

# Tourism partnerships and concessions in protected areas: Cooperating for success

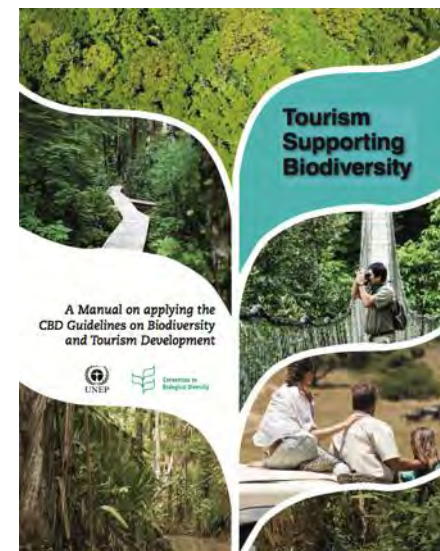
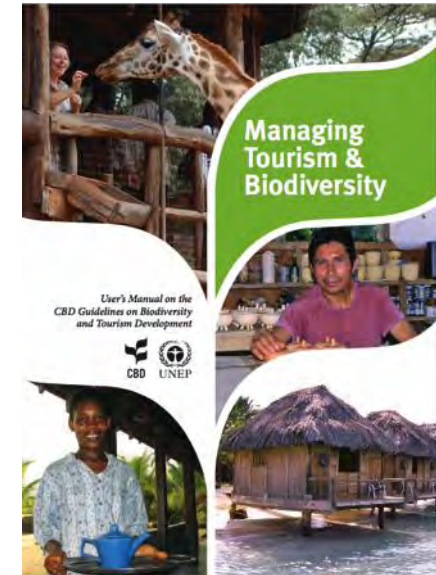
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# The why of the project

- Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity work on biodiversity and tourism
- Under-use of tourism to finance conservation in protected areas
- Need identified for guidelines, better capacity, networks and sharing of technical information



# Who ran the project:



**TAPAS GROUP**

Tourism and Protected Areas Specialist Group

IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA)  
Specialist Group

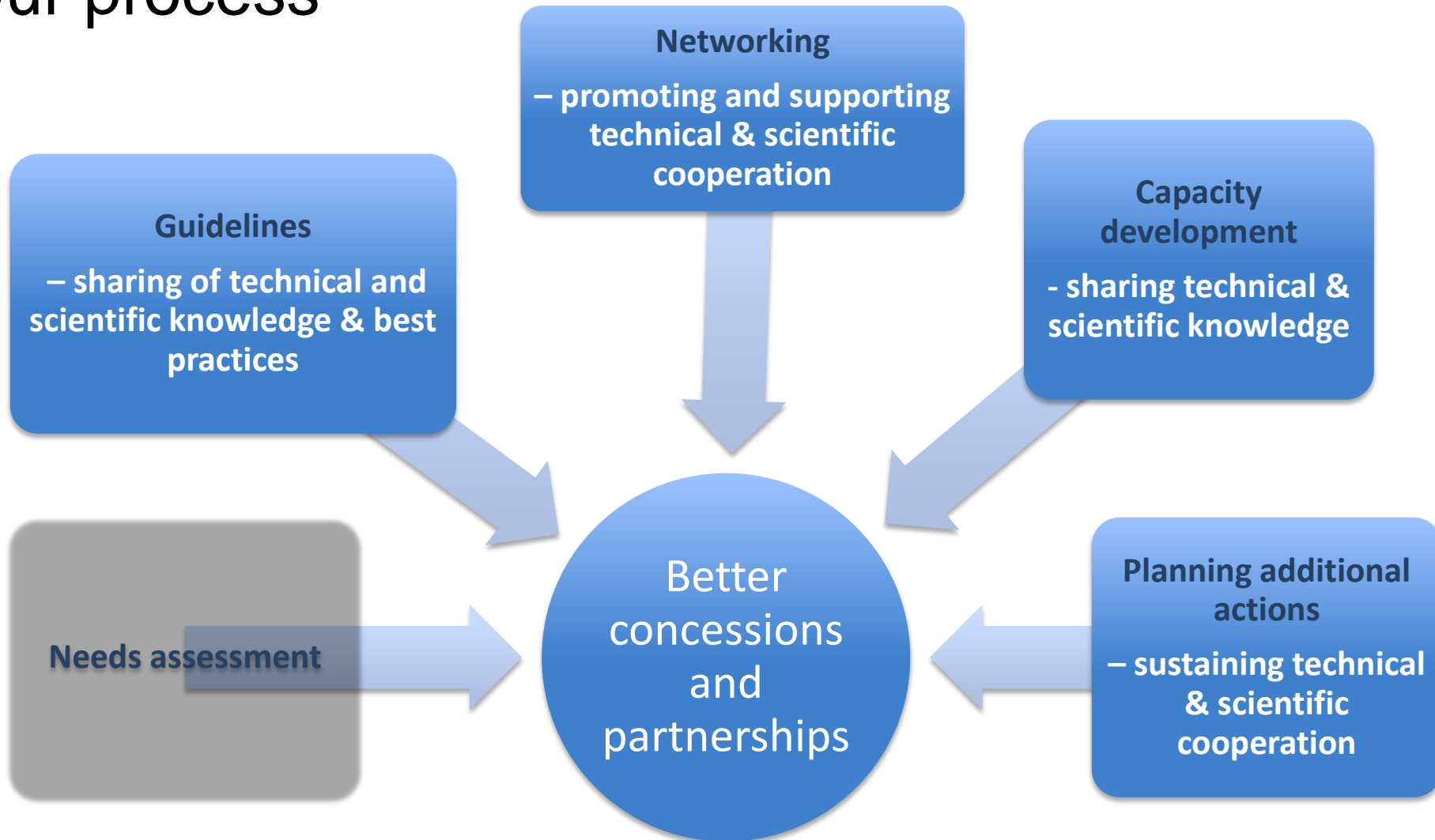
Voluntary technical network (500+)

Specialists on tourism and protected areas and areas of  
particular importance to biodiversity

## Two complementary components:

- 1) Capacity building initiatives evaluating and promoting tourism concessions and partnerships in protected areas
  - *German Ministry of Environment (BMUB)*
- 2) Cooperation for development of tourism concession guidelines and policies within southern African protected area system
  - *Bio-Bridge Initiative (BBI) financed by the Government of the Republic of Korea*

# Our process





## Promoting technical and scientific cooperation

- ✓ Survey allowed for an effective information basis for presentations and discussions
- ✓ Group learning and cooperation (experienced with non-experienced)
- ✓ Personal relationships useful for future cooperation, technical support and shared learning
- ✓ Group speed dating allowed for one-on-one discussions and sharing
- ✓ On-site activities
- ✓ Ability to propose follow-up activities ensured future cooperation as involved in creation of ideas
- ✓ TAPAS Group and email groups ensure extensive sharing of technical and scientific knowledge
- ✓ Improved understanding of tourism concessions and partnerships among 37 protected area representatives from 13 countries in southern Africa



**TAPAS GROUP**

Tourism and Protected Areas Specialist Group



iSimangaliso meeting participants



Field trip



Working group session

## Enhancing technical and scientific cooperation between the parties:

- **‘Speed-dating’** - creating a relatively informal and enjoyable atmosphere for networking
- **Host-country presentations:** A structured format was provided to participants, drafts reviewed prior to the meeting to ensure learning
- **Flexibility:** Accommodating additional presentations offered by the participants, and sharing their materials.
- **Varying the style of sessions** (e.g. presentations, plenary discussion, field trips, invited speakers) to enhance cooperation
- **Facilitators with varied backgrounds and different skills**
- **Delegate to delegate discussions** on the lessons learned, the strengths and weaknesses of various approaches, and problems to be avoided.
- **On-site visits** involving sharing of technical and scientific knowledge





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Namibia meeting participants



Mozambique meeting participants



Working group in Namibia



Field trip to Anvil Bay in Mozambique

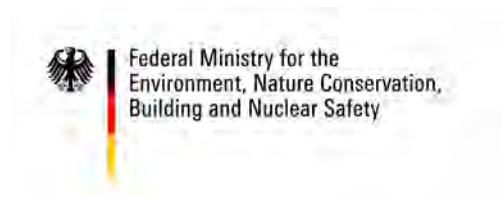
## Sustaining technical and scientific cooperation:

- Countries already reporting policy and policy instrument adaptation:
  - Malawi – developing a concession monitoring framework, using discussions and tools shared. Proposal to review concession submissions anticipated based on learnings from the workshops.
  - Zimbabwe - pursuing an auction for “photographic” tourism concession sites and working on an auction brochure to try and include a screening process.
  - Mozambique – use of materials to work on the harmonization of concessions in protected areas.
  - Madagascar – adaptation of the legal framework for tourism concessions.
- Creation of a collaborative network due to the comradely ‘spirit’ of the workshop and ‘buddy’ system
- Numerous countries mentioned follow-up initiatives, including collaborating with other countries & further sharing technical and scientific knowledge and experience

## Draft components requiring funding for Phase 2 to foster sustained TSC

- **Component 1:** Capacity building on tourism concessions and partnerships in protected areas in other regions
- **Component 2:** Scaled-up country-specific capacity building and networking in southern Africa
- **Component 3:** Online training modules to support tourism concessioning internationally
- **Component 4:** Research on protected area financing from tourism
- **Component 5:** Exchange visit of African and Latin American delegates to Canada
- **Component 6:** Online tourism concession investment promotion platform

Thank you to all who were involved in, and supported,  
the project:



All country participants and Mozambican, Namibian, and South  
African authorities for logistical, technical and scientific support





Convention on  
Biological Diversity



**TAPAS GROUP**  
Tourism and Protected Areas Specialist Group

# THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME

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