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Dear Members, Sponsors, Supporters, Partners and Friends,



I am very pleased to present you with the 2012 Annual Report of the Frankfurt Zoological Society of 1858 e.V. and our supporting Hilfe für die bedrohte Tierwelt Foundation. We hope it will provide you with an overview of our continuously expanding global conservation efforts. The determination to make a real contribution to the preservation of biological diversity is what motivates everyone associated with the FZS.

As you will see in this Annual Report, the financial foundation for this mission is solid. The financial statements of the Society and Foundation were, as in years previous, approved without qualification by the auditor selected by the member's assembly and were scrutinised by the Society's Board of Directors and the Trustees of the Foundation.

At the beginning of this year, we were surprised by the wonderful news that the FZS had been recognised by the KfW Foundation with its very first KfW Bernhard Grzimek Prize. The award was conferred on 10 April 2013 in festive surroundings at the Palm Garden in Frankfurt. The German Federal Minister of Development Dirk Niebel presented the prize. The prize is underwritten by a division of KfW Bankgruppe, our partner in a number of projects in Africa, Asia and South America that receive third-party funding. We are extremely honoured, and this distinction will spur us on in our conservation efforts! And let's not forget the prize money. It will be invested in Serengeti National Park and flow directly into the protection of rhinos and elephants, which are under increasing pressure due to illegal hunting. We can't afford to wait for a change in mentality among wealthy Asian buyers – this is why we have joined together with the Tanzanian national park authority, TANAPA, in anti-poaching measures. Concerted efforts – and a lot of money – are needed to effectively combat poachers. We must do everything we can to make sure that future generations will be able to experience these charismatic animals in the wild and not just in zoos.

I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to all those institutions and individuals who followed and actively supported our work last year. I can assure all of our partners in Germany and abroad that the FZS is carrying out its work at a very high level of scientific professionalism and economic efficiency. We have the kind of long-term commitment that nature conservation requires, and your commitment and support are what motivates us to stay the course.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and Foundation Trustees, I would like to extend my thanks to our many members, donors, sponsor, and friends, as well as the FZS team in Frankfurt and in our many projects, where the challenges of conservation work must be confronted every day.

Gerhard Kittscher,

President of Frankfurt Zoological Society

Yourd hiller

"DRAMATIC GLOBAL DEVELOPMENTS CONTINUE TO CAUSE US THE GREATEST CONCERN, FROM WIDESPREAD SPECIES EXTINCTION TO CLIMATE CHANGE."

In vino veritas – in wine there is truth. And what do the wine growers have to say about the 2012 season? Vintners in Germany's southwest were very anxious about the unpredictable weather last year, but in the end the grapes were harvested under clear skies and the quality of the grapes was surprisingly good. High sugar values in the grape juice will make 2012 a superior vintage, say the experts.

Challenges, setbacks, but a very encouraging overall result – the same could be said for the Frankfurt Zoological Society in 2012. Dramatic global developments continue to cause us the greatest concern, from widespread species extinction to climate change. Regional problems can also be extremely frustrating. On the positive side, the many private donations we received and the major projects that we have been able to initiate are cause for optimism. We are proud of the tremendous commitment of the FZS team and heartened by every small advance in the protection of species and their habitats.

Highs and Lows in 2012

Violent conflicts flared up once again in Eastern Congo, bringing misery and ruin. Nowhere else do paradise and perdition lie so close together. Rich volcanic soils, plentiful water and sun make this area along the great lakes a veritable Garden of Eden with one of the highest population densities in the region. Due to its highly valuable natural resources and many attractions for tourists, the province – the common moniker "the Switzerland of Africa" does not do it justice – is in fact an exceptional location globally. Congo is larger than the neighbouring countries of Ruanda and Burundi together. But the weaknesses of the immense country of DRC – the lingering effects of the genocide, the interests of its neighbors and a system of world trade that ignores how natural resources are extracted – combine to create a situation of permanent crisis. Barely registered in the media, the crisis has claimed the lives of over four million people. In November 2012,

the FZS once again ended up between the lines. Under grenade fire, members of our team had to take cover in Virunga National Park until they could be evacuated to a refugee camp from which they were eventually able to travel to Uganda. A few months earlier, the station in Lusinga in Upemba National Park was attacked – only the cool heads of our FZS team on site prevented a bloodbath. Our activities in Congo point to a real dilemma for conservation in the area. What risks should we take? Where does a conservation organisation draw the line? The enormous diversity of species, the last mountain and lowland gorillas, the earth's second-largest forest system – all these things are so important and unique that capitulation is not really an option.

But even regions that have been presumed to be peaceful, like the great savannas of Tanzania, are becoming sites of war-like conditions. In Tanzania, rhino and elephant poaching has descended on the country like a plague. The sudden increase in the standard of living on the other side of the globe in Asia - particularly in Vietnam and China - has led to an explosion in the demand for ivory and rhino horn. The pure luxury of owning an ivory carving or the supposed medicinal properties of rhino horn are behind the extermination of wildlife on an unthinkable scale. Today, buyers will pay 150,000 euros for a rhino horn and 10,000 euros for a kilo of carved ivory. That kind of money will finance everything from bribes for rangers, police and customs agents, to vehicles and arms, to the use of helicopters to hunt down animals. It is estimated that about 30,000 elephants were killed last year; poachers in South Africa alone shot over 700 rhinos. Increasingly, poachers are turning to poison.

These animal species have populated the earth for millions of years and are our largest terrestrial mammals. They have become important tourist attractions contributing to African economies – and they are being slaughtered to the point of extinction. It is hard to imagine a more dramatic juxtaposition of private greed and utter loss to all humanity. As shapers of the landscape, ele-



phants are a key species for enormous ecosystems and their disappearance will have grave consequences. Here, too, capitulation is not an option. What we desperately need are new alliances, new technologies, more resources and, above all, a dramatic shift in consciousness in the countries where there is demand for ivory and horn.

Incredible Landscapes and Fascinating Species

As much as these catastrophes can cause us to despair, the successes that we have been able to achieve continue to motivate us. We can't afford to spare any effort in ensuring that beautiful landscapes and fascinating species are preserved for the future. Every single Sumatran orangutan that makes the transition from training in the sanctuary to life in the wild is a victory. Every hectare of new designated wilderness in Germany, every Saiga calf in Kazakhstan, every school excursion in the Peruvian rainforest, every new ranger post in Zambia – all of these small accomplishments point the way to a better future and a world in which our natural resources are respected and preserved.

In vino veritas – it's only part of the truth. In aqua sanitas – in water there is health – would complete the picture. New challenges are emerging for nature conservation in a world of increasing water scarcity on the one hand and catastrophic flooding on the other. Natural landscapes are becoming life-saving buffer zones for the effects of human changes to the environment. One of the best examples of this can be found in the mountains of Ethiopia. Bale National Park is the location of three of the most important water sources for the dry Somali lowlands. The mountain forest and wetlands soak up the heavy rains like a sponge and sustain streams and rivers. But the exploitation of the forest, overgrazing, and drainage – even within park boundaries – are endangering this vital system and the survival of millions of people living in the lowlands. The breakthrough came in 2012 after five years of

tireless work. Negotiations produced a new park border and use and protection zones. In the end, this is a gain not just for many plant and animal species, many of them endemic and unique to Ethiopia's mountain regions, but for local people and those living in the arid areas far away from the park.

It's things like this that allow us to see 2012 in a positive light despite disasters and setbacks. And we can concur with the opinion of the wine-growers about last year's results. The FZS was able to invest more funds in conservation than ever before, while at the same time closing the books with a positive balance. We are proud of what we accomplished in 2012 and it's motivation to keep pushing forward. Together we must confront the major challenges ahead and fight for local victories as well.

13 years ago, the Dutch climatologist and Nobel Prize laureate, Paul Crutzen, proposed the term "Anthropocene" to describe our age. With this term he wanted to underscore the fact that human beings have become a geological factor that is fundamentally changing the constitution of the earth. We have developed a capacity that for millions of years was reserved for ice ages, continental shifts, gigantic volcanic explosions and comets. As a consequence, wilderness areas have also acquired new importance. They are the reference areas for gauging human impact, last refuges from human domination and buffer zones for global changes. They should also be a legacy for coming generations. This is what the FZS fights for in the most biodiverse and beautiful regions of the world. That's why we count on your support!

Dr Christof Schenck, FZS Executive Director

Christof Schen 2

DISTINCTIONS, AWARDS AND EVENTS

THE INDIANAPOLIS PRIZE

Markus Borner Among the Finalists

The Indianapolis Prize is one of the most renowned conservation prizes in the world. Awarded by the Indianapolis Zoo, this well-endowed distinction recognises wide-ranging and long-term commitment to the protection of threatened wildlife. Our own Dr Markus Borner, who headed the FZS's Africa Programme for many years, was among six finalists from a large field of accomplished and highly qualified conservationists and scientists. Dr Borner's decades-long efforts to protect Africa's wild animals found well-deserved acknowledgment during the gala presentation ceremony, which was held on 29 September 2012 at the Marriott Hotel in Indianapolis (USA).

"No living person has played as crucial of a role as Markus Borner in African conservation. His work on re-introducing rhinos to the Serengeti has helped restore the species to East Africa's canonical savannah wilderness," said Andrew Dobson, Professor at Princeton University.



Professor Markus Borner (right) flanked by the other finalists and award winner Dr Steve Amstrup (center) on the evening of the award ceremony.

BOOK PRESENTATION

Der Gorilla - an Eco-Thriller

On 2 October 2012 in Frankfurt, author-journalist Sebastian Jutzi presented his new book *Der Gorilla*. Jutzi, a biologist, is also a writer for the German news magazine Focus. His "documentary eco-thriller" is based on impressions he gathered from a trip to Congo accompanying FZS Executive Director, Dr Christof Schenck. In the book the author not only tells the story of his encounters with the mountain gorillas, but above all of the grave dangers that people who fight for the survival of gorillas

must confront in doing their important work. One of these people – and one of the book's protagonists – is Robert Muir, current Head of the FZS's Africa Programme and previous long-time head of our conservation efforts in Congo.



Der Gorilla book premiere at FZS headquarters in Frankfurt.

COOPERATION AGREEMENT

Partnership With KfW

On 24 October 2012, FZS and KfW, a Frankfurt-based banking group, signed an agreement to cooperate in preserving natural treasures of global significance. "FZS manages the institutional legacy of the legendary Frankfurt conservationist Bernhard Grzimek", says KfW Board Member Dr Norbert Kloppenburg. "That's why the FZS is not just a competent local partner, but also an ally in creating awareness and educating the public in Germany." In the coming years, KfW and FZS will work together



Dr Christof Schenck (FZS Executive Director), Dr Norbert Kloppenburg (Board Member, KfW), Gerhard Kittscher (FZS President) and André Ahlert (Divisional Head, KfW) sign the agreement.

on projects such as the protection of the last remaining Sumatra tigers, the Serengeti and the ancient forests of the Guiana Shield. Thanks to the commitment of the German government, the KfW has become one of the largest financers of nature conservation. With over a billion euros flowing into conservation projects, KfW relies on competent partners on the ground. The FZS is already partnered with KfW in Albania. We are also making progress in organising projects in Tanzania, Indonesia, Ukraine and Guiana.

tion of this charismatic species has become a national symbol for nature conservation in Zambia. The Westhuizens have also made major strides in protecting the Gonarezhou ecosystem in Zimbabwe, where they have been working and living with their two daughters since 2007. Over the past five years, for instance, they have been instrumental in re-building a functioning and effective park management system.

BRUNO H. SCHUBERT PRIZE

Recognition for Westhuizens

For over 15 years, Elsabe and Hugo van der Westhuizen have put their lives in the service of nature conservation in Africa. On 13 November 2013, they were recognised at the historic Römer in the heart of Frankfurt with the Bruno H. Schubert Prize. The Schubert Prize honours scientific achievements and their practical application in the area of nature and environmental protection. The prize is awarded every two years in three categories.



Elsabe and Hugo van der Westhuizen receiving the Schubert Prize from Professor Manfred Niekisch.

Hugo und Elsabe van der Westhuizen worked for the FZS for many years in North Luangwa National Park in Zambia and are stationed at Gonarezhou National Park in Zimbabwe. Both of these postings are located in isolated wilderness areas of immense beauty and enormous importance for nature conservation and the protection of threatened species, such as rhinos. Together with park administrators in each country – and in partnership with local populations – the Weshuizens continue their fight to preserve these areas for future generations. The two South Africans have played a major role in re-establishing black rhinos in North Luangwa. Thanks to their commitment, the reintroduc-

SAYING GOODBYE

A Changing of the Guard in Our Africa Office

On 16 November 2012, the FZS honoured the work of Dr Markus Borner with a festive and moving retirement celebration. 150 friends, sponsors, partners and colleagues from Frankfurt and beyond were on hand at FZS headquarters to celebrate and hear words of praise and farewell – both witty and nostalgic – from those who know him best. Filmmaker and cameraman Alan Root from Nairobi, who has known Markus Borner and his work in the Serengeti for many years, presented the gathering with pictures and amusing anecdotes about the honouree and their adventures together. In addition to honouring the conservationist Markus Borner, who over the past 30 has helped shape the FZS like no other, the event was also a tribute to someone who has become a friend to so many of us over the years.



Markus Borner symbolically passes on the baton to his successor, Robert Muir.

SOUL OF THE SERENGET! - AND OF FZS

For 34 years, Dr Markus Borner was our man in Africa. He retired from the FZS at the end of last year, but he continues to pass on his wealth of experience to students at the University of Glasgow, where he holds a guest professorship. He also retains his position on the board of the FZS's subsidiary in the US.



Markus Borner arrived in the Serengeti with his family during dark times in the early 1980s. A wave of poaching had left its bloody mark on the national park. Carcasses of elephants and rhinos littered the landscape. The surviving animals tried to seek shelter in the center of the park, where the Borners had built a small house and a make-shift office. Undaunted, Markus and Monica Borner joined with the Tanzanian authorities to get the national park back on its feet. Ranger stations were fortified like army outposts to ward off attacks and new stations were built. Patrols were organised, equipment bought, training courses and camps set up. The result was one of those rare and wonderful victories for nature conservation: The Serengeti blossomed into a safe haven for African wildlife and a paradise for tourists from around the world. Today the Serengeti is a global brand among conservation areas and plays a major role in financing the entire system of protected areas in Tanzania. The national park authority, TANAPA, which Markus Borner worked tirelessly to promote, has become a respected, professionally-run institution that would be the pride of any European country.

Markus Borner's contributions to positive developments in conservation were not limited to the Serengeti and the many other Tanzanian conservation areas with which he was involved. As director of our Africa Programme, he was active in Ethiopia, Congo, Kenya, Uganda, Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Frequently, he was the first to recognise emerging opportunities for nature conservation, quickly assembling an expert team that shared his passion and willingness to take on tremendous challenges. He has also always been one to give young people a chance and who used

trust as a way to energise, motivate and foster perseverance. His ability to persuade major government agencies and private donors to loosen their purse strings for long-term, million-dollar projects in the African wilderness will certainly leave a lasting legacy.

But some would say that his most important contributions for the FZS were felt far away from Africa and went almost unnoticed. During difficult times of generational change in the organisation of the FZS, when we shifted our focus and established our foundation 15 years ago, Markus was among a small circle of dedicated people who laid the groundwork for the positive trend we have experienced over the past decade.

Despite many successes, Markus Borner looks back with concern at his adoptive country. The recent controversy around the construction of a major motorway through the Serengeti is just the most public illustration of the fact that conflicts between conservation and economic development have reached Africa and that concerted efforts that are needed to protect the last great wilderness areas. Like 30 years ago, once again herds of elephants are gathering at the centre of the Serengeti – an unmistakeable sign of the recurrence of unscrupulous poaching that has already claimed the lives of thousands of animals.

Despite such setbacks, Markus Borner has never been known to submit to resignation. "His" Africa Programme is in good shape. In Rob Muir we have found a very capable successor, and Markus' team continues its effective conservation work in other project areas from the Ethiopian mountains to the savannahs of Zambia.

Markus has followed in the tradition of our founder, Bernhard Grzimek, from the very beginning. Time and again he demonstrated his creativity, innovativeness and the courage to modernise. What a stroke of luck that his path crossed that of the FZS, and we will never forget what he has done for Africa's wildlife and nature, and for our own organisation.

Asante sana, Markus.

Dr Christof Schenck

FZS STRATEGY 2020

Rising to the challenge and building on our strengths: protecting biodiversity-rich wilderness with an improved strategic plan

At the end of 2011, the FZS held a workshop with members of our team and external experts. The goal was to critically examine our organisational structure and conservation programme and to set the terms of reference for our strategy to 2020. Were we on the right track? Were we concentrating on the right regions? At the same time, we wanted to apply our strategic concept to our management structure as well. The steering committee spent the year working out the details, and the strategy paper was discussed at board meetings before being presented at our September 2012 membership meeting.

Our science-based strategy revolves around the key concepts of biodiversity and wilderness. The FZS has a strong commitment to wilderness: large, predominantly intact areas in which natural processes can take their course without human intervention. Wilderness areas are a fundamental component of the fight to preserve biodiversity.

That's why the FZS will continue to pursue its nature conservation activities in regions of Central and Eastern Europe, East Africa, central South America and Southeast Asia. This focus builds on long-standing projects, commitments and existing networks. It also distributes risk and contributes to the protection of very diverse communities of species and landscapes. In terms of habitat, the emphasis is on grasslands, forest, wetlands and mountains. Our slate of activities in Europe is quite specific: wilderness development in Germany and the protection of pristine habitats in the Balkans, Ukraine, Belarus and Kazakhstan.

In East Africa, our project countries continue to be Tanzania, Democratic Republic of Congo, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Ethiopia. We do not plan to increase our activities in Southeast Asia, but will continue to support our successful projects in Indonesia and Vietnam. Our strategy contains a strong commitment to expansion in South America. In addition to the new programme in Peru and new activities in Guyana, we are planning more new projects in the area, since nowhere else can one find such large, untouched and diverse habitats as in South America.

Most conservationists have come to recognise that it takes time and patience to achieve lasting success. We are taking the next step with our new strategic plan. Our goal, simply put, is to maintain a long-term presence in a relatively small number of regions with globally important landscapes and conservation areas. Since attitudes toward habitat and conservation areas depend in large degree on political decisions, even the best, most well-known and lucrative conservation areas can become suddenly threatened.

That's why committing personnel on the ground to gauge local developments and maintain networks is crucial for success.

The challenges facing nature conservation continue to mount dramatically, and over the course of the last decade we have created a strong and extensive network of experienced experts and established a solid reputation. As a consequence, our strategy to 2020 also includes the mandate to grow our organisation – without sacrificing what has made us strong, namely unparalleled motivation, teamwork and close bonds between individual team members, and flexibility.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES OF FZS

PRACTICAL FIELD-BASED PROJECTS:

We believe that our ground-based approach and field expertise is an important component of success.

ADAPTIVE APPROACH:

We use innovative, flexible, multi-disciplinary approaches tailored to each site and adapt these to ensure maximum impact.

LONG-TERM COMMITMENT:

We will persist and stay focused on our objectives for maximum impact and sustainability.

PARTNERSHIPS:

We believe our partners and supporters are crucial for success and will work with them responsibly and transparently.

PIONEERING:

We will commit to a worthy cause and embark on new ventures even in the face of political and logistical challenges.

GUIDED BY SCIENCE:

We use and contribute to conservation science as we strive to address the root causes of the conservation crisis.

PASSION FOR NATURE:

We are a dedicated and professional team united by our passion for wildlife and wild places.

PROJECTS IN AFRICA

ETHIOPIA

Afro-alpine Ecosystems Conservation Project AECP

Bale Mountains Conservation Project BMCP

Conservation in Ethiopia; Coordination

Community Afromontane Monitoring Project CAMP

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

Virunga National Park Conservation Project VCP

Maiko National Park Conservation Project

Upemba National Park Conservation Project

ZAMBIA

North Luangwa Conservation Project NLCP

ZIMBABWE

Gonarezhou National Park Conservation Project GCP

TANZANIA

Serengeti National Park; Park Operations

Serengeti National Park; Garage and Vehicles

Serengeti National Park; Rhino Repatriation Project SRRP

Serengeti Ecosystem Management

Maswa Game Reserve Support

Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute TAWIRI Support

Ngorongoro Crater Conservation Project

Conservation in the Mahale Ecosystem

TRANS-NATIONAL

Africa Regional Office ARO & ARO Aircraft

Conservation Research for East Africa's Threatened Ecosystems CREATE (Tanzania, Zambia)

Hunting for Sustainability in Africa HuSA (Tanzania, Ethiopia)

Bernhard Grzimek Stipend

KfW Feasibility Study

PROJECTS IN EUROPE

ALBANIA

Management of Prespa National Park

BULGARIA

Biodiversity Protection in the Balkan Mountains and Reintroduction of Griffon Vultures

Brown Bear Protection in Bulgaria

GERMANY

Biotope and Species Conservation in the Rhön Biosphere Reserve

Wildlife Protection in Brandenburg; Brandenburg Natural Landscape Foundation

Protection of the European Wild Cat

Günztal Riverbed Restoration

Hohe Schrecke Beech Forest Conservation Project

KAZAKHSTAN

Altyn Dala Steppe Ecosystem and Saiga Conservation

ROMANIA

Establishing a Forest Conservation Area

UKRAINE

Wetlands Conservation in Ukrainian Polesie

BELARUS

Bialowiesza Forest Conservation Project

TRANS-NATIONAL

Vulture Conservation Programme Europe

Osogovo Transboundary Biosphere Reserve (Bulgaria/Macedonia)

PROJECTS IN SOUTH AMERICA

BRAZIL

Reintroduction of Golden Lion Tamarins

CHILE

Protection of the Huemul at Nevados de Chillán Mountains

ECUADOR, GALÁPAGOS

Environmental Education

Protection of Giant Tortoises and Land Iguanas

Support of Charles Darwin Research Station

Conservation of Endemic Flora on Santiago and Floreana

PERU

Andes to Amazon Conservation Programme

Protection of the Giant Otter

Capacity Building for Protected Area Staff

Technical Support for Protected Areas

Sustainable Use of Natural Resources in Local Communities

PROJECTS IN ASIA

INDONESIA

Bukit Tigapuluh Landscape Conservation Programme

Orangutan Resettlement

Human-Elephant Conflict Mitigation

Wildlife Protection and Ranger Patrols

Ecosystem Restoration Concessions

Community Development and Environmental Education

VIETNAM

Vietnam Primate Conservation Programme

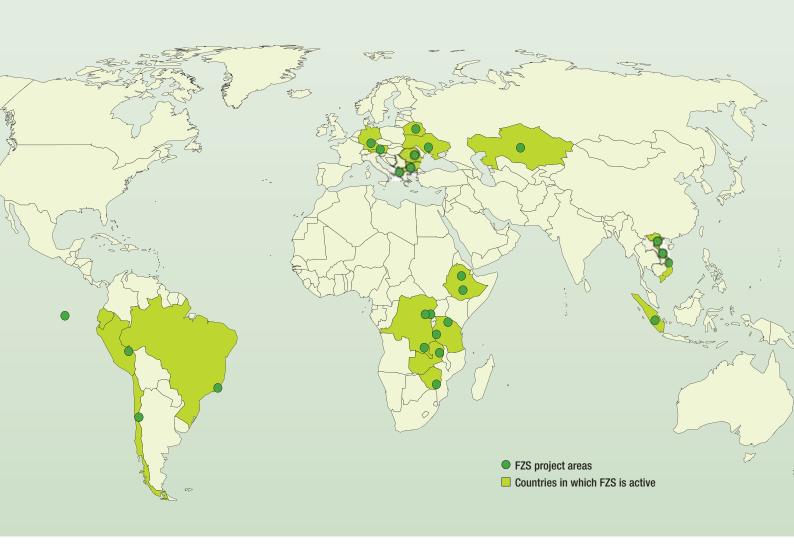
Delacour's Langur Conservation in Van Long Reserve and Support for the Endangered Primate Rescue Centre

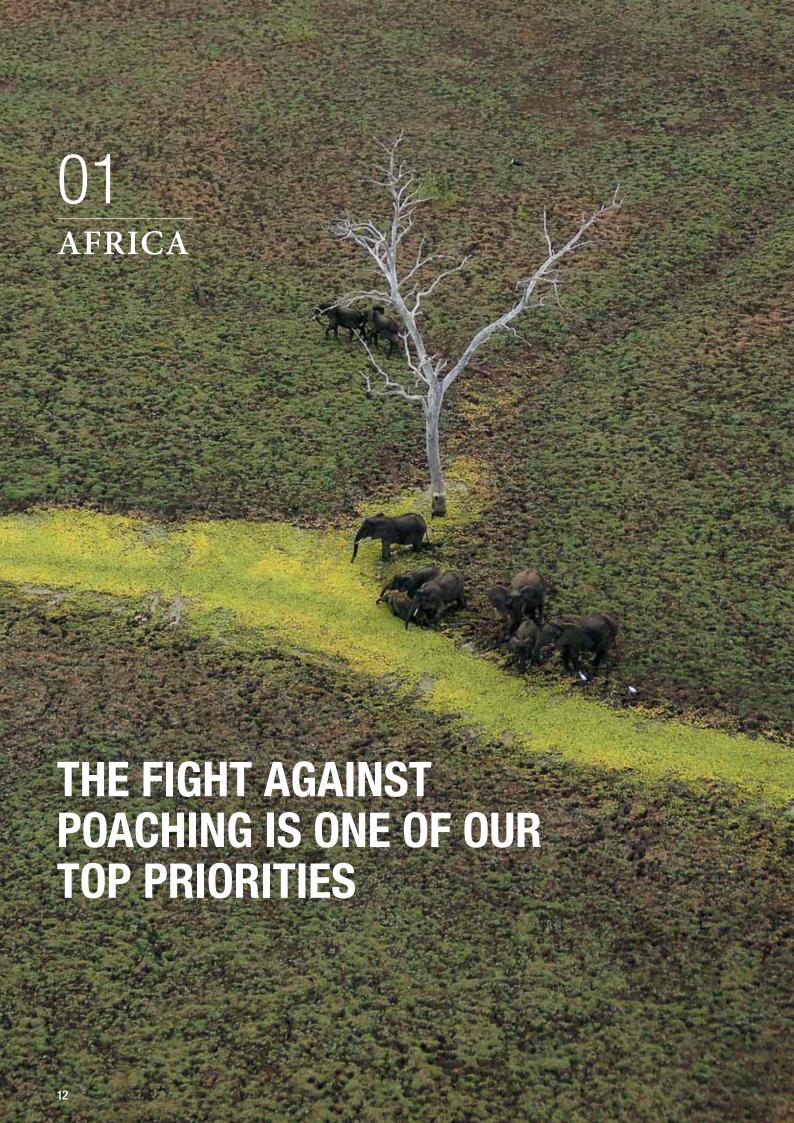
Forest and Wildlife Conservation in Kon Ka Kinh National Park

Resettlement of Hatinh Langurs in Phong Nha-Ke Bang National Park

SMALL PROJECTS

Small Project Grants South America & Southeast Asia





by Robert Muir

I t became increasingly apparent during 2012 that the rate at which elephants and rhinos are being poached is increasing at an exponential rate. The situation is necessitating action both from FZS and the wider conservation community. The onslaught of poaching that is causing detriment across Africa is now reaching some of the world's most important

wilderness areas, including the Serengeti National Park and the Selous Game reserve.

Elephants are poached for their ivory, rhinos for their horns and there is an increasing demand in Asia for their huge resale price. Rhino horn goes mainly to Vietnam (150,000 \in per horn) and is used as medicine or stockpiled as a future investment; ivory goes to Thailand and from there to China (\in 10,000 per kilo of processed horn). At the same time, the nature of poaching has itself changed. Advances in technology have provided poachers with sophisticated weaponry and advanced communications equipment. With the huge profits involved, criminal organisations are investing heavily in equipment, training, modern vehicles, better transportation and smuggling routes.

FZS is working closely with our partners on the ground to address the issue, increase antipoaching regimes and provide adequate protection for these species. Towards the end of 2012 we decided to embark on a three-step process through which to combat the crisis and ensure a future for the elephants and rhinos in our project sites. The first step involves the development of security plans for our key project sites with support from external law enforcement experts. The second step will focus on establishing effective and efficient protection and monitoring systems adapted to meet current and future challenges. This will include anti-poaching training, the construction of strategically located patrol posts, the reorganisation of patrol strategies with a focus on foot patrols, the monitoring of patrol effort and the use of a GPS enabled VHF radio network, the construction of a centralised command and control centre, and the provision of appropriate field equipment and food rations. The third and final step will transform law



enforcement operations from being reactionary in nature to being pro-active, through the use of enhanced intelligence networks and modern technologies that will enable them to stop the poachers before they enter protected areas and before they kill the remaining elephants and rhinos. Only in scaling up our efforts now will we be able to bring an end to the slaughter and

ensure a safe future for the elephants and rhinos of Africa.

"The tsunami of poaching is now reaching some of the world's most important wilderness areas."

In DRC we are facing the additional challenges of working within areas that continue to suffer the direct and indirect effects of ongoing conflict. The most tragic development of the year was the murder of Upemba National Park's Chief Park Warden, Atamato Mandrandele, in December 2012. He was shot and killed by a "mai-mai" bandit group outside of the Park. He was a true champion for conservation and embodied the vision for the Park's rehabilitation. This has been a major setback for the management, leadership and morale of the Park. In Virunga National Park further fighting between the M23 rebels and the Congolese military resulted in clashes around Rumangabo and the eventual evacuation of our project team by the United Nations. In Maiko, we carried out two official missions to visit the Simba villages in the forest, and two mixed patrols in preparation for the signing of a landmark agreement planned for 2013. Conservation on the front line in DRC continues to represent major challenges, and during the course of 2013 we will be looking closely at the way we operate there to reduce risks is while maintaining positive conservation impact.



Project Leaders from all of our African projects gathered in Seronera (Serengeti) in February 2012 to adapt the FZS Africa programme to our revised global conservation strategy.

In 2012, we assigned Dr Karen Laurenson who has overseen the Ethiopia Programme from ARO since its inception in 2004, to be resident in Ethiopia as a Technical Advisor to the Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority. In Bale Mountains, FZS facilitated the inclusion of 25,000 hectares of forest outside the National Park to come under the management of 13 community groups. Working with our partners in Government and another NGO consortium, there is now almost a complete belt of forest under Participatory Forest Management (PFM) around the park, thereby greatly extending the areas under effective conservation. The Guassa Community Conservation Area was formally gazetted in 2012, another first for Ethiopia and securing another 10,000 hectares of afroalpine habitat to protect wildlife such as the endangered Ethiopian wolf. Our work in Abune Yoseph is finally providing conservation outcomes, as the community agreed on the boundary of our second community conservation area in 2012.

In North Luangwa National Park, the birth of three rhino calves marked a true highlight in 2012. Two of the mothers are multiple success stories with second and third calves. The third birth was to a female translocated in 2008, and this was her first calf since arriving. Conversely, 2012 was the worst year on record for the number of poaching incidences and, in particular, poached elephants. Although no rhinos have been poached from the black rhino population, the rapid rise in elephant poaching raises alarm for the future.

2012 was a very positive year for Gonarezhou National Park with regards to project input into park management and law enforcement strategy. In addition to the ongoing support of ranger activities in the form of monthly patrol rations, operational fuel, field equipment and deployment plans, additional security was established through a strategic plan associated with fence patrols. The FZS-supported vehicle workshop played an invaluable role in keeping park vehicles on the road in support of all management activities through both regular maintenance as well as refurbishment of decommissioned vehicles. The General Management Plan that was developed in a partnership between FZS, the Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management Authority (ZPWMA) and other stakeholders of the ecosystem was formally ratified by the ZPWMA board in 2012. This makes Gonarezhou the only Park in Zimbabwe with an officially approved management plan which clearly lays out the roadmap and vision for the conservation and management of the Park for the next 10 years, and which can act as an unambiguous guideline to project partners in the development of short and long-term goals and work plans.

 $Robert\ Muir\ heads\ the\ FZS\ Africa\ Programme\ since\ 2012.$

CONSERVATION IN AFRICA

ETHIOPIA

Bale Mountains Conservation Project

Around Bale Mountains National Park, the integration of community monitors into the Participatory Forest Management (PFM) system has built trust and improved the functioning of the community organisations. It has also provided data useful in monitoring, evaluation and adapting management strategies.

- O This data shows that although wood extraction has slowed, regeneration is not yet in place due to grazing pressure, highlighting the need to work further with communities in coming years to better control grazing pressures.
- O Within the Park, FZS provided equipment and support to conduct extensive scout training and implement a ranger-based monitoring system, which is in a pilot phase.
- O Tourism has increased and training was provided for local tour operators to improve the quality of guiding with mules and horses. Our plans for a stunning and artistic visitor centre are in development.

ETHIOPIA

Afro-Alpine Ecosystems Conservation Project

Our efforts to develop tourism as a means of financing the conservation of Guassa began to bear fruit with a dramatic rise in tourism numbers after our marketing efforts. Business planning showed breakeven points of approximately 440 tourists per year to cover tourism and conservation costs, and we are on course for 2013 to meet this target.

- O In Abune Yoseph documents for legal gazettement are being prepared, and community scouts and monitors have been selected and trained. The tourism huts were completed and are already in use from visitors on a trekking loop out of the world-famous town of Lalibela, home to ancient rock-hewn churches. We are developing tourism products this year that will improve the marketing of the area and the visitor experience.
- We are stepping up our support to the World Heritage Site for the Simien Mountains by providing additional technical support, fundraising for the park and through field initiatives as well. If we can obtain additional funding we will additionally support resource protection operations, surveys, alternative livelihoods and family planning initiatives.



The Ethiopian Wolf is the flagship species of Bale Mountains National Park.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

Maiko Conservation Project

The focus for the FZS project in 2012 was to engage with the Simba rebel group, which has been living inside the National Park since 1964, eleven years before the Park was even gazetted.

O To enable Park protection activities to move forward, the aim was to develop the relationship that would see the beginning of Simba reintegration back into civil society. Significant progress has been made on other activities including the construction of the school at Bitule, and the construction of the ranger-training centre – which has already been used to host training programmes financed by the African Development Bank through PACEBCo.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

Virunga Conservation Project

It has been an extremely challenging year in Virunga with the various armed conflicts. The M23 rebel group have occupied the gorilla sector since June and the Tongo area where we run the chimpanzee project has also been completely controlled by rebels since April. Nonetheless we have been able to provide support where possible.

O This included payment of operational salaries and the purchase of rations and fuel for the ICCN rangers (Institut Congolais pour la Conservation de la Nature) of the gorilla sector from August 2012. This enabled the guards to finally enter the sector in December and find the gorillas for the first time in many months. All habituated gorillas were accounted for and in addition the guards were able to confirm five births during the latter part of the year.



In DRC we are facing the challenges of working within areas that continue to suffer the direct and indirect effects of ongoing conflict.

- O We continued to play our part in the battle to protect Virunga from oil exploration through working with other international organisations to raise global awareness of the situation. Thanks to the flexibility of FZS core funds we were also able to make a timely contribution to the construction of an IDP camp for the ranger families from Rumangabo (Virunga Park HQ) when it was under serious and direct threat from the fighting. The families were very grateful for the intervention, which equipped them with shelter, food and sanitary facilities during a very difficult period in their lives.
- O The PREPAN project (Programme de Réhabilitation du Réseau des Parcs Nationaux en RDC/Rehabilitation Programme of the Network of National Parks in DRC) has the following objectives:
 - Stabilise the main bio indicator species within and outside the park
 - Improve the effectiveness of park management and reduce the number of violations of the park
 - Increase the availability of small-scale infrastructure and investment opportunities for local and indigenous communities
- We have also made significant progress with the development of a Pygmy association which is legally required to hand over land directly to the Pygmy community here; We continued to pay school fees for over 130 Pygmy children, provided them with uniforms, play clothes, equipment and books, and gave operational support to the ten schools where the Pygmy children are enrolled.
- We were able to purchase all of the equipment to build the electric fence around the gorilla sector, which is considered necessary in the human-animal conflict in the area, and hope to use the first window of opportunity in 2013 to commence the building work.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

Upemba National Park Conservation Project

The last year has been productive for the Upemba project. Although the project struggled with delays and many challenges at all levels, the year resulted in the successful implementation of many core project activities, and the development of an effective mode of operations for the Park's north sector and Lusinga headquarters.

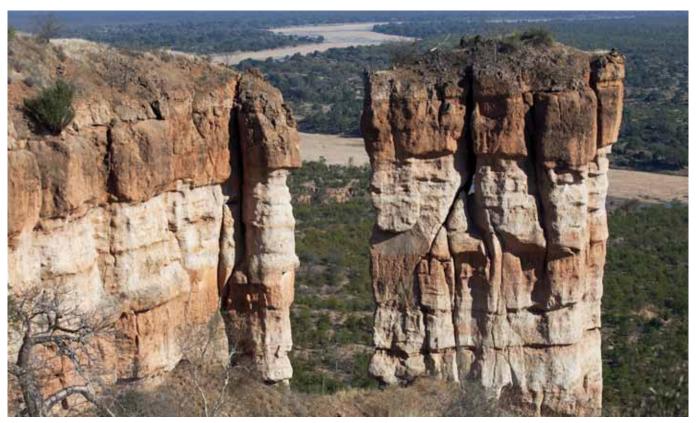
- O The management planning process for Upemba commenced in 2012 and significant progress was made through meetings with the "working groups." The plan is currently under development and expected to be completed in 2013. The first phase of rehabilitation of Lusinga station was completed including the office and housing for ICCN chief park warden and FZS, restoration of power to the site through a hydro turbine, and the restoration of key buildings. The garage on site has been fully operationalised, with a trained mechanic.
- O Progress was made towards the improvement of professionalism and capacity of the Upemba ranger force. Matriculated rangers received regular primes starting in June 2012, enabling them to better support their families and reducing the need for illegal farming and poaching in the park. Both the clinic on site and the local primary school have been supported to improve the lives of the rangers' families. Furthermore, FZS managed a canteen at Lusinga, which has become an essential part of the operations at the station, as rangers are now able to access food and basic supplies on site and at a reasonable cost.

ZIMBABWE

Gonarezhou Conservation Project

FZS has been involved in the management and development of the Gonarezhou National Park in Zimbabwe since late 2007. This National Park of just more than 5,000 km², situated in the southeast Lowveld of the country, forms part of the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park which straddles the borders of South Africa, Zimbabwe and Mozambique – forming a network of protected areas in excess of 30,000 km². The Gonarezhou itself is home to an elephant population of approximately 10,000 animals, which is one of the most significant protected meta-populations in the region. The Gonarezhou Conservation Project made some significant advances in 2012:

O A comprehensive conservation education project was initiated, with 35 out of 39 schools within a 15 kilometre radius of Gonarezhou involved at this stage. All schools have been issued with a set of education materials tailor-made to the SE Lowveld, mini-workshops have been held with teachers in the use of the materials and schools are regularly being visited by the FZS Community Liaison Officer.



The sandstone Chiloio Cliffs, visible for over 50 km, are a unique and spectacular feature of the Gonarezhou National Park,

- O A project was initiated to allow controlled grass harvest by communities in the area north of the Runde River. A total of 240 families benefited from supervised cutting of thatching grass, and an additional 180 families were allocated a quota to cut grass for feeding to their cattle.
- O A combination of Zimbabwe's land reform programme and historical land claims led to the settlement of a community in the northeast portion of Gonarezhou in an area of approximately 50 square kilometres in the year 2000. Although the portion of land that they inhabit is relatively small, their impact was felt much wider with large herds of cattle straying far into the Park. As a measure to break the deadlock, FZS initiated a fencing programme in 2011, which was finalised in 2012, at a total length of 57 kilometres of fence with 5 associated ranger pickets. This intervention had the immediate result that cattle were excluded from the Park in this area, with a concurrent drop in the number of elephant and other wildlife straying into the adjacent communities causing crop damage and posing a threat to human lives.
- O A tented camp consisting of 4 tents with en-suite bathrooms and kitchenettes, sleeping 4-6 people each, was built and furnished at the main northern Park entrance at Chipinda Pools. This camp is the only roofed accommodation for tourists outside of the southern Mabalauta sector of the Park and diversifies the tourism product on offer, as well as setting an example of low-impact tourism infrastructure development which can

be copied for future developments by the private sector in line with the wilderness vision for Gonarezhou.

TANZANIA

Mahale Mountains National Park Project

The FZS Mahale Project is now part of the integrated Tuungane Project implemented by three partners, FZS, The Nature Conservancy (TNC) and Pathfinder International (PI). FZS is the leading partner in terms of work on the ground and is represented in the Executive Committee. We are playing a key role in terrestrial management and livelihoods development, and are also supporting Tuungane partners on Health, Governance, Fisheries, Information, Education, Communication and Advocacy. The Mahale project has continued to enjoy a close working relationship TANAPA and provided basic support to Mahale Mountains National Park operations through:

- O Equipment maintenance (speedboat overhaul)
- O Facilitation of park METT analysis
- O Facilitating 5 Village Land Use Plans
- O Facilitating the establishment 10 Village Land Forest Reserves. Management plans and bylaws are now approved.

- Scout training for 41 village forest scouts and provision of equipment and supplies for effective management of village forests.
- O Developing and implementing an environmental education strategy, including the establishment of 15 youth environment clubs, conducting 2 large awareness raising public events, production of printed materials about Mahale Mountains National Park.
- O Training 157 people how to build fuel-efficient stoves (over 2,000 stoves constructed so far).
- O Supporting the Community Conservation Section (CCS) of Mahale Mountains National Park to implement education and awareness raising activities.
- Expanding and strengthening the COCOBA microfinance banking network in Mahale, with the addition of 12 new COCOBA village trainers. There are now 48 COCOBA groups with a total combined capital exceeding 550,000,000 Tsh (approximately 330,000 USD).

TANZANIA

Serengeti Rhino Repatriation Project

FZS successfully completed the construction of the Bomas and ranger accommodation at the Boma site. In order to support law enforcement and rhino monitoring efforts, we supplied patrol rations to the group of 46 rangers operating within the Ndasiata area of the Serengeti as well as four vehicles for rhino monitoring, law enforcement and logistics support.

O We also provided two thousand litres of diesel each month to TANAPA's law enforcement fleet. Finally, we completed the construction of a second digital VHF repeater for use by the rhino rangers thereby enhancing the security of their operations. Poaching threats have increased considerably since the first rhinos were flown in, and we must now focus on establishing appropriate protection and monitoring systems. The upsurge in poaching needs to be addressed before any more rhinos are brought in. As a result, over the next one to two years the SRRP will focus its resources on security and anti-poaching. Once security has improved, we plan on bringing in additional rhinos.

TANZANIA AND ZAMBIA

Conservation Research for East Africa's Threatened Ecosystems

The CREATE project (Conservation Research for East Africa's Threatened Ecosystems) commenced in January, 2011 and is funded by the European Union (EU) and Frankfurt Zoological Society (FZS). Through CREATE we are investigating key questions regarding interrelationships between poverty reduction, human health, resiliency to shocks, natural resource management, and environmental conservation within two ecosystems: Serengeti in Tanzania and North Luangwa in Zambia. CREATE currently operates as five case studies.

O A total of nine students (five PhD students and four Masters students) began fieldwork in 2012, commencing a large and key component of project implementation. The move to base the CREATE project from Mpika office in Zambia has been completed, with appointment of a new project leader, an accountant to oversee all project accounts and internal auditing, and a counterpart from the Zambia Wildlife Authority (ZAWA). In Tanzania, key project outcomes included establishing a team of 12 forest scouts from Sonjo village and a Maasai village sharing a community forest in Loliondo, as well as continuing growth and financial success of the Community Conservation Bank groups (COCOBA), with emerging local conservation benefits.

ZAMBIA

North Luangwa Conservation Programme

The black rhinos population continues to progress positively with the adaptation of the last 5 rhinos (arrived 2010). Concerns at the end of 2011 over some of the animals in poorer condition following a very hot and dry year, were alleviated with the removal of sections of the sanctuary fencing and the uptake of supplementary in-field feeding stations. As the rains abated in April an immobilisation programme was carried out to insert new VHF transmitters, affording the vets the opportunity to thoroughly examine and assess the health of the individuals darted. Throughout the year monitoring particularly focused on maintaining the Intensive Protection Zone (high security) around the rhinos, especially with regard to the animals that began to cross the former fence lines and explore further afield. The alarming escalation in rhino poaching over the last five years gives cause for concern and FZS continues to seek new and innovative security measures to mitigate the threat.



FZS Project Manager Ed Sayer coordinates the activities of the North Luangwa Conservation Programme NLCP.



- O The Conservation Education Programme underwent massive developments through the mentorship of the Zoological Society Discovery and Learning Department. The teaching and learning resources have been rewritten and other conservation organisations in Zambia, Zimbabwe and Kenya are now adopting and adapting the contents to their own needs.
- O 172 serving ZAWA Wildlife Police Officers (Zambia Wildlife Authority) underwent in-service training to enhance their skills, confidence, motivation and discipline. At the end of which, each received new uniforms and patrol equipment. Further to that the top 40 officers went on to complete an advanced tactical course to focus on anti-poaching patrol strategies and clandestine operations; These officers form the Rhino Protection Unit.
- O The North Luangwa Conservation Programme (NLCP) carries out widespread infrastructural programmes including road building and maintenance, school facilities and ZAWA WPO housing. In 2012, this included improved road access for patrol deployments throughout the Intensive Protection Zone, a kitchen and dining facility for Mano Manunga Basic School and the completion of 24 Wildlife Police Officer's (WPO) houses.

O The year was particularly successful with external funding support from United States Fish and Wildlife Services and Save the Rhino International, and a large grant from GIZ to support capital expenditure. NLCP was able to purchase 6 new Toyota Land Cruiser vehicles, 5 Honda motorbikes, 1 Yamaha quad bike and a Caterpillar 140H grader.

"I WOULDN'T BE HERE IF I DIDN'T BELIEVE THE RISK WAS WORTH IT OR IF WE WEREN'T HAVING A POSITIVE IMPACT."

Conservation work in an area where the security situation has been more than difficult is a huge challenge. It's about getting the balance right – to be as effective as possible without taking too much risk.

Questions for Alison Mollon, FZS Project Leader for the Virunga Conservation Project in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Alison, what makes the area you work in – the Virunga National Park and adjacent areas - so unique?

Virunga National park is the oldest and most biologically diverse park in Africa. Gazetted in 1925, it also has the greatest landscape diversity between 900 and 5,000 metres anywhere in the world. With exceptional endemism (harbouring more endemics than any other park in Africa), it is extremely species-rich and home to much of central Africa's mega-fauna, and supports more bird, mammal and reptile species than any other protected area on the African continent. Its biodiversity is of global importance, illustrated by its world heritage status. It is a Ramsar site and a CI hotspot.

If we can't value and protect the most bio-diverse park in Africa with the longest protected area history on the continent, the result will be a huge loss globally for nature conservation.

The security situation has been more than difficult over the past month and still is. How does that affect your project and your daily work? Unfortunately, war is a way of life here; the fighting is sadly a normal situation for most of my team and the population we work with. So often they don't see the fighting as a reason to stop what you're doing and therefore there is a lot of pressure to continue. I have to make judgments on a daily basis on whether to do an activity or not as the small windows of opportunity are often all you have to actually get something done. It's about getting the balance right; to be as effective as possible without taking too much risk. I often have to ask myself, would it have been worth it if something goes wrong, could I justify this trip or activity under these conditions, with this set of risks? And I don't always get it right!

Several times you were forced to leave the country due to the fighting. How do you decide when to leave – and when to come back?

I listen. We work a lot with local communities and if anyone knows what is going on almost before it happens, it's the local population, which includes my team. Having a good communication strategy is key. Again, you have to use your best judgment and common sense, but it's about risk assessment. What are the risks, what are my current activities, is the activity worth the risk, is being here right now worth the risk?



Alison Mollon (centre) exchanging experiences with colleagues from other FZS projects in DRC: Prince Kaleme (Maiko) und Bryna Griffin (Upemba).

Is it worth the risk, working in an area of conflict such as Virunga?

It's definitely a question we take seriously, and to give an honest answer, I think we have to look at the types of risks and also the impact our activities are having. I've outlined above how important Virunga is, so then it's a case of ensuring that your activities are going to be effective and really tackle the threats and needs of the park. These can change incredibly quickly, so you have to be flexible and have a good understanding of what is happening on the ground. But this is why using FZS funds is so important here, as we are able to be adaptive, understand the needs and ensure that those funds address those needs. By ensuring that we always assess the impact that we are having, we can definitely argue that it's worth the risk.

Of course, at times the risk is higher and we need to suspend activities, but at least then we are ready to begin again when the window of opportunity opens. One thing is for certain, I wouldn't be here if I didn't believe the risk was worth it, or if we weren't having a positive impact.

Last year an additional threat to Virunga emerged: oil exploration. What would this mean to the park and to the local people?

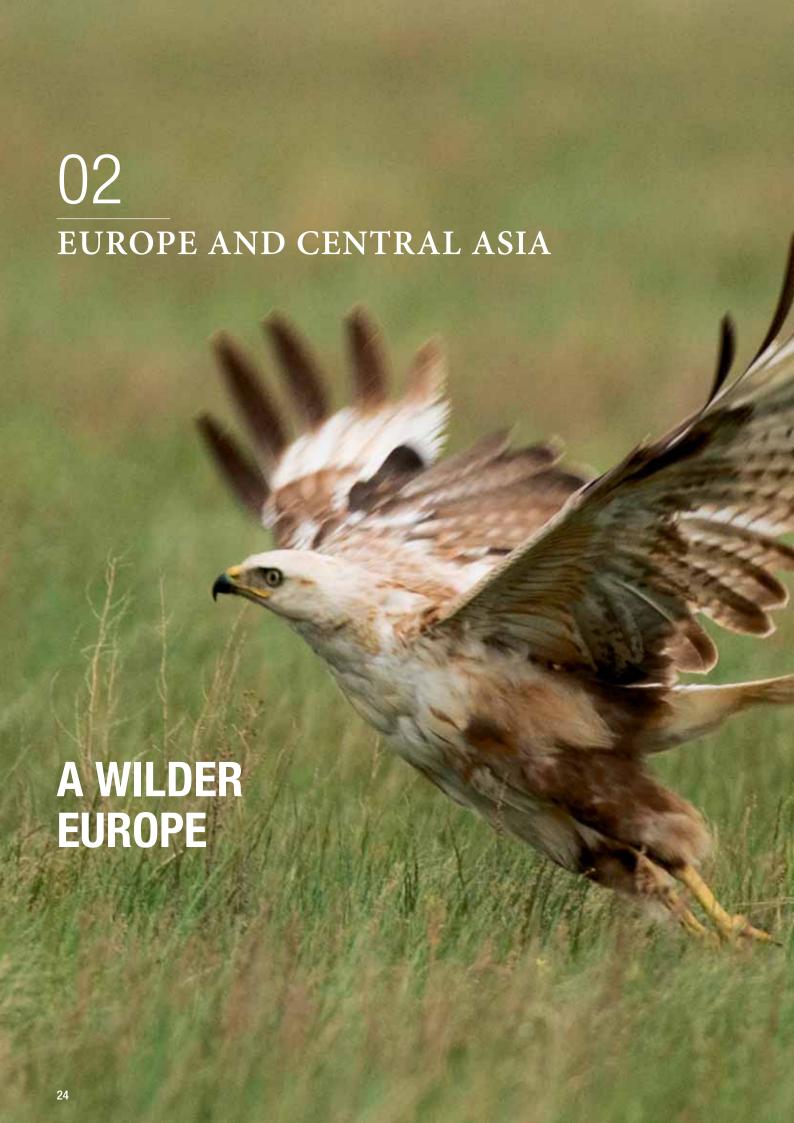
In terms of the physical landscape, oil exploration and development practices will have both primary and secondary impacts on the Virunga environment. Primary impacts, such as forest fragmentation caused by roads, pipelines or other developments, have been shown to correlate with loss of landscape and ecological connectivity, loss of species, and structural and functional

ecosystem changes that have implications even outside of the immediately disturbed areas.

Secondary impacts are commonly the direct result of large influxes of people who relocate in expectation of receiving benefits from new industry. Based on the experiences of other parks where this has happened, in Virunga we would see an immediate increase in natural resource use, including deforestation for illegal charcoal production, bushmeat hunting and illegal fishing in Lake Edward. Also, if there is contamination of Lake Edward from improper waste disposal, it would destroy a vital source of fresh water and protein for local human populations. There would be a huge impact on water security for millions of people, since the lake is a source of the Nile River. And finally, the local communities do not want exploration in Virunga; they have explicitly stated that they are opposed to any oil development (exploration and exploitation) in Virunga National Park.

Do you see any chance to prevent this from happening?

We need to be realistic – the oil companies can offer those in power a lot of money. So using arguments about ethics and offering a more sustainable future, may have a limited impact. What we can do is encourage the DRC government to look at alternatives. For example, the hydro-power potential of DRC is enormous and could bring in incredible amounts of revenue. If development projects, and especially the donor community who pump billions of USD into DRC each year could use their influence to offer an alternative, with the caveat that the parks remain protected, then perhaps it's an argument we can win.





Michael Brombacher heads up the FZS Europe Department.

"Large wilderness areas in which nature can take its course are rare and are becoming even more so."

By Michael Brombacher

Large wilderness areas in which nature can take its course are rare and are becoming even more so. On its home continent, the FZS is dedicated to preserving such pristine habitats and helping to create new ones. That means that we want to commit ourselves to places where there are still large, continuous, essentially intact natural environments that have trans-regional importance. These areas still exist – even in densely populated Europe. In the future, the FZS's European focus regions will encompass:

- O the Carpathian Mountains.
- O the Belorussian and Polish parts of the ancient Białowieża Forest.
- O the Polessie border regions of Belarus, Russia and Ukraine, one of the continent's largest wilderness areas with extensive flood plains, peats and raised bogs, and virgin forest.
- O the steppe and semi-deserts of Kazakhstan that support large mammals, such as Saiga antelope and wild ass kulan.
- O the Prespa lake district in the tri-border area shared by Albania, Greece and Macedonia.

The FZS initiated new projects in all of these areas in 2012, and we expanded our commitment in places like the Kazakhstan steppe as well.

Even in a relatively small country like Germany, we have the opportunity to preserve such natural treasures for coming generations. In this context, the FZS will increasingly focus on preserving as much expansive, connected wilderness area as possible. In the coming years, we hope to augment our existing projects at Hohe Schrecke and in Brandenburg (Brandenburg Natural Landscape Foundation) with additional wilderness areas of a minimum of 1,000 hectares.

CONSERVATION IN EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA

EUROPE

Bearded Vulture Trending Upward Despite Lead Poisoning

The population of bearded vultures in the Alp region is growing steadily, thanks to a reintroduction project that the FZS co-founded three decades ago. Today, it is one of Europe's most successful species protection initiatives.

Currently, there are about 180 bearded vultures in the Alps. Last year, the first two young birds were released in the French Massif Central. This is the first step in creating a connection between the Alp population and a small, genetically isolated residual group of birds in the Pyrenees. The scientific community reacted with interest last year to the first exploratory flights of the vulture "Jakob." One year after his release in the Austria's Hohe Tauern National Park, in May 2012, Jakob flew all the way to the Dutch coast of the North Sea, returning home over France. But we also had to absorb some dramatic setbacks. Three bearded vultures fell vic-

tim to lead poisoning last year, and in January one dead female was discovered in eastern Tirol. "Glocknerlady", who was released only a few months ago, had more luck. With her transmitter reporting unusual levels of passivity, staff of BirdLife Slovenia succeeded in locating and capturing the bird for a period of recuperation after which she was once again released into the wild. These cases underscore the harm that comes to animals through the use of lead in hunting ammunition.

We are pleased to report on the achievements of another vulture project. Green Balkans, our partner in the Bulgarian Balkans, has been successfully releasing griffon vultures from breeding and rehabilitation centres in France and Spain. To date, over 100 birds have been released in Bulgaria, and, for the first time in 50 years, last year a nest with griffon eggs was observed.

The project is being supported by the German Environmental Foundation (DBU) and the European Union as a part of its LIFE+ Programme.



 $Having\ recovered\ from\ lead\ poisoning,\ bearded\ vulture\ "Glocknerlady"\ was\ once\ again\ released\ into\ the\ wild.$

ALBANIA

FZS Partnership With Prespa National Park

Scientific fieldwork was the focus of our project activities in Albania's Prespa National Park in Albania. The knowledge that was gained from a wide-ranging forest inventory, evaluation of grassland and plant communities, and surveys of breeding birds and mammals, as well as the fish populations in both of the park's lakes, will flow into a new management plan for Prespa National Park as a whole. The data also served as the basis for a new zoning proposal for an expansion of the park. The goal is to incorporate important habitats beyond the park borders into the park.

The park management received comprehensive training and was outfitted with uniforms. The latter are intended to project a more professional corporate image for the park administra-



The knowledge that was gained from a survey of the fish populations in both of the park's lakes will flow into a new management plan for Prespa National Park as a whole.

tion and to make park employees immediately recognisable to the public. A network of hiking trails was laid out and project partners are developing an innovative information concept for visitors and locals.

An important and work-intensive part of implementing the project was laying the groundwork for a proposal to have the area designated as a trans-border biosphere reserve. The area, which includes the two Prespa lakes and neighboring Ohrid Lake, will be known as the Ohrid-Prespa Watershed. Still to be recognised by UNESCO, the biosphere reserve currently encompasses three national parks, conservation areas and natural monuments. The area for the proposed plan amounts to about 300,000 hectares.

The project is being funded through KfW development bank on behalf of the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development.

ROMANIA

Establishing a Large Private Forest Conservation Area

The forested areas of the Carpathian Mountains, particularly in Ukraine, Slovakia and Romania, represent – with the Bialowieza and Polessie regions – the largest connected expanses of ancient forest in Europe.

The beech forests of the Carpathians in Ukraine and Slovakia have enjoyed UNESCO world natural heritage site status since 2007. Mixed mountain forests characterise the Romanian region of the Carpathians. Beech and spruce are the predominant species. Experts estimate that Romania's approximately 5,000 brown bear comprise the largest population in Europe outside of Russia. The conservation areas set aside by the Romanian government especially the national parks - are for the most part underfunded and failing to achieve their mandate. Conflicts regarding land use are a threat due to the transfer of land back to private owners, a practice that even affects land within the conservation areas. In the Carpathians in and around Piatra Craiului National Park, Foundation Conservation Carpathia (FCC) is seeking to create a private conservation area and thereby flank the government's protection efforts. The current return of forest to former private owners offers a unique if brief window of opportunity to protect large expanses of natural forest, since the owners are generally not interested in the land and are willing to sell. The FZS began supporting the project in 2012.

MACEDONIA AND BULGARIA

A New Biosphere Reserve in the Osogovo Mountains

On the Macedonian side the majority of the project area was granted conservation status in 2012. This is an important requirement for the planned nomination of the Osogovo Mountains as a UNESCO biosphere reserve.

An additional milestone for the two FZS-supported biosphere reserve projects for Prespa and Osogovo was the creation of a national "Man and Biosphere" committee for Macedonia. Both projects worked hand in hand to quickly establish the committee. The general meeting took place in November 2012, with the most important agenda items dedicated to the planned biosphere reserves Osogovo and Ohrid-Prespa Watershed.

Our collaboration with Bulgarian partners intensified again last year following a politically motivated hiatus. Election results in Bulgarian municipalities have in the meantime greatly improved the chances of creating a trans-border biosphere reserve.

UKRAINE

Positive Developments in the Polessie Region

Ukraine's north is the location of one of Europe's largest wilderness areas, the Polessie. Our commitment in this region is focused on the Mizhrichynsky Conservation Area and the newly established Nizhnesulsky National Park.

Good progress was made in both areas in 2012. A monitoring network was created in the national park to better assess the development of species and habitats. Underscoring the urgent need to protect this region, the creation of the network led to the discovery of a Red List species, the barbastrelle, a threatened European bat (Barbastella barbastellus). In 2012, the project leaders submitted to the responsible ministerial authorities numerous recommendations for enlarging the park and creating protection zones. Despite our expectation that the proposals would go forward, they have not yet been approved.

GERMANY

Focus on Forest Wilderness

At home in Germany, the FZS is concentrating more and more on the protection of natural habitats and large forest areas, but also on rivers that are being returned to their natural state. Accordingly, the FZS's most important project areas in Germany include the more than 12,000 hectares of wilderness area belonging to the Brandenburg Natural Landscape Foundation (SNB) and the Lieberose site near Cottbus in particular. The FZS finances the salary of the project head on site.

A second focus region is the forest area Hohe Schrecke in Thuringia and Sachsen-Anhalt. The FZS is also working on the rehabilitation of the Günz River, a tributary of the Danube in Bavaria. For many years we have been dedicated to the study and protection of wildcat in the Rhön Biosphere Reserve and will be handing over the project to another organisation in 2013. We are pleased to report on a number of highlights last year:

Brandenburg Natural Landscapes Foundation

- O In 2012, a comprehensive feasibility study was commissioned for the Lieberose Heath to protect ten valuable moor areas that are in danger of drying out. The more than 1,000 page report has been completed, and we are optimistic that with the help of external financing the rehabilitation project will commence in 2013.
- O In November 2012 the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN) agreed to fund the preparation of the International Nature Exhibition in Lieberose. A project position has already been established.

Hohe Schrecke

O For four years, the FZS has been involved in a conservation project dedicated to the long-term protection of this 7,300 hectare forest area in Thuringia and Sachsen-Anhalt. An initial planning phase with fieldwork and a census of species was completed in 2012. To date, scientists have identified nine relict species, indicators for a virgin forest at Hohe Schrecke. These species speak of the enormous importance of this area for Germany and suggest that this land has never been agriculturally used and was always characterised by old and valuable forest.



In its home county of Germany, the FZS is concentrating more and more on the protection of natural habitats.

O The bat communities – including highly threatened species – are particularly worth mentioning. Researchers discovered a roost in the dried-out cavity of an ancient beech tree sheltering 570 *Pipistrellus nathusii* females as well as Brandt's bat (*Myotis brandtii*) individuals. This represents a unique sighting in Germany and the first example of a *Pipistrellus* roost in Thuringia.

Rhön

- O In 2012, our project partner RhönNatur collated all of the wildcat data from the Rhön region and commissioned a genetic analysis with the Senckenberg Research Institute (Dept. of Nature Conservation Genetics). The findings of the five-year wildcat monitoring programme include the identification of 26 different individuals in the biosphere reserve and 41 in the Rhön region as a whole (excluding hybridisation). They are clearly distinguishable and can be organised into four separate populations. In order to better understand the living conditions of wildcats in the Rhön area, RhönNatur e.V. has contracted a habitat study to identify migration routes that can then be subject to special protections.
- O Last year, RhönNatur e.V. also developed in collaboration with local environmental education partners a wildcat programme for kindergartens and primary schools. In partnership with school programmes for grades six and up, over 1,000 children and youths were introduced to the topic of "Wildcats of the Rhön".

Grünztal Project

O The Grünztal is a river valley stretching some 92 kilometres. It connects the Allgäu with the Danube and represents Bavaria's largest stream system. Since 2004, the FZS has been supporting the Grünztal Cultural Landscape Foundation (Stiftung Kulturlandschaft Grünztal) in protecting this species-rich habitat. In 2012, an additional six hectares of land in the area was purchased, bringing the total to about 40 hectares.

BELARUS

The FZS Starts Something New in Europe's Largest Mixed Lowland Forest

Belarus is taking its international responsibility for the protection of biodiversity seriously. In early 2012, the country expanded to 57,000 hectares the core zone of Belovezhskaya Pushcha National Park and by summer had stopped hunting, forestry and the feeding of wildlife in the area. This means that the core zone, i.e. the part of a national park in which nature can develop according to its own laws without human intervention, is now four times as large as the core zone in Germany's Bayerischer Wald National Park.

In 2012, the FZS extended its activities to the Belorussian side of Europe's largest contiguous expanse of mixed lowland forest, where we supported the national park administrators in their conservation activities. In late 2012, the FZS organised in cooperation with Belorussian partners an initial project planning work-

shop at Belovezhskaya Pushcha National Park ("Pushcha" means "dense forest"). At the park centre, we worked out an action plan for the next five years organised into five priority areas:

- O improving the water system in the area following drainage activities and the straightening of the river, the groundwater level sunk 1.5 metres in some places in recent years
- O studying the changing use of land by ungulates and predators now that human activities have been halted on 57,000 hectares of land
- O studying species and groups of species that are characteristic of natural forests with old growth and a high percentage of deadwood
- O assessing the park's ability to sustain European bison and deer, and formulating a management plan for large animals
- O creating a wildlife research centre that will allow scientists from all over Europe to study natural forest ecosystems; and forming trans-border partnerships with Polish institutions

Due to its size and contiguous nature, Belovezhskaya Pushcha National Park is a wilderness area of European significance. We have only begun to understand its diversity of species and habitats. The Frankfurt Zoological Society and the national park administration are now ready to implement the plan with the help of partners and supporters.

This project is being supported by Lufthansa and the charitable Friends of Animals Foundation (Freunde des Tieres).

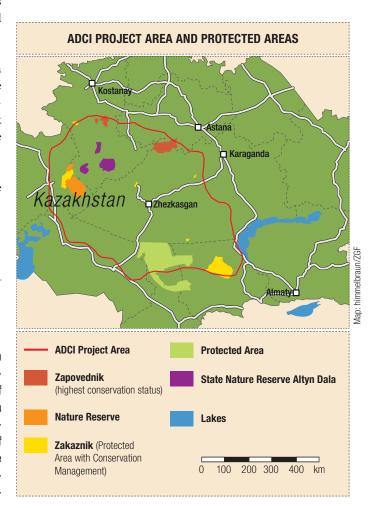
KAZAKHSTAN

Altyn Dala – Serengeti of the North

Kazakhstan was the site of one of the FZS's greatest conservation victories last year. On 26 November 2012, the government of Kazakhstan officially signed the agreements governing the creation of the new Altyn Dala conservation area. What this means is that a large area of steppe habitat now augments existing protected areas in our project locations in central Kazakhstan. Over a period of just six years, this central Asian country had set aside about three million hectares of steppe and semi-desert landscapes for conservation. Taken together, the area of protected land is now approxi-

mately the size of Belgium. There are plans for additional conservation areas and the FZS team on site is involved in selecting appropriate land for protection.

The new conservation area consists of three separate pieces of land encompassing 489,766 hectares. Altyn Dala is particularly important for the highly endangered Saiga antelope (Saiga tatarica), because these animals use this area for calving and summer grazing. The newly established conservation area will thus play a crucial role in protecting the species. The creation of this nature reserve was supported in large part by the FZS and represents a great step forward for the Altyn Dala Conservation Initiative (ADCI), which was founded by the Kazakhstan Ministry of Agriculture's Committee of Forestry and Hunting (CFH). The initiative is being funded by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and international partners. Our partner on the ground is the Association for the Conservation of Biodiversity of Kazakhstan (ACBK).



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"WE ARE SLOWLY RETURNING TO THE ORIGINAL SITUATION OF LARGE HERDS OF HOOFED ANIMALS IN GRASSLAND ECOSYSTEMS."

The FZS has been working in central Kazakhstan since 2002. In 2005, we played a major part in the Altyn Dala Conservation Initiative (ADCI). This initiative is a large-scale nature conservation programme that was co-founded by the Kazakhstan government and is being funded by the FZS and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB). On site, all of the activities are being run by our local partner organisation, Association for the Conservation of Biodiversity of Kazakhstan (ACBK).

Questions for Steffen Zuther, Project Advisor and expert for GIS and Research with the Altyn Dala Conservation Initiative, Association for the Conservation of Biodiversity of Kazakhstan (ACBK).

Steffen, you have been living and working in Kazakhstan for six years now and have spent a lot of time in the steppe. Have things changed during this time?

When we started working here, the steppe was a lot emptier than it is today. The unsettled situation following the dissolution of the Soviet Union had left its mark, and the wildlife population was severely decimated. The best example in this regard is the Saiga antelope, whose population when we began our work was much smaller. Seeing a group of these animals was quite unusual back then. Today the Saiga population is about six to seven times larger, and the size of the herds is also increasing again. So we are slowly returning to the original state, with grassland ecosystems supporting the large herds of hoofed animals, like we have in the African Serengeti.

These are impressive accomplishments. How did you get where you are today?

Initially, it was about combating poaching. It's the single biggest problem facing wild animals – particularly the Saiga. We supported the ranger units. At the same time we collected data about wildlife sightings, and that's how we learned a lot about the distribution of the different species. This knowledge can now be used to make the ranger's work more effective, because now we can send them to locations where the threatened animals actually are. The findings of the Saiga telemetry project are also extremely helpful in this respect.

All of this information can be used in the next step of scouting locations for the creation of new conservation areas. We locate the most important areas in which the animals gather. In the case of Saiga, this means major calving and mating grounds.

At the same time, we are also working with the local population to raise awareness about environmental problems and ecological issues. This has helped us stop people from poaching or suppor-



Steffen Zuther works as a Project Advisor for the Association for the Conservation of Biodiversity of Kazakhstan (ACBK).

ting illegal hunting. And, of course, we want to generate an appreciation of our work so that we are working with people and not against them. Without this understanding, it won't work.

The Saigas appear to be recovering – is it because the steppe is better protected now?

Yes, the Saigas are recovering – also due to the protection of the steppe and because it is receiving more attention in nature conservation in Kazakhstan. When we first started working in central Kazakhstan, there were hardly any conservation areas. There were only two areas in the northern part of the country, and these were mostly forest and lakes. In the meantime the area of protected land including approved new zones has grown by almost 2 million hectares. And there is more to come! These conservation areas are not just our achievement. The government has realised that it must address weaknesses in Kazakhstan's network of conservation areas and fulfil international agreements. This is something we need to acknowledge. This is how it was possible to markedly expand the area of natural grasslands under protection. Even in global comparison, this must be regarded as a real success story.

Where do we go from here?

Our work doesn't end with the creation of new conservation areas. The new rangers need instruction and training, for example, how to monitor key species, such as Saiga or different bird species. We also want to develop tourism as a potential source of income for the local population and maintaining the conservation areas. And effective conservation areas require good management plans. These are all areas in which we will be active.

Of course, our research programmes also continue. In the future, we would like to propose potential conservation areas to the government. This conservation area network will eventually provide protection on the level of entire landscapes. Our goal is the creation of a "Eurasian Serengeti". That's why we are planning to release Przewalski horses from Europe in Kazakhstan. These horses lived here a long time ago and would find favourable conditions. They would complete the spectrum of species in the steppe ecosystem in central Kazakhstan.



By Dr Antje Müllner

outheast Asia and Indochina are highly diverse regions in terms of biodiversity but they are equally diverse culturally and politically. The conditions for FZS projects in Indonesia and Vietnam are thus very different. What both countries have in common is a high level of population density and increasing pressure on the remaining natural landscapes. Conservation areas are becoming the very last sanctuaries where wild animals can live undisturbed. Outside these protected zones, forests and wetlands are being destroyed for agriculture and industrial plantations, as well as for the exploitation of natural resources underground. Although studies show how important it is to ensure that such havens of biodiversity remain connected, the trend is going in precisely the opposite direction.

Conservation areas are increasingly becoming isolated islands in a sea of palm oil and acacia plantations. To make matters worse, conservation areas are frequently too small to support species that require a large range, tigers for instance. Finally, conservation areas are typically marginal habitats that cannot easily be used by humans – often they do not always meet the needs of the animals.



The elephants in Bukit Tigapuluh in central Sumatra, for example, live almost exclusively outside the park. The elephants avoid the mountainous landscape in favour of better terrain. The consequence is frequently conflicts with local people in the area. The elephants devour crops, trample fields and destroy huts. The FZS

"Conservation areas are becoming the very last sanctuaries where wild animals can live undisturbed."

has initiated an innovative project dedicated to reducing conflicts between humans and elephants. Working with locals, we are developing methods to drive away the elephants and keep them away from fields. Our intensive work with people and animals is creating new opportunities for living together. Since the project began, we have not found another poisoned elephant. But the project also demonstrates the need for regulatory interventions in an environment that is becoming smaller and smaller for wildlife.

Dr Antje Müllner heads the FZS department for South America and Southeast Asia.

CONSERVATION IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

INDONESIA

Bukit Tigapuluh Received More Than 150 Orangutans

Historically, the Bukit Tigapuluh Conservation Programme developed out of a project dedicated to the reintroduction of orangutans into the wild. Its focus has shifted in the meantime to encompass the preservation of the last remaining rainforests as habitat for tigers and elephants as well as the great apes.

Currently, nine teams of the Wildlife Protection Unit (WPU) are cooperating with forestry police in controlling the natural forest surrounding the Bukit Tigapuluh National Park. The FZS established the WPU in 2004, and we continue to help monitor wildlife and support forest officers to combat illegal logging. The activities of the WPU are supported by a mobile education team that regularly visits the village schools. The FZS project also works with local communities, promoting more efficient cultivation methods that limit the amount of land needed for agriculture.

In order to preserve the forest areas surrounding the national park for the long term, in 2011 the FZS applied in conjunction with the WWF for a so-called Ecosystem Restoration Concession. The allotments represent a special form of timber concession that permits specific kinds of forest use. This relatively new instrument of forest management has not yet become established with government agencies in Indonesia, meaning we had to do a lot of persuading and clear many bureaucratic hurdles. The process stagnated for a while, but, as of February 2013, there are once again positive signs from the Tebo District, and we are optimistic that we will be granted a 45,000 hectare concession. This will mean that for the next 60 years large parts of the forest will remain in their natural state. Our application still needs to pass through a number of other offices and will require the preparation of additional comprehensive documentation, including an environmental impact statement and a management plan. It will likely be 2014 before we receive official approval. Currently, the FZS, in conjunction with WWF Indonesia, is preparing a project dedicated to the management of the concession.

Our orangutan project also continues to make progress. Last year six additional apes were released from a period of quarantine in northern Sumatra and brought to Bukit Tigapuluh; twenty orangutans were released into the wild following several months of training. More than 150 orangutans have been brought to Bukit Tigapuluh over the past 10 years. We don't know the exact size of the current population in light of a number of documented deaths on the one hand as well as several births. It is clear, how-

ever, that this "back-up" population of Sumatra orangutans is well established and growing at a natural rate.

The elephant conservation and conflict management project is already entering its fourth year and is continuing on its path of success. New deterrence methods were tested and villagers are implementing them with good results. The destruction of fields has decreased and no new elephants were poisoned. In addition, in 2012 five elephants were outfitted with satellite-supported transmitters. The transmitters allow us to locate the elephants and serve as a kind of "early warning system". When the elephants approach a village, inhabitants are informed and can take appropriate measures.

The Bukit Tigapuluh Conservation Programme is funded in large part by The Orangutan Project, Australia's Perth Zoo and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

Projects under the umbrella of the Bukit Tigapuluh Conservation Programme:

- Orangutan reintroduction
- O Human-elephant conflict mitigation
- O Wildlife protection and ranger patrols
- O Environmental education and community development
- O Natural forest preservation and conservation concessions

VIETNAM

Primate Protection Programme in Vietnam

Our efforts in central Vietnam are focused on supporting the administration of Kon Ka Kinh National Park. The core of our involvement is funding and training for 21 rangers, who complete their service in the park's 8 stations.

In 2012, two additional stations were outfitted with field gear, such as GPS equipment, cameras, binoculars as well as computers for writing up reports. We also trained rangers in wildlife census procedures; the findings will be compiled into a new database. Rangers are very appreciative of the fact that our project team regularly accompanies them on their patrols. The patrols have discovered 14 logging camps and confiscated over 250 snares.

In addition to our work with the rangers, we also support the park's environmental education team. Together with members of the FZS project group, the team visits on a consistent basis the schools in the villages bordering the park. A competition for 400



In August 2012 five Sumatra Elephants were outfitted with satellite-supported transmitters. The transmitters serve as a kind of "early warning system" and help us to mitigate conflicts with local communities.

school children was organised at the end of the school year, and the team also arranged a photo exhibit dedicated to the animals living in the park in a community centre. A number of meetings were organised in the communities near the park borders in order to discuss the use of natural resources through hunting, forestry and agriculture. In this context, the FZS project team is functioning as a mediator between the park and the population. We are currently looking for ways to prevent the expansion of fields into the park that will be acceptable for both sides.

In early summer 2012, FZS project leader Dr Ha Thang Long travelled to Khao Yai National Park in Thailand in order to meet with the park director and the head of environmental education. The objective of the meeting was to discuss and create interest in models of sustainable eco-tourism. As a result of the discussions, changes were made to the master plan for Kon Ka Kinh.

We are also pleased about the deepening ties to the Biology Department at Danang University, where we also maintain our regional headquarters. Members of the FZS team and the university organised lectures on nature conservation themes, and in fall 2012 there was once again an edition of the two-week special course on "Nature and Primate Conservation". Twenty

students were able to learn the basics of ecological field research and studying monkeys in particular. Following the course, a group of volunteers expressed their interest in working in Kon Ka Kinh. Two masters theses in the area of conservation are now also underway.

The sub-project dedicated to the reintroduction of Hatinh langurs in Phong Nha-Ke Bang National Park in northern central Vietnam achieved a breakthrough in 2012. After long delays, four Hatinh langurs were released from the acclimatisation enclosure into the national park. The monkeys were outfitted with GPS-enabled radio collars, but post-release monitoring will be difficult due to the area's extremely steep mountains and narrow valleys. According to plan, at the beginning of 2013, the FZS turned over the project, which we had been supporting in collaboration with the Cologne Zoo, to the park administration.

Projects within the scope of the Vietnam Primate Conservation Programme:

- O Forest conservation in Kon Ka Kinh National Park
- O Protection of Delacour langurs in Van Long Reserve and support of the Endangered Primate Rescue Centre (EPRC)
- O Reintroduction of Hatinh langurs in Phong Nha-Ke Bang National Park

"SCIENTISTS HAVE SHOWN US HOW GREAT THE BIODIVERSITY OF OUR PARK IS AND WHICH CONSERVATION ISSUES ARE IMPORTANT HERE."

Without precise knowledge about the behaviour of species or the ecology of systems, preserving these species and systems is difficult. That's why cooperation with scientists is the foundation for our work in many FZS projects. In Vietnam we have established a close partnership with the University of Danang.

Questions for Dr Ha Thang Long, Project Leader of the forest protection project in Kon Ka Kinh National Park.

Your project has a close working relationship with Danang University. How important is the relationship with scientists for your success in nature conservation?

Very important. The scientists helped us to create a training programme for rangers working in Kon Ka Kinh National Park. The focus of the programme is wildlife monitoring. It provides an opportunity for rangers to increase their knowledge and better fulfill their tasks in the park. The scientists also conduct research in the park. Their publications have demonstrated how great the biodiversity in our park is and which conservation issues are important here. The programme has also helped raise awareness about the FZS project, and new scientists have been coming to Kon Ka Kinh to support our work. And they tell their students about their work here. This motivates many students to come here as well to work as nature conservation volunteers.

Are there other points of contact?

The FZS collaborated with experts of Danang University to develop a training course. It is for students in their second and third years and takes place annually in September. It lasts five days – three days of instruction and two days in the field – and focusses on "Conservation of Vietnamese Primates". So it's about the value of primates for Vietnam and their protection status, but also about practical research methods. 150 students have taken this course since 2007. At the university itself, the FZS has funded a reading room and has also regularly organised seminars with scientists and conservationists. Six of these seminars were held in 2012.



Project Leader Dr Ha Thang Long sharing his enthusiasm for Kon Ka Kinh National Park with Vietnamese students.

Do rangers and local people also benefit from the students?

Oh, yes. The rangers frequently work with the students conducting research projects in the park. The students often give talks about their work in Kon Ka Kinh for rangers and locals. In this way the people here learn about the park's biodiversity and they learn to better appreciate the value of their park.

Do the training courses help get students interested in nature conservation?

Absolutely. In the meantime, four students are working in FZS projects. We have one in Van Long Nature Reserve and three here in Kon Ka Kinh National Park. There is also a former student now working for the national park itself, and another on a WWF project in Hue. A number of students who have attended our courses have become biology teachers at high schools in central Vietnam, instructing their students about what they have learned from us.

Would you say that all this is helping to promote enthusiasm among Vietnamese people for Kon Ka Kinh National Park to raise awareness about its importance?

Yes, I'm convinced of it. Since the project began in 2010, the park has not only received more attention in the media, but more support from the national and provincial governments. The number of research projects in the park has tripled, and now there is even a film about Kon Ka Kinh that has been shown across the country on television.



THE AMAZONIAN WILDERNESS AN IRREPLACEABLE WINDOW INTO A DISAPPEARING WORLD

By Dr Antje Müllner

For a number of years, the Frankfurt Zoological Society has focussed its work in South America on the protection of large, connected natural spaces in the tropical belt. This is where you can find habitats of uncommon diversity supporting countless animal and plant species. The preservation of these unique wilderness areas has benefitted from moderate population growth and – up to now – restrained economic development.

Natural processes still play themselves out in these landscapes. Flooding and the unchecked meander of a river, the creation of open spaces through avalanches and storms, as well as recolonisation activities, all still occur in ways unaffected by human interventions. All of this allows animals and plants to develop dynamically. And let's not forget that the South American rainforests are also a refuge for indigenous peoples living in voluntary isolation from the modern world.

Many South American countries have established conservation areas - some of them enormous - in order to protect their unique natural treasures. Take the new Kanuku Mountains conservation area in Guyana, whose 6,000 square kilometres make it twice as large as Germany's Saar region. Encompassing 45,000 square kilometres, the neighbouring conservation areas of Manú, Alto Púrus and Megantoni in Peru cover an area larger than Switzerland! Thanks to their enormous size, these major conservation areas can support animals with large ranges, such as jaguars, and give them a real chance of long-term survival. Natural expanses of this dimension also present challenges in terms of management and control, but the countries of South America have made an enormous contribution to the preservation of biodiversity in their territory that benefits us all. The FZS's overarching objective for its South America Programme is to contribute to the protection of these areas by supporting national institutions.

Of course, economic development does not stop at the borders of the Amazonian wilderness. Large infrastructure projects, such as roads or dams, are supposed to create income and jobs. Yet the projects are seldom coordinated on a regional level and do not always benefit local communities. Plans surface and disappear for a while before being resuscitated later under new governments. Examples include the plan to exploit gas deposits on the border of Manú National Park and the proposal to build a road through Alto Púrus National Park and indigenous reserves. Clearly, additional concerted environmental policy measures will be needed in order to safeguard for the long-term the integrity of these protected lands.

Even if the general conditions are better in South America than in places like Asia, for example, the increasing exploration and exploitation of the region's natural resources means that in the futu-

"The vast protected areas of South America present challenges in terms of management and control."

re conservation areas will become more and more important for the preservation of biological diversity. In addition, these areas will become irreplaceable windows into a wilderness that is disappearing around the globe. The FZS offers park administrators and institutions expert consultation and services for the management of conservation areas. We work hard to create support for the existence of protected lands and seek partnerships with local people living inside and outside the conservation areas in shaping a common future.

The South America Programme has made progress during the past few years in concentrating its efforts on large protected wilderness areas in the tropical belt. Without endangering what has been achieved, we have been carefully scaling back our commitment to projects outside this focus. Our national partners on the ground have developed into professional and well-established organisations that are fully capable of meeting the challenges they face in protecting biodiversity without our help. In Brazil, for example, the threat status of the golden lion tamarin has been downgraded, in Ecuador, the "Galapagos Law" has brought significant income to the national park, and the new biosphere reserve in Chile's Chillán Mountains is protecting crucial habitat for Andean deer. These successes suggest that now is the right time to invest scarce and precious resources in new South American projects. Thus, the projects on the Galapagos, in Brazil and Chile received FZS funding for the last time in 2012. Parallel to this, we contributed to the expansion of the rainforest protection programme in Peru and prepared additional projects in central Brazil and Guyana.

Dr Antje Müllner heads the FZS department for South America and Southeast Asia.

CONSERVATION IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

BRAZIL

A Bright Future for the Golden Lion Tamarin?

The project to protect the golden lion tamarin in the Atlantic coastal rainforest is nearing the goal it set for itself: a population of at least 2,000 golden lion tamarins inhabiting 25,000 hectares of protected and connected habitat.

Models based on genetic analyses and existing habitat predict that the current free-living population of over 1,700 individuals has a good chance of surviving for the next 100 years. This is a fantastic result for the Brazilian tamarin organisation Associação Mico Leão Dourado (AMLD), which celebrated its twentieth anniversary in November 2012.

An important condition for the positive forecast for the tamarins is of course that the individual populations continue to be protected and that they become increasingly connected. That is why the work of the AMLD, our long-time conservation partner, will remain important. The AMLD has evolved into one of the most important conservation organisations on the regional and national level. Its influence goes well beyond the specific case of golden lion tamarins. The tamarins have become a symbol of the destruction and unique importance of the coastal Atlantic rainforest. The region's immense and unique biological diversity is benefitting from the AMLD's protective umbrella.



The current population of over 1,700 golden lion tamarins in the Atlantic coastal rainforest has a good chance of surviving for the next 100 years.

CHILE

Solid Foundation for the Long-Term Protection of Huemul

The Chilean organisation Comité Nacional Pro Defensa de la Fauna y Flora (CODEFF) has been a partner of the FZS for over 20 years. With the support of the FZS, CODEFF has for many years implemented the major conservation project for the Andean deer in the Nevados de Chillán in central Chile.

The creation of the biosphere reserve in 2011 was a real milestone in the protection of the Andean deer known as huemul. CODEFF and the forestry agency CONAF are continuing their efforts to strengthen the population with animals from Patagonia. Through new partnerships, such the collaboration with Concepción University, as well as enhanced public relations activities, the huemul has become a flagship species for the region. Thanks to these efforts, the foundation has been laid for the species' long-term protection.

In a sequence of small steps, the FZS has scaled back as planned its financial stake in the huemal project and withdrew completely at the close of 2012. Last year the FZS covered the salary of a ranger at the Santuario Huemules del Niblinto conservation area and also supported a fundraising campaign.

ECUADOR

After More Than 40 Years: Saying Goodbye to the Islands

The Frankfurt Zoological Society has been supporting the Charles Darwin Foundation (CDF) for over 40 years — almost without interruption. We have contributed to conservation research and practical conservation activities on the islands of Galápagos.

A lot was accomplished in the fight against imported domestic animals and the reintroduction of giant tortoises and the land iguanas endemic to the Galápagos. The FZS has seen the CDF through some difficult times as a supportive and reliable partner, and along the way we have earned a level of respect that goes well beyond that of a "mere" funding organisation. Over the decades, the CDF has grown and evolved into a capable nature conservation organisation with many additional financial backers. We are pleased to see how Galápagos National Park has evolved into a financially solid conservation area. This stable si-



The Frankfurt Zoological Society has supported Galápagos for over 40 years - almost without interruption.

tuation allows us to turn to other important objectives in South America. The FZS concluded its funding programme for the CDF in 2012.

In our final funding year, we supported the CDF's environmental education programme, which has been responsible for the development, approval and implementation of school curricula for the islands. There were also many activities outside of the schools – such as plays, exhibits and competitions – that were designed to be fun while at the same time teaching children about the special environment of the Galápagos. The FZS also provided funding for maintenance work at the Charles Darwin Research Station.

The CDF will continue its important work to protect this unique archipelago in cooperation with Galápagos National Park and other partner organisations.

PERU

From the Andes to the Amazon Rainforest

Dedicated to protecting the region's rainforests, the FZS's Andes to Amazon Conservation Programme has been helping protected area administrations in southeast Peru to manage their immense conservation areas for many years. This comprehensive programme, which now includes a number of different components, developed out of a giant otter conservation project initiated over 20 years ago.

A focus of our work in Peru is to support the conservation area agency SERNANP in controlling and monitoring the large and frequently difficult to access areas of Manú, Alto Púrus, Tambo-

pata and Bahuaja-Sonene. In addition to providing equipment, the FZS supports capacity-building with training opportunities and workshops. We also initiate and accompany special patrols and collaborative activities. National nature conservation foundations, such as PROFONANPE and FONDAM, provide financial backing for these endeavours. Last year in Manú National Park, for instance, the expansion of a control and monitoring system was supported with further training measures, equipment, planning expertise and special patrols. The FZS also helped SERNANP plan its tourism development activities, create informational material and a website, and also supported its stand at the "World Travel Market" trade show in Britain. The goal of these investments is to create sustainable funding for the national park with the help of entrance fees.

In order to provide better protection for Alto Púrus National Park and bordering reserves for indigenous people living in voluntary isolation, we provided ranger training and refurbished the control post at Tahuamanu. In partnership with the communities of the Tahuamanu River, we collected information on the current use of natural resources, such as the collection of turtle eggs, with the goal of promoting sustainable practices for the future. In the context of a pilot project, turtle nests were guarded and occasionally even relocated when they were discovered below the flood line. During a community celebration last fall, over 1,100 young river turtles were returned to the water in an official ceremony.

In 2011, we partnered with the WWF to create a new ranger station on the border of the Tambopata Reserve, and last year we finished outfitting the control post and put together an action plan for the rangers. The ranger station will help to locate and prevent illegal gold extraction. The director of the Peruvian conservation area agency, Pedro Gamboa, travelled from Lima to attend the inauguration of the station, which bears the name Otorongo (jaguar).

In May 2012, the provincial capital of Puerto Maldonado was once again the site of the giant otter celebration founded by the FZS. Many associations and schools participated in the talks and the festival parade; the FZS team organised an exhibit, film presentations and events for children. The highpoint was a count of giant otters in the Tambopata Reserve that was conducted by rangers, tourist guides and volunteers under the direction of the FZS otter team. The observers were able to identify 25 otters.

Environmental education has become a key component of the rainforest protection programme. Together with members of SERNANP, the FZS organised school excursions to Sandoval Lake in the Tambopata Reserve and to the Manú Learning Centre located in Manú National Park. Over 1,300 school children and 60 teachers visited the facility last year, connecting what had been taught in the classroom to nature.

Funded by the nature conservation foundation PROFONANPE in cooperation with Germany's GIZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für internationale Zusammenarbeit), the FZS team supported the conservation agency SERNANP in revamping its national training programme for park employees. The first training courses were conducted in 2012; a stipend programme for further training measures has also been established.

In late 2012, the International Climate Protection Initiative of the Federal Ministry for the Environment (BMU) approved funding for the proposal "Forest protection and management of natural resources in the Manú Biosphere Reserve". This was the reward for our exhaustive work in preparing the submission - even if the "real" work is really just beginning. The overarching objective of the new project, which spans five years, is to reduce deforestation and to align the exploitation of natural resources with principles of long-term planning and sustainability. In partnership with SERNANP, we want to establish models for sustainable natural resources use and the efficient management of settlements in the reserve. Additional goals include: reducing grazing, providing reliable wildfire prevention, improving measures to combat the infection of wildlife with diseases stemming from domestic animals, and reducing conflicts between wild animals and humans. We are also committed to the important goal of enhancing the role of indigenous communities in competently co-managing the national park.

Projects within the Andes to Amazon Conservation Programme:

- O Protection of the giant otter
- O Capacity building for protected area staff
- O Technical support for protected areas
- O Sustainable use of natural ressources in local communities



"IT IS CRUCIAL THAT LOCAL PEOPLE SEE MANU NATIONAL PARK AND BIOSPHERE RESERVE POSITIVLEY IF THEY ARE TO BE SUCCESSFUL AS PROTECTED AREAS IN COMING DECADES."

The *Andes to Amazon Conservation Programme* in Peru is the FZS's second-largest programme after the Serengeti. It has been growing continuously for 20 years, and in 2013 an important project component was added – ProBosque Manú.

Questions for Juvenal Silva, ProBosque Manú Project Leader. ProBosque Manú is a new project dedicated to "Forest protection and natural resources management in the Manú Biosphere Reserve". It is supported by the International Climate Initiative (ICI) of the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz und Reaktorsicherheit, BMU)

Manú National Park is celebrating its 40th anniversary this year and FZS has been a partner for the park for more than 20 years. How has this partnership changed over the decades?

FZS's involvement in Peru has changed dramatically over the years. The first work we did here was mainly research projects on threatened species and ecosystems; this provided important information that enabled conservation planning for species such as the Vicuna, Black Caiman and Giant Otter. In 2002, FZS registered as a national NGO in Peru and initiated a protected areas support programme that now works in a much broader sense to support the Peruvian Government in its management of seven protected areas and a territorial reserve that cover more than 5 million hectares.

FZS has just launched a new programme, funded by the German Environmental Ministry BMU through their International Climate Initiative ICI. What is the main focus of that project?

The five-year ProBosque Manú project aims to reduce forest and biodiversity loss in the Manú Biosphere Reserve primarily by involving local communities in the protection and management of natural resources; this will involve promoting sustainable use of natural resources and creating alternatives to clearing forest for agriculture, which is the main driver of deforestation in the area.

The amount of funding obtained, the time frame involved and the collaborative approach with the protected area authority and FZS working together, allows us to tackle some of the more difficult issues facing the Manú National Park and Biosphere Reserve that have been neglected in the past. These issues include: the grazing and associated burning of high Andean Puna grasslands, and planning for sustainable use of natural resources by the growing populations in native communities within the park.



Juvenal Silva heads the new ProBosque Manú Project in Peru.

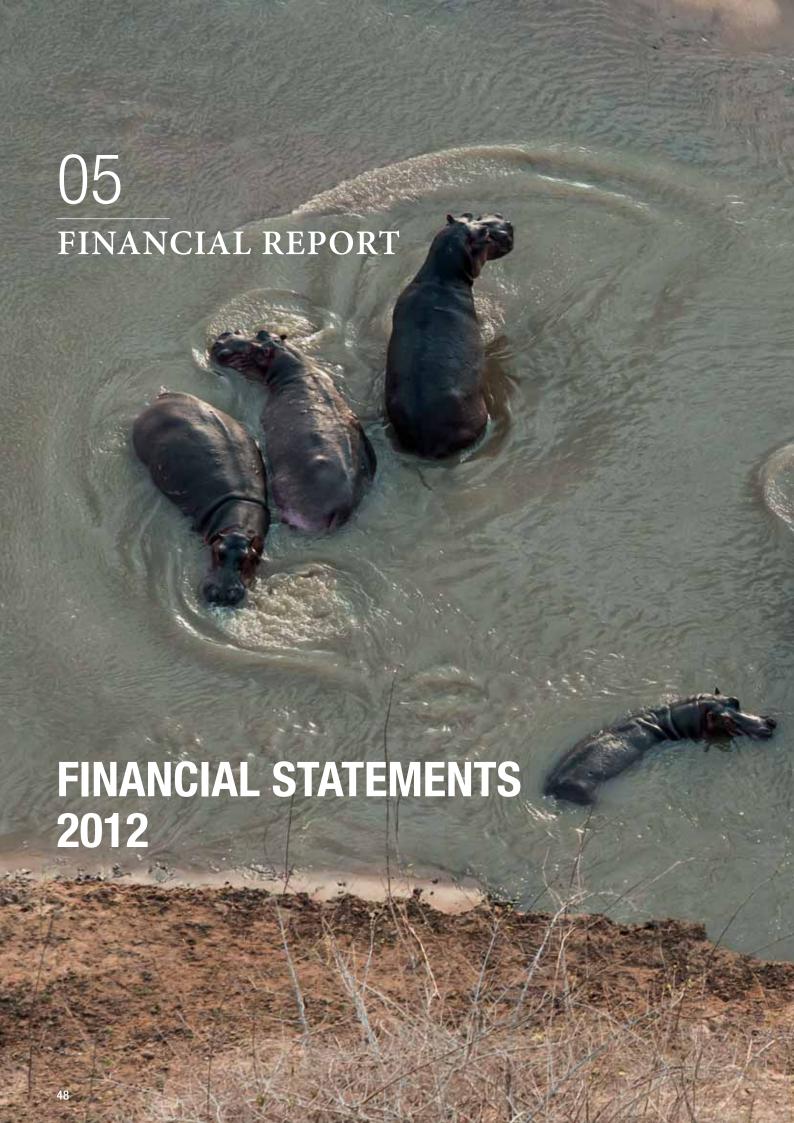
The project will also strengthen the park management by improving equipment, infrastructure and creating more community-based park guards.

What makes the Manú Biosphere Reserve so unique?

The Manú Biosphere Reserve (MBR) protects one of the most important areas of tropical forest worldwide. Spanning the eastern Andes and the Amazon lowlands, its location makes it one the most biodiverse protected area on earth; it is home to more than 5,000 species of plants, equivalent to 1/6 of the entire world's flora, 221 species of mammals, 1,025 species of birds, 150 species of amphibians and over 100 reptiles. This diversity combined with the fact that the core area, Manú National Park, was designed to protect an entire watershed mean that it is a truly pristine wilderness area that is even still home to peoples living in voluntary isolation.

How will ProBosque Manú contribute to safeguarding this unique area?

The project will contribute to the biosphere reserve's long-term preservation by attempting to resolve issues that if left unresolved could become serious threats to the integrity of the reserve over time and to get the local people more actively involved in the area's management. It is crucial that local people see Manú National Park and Biosphere Reserve as positive things that improve their lives and bring benefit to the region if they are to be successful as protected areas in coming decades.





Florian Becker-Gitschel is FZS Head of Finance.

The economic standing of the Frankfurt Zoological Society of 1858 e.V. (FZS) and the *Hilfe für die bedrohte Tierwelt* Foundation (Help for Threatened Wildlife Foundation) will be reported on separately, but the two organisations are closely linked. Established in 2001 with most of the capital available to the Society, the Foundation is dedicated to securing the long-term financing of the FZS's nature conservation projects.

GENERAL ECONOMIC SITUATION

Offering donors, benefactors and sponsors various ways of contributing, our model of a society dedicated to practical conservation activities financially supported by a foundation has proven itself again and again over the years. As a general indication of our financial position, the balance sheets of the Society and Foundation – and our share of equity capital at approximately 90% – indicate a continued positive and stable trend. Following an extraordinary result in 2011, last year the FZS was able to further strengthen its financial profile despite difficult economic times and is well positioned to meet the enormous challenges facing nature conservation in the future.

The total assets of the Foundation and FZS amounted to \in 76.8 million last year, an increase of 10.9% (2011: \in 68.69 million), and represents the largest balance since the inception of the Frankfurt Zoological Society.

"HILFE FÜR DIE BEDROHTE TIERWELT" FOUNDATION

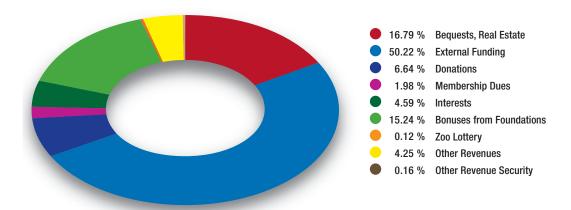
In 2012, the *Hilfe für die bedrohte Tierwelt* Foundation disbursed $\in 1,792,166.18$ (2011: $\in 2,237,111$) to the FZS's conservation projects. This total includes contributions from the Munichbased Eleonore Beck Foundation of $\in 666,000$. Thanks to the FZS's favourable economic results in 2011, last year we were able to restore reserves to the maximum of 33%. As a consequence of this measure to top-up reserves, we paid out $\in 445,000$ less last year and added to our endowment.

The solid returns from the Foundation's endowment funds, particularly our special fund, continue to lag behind long-term investments and thus did not meet our basic expectations. However, we were able to compensate thanks to the strong growth of bonds and a careful mixture of alternative bond categories, such as emerging markets bonds and stocks. In the end, we were able to achieve outstanding returns of 8-10%. At year's end, we also made a small investment in real estate. We plan in the mid-term to diversify our investments with real estate as a way of lessening our dependence on capital markets. A regular flow of income from rent will help us to maintain our long-term conservation work. Since the real estate market is overheated at the moment, legacies that include real estate represent a very attractive point of departure for establishing and developing a real estate portfolio.

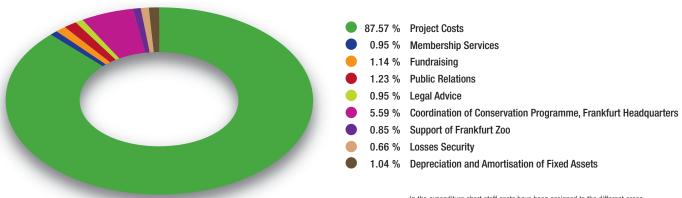
The evaluation of the investments of the Foundation and Society is conducted at market value; revaluation reserves and assets are thus significantly higher.

The Foundation's balance increased markedly last year, up by \in 5.039 million to \in 57.472 million – the future looks bright for our long-term conservation work.

REVENUES FRANKFURT ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY	2012	2011
Bequests, Real Estate	2.03	3.17
External Funding	6.08	4.77
Donations	0.80	0.78
Membership Dues	0.24	0.23
Interests	0.56	0.45
Bonuses from Foundations	1.85	2.29
Zoo Lottery	0.02	0.01
Other Revenues	0.52	0.22
Other Revenue Security	0.02	0.02
TOTAL (IN MILLION EURO)	12.11	11.94



EXPENDITURES FRANKFURT ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY	2012	2011
Project Costs	9.23	8.02
Membership Services	0.10	0.10
Fundraising	0.12	0.13
Environmental Education, Public Relations	0.13	0.14
Legal Advice	0.10	0.09
Coordination of Conservation Programme, Frankfurt Headquarters	0.59	0.36
Support of Frankfurt Zoo	0.09	0.05
Losses Security	0.07	0.08
Depreciation and Amortisation of Fixed Assets	0.11	0.02
TOTAL (IN MILLION EURO)	10.54	8.99



In the expenditure chart staff costs have been assigned to the different areas.

ASSETS OF FRANKFURT ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY	2012	2011
FIXED ASSETS		
Intangible Assets	34.50	35.87
Material Assets	2,897.62	3, 256.32
Financial Assets	10,418.78	8,861.09
CURRENT ASSETS		
Receivables and Other Assets	2,018.56	1,355.04
Cash, Postal Giro, Banks	3,312.36	2,705.82
Prepaid Expences and Deferred Charges	25.19	44.77
TOTAL (IN TEUR)	18,707.01	16,258.91
LIABILITIES OF FRANKFURT ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY	2012	2011
Society Assets	16,701.70	15,124.59
Special Reserves	1,826.56	874.95
LIABILITIES		
Other Liabilities	178.76	217.96
Prepaid Expences and Deferred Charges	0.00	41.41
TOTAL (IN TEUR)	18,707.01	16,258.91

ASSETS OF THE FOUNDATION "HELP FOR THREATENED WILDLIFE"	2012	2011
FIXED ASSETS		
Material Assets	0.00	0.00
Financial Assets	54,029.47	50,437.16
CURRENT ASSETS		
Other Assets	206.02	231.37
Liquid Assets	187.34	487.38
Balancing item for retained fund earnings	2,518.15	1,276.79
Trust Assets Stiftung Vogelschutz in Feuchtgebieten	531.03	0.00
TOTAL (IN TEUR)	57,472.00	52,432.70
LIABILITIES OF THE FOUNDATION "HELP FOR THREATENED WILDLIFE"	2012	2011
FOUNDATION ASSETS		
Foundation Capital	42,789.65	42,783.70
Reserve for Regrouping of Properties	928.01	909.88
Revaluation Reserve	4,811.74	779.47
Reserve for Administration of Properties	6,685.29	6,144.07
Reserve for Purposes of the Foundation	1,702.27	1,792.17
SPECIAL RESERVES	11.60	13.20
LIABILITIES	12.43	10.21
Trust Assets Stiftung Vogelschutz in Feuchtgebieten	531.03	0.00
TOTAL (IN TEUR)	57,472.00	52,432.70

FRANKFURT ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF 1858 E.V.

2012 Revenues

We are satisfied with our revenues from last year. Returns from the entire range of income sources exceeded our expectations. Income from memberships increased only slightly from \in 0.23 million to \in 0.24 million, but direct donations were up markedly from \in 0.78 million to \in 0.80 million.

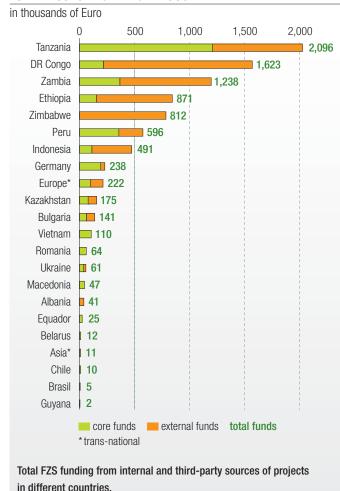
Revenue from fixed-interest securities, dividends and other sources of interest, which are managed in-house, amounted to approximately \in 537,405 – an increase over last year despite the difficult capital market situation.

The majority of other revenues came from a number of large and valuable estates and bequests. Revenues from these sources amounted to \in 2.034 million last year.

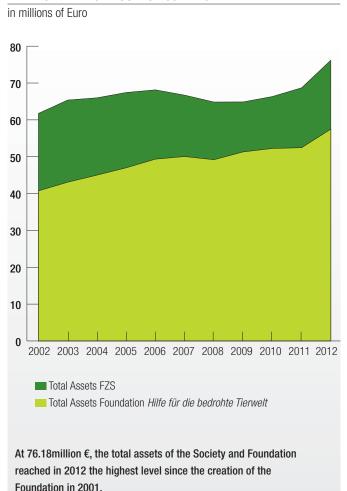
Every donation via last will and testament to the FZS or our *Hilfe für die bedrohte Tierwelt* Foundation is a contribution that supports our nature conservation work. We feel a great responsibility to carefully manage the estates that have been left to us. A legacy or bequest offers a special opportunity for individuals to make a tax-free contribution that will continue to have an impact in protecting the world's natural treasures long after they have passed on.

The acquisition of third-party funding, which the FZS acquires through government and private institutions for specific pro-

2012 PROJECT FUNDING BY COUNTRY



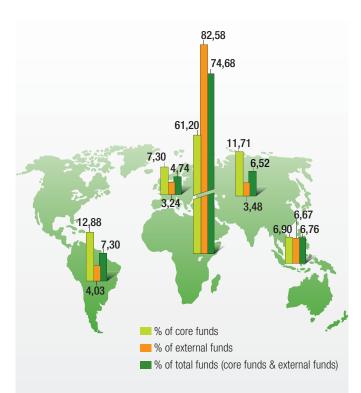
DEVELOPMENT OF ASSETS 2002 - 2012



jects, is an important revenue stream for the implementation of major projects. The FZS is committed to making sure that these funds are managed efficiently and effectively and are applied to the projects for which they are intended in the most sustainable way possible. Our internal risk controlling oversees the balance between our own resources and funding from external sources. In addition, since 2012 we have been using new financial software that gives our projects on the ground the same tools for managing their operations that we have in Germany. The system is hosted on a high security server in Germany, which is particularly important in high-risk project regions and allows us to make international data comparisons at any time.

DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDING BY CONTINENT

in percent



Thanks to the large proportion of third-party funding – and representing 74% of our total project expenditures – Africa is the focus of our nature conservation activities. Internal funding represents a greater proportion of total project funding on various other continents.

2012 Expenditures

Project expenditures amounted to approximately \in 8.9 million in 2012, which included \in 5.6 million in dedicated external funding and \in 3.3 million from our own revenue streams. Thus, expenditures remained within the budget parameters approved by the Board. Large projects and the effort to maintain more of a presence on the ground is challenging enough from the perspective of nature conservation, but difficult political conditions and uncertainties, as well as tax law problems, can also be daunting. Viable agreements with governments, high-quality and transparent financial management, and the support of professional auditors and lawyers will play a larger role in helping us to minimise risks and react appropriately in cases of conflict. The excellent revenue situation last year offers a good point of departure for the coming years. It will help us to develop and finance a forward-looking, long-term and robust organisation.

As was the case in 2012, this year will see continued investments in the expansion of our administration. Finances, PR and Fundraising are supporting departments for the projects and head-quarters that must now be harmonised with the organisations that have matured on the project level.

Continuous Auditing

In terms of spending and general finances, most of our projects are subject to direct auditing by the external funding organisations themselves. Thus, our EU-sponsored projects in Congo, Tanzania and Zambia are audited directly by the independent accounting firm Baker Tilly International. The activities of our Africa Program Office ARO in Seronera/Tanzania were also audited by "Baker Tilly International".

The Annual Report of the *Hilfe für die bedrohte Tierwelt* Foundation and the Frankfurt Zoological Society was audited by W+ST Wirtschaftsprüfung GmbH of Frankfurt am Main. The Financial accounts of the FZS and Foundation were approved without restriction.

Independent of the annual external audits, internally we regularly control our projects for compliance with our own guidelines and quality standards. In order to ensure competent controlling, our employees receive regular training and skills upgrades in financial administration.

External funding

Third-party funding encompasses government funds, grants from other organisations, contracts and partnerships. In 2012, our most important sources of external funding and cooperation partners included: the European Union, German Environmental Foundation (Deutsche Bundesstiftung Umwelt, DBU), Federal Office for Nature Conservation (Bundesamt für Naturschutz), Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung, BMZ), Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW), Centre for International Migration and Development (CIM), Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz und Reaktorsicherheit, BMU), Federal Office for the Environment (Umweltbundesamt), Paul Tudor Jones Family Foundation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, World Bank, USAID, Government of Finland (LifeWEB), Darwin Initiative, Perth Zoo, The Australian Orangutan Project and PanEco.

Cooperation and Partnerships with Other Foundations

The FZS maintains a range of important, long-term partnerships with private foundations. The FZS is particularly well-positioned to partner with small foundations of which there are many in Germany, because we are able to provide operational services that are often beyond their means. Our long experience in nature conservation and long-term local partnerships, as well as our internal controlling and external auditing practices, ensure efficiency and transparency in our management of project-specific funding.

FZS Management of Independent Foundations and Trusteeships

In recent years, private individuals have been increasingly establishing foundations, either during their lifetimes or in their testaments. Upon request, the Frankfurt Zoological Society can manage foundations that conform to our own mission and allow us to invest returns in FZS projects. In this context, we are particularly pleased to report on the creation of a new foundation in 2012. The Wetland Bird Protection Foundation (Stiftung Vogelschutz in Feuchtgebieten) is a dependent foundation of our *Hilfe für die bedrohte Tierwelt* Foundation.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

North America

Thanks to the efforts of the FZS, in March 2008 the non-profit organisation, Grzimek's Help for Threatened Wildlife Inc., based in Florida/USA, was granted tax-free, charitable status under section 501(C)(3) of the US tax code. The organisation is dedicated to the protection of wild species and their habitats, pursuing its mission in large part by providing the FZS with project-specific funding.

South America

Founded in 2002, the charitable Ayuda para la Vida Silvestre Amenazada – Sociedad Zoológica de Francfort Perú – AVISA SZF PERÚ, is the FZS's partner in Peru. AVISA is committed to preserving biological diversity in Peru, particularly within the government conservation area system, SINANPE. AVISA runs its own projects and supports other government and non-government organisations in applied research, park protection and management, training and environmental education.

NEW DONATIONS RECORD

DONATIONS

In 2012, donations amounted to approximately \in 835,000 – the highest annual total we have recorded in recent decades. This represents an increase of 14% as compared to 2011 and the third consecutive year in which we have enjoyed double-digit growth in this revenue stream. It also puts us well above the general trend in donations in Germany. As usual, the majority of our donations (67%) are earmarked for particular projects. As compared to last year, however, we were able to grow the percentage of non-specific donations from a little over a quarter (27%) to a third (33%). What this means for us is that we have at our disposal an increasing percentage of donations that we can invest where we see the greatest need.



Companies support the FZS: A tour of Kilimanjaro inspired a Frankfurt advertising agency to make a donation.



Personal commitment: One donor asked for donations to the FZS instead of birthday presents following a trip to the Serengeti.

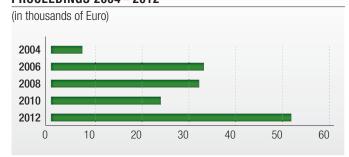
The trust and appreciation that we enjoy among our donors is reflected most clearly in our adoption programme and memberships. While the number of sponsorships for gorillas, orangutans, rhinos, giant otters and wildcat has remained constant, the amount of support has far exceeded the suggested monthly minimum of \in 30. Many of our 3,640 members have been with us for decades. Last year, our members were once again particularly generous, voluntarily topping up their membership fees. This explains why our 2012 revenue from membership dues exceeded last year's total. Of course, many sponsors and members also make donations above and beyond their regular due.

We would like to thank all of our sponsors and friends for joining with us in taking on the challenges of nature conservation.

CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS STEMMING FROM LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

Donations weren't the only category in which the FZS was able to set a new benchmark in 2012. Charitable contributions arising from court proceedings doubled last year, reaching a new high of $\in 51,300$. Five payments exceeding $\in 1,000$ made up the bulk of this revenue. This type of charitable contribution is generally not purposed and can be invested at our discretion where it will have the greatest impact.

CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS STEMMING FROM LEGAL PROCEEDINGS 2004 – 2012



FZS AT A GLANCE

THE FRANKFURT ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY

The Frankfurt Zoological Society of 1858 e.V. is a registered, charitable organisation with headquarters in Frankfurt, Germany. Professor Bernhard Grzimek substantially shaped the Society, which today has approximately 3,640 members. The FZS pursues two objectives: preserving biological diversity and wilderness areas around the world, and supporting the Frankfurt Zoo.

At the end of 2012, the FZS had 322 employees, 11 of whom are based at our Frankfurt headquarters. The rest all work in our project countries. We also have 40 volunteers working as conservation ambassadors at the Frankfurt Zoo and another 30-40 participating in environmental education in the context of our Peru Programme.

ORGANISATION

The General Assembly of our membership is the FZS's highest governing body. It elects and discharges the Board and must approve changes to our charter. The Board consists of up to eight members elected to a three-year term. It also approves the yearly programme submitted by the Executive Director, the budget and the management of our assets. All Members of the Board conduct their duties on a honourary basis.

STRATEGY AND OBJECTIVES

As a relatively small conservation organisation, efficiency and focus is crucial for all of our biodiversity and wilderness protection activities. That's why the FZS concentrates its efforts on specific ecosystems – large grasslands, forest, wetlands and mountains. Our geographical emphasis lies on East Africa, South America, Southeast Asia and Eastern Europe. National parks and conservation areas, such as the Serengeti (Tanzania), Virunga (DR Congo), Manú (Peru) and Bukit Tigapuluh (Sumatra), are where most of our resources are invested.

We run the majority of our projects and programmes with our own team and on location. The FZS also supports many local partner organisations in their work to preserve natural landscapes in our project countries.

PARTNER ORGANISATIONS

Standing at our side is the *Hilfe für die bedrohte Tierwelt* Foundation, which we established in 2001 and which is also based in Frankfurt. The sole purpose of the Foundation is to support our nature conservation work around the world. An independent non-profit organisation with a similar name was established in 2008 in the USA – Grzimek's Help for Threatened Wildlife Inc., located in Florida/USA. The Munich based *Eleonore-Beck Stiftung* exclusively funds the FZS.

Grzimek's Help for Threatened Wildlife Inc. is a tax-exempt charitable organisation with 501(c)(3) status that funds FZS on a project-specific basis. The organisation makes it possible for US sponsors to make tax-deductible contributions to support our work. FZS members sit on the boards of both our Foundation and the US-based non-profit.

Founded in 2002, Ayuda para Vida Silvestre Amenazada – Sociedad Zoolólogica de Fancfort Perú – AVISA SZF PERÚ is a charitable organisation that pursues the mission of the FZS in Perú. The FZS is also registered as a local non-profit organisation in Ethiopia, Tanzania and Zimbabwe.

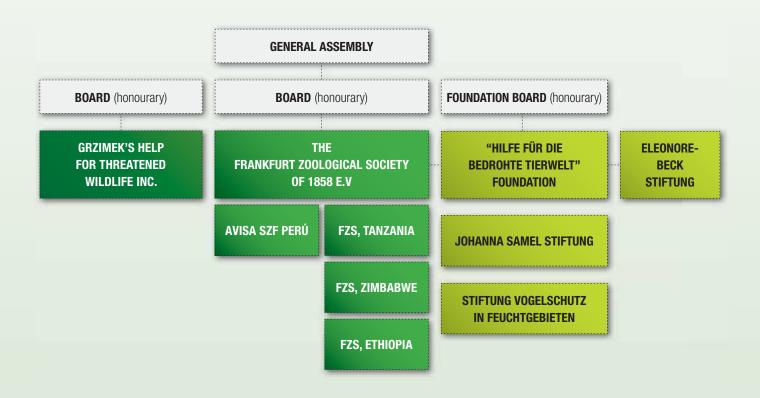
INDEPENDENT AND DEPENDENT FOUNDATIONS UNDER THE UMBRELLA OF THE FOUNDATION "HILFE FÜR DIE BEDROHTE TIERWELT"

Johanna Samel Stiftung Stiftung Vogelschutz in Feuchtgebieten

FOUNDATIONS AND ORGANISATIONS WITH FZS REPRESENTATIVES ON THE BOARDS OF DIRECTORS

BioFrankfurt
Bruno H. Schubert Stiftung
Charles Darwin Foundation
Eleonore-Beck Stiftung
Fundatia Conservation Carpathia
International Union for Conservation of Nature, IUCN
RöhnNatur e.V.
Stiftung Naturlandschaften Brandenburg
Polytechnische Gesellschaft Frankfurt am Main

ORGANISATIONAL CHART OF FRANKFURT ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY



FRANKFURT ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY STEERING COMMITTEE 2012

Dagmar Andres-Brümmer (Head of FZS Communications)

Florian Becker-Gitschel (Head of Finance)

Gerald Bigurube (Programme Manager Africa/Tanzania)

Professor Markus Borner (Head of Africa Programme until 2012)

Michael Brombacher (Head of Europe Programme)

Dr Karen Laurenson (Programme Manager Africa / Ethiopia)

Robert Muir (Head of Africa Programme since 2012)

Dr Antje Müllner (Head of South America/Southeast Asia Programme)

Dr Peter Pratje (Programme Manager Bukit Tigapuluh Landscape

Conservation Programme)

Dr Christof Schenck (Executive Director)

Dr Peyton West (Executive Director Grzimek's Help for Threatened Wildlife Inc.)

Hugo van der Westhuizen (Project Leader Gonarezhou)

Dr Rob Williams (Project Leader Gonarezhou Conservation Project)

GRZIMEK'S HELP FOR THREATENED WILDLIFE INC. BOARD 2012

Dr Christof Schenck (President)

Professor Markus Borner (Vice President)

Dr Peyton West (Treasurer)

Tim Tear

Jennifer Smolka

Dr Kaush Arha

Joyce Silverman

Professor Andrew Dobson (Vice President, since December 2012)

Professor Sarah Cleaveland (until December 2012)

Richard Randall (until December 2012)

Dr Annarie Lyles (until December 2012)

Gerhard Kittscher (until December 2012)

THE FZS TEAM 2012

SENIOR STAFF HEAD OFFICE FRANKFURT

Dr Christof Schenck (Executive Director) | Florian Becker-Gitschel | Michael Brombacher | Dagmar Andres-Brümmer | Claudia Carda-Döring | Susanne Frank | Katharina Hensen | Sigrid Keiser | Monika Lennig | Stephanie Lienenlüke | Dr Antje Müllner | Sabina Potthoff | Dr Susanne Schick | Inge Schmitt | Melanie Wenzel

SENIOR STAFF AFRICA REGIONAL OFFICE (ARO), SERONERA

Dr Markus Borner (Head Africa Programme, until 4/12) | Robert Muir (Head Africa Programme, from 4/12) | Dr Karen Laurenson | Gerald Bigurube | Festo Msoffe | Gladness Mwalemba | Felix Borner | Donald Boag

PROJECT LEADERS FOR FZS FUNDED PROJECTS

Olga Klimanova (Altyn Dala Conservation Initiative; ACBK, Kazakhstan)
Albert Salemgareyev (Altyn Dala Conservation Initiative; ACBK, Kazakhstan)
Eva Klebelsberg (Altyn Dala Conservation Initiative; ACBK, Kazakhstan)
Steffen Zuther (Altyn Dala Conservation Initiative; ACBK, Kazakhstan)
Lena Schmidt, Sigrid Keiser (Naturschutzbotschafter, Germany)
Petko Tzvetkov (Osogovo, Transboundary Biosphere Reserve, Bulgaria)
Despina Kitanova, Dr Ljupco Melovski (Osogovo, Transboundary
Biosphere Reserve, Macedonia)

Ulrike Schade, Prof. Dr Eckhard Jedicke (Biotope and Species Conservation in the Rhön Biosphere Reserve, Germany)

Sandra Bakkers, Jovan Andrewski (Vulture Conservation Foundation, The Netherlands)

Dr Nickolaj Klestov, Maria Osipova (Wetlands Conservation in Ukrainian Polesie)

Aleksandar Dutsov, Kostadin Valchev, Christiane Frosch (Brown Bear Protection, Bulgaria)

Elena Kmetova, Ivelin Ivanov (Biodiversity Protection, Bulgaria)

Adrian Johst, Dr Dierk Conrady (Hohe Schrecke Beech Forest Conservation Project, Germany)

Petra Riemann, Anika Niebrügge, Dr Heiko Schumacher (Wildlife Protection in Brandenburg; Brandenburg Natural Landscape Foundation, Germany)

Malte Götz, Saskia Jerosch (Protection of the European Wild Cat, Germany) Michael Nett, Peter Guggenberger-Waibel (Günztal Riverbed Restoration, Germany)

Dr Hans Frey, Karl Hofbauer-Höfer (Breeding & Reintroduction of Bearded Vultures in the Alps)

Andréia Fonseca (Reintroduction of Golden Lion Tamarins, Brazil)

Rodrigo Lopez (Protection of the Huemul at Nevados de Chillán Mountains, Chile)

Alexander Moßbrucker (Elephant Project Bukit Tigapuluh, Indonesia)

Cristina Georgii (Environmental Education, Charles Darwin Foundation, Ecuador)

Dirk Euler (Primate Conservation Programme, Vietnam)

Wolfgang Fremuth (Prespa National Park, Albania)

Christoph & Barbara Promberger (Carpathia Wilderness Reserve, Romania) **Viktor Fenchuk** (Beloveshskaya Pushcha Conservation Project, ABP-BirdLife Belarus, Belarus)

FZS PROJECT LEADERS

Peru

Juvenal Silva (Andes to Amazon Conservation Programme)

Dr Robert Williams (Andes to Amazon Conservation Programme)

DR Conac

Bryna Griffin (Upemba Conservation Project)
Prince Kaleme (Maiko Conservation Project)
Alison Mollon (Virunga National Park Conservation Project)

Ethiopia

Thadaigh Baggallay (Bale Mountains Conservation Project)

Dr Anouska Kinahan (Bale Mountains Conservation Project)

Dereje Tadesse (Bale Mountains Conservation Project)

Dr Zelealem Tefera (Afro-alpine Ecosystem Conservation Project)

Tanzania

Kathryn Doody (Mahale Ecosystem Management Project)
Dr Anke Fischer (Hunting for Sustainability in Africa)
Leonardo Fungo (Serengeti Garage & Vehicles)
Charles Mackie (Serengeti Rhino Repatriation Project)
Magnus Mosha (Mahale Ecosystem Management Project)
Dr Dennis Rentsch (Serengeti Community Outreach Project)
Daniel Yamat (Conservation Research for East Africa's Threatened Ecosystems CREATE)

André Baumgarten (Selous Conservation Project) Kirsten Skinner (Selous Conservation Project) Henry Brink (Selous Conservation Project)

Zambia

Claire Lewis (North Luangwa Conservation Project)
Ed Sayer (North Luangwa Conservation Project)
Graham Wallace (Conservation Research for East Africa's
Threatened Ecosystems CREATE)

Zimbabwe

Elsabé van der Westhuizen (Gonarezhou National Park Conservation Project) **Hugo van der Westhuizen** (Gonarezhou National Park Conservation Project)

Indonesia

Dr Peter Pratje (Bukit Tigapuluh Landscape Conservation Programme)

Vietnam

Dr Ha Thang Long (Primate Conservation Programme) **Tilo Nadler** (Primate Conservation Programme)

FZS BOARD & FOUNDATION BOARD

Members of the Frankfurt Zoological Society's Board and the Board of Trustees for the *Hilfe für die bedrohte Tierwelt* Foundation.



Gerhard Kittscher FZS President and Chairman of the Foundation



Professor Manfred Niekisch FZS Vice President & Foundation Board



Professor Volker Mosbrugger FZS Board



Alexandra Prinzessin von Hannover FZS Board & Foundation Board



Renate von Metzler FZS Board



Hans Joachim Suchan FZS Board



Gerold Dieke FZS Board



Dr Thomas Kantenwein FZS Board & Foundation Board



Dr Rudolf Kriszeleit Foundation Board



Johann-Peter Krommer Foundation Board



Dr Altfried M. Lütkenhaus Foundation Board



Klaus Becker Foundation Board



Herbert PfennigFoundation Board (until March 2013)



Hermann ClemmFoundation Board (until March 2013)



Dr Manuela RottmannFoundation Board (from March 2013)



Dr Jürgen HeraeusFoundation Board (from March 2013)

PARTNERS & SPONSORS 2012

Adelaide Zoo (Australia)

African Wildlife Conservation Fund (Zimbabwe)

African Wildlife Foundation (Kenya/USA)

Allianz Umweltstiftung (Germany)

Amhara NRS Bureau of Culture, Tourism and Parks; BoCTP (Ethiopia)

Amhara NRS Bureau of Environmental Protection, Land use and Land administration; BoEPA (Ethiopia)

Amhara NRS Bureau of Finance and Economic Development; BoFED (Ethiopia)

Asociación para la Conservación de la Cuenca Amazónica ACCA (Peru)

Associação Mico-Leão-Dourado AMLD (Brazil)

Association for the Conservation of Biodiversity of

Kazakhstan ACBK (Kazakhstan)

Austrian Development Foundation, Ethiopia (Austria)

Balkani Wildlife Society (Bulgaria)

Beit Trust (UK)

Berggorilla und Regenwald Direkthilfe (Germany)

BirdLife Belarus ARB (Belarus)

Bulgarian Biodiversity Foundation (Bulgaria)

Bundesamt für Naturschutz BfN (Germany)

Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz und Reaktorsicherheit BMU (Germany)

Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung BMZ (Germany)

Carl Zeiss Deutschland (Germany)

Centro de Recursos y Educación en la Selva CREES (Peru)

Centrum für internationale Migration und Entwicklung CIM (Germany)

Charlotte und Werner Herrmann Stiftung (Germany)

Comité Nacional Pro Defensa de la Fauna y Flora CODEFF (Chile)

Convention on Migratory Species of Wild Animals CMS (Germany)

Danang University (Vietnam)

Darwin Initiative (UK)

Department for International Development (UK)

Department of Interior (USA)

Deutsche Botschaft, Daressalam (Tanzania)

Deutsche Botschaft, Lusaka (Zambia)

Deutsche Bundesstiftung Umwelt DBU (Germany)

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GIZ GmbH (Germany)

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GIZ-Peru (Peru)

Deutsche Lufthansa AG (Germany)

Deutscher Naturschutzring DNR (Germany)

Directorate General of Forest Protection and Nature

Conservation PHKA (Indonesia)

Disney Worldwide Conservation Fund (USA)

Eleonore-Beck-Stiftung (Germany)

Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority (Ethiopia)

Ethiopian Wolf Conservation Programme EWCP (Ethiopia)

European Commission Delegations in DR Congo, Ethiopia, Tanzania, Zambia

European Union EU (Belgium)

FARM-Africa/SOS Sahel (Ethiopia)

Fauna and Flora International (UK)

Fondo de las Américas FONDAM (Peru)

Fondo Nacional para Areas Naturales Protegidas

por el Estado PROFONANPE (Peru)

Forest Protection Departments of Provinces Danang, Gia Lai, Khánh Hòa, Ninh Binh, Quang Binh (Vietnam)

Forest and Hunting Committee of Ministry of Agriculture of Republic of Kazakhstan (Kazakhstan)

Fundación Charles Darwin FCD (Ecuador)

Fundatia Conservation Carpathia (Romania)

Gemeinnützige Stiftung Freunde des Tieres (Swiss)

Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation (USA)

Gregor Louisoder Umweltstiftung (Germany)

Green Balkans (Bulgaria)

Grumeti Reserves and Grumeti Fund (Tanzania)

Grzimek's Help for Threatened Wildlife (USA)

Gunther Parlow Stiftung (Germany)

Hessisches Ministerium der Justiz, für Integration und Europa (Germany)

Hildegard-Haube-Stiftung (Germany)

Houston Safari Club (USA)

Institut Congolais pour la Conservation de la Nature ICCN (DR Congo)

Institut für Gemeinwohl (Germany)

International Union for Conservation of Nature IUCN (Swiss)

Iso-Elektra Heinrich Piepho Stiftung (Germany)

Jane Goodall Institute (USA)

Karl Kübel Stiftung (Germany)

Kiev Sociological Centre for Nature Conservation (Ukraine)

Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau KfW (Germany)

Linnemann-Stiftung (Germany)

Lowveld Rhino Trust (Zimbabwe)

Jacob-Stiftung (Germany)

Josef und Therese Arens Stiftung (Germany)

Macalester College (USA)

Macedonian Ecological Society MES (Macedonia)

Manfred-Hermsen-Stiftung (Germany)

Ministerio del Ambiente MINAM (Peru)

Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan (Kazakhstan)

Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources (Ukraine)

Ministry of Environment Protection of the Republic of Kazakhstan (Kazakhstan)

Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland (Finland)

Movement for Ecological Learning and Community Action MELCA Mahiber (Ethiopia)

Mpika, Chama, Chipata, Chinsali and Isoka District Governments (Zambia)

Mweka Wildlife College (Tanzania)

National Fish & Wildlife Foundation (USA)

Nationalparkverwaltung Prespa (Albania)

Naturstiftung David (Germany)

Ngorongoro Conservation Area Authority NCAA (Tanzania)

Nikon GmbH (Germany)

Oromia Forest and Wildlife Enterprise (Ethiopia)

Oromia National Regional State: Agriculture and Rural Development Bureau, Bale Mountains National Park (Ethiopia)

Österreichische Bundesforste AG (Austria)

PanEco (Swiss)

Pasiansi Ranger Training Institute (Tanzania)

Pathfinder International (USA)

Paul Tudor Jones Family Foundation (USA)

People's Aid Coordinating Committee PACCOM (Vietnam)

Perth Zoo (Australia)

Population, Health and Environment Ethiopia (Ethiopia)

Protection and Preservation of Natural Environment in Albania PPNEA (Albania)

Professional Hunters Association (Ethiopia)

Provincial People's Committee, Departments of Agriculture and Rural Development, of the Provinces of Danang, Gia Lai, Khánh Hòa, Ninh Binh, Quang Binh (Vietnam)

RhönNatur e. V. (Germany)

SADC Regional Programme for Rhino Conservation (South Africa)

Save the Rhino International (UK)

Save the Rhino Trust (Zambia)

Senckenberg Gesellschaft für Naturforschung SGN (Germany)

Servicio Nacional de Áreas Naturales Protegidas por el Estado SERNANP (Peru)

Sigrid I. Gramm de Berumen-Stiftung (Germany)

South African National Parks (South Africa)

Stadler-Naturschutz-Stiftung (Germany)

Stadt Hüfingen (Germany)

Stiftung Feuchtgebiete (Germany)

Stiftung KulturLandschaft Günztal (Germany)

Stiftung Naturlandschaften Brandenburg (Germany)

Stiftung Polytechnische Gesellschaft Frankfurt am Main (Germany)

Stiftung Wolfgang Wüsthof (Germany)

Sustainable Development of the Protected Area System of Ethiopia SDPASE (Ethiopia)

Tanzania National Parks TANAPA (Tanzania)

Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute TAWIRI (Tanzania)

The Australian Orangutan Project TAOP (Australia)

The James Hutton Institute (UK)

The Nature Conservancy (USA)

Tierpark Hellabrunn (Germany)

Technische Universität Dresden (Germany)

U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USA)

Ukrainian Society for the Protection of Birds USPB (Ukraine)

Umweltbundesamt UBA (Germany)

Umweltministerium der Republik Kasachstan (Kazakhstan)

UNESCO World Heritage Centre (France)

United Nations Development Programme UNDP (USA)

University of Aberdeen (UK)

University of Glasgow (UK)

University of Minnesota (USA)

USPB BirdLife Ukraine (Ukraine)

Verein EGS Eulen- und Greifvogelschutz (Austria)

Verein für Umweltverbesserung VUV Münchweiler (Germany)

Verwaltungsstelle des Biosphärenreservates Rhön (Germany)

Vulture Conservation Foundation VCF (The Netherlands)

Wildlife Conservation Research Unit, Oxford University (UK)

Wildlife Conservation Society (USA)

Wildlife Division of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism (Tanzania)

Wolfgang und Ingrid Hensel Stiftung (Germany)

Woreda District Government (Ethiopia)

World Bank (USA)

WWF-Deutschland (Germany)

WWF-Indonesia (Indonesia)

WWF-Peru (Peru)

WWF-Tanzania (Tanzania)

Wyss Foundation (USA)

Yayasan Ekosistem Lestari YEL (Indonesia)

Zambia Wildlife Authority ZAWA (Zambia)

Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management Authority (Zimbabwe)

Zoological Society of London ZSL (UK)

Zoologischer Garten Köln (Germany)

Zoo Leipzig (Germany)

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PRESENTATIONS BY FZS STAFF AT SYMPOSIA & CONGRESSES

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