



LESOTHO HIGHLANDS WATER PROJECT



More Than Thirty Years of Successful Collaboration Why It Lasted

TENTE TENTE

LHDA

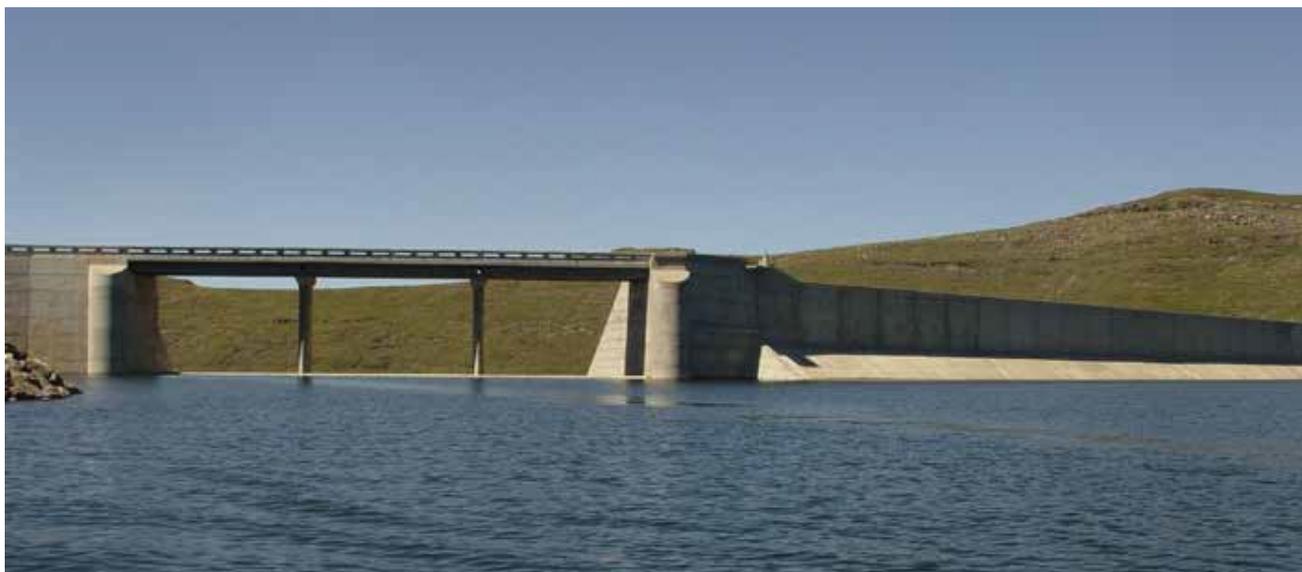
3rd April 2019

LESOTHO HIGHLANDS WATER PROJECT!!



*“The Most Outstanding
Engineering Achievement of the
Century”*

SAICE- 2006



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- 1. LHWP Background**
- 2. Phase I Infrastructure**
- 3. Why it Lasted**
- 4. Lessons Learned**
- 5. Concluding Remarks**



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THE LHWP BACKGROUND

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WHAT IS THE LHWP?

- Bi-national inter-basin water transfer
 - Ultimate delivery 70 m³/s
 - Generation of Hydropower for Lesotho
- Phased Implementation
 - 4 Phases, Several Dams - 30 years
- One of largest engineering projects at Inception - 1986



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WHY IS THE LHWP?

- ❑ Concept of the LHWP- Traceable as far back as around the **1930s**
- ❑ Lesotho – To earn Revenue; To reduce imports of energy.
- ❑ RSA : To meet increasing needs of her industrial sector and increasing household needs .
- ❑ **==> DOUBLE COINCIDENCE OF NEEDS**



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PURPOSE OF THE PROJECT



- ❑ Transfer of high quality water to South Africa.
- ❑ Generate electricity for Lesotho.
- ❑ Safeguard the environment and natural heritage.
- ❑ Ancillary developments in Lesotho & RSA.

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Briefing on LHWP



PHASE I - INFRASTRUCTURE

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LHWP PHASE I – ADVANCE INFRASTRUCTURE



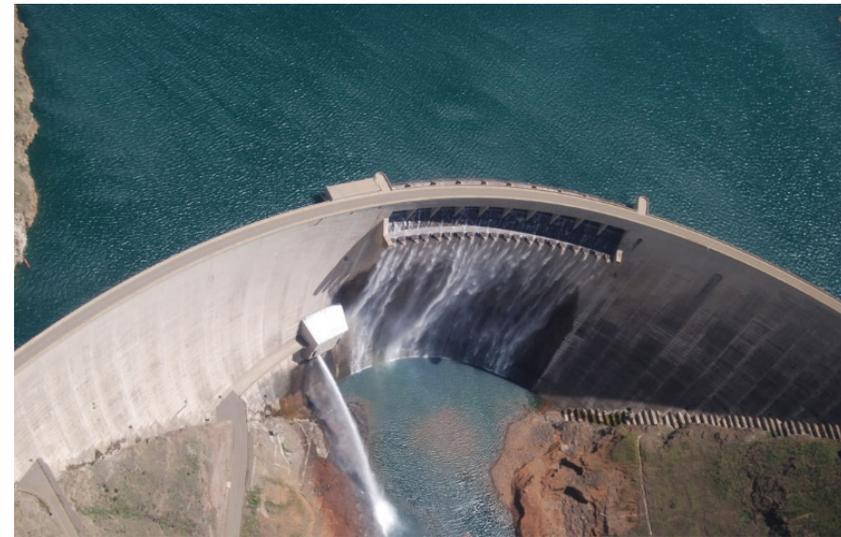
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LHWP – PHASE IA

Yield = 17m³/s:

- Katse Dam - 185m double Curvature Arch Dam
- Transfer Tunnel - 45km



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LHWP – PHASE IA

- 'Muela Hydropower - 72MW
- Delivery Tunnel - 37km



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Yield = 9m³/s :

- Mohale Dam - 145m CFRD
- Mohale Tunnel - 31km
- Matsoku Diversion Tunnel - 6km



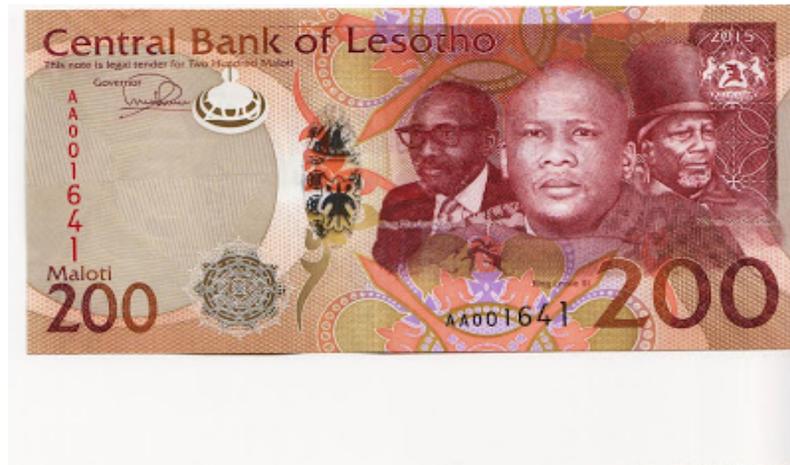
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BENEFITS TO LESOTHO



- ❑ Royalty Revenue
- ❑ High **quality infrastructure**
- ❑ **Tourism**, Nature Reserves, Fisheries
- ❑ **Job opportunities** during construction
- ❑ **Skills Transfer to Basotho**- Both blue & white collar jobs
- ❑ Work for local **Contractors and Consultants**



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BENEFITS TO SOUTH AFRICA



- High **quality water**
- Improved **security of water supply** for Gauteng, significantly reduced water treatment costs
- Secure **water supply** for households, power, industries, agriculture and mining,
- RSA **contractors/ consultants**



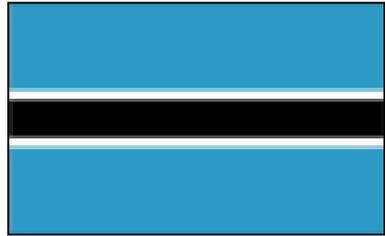
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WHY IT LASTED

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COLLABORATION



Botswana



Lesotho



Namibia



South Africa



Respect for the
Rights & Views of
Riparian States

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CLEAR OBJECTIVES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Obligations and responsibilities
- Institutional Arrangements
- Prevention and settlement of disputes
- In-built spirit of consensus
 - ❖ At Country Level
 - ❖ At Joint Commission level



LHWP Treaty... Far ahead of its time

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LHWC Decision making

- As equal partners
- Consensus over arbitration

LHDA

- Lesotho Creation but neutral
- Decisions informed by technical requirements

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SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES



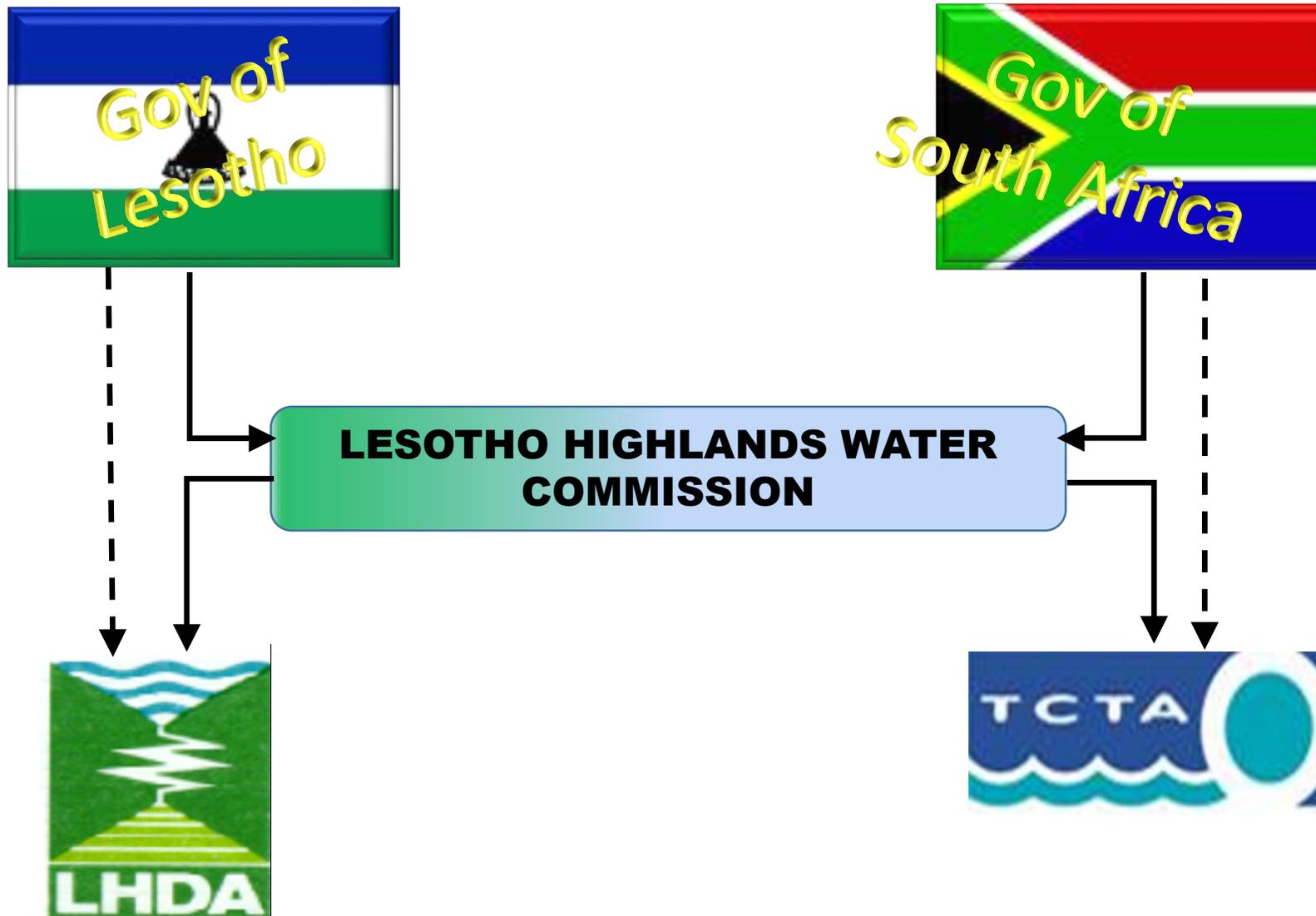
- ✓ Willingness to engage
- ✓ Win-Win vs Win-Lose mind set
- ✓ Mutual Interests versus Fixed Positions
- ✓ No beaming victor and bitter victim looking for next available opportunity

Never went for arbitration in all 30 years.....

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EFFECTIVE GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS



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LESSONS LEARNED

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KEY DRIVERS



- ✓ External Assistance of neutral party. e.g. World Bank
- ✓ Willingness to engage is critical
- ✓ Focus on long term sustainable mutual benefits
- ✓ Separation of oversight and implementation Responsibilities is critical
- ✓ Independent Assurance- Panel of Experts added value

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AN INDEPENDENT SECRETARIAT



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CONCLUDING REMARKS

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CONCLUDING REMARKS

- ❑ **Political Will:** Acceptance of common Destiny
- ❑ **Communications:** Key stakeholders need to be informed
- ❑ **Benefits:** Mutual Benefits Codified in the Treaty
- ❑ **Parties views:** LHWP is a catalyst for Economic Development
- ❑ **Lessons Learned:** How to deal with Corruption



INDEED IT'S NOT JUST ABOUT ENGINEERING !!!!!

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THANK YOU



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