



Transfrontier Conservation Areas

SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY



SADC TRANSFRONTIER CONSERVATION AREAS HYBRID NETWORK MEETING

PREMIER ROODEVALLEY HOTEL, 26-28 SEPTEMBER 2022

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THE SPONSORS

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	<p>The German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), is supporting transboundary conservation in Southern Africa since the early 2000s through both the technical (GIZ) and financial (KfW) cooperation. This workshop was supported through the GIZ Climate and Natural Resource Management Programme.</p>
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	<p>The USAID is a long term investor in regional and bi-lateral programmes for sustainable natural resources management and development across the region. The WWF-SA Khetha Program contributed to the SADC TFCAs Network Meeting.</p>

LIST OF ACRONYMS

AART	/AI-/AIS-RICHTERSVELD TRANSFRONTIER PARK
APAC	AFRICAN PROTECTED AREAS CONFERENCE
APACT	AFRICAN PROTECTED AREAS CONSERVATION TRUST
C-NRM PROGRAMME	CLIMATE AND NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CBD	CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY
CBNRM	COMMUNITY BASED NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CIRAD	CENTRE DE COOPÉRATION INTERNATIONALE EN RECHERCHE AGRONOMIQUE POUR LE DÉVELOPPEMENT
CITES	CONVENTION ON THE ILLEGAL TRADE OF ENDANGERED SPECIES
CoP	CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES
DRC	DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO
EU	EUROPEAN UNION
FANR-D	FOOD AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES DIRECTORATE
FAO	FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANISATION
FF	FINANCING FACILITY
GIZ	DEUTSCHE GESELLSCHAFT FÜR INTERNATIONALE ZUSAMMENARBEIT GERMAN DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AGENCY
GLTFCA	GREAT LIMPOPO TFCA
HWC	HUMAN WILDLIFE CONFLICT
ICP(s)	INTERNATIONAL COOPERATING PARTNER(S)
IUCN	INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF NATURE
KAZA TFCA	KAVANGO-ZAMBEZI TFCA
KfW	KREDITANSTALT FÜR WIEDERAUFBAU GERMAN BANK FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
LOZAMAP TFCA	LOWER ZAMBEZI – MANA POOLS TFCA
NGO	NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANISATION
PdO-KB TFCA	PONTA DO OURO – KOSY BAY TFCA
PPF	PEACE PARKS FOUNDATION
ProSULI	PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS IN TRANSFRONTIER CONSERVATION AREAS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA
SADC	SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY
SC	STEERING COMMITTEE
SWM	SUSTAINABLE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT
TFCA(s)	TRANSFRONTIER CONSERVATION AREA(S)
USAID	UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
ZIMOZA TFCA	ZIMBABWE-MOZAMBIQUE-ZAMBIA TFCA

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1 Introduction

The SADC Member States, coordinated by the SADC Transfrontier Conservation Areas (TFCAs) Unit of the Food Agriculture and Natural Resources Directorate (FANR-D), convened the 7th meeting of the SADC TFCAs Network meeting in a hybrid format at the Premier Roodevalley Hotel, in Pretoria (South Africa).

The SADC TFCAs Network meeting is a yearly gathering of the SADC TFCA Unit and country Focal Points, with the International Cooperating Partners, local and international NGOs, research institutions and private sector actors involved in the establishment, management and support to Transfrontier Conservation Areas in the Southern Africa Region. The first meeting occurred in 2013, during which time the SADC TFCAs Steering Committee was formed and the [2013-2022 SADC TFCAs Programme](#) was validated. In 2020, due to the global travel and gathering restrictions in response to the Covid-19 pandemic, the SADC TFCAs network meeting was convened online reaching out to a larger number and typology of presenters and participants. The [2020 meeting](#) was divided in 10 weekly thematic sessions. The [2021 meeting](#) was held online only, over the course of two days.

The 2022 meeting, hosted in a hybrid format, was co-funded by the German Cooperation, through the [Climate and Natural Resources Management Programme](#) implemented by GIZ, by the USA Agency for International Development (USAID) through the [Resilient Waters Programme](#) implemented by Chemonics International, by the [Peace Parks Foundation](#) and by the [IUCN Biopama programme](#), the [ProSuLi Programme](#), implemented by [CIRAD](#), and by the [FAO Sustainable Wildlife Management Programme](#), all funded by the [European Union](#).

During the three days, nine (9) sessions were programmed; each was chaired by the representatives of the SADC Members States and interested SADC TFCAs network members. Sessions ten (10) and eleven (11) were facilitated and managed by the team of experts tasked with the review of the 2013 SADC TFCAs Programme, led by Piet Theron, as part of the participatory review and stakeholders' engagement process.

The SADC TFCAs Network is a validated SADC initiative facilitated by the SADC TFCAs Unit and its meetings reflect the governance system of SADC as an institution. The 2022 SADC TFCAs Network meeting was, therefore, chaired by the appointed representative of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Mr. Daniel Mukubi, (DRC Focal Point on SADC Biodiversity Affairs) supported by the outgoing Chair from Malawi, Petrus Kachulu, Parks and Wildlife Officer in Malawi. The meeting was hosted by the government of the Republic of South Africa, represented by Ms. Aruna Seepersadh, Director of the TFCA Unit in the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries.

The final agenda and the daily sets of presentations may be found [online](#) on the SADC TFCAs Portal. This report is sub-divided in three (3) sections. The first section presents a summary of content and discussions by thematic areas, the second is a summary of outcomes and the third section contains a list of policy recommendations as validated by the SADC TFCAs Unit.

The meeting was opened by the representative of the host country, Mr. Sydney Nkosi the Deputy Director for the [Department of Environment, Forests and Fisheries](#) from the Republic of South. The official welcome was delivered by Mr. Domingo Goves, Director of [Food Agriculture and Natural Resource](#) for the [SADC Secretariat](#). The welcome and official opening was delivered by the representative of the Democratic Republic of Congo, as the current SADC Chair country, Mr Daniel Mukubi, Chief of the Biodiversity Bureau in the [Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development](#).

2 Meeting Overview

The 2022 SADC TFCAs Network meeting was held over three working days and comprised a variety of sessions that aimed at providing updates on activities carried out in the TFCAs and by SADC, over the past year, in the fulfilment of the components of the SADC TFCAs programme. Notably, these include the securing of funds to review the 2013 Programme after a decade of collaborative regional work through the interactions and learning offered by the network meetings. The meeting sessions concerning the updates from the SADC members states and TFCAs management, in fact, were chaired by key members of the team tasked to review the programme and, in the last day, most sessions were facilitated by the team to ensure a multi-stakeholder and participatory process in the drafting of the new programme.

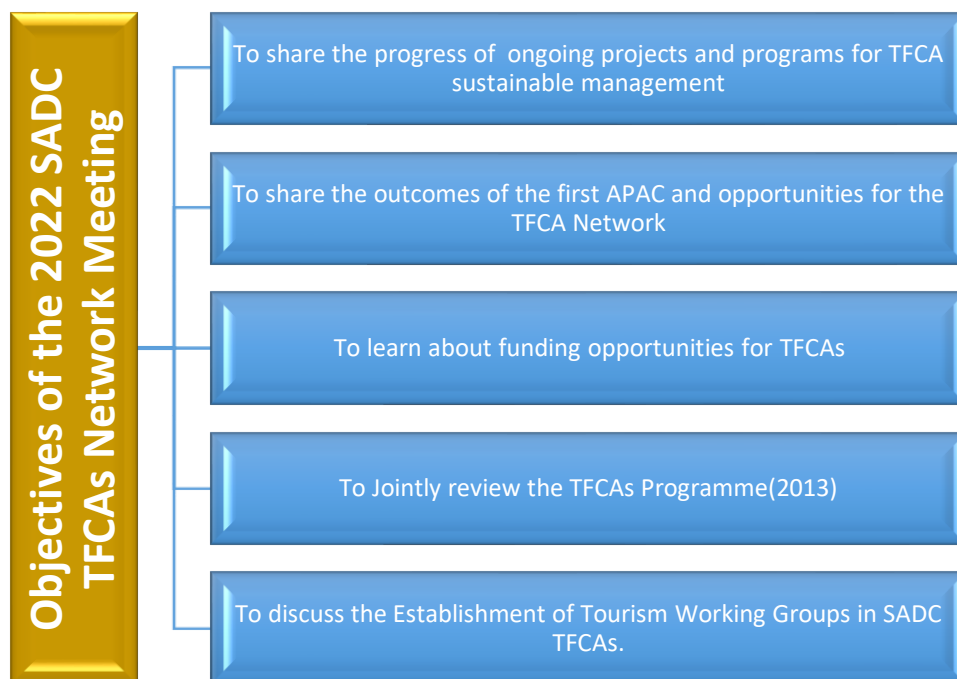


Figure 1: Objectives of the 2022 SADC TFCAs Network meeting (N. Kanime, SPO Natural Resource & Wildlife, SADC)

The other sessions aimed at presenting current facilities to fund activities in support of TFCAs, report back from projects and activities currently being implemented in TFCAs, and discuss what has been learnt during this first decade of TFCAs implementation in the region that needs to influence policy and decision making in the short to medium term. The outcomes of discussions were collected and presented in plenary, and part of the final section of this report.

Mr. Petros Kachulu, the TFCAs Focal Point for Malawi and outgoing SADC Chair, presented the overall progress of the network since its establishment in 2013, the work conducted by the Steering Committee, and the vision for its future. He introduced the idea that with the revision of the programme the original three (3) categories of SADC TFCAs may also be reviewed to reflect the realities of multi-country collaboration across Southern Africa and with other African countries.

Over the years, the network has led and supported a variety of learning and capacity building activities, see [Table 1](#), for the implementation of the 2013 SADC TFCAs Programme, now under review. The impact of the SADC TFCAs Network has been increased with the capacity built within the SADC Secretariat and the strengthening of the Steering Committee (SC), formed by the Member States focal points. They have been engaging with donors at the regional level and overseeing the creation and management of the TFCAs Financing Facility executed by IUCN. The Secretariat and SC have also drafted the Concept Note for the review of the programme to ensure alignment with both SADC and international policy on Sustainable Development.

Table 1: List of activities supported by the SADC TFCAs Network over the years

Virtual and face-to-face meetings and symposia
Information exchange: development of online communication platform for network members and a public website in 2014 – www.tfcportal.org
Resource Mobilization
TFCA Financing facility
Establishment of regional Communities of Practice:
M&E; Data Management; Tourism; Training & Capacity Building; Community Engagement; and Law Enforcement & Anti-Poaching
Preparation of recommendations to SADC decision-making bodies
Participation to leading global events for conservation (e.g. APAC, IUCN, CITES, CBD)
APAC 2022; IUCN World Parks and Conservation Congresses; CITES and CBD CoPs
Contribution to guideline & frameworks development:
Establishment & Development of TFCAs
Tourism Concession Guidelines
Community Engagement Guidelines
Monitoring and Evaluation Framework
Cross-border tourism products Guidelines

The objectives for the forthcoming year have been agreed upon by the Steering Committee and the activities are partially already under implementation:

To renew the SADC TFCA Network engagement from the Member States and TFCAs for the its continued success and sustainability

To strengthen the SADC TFCA Network SC membership by reaching out to less-active Member States and Category B and C TFCAs

To continue to intensify online engagement with all SADC TFCA Network members through different formats

To review the SADC TFCA Programme (2013)

To continue to expand and professionalise the Network of SADC TFCAs across the region, incl. coastal and marine transboundary landscapes

Figure 2: Objectives of the SADC TFCAs SC for 2022-2023

2.1 The SADC TFCAs processes update

Session II was focussed on regional processes led by the SADC Secretariat through the TFCA Unit and Technical Advisor, including the Financing Facility, managed by IUCN, and the participation to the first IUCN African Protected Areas Congress (APAC). The SADC Member States have endorsed critical documents for the future of TFCAs, such as the Value of TFCAs Study Report, the Wildlife-based Economy (WBE) Framework, the Cross-border tourism products and Community Engagement Toolboxes for TFCAs. The revised SADC Law Enforcement and Anti-poaching Strategy (LEAP) and Costed Action Plan were completed, while the Costed Action Plan will be drafted for the WBE Framework. The integration of SADC TFCA M&E into SADC Monitoring and Evaluation Result-Based System continues with the cooperation for SADC Directorates and Units, along with the support from GIZ C-NRM Programme. The revision of the 2013 SADC TFCAs Programme is currently underway, with a team of regional experts led by Piet Theron Consulting.

The [IUCN APAC](#) was held in Kigali (Rwanda) from 18th to 23rd July 2022 and saw the participation of fifty-three (53) African Countries, as well as non-African government representatives, alongside NGO

and academic sectors. Out of APAC, a [Call for Action](#) was approved by the participating governments, which essentially calls for:

- Promoting inclusive and equitable governance (including traditional knowledge and practices)
- Putting people at the centre of effective and equitable conservation (including women and youth)
- Mobilizing the economic value of PCAs and sustainable financing (focussing on the health of ecosystem goods and services)
- PCAs as natural solutions to the biodiversity and climate change crises (including the restoration of fragmented and degraded ecosystems, and ecological connectivity)

SADC and its ICPs contributed to a [Pavilion for SADC TFCAs](#) where a variety of networking events were hosted. The activities were officially opened by H.E. Minister Barbara, Deputy Minister of Ministry of Environment, Climate, Tourism and Hospitality Industry from the Government Republic of Zimbabwe, and event attended by senior government officials from African and European countries.

The SADC TFCAs Network confirmed these priorities are both an opportunity for TFCAs, in terms of sustainable financing for management and implementation of actions (APACT and development of business plans for TFCAs), as well as a challenge to unlock the potential of multi land-use planning for the sustainable use and management of natural resource.

“Conservation can only succeed if our communities are put at the centre of the discussion and work”.

Prof. A. Nambota, PPF Zambia

The [SADC TFCAs Financing facility](#) has begun the issuance of Call for Proposals and some projects have already been funded and executed, especially those under the Covid-19 Response Grants (value of 2M Euro). The recipients included Eswatini, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa and Zimbabwe, for activities ranging from community livelihoods to antipoaching and HWC, as well as infrastructure maintenance. The Main Calls for Concepts (value just under 7M Euro) has accepted 12 projects, currently being finalised and ready for implementation in early 2023. Both the Gonarezhou Infrastructure Project and the Zambian Window (value of 3M and 2M Euros respectively) will be funded for 3 years and implemented from 2023. The Training Programmes for Wildlife Managers and Rangers initiative is awaiting finalisation and signature of agreements. Before they are implemented, the Training Needs Analysis will need to be reviewed.

2.2 The updates from the TFCAs and country components

Sessions III, VI and IX were dedicated to the reporting on governance, activities, and financing from all TFCAs, through the SADC TFCAs Focal Points. There are new TFCAs Focal Points for Eswatini and Malawi, and the new International Coordinator of the Great Limpopo TFCA is Gwinyai Muti, from Zimbabwe. On the institutional and governance side, it was reported that Lesotho and South Africa have drafted a Treaty for the Maloti-Drakensberg TFCA, despite Lesotho still not having appointed a dedicated Coordinator.

The presentations revealed that despite the slowing down of activities and funding during the period of 2020-2021, because of the shifting of government funding to internal health budgets, as well as travel and gathering restrictions, the year of 2022 renewed the support of ICPs to conservation and development activities across the region. With some delays the SADC TFCAs FF has been able to provide Covid 19 relief funding to Eswatini in the Lubombo TFCA, Namibia in the |Ai|Ais -Richtersveld TFP, South Africa with four (4) proposal being finalised, Mozambique in both The Niassa Special Reserve and the Maputo National Park, and Zimbabwe. Of the ICPs traditionally involved in supporting transfrontier conservation activities, there is a continued interest from the German government through both KfW and GIZ, the European Union has also provided direct and indirect funding, through

regional NGOs and research entities, to advance nature conservation, HWC and sustainable livelihoods, and USAID with both area-based activities in KAZA and the GLTFCA and regional programmes. Some TFCAs components are now under co-management agreements such as Iona in Angola and Matusadona in Zimbabwe with African Parks, and the Gonarezhou National Park in Zimbabwe with the Frankfurt Zoological Society.



As far as law and policy are concerned all countries have reported progress in the review of relevant outdated legislation or the approval of new legislation relevant to many aspects of TFCAs management from species conservation to CBNRM and tourism. This includes the drafting of Feasibility Studies, Strategies and Action Plans, Protected Areas Management Plans (seven of which pertain to areas in the Lower Zambezi – Mana Pools TFCA), the alignment of Wildlife and HWC legislation, and the drafting of Memoranda of Agreement and Understanding to advance the legal establishment of several conceptual TFCAs such as the Mussuma TFCA (Angola), ZIMOZA (Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Zambia). Lesotho and South Africa are currently reviewing the draft of the proposed Treaty for the Maloti-Drakensberg TFCA. Malawi and Zambia have also signed an MoU on Tourism Collaboration, which expands the cooperation between the two governments outside of the TFCA spheres.

Of interest to the review of the SADC TFCAs Programme are elements pertaining to the geography of TFCAs, as well as the additional themes that are becoming of pertinence to the management of complex socio-ecological systems under the effects of Climate Change.

Firstly, all of the countries at the border between Southern Africa and the rest of Africa have existing agreements with other African countries for the sustainable management of shared cross-border natural resources, which include prominent water bodies, or are negotiating such agreements. Tanzania has been working with Kenya in the Masai-Maara – Serengeti Landscape, Angola and the DRC have plans for agreements with the Republic of Congo, Gabon and the Central Africa Republic in Mayombe, Tumba Ledima and the North Ubangi Forest Mountain. Similarly, the future establishment of the Western Indian Ocean TFCAs calls for the adoption of an “Ocean Governance Agenda” as recommended by the TFCA Focal Point for Madagascar, Mr Seheno Ramanantsoa, Head of the Department for Protected Areas Governance. As such, it will have to include all coastal states beyond the SADC region, building on existing bi-lateral diplomacy and dialogue.

Secondly, in addressing the various projects undertaken in all TFCAs since 2018, it emerges that alongside traditional transfrontier conservation activities from law enforcement to wildlife surveys and collaring, new sectors continue to grow in importance to secure space for conservation. The growth in HWC, triggered by the trafficking of flora and fauna products, has shifted the priorities of conservation from pure ecosystem management to addressing human and rural development issues, which are

clustered as alternative livelihoods. The only project addressing development issues with a development specialist as implementing agency is the EU funded FAO project on Sustainable Wildlife Management and Agriculture.

The other emerging theme is water security. In Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe, conservation funding or funding in TFCAs has been dedicated to securing and improving the water supply for rural communities, primarily through boreholes. As all SADC TFCAs span the most important water reserves of the region, including inland and coastal wetlands, and as the drought effects of Climate Change impact increasing the rural areas in TFCAs, water security becomes a paramount concern to preserve the ecosystem goods and services necessary to both conservation and sustainable rural development. It is unclear from the presentation whether water security experts have been engaged in the design and implementation of these activities. Furthermore, as boreholes are considered a potential maladaptation practice, it is imperative for TFCAs to pursue innovative tools for water supply and storage, that promote local and regional sustainability.

Finally, in terms of governance, while it may be true that a multi-lateral Treaty is the desired tool for the establishment of a TFCA. It appears that in some cases agreements assigning roles and responsibilities can be the only instruments for (1) beginning the cooperation on shared resources (Mayombe); (2) ensuring collaboration and actions when funding to implement a Treaty are not readily available (Lower Zambezi – Mana Pools). In the pursuit of the WIO-TFCA, this is clearly important and the existence of bi-lateral agreements with Tanzania and Kenya, Seychelles and Mauritius, Mozambique and Tanzania for inland and coastal resource can be a valid entry point to extend cooperation.

2.3 Cross-sectoral programmes and projects in SADC TFCAs

There is an increasing number of cross-sectoral activities and funding in SADC TFCAs, which are difficult to capture at country level, because they also work across physical boundaries. This session is dedicated to four thematic issues of increasing interest for the governments, NGOs, researchers and practitioners working in TFCAs.

2.3.1 Transboundary Coastal and Marine Management

Most of SADC TFCAs have developed in terrestrial ecosystems with only two established marine and coastal transfrontier conservation areas: the Ponta do Ouro – Kosy Bay TFCA (PdO-KB TFCA), between South Africa and Mozambique, part of the Lubombo TFCA and the Iona-Skeleton Coast TFCA between Angola and Namibia. The PdO-KB TFCA is part of a multi-agency governance system, the Lubombo TFCA, and its components are managed by local scale agencies: the Maputo National Park, in Mozambique, and the Isimangaliso Wetland Park in South Africa. This multi-scale multi-lateral governance system comes with important challenges and opportunities to promote local level management within higher level decision-making processes.

The large Western Indian Ocean (WIO) TFCA has been envisioned for almost two decades but very little has been done to achieve a multilateral legal instrument for integrated management. However, it has been noted that the existing collaborative agreement between Tanzania and Kenya, could offer a critical opportunity to involve the Eastern African Community, currently also in the process of formalising a regional agency for Transfrontier Conservation Areas. It would also be useful to revitalise the Coordination Body used for the PdO-KB TFCA to foster the process of the WIO-TFCA.

In the end, it was also agreed over the three sessions, that given the reliance of these processes on external donor funding, it is important to build on the mechanisms already existing instead of creating new ones that may not see continuity due to financial constraints.

From this session led by the [IUCN Regional Office for East and Southern Africa](#) with contribution from the [Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association](#) (WIOMSA), it should be noted that the pressure

points identified for the success of Marine Managed Areas are the same as those for terrestrial Protected Areas, and all drivers are anthropogenic:

- Poverty and unemployment in the local population
- Conflicts in the use of resources (conservation vs. economics)
- Declining stocks
- Threat to species, including pollution.

2.3.2 TFCAs and transboundary rivers building resilience to Climate Change

The focus of this session, managed by the USAID Resilient Waters Programme and the GIZ C-NRM Programme, was the impact of Climate Change on transboundary natural resource management, with a special consideration for the role river basins play in promoting sustainability or exacerbating vulnerability. The contributions from the [International Water Management Institute](#) (IWMI) were derived primarily from their studies funded by USAID under the [KAZA Grow Project](#), with the objective of promoting sustainable groundwater management in the KAZA TFCA. Linking data science for small-scale farming is a relatively new field of studies for SADC TFCAs and it complemented the work in vulnerability assessment in the MAZA TFCA, as well as the presentation by [COSPE](#) on the impact of co-design for sustainable agriculture within a Local Adaptation Plan in Eswatini. In the second day, the role of Early Warning Systems to predict and respond to risk were discussed with a case study from the Limpopo Basin. Once again, data availability, useability and shareability were discussed by the group and followed similar outcome as in the Marine Session.

The impact of Climate Change and the vulnerability of socio-ecological systems is compounded by socio-economic issues, such as gender, health, education, and water security. This bearing in mind that water security is as much about quantity as it is about quality for humans, livestock, and wildlife. The impact of poor groundwater quality has already been identified in the KAZA area. Until 2050, as prediction models show, drought and floods will especially increase in north-eastern parts of SADC area, South Angola/North Namibia and Madagascar exacerbating the existing vulnerabilities. These should be the priority areas for testing methods for reducing ecosystem and human vulnerability to climate change. SADC should lead the process, but ultimately the River Basin Organisations have a mandate to gather information, process it and timely act. For this reason, it is imperative that they work with TFCAs management structures at country and international coordination levels, to avoid duplication of actions and maximise the funds available for resilience building through water security.

[CCARDESA](#) could have a role as a regional hub to build capacity on Climate Change adaptation and resilience building across all the sectors involved. It was also proposed that a Climate Change Community of Practice is created within the SADC TFCAs Network, including CCARDESA, [SADC-Groundwater Management Institute](#) (SADC-GMI) and IWMI.

2.3.3 Connectivity, Conservation and Human Wildlife Conflict (HWC)

This section led by the Peace Parks Foundation (PPF) included several presentations on connectivity and HWC by a variety of government and NGO specialists. In large multi-land use socio-ecological systems established as TFCAs to allow for the movement of wildlife across the ecosystems, the identification of corridors in the landscape is critical to secure the ability to move for wildlife whilst reducing the potential conflict with resident populations. This is especially important given that most rural communities in SADC TFCAs rely on small-scale and subsistence agriculture for survival. In the Okavango, there has been experimentation with the design of micro-corridors for localised routes. IUCN has been recently promoting a new paradigm for conservation areas that is more multi-use driven: [Other effective area-based conservation measures](#) (OECMs). These offer the opportunity to really identify through a sort of co-design process the most appropriate methods for addressing conservation in a settled environment that undergoes changes with time. These areas support important biodiversity areas and TFCAs offer a very good opportunity to test the relevance of OECMs methodology.

The impact of rural communities and, in general, the residents of the TFCAs for achievement of successful natural resource management activities resonates with the presentations from the Niassa-Selous TFCA and the Gonarezhou National Park (part of the GLTFCA). The [Herding for Health programme](#), implemented by [Conservation International](#) (CI), originated in a One Health project by the [University of Pretoria Faculty of Veterinary Science](#) in the GLTFCA Mnisi Community in South Africa. It continues there through CI and has expanded in other areas of the GLTFCA and KAZA. The role of education for children is critical to ensure that future generations understand again their role in the ecosystems for the sustainability of its ecosystem goods and services, especially if taught by youth from the community. This is implemented in Botswana by [Eco-exist](#), alongside applied conservation science (Predators research) and the Coexist project with rural communities. In the GLTFCA, the [Khetha Programme](#) implemented by WWF SA is looking for novel ways to engage with communities on designing a sustainable future involving key local conservation actors, such as the [Vhembe Biosphere Reserve](#).

The role that national and regional law and policies play in creating the enabling environment for transboundary natural resource management and the variety of conservation and economic activities it hosts continues to be paramount. There are still dissonances, despite the last two decades of practical experience, which need addressing through SADC.

2.3.4 Rural development and livelihoods

The rural development question for conservation is a long-standing one that was first identified and addressed in Zimbabwe by the [CAMPFIRE programme](#), a joint experiment by the [Zimbabwe National Parks and Wildlife Management Authority](#) and the [University of Zimbabwe Centre for Applied Social Sciences](#), also a partner in the [Research Platform – Production and Conservation in Practice](#), facilitated by CIRAD (French Agency for Agricultural Development). Now, leading the EU-funded ProSuli Programme with the [University of Eduardo Mondlane](#) in Mozambique, CIRAD led this session with the FAO Sustainable Wildlife Management Programme. Together, they are the only two implementing agencies in SADC TFCAs with a dominant rural development expertise. The SWM programme is based on the model of Community Conservancy, and the areas it operates are the CAMPFIRE communities in Zimbabwe. Their approach is primarily consultative and have found that devolution of authority over natural resources at the local level is still the main hindrance faced by the community-based natural resource management projects.

The many presentations reflected on both experimental action research projects and activities undertaken at Protected Area level to address HWC from an anthropocentric perspective. The Gonarezhou National Park has found that fencing is the most effective way to deal with human-wildlife encroachment and disease spread. Others stress the importance of collaborative governance processes including local communities as actors, and emphasises the importance of environmental justice as a framework. In this stream, the Resilient Water Programme has also presented his training modules to mainstream Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) in transboundary water management processes, recognising the communities and settlement are heterogenous groups of residents, instead of a monolithic entity.



2.4 New Regional Funding Programmes for SADC TFCAs

There are five (5) regional funding programmes relevant to TFCAs in Southern Africa:

- A [Pan African Conservation Trust](#) (APACT) managed by [AWF](#)
- [Blue Action Fund](#) (BAF) established in Germany with funding from five European States
- [Ecofish](#), funded by the EU and managed by the [Indian Ocean Commission](#)
- [NaturAfrica](#), funded and managed by the EU
- The [Government of Sweden](#) for Africa strategy, managed by the Addis-Ababa Office.

All of these programmes intend funding projects aiming at promoting the sustainable use of natural resources in rural Southern Africa, including water basins. The BAF and Ecofish are specifically targeting inland and coastal water bodies for the sustainability of fisheries and their hosting ecosystems. These two programmes have already awarded nine (9) projects each in Southern Africa: the BAF, in particular, has funded projects in PdO-KB area and in the coastal waters spanning Kenya and Tanzania.

The APACT, NaturAfrica and the Swedish Government are preparing to issue calls for proposals in the next year with the following priorities: resilience building and gender equity, community-based sustainable natural resource management and environmental conservation/restoration. The NaturAfrica programme may also contribute to the FF.

2.5 The Regional Resource Hub for SADC TFCAs

Upon establishment of the SADC TFCAs Network in 2013, an [online portal](#) was created to promote information and knowledge sharing amongst TFCAs and practitioners, with funding from the [GIZ Transboundary Use and Protection of Natural Resources Programme](#). In the last five years, with the implementation of the EU-funded Biodiversity and Protected Areas Management (BIOPAMA) Programme implemented by IUCN, the management of the portal has been taken over by the [Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development](#) (RCMRD), based in Nairobi (Kenya).

The RCMRD, in partnership with the [EU Joint Research Institute of Ispra](#) (Italy), has been gathering information on Protected Areas in the Central, East and Southern African Region, standardised and processed the data, and produced a variety of important documents, maps and figures informing on the regional and country progress towards the Aichi target, which were presented at the meeting. The

future of the portal is very much dependent on the network member uploading information: the contribution of the RCMRD would enhance the quality of the knowledge produced and support informed decision through filtered data.

2.6 The SADC TFCAs Programme Review

The review of the 2013 Programme has been structured as a participatory process and the team of six (6) regional experts is led by Piet Theron, former International Coordinator for the GLTFCA. This activity, funded by the GIZ C-NRM Programme, provides the opportunity to:

- harness the significant investment that has been made in various TFCAs across Southern Africa since 2000;
- build on the knowledge that has been generated in the implementation of the Programme since 2013;
- learn from the proceedings of the 2020 Webinar series where many activities in TFCAs were presented and shared by governments, implementing NGOs and research institutes.

The deadline for the final delivery of the new programme is proposed for March 2023. The innovation in the thematic areas will be the consideration for (1) the role water plays in maintaining and enhancing complex socio-ecological systems, through natural water towers, freshwater and groundwater systems; (2) the importance of addressing livelihoods as a development issue, providing choice for livelihoods design and collaborative governance. In this context, the priorities will be sustainable ecosystems goods and services, investment in natural capital (including green and blue economies), Indigenous peoples and local communities (IPLCs), Gender and Youth, Governance and Transformative Change. The component on Knowledge creation and sharing will remain part of the programme.

The team was allocated a session to conduct part of the stakeholder engagement process and data collection on the themes presented, including the categorisation of SADC TFCAs.



3 Key outcomes of the meeting

The contents of the meeting allowed for presentations and discussion touch core elements of TFCAs development and management, building on both the two decades of regional experience, new lessons learnt from current projects and the involvement of TFCA practitioners in other fields such as water security, early warning systems and disaster risk reduction, health and rural development. These themes are not entirely new in the TFCAs sectors and were progressively addressed by various sectoral experts in other fora, such as the Animal and Human Health for Environment and Development Working Group for the GLTFCA, thus offering more historical research for the network to absorb.

Within all the individual achievements for the TFCAs, and the outcome of current projects across the region in terrestrial, coastal and marine ecosystems, there are four important common elements that should inform future planning for both the SADC Secretariat and its Member States. Of priority in the short to medium terms are:

- 1) The use of **environmental justice** approaches to engaging with communities, this includes **GESI** considerations and understanding the requirement of balancing the costs borne by residents of TFCAs at the **interface** with wildlife with the large global financial gains obtained by the tourism industry and, overall, by the global community;
- 2) The need to enforce the SADC Wildlife and Shared Water protocols clauses on **data collection and sharing** to facilitate transboundary natural resource management at a regional scale. This include the use of data collection tools that are, as needs be, **community-friendly**, like the KAZA Livelihoods Survey Toolkit, and innovative, such as satellite **spatial information**;
- 3) The **impact of project-based planning on financial and implementation continuity** for a TFCAs. The planning for TFCAs needs to be drafted with the acknowledgement that most funding will come from a variety of donors with different individual agendas, thus dealing with time lags between funding opportunities and the current scattered nature of activities, as well as duplications. At the same time, donors should consider contributing to the FF, thus transforming it into a continuative source of funds for TFCAs activities, or plan for longer funding cycles;
- 4) The need to **fund institutional capacity and capacity building for institutions**. Experience shows that the management of TFCAs required a dedicated team of people, as a Secretariat or other forms of collaborative governance. However, most donors cannot fund government positions, as these multi-lateral structures are, or are understood to be given the legal nature of their establishment. A way forward should be negotiated with the ICPs as they prepare future funding opportunities, as well as with the national governments establishing these structures to promote accountability.

In relation to the latter point, the new funding programmes offering opportunities for medium to long-term activities in TFCAs should be considered by the Secretariat for bi-lateral engagement and information sharing with the network member as Calls for Proposals become available. The key outcomes of the Streams are summarised in [Table 2](#).

The progress made by the SADC TFCAs FF has been noted, as well as the effort made to provide balanced funding across the region and the TFCAs. A call is made for more donors to contribute to the facility in order to facilitate funding continuity and address points 3 and 4.

Table 2: Key outcomes of the Streams working groups

Stream	Outcomes
<i>Transboundary Coastal and Marine Management</i>	<p>It was noted that the SADC TFCA Programme, need to get affirmation from Member States in terms of Commitment for establishment of Category C coastal and marine TFCAs, and also the new ones that have been proposed. Needs need to be clear and State endorsements are mandatory. The Roadmap leading to an agreement should be clear.</p> <p>It was acknowledged TFCAs that require many countries, e.g. the WIO TFCA, involving seven countries, needs for a coordination meeting to establish an inclusive and collective strategy that everyone adopts. Marine TFCAs tend to be outside Economic Exclusive Zones, where countries do not have full control.</p> <p>It was noted the need for a Learning and Knowledge Sharing Programme – between both terrestrial and marine TFCAs, implementing agencies, key stakeholders, and documented best practice case studies / lessons learned.</p>
<i>TFCAs and transboundary rivers building resilience to Climate Change</i>	<p>TFCAs and RBOs need to collaborate more and avoid duplication of effort.</p> <p>CCARDESA should be used as a regional resource to build capacity on Climate Change adaptation and resilience building.</p> <p>Keep cross pollinating of ideas and work between TFCAs and RBOs.</p> <p>Assess how to create a Resilience Community of Practice for TFCAs (NRM, Water, Climate, DRR, Energy etc.) Share info on issues such as CSA, Management plans that are CC responsive.</p>
<i>Connectivity, Conservation and Human Wildlife Conflict</i>	<p>To reach connectivity objectives, ecological connectivity require their own management plans.</p> <p>OECMs provide a tool which can strengthen landscape connectivity, by creating a network of protected and conserved areas within TFCAs.</p> <p>Corridors are research based (use of collars, camera traps etc). If corridors are established following informed recommendations, HWC impacts are reduced.</p> <p>Coaching Conservation’s initiatives are adaptable and scalable across the region.</p>
<i>Rural Development and Livelihoods</i>	<p>Embrace « environmental justice » for TFCA residents and invest more resources and means into local development and well-being.</p> <p>A skilled workforce is developed for TFCAs, able to tackle issues related to local livelihoods We need to recognize heterogeneity and complexity of the term « local communities.</p> <p>A space is created to guarantee the empowerment & appropriation of initiatives by local stakeholder.</p>

4 Policy recommendations from the meeting

The impact of the discussions held during the 2022 meeting have important policy implications for both the SADC Secretariat and the Member States as they continue to plan for, develop and manage TFCAs. These also affect the role and contribution of donors, NGOs and the Private Sector to transfrontier conservation, as well as that of rural communities and, broadly speaking, the residents of SADC TFCAs.

The **review of the SADC TFCAs Programme** (2013), underway during the meeting, stems from a decision taken by the Ministers responsible for Environment, Natural Resources and Tourism in their virtual meeting of June 2021, held in Maputo(Mozambique). The Ministers directed SADC Secretariat to (i) commission a review of the SADC TFCA Programme; and (ii) mobilise resources to support the review process. The Review process was presented and discussed in the meeting, including its expected deliverables: (1) the Inception Report; (2) the Situational Analysis Report; (3) the Development of Key elements for Revised SADC TFCA Programme, including the Costed Action Plan and Revised M&E Framework; and (4) the Development of a Handbook on the steps for establishing SADC TFCAs.

In a closed session, the meeting discussed the criteria for listing and de-listing the TFCA considering the non-SADC Member States, and the implementation status. It was agreed that a dedicated workshop would be held on the 17th of October of 2022, while the following Consultative workshop would be held virtually during the 1st week of December 2022.

Following the Network meeting, the TFCA Network Steering Committee held its 7th meeting to discuss the outcomes of the annual network meeting and draft the recommendations for the SADC Secretariat and the Member States. These are summarised in [Table 3](#).

Finally, key outcomes for Boundless Southern Africa following the SADC TFCA Tourism Stakeholder Engagement workshop, held on 29 September 2022, were finalized:

- By the end of November, the TFCAs will forward their priority tourism projects, and support needed, to the SADC Secretariat and GIZ. Some suggestions were made in the meeting, including exploring easy to use online booking systems and marketing videos.
- The SADC Secretariat shall engage with UNESCO on the attendance of TFCA Focal Points to the UNESCO Transboundary Tourism Heritage consultations on 15th November 2022 (virtual meeting).
- The SADC Secretariat will convene a meeting, for the end of November, to finalise the membership of the SADC TFCA Tourism Working Group.
- The SADC TFCA Steering Committee will discuss how the CTMS App ¹could be used to support and understand cross border tourism, by the end of November 2022.
- The network will actively engage in the development of the Tourism Marketing Strategy, led by SADC and GIZ with Mike Fabricius as expert consultant.

¹ The [Corridor Transport Monitoring Systems](#) (CTMS) is pilot project of the Eastern and Southern Africa Communities and the Common Market of East and Southern Africa, aimed at tracking the movement of goods across borders. It has features that may be useful and applicable to track tourist movements.

Table 3: Policy and implementation recommendations

Item	Recommendation	Responsibility
<p><i>TFCAs in Category C in both Coastal and Marine, and Terrestrial Environment: The SADC TFCA Programme needs to get affirmation from Member States in terms of Commitment for establishment of Category C Coastal and Marine TFCAs, and also the new ones that have been proposed. State endorsements are mandatory. The Roadmap leading to an agreement should be clear.</i></p>	<p>The commitments of all Member States needs to be clear and confirmed by actions, also in reference to the nomination of TFCAs Focal Points recommended during the 2021 SADC TFCAs Network Meeting. SADC Secretariat to send a letter (targeting high-level officials, i.e. Ministers) requesting for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An update on Category C TFCAs • An update on any new potential areas that could develop into TFCAs, or are currently not listed <p>Member States that do not have SADC TFCA Focal Points will also be requested to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formally nominate an individual as SADC TFCA Focal Point 	<p>SADC Secretariat</p>
<p><i>To address the establishment of the WIO TFCA</i></p>	<p>There is a need to have a forum to discuss as a Western Indian Ocean area, and use some lessons from the guidelines on establishment of TFCAs, as well as the establishment of the coastal components of the Lubombo TFCA. It is also important to learn lessons from terrestrial TFCAs on multilateral collaboration and governance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ KAZA is a big area, and in terms of establishing a TFCA, there should be some coordination forums, to get a guideline on establishing a TFCA. 	<p>SADC Secretariat and relevant MSs</p>
<p><i>The SADC Secretariat should begin to mobilize resources for an exchange on WIO including exchange between terrestrial and marine areas.</i></p>	<p>The SADC Secretariat should begin to mobilize resources for an exchange on WIO including exchange between terrestrial and marine areas.</p>	<p>SADC Secretariat and ICPS</p>
<p><i>To foster collaboration between TFCAs and RBOs and avoid duplication of effort/funding.</i></p>	<p>TFCA Network SC should encourage a relationship with RBOs each should be invited to and attend their respective annual meeting</p>	<p>SADC TFCA SC</p>
<p><i>SADC FANR should engage with SADC Water Unit and identify areas of synergies</i></p>	<p>SADC FANR should engage with SADC Water Unit and identify areas of synergies</p>	<p>FANR</p>
<p><i>CCARDESA is to support TFCAs and RBOs with regional capacity building on Climate Smart Agriculture</i></p>	<p>CCARDESA is to support TFCAs and RBOs with regional capacity building on Climate Smart Agriculture</p>	<p>CCARDESA</p>
<p><i>To assess how to create a Resilience Community of Practice for TFCAs (NRM, Water, Climate, DRR, Energy etc.)</i></p>	<p>Set-up a community of Practice under the Framework on Water, Energy and Food sector (or Resilience Framework) to bring relevant actors together.</p>	<p>SADC Secretariat FANR and SC</p>

<i>To share info on issues such as Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA), Management plans that are CC responsive</i>	The Steering committee is to work with CCARDESA, IMWI and others relevant expert organisations on creating Community of practice that builds capacity to understand and adapt climate change.	TFCAs SC
<i>To reach connectivity objectives, knowing that ecological connectivity requires its own management plan.</i>	Tanzania shall invite the Member States to visit the country and exchange information on the gazetting of conservation corridors.	Tanzania FP and interested Member States
<i>To recognize heterogeneity and complexity of the term « local communities »</i>	Member States to endorse Toolbox on community engagement during Joint Ministers meeting, and fast-track both the implementation and the use of the Toolboxes at TFCA-level.	Member Sates SADC TFCA SC

5 Attachments

5.1 2022 SADC TFCA's Meeting Agenda



SADC Transfrontier Conservation Area (TFCA) Network Hybrid Meeting 2022

26-28 September 2022

Day One – 26 September 2022					
08:00	Registration of participants				
08:30 - 09:00	WELCOME AND OFFICIAL OPENING (Facilitator: A. Seepersadh)				
08:30	Welcome remarks	Host Country (RSA)			
08:40	Remarks	Director FANR, SADC Secretariat			
08:50	Welcome remarks & official opening	SADC Chair (DRC)			
09:00 - 09:20	SESSION I: MEETING OVERVIEW & UPDATES FROM THE NETWORK (A. Seepersadh)				
09:00	Workshop objectives / overview of the meeting	TFCA Advisor, SADC FANR			
09:10	The SADC TFCA Network progress, SC and vision process	Malawi (Outgoing Chair)			
09:20 - 10:20	SESSION II: REGIONAL UPDATES ON SADC TFCAs (A. Seepersadh)				
09:20	Update from SADC Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Directorate on TFCAs	TFCA Advisor, SADC FANR			
09:35	Roundtable discussion: Outcomes of APAC and possible opportunities for TFCAs	TFCA Advisor, SADC FANR			
10:00	Update on the SADC TFCA Financing Facility	IUCN			
10:10	Update on the SADC Training Programme for Wildlife Managers and Rangers	IUCN			
10:20 - 10:50	TEA BREAK				
10:50 - 12:30	SESSION III: COUNTRY UPDATES ON SADC TFCAs - Part 1 (P. Theron & S. Geldenhuys)				
10:50	Cluster A: Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Malawi and South Africa	MS Representatives			
12:30 - 13:30	LUNCH BREAK				
13:30 - 15:00	SESSION IV: CROSS-SECTOR PROGRAMMES & PROJECTS IN TFCAs - Part 1 – (L. Blanken)				
13:30	1. Transboundary Coastal & Marine Management	2. TFCAs & transboundary rivers building resilience to CC	3. Connectivity Conservation & HWC	4. Rural development & livelihoods	Stream facilitators: 1. IUCN 2. USAID RW & GIZ C-NRM 3. PPF 4. RP-PCP/ProSULi & SWM
15:00 - 15:30	TEA BREAK				
15:30 - 17:00	SESSION V: NEW REGIONAL FUNDING PROGRAMMES FOR SADC TFCAs – (L. Blanken)				
15:30	EU NaturAfrica Programme for Southern Africa	Mr. Tebogo Mathlare, EUD Botswana			
15:50	Pan African Conservation Trust Fund initiative	Ms. Andrea Athanas, AWF Patience Gandiwa, ZimParks			
16:10	EU EcoFish Programme for the Western Indian Ocean Region	Dr Soobaschand Sweenarain, EU-Funded ECOFISH PROGRAMME			
16:25	Sweden's project portfolio on regional level in Africa	Ms. Tjärvar, SIDA			
16:45	Blue Action Fund	Ms. J. Weigand, BAF			
17:00	Closure of day 1				SADC Chair (DRC)
BIOPAMA Cocktail: presentation on SOPACA (RCMRD)					

Day Two – 27 September 2022					
08:30	Meeting venue open				
09:00 - 09:15	OPENING DAY 2 (Facilitator: G. Muti)				
09:00	Opening	Chair (DRC)			
09:05	Recap from day 1	TFCA Advisor, SADC FANR			
09:15 - 10:45	SESSION VI: COUNTRY UPDATES ON SADC TFCAs - Part 2 (P. Theron & S. Geldenhuis)				
09:15	Cluster B: Angola, DRC, Madagascar, Mozambique & Seychelles			MS Representatives	
10:45 - 11:15	TEA BREAK				
11:15 - 12:45	SESSION VII: CROSS-SECTOR PROGRAMMES IN PROJECTS TFCAs - Part 2 (L. Blanken)				
11:15	1. Transboundary Coastal & Marine Management	2. TFCAs & transboundary rivers building resilience to CC	3. Connectivity Conservation & HWC	4. Rural development & livelihoods	Stream facilitators: 1. IUCN 2. USAID RW & GIZ C-NRM 3. PPF 4. RP-PCP/ProSULi & SWM
12:45 - 13:45	LUNCH BREAK				
13:45 - 15:30	SESSION VIII: REFLECTION ON UPDATES FOR SADC TFCAs				
13:45	Report-back and reflections on the streams and recommendations for consideration of the SADC TFCA Network Steering Committee (SC)			Rabson Dhlodhlo, MDTFCA	
14:45	How the RRH can support the regional TFCA Network and Portal			Isaac Fadamullah, RCMRD	
15:30	Closure of day 2			SADC Chair (DRC)	
Open afternoon for networking and bi-lateral meetings					

Day Three – 28 September 2022					
08:00	Meeting venue open				
OPENING DAY 3					
08:30 - 08:45	Opening	Chair (DRC)			
08:30 - 08:45	Recap of day 2	TFCA Advisor, SADC FANR			
08:45 - 10:15	SESSION IX: COUNTRY UPDATES ON SADC TFCAs - Part 3 (P. Theron & S. Geldenhuis)				
08:45	Cluster C: Namibia, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe			MS Representatives	
10:15 - 10:45	TEA BREAK				
10:45 - 12:30	SESSION X: THE SADC TFCAs Programme (2013) REVIEW PROCESS				
10:45	Project outline, contents of SAR and emerging themes			Piet Theron & Consulting team	
11:30	Brainstorming on the outcome of Member States updates (WG)			Piet Theron & Consulting team	
12:30 - 13:30	LUNCH BREAK				
13:30 - 14:45	SESSION XI: THEMATIC WORKING SESSIONS				
13:30	1. Bateleur Current transboundary integrated landscape and seascape management models	2. Fish Eagle Innovative Finance & Costed Action Plan	3. Starling M&E, Capacity building, Advocacy & Communication	Stream facilitators: 1. Piet Theron 2. Roland Vorwerk 3. Sanet Geldenhuis	
14:45	Report back from working group			Piet Theron & Consulting team	
15:15	Way Forward on TFCAs Program Review Process & Timelines			Piet Theron & Consulting team	

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