

ORNL Collaboration with USAID in Southern Africa to Support Improved Environmental Management in Shared River Basins

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY



Outline:

- **Development Challenge**
- **Key Activities**
- **ORNL Contributions**
- **Partners**

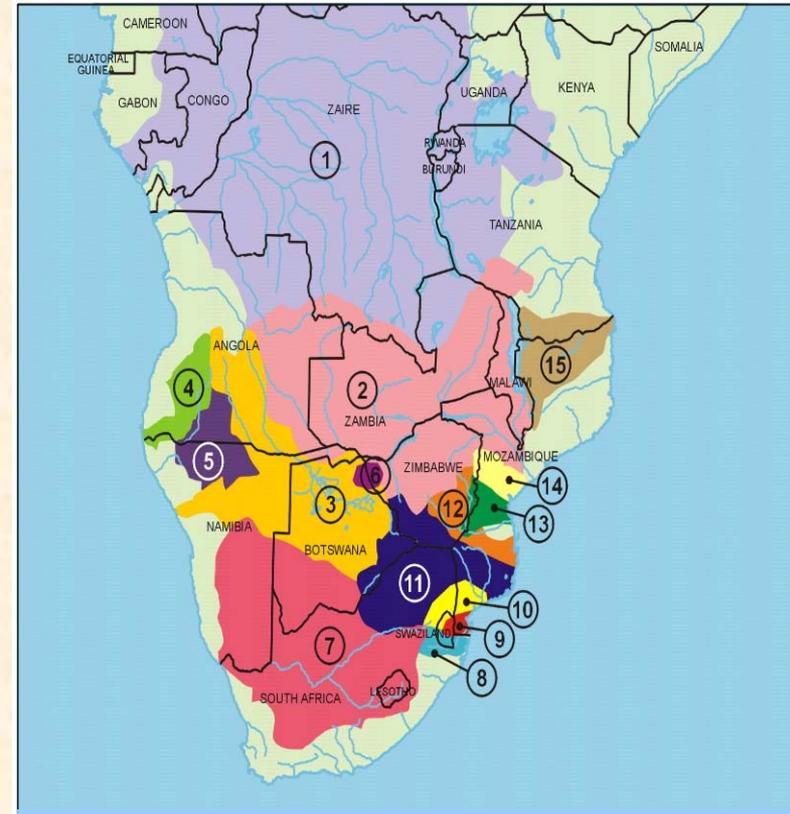
This work is performed per terms of USAID/Southern Africa Award 690-P-00-06-00118-00 with Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL), Environmental Sciences Division, Oak Ridge, TN 37831. ORNL operates under Department of Energy Contract # DE-AC05-00OR22725 with UT/Battelle LLC.



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Development Challenge

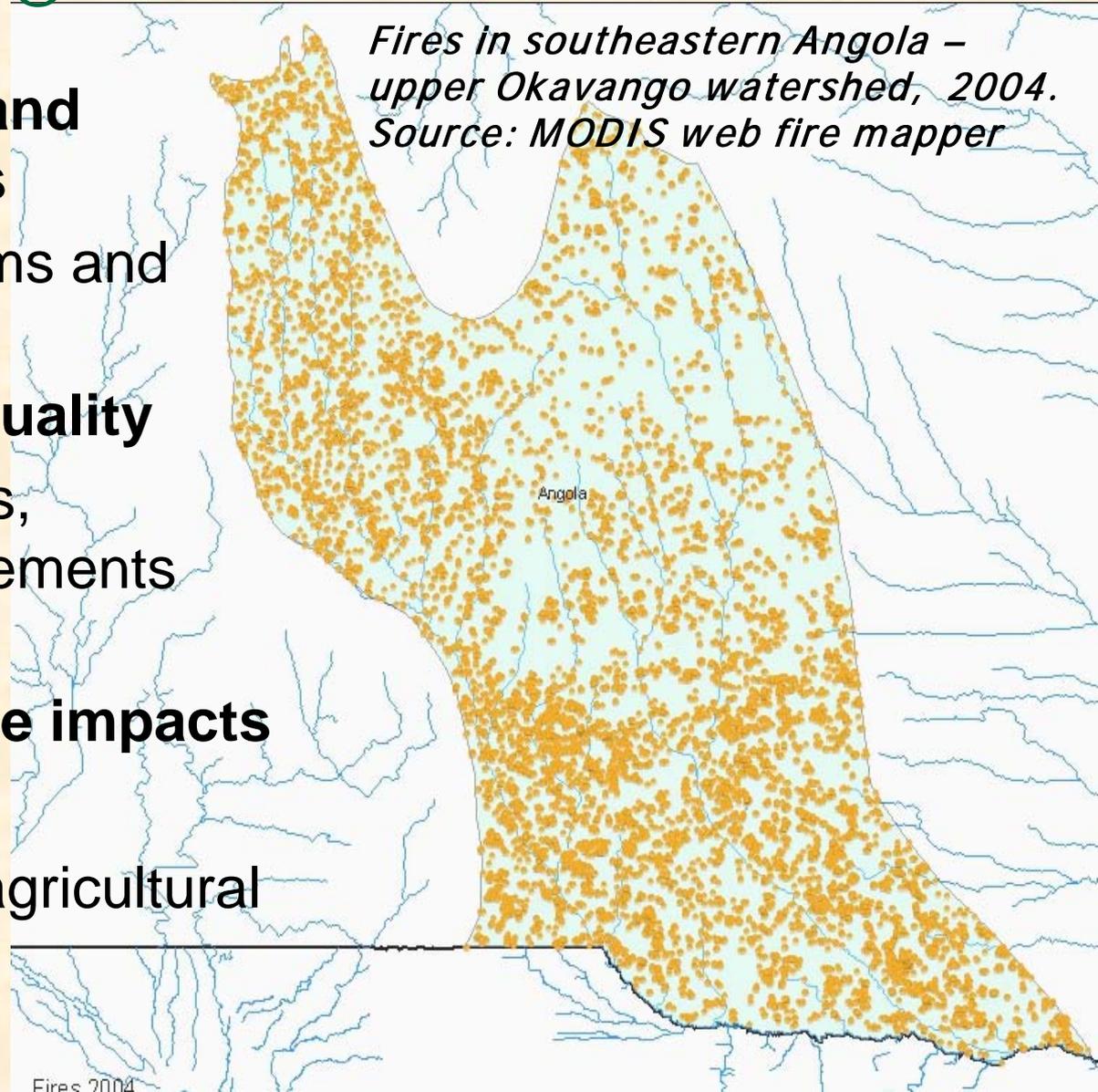
- **Growing water scarcity**
- **High dependence on shared watercourses**
- **Conflicts over competing demands among sectors (tourism/extractive) and states**
- **Fresh water most threatened ecosystem**
- **Riparian areas critical for human activities, biodiversity**
- **How to maintain ecological services while meeting social and economic development needs**



SADC: 15 major shared basins

Threats to biodiversity and human welfare

- **Changes to flow and sediment regimes**
 - Abstraction, dams and climate change
- **Changing water quality**
 - Human activities, unplanned settlements and wastes
- **Upstream land use impacts**
 - Fire
 - Unsustainable agricultural practices



Principles for Assistance in Developing Countries

- Stakeholder leadership, ownership
- Flexible, facilitative
- Responsive, service oriented
- Consultative
- Team- and capacity-building



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Program Activities

- **Okavango River Basin Water Resources Commission (OKACOM)**
 - Institutional strengthening
 - Strategic planning
 - Community NRM governance
- **Southern Africa Development Community (SADC)**
 - Regional Protocols for Water and Biodiversity
 - Mechanisms for dialogue and dispute resolution (commissions of riparian states, RBOs...)
 - Data collection and management



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ORNL Supporting Role

- **Program Evaluation**
 - Stakeholders, multi-institutional participation
 - USG, USAID/Regional, Bilateral
 - Many other donors and interests
 - Optimizing limited resources
- **Design Assistance**
 - Initial phase (2004-08) review & recommendations
 - Assist to assess options
 - Documentation and support for transitions
 - Development of RFP for new (2009-2013) program



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ORNL Supporting Role continued

- **Planning and Management assistance**
 - **Monitoring tools, systems**
 - **Training counterparts on the job**
 - **Resources for decision-making**
- **Technical assistance upon request**
 - **Institutional development (self assessment tool)**
 - **Strategic analysis and design**
 - **Biodiversity conservation planning**
 - **Climate change, water, and energy issues**



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Partners & Collaborators in Southern Africa

- **USAID (sponsor)**
 - US institutional contractors
 - OKACOM
 - NGOs and Regional Institutions
- **Southern Africa Development Community (SADC)**
 - Regional counterpart
- **Other US Government Agencies**
 - US Bureau of Reclamation, USGS, US Forestry Service
- **Other Donors:**
 - GTZ, EU, UNDP-GEF, SIDA, DIFID...



Thank you!

For more information:

www.irbm.co.bw – USAID Project website

www.okacom.org – OKACOM website

<http://rcsa.usaid.gov> – USAID/Southern Africa

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Collaboration with USAID/Southern Africa (summary slide)

Development Challenge: Water scarcity, competition among states and uses, human welfare and biodiversity

Objective: Improve collaborative management of shared river basin resources

ORNL Role: Support monitoring, evaluation, design, technical analysis, management

Progress: Evaluation, Action Plans, revised PMP, RFP and supporting documents, among deliverables

USAID Program

Key Partners:

- Okavango Basin Commission (OKACOM)
- Southern Africa Development Community (SADC)

Activities—TA & training

- NRM governance
- Protocols for Water and Biodiversity
- Mechanism for dialogue (commissions of riparian states)
- Data collection and management

