



**EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION
OF ZOOS AND AQUARIA**
Annual Report 2024

COVER IMAGE

The Banggai cardinalfish (*Pterapogon kauderni*) was the star of the 2024 Marine Fish of the Year campaign of the Marine Teleost TAG. © Philippe Turpin

This report is presented to you by the EAZA Executive Office. Managing editor: Sandrine Camus.

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GLOSSARY

CfM: Candidate for Membership

CITES: Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora

EAZWV: European Association of Zoo and Wildlife Veterinarians

EEO: EAZA Executive Office

EEP: EAZA Ex situ Programme

ESB: European Studbook

IUCN: International Union for Conservation of Nature

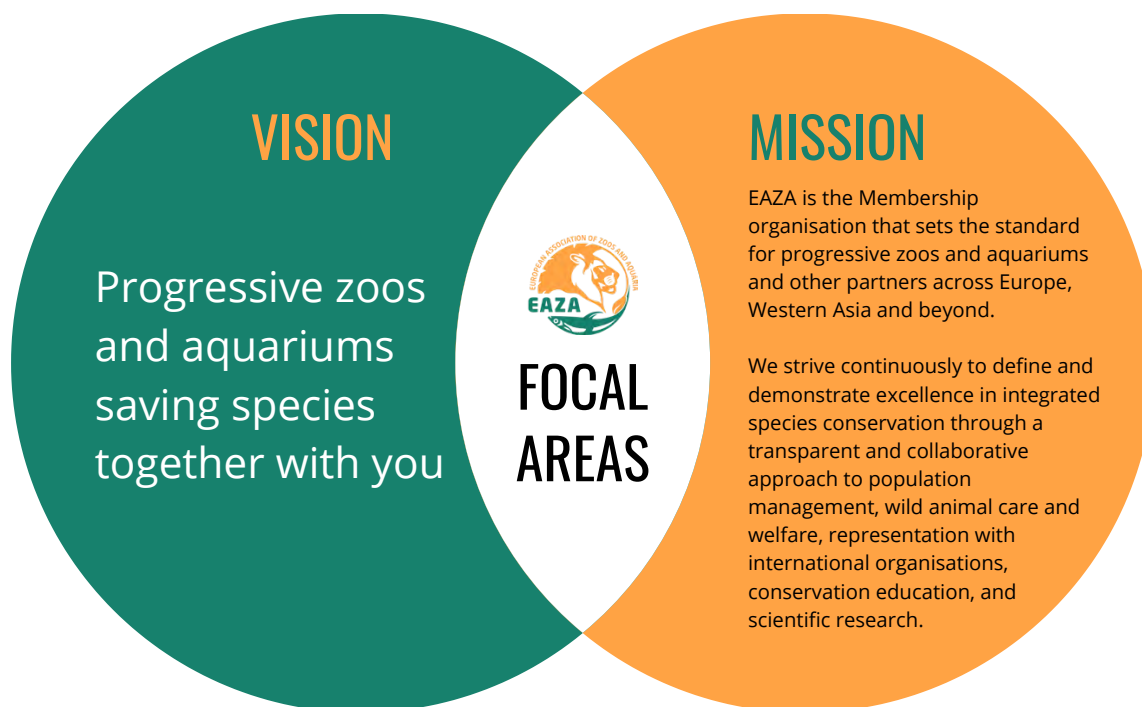
RCP: Regional Collection Plan

SSC: Species Survival Commission

TAG: Taxon Advisory Group

WAZA: World Association of Zoos and Aquariums

ZIMS: Zoological Information Management System



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REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

The year 2024 has proven to be a period of significant structural reform, strategic repositioning, and strengthened community governance for EAZA. Amidst a dynamic regulatory and geopolitical landscape, we continued to focus on improving transparency, accountability, and long-term resilience across our membership.



ENDRE ÁKOS PAPP
SÓSTÓ ZOO, NYÍREGYHÁZA,
HUNGARY

The governing board welcomed several key leadership transitions in 2024. Rebecca Biddle (Twycross Zoo, UK) was appointed as the new Vice Chair, while Brian Zimmerman (Bristol Zoo Project, UK) assumed the role of EEP Committee Chair. We thank Kirsten Pullen (Wild Planet Trust, UK) for her prior leadership in both roles. Thomas Kölpin (Wilhelma Zoo, Germany) took over the leadership of the Membership and Ethics Committee, following the departure of Brice Lefaux (formerly Mulhouse Zoo, France). This also resulted in Xavier Vaillant (Amiens Zoo, France) being appointed as the Association's new Treasurer to replace Thomas. Renewed memberships in many Committees ensured strong institutional representation, fresh perspectives, and continuity across EAZA's governance and operational bodies.

A major priority in 2024 was the finalisation and approval of a comprehensive review of the EAZA Constitution and the Committees' Terms of References. The changes mark a vital step towards a more robust and accountable institutional framework, aligning the organisation's legal foundation with recent changes in Dutch law, current governance practice, and the strategic direction of the Association. The proposed amendments clarify terminology, improve structural transparency, and introduce more practical procedures for membership appeals, electronic meetings, Committee governance, and Council composition. The changes also ensure compliance with evolving expectations for non-profit associations in the Netherlands and position EAZA for more agile and legally sound decision-making in the years ahead. Full approval of the revised Constitution will be sought at the Annual General Meeting in 2025.

Another major development in 2024 was the approval of a new five-year accreditation cycle for existing EAZA Members. This change marks the beginning of the second full cycle of the EAZA Accreditation Programme and reflects years of consultation, benchmarking with peer associations, and alignment with the Animal Welfare Goal of the World Association of Zoos and Aquariums (WAZA), which recommends re-evaluation within no more than five years. The new cycle replaces the previous 10-year structure and introduces "Conditional membership" as a more supportive and transparent response to unresolved issues. By increasing the frequency of peer-reviewed assessments and reinforcing member accountability to up-to-date welfare and safety standards, EAZA strengthens its credibility with

regulators, partners, and the public, and continues to position itself as a leader in professional zoo and aquarium governance.

On the area of population management, one key achievement of 2024 was the approval of the updated rules for animal acquisition and disposition and the relating chapters in our EAZA Population Management Manual. Developed through wide consultation, the amendments strengthen expectations on due diligence, non-commercial trade, and cooperation with non-EAZA partners. It reinforces EAZA's credibility as a professional stakeholder in global wildlife trade discussions and aligns with international goals such as the EU Action Plan against wildlife trafficking and the population management objectives of WAZA.

A further milestone was the approval of the fully revised EAZA Standards for the Welfare, Accommodation and Management of Animals in Zoos and Aquariums. Whilst smaller updates have happened, this was the first comprehensive revision since 2012. It integrated the latest scientific understanding and best practices in welfare, nutrition, veterinary care, safety, and population management. The updated title itself reflects EAZA's growing emphasis on proactive welfare leadership. Aligned with the Five Domains Model and the WAZA Animal Welfare Goal, the Standards enable EAZA Members to meet both internal expectations and external accreditation requirements. Their approval not only strengthens EAZA's credibility in global welfare benchmarking, but also positions Members to demonstrate leadership in responsible and transparent animal care at a time of increasing public and legislative scrutiny.

In response to growing technological advancements and increasing requests for access to genetic material from EAZA Members, 2024 also saw the development of a formal EAZA Position Statement on the Use of Cryopreserved Materials and Biotechnology. It establishes a unified stance in support of responsible, conservation-driven applications of biotechnology — such as cryopreservation and assisted reproduction — while explicitly opposing the use of zoo- and aquarium-held materials for purposes like cloning, gene-editing, or de-extinction. Developed under the guidance of the EAZA Biobank Working Group and the Research Committee, and with input from other Committees, the

statement offers ethical clarity and policy alignment for EAZA Members. It enhances transparency, safeguards against misuse, and ensures that emerging technologies are used to support, rather than distract from, urgent conservation priorities.

In 2024, EAZA undertook one of its most complex and sensitive governance actions by proposing the formal discontinuation of membership for all Russian EAZA Members as of 1 January 2025. This decision followed two years of paused membership and increasing practical barriers to animal movement and programme participation due to the ongoing war in Ukraine and related sanctions. In parallel, EAZA proposed establishing a structured professional relationship with Russian institutions through a partnership with the Eurasian Regional Association of Zoos and Aquariums (EARAZA), aimed at supporting animal welfare and population management in both regions. The new framework allows for future reinstatement of membership once geopolitical conditions permit and outlines conditions for reapplication, financial settlement, and collaborative standards. This measured and principled approach reflects EAZA's commitment to maintaining ethical and professional standards, while safeguarding long-term conservation outcomes and preparing for eventual re-engagement when circumstances allow.

2024 also saw the start of the Vietnamazing Campaign, with strong uptake and active promotion at our Annual Conference. The campaign aims at raising awareness of Vietnam's unique biodiversity and increasing collaborations between European zoos and local experts for a stronger conservation impact.

A significant strategic achievement in 2024 was the launch of the new EAZA Manifesto, reaffirming the Association's values and commitments in a rapidly evolving societal and political landscape. The Manifesto presents EAZA's unified vision for conservation, education, research, and animal welfare, while also emphasising the importance of transparency,

inclusivity, and scientific integrity. Designed as a reference point for internal alignment and external advocacy, the Manifesto will serve as a key communication tool in dialogue with policymakers, stakeholders, and the broader public. It strengthens EAZA's identity as a forward-looking and values-driven community and supports its positioning in European and global debates on biodiversity, sustainability, and the future of zoos and aquariums.

As the 2022–2025 Council concludes its term, this report also marks the last one I will write as Chair of EAZA. Leading the Association through a period of remarkable challenges and institutional evolution has been a true honour. I would like to express my deepest thanks to all those who contributed to this journey — the Executive Office, the Council, the Executive Committee, the Committees, and, most importantly, the Members — for their dedication, professionalism, and unwavering commitment to our shared mission.

Together, we navigated the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic, the war in Ukraine, inflationary pressures, and shifting social expectations. Amid this volatility, we laid the groundwork for institutional renewal. These efforts have not only increased the Association's responsiveness and resilience but also reinforced its ability to lead with credibility and care.

I step down with full confidence in the new Council and Executive Committee, hoping that the written and structural legacy we leave behind — and the often hard-earned progress we've made — will serve them well. I wish our new leadership strength, wisdom, and the collective support of our remarkable community.

The future of EAZA lies in our ability to continue evolving together — with purpose, with openness, and with the conviction that what we do matters.

Thank you for the privilege of serving you!



Endre Papp handing the EAZA Lifetime Achievement Award and Honorary Membership to former EAZA Chair Thomas Kauffels at the EAZA Annual Conference 2024 © EAZA

A MESSAGE FROM THE EAZA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I am delighted to share our Annual Report 2024 with you. Its format was restructured around the Strategic Focal Areas that guide our work and help achieve our *vision of progressive zoos and aquariums saving species together with you*. Excerpts from the 42 Taxon Advisory Group (TAG) reports have been integrated throughout, rather than collated in a separate report as in previous years, to reflect the collaboration between EAZA TAGs and Committees. 2024 was a productive year across all areas of our strategic work and we very much hope that you are able to take a few moments to read our Annual Report, relax and reflect on the vast amount of work and successes achieved by our community.



MYFANWY GRIFFITH
EAZA EXECUTIVE OFFICE,
AMSTERDAM, THE
NETHERLANDS

Endre has ably summarised the key document and policy advances of EAZA in 2024. I would like to add some more personal highlights. There is a strong theme of evaluation and advancement throughout this report; from the high level EAZA Constitution to Long-term Management Plans for species. All these activities take time and expertise from EAZA Members, Executive Office staff, and external stakeholders. I thank all involved in these collaborations which enable EAZA to stay at the forefront of zoo and aquarium management and species conservation. There are many, many examples of EAZA embodying the '*saving species together with you*' part of our vision. We see even more focus on partnerships for European species, involvement with IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) Specialist Groups, reinforcement of populations, and exploration of reintroduction possibilities. I am especially pleased to celebrate the birth of a second Eastern black rhinoceros from one of the females that was relocated from the EEP to Akagera National Park (Rwanda) in 2019. In addition, my love of data is rewarded by the increased entries contributing to the EAZA Conservation Database infographic on page 25.

One evaluation outcome that was perhaps less welcome was the thorough assessment of EAZA's VAT obligations. This was prompted by audit findings that EAZA's expanding range of activities may no longer fit within its previous VAT-exempt status under Dutch law. As a result, there is a high probability that EAZA will become a VAT-registered entity from 2025. EAZA is actively engaging with the authorities and Members to manage the transition and mitigate retroactive tax risk. Staff training and administrative preparations are underway to support full compliance as required.

The EAZA Executive Office saw higher than usual turnover of staff, largely brought about by many reaching 5- or 10-year work anniversaries and looking for new opportunities. This brought with it challenges in recruitment and the need to review salaries and working conditions to stay competitive. We remain thankful to Mulhouse Zoo (France) and Prague Zoo (Czechia) for their continued support of staff as part of

the EAZA Population Management Centre. Chester Zoo and Wild Planet Trust (both UK), and Copenhagen Zoo (Denmark) also provide valuable opportunities for staff to work outside of the main office hubs in Amsterdam and Brussels. I want to take this opportunity to share a special thank you to the amazing team in the Executive Office. It has been a busy and often challenging year, and I feel immensely privileged and proud to work with everyone.

I also very much value the opportunity to interact with EAZA Members in-person, I extend sincere thanks and congratulations to the hosts of all EAZA's 2024 conferences. These gatherings offer much more than professional development — they remind us of the breadth of expertise within our community and our shared belief in the impact of our work. One of my personal highlights of the Annual Conference is being both humbled and inspired by the recipients of the EAZA Lifetime Achievement Awards. Stuart Muir (Wild Planet Trust, UK), Achim Johan (NaturZoo Rheine, Germany) and Thomas Kauffels (Opel-Zoo, Germany) joined the illustrious list of those whose exceptional commitment and contributions to EAZA are recognised by this award.

I finish my reflections of 2024 with a look to the future. While preparations for the next strategic planning cycle were initially anticipated, the Council decided to designate 2025 as a transitional year to allow for continued institutional reflection, the restoration of financial reserves, and the implementation of governance and operational changes. This pause will provide space to evaluate EAZA's internal structures and to align future ambitions with realistic capacities. I look forward to continuing working with the community to ensure that the Association enters the upcoming strategic period with clarity and stability.



LEADING IN ZOO AND AQUARIUM ANIMAL MANAGEMENT AND CARE

At the heart of EAZA's mission is a commitment to maintaining healthy animal populations with positive welfare of the individuals. In 2024, efforts focused on completing the implementation of the new population management structure and strengthening Members' engagement, to ensure that actions remained aligned with the broader biodiversity goals. A milestone accomplishment was the completion of the 10-year Member accreditation cycle.

ACCREDITATION

A key milestone this year was the conclusion of the EAZA Accreditation Programme (EAP) cycle. With all existing Members having been screened by the end of 2023, the final accreditation decisions were completed in April 2024. Whilst COVID-19 added an unexpected two years of no travel for screenings, completion of the EAP cycle marks a significant achievement ensuring that all Members meet the rigorous standards required for accreditation. It is a testament to the dedication and commitment of our Members, who have not only undergone the accreditation process but have also supported the Accreditation Programme by delegating their staff to serve as screeners and by communicating the importance of EAZA Accreditation to the world. Each zoo achieving EAZA Accreditation is demonstrating its commitment to the highest standards of animal welfare, conservation, and ethical practices. We extend our sincere gratitude to all Members for their participation and support.

The start of the new cycle was the perfect moment to remind Members about the benefits of accreditation. Also the Communicators Network dedicated a meeting to the topic in March. Speakers included April Adams (EAZA Executive Office, EEO), Sébastien Musset (Les Terres de Nataé, France), Bas Lukkenaar (Burgers' Zoo, the Netherlands), and Sandrine Camus (EEO), who discussed the value of accreditation, how it benefits Member organisations, and practical ways to integrate EAZA messaging into institutional communications.

Building on the session's feedback, the Communications Committee, chaired by Sanna Hellström (Helsinki Zoo, Finland), started developing an infopack for EAZA-accredited Members (to be published in 2025) containing all the information and materials to understand what being an EAZA Member entails and facilitate proactive communication about their EAZA accreditation and their role within our community.

POPULATION MANAGEMENT

Population management structure

The EEP Committee, chaired by Brian Zimmerman (Bristol Zoo Project, UK), supports the community on topics related to population management and oversees the Taxon



Bioparc Gijón held a special event to celebrate its EAZA Accreditation
© Bioparc Gijón

Advisory Groups (TAGs) on behalf of EAZA Council. The year saw the final Regional Species Plan (RSP) workshops of the first cycle of the new population management structure. The Committee began reviewing the results and experiences from the cycle. Overall, the new population management structure was well received within EAZA as well as within the *in situ* community. A number of areas requiring fine-tuning for the second cycle were identified. The review process should be finalised in early 2025.

The EAZA Records Working Group (RWG), chaired by Hannah Jenkins (Species360) and Laura Graham (Bristol Zoo Project), continued strengthening recordkeeping practices and supporting the EAZA community through collaborative efforts and targeted resource development. The group finalised the Best Practice Guidelines (BPG) priority list, aligning outcomes of a workshop at the EAZA Annual Conference, survey results, EEP Committee priorities and additional insights from the British and Irish Association of Zoos and Aquariums (BIAZA). A chronogram of activities will be developed in 2025. For more information about the RWG, read their article in [Zooquaria 123](#).

"Ambassador" users of the ZIMS for Medical module have been recruited by the Biological Resources and Data sharing subgroup of the EAZA Veterinary Committee, chaired by

Mads Frost Bertelsen (Copenhagen Zoo, Denmark). These colleagues from various countries have volunteered to support their peers working or willing to start working with this tool, crucial for managing the health information of animals in human care.

Acquisition and disposition of animals

One of the key topics for 2024 was to review the Acquisition and Disposition Policy and its implementation. The updated policy stresses the importance of non-commercial transactions and requires due diligence whenever EAZA Members exchange animals with non-EAZA Members (including non-EAZA zoos, private keepers, universities, etc.). The policy was approved by Council and at the Annual General Meeting. To provide the community with further guidance in implementing the policy, the Wildlife Trade Taskforce was established, reporting back to the Conservation and EEP Committees. The Wildlife Trade Working Group of the Conservation Committee was discontinued.

The guidelines for Institutional Species Planning (ISPs) were also reviewed, updated and approved by Council. The guidelines list factors that Members should consider when choosing species for their zoo or aquarium.

Population management tools

The EAZA Academy course *Introduction to EAZA Ex situ management* was delivered three times in 2024, to give new EEP Coordinators adequate background knowledge of working procedures and population management. In addition, a new online training course on breeding- and transfer recommendations was launched.

EAZA has continued supporting population management and conservation tools under the Species Conservation Toolkit Initiative (SCTI), especially PMx. The Annual General

Meeting approved significant funding from EAZA to support the integration and continuation process.

Efforts were put into increasing the understanding of the various population management tools available. A thematic session on management euthanasia was held during the Joint TAG Chairs meeting to discuss this tool on the global level (see more information about this event on page 10).

The EAZA Population Management Advisory Group, chaired by Rebecca Biddle (Twycross Zoo, UK), developed a guidance document to help new EEP Coordinators find support, and hosted a session during the EAZA Annual Conference to explain the impact of culling and non-culling strategies on population management.

Population management challenges

Since 2020, the community has been facing the consequences of the UK leaving the EU. The EEO and several EAZA Committees, together with partners at BIAZA, continued liaising with authorities to resolve formal and logistical obstacles. Most of the challenges are still linked to discrepancies between legislation in the UK and the new Animal Health Law in the EU. Although EU-UK animal transfers are still reduced, which affects the functioning of EEPs, there is slow but steady progress. Various challenges regarding transfers to and from other non-EU countries were also identified and addressed throughout the year.

Collaborative management of animal populations also remained affected by the Russia-Ukraine war. Council approved the conditions for the future relationship between EAZA and Russian zoos through a partnership with EAZA, ensuring that technical assistance and population management support continue where possible. This led to a discontinuation of EAZA membership for the Russian zoos as per 1 January 2025. The Technical and Assistance (TA) Committee, chaired by André Stadler (Alpenzoo Innsbruck, Austria) provided guidance on membership withdrawal processes and the impact on mentorship structures for the three Russian Candidate for Membership zoos affected. The EEP Committee also addressed the transition of EEP coordination roles formerly held by Russian institutions, so that the goals of the EAZA Strategy related to sustainability of populations and conservation impact remain supported.

The EEP Committee also oversees compliance with EEP rules and procedures. In 2024, the EEP Committee received five EEP-related complaints, resulting in two official warnings and strong letters in the remaining cases. Appeals against the Committee's decisions were received in two cases. However, after careful review following the appeal procedure the decisions were upheld. All remaining cases were solved after dialogue between the parties.



Practical game during the Introduction to EAZA Ex situ management course © EAZA



Population Management Structure

2024 SUMMARY

Putting the *needs of the population at the core* and leaving the *'one size fits all'* approach

6 REGIONAL SPECIES PLANS PUBLISHED

Reptile – snakes

Ratite

Gruiformes

Parrot

Toucan and Turaco

Small mammal - xenarthra, pangolins

5 RSP WORKSHOPS COMPLETED

Jellyfish

Ciconiiformes and Phoenicopteriformes

Larger New World Monkey

Small mammal - moles, tenrecs, shrews etc.

Small mammal - rodents, hystricomorph

IN 2024

EEP Committee reviewed 151 changes to TAGs/EEPs/ESBs

60 new-style EEPs approved
3 discontinued

64 non-EAZA EEP participation requests reviewed

45 LTMPs finalised

7 EEP pages created



TOTAL (by 31.12.2024)

368 new-style EEPs
61 old-style EEPs
50 ESBs

304 non-EAZA facilities officially involved in ≥ 1 EEP (incl. EAZA Temporary Members)

187 LTMPs available

101 EEP pages available to provide background information

42 TAGs

21 TAG evaluations completed

5 in progress

16 not yet evaluated

The **EAZA Population Management Manual**, including all the relevant working procedures and policies, is available on www.eaza.net as one of our governing documents.

POPULATION MANAGEMENT HIGHLIGHTS FROM EAZA TAXON ADVISORY GROUPS

Joint TAG Chairs meeting

The 5th Joint TAG Chairs meeting was hosted by EAZA at Edinburgh Zoo (Royal Zoological Society of Scotland, RZSS) and brought together 126 zoo and aquarium professionals from 26 countries around the world. These joint meetings provide an indispensable platform for exchanging views among the regional associations, discussing key topics and strengthening our collaboration. The sessions' topics ranged from integrated population management and RZSS's approach to combining *ex situ* and *in situ* conservation efforts in Scotland to WAZA's new ambitious 2027 Population Management Goal (27PMG) and

the potential for zoos and aquariums to contribute to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. The need for joint efforts between zoos and aquariums to address shared concerns, such as population sustainability and the ethical sourcing of animals, was also discussed. A session on euthanasia for population management purposes saw speakers from various regions share their insights on the ethical, scientific, cultural and communication considerations surrounding this practice. It highlighted the importance of understanding regional differences and of working collectively towards shared goals and effective communication of this sensitive topic. For more information about this event, read the article in [Zooquaria 122](#).



The **Terrestrial Invertebrate TAG** developed two new Long-term Management Plans (LTMPs) for Seychelles giant millipede (*Sechelleptus seychellarum*) and Partula snails (*Partula* spp).

Beauval Nature (France), Chester Zoo and Bristol Zoo (both UK) continued to successfully breed endangered snail species, such as *Atlantica calathoides*, *Discula lyelliana*, *Geomitra coronula* and *G. grabhami*, four Critically Endangered Madeiran land snail species.

An analysis on group management options for **Freshwater Teleosts** was led by the EEP Coordinator for Asian killifish (*Aplocheilidae*) and the EAZA population biologists using example species from this family. The challenges presented include a lack of known provenance for some groups, as well as the mean kinship in the current aquarium population. Research has shown that populations can lose genetic diversity very quickly. The overall impact on the integrity of different species is now fully understood. Some of the learned principles from this test case can be explored and further investigated with other EEP families that share similar life histories.

Marine Teleost TAG Chair Attila Varga (Sóstó Zoo, Hungary) is working with colleagues from the European Union of Aquarium Curators (EUAC) on the EUAC-EAZA Shared Breeding Strategy and Teleost Breeding Action Plan (2024-2028), planned to be published in 2025. The BPGs for both seahorse species have been drafted and will be published in 2025.



Giant magnolia snail (*Bertia cambojiensis*)
© Thomas Ziegler



Long-snouted seahorse (*Hippocampus guttulatus*)
© Chris Brown

At the EUAC meeting, held in autumn by Rotterdam Zoo (the Netherlands), the TAG talked about marine teleost breeding and raised interest in organising sustainable marine fish breeding across Europe, while recognising the financial challenges, especially for institutions with limited direct returns.

The **Elasmobranch TAG** has been working to address the reproduction difficulties of some species of elasmobranch. When animals are breeding, options to relocate the offspring are limited. More animal exchanges between aquariums need to take place so the genetic diversity of these populations is not compromised. Otherwise, other measures will need to be put in place to control the breeding, e.g. separating males from females, outplacing the animals or applying management euthanasia.

Two TAG members contributed to the *Bowmouth Guitarfish (Rhina ancylostomus)* *Ex Situ Conservation Assessment Report* published in 2024 by the IUCN SSC Conservation Planning Specialist Group (CPSG), in collaboration with the Shedd, Seattle, Georgia, and Newport Aquariums (USA) and Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) SAFE: Sharks & Rays. As a result of the report, six aquarium-born individuals from Japan were transported to four EAZA aquariums to keep an insurance population in Europe and collaborate with the SR360 (American programme for the conservation of this species).

The **Jellyfish TAG** conducted a survey to assess how jellyfish populations in aquariums have changed since the previous survey in 2017. This data provided valuable insights into areas where population management can be improved. It highlighted, for instance, a significant opportunity to develop a self-sustaining model for over 20 species, allowing aquariums to exchange species, reduce costs, and decrease reliance on external sources.

The TAG's mission, pillars and goals were defined during the Jellyfish RSP workshop that brought together participants from EAZA, EUAC and external advisors from outside Europe. *"The EAZA Jellyfish TAG aims to enhance and develop collaboration between public aquariums, research institutions, and partner organisations to advance education, conservation, and the sustainable management of jellyfish species through knowledge sharing, research, and best practices in husbandry."* It was a crucial step in strengthening jellyfish conservation efforts within EAZA, setting the foundation for future collaboration and sustainable management practices.

Throughout 2024, the **Amphibian TAG** significantly advanced both *ex situ* and *in situ* conservation for threatened amphibians across Europe and beyond. Member institutions established or expanded breeding for threatened species – including fire salamanders (*Salamandra salamandra*), Lake Patzcuaro salamanders (*Ambystoma dumerilli*), Darwin's frogs (*Rhinoderma darwini*), and Atewa slippery frogs (*Conraua sagyimase*) – while creating state-of-the-art husbandry facilities to support long-term population viability. Disease monitoring led by Vienna Zoo (Austria) ensured that chytridiomycosis risks remained under surveillance, safeguarding both captive and wild populations. A new subspecies of the Montseny brook newt (*Calotriton aranoldi laietanus*) was described and larvae of both subspecies hatched at all three breeding centres.

A LTMP for the lemur leaf frog (*Agalychnis lemur*) was published.

The **Reptile TAG** published its RSP for snakes, as well as LTMPs for Malaysian giant turtle (*Orlitia borneensis*) and radiated tortoise (*Astrochelys radiata*). The multi-year coordinated effort with AZA partners to bring crocodile monitors (*Varanus salvadorii*) to EAZA institutions and establish a breeding population was crowned with success when nine young arrived safely from Omaha Zoo (USA) to Fuengirola Zoo (Spain), from where they will be further transferred to selected EAZA zoos.



Thornback ray (*Raja clavata*) © Kattegatcentret



Phyllorhiza punctata © Hugo Batista



Darwin's frog (*Rhinoderma darwini*) breeding at ZSL London Zoo © Benjamin Tapley, ZSL



Young Vietnamese crocodile lizard (*Shinisaurus crocodilurus vietnamensis*) © Anna Rauhaus

Breeding successes important for conservation, research and husbandry were achieved in 2024 – such as for Ibiza wall lizard (*Podarcis pityusensis*), horseshoe whip snake (*Hemorrhois hippocrepis*), crocodile tegu (*Crocodilurus amazonicus*) and secret toadhead agama (*Phrynocephalus mystaceus*). Even the confiscated green smooth-scaled gecko (*Pseudogekko smaragdinus*) in Cologne Zoo (Germany) reproduced. Future repatriation into the wild are hoped for several species, such as the Vietnamese crocodile lizard (*Shinisaurus crocodilurus vietnamensis*) or the lesser night gecko (*Nactus coindemirensis*), so their breeding in human care is an important achievement. Allwetterzoo (Germany) has successfully released 80 zoo-reared Critically Endangered elongated tortoise (*Indotestudo elongata*) into the wild, 20 of them with GPS transmitters to study their post release movements, and prepared release for another turtle species.

The **Ratite TAG** held its RSP workshop in 2024 and proposed the establishment of five EEPs, including a new multi-species EEP for Tinamou with the model role. A number of threatened tinamou species are currently not kept *ex situ*. Thus the model role is relevant to maintain skills, continue focusing on improving the husbandry for the non-threatened tinamou in human care and capture the available knowledge in the BPG. In particular, the elegant-crested tinamou (*Eudromia elegans*, pampa representative) and solitary tinamou (*Tinamus solitarius*, rainforest representative) were selected as focus species.

There was a relatively successful breeding season with the first-ever hatching of a Southern cassowary (*Casuarius casuarius*) at Birdland (UK) and the first naturally incubated North-African ostrich (*Struthio camelus camelus*) at Sigean African Reserve (France). The BPG for the North African ostrich were submitted to the EEP Committee in December and should be published in 2025.

The **Penguin TAG** published the LTMP for African penguins (*Spheniscus demersus*). Multiple institutions collected blood samples to contribute to the second phase of the hybridisation research project for the EEP.

The genetic diversity in the Northern rockhopper penguins EEP is a concern, despite continuous growth and good demographic stability. The EEP Coordinator is in contact with AZA and the Japanese Association of Zoos and Aquariums (JAZA), who are facing similar breeding challenges, regarding mutually beneficial exchange of individuals. Conversely, the Southern Rockhopper penguin (*Eudyptes chrysocome*) population is declining, demographically fragile, and aging. Meanwhile, the AZA population is significantly larger and continues to grow. Several meetings with the AZA Coordinator have been held to discuss the possibility of acquiring birds or eggs from their population.

With the closure of Marineland Antibes in 2025, plans are in place to move their Eastern Rockhopper penguins (*Eudyptes chrysocome filholi*) to two EAZA institutions.

The Ciconiiformes and Phoenicopteriformes TAG was expanded to include the order Pelecaniformes and was renamed the **Pelecaniformes, Ciconiiformes and Phoenicopteriformes TAG** in 2024. The Waterfowl and Pelicaniformes TAG then became the Waterfowl TAG. This change resolves long-standing confusion about TAG responsibilities following some taxonomic changes.

Northern bald ibis EEP Coordinator Juliane Pokorny (Alpenzoo Innsbruck, Austria) conducted a survey to better understand the population's needs, management practices of holders and their wishes in engaging in and supporting *Geronticus eremita* conservation. Most (85 out of 97 respondents) institutions were interested in supporting translocation programmes in the future, primarily by providing animals for release. A third of the institutions



Crocodile monitor (*Varanus salvadorii*) © Ivan Rehák



First naturally incubated North African ostrich (*Struthio camelus camelus*) chicks
© Antoine Joris, Sigean African Reserve



Northern rockhopper penguin (*Eudyptes moseleyi*)
at Vienna Zoo © Vienna Zoo



Northern bald ibis (*Geronticus eremita*)
© Carlos García Fernández

were also willing to provide money for costs such as staff and energy as well as for equipment such as transmitters. This follows the aims of the recently published (November 2024) LTMP to maintain a genetically healthy and demographically stable population to support both insurance and reintroduction roles, with a focus on improving colony sizes, genetic diversity, and pedigree records across institutions. Key priorities include supporting reintroduction efforts like Proyecto Eremita and Waldrappteam, alongside research into health concerns such as chronic skin disorders and suitability of bill measurement as a cost effective method to determine gender. Finally, the plan emphasises education, fundraising, and collaboration to strengthen the long-term success of both captive and wild Northern bald ibis populations.

The **Raptor TAG** is actively developing LMTs and BPGs for numerous diurnal bird of prey and owl species, most of which are expected to be published in 2025. The BPGs for three *Gyps* vulture species and Snowy owls (*Bubo scandiacus*) were initiated during the TAG mid-year meeting and are now in review.

An important EEP was established for hooded vultures (*Necrosyrtes monachus*), the last Critically Endangered African vulture species previously unmanaged within EAZA. In 2024, the Asian vulture EEP was established, further expanding efforts to address the ongoing Asian vulture crisis. The TAG is now actively engaged in all critical regions where vulture populations are in decline.

At the Joint TAG Chairs meeting, **Galliformes TAG** Chair, Jan Dams (Antwerp Zoo, Belgium) gave a presentation on working with private breeders, something that this TAG has been successfully doing – despite some challenges – through its cooperation with World Pheasant Association (WPA, UK). A clear framework is needed for this cooperation to remain possible in the future.

A big achievement for the **Gruiformes TAG** in 2024 was the publication of their RSP. Out of the 208 species that fall under the TAG's remit, 43 species were individually reviewed and 15 EEPs were recommended, four of which include multiple species. Attention was given to previously overlooked taxa such as bustards and rails, both now with multi-species EEPs recommended with a goal of assessing how the TAG can support conservation initiatives within these taxa. The successful breeding of Allen's gallinule (*Porphyrio alleni*) at Leipzig Zoo (Germany) was presented at the TAG's mid-year meeting.

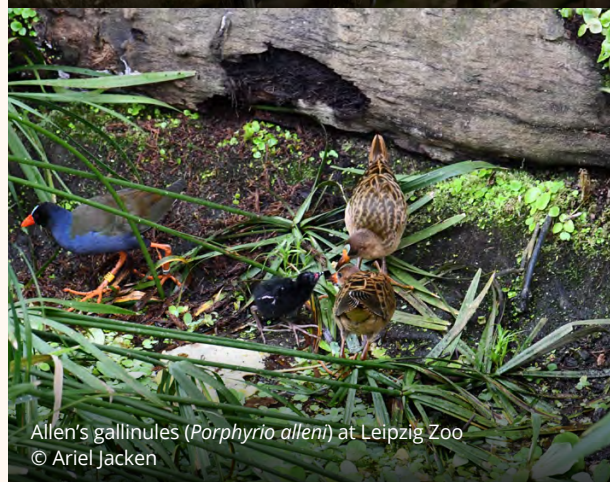
The TAG connected the EEO population biologist with the UK corncrake project to help them assess the genetic viability of the existing *ex situ* population of UK-sourced corncrakes (*Crex crex*) which are bred to provide birds for release initiatives into wetland areas in England. Further discussions with partners are underway to review how the assessment of low genetic diversity in the *ex situ* population can help with gaining permissions to source new founders.

Atlantic puffins (*Fratercula arctica*) were the main focus for population management of the **Charadriiformes TAG**, with the first breeding recommendations being issued for the species in many years in an effort to boost breeding. Draft copies of the Atlantic puffin BPG have been shared to relevant parties managing the birds *in situ* and they have proven very useful to them.

Three additional EEPs were launched in 2024. The EEP for Inca tern (*Larosterna inca*) is focusing on producing BPG to support colleagues working with the species *ex situ* and *in situ*. The EEP for Lapwings (*Vanellus sp*) includes several lapwing species and focuses on producing BPG, capacity building and connecting with potential field conservation partners.



Philippine eagle (*Pithecophaga jefferyi*) © Michal Galik



Allen's gallinules (*Porphyrio alleni*) at Leipzig Zoo
© Ariel Jacken



Inca tern (*Larosterna inca*) © Simon Matthews

The Ruffs EEP (to be established) would like to thank the colleagues who already started working on the BPG for the species.

Within the **Pigeon and Dove TAG**, the EEP for Extinct in the Wild Socorro doves (*Zenaida graysoni*) focused on increasing the population size and connecting with the North American colleagues in AZA to highlight the significance of these birds. It was decided at the Joint TAG Chairs meeting that AZA would aim to increase both holders and bird numbers to support the conservation efforts for the species. The draft of the Socorro dove BPG was prepared.

An LTMP meeting for Mauritius pink pigeons (*Nesoenas mayeri*) was held at ZSL with several key external stakeholders. This meeting highlighted the importance of the EEP population in supporting the *in situ* population on Mauritius.

Parrots and parakeets remain popular in EAZA zoos, with 267 EAZA institutions in four regions keeping 18,655 individuals (ZIMS data). The **Parrot TAG** covers over 421 species (including recently Extinct in the Wild species) of which 81 are included in the last RSP, published in April 2024. Coordinated programmes for the most conservation-dependent species were prioritised, in line with the TAG's reconfirmed mission statement: "To facilitate and enhance cooperation on parrot conservation within the European zoo and aquarium community. The aims include maintaining sustainable *ex situ* populations, educating the public, encourage contribution to scientific research and supporting *in situ* conservation of parrots. It will achieve these aims by providing the community with information and structures to assist and improve population management, husbandry methods, and conservation project review and by also evaluating and sharing calls for cooperation from outside the community".

To improve insights and management of species, the TAG urges all EAZA Members to maintain good records in ZIMS for parrots under their responsibility, in particular adding all available information on origin and indicate mutations or colour abnormalities by selecting the taxon option with the addition of "mutation" now available from Species360 ZIMS for relevant parrots.

The Cockatoo Working Group continued to collaborate and discuss different topics to improve breeding success and management in zoos for cockatoo species.

The **Toucan and Turaco TAG** published its RSP in 2024, proposing several new EEPs, such as for European bee-eater (*Merops apiaster*), Green aracari (*Pteroglossus viridis*), Green-backed trogon (*Trogon viridis*) and Great blue turaco (*Corythaeola cristata*), amongst others.

One of the biggest breeding successes in 2024 was achieved by Avifauna Birdpark (the Netherlands) with three great blue turacos hatching, of which two were parent-reared and fledged. This species has provided zoos worldwide with challenges, and is typically hand-reared, with various degrees of success. Several other species under this TAG's remit are facing similar challenges, with limited breeding success and zoos remaining dependent on imports from outside EAZA. In a last-ditch effort to create sustainable populations of selected taxa, e.g. toco toucans (*Ramphastos toco*) and European bee-eaters, the husbandry knowledge of relevant experts is being compiled in BPGs for both taxa.

The EEP Committee Evaluation subgroup congratulated the **Hornbill TAG** for the progress made over the past few years and for the significant steps including advancements in research husbandry and reproduction, review of non-EAZA participants and the improvement of communication within the TAG. For instance, the Wreathed hornbill EEP has worked hard with the team



Socorro dove (*Zenaida graysoni*) chick © ZSL London Zoo



Ecuadorian amazon (*Amazona lilacina*) © Rebecca Biddle



Great blue turaco (*Corythaeola cristata*) chicks © Avifauna Birdpark

at Bioparc Fuengirola (Spain) to achieve breeding in this Vulnerable species. The establishment of a compatible pair led to two *Rhyticeros undulatus* chicks that successfully fledged. Camera images from the nest provided information on their hatching.

The LTMP for Von der Decken's hornbill (*Tockus deckeni*) was published and highlighted the urgent need for new holders. This is also increasingly the case for several other hornbill EEPs. Breeding success in species such as the silver-cheeked hornbill (*Bycanistes brevis*) and the Papuan wreathed hornbill (*Rhyticeros plicatus*) has led to the availability of birds. EAZA Members interested in these species are advised to contact the EEP Coordinators.

Koen Brouwer, TAG Chair, co-authored, with the IUCN Hornbill Specialist Group (SG), the *Hornbill Basic Care Guidelines* which are available on the Hornbill SG website in several languages and provide guidance for anyone caring for hornbills including those confiscated in the illegal trade in Africa and Asia.

In 2024, the **Monotreme and Marsupial TAG** has been working on the BPGs for koalas (*Phascolarctos cinereus*), common wombats (*Vombatus ursinus*) and Tasmanian devils (*Sarcophilus harrisii*). In the Common wombat EEP, breeding has been restricted until new holders are approved. A contraception trial with an over-represented female is under way at Hannover Zoo (Germany).

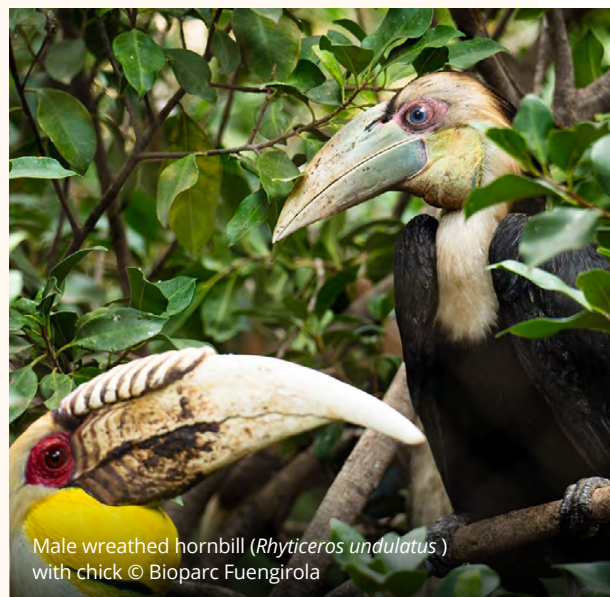
The **Prosimian TAG** had its RSP workshop in 2024 and identified priority areas for the coming year, e.g. the establishment of a TAG working group focusing on loris, galagos and nocturnal species, with the aim of providing knowledge about husbandry and management to rescue centres in range. A new EEP action plan for the Critically Endangered Blue-eyed black lemur (*Eulemur flavifrons*), that will be included in the new edition of the LTMP, recommends establishing “hubs”, i.e. holding facilities with specifically designed enclosures that can keep at least two social units. Husbandry and transfer recommendations were made by the EEP Coordinator on behalf of the “emergency consortium” in a “last chance” attempt to combine the most promising breeding animals.

To sustain the EEPs for Mongoose lemur (*Eulemur mongoz*) and Coquerel's sifaka (*Propithecus coquereli*), animals were imported from the AZA Species Survival Plans (SSPs). These programmes are evolving towards informal global programmes where the whole *ex situ* population benefits from the close cooperation of two regional breeding programmes – and hopefully from future cooperation with holding facilities in the range country, Madagascar.

The **Larger New World Monkey TAG** held their RSP workshop discussing 32 pre-selected species, with the TAG members, Advisors and *in situ* experts. The report is due for publication in 2025.

The **Afro-Eurasian Monkey TAG** published three LTMPs for Francois langur (*Trachypithecus francoisi*), lion-tailed macaque (*Macaca Silenus*) and Southern-pig tailed macaque (*Macaca nemestrina*), completing all their LTMPs.

The **Gibbon TAG** published the LTMP for Javan gibbon (*Hylobates moloch*). It aims to work towards an insurance population and support research on gibbon nutrition, health and their unique behaviour. Fundraising is an important role as well as the direct contribution to conservation through education. Finding new holders and reproductive planning is essential to address space issues for gibbons.



Male wreathed hornbill (*Rhyticeros undulatus*) with chick © Bioparc Fuengirola



Red-bellied lemur (*Eulemur rubrivente*) © Florence Perroux, La Palmyre Zoo



Javan gibbons (*Hylobates moloch*) at Halle Zoo © Simon Kirchberger

The **Great Ape TAG** aims for healthy, self-sustainable populations with maximum welfare for all great apes managed in human care. They analysed and discussed the various challenges reported in the EEPs. For instance, the Bonobo EEP reached maximum capacity. While looking for additional holders, the programme uses contraception to a greater extent. Two genetically overrepresented males underwent vasectomy, a first for the EEP. In an effort to bring all female Western chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes verus*) with breeding potential into a breeding situation, 14 young were born in 2024. The same approach is applied to Central chimpanzees (*P. t. troglodytes*), but no offspring was born. The EEP published the first edition of Chimpanews, a newsletter to share news, *in situ* projects and research results. The educational leaflet "Chimp facts" was translated into eight languages and sent to holders. The EEP also signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Animal Advocacy and Protection (AAP, the Netherlands) on cooperation and sharing expertise.

The Orangutan EEP is faced with a surplus of males and a lack of space in both species. The EEP needs new holders – within or outside the EAZA community – who are willing to house several males. Additionally, both species have seen low breeding success after recommendations were made. The EEP is exploring ways to understand the causes.

The **Small Mammal TAG** published their RSP for Xenarthra and Pholidota, recommending the establishment of five EEPs. The RSP was highlighted in Zooquaria 124. The RSP workshop for the last two remaining taxonomic groups, *Rodentia* and *Lagomorpha*, was held in October.

The **Canid and Hyaenid TAG** has worked on resolving several EEP challenges. A collaboration with ICMBio (Brazil), the Latin American (ALPZA) and Brazilian (AZAB) Associations of Zoos and Aquariums is aiming to incorporate new founding individuals into the Bush dog EEP to gain new founding genes. Macouria Zoo (French Guiana) received a female from France to breed with a rescued wild male, and three females are due to travel from France to Brazil to be paired with wild (or offspring of wild/captive individuals) males. Hopefully in the future, we can then bring offspring into Europe to increase diversity.

The Striped hyena EEP is facing a lack of births, so the population is aging. Imports of animals from outside the EEP enabled the EEP to create new pairs and hopefully improve the genetics of the European zoo population. The Striped hyena BPG have been submitted for publication.

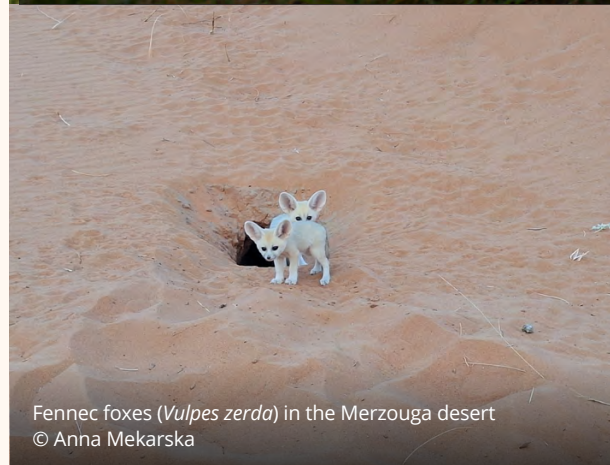
The Fennec fox EEP published their LTMP in January. The population is facing the challenge of low reproductive rates and pup survival. More breeding pairs have been created and BPG are being prepared with a focus on reproduction.

Several **Bear TAG** members are also members of the Captive Bear Expert team of IUCN SSC Bear SG. Together, they worked on "Bear Basics" and provided illustrated short texts on bear husbandry, to advise on how to improve substandard conditions for bears in human care. The first International Polar Bear Conference was kindly hosted by Yorkshire Wildlife Park (UK) in January and discussed husbandry, enclosure design, nutrition, training, status in the wild, EEP updates and the "Polar Bear Research" prospectus. The TAG also presented at the first BIAZA Bear Focus Group held at Bristol Zoo Project (UK), enabling discussions with zoos that are not EAZA Members but hold bears. As space for bears within EAZA is challenging, it was important to network with potential holders and highlight the benefits of collaborating with the EAZA community.

The Sloth bear LTMP was finalised, meaning all LTMPs except the one for the Asiatic black bear (*Ursus thibetanus*) are completed.



Bonobos (*Pan paniscus*) at Planckendael Zoo
© Jonas Verhulst



Fennec foxes (*Vulpes zerda*) in the Merzouga desert
© Anna Mekarska



Brown bears (*Ursus arctos*) © José Kok

The **Small Carnivore TAG** had a productive year thanks to prior preparatory work on strategies for the conservation of the small carnivores of Madagascar. The Smaller Malagasy carnivores EEP was approved and began organising a technical workshop to be held in Madagascar in November 2025, to develop a conservation action plan for the eight species it covers.

The LTMP for the Owston's civet (*Chrotogale owstoni*) was produced, highlighting how the wider EEP population – including the Vietnamese population at Save Vietnam's Wildlife – will achieve the goals of the programme. The EEP celebrated the birth of 10 animals at Save Vietnam's Wildlife, increasing the population size significantly and paving the first steps for a reintroduction project. Within the European population, the world's first artificial insemination for the species was attempted in 2024, supported by the EAZA Reproductive Management Group. Though unsuccessful, the attempt marks a huge step in utilising reproductive management tools in conservation breeding of small carnivores.

After a long preparation, a female fossa (*Cryptoprocta ferox*) was finally transferred from the EEP to the SSP to boost the North American population demographically and transfer genes of a founder not yet represented there. This project demonstrates the close inter-regional collaboration for the species. A transfer from the SSP to the EEP is also in preparation.

An important development for the **Felid TAG** in 2024 has been the progress with LTMPs that define clear targets and roles for holders to promote sustainable population management. They were initiated for the margay (*Leopardus wiedii*), fishing cat (*Prionailurus viverrinus*), rusty spotted cat (*Prionailurus rubiginosus*), sand cat (*Felis margarita*), Carpathian lynx (*Lynx lynx carpathicus*), North Chinese leopard (*Panthera pardus japonensis*), Asiatic golden cat (*Catopuma temminckii*) and Scottish wildcat (*Felis silvestris*).

From smaller species including wildcats and Carpathian lynx to larger ones such as the Arabian leopard (*Panthera pardus nimr*), the TAG has played a key role in support, population management as source and strategic planning for several reintroduction projects across the globe. Whilst all the projects saw significant progress, one particular milestone was the first births from released wildcats in Scotland: more than 20 kittens were born in the wild in 2024, giving great hope for the future and recovery of the species. Some key challenges regarding population development are linked to the Russia-Ukraine war. With several EEPs having large populations within Russian zoos, e.g. Pallas's cat (*Otocolobus manul*) and snow leopards (*Uncia uncia*), and the significant reduction in transfers, there is an increased risk to the EAZA populations. Although transfers to and from the UK continue, Brexit-added documentation and increased transfer timelines have been challenging for EAZA Members. It is important that animal exchanges with UK zoos continue as per recommendations to minimise impact on population management plans.

Breeding and husbandry successes highlighted ongoing progress in the **Marine Mammal TAG**, while challenges continue to shape adaptive management. The TAG remains committed to strengthening conservation and ensuring high standards in marine mammal care.

The LTMP for Antillean manatee (*Trichechus manatus manatus*) was finalised, providing a strategic framework for their conservation.

The **Elephant TAG** manages two species. The main challenge of the Asian elephant EEP remains to reconstruct the management system so that it is able to hold a 50% male / 50% female population. Although this requires restrictions on breeding, the EEP focuses on making sure that breeding can take place in every mixed herd. The EEP was strengthened in 2024 by the establishment of all-male groups at Augsburg Zoo (Germany) and Safari



Ultrasound performed on a Owston's civet (*Chrotogale owstoni*) © EAZA Reproductive Management Group



One of the first wild born kittens from the released wildcats (*Felis silvestris*) in 2024 © Saving Wildcats



Caribbean manatee (*Trichechus manatus*)
© Faunia, Ignacio Barrio

Madrid (Spain) and by the addition of Ain Sebaâ Zoo (Morocco) as a non-EAZA EEP participant.

A significant challenge for the African elephant EEP was the reduction in available space, due to three facilities ceasing to hold the species and two others undergoing renovations, resulting in the temporary relocation of their bulls. Additionally, one facility has yet to complete its new elephant enclosure. These factors have made animal transfers more difficult, with some currently on hold. Since the primary focus of elephant transfers is ensuring animal welfare and appropriate social structures, 2025 will be dedicated to resolving these transfer challenges. One facility is preparing to establish a new bachelor group, while another is focusing on accommodating older females - an effort that depends on relocating remaining animals. Collaboration among zoos housing the species remains essential to improving welfare standards and ensuring the success of the breeding programme.

Sadly, 2024 saw the second African elephant (*Loxodonta africana*) calf in Europe dying of the Elephant Endotheliotropic Herpesvirus (EEHV). See more on EEHV in the Research highlights section.

The **Equid TAG** manages eight EEPs that continued to work closely with their field partners in 2024. For instance, new breeding herds of Przewalski's horse (*Equus przewalskii*) have been set up to increase the number of foals to provide candidates for ongoing and planned reintroductions in Kazakhstan and Eastern Mongolia (see Conservation highlights section). This EEP also initiated negotiations between EAZA and Rewilding Spain on rewilding projects in Spain.

Analyses of the Somali wild ass EEP population structure showed that the young generation is stronger than in previous years, so there is still a chance to reverse the downward trend. New zoos as well as Rewilding Portugal have joined the EEP. The LTMP for the species and for Grévy's zebras (*E. grevyi*) were published.

The need for more holders is present in several EEPs, including for the Hartmann's mountain zebra (*E. zebra hartmannae*) where the sex ratio reflects the need to have single-sex groups.

Throughout the year, the **Rhinoceros TAG** engaged with colleagues from other regions to promote joint population management efforts for rhino species at local and global levels. Interregional cooperation and institutional rhino collection planning are among the main priorities of these EEPs and are important tools for the TAG to contribute to rhino conservation. The Black rhinoceros EEP continued to work on genetically increasing the population in Grumeti (Tanzania) and Thabo Tholo (South Africa) by transferring individuals from the EEP. Continuous communication with the IUCN SSC African Rhinoceros SG regarding augmentation of populations will contribute to the One Plan Approach for *Diceros bicornis michaeli*.

Preparations for the transfer of a group of white rhinoceroses (*Ceratotherium simum*) to Australia continued with local partners. Despite the logistic challenges, this is an excellent example of increased worldwide cooperation.

The White- and the Greater one-horned rhinoceros EEPs are both facing space constraints in the region. The strategy to not limit unrelated breeding to avoid reproductive health issues means that space will run out in the near future and solutions need to be found as soon as possible. The TAG started discussing potential solutions and the challenges they will bring. The Greater one-horned rhino EEP has produced an information leaflet to increase awareness on the attractiveness of keeping single males. The appointment of a TAG Education Task Supporter will strengthen such communication efforts.



Asian elephant (*Elephas maximus*) herd at ZSL Whipsnade Zoo © ZSL



Somali wild ass foal (*Equus africanus somaliensis*) at Wilhelma Zoo © Jana Müller



White rhino with calf (*Ceratotherium simum*) © Burgers' Zoo

In 2024, the Bluetongue virus (BTV) restrictions impacted ungulate transfers in several TAGs. One of the affected species under the remit of the **Cattle and Camelid TAG** was the European bison (*Bison bonasus*). The TAG contributed to a survey collated by the Veterinary Committee and EEO's EU policy team to assess the impact of BTV-related transport restrictions. During the mid-year meeting, the TAG's two-year targets were agreed on, including the priority for education activities in 2024-2026 and future research topics. Valuable discussions were held on how thematic topics can support the TAG's work and create future collaborations.

The EEO collaborated with the Action Indonesia partnership to support the Indonesian Zoo and Aquarium Association in developing breeding and transfer recommendations. Discussions also included potential expansion of population management to 19 additional Indonesian species. A workshop was organised in Indonesia to introduce population management to more than 50 local zoo staff.

Ungulate transfers from third countries, including the UK, into the EU, are still a major obstacle for the **Deer TAG's** programmes despite the new EU veterinary law going into force in mid-2021. Introducing new founders in the respective populations is therefore challenging.

As in previous years, the EU Invasive Alien Species (IAS) Regulation (1143/2014) remained challenging. Two species, the Reeves' muntjac (*Muntiacus reevesi*) and the axis deer (*Axis axis*), have already been included in the EU IAS list, which means that their captive populations should be phased out. The sika deer (*Cervus nippon*) is also expected to be voted on soon and might be added to the list. EU legislation requires member states to establish a mechanism for holders to apply for a permit for *ex situ* conservation, but their development and implementation have been only partial. Moreover, many zoos choose not to make an effort to apply for such a permit, despite the needs and the fact that the Reeves' muntjac is listed as Vulnerable by conservation authorities in its native China, and an EEP for this species was established. To help zoos interested in applying for the permits, the TAG can provide material and information following collaboration with the EAZA EU policy team. Moreover, the EU Regulation allows EU countries to include more species in their national IAS lists, which some have indeed done. For example, the sika deer is now included in the national lists of four different member states, which means that zoos in these countries officially need to phase out the species, including the Indochinese sika deer (*C. n. pseudaxis*), which is Extinct in the Wild and is an EEP species. Other species, such as water deer (*Hydropotes inermis*) and even European fallow deer (*Dama dama*), have also been added to various national lists. While these species are not managed at the moment, the water deer is threatened in the wild (Vulnerable), and the fallow deer might also be categorised as such soon. The TAG tracks such national-level decisions and assists as necessary.

The impact of emerging diseases on deer transfers remained challenging. BTV, Chronic Wasting Disease and Tuberculosis have caused great delays and even cancellations of recommended deer transfers, mainly due to new regulations, incorrect enforcement of existing regulations and the aftermath of UK's departure from the EU.

During 2024, the TAG published LTMPs for Visayan spotted deer (*Rusa alfredi*), sambar (*Rusa unicorn*), forest reindeer (*Rangifer tarandus fennicus*) and Bawean deer (*Axis kuhlii*).

The biggest common population management challenge for the **Antelope and Giraffid TAG** continued to be linked to BTV restrictions. It has made a lot of transfers in Europe either difficult or impossible. In 2024, the virus has spread north and east through Europe, and the number of affected countries increased. Many countries have derogations in place that make



The International Studbook for Vicuña (*Lama vicugna*) saw its first offspring of 2024 being born in Scotland
© Highland Wildlife Park



Siberian musk deer (*Moschus moschiferus*) in Leipzig Zoo
© Noam Werner



Kirk's dik-dik (*Madoqua kirkii*) © Thomas Riebling

transfers possible, but there are different rules for each country, and some still do not accept import of ruminants from affected countries.

The TAG continued its efforts to deliver on its RSP goals. EEP check-ins were conducted for the sitatunga (*Tragelaphus spekii*), mountain bongo (*Tragelaphus eurycerus isaaci*), greater kudu (*Tragelaphus strepsiceros*), lowland nyala (*Tragelaphus angasii*), impala (*Aepyceros melampus*), roan antelope (*Hippotragus equinus*), scimitar-horned oryx (*Oryx dammah*), Arabian oryx (*Oryx leucoryx*), Kirk's dik-dik (*Madoqua kirkii*), Nile lechwe (*Kobus megaceros*) and Southern lechwe (*Kobus leche*). The work will continue in 2025 to ensure a plan is in place for every EEP. *Ex situ* populations for various antelope and giraffid species are becoming increasingly important for conservation. We can only deliver on their crucial role if we have EEPs of the highest quality. The TAG thus encourages current and future holders to familiarise themselves with these documents.

The **Caprinae TAG** published three LTMPs in 2024 for Alpine ibex (*Capra ibex*), aoudad (*Ammotragus lervia*) and blue sheep (*Pseudois nayaur*). The check-ins for another three programmes already took place. The limitation of available space for the focus species remains a challenge. The TAG appointed a first-contact coordinator in 2023 to actively manage this topic. He was contacted ten times in 2024 to advise zoos in these regards.

The TAG is pleased to see the small but constant increase of the population size and number of EEP participants for the Endangered urials (*Ovis orientalis arkal* and *O. o. bochariensis*). Unfortunately, the population of Chinese goral (*Naemorhedus griseus*) stagnated or even decreased in the last years. A closer collaboration of all involved zoos was initiated to revive the EEP population.



Pregnant slender-horned gazelle (*Gazella leptoceros*) in Sidi Toui National Park © Marwell Wildlife



Enclosures for aoudad (*Ammotragus lervia*) at Citadelle of Besançon (France) are designed around the historic fortress © Dennis Müller

ANIMAL CARE AND WELFARE

In 2024, the EAZA Standards for Welfare, Accommodation and Management of Animals in Zoos and Aquariums were reviewed and updated to confirm they are still fit for purpose, reflect the latest science, and align with global benchmarks, such as those set by WAZA. The sections on animal welfare, nutrition, veterinary care, and safety saw the most updates. EAZA Members must now have an institutional animal welfare policy in place, based on the Five Domains Model of Animal Welfare and commit to having an Animal Welfare Assessment Programme to further enhance animal welfare practices. Specific requirements linked to animal escapes and animal-related emergencies were clarified as well.

Alongside the updates to the EAZA Accreditation Programme, this update marks the culmination of extensive work and discussion that took place in nearly all EAZA Committees and Working Groups. The updates reinforce EAZA's role as the leading zoo association in welfare and animal management, ensuring that our standards continue to

reflect the latest scientific knowledge and best practices and meet the global benchmark of accreditation.

The EAZA Veterinary Committee published the Handbook on EU Animal Health Law and Confined Establishments, written together with: the European Association of Zoo and Wildlife Veterinarians (EAZWV), European Association of State Veterinary Officers (EASVO) and Federation of

Veterinarians of Europe (FVE). It provides crucial guidance for zoo managers, zoo and official vets and public authorities on how the new animal health legislation should be applied to zoos. The handbook, available on the [EAZA website](#), will be a living document, translated into different languages.

The Infectious Disease subgroup of the Veterinary Committee continued updating the Transmissible Diseases Handbook and produced five new chapters. Five pilot fact sheets are being developed in collaboration with the American Association of Zoo and Wildlife Veterinarians (AAZV).





EAZA Best Practice Guidelines published in 2024

Photos left to right: black-winged myna (*Acridotheres melanopterus*) © Simon Bruslund; giant magnolia snail (*Bertia cambojiensis*) © Thomas Ziegler; lesser chevrotain (*Tragulid javanicus*) © Joachim S. Müller; Linkei's liquorice gourami (*Parosphromenus linkei*) © Markéta Rejlková, Ostrava Zoo; okapi (*Okapia johnstoni*) © Benoît Quintard, Mulhouse Zoo; western lowland gorillas (*Gorilla gorilla gorilla*) © Bristol Zoo Project; Henkel's leaf-tailed gecko (*Uroplatus henkeli*) © Matthew Cook

Moreover, the EAZA Animal Training BPG were translated into Arabic.

EAZA Animal Welfare Forum

The EAZA Animal Welfare Working Group (AWWG), chaired by Holly Farmer (Paignton Zoo, UK), organised the 2nd EAZA Animal Welfare Forum, with support from the EEO and host Parco Natura Viva (Italy) in March 2024. It was complemented by a pre-conference EAZA Academy workshop delivered by the EAZA Animal Training Working Group (ATWG). The conference focused on the topic of "Knowing Me, Knowing You – Understanding Individual

Animal Welfare"; hosting 234 delegates from 37 countries, with a schedule of 111 sessions (three plenaries, 26 posters and nine workshops). The overall event experience was scored at 8.5/10 by delegates, with many positive feedback across all areas from programme content to logistics.

An EAZA Guide 'How to develop your Animal Welfare Assessment Programme' was created, and the online course 'Introduction to Animal Welfare' is in the final stages of approval.



Participants at the EAZA Animal Welfare Forum 2024 © Michele Azzetti

TRAINING: EAZA ACADEMY AND BEYOND

The EAZA Academy has continued to provide professional development opportunities for the zoological community, welcoming EAZA Members, Candidates for Membership (CfMs), and non-members alike. The aim remains to strengthen best practice and evidence-based animal management.

A variety of learning formats were offered, including in-person workshops, self-paced online courses, webinars, and shared resources.

2024 saw progressive revisions and development of EAZA Academy documents and processes. New documents include *Submitting a Host Proposal* guidance, *Host Guidelines*, *EAZA Academy Course Approval* and *EAZA Academy Recognised Courses Guidelines*. All support the development of EAZA Academy courses through standardised procedures and provide the host with all the information needed.

Other training opportunities

In addition to the courses and presentations delivered at the EAZA Animal Welfare Forum and EAZA Annual Conference, the ATWG, chaired by Annette Pedersen (Copenhagen

Zoo, Denmark), led two workshops for Berlin Zoo and Berlin Tierpark (Germany) and presented at the online annual conference of the European Association for Aquatic Mammals (EAAM). Members of the AWWG attended the SEAZA Annual Conference in Taipei (Taiwan) in October to run a one-day introductory workshop on Animal Welfare Assessments.

The EAZA Reproductive Management Group, chaired by Sue Walker (Chester Zoo, UK), was involved in several training opportunities in 2024, including hosting a full-day workshop at the joint American Association of Zoo Veterinarians (AAZV) / EAZWV conference in Toronto (Canada), advising Toronto Zoo's reproductive science team, and co-organising the European wildlife fertility control workshop in York (UK).

Training also remains central to the Technical Assistance Committee, supporting the professional development dimension of the EAZA Strategy. In 2024, the Committee partnered with the EAZA Academy to explore training opportunities, particularly the Introduction to Animal Welfare Course in collaboration with the zoos in Sibiu (Romania) and Kaunas (Lithuania). CfMs were encouraged to engage in workshops and training programmes, facilitating knowledge exchange and professional development.



EAZA Animal Welfare webinars

6 New webinars hosted

25 Available on EAZA video

34,000 views by the end of the year



In-person courses

132 people
from **29** countries
and **110** organisations

- 3** Introduction to EEP Management courses (EAZA Executive Office)
- 1** Exhibit Design and Planning workshop (Zagreb Zoo)
- 2** Trailblazing Trainers workshops (Parco Natura Viva and Leipzig Zoo)
- 1** Quality of Life Assessments workshop (Leipzig Zoo)



> 5,000 followers



Ongoing online self-paced courses

- Introduction to Animal Welfare Assessments (Members only)
- ZIMS for Studbooks (Members only)
- *Batrachochytrium salamandrivorans*
- Reproductive Management
- Exhibit Design for Zookeepers
- Zoo Animal Feeding and Nutrition
- The Importance of Conservation Education
- Conservation Education Methods
- Keeper Talks



MAXIMISING THE CONSERVATION IMPACT AND ENGAGEMENT OF EAZA AND OUR MEMBERS

In 2024, EAZA continued strengthening its role of a conservation-oriented community and producing tangible outcomes in species conservation carried out ex situ as well as in situ. A highlight of the year was another successful EAZA Conservation Forum. Work continued on the implementation of the relevant EAZA Standards – for field conservation and for conservation education – and on supporting Members in increasing their field activities.

EAZA CONSERVATION FORUM

The 10th edition of the EAZA Conservation Forum was hosted by Ostrava Zoo (Czechia) in June 2024, marking the first time a Czech Member organised the event. The Forum stressed the importance of integrating conservation efforts with broader policy frameworks, with a call to action for zoos and aquariums to play a critical role in global biodiversity conservation. Workshops and presentations provided practical ideas for effective conservation actions, encouraging participants to take home actionable strategies to “beat the tiger” of looming conservation deadlines. EAZA Members shared their experiences in developing and implementing conservation plans. Guest speakers Jon Taylor (Conservation Optimism) and Julian Fennessy (Giraffe Conservation Foundation) discussed creating effective narratives for conservation, emphasising the importance of adapting messages to different audiences for better

engagement. EU policies related to biodiversity also came into the spotlight, with presentations on the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030, Wildlife Trafficking Action Plan, and Pollinators Initiative. Participants scored the overall event experience at 8.7/10, particularly valuing the opportunity to meet colleagues active in conservation, education and communication which will facilitate future collaborations.

FIELD CONSERVATION

In September 2024, the EAZA Imported Deforestation and Sustainable Agriculture Working Group, chaired by Catherine Barton (Chester Zoo, UK), was transformed into an Advisory Group. Having created multiple EAZA Guidelines on topics from palm oil to timber, this change re-focuses the expertise of the group to be more reactive, responding to requests coming from the community.

Participants at the EAZA Conservation Forum 2024 © Ostrava Zoo





European Species Focus

A task force of the Conservation Committee has worked on quantifying initiatives of the EAZA community that focus on European species. The resulting reports will be used internally as well as in the form of “white papers” addressed to politicians and European stakeholders, aiming to establish EAZA more firmly as a player in European species conservation.

Field Conservation Standards

After the new Field Conservation Standards were approved in 2022, the EAZA Conservation Committee, chaired by Eric Bairrão Ruivo (Beauval Zoo, France), started collecting and developing guidance material for EAZA Members to launch their field conservation activities. An “inspiration guide” offering questions for Members to reflect on and check off throughout their journey, as well as useful links and resources will be finalised in 2025.

The new Field Conservation Standards are being incorporated into the reviewed EAZA Accreditation process.

Conservation Database

All EAZA Full, Temporary and Associate (zoos and aquarium) Members are obliged to enter their data into the EAZA Conservation Database. The information gathered is a resource for the community itself and for the Association to evidence the contribution of zoos and aquariums to conservation. In 2024, it was used in documentation and publications to inform TAGs, press releases and responses to media inquiries, presentations, articles, as well as the EAZA Manifesto for European Leaders. On the EAZA website, Members’ conservation activities are publicly searchable in the [EAZA Conservation Map](#). Selected projects are highlighted monthly as Conservation Snapshots.



CONTRIBUTIONS TO CONSERVATION TOTAL SUPPORT 2024

i Based on information available in the EAZA Conservation Database on 12 May 2025



210,075 HRS
STAFF TIME



€32.1 MILLION



235
MEMBERS



>500
PARTNERS

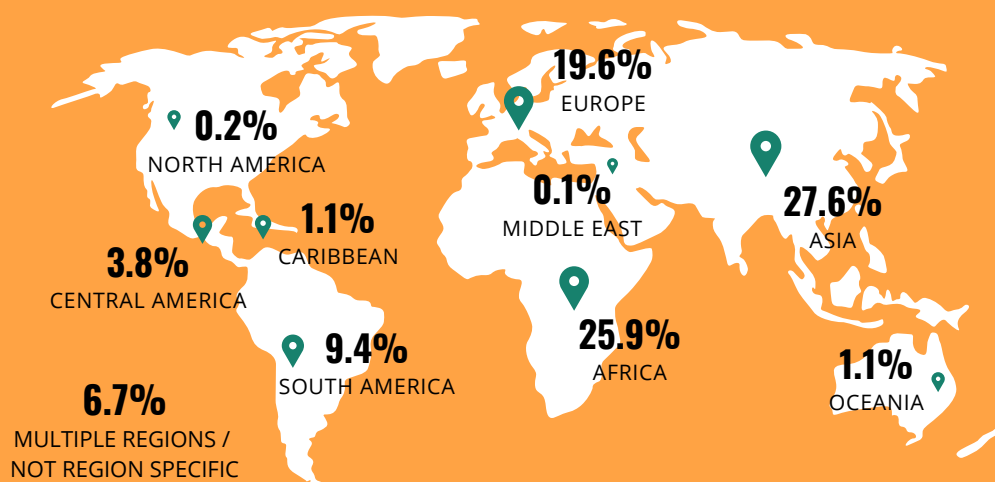


>800
SPECIES

AREAS OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT



OTHER* 6%
REPTILES 5%
AMPHIBIANS 3%
INVERTEBRATES 3%
FISH 1%



**includes plant, habitat conservation, conservation tool development*

Progressive Zoos and Aquariums Saving Species Together with You

For a full breakdown of projects supported in 2024 and entered by our Members into the EAZA Conservation Database, please see the list in the [Conservation Annex](#), scan the QR code and/or explore the [EAZA Conservation Map](#).



CONSERVATION SNAPSHOT SUMMARY 2024

Blue-throated hillstar in Ecuador

Rhone streber *ex situ* conservation

Action Indonesia





EAZA Conservation Education Committee meeting at Lisbon Zoo © EAZA

CONSERVATION EDUCATION

The EAZA Conservation Education Committee (CEC), chaired by Antonieta Costa (Lisbon Zoo, Portugal), continued supporting and empowering EAZA Members in meeting the EAZA Conservation Education Standards.

Significant progress has been made in developing support materials related to evaluation, conservation education plan and screening guidelines. The Education Newsletter for EAZA Members was launched in June with a second issue published in September. Collaborative work is ongoing with Frankfurt University (Germany) to implement a Conservation Education Measurement Toolbox.

Preparation was made to launch the Educators' Hub in January 2025. This Collaborative Space for Learning and Growth is designed to bring Educators from EAZA Members together to share their expertise, experiences, and unique skills. This initiative fosters collaboration, professional development, and a sense of community among Educators.

The EAZA Conservation Education Facebook group continued to be a valuable tool for the Committee and the wider conservation education community. It expanded from

4,600 at the end of 2023 to 4,800 by the end of 2024, and saw 525 posts being published through the year, sharing information about events, research articles, celebrating successes and seeking support.

Antonieta Costa was one of the 333 speakers at the World Environmental Education Congress, in Abu Dhabi (UAE). Presenting on conservation education approaches to act for a sustainable future, she discussed how the CEC helps EAZA Members implement a holistic conservation education strategy using Conservation Education Standards to connect visitors to nature and empower them to take conservation action. Nicola Buckley (Chester Zoo, UK) and Martina Weiser (Frankfurt Zoo, Germany) also attended the congress. Their participation helped EAZA zoos and aquariums be recognised as key partners in conservation, environmental, and sustainability Education.

Exchanging knowledge and skills

CEC Vice Chair, Tomislav Krizmanić (Zagreb Zoo, Croatia), collaborated in a two-day intensive workshop on the EAZA Conservation Education Standards at Braşov Zoo (Romania).

CfMs Belgrade Zoo and Palić Zoo (Serbia) hosted the seminar "The Role of Zoos in Education" for educators from Southeast Europe. Over two days, 25 educators from 11 institutions in Slovenia, Croatia, Hungary, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, North Macedonia, Bulgaria, and Greece shared their experiences and insights.

To maximise collaboration, the CEC has liaisons in the Conservation Committee and in the Communications Committee. In 2024, they started working with the EEP Committee as well to increase the place of education in RSPs and EEPs.

A big portion of the year was dedicated to preparing the 2025 edition of the EAZA Conservation Education Conference due to be hosted by Chester Zoo (UK).



Colleagues from neighboring institutions sharing their experience related to conservation education practices © Braşov Zoo

VIETNAMAZING - THE EAZA CONSERVATION CAMPAIGN 2024-2025

Vietnamazing, the EAZA Conservation Campaign 2024-2025 highlights Vietnam's unique biodiversity hotspot, promotes the One Plan Approach, and fosters partnerships between the EAZA community and conservation groups. It focuses on financial and technical support for flagship projects and on enhancing *ex situ* conservation efforts for highly threatened species and their habitats.

A total of 220 individuals, representing 130 EAZA Members and 22 non-EAZA institutions, have signed up to the campaign so far and €200,000 has been raised in 2024.

Highlight from the flagship projects

- **Vietnamese giant magnolia snail** – aims at expanding European conservation breeding efforts and conducting surveys to gather natural history data, while establishing *ex situ* populations in Vietnam. Three are currently being set up with Wildlife at Risk. Genetic research and further surveys are ongoing.
- **Nuichua stick insect** – the first population surveys were conducted to better understand its status and habitat needs. *Ex situ* conservation efforts are being developed in Europe and Vietnam. New holders for the species have been found.
- **Tiger hillstream loach** – *ex situ* breeding for ornamental fish has been established at Melinh Station in collaboration with Wildlife at Risk. Surveys to assess population sizes, distribution, and genetic diversity have been conducted.
- **Mossy frogs** – surveys monitoring species richness in Vietnam led to the discovery of a new species (*Theloderma woltersi*). Research into Endangered species like *T. ryabovi* is ongoing with conservation breeding at Melinh Station.
- **Vietnamese crocodile newt** – population monitoring and genetic analyses were conducted, with successful breeding efforts at Melinh Station and the establishment of a conservation programme for *Tylototriton ngoclinhensis*.
- **Vietnamese pond turtle** – eDNA and genetic research supporting habitat protection have been advanced. Plans for reintroduction are under development. PhD research is underway to advance the long-term conservation of the species.
- **Vietnamese crocodile lizard** – population monitoring was conducted. The breeding network in Europe was expanded with successful breeding in two additional zoos to support future reintroduction efforts.
- **Vietnam pheasant** – the construction of breeding facilities in Vietnam has started. Preparation for reintroductions are ongoing, in collaboration with the EAZA Biobank to assess the current population for hybrid identification. De-snaring and camera trapping at selected future release locations continued.
- **Northern white-cheeked gibbon** – activities focused on improving animal welfare in Vietnamese zoos, building a local *ex situ* gibbon network, and supporting *in situ* conservation through workshops and funding for gibbon protection efforts.



© Thomas Ziegler, except pheasant - Ariel Jacken, and gibbon - Michel Foos, Mulhouse Zoo

CONSERVATION AND EDUCATION HIGHLIGHTS FROM EAZA TAXON ADVISORY GROUPS

The **Terrestrial Invertebrate TAG** reported vital actions for snail conservation in 2024. Over 6,000 *Partula* snails from 10 different species were reintroduced to French Polynesia, with animals provided by ZSL London Zoo, Bristol Zoo Project, Marwell Wildlife, Edinburgh Zoo (all UK) and Schwerin Zoo (Germany) as part of the annual reintroduction work. Crucially, wild-born *Partula tohiveana* were seen for the first time in 40 years, which means the species can be classed as “established”, and the process of downlisting the snails from Extinct in the Wild to Critically Endangered on the IUCN's Red List can begin.

In addition, Chester Zoo, Bristol Zoo Project and Beauval Nature (France) successfully released two species of Desertas land snails (*Discula lyelliana* and *Geomitra coronula*) on Bugio Island next to Madeira, Portugal.

The **Freshwater Teleost TAG** has developed strong collaborations with in-country partners such as Inbursa Aquarium (Mexico). The Cyprinodontidae EEP and ZSL worked hard to produce a Conservation Action Plan for the Extinct in the Wild Mexican pupfishes, providing a blueprint to seek funding. It aims to return pupfishes back to Mexico to re-establish an *ex situ* population before ultimately returning the species to the wild. The Poeciliidae EEP is also working actively with Inbursa Aquarium to return two species of Extinct in the Wild livebearers to Mexico.

Members of the TAG attended a workshop hosted by Charles Fusari (Paris Aquarium Tropical, France, non-EAZA EEP participant) for experts across multiple disciplines to create a strategy for freshwater fish conservation in Madagascar. The EEP Coordinators for Aplocheilidae, Bedotiidae and Cichlidae (Sam Guillaume, ZSL Whipsnade Zoo, UK; Charles Fusari; Peter Peterson, Den Blå Planet, Denmark) also travelled to the Amboabo catchment (Madagascar) to monitor the endemic and threatened species in their respective EEPs. This multi-EEP collaboration showed the value of working across a range of species.

From their expedition to Madagascar, an interpretive exhibit was created at Paris Aquarium Tropical covering the conservation story of the Critically Endangered Joba mena (*Ptychochromis insolitus*) and several sympatric species from the Amboabo River. It explains extensively the challenges of freshwater fish conservation globally. It uses the comic book style with artwork by Singeon. A travelling exhibition is being prepared to send to Madagascar in the near future.

In the summer 2024, the **Marine Teleost TAG** launched its inaugural “Marine Fish of the Year” campaign, selecting the Banggai cardinalfish (*Pterapogon kauderni*) as its flagship species. This yearlong initiative was embraced by dozens of EAZA and EUAC aquariums across Europe. It featured professionally designed, multilingual posters and digital resources, targeted social media outreach, and hands-on educational activities for children and young visitors. Together, these materials highlighted the cardinalfish's unique life history, its Endangered status, and the human-driven threats it faces, including habitat degradation and unsustainable wild collection practices. Building on that momentum, the TAG also established the first International Marine Fish Day on 6 August to raise general awareness about marine teleost diversity, spotlight pervasive threats such



Geomitra coronula at Chester Zoo © K. Kelton



as overfishing and climate change, and galvanise public support for ocean conservation through coordinated programmes across EAZA institutions.

The TAG also prepared the second fish of the year campaign for 2025, raising awareness of European seahorse species.

To promote the conservation work achieved within the Long-snouted seahorse EEP, Chris Brown (Chessington World of Adventures, UK) carried out presentations, within and outside the EAZA community, e.g. at Porcupine Society at Bournemouth University, Castle cove sailing club, Fine Foundation Wildlife Trust Centre and at the Weymouth SEA LIFE (all UK) presenting the results of seahorse surveys. This conservation research work surveying seahorse was also a runner up for the BIAZA conservation awards and appeared on multiple TV programmes in the UK.

The **Elasmobranch TAG** continued strengthening its connections with the IUCN SSC Shark SG. Two TAG members are part of the Northern-European Shark SG and of the Shark SG Public Aquarium working group. These connections increase opportunities for conservation collaboration between *ex situ* and *in situ* parties, facilitate communication with experts from around the globe and improve knowledge sharing – e.g. about the IUCN species assessments and the TAG's activities.

EAZA and the TAG worked on a MoU with ReShark, an international collective of over 90 global aquariums, other conservation organisations and government agencies, dedicated to the recovery of threatened sharks and rays around the world by reestablishing healthy, genetically diverse, and self-sustaining populations. For instance, the StAR (*Stegostoma tigrinum* Augmentation and Recovery) Project aims to recover zebra shark populations that are important for healthy marine ecosystems.

The Undulate ray EEP has been investigating habitat use by young skates and the *in situ* sampling (underwater visual surveys) element of this project will continue in 2025. Together with SEA LIFE (UK), they commissioned the IUCN SSC CPSG to help develop an action plan / national strategy for *Raja undulata*. This will lead to a workshop for stakeholders in 2025.

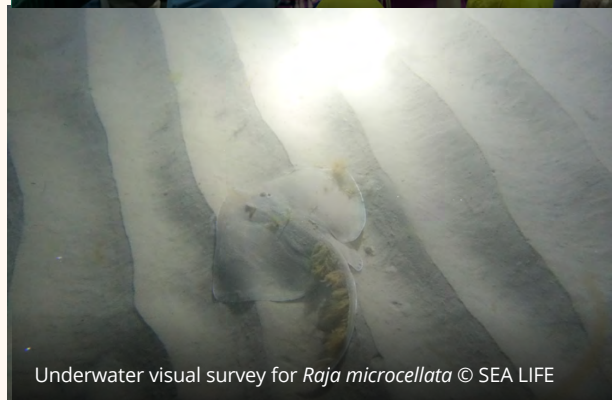
In addition to their *ex situ* successes, **Amphibian TAG** members delivered large-scale advances and reintroduction efforts that reinforced wild populations and confirmed successful reproduction in restored habitats. For instance, the release of 90,000 green toad (*Bufo viridis*) tadpoles by Nordens Ark (Sweden) with citizen scientists identifying new localities, Cologne Zoo's (Germany) release of 900 young green toads, and coordinated translocations of Montseny brook newts (*Calotriton arnoldi*) by the Government of Catalonia, Barcelona Zoo (Spain) and Chester Zoo (UK), exemplify the group's impact on restoring amphibian populations. Ongoing field surveys in Madagascar and extended leading programmes (e.g. Jersey Zoo's 70,773 agile frog releases since 2008) further illustrate the TAG's broad geographic reach and commitment to measurable conservation outcomes.

Collaboration with diverse partners is at the heart of the conservation work of the TAG. For instance, Münster Zoo (Germany) was a founding member of the "Feuersalamander.net", a network including private keepers, zoos, NGOs, universities and authorities committed to protecting *Salamandra salamandra*. Jersey Zoo (UK) continued the collaboration with Instituto Biotropicos Brazil researching conservation needs for *Crossodactylodes* spp, and provided technical assistance and fundraising advice to the Bolivian Amphibian Initiative for their work on *Atelopus* spp. Jersey also provides staff for the Partnership Officer for the Americas position in the IUCN SSC Amphibian SG.

In addition to keeping close contact with the IUCN SSC Crocodile SG and AZA counterparts, the conservation work under the **Reptile TAG** in 2024 includes the following examples. Data collected by Brno Zoo and Liberec Zoo



Celebrating Marine Fish Day at Sóstó Zoo © Sóstó Zoo



Underwater visual survey for *Raja microcellata* © SEA LIFE



Western Montseny brook newt (*Calotriton arnoldi laietanus*) at the Torreferrussa breeding centre © Monica Alonso



Green turtle (*Chelonia mydas*) tracking project © Adéla Hemelíková

(Czechia) showed that green turtle (*Chelonia mydas*) foraged within high-risk areas near the Indonesian island of Sumatra. This highlighted the urgency of improving sea turtle protection; the data is being used by Indonesian authorities to develop a National Action Plan for sea turtle conservation. Jersey Zoo conducted a Species Action Planning workshop for the St Lucia iguana (*Iguana insularis santaluciaae*), continued reptile conservation work in Madagascar and Mauritius – where a new population of the lesser night gecko (*Nactus coindemirensis*) could be established – and successfully treated St Lucia racer snakes (*Erytrolamprus ornatus*) for lung parasites.

Vienna Zoo (Austria) continued with rewilding (semi-release) of the Critically Endangered Northern river terrapin (*Batagur baska*) into protected but not enclosed ponds throughout the Sundarbans in Bangladesh.

Universeum (Sweden) continued advancing research and knowledge on the Black-headed bushmaster (*Lachesis melanocephala*) in Costa Rica and ran an educational programme on snakebite awareness, linking it to the UN Sustainable Development Goal 3 on Health and Wellbeing.

An Education Advisor was appointed for the **Penguin TAG** in 2024 to help EEPs fulfil their education roles. In the meantime, the conservation activities of TAG members continued.

Many African penguin EEP holders continued supporting the Southern African Foundation for the Conservation of Coastal Birds (SANCCOB), particularly in funding renovations. Construction of SANCCOB's new chick-rearing unit began in late 2024 and is expected to be operational before the 2025 breeding season. The EEP Coordinator visited SANCCOB in Cape Town as well as Namibia to meet with the team of the newly established Namibian Foundation for the Conservation of Seabirds (NAMCOB) that has secured a suitable location for a new seabird hospital and is looking for additional funding to scale up the project.

In the Humboldt penguin EEP, collaboration continued with Sphenisco in Chile and sponsoring by an EEP participant enabled a population census at major sites in Peru.

In the **Pelecaniformes, Ciconiiformes and Phoenicopteriformes TAG**, ongoing conservation projects for Northern bald ibis (*Geronticus eremita*) include Proyecto Eremita in Andalusia (Spain), which is nearing sustainability without further reinforcement of additional ibises and the WaldrappTeam project, now supported by a second LIFE grant. Led by Vienna Zoo (Austria), the project aims to train ibises to migrate to Spain where they would share wintering habitat with the sedentary Spanish population before migrating back to Austria – read more about it in [Zooquaria 124](#). Translocation projects in Catalonia (Spain), Morocco and Algeria are also being considered. Avifauna Birdpark, Rotterdam Zoo and ARK Rewilding Nederland (all the Netherlands), in cooperation with the Dalmatian pelican EEP, proposed a feasibility study for reintroduction in the Netherlands. Using 10 individuals fitted with wing tags and GPS transmitters, the project aims to study, during three to five years, how released *Pelecanus crispus* utilise the Dutch landscape and whether zoo-born birds are suitable for reintroduction. The EEP is awaiting approval by the Dutch authorities. In the meantime, reintroduction in the UK was also considered and a field trip organised by Derek Gow and Rewilding Britain aimed at creating a bigger network of Dalmatian pelican experts.

The TAG was also involved in a proposal for the next EAZA Conservation Campaign for 2026-2027, which has now been approved. Stay tuned for the launch in September 2025!



Elongated tortoise (*Indotestudo elongata*) with GPS transmitter © ACCB Christel Griffioen



African penguins (*Spheniscus demersus*) in Namibia © Alex Huiberse, Artis Zoo



Dalmatian pelican (*Pelecanus crispus*) © Stefan Timmerman

The **Raptor TAG** remained very active in vulture conservation. The EEPs are working diligently to support all European vulture species. All successfully breed and contribute to reintroduction projects in different regions of Europe. In 2024, EEPs successfully released significant numbers of captive-bred bearded vultures (*Gypaetus barbatus*), cinereous vultures (*Aegypius monachus*), griffon vultures (*Gyps fulvus*) and Egyptian vultures (*Neophron percnopterus*).

Besides vultures, the TAG is also engaged in Philippine eagle (*Pithecophaga jefferyi*) conservation, organising workshops for artificial insemination, assisted breeding and other captive management techniques. The TAG also assisted with semen collection and artificial inseminations, resulting in three fertile eggs and successful hatching of two chicks, a highly promising outcome.

The Ural owl EEP is leading efforts for owl conservation. In 2024, a total number of 27 Ural owls (*Strix uralensis*) were released in Germany, of which nine were equipped with GPS transmitters for further monitoring. Additionally, the TAG explored potential involvement in releases of white-tailed sea eagles (*Haliaeetus albicilla*) in France and expanded its engagement in the conservation of Asian vultures.

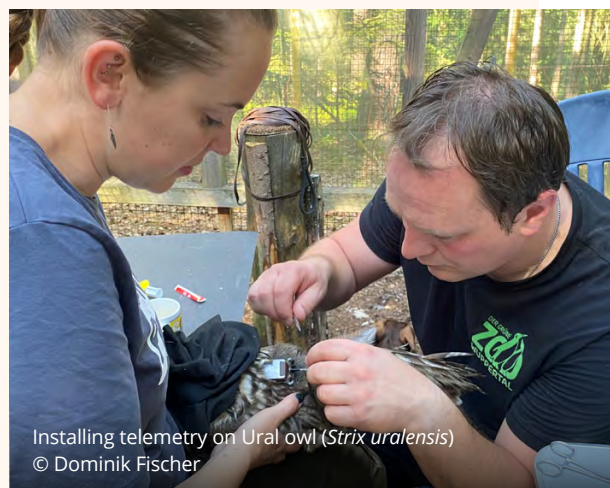
The **Galliformes TAG**'s main conservation focus remains the recovery of the Vietnam pheasant (*Lophura edwardsi*). A major milestone was achieved in 2024 with the completion of the first aviary block at Viet Nature's breeding centre in Le Thuy province (Vietnam) by Rik Dams, a European aviculturist working closely with the TAG. The continued support from many EAZA Members remains vital for this project. As a focal species of the Vietnamazing campaign, the pheasants were put in the spotlight this year with educational material created and shared among campaign participants. Pham Tuan Anh, president of Viet Nature, gave a plenary talk at the EAZA Annual Conference to update the community on their progress. Additionally, an event at Parc de Clères (France) celebrated 100 years of Vietnam pheasant history since their arrival from Vietnam in France, looking back at the work of the EEP and forward on the future of the project.

The **Gruiformes TAG** advertised the third online Crane Awareness Day on 25 March, an opportunity for all EAZA institutions to bring crane species and their threats to the forefront of visitor interest. After Asian crane species in 2023, the focus in 2024 shifted to African cranes. In Neuwied Zoo (Germany), children in particular could participate in various activity stands to learn about crane conservation.

TAG Vice Chair Max Birkendorf (Neuwied Zoo) took part in two meetings of the IUCN SSC Crane SG in 2024 to exchange information, especially regarding current research topics in the field. These meetings are an ideal opportunity for the TAG to explore new partnerships with organisations working *in situ*.

The standout achievement for the **Charadriiformes TAG** was the *in situ* work with Atlantic puffins (*Fratercula arctica*). Oceanogràfic València (Spain) sent a veterinary team to Iceland where the Sealife Trust (UK) has a rescue centre for beluga whales but no resident vet team. They also rescue and rehabilitate puffins during the "puffling season" when the birds arrive exhausted, and sometimes sick during the late summer. The expertise from years of work with *ex situ* birds enabled to treat and rehabilitate around one third more puffins than in previous years. This was a great result for the wild population and an amazing experience for the Oceanogràfic team. The TAG hopes that this support can continue in upcoming seasons.

In addition, the TAG continued developing relationships with AZA counterparts, with collaborative projects being prepared for 2025.



Installing telemetry on Ural owl (*Strix uralensis*)
© Dominik Fischer



View of the new Viet Nature breeding aviaries © Rik Dams



Grey crowned crane (*Balearica regulorum*)
© Jonathan Beilby, Chester Zoo



Atlantic puffin (*Fratercula arctica*) © Henrik Futtrup

On behalf of the **Pigeon and Dove TAG**, Bori Kocsis and colleagues from Budapest Zoo (Hungary) created an exceptional educational guidance document about crowned pigeons, in line with one of the indirect roles identified in the RSP for these species. These guidelines, available on the EAZA Member Area, provide information and specific educational guidance for all three of the *Goura* species found in EAZA zoos. They include ideas for improving environmental education, increasing knowledge and awareness, promoting collaboration, challenging the status quo of popular flagship species, and clarifying the functions of modern conservation-focused zoos.

Since 2023, the **Parrot TAG** Chair has been involved in the formation of an IUCN SSC Wild Parrot SG which was officially launched in 2024 to focus on developing structures and setting targets. The SG has geographically and thematically focused subgroups, including one for *ex situ* conservation management. Discover more in "New IUCN Species Survival Commission Wild Parrot Specialist Group" in *Oryx*, Volume 58(5).

World Parrot Day is celebrated annually on 31 May. Thanks to the TAG's Education Advisor, more educational material is available every year and the TAG encourages all EAZA Members to use it on that day and beyond. The focus species for 2024 was the kea (*Nestor notabilis*) with the motto "Be smart and creative, be more Parrot". At Bird Paradise (Singapore), World Parrot Day was extended for a full month using many of these materials!

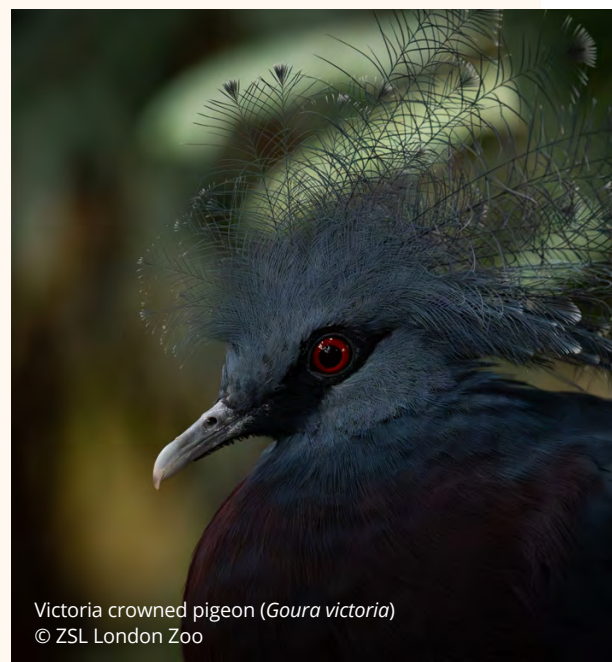
Toucan and Turaco TAG members are involved in several conservation projects. Arabia's Wildlife Centre and the Environmental & Protection Areas Authority of Sharjah (UAE) lead on Arabian collared kingfisher (*Todiramphus chloris kalbaensis*) conservation, ZSL London and Whipsnade Zoos support a project for the Guam kingfisher (*Todiramphus cinnamominus*), the newly initiated Guyane Conservation NGO focuses on toucans and parrots, and a white-backed woodpecker restocking project involves Nordens Ark and Wildriketand Skansen Zoo (all Sweden).

Although many of the species covered by the TAG are listed as Least Concern in the wild, many are present in trade annually, e.g. great blue turacos (*Corythaes cristata*) now on the south Asian and Middle Eastern market. Most of the taxa don't have a dedicated IUCN SSC SG, and more *in situ* conservation-focused research is needed.

The **Hornbill TAG** Chair is on the Steering Committee of the IUCN SSC Hornbill SG, and there was much focus on investigating the increased trade in live African hornbills and their body parts (skulls and feathers). He also co-authored a publication on African hornbill trade submitted to Biological Conservation. More research is needed on the status and conservation of African hornbills, with many large African species now listed as Least Concern likely to be Vulnerable or Endangered. Furthermore, CITES listing of the African hornbill species, especially of the *Bycanistes*, *Ceratogymna* and *Bucorvus* species, is urgently needed for better understanding and regulation of the trade and for stronger protection of hornbills.

The Northern and Southern ground hornbill EEPs continued encouraging holders to support conservation in southern and western Africa.

The TAG Chair also gave a presentation "Hornbill conservation needs good zoos" at the international conference "Working Together for Wildlife – The Role Of Progressive Zoos" organised by Attica Zoo (Greece) and attended by zoo staff, zoo associations including EAZA, governmental officials, as well as representatives of NGOs, rehabilitation centres, media and universities.



Victoria crowned pigeon (*Goura victoria*)
© ZSL London Zoo



Parrot information booth for month of parrot education at Bird Paradise © Mark Rusli



Southern ground hornbill (*Bucorvus leadbeateri*)
© Mabula Ground Hornbill Project

The **Songbird TAG's** field activities continued through the Silent Forest Working Group. The EAZA Silent Forest Conservation fund and EEO support were extended for another five years. Regular updates and news about the projects supported in South-East Asia are available on the website www.silentforest.eu. The TAG participated in the IUCN SSC Asian Songbird Trade SG meetings and workshops in Yogyakarta (Indonesia) in July, and visited the Silent Forest-supported Javan Sparrow project led by the local NGO Kanopi. The TAG also collaborated with the Zoological Society for the Conservation of Species and Populations (ZGAP, Germany) on the support of the Critically Endangered cherry-throated tanager (*Nemosia rourei*) in Brazil.

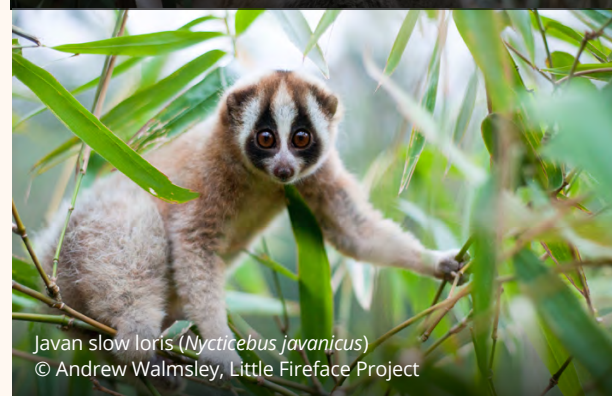
The **Monotreme and Marsupial TAG**, in collaboration with the Zoo and Aquarium Association (ZAA, Australasia), continued working with the Australian government to finalise a position statement aimed at ensuring that exports of Australian species occur exclusively on a TAG-to-TAG basis. continued collaborating with the Australian government to finalise a Position Statement to ensure Australian species were exported on a TAG-to-TAG basis only. A ZAA-EAZA MoU was formulated to support this, and the cooperation was further strengthened through discussions with ZAA and AZA colleagues at the Joint TAG Chairs meeting.

Most koala holders continued supporting koala conservation and research projects in Australia, coordinated by San Diego Zoo (USA). In addition, Stuttgart Zoo (Germany) supports the Dreamworld Wildlife Foundation in Australia in their conservation activities for koalas in the wild. Participants of the Tree Kangaroo Global Species Management Plan (GSMP) support the work of the Tenkile Conservation Alliance in Papua New Guinea and members of the Tasmanian devil EEP support the Devil Ambassador Program in Tasmania.

The **Prosimian TAG** began reviewing its *in situ* conservation plan, which compiles field initiatives linked to the EEPs that the TAG encourages EEP participants and other EAZA Members to support. This document will help the supporters to include these projects in their institutional *in situ* conservation plan, required by the new EAZA Field Conservation Standards. The TAG's plan is in line with the action plan of the IUCN SSC Primate SG. The TAG met with a representative of the SG to investigate opportunities for enhancing cooperation. The TAG will take further steps to be involved in forthcoming IUCN processes, especially when developing action plans for prosimians. Preparations of the TAG's Education Handbook also began.

In 2024, the **Callitrichid TAG** demonstrated its continued dedication to the preservation of these species through support for eight critical field projects. In Columbia, this included managing the *ex situ* population of the white-footed tamarin (*Saguinus leucopus*), with the revision of the species' official conservation plan proposing to estimate its range and occupancy, and the launch of the Selva de Florencia project to restore habitat connectivity, promote sustainable land use, and involve local communities. Camera traps and surveys have also shown the extraordinary results of the restoration project of Los Titíes de San Juan Forest Reserve, where over 74,213 trees were planted in the last years to rehabilitate deforested areas and address the ecological damage caused by logging. The growing ecosystem is now home to cotton-top tamarins (*Oedipomidas oedipus*) and over 254 bird species.

Work in Brazil included a workshop with experts from Tamarin Trust (UK), Toledo Zoo (USA) and ICMBio (Brazil) addressing the plight of the pied tamarins (*Saguinus bicolor*), which led to the establishment of a protected reserve and plans for habitat corridors and road bridges. Additional advancements in rescue protocols, husbandry practices, and integration of wild and captive populations were supported by Apenheul (the Netherlands) and Tamarin Trust. The Mountain Marmosets Conservation Programme



saw the expansion of sterile zones for hybrid marmosets in Teresópolis to safeguard pure populations of *Callithrix aurita*, while the Viçosa Mountain Marmoset Conservation Centre emerged as a pivotal hub for rescue, breeding, and reintroduction efforts, supported by Beauval Nature (France), the French Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AFdPZ) and other EAZA Members. Golden lion tamarin (GLT, *Leontopithecus rosalia*) experts from the *in situ* and *ex situ* communities, local and federal governments and the federal police discussed the growing illegal trade in GLTs resulting in more confiscations, and began developing a strategy to deal with confiscated animals.

The **Larger New World Monkeys (LNWM) TAG** began discussing the establishment of a “capuchin association” using the non-threatened capuchin species in EAZA to promote and support conservation of the threatened capuchin species in the range countries.

The TAG recruited an Education Advisor to improve internal communication with EAZA LNWM holders regarding the management of surplus animals and to raise public awareness on illegal pet trade.

The **Afro-Eurasian Monkey TAG** continued collaborating with the IUCN SSC Primate SG, conservation partners and the Pan-African Sanctuary Alliance, sharing opportunities for knowledge exchange, fundraising and awareness raising. The TAG Chair and Vice Chair co-authored the [IUCN Cercocebus and Mandrillus Action Plan](#) for 2024-2028 published in 2024.

The TAG recommends supporting West African Primate Conservation Action (WAPCA), Limbe Wildlife Centre, Selamatkin Yaki, Barbary Macaque Awareness and Education Conservation and Save The Drill. Among these, WAPCA is developing a new conservation programme in Cote d'Ivoire where it made a scoping visit to Tai National Park thanks to support from Artis Zoo. Together with the Tai Monkey Project, they aim to protect the Eastern side of the park, focusing on Diana monkey (*Cercopithecus diana*) and king colobus (*Colobus polykomos*) among others. Education departments at Barcelona Zoo (Spain), Hertfordshire Zoo (UK) and Five Sisters Zoo (non-EAZA EEP participant, UK) have also worked with WAPCA's education team to develop the Friends for Wildlife Programme – a pen pal programme in which children share their wildlife stories and activities across the globe.

The **Gibbon TAG** welcomed an Education Advisor, Andy Moore (Colchester Zoo, UK) to help identify the specific education roles of gibbon species in RSPs and ISPs, share global conservation news with members, support the development of educational activities and promote the existing projects that the TAG recommends.

For instance, Arakan Mountains Rainforest Conservation Project in Myanmar is the only project aiming to preserve the habitat of the Endangered western hoolock gibbon (*Hoolock hoolock*), through an inclusive protected area gazettelement and landscape approach, and the TAG was happy to have Christian Matauschek from Chances for Nature (Germany) talk about it at their meeting in October.

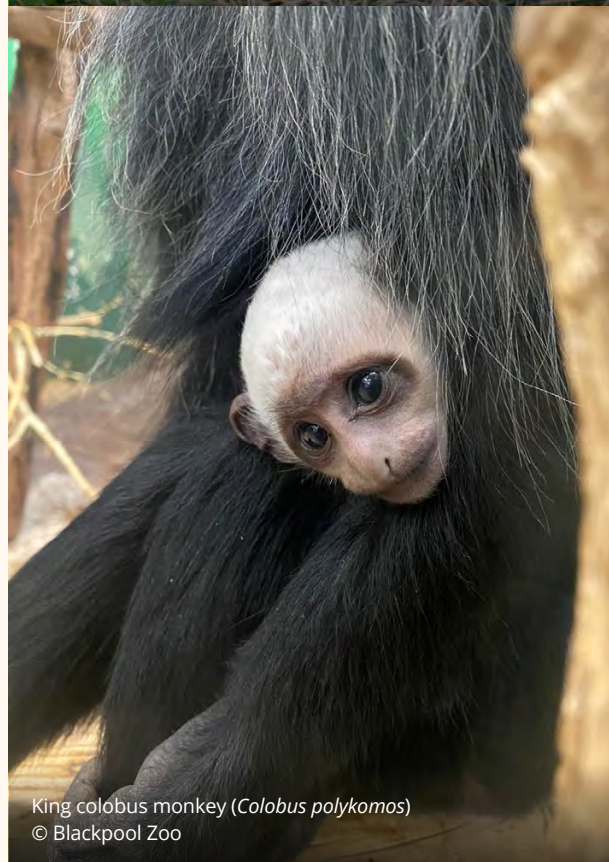
The **Small Mammal TAG** encourages members to support the Mauritian Wildlife Foundation and their activities focusing on remaining Mascarene fruit bat species, survey and population monitoring in Rodrigues as well as prevention and reconciliation of human-bat conflicts in Mauritius.

Tina Haagensen (Dyreparken, Norway) and **Canid and Hyaenid TAG** Education Advisor, Andy Moore (Colchester Zoo, UK) continued working on Conservation Education Guidelines for Canids and Hyaenids.

The Striped hyena EEP met with the Nature And Biodiversity Conservation Union (Germany) and Tajikistan Nature Foundation to discuss



Black-capped squirrel monkey (*Saimiri boliviensis*) © Basel Zoo



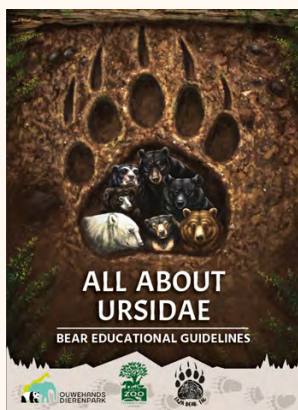
King colobus monkey (*Colobus polykomos*) © Blackpool Zoo



Hoffmann's two-toed sloth (*Choloepus hoffmanni*) in Faunia Madrid © Richard Viduna

financial support of their project to study the species in Tajikistan, where it is listed as Critically Endangered.

The Fennec fox EEP Coordinator participated in the Sahel & Sahara Interest Group with researchers and conservationists from Morocco and Tunisia and discussed a collaboration with the Mohammed V University in Rabat to research *Vulpes zerda*'s social structure and nutritional changes during the calendar year, as well as the impact of tourism on fennec population.



The **Bear TAG** was pleased to witness collaboration and sharing of information between stakeholders working for the benefit of bears from different regions around the world as the EAZA Bear Education Guidelines, finalised in 2024 and available on the EAZA Member Area, were presented at the International Bear Conference in Canada.

All Bear EEP Coordinators are encouraged to work closely with the respective conservation projects: Free the Bears (Laos) for Malayan sun bear (*Helarctos malayanus*); WCB Research Foundation

(India) for sloth bear (*Melursus ursinus*); Polar Bears International for polar bear (*Ursus maritimus*) and FPWC Armenia for Syriacus brown bear (*Ursus arctos syriacus*).

The **Small Carnivore TAG** prioritises resources for species in Europe, Madagascar and South-East Asia. The European otter EEP made the first steps towards a promising collaboration with the French National Action Plan regarding conservation education.

Together with the IUCN SSC Small Carnivore SG and IUCN experts such as Will Duckworth and Frank Hawkins, the TAG has made big progress toward the conservation of all small carnivores species of Madagascar. Working with the Civet Project Foundation, the Owston's civet EEP promoted and celebrated the first World Civet Day on 4 April: an opportunity for holders of all viverrids to raise the profile of these rarely known animals and generate funds to support *in situ* activities. Conservation efforts for Asian species are well illustrated by the Red panda EEP which provided additional support to the Red Panda Network for the formation of European chapter Red Panda Network.

A key role for the **Felid TAG** in recent years has been species recovery support for several projects within Europe and globally. This support has included population management expertise, sourcing of animals for breeding for release, as well as wider project planning, breeding centre design and pre-release strategy development.

Examples for 2024 include the work of Pallas's cat International Conservation Alliance (PICA), led by Nordens Ark (Sweden) with RZSS and the Snow Leopard Trust (USA), which contributed to *Otocolobus manul* conservation through over 15 range countries projects. Via the network of experts Linking lynx (Europe), planning for Carpathian lynx (*Lynx lynx carpathicus*) reintroduction and reinforcements is well underway for three sites in Germany and the first releases of animals sourced from EAZA Members started in 2024. Increased breeding has been recorded in the Arabian Leopard Conservation Breeding Centre (Saudi Arabia) project, led by the Royal Commission of AlUla, after implementation of the long-term plan for the reintroduction of Arabian leopards (*Panthera pardus nimr*).



Iberian wolf (*Canis lupus signatus*)
at Barcelona Zoo © Josep Xarles



Owston's civet (*Chrotogale owstoni*) © Shaldon Wildlife Trust



Pallas's cat (*Otocolobus manul*) © PICA

The TAG also continued to work closely with the IUCN SSC Cat SG Chairs, Urs and Christine Breitenmoser. Their specialist support and guidance have been critical for the TAG's greater impact in global conservation efforts.

Over the past year, the **Marine Mammal TAG** engaged with various institutions and universities to initiate, support, and implement *ex* and *in situ* conservation projects, reinforcing the link between scientific research and practical conservation actions. Several key meetings played a vital role in strengthening cooperation, aligning strategies, and advancing marine mammal conservation.

For instance, the Lahille's bottlenose dolphin EEP made significant progress with the development of five-year action plan for the species setting clear priorities for conservation efforts and management. The Rescue and Information Network, supported by EAAM, has focused on rehabilitation, monitoring, and protection of Mediterranean monk seal (*Monachus monachus*) populations, as well as participation in national and international conservation fora. Nuremberg Zoo (Germany) and Pairi Daiza (Belgium) provided substantial funding for a four-day workshop on defining priority areas for manatee conservation in South America.

The Aquatic Mammal Emergency Response Group was created under the TAG's leadership to coordinate and mobilise expertise for emergency situations involving marine mammals. This network connects specialists across institutions to provide rapid response and support in rescue, rehabilitation, and conservation crises.

The Conservation subgroup of the **Elephant TAG** started to work on the objectives defined in their terms of reference. A survey on the status quo of *in situ* conservation support by EEP participants showed that 65% of respondents currently support *in situ* projects for the conservation of elephants. The Conservation subgroup identified further steps to increase this number, emphasising a variety of conservation support. The group also aims to establish joint support for approved *in situ* projects by several elephant-holding institutions, making such support more efficient and impactful.

The **Equid TAG** saw many conservation successes in 2024 for the species under its remit.

Twenty-four kulans (*Equus hemionus kulan*) were transported from the Altyn Emel NP to the Altyn Dala NR in Central Kazakhstan as part of the Altyn Dala Conservation Initiative.

As part of the international *Return of the Wild Horses* project in Kazakhstan, seven Przewalski's horses (*E. przewalskii*) successfully arrived at the Alibi reintroduction centre. Prague Zoo (Czechia) led the project, with additional work ongoing in Eastern Mongolia and a new international conservation alliance formed after a workshop in Hustai Nuuru NP to share knowledge and experience, as well as increase research cooperation.

Field research on suitable habitats for African wild ass (*E. africanus somaliensis*) resumed in Ethiopia with support from Basel Zoo (Switzerland), identifying two areas and highlighting the need for science-based protected areas. In Eritrea, a conservation programme has been completed, focusing on research, staff training, appropriate protected area identification and implementation of management plans.

Additionally, plans for the *in situ* project focused on maneless zebra (*E. quagga borensis*) are under negotiation between the EEP and the Uganda Wildlife Authority. Conservation efforts through the Mountain Zebra Project in Namibia involve partnerships with local landowners, Namibia Nature Foundation and Namibian Nature Reserves. A new national survey for Grevy's zebra (*E. grevyi*) was carried out in Kenya, showing preliminary hopeful signs of population survival post-drought. Marwell Zoo's (UK) education initiatives targeting Morans (warriors) have led to a reduction in poaching.



Lahille's bottlenose dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus gephyreus*)
© YAQU PACHA e.V.



African elephants (*Loxodonta africana*)
at Wuppertal Zoo © Claudia Philipp



Przewalski's horses (*Equus przewalskii*)
© V. Šilha, Prague Zoo

The **Rhinoceros TAG** celebrated the birth of a second Eastern black rhinoceros (*Diceros bicornis michaeli*) from one of the females relocated from the EEP to Akagera National Park (Rwanda) in 2019. The TAG continued its collaborations with the two IUCN SSC Rhino SGs and Save the Rhino International, with representatives of the latter presenting the latest *in situ* developments and progress of field projects at the TAG meetings.

Following an education and communication survey sent to holders of the **Cattle and Camelid TAG** species, the TAG's Education Advisor started developing species factsheets for holders to use.

The Tamaraw EEP participants and IUCN SSC Asian Wild Cattle SG have continued to develop a feasibility assessment for *ex situ* or translocation of the species in the Philippines to support the government's protection efforts. The Action Indonesia GSMP and holding institutions have sampled banteng (*Bos javanicus*) from two *in situ* populations in Java as part of an island-wide population and genetic assessment to inform action planning. An anoa (*Bubalus depressicornis*) population monitoring was also completed through camera-trapping of the Farehumpenai Protected Area in Sulawesi, thanks to the support of many EAZA Members.

Despite the spread of the Bluetongue disease restricting certain movements, the European bison EEP continued to provide animals for the reintroduction project in Azerbaijan with crucial support of Berlin Tierpark and WWF (Germany). However, an outbreak of Foot and Mouth disease near Berlin caused some transfers to be postponed to 2025. Holders have been asked to support the creation of the next IUCN action plan for the species.

The TAG has been working to increase *in situ* activities for some species, including wild buffalo (*Bubalus arnee*) and wild camel (*Camelus ferus*).

With the **Deer TAG** Chair Noam Werner serving as Co-Chair of the IUCN SSC Deer SG and several TAG members being Deer SG members, collaborative work is ongoing. The IUCN SSC Conservation Translocation SG and respective EEPs have been involved in long-term *in situ* deer conservation projects in range countries, such as for the Visayan spotted deer (*Rusa alfredi*) in the Philippines, forest reindeer (*Rangifer tarandus fennicus*) in Finland, Mesopotamian fallow deer (*Dama mesopotamica*) in Israel, or large antlered muntjac (*Muntiacus vuquangensis*) in Southeast Asia. Additionally, several TAG members also hold academic positions and are involved in research projects focusing on EEP species.

In 2024, the **Antelope and Giraffid TAG** started restructuring their approach to conservation and education work. At their mid-year meeting, they made an inventory of current work and brainstormed new ideas. The TAG aims to connect at least one *in situ* project, that must have a measurable impact, to every EEP. Similarly, clear education goals that strive towards a behaviour change that positively impacts antelope and giraffid conservation should be formulated. Collaborative work with the EAZA Conservation Education Committee has started.

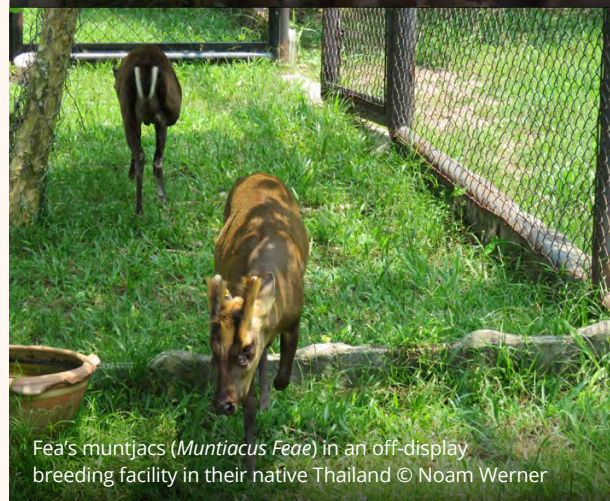
In the meantime, the TAG continued their close cooperation with the IUCN SSC Antelope SG and IUCN SSC Giraffe and Okapi SG, which are key to selecting relevant projects in which the TAG can assist. For example, zoos are crucial in the 2020-2029 conservation strategy for the slender-horned gazelle (*Gazella leptoceros*). The species is at great risk of going extinct soon and is not present in European zoos. Conservation breeding efforts are needed and Marwell Wildlife (UK) has been championing this together with the Direction Générale des Forêts in Tunisia with financial support from EAZA zoos.



Zoo-born black rhinoceros (*Diceros bicornis*)
Olmoti and her calf in Rwanda
© Emma Evers, National Park Akagera



Anoa (*Bubalus depressicornis*) © Marcel Alaze



Fea's muntjacs (*Muntiacus Feae*) in an off-display
breeding facility in their native Thailand © Noam Werner



Slender-horned gazelle (*Gazella leptoceros*)
conservation breeding centre in Sidi Toui
National Park © Marwell Wildlife

The **Caprinae TAG** aims to connect with field conservationists and researchers worldwide to develop and support long-term cooperations. For instance, Tony Souvignet (formerly Besançon Zoo, France) initiated a working group with European and Japanese colleagues to discuss the import of cryopreserved sperm from golden takin (*Budorcas taxicolor bedfordi*) bulls from Japan to Europe and vice versa to enhance the genetics of the EEP population. The first examinations of the animals in Japan were already conducted. Tony also worked on organising the very first “Caprinae One-Plan-Approach Symposium” to be held in Besançon in April 2024 to discuss *ex situ* and *in situ* conservation efforts, current research, and emerging challenges in caprine conservation.

These achievements present conservation and education highlights from the TAGs for 2024. Many more valuable activities were conducted across the EAZA membership, and we extend our thanks and congratulations to all involved.



Participants of the very first Caprinae One-Plan-Approach Symposium © Sonja Müller



REPRESENTING THE EAZA COMMUNITY ALONGSIDE APPROPRIATE STAKEHOLDERS AT THE NATIONAL, EU AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS TO INFLUENCE POLICY AND GOOD PRACTICE

In 2024, EAZA reinforced its role as a standard-setter recognised in legislation and a trusted conservation partner. The Association further developed its bonds with key decisionmakers and stakeholders, ensuring that the voice of EAZA and its Members was heard in policy discussions at national, EU, and international levels. This was also supported by strengthened collaboration with national zoo associations to align political positions across EAZA countries, and by enhancing the exchange of policy and legislative knowledge among the membership.

WORKING TOGETHER ON POLICY AND LEGISLATION

The National Associations Committee (NAC), chaired by Volker Homes (Association of German-speaking Zoological Gardens, VdZ, Germany) continued playing a key role in developing EAZA's outward look into the area of policy influence and the public.

The NAC evolved into a highly engaged group discussing "hot topics" such as the changes in legislation that may impact positively or negatively the operation of zoos in the respective countries. As these rules may spread to other countries, developing advocacy strategies is relevant and valuable for many Members.

Following the 2024 elections to the EU Parliament, the EEO policy team published the second edition of the EAZA Manifesto for European leaders with input from the NAC. The document, freely available on the [EAZA website](#), presents how the EAZA community can help decisionmakers, in the EU and beyond, in the shaping and implementation of policy and legislation. It was distributed to selected Members of the EU Parliament with introductory letters from EAZA and national associations.

The NAC supported EAZA in harmonising its positions on key topics, such as the future of the EU Zoos Directive, expansion of the EU list of Invasive Alien Species, the use of positive lists in pet trade or on the public sentiment towards zoos and aquariums.

The EEO's policy team and the NAC worked on EU welfare legislation, e.g. by monitoring new initiatives such as a revised EU regulation on the welfare of animals in transport, or regulations for package holidays to make sure tourists only visit reputable, accredited animal attractions with good welfare. They supported BIAZA with joint lobbying for effective solutions for animal transfers between zoos following Brexit.

EAZA IS ADDRESSING THIS MANIFESTO TO MEMBERS OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OTHER POLICY LEADERS IN EUROPE AND BEYOND, WHO ARE FACED WITH DECISIONS ABOUT NATURE, SOCIETY AND THE ECONOMY.

WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN FORCES WITH US IN

- 1 CONNECTING CITIZENS WITH NATURE
- 2 SAFEGUARDING A FUTURE FOR EUROPEAN AND NON-EUROPEAN ANIMAL SPECIES
- 3 LINKING GLOBAL GOALS WITH LOCAL PRIORITIES
- 4 FOSTERING COLLABORATION AND SHARING EXPERTISE ACROSS EUROPE AND BEYOND

EAZA IS CALLING ON YOU TO

A ENSURE THE SUCCESS OF NATURE CONSERVATION FRAMEWORKS

Global Biodiversity Framework, EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030, EU Nature Restoration Law and EU Action Plan against Wildlife Trafficking.

B RECOGNISE THE IMPORTANCE OF HEALTHY AND RESILIENT ECOSYSTEMS, RESTORED BIODIVERSITY WITH THRIVING WILDLIFE SPECIES AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

because of their intrinsic value but also because they help Europe tackle geopolitical, social and economic challenges and prepare for future uncertainties.

C SUPPORT FULL AND EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF EU ZOOS DIRECTIVE AND RELATED NATIONAL LAWS

to maximise the contribution of zoos and aquariums to nature conservation while ensuring appropriate conditions for animals in their care.

Extract from the EAZA Manifesto © EAZA, 2024

Advancing Marine Education through EU4Ocean

In 2024, EAZA remained involved in the EU4Ocean Coalition for Ocean Literacy, an initiative supporting the EU Mission “Restore our Ocean and Waters”. This collaboration allows EAZA to contribute to raising awareness of ocean conservation and to position zoos and aquariums as important actors in advancing the EU’s marine policy and ocean literacy agenda.

A cornerstone of EAZA’s efforts in EU4Ocean was the development of a free, self-paced online course on ocean literacy to be launched by the EAZA Academy in 2025, as a foundation for institutions aiming to embed the topic into their educational programmes. It will introduce educators to the fundamentals of marine science and explain ocean’s significance for human and environmental health. You can read more about our work with EU4Ocean in [Zooquaria 124](#).

GLOBAL FORUMS: CITES AND IUCN

Work with the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) continued in 2024, with EAZA providing expert input and contributing to key discussions on international wildlife trade. EAZA was represented at the CITES Animals Committee meeting in July 2024 to support informed decision-making. Discussions included critical topics such as trade in marine ornamental fish, the conservation of amphibians, transport of live specimens, and protections for Appendix-I listed species.

Particular attention was given to promoting the correct use of Purpose Codes for the trade and transfers of CITES-listed species. EAZA also helped steer discussions on zoonotic diseases, ensuring that proposals remained aligned with CITES’s core mandate on regulating international trade. In ongoing debates about African elephant conservation, EAZA advocated for maintaining focus on standards for appropriate and acceptable destinations for live elephant transfers.

EAZA is collaborating with Members and partners to prepare its positions for the next CITES Conference of the Parties (CoP20) in Samarkand, Uzbekistan, in late 2025.

In 2024, EAZA deepened its collaboration with IUCN, advancing shared goals for species conservation and policy development. In addition to Members’ rich and diverse work in IUCN SSC SGs, presented in other chapters of this report, EAZA was also directly involved in the IUCN Regional Conservation Forum for Europe, North and Central Asia held in Bruges (Belgium) in October.

There, we hosted, together with the IUCN SSC CPSCG, a session highlighting the role of zoos and aquariums in species conservation. It showcased planning tools from the Global Species Action Plan, and explained how EAZA applies the *Ex situ* Conservation Assessment process to strengthen RSP and support EEPs. The session also identified opportunities for better integration of *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation efforts within a variety of public policies – from wildlife trade, invasive alien species, to nature restoration.

In parallel, IUCN launched the motions process for the 2025 IUCN World Conservation Congress in Abu Dhabi. EAZA is actively engaged, co-sponsoring motions on topics including illegal wildlife trade, genetic diversity assessments, the One Health approach, freshwater fish conservation, and marine biodiversity in Macaronesia. EAZA is also closely monitoring motions related to synthetic biology, the commercial pet trade, longevity conservation, and welfare standards for wild animals in human care.

Political advocacy featured in many meetings throughout the year to help Members feel more confident in this domain: at the EAZA Directors’ Days, Annual Conference and Conservation Forum, as well as in a meeting of the EAZA Communicators’ Network. The latter gathered online in September to discuss how zoos and aquariums can increase their engagement with politicians at EU, national, and regional levels. Speakers included Andy Hall (BIAZA, UK), Tomasz Rusek (EAZA), Simon Bruslund (Copenhagen Zoo, Denmark), and František Příbrský (Ostrava Zoo, Czechia). They shared practical insights on public affairs, developing political communication strategies, collaborating with associations, and building credibility in political advocacy and “zoo diplomacy”, both at home in Europe and internationally in their field projects. Read more about the Communicators’ Network in the Focal Area 4 section.



Raising awareness of EU4Ocean at the EAZA Conservation Forum
© EAZA

EAZA'S PARTNERS

Progress towards our shared vision – *Progressive zoos and aquariums saving species together with you* – would not be possible without the support of our partner organisations and the trust and engagement of wider society. Our sincere thanks go to them as well.

Our commitment to working together across diverse cultures and at all levels is especially evident through our Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with multiple long-term partners who are regional and global associations. These MoUs highlight shared interests where working together supports our common goals, ensures our global work happens in a collaborative setting, and increases our impact. For example, the MoU between EAZA and EAZWV underpinned the development of the Handbook on EU Animal Health Law and Confined Establishments, and updating of the Transmissible Diseases Handbook referred to in earlier chapters.

The MoUs with the four Biobanking hubs (Antwerp Zoo, Belgium; Copenhagen Zoo, Denmark; Leibniz Institute for Zoo and Wildlife Research, IZW, Germany; and RZSS, Scotland) led to achievements detailed on page 44. In addition, EAZA's collaboration is expanded by MoUs with Nature's Safe, and the Autonomous University of Barcelona (Spain) on cryopreservation, which bring further research and application opportunities to genetic management and conservation.

EAZA also has several species-specific MoUs, including with ReShark for cooperation on the reinforcement, post-release management and conservation research of wild zebra shark populations from the EEP. Our existing work with Animal Advocacy and Protection (AAP) supporting the placement of rescued and confiscated Barbary macaques has now been expanded to chimpanzees. This new MoU will result in stronger population management in human care as well as joint actions towards combatting the illegal wildlife trade and moving towards thriving populations in the wild. The MoU with the Rwanda Development Board and Akagera Management Company saw the birth of a second Eastern black rhinoceros from individuals relocated from the EEP to Rwanda. A similar MoU with the Tanzania Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism developed in 2024 will result in additional rhino movements from the EEP to Grumeti in the near future.

EAZA also holds seats on the Boards of international organisations such as IUCN CPSG, WAZA, Species360 and the Amphibian Survival Alliance.

We remain thankful to Mulhouse Zoo (France) and Prague Zoo (Czechia) for their continued support of EAZA Executive Office staff as part of the EAZA Population Management Centre. Chester Zoo, Wild Planet Trust (both UK) and Copenhagen Zoo (Denmark) also provide valuable opportunities for staff to work outside of the main office hubs in Amsterdam and Brussels.





FACILITATING, GUIDING AND PROMOTING THE VALUES AND SCIENTIFIC WORK OF ACCREDITED ZOOS AND AQUARIUMS BOTH INTERNALLY AND EXTERNALLY

In 2024, EAZA continued its commitment to having the community's scientific foundation, values, and conservation efforts clearly communicated and widely understood. Building on the Communication Guidelines for Members from 2023, the Association further harmonised internal and external messaging and engaged stakeholders through a variety of channels, including a brand new, environmental-friendly website (see Focal Area 5). EAZA also maintained its focus on expanding research capacity and promoting the publication of high-quality outputs in the *Journal of Zoo and Aquarium Research*.

COMMUNICATION

EAZA has an ambitious vision and mission, and its Members carry out remarkable amounts of hard work – in animal care and welfare, conservation, education, research, and other fields. Setting up frameworks for communicating these efforts to the membership and to external stakeholders is an important task of the EEO, supported by the EAZA Communications Committee.

In 2024, the Committee focused on strengthening public understanding and support for EAZA Members and their work. Alongside monitoring national media for potential communication risks, the Committee worked to promote the message that EAZA zoos and aquariums are leaders in conservation, education, and research, encouraging Members to highlight their achievements using the EAZA Communication Guidelines published in 2023. Efforts also concentrated on increasing Member communication about the significance of EAZA accreditation and helping Members explain population management practices in culturally sensitive ways.

EAZA continued to rely on Council members and the National Associations Committee to disseminate key messages across the diverse membership. Meanwhile, the EAZA Communicators' Network, launched in 2022, grew to

353 communication professionals representing more than 218 institutions. The Network remained active through a Facebook group and regular online meetings, supporting the exchange of best practices and strengthening alignment with the EAZA Strategy. You can read about the topics of their meetings throughout this report.

ZOOQUARIA

Published four times a year, the *Zooquaria* (ZQ) magazine is filled with news reports, feature articles and opinion pieces illustrating the diverse activities and challenges that zoos and aquariums are involved in.

ZQ 121 reflected the global trends that the zoo community is facing including new models of conservation that may require to collaborate with new partners, the need to evaluate effectiveness, to communicate with one voice and to promote the positive animal welfare opportunities that we provide.

ZQ 122 was about advances and connections, with articles sharing advances, from Best Practice Guidelines to sustainability and lobby work brought about by collaborative work and likely enhanced by connections made in-person at (EAZA) events and meetings.



ZQ 123 informed readers about some of the changes our Association is implementing to ensure EAZA zoos and aquariums continue to evolve with our ever-changing world and inspire their passionate and expert staff to keep saving species together.

ZQ124 highlighted the successes of 2024, showcasing present projects, and introducing future goals of nature conservation for 2025.

FUTURE OF ZOOS AND AQUARIUMS

Throughout 2024, debates on the future role of zoos and aquariums continued or emerged in several EAZA countries. The National Associations Committee actively compared national approaches and worked to align key messages, ensuring that progressive zoos and aquariums present a harmonized voice to governments and the public.

Encouragingly, public sentiment surveys continued showing strong support for progressive zoos and aquariums, recognising their contributions to animal welfare, conservation, research, education, and recreation.

EAZA Directors' Days

In April, 139 delegates from 34 countries representing 112 institutions attended the EAZA Directors' Days, hosted by Fota Wildlife Park (Ireland). Themed around the evolving role of zoos and aquariums in society by 2050, the talks and workshops saw speakers from within and outside the EAZA community share their views on trends (in society, conservation, wildlife trade, animal care and welfare) that are likely to influence the landscape in which progressive zoos and aquariums will operate in the next decades. WAZA President Karen Fifield (Wellington Zoo, New Zealand) reflected on the evolving role of zoos at individual, regional, and global levels, while biologist and gender diversity leader Brigitte Baptiste (Universidad Ean, Colombia) challenged the community to embrace biodiversity in all its forms and shape the future of conservation. Loïs Lelanchon (formerly IFAW, Belgium) and Ilaria de Silvestre (IFAW) highlighted the role of zoos in wildlife rescues, and advocated for strong welfare legislation as a tool for progress. The slightly lower overall event experience score of 7.0/10 compared to other

2024 EAZA conferences is reflective of the challenge of fitting such a broad theme into two days.

Generation Z

The generational changes in attitudes towards the environment – and towards zoos and aquariums in particular – were a big topic of discussion in 2024 across several EAZA Committees. At the EAZA Annual Conference, around 100 colleagues attended a meeting of the Communicators' Network to explore how Generation Z's values, attitudes, and communication habits are shaping public perceptions of zoos. Speakers included Simon Atkinson (Ipsos), Christian Behrens (Garden of Youth, Germany), and Diana Garlytska (IUCN), who shared insights on social trends, effective engagement through platforms like TikTok, and strategies for involving youth in nature conservation.

BIOBANKING AND MORE

The EAZA Biobank continues to be a great resource for scientific research in support of conservation. Divided in four hubs (Antwerp Zoo, Belgium; Copenhagen Zoo, Denmark; Leibniz Institute for Zoo and Wildlife Research, IZW, Germany; RZSS, Scotland), it stores biological samples – blood, tissue, hair – collected from animals in EAZA zoos and aquariums and in the wild. By the end of 2024, the number of samples exceeded 28,000! Samples have been used for 29 research projects. We thank all the zoos and aquariums that sent samples to the EAZA Biobank for contributing to advancing population management and conservation research.

The EAZA Position Statement on the Use of Cryopreserved Materials and Biotechnology was approved in October 2024. It provides guidance on the responsible application of these technologies in species conservation. The statement supports the use of cryopreservation and biotechnology to enhance genetic diversity and sustainability of species populations, while cautioning against ethically controversial practices such as de-extinction, cloning, and non-conservation-focused gene editing.



Keynote speaker Brigitte Baptiste at the EAZA Directors' Days 2024 © EAZA



EAZA BIOBANK

By the end of 2024



28,621
samples stored

from 9,447
animals



1,164 (sub) species

Mammals

Birds

Fish

Reptiles
Amphibians
Invertebrates

donated by
277 institutions



> 720 samples
released to 29
research projects

4 Biobank hubs

ZOO
ANTWERPEN

ZOO
COPENHAGEN

Leibniz Institute for Zoo
and Wildlife Research
an the FORTH/ANNOBERG RESEARCH

RZSS
THE ROYAL ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY

WWW.EAZA.NET/BIOBANK

ZOO AND AQUARIUM RESEARCH

Scientific publications

As multidisciplinary scientific institutions, zoos and aquariums are important partners of the global scientific network. Their publications raise the level of knowledge and are the foundation for evidence-based discussions and decisions. EAZA's Journal of Zoo and Aquarium Research (JZAR) provides a forum for publication of novel, peer-reviewed research papers, reviews, technical reports and evidence-based case studies.

Four JZAR issues were published in 2024, including a Special Issue (Volume 12, issue 4) produced in collaboration with the Animal Welfare Working Group featuring selected presentations from the first and second EAZA Animal Welfare Forums, held in 2022 and 2024.

We are grateful to RZSS, Zürich Zoo (Switzerland), the Royal Zoological Society of Antwerp (KMDA, Belgium) and Sparsholt College Hampshire (UK) for their support as sponsors of JZAR in 2024.

In close collaboration with the Association of German-speaking Zoological Gardens (VdZ, Germany), the Research Committee, chaired by Zjef Pereboom (Antwerp Zoo, Belgium), further expanded the Zoo Science Library (www.ZooScienceLibrary.org). This online repository of scientific publications now contains over 1,400 articles from the period 2018 to 2023.

JOURNAL OF ZOO AND AQUARIUM RESEARCH



JOURNAL OF ZOO AND AQUARIUM RESEARCH



JOURNAL OF ZOO AND AQUARIUM RESEARCH



JOURNAL OF ZOO AND AQUARIUM RESEARCH



RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS FROM EAZA TAXON ADVISORY GROUPS



Many TAG members were involved in peer-reviewed **publications** issued in 2024. Scan the QR code or [click here](#) to open the Research Annex, a list of papers provided by the TAGs.

In the **Terrestrial Invertebrate TAG**, Chester Zoo (UK) developed a methodology to mark terrestrial land snails on their shells, for the monitoring of specimens after their reintroduction to the wild. The research included different materials (paints, tags and glues) and assessed the longevity and visibility of the marks, the effects on the specimens and the survival ratio of the marked animals living in the facilities of the zoo.

In 2024, the Egg identification/Breeding working group was created under the remit of the **Marine Teleost TAG**. Co-led by Rotterdam Zoo experts (the Netherlands) within the Roffa Reefs project, this group aims to conduct preliminary research about the potential breeding capacity and species composition in European aquariums. The intention is to gather information on the first life-stages of fish eggs *in-* and *ex situ* and create a spawning calendar and a database that can be used to identify fish species anywhere on earth with AI-powered automatic photo recognition software. The group urges all EAZA aquariums to join the project. Breeding efforts have already been seen at Burgers' Zoo (the Netherlands) and Nausicaá (France). Many research projects are underway within the Seahorse EEPs, such as on individual identification using spot patterns (Chessington Zoo and SEA LIFE – non-EAZA EEP participant, UK) or age determination using otoliths (ear bones) with Bangor University (UK).

The **Elasmobranch TAG** is advancing genetic research on various elasmobranch species (sharks, rays, and skates) in collaboration with several European aquariums, universities and laboratories.

The TAG's Veterinary Advisors produced guidance for elasmobranch blood sampling, with detailed, practical guidelines for the collection, handling, analysis, and preservation of blood samples from elasmobranchs under human care.

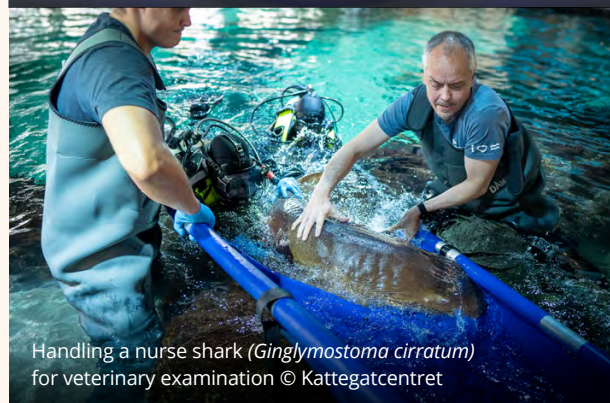
Amphibian TAG members continued to support research activities in the field and on site, and published an impressive amount of scientific articles (see Annex document).

To name just a few examples from the field: Chester Zoo (UK) collected eDNA samples from Lake Patzcuaro (Mexico) and tissue samples from wild *Ambystoma dumerillii* directly surveyed in the lake; ZSL London Zoo (UK) studied the spatial ecology of the Endangered Sagalla caecilian (*Boulengerula niedeni*) in Kenya; Cologne Zoo (Germany) supervised seven MSc projects on amphibians and described four new amphibian species from Vietnam; or collaborative research into chytrid mitigation options for the *Leptodactylus fallax* in Montserrat by Nordens Ark (Sweden), Chester, London and Jersey Zoos (UK) and their local partners.

Paris Zoo (France) developed assisted reproduction techniques for amphibians tested on model species in the labs of the National Museum of Natural History in Paris, while a network of collaborators was established in French Guiana to work on local species.



Snails individually marked with a colour code using infra-red paint © Chester Zoo



Handling a nurse shark (*Ginglymostoma cirratum*) for veterinary examination © Kattegatcentret



Lake Patzcuaro salamander (*Ambystoma dumerillii*) in situ rearing for egg collection © Universidad Michoacana de San Nicolas de Hidalgo



Mountain chicken frog (*Leptodactylus fallax*) © Benjamin Tapley

Members of the **Reptile TAG** were involved in a number of publications issued in 2024 (see Annex document), supervised several student theses, worked in the editorial boards of scientific journals and gave lectures at scientific conferences. The increase in EEPs in the last years was matched by growth in the volume of EEP-conducted research as well.

Selected examples of research achievements in 2024 include: data collection on *Mauremys* spp *ex situ* individuals in Vietnam focused on environment and egg-laying patterns, and morphometric studies to identify clades and genetic purity; Prague Zoo's (Czechia) study of gharial (*Gavialis gangeticus*) population genetics and acoustic communication, which stimulates breeding in human care; joint research between ZSL London Zoo, Crocodiles of the World (UK) and others on Komodo dragon (*Varanus komodoensis*) dentition; and the creation of a database containing information on 580 individuals of 12 chameleon species, collected in the Vohimana reserve in Madagascar with Caméléon Center Conservation (Switzerland).

Paris Zoo (France) and Chester Zoo (UK) collaboratively tested methods of attaching radio transmitters on Parson's chameleons (*Calumma parsonii*) in human care, so it can be applied in the field in 2025.

The **Penguin TAG** focused its research activities on rockhopper penguins in 2024. Vienna Zoo (Austria) initiated several projects with German bird specialists from University of Giessen and Wuppertal Zoo to understand and address egg infertility observed in these populations. Additionally, two master's theses started in collaboration with the University of Vienna, on social behaviour of Northern rockhopper penguins (*Eudyptes moseleyi*) during the breeding season in human care and on the effects of pair-bond behaviours on the species' breeding success.

Within the **Pelecaniformes, Ciconiiformes and Phoenicopteriformes TAG**, Artis Zoo with the help of students from Van Hall Larenstein (both the Netherlands) began to study the influence of biologgers on the behaviour of Eurasian spoonbills (*Platalea leucorodia*). This will help the scientists from the University of Groningen (the Netherlands) who have launched "**BirdEyes**", a scientific and creative centre that views the world through the eyes of birds using data from transmitters, loggers, audio devices and camera images.

The **Raptor TAG**, through the EEP Coordinators of various vulture species, initiated a PhD research plan on the care and welfare of vultures in human care. Additionally, several studies led to publications in 2024 (see Annex document), such as research on the morbidity of secretary birds (*Sagittarius serpentarius*).

The **Galliformes TAG**'s research focus was also on the Vietnam pheasant (*Lophura edwardsi*), with a multi-year study led by ZSL London Zoo and Chester Zoo (both UK) on the effect of tail-mounted telemetry devices on their behaviour. The behaviour of these birds was also studied at Burgers' Zoo and Wildlands Adventure Zoo Emmen (both the Netherlands) to learn more about their use of the environment. Antwerp Zoo's Centre for Research and Conservation (Belgium) started assessing the genetic diversity of Vietnam pheasant and Malay crestless fireback (*Lophura erythrophthalma*) populations to improve breeding recommendations.

In the **Pigeon and Dove TAG**, two research projects looked at the genetics of the EEP populations as per their LTMP goals. For the pink pigeon (*Nesoenas mayeri*), results of both the EEP population and the wild Mauritian one will inform the management of the species. A study of crowned pigeons is in the early stages of preparation and will aim at understanding the species' hybrid and pedigree status.



Komodo dragon (*Varanus komodoensis*)
© Gerardo Garcia, Chester Zoo



Northern rockhopper penguin (*Eudyptes moseleyi*)
chicks at Vienna Zoo © Vienna Zoo



Malay crestless fireback (*Lophura erythrophthalma*)
© Jonathan Beilby



Pink pigeon (*Nesoenas mayeri*)
© Gregory Guida, Jersey Zoo

ZSL Institute of Zoology (UK) started a PhD project assessing the long-term effects of *ex situ* management on Socorro doves (*Zenaida graysoni*): morphometrics of birds from the current EEP are compared with historical museum specimens to reveal how multiple generations in human care may have affected the species. This research is hoped to provide insights into pre-conditioning of *ex situ*-bred birds for release back onto Socorro Island.

The **Parrot TAG** is involved in the welfare research project “Tropical Parrots” led by Wildlife’s Welfare, reviewing resistance of certain species to cold temperatures.

Copenhagen Zoo and the University of Copenhagen (Denmark) launched a PhD project to investigate and address intra-breeding pair aggression in Asian cockatoos, to enable reliable breeding. Asian cockatoos are among the most threatened birds in the world and EAZA Members house the world’s only substantial and managed *ex situ* populations. Successful breeding is thus crucial for their survival.

The **Toucan and Turaco TAG** and the **Hornbill TAG** joined efforts to investigate the best technology available to produce prosthetic bills and alleviate the beak fractures regularly observed worldwide in toucan and ground hornbill species in human care. The multi-year research project will be conducted by veterinary students and will involve the Coordinators of the three Toucan EEPs and the TAG Veterinary Advisors.

Several of the large Asian hornbills are not breeding well in zoos. A study to determine predictors for *ex situ* breeding success in the Papuan and Wreathed hornbill EEPs led to an article in Zoo Biology (see Annex document). Further projects will follow up in 2025, hopefully leading to better insights in compatibility and predictability of pairing in large Asian hornbills.

The **Songbird TAG**’s cooperation with Monitor Conservation Research Society on songbird trade issues is organised within a working group called **Monitor Songbird Lab**. Their activities led to several publications involving the TAG Chairs in 2024 (see Annex document), for instance related to the emerging trade in butcherbirds in Indonesia.

A collaboration with the University of Helsinki (Finland) also looked at the perceived aesthetics of birds and its link with trade interest, which can potentially improve predictions about trade-related threats. More publications using this data will follow in 2025.

The **Monotreme and Marsupial TAG** was involved in research activities related to several species under its remit. Studies to better understand the Koala Retrovirus continued with partners in Europe and Australia. Cooperation with the University of Melbourne (Australia) enabled research on kowari (*Dasyuroides byrnei*) skull morphology. Copenhagen Zoo (Denmark) undertook several studies investigating toxoplasmosis vaccination among several marsupial species, the effects of diet composition on wombats’ (*Vombatus ursinus*) vitamin D levels and birth date estimates for marsupials in ZIMS, which recommended more precision when recording birth dates.

The **Prosimian TAG**’s new Research Advisor began compiling a list of essential research topics for each EEP.

Examples of research conducted in 2024 include: NaturZoo Rheine (Germany) studying the behaviour of red-bellied (*Eulemur rubrivente*) and crowned (*E. coronatus*) lemurs in a mixed-species habitat with ring-tailed lemurs (*Lemur catta*). It highlighted that alternate access to the large outdoor space was better for the first two species that each got along well with the ring-tailed but not with each other. Such results are vital for improving the use of (shared) spaces in institutional species planning.



Yellow-crested cockatoo (*Cacatua sulphurea parvula*) chicks in Neuwied Zoo © Max Birkendorf



Hooded butcherbird (*Cracticus cassicus*) © Simon Bruslund, Copenhagen Zoo



White-eared opossum (*Didelphis albiventris*) © Copenhagen Zoo



Coquerel's sifaka (*Propithecus coquereli*) © Chester Zoo

Two studies on Coquerel's sifaka (*Propithecus coquereli*) were also initiated. One, on the impact of diet and season on their faecal microbiome, showed that the species displays high temporal variability with distinct clusters for each time series and a seasonal effect. The other study investigated stress using diurnal behaviour, sleep patterns and faecal glucocorticoid, and highlighted significant behavioural differences between individuals.

Several research projects in 2024 provided valuable insights to the **Callitrichid TAG** for the management and welfare of these species.

A study led by experts from Chester Zoo, ZSL and Royal Veterinary College (all UK) explored how contraception influenced group dynamics in callitrichids. Data from five years highlighted trends in aggression, social evictions, and management interventions. The findings will inform breeding management, best practices, and EAZA reproductive policies.

University of Portsmouth (UK) conducted a retrospective analysis of pathological findings across nine zoo-housed callitrichid species to identify health trends by age, sex, and disease. The outcomes will guide future health management strategies.

Within the **Great Ape TAG**, a study involving Antwerp Zoo (Belgium), Twycross Zoo (UK) and partner universities explored the potential of Qualitative Behavioural Assessment (QBA) to assess bonobo (*Pan paniscus*) emotional expressivity. Results indicated that QBA could be used as a welfare-monitoring tool, offering a non-invasive method to assess emotional states. For the EEP, it can help clarify how housing, group dynamics, and transfers affect bonobo well-being, ultimately guiding management strategies to optimise welfare.

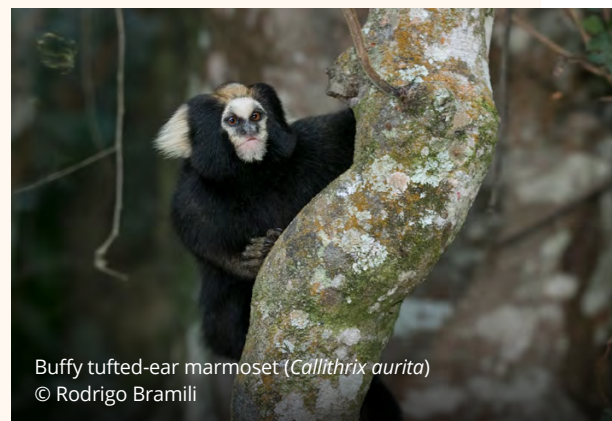
Whilst the **Small Mammal TAG** did not carry out joint research in 2024, its members continued conducting studies within their institutions. For instance, ongoing research is taking place on the husbandry and reproduction of common hamsters (*Cricetus cricetus*) in many zoos whose colonies are used as sources for reintroductions, mostly in Germany and France.

The **Canid and Hyaenid TAG** supported a number of research projects, including analyses of correlations between reproductive control and behaviour in canid species (modelled on research in domestic dogs), and of a hybrid conservation management approach for the Endangered African wild dogs (*Lycaon pictus*). The Bush dog EEP is also working with a researcher from Saint Louis Zoo (USA) on the potential impact of domestic dog diseases on *Speothos venaticus* in the wild.

The TAG continued to collaborate with several partners such as the Institute for the Breeding of Rare and Endangered African Mammals (IBREAM, Scotland), the IUCN SSC Canid SG or Sparsholt University College (UK) to support *in situ* and *ex situ* research.

In addition to publishing several scientific articles (see Annex document), the **Bear TAG** endorsed research projects, including non-invasive evaluations in the Malayan sun bear (*Helarctos malayanus*) in Chester Zoo (UK), the study of oral microbiota in bears in human care at Copenhagen Zoo (Denmark), analyses of mortality and morbidity within the *ex situ* population of polar bears (*Ursus maritimus*) by Karlsruhe Zoo (Germany) and an investigation of cancer in bears to learn about prevalence, treatment and survival in collaboration with NC State University college of Veterinary Medicine (USA). The Bear TAG is also collaborating with the IUCN SSC Bear SG on the "Bear ID project" aiming at developing automated visual tools to identify individuals.

The **Small Carnivore TAG** continued its collaboration with the EAZA Reproductive Management Working Group which facilitates much-needed



Buffy tufted-ear marmoset (*Callithrix aurita*)
© Rodrigo Bramili



Mother and young bonobos (*Pan paniscus*)
© Jeroen Stevens



Bush dog (*Speothos venaticus*)
© Randers Regnskov



Sun bear (*Helarctos malayanus*) © Ouwehands Zoo

research on EEP species, such as Owston's civet (*Chrotogale owstoni*), Ring-tailed vongsira (*Galidia elegans*) and Northern bokiboky (*Mungotictis decemlineata*), helping to achieve the goals for each EEP. In the case of the Owston's civet EEP, the hormone cycles and endocrinology study has been ongoing for five years, and a faecal sampling protocol for hormone monitoring is now being rolled out to include animals at Save Vietnams Wildlife's centre.

In recent years, the amdoparvovirus has been an important concern for the future of red pandas (*Ailurus fulgens*) in zoos and in the wild. In 2024, the TAG Veterinary Advisors, along with the Red panda EEP and GSMP, established a global red panda amdoparvovirus working group, to understand the prevalence of the virus and develop effective management measures in both captive and wild populations. Darjeeling Zoo (India) tested wild faecal samples to determine if the virus is endemic.

Marine Mammal TAG members made significant research contributions over the past year. For instance, Oceanogràfic Valencia (Spain) published 16 peer-reviewed papers on physiology and veterinary medicine, expanding knowledge in marine mammal health and care. Nuremberg Zoo (Germany) advanced research on artificial intelligence applications for evaluating behaviour and acoustics, providing innovative tools for marine mammal management.

A milestone for the TAG was the publication of Dolphin Welfare Evaluation Tool (WET), a science-based matrix for assessing dolphin welfare. Developed with contributions from many EAZA Members, it integrates behavioural, physiological, and environmental indicators into a standardised framework, allowing facilities to monitor and improve dolphin well-being. It ensures data-driven, objective welfare assessments, marking a significant step forward in evidence-based animal care and management.

In 2024, the Research Group of the **Elephant TAG** provided its expertise to five research proposals, of which two were approved and are ongoing. One focuses on husbandry practices of male elephants in EEP facilities, while the other investigates the ground-breaking vaccination trial against the Elephant endotheliotropic herpesvirus (EEHV) in Asian elephants (*Elephas maximus*). In December, a safety trial of the experimental EEHV1A-subunit vaccine developed at the Utrecht University (the Netherlands) began with six adult Asian elephants from three Dutch zoos. No adverse effects were observed one month after the first inoculation. A separate study of post-mortem samples from EEHV fatalities revealed elevated levels of interleukins linked to so-called cytokine storm in humans. This suggests glucocorticosteroids should play a key role in treatment.

Thanks to a NWO-VIDI grant allocated to a researcher at VU Amsterdam and Wageningen University & Research (the Netherlands), the joint genomic research with Rotterdam Zoo (the Netherlands) can continue studying genetic diversity in the Asian elephant EEP population and help wild population research.

The **Equid TAG** saw the completion of a Master thesis at Görlitz Zoo (Germany) on the viability of the Somali wild ass EEP population. The analysis of birth circumstances, death causes and post-mortem reports did not yet identify a potential cause for low foal survival.

Researchers from The Nature Conservancy and Leeds University (both UK) began analysing data from 20 Grevy's zebras (*Equus grevyi*) collared in 2023 in Kenya to identify population connectivity and pathways around planned infrastructure development.

Research in the **Rhinoceros TAG** focused on disease management, with the ongoing study on iron storage disease in black rhinoceros (*Diceros bicornis*)



Red pandas (*Ailurus fulgens*) at Parco Natura Viva
© Cesare Avesani Zaborra



Patagonian sea lion (*Otaria flavescens*)
© Sergio Pappo Heredia



Asian elephant (*Elephas maximus*) taking a shower
© Wilhelma Zoo



Somali wild ass (*Equus africanus somaliensis*)
at Basel Zoo © Basel Zoo

in collaboration with American veterinary specialists, and a study launched by the Greater one-horned rhinoceros EEP with the University of Zürich (Switzerland) on Equine Herpes Virus-related clinical signs that will inform future population management decisions.

The **Cattle and Camelid TAG's** Research Advisor identified research topics for future development. In addition, preparatory work was conducted for a multi-TAG research project on mixed exhibits, aiming to identify ways to increase zoo space for this TAG's species.

The **Antelope and Giraffid TAG** modified its structure with regards to research, with the *in situ* research now sitting with its Conservation Coordinator, and the creation of an *Ex situ* Research Coordinator position that will proactively identify research needs.

A long-term research focus for the **Caprinae TAG** has been the development of assisted reproduction techniques to improve genetic diversity in EEPs by introducing new founder genes using frozen sperm from wild specimens. Successes from previous years were published in 2024 (see Annex document).

The Aoudad EEP Vice Coordinator co-authored a study on the structure and genetic diversity of the wild and captive populations of this species, highlighting surprising taxonomic results and providing important insights for conservation management.

Supported by University of Zürich (Switzerland), Nuremberg and Halle Zoos (Germany), a study was launched at Bern Zoo (Switzerland) on the genetics of the *ex situ* population of Alpine ibex (*Capra ibex*) to help manage the newly established EEP and identify individuals for reintroduction and restocking in the Alps.

The varied activities above present selected research highlights from the TAGs for 2024. Many more valuable studies were conducted across the EAZA membership, and we extend our thanks and congratulations to all involved. We encourage authors and their host institutions to publish in JZAR and to share their outputs in the [Zoo Science Library](#), to ensure wider visibility and impact.



Greater one-horned rhinoceros with calf
(*Rhinoceros unicornis*) © Basel Zoo



Javan banteng (*Bos javanicus*) © West Midland Safari Park



Mhor gazelle (*Nanger dama*) at Planckendael Zoo
© Jonas Verhulst



Alpine ibex (*Capra ibex*) © Parc Animalier d'Auvergne



MANAGING OPERATIONS TO REDUCE THE ENVIRONMENTAL FOOTPRINT OF EAZA AND OUR MEMBERS

In 2024, EAZA reaffirmed its commitment to environmental sustainability, aligning with its strategic goal to support Members in reducing their ecological footprint and becoming sustainable organisations. While progress was incremental, EAZA continued to promote sustainable practices across the community and encouraged knowledge sharing through Committee meetings and platforms like Zooquaria. This included continual reviewing of ways to maximise the sustainability of EAZA events and meetings, as well as work on updating the EAZA Guidelines to Managing Operations to Reduce your Environmental Footprint to include carbon reduction. The activities carried out as part of the EU4Ocean Coalition (see page 41) also contributed to EAZA's commitment towards Sustainable Development Goal 14: Life below water. These efforts aim to harmonise operations with broader environmental objectives and reinforce the Association's dedication to environmental responsibility.

A GREENER DIGITAL SPACE: LAUNCHING EAZA'S NEW WEBSITE

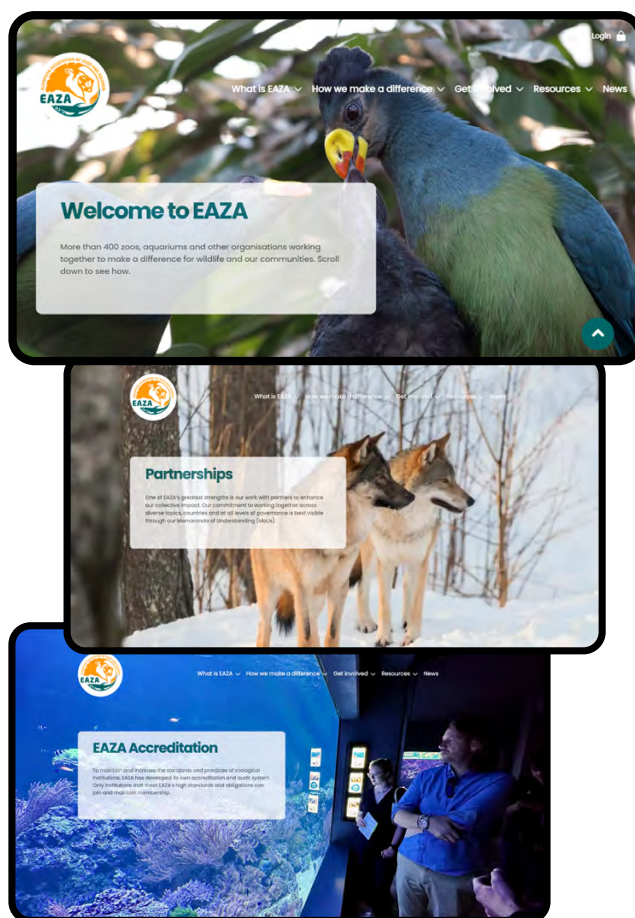
In September 2024, EAZA unveiled its new website www.eaza.net and Member Area – making a key step towards digital sustainability and enhanced IT security. Developed using greener tools (Strapi and GreenHost), the website balances functionality and a nicer user experience with environmental responsibility.

By significantly reducing video content and prioritising energy-efficient design, the website now contributes far less to digital emissions. According to the Website Carbon Calculator www.websitecarbon.com, each homepage visit generates only 0.21g of CO₂, making it cleaner than 78% of all websites globally.

EMISSIONS

Jörg Junhold, Director of Leipzig Zoo (Germany) and host of the the EAZA Annual Conference 2024, announced that 1,000 native trees – one tree per delegate – would be planted in Saxony, helping to offset the event's carbon footprint.

The planting is scheduled for April 2025, as part of Germany's "Forest Championship" (Waldmeisterschaft) campaign – a national effort to restore and enrich native woodlands. The initiative will be implemented under the expert guidance of the Forest for Saxony Foundation (Stiftung Wald für Sachsen), a long-standing partner in regional reforestation and biodiversity conservation.





Thanks Leipzig Zoo for hosting the EAZA Annual Conference 2024 © EAZA

OUR PEOPLE

EAZA is its Members – a network of institutions, and above all, a community of thousands of dedicated professionals whose expertise, collaboration and passion make everything possible. The achievements presented throughout this Annual Report are a testament to the strength and growth of this community in 2024. Every individual contributing to EAZA deserves recognition – from the members of EEPs and TAGs to those serving on Committees and working groups. The Member list on pages 55–60 reflects not only EAZA's global reach, but its standing as the world's largest regional zoo and aquarium association.

EAZA EVENTS: FOSTERING COLLABORATION AND KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE

Collaboration and the exchange of knowledge within and outside our membership are at the very heart of EAZA's mission. Our events and conferences are important platforms for making these valuable opportunities possible. The year saw another series of successful events that are featured in previous sections of this Annual Report: the biennial Conservation Forum (Ostrava Zoo, Czechia), Animal Welfare Forum (Parco Natura Viva, Italy) and the annual Directors' Days (Fota Wildlife Park, Ireland) and of course, the EAZA Annual Conference (Leipzig Zoo, Germany). We thank all the hosts and their teams for their dedication!

The Annual Conference was the "pinnacle" of the 2024 events, bringing together a record 1,072 delegates from 52 countries and 283 institutions. It featured two Academy courses, five thematic sessions, five plenaries, 12 workshops, and over 100 meetings. Notable highlights included keynote speeches by Nobel laureate Svante Pääbo (Max



Keynote speaker Joel Sartore at the EAZA Annual Conference © EAZA

Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Germany) on human evolution and genetics, as well as by renowned National Geographic photographer Joel Sartore during the conservation plenary focusing on the Vietnamazing campaign. It was definitely pleasing to see the overall event experience rated at 8.6/10 by participants.

EAZA MEMBERS

EAZA reached an important milestone in April 2024: the completion of all accreditation decisions for all existing Members, concluding the 10-year screening cycle. With this review of existing Members completed, the Membership and Ethics Committee (M&E) chaired by Thomas Kölpin (Wilhelma Zoo, Germany) turned its full attention to a growing queue of new membership applications, some of which had been pending since 2019 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Committee, made decisive progress in 2024, screening 13 new applicants, 9 existing Members and applying the new accreditation programme during one existing Member screening. The overall EAZA membership composition continued to evolve in 2024, with new institutions enriching the community's collective expertise, geographic reach, and conservation capacity. For a full overview, see the adjacent membership infographics and Member list on pages 55–60.

Thomas Kauffels (Opel-Zoo, Germany) was recognised as an Honorary Member for his wide-ranging and long involvement in EAZA activities, including chairing the Association between 2016-2022.

Looking ahead, the M&E Committee remains firmly committed to upholding the highest standards of accreditation and ethical governance, ensuring that every EAZA Member continues to contribute to the shared goals in the strongest possible way.

MENTORSHIP AND CANDIDATE FOR MEMBERSHIP PROGRAMME

In 2024, the Technical Assistance Committee (TA), chaired by André Stadler (Alpenzoo Innsbruck, Austria) continued its mission to support and guide institutions on their path to EAZA membership and accreditation. The Committee expanded its mentorship and capacity-building efforts, tackling both new and ongoing challenges across the region. The Committee approved Miskolc Zoo (Hungary) as a new CfM in October. Technical assistance was provided to institutions in Iran, Georgia, Lithuania, Palestine, Serbia, Belgium, Azerbaijan, and Kazakhstan. CfM status was extended for Sarajevo Zoo (Bosnia-Herzegovina), Yerevan Zoo (Armenia), Palić Zoo (Serbia), Almaty Zoo (Kazakhstan), and Sibiu Zoo (Romania). The Committee supported new applicants for CfM, including Baku Zoo (Azerbaijan) and Shymkent Zoo (Kazakhstan).

To ensure fairness and flexibility in the face of geopolitical or logistical challenges, the Committee introduced a procedure for freezing mentorship in regions affected by travel restrictions. A special cooperation agreement was also created for CfMs in conflict areas, to maintain support and progress despite operational limitations.

Looking to 2025, the TA Committee will scale up its collaboration with the EAZA Academy to deliver targeted training and knowledge exchange, strengthening the capacity of institutions preparing for accreditation. Enhanced data tracking will also support a better understanding of the impact and outcomes of technical assistance efforts, contributing to the delivery of the EAZA Strategy 2021-2025.



Membership

on 31 December 2024

400+ MEMBERS



IN 47 COUNTRIES IN EUROPE AND BEYOND



Full Members

- accredited zoos/aquariums meeting EAZA Standards, in Europe or Western Asia

304
-4



Temporary Members

- zoos/aquariums that do not currently meet EAZA Standards
- OR • zoos/aquariums under construction

23
+3



Candidates for Membership

- zoos/aquariums working towards meeting EAZA Standards, assisted by a mentor & supervised by EAZA Technical Assistance Committee

21
+1



Associate Members

- zoos/aquariums meeting EAZA Standards, outside Europe/Western Asia
- OR • national zoo associations and other organisations related to education, conservation or zoo staff

37
+1



Corporate Members

- companies supplying goods and services to zoos and aquariums

55
+2



Honorary Members

- individuals whose activities have greatly benefited EAZA

8
+1

Numbers of Members on 31 December and differences compared to 1 January 2024



Miskolc Zoo joined the EAZA CfM programme © Borja Reh

MEMBER LIST

Legend:

Associate Member

Candidate for Membership (CfM)

Corporate Member

Full Member

Temporary Member

Temporary Member Under Construction

ARMENIA

Foundation for the Preservation of Wildlife and Cultural Assets (FPWC)

Yerevan Zoo

AUSTRIA

Alpenzoo Innsbruck

Haus des Meeres - Aqua Terra Zoo

Tiergarten Schönbrunn

Tierwelt Herberstein

Zoo Salzburg

Zoo Schmiding

BELGIUM

Bellewaerde

Monde Sauvage Safari

Musée d'Histoire Naturelle et Vivarium de Tournai

Pairi Daiza

Parc Animalier de Bouillon

Réserve d'Animaux Sauvages

Zoo Antwerpen

Zoo Planckendael

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

KJKP Park doo Sarajevo – Zoo Sarajevo

BRAZIL

São Paulo Zoo

BULGARIA

Sofia Zoo

CHILE

Asociación Latinoamericana de Parques Zoológicos y Acuarios (ALPZA)

CROATIA

Alter Media (PixBox)

Zoo Osijek

Zooloski vrt Zagreb

CZECHIA**Antelope Conservation**

Jihočeská zoologická zahrada Hluboká nad Vltavou

Safari Park Dvůr Králové

Union of Czech and Slovak Zoological Gardens (UCSZOO)

ZOO a zámek Zlín-Lešná

Zoo Hodonín

Zoologická a botanická zahrada Plzeň

Zoologická zahrada Brno

Zoologická zahrada Děčín

Zoologická zahrada Jihlava

Zoologická zahrada Liberec

Zoologická zahrada Olomouc

Zoologická zahrada Ostrava

Zoologická Zahrada Praha

Zoologická zahrada Ústí nad Labem

Zoopark Chomutov

DENMARK

Aalborg Zoo

Bio/Zoo Information

Brogaarden ApS

Copenhagen Zoo

Danish Association of Zoos and Aquaria (DAZA)

Givskud Zoo - ZOOTOPIA

Hansenberg School

HMJ Design

Jesperhus Jungle Zoo

Kattegatcentret

Knuthenborg Safaripark

National Aquarium Denmark, Den Blå Planet

Nordsøen Oceanarium

Odense Zoo

Petjes World

Randers Regnskov, Tropical Zoo

Ree Park Safari

Terrariet Reptile Zoo

ESTONIA

Tallinna Loomaaed

FINLAND

Ähtäri Zoo

Korkeasaari Zoo

Ranua Wildlife Park

FRANCE

Animals Concept

Association Française des Parcs Zoologiques (AFdPZ)

Bioparc de Doué-la-Fontaine

Biotropica

Bureau d'étude AKONGO

Bureau d'études Bioparc

Centre d'Etudes et de Recherche Zoologiques Augeron - CERZA

EcoZonia

Espace Zoologique de la Boissière-du-Doré

Espace Zoologique de Saint-Martin-la-Plaine

Evasion-Jeux

Fox Consulting

Grand Aquarium Saint-Malo

Jardin Zoologique de la Ville de Lyon

La Vallée des Singes

Le PAL

Le Parc de Clères

Le Parc des Félines (Parcs Zoologiques Lumigny)

Les Terres de Nataé

Marineland Antibes

Maubeuge Zoo

Ménagerie du Jardin des Plantes

Natur'Zoo de Mervent

Nausicaá Centre National de la Mer

Océanopolis - Aquarium de Brest

Parc Animalier d'Auvergne

Parc Animalier de Sainte-Croix

Parc Animalier des Pyrénées

Parc Animalier et Botanique de Branféré

Parc de l'Auxois

Parc des Mamelles (Zoo de Guadeloupe)

Parc des Oiseaux

Parc d'Isle

Parc Zoo du Reynou

Parc Zoologique d'Amiens

Parc Zoologique de Champrépus

Parc Zoologique de Jurques

Parc Zoologique de La Barben

Parc Zoologique de la Bourbansais

Parc Zoologique de Lille

Parc Zoologique de Montpellier

Parc Zoologique de Paris

Parc Zoologique du Muséum de Besançon

Parc Zoologique et Botanique de Mulhouse

Parc Zoologique Fort-Mardyck Dunkerque Grand Littoral

Parrot World

Réserve Africaine de Sigeon

Réserve de la Haute-Touche

Réserve Zoologique de Calviac

Safari de Peaugres

Saint Laurent S.A.

SAS Zoopoli France

Seafoodia

Siane

Touroparc

Triotech

Wild Immersion

Zoo African Safari

Zoo Bassin d'Arcachon

Zoo d'Amnéville

Zoo de Guyane

Zoo de La Flèche

Zoo de la Palmyre

Zoo de Martinique - Habitation du Capitaine Latouche

Zoo des Sables d'Olonne

Zoodyssée (Régie des pôles Science et Nature de Zoodyssée et du Cébron)

ZooParc de Beauval

Zooparc de Trégomeur

ZooSafari de Thoiry

GEORGIA

Tbilisi Zoo

Tbilisi Zoo (new site)

GERMANY

Aachener Tierpark

AB Aqua Medic GmbH

Allwetterzoo Münster

Aqua-Sander

Aquazoo Düsseldorf

Carl Stahl Architecture

Goethe University Frankfurt - Zoo Biology

Intipa

KaGo & Hammerschmidt GmbH

Leibniz Institute for Zoo and Wildlife Research (IZW)

Magic Memories

Münchner Tierpark Hellabrunn

Naturschutz-Tierpark Görlitz

NaturZoo Rheine

Neunkircher Zoologischer Garten

Opel-Zoo

Rasbach Architekten

Serengeti-Park Hodenhagen

Stiftung Artenschutz

Thüringer Zoopark Erfurt

Tiergarten der Stadt Nürnberg

Tiergarten Heidelberg

Tiergarten Straubing

Tierpark Berlin-Friedrichsfelde

Tierpark Bochum

Tierpark Chemnitz

Tierpark Hagenbeck

Tierpark Neumünster

Tierpark Nordhorn

Tierpark Ueckermünde

ungestalt

Verband der Zoologischen Gärten (VdZ)

Verband Deutschsprachiger Zoopädagogen e.V. (VZP)

Vivarium Darmstadt

Vogelpark Marlow

Weltvogelpark Walsrode

Wilhelma, Zoologisch-botanischer Garten Stuttgart

Zoo am Meer Bremerhaven

Zoo Dortmund

Zoo Duisburg

Zoo Eberswalde

Zoo Frankfurt

Zoo Hannover

Zoo Hoyerswerda

Zoo Krefeld

Zoo Landau in der Pfalz

Zoo Leipzig

Zoo Neuwied

Zoo Osnabrück

Zoo Wuppertal

Zoological Society for the Conservation of Species and Populations (ZGAP)

Zoologischer Garten Augsburg

Zoologischer Garten Dresden

Zoologischer Garten Halle

Zoologischer Garten Karlsruhe

Zoologischer Garten Köln

Zoologischer Garten Magdeburg

Zoologischer Garten Rostock

Zoologischer Garten Saarbrücken

Zoologischer Garten Schwerin

Zoologischer Garten und Aquarium Berlin

Zoom Erlebniswelt Gelsenkirchen

Zooprofis

GREECE

Attica Zoological Park

HUNGARY

Association of Hungarian Zoos (Magyar Állatkertek Szövetsége)

Budapest Fováros Allat-Es Novenykertje

Jászberény Zoo

Kittenberger Kálmán Növény- és Vadaspark

Miskolc Zoo

Nagyerdei Kultúrpark Nonprofit Kft.

Nyíregyházi Állatpark Nonprofit Kft. (Sóstó Zoo)

Pécs Zoo

Szeged Zoo

Zoo Győr - Xantus János Állatkert

IRELAND

Dublin Zoo (The Zoological Society of Ireland)

Emerald Park

Fota Wildlife Park (The Zoological Society of Ireland)

Galway Atlantaquaria

ISRAEL

Gan-Garoo Australian Park

Hai Park

Haifa Educational Zoo and Biological Institute

Midbarium (Negev Zoo)

The Tisch Family Zoological Gardens

Zoological Centre Ramat Gan in memory of Israel Peled LTD

ITALY

Acquario di Genova

Africa Style

Bioparco Zoom Torino

Fondazione Bioparco di Roma

Giardino Zoologico di Pistoia

Parco Faunistico 'La Torbiera'

Parco Faunistico Le Cornelle

Parco Faunistico Valcorba

Parco Natura Viva, Garda Zoological Park

Parco Zoo Falconara

Parco Zoo 'Punta Verde'

Unione Italiana Zoo e Acquari (UIZA)

Zoo delle Maitine

Zoomarine Italia S.p.A.

KAZAKHSTAN

Almaty Zoological Park

KUWAIT

The Scientific Centre

LATVIA

Riga Zoo

LITHUANIA

Lietuvos Zoologijos Sodas (Kaunas Zoo)

LUXEMBOURG

Parc Merveilleux

MEXICO

Dinosauriosmexico

THE NETHERLANDS

Apenheul

AquaZoo Leeuwarden

Arie Blok Animal Nutrition/Kasper Faunafood

Artis Zoo

Bears in Mind

Burgers' Zoo

China Light Festival

Convius

Crossborder Animal Services BV

DierenPark Amersfoort

Dierenpark Zie-ZOO

Diergaarde Blijdorp

Dorset Identification b.v.

Dutch Zoo Federation (NVD)

Eindhoven Zoo

EKIPA

Fachjan Project Plants

GaiaZOO

Kiezebrink International

Nieuwkoop Europe

Ouwehands Dierenpark

Safaripark Beekse Bergen

Van Hall Larenstein

Vogelpark Avifauna

WILDLANDS Adventure Zoo Emmen

Zoologistics

ZooParc Overloon

NEW ZEALAND

Auckland Zoo

NORWAY

Atlanterhavsparken

Bergen Aquarium

Kristiansand Dyrepark

PALESTINE

Qalqilia Zoo

POLAND

Antonina and Jan Żabiński Municipal Zoological Garden in Warsaw

ArtSystemDeco

Association of Directors of Polish Zoological Gardens and Aquariums

Gdański Ogród Zoologiczny

Miejski Ogród Zoologiczny w Płocku (Zoo Płock)

Miejski Park i Ogród Zoologiczny w Krakowie

Ogród Zoologiczny Opole

Orientarium Zoo Łódź

Poznań Zoo

Śląski Ogród Zoologiczny

Stefan Miler Zoological Garden

Toruń Zoobotanical Garden

Zoo Wrocław

PORTUGAL

Associação Portuguesa de Zóos e Aquários (APZA)

Jardim Zoológico de Lisboa

Oceanário de Lisboa

Parque Ornitológico de Lourosa

Pelicanzoo - Parque Zoológico de Lagos

Zoo Santo Inácio

ZooMarine

ROMANIA

Sanero Kunstfelsen

Târgu Mureș Zoo

Zoo Brașov

Zoo Sibiu

RUSSIA

Kaliningrad Zoo

Kazan Zoobotanical Garden

Krasnoyarsk Park of Flora and Fauna "Roev Ruchey"

Leningrad Zoo

Moscow Zoo

Rostislav Shilo Novosibirsk Zoo

SAUDI ARABIA

The Arabian Leopard Conservation Breeding Centre

SERBIA

Belgrade Zoo

Zoo Palić

SINGAPORE

Mandai Wildlife Reserve (Jurong Bird Park)

Mandai Wildlife Reserve (Singapore Zoo)

SLOVAKIA

Národná zoologická záhrada Bojnice

Zoologická záhrada Bratislava

Zoologická záhrada Košice

SLOVENIA

Zivalski vrt Ljubljana

SPAIN

Avanqua Oceanogràfic S.L.

Bioparc Acuario de Gijón

Bioparc Fuengirola

Bioparc Valencia

Estación Experimental de Zonas Áridas (EEZA) - CSIC

European Association of Zoo and Wildlife Veterinarians

Faunia

Iberian Association of Zoos and Aquaria (AIZA)

Komodo Zoo Services

Loro Parque, S.A.

Oasis Wildlife Fuerteventura

Parc Zoològic de Barcelona

Parque de la Naturaleza de Cabárceno

Parque Oasys - Parque Temático del Desierto de Tabernas

Ralf Imagen y Comunicación S.L.

Río Safari Elche

Selwo Aventura

Selwo Marina

Sendaviva (Parque de la Naturaleza de Navarra)

Terra Natura Benidorm

Terra Natura Murcia

Zoo Aquarium Madrid

Zoo Santillana del Mar

Zoobotánico Jerez

Zoological Adviser

SWEDEN

Borås Djurpark

Furuviksparken

Kolmården Wildlife Park

Lycksele Djurpark

Myskoxcentrum i Härjedalen

Nordens Ark

Ölands Djurpark

Parken Zoo i Eskilstuna

Skånes Djurpark

Skansen Foundation, Zoological Department

Skansen-Akvariet

Slottsskogens Djurpark

Swedish Association of Zoological Parks and Aquaria (SAZA/SDF)

Tropicarium Kolmården

Tropikariet i Helsingborg

Universeum

Vildriket (Järvzoo)

Ystad Djurpark

SWITZERLAND

ABC Rides

AQUATIS Aquarium-Vivarium

Granovit AG

Jakob Rope Systems

La Garenne

Natur- und Tierpark Goldau

Papiliorama Foundation

Tierpark Bern

Walter Zoo

Wildnispark Zürich

Zoo de Servion

Zoo Zürich

Zoologischer Garten Basel

TAIWAN

Taipei Zoo

TURKEY

Bursa Zoo

Eskişehir Metropolitan Municipality Zoo and Aquarium

Faruk Yalçın Zoo

Izmir Wildlife Park

MAT Filtration Technologies

UKRAINE

Kharkiv Zoo

Kyiv Zoological Park

Nikolaev Zoo

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Arabia's Wildlife Centre

Dubai Safari Park

The Green Planet

Worldwide Zoo Consultants

UNITED KINGDOM

Africa Alive! (Zoological Society of East Anglia)

Amazon World

Banham Zoo (Zoological Society of East Anglia)

Birdland Park

Birmingham Wildlife Conservation Park

Blackpool Zoo

Blair Drummond Safari & Adventure Park

Bristol Zoo Project

British and Irish Association of Zoos and Aquariums (BIAZA)

Camperdown Wildlife Centre

Chessington World of Adventures

Chester Zoo (North of England Zoological Society)

City of Belfast Zoo

Colchester Zoo

Cotswold Wildlife Park

Crocodiles of the World

Curraghs Wildlife Park

DigiTickets

Drayton Manor Park

Drusillas Park

Dudley Zoo (West Midlands Zoological Society)

Edinburgh Zoo (Royal Zoological Society of Scotland)

Exmoor Zoological Park

Fife Zoo

Flamingo Land Resort

Folly Farm

Hawk Conservancy Trust

Hertfordshire Zoo

Highland Wildlife Park (Royal Zoological Society of Scotland)

Howletts Wild Animal Park

Instone Air Services Ltd.

Jersey Zoo

Knowsley Safari Park

Lakeland Wildlife Oasis

Longleat Safari Park

Manor Wildlife Park

Marine Nutrition

Marwell Wildlife

Newquay Zoo (Wild Planet Trust)

n-gage.io

Nottingham Trent University (NTU)

Paignton Zoo (Wild Planet Trust)

Paradise Park

Peak Wildlife Park

Port Lympne Wild Animal Park

Ravensden Plc

Shaldon Wildlife Trust

Shepreth Wildlife Park

The Big Cat Sanctuary

The World Pheasant Association (WPA)

Thrigby Hall Wildlife Gardens

Twycross Zoo

Waddesdon Manor Aviary

Welsh Mountain Zoo - National Zoo of Wales

West Midlands Safari Park

Wild Acres

Wingham Wildlife Park

Woburn Safari Park

Woodside Wildlife Park

Yorkshire Wildlife Park

ZSL London Zoo

ZSL Whipsnade Zoo

UNITED STATES

Billings Productions, Inc

Dino Don

Fahlo

Immotion

Mazuri Exotic Animal Nutrition

Panthera

Reynolds Polymer Technology

Snow Leopard Trust

Species360

Wild Republic

Zigong Lantern Group

GOVERNANCE AND ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chair

Endre Papp

Vice Chair

Kirsten Pullen / Rebecca Biddle

Secretary

Barbara Mihelič

Treasurer

Thomas Kölpin / Xavier Valliant

and Chairs of the EEP,
Membership and Ethics,
Communications, National
Associations and Technical
Assistance Committees, and
Aquarium Representative



Chair:
Endre Papp
(Sóstó Zoo)



Vice Chair:
Kirsten Pullen
(Wild Planet Trust)



Secretary:
Barbara Mihelič
(Ljubljana Zoo)



Treasurer:
Thomas Kölpin
(Wilhelma Zoo)

EAZA FULL MEMBERS

(Please see the list of EAZA Members on pages 55–60)

EAZA COUNCIL

(Please see the list of Council Members on page 62)

STANDING
COMMITTEES

COMMUNICATIONS

Sanna Hellström

EEP

Kirsten Pullen / Brian Zimmerman

MEMBERSHIP AND ETHICS

Brice Lefaux / Thomas Kölpin

NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Volker Homes

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

André Stadler

SPECIALIST
COMMITTEES

CONSERVATION

Eric Bairrão Ruivo

CONSERVATION EDUCATION

Antonieta Costa

RESEARCH

Zjef Pereboom

VETERINARY

Mads Frost Bertelsen

EAZA COUNCIL

Country	Name	Institution
Austria	Andreas Artmann	Schmiding Zoo
Belgium	Linda Van Elsacker	Antwerp Zoo
Croatia	Davorka Maljković	Zagreb Zoo
Czechia	Miroslav Bobek	Prague Zoo
	David Nejedlo	Liberec Zoo
Denmark	Bjarne Klausen	Odense Zoo
Estonia	Kaupo Heinma	Tallinn Zoo
Finland	Sanna Hellström	Helsinki Zoo
France	Eric Bairrão Ruivo	Beauval Zoo
	Brice Lefaux	Mulhouse Zoo
	Xavier Vaillant	Lyon Zoo
	Angélique Chaulet	Zoo de Guyane
	Sébastien Laurent	Zoo Boissière du Doré
Germany	Andreas Knieriem	Berlin Zoo/Tierpark
	Theo Pagel	Cologne Zoo
	Dennis Müller	Halle Zoo
	Jörg Junhold	Leipzig Zoo
	Thomas Kölpin	Wilhelma Zoo
Greece	Jean-Jacques Lesueur	Attica Zoological Park
Hungary	Endre Papp	Sóstó Zoo
Ireland	Sean McKeown	Fota Wildlife Park
Israel	Nili Avni-Magen	Jerusalem Zoo
Italy	Gloria Svampa	La Torbiera Zoo

Country	Name	Institution
Latvia	Jānis Rudzītis	Riga Zoo
Luxembourg	Guy Willems	Parc Merveilleux
Netherlands	Rembrandt Sutorius	Artis Zoo
	Robin de Lange	Ouwehands Zoo
Norway	Kjetil Aarseth	Ålesund Atlantic Park
Poland	Izabela Krause	Gdańsk Zoo
Portugal	Teresa Guedes	Santo Inácio Zoo
Russia	Svetlana Akulova	Moscow Zoo
Slovakia	Erich Kočner	Košice Zoo
Slovenia	Barbara Mihelič	Ljubljana Zoo
Spain	Antoni Alarcón	Barcelona Zoo
	Javier Almunia	Loro Parque
Sweden	Jens Larsson	Järvzoo
	Christine Karmfalk	Kolmården Zoo
Switzerland	Severin Dressen	Zürich Zoo
Turkey	Can Bodur	Faruk Yalçın Zoo
United Arab Emirates	Johannes Els	Arabia's Wildlife Centre
United Kingdom	Kirsten Pullen / Rebecca Biddle ^	Wild Planet Trust / Twycross Zoo
	David Field	RZSS
	Malcom Fitzpatrick	Zoological Society of London (ZSL)
	Ross Snip	Flamingo Land
	Reggie Heyworth	Cotswold Wildlife Park

Co-opted Committee Chairs

Aquarium Representative	Max Janse	Royal Burgers' Zoo
Conservation Education Committee	Antonieta Costa	Lisbon Zoo (observer status)
EEP Committee	Brian Zimmerman ^	Bristol Zoo Project (observer status)
National Associations Committee	Volker Homes	Association of German-speaking Zoological Gardens (VdZ)
Research Committee	Zjef Pereboom	Antwerp Zoo
Technical Assistance Committee	André Stadler	Alpenzoo Innsbruck
Veterinary Committee	Mads Bertelsen	Copenhagen Zoo

^ From spring 2024, * From autumn 2024

SPECIAL THANKS

We are grateful to everyone volunteering their time and expertise in 2024 for the work of our Committees, TAGs and Working Groups, which benefit the whole EAZA community. Committee Chairs are mentioned throughout this report. TAG Chairs and Vice Chairs are mentioned below, while the long list of EEP Coordinators is available on our website (www.eaza.net/EEP-pages). Thank you all!

- **Terrestrial Invertebrate:** Melissa Bushell (Bristol Zoo Project); Tamás Papp (Chester Zoo), Vítek Lukáš (Ústí nad Labem Zoo)
- **Freshwater Teleost:** Brian Zimmerman (Bristol Zoo Project); Anton Weissenbacher (Vienna Zoo)
- **Marine Teleost:** Attila Varga (Sóstó Zoo)
- **Elasmobranch:** Mark de Boer (Rotterdam Zoo); Chris Brown (Chessington World of Adventures)
- **Jellyfish:** Hugo Batista (Oceanário de Lisboa)
- **Amphibian:** Gerardo Garcia (Chester Zoo); Olivier Marquis (Paris Zoo); Benjamin Tapley (ZSL London Zoo and Whipsnade Zoo)
- **Reptile:** Ivan Rehák (Prague Zoo); Ivan Cizelj (Zagreb Zoo); Matt Goetz (Jersey Zoo); Fabian Schmidt (Basel Zoo); Guido Westhoff (Hagenbeck Zoo)
- **Ratite:** Joost Lammers (Avifauna Birdpark); Zoe Sweetman (Chester Zoo)
- **Penguin:** Pierre de Wit (Wildlands Emmen); Craig Allum (Selwo Marina)
- **Pelecaniformes, Ciconiiformes and Phoenicopteriformes:** Cathy King (Lagos Zoo); Andrea Bračko (Zagreb Zoo); Johnpaul Houston (Calviac Zoo)
- **Waterfowl:** Johnpaul Houston (Calviac Zoo); Glyn Young (Jersey Zoo)
- **Raptor:** Jan Hanel (Liberec Zoo); Dominik Fischer (Wuppertal Zoo)
- **Galliformes:** Jan Dams (Antwerp Zoo); Ludo Pincheel (World Pheasant Association); Geer Scheres (Cracid and Crane Breeding and Conservation Centre)
- **Gruiformes:** Gary Ward (ZSL London Zoo); Maximilian Birkendorf (Neuwied Zoo)
- **Charadriiformes:** Simon Matthews (Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust)
- **Pigeon and Dove:** Nigel Simpson (Bristol Zoo Project); Gary Ward (ZSL London Zoo)
- **Parrot:** Simon Bruslund (Copenhagen Zoo); Laure Pelletier (Beauval Zoo)
- **Toucan and Turaco:** Koen Brouwer (Attica Zoo); Joost Lammers (Avifauna Birdpark)
- **Hornbill:** Koen Brouwer (Attica Zoo); Joost Lammers (Avifauna Birdpark)
- **Songbird:** David Jeggo (Cologne Zoo); Harriet Whitford (Jersey Zoo); Simon Bruslund (Copenhagen Zoo); Jessica Borer (Basel Zoo)
- **Monotreme and Marsupial:** Flemming Nielsen (Copenhagen Zoo); Achim Winkler (Copenhagen Zoo); Matthias Papies (Tierpark Berlin)
- **Prosimian:** Achim Johann (NaturZoo Rheine); Katharina Herrmann (Berlin Zoo); Delphine Rouillet (Cotswold Wildlife Park); Andreas Pauly (Berlin Tierpark)
- **Callitrichid:** Greg Clifton (Yorkshire Wildlife Park); Miranda Stevenson (Bristol Zoo Project); Bryan Carroll (Bristol Zoo Project)
- **Larger New World Monkey:** Adrian Baumeyer (Basel Zoo); Warner Jens (Apenheul); Steven van den Heuvel (Overloon Zoo)
- **Afro-Eurasian Monkey:** Tjerk ter Meulen (Artis Zoo); Andrea Dempsey (Heidelberg Zoo)
- **Gibbon:** Brice Lefaux (Mulhouse Zoo); Matt Ford (Howletts Wild Animal Park)
- **Great Ape:** Severin Dressen (Zürich Zoo); Claudia Rudolf von Rohr (Zürich Zoo); Sandra Reichler (Heidelberg Zoo)
- **Small Mammal:** Richard Viduna (Jihlava Zoo); Stewart Muir (Shaldon Wildlife Trust); Dijana Beneta (Zagreb Zoo); Dorota Gremlicová (Liberec Zoo); Jutta Heuer (Halle Zoo); Johannes Pfeleiderer (Leipzig Zoo); David White (Chester Zoo)
- **Canid and Hyaenid:** Simon Marsh (Knowsley Safari Park); Mike Woolham (Blackpool Zoo)
- **Bear:** José Kok (Ouwehands Zoo); Will Walker (Bristol Zoo Project)
- **Small Carnivore:** Aude Haelewyn-Desmoulins (Parrot World); Peggy Rüegg-van den Broek (Papiliorama); Janno Weerman (Rotterdam Zoo)
- **Felid:** Alexander Sliwa (Cologne Zoo); David Barclay (Highland Wildlife Park); André Stadler (Alpenzoo Innsbruck)
- **Marine Mammal:** Claudia Gili (Parco Natura Viva); Agustín López Goya (Madrid Zoo Aquarium)
- **Elephant:** Thomas Kölpin (Wilhelma Zoo); Cordula Galeffi (Zürich Zoo); Jana Pluháčková (Ostrava Zoo)
- **Equid:** Ulrike Rademacher (Wilhelma Zoo); Jaroslav Šimek (Prague Zoo); Tanya Langenhorst (Marwell Wildlife)
- **Rhinoceros:** Lars Versteeg (Beekse Bergen); Katharina Herrmann (Berlin Zoo)
- **Tapir and Suiform:** Jörg Beckmann (Nuremberg Zoo); Jan Pluháček (Olomouc Zoo)
- **Cattle and Camelid:** James Burton (Chester Zoo); Marcel Alaze (Münster Zoo)
- **Deer:** Noam Werner (Haifa Educational Zoo); Marco Penello (La Torbiera Zoo)
- **Antelope and Giraffid:** Sander Hofman (Antwerp Zoo and Planckendael Zoo); Kim Skalborg Simonsen (Givskud Zoo)
- **Caprinae:** Dennis Müller (Halle Zoo); Marco Penello (La Torbiera Zoo)

EAZA EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Administration

**Myfanwy Griffith**Executive
DirectorOffice and Finance
Manager ##
Lilian FioletOffice and Finance
Manager ***
Fleur KistOffice and HR
Coordinator ###
Jane PickeringOffice and HR
Coordinator **
Delilah Messian

Species Conservation

**Danny de Man**
Deputy Executive
Director**Animal Welfare
Coordinator**
vacant since October**Biobank
Coordinator**
Anna Mekarska**Reproductive
Biologist**
Veronica Cowl**Field Conservation
Coordinator**
Merel Zimmermann**Conservation
Biologist**
Kristin Leus**Raymond van
der Meer**
Director of CPM**Lead Population
Biologist**
María Paula Balcázar-Vargas**Population
Biologist**
Iva Martincová**Population
Biologist**
Nora HausenConservation and
Population Management (CPM)**Manager Population
Management Centre**
Elmar Fienieg**Population
Biologist**
Marie Corlay**Population
Biologist**
Charlotte Desbois**Associate Population
Biologist**
Nadja Froitzheim**Manager Animal Programmes
and Conservation (APC)**
William van Lint**APC
Coordinator \$**
Katie Malone**APC
Coordinator \$**
Mirka Friedman**APC
Coordinator**
Diogo Laneiro

Member Development

**April Adams**
Director of Member
Development**Accreditation
Coordinator \$**
Carolina Collinge**Accreditation
Coordinator #**
Joni Hut**Accreditation
Coordinator**
Borja Reh**Event and Corporate
Member Coordinator**
Mirko Marseille**EAZA Academy
Manager \$**
Sally Binding

Advocacy and Communications

**Tomasz Rusek**
Director of Advocacy
and Communication**EU Policy
Coordinator**
Alice Albertini**EU Policy
Coordinator \$\$**
Catarina Santiago**Communications
Coordinator**
Sandrine Camus**Funding
Coordinator ***
Diana Trejos

Volunteers

**Animal Welfare
Volunteer**
Sabine den Ouden**Animal Welfare
Volunteer**
Kimberly Pullens**Animal Welfare
Volunteer**
Ellen Williams

Members of the staff are based in Belgium, Czechia, France, the Netherlands, Poland, Spain and the United Kingdom
 # until March; ## until April; ### until May; * from April; ** from July; *** from September; \$ from October; \$\$ from December

FINANCES

STANDING WITH UKRAINE: CONTINUED SUPPORT THROUGH THE EMERGENCY FUND

The EAZA Emergency Fund for Ukraine's Zoos remained active in 2024. The National Associations Committee (NAC) continued monitoring the political situation closely, while the Executive Office and many individual Members maintained regular communication with Ukraine's three Candidates for EAZA Membership (CfM) as well as with the Association of Zoos of Ukraine (AZU). The EAZA Annual Conference included an emotive update from Ukraine delivered by Uljana Kałężny (Species360, formerly Łódź Zoo, Poland), offering an account of the daily realities faced by zoo professionals under extreme conditions and highlighting the importance of international solidarity.

In cooperation with the Technical Assistance Committee, EAZA continued providing logistical and material support for CfMs. Efforts focused on securing and delivering essential supplies such as dry food, hay, and straw. Transport solutions were coordinated with the support of Berlin Zoo and EAZA Corporate Member Intipa (both Germany), building on experiences from earlier phases of emergency response.

The full financial summary and detailed overview of the fund for 2024 is available on www.eaza.net/emergency-fund.

TREASURER'S REPORT

This report covers a period of 12 months from 1 January to 31 December 2024. Financial impacts are still being felt by EAZA. Whilst the approved membership fee change implemented in this year has improved income, it has not managed to offset some larger than usual expenses. Careful administration in 2024 and the utilisation of built-up reserves has meant that EAZA can manage another year with a high deficit however, this situation needs addressing in 2025 and beyond for the future stability and success of the Association.

It should be noted that, in accordance with Dutch Rj 640 reporting requirements, Campaign funds are also required to be part of the statement of income and expenses. These Campaign funds are managed separately to the core operating budget and so are represented as separate lines in the presentation of the accounts. Unless specifically stated, comments in the following text relate to the operating budget and not the overall accounts where operating budget and campaign funds are combined.

Total income relating to the operating budget for the 12-month period was €2,226,153. This was €67,167 more than predicted and largely due to more membership fee income than predicted. Membership related fees account for 95% of the income, with the remaining amount relating

to sources such as publications and EAZA Academy courses. EAZA also successfully partnered on a multi-year EU funded project 'EU4Oceans' which provided €33,000 of external funding in 2024.

Operational expenses were €2,490,646. As usual for many organisations, staffing costs represent the highest proportion of expenses. It should also be noted that EU staff and associated costs are included in the 'Communications and representation' line. Legal costs, mostly related to a new case brought against EAZA, make up the majority of the 'General expenses' costs. This resulted in this line of the budget rising to 19.6% compared to 7.0% in 2023. EAZA Council agreed for €39,317 to be written off as unrecoverable debt. This was largely due to the joint decision regarding separation of Russian Members from EAZA. The final operating result for 2024 was -€264,493 compared to a prediction of -€30,321. There were sufficient reserves to cover this amount.

The EAZA Development Fund was utilised to support increased attendance and activities at the Conference of the Parties to the CITES, Joint TAG Chairs meeting, and International Congress of Zookeepers Conference. It also contributed towards development of a European Bison Conservation Action Plan, printing of an Animal Health Law Handbook, salary comparison and strategic planning activities. As of 31 December 2024, a total of €120,102 remains in this fund.

During this reporting period, a total of €293,690 was received in Campaign donations and €121,883 was given out in grants. The majority of this related to the Vietnamizing Campaign 2024-2025 (€148,626) and the Ukraine Zoos Emergency Fund (€64,561). A separate report on this Fund is available from the EAZA website. The total amount of funds remaining across all Campaign accounts equals €475,195. When the Campaign funds and Operating budgets are combined, the net result for 2024 was -€55,293. EAZA has a working capital of €1,300,634, and the total assets on 31 December 2024 were €2,180,228.

We gratefully acknowledge the work of Phidra Accountants & Adviseurs in the compilation of the annual accounts and Londen & Van Holland in carrying out the external audit of EAZA.

I have no hesitation in commending these accounts to Members.

FINANCIAL REPORT

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT 2024

OPERATING BUDGET	€	%
Revenue	2,226,153	100.0
Expenses		
Wages and salaries	922,566	41.4
Social security premiums and pension costs	270,062	12.1
Depreciation of intangible and tangible assets	14,720	0.7
Other staff expenses	264,538	11.9
Accommodation expenses	94,344	4.2
Communications and representation expenses	393,274	17.7
Office expenses	69,624	4.3
General expenses	434,518	19.6
Total operating expenses	2,490,646	111.9
Operating result	-264,493	-11.9
Financial income and expense	37,393	1.7
Net operating result	-202,872	-10.2
CAMPAIGN FUNDS		
Campaign donations	293,690	100.0
Campaign grants	-121,883	-41.5
Campaign funds result	171,807	58.5
OVERALL TOTAL NET RESULT		
Result Operating budget	-227,100	
Result Campaign funds	171,807	
Total net result	-55,293	

FINANCIAL POSITION

A summary of the overall financial position as of 31 December 2024 in comparison with prior years is as follows:

	2024	2023	2022
	€	€	€
Equity			
Capital	120,001	120,001	120,001
Other Reserves	788,596	1,015,696	1,218,569
Campaign funds	475,195	303,387	643,607
Total Equity	1,383,792	1,439,084	1,982,177
Assets			
Tangible fixed assets	60,262	60,366	70,776
Financial fixed assets	22,896	22,896	-
Receivables	124,146	201,096	211,687
Cash at bank and in hand	1,972,924	1,873,819	2,443,923
Total Assets	2,180,228	2,158,177	2,726,386
Short-term liabilities	-796,436	-719,093	-744,209
Working capital result	1,300,634	1,355,822	1,911,401

A copy of the complete audited EAZA accounts for 2024 is available to EAZA Members in the Annual General Meeting folder on the Member Area.



Annual Report 2024

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Send your questions to
info@eaza.net