

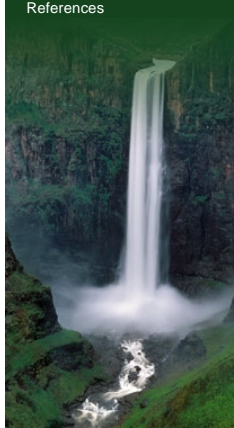
# Orange-Senqu

## River Awareness Kit

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### The River Basin → The Orange-Senqu River Basin

- Introduction
- Geography
- Climate and Weather
- Hydrology
- Water Quality
- Ecology and Biodiversity
- References



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#### Introduction

The waters of the Orange Senqu River flow through four riparian states encapsulating a diverse landscape from its source in the temperate mountains of Lesotho, grasslands of South Africa and southern Botswana, to the Nama Karoo in western South Africa and southern Namibia.

The **River Basin Theme** of the Orange- Senqu Awareness Kit includes overview material on the biophysical environment of the basin focusing on each of the following subjects:

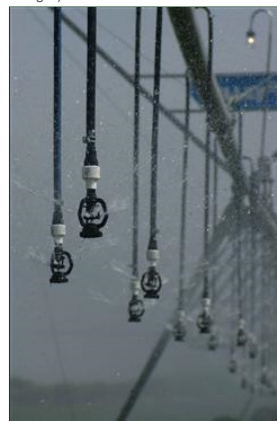
- **Geography** - focuses on the physical environment of the basin including geomorphology, landcover and mineral reserves.
- **Climate and Weather** - including principles of meteorology, climate specific to the basin and the concept of climate change.
- **Hydrology** - explores the balance and use of water as well the water cycle, surface and groundwater in the region with specific focus on the basin.
- **Water Quality** - provides an overview of the state of the waters of the basin and factors influencing this, impacts of human activities, mining and groundwater.
- **Ecology and Biodiversity** - including aquatic ecology and ecosystems factors affecting them, wetlands and biodiversity.



The highlands of Lesotho, the source of the Orange-Senqu River.  
 Source: ©iStockphoto/Coenders 2006  
 ( click to enlarge )



Augrabies Falls, on the lower reaches of the Orange-Senqu River, South Africa.  
 Source: Vogel 2009  
 ( click to enlarge )



Irrigated agriculture is the single largest water user in the basin.  
 Source: Vogel 2009  
 ( click to enlarge )

[Next Chapter: Geography](#)

### Interactive

**Basin Map**

Explore the sub-basins of the Orange-Senqu River

[enter](#)

**Video Tour**

Tour video scenes along the Orange-Senqu River related to the River Basin

[enter](#)

**Geography Maps**

Investigate land cover and terrestrial ecoregions in the basin

[enter](#)

**Water Cycle**

Examine how the hydrologic cycle moves water through and around the earth

[enter](#)

**Food Web**

Explore the interactions of living organisms in aquatic environments

[enter](#)