



UK AID FROM THE BRITISH PEOPLE

An aerial photograph of a vast wetland landscape. In the foreground, a large, circular island of dense green vegetation, including palm trees, sits in the middle of a body of water. The water is dark and reflects the sky. In the background, a flat expanse of land with scattered trees and shrubs stretches towards the horizon under a clear blue sky.

Climate Resilient Infrastructure Development Facility (CRIDF)

What is CRIDF?

CRIDF is DFID's new flagship water infrastructure programme for southern Africa. Over the next four years, the Facility will deliver sustainable small-scale infrastructure across 11 SADC region countries. Headquartered in Pretoria, South Africa, the demand-driven programme focuses on water services, water resource management, and agriculture, creating a lasting impact on the region's water, food and energy security.

CRIDF delivers this infrastructure through the provision of politically savvy, demand-driven support on strategic projects, prioritising activities which leverage resources for a regional response to water security and climate change.

To achieve this, CRIDF works through local networks, integrating local political economy considerations into regional decision making. Climate compatible development is at the core of CRIDF's project development processes in order to mainstream climate resilience in delivery and leave behind a sustainable solution. The programme represents a catalytic intervention: it aims to leverage resources for a regional response to water security and climate change, to facilitate additional finance from other sources for the delivery of CRIDF infrastructure projects.

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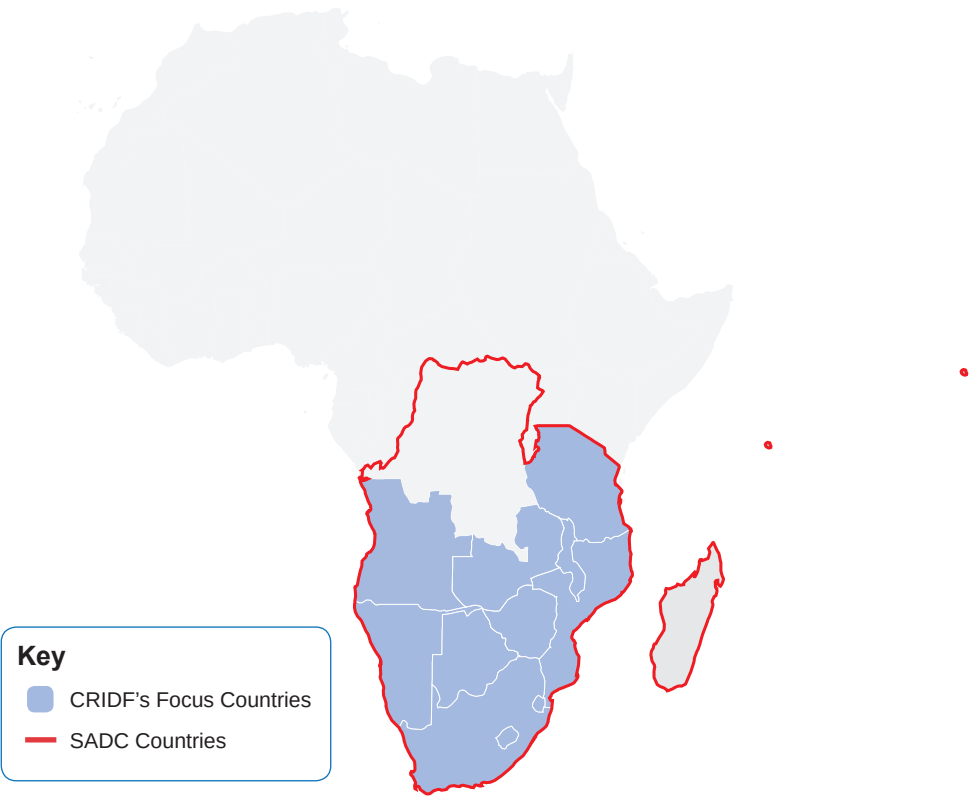


CRIDF's Focus Countries

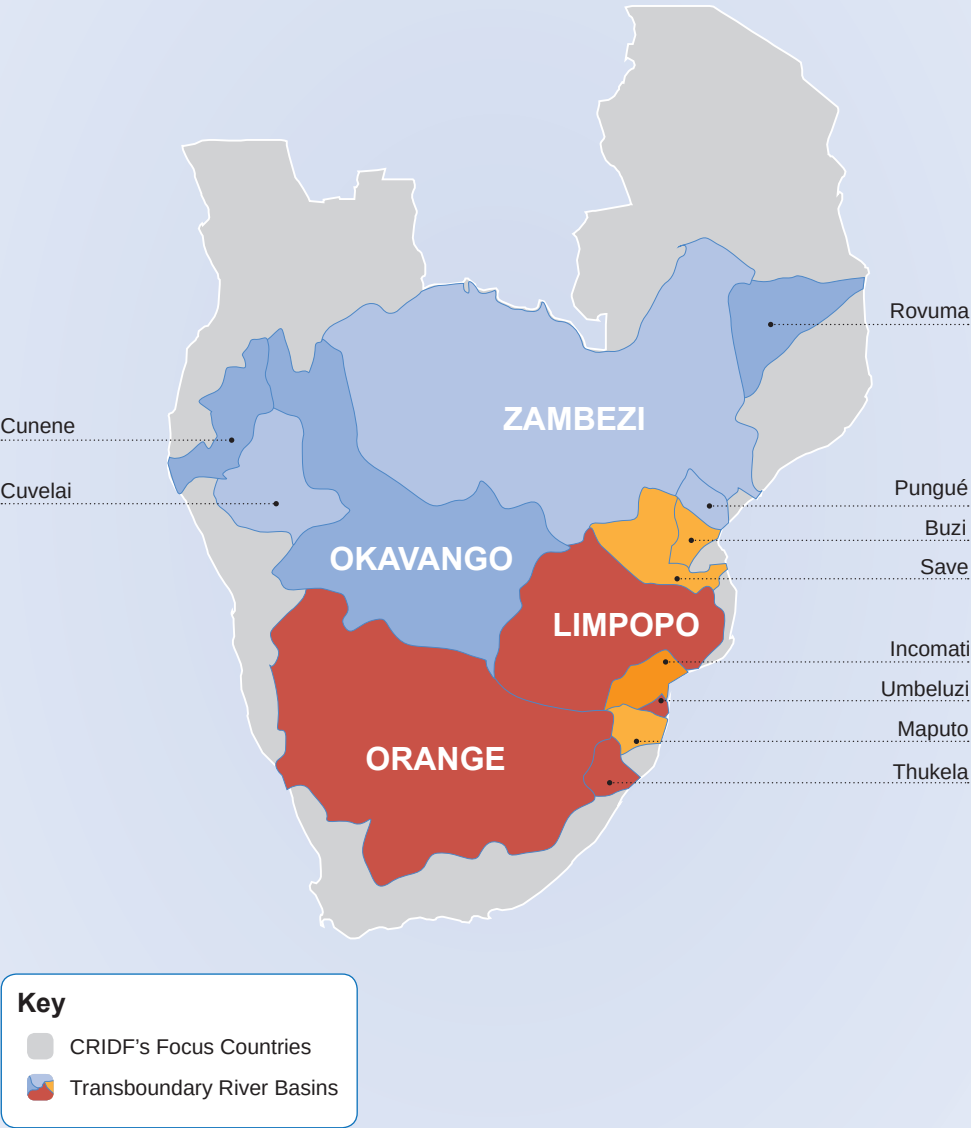
CRIDF works in 11 mainland SADC Countries, with particular attention to Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe, which are DFID Southern Africa's focus countries.

CRIDF has a strong focus on transboundary water management, and the benefits that emerge from cross border cooperation. For this reason, the Facility works closely with the transboundary River Basin Organisations in SADC.

Projects that promote climate resilience in transboundary SADC basins are of special interest to CRIDF.



CRIDF's Focus Transboundary River Basins



Climate Resilience

CRIDF supports any action or project at regional, national, sub-national, or local level that better enables people – particularly the poor – to predict, manage, or mitigate the impacts of extreme climate events through infrastructure interventions.

Southern Africa is characterised by a highly variable climate. Long droughts, often broken by extreme flooding, have affected the lives and livelihoods of the poor, and have impacted on economic growth. Climate change can magnify these impacts.

Climate resilience is about building the capacity to cope with these climate extremes, whether they be due to the existing natural climate variability or rather exacerbated by shifting climate patterns.

The Facility champions climate resilience by catalysing and mobilising a range of projects that increase the ability of communities, policymakers and planners to predict, manage and mitigate climate extremes.



Infrastructure Development

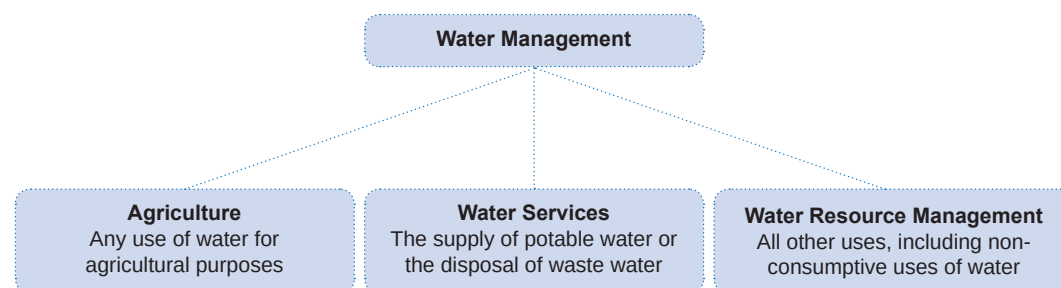
CRIDF recognises that infrastructure development is critical if SADC is to realise its vision of “equitable and sustainable utilisation of water”.

The third SADC Regional Strategic Action Plan set out its ambition to achieve “social and environmental justice and regional integration and economic benefits for present and future generations” through good water use. Infrastructure development is central to realising this aim. The Facility is therefore working to catalyse a wide range of infrastructure projects that support this vision.

In some cases, CRIDF supports pre-planned climate resilient infrastructure projects by providing finance for small-scale infrastructure, access to finance for larger projects, or else specific technical and engineering support and supervision.

Other projects are supported through the provision of Technical Assistance to build climate resilience into the scope, design and operation of planned infrastructure. CRIDF facilitates the implementation of transboundary Integrated Water Resources Management plans that inculcate climate resilience into water resources management and monitoring. By introducing global best practices – in drought management, agricultural production and food security, flood management and the provision of sustainable access to safe water and sanitation – CRIDF aims to mainstream climate resilience into infrastructure planning and operation at regional, national, and local levels.

CRIDF projects are managed under one of three workstreams. It is by recognising the integrated nature of water management that CRIDF can maximise the links between these workstreams:





The Facility Model

The Facility represents an innovative and effective model for delivering donor support. CRIDF is staffed by a full-time Project Management Unit (PMU) comprised of world leading experts in fields related to water security and climate change. The PMU is responsible for identifying, selecting and mobilising projects, responding to the demand for interventions in the SADC community. In designing and implementing projects, the PMU can draw on the expertise of near-400 associate consultants. The success of the facility model lies in its flexibility: in allowing CRIDF respond to needs in a way that is demand-driven, politically savvy and strategic.

CRIDF's interventions fall under three categories:

Rapid Advisory Services (RAS)

The Facility provides rapid ad hoc advisory services in the fields of water, climate and infrastructure. All requests are fast-tracked through the screening process, and the successful requests are quickly actioned. Staffed by carefully selected experts from our pool of consultants, such pieces of work are responsive to contemporary political and development challenges. Most pieces of work are completed within two weeks.

Quick-wins

These are projects which can be delivered relatively quickly, demonstrating benefits immediately. CRIDF disseminates the lessons and evidence from these projects through stakeholder networks in an effort to replicate their success, and mainstream climate resilience into water management.

Long-term Projects

These are projects that develop significant new infrastructure that will be owned and managed by Local Authorities, Water User Associations, or energy suppliers. CRIDF works to support in-country procurement, subsidy, and supervision systems, and to leverage financing from other sources. Successful projects emphasise the regional economic and peace dividends that emerge through transboundary cooperation on water.

Financing CRIDF

By aiming for several 'iconic' projects and widely disseminating these successes; the Facility will catalyse broader investment in climate resilient infrastructure.

SADC's Vision 2027 strategy estimates the investment shortfall in the regional water sector to be £600m per year for 15 years. While the £18.2m DFID funding for CRIDF represents a significant investment – with perhaps as many as one million beneficiaries – the region needs a catalytic intervention mobilising wider investment in water infrastructure.

CRIDF will fill this need. The Facility will leverage maximum support to provide a fundamental regional change for the 94 million inhabitants of the region.

In keeping with CRIDF's strategic focus, resources will be concentrated on those projects or actions that can mobilise or leverage further investment in climate resilient infrastructure. The aim is that CRIDF will leverage at least £50m from external sources once it has projects with demonstrated technical feasibility.



Identifying, Selecting and Mobilising Projects

The Facility works to identify and prioritise projects with a high potential to catalyse wider support.

Our screening process aims to take key projects up to implementation within six months, while the quick-win projects are mobilised within three months, and the Rapid Advisory Services within days.

SCREEN 1

We screen project ideas for their alignment with our strategic framework and logframe, prioritising those appropriate for immediate attention. (The findings of the SADC Regional Water Infrastructure Investment Conference, 2011 have been used as our starting point).

SCREEN 2

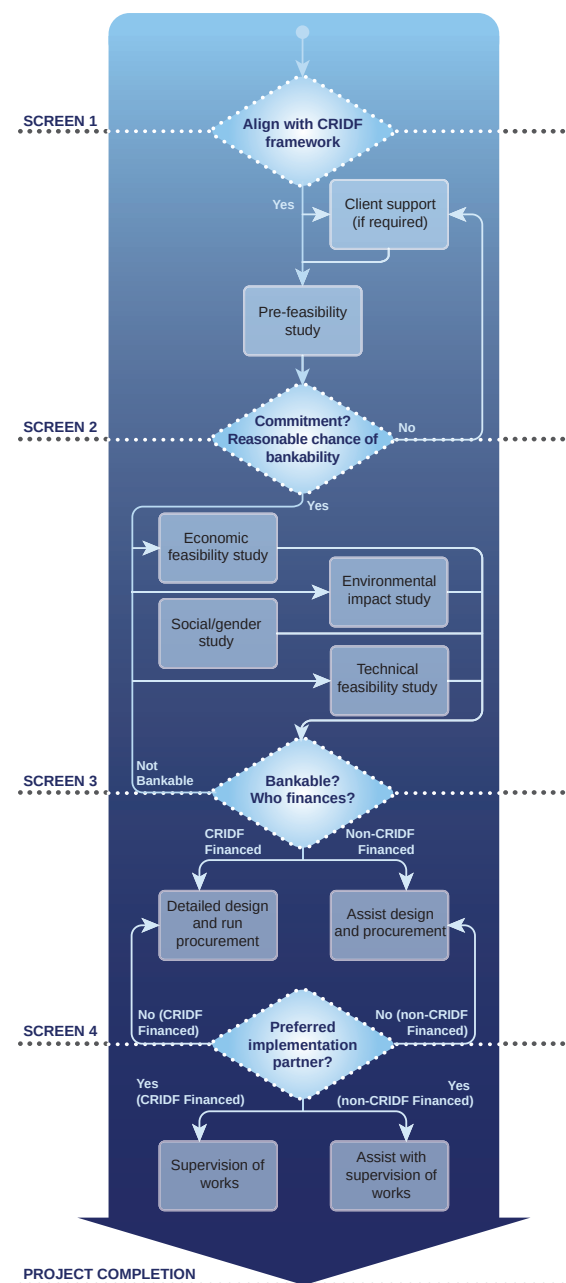
We then plan our activities around two criteria: (1) what can be done to ensure water security is achieved in a climate resilient fashion?; and (2) how can we best catalyse support and action for similar interventions? The Facility then develops a set of activities to demonstrate the bankability of the project and its Value for Money.

SCREEN 3

Once projects demonstrate both financial and technical feasibility, CRIDF supports the detailed design, procurement and mobilisation of the project. For the quick-win projects, the Facility pre-finances and procures for the works or services directly. For larger projects, CRIDF works to leverage support from other sources. The process uses local systems to ensure sustainable ownership of new infrastructure.

SCREEN 4

The final step ensures that the project can and will be implemented, and will deliver excellent Value for Money. Once procurement is successful, the Facility provides for supervision of the works and delivers capacity building – such as O&M training – to ensure sustainability.



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