



## TransParcNet Meeting 2025

Managing Overtourism: Balancing  
Conservation and Visitor Pressure in  
Transboundary Areas

Karkonosze/Krkonoše NPs

Nature and Education Center, Pałac Sobieszów, Karkonosze  
National Park, Poland

9-13<sup>th</sup> June



Photo: KRNAP

# Transboundary Conservation for a Connected Future

- Update from IUCN WCPA Transboundary Conservation Specialist Group -

Stefania Petrosillo, Chair

Doris Imhasly, Europe Regional Representative

IUCN WCPA TBCSG



# What TBCSG is

7 Commissions:



Headquarters (Gland)  
Regional Offices



Individual members



Within the commission:  
many Working Groups,  
Specialist Groups, and Task  
Forces:



Individual members

<https://iucn.org/our-union/commissions/group/iucn-wcpa-transboundary-conservation-specialist-group>

[www.tbpa.net](http://www.tbpa.net)



# What TBCSG is

## TBCSG Mission

*"to promote and encourage **transboundary conservation** for the **conservation of nature***

*with associated **ecosystem services** and **cultural values***

*while **promoting peace and cooperation among nations,***

*through enhancing **knowledge and capacity for effective planning and management ...**"*

## Executive Committee

Chair



Stefania PETROSILLO

Contacts:

<https://www.tbpa.net/page.php?ndx=11>

Assistant



Valentina FONTANA

Senior Advisors



Kevan ZUNCKEL



Maja VASILJEVIĆ

Regional Coordinator  
Asia



Liyuan QIAN  
China

Regional Coordinator  
Central & South America



Francisco ASTURIAS  
Guatemala

Regional Coordinator  
East & South Africa



Steve COLLINS  
South Africa

Regional Coordinator  
Europe



Doris IMHASLY  
Switzerland

Around  
250  
members  
worldwide



## The elements of the TBCSG's logo

**BRIDGE:** The TBCSG aims to create and support bridges between continents, countries and people, to better protect our Planet.

**NATURE:** TBCSG exists because nature does not know borders, in the sky, in the land, and in the sea.

**PEOPLE:** The TBCSG wants to highlight the importance of taking into account the rights and involvement of indigenous and local communities in cross-border relations.

**COLORS:** green and blue underline that TBCSG works both on land and sea, reminding us that there is no real separation between them, because everything is interconnected.

**BORDERS:** borders are artificial, political and administrative infrastructures. TBCSG works to overcome them for a strong dialogue and concrete cooperation.



# What TBCSG does

## Networking.

Exchange of experiences on TB.  
Collaboration with WCPA and IUCN family.



**Visibility** of the TB Protected Areas  
and of the importance of their work.  
Communication.  
Participation of international events.



Enhance the role of TB conservation  
in **dialogue** and **peace** building.  
Respect of rights and cultural values  
of indigenous and local  
communities.



Improve **skills** and management effectiveness.  
Tools for managers and experts.  
Trainings. Webinars. Study tours.

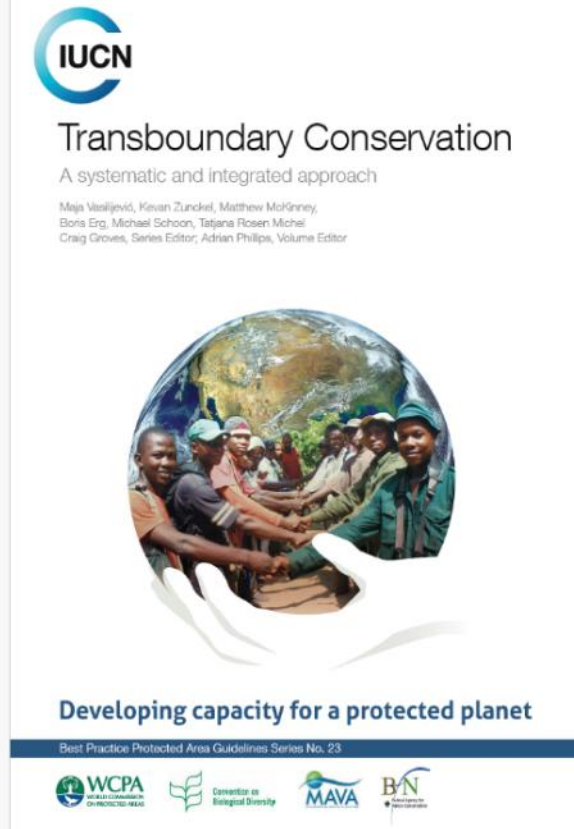
Terrestrial and **marine** cooperation.  
Explore TB cooperation challenges and  
potentialities for marine protection.  
*New sub working-group on marine*



# TBCSG tools

## Guidelines: Transboundary Conservation, a systematic and integrated approach

<https://portals.iucn.org/library/node/45173>



QUESTIONNAIRE	
Completed by:	
Date:	
Questions to determine feasibility for transboundary conservation	
	Score
1. a) What is the name/provisional name of the potential transboundary conservation initiative/Transboundary Conservation Area (TBCA), if known?	1
b) Would the potential transboundary conservation initiative include cooperation between relevant stakeholders across the international boundaries?	
5—Yes; 1—No	
c) Please list the countries involved in the potential transboundary conservation initiative.	1
2. Please list protected area(s) (if designated) envisaged to form part of the potential TBCA.	1
a) Please indicate the geographical location of the potential TBCA.	1
b) Please note the approximate size of the potential TBCA, if known.	
3. a) Please list the authorities responsible for management of protected area(s) that would form part of the potential TBCA, if applicable.	1
b) Are any other effective area-based conservation measures beyond protected areas envisaged to be included in the potential TBCA? Please select the correct answer in the score column and note the authorities responsible for management of other effective area-based conservation measures, if applicable.	
5. Are any community conserved areas or territories envisaged to be included in the potential TBCA? Please select the correct answer in the score column and note the community conserved areas or territories below, if applicable.	
6. Are any Indigenous Peoples' conserved areas or territories envisaged to be included in the potential TBCA? Please select the correct answer in the score column and note the Indigenous Peoples' conserved areas or territories below, if applicable.	

To assess:

- ✓ the **need** for TBC
- ✓ **readiness** of stakeholders to initiate TBC
- ✓ **opportunities** that could speed up the process and/or be generated by TBC
- ✓ **risks** that could slow the process

Diagnostic tool  
for transboundary  
conservation  
planners

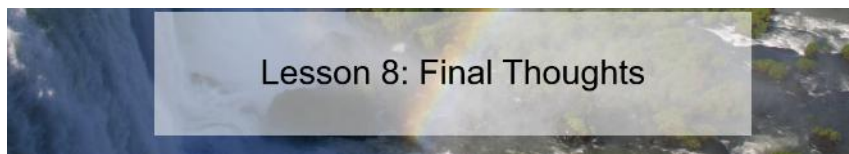
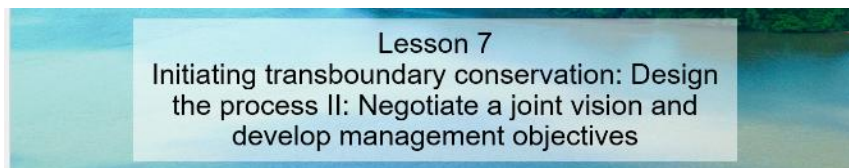
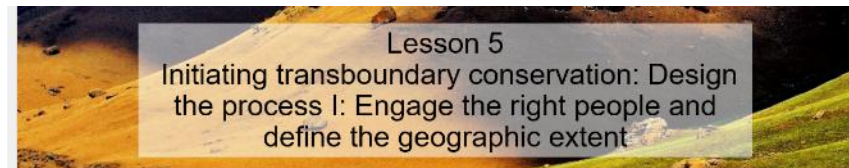
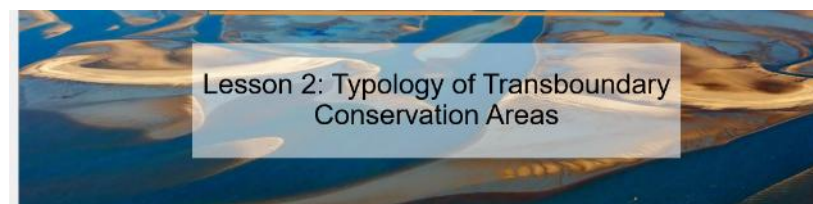
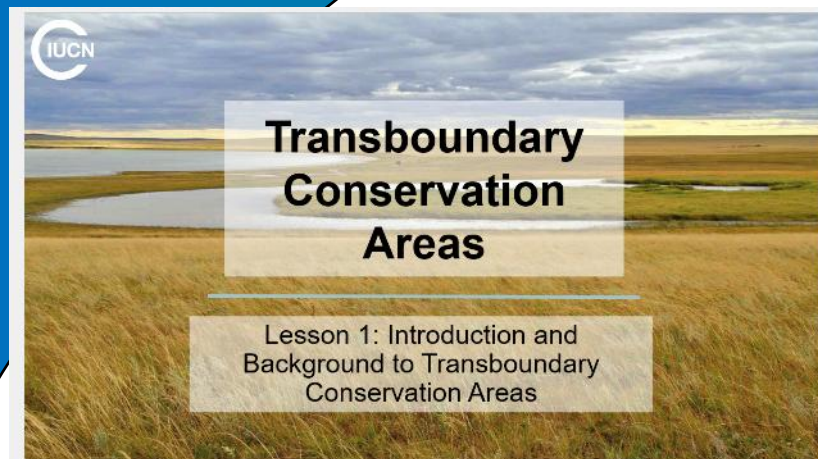
<https://www.tbpa.net/page.php?ndx=22>

Final product: a  
**narrative report** that  
presents the answers in  
a summarized way and  
helps in planning the  
initiative more  
efficiently.



# TBCSG tools

## Training Modules

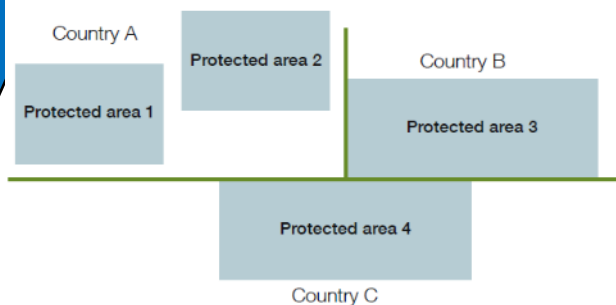


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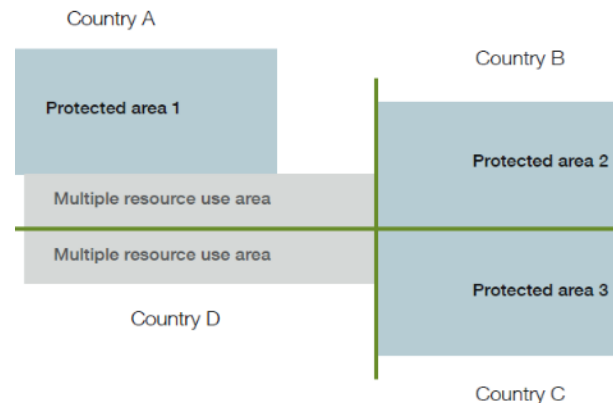
# TB Definitions

## 1. A **Transboundary Protected Area**

*is a clearly defined geographical space that is comprised of protected areas that are ecologically connected across one or more international boundaries and is under some form of cooperation.*

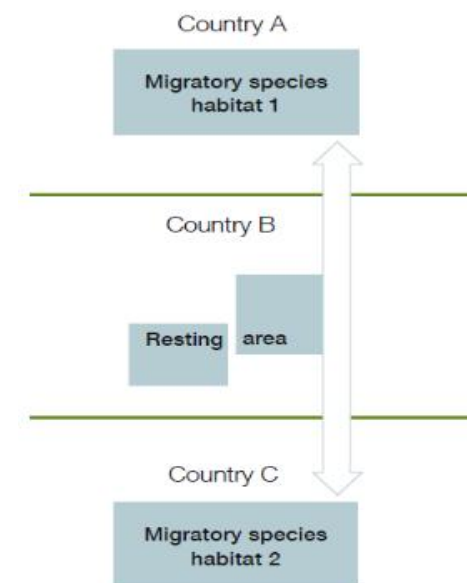


4. A **Park for Peace** is a special designation that may be applied to any of the three types of Transboundary Conservation Areas and is dedicated to the promotion, celebration, and/or commemoration of peace and cooperation.



2. A **Transboundary Conservation Landscape and/or Seascape** is an ecologically connected area that sustains ecological processes and crosses one or more international boundaries, and which includes protected areas as well as multiple resource use areas, and is under some form of cooperation.

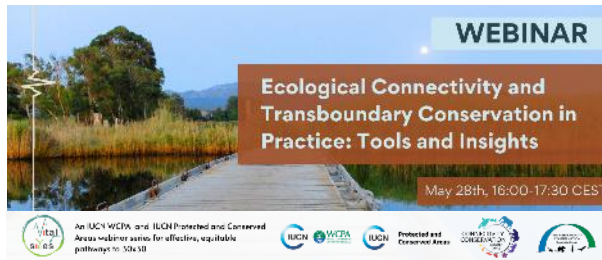
3. **Transboundary Migration Conservation Areas** are wildlife habitats that are necessary to sustain populations of migratory species and are under some form of cooperation.





# Collaborations on specific topics

With IUCN WCPA **Connectivity** Conservation Specialist Group – CCSG:



- **Webinar**
- **Proposed Event at the IUCN Congress 2025:**  
Transboundary Conservation Around the World: Ecologically and Culturally Well-connected Landscapes and Seascapes
- **Future collaboration on Marine**

With IUCN WCPA **Tourism** in Protected Areas – TAPAS

- **Webinar** Nature and Tourism without borders  
Opportunities and challenges for tourism in  
Transboundary Protected Areas (working progress)

With IUCN **CEESP** (Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy)

- Theme on **Environment and Peace** (working progress)



# Meet Your Regional Coordinator

Doris Imhasly

European Regional Coordinator since January 2025

First impressions:

- A passionate and diverse group with strong expertise about the transboundary topic.
- Opportunities for more structured collaboration & visibility.

Suggestions:

- Strengthen communication (especially via LinkedIn).
- Engage Eastern Europe more actively: build new bridges.



# Recent Exchanges & Events in Europe

- Exchange with the MOT (France) and the French Parks Working Group on Transboundary – transboundary governance dialogue
- Participation at the Marine Transboundary Workshop (Italy-Albania-Montenegro) – strategic input on marine issues
- Event in the European Parliament on TB and contacts with European Green Belt

These events help amplify the importance of cross-border cooperation.



# Communication & Community

Let's connect and share:

- LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/showcase/iucn-wcpa-transboundary-conservation-specialist-group>
- Website: [www.tbpa.net](http://www.tbpa.net)
- YouTube: TBCSG Channel
- Become a member of the group

**Call: Please follow, contribute, and share updates from your region!**



# Join Us in Shaping the Future



Let's build a stronger, more connected Specialist Group:

- Share your ideas
- Propose speakers, partners, regions of focus
- Contribute to social media or group tools

Contact: [imhaslydoris@gmail.com](mailto:imhaslydoris@gmail.com) oder [stefpetro@yahoo.com](mailto:stefpetro@yahoo.com)

Resources: LinkedIn | [tbpa.net](http://tbpa.net) | Webinar signup?





# Looking Ahead – How Can We Grow?



We want to:

- Deepen collaboration with EUROPARC and others, ...
  - Initiate or join cross-border projects
- Expand visibility of the group in Europe and around the world.

Questions for you:

- **Do you have suggestions for themes or topics you'd like us to address in future webinars?**
  - **Are there any organizations or entities you know that might be interested in collaborating with us?**
- **What kind of support or resources would you like to receive from the Specialist Group?**





# TBCSG & TransParcNet

## First ideas



- **Technical aspects** : exchanges about the methodologies (STEC, TaskForce), trainings
  - **Webinars** : on tourism. Other topics?
  - **Projects** : Parks for Peace? Migratory species? Other topics?
- **Events** : CETS meeting 2026. IUCN Congress ? EUROPARC Conference? Other events?
  - **Visibility**: EU, Council of Europe, others?
  - **Study tours**: Peace Parks & Limpopo (Africa)? Maya Forest (Central America)
    - **Youth**: stagiaires, camps?



THANK  
YOU

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