



21<sup>st</sup> February 2020

## Media Release: SADC Begins Consultations for the RSAP V

The Southern African Development Community (SADC) regional water sector programme is driven through the five-year Regional Strategic Action Plans (RSAPs) for the sector, and is currently implementing the 4<sup>th</sup> version of (RSAP IV). For the water sector, the RSAPs serve both as a coordinating philosophy and a vehicle to deliver on the aspirations of SADC as articulated in the Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP), Regional Infrastructure Master Plan (RIDMP) and other regional and sectoral policies and strategies.

Through the RSAPs, the water sector is then able to respond to the regional development priorities as articulated in the RISDP vision of infrastructure development in support of regional integration. The programme interventions are also used to deliver on SADC-wide priority areas of poverty reduction, peace and stability, regional integration and industrialisation, as pronounced in the SADC Treaty. This is done also as part of implementing the SADC Water vision aimed at attaining ***an equitable and sustainable utilisation of water for social and environmental justice, regional integration and economic benefits for present and future generations.***

The current phase of the RSAP (RSAP IV) will come to an end in December 2020. It is desired, therefore, to develop the next phase of the programme, the fifth RSAP (RSAP V). This will be done with the support of a regional consultant engaged through the support of GIZ.

As the first step in the process, the visioning process for the design of the RSAP V has been launched by the SADC Secretariat. A regional workshop was held on 19-20 February 2020 in Johannesburg, South Africa for this purpose. The workshop was jointly funded by the SADC Secretariat and partner organisations including the SADC Groundwater Management Institute (SADC-GMI), Climate Resilient Infrastructure Development Facility (CRIDF), and Global Water Partnership Southern Africa (GWPSA).



CRIDF





The main goal of the workshop was to assist with the identification of the key areas of intervention to drive implementation of the regional water sector programme in the next five years (2021-2025). The workshop drew representations of all Member States and subsidiary institutions of the SADC water sector (River Basin Organisations-RBOs, Implementation Agencies and Partners).

The Regional Stakeholder Workshop on the Design of the Fifth Regional Strategic Action Plan (RSAP V) was held with the objective of gathering stakeholder input in the Scoping and development of the RSAP V from SADC Subsidiary institutions including implementing agencies of the SADC water programme.

The regional Stakeholder Workshop on the Design of the Fifth Regional Strategic Action Plan (RSAP V) was preceded by a special meeting of SADC subsidiary institutions (RBOs, Implementing Agencies and Partners) on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2020 in Johannesburg, South Africa. The meeting served as a pre-workshop session between the SADC Water Division and SADC Subsidiary institutions (and partners) which are implementing various programmes aimed at supporting the realisation of the RSAP targets.

In the meeting, the institutions (RBOs, Implementing Agencies and Partners) shared with the SADC Secretariat on their 3-5 years' strategies and action plans, which the RSAP V design process should take cognisance of. The output of the session contributed to the visioning workshop with all Member States.

The RSAP V Visioning workshop gathered initial ideas for consideration in the development of the next phase of the RSAP (RSAP V) and collected RBOs' and SADC Implementing Agencies' plans to be used as part of the data for the development of the RSAP V.

## Documents

- Regional Stakeholder Workshop on the Design of the RSAP V Concept Note
- Agenda for the Regional Stakeholder Workshop on the Design of the RSAP V





- Agenda for the Technical Meeting between the SADC Water Division and its Subsidiary Institutions

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## About SADC Directorate for Infrastructure and services - Water Division

The SADC Water Division falls under the Directorate for Infrastructure and is responsible for coordinating and facilitating the implementation of regional water-related activities in close collaboration with the member states of SADC under the guidance of instruments for water cooperation, which include the Revised Protocol on Shared Watercourses (2000), the Regional Water Policy, adopted in 2005; the Regional Water Strategy adopted in 2006 and Regional Strategic Action Plan on





Integrated Water Resources Development and Management which was first approved by SADC Summit in August 1998 to run in five-year phases.

### **About the SADC Groundwater Management Institute**

SADC-GMI's core mandate is to promote sustainable groundwater management and provide solutions to groundwater challenges across the SADC region. The rationale for the establishment of the SADC-GMI was based on the importance of groundwater in the region and the need to set up a "Centre of Excellence" for groundwater management and groundwater dependent ecosystems in the region, and to have an institution that will serve as an interlocutor with national, regional and international groundwater initiatives and institutions. SADC-GMI is currently implementing multiple projects in the SADC Region in partnership with key players in the water sector.

### **About the Global Water Partnership Southern Africa**

The Global Water Partnership Southern Africa (GWPSA) is one of the 13 regional networks of the international network. It is created to foster an integrated approach to water resources management and solutions to water-related problems (such as climate change and urbanisation). GWPSA manages activities and programmes with stakeholders in the SADC Region and at Pan-African level to bring about solutions that are both tailored to local conditions and informed by local experiences and good practices from across the continent.

### **About the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)**

The Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH is Germany's leading provider of international cooperation services and support the German Government in achieving its objectives in the field of international cooperation for sustainable development. Together with partners in national governments worldwide and cooperation partners from the worlds of business, research and civil society, GIZ works flexibly to deliver effective solutions that offer people better prospects and sustainably improve their living conditions. The Agency has over 50 years of experience in a wide variety of areas, including economic development and employment promotion, energy and the environment, and peace and security.

### **About the Climate Resilient Infrastructure Development Facility (CRIDF)**

The Climate Resilient Infrastructure Development Facility (CRIDF) is a DFID (UK Aid) supported programme working to provide long-term solutions to water issues that affect the lives of the poor in Southern Africa. Their focus is not on building short-term water infrastructure, but on working with organisations to show them how they can better build and manage their own water infrastructure to improve people's lives. Because rivers, lakes and river basins cross borders, CRIDF is working with 12 different countries in Southern Africa that share water resources. In so doing, CRIDF aims to improve the lives of over 200 million people, many of them extremely poor.

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