

ANNUAL REPORT 2017 FRANKFURT ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY



FRANKFURT
ZOOLOGICAL
SOCIETY



A person with short dark hair, wearing a green long-sleeved shirt, is seen from the side and back, looking through a pair of binoculars. They are standing on a balcony or terrace with a green metal railing. The background shows a bright, hazy landscape with greenery and a clear sky. The binoculars are silver and black, and the person's hands are visible holding them.

CONTENT

03	WORDS FROM THE PRESIDENT
04	WORDS FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
06	AWARDS, EVENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS 2017
12	CONSERVATION SUCCESSES 2017
14	AFRICA
26	EUROPE & CENTRAL ASIA
40	SOUTHEAST ASIA
44	SOUTH AMERICA
54	CORPORATE STRUCTURE AND FINANCIAL REPORT

160

YEARS FZS

1858 – 2018



A Leopard in the Serengeti.

Dear Members, Sponsors, Supporters, Partners and Friends,



160 years ago, a group of dedicated Frankfurt citizens founded a society – the Frankfurt Zoological Society – with the aim of establishing a zoo for their city. 60 years ago this society gradually grew into something bigger, investing increasing amounts in projects aimed at protecting wild animals and their habitats. However, over the past six decades – a period during which Bernhard Grzimek's "one-man-show" grew into a complex organisation with more than 300 employees worldwide – it is not only FZS that has developed out of all recognition. The challenges we face in the project countries have also grown in scale and complexity. Economic expansion, infrastructure development, agricultural intensification, increased extraction of natural resources, population growth and climate change are all factors that we have to deal with on a daily basis and that often seriously impair our efforts to conserve nature.

Looking back over the history of the FZS and reading old annual reports from 20 or 40 years ago, we encounter – alarmingly – almost identical stories to those featured today: poachers decimating elephant and rhino populations, highways being built in the middle of national parks, dam projects endangering unique wilderness regions. Yet we can also see just how many successes and positive achievements FZS has chalked up over the past 60 years with its nature conservation work, and how effective it has been in preserving diversity. Bearded vultures were returned to the Alps in 1986, and today more than 200 of these mighty birds are flying in Europe again. The Tanzanian island of

Rubondo would not have become a national park without us 40 years ago. Thanks to our programme, an orangutan population has been growing for more than 15 years in Bukit Tigapuluh on Sumatra. There would be a highway through the Serengeti today, if we hadn't stood steadfastly by the side of the national park.

Long-term and forward-looking action is at the heart of what we do. In nature conservation, simply maintaining the status quo over the long term represents a success; after all, even supposedly secure areas, like the Selous, can move to the edge of the precipice overnight. Tanzania has revived decades-old plans and is vigorously pursuing a dam project to generate energy that will flood a vast area of the Selous Game Reserve. This is a unique habitat for many species and perhaps the final retreat of the last few Selous rhinos. We take universally and constantly available power for granted. But there are better and more economical alternatives to submerging a World Heritage Site under water forever.

In view of the rapidly growing world population with its ever-increasing demand for resources, our commitment is more important than ever today. I am therefore pleased to be able to offer you an insight into our work over the past year, 2017, and an outlook on the current situation in our 160th anniversary year, 2018, in this annual report.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Klaus Becker'.

Klaus Becker

President of the Frankfurt Zoological Society

MORE URGENTLY THAN EVER: NEW MODELS NEEDED TO PROTECT THE PLANET

by Dr. Christof Schenck

The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) came into force 25 years ago. 186 countries and the EU have signed the Convention in the meantime. It was the international community's first attempt to create a set of rules aimed at conserving the diversity of genes, species and ecosystems and thus also at safeguarding human livelihoods. In truth, the whole venture came more than a little late.

People started to realise that the Earth was spherical more than two thousand years ago. So even then it should have been obvious that the planet's resources were not infinite. At that time there were about as many people living on Earth as there are today in Germany. In the meantime we have now reached the Anthropocene era – the age in which the fate of the Earth is determined by man. This blue orb floating in space is now home to more than 7.6 billion people.

In the run-up to the CBD, a group of scientists, including a considerable number of Nobel Prize winners, penned an urgent warning to humanity. In it they pointed out that we are on a collision course with nature and the Earth. Their main focus was on the depletion of the ozone layer, the availability of fresh water, the great loss of marine life, the expansion of the dead zones in the world's oceans, the loss of forest and biodiversity, and the continuing rapid population growth.

A Second Warning to Humanity

25 years later, researchers from different continents came together to assess how the parameters studied at the time have since developed. This time they received the support of 15,364 scientists from 183 countries. The results are extremely worrying.

The researchers noted significant progress in securing the ozone layer, and extreme poverty and hunger have also decreased. In some regions there is also a reduction in the rate of deforestation

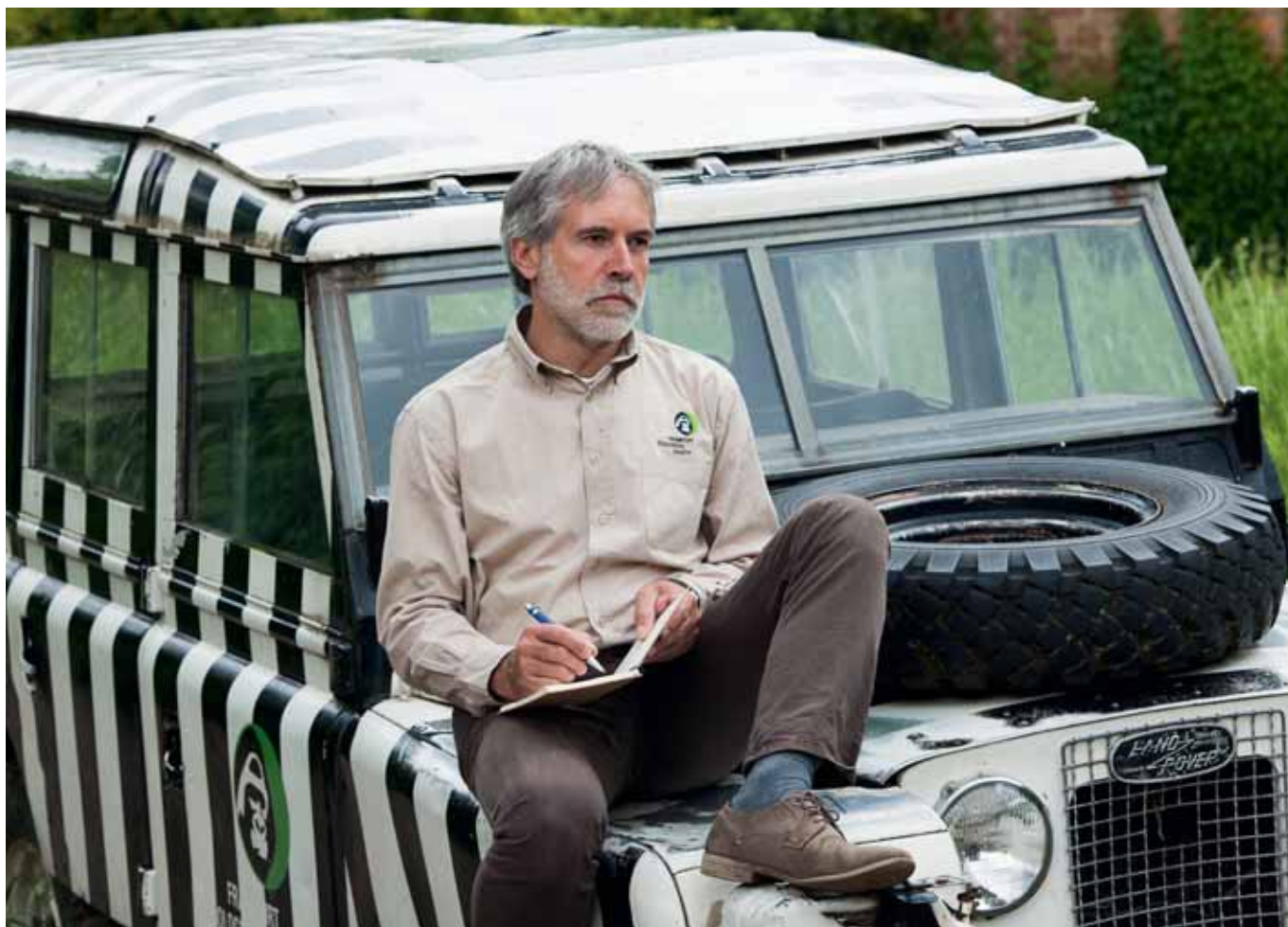
“Soon it will be too late to shift course away from our failing trajectory, and time is running out. We must recognize, in our day-to-day lives and in our governing institutions, that Earth with all its life is our only home.”

*World Scientists' Warning to Humanity:
A Second Notice; BioScience, Nov. 2017*

and a decrease in births. The massive expansion of renewable energies is also encouraging. Taken together and on a global scale, however, there is massive deterioration.

First and foremost is the use of fossil fuels and the ongoing climate change. In addition, there is a continuing decline in forest cover and expansion of agriculture. The growth of climate-damaging meat production is a particular cause for concern. A mass extinction of species – the sixth on this planet in 540 million years – is already underway. For the first time, however, it is caused by a species, by us humans. And the enormous negative impact of global population growth is still not accorded the importance it deserves.

The scientists highlight a number of clear measures which need to be taken in order to stabilise the environmental conditions on Earth (primarily for us humans): a fundamental change in our economic and consumption patterns, a much faster transition to sustainable energy production, massive investment in family



Christof Schenck has been FZS Executive Director since the year 2000.

Protected areas are central to the preservation of biological diversity

planning and the offsetting of overhead costs where they arise. They propose the following specific steps:

- Establishing and safeguarding connected protected areas by providing good management and sufficient funding.
- Maintaining ecosystem services by putting an end to the conversion of forests, grasslands and other wilderness areas.
- Promoting the “re-wilding” of entire regions with native species, including re-population with large predators.
- Undertaking effective measures against the poaching crisis and the illegal trade in endangered species.
- Expanding environmental education and raising nature awareness levels throughout society.

Prominent global scientists regard these measures as essential for the survival of ecosystems as we know them and for the survival of humanity. Indeed, it is precisely these aspects which are the fundamental elements of the nature conservation strategy and the work of Frankfurt Zoological Society. The overlap could hardly be clearer.

The CBD also describes protected areas as a central component in the preservation of biological diversity. The target is for them to cover 17 per cent of the land area. At just under 15 per cent at present, this goal is not so far off. In short, protected areas work. Studies show that significantly more biological diversity is conserved within them than elsewhere. However, a closer look reveals enormous challenges: the greatest biodiversity is found in the tropical zone and thus outside the developed countries. These, however, contain four times as many protected areas.

In addition, more than 80 per cent of nature conservation funds are invested in developed countries. And protected areas account for only one third of nature conservation expenditure worldwide anyway. This means that there are relatively few protected areas in the biodiversity “treasure troves” and, most importantly, there is inadequate long-term funding. Almost all endeavours are conceived as “projects”, i.e. they are one-off ventures with start and end dates. There are competing donor application procedures and the administrative effort involved in all aspects of preparing applications and reports is high. The objective is to conserve areas in perpetuity. This requires long-term cooperation between authorities, NGOs, local communities and donors – on a sustainable basis of trust.

“The great problem is that we have funding models with three- to five-year cycles. But you can't throw short-term money at complex problems and then expect long-term success.”

*William Laurance,
Professor, James Cook University*

The *Legacy Landscape* model – long-term and concentrated

Together with a number of other institutions and experts we have now developed the *Legacy Landscape* model aimed at improving and, above all, permanently securing protected areas. The model provides for the creation of area-specific funds to ensure permanent basic funding for protected areas. There is a lean platform that bundles large numbers of such funds, but also individual contracts with single NGOs and individual protected area authorities. The selection criteria for the protected areas derive e.g. from the CBD's mission: its priority is to protect large, biodiversity-rich, preferably pristine areas which are scarcely affected by human influence. Key performance indicators (KPIs) define the services to be provided. The framework can be extended as required; it depends on the region, on who the participants are, and on what resources are available. This approach is the first of its kind that combines funding and protected area strategies, that runs indefinitely and that is not limited to a specific NGO.

We are already deploying important aspects of this model in our projects. FZS has been active in the Serengeti National Park in Tanzania for more than 60 years, for more than three decades in North Luangwa National Park in Zambia, almost as long in Manu National Park in Peru and it has also been helping to secure the Bukit Tigapuluh National Park in Indonesia for 18 years now. Together with other partners, we have also established our own foundation for the protection of nature conservation areas in Brandenburg “in perpetuity”. Our goal now is to develop and expand the idea of *Legacy Landscapes* with other state-owned and private partners.

Danger, but also successes

A full quarter of a century after the international community committed itself to conserving the Earth's natural assets, we are still very concerned about the development of certain protected areas of global significance. Road construction, tourism and water extraction are currently threatening the Serengeti ecosystem. One of the largest dams in Africa is to be built in Selous, Tanzania, with dramatic consequences for an entire river system. Even in Europe, the last remaining primeval forests are being cleared.

This, however, is to be contrasted with the impressive establishment of the 870,000 hectare Yaguas National Park in Peru in partnership with the indigenous population, or the expansion of the Chiribiquete National Park in neighbouring Colombia by a further million hectares. The fact that Germany is the largest contributor to biodiversity protection is a further important and positive signal. All this fosters hope that individual countries will start to take their national and international missions seriously and conserve biodiversity as laid down during the joint convention 25 years ago. Frankfurt Zoological Society will continue to offer its full support.

AWARDS, EVENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS 2017

JANUARY

Project film: “Discover the Wilderness!”



On 31 January 2017, the “Wildnis in Deutschland” initiative presented its “Entdecke Wildnis!” (“Discover the Wilderness”) film to more than 250 guests at the National Forum for Biological Diversity of the Federal Environment Ministry in Berlin. The film is a three-minute journey into major German wilderness areas; it shows how wild and beautiful Germany can be and how valuable wilderness is. It can be downloaded from www.wildnis-in-deutschland.de. Frankfurt Zoological Society (FZS) coordinates the activities of the “Wildnis in Deutschland” initiative, which consists of 16 partners, and has also played a key role in coordinating the development of the film.

MARCH

Rangers for North Luangwa



45 recruits successfully completed their training at Chunga Training School in Kafue, Zambia, at the end of March. The ranger training was funded with the support of the “Save the Elephants” organisation. The Chunga Training School is the officially recognised national training centre for wildlife rangers in Zambia. The new rangers will patrol on foot in North Luangwa National Park to deter poachers. The best recruits will strengthen the national park's rhinoceros and elephant protection unit in the future. FZS has been operating in the 22,000 square kilometres North Luangwa ecosystem for more than 30 years.

FEBRUARY

Environmental award for Christof Schenck



On 2 February 2017, FZS Executive Director Dr. Christof Schenck (r.) received the 2016 Environmental Award from the NatureLife-International Foundation for his commitment to environmental education and to raising awareness among decision-makers for climate protection and sustainable development as well as for the conservation of irreplaceable natural landscapes. NatureLife-President Claus-Peter Hutter (c.) emphasised that although Christof Schenck sees human beings as a cause of the destruction of nature, he does not believe that man and nature are opponents. Rather, the two are dependent on each other. The astronaut Prof. Ernst Messerschmid (l.) also received an award.

MARCH

Bernhard Grzimek online



Frankfurt Zoological Society (FZS) marked the 30th anniversary of the death of its former president Bernhard Grzimek on 13 March 2017 by dedicating a special website to him. www.bernhardgrzimek.de contains photos and film clips never before seen online and provides a completely new insight into the extraordinary life of Bernhard Grzimek.

MARCH

Spring School: Young conservationists come to Frankfurt

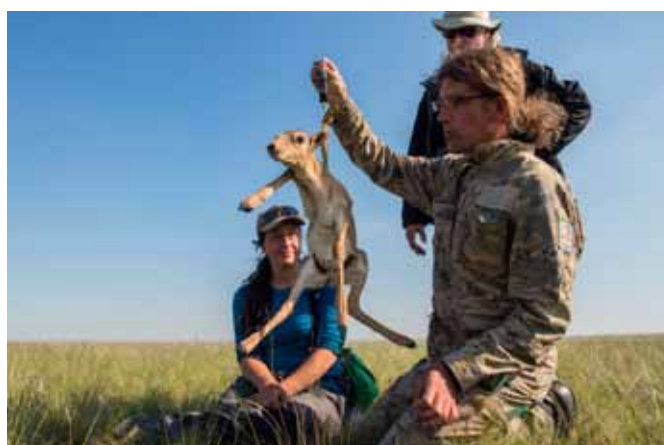


The first “Frankfurt Spring School on Conservation Project Management” began on 6 March 2017, an intensive course unique in Germany, in which 30 students and young nature conservation professionals from various countries spent four weeks learning the tools of the professional nature conservation trade at Frankfurt's Goethe University. In the “Spring School”, speakers with many years of professional and practical experience teach a wide range of topics that are not otherwise covered in university courses, such as strategic planning and business development, handling finances, budgets and personnel as well as communication and public relations. The application-oriented topics provide students with a realistic insight into the requirements which are placed on nature conservation project managers.

The Spring School concept was developed by FZS in cooperation with the BioFrankfurt network, Goethe University, KfW and KfW Foundation, KPMG and WWF Germany. The participants came from all over Germany as well as from Africa, south-east Asia and South America. Six of these were KfW Foundation scholars. They are already working in nature conservation and were able to develop their own project ideas during the Frankfurt Spring School. Three of these projects received funding from the KfW Foundation. The four-week training course was a complete success and will continue to be offered in the future as a result of the positive response.

MAY

Saiga census yields good results



As every year, our colleagues from Kazakhstan returned to the steppes in 2017 to monitor the annual calving of the saiga antelopes. Calving began for the saiga population in western Kazakhstan at the beginning of May. The team, consisting of project staff of the Altyn Dala Conservation Initiative, students and scientists, walked a total of 28 transects with a total length of 142 kilometres and counted 852 saiga calves in about three weeks. They were all measured, weighed and their GPS position recorded. 663 calves were also ear-tagged.

APRIL

The Africa office moves



After more than 50 years in the middle of Serengeti National Park, the Africa Regional Office of FZS, or ARO for short, moved to Arusha, about 250 kilometres away, in April 2017. There is still a small project office in the Serengeti and we are continuing our work in the region. From Arusha we can now further intensify our cooperation with our Tanzanian partners, in particular with the National Park Authority TANAPA and with partners in the other African project countries Zambia, Zimbabwe, Ethiopia and DR Congo.

JUNE

Kickoff in Selous



On 17 June 2017, Professor Jumanne Maghembe (r.), the Tanzanian Minister for Natural Resources and Tourism, and the German Ambassador to Tanzania, Egon Kochanke (l.), launched a joint nature conservation and development project for the Selous ecosystem by the Tanzanian and German governments. The Selous Ecosystem Conservation and Development Program (SECAD) aims to improve the protection of the Selous Game Reserve and its peripheral areas and help it maintain its World Heritage status. The programme is financed by KfW on behalf of the German Federal Government and is implemented by the Tanzanian Ministry for Natural Resources and Tourism and the Tanzanian Wildlife Authority TAWA in cooperation with WWF and FZS. Selous is the largest protected area in Tanzania and has been supported (intermittently) by FZS since the 1980s.

JUNE

Manu Biosphere Reserve grows by one third



On 15 June 2017, the meeting of the International Coordination Council of the UNESCO “Man and the Biosphere” programme approved the application to expand the Manu Biosphere Reserve in Peru to almost 2.4 million hectares. 40,000 people living in the area will benefit from the expansion. A team consisting of employees of the Peruvian protected area authority SERNANP and FZS Peru had worked for a year on the UNESCO application. The enlargement is part of the ProBosque Manu Project which was funded by the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, and Nuclear Safety (BMU) as part of the International Climate Initiative (ICI).

JUNE

Third monitoring aircraft



The German Ambassador to Zambia, Achim Burkhardt, handed over an Aviat Husky aircraft to the North Luangwa Conservation Programme on 20 June 2017 to ensure effective monitoring of the huge North Luangwa ecosystem from the air. The German Ambassador also presented a cheque covering the cost of constructing a drinking water system for Zambian National Parks and Wildlife Authority (DNPW) staff and their families at the park headquarters in Mano. In total, the German government has provided funding for three monitoring aircraft to help carry out animal censuses and fight poaching. Two of them are already in operation in Tanzania (in Serengeti and Selous), whereas the third Husky is now flying over North Luangwa National Park.

JULY

New project in Zambia



The most recent FZS project in Africa is the Nsumbu-Tanganyika Conservation Project which was launched in Zambia in summer 2017. The Nsumbu ecosystem is located on the shores of Lake Tanganyika in north-eastern Zambia. It includes roughly 2,000 square kilometres of national park, which in turn includes about 80 kilometres of pristine shores of Lake Tanganyika. Nsumbu is one of only three national parks on the lake shore and probably the most important, with its endangered Sumbu-Itigi forests, fishing grounds and elephants. Craig Zytow and the “Conservation Lake Tanganyika” organisation founded the project which has now been taken over by FZS.

AUGUST

Living and working to protect the Serengeti



On August 22, the German Ambassador to Tanzania, Dr. Detlef Wächter, presented the newly built office and residential buildings in Fort Ikoma to the Tanzanian Minister for Natural Resources and Tourism, Professor Jumanne Maghembe. The buildings were erected as part of the Serengeti Ecosystem Development and Conservation project. The new TANAPA office buildings offer high-quality workspace for up to twenty employees. The walls are made of Hydraform blocks, a cost-effective and environmentally friendly building material. They are formed in such a way that they can be interlocked and laid without mortar.

SEPTEMBER

Trees prevent wildlife census



In September, elephants and other large mammal populations were to be counted in the Selous Game Reserve to gauge the success of all the efforts made since 2014 to protect the animals and to prevent poaching. Unfortunately, the unexpectedly early greening of the trees forced the team to abandon the census, as the animals could not be seen clearly enough from the aircraft. Weather data showed that the rainfall lasted about a month longer than usual. This led to the leaf cover being unusually dense and the grass particularly high, especially in the west of the ecosystem and in the southern parts of the Game Reserve.

SEPTEMBER

Golden Award for the Saigas



In September, Deutsche Welle's web documentary "Saigas in Distress – the mystery of the dead antelopes" won gold at the "Cannes Corporate Media & TV Awards". The documentary, which was produced together with FZS in Kazakhstan, is a combination of website and film. It is available in German, English, Spanish and Russian.

OCTOBER

Prince William Award for Rian Labuschagne



The winners of the Tusk Conservation Awards were announced on 5 October 2017 in Cape Town. Rian Labuschagne, project manager of the FZS Serengeti Conservation Project, won the Prince William Lifetime Achievement Award. Rian Labuschagne has led the FZS project in the Serengeti since February 2017. Back in the 1990s, he and his wife Lorna were already working on the FZS rhino projects in Ngorongoro and Serengeti. Solomon Chidunuka of the Zambian National Parks and Wildlife Authority DNPW also received a prize in Cape Town. He was presented with the Tusk Wildlife Ranger Award. Chidunuka is one of the most important partners of the FZS programme in North Luangwa, Zambia. He is responsible for supervising the North Luangwa National Park.

OCTOBER

Rhino Operation



In a large-scale operation in October, 21 rhinos in the Serengeti and the adjacent Maswa Game Reserve were fitted with transmitters. With the help of two helicopters in the air and a crew of veterinarians, rhino experts and rangers on the ground the animals were tracked, anesthetized and then a later invisible transmitter was implanted into their horn. The transmitters enable us to better monitor and protect them. Thanks to the helicopters, the teams could work quickly and efficiently so that the stress for each animal was reduced to a minimum. The whole operation was carried out by Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA) and the Tanzania Wildlife Research Institutes (TAWIRI) together with the Friedkin Conservation Fund and FZS.

NOVEMBER

Wild asses flown into the steppe



For the first time in more than a century Asiatic wild asses (kulans) roam in the central Kazakh steppe. At the end of October, the world's largest helicopter, the MI-26, flew nine animals 1,200 kilometres from the Altyn Emel National Park in southwest Kazakhstan to central Kazakhstan. They spent their first months in an acclimatisation enclosure, then in April 2018 the wild asses were released into the steppe. The aim of the kulan resettlement is to restore a large herbivore species to the steppe ecosystem – a species that once lived here in large herds. The ambitious resettlement project is coordinated by the Norwegian Institute for Natural Research (NINA) and implemented by the Kazakh nature conservation organisation ACBK. In addition to various national and international partners, FZS also provides logistical and financial support for resettlement of the kulans.

NOVEMBER

From the Amazon to Bonn



With support of FZS, Liz Chicaje (c.) and Benjamin Rodríguez (r.) were able to travel to Bonn, Germany, from the remote Yaguas protected area in the Peruvian Amazon rainforest in November. The two Peruvians represent indigenous communities and were important advocates in helping Yaguas to obtain national park status. In Bonn, the two members of the Peruvian Environment Minister's delegation took part in the COP 23 climate conference and showed that indigenous communities in particular are important allies in climate and nature conservation.

DECEMBER

A book for and about Manu



The book "Manu – A Legacy Landscape" was published in English and Spanish after almost two years of intensive preparation. 18 authors (FZS staff and high-ranking international scientists) together with renowned nature photographers have created a worthy 296-page paean to Manu National Park in south-eastern Peru, one of the most biodiverse regions of the world, in this book. The aim of the book project is to raise Manu's international profile. This was achieved in the very first weeks of its appearance, when the Peruvian president presented Pope Francis with a copy of the book.

CONSERVATION SUCCESSES 2017





CONSERVATION IN ETHIOPIA

WORKING WITH COMMUNITIES IS KEY TO SUCCESS

by Justin Irvine



Local farmers planting apple saplings provided by FZS.

In Ethiopia our focus is on conserving the exceptional biodiversity, landscapes and ecosystem services of the Bale Mountains. The area includes one of the largest afro-alpine habitats in Africa and is the last stronghold of many endangered and endemic species (Ethiopian Wolf, Mountain Nyala, amphibians and Giant Mole Rat). In addition, this highland area with its 4000-metre-plateau provides essential water regulation for the estimated 12 to 20 million people living downstream as far as the Somali coast.

The recent civil unrest in Ethiopia destabilised the whole country, but particularly Oromia Region, restricting many activities and also weakening political will. The increase in human population and the change in land use is a constant pressure to the park boundaries.

Like many areas in Ethiopia and globally, the Bale Mountains National Park (BMNP) is under severe pressure from agricultural land conversion, overgrazing, fire and fuelwood harvesting as a result of the burgeoning human population. However, local protected area managers have few technical and financial resources and in the past there has been limited political will to tackle these issues, given the acute human needs. This presents a very challenging context for conservation. FZS is therefore supporting an integrated approach – linking national park management with improving the livelihoods for adjacent communities.

Building capacity to tackle the threats

Since 2004 FZS, supported by a range of donors, has worked with communities, other NGOs and government (from local to federal), to build capacity to address these threats. FZS supports core park management needs including infrastructure, equipment and tourism facilities. In line with the integrated approach, adjacent communities have been supported to develop participatory forest and wildlife management as well as piloting improvements in conservation-compatible livelihoods.

With the gazettelement of the BMNP two years ago, there is a stronger legal framework to counteract illegal activities and successful prosecutions have been obtained for illegal settlement. To support this, FZS has developed scout outposts, built up the horse troop and equipped the scout force with appropriate equipment to facilitate more effective and regular patrolling.

FZS is seeking further extensive funding from a variety of donors to implement the new General Management Plan and its integrated strategy based on community cooperation as well as considering entering into a co-management agreement with the Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority (EWCA) for the long term. Working with the communities has been a key success factor for us in Bale Mountains National Park last year.

BALE MOUNTAINS CONSERVATION PROJECT

PROJECT AREA: 2,200 km² (Park), 8,000 km² (Ecosystem)

PROJECT START: 2004

- ✓ The General Management Plan for BMNP (2017–2027) was approved by all stakeholders: this outlines the vision and strategy for managing settlement and livestock grazing, as well as tourism development in collaboration with adjacent communities.
- ✓ The FZS developed community based forest monitoring tool was endorsed by the partner, Oromia Forest and Wildlife Enterprise (OFWE).
- ✓ A new participatory land use planning system, implemented in one community adjacent to the BMNP, provides a model for developing grazing and land conversion reduction strategies.
- ✓ Radio network and solar power were installed at all outposts and our main office in Dinsho.
- ✓ Horses being used by scouts at five outposts now.
- ✓ Continued maintenance of all outposts and staff quarters with an angle towards quality in order to raise morale of the scouts.
- ✓ Funding from the EU/GIZ for sustainable land management in three lowland districts adjacent to the BMNP is supporting community based rangeland planning, grazing management, climate smart agriculture and reproductive health initiatives.
- ✓ 74 hectares of illegal coffee and maize planted in Harena Buluk were uprooted.
- ✓ 87 illegal houses and 24 hectares of illegal fences in Rira Kebele were removed.
- ✓ Over 4,000 cattle were confiscated on the grasslands and owners fined to get them back.
- ✓ 897 fuel efficient stoves were distributed, leading to health benefits and a 28 per cent decrease in wood use.
- ✓ Four communities now derive 60 per cent of hunting revenue after Controlled Hunting Areas (CHAs) set up in partnership with community based organisations adjacent to the park.



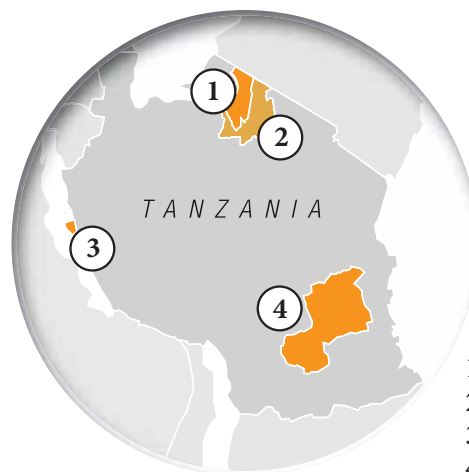
The new General Management Plan is the guideline for managing settlement, livestock grazing, and tourism development.

THE FZS TANZANIA PROGRAMME SUPPORT FOR LEGACY LANDSCAPES

by Michael Thompson



Several small rivers meander through the Serengeti landscape.



- 1 *Serengeti National Park*
- 2 *Serengeti Ecosystem Management*
- 3 *Mahale Ecosystem Project*
- 4 *Selous Conservation Project*

Tanzania is very close to the hearts of our many supporters. “Serengeti Shall Not Die” is a clarion call that has sounded for over fifty years to rally support for FZS and our partners. The focus of our work lies in the Selous, the largest game reserve in Africa, at 50,000 square kilometre and a vital refuge for elephant and wild dog, in the Greater Mahale Ecosystem, stronghold of the eastern Chimpanzee population and a unique and important Lake Tanganyika freshwater ecosystem, and of course in the Serengeti.

Tanzania is developing rapidly. The human population is set to double by 2050 whilst the country targets full industrialisation at the same rate to provide enough food, shelter and jobs for its people. To meet these targets, the country has ambitious transport, energy production and agricultural modernisation plans. Inevitably these plans are starting to impact on the wilderness areas where FZS works. A new challenge for us is increasingly to demonstrate to our host country ecological services cannot be maintained in isolation. The world heritage values and wilderness ideals of these places can be reconciled with rapidly growing national development initiatives.

Partners for more than five decades

FZS works closely with the Tanzania National Parks Authority (TANAPA) and the Tanzania Wildlife Authority (TAWA) providing critical financial and logistical support and know-how for resource protection, ecological threat monitoring, and park management.

As Tanzania’s economy grows and human development pressures intensify, our role is increasingly to further professionalise this support. Drawing on state of the art approaches, FZS is introducing intelligence led enforcement approaches and making anti-poaching work more effective. This includes supporting flexible law enforcement units controlling snaring, livestock, and illegal timber extraction and monitoring and providing law enforcement back-up for key species. Our outreach work provides pathways for communities to protect natural resources and benefit from alternative conservation compatible livelihood opportunities.

Development pressure versus conservation

In Serengeti, our work has been crucial in petitioning government to help secure a commitment that any road through the park will not be paved and will remain under TANAPA control (an important fact as this ensures no night driving and allows for controls on speeds and spacing of vehicles). We are also working closely with the Tanzanian government and its partners to advise on the most appropriate routing of a southern road taking pressure off the park. In the Selous, we continue to work closely with government to understand the impacts of the Stiegeler’s Gorge hydro-electric dam project, and to mitigate these impacts. In Mahale, we have developed important proposals for international support to help address the impacts of road development near the Park, and to provide alternative livelihood options to recent cattle in-migration. Significant progress has been made in each of these areas.

The way forward

FZS’s work in Tanzania will continue to strengthen intelligence led enforcement, to improve links to adjacent communities across administrative and sometimes country borders, and continue to develop our host country’s abilities to protect and sustainably manage Tanzania’s incredible natural resources. In addition, the programme is developing a strong programme management focus to increase the amount that can be achieved with each Euro spent. We hope this will provide our funders and supporters with great confidence that investing in wildlife conservation with FZS in Tanzania is one of the most effective ways of securing our precious world heritage for the generations to come.



TANAPA and FZS working hand in hand in the Serengeti operations room.



The park's vehicles are being maintained regularly in the FZS workshop. This ensures they are operational at all times.

SERENGETI NATIONAL PARK

PROJECT AREA: 14,750 km² (park), 25,000 km² (ecosystem)

PROJECT START: 1957

- ✓ Daily aerial patrols linked to law enforcement responses, with the effective deployment of FZS donated aircraft.
- ✓ Over ten tonnes of snares were collected and destroyed (over 9,000 in total).
- ✓ Endangered rhino populations are growing healthily and are expanding their range.
- ✓ Elephant numbers have doubled in five years (compression from encroached areas adjacent maybe partly responsible).
- ✓ Over 350 vehicle services and repairs on a fleet of some 40 vehicles (FZS and law enforcement agencies) were carried out.



Thanks to intelligence led enforcement efforts, populations of key species such as elephant, rhino and wildebeest are stable or expanding.

SERENGETI ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT

PROJECT AREA: 14,750 km² (park), 25,000 km² (ecosystem)

PROJECT START: 2005

- ✓ Wildlife generated income for two community wildlife management areas next to the park of over one million US dollars per year (invested in social infrastructure in a total of thirteen villages).
- ✓ COCOBAs: 51 micro-finance groups are operational and investing in conservation compatible livelihoods with over 1,000 members.
- ✓ Sarian Forest has been set aside as a community protected forest with village by-law protections.
- ✓ Six village land-use plans were completed adjacent to the park, setting out village protected buffer zones.



Thanks to these efforts, community livelihoods have been demonstrably improved and a strong communication link has been provided to the adjacent communities, districts and regions. This provides an important channel, for example, in feeding community based intelligence into law enforcement work.



The small and lightweight Aviat Husky is an ideal aircraft for aerial surveillance in the Serengeti and Selous.

SELOUS CONSERVATION PROJECT

PROJECT AREA: 54,600 km² (protected area),
100,446 km² (ecosystem)
PROJECT START: 2012

- ✓ Daily aerial patrols linked to law enforcement responses, with the effective deployment of FZS donated aircraft.
- ✓ Six new law enforcement vehicles were provided.
- ✓ Over 150 vehicle services and repairs on a fleet of some 30 vehicles (FZS and law enforcement agencies) were carried out.
- ✓ Rhino and elephant baseline surveys are underway.



Thanks to improved law enforcement, numbers of new elephant poaching cases are down from their heights of 2013 to close to single figures in 2017.

MAHALE ECOSYSTEM PROJECT

PROJECT AREA: 1,613 km² (park), 19,446 km² (ecosystem)
PROJECT START: 2004

- ✓ Creation of a huge (3,750 km²) new District Forest Reserve to protect the chimpanzee population, primates and associated forest species.
- ✓ 15 villages were conducting forest patrols and removing snares and illegal timber harvesting.
- ✓ Four village land-use plans have been completed adjacent to the park, setting out village protected buffer zones.
- ✓ COCOBAs: 71 Micro-finance groups are operational, investing in conservation compatible livelihoods with over 1,750 members.
- ✓ Contributions to region and district work to settle migratory cattle herders away from the key forest areas.



Thanks to these efforts, a mechanism to address destructive slash and burn agriculture associated with incoming cattle herders has been tested and found to be effective.

THE FZS PROGRAMME IN ZAMBIA RETURN OF AN ICONIC SPECIES

by Claire Lewis, Ed Sayer, Dr. Karen Laurenson, Craig Zytrow



One of the rhinos of North Luangwa gets a medical check-up while being fitted with a new radio transmitter.



The Mwaleshi river flows through North Luangwa National Park.

In a partnership with the Department of National Parks and Wildlife (DNPW) that has continued for more than 30 years, FZS continues to focus efforts on conserving the wilderness of the 22,000 square kilometres North Luangwa Ecosystem and in 2017, initiated a new project in the Nsumbu-Mweru Ecosystem in north-eastern Zambia building on the previous conservation efforts in the area, and recognising its rehabilitation potential.

While the trade in illegal wildlife products has gained recognition as *bona fide* organised crime in recent years and remains a serious threat, the fundamental underlying long term threat to our target areas is the conversion of land to agriculture by an ever-expanding but impoverished human population. Thus, we cannot rely on law enforcement alone to protect large biodiverse wilderness areas. FZS Zambia therefore also works with local communities to build strong and well governed community institutions to improve benefit flows and conservation-compatible livelihoods that encourage wildlife resource protection.

NORTH LUANGWA CONSERVATION PROGRAMME (NLCP)

PROJECT AREA: 4,636 km² (park), 22,000 km² (ecosystem)
PROJECT START: 1986

Law enforcement and resource protection

Successful conservation hinges on an anti-poaching force that is disciplined, equipped, trained, motivated and well managed. One of our core areas of support is therefore direct assistance to the operations of the DNPW patrol teams ensuring that they are able to execute their duties in the field. More than 300 wildlife police officers are supported by NLCP to conduct anti-poaching patrols. A specialist unit of elite officers are attached to the centrally based Rhino and Elephant Protection Unit, which includes the Rhino Monitoring Unit and the North Luangwa Canine Unit.

In 2017, we conducted wildlife police officer recruit training, to boost critical man power numbers, and comprehensive in service training for the Rhino and Elephant Protection Unit, to instil discipline, refine skills, motivate and provide the unit with the confidence to apply their mandate.



North Luangwa's Community Conservation Banks are a success story for conservation friendly community development.

Patrols are managed and monitored through digital platforms (software, databases, digital radios etc.) to support real time strategic approaches to threat monitoring and mitigation. The control operations room was upgraded to provide a secure briefing room and the digital radio network was expanded to support patrol deployment and resource protection over the entire ecosystem.

- ✓ NLCP supports eleven DNPW Intelligence and Investigations Units across northern Zambia. These officers work closely with other national agencies and partners in neighbouring countries; and NLCP works collaboratively with other NGOs in the region to combat the illegal wildlife trade.
- ✓ The North Luangwa Canine Unit has four dogs, seven handlers and two vehicles to support the Intelligence and Investigations Units as well as conduct their own road blocks and intelligence-led operations. The dogs are able to detect ivory, rhino horn, bush meat, pangolin, lion/leopard skins, firearms and ammunition and mukula hard wood.

Ecosystem and species monitoring

Ecosystem and species monitoring provides NLCP with a measure of effectiveness of its activities; primarily on black rhino and elephant population monitoring. Analysis of a 2015 survey of the ecosystem showed that 70 per cent of the Luangwa Valley elephant population are found within the NLCP operational area.

- ✓ This was also reflected in the number of elephant carcasses detected by anti-poaching patrols which were down by 30 per cent compared to previous years, making 2017 the lowest annual number of poached elephant carcasses since 2011.
- ✓ In 2017, the black rhino population suffered no losses to poaching and experienced a growth rate of more than 5 per cent.

- ✓ Currently there are 15 elephants fitted with satellite collars in the Game Management Areas surrounding North Luangwa National Park where poaching pressure is at its highest. Being able to monitor elephant movements provides data to support protection of this iconic species.

Community engagement

Lolesha Luangwa is a black rhino-focused conservation education programme that targets communities surrounding the National Park. It is carefully designed to disseminate specific messages to communities, using schoolchildren as message multipliers.

- ✓ In 2017 a series of presentations using black rhinos as a focus were delivered to 22 schools participating in the programme. The same schools experienced overnight visits into the park, providing many with their first opportunity to see the wildlife they learn about.
- ✓ North Luangwa Conservation Programme also sponsors a community run Rhino Challenge Football Trophy competition and the winning team, Mukungule, as a consequence of their success has recently been promoted by the Football Association of Zambia to the Provincial League 2.

Ongoing funding from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and new funding from the German Ministry for Development (BMZ) supported community based natural resource initiatives in the four priority Game Management Areas around North Luangwa National Park. Currently local communities are not fully benefiting from the wildlife they live alongside. This project aims to strengthen ecosystem management and resilience by strengthening community participation in ecosystem conservation and stimulating private investment in enterprise opportunities to diversify and increase revenue streams for livelihoods and conservation.



North Luangwa and Nsumbu both have important elephant populations.

- ✓ To support this considerable input was provided to build the capacity of the Village Action Groups and Community Resource Boards (CRB), including the 3-yearly elections of office holders, in order to deliver good governance and management of natural resources.
- ✓ The project was also instrumental in facilitating the formation of a national CRB Association and associated regional associations to represent all CRBs with government and other stakeholders.

Protected Area Planning

- ✓ New General Management Plans for North Luangwa National Park and Munyamadzi GMA began development in 2017, and will be completed in 2018.
- ✓ Participatory village land use planning was also started for ten villages in the North Luangwa ecosystem – seen as a cornerstone of efforts to slow the spread of scattered land conversion and to minimise human wildlife conflict and keep habitat and wildlife corridors open.

Conservation Enterprise Development

In efforts to increase community benefits from natural resources, the project developed core documents and processes for supporting conservation enterprise development, and photo-tourism in particular. Some areas of the GMAs have tremendous potential for photo-tourism.

- ✓ Nine Community Conservation Bank groups were mentored throughout the year and four new groups were formed in Chifunda GMA.
- ✓ In Mukungule GMA, 14 boreholes were drilled to increase access to clean water and in preparation of pilot irrigated horticulture activities in 2018.



Ecosystem protection is increasing, elephant poaching decreasing, and no rhino was poached in North Luangwa.

NSUMBU-TANGANYIKA CONSERVATION PROGRAMME (NTCP)

PROJECT AREA: 4,000 km²

PROJECT START: 2017

The NTCP aims to secure the wider Nsumbu ecosystem focusing on the isolated and threatened elephant population in Nsumbu National Park and the extraordinary biodiversity of the protected waters of Lake Tanganyika. Core activities target restoration of wildlife populations and participatory and effective community based natural resource management. Building on our experiences in North Luangwa, NTCP has been building capacity of the Nsama CRB in the GMAs.

Law enforcement support to existing DNPW and Community Resource Board units was a priority initial activity to improve security and reduce poaching pressure. The increased investment allowed additional law enforcement manpower to be deployed in all six sectors surrounding the project area, through providing fuel, rations, field equipment, salary and management support enabling a combination of long patrols and short patrols to be conducted per month.

- ✓ 172 patrols were conducted.
- ✓ 47 arrests took place.
- ✓ 51 boats, one outboard engine, 82 nets, 199 Tiller Lamps were confiscated.
- ✓ 1,837 snares were removed, 43 firearms and 127 rounds of ammunition confiscated.



Stronger protection of threatened elephant populations and of the protected waters of Lake Tanganyika.

THE GONAREZHOU CONSERVATION TRUST

A NEW MODEL

IN ZIMBABWE

by Elsabe van der Westhuizen



Gonarezhou National Park.

The Gonarezhou Conservation Trust (GCT) is a partnership between the Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management Authority and Frankfurt Zoological Society. It represents a new take on what is effectively a decentralized co-management model for protected area conservation.

The development of GCT over the last five years was an inclusive exercise between FZS and our partners and this model could be an example of partnerships for other conservation areas. A Board of Trustees are directly responsible for the management of Gonarezhou National Park, and 100 per cent of income raised through tourism is retained at park level. We believe that GCT offers an exciting opportunity to address the issues of effective conservation of protected areas, as well as engaging in the challenge to find options for long-term financial sustainability in conserving these habitats and wildlife.

Gonarezhou is Zimbabwe's second largest national park, at about 5,000 square kilometres, and its sheer size already presents many challenges ranging from the costs of managing it, the logistics and infrastructure needed to support the various management activities and expectations on national and local level with regards to the park's contribution to economic growth through job creation

and tourism. As with many of the world's remaining wild areas, pressure of human population growth, and specifically also on local level on the park's boundaries, is creating challenges on many fronts, including access to resources and conflict between humans and wildlife.

GCT is responsible for all activities related to managing Gonarezhou. As such GCT ensures that there is adequate and trained manpower, with the necessary equipment and logistical support available to secure the park's wildlife. GCT ensures that the park's equipment and infrastructure is maintained and developed to support both management and tourism. GCT engages with communities on various fronts – inclusive of conservation education and human wildlife conflict mitigation. GCT is developing a strategic plan that will serve as a roadmap for the park's development – inclusive of tourism development – that can sustain both the park's core values, which includes wilderness as a key concept, as well as a business plan to assist us in securing donor support to execute the plan whilst we work towards increasing income from other streams such as tourism.



Conservation Education Officer, Ezekia Chauke, delivering a lesson to one of our schools adjoining the Park. This initiative is part of our Chilojo Club.



K9-units – sniffer dogs and their handlers – have proven successful in fighting wildlife crime.

GONAREZHOU CONSERVATION PROJECT

PROJECT AREA: 5,053 km² (park), 100,000 km² (ecosystem)

PROJECT START: 2007

- ✓ GCT administrative and financial structures have been established and are now functional.
- ✓ 40 new jobs were created for local communities through recruitment as rangers – overall GCT employs close to 160 local people with a monthly salary bill of around 70,000 US dollar flowing into local communities.
- ✓ Malipati Safari Area, 154 square kilometres, included under GCT management – vital link in the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Conservation Area and key to tourism revival in the southern sector of the park.
- ✓ Turn-around in elephant poaching wave, with lowest number of elephants poached in the park in three years (18 recorded cases, down from 59 in 2015).
- ✓ 44 schools served with conservation education outreach, with 13 inclusive of a literacy programme. 12 new school libraries established. Now a total of 43 schools with libraries and books supplied through our collaborative Chilojo Club programme.

Going forward we are aiming at:

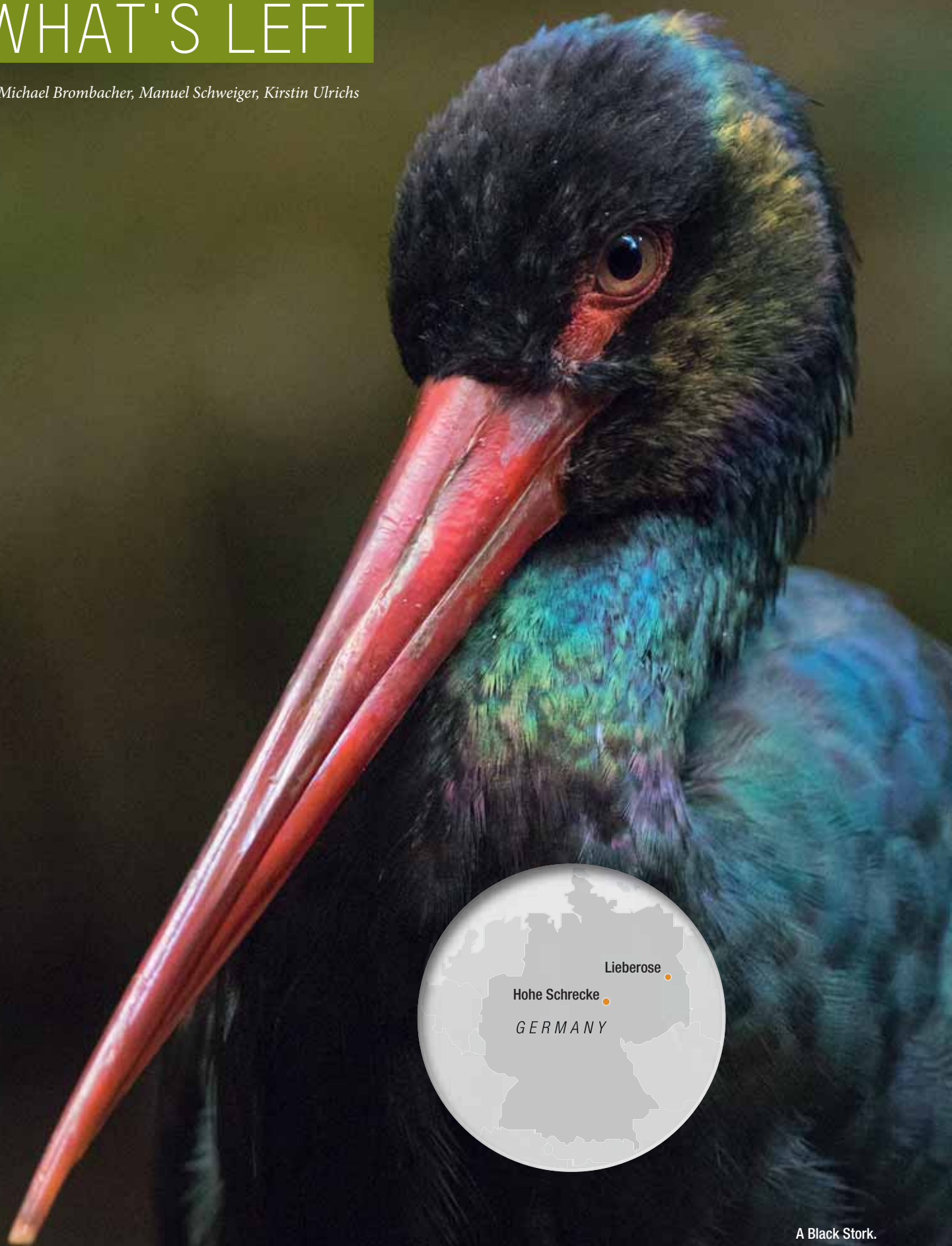
- ⑦ Conservancy established by properties adjoining Gonarezhou in Mozambique.
- ⑦ Rhino reintroduction.
- ⑦ Development of a long-term tourism plan, with community participation and benefits.
- ⑦ Community engagement plan and framework established
- ⑦ Finding ways for the park's elephants to move into the larger Great Limpopo Transfrontier Conservation Area landscapes, beyond the park's boundaries



2107 saw a turn-around in elephant poaching, with lowest number of elephants poached in the park in three years.

WILDERNESS PROTECTION IN GERMANY PRESERVING WHAT'S LEFT

by Michael Brombacher, Manuel Schweiger, Kirstin Ulrichs



A Black Stork.

Two per cent wilderness in Germany by 2020 – this is the goal which the German government set itself in its National Strategy on Biological Diversity (NBS). In 2015, the Federal Ministry for the Environment highlighted this two per cent wilderness target as one of the NBS' top ten priorities. In addition, five per cent of Germany's forests should be allowed to develop naturally by 2020 ("NWE5" target). The public sector is to set an example in state owned forests, where a full ten per cent of the area is to be removed from managed forestry use. The two per cent and NWE5 targets can both be pursued once large forest reserves have been established.

Large wilderness areas in Germany currently cover only around 0.5 per cent of the country's surface area. Here, nature can reassert itself, governed only by its own laws and without the direct influence of man. This figure puts Germany towards the bottom of the table in Europe.

We support the Federal Government's wilderness objectives

Our goal is to create more wilderness areas in Germany, either by purchasing them or by designating new protected areas. This requires the support of politicians as well as other nature conservation organisations and the general public. FZS therefore carries out public relations work related to wilderness and promotes public and professional debate on the subject. It brings together nature conservation organisations and others committed to preserving wilderness, and has founded the "Wildnis in Deutschland" ("Wilderness in Germany") initiative. This consists of 18 nature conservation associations and foundations which are collaborating to establish more wilderness in Germany and to achieve the wilderness goals of the Federal Government. The Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN) and the Federal Ministry for the Environment (BMU) supported the activities through the joint "Wildniskommunikation in Deutschland" ("Wilderness Communication in Germany") project (2015 to 2017), which has done a great deal to promote and focus the wilderness debate in Germany.

FZS also supports and advises national park initiatives on the development of new parks, and lobbies intensively for more wilderness in Germany. It is also active at the political level and, in cooperation with other nature conservation organisations, has managed to get a national wilderness fund included in the coalition agreement of the new federal government. This financial instrument will support the federal states of Germany ("Länder") in working towards achieving the two per cent wilderness target.

Wilderness information leading to more wilderness areas

Providing information and lobbying are essential aspects of making Germany wilder. But ultimately, it is imperative to secure land where new wilderness areas can be developed. FZS supports the Brandenburg Wilderness Foundation (SNLB) in acquiring and managing abandoned military sites. Moors which had been drained are now being restored and unique wilderness areas and primeval forests of the future are being created. In 2017, in addition to purchasing land for the purpose of expanding existing wilderness areas, the SNLB continued the planning of an international nature conservation exhibition (INA) in Lieberose, which is to be held in 2020/2021. FZS is also funding the purchase of suitable areas in northern Thuringia in an effort to expand the wilderness area in the "Hohe Schrecke" region. This is one of the oldest forested areas in Germany, containing ancient beech trees and a comparatively large amount of deadwood. This major nature conservation project is being implemented together with Naturstiftung David. The aim is to secure at least 25 per cent of the 7,300 hectare region as a wilderness area. This milestone was reached in 2017, as almost 2,000 hectares have now been designated as wilderness areas.

But this is not the only directly visible area-related success. All the activities and hard work of FZS and its partners are now paying off. The following were added in 2017 alone: 1,000 hectares of future wilderness areas in Brandenburg, 50 hectares of wilderness in Hohe Schrecke and (after two years of lobbying) 1,000 hectares of forest wilderness in the Possen area of Thuringia.

Prospects for more wilderness

The new "Wilderness Offensive 2020" communication project was launched in mid-2017, the aim of which is to appeal to further target groups and disseminators in order to promote the topic of wilderness in Germany. This new FZS subproject is also funded by the BfN and BMU. FZS is to help shape the Wilderness Fund which was created for the purchase of land and is anchored in the coalition agreement of the Federal Government. In December 2017, FZS launched a new project to expand and set up networks for nature conservation and (especially) wilderness areas. Together with partners and supported by the BfN, suitable areas are to be identified and funding models developed in order to offer incentives to municipal or private land owners to make more areas available for wilderness.



For many Germans, species like wolf, lynx and wild cat represent pristine forests.



Practical exercise during the wilderness conference “WOW Wildnis” in Frankfurt.

WILDERNESS IN GERMANY

PROJECT AREA: 357,385.71 km² (national territory of Germany)

PROJECT START: 2014

- ✓ 1,000 hectares of forest wilderness and 500 hectares of recreational forest are being created in the Possen region (Thuringia).
- ✓ 18 nature conservation organisations support the “Wilderness in Germany” initiative set up by FZS.
- ✓ 12,000 copies of the “Wir für Wildnis – Wegweiser zu mehr Wildnis in Deutschland” (“Supporting wilderness – Guide to more wilderness in Germany”) brochure were distributed by the 18 partners to nature conservation representatives and political decision-makers, together with the demand for a wilderness fund.
- ✓ The 3-minute film “Entdecke Wildnis!” (“Discovering Wilderness!”) presents three wilderness areas and has already been viewed over 6,500 times. Download: www.wildnis-in-deutschland.de
- ✓ 91 participants took part in the “WOW Wildnis – Gute Gründe für mehr Wildnis in Deutschland” wilderness conference on 30-31 March 2017 at the Zoogesellschaftshaus in Frankfurt (Germany).
- ✓ Four national park initiatives are receiving support and advice from FZS: Lieberose, Senne, Spessart and Steigerwald.



Communication paves the way for widespread success: FZS is creating a broad alliance for more wilderness in Germany – among the general public as well as at the political level.



Excursions to the forest are popular.

BRANDENBURG WILDERNESS FOUNDATION

PROJECT AREA: 128 km² (Foundation-owned area)

PROJECT START: 1996

- ✓ The International Nature Conservation Exhibition (INA), supported by FZS, aims to create added value for the region by permanently preserving a large, more-or-less contiguous wilderness area, including the development of ecologically-sound, wilderness-oriented tourism.
- ✓ A sponsoring organisation, “I.N.A. Lieberoser Heide GmbH”, which coordinates the regional development project components and links them with nature conservation projects, was founded in October 2017 (SNLB has voting rights as one of the four partners).
- ✓ The Brandenburg state parliament decided unanimously and across party lines to support the INA.
- ✓ An agreement was reached with the Landesbetrieb Forst Brandenburg (Brandenburg forestry administration) to establish a core wilderness zone of around 4,000 hectares on the Foundation's land in Lieberose.
- ✓ The wilderness area on the former “Jüterborg Ost” military training area has been extended by about 1,000 hectares of forest area.



Just under 1,000 hectares of new wilderness in “Jüterbog-Ost”.

HOHE SCHRECKE – AN OLD FOREST REDISCOVERED

PROJECT AREA: 73 km², 20 km² (wilderness area)

PROJECT START: 2009

- ✓ The “Wiegental” wilderness area has been extended by almost 50 hectares.
- ✓ Securing the wilderness areas: state-of-the-art boundary surveying (including use of satellite-based measuring methods) of around nine kilometres of the old wood and wilderness area borders.
- ✓ Wildcat monitoring shows the presence of several males and two females in the Hohe Schrecke.
- ✓ Publication of a hiking map for the Hohe Schrecke.
- ✓ Great interest in the old forest: 14 excursions were organised.
- ✓ 107 articles were published on the project in the local and national press.



Wilderness area increased to a total of almost 2,000 hectares.



THE FZS PROGRAMME IN THE CARPATHIANS A FUTURE FOR EUROPE'S PRIMEVAL FORESTS

by Michael Brombacher

Beech Forest in the Romanian Carpathians.



- 1 *Wolf Mountains*
- 2 *Ukrainian Carpathians*
- 3 *Făgăraș Mountains*

The Carpathians are the largest mountain range in Europe, with peaks of over 2,500 metres. More than half of the Carpathian arc, covering some ten million hectares, is forested. The Carpathians constitute one of the most important wilderness regions in Europe. There are still virgin beech and spruce forests there which extend over long valleys and wide ridges. They are home to the largest population of European bears, and wolves and lynx are also widespread. Bison have been resettled in several places in Poland and Ukraine, and independent populations have developed which may soon extend across borders. Because the glaciers covered only a small part of the Carpathian mountain range during the last ice age, species survived there that exist nowhere else in Europe. These include amphibians such as the Carpathian newt, but also flowering plants such as the Carpathian harebell or the Carpathian saxifrage.

Emerging conflicts over the use of forest areas pose a major threat to the Carpathians. Western European timber companies are eager to satisfy their large demand for timber there. In many places, especially in the Romanian part of the mountain range, huge areas of forest have been cleared. Old-growth forests, which are species-rich and thus very valuable from a conservation viewpoint, have been lost which should have been preserved as carbon reservoirs and supplies of drinking water and oxygen. In Romania alone, more than 400,000 hectares of forest have been illegally cleared in about 20 years. The scale is so great that these areas are even visible on Google Earth. The forests in neighbouring Ukraine are facing the same fate.

The battle for the Carpathian forests

FZS has been collaborating since 2012 with local partners to secure the valuable and ancient forests of the Carpathians as wilderness areas in perpetuity and thus protect them from deforestation. This project area covers around 500,000 hectares in three project regions: the Făgăraș Mountains in Romania, the Ukrainian Carpathians and the Wolf Mountains in the border area of Poland, Slovakia and Ukraine.

In **Romania**, FZS is supporting the purchase of forest land in the Carpathian arc near Brasov with the aim of expanding a privately-owned protected area of around 100,000 hectares. But buying land alone is not enough. Together with our project partner Fundatia Conservation Carpathia (FCC), we have organised ranger monitoring of the acquired areas and, where necessary, reforestation is being carried out on former cleared areas, above all to prevent erosion of the slopes. Over 21,000 hectares of forest are already owned by the FCC – 3,336 hectares were acquired in 2017 alone. Thanks to the transfer of hunting concessions, hunting has now been stopped on around 36,000 hectares, allowing the wild populations of chamois, deer and also brown bears to recover. In addition, a CARPATHIA information centre is planned at the edge of the project area, as is a protection scheme for the entire Făgăraș mountain range. The ultimate objective of the project is to create one of the largest European national parks in the Romanian Carpathians.

Neighbouring **Ukraine** is already making great efforts to preserve its European natural heritage, parts of which are UNESCO World Heritage Sites. In the Ukrainian Carpathians there are now nine national parks and two biosphere reserves. There is also a general ban on tree felling in coniferous forest areas above 1,100 metres. The national parks have already been established and have hired staff, but they now need equipment and more extensive training if they are to afford effective protection to the areas. Current estimates by FZS and its project partners indicate that there are roughly 100,000 additional hectares of forest which could be integrated into the existing conservation areas in the coming years. Potential protected areas have been mapped and designation documents drawn up in recent years. FZS is leading a EUR 14 million KfW project to provide eight protected areas in the Carpathians with cars, uniforms and ranger stations. New and modern

management plans are being developed and implemented for these areas, as are training programmes for rangers and other park personnel.

Especially in the Slovak part of the border region of **Poland, Slovakia** and **Ukraine** – the Wolf Mountains – even protected areas are often heavily used for commercial forestry and hunting. UNESCO World Heritage Sites are also under pressure and their borders are being debated. FZS provides help to improve the protection status by purchasing expanses of contiguous areas. At the same time, FZS promotes nature tourism and the marketing of local products in order to strengthen the regional economy and allow local communities to participate in the creation of value through the conservation of the forests in the Wolf Mountains. The efforts are accompanied by communications work.

The aim is to make the Carpathians a lasting treasure trove for Europe. The protection of this unique mountain range knows no national borders. Together with its local project partners, FZS' Europe department is doing its utmost to conserve the last primeval forests of Europe. Another focus is on buying up forests of significant nature conservation value or on designating them as protected areas and thus securing their long-term future. Here we are supporting the nature conservation work of the local partners – both financially and with our technical expertise.



The Carpathian forests are still Europe's treasure troves of biodiversity.



Chamois in the Făgăraș mountain range in Romania.

CROSS-BORDER PROTECTION OF OLD FORESTS IN THE WOLF MOUNTAINS (POLAND, SLOVAKIA AND UKRAINE)

PROJECT AREA: Target size 2,000 km²

PROJECT START: 2016

- ✓ We produced the high-quality brochure “Wolf Mountains – Creating a first-class wilderness area for Europe” aimed at attracting major potential donors for the project and at purchasing areas which are for sale.
- ✓ A strategy for sustainable regional development in the Slovak part of the project area was developed together with 16 experts.
- ✓ Six business plans have been drawn up for the development of a sustainable local economy throughout the project area.
- ✓ Two new excursion packages were developed for the Slovakian project area and successfully tested.
- ✓ There has been an exchange of views among representatives from the fields of politics, administration, the economy, landowners, the government, other Slovak stakeholders and UNESCO in order to secure the current border of the World Heritage area in Poloniny National Park.
- ✓ The ban on hunting elk on the Polish side of the Wolf Mountains has been upheld thanks to intensive public relations work.
- ✓ The ownership of more than 17,000 valuable nature conservation sites in the Polish part of the Wolf Mountains was clarified in preparation for future purchases.



Regional development is the key to more wilderness areas in the Wolf Mountains.



Forest in the Romanian Carpathians.

ESTABLISHMENT OF A WILDERNESS/ FOREST RESERVE IN ROMANIA

PROJECT AREA: 2,000 km² (National Park and NATURA2000 area)
PROJECT START: 2012

- ✓ Purchase of 3,600 hectares of forest in the Făgăraș and Leaota mountains.
- ✓ FCC was awarded a second hunting concession for a 10,000 hectare area in the Dâmbovița Valley. This ensures that no hunting is carried out over a total area of 36,000 hectares.
- ✓ Various locations suffering from large-scale clear cutting in the Dâmbovița Valley were reforested with over 400,000 tree seedlings, around a third of which came from the project's own nurseries.
- ✓ A large-scale monitoring project was launched on a 100,600 hectare area to assess the populations of bears, wolves and lynx.
- ✓ Three wildlife observation huts, which can also be used as guest houses, were built in the project area as part of the development of "Conservation Enterprises".



Land ownership is the best guarantee for conserving valuable Carpathian forest areas. FCC already owns 21,000 hectares of forest and is looking to create a large national park.

PROTECTING VIRGIN FOREST IN THE UKRAINIAN CARPATHIANS

PROJECT AREA: 2,000 km² (all national parks involved in the project), 24,000 km² (Ukrainian Carpathians)
PROJECT START: 2013

- ✓ Through intensive professional preparation and lobbying, our project partner, the Ukrainian Society for the Protection of Birds (USPB), has ensured that all Ukrainian primeval forest areas selected based on scientific criteria will be protected by law in future.
- ✓ The roughly 30,000 hectare expansion of the nine national parks has overcome initial formal hurdles.
- ✓ In the Lviv region, work was initiated on designating some 170 hectares of valuable old and primeval forests as protected areas.
- ✓ Effective public relations work informed an estimated 5.8 million people about the goals and content of the project.
- ✓ Organic teas were successfully marketed in the Skolivski Beskydy National Park as part of a regional development initiative, and the number of tea varieties was expanded from three to 12. There was a sharp rise in demand, and partnerships were established with tourist organisations.



A law will automatically protect primeval Ukrainian forest areas in the future.

THE FZS COMMITMENT IN POLESIA WILDERNESS WITHOUT BORDERS

by Michael Brombacher, Viktor Fenchuk, Elleni Vendras



The size alone is impressive. Polesia is one of the largest natural river landscapes in Europe and, covering over 18.6 million hectares, is about half the size of Germany. At the heart of Polesia is the 700 kilometres long Pripjat river. With its countless meanders and tributaries, it shapes the region in a unique way: the landscape is a labyrinth of waters, islands, swamps, wetlands and riparian forest. It is home to the main concentration of one of Europe's rarest bird species, the aquatic warbler.

Despite major interventions in the natural landscape during the Soviet era, large areas still remain completely untouched by human hand. The extensive forests provide a refuge for large mammals such as the brown bear, wolf, lynx and bison, and the river meadows of the Pripjat are an important resting place for waterfowl whose migratory route leads through Polesia in spring and autumn. Numerous birds breed in the wetlands, including species that are particularly dependent on large, untouched habitats, such as the greater spotted eagle. The annual gatherings of ruffs and black-tailed snipes in the Pripjat flood plains are the largest in central and eastern Europe. Many parts of Polesia are of international importance for nature conservation and have been recognised as UNESCO biosphere reserves or Ramsar sites.

Establishment of a 1.2 million hectare network of protected areas

Our Polesia project is called "Wilderness without Borders". We are collaborating with our project partners north and south of the "Pripjatskiy Polesie", which belongs to Belarus and Ukraine. Our goal is to create a network of protected areas covering a total area of 1.2 million hectares within this 5.8 million hectare project region. Existing protected areas are to be upgraded and better equipped, while a total of 140,000 hectares of new protected areas are to be established. In addition, the water balance of bogs and riparian forests will be restored in the coming years in an area covering an estimated 10,000 hectares.

With funds from the "Claus und Taslimawati Schmidt-Luprian Stiftung Vogelschutz in Feuchtgebieten", FZS was able to produce maps and area descriptions of nearly all of Polesia in 2015 and 2016. These ultimately led to the selection of the FZS project area. Preparatory work was carried out for the first designations of protected areas and rewetting on the Belarus side in 2017. The latter will take place in the buffer zones of the Pripjat National Park. A first planning workshop was held in December 2017 to discuss the area and a schedule. This planning stage is supported by



Aquatic bird paradise: the Pripjat river and the surrounding wetlands and marshes.

scientific studies – especially on the populations of bats and birds in the region. This field work is intended to underline the nature conservation significance of Polesia, with the results providing strong justification for new and better protected areas.

Prevention of waterway construction through Polesia

FZS and its partners broke new nature-conservation ground on the Belarusian side in 2017. There are plans to connect the Black Sea to the Baltic Sea via the Dnieper, Pripjat, Vistula and Bug rivers for shipping traffic by means of a 2,000 kilometre waterway, known by the planners as E40. Parts of the Pripjat would be canalised, the river bed dredged and large sections of the currently near-natural river landscape destroyed. An information campaign – which was initially launched in Belarus in 2017 and will be extended to the countries directly affected, Poland and Ukraine, as well as to the European Union in 2018 – is designed to inform the public about the importance of floodplains and the consequences of the planned developments. Political pressure is also being applied and more economically viable alternatives being put forward.



After ringing this ruff is returned to the flood plains of the Pripjat.

WILDERNESS WITHOUT BORDERS – NEW PROTECTED AREAS IN POLESIA (BELARUS AND UKRAINE)

PROJECT AREA: 58,000 km² (entire Polesia region)

PROJECT START: 2015

- ✓ The rewetting of 10,000 hectares of former bog and riparian forest areas was prepared.
- ✓ A publicity campaign to prevent the E 40 waterway in Polesia was launched (website, petitions, etc.).
- ✓ In 2017, the greater noctule bat was found again in Polesia for the second year in succession; this species of bat lives in old-growth mixed forests and has never been found so far north of its main centre of distribution.
- ✓ In 2017, radio transmitters were attached to greater noctule bats for the first time to track their movement patterns. The results made for very interesting reading: the preferred hunting grounds of the bats are formerly burnt forest areas where there is evidently a wide diversity and high density of insects. This yields important information on the importance of “natural disturbances” such as fires.



In Polesia, the FZS is now heavily involved in a PR and lobbying campaign aimed at preventing the planned E 40 waterway.

THE FZS PROJECT IN BELARUS RETURNING WATER TO THE FOREST

by Michael Brombacher, Viktor Fenchuk, Elleni Vendras



European bison in Bielaviežskaja-Pušča.

One of Europe's largest lowland forests, the Bialowieża/Bielaviežskaja Pušča primeval forest, covers around 200,000 hectares between Belarus and Poland. The greater part of the forest and the ecologically and hydrologically associated fenland are on the Belarusian side. The primeval forest is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

In 2012, the Belarus government expanded the core zone of its park to 57,000 hectares. It then banned all hunting, wildlife feeding and timber use in the area. This part of the national park is untouched by human hand and is allowed to develop without any external interference; it is now nearly four times the size of the Bavarian Forest National Park in Germany.

Nature conservation and research in one of the largest lowland primeval forests in Europe

FZS has been supporting the conservation work of the national park administration on the Belarus side of the primeval forest region since 2012. The main focus of the work is on restoring the natural water balance in the region. This is because the drainage of marshes on the eastern edge of the forest and river straightening have destroyed the water storage functions of these eco-

systems. The water drains quickly from the forest, and the groundwater level has dropped. Typical tree species such as spruce, oak or lime tree are rarely part of the natural regeneration process, and the spruce areas are drying out. A second focus of the work is on carrying out research into (groups of) species (especially bats and birds, but also land mammals via camera trap monitoring) that depend on natural forest which contains very old trees and a high proportion of dead wood.

The work of FZS and its project partners to restore the natural water balance gained sudden relevance in 2017: the Polish government used the bark beetle infestation of dried out spruce areas on the Polish side – a normal process in a natural forest – as justification for conducting large-scale deforestation. In 2018 this even led to the country being taken to the European Court of Justice and ultimately to its abandoning the forest clearing plans.

The widespread restoration of the hydrological system in Beloveshkaya Pushcha (the Belarusian part of the Bialowieża forest area) was therefore one of our key priorities in 2017. 1,147 hectares of the “Dziki Nikar” fen which had been drained in the 1960s and 1970s were rewetted in December 2016 and January 2017. More than 110 trenches were filled in and closed, and by autumn 2017 the changes in this landscape were already apparent



on aerial photos: water now accumulates in a large part of the area and bog expanses are already forming. Corncrakes and great snipes have returned to the area, and greater spotted eagles are now hunting there. The international discussion regarding logging in the Polish part of the forest for the alleged containment of bark beetle damage lent the work of FZS a degree of unexpected topicality: once the many bogs on the Belarusian side of the forest and also formerly straightened waters have returned to a natural or semi-natural state, the groundwater level will begin to rise again. As a result, the forest as a whole will become wetter again, which is a more natural form of forest development.

The 2016 moratorium on wolf hunting in the national park was continued in 2017. Thus the wolves have now not been hunted for two years in an area covering 150,000 hectares.

Five wolves were radio-collared in 2017, and two one-year-old wolves migrated to protected areas in Ukraine and Poland. This confirms a trend already observed in 2016: the forest is an important habitat for the “original population” of wolves. These then migrate to areas further east and west where they settle and can establish new packs. The data also confirms the importance of protected areas.



A naturally flowing river in the forest of Bielaviežskaja-Pušča.

PRESERVATION OF THE BIAŁOWIEŻA/BIELAVIEŽSKAJA PUŠČA PRIMEVAL FOREST (BELARUS)

PROJECT AREA: 1,500 km² (National Park, Belarusian side), 2,000 km² (total forest area)

PROJECT START: 2012

- ✓ 1,147 hectares of the “Dziki Nikar” fen were rewetted. 110 trenches were filled in and closed, raising the water level.
- ✓ Five wolves were radio-collared in 2017, and two one-year-old wolves migrated to protected areas in Ukraine and Poland.
- ✓ Information and public relations work on the role of wolves in the forest ecosystem was continued and a wolf blog was set up which is followed by users throughout the country.



Natural development and renaturation – and not chainsaws – are the solution for the Białowieża/Bielaviežskaja Pušča primeval forest.

CONSERVATION IN KAZAKHSTAN

INFINITE GRASSLANDS – PRISTINE NATURE

by Michael Brombacher, Steffen Zuther



Temperate grasslands are the least protected ecosystem in the world. Most of the remaining natural steppes of Eurasia are in Kazakhstan, where the greatest proportion of the saiga population is still to be found today. Roughly one million saigas roamed Kazakhstan's steppes and semi-desert areas in the 1970s. Following the collapse of the Soviet Union, the impoverishment of the rural population coupled with the opening of the borders to China led to a massive increase in poaching. The saigas were killed for their meat but also for their horns, which are valued in traditional Chinese medicine. Within ten years of the end of the Soviet Union, the numbers of saiga had fallen by more than 95 per cent. In 2002 the saiga antelope was on the brink of extinction and was classified as “critically endangered” on the Red List of Threatened Species of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

Only a few days old, this saiga calf receives an ear-tag.

Together with its partner in Kazakhstan, the Association for the Conservation of Biodiversity of Kazakhstan (ACBK), and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB), FZS is committed to supporting the Altyn Dala Conservation Initiative (ADCI). This joint international project is dedicated to protecting the unique grasslands of Kazakhstan and its predominant species. The purpose of the initiative is to set up a network of protected grassland habitats in central Kazakhstan. Vast grassland and semi-desert regions – the characteristic landscape of Kazakhstan – are now being protected and restored as a result. The saiga antelopes of the Betpak-Dala population constitute a special focus.

Establishing the causes of the mass death of saiga antelopes

Following the recovery of the saiga population in the last decade – thanks in part to the work of the ADCI – around 200,000 animals died in 2015 in a mass mortality event which affected the largest saiga population. The FZS project team and its project

PROTECTING THE STEPPES AND THE SAIGA ANTELOPE IN KAZAKHSTAN

PROJECT AREA: 55,000 km² (protected areas),
560,000 km² (entire Altyn Dala area)
PROJECT START: 2002

partner ACBK are continuing to cope with the after-effects of this mass die-off. In a paper in “Science Advances” published on 17 January 2018, an international and interdisciplinary group of scientists, including FZS project manager Steffen Zuther, highlighted how above-average temperatures and high humidity in the days before the disaster were the triggering factors for a bacterial infection. This infection was the cause of the mass extinction. This brought the investigations to an end for which FZS had provided essential technical and logistical support from the outset. By evaluating earlier mass deaths of saigas, the researchers were also able to show that the probability of a sudden mass die-off increases in humid and warm weather and that it usually occurs during the calving period.

Sufficiently large populations can ensure the survival of the saigas

Poaching is a further problem alongside the potentially rising temperatures. The encroachment of infrastructure (railways, roads and fences) which carves up the saigas' habitat impairs migration and places an even greater strain on the animals. In view of all these threats, a renewed mass extinction could conceivably deplete the saiga population to a level that would make recovery of the species impossible. Only with sufficiently large permanent populations can the saiga antelope survive. FZS and ACBK therefore set up a further ranger unit in Ust-Yurt, the area with the smallest subpopulation, in 2017. Funding was provided by our project partner Fauna & Flora International (FFI). In addition, the Altyn Dala project partners are trying to prevent the construction of a World Bank-funded road that would dissect the saigas' migration routes. An official complaint was lodged with the World Bank in 2017.

The resettlement of Asiatic wild asses (kulans) from the south of Kazakhstan to the Altyn Dala area began in autumn. In the coming years, a total of 30 to 40 animals are to be resettled by helicopter to the steppes, which form part of the historical habitat of the kulans. The first nine animals were successfully taken to the FZS project area in 2017.

- ✓ Following the mass death of saigas in 2015, the Altyn Dala Conservation Initiative was extended to the whole country in order to integrate all remaining saiga subpopulations into the protection programme.
- ✓ A new unit consisting of four rangers was set up in the Ust-Yurt area (worst affected saiga subpopulation).
- ✓ The results of the study into the mass die-off were published in a renowned scientific journal.
- ✓ Nine Asiatic wild asses (kulans) were resettled in the Altyn Dala project region with the help of the world's largest transport helicopter.



Climate change and road construction are badly affecting the saiga antelope. Large populations are necessary to mitigate these threats.



After measuring and marking the little saiga is released into the steppe. The marking allows the monitoring of the population.

FOREST PROTECTION IN BUKIT TIGAPULUH HOME TO SUMATRA'S ORANGUTANS

by Dr. Antje Müllner



At jungle school.



The Bukit Tigapuluh ecosystem is the largest contiguous lowland rainforest in Sumatra. It is home to a number of charismatic species: elephants, tigers, tapirs – and now also orangutans (thanks to the work of FZS). About half of the area is protected as a national park, but there is also natural forest which is valuable for animals and plants outside the national park itself.

Here forest destruction proceeds rapidly – some of which is legal, some of which illegal – e.g. for the creation of palm oil plantations. The global demand for palm oil is further promoting this predatory exploitation. Corruption is widespread, which is preventing both compliance with legal requirements and also the subsequent prosecution of criminal offences. Small-scale deforestation for the creation of fields is also increasing, often promoted and controlled by individuals from outside the region who have no interest in the planning of long-term and sustainable use. For example, land continues to be “sold” illegally to farmers from North Sumatra. The area around the national park which is available to wild animals is constantly decreasing as a result. This always leads to conflict: orangutans help themselves to fruit from

farmers' trees and elephants destroy the farmers' fields in search of food. Elephants avoid the hilly national park, meaning that they have no alternative.

The FZS' involvement in Bukit Tigapuluh started out with a project for the reintroduction of Sumatran orangutans formerly held in captivity, but this has since grown into a comprehensive, multi-component, landscape conservation programme. The focus of our work is on protecting the habitat inside and outside the national park. The Wildlife Protection Unit (WPU), with five ranger units consisting of a total of 33 employees, controls the southern edge of the national park and the larger area around the two FZS field stations. If they discover illegal activity, they record the data

and pass the information on to the relevant authorities. The FZS team supports the law enforcement authorities in pursuing such incidents and, if necessary, in taking legal action. In addition, the rangers carry out wildlife censuses using camera traps. Radio telemetry is also used for orangutans and elephants. Two WPU units offer advice to farmers and village communities and support them in keeping elephants away from fields and huts to prevent crop damage and other destruction. The original core of the programme is being continued: the orangutan population continues to grow, and confiscated animals are still being brought to the station. Orangutans are therefore continuing to be trained and subsequently released in the forests of Bukit Tigapuluh.

Involving the people around Bukit Tigapuluh

Good relations with the villagers surrounding the national park are important for the understanding and acceptance of our work. We are also engaging in environmental education in order to sensitise (and win the hearts and minds of) the next generation with regard to the local natural riches and protection of the country's natural resources. The environmental education team visits schools and provides information in a light-hearted way on wildlife and the importance of the rainforest. It is developing special teaching units and training teachers.

Together with the WWF we support the management of the Ecosystem Restoration Concession (ERC), which is licensed to PT Alam Bukit Tigapuluh (PT ABT). The 39,000 hectare ERC is divided into a western and an eastern block, both abutting on the south of the national park. The aim is to preserve as much natural forest as possible and to make the current use by the local communities more environmentally friendly. Farmers are taught how to optimise their cultivation methods. Rangers patrol the ERC area. Regular data collection of large mammals, amphibians and fish as indicator species should help to assess the long-term ecological status of the ERC area.

The way forward

Unfortunately, the official allocation of management rights to FZS for a 12,000 hectare orangutan sanctuary east of Bukit Tigapuluh National Park has stalled and has yet to be completed. New guidelines are the reason for this delay, even though all official authorities have already given their approval in principle. A sanctuary provides protected species with safe habitat.

We are continuing our work to ensure that the national park and the ERC at least remain safe havens for endangered wildlife. The way ahead in the coming years, however, is clearly to secure additional areas of natural forest connected to the park. We need to build new partnerships and establish a mosaic of wildlife habitats in areas with different conservation status, such as the new forest management units.

BUKIT TIGAPULUH LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION PROGRAMME

PROJECT AREA: 1,450 km² (National Park), 2,500 km² (forest area)
PROJECT START: 2000

- ✓ Consolidation of PT Alam Bukit Tigapuluh
- ✓ PT Alam Bukit Tigapuluh succeeded in agreeing on a land use plan with Suo-Suo, the largest municipality.
- ✓ Only very few trees were felled in the eastern block of the ERC in 2017; the deforestation rate was below one per cent. The ERC team's successful fire-fighting and fire prevention efforts contributed significantly to this.
- ✓ A new project aimed at promoting alternative sources of income for farmers and forms of agriculture which are more nature conservation-compatible is reducing the amount of smaller areas being burnt for new fields.
- ✓ Eight orangutans were released into the rainforest after being trained in the jungle school for a life in the wild. They will continue to be monitored.
- ✓ The number of births in the wild has continued to increase. A sign that Bukit Tigapuluh's orangutans are on the right track.
- ✓ Both FZS field stations have been modernised and repaired: cage systems and residential buildings were renovated, the energy supply was renewed and an access road and bridge were refurbished.
- ✓ The teaching modules developed by the FZS team have already been incorporated into the official curriculum in two primary schools.



About 150 Sumatran orangutans now live again in the forests of Bukit Tigapuluh.

FOREST PROTECTION PROGRAMME IN VIETNAM

LINKING UP GREEN OASES

by Dr. Antje Müllner



The largest contiguous forest areas in otherwise densely populated Vietnam are to be found in the Annamite Range region of central Vietnam. Protected areas such as the Kon Ka Kinh National Park offer the last retreat for a diverse and in some cases unique range of flora and fauna. The Kon Ka Kinh Mountains also constitute an important water catchment area and have been designated an international ASEAN Heritage Park.

Illegal logging, poaching and the steady expansion of cultivated land do not stop at the reserve boundaries. The park administration staff lack equipment and training. In this region, too, large areas of original forest are being converted into coffee plantations, for example. Construction work on dams or roads carve up the large forest area, where our investigations revealed that many wild animals still live outside the park.

The four-strong FZS team supports the park administration of the Kon Ka Kinh National Park in controlling and managing the area. The main focus of FZS' efforts is on providing training and equipment for the rangers who carry out their work there in eight stations. On their patrols, the rangers destroy snare traps, remove logging and hunting camps, confiscate timber and weapons, and arrest any criminals who can be caught red-handed. FZS also supports the park's environmental education team. It regularly visits the schools in the surrounding villages and organises activities and events to promote the protection of wildlife and the national park.

The flagship species of the project is the grey-shanked douc langur, the largest population of which – just under 500 animals – is to be found in the national park. Kon Ka Kinh is also an important habitat for the yellow-cheeked gibbon. Regular counts are carried out for both species.



Rangers learn how to classify plants.



A school day out in nature for students living near Kon Ka Kinh National Park.

Greater visibility for Kon Ka Kinh

A special event at the end of 2017 saw the launch of awards for the best ranger and the best-managed reserve in Vietnam. The FZS financed and initiated these awards. Although both awards went to North Vietnam, the FZS's prominent role in the event drew attention to Kon Ka Kinh, with high-ranking officials from the Hanoi authorities paying a visit to the park. The increased attention to the previously relatively unknown park strengthened the position of the protected area in the province and also the commitment of the park administration.

The FZS team will continue to support the national park in the future, but will also intensify its efforts to maintain the existing forest corridors between Kon Ka Kinh and other areas.

FOREST PROTECTION IN THE CENTRAL HIGHLANDS

PROJECT AREA: 420 km² (National Park), 1,000 km² (forest area)
PROJECT START: 2010

- ✓ The use of SMART monitoring software was further advanced to improve the evaluation of data from patrols and wildlife censuses. 11 computers and 16 camera traps were purchased, and 45 rangers were trained in their use.
- ✓ 112 wildlife traps were destroyed in the national park.
- ✓ FZS organised a knowledge-sharing session with employees from other protected areas in the country, which increased the motivation of the Kon Ka Kinh rangers.
- ✓ At a workshop on the need for a “green” link to the nearby Kon Cha Rang reserve, the relevant authorities made an initial commitment to help protect the corridor area.



Poaching and illegal logging could be contained through our support for the rangers in the national park.

ANDES TO AMAZON – THE FZS PERU PROGRAMME IN THE TREASURE TROVE OF BIODIVERSITY

by Dr. Antje Müllner



A Saddleback Tamarin in Manu National Park.

One of the most biodiverse regions in the world is to be found in the south-east of Peru, where the Andes meet the Amazon basin. The pristine forests are home to record-breaking numbers of bird, amphibian and butterfly species, as well as different types of tree. Indigenous peoples also live in isolation and without contact to the rest of society in these unique wilderness areas. The state of Peru has established a number of protected areas here, some of which cover very large areas.

One reason why the region is still in this wild, pristine state is its remoteness and inaccessibility. But this also makes control and management of the protected areas complex and expensive – an enormous task for a developing country like Peru. However, the presence and operational capability of SERNANP is important, especially in view of the greatest current threat to the “Wild East”: illegal gold mining. This is spreading like a cancer along the course of the rivers, not even stopping at the boundaries of protected areas. River banks are being cleared and dug up in search of traces of gold, with toxic mercury being used which then escapes into the environment. The high price of gold on the global markets is spurring on this illegal activity. Tens of thousands of prospectors are seeking their fortune in the Madre de Dios region, creating not only an ecological but also a social catastrophe.

Nature conservation alongside a growing population

There is another challenge in the long-term conservation of forests and wildlife: like many protected areas in South America, the Manu National Park is inhabited by indigenous peoples who hunt, fish and use simple shifting agricultural methods. The population is growing at a much higher rate than the national average, which is leading in turn to increased – and understandable – demand for development. As a result, the cultivated areas within the park are expanding and the villages are complaining of declining hunting game and useful plants.

The roughly 40-strong FZS team in Peru collaborates closely with the protected area authority SERNANP. FZS supports the local administrations and rangers in particular with equipment and training to protect parks, e.g. in the construction of ranger posts. The indicator species of giant otter and Andean bear are monitored in the area. Ecological awareness-raising and management

of the use of natural resources together with the communities have also become important elements of the work. We also liaise with the school authority, the ministry of culture, regional committees, indigenous associations and other NGOs.

Manu and its neighbours are still among the wildest protected areas on Earth. We will continue with our proven and effective tasks such as park protection and monitoring. The focus in the future will be more strongly on managing the use of natural resources by the residents within the park. It is essential to keep devastating gold mining out of the protected areas. In addition, we intend to inform decision-makers in Peru and in the consumer countries about the ecological damage caused by alluvial gold mining and the consequences of mercury use.

Commitment in Yaguas

The Yaguas Reserve in the north of Peru near the Colombian border covers the entire water catchment area of the Yaguas lowland river. Containing flood forests, old arms and lakes, it offers rich habitats for a diverse range of fauna. The data shows that Yaguas has the richest fish diversity of any area in the country. It is uninhabited and is largely inaccessible. However, people from the surrounding communities occasionally visit for hunting and fishing.

The greatest current threat to the area is illegal gold mining in the river system. The gold panners work from dredges on which generators and pumps are in continuous use. In 2015, a number of such rafts were detected during an initial FZS-funded overflight deep inside the protected area. Illegal logging is also conducted in the peripheral zones, but this is much more labour-intensive and less lucrative as a business.

The FZS has been helping the protected area authority SERNANP to monitor Yaguas since 2015. FZS provides funding for boats and fuel, equipment, overflights and rangers' salaries. A survey of giant otters, river dolphins and manatee has begun and is to be repeated in the future. The next steps are the development of the management plan and the establishment of a management committee for the new national park, in which we are supporting SERNANP with advice and money. Another goal is to set up a communal reserve in the north of the Yaguas National Park, as desired by the local communities.



During a night expedition in the newly designated Yaguas National Park Project Leader Claus Garcia found this grasshopper.

ANDES TO AMAZON CONSERVATION PROGRAMME

PROJECT AREA: Seven protected areas covering a total area of 70,000 km²

PROJECT START: 2002

- ✓ Using FZS funds, SERNANP supported a military intervention against illegal gold miners in the Tambopata Reserve in 2017: the gold miners were driven out.
- ✓ Overflights in 2017 revealed no illegal activity in Manu National Park, but confirmed that the fields of the indigenous Matsigenka living there had been expanded.
- ✓ In order to reconcile this growth with the nature conservation objectives of the park, SERNANP and FZS helped the two communities to develop so-called “life plans” which lay down the goals and development paths of the village community and which are oriented towards the sustainable use of resources.
- ✓ The expansion and updating of the Manu Biosphere Reserve borders were approved by UNESCO in June. This was preceded by extensive community consultations and the preparation of the application by SERNANP and FZS. Following the expansion, the entire reserve now comprises six districts that are to be managed in an ecologically compatible manner and thus serve as a transition zone for the Manu National Park.

- ✓ In the upland parts of the biosphere reserve, the FZS project to reduce the conflict between humans and Andean bears further increased understanding and acceptance of the bears in 2017.
- ✓ Handicrafts have become a successful alternative source of income. The high-quality products were offered at various events in Cusco and in Peru's capital Lima.



The new FZS book on Manu National Park was presented in Lima on 22 November 2017 following almost two years of intensive work: over 20 authors have contributed to this and large amounts of up-to-date information have been collated. In January 2018, the then President Kuczynski presented Pope Francis with a copy of the book during his visit to Lima.



The monitoring of giant otters has been a key component of our Peru Programme for decades.

PROTECTION OF THE YAGUAS NATIONAL PARK

PROJECT AREA: 8,700 km²

PROJECT START: 2015

- ✓ The first control post was built at the edge of the protected area in 2017 in order to improve surveillance of the area in the future. Boat patrols were carried out from here during which hidden gold mining equipment and wood were discovered and confiscated.
- ✓ The total of eleven overflights in 2017 provided a good overview of the situation and documented the first successes: no illegal activities have been detected since the second half of 2017.



Yaguas was designated a national park (and the 76th state protected area) on 11 January 2018. We have supported SERNANP and the local communities in the long process of achieving this. The vast majority of the local communities have spoken out in favour of the park.



In the Andean part of Manu National Park FZS supports local handicraft initiatives.



Environmental education is a vital component of the Manu Programme.

IN THE FLOODED FORESTS OF BRAZIL OUR SUPPORT FOR CANTÃO

by Dr. Antje Müllner, Sandra Schmitt



Red-and-Green Macaws.



The uninhabited Cantão protected area in the south-eastern part of the Amazon covers the inland delta of the Araguaia and Javaes rivers and consists mainly of floodplain forest. It contains an enormous variety of fish and is home to many fish-eating species such as river dolphins, giant otters, caimans and waterfowl which have become rare elsewhere.

The biggest threat to the park and its wildlife is illegal fishing. Another danger is the expansion of industrial agriculture, which has destroyed large areas of the adjacent Cerrado (as the central Brazilian savannahs are called) in favour of soya cultivation and is meanwhile fast approaching the protected area. The associated contamination from pesticides and fertiliser is also endangering the river system.

FZS supports the local non-governmental organisation Instituto Araguaia in its efforts to offer better protection to the Cantão State Park and monitor the wildlife there. Using a research and control station on the outskirts of the area as a base, the staff help to monitor the parts of the extensive area where the state rangers are unable to provide sufficient service. The team also collects data on the distribution of dolphins, giant otters and water quality, and carries out studies on selected fish species. FZS makes a significant contribution to employees' salaries and provides equipment and facilities. The Instituto Araguaia coordinates all activities with the park authority and advises Naturatins, the nature conservation authority. In the future, the project will focus even more on external risk factors, both in the adjacent Cerrado region and in the Araguaia river system.

PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE CANTÃO STATE PARK


PROJECT AREA: 900 km²

PROJECT START: 2013

- ✓ The Cantão State Park was protected from almost all trespassers in 2017.
- ✓ The station is now well-equipped and has proven itself as a useful base for the state rangers, who conducted 15 boat patrols from there.
- ✓ Mark and recapture surveys have been carried out on fish in Cantão since 2013. The results have provided Naturatins with important data on fish stocks which helps them to redefine fishing quotas outside the protected areas. The amount of fish that each fisherman is allowed to catch per day was reduced from ten to five kilograms in 2017.
- ✓ A strategically and ecologically important Cerrado site was purchased with funds from the Rainforest Trust. This abuts on the park and is home to the Kaempfer's woodpecker (*Celeus obrieni*), which was previously believed to be extinct in the region. The land has been registered as a private reserve and is currently the only protected Cerrado area in the lowlands of Brazil.



Strict monitoring of the area is bearing fruit and has made Cantão State Park a safe haven for many endangered species.



THE FZS PROJECT IN GUYANA PARTNER FOR PARK MANAGEMENT

by Dr. Antje Müllner

The project team is exploring Kanuku by boat.



MANAGEMENT OF THE KANUKU MOUNTAINS PROTECTED AREA

PROJECT AREA: 6,600 km²

PROJECT START: 2014

The Kanuku Mountains Protected Area in southern Guyana was established in 2011 and is managed by the Protected Areas Commission (PAC). It is one of the most ecologically diverse areas in Guyana, including savannah and gallery forest in the lowlands and rain forest in the mountainous area. The protected area is uninhabited; the surrounding indigenous communities use it traditionally for fishing and for cultivating mixed crops on small fields to feed their families.

The pressure on the protected area is currently moderate, but the situation is changing. The local population is growing yet at the same time the use of natural resources is reaching its limits. The communities are complaining of declining stocks of wildlife and especially fish, both important staple foods. The planned expansion of the road from the state capital Georgetown on the coast to Boa Vista in nearby Brazil poses further risks: it will be quicker and simpler for people and heavy equipment to reach the region, thus potentially opening the way for logging, wildlife trade and gold mining.

To tackle these potential threats, a two-person FZS team is supporting the Protected Areas Commission in setting up the management of the Kanuku Mountains protected area. This will provide the framework e.g. for updating the management plans, carrying out extensive monitoring of ecological assets and threats, and for training and deploying rangers. FZS also advises the PAC authority on the strategic planning and development of the national protected area system, e.g. on integrating the large Kanashen indigenous protected area in the south of the country into the system.

Compared to other focal points of nature conservation in the Amazon region, the situation for the Kanuku Mountains is positive at present. However, we must be prepared for the rapid flood of development that, for example new roads or agricultural development can bring with them. It is essential to prevent gold mining within the protected area and its catchment area.

- ✓ The number of Kanuku Mountains rangers was increased to six.
- ✓ The first inventories of the larger mammals in the Kanuku Mountains were carried out using 30 camera traps. Preliminary results suggest that the Kanuku Mountains have the highest density of jaguars in the country!
- ✓ Workshops were held with 19 of the 21 surrounding communities in 2017 (two had already been conducted in 2016); the respective land use was determined and recorded on maps. The aim is to reach agreement on the use of natural resources.
- ✓ The FZS team helped PAC to fill several vacant positions.
- ✓ All employees are being given ongoing support.



In joint action by the PAC, the police and the Guyana Geology and Mines Commission, an illegal gold mining site was discovered and the pumps, hoses and camping equipment found there were confiscated. The gold miners themselves had fled beforehand. A later overflight showed no evidence of other gold prospecting sites in the Kanuku area.



Close cooperation: FZS Project Leader Thadaigh Baggallay and PAC ranger Jessica George in the field.

FZS WORK IN COLOMBIA EXPANSION OF CHIRIBIQUETE

by Dr. Antje Müllner



Chiribiquete National Park is as large as Denmark.

The Serranía de Chiribiquete National Park is considered the heart of the Colombian Amazon. Table mountains up to 1,000 metres high tower over the surrounding forest and contribute to the particularly high diversity of plants and animals. The area is highly inaccessible and largely unexplored. There are other sizable protected areas along the Caquetá River and around Chiribiquete which are all species-rich and original wilderness areas – and which form a network.

Gold mining in the bordering rivers poses a serious danger for Chiribiquete and its surrounding area. Rafts equipped with generators and suction pumps are used to sift river deposits for gold particles. Mercury is then deployed to extract the gold particles from the sediment. When the amalgam burns, it escapes freely into the atmosphere and enters the food chain. A 2016 study showed significantly increased and alarming levels of highly toxic mercury in indigenous people who eat a lot of fish. But Chiribiquete is also threatened from the west, because more and larger areas of forest are being cleared for cattle farms and coca cultivation. The aim of large internationally funded programmes such as Vision Amazonía is therefore to control land use and create alternative sources of income.

Park expansion requiring quick action

FZS has supported the national park authority Parques Nacionales Naturales de Colombia (PNNC) and indigenous associations in protecting the landscape along the Caquetá River since 2014. In 2017 FZS project manager Esperanza Leal began her work. The project supports the PNNC with regard to planning, equipment and facilities, environmental education and human resources. For example, the project is funding temporary camps on the Caquetá River and patrols by community scouts in the Cahuinari National Park. The main purposes of these measures are to monitor the giant river turtles (*Podocnemis expansa*) and to guard nesting beaches, but also to increase local scouts presence. Agreements between the PNNC and the indigenous associations will regulate the removal of turtles and their eggs in the future.

The Chiribiquete National Park was expanded by 15,000 square kilometres in February 2018 to its present 43,000 square kilometres. This expansion urgently requires a greater presence by the PNNC on the ground. Infrastructure and more personnel are needed to improve the protection and management of Chiribiquete. In addition, cooperation is to be expanded with the indigenous associations on the Caquetá River, as their large territories partly overlap with the protected areas and these people are important allies against illegal activities.



Not only has Chiribiquete been recognised as a Natural Heritage Site in 2018 but thanks to its 20,000 years old rock paintings also as a Cultural Heritage Site by UNESCO.

PROTECTION OF THE CHIRIBIQUETE NATIONAL PARK AND ITS SURROUNDINGS

PROJECT AREA: 43,000 km²
PROJECT START: 2014

- ✓ In 2017, patrols along the Caquetá River were extended into the southern zone of influence of the Chiribiquete National Park. Looting of turtle nests at the most important egg laying sites of this species was reduced as a result. The number of gold prospector dredges was also lower than in the previous year.
- ✓ Two control posts in the national park were equipped with electricity and radios. FZS project leader Esperanza Leal supported a UNESCO mission and helped PNNC to have the Chiribiquete National Park designated a World Heritage Site. In July 2018, the application was approved and Chiribiquete recognised as a World Heritage Site.



The Chiribiquete National Park was expanded by 15,000 square kilometres in July 2018 to its present 43,000 square kilometres. This makes it one of the largest national parks in the Amazon region.

CORPORATE STRUCTURE AND FINANCIAL REPORT

SPONSORS AND FRIENDS –

A SECURE BASIS FOR

CONSERVATION

Our partners, friends, sponsors and a number of institutional third party donors facilitate the work of Frankfurt Zoological Society. Our “Hilfe für die bedrohte Tierwelt” Foundation is a sound basis for sustainably funding our conservation work.

MISSION

Frankfurt Zoological Society conserves wildlife and ecosystems, focusing on protected areas and outstanding wild places.

STRATEGY AND OBJECTIVES

Wilderness protection is the most selfless and altruistic aspect of conservation work. FZS is a vocal supporter of wilderness areas. By wilderness we mean large, predominantly intact areas in which natural processes take place without human interference. Wilderness areas therefore play a fundamental role in the conservation of biodiversity. Wilderness areas represent important reference zones for our own actions. They are climate change buffers and they are particularly appealing for suitable types of ecotourism which can help generate funds for their maintenance.

Efficiency and focus are especially important. Which is why FZS concentrates its efforts on specific ecosystems – large grasslands, forests, wetlands and mountains. Our main geographical focal points are East Africa, South America, Southeast Asia and Eastern Europe. National parks and conservation areas, such as the Serengeti (Tanzania), North Luangwa (Zambia), Manu (Peru) and Bukit Tigapuluh (Sumatra), are where most of our resources have been directed over the years.

We carry out a large proportion of our projects and programmes using our own staff, but we also support partner organisations in the respective countries. However, the success of the conservation work depends to a great extent on our local partners, the national park authorities or conservation area administrations. Good collaboration is based on trust and partnership and is therefore the basis of our conservation work in all our project countries.

What unites the committed and professional members of the FZS team is their passion for wildlife and wilderness. Our experience of practical conservation work in the different conservation areas and our practical approach are key aspects of our success. We enter into a long-term commitment in all of our projects because conservation requires time and patience.

■ **14 Million Euro**
invested in our conservation projects in 2017

■ **30 Projects & Programmes**
in 18 Countries

■ **323 Staff Members**
worldwide, of which 23 are based at
headquarters in Frankfurt (Germany)

■ **Large Grasslands, Forests,
Wetlands and Mountains**
are the focus of our work

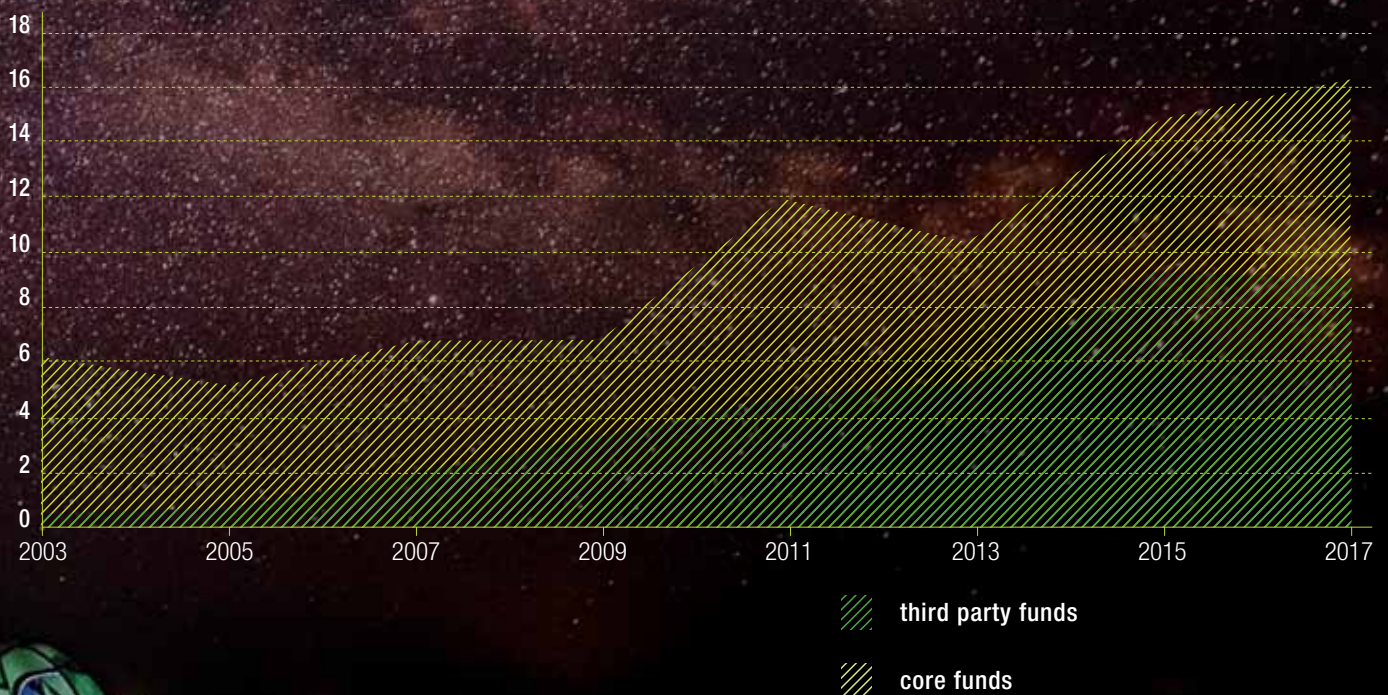
■ **6,257 Sponsors**
supported FZS in 2017

■ **9.1 Million Euro**
from institutional third-party donors

■ **2.4 Million Euro**
from donors, member and sponsors

■ **1.6 Million Euro**
provided by the "Hilfe für die bedrohte Tierwelt" Foundation

DEVELOPMENT OF FZS REVENUES FROM 2003 TO 2017 (in million Euro)



FZS CORPORATE STRUCTURE

FRANKFURT ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Zoologische Gesellschaft Frankfurt von 1858 e. V. (Frankfurt Zoological Society, FZS) is a registered non-profit-making society based in Frankfurt am Main, Germany. The origins of the Society go back to the work of Professor Bernhard Grzimek who first set up FZS as a support society for the zoo, and later gradually developed it into a nature conservation organisation. From the outset, the Society has been based at Frankfurt Zoo.

Because it promotes nature conservation and animal welfare, Frankfurt Zoological Society enjoys corporate tax exemption on the basis of the notice of exemption and the annex to the notice of exemption of the Frankfurt V Tax Office, tax no. 47 250 98191, of 28.07.2017 according to § 5 para 1 no. 9 of the Corporation Tax Law.

The **General Assembly** convenes once a year. It elects and approves the activities of the Board, decides on the annual financial statements and elects the auditor. The Society currently has 3,493 members, consisting of private individuals and institutions.

According to its statutes, the **Board** consists of up to eight individuals working on a voluntary basis. Board members are elected for three years and oversee the annual conservation programme, the annual budget as presented by the Executive Director. Travel and hospitality expenses of Board members are reimbursed but neither conference nor meeting fees are paid. The Board appoints an Executive Director to manage the society. The biologist Dr. Christof Schenck has conducted the Society's business since the year 2000.

In 2017, Frankfurt Zoological Society employed a total of 323 staff members, 23 of whom are based at the headquarters in Frankfurt am Main.

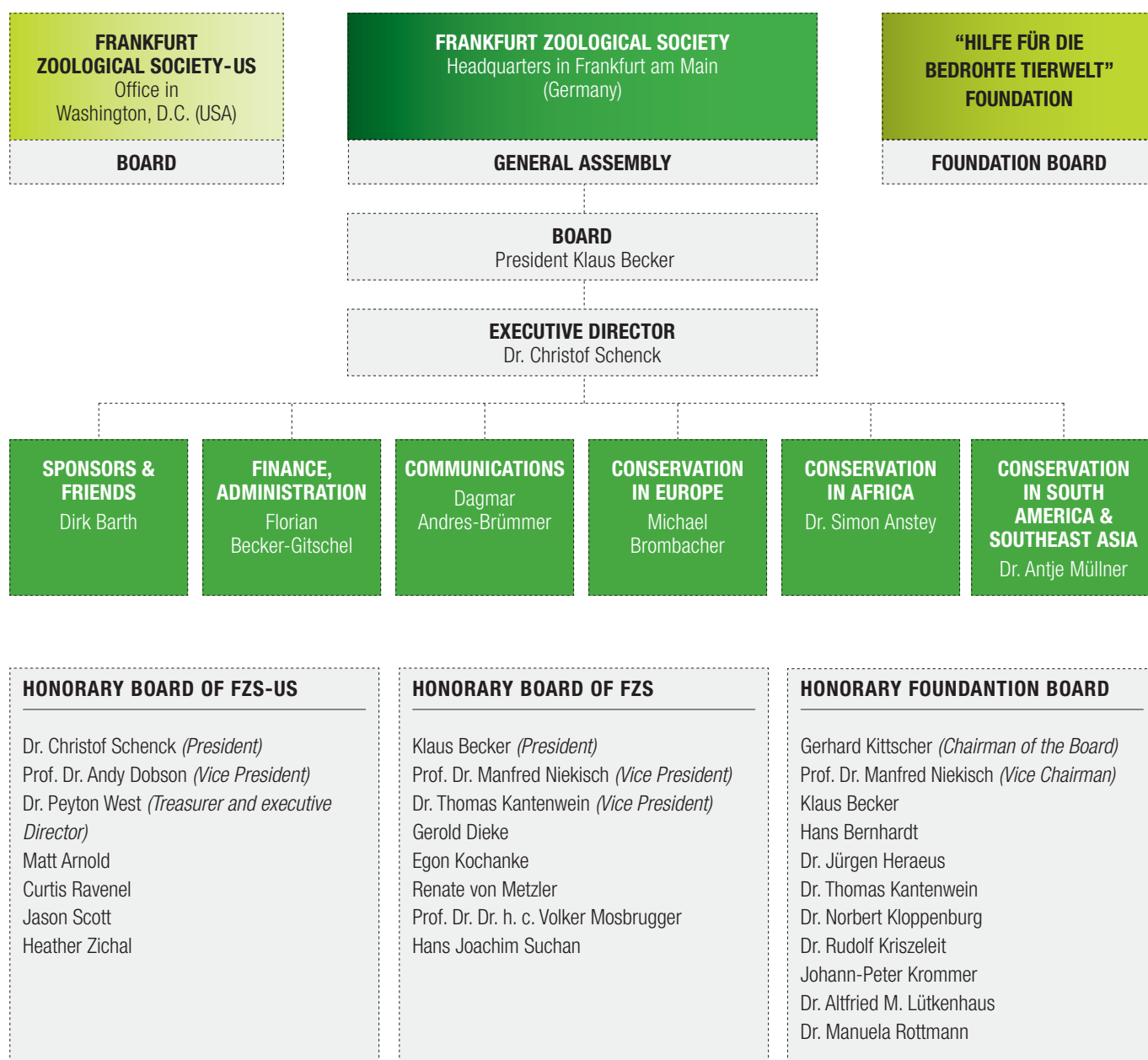
The Society had 35 volunteers working as conservation ambassadors at the Frankfurt Zoo where they work to enlighten zoo visitors about FZS's conservation projects. In addition there are roughly 40 volunteers engaged in environmental outreach for the FZS Peru programme, providing information in schools about the diversity of the Amazon rain forest.

THE FZS NETWORK

FZS is supported by the “**Hilfe für die bedrohte Tierwelt**” charitable foundation. This is a legally independent foundation under private law with charitable status. Established in 2001, the foundation started out as a special account of the same name which was established in 1961 by Bernhard Grzimek and into which the donations of many viewers of his television show “Ein Platz für Tiere” (A Place for Wildlife) were paid over many decades.

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

In Peru, Frankfurt Zoological Society is represented by the non-profit association **Ayuda para vida Silvestre Amenazada – Sociedad Zoológica de Frankfurt Perú**. (AVISA SZF Peru), in Colombia by **Sociedad Zoológica de Frankfurt**, in Zambia by **Frankfurt Zoological Society Zambia Ltd.**, and in Indonesia by **Yayasan Konservasi Ekosistem Hutan Sumatera (KEHUS –FZS-Indonesia)**. It is also registered as a national nonprofit organisation in other countries such as Ethiopia, Tanzania and Zimbabwe. Employees of Frankfurt Zoological Society are represented in some of the bodies of these organisations.



OUR NETWORK – FZS INVOLVEMENT IN OTHER ORGANISATIONS

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

FZS is also a member of the following associations and societies: BioFrankfurt e. V., Deutscher Naturschutzring (DNR), and International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

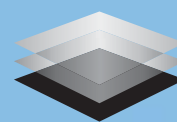
Represented by the Executive Director, Board members, department heads or project leaders, **FZS is present in the management boards or advisory bodies of the following organisations:** Allianz Umweltstiftung, Bruno H. Schubert-Stiftung, Claus und Taslimawati Schmidt-Luprian Stiftung Vogelschutz in Feuchtgebieten, Conservation Lake Tanganyika, Eleonore-Beck-Stiftung, Fundatia

Conservation Carpathia, Gonarezhou Conservation Trust, Initiative Frankfurter Stiftungen, IUCN Otter Specialist Group, Johanna-Samel-Stiftung, Kashikoto Conservancy, Lowveld Rhino Trust, Polytechnische Gesellschaft e.V., Prespa Ohrid Nature Trust PONT, Stiftung Naturlandschaften Brandenburg, Stiftung Zoo Frankfurt, Tanzania Wildlife Authority TAWA, Wildlife Crime Prevention, Walter und Monika Schneider Stiftung.

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

TRANSPARENCY: PLANNING, IMPLEMENTATION, CONTROLLING

Our work is based on the Society's statutes and above all on the long-term conservation strategy of Frankfurt Zoological Society. This, in turn, is based on the vision and mission and is the guiding principle behind the selection of new projects and the development of the annual conservation programme. This sets out all necessary measures and relevant budgets. As a result, the operative implementation of our conservation work can be represented in a simplified form. However, each project is unique and has its own country-specific requirements that cannot be taken into account in the representation.



Initiative
Transparente
Zivilgesellschaft

1

The annual conservation programme is drawn up and budgeted by the project and programme managers in cooperation with the executive management. It is based on the long-term strategic planning of the FZS, as well as any acute challenges which may arise such as the dramatic rise in poaching or the sudden mass extinction of saiga antelopes. The money comes from the Society's own funds (donations, membership fees, distributions from foundations, etc.) and funding from public and institutional donors.

The Board decides the conservation programme and the related budget plan (including project investments), as well as the organisational resources.

2

The project managers and their teams submit applications to further public and institutional donors, to the extent required and possible. This is conducted all year round. Typically, the funds are earmarked and time-limited. The Society's own resources, however, can be used strategically and are often used to leverage additional funds for the project work from public and institutional donors.

3

The projects in the different countries obtain the funds directly from the headquarters and then confirm receipt.

The expenditure of project funding is monitored through an internal control system (ICS) and overseen by project controlling to check for possible deviations to the budget. A financial software used in all FZS projects worldwide allows the financial processes to be reviewed and managed by the Frankfurt headquarters.

project countries. Independent auditors check the proper expenditure of funds in the priority countries every year. The financial statements of all project countries are compiled in the FZS headquarters.

6

Information about the conservation work in the different countries is published online and in the Gorilla magazine.

4

The project staff implement the FZS conservation programme in collaboration with governmental and other partners in the project countries.

7

The headquarters of the Frankfurt Zoological Society in Frankfurt and the combined financial statements of the project countries are scrutinised by an independent auditor.

5

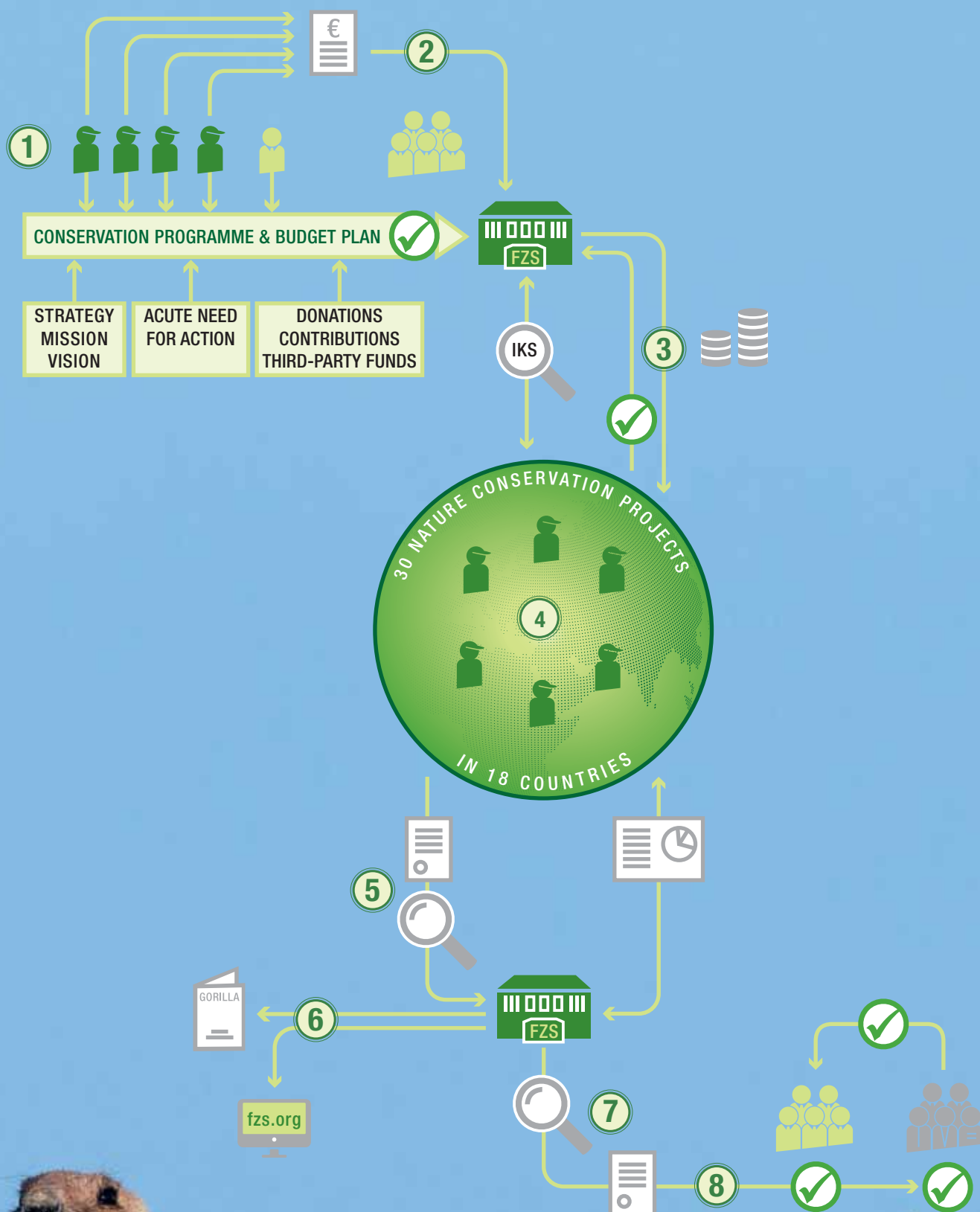
There is an established reporting system for the projects and expenditure. This consists of reports on the Society's own resources and the often highly specific reporting required for public and institutional donors. Reports are generated on a regular basis, at least once per year. They are reviewed by experts from the individual projects.

Financial statements are drawn up in accordance with international and country-specific legislation (where possible) in all

The complete financial statements, in conjunction with the auditor's opinion, document the charitable and proper expenditure of funds.

8

The financial statements are presented to the Board. The Board and executive management account for the conservation work and the use of FZS funds at the General Assembly. The General Assembly is responsible for discharging the Board.



FINANCIAL REPORT 2017

by Florian Becker-Gitschel, Sonja Steiger



Sumatran orangutan in Bukit Tigapuluh.

FZS IN NUMBERS

FZS continues to maintain a very healthy, stable and diversified revenue structure. In 2017, support from members, donors and sponsors continued unabated and revenues remained stable. Thanks to very large individual donations from private donors, the best donation result in years was achieved in the year under review, a total of EUR 2.10 million.

For a number of years now, we have been successful in leveraging our, for the most part, flexible core funds (for example, private donations and capital gains) to acquire third-party funds from large institutional granting agencies. This allows us to increase the budgets of a number of projects many times over and to significantly expand our work in individual countries. This makes possible large investments in infrastructure projects for conservation areas or for special interventions on specific threats (such as poaching). In 2017, FZS again received substantial government funding to support its projects. Our goal is to continue to function as a reliable partner for such granting institutions and in this way ensure long-term financial backing. Major donors comprise another important revenue stream, and have developed into a further supporting pillar of FZS.

Nature conservation requires long-term commitment, and FZS feels a high degree of responsibility for its work. That is why we will continue to emphasise sustainability and long-term financial security in our conservation work.

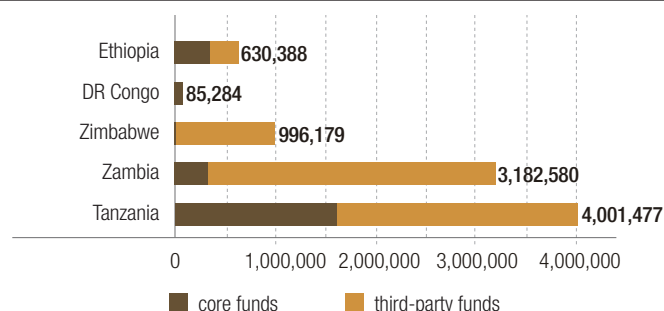
OUR FIVE LARGEST PUBLIC DONORS IN 2017

- **KfW Development Bank**
Funding: 1,438,446 Euro for projects
in Zambia, Tanzania, Ukraine, Guyana, Peru
- **Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU)**
Funding: 571,41 Euro for projects in Indonesia, Peru
- **European Union (EU)**
Funding: 466,586 Euro for projects in Ethiopia, Tanzania
- **Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)**
Funding: 105,538 Euro for projects in Zambia
- **Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN)**
Funding: 77,803 Euro for projects in Germany

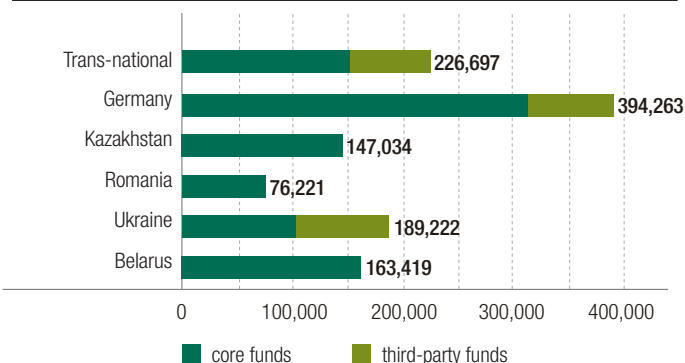
SUPPORT FOR FZS CONSERVATION PROJECTS IN 2017

in Euro

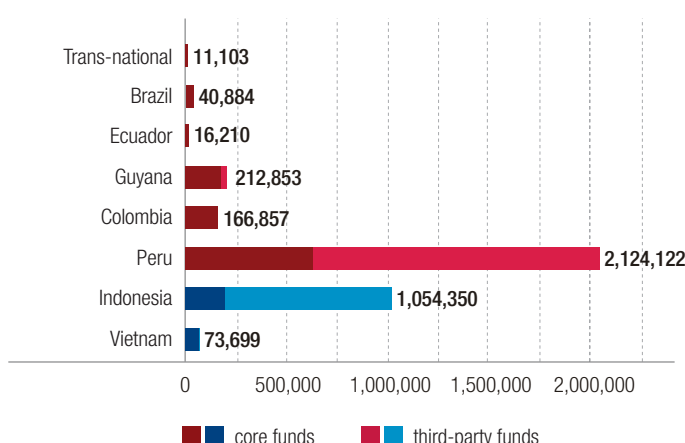
AFRICA



EUROPE & CENTRAL ASIA



SOUTH AMERICA & SOUTHEAST ASIA



ASSETS OF FRANKFURT ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY (IN TEUR)	2017	2016
FIXED ASSETS		
Intangible assets	11	7
Tangible assets	3,476	1,909
Financial assets	9,520	11,198
CURRENT ASSETS		
Receivables and other assets	4,323	3,549
Liquid assets	4,684	2,880
PREPAYMENTS AND ACCRUED INCOME	51	42
TOTAL	22,065	19,585

ASSETS

ACCOUNTING AND VALUATION METHODS

The annual financial statements as per 31 December 2017 have been prepared according to the provisions of section 264 et seq. of the German Commercial Code (HGB) and meets the accounting requirements set out in section 267 subsection 2 HGB for a medium-sized corporation. The profit and loss account was prepared in accordance with the commercial law nature-of-expense method according to section 275 subsection 2 HGB, taking into account the specific characteristics of the Society's expense and income presentation. The annual financial statements were audited and approved by W+ST Wirtschaftsprüfung GmbH without reservations.

In 2017, the FZS projects in Peru, Indonesia, Tanzania, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Zambia were audited by Baker Tilly International, the project in Zimbabwe by Ernst & Young and in Ethiopia by Ephrem Melaku & Co. The expenses of individual (and small) European, South American and south-east Asian projects were audited internally in Frankfurt by the Finance department and spot checks were made by the auditing company W+ST Wirtschaftsprüfung GmbH. Additional independent, project-specific audits have been conducted for KfW-funded and GIZ-funded third party projects, e.g. in Tanzania and Indonesia.

The same double-entry accounting method used in the Frankfurt headquarters is also used in all African FZS projects, in Indonesia and from 2018 also in Peru. This will facilitate group consolidation of international projects with the German headquarters and even greater transparency in the presentation of the financial flows. The internal control system for the proper disbursement of donations, membership fees, allocated fines and third-party funds has been strengthened.

FIXED ASSETS

Intangible assets

The intangible assets are software licenses for the Frankfurt office. On the one hand, the value of these assets declines over the course of the depreciation period, on the other hand, it is increased by newly capitalised custom developments for FZS.

Tangible assets

Tangible assets amounted to EUR 3.48 million (previous year: EUR 1.91 million). This includes many smaller individual conservation land areas worth EUR 1.30 million (previous year: EUR 1.36 million) which, following the internal realignment (of nature conservation areas), are continuing to be reduced and transferred to other conservation organisations. This figure changed only slightly in 2017, as only a small area was sold in that year. The value of the directly held residential properties increased from EUR 0.46 million to EUR 2.08 million. In the year under review, FZS inherited a residential property in a very good location in Frankfurt, which it will retain and develop. Continuous revenue from rental income is very important for nature conservation work, especially in view of the capital market risks and the current low interest rates.

FZS therefore has an ongoing interest in including larger contiguous residential properties in its investment portfolio with a view to further diversification.

Financial assets

The financial assets consist of shareholdings and securities. The amount invested in the financial markets fell from EUR 11.20 million in 2016 to EUR 9.52 million in 2017 due to maturing bonds. The securities are carried at cost or using the lower-of-cost-or-market principle. This also means that any price increases of shares or bonds that exceed the purchase costs have no effect on the balance sheet. Only when the securities are sold, or when the securities are written down (if the value at sale is below the purchase cost) does the result have an impact on the profit and loss account.

LIABILITIES OF FRANKFURT ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY (IN TEUR)	2017	2016
EQUITY		
Capital and free reserves	16,888	15,857
PROVISIONS	367	352
LIABILITIES		
Project funds	2,991	3,161
Other liabilities	1,819	215
TOTAL	22,065	19,585

CURRENT ASSETS

Receivables and other assets

In receivables and other assets, the main item is receivables from project partners and third-party granting institutions. The value of these assets is currently EUR 1.34 million (2016: EUR 1.59 million). This level of receivables towards project partners is mainly due to funds unspent during the financial year, or FZS making advance payments for third-party granting agencies. These prepayments are repaid on a regular basis or at the conclusion of the funded project. Receivables from estates and bequests currently stand at EUR 1.29 million (2016: EUR 0.05 million). These arise from estates that are still being wound up, but their existence and their recoverability must be evaluated on the balance sheet date.

Liquid assets

The cash and bank balances of FZS in Frankfurt, Indonesia and the five African project regions amounted to EUR 4.68 million (previous year: EUR 2.88 million), of which EUR 3.49 million are assigned to the Frankfurt office. EUR 1.61 million are held at banks in the project regions and in Frankfurt in foreign currencies (of which EUR 1.06 million in US dollars).

PREPAYMENTS AND ACCRUED INCOME

Accrued income encompasses costs for the individual financial year such as insurance costs and annual public transport tickets (Jobtickets).

LIABILITIES

EQUITY

Capital and free reserves

The Society's assets rose to EUR 12.65 million (previous year: EUR 11.69 million). This was due to the allocation of an earmarked inheritance to the Society's capital. Free reserves of EUR 4.23 million (previous year: EUR 4.25 million) decreased slightly as a result of the organisation's additional project costs. As a consequence, our equity capital of EUR 15.86 million in 2016 rose slightly to EUR 16.89 million.

PROVISIONS

Provisions amounted to roughly EUR 0.37 million (2016: EUR 0.35 million). Key among these are provisions for Tanzania for the acquisition of vehicles (already ordered and awaiting delivery) for use in the Serengeti and the Selous Game Reserve.

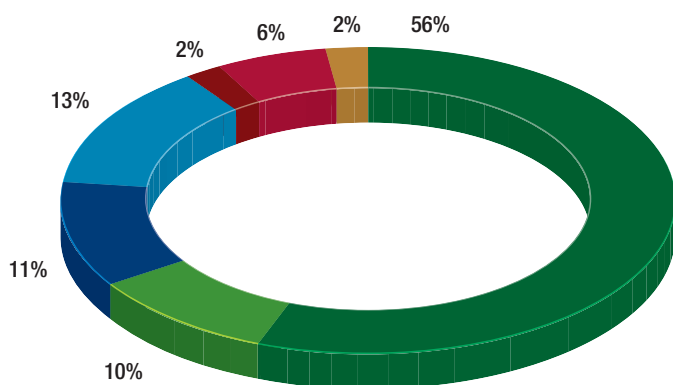
LIABILITIES

Project funds and liabilities

Project liabilities vis-a-vis third-party granting organisations were EUR 2.99 million in 2017 (2016: EUR 3.16 million). The total is mainly due to third-party funds unspent during the fiscal year which must be separately accounted for at year's end. Frequently, third-party payments are made in December for project activities that will take place the following year. We were also able to reduce liabilities for international projects last year.

Other liabilities

There are other liabilities amounting to EUR 1.82 million. These consist of liabilities in the form of personnel costs, taxes, usufruct, etc. EUR 1.47 million of this was set aside as a bequest work liability.



REVENUES (IN MILLION EURO)	2017	2016
Third-party Funding	9.10	8.67
Bonuses from the "Hilfe für die bedrohte Tierwelt" Foundation	1.60	1.34
Bequests (including Real Estate)	1.84	1.24
Donation and Allocated Fines	2.10	1.20
Membership Fees	0.26	0.25
Interest and Income from Securities	1.04	1.10
Other Income	0.38	0.46
TOTAL	16.32	15.00

REVENUES

Revenues from **third-parties** and supporting grants remain at a very high level. They amounted to EUR 9.10 million (previous year: EUR 8.67 million).

In 2017, the "**Hilfe für die bedrohte Tierwelt**" Foundation contributed EUR 1.60 million to FZS at a free reserve ratio of 10 per cent (2016: EUR 1.34 million at 33 per cent free reserve ratio). The distribution also includes the regular contribution of the Eleonore Beck Foundation of at least EUR 0.55 million.

FZS continues to have a very good, diversified revenue structure. Income from **legacies and bequests** has remained constant and at a high level in recent years and was EUR 1.84 million in 2017 (previous year: EUR 1.24 million).

The **donations and allocated fines** are fortunately at their highest level in years (as the result of some major individual donations) and, at EUR 2.10 million, significantly above the previous year's level (EUR 1.19 million). Revenue from fines was again exceptionally high in 2017, as was previously the case in 2015. A total of EUR 77,000 was collected in fines.

Income from **membership fees** remains stable at EUR 0.26 million. (2016: EUR 0.25 million). The number of members has increased slightly from 3,487 to 3,493.

Interest and income from securities remained almost constant despite the low interest rate. A result of EUR 1.04 million (previous year EUR 1.10 million) was achieved.

Other income of EUR 0.38 million includes rental income from portfolio properties and other revenue.

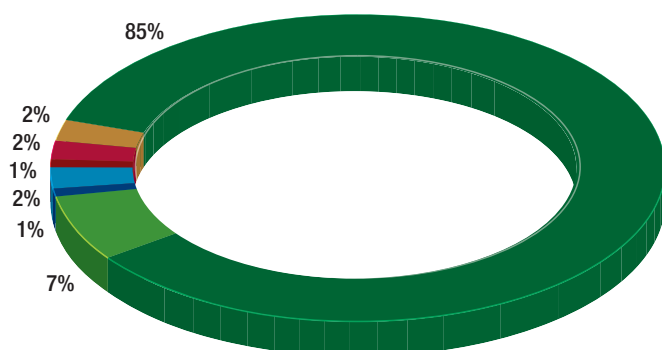
EXPENDITURES

Expenditures for our statutory **conservation work**, as well as for **project management and general administration** of FZS amounted to EUR 15.00 million (2016: EUR 14.11 million). Conservation project expenses amounted to EUR 13.90 million (2016: EUR 13.06 million). EUR 1.10 million was spent on project coordination and administration. Personnel costs amounting to EUR 0.82 million are a major component here. However, these were significantly lower than planned, due to delays in the replacement of planned positions. Legal and consulting costs of EUR 30,000 were kept at a low level thanks to the use of experts and pro bono networks.

FZS supported the **Frankfurt Zoo** and the collaborative **Conservation Ambassador** Project with EUR 0.10 million (2016: EUR 0.12 million).

Communications and public relations including associated personnel costs amounted to EUR 0.36 million (2016: EUR 0.34 million), with EUR 0.25 million for **sponsor services and fundraising** (2016: EUR 0.23 million).

Asset management, securities and exchange rate losses and other expenses amounted to EUR 0.63 million at the end of 2017 (2016: EUR 0.75 million). This includes write-downs on securities and fixed assets amounting to EUR 0.34 million (2016: EUR 0.19 million).



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

EXPENDITURES (IN MILLION EURO)	2017	2016
● Project Funding	13.90	13.06
● Coordination of Conservation Programme, Frankfurt Headquarters	1.10	1.05
● Support of Frankfurt Zoo/ Conservation Ambassadors	0.10	0.12
● Communications and Public Relations	0.36	0.34
● Fundraising and Sponsor Service	0.25	0.23
● Asset Management and Other expenses	0.29	0.56
● Write-downs on Securities and Fixed Assets	0.34	0.19
TOTAL	16.34	15.55

AUDIT OPINION

W+ST Wirtschaftsprüfung GmbH, Frankfurt am Main, issued the following opinion on the complete annual statement of Zoologische Gesellschaft Frankfurt von 1858 e. V. consisting of balance sheet, profit and loss account, notes and the management report for the 2017 financial year:

To Zoologische Gesellschaft Frankfurt von 1858 e.V.,
Frankfurt am Main

We have audited the annual statement – consisting of the balance sheet, profit and loss account, notes – and including the bookkeeping and the management report of Zoologische Gesellschaft Frankfurt von 1858 e.V. for the financial year from 1.1. to 31.12.17. The legal representatives of the society are responsible for the bookkeeping and for preparing the annual statement and management report in accordance with German commercial law. Our task is to issue an assessment of the annual statement, including the bookkeeping, and of the management report on the basis of the audit conducted by us.

We have conducted our audit of the annual statement in accordance with Article 317 of the German Commercial Code (HGB), based on the generally accepted audit principles defined by the German Institute of Chartered Auditors (IDW). These state that the audit is to be planned and executed in such a way as to recognize with sufficient certainty inaccuracies and infringements that have a material effect on the picture of the assets, financial and earnings position conveyed by the annual financial statement, taking into account the principles of proper accounting, and the management report. Knowledge of the business activities and the economic and legal environment of the society and expectations as to possible misstatements are taken into account in the determination of audit procedures. The effectiveness of the accounting-related internal control system and

the evidence supporting the disclosures in the bookkeeping, annual statement and the management report are examined primarily on a spot check basis within the framework of the audit. The audit includes assessing the accounting and consolidation principles used and significant estimates made by the legal representatives, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the annual statement and the management report. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

Our audit led to no objections.

According to our assessment on the basis of the knowledge acquired in the course of the audit, the annual statement complies with the legal requirements and imparts – under observation of the principles for orderly accounting – a representation of the asset, financial and profit position of the society corresponding to the true circumstances. The management report is consistent with the annual financial statement and as a whole provides an accurate picture of the society's position and accurately conveys the opportunities and risks of future development.

Frankfurt am Main, 23 May 2018

W + ST
WIRTSCHAFTSPRÜFUNG GMBH
WIRTSCHAFTSPRÜFUNGSGESELLSCHAFT

(K.-R. Weigarden)
vereidigter Buchprüfer

(F. Waldmann)
Wirtschaftsprüfer

The “Hilfe für die bedrohte Tierwelt” Foundation was founded in 2001 from the assets of FZS. Its untouchable foundation capital stock amounts to EUR 45.80 million, the balance sheet total including reserves and trust assets amounts to EUR 63.08 million. In the year under review, it made EUR 1.60 million available to FZS for nature conservation work.

The Foundation is a legally independent entity under civil law. It is recognised as a charitable organisation and is exempt from tax as per the latest notice of exemption issued on 22 November 2017 by Tax Office III of the city of Frankfurt am Main. The Foundation is based on a special account of the same name, which was used by Bernhard Grzimek from 1961 to collect donations in conjunction with his television programme “Ein Platz für Tiere”. Today, the Foundation uses the annual income generated by its endowment to support the nature conservation work of FZS.

The Foundation is governed by a Foundation Board consisting of up to ten members. They are appointed for three years and work on a voluntary basis. The Chairman of the Foundation Board is Gerhard Kittscher. The Foundation Board manages the assets, makes decisions about how revenues are spent and ensures that the Foundation is meeting its statutory commitments. The “Hilfe für die bedrohte Tierwelt” Foundation is a member of the Association of German Foundations (Bundesverband Deutscher Stiftungen). Patrons who wish to make a sustainable and long-term commitment can support the “Hilfe für die bedrohte Tierwelt” Foundation by making a donation or creating a named endowment or trust. This is possible during the lifetime of the individual concerned, but also by means of a testamentary decree.

ACCOUNTING AND VALUATION METHODS

The annual financial statements as of 31 December 2017 were prepared in accordance with the provisions of sections 264 et seq. of the German Commercial Code (HGB). The profit and loss account was prepared in accordance with the commercial law nature-of-expense method according to section 275 subsection 2 HGB, taking into account the specific characteristics of the Foundation's expense and income presentation.

ASSETS

FIXED ASSETS

Tangible assets

In our portfolio of tangible assets, one piece of real estate from an estate was capitalised at the end of 2016 for the Foundation. In the context of settling the estate, the portfolio was liquidated again in 2017.

Financial assets

The financial assets consist of securities and property investments. These are valued at acquisition cost. Value adjustments in the form of unplanned depreciation are made to cover decline in value. Bonds, the acquisition costs of which are higher than the nominal value, are written down at the time of addition at the lower face value. Financial assets acquired by the Foundation at no cost, are recognised at their fair value at the time of addition. The majority of the financial assets are invested in the Foundation's own special fund which is tailored to the organisation's specific needs and characteristics and is in line with its own investment guidelines.

CURRENT ASSETS

Other assets

Receivables and other assets are comprised primarily of receivables from estates and bequests (EUR 35,000) and receivables from accrued interest (EUR 60,000).

ASSETS (IN TEUR)	2017	2016
FIXED ASSETS		
Tangible Assets	0	348
Financial Assets	47,730	47,496
CURRENT ASSETS		
Receivables and Other Assets	110	119
Liquid Assets	746	1,998
BALANCE ITEMS for undisturbed fund earnings	8,051	6,901
TRUST ASSETS Claus und Taslimawati Schmidt-Luprian Stiftung Vogelschutz in Feuchtgebieten	6,444	2,288
TOTAL	63,081	59,150

Liquid assets

Bank balances and cash in hand total roughly EUR 0.75 million (previous year: EUR 2.00 million). These result from matured financial investments which have not been reinvested. The liquidity forms the basis of the Foundation's distribution to the Frankfurt Zoological Society in the following financial year.

BALANCE ITEMS FOR UNDISTRIBUTED FUND EARNINGS

The distributions to the FZS stem from the matured direct securities investments, meaning that the net income of the special fund remains in the fund. The adjustment item of undistributed fund earnings was created for this. This continued to increase: from EUR 6.90 million to EUR 8.05 million. If a further distribution is made from the special fund, this item must be reduced accordingly.

TRUST ASSETS "CLAUS UND TASLIMAWATI SCHMIDT-LUPRIAN STIFTUNG VOGELSCHUTZ IN FEUCHTGEBIETEN"

The foundation capital stock of the "Claus und Taslimawati Schmidt-Luprian Stiftung Vogelschutz in Feuchtgebieten" foundation amounts to EUR 6.44 million. Thanks to an additional generous endowment from the founder in combination with a positive development of the foundation, its capital stock increased further.

LIABILITIES (IN TEUR)	2017	2016
FOUNDATION ASSETS		
Foundation Capital	45,878	45,592
Revenue Reserve	8,401	8,184
Regrouping Result	656	360
Operating Reserve	1,661	1,603
PROVISIONS	41	1,108
LIABILITIES	0	15
TRUST ASSETS Claus und Taslimawati Schmidt-Luprian Stiftung Vogelschutz in Feuchtgebieten	6,444	2,288
TOTAL	63,081	59,150

LIABILITIES

FOUNDATION ASSETS

Foundation capital

The foundation capital increased by EUR 0.3 million, from EUR 45.60 million in 2016 to just under EUR 45.88 million in 2017. The majority of this comes from a legacy that was added to the foundation's capital in 2016.

Revenue reserve

The free revenue reserve was increased by EUR 0.22 million to 16 per cent of earnings in 2017. This reserve has now risen to EUR 8.40 million and will safeguard the continuation of the purpose of the Foundation for years to come, even in difficult financial times.

Regrouping result

Reserves from asset regrouping were increased by EUR 80,000. This was done due to the need to depreciate or reverse securities according to the lower-of-cost-or-market principle.

Operating reserve

The reserve rate of 16 per cent of the net result (2016: 10 per cent) amounts to a carry forward of EUR 1.66 million (2016: EUR 1.6 million). This will be distributed next year for FZS nature conservation projects.

PROVISIONS

The majority of the provisions could be reversed in 2017, as the obligatory portion of a legacy was executed. EUR 0.04 million (2016: EUR 1.1 million) remains for other provisions, and provisions for claims from legacies (e.g. inheritances still to be paid out).

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT (IN TEUR)	2017	2016
Total revenues	2,255	1,807
Total expenses	-81	-163
Net profit for the year	2,175	1,643
Setup of reserves	514	41
Distributable profit	1,661	1,602

REVENUES

Net income before appropriation of funds in 2017, including donations and grants from other foundations as well as expenses, amounts to EUR 2.17 million (2016: EUR 1.64 million). The Foundation thus generated a significantly better result in the year under review than in the previous year. This was mainly due to the higher ordinary income of the special fund from real estate investments and the realisation of hidden reserves from the directly held investment portfolio. As in the previous year, the Foundation received a further donation of EUR 0.55 million from the Eleonore Beck Foundation. This is the highest individual donation from another foundation. The statutory donations to FZS rose slightly to EUR 1.66 million (2016 EUR 1.60 million).

The direct inflows from interest and dividends decreased, as this distribution is made from the reduction of the directly held investment portfolio. In return, income from the special funds increased, as this is currently being retained, thus increasing the investment holdings.

The performance of the special fund ranged between 2.64 and 5.89 per cent. This is a reasonable result given the current market environment. However, in calculating distribution-relevant results, only regular returns from the special fund and direct investments and regular realised gains were taken into account. For this reason, it is not possible to draw conclusions about the distribution of the Foundation based on this performance.

EXPENDITURES

EUR 1,602,425.83 were distributed by the Foundation to Frankfurt Zoological Society for conservation work in 2017. This was performed after a maximum possible reserve ratio in the Foundation of 10 per cent. The total Foundation expenditures amounted to EUR 81,000 in the financial year ended. Of this amount, EUR 37,000 was incurred for the administration and auditing of the Foundation and EUR 44,000 for the write-down of securities. This corresponds to 3.57 per cent of the total income of the Foundation and 0.13 per cent of the Foundation balance sheet total. This is only possible because FZS actively manages its Foundation.

**Donations Account of the
"Hilfe für die bedrohte Tierwelt" Foundation**
IBAN: DE63 5005 0201 0000 3102 80
BIC: HELADEF18522

FOUNDATION "CLAUS UND TASLIMAWATI SCHMIDT-LUPRIAN STIFTUNG VOGELSCHUTZ IN FEUCHTGEBIETEN"

In 2002, the "Claus und Taslimawati Schmidt-Luprian Stiftung Vogelschutz in Feuchtgebieten" was erected under the umbrella of our foundation "Stiftung Hilfe für die bedrohte Tierwelt". The purpose of the trust foundation is the financial support of FZS projects for the conservation and creation of wetlands to protect the species of birds that depend on these wetlands. The capital of the trust foundation increased by generous endowments from the founder to EUR 6.44 million (previous year EUR 2.29 million). The investment assets of the foundation are fully invested in the special fund of the "Stiftung Hilfe für die bedrohte Tierwelt" and continue to develop positively.

EXCERPT FROM THE CAPITAL INVESTMENT GUIDELINES OF FRANKFURT ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY AND THE “HILFE FÜR DIE BEDROHTE TIERWELT” FOUNDATION

- No investment may conflict with the conservation mandate.
- Investments in gold, precious metals or other commodities, the extraction of which currently has a strong negative impact on the environment, are excluded.
- The assets may not be invested in companies which generate their principal revenue from arms, alcohol, tobacco, gambling, or genetic engineering. Also excluded are investments in corrupt and illiberal states in which human rights are not respected.
- Investments should only be made in certified bonds and money market instruments. Bonds and money market instruments without investment grade ratings are allowed only with the consent of the Foundation or of the Society.
- The investment currency is the euro. The currency risk is limited to a maximum of 30 percent of the total investment volume.



PARTNERS AND DONORS

2017

Abune Yoseph Community Conservation Council, ACCC (Ethiopia)

Administration of Bielaviežškaja Pušča National Park (Belarus)

Aevis Foundation (Slovakia)

African Wildlife Conservation Fund (Zimbabwe)

Agrismart (Zambia)

AHT Group AG (Germany)

Amhara National Regional State: Bureau of Environment, Forest, Wildlife Protection and Development Authority, EFWPDA (Ethiopia)

APB-BirdLife Belarus (Belarus)

Asilia Africa (Tanzania)

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

Association for the Conservation of Biodiversity of Kazakhstan, ACBK (Kazakhstan)

Bahna (Belarus)

Baileys Roofing (Zambia)

Betreibergesellschaft der Internationalen Naturschutzstellung Lieberoser Heide GmbH, INA (Germany)

BioFrankfurt e. V. (Germany)

Bruno H. Schubert-Stiftung (Germany)

Bürgerbewegung Freunde des Spessarts e. V. (Germany)

Bukit Tigapuluh National Park Administration (Indonesia)

Bundesamt für Naturschutz, BfN (Germany)

Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz und nukleare Sicherheit, BMU (Germany)

Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung, BMZ (Germany)

Butler Conservation Fund (USA)

Celtic Freight (Zambia)

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

Charlotte und Werner Herrmann Stiftung (Germany)

Chilo Lodge (Zimbabwe)

CI Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (USA)

Claus und Taslimawati Schmidt-Luprian Stiftung Vogelschutz in Feuchtgebieten (Germany)

Combating Poaching and the Illegal Wildlife Trade (Ivory, Rhino Horn) in Africa and Asia Project within the fund for cross-cutting political cooperation (Polifund) (Germany)

Committee for Forestry and Wildlife, Ministry of Agriculture of Republic of Kazakhstan (Kazakhstan)

Conservation Capital (UK)

Conservation International Foundation (USA)

Convention on Migratory Species of Wild Animals, CMS (Germany)

Danang University (Vietnam)

Department for the Conservation of Natural Resources and Ecosystems of the Ministry of Environment and Forestry, KSDAE (Indonesia)

Department of National Parks and Wildlife, DNPW (Zambia)

Department of Nature Conservation, DoNC (Vietnam)

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit, GIZ-Peru (Peru)

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit, GIZ-Zambia (Zambia)

Deutsche Postcode Lotterie (Germany)

Deutscher Naturschutzring, DNR (Germany)

Directorate General of Natural Resource and Ecosystem Protection KSDAE (Indonesia)

Disney Worldwide Conservation Fund (USA)

Eleonore-Beck-Stiftung (Germany)

Elephant Crisis Fund (USA)

Estate of Charlotte Frank (USA)

Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority, EWCA (Ethiopia)

EuroNatur – Stiftung Europäisches Naturerbe (Germany)

EUROPARC Deutschland (Germany)

European Union, EU

Farm Africa (UK)

Fauna & Flora International, FFI (UK)

Federación Nativa del Rio Madre de Dios y Afluentes, FENAMAD (Peru)

Fidelity Charitable (USA)

Förderverein Nationalpark Senne-Eggegebirge e. V. (Germany)

Fondation Segré (Switzerland)

Fondo de las Américas, FONDAM (Peru)

Fondo Nacional para Areas Naturales Protegidas por el Estado, PROFONANPE (Peru)

For Rangers (Kenia)

Frankfurter Sparkasse (Germany)

Freundeskreis Nationalpark Hunsrück e. V. (Germany)

Friedkin Conservation Fund (Tanzania)

Fundación Charles Darwin, FCD (Ecuador)

Fundación para la Conservación y el Desarrollo Sostenible (Colombia)

Fundatia Conservation Carpathia, FCC (Rumänien)

German Embassy Lusaka (Zambia)

Gonarezhou Bushcamps (Zimbabwe)

Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation (USA)

GreenViet, Danang (Vietnam)

Gregor Louisoder Umweltstiftung (Germany)

Griffith University (Australia)

Grumeti Reserves and Grumeti Fund (Tanzania)

Guassa Community Conservation Council, GCCC (Ethiopia)

Gunther Parlow Stiftung (Germany)

Helaba Invest Kapitalanlagegesellschaft mbH (Germany)

Hellabrunn – Der Münchner Tierpark (Germany)

Hutan Harapan Project (Indonesia)
Imperial College London (UK)
Indonesian Nature Conservation Department, KSDAE (Indonesia)
INDUFOR (Finnland)
Initiative Frankfurter Stiftungen e. V. (Germany)
Institut Congolais pour la Conservation de la Nature, ICCN (DR Congo)
Institut für Gemeinwohl GmbH (Germany)
Institut für Tierökologie und Naturbildung (Germany)
Instituto del Bien Común, IBC (Peru)
International Crane Foundation, ICF (USA)
International Elephant Project, IEP (Australia)
International Union for the Conservation of Nature, IUCN (Switzerland)
International Water Management Institute (Ethiopia)
Internationale Klimaschutzinitiative IKI, BMU (Germany)
Jambi Province Conservation Authority (Indonesia)
Jane Goodall Institute (Tanzania)
Jane Goodall Institute (USA)
Johann Wolfgang Goethe-Universität Frankfurt (Germany)
Johanna Samel-Stiftung (Germany)
Karl Kübel Stiftung für Kind und Familie (Germany)
KfW Entwicklungsbank (Germany)
KfW Stiftung (Germany)
KPMG Deutschland (Germany)
Landesbund für Vogelschutz in Bayern (Germany)
Lawrence, Peter (UK)
Lilongwe Wildlife Trust (Malawi)
Linnemann-Stiftung (Germany)
Lion Recovery Fund (USA)
Lowveld Rhino Trust (Zimbabwe)
Malilangwe Ltd. (South Afrika)
Malilangwe Trust (Zimbabwe)
Manfred-Hermesen-Stiftung (Germany)
Ministerio de Cultura, Viceministerio de Interculturalidad (Peru)
Ministerio del Ambiente, MINAM (Peru)
Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan (Kazakhstan)
Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources (Ukraine)
Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment (Guyana)
Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism (Tanzania)
Mpika, Shiwa, Chama, Chipata, Chinsali and Isoka District Governments (Zambia)
National Ecological Centre of Ukraine, NECU (Ukraine)
Naturstiftung David (Germany)
Naturwald Akademie (Germany)
Norwegian Institute for Nature Research, NINA (Norway)

Oak Foundation (Switzerland)
Oromia Forest and Wildlife Enterprise (Ethiopia)
Oromia National Regional State: Agriculture and Rural Development Bureau, Bale Mountains National Park (Ethiopia)
Professional Alliance for Development, PADET (Ethiopia)
PanEco (Switzerland)
Panthera (USA)
Parques Nacionales Naturales de Colombia, PNNC (Colombia)
Paul G. Allen Family Foundation (USA)
Paul Tudor Jones Family Foundation (USA)
People's Aid Coordinating Committee, PACCOM (Vietnam)
Perth Zoo (Australia)
Polish Society for the Protection of Birds, OTOP (Polen)
Population, Health and Environment – Ethiopia Consortium (Ethiopia)
Professional Alliance for Development, PADET (Ethiopia)
Protected Areas Commission, PAC (Guyana)
Province People's Committee (PPC) of the Gia Lai Province (Vietnam)
Remote Africa Safaris (Zambia)
Rhinos Without Borders (Botswana)
Russell Katz (USA)
Sambia-Hilfe Dr. Gerhard Konzelmann e. V. (Germany)
Sarastro Förderstiftung (Liechtenstein)
Save African Rhino Foundation (Australia)
Save the Elephants (Kenya)
Save the Rhino International Inc. (UK)
Save the Rhino Trust (Zambia)
Servicio Nacional de Areas Naturales Protegidas por el Estado, SERNANP (Peru)
Sheldon and Audrey Katz Foundation (USA)
Sigrid I. Gramm de Berumen Stiftung (Germany)
SOS Sahel (Ethiopia)
South African National Parks (South Afrika)
Stiftung Artenschutz (Germany)
Stiftung Feuchtgebiete (Germany)
Stiftung Freunde des Tieres (Germany)
Stiftung KulturLandschaft Günztal (Germany)
Stiftung Naturlandschaften Brandenburg, SNLB (Germany)
Stiftung Temperatio (Switzerland)
Stiftung Wolfgang Wüsthof (Germany)
Stiftung Zoologischer Garten Berlin (Germany)
Stop Ivory (UK)
Sustainable Development of the Protected Area System of Ethiopia, SDPASE (Ethiopia)
Tanzania Association of Tour Operators, TATO (Tanzania)

PARTNERS AND DONORS 2017

Tanzania National Parks, TANAPA (Tanzania)
Tanzania Wildlife Authority, TAWA (Tanzania)
Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute, TAWIRI (Tanzania)
The European Nature Trust (UK)
The Management Board of Kon Ka Kinh National Park (Vietnam)
The Orangutan Project, TOP (Australia)
The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, RSPB (UK)
The Wyss Foundation (USA)
Tiergarten Nürnberg (Germany)
Tikki Hywood Trust (Zimbabwe)
Tusk Trust (UK)
U.S. Department of State International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Agency (USA)
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USA)
Ukrainian Society for the Protection of Birds, USPB (Ukraine)
Universitas Gadjah Mada (Indonesia)
Universitas Jambi (Indonesia)
University of Minnesota (USA)
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, UNESCO (France)
USAID (USA)
USAID-Zambia (Zambia)
Verein Nationalpark Nordsteigerwald (Germany)
Vietnam Administration of Forestry (Vietnam)

Virunga Foundation (UK)
Vulcan Inc. (USA)
Wild Europe (UK)
WILD Programme (Zimbabwe)
Wildcat Foundation (USA)
Wildlife Conservation Network, WCN (USA)
Wildlife Conservation Research Unit, Oxford University (UK)
Wildlife Conservation Society, WCS (USA)
Wildlife Crime Prevention (Zambia)
Wildlife Division of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism/Tanzania Wildlife Authority, TAWA (Tanzania)
Wolfgang und Ingrid Hensel Stiftung (Germany)
Working Dogs for Conservation (USA)
WWF Danube-Carpathian Programme (Austria)
WWF Deutschland (Germany)
WWF Indonesia (Indonesia)
WWF Peru (Peru)
WWF Tanzania (Tanzania)
WWF US (USA)
Yayasan Ekosistem Lestari, YEL (Indonesia)
Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management Authority, ZimParks (Zimbabwe)
Zoo Frankfurt (Germany)
Zoological Society of London, ZSL (UK)

IMPRINT

PUBLISHED BY

Frankfurt Zoological Society
Bernhard-Grzimek-Allee 1
60316 Frankfurt am Main
Phone +49 (0)69 - 94 34 46 0
Fax +49 (0)69 - 43 93 48
Email info@zgf.de
www.fzs.org

Printed in Germany by Druck- und Verlagshaus
Zarbock GmbH & Co. KG, Frankfurt am Main
Printed on recycled paper.

© 2018 Frankfurt Zoological Society

EDITORS

Dagmar Andres-Brümmer, Dr. Christof Schenck,
Katharina Hensen

TRANSLATION

Mark Hudson, Katharina Hensen

DESIGN

atelier himmelbraun, Frankfurt am Main


PHOTO CREDITS

Wolfgang Schmidt (5), Okapia (7), Isabell Ziesche (7), Jeldrik Schröer (8), Norberth Guthier (8, 42), Christof Schenck (10), Craig Zytow (9), Patrick Eickemeier (9, 10), Axel Warnstedt, Deutsche Welle (10), Friedkin Conservation Fund (11), Axel Gomille (12/13), Bad Rabbit Studio (24, 25), Ha Thang Long (43), FZS Vietnam (43), Jorge Mario Álvarez Arango, UNESCO (52, 53).

All other Photos: Daniel Rosengren/FZS.

COVER:

Outside & Inside: Daniel Rosengren/FZS



We would like to thank all members, donors, sponsors and friends of the Frankfurt Zoological Society for their generous support and their commitment on various levels to the conservation of the last wilderness areas on our planet.

THANK YOU SO MUCH ...

... for your donations

which we use promptly and directly in our conservation projects, e.g. to fund equipment or training for rangers.

... for your sponsorships

which give our projects the planning security they need and permit the ongoing protection of the habitats of elephants, gorillas, rhinos, orangutans, wild cats and giant otters.

... for your membership fees

which constitute the basis of the Frankfurt Zoological Society and the foundation of our global conservation projects.

... for your family-event donations

which you have collected for us at your birthday, wedding anniversary, retirement or wedding instead of gifts and flowers.

... for bequests

in which the FZS is named as the heir or beneficiary and which were paid out to us in the past year.

... for your endowments

which have added to the capital stock of our Help for Threatened Wildlife Foundation and which now help to support our conservation projects from the resulting earnings on a permanent basis.

... for the civil penalties and fines

which have reached us from courts, public and local prosecution services and lawyers.



Frankfurt Zoological Society

Bernhard-Grzimek-Allee 1
D 60316 Frankfurt / Main
Phone +49 (0)69 - 94 34 46 0
Fax +49 (0)69 - 43 93 48
Email info@zgf.de
www.fzs.org