

forestry, fisheries & the environment
Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Global Gateway

Co-funded by the European Union

german cooperation

Implemented by: giz

IUCN ifaw

South African NATIONAL PARKS

Opening Remarks and Welcome

Facilitator

Ndapanda Kanime



FOR ONLINE PARTICIPANTS

Welcome to the 2026 SADC TFCAs Network meeting

Transfrontier Conservation Areas
SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY

- When you join online, please put your details in the chatbox:
  - Surname and Name
  - Institution
  - Job title
  - Email address
- Throughout the meeting, there will be online facilitation:
  - Please use the chat to comment on the presentations and discussions in the room.



SADC Secretariat



Fahari Marwa – Director: SADC FANR

This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY

Federal Republic of Germany



Simone Goertz

Head of Economic and Development Cooperation: Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany, Gaborone

This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY

European Union



Filipa Corte Real – Programme Officer, European Union's Regional Partnership Unit

This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY



Opening by SADC Chair

Mohlago Flora Mokghola – Deputy Director-General Biodiversity and Conservation DFFE

This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY



Adoption of Agenda and presentation of objectives

SADC Chair

This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY

Status of the SADC TFCA Programme (2023 to 2033) across all five goals; mandate from the TFCA Heads of State Summit; TFCA Network update.



Facilitator**: Aruna Jagaroo**, South Africa

Presenters:

Colum Zhuwau - SADC Secretariat
Steve Collins - TFCA Network Coordinator, EU-German Cooperation (GOPA)

SADC TFCA PROGRAMME UPDATE

Status of the Implementation of SADC TFCA Programme (2023–2033)

Investing in People, Nature and Partnerships: Scaling Impact Across SADC TFCAs

SADC TFCA Network Annual Meeting 2026

Skukuza, Kruger National Park, South Africa | 11 November 2026

Colum Zhuwau | TFCA- Technical Advisor | SADC Secretariat

Highlights of the First-Ever TFCA Summit: 25 years of Cooperation

1st Ever — Summit of Heads of State dedicated to TFCAs (Harare, May 2025)

€24M — in funding agreements signed at the Summit (KfW, IUCN, SADC)

€8M	Financing Facility, Phase 3 (KfW–IUCN)
€11M	Financing Facility, Phase 4 (KfW–IUCN)
€5M	Wildlife Managers and Rangers Training

14 — TFCAs in the SADC network, at different stages of development

7 — clusters of Summit decisions guiding the Programme

Summit decision clusters

1. Programme implementation
2. Well-being and rural livelihoods
3. Transboundary biodiversity management
4. Marine transboundary conservation areas
5. LEAP Strategy implementation
6. Sustainable financing of TFCAs
7. Tourism and business investment



Harare 2025: Heads of State Champion Our TFCAs



SADC Heads of State and Government at the first TFCA Summit
Harare, Zimbabwe, May 2025

25 years of cooperation for regional integration and sustainable development



Dignitaries at the official opening



Ministers and ICPs at the Ministerial meeting



Signing of €24M in funding agreements

Decisions from the SADC TFCA Summit

Resource mobilisation for the TFCA Programme: from mandate to mechanism

1 **Decision 12** June 2023, Kinshasa, DRC

Ministers directed the SADC Secretariat to mobilise resources for the implementation of the revised SADC TFCA Programme (2023–2033).

2 **Decision 6(e)** May 2025, Harare, Zimbabwe

Ministers directed the SADC Secretariat to coordinate a SADC Resource Mobilisation Working Group for sustainable financing of TFCAs in the region.

Decision 2(iv) May 2025, Harare, Zimbabwe

Improved well-being and rural livelihoods

Ministers directed the SADC Secretariat to develop regional guidelines on community engagement / community-based natural resource management (CBNRM) to ensure equitable benefit-sharing mechanisms.

What Ministers Urged Member States and Partners to Do

1 Programme implementation

Member States, Partners and TFCA practitioners

- Continue collaborative efforts, using approved regional instruments
- Strengthen the establishment and operationalisation of TFCAs

2 Well-being and rural livelihoods

Member States (i–ii) and Partners (iii)

- (i) Meaningful community participation and accountability for equitable benefit sharing
- (ii) Tailor-made, multi-sector approaches to human–wildlife conflict
- (iii) Partners: prioritise HWC solutions, including legislation

3 Transboundary biodiversity

Member States (a–c); international community (d)

- (a) Joint action on poaching, illegal logging and fragmentation
- (b) Consider reviving the SADC Rhino Management Group
- (c) Indigenous knowledge and research
- (d) International community: recognise TFCAs, incl. in CITES

4 Marine TFCAs

Member States (a–d) and Partners (e)

- (a) Promote coastal and marine TFCAs under the Blue Economy Strategy
- (b) Joint management of shared marine ecosystems
- (c) Inclusive financing in national budgets for marine TFCAs
- (d) Benefit sharing for coastal communities; (e) Partners to support



Ministers Urged Member States and Partners (cont.)

5 LEAP Strategy implementation
Member States

- (i) Strengthen LEAP implementation through multi-level cooperation
- (ii) Mobilise financial resources for LEAP in TFCAs
- (iii) Integrate LEAP with national and regional frameworks
- (iv) Urge international and regional partners to support LEAP

6 Sustainable financing of TFCAs
Member States

- (a) Diversify funding: carbon markets, biodiversity offsets and bonds, eco-tourism, PPPs
- (b) New funding streams with private sector, communities and ICPs, incl. PES
- (c) Build financing models into national policies
- (d) Frameworks for carbon and biodiversity credits

7 Tourism and business investment
Member States

- (i) Develop a SADC TFCAs Integrated Tourism Investment Development Plan
- Align it with national investment plans and biodiversity features

Member States to report during their TFCA Update Sessions



SADC TFCA Programme 2023–2033: five goals

GOAL 1	GOAL 2	GOAL 3	GOAL 4	GOAL 5
Integrated and effective management of landscapes and seascapes	**Improved well-being and livelihoods of people**	**Governance, multi-sectoral partnerships and regional integration**	**Long-term sustainable financing secured for TFCAs**	**Enhanced skills, capacity and knowledge management**
Where we are Engagements on New TFCAs including marine advancing; LEAP project under way	**Where we are** Regional CBNRM Framework in development; New KAZA nature-based tourism project	**Where we are** National dialogues; TFCA–River Basin Organisation links; new MoUs	**Where we are** Financing Facility growing; €19M awaiting agreements finalisation; capacity building on Sustainable Finance Solutions first forestry project	**Where we are** Ranger and manager training pilots; M&E Framework rolled out; TFCA Portal launched



Landscapes: Establishing and Strengthening TFCAs

GOAL 1 *Integrated and effective management of transboundary landscapes and seascapes*

Liuwa Plain–Mussuma — Formalised

Angola–Zambia bilateral agreement signed on 28 May 2025 (Next steps: development of the implementation plan, sharing of signed agreements with Secretariat; set up joint structures.

Niassa–Selous — Planning

Draft 10-year Master Integrated Development Plan validated (Maputo, May 2026). Next: ministerial signing and a working coordination unit.

ZIMOZA — Planning

Agreement signed on 18 July 2024. Multi-hazard risk assessment (April 2026) now informing the Integrated Development Plan.

Tanzania–Zambia — Emerging

Early dialogue on a new TFCA, facilitated by the Secretariat with GIZ. Now at the Letter of Intent stage.



Marine TFCAs: Decision 4(a)

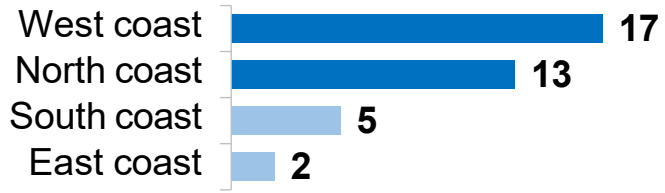
GOAL 1 *First marine TFCA dialogue held in Madagascar; island and coastal States engaged*



Madagascar National Dialogue, Antananarivo, September 2025

- *Further engagements on Marine TFCAs were done Mozambique and Tanzania*

Where could a marine TFCA go? (participant mentions)



- **North coast proposed as lead candidate:** Northern Mozambique Channel hotspot, high community dependence, urgent threats
- **Next:** Madagascar priority list and Letter of Intent; dialogues with Mauritius and Seychelles and Mozambique
- **Finance:** ***Possible support from the German Government and WWF***

Fighting wildlife crime: the LEAP Strategy in action

GOAL 1

€4.5M GIZ LEAP project | started March 2026 | launch tonight

1 Regional coordination

Strengthen the Secretariat's support to Member States on the SADC LEAP Strategy and regional cooperation

2 National enforcement

Train and equip wildlife, police, prosecution and judicial authorities to detect, investigate and prosecute

3 Community prevention

Gender-sensitive, community-based crime prevention and human–wildlife coexistence in selected TFCAs

Also moving

- **LEAP/HWC Working Group** met January 2026; Regional HWC Roadmap and Vulture Sub-Group set up
- **LEAP Implementation Framework** consultancy being contracted

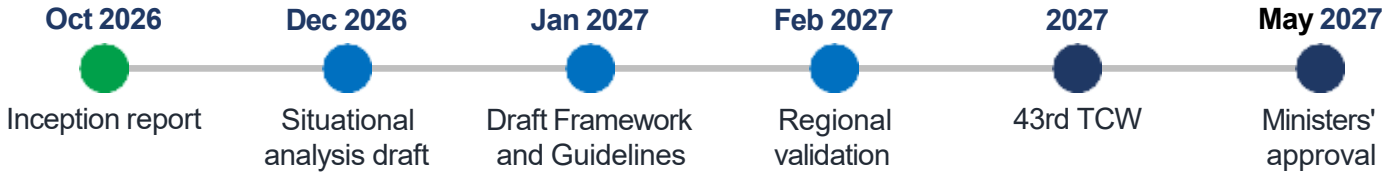
LEAP reporting status

2023: 12 of 16 Member States reported; Regional LEAP Report 2023/24 consolidated. 4 outstanding.

2024/25: 1 of 16 received so far; 15 still to report.

Livelihoods: CBNRM Framework and tourism

GOAL 2 **Regional CBNRM Framework and Guidelines (Summit decision 2(iv))**



KAZA nature-based tourism project

- **Agreement signed** 23 August 2026; inception under way
- **Tourism diagnostics** in all five KAZA Partner States
- **MSME grant facility** with TUI Care Foundation under consideration

Tourism and wildlife economy tools

- **SADC Tourism Barometer** piloted in Madagascar, South Africa, Zimbabwe
- **Tourism Sustainability Framework** under development
- **Wildlife-Based Economy Roadmap** with AWEI and ALU

National TFCA Dialogues: Building Ownership

GOAL 3 *Four national dialogues held: governance, multi-sectoral partnerships and regional integration*

ZIMBABWE
High-level national dialogue on the eve of the first TFCA Summit







Zimbabwe
Harare, May 2025

- Held just ahead of the Heads of State Summit
- Very high-level attendance

Madagascar
Antananarivo, Sept 2025

- Three Ministers attended
- Marine TFCA roadmap agreed
- North coast prioritised

Tanzania
Dodoma, June 2026

- Roadmap for Niassa–Selous
- Coordination and finance strategy
- Tanzania–Zambia TFCA talks

Mozambique
Maputo, August 2026

- National TFCA roadmap
- Update outdated policies
- Marine (Mozambique Channel) interest

Sustainable Financing: the SADC TFCA Financing Facility

GOAL 4

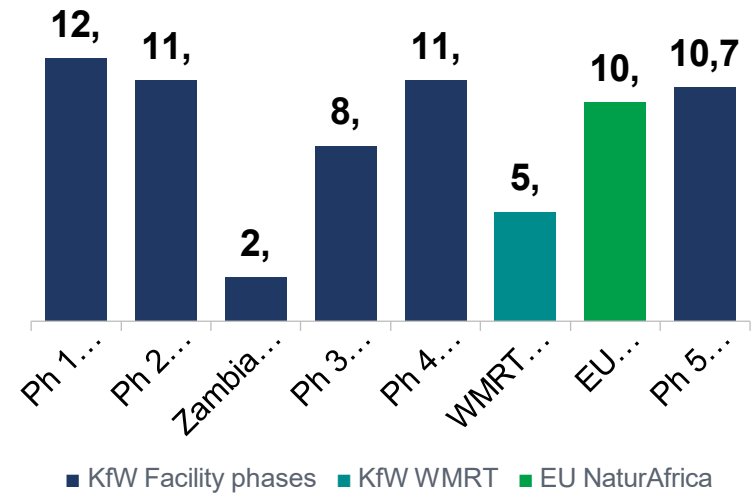
€69.7M committed to the Facility since 2018, including WMRT

€64.7M excluding WMRT: KfW €54.7M and EU €10M

€19M Phases 3 and 4, awaiting agreements (target: end 2026)

33 concept notes shortlisted under the 3rd Call

Funding committed by phase (€ million)



New forestry window and diversified finance

GOAL 4

NEW

First forestry project under the TFCA Financing Facility

Launched in the KAZA TFCA with German funding

- Opens forestry as a thematic area for future calls
- Complements forestry work under the new LEAP project
- A model for forest landscapes in other TFCAs

Innovative finance

- **FIND process** with the Sustainable Finance Coalition in GLTFCA, Lubombo and MAZA
- **Resource Mobilisation Working Group** (Decision 6(e)) to meet regularly
- **Carbon, biodiversity credits and PES** for Member States to explore (Summit decision 6)

In the pipeline

- **El Niño 2026/27:** support requested for communities, protected areas and fire management



Skills, Capacity and Knowledge

GOAL 5

Ranger and manager training
€5M programme

- **Needs assessment:** KAZA, MAZA, GLTFCA
- **Pilots:** rangers (Limpopo NP), human rights (KAZA), HWC (Nyika–Vwaza)
- **GLTFCA pilot training:** 1–14 July
- **Ranger competencies workshop:** 26–27 Oct
- **Next:** main grant proposals

M&E Framework
Approved May 2025

- **Focal points** from 14 Member States trained, Nov 2025
- **TFCA action plans** to apply the Framework locally
- **TFCA Focal Points:** share indicator data regularly

Knowledge and networks
Peer learning

- **TFCA Portal** launched at the 2025 Summit
- **TFCA Network** now 800+ members
- **Resource mobilisation training** done for focal points



Training in Action: Rangers and TFCA Managers

GOAL 5 *Wildlife Managers and Rangers Training Programme*







Pilot WMRT training, Maputo, Mozambique



Alignment of ranger competency workshop

Pilots feed the main implementation phase, led through national training institutions.

Summary of Summit Decisions and Where We Stand

#	Decision cluster	Progress to date	Status
1	**Programme implementation**	TFCA Portal launched; Network active; dialogues in three Member States	Advancing
2	**Livelihoods and CBNRM**	CBNRM Framework consultancy under way; Regional HWC Roadmap developed	In progress
3	**Transboundary biodiversity**	Translocation guidance workshop approved; Rhino Management Group revival awaits Member States	Early stage
4	**Marine TFCAs**	Madagascar and Tanzania dialogues held; Mauritius and Seychelles to follow	Early Stages
5	**LEAP Strategy**	GIZ LEAP project launched; Implementation Framework in procurement; reports outstanding	In progress
6	**Sustainable financing**	Facility calls running; FIND in three TFCAs; Working Group to meet regularly	In progress
7	**Tourism and investment**	Barometer and Sustainability Framework progressing; SADC Sustainable Tourism Framework, Integrated Tourism Investment Plan not started	Advancing



What is holding us back, and what we ask of the Network

Challenges

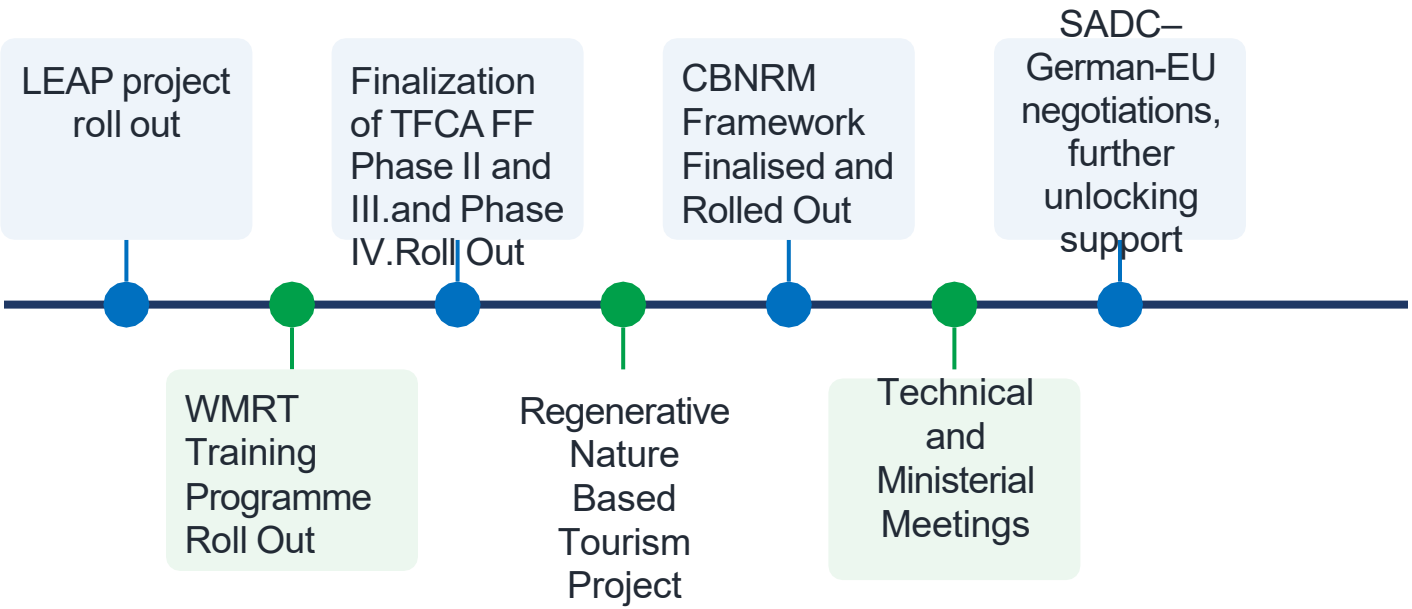
- **Concentration:** most funding goes to a few established TFCAs
- **Pending agreements:** €19M for the Facility not yet unlocked
- **Weak coordination:** some TFCA structures rarely meet for lack of resources
- **Reporting gaps:** LEAP reports and feedback on Summit decisions. Some Member States not submitting M&E data
- **Climate stress:** El Niño 2026/27 adds pressure on people and parks

Our asks

- **Member States: Continue** reporting on Summit decisions and LEAP
- **Member States:** raise budget commitment to TFCAs
- **Partners:** extend support to emerging and marine TFCAs
- **TFCAs:** take part in FIND, the 3rd Call and M&E reporting



The Year Ahead: Key Milestones



Thank you



Investing in People, Nature and Partnerships

www.sadc.int | tfcaportal.org



Transfrontier Conservation Areas

SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY

The SADC TFCA Network

Update on growth and sustainability of the SADC TFCA Network

Steve Collins

SADC TFCA Network Coordinator

The aims of the SADC TFCA Network

- **Enhancing Regional Collaboration** – Strengthening cooperation among SADC member states in managing transboundary natural resources.
- **Capacity Building & Knowledge Sharing** – Providing a platform for exchanging best practices, training, and technical expertise on TFCA management.
- **Policy Support & Advocacy** – Assisting in the development and harmonization of policies and legal frameworks for effective TFCA governance.
- **Community Involvement & Livelihoods** – Promoting community-based natural resource management (CBNRM) to ensure local benefits from TFCAs.
- **Biodiversity Conservation & Climate Resilience** – Supporting ecosystem connectivity, wildlife migration corridors, and climate adaptation strategies.
- **Sustainable Tourism & Economic Development** – Encouraging eco-tourism and conservation-friendly enterprises that contribute to regional economies.

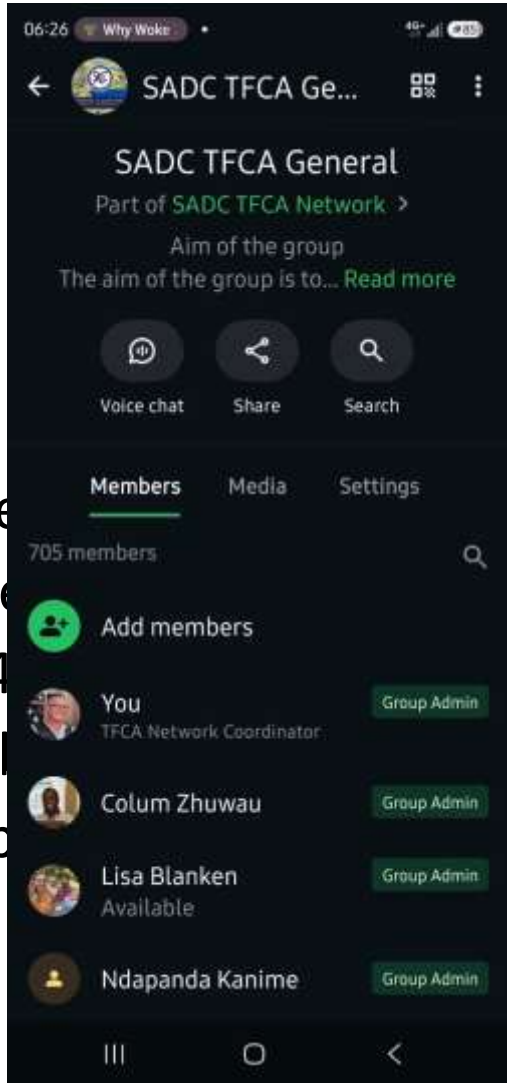
What is the SADC TFCA Network?

- A TFCA community of practice
- The TFCA Steering Committee
- Whatsapp community groups
- TFCAPortal.org
- Webinars and YouTube
- Peer to peer learnings
- Registered Membership on the TFCAportal
- **You are the TFCA Network!!**



The Whatsapp group

- 705 Members on General Group
- Sub-Communities
  - Sustainable Finance CoP – 271 membe
  - TFCA Data and Tech Innovation – 65 m
  - TFCA RBO Interface and Synergies – 84
  - Boundless Southern Africa – 158 Mem
  - Monitoring and Evaluation – 177 memb
- DO WE NEED OTHERS?



The TFCA Portal

- 2014 the TFCA Portal was created
- In May 2025 the second TFCA Portal was launched at the International Conference and Summit Repository of 455 documents
- 150 plus news items
- 425 plus registered network members
- 85 jobs opportunities in the sector listed
- 2000 plus newsletter recipients

It could be bigger and better if you used it more.





The sustainability of the TFCA Network?

- If we agree that the SADC TFCA Network is useful to our efforts to facilitate TFCAs and rural development in harmony with conservation, then we must find a way fund its operation in the long term.
- The costs are
  - A full or part time coordinator
  - Minimal TFCA Portal maintenance costs
  - The Annual meeting
- The Steering Committee has formed a Task Team (SA, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Network Coordinator)

Real time Geospatial information and planning tools

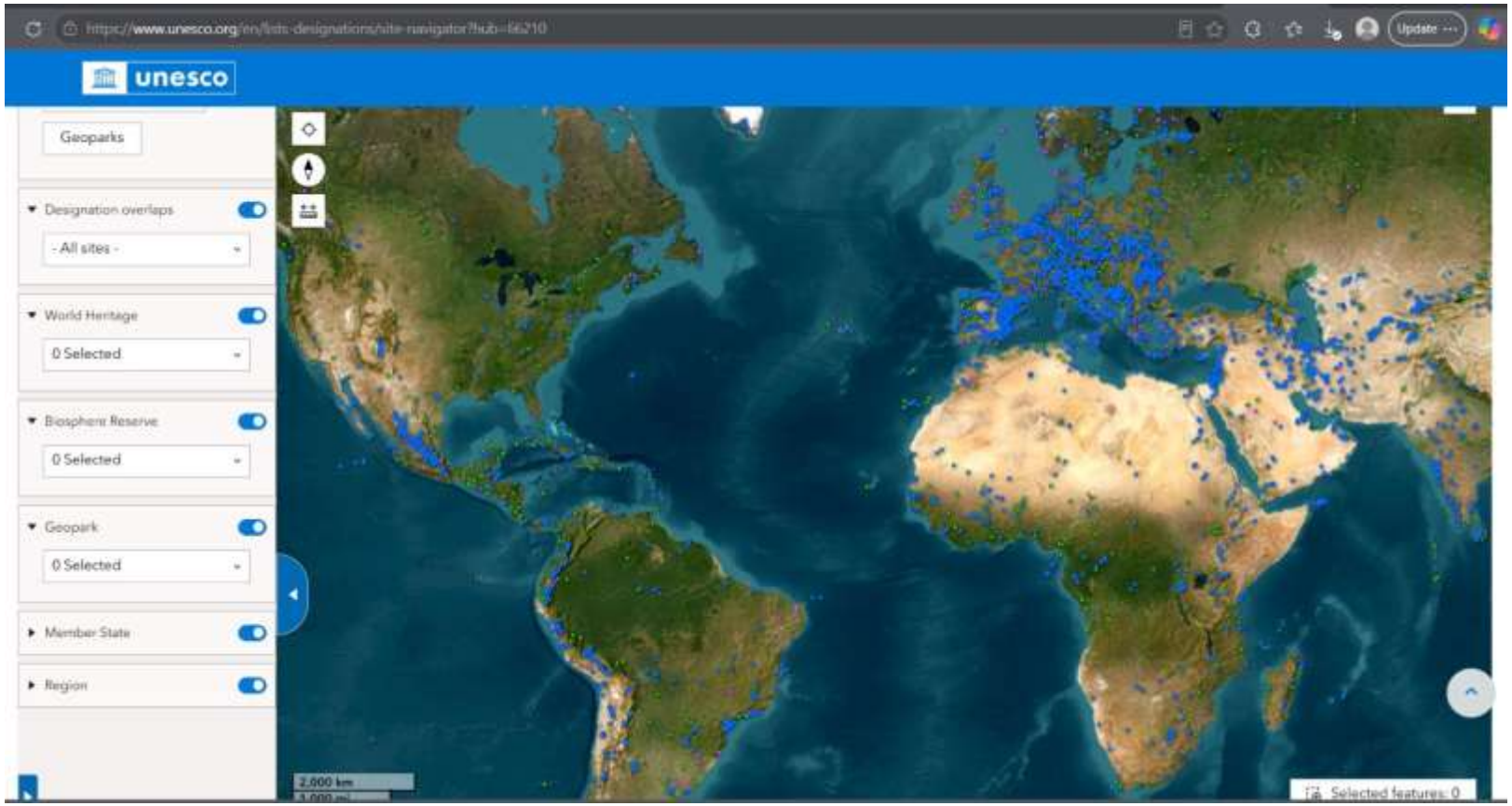
Background

- Overlapping designations or protection?
- Useful data gathered by satellites
- Citizen science
- Shared information

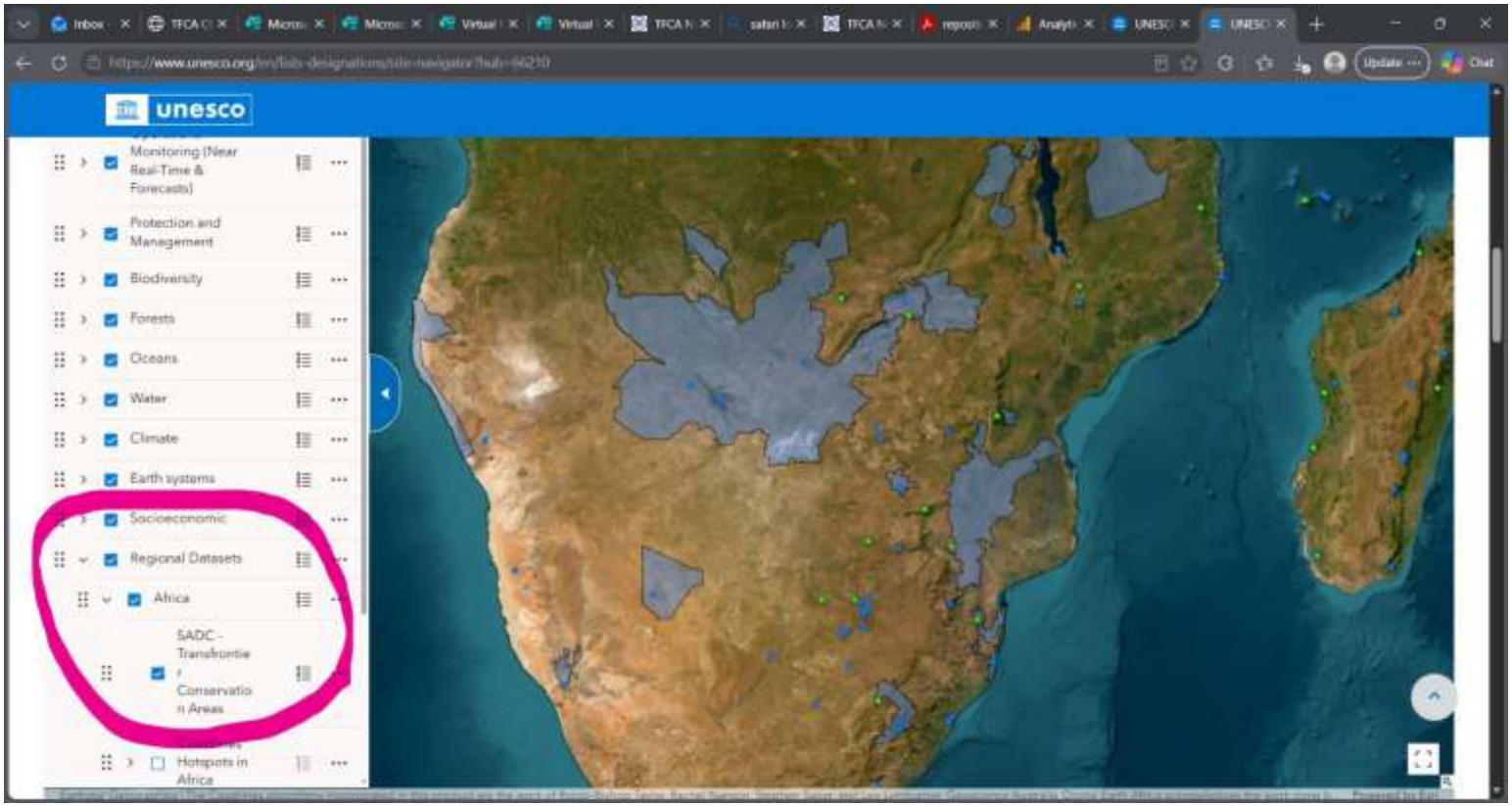
UNESCO and SADC TFCAs now cooperating in **UNESCO Navigator**

UNESCO Sites Navigator

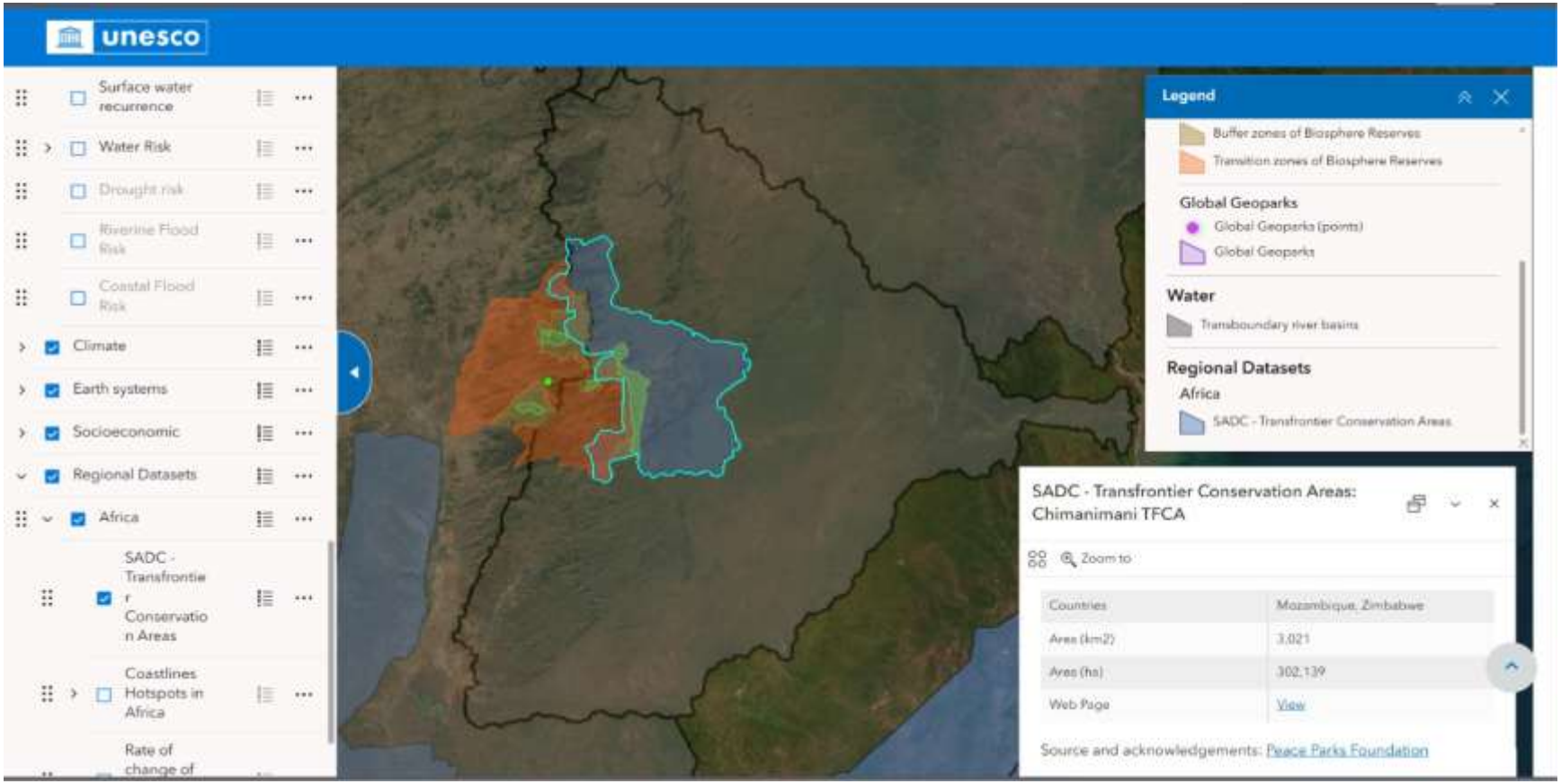
Geospatial Intelligence for the World's Most Globally-Significant Places



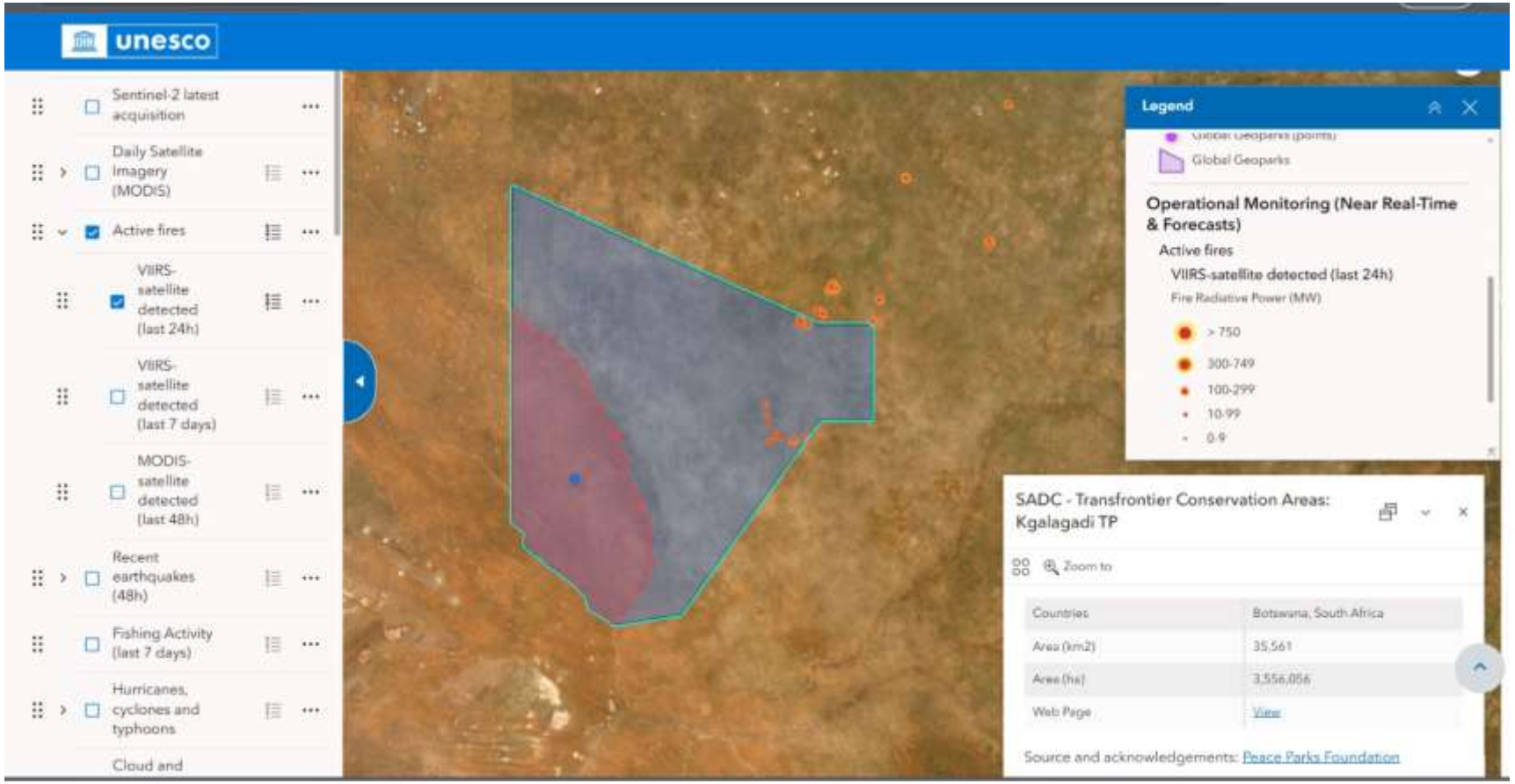
Find the TFCA Layer under Regional Data Bases



UNESCO, RBO and TFCA overlaps



Near real time information eg Fires



Particularly useful datasets for SADC TFCAs

Dataset	Management value
Fire hotspots	Early fire response
Vegetation disturbance	Illegal clearing and degradation
Flood exposure	Disaster preparedness
Biomass carbon	Carbon projects and restoration
Land cover	Habitat monitoring
Protected area boundaries	Corridor planning
Rivers and wetlands	Water security
Elevation	Watershed management
Temperature projections	Climate adaptation
Rainfall projections	Drought planning
Coral bleaching	Marine TFCAs
Coastal flooding	Coastal protected areas

Marine area	UNESCO data that would be valuable
Ponta do Ouro–iSimangaliso	Coral bleaching, mangroves, coastal flooding, estuaries
Bazaruto Archipelago	Coral health, sea temperature, cyclone exposure
Quirimbas	Mangrove extent, reefs, marine productivity
Mnazi Bay–Ruvuma Estuary	Estuary condition, mangroves, river discharge
Namibian coast	Coastal fog systems, wetlands, shoreline change
Western Indian Ocean seascapes	Connectivity between reefs and protected areas

Thank you for the support and engagement

SADC TFCA
NETWORK
Investing in People, Nature and Partnerships
ANNUAL MEETING 2026
SKUKUZA KRUGER NATIONAL PARK
GREAT LIMPOPO TRANSFRONTIER CONSERVATION AREA