



**TBPA in Focus
Cooperation
between Nigeria
and Cameroon**

**TBPA CONGRESS
IN HONDURAS**

**PLITVICE AND
UNA SIGN
COOPERATION
AGREEMENT**

www.tbpa.net
Transboundary Conservation

TBeNEWS 4

October 2011



Welcome from the Transboundary Conservation Specialist Group



It has already been two years since IUCN WCPA Transboundary Conservation Specialist Group (TBC SG) decided to launch this newsletter which is prepared on biannual basis. The primary purpose of the TB eNEWS is to communicate information on events, projects, publications, and reports on the progress of transboundary conservation initiatives worldwide to all interested individuals. The TB eNEWS is mainly collated on the basis of contributions received by the TBC SG network members, and distributed widely to various conservation-related networks, thus helping raise understanding about the values, importance and challenges transboundary cooperation in nature conservation faces. Thank you all who have sent information on your initiatives and relevant events!



The Executive Committee of the TBC SG consists of 16 members, including 9 Regional Coordinators. For the last two years, we were thankful to have Leo Braack as the Regional Coordinator for South and East Africa. Leo has recently decided to take up new professional

challenges and although not being a member of the Executive Committee, he is still a full member of the TBC SG. We would like to present to you the new Regional Coordinator for South and East Africa – **Kevan Zunckel**. Kevan is an Environmental Ecologist, working as an independent consultant at Zunckel Ecological & Environmental Services, with more than 20 years of experience in the field of conservation and environmental management. Based in South Africa and working for years on the transfron-

tier Maloti Drakensberg initiative (Lesotho-South Africa), Kevan is in great position to coordinate TBC SG's activities in South and East African region. Welcome on board!

TBC SG is currently finalizing a survey that will be distributed to all transboundary protected area (TBPA) managers in the Americas and Oceania, in order to collect comprehensive data on cooperation in these TBPAs. **Jamie McCallum**, Vice Chair of the TBC SG, has put many hours in developing the survey and is coordinating this initiative. Substantial help came from **Michael Schoon**, TBC SG Vice Chair, and **Dorothy Zbicz**, TBC SG Regional Coordinator for North America & the Caribbean. Special thanks for voluntary contribution goes to our members: **Eric Gilman**, Hawaii Pacific University, for collecting contacts of TBPA managers in Oceania; **Wayne Freimund** and **Diana Bedoya**, The University of Montana, for collecting contacts of TBPA managers in the Americas; **Olivier Chasot**, TBC SG Regional Coordinator for Central America; and **Catarina Grilo**, University of Lisbon, for translating the survey to Spanish and Portuguese respectively.

Finally, IUCN WCPA held its annual Steering Committee meeting in Gland and Aubonne, Switzerland (4-8 April 2011) and all documents, reports and presentations can be found at http://www.iucn.org/about/union/commissions/wcpa/wcpa_events/wcpa_scmeeting.

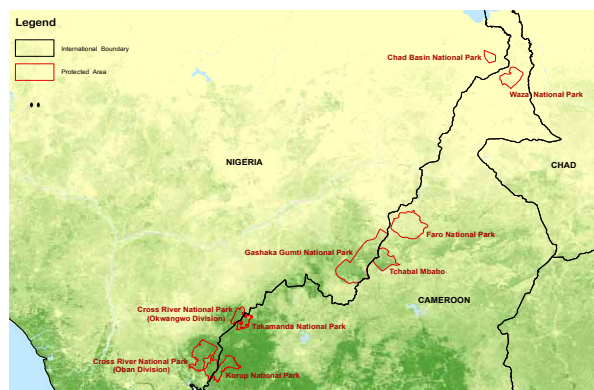
Thank you for your cooperation!

*Transboundary Conservation Specialist
Group Executive Committee
IUCN WCPA*

Nigeria and Cameroon Propose a Transboundary Cooperation Agreement

Established in 1991 Cross River National Park is located in Cross River State in the south-east corner of Nigeria. The Park consists of two divisions separated by some 63 km: Oban Division is contiguous with Korup National Park and Okwangwo Division is contiguous with Takamanda National Park, both in Cameroon. Established in 2008, Takamanda National Park is located in the south-west region of Cameroon. Transboundary collaboration between Okwangwo and Takamanda dates back to the 1990s when a number of joint workshops and exchange visits were organised by WWF-UK as part of a regional cooperative programme.

Name:	CROSS RIVER NATIONAL PARK (Okwangwo Division) - TAKAMANDA NATIONAL PARK
Countries:	Nigeria and Cameroon
Surface:	1,316 km ² (Okwangwo: 640 km ² ; Takamanda 676 km ²)
IUCN Category:	II



Cross River National Park is managed by the Nigeria National Park Service, a parastatal of the Ministry of the Environment, Nigeria. Takamanda National Park is managed by the Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife, Cameroon. Takamanda National Park receives financial and technical support from the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) through the Project for the Sustainable Management of Natural Resources in south-west Cameroon, funded by the German Development Bank KfW. WCS also provides support to the Okwangwo Division of Cross River National Park and for the development of transboundary collaboration between the two sites, with funds from the Great Ape Conservation Fund of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the Great Apes Program of the Arcus Foundation. Okwangwo-Takamanda faces a number of growing threats: hunting to supply a large bushmeat trade is widespread in addition to habitat loss and fragmentation due to farming, logging and fire.

Covered by rainforest, Okwangwo-Takamanda is characterised by rugged mountainous terrain up to 1,700 m and

lies within a biodiversity hotspot of global significance with high levels of species richness and endemism across a wide range of taxa. The region is particularly rich in primates including the critically endangered Cross River gorilla, the Nigeria-Cameroon chimpanzee, the drill and Preuss's guenon. Other groups that exhibit high levels of diversity and endemism include birds, amphibians, butterflies, fish and small mammals.

Since 2008, WCS has actively coordinated a number of joint patrols, surveys, meetings and workshops to promote transboundary collaboration between Okwangwo and Takamanda. In November 2010, WCS facilitated a Technical Meeting in Limbe, Cameroon, between officials from the two countries, as well as various NGOs. From this meeting a cooperation agreement was produced to guide the joint management of four transboundary complexes that exist between Nigeria and Cameroon encompassing eight national parks. The meeting recommended that the Cooperation Agreement should be expanded to include illegal logging and the cross-border trade in timber and other forest products. Participants also agreed that the Cooperation Agreement should be presented to the Nigeria-Cameroon Joint Commission to expedite the signing of the agreement between the relevant ministers.

Further information:

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IX Great Green Macaw Bi-national Festival

Costa Rica: The Ninth Bi-National Macaw Festival was celebrated from 27 to 29 May, in Santa Elena, a dynamic village of 500 hard-working farmers, children, women and men, that has developed the most successful organizational scheme in the San Juan-La Selva Biological Corridor in northern Costa Rica. Its most active grassroots organization, the Farmers Association of Santa Elena, manages a community forest preserve which is regularly visited by the majestic Great Green Macaw, the bi-national corridor's flagship species. The main objective of the event was to provide follow up for bi-national actions that are carried out within the framework



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of the El Castillo-San Juan-La Selva Bi-national Commission, to consolidate cross-border alliances between Costa Rica and Nicaragua, to provide continuity for the festival and give awards to the nest caretakers to promote

the protection of the Great Green Macaw and its nests, to strengthen collaboration among farming communities, NGOs, governments, and the general public by holding a festival to promote conservation, and to encourage the participants to enjoy this recreational and educational event, putting aside tensions between the governments of Costa Rica and Nicaragua over the San Juan River. Finally, the event was also planned in such a way that the community of Santa Elena could be showcased as a model community in environmental friendly sustainable community project within the San Juan-La Selva Biological Corridor. The event promoted recreational, cultural, tourism, sports, and informational activities, such as cartoons for children, informational kiosks, prizes for macaw nest caretakers, theatrical productions, folklore and musical groups, storytelling, poetry, song, photography contests, handicrafts, videos, and local food delicacies. The event was sponsored by Loro Parque Foundation and Tropica Verde with funding from the Deutsche Umwelthilfe.

Olivier Chassot & Guisselle Monge Arias,
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Training Workshop Albania



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Albania: IUCN Programme Office for South-Eastern Europe, in cooperation with members of IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA), conducted a training workshop on transboundary protected areas in Shkodër, Albania, from 12 to 13 September 2011. The event was organized in the frame of “Environment for People in Dinaric Arc” project which is implemented jointly by IUCN, SNV and WWF. It was primarily addressed to Local Action Groups’ members from Albania and Montenegro residing in the area of potential transboundary protected area of Bjeshkët e Namuna / Prokletije Mountains. The training was led by IUCN WCPA members – Michael R. Appleton, Alois Lang (Public Relations and Ecotourism Department of Neusiedlersee-Seewinkel National Park, Austria), Martin Šolar (Director of Triglav National Park, Slovenia) with contributions from IUCN Secretariat staff and local experts. Based on practical experiences, the participants were introduced to modern transboundary protected areas concepts and approaches, with an emphasis on governance, management, financing, administration and tourism. Lively discussions in working groups re-

sulted in valuable feedback which will be further utilized to set basis for transboundary cooperation agreement between the two Local Action Groups.

More information about the project:

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Websites: www.dinaricarc.net; www.iucn.org; www.snvworld.org; www.wwf.panda.org



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Sister Site Arrangement



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The Ontario Parks Branch's Quetico and LaVerendrye Provincial Parks; the U.S. Forest Service's (USFS) Superior National Forest; and the U.S. National Park Service's (NPS) Grand Portage National Monument and Voyageurs National Park have benefitted from cooperation concerning the management of parks and forests and other protected natural and cultural heritage sites for the purpose of conservation, preservation, recreation, and public education. The National Park, National Monument, National Forest, and Provincial Parks concerned have entered into a "Sister Sites" arrangement to further mutually beneficial cooperation of the 5.5 million acres (2.2 million hectares) managed by these agencies. This signed agreement expands upon the over 100 years of transboundary collaboration across these public lands.

The Sister Sites arrangement builds upon the Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation of Wilderness Conservation between representatives of Canada, United Mexican States, and the United States of America signed on November 7, 2009 in Mérida, Mexico.

The managers of these transboundary public lands and waters wish to increase their already substantial efforts to:

- provide visitor opportunities to experience these public lands and waters;
- provide holistic interpretation of the significance of and links between the sites;
- support sustainable social and economic development in gateway communities;
- preserve public lands and waters and their flora and fauna;
- maintain the wilderness character in managed wilderness areas;
- protect and promote cultural heritage and education;



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- implement research, inventory, and monitoring programs necessary to achieve success in preservation, restoration, ecological integrity and resilience;
- encourage scholarship and programs which protect heritage resources;
- develop, enhance, and share volunteer programs to encourage involvement with all participants; and
- where appropriate and legally permissible, share and/or exchange staff and/or resources among the participants.

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Updates from the Nyungwe-Kibira Transboundary Landscape of Rwanda-Burundi

The Nyungwe-Kibira Landscape on the Rwanda-Burundi border forms part of the Albertine Rift, globally recognized for its conservation value. This landscape forms the largest protected mid-elevation mountain forest block remaining in east-central Africa, covering roughly 1,413 km².



© Aaron Nicholas, WCS

Recent years have seen a marked reduction in the instability that has plagued the still poorly funded Burundian Kibira National Park, following many years of rebel conflict. This has paved the way for rebuilding an effective management system for Kibira National Park and forging closer working ties with the contiguous and more established Nyungwe National Park in Rwanda. With key ongoing funding support from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation in particular and technical leadership from the Wildlife Conservation Society, a Memorandum of Understanding between the park authorities in Burundi and Rwanda was signed in 2008 and 10-year transboundary strategic plan was elaborated in 2009 to guide joint actions.

Initial practical support focused on the development of a management plan for Kibira, rehabilitating park adminis-



© Fidele Ruzigandekwe, WCS

trative infrastructure, providing uniforms and other equipment for park rangers, introducing the MIST system for monitoring illegal activities and effectiveness of patrol and law enforcement, and organizing study tours for park authorities and staff between the two countries. Plans are now being drawn up to investigate the possibility of re-establishing chimpanzee-based tourism, for mobilizing local communities to support park efforts, to assist the Institut National pour l'Environnement et la Conservation de la Nature (INECN - the agency vested with responsibility for Burundi's protected areas) with undertaking a capacity-needs assessment and for initiating coordinated patrols in the transboundary region in order to mitigate threats such as hunting, artisanal mining and bamboo extraction.

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International Seminar on Ecological Networks in Moldova



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Moldova: IUCN and BIOTICA Ecological Society, in cooperation with the Institute of Zoology of the Academy of Science of Moldova and the Ministry of Environment, are organizing an international seminar dedicated to the development and creation of regional sectors of Pan-European Ecological Network (PEEN), to be held on 13-14 October 2011 in Chisinau. The seminar will take place back to back with the international conference marking 50 years anniversary of the Institute of Zoology, and attended inter alia by IUCN Councillor and Vice President Kalev Sepp.

The main aim of the seminar is to present on-going projects related to the ecological networks in Moldova: IUCN/BIOTICA project "Development of the National Ecological Network of Moldova as part of the Pan-European Ecological Network, with emphasis on transboundary cooperation"; UNDP/GEF project "Improving Coverage and Management Effectiveness of the Protected Area System in Moldova", and Emerald project coordinated by the Moldovan Ministry of Environment.

Additionally, approaches from neighbouring countries and the EU (with emphasis on Natura 2000 network) will be

presented and discussed, particularly focusing on transboundary cooperation.

Tomasz Pezold, IUCN Programme Office for South-Eastern Europe, tomasz.pezold@iucn.org



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Quality Counts – EUROPARC 2011

Germany: Over 300 international participants will gather at EUROPARC 2011 conference, to be held from 21-24 September 2011 in Bad Urach, Baden-Württemberg, Germany. The participants will discuss urgent environmental themes and share their experiences regarding the protection of Europe's natural landscapes. The conference hosts are the Federal State of Baden-Württemberg and the EUROPARC Federation, with support from the Federal Agency for Nature Protection, Nature and Biodiversity Conservation Union of Germany, WWF, the Allianz Environmental Foundation and the Commerzbank.

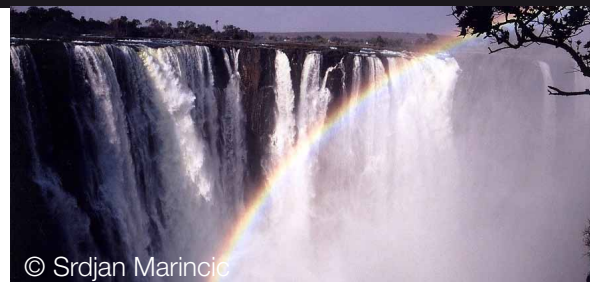
The theme of the 4-day conference is the 'Quality Counts – Benefits for Nature and People'. The participants will discuss issues concerning the proper approach to the conservation of Europe's natural and cultural landscapes. The aim of the conference is to develop solutions and to deliver innovative, forward looking approaches that guarantee effective management of protected areas.

Keynote speeches will be given by:

- Ursula Heinen-Esser, Parliamentary State Secretary at the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety: "Contribution of National Natural Landscapes to the Implementation of the German Biodiversity Strategy";
- Prof. Dr. Miranda Schreurs, Chair of the European Environment and Sustainable Development Advisory Councils, Member of the Advisory Council on the Environment: "European Protected Areas: Visions for the Future, Lessons from the Past";
- Eberhard Brandes, CEO of WWF Germany: "Diversity of Actors for Diversity of Life";
- Ed Gillespie, Co-Founder of Futerra Sustainability Communications: "Claws, Paws & the Cause: How Branding Biodiversity can Transform your Communications"; and
- Trevor Sandwith, Director of Global Protected Areas Programme, IUCN; "Protected Areas: Life Insurance for a Changing Planet".

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Lusaka Declaration on Tourism, Climate Change and Peace



© Srdjan Marincic

Zambia: The 5th International Institute for Peace through Tourism (IIPT) African Conference was held in Lusaka, Zambia, on 15-20 May 2011. The conference, themed "Meeting the Challenges of Climate Change to Tourism in Africa and the Developing World", was organized by IIPT in partnership with the World Tourism Organization, under the patronage of His Excellency Rupiah B. Banda, and hosted by the Ministry of Tourism, Environment and Natural Resources of Zambia. It gathered more than 440 delegates from 36 countries, including UN agencies, government institutions, NGOs, donors, researchers, practitioners, academics and professionals in environment and economic development. The conference was also attended by members of IUCN WCPA Transboundary Conservation Specialist Group.

The key ideas and recommendations of delegates have been highlighted in the *Lusaka Declaration on Sustainable Tourism Development, Climate Change and Peace*, adopted by the participants on 20 May 2011, in support of the UN Millennium Development Goals. Among other conclusions, the Lusaka Declaration calls on all sectors of the travel and tourism industry to continue to implement socially and environmentally responsible tourism practices that benefit local destinations, governments and international agencies to encourage more research and monitoring of emerging trends related to the interconnectedness of tourism, environment and climate change, and travelers to be selective in modes of travel and minimize/offset the carbon footprint of each trip.

One of the most significant outcomes of the conference was the establishment of a Zambia Stakeholder Group and an IIPT Zambia Youth Chapter. The Stakeholder Group will come together with the aim of implementing the Lusaka Declaration within Zambia,

More information:
IIPT website: www.iipt.org

International Peace Park Expeditions 2011 Update



© Megan Greely

In June 2011 a group of 7 American students from the University of Vermont and York College trekked into the Prokletije Mountains, following the old footpath between Thethi, Albania, up and over Qaf Pejas, and down in Vusanje, Montenegro. They were lead by Todd Walters, Executive Director of International Peace Park Expeditions (IPPE) and Dr. Saleem Ali, Professor from the University of Vermont and Director of the Institute for Environmental Diplomacy and Security.

The academic expedition studied cross-border cooperation and environmental issues and heard local guest lectures from experts in forestry, conservation, water and waste management, sustainable development initiatives and infrastructure projects, and the development and promotion of ecotourism in the tri-border area of Montenegro, Albania and UNMIK Kosovo.

In the Albanian mountain village of Thethi, sustainable agriculture, traditional architecture and traditional water resource management were the focus, while not ignoring the challenges faced by living in the remote Shala Valley: energy, livelihood opportunities and a transition towards ecotourism. In Montenegro, the students visited the “Blue Eye” aquifer and Gerla Waterfall in Vusanje, and the HRID Eko-village on the outskirts of Plav, while learning about the Local Action Groups comprised of stakeholders from

the community. They crossed the border into UNMIK Kosovo at Qaf Bogicivca, enjoying a stunning view of the Tri-Peak region where the borders of Montenegro, Albania and UNMIK Kosovo meet on a mountain summit. In Peja they celebrated with local Kosovar partner, ERA Group, the opening of their Mountain Education Center. The expedition wound to a close with a ferry ride down the Lake Komani gorge. Future Balkans Academic Expedition Dates are 6-23 July 2012.

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<http://peaceparkexpeditions.org>



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Kavango-Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area Treaty Signed



© Ger Bergkamp

On 18 August 2011 at the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Summit in Luanda, Angola, the Presidents of the Republics of Angola, Botswana, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe signed a binding Implementation Treaty which formally and legally established the *Kavango-Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area* (KAZA TFCA).

Spanning over 444,000 km² and incorporating a number of national parks, game reserves, forest reserves, conservancies and wildlife management areas embedded within a matrix of land under traditional communal tenure, the KAZA TFCA will potentially become the world's largest conservation area. It is situated in the Okavango and Zambezi river basins where the borders of Angola, Botswana, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe meet. The KAZA TFCA process, primarily supported by the German Federal Ministry for Cooperation and Development through KfW, evolved from two initiatives - the Okavango Upper

Zambezi International Tourism Initiative and the "Four Corners" Transboundary Natural Resource Management initiative. By signing this Treaty, the five states aim to ensure implementation of the goal of the KAZA TFCA, which is "to sustainably manage the Kavango Zambezi ecosystem, its heritage and cultural resources based on best conservation and tourism models for the socio-economic wellbeing of the communities and other stakeholders in and around the eco-region through harmonization of policies, strategies and practices."

Several days after the Treaty was signed, the KAZA TFCA Secretariat's offices were officially opened by Mr Kitso Mokaila, Minister of Environment, Wildlife and Tourism of Botswana and Mr Dirk Niebel, Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development of Germany.

More information: <http://www.kavangozambezi.org>

Transboundary Protected Areas Congress in Honduras



© Mario Buch

Honduras: With participation of more than 100 attendees, a Congress on Transboundary Protected Areas took place in Copán Ruinas, Honduras, from June 29th to July 1st, 2011. The participants came from 12 countries and represented over 25 different institutions, organizations and cooperation agencies.

The objectives of this event were to contribute to the exchange of knowledge and experiences about cross-border protected areas; and promote the analysis and discussion of trends, challenges and opportunities that these areas represent.



© Ulises Orellana

Interesting presentations were made on a variety of topics, among them: management of transboundary protected areas, climate change and its relation to protected areas. In addition, this event became an opportunity for the participants to visit some sites of ecological and cultural interest around the Copán Ruinas area.

The Congress was organized by the Trinational Commission of Plan Trifinio (CTPT) that gathers representatives from Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras, and as part of the activities of the Montecristo Trinational Protected Area (APTMT). It was supported by the Global Environment Fund through the Interamerican Development Bank. This event was coordinated by CTPT, environmental institutions of the three countries, and IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA), in particular WCPA's Transboundary Conservation Specialist Group. This cooperative effort made it possible to host outstanding speakers, such as Dr. Eduard Müller, WCPA Vice Chair for Central America. Finally, the participants expressed their expectation of having another congress like this in a couple of years.

Ulises Orellana and **Mario Buch**, APTMT, Plan Trifinio, uorellana@gmail.com, www.sica.int/trifinio

Policy and Management Standards for W Transboundary Biosphere Reserve



© Zoumari Salifou

Transboundary Biosphere Reserve (TBR) of W region is a set of national parks and game reserves forming a large regional protected area complex of nearly 5 million hectares in Niger, Benin and Burkina Faso. The beginnings of a collaborative management of the reserve started with signing of the Tapoa Declaration in May 2000 in Niger, when the political will of the three countries to reverse degradation of natural resources and preserve biodiversity in W region for the benefit of local people was reaffirmed.

The Management and Development Plan (2004-2010) has been the key strategic framework document for the governments on the territory of W TBR. The three national administrations in charge of W parks agreed to work within one regional coordination structure, which received technical and financial support by the EU and within the regional Ecosystèmes Protégés en Afrique Soudano-

Sahélienne (ECOPAS) framework. The strategic initiatives focused on the harmonization of legislation of W TBR; improvement of the institutional framework of W TBR; harmonization of interventions and dissemination of research results; insurance of an effective administrative function of national and regional branches; establishing logistics and infrastructure for national and regional branches; funding research.

The achievements by the end of ECOPAS in 2010 are today about to be consolidated by a new project called Project WAP (W, Arly, Pendjari) which in addition to block W expanded its intervention to Pendjari (Benin) and Arly (Burkina Faso) areas.

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Northern Appalachian - Acadia Strategies Workshop

Canada: A meeting of the various NGO players in the transboundary corridor of conservation from the Northern Appalachian States (Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont) with the Gaspé/Acadia Provinces (Quebec, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia) will be held on 16-18 November 2011 in Montreal, Quebec, Canada. The meeting is sponsored by The Nature Conservancy and Nature Conservation of Canada local offices of those jurisdictions, and will explore strategies for connectivity and transborder cooperation. Larry Hamilton, a member of the WCPA Transboundary Conservation Specialist Group will be participating.

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© Charles Besancon

7th European Ramsar Meeting

Slovak Republic: The 7th European Ramsar Meeting will be held on 27-30 September 2011 in Trnava, Slovak Republic. The meeting will address major issues that influence management and use of wetland ecosystems and it will aim to identify ways of cooperation between different sectors of society, administration and private business. Special session on management of transboundary Ramsar sites will be held on 28 September, with managers of several European cross-border

Ramsar sites discussing operational issues, exchanging their experiences and discussing the ways forward in managing internationally shared watersheds. The participants will have the opportunity to visit the first trilateral Ramsar site of the Morava-Dyje-Danube confluence and celebrate its 10th anniversary of cooperation.

More information:
www.ramsar.org/COP11-regional-europe

Training on Protected Area Management Categories in Croatia

Croatia: A major regional event, building capacity in applying the IUCN Protected Area (PA) Management Categories will take place from 27 to 29 September 2011 in Northern Velebit National Park (NP). It is being implemented in the frame of the Environment for People in the Dinaric Arc project funded by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland. The training for about 30 conservation experts from the Dinaric Arc countries is jointly organized by IUCN and WCPA, with support of the State Institute for Nature Conservation (Croatia) and the Northern Velebit NP authority, and with facilitation to be provided by Equilibrium Research.

Boris Erg, Director, IUCN Programme Office for South-Eastern Europe, boris.erg@iucn.org



© Tomasz Pezold

New MSc Programme on Protected Area Management

Montenegro: UNDP launched a new postgraduate programme at Master level at the University Donja Gorica in Podgorica, Montenegro. The 2-year Master of Science programme in Management of Protected Areas and Rural Development focuses on biodiversity importance and role of protected areas in conservation and local development, protected area management and financing, and public participation in protected area management.

Borko Vulikic,

UNDP/GEF Montenegro Protected Area Project Manager
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Call for Papers: Biodiversity Governance in Central and Eastern Europe

In 2012, the theme of the Environmental Conservation journal will be *Biodiversity Governance in Central and Eastern Europe*. The editors are calling for submission of papers related to that theme, with the goal to generate one of the first collections of articles on Central and Eastern European (CEE) biodiversity governance. The papers can take the form of case studies, comparative studies, or thematic/geographical reviews. The thematic issue will explore the harmonisation of national legislation in the new EU member states with EU policies and directives, considering also how European policies are influencing biodiversity governance in neighbouring CEE countries. It will aim to show how the Europeanisation of environmental governance and emergence of multi-level governance structures has transformed environmental politics, conservation and environmental conflicts. In doing this, the thematic issue will strengthen the evidence-base on the functioning and performance of biodiversity governance in new EU member states and neighbouring countries.

The deadline for submission of manuscripts in English is 1 February 2012.

More information:

<http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/envcon>,

<http://tiny.cc/iv6kg>



The Third TransParcNet Meeting

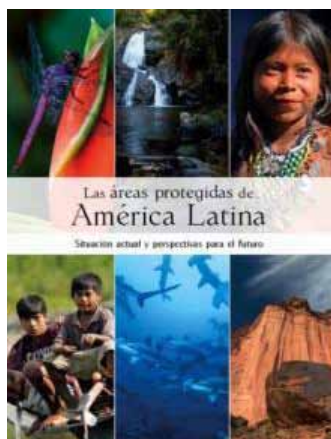
Czech Republic: The 3rd EUROPARC Transboundary Protected Area Network (TransParcNet) meeting took place in Krkonoše Mountains National Park, Czech Republic from 7-10 June 2011. The meeting was hosted by Krkonoše-Karkonosze Mountains National Parks, a transboundary protected area (TBPA) shared by Czech Republic and Poland. The participants had the opportunity to discuss best prac-

tice, benefits and challenges of transboundary cooperation in protected areas, as well as collaboration within the TransParcNet. Part of the programme was dedicated to workshop sessions focusing on the future of the TransParcNet initiative, and tourism, sport and recreation in TBPAs.

More information: <http://www.krnep.cz/transparcnet>

Transboundary Session at IUCN Regional Forum

During the IUCN Regional Conservation Forum (Lima, Peru, 13-15 June 2011), a special event was dedicated



to transboundary conservation and ecological corridors. The objectives of this event were to exchange experiences in transboundary conservation at regional level and define priorities for the work of IUCN in transboundary conservation and corridors in view of the IUCN Programme 2013-2016.

Four group sessions were held during this event: Social aspects of transboundary governance; Legal and institutional aspects of transboundary conservation; Conservation of transboundary aquatic ecosystems; and Financial needs.

A new book about Latin American protected areas was launched during the Forum: *Las áreas protegidas de América Latina: Situación actual y perspectivas para el futuro* (edited by Joerg Elbers). The book can be downloaded from IUCN-Sur Conservation and Equity portal: <http://www.portalces.org>.

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Cooperation Agreement between Plitvice and Una



© Boris Erg

On 8 September 2011, the Directors of Plitvice Lakes National Park (Croatia) and Una National Park (Bosnia and Herzegovina) signed the agreement of cooperation. The signing took place during the 9th International Ecological Fair in Bihac, Bosnia and Herzegovina, organised by EKOBIS, and was attended by more than 50 guests.



© Boris Erg

Located in the Dinaric karst area, the abundance of water found in Plitvice Lakes and Una River form a valuable natural phenomena in this region. Plitvice Lakes was proclaimed as national park in 1949 and a UNESCO World Natural Heritage Site in 1979, while Una is a young national park, established in 2008. During the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signing ceremony, the Directors of Una and Plitvice Lakes National Parks, Mr. Amarildo Mulic and Mr. Branislav Sutic respectively, emphasized the necessity for mutual cooperation in preserving the common values of the two protected areas. The MoU indicated a number of key areas of cooperation: conservation of natural and cultural values, improvement of governance and institutional development, and sustainable development, including sustainable tourism, of the entire region. This cooperation agreement provides a good base for future specific planning of joint transboundary activities.

Plitvice Lakes: <http://np-plitvicka-jezera.hr>;
Una: <http://www.fmoit.gov.ba>

Establishment of Altai Transboundary Reserve

The Ministers of the Russian Federation and Republic of Kazakhstan signed the intergovernmental agreement regarding the establishment of the Transboundary Reserve Altai on 15 September 2011. The Altai Transboundary Reserve comprises Katunskiy Biosphere Reserve (Russia) and Katon-Karagaikskiy National Park (Kazakhstan). The agreement is a result of 6-year long consultations between various stakeholders with the goal to protect wildlife and landscape diversity of the mountains of Altai. The newly established transboundary protected area (TBPA) is considered as the first step towards the establishment of a four-lateral TBPA in Altai, involving Russia, Kazakhstan, China and Mongolia.

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IUCN World Conservation Congress



Inaugural Conference on Environmental Diplomacy and Security

The IUCN World Conservation Congress (WCC), themed Nature+, will take place from 6 to 15 September 2012, in Jeju, Korea. The Congress has two components: a Forum, where IUCN members and partners discuss ideas and practice; and IUCN Members' Assembly, a unique global environmental parliament of governments and NGOs. The deadline for contributions for the Forum of the Congress is **15 October 2011** and all proposals must be submitted by that date. All relevant information regarding the Congress and how to submit a proposal can be found at: www.iucn.org/congress.



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Environmental Diplomacy and Security Inaugural Conference will be held from 21 to 23 October 2011 at the University of Vermont, Burlington, USA.

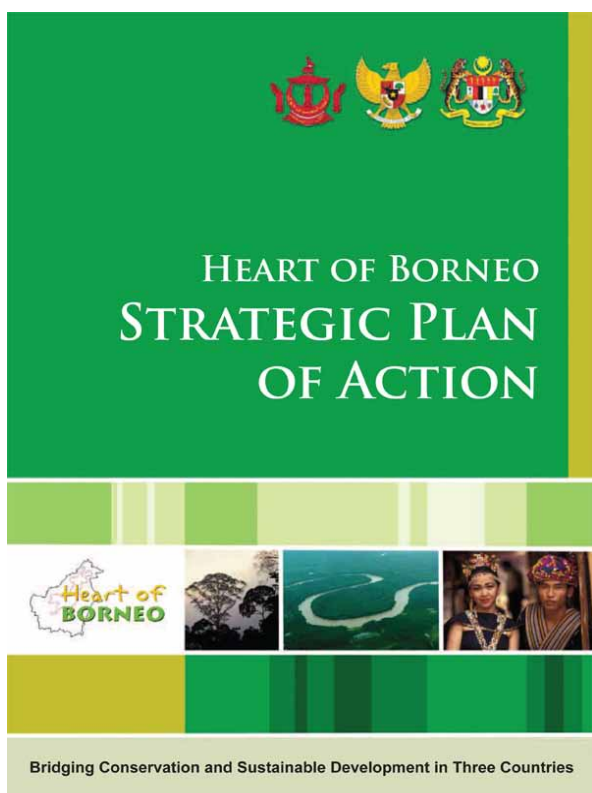
The conference is the inaugural event of a new research and practice centred on the emerging discipline of environmental diplomacy and security at the University of Vermont. The conference is broadly arranged around 5 short symposia, each of which is targeted towards developing a product for research and educational purposes. These products can range from edited volumes to new educational websites to video documentaries. Topics have been chosen based on the relevance of these efforts to mandate of the institutes three thematic areas: Borderlands; Pragmatic Peace; and Resource Values. Details on speakers and registration can be found at:

<http://www.uvm.edu/ieds/node/522>



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Green Economy in the Heart of Borneo



Malaysia: From 15 to 16 November 2011, Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, in Malaysia, will host an international conference “Sabah Heart of Borneo (HoB) Green Economy Development: Engaging Business for Environment”. Heart of Borneo Initiative is a programme focused on conservation and sustainable development of the region covering approximately 200,000 km² of the ecologically inter-connected rainforest in the provinces of Kalimantan (Indonesia), the states of Sabah and Sarawak (Malaysia), and Brunei Darussalam. Back in 2007, the

three governments agreed to the vision for conservation and sustainable development of the HoB Initiative.

According to the Strategic Plan of Action for Sabah HoB initiative, five Core Programmes of HoB have been identified: Transboundary Management; Protected Areas, Sustainable Natural Resource Management; Ecotourism Development; and Capacity Building. The coming conference aims to explore ways of implementing the Green Economy in the HoB landscape. The conference participants will gain a common understanding on the meaning of Green Economy, better understand the economic contribution of HoB’s natural capital to the state development agenda, share their knowledge on the Green Economy initiatives and the requirements, and map out a strategy for a consolidated front towards realising a Green Economy in the HoB landscape.

This conference is open to all policy and decision makers, planners, managers, government agencies and relevant stakeholders such as NGOs, private sector, forest management unit holders, oil palm companies, donors, and Universities.

Further information:

hob.greeneconomy.secretariat@gmail.com;
or **Frederick Kugan**: frederick.kugan@sabah.gov.my

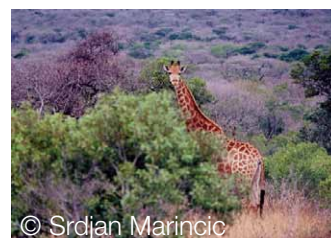
Announcing recent publications

WCS – Focus on Southern Africa

Prepared by D.H.M. Cumming and published in 2011, technical report to the Wildlife Conservation Society *Constraints to Conservation and Development Success at the Wildlife-Livestock-Human Interface in Southern African Transfrontier Conservation Areas: A preliminary review*, examines what would represent conservation and development success at the wildlife-livestock-human interface and elaborates the main constraints to achieving conservation and development success at the interface.

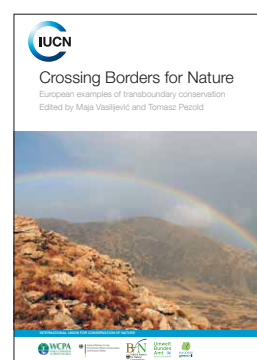
A briefing, *Beyond Fences: Policy options for biodiversity, livelihoods & transboundary animal disease management in Southern Africa*, focuses on the Kavango-Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area (KAZA TFCA).

Both publications are downloadable from <http://www.wcs-ahead.org>



Crossing Borders for Nature in Europe

Crossing Borders for Nature. European examples of transboundary conservation, a book published by IUCN and prepared by its Programme Office for South-Eastern Europe in cooperation with the Transboundary Conservation Specialist Group of the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA), showcases a number of European examples of transboundary conservation efforts. Edited by Maja Vasiljevic and Tomasz Pezold, the publication highlights the many benefits transboundary cooperation generates, while not neglecting the challenges and problems parties encounter when they engage in transboundary initiatives. The publication can be downloaded from <http://data.iucn.org/dbtw-wpd/edocs/2011-025.pdf>



Legal Frameworks of International Waters

The report, *International Waters: Review of Legal and Institutional Frameworks*, is the most comprehensive report to date that summarizes legal frameworks for the Americas, Asia, Africa and Europe. This report discusses the legal and institutional frameworks that apply to 28 international water bodies identified as part of the UNDP-GEF *Good Practices and Portfolio Learning in GEF Transboundary Freshwater and Marine Legal and Institutional Frameworks* project. Download from <http://iwlearn.net/news/just-released-international-waters-review-of-legal-and-institutional-frameworks>



Conference Reports Online

Two conference reports prepared for the Institute for Environmental Security and Diplomacy, University of Vermont are now available online:

Report on the “Fences, Walls and Border: State of Insecurity International Conference”, Montreal, Canada, May 2011 (prepared by Anna Grichting): <http://bit.ly/1lZ86b>

Report on the Carpathian Convention Conference of the Parties, Bratislava, Slovakia, May 2011 (prepared by Yuriy Bihun): <http://bit.ly/iw64V0>

New Publications from ICIMOD

Written by B.H. Desai, K.P. Oli, Y. Yang, N. Chettri, and E. Sharma, a publication *Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity: A retrospective analysis in the Hindu Kush-Himalayan countries*, looks at the progress made in the implementation of the CBD in the eight countries of the Hindu Kush-Himalayan region using the national reports to the CBD as the primary source. The paper concludes that all countries are making efforts to prioritise conservation, but that they are at different stages of CBD implementation. Progressive conservation policies and legislation for management of biological resources in a participatory way have been developed, providing a strong basis in support of CBD implementation in the region. Downloadable from: <http://books.icimod.org/index.php/downloads/pd/759>

Kailash Sacred Landscape Conservation Initiative: Feasibility assessment report, edited by R. Zomer and K.P. Oli, is a summarised synthesis of three individual Country Feasibility Assessment Reports. These reports were based on extensive field work and consultations aimed at delineating the target landscape and preparing needs analysis for the Kailash Sacred Landscape (KSL) in general, and the KSL Conservation Initiative in particular. KSL spreads across portions of the Tibet Autonomous Region of China, Nepal and India, with Mount Kailash being at the heart of this landscape. The KSL Conservation Initiative aims to enhance cooperation among the countries in the region, increase collection of climate change data and strengthen local participation in conservation. Download the report from: <http://books.icimod.org/index.php/downloads/publication/761>



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TB eNews

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Design

UNITgraphics.com

Imre Sebestyen, jr

Supported by

IUCN

TB eNEWS is edited and prepared by

IUCN WCPA

Transboundary Conservation

Specialist Group (TBC SG).

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TB eNEWS is prepared on bi-annual

basis.

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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 300 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 Maja Vasilijevic at maja.vasilijevic1@gmail.com.

Thank you for your cooperation,

Transboundary Conservation Specialist Group Executive Team

