



The Zambezi River Basin Action Plan (ZACPLAN)

**A Contribution to the 1st General
Assembly of ANBO and INBO**

Dakar, 3rd – 6th November 2004

By: Luis De Almeida

SADC Secretariat – Water Division

Gaborone – Botswana

ldealmeida@sadc.int

www.sadc.int



CONTENT

- **THE ZAMBEZI BASIN**
- **THE ZACPLAN**
- 3. THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ZAMBEZI WATERCOURSE COMMISSION (ZAMCOM)**
- **THE ZAMBEZI IWRDM STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT PROCESS**
- 5. SOME LESSONS LEARNT**
- 6. MAIN PRIORITIES**



1. INTRODUCTION TO THE ZAMBEZI BASIN

Basin Area:
1,360.000 km²

River Length:
2,700 km

M.A.R.:
Over 200 Billion m³

Population:
Over 40 Million

Unique Ecosystems

**Vast Potential for
Economic
Development**





2. THE ZAMBEZI BASIN ACTION PLAN (ZACPLAN)

Objective:

To promote the environmentally sound development and management of the shared water resources of the Zambezi river basin

Programme:

Developed with UNEP support. Approved as a SADC Programme in 1986

19 soft-infrastructure projects grouped into two categories

Category I - ZACPRO 1 to 8 (Priority)

Category II – ZACPRO 9 to 19 (Complementary)



ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ZAMBEZI WATERCOURSE COMMISSION (ZAMCOM) (1)

NEGOTIATIONS STARTED IN THE EARLY NINETIES

- **PROCESS INTERRUPTED TWICE IN 92 AND 98**
- **MAJOR IMPACTS IN THE SADC REGION (POSITIVE SPIN-OFFS)**
- **PROJECTED TRANS-BOUNDARY WATER ISSUES TO THE TOP OF THE POLITICAL AGENDA IN THE REGION;**
- **THE SADC PROTOCOL ON SHARED WATERCOURSES (1995 AND 2000);**
- **ESTABLISHMENT OF A DEDICATED SECTOR COORDINATION UNIT FOR WATER IN THE SADC STRUCTURE.**
- **THE REGIONAL STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN ON IWRDM;**
- **FACILITATED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF OTHER RIVER BASIN INSTITUTIONS IN THE REGION;**
- **CONTRIBUTED TO MUTUAL TRUST AND CONFIDENCE BUILDING**

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ZAMBEZI WATERCOURSE COMMISSION (ZAMCOM) (2)

- **ZAMCOM AGREEMENT SIGNED IN JULY 2004**

Establishes the Objectives, Principles, Organs, Functions, Powers, Funding Mechanisms, etc;

Ratification process currently underway;

Interim Committee of Senior Officials in charge of affairs;

Preparations for the operationalization of the Organs, including the ZAMCOM Secretariat's institutional development and capacity building initiated;

2. THE ZAMBEZI BASIN IWRDM STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

- **Sector Studies completed (Agriculture, Hydropower, Environment and Wildlife, Tourism, Mining, Navigation, etc);**
- **Project Implementing Unit (PIU) established in Lusaka (Zambia) – Coordination of Technical Activities;**
- **Secondment of National Staff (Experts) to support the PIU on specific technical activities;**
- **National Steering Committees (NSC's):**
 - **Stakeholder Participation Mechanism;**
 - **Identification and treatment of National Priorities.**



3. KEY LESSONS LEARNT (1)

- **POLITICAL COMMITMENT AND GUIDANCE AT HIGHEST POSSIBLE LEVEL IS CRITICAL;**
- **SADC BROADER FRAMEWORK FOR REGIONAL INTEGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT;**
- **THE SADC PROTOCOL ON SHARED WATERCOURSES;**
- **HOLISTIC APPROACH IN IWRM;**





3. KEY LESSONS LEARNT (2)

- 5. OWNERSHIP AND LEADERSHIP WITH THE RIPARIAN STATES;**
- 6. BENEFIT VS WATER SHARING;**
- 7. NATIONAL FUNDING OF REGIONAL INITIATIVES;**
- 8. MUTUAL TRUST AND CONFIDENCE BUILDING PROCESSES;**
- 9. PROCESSES ARE TIME CONSUMING;**
- 10. PROCESS VS PROJECT MANAGEMENT APPROACH.**



PRIORITIES

- **ZAMCOM INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND CAPACITY BUILDING**
- **RETAIN PROCESS OWNERSHIP AND LEADERSHIP WITH THE ZAMBEZI RIPARIAN STATES**
- **FINALIZE THE STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT PROCESS WHILE ADDRESSING IMMEDIATE PRIORITIES TARGETED AT POVERTY REDUCTION**
- **PREPARATION OF THE STRATEGIC INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENTS WITH FOCUS ON BENEFIT SHARING**

Cahora Bassa Dam – Zambezi - Mozambique

Height: 171 m

Reservoir: 200 Km long– 39 Billion m³

Average discharge 2000 m³/s

Firm power 2075 MW/h on Phase 1 (3600 on Phase 2)

Serves: Mozambique, South Africa, and Zimbabwe (Malawi soon)

THANK YOU