

The background of the slide is a photograph of Victoria Falls, showing multiple cascades of water over a rocky cliff. A vibrant rainbow is visible in the mist created by the falling water. The sky is clear and blue.

Transboundary Conservation Areas

Lesson 8: Final Thoughts

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

Final thoughts

Next steps in transboundary conservation

Lessons and advice in initiating transboundary conservation

What Comes Next?

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

Securing Capacity

Securing Commitments and Capacity

Secure commitments by stakeholders:

- Knowledge and expertise
- Resources
- Management obligations

Requires regular and consistent dialogues with stakeholders in the planning and management process to gain advice, build confidence and commit resources

Securing Political Buy-in & Building Legitimacy



Approaches

Top-down

Bottom-up

Third party facilitation

Legitimizing transboundary conservation initiatives

- Political commitments from prospective countries to begin the dialogue
- Building political support and commitment
- Sustained collaboration between partners
- Balance of local and national involvement

Developing Transboundary Agreements



Approaches

Formal agreements

Informal agreements

Combination of both formal and
informal agreements

Developing and Implementing an Action Plan

Identifying the team to oversee implementation

Developing short-term statements of operational goals derived from long-term management objectives

Developing an Action Plan

- Must be consistent with each country's managing procedures
- More detailed in delegating tasks, individuals accountable and time frames
- Flexible and include proposals for regular review and updating

Securing Financial Stability



Obstacles

- Lack of government support
- Lack of trust
- Lack of capacity
- Limited public awareness & understanding of local cultural, ecological, and other values
- Incoherent and uncoordinated funding strategies
- Funding limited to specific issues
- Development of donor-dependency

Recommendations

- Review all costs associated with implementation
- Assess the full potential of ecosystem goods and services
- Identify the beneficiaries and their linkages to the area
- Identify strategies relevant to beneficiaries
- Secure long-term investments
- Design a long-term business plan that compares the costs of joint management of with income generating potential
- Locate and acquire alternative funding

Measuring Results: Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring and evaluation provide the intelligence needed to assess results and identify what modifications may be needed to improve performance

Monitoring and Evaluation of TBCA Management Effectiveness

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



Final thoughts on initiating transboundary conservation

- Diagnose the situation before engaging in transboundary conservation and decide if there is a compelling reason to act
- Work towards reaching a shared understanding and a common vision
- Move from assessment to design and determine leadership, mobilize stakeholders, and create an organizational structure
- Define the transboundary area carefully to reflect the stakeholders' interests
- Ideally express the vision and objectives in a joint management plan
- Determine specific topics of realistic cooperation and mutual interests

Final questions?

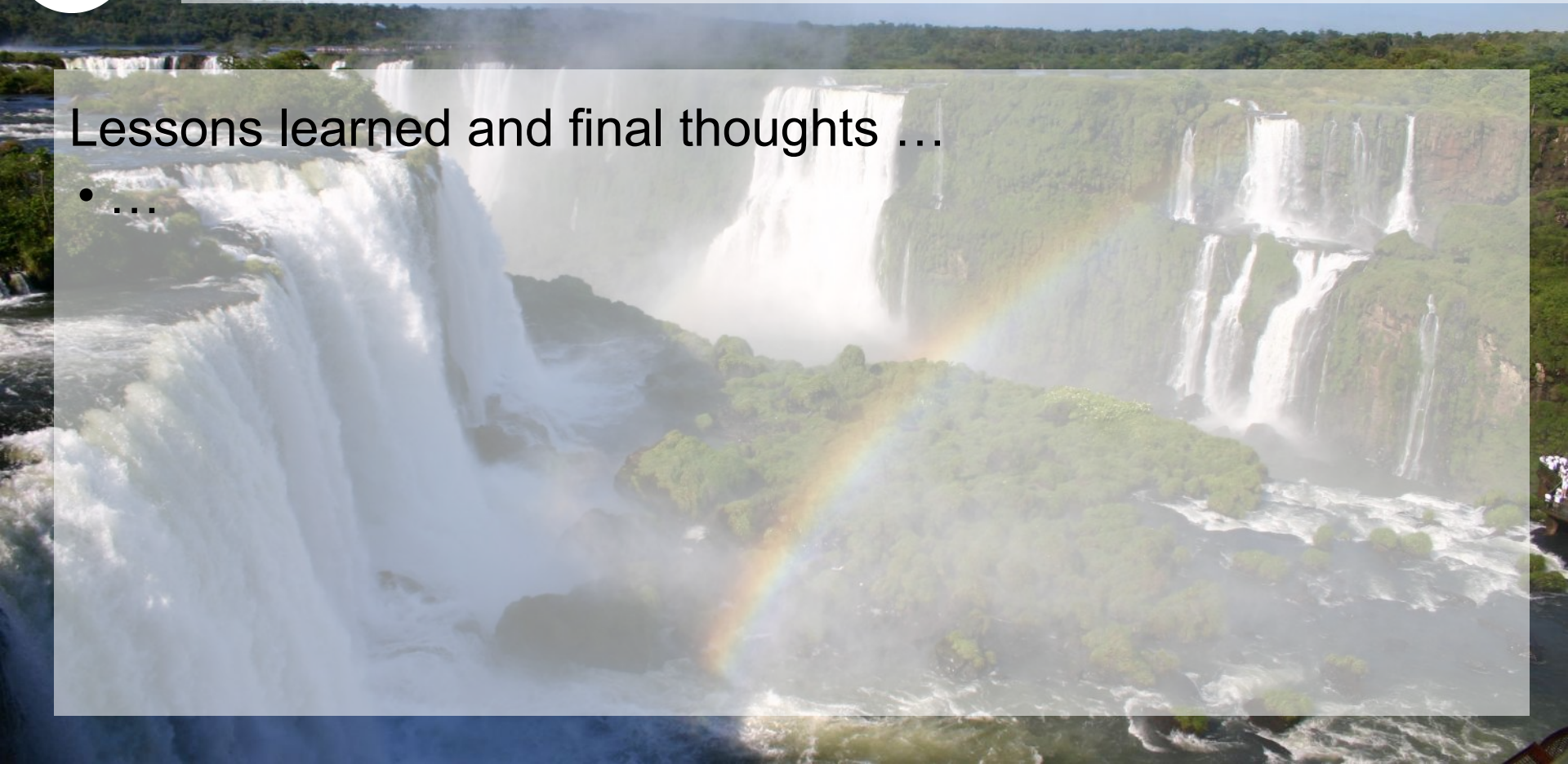
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Module Evaluation and Final Thoughts

Lessons learned and final thoughts ...

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The background of the slide is a wide-angle photograph of Victoria Falls, showing multiple cascades of water over a rocky cliff, surrounded by lush green vegetation. A faint rainbow is visible in the mist created by the falling water.

Transboundary Conservation Areas

End of Lesson 8