



Deliverable 4: Institutional Analysis

FP20, KAZA Water for Livelihoods

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Disclaimer

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List of Acronyms

Acronym	Long-Form
CHC	Community Health Club
CRIDF	Climate Resilient Infrastructure Development Facility
DA	District Administrator
DDC	District Development Committee
DDF	District Development Fund
DFID	Department for International Development
HRDC	Hwange Rural District Council
KAZA TFCA	Kavango Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area
MEWC	Ministry of Environment, Water and Culture
NGO	Non-governmental Organisation
SADC	Southern African Development Community
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
WASH	Water Sanitation and Hygiene
ZFU	Zimbabwe Farmer's Union
ZPWMA	Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management Authority

KAZA Zimbabwe: Institutional Analysis

The **Kavango-Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area (KAZA TFCA)** is an initiative of five member states of SADC. Its activities in each of those countries thus have a SADC mandate and fall under the authority of the respective governments.

Water infrastructure, ancillary and administrative services

In Zimbabwe, the **Ministry of Environment, Water and Culture (MEWC)** is responsible for KAZA activities – and also for national water policy, standards and programmes. MEWC has delegated direct operational responsibility for KAZA activities to the **Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management Authority (ZPWMA)**, whose area office is in Bulawayo (covering Matabeleland North and South), with local offices at Hwange National Park Main Camp (where a community relations officer is based) and Victoria Falls. The Hwange National Park was established in 1929 with an area of 14,650 km². It is the largest park and game reserve in Zimbabwe. It lies on the main road between Bulawayo and the Victoria Falls near the project sites. Hwange National Park offers the lead for ZPWMA in co-ordination and engagement on developments affecting communities living adjacent to the park.

The **Zimbabwe National Water Authority** is responsible for regulation of all water use in the country. Hence it would ensure that farmers are issued with permits to draw water for irrigation purposes. It would also ensure that farmers are fully aware of the laws governing the use of water, particularly for irrigation purposes.

The **District Administrator (DA)** is the senior Government of Zimbabwe official in Hwange District. Local services are the responsibility of the **Hwange Rural District Council (HRDC)**, which has offices outside the town that are headed by a **Chief Executive Officer**. (The Hwange and Victoria Falls urban areas fall within Hwange District but have separate local government authorities.) The HRDC has a **Social Services Department** that is responsible, *inter alia*, for rural water supplies.

The **District Development Committee (DDC)**, chaired by the DA, has oversight of development initiatives in Hwange District. Its members were present at the endorsement meeting held in Hwange on 21 October 2015.

There is a **District Rural Water Supply Sub Committee** under the DDC with direct responsibility for this sector.

The **District Development Fund (DDF)** is a longstanding institution intended to undertake infrastructural development and maintenance. It remains the central source of technical capacity for rural water supplies in local government in Hwange district, and used to be capable of drilling and equipping boreholes. As its operating budget has been greatly reduced, it now has very little capacity for maintenance work, let alone construction of new infrastructure.

The **coal mining industry** in Hwange district has earth moving and related equipment. The HRDC is sometimes able to arrange the services of this equipment at no, or reduced, cost: for example, the owners might just ask for fuel and a driver's allowance, if a road needs to be repaired.

Hwange District is divided into **wards** that elect **Councillors** to the HRDC. The HRDC plays a role in identifying and prioritising development projects in the district. The KAZA sites under discussion were identified through the HRDC. Mabale, one of the four wards within which the seven proposed KAZA-CRIDF water scheme sites are located, is represented by the **Chairperson of the HRDC**.

At community level, **chiefs and headmen** are still important leaders who should be consulted and engaged in local development initiatives. KAZA has been active in its engagement of Chief Dingani of Mabale ward, one of the most influential leaders in the area, during planning of the water schemes and other initiatives.

According to national water policy, each water point should have a **Water Point Committee**, with a constitution, that should be responsible for the operation and maintenance of the facility. The committee should collect a contribution from users – often set at ZAR 5/household/month – in order to cover operation and maintenance costs.

Water infrastructure installed by KAZA and CRIDF should therefore be handed over to these Water Point Committees, under the auspices of the HRDC. Future maintenance will depend on the efficiency and competence of the committees in collecting and managing user fees. In the current budgetary conditions of Zimbabwe, the ability of the DDF to provide maintenance support will be limited.

Informants confirm that the **Community Health Club (CHC)** approach has been officially adopted for the promotion of sanitation and hygiene in Hwange district. **DFID** is funding a programme for sanitation and hygiene in four wards in the district, through **UNICEF**, which provides technical supervision to the **Mvuramanzi Trust**, a leading water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) NGO in Zimbabwe that implements the programme at community level. At that level, **Environmental Health Technicians** have been appointed to help facilitate the initiative. Households fund latrine construction themselves.

One of the four wards where Mvuramanzi is working is Mabale, where two of the proposed KAZA-CRIDF sites are located. The current UNICEF/Mvuramanzi programme is not operating in the other wards where KAZA-CRIDF sites are proposed. The chairperson of the HRDC stated that her ward, Mabale, has been declared Open Defecation Free (ODF). In total, about six villages have achieved ODF status so far in the Mvuramanzi programme area. The target is to achieve ODF throughout those wards.

A potential strategy for the KAZA-CRIDF initiative would be to secure funding for Mvuramanzi to extend the current CHC WASH programme to the other three wards where proposed KAZA-CRIDF water schemes are located.

In Hwange district, the public sector is involved in providing support services for the water and sanitation as well as the agricultural sectors at various levels of intensity as detailed in the following sections.

Extension services

The Department of Agriculture and Extension (AGRITEX)

This is a long-established organisation that has operated under various names with the role of providing technical advice to farmers in agricultural practice. Field extension workers are stationed within or near project areas. Their role is to facilitate imparting of knowledge, skills and attitudes that promote best practices in farming. During the field visits and site inspections, interviews were held and contact was made with the department of Agritex responsible for providing extension services in the area.

It is important from a gender perspective that water management is mainstreamed across genders, and so it is encouraging that the responsible extension workers in three of the wards are female. The capacity of Agritex to deliver is compromised financially, negatively impacting operations due to lack of office and field equipment and lack of operational budgets.

Department of Irrigation

Both farmers and extension workers need to have knowledge and skills in irrigation. The Department of Irrigation has a role to ensure that training in relevant aspects of irrigation is given to extension workers and farmers. They will also follow up on repairs and maintenance. They will monitor water use efficiency and offer technical assistance on general aspects of water management and irrigation management.

Department of Livestock Production

Provides support for livestock production activities. In Hwange, livestock complements crop production. Livestock also provides draft power and eases labour demand during land preparation.

Department of Agricultural Engineering

This Department's role is to train extension workers in conservation of soil and water, as well as in tillage techniques and farm machinery and post-harvest technology, and to provide requisite back up services that would facilitate adoption by farmers. There are no personnel on the ground for this department. Support must be provided through Agritex

Zimbabwe Farmers' Union (ZFU)

Most of the farmers in the project areas are members of this organisation. The Union's role is to represent farmers and articulate their needs at different fora. The envisaged role of the Union in the project areas will be to

mobilise and train farmers on group formation, cohesion and maintenance, and to advocate policies favourable for this sector.

CRIDF 

