



Version March 2026 - Programme is still subject to change

**Wednesday 20 May 2026**

**Welcome and opening**

Opening keynote by

**Chris R. Shepherd** (Center for Biological Diversity, Canada)

TITLE TO BE CONFIRMED

**Collaboration for conservation impact: from innovation to inclusive action**

*Presentations*

How Zoos Can Significantly Enhance their Conservation Impact by Adopting the One Health Approach: Lessons from Uganda for More Effective and Equitable Conservation	Kathryn Lloyd (Margaret Pyke Trust, United Kingdom)
AI-Supported Passive Bioacoustic Monitoring of Lemurs in Madagascar: Can Zoo Data Support Field Monitoring?	Sebastian Schneider (Goethe-University Frankfurt, Germany)
Collaboration at Every Level: How a Merger-Born Organisation Demonstrates Collaboration as a Central Tenet of Successful Large Carnivore Conservation	Amy Dickman (Lion Landscapes / University of Oxford WildCRU, United Kingdom) Alayne Cotterill (Lion Landscapes, South Africa)
Building Inclusive Networks to Scale Conservation Impact	Koustubh Sharma (Snow Leopard Trust, India/Kyrgyzstan) Jennifer Snell Rullman (Snow Leopard Trust, United States of America)
From Tree Planting to Integrated Conservation: a Holistic Approach to Protecting Ambatotsirongorongo Special Reserve, Madagascar	Johanna Rode-White (Cologne Zoo, Germany)
Collaboration with Cattle Ranchers Securing a Future for the Blue-throated Macaw in Bolivia's Beni Savannas	Tjalle Boorsma (Asociación Armonia, Bolivia)
Collaboration at Scale: Three Examples of Creating Synergies in Conservation	Dennis Rentsch and Anne Dohrmann (Frankfurt Zoological Society, Germany)
Center for Species Survival Cats; Collaboration for Wild Cat Conservation	Elliot Carlton and Ella Le Borgne (Center for Species Survival Cats / The Big Cat Sanctuary, UK) Andrea Dempsey (Hertfordshire Zoo / Center for Species Survival UK and The Big Cat Sanctuary / Center for Species Survival Cats, UK)

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**Collaboration for conservation impact: from innovation to inclusive action**

*Choice of Workshops*

The Zoo Sphere of Influence Model: Expanding the roles of zoos and aquariums within a connected society	Sarah L. Spooner (SpoonersConsult, Germany)
PARTNERS Principles Workshop: Navigating the Ethics and Inclusion of Local Communities in Conservation <b>PART I</b>	Koustubh Sharma (Snow Leopard Trust, India/Kyrgyzstan) Jennifer Snell Rullman (Snow Leopard Trust, United States of America)
<i>To be confirmed</i>	<i>To be confirmed</i>
<i>To be confirmed</i>	<i>To be confirmed</i>

*Posters and drinks*

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**Thursday 21 May 2026**

**Inclusive conservation in practice: ethics, social science, and empowerment**

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Keynote by

**Barbara de Mori** (University of Padova, Italy)

TITLE TO BE CONFIRMED

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*Presentations*

Integrating Social Science into Tropical Bird Monitoring: Participatory Conservation of Parrots and Toucans in French Guiana	Jonas Livet (Guyane Conservation, France)
Fisherfolk, Technology and Conservation; a Deep Dive into RoffaReefs Conservation Methods	Sander van Lopik (Rotterdam Zoo - Roffa Reefs, the Netherlands)
Grevy's Zebras Conservation, Sanitary Pads and Lessons about Women Empowerment in Kenya	Tatiana Beuchat (Bioparc Zoo de Doué la Fontaine, France)
The Black Mamba Wildlife Security Program: Demonstrating The Value of Women Empowerment In Reducing Human/Wildlife Conflict And Poaching	Craig Spencer (Founder of Black Mambas and Warden of Olifants West Region, South Africa)

*Choice of Workshops*

ETHAS: A Practical Tool for Conservation Decision-Making	Barbara de Mori (University of Padova, Italy) Pierfrancesco Biasetti (IZW, Germany)
PARTNERS Principles Workshop: Navigating the Ethics and Inclusion of Local Communities in Conservation <b>PART II</b>	Koustubh Sharma (Snow Leopard Trust, India/Kyrgyzstan) Jennifer Snell Rullman (Snow Leopard Trust, United States of America)
How Can We Be More Innovative in Nontraditional Partnerships in Conservation?	Sandra Helmark Hansen and Laura Julie Purlund (Copenhagen Zoo, Denmark)
<i>To be confirmed</i>	<i>To be confirmed</i>

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**Inclusive conservation in practice: ethics, social science, and empowerment**

*Presentations*

Supporting Sustainable Beekeeping for Socio- Economic Empowerment and Environmental Protection in Botswana (Kaudwane)	Yari Roggia and Valentina Isaja (Fondazione ZOOM, Italy)
Social Science for Stronger Zoo-Based Conservation: Global Perceptions of Biodiversity Loss and Evidence from Zoo Education Research	Matthias W. Kleespies (Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany)
Your Gift Shop Manager May Care More About Nature Than Your Conservation Team: An Inside-Out Perspective on Organizational Culture and Conservation	Joao Neves (Zoomarine, Portugal)

*Visit Opel Zoo*

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**Friday 22 May 2026**

**From policy to practice: collaborative conservation in Europe**

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Keynotes by

**Ann-Katrine Garn**

Copenhagen Zoo (Denmark)

IUCN Council Member West Europe

&

**Ruben Khachatryan**

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

IUCN Council Member Eastern Europe, North & Central Asia

TITLE TO BE CONFIRMED

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*Presentations*

Update from EAZA Brussels Office on conservation and EU	Alice Albertini (EAZA Executive Office, Belgium)
Early Lessons Learned from a Transnational Project on Engaging Zoos, Visitors, and Local Communities in European Pollinator Conservation.	Signe Ellegaard (Copenhagen Zoo, Denmark) Tomislav Krizmanić (Zagreb Zoo, Croatia) Valentina Isaja (ZOOM Torino, Italy)
Linking beetles, newts and politicians	Friederike von Houwald (Tierpark Bern, Switzerland)
A Network of Arks for European Salamanders	Johannes Penner (Citizen Conservation, Germany)
One-plan Approach in Practice – how Multi-stakeholder Collaboration Lead to the Conservation Translocation of a European Elasmobranch in the North Sea	Taissa Faust (Zoo am Meer Bremerhaven, Germany)

*Choice of Workshops*

Do We Have What it Takes? Building Institutional Capacity for Conservation.	Andrea Bračko, Tomislav Krizmanić and Dijana Beneta (Zagreb Zoo, Croatia)
Uniting for Wildlife: How the Bioparc Zoo and Bioparc Conservation Build Global Partnerships for the Nature Projects	Tatiana Beuchat (Bioparc Zoo de Doué la Fontaine, France)
Can People and Wolves Co-exist? A Role Playing Game by the EU Platform on Coexistence between People and Large Carnivores	Kyra Baumann and Johanna Leona Eul (Adelphi   EU Platform on Coexistence between People and Large Carnivores)
<i>To be confirmed</i>	<i>To be confirmed</i>

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**From policy to practice: collaborative conservation in Europe**

*Presentations*

Conservation Work of Opel-Zoo: National/Local Reintroduction Projects	Karina Handen (Opel-Zoo Kronberg, Germany)
In-situ Conservation Initiatives for Local Fauna at Zoo Gdańsk	Monika Dmochowska (Zoo Gdańsk, Poland)
Challenges and Successes in Species Conservation Efforts in the Alpine Region and beyond	Nora Weyer (Alpenzoo Innsbruck-Tirol, Austria)
Successful Artificial incubation, Hand-rearing and Release of Lapwings in Rhineland-Palatinate	Gerardo Unger Lafourcade (Gesellschaft für Naturschutz und Ornithologie Rheinland-Pfalz, Germany) Jens-Ove Heckel (Zoo Landau in der Pfalz, Germany)

*Panel discussion*

From Global Expertise to Local Action: The IUCN SSC Center for Species Survival Network as a Catalyst for Collaborative-led Species Conservation within and beyond Europe	Andrew Mooney (CSS Ireland - Dublin Zoo, Ireland) Catarina Fonseca (CSS Marine - Oceanário de Lisboa, Portugal) Ciara Duggan (CSS United Kingdom - Hertfordshire Zoo, United Kingdom) Elliot Carlton (CSS Cats - The Big Cat Sanctuary, United Kingdom) Joao Neves (CSS Behaviour Change - Zoomarine, Portugal) Matthias Markolf (CSS Cologne Zoo, Germany) Nora Marie Weyer (CSS Small Mammals - Alpenzoo Innsbruck-Tirol, Austria)
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*Close and farewell dinner*

POSTER TITLE	AUTHOR(S)
The Kimboza Forest Gecko Project: a Big Story About a Tiny Gecko!	Heike Maisch, Thüringer Zoopark Erfurt, Germany; Charles Kilawe, Sokoine University of Agriculture, Tanzania
Better Together: Frankfurt Zoo & Frankfurt Zoological Society, United Conservation Work for Decades	Marco Dinter, Frankfurt Zoo, Germany
Reviving Israel's Wildlife With the Help of Friends	Ariel Kedem, Jerusalem Zoo, Israel
No Single Organisation Can Save a Tiger: How Collaboration is Rebuilding Big Cat Populations	Amy van Gelder, WildCats Conservation Alliance, UK
Dogs Helping Reverse the Red for Cheetahs	Tim Hofmann, Cheetah Conservation Fund, Namibia; Anne Schmidt-Küntzel, Cheetah Conservation Fund, Namibia; Shira Yashphe, Cheetah Conservation Fund, Namibia; Laurie Marker, Cheetah Conservation Fund, Namibia
From Local Reintroductions to a Continental Network: Large-Scale Collaboration for Climate-Adaptive Conservation of the Northern Bald Ibis in Europe	Johannes Fritz, Waldrappteam Conservation and Research, Austria; Regina Kramer, Zoo Vienna, Austria
Successful Collaboration in the Field of Species and Environmental Conservation between Sofia Zoo and Governmental and Municipal Institutions in 2025	Katerina Zareva-Simeonova, Sofia Zoo, Bulgaria; Dobromir Borislavov, Sofia Zoo, Bulgaria; Emilia Toncheva, Sofia Zoo, Bulgaria
Integrated Approach to Develop Effective Conservation Strategy for Carnivores in Madagascar	Federica Avesani Zaborra, Department of Life Sciences and Systems Biology, University of Turin, Turin, Italy and Natura Viva - Garda Animal Park, Verona, Italy Caterina Spiezio Fondazione Zoom, Turin, Italy Valeria Torti, Department of Life Sciences and Systems Biology, University of Turin, Turin, Italy Cristina Giacomini, U-Onlus, Turin, Italy Jonah Ratsimbazafy Groupe d'Etude et de Recherche sur les Primates de Madagascar (GERP), Antananarivo, Madagascar Francesca Marucco Department of Life Sciences and Systems Biology, University of Turin, Turin, Italy
Improve Regional Conservation Outcomes through AI-based Monitoring	Martin Schaefer, Fundacion Jocotoco, Ecuador; Pedro Galindo, Fundacion Jocotoco, Ecuador; David Parra, Fundacion Jocotoco, Ecuador; Sonja Kümmer, University of Würzburg, Germany; Mareike Kortmann, University of Würzburg, Germany; Jörg Müller, University of Würzburg, Germany
Rebounding Biodiversity: 15 Years of Rehabilitation after Clear-felling Tropical Rainforest Habitat for Palm Oil Production	Muhammad Silmi, United Plantations Bhd./PT Surya Sawit Sejati., Indonesia; Ali Amran, United Plantations Bhd./PT Surya Sawit Sejati., Indonesia; Lutfi Febri Ardiansyah, United Plantations Bhd./PT Surya Sawit Sejati. , Indonesia; Fingki Alvia Candra, United Plantations Bhd./PT Surya Sawit Sejati., Indonesia; Bjorn Dahlen, Green Harvest Environmental, Oregon, USA; Carl Traeholt, Copenhagen Zoo, Denmark;
ASF crisis in Asia: An Urgent Call for Zoos to Protect Wild Pig Species	Johanna Rode-White, Cologne Zoo, Germany; Matthias Markolf, Cologne Zoo, Germany

Why We Need a Broader View of 'Cooperation' to Increase Our Impact in Species Conservation.	Björn Encke, Citizen Conservation / Frogs & Friends, Germany; Heiko Werning, Citizen Conservation, Germany; Tina Nagorzansky, Citizen Conservation / Frogs & Friends, Germany; Vanessa Dubberke, Citizen Conservation, Germany; Julia Bindl, Citizen Conservation, Germany; Johannes Penner, Citizen Conservation / Frogs & Friends, Germany;
The "Other" European Species - Conservation activities in French Overseas Territories	Simon Bruslund, Copenhagen Zoo, Denmark ; Stella Jørgensen, Copenhagen Zoo, Denmark ; Caroline Blanvillain, Société d'Ornithologie de Polynésie (MANU), French Polynesia
Collaboration as Conservation Infrastructure: Building Resilient Partnerships for Tortoise Recovery	Jordan M. Gray, Turtle Survival Alliance, United States of America; Marc Dupuis-Desormeaux, Turtle Survival Alliance, United States of America
Nocturnal Social Behaviour of the Endangered White-Clawed Crayfish: Implications for Captive Rearing and Conservation	Louise Farran, University of the West of England, United Kingdom
Lessons Learned from 25 Years of Collaboration to Protect Africa's Primates	Jenny Botting-van Blerk, Pan African Sanctuary Alliance, UK; Kelly O'Meara, Pan African Sanctuary Alliance, USA
Addressing the Reintroduction of an Extinct in the Wild Species with Limited Autoecological Information: the Mhorr Gazelle's ( <i>Nanger dama mhorr</i> ) Case.	Marta Ayala, Experimental Station of Arid Zones (EEZA), Spain; Sonia Domínguez, Experimental Station of Arid Zones (EEZA), Spain; Jose María Gil-Sánchez, University of Granada, Spain; Gabriel del Barrio, Experimental Station of Arid Zones (EEZA), Spain; Teresa Abáigar, Experimental Station of Arid Zones (EEZA), Spain; Salvador Arenas-Castro, University of Córdoba, Spain.
From Fragmentation to Functionality: Restoring Connectivity for the Brown Spadefoot Toad in Central France	Gabriel Michelin, Association Beauval Nature, France; Baptiste Mulot, Association Beauval Nature, France;
Strengthening and Evaluating the Collaboration with In-situ Conservation Partners – a Practical Method of Self-assessment	Nina Trontti and Annika Sorjonen, Korkeasaari Zoo, Finland; Thilini Thenkuttige, University of Helsinki, Finland;
Assessing Zoo Transfers under CITES and EU Law: A Scientific Authority Perspective	Jacqueline Jürgens, German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation - CITES Scientific Authority, Germany
Preliminary Assessment of Farmer Attitudes Towards the Presence of African Forest Elephants in the Democratic Republic of Congo	Guy Landu Bikembo, Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, Democratic Republic of Congo; Claudio Augugliaro, Wildlife Initiative, Mongolia; Ibra E. Monti, Department of Veterinary Medicine Sassari, Italy; Valentina Isaja, Fondazione ZOOM, Italy; Marcello Franchini, Department of Agricultural, Food, Environmental and Animal Sciences Udine, Italy
AI-Based Acoustic Monitoring to Estimate Manatee Populations and Assess Anthropogenic Stress	Alina A. Sachner, Goethe-University Frankfurt, Germany; Paul W. Dierkes, Goethe-University Frankfurt, Germany; Sebastian Schneider, Goethe-University Frankfurt, Germany;
Impact of Local Community Perception Changes on the Safety of Bird Nests in Mount Slamet, Central Java	Hariyawan Agung Wahyudi, Copenhagen Zoo, Indonesia; Simon Bruslund, Copenhagen Zoo, Denmark
Local Natural Values Through the Method of Storytelling – Stories Brought to Life	Marta Szabon, Budapest Zoo and Botanical Garden, Hungary