



The National Programme for Integrated Catchment Management in Lesotho

Operational Plan 2023



ReNOKA is a national programme and citizen movement for the restoration of land and water in Lesotho and the Orange-Senqu basin. Support for ReNOKA is provided through a partnership between the Government of Lesotho, the European Union (EU) Delegation to the Kingdom of Lesotho and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). The EU provides € 27.5 million financial contribution through the 11th European Development Fund with Lesotho, while BMZ provides € 6 million contribution through its Transboundary Water Management Programme in the SADC Region. The Government of Lesotho provides LSL 80 million in parallel financing. The EU and BMZ contributions are implemented through a technical assistance project “Support to Integrated Catchment Management in Lesotho” by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH.

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Foreword

April 2023

Dear colleagues and friends,

2023 is an important year for the protection of Lesotho's catchment areas that are so vital for our lives, livelihoods, and development. His Majesty King Letsie III and the Right Honourable Prime Minister Mr Ntsokoane Matekane visited the Hlotse subcatchment as one of the Priority Subcatchments within the programme on integrated catchment management under the name ReNOKA – 'we are a river'. The purpose of this visit was to showcase the rehabilitation measures being undertaken, as well as the community involvement.

"Today I have seen, and I have heard from the members of the community that they appreciate the positive impact that ReNOKA has brought in their livelihoods" - His Majesty King Letsie III.

As ReNOKA we believe in a multi-stakeholder process which promotes the integrated, sustainable, and risk-informed development and management of water, land, and related resources in Lesotho's catchment areas. This believe is reflected in the document that you are holding in your hand.

In November 2022, ReNOKA stakeholders and partners came together in 7 work sessions across Lesotho, to map the goals, proposed activities, and resources that each of us contribute to make ReNOKA a reality. Together, we discussed, listened to each other, and identified the best ways to continue working jointly on our shared vision. Drawing from the Operational Plan for 2022, we have carried forward the good practises and lessons learned to further make this process a success.

The result is this ReNOKA Operational Plan for 2023 that provides a comprehensive mapping of activities of government departments, civil society organisations, the private sector, regional institutions, and international partners to advance climate resilience and the restoration of land, water, and livelihoods in Lesotho's catchment areas. In this process, we worked together across institutional boundaries to ensure we use our resources effectively, reduce overlaps and redundancies, and make an impact for all Basotho and for the entire Orange-Senqu River basin.

As the National ICM Coordinator, I will work tirelessly with my unit to guide and facilitate the implementation of this plan across its six change areas, monitor its progress and support all ReNOKA partners.

I thank you all for your commitment to ReNOKA.

Makomoreng Fanana
National ICM Coordinator
Ministry of Natural Resources



His Majesty King Letsie III, during the ReNOKA field visit in Ha Khabo in April 2023



ReNOKA operational planning session on awareness and behaviour change in Maseru in November 2022



What is ReNOKA?

Lesotho's river catchments are vital for livelihoods, the economy and environment.

Lesotho is considered the water tower of Southern Africa. It supplies 40 percent of the annual run-off of the Orange-Senqu River despite occupying only three percent of the basin's territory. Lesotho supplies water for agriculture, industry, and households across the basin area, which is one of Africa's most important economic centres. Domestically, aquatic ecosystems in Lesotho are directly responsible for 22% of GDP and 30% of employment.

However, Lesotho's river catchments are facing severe land degradation, which is an existential threat to water security for Lesotho and the Orange-Senqu basin, and to the livelihoods of the rural population in the catchments of Lesotho. Healthy catchment and wetland ecosystems are required to absorb rainfall and release water gradually into rivers and streams. Degraded catchments, in turn, worsen flood and drought events, soil erosion and siltation.

To combat these challenges, the Kingdom of Lesotho has embarked on a national movement for integrated catchment under the name ReNOKA ('we are a river'). ReNOKA represents a network of individuals, communities and professionals that are stronger together, fluid and growing, dedicated to the restoration of water, land, and the long-term prosperity of all communities in Lesotho.

ReNOKA vision, objectives, and principles

The vision for ReNOKA is: "We believe that benefits of integrated catchment management in Lesotho for today's and future generations can only be achieved through coordinated action and cooperation that empower and support partnerships between all stakeholders. The integrated, sustainable, and risk-informed management of Lesotho's catchment areas will lead to the conservation of biodiversity, land, and water resources and advance climate resilience. It will contribute to improved urban and rural livelihoods, water quality and economic development in the country, the Orange-Senqu basin and the entire Southern African region."

ReNOKA objectives: The population of Lesotho benefits from water availability and quality for all domestic, rural, industrial, or agricultural users; sustainable water and land management; the reduction and reversal of land degradation and soil erosion; and contributions to advance the resilience to climate change impacts.

ReNOKA principles: Cooperation and coordinated action among government bodies, private sector, civil society, communities, and international partners to promote coherence and synergies in the implementation of policies and practices. It shall increase civic participation, guarantee equal and balanced use of resources, and strengthen transparent and empowering governance.

Change that ReNOKA aims to achieve



Catchment Management

Restoration of degraded watersheds through emergency rehabilitation measures and the implementation of catchment management plans. These plans address the human causes of degradation such as unsustainable land use patterns, advance climate resilience and provide livelihood opportunities for local communities.



Policy & Governance

Relevant policies and legislation are updated and harmonised to ensure effective management of catchment areas. Guidelines for catchment planning and for the implementation of soil and water management, as well as clearly defined institutional mandates, ensure a coherent and integrated approach across institutions.



Finance & Investment

Suitable financing mechanisms ensure that funding is available for the implementation of catchment development and rehabilitation measures at the right levels of government. Investments from international public and private institutions complement national funding arrangements.



Skills & Knowledge

Resource users and professionals have the skills they need to contribute to sustainable management of land, water and environmental resources. This ranges from practical trainings on innovative agricultural methods to dedicated graduate courses at the National University of Lesotho.



Awareness & Behaviour Change

Reducing catchment degradation depends on citizen awareness and adoption of more sustainable behaviours among land water users. This is promoted through targeted communication approaches and interventions ground in behavioural insights.

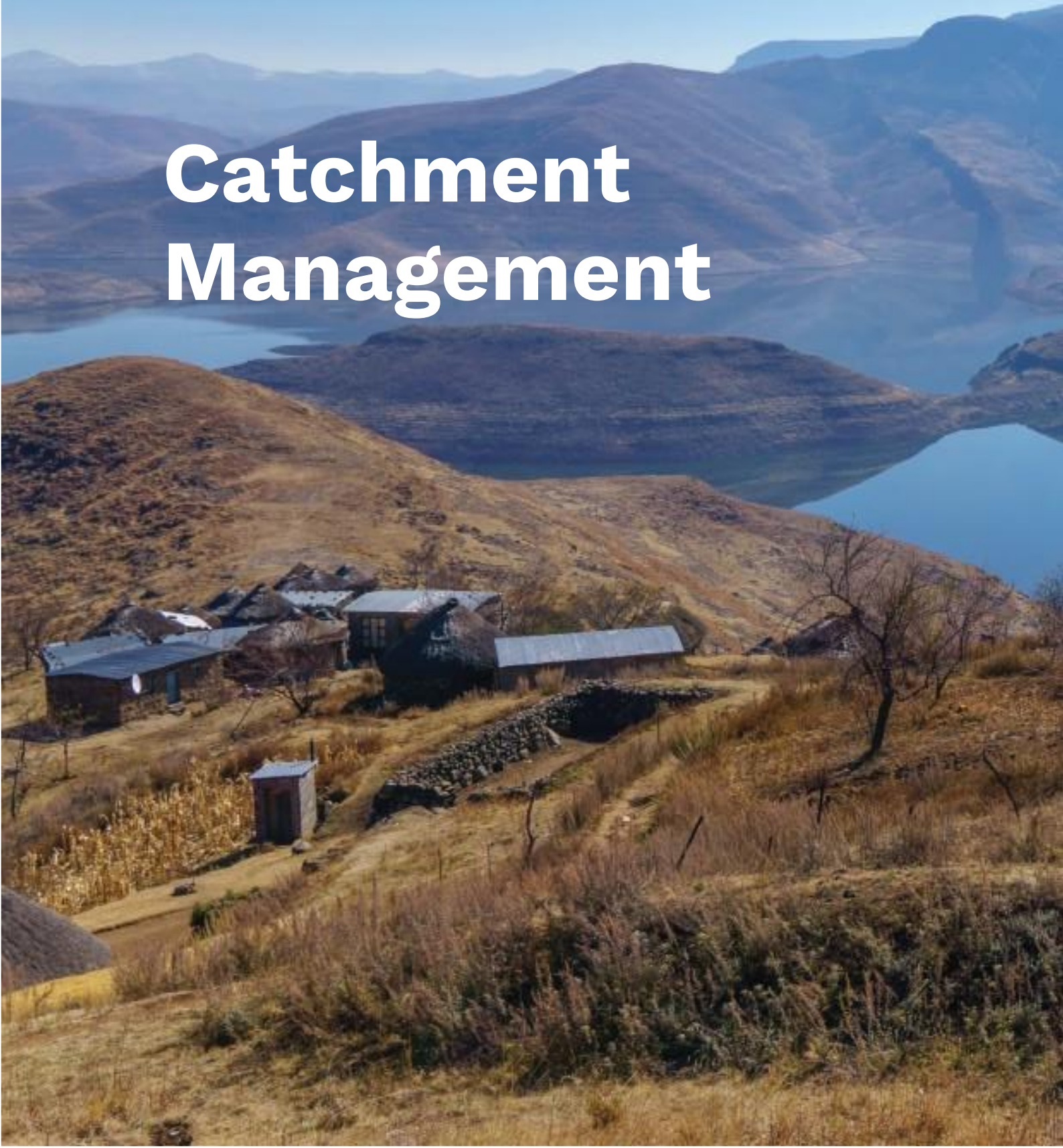


Data & Monitoring

Data and evidence inform decision making, learning and innovation for integrated catchment management. The aim is that better data leads to the creation of evidence on effective approaches and methodologies, optimising the allocation of resources to those catchment areas and local communities that are successful in implementing integrated catchment management.



Catchment Management



About the Change Area



Introduction

Water security in Southern Africa depends on healthy catchments of major river basins. Lesotho's contribution to the annual run-off of the transboundary Orange-Senqu River is forty (40) percent from a land base of only three (3) percent. It secures access to vital water for millions of citizens, farmers, and businesses downstream. However, the upstream catchments are under constant stress from land degradation, soil erosion and the impacts of a changing climate. This is caused by population growth, poverty, and food insecurity, which increases subsistence farming and forces people into previously uninhabited areas like wetlands and mountain slopes.

Catchment degradation in Lesotho's catchments costs an estimated 4.6 percent of annual Gross National Income (US\$ 108 million). The country loses two percent of topsoil to erosion every year because of degradation, and this reduction in arable land leads to food insecurity.

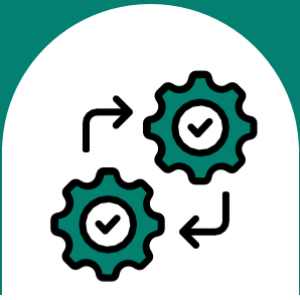
Healthy catchments and wetland ecosystems are required to absorb rain and slowly release water during the dry season, but degradation causes flooding and silting up of dams. Floods and droughts are further aggravated by climate change.

The return on investment from action against land degradation is estimated at US\$ 6 for every dollar invested.

The Change

The ReNOKA programme aims for integrated catchment management through a multi-stakeholder process. It promotes the integrated, sustainable, and risk-informed development and management of water and land resources in Lesotho's catchment areas.

This will improve livelihoods and economic development and benefit the entire Southern African region. Our evidence-based and integrated approach should help the people of Lesotho to benefit from improved land management, reduced soil erosion, a sustainable supply of water, and greater resilience to climate change.



Priorities for 2023/2024

Key Priorities

The key priorities for 2023/24 expanding the footprint of implementation of ICM activities through upscaling from six to eighteen Sub-catchment areas. Upscaling is based on national strategic priorities and clustering based on the peak to valley approach. The development of Integrated Catchment Management Development Plans (ICMDPs) is another key area. These plans will be based on studies such as Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment (CRVA) and will adopt the ecosystem-based approach (EBA). At a Sub-catchment level, ICM action plans will be developed and implemented to address community needs.

Gender

The importance of incorporation of gender assessments in planning is important to build an understanding of the social background of the catchments. This enables gender responsive planning and implementation in ICM, as well ensuring that no harm is exerted to communities through implementation of ICM interventions.

Climate

The ICM development and council action plans are climate proofed by the undertaking of Climate risk and vulnerability assessments, and Public Infrastructure Engineering Vulnerability Committee (PIEVC) Protocol. These assessments will highlight climate change impacts and further inform climate smart adaptation measures.

Coordination and Synergies

Coordination is planned between key ICM line ministries, private sector and civil society operating in their respective catchment management areas.

National Level

Lead Department / Institution	Activity	Main targets	Milestones & Timelines		Coordination and Synergies	Funding source	Source of Activity	Comments
			Date	Milestone				
ICU	ICM Scaling Strategy	Sustainable Water and Land Management	Dec 2023	Scaling strategy agreed.	LMDA, MCC, CPU, Department of Water, Local Government, Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation, Agriculture	EU/BMZ (implemented by GIZ)	Ongoing from OP 2022	
ICU	Development of catchment management guidelines	Sustainable Water and Land Management	Mar 2024	Catchment Management Guidelines developed.	CPU, Department of Water, Local Government, Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation, Agriculture	EU/BMZ (implemented by GIZ)	Ongoing from OP 2022	
GIZ	Improve and finalise National Planning Guidelines	Sustainable Water and Land Management	Mar 2024	National Planning Guidelines finalised	Catchment Planning TWG, CPUs	EU/BMZ (implemented by GIZ)	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	
ICU	Capacity building of local institutions and establishment of by-laws	Local Governance & Empowering Governance Processes	Mar 2024	By-laws produced	ICU, GIZ, Decentralisation	EU/BMZ (implemented by GIZ)	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	
ICU	Implementation of ICM Council Action Plans	Improved Equitable Livelihoods	Mar 2024	ICM plans implemented.	ICU, Local Councils, Government Departments	EU/BMZ (implemented by GIZ)	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	

ICU	Completion and use of the compendium of measures	Reduction of Land Degradation & Soil Erosion	Mar 2024	Compendium of measures	GIZ	EU/BMZ (implemented by GIZ)	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	
LHDA	Develop a Phase 2 wetlands strategy and monitoring plan	Sustainable Water and Land Management	Mar 2024	Wetlands strategy and plan developed.	Department of Water	GOL	Ongoing from OP 2022	
LHDA	Facilitate establishment of protected area in the upper Moteete sub-catchment	Sustainable Water and Land Management	Mar 2024	Protected area established	Department of Environment	GOL	Ongoing from OP 2022	
Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation	Native seed collection and germination testing	Sustainable Water and Land Management	Mar 2024	Native seeds pilot areas	Research Institutes	GOL	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	
Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation	Construction of animal drinking points (Feasibility study and community mobilisation)	Water Availability and Quality	Mar 2024	Animal drinking points constructed	ICU	GOL/WAMPP	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	

Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation	Range rehabilitation and development of grazing management plans	Sustainable Water and Land Management	Mar 2024	Range management plans developed	ICU, Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation	GOL/WAMPP	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	
Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation	Holistic grazing management (overnight kraaling trials)	Reduction of Land Degradation & Soil Erosion	Mar 2024	Holistic grazing management pilot areas	ICU, Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation	GOL/WAMPP	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	
CRS	Provision of technical backstopping to ICU during establishment of ICM structures	Sustainable Water and Land Management	Mar 2024	Provision of technical assistance	Coordination with all relevant government ministries	EU/BMZ (implemented by GIZ)	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	
CRS	Establishing a community feedback mechanism on the implementation of their visions	Sustainable Water and Land Management	Feb 2024	Community feedback mechanism developed	Coordination with all relevant government ministries	EU/BMZ (implemented by GIZ)	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	
CRS	Support CPUs to deliver research and innovation through Farmer Learning Centres (FLC)	Resilience to Climate Change Impacts	Mar 2024	Research and Innovation undertaken through FLC	Coordination with extension, agricultural research, and academia	EU/BMZ (implemented by GIZ)	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	

CRS	Promoting SILC and market engagement through existing private service providers and market agents	Improved Equitable Livelihoods	Mar 2024	SILC and market engagement promoted	Coordination with Department of Marketing, Cooperatives, and financial institutions	EU/BMZ (implemented by GIZ)	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	
CRS	Establishing and training new SILC groups and marketing clubs where private service providers and market agents are not available	Improved Equitable Livelihoods	Mar 2024	New SILC groups and marketing clubs established and trained	Coordination with Department of Marketing, Cooperatives, and financial institutions	EU/BMZ (implemented by GIZ)	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	
ROLL	Rangelands biophysical assessment (ROLL catchment areas)	Reduction of Land Degradation & Soil Erosion	Mar 2024	Rangelands biophysical assessment conducted	ICU, Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation	GOL/ROLL	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	

Upper Mohokare Catchment Management Area

Lead Department / Institution	Activity	Main targets	Milestones & Timelines		Coordination and Synergies	Funding source	Source of Activity	Comments
			Date	Milestone				
ICU, LMDA ORASECOM,	Develop Integrated Catchment Management and Development Plan for the Upper Mohokare Catchment	Sustainable Water and Land Management	Mar 2024	Upper Mohokare Catchment ICMDP developed	CPU, CMJC, Private Sector, Civil Society	GoL National contribution to the Second Lesotho Compact with MCC	Ongoing from OP 2022	
ICU, CPU Leribe	Local Council ICM Action Plans – Menkhoaneng and councils covering sub-catchments 6, 61, 72 and 51	Sustainable Water and Land Management	Mar 2024	Local Council ICM Action Plans developed	LMDA, MCC, CPU	EU/BMZ (implemented by GIZ)	Ongoing from OP 2022	
ICU	Phase A, Emergency Rehabilitation Measures – Lot 1	Reduction of Land Degradation & Soil Erosion	June 2023	Phase A, Emergency Rehabilitation measures completed	CPU, Private Sector, Civil Society	EU/BMZ (implemented by GIZ)	Ongoing from OP 2022	
GIZ	Establishing additional Community Watershed Teams	Cooperative, Sustainable & Effective Management of Water resources	Mar 2024	VWTs and CWTs established in new Community Councils	CRS, with engagement of CMJCs and CPUs	EU/BMZ (implemented through GIZ)	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	

GIZ	Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment for the Upper Mohokare Catchment	Resilience to Climate Change Impacts	July 2023	Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment completed	VWTs, CWTs, CPU, Private Sector, Civil Society	EU/BMZ (implemented through GIZ); World Bank	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	
GIZ	Aquatic Ecosystems Assessment for the Upper Mohokare Catchment	Sustainable Water and Land Management	Mar 2024	Aquatic Ecosystems Assessment conducted	VWTs, CWTs, CPU, Private Sector, Civil Society	EU/BMZ (implemented through GIZ)	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	
GIZ	Phase B Emergency Rehabilitation Measures – Hlotse	Reduction of Land Degradation & Soil Erosion	Mar 2024	planning and implementation of phase II rehabilitation measures	CPU, CMJC, Private Sector, Civil Society	EU/BMZ (implemented through GIZ)	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	
GIZ	Community Engagement and CC ICM Action Planning in ICM scaling sub-catchments - Upper Mohokare (LMDA SCs)	Sustainable Water and Land Management	Mar 2024	Scaling strategy agreed	LMDA, MCC, CPU, Department of Water, Local Government, Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation, Agriculture, Private Sector, Civil Society		Planned in OP 2023 Survey	
Department of Water	Assessments of resources and identified local measures: Spring and stream measurement and feasibility studies	Sustainable Water and Land Management	Mar 2024	Feasibility studies completed	Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation, Environment	GoL, ReNOKA, World Vision	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Water sector

Department of Water	Wetlands rehabilitation	Sustainable Water and Land Management	Mar 2024	Restored wetland ecosystems	Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation, Environment	GoL, ReNOKA, World Vision	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Water sector
Department of Water	Design and construction of water system	Sustainable Water and Land Management	Mar 2024	Water system completed	Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation, Environment	GoL, ReNOKA, World Vision	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Water sector
Departments of Crops and Livestock Services	Rainwater harvesting, design and construction of irrigation system and structures	Sustainable Water and Land Management	Mar 2024	Sustainable rainwater harvesting techniques and irrigation systems	DWA, Soil and Water Conservation	Community Council, ReNOKA, SADP, WAMPP	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Agriculture sector
	Improve infrastructure for livestock agriculture: Develop drinking points, provide crush pans and dipping trenches	Sustainable Water and Land Management	Mar 2024	Livestock infrastructure developed	MFSC	Community Council, ReNOKA, SADP, WAMPP	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Agriculture sector
Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation	Promote Sustainable Land Management	Sustainable Water and Land Management	Mar 2024	Sustainable Land Management practices	MAFS, Environment, NGOs	GoL, ReNOKA, WAMPP, World Vision	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Range sector

Middle Mohokare Catchment Management Area

Lead Department / Institution	Activity	Main targets	Milestones & Timelines		Coordination and Synergies	Funding source	Source of Activity	Comments
			Date	Milestone				
ICU/GIZ	Community Engagement and CC ICM Action Planning in ICM scaling Sub-catchments - Middle Mohokare (Metolong)	Sustainable Water and Land Management	Mar 2024	Metolong ICM Action Plan	CoW, DWA, WASCO, Forestry, Range and Soil and Water Conservation,	EU/BMZ (implemented through GIZ); World Bank;	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	

Lower Mohokare Catchment Management Area

Lead Department / Institution	Activity	Main targets	Milestones & Timelines		Coordination and Synergies	Funding source	Source of Activity	Comments
			Date	Milestone				
ICU/GIZ	Community Engagement and CC ICM Action Planning in ICM scaling Sub-catchments - Lower Mohokare (Bophelo SCs)	Sustainable Water and Land Management		Scaling strategy agreed	LMDA, MCC, CPU, Department of Water, Local Government, Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation, Agriculture, Environment		Planned in OP 2023 Survey	

Department of Horticulture, Crops and Livestock	Improvement of food security	Improved Equitable Livelihoods	Mar 2024	50% of households' food secure	Horticulture, Local Government, Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation, CWT	ReNOKA	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Agric sector
	Income generating activities	Improved Equitable Livelihoods		40% engaged in income generating activities.				
				Practising proper crop and land management				
Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation	Promote Sustainable Rangeland Management	Reduction of Land Degradation & Soil Erosion	Mar 2024	50% of rangeland rehabilitated	Department of Gender and Youth, Local Government, Environment, Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition, CWT	ReNOKA	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Agric sector
Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation	Gully rehabilitation	Reduction of Land Degradation & Soil Erosion	Mar 2024	30% of gully rehabilitation	Local Government, Environment, CWT, Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition	ReNOKA, GoL	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Agric sector
Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation	Tree plantation	Resilience to Climate Change Impacts	Mar 2024	50% of trees planted	Local Government Environment, Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition, CWT, NGO/CBOs	ReNOKA, GoL	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by MF RSC sector
Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation	Nurseries establishment	Improved Equitable Livelihoods	Mar 2024	At least 5 nurseries established.	Local Government, Environment, Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition, CWT, NGO/CBOs	ReNOKA, GoL	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by MF RSC sector

Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation	Promote Apiculture	Improved Equitable Livelihoods	Mar 2024	At least 8 groups of beekeepers.	Local Government, Environment, CWT, NGO/CBOs, Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition, Health	ReNOKA, GoL	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by MFRSC sector
Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation	Promote Water harvesting techniques	Water Availability and Quality	Mar 2024	5 earth dams	Local Government, Environment, CWT, NGO/CBOs, Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition, Health	ReNOKA, GoL	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Water sector
				5 animal drinking points				
Department of Environment	Waste management programmes	Sustainable Water and Land Management	Mar 2024	50% of households adhere to waste management practices	Local Government, Health, Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation, Department of Water, Private Sector, NGO/CBOs, CWT	ReNOKA, GoL	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Water sector
Department of Water	Wetlands demarcation and delineation	Sustainable Water and Land Management	Mar 2024	All wetlands demarcated	Local Government, CWT, Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation	ReNOKA, GoL	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Water sector
Department of Water	Access to clean, abundant water	Water Availability and Quality	Mar 2024	80% of households with accessible potable water	Local Government, Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation, Environment	ReNOKA, GoL	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Water sector

Makhaleng Catchment Management Area

Lead Department / Institution	Activity	Main targets	Milestones & Timelines		Coordination and Synergies	Funding source	Source of Activity	Comments
			Date	Milestone				
Community Watershed Team with ICU, supported by CRS	ICM visioning and planning	Local Governance & Empowering Governance Processes	Mar 2024	ICM Plans developed	CPU, Department of Water, Local Government, Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation, Agriculture, Private Sector, Civil Society	EU/BMZ (implemented by GIZ)	Ongoing from OP 2022	
ICU	Phase B Emergency Rehabilitation Measures – Makhalaneng	Reduction of Land Degradation & Soil Erosion	Mar 2024	Phase B Emergency Rehabilitation Measures completed	CPU, Department of Water, Local Government, Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation, Agriculture, Private Sector, Civil Society	EU/BMZ (implemented by GIZ)	Ongoing from OP 2022	
ICU, CPU Mafeteng	Implementation of Local Council ICM Action Plans – Kubake, Manonyane, Likolobeng	Local Governance & Empowering Governance Processes	Mar 2024	Local Council ICM Action Plans developed	Coordinate development of Likolobeng plan with Upper Senqu / Senquyane	EU/BMZ (implemented by GIZ)	Ongoing from OP 2022	
ICU/GIZ	Develop Integrated Catchment Management and Development Plan for the Makhaleng Catchment	Sustainable Water and Land Management	Mar 2024	Makhaleng ICMP developed	South Africa Orange WMA; Scaling up of ICM to areas with planned investment in water infrastructure, CPU, CMJC, Private Sector, Civil Society, ORASECOM,	EU/BMZ (implemented by GIZ)	Ongoing from OP 2022	

ICU	Phase A, Emergency Rehabilitation Measures – Lot 4	Reduction of Land Degradation & Soil Erosion	Mar-24	Phase A, Emergency Rehabilitation measures completed	CPU, Department of Water, Local Government, Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation, Agriculture, Private Sector, Civil Society	EU/BMZ (implemented by GIZ)	Ongoing from OP 2022	
GIZ	Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment for the Makhaleng Catchment	Resilience to Climate Change Impacts	Mar-24	Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment for Makhalaneng completed	VWTs, CWTs, CPU, Private Sector, Civil Society	EU/BMZ (implemented by GIZ)	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	
GIZ	Aquatic Ecosystems Assessment for the Makhaleng Catchment	Sustainable Water and Land Management	Mar-24	Aquatic Ecosystems Assessment conducted	VWTs, CWTs, CPU, Private Sector, Civil Society	EU/BMZ (implemented by GIZ)	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	
GIZ	Community Engagement and CC ICM Action Planning in ICM scaling Sub-catchments - Makhaleng Headwater SC	Sustainable Water and Land Management	Mar-24	Scaling strategy agreed	CPU, Department of Water, Local Government, Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation, Agriculture, Environment	EU/BMZ (implemented by GIZ)	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	
Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation	Range rehabilitation: reseedling, shrub control, pasture rest, fodder production	Sustainable Water and Land Management	Quarter 3	Restored rangeland ecosystems	LHDA	GoL, WAMPP, ReNOKA	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Range sector

Department Water; Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation	Wetlands protection: wetlands demarcation, drinking points, shrub control	Sustainable Water and Land Management	Mar-24	Wetlands restoration	DRRM, Local Authorities	GoL, ReNOKA	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Water sector
Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition	Irrigation of crop fields	Improved Equitable Livelihoods	Jan - Mar 23	Irrigation schemes	NGOs, WAMPP, APPSA, WFD, World Bank	GoL, World Bank, NGOs	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Agriculture sector
Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition	Construction of terraces, silt traps, diversion furrows, etc.	Reduction of Land Degradation & Soil Erosion	Jan - Mar 23	Soil and Water conservation measures implemented	NGOs, WAMPP, APPSA, WFD, World Bank	GoL, World Bank, NGOs	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Agriculture sector
Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation	Construction of terraces, stone lines, brush lines, gully heads stabilisation, diversion furrows, infiltration pits/ ditches, and silt traps	Reduction of Land Degradation & Soil Erosion	Mar-24	Soil and Water conservation measures implemented	MAFS, DRRM, local councils, NGOs, ROLL, ReNOKA, LHDA	GoL, ROLL, ReNOKA, GIZ	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Soil and Water Conservation sector

Upper Senqu Catchment Management Area

Lead Department / Institution	Activity	Main targets	Milestones & Timelines		Coordination and Synergies	Funding source	Source of Activity	Comments
			Date	Milestone				
LHDA	Rehabilitate marginal lands, degraded rangelands, and gullies in LHWP catchments	Reduction of Land Degradation & Soil Erosion	Mar-24	Align ICM plans with LHDA catchment management interventions	ICM; Local Government; Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition; Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation	LHDA	Ongoing from OP 2022	
LHDA	LHDA Rangeland Management Program	Sustainable Water and Land Management	Mar-24	Align ICM plans with LHDA range management support interventions	ICM; Local Government; Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition; Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation	LHDA	Ongoing from OP 2022	
Community Watershed Teams with ICU and CPU, supported by CRS	ICM visioning and planning (Khubelu)	Local Governance & Empowering Governance Processes	Mar-24	ICM Plans developed	CWT, CPU, Department of Water, Local Government, Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation, Agriculture, Private Sector, Civil Society	EU/BMZ (implemented by GIZ)	Ongoing from OP 2022	
ICU, CPU Mokhotlong	Local Council ICM Action Plan – Seate and Mphokojane (Khubelu)	Local Governance & Empowering Governance Processes	Mar-24	Local Council ICM Action Plans developed and approved by the Council	CWT, CPU, Department of Water, Local Government, Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation, Agriculture, Private Sector, Civil Society	EU/BMZ (implemented by GIZ)	Ongoing from OP 2022	

Community Watershed Team with ICU, supported by CRS	ICM visioning and planning (8) (Senqunyane)	Local Governance & Empowering Governance Processes	Mar-24	ICM Plans developed	CWT, CPU, Department of Water, Local Government, Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation, Agriculture, Private Sector, Civil Society	EU/BMZ (implemented by GIZ)	Ongoing from OP 2022	
ICU, CPU Thaba Tseka	Local Council ICM Action Plans – Tenesolo, Makeoana, Likolobeng (Senqunyane)	Sustainable Water and Land Management	Mar-24	Local Council ICM Action Plans developed and approved by the Council	CWT, CPU, Department of Water, Local Government, Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation, Agriculture, Private Sector, Civil Society	EU/BMZ (implemented by GIZ)	Ongoing from OP 2022	
GIZ	Emergency rehabilitation measures - Khubelu	Reduction of Land Degradation & Soil Erosion	Mar-24	Emergency rehabilitation measures completed	CWT, LHDA, CPU, Department of Water, Local Government, Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation, Agriculture, Private Sector, Civil Society	EU/BMZ (implemented by GIZ)	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	
Department of Crops	Activities to address erosion: CA practice, diversion furrows, plant indigenous trees	Reduction of Land Degradation & Soil Erosion	Mar-24	Soil and Water conservation measures implemented	CWT, CPU, Department of Water, Local Government, Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation, Agriculture, Private Sector, Civil Society	GOL	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Agriculture sector
Research Department	Activities to improve crop production: Soil sampling, biofortified seeds, use of organic fertiliser	Sustainable Water and Land Management	Mar-24	Increased Food security	Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation	GOL	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Agriculture sector

Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation	Reseeding, brush control, Leboella (rangeland rest), fire belts	Reduction of Land Degradation & Soil Erosion	Mar-24	Rangeland rehabilitation and improvement	CWT, CPU	GOL	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Range sector
Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation	Establish animal drinking points, grazing plants, HLLM, cattle post adjudication	Resilience to Climate Change Impacts	Mar-24	Sustainable rangeland management	CWT, CPU	GOL	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Water sector
Department of Water	Maintenance and formulation of water communities in villages	Water Availability and Quality	Mar-24	Functional and operational community structures	CWT, CPU	GOL	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Water sector
Department of Water	Identification of sources and construction of water system	Water Availability and Quality	Mar-24	Sustainable water supply systems	CWT, CPU	GOL	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Water sector
Department of Water	Demarcation of wetland boundaries	Sustainable Water and Land Management	Mar-24	Protection of water resources	CWT, CPU	GOL	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Water sector
Department of Water	Fencing of springs	Sustainable Water and Land Management	Mar-24	Protection of water resources	CWT, CPU	GOL	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Water sector

Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation	Construction of silt traps, gabion structures, tree plantation	Reduction of Land Degradation & Soil Erosion	Mar-24	Soil and Water conservation measures implemented	CWT, CPU	GOL	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Soil and Water Conservation sector
Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation	Dam construction, rainwater harvesting tanks, drinking points, construction of terraces	Water Availability and Quality	Mar-24	Soil and Water conservation measures implemented	CWT, CPU	GOL	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Soil and Water Conservation sector
Agricultural Research	Capacity building (proper soil management skills)	Sustainable Water and Land Management	Mar-24	Capacity development	Research (agriculture), extension, NGOs, Agriculture; Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation	GoL	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Agriculture sector
Agriculture	Implementing measures such as tree planting, rotational grazing, introduction of nurseries and agroforestry	Improved Equitable Livelihoods		Soil and Water conservation measures implemented	WAMPP, Range, Forestry, Research, MPPSA, Extension	GoL	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Agriculture sector
Department of Water	Wetlands demarcation	Sustainable Water and Land Management	Mar-24	Restored wetland ecosystems	Range, Environment, Health, BOS	ReNOKA, GoL	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Water sector

Department of Water	Community capacity building on maintenance	Increased Civic Participation & Social Inclusion	Mar-24	Capacity development	Range, Environment, Health, BOS	ReNOKA, GoL	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Water sector
Department of Water	Capturing unprotected springs	Water Availability and Quality	Mar-24	Sustainable water supply systems	Range, Environment, Health, BOS	ReNOKA, GoL	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Water sector

Lower Senqu Catchment Management Area

Lead Department / Institution	Activity	Main targets	Milestones & Timelines		Coordination and Synergies	Funding source	Source of Activity	Comments
			Date	Milestone				
ICU, CPU Mohale's Hoek	Local Council ICM Action Plans – Maletsunyane	Local Governance & Empowering Governance Processes	Mar-24	Local Council ICM Action Plans developed and approved by the Council	CPU, Department of Water, Local Government, Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation, Agriculture, Private Sector, Civil Society	EU/BMZ (implemented by GIZ)	Ongoing from OP 2022	
GIZ	Community Engagement and CC ICM Action Planning in ICM scaling Sub-catchments - Lower Senqu (LMDA SCs)	Sustainable Water and Land Management	Mar-24	Scaling strategy agreed	CPU, Department of Water, Local Government, Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation, Agriculture, Private Sector, Civil Society	EU/BMZ (implemented by GIZ)	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	

Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation	Range rehabilitation: reseedling, shrub control, pasture rest, fodder production	Sustainable Water and Land Management	Quarter 3	Restored rangeland ecosystems	LHDA, CPU, CWT	GoL, WAMPP, ReNOKA	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Range sector
Department of Water; Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation	Wetlands protection: wetlands demarcation, drinking points, shrub control	Sustainable Water and Land Management	Dec-23	Wetlands restoration	DRRM, Local Authorities	GoL, ReNOKA	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Water sector
Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition	Irrigation of crop fields	Sustainable Water and Land Management	Jan - Mar 23	Irrigation schemes	NGOs, WAMPP, APPSA, WFD, World Bank	GoL, World Bank, NGOs	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Agriculture sector
Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition	Construction of terraces, silt traps, diversion furrows, etc.	Reduction of Land Degradation & Soil Erosion	Jan - Mar 23	Soil and Water conservation measures implemented	NGOs, WAMPP, APPSA, WFD, World Bank	GoL, World Bank, NGOs	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Agriculture sector
Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation	Terrace construction, stone lines, brush lines, gully heads stabilisation, diversion furrows, infiltration pits/ditches	Reduction of Land Degradation & Soil Erosion	Jun-23	Soil and Water conservation measures implemented	MAFS, DRRM, local councils, NGOs, ROLL, ReNOKA, LHDA	GoL, ROLL, ReNOKA, GIZ	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Soil and Water Conservation sector



Policy & Governance

About the Change Area



Introduction

Many analyses regard the root cause of environmental degradation in Lesotho to be ineffective governance of land and water resources.

More effective policies and governance are needed for the sustainable implementation of integrated catchment management.

This includes the regulation of land and water use, and the coordinated implementation of catchment management interventions across departments and sectors.

Strong local government institutions are required to set the right priorities for local watersheds, in consultation with land and water user associations.

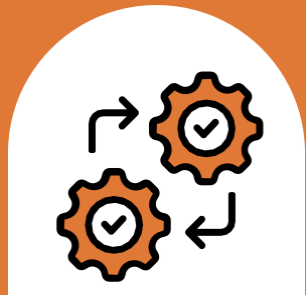
Lesotho's administrative and river catchment boundaries do not overlap, so each catchment includes several districts and community councils. Coordinating institutions are therefore required to develop catchment management plans with rehabilitation measures that consider the implications of upstream and downstream activities, as well as catchments' geophysical characteristics.

The Change

ReNOKA aims to improve the governance of natural resources in Lesotho's catchment areas. Harmonisation of laws and policies, development of effective institutions for catchment management, and the establishment of common guidelines and standards, will enable the development of an integrated planning approach at catchment level.

A revision of Lesotho's water and environmental legislation will provide a mandate for integrated catchment management, harmonise existing policies and support relevant ministries with the development of regulations, standards and permitting systems.

The process will consolidate the fragmented mandates and responsibilities of line ministries and authorities. It will enable the effective enforcement of regulations for use of land and water resources and ensure water and land management plans are aligned with catchment boundaries.



Priorities for 2023/2024

Key Priorities

Support to the review of Water Act to anchor ICM institutions and planning processes. Support to the review of forestry Policy and development of Soil and Water Conservation Bill for harmonizing ICM. Support to the development of pilot by-laws in six local councils. Development of ICM planning guidelines and review of compendium of soil and water conservation measures. Establishment of ICM institutions in the new sub-catchments (12) and two catchment management areas

Gender

Gender mainstreaming is a vital element in the review of the Water Act, Forestry Policy, Soil and Water conservation Bill, and ICM planning guidelines. Gender issues are also taken into consideration during the establishment of ICM institutions.

Climate

Climate change considerations included in the policies, guidelines, and laws.

Coordination and Synergies

Coordination is planned between the key line-ministries, private sector, and civil society.

Review of Key Policies and Acts

Lead Department / Institution	Activity	Main targets	Milestones & Timelines		Coordination and Synergies	Funding source	Source of Activity	Comments
			Date	Milestone				
GIZ	Finalise revision of Water Act	Harmonization of Policies & Legislation	1/15/2023	Finalisation of issue paper	Lead by Ministry of Water, Commissioner office supported by GIZ, MCC, LMDA. Coordination and engagement needed with all ReNOKA line Ministries	EU/BMZ (implemented through GIZ); MCC/LMDA	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	All Ministries are referred to as per constellation before new election. The coordination and leadership will be reviewed to fit the new cabinet.
			3/15/2023	Finalisation stakeholders' consultation				
			4/15/2023	Draft instruction for the bill				
			7/15/2023	Final Act				
GIZ	Fostering of Policy Harmonisation through implementing of Policy Roadmap	Harmonization of Policies & Legislation	3/1/2022	Procurement of technical expert to assist with drafting/	Lead Ministry of Forestry in close coordination with all ReNOKA ministries	EU/BMZ (implemented through GIZ);	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	
			6/15/2022	Main issues agreed with stakeholders. Support to drafting instruction for new Bill and revised policy Procurement of technical expert				

			8/1/2022	draft issue paper				
			9/15/2022	Main issues agreed with stakeholders				
GIZ	Support to NSDP III on climate risk informed and integrated approaches	Harmonization of Policies & Legislation	1st quarter	Agreement on support with WG on revision	Lead Ministry of Development Planning, coordinate with ICU and LMS	EU/BMZ (implemented through GIZ);	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	
				Preparation of input				
				Discussion and inclusion following agreements				
ICU	Roll out of the legal and institutional road map	Harmonization of Policies & Legislation	Jan-Dec 2023	Revised legal instruments and policies	GIZ, ICU, Other Government Departments	EU/ BMZ (implemented through GIZ)	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	
ICU	Capacity building of local institutions and establishment of by laws	Local Governance & Empowering Governance Processes	Mar 2024	Local institutions capacitated and by laws established	ICU, GIZ and Decentralisation	EU/BMZ (implemented by GIZ)	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	
Range	Range Act	Sustainable Water and Land Management	Mar 2024	New Act approved by Parliament	Local government, water, environment, justice, forestry, police	Lesotho Government ICM (ReNOKA), GIZ, other donors, IFAD	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by MF RSC Sector

Forestry	Amendment of Forestry policy	Sustainable Water and Land Management	Dec 2023	Revised policy approved and gazetted	Local government, water, environment, justice, forestry, police	Lesotho Government ICM (ReNOKA), GIZ, other donors, IFAD	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by MF RSC Sector
Soil Conservation	Soil & Water Conservation Bill	Reduction of Land Degradation & Soil Erosion	Dec 2023	New policy approved and gazetted	Local government, water, environment, justice, forestry, police	Lesotho Government ICM (ReNOKA), GIZ, other donors, IFAD	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by MF RSC Sector
Local Government & Councils	Community Councils By-Laws	Local Governance & Empowering Governance Processes	Mar 2024	"Draft by-laws submitted and approved by MoLGCA	Local government, water, environment, justice, forestry, police	Lesotho Government ICM (ReNOKA), GIZ, other donors, IFAD	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by MF RSC Sector
MAFS	Review of Seed Policy	Harmonization of Policies & Legislation	Mar 2024	Revised policy approved and gazetted	Defence, Local Government, Police, Environment, Water	Lesotho Government, ICM, IFAD	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Agric Sector
MAFS	Review of Livestock Policy	Harmonization of Policies & Legislation	Mar 2024	Revised policy approved and gazetted	Defence, Local Government, Police, Environment, Water	Lesotho Government, ICM, IFAD	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Agric Sector
Agriculture	Irrigation Master Plan	Resilience to Climate Change Impacts	Mar 2024	Irrigation master plan in operation	Defence, Local Government, Police, Environment, Water	Lesotho Government, ICM, IFAD	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Agric Sector

Agriculture	Nutrition Policy	Harmonization of Policies & Legislation	June 2023	Revised policy approved and gazetted	Defence, Local Government, Police, Environment, Water	Lesotho Government, ICM, IFAD	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Agric Sector
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Development of Supporting Instruments

Lead Department / Institution	Activity	Main targets	Milestones & Timelines		Coordination and Synergies	Funding source	Source of Activity	Comments
			Date	Milestone				
GIZ	Development of By-laws	Local Governance & Empowering Governance Processes	2/15/2022	Draft guideline discussed at district level	Lead MoLG coordination needed at Local Level with District and Community Councils. Coordination needed with sectoral ministries i.e., Ministry of Forestry to provide technical inputs	EU/BMZ (implemented through GIZ);	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	
			6/15/2022	Draft By-laws in 6 CCs				
			8/15/2022	Final Guideline				
GIZ	Publish Soil & Water Compendium	Reduction of Land Degradation & Soil Erosion	July 2023	Compendium adopted by Stakeholders and published	Sub-national ICU leading with CPU participation	EU/BMZ (implemented through GIZ);	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	
ICU	Finalise research on behaviour change interventions to promote conservation	Local Governance & Empowering Governance Processes	Dec 2023	Testing & implementation of design concepts	Busara, Grounded Media	EU/ BMZ (implemented through GIZ)	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	
				Training on SBCC done				

	behaviour by land and water users			Testing & implementation of design concepts done				
Department of Soil and Water Conservation	Formalization of land registration	Sustainable Water and Land Management		Land registration in place	Local councils, MAFS, DRRM, Department of Local Government, Law Enforcement		Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Soil and Water Conservation
Energy	Guidelines that stipulate minimum requirements for energy, mandatory training to capacitate technical officers.	Local Governance & Empowering Governance Processes		Guidelines developed and technical officers capacitated	Forestry, environment	NGOs	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Water affairs sector
Department of Soil and Water Conservation	Soil and water conservation bylaws and policies that regulate natural resources	Sustainable Water and Land Management		soil and water conservation by laws and policies established	Agriculture, environment, local government, police, natural resources	GoL, UNDP, IFAD	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Soil and Water Conservation
MFRSC	MFLR to promulgate Range Act, develop regulations, and develop Soil Conservation Act	Harmonization of Policies & Legislation		Range and Soil Conservation Acts promulgated	Local authorities, CWT, communities, M&E, MAFS, Police, NGOs	NGOs, line ministries, ICM	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Range and Conservation sectors

Institutional Development and Institutional Strengthening

Lead Department / Institution	Activity	Main targets	Milestones & Timelines		Coordination and Synergies	Funding source	Source of Activity	Comments
			Date	Milestone				
ICU	Agreement on legal and institutional mandates for ICM incl. anchoring in policy instrument	Harmonization of Policies & Legislation		Legal and institutional mandates agreed upon by stakeholders	Key Ministries	EU/BMZ (implemented by GIZ)	Ongoing from OP 2022	
LHDA	Establishing Conservation Associations or Range Management Associations	Cooperative, Sustainable & Effective Management of Water resources		"Established RMA and Registered constitution with Law office or RMA in place.	MFRSC	LHDA	Ongoing from OP 2022	
GIZ	Strengthen ICM relationship with NCCC	Resilience to Climate Change Impacts		Send letter requesting membership	Lead Ministry LMS and all NCCC Ministries	EU/BMZ (implemented through GIZ);	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	
				Contribute to efforts on climate resilience				
				Align ICM Action and provide reporting to				

				international convention				
GIZ	Strengthen Catchment Management Joint Committees and Catchment Planning Units as lead institutions for implementation of sub-national catchment plans	Local Governance & Empowering Governance Processes		CMJCs onboarded and embracing community mobilisation and catchment planning processes	Sub-national ICU leading with CPU participation	EU/BMZ (implemented through GIZ);	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	
				CPUs supporting CMJCs in catchment development and management Activities				
GIZ	Build ownership and strengthen political buy-in	Cooperative, Sustainable & Effective Management of Water resources		Political buy-in from the Parliament and Senate	Local Government	EU/BMZ (implemented through GIZ);		
DWA	Declaration of wetlands as protected sites	Sustainable Water and Land Management		"Establishing and gazettement of protected areas	ICM, Local Authorities	GoL, ICM	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Water Sector
MAFS	Capacity building on institutions	Local Governance & Empowering Governance Processes		Institutions capacitated	NGOs, Department of Soil and Water Conservation, MFRSC		Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Agriculture sector

Department of Soil and Water Conservation	Capacitating the community members on utilization of resources	Sustainable Water and Land Management		Community members capacitated	Local councils, MAFS, DRRM		Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Soil and Water Conservation
Natural Resources	Strengthening of local institutions to protect water resources through sensitisation of Village Water Committees and trainings for local institutions	Sustainable Water and Land Management		Local institutions capacitated	GoL, Range, Local Government	GoL	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Water affairs sector
Natural Resources	Identifying resources and declaring protection of these resources under existing laws	Local Governance & Empowering Governance Processes		sustainably managed natural resources	Range, Soil & Water Conservation, Environment	GoL	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Water affairs sector
Natural Resources	Education or legal & institutional mandates	Local Governance & Empowering Governance Processes		Strengthened institutions and legal frameworks	Range, Soil & Water Conservation, Environment	GoL	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Water affairs sector
MAFS	Capacity building and	Local Governance &		Enhanced capacities in	Extension services	GoL, Development	Planned in OP 2023	Proposed by Agriculture

	development of technical expertise in implementation of policies and bylaws	Empowering Governance Processes		legislature		partners	Survey	sector
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Finance & Investment



About the Change Area



Introduction

Integrated catchment management builds on a governance structure that can sustain key functions like the coherent planning, implementation, monitoring, and reporting at national, river basin and local community levels. This requires financial sustainability and investments. But catchment planning and rehabilitation are currently underfinanced, and responsibilities and budgets are fragmented across different government ministries.

ReNOKA has identified a need for revenue generation and cost-recovery mechanisms to fund permanent institutional arrangements for coordination and catchment management. This could be achieved through provisions from the national budget, as well as from permitting and legislation enabling these institutions to charge for their services, reducing reliance on donor funding.

A financing mechanism is needed for implementation of catchment management activities, and to address shortcomings such as weak local capacity in accounting and financing.

There is also a need for fiscal decentralisation and the capacity for catchment-level institutions to collect fees for water use and ecosystem services.

The Change

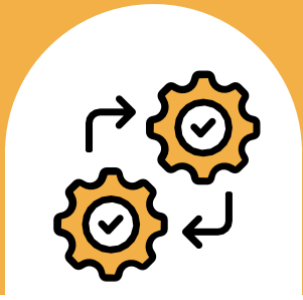
ReNOKA's goal is the creation of a sustainable financing mechanism for integrated catchment management institutions, and for implementation of catchment rehabilitation.

This will enable institutions to be financed through a sector approach coordinated by the Government of Lesotho and will allow for cost recovery and revenue generation to cover operational costs.

Strong business cases will demonstrate the returns from investment in catchment management to ensure sustainability of water and other natural resources and will help to attract funding from public and private partners.

A long-term financing mechanism will ensure the implementation of catchment management plans, with contributions from the private sector, international partners, and national and local council budgets.

Local government institutions will be strengthened in their financial management capacity, to issue local payment schemes for ecosystem services, and to fund projects for local catchment management. This will benefit the livelihoods of community stakeholders, as well as ecosystem restoration and climate resilience.



Priorities for 2023/2024

Key Priorities

Adopt UNDCF LoCAL mechanism to finance Local Council ICM Action Plans. To finalise suitable ICM financing architecture for sustainable ICM implementation.

Gender

Responsive gender budgeting for implementation of plans.

Climate

Responsive climate budgeting for implementation of plans.

Coordination and Synergies

Coordination is planned between the key line-ministries, private sector and civil society.

National Level

Lead Department / Institution	Activity	Main targets	Milestones & Timelines		Coordination and Synergies	Funding source	Source of Activity	Comments
			Date	Milestone				
ICU, GIZ LoCAL, MoLG&C, MoF	Advance ICM governance and accountability system – Establish the framework conditions for local councils to manage financial contributions (LoCAL model) in line with catchment management area and sub-catchment planning processes	Local Governance & Empowering Governance Processes		Framework conditions established in 2 districts for 6 councils until 10.22; 6 micro-projects with a clear climate adaptation function are selected out of the ICM planning process and designed for implementation in the funding cycle 2023/24	LoCAL, UNCDF	EU/BMZ (implemented by GIZ)	Ongoing from OP 2022	Driven by GoL through Technical reference group.
ICU, GWP	Assessment of investment climate & development of Lesotho Water Investment Plan	Cooperative, Sustainable & Effective Management of Water resources		Pipeline of bankable investments, Investment climate analysis	NCCC, SADB, MTEC, LMS Readiness Project-GEF		Ongoing from OP 2022	Stronger linkages can be established with MTEC and their GEF supported project

GIZ	Funding architecture structure is designed (including pre-feasibility and feasibility)	Cooperative, Sustainable & Effective Management of Water resources	2/15/2023	Options for financing architecture	Lead Ministry MoF in cooperation with all ReNOKA line Ministry	EU/BMZ (implemented through GIZ);	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	The steps following the design highly depends on the final financing architecture
			4/15/2023	Design and governance agreed				
			4/30/2023	Support for implementation of financing architecture is commissioned				
World Bank, ICU	Study on public financial management/finance incentives for ICM	Cooperative, Sustainable & Effective Management of Water resources						
CRS	Establishing financial mechanisms (such as small grants) so that some of the plans can be funded	Local Governance & Empowering Governance Processes		Financing mechanism designed	Need coordination with LCN and local government	EU/BMZ (implemented by GIZ)	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Synergistic implementation of ICM measures and livelihoods interventions
ICU	Implementation of LoCAL financing mechanisms	Cooperative, Sustainable & Effective management of Water resources		LoCAL model implemented		GIZ, ICU and UNCDF		

<i>Local Level</i>								
Lead Department / Institution	Activity	Main targets	Milestones & Timelines		Coordination and Synergies	Funding source	Source of Activity	Comments
			Date	Milestone				
ICU, GIZ	Explore interest of private sector cooperation in implementation areas	Cooperative, Sustainable & Effective Management of Water resources		Establishment of private sector partnership	IFAD	EU/BMZ (implemented by GIZ)	Ongoing from OP 2022	
GIZ	Financing of Councils ICM Action plans	Reduction of Land Degradation & Soil Erosion	1/15/2023	Opening of banks accounts	Lead Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Local Government	EU/BMZ (implemented through GIZ); in cooperation with Local UNCDF as an implementing partner	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	
			2/15/2023	Training of CC in PFMA				
			4/15/2023	Transfer of funds to be used for implementation of ICM plans				
GIZ	Private sector engagement in catchment planning	Increased Civic Participation & Social Inclusion	1st quarter	Private sector engagement in ICM planning at CMA level	ICU as primary responsible for engagement.	EU/BMZ (implemented through GIZ);	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	
			2nd quarter	Setting up private sector partnership for ICM implementation				

			2nd quarter	Explore potential for transboundary contribution through study on the socio and economic value of water				
ICU	Implementation of LoCAL financing mechanisms	Cooperative, Sustainable & Effective Management of Water resources	Jan to Dec 2023	LoCAL model implemented	GIZ, ICU, UNCDF	EU/ BMZ (implemented through GIZ)	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	
ICU	Short- and medium-term financing from GoL, NGOs, Banks, and SILC for implementation of local measures at catchment level	Sustainable Water and Land Management		Financing mechanism in place			Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Agriculture sector
Finance	Trainings on bookkeeping	Improved Equitable Livelihoods		Improved livelihoods			Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Agriculture sector
MAFS	Providing financial incentives through MAFS	Cooperative, Sustainable & Effective Management of Water resources		Sustainable financing mechanisms			Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Agriculture sector

Department of Soil and Water Conservation	Local authorities to generate income with the locally available resources: Fundraising activities supported by active groups among the village, Private sector engagement by local communities	Local Governance & Empowering Governance Processes		Sustainable financing mechanisms	MAFS, DRRM	Department of Soil and Water Conservation, NGOs	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Soil and Water Conservation
Department of Soil and Water Conservation	Improved availability and reliability of short-term financing	Improved Equitable Livelihoods		Sustainable financing mechanisms	MAFS, DRRM	Department of Soil and Water Conservation, NGOs	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Soil and Water Conservation
Department of Soil and Water Conservation	Capacity building for development of financial skills for stakeholders at local level (associations to secure funding for users to implement rangeland rehabilitation measures)	Cooperative, Sustainable & Effective Management of Water resources		Capacity skills in financial management	MAFS, DRRM	Department of Soil and Water Conservation, NGOs	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Soil and Water Conservation, and by Range sector

Department of Soil and Water Conservation	Engaging the public and private sector (tourism) for financial contributions to support catchment management plans	Sustainable Water and Land Management		Public Private Partnership in place	MAFS, DRRM, Tourism	Department of Soil and Water Conservation, NGOs, Tourism	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Soil and Water Conservation
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Transboundary Level

Lead Department / Institution	Activity	Main targets	Milestones & Timelines		Coordination and Synergies	Funding source	Source of Activity	Comments
			Date	Milestone				
ICU, GIZ, ORASECOM, MoW, LHDA, TCTA	Social & Economic value of water: the economic value of ecosystem services preventing siltation- Cost/benefit analysis with ORASECOM	Cooperative, Sustainable & Effective Management of Water resources		Study/ cost benefit analysis, Transboundary technical working group	SWPN South Africa, SADC Water	EU/BMZ (implemented by GIZ)	Ongoing from OP 2022	The scope of this study could be extended to cover natural capital accounting

SADC Water Division	Good practices from transboundary IWRM flagships on ecosystem-based and/or nexus approaches are implemented and documented for upscaling and/or investment promotion through 3 knowledge products	Cooperative, Sustainable & Effective Management of Water resources		Document at least 2 lessons learnt and good practice on selected topics	ORASECOM	BMZ TWM-SADC (implemented by GIZ)	Ongoing from OP 2022	
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Skills & Knowledge



About the Change Area



Introduction

More than 80 percent of the population in Lesotho is dependent on agriculture and natural resources for their livelihoods. This makes skills and knowledge of land and water users an essential element for the sustainable management of Lesotho's catchment areas.

Conserving natural resources and managing catchments requires many different stakeholders to understand and embrace the social, economic and environmental benefits.

But knowledge of integrated catchment management and a clear vision of its potential is currently limited in communities, organisations and government. There is also a shortage of administrative, technical and project skills required to develop and implement catchment management plans.

Community councils on the frontline of catchment management are generally not familiar with policies, rules and regulations; and lack the technical background and support to take informed decisions to guide effective implementation.

However, with the relevant skills and knowledge, the Basotho will benefit from better water quality and availability for domestic, rural, industrial and agricultural use. This will help to achieve sustainable land and water management, reduced land degradation and a measurable impact on climate change.

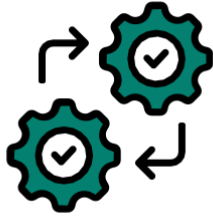
The Change

ReNOKA aims to develop a better understanding of the problem of land degradation and its impact on catchment systems. We also promote skills for the sustainable use of catchment resources, ranging from practical training for land and water users to academic programmes which develop water resource management skills among public and private sector professionals.

Skills and knowledge are relevant to all ReNOKA's change areas. We are working to create a society that exchanges information about challenges and solutions and is educated and equipped to adapt to current and future challenges.

We aim to expand understanding of river catchments and their management among all Basotho by incorporating concepts into the national education system.

The result should be land and water users implementing catchment management as a means of improving their own livelihoods and futures, with trained educators sharing knowledge, and decision makers guiding implementation based on evidence within well-understood legal frameworks.



Priorities for 2023/2024

Key Priorities

Put in place ICWRM Masters programme at Water Institute in the National University of Lesotho. Conduct four professional training courses under WaterNet grant agreement. Support other change areas in undertaking relevant trainings for implementation. Mainstream ICM Basic and Non-formal Education curriculum.

Climate

Conduct relevant professional trainings with regards to Climate Change.

Coordination and Synergies

Capacity building for stakeholders is offered at national, regional, and internal levels. International conferences and symposiums are also vital in enhancing capacity. Learning journeys for exchange of knowledge are also vital in sharing experiences from the region.

Professional Trainings

Lead Department / Institution	Activity	Main targets	Milestones & Timelines		Coordination and Synergies	Funding source	Source of Activity	Comments
			Date	Milestone				
ICU supported by WaterNet	Professional short courses	Sustainable Water and Land Management		1. Priority needs assessment 2. Quarterly short courses	NUL	EU/BMZ (implemented by GIZ)	Ongoing from OP 2022	
ICU supported by GWP SA	Regional training opportunities	Sustainable Water and Land Management		1. Final list of trainings 2. Implementing of trainings	NUL; WaterNet	EU/BMZ (implemented by GIZ)	Ongoing from OP 2022	
ICU	Capacity building on GIS	Sustainable Water and Land Management		1. Manual (Jan.) 2. Train 8 GIS specialists, 6 data scientists & 10 IT specialists (Mar.)	FAO, DRG	EU/BMZ (implemented by GIZ)	Ongoing from OP 2022	
EU/BMZ (implemented by GIZ)	Catchment planning and assessments	Sustainable Water and Land Management		ICMDP in place	MFSRC, NUL	EU/BMZ (implemented by GIZ)	Ongoing from OP 2022	
EU/BMZ (implemented by GIZ)	PR trainings in catchments	Sustainable Water and Land Management		Training Materials developed; Teams set up; PR Products for catchments	NUL FoA / IEMS	EU/BMZ (implemented by GIZ)	Ongoing from OP 2022	

GIZ, ICU	Roll out of 9 professional training courses for ICM practitioners/ professionals	Sustainable Water and Land Management	1st quarter	Pilot trainings via Training Platform	NUL, WaterNet	EU/BMZ (implemented by GIZ)	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	
			2nd quarter	Formalization of Training platform				
			3rd quarter	Trainings in relation to CMA planning processes				
			4th quarter	Conclusion of series of ToTs Pilot trainings via Training Platform.				
CRS	Capacity building of ICU and CPUs on Group Organization and Management, NRM, and Innovation, which are part of CRS SMART Skills	Sustainable Water and Land Management		Capacity building	Need coordination with all relevant government ministries	EU/BMZ (implemented by GIZ)		

ICU	Roll out of MSC programme at NUL on Integrated Water Management and inclusion of concepts in the undergraduate programmes	Sustainable Water and Land Management		MSc programme at NUL in place; Support academic coordinator; Post -Doc. Programme; ICM post graduate programme; ICM in undergrad. programmes	NUL, LAC and LP	EU/BMZ (implemented by GIZ)		Begin an MSc Programme once approved by the CHE. Start of undergraduate courses at Junior Colleges in Lesotho
ICU	Conduct 3 Regional learning and exchange visits to selected SADC countries.	Sustainable Water and Land Management		1. Learning outline 2. Exposure visits conducted	International Partners	EU/BMZ (implemented by GIZ)		
ICU	Fodder Production (training delivered to the external officers)	Improved Equitable Livelihoods			NUL	NUL	proposed by Range sector	

Institutional Strengthening

Lead Department / Institution	Activity	Main targets	Milestones & Timelines		Coordination and Synergies	Funding source	Source of Activity	Comments
			Date	Milestone				
LHDA	Conduct baseline assessment	Sustainable Water and Land Management		Assessment reports for erosion features and rangelands		LHDA	Ongoing from OP 2022	
GIZ, ICU	Roll out of MSc Programme for Integrated Water Resource Management at NUL and inclusion of concepts in the undergraduate courses and student research and internships	Sustainable Water and Land Management	1/15/2023	Start of ICM MSc.	NUL, LAC and LP	EU/ BMZ (implemented through GIZ)	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Start of MSc. Programme depending on accreditation at CHE. Start of Undergraduate courses at Junior colleges in August due to running courses.
			Jun-23	Student activities in ICM				
			Aug-23	Start of Undergraduate courses at LAC & LP				
ICU	Engage Civic and political leaders as champions for ReNOKA	Increased Civic Participation & Social Inclusion	Dec-23	Political buy-in	Grounded Media, supported by ICU & GIZ stakeholder engagement officer	EU/ BMZ (implemented through GIZ)	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	The advocacy for Champions will evolve through the awareness campaigns.

MAFS	Women extension staff leading training of youth and women clubs	Local Governance & Empowering Governance Processes		Gender mainstreaming in ICM			Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Agriculture sector
MAFS	Training of extension staff (range)	Cooperative, Sustainable & Effective Management of Water resources		Trainings implemented; trainings finalised			Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Range sector
MAFS	Training of community monitors (range)	Reduction of Land Degradation & Soil Erosion		Trainings implemented; trainings finalised			Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Range sector
MFRSC	Trainings and sensitization (for technical, CWT, local authorities, and community) on land rehabilitation	Local Governance & Empowering Governance Processes		Trainings implemented; trainings finalised	MAFS, Environment	Development agencies	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Forestry sector
RWS, Agriculture	Trainings and sensitization (for technical, CWT, local authorities, and community) on water reticulation from wetlands	Local Governance & Empowering Governance Processes		Trainings implemented; trainings finalised	NGOs	Development agencies	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Forestry sector

RWS, Agriculture	Trainings and sensitization (for technical, CWT, local authorities, and community) on land use and zoning	Local Governance & Empowering Governance Processes		Trainings implemented; trainings finalised	MAFS, Environment	development agencies	OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Forestry sector
Agriculture, Department of Crops, Livestock, Meteorology	Trainings and improved technical capacities for proper soil management: soil tests, improvement, conversion, fertility	Local Governance & Empowering Governance Processes	23-Aug	Trainings implemented; trainings finalised	Agriculture, research and extension services, Soil and Water Conservation, NUL	GoL, Donors	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Agriculture sector

Exchange Formats

Lead Department / Institution	Activity	Main targets	Milestones & Timelines		Coordination and Synergies	Funding source	Source of Activity	Comments
			Date	Milestone				
GIZ, ICU	Conduct 3 regional learning and exchange formats between ReNOKA and other SADC countries	Cooperative, Sustainable & Effective Management of Water resources	1st quarter	Learning Journey conducted	International Partners	EU/ BMZ (implemented through GIZ)	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	
			2nd quarter	Regular regional exchange formats/ working groups				

DWA, DRWS	Exchange visits	Cooperative, Sustainable & Effective Management of Water resources		At least 50% capacitated on water management	ICM	GoL & ReNOKA	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Water sector
MAFS, Crops, Livestock	Education and capacity building on wetlands management	Cooperative, Sustainable & Effective Management of Water resources		Resource user groups capacitated on sustainable wetlands management	DRRM	Community Councils	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Agriculture sector
MAFS	Study tours, workshops, youth, and women clubs	Cooperative, Sustainable & Effective Management of Water resources		Learning outline; Exposure visits conducted			Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Agriculture sector
MAFS	Identification of similar sites with the same activity locally	Sustainable Water and Land Management		Farmer Learning Centers established			Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Agriculture sector



Awareness & Behaviour Change



About the Change Area



Introduction

Better management of Lesotho's catchments depends on changed behaviour by all who benefit from them. This requires strategic communication and dynamic messaging to raise awareness with target groups and stakeholders including farmers, herders, communities, civil society, the private sector, traditional authorities, development partners and government policy makers.

Awareness and behavioural change are cross-cutting issues that will help to determine the success or failure of integrated catchment management in Lesotho. The long-term impact of human behaviour on land and water resources is currently not well understood, and sustainable water management practices need to be embraced by all levels of Basotho society.

The Change

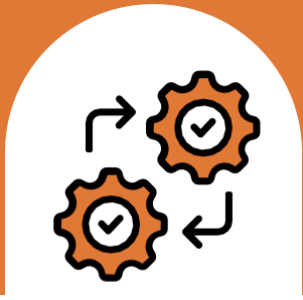
ReNOKA aims to create broad awareness and understanding of integrated catchment management, climate change, the responsibilities of land and water users and sustainable environmental practices. This is recognised as a necessary step towards changed behaviour and cooperation between stakeholders.

The aim is for all authorities and stakeholders to have a shared vision and to coordinate activities that address their land and water resource challenges.

Communication campaigns and credible champions should promote ReNOKA values and interventions that promote positive behaviour change.

The result should be better management of river catchments and water resources, improved livelihoods, sustainable agricultural practices, and rehabilitated river catchments that stimulate job creation in sectors such as tourism.

ReNOKA also aims to encourage young people to embrace and participate in natural resource management.



Priorities for 2023/2024

Key Priorities

Institutionalisation of awareness raising of ICM using social and behavioural change principles.

Gender

Creating awareness on gender roles and impacts at the community level, as well as encouraging communities to be gender sensitive in assigning implementation roles.

Climate

Sensitisation of communities and stakeholders on climate change adaptation and mitigation in implementation of ICM rehabilitation measures.

Coordination and Synergies

Coordination is planned between key line-ministries, academic institutions, local authorities and communities.

Target Group Communication at Catchment Level

Lead Department / Institution	Activity	Main targets	Milestones & Timelines		Coordination and Synergies	Funding source	Source of Activity	Comments
			Date	Milestone				
ICU	ReNOKA awareness campaigns implemented	Increased Civic Participation & Social Inclusion	Mar-24	6 localised campaigns in individual catchment areas; Quarterly monitoring and evaluation review of campaigns conducted	Synergies with MFRSC, MoW, WFP, BUSARA,	EU/BMZ (implemented by GIZ)	Ongoing from OP 2022	
GWP/SARDC, FAO, ICU, MFRSC, CRS, World Vision, RSDA	Joint awareness activities of ReNOKA stakeholders	Increased Civic Participation & Social Inclusion	Mar-24	Awareness campaigns around commemorative days; Community focused theme-based awareness campaign activities	Synergy with WFP on media trainings using WFP (IACOV compact 2) media toolkit	EU/BMZ (implemented by GIZ)	Ongoing from OP 2022	
LHDA	Hold environmental and conservation awareness campaigns	Increased Civic Participation & Social Inclusion	Mar-24	78 environmental awareness campaign incl. school visits, four radio programmes & 20 workshops Meetings held with various stakeholders		LHDA	Ongoing from OP 2022	

ICU	Develop shared multimedia platform. E.g., Google drive under different organising. Establish an ICM data hub under ICU	Cooperative, Sustainable & Effective Management of Water resources	Mar-24	Shared multimedia platform developed and ICM data hub established.		ICU	Ongoing from OP 2022	
ICU	Publication of ICM knowledge products	Increased Civic Participation & Social Inclusion	Mar-24	ICM knowledge products readily available and easily accessed		EU/BMZ (implemented by GIZ)	Ongoing from OP 2022	
GIZ	Roll out of ReNOKA public awareness campaigns in all 6 catchment management areas	Increased Civic Participation & Social Inclusion	Mar-24	Implementation of ReNOKA Cluster campaigns conducted	Grounded Media, Sunshine Cinema with Sesotho Media	EU/ BMZ (implemented through GIZ)	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	
GIZ, ICU	Finalise research on behaviour change interventions to promote conservation behaviour by land and water users	Increased Civic Participation & Social Inclusion	Jan - Dec 23	Testing & implementation of design concepts done	Busara, Grounded media	EU/ BMZ (implemented through GIZ)	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	
			Mar-24	Training on SBCC done				

ICU	Engage Civic and political leaders as champions for ReNOKA	Increased Civic Participation & Social Inclusion	Mar-24	ReNOKA Champions identified	Grounded Media, supported by ICU & GIZ stakeholder engagement officer	EU/BMZ (implemented by GIZ)	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	The advocacy for champions will evolve through the awareness campaigns
DRRM	Wetlands protection, mapping, and demarcation	Water Availability and Quality	Mar-24	Wetlands conservation strategy implemented	DRRM and MoNR	GOL	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	
DRRM	Public gatherings and trainings on sustainable practices of proper range management	Sustainable Water and Land Management	Mar-24	Sustainable Land Management practices on rangelands	DRRM, LHDA		Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Range sector
DRRM	Development of grazing management plan	Sustainable Water and Land Management	Mar-24	Community buy-in in the development of grazing plan			Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Range sector
DWA	Public gatherings and capacity building on sustainable water resource management	Cooperative, Sustainable & Effective Management of Water resources	Mar-24	Sustainable land and water management	Local Authorities		Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Water sector

SWC	Public gatherings and capacity building on water and soil conservation	Cooperative, Sustainable & Effective Management of Water resources	Mar-24	Sustainable Natural Resources Management	MAFS, DRRM, NGOs, Local Authorities		Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Soil and Water Conservation
SWC	Exchange visits on SWC	Cooperative, Sustainable & Effective Management of Water resources	Mar-24	Skills and Knowledge transfer	Local Authorities		Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Soil and Water Conservation
MAFS	Public gatherings and capacity building on agricultural activities	Increased Civic Participation & Social Inclusion	Mar-24	Increase in agricultural productivity	NGOs		Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Agriculture sector
DRRM	Awareness raising on sustainable rangeland management practices through public gatherings, media (radio sessions), campaigns (pamphlets)	Sustainable Water and Land Management	Mar-24	Improvement in rangeland health	Local government, NGOs, environment, livestock	GoL, ICM	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Range sector

DRRM	Visits schools, principal chiefs, councils to raise awareness on sustainable rangeland and range resource management practices	Sustainable Water and Land Management	Mar-24	Adoption to climate-smart rangeland management	Local government, NGOs, environment, livestock	GoL, ICM	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Range sector
DRRM	Workshops and trainings for herders, chiefs, councillors, and principal chiefs	Sustainable Water and Land Management	Mar-24	Stakeholders capacitated in proper rangeland management practices	Local government, NGOs, environment, livestock	GoL, ICM	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Range sector
DRRM	Gender mainstreaming in awareness raising activities	Increased Civic Participation & Social Inclusion	Mar-24	Gender sensitive natural resources management practices			Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Range sector
Department of Agriculture	Training of farmers on CA	Resilience to Climate Change Impacts	Mar-24	Climate-smart agriculture	Local authorities, NGOs, development partners, gender and environment		Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Agriculture sector
Department of Agriculture	Awareness campaigns through IEC material, field days, public gatherings (Pitso)	Increased Civic Participation & Social Inclusion	Mar-24	Behavioural change in natural resources management	Local authorities, NGOs, development partners, gender and environment		Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Agriculture sector

Physical Planning and Local Government, Department of Soil and Water Conservation	Land use planning for settlements to consider the ecosystems of the catchment area, supported by trainings, public gatherings, mobilization through media	Local Governance & Empowering Governance Processes	Mar-24	Sustainable developmental projects in CMAs	Environment, DWA, Local Government, LHDA, Agriculture	GoL, IFAD, IACOV	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Soil and Water Conservation
DRWS	Awareness raising and knowledge dissemination concerning water resource management: Public gatherings, media, dramatizations/ art, billboards, pamphlets, posters, adverts	Water Availability and Quality	Mar-24	Hold awareness raising activities on different media and community platforms	Local government, education, forestry, agriculture, environment	GoL, NGOs	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Water sector
Communications, Local Authorities	Encourage sustainable practices and instil responsibility through media (radio stations) and community dialogue.	Increased Civic Participation & Social Inclusion	Mar-24	Community dialogues; women and youth engagement in SLM initiatives			Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Grounded Media. Specific focus on engaging women and youth to roll out practices, transfer knowledge, and spread encouragement.

MFRSC	Awareness messaging and capacity building around land rehabilitation through public gatherings (Lipitso), radio, TV, and other media, training workshops, and talk shows	Reduction of Land Degradation & Soil Erosion	Mar-24	Capacity development on awareness and behavioural change	MAFS, Environment, DMA, NGOs	GoL, NGOs	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Range and Forestry sectors
MFRSC	Activities to raise awareness and change behaviour regarding: Water harvesting, soil protection, range management, wetland protection, livelihood projects	Sustainable Water and Land Management	Mar-24	Awareness and behavioural change activities on natural resources management	Rural water supply, LDF, LHDA & Letseng, Agriculture, Police, NGOs	GoL, LHDA, Letseng	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Soil and Water Conservation
Agriculture	Awareness campaigns for livestock farmers on disease control	Increased Civic Participation & Social Inclusion	Mar-24	5000 farmers/year	SADPII, WMPP, Extension Service, LHDA	GoL, LHDA	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Agriculture sector
Agriculture	Campaigns for crop farmers on CSA tech during farming seasons	Resilience to Climate Change Impacts	Mar-24	5000 farmers adopt new technologies (CPA)	SADPII, LHDA	GoL, LHDA	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Agriculture sector

DWA, DRWS	Awareness raising activities on wetland management and protection	Water Availability and Quality	Mar-24	Awareness and behavioural change activities on water resources management			Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Water sector
DWA, DRWS	Raising awareness among community, herders, and children, that vandalism of water infrastructure is a serious crime	Water Availability and Quality	Mar-24	reach every household, school, and herder in the CMA within a year	World Vision, LHDA, Letsheng	GoL	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Water sector
DWA, DRWS, ICM	(1) IEC material production - on wetland education & Water Resources - on gender issues within water sector (2) Pitsos	Water Availability and Quality	Mar-24	IEC Material shared with stakeholders	Councils, MFRSC, MAFS	GoL, ICM	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by Water sector
MAFS	(1) Campaigns on agricultural issues (2) Develop pamphlets and brochures on agri issues (3) Radio+ TV programmes (4) Provide extension services for farmers	Water Availability and Quality	Mar-24	Reach ~10% of farmers	WAMPP, SADP, APPSA/ ACOV, MFRSC, Councils	ReNOKA, GoL	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	Proposed by MAFS sector

MFRSC	(1) Radio & TV programmes (2) Public gatherings (3) Pamphlets & brochures on MFRSC (4) Billboards	Water Availability and Quality	Mar-24	70% of farmers reached	LOCAL Authorities, Agric	GoL, ICM	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	MFRS sector/ Forestry
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Communication at National and Regional Level with Focus on Decision Makers

Lead Department / Institution	Activity	Main targets	Milestones & Timelines		Coordination and Synergies	Funding source	Source of Activity	Comments
			Date	Milestone				
ICU	Roll out ReNOKA National & Regional Awareness Campaigns	Cooperative, Sustainable & Effective Management of Water resources	Mar-24	A rolling campaign on the core principles of ReNOKA and communication of progress and results rolled out	Cross cutting	EU/BMZ (implemented by GIZ)	Ongoing from OP 2022	
ICU, CoW, ORASECOM, SADC	Transboundary Awareness Campaigns	Cooperative, Sustainable & Effective Management of Water resources	Mar-24	Transboundary campaigns on IWRM conducted	Synergies with awareness raising and skills and knowledge change areas	EU/BMZ (implemented by GIZ)	Ongoing from OP 2022	ORASECOM transboundary campaign

LHDA	Promote alternative livelihoods initiatives within the LHWP catchments (fodder production, agro-business)	Improved Equitable Livelihoods	Mar-24	Alternative livelihoods identified and implemented		LHDA	Ongoing from OP 2022	
GIZ; ICU	Engage civic and political leaders as "champions" for ReNOKA	Increased Civic Participation & Social Inclusion	Dec 23	High level champions identified and engaged	Grounded Media, supported by ICU & GIZ stakeholder engagement officer	EU/ BMZ (implemented through GIZ)	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	The advocacy for Champions will evolve through awareness campaigns.
GIZ; ICU	Production of impact stories	Reduction of Land Degradation & Soil Erosion	Jan - Dec 23	Publications produced	CWT, Grounded Media, Proof Africa Communications, ICU, GIZ	EU/ BMZ (implemented through GIZ)	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	These stories will demonstrate how lives are changed as a result of the action.
				Website articles				
				Features in local media				
				Social media				



Data & Monitoring

About the Change Area



Introduction

A lot of information is required to plan and execute catchment management, including how water is used, the geography and geology of an area, connections between water bodies, how water flows, land use, land degradation, and climate change risks and adaptations.

Planning requires the best scientific data, and the interpretation of that data. It then needs to be communicated in a language and format appropriate to different audiences.

Data and monitoring systems guide decisions by policy makers, planners, and land users. They can help farmers to plant crops and to find grazing land and enable catchment planners to identify the causes of decreased river levels.

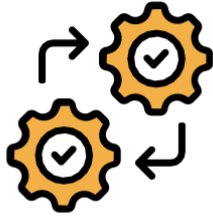
Data can support medium- to long-term planning for investments in agriculture which depends on irrigation, or in public infrastructure such as dams. It can also help landowners to manage invasive species. Data also shows local and national governments where to prioritise resources, and it enables a baseline against which progress can be monitored.

The Change

Our aim is for reliable data to guide the sustainable management of Lesotho's catchments. Reliable information systems help to identify priority issues and to design the most effective and economical interventions.

Monitoring can provide evidence of what works, define the socio-economic benefits of catchment management, and inform future investment decisions. Data can also help to create scenarios for the long-term availability and distribution of water resources because of climate change and shifting land use.

Sources of data include earth observation tools like satellites and drones for land cover information, hydrometric tools to assess water availability and distribution, and climate data for seasonal forecasting.



Priorities for 2023/2024

Key Priorities

Operationalisation of the Land Cover Atlas and Dashboard 2022. Institutionalise Data Governance. Development ReNOKA of Monitoring and Evaluation tools. Reporting towards the implementation of National Strategic Development Plan II extended.

Gender

Gender desegregated reporting.

Climate

Reporting on contribution towards Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and National Action Plans (NAPs).

Coordination and Synergies

Coordination is planned between key line ministries, through the Data Reference Group (DRG), private sector and civil society.

Capacity and Human Resource Development

Lead Department / Institution	Activity	Main targets	Milestones & Timelines		Coordination and Synergies	Funding source	Source of Activity	Comments
			Date	Milestone				
ICU, GWP	International Partnership Building	Cooperative, Sustainable & Effective Management of Water resources	Mar-24	GIS, data scientists and catchment planners (10) in line ministries and institutions participate in an international exchange on data and monitoring	GMES & Africa	GWP (via EU/BMZ implemented by GIZ)	Ongoing from OP 2022	Research institutions, NGOs,
ICU	National Partnership Building	Cooperative, Sustainable & Effective Management of Water resources	Mar-24	Building land cover analysis capacity at NUL; 20 students and 2 lectures capacitated on land cover analysis	NUL	FAO (via EU/BMZ implemented by GIZ)	Ongoing from OP 2022	Research institutions, NGOs,
DRRM, DWA	Capacity building for CWTs in monitoring of wetland health and water quality	Water Availability and Quality	Mar-24	Capacity trainings on wetland ecosystems		GoL, LMS		
LMS	Capacity building on early warning signs, preparation of weather stations (esp. for herders)	Resilience to Climate Change Impacts	Mar-24	Capacity trainings on preparedness and early warning systems	Community structures	GoL		Proposed by Range sector

ICU	Capacity building of technical officers with advanced skills and equipment	Cooperative, Sustainable & Effective Management of Water resources	Mar-24	Identify capacity needs; Define training schedule; Capacity building on main river basin water management plans and establishment of data hub	FAO, GWP, ReNOKA Stakeholders	EU/BMZ (implemented by GIZ)		Land cover analysis, water resource management, conservation measures, rehabilitation measures, monitoring, modelling and data collection.
MFRSC	Technological capacity for monitoring: License for drone operation, capacity building for drone operation, provision of necessary computers and software	Reduction of Land Degradation & Soil Erosion	23-Apr	License for drone operation, capacity building	MFRSC, MAFS, Environment, Line ministries, Health, BOS,	GoL, NGOs, ReNOKA, ROLL, World Vision, WAMPP		
			23-Feb	storage and interpretation of data				
				Training workshops				
				Field activities and data analysis				
DRRM	Technological capacity building for data collection on range resources: provision of GPS, iPad, Disc pasture meter, etc.	Reduction of Land Degradation & Soil Erosion		Procurement of tools	Range, Police Ranger, Local Government, Livestock, Herders, livestock owners, department of livestock, CWTs (GA), security	GoL, ReNOKA, NGOs, Councils		Proposed by Range sector
				Development of skills in use of tools				
				Field activities				
				Data analysis				

Soil and water conservation	Technological capacity building for data collection on soil and erosion: provision of tape measures, GPS, Ipad, Disc pasture meter, etc.	Reduction of Land Degradation & Soil Erosion		Procurement of tools	Herders, livestock owners, department of livestock, CWTs (GA), security, DRWS, LHDA, Crops, Irrigation	GoL, NGOs, Councils		Proposed by Soil and Water Conservation
				Development of skills in use of tools				
				Field activities				
				Data analysis				
DWA, MFRSC, Agriculture (all departments including research)	Technological capacity for monitoring: GIS trainings (as well as software and gadgets)	Reduction of Land Degradation & Soil Erosion	Mar-24	GIS training	Environment, MLSG-planning, MAFS	UNDP, ReNOKA, GoL, community councils		Proposed by Water and Agriculture sectors

National Data System Development

Lead Department / Institution	Activity	Main targets	Milestones & Timelines		Coordination and Synergies	Funding source	Source of Activity	Comments
			Date	Milestone				
ICU, GIZ	Establishment of data management policies and geospatial platform for ICM in line with national spatial data infrastructure	Sustainable Water and Land Management	June 2023	Data Reference Group	LandNetwork, Government of Lesotho	EU/ BMZ (implemented through GIZ)	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	
			June 2023	National Spatial Data Infrastructure				
ICU, GIZ	Handing over Land cover atlas and data hub to the GoL and its use for catchment planning	Cooperative, Sustainable & Effective Management of Water resources	Jan-23	Land cover atlas	FAO, GIZ	EU/ BMZ (implemented through GIZ)	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	
			Dec-23	Handing over strategy				

ICU, GIZ	Collection of socio-economic baseline data at household level in ICM intervention areas	Increased Civic Participation & Social Inclusion	Dec-23	Draft concept submitted to DeVal				
				Collection of baseline data				
				Impact Analysis				
DWA, Health	Water test kit procurement	Water Availability and Quality	Mar-24	Water test kit procured				Proposed by Water sector
DWA, ReNOKA	Development of central data collection server/hub or data collection centre	Cooperative, Sustainable & Effective Management of Water resources		Assess existing hubs/centres				Proposed by Water sector
				Identification of data silos				
				Integration of data to a shared database				
DRWS	Water quality probe for community to determine drinking water quality	Water Availability and Quality		Procurement of tools (probe)	DWA, Councils, CWT, CPU	GoL, Councils		Proposed by Water sector
				Train CWTs to use instruments				
Soil & Water Conservation Department	Dumping level to survey rehabilitation measures (terraces, diversion furrows, etc)	Reduction of Land Degradation & Soil Erosion		Procurement of equipment	Agric, Range, CWT, Councils	GoL, ICM		Proposed by Range + SWC
				Train CPU members to use the tools.				

Land Cover Monitoring

Lead Department / Institution	Activity	Main targets	Milestones & Timelines		Coordination and Synergies	Funding source	Source of Activity	Comments
			Date	Milestone				
ICU with support from FAO	Establish NRM Drone Unit	Sustainable Water and Land Management		Procure equipment and train operators	NUL Dept. of Soil and Water Conservation Dept. Land Management Dept. Forestry Dept. of Range Dept. of Geological Survey/Mining	FAO-GIZ (via EU/BMZ implemented by GIZ)	Ongoing from OP 2022	
				Develop sustainable business model through public private partnerships				
				Conduct: national forest inventory; erosion, soil loss and sedimentation survey; rangeland and wetland health assessments; impact analysis of mining and prospecting activities				

GIZ	Update of land cover data base and hand over of land cover database from FAO to GoL	Reduction of Land Degradation & Soil Erosion	Jan-Dec 23	HCD on Land Cover Database	FAO	EU/ BMZ (implemented through GIZ)	Planned in OP 2023 Survey	
			Jan-Dec 23	Land Cover Surveys				
			Jan-Dec 23	Improvement of ICM Indicators				
Department of Crops, DRRM	Climate data - Monitoring of climate data for (animals and crops)	Resilience to Climate Change Impacts	Mar-24	Climate data	Department of Crops, DRRM	ReNOKA, GoL		Proposed by Agriculture sector
MAFS	Monitoring of plant and animal health: animal health kit, plant health kit (e.g., knapsack sprayer, etc.)	Resilience to Climate Change Impacts	Mar-24	Animal health data	MAFS	MAFS - Research Department, GoL		Proposed by Agriculture sector
			Mar-24	Plant health data				
DWA, DRRM	Measurement of wetland health (size, vegetation) - satellites, drones	Water Availability and Quality	Mar-24	status of wetland health	CWT, DWA, MFRSC	GoL, MFRSC		Proposed by Water sector
MAFS - Department of Crops	Measurement of agricultural / arable land (acreage) - using computer and software (e.g., GIS, GPS, Land Cover Atlas	Sustainable Water and Land Management	Mar-24	Total cover of agricultural land	Department of Crops, Department of Forestry, NGOs, DRRM, BOS	GoL, Projects, SACP, WAMPP, ReNOKA		Proposed by Agriculture sector

MAFS - Research Department, Department of Crops, Extension Services	Soil sampling (soil auger, sampling bags, stationary) using smartphones/tablets	Sustainable Water and Land Management	Mar-24	Soils information data	MAFS, MFRSC	GoL, APPSA		Proposed by Agriculture sector
DWA	Measurement of water quality - water quality probe	Water Availability and Quality	Mar-24	Water quality assessments	DWA	DWA		Proposed by Water sector
DRW, DWA	Identification of water sources	Water Availability and Quality	Mar-24	Inventory and assessment of water sources	MWA	GoL, NGOs, MCA, UNDP, other international donors		Proposed by Water sector
DRW, DWA	Monitoring of spring yield	Water Availability and Quality	Mar-24	Data analysis on water quality and quantity	MWA	GoL, NGOs, MCA, UNDP, other international donors		Proposed by Water sector
Soil and Water Conservation	Identification and mapping of degraded land	Reduction of Land Degradation & Soil Erosion	Mar-24	% cover under degraded land	MFRSC	GoL, NGOs, international partners (IFAD, UNDP)		Proposed by Soil and Water Conservation
BOS, Agriculture	Identification of arable land	Sustainable Water and Land Management	Mar-24	Total arable land cover	BOS, Agriculture, Farmer's associations	GoL, NGOs, Development partners		Proposed by Water sector
BOS, Agriculture	Monitoring of agricultural yield through ministerial templates	Resilience to Climate Change Impacts	Mar-24	Post situational reports	BOS, Agriculture, Farmer's associations	GoL, NGOs, Development partners		Proposed by Water sector

Agriculture and Crops, Research	Data collection of planted area, crop types using land cover atlas	Resilience to Climate Change Impacts		Locate planted area	SADP	GoL, development partners		Proposed by Agriculture sector
				Engage farmers				
				Data collection & analysis				
				Communication of results				
DWA	Collection of data on water quality, quantity and location using tools: GPS, water quality kits (e.g., hydrometer), software licences, and computers	Water Availability and Quality		Procurement of equipment	DRWS, Council, CWT, CPU	GoL, ICM		Proposed by Water sector
				Set up of database				
				Field trips to collect data				
				Data storage and use				
DWA	Satellite imagery & remote sensing for assessing wetland size and vegetation (health)	Sustainable Water and Land Management		Capacities of officers to use land cover atlas	DWA, Councils, CWT, CPU	GoL, Councils		Proposed by Water sector
				Community awareness on safe drinking water				
Range	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GPS, DPM (disc pasture meter) • Clinometer to map & undertake vegetation surveys 	Sustainable Water and Land Management		Procurement of equipment				
				Train CPU members to use the tools.				

Forestry	Mapping & assessment tools for plantations	Sustainable Water and Land Management		Land suitability assessment + soil testing				
				Review forest location				
Agriculture	Soil testing equipment to assess soil health	Reduction of Land Degradation & Soil Erosion		Procurement of tools				
				Training on use				
				Field activities				
				Communicate test results				
Agriculture	GPS + land cover data to map cropped area	Sustainable Water and Land Management		Field activities				
				Communicate test results				



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