CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION IN SADC: A STRATEGY FOR THE WATER SECTOR

2nd workshop on adaptation to climate change in transboundary basins
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Outline

- Background
- Process
- Strategy
- Lessons learnt
Water in SADC: Transboundary
Trends: *variability*

- Climate will become *hotter* (3°C) and *drier* (10%)
- Precipitation patterns are changing (volume, intensity, frequency, distribution)
- Water resources are changing (quality and availability)
- Frequency and intensity of *floods* and *droughts* is changing

**Uncertainty**
Certainty # 1: Variability has an impact

Rainfall variability and Real GDP growth in Zimbabwe during 1970-93
Certainty #2: *Investments have an impact*
Adaption in SADC: Process

- Inception
- Consultation
- Conceptualisation
- Validation
- Approval

2008 to 2011 COP 17
SADC Strategy: *No regrets*

LEVELS OF INTERVENTIONS

AREAS OF INTERVENTIONS

STAGES OF ADAPTATION

SADC Adaptation Cube
Interventions: Water Governance (on going)

Benefit-sharing
Promote equitable and reasonable utilisation

Indigenous knowledge
Account for TEK

Political mobilization
Develop a joint position on CCA in the region

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Interventions: Infrastructure Development (on going)

Vulnerability assessment
Develop evidence based scenarios

Dam synchronisation
Develop new dam operation rules

Project preparation
Develop sustainable and bankable projects

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Interventions: Water Management (on going)

- Water demand management
  - Advocate pro-poor WDM practices

- Insurance mechanisms

- Early warning system
  - Establish flow forecasting centres

River Basin
Regional
Local
Prevention
Response
Recovery

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Challenges

- Heterogeneity
- Consensus
- Cross cutting
- Indigenous knowledge
Opportunities

- Cooperation between sectors
- Sustainable infrastructure development
Thank you!

“It is better to be approximately right than precisely wrong”

John Maynard Keynes