Findings to date:
The results highlight the crucial role that wetlands play in the provision of basic needs required for household survival, and that the nature of household dependence varies significantly from place to place and as socio-economic status changes. They also provide largely qualitative indicators that increasing wetland utilization is having negative environmental impacts. Consequently, incentives to manage wetland resources will differ markedly from one location to another and across socio-economic groups within the same community. This complexity highlights the need for critical analysis of the social and economic factors that underpin the dynamics of wetland resource use in the development of sustainable management plans.

Policy implications & anticipated outcomes
The provision of information for making decisions about land and water use and sharing resources in the Limpopo basin resulting in sustainable use of wetland resources for food production, improved livelihoods, and environmental security. Knowledge will be applied through other projects such as a Global Environment Facility project on Sustainable Management of Inland Wetlands in Southern Africa.

Publications:

CONTACT:
Prof Max Finlayson (ILWS), CSU Albury
mfinlayson@csu.net.au