

Newsletter Topics

December 2013

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Seedlings for sustainable firewood

Preface

Living Lakes – together we are strong

In just fifteen years 102 lakes – represented by even more organisations – have signed up to the Living Lakes network, which emphasises the need for and value of one of GNF's most innovative programmes. But, not surprisingly, such rapid growth is beginning to place a strain on GNF's administrative and financial core support. So in October a group of GNF staff, advisors and representatives of the Living Lakes' Partners met in Radolfzell to discuss ways to secure long-term core support for the network. We came up with plenty of ideas but no definitive solutions. For example, what if each person who lives near to and enjoys the benefits of a lake contributed just ten cent to the network? The Lake Constance region alone has a population of 3.8 million!

Planning for the long term is not easy when we are so often faced with short-term emergencies. But the evidence is

increasingly clear that extreme disasters, even hurricane Hayian, are not necessarily natural phenomena. The Living Lakes network and its individual members need to lobby more forcefully on climate change and the escalating environmental degradation for which our consumer society is to blame.

Mark Twain allegedly wrote that 'twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things you didn't do than by the ones that you did do'. We must secure the Living Lakes network and lobby even harder so as not to disappoint ourselves or our children.

Michael Ounsted
Wissenschaftlicher Beirat des
Global Nature Fund (2003-2013)

Satisfying Hunger, Saving Energy and Protecting Forest

Tree planting and improved cooking stoves in Burundi

Burundi – in the civil war-torn country, many basic needs are still not covered. Since the last rebel group laid down its weapons in April 2009, the small country in the heart of Africa has been struggling with reconstruction. The infrastructure was largely destroyed and especially in the villages of returned war refugees people lack access to basic needs. It is estimated that one third of a family's income is used to buy firewood – money that is urgently needed for food and education.

With the support of GNF, our partner organisation Biraturaba is currently planting 60,000 tree seedlings on private properties of returned war refugees in four Burundian villages. In addition, 1,000 improved cooking stoves, thanks to which up to 50 per cent of the valuable firewood can be saved, will be distributed. In order to ensure the sustainability

of the project, local people are being trained in the production and plantation of tree seedlings as well as the manufacturing of improved cooking stoves. The goal of the project is to improve the ecological and social situation of the local population and to contribute to the fight against deforestation, as the beneficiaries of the project are no longer forced to illegally cut their firewood in the few remaining national parks in order to save money.

The project is financed through the CO₂ compensation fund of the federal government of Baden-Württemberg via Stiftung Entwicklungs-Zusammenarbeit Baden-Württemberg (SEZ) and through Deutsche Umwelthilfe e.V. and Rapunzel Naturkost with funds from the Hand in Hand Fund.

More information:
www.globalnature.org/Kochstellen-Burundi



Production of new cooking stoves



The Mbaracayu biosphere reserve is the largest private conservation area in Paraguay.

Tea for the Rain Forest

Organic mate tea cultivation helps both – farmers and the environment

There is only one particular place on earth where the critically endangered jaguar, tapir and the rare white-winged nightjar are found together: in the biosphere reserve of Mbaracayu, an Atlantic Rainforest that once stretched from Paraguay to Argentina and Brazil. Unfortunately, on the edge of the biosphere reserve, the natural environment is rapidly declining.

Economic activity at poverty line

Forests are clearcut not only for soy bean cultivation and livestock breeding, often small subsistence farmers are cutting down forests out of economic necessity. On average, a family owns 10 hectares land supporting their livelihood. Farmers use very simple tools and methods. The families often even lack money to meet their daily needs, almost always for smaller investments. One reason is that farmers in remote areas are unable to market their products themselves. They are living on or even below the poverty level. To help people and the environment is the objective of the cooperation of Fundación Moisés Bertoni, responsible

for managing the reserve, and the Global Nature Fund.

Using and Protecting Forests

Organic mate tea cultivation provides a new source of income for farmers in the Mbaracayu region. The farmers are trained in sustainable mate tea cultivation methods: Planted between trees the shade grown yerba mate provides many advantages for the sensitive rainforest ecosystem. Wild animals find new habitats there and soils can recover.

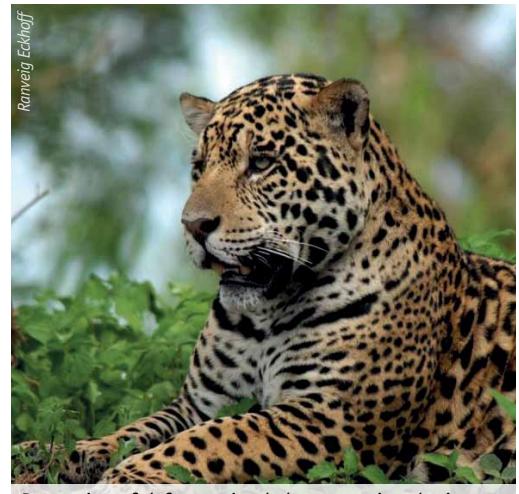
The GNF project for organic yerba mate tea cultivation in the biosphere reserve of Mbaracayu in Paraguay shall create sustainable structures for planting, processing and marketing of yerba mate. Thus the area will be protected, at the same time long-term sources of income for the local people created.

The project is supported by the BMZ and donations, including donors such as Rapunzel Naturkost via Hand in Hand Fund and Daimler.

More information: www.globalnature.org/Mate-Tee



Yerba mate seedlings in a tree nursery



Prevention of deforestation helps preserving the jaguar.



Young yerba mate plants

Become a yerba mate tea friend!

Our partners onsite need your support for the successful development of organic yerba mate tea cultivation. Every donation counts!

Bank details

Donation account No.: 80 40 41 60 00,
GLS-Bank Bochum, BLZ: 430 609 67
Key word: Mate tea
IBAN: DE 53 4306 0967 8040 4160 00
BIC: GENODEM1GLS

On Friendly Terms with Nerpa

Seal doll KUMA explains the eco-system at Lake Baikal to children

The Baikal seal or Nerpa is endemic to Lake Baikal and the symbol of the lake. Despite an official ban on hunting, particularly young seals are often victims of poaching. Many local people and visitors lack sufficient knowledge and awareness regarding Baikal seals. To change that, this year, thanks to the support of Ethikbank, the environmental education project „Why Nerpas are weeping“ was launched by the Global Nature Fund, in cooperation with the Russian partner organisation GRAN.



Playful learning



Short movie on poaching and exhibition

„If we want adults with high environmental awareness, we have to raise their awareness of their natural environment from childhood on. Therefore the project is mainly targeted at younger generations, but is also intended for adults“, explains Tatyana Federova, Director of the „Baikal Information Centre GRAN“. The museum exhibition about the Baikal seal and the environment gives children and grown-up visitors a better understanding of the Nerpa. Interactive methods foster identification with the seal. Since 7 November 2013, stuffed Baikal seals can be observed at close quarters, and in an ice hole a plush seal pup can be admired. A photography exhibition entitled „Focus on Baikal seal“ as well as a short film about poaching show Nerpas in their natural environment and the risks to which they are exposed. As a souvenir, kids can mould salt dough, plasticine or clay into Nerpas. Most popular was the seal doll KUMA explaining the environment in a playful manner. Three printed leaflets for preschool children and primary school pupils will follow shortly giving answers to the questions „Where do seals live? What does a seal eat? Why do I change my colour?“.

After completion of the project in April 2014, the work in the Museum should be continued. The permanent exhibition will be used for other environmental education events such as the World Water Day, World Environment Day, Baikal Seal Day etc.

More information: www.globalnature.org/Nerpa

 **EthikBank**
FAIRES GELD



Nerpa in its natural habitat, Lake Baikal

Farewell to Ranveig Eckhoff

After seven years of active commitment, Ranveig Eckhoff retires from the GNF Board. As a journalist, she focused her activities on public relations and networking within the Living Lakes network. GNF thanks Ranveig for her valuable contributions to the development of the network. Ranveig Eckhoff will continue to keep in touch with the Global Nature Fund and stay involved in the protection of lakes. „It's not Goodbye, but the begin of a new phase of cooperation“, she pointed out. At the beginning of 2013, Sebastian Winkler was newly elected to the GNF Board.



Farewell to Ranveig Eckhoff on 14 June 2013

Banded Siberian Crane spotted again in the Lake Poyang Reserve

Mother crane shows the young chicks how to forage

In August 1993, the Siberian Crane was banded at the age of one year at Lake Ushkan in Yakut, Russia. Since then the bird is marked with a blue ring (No 8) on its right leg. Last year, this crane was seen for the first time after being ringed. In February 2012, the nature photographer Yu Huigong took a picture of this bird at Lake Dahuchi in the province of Jiangxi in China. Now, early in November, this Siberian Crane has been spotted again at Lake Dahuchi, the core lake of

the Lake Poyang reserve. A staff member of the nature reserve watched the bird foraging with its family and feeding its chick. Even at the age of twenty, this bird has the ability to reproduce.

Lake Poyang reserve is an important resting site for Siberian Cranes on their migration to Siberia 5000 km away during the summer months.

More information: www.globalnature.org/Poyang



08号环志白鹤

白鹤“三口之家”，图右白鹤带有蓝环，标有08字样



Unique band number clearly identifiable

News

Publications and Online Information

Living Lakes again awarded as UN Decade Project

For the fifth consecutive time, the international network Living Lakes has received the distinction as „Official Project of the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development 2005-2014“. With the distinction for the year 2014 the network has received the award for the entire Decade.

www.globalnature.org/UN-Dekade

Award for environment protection for Spanish partner organisation

On 20 November 2013, our partner organisation Fundación Global Nature (FGN) received the environmental award of the foundation Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria (BBVA) in recognition of its efforts for the conservation of wetlands and biodiversity in the last 20 years. This is the most important award for environment protection in Spain.

Forum for Integration of Renewable Energy presents "Plan N 2.0"

"Plan N 2.0", which provides recommendations for political action on the future integration of renewable energy into the grids, was presented in the framework of a press conference in Berlin on 06 December 2013.

www.forum-netzintegration.de & www.forum-netzintegration.de/ueber-uns

SEPA migration

The new "Single Euro Payments Area" (SEPA) regulation will come into force on 1 February 2013. This is an initiative of the European Union for standardisation and simplification of European bank transfers. If you have already issued a direct debit authorisation (direct debit system) with GNF in the past, nothing will change for you. The people concerned have already been informed by GNF about the migration. If you want to issue a direct debit authorisation (debit direct system) in future (as of 2014), we will have prepared the right documents for donors with IBAN and BIC.

No worries about IBAN and BIC

The IBAN has 22 characters: first the two-letter country code (DE for Germany), then 2 bank identification digits, then the 8-digit bank code, and finally the personal account number (sometimes zeroes are added at the end). You can find your personal IBAN-number on your bank account statement. The BIC is only needed for foreign payments.

Events

January/February 2014

3 - 6 January 2014

**Nature Conservation Days
(Naturschutztage am Bodensee)**
Radolfzell, Lake Constance, Germany
www.naturschutztage.de

17 January 2014

SWIFCOB 14 «Biodiversity & Business: Diversity will profit»
UniS Bern, Switzerland
www.biodiversity.ch/d/events/swifcob

21 January 2014

How Business values Nature – GNF Workshop
Deutsche Welle,
Kurt-Schumacher-Str. 3,
53113 Bonn, Germany
www.naturkapitalbilanzierung.de

12 - 15 February 2014

Biofach 2014 together with Vivaness
Nuremberg, Germany

13 February 2014, 14.00 - 14.45

Protection and conservation of biological diversity in the beauty sector
GNF Workshop in the frame of
Vivaness Congress/Biofach 2014
www.biofach.de/en

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www.facebook.com/globalnature.org

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DAIMLER

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Donation Account:

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