



Summary of Record of the 2021 SADC TFCA Network meeting

1. Background

The SADC Transfrontier Conservation Area (TFCA) Network was established in 2013 pursuant to the development of the SADC TFCA Programme (2013). The Network is an organized forum of more than 600 TFCA practitioners representing Governments, international and regional Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), Academic Institutions, International Cooperating Partners (ICPs), community representatives and private sector contributing to overcome TFCA challenges through knowledge management and collaboration. The SADC TFCA Network meets annually with its Members through physical or virtual meetings. The meeting was convened by SADC Secretariat (FANR) in partnership with GIZ, through SADC/GZ C-NRM Project; IUCN-ESARO (the SADC TFCA Executing Agency).

The meeting was chaired by SADC Chair (Republic of Malawi), and facilitated by Clara Bocchino. The meeting was attended by 14 out of 16 Member States.

The meeting was attended by a diversity of stakeholder groups government (Directors of Wildlife, TFCA Focal Points), parastatal, ICPs, NGOs, academia, and private sector.

The objectives of the meeting were the following:

- Share progress by SADC Secretariat, Member States and ICPs on the various ongoing projects and programs in TFCA sustainable management;
- Strengthen the communication, collaboration and cooperation to develop TFCA under Category B and C;
- Present and discuss the draft of the TFCA Value Study; and
- Provide an update to the TFCA Network on the preparations for regional and international events:
 - o African Protected Area Congress, Kigali, Rwanda (March 2022)
 - o SADC TFCA Summit, Victoria Falls (Zimbabwe)

The presentations and recordings of the meeting can be accessed on the [SADC TFCA Portal](#).

The key outcomes of the meeting are presented below.

2. Outcomes of the Meeting

Subject	Summary and Discussions	Recommendations/Action Points
<p>Official opening</p>	<p>Mr. Timothy Chana, TFCA Focal Point, Malawi (Chair) welcomed participants to the first virtual annual SADC TFCA Network.</p> <p>The Chair wished participants a fruitful meeting and hopes the new format is informative and suitable for all.</p> <p>Dr. Gove, Director of the Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources (FANR) Director underlined the importance contribution TFCA make towards regional integration as outlined in the SADC Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP) 2020-2030. Through TFCAs Member States join hands in the socio-economic development and cross-border protection of shared natural resources in terrestrial, coastal and marine ecosystems.</p> <p>For SADC, the TFCA Network is a critical platform, or think tank that contributes not only to information exchange but also the creation of synergies and support to fundraising. Critical inputs from this meeting will be submitted to SADC statutory structures and can fast-track SADC decision making processes.</p>	
	<p>SADC reporting</p> <p>Mr. Nunes Mazavila, TFCA Advisor, SADC Secretariat reported on they key TFCA decisions from the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Technical Committee on Wildlife held on 10 December 2020 - Joint Ministerial Meeting of Ministers Responsible for Environment, Natural Resources and Tourism held on 18 June 2021 <p>The following key updates were provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Endorsement to conduct a Value of SADC TFCA Study - Way forward required on Toolbox on Community Engagement & Development of 	

<p>SESSION I:</p> <p>Meeting overview & update from the Network</p>	<p>Cross-border Tourism products. Member States were requested to send outcomes of their national consultations by August 2021</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Endorsement of the SADC TFCA Summit with Zimbabwe as host country - Endorsement to conduct a Review of the SADC TFCA Programme - Member States directed SADC Secretariat to produce a clear roadmap for hosting the Boundless southern Africa programme & present the outcomes during a extra-ordinary SADC Tourism Ministers meeting. <p>Concerns were raised about the Toolbox on community engagement and the delays in the approval processes.</p> <p>SADC noted that both Toolboxes were submitted to the TC on Wildlife in 2019 but that more time was required for national consultations. In 2020 the document was submitted again but Member States recommended to change the name from Guideline to a Toolkit to facilitate endorsement. Member States were requested to input but no comments were received. The documents will be submitted again to the TC on Wildlife</p> <p>Namibia reiterated that good consultations were held in 2018 and that Member States seemed fine with the new name. The document needs to be endorsed and used by the TFCAs.</p> <p>The SADC TFCA Network progress</p> <p>Mr. Cornelio Miguel, TFCA Coordinator, Mozambique (outgoing Chair) provided an overview to the Network to new Network members and reported on the following progress from the TFCA Network SC:</p> <p>The TFCA Network SC supported the following processes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development of a Concept Note to commission a Review the SADC TFCA Programme which was endorsed by Ministers. The concept include the following key elements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Adding a component on Shared Natural Resource Management o Outline a clear process for TFCAs to become listed, to support the continued expansion of the SADC TFCA Network o Clearly define how TFCAs should be listed when involved non-SADC 	<p>SADC Toolboxes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The issue of endorsement of the 1) Toolbox on community engagement in TFCAs and 2) Toolbox on cross-border tourism products in TFCAs should be discussed during the next TFCA Network SC and outcomes to be submitted to the TC on Wildlife <p>The vision of the SADC TFCA Network SC is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Renew the SADC TFCA Network engagement from the Member States and TFCAs - Strengthen the SADC TFCA Network
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	<p style="text-align: center;">Partner States</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Process to integrate the SADC TFCA Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Framework into the SADC-wide M&E system - Establishment of a working group on the TFCA Network SC long-term sustainability <p>The TFCA Financing Facility SC was also active in endorsement of key documents and processes to launch and operationalize the facility.</p> <p>Participants were further reminded of the SADC TFCA Webinar Series which took place from July-September 2020. A feedback survey conducted after the webinar series showed that the series was rated as “very good”.</p>	<p>SC Membership by reaching out to less-active Member States and Category B and C TFCAs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continue to intensify online engagements with all SADC TFCA Network members through different formats - Review the Communities of Practice according to current interests by the Network
<p>SESSION II:</p> <p>Integration of SADC TFCAs M&E into the SADC-wide M&E system</p>	<p>The facilitator provided an update on the implementation of the SADC TFCA M&E framework including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Piloting of the system and indicators in /Ai/Ais Richtersveld, Lubombo and Malawi-Zambia TFCA using SurveyMonkey - Updating of indicators following initial testing <p>Next steps are to integrate the indicators into the SADC M&E system. The SADC system works on Key Performance Indicators derived from the RISDP, while the TFCA M&E Framework is designed for more lower-level data collection.</p> <p>Alternatively, other tools called SADC Data Collection or LimeSurvey can be used. LimeSurvey would be most similar to the SurveyMonkey system used for the piloting</p>	<p>Decision for the Steering Committee (options):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue using SurveyMonkey 2. Move to the LimeSurvey under SADC management 3. Move to the SADC Data Collection Tool under SADC management 4. Upscale the SADC TFCA M&E System to KPIs
	<p>/Ai/Ais Richtersveld Transfrontier Park (ARTP)</p> <p>Cross-border activities impacted by COVID-19. Proposal submitted to the TFCA Financing Facility COVID-19 Response Grant.</p> <p>By no longer having an International Coordinator which was funded through PPF, ARTP has lost some of its momentum.</p>	

SESSION II:

**TFCA Progress Reports
2019-2021: Day 1**

Improving business opportunities for local communities is key, currently through tourism and invasive species control. Important to bring in private sector and build long-term capacities of communities.

Key future plans:

- Review/develop the ARTP Master Plan/Integrated Development Plan (IDP) to attract funding.
- Improve coordination/secretariat work of the ARTP
- Incorporate new areas into the ARTP. Namibia is in process of proclaiming Sperrgebiet as a National Park and ensuring proper zonation. The area can be included into ARTP thereafter.
- Improve coordination for key cross-border tourism products (Desert Knights & Desert Kayak Trail)

Great Limpopo TFCA (GLTFCA)

GLTFCA revised its Institutional arrangements. The role of the JMB was revised for the stakeholders to focus more on policy development, advocacy and guidance. Joint Park Management Committees were established for 4 geographical locations to facilitate implementation on the ground.

Various strategies were developed and implemented including a Wildlife Translocation Programme, Elephant Management Framework & Strategy, Fence Strategy, Wildlife Poisoning Strategy and a Joint Training Strategy.

Key future plans:

- Setting up a Secretariat for the GLTFCA
- Development of a Transboundary Water Resource Management Strategy.

Greater Mapungubwe TFCA (GMTFCA)

Partner countries are in the final stage of drafting the Treaty. Signing is anticipated before April 2022. The IDP is also being finalized. This is an important step towards mobilizing of additional resources.

	<p>Key future plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Setting up cross-border community engagement initiatives - Establishing more crossing points between the three countries for tourism and communities - Implementing Herding4Health (H4H) activities funded by GIZ and implemented through PPF and Conservation International <p>Iona-Skeleton Coast TFCA (ISCTFCA)</p> <p>ISCTFCA is the youngest Category A TFCA. Plans are delayed due to restructuring of government on the side of Angola and changes in staff.</p> <p>Future plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implement Implementation Plan and development of an IDP - Implement project under TFCA Financing Facility COVID-19 Response Grant in the conservation and tourism sector <p>Kavango-Zambezi (KAZA) TFCA</p> <p>A lot of progress made in relation to elephant management, Law-Enforcement and Anti-Poaching, tourism and communication. Additional funding through Defra (Biodiversity Landscape Fund) and the Dutch Postcode Lottery Dreamfund.</p> <p>Key future plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - KAZA-wide aerial survey - Stronger communication capacity and effectiveness - Development of a KAZA Livelihood and KAZA Giraffe Conservation Strategy - Roll-out of KAZA UniVisa beyond Zambia and Zimbabwe 	
<p>SESSION III:</p> <p>Sustainable financing and funding</p>	<p>Update on the TFCA Financing Facility</p> <p>Ms. Kuda Chigodo, IUCN Team Leader, SADC TFCA Facilities, presented on the key updates from the SADC TFCA Financing Facility implementation, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Official launch of the TFCA FF at the IUCN World Conservation Congress in 	

opportunities for TFCAs

Marseille, France on 5 September 2021

- COVID-19 Response Grants Closed Call for Proposals closed on 31 April 2021:
 - o 22 Concept Notes were received covering 13 TFCAs
 - o Most Concept did not have clear linkages to COVID-19 recovery
 - o 3 proposals were endorsed, 13 proposals were requested to revise Concept Notes, 4 were encourage not respond to the Main Call and 2 were rejected.

- TFCA FF Main Call for Proposals closed on the 15 September 2021:
 - o 64 Concept Notes were received from government, NGOs and CBOs requesting a total of EUR 108 million
 - o Currently eligibility checks are being concluded
- Operational Manual was validated in September 2021 and will be updated taking note of gaps identified by stakeholders
- A call for expression of interest for Roster of Experts with closing date on 22 October 2021
- Communication Plan is in development. TFCA Network members will be invited to input.

For the COVID-19 grant feedback was provided that the 1-month timeline to submit proposals was too short. This will be evaluated and taken up for the next call. Will also discuss how the facility can support other countries such as the Island States to benefit from these investments.

Legacy Landscape Fund: A new dimension in nature protection

Ms. Stephanie Lang, Executive Director of the [Legacy Landscape Fund \(LLF\)](#) informed the participants about this new financing instrument aimed at providing operational support to 30 conservation areas (IUCN Category I/II) through both public and private investors. Each conservation area received USD 1 million for 15 years with the aim to develop business models for eternity funding. Worldwide a select number pilot conservation areas are currently being assessed to be included in the portfolio of 7 pilot projects, amongst others Iona National Park, Gonarezhou National Park and North Luangwa

SESSION III:

<p>Sustainable financing and funding opportunities for TFCAs</p>	<p>National Park. The first Call for Proposal is expected early 2022.</p> <p>In the discussion it was explained that while the core focus is on protected areas, up to 50% of the funding can go into the non-protected areas or buffer areas, surrounding the core protected area.</p> <p>Further it was explained that for an area to qualify, there has to be a legal long-term agreement, like an MoU between government and an NGO. The funding is however only intended for the management costs of the protected area and cannot substitute public sector funding.</p> <p>African Green Stimulus Programme</p> <p>Mr. Roland Vorwerk representing the government of South Africa, provided insights into the this new Africa-led “green recovery” programme launched at the 18th session of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN) in September 2021. The African Green Stimulus Programme (AGSP) and associated platform intends will enable programmes to be “on boarded” and to connect with partners, funders in a dynamic and interactive manner. The Platform will also serve as a “marketplace” or interface between potential funders and investors and the portfolio of individual programmes and projects under the AGSP.</p>	<p>South Africa committed to update the Network of any new developments with regard to Call for Proposals.</p>
<p>SESSION IV:</p> <p>Value of TFCAs study outline – presentation and discussion</p>	<p>Mr. Kyle Harris, Project Manager of Prime Africa presented on the current consultancy which aims to develop a value proposition for TFCAs using existing valuation methodologies and utilising a cost benefit analysis approach, including Ecosystem Service Assessments. The overall approach will take a broad view of the value proposition for the collective of all TFCAs through drawing on case studies. The final technical and summary reports are due on 16 February 2022.</p>	<p>TFCA stakeholders are asked to send information on specific TFCAs, case studies or focused research within TFCAs to K.harris@primeafrica.net.</p>
<p>SESSION V:</p> <p>Category B and C TFCAs (closed session)</p>	<p>The closed discussion around Category B and C TFCAs was very useful. Member States discussed the following key items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SADC to facilitate engagements between Partner States of TFCA, on request of the Member States - Capitalise on the successful coastal TFCAs such as Lubombo to kick-start the 	

	<p>Western Indian Ocean Transfrontier Marine Park</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop Handbook/policy brief on lessons learnt for TFCA, to guide those TFCAs on Category B or C. As well as how Category A TFCAs can become more successful 	
Closure day 1		
<p>SESSION VI: TFCA Progress Reports 2019-2021: Day 2</p>	<p>Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park</p> <p>Partner States continue to finance the governance and management of the TP through their own resources. However, lack of funding for additional activities remains a challenge</p> <p>Key future plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review of the IDP and other related strategic plans - Improve tourism infrastructure within the KTP - Creation of a cross-border cultural exchange programme. <p>Questions were raised on how governance and legislation have been harmonized between the two countries, in particular in relation to law-enforcement. South Africa clarified that policies are not harmonized per-se but that there are Standard Operating Procedures. There is no high-level document, but collaboration between the two agencies on an operational level.</p> <p>Lubombo TFCA</p> <p>In 3,350 ha of community conservation areas were to the TFCA, expanding the conservation estate. Furthermore, the Integration of the Barberton Makhonjwa World Heritage Site with Songimvelo was added to the TFCA. One of the key milestones the TFCA wishes to achieve in future is the establishment of a Secreteriat, to enhance the capacities of the TFCA.</p> <p>Malawi-Zambia TFCA</p> <p>While the bilateral Treaty was signed by Malawi and Zambia in 2015, the ratification</p>	

process is still ongoing. In the reporting period the IDP for the Nyika-North Luangwa component was concluded, the IDP for Kasungu-Lukusuzi component is still in development. One of the key achievements has been the development of a cross-border radio network for Kasungu-Lukusuzi with funding from GIZ.

Key future plans:

- Areal elephant survey in Kasungu-Lukusuzi funded through CERU
- Setting up a cross-border radio network for the Nyika and Chama block
- Broadening finance mechanisms as the core funding currently comes from the German government.

Maloti-Drakensberg TFCA

Initially Lesotho and South Africa had no interest in sign a Treaty, but recently sentiments have changed during one of the Bilateral Coordination Committees. The two countries are now moving towards developing a Treaty. During COVID the various working groups and associated WhatsApp groups supported communication. Key priorities for the include habitat restoration, management and connectivity, as well as revival of the tourism sector.

Mayombe TFCA

Dr. Soto (PPF) complemented Angola on their presentation and underscored the potential that exists in this TFCA. He offered that PPF is available to assist Angola in this TFCA and that there is potential to share in projects in Great Limpopo and ensuring knowledge exchange between Angola and Mozambique.

Niassa-Selous TFCA

Following the signing of the MoU, the TFCA is currently developing the IDP for the TFCA with support from CMS/UNEP and WWF. Furthermore, Tanzania have upgraded part of the former Selous Game Reserve to Nyerere National Park and the process to gazette the Selous-Niassa Wildlife Corridor has started. Furthermore stakeholders have successfully participated in an Online TFCA training course at the Southern African Wildlife College.

<p>SESSION VII:</p> <p>New projects or developments in TFCA landscapes</p>	<p>SADC/GIZ Climate Resilience and Natural Resource Management (C-NRM).</p> <p>Dr. Dieter Nill, Project Manager GIZ C-NRM provided an update on the EUR 8 million project which runs from January 2021 until December 2024 with four components on i) policy support to SADC, ii) knowledge management, iii) climate-smart agriculture (CSA) and NRM support in 3 selected TFCAs and iv) COVID-19 recovery of the tourism sector.</p> <p>In addition a the C-NRM project wishes to conduct a climate risk analysis in Malawi-Zambia TFCA. To support this process the C-NRM project has shown interest to set-up a TFCA Network Community of Practice on Climate Resilience and CSA with the aim to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bring together experts from the TFCA Network and Centre for Coordination of Agricultural Research and Development for Southern Africa (CCARDESA) - Strengthen knowledge on cross-border climate resilience and CSA - Further mainstream climate change in TFCA development <p>BirdLife projects in SADC TFCAs</p> <p>Andrew Blocq, Avitourism Project Manager, BirdLife South Africa, gave insights on the avitourism projects currently implemented together with TFCAs. In LTFCA, GLTFCA and to a lesser extend MDTFCA and KAZA, special community bird guides are trained to encourage avitourists to visit the areas.</p> <p>Furthermore, Julia Pierini, CEO, Birdlife Zimbabwe, provided more detail on some of the projects running in Hwange, Chobe and Kafue National Park to tackle illegal wildlife poisoning in KAZA TFCA. In addition work is undertaken in Chimanimani TFCA to boost this landscape as a birding/hiking destination developing new ecotourism trails.</p> <p>MozBio contributions to Mozambique TFCAs</p> <p>Madyo Couto, Project Manager, MozBio presents on this innovative programme funded through ANAC and the BIOFUND, a conservation trust fund with various international, regional and local donors. The second phase runs from 2019-2024 with an overall budget of USD 80 million, focusing on three areas, two of which are in TFCAs, namely: Chimanimani and Lubombo TFCA where they also fund some transboundary activities such as wildlife translocatiomsn and aerial counts. Mozbio II focusses on three</p>	<p>TFCA Network Community of Practice on Climate Resilience and CSA</p> <p>GIZ C-NRM wishes to present a proposal for consideration of the Network SC to set-up a CoP and climate resilience and CSA and will submit a ToR to the next meeting.</p>
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components, namely: i) institutional capacity, ii) management of conservation areas and iii) rural development.

WWF Tanzania: Ruvuma Landscape Programme

Julian Eason, Project Executant shared updates to the participants on WWF Tanzania work in one of their key landscapes, called the Ruvuma Transboundary Landscape, including both Niassa-Selous. Some of the key activities include:

- Establishment of 9 community wildlife management areas (WMAs)
- Enhancing nature-based enterprise initiatives
- Human elephant conflict mitigation
- Elephant coloring and monitoring in Selous and the Niassa-Selous Wildlife Corridor (NSWC)
- Support operationalization of the TFCA and spatial modelling of the NSWC

GEF7 Reducing Human Wildlife Conflict in Southern Africa

Steve Johnson, consultant for the GEF7 HWC project under the South African STAR allocation provided participants with an overview on the project and the key findings of a survey conducted of elephant management and HWC in the SADC region. The following key drivers were identified by the survey:

- Human settlements
- Poor land-use planning and allocations
- Poor livestock husbandry
- Lack of tolerance by local communities
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This led to the identification of the following project components:

1. Policy on management of elephants endorsed and implemented
2. Human perceptions and tolerance of living with wildlife improved in priority areas
3. Important elephant populations and HWC in the SADC region are scientifically and holistically managed across national borders

KAZA Dreamfund project

	<p>Mike Knight, KAZA Coordinator, WWF Namibia, presenting on the KAZA Dreamfund project which is funded through the Dutch Postcode Lottery and jointly implemented by WWF, African Parks and Peace Parks in close collaboration with the KAZA Secretariat. The project will focus on three dimensions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ensuring that wildlife populations can move freely between protected areas through corridors in the Kwando Wildlife Dispersal Area 2. Ensuring water stewardship for the Kwando river system 3. Strengthening management and capacities of Luengue-Luiana National Park, in Angola and Sioma Ngwezi and Kafue National Parks in Zambia. 	
<p>SESSION VIII:</p> <p>Sustainability for Boundless and the SADC TFCA Network</p>	<p>Boundless Southern Africa programme post 2021</p> <p>Roland Vorwerk, Marketing Manager, Boundless Southern Africa (BSA) reported on recent developments in the tourism sector where SADC Member States endorsed a SADC Tourism Programme (2019) as well as a COVID-19 sensitive Tourism Programme Costed Action Plan (2020). Goal 3 focusses specifically on the development of tourism in TFCAs through an operational BSA Programme. In the planned SADC Tourism Coordination Unit a Programme Officer for BSA is planned supported by a working group on tourism in TFCAs.</p> <p>It was further alluded that the South African Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) will no longer host the BSA Programme from March 2022 after having done so since 2008. The way forward for BSA on finding a future host will be discussed during the upcoming TC on Tourism meeting in November 2021.</p> <p>2018-2021 SADC TFCAs Network: The sustainability journey</p> <p>Nunes Mazavile updated the meeting on the ongoing developments with regard to the SADC TFCA Network long-term sustainability, a process that was kicked-started with the development of a Sustainability Strategy in 2018. Since then several ICP meetings were held and a TFCA Network SC sustainability working group established. The following roadmap going forward was presented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To ensure continuation of the general Network support, a costed budget and ToR 	<p>2022 Sustainability planning session</p> <p>To understand how TFCA network members see their role going forward, a short survey has been prepared to for Members to</p>

	<p>for a warm body has been developed. SADC Sec. will set-up individual meetings with key ICPS and table the item at a TFCA FF SC meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The TFCA Portal is currently hosted through RCMRD however slightly outdated. A workshop is required with key TFCA Network stakeholders to discuss how to make it more user friendly. - The requirements and preferences for TFCA Network meetings have changed due to COVID-19 and there is a need to workshop through what type of Network engagements are desired going forward. 	<p>identify if members are interested to i) contribute to the network, ii) participate in a workshop around future TFCA engagements and iii) to participate in workshop around the future of the TFCA Portal. The link can be accessed here: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfeOfMbRMP247ibrnDrHkhWn0JMlaOr-6TN_ThJf7o5G4OfuQ/viewform?usp=sf_link</p>
<p>Closure</p>	<p>The Chair finally closed the meeting by thanking Member States and partners for their reports and engagements contributing to the success of the TFCA Programme. Finally he congratulated Mozambique on a wonderful job as Chair of the TFCA Network, and thanked Member States, SADC Secreteriat, TFCA Network members as well as members from the organising team for participating in and organising the meeting.</p>	<p>In his closing remarks, the Chair called on Member States to translate the recommendations and decisions of this meeting into actions.</p>