

# Peace Parks in Mountain Forests: Transforming Conflict to Stewardship in the Central Albertine Rift

“When elephants fight,  
it is the grass that suffers.”  
(Kikuyu Proverb)

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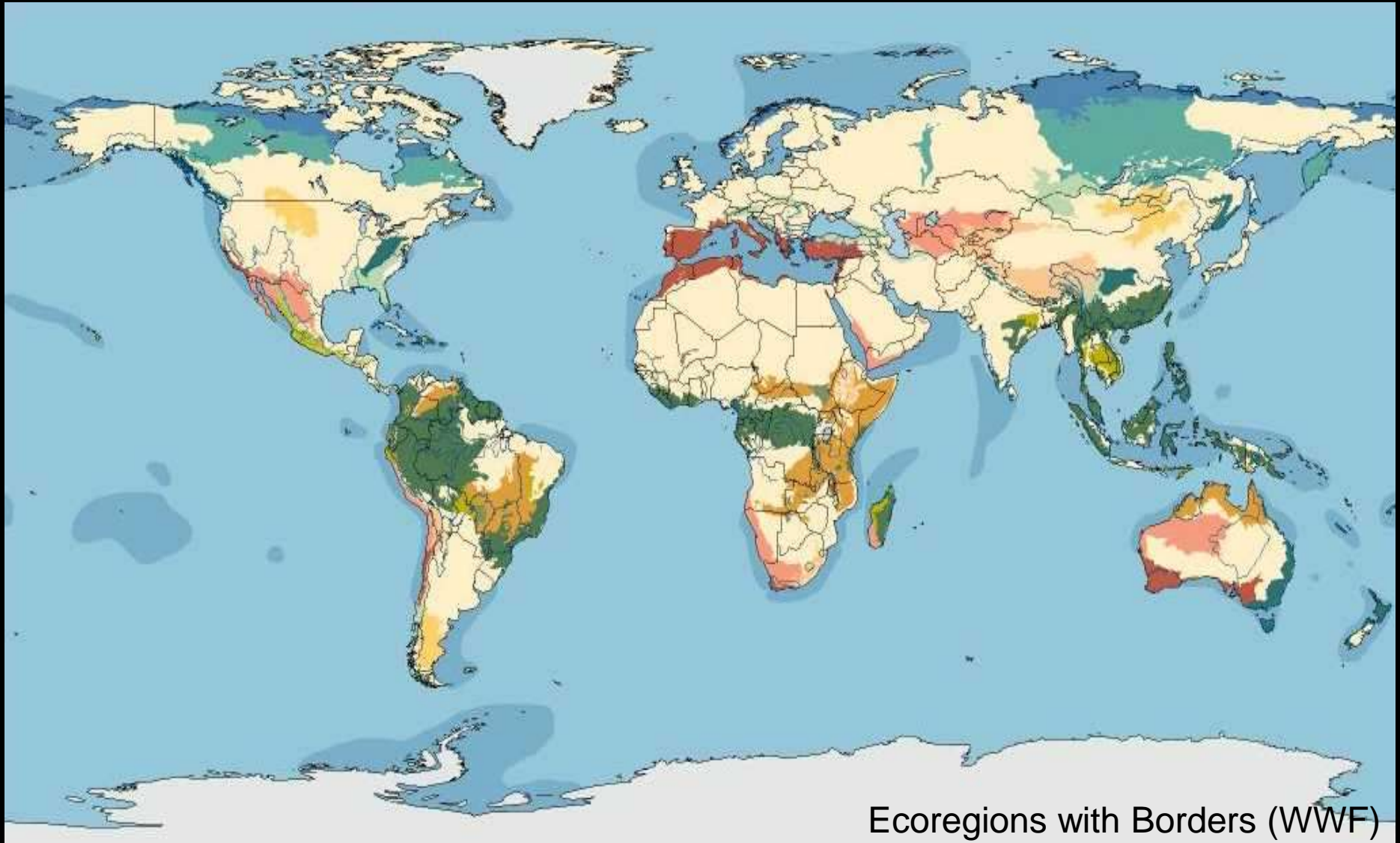
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# I. The Need for Transboundary Conservation

“It is evident that natural resources are not limited by the boundary lines which separate nations, and that the need for conserving them upon this continent is as wide as the area upon which they exist.”

- Theodor Roosevelt -

# I. The Need for Transboundary Conservation



## II. TB Conservation and Conflict

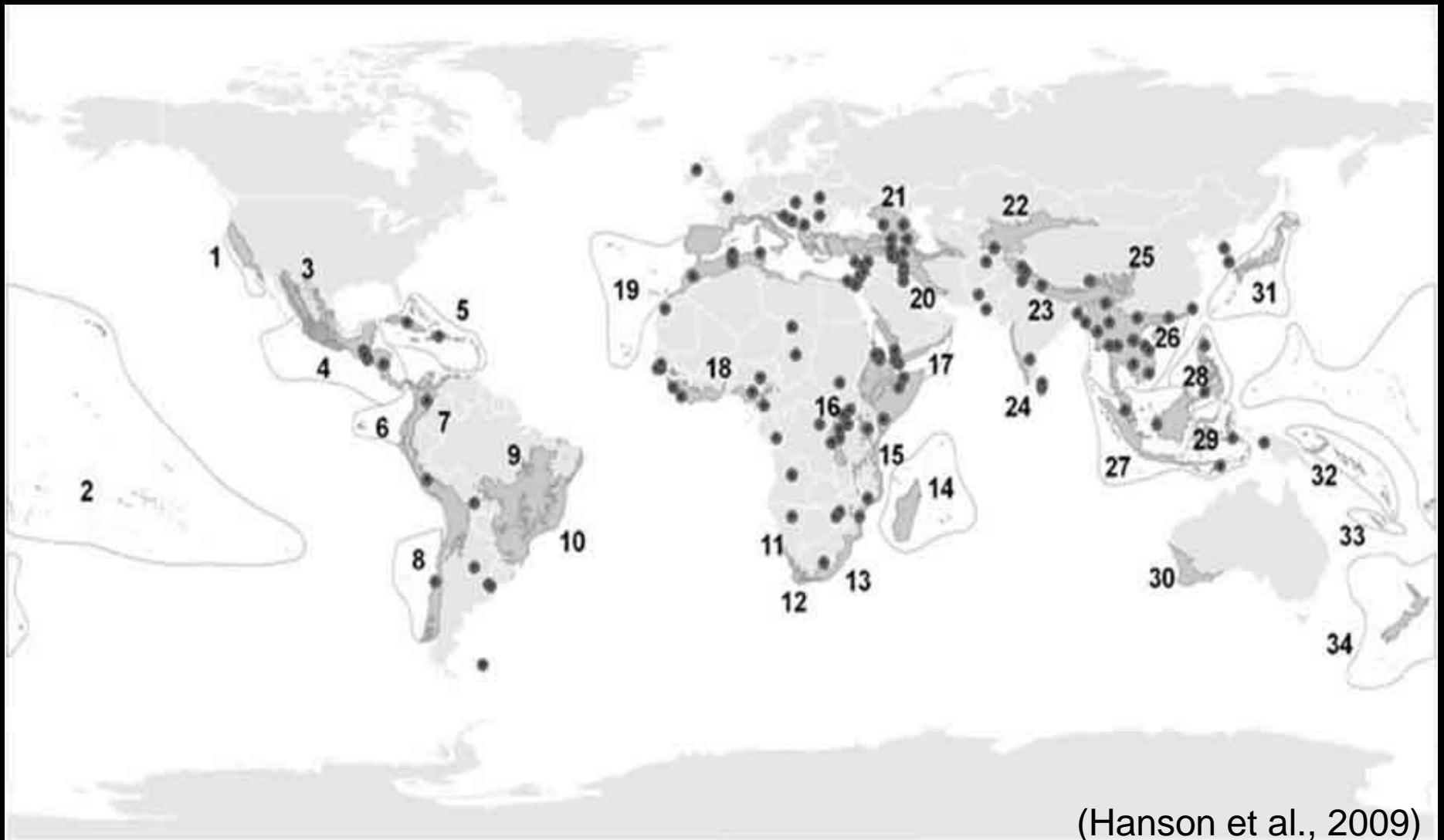


### Environment, (In)security and Peace

- Environmental Security
- Natural Resources and Conflict
- Peacemaking and Natural Resources
- Environmental Peacebuilding

## II. TB Conservation and Conflict

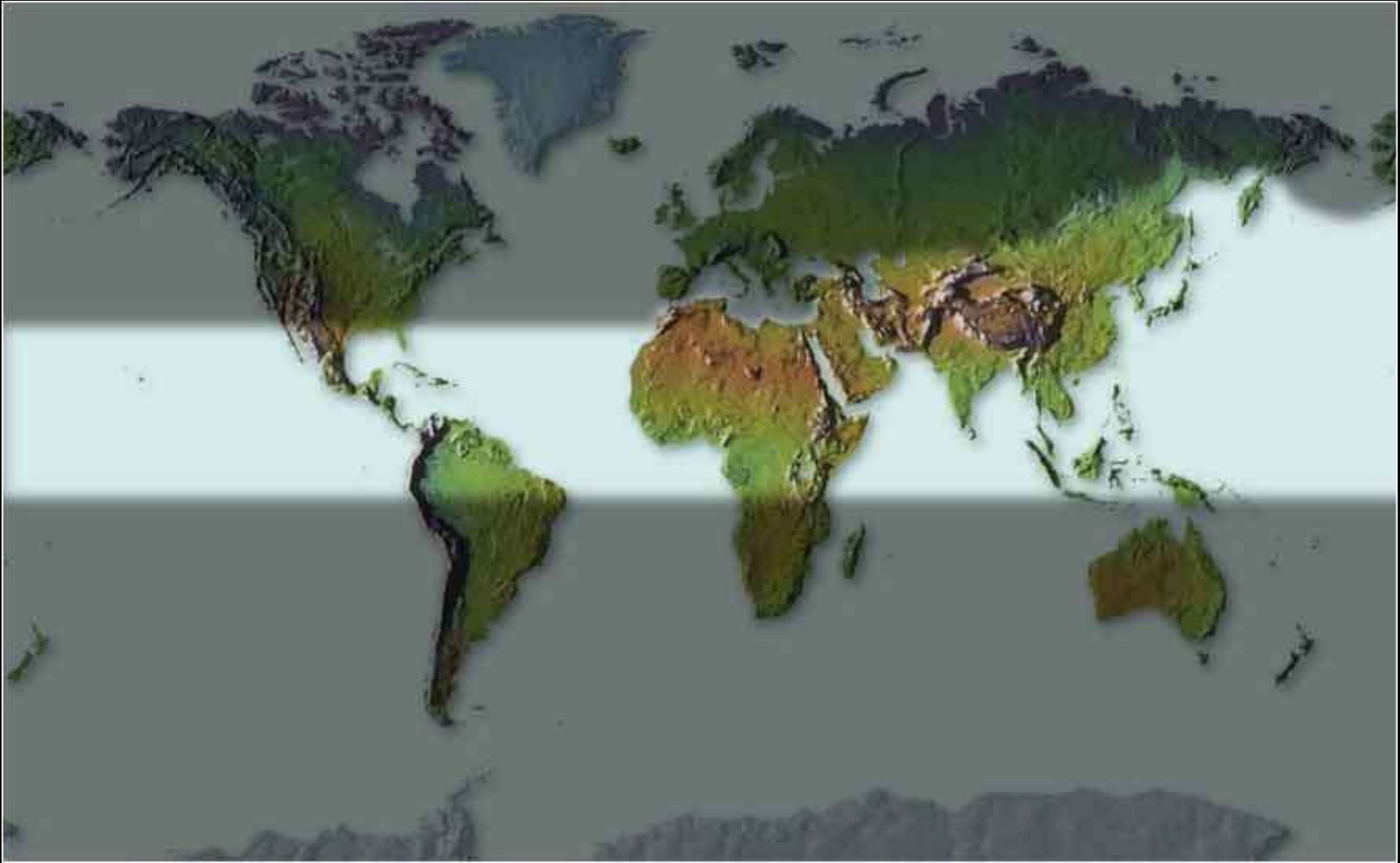
### Warfare and Biodiversity Hotspots



(Hanson et al., 2009)

## II. TB Conservation and Conflict

### The Tension Belt



American University, Inventory for Conflict and Environment (ICE)

## II. TB Conservation and Conflict

### Transboundary Protected Areas Worldwide in 2007



UNEP-WCMC 2007

### III. Peace Parks: Definitions

#### Peace Park

“Transboundary protected areas that are formally dedicated to the protection and maintenance of biological diversity, and of natural and associated cultural resources, and to the promotion of peace and co-operation” (IUCN, 2001)



# III. Peace Parks: Definitions

## Elements of a Transboundary Peace Park

### TBPA + Peace & Cooperation



TB = Transboundary  
PA = Protected Area

### III. Peace Parks: Process

#### When are peace parks created?

- Celebration of Friendly Relations (WGIPP)
- Demilitarization and Border Security (PILA)
- Border Dispute Resolution (Cordillera del Condor)
- Peace Process/Treaty (Cordillera del Condor)
- Post-Conflict Peacebuilding (Across the River)
- Environmental Security and Resilience: Climate Change (Across the River)

...and during conflict?

## IV. Patchwork Peace Parks

**TBCCAs + Peace + Cooperation = PPP**

- Collaboration between Front-Line Communities for broader landscape conservation
- Network of Community Conservation Areas (CCAs)
- Direct Environmental Governance:  
CBDRR = CBNRM



# IV. Patchwork Peace Parks

**Where would a patchwork peace park be suitable?**

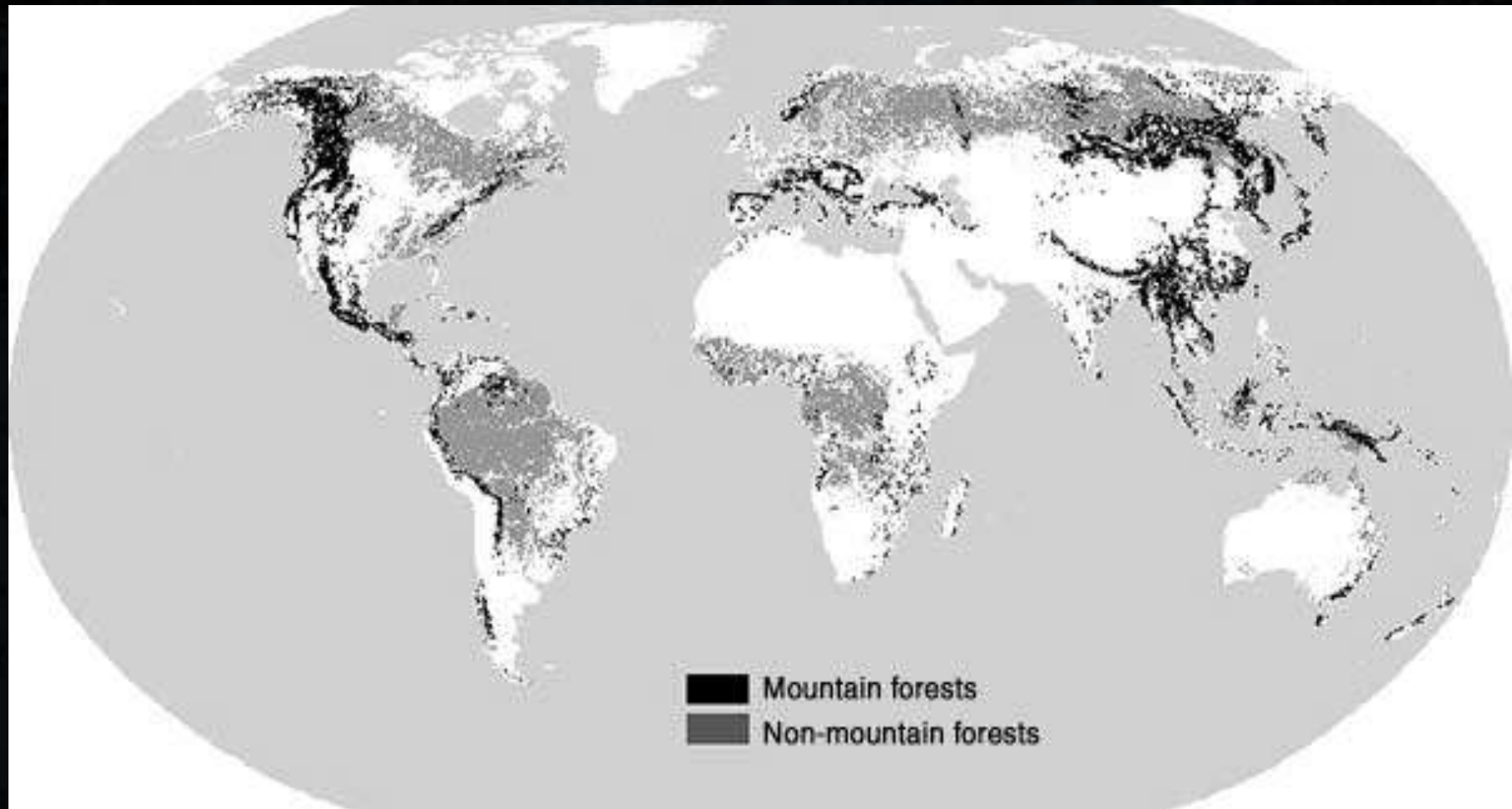
- Violent Conflict
- Political Instability
- Insecurity

Anywhere, everywhere....



# IV. Patchwork Peace Parks: Mountain Forests

## World's Mountain Forests



# IV. Patchwork Peace Parks: Mountain Forests

## • (1) Vulnerabilities of Mountain Forests

- Ecoregional particularities
- Environmental/Climate change
- Mountain forest communities
- Lack of disaggregated information



## • (2) Transboundary Dimension of Mountain Forests

## • (3) Conflict Dimension of Mountain Forests

- 80% of the world's conflicts are in mountains



# V. Case Study

## Central Albertine Rift TFPA Network (DRC, Rwanda, Uganda)



## V. Case Study

### Evolution of Transboundary Collaboration in CAR TFPA Network

- 1979: Mountain Gorilla Project
- 1989: 1st Afromontane Forest Conference
- 1991: Int'l Gorilla Conservation Programme established
- 2004: CAR TFPA MOU
- 2005: Goma Declaration
- 2006: 10-Year Transboundary Strategic Plan
- 2008: Transboundary Core Secretariat established to begin implementation of 10-Year Plan
- 2008: Rubavu Ministerial Declaration
- 2010: Draft negotiations of multilateral treaty

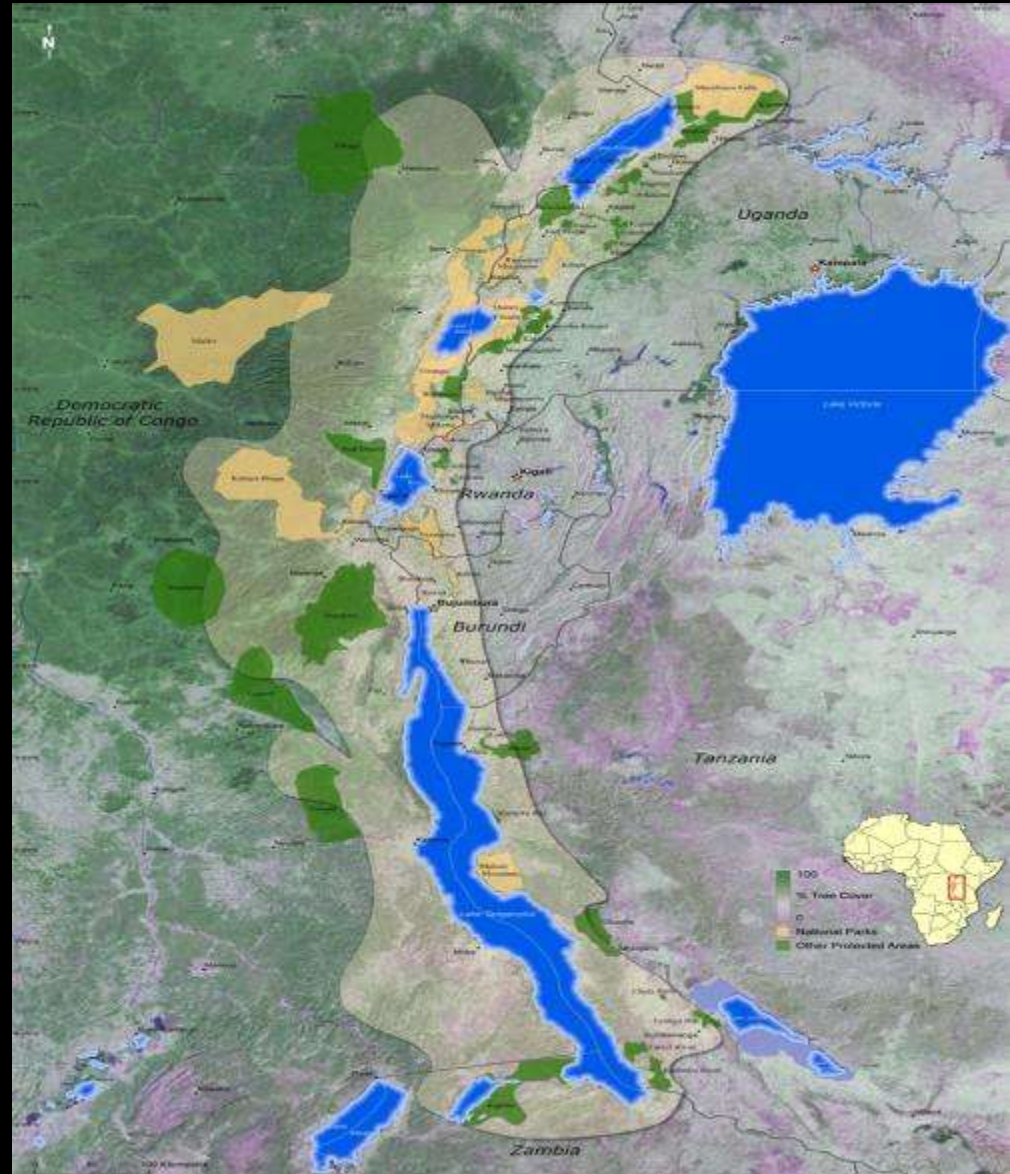


# V. Case Study

**From the Ground**

**...Up**

1. Cross-border activities
2. Support by NGOs
3. Higher-level recognition
4. Legal formalization



# V. Case Study

## Transboundary Conservation as Intended

### 10-Year Transboundary Strategic Plan:

- TB Inter-Ministerial Board: ministry representatives
- TB Core Secretariat
- Technical Committees: research, tourism, community conservation and enterprise, & security and law enforcement
- Regional Forum: TB stakeholder exchange

### Transfrontier Core Secretariat:

- Made up of Executive Directors of 3 PAAs, Technical Associates and IGCP
- Meets 1-2 times a year
- Decisions are consensus-based

# V. Case Study

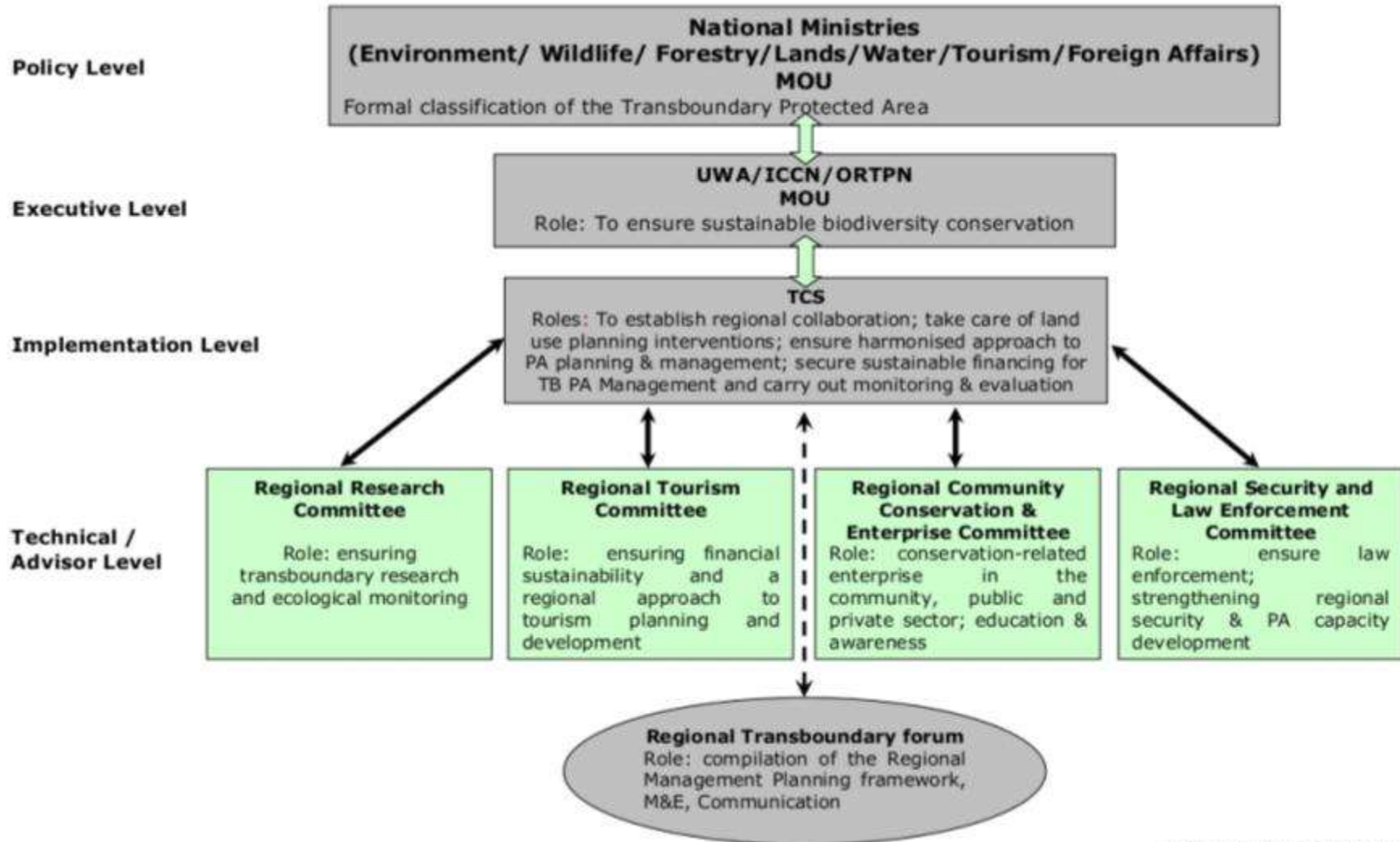


Figure 2: Institutional Set-up and Linkages

Source: Adapted from IGCP (unpub)

# V. Case Study

## Transboundary Conservation in Practice

### Disturbances Due to Insecurity:

- irregularity of transboundary activities
- lack of resources
- other priorities

### North-South Divide:

- lack of ecoregional coordination
- focus on Virunga Massif
- lack of resources, donor interests

### Jurisdictional Limitations:

- international law vs. international conservation
- administrative division
- NGO territories

# VI. Patchwork Peace Park in the CAR TFPA Network

## Where are the Communities?

### Transboundary Context:

- TB Strategic Plan: consultative
- TSP 4.4: “collaborative management as an approach to PA and wildlife management is not negotiable”
- TSP S07.4: “Local communities participating in and benefiting from natural resources management and other development initiatives”

### Uganda:

- Collaborative Resource Use Management
- Revenue Sharing and Gorilla Revenues
- “Eco”-Tourism
- Consultation

# VI. Patchwork Peace Park in the CAR TFPA Network

## The Potential for TB Integrated Water Resource Stewardship in CAR TFPA Network

- Multistakeholder Committees: ecoregional legal empowerment
- Participatory Action Research (PAR)
- Alternative/Anti/Post/Participatory Development
  
- Legal Harmonization
- Institutional Coordination

**Thank you!**

**“I know of no political movement, no philosophy, no ideology, which does not agree with the peace parks concept as we see it going into fruition today. It is a concept that can be embraced by all.**

**In a world beset by conflicts and division, peace is one of the cornerstones of the future. Peace parks are a building block in this process, not only in our region, but potentially in the entire world.”**

**- Dr. Nelson Mandela**