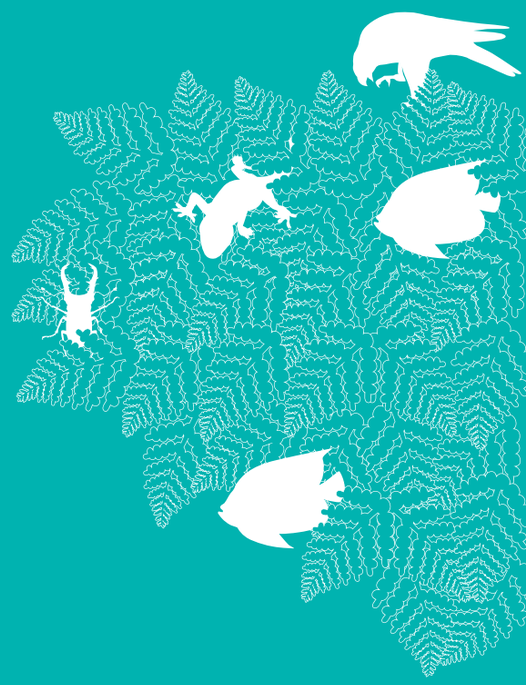
PASSIONATE PEOPLE PURPOSEFUL PROJECTS

Annual Report 2014

صندوق محمد بن زايد
للمحافظة على الكائنات الحية
The Mohamed bin Zayed SPECIES CONSERVATION FUND



ANNUAL REPORT 2014

The Mohamed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund provides financial support to species conservation projects worldwide.

In 2014 the Fund supported 185 projects in 70 different countries with more than $1.5m.

Since inception the Fund has distributed more than $12m to over 1,200 projects across the globe.

Loatian rock rat, Vietnam © Nghia Nguyen Xuan

FOREWORD

Razan Khalifa Al Mubarak
Managing Director

2014 marks the 5th anniversary of the Fund and gives us a chance to reflect on our achievements and look ahead to where and how we can positively impact species conservation efforts.

Over the past five years, the Fund has supported 1,200 projects across 150 countries – 185 projects in 70 nations in the last year alone. In total we have distributed more than US $12 million to these conservation projects.

In the course of our work, we have encountered and supported the most passionate of people, whose dedication to their chosen individual causes have left us sometimes humbled and often awestruck. These individuals and groups form a network which is now bringing grassroots power to bear, and we have learned a lot from them.

Over the years we have received thousands of progress reports from our grant recipients and consequently our understanding of conservation has become more mature and sophisticated.

This fine-tuned understanding has fostered a unique approach to grant distribution. In addition to well-known species we are also able to support lesser-known and less charismatic species – from invertebrates to fungi, mammals to fish, and plants to reptiles.

We see this approach as necessary because many of these groups receive so little support from elsewhere. Indeed, we pride ourselves on our support for such species, and more importantly, for the people who protect them.

We understand that a little goes a long way – especially in developing countries. Mega grants, though important, cannot achieve what individual species grants can. Our targeted grants support a specific solution in a certain location, develop a network of people on the ground who can respond quickly to emergencies and local issues and both build and support a community of conservationists in biodiversity hotspots.

The Fund sees these on-the-ground individuals as the first line of defence against extinction. These are the people who can be effective, immediate, and accessible to communities.

The Fund has supported 1,200 projects across 150 countries – 185 projects in 70 nations in the last year alone.

When we review progress reports we read stories of conservation, rather than depend solely on statistics. We listen carefully to our grant recipients, understand their challenges, admire and celebrate their efforts to address them. We understand and accept that sometimes conservation can be problematic and not always successful but our belief in the passionate people behind it never falters. We understand their errors. We encourage and admire their resolve to learn and to redirect approaches and forge successful outcomes.

This year's annual report reflects our changing approach. Whereas previously we reported on taxonomic groups such as amphibians, mammals, reptiles, plants, fungi and invertebrates, we now take a more holistic view. Instead of honing in on individual projects, we want to celebrate the stories of the people, discovery, intervention, science and communities, which are integral to the cause.

We hope that through the pages of this report, we can give you a better understanding of the passionate people and purposeful projects that are making a difference to conservation the world over. We suspect you will, as we have, be left with nothing but the deepest respect for our grant recipients, their efforts and the communities that are conserving so much for our future and that of generations to come.

Palas's cat, Nepal © Ganja Ram Regmi

During 2014 the Fund continued to build on its financial support of species conservation projects worldwide by increasing to $12m the total amount disbursed since inception.

The allocations were made against a backdrop of increasing grant applications. In short, more requests are being received than can be supported. During 2014, we received requests totaling around $23.5m and were only able to distribute $1,553,475.

Consequently, the Fund adapted to this supply and demand equation by applying more stringent review criteria, with only 12.2% of applications making the grade and with most successful applications receiving only partial funding. Nevertheless, we hope part funding is better than no funding at all and that the Fund's support adds sufficient credibility to projects that additional financing is more forthcoming from other sources. This has certainly been the case with many initiatives.

DEAR GRANT RECIPIENTS

Board of Advisors

In 2014 the Fund focused its support on less high profile projects while still targeting threatened species, particularly those classified by the IUCN Red List as Critically Endangered or Endangered. The Fund also continued its strong financial support for species listed as Data Deficient or Not Evaluated, with over $172,825 dispersed to 24 projects. Importantly, the Fund continues to support the conservationists who dedicate their lives to saving the world's most threatened and least known species and making our planet a better place.

Looking to the future, the Fund will continue to adapt to the challenges facing species conservation, seek additional capital, strive to maximise its investments, and work to refine qualifying criteria for grant applications. Our efforts will continue to be global, and grant eligibility will extend to all plant and animal species conservation efforts, without bias of geography or taxonomy, aligned to the direction of the Fund's founder, HH Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan.

The Fund intends to provide small, targeted grants to support local and grassroots projects. To cover the widest possible spectrum of species conservation efforts, two grant types are available: up to $5,000 or those between $5,000 and $25,000.

To help offset some of the challenges, the Fund has endeavoured to make the grant application process as user-friendly as possible, especially for smaller projects where onerous administration can negate the benefits of financial contributions. All grants are subject to independent review and are awarded following advisory board meetings which are held at least three times a year.

We also have an online system which makes it more convenient for conservationists worldwide to submit applications and brings greater efficiency to the advisory board's review and award process. Grant submissions can be made via the Fund's website www.speciesconservation.org, where board members can log on and evaluate projects and grant recipients can upload their project reports two times per year for board review, and author case studies at any time to highlight their work.

We want to thank all applicants:
the recipients who help implement the Fund's ideals of assisting individual species conservation initiatives, recognising leaders in the field and elevating the importance of species in the broader conservation debate; and all who support the Fund through generously giving their valuable time and experience.

6 - 7
Black-capped petrel, Dominican Republic © Glen Tepke

WHY SPECIES CONSERVATION?

The sense of loss resulting from extinction is a relatively modern phenomenon. In many ways it is the result of a new understanding of the impact of our activities, and a greater sense of responsibility for that impact. The sense of responsibility for endangered species has a complex origin. It has developed out of academic studies, concern for lost resources, the love of a species engendered through hunting, and importantly, from the sense of loss all of us have experienced as landscapes have been emptied of majestic trees, bison or passenger pigeons.

There is an urgent need now to re-stimulate a broad discussion on the subject of species conservation and biodiversity, and to better integrate individual environmental initiatives addressing individual issues such as species conservation, climate change, habitat destruction and unsustainable development. Ultimately, the conservation community must end the era of promoting one environmental cause at the expense of another, because if one of these causes (or any of the others competing for attention) fails, all of them are far less likely to succeed. Just like the species of a complex ecosystem, our individual conservation efforts are more interdependent than we tend to recognize, and we will all only be as strong as our weakest links.

Recognizing the crisis facing species conservation, His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces, established this dedicated fund for the provision of support to individual and coordinated species conservation initiatives. To retain the species and habitats we treasure, and indeed need, the Mohamed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund seeks to support on-the-ground champions of species conservation; the individuals in the villages, field stations, laboratories and homes who are dedicated to conserving their local (and the world's global) threatened species.

The Fund helps their work through focused financial support and is nurturing the next generation of species conservationists by making the best conservation practices available to them using innovative methods of communication. Through additional events and activities, the Fund will also seek to recognize individual leaders in the field of species conservation whose passion and commitment often goes unnoticed, and in doing so, to inspire others with an interest in the field of conservation.

The provision of this significant contribution is consistent with a long-standing tradition of philanthropy and conservation established in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi. Locally, significant conservation programs have been introduced to protect nearby species as diverse as the Arabian oryx, gazelle, houbara bustard, dugong and marine turtle, amongst others.

The people of Abu Dhabi have witnessed first-hand the tangible benefits of targeted and well-resourced species conservation initiatives. For example, the population of the Arabian oryx, hunted to near extinction in the early 1970s, is currently on the rise again and the Emirate of Abu Dhabi is leading efforts to reintroduce the species to its traditional desert habitat.

Just like the species of a complex ecosystem, our individual conservation efforts are more interdependent than we tend to recognize.

Through the Mohamed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund this tradition continues, in the form of an innovative and genuinely international approach to philanthropy and species conservation.

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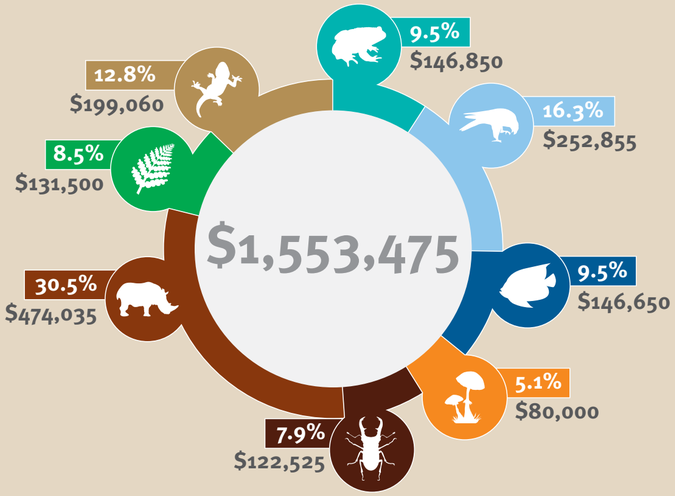
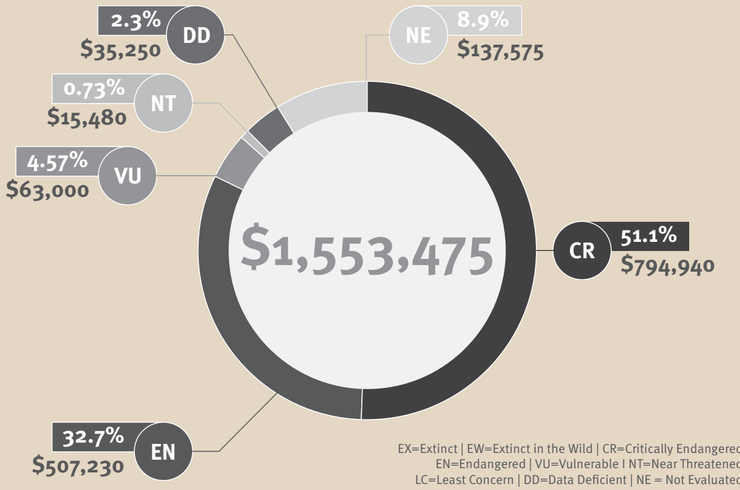
Dragon's blood tree gecko, Yemen © Raquel Vasconcelos



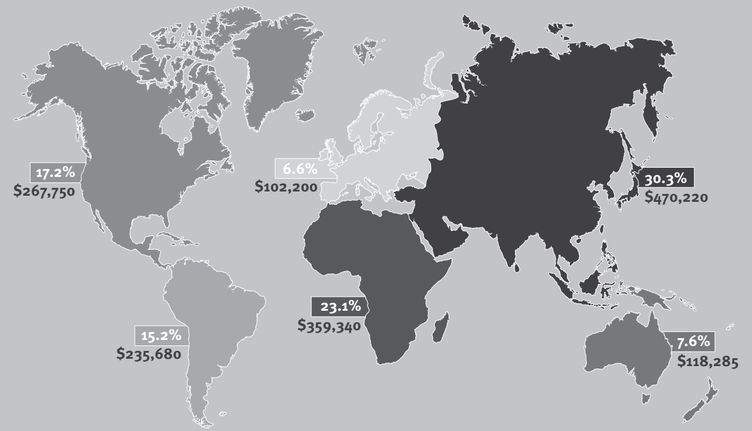


EX=Extinct | EW=Extinct in the Wild | CR=Critically Endangered
EN=Endangered | VU=Vulnerable I NT=Near Threatened
LC=Least Concern | DD=Data Deficient | NE = Not Evaluated

DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS-2014

The Fund is committed to providing grants to high quality projects for all types of species in need of urgent conservation efforts, and it does so without geographic bias.

In 2014, the Fund supported 185 projects selected from more than 1,500 grant applications. The selected projects, located in 70 different countries across six continents, shared more than $1.5m in funding.



A majority of the support from the Fund was awarded to projects working to protect species classified as Endangered or Critically Endangered. The Fund also remains keenly interested in supporting work with species listed as Data Deficient and those which have not yet been evaluated.

The Fund has been particularly interested in supporting projects in biodiversity rich areas, such as East Africa, Southeast Asia and the tropical Americas, as well as in countries where limited funding can go a long way. And in many cases these areas are one and the same – providing solid conservation value.

Nearly a third of available funds were awarded to mammal projects, and yet the other taxonomic groups, including fungi, continued to receive strong support.

All told, since its inception in 2008, the Fund has contributed almost $12m to just over 1,200 projects worldwide, helping to conserve over 850 species and sub-species.

We look forward to continuing this support well into the future.

THE FUND'S MISSION, OBJECTIVES & STRUCTURE

The Mohamed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund is a significant philanthropic endowment established in October 2008 at the World Conservation Congress in Barcelona with an initial endowment of €25m. It was aimed at: providing targeted grants to individual species conservation initiatives; recognising species conservation leaders and the importance of species in the broader conservation debate.

The Fund's reach is truly global, and its species interest is non-discriminatory. Conservationists worldwide can apply for funding for projects focused on any and all kinds of plant and animal species – amphibians, birds, fish, invertebrates, mammals, plants, reptiles, and fungi. Applications are subject to review by an independent advisory board.

By recognising leaders in species conservation and scientific research, the Fund hopes to ensure their important work and the role of species in global conservation discourse both receive the attention they deserve.

The Fund hopes to nurture the growth of a thriving global community of well-resourced species conservationists and to stimulate additional, third party donations to ensure the growth of annual contributions to direct species conservation projects.

The Fund is a private philanthropic interest whose donor is His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces who holds a wide range of policy, legislative and economic responsibilities in Abu Dhabi and the UAE. HIs Highness is a committed conservationist and philanthropist.

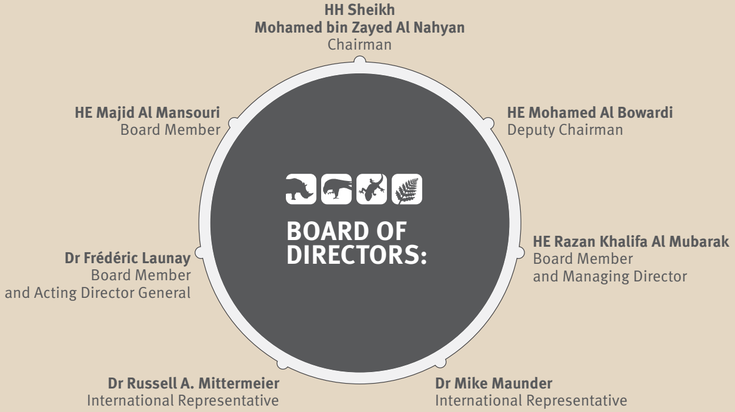
HH Sheikh Mohamed also chairs the Abu Dhabi Executive Council which oversees the emirate's development and implementation of all government policy and legislation under the guidance of His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the UAE and Ruler of Abu Dhabi.

He was instrumental in establishing the Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi, and has led significant conservation efforts to protect the falcon, houbara bustard and Arabian oryx within the UAE and internationally.

The environment is one of HH Sheikh Mohamed's highest priorities, both from a policy and a personal perspective.

The Fund is managed by an independent board of directors, comprising local and international experts in environmental conservation, policy development and species conservation who allocate financial grants on the basis of detailed applications submitted by potential beneficiaries.

The Fund's independent board oversees all aspects of its operation, including the development of policies and procedures, the recognition of species conservation leaders, the provision of financial grants to successful applicants, and the review of project reports submitted.



THE FUND'S MISSION IS TO ELEVATE THE IMPORTANCE OF SPECIES IN THE CONSERVATION DEBATE BY:

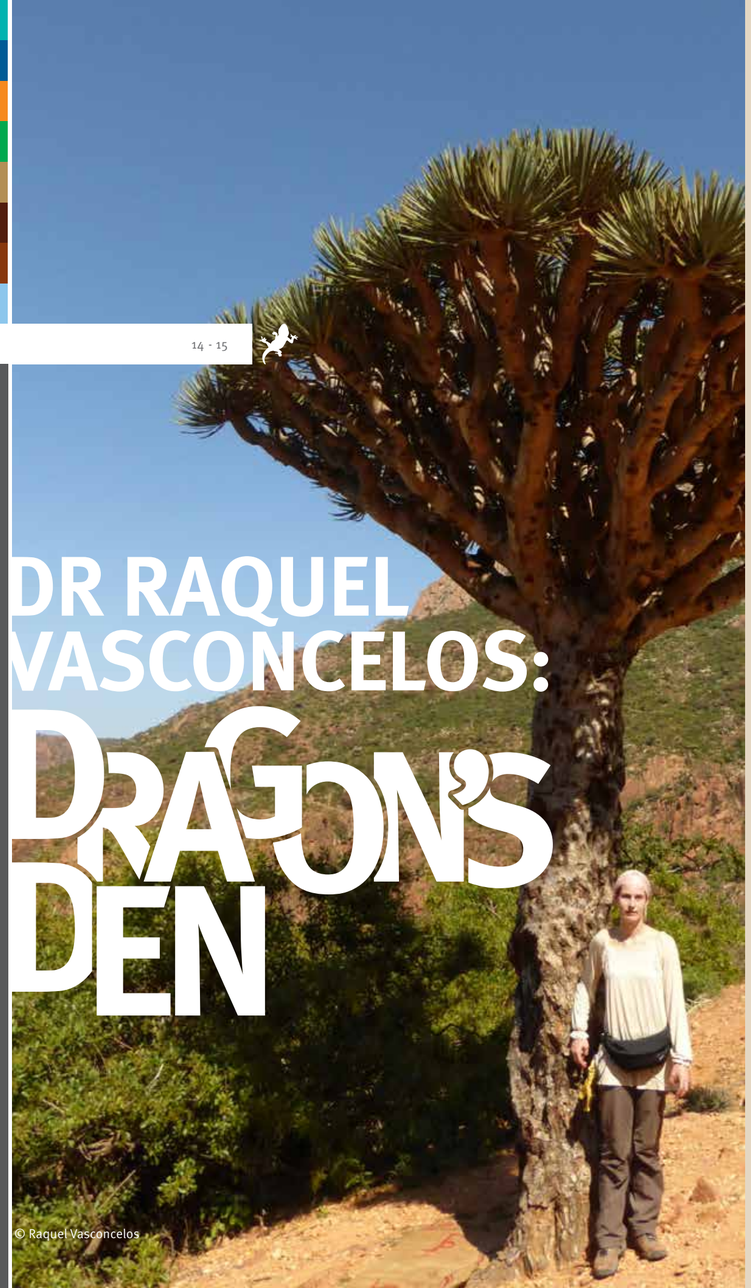
- providing timely support for grass-roots initiatives which make a real difference to species survival;
- supporting those whose passion, dedication and knowledge is key to saving species;
- assisting species' conservation in their natural habitats;
- heightening awareness of species conservation;
- stimulating renewed interest among young people in natural sciences and attracting further contributions to species conservation from across the globe.

01

Over the coming pages you will meet some of the highly committed conservationists who are changing our world with support from the Fund.

Our champions are working in diverse geographies from the isolation of Socotra Island off the coast of Yemen, to the stunning Southwest and West African coastlines and the small, volcanic Mexican island of Socorro. Though their projects and locations are maybe thousands of miles apart, they all have something in common – a fervour for conservation that we hope will leave you flushed with admiration and permanently inspired.

DR RAQUEL VASCONCELOS: DRAGON'S DEN



© Raquel Vasconcelos

You would expect an island which has earned UNESCO World Natural Heritage Site status and where a third of the plant life is endemic, to appeal to the adventurous, and yet Socotra Island off the Yemeni coast is also one of the most isolated places in Arabia.

Not that the challenges of getting there deterred Portuguese conservationist Dr Raquel Vasconcelos from her mission to protect the Dragon blood tree's gecko *(Hemidactyls dracaenacolus)*. While completing a PhD in biology from Lisbon and Porto University, Raquel became smitten with reptiles after her dissertation advisor introduced them to her. "I love them," she declares.

On the surface it would seem a strange calling for a 35 year-old Portuguese scientist-artist-sports champion, yet Raquel's face lights up when she speaks of the gecko and her admiration for the species.

"Geckos are amazing. They are cool. They can climb vertical surfaces. They have beautiful, amazing eyes. They are feared for no reason. We have to educate people about them: how they are harmless, and an important part of the eco-system. From an evolutionary perspective gecko species in Socotra are amazing. They can live on the ground, in trees or on cliffs."

And so Socotra, where the up-turned-umbrella shaped Dragon's blood tree, named for its red sap, characterises the landscape, beckoned for this highly talented scientist. The island, though, held some cultural challenges for even multi-lingual Raquel, who has a working knowledge of six languages, including a few words of Socotri.

> **Art teaches you to look in detail. Conservation is the same. Actually, I think this is true of life in general.**

© Raquel Vasconcelos

Dragon's blood tree gecko, Yemen © Raquel Vasconcelos

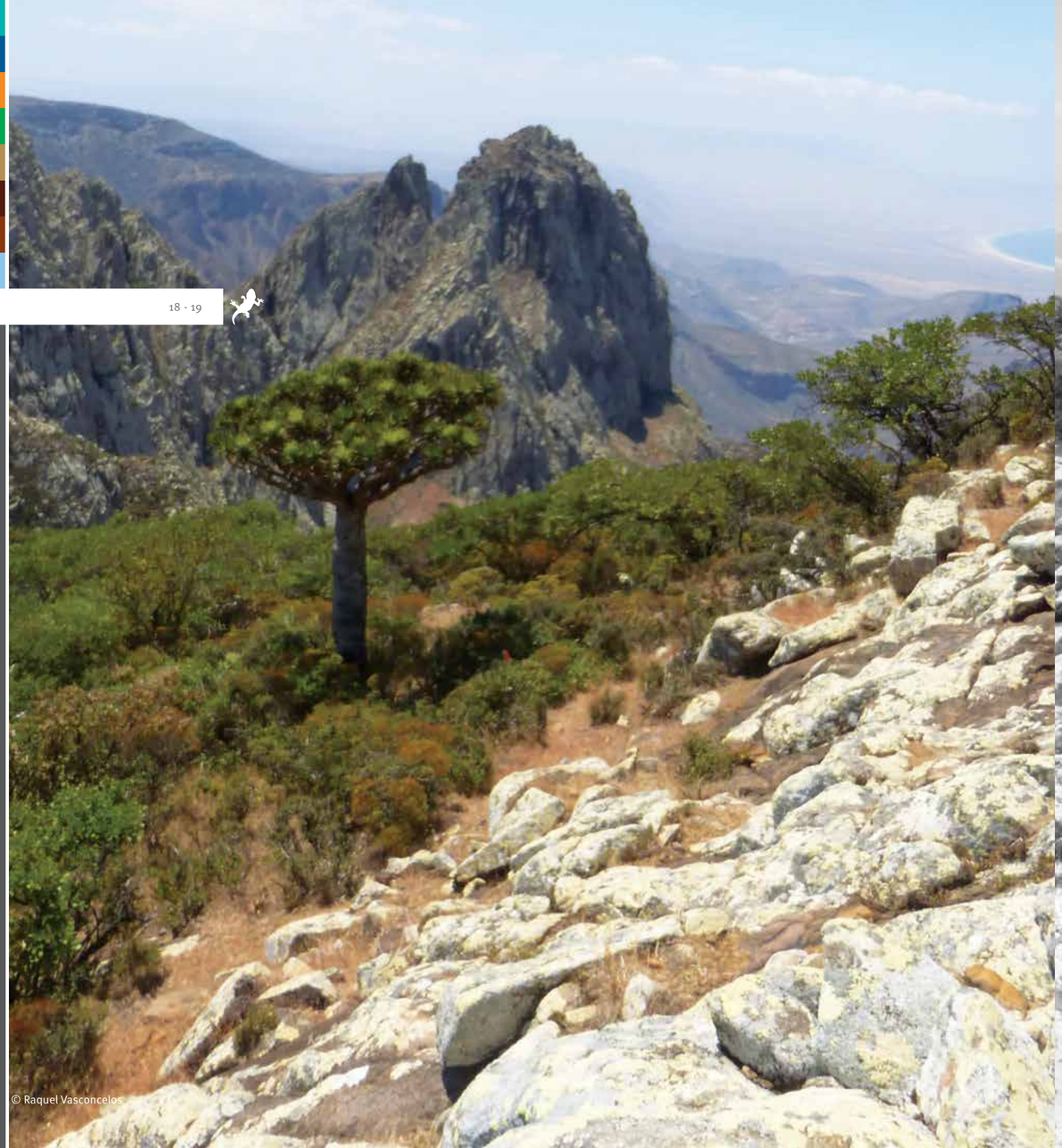
"I don't speak Arabic but in any case, Arabic is not the main language on the island – they speak Socotri so I have to have a guide and often a cultural and environmental mediator," she explains.

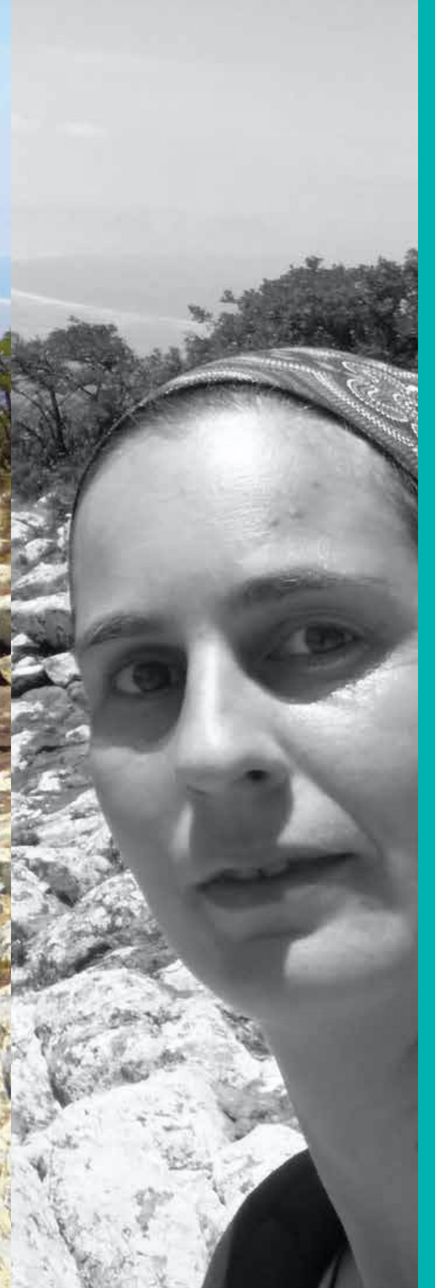
"Once some of the locals see I'm a woman, at first they won't speak directly to me. They are tribal and there is a strict protocol in meeting them. I have to have permission to stay in certain places. We work respectfully within these cultural norms to avoid any potential conflict."

Ready to adapt to, and accommodate, local customs, Raquel keeps her hair and arms covered while on the island. "I don't go as far as wearing a long skirt because it's not at all practical in the field but I make other respectful gestures to the culture and they appreciate the effort. The people of Socotra are very tolerant and almost always very helpful."

Raquel is a scientist who embraces the artistic. She's an accomplished artist and keen sportswoman, having at one time reached the ranks of regional handball champion - all disciplines which she believes serve her well in the conservation cause.

"Geckos are amazing. They are cool. They can climb vertical surfaces. They have beautiful, amazing eyes. They are feared for no reason.





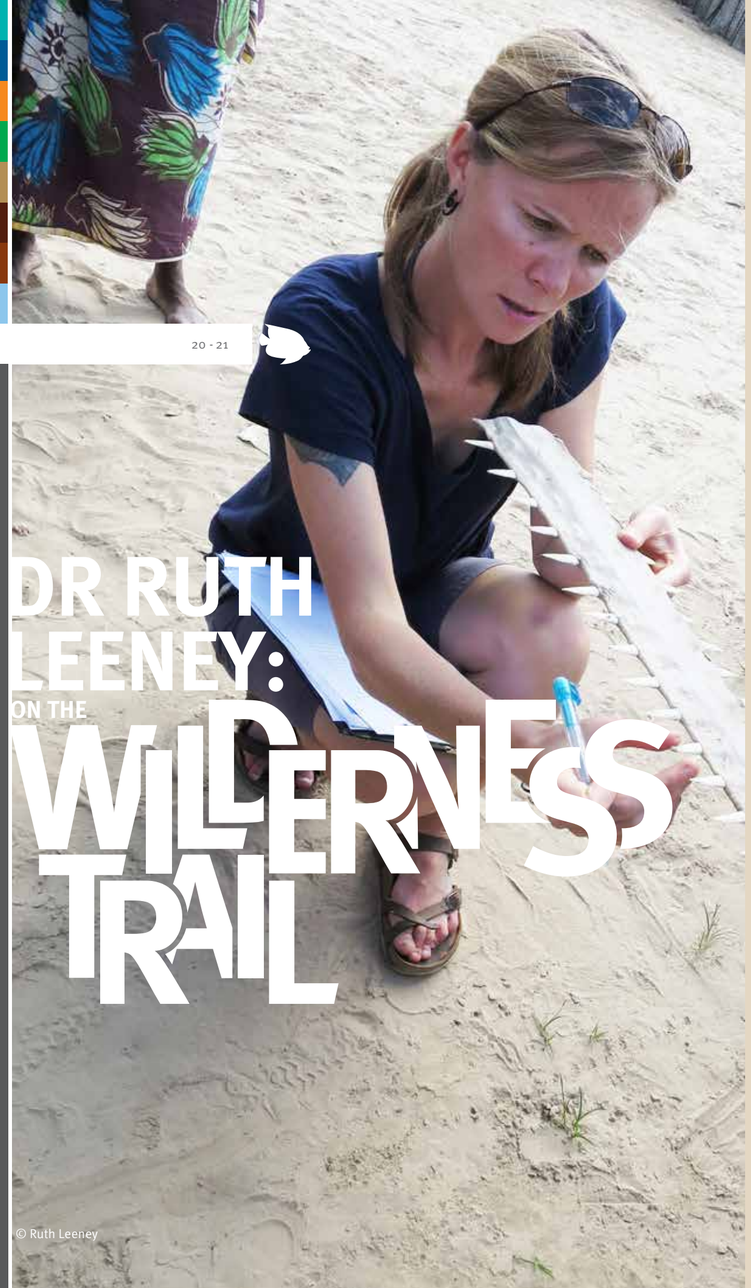
‘I would like to contribute to the re-evaluation of the conservation plan for Socotra.

“Art teaches you to look in detail. Conservation is the same. Actually I think this is true of life in general. And sport gave me a lot of physical and psychological resilience which you need when climbing mountains or going without water for long periods.”

Raquel has been solidly committed to studying and collecting data to inform conservation actions for her beloved geckos. She now has an abiding empathy for this singular Yemeni island and its residents, both of which feature largely in her plans.

“I would like to contribute to the re-evaluation of the conservation plan for Socotra. It’s got an unbelievable landscape and diversity, great forests and unique animals. It’s the only place on earth where Dracaena forests still exist and where these gecko species occur. And then there’s the fascinating culture of the people. They have been isolated for such a long time. However, habitat changes are impacting the biodiversity, such as the gecko, which is threated with disappearance. All of this must be protected.”

DR RUTH LEENEY: ON THE WILDERNESS TRAIL



© Ruth Leeney

A childhood in rural Wales is somewhat alien to an outstanding international conservation career dedicated to Africa's fish and marine mammals. Yet that's exactly the path taken by Irish scientist Dr Ruth Leeney.

Now an eminent conservation author and scientist who travels the world on behalf of shark and ray conservation, Ruth's career was fermented in the wilds of Wales.

"We were surrounded by animals and when I was around six or seven I watched Jacques Cousteau documentaries and they made me want to swim with the fish," she fondly recalls.

A first class honours BSc in Environmental Engineering and a PhD from University College Dublin opened conservation doors. Then came a string of posts in the UK, Africa and Japan. Multilingual Ruth, who also speaks French, German, Portuguese and a little Japanese, became a global citizen.

"I've travelled widely in Europe, North America, South America, Africa and Australasia. I'm particularly interested in sustainable development, sustainable fisheries and the links between human culture and wildlife."

Her time in Africa – she's worked in the Gambia, Senegal and Namibia on conservation projects involving whales, dolphins and sawfish – has left Ruth with an abiding connection with the continent, its wildlife and people.

I'm particularly interested in sustainable development, sustainable fisheries and the links between human culture and wildlife.

© Ruth Leeney

© Ruth Leeney

“The countries and territories of Africa call you back, again and again: the wide-open spaces, the wildlife and the people.”

Much of Ruth’s work has involved encouraging local communities to be aware of biodiversity threats and techniques for monitoring endangered wildlife. It’s been a steady process which is paying dividends.

“I’ve noticed a change in attitudes since I first began working with the Gambia Department of Parks and Wildlife seven years ago. There’s still a long way to go but they are now recognising issues.”

“The countries and territories of Africa call you back, again, and again: the wide-open spaces, the wildlife and the people.

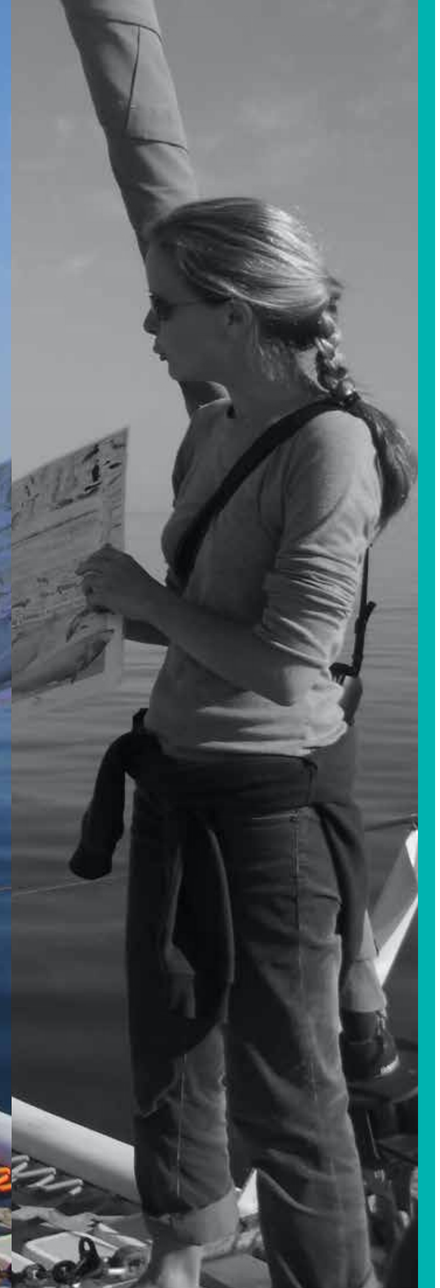
Although now a recognised expert in cetaceans, Ruth’s quick to stress no one marine species commands her total attention.

“I don’t have a favourite species. I have begun a lot of research into sawfish, sharks and rays. Many sharks and especially rays have been overlooked in the past. That may be changing now.”

This 38-year-old, multiple grant winner has a packed lifestyle which can leave onlookers breathless. She’s a certified yoga instructor, holds qualifications as an open water diver and powerboat driver and is certified in aircraft ditching and emergency breathing systems. And when not notching up accreditations, she’s swimming, running, surfing, penning research papers, blogs, scuba diving, kayaking, shooting photographs, cooking, reading, and seeing the world.

Despite a frenetic list of interests, Ruth says a measured approach – as demonstrated by her love of yoga – is indicative of her general life and conservation style.

© Ruth Leeney



In Africa there are few possibilities for local people to learn about wildlife so if I can help give them insights and amplify interest, it can only be a good thing.

"It's about creating a balanced life and taking time to 'be'. The thing about yoga is its holistic approach and I think conservation is the same. It should be about animals and humans together in an ecosystem and taking communities into the mind-set of the wellbeing of plants and animals."

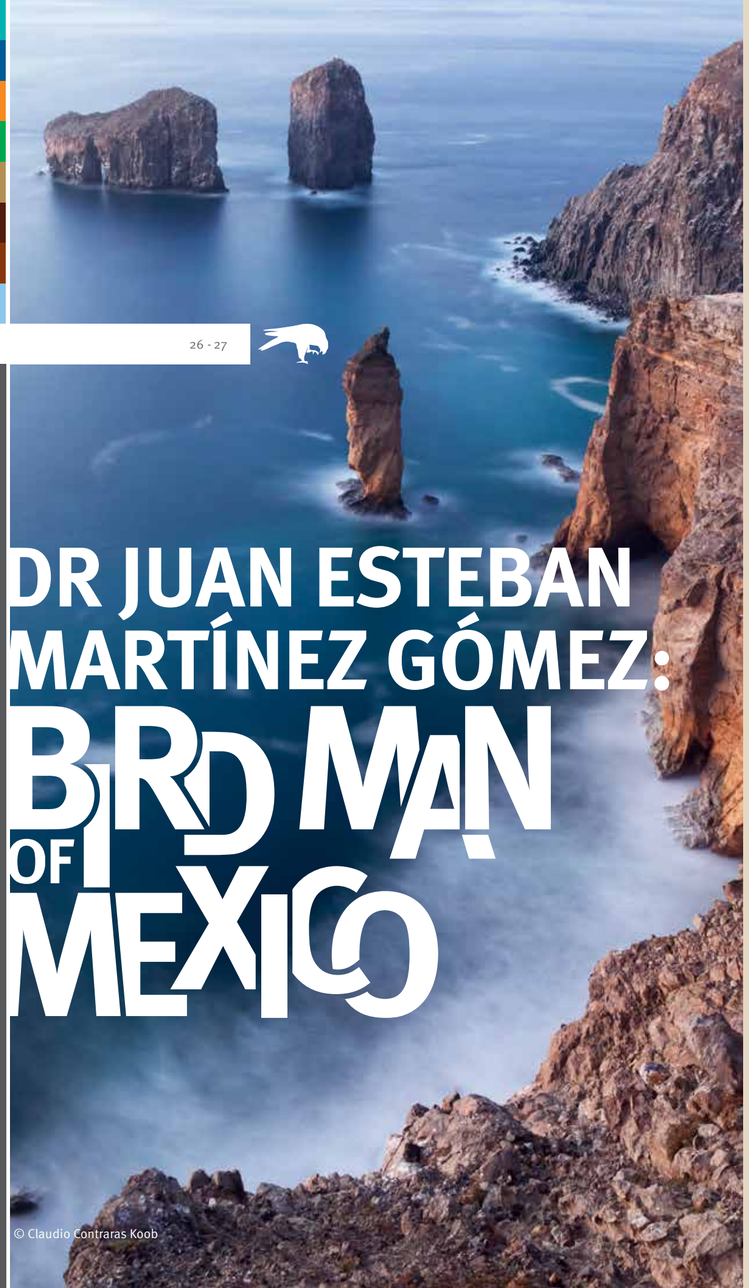
And now, with Fund support, Ruth is heading off to research the sawfish of Madagascar: "Possibly the last stronghold of sawfish in African waters," she declares.

It's all a far cry from Ruth's initial career expectations. In the past the road to conservation was not easily travelled. Ruth planned to be an artist. "I didn't know I could have a job in conservation – it wasn't a tangible career path some 15 years ago, but it seems to be becoming one. Well, conservation isn't really a job, it's more of a lifestyle. There are some websites now on conservation careers and a greater awareness that you can do this work and that there are opportunities which involve looking out for wildlife."

For this woman who admits a conservation career may not be financially rewarding, there's another driving force at work.

"In Africa there are few possibilities for local people to learn about wildlife so if I can help give them insights and amplify interest, it can only be a good thing. When I see people take something from the bit of training I can give – well, that's what keeps me going."

DR JUAN ESTEBAN MARTÍNEZ GÓMEZ: BIRD MAN OF MEXICO



© Claudio Contraras Koob

Dr Juan Esteban Martínez Gómez of Mexico's Instituto de Ecologia has been working on the small, volcanic Socorro Island located in the Revillagigedo Archipelago on a ground breaking project to reintroduce the Socorro dove. The bird is currently listed as Extinct in the Wild. The project is remarkable in that it will be the first time a bird species in this conservation category will return home thanks to captive breeding efforts.

Socorro Island itself is exceptional, being home to the largest concentration of endangered bird species in Mexico – including the Socorro mockingbird, the Socorro parakeet and the Townsend's shearwater – but so too is the exuberant project leader.

A father of two, Juan lives in Mexico's Cloud Forest, a habitat he's quick to point out is "abundant with endemic species and inspiring to people." His career choice is a far cry from a family heritage of working in a port and serving in the navy, but the link to the sea was a huge pull. "The ocean grabbed me from a young age," says Juan.

It was while at university studying biology and animal sciences that Juan's eyes were opened to Mexico's rich biodiversity and his life changed in a day during a visit to Socorro Island when he first saw Socorro mockingbirds.

"I was walking in a pristine habitat at Socorro Island and by accident I saw a mockingbird and I fell in love with the species. They are so tame, they want people up close and they are fearless. They might even be curious. And that starts a bonding process."

"I was walking in a pristine habitat at Socorro Island and by accident I saw a mockingbird and I fell in love with the species.

©Juan Esteban Martínez Gómez

© Gonzalo Vidal Varas

One bird in particular sealed the bond on a later outing. “The Mexican Navy was supporting us and one day, while waiting for transport back to the mainland, there was a mockingbird we had tagged – Socorro Mockingbird Number Three – flying around. As I paced up and down, waiting for my transport, it began following me. We walked together. We became friends. I felt like its godfather.”

Juan’s interest was nurtured by others who had studied the species and whose names he reels off with gusto and sincere appreciation. The mentors, from all over the world, were as keen to pass on their learning as an enthusiastic Juan was to absorb them.

“The MBZ Fund has also allowed people to develop by detecting talent and supporting it.

“Knowledge is a guiding tool – these people brought drive and change to me and other benefits came. My English was really bad. Connections with these scientists helped me learn English.”

“People in universities and scientific institutions in Mexico City get opportunities but outside of Mexico City it’s difficult to advance your conservation career – but the people involved in research on the birds of Socorro Island, people from all different countries, helped my career and gave me support. The MBZ Fund has also allowed people to develop by detecting talent and supporting it.”

And in a 180 degree turnaround, the eager student has now become an enthusiastic teacher, passing his knowledge on to youngsters following in his wake. “I would not be where I am today without all the people who offered me a hand – now it’s my turn to help other people.”

Perico de Socorro, Mexico © Claudio Contreras-Koob

‘I would not be where I am today without all the people who offered me a hand – now it’s my turn to help other people.’

“I try to involve as many students as possible in my projects so they can advance their careers. They are like small plants that need to be cared for so they can advance conservation.” In fact, with the support of the MBZ Fund his graduate students have played a fundamental role in our knowledge of the islands surrounding Socorro. Students rediscovered the Clarion nightsnake after almost 80 years without an offical observation. Students also detected a breeding colony of Townsend’s shearwater petrel on Clarion Island after almost 30 years of going unnoticed.

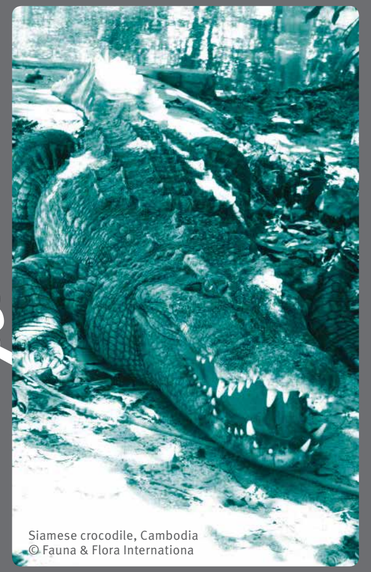
The Socorro dove breeding programme has thrived and is now approaching a seminal point. “We are going to start the reintroduction strategy and the Mexican Navy is very supportive. With Fund support we will reach this benchmark. Hopefully by 2017 the Socorro dove is going to be back on the Island, which will be the beginning of another journey. The island will have a new resident population and the bird will be back in its ancestral land.”

GRANT RECIPIENTS 2014

Panayiotis Pafilis

Victoria Smith

Mohd-Azlan J. Azad



Siamese crocodile, Cambodia
© Fauna & Flora Internationa

Rolando Aquino

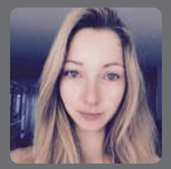
Rosamira Gullien

Ariadne Angulo

Badru Mugerwa

Heru Handika

Pedro Mendez



Brenda de Groot

Fishing cat, India
© Ashwin Naidu

Sagar Dahal

Buyan Delger

Carlos Valeris

Pedro Pereira

Bert Covert

Seheno Julia

Rebecca Stirnemann

Sama Zefania

Sara Barrios

Sylviane Volampeno

Esteban Martin Salas

Evans Nkrumah

Evelyn Williams

Urothemis thomasi, United Arab Emirates
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Gopal Khanal

Chris Gaskin

Flores hawk eagle, Indonesia
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Cherie Beyene

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Ilya Ermolin

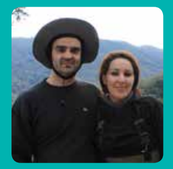
Inov Sectionov

Iraj Hashemzadeh

Thiri Dae We Aung

Tony King

Jigme Dorji



Jihéne Ben Hassine
& Daniel Escoriza

Juan Martinez

Claudia Hermes

Constanza Napolitano

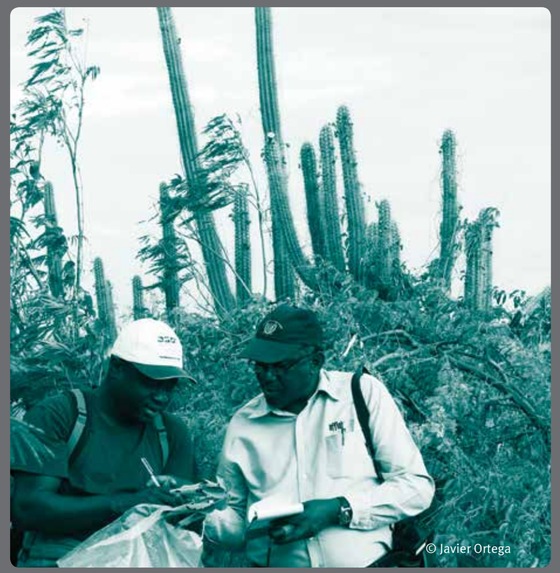
Tshering Nidup

Vernon Reynolds

Juan C. Huaranca

Keerthi Krutha

Ranil Nanayakkara



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Mongolian marmot, Mongolia
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Laotian rock rat, Vietnam
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Black-capped petrel, North America
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Karen Baird


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Agustinus Wijayanto


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Nghya Nguen


Christophe Boesch


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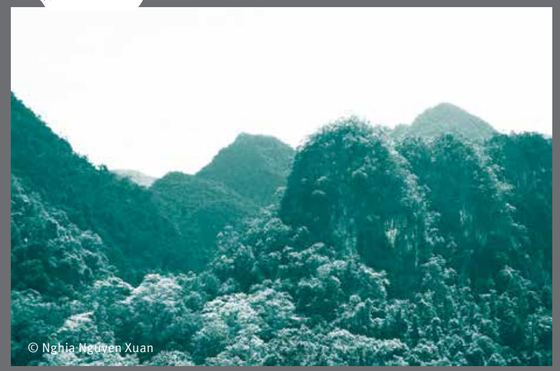
Carla Eisemberg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Daniel Jestrzemski

Ahmed M. Abdel-Azeem

Wicket the conservation dog

Shai Singh

Ruth Leeney

Alessandro Catenazzi

Ambrose Njagi

O F S T O R I E S O F D I S C O V E R Y

02

The Fund has helped unearth some amazing tales the world over. From tracking down an elusive cat in the wild and snow-capped mountains of the Himalayas, to securing the future of a sea bird in the Caribbean and recording the first sightings for decades of a rare dragonfly in the aridity of the Arabian Peninsula. Though the landscapes may be many miles apart and of widely differing complexity, the tales share many characteristics – resolve, resilience, innovation and curiosity.

Urothemis thomasi
Endangered
United Arab Emirates
$12,500

THE TALE OF THE REAPPEARING DRAGONFLY

Urothemis thomasi, United Arab Emirates © Jacky Judas

THE TALE OF THE REAPPEARING DRAGONFLY

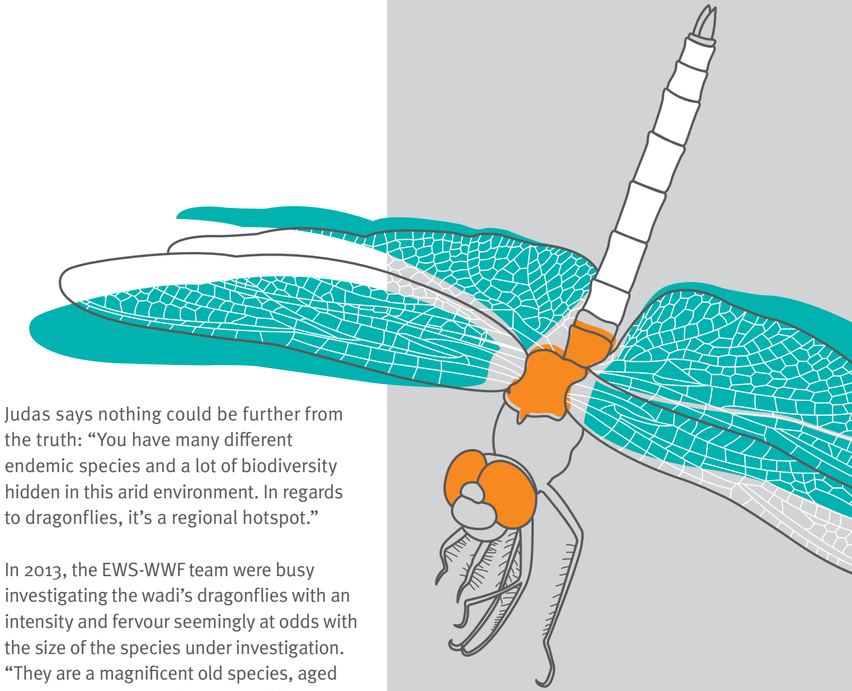
Studies focussing on species of the order Odonata (carnivorous insects) carried out in a national park in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and neighbouring Oman are playing a role in ensuring the survival of a rare dragonfly – *Urothemis thomasi*. This stunningly beautiful invertebrate was near to being declared extinct until a fortuitous, and totally unexpected, find in the UAE's east coast emirate of Fujairah brought it back from the brink.

The 2014 studies, carried out by the UAE's non-profit Emirates Wildlife Society in association with WWF (EWS-WWF), have assessed the distribution and ecological requirements for the survival of this species. Until 2013, the species had last been recorded over 30 years ago.

The setting for the remarkable discovery was the quiet solitude of Fujairah's Wadi Wurayah National Park – the UAE's first national park, where life centres around a wetland ecosystem.

On first glance, and to the untrained eye, the park would seem unlikely to host much life, but Research Manager Jacky Judas says nothing could be further from the truth: "You have many different endemic species and a lot of biodiversity hidden in this arid environment. In regards to dragonflies, it's a regional hotspot."

In 2013, the EWS-WWF team were busy investigating the wadi's dragonflies with an intensity and fervour seemingly at odds with the size of the species under investigation. "They are a magnificent old species, aged 300 million years old," enthused Maral Chreiki, Conservation & Operations Manager at Wadi Wurayah. "They are fragile, they are colourful and they are agile. Their body structure, everything about their species is unique, including their life cycle. Theirs is partly an aquatic life cycle where they spend more than half their life in the water, they breed in the water then emerge and start to fly."



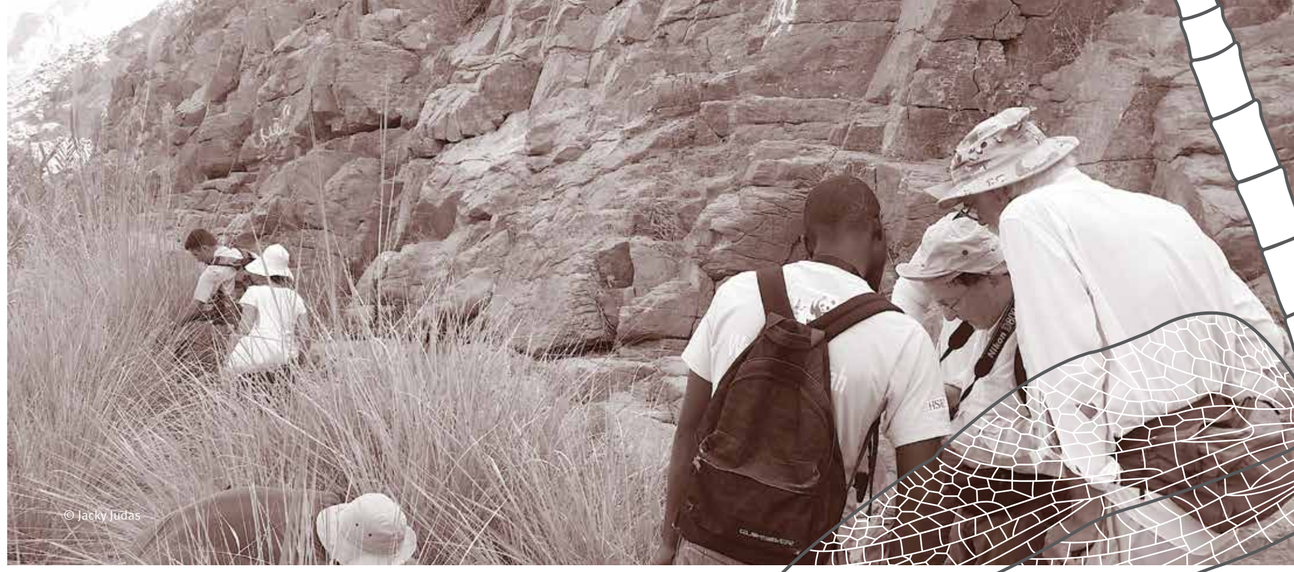
“We didn’t know why this species was rare and why we found it in Wadi Wurayah where it is always low in numbers – we needed to investigate in more detail.

It was a visit by David Chelmick, President of the British Odonatological Society, which helped changed the fortunes of the *Urothemis thomasi.* Attracted to Wadi Wurayah because of the park’s growing reputation for its diversity of dragonflies, David made a rare and, at the time, baffling discovery.

“We went into the wadi and I took lots of photographs and collected lots of exuviae – which is the husk, the larvae case of the dragonfly – and I collected this funny exuvia. It was big, without any spines and I couldn’t work it out. I then sent it to all sorts of people and all sorts of people wrote back and said they had no idea either. And eventually I sent it to a friend of mine in Germany and he worked out it was an exuvia from an Urothemis species and therefore it must be *Urothemis thomasi.* How about that! It was wonderful.”
As inspiring as it was, the discovery – which saved the species from being classified as Extinct – was only the start of a campaign to ensure its very existence.

“We didn’t know why this species was rare and why we found it in Wadi Wurayah where it is always low in numbers – we needed to investigate in more detail,” explained Judas.

The Fund weighed in with finance to cover the direct and indirect costs of surveys which attracted the attention and support of European specialists, and the results are providing crucial conservation insights.



“You have many different endemic species and a lot of biodiversity hidden in this arid environment.

“The Fund has helped us a lot in developing the survey. Many sites in the UAE have been reviewed to identify the status and clarify the distribution of *Urothemis thomasi.* Now we know that the species is here,” explained Judas. “And so far, we have not found it in other locations in the UAE or Oman. This points to the importance of Wadi Wurayah as a protected area.”

EWS-WWF hopes the studies will lead to *Urothemis thomasi* being updated in the Red List and that current and future findings will both ensure its survival and help further establish Wadi Wurayah as a national park of international conservation importance. It’s a strategy David Chelmick deems “essential”.

Pallas's Cat
Near Threatened
Nepal
$5,000

PROOF POSITIVE:

PALLAS'S CAT

CAUGHT ON CAMERA

Pallas's cat, Nepal © Ganga Ram Regmi

Proof Positive:

PALLAS'S CAT CAUGHT ON CAMERA

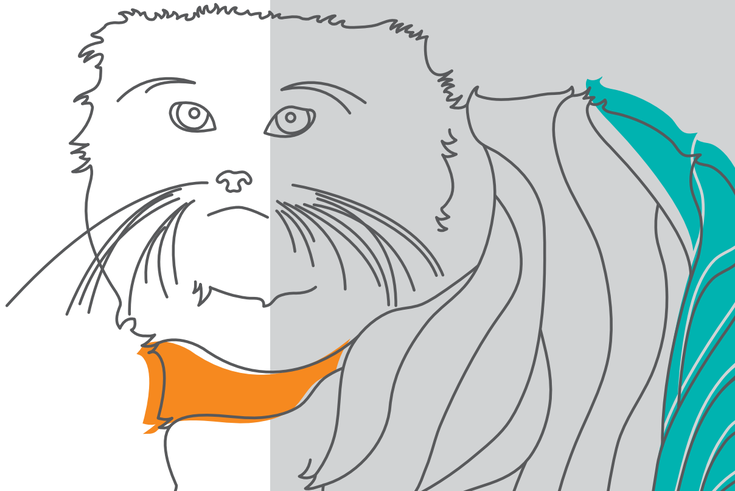
If any project demonstrates how small grants can make big differences, it's that of the Pallas's cat *(Otocolobus manul)*. This small, wild cat, was thought to inhabit the mountains of Nepal, but there was no evidence.

Named after the German naturalist Peter Simon Pallas, who first described it in a 1776 scientific work, the cat has been classified as Near Threatened in the IUCN Red List due to habitat degradation, prey-base decline and hunting.

In 2013 and 2014, more than 200 years after Pallas's scientific work, Ganga Ram Regmi sought Fund support to research the cat's existence in Nepal, particularly in the high Himalayas. Ganga was encouraged by reports of the cat in nearby Bhutan and reasoned that Nepal's eastern Himalayas could be home to the species because of Nepal and Bhutan's habitat and climatic similarities.

"The proposed research was aimed at helping us fill the information gap on the species in Nepal, to understand its ecological niche and threats and to set landscape conservation priorities in its global distribution range," explained Ganga.

With Fund backing, Ganga set out to assess the historical record, knowledge and perceptions about Pallas's cat with local people. He used techniques such as semi-structured interviews, sign surveys and camera-trapping.



© Ganga Ram Regmi

The project centred around three key geographic areas – the UNESCO World Heritage Site of the Sagarmatha National Park, which shelters under Mount Everest, the Kanchenjungha Conservation Area and the country's largest conservation site, the Annapurna Conservation Area.

Initially some progress was made. Two tracks were discovered in the Sagarmatha Park, local Kanchenjungha herders were abuzz with tales of possible sightings, and scat was found in three places in the Annapurna Conservation Area. Yet the solitary Pallas's cat, which spends its days hidden in caves, rock crevices and marmot burrows and emerges late in the afternoon to hunt, remained elusive to the researchers.

Ganga decided to opt for camera trapping and to narrow down the search. After securing trap permission from the wildlife authorities, the exercise began in the remote Himalayas, some 4,000 metres above sea level.

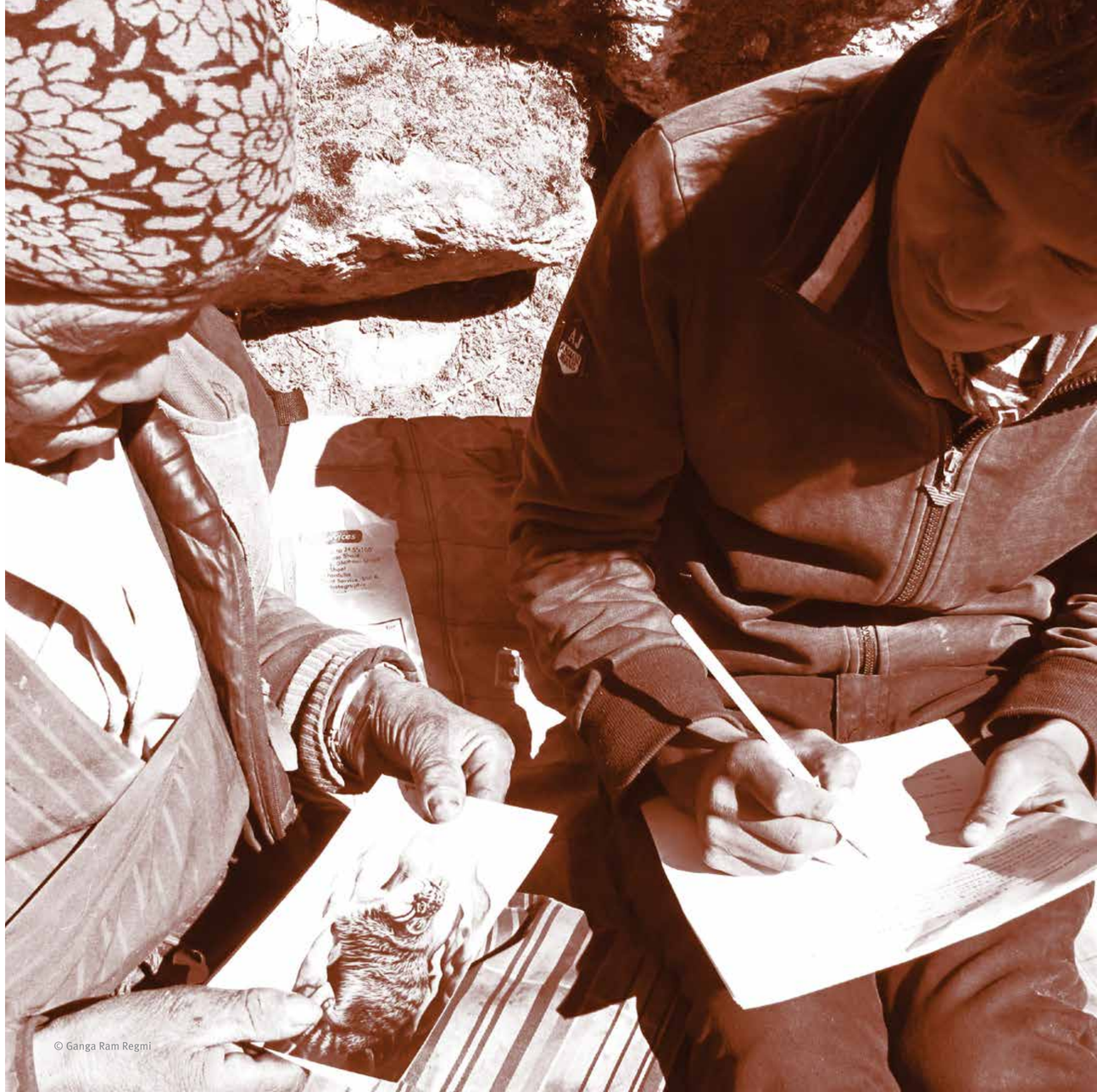
"After walking lots and conducting many field visits we selected the Ngyeshang Valley in the Annapurna region as the first camera-trap site," said Ganga.

There were challenges. Lodging, food, field gear and assistants' allowances proved expensive and the camera batteries needed frequent changing because of the extreme weather but all were overcome and images of the cat were captured.

Now Ganga is spreading the word of the cat in Nepal and is more determined to secure its survival.

"Before our Fund project, nobody knew about the Pallas's cat in Nepal. Now most wildlife researchers, students and local people know about it and can identify it when we show them the photographs. Also, I'm more interested to generate in-depth data on the ecology, behaviour and survival threats of this cat in the Himalayas and have decided to focus my PhD on the Pallas's cat," he said.

Before our Fund project, nobody knew about the Pallas's cat in Nepal. Now most wildlife researchers, students and local people know about it and can identify it.



© Ganga Ram Regmi

Black-capped petrel
Endangered
Dominican Republic & USA
$19,185

GROUND HEROES:
SAVING THE MYSTERIOUS

BLACK-CAPPED PETREL

Black-capped petrel, Dominican Republic © Glen Tepke

Ground Heroes:

SAVING THE MYSTERIOUS BLACK-CAPPED PETREL

A campaign to save the Black-capped petrel *(Pterodroma hasitata)*, of which only 5,000 are thought to exist, serves to show how several small grants can cumulatively advance species conservation.

The Fund has been behind the campaign – centred around North Carolina in the USA and the Caribbean – for the past three years, following an application from the non-governmental conservation organisation, the American Bird Conservancy (ABC).

What followed was a bird ecology and behaviour investigation hallmarked by persistence, dedication, and progressive science. The investigation zeroed-in to secure the very small, fragmented and declining breeding range and population of the Black-capped petrel, whose nocturnal habits meant little was known of them and whose breeding populations were declining due to habitat loss, degradation, hunting, and invasive predators.

Once breeding grounds were identified and monitored, scientists could begin to protect the birds at crucial times.

The 2012 project involved capturing petrels off North Carolina's Cape Hatteras. Equipped with a purpose-designed floating mist net, scientists planned to tag and trace the birds with satellite transmitters to uncover their nesting locations.

"Unfortunately, though much was learned about the conditions necessary to capture these birds at sea, the attempt was unsuccessful," explained Michael J. Parr, ABC's Vice President and Chief Conservation Officer.

"We continue to locate and monitor petrel nests on the border of Haiti and the Dominican Republic.

Undeterred the scientists, aided by a second Fund grant, teamed up with Environmental Protection in the Caribbean, Dominican Republic's Grupo Jaragua, Société Audubon Haiti, and Conservation Metrics, to buy and deploy several Autonomous Recording Units (ARUs). They set out to explore the presence of Black-capped petrels in the Dominican Republic and Haiti. ARU data would enable the partners to better understand the petrel's nesting phenology and locations as well as population size. The strategy and location change brought success.

"We continue to locate and monitor petrel nests on the border of Haiti and the Dominican Republic using a combination of radar surveys, acoustic and night-vision surveys, burrow-scopes, and infrared trail cameras. Our efforts have resulted in locating over 35 Black-capped petrel nests which are now being monitored closely," explained Project Manager Ryan Trachtenberg.

The third grant enabled the partners to buy a quadcopter drone which enhanced their ability to identify areas for on-the-ground nest searches.

By 2014, Grupo Jaragua was monitoring 47 nests on the Haitian/Dominican border and another 36 on the Massif de la Selle mountain range. Today the partners are more knowledgeable than ever about Black-capped petrel behaviour, foraging and nesting locations, information which is helping to prevent the extinction of this mysterious bird.

And, thanks to the Fund's support, ABC has secured two more donors and there is now a greater understanding of how local communities use nesting areas for subsistence so human activities that threaten petrels can be better managed.

"Today the partners are more knowledgeable than ever about Black-capped petrel behaviour, foraging and nesting locations, information which is helping to prevent the extinction of this mysterious bird.

OF STORIES

03

Some conservation consists of short, quick and sometimes one-off scientific studies or events. These studies attempt to answer questions of existence, abundance, population size, and range. They are the bedrock of conservation and involve surveying, monitoring and analysis with technology coming into play. From the shores of the Caribbean and Pakistan's Indus River, to the islands of Indonesia and the steppes of Mongolia, the Fund is supporting conservationists who are embracing science to help answer important questions about species conservation.

Coccothrinax jimenezii
Not Evaluated
Haiti
$15,000

THE 30 YEAR REVIVAL

© Javier Ortega

The 30 Year Revival

An extremely rare palm tree – *Coccothrinax jimenezii* – of which only 43 individuals remain in a single population in Northern Haiti, but have not been visited since June 1985, and a second group of 18 known to be on the shores of the Dominican Republic's Lago Enriquillo, could soon thrive in botanic gardens.

The Fund is supporting an extensive campaign to search for additional groups in Haiti and the Dominican Republic. The challenges of the hyper-saline Lago Enriquillo National Park, which is 40 metres below sea-level, brought its own threats to *Coccothrinax jimenezii*. It is the largest lake in the Caribbean and has major environmental conservation challenges of its own. Bizarrely over recent years, its surface area has increased dramatically, posing a major threat to the Coccothrinax species which lives close to its shoreline.

An exhaustive, phenological and demographic study of the Dominican Republic's known *Coccothrinax jimenezii* population got underway to determine what was contributing to the species' decline. During the extensive field work no other populations were located. Over in Haiti, field work and demographic studies have confirmed the existence of *Coccothrinax jimenezii* while seeds will be collected for future cultivation and reintroduction programmes. Samples have been collected for DNA studies that will be the basis for genetic initiatives, while the project leaders began to raise conservation awareness of *Coccothrinax jimenezii* and other Hispaniola palms. The outreach programme includes the creation of posters and postcards and giving presentations on palm conservation during the 6th Flora of Hispaniola Symposium that will take place in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.

The project has now given rise to a five-pronged action programme. This involves:

- **creating a conservation action plan to be shared with governmental and NGO conservation management groups**
- **obtaining growing plant material for future conservation initiatives, educational and outreach activities**
- **using DNA samples for genetic conservation projects**
- **encouraging protection of the area where the species grow**
- **publishing the project's results in an international plant conservation journal**

© Javier Ortega

Thanks to the Fund's support, synergistic partnerships for Caribbean palm conservation have been enhanced between the National Botanic Garden of the Dominican Republic, The Botanic Garden of Cayes, Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, and Florida International University.

COUNTING THE COST

Counting the Cost

HELPING A CRITICALLY ENDANGERED EAGLE SPECIES TO SOAR

Until recently, little was known about Indonesia's Flores hawk eagle (*Spizaetus floris*) as the species has received limited scientific attention since 2005 when it was estimated that fewer than 250 of this critically endangered bird of prey existed, and only on the Indonesian islands of Flores, Lombok, and Sumbawa.

The Flores hawk eagle lives in forests and was under significant pressure from deforestation due to illegal gold mining, agricultural activities and the fact that it is much sought-after by collectors of rare birds of prey. The situation concerned Usep Supraman, an Indonesia-based raptor specialist and member of the Raptor Conservation Society. Usep recognised that the Flores hawk eagle is an indicator for a healthy ecosystem because, as it preys upon insects, other arthropods, amphibians, reptiles, other bird species and some mammals, it helps regulate the number of animals, and maintain nature's balance and the diversity of habitat.

Usep approached the Fund to request support for population surveys of the raptors and to make an inventory of threats facing the species. The Fund responded with three grants, one grant for each island. Equipped with binoculars, a camera, GPS, tally sheets, local knowledge, and finances to cover his expenses, Usep set out to survey these remote Indonesian islands. He spent 15 days at a time navigating pre-identified survey areas across roads, tracks and forest trails, sometimes on foot, other times by motorbike. His data collection covered the bird's location, altitude, habitat and behavior and was made easier by its soaring ability in clear weather.

Usep says he brought basic scientific survey techniques, "and a good amount of resilience" into play and was able to secure valuable information from all three survey sites which he backed up through interviews with local farmers and regional government officials. All those interviewed believed the number of Flores hawk eagle had declined over recent years.

In all Usep recorded 228 birds – "I was able to count 58 individuals on Sumbawa, 44 on Lombok, and 126 on Flores Island. Although more-or-less confirming previous population estimates, the results indicate that the species faces considerable threats from gold mining, forest encroachment from agriculture and construction, illegal logging, as well as persecution and hunting," he explained.

But the surveys are just the beginning for Usep. Based on his findings, he's now recommending continuous survey and monitoring of the Flores hawk eagle; more community-based conservation, including teaching local communities and students to identify and count raptors; and to push for reforestation projects. This way, he hopes, the eagle will continue to soar.

Marmot Marks the Spot

HOW RESEARCH ON THE STEPPES OF MONGOLIA COULD HELP IDENTIFY BIODIVERSITY HOT SPOTS

In the sweeping grasslands of Mongolia's Hustai National Park scientific research is underway which could help identify future biodiversity hotspots.

The park, which edges the vast Mongolian steppes, is home to the Endangered Mongolian marmot (*Marmota sibirica*).Prior to 2006 it was periodically hunted, but is now protected by law. Yet, it is still in decline.

It's here that conservationist Buyandelger Suuri has embarked, with Fund support, on a project which will lead to a better understanding of the biological requirements needed for marmot conservation.

"The project aims to quantify the distribution, abundance, and habitat requirements of marmots and answer the question: 'Do marmot colonies represent biodiversity hotspots?' explained Buyandelger.

Buyandelger set about testing whether areas with marmot colonies have more biodiversity than those without. She established two such study areas and in each set a grid of 50 live-traps to sample small mammals. She set pitfall traps to sample insects, and established variable circular plots to measure the diversity of bird species. She quickly noticed several differences in insect species on each site.

Buyandelger also set camera traps on each site to observe biodiversity in marmot burrows. Plans to trap insects stumbled with methodology challenges and Buyandelger now plans to alter trapping designs.

Once the trapping data is in, Buyandelger intends to develop an action plan for marmot conservation and a set of management recommendations to better protect biodiversity in the study area. She'll also publish her results in a peer-reviewed journal and present them to local officials, managers and stakeholders.

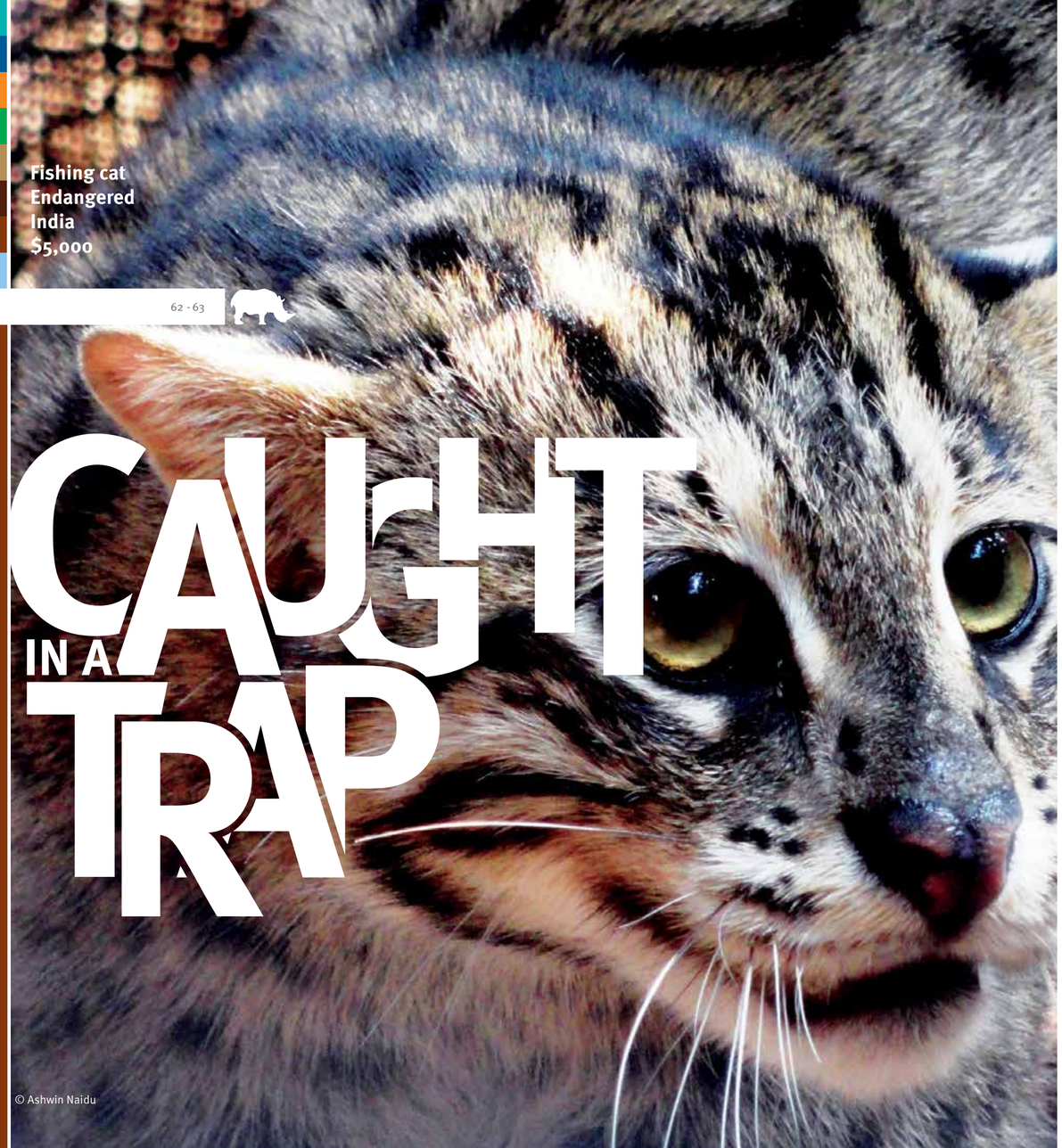
For Buyandelger, the project reflects the importance of rural Mongolia where the landscape has remained intact for thousands of years.

"The country's large and relatively intact ecosystems, which have disappeared in adjacent countries, are of great global importance. Mongolia now has several special protected areas with restrictions on economic activities. The national park is of great importance for the protection of plant cover, biodiversity and also for endangered animals. This is particularly important as funding to protect large areas of the reserve is limited and there's a need to develop priority areas with the greatest amount of biodiversity."

And Buyandelger believes she has also personally benefitted from the project. "I have realised the challenges that setting up a research project entails, the need to manage assisting personnel and the fact that problems you run into while conducting field work must be addressed on site."

Buyandelger now works with, and manages, international students and teachers, and several Mongolian colleagues, including international researchers in the national park.

And as another conservationist matures, we may be closer to discovering whether marmot populations really do mark out biodiversity hotspots.



Caught in a Trap

HOW CAMERAS ARE HELPING TO PRESERVE THE ENDANGERED FISHING CATS OF INDIA'S EAST COAST MANGROVES

The lush forest and wetlands along India's vast Godavari River basin in Andhra Pradesh host several endangered and threatened species that are key to its unique ecosystem, yet little exploration of its rich biodiversity has been carried out because of political instability. For local conservation biologist Ashwin Naidu the situation was untenable.

Backed by a Fund grant, Ashwin began his campaign with a focus on the Endangered Fishing cat *(Prionailurus viverrinus)* which lives within wetland areas and feeds on freshwater fish. The Fishing cat's future here looked bleak as the mangrove forests are increasingly threatened by unsustainable development and human impact.

"On India's east coast, only a few intact Fishing cat populations are known to exist, and these are subject to heavy habitat loss, persecution and poaching by humans," explained Ashwin. "Moreover, drainage from human settlements that lead into the freshwater are essentially polluting Fishing cat habitat."

Ashwin launched a systematic camera-trap survey to document the occurrence and activity patterns of Fishing cats in the river basin and mangrove forests. The resulting data was used to GIS map potential Fishing cat habitats and document the human threats to the area.

Ashwin then used the data to build trust among local people. First he trained frontline forest staff and talented conservation-oriented 'animal trackers' at the local forest department. Then he educated locals and school children in nearby towns on the need for Fishing cat habitat conservation.

"Local communities here possess an innate conservation philosophy, and I wanted to work with them to harness that towards measurable conservation action."

There were challenges, including a shortage of finance to cover boat travel costs and obtaining permits for camera-based surveys inside protected areas. These were overcome by sourcing additional finance from donors encouraged by the Fund's initial support.

The camera trapping and GIS mapping yielded evidence of Fishing cats in over 20 locations including the southernmost records of the species in India. A volunteer base of 20 local people now work on Fishing cat conservation and the team provides the local forest department with substantial data and maps, and a banner has been produced in the local language to campaign for dedicated Fishing cat protected areas. Education programmes are conducted in schools, and for people living near Fishing cat territories.
And Ashwin's project team has grown with the newcomers learning how to set up, and monitor wildlife cameras outside protected areas.

STORIES OF INTERVENTION

MAYDAY MANOEUVRES

04

In some conservation cases time is truly of the essence. The Fund is able to act quickly to emergencies which may involve rescues or relocations of Critically Endangered species threatened with immediate habitat loss. From a desert reserve in Australia comes a remarkable intervention story which is securing the last wild population of the tiny Red-finned blue eye fish, and in the lush jungle of Southern Cambodia a timely relocation of a Siamese crocodile population to escape the effects of a proposed hydro-electric dam.

Operation Protect & Revive

SECURING THE LAST WILD POPULATIONS OF AUSTRALIA'S RAREST DESERT FISH

The Great Artesian Basin springs in central Queensland, Australia are the only place to find the Critically Endangered Red-finned blue eye – a small fish endemic to only a few springs in this area.

First discovered in 1990, the Red-finned blue eye (*Scaturiginichthys vermeilipinnis*) was known to exist in seven springs, by 2008 the population had declined to just four springs. Conservation work by Bush Heritage – a national non-profit organisation that protects Australia's unique animals, plants and their habitats – began to reintroduce the fish to selected springs on the Edgbaston Nature Reserve.

Before the reserve was established, the land was a livestock station with several hundred natural springs fed by underground water. Despite the livestock, the springs on the reserve were the most ecologically-diverse 'super-group' of springs in the entire basin, playing host to endemic fish, invertebrates and plants.

While prolonged use of the springs by stock and feral animals may have negatively impacted the spring ecosystems, another great threat to the Red-finned blue eye lurked in the waters.

"The greatest threat is the introduced mosquito-fish, *Gambusia holbrooki,*" explained Liz Hackett of Bush Heritage Australia. "Red-finned blue eye are unable to co-exist with Gambusia and have disappeared from springs colonised by them. As a result, the target species remains perilously close to extinction."

The Red-finned blue eye population fluctuates widely but is less than 3,000 and importantly, all the springs in which the endemic fish live are at risk from Gambusia infestation.

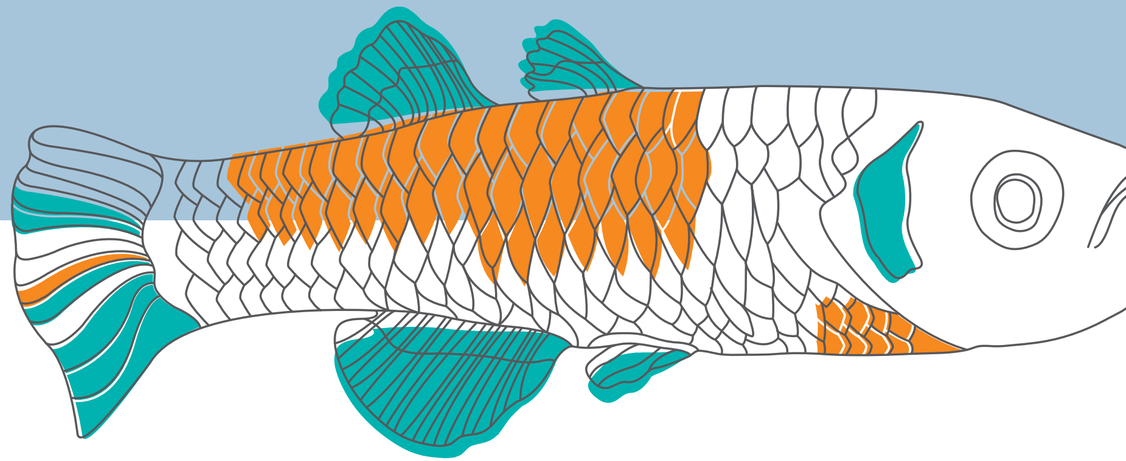
© Liz Hackett

Red-finned blue eye are unable to co-exist with mosquito-fish and have disappeared from springs colonised by them. As a result, the target species remains perilously close to extinction.

With Fund support, Bush Heritage has embarked on a scientific programme aimed at ensuring the Red-finned blue eye's survival in the wild. An intermediate objective is to establish 10 self-sustaining Red-finned blue eye populations in Edgbaston springs by 2022.

Bush Heritage moved first to protect the existing Red-finned blue eye populations and habitat, remove threats and create new habitat, and establish a captive population for *ex-situ* breeding as an insurance population. This required quarantining springs from Gambusia invasion by raising and maintaining barriers, chemically treating some springs to remove Gambusia and then relocating the Red-finned blue eye to a safe environment. The plan also called for the establishment of a captive-breeding population of Red-finned blue eye away from Edgbaston and research into new ways of eradicating Gambusia from the springs and to increase understanding about the dynamics and movement of the invasive species.

A new captive breeding programme has been established in partnership with the marine mammal park, oceanarium and wildlife sanctuary SEA LIFE Mooloolaba. "This is an important measure to ensure that there is an insurance population located away from Edgbaston Reserve," explained Liz. "If successful, the captive breeding programme will allow us to supplement wild populations on Edgbaston Reserve. As guardians of this species' only known habitat, Bush Heritage is committed to ensuring the Red-finned blue eye has every chance to thrive in its natural habitat."



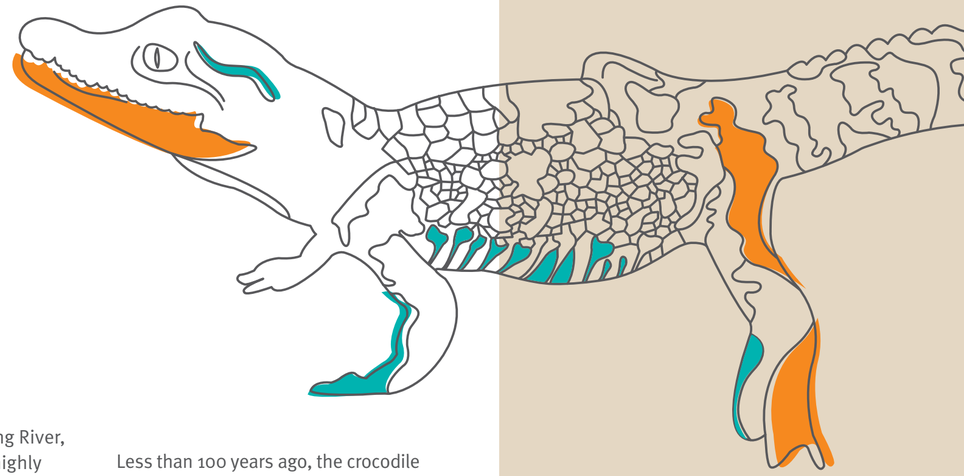
Establishing a captive breeding programme is an important measure to ensure that there is an insurance population located away from Edgbaston Reserve.

Siamese crocodile
Critically Endangered
Cambodia
$12,000

A SNAPPY MOVE

A Snappy Move

SAVING CRITICALLY ENDANGERED SIAMESE CROCODILES

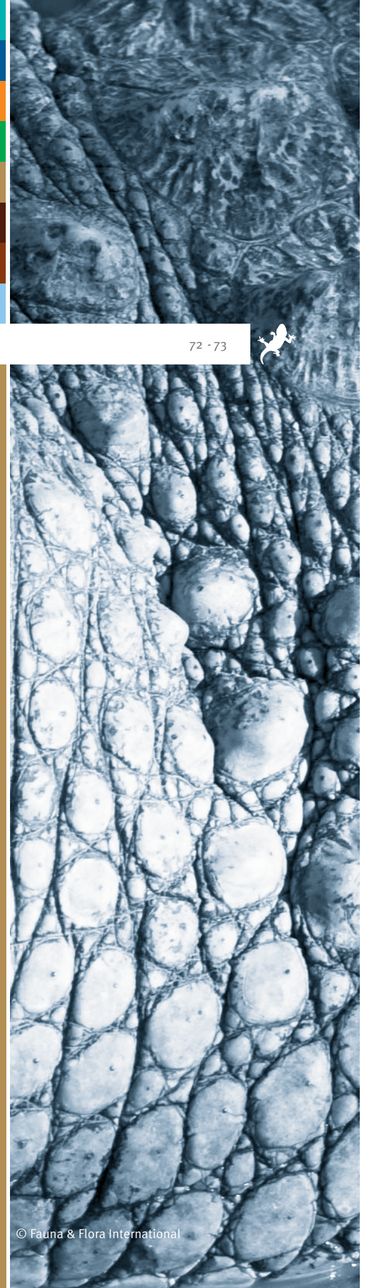


In Cambodia along the Areng River, 10 years of award-winning and highly publicised work by Fauna & Flora International (FFI) and its associated Cambodian Crocodile Conservation Programme (CCCP) looked like it was about to go down the drain with plans for a hydropower dam.

Growing power demand meant the Critically Endangered Siamese crocodile *(Crocodylus siamensis)* could be wiped out from the river where they were stable and reproducing. The development would end a decade of successful crocodile protection which, with local support, had counteracted poaching, habitat degradation and human conflict.

Less than 100 years ago, the crocodile flourished throughout Southeast Asia, but habitat destruction and hunting eradicated it from 99% of its historical range. Fewer than 250 adults were known to survive in the wild and almost all were in remote parts of Southwest and Northeast Cambodia. The Areng River accounted for the second largest known Siamese crocodile population of 30–40 reptiles, of which 10 were mature.

Dam construction was slated for early July 2014 and meant the river habitat would be destroyed. The FFI and CCCP believed the crocodiles, and the villagers who initially helped save them, needed a new home.



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Monitoring post-release is crucial to determine how successfully the crocodiles adapt to the new site, and whether they remain together or break up into smaller colonies.

The Cambodian Forestry Administration asked for urgent assistance to relocate the crocodiles to a proposed sanctuary in the upper Khiew River valley. The Fund responded to an FFI request for emergency funding.

The relocation needed to finish within four months. Field personnel underwent advanced training in safe capture and handling techniques by members of the IUCN SSC Crocodile Specialist Group. With strong grass roots support, more than 20 safe traps of different types were set to capture crocodiles which would be housed in a temporary pen until they were trucked to the release site. The rainy season made the task difficult and dangerous.

Around 20 rescued crocodiles were marked with implanted AVID microchip tags to aid individual identification and monitoring after release back into the wild. Some of the crocodiles were fitted with external radio transmitters for follow-up monitoring by the CCCP team, community wardens and university students.

“Monitoring post-release is crucial to determine how successfully the crocodiles adapt to the new site, and whether they remain together or break up into smaller colonies. Lessons learned can then be used to inform and improve future conservation management decisions,” explained FFI’s Ann Lovett.

© Fauna & Flora International

They will be within their familiar social group, there are no human settlements nearby to disturb them.”

The crocodiles’ survival chances are rated as good. “They will be within their familiar social group, there are no human settlements nearby to disturb them, and the site is at no obvious risk of being targeted for hydropower or other developments. Furthermore, the Forestry Administration is planning to designate this area a National Crocodile Sanctuary,” explained Lovett.

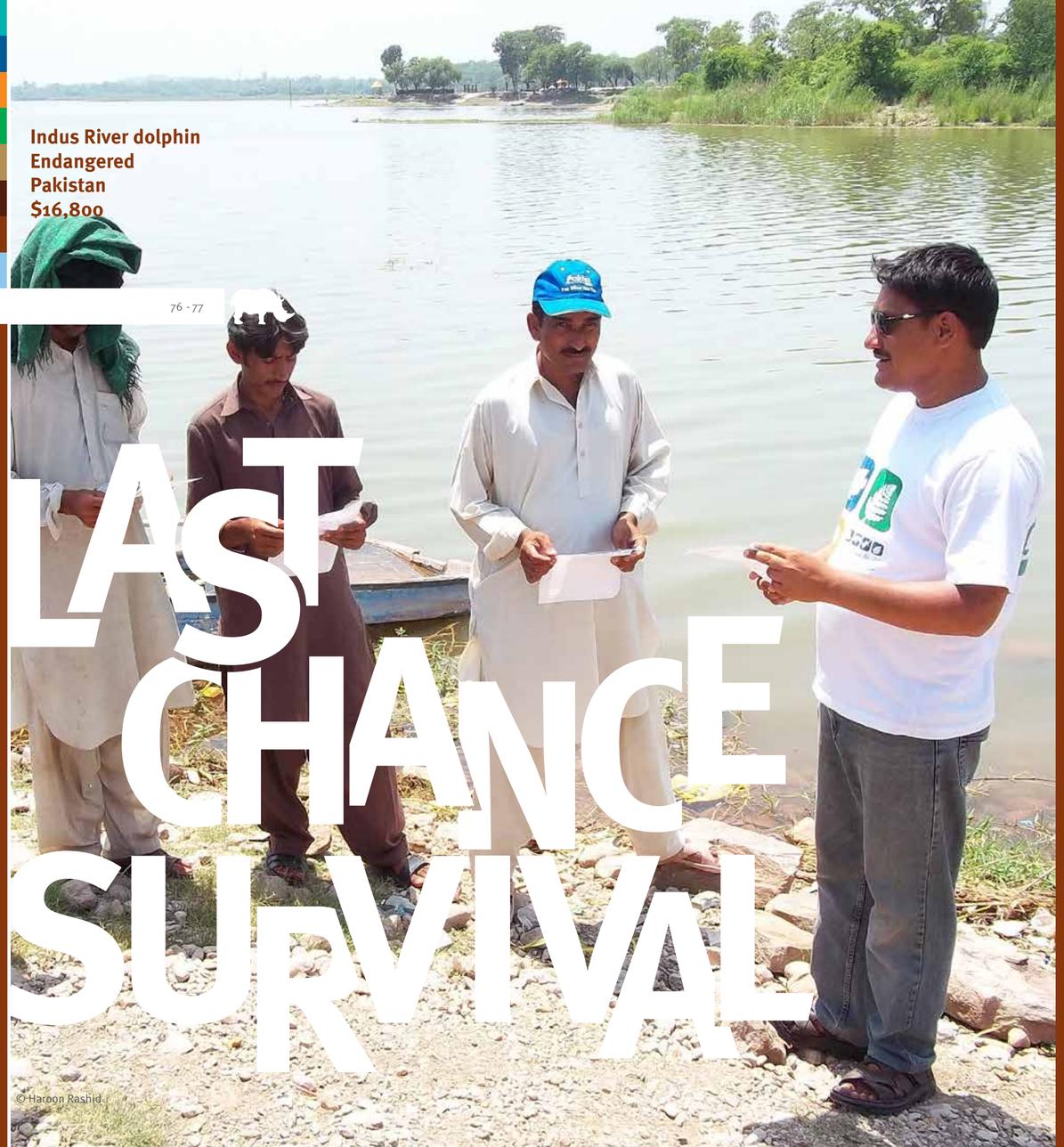
During the capture work, a nest of 22 eggs, 17 of which were fertilised, was discovered. The fertilized eggs were carefully counted, measured and moved to a new location where they could be protected around-the-clock from predators, poachers and flooding until they hatched.

“The 17 hatchlings are doing well in a specially built enclosure where they will be head-started until 18 months of age,” said Lovett.

Ironically, the dam project has been put on hold pending the outcome of political elections. FFI has ceased additional capture and relocation for the time being but is keeping a close watch on the situation.

05

Conservation often demands change in community behaviour. Here we examine work done to protect an ecosystem, or raise conservation awareness at grassroots level. By and large the approach requires long-term efforts, yet from the Indus River to Vietnam we hear stirring stories of mindset shifts – the green shoots of change which could alter the fate of species.



Indus River dolphin
Endangered
Pakistan
$16,800

LAST CHANCE SURVIVAL

Last Chance Survival

HOW A COMMUNITY WAS MOTIVATED TO HELP SAVE INDUS RIVER DOLPHINS

Three Fund supported campaigns to help conserve Central Pakistan's Indus River dolphin *(Platanista minor)* have come to fruition with strong community conservation activities.

The campaign began when a local NGO – the Indus Conservation Society (ICS) – sought support to raise local awareness about the dolphins through outreach activities such as engagement of local volunteers as illegal activity watchmen.

The Indus River dolphins, known locally as Bhulans, are one of two subspecies of the South Asian river dolphins and one of the world's most endangered cetaceans – only 1,100 are thought to remain in the river's lower reaches. The species' population has gradually declined due to water pollution, poaching, habitat fragmentation,and strandings in irrigation canals.

Though the dolphins were struggling for survival in the waters of the Indus, no major effort had been undertaken to save them, no data was available on the species distribution and extinction loomed.

Three Fund supported campaigns to help conserve Central Pakistan's Indus River dolphin *(Platanista minor)* have come to fruition with strong community conservation activities.

“This is first time the Indus River dolphin will be monitored and protected by the local community and we will develop the Dolphin Rescue Volunteers into a sustainable community-based conservation effort.

With support from the Fund, the ICS project focused on dolphin protection, population monitoring, awareness raising and building local capacity to conserve it.

After a delayed start due to heavy monsoon rainfall, flooding, and a terrorist attack in the area, ICS began taking its message directly to the public. Students were informed of conservation activities while the local community and hunters learned about the Indus River dolphin.

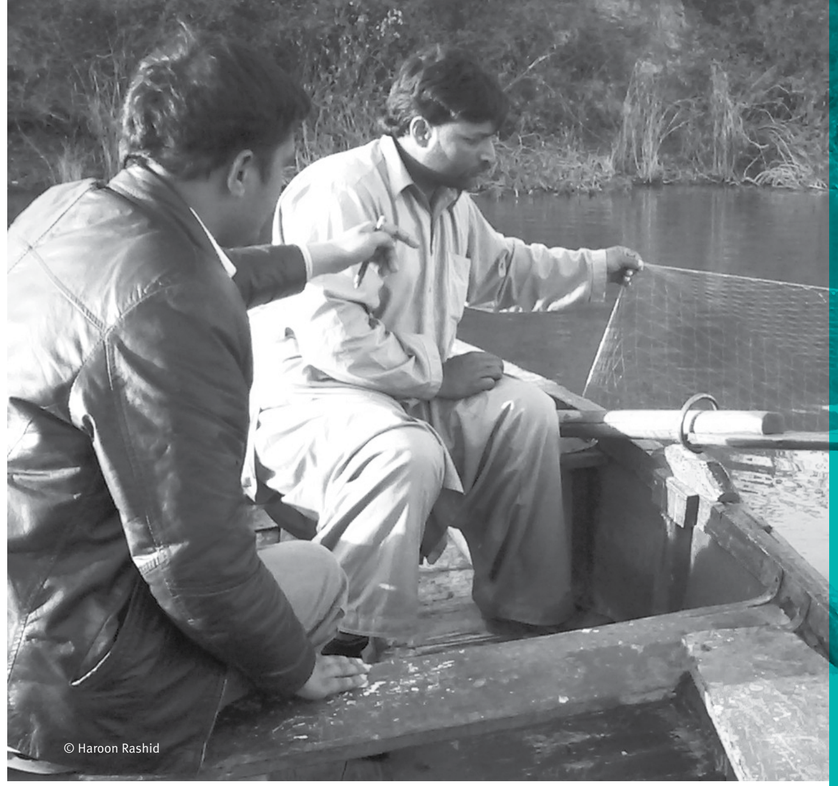
In remote areas near the dolphin habitat, painting and speech competitions informed students about conservation, while meetings were conducted with the local community leaders and fishermen to raise awareness.

“These people were not familiar with such activities and they were also engaged in dolphin killing, so all meetings were informal to create conservation awareness at a grass roots level,” explained Haroon Rashid, General Secretary of ICS.

Workshops and awareness seminars informed and motivated the population while young people living near the dolphin habitat were recruited as ‘Dolphin Rescue Volunteers’.

These volunteers would be part of a planned dolphin monitoring project, which would evolve into a long term sustainable conservation programme. It would home in on poaching and the accidental killing of dolphins through entanglement in fishing nets. Advanced training was set up for volunteers and a boat-based dolphin monitoring system was introduced. A River Dolphin Watch programme was planned to make the effort sustainable.

“The building of a well-equipped boat would help us with long-term monitoring and research and the boat could also be used for eco-tourism which would generate funds for conservation and research activities,” added Haroon.



© Haroon Rashid

“This is first time the Indus River dolphin will be monitored and protected by the local community and we will develop the Dolphin Rescue Volunteers into a sustainable community-based conservation effort.”

The entire campaign has had sweeping effects. The communities around important dolphin habitats have been identified. Twenty young ‘Dolphin Rescue Volunteers’ have been trained in protection and monitoring, and financial support has been lent to campaign members to keep the programme going.

“We have also strengthened links between the local community and the government’s Department of Wildlife Protection. This has made us feel that we are not alone, that we have friends and partners even at the international level and most importantly of all, the dolphins are now more protected,” said Haroon.

Laotian rock rat
Endangered
Vietnam
$12,500

© Nghia Nguyen Xuan

RAT RACE

Rat Race

HOW A COMMUNITY IS CHANGING ITS ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE ENDANGERED LAOTIAN ROCK RAT

In central Vietnam rodents were much sought after as a traditional food source. Men in the villages prided themselves on their rodent trapping skills with each usually setting between 30 to 100 forest snares and the more skilled setting up to 300 to 500 snares. Each year 20 to 50 Laotian rock rats *(Laonastes aenigmamus)* were among the rodents trapped for food.

For zoologist Dr Nghia Nguyen Xuan, director of the non-governmental and non-profit Centre for Resources, Environment and Climate Change (CeREC), the issue was clear – the Laotian rock rat was endangered and could be wiped out if local attitudes were not changed.
With Fund support, he set out on a game-changing project to convince the community to alter its behaviour, reduce hunting and embrace conservation.

High on the agenda were snare removals, surveys on the species' population ecology, raising of local conservation awareness to reduce hunting and building of conservation capacity among staff at the Phong Nha - Ke Bang National Park.

Surveys confirmed a very small local distribution range of the Laotian rock rat population and this population was located very close to villages of ethnic tribes with strong trapping habits.

The Laotian rock rat was endangered and could be wiped out if local attitudes were not changed.”

“It was the first time local villagers and also other local stakeholders became aware of the critical status of the Laotian rock rat and its conservation importance.


© Nghia Nguyen Xuan

“This made conservation of this population very urgent and also very difficult,” said Dr Nghia.

The survey also identified the rat’s habitat preferences, as well as the threats of trapping and deforestation. With the data in hand, and snare removal going on simultaneously, a conservation management plan was devised. From village to village, meetings were held to explain the threats to the rat and the biodiversity consequences of losing the rats, as well as to garner support for removing snares.

“It was the first time local villagers and also other local stakeholders became aware of the critical status of the Laotian rock rat and its conservation importance,” explained Dr Nghia.

But the message took root and local residents and national park rangers destroyed about 1,000 rodent snares within the Laotian rock rat distribution area. Though it was a good start, Dr Nghia was aware that the work needed to continue on a longer term basis and he recruited stakeholder support.

Project results and recommended conservation measures were delivered to relevant stakeholders, especially the management board of the Phong Nha - Ke Bang National Park which is responsible for the area’s biodiversity conservation.

“The management board agreed to implement the recommendations including continuing Laotian rock rat conservation awareness and snare removal for a longer period,” explained Dr Nghia.

The CeREC is continuing its studies and conservation activities to ensure the survival of the Laotian rock rat and is supplying all stakeholders with detailed conservation action plans. Meanwhile, the results of the project are to be published in academic journals to help gather support from the global conservation community.

And for Dr Nghia, there have been personal benefits. “From this project I have advanced my own species conservation studies, and my conservation leadership ability. I have learned how to develop and manage a conservation project to better contribute to biodiversity conservation.”

SUPPORTED PROJECTS 2014

REPTILE

Projects listed alphabetically by country name

EX=Extinct | EW=Extinct in the Wild | CR=Critically Endangered | EN=Endangered | VU=Vulnerable
NT=Near Threatened | LC=Least Concern | DD=Data Deficient | NE = Not Evaluated

Vernacular Species Name	Name of Organisation	Name	Scientific Species Name	Country, Continent	Funding
Antiguan racer (CR)	Environmental Awareness Group	Natalya Lawrence	*Alsophis antiguae*	Antigua and Barbuda, N. America	$10,000
Christmas Island giant gecko (EN)	Australian National University	Melissa Wynn	*Cyrtodactylus sadleiri*	Australia, Oceania	$15,670
Mary River turtle (EN)	Griffith University	Simon Linke	*Elusor macrurus*	Australia, Oceania	$9,000
Daudin's sea snake (DD)	N/A	Abdur Razzaque Sarker	*Hydrophis nigrocinctus*	Bangladesh, Asia	$7,500
Sister Isles rock iguana (CR)	N/A	Jeanette Moss	*Cyclura nubila caymanensis*	Cayman Islands	$8,500
Chinese yellow pond turtle (EN)	Peking University	Daniel Gaillard	*Mauremys mutica*	China, Asia	$5,000
Gecko (CR)	Yat-sen University	Yingyong Wang	*Goniurosaurus zhelongi*	China, Asia	$9,700
Forest hinged tortoise (CR)	N/A	Luca M. Luiselli	*Kinixys erosa*	Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast)	$10,000
Canasí trope (NE)	University of Havana	Javier Torres	*Tropidophis celiae*	Cuba, N. America	$4,500
Sierra curlytail lizard (CR)	National Museum of Natural History	Luis Diaz	*Leiocephalus onaneyi*	Cuba, N. America	$6,500
Snake-eyed skink (DD)	Australian National University	Mozes Blom	*Cryptoblepharus spp.*	French Polynesia, Oceania	$5,000
Frost's alligator lizard (CR)	Zoo Atlanta/Zootropic	Brad Lock	*Abronia frosti*	Guatemala, N. America	$8,500
Assam roof turtle (EN)	Turtle Survival Alliance	Shailendra Singh	*Pangshura sylhetensis*	India, Asia	$9,000
Crowned river turtle (VU)	Turtle Survival Alliance-India	Shailendra Singh	*Hardella thurjii*	India, Asia	$4,000
Leith's softshell turtle (VU)	Turtle Survival Alliance	Shashwat Sirsi	*Nilssonia leithii*	India, Asia	$9,500
Painted terrapin (CR)	Yayasan Satucita Lestari Indonesia	Joko Guntoro	*Batagur borneoensis*	Indonesia, Asia	$9,000
Latifi's viper (EN)	Centre d'écologie fonctionnelle et évolutive	Roozbeh Behrooz	*Montivipera latifii*	Iran, Asia	$4,000
Ploughshare tortoise (CR)	Turtle Conservancy	Ross Kiester	*Astrochelys yniphora*	Madagascar, Africa	$11,000
River terrapin (NE)	Turtle Conservation Society of Malaysia	Pelf-Nyok Chen	*Batagur affinis*	Malaysia, Asia	$10,000
Burmese star tortoise (CR)	Wildlife Conservation Society	Bonnie Raphael	*Geochelone platynota*	Myanmar (Burma), Asia	$12,500
Fer de lance (NE)	N/A	Julie Ray	*Bothrops asper*	Panama, N. America	$2,000
Geometric tortoise (EN)	Working Dogs for Conservation	Peter Coppolillo	*Psammobates geometricus*	South Africa, Africa	$9,000
Leatherback turtle (CR)	Bio Conservation Society	Lalith Ekanayake	*Dermochelys coriacea*	Sri Lanka, Asia	$4,890
Pancake tortoise (VU)	University of Southern California	Michael Tuma	*Malacochersus tornieri*	Tanzania, Africa	$12,000
Dragon blood tree's gecko (CR)	University of Porto	Raquel Vasconcelos	*Hemidactylus dracaenacolus*	Yemen, Asia	$2,800

FISH

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Vernacular Species Name	Name of Organisation	Name	Scientific Species Name	Country, Continent	Funding
Red-finned blue eye (CR)	Bush Heritage Australia	Liz Hackett	*Scaturiginichthys vermeilipinnis*	Australia, Oceania	$15,000
Greenback parrotfish (EN)	Reef Conservation Project	Pedro Henrique Cipresso Pereira	*Scarus trispinosus*	Brazil, S. America	$7,950
Cuban topminnow (NE)	Ecology and Systematics Institute	Rodet Rodriguez Silva	*Girardinus creolus*	Cuba, N. America	$4,500
Humpback mahseer (EN)	St. Albert's College	Rajeev Raghavan	*Hypselobarbus mussullah*	India, Asia	$12,050
(Blind) Iran cave barb (VU)	Shahre Kord University	Iraj Hashemzadeh Segherloo	*Iranocypris typhlops*	Iran, Asia	$6,000
Giant catfish (DD)	National Museums of Kenya	Julius Nguku	*Clarotes tarabinii*	Kenya, Africa	$25,000
Mekong giant catfish (CR)	Griffith University	Harmony Patricio	*Pangasianodon gigas*	Laos, Asia	$11,200
Largetooth sawfish (CR)	Benguela Research & Training	Ruth Leeney	*Pristis pristis*	Madagascar, Africa	$9,000
Pinstripe damba (CR)	Madagasikara Voakajy	Roma Randrianavelona	*Paretroplus menarambo*	Madagascar, Africa	$7,150
Oreochromis lidole (EN)	RIPPLE Africa	Pam Haigh	*Oreochromis lidole*	Malawi, Africa	$12,000
Carbonera pupfish (EN)	Pronatura Noreste	Mauricio De la Maza-Benignos	*Cyprinodon fontinalis*	Mexico, N. America	$12,000
Widemouth gambusia (CR)	Kansas State University	Michael Tobler	*Gambusia eurystoma*	Mexico, N. America	$12,000
Largetooth sawfish (CR)	Planeta Oceano	Kerstin Forsberg	*Pristis pristis*	Peru, S. America	$9,500
Treur River barb (EN)	University of Pretoria	Michelle Jackson	*Barbus treurensis*	South Africa, Africa	$5,800
Singidia tilapia (CR)	Eccelenzia Consorzio Research and Management	Willy Cornelius Kwiri	*Oreochromis esculentus*	Uganda, Africa	$10,000
Smalltooth sawfish (CR)	Shark Advocates International	Sonja Fordham	*Pristis pectinata*	United States, N. America	$10,000

INVERTEBRATE

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Vernacular Species Name	Name of Organisation	Name	Scientific Species Name	Country, Continent	Funding
Elkhorn coral (CR)	Cape Eleuthera Institute	Kate Kincaid	*Acropora palmata*	Bahamas, N. America	$18,900
Burrowing scorpion (NE)	N/A	Tomas Michel Rodríguez Cabrera	*Didymocentrus armasi*	Cuba, N. America	$2,500
Galápagos land snail (EN)	Island Conservation	Nick Holmes	*Bulimulus (Naesiotus) nux*	Ecuador, S. America	$15,000
Crau Plain grasshopper (CR)	Trier University	Axel Hochkirch	*Prionotropis hystrix rhodanica*	France, Europe	$11,000
Sierra Leone skimmer (CR)	Naturalis Biodiversity Center	Klaas-Douwe Dijkstra	*Orthetrum sagitta*	Guinea, Africa	$9,900
Chittar mahogany mayfly (NE)	Zoo Outreach Organization	Bexell Ayyachamy Daniel	*Edmundsula lotica*	India, Asia	$3,975
Black forest dragonfly (NE)	Indonesia Dragonfly Society	Wahyu Sigit Rahadi	*Amphiaeschna ampla ampla*	Indonesia, Asia	$5,000
Freshwater snail (CR)	National Musuems of Kenya	Charles Lange	*Incertihydrobia teesdalei*	Kenya, Africa	$8,000
Ophelia's pixie (DD)	N/A	Rory Dow	*Brachygonia ophelia*	Malaysia, Asia	$4,750
Risiocnemis antoniae (EN)	University of Mindanao	Milton Norman Medina	*Risiocnemis antoniae*	Phillipines, Asia	$8,000
La Palma stick grasshopper (CR)	Grupo de Investigaciones Entomológicas de Tenerife	Heriberto López	*Acrostira euphorbiae*	Spain, Europe	$11,000
Smith's tiger spider (CR)	N/A	Ranil Nanayakkara	*Poecilotheria smithi*	Sri Lanka, Asia	$6,500
Thick-shelled river mussel (EN)	V.N. Karazin Kharkiv National University	Maryna Kovalenko	*Unio crassus*	Ukraine, Europe	$5,500
Dragonflies and Damselflies (EN)	Emirates Wildlife Society – in association with WWF	Jacky Judas	*Odonata (Zygoptera and Anisoptera)*	United Arab Emirates, Asia	$12,500

AMPHIBAN

Projects listed alphabetically by country name

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Vernacular Species Name	Name of Organisation	Name	Scientific Species Name	Country, Continent	Funding
Edough ribbed newt (EN)	University Abdelmalek Essaâdi	Jihéne Ben Hassine	*Pleurodeles poireti*	Algeria, Africa	$2,000
Carchi Andes toad (CR)	N/A	Paul David Alfonso Gutierrez Cardenas	*Andinophryne colomai*	Colombia, S. America	$3,300
Symington's robber frog (CR)	Faculty of Biology, Havana University	Antonio Cádiz	*Eleutherodactylus symingtoni*	Cuba, N. America	$5,500
La Selle dusky frog (CR)	Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust	Jeff Dawson	*Eleutherodactylus jugans*	Dominican Republic, N. America	$11,000
Ethiopian short-headed frog (CR)	Borena Amara Wetatoch Mahaber	Hassen Ahmed	*Balebreviceps hillmani*	Ethiopia, Africa	$2,500
Ghana giant squeaker frog (CR)	SAVE THE FROGS! Ghana	Gilbert Adum	*Arthroleptis krokosua*	Ghana, Africa	$5,000
Karpathos frog (CR)	University of Athens	Panayiotis Pafilis	*Pelophylax cerigensis*	Greece, Europe	$5,700
Jackson's mushroom-tongue salamander (CR)	FUNDAECO	Ingrid Arias	*Bolitoglossa jacksoni*	Guatemala, N. America	$20,000
Amboli bush frog (CR)	Wildlife Information Liaison Development (WILD) Society	Keerthi Krutha	*Pseudophilautus amboli*	India, Asia	$12,000
Charles Darwin's frog (CR)	N/A	S.R. Chandramouli	*Ingerana charlesdarwini*	India, Asia	$4,900
Variable bush frog (CR)	Tropical Institute of Ecological Sciences	Kalesh Sadasivan	*Raorchestes chalazodes*	India, Asia	$6,000
White-spotted bush frog (CR)	NUS	Seshadri Kadaba Shamanna	*Raorchestes chalazodes*	India, Asia	$9,000
Bleeding toad (CR)	N/A	Seva Nazar Setiadi	*Leptophryne cruentata*	Indonesia, Asia	$2,000
Hyperolius rubrovermiculatus (EN)	N/A	Phylus Cheruiyot	*Hyperolius rubrovermiculatus*	Kenya, Africa	$2,500
Golden mantella (CR)	Amphibian Survival Alliance	Don Church	*Mantella aurantiaca*	Madagascar, Africa	$20,000
Robber frog (CR)	Paso Pacifico	Kimberly Williams-Guillen	*Craugastor ranoides*	Nicaragua, N. America	$5,200
Carabaya stubfoot toad (CR)	Asociacion para la Conservacion de la Cuenca Amazonica	Alessandro Catenazzi	*Atelopus erythropus*	Peru, S. America	$9,000
Montseny newt (CR)	Museum of Granollers - Natural Sciences	Fèlix Amat	*Calotriton arnoldi*	Spain, Europe	$5,000
Gannoruwa shrub frog (EN)	N/A	Kanishka Ukuwela	*Pseudophilautus zorro*	Sri Lanka, Asia	$4,250
Botsford's leaf-litter toad (NE)	Zoological Society of London	Benjamin Tapley	*Leptolalax botsfordi*	Vietnam, Asia	$12,000

FUNGUS

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Vernacular Species Name	Name of Organisation	Name	Scientific Species Name	Country, Continent	Funding
Megaspora rimisorediata (NE)	Young Biologists Association NGO	Arsen Gasparyan	*Megaspora rimisorediata*	Armenia, Asia	$5,000
Loyo (NE)	The Fungi Foundation	Giuliana Furci	*Boletus loyo*	Chile, S. America	$20,000
Common morel (NE)	Arab Society for Fungal Conservation and Specialist Group for Cup Fungi, Truffles and their Allies	Ahmed Mohamed Abdel-Azeem	*Morchella esculenta*	Egypt, Africa	$20,000
Devil's bolete (NE)	Swedish Species Information Centre	Anders Dahlberg	*Boletus satanas*	France, Europe	$15,000
Flame shield (VU)	Chicago Botanic Garden	Gregory Mueller	*Pluteus aurantiorugosus*	Sweden, Europe	$20,000

BIRD

Projects listed alphabetically by country name

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NT=Near Threatened | LC=Least Concern | DD=Data Deficient | NE = Not Evaluated

Vernacular Species Name	Name of Organisation	Name	Scientific Species Name	Country, Continent	Funding
Palkachupa cotinga (EN)	American Bird Conservancy	Holly Robertson	*Phibalura boliviana*	Bolivia, S. America	$4,000
Alagoas antwren (CR)	American Bird Conservancy	Holly Robertson	*Myrmotherula snowi*	Brazil, S. America	$9,000
Spoon-billed sandpiper (CR)	Spoon-billed Sandpiper in China	Jing Li	*Eurynorhynchus pygmeus*	China, Asia	$4,000
Black-capped petrel (EN)	American Bird Conservancy	Ryan Trachtenberg	*Pterodroma hasitata*	Dominican Republic, N. America	$5,000
Floreana mockingbird (CR)	Massey University	Luis Ortiz-Catedral	*Mimus trifasciatus*	Ecuador, S. America	$12,500
Mangrove finch (CR)	Charles Darwin Foundation for the Galapagos Islands	Freda Chapman	*Camarhynchus heliobates*	Ecuador, S. America	$25,000
Sociable lapwing (CR)	Eritrea Institute of Technology	Russom Tewelde	*Vanellus gregarius*	Eritrea, Africa	$2,500
Sidamo lark (CR)	Haramaya University	Sewnet Mengistu	*Heteromirafra sidamoensis*	Ethiopia, Africa	$2,500
Bugun liocichla (CR)	Global Wildlife Conservation	Gautam Surya	*Liocichla bugunorum*	India, Asia	$3,000
Black-winged starling (CR)	Cikananga Wildlife Rescue Centre PPSC	Anaïs Tritto	*Sturnus melanopterus melanopterus*	Indonesia, Asia	$7,000
Short-tailed green magpie (CR)	Raptor Conservation Society	Usep Suparman	*Cissa thalassina*	Indonesia, Asia	$2,250
Townsend´s shearwater (CR)	Instituto de Ecología	Juan Esteban Martínez - Gómez	*Puffinus auricularis*	Mexico, N. America	$12,500
Green peafowl (EN)	Biodiversity and Nature Conservation Association	Thiri Dae We Aung	*Pavo muticus*	Myanmar (Burma), Asia	$2,500
Spoon-billed sandpiper (CR)	Biodiversity and Nature Conservation Association	Pyaephyo Aung	*Eurynorhynchus pygmeus*	Myanmar (Burma), Asia	$8,000
White-backed vulture (EN)	University of Helsinki/ Vultures Namibia	Andrea Santangeli	*Gyps africanus*	Namibia, Africa	$10,000
Kagu (EN)	Société Calédonienne d'Ornithologie	Morgane Viviant	*Rhynochetos jubatus*	New Caledonia, Oceania	$12,425
New Caledonian lorikeet (CR)	Department of Conservation	Andrew Legault	*Charmosyna diadema*	New Caledonia, Oceania	$13,000
Black robin (EN)	Charles Sturt University	Melanie Massaro	*Petroica traversi*	New Zealand, Oceania	$10,600
Brown teal (EN)	Royal New Zealand Forest and Bird Protection Society	John Sumich	*Anas chlorotis*	New Zealand, Oceania	$8,000
Norfolk Island parakeet (CR)	N/A	Luis Ortiz-Catedral	*Cyanoramphus cookii*	Norfolk Island, Oceania	$8,300
White-rumped vulture (CR)	Dhartee Development Society	Saindino Mnasoor Dahri	*Gyps bengalensis*	Pakistan, Asia	$3,500
White-bellied cinclodes (CR)	American Bird Conservancy	Holly Robertson	*Cinclodes palliatus*	Peru, S. America	$4,000
Baer's pochard (CR)	Amur Bird Project	Wieland Heim	*Aythya baeri*	Russia, Asia	$4,800
Tristan albatross (CR)	BirdLife South Africa	Ross Wanless	*Diomedea dabbenena*	Saint Helena, Africa	$12,500
Tooth-billed pigeon (EN)	N/A	Rebecca Stirnemann	*Didunculus strigirostris*	Samoa, Oceania	$7,290
African penguin (EN)	Bristol Conservation and Science Foundation	Jennifer Grigg	*Spheniscus demersus*	South Africa, Africa	$4,000
Loveridge sunbird (EN)	Conservation of Nature for Survival	Angelus Runji	*Nectarinia loveridgei*	Tanzania, Africa	$4,990
Spotted greenshank (EN)	King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi	Chenxing Yu	*Tringa guttifer*	Thailand, Asia	$10,000
Tongan megapode (Malau) (EN)	Island Conservation	Richard Griffiths	*Megapodius pritchardii*	Tonga, Oceania	$14,000
Akikiki (CR)	Hawaii Endangered Bird Conservation Program	Bryce Masuda	*Oreomystis bairdi*	United States, N. America	$11,100
Whooping crane (EN)	Gulf Coast Bird Observatory	Felipe Chavez-Ramirez	*Grus americana*	United States, N. America	$12,250
Carrizal seedeater (CR)	Univesidad Nacional Experimental de Guayana	Carlos Valeris	*Amaurospiza carrizalensis*	Venezuela, S. America	$2,350

MAMMAL

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Vernacular Species Name	Name of Organisation	Name	Scientific Species Name	Country, Continent	Funding
Chacoan peccary (EN)	The Zoological Society of London	Olivia Couchman	*Catagonus wagneri*	Argentina, S. America	$11,000
Armenian whiskered bat (CR)	Green Age	Grigor Janoyan	*Myotis hajastanicus*	Armenia, Asia	$9,500
Clouded leopard (VU)	Ugyen Wangchuck Institute for Conservation and Environment	Tashi Dhendup	*Neofelis nebulosa*	Bhutan, Asia	$7,500
Hispid hare (CR)	Department of Forest and Park Services	Tshering Nidup	*Caprolagus hispidus*	Bhutan, Asia	$7,000
Andean cat (EN)	Andean Cat Alliance	Juan Carlos Huaranca	*Leopardus jacobita*	Bolivia, S. America	$16,000
Black lion tamarin (EN)	IPÊ - Instituto de Pesquisas Ecológicas	Gabriela Rezende	*Leontopithecus chrysopygus*	Brazil, S. America	$12,500
Northern brown howler (CR)	Instituto Uiraçu	Leonardo Gomes Neves	*Alouatta guariba guariba*	Brazil, S. America	$9,500
Indochinese silvered langur (EN)	Angkor Centre for Conservation of Biodiversity	Brenda de Groot	*Trachypithecus germaini*	Cambodia, Asia	$1,800
Ceboidea (CR)	Bristol, Clifton and West of England Zoological Society	Christoph Schwitzer	*Ceboidea*	Colombia, S. America	$20,000
Cotton-top tamarin (CR)	Fundacion Proyecto Titi	Rosamira Guillen	*Saguinus oedipus*	Colombia, S. America	$6,500
Bonobo (EN)	Bonobo Conservation Initiativea	Sally Coxe	*Pan paniscus*	Congo, Africa	$12,500
Kordofan giraffe (NE)	Giraffe Conservation Foundation	Julian Fennessy	*Giraffa camelopardalis antiquorum*	Congo, Africa	$4,600
Okapi (EN)	Okapi Conservation Project	John Lukas	*Okapia johnstoni*	Congo, Asia	$10,000
Cuban solenodon (EN)	National Park Alejandro Humboldt	Norvis Hernández Hernández	*Solenodon cubanus*	Cuba, N. America	$12,500
Neumann's black-and-white colobus monkey (DD)	Addis Ababa University	Addisu Mekonnen	*Colobus guereza gallarum*	Ethiopia, Africa	$6,000
Robbin's house bat (DD)	BATlife Ghana	Evans Nkrumah	*Scotophilus nucella*	Ghana, Africa	$5,000
Mediterranean Monk Seal (CR)	MOm/ Hellenic Society for the Study and Protection of the Mediterranean Monk Seal	Panagiotis Dendrinos	*Monachus monachus*	Greece, Europe	$12,500
Hispaniolan solenodon (EN)	Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust	Rosalind Kennerley	*Solenodon paradoxus*	Haiti, N. America	$13,300
Fishing cat (EN)	Aaranyak	Firoz Ahmed	*Prionailurus viverrinus*	India, Asia	$14,500
Himalayan grey langur (EN)	The Himalayan Langur Project - Wildlife Information Liaison Development	Brenda de Groot	*Semnopithecus ajax*	India, Asia	$1,700
Javan slow loris (EN)	Indonesia Natural Rehabilitation Inistiation Foundation	Zulham Advan	*Nycticebus javanica*	Indonesia, Asia	$4,000
Mentawai langur (EN)	N/A	Fatimah Fatimah	*Presbytis potenziani*	Indonesia, Asia	$4,000
Southern Bornean orangutan (EN)	The Orangutan Tropical Peatland Project	Simon Husson	*Pongo pygmaeus wurmbii*	Indonesia, Asia	$12,000
Sumatran mountain maxomys (DD)	Andalas University	Heru Handika	*Maxomys hylomyoides*	Indonesia, Asia	$4,500
Sumatran surili (EN)	N/A	Harinda Ramadhani	*Presbytis melalophos*	Indonesia, Asia	$4,000
Persian leopard (EN)	Georg-August University of Göttingen	Igor Khorozyan	*Panthera pardus saxicolor*	Iran, Asia	$5,000
Menzbir's marmot (VU)	N/A	Viktor Tokarsky	*Marmota menzbieri*	Kazakhstan, Asia	$7,000
Pallas's cat (NT)	N/A	Anna Barashkova	*Otocolobus manul*	Kazakhstan, Asia	$5,400
Blue-eyed black lemur (CR)	Mikajy Natiora	Sylviane Volampeno	*Eulemur flavifrons*	Madagascar, Africa	$10,000
Greater big-footed mouse (EN)	N/A	Seheno Julia Rasoanomenjanahary	*Macrotarsomys ingens*	Madagascar, Africa	$5,000
Indri (CR)	The Aspinall Foundation	Tony King	*Indri indri*	Madagascar, Africa	$10,000
Indri (CR)	Groupe d'Etude et de Recherche sur les Primates de Madagascar	Jonah Ratsimbazafy	*Indri indri*	Madagascar, Africa	$11,000
Madame Fleurette's sportive lemur (CR)	Oxford Brookes University	Michela Balestri	*Lepilemur fleuretae*	Madagascar, Africa	$5,000

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Vernacular Species Name	Name of Organisation	Name	Scientific Species Name	Country, Continent	Funding
Mittermeier's sportive lemur (EN)	Liege University	Leslie Wilmet	*Lepilemur mittermeieri*	Madagascar, Africa	$7,000
Northern sportive lemur (CR)	Conservation Fusion	Susie McGuire	*Lepilemur septentrionalis*	Madagascar, Africa	$5,000
Sambirano mouse lemur (EN)	Bristol University	Dan Hending	*Microcebus sambiranensis*	Madagascar, Africa	$4,900
Bornean pygmy elephant (EN)	KOCP	Marc Ancrenaz	*Elephas maximus borneensis*	Malaysia, Asia	$12,000
Flat headed cat (EN)	Forest Department Sarawak	Ahmad Ampeng	*Prionailurus planiceps*	Malaysia, Asia	$6,000
Fishing cat (EN)	Small Mammals Conservation and Research Foundation	Sagar Dahal	*Prionailurus viverrinus*	Nepal, Asia	$6,160
Ganges River dolphin (EN)	Nepal Dolphin Conservation Society	Gopal Khanal	*Platanista gangetica*	Nepal, Asia	$4,000
Niger Delta red colobus (CR)	Tropical Research and Conservation Centre	Ikponke Nkanta	*Procolobus pennantii epieni*	Nigeria, Africa	$9,000
Indus River dolphin (EN)	Indus Conservation Society	Haroon Rasheed	*Platanista Minor*	Pakistan, Asia	$8,000
Pampas cat (NT)	Centro Neotropical de Entrenamiento en Humedales	Alvaro García-Olaechea	*Leopardus colocolo*	Peru, S. America	$6,080
San Martin titi monkey (CR)	N/A	Shannon Hodges	*Callicebus oenanthe*	Peru, S. America	$5,000
Yellow-tailed woolly monkey (CR)	German Primate Center Göttingen	Thiago da Silva Pereira	*Oreonax flavicauda*	Peru, S. America	$9,000
Yellow-tailed woolly monkey (CR)	Instituto de Ciencias Biológicas Antonio Raimondi (ICBAR)	Rolando Aquino	*Oreonax flavicauda*	Peru, S. America	$6,500
Tamaraw (CR)	Noe Conservation	Emmanuel Schütz	*Bubalus mindorensis*	Philippines, Asia	$9,000
Kazbeg birch mouse (EN)	Schmalhausen Institute of Zoology	Rusin Mikhail	*Sicista kazbegica*	Russia, Asia	$7,000
Fishing cat (EN)	University of Peradeniya	Ashan Thudugala	*Prionailurus viverrinus*	Sri Lanka, Asia	$9,095
Rusty spotted cat (VU)	University of Sri Jayewardenapura	Chandika Jayaratne	*Prionailurus rubiginosus*	Sri Lanka, Asia	$6,500
Eastern chimpanzee (EN)	Budongo Conservation Field Station	Vernon Reynolds	*Pan troglodytes schweinfurthii*	Uganda, Africa	$5,000
European mink (CR)	Environmental NGO 'Saturnia'	Olena Slobodian	*Mustela lutreola*	Ukraine, Europe	$4,000
Asian primates (NE)	Zoo Outreach Organisation	Sally Walker	*Asian primates*	Vietnam, Asia	$15,000
Black-shanked douc langur (EN)	Bu Gia Map National Park	Toai Nguyen	*Pygathrix nigripes*	Vietnam, Asia	$11,500
Cat Ba langur (CR)	Bristol University	Dan Hending	*Microcebus sambiranensis*	Madagascar, Africa	$4,900
Sambirano mouse lemur (EN)	N/A	Ann Elizabeth Lovett	*Trachypithecus poliocephalus*	Vietnam, Asia	$6,000
Red-shanked douc (EN)	University of Minnesota	Jonathan Clayton	*Pygathrix nemaeus*	Vietnam, Asia	$7,500
Southern-central black rhino (CR)	Save the Rhino International	Cathy Dean	*Diceros bicornis minor*	Zambia, Africa	$12,000
Black rhinoceros (CR)	International Rhino Foundation	Natasha Anderson	*Diceros bicornis*	Zimbabwe, Africa	$12,000

PLANT

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Wire wist (CR)	Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew	Martin Hamilton	*Metastelma anegadense*	British Virgin Islands, N. America	$5,000
Ziyuan fir (EN)	Fauna & Flora International	Katie Frohardt	*Abies ziyuanensis*	China, Asia	$13,000
Cycads (CR)	Montgomery Botanical Center	M.Patrick Griffith	*Cycadales*	Colombia, S. America	$12,000
Abrojo (CR)	N/A	Duniel Barrios	*Pereskia zinniflora*	Cuba, N. America	$5,000
Acacia belairioides (CR)	Planta!	Luis Roberto Gonzalez Torres	*Acacia belairioides*	Cuba, N. America	$15,000
Escambray butterwort (NE)	N/A	Leosveli Vasallo Rodríguez	*Pinguicula jackii*	Cuba, N. America	$4,000
Cacheo de Lago enriquillo (CR)	Florida International University	Javier Francisco-Ortega	*Coccothrinax jimenezii*	Haiti, N. America	$15,000
Dark red meranti (CR)	N/A	Suriyansyah suriyansyah	*Shorea pachyphylla*	Indonesia, Asia	$4,000
Hazodrangol (CR)	Missouri Botanical Garden	Jeremie Razafitsalama	*Delonix velutina*	Madagascar, Africa	$8,000
Orchid (CR)	Kew Madagascar Conservation Centre	Landy Rita Rajaovelona	*Grammangis spectabilis*	Madagascar, Africa	$5,000
Esenbeckia vazquezii (CR)	National Herbarium of Mexico	Esteban Martínez	*Esenbeckia vazquezii*	Mexico, N. America	$14,000
Monizia edulis (CR)	Universidade da Madeira	Miguel Pinheiro de Carvalho	*Monizia edulis*	Portugal, Europe	$12,500
East African plants (NE)	East African Plant Red List Authority/ National Museums of Kenya	Quentin Luke	*Rhinacanthus selousensis*	Tanzania, Africa	$8,000
Kihansi wild coffee (CR)	Sokoine University of Agriculture	Alfan Rija	*Coffea kihansiensis*	Tanzania, Africa	$9,500
Burgess' scale broom (NE)	Chicago Horticultural Society	Evelyn Williams	*Lepidospartum burgessii*	United States, N. America	$12,000

2014 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Endowment:

The Fund's endowment started on April 7, 2009 with a value of $29,202,745
Analysis Period: 1 January 2014 to 31 December 2014
Reporting Currency: US Dollars

Statement of Assets:

Begin value	32,469,412
Cash flow adjusted changed in assets	+672,117
Portfolio performance	2.07%
Sum of cash flows	-881,250
End value	32,260,279

Notes: Negative sum cash flows include management fees and taxes, as well as withdrawals for grants.
The endowment is managed by Credit Suisse; historical information and financial market scenarios are not a guarantee for future performance.

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