



WCPA
WORLD COMMISSION
ON PROTECTED AREAS



TBPA in Focus
La Amistad
International
Park

BIODIVERSITY IN
TRANSBOUNDARY
TROPICAL
FORESTS

SUPPORTING
TRANSBOUNDARY
MARINE
CONSERVATION

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Transboundary Conservation

TBeNEWS 2

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Introduction from the Transboundary Conservation Specialist Group



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Welcome to the 2nd issue of the TB eNews, the electronic newsletter dedicated to all aspects of transboundary conservation worldwide. The TB eNews is prepared by IUCN WCPA Transboundary Conservation Specialist Group, based on feedback and articles that you provide. We are happy to be able to collate the articles and show our Transboundary Network members and the wider conservation community about your fantastic initiatives and dedication to the conservation of biological and cultural diversity. As before, we are introducing one Transboundary Protected Area in the section TBPA in Focus. In this issue special attention is given to the La Amistad International Park, situated between Costa Rica and Panama. This UNESCO designated World Heritage Site (WHS) is one of the rare transboundary WHS locations. Out of 180 natural and mixed (natural and cultural) WHS, only 14 transboundary WHS are recorded in the UNESCO World Heritage List.

Regrettably, working in border areas can be perilous, and we report on the tragic loss of the African transboundary conservation leader, Gilberto Vicente. The article dedicated to his work was kindly written by Bartolomeu Soto from Mozambique.

As you will already know, we have been working on the improvement of the www.tbpa.net website, a complex task which we hope will be complete by the end of 2010. You are still welcome to send your contributions for inclusion in our 'Members' Corner' section.

The membership of the TBC SG continues to grow and we currently have 185 network members. We hope to be able to inform all our members about some new Specialist Group initiatives, which will create potential platforms for further cooperation in the near future.

And finally, we would like to congratulate Trevor Sandwith, the present Deputy Chair of WCPA, former Co-chair of the Transboundary Conservation Specialist Group and its current Senior Advisor, for his appointment as the new Head of IUCN's Global Programme on Protected Areas. We wish him every success in this position!

Thank you for your continued cooperation!

Transboundary Conservation Specialist Group Executive Committee
IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas

La Amistad of Costa Rica and Panama

The first Central American regional conservation meeting (1974) proposed several transboundary protected areas (TBPA) within the region and with Mexico and Colombia. Many recommendations of that IUCN-sponsored meeting have been acted on by national governments. La Amistad International Park, straddling the continental divide in the Talamanca Range along the Costa Rica-Panama border, is one result. The Costa Rican portion was created in 1982; and the Panamanian in 1988. It is among the oldest, largest, and most diverse Mesoamerican TBPAs.

Name:	LA AMISTAD INTERNATIONAL PARK
Countries:	Costa Rica and Panama
Surface:	400,000 ha
IUCN Category:	II
Designations:	UNESCO World Heritage Site, UNESCO Biosphere Reserve



La Amistad International Park is managed by Costa Rica's National Conservation Area System and Panama's National Environmental Authority. Certified coffee agroforestry has been promoted in the buffer to stabilize the agricultural front. In Costa Rica, a national environmental service payment system promotes good land stewardship. Peaceful relations and shared language and culture contribute to good bi-national cooperation. Technical and financial support from local and national NGOs, academia and the international conservation community have been vital.

The Park includes four percent of the world's terrestrial biodiversity. It includes the largest high altitude forests in southern Mesoamerica. Elevation ranges from near sea level to over 3,800 meters. Annual rainfall ranging from around 2 to over 7 meters contributes to diversity including over 400 bird species and high bird, plant and amphibian endemism. IUCN-listed species include six felids, Baird's tapir and the resplendent quetzal. Many species make seasonal altitudinal migrations. The altitudinal diversity and large size increase La Amistad's resilience to climate change.

La Amistad is a "water factory" due to high rainfall and abundant cloud forest fog drip. Water flowing from the biosphere reserves is used for hydropower and drinking water in much of Panama and Costa Rica. Protection of upper watersheds

is vital to prevent downstream flooding. The surrounding area is home to the majority of the indigenous population of both countries, so improving agricultural practices, paying for environmental services and promoting ecotourism reduce pressure on the park and improve livelihoods for local communities - among the poorest in both nations.

Unique species on the highest peaks could disappear due to global warming. The chytrid fungus is already responsible for amphibian declines. Drug production and smuggling, poaching and looting archaeological sites is problematic on the Caribbean slope. The Costa Rican portion is mostly government owned and free of settlement. Colonization, in holdings and cattle ranching are still threats in Panama. Forest fires are a shared dry season Pacific slope risk. Construction of several hydro dams near the park in Panama might disrupt migrations of fish and other aquatic organisms. Though the park is the largest in Costa Rica and Panama's second largest, there is limited public use or appreciation of the area. Funding and personnel levels are insufficient to combat threats, particularly on the Caribbean slope. Cooperation mechanisms between the governments and stakeholder participation in decision making need strengthening, according to a recent UNESCO-IUCN evaluation.

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Mozambique Lost a Conservation Leader - Gilberto Vicente

On Sunday, 23 July 2010, Gilberto Vicente was cowardly assassinated on the road to Maputo City from Maputo Special Reserve (MSR). He was fulfilling his conservation duties, on the way to attend the MSR Steering Committee Meeting. The Maputo Special Reserve constitutes the heart of the Lubombo Trans-frontier Conservation Area (TFCA), together with Tembe and Ndumo Reserves in South Africa.

Gilberto was involved in the TFCA initiative from the beginning. He started his conservation work in the Limpopo TFCA, where he was Park Warden of the Zinave National Park. Subsequently, he moved to Limpopo National Park with the same responsibilities where he promoted the development of the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park (Kruger, Limpopo and Gona-rezhu Parks). He was an active role player in the development of the Limpopo National Park, having led the reintroduction of wildlife process and was fundamental in the establishment of the first tourism activities in the area.

Later in 2006, Gilberto Vicente was deployed in the Niassa Reserve, an area that is planned to be part of a future TFCA initiative, with Tanzania. In Niassa he supported collaboration with the Tanzanian conservation authorities in cross border protection of wildlife.

Until his untimely death, Gilberto was the Manager of the TFCA in the Maputo Special Reserve. Under his management the human wildlife conflict issues were given attention and the anti-poaching system was modernized and became more efficient. This was largely due to collaboration with the military deployed in the Reserve under a Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Tourism and the Ministry of Defense. Gilberto was also preparing a sanctuary of about 8.000 ha of a fenced area for wildlife introduction. This will take place soon in an event that will count with presence of the Ministers of Mozambique and South Africa.



Supporting Transboundary Marine Conservation in the Western Indian Ocean

An international research project has generated information in support of transboundary marine conservation in the Western Indian Ocean. TRANSMAP has become a reference in the region and its outputs are supporting recent moves towards cooperation in marine conservation.

The Western Indian Ocean is well known for its marine biodiversity. A variety of marine and coastal habitats and species contribute to regional biodiversity, and provide food and income to the 22 million people living on the coast. However, overfishing, use of destructive gears, mangrove cutting, and uncontrolled tourism development are reducing resource availability.

To address these threats, the EU-funded TRANSMAP project aimed at supporting cooperation in the creation of transboundary networks of marine protected areas (MPAs) in two border regions. It produced biophysical, socio-economic and governance assessments in respect of the marine environment shared by Tanzania and Mozambique, and by Mozambique and South Africa. TRANSMAP project was run by a consortium of 12 institutions, with the University of Lisbon as the lead institution.

TRANSMAP results have supported the designation by Mozambique of an MPA bordering South Africa. Cooperation activities are already underway between this new MPA and a large MPA in South Africa, focusing on law enforcement and sea turtle monitoring. A transboundary marine World Heritage Site is also being considered.

The border region between Mozambique and Tanzania is quite remote, affording TRANSMAP results even greater importance. Bilateral conversations, which had previously involved only provincial authorities on the Mozambican side, are

to be extended to national authorities and address the issue of migrant fishers and promote coastal tourism.

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A Transboundary Conservation Experiment in the Sonoran Desert Ecosystem

Each of the transboundary conservation types (as defined by IUCN) are dedicated to the protection and maintenance of biological diversity. They achieve this by increasing core habitat and connectivity (spatial) and encouraging cooperation (management).



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On the Web of Science in October 2009, 13 papers included “transfrontier conservation” or “transboundary conservation” in their titles and only 2 addressed their ecological advantages. Transboundary Conservation Areas (TBCA) experiments are complex due to their large spatial scales and development timeframes. It is also hard to compare a non-TBCA with a TBCA in the same place simultaneously.

While the number of TBCA initiatives grows, resources for conservation remain restricted, and therefore it is important to understand the conditions in which they can deliver conservation objectives. An ongoing research project implemented by Jamie McCallum, a PhD candidate at the University of Bristol, aims to explore these issues and disseminate the results to aid policy makers and practitioners allocate resources effectively. The Sonoran Desert

Biosphere Reserve Network spans the biogeographically diverse US/Mexican border and contains sand seas, river deltas and mountain ranges. Since 2009, sixty miles of 4-6 m fencing have fragmented it. While designed to prevent illegal crossings into the US, the fence’s intermittent configuration provides proxies for TBCA and non-TBCA research sites in the same habitat simultaneously.

This research will explore the spatial benefits of TBCA by using camera traps to compare detection rates, occupancy and species richness of terrestrial carnivores in both conditions. It will also study detection rates of migrants and smugglers and analyse their relationship to those native carnivores. Initial results should be available for the next issue of this publication.

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World Knowledge Dialogue to Focus on Border Conservation and Peace

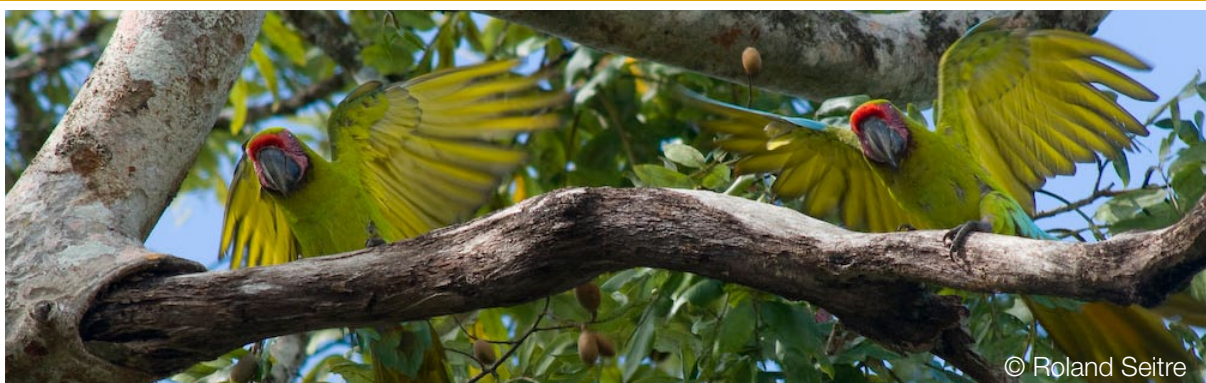


This year's World Knowledge Dialogue in Switzerland will include a program to develop an atlas of ecological cooperation under the direction of Dr. Anna Grichting and Dr. Saleem H. Ali. Unlike other atlas projects undertaken by academia and international organizations, this project will aim to do a community mapping exercise for resolving intractable border disputes using environmental peace-building strategies. The prototype for this atlas will be developed in a four day event (October 10 to 14th, 2010) with community participants and a focused group of professionals using the example of the conflict in Cyprus. Dr. Grichting undertook her doctoral studies in environmental design at Harvard University and her dissertation focused on the Cyprus conflict. Dr. Saleem Ali, is a scholar of environmental peace-building and the editor of the widely acclaimed volume "Peace Parks; Conservation and Conflict Resolution" (MIT Press) which has been endorsed by notable scholars such as E.O. Wilson as well as leaders of international organizations such as Achim Steiner (UNEP) and Julia Marton-Lefevre (IUCN).

The goal of the atlas project is to provide a clear policy advocacy tool for transboundary conservation as an instrumental means of peace-building. In addition, the online atlas will also be an educational tool that can be used by teachers in secondary schools and colleges to understand the complexity of conflicts and the potential for ecological cooperation. Dr. Ali is also preparing an evaluative study of existing transboundary conservation projects that have played a role in conflict resolution under the auspices of the International Tropical Timber Organization. This study will be launched at the CBD COP in Nagoya and the lessons learned will also be incorporated into the follow-up activities from the World Knowledge Dialogue in 2011.

Details about the World Knowledge Dialogue can be found at <http://www.wkdialogue.ch>

Conservation of the Great Green Macaw for the San Juan-La Selva Transboundary Corridor



Important fragments of primary and intervened forest in southeastern Nicaragua and northern Costa Rica are being threatened by anthropogenic actions. Since 1994 a research and conservation project about the Great Green Macaw (*Ara ambiguus*) has allowed us to implement integral conservation actions at the landscape level including the creation of an alliance of 24 organizations working together to establish the Maquenque National Wildlife Refuge as the core area of the San Juan-La Selva Biological Corridor. Since 2000, this experience has been replicated in Nicaragua and bonds between both countries have been strengthened, resulting in a bi-national campaign focused on promoting the awareness of the ecology and conservation of the Great Green Macaw in the lowlands of the San Juan River. The primary objectives of the campaign have been: to raise awareness on the biology, importance, threats and conservation of the Great Green Macaw and its habitat; to strengthen environmental authorities' natural resources management best practice in both countries by the mean of transboundary alliances built around the establishment of local and international biological corridors; and the organization of joint activities, such as workshops and festivals. The most outstanding

results to date have been the understanding, acceptance and concern of the major stakeholders regarding the challenges faced by the Great Green Macaw, and a positive shift in land use change dynamics at the landscape level. In 2006, The Agua & Paz Biosphere Reserve was created in Northern Costa Rica, in order to echo Nicaragua's Biosphere Reserve on the other side of the border, with the ultimate aim at establishing a Transboundary Biosphere Reserve as a mean to revive the SI-A-PAZ bi-national initiative launched by both countries in the 1980s. Nicaraguan and Costa Rican just celebrated the 8th Bi-national Macaws Festival in Nicaragua, a popular event that gathers local communities, local governments and NGOs from both countries, active in the protection of the habitat of the Great Green Macaw.

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Acknowledgments: Guisselle Monge Arias (Tropical Science Center), Antonio Ruiz Meléndez, Teresa Mariscal Poeyo and Alfredo Figueroa (Fundación del Río)

Kailash Sacred Landscape Conservation Initiative

4-6 September 2010, Jiuzhaigou, Sichuan, China: The International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) organized the Second Regional Workshop on the Kailash Sacred Landscape (KSL) Conservation Initiative, hosted by the Chinese Academy of Sciences ICIMOD Committee (CN-ICIMOD) and Chengdu Institute of Mountain Hazard and Environment Research, and supported by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). The representatives from China, India and Nepal discussed the initial steps in developing a regional cooperation framework for the Kailash Sacred Landscape, including a feasibility report, conservation strategy and environmental monitoring plan.

The KSL Conservation Initiative aims to establish the institutional framework for transboundary cooperation and ecosystem management approaches for biodiversity conservation of the KSL area. The Landscape includes the remote south-western part of the Tibetan Autonomous Region of China, and adjacent Himalayan portions of Nepal and India. The region is characterised by rich biological and cultural diversity, and it is an important religious transboundary landscape to hundreds of millions of people following Hindu, Buddhist, Bon Po, Jain, Sikh and other related religious traditions in Asia and globally. The KSL Conservation Initiative will work towards improved management of a transboundary landscape while developing a framework for cooperation and mutual understanding on transboundary landscape issues. The Initiative will provide a basis for an integrated and participatory approach for conservation and sustainable development of the Kailash Sacred Landscape, keeping in mind the challenges of the global climate change.

The Third Regional Workshop on the KSL Conservation Initiative will be held from 16-18 December 2010 in Kathmandu, Nepal.

More information is available at <http://www.icimod.org>



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Climate Change and Connectivity Conservation in the Altai-Sayan Ecoregion



© Boris Erg



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23 -27 July 2010, Ust Koksa, Russia: Do special places require pioneering innovative solutions? Is a mega connectivity conservation corridor a proper adaptation response to climate change for the Altai-Sayan Mountains of Central Asia and how to develop an effective adaptation strategy? These questions were at the centre of discussions during an international workshop at Ust Koksa in the Altai Republic of Russia, at the very border with China, Kazakhstan, and Mongolia. The workshop was sponsored and facilitated by UNDP, WWF, the Katunskiy Biosphere Reserve (Russia), and IUCN WCPA. The event brought together more than 60 participants from the region and abroad, comprising protected area managers, decision makers, researchers, NGOs, as well as international experts. WCPA played an important role in the design and implementation of the workshop, with Graeme Worboys, WCPA Vice Chair for Mountains Biome and Connectivity Conservation, successfully facilitating the process of drafting the Ust Koksa Workshop Action Statement.

Having transboundary conservation at the very heart of climate change and connectivity conservation considerations, an invitation to the workshop had been extended to the IUCN WCPA Transboundary Conservation Specialist Group who presented its work and helped defining the way forward to the establishment of a Mega Corridor for the Altai-Sayan eco-region of Central Asia. The workshop re-confirmed that the Altai-Sayan ecoregion is an extraordinary place that deserves special attention, and agreed that connectivity and transboundary conservation could provide a critical adaptive response to climate change. It was generally agreed that a Mega Connectivity Corridor for the Altai-Sayan Mountains should be established and an Ad Hoc Working Group set-up in order to facilitate the Mega Connectivity Corridor concept, including its governance arrangements.

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International Conference on Biodiversity in Transboundary Tropical Forests

21-24 July 2010, Quito, Ecuador: The International Conference on Biodiversity in Transboundary Tropical Forests was organized by the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) under the patronage of the Government of Ecuador, and in close collaboration with the CBD Secretariat, IUCN, Conservation International and Fundación Natura.



The objective of the conference was to review the status and ways ahead for the conservation, management and financing of biodiversity in tropical Transboundary Conservation Areas (TBCAs). The forum was an excellent opportunity for sharing information and experiences on TBCAs, including their capacity to meet the challenges of climate change mitigation and adaptation. The conference was also useful in that it provided a platform for stakeholders to review the social, economic and political implications and impacts of TBCA projects in order to identify best strategies for their effective contribution to sustainable development.

The conference, which was attended by more than 100 participants from Latin America, Africa, Asia and the Pacific, allowed for participants to have in-depth discussions of the benefits generated and challenges to enhance the contribution of TBCAs to law compliance, biodiversity conservation and generation of environmental services, to the livelihoods of indigenous and local communities, to mitigation and adaptation to climate change, for overall sustainable development of the countries involved.

The Transboundary Conservation Specialist Group of IUCN WCPA was actively involved in the conference by giving a keynote address on the opportunities of transboundary conservation for climate change responses (Trevor Sandwith), moderating a session on socio-economic aspects of TBCA projects (Olivier Chassot), and presenting a draft ASEAN Transboundary Protected Area Guidelines (Bruce Jefferies).

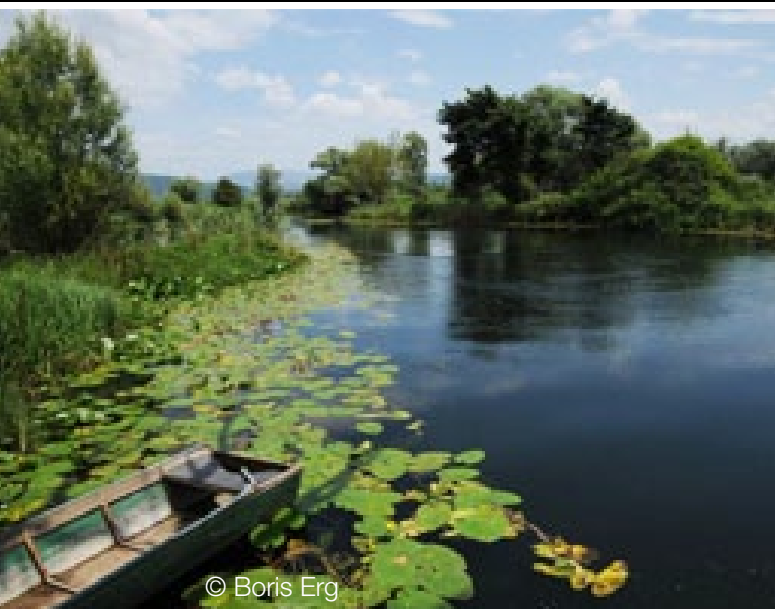
Results from the conference will be formulated as an input to CBD COP10 in Nagoya.

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Presentations from the conference can be downloaded at:
http://www.fnatura.org/documentos/conferencia_2/c_i_bosques.php

Photo:
 Delegates Roberto Daza (SERNAP-Bolivia),
 Olivier Chassot (UCI-WCPA), Trevor Sandwith (WCPA-IUCN) and Tim Christophersen (CBD) at 4800 m, climbing Cotopaxi Volcano

Furthering Cross-border Cooperation in the Dinaric Arc



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29 June-1 July 2010, Capljina, Bosnia and Herzegovina (BIH): In the beginning of its second year of implementation the joint IUCN, WWF and SNV 'Environment for People in the Dinaric Arc' project, funded by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland, took a step forward convening stakeholders from the Western Balkans in the vicinity of Hutovo Blato Nature Park in the Neretva Delta. The conference, opened by Minister Nevenko Herceg of the Federal Ministry of Environment and Tourism of BIH, gathered regional decision-makers, NGOs, local authorities, protected area managers, and many other stakeholders, including the IUCN WCPA Transboundary Conservation Specialist Group, with the objective to align priorities and agree on concrete actions that will advance cross-border environmental governance in the region.

Results from the assessments completed in the target project areas and presented at the conference showcased the high natural and cultural values of the region. These main assets of the Dinaric Arc offer excellent potential for development of

cross-border cooperation. Such a combination of nature and culture also expresses high tourism potential which is seen as one of the best potentials for economic development of the region. Some of the project sites are already using this prospective while others are only starting to develop management capacity and know-how. Development of cooperation between such more and less advanced neighbouring sites will result in more effective use of existing resources. Significant progress was made for example in Durmitor and Sutjeska National Parks in Montenegro and BIH respectively, where Memorandum of Understanding between the parks was signed and extensions of the two protected areas are planned in both countries. Opportunities for multiplying this example are in place in other project areas and that is where the project resources are to play a key role in the next years.

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New Addition to the List of Transboundary World Heritage Sites

Monte San Giorgio World Heritage Site (WHS), Switzerland, was extended to a neighbouring Italy and thus became one of the few transboundary World Heritage properties worldwide. The extension of the WHS was decided at the UNESCO World Heritage Committee meeting in Brasilia (25 July - 3 August, 2010), and based on IUCN's recommendation. According to the WH Convention, IUCN is the Advisory Body to the UNESCO WH Committee on natural World Heritage Sites.

Monte San Giorgio is the single best known fossil record of marine life in the Triassic period and comprises important remains of life on land as well. It is located on the southern shores of Lake Lugano in the Alps and contains vast amount and diversity of fossils. The transboundary extension from Switzerland to Italy will be beneficial for continued protection of this outstanding geological site.

More information:

<http://www.iucn.org/?5751/New-natural-jewels-on-the-World-Heritage-crown>



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Explore Europe's Wild Treasures

Europe's last remaining areas of undiscovered wilderness are open to explore and enjoy with the PAN Parks Foundation, the European wilderness protection organisation. Their campaign 'Explore Europe's Wild Treasures' to raise awareness of Europe's hidden gems of nature, launched on 5 July, gave nature-lovers the chance to discover the treasures of excellent wilderness areas, the 11 certified PAN Parks around Europe. During the 11-week competition there were several prizes to be won through draws: weekly prizes of outdoor gear and the grand prize: a trip to Majella National Park, Italy - with S-Cape Travel - to experience its wonders in person. PAN Parks Foundation works to protect Europe's wilderness areas, the continent's most undisturbed parts of nature. PANParks are located right across Europe, from Scandinavia to the Mediterranean.

More information at: www.panparks.org



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Transboundary Conservation in the International Training Seminar

5-20 July 2010, Belize and Guatemala: Protected area professionals from five continents and Oceania got a first-hand look at transboundary landscape and seascape conservation challenges during the VIIIth International Mobile Seminar on Protected Area Management. The seminar, convened by CATIE, Conservation International, and Colorado State University, was held in terrestrial and marine protected areas in Belize and Guatemala. These small, culturally and biologically diverse nations share the Maya Forest, a vast swath of tropical forests, pine savannas and wetlands with Mexico, and the Mesoamerican Barrier Reef with Mexico and Honduras. Large parts of both areas form part of transfrontier protected areas.



© Jim Barborak

Through lectures, field visits, discussions with local conservation leaders, and group exercises, the seminar focused heavily on special challenges faced by transboundary protected areas. Smithsonian and WCS marine experts explained how shared resources and threats make cross-border collaboration vital on the reef. They told how countries are collaborating to create a regional system of protected areas, improve fisheries regulations and monitor reef health to deal with threats including storm damage, bleaching, coral disease, pollution, sedimentation, mass tourism, dredging, mangrove clearing, and overfishing.

In both countries, participants discussed efforts to conserve watersheds, improve community welfare and ease conflicts posed by narco-cattlemen, oil exploration, forest fires, poaching, and land speculation. They learned from community, NGO and government leaders about innova-



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tive efforts to improve enforcement, strengthen livelihoods, promote ecotourism, increase cross-border collaboration, promote participatory governance arrangements, and certify forest products. They also analyzed conservation finance challenges being addressed through debt swaps, environmental service payments, endowments, REDD+ projects, entrance fees, and the PACT Belize conservation trust, funded by tourism taxes. Participants representing Fiji, Cambodia, Colombia, Liberia, Guatemala, Mexico, Ecuador, Bolivia and Belize, all nations that have faced internal and border conflicts, also shared their experience in dealing with conservation challenges in their own countries.

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Balkans Peace Park (B3P) Summer Programmes 2010

"The amount of fun we had is the same as the amount of trees in the forest" - Kelmendi camp participant.



Thethi, Albania

The summer programme ran for four weeks (12 July-6 August) for about 60 local children aged 6-18. Each week was "themed" providing a common thread for all studies; English language, Albanian environmental classes and project activities. Two local teachers were employed to teach environmental and local studies in Albanian to complement the English teaching and project work provided by the 20 volunteers. There was a lively emphasis on teaching through music.

Reka e Allages, Kosovo

The summer camp, held high in the natural beauty of the Rugova Valley, ran for two weeks (25 July-6 August); 38 Albanian, Bosnian and Roma young people, aged 9-16, participated by taking their country's environment into their own hands. Activities included hikes, orienteering, litter picks, English lessons, photography, songs, games, sports and citizenship sessions - where small groups of participants planned projects they would do to carry forward ideas they had learned about on the camp. The camp was run as a joint venture between Environmentally Responsible Action (ERA), The Ideas Partnership (TIP) and B3P.



Plav, Montenegro

In preparation for an environmental workshop programme in 2011, Goranka Slavujevic, Rotary MA Scholar in Peace Studies at the University of Bradford, UK, did her summer internship renewing environmental contacts in the region.

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The First Conference for the Crown of the Continent

23-24 September 2010, Waterton Lakes National Park, Canada: The Roundtable on the Crown of the Continent will launch its first in a series of annual conferences in September 2010. The conference, 'Remarkable Beyond Borders: Shaping the Future of the Crown of the Continent' is at once a celebration of the people, places, and history of the Crown of the Continent and an exploration of the region's future. Over the course of two days, the participants will examine what it means to live and work in the Crown of the Continent. They will celebrate the efforts of people and organizations to preserve the culture, heritage, communities, and landscape of the region now and for future generations. They will assess the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead, and they will begin building the relationships and knowledge to shape the future of the Crown of the Continent.

At the 2009 Summer Retreat of the Roundtable on the Crown of the Continent, it became clear that to explore the Crown's diverse landscapes and communities in a meaningful way would require a series of conferences at locations throughout the Crown. As such, the hope and vision for this conference is that it will be the first in a series of four conferences over the course of the next four years. The idea is to host one conference in each of the four quadrants of the Crown, the quadrants formed by the Continental Divide as the North-South axis and the U.S.-Canadian Border as the East-West axis.

Participants will include local, state, provincial, tribal, and federal government officials and staff; civic and not-for-profit leaders; farmers and ranchers; energy and resource developers; business owners; university staff and students; tourism officials; historians; cultural authorities; and others.

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EUROPARC Conference 2010 in Italy



29 September-3 October 2010, Abruzzo, Lazio and Molise National Park, Italy: EUROPARC Federation conference will be hosted by Abruzzo, Lazio and Molise National Park. The conference marks the International Year of Biodiversity with its theme, 'Living together. Biodiversity and human activities: a challenge for the future of protected areas'. Participants will enjoy contributions from a plethora of great speakers: Sarrat Gidda, Convention for Biological Diversity; Harvey Locke, Vice President of Wild Foundation; Carlo Petrini, President of Slow Food International; Jon Jarvis, Director of the National Park Service, USA; and Stefan Leiner, Head of Unit N2000, DG Environment, European Commission; Dr Hans Friederich, IUCN Regional Director for PAN Europe. A full day of field trips will look at real-time examples from the national park, with the Saturday workshop giving participants the opportunity to examine best practice and themes in greater detail.

The EUROPARC Federation was built on the principle of international cooperation and learning to further, improve and innovate in the management of protected areas. It would be especially important in this International Year of Biodiversity to understand which action we need to take to safeguard what we protect. This conference will provide a platform for all with an interest in Europe's natural and cultural heritage to meet the challenge of the future.

For more information please visit the website:
<http://www.europarc.org/conference-2010>

The 4th European Green Belt Conference



© Metsähallitus

6 October 2010, Kuhmo, Finland: The 4th European Green Belt conference in Finland is organized in the frame of the 20 year-anniversary symposium of the Finnish-Russian friendship in cross-border cooperation. IUCN and Metsähallitus are the main organizers of this event, which is supported by the Finland's Ministry of Environment and the Norwegian Directorate for Nature Management. The conference will focus on the progress achieved in the three regions of the European Green Belt since the last European Green Belt conference, the opportunities for future development of the European Green Belt, especially in terms of funding and communications required to assist the initiative. The audience from almost all countries along the Green Belt will include regional coordinators reporting back on the previous years' development in Fenno-Scandia, Central Europe and South-Eastern Europe, national focal points, States representatives, NGOs, as well as other partners of the Green Belt initiative. The presentations and discussions will be focused on topics such as how to turn knowledge into practice, the possibilities

for branding the Green Belt to support tourism offer along its route, and how research and transboundary cooperation contribute to the Programme of Work of the initiative. Alongside the conference and the symposium, a number of interesting side events will take place, among which are musical arts events and field trips in Finland and Russia.

For further information

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Discussion on Transboundary Areas at the GBIF's Science Symposium

9-15 October 2010, Suwon, South Korea: The 17th Governing Board meeting of the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF) will this year be hosted by South Korea. GBIF is an international initiative established by inter-governmental agreement, which enables free and open access to biodiversity data online, making the data available for scientific research, conservation and sustainable development. It provides three key services: an information infrastructure (index of globally distributed network of databases that contain biodiversity data), community developed tools, and capacity building.

Each year during the Governing Board meeting, one full day is dedicated to a Science Symposium, which is open for public. Apart from the GBIF Governing Board members, the Science Symposium gathers scientists as well as biodiversity managers around a carefully selected topic. This year's audience at the Science Symposium will discuss 'Trans-Frontier Conservation Areas, Biodiversity Conservation and Peace Parks', a topic which is very relevant to the Demilitarized Zone between the Republic of Korea and the Democratic Republic of Korea. IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas' Transboundary Conservation Specialist Group has been invited to actively participate at the Science Symposium, by providing a keynote address at the opening of the Symposium, as well as by presenting a case study on transboundary cooperation in Latin America.

More information:
www.gb17gbif.org



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UNESCO DESIGNATIONS – TRANSBOUNDARY ASPECTS

28 September 2010, Rome, Italy: The Italian National Research Council (CNR) is organising a workshop on 'European Protected Areas and UNESCO Designations', co-financed by the Italian Ministry of the Environment and Land and Territory (MELT) and with the patronage of the Italian National Commission for UNESCO. The workshop will be held in Rome, while its results will be taken to the upcoming EUROPARC's 2010 conference in the Abruzzo National Park. During the workshop, the participants will analyze management and legal aspects of two widely known UNESCO designations: World Heritage Sites and Biosphere Reserves. The CNR hopes to obtain conclusions on impacts deriving from these international designations, and relationships between protected areas and surrounding zones. Representatives of IUCN WCPA Transboundary Conservation Specialist Group have been invited to the workshop to provide their input on transboundary World Heritage Sites and transboundary Biosphere Reserves, as well as the relation between IUCN Protected Area Management Categories and UNESCO designations.

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2011 CONGRESS ON MARINE CONSERVATION

14-18 May 2011, Victoria, Canada: The 2nd International Marine Conservation Congress (IMCC) represents the second stand-alone marine conservation meeting of the Society for Conservation Biology's (SCB) Marine Section. This Congress will serve to unite the marine conservation community and develop new and powerful tools to further

marine conservation science and policy. Specific topics to be investigated include: Innovative techniques and technology for marine conservation; The human dimension of marine conservation; Advancing marine conservation through International treaties; The changing Arctic; Marine conservation awareness and outreach; Climate and the changing oceans; Sustainable fisheries and aquaculture; Conservation at the land/sea interface; Effective Marine Spatial Planning.

For more information visit:
<http://www.conbio.org/IMCC2011/>

CALL FOR PAPERS FOR 2011 NATURE INC CONFERENCE

30 June-2 July 2011, The Hague, The Netherlands: 'Nature™ Inc? Questioning the Market Panacea in Environmental Policy and Conservation' is the title of the conference to be organised by the Institute of Social Studies, Erasmus University Rotterdam, the University of Manchester, UK, and the University of Queensland, Australia. The conference seeks to critically engage with the market panacea in environmental policy and conservation in the context of histories and recent developments in neoliberal capitalism. The conference is steeped in traditions of political economy and political ecology, in order to arrive at a deeper understanding of where environmental policies and conservation in an age of late capitalism come from, are going and what effects they have on natures and peoples.

Paper proposals are due 15 December 2010, and authors will be notified by mid January. More information soon on www.iss.nl/nature2011 and www.worldecologyresearch.org

Reconciliation through Conservation on the Korean Peninsula

11-13 November 2010, Goseong, Republic of Korea: Many readers of this newsletter will know that IUCN was one of the earliest proponents of the compelling idea to create a Peace Park centred on the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) between the Democratic Republic of Korea (DPRK) and the Republic of Korea (ROK). The 250km long, 4km wide stretch of land that has separated the Korean Peninsula over the past 50 years has been long known for its rich biological diversity as a home to hundreds of species of plants and animals, a number of which are endangered.



The tense geopolitical situation in this region has to date thwarted the plans for a DMZ Peace Park and, needless to say, the challenges of achieving such an ambitious plan on the deeply troubled Korean Peninsula are huge. A major hurdle remains the fact that these aspirations are not currently shared by the DPRK. That said plans are being developed through the ROK Ministry of Environment to work to define how such an idea could work and a major DMZ Symposium will take place this November. Significantly IUCN Asia was invited to Pyongyang earlier this year to help build DPRK capacity in protected area and species management.

The IUCN/WCPA Transboundary Conservation Specialist Group has been working with IUCN Asia to support this initiative which we hope will be a step toward defining a shared vision and a road map for a transboundary Peace Park in anticipation of positive change on the Peninsula.

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Capacity Building and Transboundary Nature Conservation along the South Eastern European Green Belt

26-28 February 2010, Mavrovo, Macedonia: IUCN, together with partner organisations – DEM Macedonia, REC Kosovo and REC Albania organised a training workshop which brought together wide range of relevant stakeholders from the project region. The audience included representatives of public administration, border police, customs, NGOs and international organisations.



© Tomasz Pezold

The training focused on issues related to management and financing of protected areas, illegal wildlife trade, wildlife monitoring and on providing for better surveillance of the border areas in civil-military cooperation. Moreover the event served as a platform for exchange of experiences and plans related to transboundary nature conservation initiatives in the region.

In the second phase of the project (July 2010), a group of selected participants will take part in a study tour to transboundary protected area between Germany and Czech Republic.

About the project: The project reinforces the transboundary cooperation of actors involved in the trilateral border region of Kosovo, Albania and Macedonia. This region is characterized by outstanding biodiversity values. It is being implemented in close cooperation with BfN (German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation) and is funded by German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety through The Federal Environment Agency.

More information

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Cross-border Education for Kids

July 2010, Sofia, Bulgaria: During the past 3 years, the Bulgarian branch of the Regional Environmental Centre (REC) developed a brand new concept for environmental education with no borders – the “[REGION] for Kids” toolkit. The main goal of this toolkit is to teach the youth in rural areas with important natural heritage about the value of biodiversity and the connection between nature and human customs as part of the modern society. Specifically, the REC’s initiative aims at improving the education for preservation of biodiversity through development and distribution of a model for new educational programme for sustainable development, and increasing the capacities of local teachers in sustainable development topics. The project is financed by the Mitsubishi Corporation Fund for Europe and Africa.

Two educational products were developed in Bulgarian language with all content available in English – the West Stara Planina for Kids, and From Osogovo to Belasitsa for Kids. These toolkits were also distributed among the concerned transboundary regions on the European Green Belt route, involving borders of Bulgaria/Serbia and Bulgaria/FYR Macedonia respectively.

In addition to the “[REGION] for Kids”, REC initiated the “Education for Natura 2000” educational programme, as a result of a project finance by the European Environment Agency. This programme focuses on the importance of preserving biodiversity, protected area philosophy and protected area networks in the national and the international contexts. It is available for high school grades (8th to 12th) in Bulgarian. As a unique initiative, the Education for Natura 2000 was presented during the Green Week in June 2010 in Brussels, Belgium.

Further information
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www.rec.bg, www.rec.org



REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER

ProtectedPlanet.net

WCPA Updates

ProtectedPlanet.net is the latest contribution to the World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA), managed cooperatively by UNEP's World Conservation Monitoring Centre and IUCN-World Commission on Protected Areas. ProtectedPlanet.net is an online geographic database on protected areas. The website contains a geographic map of the world with plenty of information on protected areas that are recorded in the WDPA. It is possible to browse the site by countries or protected areas' names. This interactive, dynamic tool will be officially launched at the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity in Nagoya in October 2010, together with the UN List of Protected Areas 2012.

Check the database at www.protectedplanet.net.



protectedplanet.net

(coming soon)

IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) is the world's leading network of protected area expertise. For more than 50 years it has been promoting the establishment and effective management of a world-wide representative network of terrestrial and marine protected areas. A new short introductory presentation about the WCPA is now available at: http://cmsdata.iucn.org/downloads/wcpa_induction.pdf.

If you would like to become part of the IUCN WCPA network, please follow the guidelines on: http://www.iucn.org/about/union/commissions/wcpa/wcpa_involved/wcpa_members. This link will also provide connections to all other relevant information regarding WCPA, such as strategic directions, WCPA structure, regions, list of specialist groups and task forces etc.



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CBD COP10

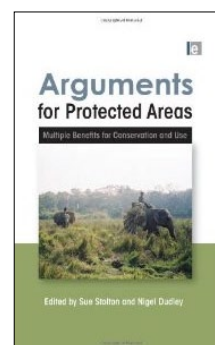
18 -29 October 2010, Nagoya, Japan: The 10th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP10) will be held in Japan in October 2010. The Secretariat has released a list of side-events available at the COP10 website <http://www.cbd.int/cop10>. Some of the side-events that touch upon transboundary conservation issues are listed below:

- Transboundary cooperation for biodiversity conservation: A strategy towards 'ecosystem approach' of CBD and adaptation to climate change (ICIMOD)
- The importance of biodiversity data for the post-2010 targets (GBIF)
- Biodiversity conservation in tropical forests (ITTO)
- Protected areas-maintaining their values and functions: The role of CBD/PoWPA (IUCN)
- Heart of Borneo-From vision to action (WWF)
- The Sangha tri-national landscape: An African test-bed for conservation innovation and sustainable natural resource management (WCS)
- Building a regional conservation vision for the Amazon biome (NP Unit Colombia)
- Biodiversity and marine protected areas: Building capacities for the development of regional MPAs networks toward effective large marine ecosystem-based management (French MPA Agency)
- Leading from the front, the bio-champs of Asia; partnerships for critical ecosystems in Asia and the Pacific (WWF)
- A Regional Biodiversity Strategy for the Andean countries and its link to the CBD objectives (General Secretariat of the Andean Community)
- Marine and coastal protected areas towards a better governance of the Mediterranean (UNEP/MAP)

Announcing recent publications

ARGUMENTS FOR PROTECTED AREAS

The book *Arguments for Protected Areas* (edited by Sue Stolton and Nigel Dudley, Earthscan Publishers, 2010) makes the case for the multiple benefits of protected areas, drawing on ten years' research and the expertise of more than 40 authors to assess what protected areas supply to in terms of health benefits; clean, reliable water supply; food including breeding material for crops and secure fisheries; hazard mitigation; cultural and spiritual values; recreation, poverty reduction; and mitigation of climate change. Trevor Sandwith and Charles Besancon contributed a chapter on the role that transboundary protected areas can play in promoting peace and conflict resolution. As protected areas come under increasing pressure to prove their wider value to society, the examples here should help make the case. To purchase the book visit the website: <http://www.earthscan.co.uk>.



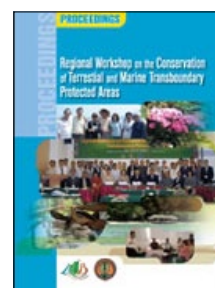
LANDSCAPE-SCALE CONSERVATION IN THE CONGO BASIN

This ambitious publication focuses on lessons learned from ten years of applied conservation approaches of the Central African Regional Program for the Environment (CARPE), which operates in nine countries spanning the entire Congo Basin. It contains 27 case studies of applied conservation as well as 7 overview articles synthesizing the results of the case studies, which cover different thematic areas. The emphasis on lessons learned is aimed at synthesizing the key pieces of advice concerning the best practices for implementing conservation projects in the region. This is a rich and practical guide to carrying out applied conservation that should be of great tool for conservationists in the Congo Basin and around the world. The publication can be downloaded at: <http://data.iucn.org/dbtw-wpd/edocs/2010-037.pdf>.



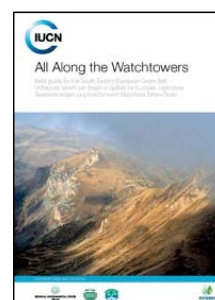
REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON THE CONSERVATION OF THE TERRESTRIAL AND MARINE TRANSBOUNDARY PROTECTED AREAS

Proceedings of the ASEAN Regional Workshop on the Conservation of the Terrestrial and Marine Transboundary Protected Areas (TBPA), held in Luang Prabang in Lao, in November 2009, are now available at the website of the Asean Centre for Biodiversity: www.aseanbiodiversity.org. The workshop gathered ASEAN Member States and experts in TBPAs to share experiences, in existing TBPAs in the ASEAN, comment on the ASEAN TBPA Guidelines that were prepared in advance and propose capacity development needs in the region.



ALL ALONG THE WATCHTOWERS: FIELD GUIDE FOR THE SOUTH EASTERN EUROPEAN GREEN BELT

Edited by Andrea Strauss and Tomasz Pezold, and published by IUCN Programme Office for South-Eastern Europe, this Field Guide focuses on transboundary cooperation in the field of nature conservation and environment protection along the south-eastern portion of the European Green Belt. Transboundary cooperation in can be regarded as an important instrument for mitigating tensions and re-establishing friendly relations between countries that suffered a civil conflict. This publication is an output of the project "Civil-military Cooperation for the Promotion of Transboundary Nature Conservation along the European Green Belt (South Eastern Europe)" and was prepared in English, Albanian and Macedonian, in order to facilitate transboundary cooperation, and communication between different partners from different ethnic and professional backgrounds working or living near the border regions.



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Guidelines for your contributions

The TB eNews contains information on your activities related to enhancement of transboundary conservation and cooperation. You are welcome to send us news about relevant projects and initiatives, to review any past event on transboundary conservation, and announce a future workshop, seminar, or a conference. We shall include any new publications, websites or funding opportunities that you send us.

In order to ensure all articles are included in one of our next issues, we would welcome contributions that contain up to 250 words in length. Please also include any graphic addition (photograph, logo, map or similar), indicating the credits. You are responsible for the content of your contributions and all articles should contain the name of the author and contact email.

This newsletter is being prepared by IUCN WCPA Transboundary Conservation Specialist Group, which reserves the right to edit and shorten the texts as appropriate.

All contributions should be sent to
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Thank you for your cooperation,

Transboundary Conservation
Specialist Group Executive Team

www.tbpa.net

