

Tourism partnerships and concessions in protected areas: Cooperating for success

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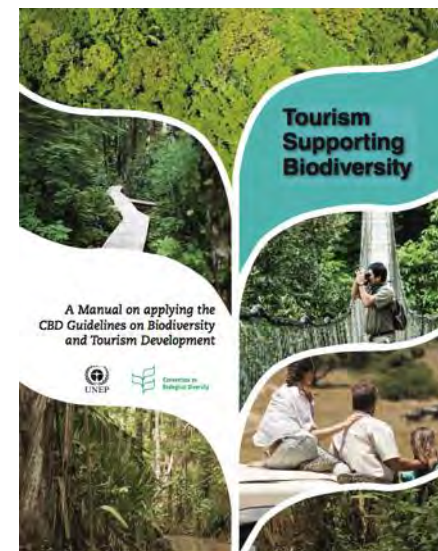
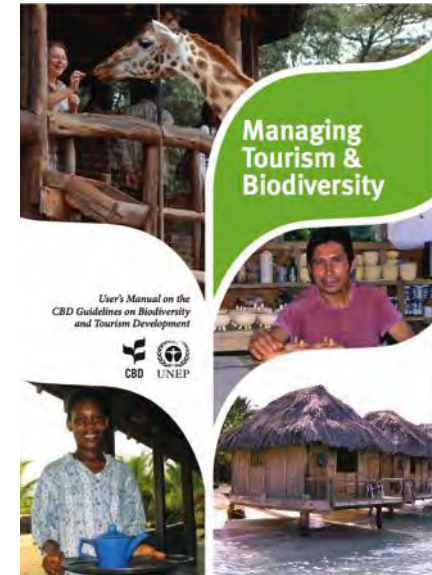
Tourism and Protected Areas Specialist Group

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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+)

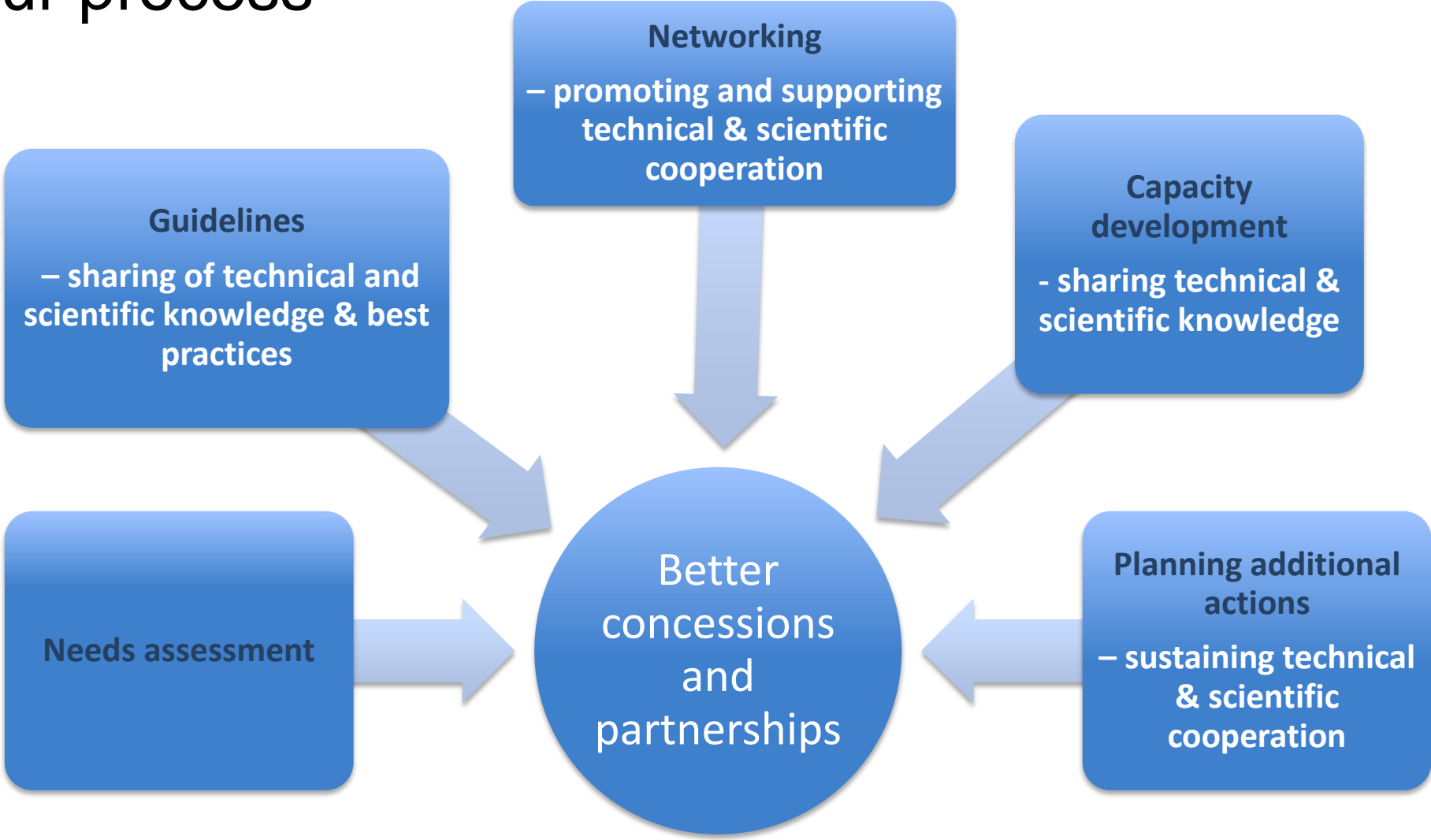
Specialists on tourism and protected areas and areas of
particular importance to biodiversity

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 systems
 - *Bio-Bridge Initiative (BBI) financed by the Government of the Republic of Korea*

Our process



Promoting technical and scientific cooperation

- ✓ A survey of delegates 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



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

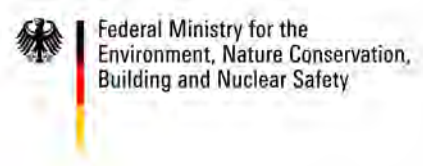
Sustaining technical and scientific cooperation:

- 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



THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME

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