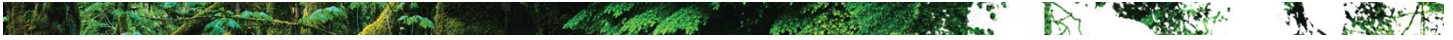


CBSG Annual Meeting

8-11 October 2015 ♦ Al Ain, United Arab Emirates



In early October 2015, 75 people from 24 countries gathered in Al Ain, United Arab Emirates, for the 2015 CBSG Annual Meeting. For three days, these individuals contributed their time, expertise, and experience to discussions about key issues facing the conservation community today. The meeting was enriched by the enthusiasm and hard work of all the participants, from the 12 first-time annual meeting attendees to the long-time CBSG veterans, some who have been attending CBSG Annual Meetings for over 20 years.

We are overwhelmingly grateful to our host, the Al Ain Zoo. We want to acknowledge H.E. Ghanim Al Hajeri, Mr. Mark Craig, and the entire Al Ain Zoo staff for the warmth and generosity with which we were greeted and treated throughout our stay. Their attentive, expert organization of the meeting greatly enhanced our ability to accomplish meaningful work together.

The CBSG Annual Meeting is about advancing and promoting effective species conservation planning. This document contains reports from each of the eight working groups that convened in Al Ain. These working groups covered a diverse range of topics, from tool development to monitoring and evaluating the impact of CBSG workshops to zoo design for conservation. These topics were proposed by participants and are an indication of subjects that are top-of-mind for the conservation community. Outcomes from three days of intensive



working groups include: next steps to provide increased support to the users of population modeling tools; a proposed expansion to the current CBSG PHVA workshop structure that would focus on recommendations regarding human behavior change with input from relevant experts; an action plan to increase support for “genetic rescue” techniques for saving species from extinction; and the formation of a working group to develop guidelines to incorporate monitoring and evaluation into CBSG processes.

Equally important is the CBSG Annual Meeting’s role in reconnecting and re-energizing the CBSG family. Our hosts fostered a spirit of fun and learning through evening activities at the Sheikh Zayed Desert Learning Center and a beautiful dinner in the desert.

Continues on next page ...



On the closing night of the meeting, Dr. Onnie Byers presented the 2015 Ulysses S. Seal Award for Innovation in Conservation to Dr. Laurie Marker, founder and executive director of the Cheetah Conservation Fund. The award recognizes Dr. Marker's four decades of dedicated cheetah conservation work in southern Africa. More about the award and Dr. Marker's work can be found on page 12 of this document.

Thanks to all who offered their input, expertise, and good humor to the meeting proceedings, and many thanks to the working group convenors and plenary speakers for their contributions to the program.

The energy and enthusiasm we experienced in Al Ain will keep us motivated and moving forward until we meet again at the next CBSG Annual Meeting, hosted by Africam Safari in Puebla, Mexico from 6-9 October 2016! We look forward to seeing you there.



Thank you to Al Ain Zoo for contributing many of the photos found in this report.



CBSG Annual Meeting 2015



Working Group Summary

Monitoring and Evaluating CBSG's Conservation Impact

Participants

Onnie Byers, Jo Gipps, Heribert Hofer, Mansoor Al Jahdhami, Richard Jakob-Hoff (convenor), Rachel Lowry, Sonja Luz, Phil Miller, Alex Rübél, Kazu Takami, Eric Tsao, Kumiko Yoneda

Summary

CBSG makes a significant positive contribution to conservation, yet we still struggle to adequately document—and be recognized for—the successes we have enabled. After briefly reviewing recent literature on the topic of measuring conservation impact, this working group considered a range of CBSG conservation-focused activities and potential audiences with interest in evaluation data developed by the CBSG Strategic Committee the previous day. With this background the group identified and discussed a number of issues that need to be considered. These included:

- Who is the audience?
- What to evaluate: CBSG as an organization or CBSG projects?
- Qualitative vs. quantitative metrics?
- Time frame: at what points to evaluate?
- Evaluation of input or outcome?
- Success stories: what evaluations would be useful for us?

The group used the upcoming Chinese River Dolphin PHVA as a trial of the process of developing a monitoring and evaluation plan.

Actions

1. A working group (determined at the meeting) will progress the development of guidelines for incorporation of monitoring and evaluation into CBSG processes.
2. Phil Miller to provide the group with the data he has from previous CBSG evaluations led by Frances Westley.

[Click for full working group report.](#)

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Working Group Summary

Species Conservation Toolkit Initiative: Next Steps

Participants

Lisa Banfield, Taylor Callicrate, Meyer de Kock, Gerald Dick, Myfanwy Griffith, Markus Gusset, Mansoor Al Jahdhami, Nian-Hong Jang-Liaw, Stacey Johnson, Bob Lacy (convenor), Kristin Leus, Philip Miller, Paul Pearce-Kelly, Oliver Ryder, Akiko Shimosaka, Kazutoshi Takami, Kathy Traylor-Holzer, Jonathan Wilcken

Summary

The Species Conservation Toolkit Initiative was formed to support and develop software tools for conservation, currently including *VORTEX*, *PMX*, *OUTBREAK*, and *METAMODELMANAGER*. Group discussion focused on:

1. How should SCTI be supported? Within the imposed limitations, what are our options for obtaining financial support?
2. Who are the users/audience of the tools?
3. What kinds of support are needed to enable people to use the tools effectively? How should we prevent misuse—and enable proper use—of the tools?
4. What should be the structure of SCTI be going forward?

The tools have been, and will continue to be, freely available. Support from conservation organizations is necessary to maintain and develop new tools. Because of the varied backgrounds of users, from students to CBSG modelers, providing a range of help and support options is ideal to enable people to efficiently and accurately use the tools.

Recommendations

The group determined that basic users would be best served by a “light” version of the software, or interactive help and/or tutorials. However, power users would benefit from added software features for more complex data and situations, detailed manuals describing the underlying mechanics, and worked examples for complex usage problems.

The structure of SCTI going forward is linked with its support. It is difficult to determine what the permanent structure should be without knowing that long-term support will be in place.

We would like to have a meeting of SCTI stakeholders in the next six months to further discuss our scope and structure moving forward.

[Click for full working group report.](#)



Working Group Summary

New Models for Linking *Ex Situ* Populations to Species Conservation

Participants

Amany Aly, Anne Baker (convenor), Lisa Banfield, Taylor Callicrate, Frands Carlsen, Peter Clark, Dalia Conde, Amna Al Dhaheri, Gerald Dick, Andrea Fidgett, Myfanwy Griffith, Markus Gusset, Julia Hanuliakova, Bengt Holst, Hidemasa Hori, Nian-Hong Jang-Liaw, Stacey Johnson, Mike Jordan, Reza Khan, Kristin Leus, Jansen Manansang, Kira Mileham, Sanjay Molur, Theo Pagel, Subbiah Paulraj, Paul Pearce-Kelly, Kirsten Pullen, Hessa Al Qahtani, Carlos Rojo-Solis, Oliver Ryder, Stephanie Sanderson, Akiko Shimosaka, Johanna Staerk, Kuniei Tabata, Kathy Traylor-Holzer

Summary

The workshop explored alternative strategies for ways to meet exhibit needs while at the same time ensuring our collections support sustainable wild populations. We reviewed the idea of extractive reserves based on Conway (1998) and devised and reviewed the new concept of “extractive range country *ex situ* populations”. For both concepts we discussed pros, cons, opportunities, and challenges.

There is a real need to investigate alternative strategies to ensure that we consider the full range of options in collection planning and maximizing zoos’ input to conservation. There was recognition that taxonomic bias affects our perception of the implementation of alternative strategies.

Both approaches will require a major shift in our thinking. Our intent to support conservation must be clear and honest, and we must implement these strategies with integrity.

These strategies have the potential—when properly conceived, executed, and communicated as part of a One Plan approach—to promote sustainable wild populations and benefit local communities, while at the same time achieving zoos’ and aquariums’ exhibit needs.

Next Steps

- Continue to examine the viability of these strategies for different taxonomic groups.
- Examine these strategies in the context of metapopulation management.
- Identify situations in which these strategies are already implemented.

[Click for full working group report.](#)



Working Group Summary

Zoos Saving AZE Species: Proposing Actions Under the One Plan Approach

Participants

Amany Aly, Anne Baker, Lisa Banfield, Yara Barros, Steve Burns, Onnie Byers, Dalia A. Conde (convenor), Amna Al Dhaheri, Markus Gusset, Hidemasa Hori, Richard Jakob-Hoff, Mike Jordan, Reza Khan, Jansen Manansang, Theo Pagel, Hessa Al Quatani, Oliver Ryder, Akiko Shimosaka, Johanna Staerk, Kuniei Tabata, Kazu Takami, Kumiko Yoneda

Summary

This working group followed up on two previous CBSG workshops, “Zoos Working Together To Save AZE Species” (2012 Annual Meeting) and “Prioritizing for Conservation: Zoos Saving AZE Species” (2013 Annual Meeting), and had two goals: 1) to propose strategies for the zoo community to develop conservation actions for AZE species, and 2) to further assess possible limitations of developing conservation programs for particular AZE species under the One Plan approach.

Participants used the Conservation Opportunity Indexes for habitat protection and for the development of captive breeding programs with zoo expertise as a baseline to propose actions and assess limitations. The participants divided into three groups to review taxonomic species lists for mammals, birds, and reptiles/amphibians. Species were prioritized with those selected for further work having no known captive management plan but for which a captive management program might be of value. For these, stakeholders were identified, along with known information and information gaps. Subjecting these to further evaluation through the IUCN *ex situ* guidelines is the next step.

Next Steps

1. Complete the full workshop report.
2. Develop a funding proposal for the Save Our Species organization to canvass potential funding sources.
3. Identify relevant range country contacts for each species included in the proposal.



Working Group Summary

Reducing Duplication and Increasing Impact in Critically Endangered Species Planning and Conservation

Participants

Amany Aly, Brad Andrews, Anne Baker, Yara Barros, Onnie Byers, Frands Carlsen, Peter Clark, Dalia A. Conde, Amna Al Dhaheri, Heribert Hofer, Bengt Holst, Hidemasa Hori, Mike Jordan, Rachel Lowry, Sonja Luz, Jansen Manansang, Kira Mileham (convenor), Sanjay Molur, Theo Pagel, Subbiah Paulraj, Kirsten Pullen, Hessa Al Qahtani, Carlos Rojo-Solis, Alex Rübél, Stephanie Sanderson, Johanna Staerk, Hollis-Ann Stewart, Kuniei Tabata, Eric Tsao, Kumiko Yoneda

Summary

Many tools exist between Red Listing and effective conservation action to help guide and prioritize conservation efforts, reduce duplication, and increase conservation impact. This workshop focused on three such tools: partnerships between IUCN specialist groups and zoos, aquaria, and botanic gardens; CBSG's multi-species planning; and the Asian Species Action Partnership (ASAP).

Discussions focused largely on considerations for effective partnerships and the challenges and strengths of ASAP as a mechanism for facilitating conservation action in South East Asia's Critically Endangered terrestrial and freshwater vertebrates.

Wildlife Reserves Singapore provided a case study example on the alignment of their conservation effort to support ASAP priorities across field conservation investment, linking *in situ* and *ex situ* initiatives, and facilitating conservation action planning processes.

Amphibian Ark gave an overview of how ASAP relates to amphibians and some of the challenges in both assessing and implementing conservation needs in South East Asia.

Next Steps

1. IUCN SSC Office to continue facilitating relationships between IUCN Specialist Groups and zoos and aquaria on four levels: the individual, the organization, TAG, and the association.
2. ASAP Team to continue updating zoos on conservation priority needs and actions required for terrestrial vertebrates in South East Asia.
3. Zoo and aquaria members are encouraged to continue reaching out to the IUCN SSC and to ASAP to help identify mutually beneficial and prioritized conservation needs.
4. Explore options for better integration of *ex situ* activities into IUCN Red List and a global platform for sharing information on conservation efforts.

[Click for full working group report.](#)



Working Group Summary

Designing Zoos for Survival of Species

Participants

Amany Aly, Mark Craig, Peter Clark, Lee Ehmke, Markus Gusset, Julia Hanuliakova (convenor), Hidemasa Hori, Mansoor Al Jahdhami, Reza Khan, Jansen Manansang, Willem Manansang, Subbiah Paulraj, Hessa Al Qahtani, Carlos Rojo-Solis, Kuniei Tabata, Eric Tsao

Summary

The goals of the session were:

- to link the conservation efforts of zoos with the master planning and exhibit design process
- to discuss the design timeline as a linear feature
- to define points along the way where informed decisions could make a difference to the survival of species

In this first session we focused on defining the scope of work for the masterplan to ensure its focus on conservation.

The result of this and following discussions will be a simple and attractive graphic of the timeline. The pivotal points will be defined in the form of questions to ask at that stage of the project, and these questions will be clickable hyperlinks to existing resources that provide relevant information to help guide the answers for each institution. This timeline will be available on the CBSG website.

The discussion was lively and focused on brainstorming about the ways design helps conservation and can uncover gaps in existing resources.



Working Group Summary

Advancing CBSG Conservation Planning Process Design to Incorporate Human Behavior Change

Participants

Brad Andrews, Taylor Callicrate, Andrea Fidgett, Myfanwy Griffith, Heribert Hofer, Mats Höggren, Mansoor Al Jahdhami, Nian-Hong Jang-Liaw, Stacey Johnson, Robert Lacy, Kristen Leus, Rachel Lowry, Jansen Manansang, Philip Miller (convenor), Paul Pearce-Kelly, Kirsten Pullen, Stephanie Sanderson, Kathy Traylor-Holzer

Summary

For more than 20 years, CBSG's Population and Habitat Viability Assessment (PHVA) workshops have featured recommendations that are developed in the spirit of moderating negative human impacts on species and habitats. However we have not systematically addressed the issue of increasing human population size and how to face the dynamic impacts of this threat. As pointed out by a growing number of conservation professionals, the real issues with people are their activities and rate of natural resource consumption, particularly as nations evolve along the socio-economic continuum. Therefore, successful planning for endangered species conservation requires identifying means by which human activities can be modified to maintain viable wildlife populations. Is it feasible for CBSG to expand our practical vision for endangered species conservation planning by an explicit focus on human-driven threats to endangered species persistence? Referencing a hypothetical example, the working group discussed and agreed that considering (local) people and the impacts of their behavior on the species of concern was not only feasible but necessary, and that the workshop should not shy away from making recommendations on behavior change of people.

Recommendations

1. The Working Group agreed CBSG should pursue the expanded conservation planning process incorporating human population dynamics and behavior patterns.
2. An expanded process was proposed, essentially adding a second workshop to the current structure, focusing on recommendations regarding behavior change with a good chance of successful implementation.
3. Design of the additional workshop structure and content (and advancing the planning process) requires identification of expertise in human demography, behavior change modeling (social marketing and implementation), conservation psychology and related disciplines, both from within the CBSG community and beyond.
4. A virtual working group (comprising a subset of the attendees present) will progress:
 - a. the expanded workshop design and schedule (pre-workshop data assembly, structure, content, additional stakeholders/participants)
 - b. identifying the necessary expertise to assist and, where necessary, provide training to CBSG workshop facilitators.

[Click for full working group report.](#)



Working Group Summary

Genetic Rescue

Participants

Taylor Callicrate, Frands Carlsen, Dalia A. Conde, Andrea Fidgett, Myfanwy Griffith, Heribert Hofer, Nian-Hong Jang-Liaw, Stacey Johnson, Mike Jordan, Robert Lacy, Rachel Lowry, Paul Pearce-Kelly, Oliver Ryder (convenor), Akiko Shimosaka, Johanna Staerk, Kazu Takami, Kathy Traylor-Holzer, Jonathan Wilcken, Kumiko Yoneda

Summary

The genetic rescue working group summarized the topic, refined its definitions and came to consensus that genetic and assisted reproductive technologies are viable and important tools to develop in response to the current extinction crisis.

It defined genetic rescue as an increase in population-level viability through the re-introduction of previously lost genetic material by cell-based human intervention.

The choice of species to rescue and the methods to utilize must be prioritized on a case-by-case basis. Factors to consider include geography, taxonomy, threat/risk, and opportunity.

Recommendations

- Request CBSG to communicate to the wider SSC—particularly the Conservation Genetics Specialist Group—the potential of using genetic rescue techniques for species presently at immediate risk of extinction and for those known to be potentially at risk.
- Using the CBSG community and regional zoo association networks as launch platforms, communicate and coordinate a campaign (Myfanwy Griffith) to encourage and enable zoos to collect, preserve, and bank cell samples for a much wider range of species in greater numbers.
- Establish a decision framework (Dalia Conde & Johanna Staerk) to enable the most appropriate choices of species for genetic rescue.
- Establish a database for banked specimens (Dalia Conde & Oliver Ryder).

[Click for full working group report.](#)



2015 CBSG Annual Meeting Participants

Africam Safari

Frank Carlos Camacho
Gregory Camacho

Al Ain Zoo

Lisa Banfield
Mark Craig
Amna Al Dhaheri
H.E. Ghanim Al Hajeri
Mouza Al Hajeri
Stephen McKeown
Hessa Al Qahtani
Myyas Al Qarqaz

Al Bustan Zoo

Meyer de Kock

Allwetterzoo Münster

Jörg Adler

Amphibian Ark/CBSG North America

Anne Baker

Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA)

Kris Vehrs

Auckland Zoo/CBSG Australasia

Richard Jakob-Hoff
Jonathan Wilcken

British and Irish Association of Zoos and Aquariums (BIAZA)

Kirsten Pullen

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Philip Miller
Kathy Traylor-Holzer
Emily Wick

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Subbiah Paulraj

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Mark Pilgrim

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Robert Lacy

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Kristin Leus

Dubai Zoo

Mohammad Ali Reza Khan

European Association of Zoo and Wildlife Veterinarians

Stephanie Sanderson

European Association of Zoos and Aquaria (EAZA)

Myfanwy Griffith

Giza Zoo

Amany Aly

Global Conservation Network (GCN)

Jo Gipps

Houston Zoo

Lee Ehmke

India Eco Edge Consultancy

Mir M. Mansoor

IUCN Species Survival Commission

Kira Mileham

Japan Wildlife Research Center

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Japanese Association of Zoos and Aquariums (JAZA)/Osaka Zoo

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Kirk Duthler
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Ocean Park Corporation

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Mansoor Al Jahdhami

Parque Das Aves/CBSG

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Yara Barros

Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi

Bushra Rakha

Prague Zoo

Ivan Rehak

Provincial Environmental Authority

Saman Senanayake

San Diego Zoo Global

Stacey Johnson
Oliver Ryder (Institute of Conservation Research)

SeaWorld Parks & Entertainment

Brad Andrews

Smithsonian National Zoological Park

Dennis Kelly

SOS Rhino

Karen Dixon

Taipei Zoo

Nian-Hong Jang-Liaw
Eric Tsao

Taman Safari Indonesia

Jansen Manansang

Tokyo Zoological Park Society

Hidemasa Hori
Akiko Shimosaka
Kunie Tabata

University of Pretoria

Thomas Quirke

University of Southern Denmark

Dalia Conde
Johanna Staerk

Wildlife Conservation Society

Brian Horne

Wildlife Reserves Singapore

Sonja Luz

World Association of Zoos and Aquariums (WAZA)

Gerald Dick
Markus Gusset

Zoo Design, Inc.

Julia Hanuliakova

Zoo Outreach Organisation/CBSG South Asia

Sanjay Molur

Zoo Zürich

Alex Rübel

Zoological Society of London

Paul Pearce-Kelly

Zoos South Australia

Peter Clark

Zoos Victoria

Rachel Lowry

2015 Ulysses S. Seal Award Recipient: Dr. Laurie Marker

Dr. Laurie Marker has been named the 2015 recipient of the Conservation Breeding Specialist Group (CBSG) Ulysses S. Seal Award for Innovation in Conservation. This award is given to those who exemplify innovation in applying science to conservation.

“Dr. Marker has, in her long career, proven herself to be a bold conservationist and a visionary leader,” said CBSG Chair Onnie Byers. “She has brought the cheetah’s plight to international attention and put the world on notice that changes must be made in the way we are living if we hope to save this species from extinction.”

The award recognizes Marker’s over four decades of dedicated cheetah conservation work in southern Africa. In the early 1990s, after discovering that there was a great need to better understand the basics of cheetah biology, behavior, and ecology, Marker packed up her life in the US and moved to Namibia. She has lived there ever since, dedicating her life to researching cheetahs, building support for the species among local populations who once saw it as a pest to be eradicated, and launching and running the Cheetah Conservation Fund (CCF), a world-class research, education, and conservation center.



©Jenny Bartlett/Cheetah Conservation Fund

“Ulle Seal encouraged me to start a nonprofit organization to implement our cheetah conservation strategy and strive to create a permanent place for cheetahs on Earth,” said Marker when she accepted the award. “Ulle planted the seed that germinated the idea in my mind that has become the hallmark of my conservation strategies, which is to employ a holistic approach that seeks to balance the needs of animals, people, and the land.”

Recognizing that the future depends on sustained land use improvements, Laurie has trained dozens of students at the undergraduate, masters, and PhD level in sustainable land practices that allow agricultural communities to coexist with large predators and other wildlife.

By demonstrating that cheetahs and other wildlife have economic value and are among Namibia’s most precious natural resources, she has generated such pride among Namibians that the same people who once considered cheetahs to be vermin now declare their country to be the “Cheetah Capital of the World.”

Byers said, “Laurie Marker and CCF are a tribute to Ulle and his ability to recognize and encourage others to make innovative contributions to conservation.”



Bobby Bradley/Cheetah Conservation Fund

Fittingly, Dr. Marker was influenced early on by Ulysses Seal, the inspiration for this award. Ulysses S. Seal was the founder of CBSG,

and his great passion and talent was his creative thinking about how new science could be most effectively applied to solving the problems of wildlife conservation. He recognized and encouraged others who were also making such innovative contributions.

One of those people was Laurie Marker. They met in the mid-1980s when Ulle helped a small group of cheetah researchers lay the foundation for a science-based cheetah conservation strategy. Seal and Marker collaborated many times over the years to discuss and strategize how to save cheetahs in the wild.

CBSG Regional Network Updates

CBSG Australasia

Convenors: Richard Jakob-Hoff and Caroline Lees

CBSG Australasia has completed its seventh year of operation with a membership of 36 individuals spread around the region. At a meeting of the Network Convenors in November, another nine individuals with complementary skills were identified as potential members to approach. During 2014-2015, the network has been actively involved in planning work for greater bilbies, regent honeyeaters, plains-wanderers, takahē, Cat Ba langurs, and Javan and Sumatran Rhinos.



Goals for the Quadrennium 2013-2016:

- To establish an Australasian community of planning practitioners
- To promote SSC-endorsed planning principles, philosophies and tools across the community
- To develop mechanisms for exchanging planning experiences within the community
- To engage the community in the continued development of tools
- To develop mechanisms for tracking the effectiveness of planning done through the CBSG Australasia community and for using this information to refine planning processes
- To contribute, wherever possible and appropriate, to broader CBSG initiatives

[Click for more details on CBSG Australasia activities.](#)

CBSG Brasil

Convenor: Arnaud Desbiez



CBSG Brasil was founded in 2004. CBSG Brasil is not based at any institution and is run voluntarily by four members with the support of the Royal Zoological Society of Scotland. Members are a wildlife biologist, a veterinarian, a GIS expert and a Zoo professional. Each member works for a different institution. The convenor, Arnaud Desbiez, is the Conservation Manager for Latin America at the Royal Zoological Society of Scotland based in Campo Grande, Mato Grosso do Sul State, Brazil. Fabiana Lopes Rocha has a post-doctoral position at FioCruz, Rio de Janeiro City, Rio de Janeiro State. Katia Ferraz is a professor at ESALQ, Piracicaba, São Paulo, and Yara Barros is the technical director of the Parque das Aves in Foz do Iguaçu, Paraná.

2015 Update

During the Regional Network meeting of February 2013, it was decided that CBSG Brasil should work hard to get involved with the *ex situ* community in our region and we have successfully pursued this goal ever since. Since the last CBSG Annual Meeting we have successfully run several workshops and attended various meetings as well as engaged with numerous partners regarding potential workshops. Past and future projects include: Action Plan for the Brazilian Society of Zoos and Aquaria, ALPZA Strategic Planning Workshop for Integrated Conservation, Bush Dog Population Viability Analysis, and Conservation Action Plan for the Endemic and Endangered Chacoan Pecary.

[Click for more details on CBSG Brasil activities.](#)

CBSG Regional Network News

CBSG Europe

Convenor: Bengt Holst



CBSG Europe's activities in the past year include:

- Revision of the IUCN SSC Guidelines on the Use of *Ex Situ* Management for Species Conservation
- Facilitation Skills Training for Conservation Managers
- Workshop on Population Management – French Zoo Association
- ALPZA Strategic Planning Workshop for Integrated Conservation

[Click for more details on CBSG Europe activities.](#)

CBSG Mesoamerica

Convenor: Yolanda Matamoros



CBSG Mesoamerica acts as a linking organization among different stakeholders, including regional zoos, academia, field research, *ex situ* management, government, and the community. CBSG Mesoamerica helps set species conservation priorities and actions through workshops, facilitation experience, and computer tools, fulfilling a need for science-based conservation planning. Our aim is to maintain and create new contacts in our region to continue supporting conservation efforts for Mesoamerican wildlife using CBSG's conservation planning tools and methodologies. CBSG Mesoamerica has contributed to over 60 conservation workshops, collaborating with more than 100 organizations working on *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation in the region.

CBSG Mesoamerica's recent activities include:

- Prioritization workshop of plant species for the Torres River Basin restoration
- Population Viability Analysis as a tool to model population dynamics for six Darwin finch species, including a hybrid cluster the Galapagos large-billed Flycatcher and the lava lizard in Floreana Island, Galapagos, Ecuador
- Conservation Medicine Workshop at the Soltis Center

[Click for more details on these CBSG Mesoamerica activities.](#)

CBSG Indonesia

Convenor: Jansen Manansang

CBSG Indonesia organizes many conservation activities in Indonesia through seminars, workshops, and campaigns.

[Click for more details on CBSG Indonesia activities.](#)

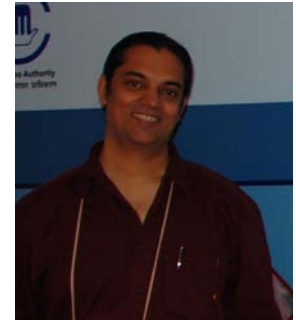


CBSG Regional Network News

CBSG South Asia

Convenor: Sanjay Molur

CBSG South Asia is active in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka. We work closely with IUCN SSC CBSG, other IUCN specialist groups, our own taxon and thematic networks, and host organizations (ZOO, WILD, and SAZARC). CBSG India, started by Sally Walker in 1990, was the first CBSG regional network. It was expanded into CBSG South Asia in 2000. Sally Walker retired in 2015 after many years of dedicated work as co-convenor of CBSG South Asia.



CBSG South Asia's recent initiatives include:

- Assessment of Freshwater Fish and Mayflies
- Indian Alliance for Zero Extinction projects
- Evaluation and impact of amphibian chytrid fungus on the threatened and endemic species of the Western Ghats

[Click for more details on CBSG South Asia activities.](#)

CBSG North America

Convenors: Anne Baker and Philip Nyhus

CBSG North America came into being in early March 2013. It is hosted by the Saint Louis Zoo and co-convened by Anne Baker, Ph.D., executive director of Amphibian Ark; and Philip Nyhus, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies, Colby College. Geographically, CBSG North America includes Canada and the United States of America.



Activities for 2014-2015 included:

- Vancouver Island Marmot PHVA
- Planning for Southern Woodland Caribou workshop with CBSG HQ (workshop was subsequently cancelled)
- Strategic conservation planning workshops for Kansas City Zoo, Point Defiance Zoo, and Assiniboine Zoo



[Click here for more details on CBSG North America's activities.](#)

CBSG Regional Network News

CBSG Japan

Convenor: Kumiko Yoneda

CBSG Japan has set the main focus of work to facilitate the dialogue between the practitioners in the fields of *ex situ* and *in situ* conservation, and is looking for the opportunity to hold a workshop for conservation planning of endangered species.

The Japanese Association of Zoos and Aquariums and the Ministry of the Environment of Japan signed an agreement on promotion of biodiversity conservation in May 2014 that focused on the cooperation in *ex situ* conservation of Japanese endangered species. In this framework, species conservation projects on the Tsushima leopard cat and rock ptarmigan are ongoing. More projects are going to start this year, and some of our members are actively involved in this process. We are carefully studying the possibility of contribution as CBSG Japan.



To understand and improve capacity of our network and to work as a group, we re-confirmed the membership and established a mailing list. Through this mailing list, our members are informed of the international activities of CBSG as well as other conservation-related information. We also supported a new capacity building workshop for Japanese in wildlife management and nature conservation, organized by Asian Wildlife Research Center and held in Thailand in March 2015.

CBSG Mexico

Convenor: Luis Carrillo

CBSG Mexico was founded in 1995 in response to the needs of endangered species conservation in Mexico. It is based at Zoofari, a safari park located in Morelos, Mexico. CBSG Mexico's convenor is Luis Carrillo, who works at Zoofari as General Curator. CBSG Mexico's mission is to catalyze conservation actions in Mexico, assisting in the development of holistic conservation programs for threatened species and ecosystems.

[Click for more details on CBSG Mexico activities.](#)



CBSG Southern Africa

Convenor: Mike Jordan

CBSG Southern Africa is in a transitional stage as the longtime convenor, Mike Jordan, has taken a position in the UK. We thank Mike for his dedicated efforts leading CBSG Southern Africa, and we will keep you posted on the future of the network.



CBSG Donors

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\$10,000 and above

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 Taronga Conservation Society
 Australia
 Zoo Leipzig*

The Living Desert
 Linda Malek
 Milwaukee County Zoo
 North Carolina Zoological Park
 Oregon Zoo
 Paignton Zoo
 Royal Zoological Society of
 Antwerp
 Royal Zoological Society of
 Scotland

Taipei Zoo
 Toledo Zoo
 Utah's Hogle Zoo
 Wassenaar Wildlife Breeding
 Centre
 Zoo and Aquarium Association
 (ZAA)
 Zoological Society of Wales –
 Welsh Mountain Zoo
 Zoo Miami
 Zoos South Australia

Lee Richardson Zoo
 Lion Country Safari
 Roger Williams Park Zoo
 Rolling Hills Wildlife Adventure
 Sacramento Zoo
 Safari de Peaugres
 Steinhart Aquarium
 Tautphaus Park Zoo
 Jacqueline Vlietstra

\$5,000 and above

Al Ain Wildlife Park & Resort
 Allwetterzoo Münster
 Association of Zoos & Aquariums
 (AZA)
 Anne Baker & Robert Lacy
 British and Irish Association of Zoos
 & Aquariums (BIAZA)
 Detroit Zoological Society
 Lincoln Park Zoo
 Nordens Ark*
 Ocean Park Conservation
 Foundation, Hong Kong*
 Perth Zoo*
 Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium
 Schönbrunner Tiergarten – Zoo
 Vienna*
 Smithsonian National Zoological
 Park

San Francisco Zoo
 Sedgwick County Zoo
 Seoul Zoo
 Swedish Association of Zoological
 Parks & Aquaria (SAZA)
 Thrigby Hall Wildlife Gardens
 Twycross Zoo
 Union of German Zoo Directors
 (VDZ)
 Wilhelma Zoo
 Woodland Park Zoo
 Zoo Frankfurt
 Zoologischer Garten Köln
 Zoologischer Garten Rostock

\$500 and above

Abilene Zoological
 Gardens
 Apenheul Primate Park
 Ed Asper
 Banham Zoo
 Mark Barone
 Bramble Park Zoo
 Chris Byers & Kathy Vila
 Cotswold Wildlife Park
 David Traylor Zoo of
 Emporia
 Friends of the Rosamond Gifford
 Zoo
 GaiaPark – Kerkrade Zoo
 Jacksonville Zoo & Gardens
 Knuthenborg Safaripark
 Lisbon Zoo
 Little Rock Zoo
 Katey & Mike Pelican
 Racine Zoological Society
 Tokyo Zoological Park Society
 Topeka Zoo
 Wellington Zoo
 Wildlife World Zoo &
 Aquarium
 Zoo de la Palmyre

\$100 and above

Alameda Park Zoo
 Aquarium of the Bay
 Elias Sadalla Filho
 Lincoln Children's Zoo
 Steven J. Olson
 Zoo Heidelberg

\$10 and above

Heiko Janssen

* Denotes CBSG Chair sponsor

CBSG Regional Network Hosts

AMACZOOA & FUNDAZOO
 Auckland Zoo
 Copenhagen Zoo
 Royal Zoological Society of
 Scotland
 Saint Louis Zoo
 Taman Safari Indonesia
 Zoo Outreach Organisation &
 WILD
 Zoofari Mexico

\$2,000 and above

Borås Djurpark*
 Bristol Zoo Gardens
 Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical
 Garden
 Cleveland Metroparks Zoo
 Dallas Zoo
 Dickerson Park Zoo
 Dublin Zoo
 European Association of Zoos &
 Aquaria (EAZA)
 Fundación Parques Reunidos
 Givskud Zoo
 Gladys Porter Zoo
 Japanese Association of Zoos &
 Aquariums (JAZA)
 Laurie Bingaman Lackey

\$1,000 and above

Aalborg Zoo
 Akron Zoological Park
 Audubon Zoo
 Cameron Park Zoo
 Central Zoo Authority, India
 Everland Zoological Gardens
 Fort Wayne Children's Zoo
 Fota Wildlife Park
 Fundación Temaikèn
 Kansas City Zoo
 Los Angeles Zoo
 Odense Zoo
 Palm Beach Zoo at Dreher Park
 Prudence P. Perry
 Philadelphia Zoo
 Phoenix Zoo
 Riverbanks Zoo & Garden
 Rotterdam Zoo
 San Antonio Zoo
 Skansen Akvariet

\$250 and above

African Safari – France
 Arizona-Sonora Desert
 Museum
 Susie Byers & Kurt
 Schwarzkopf

CBSG Annual Meeting 2015

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