## LESOTHO HIGHLANDS WATER PROJECT





## INTRODUCTION



- Large infrastructure projects will have impacts on the environment and communities
- LHDA to implement mitigation measures to ensure environmental protection and livelihood restoration
- Stakeholder engagement at the centre to get buy-in and build consensus





## SETTING THE SCENE

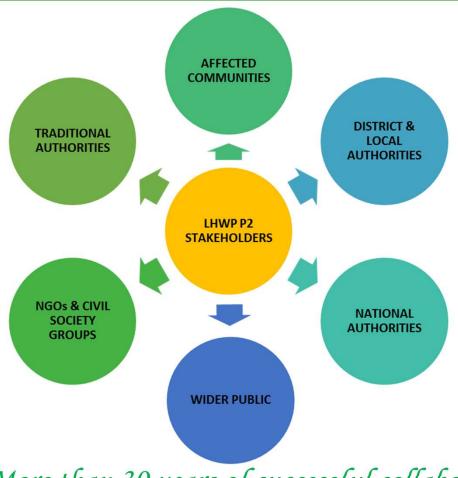


- Phase I accolades on engineering component
   BUT
- Less successful on environmental and social components
- Lessons learnt from Phase I and other similar projects
  - Engage communities early
  - Work with local communities pro-actively
  - Ensure broad-based public participation in all project stages
- Objective
  - Environmental and social issues at the fore front
  - Ensure that communities are not left worse-off after the project



# **STAKEHOLDERS**





## STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT



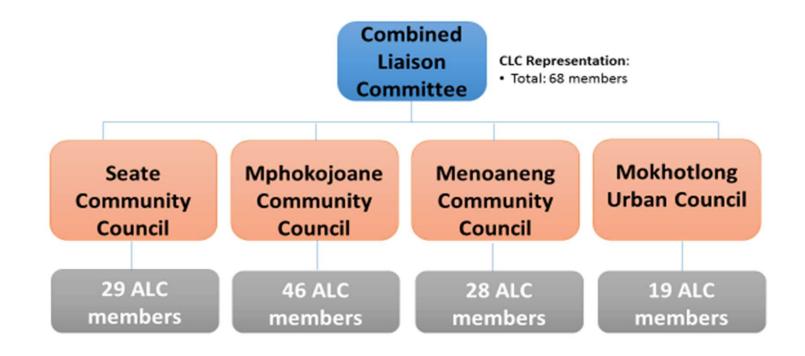
- Raise awareness
- Get ready for the project
- Avoid misconceptions
- Engender trust
- Involvement in regulatory instruments
- Involvement during studies (ESIA, RAPs, HIAs)





## **COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION STRUCTURE**





#### ALC Representation:

- 42 Community Councillors, 31 Chiefs, 49 village representatives and 4 NGO/CBO members
- Total: 126 members



### **LHWP PHASE II JOURNEY**

### ¥ ₩ HDA

### PHASE II AGREEMENT (2011)

2012 – 2016 Baseline Studies

- Socio-Economic Baseline Study
- Biological and Archaeological Baseline Study
- Public Health Baseline Study
- Flow, Water Quality and Geomorphology Baseline Study, and an Instream Flow Requirement Assessment for the Sengu River

2014 – 2017
Development of
Regulatory
Instruments

- Community Participation Strategy
- Public Health Policy
- Environmental Policy
- Compensation Policy
- Labour Recruitment Guidelines
- \* Livelihood Restoration and Social Development Framework

2016 - To Date

Impact
Assessment and
Mitigation Plans

- Environmental and Social Impact Assessments
- Resettlement Action Plans
- Health Impact Assessment and Public Health Action Plan
- Project Labour Recruitment Desk
- Livelihood Restoration and Social Development Planning



## **CHALLENGES & LESSONS LEARNT**



- Community Participation
- Community Expectations
- Involvement of NGOs
- Finalise infrastructure footprint based on social impacts
- Time between planning and actual construction
- Cut-Off Date for Eligibility of Compensation





## THE JOURNEY GOING FORWARD



- Continue with stakeholder engagement
- Monitoring and evaluation programme
- Develop qualitative and quantitative indicators from ESIAs, RAPs and HIAs
- Circle back to stakeholders



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