



ANNUAL REPORT 2018 – 2019

Global Nature Fund (GNF)
International Foundation for
Environment and Nature



**Global
Nature
Fund**

02

103.8

hectares of degraded mangrove areas have been restored by the local population using over 215,000 seedlings from central and private tree nurseries in India and Sri Lanka since 2017. To date, more than 1,400 families have been helped through measures to increase their income and directly improve their living conditions.

10

The Network Living Lakes Germany, founded in 2009, celebrates its 10th anniversary.

The network promotes the exchange of experience between stakeholders from different lake regions and serves as a platform for the development and implementation of joint projects in the fields of nature and lake conservation, environmental education and biological diversity.

55

countries are now represented in the international network Living Lakes. At the end of 2018, we welcomed two new members: Ignacio Allende Reservoir in Mexico and Lake Chilika in India. Welcome to the Living Lakes family!

818

Followers on our Twitter-Channel of the European Business and Biodiversity Campaign (@ProBiodiversity)

200

lake conservationists, policy makers and company representatives from over 40 countries came to the 15th International Living Lakes Conference from 7 to 9 May in Valencia. They discussed current challenges and solutions for the protection of lakes and wetlands. The conference focused on the restoration and management of lakes and wetlands as well as on strengthening their resilience to the impacts of climate change.

70,000

cocoa seedlings were given to 1,200 trained farmers in Tanzania as part of the "Inclusive Green Growth" project. Sustainable cocoa farming enables local people to secure their income.

70

certified agricultural pilot farms in Europe with a total area of 4,250 hectares took part in the testing of biodiversity measures for the "LIFE Food & Biodiversity" project. More than 90 representatives of institutions, companies, NGOs, scientific institutions and ministries participated in the development of "Recommendations for Effective Biodiversity Criteria in Standards and Sourcing Requirements". The recommendations are now published in five languages and distributed to over 2,000 stakeholders from the food sector.

Preface

Dear Readers,

public transport, saving electricity, avoiding long-distance journeys and plastic consumption, shopping fairly, protecting species, saving the climate ... are you sometimes overwhelmed by the multitude of these tasks and the knowledge you need to act correctly?

Even decision-makers seem to feel the same way. This is why advisory bodies have been set up: e.g. the German Advisory Council on the Environment (1972), the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) (1988) and the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity Services (IPBES) (2015). These bodies provide expertise and scientifically substantiated information which decision-makers can use to identify threats to humanity and offer solutions to the resulting problems. Nearly all experts define climate protection and the conservation of biological diversity as key issues for the survival of people on earth and call for rapid action.

Observing that species and habitats continue to disappear at a dramatic rate and that the climate is changing even faster than feared unfortunately gives the impression that decision-makers hardly listen to these bodies. Why cannot politics and corporate management transform this knowledge into urgently needed action? Is it weakness, fear or even corruption? I often get the impression that - as with the smoking ban at the turn of the millennium - the majority of people long for a "clear edge" and even the industry is waiting for clear political announcements.

What does all this have to do with the GNF? In our project work we try to meet the diversity of life: Whether drinking water protection in Colombia, fishing in Cambodia, mangrove protection in Bangladesh, microplastic in German lakes, biodiversity in the food industry - the new measures of the GNF also reflect this complexity and make it clear that everything (climate, biodiversity, migration and peace) is interconnected.

The work of the GNF gives - in particular to me personally - a lot of hope. Here I meet many people who make a contribution to a future worth living for our children and grandchildren, with a great sense of responsibility and selfless commitment. That motivates and empowers optimism - even and especially in difficult times.

My hope is that science and civil society organisations will be able to make their voices heard even more and that politicians will finally be able to take action to create a new order for the economy and society, which will enable people to continue to live in health, freedom and justly distributed prosperity in the future.

We sincerely hope that you will continue to be with us and thank you for supporting the GNF's project work.



Udo Gattenlöhner
Executive Director

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Imprint

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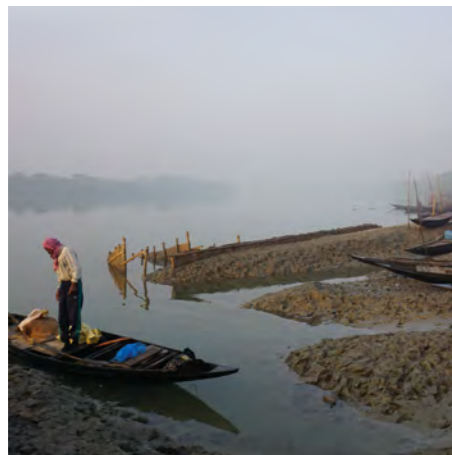
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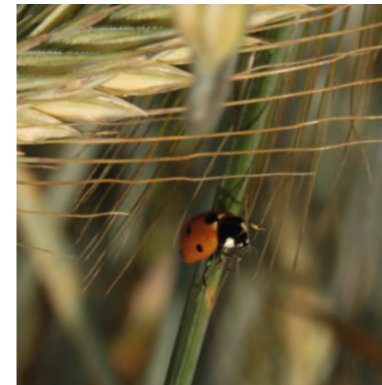
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Diversity does it

“A world without wetlands is a world without water” was the motto of the Living Lakes Conference in Spain in 2019. The topic was intended to be a motivation for the approximately 200 delegates to find new approaches to old problems.

Reports by Bettina Schmidt

Bettina Schmidt is a graduate biologist and works at GNF as coordinator of the Living Lakes Network and as project manager in the department of nature conservation.

The rising pressure on aquatic ecosystems

Report by Bettina Schmidt

Wetlands are degrading and disappearing at a much faster rate than any other ecosystem, even though wetlands are one of the most important instruments that can help us fight climate change and natural catastrophes. When talking about environmental protection, we seldomly consider the economic value of the habitats and species we want to protect. Wetlands provide countless vital services and provide a solid basis for economic and social development. One of the biggest threats to coastal and inland wetlands has been, and still is, population and economic growth. From experience we know that wetland conservation projects will fail if not supported by strategic cooperation that includes all concerned parties in the development of these regions. The goal of the 15th international Living Lakes conference, that took place from 7th May to 9th May 2019 was to bring together companies, governments, universities and NGOs to find approaches that would ensure a balance between the conservation of wetlands and economic development through tourism, agriculture and industry. Over the course of the conference, the approximately 200 delegates from over 40 countries discussed current challenges and solutions for the protection, as well as the restoration and management of lakes and wetlands and enhancement of their resilience towards the effects of climate change. The presentations from this event, along with further information can be found at www.globalnature.org/en/15th-ll-conference.

20 years of Living Lakes

Even with all the issues and challenges, addressed at this conference, there was still cause for celebration; the 20th anniversary of the Living Lakes network. For the members, the anniversary was an occasion to set in place an action plan for the next five years. More than 280 goals are set out for the Living Lakes partner organisations, to protect the waters and thereby their livelihoods. Over the next years, the network aims to grow further and strengthen the links between partners. During the conference, members from the Philippines, India, Sri Lanka, Indonesia and Cambodia set precedence by founding the new Living Lakes subnetwork for South- and Southeast Asia. Similarly, the members of the multinational Living Lakes network for Latin

America and the Caribbean came together at the conference to discuss joint activities and possibilities for further enhancing the collaboration within the network.

Voices within the Living Lakes network

What are the members themselves saying about the Living Lakes network? We have asked various partners within the network, both partners that have participated for many years, as well as partners that have only joined recently.

Eduardo de Miguel, Fundación Global Nature, Spain

“The Living Lakes network combines a range of different organisations that also represent wetlands faced with a multitude of problems but we share the same motivation to preserve these unique and rare ecosystems. In a time in which everyday contact is restricted to email, social networks and the internet, we have come to neglect the importance of personal contacts. Personal contacts provide us with solid and long-term connections that are based on mutual trust. Living Lakes has enabled us to build these personal and amicable relations over 20 years running, and develop unique conservation projects with a stable social basis.”

Aristide Takoukam, AMMCO African Mammal Conservation Organisation

“As president of AMMCO, the Living Lakes Conference was a fantastic chance to network with international experts in water body management. Even more important was that I had the opportunity to discuss the issue of eutrophication and the invasion of *Salvinia molesta* we are seeing at Lake Ossa with other members of the Living Lakes network. The ample helpful feedback I received is currently being implemented by AMMCO to solve this problem. A big thank you to the GNF for giving me this wonderful opportunity. AMMCO is so thankful for being accepted into the Living Lakes community.

Dr. Nina Dagbaeva, Baikal Information Center GRAN, Russia

“We can use the experience of others for the conservation of lakes and avoid making the same mistakes twice. The seminars, conferences and exchange within the Living Lakes network, taking place all over the world are fantastic.”

Chapter picture:

Lake Schaal, Living Lake of 2019, is an exemplary model of conservation work across federal state borders and the transformation of the disadvantages of former border regions into a high nature conservation value and attractive recreational destination.



In the new publication “Living Lakes Achievements and Goals 2019 – 2025” the members look back on a successful last 6 years of lake and wetland conservation and set new goals for the future.



Follow us in the social media using the hash-tags: #LivingLakes2019, #LoveLakes, #LikeLakes, #LiveLakes



Felipe Valderrama Escallón, Fundación Humedales, Colombia

“For the Fundación Humedales it has always been an honour and a rewarding advantage to be part of Living Lakes. Over the past years our connections with the Global Nature Fund and other members of the network have grown. This made it possible for us to implement initiatives such as the green filters. The closer collaboration with the partners has brought us closer to revitalizing the Living Lakes network for Latin America and the Caribbean. Fundación Global Nature has organized a hugely successful conference in Valencia and after having attended, I now return to Colombia full of motivation and prospects that we hope can be translated into projects for the preservation and sustainable use of natural resources. <<

“Africas’ answer to Venice” is drowning in garbage

The village of Ganvié on the Northern bank of Lake Nokoué in Benin is the largest African town to be built entirely on piles. Ganvié is also called “Africa’s answer to Venice”. Cotonou, the country’s biggest city with a population of almost 1 Million, is situated on the slim bridge of land that separates the lake from the Atlantic. The shallow lake is a refuge for many rare and endangered species, such as the African Manatee. So far, that sounds very idyllic. However, reality at Lake Nokoué paints a different picture. Garbage, chemicals, pesticides and fertilizers are a threat to the vulnerable ecosystem. The cities around the lake do not have waste water treatment and almost the entirety of household waste is disposed of directly in the lake.

On 2nd February, the World Wetlands Day, GNF and the local Living Lakes partner organisation Amis de l’Afrique Francophone-Bénin (AMAF-BENIN) declared Lake Nokoué “Threatened Lake of the Year 2019”, in order to alert the responsible authorities to the high threats for people and the environment.

10 years of Living Lakes Network Germany

In order to enhance hygiene conditions and ensure the continued existence of the African manatee, it is vital to construct sanitary and sewage treatment systems. More information on the joint project between AMAF-BENIN and the GNF for the conservation of Lake Nokoué can be found in the “Conservation” chapter or at www.globalnature.org/ThreatenedLake2019. <<



2019 marks the 10-year anniversary of Living Lakes Network Germany. We look back on numerous successes and joint projects, implemented in conjunction with partners in lake regions throughout Germany. Nevertheless, there are still many challenges remaining for us to face. According to surveys by the Federal Environmental Agency, 7 out of 10 lakes do not have good ecological status. Numerous animal and plant species are facing extinction. The partners within the network have therefore declared to make “The Contribution of German Water Bodies to Species Conservation” their flagship theme. On account of the anniversary year, many different events and activities are taking place all over Germany. Further information at www.globalnature.org/de/10-Jahre-NLSD

Lake Schaal is “Living Lake of the Year 2019”

Once, the borderline between East and West Germany ran straight through the middle of Lake Schaal. The previously disadvantageous location in no-man’s land, i.e. a restricted zone, meant little usage and infrastructure development in the region, which in turn had positive effect on species and biotope richness. To date, the spectrum of endemic species includes cranes, kingfishers, white-tailed eagles, otters and fire-bellied toads. Additionally, the flood plains and woods surrounding Lake Schaal are home to an vast variety of botanical rarities such as sundew, primrose, royal fern, cottongrass and orchids.

By nominating Lake Schaal as “Living Lake of 2019” on 22nd March, the World Water Day, Living Lakes Network Germany and the GNF are hoping to highlight the ecological importance of the lake, as well as the exemplary, cross-border collaboration of governments, administrations, environmental organisations and the society for the conservation of this lake. A coordinated approach in the federal states of Schleswig-Holstein and Mecklenburg-Vorpommern as well as in the districts of Duchy of Lauenburg, Northwest Mecklenburg and Ludwigslust in the development of settlements, businesses and tourism takes the protection and preservation of natural areas into account. Further information can be found at

www.globalnature.org/LebendigerSee2019

Picture on the left: 200 delegates from over 40 different countries came together at the Living Lakes conference in Valencia to find solutions for the dramatic situation our aquatic ecosystems are in.

Picture on the right: Garbage and chemicals pose a threat to the already vulnerable ecosystem of Lake Nokoué in Benin. In order to alert the responsible authorities and protect the local population, GNF declared Lake Nokoué as “Threatened Lake of the Year 2019”.



Members of the Living Lakes Network

North America

- 1 Columbia River Wetlands; **Canada**
- 2 Lake Winnipeg; **Canada**
- 3 Athabasca River; **Canada***
- 4 Huron Lake; **Canada***
- 5 Skeena River; **Canada***
- 6 Mono Lake; **USA**
- 7 Lake Chapala; **Mexico**
- 8 Ignacio Allende Reservoir; **Mexico**
- 9 Laguna de Zapotlán; **Mexico**
- 10 Lake Amatitlán; **Guatemala**
- 11 Lake Atitlán; **Guatemala**

South America

- 12 Laguna de Fúquene; **Colombia**
- 13 Lake Tota; **Colombia**
- 14 Lake Titicaca; **Peru, Bolivia**
- 15 Pantanal Wetlands; **Brazil, Bolivia, Paraguay**
- 16 Lagunita Complex; **Paraguay**
- 17 Laguna de Rocha; **Uruguay**
- 18 Mar Chiquita; **Argentina**
- 19 Río Gallegos; **Argentina**

Europe

- 20 Norfolk & Suffolk Broads; **Great Britain**
- 21 Lake District; **Great Britain**
- 22 Lake Albufera; **Spain**
- 23 Delta de Llobregat; **Spain**
- 24 La Mancha Wetlands; **Spain**
- 25 La Nava; **Spain**
- 26 Salobrar de Campos; **Majorca, Spain**
- 27 Kolindsund Wetlands; **Denmark**
- 28 Lake Constance; **Germany, Switzerland, Austria**
- 29 Chiemsee; **Germany***
- 30 Lake Dümmer; **Germany***
- 31 Lusatian Lakeland; **Germany***
- 32 Mindelsee; **Germany***
- 33 Upper Swabian Lakes; **Germany***
- 34 Lake of Plau; **Germany***
- 35 Lake Schwerin; **Germany***
- 36 Lakes of Holstein Switzerland; **Germany***
- 37 Lake Stechlin; **Germany***
- 38 Lake Steinhude; **Germany***
- 39 Lake Trasimeno; **Italy**
- 40 Lake Albano; **Italy***
- 41 Lake Bolsena; **Italy***
- 42 Lake Bracciano; **Italy***
- 43 Colfiorito Wetland and Park; **Italy***
- 44 Lake Garda; **Italy***
- 45 Lago Maggiore; **Italy***
- 46 Lake Nemi; **Italy***
- 47 Lake Orta; **Italy***
- 48 Lake Piediluco; **Italy***
- 49 Lake Vico; **Italy***
- 50 Milicz Ponds; **Poland**
- 51 Lake Balaton; **Hungary**

- 52 Nestos Lakes and Lagoons; **Greece**
 - 53 Labanoras Regional Park; **Lithuania**
 - 54 Lake Peipsi; **Estonia, Russia**
 - 55 Lake Võrtsjärv; **Estonia**
- Africa**
- 56 Lake Sonfon; **Sierra Leone**
 - 57 Lake Nokoué; **Benin**
 - 58 Lake Ossa; **Cameroon**
 - 59 Lake Victoria; **Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda**
 - 60 Lake Bogoria; **Kenya***
 - 61 Lakes of Bugesera Region; **Burundi***
 - 62 Bujagali Falls; **Uganda***
 - 63 Lake Bunyonyi; **Uganda***
 - 64 Lake Chala; **Kenya***

- 65 Lake Ihema; **Rwanda***
- 66 Lake Jipe; **Kenya, Tanzania***
- 67 Lake Kanyaboli; **Kenya***
- 68 Lake Katwe; **Uganda***
- 69 Lake Kivu; **Democratic Republic of the Congo, Rwanda***
- 70 Lake Kyoga; **Uganda***
- 71 Mau Forest; **Kenya***
- 72 Lake Nabugabo; **Uganda***
- 73 Lake Naivasha; **Kenya***
- 74 Lake Ol Bolossat; **Kenya***
- 75 Lake Rwihinda; **Burundi***
- 76 Shompole Wetland; **Kenya, Tanzania***
- 77 Lake Wamala; **Uganda***
- 78 Lake Tanganyika; **Burundi, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Tanzania, Zambia**

- 79 Lake Malawi; **Tanzania, Malawi, Mozambique**
 - 80 Okavango Delta; **Botswana**
 - 81 Lake St. Lucia; **South Africa**
- Asia**
- 82 Dead Sea; **Israel, Jordan, Palestine**
 - 83 Lake Paliastomi; **Georgia**
 - 84 Lake Eğirdir; **Turkey**
 - 85 Lake Sapanca; **Turkey**
 - 86 Lake Uluabat; **Turkey**
 - 87 Lake Tengiz; **Kazakhstan**
 - 88 Lake Issyk-Kul; **Kyrgyzstan**
 - 89 Lake Hovsgol; **Mongolia**
 - 90 Lakes Ulaan, Airag, Khyargas and Angir-Nuden Moundohei; **Mongolia**

- 91 Lake Uvs; **Mongolia**
- 92 Lake Baikal; **Russia**
- 93 Lake Poyang; **China***
- 94 Lake Chao; **China***
- 95 Lake Dian; **China***
- 96 Lake Dongting; **China***
- 97 Lake Tai; **China***
- 98 Lake Biwa; **Japan**
- 99 Lake Tonle Sap; **Cambodia**
- 100 Laguna de Bay; **Philippines**
- 101 Lake Sampaloc; **Philippines**
- 102 Lake Taal; **Philippines**
- 103 Jempang Lake & Mahakam Wetlands; **Indonesia**
- 104 Deh Akro Wetlands; **Pakistan**

- 105 Lake Chilika; **India**
- 106 Lake Pulicat; **India**
- 107 Lake Wular; **India**
- 108 Lake Bolgoda; **Sri Lanka**
- 109 Lake Maduganga and Lake Madampe; **Sri Lanka**

Australia / Oceania

- 110 Wilson Inlet; **South West Australia**

Antarctica

- 111 Lake Vostok; **Antarctica**

* National member of a national or multinational Living Lakes Network.



Clean water is a vital resource that is becoming scarce due to climate change, population growth and increasing pollution. Global Nature Fund shows how simple, nature based solutions can help.

Reports by Thies Gertz, Udo Gattenlöhner and Laura Maeso Velasco

Thies Geertz

is a member of the Global Nature Fund (GNF) and supervises a project to protect mangrove forests in India and Sri Lanka. The consequences of climate change, for which the industrial nations are mainly responsible, are already noticeable here.

Udo Gattenlöhner

has worked for the GNF since 1999, as its executive director since 2001. He coordinates various projects for sustainable development in countries of the global South. He works closely with experts in Latin America on the subject of green filters.

Laura Maeso Velasco

is an environmental scientist and has been at GNF since 2017. She focuses on drinking water, water treatment and the protection of biodiversity.

Clean water – a precious commodity

Report by Thies Geertz

The United Nations (UN) estimate that around two billion people do not have access to clean drinking water, mostly in Southern Africa and Southern Asia. With constant population growth and climate change, this problem will become significantly more drastic. The most dramatically affected are the poorest of the poor. In the World Water Development Report 2018, the UN therefore calls for increased application of simple, nature-based solutions.

Natural solutions

As a conservation organisation, GNF has always supported nature-based solutions as they are easily available in countries of the global South, with low cost and effort. One example of this are the Green Filter plant-based sewage treatment systems in rural areas of Colombia, Paraguay, Nicaragua and Mexico. This project was supported by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and Alfred Kärcher SE & Co. KG. In addition to providing a cheap and hassle-free technology for sewage treatment, the plants in the Green Filter system also provide a valuable habitat for threatened species. In Colombia for example, a caiman has found a home in the plant-based sewage treatment system, next to many bird species.

Cost effective sewage treatment is also the focus of our newest project in Jordan. Here, for the first time, solar power also plays a role (see page 14/15). The project contributes to reducing the water shortage in the Jordan Valley, as the treated sewage water can be used to irrigate fields. The project is funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and the Wilo-Foundation.



Tension between humans and wildlife

The focus of our new project in South Africa is also water shortage. The continuing drought has caused conflicts, especially between humans and wildlife in the Somkhanda protected area in the East. For many years now, GNF has supported the local Gumbi community, an African Ethnicity, in the development and management of this protected area. With development of tourism in the protected area, the Gumbi community is hoping for long-term income to better protect rhinos, lions and elephant, while simultaneously ensuring water supply for the people and livestock. Together with the Living Lakes partner organisation Wildlands, drinking water supply for 5,000 people was secured through reparation of defective water pipes and installation of a large storage tank. The project was supported by Hannover 96 through the “drinking cups for drinking water” promotion and by SIKA AG.

Concrete measures were also implemented in other project areas, such as Tamil-Nadu in Southern India, at the Rio Magdalena in Colombia and in the Kilombero Valley in Tanzania. Funding and collaboration with reliable local community partners is vital for these successful projects. «

Chapter picture:

The Kilombero River in Tanzania plays a vital role in supplying drinking water to people and agriculture.

Picture on the right:

The water supply in the Sundarbans in Bangladesh is threatened by sea level rise.



A trickle of hope – innovative sewage treatment in Jordan

Report by Udo Gattenlöhner

The Middle East is amongst the most arid areas on Earth. Fuelled by climate change, the drought periods are becoming longer, causing a decline in drinking water. Water scarcity is also a huge challenge for the politically stable Kingdom of Jordan. In order to sustain the intensive farming in the Jordan Valley, too much water is extracted from the river. Now, the Jordan is no more than a sad trickle.

Insufficiently treated waste water and illegal disposal of domestic and commercial waste water are an additional stressor for the ground and surface water, threatening human health and the environment. Eshak Alguza, project manager at EcoPeace Jordan, explains that water supply is one of

the biggest challenges for Jordan, particularly with the influx of hundreds of thousands of refugees. For many years now EcoPeace has been actively advocating for a safe water supply, environmental protection and the peace process in the Jordan Valley.

Freshwater in the Jordan Valley is extremely scarce. The treatment of waste water is particularly important for the region. Decentralised and cost-efficient solutions for the treatment of waste water are a good fit here. At the moment, there are only two waste water treatment plants in the Jordanian part of the Jordan Valley, for around 500,000 inhabitants. The waste water is generally collected locally in simple ditches. Ideally, these are emptied in time by a tanker lorries and transported to one of the two sewage treatment plants (North Shuna and Tal-Al-Mantah) in the region.

Innovative, thanks to solar power

As part of the model project funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development and the Wilo-Foundation, GNF and EcoPeace are developing a solar plant for the Tal-Al-Mantah sewage treatment plant in the Deir Alla region. The currently unreliable supply of electricity will be much improved. Eshak Alguza explains that the waste water treatment plant is currently reliant on an unreliable supply of electricity which leads to longer failure every now and again. Furthermore, there is presently no laboratory for the determination of contamination level in the delivered water. Incoming lorries are thus often refused and the plant closed, even if the maximum capacity has not yet been reached. The sewage is then often disposed of illegally to the environment. The high electricity bills make such a large dent in the budget of the treatment plant, that there are no funds left for the maintenance of the treatment infrastructure. In future, the photovoltaic system will cover 90 percent of the electricity demand, making the plant almost completely independent from the unreliable and expensive electricity grid.

The expenses thus saved will then be available for maintenance and repairs, as well as the much needed laboratory.

Plant based sewage treatment system for natural waste water treatment

The development of a Green Filter in the Sharhabil Bin Hassneh EcoPark (SHE) will serve as a treatment for the waste water from the EcoPark and the associated visitor centre. The pilot plant-based sewage water treatment system consists of canals populated with floating plants. Through metabolic processes, these plants remove organic substances from the water and thus act as a natural filter. Since its inception in 2004, the EcoPark, which has been declared one of the "Top 100 Green Destinations", has attracted around 20,000 visitors annually. Yana Abu Taleb, managing director of EcoPeace Jordan highlights the importance of the park for environmental education purposes, as well as the role of ecotourism in the creation of income and jobs in the area.

Additionally, the plant-based sewage treatment system, also treats the waste water from a community close by. The system consists of canals, around 2.5 m broad and 1 m deep, that are populated with floating plants. The plants within this filter take up organic substances from the waste water as part of their metabolic processes and thereby naturally filter the water. GNF is applying the good experiences made with numerous plant-based systems already in use in Latin America. Felipe Valderrama from Colombia, who is the technical advisor for the project, says that Green Filters have proven an extremely good and cost effective method of domestic waste water treatment in sparsely populated areas in Latin America. «

First picture on the left:

In general, waste water in the Jordan Valley is collected in simple ditches. Tanker lorries transport the waste water to one of the two treatment plants in the region.

Upper picture on the right:

The SHE EcoPark is already using solar power and was declared one of the "Top 100 Green Destinations".

Bottom picture on the right:

Around 20,000 annual visitors of the EcoPark with its innovative technologies.





Drinking water in rural areas of Colombia

Report by Laura Maeso Velasco

Despite many improvements, the supply of clean drinking water for the population of rural areas in Colombia is still insufficient. Even people with access to drinking water cannot rely on the quality of it. Our project is aimed at improving the situation in two regions.

In rural areas of Colombia, around 60 percent of households have access to water supply, although the available water is often not of high quality. The inhabitants merely inspect the water according to colour, murkiness and smell, so that bacteria and other harmful substances often remain undetected, resulting in diseases due to consumption of the water. In the Bocas del Carare and Isla Renacer communities in Southern Colombia, ground and surface water is used for daily water needs, even though this is heavily impacted by untreated waste

water from settlements, cattle farms and tributary rivers. In theory, the water would have to be boiled prior to consumption, or else treated with chemicals, however is not possible in most cases.

100 litres of drinking water daily

Within the project funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), the GNF and Fundación Humedales are working towards sanitation and expansion of the existing water supply in Bocas del Carare and the development of a new infrastructure specifically for water in Isla Renacer, a district of Puerto Parra.

Essential measures are a simple, yet reliable filtration system for the treatment of drinking water and a correspondent storage and pipeline system for a basic supply to the community.

This will significantly improve the drinking water situation of around 800 people in the two communities. 100 litres of drinking water are to be provided daily to each inhabitant. This has long term positive impacts on hygiene and health conditions and leads to a significant reduction in diseases and child deaths.

Getting local communities involved

Julia Pérez Sillero, project manager at Fundación Humedales states that it is crucial for representatives of local communities and residents to be involved throughout the entire project. Developing community based organisation to govern water usage ensures support for the measures on the one hand, and maintenance of the structures on the other.

Two of these water usage groups, also known as “Acueducto Veredales”, regulate the supply of drinking water and waste water disposal, independently of the Puerto Parra community. The project measures are based on experience gathered by GNF at drinking water structures in Africa and from projects focused on water, carried out by the Fundación Humedales. Felipe Valderrama, project leader in Colombia, declares that it has become clear to them that clean drinking water is not only a fundamental need for every person, it is also the basis for sustainable development, food production and ecosystems.

Water stress despite water richness

For the last three years, former GNF employee Julia Pérez Sillero has been committed to providing clean water in Colombia. In a conversation with Udo Gattlenlöhner, she reports on the local challenges and opportunities.



Colombia is a country with rich water resources, why are many people still suffering from water stress?

You're right, Colombia has the third most water resources in the world. There are six snow capped mountains that cover 44 % of the South American highlands, 30 large rivers, 1,277 lagoons, over 1,000 wetlands and an average annual precipitation of 1,800 millilitres that all together provide 2,200 km³ to the Andean population, of which only about 35 km³ per year is actually needed. However, the Ministry of Environment estimates that half of this amount cannot be used on account of subpar quality, so 6.2 million Colombians do not have access to water of sufficient quality in their houses. The reasons for this paradoxical reality are many; industrial, livestock, agricultural and urban expansion taking place mainly on wetlands and rivers banks, generating 9,000 tons of organic matter, sediments and toxic substances and polluting water bodies, which are the main water source for many communities. There is also a lack of management, inap-

propriate technology and insufficient investments by public institutions, responsible to ensure access to safe water. This access is neither secure — many municipalities do not have treatment plants or only obsolete ones — nor equitable between urban and rural areas.

What is the biggest challenge for your water projects in Colombia?

As there is such a necessity for efficient water projects, the technological challenges we face are fortunately easy to overcome in most cases. They mainly come from public institutions. Many of those projects are solving problems that should be managed by local authorities. As a result, sometimes they do not support the initiative or post project activities, delay permits, or choose less effective solutions for the communities due to other interests. For Fundación Humedales, the remoteness of project's implementation sites is also often a challenge, especially when it comes to the purchase and transport of material and equipment.

Is the local population interested in the activities of Fundación Humedales and if so, how are they getting involved?

For almost 10 years now, we have been active in the project region. The communities and the locals are completely involved in the activities; we are a big team, learning from one another. The locals are not only workers in the process, they also help with decision making, development and planning of the activities. We believe that participation in processes is key to the success of any project, regarding sustainability and replication but particularly for strengthening and developing the communities. <<

Picture on the left:

In Colombia's rural areas, many households are not connected to water supply and do not have access to clean drinking water.

Picture on the right:

Julia Pérez Sillero, project coordinator for drinking water projects at Fundación Humedales. Environmentalist, expert for international development cooperation and management of water resources.



Sustainable fishing at the Tonle Sap Lake in Cambodia

Report by Thies Geertz

In many of the countries, in which GNF projects are based, there is a shortage of water. This is however not the case in Cambodia, where we have launched a new project for sustainable fishing. On the contrary, once a year the Monsoon supplies enormous amounts of rainfall at the upper reaches of the Mekong that literally floods the small Southeast Asian state. Consequently, the level of the Tonle Sap Lake, which is the largest lake with the highest fish population in Southeast Asia, also rises significantly. Come October, the lake will have expanded to ten times its original size. Every year, this high level of the Tonle Sap Lake also marks the beginning of the fishing season. The enormous lake is consid-

ered one of the most densely populated lakes on earth when it comes to fish. The species are similarly remarkable; fully grown Siamese carps can weigh up to 300 kilograms and the Mekong giant catfish is said to be the biggest freshwater fish on Earth.

The nets remain empty

The Tonle Sap Lake plays a vital role in the nutrition of the Cambodian population, who live in one of the poorest Asian countries. Over the last two decades however, the fish stock has declined drastically. One of the reasons for this is that the development of hydroelectric power plants in the upper reaches of the Mekong has significantly reduced migration pathways for important fish species and spawning grounds. Another reason for the decline is that commercial fishing fleets have seriously over-fished the fish stocks, with the help of modern fishing gear. Even in the times of the French colonial power, concessions for the exploitation of fish stocks within the Tonle Sap Lake were granted to large, privately owned fishing fleets; a practice which unfortunately has persisted even after Cambodia became independent.

Over the past years, the Cambodian government has increasingly noticed the severity of the situation. Millions of small-scale fishermen were forced to return from the Tonle Sap Lake with empty nets, resulting in fishing families being plagued by hunger. In 2012, in a speech that gained much public attention and surprise, Cambodian prime minister Hun Sen declared the annulment of all commercial fishing concessions with fishing rights to be entirely transferred to local communities. These in turn were encouraged to found fishing committees which from there on were to carry all responsibility for the management of fish stocks on the individual community grounds. Throughout the country, over 500 of these so-called "community fisheries" were founded. Yet, the majority of them still do not have sufficient capacities to sustainably manage fish stocks, establish no-fishing zones and monitor these, or advocate for their concerns in political environments.

A solution is in sight

This is where a new project by GNF and longstanding Living Lakes partner Fisheries Action Coalition Team (FACT), comes into play. Funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and the Foundation Ursula Merz, this project aims to improve fishing management in the village of Phat Sanday, and ensure that traditional small scale fishers have more say in the community. To this end, an efficient and democratic fishing organisation is being developed in Phat Sanday, that will recognise the rights of fishers and preserve the fishing stocks within the community grounds, e.g. by establishing a fish protection area. Phat Sanday is one of the many so-called swimming villages at the Tonle Sap Lake. Most of the houses belonging to the approx. 4,000 inhabitants, are built to float on the surface, and thus can adjust seamlessly to the change in water level. During the

rainy season, everything happens on the water. Most of the inhabitants are entirely dependent on fishing. Another important goal of the project therefore is to provide alternative means of income for the inhabitants, in particular the women, so that they may be more independent from the variable income provided by fishing. Eco tourism offers such as boat trips or authentic experiences of life as a fisherman in the floating village are amongst those new alternative means of income promoted as part of the project. «



Picture on the left:
Fish from the Tonle Sap Lake are vital in the nutrition of the Cambodian population.

Upper picture on the right:
GNF and local partner organisations are working together to improve fishing management in the floating village of Phat Sanday.

Bottom picture on the right:
Fish stocks within the Tonle Sap Lake have drastically declined over the past few years.

Our economy needs biodiversity and biodiversity in turn needs dedication from businesses.

Reports by Stefan Hörmann, Andrea Reuter and Tobias Ludes

Stefan Hörmann

is an administrative scientist and head of the unit "Business and Biodiversity". He leads the office in Bonn and has been working for GNF for 19 years protecting biodiversity.

Andrea Reuter

has been with GNF since 2015. She has since been involved in various projects that provide the private sector with possibilities for investments in forest conservation and biodiversity protection.

Tobias Ludes

has been a programme manager at GNF since 2016, promoting biodiversity friendly agriculture across Europe and worldwide.

Businesses for more diversity

A report by Stefan Hörmann

As part of the European Business and Biodiversity Campaign (EBBC) initiative and in cooperation with businesses, we have implemented diverse projects for the protection of biodiversity over the past year. There are numerous opportunities for businesses to get involved, either directly on site or along the supply chain.

Blossoming and humming

"Green diversity instead of grey concrete" is the new motto. Company premises don't have to be grey and dreary, but instead can make a valuable contribution to the enhancement of biodiversity. As of last year, we, together with partners in Germany, Austria, Spain and Slovakia, have been providing advice to companies promoting a more natural design of roofs, company parking spaces or entrance areas, all within a new EU LIFE project. Businesses are thus creating temporary or even long-term habitats for plants and animals, while also providing a space of relaxation for employees. Over the space of the last ten years, we have already advised numerous German companies on green areas within their premises and are now expanding this successful concept across Europe. Showing that this approach can indeed be scaled up, is our "Green instead of Grey – Industrial Parks in Transition" project, funded by the German Federal Ministry of Research and Education. With our help, numerous businesses in the German cities Remscheid, Frankfurt (Main) and Marl have implemented a natural design for their premises over the past year and are now part of green business parks. The Wissenschaftsladen Bonn was responsible for the coordination of this project.

Diversity in the supply chain

More green right outside the company doors is a motivation for many company owners to use their influence in order to promote biological diversity across other sectors of their business. We help numerous companies identify risks along supply chains and show how negative impacts on biodiversity and ecosystems can be reduced and how companies can further protect these. In various projects over the past year, we have investigated and promoted the biodiversity-friendly cultivation

and extraction of raw materials, ranging from natural rubber for tyres and mattresses over rare earth elements used in magnets, to cocoa, spices and crops.

The true value of nature

Our activities towards the assessment of natural capital show the true cost of using natural resources. We quantify the costs of overexploitation and pollution of the environment and point out possible actions to companies, in order to preserve the natural capital. The focus of the project supported by sponsorship from organisations, that was launched last year, is the hotel and catering sector which is directly reliant on an intact natural environment. Through this project, we provide the companies with data, so that they may carry out natural capital assessments individually. «



Chapter picture:

A green "vegetated" coating for buildings protects company premises from future heavy rainfall and rising temperatures. The natural surroundings also support insects, birds and the welfare of employees.

Picture on the right:

Using the natural capital assessment, hotels and restaurants can identify, which part of the business causes the most environmental damage, and access guidance on how to reduce this damage.



Diverse landscapes and a stable livelihood: a project visit

Report by Andrea Reuter

Global initiatives such as the Bonn challenge, aim to restore over 150 million hectares of degraded land and involve private donors in this global challenge. As part of a joint project with the tropical rainforest foundation OroVerde, we visited four locations at which project measures contribute to global conventions. Apart from projects in the Dominican Republic, Peru and South Africa, we have discovered a promising project in Kenya.

Lack of perspective at Mount Elgon

The hilly landscape at the base of Mount Elgon, adjacent to a national park with the same name in Western Kenya, is characterised by small farming structures. On small areas, mostly less than one hectare in size, families cultivate food mainly for their own use, and keep a few cows and goats. Poor agricultural practices, such as the cultivation of maize in monoculture, use of fire to clear land, and overgrazing of areas are destroying the soil and are leading to a decline in the productivity of the land. Consequently, only one percent of the families have a daily income of two US Dollars or more from the sale of excess goods. Due to lacking diversity in the cultivation, many families live on a monotonous diet. This in turn affects their health. In order to break this vicious circle and enhance the livelihood of the smallholder families, two key parties have partnered up. Together, the local non-governmental organisation Vi Agroforestry and the French investment fund Livelihoods Carbon Fund have developed the Mount Elgon Project.

Small steps – big impact

The investments from the Livelihoods Carbon Fund enable Vi Agroforestry to address three relevant targets. First, they help families improve cultivation of food. With simple measures, such as intercropping, sensible crop rotations and irrigation structures, the families have hardly any additional costs but are applying labour and newly gained knowledge. They are now enhancing productivity and selling excess goods on local markets. Additionally, the cultivation of less widespread vegetables and crops boosts the quality of daily meals. Sweet potatoes, cassavas, tomatoes and cucumbers compliment the nutrition and have a positive effect on the health of the families.

This is combined with measures that make milk production from cows more efficient. Smallholders are thus gaining knowledge on how to cultivate and conserve the fodder. Stables are being built in order to stop overgrazing and introduce more productive livestock breeds.

Apart from the work with smallholder families, the milk cooperatives are key to the success of the project. An external consultancy firm assessed weaknesses of the cooperatives in order to strategically improve them through workshops. Manage-

ment, bookkeeping, as well as the structure of the milk cooperatives are thereby strengthened. The 15 cooperatives involved in the projects become more attractive to their members. Their bargaining power is enhanced beyond that of commercial buyers of milk.

Benefit for 30,000 smallholder families

The scope of this project encompassing 30,000 smallholder families is impressive. This is achieved by the fact that simple agricultural measures take effect quickly. Severine Barasa saw the positive improvements for his neighbours and decided to join the project. In order to ensure training and advice on individual areas for all 30,000 smallholders, Vi Agroforestry has established a clever system that involves farmers, community members and cooperatives in the training of the smallholders. They pass on their knowledge and are contact persons for queries.

Dissemination of practical approaches

All in all, the Mount Elgon project demonstrates a promising approach to restoration of forest and land in areas defined by livestock farming and could, in a few years, act as best practice example for other countries.

In visiting the four local initiatives, OroVerde and GNF were able to directly collate practical experiences and successes. This was made possible by the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation with funds from the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety. Our project “Analysis of forest landscape restoration initiatives and the social and ecological impacts of implemented projects” aims to further enhance global initiatives for the restoration of forests and landscapes and highlight possibilities to involve the private sector. <<

Picture on the left:
Animal feed such as Calliandra, is now cultivated directly by the individual smallholder families, thereby enhancing milk production by their livestock.

Upper picture on the right:
A simple barn prevents overgrazing of areas.

Bottom picture on the right:
The cooperatives collect and sell the smallholders' milk.





Diversity does it

Report by Tobias Ludes

In supermarkets, we enjoy a diverse range of food products. This diversity on the shelves is directly dependent on biological diversity on fields and plantations, for without pollination by insects, we would have to do without about a third of the crops in our diet. Numerous studies show that intensification of agriculture is one of the causes for deaths of insects and the loss of biodiversity. Moreover, it poses a threat to our nutrition in the long run.

Global decline in biodiversity

We are in Kochi, a town in Southern India. Kochi is located in the densely populated state of Kerala, which has a particularly large biodiversity. In the mountains on the West coast of Kerala, the cultivation of spices is widespread. Cardamom is cultivated on tiny areas. "The queen of spices" is valuable, if it has the right quality. However, perfection comes at a price; cardamom is treated with insecticides several times a week to avoid traces of feeding on the coveted capsules. The fact that this method of cultivation reduces populations of important pollinators of the valuable ginger plant, is neglected.

8,400 km West of Kochi, we visit the village of Bolgatanga in Ghana. Here, on the border to Burkina Faso, the collection of Shea nuts is one of the most important tasks for the approx. 180 women of the region. Shea has always been an important source of income. Shea butter is a coveted resource on the international market, particularly for cosmetic products. Over the past few years, the production of shea nuts has fallen by 40 to 50 percent. This is due to changes in rainfall, use of pesticides in agriculture, mineral fertilizers and burning off vegetation. The shea trees are mainly pollinated by bees which are increasingly threatened due to intensive cultivation methods. With this decline in pollinators in the cultivation of shea, the harvest is constantly going down.

What we are seeing in India and Ghana, is not only a problem for the global South. The first "State of the World's Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture" report, published by the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO), shows that biodiversity is threatened globally and with it, our nutrition. A report by the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) underlines this, stating that between 235 and 577 billion US Dollars in crop yields are threatened by the loss of insects and the degradation of soil has already caused a loss in productivity on 23 percent of global land. Europe is also facing a rapid decline in biodiversity. Here too the main cause is agriculture.



Promotion of biodiversity in the food sector

The LIFE Food & Biodiversity project, funded by the EU LIFE programme and the German Federal Environmental Foundation (DBU), is a joint project with the Lake Constance Foundation and project partners in Germany, Spain, Portugal and France. It specifically targets food standards and companies in order to develop individual criteria in purchasing guidelines and criteria catalogues as instruments for effective protection of biological diversity. Together with 90 experts from the food industry, we have developed a catalogue of recommendations for the effective protection of biodiversity. In addition to reducing negative impacts on biodiversity, new habitats in fields and meadows are to be created. By implementing measures such as proper soil treatment and appropriate fertilisation, farmers can support microorganisms within the soil that are vital in ensuring a good harvest. Establishing and protecting ecological structures such as hedges, ponds and areas of wildflowers, can help ensure a safe habitat and breeding ground for insects and other animals. We currently are in the process of testing these biodiversity friendly measures throughout Europe on 71 pilot farms with ecological and conventional agricultural practices and are starting to see the first positive effects on biodiversity.

If leading Food Standard Agencies and companies would incorporate these criteria into projects, it would directly affect practices of hundreds of thousands of companies in Europe and worldwide, including Ghana and India.

Training for biodiversity

Agricultural measures to enhance biodiversity are only effective if implemented correctly. As of 2018, all project partners are therefore offering training modules for advisors and certifiers, as well as product and quality managers in businesses. In coordination with food companies such as Nestlé and Kaufland, as well as food standard organisations such as Rainforest Alliance and Fairtrade, we have developed comprehensive training documents. This information will enable advisors, product managers and auditors to help agricultural companies with the implementation of measures and investigate them according to aspects that are deemed particularly beneficial to biodiversity on fields. The training documents are freely available for download on the project homepage at www.food-biodiversity.eu. In future, comprehensive monitoring will analyse audit data and show if and how biodiversity is regenerating.

Sector-specific initiatives for increased biodiversity

We are currently launching national sector-specific initiatives for the protection of biodiversity in the food sector in Germany, Spain, Portugal and France. These working groups pool together the activities of the project and will keep them up after the project ends in 2020. In Germany, 15 participants from the food sector, science and conservation organisations have come together as a working group in order to promote the protection of biodiversity within the food industry. «

Picture on the left:

With correct measures, ladybirds, bees and insects are happy to be on agricultural lands.

Picture on the right:

India is known for a myriad of spices. In order for this to stay that way, biodiversity friendly cultivation techniques are necessary.

“Together we can make biodiversity great again”. This was the finishing statement given by Anne Larigauderie of IPBES* at the conference in Paris at the beginning of May 2019. The first global IPBES report regarding the state of biodiversity outlines serious losses since 2005 but stresses that we have a chance working together!

Reports by Dr. Thomas Schaefer and Katja Weickmann

Dr. Thomas Schaefer is a biologist, CR manager and has been active in nature conservation for 35 years. As responsible person at GNF for the unit “Nature Conservation”, his heart beats for Living Lakes and Landscapes in Germany and worldwide.

Katja Weickmann has been working for GNF since 2009 and deals with environmental education and sustainable tourism.

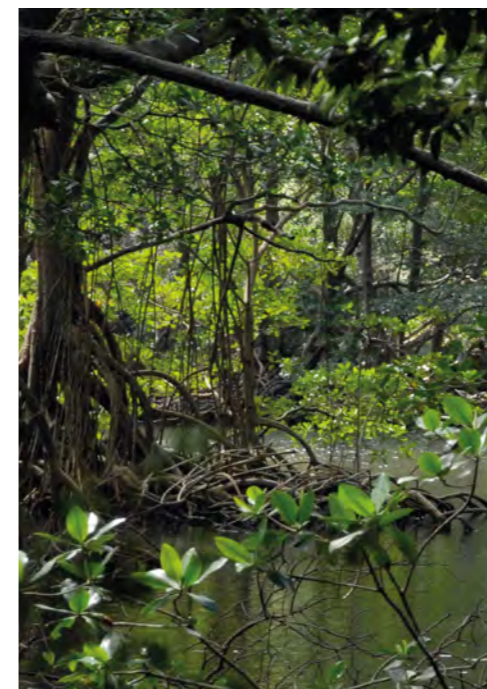


Manatees – ambassadors of living lakes

Report by Dr. Thomas Schaefer

Manatees are very special mammals, leading their life hidden away in tropical coastal waters and rivers, feeding on seagrass meadows and not bothering anyone. Despite the high IUCN** protection status, manatees are threatened by environmental factors, fishing and hunting, mass tourism in the Dominican Republic or over exploitation of habitats in Benin. As part of the GNF Biodiversity Stewardship Programme, manatees are ambassadors of Living Lakes. Since 2017 we have been involved in projects advocating for the protection of these fascinating creatures.

In Marine Protected Areas in the Dominican Republic, tourism needs to be managed so that there is no threat to marine life. So far, there are hardly any management strategies for these important habitats. In the Dominican Republic, our project partner Fundación Grupo Punta Cana has established a monitoring programme for manatees to enable targeted implementation of conservation efforts. We have supported these conservation efforts through provision of supplementary information, training for hotel managers, and round table discussions. Large hotel chains now understand that their business is also affected and support conservation efforts.



With financial support from GNF, the Hand in Hand Fund from the Deutsche Umwelthilfe, and Rapunzel Naturkost, AMAF-BENIN has launched a project to protect regional biodiversity. The lake and delta of river Ouémé form an expansive wetland which is home to many threatened species, such as the African Manatee. For inhabitants of the densely populated coastal area, natural resources, in particular fish, wood and water are important sources of income. Untreated sewage water and waste from the towns, pesticides and fertilizers contribute to the constant decline in water quality. Part of the project is first-time restoration of several hectares of mangrove forest and events to raise awareness with relevant local parties. Propagators, local hunters and fishers, representatives from authorities and others have led training for partners on sustainable management of natural resources and have educated the local population on user rights.

The GNF Biodiversity Stewardship Programme

For economic developments involving complex supply chains, impacts on biodiversity are hardly ever quantifiable. While emissions of greenhouse gases can be measured and compensated accordingly, a reliable scale is lacking to assess impacts on biodiversity. An alternative pathway is therefore taken by GNF and some companies. The Biodiversity Stewardship Programme relies on a voluntary supply of funds for projects that protect biodiversity. The main focus here is not the compensation, it is the will to act. The projects are implemented together with Living Lakes partners and have concrete goals, measures and indicators. GNF guarantees professional project management and monitoring of results and effects. Clear reports are the basis for honest communication with supporting companies. <<

Chapter picture:

Manatees are the stuff of legends. Reality however is less mystic, as manatees are still hunted or drown in fishing nets today.

Picture on the right:

Tropical forests and mangroves such as these are amongst the most threatened habitats on Earth but are crucial for both climate protection and biodiversity.

Notices:

* Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services

** International Union for Conservation of Nature



“From Farm to Fork”

Report by Dr. Thomas Schaefer

Many consumers state the wish to shop for more sustainable products but once in the store, select the cheapest products and not the ones labelled as sustainable. Confronted with this dilemma, the answer is often that measures to protect biodiversity for example, are incredibly difficult to implement. This may be true but how do we communicate to these consumers that products without sustainable labels lead to the well-known ecological issues? We trust our local supermarkets to hold promises of good produce that were made in advertisements. This includes slogans such as “because we love food”, “top quality, low prices”, or “special every single day”.

What companies make it clear that budget bananas and pineapples contribute to loss of jaguar and ara habitat, pollution through pesticides, or a decline in soil fertility due to erosion? In the end this should be part of conversations about some of the undoubtedly substantial steps companies are taking towards sustainability. We are still at a point where only 10 percent of all bananas are traded fairly and only 10 percent are of quality that would befit an organic label. Labels such as Rainforest Alliance are widespread and do have appropriate criteria in order to protect biodiversity efficiently. However, reality on conventional farms often paints a different picture, and there are still many bananas and pineapples without sustainability labels.

For the “From Fork to Farm” project, we are working together closely with the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH towards two goals; to integrate biodiversity into the supply chain for bananas and pineapples on the one hand, on the other to inform people in Germany on the positive effects of fruit from sustainable cultivation.

Plantations in Costa Rica and the Dominican Republic play a vital role here. Funds from the international programme for climate protection are used to provide 30 farms per country with training, while a biodiversity innovation fund enables the implementation of conservation efforts, and companies are to contribute to the preservation of biodiversity ecosystem services.

In order to provide the full extent of services and define the appropriate measures for the development and protection of adjacent ecosystems, the best examples from pilot farms were collated in autumn 2018. We assess the criteria of the most important standards and companies regarding biodiversity and look for particularly effective criteria.

Tough, but these measures are more than necessary. Even in Costa Rica, the model country when it comes to biodiversity in Central America, the environment is under threat. 27 percent of the country are protected areas for conservation and thousands of hectares were reforested over the past 30 years, however; 35 percent of agricultural land are intensively farmed and only one percent is cultivated in an organic way. More and more banana and pineapple plantations are having significant environmental impacts and are thus also affecting the valuable protected areas.

Manila hemp in Costa Rica – A travel log

Days and days of rain, rivers flooding and land slides covering the supply road. GIZ cancelled the seminar I was supposed to give in Guápiles, the Caribbean part of Costa Rica, as the risk for the participants was too high, and instead rescheduled at a location in the capital San José. Unfortunately, I am now sitting in Guápiles because I arrived before the land slides and flooding started. The instructions from security personnel at GIZ are not to move until otherwise told but it keeps raining.

So it seems, I just have to make the best out of this situation. The lodge that was actually intended to be my quarters for the night has a good internet connection so that I am able to work with my team back in Germany. I use the sunny hours in the morning and afternoon to explore the surrounding forest. After only a few steps I am surrounded by the stunning biodiversity of Central America, including poison dart frogs, basilisks, howler monkeys, sloths and military macaws.

To make some small contribution towards the protection of this biodiversity, is why I am here. Glatfelter, leader of the world market for special paper with headquarters in the black forest, is hoping to make the cultivation of manila hemp (Abacá banana) in Costa Rica as sustainable as possible. Manila hemp does not produce large fruit, instead the trunk is regularly cut, and fibres are extracted. Through complex processes, these are then broken down and used for the production of special papers, including tea bags. Our economic partner is world market leader for the production of tea bag paper.

Banana plants are robust and can handle the tropical climate without any problems. The high use of pesticides and fertilizers that is required for fruit banana plants is not necessary here. Fertilisers are used sparingly on manila hemp, with only a small

amount being applied near the stem after every cutting. Not necessary but applied nevertheless, is glyphosate. Apart from that manila hemp is barely treated. Consequently, we found many animal and plant species that indicate a sustainable cultivation practice. These include the Green-and-Black poison dart frog and the strawberry poison dart frog, both of which are members of the poison dart frog group, as well as enormous spiders and numerous bird species, including Colibri.

The intention of the seminar was to collect and sort the experiences gained, supplement these with concepts developed by GNF for biodiversity action plans, train local advisors and transfer practices from the few test farms to hundreds of others. In the end I was lucky; the experts from Glatfelter arrived before the landslides and are stuck here just as I am. The result was two days of interesting excursions and discussions about biodiversity and land development in the tropics. They are used to dealing with the forces of nature so we take an alternate route over the volcanic mountains and arrive in San José in time for the seminar. «



Picture on the left:

By being test farms and gaining experiences and expertise, banana and pineapple farmers in the Dominican Republic and Costa Rica are supporting the project.

Upper picture on the right:

Manila hemp fibres drying in the sun. Due to the strength of the fibres, they used to be applied as mooring ropes for ships.

Bottom picture on the right:

Amphibians are particularly sensible to bad environmental conditions, as they use cutaneous respiration. Finding strawberry poison dart frogs amongst the manila hemp plantations is therefore a good sign.



Nature without Barriers

Report by Katja Weickmann

Claudia has long, delicate fingers and light, almost transparent skin. She is sitting across from me and scanning colourful animal figurines by touch. I am unsure whether she knows that they are colourful. As she tells me later, her eyesight is only at about 10%. She never was particularly interested in conservation. Claudia is an advisor for different aspects of accessibility and as of last year is also part of our Nature without Barriers project team. Together, we are working towards providing better access to experiences in the environment for Claudia and many others.

In 2013, over 10 Million people with a disability were living in Germany, according to reports from the Federal Statistics Office. The EU Fundamental Rights Agency reports around 80 Million across Europe. These people are confronted with all sorts of barriers in their daily life. Although inclusion is at the very top of the social and political agenda, implementation is often difficult in reality. With integration

in the work spaces and adjustments in infrastructure improving, one further but no less important area is often not considered; recreational use of the environment.

Towards less barriers in the environment

Ramps instead of stairs is an important first step but is not sufficient to make an area accessible. Accessibility means an environment that is open to any person without needing help from others. This includes ramps but also signs in easy language, videos in sign language or descriptions in Braille. The most important goals of our project which is funded by the EU Erasmus+ programme, are to collate experiences gathered throughout Europe, analyse the existing criteria and programmes and to develop a practical and feasible guide to implementation for persons involved in environmental education across Europe. People with impairments are the most important experts when it comes to developing guidelines and testing measures. One of the central aspects of the project is to remove communication barriers. The official name of the project, "Ensuring access to environmental education and experiences for people with impairment", is very long. With our logo, we have made our goal short and clear to everyone; nature without barriers.

Barrier-free works simply as well

Five partner organisations in four different European countries are working together towards enhanced accessibility to recreational use of the environment. These partner organisations are the German Federation of the Blind and Partially Sighted (DBSV), the Umweltdachverband (UWD) in Austria, and the nature conservation organizations Stowarzyszenie Ekologiczne "Etna" from Poland and Balatoni Integrációs és Fejlesztési Ügynökség Közhasznú Non-profit Kft (LBDCA) from Lake Balaton in Hungary. The project is lead by the GNF. Together, we want to show that simple solutions can go a long way.

Flyers and information in simple language, usage of pictures and icons, small animal figurines and natural materials for touch, clearly signposted continuous paths, videos in sign language and audio guides are only some of the possibilities for elements to remove some of the barriers in existing offers. Our guidelines address some of these but also no-go's such as baby talk or indirect communication via companions.

Our project is intended to help persons involved in environmental education identify possibilities for enhanced accessibility and inclusion within their offers. The newly developed guidelines include ideas and support for the design and adaptation of guided environmental tours in accordance with the needs of people with disabilities. They also provide assistance for the development of educational paths and materials for an independent use with no barriers. Methodological examples provide recommendations for work with four distinct target groups, which are restrictions on mobility, hearing, seeing and perception. All information regarding the project are available online. The first guidelines as well as a lot of helpful information, and soon videos in sign language, audio guides, notes on overviews for the blind and visually impaired, as well as information material in simple language are available at: www.nature-without-barriers.eu.



Barriers hamper

The UN Disability Rights Convention defines a disability as a long term physical or mental impairment or an impairment in perception through sense, any of which impedes participation in society through disadvantageous factors relating to persons or the surrounding environment. It is only the interaction of impairment and outer barriers that constricts the participation in various social aspects.

It is February. Our first project meeting at Lake Constance is drawing to a close. After having had our last dinner together, we are walking through the deserted town centre of Radolfzell. By night, it looks like a medieval stage play setting. It is cold, we are laughing, conversing in different languages but have one goal. Claudia and I are walking along with linked arms. Suddenly, I find myself reminiscing about my time at university. In the first couple of months as foreign students in Germany, we were surprised how many people with disabilities were around. Now I know that disabled people in my native country just face much more barriers and thus become "invisible". Somehow, I am happy, because now I can work towards reducing those barriers, specifically in the environment. <<

Picture on the left: Objects for touch help the blind and visually impaired to navigate around the "House of the Forest" in Stuttgart, Germany.

Upper picture on the right: Take off your shoes, no matter the cold. At the launch in February, the project team tested the new barefoot pathway through the protected area "Wollmatinger Ried".

Bottom picture on the right: Living Lakes knowledge exchange functions! Our Spanish partner FGN has been involved in reducing barriers in nature for a long time. We got to learn about this during the EU-Grundtvig project "get grEEN". Now we become active throughout Europe. Here you can see a signpost on an educational path in Castilla-La Mancha, Spain.

20 years of Living Lakes:
a good opportunity to assess
the achievements and set
new goals.



**New goals for the Living
Lakes Network**

The 20-year anniversary and the conference gave an opportunity for the members of the Living Lakes Network to set out an action plan for the next five years. More than 280 goals for the years 2019 to 2025 were defined that show the knowledge and the willingness of the partner organisations to contribute to solving the urgent problems.

In the publication "Living Lakes Achievements and Goals 2019 – 2025", the members have taken a look back at the last six years of successful lake and wetland conservation and defined new goals for the future.

The focus of the 15th Living Lakes conference was on restoration and management of lakes and wetlands, as well as enhancing resilience to effects of climate change.

Numerous presentations by experts and interactive workshops shed light on aspects such as challenges in terms of water of our time and water footprint. Additionally, other topics were addressed which included potential capacity and limitations, economic initiatives to preserve water resources and enhance resilience to climate change, and payment for ecosystem services.



We are all in the same boat, as became clear to the participants of the conference during an excursion to the freshwater lagoon of l'Albufera near Valencia, where everyone realised that lakes and wetlands are facing similar problems worldwide.

In this context, the members of the Living Lakes Network expressed concern over the deterioration of wetlands in the host country Spain. A manifesto passed by the members, requests that the responsible authorities implement concrete measures to restore and protect wetlands.



The GNF team comprises the honorary Board of Directors, the Founders Committee, a Scientific Advisory Board, the Executive Director, and the employees.

Board of Directors



Marion Hammer
President



Prof. Dr. Manfred Niekisch
Vice President



Jörg Dürr-Pucher
Board Member



Kat Hartwig
Board Member



Sascha Müller-Kraenner
Board Member



Dr. Andrew Venter
Board Member



Sebastian Winkler
Board Member

The Board of Directors manages and administers the Foundation in accordance with the Foundation Charter. The Executive Director is responsible for the management of the operative work. The Founders Committee meets once a year. It represents the interests of the founders and supervises the work of the Board of Directors. The scientific advisory board consists of international experts and advises the GNF.

At the editorial closing date, the GNF employed 18 employees, including interns and temporary staff. Ten of them worked in the Radolfzell office, seven in the Bonn office and one in Berlin.

We travel a lot on behalf of nature and the environment - that's why all flights of our team and the members of the Board of Directors are recorded and compensated via the climate protection organisation myclimate.

Sustainable Development



Udo Gattenlöhner
Executive Director and Head of Sustainable Development and Development Cooperation, Office Radolfzell



Michaela Aschbacher
Programme Manager, Office Radolfzell



Thies Geertz
Programme Manager, Office Radolfzell



Laura Maeso Velasco
Programme Manager, Office Bonn

Business & Biodiversity



Stefan Hörmann
Deputy Executive Director, Head of Business and Biodiversity, Office Bonn



Julia Gossenberger
Programme Manager, Office Bonn



Martin Haustermann
Programme Manager, Office Bonn



Tobias Ludes
Programme Manager, Office Bonn



Andrea Reuter
Programme Manager, Office Bonn

Finances & Marketing



Manuela Uhde
Head of Marketing, Finances and Administration, Office Radolfzell



Claudia Maier
Assistant Finances and Accounting, Office Radolfzell



Heike Schläfle
Assistant Finances and Accounting, Office Radolfzell



Almut Weis
Webmaster, Office Radolfzell

Nature Conservation



Dr. Thomas Schaefer
Head of Nature Conservation, Office Radolfzell



Bettina Schmidt
Programme Manager, Office Radolfzell



Katja Weickmann
Programme Manager, Office Berlin

A central goal of all GNF cooperation partnerships is to sustainably protect and develop habitats at the same time improving the living conditions of local people.

Text by Udo Gattenlöhner; an interview with Dominik Slappnig

Dominik Slappnig is manager of investor relations and corporate communications at the Sika AG.

Udo Gattenlöhner has worked for the GNF since 1999, as its executive director since 2001. He coordinates various projects for sustainable development in countries of the global South. He works closely with experts in Latin America on the subject of Green Filters.

Since 2005, Global Nature Fund and Sika have worked together to promote ecological projects. These projects are specifically designed to balance out preservation, protection and improvement of ecosystems.

Mr Slappnig, the projects supported by Sika are often focused on water – why is this topic particularly important to Sika?

According to the UN regulations for sustainable development, universal and fair access to clean and affordable drinking water is to be granted to everyone by 2030. Sika actively supports this goal and enhances sustainability of production sites by using less water and ensuring water is treated locally. For many years now, the company has been implementing measures to reduce usage or whenever possible, use water of low quality, especially in regions with a water shortage.

By reusing waste water, we have been able to continually reduce our water use. At the same time, Sika's local community projects are focused on water, building and infrastructure measures, as well as renewable energies. Since 2005, Sika has been supporting the GNF and the international environmental protection initiative Living Lakes. It is important to us to help shape positive economic and

social developments in various regions and social structures, while also protecting the environment. The local population is always involved in this.

What do Sika employees think about this commitment?

Sustainability and integrity are central values within our company. More and more, sustainability is defining views and opinions of employees, but is also increasingly perceived as being key to innovation. Many colleagues actively support social projects in the surrounding areas of our company locations and value that the company is also committed to people and the environment. As part of the UN Global Compact, we as a company are committed to sustainable development worldwide. In terms of integrity, we make no compromises and act in accordance with strict ethical standards. Our code of conduct defines standards and rules of conduct for our company and all employees.



Why does Sika like cooperating with the GNF?

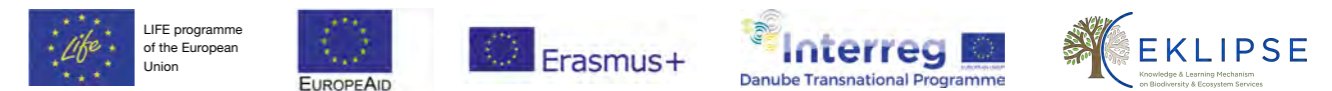
The long-term cooperation is based on mutual understanding and trust. Particularly when cooperating in social and environmental projects, long-term impacts are vital. It is about enhancing the quality of life for people. In many regions across the world, this is only possible if goals are continuously pursued and in this case, if there is a sufficient amount of clean drinking water available. Projects mostly go on for several years. Good collaboration between all involved in the project is a prerequisite for long-term successes. <<

We thank our cooperation partners.

Public Funds – Germany



European Union



Other European Donors/Supporters



Foundations / Associations



Business Cooperation



Apart from tasks relating to projects, there are always administrative tasks to be effectively completed – a central prerequisite for every successful environmental organisation.

A report by Manuela Uhde

Manuela Uhde has worked for the Global Nature Fund since 1998 and has helped to organise the foundation since its beginnings. She heads the financial department of GNF and is the contact person for private donors.

Environmental and climate protection problems require effective approaches. The economic and political challenges on a global level, are increasing. Practical models for reactions to environmental changes are highlighted by conservation foundations like the Global Nature Fund.

Fundraising

The last year was just one of many in which the GNF successfully met the challenges associated with finances and administration. The funding of the projects is a result of hard work from the entire team, as measures are seldomly backed 100% in terms of funds. The missing funds need to be raised from the foundations' funds or else from other external sources. Our thanks go to all donors whether it be private donors, companies, foundations or the public sector. In order to continue our successful work in the future, we are dependent on their long-term support. Donations and funds with no specific target project are particularly important in order to implement planned and proposed projects and ensure stable financial planning.



Use of funds

GNF's project work is separated into 4 different themes. 2018 was another successful year in which our 17 employees implemented over 30 projects. We would like to extend our gratitude to our project partners, the members of the Living Lakes Network, and all other partners without which we could not have carried out these challenging undertakings. Complex projects ranging from species protection measures to mangrove restoration often cover several topics, such as the preservation of livelihoods, environmental education and climate protection. Our projects relating to the theme of Business & Biodiversity contribute to reaching economic and socio-political goals in Germany and across Europe.

Disclosure and Transparency

Transparency within our work and results is incredibly important to us. Hence, we publish an annual report, that details our work throughout the past year and includes an outline of the finances. Gains and losses are calculated, the total balance is reported, as is the source of the funds and how these were used. The annual report is then distributed to all active donors, funders and cooperation partners. The charter and annual reports may be downloaded from our website. This is in accordance with the voluntary disclosure requirements of the Initiative Transparente Zivilgesellschaft. «

I donate based on conviction when measures and projects are sensible and important in my opinion

Text by Manuela Uhde; an interview with Michael Bauer



Michael Bauer is a passionate environmental protection activist, gardener as well as longstanding donor and supporter of the Global Nature Fund.

Mr Bauer, for many years now you have been a faithful donor for the GNF. How did you first encounter the GNF?

I had already been a member of the BUND from the beginning of the 80's and thus knew Prof Dr Thielke quite well. It was through him that I heard about the formation of the GNF in 1998 and have been happy to get involved every now and again since then.

What is particularly important to you in a conservation foundation?

It is important that it's not all about talking and reprimanding but that concrete measures and projects are implemented.

In your opinion, what is the role of private donors for a foundation?

They are incredibly important, as every conservation foundation requires financial resources that are donated without ulterior motives and influence.

Environmental foundations such as the GNF need openly available funds, e.g. for planning projects and running the foundation.

Yes, I am aware of this and every now and again I try and donate without a specific target for the funds.

Other foundations employ attractive but also expensive marketing techniques, in order to gain more funds. Could you imagine such a strategy for the GNF?

Principally, I find the numerous gifts that are sent out with fundraising letters annoying. They are supposed to give you a bad conscience and thereby encourage donations. I donate out of conviction, when measures and projects are sensible and important in my opinion.

Since 1998, GNF has been coordinating the worldwide Living Lakes Network. How do you personally view the results from the last 20 years?

The Living Lakes partnerships are particularly useful to organisations that are active in countries where the government has little to no involvement with environmental protection.

The projects that you support are often carried out in poor regions of the global South. What difficulties are associated with this and where do you see hope for these countries and the local population?

My answer to the previous question is also valid here. We need to support the people in poor countries, where money from the government often goes into procurement of weapons instead of the preservation of natural resources and livelihoods.

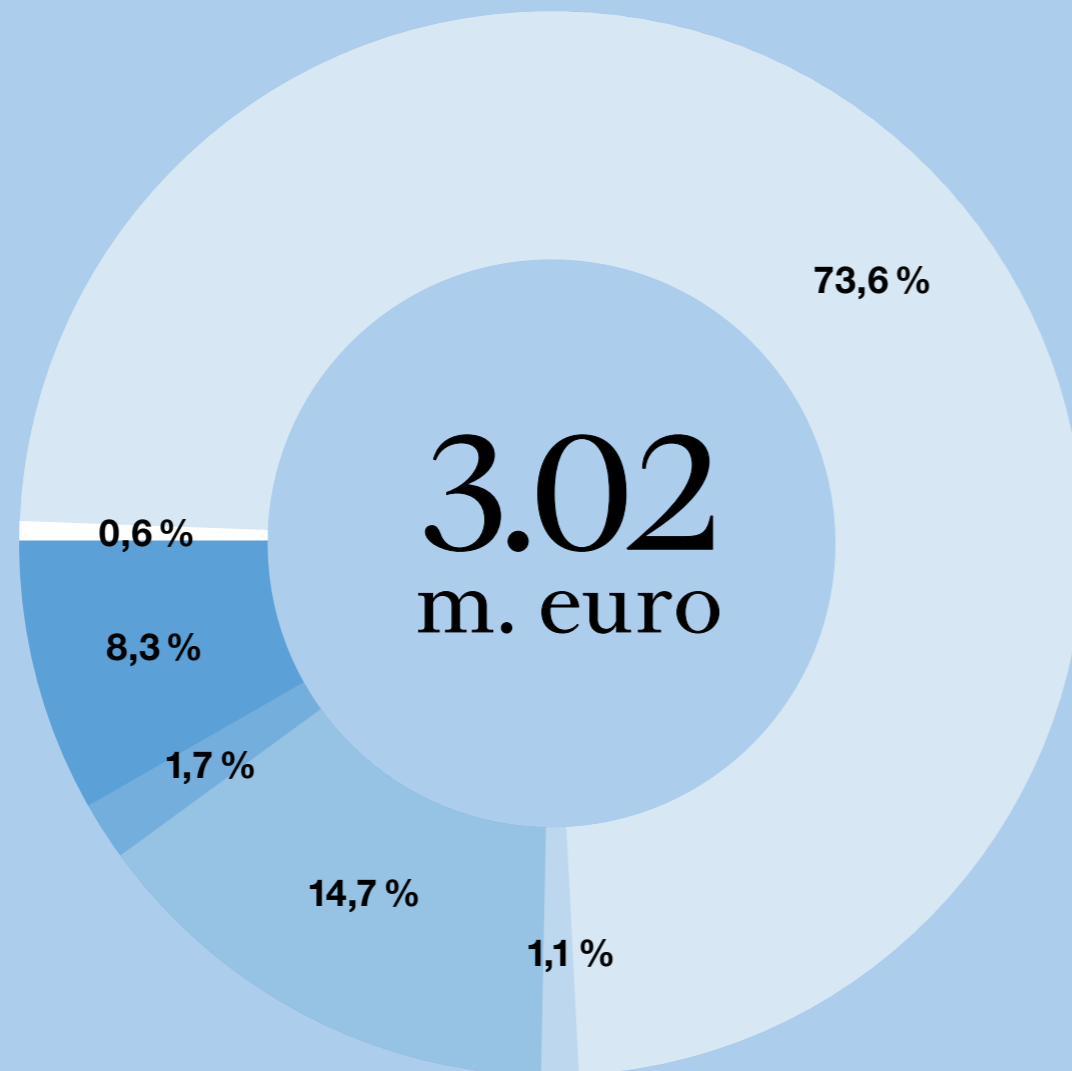
In 2018, GNF celebrated its 20-year anniversary. What topics could you envision for the GNF in the next 20 years?

GNF is currently working on many important topics. In general, all topics that involve preserving livelihoods of people and the environment are important. However, protecting the planet amid the climate crisis will be the No 1 topic.

Thank you for the interview Mr Bauer. «

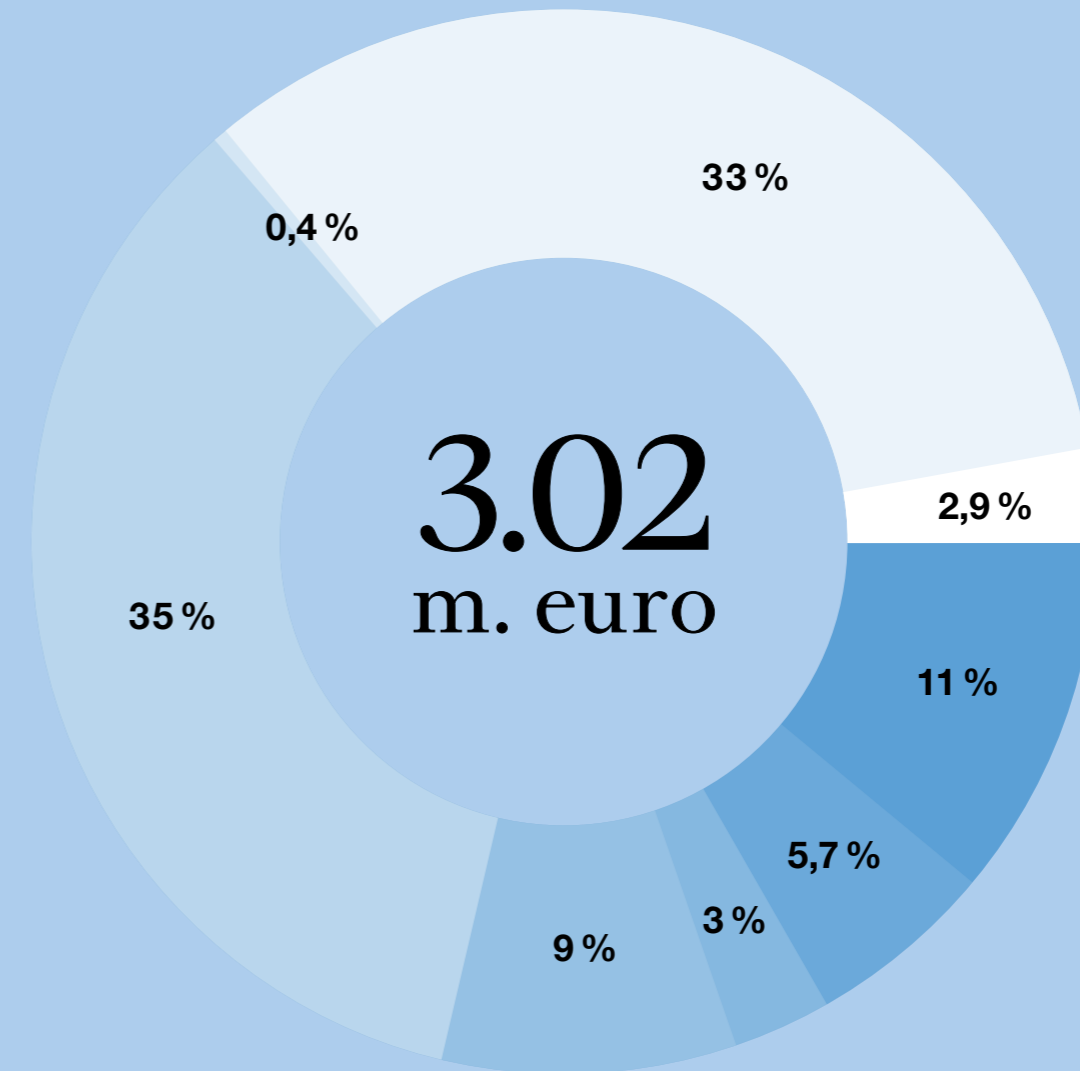
Presentation of Annual Accounts

The Global Nature Fund undergoes an annual voluntary audit of the books. The financial situation is disclosed in a balance sheet prepared in accordance with the provisions of the German Commercial Code, the Berlin Foundation Act and our current statutes. Income and expenses are shown in a profit and loss account. The annual financial statements are audited by an independent auditor and submitted to the supervisory and tax authorities. The Global Nature Fund has received a full audit certificate from its auditors Dr. Herberger GmbH for the 2018 financial year. The results of the audit are recorded in the report on the audit of the annual financial statements as at 31 December 2018 and in the explanatory report.



Budget 2018 – Revenues in euro

8,3 %	Donations	252.392,12 €
14,7 %	Grants from companies and private bodies	445.528,00 €
1,7 %	Sponsoring	50.000,00 €
1,1 %	Project commissioned	34.252,98 €
73,6 %	Project grants	2.222.964,14 €
0,6 %	Interest, allocations from fines, other revenue	16.536,94 €
Total		3.021.674,18 €



Budget 2018 – Expenditures in euro

2,9 %	Living Lakes & Water	86.955,97 €
33,0 %	Business & Biodiversity	998.459,15 €
35,0 %	Sustainable Development & Development Cooperation	1.059.736,48 €
9,0 %	Nature Conservation & Environmental Education	271.202,45 €
3,0 %	Fundraising and Public relations	91.586,19 €
5,7 %	Administration	172.587,89 €
11,0 %	Acruals into the following year	354.728,14 €
0,4 %	Withdrawals from free reserves	-13.582,09 €
Total		3.021.674,18 €

The balance sheet total as at 31.12.2018 amounted to 5,542,476.61 Euro (previous year 3,033,964.30 Euro). The income of the income statement shows 3,021,674.18 euros. This results in a surplus of 341,146.05 Euro. After calculating the necessary accruals, a withdrawal from free reserves of Euro 13,582.09 remains (previous year allocation to free reserves Euro 75,156.86). The free reserves as at 31 December 2018 amounted to Euro 418,959.99 (previous year Euro 432,542.08). The foundation capital remained unchanged at Euro 417,638.04.

Global Nature Fund, 78315 Radolfzell Profit and Loss Account 01.01. to 31.12.2018

Income from statutory activities in euro

1. Donations and allowances

	€	
a) General donations and allowances		
· Donations and grants received during the financial year:		
- Private and corporate donations	177.392,12	
- Sponsoring	50.000,00	
· General appropriations available for 2018	227.392,12	
· Consumption of donations received in the previous year	0,00	
· Donations not yet used during the financial year	0,00	
· Long-term donations and allowances	-926,27	
Income from the use of donations in the fiscal year		226.465,85

b) Earmarked donations and allowances

· Donations and grants received during the financial year:		
- Public allowances	2.222.964,14	
- Private and corporate donations	330.000,00	
- Other allowances	190.528,00	2.743.492,14
Income from donations received in the fiscal year		2.969.957,99

2. Other revenue and earnings

a) Interest and investment income	1.065,47	
b) Other income	49.500,72	
c) Allocations from fines	1.150,00	
d) Inheritances	0,00	
Total Income 2018		3.021.674,18

Expenditures from statutory activities in Euro

Project Expenses

· Project expenditure current year		1.784.190,20
------------------------------------	--	--------------

Personnel Expenses

· Salaries and wages	621.654,05	
· Social security contributions and pensions	149.693,18	771.347,23

Other Expenses

· General business expenses	95.036,62	
· Fundraising and Public Relation	27.267,74	
· Interest and similar expenditures	85,34	
· Depreciation	2.601,00	124.990,70
Total Expenditures 2018		2.680.528,13

Balance Income/Expenditures 2018

		341.146,05
--	--	------------

· Consumption of donations and grants for current projects (payments received in previous years)	1.965.510,49	
· Consumption of donations received in previous years	128.471,01	2.093.981,50
· Donations not yet used during the fiscal year	-156.784,96	
· Donations not yet consumed and grants received in the current financial year for current projects (advance payments received)	-4.374.582,07	-4.531.367,03
· Consumption project expenditure for current projects previous year	-129.385,32	
· Project expenditure for current projects (expenditure for subsequent years)	2.212.042,71	2.082.657,39
· Funds available for the following year		-354.728,14
Net loss for the year before use of fund		-13.582,09
Withdrawals from free reserves		13.582,09
		0,00


Figure left and right: Auditing according to § 316 ff HGB by Dr. Herberger GmbH, chartered accountant, 78467 Konstanz

Global Nature Fund, 78315 Radolfzell Balance Sheet 31.12.2018

	AKTIVA	
	31.12.18	previous year
	€	€
A. Fixed Assets		
I. Tangible Assets		
· Operating and Office Equipment	3.038,60	2.112,33
II. Financial Assets		
· Financial investments	306,78	306,78
B. Current Assets		
I. Stocks		
· Ongoing projects	4.094.832,92	2.012.175,53
II. Receivables and other assets		
· Receivables from deliveries and services	30.295,30	32.400,70
· Receivables from EU-projects	17.767,70	0,00
· Other receivables and assets	2.844,11	2.844,11
	50.907,11	35.244,81
III. Cash on hand and bank balances		
· Cash on hand	326,19	271,37
· Sight deposits	721.148,23	532.092,64
· Time deposits	652.297,50	448.935,69
	1.373.771,92	981.299,70
C. Accrued Items		
	19.619,28	2.825,15
Total of Activa/Assets	5.542.476,61	3.033.964,30

C. Accrued Items

	19.619,28	2.825,15
Total of Activa/Assets	5.542.476,61	3.033.964,30


Marion Hammerl, President

	PASSIVA	
	31.12.18	previous year
	€	€
A. Equity Capital		
I. Foundation Capital		
· Endowment Capital	86.919,62	86.919,62
· Increase in Endowment Capital	330.718,42	330.718,42
	417.638,04	417.638,04
II. Reserves		
Free Reserves		
· Balance carried forward on 01.01.2018	432.542,08	357.385,22
· Withdrawal from reserves	-13.582,09	75.156,86
· Balance 31.12.2018	418.959,99	432.542,08
B. Not yet consumed donations and allowances		
· Not yet used donations and allowances	0,00	0,00
· Long-term donations and allowances	3.038,60	2.112,33
	3.038,60	2.112,33
C. Provisions		
· Provisions for pensions and similar obligations	0,00	0,00
· Other Provisions	55.088,42	36.824,99
	55.088,42	36.824,99
D. Liabilities		
· Advance payments received on projects	4.374.582,07	1.965.510,49
· Liabilities from deliveries and services	38.603,13	21.547,22
· Liabilities from allowances	0,00	0,00
· Liabilities from donations and grants not yet consumed for the intended purpose	156.784,96	128.471,01
· Other liabilities	32.781,40	19.318,14
	4.602.751,56	2.134.846,86
E. Accrued Items		
	45.000,00	10.000,00
Total of Passiva/Liabilities	5.542.476,61	3.033.964,30

Our Partner Organisations in Projects

A

Action for Environmental Sustainability (AfES)
www.afesmw.org

Action pour le Développement et l'Encadrement Rural (ADER)
www.globalnature.org/trinkbecher

ADVID – Associação para o Desenvolvimento da Viticultura Duriense
www.advid.pt

African Wildlife Foundation (AWF)
www.awf.org

Agentur auf!
www.agentur-auf.de

agoodforgood
www.agoodforgood.com

Aktionsprogramm zur Sanierung oberschwäbischer Seen
www.seenprogramm.de

All India Spices Exporters Forum AISEF
www.aisef.org

Amis de l'Afrique Francophone – Benin (AMAF-Benin)
<http://amafbj.wixsite.com/amafbj>

Amt der Vorarlberger Landesregierung, Abteilung Umwelt- und Klimaschutz (IVe)
www.vorarlberg.at/umwelt

Asociación de Hoteles de la Zona Este, Inc.
www.facebook.com/asohoteleseste

Asociación Vivamos Mejor Guatemala
www.vivamosmejor.org.gt

Association Biraturaba
www.biraturaba.bi

B

Balaton Integrációs és Fejlesztési Ügy-nökség Közhasznú Nonprofit Kft (LBDCA)
www.balatonregion.hu/balaton-integracios-kft

Biodiversity-Based Economy Development Office (BEDO)
www.bedo.or.th

'Biodiversity in Good Company' Initiative e. V.
www.business-and-biodiversity.de

Biodiversity Partnership Mesoamerica (BPM)
www.bpmesoamerica.org

Bodensee-Stiftung – Lake Constance Foundation
www.bodensee-stiftung.org

Brugger GmbH
www.brugger-magnet.de

Bükk National Park Directorate
www.bnpi.hu

C

Cantonal Public Institution for the Protected Natural Areas Sarajevo
www.zppks.ba/bijambare/o-podrucju

CENER 21 – Center for Energy, Environment and Resources
www.cener21.ba

Centre for Ecological Research, Hungarian Academy of Sciences
www.okologia.mta.hu/en/node/2

Centre for Research on New International Economic Order (CReNIEO)
www.crenieo.org

D – E

Centro Agronómico Tropical de Investigación y Enseñanza (CATIE)
www.catie.ac.cr

Counterpart International (CIP)
www.counterpart.org

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
www.giz.de

Deutscher Blinden- und Sehbehindertenverband e. V. (DBSV) – German Federation of the Blind and Partially Sighted
www.dbsv.org

Drustvo Za Oblikovanje Odrzivog Razvoja (DOOR)
www.door.hr/wordpress

DuniaNet e.V.
www.dunianet.org

Ecoacsa Reserva de Biodiversidad, S. L.
www.ecoacsa.com

EcoPeace Middle East
www.ecopeaceme.org

ECOVIN Bundesverband Ökologischer Weinbau e. V.
www.ecovin.de

Ekopolis Foundation
www.ekopolis.sk

EMACE Foundation of Sri Lanka
www.emace.org

Energies 2050
www.energies2050.org

Ethical BioTrade Standard (UEBT)
www.ethicalbiotrade.org

F – G

Fisheries Action Coalition Team (FACT)
<http://fact.org.kh>

Fundación Amigos del Rio San Juan FUNDAR
www.fundar.org.ni

Fundación Cuenca Lerma Lago Chapala Santiago A.C.
www.fundacionchapala.org

Fundación Ecoturismo Sostenible
www.ecoservices.com.do/dominicana

Fundación Global Nature (FGN)
www.fundacionglobalnature.org

Fundación Grupo Punta Cana
www.puntacana.org

Fundación Humedales
www.fundacionhumedales.org

Fundación Moisés Bertoni (FMB)
www.mbertoni.org.py

Fundación Montecito
www.fundacionmontecito.org

H – L

Homegrade Brussels
www.homegrade.brussels

ILbA – Institut für Lebensbezogene Architektur e. V.
www.ilba.info

Instituto Corazón de la Tierra
www.corazondelatierra.org.mx

Instituto Superior Técnico (IST), MARETEC/DEM
www.maretec.org

La Unió de Llauradors i Ramaders del País Valencia
www.launio.org
www.farmersunion.eu

M – N

Molise verso il 2000 srl
www.moliseversoil2000.it

Nagenahiru Foundation – Center for Conservation of Lakes and Wetlands
www.nagenahiru.org

Nanjing Universität
www.nju.edu.cn/en

Nationalpark Kalkalpen
www.kalkalpen.at

Nature Environment & Wildlife Society (NEWS)
<http://naturewildlife.org>

Notranjska Regional Park
www.notranjski-park.si

O – R

OroVerde – Die Tropenwaldstiftung
www.ooverde.de

Parks Dinarides – Network of Protected Areas of Dinarides
www.parksdinarides.org

PDS Organic Spices
www.pdsorganicspices.com

Public Institute "Nature Park Žumberak-Samoborsko gorje"
www.park-zumberak.hr

Public utility "National Park Tara"
www.nptara.rs

Quercus – Associação nacional de Conservação da natureza
www.quercus.pt

Rainforest Alliance
www.rainforest-alliance.org

Rapunzel Organik Tarım Urunleri ve Gıda Tic. Ltd. Sti.
www.rapunzel.com.tr

RNP – Romsilva – Administrația Parcului Natural Apuseni R.A.
www.parcapuseni.ro

S – T

Solagro
www.solagro.org

Slovenian Forest Service
www.zgs.si/eng

Spice Board of India
www.indianspices.com

Stadt Frankfurt/Main
www.frankfurt.de

Stadt Marl
www.marl.de

Stadt Remscheid
www.remscheid.de

Stowarzyszenie Ekologiczne "Etna"
www.etna.eko.org.pl

Südwind e.V. – Institute for Economics and Ecumenism
www.suedwind-institut.de

Sustainable Agriculture Network (SAN)
www.sustainableagriculture.eco

Tanzania Forest Conservation Group (TFCG)
www.tfcg.org

Technische Universität Darmstadt
www.tu-darmstadt.de

TourCert gGmbH
www.tourcert.org

Trebag Vagyon – Es Projektmenedzser KFT
www.trebag.hu

U – W

Umweltdachverband (UWD)
www.umweltdachverband.at

Union for Ethical BiTrade (UEBT)
www.ethicalbiotrade.org

Universidad Politécnica de Madrid
www.upm.es

Universität Osnabrück
www.uni-osnabrueck.de

Wildtrust (Wildlands Conservation Trust)
www.wildtrust.co.za

Wissenschaftsladen Bonn e.V.
www.wilabonn.de

Help us so we can help!

Donation Account

GLS-Gemeinschaftsbank Bochum
IBAN: DE 53 4306 0967 8040 4160 00
BIC: GENODEM1GLS

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