



FACT SHEET

RESILIENCE IN THE LIMPOPO BASIN PROGRAM (RESILIM)

CHALLENGE

People living in the Limpopo River Basin in Southern Africa face water shortages, increased floods, and declines in crop productivity as climate change further stresses an already water limited region. Trans-boundary cooperation and action is needed to prevent further degradation of critical river ecosystems, to secure biodiversity and ecosystem services, and to support robust livelihoods in the basin.

APPROACH

RESILIM is a five-year, \$14.6 million program implemented by Chemonics International in support of the integrated water resources management objectives of the Limpopo Watercourse Commission (LIMCOM). The program aims to enhance the resilience of people and ecosystems in order to better respond to climate change impacts. Government, private sector and civil society stakeholders from Botswana, Mozambique, South Africa, and Zimbabwe are supported through technical assistance, training, and capacity building to improve trans-boundary management of the water, biodiversity and other natural resources that drive economic development for the 18 million people living in the Basin. USG supported activities are grounded in a comprehensive understanding of economic, social, and ecological vulnerabilities that are impacted by climate change.

OBJECTIVES

1. To reduce climate vulnerability by promoting adoption of science-based adaptation strategies for integrated, trans-boundary water resource management.
2. To conserve biodiversity and sustainably manage high-priority ecosystems.
3. To develop stakeholder capacities to manage water and ecosystem resources.



EXPECTED RESULTS

- Completed assessments to inform development of a bilateral South Africa-Botswana Water Quality & Water Hyacinth Management Plan
- Basin-wide climate vulnerability assessment initiated
- Partnerships established to restore mangrove ecosystems at the mouth of the River Basin
- Development of resiliency training and capacity building curriculum initiated for multi-sectoral participants
- Disaster risk reduction strategy and action plan for droughts and floods in the river basin updated

CONTACT INFORMATION

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LIMPOPO RIVER BASIN

Basin Characteristics:

Population: 18 million

Area Covered: 416,000 km²

Livelihoods: Subsistence rain fed agriculture and dependence on natural resources, combined with extensive commercial agriculture, thermal power generation, mining, trans-frontier conservation areas, and eco-tourism.

Major Sub-Basins: 11
(see map)

Largest Sub-Catchment Area: Olifants Sub-Basin

