



# CRIDF

THE CLIMATE RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT FACILITY

Addressing water  
sector challenges in  
Southern Africa



## What is CRIDF?

The Climate Resilient Infrastructure Development Facility (CRIDF) provides long-term solutions to water issues that affect poor communities in Southern Africa.

Supported by UK Aid, the programme adopts an 'infrastructure development facility' model which mobilises financial resources and advises partners on the best ways to select, manage and implement their projects.

CRIDF works alongside the institutions that plan, finance and develop water infrastructure, helping to improve the way that infrastructure is built and utilised and ensuring it can more effectively address challenges, enhance livelihoods and strengthen climate resilience.

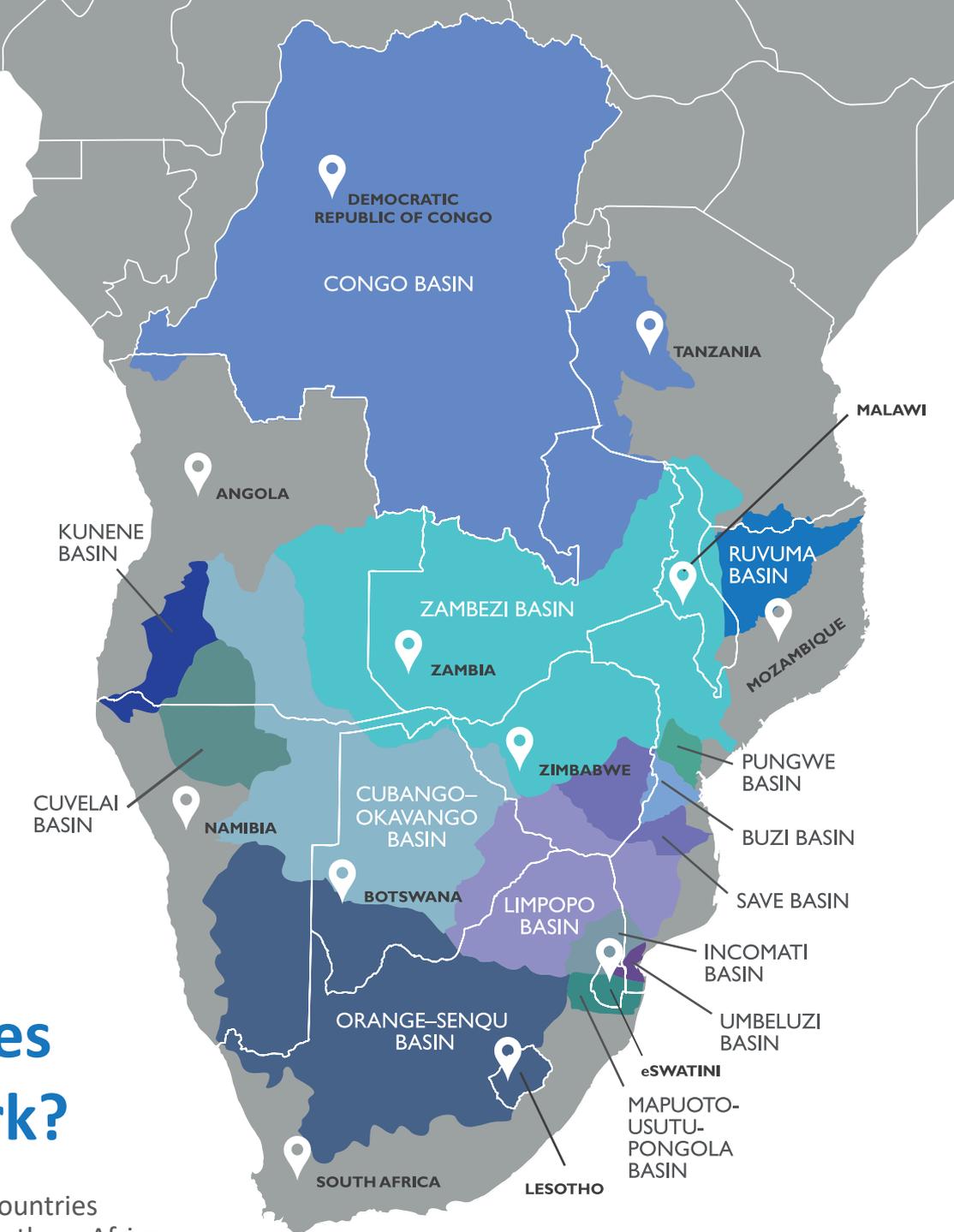


**CRIDF WORKS  
ALONGSIDE THE  
INSTITUTIONS THAT  
PLAN, FINANCE AND  
DEVELOP WATER  
INFRASTRUCTURE**



## **CRIDF aims**

- 💧 Helping countries to build and manage their water infrastructure.
- 💧 Providing long-term solutions to pressing water challenges.
- 💧 Improving the lives of over 200 million people, many of them extremely poor.



## Where does CRIDF work?

CRIDF works across 12 countries and 14 river basins in Southern Africa.

# Major challenges

Southern Africa has a highly variable climate where extreme flooding is often punctuated by long periods of drought – a challenge that will be exacerbated by climate change, threatening the lives and livelihoods of millions of people.

Southern Africa also has a vast array of social, environmental, economic and political perspectives, and its water resources serve a variety of users, including households, agribusinesses and industry. It is increasingly recognised that collaboration is the key to managing transboundary resources, strengthening climate resilience, promoting sustainable development and tackling issues of peace, sovereignty and security.

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# The CRIDF approach

**MOBILISING FINANCE:** CRIDF helps viable water projects attract funds from governments, development finance institutions and the private sector.

**LONG-TERM INFRASTRUCTURAL SUPPORT:** CRIDF supports capacity strengthening within the institutions that plan, finance and develop infrastructure – offering long-term solutions to regional water challenges.

**PROMOTING SOLUTIONS:** CRIDF works with its partners to enhance the adoption and application of appropriate water management tools and approaches.

**RAPID ADVISORY SERVICE:** Using a fast-track screening process, CRIDF provides on-demand technical assistance on water- and climate-related issues.

# ACHIEVEMENTS AND IMPACTS

CRIDF supports project preparation and stakeholder engagement in Southern Africa.

CRIDF achievements include:

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OPERATIONS HAVE BEEN IMPLEMENTED ACROSS  
**12 COUNTRIES** AND **14 TRANSBOUNDARY BASINS**

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ONE MILLION PEOPLE ARE EXPECTED TO BENEFIT  
**DIRECTLY FROM CRIDF'S WORK**

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SINCE 2017 **CRIDF** HAS SCREENED **104 POTENTIAL PROJECTS**  
AND ENSURED THAT **23 PROJECTS WERE 'BANKABLE'**

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**OVER £61 MILLION** HAS BEEN **MOBILISED**  
AND **DONORS** HAVE DEMONSTRATED INTEREST  
IN **COMMITTING** A FURTHER **£520 MILLION**

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## CASE STUDY

### Climate-proofing water supply in the Zambezi River Basin

CRIDF has worked alongside the Intergovernmental Zambezi Watercourse Commission (ZAMCOM) to integrate climate resilience into the planning and development of new water infrastructure in the Zambezi River Basin. Efforts have focused on several pro-poor initiatives, including the construction of sewage facilities and water supply networks; improving water supply efficiency through a reduction in water losses and improved cost recovery; and providing potable water and sanitation facilities.

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## CASE STUDY

### Launching the Cubango-Okavango River Basin (CORB) Fund

The rivers and deltas of the Cubango-Okavango River Basin (CORB) face a multitude of pressures – from population growth to infrastructure development and climate change. The CORB Fund was set up as a fully independent hybrid fund to address these challenges. It aims to enhance livelihoods and improve ecosystem resilience by supporting the sustainable use and conservation of water resources.

# CASE STUDY

## Improving dam operating rules and community tools to deliver water for all

In the Save Basin, water authorities are using new operating rules to more equitably allocate water and improve water management. Rural communities have used the more reliable supply of water to grow new crops. Creating a positive connection between local projects and basin-scale management has also reduced the damaging and illegal practice of cultivating vulnerable riverbanks. This helps to reduce silt in rivers, improve dam storage capacities and restore habitats.



# CASE STUDY

## Limiting damage from floods

Encouraging diverse private and public stakeholders to work together and adopt a shared set of tools has helped improve the management of a flood-prone river basin in Mozambique. Flood modelling and vulnerability assessments, the establishment of a public–private steering committee and the mobilisation of funds have all helped stakeholders pursue infrastructural solutions that allow for the equitable sharing of risks and benefits.



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