









TBPA in Focus
Cooperation to
Save the Turtles:
Turtle Islands

EXPEDITION REPORT: CYCLING SILK NEW VIDEO

www.tbpa.net
Transboundary Conservation

## BENEWS 5 May 2012



## **Welcome Note**







September is approaching. Leaders from government, the public sector, non-governmental organizations, UN agencies, business and social organizations will soon gather at the largest conservation event IUCN World Conservation Congress (WCC), to be held in the Republic of Korea (Jeju) to discuss and bring forward solutions for the most pressing environmental and development issues in the world. One of the most guarded borders in the world, the Korean Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), is newly emerging as a wildlife sanctuary requiring integrated approach in safeguarding its natural heritage and peace on the peninsula. IUCN WCPA Transboundary Conservation Specialist Group has partnered with Korea National Park Service and the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN) to organize a 2-hour workshop on 11 September 2012 and discuss Korean DMZ future alongside experiences from the European Green Belt Initiative and lessons learnt from international transboundary



conservation areas. More details about the workshop titled Sharing Benefits and Efforts from Transboundary Conservation are available at the 2012 WCC website.

TBPA in Focus in the 5<sup>th</sup> issue of the TB eNEWS presents Turtle Islands Heritage Protected Area, a marine transboundary site shared between Malaysia and the Philippines, where all efforts are focused on conservation of the marine turtle population. More news from marine

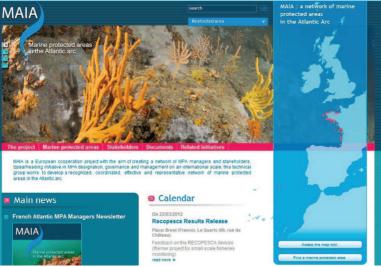
protected areas is featured in the French Atlantic Marine Area article. Kate Harris has reported on the exciting Cycling Silk expedition, covering 10,000 kilometres and visiting transboundary protected areas on the route from Turkey to India. In addition to the news from Asia, you have sent us transboundary conservation related articles from North America, Europe, and Africa, and as ever, enabled us to share information about your initiatives covering almost all continents! We thank everyone for your contributions and we are happy to continue to distribute news about your work in transboundary projects, to inform the wider community about problems and issues you deal with in your regions, and to enhance awareness about the need for cooperative work in nature conservation.

Special thanks to all of you who participated in the Transboundary Conservation Specialist Group's Survey for the Legal Concept Paper, prepared and led by Michelle Lim and Tanya Rosen. The results of the survey are now ready and can be viewed at <a href="https://www.tbpa.net">www.tbpa.net</a>.

Further on, we invite our network members to put the link to <a href="www.tbpa.net">www.tbpa.net</a> on your transboundary projects' websites, to enable easier sharing of information about global transboundary conservation issues. In case you would like to feature your work in the *Members' Corner* section of our website, you are welcome to use this service!

Transboundary Conservation Specialist Group
Executive Committee
IUCN WCPA

## French Atlantic Marine Area: A Pilot Area for IUCN Management Categories



The French Atlantic has been chosen as a pilot area to assess IUCN protected area (PA) management categories for a group of French marine protected areas (MPAs). In the context of a national process of assigning IUCN categories, a partnership between the French IUCN Committee and the French Marine Protected Areas Agency (Agence des aires marines protégées) launched the process in 2012 for MPAs and highlighting the potential of the MAIA on-line GIS viewer.

The MPAs in the Atlantic Arc network (MAIA) is a European cooperation project with the aim of creating a network of MPA managers and stakeholders. MAIA gathers partners from the UK, France, Spain and Portugal, involved in MPA designation and management. The French Marine Protected Areas Agency is the lead partner of the project. The latest achievement of the project is the creation of the MAIA portal, which offers a geographic overview of MPAs in the Atlantic Arc thanks to a dynamic map tool.

Moreover, relevant information about standard data and MPA sites' management issues is synthesized in the online MPA datasheets.

The MAIA GIS database will make IUCN's work in France easier, as almost all French MPA designations are present in the French Atlantic area. The Water and Biodiversity department of the French Ministry in charge of ecology will then officially confirm the IUCN PA management categories designations, with the assistance of an advisory council. The final assignment of IUCN categories for all MPAs of the French Atlantic coast will be presented during the 1st Conference of the Atlantic Arc MPAs Network, to be organised within the framework of the MAIA network, in Arcachon (France) from 3-7 December 2012. Save the date!

The MAIA network's team: maia@aires-marines.fr

For more information about the Atlantic MPA on-line datasheets:

http://www.maia-network.org/homepage/marine protected areas/mpa data sheets



TB eNews

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TB eNews is prepared on quarterly basis.

## Guidelines for your contributions

The TB eNews contains information on your activities related to enhancement of transboundary conservation and cooperation. You are welcome to send us news about relevant projects and initiatives, to review any past event on transboundary conservation, and announce a future workshop, seminar, or a conference. We shall include any new publications, websites or funding opportunities that you send us.

In order to ensure all articles are included in one of our next issues, we would welcome contributions that contain up to 300 words in length. Please also include any graphic addition (photograph, logo, map or similar), indicating the credits. The size of the photographs has to be minimum 500 kB. You are responsible for the content of your contributions and all articles should contain the name of the author and contact email.

This newsletter is being prepared by IUCN WCPA Transboundary Conservation Specialist Group, which reserves the right to edit and shorten the texts as appropriate.

All contributions should be sent to Maja Vasilijevic at <a href="maja.vasilijevic1@gmail.com">maja.vasilijevic1@gmail.com</a>.

Thank you for your cooperation, Transboundary Conservation Specialist Group Executive Team



