewerage Company (WASCO). CRIDF supports the Orange-Senqu River Commission (ORASECOM) to build climate resilience for the poor and on the Lesotho-Botswana Water Transfer scheme.

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

CRIDF is helping ORASECOM to integrate climate resilience into the planning and development of water infrastructure, which is a key part of the Commission's strategy. Specifically, CRIDF has undertaken a climate vulnerability and impact assessment of the river basin to complement the Climate Resilient Infrastructure Investment Plan that is being prepared. 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

CRIDF worked with WASCO 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 city's hydraulic model, and improving its accuracy. It also provided support for one of the 20 water pressure zones in Maseru, which serves around 30,000 people in a city of 250,000. Tasks included installing isolation valves for pressure zoning, installing additional meters, logging pressure flow and training WASCO staff to reduce leakage. The project helps reduce non-revenue water in terms of both physical water losses and commercial losses within the

WASCO billing system. CRIDF is now coordinating an approach to leverage financing to implement the project in other parts of the city.

2013–2017

See map: project number 1

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

CRIDF supported ORASECOM 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

Lesotho-Botswana Water Transfer Scheme (Botswana, Lesotho, South Africa)

Through ORASECOM, CRIDF is supporting the Joint Study Management Committee for the Lesotho-Botswana Water Transfer Scheme on pre-feasibility and feasibility studies for the project. Working with the Swedish International Water Institute (SIWI), CRIDF has supported pre-feasibility level institutional and financial studies to complement the technical pre-feasibility studies funded by the African Development Bank and others. CRIDF has also prepared Terms of Reference for feasibility level financial, institutional, legal and economic studies, and assisted in mobilising finance for these studies. Finally, CRIDF has assisted ORASECOM and the Joint Study Management Committee to develop a communications strategy and communications materials in support of the project.

2017–ongoing



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 UK Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) 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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