International workshop on defining transboundary conservation principles
Thayatal National Park, 16 October 2013
Maja Vasilijević
IUCN WCPA
IUCN’s Assets

Members

• 1,200 Members worldwide from 160 countries
• States, Government agencies, NGOs
• Over 60 regional and national committees

Commissions

• Nearly 11,000 voluntary experts in 6 thematic groups:

Secretariat

• Founded in 1948
• Over 1,000 full time staff worldwide
• HQ in Switzerland
• 45 offices
• Observer at the UN General Assembly
IUCN Commissions

**WCPA**  World Commission on Protected Areas

**SSC**  Species Survival Commission

**CEC**  Commission on Education and Communication

**CEM**  Commission on Ecosystem Management

**CEL**  Commission on Environmental Law

**CEESP**  Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy
World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA)
Established in 1997
More than 200 members (WCPA & non-WCPA members)

OBJECTIVES
1. Support CBD parties in delivering the goals and targets of the CBD PoWPA
2. Support TBC initiatives through improved knowledge management, networking and capacity building
Biannual newsletter

www.tbpa.net
Global Transboundary Conservation Learning Network at www.tbpa.net
IUCN guidelines
Diagnostic tool for TBC planners

(IUCN-WCPA TBC SG, 2012)

Assesses:

• the **need** for TBC
• **readiness** of stakeholders to initiate TBC
• **opportunities** that could speed up the process and/or be generated by TBC
• **risks** that could slow the process
Self-assessment & automated reporting

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>'S' QUESTIONS: Stakeholders</th>
<th>OPPORTUNITY ('S3')</th>
<th>Instructions and results</th>
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List the ‘S3’ questions evaluated with 5 points: _______

‘Opportunity’ statements

There are a number of opportunities, namely:

_______

(list the ‘S3’ question areas evaluated with 5 points)

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<th>RISK ('S4')</th>
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List the ‘S4’ questions evaluated with 1 point: _______

‘Risk’ statements

There are a number of risks, namely:

_______

(list the ‘S4’ question areas evaluated with 1 point)
Report

(1) Compelling reason to act transboundary, as TBC planners see it

(2) Stakeholders (determining who is interested in or affected by the issue)

(3) Geographic reach, regional stability, and complexity of the issue

(4) Capacity to work across boundaries
Further steps for the diagnostic tool

- Translation
- Testing in different regions and a variety of ecosystems
- Development of a new multilingual edition
- Web portal development
- Evaluation of global potential for TBC
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<th>Position</th>
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<tr>
<td>Chair</td>
<td>Maja VASILIJEVIĆ</td>
<td><a href="mailto:maja.vasilijevic1@gmail.com">maja.vasilijevic1@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice Chairs</td>
<td>Tatjana ROSEN</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tanya@iisd.org">tanya@iisd.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Michael SCHOON</td>
<td><a href="mailto:michael.schoon@asu.edu">michael.schoon@asu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jamie MCCALLUM</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jmccallum@transfrontier.org">jmccallum@transfrontier.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Advisors</td>
<td>Trevor SANDWITH</td>
<td><a href="mailto:trevor.sandwith@iucn.org">trevor.sandwith@iucn.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Peter SHADIE</td>
<td><a href="mailto:peter.shadie@iucn.org">peter.shadie@iucn.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Coordinators</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia</td>
<td>Rahimatsah AMAT</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rahimatsah@gmail.com">rahimatsah@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Boris ERG</td>
<td><a href="mailto:boris.erg@iucn.org">boris.erg@iucn.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Saleh DADJOUY</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dadjouy@gmail.com">dadjouy@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Andrew DUNN</td>
<td><a href="mailto:a.dunn@wcs.org">a.dunn@wcs.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kevan ZUNCKEL</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kzunckel@telkomsa.net">kzunckel@telkomsa.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dorothy ZBICZ</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dzbiccz@duke.edu">dzbiccz@duke.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Olivier CHASSOT</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ochassot@cct.or.cr">ochassot@cct.or.cr</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>German ANDRADE</td>
<td><a href="mailto:giandradep@yahoo.com">giandradep@yahoo.com</a></td>
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TRANSBOUNDARY CONSERVATION
What are protected areas?

IUCN defines a protected area as

“a clearly defined geographical space, recognised, dedicated and managed, through legal or other effective means, to achieve the long term conservation of nature with associated ecosystem services and cultural values”
Defining a TBPA

“an area of land and/or sea that straddles one or more borders between states, sub-national units such as provinces and regions, autonomous areas and/or areas beyond the limit of national sovereignty or jurisdiction, whose constituent parts are especially dedicated to the protection and maintenance of biological diversity, and of natural and associated cultural resources, and managed co-operatively through legal or other effective means.”
A typology of transboundary conservation practice

1. TRANSBOUNDARY PROTECTED AREAS

2. PARKS FOR PEACE

3. TRANSBOUNDARY CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT AREAS

4. TRANSBOUNDARY MIGRATORY CORRIDORS
Other commonly accepted definitions

1. The **EUROPARC Federation** defines a TBPA as “an area composed of two or more protected areas located within the territories of two or more Parties, adjacent to the state border, each remaining under jurisdiction of respective Party”

2. The **Peace Parks Foundation** defines a TFCA as "the area or component of a large ecological region that straddles the boundaries of two or more countries, encompassing one or more protected areas as well as multiple resource use areas"
Global trend

World Database on Protected Areas (UNEP WCMC/IUCN WCPA) [www.wdpa.org]
TBPA Databases

- Several assessments in the last 15 years
- Global and European scales
- Good indication of potential TBPA, but some constraints
- Need for a TBPA database revision
TBPA database – TBC SG activities

- Collected contacts in N/C/S Americas
- Developed a survey - Areas of investigation:
  
  * Baseline quantitative data on IAPAs
  * Levels of transboundary connectivity and cooperation
  * Impediments to transboundary cooperation
  * Ecological/political/socio-economic effects of transboundary cooperation
- Analysed results
Transboundary conservation objectives

a. Biodiversity conservation
b. Cultural heritage and exchange
c. International cooperation
d. Maintenance of peace and security
e. Promotion of sustainable development
f. Regional economic integration
g. Restitution of land tenure
h. Local economic development
i. Poverty alleviation, etc.
How to establish a TBCA?
Many difficulties

Language
Culture
Politics
Law
Resources & capacity
Economic development
Needs extra coordination
Professional standards
No vision
Intangible goals
Poor communication
No commitment
No cooperative spirit
Inaccessible terrain
NO COOPERATION = NO TBCA
Reaching co-management in TBCAs

*Dynamic management which has to take in regard joint actions*

1. Identifying common values
2. Benefiting local people
3. Cross-sectoral cooperation
4. Capacity building in PAs
5. Decision-makers’ support
6. Cooperative agreements
7. Monitoring TB initiative
Co-operation leads to benefits for:

- Biodiversity
- People
- Economy
- Politics
- Research
- Management

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Biodiversity-management-research

- Greater species migration
- Control of poaching & illegal trade
- Support integrated management
- Resilience to climate change
- Better wildfire management
- Search and rescue
- Control of invasives
- Sharing equipment
- Joint research
- Exchange of expertise & information
- Compatible mapping
- Joint planning
- Common conservation strategies
- Greater efficiency
- Dynamic problem solving
Politics-people-economy

- Rebuild peaceful cooperation
- Regional stability
- Celebrate historically good relations
- Support social relations
- ‘Softer’ custom regulations
- Support local institutions
- Makes staff exchanges easier
- Economic development of borderlands
- Nature-based tourism
- Joint marketing
BEST PRACTICE PROTECTED AREA
GUIDELINES OF IUCN WCPA
What is it?

www.iucn.org/pa_guidelines

- The world’s authoritative resource for PA managers
- Involves cooperation among specialist practitioners
- Supports better implementation in the field
- Builds institutional and individual capacity to manage PAs effectively
- Assists key players to meet their commitments and goals, and especially the CBD PoWPA
Best Practice Guideline on TBPAs

- Published in 2001
- Sets definitions of TBPA and Park for Peace
- Promotes TBPAs for biodiversity conservation, peace and cooperation
- Guidelines for TB cooperation establishment
- Draft Code for TBPAs in times of peace and armed conflict
- Global list of IAPAs
Update of the Best Practice Guideline on TBC: Donors

German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) through the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN)

MAVA Foundation

WCPA

Transboundary Conservation Specialist Group
What BPG on transboundary conservation is / is not

- **No ordinary** publication
- One of the **key IUCN WCPA products**
- **Global standard setting** guideline
- **A benchmark for PA management** practice
- **Not a replacement** for 2001 BPG
- Revised and updated edition & **new guidance**
New BPG content

- Revised definitions
- Updated guidelines on TB initiative establishment
- Guidelines on management & monitoring of TB initiatives
- In-depth understanding of TB governance
- Offer good practice examples
- Practical advice for implementation in the field
- No TB database revision
Requirements in terms of contents

- PRINCIPLES
- BEST PRACTICES
- TECHNICAL INFORMATION FOR APPLICATION IN THE FIELD

BEST PRACTICE GUIDELINE
Audience

1. Senior administrators/system directors/planners
2. Chief park wardens/superintendents/PA managers
3. Rangers/field staff
4. Wider PA community/capacity development professionals

Transboundary Conservation Specialist Group
Expected launch of the guideline
12-19 November 2014
Involvement of experts

✓ Co-editors (and co-authors):
Olivier CHASSOT, Boris ERG, Michael SCHOON, Maja VASILIJEVIĆ, Kevan ZUNCKEL

Contributors to CHAPTERS
Writers of CASE STUDIES
PEER reviewers
Expectations from the workshop

1. Active engagement
2. Discuss key TBC background and some best practice examples
3. Draft a TBPA and Park for Peace definitions
4. Final draft of the Table of contents
5. Select key case studies
6. Identify contributors (chapters & case studies)
7. Agree on the timeline
8. Discuss TBC SG’s input at IUCN WPC 2014
Thank you

Maja Vasilijević
www.tbpa.net
maja.vasilijevic1@gmail.com

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