

The background of the slide is a wide-angle photograph of a natural landscape. It features a body of water on the left, a vast flat plain in the middle ground, and a sky filled with dramatic, grey clouds. The foreground is dominated by tall, golden-brown grasses.

# **Transboundary Conservation Areas**

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**Lesson 1: Introduction and  
Background to Transboundary  
Conservation Areas**



# Factors of Success

**Assess the enabling environment** to pursue transboundary conservation

**Define the transboundary context and relationships** affecting the achievement of the conservation targets and the resulting geographic extent

**Identify and involve stakeholders**, obtain support of decision makers and ensure political will and buy-in

Agree on **common values and joint vision**

Determine **common transboundary management objectives** and develop cooperative agreements

# Lesson Overview & Goals

## Introduction and Background

Defining transboundary conservation

Importance, benefits and challenges of transboundary conservation

International frameworks and approaches

Overview of the transboundary conservation process



# Transboundary Conservation: Defined

What is transboundary conservation? What are some examples?

- ...



# Transboundary Conservation: Defined

## **Transboundary Conservation:**

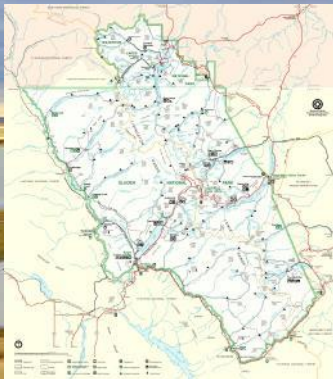
“A process of cooperation to achieve conservation goals across one or more international boundaries”

## **Elements of International Cooperation:**

- Identifying common values and needs concerning shared natural resource
- Coordinating (inter)national objectives and management
- Improving conservation efforts beyond national boundaries
- Harmonizing laws and programmes
- Engaging with relevant stakeholders
- Developing collaboration among different governance systems

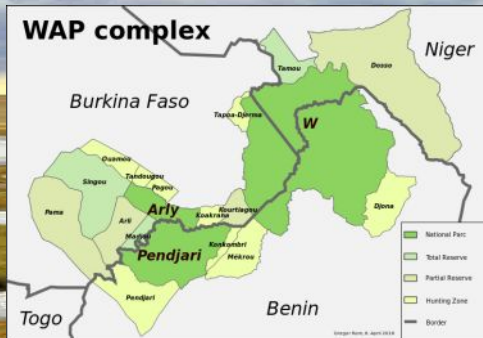


# Typology of TBCAs: Examples



**Transboundary  
Protected Area &  
Park for Peace**

Waterton-Glacier  
International Peace  
Park (Canada, USA)



**Transboundary  
Conservation  
Landscape/Seascape**

W-Arly-Pendjari  
Complex (Benin,  
Burkina Faso, Niger)



**Transboundary  
Migration  
Conservation Area**

Eastern Tropical Pacific  
Marine Corridor  
(Colombia, Panama,  
Ecuador, Costa Rica)

What are the benefits of transboundary conservation?

- ...





## Ecological Benefits



- Improving ecological integrity
- Strengthening ecosystem resilience
- Securing long term survival of species
- Facilitating reintroduction or natural recolonization of species
- Enabling larger species dispersal

*Best Practice Guidelines:*

Case studies 2, 10, Boxes 5, 10



# Importance and Benefits

## Socio-economic Benefits



*Best Practice Guidelines:  
Box 8, Case study 5*

- Strengthening social relations and trust
- Supporting transboundary trade of local products
- Facilitating nature-based transboundary tourism
- Enabling common marketing
- Promoting sustainable use
- Assisting sustainable development of borderlands and improving local economy
- Providing opportunities for co-funded projects

# Importance and Benefits

## Cultural Benefits

- Recognizing cultural heritage and spiritual values
- Enhancing cultural significance of nature by bringing divided cultures back together
- Supporting linkages between nature and Indigenous Peoples and traditional local communities
- Preserving historical transboundary landscapes



*Best Practice Guidelines:  
Box 9, Case studies 3, 4*



# Importance and Benefits

## Benefits for Day-to-Day Management and Research

- Enhancing efficiency of day-to-day management of shared issues, e.g.: sharing equipment, joint patrols and cooperation in wildfire management, ecosystem restoration, search and rescue operations, and control of invasive species
- Supporting coordinated capacity development for protected area staff
- Promoting dynamic problem-solving
- Enabling exchange of knowledge, information and expertise
- Facilitating joint research and harmonized monitoring of species and habitats
- Supporting integrated management and development of common conservation strategies

# Importance and Benefits

## Political Benefits



- Enhanced cooperation and diplomacy
- Potential harmonisation of legal and policy frameworks
- Enabling foundation from which good political relations, stability and peace are secured

*Best Practice Guidelines:  
Boxes 11, 12*



# Challenges in Transboundary Conservation

What are the challenges in transboundary conservation?

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# Challenges in Transboundary Conservation

- Different languages
- Cultural differences
- Political indifference
- Differences in law
- Different levels of economic development
- Unequal resources and capacity
- Unequal professional standards
- Undetermined vision and intangible goals
- Poor communication
- Lack of commitment
- Lack of cooperative spirit
- Need for increased coordination
- Inaccessible terrain





## International Designations

### ●Ramsar Convention

- Consultation regarding transboundary wetlands
- Guidelines for international cooperation on transboundary wetlands
- Integrated River Basin Management approach

### ●UNESCO World Heritage Convention

- Nominated properties may be transboundary and serial
- Joint management committee or similar body

### ●UNESCO Man and the Biosphere Programme

- Recommendations for Transboundary Biosphere Reserves



# International Frameworks and Approaches



- **Convention on Biological Diversity - Programme of Work on Protected Areas (PoWPA)**
  - Ecosystem approach in transboundary context
  - Establish regional networks of TBPA's
- **Convention on Migratory Species (CMS)**
  - Cooperation among range states
  - List of migratory species



## Regional Frameworks

### ● **Southern African Development Community (SADC)**

- Leads regional efforts to establish Transfrontier Conservation Areas (TFCAs)
- Regional network of TFCA practitioners

### ● **EU Natura 2000 Network**

- Sites established under Birds Directive and Habitats Directive
- Focus on habitats that cross international borders

### ● **International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD)**

- Eight member countries of the Hindu Kush Himalaya
- Transboundary Landscapes Programme supports conservation and sustainable use
- Transboundary conservation initiatives in six transboundary landscapes

# Overview: Transboundary Conservation Process

WCPA's Framework	CONTEXT AND PLANNING		INPUTS AND PROCESSES	OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES
Stages	<b>DIAGNOSE</b>	<b>DESIGN</b>	<b>TAKE ACTION</b>	<b>EVALUATE</b>
Goals	Determine the need for transboundary conservation	Match the process to the situation	Secure resources and implement actions	Learn and adapt
Step 1	Identify if there is a compelling reason to act	Determine who should lead the effort	Assess the capacity to implement plans	Assess progress and outcomes
Step 2	Determine if there is a constituency for change	Mobilize and engage the right people	Develop an action plan	Determine if there is a need to continue
Step 3	Estimate the scope of the issue	Define the geographic extent	Secure financial sustainability	Adapt the management and action plans
Step 4	Estimate the capacity to work across boundaries	Negotiate a joint vision and develop management objectives	Implement the plans	Communicate progress



# Overview: Transboundary Conservation Process

## Context and Planning

- **Diagnose:** Determining the need for TBCAs
  - Identify a compelling reason to act
  - Determine if there is a constituency for change
  - Estimate the scope
  - Estimate the capacity to work across borders
- **Design:** Match the process to the situation
  - Determine leadership
  - Mobilize public
  - Define the geographic extent
  - Negotiate a joint vision and develop management objectives

# Overview: Transboundary Conservation Process

## Inputs and Processes

**Take action:** Secure resources and implement actions

- Assess the capacity to implement plans
- Develop an action plan
- Secure financial resources
- Implement the plans

## Outputs and Outcomes

**Evaluate:** Learn and adapt

- Assess progress and outcomes
- Determine if there is a need to continue
- Adapt the management and action plans
- Communicate progress



What current or proposed Transboundary Conservation Areas are you involved in? What are the challenges? What are the real or potential benefits?

- ...

# Transboundary Conservation Areas

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End of Lesson 1