

SOUTH AMERICA

Juan Artola

Asociación Civil AMBÁ



Uruguay

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Juan is a Communications Director, group facilitator, environmental project manager, and Chief Culture Officer (CCO) at AMBÁ, a Uruguayan NGO dedicated to ecosystem regeneration, sustainable territorial development, and the emotional reconnection between humans and nature. With a decade of experience, he has worked in two key territories in Uruguay: Esteros de Farrapos and Sierras del Carapé. In recent years, he has led teams applying methodologies such as Nonviolent Communication, Theory U, and Gestalt, fostering collaboration among local stakeholders, public and private institutions, and promoting inclusive participation within the organization. He also builds strategic partnerships with companies and organizations, strengthening the collaboration network and expanding the impact of projects.

In his role as Chief Culture Officer, he leads the creation and execution of cultural programs, events, and all initiatives related to organizational culture, ensuring that AMBÁ's identity and values are reflected in every project. In this way, he not only advances environmental regeneration and sustainable development, but also strengthens cultural cohesion and a sense of belonging within the organization.

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.

Stephanie Simioni

Onçafari



Brazil

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Stephanie is Conservation Manager at Onçafari, a Brazilian NGO dedicated to biodiversity conservation through the creation of ecological corridors and support for improving the quality of life of local communities. She currently leads three field teams that monitor jaguars and maned wolves in the Cerrado and the Pantanal, while also developing wildlife observation tourism focused on these species. She oversees the organization's activities in ecotourism, environmental education, and social projects.

In addition, Stephanie leads an initiative to create a new protected area in the Pantanal, working to engage the local community and enable sustainable development alternatives such as ecotourism. Her work involves constant interaction with field teams, local communities, partner organizations, government entities, and funders, ensuring that projects move forward in an effective and integrated manner.

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 landmass 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.

SOUTH AMERICA

Ignacio Gutierrez

Rewilding Argentina



Argentina

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Ignacio, known as Nacho to his friends, is the conservation coordinator of the Patagonia Azul Project, a coastal marine restoration and conservation project led by Rewilding Argentina. The project's mission is to establish and expand marine protected areas in Argentine Patagonia and develop the country's first marine ecosystem restoration initiative. Nacho's role involves coordinating programmes that monitor marine fauna, such as whales, pinnipeds, sharks and seabirds. He also leads efforts to restore islands and seabeds in areas where these ecosystems have been severely damaged by the introduction of invasive species and uncontrolled seaweed extraction.

He and his multidisciplinary team of six, comprising biologists, field technicians and a captain, live in a biological station within the protected area on which they work. Nacho also works closely with other Patagonia Azul Project leaders, government authorities, local and international researchers, and other NGOs.

Maximiliano Costa

Ambá Association



Uruguay

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Maximiliano Costa is Executive Director of Ambá in Uruguay. Ambá was created with the purpose of reconnecting people emotionally with nature and regenerating ecosystems. Uruguay has a rather poor national culture in terms of conservation, parks and even less rewilding. The country ranks 172nd in the world in terms of protected areas, and is one of the most defaunated in the Americas. Ambá was inspired by the park creation, rewilding and local development work led by the Tompkins in neighboring Argentina. Thanks to this, they are pioneers in the implementation of the Full Nature model in Uruguay. As director of Ambá, Maxi coordinates a team of more than 20 people working in two large conservation landscapes: one on the Uruguay River and network of islands (west of the country) and the other on the Atlantic coast and adjacent sierras. This project aims to establish the largest protected area in the country (400,000 ha) through the creation of departmental and private reserves. Maximiliano coordinates Amba's steering group and is responsible for establishing partnerships with national and local authorities, while managing relations with national and international donors.

Kevin Sidney Ibañez Saravia

Frankfurt Zoological Society



Perú

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Kevin is a Peruvian National, and a Tourism and Environmental Professional with a Master in Science Degree in Ecology and Environmental Management from the University of San Antonio Abad del Cusco. Kevin has been working with FZS in Peru in various capacities for more than ten years and has graduated from the Conservation Project Management Program at the University of Goethe in Frankfurt. Currently, he serves as the Coordinator of the Bahuaia Sonene-Tambopata Landscape, one of the most biodiverse natural areas on the planet and the landscape with the highest level of threat in Peru. In this role, Kevin is responsible for designing and implementing initiatives in the areas of biological monitoring, resource management, surveillance and control, infrastructure development and use. He also coordinates training and capacity building in close collaboration with the native Ese eja and Harakbut indigenous population, as well as the Quechua and Aymara population all of them closely associated with the Bahuaia Sonene National Park and the Tambopata National Reserve. At the strategic level, Kevin is involved in planning, proposal development, and resource mobilization for FZS in his region.

Candela Fracchia

Rewilding Argentina



Argentina

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Candela works for Rewilding Argentina in Iberá Park, where she is responsible for the reintroduction of red-and-green macaws, bare-faced curassows, giant anteaters and collared peccaries, all of which were locally extinct. Her role primarily involves monitoring and tracking the released animals, organising daily activities with volunteers, and explaining the projects to journalists and donors. As reintroduced animals often move to cattle ranches, forestry areas and villages, she also visits local residents to keep them informed and maintain good relations. Additionally, a project to restore native trees is underway in the Yermalito Reserve. This area was previously affected by deforestation and fires, so several species of tree are being planted and relocated to help accelerate the reforestation process.

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SOUTH AMERICA

Rodrigo Patrón

Ambá Uruguay



Uruguay

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Rodrigo Patrón is one of the leaders of Ambá, a Uruguayan organisation dedicated to reconnecting people emotionally with nature and regenerating ecosystems. In a country with a weak conservation tradition and one of the lowest levels of protected areas in the Americas, he seeks to promote a comprehensive conservation model inspired by Rewilding Argentina's work. He coordinates strategies and leads community processes in two large conservation landscapes in Uruguay: the islands of the Uruguay River, which is shared by Uruguay and Argentina, and the eastern mountains of Gran Parque Carapé.

Rodrigo is deeply involved in designing experiences that bring local communities closer to conservation and the full nature model, generating strong links between ecological regeneration and local development. His work involves coordinating with local authorities, political actors and technicians, as well as rural communities. He always prioritises horizontal dialogue and involvement from the territory. He firmly believes that conservation is only possible if it is rooted in communities and presented as a vital opportunity for the future.

Fatima Hollman

Rewilding Argentina



Argentina

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Fatima recently transitioned from her role as Restorative Economies Program Manager to Strategy and Partnerships Manager. During her early years at Rewilding Argentina, she focused on promoting restorative economies in El Impenetrable National Park through the implementation of a productive program called Entrepreneurs for Nature. This initiative operates across three key areas: nature tourism, the development of cultural products, and agroforestry.

She contributed to the creation of socio-economic baselines and the development of indicators using GIS tools. The program supports small entrepreneurs across the entire value chain, and Fatima remains involved in the communication and commercialization of cultural products and agroforestry initiatives.

At the same time, she is taking on a new challenge as part of the Strategy and Partnerships team. After leading a small, field-based team, she is returning to a more strategic role. Fatima values having experienced both perspectives—staying closely connected to the on-the-ground impact of the work while contributing to the broader vision and long-term planning of the organization's 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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AUSTRALIA

Skye Cameron

Australian Wildlife Conservancy



Australia

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Skye is a conservation ecologist with over 15 years' experience working across non-profit, academic, government, and Indigenous-led conservation programs. She currently serves as the Regional Operations Manager for the Australian Wildlife Conservancy (AWC) in the Kimberley, where she leads a diverse team to deliver land management and biodiversity conservation across more than 4 million hectares. Her work integrates ecological monitoring, invasive species control, and fire management with strategic partnerships—particularly with First Nations communities—to support conservation outcomes that are ecologically effective and culturally grounded. Prior to this, Skye led AWC's science program in the Kimberley for five years, driving monitoring, threatened species research, and adaptive management in alignment with both AWC and First Nation partners aspirations.

Skye's background spans freshwater ecology, conservation physiology, and ecotoxicology, with a PhD from The University of Queensland. She has led research programs in remote northern Australia, including long-term biodiversity monitoring of Groote Eylandt in partnership with the Traditional Owners, Anindilyakwa people. Her career reflects a strong commitment to evidence-based, place-based conservation, with a focus on building collaborative partnerships and integrating Indigenous knowledge systems with scientific practice to deliver effective conservation outcomes.

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.

Isabel Connell

Australian Wildlife Conservancy



Australia

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Issie is currently employed as a Field Ecologist and a Senior Guide with AWC, spending half her time with our science teams and the other half hosting groups across our 32 locations, showcasing AWC's work and communicating and educating others in the importance of protecting and conserving our biodiversity. Issie has been with AWC for over 11 years, in various capacities and across many of AWC's sanctuaries and partnership areas. Work programs she's been involved with include biodiversity surveys, fire and feral cat management, wildlife translocations, as well as representing AWC at various Australian and International functions. Issie is responsible for leading and supporting a variety of different teams and groups in the field such as ecologists, volunteers, Traditional Owner's, private land owners, students and visiting philanthropic donors of AWC, requiring a range of different management and leadership techniques, and lots of flexibility! Issie is originally from the UK but for years has been fascinated by and passionate about Australian wildlife, the natural world, and sharing it with others. Issie holds a Bachelor of Science in Wildlife Conservation and Biology, and Honours in seabirds and microplastics.

Pippa Kern

Australian Wildlife Conservancy



Australia

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Pippa is Regional Ecologist at Australian Wildlife Conservancy, an Australian NGO committed to effectively conserving all Australian animal species and their habitats. She currently leads a team of eight ecologists working in the Kimberley region, one of the world's last intact tropical savannas. Pippa and her team work alongside our First Nations partners to monitor the health of Country, including population trends of threatened and culturally important species as well as evaluating outcomes of land management programs.

Pippa has been working in conservation for the last 10 years. During this time, she has managed both freshwater and terrestrial conservation programs involving species recovery programs, ecological monitoring and research. Pippa leads projects with complex stakeholder relations and enjoys working alongside a diverse range of people to find solutions with meaningful conservation and community outcomes.

ASIA

Muhammad Hilal Fikriansyah

Frankfurt Zoological Society



Indonesia

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Hilal is an Indonesian national and a wildlife conservation professional specialising in wildlife research. He currently manages the Wildlife Protection Unit for the Frankfurt Zoological Society (FZS) in the Bukit Tiga Puluh Landscape in Indonesia. He joined FZS Indonesia in 2020, bringing with him years of experience as a wildlife researcher. He is also a graduate of the Conservation Project Management Programme at Goethe University in Frankfurt.

The Bukit Tiga Puluh Landscape is one of the most biodiverse areas in Sumatra. However, it is under intense pressure from human activities, which makes it highly vulnerable to human-wildlife conflict. In this context, Hilal is responsible for designing and implementing wildlife survey and monitoring programmes, particularly for Sumatran elephants and tigers. He also manages human-elephant conflict mitigation teams and develops context-specific strategies based on field analysis. He plays a pivotal role in coordinating conservation initiatives with local government partners, including the Jambi Natural Resources Conservation Agency (BKSDA Jambi) and the Bukit Tiga Puluh National Park Authority. His work integrates scientific monitoring, strategic planning and collaboration with local communities to ensure the long-term protection of critical species and habitats in this threatened landscape.

Kevin Ramadhan Sandy

Leuser Conservation Forum Foundation



Indonesia

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Kevin Ramadhan Sandy is a dedicated conservation professional who serves as the Project Management and Reporting Coordinator at the Leuser Conservation Forum Foundation (FKL). In this role, he oversees the development of proposals and engagement with donors, as well as budgeting, compliance and reporting on results for multiple landscape-scale initiatives across the 2.6-million-hectare Leuser Ecosystem.

He works closely with the wildlife protection, restoration, research, education, database, finance and sustainability divisions at FKL to monitor grant implementation, track key performance indicators and provide timely narrative and financial updates to the philanthropic foundations and partners supporting Leuser Ecosystem conservation. Kevin's cross-functional coordination ensures that each programme meets donor requirements while maximising ecological impact and community benefit. He also helps FKL to continue field operations seamlessly by synchronising timelines across multiple donors and minimising funding gaps between grant cycles, thereby strengthening the organisation's mission to safeguard one of the world's last remaining strongholds for critically endangered Sumatran orangutans, tigers, rhinos and elephants.

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AFRICA

Andreia Pawel

Orange River-Karoo Conservation Area



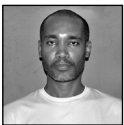
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Andreia's origins are from Brazil, and she grew up in England where she became a British Fencing Champion. Andreia's fascination for primates and itch for cultural immersions took her to field experience in Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Brazil, and Kenya. Andreia completed an MSc in Primatology & Conservation at The Durrell Institute of Conservation Ecology and then became a conservation entrepreneur. Alongside that, Andreia's thesis on environmental education led to work in Tanzania where she directed and produced an award-winning environmental education film shown at the Sondrio Wildlife Film Festival.

Andreia co-founded Oana Namibia and led as the CEO, one of Namibia's leading adventure tourism organizations which has now closed. Andreia also co-founded Oana Community Foundation, a non-profit organization in Southern Namibia. Andreia, alongside her business partner Ed, has gained experience in landscape restoration through the process of rewilding Kum Kum Reserve, one of the founding members to join ORKCA. She presently serves as Chief Executive Officer for ORKCA.

Peter Genda

Frankfurt Zoological Society



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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.

Eric Stanislas Herman

African Parks



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Eric joined African Parks in October 2020 as Grants Manager for W-Benin National Park, then Funding and Reporting Manager for Pendjari National Park in April 2022 and now Country Representative since August 2023. He is responsible for the legal and institutional representation of African Parks in Benin, in close contact with local and national authorities, as well as institutional, technical and financial partners in the country, while maintaining a strategic analysis of risks that may affect collaboration with these stakeholders. He supports the Pendjari and W-Benin national parks under AP management, ensuring that operations comply with the country's legislative, policy and regulatory framework. Eric has under his direct supervision an office manager from the Cotonou office and a program assistant, while interacting extensively with both the Parks Management Unit and the Central Government and local, technical and financial partners in the country.

Ilidio Wamusse

African Parks



Mozambique
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Ilidio works as a tourism officer in the Bazaruto Archipelago National Park. Mozambique has been Ilidio's home since he was born, and he is passionate about conserving its natural heritage. Ilidio has been working at African Parks since 2018, and before that he gained his conservation experience collaborating with Pomene National Reserve while working as a tourism technician in the Massinga District Government for several years (2009 - 2017). In 2017 he joined the Bazaruto Archipelago National Park team as a tourism officer through the World Bank project, but his contact with conservation began in 2007 when he was an intern at Limpopo National Park, part of the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park. Ilidio's passion for wildlife and the landscape ensures that guests access information on rules and regulations in their interaction with nature, and leave with a deep appreciation for the beauty of the Bazaruto Archipelago National Park and the work of African Parks.

AFRICA

Martin Awazi

African Parks



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Martin Awazi is a Field Operations Manager with African Parks, currently based at Majete Wildlife Reserve in Malawi. He advanced into this role through extensive training and hands-on experience at Matusadona National Park in Zimbabwe in 2023. At Majete, he oversees field operations, focusing on law enforcement and fencing systems that protect wildlife and reduce human-wildlife conflict. He ensures ranger teams operate professionally and comply with organizational standards and national legislation.

He is also responsible for implementing work plans, ensuring projects, maintenance, and infrastructure are delivered on time and to standard. As second in command, he supports coordination across departments, staff discipline, and performance management. As Deputy Park Manager, he provides leadership continuity and supports decision-making when needed. His previous experience in law enforcement, including collaboration with judicial, police, and traditional authorities, strengthens both internal operations and external partnerships.

Primael Hartmann Tabiti

African Parks



Central African Republic
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Primael Hartmann Tabiti is a passionate conservationist who started working for African Parks in 2018 as a simple control room officer, information and database manager for the Chinko Conservation Area. After successfully completing the Wildlife Specialist training at the Garoua Wildlife School (Cameroon), today he assumes the position of Research and Awareness Officer in the Conservation Department. He manages more than 150 field agents in habitat management, ecological monitoring of wildlife, scientific research on fauna, flora and the biotic and abiotic factors that condition them, and sensitization of stakeholders whose interaction with the Chinko Conservation Area may affect its management (i.e. transhumant pastoralists, local and transboundary hunters).

Andrew Mwakisu

Frankfurt Zoological Society



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Andrew is a natural resource and development economics professional with expertise in transformational leadership and management techniques. He's the FZS Project Coordinator in Tanzania for the Project "Emergency and Recovery Support for Biodiversity in Tanzania" (ERB) covering a total area of 62,783 km² of the Serengeti National Park, Nyerere National Park and Selous Game Reserve. The ERB is funded by the German Development Bank (KfW) on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). ERB is an emergency project resulting from the COVID-19 outbreak that affected the operations of the national parks due to the unprecedented decrease in tourist arrivals, loss of income and, significantly affected the governmental conservation agencies (TAWA and TANAPA), causing them to interrupt critical conservation activities and investments. The project aims to ensure the continuity and resumption of key conservation activities, secure the necessary investments and ecological recovery of the Serengeti National Park.

Since 2021 he has played a crucial role in project design (preparation of project tools, logical frameworks, preparation of detailed budgets, annual plans, procurement plans and refinement of the operational procurement manual to suit donor requirements), fostered effective collaboration between partners, and provided technical support and acts as secretary to the project management team. He leads the Coordination Unit to provide day-to-day support to protected areas in activities ranging from law enforcement, ecological and wildlife health monitoring, vehicle and aircraft maintenance, radio and communications, community outreach to environmental and human social safeguards.

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Gilbert Mwale

Frankfurt Zoological Society



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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.

Bester Muzeya

Frankfurt Zoological Society



Zambia

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Bester is a dedicated conservationist whose passion for nature was shaped by her upbringing in the local communities of Kabompo District in North Western Province, Zambia. Her hands-on experience of the environment from an early age fostered a lifelong commitment to conservation, leading her to earn a Bachelor of Education in Environmental Studies. She is currently serving as an Assistant Landscape Coordinator with the North Luangwa Conservation Programme, playing a pivotal role in community-led natural resource management.

Bester focuses on strengthening stakeholder collaboration, promoting good governance among local institutions in game management areas and advocating sustainable livelihoods that encourage responsible resource use. Her work ensures that conservation benefits reach those intended, creating a positive impact for both people and wildlife. With her extensive experience in community outreach, governance and institutional development, Bester is a highly skilled project manager, negotiator and communicator. She thrives in team settings, demonstrating strong leadership skills, the ability to write effective proposals and reports, and good public speaking abilities. She takes pride in accomplishing goals. Fluent in English and six Zambian languages, she bridges cultural gaps and fosters meaningful connections in conservation efforts.

Emídio Vicente Sumbane

Conserve Global



Mozambique

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Emídio Vicente Sumbane is an ecologist and community development practitioner who is dedicated to building bridges between biodiversity conservation and human wellbeing in Mozambique. Having studied Ecology and Biodiversity Conservation at the Universidade Eduardo Mondlane and completed postgraduate training in Integrated Management Systems, he now heads up the Community Programmes portfolio at Conserve Global. His work focuses on the southern landscape of the Futi Corridor, a critical ecological and cultural area adjacent to Maputo National Park.

Emídio's core mission is to empower communities to take the lead in conservation efforts. Through his collaboration with local organisations such as the Associação Comunitária para Conservação – Corredor Futi (ACCCF), he helps establish the political, social and economic conditions required for the long-term stewardship of natural resources. This involves strengthening governance systems, promoting community health and education initiatives, supporting sustainable livelihoods and cultivating intergenerational leadership in conservation.

Much of Emídio's work involves complex social and institutional dialogue. He collaborates closely with government agencies, traditional leaders, conservation NGOs, researchers and donors to develop solutions that respect ecological integrity and community needs. He frequently engages in fieldwork, policy discussions and strategic planning meetings to help shape inclusive conservation models that are rooted in local values and rights.

He has held leadership roles in the education programme at Gorongosa National Park and made key contributions to the MozBio II project in the Maputo landscape. Through his voice and presence in national and international forums, Emídio champions a collaborative, equitable and forward-looking vision of conservation—one in which people and nature can thrive together.

 **AFRICA**

Tatenda Noreen Muchopa

Frankfurt Zoological Society



Zimbabwe

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Tatenda recently joined the Frankfurt Zoological Society (FZS) as Technical Advisor on Programme Development in the Sengwe-Tshipise Corridor (STC). This is a vital wildlife corridor connecting Gonarezhou and Kruger National Park within the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Conservation Area. After over two decades of planning, the STC has yet to reach its full potential, and Tatenda's role is pivotal in advancing its development. She collaborates closely with local communities, conservation partners, and stakeholders to promote ecological connectivity and community-based conservation initiatives.

A seasoned expert in natural resources management and GIS, Tatenda holds an honours degree in natural resources management and an MSc in geographical information systems (GIS) from the University of Leeds. With over ten years' experience in conservation GIS, environmental analysis and mobile data collection, she has developed a strong background in geospatial science. Her passion for community-based natural resource management (CBNRM) is evident in her leadership of major CBNRM programmes in the Southeast Lowveld and the Mid-Zambezi Valley. These programmes have empowered communities through sustainable and impactful conservation enterprises. Driven by her commitment to biodiversity conservation and geospatial science, Tatenda is well-placed to effect positive change in the Sengwe-Tshipise Corridor and beyond. Her blend of technical expertise, passion for nature and dedication to community empowerment makes her an invaluable asset to FZS and the STC initiative.