



Management of Competing Water Uses and Associated Ecosystems in Pungwe, Buzi, and Save Basins (GEF BUPUSA - IUCN)



Name of the Project	Management of competing water uses and associated ecosystems in Pungwe, Buzi, and Save basins (GEF BUPUSA - IUCN)
Financing	Global Environmental Facility (GEF)
Duration	2021-2024
Implementing Agency	International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
Project Value	USD 6 million
Executing Agencies at Regional Level	Global Water Partnership Southern Africa (GWPSA)
Executing Agencies at National Level	Mozambique: Ministry of Public Works, between Lands and Agriculture, Housing and Water Resources and Adminstracao Regional De Aguas-Centro (ARA- Centro, IP) Zimbabwe : Ministry Lands Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Rural Development and its agency: Zimbabwe National Water Authority(ZINWA)

approximately 5,5 million both in Zimbabwe and Mozambique. The Joint Water Commission (JWC) is responsible for the management of the three rivers that are shared between Mozambique and Zimbabwe. It is responsible for the overall planning, development and management of the river basins. The JWC has spearheaded the drafting of the Pungwe and Buzi River Water Sharing Agreements and is finalizing the Save Water Sharing Agreement.

The project seeks to promote holistic approaches to the water-food-energy nexus, with a specific interest in connected ecosystems. It has a double focus on developing capacities for managing water resources and to design participatory and community-based strategies.

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The proposed project contributes to GEF 6 Strategic Objective to conserve, sustainably use, and manage biodiversity, ecosystems and natural resources globally, taking into account the anticipated impacts of climate change – and is consistent with the focal area strategy for GEF International Waters (IW), as it will contribute to the conservation of the 3 basins’ aquatic ecosystems and wetlands through the sustainable management of transboundary water basins.

The GEF BUPUSA Project “Management of competing water uses and associated ecosystems in Pungwe, Buzi and Save basins” is a GEF-funded project, being implemented by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). The target is conservation and sustainable use of the Transboundary water basins resources, including their risk mitigation components within 3 river basins shared bilaterally by Mozambique and Zimbabwe: Pungwe, Buzi and Save river basins.

The need for developing transboundary cooperation for water resources management has been materializing for years through several initiatives, including the signature of a transboundary Pungwe agreement (Buzi and Save agreements are under preparation), and the wish to establish a bilateral tri-basin river basin organization. In each component, the project will contribute to supporting transboundary cooperation for water resources management, either with the development of joint initiatives (joint hydrological monitoring campaigns), common tools development (Transboundary Diagnostics Analysis/Strategic Action Plan (TDA/SAP), a roadmap to reduce mining pollution), bilateral capacity building or through experience sharing (on community-based early warning systems for instance).

These 3 basins are located along the Beira corridor, an important economic corridor that links Beira harbour to the hinterland, with associated impacts on the environment (pollution from mining activities, intensive agriculture, deforestation). Populations have a high vulnerability to climate hazards (floods, droughts, cyclones) due to increasing climate change aggravation. The strong development of upstream water uses is now raising the issue of water allocation and its dimension of environmental flows which has particular importance in a transboundary context. The 3 basins support a population of



Project Goals & Objectives

The project will be implemented in the 3 transboundary basins, with the objective of strengthening the management of transboundary water resources and connected ecosystems for sustained ecological benefits and improved resilience for the riverine communities.

Component 1:

Strengthening water-related risk management through reinforcement of monitoring systems, development of real-time operational tools, and the empowerment of communities in flood mitigation autonomy.

Component 2:

Enhancing ecosystem services through quantitative water management, operationalization of environmental flows (assessment and legal framework establishment), and water quality improvement.

Component 3:

National inter-ministry committees and technical advisory teams to contribute to the development of a regional Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis and preparation of a preliminary Strategic Action Plan.

Anticipated benefits in the BUPUSA Basins

Collaboration on transboundary basins and adoption by cooperating states of a transboundary water resource management approach will contribute to:

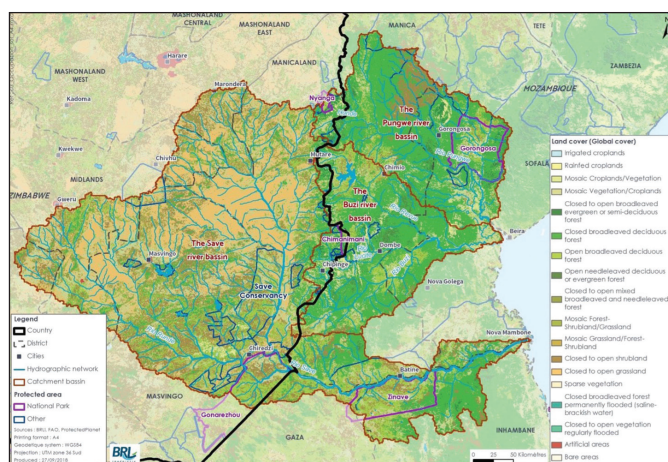
- Strengthened community livelihoods resilience to flooding and droughts, mitigation of these risks,
- Mainstreamed gender equality and social inclusion in natural resources management
- Improved water allocation, and addressing of environmental issues.
- Increased transboundary water cooperation, including a coordinated approach for flood and drought risks management, and mainstreaming of these risks in the decision-making process,
- Strengthened capacities for water management linking appropriate scales of intervention, increased communities'

autonomy and ownership in water-related risk management, and reduced vulnerability of the local communities to floods and droughts.

Results to date

Major outputs achieved from the project:

- Review of existing hydrometric network and identification of key stations for a Primary transboundary BUPUSA network completed.
- Installation of Real-Time data loggers in progress in Mozambique and Zimbabwe
- Flood forecasting modeling on the Buzi, Pungwe, and Save River Basins in progress
- Mozambique and Zimbabwe resolution for the DNGRH to become the Regional Droughts and Floods Centre for BUPUSA.
- Consensus reached on strategic approach and scope for the development of the flood forecasting model.
- Stakeholder participation and consultations in workshops, meetings and decision-making integrating women.
- Comprehensive environmental flows on the Pungwe, Basins in progress
- BUPUSA Establishment and Hosting Agreements signed by Ministers responsible for water in Mozambique and Zimbabwe.
- The Save Water Agreement signed by the Ministers responsible for water in Mozambique and Zimbabwe
- Launch of the Buzi, Pungwe, and Save Watercourses Commission.
- Drafting of the rules and procedures between the Republic of Mozambique on sharing of data and information related to development and management of Buzi, Pungwe and Save watercourses finalized and under internal review before sign-off by ministers.



LAND COVER MAP OF THE PUNGWE, BUZI, AND SAVE BASINS

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IUCN, International Union for Conservation of Nature

