

## Objectives and Expected Outcomes

- Take stock of status of protected area governance in southern Africa
- Share lessons learned and best practices from the region (and beyond)
- Identify opportunities and challenges for strengthening protected area governance for livelihood security and biodiversity conservation
- Develop recommendations for priority action incorporated into a Statement to the 6th World Parks Congress, which takes place in Sydney, Australia from the 12th to the 19th of November 2014

*The High Level Dialogue on Protected Area Governance for Livelihood Security and Biodiversity is generously supported by:*



### About Arcus Foundation

The Arcus Foundation is a leading global foundation advancing pressing social justice and conservation issues. Specifically, Arcus works to advance LGBT equality, as well as to conserve and protect the great apes.

[www.arcusfoundation.org](http://www.arcusfoundation.org)

### About BIOPAMA

The Biodiversity and Protected Area Management (BIOPAMA) programme aims to address threats to biodiversity in African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries, while reducing poverty in communities in and around protected areas. **It is financially supported by resources from the** intra-ACP envelope of the European Commission's (EC) **10th European Development Fund (EDF)** and it is jointly implemented by IUCN, the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission and the Multi-Donor ABS Capacity Development Initiative managed by GIZ GmbH.

[www.biopama.org](http://www.biopama.org)



For more information, please contact:

Leo Niskanen,  
Technical Coordinator,  
Conservation Areas and Species  
Diversity Programme

IUCN Eastern and Southern Africa  
Regional Office  
Wasaa Conservation Centre,  
Mukoma Road (off Magadi Road)  
P. O Box 68200, 00200  
Nairobi, Kenya

Tel: +254-738 420 766;  
+254 20 2493561/65;  
+254 73 4768770;  
+254 72 4256804

email: [Leo.Niskanen@iucn.org](mailto:Leo.Niskanen@iucn.org)

[www.iucn.org/esaro](http://www.iucn.org/esaro)



## Improving Protected Area Governance for Livelihood Security and Biodiversity in Southern Africa

A High Level Dialogue

May 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> 2014, Windhoek, Namibia



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CONSERVATION AREAS AND SPECIES DIVERSITY PROGRAMME

*The Dialogue will be co-convened by IUCN and the Ministry of Environment and Tourism of the Republic of Namibia*



# Challenges

Equitable and effective protected area governance is globally accepted as a pre-condition for successful biodiversity conservation. In Southern Africa, there has been a significant paradigm shift in recent decades towards more inclusive and local participatory models of natural resource governance. This has resulted in mutually beneficial outcomes for local livelihoods and biodiversity. However, significant gaps and challenges still remain, especially with respect to **indigenous and local community participation and the equitable sharing of costs and benefits from protected areas and biodiversity**. If not addressed, these challenges are likely to become more pronounced in the future and could result in increased conflicts, including sustained high levels of poaching, which ultimately threaten the sustainability of protected area systems and nature-based livelihoods throughout the region.

# Interventions

In light of these challenges, IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature), working in close collaboration with the SADC Secretariat, is organizing **A High Level Dialogue on Protected Area Governance for Livelihood Security and Biodiversity in southern Africa to share experiences with participation from high-level policy and decision makers and donor agencies**. These efforts are closely aligned with the implementation of the recently ratified SADC Biodiversity Action Plan, which emphasizes the role that good governance of natural resources plays in economic development and biodiversity conservation in the region.

The Dialogue will be co-convened by IUCN and the Namibia Ministry of Environment and Tourism

Key themes to be explored at the dialogue:

- Does better protected area governance result in improved protected area management effectiveness?
- How can the diversification of protected area governance models and improvements in governance quality be best combined to achieve effective management for better biodiversity conservation outcomes?
- Protected area governance for poverty alleviation – myth or reality? Opportunities and challenges for improving livelihood security through better protected area governance – lessons learned from benefit-sharing
- Communities and TFCAs – taking stock of local community involvement and benefit sharing in establishment and management of Trans-frontier Conservation Areas. Directions for the way forward
- Do the policy and regulatory frameworks in SADC region provide an enabling environment for quality governance of protected areas and biodiversity?
- Protected areas and conflicts – defusing human-wildlife, resource and land use conflicts through improved protected area governance?
- Addressing the knowledge, capacity and institutional requirements for effective involvement of local and indigenous communities in protected area management. Key priorities for action

# Themes