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Fostering Water, Energy and Food Security Nexus Dialogue and Multi-Sector Investment in the SADC Region: Phase II



PROJECT NAME

Fostering Water, Energy and Food Security Nexus Dialogue and Multi-sector investment in the SADC Region- Phase II

FINANCING

European Union (EU)

IMPLEMENTING AGENCY

GWPSA on behalf of SADC

DURATION

2020-2023

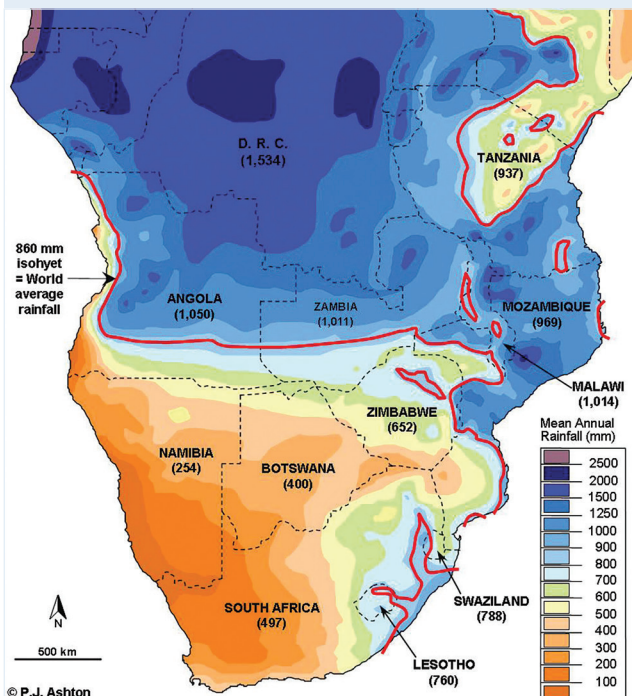


Fig 1. Rainfall variability in the SADC region

CONTEXT

The Southern African Development Community (SADC) is a Regional Economic Community comprising 16 Member States: Angola, Botswana, Comoros, Democratic Republic of Congo, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The SADC has adopted the water, energy food (WEF) Nexus approach as a means to addressing key regional challenges related to (i) achieving WEF security, (ii) sustainable development and job creation, and (iii) sustainable natural resources management.

Sustainable development in SADC largely depends on goods and services derived from its environment and natural resource base. These resources are crucial in the region's effort to eradicate poverty. Increasing population, climate variability and change with its long-term implications for social, economic and ecological systems is an inevitable and urgent challenge.

Figure 1 shows the rainfall variability in the region a wet north and a dry south. This clearly shows varying endowments per country. As the SADC region pursues sustainable growth pathways and structural transformation, the management of its natural endowments and most importantly water, land and energy resources will be critical.



THE WEF NEXUS APPROACH IN THE SADC REGION

Water, energy, and food security are key priority areas for SADC and to respond to the context set above the SADC Secretariat is leading a multi-sector and stakeholder driven process maximising on cross-sectoral synergies and promoting the interconnectedness between water, energy and food security through adapting a Nexus approach. Integrated planning of water, food and energy sectors and promoting regional cooperation has been considered as a strategy to simultaneously meet water, energy, and food security targets, and to improve natural resource use efficiencies in the region.

The WEF Nexus acknowledges that water security, energy security and food security are inextricably linked in the human system and that actions in any one area usually have impacts in the others. As the population increases, with increasing demands for basic services, and growing desires



for higher living standards, the need for a more efficient utilization of the vital resources (water, land, energy) in the natural system is required.

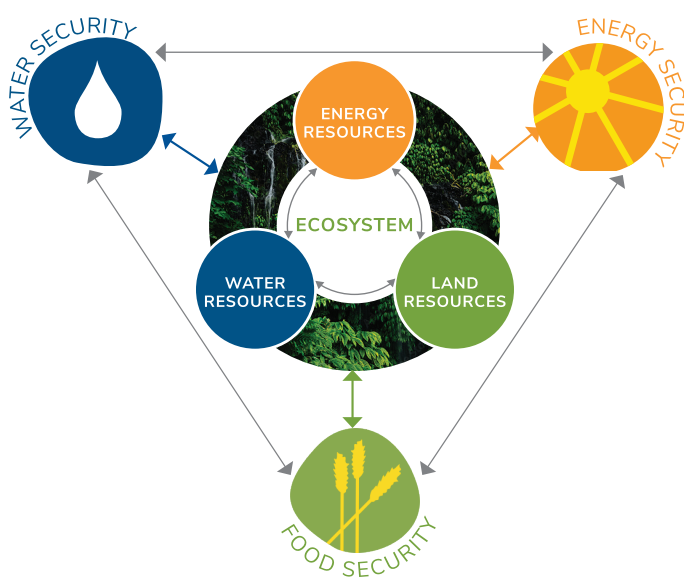


Figure 2. Interlinkages between water-food-energy security

THE SADC WEF NEXUS DIALOGUES PROJECT

The SADC WEF Nexus Dialogue Project “Fostering Water, Energy and Food Security Nexus Dialogue and Multi-Sector Investment in the SADC Region” is a project supported by the European Commission as part of the global “Nexus Dialogues Programme”. Phase I of the Nexus Dialogues Programme ran from 2017-2019 and aimed at helping regional organisations, and their member states apply a Nexus approach in formulating multi-sector policy recommendations, strategies, action plans and investment programmes.

KEY RESULTS FROM PHASE I

The key results achieved from Phase I include:

- Establishment of a SADC Regional WEF Nexus Governance Framework.
- The development of a SADC WEF Nexus investment project screening and appraisal tool; and,
- Development of a prioritised list of Nexus Investment Projects

PHASE II

Phase II of the project has a duration of 3 years, commencing in 2020 until 2023. This phase will build on the achievements of the first phase, with the overall objective being to institutionalise the WEF Nexus approach at regional and national governance structures and investment decisions for water, energy, and food security in the SADC region.

PROJECT SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

The specific objectives of Phase II are to:

- Increase application of the Nexus approach in planning, policymaking and implementation,
- Increase interest from the public and private investors for projects applying the Nexus approach
- Identifying and accelerating WEF Nexus investments in the SADC region

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

Two major outputs are expected from the project:

- Increased application of the Nexus approach in planning, policy making, and implementation.
- Increased interest from public and private investors for projects applying the Nexus approach.

APPROACH AND ACTIVITIES

The activities include organizing national and regional Nexus dialogues. The WEF Nexus regional and country dialogues will provide platforms to bring together stakeholders from the three sectors and establish a common mechanism for coordination between the three sectors.



Figure 3. Nexus Investments projects through dialogues

Regional WEF Nexus Guidelines will be developed to support implementing agencies at the national, regional and transboundary level on how to integrate the WEF Nexus in investment planning and project preparation. The Regional Guidelines will make use of case studies within the SADC region to practically demonstrate and provide technical guidance and support required to identify and prioritize WEF Nexus investment projects and facilitate the operationalisation of the WEF Nexus in the SADC region.

National dialogues are being organised for all 16 SADC Member States to strengthen capacity on the WEF Nexus, especially in conducting WEF Nexus analysis to inform decision making. The overall objective of the SADC WEF Nexus National Dialogues is to identify national WEF Nexus priorities and showcase the benefits of how improved sectoral coordination can accelerate national investment opportunities.

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