

EUROPARC Webinar
7 September
10:30 CEST

Transboundary cooperation: A “b-solution” to face and solve obstacles

Organised by:



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Scarpe and Escaut rivers merge between France and Belgium - Photo by Stefania Petrosillo

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EUROPARC Webinar



- We are recording
- Put your camera ON if possible
- Use the chat for questions
- Record and presentations will be published in europarc.org/europarc-webinars
- At the end, please fill in the evaluation form using the link you will see in the chat
- Today the webinar will be facilitated by Stefania Petrosillo with the technical support of Jessica Micklem-Kolenić

Thanks for being with us!

Comments and suggestions: europarc@europarc.org

AGENDA



Welcome and introduction to the webinar and the Transboundary Parks Programme
Stefania Petrosillo, EUROPARC Federation

Water Governance of Crossborder Rivers in a Franco-Belgian European Natural Park
Lisa Bardot, Scarpe Escaut European Natural Park

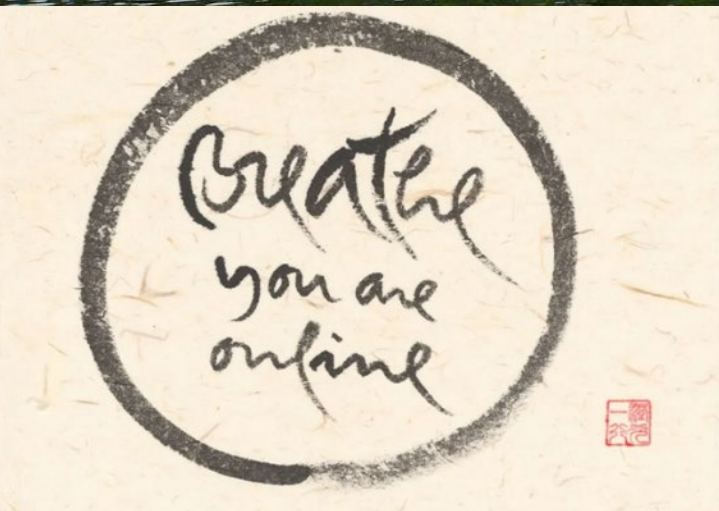
The "b-solutions", an instrument from the European Commission to solve obstacles to cross-border cooperation
Cinzia Dellagiacoma and Mariane Bloudeau, Association of European Border Regions (AEBR)


Q&A/ discussion
Moderated by Stefania Petrosillo

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**Transboundary cooperation:
A “b-solution” to face and solve
obstacles**





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The EUROPARC Transboundary Parks Programme: “Following nature design”



Stefania Petrosillo

EUROPARC policy officer & person in charge of the programme

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EUROPARC Federation

Nature protection and

Agriculture

Marine, Fishing

Tourism

Climate change

Large carnivores

Health

Culture

Youth

Sport

Cross-border cooperation

...

The largest network of
European Protected Areas

385 Members representing
thousands of PAs in 37
countries



**Nature knows
no boundaries**



**To promote
traditional
and new
Economic Opportunities**



**Often communities
do not know
borders neither**





BENEFITS for...

NATURE: better management, investigations, actions.

PROTECTED AREAS: visibility, projects, opportunities.

STAFF: motivation, interculture, innovation, knowledges.

COMMUNITIES: more awareness, mutual understanding.

EUROPE: Building Europe on the ground

CHALLENGES about...

POLITICS: Political will. Unstability

LEGAL FRAMEWORK: Different legislative and administrative rules and background. Different protected areas category. Borders in not-Schengen area.

STAFF: Language barrier. Time.

PROTECTED AREAS: Lack of funds. Need of personal and institutional commitment

COMMUNITIES : Lack of mutual trust / sometime heavy historical memories



Transboundary Parks...following nature's design

The EUROPARC

„Transboundary Parks Programme: following Nature`s design“

is a special **verification** and **certification** system

that aims *to promote and facilitate* transboundary cooperation
between European Protected Areas

The Programme



- 14 EUROPARC Basic **Standards** for transboundary cooperation (Quality Criteria and Fields of Work, with indicators)
 - A **verification** process carried out by external verifiers (Field evaluation mission, assessment and recommendations)
- The formal **certification** as “EUROPARC Transboundary Area” if the application was successful (Award Ceremony)
 - The **renewal** of the Certificate every 5 years

The programme is open to crossborder European Protected Areas that are members of EUROPARC

The network

TransParcNet

<https://www.europarc.org/nature/transboundary-cooperation/discover-our-transboundary-areas/>

EUROPARC.ORG/TRANSBOUNDARY-COOPERATION

- 1 Pasvik-Inari Trilateral Park (FI/NO/RU)
- 2 Oulanka-Paanajärvi Transboundary Parks (FI/RU)
- 3 Maas-Schwalm-Nette Nature Park (NL/DE)
- 4 Saxon-Bohemian Switzerland Transboundary Parks (DE/CZ)
- 5 Krkonoše and Karkonosze National Parks (CZ/PL)
- 6 Šumava and Bavarian Forest National Park (CZ/DE)
- 7 Podyjí-Thayatal Transboundary Parks (CZ/AU)
- 8 Neusiedler See-Seewinkel & Fertő-Hanság (AU/HU)
- 9 Julian Alps Transboundary Ecoregion (IT/SI)
- 10 Binnental Veglia Devero Transboundary Nature Park (IT/CH)
- 11 Internationaler Naturpark Bourtanger Moor - Veenland (DE/NL)
- 12 Håldi Transboundary Area (FI/NO)
- 13 Scarpe-Escaut Plains European Nature Park (FR/BE)



The TransParcNet work for:

NETWORKING

***SHARING EXPERIENCES, IDEAS
AND SOLUTIONS***

EXCHANGE BEST PRACTICES

GETTING MORE VISIBILITY

***ENFORCING A TRUE EUROPEAN
VISION***





TransParcNet meeting
2023

German-Dutch Nature Park
Maas-Schwalm-Nette (DE-NL)



TransParcNet meeting
2022

Binntal Veglia Devero
Transboundary Park (CH, IT)



TransParcNet meeting
2021

Online



TransParcNet meeting
2020

Online



TransParcNet meeting
2019

Oulanka National Park (FI) and
Paanajärvi National Park (RU)



TransParcNet meeting
2018

Podyjí National Park (CZ) and
Thayatal National Park (AT)



TransParcNet meeting
2017

Ecoregion Julian Alps (IT/SI)



TransParcNet Meeting
2016

Saxon-Bohemian Switzerland
Transboundary Parks (DE) and
(CZ)



TransParcNet Meeting
2015

National Parks Bavarian Forest
(DE) and Šumava (CZ).



TransParcNet Meeting
2014

Hainaut cross-border Nature
Park (BE/FR)



TransParcNet Meeting
2013

Maas-Swalm-Nette Nature
Park (DE/NL)



TransParcNet Meeting
2012

Pasvik-Inari Trilateral Park
(FI/NO/RU)





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TransParcNet meeting 2024

HALDI AREA (FI/NO)

More info coming soon!!



DECLARATION

of the EUROPARC Transboundary Parks Programme

The 30th anniversary of the Fall of the Berlin Wall

[9 NOVEMBER 1989-2019]

Nature has no borders



On the 30th anniversary of the Fall of the Berlin Wall we, the **European Transboundary Parks** highlight the need to re-enforce cooperation and mutual understanding in Europe, across frontiers.

Since its birth, **EUROPARC's Transboundary Parks Programme**, has embodied the spirit of the Fall of the Berlin Wall, on the basis of our day to day experience collaborating in the **management of a shared biodiversity despite our political borders.**

Our network of protected areas is characterised by being one, close to the other- but separated by a border a virtual administrative, political and cultural wall - even in a now open Europe.

The experience of our history, our knowledge and values, led us to create a movement of active people, concretely co-operating and building projects to overcome barriers through the **EUROPARC Transboundary Parks Programme: a true European project.**

The inspiration derived from the Fall of the Wall is particularly evident given that **most of our protected areas are located on the former Iron Curtain (now European Green Belt)**. Just looking at a map of Europe makes this very clear.

As equally evident is the energy and the will that the people involved in the Transboundary Programme put into the cooperation activities every day, driven by the pleasure of working together in once, long-time divided territories.

For these reasons and on this occasion, **we strongly declare our commitment for peace, dialogue and nature protection** and our availability to support, in the frame of our institutional goals and skills, any initiative aimed at fostering cooperation between European states within and beyond the European Union.

<https://www.europarc.org/nature/transboundary-cooperation/transboundary-parks-declaration-fall-of-berlin-wall/>

<https://www.europarc.org/nature/transboundary-cooperation/conference-on-the-future-of-europes-contribution/>



Transboundary Parks...following nature's design

CONTRIBUTION OF THE TRANSPARCNET TO THE CONFERENCE ON THE FUTURE OF EUROPE

Brussels, 27.12.2021

<https://futureu.europa.eu/processes/GreenDeal/f/1/proposals/200179>



Conference
on the Future
of Europe



Climate change and the environment

#TheFutureIsNow - Leading the way for a more sustainable future

The European Transboundary Protected Areas are ready to collaborate with the European Institutions for a Green Future of Europe.

As European Transboundary Protected Areas awarded by the "EUROPARC Transboundary Parks Programme -Following Natures Design" we are at the forefront of the European nature protection, communities' dialogue and exchanges beyond borders.

The EUROPARC TransParcNet is the network of active citizens of the Transboundary Protected Areas who cooperate and build projects aimed at overcoming the existing administrative national barriers and the difficulties of different legislations in neighboring countries.

We deeply believe that working together creating "bridges" makes stronger nature conservation and valuable connection of cultures and people.

For the future of the Europe we would like to offer our experience in cross-border cooperation and we propose to the European Institutions to work together in order to:

- harmonise rules and develop instruments to facilitate cross-border work for nature
- harmonise the management and administration's rules for cross-border Natura2000 areas
- coordinate rules for large carnivores and sensitive species along borders
- create natural corridors, green infrastructures, new protected areas and restored ecosystems and habitats in line with the EU Biodiversity Strategy
- officially recognize at EU level the programme and the certifications of the Transboundary Parks Programme of EUROPARC

The Transboundary Protected Areas are ready and fit to collaborate for a Green Future of Europe.

<https://www.europarc.org/nature/transboundary-cooperation/>



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Thank you!

Transboundary Parks...following nature's design

To know more about the EUROPARC TB programme: <http://www.europarc.org/nature/transboundary-cooperation/>

Discover our Transboundary Parks : <http://www.europarc.org/nature/transboundary-cooperation/discover-our-transboundary-areas/>

Toolkits, case studies, news, webinars : <https://www.europarc.org/knowledge-hub/transboundary/>

TransParcNet meetings info, reports, presentations: <http://www.europarc.org/nature/transboundary-cooperation/transparcnet/> -

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