



# Transfrontier Conservation Areas

SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE SADC TFCA NETWORK MEETING

Radisson Blu, Maputo (Mozambique)

13-16 November 2023



### SUPPORTED BY



Implemented by:



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## ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATION

ANAC	Administração Nacional das Áreas de Conservação National Administration for Conservation Areas (Mozambique)
BSA	Boundless Southern Africa
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora
CMS	Convention on Migratory Species
COMACO	Community Markets for Conservation
CoP	Community of Practice
DFFE	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
GLTP	Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park
GMTFCA	Greater Mapungubwe TFCA
H4H	Herding for Health
ICP	International Cooperating Partner
ISCTP	Iona Skeleton Transfrontier Park
IUCN	International Union for the Conservation of Nature
KAZA	Kavango-Zambezi TFCA
KfW	Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau
KNP	Kruger National Park
KTP	Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park
LEAP	Law Enforcement and Anti-Poaching
LOZAMAP	Lower Zambezi Mana Pools
MDTP	Maloti-Drakensberg Transfrontier Park
MITADER	Ministério da Terra, Ambiente e Desenvolvimento Rural

	Ministry of Land, Environment and Rural Development
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MS	Member States
NRM	Natural Resource Management
PA	Protected Area
PPF	Peace Parks Foundation
RSA	Republic of South Africa
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SAWC	Southern African Wildlife College
TFCA(s)	Transfrontier Conservation Area(s)
TP	Transfrontier Park
TWG	Tourism Working Group
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
UNWCMC	United Nations World Conservation Monitoring Centre
WWF	World Wildlife Fund for Nature

## INTRODUCTION

In the second week of November 2023, the SADC TFCA Annual Networking Meeting was convened in Maputo, Mozambique. The meeting was attended by 115 delegates, including members of the hybrid team and interpretation services. We had in attendance: 4 delegates from the SADC Secretariat, 18 Member State representatives, one representative from the East Africa Community, 8 delegates representing specific TFCAs and SADC RBOs, 9 International Cooperating Partners, 59 NGOs/Implementing Partners, 2 Consultants, one delegate from the Community Network and a delegate from the media.

The 2023 SADC TFCA Annual Network Meeting commenced in a unique way. Ahead of the official opening, the delegates conducted a field trip to Maputo National Park, in collaboration with the Administração Nacional das Áreas de Conservação (ANAC), and under the guidance of Miguel Gonçalves, the Warden of the Park. The goal was to examine the effective conservation practices, which have led to the park being a sanctuary for a variety of terrestrial and aquatic species, including the successful nesting of loggerhead and leatherback turtles. The participants learnt about the "Ready for Tourism" strategy, which has resulted in a sustainable tourism model that is said to benefit both the local community and wildlife. The construction of various lodges, supported by the World Bank, has encouraged community engagement and economic growth, while the implementation of environmental education activities, through school clubs and the establishment of a research centre, reflects the park's holistic approach to conservation. The feasibility of a wildlife fence to curb human-wildlife conflict and the strategic elephant corridors exemplify the park's innovative solutions to conservation challenges. This field trip not only revealed Maputo National Park's rich biodiversity, as country component of the first and only marine TFCA in Africa, but also highlighted the intricate balance between community development and wildlife preservation that Transfrontier Conservation Areas aim at achieving.

## WELCOMING REMARKS AND OFFICIAL OPENING

### WELCOMING REMARKS

As host of the meeting, the Government of Mozambique delivered the welcoming remarks. Mr Mazivile, the SADC TFCA Technical Advisor within the SADC Secretariat welcomed the attendees and facilitated the official opening of the annual meeting, as well as the welcoming of delegates to Maputo. In his housekeeping announcements, he informed the delegates about the availability of language interpretation services (English, French and Portuguese) and the channels where the different languages could be found on the headsets. He requested that virtual participants introduce themselves using the Zoom chat box, as all attendees who were on the field visit had had the opportunity to introduce themselves. He also requested the delegates from Tanzania and the International Coordinator for the GLTFCA, who had missed the field visit, to introduce themselves. He then invited Dr Clara Bocchino, to share the meeting agenda for approval by the SADC Chair (Angola). Dr Bocchino, who was attending the meeting virtually, shared the agenda.



Mr Mazivile welcomed the Director of Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources within the SADC Secretariat, Dr Domingos Gove. In his opening remarks, Dr Gove acknowledged the Angolan country representative which is the current SADC Chair, Ms Joyce Janota; the representative of the government of Mozambique, Mr Paulo Wetela, representing the permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Land, Environment and Rural Development (MITADER); the SADC Member States; the managers of TFCAs in SADC; and the partners that supported the annual meeting, thanking them for their support and for giving their time to attend the meeting. He highlighted the important role of the German government through GIZ and KFW in supporting the work within SADC TFCAs and the annual network meetings. He also acknowledged the challenges and opportunities presented by the journey of working in and for TFCAs, which has required full commitment, persistence and sacrifice from all involved, the results of which is the achievement of the current stage of TFCAs, being recognised globally as one of the more successful paths used to conserve natural resources. He congratulated delegates for all their achievements within TFCAs, pointing out that the journey does not end in Maputo, it continues from here, and there is certainty that victory will be achieved by all involved.

Dr Gove remarked on the SADC TFCA Programme which was approved in 2013, and its successful implementation throughout the years. The programme has now been reviewed, and the revised SADC TFCA Programme (2023-2033) has been approved by the Ministers. These are steps that the region has been able to take in unity through the guidance, inputs, discussions and proposals from delegates in these annual meetings.

He challenged those who were not able to participate in the field trip to visit Maputo National Park, highlighting how rewarding it is to talk about the TFCAs while you are in the TFCA, and experience in-person the successes, challenges and the people within the TFCA. He highlighted some of the key discussion points which would be delved into throughout the 3 days of the meeting, including the revised TFCA Programme, the updated LEAP Strategy, the TFCA Development Steps, the value of TFCAs, achievements and challenges, resource mobilization, aquatic resources management, tourism in TFCAs, climate change, and the wildlife economy, amongst others.

He welcomed Mr Wetela, the Mozambique MITADER General Inspector, on behalf of the Permanent Secretary, to deliver his speech.

In his opening remarks, Mr Wetela acknowledged the Angolan representative as the current SADC Chair, Ms Janota. He noted that biodiversity conservation continues to be a priority for the Government of Mozambique, a country where around 25 per cent of its land is under a form of conservation: National Parks and Reserves, Hunting Areas (Coutadas), Game Farms and Community Conservation Areas. These are linked to some important TFCAs. This Annual Network Meeting is an opportunity to appreciate the activities carried out by the different Member States, the SADC Secretariat and the International Cooperation Partners (ICPs) in developing programmes for the improvement of human well-being and the maintenance of ecosystems integrity. In closing, Mr Wetela encouraged the delegates to ensure that this is not just another meeting, to enjoy the local cuisine and to use the extra time to explore the beautiful city of Maputo.

OFFICIAL OPENING

Upon the conclusion of Mr Wetela's speech, Mr Mazivile introduced the SADC Chair, Ms Joyce Janota, to open the meeting officially.

The Chair officially welcomed delegates to the Annual Meeting of the SADC TFCA Network, stating that the meeting aims at sharing progress made in the implementation of sustainable management projects, identifying opportunities for the TFCA Network, and reflecting on the impacts of Member States activities. Ms Janota also stated that the activities of the TFCAs have led to the development of a functional and integrated network of TFCAs promoting socio-economic development and regional integration. She called upon the SADC Secretariat to support Member States in complying with guidelines issued at the last meeting of the Ministers of Environment, Natural Resources and Tourism held in the DRC (virtual), in June 2023. The Chair expressed gratitude to the organizing team, including the SADC Secretariat, International Partners, Translators, and Logistics Team. With these words, the Chair declared the Annual Meeting of the SADC TFCA Network officially open.

## SESSION 1: MEETING OVERVIEW AND UPDATES FROM THE NETWORK

Upon the conclusion of the official opening, Mr Mazivile handed over the facilitation of the programme to the SADC TFCA Network Coordinator, Mr Collins, who facilitated the rest of the first day. Mr Collins began with housekeeping announcements, including materials available for delegates and presented the programme for the day. The first item on the agenda was the regional and network updates from the SADC Secretariat, represented by Mr Mazivile and Ms Ndapanda Kanime.

## 2022 NETWORK MEETING RECOMMENDATIONS AND FEEDBACK

The SADC Secretariat, represented by Ms Kanime and Mr Mazivile, gave a report based on the 2022 Network Meeting recommendations and feedback. In their presentation, they outlined the objectives of the SADC TFCA Annual Network Meeting, gave the recommendations and status of implementation from the SADC TFCA Annual Network Meeting 2022, and gave updates on the SADC key approved strategies and programmes related to Transfrontier Conservation Areas.

### **Recommendations and status of implementation**

The recommendations from the 2022 SADC TFCA Annual Network Meeting are outlined in Table 1 below.

**Table 1: Recommendations and status of implementation, 2022 SADC TFCA Annual Meeting**

Recommendation	Status
TFCA in Category C (Coastal, Marine, and Terrestrial Environment): The SADC TFCA Programme needs to get affirmation and commitment from Member States for their establishment. A clear category and State endorsements are mandatory. The Roadmap leading to an agreement should be clear.	Done
Address the establishment of the Western Indian Ocean TFCA	To be done following the conclusion of the Handbook
TFCAs and RBOs need to collaborate more and avoid duplication of effort.	Process started and ongoing
Assess how to create a Resilience Community of Practice for TFCAs (NRM, Water, Climate, Disaster Risk Reduction, Energy etc.).	SADC Training Institutions being convened regularly to own the process
Share info on issues such as Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA), Management plans that are CC responsive	Through National Committees, the Water, Energy and Food Framework is being implemented
To reach connectivity objectives, including ecological connectivity, TFCAs require their own management plans.	Not done
We need to recognize heterogeneity and complexity of the term: local communities	Approved by MENRT in June 2023

## SADC TFCA Related Strategies and Programmes approved by Ministers.

The following are the strategies and programmes approved by the Ministers on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of June 2023:

- SADC Wildlife Based Economy Strategy Framework
- SADC Law Enforcement and Anti-Poaching (LEAP) Strategy
- SADC Standardised Template for reporting on the state of forests; and Costed Action Plan for operationalisation of the SADC Forestry Strategy 2020-2030
- SADC revised TFCA Programme 2023-2033 and its Costed Action Plan
- SADC Trans-frontier Conservation Areas Value Study
- Toolbox for Community Engagement in Transfrontier Conservation Areas

## SADC TFCA APPROVAL ROADMAP AND HANDBOOK ON CATEGORIZATION OF TFCAS

Mr Collins took the meeting through the process of formalizing TFCAs in the SADC region. He outlined the various TFCA categories (Category A, B and C) and what these categories mean, the key aspects to developing viable TFCAs. He also outlined the process to identify and plan for the listing of TFCA Category A, B and C and C. For more on the categorization of TFCAs, delegates can access the information in the Handbook on Categorization of SADC TFCAs.

## UNEP TFCA IDENTIFICATION TOOLKIT - UNEP WCMC

The categorization presentation was followed by a presentation titled **Transboundary Conservation App: Exploring opportunities in Africa**, presented by Nina Bhola from UNEP.

As part of a project for the Convention on Migratory Species, UNEP-WCMC developed a Google Earth Engine application which aims at helping users to identify existing Protected Areas in Africa that are spatially adjacent across country boundaries, and that may be suitable for harmonised management. Through the app, they explored transboundary conservation opportunities in Africa by:

- Identifying existing TBCAs; and
- Identifying PAs for new cooperation across borders, using World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA) and World Database of Key Biodiversity Areas.

The key step is to select the country of interest and then select the distance from country border to display all Protected Areas (PAs) within this zone. Building on the findings from the tool, additional steps could be taken to prioritise potential TBCAs further, based on size, adjacent Protected Area and the degree of functional connectivity. The next steps of the project is to gather feedback on the functionality and usefulness of the tool in identifying potential opportunities for transboundary conservation, or suggestions to inform future improvements to or expansion of the tool. From the discussions, it was noted that this project has been working with the IUCN-BIOPAMA programme component on spatial identification and analysis of natural resources land uses in Africa.

The potential next steps identified by UNEP-WCMC are:

- Expanding the methodology to other regions in the world.
- Adding data on human population density to understand the ecological data in a wider context.

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## DISCUSSION

The following questions and comments were raised by delegates:

- Which needs is the WCMC project responding to?
- Will the inclusion of TFCA boundaries be vetted via formal agreements between countries prior to inclusion?
- What safeguards are in place for data cleaning and data protection?
- There is room for improving the utility value of this app and see if inter-operability with existing data infrastructure is feasible.
- Member States were surprised about the project as they were not aware of it.
- The data shown is mostly outdated. Some of the areas are identified as potential TFCAs when they are existing TFCAs. SADC TFCAs have updated information on existing TFCAs.
- The app can be useful in identifying wildlife corridors and functional connectivity.
- The project presents an opportunity to use technology for research in TFCAs.

In responding to the questions, Nina clarified that the project emphasises transboundary areas based on migratory species. She also indicated that they are hoping to collaborate with SADC TFCAs and the Member States to gather updated information and explore the usefulness of the tool for TFCAs.

## SESSION 2: THE VALUE OF TRANSFRONTIER CONSERVATION AREAS

Session 2 began with a presentation on **The Value of Transfrontier Conservation Areas study**, presented by Mr Kevan Zunckel, on behalf of the implementation team. The study aims at raising awareness on the value of SADC Transfrontier Conservation Areas and attract investment, including through International Cooperating Partners.

The findings and recommendations of the 2023 Value of TFCAs Study are as follows:

### *Beneficiaries*

Local communities that have a direct livelihood dependence linked to the TFCAs benefit primarily from the provision of ecosystem goods and services, such as food, water, fodder, fibre, fuel wood. In addition job creation through eco-tourism activities, while country citizens who have direct and indirect welfare dependence on the TFCAs benefit through the regulating services provided to the national economy.

### *Status quo*

The capacity of SADC TFCAs to deliver ecosystem services is being threatened by anthropogenic factors. Additional investment is needed to mitigate threats, secure resources, safeguard benefit flows, and enhance future benefits. Solutions include overcoming political instability, securing macro-economic stability, fostering investor-friendly environments, and

Citizens from other countries derive direct and indirect benefit from the TFCAs through a range of harvesting of non timber forest products cultural and regulating services.

positioning conservation as a legitimate land-use that supports socio-economic resilience.

### **Recommendations:**

Having outlined these findings, in summary, Mr Zunckel recommends that TFCA practitioners need to understand and represent the value of TFCAs to decision-makers, funders, and investors, identify investment opportunities, play the role of a broker, implement robust M&E processes, and use the study's findings to refine their TFCA value proposition. He presented a methodology that practitioners could use to conduct their own specific TFCA Values studies.

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## DISCUSSION

Following the presentation, the following questions and comments were raised:

### *Ms Nothando Moyo*

- It is easier said than done in terms of the building capacity. We appreciate that there is a reference that we can go and read, but it is also going to assist us if we can have training on how best we can go through the whole process, so we can appreciate it better and apply it at the national or TFCA level.

In response, Mr Zunckel confirmed that he would be happy to avail himself for this, but pointed out that he believes that they already have the capacity and must just go ahead with the process. Looking at the literature will help give a broad understanding of the ecological functionality of the areas. He cautioned against being intimidated by the process of doing a TFCA Values study.

### *Mr José Monteiro*

- As a community network, we are going through community-level NGOs planning. I am thinking that this can be applied at the community level, because you are valuing the ecosystem. At that level, this is exactly how you propose the economic value of specific territories. What is your experience in going to that low level? We are working on a community land-use planning. Can we apply this study/method at that level? Secondly, you mention the regulating services. Was the study done only in the parts of TFCAs that are PAs or did it include the buffer areas? This is to understand how you can decide on a low or high value on areas that communities may not have access to.

In his response, Mr Zunckel stated that this approach can be applied at the community level as it helps to generate an understanding both ways. In terms of the practitioners and the communities, a process like this helps us broaden our understanding. In terms of the process, the study did consider TFCAs in their whole: it was not focused on Protected areas, but where a TFCA includes communal areas, communal access areas, areas with and without access.

Further comments were:

- It is important to factor in social values apart from economic and ecological values. The cultural heritage aspects were a bit reductive considering the role of sacred and historical sites at community level.
- A delegate proposed the use of the lifecycle sustainability valuation, which allows a balanced analysis of social economic and ecological aspects.

### SESSION 3: PROGRESS REPORTS FROM SADC TFCAS: ACHIEVEMENTS AND CHALLENGES

1. The TFCA Network Coordinator called upon the representatives of Category A and B TFCAs to present country reports on their respective achievements and challenges for 2022-2023. These reports, presented by SADC TFCA Coordinators, addressed the following questions:  
Institutional status and update
2. Activities carried out in 2022-2023
3. Future plans
4. Constraints and added value
5. How can the SADC TFCA Unit help?

Table 2 indicates the order in which TFCA reports were presented as well as the presenter. Due to time constraints, only the first 4 TFCAs delivered their presentations on Day 1 of the meeting. The rest of the TFCAs presented their feedback on Day 2. However, in this report, all TFCA reports are included in this section of Day 1. The presentations for each TFCA have been made available on the TFCA portal.

**Table 2: List of TFCAs reported on**

	<b>Name of TFCA</b>	<b>Member States</b>	<b>Presenter</b>
1	/Ais/Ais-Richtersveld Transfrontier Park	Namibia, South Africa	Aruna Seepersadh
2	Chimanimani Transfrontier Conservation Area	Mozambique, Zimbabwe	Cornelio Miguel
3	Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park	Mozambique, South Africa, Zimbabwe	Gwinyai Muti
4	Iona-Skeleton Coast Transfrontier Park	Angola, Namibia	Monica Shikongo
5	Kavango Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area	Angola, Botswana, Namibia, Zambia, Zimbabwe	Netsai Bollman
6	Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park	Botswana, South Africa	Michael C. Molaodi
7	Lubombo Transfrontier Conservation Area	Mozambique, South Africa, eSwatini	Thulani Methula
8	Malawi-Zambia Transfrontier Conservation Area	Malawi, Zambia	Matthews Mumba
9	Maloti-Drakensberg Transfrontier Conservation and Development Area	Lesotho, South Africa	Joyce Loza

10	Niassa-Selous Ecosystem	Mozambique, Tanzania	Africo Simon/Zacharia Wamburi
11	Greater Mapungubwe Transfrontier Conservation Area	Botswana, South Africa, Zimbabwe	Nothando Moyo
12	Lower Zambezi Mana Pools	Zambia	Sydney Tembo

## /AIS/AIS-RICHTERSVELD TRANSFRONTIER PARK

### Institutional status and update

- The MoU was signed on 17 August 2001 by Ministers Valli Moosa (South Africa) and Philemon Malima (Namibia)
- The Treaty was signed on 1 August 2003 by Presidents Thabo Mbeki (South Africa) and Sam Nujoma (Namibia)
- A Joint Operations Strategy was developed in 2016
- The ARTP falls under category A

### Activities carried out in 2022-2023

- Regular PMC meetings
- Joint Management Board meeting (November 2022)
- Joint Patrols since the pontoon opened
- Community engagement
- Implementation of the joint annual workplan

### Future plans

- Finding a Coordinator for the Desert Knights Event
- Restarting the Desert Kayak trails
- Annual Joint Fish River Canyon clean-up
- Hosting of other transboundary tourism events (e.g. Namibia Crossing, etc)
- Resource mobilisation
- Reviewing of the ARTP Joint Operational Strategy
- Finalizing the SOP for cross-border events

### Constraints and added value

<p><i>Constraints</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Limited resources</li> <li>• Absence of an International Co-Ordinator for the ARTP</li> </ul>	<p><i>Added value</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revenue generation through transboundary tourism events (traversing rights fees, camping fees, employment)</li> </ul>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Absence of an events co-ordinator to manage the Desert Knights and desert Kayak events</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Co-operation in the Joint Fish River clean-up campaign</li> <li>• The buffer of the South African component of the ARTP is a declared World Heritage Site</li> </ul>
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#### How can the SADC TFCA Secretariat help?

- Securing the ARTP coordinator for the Desert Kayak and Desert Knight events
- Marketing of the TFCA as an entity
- Sustainable financing for the ARTP Programme
- Support for the continuation of cross-border events

### CHIMANIMANI TRANSFRONTIER CONSERVATION AREA

#### Institutional status and update

- The TFCA is already listed as Category A and no changes of category occurred.
- The individual Protected Areas have some M&E Systems in place
- No new documents were produced

#### Activities carried out from Oct 2022 to Oct 2023

- Some informal discussions
- Some cross border community engagements,
- Some cross border biodiversity-related activities only from countries perspectives
- Cross border tourism products only from countries perspectives

#### Future plans

- Hold a meeting to exchange experiences and set-up coordination mechanisms
- Look for partners to assist in development and implementation of some selected TFCA Programs
- Prepare joint fundraising projects for the TFCA.

#### Constraints and added value

<p><i>Constraints</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Limited funding from government</li> <li>• Limited coordination due to financial constraints</li> <li>• cross-border activities</li> </ul>	<p><i>Added value</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The TFCA has enabled initial informal communication between the conservation management authorities of the two countries.</li> </ul>
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## How can the SADC TFCAs Network help?

- Provide financial support to run some selected programs and enhance formal communication between the Member States.

## GREAT LIMPOPO TRANSFRONTIER PARK

### Institutional status and update

#### GLTFCA implementation of systems (TFCA or cluster)

- Sustainable Finance Strategy
- Institutional Reform Strategy
- Transboundary Freshwater Resources Management Strategy
- Limpopo Tourist Access Facility

#### *New documents produced and approved in the last year*

- GLTFCA Secretariat Sustainable Finance Strategy.
- GLTFCA Transboundary Freshwater Resources Management Strategy.
- GLTFCA Joint Operational Plan for Pafuri-Sengwe Joint Park
- GLTFCA Joint Operational Plan for Limpopo National Park- Kruger National Park
- National Park Joint Park Management Committee (JPMC 3).
- GLTFCA Joint Operational Plan for Greater Lebombo Conservancy –
- Kruger National Park Joint Park Management Committee. (JPMC 4).
- GLTFCA Transboundary Tourism Development Strategy.
- GLTFCA Signage guidelines.
- GLTFCA Transboundary Fresh Water Resources Management Strategy
- Memorandum of Understanding with Limpopo Water Course Commission (LIMCOM)

### Activities carried out from Oct 2022 to Oct 2023

#### *Cross-border institutional meetings*

- Joint Management Board Meetings
- Thematic Technical Working Group Meetings
- Joint Park Management Committee Meetings
- Funding Partners Meeting
- Thematic Task Team Meetings

#### *Cross-border community engagements*

- Limpopo Tourism Access Facility
- Development of Nodal Joint Operational Plans
- Makuleke Transboundary Community Exchange Visit

### *Cross-border biodiversity-related activities*

- GLTFCA Human Wildlife Conflict Learning Exchange Visit to KAZA:
- GLTFCA Translocation of Black and White Rhino from South Africa to Mozambique

### *Cross border tourism products*

- GLTFCA Transboundary Tourism Development Strategy
- Cross Border 4x4 Trails
- Cross Border Wilderness Trails
- Cross Border Tourism Products Media Tour

### **Future Plans Within the Next 6 – 12 Months**

- GLTFCA Secretariat establishment and resourcing
- GLTFCA Sustainable Finance Strategy implementation
- GLTFCA Joint Strategic Management Plan development

### **Constraints and Added Value**

#### *Constraints*

In the absence of a dedicated Secretariat for the GLTFCA, resource mobilization, coordination and sustainability of current and future interventions are significantly constrained.

#### *Added value*

- GLTFCA Institutional Reform Strategy has resulted in the development of effective and functional institutional arrangements and governance structures, which are critical for effective coordination and implementation of projects and programmes in line with the provisions of the Trilateral Treaty.
- The institutional reform process has strengthened the governance arrangements of the GLTFCA in support of more effective and sustainable implementation of the initiative.
- This process was underpinned by principles that ensure balance between political will, strategic overview and effective implementation (i.e. policy development and implementation).

### **How can the SADC TFCAs Network help?**

- *Resource Mobilization*: GLTFCA has established Priority Unfunded Needs in order to effectively coordinate and implement projects, programmes and activities in line with the Trilateral Treaty.
- *Joint Learning & Knowledge Management* to assist with:
  - ◆ Developing a regional repository of TFCAs related information
  - ◆ Innovation and idea testing through joint experimentation and documentation
  - ◆ Knowledge product development
  - ◆ Enabling peer review and feedback

◆ Collaboration and Relationships

- Developing *linkages* with TFCA stakeholder groups
- Facilitating *empowerment* at the level of the TFCA

GREATER MAPUNGUBWE TFCA

**Institutional status and update**

- MoU was signed in 2006 and the TFCA is in Category B
- Partner States working towards the finalisation of the Draft Treaty to pave the way for its signing (in country consultations are on-going)

**Activities carried out from Oct 2022 to Oct 2023**

- Stakeholder engagement (Maramani, Northern Tuli, ZW)
- Implementation of the Herding for Health Programme
- Joint Patrols
- TTC meeting
- Establishment of the Working Groups
- Development of GMTFCA Logo, brochure and branding guidelines

**Future plans**

- Finalisation of the in-country consultations and subsequent signing of the Treaty
- Development of a transboundary tourism events protocol
- Implementation of GEF 7 HWC project
- Recruitment of GMTFCA International Coordinator (GEF 7)
- Hosting of transboundary tourism events
- Resource mobilisation
- Reviewing of the GMTFCA Draft IDP
- Development of SOPs for law enforcement

**Constraints and added value**

<i>Constraints</i>	<i>Added value</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finalisation of the Draft Treaty and its signing is taking a long time</li> <li>• Limited resources</li> <li>• Absence of an International Coordinator</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revenue generation through transboundary tourism event (traversing rights fees, camping fees, employment)</li> <li>• Collective bargaining – pulling of resources from different donors for project</li> </ul>

	implementation in the landscape (e.g. sourced funds for H4H in Botswana and Zimbabwe)
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### How can the SADC TFCAs Network help?

- Marketing of the TFCA
- Sustainable financing for GMTFCA Programme
- Knowledge sharing and collaboration
- Promote conservation and socio-economic development
- Securing funds to host structure meetings to push for the finalization and signing of GMTFCA Treaty
- Assist with the development of Disaster Risk Reduction Plan, Community Engagement Plan, and Capacity Building Plan

## IONA SKELETON TFCA

### Institutional status and update

- Initiative between the Republic of Angola and the Republic of Namibia
- ISCTP falls under Category A TFCAs: The Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) was signed on the 3rd May 2018

### Activities carried out from Oct 2022 to Oct 2023

- No Activity carried under the time in review.

### Future plans

- Need to engage at the political and executive management level to reconfirm, recommit and revive ISCTP
- Set up the Institutional Framework including the agreed coordination modalities
- Joint operational work plan to be developed
- Resources mobilisation

### Constraints and added value

#### *Constraints*

- Limited resources
- Lack of institutional framework which should spearhead the development of ISCTP
- Loss of institutional memory

### How can the SADC TFCAs Network help?

- Marketing the TFCA entity, which includes the Marine Component
- Sustainable financing
- Sharing of best practices from other TFCAs and TPs

### Institutional status and update

- Established under Treaty signed in Luanda in 2011
- Treaty yet to be ratified by Republic of Angola
- Treaty available here: <https://www.kavangozambezi.org/publications-2/>

### Activities carried out from Oct 2022 to Oct 2023

- Crossborder institutional meetings
- In addition to structure meetings:
  - ◆ Directors of wildlife meet monthly
  - ◆ Kwando joint law enforcement taskforce meets periodically
  - ◆ TBNRM forums meet periodically
- KAZA Impact monitoring Working Group
- Donor funded interventions and implementing partners
- Data management system
- KAZA financing systems
- Strategies, documents, plans produced in period under review: Livelihoods, tourism, natural resources

### *Strategy documents and plans under development*

- Management strategy for forestry conservation
- Carnivore conservation strategy
- Kwando-Linyanti-Chobe River Code of Conduct
- Bird conservation strategy
- LEAP implementation plan
- Project implementation – Federal Republic of Germany through KfW

<p>Phases I and II (EUR8 million and EUR12 million)</p> <p>Mainly focused on building the capacity of national authorities responsible for the management of natural resources in KAZA Partner States.</p>	<p>Phase III (EUR15.5 million)</p> <p>Emphasises regional cooperation and transboundary initiatives, with a strong focus on community livelihoods development.</p>	<p>Covid Relief Tranche I (EUR4 million)</p>
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### *Running projects implemented with direct implementation support through/from KAZA Secretariat*

- Strengthening wildlife law enforcement capacity and cross-border collaboration in transboundary areas (CITES MIKE)

- UK Department of Environment, Food, and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) KAZA Joint Law Enforcement Governance Project
- US Forest Service (USFS) KAZA Elephant Survey (multiple donors)
- USAID Resilient Waters Programme
- US Embassy Science Fellows
- Dutch Postcode Lottery
- Dreamfund project
- Learning Energy Efficiency Network (LEEN)

#### **Future plans**

- Updating of MIDP and country IDPs
- Finalisation of strategic documents currently under development and new strategy documents
- Implementation of various strategies and action plans
- Strengthening of the KAZA Secretariat Project coordination support and implementation
- TFCA Performance Assessment
- Resource mobilisation (technical and financial)
- Strengthening of data pool and M&E systems

#### **Constraints and added value**

- Secretariat capacity development (technical & financial)
- Strengthening of in-country TFCA coordination units (where applicable)
- Resource mobilization for implementation of plans & strategies (technical & financial)

### **KGALAGADI TRANSFRONTIER PARK**

#### **Institutional status and update**

- Bilateral Agreement was signed in 2000, and the amended Agreement was signed in 2010
- The TFCA falls under Category A
- No system implemented in the KTP during the period under review.
- The KTP Standard Operating Procedure for the management of carnivores (lions) was finalised in 2022
- Access Standard Operating Procedure under review

#### **Activities carried out from Oct 2022 to Oct 2023**

- Community learning exchange visit
- Coordinated Patrols
- Maintenance of Boundary fence
- Approval of the SOP for management of carnivores
- SOP for the Landing of flights within KTP for management purposes

- Structure meetings (park management committee)

### **Future plans**

- Finalisation of maintenance of the Boundary fence
- Completion of the community owned camp within the SA component of the KTP and resource mobilisation for infrastructure development on the BW side
- Review of the KTP IDP
- Recruitment of KTP International Coordinator
- Design of logo and destination brochure
- Innovative Resource mobilisation e.g. biocredits
- Development of Law Enforcement Strategy

### **Constraints and added value**

#### *Constraints*

- Limited resources
- Absence of an international coordinator to coordinate KTP activities on a daily basis.

#### *Added Value*

- Two Rivers one stop border post

### **How can the SADC TFCAs Network help?**

- Assist with mobilisation of financial resources and marketing of the TFP
- Support the coordination of the KTP strategic meetings
- Added-value element of KTP
- One stop border post that facilitate easy movement of tourists within KTP
- Absence of physical border line that allows free movement of tourists across the two component of the KTP

## **LOWER ZAMBEZI – MANA POOLS TFCA**

### **Institutional status and update**

- Bilateral MoU signed in May 202
- SADC category B from emerging TFCA (Cat C)
- Elaborate governance arrangement
- 2-year Rotational Coordinating role: Zimbabwe is the current chair

### **Activities carried out from Oct 2022 to Oct 2023**

- High level meeting MoU execution May 2023
- Joint technical committee at Director level - develop action plan



- Joint Landscape mission of the TFCA undertaken
- Park joint management committee hosted by Zambia

### Future plans

- Land Use Planning - site specific and transboundary
- Strategic partnerships
- Securing technical and financial support from cooperating partners
- Establish thematic working groups, Work plans and budgets
- Institutional development framework (Treaty)
- LOZAMAP destination brochure

### Constraints and added value

<i>Constraints</i>	<i>Added value</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Limited budget support</li> <li>• Absence of land use plans at TFCA level</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Political will and support</li> <li>• Holistic planning &amp; management of resources</li> <li>• Integration of stakeholder in decision processes</li> <li>• Opportunities for partnerships</li> <li>• Joint Law Enforcement collaboration</li> </ul>

### How can the SADC TFCAs Network help?

- Development of a tourism destination brochure of the TFCA
- Technical support - Capacity building of the TFCA (human resources) and knowledge sharing opportunities
- Financial support - mobilisation of additional funding

## LUBOMBO TFCA

### Institutional status and update

- The TFCA is already listed as Category A and no changes of category occurred
- Representatives of the TFCA personnel attended two M&E training sessions in February and October 2023: the roll-out of the system is still being handled by the SADC Secretariat.
- The LTFCA has a Tourism Master Plan between South Africa and Eswatini (Songimvelo-Malolotja component of the TFCA).
- A general Marketing Development Strategy and Action Plan was formulated for SADC TFCAs and Lubombo TFCA was among seven TFCAs that have a sufficient variety of products and services deemed “market ready”.

### Activities carried out from Oct 2022 to Oct 2023

- Cross border institutional meetings
- Virtual bilateral session held to deal with the Elephant issue within the Nsubane Pongola TFCA
- Virtual planning meetings held by the trilateral TFCA Coordinators
- Cross border tourism products
- Mhlumeni-Goba eco-tourism trail launched in 2023
- Malolotja-Songimvelo cross border tourism concept proposal was developed but could not be implemented due to financial limitations
- Greening solution for community owned lodges, full solar system, was purchased for Makwela Camp in Tembe Elephant Park
- Cross border community engagements
- Lubombo TFCA Youth Environmental Schools Visit: from 30-31 August 2023. Four schools around Ndumo Game Reserve were visited, trees planted, bins and equipment donated.

### **Future plans**

- R1.5million for the drafting of the Lubombo TFCA Integrated Development Plan, which will identify implementation priorities for fund raising allocated by RSA DFFE TFCA unit
- Finalize on-going COVID-19 relief project activities
- Develop a cross-border stakeholder engagement plan
- Strengthen the governance of the LTFCA
- Operationalize the TFCA Tourism Marketing plan
- Establish cross-border Community Tourism Standard Operational Procedures.

### **Constraints and added value**

#### *Constraints*

- Limited coordination due to financial constraints to implement cross-border activities.

#### *Added value*

- The TFCA has provided a conducive platform for collaborations between public, private and community stakeholders in the management of shared resources.

### **How can the SADC TFCAs Network help?**

- Provide funding for strengthening cross-border coordination: this will ensure that regular planning meetings are held between the LTFCA stakeholders.

## **MAZA TFCA**

### **Institutional status and update**

- MoU for MAZA TFCA establishment signed in 2004
- Bilateral Treaty executed in 2015 by Malawi and Zambia

- Rotational Coordinating role
- Ratification – internal consultation is on going
- Integrated Management and Development Framework for Nyika – North Luangwa, Kasungu – Lukusuzi, GMPS
- SMART

**Key Activities carried out from Oct 2022 to Oct 2023**

- Joint operations (routine, intelligence-led etc.)
- Installation of strategic infrastructure such as cross border radio communication system (not fully operational)
- Joint field ranger refresher training- First aid, SOPs and CoC
- Signing of Co-Management Agreements (PPF-Nyika-Vwaza, FZS-North Luangwa)
- Cross border Tourism
- Development of MAZA TFCA Tourism Brochure supported by SADC GIZ
- Cross-border Community Engagement
- Establishment & implementation of HWCMS
- Enhancement of Community Livelihoods Interventions (TLC, COMACO)
- Cross Border Institutional meetings
- Planned a Joint Steering Committee Meeting (not done) but the plan still holds

**Future Plans**

- Incorporate Luambe National Park on the Zambian side in the Malawi-Zambia TFCA
- Jointly respond to Calls for Funding to enhance development and sustainable financing of MAZA TFCA initiative (Chama/Vwaza-HWC)
- Development of infrastructure for PA Management, Socio-Economic and Tourism Development

**Constraints and Added Value**

<p><i>Constraints</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policy harmonization</li> <li>• Inadequate funding to support TFCA development</li> <li>• MAZA TFCA has observed an increase in abundance of major species of wildlife posing a challenge in Human Wildlife Coexistence and community relations</li> </ul>	<p><i>Added value:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved PA management capacity</li> <li>• Improved Community Participation and livelihood enhancement</li> <li>• Strong collaboration (more stakeholders participating)</li> <li>• Increased awareness</li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two strategic collaborative management signed (Governments/Conservation ICAs)</li> </ul>
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### How can the SADC TFCAs Network help?

- Facilitating initiatives for sustainable financing
- Platform for information sharing and learning
- Collaboration through networking

## MALOTI DRakensberg TFCA

### Institutional status and update

- There have been no changes in the status of the MDTFCA. A draft treaty awaits endorsement by the Bilateral Coordination Committee (BCC) prior to undergoing other processes
- The MDTFCA undertook a review of its 5-Year Action Plan and developed an action plan for the next 5 years (2023-2028)
- No new documents have been produced

### Activities carried out from Oct 2022 to Oct 2023

- Cross border institutional meetings
- Bilateral Quarterly Working Groups meetings
- Biodiversity & Protected Area, Bilateral Security, Tourism & Cultural Heritage Working Group.
- Bilateral Coordination Committee (biannually)
- Cross border community engagements:
  - Participation of the bilateral TWG at the Mehlodin Cultural Heritage event on 23rd Sept 2023.
- Cross border biodiversity-related activities:
  - Monitoring of bearded vulture nests and harvesting of eggs for recovery programme.

- Construction of fire breaks.

*Cross border tourism products:*

- Summer media tour funded by GIZ took place from 2nd-7th May 2023.
- Bilateral Security Working Group activities – Lesotho fact finding mission on the tourist attack and strengthen partnerships with South African Police Services to curb crime, and find on the progress of cases that were reported on the South African side.

**Future plans**

- Review of the TFCA Tourism and the Bilateral Security Strategy
- A Youth Tourism Awareness Campaign planned for 4-7th Dec 2023 pending confirmation of funding
- Engage in processes of adopting a Treaty
- Final phase of the 20-Year MDTFCA Strategy (2008-2028) – strategise on the review process
- Continue with Programme Coordination Unit meetings
- Lesotho is still implementation of Covid 19 response grants activities

**Constraints and added value**

<i>Constraints</i>	<i>Added value</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Administrative systems – only one dedicated Coordination Unit.</li> <li>● Joint funding &amp; country level funding constraints.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Contribute to government efforts for strengthening cross-border collaboration on for e.g., fires (fires do not observe borders), cross-border crimes.</li> <li>● Catalysing support through partnerships</li> <li>● Knowledge exchange and partnership platforms</li> <li>● Joint tourism products marketing.</li> </ul>

**How can the SADC TFCAs Network help?**

- Providing training support to TFCA staff
- Supporting knowledge exchange platforms for TFCA staff and partners
- Providing platforms for expanding on partnerships for TFCA staff and partners
- Visit schedule to individual TFCAs

NIASSA - SELOUS TFCA

**Institutional status and update**

- Based on the SADC TFCA Development Guideline, the TFCA is still in category B Status
- Process to formalize NSTFCA still on-going
- Review process of the existing MoU to explore more areas of cooperation has been approved
- Formation of Tourism Working Group comprising members from key institutions operating within TFCA.

#### **Activities carried out from Oct 2022 to Oct 2023**

- Draft Strategic Integrated Development Plan (SIDP) has been developed by consultant with the support of CMS/UNEP & WWF Support
- Eight Key Performance Areas for the TFCA have been identified
- Widening the scope of PAs within TFCA by establishing a new Game Reserve (Litumbandyosi-Gesimaso).

#### **Activities carried out from Oct 2022 to Oct 2023**

- Spatial modelling of the corridor for rainfall, temperature and burnt areas for the TFCA has been conducted
- Ruvuma Region Tourism Development Strategic Plan 2023-2032
- Meeting of the NSTFCA TWG Tanzania 6th and 7th November, 2023
- Learning visit of EAC Technical Working Group for TBCA November, 2023

#### **Future plans**

- Request SADC TFCA Unit to support NSTFCA development process
- Finalise and sign the Treaty
- Continue with SIDP process for NSTFCA including more face-to-face interactions with Mozambique
- Finalise Selous-Niassa Wildlife Corridor planning process
- Development of integrated management framework
- Increase tourism attraction within TFCA through rhino reintroduction in Ruvuma Landscape

#### **Constraints and added value**

##### *Constraints*

- Until recently, limited funding success for TFCA development as we are awaiting for CMS/UNEP through SADC TFCA Financing Facility
- Increasing human-wildlife conflicts in the area
- Encroachment and expansion of agricultural activities
- Livestock incursion within the landscape
- Inadequate meetings of the TWG from Tanzania and Mozambique for joint planning

##### *Added value*

- NSTFCA will have impacts on wildlife area connectivity between Tanzania and Mozambique for species conservation and genes variability;
- NSTFCA will help climate change resilient, acting as carbon sink within the corridor and surrounding areas
- NSTCA will help in reducing human-wildlife conflicts and enhance human-wildlife co-existence;
- Promotion of tourism business hence job creation and revenue generation
- Provide opportunity for community-based organization (CBOs) to engage in the Carbon Credit business

#### How can the SADC TFCAs Network help?

- Speed-up the funding process from CMS/UNEP to implement
- NSTFCA's key activities
- Finalization of IDP

#### REFLECTION BASED ON THE REPORT BACKS

- Generally, there are a number of TFCAs in Category A, which are functioning well. There are other Category A TFCAs which are formally recognised but are not functioning. One of the challenges is the issue of *coordination*, especially from most of the TFCAs without either a Secretariat or International Coordinators. At the SADC TFCA Steering Committee level, we may need to reflect of these issues and come up with proposals. The issue of *sustainable financing* is one of those that were mentioned. As partner states, we need to go back to our treaties and MOUs, because there are issues of contributions from Member States, especially on operational costs. We can be assisted to implement joint projects, but you may note that most of the donors do not want to invest in operational activities. On the issue of moving from Category C to Category B, and B to A, we can look at that in the session to be facilitated by Ms Aruna Seepersadh. As part of that discussion, we may want to reflect on why these TFCAs remain conceptual. There was also a question on how the SADC TFCA Network can help. Maybe we need to ask this: how can we help ourselves? Because the network provides the platform for sharing information, but there are things that we need to do as Member States. How can we take a step to make sure that our TFCAs are developed?
- As a response to this reflection, it was stated that if MS feel that their current agreements need to be upgraded to respond to their needs, they are free to do so. Member States are free to engage with the SADC Secretariat should they need assistance, but this must come from Member States.

This session was facilitated by Ms Candice Stevens, CEO of the Sustainable Finance Coalition. The panel included the following speakers:

- Mr Stuart Slabbert – Innovative Finance
- Ms Lola Lopez - Carbon Finance
- Mr Sean Nazareli - Biofund

Before inviting the panel members to present their work, Ms Stevens presented the work of the IUCN Sustainable Finance Specialist Group. In her introduction, Ms Stevens pointed out an issue that was raised by most of the TFCAs in their report backs, how sustainable financing and resource mobilization, is a critical issue to being able to take what the Network does in the mandate of TFCAs to scale and have the impact that we would like to see.

The Sustainable Finance Coalition is a collective driving force for the development of finance solutions across landscapes and seascapes. It works across 18 different sectors with national governments, community associations, NGOs, and individual experts. The aim is to build new, innovative solutions that build sustainable flows of finance.

Ms Stevens led the panel by presenting on the mechanisms and strategies that generate, manage, and deploy financial resources and align incentives to achieve nature conservation outcomes.

Ms Stevens indicated that currently, we are spending \$100 billion per annum, whereas we should be spending \$700 billion in order to address any of the goals and interventions for nature. How can this be done? By finding, designing and mobilising new finance solutions. We need collaboration and multiple skillsets to achieve this. The four pillars, needed to generate sustainable finance, are:

- Generate the money
- Manage existing finance as well as possible
- Deploy those finances with as much strategic intent as possible
- Align incentives

The various sustainable financing tools that are either in incubation or available for TFCAs, and the regions where they have been or will be implemented, are:

- Bee Bond – East Africa (Incubation phase)
  - ◆ Aimed at aggregating sustainable value chains for pollinator-friendly agriculture
- SLM Fund – South Africa (Implementation phase)
  - ◆ Aimed at using commercial agricultural land for the Transition Sustainable Land Management practice.
- IUCN/OECMs and Species Tax Incentive – A new incentive in South Africa (Amplification phase)
  - ◆ Aimed at private and communal actors, offering \$80 000 per year on a perpetual basis.
- Human Wildlife Conflict Insurance and Compensation Scheme – Kenya, Uganda, Namibia (Piloted. Currently in replication phase)
  - ◆ Aimed at local communities and Indigenous Peoples, to reduce conflict for animals and people.



The aim of the Sustainable Finance Coalition is to see more of these innovative finance solutions replicated and crossed from one place to another, to benefit as many people as possible. Ms Stevens then introduced the panel members, who presented the other finance solutions.

### **Mr Stuart Slabbert – Conserve Global**

In his introduction, Mr Slabbert indicated that Conserve Global is a conservation NGO working to strengthen community conservation across Africa and building capacity for community conservation. Mr Slabbert outlined their Community-Based Sustainable Finance solutions, through which they emphasize the importance of considering tourism, natural resource value chains, and enterprise value chains in conservation efforts. It also highlights the need for aggregating natural capital credits and ESG contents, combining revenue with community and government benefits, and combining ESG content in reporting. He also discussed the need for insurance models to mitigate the cost of living with wildlife and the need for innovative financial instruments for conservation.

As a concluding remark to Mr Slabbert's presentation, Ms Stevens offered that regardless of what the finance source or instrument is, it is important to understand those building blocks. That is, what are the critical ingredients that need to be available in order to make something work? The best way to do this is to look at each of those different elements and building blocks that have to be there in order to make something work.

### **Ms Lola Lopez – Carbonsink: Carbon Financing**

Ms Lopez began her presentation by explaining that this is an innovation sector and that there is a lot of learning to do while realistically trying to work with government and the different stakeholders involved to really understand the challenges and potentials. Ms Lopez clarified what carbon credits are, where the opportunities lay to benefit from this financing vehicle, who participates in carbon projects and an overview of the various types of carbon projects in Mozambique.

- What are carbon credits?

Carbon credits are tradable certificates issued from specific project activities, ensuring integrity and remaining tradable until retired, used to offset an individual or organization's carbon footprint.

- Who participates in carbon projects?
  - ◆ Project partner – Local communities who should be put in the front seat in these projects
  - ◆ Project developer
  - ◆ Credit retailer - Companies like Carbonsink who work with implementing partners
  - ◆ Third-party auditor – They do the validation on an annual basis of the status of affairs, i.e. how much carbon is being stocked in the ground
  - ◆ Certification standard – Provides international guidance on how projects need to be rolled out

Ms Lopez pointed out that in the past 3 years, the value of one carbon credit has gone from \$12 to around \$3.5 at the moment. This is an indication of how unstable the market is

Types of projects that can generate carbon credit:

- ◆ Water Access
- ◆ Efficient Cookstoves
- ◆ Agroforestry and climate-smart agriculture
- ◆ Forestry management and REDD+ = Reduced Emission from Deforestation and Forest
- ◆ Degradation

Ms Lopez stated that countries like Mozambique and others in the region are starting to understand the importance of having more robust mechanisms to guarantee successful and sustainable projects. The government is developing two key frameworks expected to be in place in the first 2 quarters on 2024 to ensure this:

- National Benefit-Sharing Strategy, which aims at bringing benefits directly to local communities
- Carbon Market Legal Framework, which will be responsible for tracing the rules of the carbon credits system.

### **Mr Sean Nazareli - BioFund: A Brief Introduction to the Conservation Trust Fund Sustainable Finance Mechanism**

In his presentation, Mr Nazareli outlined BioFund's role as an independent organization in connecting large global funding sources to conservation programs at the national and local level through Conservation Trust Funds (CTFs). These CTFs are private, mission-driven institutions that provide sustainable funding for nature conservation, connecting global funding sources to national and local programs. They work in partnership with governments, civil society, private sector, and local communities.

CTFs can provide transparent financial reporting, rapid response, continuity in conservation programs, partnership with governments and companies, and a long-term focus on conservation.

The Consortium of African Environmental Funds (CAFÉ) comprises 19 member funds, supports 90+ parks and reserves, manages 125+ communal conservancies, covers 270,000 km<sup>2</sup>, manages over USD 400 million in endowments, and oversees USD 100 million in African sinking funds. He detailed the funding disbursed between 2014-2023: training programs, scholarships, and the protected areas covered by BioFund. He also added that BioFund explores new sources of sustainable financing and assesses the legal, technical and financial viability of these funding sources in Mozambique.

Due to time constraints, there was no time for a discussion. Ms Stevens encouraged delegates to approach panel members with questions. In closing the panel, she left us with the following closing remarks on sustainable finance:

- It is not possible to create some of these sustainable solutions alone. Find a sustainable finance friend

- Each individual finance solution is unique. Each individual landscape or seascape is unique. Look at the fundamentals of each finance solution so that you are able to see which building blocks you have in your landscape/TFCA and you can start adopting those finance solutions
- Have some of those enabling conditions available within TFCAs. Governance structures are important.

## SESSION 5: RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

The resource mobilization session was facilitated by Dr Soto from PPF, who invited the panel members to join him, pointing out the session deals with practical examples of sources of mobilization and what have been the implications for TFCAs. The panel consisted of the following speakers:

- EU Update on NaturAfrica Programme for Southern Africa - Mr Clement Boutillier, Head of Cooperation of the EU Delegation to Botswana and SADC
- TFCA Financing Facility Report – Mr Leo Niskanen, IUCN
- The African Conservation Fund – Mr Piet Theron – Conservation South Africa/CI

### EU UPDATE OF NATURAFRICA PROGRAMME FOR SOUTHERN AFRICA

Mr Boutillier outlined the NaturAfrica activities planned in the continent, as one of the upcoming flagship programmes of the EU. However, this is not the only programme that they are working on with SADC. NaturAfrica is also working on transboundary water management, climate smart agriculture, tourism and other development sectors in the region .

Key Landscapes for Conservation and Development (KLCDs) have been identified across the African continent as:

- Transboundary programmes
- national programmes
- coastal/marine programme
- other key landscapes

main protected areas in coastal/marine, and terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems. NaturAfrica has a Global Envelope of 160 M Euros. For southern Africa, there is an envelope on 33 M Euros for Trans-frontier conservation areas of Southern Africa, to be disbursed over a period of 5-7 years. The overall objective is to address biodiversity loss through restoring and protecting a network of protected areas and ecosystems, and promoting the sustainable management of surrounding landscapes, whilst creating decent incomes and jobs for local populations.

The objectives are to enhance biodiversity conservation, management, and utilization In KLCDs, benefiting nature and local communities, particularly women, youth, and vulnerable populations, at both landscape and regional levels.

NaturAfrica outputs are as follows:

- Enhanced capacity for inclusive conservation management, sustainable green economy livelihoods, land-use governance, and natural resource management in KLCDs.
- Improved biodiversity conservation and sustainable use, enhanced natural resource managers' capacity, and enhanced policy coordination at regional and landscape levels.
- The 6 TFCAs where they are doing work currently are: Kgalagadi TP
- Kavango Zambezi TFCA
- Great Limpopo TP and TFCA
- Malawi-Zambia TFCA
- Chimanimani TFCA
- ZIMOZA TFCA

Various agreements, grants, coordinating partners and planned events will be established:

- Agreement between EU and GIZ (4 M EUR)
  - ◆ Regional focus and support activities on governance, coordination and capacities for transboundary natural resource management.
- Grants to actors working directly in a specific landscape tasked to implement local level activities across the TFCA (managed by the EU Delegations in the countries of the TFCA)
- Funding to the SADC TFCA Financing Facility
  - ◆ The EU Delegation in Botswana is coordinating this process and will be responsible for following up actions with GIZ and IUCN
  - ◆ SADC EU Delegations are currently working together to identify the challenges and implementing partners in each specific TFCA
  - ◆ A Regional Seminar is planned for the 1st quarter of 2024 to conclude this process.

#### TFCA FINANCING FACILITY REPORT: MR LEO NISKANEN

Mr Niskanen began by thanking the EU for the announcement of the support through the SADC TFCA Financing Facility, also mentioning that the FF has been running for a couple of years. Additional updates:

- As per agreement with SADC , IUCN has a resource mobilization goal for the FF of 100M EUR in the medium term, so they welcome the EU decision to contribute
- There is an additional 8M EUR from the German government that has been added to the FF funding. IUCN and SADC will be signing a grant agreement with KFW. This brings the funding from the German government to 33 M EUR.
- There is a special window of 5 M EUR for capacity building for TFCAs, also through KFW funding, for managers and rangers. This will be channelled through the FF grants.

#### THE AFRICAN CONSERVANCIES FUND: MR PIET THERON – CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL

In his presentation regarding the new African Conservancies Fund, Mr Theron highlighted the following:

- Conservancies have a critical importance for nature and people, but they face constant pressure and multiple threats
- Conservancies struggle to raise investment from mainstream capital providers
- When the Covid-19 pandemic hit, conservancies lost their main source of income from ecotourism, and Conservation International created the first African Conservancies Facility in response
- Mid-2020: The Covid-19 pandemic led to a dramatic drop in tourism revenues. Conservation International recognized the existential threat to conservancies around Kenya's Maasai Mara and in response launched ACF 1.0 to lend money to conservancies to cover lost lease payments from ecotourism
- Today: \$2.5M have been deployed and conservancies are recovering stronger than ever with strengthened operations and governance, financial reserves, improved landowners' livelihoods, and repayments of loans ahead of expectations, as tourism numbers rebounded
- ACF is moving from crisis relief to creating strategic solutions for conservancies with ACF II
- ACF II is currently being recapitalised and will target large-scale conservation, climate, and community outcomes through investments in conservancies and SMEs to strengthen their resilience
- ACF II roll-out will focus on the most critically important ecosystems, wildlife corridors, and dispersal areas starting in the best-known places
- The initial strategic focus countries are in East Africa and Southern Africa with a specific focus on TFCAs such as the Greater Masai Mara, Amboseli-Chyulu Hills-Tsavo West NP, and GLTFCA
- CI is seeking support from new and existing partners in raising risk-tolerant capital to invest in the strengthening, restoration, and expansion of conservation areas in Africa.

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## DISCUSSION

### Questions

- Looking at the NaturAfrica plan, and considering the political instability in some of the areas in sub-Saharan Africa where NaturAfrica has planned activities, how is the program going to be executed in those areas?
- It's great that we are having a lot more investments into our landscapes. The question is, to what extent are we thinking about how to get resources more devolved directly to the communities that are within these landscapes? The general feeling is that all these financing opportunities are great, but they still serve the interests of a few well-equipped, well-resourced institutions, NGOs etc. From the donor/source side, how comfortable are you to continually have to work at a middle-person level, and hoping that these institutions that have that kind of capacity access these funds will in turn deploy these funds at the local level where they are needed the most.

- For NaturAfrica: Is there more clarity on the second stream of activities managed by a specific EU delegation delivered in direct contracts? Who will these direct contracts go to, and which EU delegation will manage these?

**Response:**

- There is a strong link between peace building and conservation. Some of the work that NaturAfrica will do in Benin and the DRC contributes to peace building, so these two elements are not contradictory to one other. There is a specific issue in the Sael at the moment, but our colleagues are still able to work in these landscapes that we have focused on. The middle man issue is very relevant. As EU, there are regulations that we have to comply with. These rules and regulations are very complicated for community-based organisations and small NGOs working on the ground to understand. We have been trying to make this more accessible to small organisations, but this is not an easy task. We hope that through the FF and BIOPAMA, we can have more access to the communities and to smaller organisations, to finance their activities on the ground. Through our programme with FAO (Sustainable Wildlife Management programme) we have managed to work with the communities in the region, but it is true that EU financing these organisations directly is complicated because of the rules and regulations.
- The middle man issue is critical. Two weeks ago, the first ever Indigenous People and Local Communities (IPLC) congress took place in Namibia and this issue came up. This is, therefore, something that we need to look at, as a community as well. There are some organisations that specialise in helping local communities to manage these partnerships themselves, like Maliasili, but beyond that we can work with donors and partners to reduce the hoops that communities have to jump through, to apply for, manage and report on funds.
- From an ACF fund perspective, the initial stage (ACF1), they worked directly with the conservancies. They use the process to strengthen the governance aspects of the conservancies, so they can access the funds.
- Regarding the EU activities for the 6 landscapes mentioned in the NaturAfrica, there has not been a conclusion on that process. This will be assessed at a regional seminar in early 2024, to see what the conclusion of that process will be between using the direct granting mechanism and the IUCN-led Financing Facility. The aim is to have a balance between the two.

## SESSION 6: MANAGEMENT OF LANDSCAPES AND SEASCAPES

This part of the session was facilitated by Ms Lya Docteur, the SADC TFCA Focal Point for Seychelles and it comprised two presentations.

### SUSTAINABLE TRANSBOUNDARY FISHERIES FRAMEWORK FOR THE CUBANGO/KAVANGO/OKAVANGO

The first presentation was delivered by Ms Britta Hackenberg, from Namibia Nature Foundation (NNF), She presented on the work that NNF have been doing in the last year to develop the 2023 Transboundary Fisheries Framework (TBFF) for the Cubango, Kavango and Okavango basins. In her

introduction, Ms Hackenberg gave an overview of the Okavango river basin which forms part of the KAZA TFCA.

OKACOM is their RBO, which has been spearheading, together with USAID Resilient Waters Programme, the process to develop the new TBFF. This work is important because fish has been an integral part of people’s livelihoods in the basin, but there have been a lot of changes in the river system because of commercialization and the use of illegal and monofilament nets. The situation is dire. The river systems are in a state that compelled the institutions to sit and discuss how, on a transboundary level, can a space be created where those river landscapes can be restored.

Ms Hackenberg outlined the process of Transboundary Fisheries Framework Development as follows:

- Review of 2013 Management Plan
- Defining the process and participants
- Draft of new framework
- Official approval procedures

There were two key system settings that had to be dealt with.

<i>Interconnectedness of socio-ecological system</i>	Subsistence farmers rely heavily on natural resources, with land tenure being primarily customary. Freshwater fish, which is crucial for micro- and macronutrients, faces increased prices and accessibility issues. There are gender aspects to fishing.
<i>Transboundary issues and threats</i>	The issues include environmental degradation, invasive species, water quality, climate change, inadequate law enforcement, limited ecosystem knowledge, community involvement, poor communication, equity issues, and shared resources between countries.

### **Understanding the system dynamics**

The team has tried to assess the driving forces, human pressures and ecosystem changes involved. There is overexploitation, commercialisation of the resources at the expense of vulnerable people, resulting in malnutrition, degraded resources and an increase in human-wildlife conflict. In order to make this work, the managing institutions need to find response mechanisms that work for everyone to improve the current system. The TBFF aims at serving as the overarching recommendation tool.

The overall vision is to have, in the landscape, a resilient ecosystem benefiting riparian communities with the objectives to restore and maintain a healthy riverine system, support sustainable livelihoods, and provide option space for riparian communities.

In order to reach these objectives, the following strategies for the TBFF have been identified:

- Update and harmonise policy and practices
- Harmonization of what? If it is policy you should adjust the first one

- Restore riverine ecosystems
- Establish Shared governance/Co-management structures
- Improve and facilitate joint law enforcement
- Promote Research, data sharing, and communication to build Coordination Capacity

## Conclusion

Setting up a TBFF requires a landscape perspective, right stakeholders and rightsholders, a common vision, clear facilitation, ownership of results, sustainable financing, upscaling examples and evidence. .

## GLTFCA FRESHWATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

The second presentation was delivered by Mr Gwinyai Muti, the International Coordinator of the Greater Limpopo Transfrontier Conservation Area (GLTFCA). TFCAs have evolved, and we have seen a paradigm shift from the terrestrial to marine TFCAs. This mindset has contributed to bring together RBOs and TFCAs. There has been alignment between the KAZA Secretariat and OKACOM, since 2017. The GLTFCA currently has a Fresh Water Resource Management Strategy, the process of which also started in 2017. Mr Muti outlined a number of activities and seminars within the SADC TFCA, that demonstrate the recognition of the importance of water courses, RBOs and their alignment to TFCAs. He mentioned the strategies within SADC to further the implementation of freshwater resource management and development, including the Reviewed SADC TFCA Programme (2023-2033). The GLTFCA has its footprint within 3 Transboundary River Basins: Nkomati, Limpopo and Save River Basin.

### Progress: GLTFCA

- The JMB of the GLTFCA identified the need and approved the development of a Freshwater Resource Management Strategy for the entire TFCA, including alignment with water resources planning, development and management of the Limpopo Watercourse Commission (LIMCOM).
- The Terms of Reference for the GLTFCA Fresh Water Resources Strategy were approved by the JMB and was conducted by PEGASYS resulting in the development of a *Transboundary Water Resource and Freshwater Resource Management Strategy and Implementation Plan* based on the Framework.

The USAID Resilient Waters Program (RWP) collaborated and supported regional institutions, including the GLTFCA and its communities to enhance cooperation, build capacity, and leverage partnership opportunities. The GLTFCA aims to promote freshwater conservation through a tripartite partnership, aligning efforts with regional, transboundary, and national strategies. It also promotes knowledge exchange for adaptive ecosystem management and supports international targets on sustainable water resources management and environmental co-benefits, particularly SDG6.





## GLTFCA Freshwater Resource Management Strategy Development

### Updates:

- The Joint Management Board approved the GLTFCA Fresh Water Resources Management Strategy and Implementation Plan during a meeting convened on May 4, 2023.
- The Joint Management Board approved the GLTFCA Freshwater Management Strategy Memorandum of Understanding with LIMCOM during a meeting convened on October 25, 2023.

### DISCUSSION

- One of the delegates, Mr Aubrey Maluleke, asked if Mr Muti is aware of the Musina-Makhado Special Economic Zone and the construction of the Musina Dam, which is likely to affect the water flow within the Limpopo river. In response, Mr Muti pointed out that this issue will be institutionally and technically supported through LIMCOM, since it is linked to the RBO section. It likely is part of the projects that are going to be integrated into the overall strategy between LIMCOM and the GLTFCA.

## SESSION 7 STREAM 1: MANAGEMENT OF LANDSCAPES AND SEASCAPES

### CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION AND ADAPTATION PLANS

Facilitator: Ms Tracy Molefi - OKACOM

### REPORT FROM SADC 10<sup>TH</sup> RBO WORKSHOP – MR NUNES MAZIVILE, SADC TFCAS

#### Background

The SADC TFCA Network Annual Meeting held in September 2022, in Pretoria (R.S.A) observed and recommended the following:

- TFCAs and RBOs need to collaborate more and avoid duplication of effort;

- Continue the cross-pollination of idea and work between TFCAs and RBOs;
- TFCA Network SC to encourage RBOs to be invited at their annual meeting;
- SADC FANR to engage with Water Unit and identify areas of synergies; and
- CCARDESA to support TFCAs and RBOs with regional capacity building on Climate Smart Agriculture.

Through the GIZ – Transboundary Water Management (TWM) and GIZ-CNRM, KAZA Secretariat, GLTFCA and Maloti Drakensberg TFCA and SADC Secretariat were invited to attend the 10th SADC RBOs Workshop, held in Maputo (Republic of Mozambique) from 2-4 of October 2023. The overall objective of the gathering was to exchange ideas that will enhance effective transboundary water resources planning, development and management in the region, whilst ensuring environmental sustainability and resilience, to reduce poverty , and increase regional integration, economic productivity, and industrialization. The theme of the Maputo meeting was “Integrated Planning and Management of Transboundary Natural Resources: Strengthen Cooperation between Shared Watercourse Institutions and Transfrontier Conservation Areas”.

A dedicated parallel session to discuss the collaboration between SADC RBOs and TFCAs, was held at the RBO workshop on the 3rd of October 2023. The event was attended, amongst other participants, by the following RBOs: Zambezi Watercourse Commission (ZAMCOM); Limpopo Watercourse Commission (LIMCOM), Great Limpopo TFCA, GIZ-CNRM, and the SADC TFCA Network Regional Coordinator.

### **Key takeaways**

The session noted the following:

- The recently revised SADC TFCA Programme (2023 -2033) recognizes the importance of addressing duplication of efforts between RBOs and TFCAs, as they operate in the same space and manage the same natural resources as shown on the map, produced by GIZ in 2023;
- OKACOM and KAZA are leading the way in RBO/TFCA collaboration with the MoU signed in 2017, establishing a framework for collaboration;
- ZAMCOM is in a tripartite arrangement with the KAZA Secretariat and WWF and it was noted that TFCA has clearly a defined geographical space to operate in it;
- LIMCOM and GLTFCA have a draft MoU in place, expecting to be signed by Dec 2023; and
- The Orange-Senqu River Commission (ORASECOM) includes 3 TFCAs (Ais/Ais-Richtersveld, Kgalagadi and Maloti-Drakensberg) but no formal arrangement or collaboration with any of them.

### **Recommendation and way forward**

- There is a need to formalize collaboration, policy and institutional alignment as well as joint planning;
- There is a need for coordinated resource mobilization approach – building on the experiences of the SADC TFCA Financing Facility arrangement;
- An ecosystem approach needs to be added to the Water-Energy-Food (WEF) nexus to realize the value of ecosystems;
- There is an opportunity for further discussion at the November 2023 TFCA Network meeting to be held in Maputo;

- There is a need to establish a SADC RBOs and TFCAs Task Team to strengthen the communication on a monthly basis, within the scope of implementation of the SADC TFCA Programme (2023 -2033).
- Guidance to be provided by SADC TFCA Network Steering Committee following the meeting of 23rd October 2023.

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## ZAMCOM CLIMATE CHANGE PROGRAMMES – MR LEONISSAH MUNJOMA, ZAMCOM

Mr Munjoma began his presentation by giving an overview of ZAMCOM. The Zambezi Watercourse Commission (ZAMCOM) is an intergovernmental organisation established in 2014, which brings together the eight (8) Riparian States of the Zambezi Watercourse: Angola, Botswana, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The Zambezi water course comprises 18 sub-basins. The main objective of ZAMCOM is to promote equitable and reasonable utilization of the water resources of the Zambezi Watercourse, as well as its efficient management and sustainable development thereof.

### **ZAMCOM Functions - Framework for ZAMCOM-TFCA Cooperation**

The Zambezi Watercourse Management and Development Agreement aims at promoting, supporting, and coordinating water resource management; collecting and disseminating data; advising member states on planning, management, and dispute avoidance, cooperating with SADC institutions; and raising watercourse awareness among inhabitants.

## TRANSBOUNDARY COORDINATION WITHIN SADC TFCAS LEADS TO EFFECTIVE ECOSYSTEM SERVICES, INCLUDING HABITAT AND SPECIES MANAGEMENT

Facilitator: Ms Aruna Seepersadh - TFCA Focal Point, for DFFE (R.S.A)

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## THE SADC LEAP STRATEGY – MR RABSON DHLODHLO, GIZ C-NRM

### **Context**

Wildlife crime is the fourth most lucrative organized crime globally, with annual estimates of \$7-\$23 billion. The real costs of illegal trade include economic losses from ecosystem services and deprivation of local communities. The SADC region, with high biodiversity and wildlife populations, is leading the global efforts to tackle wildlife crime and protect vulnerable human populations, making it a significant security challenge.

### **1999 Protocol on Wildlife Conservation and Law Enforcement**

The objective of the Protocol is to establish common conservation and sustainable use approaches within the Region and the national laws of each State Party, ensuring effective enforcement of these laws. The Protocol will be implemented through the reviewed Law Enforcement and Anti-Poaching (LEAP) Strategy and the SADC TFCA Programme from 2022-2033.

## Review of the LEAP Strategy

The first LEAP Strategy implemented from 2016 – 2021 was aimed at reducing poaching and illegal wildlife trade in the SADC Region by 2021. The reviewed 2022-2032 strategy aims at providing a framework for national and regional cooperation, thus enabling Member States to develop effective wildlife crime control strategies, facilitate communication between Member States, align partners with regional objectives, and reduce wildlife crime by focusing actions on different parts of the crime value chain. The goal of the strategy is to significantly reduce wildlife crime in the SADC region by 2032, whilst simultaneously strengthening law enforcement, management, and governance systems. The specific objectives are to enhance PA and TFCA management, promote sustainable resource use, strengthen national counter wildlife-trafficking operations, and enhance transnational and regional collaboration.

## LEAP Strategy Monitoring & Reporting Tool

This is a simplified Monitoring and Reporting that is aligned to the SADC M&E System, and can facilitate information flow to the SADC Secretariat for consolidation and sharing back to Member States.

This tool is made up of two parts:

A reporting table for progress against actions as laid out in the LEAP strategy implementation plan.	A small set of qualitative and quantitative indicators for each Member State to report against.
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## Key takeaways

- The SADC LEAP Strategy provides a guide on how TFCAs should be used as an arrangement to deal with existing anti-poaching mechanisms
- The value add for TFCAs is to strengthen the collaboration between its member states, allowing for sharing information and SOPs in wildlife crimes, as well as harmonizing sentences for offenders
- Costed Action Plans (CAPs) and Monitoring and Evaluation tools (M&E) have been added to the updated strategy
- Southern Africa is a key area for wildlife crimes, and this creates regional security challenges.
- SADC TFCA Programme (2023-2033) and Leap Strategy (2022-2032) are critical instruments to implement the SADC Wildlife Protocol
- SADC Secretariat has developed a web-based M&E strategy, which all SADC M&E strategies need to align to

## Questions and discussion

Mr Bonaventura Ndikumana – East Africa Community Representative

- How useful is cooperation at SADC level?
- How have the SADC partner states involved local communities and private sector in combatting wildlife crime?
- What are the main challenges for the SADC partner states to implement the LEAP strategy?

Mr Cornelio Miguel, TFCA Coordinator for ANAC (Moz)

- SADC has been holding regular meetings between the TFCA member states to implement the strategy.
- Law enforcement is one side, whereas community engagement and awareness is the other side to combat wildlife crime.

Mr Nunes Maziville, SADC TFCAs Technical Advisor

- An MoU was signed between Mozambique and South Africa to combat wildlife crime.
- SADC Secretariat has a two-fold approach to dealing with wildlife crime as it falls under two SADC intergovernmental institutions being the Directorate on Food Agriculture and Natural Resources (FANR) and The Ministerial Committee on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation (ORGAN).
- Specific short, medium, and long-term activities are provided in the CAP.

Mr Rabson Dhlohdlo, GIZ:C-NRM

- The First Line of Defense (FLoD) approach is used to work with communities in dealing with wildlife crime.
- Corruption has been identified as a major challenge in combatting wildlife crime – member states have measures in place to prevent this.

Ms Netsai Bollmann, Programme Manager, KAZA Secretariat

Examples of work underway in KAZA to implement the LEAP strategy:

- A Wildlife Crimes database has been developed with member states nominating key personnel to have access to the database (hosted and managed by IUCN-TRAFFIC).
- development of a CAP for LEAP implementation
- Joint patrols in the TFCA leveraging bilateral agreements between countries, which provide a good framework.
- Developing a ranger station in Angola, as part of infrastructure development to combat wildlife crime.
- Moving away from talking only about wildlife crimes, but rather wildlife and forestry crimes.
- Increased representation of forestry departments in working groups to combat forestry crimes.
- Knowledge exchange visit with other TFCAs.

**On regional cross-sectoral governance:**

Even though TFCAs are intrinsically requiring cross-sectoral collaboration for functioning, conservation practitioners have only opened up as needed (see border security, law enforcement, etc). This, coupled with the silos operativity at the government level, has meant years have passed with various TF agencies operating in the same landscapes, but not cooperating.

The relation established between TFCAs and RBOs is the first step to redress this missed opportunity at the governance/decision-making level, It also opens up for the landscape approach in TFCAs to

become prominent, in order to protect the ecosystem goods and services required for humans and nature to survive and flourish: to be resilient.

The *slogan* is "finding new ways to work better together" considering:

- 1) The high reliance of the region on water for economic development, especially for intensive water extraction industries (mining & agriculture);
- 2) The poor reticulation for water service delivery and revenue collection to improve systems;
- 3) The heavy reliance on boreholes to provide water to remote communities, especially in dry/drought areas; and
- 4) The little knowledge we have on groundwater availability and recharge rates.

It was recommended that SADC FANR should facilitate a concept note to support a dedicated workshop with RBOs and TFCAs in 2024.

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#### POTENTIAL TFCAs: HOW TO MOVE THEM TOWARDS RECOGNITION

- The following points were made during the open discussion. SADC TFCAs have been reduced from 18 to 12 TFCAs, as per the new 10-year strategy after a review of the state of TFCAs.
- TFCAs have been reduced because they either included non-SADC members or there was no agreement in place.
- The task today is to look at how we can move proposed TFCAs from category C (agreement in place), to category B (MoU), and finally category A (treaty / binding agreement).
- How do we identify proposed TFCAs?
- What about the marine side of TFCAs? How do we identify potential marine TFCAs?
- Do we start with the de-listed TFCAs? Look at habitat, people, and species? Do we wait for people to approach the relevant departments?
- South Africa has had two communities approach them to develop two new TFCAs.
- SADC member states TFCa focal points in international relations and foreign affairs should be responsible for promotion and development of TFCAs, and should be included in the TFCa network. Bring in the diplomatic channels could unblock some of the issues.
- Some member states have functioning TFCAs and other TFCAs that exist only in name.
- Zimbabwe was under the assumption that the new process would only relate to newly proposed TFCAs, not existing category C TFCAs.
- Has there been a change to the protocols?
- Develop a roadmap to understand how to move forward.
- ZIMOZA is moving towards category C. Mozambique has already achieved support from the Attorney General.
- How were the TFCAs initially identified?
- Have the challenges of moving TFCAs from category C to B or A been identified to understand how this can be overcome?
- Should we not be focusing on better managing existing TFCAs before developing new TFCAs?
- Country level roadshows can be used to create awareness of TFCAs with key government stakeholders in country.

- The TFCA program had reached a point wherein a review and updating of the program was required.
- Only Namibia, Mauritius and Seychelles acknowledged receipt of communications from SADC. This highlights the need to involve international relations at SADC member states in TFCA development.
- The establishment of ZIMOZA is commendable.
- By developing new TFCAs we unlock new funding opportunities, but we need an MOU or a binding agreement to show the support of member states.
- International Relation should be taking ownership of the TFCAs to drive the awareness and support from member states.
- There is a need to bring in multiple government departments more regularly to establish the TFCAs and explore different avenues.
- Should we not have offered member states the opportunity to provide a letter of intent before removing category C TFCAs.
- De-listed TFCAs are a good starting point to develop new TFCAs, to see how quickly we can bring them on-board.
- Has there been formal communication to member states on why the TFCAs were de-listed and an opportunity provided for the to re-dress this?
- Look at using bio-diversity hotspots for the development of new TFCAs and make use of the tool developed for IUCN-OECMs.
- Member states to please advise SADC on the key potential TFCAs that we can look to develop.
- Communication between Member States is a challenge.
- We should involve multiple stakeholders in the identification of TFCAs - research organizations, etc.
- What are the limiting factors to the establishment of TFCAs?
- A participatory approach would create a foundation for political will.
- SADC is a facilitator, member states are required to own and drive the process.
- A letter of intent should come first to become a category C TFCAs, followed by and MoU to become a category B – this was agreed by member states when the SADC TFCA Programme 2023-2033 was reviewed.

## STREAM 2 IMPROVED WELL-BEING AND SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS – GOAL 2

### THE WILDLIFE ECONOMY - IMPROVING LIVELIHOODS FOR PEOPLE LIVING IN TFCAS.

Facilitator: Mr Kule Chitepo – Board Member, The African Safari Foundation

Panel members:

Ms Zvikomborero Tangawamira from PPF - Herding for Health  
 Maliasili - Improving Livelihoods in TFCAs –

Mr Farai Maviya from FAO SWM program - Sustainable Wildlife Management - Community Conservancy Approach

Mr José Monteiro from the Community Leaders Network - Response to SADC TFCA Guidelines for Community Engagement -

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#### HERDING 4 HEALTH (H4H)

Ms Tangawamira outlined the Four Pillars of H4H as follows:

1. Healthy rangelands and landscapes
2. Healthy animals
3. Thriving livelihoods
4. The development of policies that incentivise the adoption of sustainable, climate-smart and wildlife-friendly livestock management practices.

The benefits of rangeland restoration include enhanced biodiversity, habitat protection, climate adaptation, carbon sequestration, improved land tenure and governance, increased employment opportunities, and improved herd health.

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#### MALIASILI

The mission of Maliasili is to enhance community-based conservation through local organizations, identifying and supporting those with the potential to make significant impacts. So far, over \$15M has been raised and leveraged for their partners since 2018. They have created more than 20 strategies bringing new focus, clarity and direction. Eighty (80) African conservation leaders attended their leadership training.

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#### SUSTAINABLE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT - COMMUNITY CONSERVANCY APPROACH (FAO)

Mr Maviya presented the Sustainable Wildlife Management (SWM) implemented by a consortium partnership (FAO, CIFOR, CIRAD, WCS) and working in 15 African, Caribbean and Pacific countries, with EU funding.

Their overall aims are:

- To empower IPLCs (rights-holders) to claim and exercise their rights over the natural resources they depend on;
- To strengthen the capacity of public and private actors (duty-bearers) who have a particular obligation or responsibility to respect, protect and fulfil IPLCs rights;
- To ensure no-harm is created to any individuals or group the SWM engages with, instead to contribute to promote and fulfil their basic rights.

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#### RESPONSE TO SADC TFCA GUIDELINES FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT - COMMUNITY LEADERS NETWORK



Mr Monteiro began his presentation by stating that the main objective of the Community Leaders Network (CLN), which was recently established, is to support CBNRM initiatives, and ReGeCom is a member of this network. For decades, there has been much talking about community engagement but, in practice, community issues are still being put at the bottom end. The suggestion is that SADC TFCA need to be intentional about centering community issues. CLN is a CBNRM network in the region, which is constituted of a various entities. He mentioned that Mozambique had been lagging behind on CBNRM issues. The CLN supports CBNRM whilst elevating the voices of communities.

A specific commentary of the SADC TFCA community engagement tool was the objective of the presentation. The toolkit was developed in 2018 and it states all the principles or key elements of community engagement, which are:

- The co-existence of people and landscapes
- Equitable and inclusive
- Governance
- Subsidiarity
- Co-creation of knowledge and systems
- Complementarity
- Sustainable Use of Natural
- Resources
- Ensuring transparency
- Appropriate investment
- Intersectoral collaboration

The important thing about the tool is that it is clear on differentiating the various stages of TFCA development. All these elements are mentioned in the toolkit, explaining how to consult, how to do it and when. The CLN has been looking at the toolkit, comparing it with what has been going on in the region in terms of CBNRM and community engagement. The toolkit is clear about (1) how engagement needs to happen at the lowest level in the communities, (2) governance, (3) the importance of inclusive community aspirations. There is a critical need to recognise communities as equal partners, and ensure appropriate investment in community engagement through time and other tools.

### **Recommendations from CLN**

The CLN recommends creating guidelines on community identification, land use planning, definition of community development aspirations, metrics and impact monitoring, in collaboration with regional platforms and country-level platforms. This will help to develop national level CBNRM policies.

There have been many discussions about the issue of financing. The tool mentions that if we do not invest in community engagement, we will fail. What does investment look like in community engagement? The CLN suggests that investment ensures the following: land rights, community governance, tools that support that governance, capacity, and the economy. Investing in these elements promotes human rights, livelihoods and gender inclusion. The good thing about this kind of financing is that if we find the right metric, we can measure all these elements to see whether the investments are meeting the intended objectives.

## SUMMARY OF SESSION

The session included various projects aimed at improving the livelihoods of people living in TFCAs. All projects are themed around partnering with communities as land-rights holders, strengthening the capacity of private and public actors, adopting a human rights centred approach, and promoting youth and gender inclusion.

Further comments were:

- How to access this available funding while TFCAs raised funding concerns.
- Community benefits from Wildlife Economy need to be defined, understood and unlocked at a higher (SADC) level.
- Livelihood issues need to become front and centre, and not just politically correct rhetoric.

## HUMAN WILDLIFE CONFLICT AND CO-EXISTENCE: LESSONS LEARNT AND BEST PRACTICES FROM THE REGION

Facilitator: Mr Leo Niskanen, IUCN

- HWC Global Best practices – IUCN
- Drivers of HWC in the GLTFCA and our Safe Systems approach to address HWC – Ms Natalia Banasiak- **USAID**/WWF Khetha.
- Introduction to HWCCSG and the IUCN Guidelines on Human-Wildlife Conflict and Coexistence – Ms Alexandra Zimmerman,

The objectives of the session were to provide a comprehensive overview of human-wildlife conflict (HWC) issues, highlight global best practices, and suggest priority actions, as well as a roadmap for addressing this challenge.

## HWC SITUATION AND CONTEXT

HWC is widespread and involves various species in the different ecosystems, including elephants, hippos, crocodiles, fruit bats, and sharks, alongside other carnivore, herbivore and omnivore species. It has both direct and indirect effects successful conservation practices.

<i>Direct effects</i>	<i>Indirect effects</i>
Animals like elephants, hippo, crocodiles, and leopards cause death and injury to people, and livestock. They also damage crops and infrastructure. The result is the killing and wounding of wildlife, through retaliatory killing (poisoning and poaching), and requires Problem Animal Control measures.	Socio-economic costs to communities, which includes absence from work and school. These in turn result into increased poverty, food insecurity, reluctance by affected communities to conserve wildlife, politicization of HWC, and increased management costs.

## Lessons Learned and conclusions

HWC is not a new problem, but it is seemingly getting worse, despite many efforts at mitigation over the decades. Mitigation for Human-Wildlife Conflict (HWC) requires a comprehensive approach, including clear policies, strong local participation, and integration with other wildlife and land management activities. One intervention alone will not solve HWC long-term: a coordinated and integrated approach is needed at all levels.

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USAID/WWF KHETHA – MS NATALIA BANASIAK

The WWF Khetha programme aims at halting the impacts of wildlife trafficking on key populations of flagship species (elephants and rhinos) and communities, living around protected areas in the South African and Mozambican landscape of the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Conservation Area (GLTFCA). The goal is to contribute to positive growth rates in black and white rhino populations, and maintain positive growth rates for elephants in the focal area by September 2024. The Khetha Safe Systems approach has been piloted and implemented in various areas, in South Africa and Mozambique, through engagement with local organisations.

The approach of the Khetha Programme is to enhance human-wildlife relationships, foster partnerships, enhance law enforcement to prevent wildlife crimes, and enhance the collective response to wildlife trafficking through learning, collaboration, and coordination through the Safe Systems Approach.

The Safe Systems Approach piloted in the focal has four guiding principles:

- To acknowledge wildlife conflict and emphasize community tolerance
- To foster responsibility for system safety
- To promote alignment with development plans
- To guide interventions to meet minimum standards of safety and long-term goals.

This Approach develops over four milestone activities:

1. Compilation of HWC information: Capture conflict trends and baselines (hotspots, impact, attitudes etc.)
2. Conduction of Rapid Assessment: Capture SAFE Baseline
3. Development of the localised SAFE Strategy (or funding proposal)
4. Implementation and monitoring

In her presentation, Ms Zimmerman outlined the resources and best practice guidance that is available on this topic through the IUCN Specialist Group. HWC is very topical for all Member States. The specialist group was formed 8 years ago to answer the question:

*What is really needed to help with HWC, and what do we need to do to start thinking about it differently, and to find solutions?*

The role of the specialist group is to be an impartial think tank, to gather and share information, foster collaboration and interdisciplinary work, build capacity and develop technical guidance.

One of the resources available is the IUCN library on HWC which is available online: [www.hwctf.org](http://www.hwctf.org). This is the most comprehensive platform for documents, publications, articles, policies etc on the topic, and it is used in 195 countries. One of the first documents produced in the specialist group was a position paper in which it was emphasized that there needs to be a more holistic approach to HWC management. That is, there needs to be consideration for social, economic, cultural and other factors that shape and fuel these conflicts. For example, while there is conflict between biodiversity and people, there is also conflict between groups of people. This conflict is often about what to do. In collaboration with UNFAO, the SG has produced a resource that shows where HWC has been managed reasonably well and why: [www.hwctf.org/case-studies](http://www.hwctf.org/case-studies). The group held the first ever HWC global summit in early 2023, in Oxford (UK). Resources from this conference are available on: [hwctf.org/guidelines](http://hwctf.org/guidelines). These guidelines are aimed at deconstructing the complexity, providing guiding principles, and explain the processes step-by-step. Ms Zimmerman drew attention to two sections of the document titled 'Principles' and 'Good practices checklist'. The next step is developing training that is relevant and tailored to each country, and local situations. There are a number of focal points in the region that have joined the specialist group, and they look forward to collaborating with more countries.

- Lessons Learnt HWC issues need to be addressed in an integrated and holistic manner.
- Incorporate actions at local, national, and transfrontier levels to address both the symptoms and the root causes.
- Collaborative, sustained efforts across many different sectors, with local communities at the centre of decision-making, and clear agreement on roles and responsibilities among stakeholders
- The network should establish a working group on HWC linked to the IUCN SSC Human Wildlife Conflict Specialist Group to share lessons learned, and best practices across the region.
- The role of media in shaping - either negatively or positively - public perceptions about HWC should not be discounted.
- Recommendation: the network should engage with media in the region to foster balanced, sensitive and factual reporting, so as to enhance understanding of HWC and its complexities.

## SESSION 8

### UPDATE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SADC TOURISM PROGRAMME 2020-2030: BOUNDLESS SOUTHERN AFRICA

The Boundless Southern Africa (BSA) presentation constituted three parts which were presented by:

Mr Moreri Mabote – SADC Secretariat, Senior Programme Officer: Tourism

Mr Salifou Siddo - SADC/GiZ C-NRM Tourism Component

Mr Nick Tucker – SADC/GiZ C-NRM Tourism Component

#### Introduction and Update from SADC Secretariat

The first part of the presentation, by Mr Moreri Mabote, was an overview of its objectives and the BSA activities, including an update on the integration of BSA into SADC Tourism Coordinating Unit , and an update on the recruitment of Programme Officers.

The Joint Meeting of Ministers responsible for ENR&T approved the feasibility study for the BSA Programme, and the position of Programme Officer - Boundless Southern Africa is set to be filled in FY 2023/4. The next part of the presentation was delivered by Mr Salifou Siddo.

#### UPDATE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SADC TOURISM PROGRAMME 2020-2030

Mr Siddo began by reviewing the 5 goals of the SADC Tourism Strategy. The key updates detailed below are aligned with these and the Implementation of SADC Tourism Programme 2020-2030:

<b>SADC Tourism Working Groups</b>	The SADC Tourism Programme 2020-2030 proposed the establishment of inclusive 3 TWGs to oversee the implementation of the 5 Core Goals for three tourism working groups: SADC TFCA TWG, SADC Tourism Access and Experience WG, and SADC Tourism Reputation, Policy Harmonization & Partnership WG. Consultative workshops were held in 2022 and 2023 to agree on the ToRs, the Code Conduct and the Governance Framework for each TWG. An elective meeting was scheduled for October 2023 to select interim committees. A workshop in Johannesburg in early 2024 will induct members and develop a workplan for the oversight of activities.
<b>SADC Univisa Pilot Programme</b>	The SADC UNIVISA project aims at strengthening regional integration and developing the tourism economy. Piloted by Angola, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, and Zimbabwe, an assessment of visa systems was conducted with GIZ support. Proposals, including the SADC Univisa ICT Module, the SADC Univisa Draft Legal Framework, and the SADC Univisa Revenue Sharing Model were approved by the SADC Ministerial

	Committee Organ in July 2023. GIZ:C-NRM will be working with the SADC Organ to support the implementation of the approved proposals. The Univisa is now moving into implementation phase. It will be piloted for two years, after which it will be rolled out to the rest of the SADC region.
<b>Auditing and Improving Tourism Friendliness of SADC Borders Posts</b>	The aim of project is to conduct an audit of two border posts, and formulate a best practice guideline and improvement plan for tourist-friendly border post facilities, processes and services for the SADC region. Kazungula OSBP (Botswana/Zambia) and BeitBridge Border Post (SA/Zim) have been identified as suitable candidates for the audit. An improvement plan will be piloted at two border posts and, if successful, the plan will be rolled out to other border posts in collaboration with the relevant Member States.
<b>Tourism Disaster Risk Management and Communications Framework</b>	Consultancy completed, validation workshop held, strategy submitted for SADC approval. The SADC BC Tourism Alliance will drive an awareness campaign and Train the Trainer activities for domestic implementation.
<b>Air Access Study</b>	The SADC Tourism Programme 2020-2030 aims at conducting a benchmark study on successful air access policies and infrastructure, comparing regional practices with COMESA research. The study is expected to lead to a harmonized regional aviation and airlift policy. The completion date is yet to be determined.
<b>SADC Business Council Tourism Alliance</b>	In 2022, the SADC Business Council was given the mandate to establish the SADC Tourism Platform, with representatives from 11 Member States Tourism Apex Associations meeting in Johannesburg in November 2022 to agree on its constitution and mandate. An interim board was elected, and a GIZ grant agreement was established to support the platform's implementation. A Project Manager is now in place and the platform has been renamed the SADC BC Tourism Alliance. Mr Siddo called on Ms Natalia Rosa to give details on the new SADC Alliance and their activities.

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## UPDATE ON TFCA TOURISM MARKET DEVELOPMENT

Mr Tucker began the presentation by giving an overview of the role of tourism in the TFCAs and the role of BSA.

The BSA activities covered include updated destination brochures, GLTFCA Signage Guidelines, Transboundary Tourism Strategic Framework, and GMTFCA Logo and Brand Guidelines. Additionally, BSA represented TFCAs at international trade exhibitions, conducted press trips to create awareness of TFCAs, organized Tour Operator Familiarization trips, developed a media library, social media marketing campaigns, cross-border events support, and developed itineraries for travel trade and self-drive tourists.

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## OVERVIEW OF TFCA TOURISM MARKET DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

Mr Turner gave an overview of the Tourism Marketing Development Strategy, which aims at serving as an integrated Tourism Market Development Strategy for the TFCAs, as envisaged by Goal 3 of the SADC Tourism Programme 2020-2030. The strategy reviews the tourism development frameworks in seven TFCAs, focusing on Boundless Southern Africa's progress. It also proposes future market development directions, including global travel trends, growth objectives, source market segmentation strategy, core development goals, and implementation strategies. It also outlines specific roles and responsibilities. The SADC Secretariat, through the BSA unit in the FANR Directorate, is responsible for marketing TFCAs, while individual TFCA management structures and Tourism Working Groups ensure market development. The implementation action plan outlines goals, strategies, actions, priorities, timeframes, parties, and measurable success indicators.

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## OVERVIEW OF CROSS-BORDER TOURISM PRODUCTS IN SADC TFCAS

A key tourism marketing strategy of BSA is to develop and facilitate cross-border events in the region. Before COVID-19, there were 11 cross-border events that were at various stages of development. BSA hopes to see and facilitate the return of these and more. The following are some of the cross-border tourism products in SADC TFCAs:

- Desert Knights and The Namibia Crossing are planned to return in 2024
- Nedbank Tour De Tuli – Discontinued
- Desert Kayak Trails - Operational
- Mhlumeni-Goba Transboundary trail – Operational.

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## TFCA TOURISM INVESTMENT PROMOTION AND OPPORTUNITY

BSA brings together conservation and tourism communities across international borders and encourages collaborative effort in sustainable tourism development.

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## DISCUSSION

- Mr Zunckel: Tourism is one of many goods and services that can be delivered and produced. Building on the call for funding from everyone, I would like to see more presentations like the one Ms Stevens gave: focusing on other income generating opportunities. This way, our TFCAs can thrive and we will see less of the calls for funding that come up constantly. To what extent have the policies and strategies taken sustainability issues to account in terms of tourism destinations. For instance, the possibility of certifying destinations even in terms of their sustainability effort: I would like to see the tourism sector bring that to the fore.

*Response:* The SADC TFCA Tourism Programme has been implemented in stages. The next phase is going to deal with sustainability issues, that is, the tourism sustainability policy framework within the SADC region. Stakeholders will be involved in framing the strategy and in suggesting ways in which it can be implemented.

- Ms Bollmann made three points:
  - One of our borders in KAZA has some of its strengths and challenges featured as one of the two borders to be audited. It would be interesting to understand what the process was in terms of how the two borders were selected and, in particular, the Kazangula border in KAZA.
  - We have been engaged extensively by SADC throughout the process of establishing the TWGs, but it is not entirely clear to us what the role is when TFCAs have their individual structures, and in our (KAZA) case, a Secretariat, what is our role as a coordinating entity.
  - Lastly, on the marketing, we have several tourism interventions that are underway in KAZA. The countries are committed to collectively work together on tourism marketing and development. We look forward to engaging the BSA team on all these planned activities to amplify our marketing efforts in the KAZA region.

*Response from Mr Siddo:* There were specific criteria and guidelines that were used to select the border posts that are part of the audit process. The criteria were that it should be a high tourism traffic border post, it should include member states that are willing to take part in the process, and a single member state could not have two of their border posts audited. Kazangula, for instance, includes Botswana and Zambia, and Beitbridge includes Zimbabwe and South Africa. So the Kazangula border post between Botswana and Zimbabwe could not be audited because the process would be duplicated. The information is there and will be provided with perspective added.

On the TWG: When the criteria were finalised and shared with the relevant stakeholders, and the nomination forms were sent out to MS and TFCAs, it was indicated that they should nominate three types of representatives representing the public sector, private sector and the community-based tourism sector. The mandate of each of the WGs is to implement the relevant goal of the SADC Tourism Strategy, which, in the case of the TFCAs, is Goal 3: working with other stakeholders. TFCAs that have TWGs should consider nominating representatives from those structures. Where they do not exist, we suggested that nominations should come from JMB or similar



structures. This is an open invitation to all who are involved in tourism development in the SADC region: please look at these TWGs because they are going to be the engines driving the implementation of the SADC Tourism Programme. They are formally part of the SADC Secretariat, so they have some decision-making suggestion.

Mr Mabote: The responsibility to shape the vision of these TFCAs lies with the members themselves. I am inviting KAZA and other TFCAs to ensure that through their structures, they can shape the vision moving forward.

- Mr Abdullah Asimalowo: I see that during the risk listing for the tourism efforts, pandemic and transportation seem to be receiving the highest cost, and it is only one service centre, if I got it right. And as we all know, the way Africa is viewed outside the continent is different. You may want to have a communication response mechanism that is timely to respond to things that may come up in the age of alternative and false information. In the age of unpredictable weather, that may also be a risk and vulnerability you may want to look into, to update those coming from outside the continent that the weather is conducive to tourism

Response: The Strategy is comprehensive, so it includes all those elements: weather, conflict and so on.

- Dr Bocchino: With increasing tourism, there is also more impact on wildlife. How is this being taken into consideration in this tourism development activities?

Response: There is always a delicate balance between tourism and conservation. It is not black and white. What we need to do is reward those product owners and tourism activities that are doing tourism responsibly. There are great examples of these in the southern African region. The fact is that we do need tourism, and it is one mechanism to fund conservation efforts. We do need tourism, but we need the right type of tourists. High value, low volume tourism is what we should be investing in, in the region. As the private sector, working with governments, we need to reward that, and ensure that high volume tourism and low value tourism does not infiltrate the region.

Ms Bollmann: To share an example that answers that question. In the KAZA context, we are proud of this undertaking. Around marketing and tourism development in KAZA and the countries are committed to an integrated approach to the sustainable use of shared resources around which tourism thrives in KAZA. A great example of that is the SOP that is being finalised between Botswana and Namibia for the use of the Chobe river by tourism operators and by local people, in order to mitigate the negative impacts on that ecosystem through agreed-upon codes of conduct. This is an excellent example of something that took a while to get there, involving extensive consultations with local communities living in and around the area, as well as the private sector.

Mr Zunckel: I would like to highlight and caution on the need to look at the consumptive tourism sector, as well as the non-consumptive tourism sector. Verbal pressures are certainly impacting on the hunting sector and opportunities that are

related to hunting as a tourism activity. It can generate huge returns for very little impact and can also be used as a management tool to reduce the impact of HWC for example. We must not lose sight of that dynamic and do as much as we can to promote hunting as a sustainable opportunity.

*Online comments:*

- A very interesting presentation. I would encourage the Univisa for all TFCAs, like the Wildcard for National Park clusters in South Africa. It would make it easier for foreign tourists/travellers to stay longer and visit more than one TFCA.
- Dr Anna Spenceley: On environmental impacts, the balance can also include a combination of high-value and more mainstream (budget) tourism - and this is important to ensure accessibility to ecotourism as an ecosystem service (for health and wellbeing) of people. Lots of tools are available, including EIA, SEA for planners in combination with protected area management plans. Tools such as the Visitor Use Management Framework help to identify desired conditions for areas and then implement management strategies to ensure these are not undermined.

## EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY UPDATE

The Network Coordinator invited Mr Bonaventure Ndikumana to give an update on the East African Community. In his update, Mr Ndikumana spoke of the activities they have carried out, where they are currently at, and what the EAC intends to do. The EAC is composed of 7 countries: Burundi, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, Kenya, South Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

The EAC Treaty of Establishment emphasizes sustainable management of natural resources in transboundary areas. Under Article 114, Partner States commit to cooperation and efficient utilization of resources. While under Article 116, they undertake to develop policies for wildlife conservation and utilization.

The East African Community is a diverse ecosystem with diverse species of fauna and flora, including mega fauna like elephants, rhinoceros, and lions. It features transboundary ecosystems, protected areas, and scenic landscapes. The region's biodiversity is a sanctuary, requiring collaborative conservation efforts. This endowment received a huge boost with the joining of the Community by the Democratic Republic of Rwanda. However, the region faces threats from poaching, illegal wildlife trafficking, and habitat loss due to human population pressure and weak governance frameworks.

The EAC has made significant regional efforts to conserve and sustainably manage natural resources, including the development of key protocols, a forestry policy, a strategy to combat poaching and illegal wildlife trade, ongoing wildlife conservation policies, and an ecosystem profile assessment study.

The EAC Secretariat and Partner States in collaboration with Development and Conservation Partners have been developing regional instruments, emphasizing transnational challenges in natural resource

management. The EAC emphasizes the need for partner states to work together and involve local communities, news, and media in regional activities.

In 2020/2021, the EAC learned from the SADC experience on Transfrontier Conservation Areas Network through webinar series supported by CMS in collaboration with IUCN and other ICPs,. This led to a concept note for Transboundary Wildlife Conservation Areas Network for EAC, adopted by Sectoral Council on Tourism and Wildlife Management. The EAC also participated at the African Protected Areas Congress in Kigali in July 2022 and directly engaged with SADC.

The Technical Working Group on Transboundary Wildlife Conservation Areas, with IUCN and WWF support, visited the Ruvuma landscape in the SADC Niassa-Selous TFCA, engaging with government officials and communities.

In closing, Mr Ndikumana thanked SADC and CMS for the invitation to this meeting, that gives the EAC more lessons on TFCAs. Establishment of a similar initiative in EAC is a priority and is well captured in the policy and strategy instruments that are under development. The EAC looks forward to more lessons and possibly a visit by the entire TWG to some of the established SADC TFCAs for practical experiences.

#### HUMAN CAPITAL AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TO SUPPORT TFCAS - GOAL 5

This session covered discussions on training institutions working together to support the SADC TFCA programme. The session commenced with a presentation by Ms Miriam Umarji of the African Leadership University, School of Wildlife Conservation. In the first part of her presentation, Ms Umarji covered the various lessons being drawn from the higher education market regarding the current approach to delivering biodiversity and other related courses of various durations (short courses etc), modes of delivery (in-person or online), the level of qualification of providers and course content. She then gave an overview of the School of Wildlife Conservation at the African Leadership University and their conservation related course offerings, which include: an undergraduate programme, an MBA for Conservation Leaders, as well as Professional Development courses and experiences to upskill or provide new skills in various areas, that are critical to the business of conservation. They also offer cross-sectoral learning, research, and convene a wide array of stakeholders annually to promote best practices, strengthen networks, and collectively tackle the challenges of conservation. She outlined the work they do in capacity development, and what can be done collaboratively with the SADC TFCAs Network in addressing Goal 5 of the Revised TFCA Programme.

#### MONITORING, EVALUATION AND KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT – GOAL 5

This panel was facilitated by Mr Cornelio Miguel, SADC TFCA focal point for Mozambique and included two panel members who respectively presented on assigned topics.

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## TFCA AND M&E FRAMEWORK

Mr Rabson Dhlodhlo

In 2016, the SADC Secretariat established a web-based regional results-based monitoring and evaluation system for monitoring and reporting on SADC Protocols and RISDP objectives. The SADC TFCA M&E framework will be integrated into this system, with training provided to Member States representatives. The TFCA Steering Committee aimed at addressing the revised SADC TFCA Programme goals through a review of the M&E tool. The M&E tool will monitor progress in implementing the new strategies' goals monitor key actions in the Programme's Costed Action Plan, and ensure efficient management of Category A TFCAs, as well as progression from Category B to A and C to B.

GIZ, in support of the SADC Secretariat, is working on the appointment of a consultant to develop an M&E Tool in line with the revised programme. The consultant will be tasked with creating a results-based M&E tool aligned with the SADC M&E system.

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## THE ROLE OF CCARDESA

Ms Bridgit Kakuwa

CCARDESA was established in 2010, by SADC Member states, to coordinate agriculture research and development. The role of CCARDESA involves implementing regional agricultural R&D programmes, fostering collaboration among National Agricultural Researchers and the CGIAR, enhancing technology generation, dissemination, and adoption through collective efforts and public-private partnerships.

Thematic areas include agricultural productivity, resilience to emerging agricultural risks, commercialization, women, youth, social inclusion, knowledge management, policy support, and capacity strengthening of CCARDESA and Agricultural research for development institutions.

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## THE ROLE OF THE REGIONAL RESOURCE HUB

Mr Eric Wabwile

The Regional Resource Hub (RRH) is a knowledge hub for the Eastern and Southern Africa regions that supports better decision making for fair and effective management and governance of protected and conserved areas. The Hub compiles and analyses relevant data, and provides information to support field interventions, policy dialogue and decision-making processes at local, national and regional levels. The RRH has covered 24 countries, spanning 4 regional economic communities and trained 100 people.

BIOPAMA is the IUCN's Biodiversity and protected area management program and they have established the Regional Resource Hub and OFESA (Forest Observatory for East and Southern Africa) will be merged to form the Regional Centre of Excellence for Biodiversity and Forestry in the ESA regions. The services, provided by the two projects, will continue at least for the next four years.

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## TFCA NETWORK COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM ASSESSMENT AND IMPROVEMENT

The TFCA Network Coordinator, Mr Steve Collins, took us through the planned revisitation of the TFCA Network Communications system. The system comprises an active Whatsapp group, counting around 360 members, the TFCA intranet portal, which has around 500 members, and over 2000 people have signed up for the TFCA newsletter.

## CLOSURE OF 2023 MEETING

The SADC TFCA Network Coordinator made some closing remarks, thanking the partners, delegates and all members of the team, who contributed to the running of the 2023 SADC TFCA Network meeting. He then called upon the SADC Chair, Ms Janota, to officially close the meeting. In her closing remarks, the SADC Chair thanked Mozambique for hosting the meeting and for the good hospitality. She further thanked the Members of the SADC TFCA Network for the productive meeting and the funders of the event. The Chair thanked all speakers, facilitators of the streams, the SADC TFCA Network Coordinator, GIZ Team, interpreters, and the SADC Secretariat for standing up for the community.



## ADDENDUM A

### List of 2023 Network Meeting Participants

Name	Designation / Organisation
<b>In-person participants</b>	
1. Domingos Gove	Director FANR SADC
2. Ndapanda Kanime	SPO NRM & Wildlife SADC
3. Moreri Mabote	SPO Tourism/BSA SADC
4. Nunes Mazivile	TFCA Advisor SADC
5. Bonaventure Ndikumana	EAC Transboundary Wildlife WG
6. Joyce Maria Fernandes Janota	TFCA Coordinator Angola
7. Michael Moalodi	TFCA Coordinator Botswana
8. Keotshepile Mphusu	Tourism Development Manager Botswana
9. Thulani Methula	Director of National Parks
10. James Tsilane	MDTP: Senior Range Management Officer - Lesotho
11. Fara Mihanta Andriambelo	TFCA Focal Point Madagascar
12. Matthews Mumba	TFCA Focal Point Malawi
13. Shameelah Mamode	TFCA Focal Point Mauritius
14. Cornelio Miguel	TFCA Coordinator Mozambique
15. Monika Shikongo	TFCA Coordinator Namibia
16. Josephine Naambo lipinge	Etosha National Park Namibia
17. Lya Docteur	TFCA Focal Point Seychelles
18. Aruna Seepersadh	TFCA Focal Point South Africa
19. Africo Matogoto	TFCA Focal Point Tanzania
20. Zacharia Wambura	Ministry of Natural Resources: Tanzania
21. Sydney Tembo	TFCA Focal Point Zambia
22. Nothando Moyo	TFCA Focal Point Zimbabwe
23. Sekayi Matanga	Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management Authority
24. Netsai Bollmann	Programme Manager: KAZA TFCA
25. Gwinyai Muti	International Coordinator: GLTFCA
26. Joyce Loza	Maloti-Drakensberg TFCA
27. Tracy Molefi	OKACOM
28. Michael Ramaano	ORESCOM
29. Lenka Thamae	ZAMCOM
30. Leonissah Munjoma	ZAMCOM
31. Majohn Hambira	ZAMCOM
32. Filipe Corte-Real	EU Botswana
33. Clément Boutillier	EU Botswana
34. Marcel Grella	BMZ
35. Suzanne Youtchi	USAID - Embassy Gaborone

36. Chistine Gandomi	USAID - Southern Africa Environment
37. Moffat Ngungi	USAID
38. Abdullahi Asimalowo	USAID - Southern Africa Environment
39. Farai Mahviya	UN FAO SWM program
40. Clara Nobbe	UNEP CMS
41. Lionel Macicame	Parque Nacional de Chimanimani
42. Duarte Mussa	Parque Nacional das Quirimbas
43. Terêncio Tamele	Tanzania Parks
44. Seth Mihayo	APA Maputo
45. Luís Buchir	APA - Maputo
46. Tembe Augento	ANAC
47. Kono Nhantumbo	ANAC
48. Steinbruch Franziska	ANAC - STUS
49. Kule Chitepo	ASF
50. Da Conceicao Ana Gledis	ANAC - SPCE
51. Bridget Kakuwa	CCARDESA
52. Diana Earnshaw	CCARDESA
53. Rafal Bate	CTV
54. Zimba Horacio	Latitude
55. Nhagambe Herungilelo	Latitude
56. Stuart Slabbert	ConserveGlobal
57. Lisa Zannerini	COSPE
58. Piet Theron	Conservation South Africa
59. Hugo vd Westhuizen	FZS
60. Edwin Mudongo	GIZ IKI
61. Joanna Fatch	GIZ Technical Lead Advisor
62. Rabson Dhlodhlo	GIZ NRM / LEAP Advisor
63. Cara Nemelka	GIZ Mozambique
64. John Ofentse	GIZ C-NRM: Logistics Officer
65. Steve Collins	SADC TFCA Network Coordinator
66. Rorly Sherwen	Jnr. Regional Tourism Expert. GIZ C-NRM: Team support
67. Nicholas Tucker	GIZ: Snr. Regional Tourism Expert
68. Salifou Siddo	GIZ Team Leader / Snr. Regional Tourism Expert
69. Martha Leshego	GIZ C-NRM: Admin & Logistics Assistant
70. Natalia Rosa	SADC Business Council
71. Patricio Ndadzela	IFAW
72. Leo Niskanen	IUCN
73. Yvonne Khaemba	IUCN
74. Kuda Chigodo	Team Leader: IUCN - TFCA FF
75. Evelyn Chivero	IUCN - TFCA FF
76. Kambili Chilufya	IUCN - TFCA FF



77. Christine Mentzel	IUCN BIOPAMA
78. David Ucama	IUCN ESARO
79. Joana Trindade	Maliasili
80. Raul Chambote	Maliasili
81. Madyo Couto	MOZBIO
82. Catarina Chidiamassamba	MOZBIO
83. Raguél Da Costa	MOZBIO
84. Britta Hackenberg	Namibia Nature Foundation
85. Kristi Maciejewski	Panthera
86. Bartolomeu Soto	PPF
87. Kate Olhoff	PPF
88. Bhekimpilo Moyo	Rangeland Regeneration
89. Erick Wabwile	RCMRD - RRH
90. Ebiuth Marquile	UEM
91. Nelio Miguel	UEM
92. Armando Macamo	VSS
93. Frank Angentime Benhame	VSS
94. Andre Wagner	WWF Khetha
95. Thabiso Mokoena	WWF Khetha
96. Aubrey Maluleke	Makuleke Contract Park
97. Kevan Zunckel	Consultant
98. Tribute Mboweni	Consultant/ Rapporteur
99. Jose Monteiro	ReGeCom
<b>ONLINE REGISTERED PARTICIPANTS</b>	<b>Not all participated all the time.</b>
1. Natalia Banasiak	WWF SA
2. Paul Bewsher	Ecotourism Afrika
3. Nina Bhola	UNEP-WCMC - Deputy Head: Digital Transformation
4. Lisa Blanken	GIZ. PM:C-NRM
5. Clara Bocchino	AFCI: Meeting Organisation Team
6. Lucia Cambula	WWF Mozambique: Wildlife Officer
7. Mariano Castro	CBD
8. Ntokozo Cele	KZNWildlife: District Conservation Manager
9. Nyangi Chacha	
10. Jeremiah Chakuya	Zimparks: Principal Ecologist
11. Jafer Chauke	DFFE
12. Samson Chibaya	Zimparks: Cluster Manager Hwange
13. Obert Chifamba	ZimPapers
14. Emma Chitsove	
15. Simon Chiutsi	NUST, Hospitality & Tourism: Snr Lecturer
16. Tsvakai Chiwunya	Zimparks: Business Development Manager

17. Alexis Chrisafis	Space for Giants. Conservation Investment & MZ Country Director
18. Everson Dahwa	Great Zimbabwe University. Lecturer: Wildilfe & Livestock Ecology
19. Frances Davis	UNEP-WCMC: SPO
20. Joseph Dube	Zimparks. Area Manager: Mana Pools
21. Tembie Dube	ZAMCOM
22. Holly Dublin	Independent: Consultant
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