

SADC Transfrontier Conservation Areas (TFCAs) International Conference

Harare International Convention Centre (HICC), Rainbow Towers Hotel, Harare, Republic of Zimbabwe
19-21 May 2025

SESSION: Disaster Risk Reduction: The Role of TFCAs *“Transforming Development to Minimise Risk Creation: Risk-Informed Development Approach”*

Organised by

*GIZ: Joint Action NaturAfrica / Climate Resilience and Natural Resource Management in the SADC Region (C-NRM) Programme and Global Initiative
in Disaster Risk Management (GIDRM IV) Programme.*

21st May 2025
16:00-17:30 hrs



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Disaster Risk Reduction: The Role of TFCAs

Session Introduction	Facilitator	Presenter:
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Celebrating 25 years of the SADC TFCA programme, includes acknowledging the challenges we survived, and learning from our experiences to plan better to address threats lying ahead. 2. The major threats to the conservation of the biodiversity in the TFCA include climate change, deforestation, human encroachment, un-prescribed fires, poaching, and human-wildlife conflict. 3. The 13 official TFCAs covers approximately 9.5 % of total surface area of SADC region's overall surface area, and are in very significant ecosystems. 	<p>Mr. Paul Kirby Bewsher A practicing geographer, with over 30 years consulting experience in Southern Africa (<i>Ecotourism, Environmental, Wildlife And Cultural Heritage Management</i>)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prof. Johannes Belle University of Free State and International Consultant - Resilience Solutions Limited <i>Presentation: Risk-Informed Development Approach</i> 2. Mr Kevan Zuncel Consultant and NRM/TFCA/Development Expert <i>Presentation: Integrating DRR/RID into TFCAs as Nature-based Solutions</i> <p>Panel:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prof. Walter Musakwa, University of Johannesburg (Geography, Environmental Management and Energy Studies) 2. Dr Nyambe Nyambe, Executive Director, KAZA TFCA 3. Madam Constance Gurure, Programme Manager, ZimParks, Representing ZIMOZA TFCA 4. Mr. Cornelio Miguel, TFCA Focal Point, Mozambique, Representing Lubombo TFCA

Sharing experiences and key lessons (10 minutes)

- What are key threats to conservation, TFCA, communities and livelihoods?
- What have we learned from these challenges?





Transforming Development to Minimise Risk Creation

Presentation: Risk-Informed Development Approach

SADC TFCA Workshop Harare 21 - 05 - 2025

Marcus. C. Oxley / Prof Johannes Belle

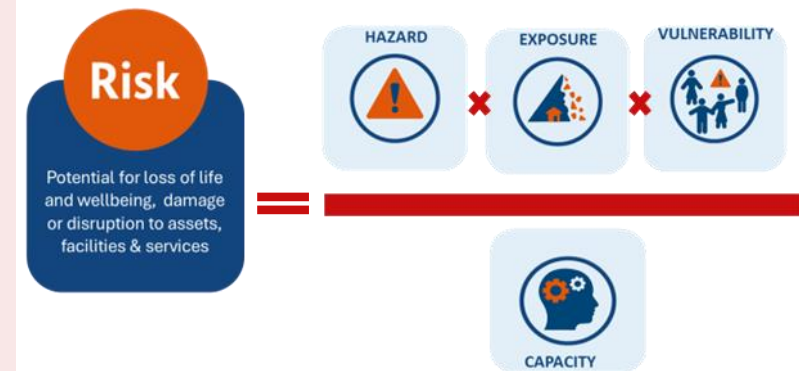
Resilience Solutions Limited

What is Risk-Informed Development (RID)?

Development that integrate multidimensional, dynamic, interdependent, transnational, simultaneous and systemic risks. **Risk-based decision-making process for development**

Risk-Informed Development...

1. Understands risks *to* and *from* development
2. Acts on that knowledge to avoid creating risk through poor development choices
3. Supports climate change adaptation
4. Makes development more resilient and sustainable



Rationale: Why Risk-Informed Development Matters

Risk is an ***inseparable*** part of development, but can be a driver of “unacceptable” risk levels that undermines development

Despite progress in DRR, risk is being created faster than it can be managed (avoided and or mitigated)

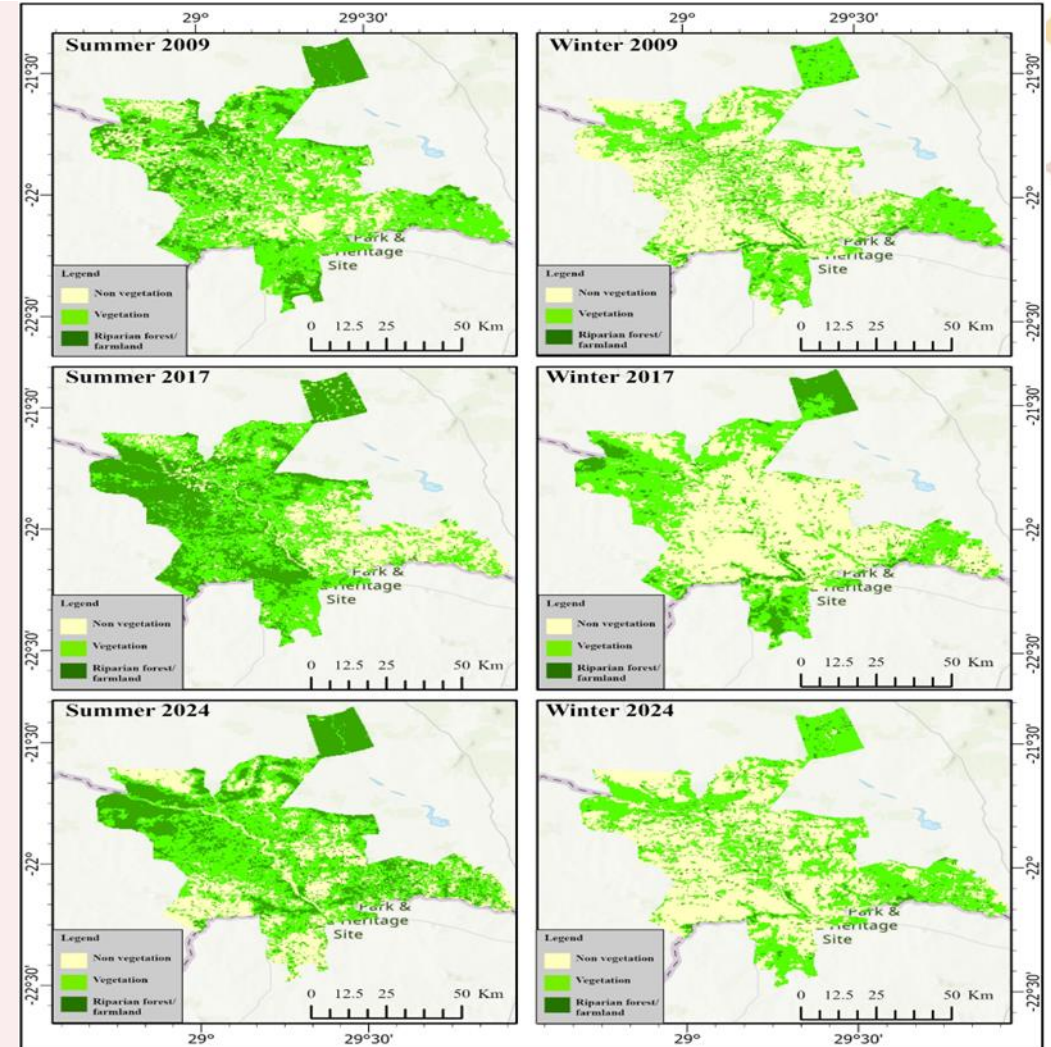
“A paradigm shift is necessary to address risk as an integral part of development planning and practices”

SADC DRR PSC 2023



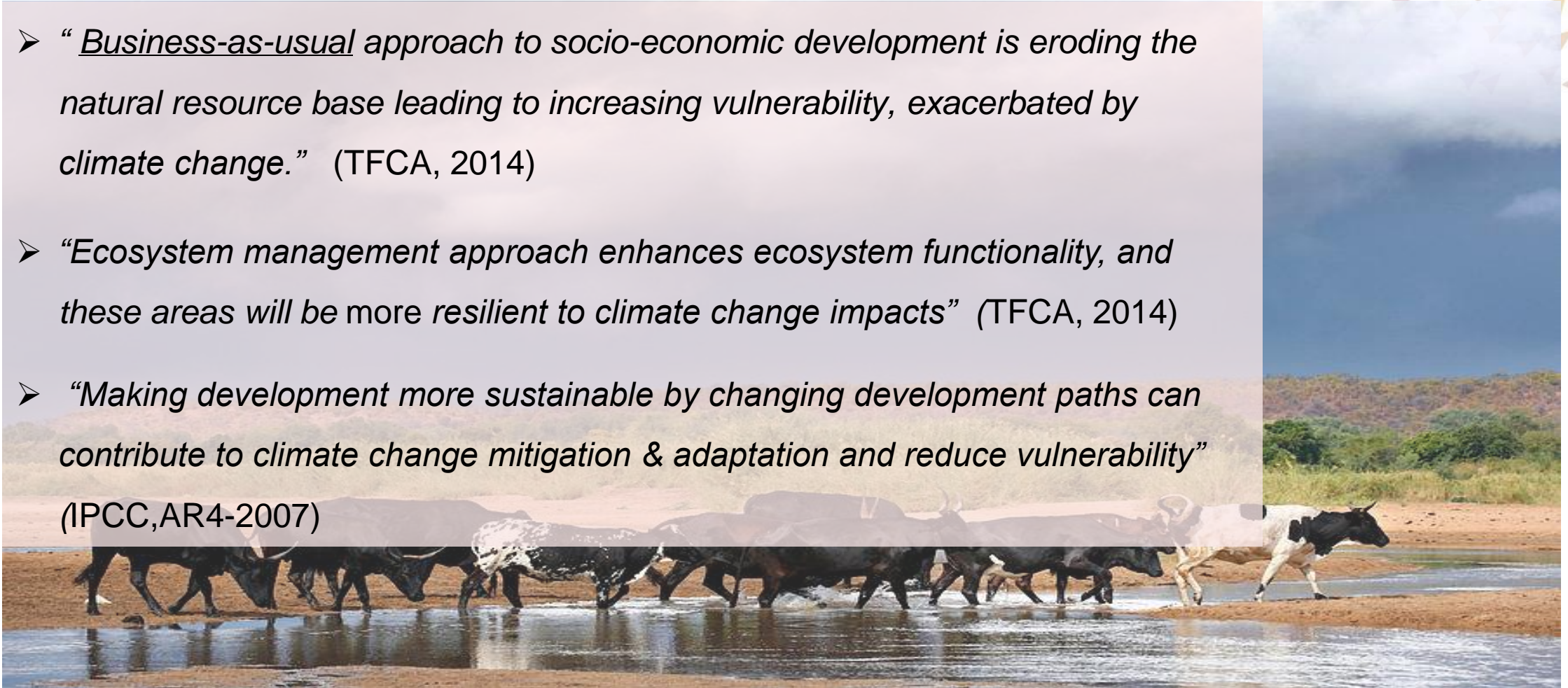
Why RID Matters for TFCAs - Growing Climate & Environment Stresses

- Climate change increases water stresses and extreme weather events (e.g. floods, droughts)
- Environmental degradation due to poor land use / land cover changes
- Vulnerable communities intricately linked to their natural environment for ES
- High population growth and inappropriate development can undermine conservation, increase vulnerability and poverty
- Increased resource competition e.g. human, wildlife, land, water, minerals – increased risk of conflict and security



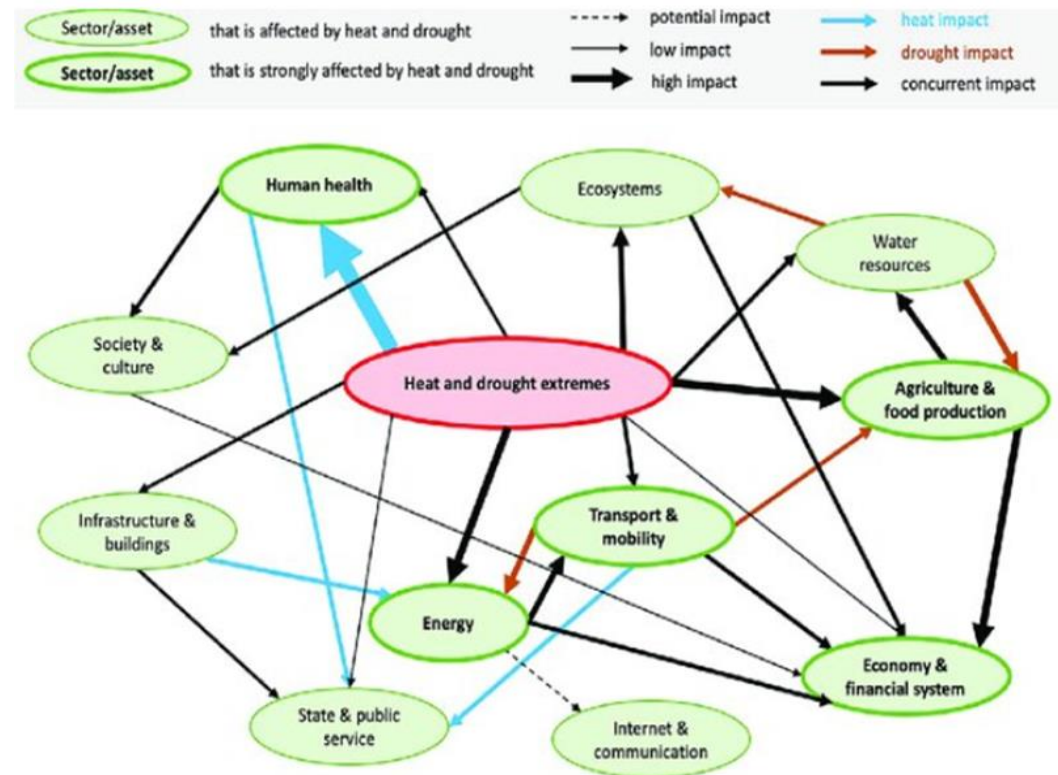
Risk-Informed Development Breaks the Cycle of Disasters and Poverty

- “*Business-as-usual* approach to socio-economic development is eroding the natural resource base leading to increasing vulnerability, exacerbated by climate change.” (TFCA, 2014)
- “*Ecosystem management approach enhances ecosystem functionality, and these areas will be more resilient to climate change impacts*” (TFCA, 2014)
- “*Making development more sustainable by changing development paths can contribute to climate change mitigation & adaptation and reduce vulnerability*” (IPCC,AR4-2007)



Systemic Nature of Risks with cascading and compounding impacts

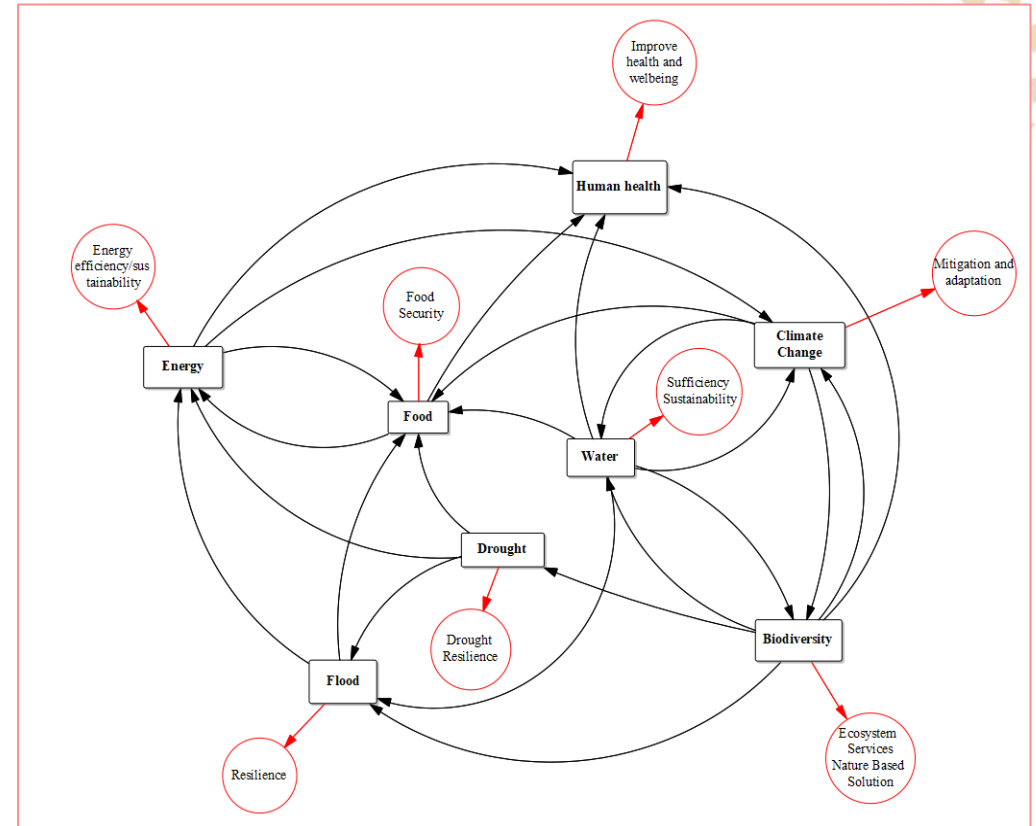
- Multi-dimensional risk cannot be addressed in isolation – integrated trans-disciplinary approaches are essential
- Systemic risk understanding highlights interdependencies and supports more coherent *nexus* working (breaking silos)
- Risks like drought or fires have Cascading impacts across sectors and borders
- Poverty Multiplier; and impacts food prices (SIPRI)



“Drought Threatens Wildlife Industry in Southern Africa” VOA 2024

Climate and Disaster Risks Impact on TFCAs

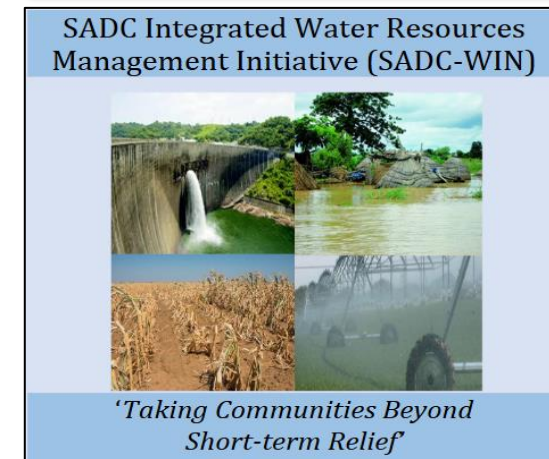
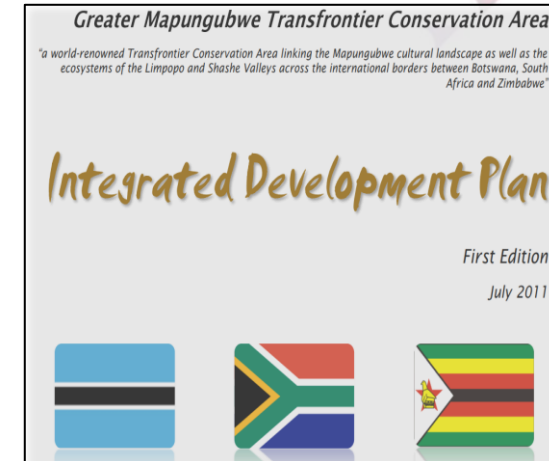
- 2023-2024 (El Niño-induced) Drought: 61 million people in need of assistance (UNOCHA)
- - 53% decline food production; - 70% dam water
- 27 million people food insecure - (WFP)
- Botswana GDP - 38% Annual loss US\$5.8 billion (BCCN)
- Zimbabwe - Agriculture collapse. 70% agriculture employment threatened by extreme weather (SIPRI)
- Climate related disaster risks like drought are systemic and affects multiple sectors with compounding and cascading impacts



“Drought Threatens Wildlife Industry in Southern Africa”
VOA 2024

Mainstreaming Risk-Informed Development into TFCA Planning

- Integrated Development Plans (IDP) are key (strategy level) entry points.
- Sector-based Plans are key (operational level) entry points – see SADC DRRU Mainstreaming DRM into Sectors
- Integration of RID into TFCA Guidelines (2014), revision
- New projects inceptions within and across TFCAs
- The EE4RID Conceptual framework presents a flexible model to create favourable conditions to mainstream RID



Strengthening “Enabling Environment for Risk-Informed Development” (EE4RID)



Finance and Resources

- Internal budgets
- External finance
- Local resources
- Risk transfer
- Lending principles



People, Culture and Environment

- Risk perception and tolerance
- Gender & equity
- Customs & culture
- Citizenry Engagement
- Ecosystem services

Policy and Regulation

- Leadership and vision
- Legislation and institutions
- Policies, strategy, plans
- Codes, standards, guidance
- Procurement systems



Enabling Environment 4 Risk Informed Development



Partnership & Collaboration

- Multistakeholder partnerships
- Cross-sector collaboration
- System views
- Relationships & trust



Organisational Arrangements

- Risk management tools
- Coordination
- Capacity strengthening
- Roles and responsibilities
- Monitoring and evaluation

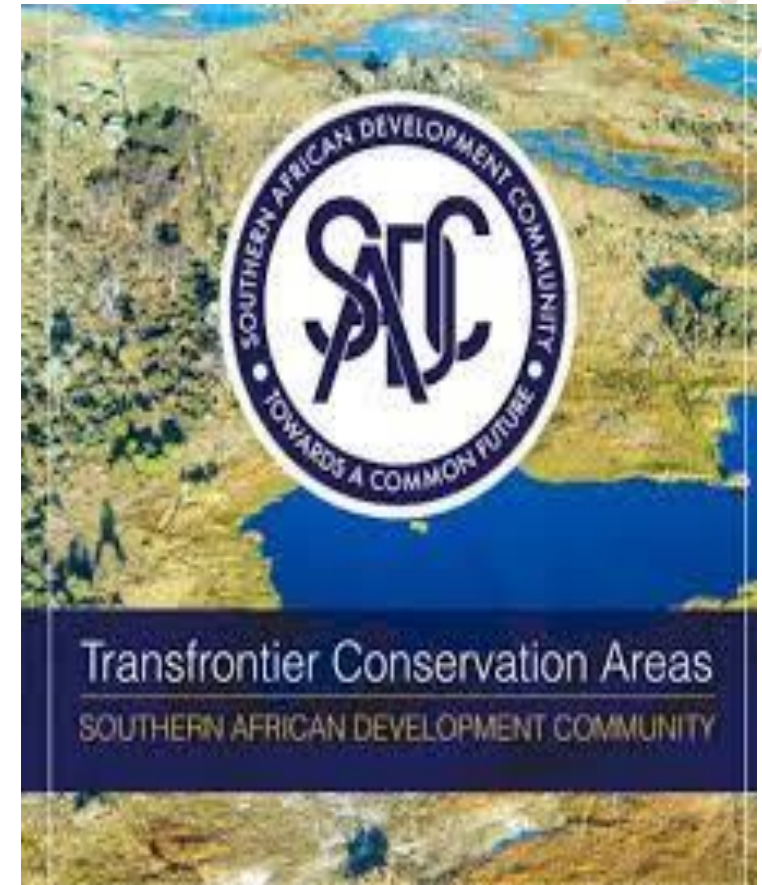


Knowledge & Information

- Risk assessment
- Risk knowledge
- Risk communication
- Education and training
- Research, science & technology

Key messages on Risk-Informed Development (RID) for TFCAs

- **Integrate risk in development decisions**
- **Protect development gains** against climate and disaster risks.
- **Avoid creating new risks** through poor land-use, poor projects conception or investment choices.
- **Strengthen ecosystem and community resilience** to shocks and stresses which are systemic.
- **Foster cross-sector collaboration** e.g. conservation, DRM, climate change, agriculture, NRM, water sectors
- **Position TFCAs as regional models** of sustainable, resilient development and cross-border cooperation





Thank you
Questions and Answers

Integrating DRR/RID into TFCAs as Nature-based Solutions

Mr Kevan Zunckel

Consultant and NRM/TFCA/Development Expert





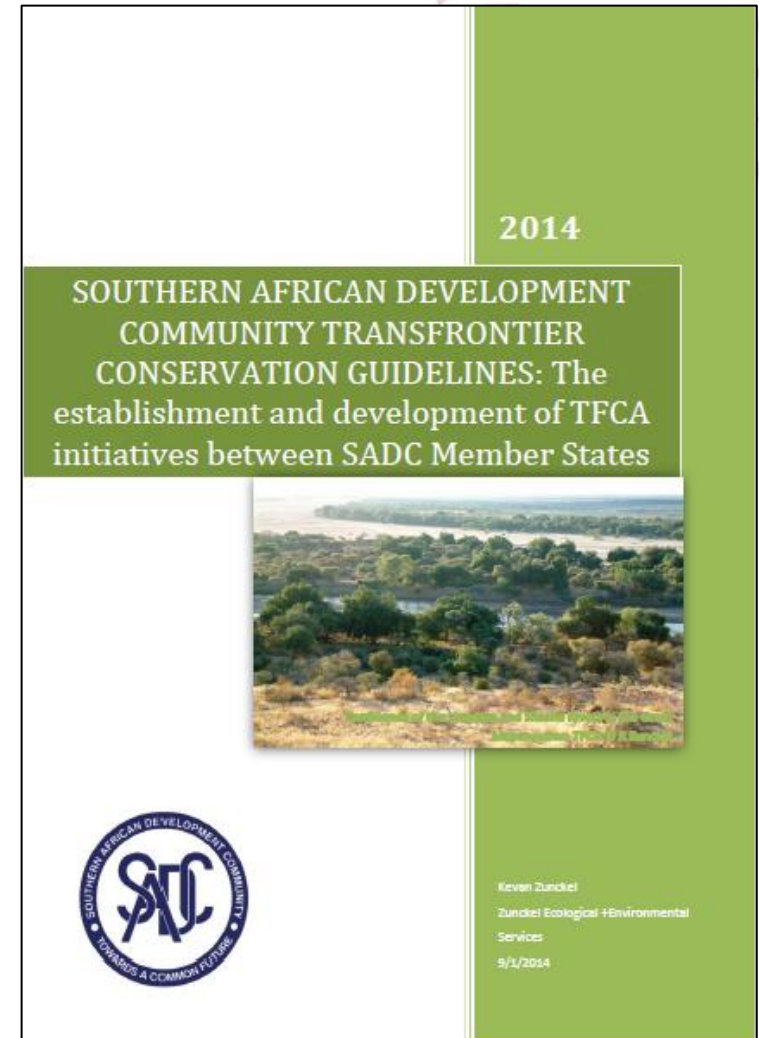
Presentation outline

1. What mechanisms do we have to integrate DRR/RID into TFCAs?
2. What have we learned since these mechanisms were established?
3. How should we go about integrating DRR/RID into TFCA joint planning?

What mechanisms do we have to integrate DRR/RID into TFCAs?

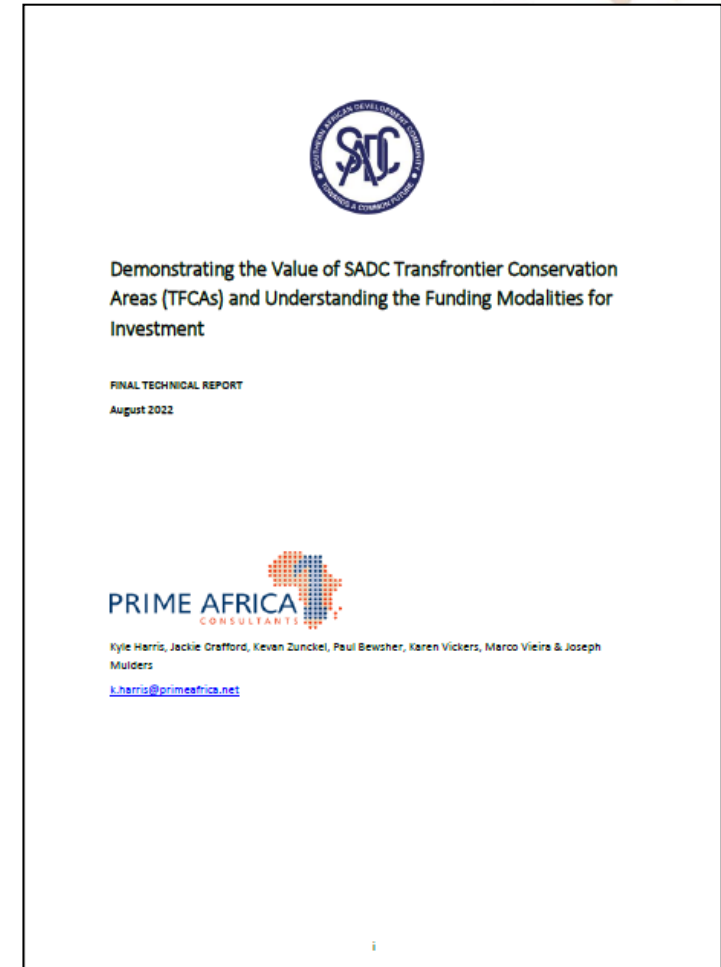
- SADC TFCAs Guidelines (2014) and Summary (2017) → process to develop JMPs/IDPs requires a comprehensive/in depth situational analysis.
- Situational analysis tools:
 - SWOT;
 - IUCN WCPA Diagnostic Tool for TBC Planners; and
 - Ecosystem Service Review and Scenario Planning
- Situational analysis generates a broad objective assessment of the internal and external natural, social, economic and governance dynamics that impact, either negatively or positively, on effective joint management.

- The SADC TFCA Guidelines list Climate Change Resilience as one of the values of cross-border collaborative management.
- Long-term climate change projections for SADC are increased temperatures, altered rainfall patterns, and more frequent and severe extreme weather events.
- For TFCAs, climate change can be seen as both a threat and an opportunity

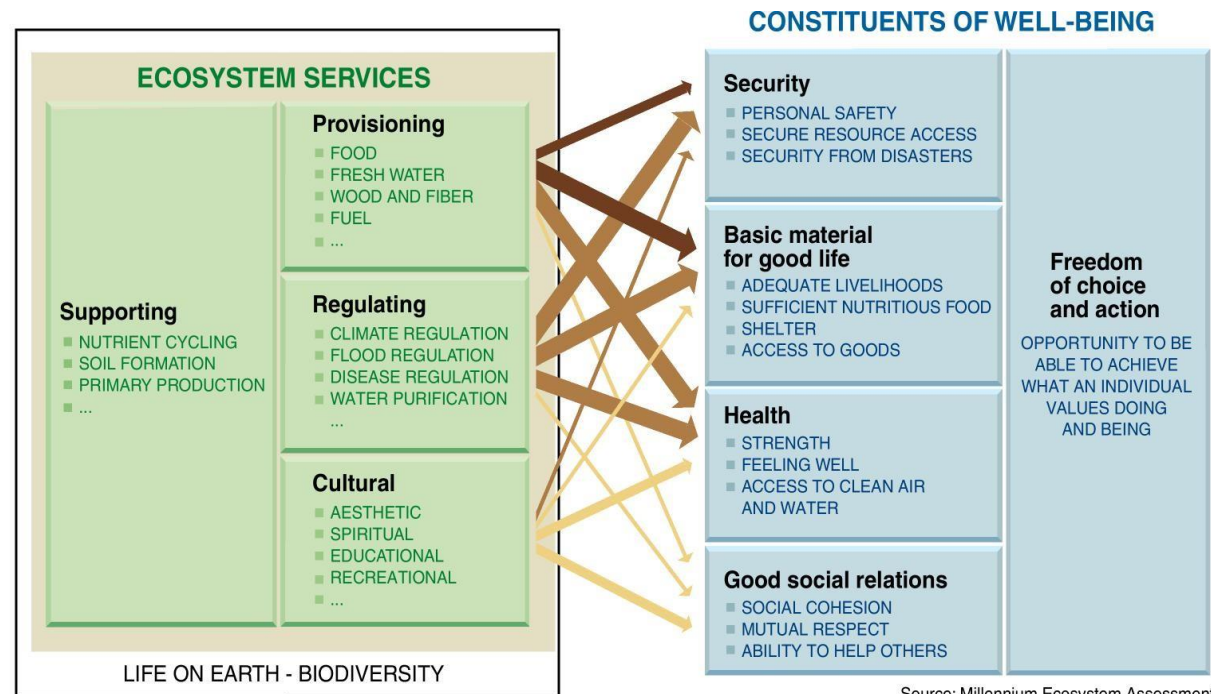


What have we learned since these mechanisms were established?

- A value proposition for SADC TFCAs was concluded and adopted in 2022 and provides a foundation and point of departure for SADC TFCAs to develop their own value propositions and to work towards financial sustainability.
- What are the ecosystem services produced and delivered from a TFCA and who are the beneficiaries?
- This information and understanding informs joint management decisions related to enhancing ecosystem functionality and the ability to effectively embed TFCAs into their broader socio-economic land/seascapes.



The value proposition clearly positions TFCAs as Nature-based Solutions within a sea of socio-economic vulnerability, producing and delivering vital life-supporting ecosystem goods and services to beneficiaries at the local, regional and global scales.



ARROW'S COLOR
Potential for mediation by socioeconomic factors

- Low
- Medium
- High

ARROW'S WIDTH
Intensity of linkages between ecosystem services and human well-being

- Weak
- Medium
- Strong



How should we go about integrating DRR/RID into TFCA joint planning?

- Ensure that the Situational Analysis includes a thorough interrogation of potential disaster risks that may impact the TFCA and its broader socio-economic land/seascape.
- Use this knowledge and understanding to identify joint management objectives, goals and actions that will enhance ecosystem functionality and position the TFCAs as regional asset and Nature-based Solutions that serve to mitigate the negative impacts of potential disasters.
- Remember risks and pro-active responses are both internal and external, e.g.
 - Flood mitigation – retaining rainfall infiltration capacity in the landscape;
 - Drought relief through the maintenance of dry-season base flow and the provision of emergency/relief grazing for adjacent communities;
 - Wise tourism development planning – keeping infrastructure out of floodplains; and
 - The pro-active reduction of game numbers to avoid over-grazing during extended periods of drought.

In conclusion

The integration of DRR/RID into JMPs/IDPs demonstrates a sound joint planning approach that will produce joint planning products that are credible in the eyes of funders; be these government, donors and/or investors.

Application of the SADC TFCA Guidelines

+

Development of a value proposition

+

DRR/RID

=

Robust, defensible and fundable JMPs/IDPs



Panel: Prof. Walter Musakwa, University of Johannesburg (Geography, Environmental Management and Energy Studies)

Rather than focusing on addressing disaster events and their consequences, transform development to minimising risk creation, both risk to development and risk from development.

What role do you think the academia and research institutions should play in promoting this transformation and how will that help TFCAs.



Panel: Dr Nyambe Nyambe, Executive Director, KAZA TFCA

KAZA TFCA is the world's largest TFCA both in surface area (520,000 km²) and partnership of five (5) countries, Angola, Botswana, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

What are KAZA TFCA's ongoing disaster risk reduction/ management activities and milestones in addressing disaster risks such as droughts and human-wildlife conflicts?



Panel: Madam Constance Gurure, Programme Manager, ZimParks, Representing ZIMOZA TFCA

The ZIMOZA TFCA is currently the youngest of TFCAs, having formerly established in 2024 following the three member states signing of the Treaty. Part of this transition will require ZIMOZA TFCA to develop its Integrated Development Plan (IDP), an opportunity to prioritise disaster risk reduction.

What are key challenges/disaster risks in ZIMOZA TFCA that in your opinion will need consideration in the coming IDP?

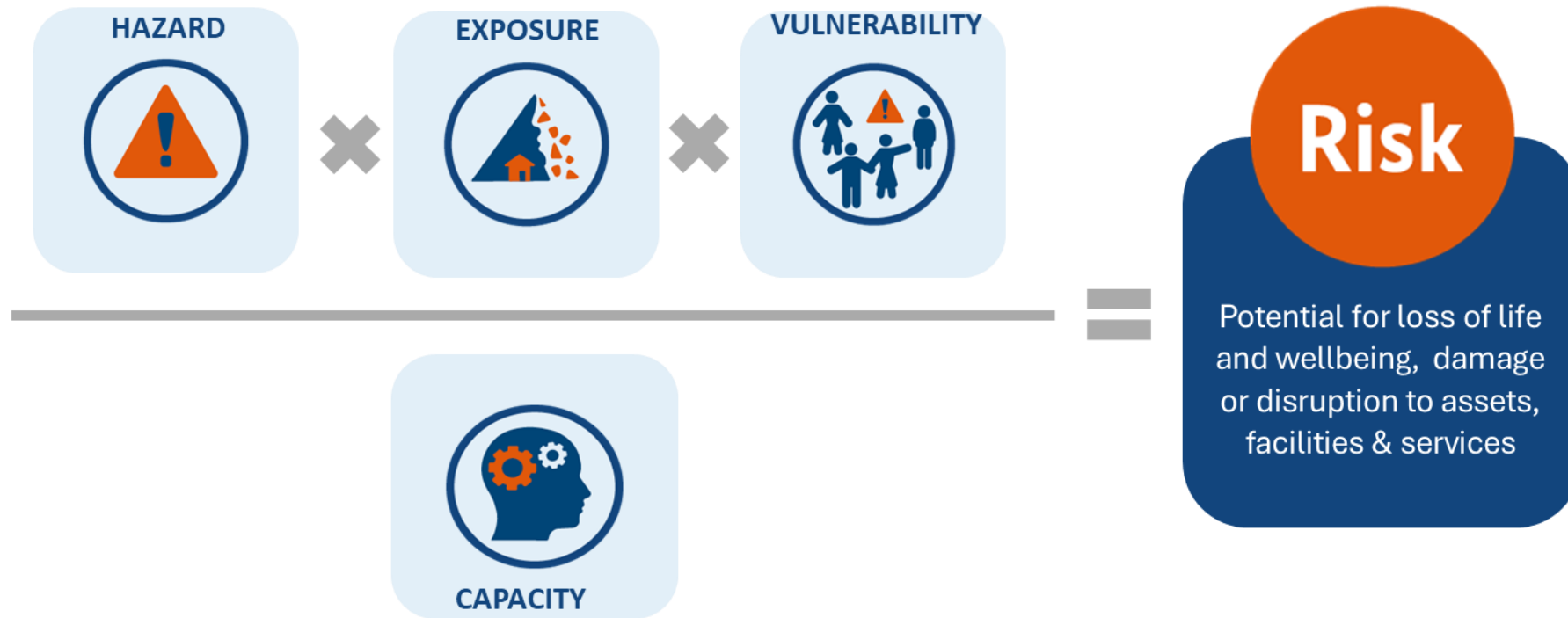


Panel: Mr. Cornelio Miguel, TFCA Focal Point, Mozambique, Representing Lubombo TFCA

Lubombo TFCA is an interesting TFCA combining mountain ecosystem with the coastal plains. The TFCA has underwent updating of its IDP.

How does the new IDP reflect on efforts for DRR?





Thank you

Obrigado

Merci



As a federally owned enterprise, GIZ supports the German Government in achieving its objectives in the field of international cooperation for sustainable development.

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