



WFN

**30TH
WHITLEY
AWARDS**

2023





FOREWORD



Dear Friends,

We are delighted to welcome you to the 2023 Whitley Awards Ceremony at the Royal Geographical Society to celebrate our new cohort of winners in our 30th Anniversary year.

Over these 30 years the Whitley Awards have grown because of the partnerships that we have made. Our wonderful supporters have provided generous and sustained funding, and over this period this funding in turn has enabled the Awards to support the work of some 200 winners across 80 countries. This is why the theme for this evening's Ceremony is #PartnersForPlanet.

Recently, we have seen increased recognition that it is local people who are instrumental to long-term conservation success; the understanding of which informed our approach all those years ago, when we began supporting local conservation leaders to provide their effective, sustainable, and equitable solutions in their home countries. As many of the challenges we face as a planet have grown, so has our ambition and determination to support the extraordinary tenacity of our winners.

Tonight, we are delighted to welcome six new Whitley Award winners to our network. These

inspiring leaders spearhead community-based conservation projects in some of the most biodiverse, yet vulnerable places on Earth. This week, we are hosting a series of events to celebrate their remarkable achievements for people, wildlife and climate, and to help them leverage the success of their Whitley Award win. In addition to £40,000 in project funding, we will provide each winner with PR support, networking opportunities, communications and speech training, and introduce them to our dedicated network of fellow conservation leaders across the globe. We look forward to following the accomplishments and careers of this new cohort of winners in the years to come.

We want to thank you, our fantastic donors, for your committed and generous support of the charity and our winners. Looking ahead to the next 30 years, we feel a great sense of optimism knowing that together and with the next generation, we can continue to tackle the challenges that our planet faces.

Thank you for being our #PartnersForPlanet, and we hope you all enjoy celebrating with us this evening.



Edward Whitley

EDWARD WHITLEY, OBE
FOUNDER | WHITLEY FUND FOR NATURE

OUR MISSION

The Whitley Fund for Nature (WFN) is a fundraising and grant-giving nature conservation charity offering recognition, training, and grants to support the work of proven grassroots conservation leaders across the Global South.



OUR OBJECTIVES

1

Find, recognise, and fund grassroots conservation leaders across countries rich in natural resources but lacking in financial backing for conservation.

2

Champion and repeat fund impactful winners.

3

Support the replication and growth of conservation solutions.

4

Raise awareness of the work of winners and spread the message that we can all make a difference to conservation.

GRANTS FOR CONSERVATION ACTION

WFN gives three types of grants that enable grassroots conservationists to scale up their work and protect threatened wildlife.

30 years ago, WFN became a pioneer in the sector as one of the first charities to channel funding to locally-led projects in the Global South. We support courageous changemakers who are collaborating with communities in their home countries to conserve wildlife and habitats.

Our rigorous and renowned application process identifies inspiring individuals with staying power, who can combine the latest science with tenacious leadership and a collaborative approach. Through our ladderred funding, we provide conservationists with a sustainable means of scaling their impact.



“
The Whitley Award has had an incredible impact on my conservation effort.

ABDULLAHI HUSSEIN ALI,
2020 WHITLEY AWARD WINNER

CATALYSING SUCCESS

WFN helps to catalyse conservation progress by incubating winner talent and offering support to develop their skills and confidence as leaders.

During the Awards week, WFN provides winners with training and networking opportunities to help them leverage their success.



“

Magic happens when someone gets a Whitley Award.

PURNIMA DEVI BARMAN, 2017 WHITLEY AWARD WINNER



The charity's flagship prizes, Whitley Awards are won competitively each year following a worldwide search. Applications are assessed by an expert academic panel, and winners receive £40,000 in project funding over one year. In addition, the awards provide profile, new connections and training – all tools that winners can use to better protect the natural world.



Continuation Funding is available to Whitley Award alumni. These follow-on grants enable winners to expand effective projects, respond to changing needs, and collaborate with other conservationists. Applications are invited annually and awards applied for competitively, with grants worth up to £100,000 over two years. We also offer dedicated grants to directly support projects delivering nature-based solutions to address climate change and biodiversity loss together, and in collaboration with communities.



Each year, a past Whitley Award and Continuation Funding winner receives our top prize, the Gold Award, to recognise their outstanding contribution to conservation. Gold Award winners are international advocates for biodiversity, pioneering large scale projects and acting as mentors to new Whitley Award winners. The prize is worth £100,000.



Whitley Award winners receive media training in print, radio and TV, and professional speech coaching. This helps them to effectively communicate their work to an international audience and capitalise on the media spotlight following their win. Winners also report an uptake in media interest within their home countries, often leading to front page coverage in national and regional newspapers.



WFN provides online and in-person training in some of the core skills necessary for the delivery of successful projects including the use of evidence in project design, monitoring and evaluation. In addition to ongoing career development support, all winners gain access to pro-bono legal assistance from the Thomson Reuters Foundation and the opportunity to apply for funding to explore a legal issue, supported by Richard Buxton Solicitors, further bolstering their capacity.



We hold events for winners to network with contacts they could partner with in future to cultivate success – including potential funders, collaborators, journalists, their country Ambassadors and members of UK and international conservation NGOs. Whitley Award winners spend the week together with their cohort, forming strong bonds that flourish well beyond the ceremony.

SHINING A SPOTLIGHT

94%

of winners tell us that winning a Whitley Award increased their profile

79%

of winners felt the Award increased access to in-country media

79%

of winners say the Award increased their access to international donors

70%

of winners reported that winning increased access to national decision makers

* Source: WFN 25 Year Impact Assessment, 86 respondents out of 129 Whitley Award winners surveyed



WINNER NETWORK DEVELOPMENT



WFN accelerates the careers of conservationists by welcoming them to the world stage.

In addition to receiving project funding, Whitley Award winners are championed through a global PR campaign to garner media coverage of their work. Tailor-made films narrated by WFN Trustee, Sir David Attenborough, and endorsement from high profile supporters including WFN's Patron, HRH The Princess Royal, further raises their profile, alongside WFN's digital communications which have wide international reach.

This increased visibility draws attention to environmental issues and builds local pride in projects on-the-ground, increasing community participation. It helps winners to inspire philanthropic support from new sources, kick-starting a snowball effect that continues to bolster project funding. As their profile is raised, winners also have the chance to connect with other conservationists to share approaches, results and resources. Lastly, greater credibility helps winners to better influence environmental policy on a regional, national and international scale.

Through a thriving, active and supportive network of winners, WFN aims to maximise conservation impact through South-South cooperation.

Following the Awards week, winners join a global community of peers with whom they can share knowledge, experiences, and encouragement to drive collective conservation impact. WFN's Winner Network Development (WND) programme facilitates collaborative projects, peer-to-peer exchange visits, knowledge sharing and training opportunities so that conservation solutions can be replicated around the world. In 2022, we held our first in-person Regional Winner Training at Mpala Research Centre in Kenya, bringing together 14 of our Africa-based winners for a week of learning exchange, networking and idea sharing based on their stated needs and own experiences.

This summer, our in-country Regional Winner Training will be held in Brazil, covering technical and operational skills and facilitating peer-to-peer exchange for our Latin American winners, before cycling to Asia in 2024. By also connecting winners with thematic synergy, and providing support for specific exchange visits, we want to strengthen capacity across the Global South to ensure that conservation leaders on-the-ground have the necessary tools to tackle challenges first-hand.

“ Learning from someone who has already overcome the challenges that I’m facing made me believe it was possible.

EMMANUEL AMOAH, 2022 WHITLEY AWARD WINNER

“ This recognition has changed everything. I have been invited to apply for funding worldwide and chat about conservation on many powerful media channels.

PEDRO FRUET, 2021 WHITLEY AWARD WINNER



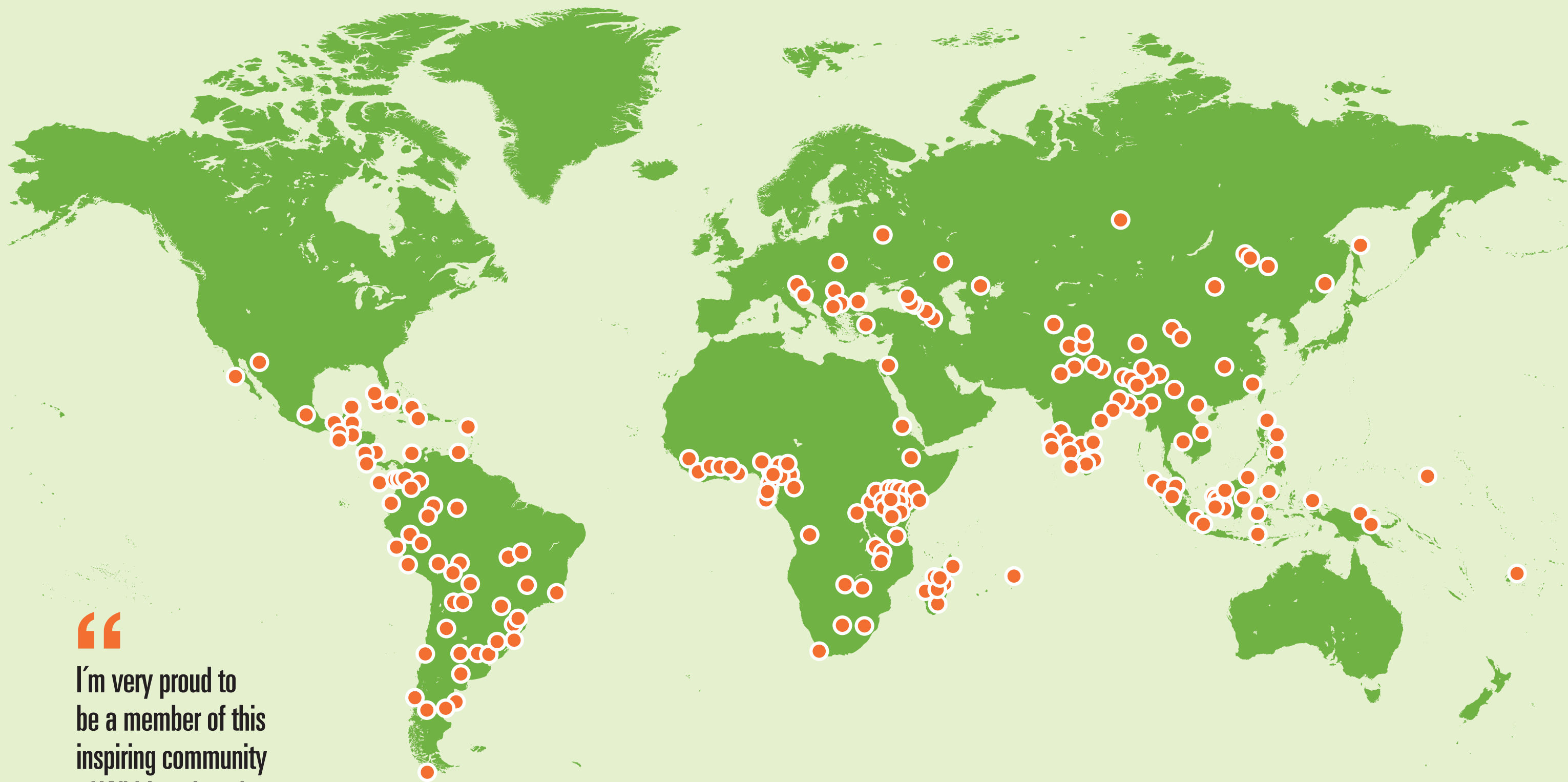
100%

of participants in our 2022 WND training agreed they were confident in applying what they had learnt to their conservation work

GLOBAL WINNER NETWORK

Each year, new Whitley Award winners join our network of influential conservationists leading projects in some of the most biodiverse places on Earth.

Through our Winner Network Development programme, we are connecting our alumni to accelerate their collective success.



“

I'm very proud to be a member of this inspiring community of Whitley alumni.

LUIS RIVERA, 2011 WHITLEY AWARD WINNER



£20m
awarded in funding



200+
conservationists



80+
countries

Welcome to the WHITLEY AWARDS 2023

30TH ANNIVERSARY CEREMONY PROGRAMME

7PM

RECEPTION

8PM

CEREMONY

Tom Heap & Kate Humble, Compères

30 years of WFN: A conversation between Sir David Attenborough and Edward Whitley

Edward Whitley, Founder

Finalist speeches, and films narrated by Sir David Attenborough

Presentation of the Awards by HRH The Princess Royal

Announcement of the Whitley Gold Award

HRH The Princess Royal, Patron

9.15PM

SUPPER & MEET THE WINNERS

SPEAKERS



PATRON,
HRH THE PRINCESS ROYAL

The Princess Royal has been Patron of the Whitley Fund for Nature since 1999. During her 24 years as Patron, she has met over 100 Whitley Award winners, and has visited recipient projects in Brazil, Croatia, Colombia, Malaysia, China, and Ghana to see their work first-hand.



COMPÈRE,
TOM HEAP

WFN Ambassador Tom Heap is a well-known television and radio presenter, using his platform to draw attention to the issues facing our planet and to advocate for solutions. He is presenter of Sky News' The Climate Show With Tom Heap, the principal voice of Costing the Earth on BBC Radio 4, and author of the 2021 production and book, 39 Ways to Save the Planet.



COMPÈRE,
KATE HUMBLE

WFN Ambassador Kate Humble is best known for her work on programmes such as Springwatch, Countryfile, Lambing Live and recently, Kate Humble's Coastal Britain. Kate was recognised on the Woman's Hour Power List 2020 for inspiring multiple generations of viewers. She also runs Humble by Nature, a rural skills school on a working farm in the Wye Valley.



FOUNDER,
EDWARD WHITLEY

The Whitley Awards were established by Edward Whitley in 1993. Since then, the Whitley Fund for Nature has grown to become an established charity, funding over 200 grassroots conservationists in 80 countries across the Global South. Edward was awarded an OBE in 2013 in recognition of his services to wildlife conservation.



**WHITLEY GOLD AWARD
WINNER,**
DR. SHIVANI BHALLA

Dr. Shivani Bhalla is the Founder and Executive Director of Ewaso Lions. Through her work promoting human-carnivore coexistence, she has helped to reverse a decline in lion populations in northern Kenya, earning her a Whitley Award in 2014, and subsequent rounds of WFN Continuation Funding. This year, she has been recognised with the Whitley Gold Award for her outstanding work in championing local leadership in conservation.



**WITH MANY THANKS
TO SIR DAVID
ATTENBOROUGH,
WFN TRUSTEE AND
NARRATOR OF THE 2023
WINNER FILMS**

Britain's best-known natural history filmmaker, Sir David Attenborough's distinguished career in broadcasting spans 70 years. In January 2005, WFN were honoured to welcome him as a Trustee. Sir David inspires audiences around the world to preserve our planet, through ground-breaking series such as BBC's *Planet Earth II*, Netflix's *Our Planet* and most recently *Wild Isles*, which combine stunning footage with sombre truths about humanity's impact on the environment.

WINNER SELECTION

This year, WFN received 68 Whitley Award applications from 31 countries. We would like to thank our Judging Panel and External Assessors, who kindly offer their expertise voluntarily to decide the final shortlist.

JUDGING PANEL

Edward Whitley, OBE
Founder and Chair of Trustees, WFN

Dr. Shivani Bhalla
Executive Director, Ewaso Lions;
2023 Whitley Gold Award winner

Marianne Carter, MSc
Director, Conservation Capacity and
Leadership, FFI

Damian Fleming, MSc
Deputy Practice Leader for Forests,
WWF International

Matthew Hatchwell, MSc
Advisory Board Chair and Conservation
Consultant, DICE

Janice Law, MSc
Head of Grants, WFN

Dr. Dino Martins
WFN Trustee, 2015 Whitley Gold
Award winner and CEO, Turkana
Basin Institute

Dr. Andrew Terry
Director of Conservation and
Policy, ZSL

Victoria Thompson
Acting Director, WFN

EXTERNAL ASSESSORS

Dr. Paul Barnes
Programme Manager, EDGE of
Existence Programme, ZSL

Dr. Sanjay Gubbi
Programme Head, Holématti Nature
Foundation; 2017 Whitley Award
winner

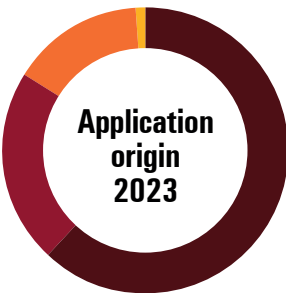
Dr. Simon Lyster
Chair of Conservation International, UK

Dr. Munir Virani
CEO, Mohamed Bin Zayed Raptor
Conservation Fund; 2018 Whitley
Award winner

INTRODUCING THE WINNERS

- 1. YULIANA BEDOLLA, MEXICO
- 2. ALBERT SALEMGAREYEV, KAZAKHSTAN
- 3. SERGE ALEXIS KAMGANG, CAMEROON
- 4. TULSHI LAXMI SUWAL, NEPAL

- 5. MAMY RAZAFITSALAMA, MADAGASCAR
- 6. LEONARD AKWANY, KENYA
- 7. SHIVANI BHALLA, KENYA
(GOLD AWARD WINNER)

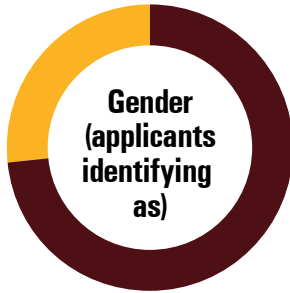


- Africa 62% (42)
- Asia 22% (15)
- Americas 15% (10)
- Europe 1% (1)

Total applications - 68



- Terrestrial 71% (48)
- Marine 19% (13)
- Freshwater 10% (7)



- 50 males (74%)
- 18 females (26%)

YULIANA BEDOLLA

MEXICO



These species are so special to me...
I feel it's my duty to protect them.

YULIANA BEDOLLA



Bahía Sebastián Vizcaino, located in front of the two islands, is an internationally renowned whale sanctuary that is an important reproduction and wintering site for the grey whale.



Both shearwaters and storm-petrels only have one chick per season, where both parents contribute equally to its care.



The seabirds are known by local people as the "nocturnos" or night creatures.



SAFEGUARDING SEABIRD NESTING SITES ON MEXICAN PACIFIC ISLANDS

Ten seabird species concentrate their entire breeding population on Mexico's islands, making it the country with the world's second highest number of breeding endemic seabird species. However, the introduction of invasive species can be catastrophic for island ecosystems, with ongoing biosecurity measures needed once the invasive species have finally been eradicated. Using her Whitley Award to protect crucial seabird breeding sites on two key Mexican Pacific islands, Yuliana and her team will:

- + Prevent the introduction of invasive mammals on San Benito Oeste and Natividad islands, involving local fishing cooperatives in biosecurity protocols
- + Build the conservation capacity of local women, training six members from two communities in seabird monitoring, invasive species detection and project planning
- + Conduct surveys to confirm the ongoing absence of invasive rodent species
- + Evaluate breeding success of the Black Storm-Petrel and Black-vented Shearwater together with community leaders
- + Raise awareness of nocturnal seabird species and the importance of nesting site protection, encouraging widespread adoption of biosecurity measures

ISLAND LIFE

The islands of Mexico and their surrounding seas provide crucial habitats for one third of the world's seabird species. The San Benito Archipelago and Natividad Island host 13 breeding species, the largest abundance of seabird breeding pairs in the Baja California Pacific Islands and together, support more than one million individuals of eight nocturnal seabird species. Natividad Island shelters 90% of the endangered Black-vented Shearwater breeding population and San Benito Archipelago represents the most important colony of the Black Storm-Petrel. These islands are also inhabited by small fishing cooperatives and their families, who are invested in protecting their island home.

INVASIVE PREDATORS

In the past, the Baja California Pacific Islands were threatened by invasive mammals such as goats, rabbits, cats and rodents that decimated seabird populations, where the latter two extirpated at least 27 seabird colonies. Thanks to restoration efforts over the last two decades, San Benito Oeste and Natividad islands are currently invasive mammal free. Nevertheless, there is a high risk of accidental re-introduction, mostly of rodents, because of the constant stream of people, equipment and materials between the mainland and the islands. To ensure long-lasting effects, island biosecurity protocols for both islands were jointly developed with fishing cooperatives to prevent, detect and respond to incursions of invasive alien species, but their implementation did not include the active involvement of local people.

LOCAL STEWARDSHIP

Yuliana and her NGO Grupo de Ecología y Conservación de Islas (GECI) will directly engage communities in implementing biosecurity measures, ensuring the absence of invasive species across the islands. Community conservation awareness will be raised through educational initiatives, and a women's leadership group will receive further training, bolstering local capacity to monitor and protect seabird nesting sites, and manage conservation projects. With grants available from the Mexican government for community conservation initiatives, Yuliana and her team are working towards a future where local people can lead on the protection of their islands, embedding sustainability into their efforts to secure these fragile island ecosystems.

[islas.org.mx](https://www.islas.org.mx)

[@IslasGECI](https://www.instagram.com/IslasGECI)

[@IslasGECI](https://www.facebook.com/IslasGECI)

[@IslasGECI](https://www.instagram.com/IslasGECI)

ALBERT SALEMGAREYEV

KAZAKHSTAN



Kazakhstan's desert-steppe ecosystems are especially vulnerable to climate change. They must be protected and restored, and their natural resources used sustainably in the future.

ALBERT SALEMGAREYEV



Saiga act as the keystone species for the Kazakh steppe, contributing to the healthy functioning of the grassland ecosystem through grazing, soil trampling, and seed dispersal.



The saiga antelope is one of the oldest surviving species of the Eurasian 'mammoth fauna', dating back to the Ice Age.

95%

Kazakhstan holds over 95% of the global saiga population.



BUILDING TRUST IN DATA: FINDING SOLUTIONS FOR SAIGA ANTELOPE AND PEOPLE IN WEST KAZAKHSTAN

Critically Endangered, the saiga antelope suffered one of the most drastic declines ever recorded for a mammal – but thanks to nearly two decades of conservation efforts, the species has made an astonishing recovery in Kazakhstan. However, there is now increased competition for pastures and water between saiga and pastoralists, escalating human-wildlife conflict. Albert and his team will apply evidence-based approaches to find solutions, using his Whitley Award to:

- + Map the distribution and management practices of all major water resources in and around the Bokey Orda-Ashiozek Protected Area, and gather data on livestock and saiga distribution in relation to them
- + Assess the extent and nature of saiga-pastoralist conflict over water in 15 key hotspots, combining scientific evidence with stakeholder consultations
- + Build trust among pastoralists, protected area staff, and local government in the evidence gathered, and together co-design solutions to shape future water resource management
- + Share project findings with national and international agencies to inform saiga conservation strategies across Kazakhstan and in neighbouring range states

› MAGNIFICENT STEPPES

Kazakhstan's desert-steppe ecosystems represent some of the largest and most intact steppe grasslands in the wider Central Asian region. However, they are also vulnerable to climate change and desertification. The country's newest protected area is the Bokey Orda Reserve and Ashiozek Sanctuary in West Kazakhstan. Spanning more than 650,000 ha, it is home to a diverse array of bird and mammal species, including the world's largest population of saiga antelope, and contains globally important soil carbon stocks. The protected area is bordered by small villages and farms where local pastoralists depend on the landscape as grazing grounds for their sheep, cattle and horses, as well as for freshwater resources.

› COMPETING FOR RESOURCES

Reaching a low of 50,000 individuals in the mid-2000s, the saiga antelope has recovered to over 1.3 million individuals. Despite this work being a global conservation success story, recently recognised by the UN as one of its inaugural World Restoration Flagships, there is now mounting pressure on the government to actively control saiga populations, where increasing numbers are in direct competition with pastoral communities for the region's natural resources, threatening local livelihoods. Escalating incidences of saiga-pastoralist conflict mean solutions are urgently needed.

› A MULTI-PRONGED STRATEGY

To address the rising conflict, Albert and his team at the Association for the Conservation of Biodiversity of Kazakhstan (ACBK) will use participatory approaches that combine scientific monitoring with community mapping to gather data and inform an evidence-based response. They will research overlapping distributions of livestock and saiga antelope, identifying key conflict hotspots using drones and camera traps. By engaging pastoralists, protected area management staff, and local government, they will seek to understand stakeholder perceptions of the conflict and together, find sustainable and equitable solutions. With protected area management in the country traditionally being top-down, Albert's combination of science and community participation is novel in Kazakhstan, and will provide an apt case study to apply to other landscapes across the saiga's range.

acbk.kz

[@ACBK_Kazakhstan](https://twitter.com/ACBK_Kazakhstan)

[@ACBK.kz](https://www.facebook.com/ACBK.kz)

[@acbk.kz](https://www.instagram.com/acbk.kz)

SERGE ALEXIS KAMGANG

CAMEROON



Lions are so special to me. Ecologically, they are a top predator, playing an important role in regulating ecosystem balance and services.

SERGE ALEXIS KAMGANG



Male lions in Cameroon have a late, very small mane development so they are often mistaken as females from a distance.



The West and Central African lion is a lighter build than its cousins in East and Southern Africa.



A 2015 survey found there were only 250 lions remaining in the entire Bénoué ecosystem spanning over 30,000 km².



LOCAL LION GUARDS: PROMOTING COEXISTENCE IN THE BÉNOUÉ ECOSYSTEM

The Bénoué ecosystem in northern Cameroon is a critically important area for lions and large mammals. However, habitat fragmentation and declines in prey populations, along with an increase in people and livestock in the region is leading to escalating human-wildlife conflict, threatening already dwindling lion populations. Serge and his team are working with stakeholders, combining local knowledge with technology to mitigate the rising tensions. With Whitley Award funding, they will:

- + Train 45 park guards and six community lion guards, who work together to monitor lion and cattle movements, and mitigate human-lion conflict and other pressures
- + Improve the knowledge of 1,500 stakeholders on the status and distribution of lion and their prey in the Bénoué ecosystem to inform future management
- + Raise awareness of lion conservation among 30% of the local population through educational campaigns

› KING OF THE SAVANNAH

For centuries, lions have captured the imagination of people all over the world. Often described as “powerful” and “majestic,” they are one of the most emblematic species and are associated with many cultural beliefs and values. However, encroachment and habitat fragmentation have caused significant population declines, with small, divided populations now scattered across a few hotspots in West and Central Africa. They are a keystone species and their dwindling numbers will have an immense impact on the entire ecosystem.

› THE BÉNOUÉ ECOSYSTEM

The Bénoué ecosystem stretches over three national parks and 32 hunting zones, with formal protection of the giraffe, elephant, giant eland, lion, leopard and spotted hyena. Despite conservation measures by the government, the landscape continues to face severe threats including poaching, lion bone trafficking, illegal mining, agriculture, and wildfire. There are also increasing numbers of illegal livestock within protected areas, which is causing immense human carnivore conflict as lions come into contact with herders and their cattle. The area is one of the three remaining strongholds for large carnivores in West and Central Africa and a key linkage between these savannah landscapes. It is clear that urgent action is needed to preserve remaining lion populations and their natural habitat.

› WORKING TOGETHER

Working in the area since 2009, Dr. Serge Alexis Kamgang leads the only lion conservation project in the region. Tackling human-lion conflict and ineffective wildlife management, Serge and his team will gather vital data on lion and prey populations using camera traps and satellite collars, and will strengthen the capacity of park authorities to reduce pressures from habitat fragmentation and transhumant livestock. To assist park staff, they will train young community members as lion guards, who monitor movements of lion and cattle, document cases of depredation, and identify conflict hotspots, warning herders when lions are near. Finally, Serge and his team will conduct educational campaigns on the importance of lion conservation, building a positive future for the region through inclusive conservation.

TULSHI LAXMI SUWAL

NEPAL

“Pangolins don’t harm people. They play important ecological roles, yet the species is in peril.”

TULSHI LAXMI SUWAL



The Chinese pangolin has a large portion of unique evolutionary history and is #7 on the Evolutionarily Distinct and Globally Endangered (EDGE) species list.

Pangolins are “good friends of farmers”, as they biologically control the ant and termite populations which harm crops.

Pangolins are the only scaly mammals in the world.



PEOPLE AND PANGOLINS: MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL CONSERVATION IN CENTRAL NEPAL

Pangolins are the most trafficked mammal in the world. Widely targeted for their use in traditional medicine, poaching has long been seen as the main threat to the Chinese pangolin. However, an increase of forest fires is now threatening their habitat in Nepal. To tackle this, Tulshi will implement the first ever initiative to assess the impact of forest fire on the species, while working with communities on fire mitigation, habitat restoration and alternative livelihoods. With her Whitley Award, she and her team will:

- + Estimate pangolin abundance and population density and the impact of forest fires on the species across 4,000 ha
- + Train 10 ‘Community Pangolin Conservation Groups’ to monitor pangolins and their habitat, and prevent forest fires
- + Restore pangolin habitat by planting and monitoring 20,000 mixed tree saplings
- + Raise conservation awareness, reaching thousands of households and over 500 schools in the region
- + Provide microfinancing opportunities for 100 households to develop forest-friendly alternative livelihoods

› MOUNTING THREATS

Nepal is home to two species of pangolin: the Chinese pangolin and the Indian pangolin. They have been found in 61 districts, mostly in the human-dominated landscapes of eastern and central Nepal. Both endangered globally, with the Chinese pangolin critically so, they are still highly threatened by illegal poaching and hunting for the trade of their scales and meat, despite being protected by national law. To make matters worse, forest fires are on the rise in Nepal, with an average of over 3,000 fire incidences annually. Mostly caused by human activity in the forest, including illegal poaching, hunting, and grazing, the fires are destroying pangolin habitat, with a general lack of conservation awareness exacerbating the issue.

› PANGOLIN PROTECTOR

Dr. Tulshi Laxmi Suwal has been leading pangolin research and conservation efforts in Nepal for over 15 years, conducting the first ever PhD study on the species in the country. In 2016, Tulshi led the National Pangolin Survey, and worked with the Nepalese government to develop a pangolin monitoring protocol and national action plan for pangolin conservation. Using this as guidance, Tulshi and her team at the Small Mammals Conservation and Research Foundation will be the first to assess the impact of forest fires on pangolin populations, covering three districts in central Nepal.

› COMMUNITY APPROACH

Integrating community needs with conservation priorities, Tulshi and her team will train local conservation groups on fire protection and habitat monitoring, and will restore fire-impacted forest by planting 20,000 saplings. They will raise conservation awareness across the region and support local incomes by offering micro-financing opportunities to develop and diversify livelihoods, reducing pressures on the forest. Results from this project will help to shape future fire mitigation measures, safeguarding the future of this charismatic but threatened species.

smcrf.org

@smcrf

@smcrfnepal

@smcrf

MAMY RAZAFITSALAMA

MADAGASCAR



I want to continue saving animals from extinction, but also providing assistance to the people that live alongside wildlife.

MAMY RAZAFITSALAMA



There are over 110 different species of lemur in Madagascar, found nowhere else on the planet.



It is estimated that Madagascar has lost 44% of its natural forest cover between 1953–2014.



Lemurs are considered the world's oldest primates, with roots tracing back over 70 million years.



LIFELINE FOR LEMURS: PROTECTING FORESTS AND LIVELIHOODS IN MADAGASCAR

Madagascar is a global conservation priority as one of the most biodiverse places on the planet. It has also seen one of the most drastic forest losses, with nearly half of its natural forest cover disappearing since the 1950s due to habitat degradation, slash and burn agriculture and fires. Using his Whitley Award, Mamy and his team will:

- + Protect 8,000 ha of forest in Ankarafantsika National Park from fire, grazing and extraction incidents through community patrols
- + Maintain over 16 km of firebreaks to limit the spread of uncontrolled fire, protecting important lemur habitat
- + Provide green livelihoods support for 35 women to alleviate poverty and reduce pressures on the forest
- + Raise awareness across 10 communities about the impact of fires on lemurs, forests, and people through educational programmes

GLOBAL HOTSPOT

Madagascar is the fourth largest island on Earth and contains a remarkable number of unique fauna and flora, with 90% of its plant species existing nowhere else. It is also home to over 110 species of lemur, of which 94% are threatened with extinction. The country's rich fauna and flora is juxtaposed against extreme poverty and malnutrition which drives deforestation and habitat loss as the country's people are reliant on its natural resources for survival.

FORESTS UNDER THREAT

In Western Madagascar, the primary driver of deforestation is fire, approximately 95% of which is caused by humans. Ankarafantsika National Park in the northwest is one of the largest remaining fragments of western primary forest, but it is under threat from fire, slash and burn agriculture, logging, domestic grazing and construction. It is also home to eight lemur species, five of which are threatened with extinction. Protecting the remaining continuous forests and forest fragments in the park is critical if lemurs are to stand a chance of survival.

GRASSROOTS SUCCESS

Mamy and his team at Planet Madagascar are dedicated to finding grassroots solutions to protect their homeland's forests and unique biodiversity. Building on previous work, they will bolster local capacity to protect the forest through ongoing patrols and maintenance of fire breaks – gaps in vegetation that act as a barrier to slow or stop the progress of forest fires. The team will also support women from the communities around the park with alternative livelihoods through a cooperative focussed on processing citrus and sugar products, reducing poverty while alleviating pressure on the forest. Lastly, Mamy and his team will grow their reach, running educational programmes, stakeholder meetings and radio broadcasts across 10 communities on the impact of fires on biodiversity, forests and people.

planetmadagascar.org

@planetmada

@PlanetMadagascar

@planetmadagascar

LEONARD AKWANY

KENYA

“My heroes are the local youth, women and men I work with towards the conservation of Lake Victoria, its rivers and associated wetlands.”

LEONARD AKWANY



This project will include the protection of riparian wetlands, indirectly benefiting papyrus birds and the semi-aquatic antelope, the Sitatunga.



Lake Victoria has an annual catch of up to 800,000 tonnes, valuing a total of \$600 million USD.

20%

20% of all aquatic lake species are threatened with extinction.



COMMUNITY STEWARDS: SECURING A FUTURE FOR FRESHWATER FISH IN LAKE VICTORIA

Lake Victoria is the largest freshwater lake in the tropics and second largest in the world. However, it is facing a plethora of threats including overfishing, habitat degradation, wetlands loss, introduced species, climate change and pollution, compromising its fish stocks and diversity – with ripple effects keenly felt by those who depend on it for their livelihoods and food security. Through grassroots fishery interventions, Leonard will use his Whitley Award to:

- + Establish 3,000 ha of freshwater community fish reserves to protect and restore healthy fish populations
- + Build the capacity of five Beach Management Units (BMUs) and associated communities for effective fisheries co-management and governance, reducing unsustainable fishing practices by 60%
- + Train 200 BMU members in alternative green livelihoods, reducing fishing pressure by 40%

› FRESHWATER IN FREEFALL

Lake Victoria, a key global biodiversity hotspot, spans across Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania. With more than 500 species of fish, it is the second most productive inland fishery globally and supports over 4 million people whose livelihoods are tied to its value chain. The most recent Living Planet Report stated that freshwater populations have fallen by 83%, the largest decline of any species group, and Lake Victoria is no different: there are now less than 200 native fish species remaining, with the ecosystem, associated livelihoods and food security hanging on by a thread.

› SAVING NATIVE FISH

Fishers are increasingly exploiting small species and intensifying fishing efforts, with impacts on the native populations. Weak fisheries co-management structures also impede effective sustainable fishery management, endangering the main food source, tilapia. Leonard founded Ecofinder Kenya in 1995 to motivate and place responsibility of conserving Lake Victoria's aquatic ecosystem and associated fish species in the hands of local fisherfolk communities. The project engages grassroots stewards to save native fish and three primary indicator species, all Critically Endangered, while ensuring the long-term sustainability of their livelihoods.

› COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT

A Lake Victoria native, Leonard and his team will establish a network of community-driven fish reserves in Winam Gulf, protecting 1,400 km² of key freshwater biodiversity. The reserves will include no-take fish breeding zones, riparian buffer zones for land-based uses and designated community fishing zones. They will also build the leadership and technical capacity of existing Beach Management Units (BMUs) for more effective co-management of local fisheries, aiming to reduce illegal fishing and other unsustainable practices. Lastly, by training BMU members on alternative green livelihoods and greening the fish value chain, Leonard and his team will reduce pressure on fish stocks while protecting local incomes. With 281 BMUs in total across Lake Victoria in Kenya, this project's approach has great potential for scale up across the region.

SHIVANI
BHALLA

KENYA

Each year a past Whitley Award winner is selected to receive the Whitley Gold Award – worth £100,000 of project funding – in recognition of their outstanding contribution to conservation. Donated by the Friends of WFN.

“Locally-led conservation is the only solution we have to the current biodiversity crisis. We need to be investing in local leaders from all demographics to provide their own, sustainable solutions.”

SHIVANI BHALLA

CATALYSING A GLOBAL MOVEMENT FOR LOCALLY-LED CONSERVATION

Kenyan conservationist Dr. Shivani Bhalla has dedicated her life to promoting coexistence between people and wildlife in northern Kenya. Founding Ewaso Lions in 2007, Shivani and her team have spent nearly two decades addressing lion declines through their community-initiated and led solutions, which now cover over 4,500 km². Through their efforts, the Ewaso landscape is now one of the only regions in northern Kenya where lion numbers are increasing outside of protected areas.

Shivani has long recognised that local leadership is crucial for sustained solutions. Through Ewaso Lions’ various programmes being designed and led by Samburu community members from across all demographics, it has ensured that their conservation interventions are sustainable, culturally appropriate, and truly beneficial for people as well as wildlife. Globally, however, while many projects recognise the importance of community engagement, it is still rare to find conservation programmes actually being led by people from the communities where projects are operating. There is an urgent need for conservation practitioners to address this gap.

Building local leadership and ownership needs to happen at multiple levels – in each conservation initiative, it matters how teams are hired and trained, how transition and mentoring of the next generation is addressed, and how sustainable avenues of knowledge transfer and funding are achieved. Offering up Ewaso Lions’ model of locally-led programming to improve others’ conservation practice, Shivani and her team will collaborate with the Ewaso community and conservation practitioners from across the globe, including WFN alumni, to develop an open-source framework which lays out clear pathways for conservation practitioners to build skills within their teams to ensure that conservation decision-making happens at a local level. Sharing the framework across international channels, this project will catalyse a movement of community-led conservation globally, with the ultimate goal that for local communities, conservation will become a way of life.

Having attended 2022 Whitley Gold Award winner Charudutt Mishra’s PARTNERS Principles training in ethical community engagement, Shivani is building upon and complementing this initiative with her 2023 Gold Award – a wonderful example of the ripple effects and collaboration that WFN seeks to foster through its global Winner Network.

A Whitley Award winner in 2014, Shivani received Continuation Funding in 2016 and 2019. With the support of WFN and other partners, Shivani and her team have:

- + Stabilised lion populations across the Ewaso landscape over the last 10 years through community-led programmes, with 50 lions recorded in 2022, up from 11 known lions before 2008
- + Scaled up lion monitoring efforts to cover 4,530 km², and partnered with the Kenya Wildlife Service to conduct the first National Carnivore Survey in Kenya – a first of its kind in Africa – with findings shaping conservation actions
- + Reduced disease transmission to wild carnivores by maintaining the health of domestic dogs, to achieve a healthier balance between people, livestock, and wildlife
- + Reduced human-wildlife conflict and significantly increased positive attitudes towards lions among Samburu warriors, bringing retaliation killings in the region down to zero in 2021 and 2022
- + Formed the ‘Mama Simba’ initiative, designed by and for Samburu women, to reclaim their place as protectors of wildlife through environmental literacy and lion habitat recovery activities
- + Invested in a new generation of conservationists, educating local children on wildlife and the environment through the widely popular Ewaso Lions’ Kids Camp
- + Reignited communities’ pride in the wildlife they live alongside, bringing over 1,500 members on safaris - many of whom have never seen wildlife up close in a safe environment



With her Whitley Gold Award, Shivani and her team will galvanise a global movement to ensure that conservation decision-making and leadership happens at the local level, while deepening the cultural values of communities which have always lived alongside wildlife. They will:

- + Conduct community interviews and workshops across 25% of the Ewaso landscape, identifying key transferable components of community-led conservation.
- + Empower and train 150 community members to drive forward community-led conservation efforts in northern Kenya.
- + Develop a global community-led conservation framework by exchanging capacity with 25 conservation leaders across the world, including WFN alumni, and engage them as advocates.

 ewasolions.org
 [@ewasolions](https://www.facebook.com/ewasolions)
 [@ewasolions](https://twitter.com/ewasolions)
 [@ewasolions](https://www.instagram.com/ewasolions)

CONTINUATION FUNDING

Our largest stream of giving, Continuation Funding offers past Whitley Award winners follow-on grants to expand their effective conservation solutions and respond to changing needs.

In 2022, we awarded:

OVER
£700,000

in Continuation Funding to 11 past Whitley Award winners

THEIR PROJECTS
WILL BENEFIT

MORE THAN
334,000

people across

30,000km²

of the Global South

OF THIS,

£175,000

is specifically supporting projects delivering nature-based solutions

2022 Continuation Funding winners:

Continuation Funding grants are worth up to £100,000 over two years and are awarded to past Whitley Award winners poised to scale up.

Recognising that conservation doesn't happen overnight and requires sustained support, winners tell us that the ability to reapply for further funding provides a vital lifeline.

Preserving Northeastern Turkey's Wetland Biodiversity

Çagan Şekercioğlu
(2013 Whitley Gold Award)
£75,000 over two years

Community Outreach to Protect Hawksbill Turtles in the Colombian Pacific

Diego Amorocho
(2010 Whitley Award)
£35,000 over two years

A New Refuge for the Togo Slippery Frog

Caleb Ofori-Boateng
(2019 Whitley Award)
£70,000 over two years

Rare 'Rere': Saving the Critically Endangered Madagascar Side-necked Turtle

Juliette Veloso
(2016 Whitley Award)
£70,000 over two years

Strengthening and Scaling an Integrated Model for Gorilla Conservation and Human Health

Gladys Kalema-Zikusoka
(2009 Whitley Gold Award)
£70,000 over two years

Supporting Cotton-top Tamarin Conservation in Colombia Through Forest Restoration and Livelihood Improvements

Rosamira Guillen
(2015 Whitley Award)
£35,000 over one year

Above and Beyond: Securing the Grauer's Gorillas' Last Stronghold

John Kahekwa
(2013 Whitley Award)
£35,000 over one year

Sustaining Fragile Chimpanzee Populations in Southwestern Nigeria

Rachel Ikemeh
(2020 Whitley Award)
£70,000 over two years

Community Guardians of the Helmeted Hornbill

Yokyok Hadiprakarsa
(2020 Whitley Award)
£70,000 over two years

Nature-based solutions

WFN supports work delivering nature-based solutions through dedicated Continuation Funding grants that address climate change and biodiversity loss simultaneously, and in collaboration with local communities.

These projects are protecting habitats such as forests, wetlands, peatlands, grasslands, mangroves, and seagrasses that conserve wildlife, store carbon, and offer an equitable and just future for society.

Sink or Swim: Protecting and Restoring Blue Carbon Sinks in Golfo Dulce's Hammerhead Shark Sanctuary

Ilena Zanella
(2019 Whitley Award)
£100,000 over two years

From Source to Sea: Nature-based Solutions for a River Landscape

Lindy van Hasselt
(1999 Whitley Award)
£75,000 over two years

“Continuation Funding from WFN is incredibly important because it allows ideas the time to mature and demonstrate they can be effective in conservation.

DINO MARTINS, 2015 GOLD AWARD WINNER & WFN TRUSTEE

30 YEARS OF WFN

In our 30th Anniversary year, we reflect on some of the highlights of our shared achievements.

The Whitley Trust's first conservation grant receives coverage in The Independent newspaper: 'It's not a very fashionable cause at the moment,' Mr Whitley explained. 'Smart journalists think conservation is very much last year's news.'

1993



1994

The first Whitley Award, worth £15,000, is awarded to marine conservationist Amanda Vincent of Project Seahorse.

The Rufford Foundation joins the Whitley Awards programme, sponsoring two major awards.

1998



1999

In April, HRH The Princess Royal becomes Patron of the Whitley Awards Scheme.

The Whitley Laing Foundation is created as a stand-alone charity and sets about the task of raising further funds for conservation.

2000

The Rufford Foundation and Whitley Awards Scheme together establish the Rufford Small Grants to provide upcoming conservationists with funding opportunities.

2001

The Whitley Award for People and Environment is introduced following support from WWF-UK.



Claudio (1999 Whitley Award winner) and Suzana Padua profiled by TIME Magazine as Green Century Heroes.

2002

Launch of Continuation Funding grants programme, supporting previous Whitley Award winners to scale up successful conservation solutions.

2003

The first ever Friends Award is given, following generous support from individuals.

The Whitley Laing Foundation has grown in size, and gives away an annual total of more than £1 million for the first time.

2004

The landmark Paris Agreement is adopted.

2015

The UN creates 17 Sustainable Development Goals and aims to achieve them by 2030. 2010 Whitley Award winner Pablo Borboroglu was instrumental in ensuring that a goal towards the conservation and sustainable use of oceans was included, leading to the creation of SDG 14: Life Below Water.

2014

Carlos Vasquez Almazan, 2012 Whitley Award winner, is instrumental in Guatemala declaring the Sierra Caral – one of Central America's largest and most biodiverse remaining cloud forests – as a protected area – the country's first in 7 years.

2013

Work by 2005 Whitley Award winner Charudutt Mishra and partners leads to the governments of all 12 snow leopard range countries signing a milestone agreement to enhance the species' global protection.



Vivek Menon, 2001 Whitley Award winner, and his team establish India's first network of 'Green Corridors' allowing safe passage for Asian elephants across human landscapes.

UK Parliament declares climate change emergency.

2012

The amount raised by WFN since 1994 passes £10 million.

Randall Arauz, 2004 Gold Award winner, and his NGO, PRETOMA, play a key role in Costa Rica's ban on shark finning.

2011

WFN celebrates 10 years of partnership with WWF-UK.

2010

Total funds awarded since 1994 passes £6 million, supporting the work of over 120 conservationists in 70 countries.

First-ever symposium for Whitley Gold Award winners held: Conservation In The 21st Century – The View From The Frontline.

2005



The charity officially becomes the Whitley Fund for Nature.

Sir David Attenborough joins as a Trustee.

2016

The Whitley Fund for Nature raises a record annual total of £1.9m.

2017

Jon Paul Rodriguez, 2003 Whitley Award winner, is elected Chair of the Species Survival Commission – the first person from outside of Europe or North America to hold this influential title.

2018

WFN celebrates its 25th Anniversary, holding the Hope Gala at the Natural History Museum which raised an additional £1 million for conservation. 2012 Gold Award winner Rodrigo Medellin welcomes 12 winners on stage during his keynote speech.

An independent assessment of WFN and its winners' impact is conducted, proving the effectiveness of the charity's approach in driving conservation impact and catalysing careers.



2019

2020

WFN launches a specific funding stream to support nature-based solutions to climate change.

The Whitley Awards Ceremony is held virtually for the first time, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

2021

Over £1 million awarded through Continuation Funding for the first time, supporting 15 previous winners.

Launch of WFN NextGen to build a network of young people who are passionate about conservation.



2022

The charity's first in-person Regional Winner Training is held in Kenya, bringing together WFN's Africa-based winners as part of its new Winner Network Development Programme.

WFN reaches a grant-giving milestone: over £20 million awarded to over 200 conservationists across 80 countries.

Two major COP's see the creation of a Climate Loss and Damage Fund and the landmark Global Biodiversity Framework.



2023

WFN celebrates its 30th Anniversary. See pages 34-35 for more details.

LOOKING AHEAD



As we look ahead to the next 30 years, we know that it is only together that we can tackle the challenges that our planet faces. Thank you for being our #PartnersForPlanet.

Celebrating 30 years

WFN would not be where we are today without the strong partnerships we have formed with our global network of winners, and our wonderful supporters. This November, we will be holding a series of events to celebrate those partnerships and the impact they have had on conservation – and crucially, to focus on priorities to address the environmental challenges of the coming years. Please stay tuned to @WhitleyAwards and sign up for our e-letter for updates as plans develop.

Increased funding ambition

Over the past 30 years, WFN's impact has grown substantially, channelling over £20m to more than 200 conservationists in 80 countries. Demand from the Winner Network for Continuation Funding continues to grow, and each year new conservationists join this network. **We want to increase what we offer in support to our alumni – through project funding and through our Winner Network Development Programme.** To meet this goal, we are increasing our fundraising target over the coming years, seeking to raise £3m per year by 2025 in response to conservation need.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

› DONATE TO WFN

We are a charity completely reliant on donations, with no capital endowment. The more we raise, the more support we can channel to wildlife conservationists leading solutions for people and planet in their home countries. Together, as **#PartnersForPlanet** we can protect and restore nature, securing its future.

To support WFN, visit whitleyaward.org or get in touch with WFN's Head of Partnerships, Georgie White at georgie@whitleyaward.org.

› WFN NEXTGEN

Our newest programme, WFN NextGen offers young people who are passionate about conservation an opportunity to be a part of an engaged and supportive community helping to raise vital funds to safeguard our planet. Steered by an international, cross-sector, youth committee, WFN NextGen supports young fundraisers to achieve their goals through sporting challenges, arts events, or comedy nights, channelling the energy and enthusiasm of youth into tangible change for nature.

NextGen also hopes to leverage the passion and dedication of our network by building new partnerships with people, brands and influencers; bringing like-minded people together to learn and talk about environmental issues, solutions, and successes.

To register your interest, please email WFN's Fundraising Officer, Lily Himmelman at lily@whitleyaward.org.



WFN FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2022

Income and expenditure for the year ended 30 June 2022

£'000	2022 FUNDS			2021 FUNDS
	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total	Total
INCOME FROM:				
Donations	381	1,450	1,831	1,697
Trading activities	-	61	61	4
Investment income	-	2	2	2
Total income	381	1,513	1,894	1,703
EXPENDITURE ON:				
Grants awarded	279	1,125	1,404	1,281
Other charitable activities	89	178	267	210
Fundraising	9	90	99	80
Support and governance	45	77	122	113
Total expenditure	422	1,470	1,892	1,684
Net income/(expenditure)	(41)	43	2	19
Funds brought forward	275	2,122	2,397	2,378
Funds carried forward	234	2,165	2,399	2,397

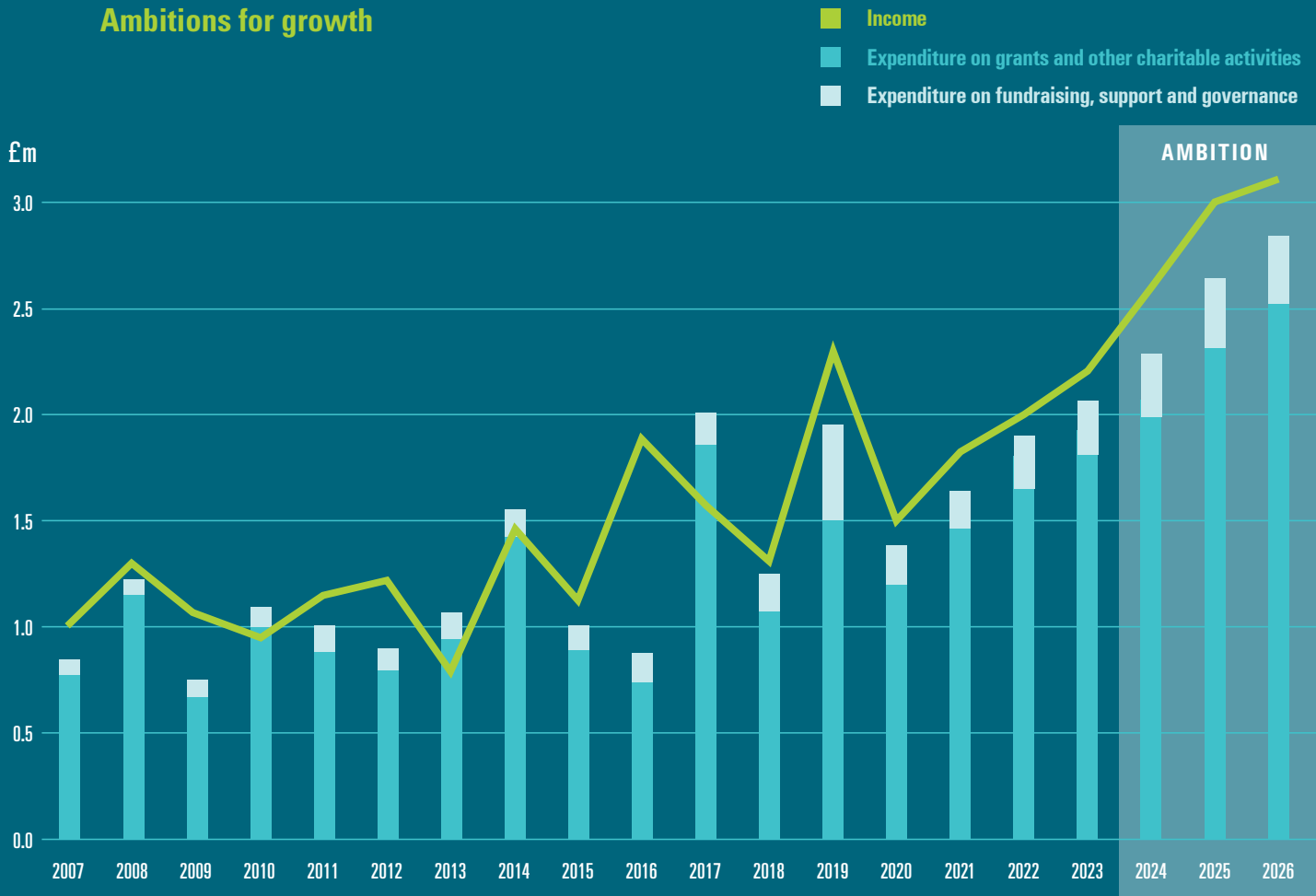
Balance sheet at 30 June 2022

£'000	2022 FUNDS			2021 FUNDS
	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total	Total
Cash and deposits	336	2,834	3,170	3,159
Debtors	-	60	60	57
Creditors due within one year	(102)	(729)	(831)	(819)
Net current assets	234	2,165	2,399	2,397
Total net assets (= Total Funds)	234	2,165	2,399	2,397

Extracted from the audited financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2022, a full copy of which is available on the WFN website.



Ambitions for growth



THANK YOU

We are so grateful for the generous support of our donors, sponsors and partners, including those who choose to remain anonymous.

WHITLEY AWARD DONORS

The Corcoran Foundation



Goldman Sachs Morris Family Foundation



MAJOR DONORS

The Badenoch Fund



The Benindi Fund



The Sarah and Patrick Wills Foundation



The Constance Travis Charitable Trust



The Foundation for the Promotion of Wellbeing



Charles and Ruth Plowden



Richard & Annemarie Revell



Matthew and Lucinda Webber











SPONSORS & PARTNERS



































FRIENDS' DONATIONS

The donations we receive from our Friends are the lifeblood of the charity and this year are supporting our Gold Award. Funds raised additionally to this are vital to the charity as general funds and for bolstering WFN's Continuation Funding programme.

* Donations received between 1 April 2022 and 30 March 2023

£10,000 - £19,999

Ella Cornish

Antoine and Isabelle Decitre

Dr Sarah Greaves and Dr Nick Harrison

Champions of the Green Big Give

The LJC Fund

The Monksgate Fund

Natalie and Jonathan Points

The Reed Foundation

Alistair Thompson

Waterloo Foundation

£5,000 - £9,999

Edward and Sally Benthall

Edward and Victoria Bonham Carter

The Rory and Elizabeth Brooks Foundation

Will O'Connor and Eilyn Daniels

Catherine and Edward Faulks

Nico and Lauren Fourie

Andrew Herman

Ian and Sandy Lazarus

Piers and Annabel Lea

Jan-Peter and Carol Onstwedder

Kathleen Crook and James Penturn

Gregg Sando and Sarah Havens

Sabine and Richard Wood

£1,000 - £4,999

Stuart and Diane Bridges

Sir Dominic and Lady Sally Cadbury

Chris and Laura Caulkin

James and Su Chen

Cotswold Wildlife Conservation Trust

Veronique and Diego De Giorgi

Fiona and Chris Fleming-Brown

Stephen and Elena Georgiadis

Edward Hoare Charitable Fund

Kilverstone Wildlife Charitable Trust

Mark and Susanna Laing

Mrs MA Lascelles Charitable Trust

Mark and Sophie Lewisohn

Simon and Penelope Linnett

The Montagu Family Charitable Trust

Mactaggart Third Fund

Ian Mactaggart Trust

Martin and Elizabeth Morgan

Melanie Pong and Jean Eric Salata

Patricia Ramsey

Ian Richmond and Lida Cepuch

Jackie and Paddy Sellers

Richard Strang and Liz Jackson

Francis Sullivan

Henrietta, Duchess of Bedford

Catherine and Julian Taylor

Harry and Kate Teacher

Titcomb Foundation

Tessa and Jeremy Whitley

Juliet and Andrew Wilkinson

£300-£999

Samuel and Rosie Berwick

Claire Brook

Bruce and Jane Carnegie-Brown

Philip and Tanya Cayford

Philippe and Sarah Chappatte

Will and Tiffany Chawner

Guy and Katie Christie

Dr. Samantha Corsellis

Caroline and Dana Cuffe

Sarah Debenham

Jonathan Dent and Anita Lowenstein Dent

Georgina and Daniel Domberger

Chloe Fairbairn

Nicola Ferrier Facon

Nigel and Catrin Gilkes

Danielle Goodwin

Victoria Gray

Melanie and Martin Hall

Tom and Tammany Heap

Edward and Teleri Iliffe

Brian & U S Johnson

Vanessa Kastner

William and Miranda Kendall

Dana and Christopher Kinder

Gilly and James King

Edward Levy and Karen Goodman

Amanda Marmot and Mark Tandy

David and Sarah Melville

Richard and Juliet Milliken

Daniel and Oxana Muller

Richard and April Nelson

O'Hea Charitable Trust

Julie and Steve Parks

Julia Paton

Hilary and Andrea Ponti

Jonathon Porritt

Anna and Alex Powell

Anthony Rae

Michael and Joanna Richards

David and Sarah Rosier

Paul and Jill Ruddock

Charles and Carol Skinner

Gillian Smith

Southern Cross Benevolent Fund

Chantal and Mario Spanicciati

Jennifer and Peter Tahany

David Taylor and Clare Carolan Taylor

Bryn Tod-Tims

Nick Turdean and Kristina Borsy

John and Ann-Margaret Walton

Henrik and Marika Wareborn

Charles and Susan Whiddington

Ella Whitley

Bryan Wigmore and Carol Kemm

Shane and Nigel Winsor

John and Linde Wotton



30TH WHITLEY AWARDS

Whitley Fund for Nature
23a Berghem Mews
Blythe Road, London
W14 0HN

T 020 7221 9752
E info@whitleyaward.org

Find us:

[Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) @WhitleyAwards

whitleyaward.org

UK Registered Charity Number 1081455



We need the work of the
Whitley Award winners
to succeed, and we need
to help them to whatever
extent is possible.

SIR DAVID ATTENBOROUGH,
WFN TRUSTEE

WFN team

Danni Parks
Director

Victoria Thompson
Acting Director

Sarah Harris
Operations Manager

Lily Himmelman
Fundraising Officer

Brian Johnson
Head of Finance

Janice Law
Head of Grants

Carol Roussel
Head of Media Relations

Kate Stephenson
Head of Communications

Lisa Wheeler
Grants and Networks Officer

Georgie White
Head of Partnerships

WFN Patron

HRH The Princess Royal

WFN Trustees

Edward Whitley (Chair)

Sir David Attenborough

Catherine Faulks

Ian Lazarus

Dino J Martins

Francis Sullivan

WFN Ambassadors

Alastair Fothergill

Tom Heap

Kate Humble

Danielle de Niese

Lord Robin Russell

With thanks to

WFN Friends Committee

Catherine Faulks (Chair)

Lida Cepuch

Katie Christie

Victoria Corcoran

Sarah Havens

Vanessa Kastner

Annie Newell

WFN NextGen Committee

Lily Himmelman (Chair)

Georgie White (Co-Chair)

Victoria Bodeker (Vice Chair)

Elizabeth Briggs (Vice Chair)

Chloe Baker

Callie Broaddus

Archie Faulks

Nick Gates

Rushil Ramjee

Phoebe Sullivan

Awards Ceremony Producer

Mandy Duncan-Smith

Programme & invitation design

Liquid

Winner films

Icon Films

Media training

Boffin Media

Speech training

Caroline Black

Livestream

Floating Harbour

Set design image

Tim Flach

Image credits

Front image

Lucy Maina

Page 2

Craig Jones

Page 4-5

Adri Sans (Hooded Grebe)

Page 6

Carla Rhodes (Purnima in a classroom)

Hein Nel (Southern Ground Hornbill)

Page 7

David Chancellor (Jeneria outside with Samburu warriors)

Page 8

FKL

Page 13

Lucy Maina (Shivani Bhalla headshot)

Page 15

Lucy Maina (Shivani Bhalla headshot)

Page 24-25

Travis Steffens

Page 28-29

Lucy Maina (Samburu warriors, lion, Shivani Bhalla headshot)

Anthony Ochieng Onyango (Mama Simba initiative)

Page 30-31

Edwar Herreño (Hammerhead Shark)

Page 34-35

Anthony Ochieng Onyango (Samburu warriors)