



SYNCHRONICITY  
**EARTH**

SPOTLIGHT 2019

# Vision

**An Earth where all life is valued, celebrated and flourishing.**

# Mission

**We act to address overlooked and underfunded conservation challenges for globally threatened species and ecosystems.**

We do this through:

## Conservation

We know that conservation works, but there is nowhere near enough of it. We focus on identifying gaps where scaling up action and funding could have most impact for species and ecosystems that are overlooked and underfunded.

## Culture

We engage creatively and collaboratively with a range of communities across different sectors – finance, fashion, food, philanthropy. We are also an active member of the conservation community, helping to develop key tools and innovative approaches to promote robust science and good practice within the sector.

## Funding

Philanthropic funding for the environment needs to grow significantly, both in quantity and scope. Our approach is to listen to NGO needs and work with donors to provide more long-term, flexible financial support for conservation where it is most needed.

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# Imagining a better future

**“The imagination is not a state: it is the human existence itself.”** William Blake

English poet and artist William Blake is famously quoted as saying, “What is now proved was once only imagined.”

Synchronicity Earth was first imagined and then created to address the lack of coordinated funding backing critical conservation efforts. Ten years later we remark at the breadth of people and organisations that we support who are working on the frontlines – whether that is a tropical river basin or within a global forum – protecting wildlife and wild places.

Synchronicity Earth continues to evolve, adapt and grow – forever adjusting in order to be more responsive, more effective, fit for purpose. But at our core, we hold strong to our values – embracing scientific rigour, embedding diversity, and valuing partnerships – and these remain constant and are why we continue to believe that alternatives and solutions exist. Our core values are the bedrock of and inspiration for all the programmes, funds and networks we develop and support.

Ten years ago, we saw evidence that the loss of biodiversity would become one of the greatest challenges of our time. This has not changed; indeed, it has accelerated. But now, more and more of us are finally accepting our role in creating this ecological crisis. We are infinitely more aware that we can – and certainly should –

stop and reverse the loss of species and ecosystems, but the question is how? And will we?

One way to address the “how” is to support the work of Synchronicity Earth. It exists for this very purpose, and we hope it is an action many will continue to take, and more will join.

Will we? That is a bigger, more complicated question. For sure it will require plenty of will, and an abundance of imagination.

As we continue to try to understand the macro context of the environmental crisis, we know solutions lie in micro interventions. The compounding effect of supporting a multitude of individuals and organisations on the ground makes a real difference.

As we look to the next ten years of Synchronicity Earth, and beyond, we ask you to join us in action and in wild imagination – in co-creation of a world that is more just and kind, where the natural world – and all its inhabitants – are valued, and diverse species are abundant.

Yours very truly,



JESSICA & ADAM SWEIDAN,  
*Synchronicity Earth Founders*



# Welcome to our Spotlight



In 2011, I was invited to participate in the 'Home Eco-logics' lunch hosted by Jessica Sweidan, Synchronicity Earth's Founding Trustee. The setting was stunning, the company was inspiring, the slow-food menu delicious. The flowing conversations focused

on our ecological home and what we, as women in a variety of sectors and industries, could do to support the mission of Synchronicity Earth. I was invited to 'host' a table alongside a ClientEarth biodiversity lawyer and speak on 'Campaigning for the Planet'. Little did I know that some nine years later, after a variety of roles including spending some time at ClientEarth, I would find myself back in the wonderful company of Jessica, being welcomed as Synchronicity Earth's CEO.

Many of you who are followers of Synchronicity Earth will have watched as it has grown and changed in those nine years. Since that lunch, I too have watched with interest and admiration and am utterly thrilled and delighted to have joined at this seminal moment. I am indebted to my predecessor Catherine Bryan, not only for undertaking such a fantastic handover with me these last few months, but also for leaving the organisation in such good financial health, and the team bubbling with ideas for new partnerships and opportunities, full of energy and ready to hit the ground running in 2020.

This Spotlight shines a light on some of the high points of 2019: the progress made across all of our Programmes, from Amphibians to Asian Species, Congo Basin to Regeneration, High and Deep Seas to Freshwater; our involvement in the Flourishing Diversity Summit in London in September, which brought indigenous peoples from around the globe to share their wisdom and help to amplify their vital and urgent

message about the damage we are doing to our only home; our support for Conservation Optimism and why, despite all the doom and gloom, we think it's vital to share positive stories from the world of conservation; our new ambassadors giving their unique take on our place in nature; and much more.

On a personal level, my own sense of hope and optimism only increases as I start to meet many of our incredible partners, advisors, ambassadors, and of course our donors, and I speak for everyone when I say a sincere thank you for all of your generous support. Looking ahead, I am excited to think about what we can collectively achieve this year.

In 2020, we will continue to: increase the number and size of grants given to our partners working on the ground; work with other funders to pool resources for greater impact; and continue to develop our Programmes to ensure they are effectively addressing some of Earth's most overlooked and underfunded conservation challenges. We are also looking to strengthen and enhance our partnerships and participation with our existing networks, and collaborate with new partners and alliances that align with our mission of supporting flourishing life on earth.

I am excited to be here and feel humbled and privileged to have been given the opportunity by Adam and Jessica, and the rest of the Board, to lead the team and the organisation as it takes its first next step into its next decade. So here's to the Twenties, the Decade of Action and Ambition. I do hope you enjoy reading this edition of Spotlight, and I look forward to meeting and perhaps working with many of you in the not too distant future.

KIRSTY SCHNEEBERGER  
CEO

*“We cannot build something that we cannot imagine. Building a positive future for amphibians — indeed, for all life on Earth — hinges on our ability to envisage such a future, and there are many people out there right now who are already working towards this goal. I think we must celebrate their endeavours, and join them for all we are worth.”*

HELEN MEREDITH, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, AMPHIBIAN SURVIVAL ALLIANCE

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# Ten years conserving the overlooked and underfunded

## Amphibian Survival Alliance

Since 2013, Synchronicity Earth has supported the growth and development of the Amphibian Survival Alliance, a worldwide partnership of organisations devoted to amphibian conservation. Synchronicity Earth pays the salary of ASA's Executive Director, Helen Meredith, who has been instrumental in taking the Alliance forward and developing its vision to help protect amphibians.

## Bloom Association (France)

Bloom, led by the indefatigable Claire Nouvian, successfully campaigned (together with our partner the Deep Sea Conservation Coalition and others) to ban deep-sea bottom trawling below 800 metres in EU waters. The law came into effect in 2016. Since then Bloom has continued to wage incredible campaigns against some of the most destructive practices devastating our ocean.



## Sustainable Development Institute (Liberia)

We supported the Sustainable Development Institute (SDI) over 5 years to slow down the expansion of industrial oil palm into forests and community land, helping to empower local people to resist destructive palm oil developments and protect forests.



## Jocotoco Foundation: Tesoro Escondido Reserve (Ecuador)

This reserve in the hyper-biodiverse Choco rainforest of Northwest of Ecuador is enjoying some incredible conservation successes: in 3 years, parabiologists have discovered a species of magnolia not seen since 1965, a species of tree frog not seen since the 1940s and found the only Harpy Eagle nest in the western Andes.

Meanwhile, they continue their focus on restoring native species of tree and expanding their environmental education programme.



## Dynamique des Groupes des Peuples Autochtones (DRC)

In 2018 Synchronicity Earth's support to Dynamique des Groupes des Peuples Autochtones (DGPA) contributed to the passing of an Edict in Mai Ndombe, the first in the country, recognising the rights of the indigenous Batwa. As a result, DGPA estimates that over 1 million hectares of forest will be protected from industrial and artisanal slash and burn agriculture as it will now fall within Batwa territories.



## The IUCN Red List (Switzerland)

Over the past ten years, Synchronicity Earth has supported the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species in various ways, including funding development of their vastly improved new website and helping to build the knowledge base on the threats facing species across the globe. So far, Synchronicity Earth has supported work to assess or reassess 1,249 species on the Red List.



## White-bellied Heron (Bhutan)

Since 2014, Synchronicity Earth has been a driving force behind protection of the world's second largest heron, the Critically Endangered White-bellied heron, helping develop a conservation plan, and co-producing a Species Conservation Strategy.



## Living River Association (Thailand)

Living River Association (LRA) works with local communities to create Fish Conservation Zones which villagers say have led to increased income and fish catch. Populations of 17 fish and other species have increased, and 9 species not previously recorded in the area were found, including some large Critically Endangered species such as the Siamese Giant Carp.



## Hutan (Malaysian Borneo)

Synchronicity Earth has supported Hutan since 2014. During this time, Hutan has planted more than 25,000 seedlings of 38 native species, achieving an 80% survival rate in all of its reforestation plots. Working closely with the community helps to ensure that regeneration is effective in the long term, provides support for local families and has increased participation of women in the local economy.



## Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust (Madagascar)

The Madagascar Pochar – the world's rarest duck – was once presumed to be extinct. Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust (WWT) worked with others to establish a specialised breeding facility for the birds and, in December 2018, the first batch of 21 captive-bred pochars was released. Since then, 12 ducklings have been spotted on Lake Sofia, the release site, bringing hope for the future of these Critically Endangered birds.



## International Rivers Africa (DRC)

International Rivers Africa was one of the key drivers of a campaign to get the World Bank to rethink its funding for the Grand Inga 3 dam in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. In July 2016, the bank withdrew support and funding for the project and since then, has shifted its renewable energy lending towards wind and solar power.



## ActNOW and Bismarck Ramu Group (Papua New Guinea)

Since 2013, our support for partners ActNOW and Bismarck Ramu Group has helped to ensure that logging is halted and does not restart on approximately 4.8 million hectares of land in Papua New Guinea, a region of extraordinary biological and cultural diversity.





# Amphibians

## PROTECTING EARTH'S MOST THREATENED VERTEBRATES

**Earth is home to more than 8,000 species of amphibians, occurring in virtually all terrestrial and freshwater habitats, though not in the coldest and driest regions, in marine ecosystems or in most remote oceanic islands.**

Amphibians exhibit a remarkable diversity of colours, forms and appearance, and they have inspired human cultures around the world for millennia. Despite this, amphibians are by far the most threatened group of vertebrates, with around 40 per cent at risk of extinction.

In 2019, Synchronicity Earth decided to expand the focus of our Amphibian Programme. Much of the year was spent doing the consultative and technical work to develop a new strategy, which has now been approved by our board and published. The new programme has three goals: to improve the knowledge base to guide amphibian

conservation; to fund increased amphibian conservation in the field, including trialling new approaches to combat disease; and to support the development of amphibian conservation organisations.



## LOOKING AHEAD

We are in the process of identifying a number of new field-based amphibian conservation partners. Over the coming two to three years we hope to support organisations doing critical work in places such as Guatemala, Ecuador, Brazil, Peru, Ghana, Madagascar, Cameroon, Tanzania, India and Papua New Guinea. We will continue to support the major push to complete the update of amphibians on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, as well as starting a programme to complete the identification and designation of Key Biodiversity Areas in the most important countries for threatened amphibians.

## 2019 HIGHLIGHTS

- The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species is the fundamental conservation dataset used to increase our knowledge of amphibian conservation needs. However, keeping extinction risk assessments of over 8,000 amphibian species up-to-date is challenging. An expert body – the IUCN SSC Amphibian Red List Authority (ARLA) – does this work. The data collected are crucial for guiding amphibian conservation and helping ensure that development projects do minimal harm to biodiversity, especially to threatened species. In 2019, we greatly increased our support for ARLA. As a result, around 2,000 species have been assessed, and 11 expert workshops have been held.*

- The Amphibian Survival Alliance is a long-term partner of Synchronicity Earth. It plays the leading role in fostering the development of the worldwide amphibian conservation movement. Among many activities, in 2019 the ASA co-financed a rescue effort to capture the world's 14 last-known Loa Water Frogs in Chile just before their only habitat in a single stream dried up due to illegal extraction of water. The animals were taken to the National Zoo of Chile where specialists are successfully nursing them back to health.*

- The Amphibian Survival Alliance recently awarded eight conservation grants in honour of Dr George B. Rabb (1930-2017), protecting amphibians in diverse locations, including Kenya, Brazil, Peru, Costa Rica, South Africa, Argentina, Colombia and Madagascar.*

## IN THE SPOTLIGHT

### Penny Langhammer

Executive Vice President of Science and Strategy, Global Wildlife Conservation; Director of Key Biodiversity Areas, Amphibian Survival Alliance



**What difference has Synchronicity Earth support made to identifying the most important places for amphibian conservation?**

The Alliance for Zero Extinction was launched in 2005 to identify and safeguard sites holding Critically Endangered or Endangered species restricted to a single site globally. Unless properly conserved, AZE sites are places where species extinctions are imminent, yet fewer than half are currently protected.

With funding from Synchronicity Earth, the Amphibian Survival Alliance and the Amphibian Red List Authority (ARLA) of the Amphibian Specialist Group are reviewing and updating the AZE sites for amphibians using current Red List information and targeted consultations with local experts, to ensure that all proposed AZE sites for amphibians are confirmed as valid AZE sites. This work requires dedicated staff time and funding for travel and consultancies, and without the support from Synchronicity Earth, would have been impossible to undertake with existing resources.

The data generated through this project will be incorporated into the World Database of Key Biodiversity Areas, which is being used by governments, private companies, donors, and non-governmental organisations to guide decision making around environmental conservation and risk management. Synchronicity Earth's support is helping to raise awareness of the urgent need to identify and conserve globally important sites for amphibian species to avoid further species extinctions and biodiversity loss.

## SPOTLIGHT ON SPECIES

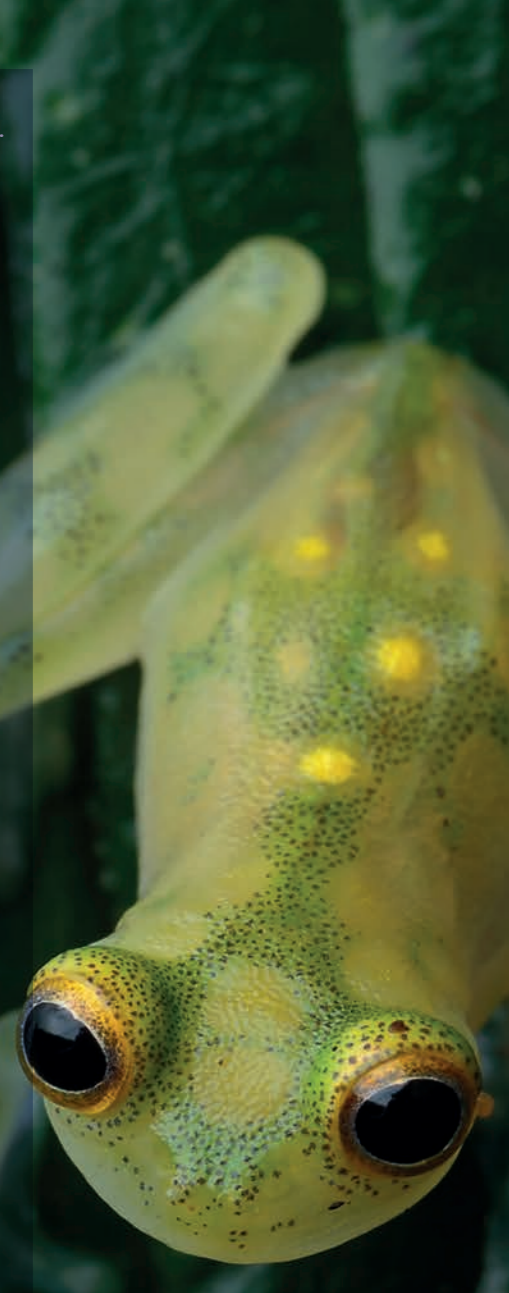
### Giant Squeaker



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During 2019, colleagues at SAVE THE FROGS! Ghana approached us with evidence that the Giant Squeaker – an unusual and extremely rare frog which breeds on land with no tadpole stage – was very close to extinction. Its most important site in Ghana was destroyed by fire in 2016 and most, perhaps all, remaining animals are now in the Sui Forest Reserve where they are at huge risk from habitat loss. We supported the re-assessment of the

species as Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, and hope to find support for the Ghanaian conservationists who are trying to save the species.





# Asian Species

## GOING WHERE THREATS ARE GREATEST

**Southeast Asia is hugely rich in biodiversity and home to a vast range of threatened and endemic species. The region faces higher threat levels than other parts of the tropics, primarily due to habitat conversion, hunting and wildlife trade.**

Synchronicity Earth's Asian Species Programme aims to catalyse conservation efforts for the most threatened and overlooked species in Asia, mobilising resources and capacity to reverse their decline. In particular, the programme supports species conservation on the ground;

building species conservation capacity; and increasing knowledge and research on species in Asia.

In 2019, Synchronicity Earth supported seven partners under our Asian Species Programme in the Philippines, Vietnam, Bhutan, India

and elsewhere in the region. Our partners have focused on work ranging from community engagement and reforestation, to conservation of species in captivity and reintroduction planning, to on-the-ground research.



## SYNCHRONICITY NURTURING PARTNERSHIPS

**As we build relationships with the partners we fund, we find out more about the challenges they face and the type of support that will help them to deliver their conservation objectives. Where there is a need, we fund core costs, skills training and organisational development. We also connect partners to broader conservation networks, where this can help to amplify their impact.**

## 2019 HIGHLIGHTS

- *Mabuwaya Foundation has planted 5,354 trees along the “buffer zones” of Philippine crocodile and fish sanctuaries, providing more habitat for endangered species and supporting local livelihoods.*
- *In Vietnam, the launch of a specialised “anti-poaching team” and engagement with local communities by Save Vietnam’s Wildlife has kept illegal activity relatively low in the organisation’s target site within Pu Mat National Park.*
- *The Talarak Foundation successfully hosted a species conservation planning workshop with nearly 80 participants, producing conservation plans for five endangered species in the Philippines.*
- *The White-bellied Heron Working Group hosted a workshop to identify key survey areas for the bird in India, and in Bhutan, six new “Local Conservation Support Groups” were established to monitor and protect this species.*

## LOOKING AHEAD

In 2020, Synchronicity Earth aims to expand the Asian Species programme across all three of its focus areas. We will be supporting research projects on highly threatened but little known species in the region, including some projects in Indonesia on slipper orchids, the Bawean Deer, and the Bawean Warty Pig. We are also aiming to support more on-the-ground work, particularly in Indonesia, and to work with our partners to increase the capacity-building work of the programme.

## IN THE SPOTLIGHT

**Thai Nguyen Van**  
Founder, Save Vietnam’s Wildlife (SVW)



“The biggest problem for wildlife conservation in Vietnam is consumption. A lot of people use wildlife for traditional medicine, meat consumption, as pets and for many other things. To protect local wildlife we need to raise awareness among local people, reduce demand and work to improve law enforcement to protect the animals we have in the wild.

One of the biggest challenges for a small NGO like SVW is that in our country it’s really hard to get access to funding for the species we’re working with. Synchronicity Earth is a wonderful supporter for the mission of SVW, supporting what we believe are the best ways to secure strongholds for pangolin conservation, including support for rescuing animals from the illegal wildlife trade, working with the local community to protect the pangolin in the wild and also helping us to develop and fund our the anti-poaching team to protect the animals that remain in the forest. Their support for our work on the ground is helping us to achieve our mission.”

## SPOTLIGHT ON SPECIES Negros Bleeding-heart Dove



The Negros Bleeding-heart Dove gets its name from the distinctive red plumage on the bird’s chest which looks very much like a bleeding wound. It is believed that the bird uses this to distract predators away from its nest by pretending to be wounded prey. It is one of five Bleeding-heart Dove species, all endemic to the Philippines. The Negros Bleeding-heart, found only on the islands of Negros and Panay in central Philippines, is Critically Endangered along with two of the other Bleeding-hearts. It is also classified as an “Evolutionarily Distinct and Globally Endangered” (EDGE) species. As a ground-dwelling species, the Negros Bleeding-heart Dove is especially threatened by the loss of lowland forest in the Philippines. This year, the Negros Bleeding-heart Dove was one of five species for which a conservation action plan was developed at a workshop hosted by our partner, the Talarak Foundation, and part funded by Synchronicity Earth.



# Congo Basin

## COLLABORATING TO CONSERVE BIOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL DIVERSITY

**The Congo Basin is a region of extraordinary biological and cultural diversity – home to Earth’s second-largest contiguous tract of rainforest and Africa’s second-longest river. Despite this, Congo Basin forests and the millions of people whose lives and cultures are deeply connected to nature are facing unprecedented challenges, such as lack of secure land tenure for forest peoples and unsustainable development, agriculture and mining projects.**

To address these threats, our Congo Basin programme has three important goals:

- Empower civil society to resist and reduce threats to ecosystems and biodiversity from destructive developments.
- Secure the rights of forest peoples to remain on their territories and defend them from threats.
- Support communities and indigenous peoples to revive ecosystems and biodiversity through regenerative approaches to development.



In 2019, through this programme, we provided ongoing support to 16 partners working in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Cameroon. Thanks to their amazing dedication, they have tirelessly contributed to address emerging threats to ecosystems, biodiversity and people.

## 2019 HIGHLIGHTS

• Earlier this year, 31 members of the “Informal Alliance Against the Expansion of Industrial Palm Oil in West and Central Africa” gathered in Côte d’Ivoire thanks to support from our partner GRAIN. So far, the alliance has been successful in providing prompt support when needed and helping leaders to feel more confident in their struggles against palm oil.

• *Dynamique des Groupes des Peuples Autochtones (DGPA) has contributed to strengthening the peaceful cohabitation between Batwa and Bantu communities through building a health centre between Loile and Mpaaha villages and dedicating 6 hectares of shared communal lands for sustainable agriculture.*

• *The most amazing success story of our programme in 2019 is the result of CFLEDD’s continuous work with local women, traditional leaders and provincial authorities. In the Kasai Oriental province, four village chiefs officially signed an agreement for 500 hectares of land to be managed exclusively by women.*



## SPOTLIGHT ON SPECIES

### N’gongo: much more than a plant for indigenous peoples!



In Congo Basin forests, a common plant from the Marantaceae family has been used by indigenous

peoples for generations and plays a vital role in their lives. Its leaves offer a natural and biodegradable packaging to transport products collected in the forest (e.g. mushrooms, honey, shellfish, wild fruits), are used to cover traditional huts, and also serve as cooking pots for the “chikwangue” – a very popular bread made from cassava. Long stems are used to make baskets, strong ropes or mesh dryers to smoke fish, meat or caterpillars, for example. The roots are used in traditional medicine to treat sinusitis or conjunctivitis. Interestingly, n’gongo berries contain a natural glue that can quickly heal fresh wounds. In addition to its traditional human uses, the n’gongo is also an integral part of Marantaceae forests – an important habitat for endangered wildlife species, such as elephant and gorilla.

## IN THE SPOTLIGHT

### Néné Mainzana

Director of the Coalition of Women Leaders for the Environment and Sustainable Development (CFLEDD), Democratic Republic of the Congo



**How can supporting women and helping their voices to be heard protect Congolese forests?**

“In the DRC, if you go to any village, it’s the women who go into the forests, every day. The forest is their supermarket, their pharmacy – it provides for all their needs. If there’s anyone who should benefit from help, it’s the women who are in the fields every day, 365 days a year and who do 80 or 90 per cent of the work. Women should have a say in how the land is managed, along with the men. [...] The way women look after the land is simply the traditional way of managing it – it’s a simple usage plan: ‘here is where we grow our crops, here are the sacred sites, this is our river and water source, here is where we cut wood’. Mapping these land uses make them official, so they can claim land rights. [...] I was really moved when I received the document, where four local traditional chiefs had officially signed over 500 hectares of land to be managed as community forests by women. We had never seen anything like it, where traditional land authorities have signed over such a piece of land to be run by women. It was an incredible success.”

## LOOKING AHEAD

In 2020, we will continue our support to help our partners gain a better understanding of their impact and develop successful approaches to protect forests and increase human well-being. Through webinars and a participatory approach, we will catalyse and strengthen collaborations between DRC partners who will be able to share their experience. In addition, we will expand the scope of our Congo Basin programme to include partners working on freshwater biodiversity and amphibian species.



# Freshwater

## INCREASING RECOGNITION FOR FRESHWATER CONSERVATION

**The freshwater programme focuses on conservation of some of the world's most beautiful places and remarkable species. Freshwater is often perceived as only a physical resource; we rarely think of it as providing a precious and delicate natural habitat for more than 15,000 species of fish and almost one third of the world's vertebrate species. Instead we spend many dollars and hours manipulating these systems to meet specific needs, but a comparatively tiny amount conserving their natural states, which provide so much to so many.**

The freshwater programme seeks to change this by focusing on three key areas: data on freshwater species and habitats, species conservation action, and community-led management of

freshwater ecosystems. This year we have increased our work in each of these areas by:

- supporting new work to ensure the most important places for freshwater conservation are recognised.
- launching a new, cross-sectoral global partnership for freshwater species conservation.
- increasing our support for grassroots organisations who are implementing innovative approaches to conserve healthy freshwater ecosystems, benefitting people and wildlife.



## LOOKING AHEAD

In 2020, the programme has two key goals. Firstly, we aim to further support the development of Shoal, supporting implementation of conservation projects for freshwater species in the field, developing new hubs in Germany and the US, and reaching out to freshwater enthusiasts. We are also aiming to expand our support to local, grassroots organisations implementing innovative, community-led approaches to conserve their freshwater ecosystems.

## 2019 HIGHLIGHTS

- *Perhaps the biggest highlight of 2019 has been witnessing an increasing recognition of the importance and urgency of conserving the world's freshwater habitats within the environment sector. After years of tireless work by a group of dedicated individuals and organisations, freshwater habitats and species are just beginning to get some of the attention they richly deserve and desperately need.*
- *In March we launched Shoal, a new initiative encouraging those with a passion for freshwater species and environments to get involved in their conservation. Key achievements include: developing formal partnerships with major companies from the aquatics industry; developing the first global online platform for freshwater species conservation (The Shoal), and; working with partners to develop an initial suite of urgent conservation projects across four continents.*
- *Our partner, the Freshwater Conservation Committee this year received a Citation of Excellence from the International Union for Conservation of Nature for their work to advance freshwater species conservation. Their hard work also resulted in freshwater being one of the key themes at the IUCN World Conservation Congress in June 2020 in Marseille.*
- *Our partner Living River Association has worked closely with local communities to protect flooded forest habitats. One approach they take is to work with local communities to create Fish Conservation Zones which villagers say have led to increased income and fish catch. Populations of 17 fish and other species have increased, and 9 species not previously recorded in the area were found, including some large Critically Endangered species such as the Mekong Giant Catfish.*

## IN THE SPOTLIGHT Rajeev Raghavan, Assistant Professor at the Kerala University of Fisheries and Ocean Studies and one of the foremost freshwater fish scientists in Asia



"My interest in freshwater fish started off as a school kid who kept goldfish, guppies and gouramies at home. Field trips during my undergraduate programme made me realise the importance of my own backyard, the Western Ghats, as one of the world's finest

natural repositories of freshwater biodiversity. The crystal-clear waters of the mountain streams had fish species hundreds of times more beautiful than the goldfish I kept in my tank, but their habitats were quickly being threatened in the race for development. A "freshwater paradox" exists where more than 16,000 fish species live in less than one percent of the Earth's surface and are subjected to a range of anthropogenic stressors. It is one of the greatest challenges for global biodiversity conservation. Conserving the world's freshwater fish species requires a proactive strategy and a combination of approaches from public awareness, to scientific research, and on-the-ground conservation practice. There is still time to conserve and sustainably manage the Earth's freshwater biodiversity, but we should act now! Shoal arrived at the right time providing hope that we can all work together to protect critical freshwater habitats and threatened species."

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## SPOTLIGHT ON SPECIES Tylomelania



Tylomelania, or rabbit snails as they are known within the aquarium trade, are a group of aquatic snails only found

on the island of Sulawesi, Indonesia. There are approximately 75 different species which have evolved over the past 5.4 million years since the island was formed, and most of these snails are endemic to its ancient lakes. Their colourful and curious nature has led to them becoming popular in home aquariums around the world. Unusually for molluscs, they also give birth to live, shelled young. They are under threat from invasive species, sedimentation, overexploitation, hydropower dams and pollution. Shoal is working with its local partner, Yayasan Bumi Sawerigading to conserve these snails by protecting the unique ancient lake systems in which they evolved.



# High and Deep Seas

## PROTECTING EARTH'S "FINAL FRONTIER"

**The “high and deep seas” make up half of our planet and are home to rich ecosystems which are responsible for supporting and regulating critical global processes. The high seas – areas beyond the national waters of coastal nations – are where many species such as leatherback turtles, white sharks and albatrosses spend 60-80 per cent of their lives, and the deep sea – marine habitat below 200m – is home to the greatest diversity of ecosystems and species on Earth. Though distant from human habitation, these ecosystems are under increasing threat from climate change, destructive fishing, and deep-sea mining.**

Synchronicity Earth's High and Deep Seas Programme addresses the underlying and systemic threats to these ecosystems. The programme focuses on four key areas: high seas governance, deep-sea fisheries, deep-sea mining, and harmful fisheries subsidies. Our focus for 2019 has been to:

- support our partners as they continue to engage with delegates at the United Nations to develop a strong High Seas Biodiversity Treaty

– a new legally binding treaty which will bring stronger environmental protections to the high seas.

- support work pushing for implementation of stronger deep-sea fishing regulations in international waters, including a campaign in New Zealand.
- continue to fund our local partner in Papua New Guinea to mobilise communities against seabed mining in their waters; and support a campaign against harmful fisheries subsidies from the European Union.

## LOOKING AHEAD

In 2020, Synchronicity Earth will continue to grow support for our partners across the four focus areas of the programme. We also aim to expand certain areas of the programme, including work on fisheries subsidies and work to develop knowledge products to support the protection of high and deep-sea ecosystems.

## 2019 HIGHLIGHTS

• *The United Nations held the third round of negotiations for a new High Seas Biodiversity Treaty in August. For the first time, these negotiations included a written draft of the treaty text. The treaty is on track to be agreed in Spring 2020. Our partners have engaged by providing technical advice, advocating for strong environmental protections, and working directly with negotiators to build their capacity.*

• *The Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO), which covers a vast section of the North Atlantic, has closed its last fishery on a deep-sea “seamount”. Seamounts are underwater mountains that act as magnets for marine biodiversity and are extremely vulnerable to disruption. Our partner, the Deep Sea Conservation Coalition, has been campaigning for these closures for several years. This was the first regional fisheries management organisation to close all seamount fisheries – leading the way for others around the world.*

• *Nautilus Minerals, the company which was planning to begin deep-sea mining in Papua New Guinea, officially went bankrupt in November 2019. This has happened following years of protests against the industry from communities in Papua New Guinea, supported by our partner, Bismarck Ramu Group.*

## SPOTLIGHT ON SPECIES

### Northern Elephant Seal



Northern elephant seals are famous for their raucous breeding seasons along the beaches of Western North America, but a recent study using satellite tracking technology found that female Northern elephant seals spend around 67 per cent of their lives in the high seas of the North Pacific. Northern elephant seals are impressive marine predators, able to dive to over 700 metres and spend up to 30 minutes underwater. The distinctive inflatable noses of male Northern elephant seals are used to resonate their vocalisations when they are competing during the breeding season. Northern elephant seals are threatened by entanglement in fishing gear and vessel strikes – both threats that are very hard to monitor and thus often go undocumented, especially on the high seas.

## IN THE SPOTLIGHT

### Claire Nouvian

#### Founder of BLOOM Association

**In ten years from now, what would you like BLOOM to have achieved?**



“Our dream is for knowledge to drive public decision-making, rather than pressure groups. We want science – and the best possible scientific understanding – to be driving decision-making.

At BLOOM, we have focused on a number of specific issues, but overfishing is the biggest problem in the ocean, alongside pollution. Emptying the ocean at the pace we are currently doing is a huge issue. We need to look at the reality of subsidies out there, whether it's access to private banking or public subsidies, to ensure that we stop creating a financial incentive to destroy the ocean. When I say destroying the ocean, there is no question that is what we are doing – we're destroying marine habitats, fish populations and jobs which depend on fish populations.

If anything could make me happy, it would be if we were able to contribute to more transparency on the financial side of things i.e. public subsidies. I think transparency would make it much harder to give financial incentives for these damaging activities. Secondly, we need to challenge and end the financial incentive that is fuelling overfishing, keeping overcapacity afloat and driving the destruction of the ocean.”

# Flourishing Diversity Series

SEPTEMBER 2019

In Autumn 2019, Jessica Sweidan and Katy Scholfield, with the support of Synchronicity Earth and other partners, helped to implement the Flourishing Diversity Series. Through a series of unique events, workshops and discussions, opportunities were created for diverse audiences to listen, dialogue and participate with 30 indigenous representatives from across the world. The focus was on sharing wisdom, ideas and strategies to address contemporary environmental challenges.

**By supporting human cultural diversity, we support biological diversity.**

Approximately two thirds of the planet's land area is thought to be under some form of customary or community-based tenure (Alden Wily 2011), and estimates suggest that these areas contain 80% of the planet's remaining terrestrial biodiversity (Sobrevila 2008). These "Territories of Life" are therefore key to any conservation strategy, including Synchronicity Earth's. From the peatlands of the Congo Basin, to the rivers and coastlines of Papua New Guinea, the rainforests of Latin America to the coral reefs of Madagascar, we support indigenous groups across our programmes to defend their territories from external threats such as industrial agriculture and mining and to promote more regenerative forms of development and food production that enhance biocultural diversity.

Despite their importance, however, this holistic, indigenous-led approach to protecting nature is seldom integrated into the strategies of conservation organisations and funders. The Flourishing Diversity Series appealed to us as it: provided an opportunity to work with and support like-minded people to build and strengthen alliances for protecting territories of life; and demonstrated creative ways of convening and communicating indigenous messages to get the concept of biocultural diversity higher up the agenda for the wider conservation sector and beyond.



**FLOURISHING DIVERSITY**

## Flourishing Diversity Series (FDS)

During the course of five days in September 2019, indigenous representatives from across the globe gathered in London to share their perspectives, stories and calls to action with hundreds of attendees including young people, conservationists, artists, businesses, celebrities, journalists and philanthropists.

We heard stories from indigenous representatives around the world about how their ways of life were protecting ecosystems and biodiversity.

The Idu Mishmi (India) told us about how their sophisticated religious systems managed by the shamans have resulted in there being more tigers and other endangered species in their territories than in neighbouring tiger reserves and protected areas. Representatives of the Ashaninka and Guarani (Brazil), demonstrated how their culture and love for the forest has helped them to resist further destruction of their territories by educating loggers and engaging them to help replant two million trees. We also heard from representatives of the Ju|'hoan San, hunter-gatherers from the Kalahari, who established the Nyae Nyae Conservancy, the first internationally recognised land conservancy in Namibia.

## The Flourishing Diversity Series promotes three urgent processes:

- 1 Protecting indigenous "territories of life" from extractive industry, large infrastructural developments and industrial agriculture.
- 2 Resisting resource exploitation and consumption patterns that threaten diversity.
- 3 Encouraging all to become part of the solution by taking responsibility for the spaces we have influence over and creating places where diversity can flourish.

At scale, if millions of people act on these collective aims, we can work towards mitigating the worst effects of climate change and species loss. Ultimately, flourishing biodiversity requires

*"The severity of the challenges we face and the alarming implications of the climate/ecological crisis often leave ordinary people feeling overwhelmed by the scale of the problem – resulting in fatalism and inertia. The Flourishing Diversity Series seeks to reverse this disengagement by identifying, encouraging and supporting a diversity of locally-based practices that anyone can take up, to ensure a habitable earth for humans and our companion species. ... FDS promotes the idea that encouraging diversity to flourish in all spaces is an important part of how every citizen can contribute to regenerating species diversity and healing ecosystems."*

JEROME LEWIS, CO-CREATOR,  
FLOURISHING DIVERSITY & SYNCHRONICITY EARTH ADVISER

cultural, economic and horticultural diversity to also flourish. We believe this shift in approach towards embracing and embedding biocultural diversity is essential for restoring our planet and ensuring a future habitable earth for all species.

Moving into 2020 we hope to share more with you about what Synchronicity Earth partners, including those we met through FDS, are doing to protect biocultural diversity and territories of life around the world.

## References:

- Alden Wily, L. 2011. *Whose Land Is It? The status of customary land tenure in Cameroon*. Centre for Environment and Development | FERN | The Rainforest Foundation. [online]
- Sobrevila, C. 2008. *The role of indigenous peoples in biodiversity conservation: the natural but often forgotten partners (English)*. Washington, DC: World Bank. [online]

# Conservation Engagement

## Simon Stuart

Director of Strategic Conservation



Our Research Team is involved in various initiatives aimed at developing the conservation sector and ensuring that it has the tools and capacity needed to protect biodiversity where it is most threatened. As part

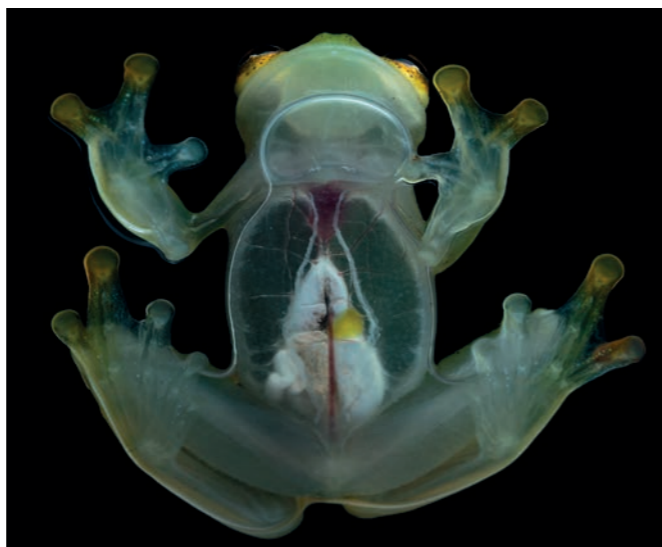
of my role as Director of Strategic Conservation, I act as a link between developments in the wider conservation world and what we are doing here at Synchronicity Earth, especially with IUCN – the International Union for Conservation of Nature. Synchronicity Earth has made good use of its membership of IUCN since joining the umbrella body of the conservation movement in 2018. We have been very active in submitting resolutions for consideration at the next IUCN Congress on issues as varied as stopping illegal trade in songbirds in Asia, preventing seabed mining, and promoting the rights of indigenous people in conservation.

A particular focus in 2019 has been my participation in the IUCN Task Force on Synthetic Biology. This is looking at how recent advances in genetic engineering (known as “synthetic biology” – SynBio) can affect nature conservation, both negatively and positively. There are major concerns about these new technologies, both from an ethical perspective and from the risks that they might pose. On the other hand, there is also interest from conservationists in whether or not SynBio might provide new ways to address serious conservation challenges for which we currently lack solutions, such as climate change impacts and certain wildlife diseases. The IUCN task force has now drafted some “Principles on Synthetic Biology and Biodiversity Conservation” to provide guidance on these important but complex topics, and these are currently being reviewed by IUCN Members.

I am also continuing to chair the Key Biodiversity Areas Partnership of 12 organisations working to identify the most important places on earth for conservation, and, together with Anna Heath, I am participating in the work to develop an IUCN Green List of Species (for each species measuring the impact of conservation measures and how much needs to be done to achieve full recovery).

## SYNCHRONICITY UNDERSTANDING THE PROBLEM

**Our work relies on understanding where levels of biodiversity on Earth are highest and where the greatest threats to it are found. We are part of a network of leading experts and organisations dedicated to providing the most accurate and up to date information on the state of the natural world for businesses, governments and the general public.**



*“Like the world database for species at risk of extinction (the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species), the World Database of KBAs will become the database of key sites that must be safeguarded to avoid further biodiversity loss. (...) I am delighted to see the conservation community coming together to agree on this common purpose which will result in conservation action being focused in many of the sites I have had the privilege to visit over my lifetime.”*

SIR DAVID ATTENBOROUGH, (FOREWORD, KBA STRATEGIC PLAN 2018 – 2024)

© Paul Berman

# Conservation Optimism

**Nina Seale**  
Engagement Assistant



Conservation works, we just need more of it. This is one of the key messages shared between Synchronicity Earth and Conservation Optimism, a global movement dedicated to sharing optimistic stories from wildlife conservation.

Conservation Optimism was born during a two-day summit on Earth Day 2017 as an alternative to fatalistic headlines which focus on the threats facing the natural world, instead of the solutions. Since then, it has grown into a strong online

community of people from all backgrounds who are inspired by optimism and motivated to make a positive difference for nature.

2019 saw optimists from the worlds of conservation, journalism, NGOs, academia, and the creative arts come together in Oxford for the movement's second summit. The summit had a truly international focus, with attendees and speakers from every continent, including plenary speakers from Ghana, India, Malaysia, Namibia, the UK, the USA and Uzbekistan.



*“We cannot build something that we cannot imagine.”*

HELEN MEREDITH, AMPHIBIAN SURVIVAL ALLIANCE, ON CONSERVATION OPTIMISM



Attendees' highlights included learning about a hugely successful model for community conservation in Namibia, a film festival in the Oxford University Natural History Museum and a number of interactive workshops on topics such as how to learn from failure, climate psychology and conservation storytelling.

The Summit's key talks, panels and film festival were live-streamed online and received thousands of views from people all around the world, who engaged with conversations around sustainable wellbeing, innovation in technology, viral storytelling and maintaining momentum for public concern around climate change.

The team behind Conservation Optimism comes from a partnership between the University of Oxford and Synchronicity Earth. This team serves the wider community of individuals and organisations empowering and inspiring people from every walk of life to contribute to conservation, as we work together towards a vision of a better world.



# Seeing the world through different eyes

**Catherine Bryan**  
Trustee



As I stepped down from my role as CEO of Synchronicity Earth, at the end of November 2019, to return to my role as a trustee, there were inevitably moments of reflection, as well as thoughts about the future. My journey with Synchronicity Earth has been a deeply formative experience and I now see the world through very different

eyes, informed by the people I've met, the reports I've read and the solutions that Synchronicity Earth funds. I am currently reading 'The Overstory', by Richard Powers, a wonderful story woven around characters and their relationships with trees, although it is also about all of our relationships with nature, and one of his characters reflects that, 'the most wonderful products of four billion years of life need help'. This is not just about trees but every species on earth – this amazing blue and green planet that has such an abundance of life.

## SYNCHRONICITY ENGAGEMENT

**To protect the natural world and ensure a 'future liveable Earth', we all need to be part of the solution. On the ground conservation is one piece of the puzzle, but if we want to understand the causes of biodiversity loss around the world, we need to start looking closer to home. A key strand of the work we do is designed to engage diverse sectors – finance, fashion, food, philanthropy – in dialogue around their impact on nature, and be part of a movement to bring about change.**

So what has Synchronicity Earth been doing to help? During 2019, we continued to grow our grant funding, which reached £1,159k compared to £846k in 2018, supporting environmental species conservation around the world. This was possible through significantly increased donations from individuals, businesses and foundations, reflecting the increasing consciousness across society of our environmental impact and it has been so encouraging to have more interest in our work. I would like to thank our generous donors for their continued support, which reaches conservation teams in far-away habitats that are so very precious, but under threat.

*“Among many other things, our grant funding is helping to: bring species back from the brink; improve ocean governance; keep rivers flowing and full of life; support grass-roots organisations; promote women’s voices within communities and the conservation sector; and fund the baseline data collection that is so important for conservationists, businesses and governments.”*

Reading about some of the people and species we support in this Spotlight, I hope you find the range of work we do as fascinating and inspiring as I do.”

As my view of our world has changed, although current threats to nature are severe and beyond doubt, it is hard not to be hopeful when you experience first-hand the passion and expertise that so many conservationists around the world bring to their work. I consider myself privileged to be part of the Synchronicity Earth team, to be part of the solution, and I look forward to supporting our new CEO, Kirsty Schneeberger, and the whole team as we continue to grow the work of Synchronicity Earth and the impact of the organisations we fund.

# Growing our funding for conservation



**Simon Ruddick is the founder and current Chairman of Albourne Partners, a major player in the financial services industry that has been providing research advice on alternative investments since 1994. The combined**

**investments of the firm’s clients now top \$500 billion. Simon is a longstanding supporter of Synchronicity Earth.**

“One of my earliest memories is when I was in a kindergarten class. The teacher told us that for the next class we were going to go outside to study something called “nature”: she was going to tell us about the names of trees and plants and other things. I remember thinking – and this was an absurdly precocious thought for someone under 5 years old – I’m not going to listen to this because I want to keep space in my head for other topics!

I think in our youth we latch on to a range of viewpoints on various topics, feel comfortable with those and our views become somewhat fixed over time and as we get older. But it’s shocking when something happens and you realise that you’ve just got it completely wrong. I’m ashamed to say that my interest in nature and the environment – in how essential and life-defining it is – is a relatively recent occurrence. I’ve been passionate about a lot of things in life, but I’ve come late to this one. Not because I didn’t care, but because I felt terribly under-equipped to understand the subject and didn’t feel that I brought any skills to the table. The scale of the problem seemed so overwhelming and beyond my power to change, which I think is quite a common feeling. But now I’m deeply concerned – consumed almost – by thoughts about the environment and what is happening to the diversity of species in the world.

I think that for too long we’ve measured growth and development – of the individual, of society – in purely economic terms, but there is something that is much harder to measure, yet more important: happiness. For me, the key to happiness is something far deeper and more profound than pleasure: it’s about purpose. Purpose gives dignity to what we do, and a sense of fulfilment. This is surely something that everybody craves.

The human race seems to have a genius for analytical thinking and we’ve achieved incredible things, but our lack of long-term focus and our obsession with the here and now is what has left us with the enormous challenges we face. This short-term thinking has left us with the twin challenges of climate change and unprecedented biodiversity loss, and I can’t think of a better focus or priority of purpose than trying to do something about that.

*“Part of my recent awakening is the realisation that, while I know I can’t do everything about it, I can certainly do something about it. For me it’s about finding the best point of entry to make a difference and clearly, for me, this is in the financial services industry.”*

*This is part of a longer interview which first appeared on our website in November, 2019*

Synchronicity Earth builds relationships with investment firms and other financial services providers to explore ways for them to enhance their Environmental Social and Governance (ESG) credentials and make an active contribution to protecting and restoring global biodiversity and mitigating negative impacts from our changing climate.

# Alexandrov Klum

## AMBASSADORS FOR NATURE



Jessica and Adam Sweidan first met Mattias Klum in Jeju, South Korea, in 2012, during the IUCN World Conservation Congress. Over the next few years, their shared interests lead to their paths crossing at various points and events.

When they met up again in 2016, it was clear that in many ways, their thinking on nature and the way it is portrayed had converged. Around this time, Mattias teamed up with Iris Alexandrov, to form artistic duo Alexandrov Klum, and they began to explore new ways to encourage deeper engagement with the natural world. At the Flourishing Diversity summit in September 2019, Alexandrov Klum had the opportunity to meet with some of the indigenous leaders present. This meeting, and the film, interviews and photographs from it, will form the basis of an installation at the IUCN World Conservation Congress in Marseilles in June, 2020.

### Mattias Alexandrov Klum

*(Photographer, cinematographer and director)*

Since 1997, Mattias has produced multiple articles and thirteen cover stories for National Geographic magazine, produced film projects and published books, including The Human Quest: Prospering within Planetary Boundaries, with Professor Johan Rockström of the Stockholm Resilience Institute. He has won numerous awards, is a Fellow at the National Geographic Society and Linnean Society of London, as well as being a goodwill ambassador for the IUCN and WWF.

### Iris Alexandrov Klum

*(Artist, composer, director)*

Iris creates installations with film, sound and photography, drawing inspiration from various scientific fields including physics, ecology and psychology. She takes an interdisciplinary approach, combining literature, science and visual content to explore the balance and imbalance between man and nature, constructing new stories within both real and fictional worlds. A central topic to her work is the concept of time. She often seeks to portray a moment where time stands still, before or after an event, leaving the beholder lingering in a certain state of mind.

### The Artist duo Alexandrov Klum

Together, Matthias and Iris are the artist duo Alexandrov Klum. They create immersive worlds for audiences to explore



Erena Rangimarie Rereomaki Rhose (Maori, New Zealand)

by use of installations, fine art prints and film. They aim to provide new, thought and feeling-provoking experiences and stories through vibrant photography and film, music and spoken word performances. Their aim is to bridge the gap between heart and mind, between dream and reality.

*"We're listening! We are trying our utmost to capture the most essential and significant ideas of our time relating to planetary issues and solutions, ideas of fundamental importance to us in creating our art and storytelling."*

While Alexandrov Klum do not reject the tradition of nature documentaries showing the beautiful, but increasingly mythologised and unreal world of nature and wildlife, they believe that audiences are ready for a new, more thoughtful and sensitive approach. They do not look to exclude humanity and paint a picture of pristine wilderness, untouched by humankind, but instead aim to show that humans are a deeply embedded and integral part of the world. Humanity is, of course, the overwhelming threat to the natural world, but also part of the solution to creating a sustainable future.



Benki Piyäko (Ashaninka, Brazil)



Arhuaco Mamos (Colombia)

### Flourishing Diversity

The summit fit perfectly with Alexandrov Klum's desire to create work from a perspective of nature itself. What better mouthpiece for nature than the people who are often most deeply connected to it, or who have not yet lost their connection to the natural world? By spreading the stories of "nature's keepers", they believe we can also change our perspective. It is a story of our time, one we need to cherish and do all we can to spread.



Tomy Okosho Samaniego (Ashaninka, Brazil)

Overview

Our funding structure allows us to raise and distribute funding to tackle some of our planet's most urgent conservation challenges. Synchronicity Earth is very fortunate to receive core philanthropic funding from the Synchronicity Foundation\* which, in 2019, covered 99 per cent of our office, staff and fundraising costs.

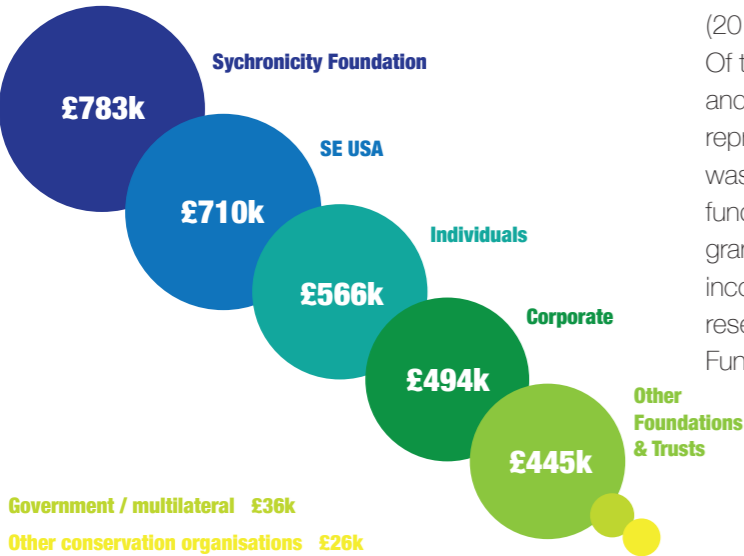
With our core costs covered by the Synchronicity Foundation, we can allocate donations from individuals, foundations and businesses directly to work that is having greatest impact. This funding facilitates work with communities to conserve species and ecosystems where biodiversity is most threatened, and supports dedicated people and organisations working at the sharp end of policy and advocacy to reduce those threats.

When a donor gives funding to a Programme, their funding flows directly to support the partner organisations carrying out that Programme (support from the Synchronicity Foundation means that we do not charge any overheads).

Many of our long-term donors also contribute flexible funding (unrestricted) to Synchronicity Earth: this funding stream is vital as it allows us to: be more strategic in how and what we fund; respond quickly and effectively to plug gaps in partner funding or react when an emergency situation arises; incubate new partnerships and alliances to bolster conservation impact; build the core capacity of the most effective organisations; and support work to create a conservation sector that is able to meet the environmental challenges we face in the 21st century.

*\*The Synchronicity Foundation receives funding from Aurum Fund Management Ltd. The funding is generated from the advisory fee of Aurum's Synchronicity Fund, which supports a number of charities, principally Synchronicity Earth.*

SOURCES OF FUNDING

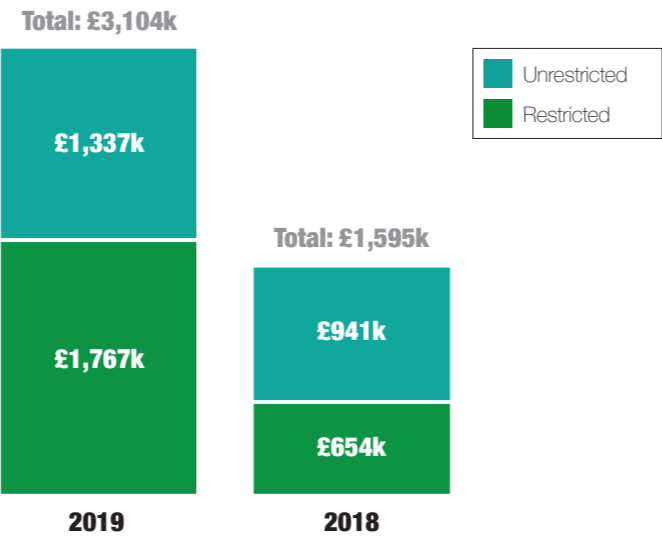


Growing our impact

Ten years into our journey, our experience of funding vital work to protect biodiversity (263 grants to 93 organisations in 58 countries), tells us that if we aspire to be part of the solution to the complex, global environmental issues we are facing, there needs to be a step change in philanthropic funding for the environment. Much of this funding needs to be *smarter*: more flexible, longer-term and available to fund research, development and capacity building for the people and organisations best placed to address the twin challenges of ecological and climate breakdown.

*As our Programmes have developed and grown, funding for them has gained momentum. In 2019, the income we received almost doubled, compared to 2018.*

TOTAL INCOME



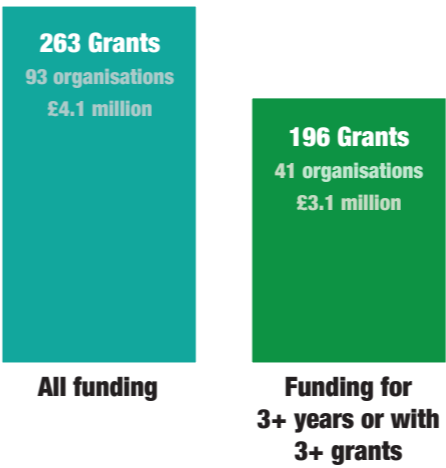
In 2019, expenditure on Charitable Activities was £1,866k (2018: £1,425k), which was a 31% increase from 2018. Of this spending, £1,159k was given as grant funding and direct programme costs compared to £846k in 2018, representing a 37% increase in funding. This increase was lower than the increase in our funding as some of the funds raised were for two-year commitments and further grants will be disbursed early in 2020, which relate to 2019 income. We carried forward a total of £640k of restricted reserves for further grant making in 2020 and 2021. Funding for our Endowment Funds also increased.

Being flexible, looking long term

We prioritise flexible, long-term funding wherever we can, developing close, mutually beneficial relationships with our partners and trying to avoid the pitfalls of short-term, donor-driven approaches.

*Between 2010 and 2019, approximately 75 per cent of our grant funding went to organisations we supported for a minimum of three years or with 3 or more grants.*

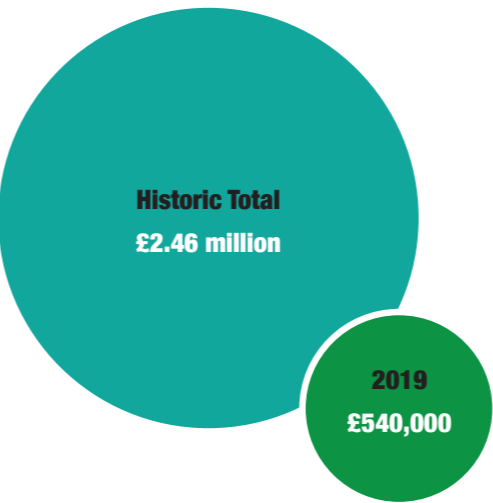
LONG-TERM FUNDING 2010-19



Leveraged funding

By sharing our research and analysis with other funders, we are able to introduce our partner organisations to a wider range of funders, helping them to secure additional funding for their work. This is another way we leverage our programmes and relationships to benefit the sector.

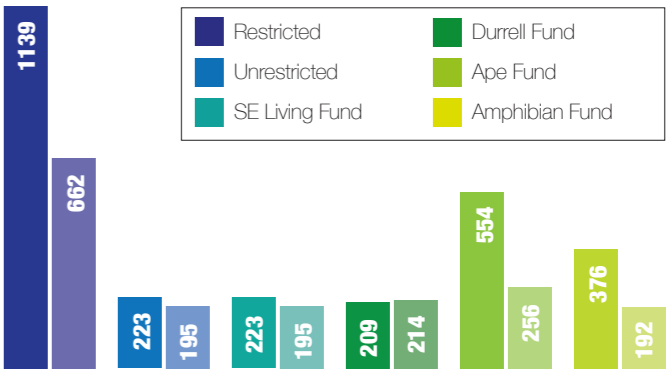
LEVERAGED FUNDING



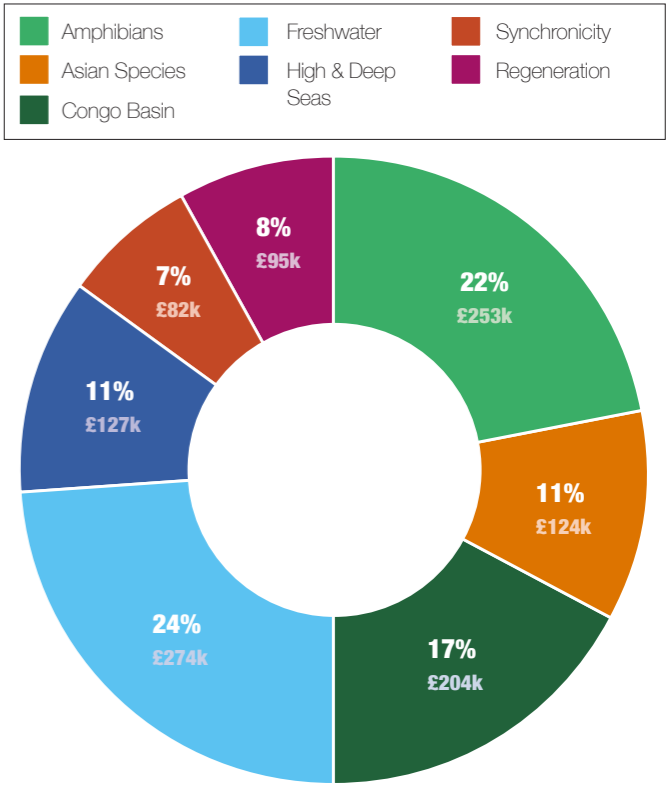
Endowment Funds

Our endowment funds are able to invest income and create long-term annuity streams to support conservation work and are an important part of our strategy to provide organisations with the funding they find hardest to raise, namely, support for their core operations. In 2019, the SE Living Fund provided £25k of flexible funding and The Durrell Fund contributed £20k to work to conserve the Madagascar pochard.

ENDOWMENT INCOME (£,000 2019/2018)



WHAT WE FUNDED 2019



Our partners depend on the generosity of our donors and we extend our sincere thanks for the continuing support of so many individuals, businesses and foundations.

# Grant and direct project costs

2019 (£,000)

## Amphibians

Amphibian Red List Authority  
Amphibian Survival Alliance  
Fundaeo  
Direct project costs

## Asian Species

Talarak Foundation Inc.  
Chester Zoo – The North of England  
Zoological Society  
IUCN SSC Orchid Specilaist Group  
Royal Society for Protection of Nature  
IUCN White-Bellied Heron Working Group  
Save Vietnam's Wildlife  
Mabuwaya Foundation  
Asian Species Action Partnership  
Direct project costs

## Congo Basin

International Rivers Africa Programme  
Land is Life  
Grain  
Femmes Solidaires  
Green Development Advocates  
Coalition des femmes Leaders pour l'Environnement  
et le Développement Durable  
Life Mosaic  
Dynamique des Groupes des Peuples Autochtones  
Mbou Mon Tour  
Réseau CREF  
Struggle to Economise Future Environment (SEFE)  
Well Grounded  
Direct project costs

## Freshwater

164	International Rivers Global	19
42	International Rivers Africa Programme	16
15	Right and Resources Initiative	10
32	IUCN Freshwater Biodiversity Unit	54
	IUCN Freshwater Conservation Sub-Committee	11
	Bismarck Ramu Group	15
	Mabuwaya Foundation	15
10	Yayasan Bumi Saweirigading	15
	Living Rivers Association	15
8	Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust	20
12	Direct project costs	84

## High & Deep Seas

8	Deep Sea Conservation Coalition	40
60	Make Stewardship Count	5
-	High Seas Alliance	50
	Bloom Association	23
	Project Seahorse	4
	Bismarck Ramu Group	5
8	Direct project costs	-

## Regeneration

5	Jocotoco Foundation	82
	Direct project costs	-

## Synchronicity

1	The Comms Lab	16
12	Canopy Planet	10
6	Flourishing Diversity Series	28
5	Agroecology Fund	15
36	Environmental Funders Network	3
	Conservation Hierarchy	4
	Direct project costs	19

<b>Total grant and direct project costs</b>	<b>1,159</b>
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## How can I find out more?

**Find us on Social Media:**  
**Facebook, Twitter, Instagram.**  
**@SynchEarth**

To find out more about our work, visit our website:  
**[www.synchronicityearth.org](http://www.synchronicityearth.org)**

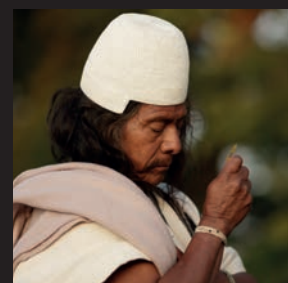
To view our Privacy Policy, please visit:  
[www.synchronicityearth.org/about-us/privacy-policy](http://www.synchronicityearth.org/about-us/privacy-policy)

We welcome questions and enquiries about our work. If you would like to get in touch please contact:  
[info@synchronicityearth.org](mailto:info@synchronicityearth.org)

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EC4A 1LT

Or call us on:  
Tel: 020 7581 0100

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