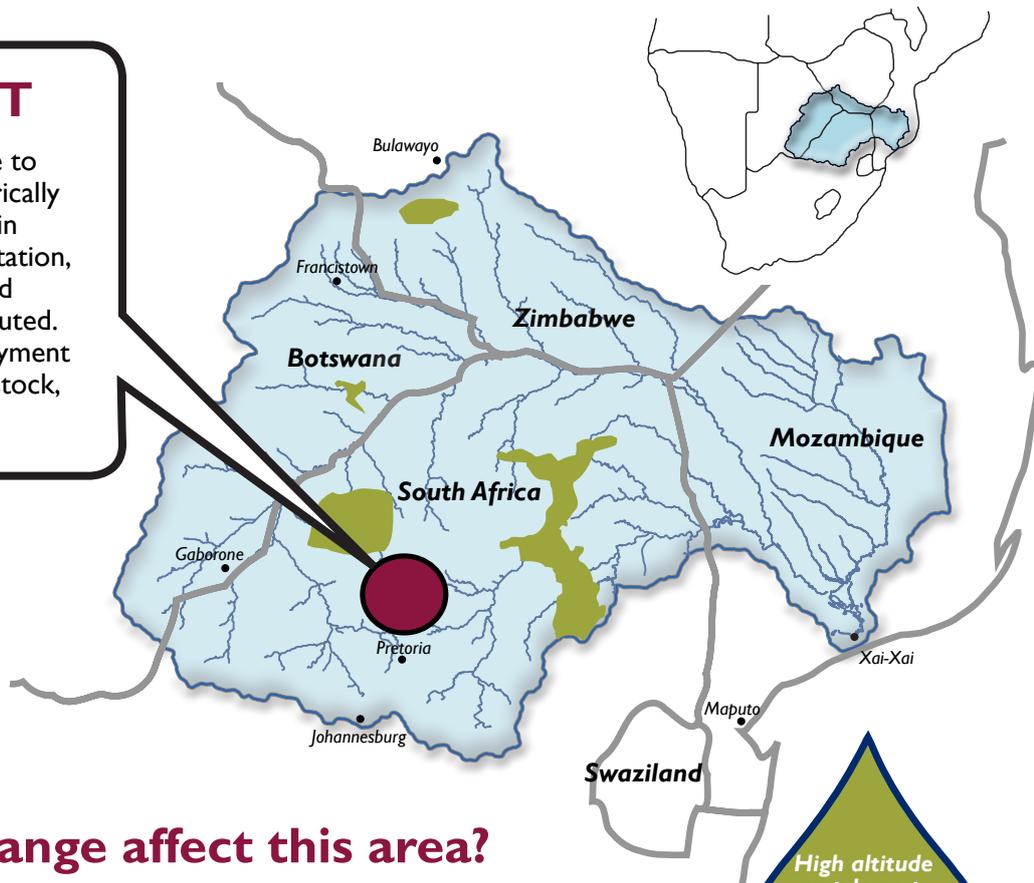


THE LIMPOPO RIVER BASIN: IDEAS FOR A RESILIENT FUTURE

AREA SNAPSHOT

Low-lying area with wetlands prone to flooding, and periodic drought. Historically an area of villages, now sprawling in unplanned settlements with poor sanitation, untarred roads, degraded land, and frequent fires. Local rivers highly polluted. Densely populated with high unemployment and poverty. Households rely on livestock, mining and social safety nets.



How will climate change affect this area?



CLIMATE CHANGE

- Increased temperature
- Increased but variable rainfall

High altitude catchment areas are the main sources of water, producing 100 times more than low-lying areas.



ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

- Increased flooding
- Increased drought



HUMAN & ECOSYSTEM IMPACTS

- Increased human and animal disease, and pests
- Decreased vegetation/grazing
- Increased social costs for disasters
- Less productive livelihoods

WE HAVE THE POWER TO ADAPT

OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACTION

Restore land, promote best practices in herd management

Reduce pollution by improving waste management

Take action when demand exceeds supply, e.g., adjusting Vaal transfers

Improve disaster management/ response to flooding, fires

Improve planning in wetland areas

Diversify livelihoods by linking to Johannesburg-Tshwane metropolitan areas

Invest in climate-resilient infrastructure and services

LEARN MORE

THIS CASE STUDY features one of eight Resilience Action Areas described in Risk, Vulnerability & Resilience in the Limpopo River Basin (2015). Produced by One-World Sustainable Investments for the USAID Southern Africa Resilience in the Limpopo River Basin (RESILIM) program, the report is available at <https://www.usaid.gov/documents/1860/risk-vulnerability-and-resilience-limpopo-river-basin-synthesis-0>. RESILIM collaborates with government and nongovernmental institutions across the four basin countries to improve water management, promote biodiversity, and support climate change adaptation.

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