

# AU-AIP AFRICA WATER INVESTMENT SUMMIT 2025

13 - 15 August 2025  
Cape Town, South Africa



## AU AIP WATER INVESTMENT SUMMIT: PROJECT SHOWCASE

PROGRAMME/ PROJECT OVERVIEW	
Project name	Congo River Water Transfer and Hydropower Project to Zambezi Water Transfer Project (C – ZAMB. WTP) Feasibility Study and to other SADC Member States
Location (Country, Region, Coordinates)	Southern Africa
Involved countries (if regional)	Democratic Republic of Congo, Angola, Botswana, Namibia, South Africa, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Malawi, Mozambique
Sub-Sector (Water Supply, Sanitation, Irrigation, Flood Management.)	Water Supply
Project description (Goals and expected outcomes)	<p>Description: Prepares the Congo–Zambezi Water Transfer Project to move 16 billion m<sup>3</sup>/year from the Lualaba River to Lake Kariba via a 900km tunnel through DRC and Zambia, with off-river reservoirs near Victoria Falls, benefiting other SADC basins.</p> <p>Goals: Secure water for energy, domestic, industrial, agricultural, and mining use; boost Zambezi hydropower by 30%; protect Victoria Falls; and revive tourism in Kariba.</p> <p>Outcomes: Enhanced climate resilience, regional integration, food and water security, climate mitigation, jobs, and economic growth.</p> <p>Objectives: Deliver a full feasibility study—technical, financial, and environmental—covering design, PPP potential, ESIA, and RAP.</p>
Technological details/ innovation	Gravity flow via an 18m, 900km tunnel through DRC and Zambia enables low-cost water transfer, eliminating pumping barriers and unlocking WEFE development.
Governance improvements / innovation	Pending execution of Pre-feasibility /Detailed Feasibility Study
IMPLEMENTATION & KEY PLAYERS	
Lead institution	SADC Water
Implementing agent(s)	Zambezi Watercourse Commission, Zambezi River Authority and Other Basin Institutions
Sponsors / Investors / Contractors / Advisors	Pending execution of Detailed Pre-feasibility /Feasibility Study
PROJECT TIMELINE & DEVELOPMENT STAGE	
Year of preparation, estimated start & end dates	Start - 01/2026 End - 06/2028
Current development stage	Pre - Feasibility
PROJECT RATIONALE & STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE	
Alignment with national/regional plans, SDGs, Agenda 2063	The C-ZAMB WTP supports the UN SDGs and AU Agenda 2063 by addressing poverty, climate change, and promoting a prosperous, integrated, and peaceful Africa.

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Contribution to NDC's and alignment with NAPs / Adaptation and Mitigation measures	Pending execution of Detailed Feasibility Study
Paradigm shift potential (scalability, replicability, policy or behaviour change)	Pending execution of Detailed Feasibility Study
<b>FINANCIAL &amp; INVESTMENT DETAILS</b>	
Total project cost, currency	USD\$20m
Funding already raised (amount & sources)	Nil
Proposed revenue model	Grant
Financial metrics (IRR, Payback Period, DSCR, NPV) available? Y/N, date	Pending Detailed Feasibility Study
Economic performance (Benefit-Cost Ratio) Y/N, date	Pending Detailed Feasibility Study
<b>INVESTMENT ASK &amp; WAY FORWARD</b>	
Remaining investment required: project component & type (Loan/Equity/Grant/Guarantee/insurance)	USD\$20m Grant
Opportunity for bundling with other projects (Y/N, date)	No
Next steps	Procurement of Experts
<b>TARGET GROUPS &amp; SOCIAL IMPACT</b>	
<u>Direct beneficiary</u> population per project component	Pending execution of Detailed Feasibility Study
Social & gender impact assessment (Y/N, date)	Pending execution of Detailed Feasibility Study
Job creation estimate / local economic benefit assessment (Y/N, date)	Pending execution of Detailed Feasibility Study
<b>SUSTAINABILITY &amp; ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS</b>	
Environmental compliance & climate assessment (Y/N, date)	Pending execution of the Detailed Feasibility Study
Environmental impact assessment (Y/N, date)	Pending execution of the Detailed Feasibility Study
ESG performance (Y/N, date)	Pending execution of the Detailed Feasibility Study
Safeguards & community engagement (Y/N, date)	Pending execution of the Detailed Feasibility Study
<b>RISK MANAGEMENT</b>	
Main risks & mitigation measures (Political, Legal, etc)	Pending production of the Project Risk Register
Constraints or bottlenecks to finance	Pending execution of Detailed Feasibility Study
<b>CONTACT INFORMATION</b>	
AIP Secretariat	<a href="mailto:info@aipwater.org">info@aipwater.org</a>