

*ORNL Technical Assistance to USAID to Foster Sustainable  
Environmental Management in Southern Africa<sup>1</sup>*

**Progress Report  
October-December, 2008**

Prepared by Keith Kline, ORNL for Chris Schaan, Environment-NRM Program Manager in the Regional Botswana Field Office for USAID/Southern Africa Regional Environment Program (SAREP)<sup>2</sup>

Background

The PASA Agreement between USAID and ORNL is designed to provide technical support to USAID Regional Programs in Southern Africa for: (1) evaluation, monitoring and follow-on design for the regional environment program; (2) the Agreement with the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) for the water sector; (3) Okavango basin biodiversity protection; (4) other technical assistance, research and analysis upon request to support the Mission to achieve environmental program objectives; and (5) corresponding reporting. Work is based on an approved scope and written guidance from the USAID Cognizant Technical Officer (CTO)<sup>3</sup>. Progress reports summarize activities and level of effort (LOE). Reported LOE figures are estimated in progress reports while actual costs are submitted through IPACS and summarized in Quarterly ORNL Administrative reports.

Activities this Quarter

ORNL provided support to USAID's regional program and the Botswana Field Office through phone and email and a coordinated visit to USAID Washington during this period. Most effort was focused on facilitation of steps needed to complete a follow-on program design and to prepare a Request for Proposal (RFP) package for a new \$25 million Southern Africa Regional Environmental Program (SAREP). The new activity is expected to be funded with biodiversity, climate change, water and possibly some HIV/AIDS funds. These funding sources have strings attached via earmarks so special emphasis was placed in drafting RFP language to reflect the requirements in terms of objectives, results and evaluation criteria. ORNL also facilitated review and integration of comments by the REA (Reg. 216 and environmental concerns) and the Mission Program Development Office.

ORNL supported USAID with leadership in drafting and consultations that went through eight (8) iterations of the 140+ page draft RFP package. The RFP and annexes were edited and finalized by the RCO and posted on 'FedBizOpps' December 20, 2008.

Other activities this period included assisting BFO in considering options and facilitating communications with the US Forest Service regarding their potential roles in the new program and including a description in the RFP package. Coordination and communications with USAID/AFR and EGAT continued during this period due to their formalized participation on the design team (Mary Rowen of EGAT/Biodiversity-Water, Jessica Tulodo of EGAT Water Supply & Sanitation

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<sup>1</sup> Work performed per terms of USAID/Southern Africa Award 690-P-00-06-00118-00, Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL), Environmental Sciences Division, Oak Ridge, TN 37831, under Department of Energy Contract # DE-AC05-00OR22725 with UT/Battelle. USAID CTO: Chris Schaan, [SchaanC@State.gov](mailto:SchaanC@State.gov). ORNL technical contacts: Keith Kline, Principal Investigator [KlineKL@ornl.gov](mailto:KlineKL@ornl.gov) and Dr. Tom Wilbanks, Group Leader, Supervisor [WilbanksTJ@ornl.gov](mailto:WilbanksTJ@ornl.gov).

<sup>2</sup> Formerly known as RCSA Strategic Objective 17: Improved Management of Shared River Basins

<sup>3</sup> See PASA Statement of Work, section 4.

and Tim Resch of AFR/Sustainable Development/Environment). ORNL also facilitated logistics and planning for the CTO (Schaan) to hold meetings in Washington D.C. on November 13 with various USAID representatives and the RFP design team. One outcome of those meetings was updated guidance on Climate Change funding and adjustments in the SAREP design to be consistent with the new guidance and definitions. (See separate Trip Notes.)

Future Tasks: Planned activities include support for the next substantive amendment to the SADC Agreement, analysis of options and recommendations for structuring an effective “performance based” fee schedule in the new contract; and possible support for team orientation and start-up of the new implementing partner. Other tasks may be defined by the CTO.

**Table 1: Summary: LOE Planned and Used FY2007-2008 and Planned in Phase Two**

Summary LOE Report thru Sept 2008	Total LOE planned (days)	LOE Used FY07-08 and Planned FY 2009-2010					
		FY 2007	FY 2008	Total FY07-08	Planned LOE		Total FY09-10
					2009	2010	
1. Eval/Design	90	60.2	37.1	97.3	20	22	42
2. SADC	45	17.8	16.9	34.7	16	6	22
3. Biodiversity	35	12.2	18.2	30.4	10	6	16
4. Other SO17	30	22.2	9.6	31.8	12	6	18
5. Rpts/Admin	10	8.9	2.6	11.5	10	6	16
6. Eval-Wilbanks	11	11	0.0	11.0	6	4	10
Totals	221	132.3	84.4	216.7	74	50	124
<i>Time Remaining</i>	<i>0%</i>	first phase of TA for design and evaluation					

**Table 2: LOE Planned and Used to Date (per FY2009-10 Amendment)**

Progress Report thru Dec 2008	Total LOE planned (days)	LOE used to date (days) second phase					% total LOE remaining
		Oct-Dec 2008	Jan-Mar 2009	Apr-Jun 2009	Jly-Sep 2009	Oct-Dec 2009	
1. New Design	42	13.5					68%
2. SADC	22	0.5					98%
3. Biodiversity	16	0.5					97%
4. Other SO17	18	0.5					97%
5. Rpts/Admin	16	2.0					88%
6. Eval or tasks tbd	10						100%
Totals	124	17	0	0	0	0	86%
<i>Time Remaining</i>	<i>88%</i>	in second phase: design and TA FY2009-2010					

Attachment: List of selected email correspondence this period (general and design related).

[end rpt]