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ANNUAL REPORT
FRANKFURT ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY



FRANKFURT
ZOOLOGICAL
SOCIETY

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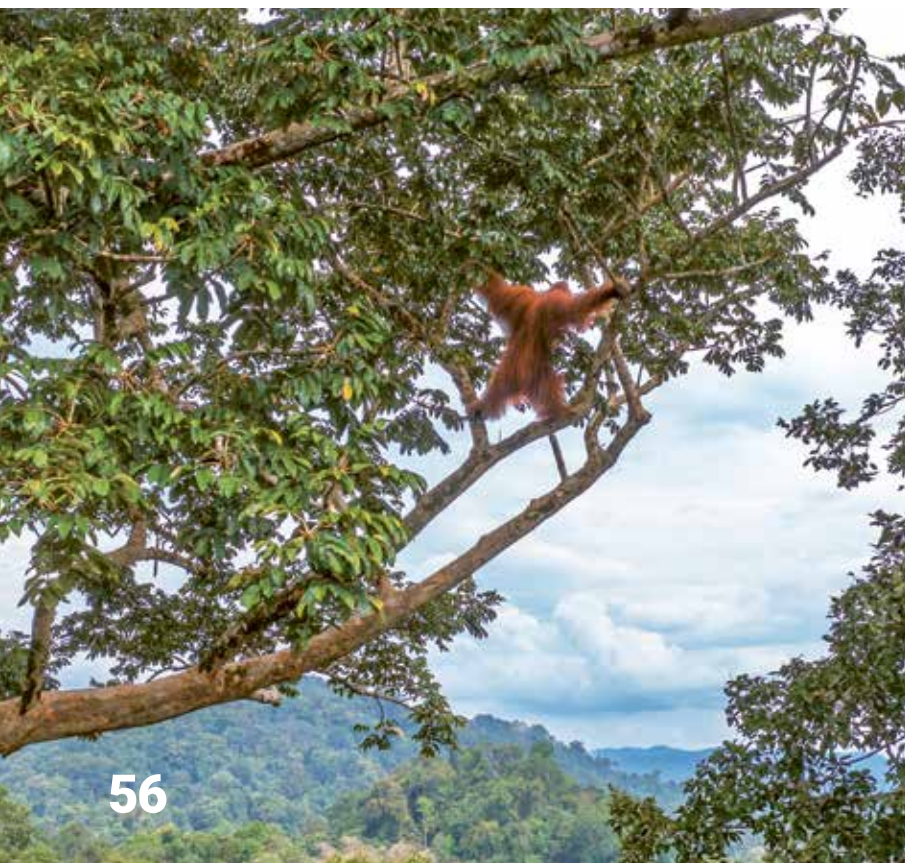
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Cover photo:
Riparian area of the Pripjat River in the
Pripjat-Stokhid National Park in Ukraine



FINANCIAL REPORT 2022

64 FZS FINANCIAL REPORT
Revenue and expenses in 2022

73 DONORS AND PARTNERS
Supporters in 2022



You will find the digital version of our annual report 2022 at fzs.org/missionwilderness22



Wetland in the Nsumbu-Tanganyika Ecosystem, Zambia

DEAR READERS, FRIENDS AND SPONSORS,



We at the Frankfurt Zoological Society look back on a successful year but also a challenging one, in view of the worsening climate and species crises. As president of the Society, it fills me with pride that in 2022 our conservation programs and projects allowed us again to help preserve a number of significant natural areas on Earth.

We were again able to boost the populations of further endangered species: In Gonarezhou National Park in Zimbabwe, the reintroduced rhinos had offspring, and on Sumatra the two hundredth orangutan has now been released into the jungle.

We also helped to expand various protected areas – such as the Carpathian Biosphere Reserve, where an additional 18,000 hectares of valuable beech forest have been placed under protection. Unfortunately, our work in the Carpathians was jeopardized by Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine. War is, first and foremost, a human disaster, but it also contributes to climate change and ecosystem destruction.

In the face of climate change and habitat loss, we must do all in our power to safeguard our environment. With our new conservation strategy, we at the Frankfurt Zoological Society are focusing all our efforts on this. The goal we have set for ourselves is ambitious, and our ultimate objective is clear: We want to double our impact by 2030. It is a major challenge, and one we are glad to accept in order to ensure a future for ourselves and for later generations.

Despite all our care, our work in the field is also fraught with danger. This was brought home to us by a tragic accident in May of this year, which has shaken us to the core. When one of our aircraft crashed in Nyerere National Park in Tanzania, our highly valued colleagues Captain Bernard Shayo and Aman Mvogollo as well as park ranger Theonas Mnota lost their lives. We mourn with their families and will always remember the outstanding dedication of these three men.

It is good to know that you, dear friends of Frankfurt Zoological Society, are at our side. On behalf of all our employees, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your donations, grants and project funding. We were also very moved by all the inheritances and bequests we received, which represent a significant source of support for us. Thank you for the trust placed in our work to protect nature and wildlife worldwide.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Klaus Becker'. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Klaus Becker

President of the Frankfurt Zoological Society

“THE TIME WINDOW IS CLOSING. WE NEED TO DO MORE, AND WE NEED TO DO IT FASTER.”

The war in Ukraine broke out amid the COVID-19 pandemic, and, for the first time in decades, FZS was forced to stop working in a country, namely in Belarus. Despite these challenges, the organization’s staffing levels have grown significantly worldwide, and it now has the largest conservation budget in its history.

An interview with CEO Dr. Christof Schenck provides insight into what 2022 meant for FZS.

Dr. Schenck, looking back at 2022, how did the year turn out for the Frankfurt Zoological Society?

It was an incredibly exciting year but also an extremely challenging one. We chalked up plenty of successes. We were able to spend more money than ever before on conservation. We moved forward with Legacy Landscapes, which provides permanent funding for the most outstanding protected areas on the planet. We have also made progress on the Frankfurt Conservation Center, where we intend to set up a conservation think tank and a new home for FZS. We were involved in establishing new national parks, including in Kazakhstan and Ukraine. And we ran another Frankfurt Spring School on Conservation Project Management.

You mentioned some major challenges. What were you referring to?

The big issues for us, of course, were the dramatic and tragic developments in Ukraine and the outbreak of the war there. This also made a huge difference to us as a conservation organization operating in the region. We had to provide direct practical emergency assistance in the various national parks in the Ukrainian Carpathians. This was only possible together with our partners in Romania and Poland. At the moment, we are still able to operate in Ukraine, albeit under very difficult conditions. It was a different story in Belarus, though, where we were sadly forced to stop our work because NGOs and our partner organizations were banned from operating there. We would definitely have liked to continue working in Belarus, as there are some very important conserva-

tion areas there, and we had always cooperated well with the authorities and the local residents in the rewetting of peatlands, for example.

Further major challenges include inflation and energy prices, which have held us back considerably in some project countries. Similarly, our foundation generated less income last year.

36.96

MILLION EUROS
invested in our conservation
projects in 2022



31

PROJECTS & PROGRAMS

in 18 countries

Last year, FZS embarked on a major new strategy process. What does this mean for the conservation goals and organizational development of FZS?

That's right. We have a strategy meeting like this every 10 years. Over 50 people from our organization, including staff members from all our different project countries, met up for several days to work on shaping the future of FZS.

How has the world changed? How has FZS changed? All this, of course, took place against the backdrop of the enormous triple crisis of climate change, pandemics and loss of biodiversity. In 2001, when we held our first strategy meeting, we were still of the opinion that small is beautiful. Twenty years later, we see that, despite this maxim, we grew significantly and want to continue doing so in the future. There are major tasks

ahead of us, and the time window is closing, which means we have no time to lose. We need to do more, and we need to do it faster. That's why we set ourselves some very ambitious goals and said: *We want to double our conservation impact by 2030.*

That is a huge goal. How does FZS intend to reach it?

You're right; it really is very ambitious. Our primary target concerns land area. We need to be active in a larger area because that's how we achieve greater diversity in terms of species, ecosystems and also of genes. The second major factor is our staff. We need the right people who are committed and passionate about nature. That applies here in Frankfurt, but it applies, too, for our sister organization in the U.S. and especially in the project countries. And the third area of growth is in the financial resources. It is clear

that we need more resources if we wish to do more, which is why we want to – indeed must – invest significant amounts in the development of our human resources as well as in fundraising.

Does the German Environmental Award, which you received last October, help here?

The German Environmental Award came initially as a surprise, of course. I really didn't expect it, and it was a very nice moment. It's important for me to say at this point, however, that although the award is presented to an individual, there is always a whole team behind that person, of course. No one can accomplish anything like that alone – certainly not here at FZS. And so it represents a great tribute to all our staff members all over the world. Personally, I believe it has encouraged a lot more com-

mitment, given rise to more inquiries, and it's also drawn more attention to the things we are fighting for. It's brought about a great change in the public perception. I think we can all be proud of this award – not only myself but everyone at FZS.

Does that mean the award has changed your work?

Definitely. Winning such a prestigious award has put a certain onus on us, of course, but things are also evolving because of the changing conditions on Earth. We are really concerned about the loss of species and about the massive overheating of our planet. We have to be fast, we have to be better, and we need to take a multifaceted approach. We need new alliances and are keen to join



forces with other major international conservation organizations. We need sufficient financial and human resources to meet the great challenges ahead of us.

Do you think FZS is well placed to meet such great challenges?

FZS is in a really good position at the moment. We have a solid reputation. We do good work and have excellent teams out in the field all over the world. We've achieved a certain level of recognition and are very focused. We're active in 18 countries and have a very clear agenda – namely, protecting vast areas of wilderness. This kind of staying power, maintaining a strong presence on the ground over decades, supporting our partner organizations, the conservation authorities, the indigenous communities, the people in and around the protected areas on their way to a better, more sustainable, more ecological and safer future: These, I believe, are the defining characteristics of FZS – characteristics which mean we still have great potential for shaping the future.

Dr. Christof Schenck in conversation with Leticia Marques Osorio, our Social Safeguards Coordinator

25.80

MILLION EUROS
from institutional and public
third-party donors in 2022

What are your wishes for FZS in the future?

My wish is that FZS will be able to succeed with its very ambitious growth plans. For this, we need the help of absolutely everyone in the organization – both in Frankfurt and in the project regions, where employees often work under difficult, sometimes even dangerous conditions. In addition, of course, we need the ongoing strong support of – and collaboration with – the conservation authorities and the ministries, right down to the rangers, because without them, none of it would be possible. And, naturally, what I particularly hope and wish for is that we can further develop the partnership we already enjoy today with our great supporters – the members, the sponsors, the donors, but of course, also the large private foundations, the family foundations in the U.S. and the very, very important public donors that we have, especially in Germany. In a nutshell, I hope that people will stay with us, make the necessary decisions and agree with us that these are indeed crucial global tasks – tasks that are of monumental importance for our Earth.

2022 GERMAN ENVIRONMENTAL AWARD PRESENTED TO DR. CHRISTOF SCHENCK

The German Federal Foundation for the Environment presented the German Environmental Award, one of the most highly endowed awards in Europe, on October 30, 2022. This time, the foundation decided to honor Dr. Christof Schenck, our executive director of more than two decades, who has overseen the strategic development and expansion of our organization. The prestigious award was presented in Magdeburg, Germany, by Federal President Frank-Walter Steinmeier. Schenck shared the prize money of 500,000 euros with entrepreneurs Friedrich Mewis and Dirk Lehmann.

For Alexander Bonde, secretary general of the German Federal Foundation for the Environment, Schenck was very much a logical choice for the award. “Along with the climate crisis, the loss of biodiversity is one of the greatest ecological challenges of our time. Without biodiversity, the prospects for humankind are gloomy. For our foundation, Mr. Schenck represents a fighter for wilderness. Together with the Frankfurt Zoological Society, he works at the international level to secure key large-scale protected areas for the purpose of conserving biodiversity. Above all, he has succeeded in opening up new sources of funding in the area of conservation,” said Bonde.



Federal President Frank-Walter Steinmeier presents the award to Dr. Christof Schenck, to applause from Professor Kai Niebert, DBU President, and Alexander Bonde, Secretary General of the DBU.

PRESENTING FRANKFURT ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Frankfurt Zoological Society (FZS) is a registered non-profit society based in Frankfurt am Main, Germany. The origins of the Society are found in the work of Professor Bernhard Grzimek, who first set up FZS as a support society for the Frankfurt Zoo in 1950. From the 1960s on, FZS continuously expanded its commitment to nature conservation and today is an internationally recognized conservation NGO. From the outset, it has been based at the zoo in Frankfurt.

As it promotes nature conservation and animal welfare, Frankfurt Zoological Society enjoys corporate tax exemption on the basis of the notice of exemption and the annex to the notice of exemption of the Frankfurt am Main V Tax Office, tax no. 47 250 98191, of January 23, 2023, according to § 5 para 1 no. 9 of the Corporation Tax Law. Its official organs are the General Assembly and the Board of Directors.

The General Assembly convenes once a year. It elects the Board and approves its activities, approves the annual financial statements and elects the auditor. In 2022, the Society had 3,556 members, consisting of private individuals and institutions.

According to its statutes, the Board consists of up to eight individuals who work on a voluntary basis. It is elected for three years and adopts the annual program of projects and the annual budget as put forward by the Executive Director. No conference or attendance fees are paid to the members of the Board of Directors. The Board may appoint an executive director for operational management. Dr. Christof Schenck has conducted the Society's business since the year 2000.

In 2022, FZS employed 1,504 staff members. Most of them are local project staff employed by the respective FZS country organizations or collaborative joint ventures with the national parks.

THE FZS NETWORK

FZS is supported by its foundation. *Hilfe für die bedrohte Tierwelt – Förderstiftung der Zoologischen Gesellschaft Frankfurt von 1858 e. V.* is a legally independent foundation under private law based in Frankfurt am Main. It is recognized as a non-profit organization for the promotion of nature conservation and animal welfare and exclusively supports the nature conservation work of FZS. There are other dependent foundations under the umbrella of the foundation. The foundation is represented by an honorary foundation board, whose chairman is Hans Bernhardt.

HONORARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF FRANKFURT ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Klaus Becker (President)
Prof. Dr. Manfred Niekisch (Vice President)
Prof. Dr. Katrin Böhning-Gaese
Egon Kochanke
Dr. Norbert Kloppenburg
Hans Joachim Suchan
Hans Bernhardt

Gerhard Kittscher (Honorary President)

HONORARY FOUNDATION BOARD

Hans Bernhardt (Chairman of the Board)
Klaus Becker (Vice Chairman)
Gabriele Eick
Dr. Christina Geiger
Petra Gerster
Dr. Jürgen Heraeus
Sylvia von Metzler
Dr. Arne Weick

HONORARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF FZS-US

Dr. Christof Schenck (President)
Prof. Dr. Andy Dobson (Vice President)
Dr. Peyton West (Treasurer and
Executive Director)
Matt Arnold
Curtis Ravenel
Jason Scott
Heather Zichal

The foundation's untouchable capital stock amounted to 62.20 million euros in 2022. The balance sheet total, including reserves and trust assets, amounted to 78.60 million euros. Last year, the foundation provided 1.98 million euros for FZS's nature conservation work.

FZS has been supported in the United States of America since 2008 by the independent non-profit organization Frankfurt Zoological Society US (FZS-US). This 501(c)(3) organization is also exempt from tax, and the donations from private and institutional American donors in support of the FZS project work are eligible for tax relief. FZS-US is run by a Board. This consists of seven volunteer members. Its President is the FZS Executive Director, Dr. Christof Schenck. Since 2012, the organization has been run by Executive Director Dr. Peyton West, who is also a member of the Board.

Frankfurt Zoological Society is represented in Peru by the non-profit association Ayuda para vida Silvestre Amenazada – Sociedad Zoológica de Frankfurt Perú (AVISA SZF Peru), in Colombia by Sociedad Zoológica de Frankfurt, in Guyana by Frankfurt Zoological Society (Guyana) Inc., and in Zambia by Frankfurt Zoological Society Zambia Ltd. It is also registered as a national or international non-profit organization in other countries, such as Ethiopia, Tanzania, DR Congo, Zimbabwe, Vietnam, Indonesia and Ukraine.

7,297

SPONSORS

supported FZS in 2022.

1,504

STAFF MEMBERS

work for FZS and our affiliated national organizations worldwide. Most of them are local staff in the projects, employed by the respective FZS country organizations or collaborative joint ventures with the national parks.

FZS INVOLVEMENT IN OTHER ORGANIZATIONS AND INITIATIVES

FZS has joined the “Initiative Transparente Zivilgesellschaft” founded by **Transparency International Germany** and provides transparent information online about its organizational structure and the sources and use of its funds.

FZS is an **institutional member** of BioFrankfurt e. V., Deutscher Naturschutzring (DNR), Charles Darwin Foundation and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). FZS launched the “Wildnis in Deutschland” initiative and has been coordinating its activities together with Naturstiftung David.

FZS is also represented by its Executive Director, board members and heads of departments and programs on the boards and committees of the following **organizations and institutions**, among others:

Frankfurt Conservation Center gGmbH, Bruno H. Schubert Foundation, Claus und Taslimawati Schmidt-Luprian Stiftung Vogelschutz in Feuchtgebieten, Conservation Lake Tanganyika, Eleonore-Beck-Stiftung, Foundation Conservation Carpathia (FCC), Conservation Lower Zambezi, Gonairezhou Conservation Trust (GCT), Initiative Frankfurter Stiftungen, IUCN Otter Specia-

list Group, Kashikoto Conservancy, Lowveld Rhino Trust, Polytechnische Gesellschaft e. V., Stiftung Naturlandschaften Brandenburg (SNLB), Stiftung Zoo Frankfurt, Wildlife Crime Prevention, Walter und Monika Schneider Stiftung, Stiftung Eine Welt – Eine Zukunft, Landesstiftung Miteinander-in-Hessen.

The foundation **“Hilfe für die bedrohte Tierwelt – Förderstiftung der Zoologischen Gesellschaft Frankfurt von 1858 e. V.”** is also a member of the Bundesverband Deutscher Stiftungen (Association of German Foundations).

PROJECTS &
PROGRAMS

AFRICA

2022



ETHIOPIA

1 Bale Mountains Conservation Project

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

2 Support for Virunga National Park

3 Lomami Conservation Project

TANZANIA

4 Serengeti National Park

5 Serengeti Ecosystem Management Project

6 Mahale Ecosystem Project

7 Nyerere-Selous Conservation Project

ZAMBIA

8 Nsumbu-Tanganyika Conservation Programme

9 North Luangwa Conservation Programme

ZIMBABWE

10 Gonarezhou Conservation Program



BALE MOUNTAINS

HABITAT UNDER PRESSURE

The Bale Mountains Conservation Project helps protect Bale Mountains National Park, an area of outstanding and unique biodiversity that includes the largest area of afro-alpine habitat in Africa and has the greatest number of endemic species in Ethiopia.

View down into the Gaysay Plains of
Bale Mountains National Park, Ethiopia



The challenges to nature conservation in the Bale Mountains are numerous, and reconciling biodiversity protection and ecosystem processes with the livelihoods of resource-dependent communities is not easy. To address these challenges, we need to combine push factors (effective law enforcement in the park) with pull factors (sustainable farming, alternative livelihoods and natural resource management outside the park). FZS is thus pursuing a comprehensive and multifaceted long-term strategy.

SUPPORT WITH INFRASTRUCTURE AND PATROLS

With FZS's support, there has been a significant increase in patrol activities and law enforcement in 2022 through the enhancement of patrol planning and implementation, as illegal activities inside the park, such as settlement building or farming, are prevalent.

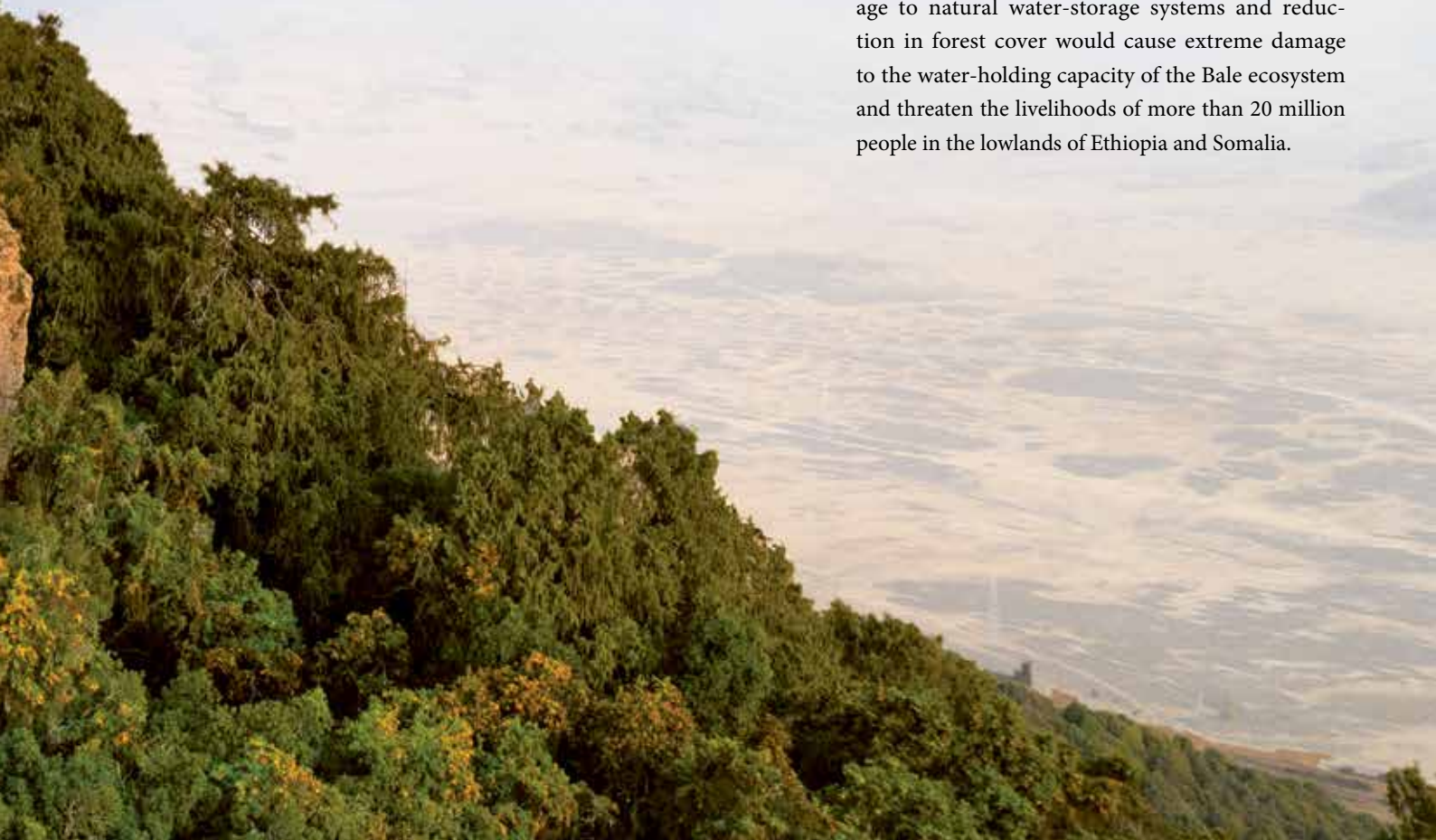
An operations room was developed to house a new law enforcement advisor and operations room manager, both of whom will further implement the SMART law enforcement monitoring system. Ranger outposts and staff housing have also been upgraded, and a stone wall on the Gaysay grasslands, a barrier to prevent livestock from illegally grazing in the park and mitigate human-wildlife conflict, was 70% completed last year.


The Bale Mountains National Park now also has a well-established system for involving the community in park administration. Each of the park's six districts has a Park Community Dialogue Forum, where five to seven representatives from the 29 communities meet quarterly to discuss how to conserve and safeguard natural resources. Zoning and settlement surveys were conducted, leading to the proposal

of several new community protection zones that, if approved, will make up 30% of Bale Mountains National Park. These will be managed jointly by the park and communities and are protected as strict "no use" zones.

As part of its alternative livelihood initiative, the Bale Mountains Conservation Project also seeks to decrease local communities' reliance on park resources and limit the need for future resource restrictions. We have provided farm equipment and planting supplies to Farmer Training Centers in 10 communities, which serve as demonstration grounds for the application of climate-smart agricultural methods. These centers train and mentor households on how to grow new or improved varieties of crops, vegetables and fruit. They also offer training in composting methods, such as vermiculture. More than 1,700 farmers attended such a training.

There is growing support at both the federal and regional government levels for relocating permanent residents inside the park, as the park faces a dilemma: It is clear that a population of 40,000 people with direct dependence on agriculture and a growth rate of 3% will contribute to massive deforestation and land conversion if they have no alternatives. But the damage to natural water-storage systems and reduction in forest cover would cause extreme damage to the water-holding capacity of the Bale ecosystem and threaten the livelihoods of more than 20 million people in the lowlands of Ethiopia and Somalia.





LOMAMI
IN THE BIODIVERSITY-
RICH HEART OF THE
CONGO BASIN

One year after starting to work through a co-management agreement between FZS and the ICCN for Lomami National Park, the protection of the park is making good progress.

The landscape of Lomami National Park and its buffer zone is located in the biodiversity- and carbon-rich heart of the forests of the Congo Basin. The landscape harbors more endemic species than any other park in the Democratic Republic of Congo, including newly discovered species of primates, forest elephants, Congo peacocks and, of course, bonobos. FZS has been working since 2018 to support the ICCN (*Institut Congolais pour la Conservation de la Nature*) in conserving this exceptional area and, since September 2021, has worked through a co-management agreement.



Junior Amboko (left) and Koko Bisimwa (right) from the FZS monitoring team record primate calls in Lomami National Park (DR Congo).

While security in Lomami is relatively stable compared with that in the troubled eastern DRC, it is still a concern in some areas, where Mai-Mai gangs continue to operate in the buffer zone and communities and park staff suffer. Some of the gang leaders are now in prison, thanks in part to the project, and the situation is easing somewhat.

Patrols launched in the northeastern buffer zone in October detected a high concentration of elephants, but in December 2022, signs of humans tracking elephants were observed, emphasizing the importance of intensive and sustained vigilance.

STEADY PROGRESS

The construction of the first airstrip for Lomami is underway, and a new guard post has been developed to strengthen the park authority's presence in the western part of the park.

The Lomami project created a new local community conservation reserve in Balanga West (Maniema Province) and made significant progress in another, Loolo in Tshopo Province, following a series of steps including outreach, technical fieldwork and administrative applications.



Well-hidden in the dense forest: the bonobos in Lomami

Monitoring of biodiversity continues, including through market surveys to measure bushmeat sales and a voucher system that allows bushmeat to cross the park (locals can check in and check out their goods).

Dr. Terese Hart, who was instrumental in the creation of Lomami National Park, retired from the project as program leader at the end of December, and our new program leader, Radar Nishuli, started work in February 2023.



SERENGETI

TOGETHER FOR
THE PROTECTION OF
AN ICON

Zebra and topi in Serengeti
National Park, Tanzania

In the Serengeti, we work together with Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA) and other partners to protect this unique Tanzanian natural heritage. Engaging with the communities living in this ecosystem, we find ways for the people to benefit from the ecosystem while contributing to its protection.

Over 1.3 million wildebeests, along with hundreds of thousands of zebras and Thomson's gazelles, roam across the Serengeti in the Great Migration, the largest ungulate migration on Earth. A mosaic of protected areas and a UNESCO World Heritage Site, the Serengeti ecosystem is home to robust populations of many iconic species, such as lions, leopards, giraffes, elephants, cheetahs, hyenas, wild dogs and rhinos. However, this majestic natural landscape is increasingly impacted by climate change and a growing number of local people who rely on its natural resources to meet their daily needs. With the Serengeti Ecosystem Conservation Project, FZS and partners work to ensure that the natural heritage is protected and engage with communities in the ecosystem to develop livelihoods that both benefit from and contribute to wildlife conservation.

PARTNERS FOR 66 YEARS

The project continued to support Serengeti National Park and its surrounding protected areas in 2022, with a special focus on rhino monitoring (aerial surveillance, field and telemetry equipment, and capture operations). With FZS support, much of the park's aerial surveillance is now conducted by qualified

national park pilots, and the ability to respond to threats quickly and efficiently has been greatly improved with the functioning of the central operations room and the extended communications network, as two 40-meter radio towers were installed. The KfW-funded emergency funding for biodiversity in Tanzania has continued to provide rations, allowances and vehi-

100

beehives issued to
beekeeping
groups



Beekeeper groups supported by FZS produce local honey and generate a reliable income for their families.

4

observation towers were constructed to assist early warning of problem animals in Ikona WMA.



Program Manager Masegeri Rurai (left) talking to villagers outside the national park, where conflicts between conservation and land use are increasing

cles for the rhino field teams, ensuring that the park authority's protection effort remained strong.

The number of de-snaring and cattle rapid-response teams increased in 2022, which is a great success, as these teams are comprised of former bushmeat hunters and members of Community Conservation Banks (COCOBAs) from villages adjacent to or associated with the ecosystem's protected areas. These teams, which are now fully managed by the national park, though logistical and material support is provided by FZS, aid conservation and employ local communities.

26
new anti-poaching
vehicles for Serengeti
National Park

INVOLVING COMMUNITIES IN THE PROTECTION OF THEIR RESOURCES

Human-wildlife conflicts, such as crop damage by elephants and predators attacking livestock, have increased in recent years, in part due to the conversion of wild land to agricultural land in villages adjacent to the park. In response, FZS has continued to train and equip community task forces, which serve as the first line of defense in protecting crops and livestock. Other related initiatives included a pilot program to reinforce 14 grain-storage units to prevent raiding by elephants and the development of 21 predator-proof corrals to prevent lion attacks on livestock. These initiatives were coupled with support for villages in establishing land-use plans that strategically utilize the land while minimizing interactions with wildlife. Eight village land-use plans were completed, and 6,369 titles of occupancy were granted to individual villagers in 12 villages.

In the village lands of Loliondo, next to the newly established Pololeti Game Reserve, the project has supported initiatives focused on sustainable rangeland management to improve livestock production and community-led protection of highland forests. FZS provided training in sustainable rangeland management, including the construction of a



With chili smoke and noise, this farmer drives elephants away. FZS supports villages to defend their fields and gardens against elephants.

330
community elephant task force members received training on wildlife co-existence methods and first aid.

pasture demonstration plot. Likewise, investments in developing community governance systems for the remnants of local forests are helping to empower communities to engage in and benefit from natural resource conservation. In support of these goals, FZS offers equipment for village forest scouts, along with training and equipment for beekeeping COCOBA groups in villages contributing to the protection of these forest areas.

800
trees planted in schools around the Ikona Wildlife Management Area (WMA)



In 2022, our longtime Program Managers Rian and Lorna Labuschagne left FZS and the Serengeti for a well-deserved retirement after a career dedicated to conservation. Masegeri Rurai, who was born and raised in the Serengeti and has been the Project Manager for the Serengeti Ecosystem Management Office since 2016, has taken over as Program Manager.

SELOUS & NYERERE
VIEW FROM
THE AIR



766

hours of aerial patrols,
reporting 213 illegal incidents
to Nyerere National Park and
Selous Game Reserve
management

A young giraffe in Nyerere
National Park, Tanzania

16

new vehicles for Nyerere National Park and seven for Selous Game Reserve

Nyerere National Park and the Selous Game Reserve in southeastern Tanzania together form one of Africa's largest intact wilderness areas, and the ecosystem is internationally recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Our Nyerere-Selous Conservation Project primarily aims to foster the protection of the region and the recovery of the endangered elephant population.

One of our biggest achievements in 2022 was an ecosystem-wide aerial census to help determine the status of large mammal populations, and in particular to monitor the recovery of the elephant population after a dramatic decline due to poaching. We are expecting the results later this year.

Further highlights were the newly constructed operations room for Selous at the game reserve headquarters in Miguruwe and three new digital radio towers, which will enable real-time communication with rangers deployed across the reserve for the first time. Additional de-snaring patrol teams comprised of park rangers

and community members were established in 2022 through the support of FZS, which, besides removing 1,722 snares, have helped with the detection of carcasses and poachers' camps.

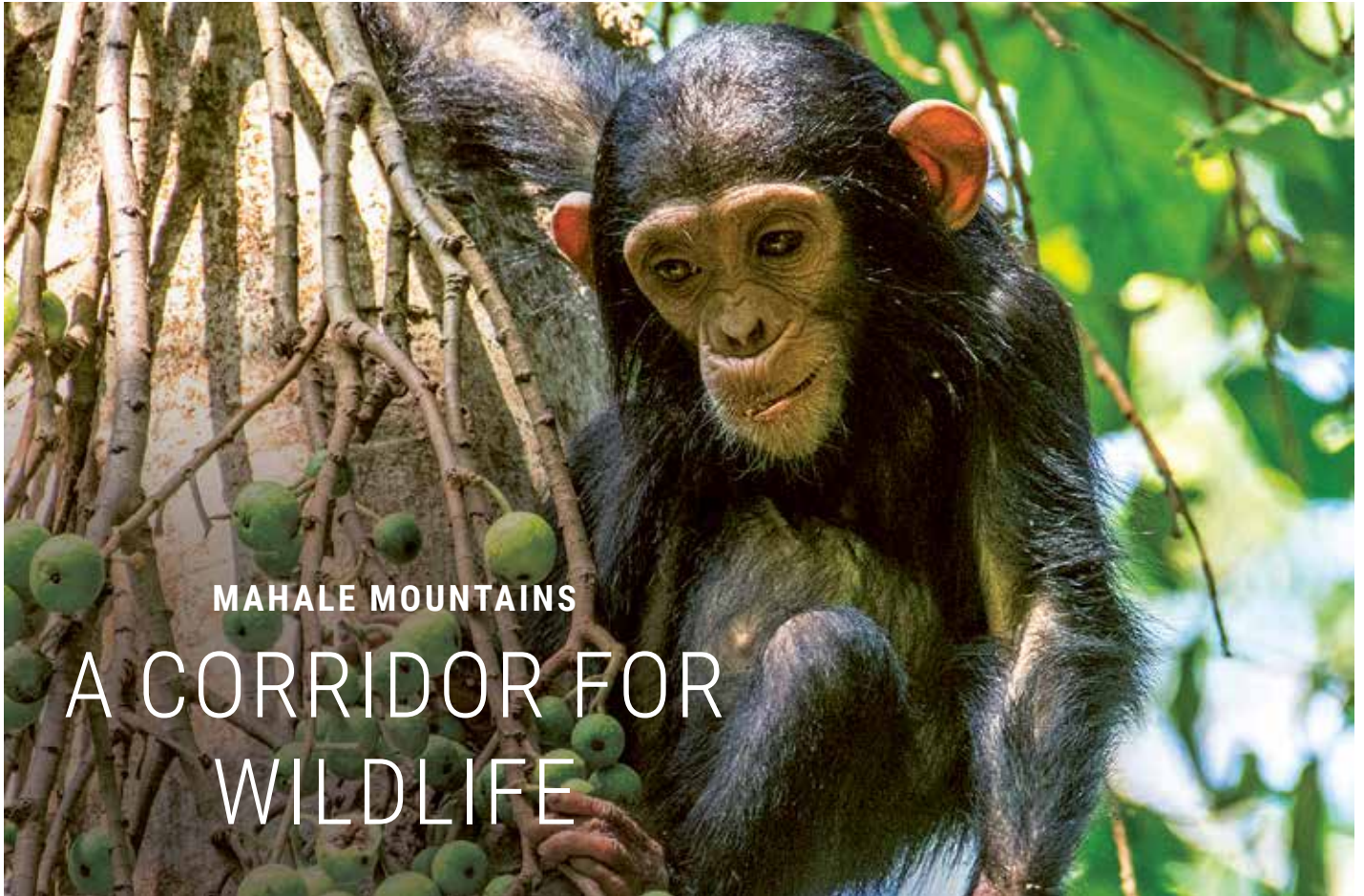
The upgrading of a portion of the original Selous Game Reserve to form Nyerere National Park necessitated a revision of the Selous General Management Plan and a new plan for the national park. This process is now nearing completion with support from FZS. We will continue to monitor the effects on wildlife of a nearly completed dam and hydropower plant in Nyerere National Park.



Counting elephants from an airplane is only possible if the vegetation is not too dense. Otherwise, the animals – as pictured here – are difficult to see.



Captain Bernard Shayo completed 766 hours of patrol flights with our aircraft in 2022. In May 2023, a tragic accident occurred during one such flight. When the Cessna crashed, Captain Shayo and our colleague Aman Mgogollo, as well as TANAPA ranger Theonas Mnota, lost their lives – a tragic loss for the families of the three men and for FZS.



A young chimpanzee in Mahale

The Mahale Mountains National Park in western Tanzania is a globally recognized Eastern Afrotropical biodiversity hotspot and a key habitat for Tanzania's largest chimpanzee population.

Mahale Mountains National Park serves as an important corridor to Katavi National Park. The Mahale Ecosystem Management Project aims to conserve the biodiversity and integrity of this ecosystem through support for the national park and through empowering communities to engage in forest protection.

We have continued to support the park with fuel, ranger food rations and maintenance of park vehicles and boats. The efforts to remove invasive plants in the forest continued, with a focus on Kasoge Forest, the home range for the habituated M-group of chimpanzees. A total of 1,340 hectares were cleared of the invasive plant *Senna spectabilis*, which is native to South America but also planted in other countries as an ornamental shrub.

Continued support for joint patrols by village game scouts and district officials in the village forests and the corridor connecting Mahale Mountains National Park to nearby Katavi National Park have resulted in significantly improved security and more wildlife sightings in the village forests, including buffalo and elephants. New chimpanzee nests were found, and a giraffe was sighted in the corridor area for the first time. Fifty-five patrols were conducted across the Greater Mahale Ecosystem with the participation of village forest scouts from 20 villages.

Work to strengthen community engagement in protecting this area will receive a boost with the signing of the KfW-funded Katavi-Mahale Corridor Project in 2022. This project will support land-use planning and participatory forest management, as well as explore the potential for carbon credit financing for the villages' protected natural forests. Three villages started a pilot phase of carbon credit funding.

Finally, 17 new community conservation bank (COCOBA) groups were formed across two districts, and more than 30 village trainers from existing groups and 39 COCOBA groups received refresher training on group management and entrepreneurial enterprises. The livelihoods supported through these groups, particularly honey production, help to link income to the protection of natural resources and develop local ambassadors for conservation.

NSUMBU

READY FOR THE RETURN OF THE LIONS

The Nsumbu Tanganyika Conservation Programme (NTCP), located in northeastern Zambia, supports the conservation of wildlife and habitats in Nsumbu National Park and the surrounding game management areas, as well as an area of Lake Tanganyika, one of the most biologically diverse freshwater habitats on Earth.

With improvements in security in the Nsumbu landscape since the NTCP was established in 2018, there has been a slow but steady recovery of wildlife. Plans are underway for the reintroduction of lions, which went locally extinct only within the last 10 years due to extensive poaching and snaring. With the conservation commitment of FZS and significant improvements in de-snaring, law enforcement patrols and community sensitization, along with an expert committee planning the reintroductions, efforts are underway to get lions back into the landscape in 2024.

Increased ecological monitoring through camera traps, distance sampling transects and tracking collars indicates that wild herbivore populations are on the rise. A biodiversity and fish population study suggests improvements in the abundance and size of fish within the national park and adjacent community fish-management zones.

IMPROVED SECURITY

Law enforcement and ecosystem security have been strengthened through a law enforcement base for Department of National Parks and Wildlife rangers near the new airstrip. A new Husky aircraft supported patrol efforts with over 100 hours of aerial surveillance.

Well-trained rangers, professional equipment, a dog detection unit working closely with the Investigations and Intelligence Units and effective maintenance of land- and water-based transport all help to reduce threats before incidents occur.

Elephants wandering into areas they have not visited in decades, as well as the absence of elephant poaching incidents since 2018, are indicative of improved security across the landscape.

With FZS's help, for the second year, 480 students completed the SUFINA environmental education program. SUFINA is short for a local Tabwa phrase, "Sungeni Ifilenga Na Lesa," which loosely translates to "conserve our natural resources for the future." Seven SUFINA classes consisting of over 270 students visited Nsumbu National Park in what was, for many, their first experience seeing wild animals. This provides them an opportunity to better understand conservation efforts and encourages them to consider careers in conservation.



Using radio telemetry, Previous Mulenga (left) and Enock Mwila (right) track zebras and buffalo in Nsumbu National Park.



NORTH LUANGWA AN EXAMPLE OF FAIR CONSERVATION

Through its 37-year partnership with the Zambian Department of National Parks and Wildlife, the North Luangwa Conservation Programme (NLCP) has worked to conserve the 22,000-square-kilometer North Luangwa ecosystem.



In April, the FZS team in Zambia pulled off a complicated rhino rescue: Young bull Chilunda had wandered 220 kilometers away into a remote valley. He was helicoptered back to the safety of the North Luangwa National Park. Never before had anyone transported a rhino hanging from a helicopter over such a long distance.

Ensuring effective, transparent and adaptive protected area management and supporting communities to sustainably manage natural resources in the multiple land-use areas around the core national park, called Game Management Areas, are two big tasks of our program in North Luangwa. Connecting landscape protection and livelihoods is our long-term goal. In order for this to succeed, however, it is very important to address threats to species and ecosystems in North Luangwa.

LESS LOGISTICS IN THE PARK, MORE COOPERATION WITH COMMUNITIES

Reducing our infrastructural footprint in the park was a big priority for us, and work has begun to move our technical services (stores, vehicle workshop, etc.) to a purpose-built facility in Mukungule Game Management Area outside the park gate.



Stopover: Black rhino bull Chilunda was grounded twice during the journey and checked by vets.

Over the last year, the program has expanded its community engagement work to include conservation agriculture, mother and child health and nutrition services, advocacy for rural communities, education for youth and adults, and mainstreaming of gender equality, diversity and inclusion in all activities. With a large partnership grant from the U.S. Agency for International Development, NLCP was able to build on its strong relationships with the local communities, which number more than 70,000 people, to bring conservation-related enterprise and livelihood opportunities front and center.

Another major success in 2022 was that zero rhinos and only two elephants were poached. Although planes, helicopters, dogs and a good intelligence network have played an important role in the success, it is primarily the cooperation with local communities that helps us to fight wildlife crime.

NORTH LUANGWA IS NOW ON THE IUCN GREEN LIST

Perhaps the biggest highlight of 2022 was North Luangwa National Park being awarded Green List certification by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). This rigorous, more than one-year-long process required written, verifiable proof across 17 criteria and 50 indicators of fair and effective conservation, including measures of good governance; sound design and planning; effective management; and successful conservation outcomes. With 60 sites ratified worldwide and more than 600 candidate sites working toward certification, North Luangwa National Park is proud to be one of only six in Africa. It is leading the way for fair and effective conservation and will be used as a benchmark as more and more sites enter into the Green List process.

HIGHLIGHT 2022

In 2022, North Luangwa National Park was awarded Green List certification by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). To be certified, a protected area must meet several strict criteria.

GONAREZHOU

IN THE LAND OF ELEPHANTS AND RHINOS



HIGHLIGHTS 2022

No rhinos or elephants were poached in the national park in 2022.

Tourism revenue from Gonarezhou National Park went up by 131% from 2021, providing increased employment for local communities.

An African elephant in the Runde River in Gonarezhou National Park, Zimbabwe

The Gonarezhou Conservation Trust (GCT) is a cooperation between the Zimbabwean national park authority and FZS. In this co-management model, they are jointly leading Gonarezhou into the future and have developed the park into the most important employer in the region.

Gonarezhou National Park, in Zimbabwe's Southeast Lowveld, covers just over 5,000 square kilometers of spectacular scenery and is wild and unique. The steep Chilojo Cliffs, with their red shimmer, wide meandering rivers, and extensive woodlands, make this area special. Here, in the "land of elephants," visitors can observe not only more than 11,000 of these large mammals but other wildlife as well. In recent years, Gonarezhou has become increasingly popular as a tourist destination.

THE TRUST IS A SUCCESS MODEL

GCT was established in 2017 and, since then, has been responsible for the management of Gonarezhou National Park. GCT is a partnership between the Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management Authority and the Frankfurt Zoological Society for the joint management of the park.

GCT is an important employer in the region. A major way GCT builds community relationships and trust is through its recruitment policy, which gives preference to applicants who live within 15 kilometers of the park boundary. In 2022, 72% of GCT staff (208 employees) came from within this zone.



Rumbidzai Magwiro (right), GCT Monitoring Officer, and her Community Team colleagues discuss the status of the chili project in the villages.

Tourism, too, brings employment. The park generated the highest tourism revenue in its history in 2022, up 131% from 2021. Any tourism development in Gonarezhou is directly controlled and managed by the Trust, according to sustainability principles and strongly focused on preserving the park's exceptional resources and wilderness character.

In terms of infrastructure, we made good progress in 2022: A number of significant projects were completed, including a new science building, solar panel installations for two of the staff camps, a new ranger base in a remote area and an upgrade to the primary school at the park's headquarters in Chipinda Pools.

SAFETY FOR WILDLIFE

An aerial survey in September 2022 suggests that the park's elephant population is stable under the current habitat and climatic conditions.

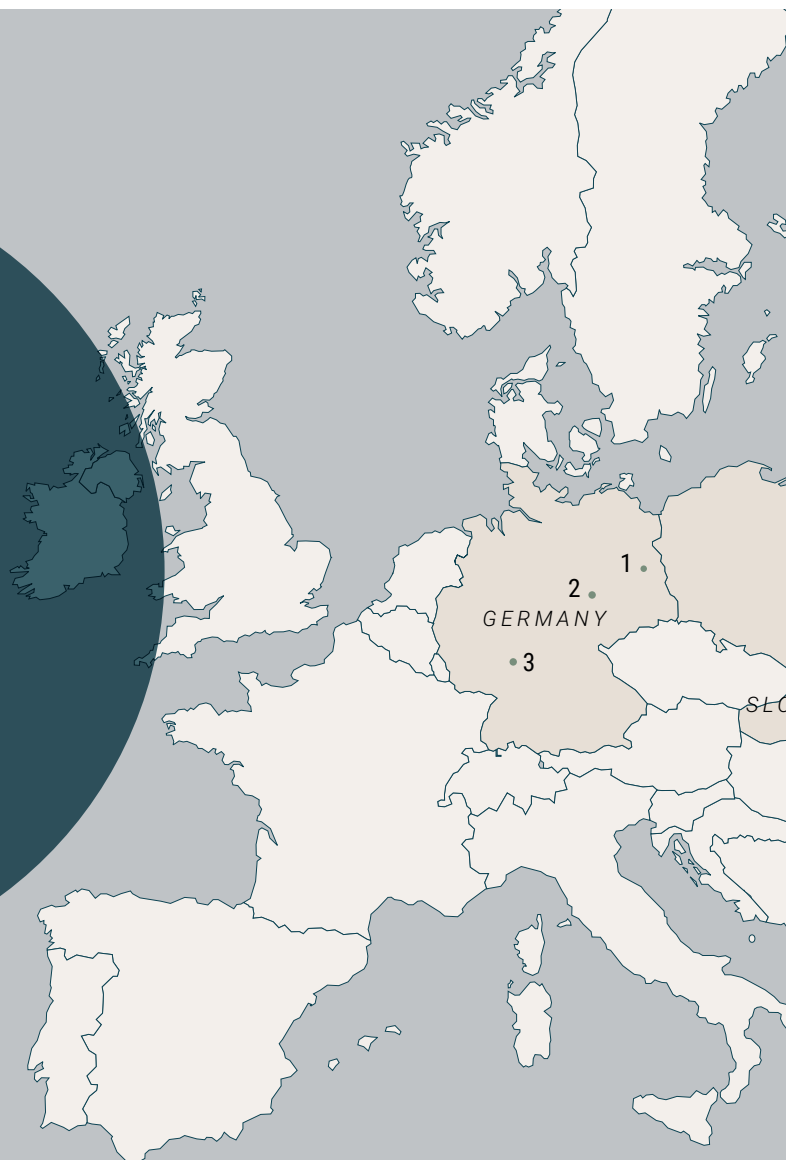
The newly returned black rhino population is also doing well: No rhinos were lost to poaching, and by year-end, a total of six calves had been born. Only in 2021, after years of preparations, did the GCT reintroduce black rhinos to the park after they had been locally extinct for decades.

Similarly, no lions were recorded as poached within the park, although there are grave concerns regarding a regional rise in targeted lion killings in retaliation for livestock losses. To keep an eye on such human-wildlife conflict, GCT launched a lion monitoring project in 2022. So far, nine lions have been fitted with collars, generating valuable information on their use of the landscape and an increased understanding of pride dynamics, cub survival and prey species.

PROJECTS &
PROGRAMS

EUROPE

2022



GERMANY

Wilderness in Germany

Training programs for young conservationists

1 Brandenburg Wilderness Foundation

2 Hohe Schrecke Beech Forest
Conservation Project

3 Nature Conservation Project Wispertaunus

BELARUS

4 Preservation of the Białowieża/
Bielaviežskaja-Pušča primeval forest

UKRAINE

5 Supporting national parks in the Ukrainian
Carpathians

ROMANIA

6 Establishment of a wilderness/forest reserve

KAZAKHSTAN

7 Protecting the steppes and the
saiga antelope



TRANSNATIONAL PROJECTS

8 Cross-border protection of old-growth forests in the Wolf Mountains (Poland, Slovakia, Ukraine)

9 Wilderness without borders – Polesia Conservation Project

Wilderness in Europe – casework for securing important European wilderness areas

CARPATHIANS

FOR A FUTURE AFTER THE WAR

In February 2022 in Ukraine, everything changed. And our work, too, was suddenly different after Russia started the war: Emergency support was needed. And we provided it.



Carpathian National Nature Park, Ukraine

The remote forests of the Carpathian Mountains in Ukraine conceal a world of mystery and untouched beauty. Some of the largest old beech forests in Europe lie between the mighty peaks and gentle valleys of the region, as do imposing virgin spruce forests, stretching like a carpet of green to the horizon. This natural paradise is home to an abundance of rare plants and animals that are scarcely found elsewhere.

But these forests are more than just a refuge for animals and plants. They also represent an important part of the cultural heritage of the region. The Carpathian forests provide people with an income and are a place of tranquility and a sanctuary for many whose entire world was turned upside down in February 2022.



The expansion of the workshop in the Carpathian National Nature Park is progressing despite the war.

“There were suddenly so many people who had lost their homes, families that had been torn apart, fatherless children. These scenes left a profound and depressing impact during my trip to our projects,” said Michael Brombacher, head of the FZS Europe Program, recalling his visit to the Ukrainian Carpathians after the outbreak of the war.

Soon after Russia attacked Ukraine, FZS’s first priority was to get its employees to safety. The war is being waged mainly in the north and east of the country, yet the western part of Ukraine, where the protected areas of the Carpathians are located, was also badly affected. Every day, hundreds or sometimes thousands of internally displaced persons arrived there. By early summer, up to 60,000 people had sought refuge in the region. “About 4,000 people have been housed in the buildings of the protected areas or the local communities there. Offices and visitor centers were cleared out and beds set up. We provided the people there with food, clothing,

medicine and bedding. Thanks to generous donations, we were able to provide rapid assistance and give the protected area administrations the help they needed in this difficult situation. They were overwhelmed by the task of providing for so many people in need,” said Brombacher.

NATIONAL PARKS IN DIRE NEED, STAFF IN MORTAL DANGER

Gas stations and diesel depots were repeatedly attacked, meaning there was no fuel to be found initially. The teams had difficulty even getting into the protected areas. There were also roadblocks in many places. Furthermore, many park employees were drafted into the military. A number of four-wheel drive vehicles operating in the conservation areas were commandeered by the military. At the same time, the government drastically cut its funding for the protected areas overnight, meaning that only staff salaries have been covered since then. The parks have received essential supplies from us, including power generators, fuel, spare parts and printing paper. In total, we enabled, and still enable, 13 major protected areas in the Carpathians to keep functioning by covering their major operating costs.

“In the period when the war is over and the economy is still weak, it will naturally be tempting to see the forests as a source of income. And that is a great danger for this extraordinary landscape,” said Brombacher, voicing his fears. For this reason, FZS lobbied for project funding to be raised by around 2 million euros in the second half of the year. This was financed by the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, among others. The money is crucial for ensuring continuing support for the Carpathian national parks and the ongoing protection of globally significant forests.

Employee training on new
GPS devices for Ukraine



Sleeping bags, mats, cooking equipment – with the beginning of the war, FZS provided quick practical help for the national parks.

MANAGEMENT PLANS FOR 12 PROTECTED AREAS – DESPITE THE WAR

In addition to protecting large natural areas, FZS supports sustainable regional development in the Carpathians. As a sustainable source of income, nature tourism holds great opportunities for many small businesses, such as pubs, restaurants or even farms. The emergency aid we have provided for this has improved cooperation between national parks and these farms.

Despite the war, we were able to develop management plans for 12 other protected areas. Some biodiversity monitoring activities had to be suspended, but they have since been resumed and continued on a larger scale than before. An additional protected area, Synyohora National Nature Park, was even added to the list of FZS project areas.



WOLF MOUNTAINS

SUSTAINABLE

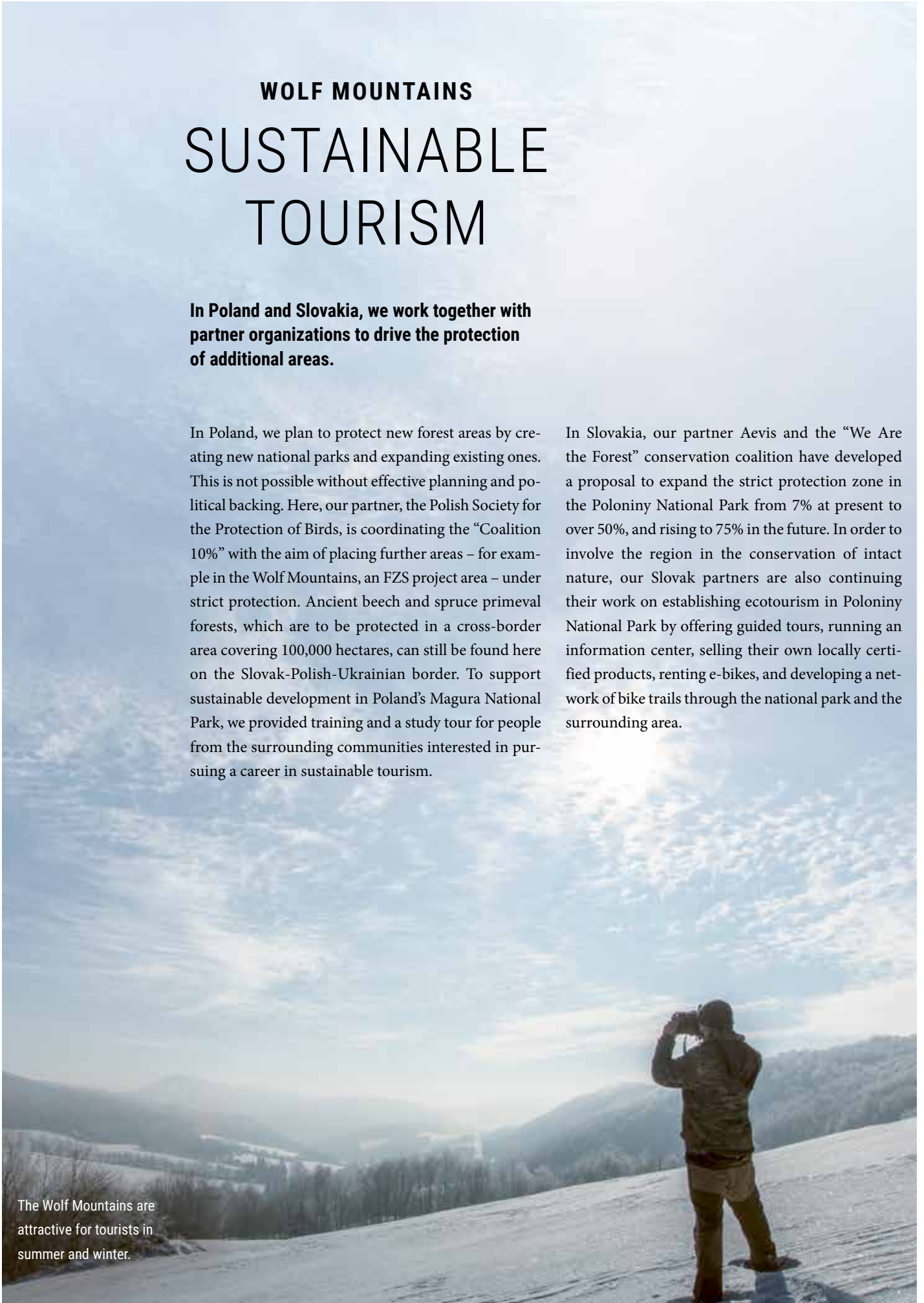
TOURISM


In Poland and Slovakia, we work together with partner organizations to drive the protection of additional areas.

In Poland, we plan to protect new forest areas by creating new national parks and expanding existing ones. This is not possible without effective planning and political backing. Here, our partner, the Polish Society for the Protection of Birds, is coordinating the “Coalition 10%” with the aim of placing further areas – for example in the Wolf Mountains, an FZS project area – under strict protection. Ancient beech and spruce primeval forests, which are to be protected in a cross-border area covering 100,000 hectares, can still be found here on the Slovak-Polish-Ukrainian border. To support sustainable development in Poland’s Magura National Park, we provided training and a study tour for people from the surrounding communities interested in pursuing a career in sustainable tourism.

In Slovakia, our partner Aevis and the “We Are the Forest” conservation coalition have developed a proposal to expand the strict protection zone in the Poloniny National Park from 7% at present to over 50%, and rising to 75% in the future. In order to involve the region in the conservation of intact nature, our Slovak partners are also continuing their work on establishing ecotourism in Poloniny National Park by offering guided tours, running an information center, selling their own locally certified products, renting e-bikes, and developing a network of bike trails through the national park and the surrounding area.

The Wolf Mountains are attractive for tourists in summer and winter.





POLESIA
SUCCESSSES
IN A CHALLENGING
ENVIRONMENT

In Belarus, the government prohibited our partner organization APB/BirdLife Belarus from further work in March 2022. Therefore, we had to revise and reduce our entire Polesia program.

25,000

hectares in size: the new
Ukrainian National Park
Pushcha Radzivila

Life explodes in Polesia when the snow melts in spring. Then, the Pripyat, one of the last wild rivers in Europe, creates a huge labyrinth of islets, mires, meadows and riparian forests. Stretching across Ukraine and Belarus and bordering Poland and Russia, this “Amazon of Europe” covers an area half the size of Germany. It serves as a wild habitat for lynx, wolves, bison and, in the eastern part, bears. Millions of waterfowl use the area as a resting place during their migrations. Many endangered bird species, such as the rare aquatic warbler and the greater spotted eagle, live there. Estimates suggest that there are now only 30 breeding pairs of the eagles in Central Europe. In its efforts to protect the greater spotted eagle effectively, FZS has found and mapped nearly 140 nests in Belarusian Polesia in recent years – an important prerequisite for placing the nesting areas under protection. We were also able to locate the nests of other rare bird species, such as the black stork, white-tailed eagle and lesser spotted eagle, allowing us to protect a total of over 2,000 hectares of small areas. Other habitats for badgers, aquatic warblers, cranes and other Red List species in Belarus have similarly been placed under protection. A total of 13,000 hectares were newly protected in Belarus in recent years on the basis of scientific studies and as a result of the conservation work of FZS and its partners.

The flight paths of the spotted eagles can be found on our project website:
www.wildpolesia.org/greater-spotted-eagles

2022 began with a major conservation success in Ukraine. The government created the Pushcha Radzivila National Park, which covers almost 25,000 hectares and borders many existing protected areas. But then, Russia’s attack on Ukraine fundamentally changed our work across Polesia. The war affected some of the most important project areas, such as the Chernobyl exclusion zone and the Drevlians Nature Reserve. We were forced to discontinue our work in the region for now.

In March 2022, the Belarusian state prohibited our partner organization APB/BirdLife Belarus from continuing its work. This development meant that we had to revise our entire Polesia program and narrow it to what we deemed feasible and believed had any chance of completion – namely, preparing the rewetting of peatlands and supporting the protected areas on the Ukrainian side. FZS and its partner organizations are preparing a nomination dossier for Polesia as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in an effort to obtain permanent protection status for it. While the war is still raging in Ukraine, it will not be possible to submit this dossier, but it is nevertheless important to prepare it for the time after.

E40 WATERWAY BECOMING LESS LIKELY

One of our other goals in Polesia is to prevent the region from being carved up by shipping canals of questionable economic value (such as the E40 waterway) and thus from permanently impairing the ecological functioning of Polesia. The fact that the construction of the E40 waterway has still not been started can be considered a great success for our campaign. Several FZS studies have identified transport routes for goods that are more economically favorable and better for the environment. FZS has also helped ensure that the European Union does not finance this project under its newly launched EU transport strategy (TEN-T). From our point of view, the TEN-T discussions are currently moving in the right direction, and as things stand, there are no plans for the EU to finance the waterway. However, TEN-T negotiations are still ongoing, meaning that there is still a degree of uncertainty.

BIAŁOWIEŻA

FAREWELL TO THE BISON FOREST

In spring 2022, the government of Belarus banned the work of NGOs. FZS, too, had to stop our work, and 10 years of successful and good cooperation with our partners in the country came to an abrupt end.

This unique natural wonder lies between Poland and Belarus. Since the end of the last ice age almost 10,000 years ago, the trees in the forest here have been allowed to grow, fall to the ground and then re-emerge – generation after generation. The region has never suffered from widespread deforestation. UNESCO calls it “the only surviving example of the old-growth forest that once covered almost all of Europe.” This last true primeval coniferous and deciduous forest in the lowlands of Europe provides refuge for an exceptionally large number of species: Scientists have counted 3,500 species of mushroom alone in the primeval forest of Białowieża. Lynx and wolves live here, as do rare birds, such as the black stork and the Eurasian three-toed woodpecker. Bats that depend on having a wide range of forest structures, such as the barbastelle and the lesser noctule bat, also live here.



A group of European bison
in the Białowieża Forest

THANKS TO THE BISON, THE FOREST IS STILL THERE

However, the fact that the forest is still so pristine today is mainly due to one particular factor: the European bison. In the Middle Ages, wild cattle were still widespread in many parts of Europe – and made popular hunting trophies for the nobility. Polish kings and later Russian czars forbade the felling of trees in order to protect the bison. For a long time, this created a harmonious balance in the Białowieża Forest between the hunting of European bison and their replenishment, while the species became extinct in the rest of Europe. In 1857, there were still 1,900 bison in Białowieża. But shortly afterward, epidemics all but eradicated the population, and poachers finished off the remaining bison during World War I.

However, thanks to breeding programs at several zoos, initiated above all by Frankfurt Zoo, the first European bison were released back into the Białowieża Forest in 1952. Today, about 500 bison roam the Polish part of the forest, slightly more than in the Belarusian territory.

A SUDDEN END OF GOOD COOPERATION

Russia's war against Ukraine and the political crisis in Belarus have unfortunately had tragic consequences for FZS's work in Belarus. In mid-February, we received news that the Belarusian government was banning the activities of all nongovernmental

organizations, including those of FZS. This brought to a close almost 10 years of successful conservation cooperation between FZS and its partners in Belarus. The renaturalization of rivers that had been straightened in the last century and the rewetting of mires were the main focus of our work in Białowieża. More than 3,000 hectares of fenland were renaturalized as part of our efforts to restore the natural water balance of Białowieża on the Belarusian side. Only if these human interventions are reversed will the Białowieża primeval forest regain a healthy water supply and be able to survive in the long term as a large lowland European natural forest.

Many small mire areas have been drained in the forest, and the Narewka and Narew rivers have been straightened in the Polish part of Białowieża. Together with the PTOP nature conservation organization, which is mainly active in eastern Poland, FZS has been planning large-scale river renaturalization efforts in recent years, as well as the rewetting of mires in the forest. FZS and PTOP will work together in the coming years to restore water levels in the Białowieża Forest.

More than
3,000
 hectares of lowland moors
 were rewetted.

ALTYN DALA
WILD ASSES
AND LARGE
NUMBERS OF
SAIGAS

The kulans made their return to the Altyn Dala steppe, and the saiga population was at a record level of 1.3 million animals in Kazakhstan in 2022.

RESTORATION FLAGSHIP

In 2022, the United Nations designated the Altyn Dala Conservation Initiative (ADCI), supported by FZS, as one of 10 World Restoration Flagships. The return of the saigas and the rescue of the species is one of the great success stories of conservation according to the UN.



Torgai steppe, Kazakhstan, -2 degrees Celsius. A tiny dot of pulsating red light appeared just above the southern horizon. “Soon, we could hear the dull drone of the helicopter. Within minutes, the large transport helicopter was hovering over our heads and slowly descending to the trembling steppe grass,” said veterinary student Anne Dohrmann, recalling that special moment in November 2022.

The helicopter was carrying valuable cargo: four young kulans, also known as Asiatic wild asses. Dohrmann oversaw their acclimatization at the Alibi reintroduction center in the middle of the Kazakh steppe for FZS.

The last kulan was shot in the Kazakh steppe in 1930. Now, the endangered species is making a comeback. However, mountains and human settlements are preventing southern populations of the wild asses from migrating into the central steppe. This is why we decided to give a helping hand and, together with our Kazakh partner ACBK (Association for the Conservation of Biodiversity of Kazakhstan), bring wild kulans from the Altyn Emel National Park, almost 1,400 kilometers away, to the Torgai steppe by cargo helicopter. (There are plans to use trucks, too, in the future.)

It was indeed a special transport. Having been only mildly sedated, the animals coped well with the journey. Unfortunately, after a few days, an old male kulan that was already in Alibi attacked two of the new kulans, who died from their injuries. This shocked and

perplexed us, as the male had never shown any signs of aggression before, and the reproductive season was long over. Nevertheless, our conservation work with these shy and sensitive animals is very promising, and we are expecting the birth of a third foal in 2023. This shows that the kulans are basically happy in their environment and forming strong social bonds.

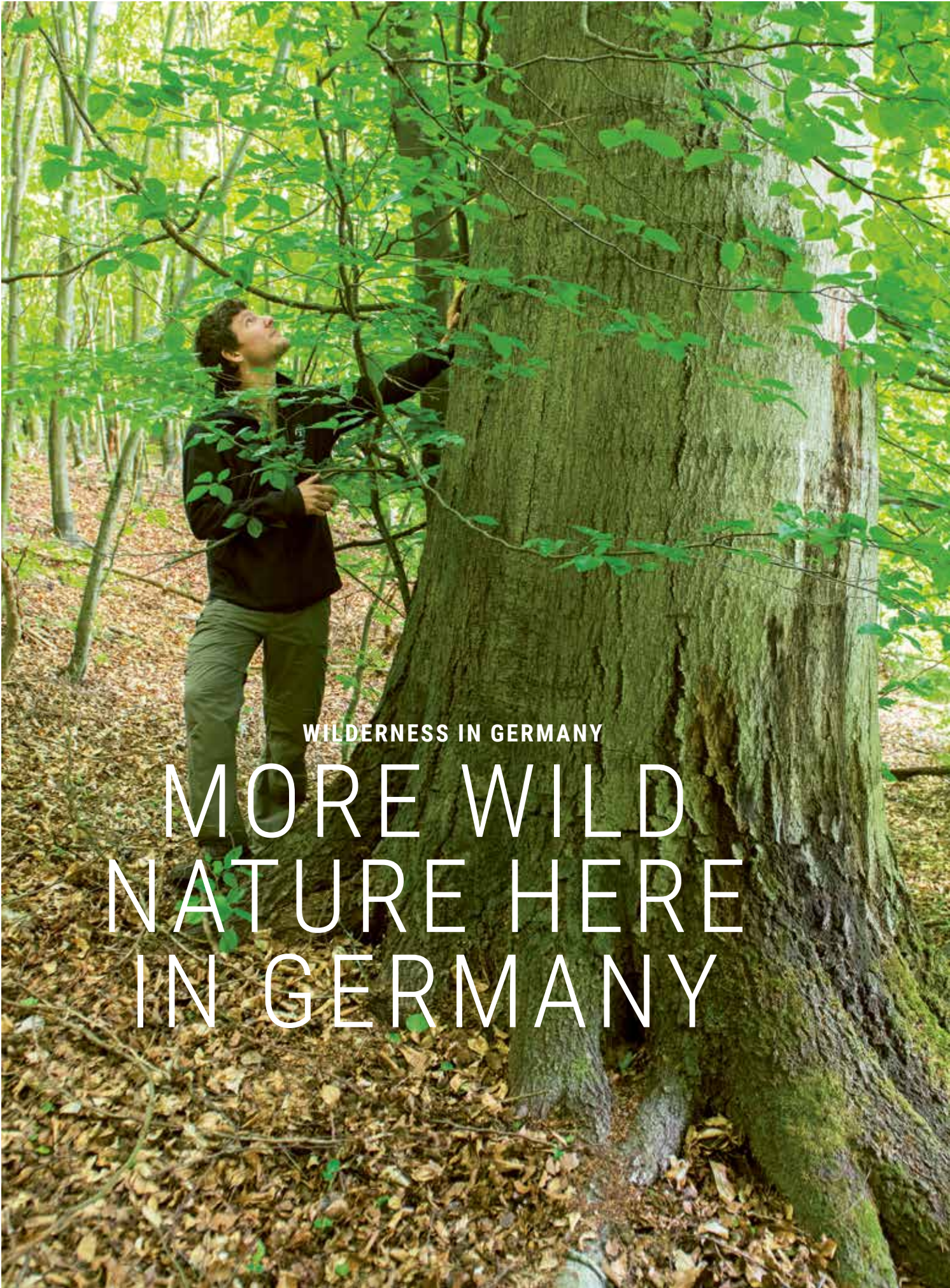
A PROBLEM CHILD ONLY A FEW YEARS AGO, THE SAIGAS ARE NOW A SUCCESS STORY

Kulans are important for the functioning of the steppe ecosystem, as are saiga antelopes. The saiga population has recovered from 50,000 in 2006 to over 1.3 million animals today. The Altyn Dala Conservation Initiative (ADCI), supported by FZS, was recognized as one of 10 World Restoration Flagships by the United Nations in 2022 for this extraordinary rescue of the species. The return of the saiga represents “...one of the great success stories of conservation,” the UN reported. However, there is now growing conflict between local herders and the antelopes. The conflict revolves around water and trampled fields. Fortunately, Kazakhstan has stopped its plans for the immediate culling of 80,000 animals. In order to resolve this human-wildlife conflict on a long-term basis, we have held discussions with the government and are working to involve the local population in conservation work and to educate them about the importance of the animals. But we also have to take into account plans for the commercial exploitation of the saigas, for which there is a precedent from the Soviet era. This time, however, international rules must be adhered to, and the species must not be endangered again.

In 2022, additional areas were put under protection: the huge Bokey Orda State Nature Reserve in the West Kazakhstan region, the Ashiozek State Nature Sanctuary in the Southeast and the newly created Ulytau National Park in the heart of the country. The work of FZS and the ADCI has therefore not only prevented the extinction of the saigas but also created over 2.5 million hectares of newly protected land.



Asiatic wild asses in the central Kazakh steppe



WILDERNESS IN GERMANY

MORE WILD
NATURE HERE
IN GERMANY



FZS Forest Conservation Officer Nico Eidenmüller in the Wispertaunus

We still have far too little wild nature in Germany. The self-imposed target set by the government was 2% by 2020. So far, the figure is around 0.6%.

Nature makes people happy. Indeed, a recent study found that people in Europe who live in an environment rich in species are particularly content with their lives. The happiest people are those who hear many different species of birds singing every day or live in a natural environment containing many different species.

But there is still far too little nature – especially wild nature – in Germany. The government set itself the target of 2% wilderness by 2020. Even today, only about 0.6% has been achieved. That is why FZS launched its Wilderness in Germany (Wildnis in Deutschland) initiative in 2016. Twenty-one conservation organizations are now working together to create more wild habitats for animals and plants.

The Wilderness in Germany website provides information for politicians, experts and the general public about the many benefits of increasing wilderness areas. The intention is to allay fears and concerns about the creation of new nature areas.

The German government's Wilderness Fund, which FZS was instrumental in setting up, helped to create new wilderness areas and expand existing areas in various federal states in 2022. This federal program allows land to be purchased with state funds and then returned to a wild state. An example of this is an area in the municipal forest of Hungen in central Hesse, Germany, where the Westlicher Vogelsberg forest wilderness area was expanded by 176 hectares. Another example is the renaturalized peatlands in the district of Stade in Lower Saxony, Germany. Peat is still being extracted there, but this practice can now be brought to an early close.



WISPERTAUNUS

THE MOST QUIET PLACE IN HESSE

A forest in the Wispertaunus

A large-scale nature conservation project underway in the Wispertaunus aims to create a sizable natural forest network.

Ancient and stunted oaks thrive on rocky slopes, the Wisper River winding through V-shaped valleys lined with enchanted alders. The tallest beech trees stretch more than 30 meters toward the sun. The oldest trees here are almost 200 years old. A black woodpecker hammers a hole in the old wood. When its chicks leave the nest, any of more than 60 species could move in to replace them, including European edible dormice, hazel dormice or a family of Bechstein's bats. Wildcats and lynxes and packs of wolves steal their way through the undergrowth of the old forest. A black stork on the bank of the Wisper River hunts for frogs and fish. Rustling and other woodland sounds can be heard from all directions.

This is how Hesse's largest contiguous forest area should look like once the planned large-scale Wispertaunus nature conservation project is complete. Over the next 13 years, we aim to expand and connect the region's two largest natural forests, Weißenthurm and Kammerforst, creating a natural woodland network covering over 2,800 hectares. In May 2022, we resolved to apply for a large-scale nature conservation project in conjunction with the German Federal Agency for Nature Conserva-

tion (BfN), the Hessian Ministry of the Environment, the Rüdeshcim Forestry Office (Hessen-Forst) and the Rhine-Taunus Nature Park. Municipal forest owners will also be involved, and we hope to receive approval by the end of 2023. We plan to work with local forest owners and foresters to identify parts of the forest with especially large numbers of old trees, which will then form a professional basis for the planned natural forest network. Further plans include protecting habitat trees in the commercial forest and rewilding woodland springs, streams and riparian zones. In addition, we will draw up wildlife and visitor-management plans with local hunters and forest owners with the aim of creating special wildlife refuge areas in the forest.

BRANDENBURG

WILDERNESS UNDER
A STARRY SKY

In cooperation with the Brandenburg Wilderness Foundation, we are working to extend the Foundation's land.

The boreal owl and the barbastelle bat become active when night falls in the Lieberose wilderness area. Here, there is no artificial light to pollute the night sky. Such genuinely dark habitats are becoming increasingly rare, which is negatively impacting many nocturnal animals. In response, the Brandenburg Wilderness Foundation opened its "star trail" in 2022. Visitors can use "stargaze benches" to watch for European nightjars and listen for their chirring call during the birds' mating season. The only European member of the nightjar family hunts for insects at night, often capturing them mid-flight. Incidentally, in the past, "Ziegenmelker" (literally "goat milker"), as the European nightjars are called in German, were thought to steal milk from goats at night. But in fact, they only seek the proximity of goats because of the many insects they attract.

In addition to the Lieberose wilderness area, the Brandenburg Wilderness Foundation manages wilderness areas in Jüterbog, Heidehof and Tangersdorf. Now that the humans have left, white-tailed eagles and cranes are once again breeding on the Foundation's land. Otters and beavers have also returned, as have wolves.

We are working with the Brandenburg Wilderness Foundation to extend its lands. In 2020, the state of Brandenburg decided to return more forest areas to wilderness, creating exciting prospects for the Lieberoser Heide in particular.

In addition, the Brandenburg Wilderness Foundation and FZS are busy organizing the International Nature Exhibition (I.N.A.), which was renamed "Naturwelt Lieberoser Heide" in 2021. As a pilot project, the Lieberoser Heide will aim to demonstrate how sizable areas of wilderness that are currently not protected areas (or are only on their peripheries) can be developed in a way that benefits both humans and nature. It can also provide an example of how a region can generate revenue and jobs by encouraging regional development and soft tourism.

Geese in Jüterbog on the
move to their roosts

PROJECTS &
PROGRAMS

SOUTH AMERICA

2022

PERU

Andes to Amazon Conservation Program

1 Support for the Bahuaja-Sonene-Tambopata Landscape

2 Support for the Manú Landscape

3 Support for the Purús Landscape

4 Support for the Putumayo and Yaguas Landscape

COLOMBIA

5 Protection of the Chiribiquete National Park and its surroundings

6 Protection of a network of national parks along the lower reaches of the Caquetá, Apoporis and Putumayo rivers

GUYANA

7 Management of the Kanuku Mountains Protected Area

BRAZIL

8 Protection and management of the Cantão Ecosystem



PERU

FROM THE ANDES DOWN TO THE AMAZON LOWLANDS



Andean cock-of-the-rock in
Manú National Park, Peru

Gold, coca, deforestation – the pressure on the treasure troves of biodiversity is growing in Peru.

The biggest threats in the FZS project areas in Peru remain the rapid expansion of illegal coca plantations and the increase in illegal gold mining in rivers. Our support for the SERNANP protected area authority and the relevant law enforcement agencies is indispensable in controlling and, where possible, preventing the destruction. Eight special patrols were conducted in 2022 in conjunction with SERNANP, including overflights in the four project regions where FZS works in Peru: the Manú, Purús, Putumayo and Yaguas landscapes, as well as the Bahuaja Sonene and Tambopata landscape. Despite our joint efforts, there is growing pressure on the protected areas and the buffer zones.

2022 was a successful year for FZS in Peru, despite a number of challenges. An initial application for permanent financial support was submitted to the Legacy Landscapes Fund for the Manú and Alto Purús national parks at the end of April 2022. This application was positively reviewed in the fall, meaning that a full application could then be submitted in spring 2023.

THE MANÚ LANDSCAPE

RAISING VISIBILITY AND GATHERING INFORMATION

The 17,163-square-kilometer Manú National Park – which celebrated its 50th anniversary in May 2023 – is a treasure trove of biodiversity. It extends from the warm, humid rainforests along the Manú River up to the pinnacles of the Andes at over 4,000 meters.

Monitoring the threats to the region's ecosystems plays an important role in our program. Representatives of the local Manú Management Committee and the Ministry of Culture participated in overflights of the Manú landscape alongside our staff. Drone flights and satellite imagery helped us to identify illegal landing strips in the buffer zone of Manú National Park and the neighboring Amarakaeri Communal Reserve. We informed the protected areas authority SERNANP and anti-narcotics police were subsequently able to close down 17 cocaine production sites.

SERNANP rangers received training in the use of SMART monitoring software, and the control posts in the Megantoni National Reserve (directly adjacent to Manú National Park) and the visitor center in Manú National Park itself were refurbished with FZS sup-

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Twenty students of the indigenous Matsigenka received a scholarship from the indigenous Nopoki University. This will allow them to study there after graduating from school.

FZS has supported the boarding house *Residencia Estudiantil Maganero Matsigenka* in Boca Manu for many years. Young people from the indigenous communities in Manú National Park stay here and are supported in many ways so they can gain a secondary school qualification.



Products from the Manú Biosphere Reserve are very popular at the local markets.

port. In addition, various vehicles and engines were maintained, and we were able to provide internet access for all control posts and communities.

A study of hunting pressure by indigenous communities during the pandemic was conducted in Manú National Park, as was giant otter monitoring, which has been ongoing for several years now. This was also done in Tambopata, Amarakaeri, Purús and Yaguas.

WORKING HAND IN HAND TO PROTECT NATURAL RESOURCES

Cooperation with the people who live here is essential for the protection of Manú. We support them in various ways, including by marketing their sustainable products. In the biosphere reserve, for example, they grow Cape gooseberries, passionfruit and apples; produce honey; and weave cloth, which they use to make scarves, ponchos or bags. We regularly organize farmers' markets where these goods can be sold.

FZS invested heavily in education again in 2022. For example, we enabled 50 teachers from 18 schools to participate in national training courses devoted to ecological and intercultural education. In addition, teachers who teach in schools in Manú and its buffer zone were able to attend a professional development workshop thanks to our support.

THE PURÚS LANDSCAPE

STRENGTHENING SKILLS

The remote Purús landscape is considered one of the most pristine and biodiverse in the Amazon basin. It includes Alto Purús, Peru's largest national park, as well as a communal reserve and three indigenous territories. Purús is one of the last areas on Earth where indigenous peoples live in isolation and have no visible impact on their natural environment.

During 2022, together with SERNANP, the Ministry of Culture and indigenous associations, FZS helped draw up work plans to improve the protection of indigenous peoples that are still living in isolation and in first contact with the outside world.

As in Manú, workshops were held in Purús for rangers on the use of SMART monitoring software, control posts were renovated, and regular joint patrols were conducted with SERNANP staff. There was also joint monitoring of two river turtle species, *Podocnemis unifilis* and *Phrynops geoffroanus*.

Sixty-eight teachers from buffer zone communities around Alto Purús National Park received financial support that allowed them to participate in training programs on intercultural skills and environmental education.

THE PUTUMAYO AND YAGUAS LANDSCAPE

COMBATting ILLEGAL ACTIVITY

The Putumayo and Yaguas landscape on the lower reaches of the Putumayo River includes large areas of contiguous forest and healthy aquatic ecosystems. It is an important biological corridor connecting southern Colombia with northern Peru and Brazil.



SERNANP park ranger Amador Perez during a boat patrol on the Yaguas River

Twelve routine and special patrols were conducted in 2022, including an overflight of the vast project area. Community representatives and members of Yaguas indigenous organizations joined the flight. During one of the patrols in December, five dredges used for illegal gold mining were discovered to have been brought into Yaguas National Park. SERNANP responded immediately: The gold miners were forced to vacate the area and were reported.

A control post was built in the southern part of the national park with FZS support to strengthen the protected area authority. It was equipped and handed over to SERNANP.

24

Amazonian manatees were counted in 2022 during the largest monitoring to date of the species in Yaguas.

WORKING FOR BIODIVERSITY

The reintroduction program for the yellow-spotted river turtle (*Podocnemis unifilis*) began with the release of 1,514 turtles. Two communities in the lower reaches of the Putumayo River have assumed responsibility for the artificially created nesting beaches.

THE BAHUAJA SONENE AND TAMBOPATA LANDSCAPE

GREATER VISIBILITY

The Bahuja Sonene and Tambopata landscape is a mosaic of ecosystems that extends from the high mountains of the Andes to the Amazon lowlands. However, illegal gold mining and logging are becoming increasing problems in the region. Evidence of illegal settlements and logging was found in the north of the Tambopata National Reserve in 2022. FZS assists the protected area authority in monitoring the region and developing sustainable alternatives that allow people to make an eco-friendly living.

We are also trying to strengthen the local presence of SERNANP. In 2022, we were able to establish a new control post in the upper reaches of the Inambari River, and two more are under construction. Five of the existing control posts were also equipped with satellite internet access. These checkpoints are only effective if they are permanently attended, and sufficient staffing levels are required for this. We were able to secure annual funding for 17 additional ranger positions. The need for a clear presence by the authorities has been demonstrated time and again. While patrolling remote areas of Bahuja Sonene National Park, we discovered two illegal roads in 2022 (also facilitated by the use of high-resolution satellite imagery). SERNANP was informed immediately.

Four binational patrols were also conducted in collaboration with Madidi National Park in Bolivia. The goal was to assess the health of ecosystems and habitats along the Heath River. The annual giant otter monitoring program formed part of these binational activities. A total of 70 lakes and oxbow lakes in the Bahuja-Sonene-Tambopata landscape were surveyed, and 44 giant otters were counted.

17

additional ranger positions
were secured in 2022.

Several species of dwarf geckos
live in the Amazon rainforest.





COLOMBIA

JEWELS IN THE AMAZON RAINFOREST

The security situation in the Colombian Amazon continues to be tense, making our work and that of our partners on the ground more difficult.

Hope and a spirit of optimism have returned to parts of South America following the presidential elections in Brazil and Colombia. Conditions now seem more favorable for policy changes that support conservation – although changes, of course, take time. South America’s protected areas remain in good condition in 2022, yet we still had a number of challenges to contend with.

Outside the protected areas, natural habitats have been destroyed at an ever-increasing rate in recent years. Fields and cattle pastures are moving closer and closer to the perimeters of the protected areas and, in some places, even crossing them. The same is true for the cultivation of coca, which is used for the production of cocaine. This is increasingly leading to deforestation in unbroken primary forests,

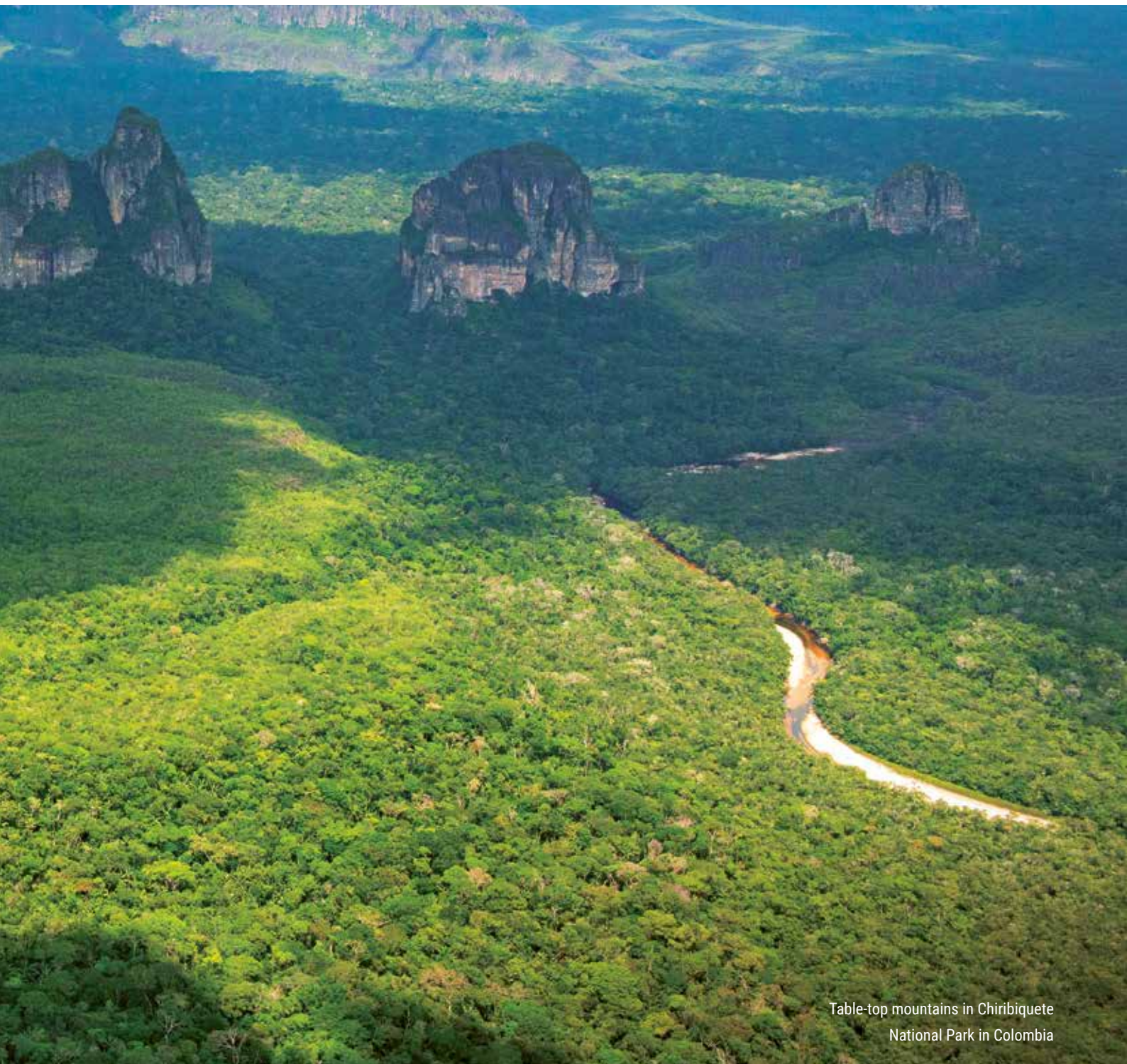


Table-top mountains in Chiribiquete National Park in Colombia

transforming them into a mosaic-like landscape. The growing global demand for gold is also devastating the Amazon region, bit by bit.

In Colombia, we are working with local communities and supporting state authorities in managing the protected areas. However, the security situation in the Colombian Amazon continues to be precarious, complicating our own work and that of our local partners. Armed groups have become more active and now have an even greater presence in the rainforest areas than before. The process of signing a national peace agreement between the Colombian government and the armed groups is unfortunately still in its early stages.

LEGACY LANDSCAPES

Our so-called concept note for the Legacy Landscapes Fund was favorably reviewed in October 2022. This allowed us to submit a full application in spring 2023. We hope for a confirmation as soon as possible. This would mean that one million U.S. dollars will be available annually for the management of Chiribiquete National Park in the future. FZS would manage the budget.

CHIRIBIQUETE CAREFULLY MONITORING THREATS

Chiribiquete National Park is located in the heart of the Colombian Amazon. Here, the flora and fauna of the Guiana Shield, the Orinoco savannas and the Amazon rainforest meet. There are further large protected areas with virgin forests along the Caquetá and Putumayo rivers in the Chiribiquete area. These include the Yaigojé-Apaporis, Cahuinarí, Rio Puré and Amacayacu national parks. Together, they form a vast network of different habitats, offering an exceptionally high level of biodiversity.

During four overflights over Chiribiquete last year, we were able to get an overview of whether and where deforestation is taking place and land use is being extended into the buffer zone. It was also possible to pinpoint the location of a new meteorological station and determine new tourist air routes on these flights. We were joined on some overflights by representatives of local authorities. From our aerial viewpoint, we could observe further deforestation in 2022 within Chiribiquete National Park. However, a smaller area of 1,235 hectares was affected than in the previous two years. The deforested areas are mainly used for the illegal cultivation of coca plants. Satellite imagery and the overflights also enabled us to detect illegal gold mining in the rivers bordering Peru and Brazil. We forwarded this information to the protected areas authority *Parques Naturales Nacionales de Colombia*.

With FZS support, a field office for the national park administration was set up and equipped near Chiribiquete. In addition, the construction of a checkpoint in the northeast of the park, on the edge of the indigenous territory El Itilla, was prepared, strengthening the presence of the local park administration.



Newly hatched river turtles

A NETWORK OF NATIONAL PARKS ALONG THE CAQUETÁ, APAPORIS AND PUTUMAYO RIVERS

Fortunately, there is next to no deforestation in the region along the rivers Caquetá, Apaporis and Putumayo in the Amazonian lowlands. However, with the help of satellite imagery and overflights, we were able to detect illegal gold mining on the rivers and riverbanks in the border area with Peru and Brazil. This information was forwarded to the protected area authority *Parques Naturales Nacionales de Colombia*. This unwelcome trend has also given rise to increasing mercury levels in fish samples taken from three rivers, the Cotuhé, Purité and Puré.

A new control post was built on the Meta river, the posts on the Caquetá und Cotuhé rivers were renovated and motorboats were provided for Yaigojé-Apaporis National Park staff. We also invested in equipment for the offices of the protected area authority in the city of Leticia, where the growing FZS team for the national park network is based.

A HEART FOR TURTLES

Since 2014, FZS has supported more than 100 indigenous families from the Miraña, Bora, Muinane, Nonuya and Yucuna ethnic groups to protect Arrau turtles (*Podocnemis expansa*). The project enjoyed further success last year. In the 2022 breeding season, 4,200 Arrau turtle nests were counted and guarded on the sandy beaches along the Caquetá River. Many nests fell victim to floods, but from 1,470 nests baby turtles hatched. More than 150,000 young Arrau turtles set off toward the river.

PARTNERING UP FOR SUCCESSFUL NATURE PROTECTION

Staff from FZS Colombia took part in a meeting of governmental and nongovernmental organizations from Colombia, Peru and Brazil in 2022. The agenda included collaboration against illegal gold mining in the border area of the three countries. FZS Colombia and Peru cooperated with the Peruvian protected area authority SERNANP to monitor the Amazonian manatee (*Trichechus inunguis*) and undertake joint patrols in the border area along the Putumayo and Yaguas rivers. Hydrobiological monitoring using the SMART monitoring tool was also conducted in conjunction with the *Universidad Nacional de Colombia*.

KANUKU MOUNTAINS

A COUNTRY WITH AMBITIOUS CONSERVATION GOALS

In which country is 80% of the land still largely untouched by human hands? In Guyana. Two-thirds the size of Germany but with only slightly more inhabitants than Frankfurt, the country appears small compared with its giant neighbor Brazil, yet it is home to large tropical rainforests and wet savannas.

Guyana's parliament adopted the Low Carbon Development Strategy in the middle of 2022. This new strategy aims to promote development in the country while keeping carbon emissions to a minimum. It includes plans for the country's nature reserves to be gradually expanded: initially to 17% of the state's land area and then eventually to 30% by 2030; the current figure is 8.5%. FZS has been supporting the country's Protected Areas Commission (PAC) with the management of the Kanuku Mountains Protected Area and with strengthening the national protected area system since 2014. On December 7, 2022, the Government of Guyana and FZS signed a memorandum of understanding in the capital, Georgetown, as the basis of our cooperation. Our support for the country will revolve mainly around the designation of new protected areas. Our sister organization, Frankfurt Zoological Society (Guyana) Inc., gained legal recognition in May 2023.

COLLECTING DATA IN THE KANUKU MOUNTAINS

So far, we have focused mainly on the Kanuku Mountains Protected Area in the south of the country, where more than 6,000 square kilometers of primary rainforest can be found. The area includes mountain formations up to 1,300 meters high, along with countless caves and rivers. It is also home to an extraordinarily rich variety of species and is largely unexplored. PAC rangers undertook two lengthy expeditions to the Kanuku Mountains in 2022 for ecological monitoring. They gathered camera traps from one remote sector of the protected area and reinstalled them in another sector. Last year, the rangers also received further training on data-gathering methods and techniques, including for monitoring conducted during patrols. Construction work continued on the ranger station and the outpost in the protected area on the Rupununi River in 2022, but they were not ready for use until early summer 2023. The Kanuku Mountains administration office is located in the small town of Lethem and was completed in October 2022; rangers were able to move in in the spring of 2023. The building work was financed by the KfW Development Bank.

A close-up photograph of a sloth hanging upside down from a thick, textured tree branch. The sloth's fur is brown and shaggy, and its long, wrinkled limbs are visible. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green, suggesting a forest setting.

DEC 2022

The Government of Guyana and FZS signed a new memorandum of understanding.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION: TOGETHER FOR GUYANA

Throughout the year, we supported various environmental education activities, such as the Rupununi Christmas Fair, which was attended by indigenous communities from the region and representatives from the PAC, and the River Turtle Festival in the indigenous community of Sand Creek. Our colleagues also organized and ran two environmental education camps, which lasted several days. These were aimed at children and young people from indigenous communities around the Kanuku Mountains Protected Area.

A multitude of bats live in the innumerable caves in the Kanuku Mountains. Research conducted by scientists from the University of Glasgow indicates that the mountains are home to particularly many species of bats.

MAY 2023

The FZS sister organization Frankfurt Zoological Society (Guyana) Inc. was legally recognized.



INDONESIA (SUMATRA)

1 Bukit Tiga Puluh Landscape Conservation Program

VIETNAM

2 Forest Protection in the Highlands of Central Vietnam





250

breeding orangutans
would give a lot of
security to the
population.

BUKIT TIGA PULUH 20 YEARS, 200 ORANGUTANS

Twenty years ago, the FZS Sumatra project was finally ready to start reintroducing orangutans to the wild. But from the very beginning, another key focus of the FZS program in Bukit Tiga Puluh was on protecting the habitat of the orangutans.

Sumatra's rainforests are home to an exceptionally varied range of species, and Bukit Tiga Puluh contains one of the island's last large contiguous lowland rainforests. In 1998, the freshly graduated biologist Dr. Peter Pratje began looking for locations where he could reintroduce formerly captive and confiscated orangutans to the wild. He soon found what he was looking for. Bukit Tiga Puluh National Park was ideal: a habitat where the species had lived in the past but which no longer had its own "wild" orangutan population.

Four years later, Pratje was ready to launch the program. At the end of 2002, the Sumatran Orangutan Rehabilitation Center opened its doors in Sungai Pengian, and then, in 2009, our current jungle school, the Open Orangutan Sanctuary, started its work in Danau Alo.

Last year, our conservation program in Bukit Tiga Puluh celebrated two decades of reintroducing Sumatran orangutans into the wild. In the 20 years from 2002 to 2022, 196 orangutans were set free, with the 200th animal being released into the forest in March 2023. Our wildlife monitoring scouts sighted a female with offspring on the northern boundary of the park for the first time. This was incredible news because, in this anniversary year, it gives us hope that the population is slowly but steadily spreading across the entire Bukit Tiga Puluh habitat. Our minimum goal is to establish an orangutan population of roughly 250 reproducing animals.

ORANGUTANS HOPEFULLY SPREADING THROUGHOUT THE HABITAT

Seventeen orangutans were released in the forest in 2022 – 15 of them for the first time and two males for the second time. There were eight new arrivals at the jungle school in Danau Alo, with six coming from the quarantine station in Medan

(North Sumatra), run by our Swiss partner organization PanEco. At the end of the year, there were 24 adult orangutans and two very young animals living in the Sumatran Orangutan Rehabilitation Center.

2005 saw the first birth of a baby orangutan out in the wild, and by the end of 2022, we had recorded 18 "wild" births to reintroduced orangutan females. But there is more: Violet, a 19-year-old female, is now expecting her second offspring. Vanilla, her first baby, is now seven years old.

To ensure that Violet, Vanilla and all the other orangutans have a real chance of living in a stable population over the long term, a further priority of our on-site program is to protect the forest outside the national park. Liaising closely with the local communities and farmers, we are working to curb deforestation by supporting the cultivation of alternative crops, such as vanilla. Vanilla is a climbing plant that requires trees to cling to, providing a strong incentive for forest conservation. The various approaches and agricultural projects have led to a healthy and trusting relationship with the local communities.



Dr. Peter Pratje has been with FZS for 25 years. During this time, he has worked to safeguard the future of orangutans in the rainforest of Sumatra. His search for a suitable habitat for the reintroduction of confiscated orangutans began in 1998. In 2002, the station on the edge of Bukit Tiga Puluh National Park went into operation. The following interview provides a review of 20 years of reintroduction.

70%

of reintroduced animals survive for at least two years.

“We need at least another 10 years before we can sit back and relax.”

Dr. Pratje, what can you tell me about the Bukit Tiga Puluh Landscape Conservation Program?

Dr. Peter Pratje: There are over 80 employees working on the program I manage here. Our main priority is reintroducing the orangutans back into the wild, but a further primary goal is protecting the habitat. For example, we set up natural land use systems with smallholder farmers, conduct environmental education activities at schools and help prevent and mitigate conflicts with Sumatran elephants.

Do you still spend a lot of time out in the forest with the orangutans?

In the beginning, I spent a great deal of time in the forest and on building up the station. I also devoted plenty of time to developing the program for releasing the orangutans. But the more you get into habitat protection, the more time you end up working with institutions. And the bigger the project gets, the more paperwork there is. Anyone interested in conservation will spend a lot of time working with people. After all, the problems



Peter Pratje and his team take a young orangutan to the jungle school.

are not caused by the forest – it's we humans who are the problem.

Aside from the three animals you got from Perth Zoo, where do the orangutans you release come from?

The total population of orangutans that we have reintroduced in Bukit Tiga Puluh over the last 20 years consists of animals that were born in the wild but were then taken illegally into captivity. In many cases, the mother is killed to get the baby, which then usually ends up as a pet in a local family. The big advantage is that these animals were actually born in the rainforest. Ideally, they will already have gained at least some experience, as well as a sense of their natural habitat.

Who teaches the orangutans to live in the forest again?

In the jungle school, our best teachers are experienced orangutans that we released into the wild a few years earlier. We always try to put newly released animals together with more experienced ones. This is when

the actual learning process begins – when they start imitating or copying the behavior of the “surrogate” parent. Every month, we check how much the animals have learned and if they need any more support – in finding food, for example.

You have released 200 animals so far. What is the survival rate of these orangutans?

We only have reliable data on the first two years after release, as we're only able to monitor many of the animals closely during that period. The survival rate in these two years is over 70%. Unfortunately, we don't know what the rate is in the long term, such as over decades. The technology is not yet advanced enough to track large numbers of animals over longer periods.

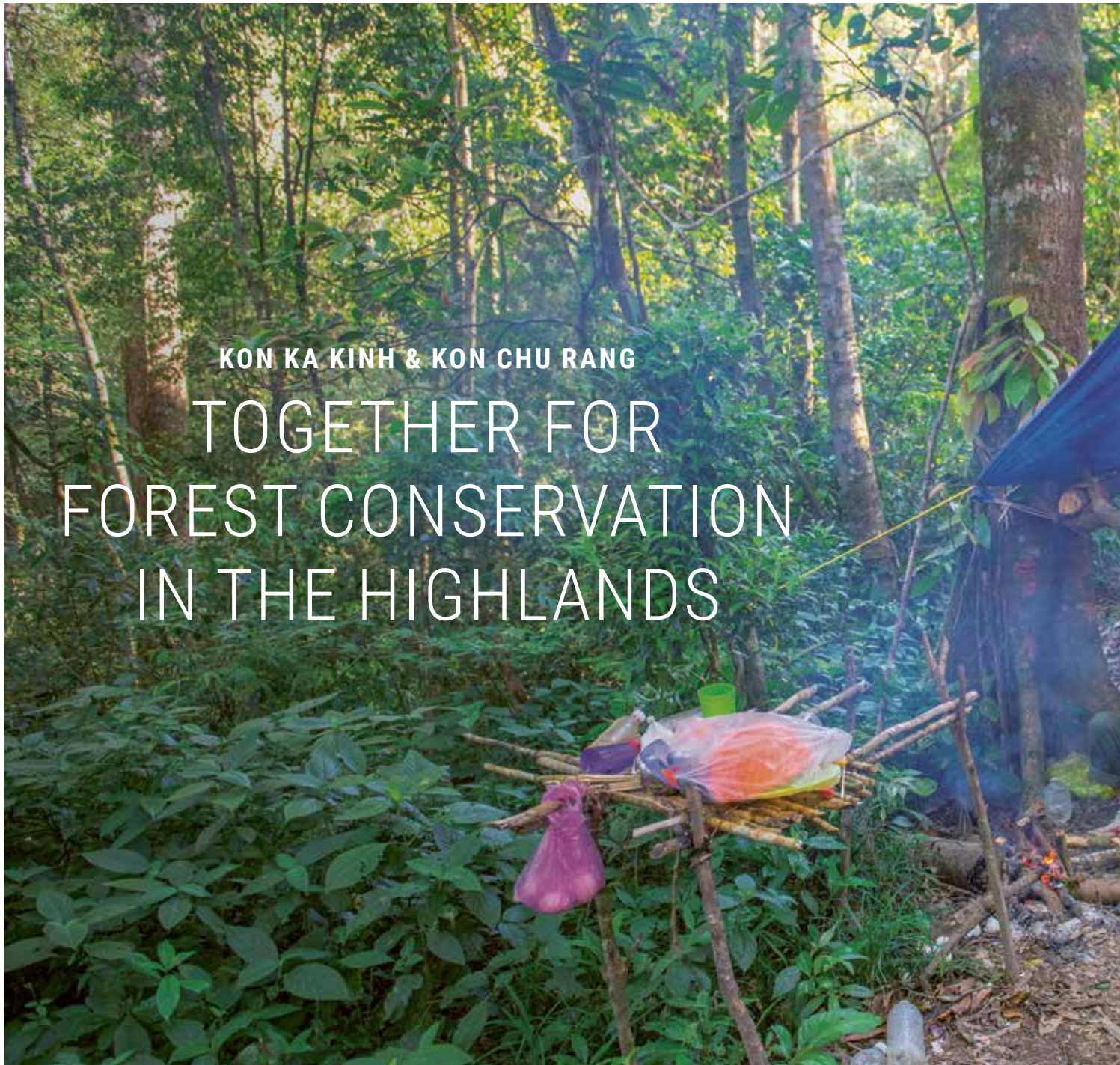
What is the target population?

Five hundred animals would be ideal because that is a robust population size that can survive over a very long period of time. If you consider how many orangutans we've received in 20 years, it's highly unlikely that

we'll be able to release a similar number into the wild in the foreseeable future. The minimum goal would be to have at least 250 breeding animals. That number would provide a reasonable amount of security.

And what time frame are you looking at to achieve that?

Our internal target is 10 animals per year. That would then take at least another eight years. However, we haven't been able to release many animals at all in the last few years because we've had very few new arrivals, which of course is a good thing in itself. So the reintroduction program will have to continue for at least another 10 years, possibly longer. Only then will we have arrived at a population of orangutans that is safe from extinction in the medium term. Then, we can sit back and take a more relaxed view.



KON KA KINH & KON CHU RANG
TOGETHER FOR
FOREST CONSERVATION
IN THE HIGHLANDS

Kon Ka Kinh National Park is home not only to the gray-shanked douc langur (*Pygathrix cinerea*), a primate species found only in the central Vietnamese highlands and threatened with extinction, but also to the critically endangered northern buffed-cheeked gibbon (*Nomascus annamensis*). Poaching, deforestation and the expansion of agricultural land are endangering the national park and the adjoining forest areas in the highlands.

During our monitoring of the northern buffed-cheeked gibbons in 2022, we recorded 13 gibbon groups in Kon Ka Kinh National Park, one more than in the previous year, and eight groups in the Kon Chu Rang Nature Reserve, two more than in the previous year. Despite high levels of poaching in the region overall, the gibbon population seems to have been spared and is developing well.

SUPPORT FOR PROTECTED AREA MANAGEMENT

In Kon Ka Kinh National Park, we continued to support all nine forest guard stations last year by offering training, field trips, equipment and funding for patrols. In addition, both the park management and all the forest guard station staff bene-



National park and FZS employees are often on patrol together for many days in the forest.

fited from twice-yearly meetings in which they could share their experiences with their patrol work. Forest guards removed 1,336 wildlife traps and destroyed 10 illegal logging camps during regular patrols. They also confiscated 11 firearms, which they handed over to the local police. The number of wildlife traps they discovered increased in comparison to previous years. This is likely due in part to the loss of income among the local population as a result of the pandemic. Another factor is the increased presence of forest guards in the park.

We provided similar support to all three forest guard stations in the Kon Chu Rang Nature Reserve. Here, too, the forest guards were able to stop a number of illegal activities, such as four cases of unauthorized logging and 15 cases of illicit grazing.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

Offering environmental education to the indigenous Bana people, for example in schools near the protected areas, is an important part of our work.

We supported “green libraries” at six schools in the park area and the establishment of “green clubs” at two schools. A waste recycling competition, for example, was conducted at five secondary schools to raise awareness about resource conservation. Adults constitute another important target group for education, including teacher training on wildlife conservation.

A 30-strong wildlife conservation working group was formed, mostly from the Bana people, to support the park’s administration. The group helps the administration educate the public on the legal aspects of forest and wildlife protection. A campaign against wildlife hunting using firearms was also continued in seven villages of three communes in the park’s buffer zone. Similar activities to those around Kon Ka Kinh National Park were also conducted in the Kon Chu Rang Nature Reserve.

Another crucial aspect of our work in Vietnam is our cooperation with Da Nang University to train students in nature and wildlife conservation, which we continued in 2022. Two practical training courses were held for a total of 43 students from 15 universities across Vietnam. Seven small research projects followed as a result, and five scientific articles were published. Numerous other events, including a gala evening with 100 alumni from 15 past courses, a photo exhibition and a debate competition, show just what close links our team in Vietnam enjoys with the students.


OUTLOOK

Kon Ka Kinh National Park and Kon Chu Rang Nature Reserve represent the core zone of the UNESCO Kon Ha Nung Biosphere Reserve, which was recognized in 2021. At the end of 2022, FZS and the head of the biosphere reserve formalized and reaffirmed their collaboration by signing a five-year cooperation agreement. This presents FZS with an opportunity to shape developments for the people and wildlife in the region.



FINANCIAL REPORT
2022

Meeting of a community conservation
bank in Katibunga, Zambia



25.80

MILLION EUROS

from institutional and public
third-party donors

3.35

MILLION EUROS

from inheritances and legacies

1.98

MILLION EUROS

provided by the "Hilfe für die
bedrohte Tierwelt" Foundation

4.00

MILLION EUROS

from donors, members and
sponsors

ACCOUNTING AND VALUATION METHODS

The annual financial statements as of December 31, 2022, have been prepared according to the provisions of section 264 et seq. of the German Commercial Code (HGB) and meet the accounting requirements set out in section 267 subsection 2 HGB for a medium-sized corporation. The profit and loss account was prepared in accordance with the commercial law nature-of-expense method according to section 275 subsection 2 HGB, taking into account the specific characteristics of the Society's expense and income presentation. The annual financial statements were audited and approved by W+ST Wirtschaftsprüfung GmbH without reservations, and an unqualified audit opinion was issued.

In 2022, the FZS projects in Peru, Colombia, Indonesia, Vietnam, Tanzania, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Zimbabwe and Zambia were audited by the auditing firm Baker Tilly International. Those in the new Ukraine project areas were audited by Nexia DK Auditors & Consultants, and that in Ethiopia by the Bezuayehu Mengesha Certified Audit Firm. Additional independent, project-specific audits have been conducted for third-party projects funded by KfW Development Bank and GIZ, including those in Tanzania, Zambia, Ethiopia and Indonesia.

The same financial software (ABACUS) and double-entry bookkeeping methods are used for all FZS projects in Africa, Vietnam, Indonesia, Colombia, Peru and Ukraine as in the Frankfurt headquarters. This makes group consolidation of international projects with the headquarters in Germany considerably easier and facilitates very high transparency levels in the presentation of financial flows. It also strengthens the internal control system for the proper disbursement of donations, membership fees, civil penalties and third-party funds.

ASSETS

FIXED ASSETS

Tangible assets

Tangible assets at the end of 2022 amounted to roughly EUR 101,000 (previous year: EUR 98,000). The increase in tangible assets at the headquarters was due to purchases or replacements of office and IT equipment, as well as to an increase in the number of employees. In 2018 (EUR 6.3 million), tangible assets were already significantly reduced following the transfer of FZS's real estate on a long-term basis to the "Hilfe für die bedrohte Tierwelt" Foundation in order to generate continuous rental revenue. The Foundation has

ASSETS in TEuro	2022	2021
FIXED ASSETS		
Tangible assets	101	98
Financial assets	21,808	24,778
CURRENT ASSETS		
Receivables and other assets	6,185	5,290
Liquid assets	11,661	19,146
PREPAYMENTS AND ACCRUED INCOME	33	40
TOTAL	39,789	49,352

continued interest in obtaining larger contiguous residential properties for its investment portfolio, especially from inheritances, with a view to further diversification.

Financial assets

The financial assets consist of shareholdings and security investments. The amount invested in the financial markets by FZS in the 2022 balance sheet decreased from EUR 24.78 million in the previous year to EUR 21.81 million. The main purpose of this was to increase liquidity, which was necessary both to cope with higher project throughput and to permit the prefinancing of larger individual projects funded by third parties. Furthermore, value adjustments had to be made due to the challenging capital market in 2022. The financial assets are mainly bundled into the organization's master fund, overseen by various asset managers, in order to reduce administrative costs and optimize risk-return parameters. Securities are carried at cost or using the lower-of-cost-or-market principle. This also means that any price increases of shares or bonds that exceed the purchase costs have no effect on the balance sheet. Only when the securities are sold (if the value at sale is below the purchase cost) does the result impact the profit and loss account.

CURRENT ASSETS

Receivables and other assets

Total receivables and other assets amounted to EUR 6.18 million (previous year: EUR 5.29 million), with the main item of EUR 3.73 million (previous year: EUR 2.23 million) consisting of funds from project partners and third-party granting institutions. The increase resulted from an increasing number of third-party-funded projects for which FZS is required to make advance payments for the donor. Another major item here is the amount of EUR 1.35 million owed to project partners in the form of own funds not spent at year-end

LIABILITIES in TEuro	2022	2021
EQUITY		
Capital and free reserves	24,000	27,756
PROVISIONS	604	862
LIABILITIES		
Project funds	13,951	19,532
Other liabilities	1,234	1,202
TOTAL	39,789	49,352

(previous year: EUR 1.36 million). The prepayments for third-party granting institutions are repaid on a regular basis or at the conclusion of the funded project.

Liquid assets

The cash and bank balances of FZS in Frankfurt, Vietnam, Indonesia, Peru, Colombia, Ukraine and the five African project regions amounted to EUR 11.6 million (previous year: EUR 19.2 million), of which EUR 10.5 million is assigned to the Frankfurt office. The significant decrease in cash and bank balances is due above all to the implementation of a KfW/BMZ third-party funded project (special funds for Tanzania due to the COVID-19 crisis). Some of the funds received for this purpose in previous years were spent in 2022, resulting in the bank balance decreasing by around EUR 4.8 million from the figure at the end of 2021. In addition, fewer funds were parked in overnight deposit accounts.

Roughly EUR 1 million is held at banks in the project regions and in Frankfurt in foreign currencies, with an equivalent of approx. EUR 0.4 million in U.S. dollars. FZS's liquid assets are held in 13 different currencies. Surplus liquidity is largely avoided and is invested long-term in the FZS master fund.

PREPAYMENTS AND ACCRUED INCOME

Accrued income encompasses costs paid and thus deferred for future financial years, such as insurance costs.

LIABILITIES

EQUITY

Capital and free reserves

Equity capital decreased from EUR 27.76 million in 2021 to EUR 24 million. The Society's assets increased as a result of bequests; in return, reserves were released to support project work and cover the depreciation of investments. Overall, this resulted in a net reduction in equity of just under EUR 3.76 million. The sizable income from inheritances and donations made it possible to avoid a higher planned release of reserves.

PROVISIONS

Provisions amounted to EUR 0.60 million (previous year: EUR 0.86 million). Principal among these are provisions for the settlement of estates to the value of EUR 0.12 million.

LIABILITIES

Project funds for international conservation projects

Project liabilities vis-à-vis third-party granting organizations were EUR 13.95 million in 2022 (previous year: EUR 19.53 million). The total is mainly due to third-party funds that were unspent during the year under review and must be separately accounted for at year's end. In particular, the KfW/BMZ third-party project already described under "Assets" is a key factor behind this decrease, as this project moved into the expenditure phase in 2022.

Other liabilities

At EUR 1.23 million, other liabilities remained more or less unchanged from the previous year (EUR 1.20 million). These consist of liabilities in the form of personnel costs, taxes, usufruct, etc.

STATEMENT OF INCOME

REVENUES

FZS has a very good and diversified revenue structure. Income from third-party funding and **funding grants** amounted to EUR 25.8 million, which was significantly higher than in the previous year (EUR 16.31 million). Third-party money not yet expended is not listed as revenue but is accrued as a liability and is not recognized as revenue until the year in which it is expended.

In 2022, the **“Hilfe für die bedrohte Tierwelt” Foundation** contributed EUR 1.98 million to FZS (previous year: EUR 1.38 million). The distribution includes a regular donation from the Eleonore Beck Foundation of EUR 0.2 million (previous year: EUR 0.39 million).

Income from **inheritances and bequests** remained at a very high level of EUR 3.35 million in 2022 (previous year: EUR 3.02 million). This income is due not only to a large number of inheritances but also to a few large testamentary bequests.

Donations, sponsorship contributions and fines remained at a gratifyingly high level. At EUR 3.78 million, they not only matched the previous year’s result (EUR 2.86 million) but exceeded it, thanks in part to some major individual donations. Project-linked donations in the form of the voluntary “Nature Conservation Euro” given by visitors as they enter Frankfurt Zoo were also most welcome and

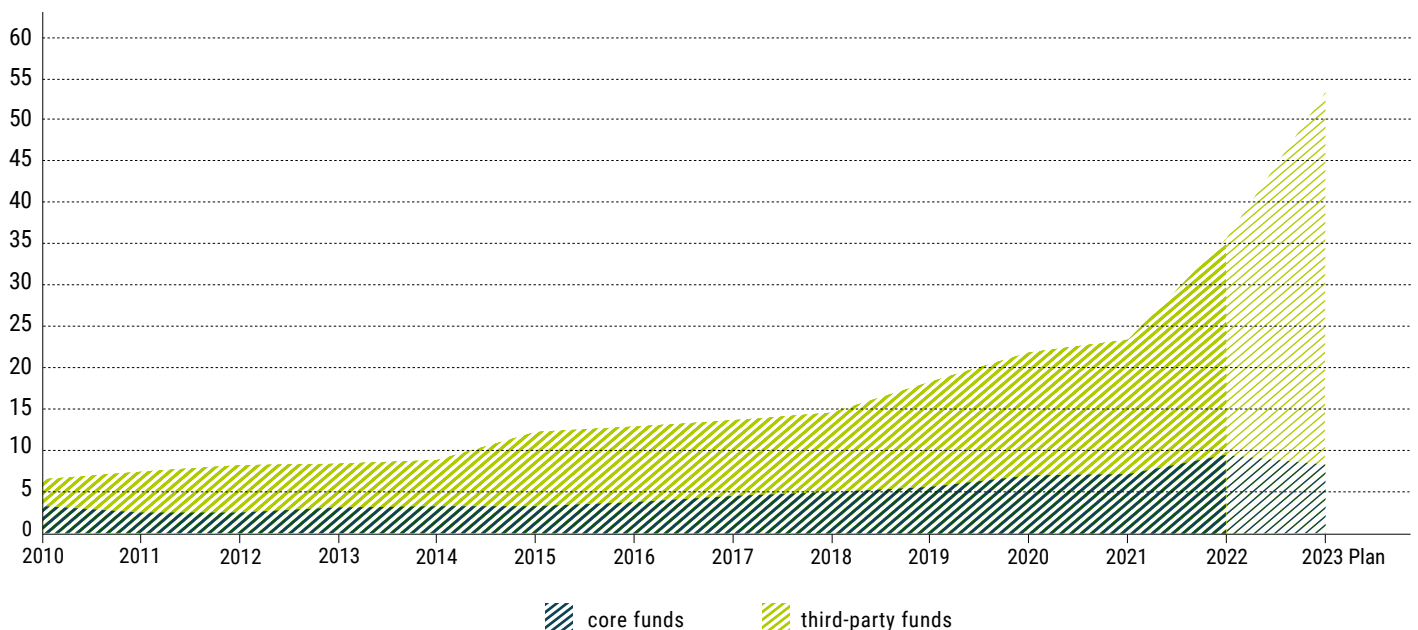
resulted in approximately EUR 0.22 million in additional project funding. In 2022 FZS received EUR 0.2 million from the “Nature Conservation Euro.”

Income from **membership fees** remained stable at EUR 0.30 million. The number of members fell slightly in 2022 from 3,606 to 3,556. We welcomed 66 new members in 2022. We lost 116 members, some of whom canceled their membership with FZS while others passed away.

Low interest rates and poor capital market performance made it difficult to generate **income from interest and securities**, although the rallying of interest rates is now starting to have an impact. FZS has been investing in the master fund of the “Hilfe für die bedrohte Tierwelt” Foundation since 2020. The master fund performed in line with the overall development of the capital market in the year under review. Irrespective of market performance, however, significant revenue was generated in 2022, with income of EUR 0.54 million (previous year: EUR 1.01 million).

Other income of EUR 0.74 million is on par with the figure from the previous year (EUR 0.52 million).

DEVELOPMENT OF FZS PROJECT EXPENDITURES in million euro



EXPENDITURES

Total expenditures amounted to EUR 40.24 million (previous year: EUR 25.85 million), an increase of EUR 14.4 million over the previous year. Of this amount, EUR 35.54 million was spent on **conservation projects** (previous year: EUR 23.59 million). This represents a significant increase of EUR 11.94 million over the previous year, with marked rises in the Tanzania and Zambia project regions.

EUR 1.34 million was spent on conservation **project coordination and administration** at our headquarters (previous year: EUR 1.16 million). The main component was personnel costs amounting to EUR 1.04 million (previous year: EUR 0.98 million), due above all to the increase in the number of employees. IT and general office expenses and insurance premiums were further major items after personnel costs. General legal and consulting costs of EUR 36,000 were kept low thanks to the use of pro bono networks.

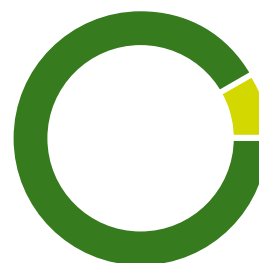
FZS gave EUR 80,000 to the **Frankfurt Zoo** and the collaborative **conservation ambassador** project (previous year: EUR 70,000).

Expenditures on **communications and public relations**, including attributable personnel costs, amounted to EUR 0.49 million (previous year: EUR 0.45 million). EUR 0.44 million was spent on **sponsor services and fundraising** (previous year: EUR 0.41 million). The increase is due in particular to the filling of advertised positions.

Depreciation, securities and exchange rate losses amounted to EUR 2.37 million (previous year: EUR 0.16 million). Of this, depreciation on fixed assets and low-value fixed assets amounted to EUR 27,000 (previous year: just under EUR 32,000). The largest component of this was write-downs of financial assets valued strictly at the lower of cost or market (EUR 2.01 million). Much of the losses had already been recovered by the middle of the year and are expected to have a positive offsetting effect in the next fiscal year.



THIRD-PARTY FUNDING	CONTRIBUTIONS	OTHER INCOME
64.10 %	23.38 %	12.52 %
25.80 MIO €	9.41 MIO €	5.04 MIO €



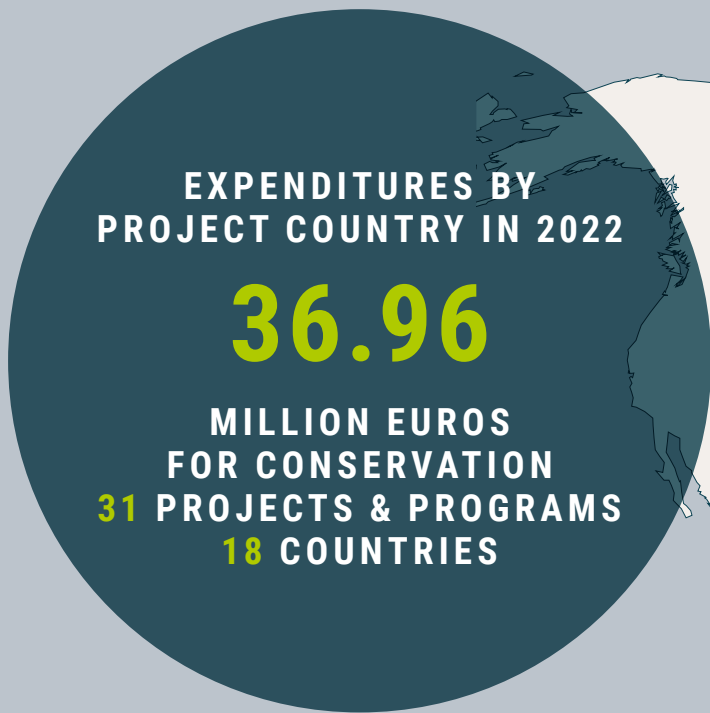
CONSERVATION	SERVICE & FINANCE
91.80 %	8.20 %
36.96 MIO €	3.30 MIO €

REVENUES

REVENUES in million euro	2022	2021
Third-party funding	25.80	16.31
Bonuses from the "Hilfe für die bedrohte Tierwelt" Foundation	1.98	1.38
Bequests (including real estate)	3.35	3.02
Donations and allocated fines	3.78	2.86
Membership fees	0.30	0.30
Interest and income from securities	0.54	1.01
Other income	0.74	0.52
Release of reserves	3.76	0.45
TOTAL	40.24	25.84

EXPENDITURES

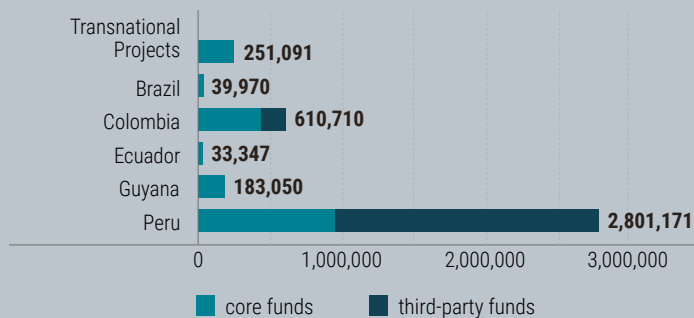
EXPENDITURES in million euro	2022	2021
Conservation projects	35.54	23.59
Coordination of conservation program, Frankfurt headquarters	1.34	1.16
Support of Frankfurt Zoo/ conservation ambassadors	0.08	0.07
Communications and public relations	0.49	0.45
Fundraising and sponsor services	0.44	0.41
Write-downs on securities and fixed assets	2.37	0.16
TOTAL	40.24	25.84



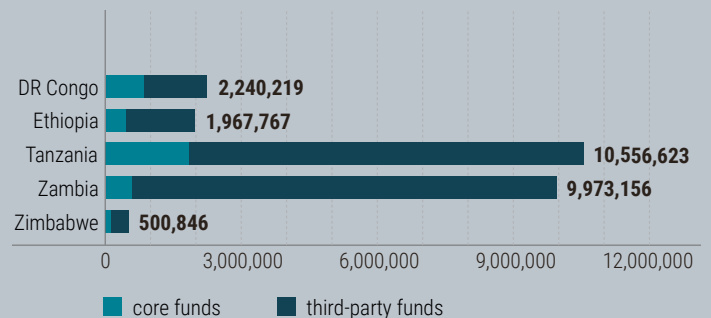
Distribution of FZS conservation expenditures in 2022 (core funds and third-party funds). Expenditures for international project coordination and transnational project costs are not included.

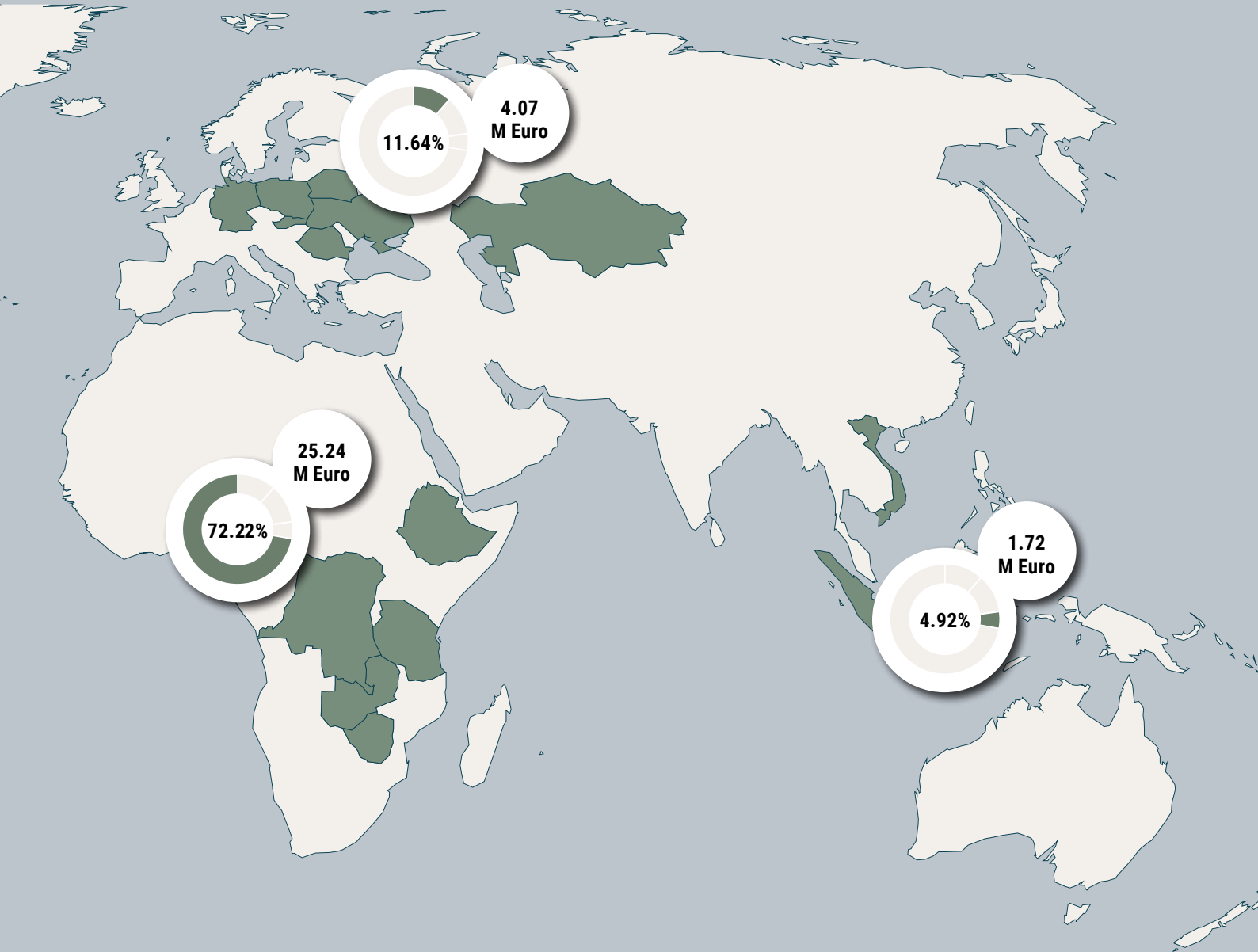


SOUTH AMERICA in euro

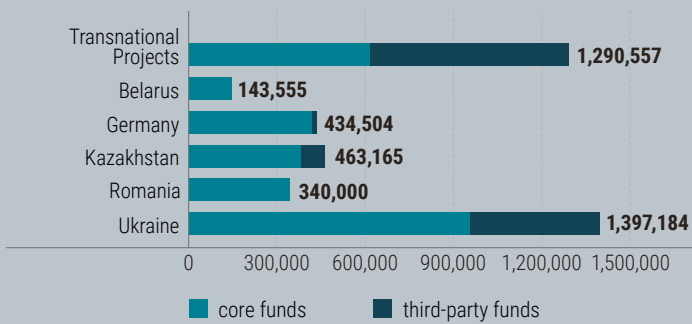


AFRICA in euro

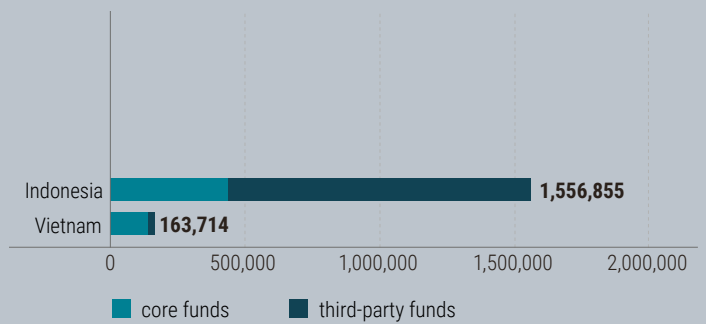




EUROPE & CENTRAL ASIA in euro



SOUTHEAST ASIA in euro



DONATIONS AND THIRD-PARTY FUNDS

FUNDRAISING

The Russian war of aggression in Ukraine necessitated abrupt changes in our plans for the year. Aid needed to be provided quickly. We launched a campaign for Ukraine and were promptly inundated with offers of help and donations: over 1 million euros!

“Conservation, pure and simple” – that is what the Frankfurt Zoological Society stands for. And that is why we deliberately keep our marketing efforts to a minimum – allowing us to invest as much money as possible in the conservation work itself. Sponsors and members receive no welcome gifts, for example, and we refrain as far as possible from running marketing or advertising campaigns. We use our website, social media channels, online lectures, awareness-raising initiatives, fundraising letters and the GORILLA magazine to keep our supporters informed, ask them for help and attract new recruits to the cause. In the case of the fundraising letters and the magazine, the donations they generate exceed the amount expended several times over. All these activities are conducted by our full-time team in Frankfurt. And in all cases, we attach a great deal of importance to both efficient content planning and sustainable production.

OUR LARGEST INSTITUTIONAL DONORS IN 2022

The funds listed below were used in the projects in 2022

INTERNATIONAL	PROJECT REGION	EURO
Wildcat Foundation	DR Congo, Zambia	2,488,615
The Wyss Foundation	Zambia, Zimbabwe, Tanzania	2,214,291
United States Agency for International Development (USAID)	Zambia	1,871,185
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service	Indonesia, DR Congo, Zambia	1,327,284
U.S. Department of State, Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL)	Zambia	1,003,345

DONATIONS AND THIRD-PARTY FUNDS

In 2022, the Frankfurt Zoological Society received donations, membership fees and civil penalties totaling 4.08 million euros. In addition, we submitted project applications to institutional and public donors, such as KfW Development Bank, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) and the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (BMUV). This yielded a further total of 25.80 million euros for our conservation work. Every euro donated therefore had a sixfold impact!

ZOOS AND CONSERVATION

Since 2021, visitors to Frankfurt Zoo have been able to make a voluntary donation of 1 euro to various conservation projects – the “Nature Conservation Euro” – on top of their admission fee. Last year, Frankfurt Zoo handed 224,884 euros to us from this program (previous year: 71,320 euros). The money will be used in equal parts for our project work in the Wispertaunus region in Germany, Bukit Tiga Puluh in Indonesia, Manú National Park in Peru and the Serengeti in Tanzania. Dresden Zoo has a similar “Conservation Euro” scheme. This also supports the protection of orangutans in Bukit Tiga Puluh National Park in Sumatra, and in 2022, 35,000 euros were raised for our Sumatra program.

GERMANY	PROJECT REGION	EURO
KfW Development Bank	Ethiopia, Zambia, Tanzania	8,497,007
Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz, nukleare Sicherheit und Verbraucherschutz (BMUV)	Indonesia, Peru, Ukraine	923,011
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)	DR Congo, Peru, Zambia	486,569
The Light Foundation	Zimbabwe	334,024
Claus und Taslimawati Schmidt-Luprian Stiftung Vogelschutz in Feuchtgebieten	Peru, Polesia	129,975

DONORS AND PARTNERS 2022

List grouped by headquarters of institutions and organizations

AUSTRALIA

Griffith University
International Elephant Project, IEP
Perth Zoo
The Orangutan Project, TOP
The Thin Green Line Foundation
Wildlife Conservation International

AUSTRIA

WWF Central and Eastern Europe

BELARUS

APB/BirdLife Belarus

BELGIUM

WeForest

BRAZIL

Instituto Araguaia

COLOMBIA

Asociación de Autoridades Tradicionales Indígenas, PANI
Fundación para la Conservación y el Desarrollo Sostenible, FCDS
GAIA Amazonas
Parques Nacionales Naturales de Colombia, PNNC
Wildlife Conservation Society Colombia, WCS Colombia
WWF Colombia

DR CONGO

Institut Congolais pour la Conservation de la Nature, ICCN
Virunga National Park/Virunga Foundation

ECUADOR

Fundación Charles Darwin, FCD

ETHIOPIA

Bale Mountains National Park
Charities and Societies Agency, ChSA
Ethiopian Wolf Conservation Programme
Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority, EWCA
Oromia Agriculture and Natural Resource Bureau, OANRB

Oromia Environment Forest and Climate Change Authority
Oromia Forest and Wildlife Enterprise
Oromia Planning and Economic Development Commission, PEDCO
Oromia Regional Health Bureau, OHB
Oromia Rural Land Administration and Use Bureau
Population, Health and Environment – Ethiopia Consortium
SOS Sahel
The Authority for Civil Society Organizations, ACSO

EU

European Union

FRANCE

Fédération des parcs naturels régionaux de France
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, UNESCO

GERMANY

AHT Group GmbH
Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg
Albert und Barbara von Metzler-Stiftung
Auswärtiges Amt
Betriebgesellschaft der Internationalen Naturschutzgesellschaft Lieberoser Heide GmbH, INA
BioFrankfurt e. V.
Bruno H. Schubert-Stiftung
Bund für Umwelt und Naturschutz Deutschland, BUND
Bundesamt für Naturschutz, BfN
Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz, nukleare Sicherheit und Verbraucherschutz, BMUV
Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Klimaschutz, BMWK
Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung, BMZ
Bundesverband Beruflicher Naturschutz e. V.
BUNDstiftung
Capgemini Deutschland GmbH
Chom Capital GmbH
Claus und Taslimawati Schmidt-Luprian Stiftung
Vogelschutz in Feuchtgebieten
Convention on Migratory Species of Wild Animals, CMS
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit, GIZ
Deutsche Umwelthilfe
Deutsche Wildtier Stiftung
Deutscher Naturschutzring, DNR
Ebert/Düttmann Stiftung
Eleonore-Beck-Stiftung
Förderverein Nationalpark Senne-Eggegebirge e. V.
Frankfurter Sparkasse
Freundeskreis Nationalpark Hunsrück e. V.
Gemeinnützige Stiftung Freunde des Tieres
Greenpeace Deutschland
Gregor Louisoder Umweltstiftung
GRÜNE LIGA
Gunther Parlow Stiftung
Heinz Sielmann Stiftung
Helaba Invest Kapitalanlagegesellschaft mbH
Hellabrunn – Der Münchner Tierpark
Hildegard-Haube-Stiftung
Initiative Frankfurter Stiftungen e. V.
Institut für Gemeinwohl GmbH
Institut für Tierökologie und Naturbildung
Internationale Klimaschutzinitiative IKI
Internationaler Naturerbe Fonds – Legacy Landscapes Fund
Irene Thiermann Stiftung
Jacob-Stiftung
Johann Wolfgang Goethe-Universität Frankfurt
Katja Willach Stiftung
KfW Entwicklungsbank
KfW Stiftung
Klaus-Peter Hain Stiftung
KPMG Deutschland
Kurt und Christel Müller Stiftung
Landesbund für Vogelschutz in Bayern
Linnemann-Stiftung
Loki-Schmidt-Stiftung
Manfred-Hermesen-Stiftung
Michael Succow Stiftung
Musikschule Bad Vilbel e. V.
NABU, Naturschutzbund Deutschland
NABU-Stiftung Nationales Naturerbe

DONORS AND PARTNERS 2022

Nationale Naturlandschaften e. V.
 Nationalparkverwaltung Bayerischer Wald
 Naturstiftung David
 Naturwald Akademie
 SAP Deutschland SE & Co. KG
 Senckenberg Gesellschaft für Naturforschung
 Stiftung Artenschutz
 Stiftung Eine Welt eine Zukunft
 Stiftung Feuchtgebiete
 Stiftung KulturLandschaft Günztal
 Stiftung Naturlandschaften Brandenburg, SNLB
 Stiftung Wolfgang Wüsthof
 Stiftung Zukunft Jetzt!
 The Light Foundation
 Tiergarten Nürnberg
 Verein Tiergarten Kleve e. V.
 Vogelschutz Komitee
 VSW GbR
 Walter und Monika Schneider-Stiftung
 Wolfgang und Ingrid Hensel Stiftung
 WWF Deutschland
 Zoologischer Garten Augsburg GmbH
 Zoo Dresden
 Zoo Frankfurt

GUYANA

Kanuku Mountains Community Representative Group, KMCRG
 Office of the President – Cooperative Republic of Guyana
 Protected Areas Commission, PAC
 The South Rupununi Conservation Society

INDONESIA

Association of Indonesian Vanilla Farmers, PPVI
 Bukit Tiga Puluh National Park
 Directorate General for Protection of Natural Resources and Ecosystems, KSDAE
 Jambi Provincial Natural Resource Conservation Agency, BKSDA
 Ministry for Environment and Forestry, KLHK
 Yayasan Ekosistem Lestari, YEL
 Yayasan Konservasi Ekosistem Hutan Sumatera, KEHUS

IRELAND

i4Life

KAZAKHSTAN

Association for the Conservation of Biodiversity of Kazakhstan, ACBK

Committee for Forestry and Wildlife, Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan

KENYA

African Wildlife Foundation

Save the Elephants

LIECHTENSTEIN

Reto Stiftung für Denkmalschutz, Kinder und Natur

Sarastro Förderstiftung

NORWAY

Inland Norway University of Applied Sciences

PERU

Asociación para la Conservación de la Cuenca Amazónica, ACCA

Asociación para la Investigación y Desarrollo Integral, AIDER

Centro de Innovación Científica Amazónica, CINCIA

Centro de Recursos y Educación en la Selva, CREES

Conservación Internacional Perú

Deutsche Botschaft in Peru

ECOPURUS

Federación de Comunidades Indígenas del Bajo Putumayo, FECOIBAP

Federación de Comunidades Nativas de la Cuenca del Ampiyacu, FECONA

Federación de Comunidades Nativas Fronterizas del Putumayo, FECONAFROPU

Federación Nativa del Rio Madre de Dios y Afluentes, FENAMAD

Fondo Nacional para Áreas Naturales Protegidas por el Estado, PROFONANPE

Instituto del Bien Común, IBC

Ministerio de Cultura, Viceministerio de Interculturalidad, MINCUL

Ministerio de Educación, MINEDU

Ministerio del Ambiente, MINAM

Organismo de Supervisión de los Recursos Forestales y de Fauna Silvestre, OSINFOR

Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú, PUCP

Pronaturaleza

Servicio Nacional de Áreas Naturales Protegidas por el Estado, SERNANP

Servicio Nacional Forestal y de Fauna Silvestre, SERFOR

Sociedad Peruana de Derecho Ambiental, SPDA

Wildlife Conservation Society Peru, WCS Peru

WWF Peru

POLAND

BirdLife Poland, OTOP

Polish Society for the Protection of Birds, PTOB

ROMANIA

Foundation Conservation Carpathia, FCC

SLOVAKIA

Aevis Foundation

SOUTH AFRICA

African Parks

SRI LANKA

International Water Management Institute

SWEDEN

Kolmården Foundation

SWITZERLAND

Augmentum

Boguth-Jonak-Stiftung

Fondation Segré

Friends of Serengeti

International Union for the Conservation of Nature, IUCN

Oak Foundation

PanEco

Stiftung Farald von Wedekind und Fiorimonde Wedekind

Stiftung Temperatio

TANZANIA

District Councils: Kigoma, Mpanda, Ngorongoro, Serengeti, Tanganyika, Uvinza

Grumeti Reserves and Grumeti Fund

Ikona and Makao Wildlife Management Areas

Jane Goodall Institute

Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism

Tanzania Association of Tour Operators, TATO

Tanzania National Parks Authority, TANAPA

Tanzania Wildlife Management Authority, TAWA

Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute, TAWIRI

Wildlife Division of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism

UKRAINE

Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources

National Ecological Centre of Ukraine, NECU

Ukrainian Society for the Protection of Birds, USPB

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

The Mohamed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund

UNITED KINGDOM

Arcadia Fund – A charitable fund of Lisbet Rausing and Peter Baldwin

Botanic Gardens Conservation International, BGCI

British Trust for Ornithology, BTO

Cambridge Conservation Initiative

Conservation Capital

Conserve Global

Farm Africa

Fauna & Flora International

For Rangers

NatureMetrics

Save the Rhino International

The European Nature Trust, TENT

The Kestrelman Trust

The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, RSPB

Tusk Trust

University of Oxford, Wildlife Conservation Research Unit, WildCRU

Wild Europe Initiative

UNITED STATES

Amazon Conservation Team, ACT

Arcus Foundation

Chicago Field Museum

Conservation International

Conservation Nation

Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund

Disney Conservation Fund

Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation

Horne Family Foundation

International Crane Foundation, ICF

International Rhino Foundation, IRF

JRS Biodiversity Foundation

Lion Recovery Fund

National Geographic

Peterffy Foundation

Rainforest Trust

Resolve

Rhino Recovery Fund

San Diego Zoo Global Wildlife Conservancy

Tetra Tech

The Abraham Foundation

The Nature Conservancy

The Windward Fund

The Wyss Foundation

United Nations Development Programme, UNDP

University of Kentucky

U.S. Agency for International Development, USAID

U.S. Department of State, Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, INL

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Wildcat Foundation

Wildlife Conservation Network, WCN

Wildlife Conservation Society, WCS

Woodtiger Fund

WWF US

VIETNAM

Department of Protected Area Management, DoPAM

GreenViet

Kon Chu Rang Nature Reserve

Kon Ha Nung Biosphere Reserve

Kon Ka Kinh National Park

People's Aid Coordinating Committee, PACCOM

Service Center for Da Nang Foreign Affairs, SCEDFA

The University of Da Nang

ZAMBIA

Baileys Roofing

Chitimbwa Community Resources Trust, CCRT

Chitimbwa Iyendwe Conservation Project, CICIP

Community Markets for Conservation, COMACO

Community Resource Boards (Chifunda, Chikwa, Lundu, Mukungule, Nabwalya, Nsama)

Conservation Lower Zambezi

Conservation South Luangwa

Department of National Parks and Wildlife, DNPW

Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany Lusaka

Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock

Ministry of Green Economy and Environment, Department of Forestry

Mpika, Shiwa, Chama, Chipata, Chinsali, Isoka, Nsama and Mpulungu District Governments

Remote Africa Safaris

Wildlife Crime Prevention

Zambian Carnivore Programme

Zambia National Community Resources Board Association, ZNCRBA

ZayoHub

ZIMBABWE

African Wildlife Conservation Fund

Bubye Valley Conservancy

Lowveld Rhino Trust

Malilange Trust

SAT-Wild

Savé Valley Conservancy

Tikki Hywood Trust

Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management Authority, ZimParks

WAYS TO SUPPORT US



Thanks solely to the support we receive from our supporters, we honor our commitment to protecting the last wilderness areas. Here are various ways to make a contribution:

Donors provide rapid and direct help. Non-specific donations can be used where they are most needed. Earmarked donations are used to support a particular project specified by the donor.

Becoming a **member** involves more than just making a contribution to nature protection. Members are part of the Frankfurt Zoological Society and give us planning security by helping to provide a basic financial foundation for our conservation work.

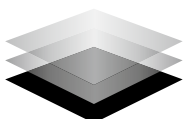
Sponsors support specific regions, helping to protect the habitat of orangutans, elephants or saiga antelopes, for example. Their contributions benefit the projects directly and are a dependable factor in project planning.

Endowments increase the capital of our "Hilfe für die bedrohte Tierwelt" Foundation and thus provide ongoing support. The resulting annual income is used to fund our nature conservation work on a permanent basis.

Named funds are a special form of endowment. They are managed separately within the capital of the "Hilfe für die bedrohte Tierwelt" Foundation and bear a name chosen by the patron. The proceeds from the named fund flow into the nature conservation work on an ongoing basis.

Trust foundations are dependent foundations under the umbrella of our "Hilfe für die bedrohte Tierwelt" Foundation. In contrast to legally independent foundations, they are not subject to time-consuming tax law approval procedures or direct state scrutiny. The founder can specify a purpose in a charter. Minimum capital is recommended to ensure that the associated activities can be discharged on a lasting basis through the earnings of the foundation. Trust foundations can also be set up by a community of founders consisting of several persons.

A bequest is a very special form of support and an expression of great trust in Frankfurt Zoological Society. Such a bequest can be set up either as a permanent endowment or trust foundation to increase the capital of our foundation or as a donation for the project work of FZS. It is of great importance to us to take particular care over processing wills in which significant funds are pledged to FZS or the "Hilfe für die bedrohte Tierwelt" Foundation, regardless of whether all or only part of the estate is to be dedicated to nature conservation. We carry out this processing free of charge. Bequests either to Frankfurt Zoological Society or to the "Hilfe für die bedrohte Tierwelt" Foundation are exempt from inheritance and gift tax according to Section 13 (1) no. 16 ErbStG.



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