



Africa mini- workshop

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Participants

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Transboundary governance arrangements

- Great Limpopo: JMB and Ministerial Committee. JMB will no longer focus on policy development but support existing informal lower level arrangements for implementation;
- Great Virunga: after the establishment of MoU the implementation is ongoing with collaborative agreements between governments
- Central Africa: mostly they begin between with informal collaboration for monitoring or other activities
- SADC: mostly top-down establishment, by Ministerial will. So these are formal processes, which then allows for the institutionalization of existing or new operational agreements.

Strength and weaknesses

- Weaknesses:
 - Contradicting policies between countries, so Treaties should help to harmonise the legislation;
 - Some provisions made in Treaties and MoU are not operationalized;
 - Differences and imbalanced administrative systems for the management of TFCAs;
 - No real partnership building with communities, funding is needed to achieve that;
 - No clear management objectives if only left to political will.
- SADC is moving towards the stratified systems: political, operational, discipline specific sub-committees.
- Regardless of bottom-up or top-down, there are challenges for integrated governance to be achieved through participation and negotiation.
- Central Africa has more bottom-up approach.

Strength and weaknesses

- Strength:

- Political will exists in SADC, but cannot be guaranteed through political cycles;
- TFCAs has built relations between government through the conservation discourse, despite existing conflict;
- Zambia has begun building alternative livelihoods for people in the Conservancy resulting in no conflict between people and conservation;
- Potential from building community dialogue across the borders;
- Resolve critical issues such as wildlife crimes;
- Role of coordinators, secretariat and champions in holding the system together.

Recommendations:

1. Legalise a formalized and mandated management structure, supported by development plans and long-term financing system;
2. Provide a mandate for lower level cooperative agreements between PA managers, with delegation of power and decision-making;
3. TFCAs needs to work horizontally, especially with communities who need to benefit, not be hindered by TFCAs, and the private sector.