

Introduction

The Zambezi Watercourse Commission (ZAMCOM) is one of the major watercourse institutions in Africa and the largest in Southern Africa, shared by eight Riparian States: Angola, Botswana, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. The main framework guiding the implementation and development of water and related resources of the Zambezi Watercourse is the Strategic Plan for the Zambezi Watercourse (ZSP 2018-2040) which was approved by the Council of Ministers in 2019. As part of implementation of the ZSP, the Programme for Integrated Development and Adaptation to Climate Change in the Zambezi Watercourse (PIDACC Zambezi) was initiated following consultations with ZAMCOM strategic partner organisations.

What is PIDACC Zambezi?

PIDACC Zambezi is an investment initiative being developed by ZAMCOM to increase climate-smart resilience through addressing the various challenges that impact on livelihoods and development in the Zambezi Watercourse. The ZSP was developed without an action plan and PIDACC Zambezi is therefore being developed to implement some aspects of the ZSP. The ZSP and PIDACC Zambezi are multi-sectoral in nature. The PIDACC Zambezi will be achieved through the implementation of investment projects at both the national and regional levels, within the context of support, coordination, and institutional development. As this programme will be rolled out, due consideration will be given to cross-sectoral inter-linkages and synergies in defining the baskets of potential investment activities/projects/interventions.

What are the objectives of PIDACC Zambezi?

The overarching objective of PIDACC Zambezi is to "Build strong communities that are resilient to climatic and economic shocks in the Zambezi Watercourse, through promoting inclusive, transformative investments, job-creation and ecosystem-based solutions". Through a transformative approach, which ensures gender equality and social inclusion, the PIDACC Zambezi's proposed specific objectives are to:

- ❖ Increase feasible climate-resilient infrastructure that would support livelihoods;
- ❖ Strengthen and build the capacity of the communities, with the view to avoid, reduce and reverse land degradation and effectively manage water resources in a sustainable manner;
- ❖ Develop and improve livelihoods by strengthening agribusiness through investments in water, energy, and food security sectors; and
- ❖ Enhance institutional development and adaptive capacity to reduce vulnerabilities.

What are the expected outcomes from PIDACC Zambezi?

It is envisaged that through these set objectives, the Zambezi Watercourse could have communities that are resilient to climatic and economic shocks based on multi-sectoral, climate-resilient investments. The key outcomes of PIDACC Zambezi include:

- Improved sustainable management of land and water resources;
- Strengthened capacity of communities and institutions to respond to natural and climate shocks;
- Improved livelihood diversification aimed at improving incomes; and
- Enhanced multi-sectoral approaches in the Zambezi Watercourse.

Who are the target beneficiaries?

- Vulnerable communities in the Zambezi Watercourse including women, men, youth, children, and people living with disabilities;
- Multi-sectoral institutions and organisations in sectors such as water, mining, tourism, agriculture, education, health, and energy.

What are the key challenges that PIDACC Zambezi seeks to address?

The PIDACC Zambezi seeks to address the key challenges identified in the ZSP as summarised in Figure 1.

Figure 1

Key issues and challenges in the Zambezi Watercourse

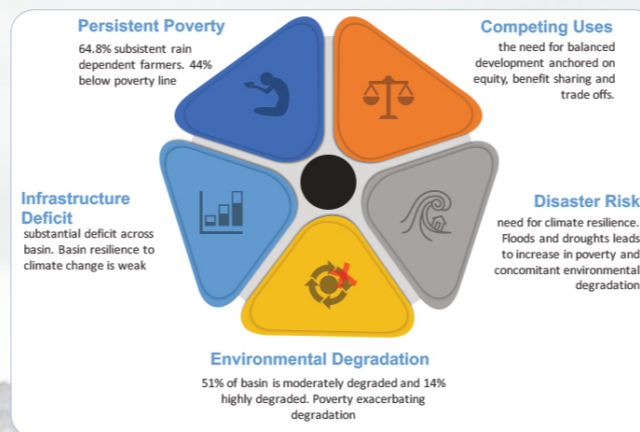
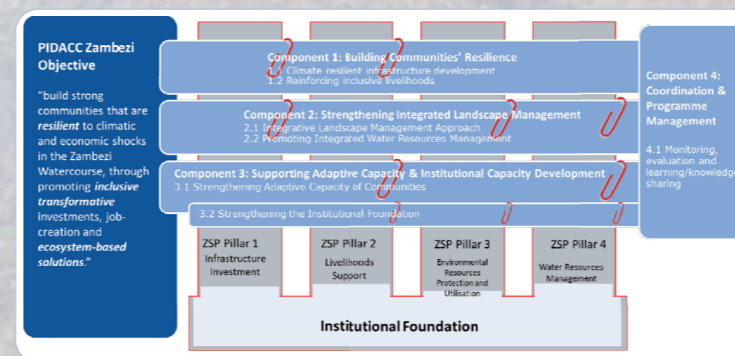


Figure 2

Relationship and Linkages of ZSP and PIDACC Zambezi



port and livelihoods diversification, through enhanced agribusiness development (as a form of industrialisation), thus promoting investments in water, soil, energy, and food security while taking into consideration the fragility of the ecosystem.

Component 2

Strengthening Integrated Landscape Management

This component comprises two sub-components:

- 2.1 Establishing an Integrative Landscape Management Approach Across Scales (watercourse to sub-catchment protection and restoration); and
- 2.2 Promoting Integrated Water Resources Management.

Sub-component 2.1 supports climate-smart investments through the ZSP Pillar 3 (Environmental Resources Protection and Utilisation). The Sub-component seeks to optimise the placement and effective execution of conservation, sustainable land management and rehabilitation/restoration initiatives. This category will focus on keystone, sensitive areas including wetlands, the delta, and the Victoria Falls, which are important in terms of ecosystem services; and strategic water source areas, such as the Angolan Highlands. Sub-component 2.2 supports ZSP Pillar 4 (Water Resources Management) and is aimed at ensuring that a robust scientific, evidence-based platform exists for multi-sectoral management information, prac-

How is PIDACC Zambezi linked to the ZSP?

The PIDACC Zambezi is being developed as the implementation plan of the ZSP. The PIDACC Zambezi objectives and components are aligned to the four pillars of the ZSP as shown in Figure 2 and explained in the subsequent section.

Component 1

Building Resilience of Communities

This includes two sub-components:

- 1.1 Supporting Climate Resilient Infrastructure Development; and
- 1.2 Reinforcing Inclusive Livelihoods Support.

The two sub-components contribute to the facilitation of effective climate-smart investments through ZSP Pillar 1 (Infrastructure Investments) and Pillar 2 (Livelihoods Support), respectively. Sub-component 1.1 contributes to Livelihoods Support by increasing the availability of water for farmers, and increasing their usage of climate-smart techniques for agriculture and agro-forestry, as well as building local capacity in sustainable land and water management. This ultimately promotes inclusive growth and resilience through job creation, livelihoods diversification, and industrialisation, while avoiding, reducing, or reversing land degradation. Sub-component 1.2 aims at promoting inclusive livelihoods support

tice, and regulatory context. The activities under Component 2 will ultimately contribute to refining and achieving land degradation neutrality targets set by the individual countries and restoring ecosystem services at a catchment-level scale.

Component 3

Supporting Development of Adaptive Capacity and Institutional Capacity

This component aims to develop adaptive capacities and will be implemented through two sub-components:

- 3.1 Strengthening Adaptive Capacity of Communities; and
- 3.2 Reinforcing the Institutional Foundation, Capacity Building, Knowledge Management and Technology Transfer.

Sub-component 3.1 will focus on climate-smart investments into interventions identified under Pillar 4 (Water Resources Management) of the ZSP, especially on disaster risk reduction and climate change information systems. This will include building capacities of key stakeholders to mainstream and monitor climate change as well as developing adaptive capacity and strengthening climate risk management to reduce vulnerabilities. Sub-component 3.2 will address the Institutional Development Foundation which is well emphasised in the ZSP as critical towards ensuring good governance and management, harmonisation of policy/legislation, strengthening co-operation, communications, and guaranteeing social inclusion through gender transformative approaches.

Component 4

Coordination and Programme Management

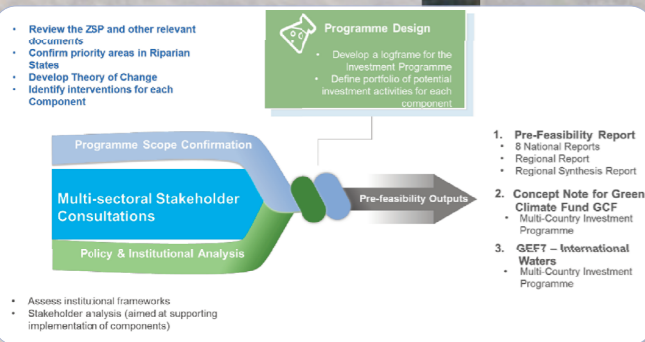
This component will provide for effective management of the PIDACC Zambezi. It supports the execution of the programme and will subsequently devise a sub-component on monitoring, evaluation and learning/knowledge-sharing to inform decision-making. The key elements of this component include: financial management; supervision of activities; and, programme audits.





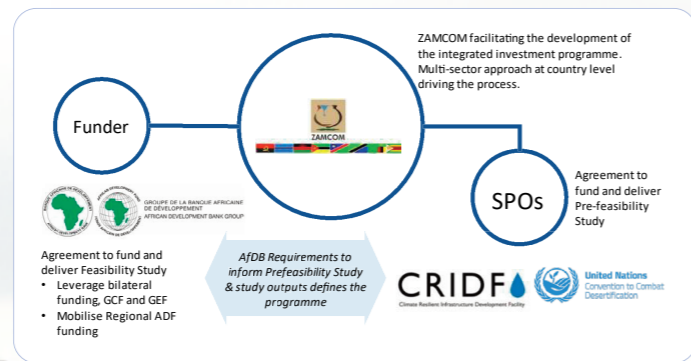
What is the process involved in the development of PIDACC Zambezi?
 PIDACC Zambezi is being developed through a robust multi-sectoral stakeholder driven process with extensive consultations anchored at the local, national, and regional levels. The process started with the review of the ZSP and related documents to inform the selection of key issues and needs of the communities in the Riparian States. Through multi-sectoral stakeholder consultations, all the Riparian States were given an opportunity to confirm their priority climate-smart investment areas based on the needs of local communities. Figure 3 shows the process involved in developing the PIDACC Zambezi.

Figure 3
 Process involved in developing the PIDACC Zambezi



Who are the partners involved in developing PIDACC Zambezi?
 The development of PIDACC Zambezi involves ZAMCOM as the key facilitator, and Strategic Partner Organisations (SPOs) who are providing the necessary technical and financial support. Among the SPOs shown in Figure 4 are the Global Mechanism of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (GM-UNCCD) and the Climate Resilient Infrastructure Development Facility (CRIDF), who are providing support for the Pre-feasibility study, while the AfDB is providing support for the Feasibility study.

Figure 4
 Partners involved in the development of PIDACC Zambezi



Conclusion
 The Zambezi Watercourse remains vulnerable to increasing natural and climatic shocks, therefore climate-smart investments into small-to-medium projects in related fields will help local communities to be more resilient and build their capacities to respond to the various threats such as climate change and pandemics. Furthermore, climate-smart investments through the highlighted components that incorporate a nexus approach will result in improved and resilient livelihoods with improved food security and access to energy in the Zambezi Watercourse.

References

UNCCD 2021. *Terms of Reference: Pre-Feasibility Study for the Programme for Integrated Development and Adaptation to Climate Change in the Zambezi Watercourse (PIDACC Zambezi) Programme Report Writer* <https://www.unjobnet.org/jobs/detail/27990748>
 ZAMCOM. 2016. *Integrated Water Resources Management Strategy and Implementation Plan for the Zambezi River Basin at a Glance*. ZAMCOM, Harare
 ZAMCOM. SADC, SARDC. 2015. *Zambezi Environment Outlook 2015*. ZAMCOM, SADC, SARDC, Harare, Gaborone
 ZAMCOM. 2017. *The Zambezi Basin: Basic Facts* www.zambezi.commission.org

For more information contact ZAMCOM Secretariat at:

ZAMBEZI WATERCOURSE COMMISSION
 128 Samora Machel Avenue
 P.O. BOX CY 118
 Harare, Zimbabwe
 Tel +263 0242 253 361-3
 VOIP +263 8677 000 313
 E-Mail zamcom@zambezi.commission.org
 Website www.zambezi.commission.org



win-win cooperation/ cooperacao, ganhas tu, ganho eu

