

MISSION: WILDERNESS

ANNUAL REPORT 2020
FRANKFURT ZOOLOGICAL
SOCIETY



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Cover photo: Biologist Dzmitry Shamovich and Sergei Sidoruk install camera traps along a river in the Almany Mire Nature Reserve (Belarus) in search of the endangered European mink.

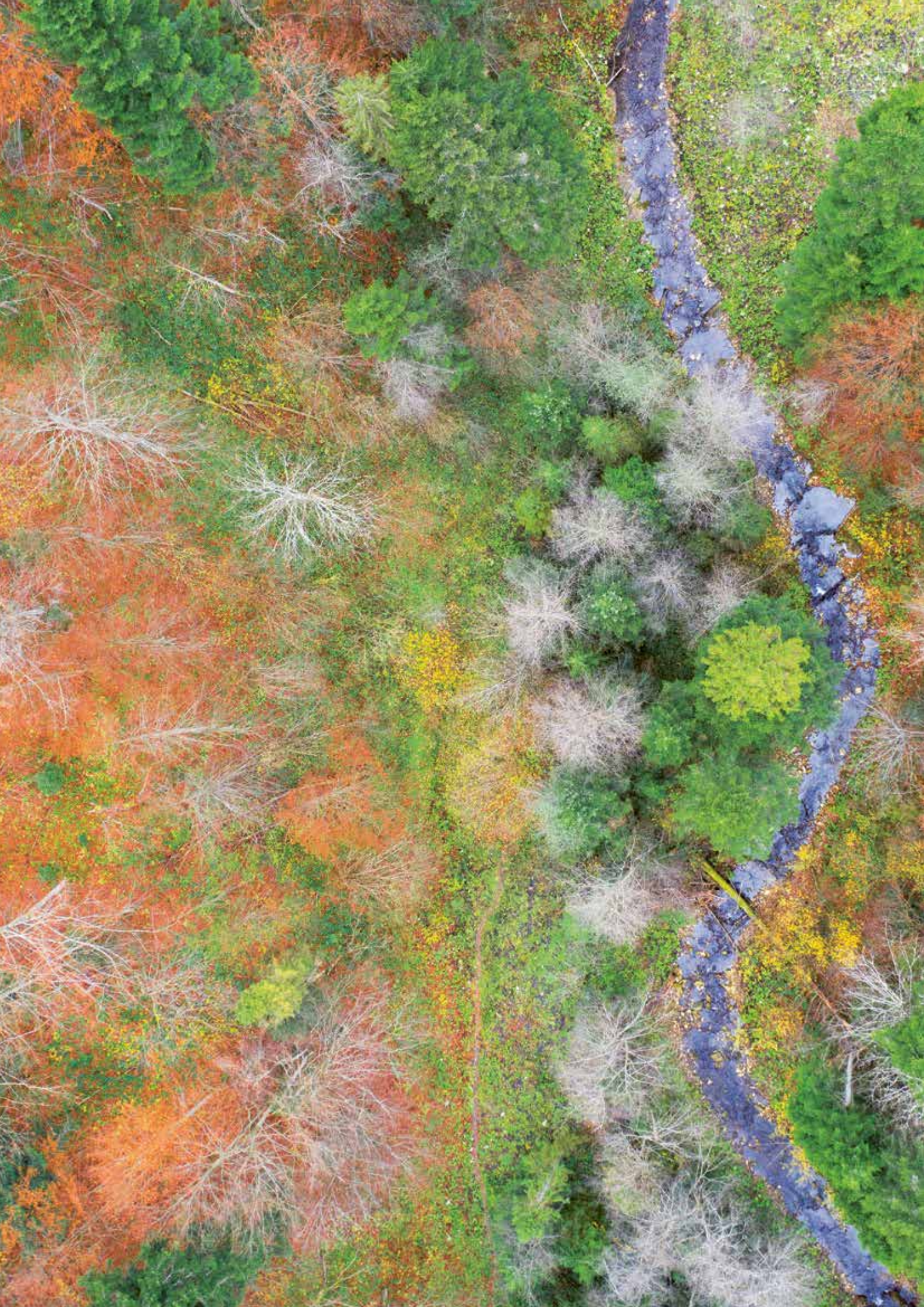


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DEAR READERS AND FRIENDS OF FZS,



The year 2020 will long be remembered by all of us as the year in which our lives were defined by COVID-19. It was the year that taught us, more than ever, how dependent we are on nature staying healthy and habitats remaining intact. However, we also suddenly discovered how much flexibility and creativity lies within us – how quickly and easily we managed to switch to communicating virtually. Nevertheless, it is crucial for those who work in conservation to be out in the field, to have intimate knowledge of the area and any changes, and to talk to the local people.

For that reason, 2020 posed a special challenge to FZS and our project teams in Africa, South America, Asia and Europe. The field work ground to a halt for months in some particularly remote protected areas. Environmental training, larger meetings, conferences, workshops and other gatherings had to be cancelled. At the same time, our teams also took on a wealth of additional tasks, such as in Peru, where we organized supplies of oxygen tanks and equipment to remote communities in or around the protected areas.

So far, we have weathered the corona crisis very well and have even managed to post growth in some areas. Our members, sponsors and donors have continued to give generously to the FZS projects. Just how close the work of FZS is to people's hearts is reflected in the bequests left in wills. We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude for this generosity! We have also received unbroken support from third-party donors and institutions, which has enabled us even to expand some of our conservation programs and to offer dependable assistance and partnership to protected areas – especially during these difficult times. We are most grateful for this, too.

The major goal in conservation is now to achieve “30 x 30.” FZS and all other major conservation organizations, as well as more than 60 countries worldwide, are aiming to place 30 percent of land and marine areas under special protection by 2030. The goal is to benefit nature and wildlife, in the interest of climate protection and, not least, to protect the health of mankind.

Klaus Becker
President of Frankfurt Zoological Society

BUILDING BACK BETTER – WHY WE MUST SEIZE OUR OPPORTUNITIES NOW

By Dr. Christof Schenck

The fate of the Titanic was sealed right after the collision with the iceberg. The people on board had a good two hours before the ship finally sank. They did not make wise use of their time. On planet Earth, we are approaching our own tipping points today. These points, however, are of a global dimension and we have less than two decades to mitigate the extent of the coming disasters. Let's use this time!

Ice versus steel. Nature versus technology. When the ship rammed the innocuous-looking iceberg 300 nautical miles off Newfoundland at 23:40 on 14 April 1912, the ice tore six holes in the 2.5 centimeter-thick steel planks. On deck, there only appeared to be minor damage at first. However, immediately after the collision, those in the know on board warned that the ship would eventually sink. The skeptics played down the impending disaster, returned the deck chairs to their correct place, and listened as the orchestra played on. They even refused to board the lifeboats, which had been launched far too late anyway and far too few of which were available. Others panicked; battles broke out for places on the lifeboats. Chaos ensued. Hopelessly, overcrowded boats cast off from the sinking ship, alongside a handful of half-empty ones. Around 1,500 people lost their lives in the icy waters off Newfoundland – and the sinking of the RMS Titanic went down in history as the greatest maritime disaster to date.

Today's ship is called Earth, and there are currently three icebergs on the horizon: climate change, loss of biodiversity, and pandemics. On the Titanic, people had a good two hours before the ship finally sank. They did not make wise use of their time. On Earth, we have less than two decades to mitigate the extent of the coming disasters. That is why it is critically important to make the right decisions now. And to make it clear right from the outset: it's not about costs, it's all about savings. All scenarios show how much more costly it will be if we fail to take the necessary precautions.

Protected areas are essential for averting the crisis. They contain significant carbon reservoirs, purify air and water, and stabilize soils. They have become the most important refuges for endangered species. They are treasure troves of nature, created over billions of years of evolution and contain an inconceivable wealth of biological information which can be harnessed for nutrition, technology, medicine and cul-



In 2020, the Serengeti belonged to wildlife alone. Will it be possible to develop a more sustainable tourism in Tanzania's national parks? A tourism that will help safeguard nature in the long term?

ture. Millions of people living in and around protected areas make their living from the local animal and plant products, and the lives of the local residents are based on the services provided by protected ecosystems. Nature tourism is a key economic factor in many places and the administrations of the protected areas are important employers in the remote regions. The growing urban population, too, enjoys nature for leisure. Our societies have become alienated from nature – and only now are we beginning to grasp the mental, spiritual, restorative, and inspirational effects of nature in protected areas.

According to a UN study, if we can double coverage of protected areas in the world by 2030 (as more than 60 countries are now calling for) to cover 30 percent of land and sea areas, then 88 percent of the species in question will be saved from extinction. This will save the release of more than 500 gigatons of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere and significantly reduce the risk of pandemics, as novel diseases primarily emerge in degraded ecosystems.

WILDERNESS – FROM THE PAST TO THE FUTURE

We need to protect nature – from ourselves and for ourselves. Wilderness areas have a very special role to play here: large, spectacular natural landscapes that are neither created nor dominated by humans. If we take the emergence of our species *Homo sapiens* as our benchmark, then natural landscapes were passed down in largely intact form for about 10,000 generations. But then the great looting of the natural heritage began ten generations ago. Only a quarter of the Earth's surface still counts as wilderness today. It is a valuable commodity, but one that is rapidly vanishing. It comes as little surprise to discover that the great wilderness areas are still found mainly in the hot and cold desert regions which are inhospitable for us and offer

little biodiversity. But fortunately some wilderness still exists in areas with exceptionally high species densities, such as tropical forests or savannas. Anyone who leaves the comfort zone of civilization and sets out on foot into the rainforests of the national parks Manu-Purus in Peru or Chiribiquete in Colombia will get a feel for pristine natural landscapes in these areas which are larger than Switzerland. And they will very rarely encounter another person. If they fly at low altitude in a small plane for hours over the thousands of square kilometers of North Luangwa National Park in Zambia or Gonarezhou National Park in Zimbabwe, they will witness the vast scale of these areas. They will see untamed wild rivers, savannas and bush landscapes with no settlements, huge herds of buffalos and elephants and now and then even rhinoceros. The occasional sandy track or camp in no way detract from the wilderness. It is self-evident that humans do not have the upper hand in these landscapes.

And there is even hope for new wilderness in the densely populated regions of Central Europe with their millennia-old cultural landscapes. If near-natural landscapes are left to their own devices, the virgin forests of the future will be able to grow there. Wolves, wind-throw, fire and bark beetles can all be experienced in the core zones of the German national parks or on the land

of the Brandenburg Wilderness Foundation. There are no such things as “damage” and “pests” in the wild. They are all part of the great scheme. Wolves keep the roe deer populations in check, and heat and light-seeking plants and insects become established in open areas. Species-rich mixed forests can eventually grow.

FRIENDS NOT ENEMIES

Protected areas are of great importance all over the world. For the local population, they sometimes represent a double burden. Farmers, hunters, and gatherers have to contend with wildlife conflicts and are particularly affected by restrictions on use. At the same time, however, these people are inevitably and directly dependent on the natural bounty provided by intact ecosystems. They are reliant on climate-stabilizing forests, clean water, and intact wildlife populations. Nature remains intact especially in remote areas where indigenous peoples lead a traditional way of life. Elsewhere, however, population growth, in-migration, and the growing and justifiable needs of economically vulnerable and marginalized communities are rapidly leading to overuse. Those worried about filling the cooking pot today have little time to consider their grandchildren’s future. There are no simple and one-size-fits-all solutions.

The numerous examples of indigenous peoples and local communities working hand in hand with state conservation authorities and international conservation organizations provide a glimmer of hope.

The Yaguas National Park in Peru, for example, was established in 2018 as the result of an indigenous initiative. It receives support from FZS and the Peruvian national nature conservation authority SERNANP. As a result, an area four times the size of

all 16 German national parks combined is now under protection, and almost all employees, including the director, come from nearby ethnic groups. Previously, some indigenous villagers had relied on very lucrative but illegal and highly polluting mercury-based gold mining and extraction. Yet the majority decided in favor of the “zero-exploitation” national park. This is also a secure reservoir for fish stocks, which are important sources of protein and income for the people living on the Putumayo River outside the park boundaries.

MAN VERSUS ANIMAL? NOT NECESSARILY SO.

Farmers and elephants having to live in close proximity is a challenging situation for both parties – from Sumatra to the Serengeti. The gray giants plunder fields, water supplies and granaries, while the farmers counter with arrows, bullets or poisoned bait. Conflict avoidance is, therefore, a top priority for park authorities and FZS. A wide variety of measures are being taken: improved land use planning allows fields to be established near villages, and pasture can serve as a buffer to the national park. Individual elephants with transmitter collars can be used as an early warning system. As soon as they approach the fields, the rangers move out and use propane scare cannons to keep entire ele-



Local women from around Gonarezhou National Park (Zimbabwe) are seasonally allowed to cut grass which is used for thatching and as fodder for their cattle.

phant herds away from the buffet in the cornfield. Chili fields, smoking fires, beehives, electric fences, brick granaries, sharp stones around water tanks – there is no patent solution for use against these smart elephants, merely a fund of different resources which can be adapted to local conditions and possibilities. Local residents, protected areas, and their four-legged inhabitants can then co-exist peacefully instead of in conflict with each other.

Around Gonarezhou National Park in Zimbabwe, national park managers and the surrounding population have even embarked on what they call a "mpfhuka" in the local language – a joint journey. The result is effective and transparent communication. Together they identify the major challenges as well as potential solutions. For example, local communities receive support in land use planning, in the provision of clean drinking water, and in improved crop cultivation methods. Modern and active forms of environmental education in schools backed up by excursions to the park aim to inspire the children. Forty-two schools were given libraries and solar reading lamps. There has been a strict geographically and seasonally defined program of grass cutting in the park in the last ten years. The natural raw material is in great demand as a roofing material. Women from disadvantaged backgrounds harvest the grass and sell the processed end product. The park now holds particular significance as an employer in a region with 60 percent unemployment, where each employee can easily become the breadwinner for an entire family. Today, hundreds of men and women from the villages earn a living in the park. Some work as rangers, or repair vehicles in the workshop, teach children, guide tourists or take care of bookkeeping. Others work as bricklayers, cooks or service staff in the camps. Former opponents are now firm friends.

BULKHEADS SEALED

Just before the Titanic collided with the 300,000-ton iceberg, the first officer pulled the lever to close all the bulkheads. This lowered a series of partitions inside the ship. If the ice was indeed going to prove harder than the Titanic's steel in the approaching collision, any flooding would now be limited to the holed areas.

In the same way, protected areas can also act as bulkheads. Multiple fires burned in 2019 in Amazonia, as could be seen on satellite maps of the area. Yet rainforests do not simply burst into flame by themselves. They have to be holed, so to speak. First, the forest is thinned, and then individual valuable trees removed. At the same time, the undergrowth is chopped down and gradually dries, becoming a fire accelerant. Then comes the spark of ignition. Rising hot air sucks in air from below, the fires grow larger, and wildfires develop. There were hardly any fires in the intact protected areas, in stark contrast to the surrounding regions. After all, no one had "holed" the forest there. The protected areas also provided protection from the conflagration.

When the Titanic was holed after colliding with the iceberg, the bulkheads did indeed prevent the entire hull from flooding immediately. But there were simply too many holes in the bow. It was of little comfort that it took a while for the water to reach the stern.

TIPPING AND SINKING

In reality, the fate of the Titanic was already sealed shortly before midnight, right after the collision with the iceberg, even if this was not apparent for another two long hours. What followed was an extraordinary process – that started slowly and then gradually increased in speed. The start of such a process is called the tipping point. The holes, which were only about 1.2 square meters in size, allowed large amounts of water to enter. The ship first remained horizontal, but then sank deeper as it took on more and more water. This increased the water pressure, with more and more water pouring in through portholes and cargo hatches. Eventually, the growing weight of the bow caused the ship to break apart and sink, hitting the seabed at a depth of 3,821 meters.

We are approaching our own tipping points today. These points, however, are of a global dimension. In Amazonia, for example, a less than ten percent increase in deforestation will be sufficient to cause havoc. Then, too much water will run off too quickly instead of feeding the rainforest as evaporative rain. Next, large areas of the increasingly dry forest will inexorably die off, with unimaginable consequences for the global climate, accompanied by the extinction of large numbers of species.

The Earth cannot sink like the Titanic as the result of our actions. But large parts of it may become significantly less hospitable, with life-threatening consequences for billions of people. We should use what little time we have left to pool our resources and stabilize the Earth's systems.

THE YEAR OF THE PANDEMIC – OPPORTUNITIES, RISKS AND OUTLOOK

2020 will go down in history as the “Year of Corona.” The WHO declared COVID-19 a pandemic on March 11, 2020. Two days later, the first effects were felt on our work: we had to abruptly end the Frankfurt Spring School on Conservation Project Management that was running at the time. Thankfully, the participants attending from abroad managed to get back home at the last minute. Extensive home office working was quickly introduced at the FZS headquarters. The situation was different, however, out in the different projects. The conservation work continued, but in some cases only in limited form, as many protected areas suddenly became inaccessible. Nevertheless, we were able to implement the majority of our planned activities despite the restrictions.

So far, FZS has coped well with the pandemic: the organization has proved tremendously resilient in the face of the crisis. No staff members were furloughed at FZS headquarters in Frankfurt and no one was laid off. On the contrary, we recruited new employees.



Meeting Dr. Christof Schenck, Executive Director of the Frankfurt Zoological Society

Dr. Schenck, what opportunities has the pandemic presented for FZS?

The corona crisis has made the major global tasks of climate and biodiversity protection more important than ever. This is because both climate change and the destruction of species-rich areas are encouraging the development and spread of new types of pathogens and pandemics. This has further highlighted the importance of conservation as a means of crisis prevention. More than anything else, however, COVID-19 has shifted people's perception of our current problems. And this shift provides a great opportunity for joint global action – including for our work. The FZS project areas are already of global importance in terms of climate protection and biodiversity conservation.

What risks does the pandemic pose to FZS and its project areas?

The coronavirus pandemic is having a drastic impact on our international project regions. Some protected areas are suffering badly from the lack of tourism income. Government funding is often inadequate anyway, and the crisis is leading to further reductions in government conservation funding in some countries.

“COVID-19 has shifted people's perception of our current problems. And this shift provides a great opportunity for joint global action.”

Above all, however, lockdowns and the lack of tourism are having a major impact on the population in our project countries, especially in South America and Africa. They no longer have a secure source of income. This, combined with poorer protection of the endangered areas is giving rise to an increasing risk of poaching, illegal logging and gold mining. Fortunately, there have been no major cuts in controls or any noticeable increase in wildlife destruction in most of the protected areas where FZS operates.

We also launched a scientific study during the first months of the pandemic to identify potential changes in conservation as a result of COVID-19.

What financial impact has COVID-19 had on the FZS project work?

FZS maintains a very healthy, stable and highly diversified revenue structure. Despite the pandemic, our members, donors and sponsors continued to support us throughout 2020. Income from donations has actually increased. We received a total of around 2.8 million euros in donations, 28 percent more than in the previous year. At 2.66 million euros, income from inheritances also remained at a high level. We have been able to respond quickly thanks to the loyal support of our patrons, friends and supporters, even in times of crisis.

Why are donations and contributions from members and sponsors so important to FZS?

These are so-called flexible core funds. For some years now, we have been successfully using these to leverage third-party funding from major institutional donors. As a result, for every euro donated to FZS we can ultimately invest 20 euros in nature conservation work. This allows us to invest extensively in the infrastructure of protected areas and additional measures.

Bearing in mind that the COVID-19 crisis will not be the last of its kind, what are you planning for the future?

The German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), KfW Development Bank, Frankfurt Zoological Society and other NGOs and institutions have joined forces to develop the Legacy Landscapes Fund as a means of securing large areas of contiguous wilderness in the long term. The goal is to facilitate the long-term funding of key protected areas in order to safeguard their continued existence. The current situation clearly shows how such a financial instrument can reduce the dependence of protected areas on tourism income, for example, and thus significantly lowers the risks there.

The Frankfurt Conservation Center is currently being set up in order to align and pool thinking on conservation practice and applied research. The basis for the new interdisciplinary competence center was established in Frankfurt in December 2020, together with the Senckenberg Society and the Goethe University. The sponsoring organization was founded as a gGmbH (a limited liability company whose income is used for charitable purposes according to German tax law).

Overall, the sound financial investment structure of FZS, the expansion of its real estate portfolio and the increase in the “Hilfe für die bedrohte Tierwelt” Foundation capital all give grounds for optimism.



PRESENTING 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 are to be found in the work of Professor Bernhard Grzimek who first set up FZS as a support society for the Zoo. From the 1960s on, FZS continuously expanded its commitment to nature conservation and today is an internationally recognized conservation NGO. From the outset it has been based at the zoo in Frankfurt.

As it promotes nature conservation and animal welfare, Frankfurt Zoological Society enjoys corporate tax exemption on the basis of the notice of exemption and the annex to the notice of exemption of the Frankfurt am Main V Tax Office, tax no. 47 250 98191, of 3 August 2020 according to § 5 para 1 no. 9 of the Corporation Tax Law. Its official organs are the General Assembly and the Board of Directors.

The **General Assembly** convenes once a year. It elects the Board and approves its activities, approves the annual financial statements and elects the auditor. In 2020, the Society had 3,585 members, consisting of private individuals and institutions.

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

In 2020, Frankfurt Zoological Society employed a total of 445 staff members, 36 of whom were based at the headquarters in Frankfurt.

THE FZS NETWORK

FZS is supported by its **Hilfe für die bedrohte Tierwelt** Foundation. This is a legally independent foundation under private law with charitable status.

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

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

HONORARY BOARD OF FZS

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Dr. Thomas Kantenwein (*Vice President*)
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Matt Arnold
Curtis Ravenel
Jason Scott
Heather Zichal

* since September 2020 ** until September 2020

*since December 2020 ** until December 2020

OUR YEAR 2020 IN NUMBERS



22.04 Million Euros
invested in our conservation
projects in 2020

29 Projects & Programs
in 18 countries

3.1 Million Euros
from donors, members
and sponsors

445 Staff Members
worldwide, with an additional
350 rangers in various project areas

15.2 Million Euros
from institutional and public
third-party donors

7,019 Sponsors
supported FZS in 2020

1.6 Million Euros
provided by the "Hilfe für die
bedrohte Tierwelt" Foundation

PROJECTS & PROGRAMS 2020

Conservation projects and programs managed by FZS itself and projects operated by other organizations, that were supported by FZS



FZS AFRICA PROGRAM

① ETHIOPIA

- ✓ Bale Mountains Conservation Project

② DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

- ✓ Support for Virunga National Park
- ✓ Lomami Conservation Project

③ TANZANIA

- ✓ Serengeti National Park
- ✓ Serengeti Ecosystem Management Project (SEMA)
- ✓ Mahale Ecosystem Project
- ✓ Nyerere-Selous Conservation Project

④ ZAMBIA

- ✓ North Luangwa Conservation Program
- ✓ Nsumbu-Tanganyika Conservation Program

⑤ ZIMBABWE

- ✓ Gonarezhou Conservation Program

FZS EUROPE PROGRAM

① GERMANY

- ✓ Wilderness in Germany
- ✓ Brandenburg Wilderness Foundation
- ✓ Hohe Schrecke Beech Forest Conservation Project
- ✓ Conservation Ambassadors at Frankfurt Zoo

② BELARUS

- ✓ Preservation of the Białowieża-/Bielaviežskaja-Pušča primeval forest

③ UKRAINE

- ✓ Protecting virgin forest in the Ukrainian Carpathians

④ ROMANIA

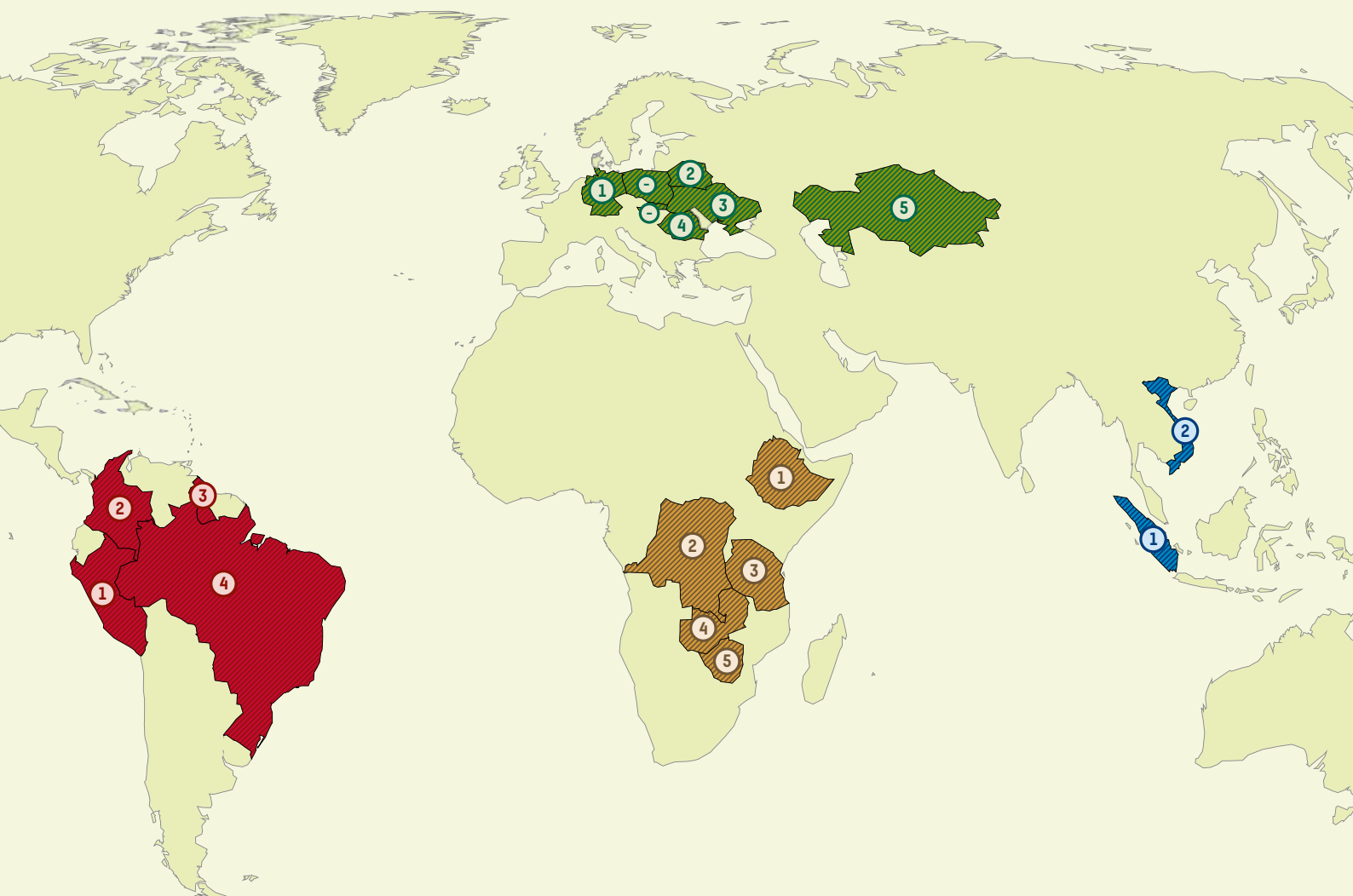
- ✓ Establishment of a wilderness/forest reserve in Romania

⑤ KAZAKHSTAN

- ✓ Protecting the steppes and the saiga antelope in Kazakhstan

⑥ TRANSNATIONAL PROJECTS

- ✓ Cross-border protection of old-growth forests in the Wolf Mountains (Poland, Slovakia and Ukraine)
- ✓ Wilderness without borders – new protected areas in Polesia
- ✓ Wilderness in Europe – casework for securing important European wilderness areas



FZS SOUTH AMERICA PROGRAM

① PERU

- ✓ Andes to Amazon Conservation Program
- ✓ Support for the Bahuaja-Sonene-Tambopata Landscape
- ✓ Support for the Manu Landscape
- ✓ Support for the Purus Landscape
- ✓ Support for the Putumayo Landscape

② COLOMBIA

- ✓ Protection of the Chiribiquete National Park and its surroundings

③ GUYANA

- ✓ Management of the Kanuku Mountains Protected Area

④ BRAZIL

- ✓ Protection and management of Cantão State Park

FZS SOUTHEAST ASIA PROGRAM

① INDONESIA (SUMATRA)

- ✓ Bukit Tiga Puluh Landscape Conservation Program

① VIETNAM

- ✓ Forest Protection in the Highlands of Central Vietnam

BALE MOUNTAINS

ONE PARK – MANY WORLDS

The Bale Mountains National Park in the southern highlands of Ethiopia is home to rare and endemic species – and an increasing number of people. FZS is working to preserve the sensitive Bale Mountains ecosystem.



Ethiopian Wolf in the
Bale Mountains



The 2,200 square kilometer Bale Mountains National Park is located in Ethiopia at an altitude of 1,500 to 4,370 meters. It is considered the last large Afroalpine highland. Bale boasts exceptional biodiversity: many animal and plant species are found only here or are endemic to Ethiopia. Bale is extraordinary and often acclaimed as “One Park – Many Worlds.” For John Guernier, who has led the FZS Bale Mountains Conservation Project since 2020, Bale is “like an island rising out of the sea, wild and dramatic, rugged and magical.”

Bale is a major water catchment area for 30 million people in Somalia, Kenya, and the southern Ethiopian lowlands. The people living in or around the national park depend on its natural resources for their survival. Preserving these resources – the ecosystem, and the unique flora and fauna of the Bale Mountains – is the goal of the FZS Bale Mountains Conservation Project.

Support is urgently needed, because the Bale Mountains are under enormous pressure. National parks are under increasing threat from land conversion to agriculture, overgrazing, transmission of diseases to wildlife, fire, and the harvesting of natural resources such as firewood. If the overexploitation continues unchecked, the Afroalpine habitats will suffer severe damage. And the resources on which so many people depend, will also be at risk.

Project Manager, John Guernier describes how FZS, in cooperation with the park management, is working to reduce the threat and regulate human impact on the park: “We do a lot of work with the local communities – exploring conservation-friendly income alternatives for the people who live here, offering the park administration and rangers support in the form of equipment and training, dealing with tourism development, and carrying out ecological monitoring in the Bale ecosystem.”

In concrete project terms, around 78 percent of the park boundary had been marked out with concrete posts by the end of 2020, meaning that everyone can now clearly see which areas belong to the national park. Two ranger posts were equipped with new stables and enclosures. “These enclosures house the confiscated livestock until their owners come to claim them,” John explains. During the last year, the park’s rangers confiscated 5,170 cattle, 1,319 goats and sheep, and 242 horses and donkeys that were grazing illegally in the national park.

JOINT PLANNING

John Guernier and his team are concurrently drawing up “Park Community Resource Use Agreements.” These agreements grant communities regulated access to certain areas of the national park. John calls this process “micro-zoning.” Local communities, tourism operators and the park authorities come together to agree on the different usage zones. The only activities allowed in some of the so-called Core Protection Zones (CPZs) are research and tourism, however, herders can continue to graze their cattle in the communal zones (Kebele Micro Zones, KMZs). The first phase was successfully completed in 2020. The result is a 234 square kilometer core zone in the south of Harennna Forest. All parties agreed that this CPZ will not be used in the future. In the KMZs, on the other hand, the participating communities may continue to use resources. Such agreements already exist in 11 villages (kebeles) south and east of the park, with more to follow.

Settlements are also illegal under Ethiopian law within the national park, as is the grazing of livestock. Based on an established procedure that included negotiations and several meetings between the Bale Mountains National Park Authority, the communities and FZS, the authorities removed nearly 500 huts from the national park in 2020. Their inhabitants were relocated to land outside the park boundaries. “It’s a sensitive issue and requires a lot of effort,” John explains. “We need to make sure that the lives of the people who move are improved when they leave the park.”

The park was also nominated for World Heritage status in 2020. After long preparation and with the support of FZS, the Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority submitted the application in January 2021. Unfortunately, the application fell victim to intra-Ethiopian competition with a Cultural Heritage site, because at present UNESCO only considers one application from each country for recognition as a World Heritage site. Therefore, the application for Bale was not accepted and the Bale Mountains National Park will not be included in the list of UNESCO World Heritage sites for the time being. This is a pity, because when an area is designated as a World Heritage Site, it underlines its global importance.

SERENGETI

SUPPORT DURING HARD TIMES



Tanzania's protected areas were badly hit in spring 2020 by global travel restrictions and the loss of tourism in the run-up to the peak season. The country relies heavily on international tourists to fund ongoing operations in its protected areas. FZS was able to stand by its partners in their time of need – not only were we able to continue funding our own projects, but we were also able to arrange additional emergency funding from other donors.

For many years, our Serengeti Conservation Program has been dedicated to supporting the Serengeti National Park Authority (SENAPA) in various aspects of park conservation: aerial monitoring, anti-poaching measures, equipment procurement, initial and further training of SENAPA staff, assistance with rhinoceros monitoring (telemetry, capture operations) and wildlife monitoring in general. The maintenance and repair of ranger vehicles in our workshop also makes a significant contribution to the smooth running of the park. We were able to arrange additional funds in 2020 which helped ensure that SENAPA could provide all of the basic park protection services. These included regular aerial surveillance by two aircraft – one operated by FZS and one flown by a Tanzania National Park Authority (TANAPA) pilot. This service was maintained during the nine months of the pandemic in 2020. Fortunately, there was no sign of an increase in elephant poaching.



Serengeti National Park

The Serengeti project team was able to extend its scope to cover the adjacent Ngorongoro Conservation Area, where FZS ran a project in the past. The vehicle workshop has been renovated, and the Rhino Protection Unit vehicles and five reconditioned Land Rovers are now fully operational.

The ongoing snare removal program has been a major success over the last few years. A SENAPA employee is responsible for the De-snaring Teams as well as the Livestock Law Enforcement Teams. The teams themselves consist of men from the surrounding communities. Having removed more than 8,800 wire snares, liberated 147 animals, and made 43 arrests by rangers, the De-snaring Teams were very successful in 2020.

NATURE CONSERVATION OUTSIDE THE PARK

In order to protect the Serengeti, FZS supports the management of the park itself, but it also collaborates closely with communities on the park's periphery. The Serengeti Ecosystem Development and Conservation Project (SEDCP) focuses on actively involving communities in conservation work such as effective land use planning. This helps preserve wildlife corridors and minimize human wildlife conflicts. In 2020, this project was financed by FZS as well as the KfW Development Bank as part of the German Cooperation with Tanzania. The FZS Serengeti Ecosystem Manage-

ment (SEMA) office is part of the larger SEDCP project and is based at the National Park headquarters in Fort Ikoma. It manages its activities from there, primarily in the two Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) of Ikona and Makao. Both were hit hard by the decline in tourism due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and SEMA helped create conservation-compatible business models. Honey production is one of the models which SEMA supports by providing regular beekeeping training and constructing a bottling plant. The honey can now be marketed under the new "Tunza Serengeti" (Swahili for "Care for Serengeti") label.

COCOBA groups continue to be extremely successful, bringing together men and women from the communities to operate Community Conservation Banks (CO-COBAs) – small, self-managed cooperative banks that finance the establishment or expansion of small businesses. Thirteen new groups were established in 2020. As a result, there are now 110 COCOBA groups benefiting 2,300 people in the Serengeti ecosystem. Women account for over half of these, with a 57 percent representation in the groups founded in 2020.

The commitment to land use planning in the Serengeti District is also becoming increasingly important. This is now in place in 17 villages, with three added last year. The planning is conducted centrally to ensure the sustainable use of resources on communal lands. This helps prevent unauthorized and overgrazing by livestock in the park.



Every day the De-snaring Teams search the Park for poachers' wire snare traps.

A LIFE FOR AFRICA'S WILD NATURE

On 10 January 2020, Dr. Markus Borner passed away. He was the former Director of the FZS Africa Program. For more than three decades the Serengeti was Markus Borner's home. Without him and his inimitably positive way of inspiring people and bringing together the right people at the right time, the Serengeti would certainly not be what it is today: an icon among Africa's national parks.

Markus himself, of course, wouldn't want to hear this and he would emphasize that it was the efforts of his team and especially the Tanzanian National Parks Authority that protected the unique wilderness of the Serengeti and its wildlife. He was, however, the heart and soul of many of these efforts. Always a driving force when it came to mastering new challenges, finding new solutions and new ways. Markus met everyone respectfully and at eye level and was always true to himself. This earned him the highest respect, in Tanzania and far beyond.

Markus' influence was not, however, restricted to the Serengeti. Together with many partners on the ground he also influenced conservation in other regions and during difficult times. As FZS Africa Director, he decided to start a project for the protection of mountain gorillas in the DR Congo, despite ongoing civil unrest. In Zambia, Markus initiated the reintroduction of black rhinos to North Luangwa, and in the Ethiopian highlands, he oversaw the establishment of an FZS project for the protection of the Bale Mountains. From Ethiopia

to Zimbabwe, Markus has chosen the right allies and brought people into his teams who, like him, were passionate and pragmatic about conservation.

Markus has always been deeply convinced that the future lies in Africa's young generation. The University of Glasgow awarded Markus Borner, who held a PhD in biology, an honorary professorship, and he shared his insights and coached young conservation experts from various African countries in the Karimjee Conservation Scholars Program. He was also able to share his experience as an adjunct professor at the Nelson Mandela African Institution of Science and Technology in Tanzania.

Markus Borner was awarded the Bruno H. Schubert Prize in 1994, was a finalist for the Indianapolis Prize in 2012 and received the prestigious Blue Planet Prize from the Asahi Glass Foundation in 2016, which is considered the Nobel Prize of conservation awards.

His vision of a world that will value its nature and realize that wilderness is its true future capital shaped him throughout his life. Uncompromising, sincere and clear in his convictions, Markus has inspired and motivated many of us. When species disappear, unique forests have to make way for dams or roads, and when we doubt whether we can still protect nature, those are the times we must remind ourselves of Markus' optimism: Giving up is not an option.

*“In the future the greatness of a nation
will not be judged by its advance in
technology or by its achievements in
architecture, art or sports,
but by the amount of nature and
biodiversity that it can hand over
to the next generation.”*

Dr. Markus Borner
1945 – 2020



EXPANSIVE AREA FOR LARGE ANIMALS

Our Nyerere-Selous Conservation Project (formerly Selous Conservation Project) is, without doubt, one of the largest in Africa in terms of land area.



The project covers Nyerere National Park and the Selous Game Reserve with a combined area of around 50,000 square kilometers – larger than the states of New Hampshire and Vermont combined. Some of Africa's largest populations of elephant, buffalo, hippopotamus, lion and African wild dog can be found here. But the sheer size of the protected area also makes it difficult to provide effective protection.

The most important development in the past year was dealing with the impact of the Tanzanian government's decision to separate the area into the Nyerere National Park and the Selous Game Reserve in 2019. The new park administration had to establish a new park while facing a financial crisis due to the pandemic. As a result, it relied heavily on our team to assist with

aerial surveillance, vehicle maintenance, anti-poaching measures, and the construction of communications infrastructure. We were able to establish a new base station in the Miguruwe sector of the Selous Game Reserve from which it is easier to support anti-poaching efforts, maintain vehicles, and improve logistics for the rangers out in the field.

The construction of the new dam for the Nyerere hydropower plant continues to cause upheaval within the ecosystem. Along with various other organizations, UNESCO has reiterated its concern that the dam will cause major damage to the ecosystem and put Selous' status as a World Heritage Site at risk, a concern we also share.



Selous Game Reserve

MAHALE MOUNTAINS

PROTECTION FOR CHIMPANZEES AND ELEPHANTS

Chimpanzees and elephants respect no boundaries – neither national borders nor the perimeters of national parks. This is very much the case in Mahale Mountains National Park in Tanzania. Key areas and corridors that they use have been secured to ensure that the animals are protected throughout their habitat, even outside the park: the community forest in Uvinza District and the Tongwe West Forest Reserve in Tanganyika District.



Grazing cattle have no respect for borders either. They invade protected areas and thus pose a serious threat to nature conservation. Last year alone, 480 animals were confiscated in Uvinza District, and a further 2,879 in Tongwe West Forest Reserve. Two joint patrols consisting of community rangers and district staff were successful here thanks to our technical and financial support. This sent a strong signal regarding the protected status of the areas, but also highlighted how compliance is being actively monitored.

Tongwe West Forest Reserve was officially designated a protected area in 2019 – the first in Tanganyika District to be co-managed with surrounding communities. Last year, FZS was able to complete work on the ranger base and clearly mark the forest limits by erecting boundary marker posts. In addition, the project has enabled the district administration to put up signs that highlight the protected status of the forest and list all prohibited activities. Furthermore, community rangers in the corridor and protected areas received

initial and continued training on the proper handling of information and evidence. They have also been trained in the correct procedures for making arrests and for court proceedings – important prerequisites for problem-free cooperation with the authorities.

In the neighboring Uvinza District, we made good progress in protecting an important habitat corridor as a community forest area. We have already completed preparations for participatory forest management with the community of Ikubulu, thereby creating a crucial link to the Mahale-Ntakata corridor. Once the administration has signed off on this, the actual work can begin.

Mahale was also badly affected by the slump in tourism and the associated loss of revenue last year. FZS was able to support the park with emergency funding. This permitted continuation of basic park protection tasks: vehicles and boats were kept ready for use, and fuel and ranger food and equipment remained available.



Volunteer rangers from the communities around the Tongwe West Forest Reserve helping to take care of the protected area with support from FZS.

HOW FISH PONDS CAN HELP ELEPHANTS

Frankfurt Zoological Society has been supporting the Lomami Conservation Project since 2019.

Lomami National Park is located in the middle of the Democratic Republic of Congo, right in the heart of the Congo Basin forests. It is home to the recently discovered lesula monkeys (*Cercopithecus lomamiensis*), forest elephants, Congo peafowl, and bonobos – the chimpanzees' smaller relatives, among many other species. Only in 2016 was the park declared the country's eighth national park by the Congolese government.

Last year, FZS took a major step forward by preparing a co-management agreement with the park authority ICCN (*Institut Congolais pour la Conservation de la Nature*), under which the park will be jointly managed by FZS and ICCN from 2021.



The project is managed from eight bases outside the park. During their extended patrols, our staff have always been accompanied by armed park rangers from the park authority ICCN, who can also make arrests. The teams have arrested poachers, destroyed illegal hunting camps, removed snares, and confiscated bushmeat and weapons.

To protect the park and its wide variety of species, we work together with people from adjacent communities on developing alternatives to illegal hunting and the sale of bushmeat. For example, private fish ponds have been established in the southern part of the buffer zone as alternative sources of income.

We use these and other measures to gain the support and acceptance of the local population, without which long-term protection of the national park is not possible. The bases have helped create close contact with the communities and a greater understanding of their needs and concerns. We also hire local labor and col-



In 2020 a co-management agreement with the park authority ICCN was prepared. From 2021 the national park will be managed jointly by ICCN and FZS.

Lomami National Park



Lovis Ilunga's fish pond in Kinungu is fished off. The ponds are a source of income for the rural population.

laborate with village leaders. In addition, we are in the process of establishing a series of protected areas around the park that will belong to the individual communities themselves, allowing them to protect and manage the resources there.

Unfortunately, security is always an issue. One of the main problems is the armed Mai Mai rebel groups which have gained control over more than half of the buffer zone in recent years. One of their notorious leaders from the southwest of the park and two members of his gang were arrested in 2020 with the help of villagers. A further leader was apprehended in the east of the park in October, also thanks to support from our project. In addition, the project has resulted in known elephant poachers giving themselves up in two instances in the past year. The pressure of imminent arrest had become too great for them and their families. Some of the former poachers have become park employees and now protect the very animals they used to hunt.

NORTH LUANGWA

PROTECTING ZAMBIA'S ONLY BLACK RHINOS



Black rhino in North Luangwa

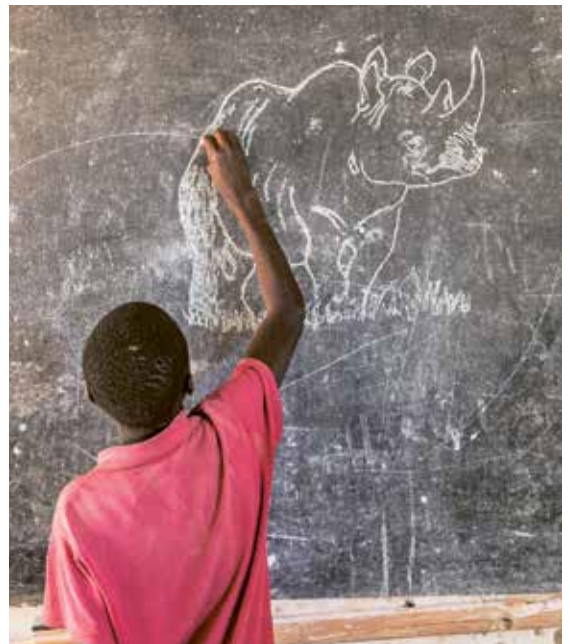
For 35 years now, FZS has been working with the **Zambian Department of National Parks and Wildlife (DNPW)** to protect the **North Luangwa ecosystem** in the northeast of the country. The area, which covers **22,000 square kilometers**, includes a national park and five surrounding **Game Management Areas**. The **North Luangwa National Park** is home to the country's only **black rhinos**. Zambia's largest and fastest-growing **elephant population** is also found here. In addition, the **Luangwa Valley** is an important habitat for lions.

The conservationists are working on numerous measures to preserve the protected areas and their diverse species, while at the same time involving the communities and supporting them in the sustainable use of natural resources through education, training and new income opportunities.

The population of black rhinos, reintroduced in 2003, continues to thrive and grow steadily. The animals were once again comprehensively protected from poaching last year. There were also very few incidents involving elephants: seven carcasses were discovered in the ecosystem, only two within the national park. Meanwhile, the foot patrols, the intelligence units and the canine team recorded a total of just under 600 arrests.

There are regular human wildlife clashes, which is why we have been increasingly focusing on minimizing conflicts between animals, especially elephants, and the people around North Luangwa over the past three years. Last year alone, 49 people were injured – 17 of them fatally. Crops were destroyed in more than 1,200 cases, there were 190 instances of livestock losses – especially poultry – and 248 cases of property damage were recorded. Twenty “chili bomber teams” were sent out last year to repel elephants, and 560 elephant-proof grain stores were built. So far, 700 farmers have been shown how to grow their own chili. The spicy fruits sell well, yet they also serve as highly effective deterrents to elephants. Such measures help the local people co-exist with the pachyderms.

Nature-based tourism also provides a good source of income. Built in 2019, the small self-catering tent camp in the Mukungule Game Management Area proved popular last year, especially with national tourists. The



Good environmental education in schools helps to strengthen the communities' acceptance of wildlife.

growing number of “COCOBA groups” has also turned out to be an effective means of developing small local tourism businesses. Members of these community conservation banks (COCOBAs) provide small loans which enable each other to set up a small business – however, lending is subject to conservation requirements. The number of these groups, which function in a similar way to small cooperative banks, increased last year to a total of 34. They now have just under 1,000 members, nearly three-quarters of whom are women.

NSUMBU

THE BEAUTIFUL, LITTLE-KNOWN SPOT ON THE SHORES OF LAKE TANGANYIKA

Nsumbu is a relatively unknown protected area in the northeast of Zambia. It retains an astounding variety of pristine ecosystems and critical habitat for mega herbivores including roughly 150 elephants. The FZS Nsumbu-Tanganyika Conservation Program supports the conservation of wildlife and habitat in the Nsumbu National Park (including a portion of Lake Tanganyika itself) and the surrounding Game Management Areas.



FZS supports management of the protected area and anti-poaching efforts. Poachers' wire snares in the dense vegetation of Nsumbu remain one of the biggest challenges. Two teams worked continuously in the park from May to December on removing snares. In 2020, the aim was to remove all snares in an area covering more than 5,000 hectares. The first buffalo and zebra, which are being translocated to Nsumbu, were brought here in 2021. They will pave the way for further translocations of animals such as lions and even black rhinos.

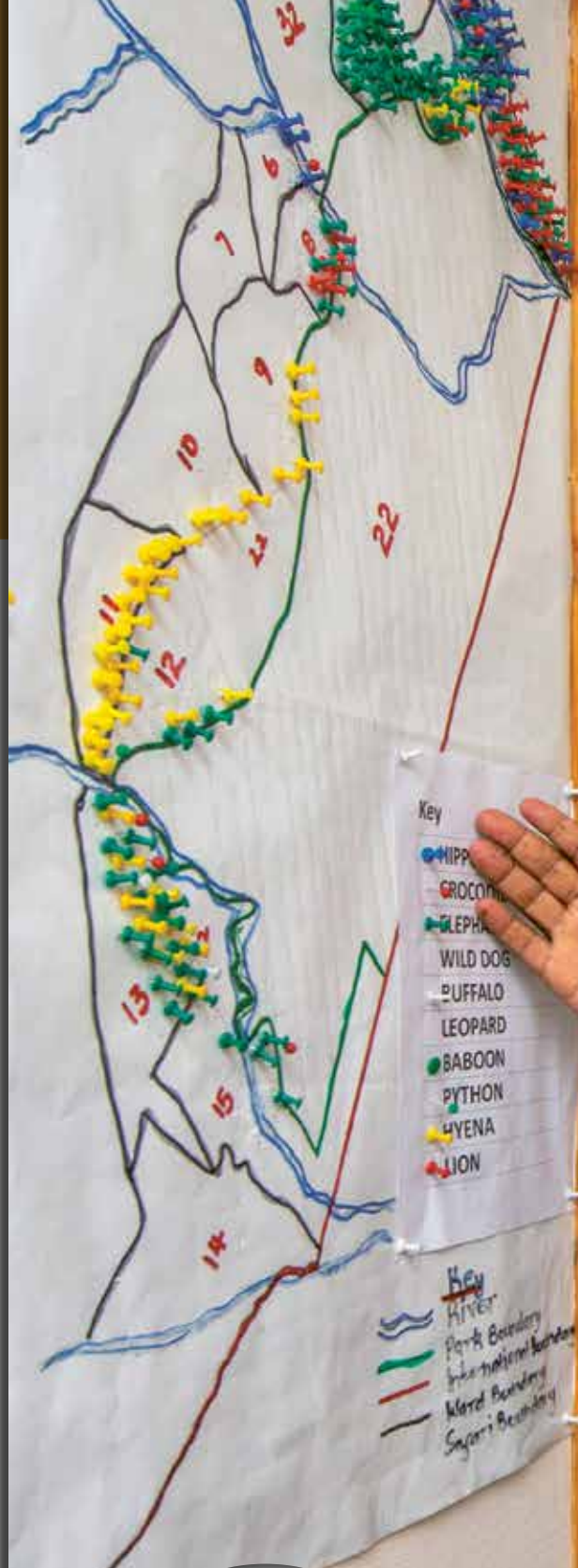
For the first time ever, there were sufficient numbers of rangers in Nsumbu in 2020. About 100 well-trained rangers are now responsible for maintaining security in the park and adjacent areas of the ecosystem. We are supporting the rangers by giving them regular training and providing equipment for field operations, including uniforms, radios and solar chargers. Our joint effort is paying dividends: last year, not a single elephant was taken and never before has there been so little poaching.

The FZS Nsumbu-Tanganyika Program continues to invest in infrastructure. Five ranger accommodations, each with three bedrooms, were built, as were three field pickets to house patrol teams. There is a fully functional workshop at the Park headquarters. FZS mechanics use this to carry out maintenance work and repair and manage vehicles and work equipment. Twelve cars, ten motorcycles, a tractor, a grader, three boats and other smaller pieces of equipment are all used by employees of FZS and the park administration.

We also intensified our cooperation with the local communities in 2020: FZS and the Chitimbwa Community Resources Trust in eastern Nsumbu signed a Memorandum of Understanding regarding the creation of a 15,000-hectare community conservation area in the Iyendwe Valley. In addition, the three fishing communities of Munjela, Ndole and Kabyolwe on the shores of Lake Tanganyika adopted a democratic process to establish Community Fisheries Management Committees (CFMCs). FZS provided knowledge-based and logistical support for the process, running training courses for the newly elected committees to help communities protect and make sustainable use of their fish resources.

After intense preparation in 2020, 200 buffaloes and 48 zebras were translocated to Nsumbu in June 2021.

Local fishermen on Lake Tanganyika



Human Wildlife Coordinator, Elice Dheimani, takes care of problems the communities around Gonarezhou have with wildlife such as lions, elephants, hyenas or baboons.



GONAREZHOU

LONG-TERM PLANNING AND PROTECTION

Gonarezhou Conservation Program holds a special, close and well-functioning partnership with the park authority – a partnership which provides reliable and effective support for the park, especially in difficult times.

The Gonarezhou Conservation Program was launched in Gonarezhou National Park in southern Zimbabwe in 2008 to provide logistical support for the Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management Authority (ZPWMA). This framework was utilized to set up the park infrastructure and ranger force, and was used for implementing protection measures. Nine years later, this support developed into a genuine cooperative relationship in the form of the Gonarezhou Conservation Trust (GCT). For 20 years starting from 2017, this trust is now responsible for managing Gonarezhou National Park, the second largest park in Zimbabwe. This will allow long-term planning to be undertaken – not only for the protection and development of the park, but also for its long-term funding. There is also plenty of scope for expanding trust-based cooperation with the communities on the park's borders.

Our “mpfhuka” – the word for journey in the local Shangaan language – is on its way to becoming a solid partnership with the local communities. We have gained a lot of trust thanks to our steadfast commitment and our willingness to listen to the difficulties villages face in relation to the national park. Mpfhuka meetings are used to discuss and resolve these problems. As a result, our relationship with the villages is now better than ever. Village-based staff help manage human-wildlife conflicts in five areas bordering the park. They record any damage and advise people on how to prevent crops being destroyed by wildlife in the future. Livestock is often attacked – especially by hyenas, and to a lesser extent by lions and wild dogs. Most often it is unguarded herds which are attacked, yet a simple thorn fence is sufficient to prevent such incidents.

All this has helped bring about a situation in which elephant poaching or hunting for bushmeat are at an all-time low in Gonarezhou. This extremely strong position meant that we could use 2020 to prepare intensively for reintroducing the black rhinoceros. The first rhinos finally arrived in Gonarezhou in early summer 2021, and are now settling in.

WOLF MOUNTAINS

CROSS-BORDER FOREST PROTECTION

There is a unique landscape of old fir and beech forests, meadows and original river courses in the border area between Poland, Slovakia and Ukraine in the eastern Carpathians. It is home to numerous species of mammal such as wolf, brown bear, lynx, wildcat, bison and beaver. Indeed, the area is also known as "Wolf Mountains." It sounds like a vast wilderness, but is actually a patchwork of different areas - for now. However, we, and our project partners, now aim to create a network of wilderness areas stretching across roughly 100,000 hectares.

In the Slovakian Carpathians, we have made major progress with our local partner Aevis: 1,500 hectares of Poloniny National Park, designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site back in 2007, was given national protection status last year.

A large wilderness area is to be created in and around this national park, from which the local communities will also benefit economically. For this reason, during the past year, we have focused primarily on creating a sustainable tourism infrastructure and establishing the kind of businesses which benefit not only the regional economy but also nature conservation. These include a tourist information center with a bike rental service which opened in September 2020. They also include a small outlet selling locally produced culinary specialties and souvenirs. In addition, the website (www.regionpoloniny.sk) went online. This provides information on tourist attractions and activities, as well as on accommodation and restaurants. A newly developed program of guided tours went down well with the large numbers of national tourists who visited the region as the result of COVID-19 travel restrictions.

In the Polish Carpathians, our main goal is to expand the two existing national parks Magura and Bieszczady and to establish a new one, Turnicki. We are preparing the relevant application documents for this and are also working on initially establishing smaller protected areas. Our project partner, the National Heritage Foundation, submitted the applications for three new nature reserves in Bieszczady and for expansion of the national park to the relevant authorities last year.



PROTECTION OF BEECH FORESTS

The Ukrainian Carpathians are home to a large part of the last wild and highly species-rich forests in Europe. These include completely untouched primeval beech forests which are part of the UNESCO World Natural Heritage. The Ukrainian Carpathians contain a total of 13 large-scale protected areas, the sizable and unfragmented beech and spruce forests of which make the region a focal point for biodiversity in Europe. FZS is committed to maintaining and expanding these 13 areas on a permanent basis.



FZS has been supporting five of the protected areas since mid-2019 with the help of two million euros in funding from the German Federal Ministry for the Environment. Important basic data on the condition of the project areas, but also on the acceptance of the local population, first had to be gathered. Last year, we made a breakthrough in the Ukrainian Carpathians, where scientifically robust lynx monitoring can now take place with the help of camera traps. This means that outdated and ineffective methods of counting that are currently still used in the parks can now gradually be replaced. This has set the course for fundamental rethinking of the way in which monitoring is conducted. Work has also begun on establishing a functioning administration for the still young Boikyvshyna National Park, which is located in the border triangle of Poland, Slovakia and Ukraine.

Around 14 million euros have been made available since 2016 for the other eight protected areas in a bilateral project between the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development and the Ukrainian government. FZS is playing a significant role in the implementation of the project. Here, too, progress was made with regard to equipment last year, especially in the procurement of IT equipment, as well as uniforms for the rangers.



Setting up camera traps for the monitoring of lynx in Skolivski Beskydy National Park

SOUTHERN CARPATHIANS

300,000 TREES AND 1 BISON CALF

The Făgăraș Mountains are located in the Southern Carpathians in Romania. We are collaborating with our project partner Fundatia Conservation Carpathia (FCC) there to preserve large areas of forest and to repopulate areas of forest that have been cleared.



To prevent the steep slopes in the Carpathians from sliding and losing soil after the many clearcuts of the past, 300,000 trees were planted last year, 80 hectares of bare land were restored to their natural state, and 20 hectares of spruce monoculture were recultivated to allow mixed-mountain forest, typical of the area, to re-emerge.

A newborn bison calf discovered by rangers in the fall is evidence of another major advance in conservation work: the successful reintroduction of bison. They were originally native to the forests of the Carpathians, but were hunted so intensively that they disappeared completely over 200 years ago. FCC has now begun to establish a new bison population in the Făgăraș Mountains. The first eight animals arrived in 2019, and first had to acclimatize to their new surroundings in an enclosure. Since May 2020, they have been freely roaming the forests of the

mountains. Another 17 bison were introduced to the project area in late 2020 and will be released into the wild in 2021.

We have also come a step closer to our common goal of preserving and establishing forest areas in the Carpathians. With the 1,377 hectares of land purchased by the FCC in 2020 now under strict protection, the Foundation owns more than 25,400 hectares of direct land holdings. FCC protects conservation land covering approximately 200,000 hectares in total. This includes leased land, but above all, NATURA 2000 protected areas designated under EU law. The so-called conservation easement program, which is in the planning stages, is intended to secure land that is not currently for sale. Private landowners voluntarily agree to restrict the use of their land for the benefit of conservation. They receive financial compensation in return.

We also rely on the support of local people in order to preserve the forests of the Carpathians on a long-term basis. Together with a partner, FCC is therefore developing business plans for sustainable enterprises in the project region. These small businesses, such as guesthouses and bike rental agencies, create jobs while contributing to conservation. The population benefits from the intact environment and is thus motivated to actively engage with the program.



The reintroduced bison had their first calf.

MORE WILDERNESS IN THE OLD FOREST


There are just under 2,000 hectares of wild forest in the Hohe Schrecke region, northeast of Erfurt in Thuringia. This is relatively small by wilderness standards, but it is growing steadily. With its ancient beech trees and many dead trees, it provides true refuge for many species. FZS has been supporting the work there since 2009.

A further 50 hectares were secured for wilderness at the turn of the year. The new areas have helped us make significant progress toward establishing an unbroken stretch of wilderness between Wiegental and Bärenthal. Now only a few more hectares are needed to close the remaining gap.

The Hohe Schrecke Nature Conservation Project is 90 percent funded by the Federal Government and the state of Thuringia. The project work itself is carried out by Naturstiftung David, which is also providing the remaining ten percent of the funds. It receives both financial and technical support from FZS. Thanks to our donors, we are now able to increase funding as situations arise – as was the case at the turn of the year, when an unforeseen opportunity arose to expand the wilderness area. More and more parts of this forest can thus be taken out of forestry use and allowed to develop undisturbed.

A little mushroom growing from a dead tree.



A photograph of a Serotine bat (Myotis serotinus) in flight, its wings spread wide, showing the dark, leathery membrane. The bat has brown fur and is positioned in the center-right of the frame. It is flying over a dense forest of oak trees, with large green oak leaves and a small green acorn visible in the foreground on the left. The background is dark and filled with the silhouettes of trees.

A Serotine bat in an oak forest in Hesse, Germany

"Wilderness in Germany" is an initiative which currently consists of 20 nature conservation organizations. It is coordinated by FZS and advocates for more wilderness in Germany.

TURNAROUND FOR WILDERNESS

Countless meetings and negotiations were held, concept proposals developed, and lobbying undertaken: together with our partners, we sowed the seeds for numerous potential areas of wilderness in Germany over many years. 2020 was the year in which new seeds of wilderness finally sprouted in Germany.

In 2020, we saw the addition of 17,000 hectares for wilderness development in Germany. This means we are still far from reaching the goal of restoring wilderness to two percent of the country's land area: just 0.6 percent has been achieved so far. But every step counts. And the encouraging results of the past year have only strengthened our resolve to work harder to create wilderness in Germany.

An important pillar for the establishment of new wilderness areas is the Wilderness Fund, which FZS called for and helped to create together with its partners in the "Wilderness in Germany" initiative. Launched in 2019, it permits state funding to be used for the purchase of wilderness areas. In 2020, the first land purchases were financed by the Fund. The "Stiftung Naturschutz Thüringen" Foundation, for example, was able to acquire 318 hectares of forest land along the German Green Belt as the nucleus of a large wilderness area. And our partners in the Brandenburg Wilderness Foundation added a further 73 hectares to their Heidehof wilderness area.

In addition, the NABU Foundation for National Natural Heritage was able to purchase the usage rights for 224.5 hectares of private forest near Laubach in the rural district of Giessen. This connected two existing natural forest areas of the Hessian state forest in the western Vogelsberg region, creating a 1,000-hectare area of forest wilderness.

In Hesse, we have made decisive progress in the Wispertaunus region. Here our goal is to place valuable slope forests under permanent protection. Political and administrative representatives toured the area together in the summer of 2020. They pledged support for the project and held out the prospect of funding as part of a large-scale nature conservation project.

Also in Hesse, the state government expanded the Kellerwald-Edersee National Park by nearly 2,000 hectares, more than a third of its previous area. Now the protected area also includes the valuable forests on the steep slopes north of the Edersee lake which include trees up to 500 years old.

Bavaria also had a number of important successes to report. The Bavarian Forest National Park, which FZS played a leading role in establishing just over 50 years ago, was expanded to include a further 600 hectares. Germany's oldest national park is now, once again, the largest terrestrial national park in Germany, covering an area of 24,850 hectares. Furthermore, the Bavarian Ministry of Agriculture announced that 58,000 hectares of state forest would be placed under protection. The perseverance of the nature conservation organizations in Bavaria paid off here. With us in the background, they have waged a tireless campaign in favor of forest protection. A total of 13,000 hectares of these secured natural forests meet the 1,000-hectare minimum size requirement for forest wilderness.

POLESIA

PRISTINE WATER WILDERNESS



Pristine rivers, vast floodplains and wetlands, an abundance of wildlife, and an important resting area for millions of migratory birds – Polesia is a wilderness without borders. Last year, protection was extended to additional areas.



EXPANSION OF ALMANY MIRE PROTECTED AREA

10,000 hectares were added to Almany Mire Protected Area in the center of Polesia in Belarus. This is a great success, as it has increased the total protected area of Europe's largest intact percolation mire to around 104,000 hectares. The fringe areas in particular, with old pines and the transitions from mire to forest, are now under protection. These are important breeding and hunting areas for the greater spotted eagle. In the last months, the eagles have returned to their breeding grounds in Almany from their wintering areas in Greece, Turkey and Syria.

The Belarusian government's decision to follow the proposal to expand Almany in these difficult times came unexpectedly. However, the announcement also shows that nature conservation is still possible in Polesia – and apparently also politically desired. Nevertheless, plans still exist to build the E40 waterway, which would cut through Polesia.

But the region also had a number of other problems to contend with. For the second spring in a row, it has suffered from severe drought. Unfortunately, the unusually low levels of snow in winter were not followed by spring rains – the Pripyat River remained in its riverbed and brought hardly any water to the natural floodplains. This effect is exacerbated by the draining of the mires and swamp forests decades ago, and the considerable lowering of the groundwater table in some areas as a result.

This had an impact on bird migration. About ten years ago, around 120,000 ruffs were recorded here in mid-April; in 2020, there were only about 3,000 to 5,000 birds. There was a similar picture with regard to godwits: only a few hundred birds were counted instead of roughly 20,000. In addition, typical breeding areas for wading birds were exposed and no longer protected by surrounding water bodies. Raccoon dogs and foxes could easily reach the nests and plunder them. Lapwings, redshanks, oystercatchers, terek sandpipers, and ringed plovers had little breeding success as a result.

Ornithologists on
the Pripyat River

CAMPAIGN TO STOP THE E40 WATERWAY

Little wilderness is now left in Europe. Much of the land is built up, criss-crossed by roads and canals, and used for industry, agriculture and forestry. This makes it all the more important to protect what little remains. One such area of wilderness is Polesia – one of our project areas and the heart of Europe's largest wilderness area between Belarus, Poland, Russia and Ukraine.

However, it is precisely here that the 2,000-kilometer-long E40 waterway from the Baltic Sea to the Black Sea is to be built, cutting through one of the last remaining natural landscapes in Europe. Construction work has not yet begun, representing success for our campaign. Using a variety of media, we were able to draw significant attention to the potential risks surrounding the E40.

Together with our five partner organizations in the project countries, we have carried out extensive educational work, intensified cooperation with local authorities and non-governmental organizations, pursued legal proceedings against the construction plans and campaigned against the inclusion of the E40 waterway in the EU's infrastructure plans.

Nevertheless, minor dredging work began last year in Ukraine on the Pripyat River, the heart of Polesia and the E40 project. The construction sites are near the decommissioned Chernobyl nuclear power plant in an area still heavily contaminated with

radioactivity. It is not only the soil, but also the river sediment which is contaminated. When stirred up and transported downstream in the water, it poses a major health risk to the people in the region.

The governments of the three countries involved – Poland, Belarus and Ukraine – have not yet been able to raise sufficient funding, and there is now mounting national and international pressure against the plans.

The 2,000 kilometer E40 waterway will cut across one of Europe's last remaining natural landscapes.



The construction of the waterway entails other infrastructure such as roads and bridges.

BIAŁOWIEŻA

MORE WATER CREATES MORE HABITAT



The aim of our project in the Białowieża and Bielaviežskaja-Pušča national parks is to re-establish primeval forest, to restore much of the existing infrastructure in the park, and to reduce the effects of human intervention in the area.



Straddling the border between Poland and Belarus, the Białowieża primeval forest is mainly populated by oaks, lime trees, birches, hornbeams, spruces and pines. A large part of the forest is still in its original form, complete with significant mire complexes. Until the end of the last century, there was considerable human interference in this ecosystem, including straightening of the rivers and partial draining of the peatlands.

The focus of our work here is, therefore, on reversing these traces of human intervention. Only then will the Białowieża Forest regain a healthy water balance and be able to survive in the long term as a large European natural forest in the lowlands.

In 2020, our extensive monitoring program showed that we are on the right track. Comprehensive renaturation had been previously carried out in the Dzikaje and Dzikie Nikar wetlands as well as on the Solomenka River. Now, as expected, the water level is rising again and many animals are using the newly created habitats. In particular, bison retreated to wetlands where they can find sufficient food during the dry months.

Unfortunately, the monitoring also revealed that the aquatic warbler population, one of the rarest songbirds in Europe, is declining and that the greater spotted eagle, an important indicator species for wilderness, had only limited breeding success in 2020, a particularly challenging year in terms of climatic conditions.

ALTYN DALA

SAIGA NUMBERS CONTINUE TO RISE

Although the pandemic posed challenges for the annual saiga count, field visits show encouraging signs for Kazakhstan's saiga antelopes.



A male saiga antelope

Saiga antelopes in Kazakhstan are usually counted from the air each April, before the calving season. For the first time in years, the annual aerial census could not take place in 2020 due to the pandemic. This pause allowed our on-site teams to allocate time to revise standard survey methods in preparation for the 2021 census.

The monitoring of calving success in May was also affected by the national lockdown. However, special permission allowed a count of the Ustyurt population to take place in the western part of Kazakhstan. For the first time, rangers used drones – along with satellite telemetry data from collared animals – to locate the herds. This novel approach significantly helped to discover the saiga calving sites. During the field trip, the team counted 2,139 saigas and 530 saiga calves. Two years prior, our teams found a total of 58 calves living in these southwestern steppes, while in 2019 only four newborns were counted. Not only is the number of saiga calves an encouraging sign, but the aggregation of adults that birthed them is the largest anyone has seen in this area in almost ten years.

Despite challenges faced during the pandemic, specialists from the FZS project partner ACBK (Association for the Conservation of Biodiversity of Kazakhstan) – together with rangers, successfully carried out on-the-ground saiga monitoring in late 2020. Even though accurate population estimates were impossible to ascertain, there were encouraging signs in all populations. During the monitoring, mass gatherings of up to 68,000 animals were noted in various parts of Altyn Dala.

Ongoing anti-poaching efforts also bore fruit in 2020. In two separate incidents, three poachers were detained in the Altybai and Saga hunting areas, which form part of the range of the country's central Betpak Dala saiga population. In addition,

the seven regional environmental protection agencies worked well together, with a total of 30 joint raids carried out last year. ACBK also began supporting the implementation of SMART (Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool) in Irgiz-Torgay reserve and Altyn Dala reserve. With time, this tool will help to guide anti-poaching strategies and improve response to threats and coverage of key areas for wildlife. At the start of 2021, the state wildlife protection agency Okhotzooptom agreed to pilot a training program on SMART for rangers throughout Kazakhstan.

At the end of the year, a report was published outlining the extent to which sustainable use of the saiga antelope will again be possible once numbers have adequately recovered – the continual aim of the government of Kazakhstan. The report, titled “The Sustainable Use of Saiga Antelopes: Perspectives and Prospects,” was financed by the Bundesamt für Naturschutz and commissioned by the UN Convention on Migratory Species (CMS); FZS and partners contributed data and expertise.

In spring 2021, a saiga census could take place and it brought a positive surprise: 842,000 saigas! This is an increase of more than 150 percent compared to 2019 and the largest saiga population in Kazakhstan in the past 30 years. A good foraging situation and the successful anti-poaching efforts are two major reasons for the impressive increase in the saiga population. The unusually good reproductive capacity of the saigas has also contributed to the recovery of the population.



For the first time, in 2020, drones were used for counting saiga antelope.

**A census
in spring 2021
brought a surprise:
842,000 saigas!
This is the largest saiga
population in Kazakhstan
in the last 30 years.**

An aerial photograph showing a wide, winding river with muddy brown water flowing through a dense, lush green rainforest. The river meanders through the forest, creating a large loop in the center of the frame. The surrounding forest is thick with various shades of green, indicating a healthy ecosystem. The river's path is clearly visible against the dark green of the trees.

THE RECORD- BREAKING AMAZON

The Amazon River contains more water than any other river on our planet. Its tributaries form the Amazon lowlands, which cover some six million square kilometers and are the largest rainforest area on Earth.

Rainforest in the Kanuku
Mountains, Guyana

Its biodiversity is legendary and exceeds that of other tropical zones. Amazonia plays an exceptional role in global climate change – as a carbon sink and for biodiversity, but also for food security and as a home for indigenous peoples.

Nevertheless, the Amazon basin is threatened by the destruction of nature. After a temporary slow-down, the last few years have seen a further increase in deforestation – a trend which only intensified during the COVID-19 pandemic year of 2020. More land was taken for cattle grazing in Colombia, where 76,000 hectares of the Amazon region alone were deforested. Even the national parks were impacted; more than 7,000 hectares of forest were lost. Man-made fires destroyed 13,000 hectares of valuable rainforest in Cantão, Brazil. Coca plant cultivation was expanded in Bahia Sonene National Park, and illegal airstrips were created for drug smuggling using small aircraft.

However, one of the greatest environmental threats comes from the mining of river gold. This is driven primarily by the price of gold, which reached an all-time high of 2,063 USD per troy ounce in August 2020. FZS responded to the challenges in its Amazonian conservation projects by creating the new position of *Gold Mining and Conservation Coordinator* and by developing country-specific strategies. In Peru, the FZS team joined forces with other NGOs to establish a gold observatory group aimed at highlighting the dangers posed by illegal gold mining. The purpose of the group is to track national developments and provide rapid expert support.

Often closely linked to the illegal gold business are cocaine production and drug smuggling. Recent years have seen a significant expansion in the traditional and small-scale cultivation of coca plants, even in national parks. The increased levels of road building in the Amazon region are also often driven by criminal interests. In many cases with neither permits nor planning, roadbuilding is used to develop remote areas for illegal purposes and to transport supplies to gold miners and loggers. The biggest current concern for FZS is the road along the Madre de Dios River in Peru, part of which has already been built. Granting access to pristine and previously protected areas, it passes close to Manu National Park and Amarakaeri Communal Reserve. The unholy trio of gold, drugs and roads is accelerating the destruction of the rainforest and, with it, the livelihood of the indigenous communities. The FZS team has set up a “road alliance” with other organizations aiming to open a discussion with political decision-makers. We have commissioned socio-economic studies to provide further evidence of the advantages and disadvantages of the roads as the basis of a transparent and constructive debate.

The current difficulties are once again showing just how important allies are for conservation. There is a similar story for FZS in Colombia, where the security situation has deteriorated considerably and where functioning networks and close coordination can take on vital importance. There has been an alarming increase in violence against employees of environmental and human rights organizations and authorities: in 2020, 331 activists were murdered worldwide – 177 of them in Colombia. Peru recorded just one “environmental homicide” in 2018, whereas this figure had risen to eight in 2020.

Democratic and secure political frameworks are essential if conservation, environmental protection and sustainable development conducted in conjunction with the rural population are to succeed. As a civil society organization, FZS is keen to make a contribution here, too, because only then will we succeed in protecting the unique macro-landscape of Amazonia on a long-term basis.

AWARD-WINNING

Four remarkable personalities who have dedicated themselves to protecting the Amazon rainforest have been honored with the Frankfurt Conservation Awards 2021 on April 28th. They are all crucial FZS partners. The award ceremony planned for 2020 had been postponed by one year due to the pandemic.



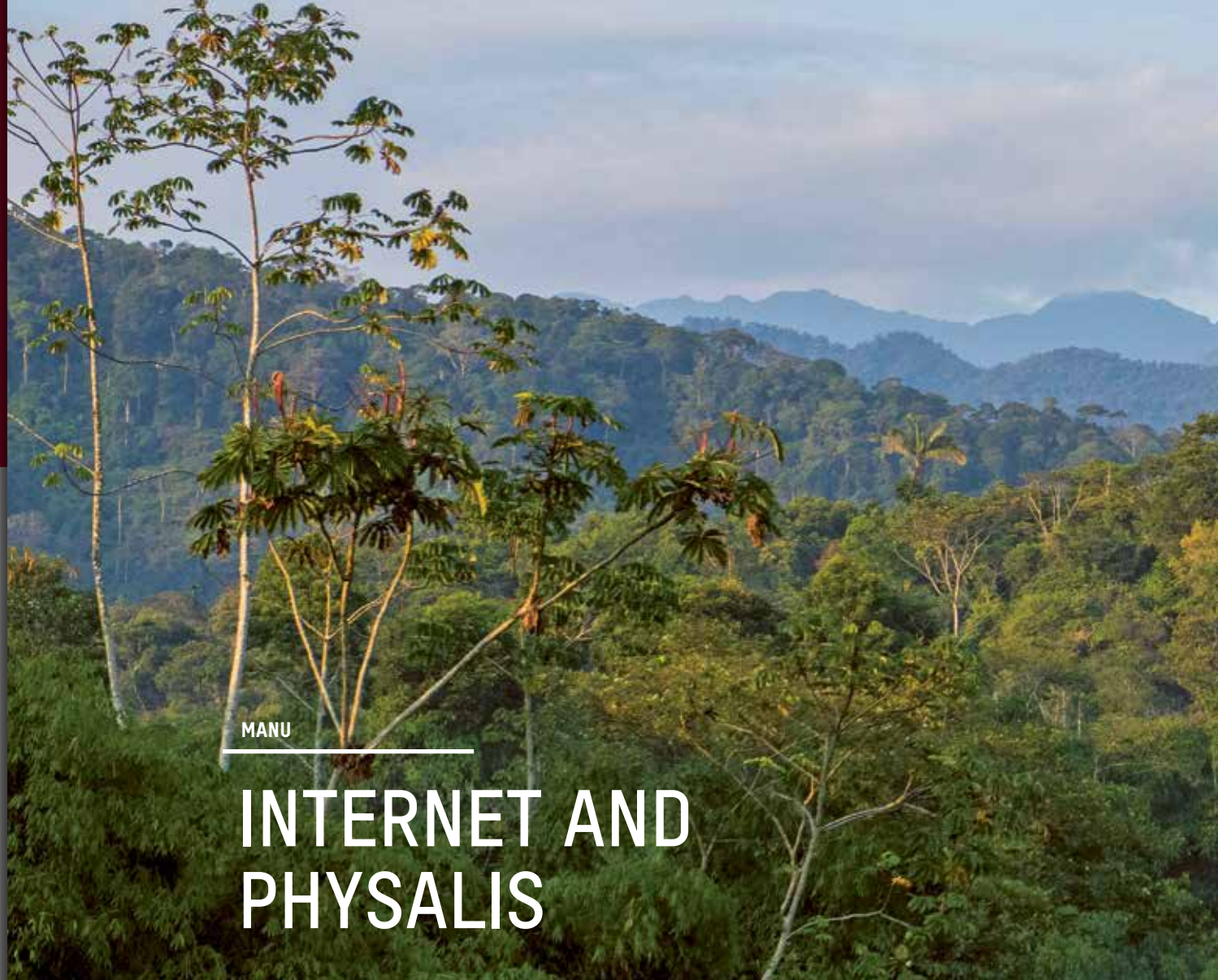
Julia Miranda Londoño, Colombia. From 2004 to the end of 2020, the lawyer who specializes in environmental law, who is also a passionate environmentalist, was the Director of the Colombian National Park Authority PNNC. In the nearly 17 years of work, she managed to significantly expand the network of protected areas in her country.



Teófilo Torres Tuesta, Peru. In 2015 he was appointed head of the Yaguas Reserved Zone and he played a decisive role in the fact that Yaguas became a national park. Today, as the Director of the National Park, he is responsible for the protection of 8,700 square kilometers of Amazon rainforest.



Dr. Silvana Campello and George Georgiadis, Brazil. With their NGO Instituto Araguaia they committed themselves to protecting Cantão State Park. They have invested in the creation of a private reserve, and they convinced other landowners to participate. In addition to the Cantão State Park, this reserve creates an important ecological corridor as a buffer in the natural transition zone between the rainforest and the savanna.



INTERNET AND PHYSALIS

The coronavirus pandemic has caused high infection rates and many deaths in Peru, and there has been a significant increase in unemployment. To prevent the resulting financial hardship from leading to raised levels of natural exploitation, FZS is helping to establish alternative and environmentally compatible sources of income, and is providing better virtual communication facilities in the form of satellite-based internet.



The Manu landscape at the intersection of the tropical Andes and the Amazon basin in southeastern Peru incorporates four protected areas and an indigenous territorial reserve. The area is one of the most biodiverse on Earth and Manu National Park is a UNESCO-designated World Heritage Site. It forms part of the larger UNESCO Biosphere Reserve where the local communities adjacent to the National Park serve as a model region for the sustainable use of natural resources in balance with nature conservation.

Access to sales markets has been and remains limited for many producers of agricultural products in the Manu Biosphere Reserve, and their financial situation has taken a further significant blow due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This is a difficult situation that can lead people to turn to illegal activities in their distress, such as logging, gold mining in the rivers, or growing coca bushes. This represents a direct threat to



Manu National Park stretches from the high Andes down to the Amazon lowlands.

biodiversity in the Manu Biosphere Reserve and Manu National Park. Meanwhile, deforestation and human encroachment into previously pristine rainforests are increasing the risk of new zoonotic diseases and, in the worst instance, pandemics.

For this reason, FZS promotes local community initiatives in the Manu Biosphere Reserve that focus on marketing agricultural products produced using environmentally sustainable methods – such as physalis, also known as the Inca berry. The berries offer good yields and profits. FZS also supports small farmers in the cultivation of coffee and avocado and the production of honey. These products represent good alternatives to the cultivation of corn for the small farmers because the corn fields are regularly invaded by spectacled bears which eat the crops.

All face-to-face meetings had to be stopped from March 2020 due to the pandemic, and all communication had to take place virtually. This was a major challenge in the remote regions of Peru. Therefore, FZS organized the installation of satellite internet for the control posts of the protected area authority SERNANP and some of the communities located around the protected areas in the Manu landscape.

The Manu National Park management committee was able to hold virtual working meetings as a result. Private stakeholders, representatives of small farmers' associations and indigenous federations also sit on this committee alongside the state authorities. Communication between park rangers and the SERNANP offices has also been greatly improved by the satellite internet. Unfortunately, the onset of the

pandemic was accompanied by an increase in illegal activity. Patrols to monitor these can now be carefully prepared thanks to the possibilities opened up by virtual communication.



Luz Marina Pumachapi (right) discussing alternatives to growing fruits in the biosphere reserve with Domingo Davalos.



PUTUMAYO

INSIGHT INTO THE LIFE OF WILD ANIMALS



The Putumayo landscape is an important biological corridor between southern Colombia and northern Peru, containing virtually uninterrupted forest cover and species-rich ecosystems.



Park Director, Teófilo Torres and FZS Projekt Manager, Claus García are observing birds on the banks of the Yaguas River.

Our work focuses on Yaguas National Park which covers more than 8,680 square kilometers of Amazon rainforest. More than 3,000 plant, 500 bird and 160 mammal species have been recorded there by scientists. In addition, 550 species of fish live in the Yaguas waters. The Yaguas-Putumayo region is also home to many endangered species such as Amazon river dolphins, giant otters, anteaters and woolly monkeys.

In order to provide effective protection, it is important to know what species and habitats exist in the protected area. Continuous biological monitoring is, therefore, needed to understand wildlife population dynamics and detect changes in ecosystems. Camera traps are often used for this purpose. They provide information about the population densities, ecology and behavior of the species they capture on film. And they allow even nocturnal and very shy animals which are difficult to observe directly to be recorded.



A pink river dolphin in Yaguas



Cynthia Díaz Córdova from FZS and Carlos Marcial Perea Sicchar from the Amazon Rescue Center are monitoring manatees in Rio Yaguas.

Twenty camera traps distributed over 2,500 hectares in Yaguas National Park have already documented the diversity of fauna in more than 4,000 images: tapirs, jaguars, white-lipped peccaries, a giant armadillo, and also short-eared dog. The photos provide an initial impression of the state of fauna in the national park. “The data helps us and the park administration make better management decisions for the park,” says Claus Garcia, local FZS project manager.

The endangered Amazonian manatee is also monitored. Manatee monitoring began in 2018 when Yaguas was made a national park. Four population counts have been conducted since then. Park rangers and staff from FZS and other organizations use a technology known as side-scan sonar to detect the manatees. The use of sound waves allows the animals to be located even in murky water. The manatees are very well camouflaged in the sediment-rich river and are rarely visible to the naked eye. The last sonar count, conducted in October 2020, identified 13 manatees, including a mother and calf.

MAKING SUSTAINABLE USE OF THE FRUITS OF THE FOREST

The Purus landscape covers over 48,000 square kilometers and is one of the most intact rainforest areas in the Amazon Basin. It incorporates the 25,000 square kilometer Alto Purus National Park, another protected area and three indigenous territories. The Purus landscape is adjacent to Manu National Park and serves as an important biological corridor. Indigenous people still live here in harmony with their natural environment and with no contact to the outside world.

FZS supports Peru's national park authority, SERNANP, in preserving the pristine protected areas of the Purus landscape and in managing natural resources in the Purus Communal Reserve. There we promote the use and marketing of three natural products made by small producers in the communal reserve: the juice of the huasá palm, a popular refreshing drink in Peru; copaiba essential oil, which has anti-inflammatory properties; and handicrafts such as necklaces, bracelets and woven fabrics made from natural products of the rainforest.

brand under which producers can market their goods. The goal is to offer ecologically sustainable economic options to the people who live here and thus preserve the protected areas in Purus on a permanent basis. If local people have a secure income based on concrete economic value, this increases their acceptance of the protected areas.

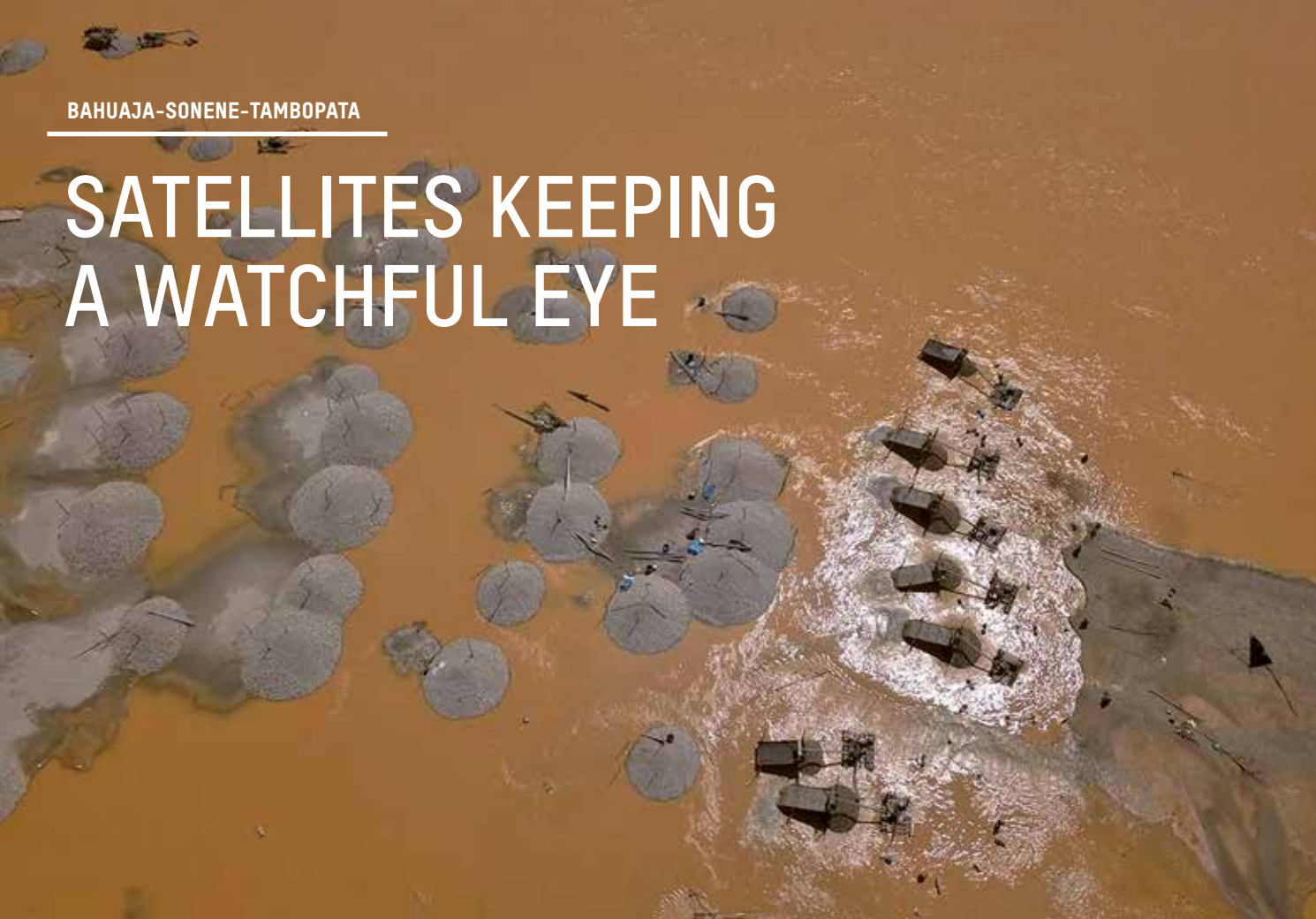
Conservation agreements have been concluded between the producers, mostly small family-based farms, and the Peruvian state as a means of strengthening joint cooperation. The producers commit themselves to respecting the rainforest and helping provide long-term protection to this unique ecosystem in return for using and marketing the natural resources.

The SERNANP national park authority created the national *Aliados por la Conservación* (Allies for Conservation)



Bags or necklaces made from natural materials found in the forest, produced by Matsigenka families

SATELLITES KEEPING A WATCHFUL EYE



The Bahuaja-Sonene-Tambopata landscape stretches from the Andes to the Amazon in southeastern Peru. FZS is active in Bahuaja Sonene National Park as well as in the adjacent Tambopata National Reserve to the north.

Illegal gold mining

The Bahuaja-Sonene-Tambopata landscape encompasses unique tropical montane cloud forests and tropical wet savannas, providing refuge for giant otters, the yellow-spotted river turtle, and a variety of other species including the marsh deer and the maned wolf. The rivers are spawning grounds for many species of fish that migrate downstream to the lowlands and are an important food source for the local population. The headwaters in the highlands of the Andes are also valuable water resources for downstream settlements.

In recent years, the rising price of gold has led to a veritable gold rush in the headwaters of the Amazon basin. Gold prospectors sift through the river sediments for fine gold particles. They use highly toxic mercury for this, risking not only their own lives, but also poisoning the water and food sources and in turn negatively impacting the biodiversity of the Amazon ecosystem. There has also been a significant increase in the cultivation of coca bushes in the protected areas.

There is an urgent need to keep a close eye on these illegal activities. Since March 2020, the pandemic has

made it necessary to undertake this from a distance. Local surveillance has been supplemented by high-resolution satellite imagery since the start of the travel and contact restrictions. These images have provided vital information on a daily basis that helped identify 17 areas in the Bahuaja-Sonene-Tambopata landscape where gold is being illegally mined, coca plants grown and cocaine paste produced. The satellite images have also revealed illegal roads in the rainforest and new landing strips used by small aircraft to transport the cocaine.

Two surveillance flights were undertaken in September and November 2020, and they, too, revealed several new gold mining areas within a few hundred meters of the protected areas in the buffer zones of Bahuaja Sonene National Park and the adjacent Tambopata National Reserve. The risk remains that the COVID-19 pandemic will accelerate this development by causing rising unemployment and exacerbating the economic plight of the people in the country.



CHIRIBIQUETE

UNCHARTED WILDERNESS



FZS is committed to protecting the unique Colombian Amazon area which extends from Chiribiquete National Park to the lower Putumayo Basin. We are working together with local communities and supporting the government in managing the protected areas.



Chiribiquete National Park is unique and was declared both a Natural and a Cultural World Heritage site by UNESCO.

The area has had a number of recent challenges. The peace accord between the Colombian state and the guerrilla groups encountered difficulties in late 2019. In February 2020, the National Park Authority had to abandon its offices and check-points due to the worsening security situation. Unfortunately, this provided criminal groups with an opportunity to fight for the control of territory in remote areas. Furthermore, the pandemic forced all of our project activities to take place virtually since March 2020.



Amazon river dolphins in Chiribiquete

These events gave rise to a significant increase in deforestation in and around Chiribiquete. Surveillance flights and satellite image analysis reveal that 1,428 hectares were deforested within Chiribiquete National Park in 2020. In addition, the Putumayo River, which forms the border with Peru, has become the center of power struggles between two guerrilla groups. They are fighting for control of the lucrative illegal timber market, illicit gold mining in the rivers, the production of cocaine and the transportation of marijuana.

Despite these struggles, there were some positive gains during 2020. Large numbers of South American river turtles (*Podocnemis expansa*) came to the Caquetá River to lay their eggs during the 2019/2020 season. A total of 6,374 giant river turtle nests were counted. This is the best result since the onset of records in the 1980s. In the 1990s, an average of 2,500 nesting females were counted each year. This means the numbers nearly tripled. Unlike the previous year, there was no flooding during the nesting season and large numbers of young were able to hatch. Indigenous families have been independently monitoring turtles in cooperation with the PNNC park authority for several years now. Although there were difficulties surrounding communication and supervision, the 2020 turtle monitoring was successfully completed, as the local families continued the work diligently on their own. A crucial aspect here was the strong cooperation that had developed over the years between FZS, the protected area authority, and the indigenous communities.

Chiribiquete National Park lies in the heart of the Colombian Amazon region and provides a habitat for fauna across the Guiana Shield, the Orinoco savanna and the Amazon rainforest. This region houses incredibly biodiverse, intact rainforest and table mountains that tower 1,000 meters high. The seemingly endless rainforests are still largely unexplored. Chiribiquete is home to indigenous groups who have no contact with the outside world. UNESCO has, therefore, recognized Chiribiquete not only as a World Heritage site, but also as a Cultural Heritage site.

CANTÃO

CLOUDS OF SMOKE OVER CANTÃO

The uninhabited Cantão State Park in the Brazilian Amazon consists mainly of floodplain forest. It contains many different types of fish and is home to river dolphins, giant otters and countless other species. FZS supports the local NGO Instituto Araguaia in its efforts to offer better protection for Cantão and monitoring of its wildlife.

“These are the worst fires ever. 13,000 hectares of rainforest have been destroyed in Cantão State Park,” wrote George Georgiadis in September 2020. Georgiadis and Dr. Silvana Campello founded Instituto Araguaia, our Brazilian partner organization. This is the tenth year it has been operating and one of the toughest.



The project team had prepared well for the dry season and purchased appropriate firefighting equipment in the aftermath of the fires which raged in 2019. But in 2020 it rained less than usual. The level of destruction in the protected area was so great, partly because the fires were initially ignored by the fire department, and the firefighting efforts only began in earnest after Instituto Araguaia turned to the public and a report was broadcast on television. This had been preceded by a further blow to the protection of Cantão: the military police responsible for environmental policing were withdrawn in September 2020, putting an end to all patrols in the park. This led to an increase in illegal fishing, and poachers'

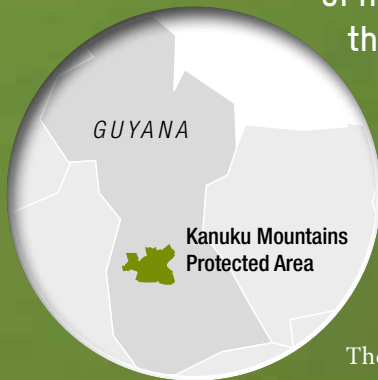
camp caused more fires. None of the protests, even by the local authorities, had any effect. The current Brazilian government's rejection and even obstruction of conservation work and NGO activity has accelerated the loss of forest throughout the country.

This was followed by the COVID-19 pandemic, which prevented all meetings and environmental education activities from taking place. The external researchers and volunteers who have become a mainstay of the NGO's field work stayed away. However, the monitoring of giant otters and the counting of mammals in the savanna continued. The areas where the Instituto Araguaia was able to patrol remained safe refuges for plants and animals that had become rare elsewhere. The FZS funds were used for ranger salaries, station management, running costs of the research station, and for wildlife monitoring and controls. It was especially important to continue supporting the conservation work of our partner during these difficult times. Meanwhile, four additional plots of land adjacent to the Cantão State Park are in the process of being turned into private conservation areas. Together they cover 600 hectares of tropical Cerrado savanna.

KANUKU MOUNTAINS

ON THE BACK BURNER FOR A YEAR

Almost 80 percent of the Republic of Guyana still consists of near-natural tropical rainforest and wet savanna where there is still only minimal human influence. Since 2014, FZS has been supporting the country's protected areas authority, the Protected Areas Commission (PAC), which is responsible for managing the Kanuku Mountains Protected Area, among others.



The COVID-19 pandemic and the nationwide lockdown in March 2020 greatly impacted the work of FZS and its partner organization, the Protected Areas Commission (PAC). Indigenous communities isolated themselves and all field work was held up for many months. This made it necessary to postpone updating the Kanuku Mountains management plan because it would have required extensive involvement of the local communities surrounding the protected area. The proximity of the Kanuku Mountains to Brazil and the dramatic spread of COVID-19 throughout the country, clearly highlighted the importance of such compartmentalization.

A great deal of work had to be postponed in 2020, but fortunately a number of decisive factors for the future of the project had already been put in place at the beginning of the year: FZS helped rent and furnish a new office for the Kanuku ranger team in Lethem. A work plan was drawn up for camera trap monitoring throughout the protected area. FZS and PAC staff participated in a three-Guyana (Guyana, Suriname, French Guiana) workshop in French Guiana during February. They shared experiences and approaches to illegal gold mining in protected areas and improved collaboration. Guyana is well-prepared compared to other countries, although there is still room for improvement with regard to implementation. Two ranger missions were also conducted: illegal gold mining in the northwest of the Kanuku Mountains was successfully halted, and con-

cern over illegal logging on the southwest border of the protected area was followed up. Overall, the Kanuku Mountains have emerged relatively unscathed from the difficult times and threats to the protected area appear to be under control.

Exploration of large oil deposits off the coast will generate significantly more income for the country in the future. Whether or not the previous low carbon development strategy will be continued remains to be seen. Guyana has a unique opportunity to preserve its pristine landscapes with their exceptionally rich biodiversity and carbon reservoirs of global significance. FZS will continue to partner with Guyana in managing its protected areas.



A glass frog in the Kanuku Mountains Protected Area

BUKIT TIGA PULUH

A HOME FOR ELEPHANTS AND ORANGUTANS



In central Sumatra lies a lowland rainforest that stands out in stark contrast to the surrounding monocultures of rubber and oil palm plantations. It is a refuge for large numbers of species that have become very rare. But it is not only orangutans, elephants and tigers that rely on Bukit Tiga Puluh for their survival – the forest farmers, too, depend on the intact forest for their livelihood.

The work day for our elephant conflict teams begins when the last rays of sun disappear behind the hills of Bukit Tiga Puluh. There are now a total of 16 scouts who are ready to go out on their off-road motorcycles every evening to drive elephants back into the forest from the fields. We have been working around the clock for more than ten years to prevent conflict between elephants and humans. We have been successful, although the habitat of the elephants in Bukit Tiga Puluh is now steadily shrinking. Over the years, we have set up 22 conflict teams. The team members come from the villages on the periphery of the national park. We train them to keep the elephants away from the fields by erecting electric fences, shining ship's lamps and setting off loud shots.

PREVENTING "ACCIDENTAL" POISONINGS

Elephants are extremely adaptable and not particularly fussy when it comes to their food and habitat. This makes them a problem because freshly tilled fields on the edges of the forest are an irresistible temptation for them. Conflicts are increasing, with more than 300 occurring per year. Although the number of conflicts has increased over the years, we believe our work is responsible for the drastic fall in the number of fatal incidents (to both humans and elephants). Ten years ago, four to seven elephants were killed each year on average; that number has now dropped to one per year. In recent years, it has primarily been young elephants which have died, poisoned by fertilizer or insecticides while scavenging for food in huts. It is also possible that frustrated

At jungle school



Albert Tetanus from the FZS team in Bukit Tiga Puluh testing the voltage on a solar-powered electric fence. This, in combination with other measures, is intended to keep the elephants away from fields and plantations in order to avoid conflicts.

farmers have deliberately spiked fruit with fertilizer to kill these problematic elephants. This is a cruel method that leads to an agonizing death. It is illegal and difficult to prove when it happens.

This is an area in which we want to intensify our work this year. In collaboration with the nature protection agency, we are planning a campaign in which we move from hut to hut, reminding farmers of their obligation to store fertilizer and insecticide out of the elephants' reach. Practical demonstrations of elephant-proof storage will help to ensure the success of the measure. We hope to close this safety gap in the future.

DIALOG BETWEEN INDUSTRY AND SMALLHOLDERS

Elephants in Bukit Tiga Puluh have a fatal problem to contend with: namely that the national park's rugged topography provides little suitable habitat for elephants. The lowland forests lie unprotected outside the national park. Both agribusiness and small farmers stake a claim in their use. But there is hope, too. The nature protection agency has declared the fringe of the national park an "essential habitat" for elephants. Although this is currently only a theoretical concept and does not yet confer protected status, the dialogue has been opened with industry and the small farmers.

FZS is taking an innovative approach by focusing on alternative forest management in a model project within the Ecosystem Restoration Concession (ERC). We and our Indonesian partner organization KEHUS support the ERC's management. Initial pilot areas containing at least 100 trees per hectare have already been selected. Income is generated here from cocoa, vanilla, cardamom and pepper plants

cultivated beneath the trees. It is not yet clear whether this farming system can prevent conflict with elephants in the long term. In any case, it is an ecologically viable alternative to the oil palm and rubber monocultures that dominate the fringe of Bukit Tiga Puluh and provoke large-scale conflict with elephants. If this pilot project proves successful, it would represent a forward-looking approach which enables forest farmers and elephants to co-exist in peace. This will take time to implement, but the first important step has been taken.

SNARE TRAPS – AN ONGOING PROBLEM

Our Wildlife Protection teams had a large undertaking as 2020 came to a close. An injured two-year-old elephant calf had been spotted near our orangutan jungle school. The abandoned calf was soon found and had an ingrown snare around its left front leg. This was clearly causing pain when the little elephant tried to walk, as it could only limp; a more than distressing sight. A veterinarian with a stun gun had to be organized by the nature protection agency before treatment could begin. We guarded the injured animal for a full ten days until rescue arrived. Fortunately, the treatment went smoothly, and we were able to pull the ingrown nylon



Habitat for Sumatran elephants is rapidly shrinking. In search for food the animals also raid the farmers' fields.



snare out of the inflamed tissue with relative ease. The healing process was rapid and after only a few days the little elephant was walking around again without pain. Our task now is to integrate him into a herd, as he is still too young to live alone and to survive, must join other elephants.

This was not the only experience we had with a poacher's snare. Our camera trap team also found a photo of a tigress whose front paw had been torn off. They were able to identify from the coat pattern that the tigress had been photographed once before, years ago. This was another distressing experience for the team, as mutilated animals have little chance of survival. Our surprise was, therefore, all the greater when we photographed the same tigress a third time at the end of the year. She had evidently survived the year despite her severe injury. Within the home range of the tigress alone, our patrols collect up to 50 snare traps per month. Tigers are protected in Indonesia, yet there is no ban on snare hunting. These traps ensnare indiscriminately, resulting in the mutilation of bears, elephants and tigers. This problem will not be resolved until snare hunting is made a criminal offense.

NEW GUESTS AT THE ORANGUTAN STATION

Since December, we have been housing two six-year-old orangutans at our headquarters in Jambi that were brought from Thailand. This bureaucratic process succeeded largely because Indonesia and Thailand celebrated 75 years of cooperation in 2020 and the relocation was undertaken as an "act of diplomacy."

In Jambi, the COVID-19 pandemic meant that the young orangutans had to spend three months in quarantine and undergo a series of medical tests before they could be moved to the jungle school. The next youngsters arrived soon after – two one-year-old orangutans which were confiscated in Sumatra's southern Lampung province. The office was renovated into a nursery to accommodate them, as it is not possible to keep such small animals in cages overnight. Providing care to orangutan babies is a new aspect of our work. This follows a decision by the nature protection agency to bring Sumatran orangutans confiscated outside the northern provinces of North Sumatra and Aceh directly to Jambi in future. Eighteen additional orangutans are scheduled to join our jungle school in 2021. We must recruit and train new staff to provide optimal care for all the orangutans.

KON KA KINH

GROWING NUMBERS OF DOUC LANGURS



Just beyond the rice fields begins
Kon Ka Kinh National Park.

FZS has been supporting Kon Ka Kinh National Park in central Vietnam's forested mountainous region for ten years now. In 2020, a full count of the gray-shanked douc langurs was due and would be the only way to assess whether our project activities helped the population grow successfully throughout the area.



Together with national park rangers, Nguyen Ai Tam (right) and Ha Thang Long (left), were preparing the douc monitoring.

Twenty-four transects were drawn on a map of Kon Ka Kinh National Park by FZS project leader Dr. Ha Thang Long and his staff members Tam Ai Nguyen and Tay Van Nguyen. The monkeys would be counted to left and right along each of these 24 observation paths. Each transect was four to five kilometers long and passed through highly inaccessible terrain, as Kon Ka Kinh encompasses part of the Annamite mountain range. Four field teams, consisting of FZS and park staff, walked along these transects multiple times to ensure the data was as accurate as possible. In the process, they covered 273 kilometers over two months. The count required physical fitness from the teams while navigating the high humidity, and hilly terrain. With watchful eyes and ears they spotted the shy acrobatic doucs in the canopies of the giant trees. The strenuous work was rewarded with a great overall result. Thirteen groups of gray-shanked doucs, each consisting of about nine individuals, were discovered. This signals a clear upward trend. Projecting these results onto the park as a whole would suggest there are currently 410 to 435 animals living in the Kon Ka Kinh protected area. This compares with 250 to 300 animals in 2010, the year the project was launched. Our FZS team would have dearly loved to celebrate this success together with the Kon Ka Kinh Park team and its partners. The COVID-19 pandemic, however, meant that this celebration had to be postponed until 2021.

Fortunately, the pandemic did not affect our regular work in protecting the mountain forests with their rare primates, wildlife species and fascinating plant life. On the contrary, FZS has increased efforts to protect the area, thanks to financial support from the “Stiftung Artenschutz” foundation. As a result, in 2020, for the first time, we were able to support all nine forest guard stations in the park. Well-trained and well-equipped forest guards are needed in order to keep illegal activities in the protected area to a minimum. Therefore, we invested heavily in improving their knowledge of protection laws and trained them in various surveillance techniques in the field. FZS co-financed the forest patrols and also offered practical support.

13 groups
of gray-shanked doucs
with each around
nine individuals
were found.

Together with park staff, we regularly visited the indigenous Bana communities bordering Kon Ka Kinh to the south and conducted numerous environmental education programs in local schools and villages. We also successfully expanded our campaign against wildlife hunting to four villages. Another 120 Bana signed written declarations stating that they would no longer use their weapons to hunt wildlife. At the political level, we continued our efforts to protect the remaining intact forest corridor in the north of Kon Ka Kinh National Park. There are currently good prospects for the entire 153,000-hectare forested region, including protected areas, to be designated as the “Kon Ha Nung Biosphere Reserve” by UNESCO. We aim to celebrate this development along with the postponed tenth anniversary of FZS’s involvement in 2021.



Gray-shanked douc langur

FINANCIAL REPORT 2020

Frankfurt Zoological Society and
"Hilfe für die bedrohte Tierwelt" Foundation



FINANCIAL REPORT OF FZS

ACCOUNTING AND VALUATION METHODS

The annual financial statements as per December 31, 2020, have been prepared according to the provisions of section 264 et seq. of the German Commercial Code (HGB) and meet the accounting requirements set out in section 267 subsection 2 HGB for a medium-sized corporation. The profit and loss account was prepared in accordance with the commercial law nature-of-expense method according to section 275 subsection 2 HGB, taking into account the specific characteristics of the Society's expense and income presentation. The annual financial statements were audited and approved by the auditing company W+ST Wirtschaftsprüfung GmbH without reservations.

In 2020, the FZS projects in Peru, Colombia, Indonesia, Vietnam, as well as in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Tanzania were audited by the auditing firm Baker Tilly International, and that in Ethiopia by Ephrem Melaku & Co. Additional independent, project-specific audits have been conducted for individual KfW Development Bank and GIZ-funded third-party projects, e.g. in Tanzania, Zambia, Ethiopia and Indonesia.

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

ASSETS

FIXED ASSETS

Tangible assets

Tangible assets at the end of 2020 were more or less unchanged from the previous year's figure of EUR 79,000. In 2018, tangible assets were significantly reduced following the transfer of FZS's real estate on a long-term basis to the "Hilfe für die bedrohte Tierwelt" Foundation in order to generate continuous rental revenue. FZS and the Foundation have continued interest in obtaining larger contiguous residential properties for their investment portfolio with a view to further diversification.

Financial assets

Financial assets consist of shareholdings and securities and have decreased slightly from EUR 27.27 million in 2019 to EUR 26.63 million. The securities are carried at cost or using the lower-of-cost-or-

ASSETS in TEUR	2020	2019
FIXED ASSETS		
Tangible assets	79	75
Financial assets	26,634	27,271
CURRENT ASSETS		
Receivables and other assets	4,060	3,929
Liquid assets	4,970	3,578
PREPAYMENTS AND ACCRUED INCOME	66	40
TOTAL	35,809	34,893

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. The financial assets are mainly bundled in the organization's own master fund in order to reduce administrative costs and to optimize the risk-return parameters.

CURRENT ASSETS

Receivables and other assets

In receivables and other assets, the main item of EUR 4.06 million (previous year: EUR 3.93 million) is made up of funds from project partners and third-party granting institutions. The value of these assets is currently EUR 2.12 million (previous year: EUR 1.93 million). This level of receivables vis-à-vis 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.

Liquid assets

The cash and bank balances of FZS in Frankfurt, Vietnam, Indonesia, Peru, Colombia, and the five African project regions amounted to EUR 4.97 million (previous year: EUR 3.58 million), of which approx. EUR 2.90 million is assigned to the Frankfurt office. EUR 2.10 million is held at banks in the project regions and in Frankfurt in foreign currencies, EUR 1.60 million of which is in US dollars. FZS' liquid assets are held in 11 different currencies. Surplus liquidity is parked in overnight deposit accounts or invested long-term in the master fund.

PREPAYMENTS AND ACCRUED INCOME

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

LIABILITIES

EQUITY

Capital and free reserves

The equity capital decreased slightly from EUR 28.69 million to EUR 28.20 million. Reserves of EUR 0.49 million were released to support project work. A much higher figure had been planned. However, this could be avoided due to a significant increase in revenue. The remaining reserves from inheritances will continue to be used for project work, organizational and project development as well as risk reduction in the coming years.

PROVISIONS

Provisions amounted to EUR 1.12 million (previous year: EUR 0.77 million). Principal among these are provisions for the settlement of estates to the value of EUR 0.52 million.

LIABILITIES

Project funds and liabilities

Project liabilities vis-a-vis third-party granting organizations were EUR 5.06 million in 2020 (previous year: EUR 4.23 million). The total is mainly due to third-party funds which were unspent during the year under review and must be separately accounted for. Frequent-

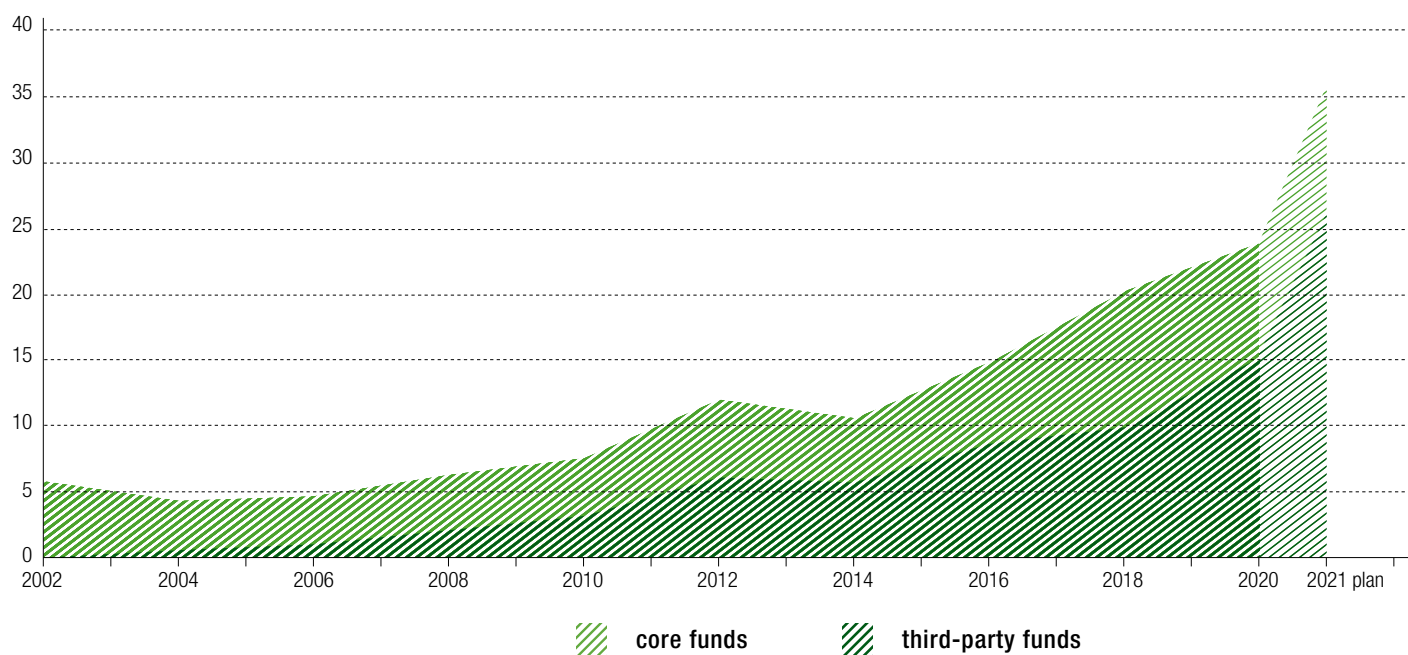
LIABILITIES in TEUR	2020	2019
EQUITY		
Capital and free reserves	28,201	28,690
PROVISIONS	1,120	774
LIABILITIES		
Project funds	5,056	4,231
Other liabilities	1,432	1,198
TOTAL	35,809	34,893

ly, third-party funds are paid in December even though they are not used until the following year. Increasing third-party funding therefore leads to higher balance sheet liabilities in the future.

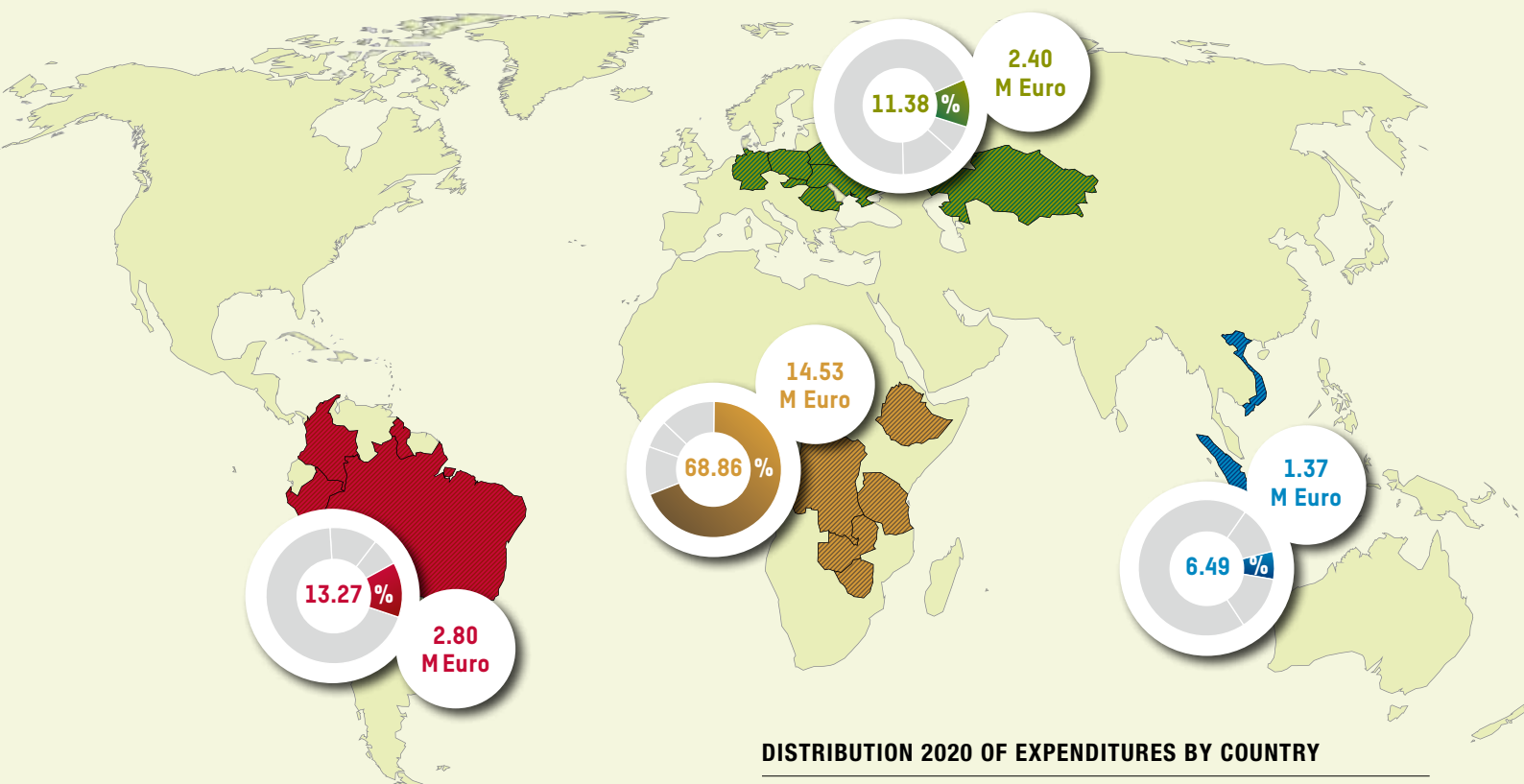
Other liabilities

At EUR 1.43 million, other liabilities were higher than in the previous year (EUR 1.20 million). These consist of liabilities in the form of personnel costs, taxes, usufruct, etc.

DEVELOPMENT OF FZS REVENUES FROM 2002 TO 2020 in million Euro



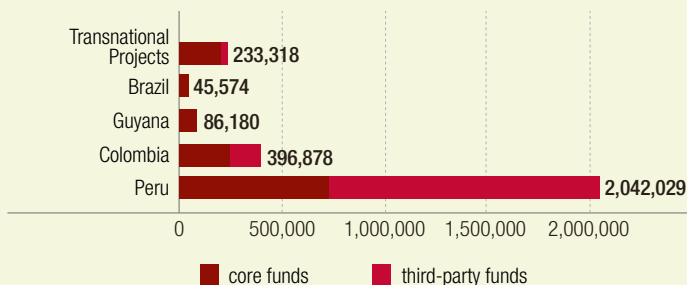
EUR 22.04 MILLION FOR NATURE CONSERVATION 29 PROJECTS & PROGRAMS 18 COUNTRIES



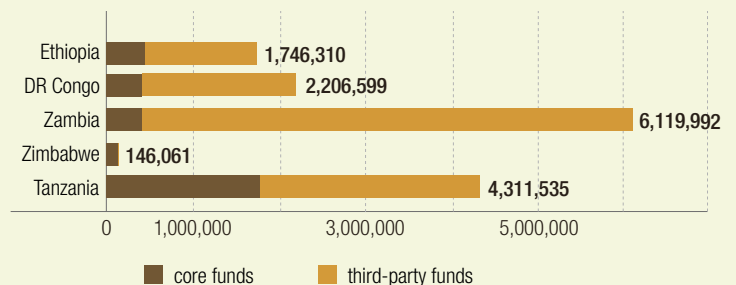
DISTRIBUTION 2020 OF EXPENDITURES BY COUNTRY

Distribution of FZS conservation expenditures 2020 (core funds and third-party funds, excluding costs for project coordination, plus EUR 0.94 million for transnational project costs).

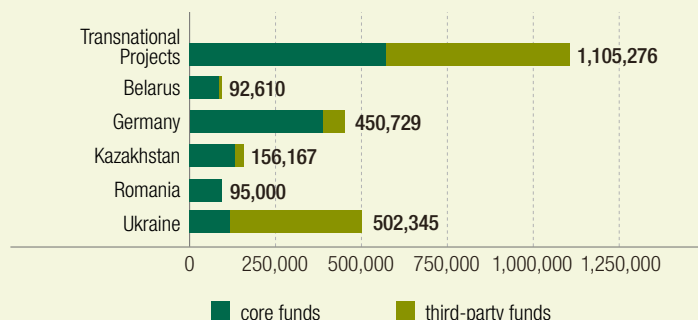
SOUTH AMERICA in Euro



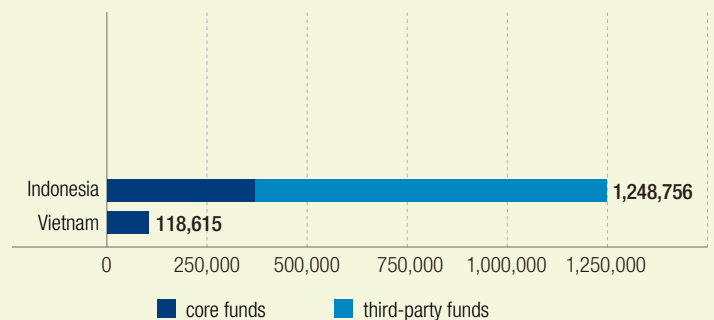
AFRICA in Euro



EUROPE & CENTRAL ASIA in Euro



SOUTHEAST ASIA in Euro



STATEMENT OF INCOME

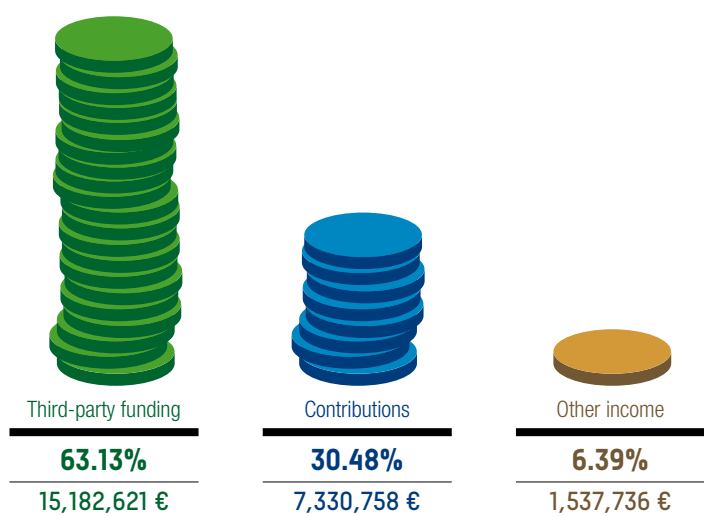
REVENUES

FZS continues to have a very good and diversified revenue structure. Revenues from third-parties and **funding grants** remain at a very high level. They amount to EUR 15.18 million (previous year: EUR 12.64 million).

In 2020, the “Hilfe für die bedrohte Tierwelt” Foundation contributed EUR 1.59 million to FZS (previous year: EUR 1.75 million). The distribution also includes the regular donation from the Eleonore Beck Foundation of EUR 0.55 million.

Income from **inheritances and bequests** remained at a very high level of EUR 2.66 million in 2020, but fell short of the exceptional result achieved in 2019 (previous year: EUR 11.10 million). This income is due to a large number of inheritances, but also to a handful of very large testamentary bequests.

REVENUES



REVENUES in million Euro	2020	2019
Third party funding	15.18	12.64
Bonuses from the “Hilfe für die bedrohte Tierwelt” Foundation	1.59	1.75
Bequests (including real estate)	2.66	11.10
Donations and allocated fines	2.79	2.17
Membership fees	0.29	0.27
Interest and income from securities	0.55	2.16
Other income	0.50	3.50
Release of reserves	0.49	0
TOTAL	24.05	33.59

Donations, sponsorship contributions and fines remain at a gratifyingly high level. At EUR 2.79 million, they not only matched the previous year's result (previous year: EUR 2.17 million), but even exceeded it.

Income from **membership fees** remained stable at EUR 0.29 million (previous year: EUR 0.27 million). The number of members increased slightly to 3,585 in 2020.

Interest and income from securities were modest due to the low interest rates and capital market performance. FZS as an association has been investing in the master fund of the “Hilfe für die bedrohte Tierwelt” Foundation since 2020. Revenues of EUR 0.55 million (previous year: EUR 2.16 million) were achieved. This is roughly in line with the 2018 result. The large deviation results from a special effect in the previous year: the contribution of the FZS securities investments at market value to the Foundation's master fund revealed FZS' valuation reserves for these securities.

Other income of EUR 0.50 million (previous year: EUR 3.50 million) is also on a par with 2018. The year 2019 was characterized by high, extraordinary revenues such as the sale of farmland from inheritances.

EXPENDITURES

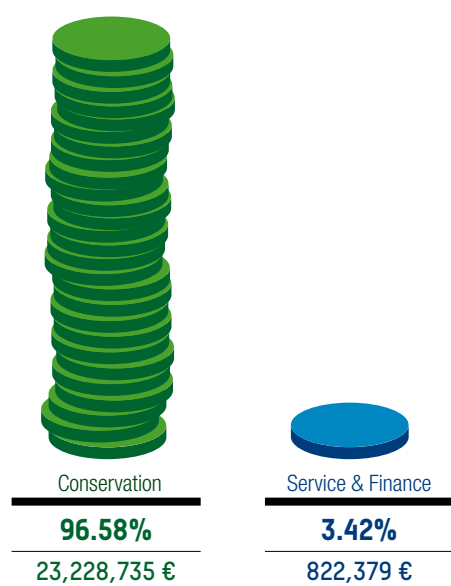
Total expenditure amounted to EUR 24.05 million (previous year: EUR 22.09 million excluding reserves). Expenditure for conservation work in accordance with our statutes, as well as for project management and general administration of FZS, amounted to EUR 23.09 million (previous year: EUR 19.85 million). Of this, spending on **nature conservation projects** amounted to EUR 22.04 million (previous year: EUR 18.50 million), EUR 3.54 million more than in the previous year. EUR 1.05 million was spent on **project coordination and administration** (previous year: EUR 1.35). The main components were personnel costs of EUR 0.89 million (previous year: EUR 1.10 million), general office expenses of EUR 28,000, and IT costs of EUR 29,000. General legal and consulting costs of EUR 19,000 were kept at a low level thanks to the use of experts and pro bono networks.

FZS gave EUR 0.14 million to the **Frankfurt Zoo** and the collaborative **conservation ambassador** project (previous year: EUR 0.11 million).

Expenditure on **communications and public relations**, including attributable personnel costs, amounted to EUR 0.45 million (previous year: EUR 0.35 million). EUR 0.27 million was spent on **sponsor services and fundraising** (previous year: EUR 0.34 million).

Investment in the FZS master fund and the “Hilfe für die bedrohte Tierwelt” Foundation means that there are no longer any direct costs for **asset management**. Due to the new structure of the master fund, administrative costs are now accounted for in the financial engineering section. **Depreciation, securities and exchange rate losses** amounted to EUR 0.11 million (previous year: EUR 1.44 million). This item had increased in the previous year, above all as a result of special write-downs on conservation land. Depreciation on fixed assets and low-value fixed assets amounted to EUR 31,000, depreciation on securities to EUR 5,000. Foreign currency losses arising from the valuation of the foreign currency accounts of FZS headquarters in Frankfurt at the end of the year amounted to EUR 51,000.

EXPENDITURES



EXPENDITURES in million Euro	2020	2019
Conservation projects	22.04	18.50
Coordination of conservation program, Frankfurt headquarters	1.05	1.35
Support of Frankfurt Zoo/conservation ambassadors	0.14	0.11
Communications and Public Relations	0.45	0.35
Fundraising and sponsor service	0.27	0.34
Asset management and other expenses	0	0.55
Write-downs on securities and fixed assets	0.11	0.89
TOTAL excluding reserves	24.05	22.09
Setting up of reserves	0	11.50
TOTAL	24.05	33.59

HOW ARE THE FZS INVESTMENTS PERFORMING?

Long-term financial security is a necessary prerequisite for carrying out sustainable conservation work. Overseen by various asset managers in order to reduce administrative costs and to optimize the risk-return parameters, the financial assets are mainly bundled in the organization's own special FZS master fund. All of these measures are subject to strict investment guidelines and are based on ESG financial market criteria.

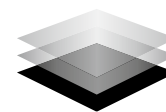
Our aim with the “Hilfe für die bedrohte Tierwelt” Foundation is to build up a real estate portfolio with long-term profitability as a means of generating additional revenue. Should the Foundation receive further building plots through donations or inheritances, it will use these to develop further residential real estate projects.

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.

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 program. This sets out all necessary measures and relevant budgets. 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 program is drawn up and budgeted by the project and program 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 COVID-19 pandemic. 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 program and the related budget plan (including project investments), as well as the organizational resources.

2 The project managers and their teams submit applications to further public and institutional donors, to the extent required and possible. 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.

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

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 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.

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

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.

FZS INVOLVEMENT IN OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

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

FZS is an **institutional member** of BioFrankfurt e. V., Deutscher Naturschutzring (DNR), Charles Darwin Foundation and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). FZS launched the "Wildnis in Deutschland" initiative and has been co-ordinating its activities ever since. 20 nature conservation organizations have joined the initiative.

In 2020, FZS was also represented by its Executive Director, board members and heads of departments and programs on the **boards and committees of the following organizations and institutions:**

Allianz Umweltstiftung, Bruno H. Schubert-Foundation, Claus und Taslimawati Schmidt-Luprian Stiftung Vogelschutz in Feuchtgebieten Foundation, Conservation Lake Tanganyika, Eleonore-Beck-Stiftung, Fundatia Conservation Carpathia, Gonairezhou Conservation Trust (GCT), Initiative Frankfurter Stiftungen, IUCN Otter Specialist Group, Kashikoto Conservancy, Lowveld

Rhino Trust, Polytechnische Gesellschaft e. V., Regina Bauer Stiftung, Stiftung Naturlandschaften Brandenburg (SNLB), Stiftung Zoo Frankfurt, Wildlife Crime Prevention, Walter und Monika Schneider Stiftung.

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

DONATIONS AND THIRD-PARTY FUNDS

FUNDRAISING

FZS wants to focus exclusively on nature conservation. Which is why we deliberately keep our marketing efforts to a minimum – allowing us to invest as much money as possible in conservation work. Sponsors and members receive no welcome gifts, for example, and we do not run marketing or advertising campaigns. We use our website, social media channels, (online) lectures, awareness-raising initiatives, fundraising letters and our GORILLA magazine to keep our supporters informed, to ask them for help, and to attract new recruits to the cause. In the case of the fundraising letters and the magazine, the donations they generate exceed the amount expended several times over. All these activities are conducted by our full-time team in Frankfurt. When planning the measures, we attach a great deal of importance both to cost-effective content and sustainable production.

DONATIONS AND THIRD-PARTY FUNDS

In the year under review, FZS received a total of EUR 3.08 million in donations and membership fees. In addition, we were able to submit project applications to institutional and public donors such as KfW Development Bank, Deutsche Gesellschaft für internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), and the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU). This allowed us to procure a further total of EUR 15.18 million for our nature conservation work. Every euro donated, therefore, had a fivefold impact!

OUR LARGEST INSTITUTIONAL DONORS IN 2020

The funds listed below were used in the projects in 2020

INTERNATIONAL	PROJECT COUNTRY	EURO	GERMANY	PROJECT COUNTRY	EURO
U.S. Department of State International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Agency (INL)	Zambia	1,758,923	KfW Development Bank	Ethiopia, Zambia, Tanzania, Ukraine	1,981,221
The Wildcat Foundation	DR Congo, Zambia, Tanzania	1,638,025	Deutsche Gesellschaft für inter- nationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)	Ethiopia, Zambia	682,993
The Wyss Foundation	Zambia, Tanzania	1,612,329	German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU)	Germany, Indonesia, Peru, Ukraine	560,470
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service	Indonesia, DR Congo, Zambia, Tanzania	795,634	KfW Foundation	Indonesia, Peru, Zambia, Tanzania	131,804
Stiftung Temperatio	Kazakhstan, Colombia, DR Congo, Peru, Tanzania	554,121	Karl Kübel Foundation	Ethiopia	99,269



"HILFE FÜR DIE BEDROHTE TIERWELT" FOUNDATION

ACCOUNTING AND VALUATION METHODS

The annual financial statements as of Thursday, December 31, 2020 were prepared in accordance with the provisions of sections 264 et seq. of the German Commercial Code (HGB). The statement of income 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

At the end of 2020, the Foundation had a direct investment real estate portfolio consisting of seven existing properties and one development project under construction with a total value of EUR 12.82 million (previous year: EUR 12.22 million). Building values are depreciated, land is valued at the time of acquisition or construction. A real estate project is currently being developed on an inherited plot of land in order to further strengthen the real estate portfolio.

The aim of the Foundation is to build up a real estate portfolio with long-term profitability in order to generate additional income. Should the Foundation receive further building plots through donations or inheritances, it can use these to develop further residential real estate projects.

Financial assets

The financial assets consist of securities and real estate investments. The majority of the financial assets are invested in the Foundation's own master fund. The master fund is tailored to the Foundation's specific needs and characteristics with its own long-term investment guidelines. Financial assets increased slightly to EUR 57.15 million (previous year: EUR 56.30 million). This is due to write-ups of direct investments at acquisition cost and the tie-up of existing liquidity from the estates in the master fund. Bonds or mixed funds are still held in small portfolios in order to provide short-term liquidity.

ASSETS in TEUR	2020	2019
FIXED ASSETS		
Tangible assets	12,821	12,215
Financial assets	57,151	56,304
CURRENT ASSETS		
Receivables and other assets	739	1,639
Liquid assets	710	657
BALANCE ITEMS for undistributed fund earnings	0	0
TRUST ASSETS Claus und Taslimawati Schmidt-Luprian Stiftung Vogelschutz in Feuchtgebieten	6,390	6,471
TOTAL	77,811	77,286

CURRENT ASSETS

Other assets

Receivables and other assets amounting to EUR 0.74 million mainly comprise receivables from the earnings distributed from the master fund in 2021 (EUR 0.72 million). All outstanding receivables from estates and bequests were realized (previous year: EUR 0.45 million).

Liquid assets

Bank balances and cash in hand total EUR 0.71 million (previous year: EUR 0.66 million). These result from donations, estates, real estate income and matured financial investments which have not been reinvested. The liquidity forms the basis of the Foundation's distribution to Frankfurt Zoological Society in the following financial year.

LIABILITIES

FOUNDATION ASSETS

Foundation capital

The Foundation capital increased by EUR 0.84 million, from EUR 60.33 million in 2019 to EUR 61.17 million in 2020. A large part of this comes from the inheritances that were transferred to the Foundation capital.

Revenue reserve

Free revenue reserves remained unchanged at EUR 8.15 million in 2020. No further reserves were formed in 2020, as the full result was distributed to FZS in response to the immediate need. The existing free reserves will safeguard the mission of the Foundation for years to come, even in difficult times.

Regrouping result

The regrouping reserve fell slightly from EUR 0.64 million to EUR 0.63 million. This was due to the need to write down securities according to the lower-of-cost-or-market principle.

Operating reserve

After deduction of the free reserve, the entire annual result was allocated as an operating reserve for nature conservation in the amount of EUR 1.38 million (previous year: EUR 1.59 million). This will be distributed in 2021 for FZS conservation projects.

LIABILITIES in TEUR	2020	2019
FOUNDATION ASSETS		
Foundation capital	61,169	60,334
Revenue reserve	8,152	8,152
Regrouping result	633	636
Operating reserve	1,384	1,592
PROVISIONS	11	34
LIABILITIES	72	67
TRUST ASSETS	6,390	6,471
Claus und Taslimawati Schmidt-Luprian Stiftung Vogelschutz in Feuchtgebieten		
TOTAL	77,811	77,286

PROVISIONS

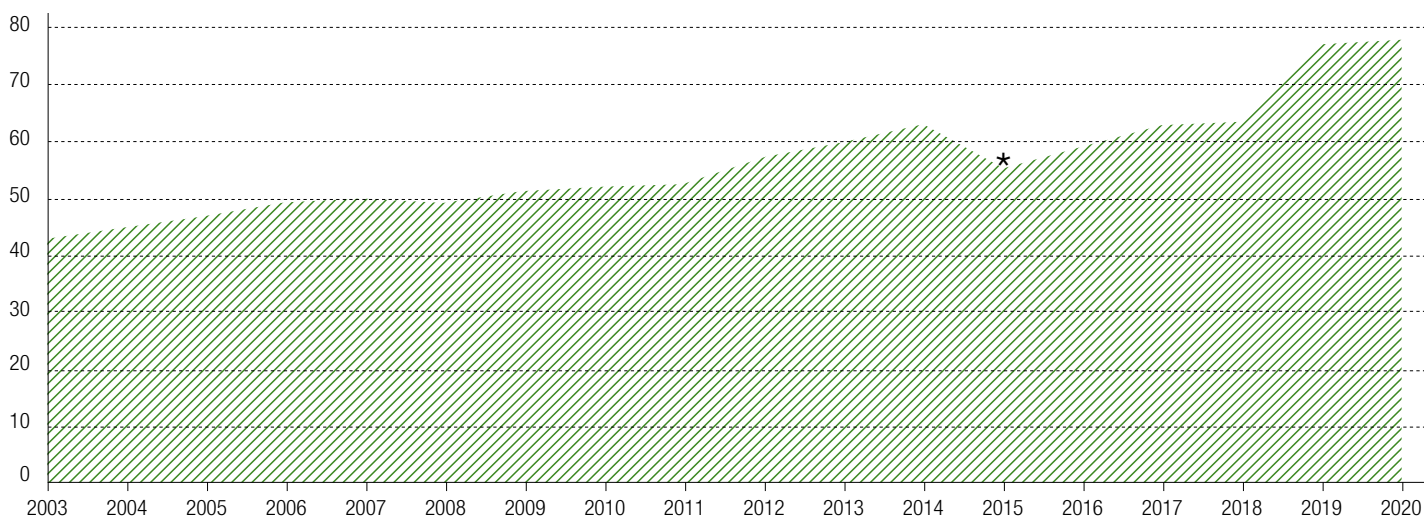
The provisions amount to EUR 11,000 (previous year: EUR 34,000), used in particular to cover the costs of preparing the annual financial statements.

LIABILITIES

The liabilities amounted to EUR 72,000 (previous year: EUR 67,000). Much of this is attributable to property management liabilities and a right of residence on a property registered in the land register, which was transferred by FZS to the Foundation from an estate.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE BALANCE SHEET TOTAL FROM 2003 TO 2020

in million Euro



*In 2015, the valuation was changed from market to cost of acquisition principle.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT in TEUR	2020	2019
Total revenues	1,585	1,991
Total expenses	-203	-401
Net profit for the year	1,382	1,590
Setup of reserves	-3	-2
Distributable profit	1,384	1,592

REVENUES

Net income before appropriation of funds in 2020, including donations and grants from other foundations as well as expenses, amounts to EUR 1.38 million (previous year: EUR 1.59 million). The Foundation thus posted a slightly worse result in the year under review than in the previous year. The main reason for this was the challenging capital market and the resulting lower distribution of the master fund. The continuous income from renting out the Foundation's own real estate was a positive factor. In addition, the "Hilfe für die bedrohte Tierwelt" Foundation received a donation of EUR 0.55 million from the Eleonore Beck Foundation (previous year: EUR 0.56 million). This is the highest individual donation from another foundation.

The performance rate of the Foundation's master fund fell, as expected, to 1.01 percent (previous year: 7.83 percent) at the end of 2020. This is a passable result in relation to the investment risk taken and given the market environment. However, the Foundation's reserves are sufficiently full. Even if the COVID-19 crisis lasts longer than expected, the Foundation will be able to maintain its charitable support.

The Foundation's entire net profit for the year is used to donate funds to FZS, in accordance with its statutes. The distributable funds decreased slightly to EUR 1.38 million (previous year: EUR 1.59 million).

EXPENDITURES

EUR 1.59 million were distributed by the Foundation to Frankfurt Zoological Society for conservation work in 2020. The total Foundation expenditure amounted to EUR 0.20 million (previous year: EUR 0.40 million). Of this amount, EUR 101,000 were incurred for depreciation on buildings and EUR 65,000 for real estate renovation and land costs. EUR 37,000 were spent on other expenditure, administration and auditing of the Foundation (previous year: EUR 57,000). The low costs of the Foundation are only possible because FZS actively manages its Foundation.

"HILFE FÜR DIE BEDROHTE TIERWELT" FOUNDATION

"Hilfe für die bedrohte Tierwelt" (German for Help for Threatened Wildlife) was founded in 2001 and is the charitable foundation of FZS. Its untouchable capital stock amounts to EUR 61.17 million, the balance sheet total including reserves and trust assets amounts to EUR 77.81 million. In 2020 it made EUR 1.59 million available to FZS for nature conservation work.

"Hilfe für die bedrohte Tierwelt - Förderstiftung der Zoologischen Gesellschaft Frankfurt von 1858 e. V." is a legally independent foundation under private law based in Frankfurt am Main. It is recognized as a non-profit organization for the promotion of nature conservation and animal welfare and enjoys tax exemption on the basis of the latest notice of exemption of the Frankfurt am Main III Tax Office, tax no. 47 255 58672, dated 26 October 2020. The Foundation exclusively supports the nature conservation work of FZS.

The Foundation is represented by an honorary foundation board, whose chairman is Gerhard Kittscher.

Donation account

"Hilfe für die bedrohte Tierwelt" Foundation
IBAN: DE63 5005 0201 0000 3102 80
BIC: HELADEF18522



Mountain nyala in the Bale Mountains
National Park, Ethiopia

NAMED FUNDS AND CHARITABLE TRUSTS

Under the umbrella of the “Hilfe für die bedrohte Tierwelt” Foundation, patrons who wish to make a sustainable and long-term commitment can establish a named fund or charitable trust to support the Foundation. This is possible during the lifetime of the individual concerned, but also by means of a testamentary decree. In the year under review, there were three trust foundations and named funds, and a further named fund of EUR 20,000 was established.

DR. ALFREDO MAASS FUND

The Dr. Alfredo Maass Fund is a named fund and part of the basic assets of the “Hilfe für die bedrohte Tierwelt” Foundation. The Fund was established on the basis of the will of Dr. Alfredo Maass with capital of EUR 0.58 million. According to the will of the founder, the income of the fund will be used for FZS project work in Manu National Park in Peru. In 2020, this amounted to around EUR 12,000.

JOHANNA SAMEL FUND

The non-profit Johanna Samel Foundation was established in 2005. It was named for Johanna Samel, a citizen of Frankfurt, who took a keen interest in young people and in environmental protection throughout her life. In 2005, the Foundation Supervisory Authority of the City of Frankfurt transferred the administration of the Foundation to FZS. The Foundation was dissolved in 2018, at the request of the Foundation Board, as the relatively small capital volume of the Foundation (EUR 0.40 million) and the low interest rate level endangered the sustained fulfillment of the Foundation's purpose. In accordance with the statutes, the assets were transferred as a named fund to the “Hilfe für die bedrohte Tierwelt” Foundation.

“CLAUS UND TASLIMAWATI SCHMIDT-LUPRIAN STIFTUNG VOGELSCHUTZ IN FEUCHTGEBIETEN” TRUST FOUNDATION

The Wetland Bird Protection Foundation (Stiftung Vogelschutz in Feuchtgebieten) was established in 2012 with initial capital of EUR 0.50 million under the umbrella of the “Hilfe für die bedrohte Tierwelt” Foundation. The purpose of the Foundation is to provide financial support to FZS projects for the conservation and creation of wetlands and for the protection of the bird species which are dependent on them. The capital of the trust foundation increased to EUR 6.39 million as a result of endowments by the founder and reserves. The investment assets of the Foundation are invested in full in the master fund of the parent foundation. In 2020, the Foundation distributed EUR 50,000 from its proceeds for project work in Polesia.

DONORS AND PARTNERS 2020

List grouped by headquarters of institutions and organizations

AUSTRALIA

Griffith University
International Elephant Project, IEP
Perth Zoo
The Orangutan Project, TOP
Wildlife Conservation International

AUSTRIA

WWF Central and Eastern Europe
WWF Österreich

BELARUS

Administration of Bielaviežskaja Pušča National Park
APB-BirdLife Belarus
Bahna

BRAZIL

Instituto Araguaia

COLOMBIA

Amazon Conservation Team, ACT
Fundación Ideas para la Paz
Fundación para la Conservación y el Desarrollo Sostenible, FCDS
Parques Nacionales Naturales de Colombia, PNNC
Wildlife Conservation Society Colombia, WCS Colombia
WWF Colombia

DR CONGO

Institut Congolais pour la Conservation de la Nature, ICCN
Lukuru Wildlife Research Foundation Inc.
Virunga National Park/Virunga Foundation

ECUADOR

Fundación Charles Darwin, FCD

ETHIOPIA

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

Change Authority
Oromia Forest and Wildlife Enterprise
Oromia Regional Health Bureau, OHB
Oromia Livestock and Fishery Resource Development Bureau, OLFROB
Oromia Planning and Economic Development Commission, PEDCO
Oromia Rural Land Administration and Use Bureau
Population, Health and Environment – Ethiopia Consortium
SOS Sahel

EU

European Union

FRANCE

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, UNESCO

GERMANY

AHT Group GmbH
Akademie für Zoo- und Wildtierschutz e. V.
Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg
Albert und Barbara von Metzler-Stiftung
Betreiber-Gesellschaft der Internationalen Naturausstellung Lieberoser Heide GmbH, INA
BioFrankfurt e. V.
Bruno H. Schubert-Stiftung
Bund für Umwelt und Naturschutz Deutschland, BUND
Bundesamt für Naturschutz, BfN
Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz und nukleare Sicherheit, BMU
Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung, BMZ
BUNDstiftung
Bürgerbewegung Freunde des Spessarts e. V.
Charlotte-und-Werner-Herrmann-Stiftung
Claus und Taslimawati Schmidt-Luprian Stiftung
Vogelschutz in Feuchtgebieten
Convention on Migratory Species of Wild Animals, CMS
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit, GIZ
Deutsche Postcode Lotterie
Deutsche Umwelthilfe

Deutsche Wildtier Stiftung
Deutscher Naturschutzring, DNR
Eleonore-Beck-Stiftung
Förderverein Nationalpark Senne-Eggegebirge e. V.
Frankfurter Sparkasse
Freundeskreis Nationalpark Hunsrück e. V.
Gemeinnützige Stiftung Freunde des Tieres
Greenpeace Deutschland
Gregor Louisöder Umweltstiftung
GRÜNE LIGA
Gunther Parlow Stiftung
Heinz Sielmann Stiftung
Helaba Invest Kapitalanlagegesellschaft mbH
Hellabrunn – Der Münchner Tierpark
Hildegard-Haube-Stiftung
Initiative Frankfurter Stiftungen e. V.
Institut für Gemeinwohl gGmbH
Institut für Tierökologie und Naturbildung
Internationale Klimaschutzinitiative IKI, BMU
Internationaler Naturerbe Fonds – Legacy Landscapes Fund
Irene Thiermann Stiftung
ISO-ELEKTRA Heinrich Piepho Stiftung
Johann Wolfgang Goethe-Universität Frankfurt
Karl Kübel Stiftung für Kind und Familie
KfW Entwicklungsbank
KfW Stiftung
KPMG Deutschland
Kurt und Christel Müller Stiftung
Landesbund für Vogelschutz in Bayern
Manfred-Hermes-Stiftung
Michael Succow Stiftung
NABU, Naturschutzbund Deutschland
NABU-Stiftung Nationales Naturerbe
Nationale Naturlandschaften e. V.
Nationalparkverwaltung Bayerischer Wald
NatureLife-International
Naturstiftung David
Naturwald Akademie
Sambia-Hilfe Dr. Gerhard Konzelmann e. V.

SAP Deutschland SE & Co. KG
 Senckenberg Gesellschaft für Naturforschung
 Sigrid I. Gramm de Berumen Stiftung
 Stiftung Artenschutz
 Stiftung Feuchtgebiete
 Stiftung KulturLandschaft Günztal
 Stiftung Naturlandschaften Brandenburg, SNLB
 Stiftung Wolfgang Wüsthof
 Tiergarten Nürnberg
 Verein Nationalpark Nordsteigerwald
 Vogelschutz Komitee
 Walter und Monika Schneider-Stiftung
 WWF Deutschland
 Zoo Dresden
 Zoo Frankfurt

GUYANA

Kanuku Mountains Community Representative Group, KMCRG
 Protected Areas Commission, PAC

HONG KONG

Full Circle Foundation

INDONESIA

Directorate General for Protection of Natural Resources and Ecosystems, KSDAE
 Jambi Forestry Department, DINHUT
 Jambi Provincial Natural Resource Conservation Agency, BKSDA
 PT Alam Bukit Tigapuluh, PT ABT
 Yayasan Ekosistem Lestari, YEL
 Yayasan Konservasi Ekosistem Hutan Sumatera, KEHUS

KAZAKHSTAN

Association for the Conservation of Biodiversity of Kazakhstan, ACBK
 Committee for Forestry and Wildlife, Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan
 Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan

KENYA

Save the Elephants

LIECHTENSTEIN

Sarastro Förderstiftung

NORWAY

Norwegian Institute for Nature Research, NINA

PERU

Asociación para la Conservación de la Cuenca Amazónica, ACCA
 Asociación para la Investigación y Desarrollo Integral, AIDER
 Centro de Innovación Científica Amazónica, CINCIA
 Centro de Recursos y Educación en la Selva, CREES
 Deutsche Botschaft in Peru
 ECOPURUS
 Federación de Comunidades Indígenas del Bajo Putumayo, FECOIBAP
 Federación de Comunidades Nativas de la Cuenca del Ampiyacu, FECONA
 Federación de Comunidades Nativas Fronterizas del Putumayo, FECONAFROP
 Federación Nativa del Río Madre de Dios y Afluentes, FENAMAD
 Fondo Nacional para Áreas Naturales Protegidas por el Estado, PROFONANPE
 Instituto del Bien Común, IBC
 Ministerio de Cultura, Viceministerio de Interculturalidad, MINCUL
 Ministerio de Educación, MINEDU
 Ministerio del Ambiente, MINAM
 Pronaturaleza
 Servicio Nacional de Áreas Naturales Protegidas por el Estado, SERNANP
 Servicio Nacional Forestal y de Fauna Silvestre, SERFOR
 Sociedad Peruana de Derecho Ambiental, SPDA
 Universidad Católica Sedes Sapientiae
 WWF Peru

POLAND

Natural Heritage Foundation, NHF
 Polish Society for the Protection of Birds, OTOP

ROMANIA

Fundatia Conservation Carpathia, FCC

SLOVAKIA

Aevis Foundation

SOUTH AFRICA

South African National Parks

SRI LANKA

International Water Management Institute

SWITZERLAND

Fondation Segré
 Friends of Serengeti
 International Union for the Conservation of Nature, IUCN
 Mountain Wilderness
 Oak Foundation
 PanEco
 Stiftung Farald Von Wedekind
 Stiftung Temperatio

TANZANIA

District Councils: Kigoma, Mpanda, Ngorongoro, Serengeti, Tanganyika, Uvinza
 Friedkin Conservation Fund
 Grumeti Reserves and Grumeti Fund
 Ikona and Makao Wildlife Management Areas
 Jane Goodall Institute
 Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism
 Tanzania Association of Tour Operators, TATO
 Tanzania National Parks Authority, TANAPA
 Tanzania Wildlife Management Authority, TAWA
 Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute, TAWIRI
 Wildlife Division of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism
 WWF Tanzania

UKRAINE

Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources
 National Ecological Centre of Ukraine, NECU
 Ukrainian Society for the Protection of Birds, USPB

UNITED KINGDOM

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 British Trust for Ornithology, BTO
 Cambridge Conservation Initiative
 Conservation Capital
 Farm Africa
 Fauna & Flora International
 For Rangers
 Palladium International Limited
 Save the Rhino International

The European Nature Trust, TENT
 The Kestrelman Trust
 The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, RSPB
 Tusk Trust
 Wild Europe Initiative

USA

Adventure Travel Conservation Fund
 Arcus Foundation
 Blue Foundation
 Chicago Field Museum
 Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund
 Disney Conservation Fund
 Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation
 International Crane Foundation, ICF
 JPMorgan Chase Foundation
 JRS Biodiversity Foundation
 Lion Recovery Fund
 Paul Tudor Jones Family Foundation
 Peterffy Foundation
 Resolve
 Rhino Recovery Fund
 San Diego Zoo Global Wildlife Conservancy

Sheldon and Audrey Katz Foundation
 Stadler Family Charitable Foundation
 TetraTech
 The Nature Conservancy
 The Wildcat Foundation
 The Wyss Foundation
 U.S. Agency for International Development, USAID
 U.S. Department of State International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Agency, INL
 U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
 Vulcan Inc.
 Wildlife Conservation Network, WCN
 Wildlife Conservation Society, WCS
 Wildlife Protection Solutions
 Woodtiger Fund
 WWF US
 Zegar Family Fund

VIETNAM

Danang University
 Department of Protected Area Management, DoPAM
 GreenViet
 Kon Ka Kinh National Park Management

People's Aid Coordinating Committee, PACCOM
 Service Center for Danang Foreign Affairs, SCEDFA

ZAMBIA

Conservation Lower Zambezi
 Conservation South Luangwa
 Department of National Parks and Wildlife, DNPW
 Deutsche Botschaft in Sambia
 Mpika, Shiwa, Chama, Chipata, Chinsali and Isoka District Governments
 Remote Africa Safaris
 Wildlife Crime Prevention

ZIMBABWE

African Wildlife Conservation Fund
 Buby Valley Conservancy
 Lowveld Rhino Trust
 Malilangwe Trust
 Save Valley Conservancy
 Tikki Hywood Trust
 WILD Programme
 Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management Authority, ZimParks

WAYS TO SUPPORT US

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

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

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

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

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

Named funds are a special form of endowment. A named fund can be set up with minimum capital of EUR 20,000. This is managed separately within the capital of the “Hilfe für die bedrohte Tierwelt” Foundation

and bears a name chosen by the patron. The proceeds from the named fund flow into the nature conservation work on an ongoing basis.

Trust foundations are dependent foundations under the umbrella of our “Hilfe für die bedrohte Tierwelt” Foundation. In contrast to legally independent foundations, they are not subject to time-consuming tax law approval procedures or direct state scrutiny. The founder can specify a purpose in a charter. Minimum capital of EUR 500,000 is recommended to ensure that the associated activities can be discharged on a lasting basis through the earnings of the foundation. Trust foundations can also be set up by a community of founders consisting of several persons.

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

fzs.org/donate

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