



ADAPTATION FUND

AFB/PPRC.38/28
10 September 2026

Adaptation Fund Board
Project and Programme Review Committee
Thirty eighth Meeting
Bonn, Germany, 19-23 October 2026

Agenda Item 5 (g)

PROPOSAL FOR BOTSWANA, MOZAMBIQUE, NAMIBIA, ZAMBIA, ZIMBABWE

Background

1. The strategic priorities, policies and guidelines of the Adaptation Fund (the Fund), as well as its operational policies and guidelines include provisions for funding projects and programmes at the regional, i.e. transnational level. However, the Fund has thus far not funded such projects and programmes.

2. The Adaptation Fund Board (the Board), as well as its Project and Programme Review Committee (PPRC) and Ethics and Finance Committee (EFC) considered issues related to regional projects and programmes on a number of occasions between the Board's fourteenth and twenty-first meetings but the Board did not make decisions for the purpose of inviting proposals for such projects. Indeed, in its fourteenth meeting, the Board decided to:

- (c) Request the secretariat to send a letter to any accredited regional implementing entities informing them that they could present a country project/programme but not a regional project/programme until a decision had been taken by the Board, and that they would be provided with further information pursuant to that decision*

(Decision B.14/25 (c))

3. At its eighth meeting in March 2012, the PPRC came up with recommendations on certain definitions related to regional projects and programmes. However, as the subsequent seventeenth Board meeting took a different strategic approach to the overall question of regional projects and programmes, these PPRC recommendations were not included in a Board decision.

4. At its twenty-fourth meeting, the Board heard a presentation from the coordinator of the working group set up by decision B.17/20 and tasked with following up on the issue of regional projects and programmes. She circulated a recommendation prepared by the working group, for the consideration by the Board, and the Board decided:

- (a) To initiate steps to launch a pilot programme on regional projects and programmes, not to exceed US\$ 30 million;*
- (b) That the pilot programme on regional projects and programmes will be outside of the consideration of the 50 per cent cap on multilateral implementing entities (MIEs) and the country cap;*
- (c) That regional implementing entities (RIEs) and MIEs that partner with national implementing entities (NIEs) or other national institutions would be eligible for this pilot programme, and*

- (d) To request the secretariat to prepare for the consideration of the Board, before the twenty-fifth meeting of the Board or intersessionally, under the guidance of the working group set up under decision B.17/20, a proposal for such a pilot programme based on consultations with contributors, MIEs, RIEs, the Adaptation Committee, the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN), the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG), and other relevant bodies, as appropriate, and in that proposal make a recommendation on possible options on approaches, procedures and priority areas for the implementation of the pilot programme.*

(Decision B.24/30)

5. The proposal requested under (d) of the decision above was prepared by the secretariat and submitted to the Board in its twenty-fifth meeting, and the Board decided to:

- (a) Approve the pilot programme on regional projects and programmes, as contained in document AFB/B.25/6/Rev.2;*
- (b) Set a cap of US\$ 30 million for the programme;*
- (c) Request the secretariat to issue a call for regional project and programme proposals for consideration by the Board in its twenty-sixth meeting; and*
- (d) Request the secretariat to continue discussions with the Climate Technology Center and Network (CTCN) towards operationalizing, during the implementation of the pilot programme on regional projects and programmes, the Synergy Option 2 on knowledge management proposed by CTCN and included in Annex III of the document AFB/B.25/6/Rev.2.*

(Decision B.25/28)

6. Based on the Board Decision B.25/28, the first call for regional project and programme proposals was issued and an invitation letter to eligible Parties to submit project and programme proposals to the Fund was sent out on 5 May 2015.

7. At its twenty-sixth meeting the Board decided to request the secretariat to inform the Multilateral Implementing Entities and Regional Implementing Entities that the call for proposals under the Pilot Programme for Regional Projects and Programmes is still open and to encourage them to submit proposals to the Board at its 27th meeting, bearing in mind the cap established by Decision B.25/26.

(Decision B.26/3)

8. At its twenty-seventh meeting the Board decided to:

- (a) *Continue consideration of regional project and programme proposals under the pilot programme, while reminding the implementing entities that the amount set aside for the pilot programme is US\$ 30 million;*
- (b) *Request the secretariat to prepare for consideration by the Project and Programme Review Committee at its nineteenth meeting, a proposal for prioritization among regional project/programme proposals, including for awarding project formulation grants, and for establishment of a pipeline; and*
- (c) *Consider the matter of the pilot programme for regional projects and programmes at its twenty-eighth meeting.*

(Decision B.27/5)

9. The proposal requested in (b) above was presented to the nineteenth meeting of the PPRC as document AFB/PPRC.19/5. The Board subsequently decided:

a) *With regard to the pilot programme approved by decision B.25/28:*

(i) *To prioritize the four projects and 10 project formulation grants as follows:*

1. *If the proposals recommended to be funded in a given meeting of the PPRC do not exceed the available slots under the pilot programme, all those proposals would be submitted to the Board for funding;*

2. *If the proposals recommended to be funded in a given meeting of the PPRC do exceed the available slots under the pilot programme, the proposals to be funded under the pilot programme would be prioritized so that the total number of projects and project formulation grants (PFGs) under the programme maximizes the total diversity of projects/PFGs. This would be done using a three-tier prioritization system: so that the proposals in relatively less funded sectors would be prioritized as the first level of prioritization. If there are more than one proposal in the same sector: the proposals in relatively less funded regions are prioritized as the second level of prioritization. If there are more than one proposal in the same region, the proposals submitted by relatively less represented implementing entity would be prioritized as the third level of prioritization;*

(ii) *To request the secretariat to report on the progress and experiences of the pilot programme to the PPRC at its twenty-third meeting; and*

b) With regard to financing regional proposals beyond the pilot programme referred to above:

- (i) To continue considering regional proposals for funding, within the two categories originally described in document AFB/B.25/6/Rev.2: ones requesting up to US\$ 14 million, and others requesting up to US\$ 5 million, subject to review of the regional programme;*
- (ii) To establish two pipelines for technically cleared regional proposals: one for proposals up to US\$ 14 million and the other for proposals up to US\$ 5 million, and place any technically cleared regional proposals, in those pipelines, in the order described in decision B.17/19 (their date of recommendation by the PPRC, their submission date, their lower “net” cost); and*
- (iii) To fund projects from the two pipelines, using funds available for the respective types of implementing entities, so that the maximum number of or maximum total funding for projects and project formulation grants to be approved each fiscal year will be outlined at the time of approving the annual work plan of the Board.*

(Decision B.28/1)

10. At its thirty-first meeting, having considered the comments and recommendation of the Project and Programme Review Committee, the Adaptation Fund Board (the Board) decided:

- (a) To merge the two pipelines for technically cleared regional proposals established in decision B.28/1(b)(ii), so that starting in fiscal year 2019 the provisional amount of funding for regional proposals would be allocated without distinction between the two categories originally described in document AFB/B.25/6/Rev.2, and that the funding of regional proposals would be established on a ‘first come, first served’ basis; and*
- (b) To include in its work programme for fiscal year 2019 provision of an amount of US\$ 60 million for the funding of regional project and programme proposals, as follows:*
 - (i) Up to US\$ 59 million to be used for funding regional project and programme proposals in the two categories of regional projects and programmes: ones requesting up to US \$14 million, and others requesting up to US\$ 5 million; and*
 - (ii) Up to US\$ 1 million for funding project formulation grant requests for preparing regional project and programme concepts or fully-developed project and programme documents.*

(Decision B.31/3)

11. The following project pre-concept document titled “Integrated Flood and Drought Management in the Zambezi Basin countries” was submitted for Botswana, Mozambique,

Namibia, Zambia, Zimbabwe by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), which is a Multilateral Implementing Entity of the Adaptation Fund.

12. This is the fourth submission of the regional project pre-concept proposal using the three-step submission process. It was first submitted ahead of the forty-seventh Board meeting.

13. The current submission was received by the secretariat in time to be considered in the forty-seventh Board meeting. The secretariat carried out a technical review of the project proposal, with the diary number AF00000536 World Meteorological Organization (WMO), and completed a review sheet.

14. In accordance with a request to the secretariat made by the Board in its 10th meeting, the secretariat shared this review sheet with WMO, and offered it the opportunity of providing responses before the review sheet was sent to the PPRC.

15. The secretariat is submitting to the PPRC the summary and, pursuant to decision B.17/15, the final technical review of the project, both prepared by the secretariat, along with the final submission of the proposal in the following section. In accordance with decision B.25.15, the proposal is submitted with changes between the initial submission and the revised version highlighted.



ADAPTATION FUND

ADAPTATION FUND BOARD SECRETARIAT
TECHNICAL REVIEW OF PROJECT PROPOSAL FOR
"INTEGRATED FLOOD AND DROUGHT MANAGEMENT IN THE ZAMBEZI BASIN
COUNTRIES "

Project Title Integrated Flood and Drought Management in the Zambezi Basin countries

Project ID AF00000536

Category Regular size project (over \$1 million)

Type Regional project

Stage Pre-concept

Country Regional (Botswana, Mozambique, Namibia, Zambia, Zimbabwe)

Implementing Entity WMO

Financing Requested USD 28,721,000.00

Reviewer Eveline Vasquez

Co-reviewer(s)

IE Contact Person

Ana Laura Zuanazzi, Moyenda Chaponda, Petra Mutic, Sebastian Grey

Secretariat's Overall Comment

The project “Integrated Flood and Drought Management in the Zambezi Basin Countries” aims to strengthen the climate resilience to floods and droughts in the Zambezi Basin countries through integrated management.

The proposal includes a request for a project formulation grant of USD 36,000.

The initial technical review raises some issues, such as a lack of involvement of vulnerable groups in the consultation process, absence of several riparian countries from the project, and questions about institutional coordination and post-project sustainability. They are discussed in the number of Clarification Requests (CRs) and Corrective Action Request (CAR) raised in the review.

The second review finds that most of the CRs and CARs of the initial review have been addressed. However, few still warrant further clarification including, updating the date of the PCN submission, providing allocated amounts at output level, among others as noted in the review.

The final technical review finds that the proposal has addressed all of the CR and CAR requests.

Country Eligibility

Are all of the participating countries party to the Kyoto Protocol, or the Paris Agreement?

Response: Yes

Secretariat: Yes.
(12 May 2026)

Are all of the participating countries developing countries particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change?

Response: Yes

Secretariat: Yes. For the five participating countries, under dry future climate scenarios, there may be water scarcity in some reaches of the Zambezi Watercourse, while droughts and floods are projected to increase in frequency and severity.

(12 May 2026)

Project Eligibility

Have the designated government authorities for the Adaptation Fund from each of the participating countries endorsed the project/programme?

Response: Yes

Secretariat: Yes. As per the Endorsement letters dated as follows for the participating countries: 29 May 2025 (Zimbabwe), 19 March 2026 (Mozambique), 17 December 2025 (Namibia), 30 July 2025 (Botswana), 4 February 2026 (Zambia).

At its forty-third meeting in October 2024, the Adaptation Fund Board decided to change the definition of designated authority from an officer to an entity, to no longer accept new nominations of officers as Designated Authorities and phase out the current system of nominating government officers as the Designated Authority within 12 months of the Board's decision (AFB Decision B.43/29).

CAR1: Please ensure that Botswana has completed the DA transition before re-submitting the proposal to comply with Decision B.43/29.

(12 May 2026)

CAR1: Cleared. As per "Decision B.43/29 complied date: 06/04/2026" indicate on AF website.

(28 July 2026)

Has the pre-concept provided necessary information on the problem the proposed project/programme is aiming to solve, including both the regional and the country perspective?

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: No. The project provides the basic framing for regional issues related to the Zambezi Watercourse. However, further information is needed at the country level, especially for the projects selected. The document does not speak to why only 5 of the 8 riparian countries were selected for a transboundary watershed management project. The statement "National level activities will be conducted in countries specifically targeted for the project" will require further clarity.

CAR2: Please revise the problem statement adding brief sentences to support:

- i. Country level risks and impacts related to drought and flood impacts on key sectors
- ii. Differentiated vulnerability for the gender lens as well as any marginalised communities such as indigenous people
- iii. Any specific institutional and technical gaps per country

CR1: Please indicate the reason for selecting these five countries out of the eight Riparian States.

(12 May 2026)

CAR2: Cleared. See "Project/Programme Background and Context", p. 2, and IE response. Sufficient for PCN

stage.

CR1: Cleared. Based on IE response.

CAR1 (New): Please address the following:

1. Double check/ update the PCN last submission date on page 1.
2. In the “Project/Programme Components and Financing” table, also include allocated amount at output level.
3. A quick round of editing/ proofreading for the PCN after addressing the comments is recommended.
4. The amounts and components listed in the Project/Programme Components and Financing table do not align with what is shown on the platform. Please verify and ensure consistency across both.

(28 July 2026)

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: CAR1 (NEW): Cleared.

Have the project/programme objectives, components and financing been clearly explained?

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: Yes. However further information is needed.

The project/programme objectives, components and financing been clearly explained.

CR2: Please clarify the activities ZAMCOM etc are undertaking and how AF funds will fill the gap.

(12 May 2026)

CR2: Cleared. See “Duplication of project/programme with other funding sources”, p. 11 (TC version).

(28 July 2026)

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: N/A

Has the project/programme been justified in terms of how: - it supports concrete adaptation actions? - it builds added value through the regional approach? - it promotes new and innovative solutions to climate change adaptation? - it is cost-effective? - it is consistent with applicable strategies and plans? - it incorporates learning and knowledge management? - it will be developed through a consultative process with particular reference to vulnerable groups, including gender considerations, in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund? - it will take into account sustainability?

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: Yes. However further information is needed. The pre-concept note provides concrete adaptation options, and some justification in relation to innovation, sustainability, consultation, regional strategies. The proposed regional project contributes to Disaster risk reduction and early warning systems as stated on the cover page. However, there are some gaps, and the logic is not clear in terms of how these actions will reduce

vulnerability.

CR3: Please describe the added value of a regional approach.

CR4: Please clarify if these tools are new to the participating countries or have been successfully implemented in other contexts, as well as how they will be applied to improve adaptation decision-making. How could potential risks affect the overall success of the project?

CAR3: Please provide some evidence to demonstrate cost-effectiveness.

CR5: Please say more about gender considerations and elaborate on “Targeted community or sub-national level consultations will also be conducted” by identifying consultations that will occur with vulnerable groups and also with a gender focus. Please ensure this is explicit in the proposal.

CAR4: Please include national development and sectoral policy frameworks, not just regional and global initiatives, and clearly show how the project aligns with each country’s NAP or NAP Framework, or NAP under development (where applicable), NDC, National Sustainable Development Policy, and relevant sector policies. Also include the publication dates for all policies and policy-related documents referenced.

CAR5: Please include dedicated Learning and Knowledge Management component or sub-component and ensure that its budget allocation is clearly and explicitly identified.

CR6: Please also ensure the “Regional knowledge sharing and community of practice on integrated flood and drought management” are clearly reflected in the project components. The proposal should briefly specify how knowledge will be captured, shared, and disseminated; identify the responsible institution(s); and clarify whether a dedicated knowledge management role or focal point will be assigned to track experiences, lessons learned, and learning across the project.

CAR6: Please clarify in the proposal whether the requested AF funding covers the full costs of adaptation.

CAR7: Please develop a clear sustainability plan that goes beyond training and capacity building. The plan should address post-project financing, maintenance, operational arrangements, institutional responsibilities after project closure, required partnerships, budget allocations, and any commitments needed to sustain project results over time.

CR7: Please clarify the following:

- Will each participating country benefit from all three components? Please be explicit.
- Estimated direct beneficiaries, including vulnerable groups

CR8: Please include a statement which indicates how the project contributes to ‘Disaster risk reduction and early warning systems’ as defined on the cover page. Please consider whether the project also contributes to “Transboundary water management”.

CAR8: Please indicate any site-level risk and the preliminary risk categorization and specify that the project will be designed and implemented in line with the Adaptation Fund Environmental and Social Policy.

CR9: The theory of change is vague and lacks a concrete description of the pathway from the proposed adaptation options (particularly under Components 1 and 2) and reduced vulnerability. Please indicate how investments in basin-scale forecasting and regional data systems will lead to different outcomes at the

household and community level.

CR10: Component 3 does not say much about the process of selecting where to implement these on-the-ground activities. Please give some preliminary details on how “hotspots” will be selected and how this will generate results.

(12 May 2026)

CR3: Cleared. See “Regional Effectiveness”, p. 11, and IE response. Sufficient for PCN stage.

CR4: Cleared. Based on IE response. Sufficient for PCN stage.

CAR3: Cleared. See “Regional Effectiveness”, p. 11, and IE response. Sufficient for PCN stage.

CR5: Cleared. See “Consultative process”, p. 9, and PFG, p.1.

CAR4: Cleared. See “Consistency with development strategies in the region”, p. 9, and IE response.

CAR5: Cleared. A dedicated component (Component 4) has been included, together with a clearly identified budget allocation.

See p. 8 (component description) and pp. 5-6 (Components and Financing table).

CR6: Cleared. See Component 4 discussions, p. 8, and IE response.

CAR6: Cleared. See p. 11 (TR version).

CAR7: Cleared. See p. 9 (TC version) and IE response. Sufficient for PCN stage.

CR7: Cleared. See Part II, Components, 1, 2, 3 and 4 discussions, pp. 7-8 (TC version) and IE response regarding estimated direct beneficiaries. Sufficient for PCN stage.

CR8: Cleared. See p.11 (TC version) and IE response.

CAR8: Cleared. See p. 10 (TC version). Sufficient for PCN stage.

CR9: Cleared. See p. 3 (TC version) and IE response.

CR10: Cleared. See revised Component 3 text, p. 8 (TC version), and IE response.

(28 July 2026)

Does the pre-concept briefly explain which organizations would be involved in the proposed regional project/programme at the regional and national/sub-national level, and how coordination would be arranged? Does it explain how national institutions, and when possible, national implementing entities (NIEs) would be involved as partners in the project?

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: Yes. However, further information is needed. In Part III: Implementation Arrangements, the proposal mentioned the entities that form the core governance and coordination structure for the project at the national and regional level. However, it does not highlight how NIEs would be involved in the project nor

indicates the composition of the Project Management Unit.

CR11: Please embed how NIEs will be engaged in the project (e.g. Environmental Investment Fund (Namibia), Environmental Management Agency (Zimbabwe)).

CR12: Please describe the proposed establishment of the Project Management Unit and key personnel/experts in a brief statement.

(12 May 2026)

CR11: Cleared as per changes in page 11.

CR12: Not fully cleared. Please reflect a brief statement (2-3 lines – extract from IE response text below) in Part III “Implementation Arrangements”. (IE response: “A Project Management Unit (PMU) will be established under the coordination of WMO and will include focal persons from the participating executing entities and national institutions. The PMU will be led by a Project Manager..... implementation arrangements will be further elaborated in the Concept Note, which will include an implementation arrangements diagram”)

(28 July 2026)

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: CR 12: Cleared.

A joint Project Management Unit (PMU), coordinated across Components WHO and ZAMCOM and led by a Project Manager, will oversee project implementation and technical coordination, with designated focal points from the Executing Entity and relevant national institutions. Further details will be provided during CN development.

Resource Availability

Is the requested project / programme funding within the funding windows of the programme for regional projects/programmes?

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: Yes.

(12 May 2026)

Are the administrative costs (Implementing Entity Management Fee and Project/ Programme Execution Costs) at or below 10 per cent of the project/programme for implementing entity (IE) fees and at or below 10 per cent of the project/programme cost for the execution costs?

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: Yes. However further information is needed. The Implementing Entity Management Fee is at 10% of the project/programme cost and the Project Execution Costs are at 10% of the project/programme cost. For the Project Formulation Grant (PFG) request, the funding is within the limit for pre-concept notes given the

project proposal process will take a three-step approach. The value is US\$33,000.

CAR9: Please clarify if the entities listed as executing the PFG will be executing the PFG. If not, please remove.

CR13: Please clarify in the budget notes “WMO will facilitate the preparation of the concept note and full proposal, leveraging internal expertise and administrative support as needed.”

CR14: Please ensure the PFG application reflects how the vulnerable groups will be engaged and that an initial gender analysis will be a key activity in drafting the concept note.

CR15: The cover page reflects a PFG for USD195,000 but the PFG application is costed at USD 33,000. Please note that at the pre-concept stage the PFG allocated amount is 20% which should be \$39,000. Please amend the cover page of the proposal.

(12 May 2026)

CAR9: Cleared. See PFG, top of p.1.

CR13: Cleared. See PFG, p. 2 (item 4), and IE response.

CR14: Cleared. See PFG, p. 1.

CR15: Cleared. See p. 1 (TC version) and revised PFG. PFG request is now for USD 36,000.

(28 July 2026)

Response: Not Cleared

Secretariat: CAR9 (re-opened: Please clarify if only WMO will execute the PFG. If yes, please provide a response in the review sheet and update the PFG form.

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: CAR9 (re-opened); Cleared.

WMO verified that the PFG will be executed by 3 entities.

Eligibility of IE

Is the project/programme submitted through an eligible Implementing Entity that has been accredited by the Board?

Response: Cleared

Secretariat: Yes. The Implementing Entity World Health Organisation is accredited. The IE's accreditation expiration date is 23 November 2028.



ADAPTATION FUND

PRE-CONCEPT FOR A REGIONAL PROJECT/PROGRAMME

PART I: PROJECT/PROGRAMME INFORMATION

Title of Project/Programme: Integrated Flood and Drought Management in the Zambezi Basin Countries

Countries: Botswana, Mozambique, Namibia, Zambia & Zimbabwe

Thematic Focal Area¹: Disaster risk reduction and early warning systems

Type of Implementing Entity: Multilateral Implementing Entity

Implementing Entity: World Meteorological Organization

Executing Entities: Zambezi Watercourse Commission (ZAMCOM); Global Water Partnership Organisation (GWPO), Global Water Partnership Southern Africa (GWP SA); National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) in target countries.

Amount of Financing Requested: 28,721,000 (in U.S Dollars Equivalent)

Project Formulation Grant Request: Yes ☒ No ☐

Amount of Requested financing for PFG: ~~19536~~19536,000 (in U.S Dollars Equivalent)

Letters of Endorsement (LOE) signed for all countries: Yes ☒ No ☐

NOTE: LOEs should be signed by the Designated Authority (DA). The signatory DA must be on file with the Adaptation Fund. To find the DA currently on file check this page: <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/apply-funding/designated-authorities>

Stage of Submission:

☒ This pre-concept has been submitted before

☒ This is the first submission ever of the pre-concept

In case of a resubmission, please indicate the last submission date: [5/4/2026](#) Click or tap to enter a date.

Please note that pre-concept should not exceed 5 pages (in addition to this first cover page)

¹ Thematic areas are: Food security; Disaster risk reduction and early warning systems; Transboundary water management; Innovation in adaptation finance.

Project/Programme Background and Context:

The Zambezi River Basin is highly vulnerable to increasing climate variability and extremes, particularly droughts and floods, which are already causing social, economic and environmental impacts across Southern Africa. The Basin supports over 52 million people whose livelihoods depend heavily on climate-sensitive sectors including rain-fed agriculture, water resources, fisheries, hydropower and ecosystem services. Climate shocks increasingly threaten food security, water availability, energy production, infrastructure, ecosystems and livelihoods, particularly for poor and vulnerable communities.

Climate Change Impacts: The Zambezi Basin is highly vulnerable to climate impacts, including projected declining water availability across parts of the Basin under future climate scenarios, alongside increasing drought risk and greater variability in streamflow and rainfall patterns. Recent climate extremes have already caused major impacts on food security, water resources, hydropower generation, ecosystems and livelihoods across Southern Africa, including severe droughts in 2015/16 and 2024/2025.

The problem that the projects seeks to address is that climate change is projected to further increase the frequency and severity of droughts and floods² throughout the Basin, with expected severe impacts, for example on critical hydropower infrastructure.³ These risks are transboundary in nature; flood events and drought impacts originating in upstream areas frequently cascade across national borders, requiring coordinated regional approaches for monitoring, forecasting, preparedness and response. However, significant gaps remain in regional and national hydrometeorological monitoring systems, forecasting capacity, data exchange, early warning, institutional coordination and community preparedness. Vulnerable communities, particularly women and marginalized groups dependent on climate-sensitive livelihoods, have limited access to actionable climate information and adaptation support.

The Objective of this project is to strengthen climate resilience to floods and droughts in the Zambezi Basin through an integrated regional-to-local approach that combines: i) enhanced basin-scale hydrometeorological monitoring, forecasting and early warning systems; ii) strengthened institutional and policy capacity for integrated flood and drought management; and iii) targeted community-level adaptation actions in climate vulnerability hotspots. Working through ZAMCOM and national institutions, the project will strengthen coordinated transboundary management of climate risks while supporting practical adaptation actions for vulnerable communities. The project aims to contribute to achieving increased resilience for all 52 million beneficiaries across the basin, particularly targeting most vulnerable populations and groups. The Zambezi River has a catchment area of 1.37 million km² across 3 parts of the river: the upper Zambezi separated from the middle Zambezi by Victoria Falls, and the lower Zambezi below Gaboro Bassa Gorge. Habitats include forested headwater streams, extensive floodplains, deep gorges, two large man-made lakes and an extensive delta.⁴ The Zambezi Watercourse is shared by 8 Riparian States (Angola, Botswana, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe) whose total population is estimated at 173 million, of which approximately 52 million live within the Zambezi Watercourse. The economies of the Riparian States are varied, depending primarily on rain fed agriculture and extractive industries⁵. The river and its basin and tributaries comprise home to a wide ecosystem of flora and fauna that are important for biodiversity in the region. The river serves multiple purposes from food security to tourism, ecosystem services and power generation. A key challenge for the Basin is a historical risk of both droughts and floods driven by a highly variable climate. According to Hulsman et al. (2021), droughts have become a

² ZAMCOM Floods and Drought Policy Brief

³ Zambia IRP – Reference to be inserted

⁴ Tweddle, D. (2010). Overview of the Zambezi River System: Its history, fish fauna, fisheries, and conservation. *Aquatic Ecosystem Health & Management*, 13(3), 224–240. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14634988.2010.507035>

⁵ Strategic Plan for the Zambezi Watercourse ZAMCOM

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major feature of the climate and economies of the Basin. The Southern Africa region, within which the Zambezi River falls, is subject to the El Nino Southern Oscillation (ENSO), with periods of El Nino and La Nina resulting in cycles of droughts and floods respectively. The 2015/16 drought linked to the El Nino occurrence resulted in loss of life, damage to property and infrastructure, transmission of water borne diseases, poor harvests and loss of livestock, leading to food insecurity and economic loss. In 2024, the Basin faced one of the most severe droughts in 100 years, impacting over 40 million people, especially the marginalised. Flood-prone areas in the Zambezi Basin are also widespread, posing risk to agriculture, assets and lives of people.

Theory of Change: The project will strengthen climate resilience to floods and droughts in the Zambezi River Basin by ensuring that vulnerable communities are reached by effective climate information and early warnings that support anticipatory and forecast-based action, while simultaneously enhancing their capacity to implement locally appropriate adaptation measures. This change will be achieved through: i) improved basin-scale and national hydrometeorological monitoring, forecasting and early warning systems; ii) strengthened institutional coordination and enabling frameworks for integrated flood and drought risk management; iii) targeted community-level adaptation actions in climate vulnerability hotspots; and iv) regional knowledge sharing and learning to scale effective adaptation practices across the Basin. Together, these interventions will improve preparedness, reduce climate vulnerability and strengthen the long-term resilience of vulnerable communities, ecosystems and livelihoods in the Zambezi Basin to increasing climate-related flood and drought risks. These components and their outputs and activities, provide a blend of flood and drought early warning and forecasting, community planning and action for response to forecast information, and concrete adaptation activities that focus on natural resources management and integrated watershed management in vulnerable locations along the Zambezi River basin. During the full project proposal development, assessments will be conducted to better identify environmental, social and economic issues to be addressed. In addition, the assessments and consultations will also give special attention to gender issues and the identification of gender related indicators to be included in the results framework at all levels (objective, outcome, output).

Climate change impacts: There are indications that under dry future climate scenarios, there may be water scarcity in some reaches of the Zambezi Watercourse, while droughts and floods are projected to increase in frequency and severity. The risks of floods or droughts are predicted to be further exacerbated by climate change.⁶ Hydropower projections for the basin go so far as 0-20% declines in potential. Other studies indicate 6-10% declines in water availability in some parts, while hydropower projections go so far as possible 10-20% declines in potential.

Justification for a regional project: The impact of floods and droughts in the Zambezi River Basin and Southern Africa transcend national boundaries, and countries need to focus more on requiring integrated flood and drought management at transboundary/basin level approach rather than working in isolation. Working with a regional institution like ZAMCOM, provides opportunities for cost efficiency of River Basin monitoring actions, while enhancing coordinated and cost-effective action for integrated flood and drought management and resilience at the national and local levels. National level activities will be conducted in countries specifically targeted for the project.

Project/Programme Objectives: The goal of the project is to "Strengthening the climate resilience to floods and droughts in the Zambezi Basin countries through integrated management". The project is expected to benefit over 52 million people who live in and rely on the Zambezi River basin resources for their livelihoods.

Specific objectives:

- Enhanced flood and drought monitoring, forecasting and early warning

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⁶ ZAMCOM Floods and Drought Policy Brief

- ◆ ~~Strengthened policy frameworks and institutional capacity for flood and drought management including monitoring and forecasting, risk and impact assessment, and risk mitigation and response.~~

~~Community climate resilience strengthened through the implementation of flood and drought risk management actions.~~

- ◆ ~~XXXImproved knowledge management for future adaptive management and response~~

Project/Programme Components and Financing:

Components	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Countries	Amount (US\$)
1. Information systems for integrated flood and drought monitoring, forecasting and early warning	Enhanced flood and drought monitoring, forecasting and early warning	1.1 Existing national and regional drought and flood monitoring, forecasting and early warning systems reviewed and assessed, and gaps identified. Gap assessment of existing national and regional hydrological and drought monitoring systems	All countries	7,500,000.00
		1.2 Regional GIS-based flood and drought risk mapping and impact assessments	Regional	
		1.3 Established mechanism to monitor and assess impacts of flood and droughts including innovative crowd-sourcing methods to inform risk assessments and risk response measures		
		1.4 Enhanced observations and data collection for seamless hydrometeorological data flow	Regional	
		1.5 ZAMWIS strengthened for Strengthened integrated regional hydrometeorological monitoring, data exchange, forecasting and communication systems building on the Zambezi Water Information Management System (ZAMWIS)	Regional	
2. Enhancing policy frameworks and institutional capacity for integrated flood and drought risk management	Strengthened policy frameworks and institutional capacity for flood and drought management including: monitoring and forecasting, risk and impact assessment, and risk mitigation and response ¹	2.1 Capacity building for national and local authorities and other key stakeholders on integrated flood and drought management including monitoring and forecasting, risk and impact assessment, as well as risk communication, mitigation and response ¹	All countries	6,000,000.00
		2.2 Strengthened governance mechanisms for flood and drought monitoring and early warning at national level through technical support to the ZAMSCOH (sub-committee on hydrology and groundwater) and the development of transboundary flood and drought risk management plans /strategies in line with NAPs, NDCs and other adaptation and mitigation strategies ²	All countries	
		2.3 Regional and national knowledge sharing, policy dialogue and communities of practice on integrated flood and drought management	All countries	
		2.4 Regional and national gender action plans, indicators and trainings are developed and implemented		
3. Implementing community-level adaptation actions in climate vulnerability hotspots implementing scalable community-level flood and drought risk management actions for livelihoods adaptation and resilience	Community climate resilience strengthened through the implementation of flood and drought risk management actions	3.1 Gender sensitive and inclusive community-based flood and drought management investment plans developed ³	Community-level All Countries - hotspot approach	9,000,000.00
		3.2 Ecosystem/ Nature-based (biological and physical) watershed management actions as well as agricultural best practices for integrated flood and drought management implemented	Community-level All Countries - hotspot approach	8,000,000
		3.3 Community capacity building on integrated flood and drought management	Community-level All Countries	
4. Knowledge management and learning for on-integrated flood and	Strengthened knowledge management for integrated flood	4.1 Regional and national knowledge sharing, policy dialogue and communities of practice on integrated flood and drought management and the use of indigenous knowledge	All countries	2,000,000.00

¹ including monitoring and forecasting, risk and impact assessment, as well as risk communication, mitigation and response.

² through technical support to the ZAMSCOH (sub-committee on hydrology and groundwater) and the development of transboundary flood and drought risk management plans /strategies in line with NAPs, NDCs and other adaptation and mitigation strategies.

³ These plans will be developed to identify and respond to specific adaptation needs, inform investments to be made under the project, and include strategies for sustainable implementation.

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drought managementStrengthened knowledge management for integrated flood and drought management	and drought management	4.2 Documentation and dissemination of adaptation lessons, stories, good practices and technical knowledge products.	All countries	
4. Project/Programme Execution cost				2,610,000
5. Total Project/Programme Cost				26,110,000
6. Project/Programme Cycle Management Fee charged by the Implementing Entity (if applicable)				2,611,000
Amount of Financing Requested				28,721,000-0
				0

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Project Duration: (5 years (60 months))

PART II: PROJECT/PROGRAMME JUSTIFICATION

The project applies an integrated regional-to-local approach to strengthen resilience to floods and droughts in the Zambezi Basin. The project combines enhanced basin-scale climate information and early warning systems with strengthened institutional coordination and targeted community-level adaptation actions in climate vulnerability hotspots. The project incorporates three levels of action for effective regional to national integrated drought and flood management in the Zambezi River basin.

Component 1 will strengthen regional and national capacities for climate and hydrological monitoring, forecasting, impact-based early warning and climate risk information sharing across the Zambezi Basin. The component will support improvements to hydrometeorological observations, data collection, forecasting systems, risk mapping and regional data exchange, while strengthening coordination between national and regional institutions through ZAMCOM. This component will build on existing regional systems, including the Zambezi Water Information Management System (ZAMWIS), while strengthening interoperability with WMO-supported systems and platforms including WIS 2.0, WHOS and HydroSOS¹. Improved basin-scale forecasting and data sharing will strengthen the ability of participating countries to anticipate and respond to transboundary drought and flood risks. The component will also strengthen impact-based forecasting and people-centred early warning approaches by improving the generation, communication and use of climate risk information for decision-making at regional, national and local levels.

Component 1 deals with national and regional information systems for monitoring the Zambezi River water flow in relation to flood and drought monitoring, forecasting and early warning. This component aims to enhance the regional infrastructure, platforms and systems for monitoring the River Basin and the current challenges to their operations and sustainability. This component will specifically target ZAMCOM to enhance their capacity, building on the Zambezi Water Information Management System (ZAMWIS) to enhance its warning advisory services to at risk populations and agencies for risk informed decision-making. Here the project will facilitate access to global and regional drought relevant products from the WMO Integrated Processing and Prediction System (WIPPS) Centres, as well as ensure integration of data into systems such as the WMO Hydrological Observing System (WHOS), WMO Information System 2.0 (WIS 2.0), the WMO Global Hydrological Status and Outlook System (HydroSOS) approach.

Component 2 will strengthen institutional coordination, governance and technical capacity for integrated flood and drought risk management at regional, national and local levels. The component will support national meteorological and hydrological services, water authorities, disaster risk management institutions and ZAMCOM technical structures to improve coordination, preparedness, risk communication and anticipatory action. The component will support the development and strengthening of integrated flood and drought risk management plans, institutional coordination mechanisms and operational procedures aligned with national adaptation priorities, including National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and relevant sectoral strategies. Capacity building and knowledge exchange activities will strengthen technical capacities in areas such as hydrometeorological forecasting, climate risk assessment, impact-based early warning, gender-responsive adaptation planning and transboundary water cooperation. The component will also strengthen regional learning, policy dialogue and communities of practice to support long-term institutional sustainability and regional cooperation.

Component 2 will focus on enhancing the policy frameworks and institutional capacity at national level for flood and drought management including monitoring and forecasting, risk and impact

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¹ Include a link to relevant WMO products as reference

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assessment, and risk mitigation and response, particularly in relation to governance, coordination, communication and action on early warnings, linkages with the national adaptation plans of the countries. This component will work directly with the NMHSs in the participating countries, relevant national water authorities, the ZAMCOM Technical Sub Committee on Hydrology and Groundwater (ZAMSCOH-G), GWP Southern Africa and other relevant stakeholders to enhance capacity and strengthen governance and stakeholder engagement on transboundary water resources management and integrated flood and drought management. Regional and continental learning will be supported through tailored communities of practices.

Component 3 will support targeted community-level adaptation actions in selected drought and flood hotspot areas across participating countries. Hotspots will be identified based on climate risk, exposure, livelihood vulnerability, ecosystem degradation and adaptive capacity. Assessments to identify these hotspots and participating communities will be conducted during the project preparation phase, using multi-criteria analyses informed by regional, national and local consultations. Activities under this component will complement improved climate information and early warning systems into practical adaptation actions that reduce vulnerability and strengthen resilience for climate-affected communities, particularly vulnerable and marginalized groups. Community adaptation actions will combine ecosystem-based approaches, climate-resilient water management and climate-informed livelihood adaptation measures tailored to local climate risks and socio-economic conditions² and consider gender and social inclusion.

Component 4 will support regional knowledge management, learning and dissemination of good practices on integrated flood and drought management across the Zambezi Basin. The component will document lessons learned, adaptation experiences and effective practices emerging from project implementation, with a focus on scaling practical adaptation approaches and strengthening regional cooperation. Knowledge products, peer learning exchanges, regional dialogues and communities of practice will support cross-country learning and replication of successful approaches within the Basin and across the wider Southern African region. The component will also strengthen long-term institutional learning and support the sustainability of project outcomes beyond the project lifetime. Knowledge management staff at EEs will be leveraged for support, while the ZAMCOM website will be used as the knowledge repository.

Innovation: The project applies an integrated regional-to-local approach for anticipatory flood and drought resilience in the Zambezi Basin by linking basin-scale hydrometeorological forecasting and early warning systems with community-level adaptation planning and response. The project strengthens transboundary climate risk management through interoperable regional information systems, impact-based forecasting and coordinated early warning dissemination across national boundaries. The project will also promote people-centred and gender-responsive approaches to climate risk management, including community-based risk assessments, localized climate information services and participatory adaptation planning in climate vulnerability hotspots. Innovative approaches for integrating hydrological observations, climate information and community-reported impacts will support more responsive and targeted adaptation decision-making. The project will support the implementation of an integrated approach to flood and drought management with a transboundary water information system and leveraging on WMO innovations such as the HydroHUB. The project will integrate innovative people-driven mechanisms to assess risk and impacts of floods and droughts at the grassroot level. Exploration of Artificial Intelligence hydrological modelling will also be explored.

² Indicative interventions may include: watershed restoration, small-scale water harvesting and storage systems, flood buffering measures, climate-smart agriculture, restoration of degraded ecosystems and community preparedness activities linked to early warning systems.

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Consistency with development strategies in the region: The project aligns with the Zambezi Strategic Action Plan (2018–2040), which prioritizes coordinated transboundary water resources management, climate resilience and disaster risk reduction across the Basin. The project also supports the operational mandate of ZAMCOM on regional cooperation for sustainable water management. At national level, project activities will align with participating countries' National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) or NAP frameworks, Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), disaster risk reduction strategies and relevant water, agriculture and climate policies. The project also contributes to regional and global initiatives including the Early Warnings for All (EW4All) initiative, the Integrated Drought Management Programme (IDMP), the Associated Programme on Flood Management (APFM) and the Systematic Observations Financing Facility (SOFF). The project contributes directly to the Adaptation Fund thematic area on Disaster Risk Reduction and Early Warning Systems. This project is in line with the Zambezi Strategic Action Plan (2018–2040), which has been developed with input from all the riparian countries. One of ZAMCOM's mandates is indeed policy harmonisation across the states, something that this project will also support. The Project will be linked to flagship global and regional initiatives of WMO like Early Warnings for All (EW4All), and the Systematic Observations Financing Facility (SOFF).

Learning and knowledge management aspects: The project incorporates an output specifically on “Regional knowledge sharing and community of practice on integrated flood and drought management”. This will be supported by GWP based on their experience on knowledge sharing and building communities of practice at global level. WMO regional training centres (RTCS) and existing e-learning platform will be used for training activities.

Consultative process to be used in developing full proposal: The full proposal will be developed through a multi-level consultative process involving regional institutions, national authorities, technical agencies, civil society organizations, local stakeholders and vulnerable communities across participating countries. Regional consultations will be coordinated through ZAMCOM and its technical structures, including the ZAMSCOH-G sub-committee, while national and sub-national consultations will engage institutions responsible for water resources, climate services, disaster risk management, agriculture and local development. Targeted consultations will be conducted in climate vulnerability hotspots to ensure that community adaptation priorities, local knowledge and differentiated vulnerabilities are reflected in project design.

Sustainability: The project is designed to strengthen long-term institutional, technical and community resilience capacities for integrated flood and drought management in the Zambezi Basin. Regional systems and coordination mechanisms supported by the project will be embedded within existing ZAMCOM structures and national hydrometeorological and water management institutions to support continued operation beyond project closure. The project will build on and strengthen existing operational systems, standards and platforms, including ZAMWIS and WMO-supported hydrometeorological systems, to reduce long-term maintenance and operational costs and support interoperability and sustainability. Community-level adaptation actions will prioritize locally appropriate and manageable approaches developed in collaboration with local authorities and communities to strengthen ownership, long-term use and sustainability. All activities respond to the needs and priorities identified in the Zambezi Strategic Action Plan (2018–2040) that has been agreed on by ZAMCOM member states. Capacity building, institutionalisation in national agencies, building on existing systems, and focus on operational systems and activities, will ultimately enhance ZAMCOM's own institutional sustainability to continue the project supported activities long after the project ends. National activities will have a focus on capacity building and institutionalisation for sustainability. Maintenance and sustainability plans will be developed at regional and national level for the ZAMWIS architecture as well as the hardware components of the project. Community activities

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will be designed and conducted closely with local authorities and handed over to them for upkeep beyond the project. Communities of practice will be formed to enable broader learning and scale up. WMO centres, standards and systems for observations, forecasting and data exchange like WIPPS and WIS2.0 will be used

Economic, social and environmental benefits: The project will generate environmental, social and economic benefits through improved resilience to climate-related floods and droughts across the Zambezi Basin. Enhanced forecasting, early warning and preparedness systems are expected to reduce climate-related losses and damages affecting communities, infrastructure, livelihoods and ecosystems. Community-level adaptation actions will support climate-resilient livelihoods, improved water security, ecosystem restoration and sustainable natural resource management in vulnerable areas. Ecosystem-based approaches such as watershed restoration and sustainable land and water management will contribute to improved ecosystem health and reduced climate risk exposure. ZAMCOM envisages a future characterised by equitable and sustainable utilisation of water for social and environmental justice, regional integration and economic benefit for present and future generations. Ensuring environmental, social and economic benefits particularly for communities affected by droughts and floods are a key aspect of this project.

Environmental benefits: use of natural resources management, integrated watershed management and nature-based approaches will ensure a focus on activities that enhance health of ecosystems to improve livelihoods and adaptation to climate change.

Economic benefits: a livelihoods-based approach will be taken for community actions, ensuring that activities to enhance resilience to climate hazards also strengthen people's income streams. Enhanced savings and economic gains at household, community and national level are expected through improved adaptation and resilience to floods and droughts.

Social benefits: Women's empowerment and gender equity will be pursued through 1) activities focused on women or women's groups that are gender responsive and transformative; and 2) mainstreaming gender into all activities to ensure that they are gender sensitive and responsive. All monitoring and evaluation will include indicators on gender equity and social inclusion (GESI), so that poor and marginalised groups are targeted and benefited.

The project is also aligned with various SDGs, including SDG6 on water (which specifically mentions targets for transboundary cooperation) and SDG 13 on climate action.

Environmental and social impacts and risks: Community adaptation actions under component 3 could pose environmental risks but these will be conducted within environmental management frameworks and standards of the participating countries. No large scale actions that disturb ecosystems, heritage sites or natural habitats will be conducted. The project local actions will promote improved natural resource management. The risk of creating or exacerbating social inequity through the project actions also exists, however this will be mitigated by conducting a comprehensive assessment of gender and social dynamics in target locations and ensuring that actions promote enhanced equity and empowerment of marginalised groups. No economic risks are perceived as the project will enhance livelihood resilience in target communities. At pre-concept stage, initial screening of the components suggests minimal environmental and social risks (potentially Category B), most of which will be attributable to the implementation of community-level adaptation measures and any negative aspects are expected to be minimal, reversible and readily mitigatable through a well-developed environmental and social management framework. A comprehensive risk assessment will be conducted during the full proposal development, and a suitable ESMF will be prepared to ensure project delivery is in line with the E&S policies of the AF and the WMO. The AFs, IEs and EEs policies on gender,

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environment and social safeguards will be used to guide project actions for minimal risk and doing no harm.

Duplication of project/programme with other funding sources: The project will build on and complement existing regional and national initiatives on climate adaptation, hydrometeorological services, disaster risk reduction and transboundary water management in Southern Africa. Relevant initiatives include the CREWS programme, the World Bank-supported Zambezi River Basin Management Project, the CIF Zambezi Watercourse Programme, PIDACC Zambezi, the Strengthening Zambezi River Basin Management project and other regional climate resilience initiatives. The project will also add value by strengthening the linkage between basin-scale climate information systems, institutional coordination and practical community-level adaptation actions in climate vulnerability hotspots. The project will also strengthen the operational capacity of ZAMCOM to promote coordinated regional approaches for flood and drought risk management across the Basin, ensuring that the project and other related initiatives are synergistic.

Regional Effectiveness: Addressing basin wide climate risks requires coordinated regional approaches for hydrometeorological monitoring, forecasting, data exchange, early warning dissemination and climate risk management. A basin-wide approach implemented through ZAMCOM provides significant added value by strengthening regional coordination, harmonizing data and forecasting systems, improving interoperability and enabling more timely and accurate early warning information across countries. Regional cooperation also generates economies of scale, enabling cost sharing and cost effectiveness, by allowing countries to share technical infrastructure, forecasting systems, knowledge and institutional capacity that would be more costly and less effective if developed independently. Importantly, a regional approach enables national and local adaptation actions to be informed by basin-scale climate and hydrological information, improving preparedness and resilience for transboundary flood and drought risks. The project will link with and build on other projects and programmes related to climate change adaptation either at national or regional level in the Southern Africa region. These include: the AF Project on Resilience building as climate change adaptation in drought-struck South-western African communities (Angola, Namibia); World Bank funded Zambezi River Basin Management Project (P143546); Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems (CREWS) Initiative projects in Malawi; CIF Zambezi Watercourse Regional Program; PIDACC Zambezi; and GCF pipeline project on Climate Resilient Systems for SADC Water Sector that focuses on infrastructure aspects. The Zambezi project builds on these by going to the community level with focus on marginalised and high-risk locations (hotspots). This project also targets a very specific regional institution (ZAMCOM) and regional resources (The Zambezi River basin), to enhance flood and drought monitoring and early warning in a more coordinated manner. Liaison and coordination with national water management institutions will provide the basis for ensuring that actions do not duplicate and rather complement. The project will also be aligned with and build on flagship programmes of WMO, including the Early warnings for All (EW4All) initiative, Integrated Drought Management Programme (IDMP) and the Associated Programme on Flood Management (APFM), WMO's Global Hydrological Status and Outlook System (HydroSOS), hence enhancing synergies.

Justification for funding requested, focusing on the full cost of adaptation reasoning: Adaptation Fund support is required to address the additional costs of strengthening climate resilience to increasing drought and flood risks in the Zambezi Basin. Significant gaps remain in hydrometeorological monitoring, forecasting, data exchange, institutional coordination and the translation of climate information into practical adaptation action for vulnerable communities. The project will finance integrated regional and national adaptation measures that would not be implemented at the required scale or level of coordination without dedicated climate adaptation financing. By strengthening basin-scale forecasting and early warning systems, institutional coordination and community-level adaptation actions simultaneously, the project supports a

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coordinated regional adaptation approach that reduces climate vulnerability and enhances resilience across participating countries and vulnerable communities. With funding from AF, ZAMCOM will be able to provide key services related to flood and drought monitoring and forecasting along the Zambezi River basin, in line with its strategic plan and implement a fully integrated basin-wide flood and drought monitoring and forecasting system to benefit up to 52 million people indirectly. This project represents the full costs of adaptation from regional to sub-national level in the selected communities.

PART III: IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

The following organizations will be involved in the project and will ~~also form the core of its~~ governance and coordination structure:

- ~~World Meteorological Organization (WMO) – MIE for the project~~ - overall management through its HQ and Sub-regional Office ~~for Eastern and Southern Africa~~ in Kenya; and its technical teams working on Hydrology and Drought.
- ~~Zambezi Watercourse Commission (ZAMCOM) - EE - anchor regional institution for the river basin monitoring services in the project.~~
- ~~Global Water Partnership Organization (GWPO) and the Global Water Partnership Southern Africa (GWP SA) - EE – Co-host of the Associated Programme on Flood Management (APFM) and the Integrated Drought Management Programme (IDMP). They will design and implement local adaptation actions, ensure gender integration, sustainability and knowledge generation, linking with their network of "Support Base Partners,".~~
- ~~National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSS) in target countries – EEs - key national partners for early warning as well as and~~ beneficiaries of capacity building activities; ~~The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), as well as the~~ National Designated Authorities of the Adaptation Fund ~~and National Implementing Entities~~ will be involved in advisory, coordination, and stakeholder engagement roles. A Project Steering Committee consisting of these organisations will be formed together with focal points of relevant national institutions.

PART IV: ENDORSEMENT BY GOVERNMENTS AND CERTIFICATION BY THE IMPLEMENTING ENTITY

- A. Record of endorsement on behalf of the government¹²** *Provide the name and position of the government official and indicate date of endorsement for each country participating in the proposed project/programme. Add more lines as necessary. The endorsement letters should be attached as annexes to the project/programme proposal.*

Balisi J. Gopolang, Senior Climatologist, Botswana Meteorological Service, Botswana	Date: 30 th July 2025
Sikongo Haihambo, National Designated Authority for the Adaptation Fund, Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism Namibia	Date: 17 th December 2025
Dr. Douty Chibamba Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Green Economy, Zambia	Date: 4 th February 2026
Washington Zhakata, Chief Director Climate and Meteorological Services, Ministry of Environment, Climate and Wildlife, Zimbabwe	Date: 29 th May 2025
H.E. Gustavo Sobrinho Dgedge, State Secretary, Land and Environment, Ministry of Agriculture, Environment and Fisheries (MAAP), Mozambique	Date: 19 th March 2026

- B. Implementing Entity certification** *Provide the name and signature of the Implementing Entity Coordinator and the date of signature. Provide also the project/programme contact person's name, telephone number and email address*

I certify that this proposal has been prepared in accordance with guidelines provided by the Adaptation Fund Board, and prevailing National Development and Adaptation Plans, The Strategic Plan for the Zambezi Watercourse and subject to the approval by the Adaptation Fund Board, <u>commit to implementing the project/programme in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund</u> and on the understanding that the Implementing Entity will be fully (legally and financially) responsible for the implementation of this project/programme.	
Moyenda Chaponda <i>Moyenda Chaponda</i>	
Implementing Entity Coordinator Development Partnerships Office, WMO	
Date: 30 April 2026	Tel. and email: +41 22 730 8646; mchaponda@wmo.int
Project Contact Person: Sebastian Grey	
Tel. And Email: +41227308407; sgrey@wmo.int	

¹² Each Party shall designate and communicate to the secretariat the authority that will endorse on behalf of the national government the projects and programmes proposed by the implementing entities.

All communications should be addressed, "The Secretary for Environment, Climate and Wildlife."

P Bag 7753 Causeway,
Zimbabwe
Telephone: 701681/3
Fax: 252673

Your Ref.:
Our Ref:



ZIMBABWE

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT,
CLIMATE AND WILDLIFE
11th Floor, Kaguvi Building
Cnr 4th Street/Central Avenue
Harare
ZIMBABWE

29 May 2025

To: The Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat
1818 H Street NW
MSN N7-700
Washington, D.C., 20433
United States of America
Email: secretariate@adaptation-fund.org
cc. sgrey@wmo.int and mchaponda@wmo.int

Subject: Endorsement for the pre-concept note of the “Integrated Flood and Drought Management in the Zambezi Basin Countries” project

In my capacity as designated authority for the Adaptation Fund in Zimbabwe, I confirm that the above regional project aligns with the government's national and regional priorities in implementing adaptation activities to reduce adverse drought impacts and flood risk in the country.

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the above project proposal with support from the Adaptation Fund. If approved, the project will be implemented WMO and executed by the Zambezi Watercourse Commission (ZAMCOM) and the Global Water Partnership Organization as well as national and regional Partners.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'W. Zhakata'.

Mr. Washington Zhakata
National Designated Authority for Adaptation Fund
Chief Director Climate and Meteorological Services
Ministry of Environment, Climate and Wildlife
Zimbabwe



REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA

ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO BE ADDRESSED TO THE DIRECTOR

REF: DMS 1/10/2 XVI (55)

30 July 2025

The Chairman,
Adaptation Fund Board
C/O Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat,
1818 H Street NW
Washington DC 20433,
USA
Email: Secretariat@Adaptation-Fund.org
Fax: +1 202 522 3240/5

**ENDORSEMENT FOR THE 'INTERGRATED FLOOD AND DROUGHT
MANAGEMENT IN THE ZAMBEZI BASIN COUNTRIES'**

In my official capacity as the designated authority for the Adaptation Fund in Botswana, I hereby affirm that the aforementioned regional programme proposal aligns fully with the Government of Botswana's national priorities concerning the implementation of adaptation activities. These initiatives are vital in mitigating the adverse impacts and risks associated with climate change within our nation.

Consequently, I am honoured to formally endorse the referenced project/programme proposal, with anticipated support from the Adaptation Fund. Upon approval, the programme will be executed under the auspices of the World Meteorological Services (WMO).

Kindly accept this letter as a testament to my utmost commitment and highest consideration.

Yours Sincerely,

Balisi J. Gopolang

Adaptation Fund Designated Authority for Botswana

Our Vision: A modern weather service that nurtures and harbours innovation and creativity in the provision of quality weather and climate information





REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, ENVIRONMENT AND FISHERIES
OFFICE OF THE MINISTER

The Adaptation Fund Board
c/o Adaptation Fund Board
Secretariat
Email: Secretariat@Adaptation-Fund.org
Fax: 202 522 3240/5

N/Ref: 82/MAAP/GM/SETA/900/2026

Maputo, 19th March 2026

Subject: Endorsement of Pre-Concept Note Titled “The Integrated Flood and Drought Management in the Zambezi Basin Countries”

In my capacity as designated authority for the Adaptation Fund in the Republic of Mozambique, I confirm that the above regional project proposal is in accordance with the government’s national priorities in implementing adaptation activities to reduce adverse impacts of, and risks posed by, climate change in the Zambezi Basin.

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the above project pre-concept note titled “**The Integrated Flood and Drought Management in the Zambezi Basin Countries**” to be funded by the Adaptation Fund. If approved, the project will be implemented by the World Meteorology Organization (WMO) and executed by the Zambezi Watercourse Commission (ZAMCOM) and the Global Water Partnership Southern Africa (GWP-SA), as well as national and regional partners.

Sincerely,


Gustavo Sobrinho Dgedge
State Secretary of Land and Environment
Ministry of Agriculture, Environment, and Fisheries



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTRY AND TOURISM

Tel: (00 26461) 284 2111

Fax: (00 26461) 232 057

Cnr Robert Mugabe &
Dr Kenneth Kaunda Street
Private Bag 13306
Windhoek
Namibia

Email: sion.shifa@meft.gov.na
Enquiries: Mr. Sion Shifa

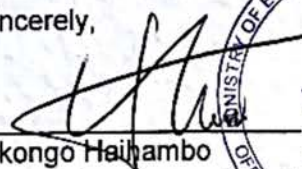
To: The Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat
1818 H Street NW
MSN N7-700
Washington, D.C., 20433
United States of America
Email: secretariat@adaptation-fund.org

Subject: Endorsement for the pre-concept note of the "Integrated Flood and Drought Management in the Zambezi Basin Countries" Project

In my capacity as designated authority for the Adaptation Fund in Namibia, I confirm that the above-mentioned regional proposal is in accordance with the government's national priorities in implementing adaptation activities to reduce adverse impacts of, and risks, posed by flood and drought in Namibia.

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the above project proposal with appreciation of the support from the Adaptation Fund. If approved, the project will be implemented by the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) and executed by the Zambezi Watercourse Commission (ZAMCOM) and the Global Water Partnership Organization (GWPO) as well as national and regional partners.

Sincerely,


Sikongo Haihambo
National Designated Authority for Adaptation Fund
Namibia



"Stop the poaching of our rhinos"

All official correspondence must be addressed to the Executive Director

All correspondence should be addressed to the
Permanent Secretary
Telephone: 0211 -252395
0211 -252394
0211 -252391



REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA

In reply please quote
NDA/71/21/1..

MINISTRY OF GREEN ECONOMY AND ENVIRONMENT

OFFICE OF THE PERMANENTS SECRETARY

Corner of John Mbita & Nationalist Road

P.O BOX 30147

Lusaka-Zambia

4th February, 2026

The Adaption Fund Board Secretariat
1818 H Street NW
MSN N7-700
Washington D.C. 20433
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

RE: ENDORSEMENT FOR THE PRE-CONCEPT NOTE OF THE “INTEGRATED FLOOD AND DROUGHT MANAGEMENT IN THE ZAMBEZI BASIN COUNTRIES” PROJECT

In my capacity as the Designated Authority for the Adaptation Fund in Zambia, I confirm that the above regional project aligns with the government's national and regional priorities in implementing adaptation activities to reduce adverse impacts and risks posed by drought in Southern Africa.

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the above project with appreciation of the support from the Adaptation Fund. If approved, the project will be implemented by the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) and executed by the Zambezi Watercourse Commission (ZAMCOM) and the Global Water Partnership (GWPO) as well as national and regional partners.

Dr. Douty Chibamba
Permanent Secretary

MINISTRY OF GREEN ECONOMY AND ENVIRONMENT



Revised PFG Submission Form¹ (additions in red)

Project Formulation Grant (PFG)

Submission Date: 30 April 2026 ~~-(resubmitted 2 June 2026)~~

Adaptation Fund Project ID: TBA

Country/ies: Botswana, Mozambique, Namibia, Zambia & Zimbabwe

Title of Project/Programme: Integrated Flood and Drought Management in the Zambezi Basin Countries

Type of IE (NIE/RIE/MIE): MIE

Implementing Entity: World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

Executing Entity/ies: Zambezi Watercourse Commission (ZAMCOM); Global Water Partnership Organisation (GWPO), Global Water Partnership Southern Africa (GWP SA); ~~National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) in target countries.~~

A. Project Preparation Timeframe

Start date of PFG	1 November 2026
Completion date of PFG	31 March 2027

B. Proposed Project Preparation Activities (\$)

List of Proposed Project Preparation Activities	Output of the PFG Activities	US\$ Amount	Budget note ²
Project development consultant	Concept note fully elaborated.	US\$ 20,000	Consultant honorarium
Regional and national consultations held	Stakeholder input into the proposal, <u>including regional online and in-person engagements with key stakeholders, national and subnational level focal person engagements, and consultations with representatives of vulnerable groups, women, youth, elderly, selected climate-vulnerable and remote communities.</u>	US\$ <u>~~5,000~~8,000</u>	Travel, per diems

¹ As presented in AFB/PPRC.33/40 Annex 1.

² The proposal should include a detailed budget with budget notes indicating the break-down of costs at the activity level. It should also include a budget on the Implementing Entity management fee use.

Technical expertise on various thematic and crosscutting issues (gender, socio-economic benefits, environmental and social impacts, monitoring and evaluation, climate vulnerability, hydrology, early warnings)	Initial details on key aspects of the concept note: - Log Frame & Theory of Change elaboration and strengthening Preliminary Gender mainstreaming analysis assessment - Environmental and social risks and safeguards - Site identification for local actions.	US\$ ~~5,000~~ 4,727	Consultant honorarium/ Cost recovery for EE experts
Implementing Entity Fee (Administration and management of concept preparation)	Implementing entity fee – coordination of overall process to have CN submitted	US\$ 3,000273	10% of direct costs
Total Project Formulation Grant		US\$ ~~336~~ ,000	

Please describe below each of the PFG activities and provide justifications for their need and for the amount of funding required:

1. Project writing consultants: One consultant to engage directly with regional and national focal points, design and conduct national, regional and local consultations, lead writing of project document in close collaboration with WMO focal point and the executing entities. This will ensure dedicated support to project development and ensure adequate engagements with partners and stakeholders at all levels. Honorarium for consultants is estimated at US\$ 400 per day for a total of 50 days.
2. Stakeholder consultations: These will be conducted online or in person where possible to feed into the concept note and ultimately full proposal. This will be a key part of gaining both regional and national stakeholder input into the project development and ensuring the specific activities reflect the context as well as specific needs. Travel may be needed to each country.
3. Other technical support: Costs related to the engagement of other experts as needed for elaboration of the concept note and full proposal. These will include aspects like, gender, socio-economic benefits, environmental and social impacts, and monitoring and evaluation experts. Honorarium/ costs for experts.
4. Administration and management of concept preparation: WMO will ~~facilitate~~ [provide technical oversight, and administrative support](#) for the preparation of the concept note and full proposal, leveraging internal expertise and administrative support as needed. [WMO will also manage all the engagements of the executing entities and any consultants.](#)

C. Implementing Entity

This request has been prepared in accordance with the Adaptation Fund Board's procedures and meets the Adaptation Fund's criteria for project identification and formulation

Implementing Entity Coordinator, IE Name	Signature	Date (Month, day, year)	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email Address
Moyenda Chaponda (mchaponda@wmo.int)	<i>Moyenda Chaponda</i>	30 April 2026	Sebastian Grey	+41227308407	sgrey@wmo.int

Field Code Changed