

2017 - 2018 TFCA Report

/AI /AIS RICHTERVELD AND IONA SKELETON COAST TRANSFRONTEIR PARKS

NAAMBO IIPINGE - NAMIBIA TFCA COORDINATOR

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM

Institutional status and update

- ▶ **Iona Skeleton Coast Transfrontier Park (ISCTP)** - was officially established after the **Memorandum of Agreement** was signed by the Ministers responsible for Environment in Namibia and Angola on the 03 May 2018 in Windhoek, Namibia during the visit of the Angola Head of State to Namibia. **Category B to A**
- ▶ **/Ai /Ais Richterveld Transfrontier Park (ARTP) draft comprehensive report on cross border tourism products** - recommendations on the way forward (impacts, event management and marketing)

ISCTP formally established





Activities carried out in 2017-2018

ARTP

- ▶ Cross border institutional meeting:
 - ❑ 3 PMC meetings held
 - ❑ 2 JMB meetings held
 - ❑ No ministerial meeting held
- ▶ Cross border community engagement:

Consultant engaged in establishing joint community structure
- ▶ Cross border biodiversity-related activities:

Law enforcement
- ▶ Cross border tourism products
 - ❑ Desert Kayak Trails, day trips
 - ❑ 2 Desert Knights events held in April and September

ISCTP

- ▶ JMC - Technical meeting took place in Angola to draft an Implementation Plan June 2018
- ▶ 1st consultative stakeholder's meeting of the ISCTP took place on 21 August 2018 in Windhoek, Namibia. The stakeholder provided their inputs in the plan and indicated the areas that they will be involved in and the type of support to render for the benefit of the Park, communities inside and adjacent to the Transfrontier Park.
- ▶ Field expedition to the Angolan Component of ISCTP to have an initial understanding of wildlife and park management, current and future potential tourism development and communities livelihoods as well as their engagement in natural resources management (22 - 30 September 2018).



Pictures of Kayak trails and Desert Knights



Pictures of Kayak trails and Desert Knights



ARTP cross border events

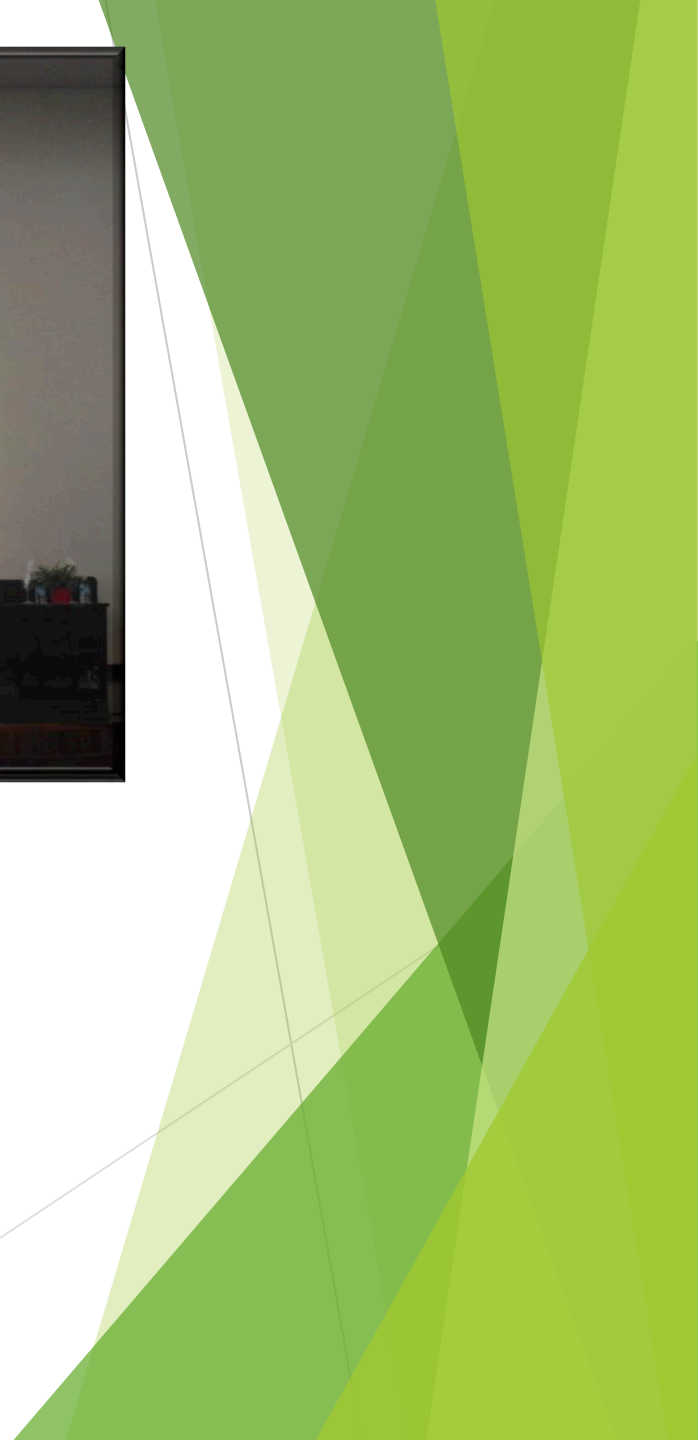
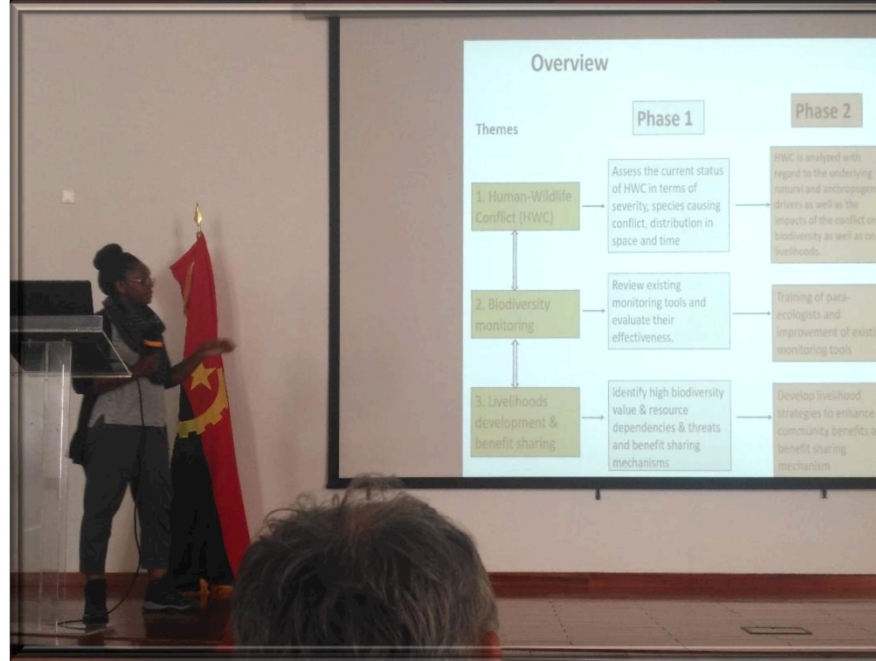


Stakeholder Engagement (ISCTP)





Iona Skeleton TFCA





Future plans

ARTP

- ▶ Ministerial Committee - recommendations from the Comprehensive report on cross border tourism products
- ▶ Bo-Plaats development - a proper ablution facility,
- ▶ Improve operation and marketing cross border products
- ▶ Inclusion of Sperrgebiet into ARTP
- ▶ Joint control of alien invasive plants along river
- ▶ Finalize set up a transboundary community forum

ISCTP

- ▶ Field excursion to the Namibian Component of ISCTP (Nov 2018)
- ▶ Annual workplan and budget 2019/2020
- ▶ Ministerial Meeting to endorse the Implementation Plan
- ▶ Set up all the institutional framework (including communities)
- ▶ Review Management Plans for the two parks and develop integrated Development Plan for each Component.
- ▶ Development of an Integrated Development Plan
- ▶ Capacity building - Need assessment for the stakeholder- Enhance understanding of stakeholder on TFCA
- ▶ Fund raising and marketing of ISCTP

Constraints and added value

ARTP

- ▶ Insufficient capacity for dedicated marketing of cross border events
- ▶ Community benefit and participation from tourism products is limited

Added value

- ▶ Team work between staff from both sides of the border

ISCTP

- ▶ Common understanding in terms of value of Transfrontier Conservation Areas
- ▶ Community engagement in TP management
- ▶ Insufficient infrastructures
- ▶ Tourism development
- ▶ Absence of designated border crossing

Added value

- ▶ Political will and support
- ▶ Strength the bilateral commitment
- ▶ Enhance and promote coordination and cooperation through stakeholder's forum

Challenges - a Case Study

- ▶ As the Park Manager of the SA side of the ARTP TFCA, it is required that I attend meetings and training within the TFCA yet I have to stamp my passport, pay road tax and go through everything an ordinary border post entails.
- ▶ Should any NAM staff member within the ARTP TFCA wish to collect or drop off goods at Sendelingsdrift (100m from the border post), the entire border process applies.
- ▶ When conducting joint patrols or events, normal border times, passport regulations apply jeopardising the entire operation to fit in with the normal border times when we are in fact a TFCA.
- ▶ During Desert Knights T2 2018 I was questioned as to the reason for using my official passport and where my official letter was, I subsequently used my private passport to attend and host the Desert Knights T2 2018 within the ARTP TFCA.
- ▶ What exactly does the ARTP TFCA have in common with the policies, regulations goals and purposes of other TFCA's?

How can the SADC TFCAs Unit and Network help?

ARTP

- ✓ Support for project management and planning for tourism product development
- ✓ Implement recommendations of the comprehensive report on cross border tourism product
- ✓ Marketing ARTP and products (events) at SADC and international level
- ✓ Mobilisation of funds
- ✓ Establish M & E system

ISCTP

- ✓ Info management and M & E system development
- ✓ Marketing ARTP and products (events) at SADC level
- ✓ Mobilisation of funds
- ✓ Capacity Building
- ✓ Development and implementation of IDP
- ✓ Sharing lesson learnt
- ✓ Mobilization of funds