

CRIDF in Namibia

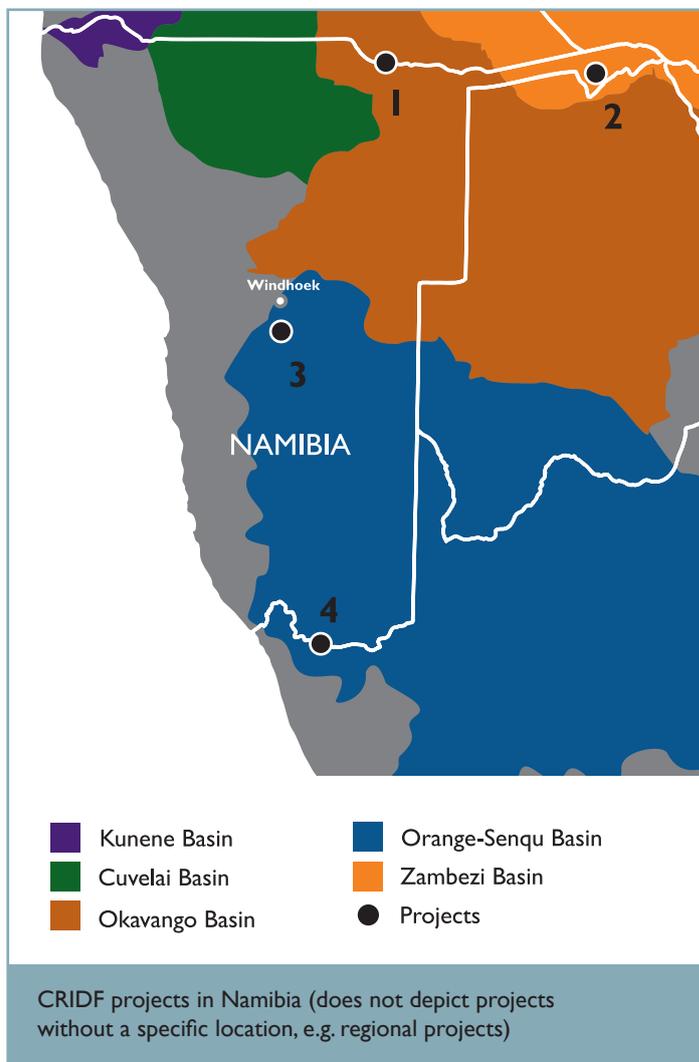
An overview of projects the Climate Resilient Infrastructure Development Facility (CRIDF) has engaged with in Namibia

Namibia has a population of 2.5 million and is an upper middle income country. It includes parts of five transboundary river basins including the mouth of the Orange-Senqu River Basin, the largest transboundary river basin that is entirely within the Southern African Development Community. CRIDF's work in Namibia has focused on supporting transboundary water commissions such as the Permanent Okavango River Basin Water Commission (OKACOM), the Orange-Senqu River Commission (ORASECOM) and the Kavango–Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area (KAZA TFCA). These partnerships aim to build climate resilience for the poor through livelihood interventions. CRIDF has so far completed one project construction in Namibia and is currently implementing a second.

Infrastructure planning and development in the Zambezi Basin (Angola, Botswana, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe)

In its support of the Zambezi Watercourse Commission (ZAMCOM), CRIDF developed and is supporting the implementation of the livelihoods component of the Zambezi Strategic Plan (ZSP). This will ensure water and food security for the rural poor and in so doing reduce vulnerability to climate change. To achieve this, CRIDF is supporting ZAMCOM to prepare the Programme for Integrated Development and Adaptation to Climate Change in the Zambezi Watercourse (PIDACC Zambezi) for African Development Bank funding in association with the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD).

2017–ongoing



Noordoewer-Vioolsdrift Dam (Namibia, South Africa)

The Republics of Namibia and South Africa intend to jointly develop a major dam on the Lower Orange River, just upstream of the border towns of Noordoewer (Namibia) and Vioolsdrift (South Africa). CRIDF is supporting ORASECOM and the Permanent Water Commission between Namibia and South Africa in the development of this dam. Specifically, CRIDF is assisting in providing a cooperative framework for joint planning as well as a way forward by facilitating an independent technical review of studies to date. This would provide key decision support information and scope definition for a required bridging study.

2020–ongoing

See map: [project number 4](#)

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: a key part of the strategy. Specifically, CRIDF has undertaken a climate vulnerability and impact assessment of the basin to complement the Climate Resilient Infrastructure Investment Plan that it prepared. This will ensure water and food security for the rural poor, and in so doing reduce vulnerability to climate change.

2017–ongoing

Infrastructure planning and development in the Okavango Basin (Angola, Botswana, Namibia)

CRIDF is helping OKACOM to develop and finance a livelihoods programme that will ensure water and food security for the rural poor and reduce vulnerability to climate change. This has culminated in the establishment of the Cubango-Okavango River Basin (CORB) Fund, a fully independent hybrid fund that aims to enhance livelihoods, improve ecosystems resilience and provide equitable benefits to the riparian states of Angola, Botswana and Namibia,

in the shared Cubango-Okavango River Basin. CRIDF is supporting the governance, structuring and capitalisation of this fund.

2017–ongoing

Mayana Community Water Project

CRIDF has been working to help implement a small-scale, 50-hectare agricultural scheme for the Mayana community (of up to 120 households near Rundu, Namibia). The current agricultural land utilised by the community is affected by annual flooding from the Okavango River. By providing technical support such as agricultural input planning, CRIDF has helped the project by preparing feasibility, detailed design and procurement stage studies, and is currently implementing the project at a capital cost of £1 million.

2013–ongoing

See map: [project number 1](#)

Okavango analysis of multi-sector investment opportunities (Angola, Botswana, Namibia)

CRIDF worked closely with OKACOM and the World Bank to identify, assess, cost and develop a multi-sectoral portfolio of potential projects focused on livelihoods, socio-economic development and water resources management. The project was designed within the context of the OKACOM Basin Development Management Framework. Key areas identified for development include livelihoods, tourism institutions and major infrastructure such as hydropower, irrigation and water transfer. This work has also identified the benefits of transboundary collaboration.

2016–2017



Climate resilient development pathways (Angola, Botswana, Namibia)

In partnership with OKACOM, CRIDF developed a methodology to assess and select programmes of water-related development projects designed to help reconcile tensions between river basin development and climate resilience. An important aim of this work was to ensure that the 'climate resilient development pathways' approach is rolled out as much as possible, as such strategic decision-making can impact the lives of millions. If climate resilience is integrated into planning objectives and programme identification, then the projects that emerge from that process are more likely to be inherently climate resilient.

2016–2017

Shared economic growth in protected areas of high biodiversity (Angola, Botswana, Namibia, Zambia, Zimbabwe)

High-value tourism areas are found across Southern Africa. These are areas of high biodiversity and home to millions of poor rural people. A variety of income-earning opportunities exist in relation to producing quality food in these areas. These would offset the water and carbon footprints associated with imports as well as create economic growth opportunities for local communities. CRIDF identified opportunities for developing infrastructure to produce high-quality food and encourage local economic/agricultural development through linkages into local tourism-related value chains. Such interventions build climate resilience for the poor, support wealth creation and mitigate climate risks.

2015–2017

Water for livelihoods (Angola, Namibia, Zambia, Zimbabwe)

CRIDF has supported the KAZA TFCA Secretariat to identify livelihood interventions aimed at alleviating water shortages, reducing incidences of human–wildlife conflict and enhancing people's basic standard of living in Angola, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe. There will be more than 3,000 potential beneficiaries at the locations where feasibility



studies for permanent water provisions have been completed. Power for the infrastructure needed to make these provisions will be provided by solar panels and wind turbines. Infrastructure construction has been completed at one site in Namibia with more than 50 beneficiary households and funding applications prepared at other sites. The approach of working with KAZA TFCA has considerable potential for replication, expansion and scale-up across the region in other Transfrontier Conservation Areas.

2014–2017

See map: [project number 2](#)

Reusing effluent at Rehoboth

CRIDF completed a feasibility assessment of the works required to upgrade the effluent treatment works in the town of Rehoboth. Such an upgrade would potentially prevent pollution of the transboundary Stampriet Aquifer and provide water for irrigation in poor communities. This project provides an opportunity to maximise supplies from the limited water resources of this very arid part of the Orange-Senqu River Basin, which is expected to suffer considerably under climate change. The improved effluent treatment will benefit more than 29,000 people (the population of Rehoboth), whilst the irrigation could provide job opportunities for 40 low income families.

2013–2016

See map: [project number 3](#)



OKACOM engagement (Angola, Botswana, Namibia)

CRIDF helped OKACOM develop a common vision for the sustainable and equitable development of the Okavango River Basin in support of economic growth and poverty eradication in each of its member states. This project also updated communication products, repackaged existing and new data into new products, and supported key events with products and displays.

2013–2016

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

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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