**REPORT ON KNOWLEDGE SHARING SESSION**

**LHWP-2 IMMERSION PROGRAMME:**

**LESSONS, CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES**

**Summary**

This report presents the proceedings of a knowledge sharing session themed *“LHWP-2 immersion programme: lessons, challenges and opportunities”*, convened on 26 November 2020. The session focused on the LHWP-2 immersion programme of the Binational Initiatives node in TCTA, covering the period April 2019 to date. The session was designed to provide an overview of the experiences, challenges and learnings obtained from the pilot programme to influence future phases.

The LHWP is critical for the sustainable development of South Africa, particularly the country’s industrial hub, Gauteng Province, for which it provides about 25% of the water requirements. TCTA plays a pivotal role in the implementation of LHWP-2, as well as Phase 1. Although not tasked with implementing Phase-2, TCTA is responsible for raising funding for the entire project and managing the debt portfolio. TCTA further provides strategic support and advisory to the South African Delegation to the LHWC.

To effectively facilitate such support, TCTA established a Binational Initiatives node that works closely with the project team. The immersion programme required that the Binational Liaison Officer spend substantial time on the project, including directly on-site, interacting with role-players to gain a deep understanding of the project’s integral elements. The session enjoyed several highlights summarised below.

During the session, participants expressed interest in the structure and representation of the SA Delegation in Lesotho, the functions of each key stakeholder on the project, and how employees could access opportunities to participate in the unique project. Other issues that dominated the session include enquiry on the skills set in the technical team of the SA Delegation; and the process for recruiting South African graduates on the LHDA Young Professionals Programme. In addition, lack of interest by young South Africans to work on LHWP-2, and limitations in internal information sharing on project milestones in Lesotho, were identified as some of the challenges requiring the attention of TCTA leadership.