



IUCN  
WORLD PARKS  
CONGRESS  
SYDNEY 2014

## WORKSHOP SUMMARY REPORT

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<b>Event co-leaders:</b>	Clara Bocchino, Kari Lahti, Matthew McKinney and Maja Vasiljević
<b>Time and date:</b>	17 November 2014, 13:30-17:00 (double session)
<b>Rapporteurs:</b>	Clara Bocchino and Michael Murphree
<b>Presenters:</b>	Matthew McKinney, Gary Tabor, Kevan Zunckel, Nakul Chettri, Jakub Kašpar, Handrij Härtel, Kari Lahti, Benjamin Kahn, Sandra Valenzuela, Maja Vasiljević and Boris Erg (facilitator)

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The workshop's objectives were:

- To advance transboundary conservation governance discourse by presenting and discussing a range of innovative models of transboundary conservation governance
- To share experiences from different geographical regions
- To identify needs and priorities in order to advance transboundary conservation governance.

The workshop consisted of two integral parts; a plenary part (part 1, with a set of presentations) and regional mini-workshops (part 2, where participants discussed governance issues important for their particular geographic region, divided into North America, Asia, Europe, Africa and South America).

The event was opened with a presentation of a wide range of underlying governance principles and key characteristics of transboundary conservation governance. In this respect, the following was highlighted:

- Governance versus management
- Governance operates at different scales and levels of authority with multiple actors, and can be both formal and informal
- There is no single model for transboundary conservation governance (form follows function), but there are ten defining characteristics as unifying elements
- There needs to be flexibility and adaptability, as well as accountability
- Transboundary conservation governance is increasingly collaborative, nested and adaptive.

**Key emerging lessons:**

1. Transboundary conservation plays an important role in conservation governance, bringing people together across the international border. There needs to be flexibility, adaptability and accountability.
2. There is a varied range of transboundary conservation governance scales. Governance systems that are too government driven may fail in the absence of inclusivity and community participation. An array of formal to informal approaches needs to be employed to enable good governance.
3. Disparities in objectives, commitment and legal systems may hinder the good transboundary governance processes. Transboundary conservation helps overcome barriers originating in historical processes. Also, information sharing and communication are critical elements in the success of collaborative processes.
4. Transboundary conservation thrives in including all stakeholders in the overall governance system.
5. Transboundary conservation serves important educational objectives and provides unique research fields.

#### **Exemplary case/s and other useful links:**

Presentation of examples from different regions (North America, South-east Asia, Central Asia, Europe, South Africa and South America) showed different types of transboundary governance models and approaches, some being combining elements of formality and informality such as the North American case study (Crown of the Continent) while the Southern African model (SADC countries) provided a more structured and legalistic example. An important observation from the Central Asian case study in the Hindu Kush Himalaya is that a bottom-up approach alone does not work and a multi-scale approach is required. In South America (Putumayo River) the case study exemplified the importance of transboundary approaches in peace building and as a tool for securing community rights to land and resources. The European case study (TransParcNet) showed how transboundary experience can withstand a range of historical pressures and external forces, and can be a significant and sustainable generator of income. Finally, the Pacific case study (Ombai Strait) showed some of the complexity and opportunity in transboundary resource management in marine environments.

Further on, participants of regional mini workshops presented lessons related to transboundary governance from their regions.

- Crown of the Continent (Canada, USA): [http://www.crownroundtable.org/the-initiatives.html#crow\\_n\\_wide](http://www.crownroundtable.org/the-initiatives.html#crow_n_wide)
- TransParcNet (European network): <http://www.europarc.org/what-we-do/transboundary-parks>
- FORMADAT (Indonesia, Malaysia): [http://www.wwf.or.id/en/about\\_wwf/whatwedo/pds/social\\_development/formadat/about\\_formadat/](http://www.wwf.or.id/en/about_wwf/whatwedo/pds/social_development/formadat/about_formadat/)

Original presentations and report are available in the event's folder (see link in annexed "Repository of original Powerpoint presentations and Rapporteur reports").

See also [selected images](#) from the workshop.

**Key recommendations:**

1. All countries, relevant organisations, protected area managers and rightsholders support the maintenance and implementation of a variety of **transboundary conservation governance** models, including formal and informal arrangements, as a means to ensure the efficiency and effectiveness of conservation, including sustainable use, in Transboundary Conservation Areas.
2. All countries, relevant organisations, protected area managers and rightsholders support participation of **diverse actors** in transboundary conservation governance.

*This session's recommendations have been instrumental in directly shaping the Stream final recommendation #7:*

<b>Rec#</b>	<b>Title</b>
7	Shared governance