



The SADC Law Enforcement and Anti-Poaching (LEAP) Strategy and implications for TFCAs

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Implemented by:



Threats to Natural Resource Base in the SADC region - causes and drivers

- Poor enforcement of wildlife laws coupled with poor inter agency & cross border cooperation & collaboration
 - Weak legislation
 - Low prioritization of wildlife crimes by the criminal justice system
 - Inadequate engagement of communities living with or affected by wildlife
 - Illegal harvesting and trade
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- Demand in consumer markets
 - Lack of or poor implementation of beneficiation schemes
 - Governance
 - Poverty



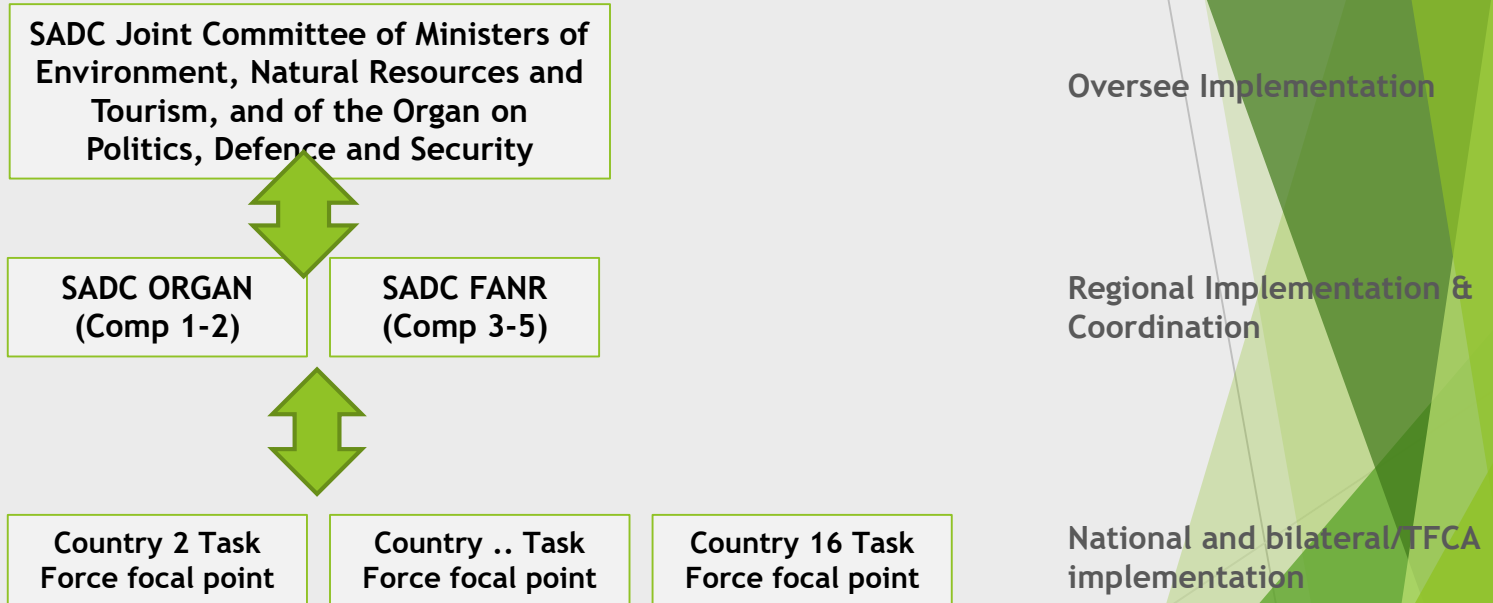
REGIONAL RESPONSE: DECISION OF MINISTERS

- ▶ SADC Ministers of the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation (July 2012) and Ministers responsible for Environment and Natural Resources (October 2013) identified the need to:
 - Develop and adopt a strategy to counteract the alarming poaching going on across the network of protected areas in the region;
 - Strengthen institutional capacity at national level for improved enforcement; and
 - Enhance the capacity of the SADC Secretariat to facilitate and coordinate cross border law enforcement and inter-agency cooperation

LEGAL & POLICY FRAMEWORK FOR SADC LAW ENFORCEMENT AND ANTI-POACHING (LEAP) STRATEGY 2016-2021



A CONCEPTUAL LEAP INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURE



LEAP is implemented by Member States with the SADC Secretariat playing a coordinating, facilitation and convening role

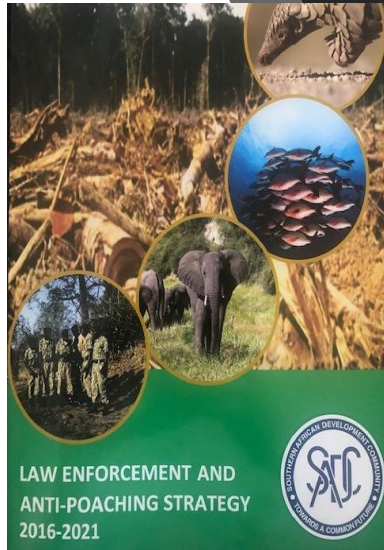
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SADC LEAP Strategy



THE 5 PRIORITY AREAS OF THE STRATEGY (REDUCED TO 4)



1. Enhancement of legislation and judicial processes;
 2. Minimization wildlife crime and illegal trade;
 3. Integration of people and nature
 4. Sustainable trade and use of natural resources;
 5. Improvement and strengthening of field operations
- (Objectives 1 & 2 have been combined)

1. ENHANCEMENT OF LEGISLATION AND JUDICIAL PROCESSES



Review wildlife legislation to include mandatory minimum penalties for poaching



Sensitization of the Judiciary (Magistrates) & Prosecutors



Improve prosecution of wildlife cases including having specialized prosecutors;



Improving investigations emphasizing use of appropriate tools e.g. forensics, care of exhibits, crime scene management

KAZA Mutual Legal Assistance Guidelines, only 7 MS Category 1 according CITES, 1 reviewing. The rest no information;
Africa Wildlife Forensic Network (AWFN) supporting Forensic capacity in the region

2. MINIMISATION OF WILDLIFE CRIME AND ILLEGAL TRADE

- Establish platforms, tools and channels to:
 - Facilitate inter-agency collaboration along the entire enforcement chain (police, defence, customs, immigration, wildlife agencies) within and between countries;
 - Enhance international cooperation between wildlife law enforcement and management officials in executing cross-border operations effectively; and
 - Facilitate the exchange of information and intelligence on wildlife crimes among Member States e.g. Wildlife Enforcement and forensic networks; Regional Trade in Wildlife Information Exchange (TWIX)
- Member of the presentation **Make use of existing tools, channels and services** (e.g. Forensic Toolkits, TWIX, SMART, INTERPOL NESTs, CITES MIKE)



3. INTEGRATION OF PEOPLE WITH NATURE

To facilitate responsibility, ownership and benefits accrual to communities living with wildlife and adjacent to conservation areas

- Community Based Natural Resources Management (CBNRM);
- Transboundary Natural Resources Management (TBNRM) e.g. in TFCAs;
- Community engagement in PA Management, dealing with Human-wildlife conflict



4. PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE TRADE AND USE OF NATURAL RESOURCES

- **Trade:** Promote legal trade in natural resource products and align regional efforts to international standards in order to be accepted globally. E.g CITES, CBD
- **Use:** Support regulated use, both consumptive and non-consumptive, in order to address poverty, livelihoods and sustainable use issues.
- **Benefits:** Demonstrate the comparative advantage of wildlife as a viable land use option and financial benefits that can accrue to those living with wildlife (Biodiversity Economy).





5. Improvement and strengthening of field protection

- SoPs/ site level decision -making powers
- Improve Ranger patrols
- Equipment provision
- Incentives
- Strengthen Field site/office operations
- Promote Ranger based monitoring - e.g. SMART, MOMS
- Community involvement in antipoaching



SOME NOTABLE MILESONES

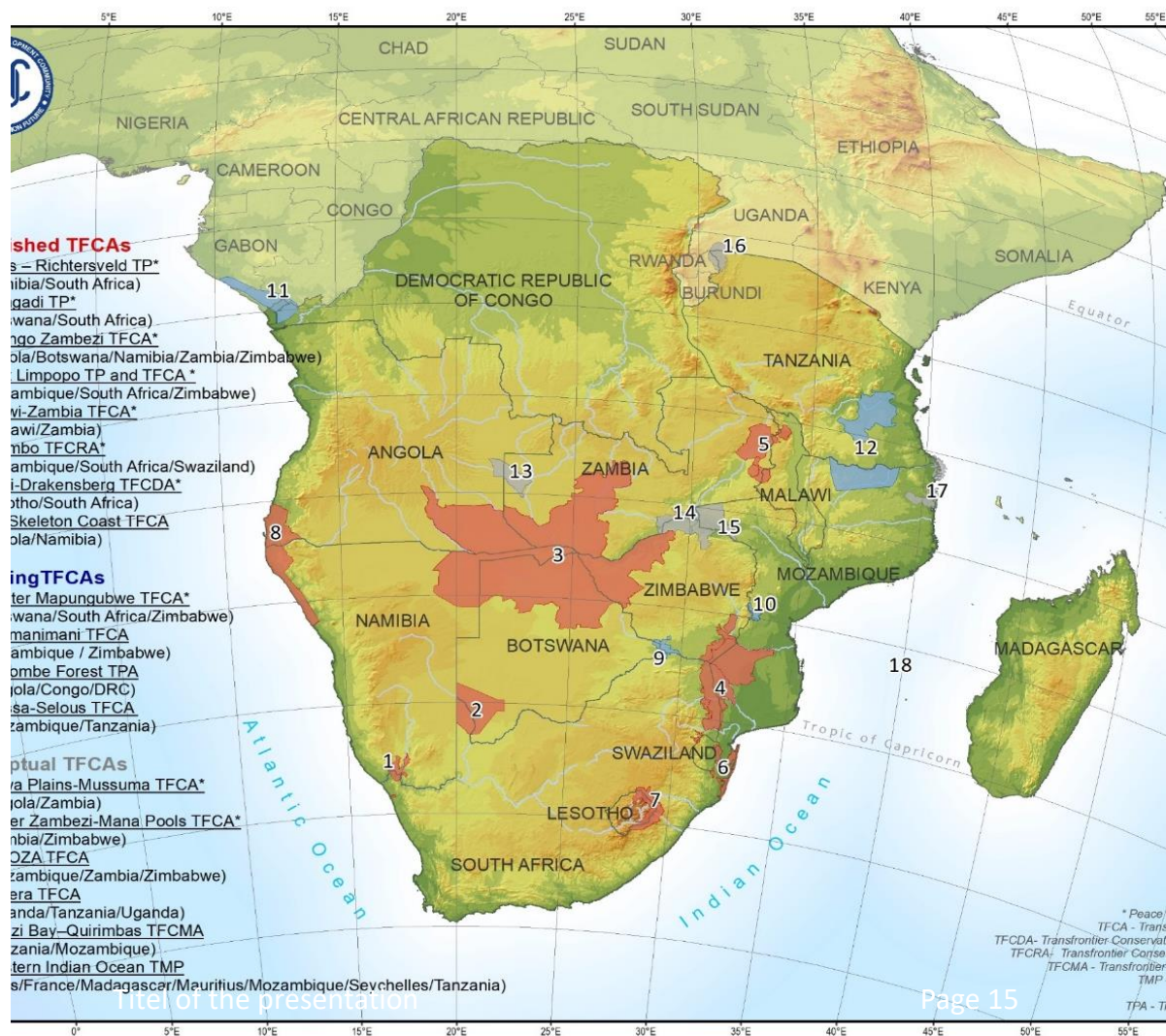
- 1 country managed to review Legislation and move it into CITES category 1. This means that 7 countries have got their legislation in Category 1)
- KAZA TFCA MLA draft for 5 countries
- 9 countries with National Joint Task Forces - different arrangements
- Formation & strengthening of National LEAP Task Forces (UVN supporting this process)
- Functional Joint Permanent Commissions of Cooperation (mostly bilateral)
- Establishment of a regional platform, Trade in Wildlife Information Exchange, for sharing information on wildlife crimes among wildlife law enforcement officers (SADC-TWIX) now with more than 460 users from 12 participating countries
- Signed SoPs for a sub-regional platform on cross-border cooperation for Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania and Zambia.
- A successful SADC level ICP coordination meeting held in 2018
- Increased collaboration of ICPs on LEAP implementation (e.g. with USAID UVN, GIZ-TUPNR, WWF, UNODC, TRAFFIC)
- Joint cross border operations in a few collaborating countries (4 countries mentioned this in their report)
- Launch of the Wildlife Forensic Field Guide for First Responders by African Wildlife Forensic Network (AWFN) which is also building forensic capacity in a few countries including setting up of Forensic Laboratories.

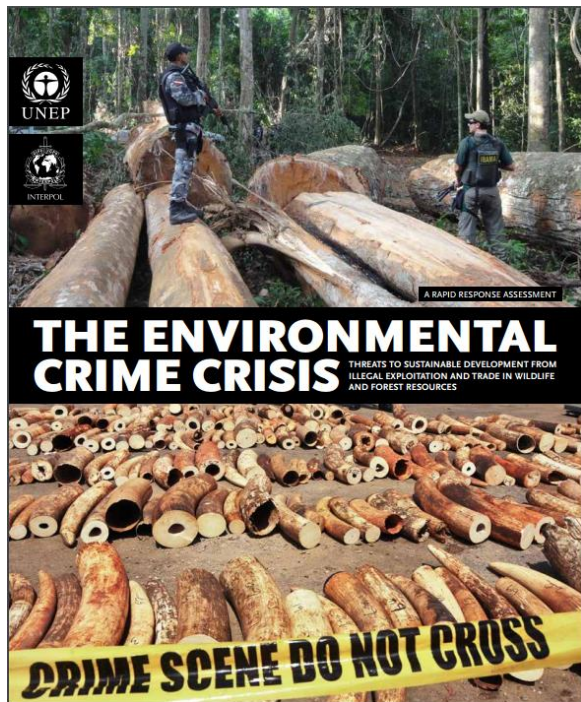
Experiences / lessons

- Partnerships between SADC Secretariat (MS inclusive) and ICPs is probably the best way to have a compressive e.g. - GIZ, KFW, USAID, CI, EU, UVN, WWF, TRAFFIC, PPF, UNODC, APN, NGOs
- Submission of reports is problematic (e.g. 6 out of 16 MS) have submitted for 2019
- Reporting template requires development focusing on key - an online reporting tool would perhaps be very useful. Currently no available data on IWT at the Secretariat - relies on data from MS and TRAFFIC
- Much as MS are implementing activities in the LEAP, it is not clear whether the same has been mainstreamed into national plans (there is of course good convergence)- national champions / focal points? TFCAs are one of the best places to implement LEAP activities
- Review of LEAP being discussed - will obviously be an inclusive process.

Implications for the SADC Transfrontier Conservation Areas (TFCAs)

- TFCAs are part of PA / conservation areas
- All objectives applicable in all aspects of TFCAs development and management
- Reporting requirements national - TFCAs make their contribution
- TFCAs are LEAP Strategy hotspots





Thank you for
your attention!