Water Security and Social-Hydrological Resilience for Rural Small-scale Crop Value Chains
M. Manjoro/University of Venda

- In the 2015/2016 farming season, significantly low agricultural productivity were recorded in South Africa (Nkhata and Breen, 2016).
- The challenge of reduced food production among small-scale farmers in South Africa and the region is due to:

  - *Production that is dependent on risky rain-fed systems*

  - *Climate induced droughts*

- Water security is integral for small-scale farmers' resilience

- However, the extent of water security along the value chains of rural small-scale crop farming in South Africa and the broader SADC region has not been adequately assessed

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Research Approach: Quantitative and Qualitative

- *Desktop study: detailed literature review*

- *Application of the value chain analysis framework to understand water issues along the small-scale crop value chains*

- *Perform detailed value chain mapping for selected crops*

- *Estimating water footprint for selected crops within the Limpopo and Zambezi River Basins*

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Key results of your research/project so far:

- *The project has just started*

- *Project preliminary meetings held*

- *Stakeholder meetings held in Limpopo, Mpumalanga and Zambia*

- *Phase one commenced, structure of the review paper is in place*

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Graph or diagram showing major results of your research/project:

The project is still in the initiation phase, hence there are no empirical results to report on.

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Top next steps for your project:
- *Completion of the review work*
- *Student and study sites identification*
- *Value chain mapping*

How data and results from your project will impact stakeholder decisions and the development problem:

- *How can we improve water security and thus contribute to household food security, poverty alleviation and overall social-hydrological resilience to increasing drought events in line with South Africa's National Development Plan (NDP) 2030.*
- *Inform policy and USAID strategies*

Challenges you have faced in collecting meaningful data:
- *Data has not been collected as yet.*

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