

Participants to the 1st Edition

SOUTH AMERICA

Chuvika Harilal Frankfurt Zoological Society



Guyana
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Chuvika is the Country Coordinator for Frankfurt Zoological Society (FZS) in Guyana, leading FZS's support to the Government, in strengthening the management and expansion of the National Protected Areas System, with a particular focus on the Kanuku Mountains Protected Area. Currently, only 8.4% of Guyana's land-mass is protected, and FZS is working to support the country in meeting its commitment to expanding the protected areas, initially to 17% and progressively to 30% by 2030. In May 2023, FZS was incorporated as a national NGO in Guyana, and Chuvika is working to establish a technical and administrative team in country that will support the expansion process and improve management effectiveness of current and new protected areas at both the national and site level. In her work, Chuvika engages with key multi-stakeholder groups ranging from high-ranking government officials, ministries, national governmental authorities, international and local non-governmental organisations, local democratic institutions, and indigenous communities with the overall goal of conserving Guyana's rich biodiversity.

Fatima Hollman Rewilding Argentina



Argentina
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Fatima works as Regional Coordinator of Communities for the promotion of Restorative Economies in the Impenetrable National Park. Her mission is to promote regional economies through the implementation of productive programs that help small businesses with the development of products and services that promote the preservation of wildlife and ecosystems around protected areas, focusing on women and youth. They also manage a Welfare program (water and food safety, environmental education programme, land titles, connectivity and accessibility).

Fatima coordinates a great team of 11 people conformed of 3 biologists, a math teacher, a touristic guide, 2 social communicators, a chef, a local mother of 7 children, and 2 business administrators. Their main stakeholders are the neighbours of the National Park divided in three nuclei, the municipal mayors, the Institute of Tourism and the Institute of Culture and sales managers among others.

Magali Longo Rewilding Argentina



Argentina
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Magali works as rewilding coordinator in San Alonso Island, at the heart of Iberá's National Park. She coordinates the reintroduction projects of jaguar, giant otter, giant anteater, pampas deer and collared peccary; plus the control and management of prescribed burnings and exotic species; and operations and logistics.

Her diverse team is composed of local people, working in operations and logistics, as well as management of prescribed burnings and exotic species; a biologist who manages the jaguar's reintroduction center; a veterinarian, in charge of the giant otter project; a ranger who is responsible for monitoring species that have already been reintroduced; and volunteers with different academic backgrounds. Once a month researchers join the team to collect data relevant about their projects. Throughout the year, she receives visitors of all kinds: journalists, public officers, members of other NGOs and institutions, and donors.

Mariana Cassini Rewilding Argentina



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Mariana Cassini is the Community and Communications Coordinator at Rewilding Argentina within the Marine Program of Patagonia Azul. She oversees the coordination between the park project and the neighboring community. Her responsibilities include the development and implementation of educational activities targeted to children, women, fishermen, and young adults. Additionally, she facilitates effective collaboration with the local government, fostering constructive relationships.

Moreover, she takes charge of driving the promotion of a regenerative economy within the community through the Nature Entrepreneurs program. This initiative supports community members in their transition towards sustainable employment opportunities linked to nature tourism. Marian also oversees a team that manages both internal and external communications within the project, ensuring assertive messaging.

Gerardo Cerón

Rewilding Argentina



Argentina



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Gerardo Cerón is a biologist and coordinator for 6 years of the Rewilding Argentina conservation project in the Impenetrable. This includes a National Park and adjacent areas sited in two provinces. It is a region mostly of dense forest, with sectors of grasslands and rivers, with low human population in the surroundings and presence of poaching. Gerardo is in charge of two base camps managed by the foundation, a team of 6 technicians and a maintenance team of 2 people, as well as a volunteer program. The team works with monitoring of hunting and fishing in the area, restoration of grasslands and reintroduction of tortoises (*Chelonoidis carbonaria*), swamp deer (*Blastocerus dichotomus*), giant otter (*Pteronura brasiliensis*) and supplementation of the jaguar (*Panthera onca*). Gerardo thinks that his biggest challenge is to obtain the permits from the National Parks administration to carry out the wildlife translocation projects.

Ricardo Borges

SPVS



Brazil



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Ricardo works for SPVS – Society for Wildlife Research and Environmental Education, an institution dedicated to nature conservation for over 38 years. Since 2018 he coordinates a communications and networking team that works for nature conservation and local development in the world's largest continuous remnant of Atlantic Forest: The Atlantic Forest Great Reserve. This initiative was inspired by the concept of Full Nature created by Rewilding Argentina and the establishment of a restorative economy. The strategy is based on a solid integrated communication component, which publicizes and values the territory, and a networking component that already unites more than 600 stakeholders in 60 municipalities of three Brazilian states, São Paulo, Paraná and Santa Catarina.

Ricardo's team is responsible for managing the initiative's social networks and website, seeking press placements, and generating high-quality graphic materials and videos to be shared with the initiative's partners. With the local stakeholders' network, they seek to create a collaborative space where actors throughout the territory can contribute to a common goal, which is the conservation and development of the Atlantic Forest Great Reserve through a restorative economy. Thus, they coordinate this network through monthly accountability meetings and workshops to address specific issues. Among their target audiences are entrepreneurs, traditional communities, municipal, state, and federal government, non-governmental organizations, protected areas managers and universities. Ricardo's team is composed of a social media manager, a designer, a press officer, a filmmaker, and three local facilitators responsible for the stakeholders' network.

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 **AFRICA**

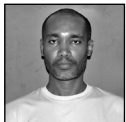
Callum Duncan
Frankfurt Zoological Society



Zimbabwe
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Callum Duncan is a Resource Protection Officer who has been employed by Gonarezhou Conservation Trust (GCT), Zimbabwe, since its inception in 2017. His role has organically developed as the organisation has grown and has evolved into general conservation as well as Law Enforcement management. Within Gonarezhou National Park, he is responsible for the Security department consisting of 205 Rangers. Additionally, he liaises with multiple departmental heads within GCT, such as Finance, Procurement and Works. Externally, stakeholders comprise of Private reserves, Communities (CAMPFIRE areas) and governmental agencies such as Police.

Peter Genda
Frankfurt Zoological Society



Tanzania
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Peter is the Operations Manager at Frankfurt Zoological Society (FZS) in the Nyerere-Selous Conservation Project, being based at Miguruwe which is the headquarters of the Selous Game Reserve. He's a wildlife management professional with wide experience in managing conservation projects that aim to protect large landscapes. His job primarily revolves around the preservation and protection of the Selous Game Reserve, an expansive area spanning approximately 18,000 km². In his role as Operations Manager, he plays a pivotal role in the success of the project. He manages a diverse team of staff and government partners, including organizations such as TAWA and TANAPA, fostering effective collaborations to achieve common conservation goals. Additionally, he oversees crucial assets, including vehicles, a garage, and a small aircraft, ensuring optimal functionality and support for the project's operations.

Tafadzwa Chikomo
Frankfurt Zoological Society



Zimbabwe
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Tafadzwa Malvern Chikomo works as the Head of Stores and Procurement for the Gonarezhou Conservation Trust. He's responsible for stores; stock counts, warehousing and inventory management. On the procurement side he's responsible for procurement planning, supplier management, import permits, rebates, negotiating and contracting. Internally, he works with all Heads of Departments and the finance department. His external stakeholders include National revenue authority, government departments (for rebates and import permits), suppliers, communal farmers and clearing agents.

Rumbidzai Magwiro
Frankfurt Zoological Society



Zimbabwe
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Rumbidzai works as Monitoring and Evaluation officer for the Gonarezhou Conservation Trust. This role allows her to deal with both local and international stakeholders. She works with these stakeholders, interacting on partnership compliance and indicator tracking issues. He also interacts with them on report writing and progress communication of programme activities. Her current role also involves coordination and integration with all GCT department. Rumbi coordinates the monitoring requirements within the organization ensuring standards are met and there is adherence to systems which inform adaptive management, and promote consistency, accuracy, and efficiency within the organization.

Gilbert Mwale

Frankfurt Zoological Society



Zambia

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Gilbert is the Landscape Outreach Manager with Frankfurt Zoological Society through the North Luangwa Conservation Program- NLCP. He's based north of Zambia in Mpika district, leading a team of 30 people working in the Game Management Areas of the North Luangwa National Park. They focus on community engagement to improve governance, provide alternative livelihoods and community enterprise, human-wildlife co-existence (HWCox) management, and conservation education. They also work with various government departments and conservation partners in implementing of the conservation activities. This is all in an effort to have a wholistic and integrated approach for the conservation natural resources of the North Luangwa Landscape.

Ian Munyankindi

African Parks



Rwanda

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Ian works as Tourism and Hospitality Manager in Akagera National Park. Rwanda is Ian's home since birth, and he is passionate about conserving its natural heritage. Ian has been with African Parks since 2012, and prior to this gained his hospitality expertise in some of Rwanda's best hotels and as a freelance guide for a number of years. Ian joined the Akagera Park team as the Ruzizi Tented Camp Manager and has worked his way up to his appointment as Akagera's Tourism Manager. Ian's passion for wildlife ensures that guests depart with a deep appreciation of the beauty of Akagera National Park.

Henry Maseka Luwaya

African Parks



Zambia

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Henry Maseka Luwaya works as a Field Operation Manager for Bangweulu Wetlands in Zambia which is managed by African Parks. Bangweulu Wetland is a wildlife protected area where communities and wildlife are allowed to coexist. Hence the major stakeholders whom he always interacts with to execute his duties are local community members, traditional leaders and key various government department officials such as police, forestry, fisheries, local council, health and wildlife. He coordinate with skilled staffs in various fields such as ecology, mechanics, carpentry, law enforcement, IT and roads.

Martin Awazi

African Parks



Malawi / Zimbabwe

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Martin is currently a a trainee Field Operations Manager (FOM) based in Matusadona National Park in Zimbabwe. As a trainee FOM my roles include overseeing the Technical Department 2023 Work Plan and keep on track with project deliverables and timelines. He's also responsible for managing all fixed assets, materials and consumables and ensure these are accounted for, treated well with no negligence. As a Field Operations Manager he's also responsible for fleet management by ensuring that all vehicles, motorcycles, tractors, earth moving plant, generators and boats are serviced on time and according to manufacturer specifications; and also ensuring that the workshop store has all critical spares and service items are in stock. The other role is to maintain staff discipline among all staff and ensure that all staff members uphold acceptable codes of conduct. To carry out his current duties on my current role, he coordinates with different departments and managers in the Park. Currently, he doesn't deal with any other stakeholders outside Matusadona National Park. However, during his previous role as a Head of Law-Enforcement, I used to conduct meetings with the Judiciary, Police Officers, Chiefs and other Law-Enforcement agencies together with the former FOM for Majete which he believes he will still have to continue once he assumes the FOM position there.

Marketa Sveijcarova

African Parks



Republic of Congo

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Marketa is currently working as Field Operations Manager in Odzala-Kokoua National Park, tropical rainforest park in the Republic of Congo. Operations is a support department ensuring the basic functioning of the park management and provides what other departments need to achieve their targets. She coordinates about 70 staff who manage constructions and infrastructure, maintenance, fleet, aviation, technology and communications, procurement, stock management and logistics. Marketa also supports Law Enforcement leadership on budget management, planning and procedures implementation.

Participants to the 1st Edition

AUSTRALIA

Braden Riles

Australian Wildlife Conservancy



Australia

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Braden joined AWC in 2019 as an intern in the Kimberley Region, before transitioning into a regional Fire and Field Ecologist role. Drawing on a multidisciplinary background, in 2022 Braden transitioned into the Yampi/Dambimangari Operations Manager role. He works closely with our Dambimangari partners on their Country and manages AWC's land management operations on the Yampi Sound Training Area. Throughout his life, and reflected in his time at AWC – he's maintained a joyful enthusiasm for looking after, and being a part of, the Country that sustains us, as well as breaking barriers to effective conservation.

Pippa Kern

Australian Wildlife Conservancy



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Pippa has been working in conservation for the last 7 years. During this time, she has managed both freshwater and terrestrial conservation programs involving species recovery programs, ecological monitoring and research. Pippa has lead projects with complex stakeholder relations and enjoys working with people to achieve conservation outcomes. She currently runs the science program on Yampi Sound Training Area alongside a great AWC team and the Dambimangari rangers, which is a significant project for collaboration with Traditional Owners and the Federal Government to achieve meaningful outcomes for conservation in a nationally significant area.

Rachel Ladd

Australian Wildlife Conservancy



Australia

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Rachel commenced at AWC in 2022 as the Wildlife Ecologist based at Mallee Cliffs National Park and Scotia. Rachel completed her PhD in ecology through the University of Queensland in 2022, where she investigated aspects of conservation management of Eld's deer in Cambodia, with a particular focus on camera trap monitoring. Prior to her PhD, Rachel worked in the vertebrate pest space with the Department of Primary Industries, NSW. Rachel has found working with AWC such a rewarding experience, with highlights being the translocations of Red-tailed Phascogale, Mitchell's Hopping Mice and Numbats to Mallee Cliffs. Rachel loves having a role contributing to the conservation of Australia's unique and wonderful species and environment.

