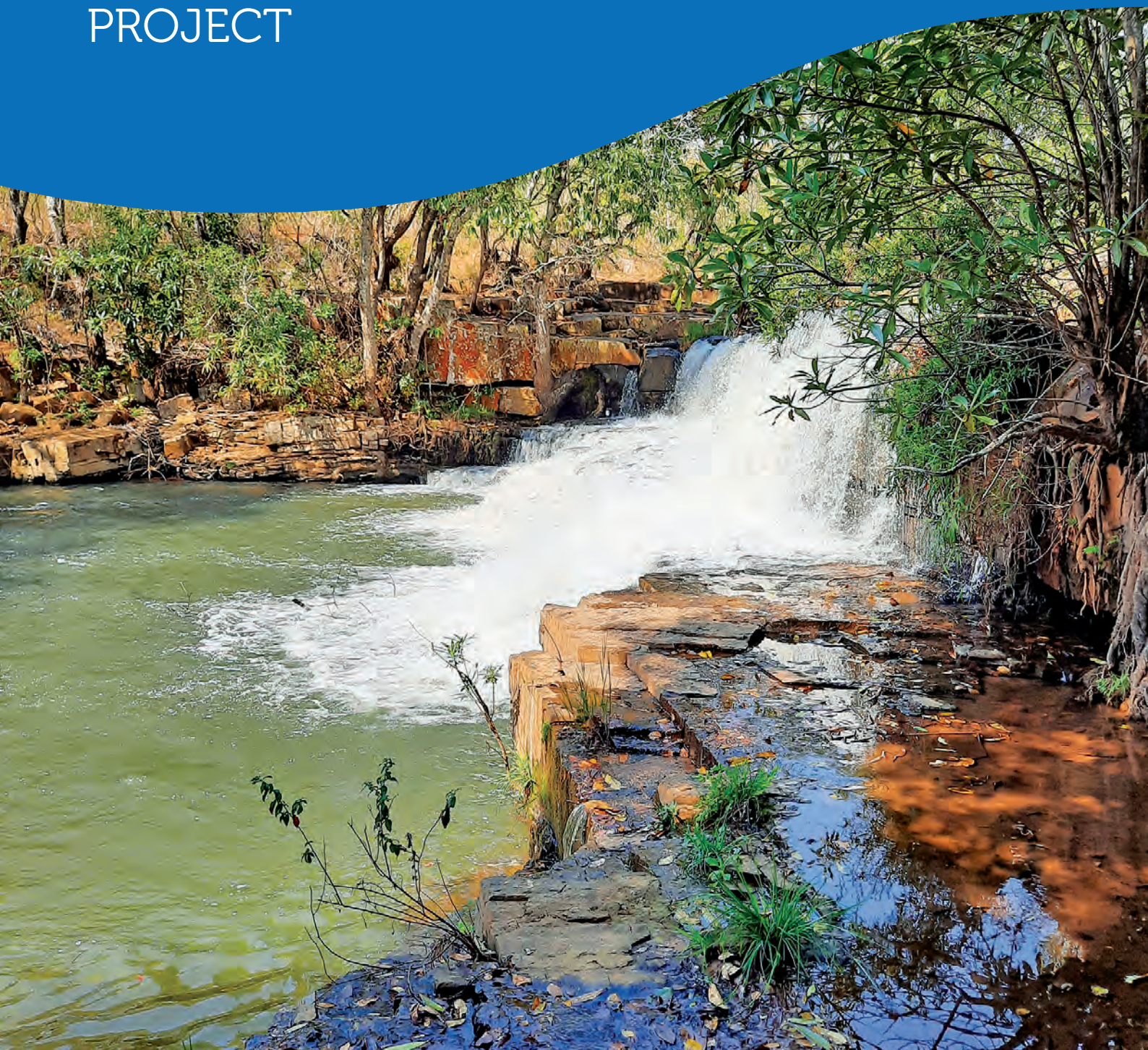




# MANAGEMENT OF COMPETING WATER USES AND ASSOCIATED ECOSYSTEMS IN PUNGWE, BUZI, AND SAVE BASINS (GEF- BUPUSA) PROJECT



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

**The “Management of competing water uses and associated ecosystems in Pungwe, Buzi and Save basins” Project is a Global Environmental Facility (GEF)-funded project, being implemented by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and executed by Global Water Partnership Southern Africa (GWPSA) in the Buzi, Pungwe, and Save River Basins. The target is conservation and sustainable use of the transboundary water basins’ resources, including their risk mitigation components within three river basins shared bilaterally by Mozambique and Zimbabwe: Pungwe, Buzi and Save River Basins.**

These three 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 approximately 7 million both in Zimbabwe and Mozambique.

The recently established Buzi, Pungwe, and Save Watercourses Commission (BUPUSACOM) is responsible for the management of the three rivers that are shared between Mozambique and Zimbabwe. The bilateral tri-basin river basin organization is responsible for the overall planning, development and management of the river basins. The Joint Water Commission between Mozambique and Zimbabwe (JWC) spearheaded the drafting of the Pungwe, Buzi, and Save Rivers Water Sharing Agreements.

## **Management of Competing Water uses and Associated Ecosystems in Pungwe, Buzi, and Save Basins (GEF BUPUSA) project**

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.

**The project contributes to GEF the 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 contributes to the conservation of the three basins’ aquatic ecosystems and wetlands through the sustainable management of transboundary water basins.**

The need for developing transboundary cooperation for water resources management has been materializing for years through several initiatives, including the signing of the transboundary Pungwe, Buzi, and Save Water- Sharing Agreements, which led to the establishment Buzi, Pungwe, and Save Watercourses Commission (BUPUSACOM).

In each component, the project contributes 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), bilateral capacity building or through experience sharing (on community-based early warning systems for instance).

## Project Goals & Objectives

The project is implemented in the three 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:

Flood and Drought Warning and Mitigation

### Component 2:

Conserving and Restoring ecosystems for Sustainable Livelihoods

### Component 3:

Integrated basin planning for the Pungwe, Buzi, and Save river basins

## Benefits in the BUPUSA Basins

Collaboration by cooperating states on transboundary basins and adoption 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:

- Establishment of the Buzi, Pungwe, Save Watercourses Commission on 17 May 2023
- Launch of the Buzi, Pungwe, and Save Watercourses Commission on 19 July 2023
- 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
- Data Sharing Protocol for the BUPUSA Basins finalized and under internal review before sign-off by ministers
- BUPUSACOM Roadmap completed and implemented
- Development of BUPUSACOM operating manuals completed
- Development of resource mobilisation strategy in progress
- Transboundary Diagnostics Analysis completed
- Strategic Action Programme and National Action Plans completed
- Tri-basin Atlas nearing completion
- Flood forecasting modelling on the Buzi, Pungwe, and Save River Basins in progress
- Preparatory work on demonstration pilot projects on early warning systems for floods ongoing
- Establishment of a real-time transboundary network to support early warning systems
- Installation of Real-Time data loggers in Mozambique and Zimbabwe completed
- Comprehensive Environmental Flows Assessment in the Pungwe River Basin completed
- Environmental flows capacity building for member states completed
- Environmental flows monitoring plan under development
- Groundwater studies and member states' capacity building completed
- Stakeholder mapping in progress in preparation of establishing a transboundary stakeholder forum
- Drought Risk and Vulnerability Assessment Situational Analysis completed
- Demonstration pilots on building resilience to drought risk and vulnerability initiated

# For further information, please contact:







## **Buzi Pungwe Save Watercourses Commission**

ARA Centro, IP  
Rua Sancho de Toar No 67,  
Ponta Gea Beira, Moçambique

 871 581 111  
 [info@bupusa.org](mailto:info@bupusa.org)  
 <https://bupusa.org/>  
 @BUPUSACOM  
 [buzi-pungwe-save-watercourse-commission-bupusacom](https://www.linkedin.com/company/buzi-pungwe-save-watercourse-commission-bupusacom)  
 @BUPUSACOM








## **International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)**

6 Lanark Road, Belgravia, Harare, Zimbabwe

 +263 (24) 2705714  
 [www.iucn.org/regions/eastern-and-southern-africa/countries/south-africa](http://www.iucn.org/regions/eastern-and-southern-africa/countries/south-africa)  
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 International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)  
 IUCN

## **Global Water Partnership Southern Africa and Africa Coordination (GWPSA - Africa):**

333 Grosvenor Street, Hatfield Gardens, Block A, Pretoria, South Africa

 +27 12 430 2121/2/6/7  
 [www.gwp.org/en/GWP-SouthernAfrica/](http://www.gwp.org/en/GWP-SouthernAfrica/)  
 @GWPSAF  
 @GWPSAF  
 @GWPSAF  
 Global Water Partnership Southern Africa  
 [gwpafrika@gwpsaf.org](mailto:gwpafrika@gwpsaf.org)



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