

## Dear friends, partners and associates

This week we are sharing some insights on transboundary resource governance and climate finance training from a variety of our projects. We are pleased to have so many opportunities to build on the outcomes of previous areas of work, as well as leverage findings and progress made between concurrent projects to enhance value and impacts.

We wish everyone good health.

Belynda and the OneWorld team



### EVOLVING INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR TRANSBOUNDARY WATER GOVERNANCE

Novel and innovative recommendations are emerging from our stakeholder engagements, revealing the complex issues surrounding transboundary groundwater and disaster risk management. Traditionally transboundary river basin agreements and treaties have made little provision for aspects of groundwater and disaster risk management. The importance of groundwater resources in the region, coupled with climate change risks, increases the need for explicit sustainable development provisions as well as harmonising of disaster risk management protocols. We will soon be [finalising our proposed amendments](#) to the Cubango-Okavango River Basin (CORB) Treaty, to be presented to [OKACOM](#).

These revisions resonate with our findings last year in reviewing the implementation of [SADC's regional transboundary water management](#) strategy. River Basin Organisations, such as for the CORB, in the region have matured, going from strength to strength in terms of their strategic, technical, managerial and fund raising capacities, in recent years. However their mandates have remained static, and proposed revisions to the Treaty are to bring these institutional mandates more in line with this key finding.

The evolving institutional landscape in the region must align with both the paradigm shifts that are taking place in terms of how river basins are defined (i.e. beyond the watercourse itself) and with the cooperative governance and regional integration agenda coordinated at the SADC level. As we highlighted in our [2018 Discussion Paper](#) reviewing the OKACOM Agreement's fitness, broadened mandates are central to modern cooperative governance in the Cubango-Okavango River Basin.

The [Baseline Assessment](#) of the Orange-Senqu River Mouth Rehabilitation project, demonstrates similar trends, highlighting how effectively this river Basin's Commission has moved the institution into a realm of de-risking infrastructure investments and thus financing these. To move this project forward, we are putting into action our contingency plans for conducting the necessary water quality sampling during lock-down. We are continually monitoring the flow of the lower Orange River to identify the most opportune time to implement our water quality sampling strategy.



### ADDRESSING TRAINING GAPS IN CLIMATE FINANCE ACCESS FOR AFRICA

Early insights are emerging from the [Training of Trainers programme](#) we are developing for the African Development Bank. This is aimed at greatly increasing capacities of African beneficiaries in successfully accessing the Green Climate Fund. Several critical gaps exist in available training materials and courses: limited resources for non-English speakers; what should be included in a proposal rather than how to complete it; low application of climate science; low levels of implementation of gender mainstreaming and environmental and social safeguards; inadequate monitoring and evaluation frameworks. Key training needs noted by the GCF included economic and financial modelling, the development of effective logical frameworks, and a well-articulated Theory of Change – the overarching framework for a successful climate change project.

These gaps resonate with those identified in our development of a [training course for SADC-GMI](#) in accessing finance for groundwater infrastructure investments in the southern African region. The objective for these two projects is to greatly increase Africa's access to climate finance – currently at an underwhelming level of less than 3% of all global climate finance.

The level of interest in both of these projects is extremely high. This is evidenced in the tangible expression of interest by one of our important partners - the Global Water Partnership - in contributing to the success of both projects through resources such as their country and regional networks.



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