

Annual Report



2014/2015



„This blue planet is our only home; we can't settle on the moon!
If we destroy this planet, where will we go?“

14th Dalai Lama, spiritual leader of Tibet, born in 1935



Imprint

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Preface

Dear readers, dear friends, supporters, and donors,

The global community, the European Union, and the German Federal Government all have agreed on ambitious goals for the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity and sustainable management by the year 2020. However, the 2014 indicator report published in February 2015 revealed that biodiversity is still on the decline in Germany and that we are far from reaching our 2020 targets. According to the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, some positive trends, such as sustainable forestry or ecological agriculture, are still offset by large deficits in other areas. Intensive agriculture, urban sprawl and landscape fragmentation, further sealing of surfaces, and nutrient discharges are named in this context as the main reasons for biodiversity loss.

In 2014, together with the Lake Constance Foundation and advised by a group of experts, the Global Nature Fund developed references for standards and labels in the food industry. Our main goal was to work out efficient criteria for the conservation of biodiversity. The German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation and the REWE Group supported our initiative. Since then, we encourage standardizing organizations give biodiversity more importance in their evaluation criteria. Some standards, such as Fairtrade, UTZ,

SAI or the Quality Seal of Baden-Württemberg are receptive to our suggestions and intend to enhance biodiversity protection. Other labels – industry standards like OQ and Global GAP in particular – are still hesitating, even though including just a few important criteria of biodiversity in those widespread standards would have an enormous positive impact. Our initiative received great acclaim by the administration of the international Convention on Biodiversity (CBD), who also announced to support further work on food standards.

In November 2014, GNF organized the 14th International Living Lakes Conference in Nanchang, China. The conference turned out to be a success in every respect. More than 350 participants, including 80 Living Lakes delegates, were pleased to finally meet again in person. Unfortunately, the conference lectures on the situation of lakes in densely populated areas gave more than enough reason for concern: Pressures through human use increase and lakes are still being polluted and overused in spite of the existence of more environmental friendly technologies. The heavily populated People's Republic of China own only seven percent of the global drinking water reserves. Against this background, the Chinese government eventually realized that the pollution of lakes and rivers cannot continue with current intensity – on the one hand because of dramatic ecological consequences, but also for economic reasons. "Ecological civilization" is the concept



the Chinese government is now pursuing – hopefully with vigour and success.

Ecological civilization is also a central element of the EcoPeace Initiative for saving the lower Jordan River in the frontier area of Israel, Jordan and Palestine. There is no second river on earth with such a great significance for several world religions and human history in general. However, this uniqueness has not preserved the Jordan from fading into a trickle of untreated sewage and salt water. This example shows how far we really are from a state of an ecological civilization. GNF and its project partners developed a first transboundary master plan for the renaturation of the Jordan River, which was officially introduced to public in June 2015. Core measures of the plan include

practical and realistic measures to renature the river and to initiate a sustainable development of the Jordan valley. Furthermore a cross-border approach would contribute to the peace process in the region. Yet, the implementation of the master plan depends on the good will of governments. Whether or not policy makers will eventually make protecting the livelihoods of future generations the centre of attention we do not know. But hope dies last!

Despite all those environmental challenges we hope that you will enjoy reading our report, and we would appreciate your feedback.

With best wishes,



Marion Hammerl
President



Udo Gattenlöhner
Executive Director

Please visit our website to
learn more about our many
diverse projects:
www.globalnature.org



About Global Nature Fund

The Global Nature Fund (GNF) is an international foundation for the protection of environment and nature, chartered in 1998. It is a non-governmental organization that only pursues non-profit goals in support of environmental protection, nature conservation, landscape management, species protection, and environmental education. International cooperation plays a key role in these projects. The main office is located in Radolfzell, Germany, by Lake Constance. Additional offices are located in Bonn and Berlin.



The foundation's aims are realized through the:

- › Development of projects that promote sustainable economic activities as well as climate protection and wildlife conservation.
- › Initiation and implementation of nature and environmental protection projects for the conservation of the diverse fauna and natural habitats.
- › Environmental education through publications and events regarding the protection of nature and environment.
- › Promotion of international conventions on the protection of environment, nature, species, climate, and water.
- › Promotion of international dialogue between environmental organizations, industries, administrations, politicians, and scientists.
- › Support for sustainable and fair development around the world as long as these are in conjunction with nature and environmental protection issues.

changes to the foundation's charter. Once a year an audit report about the annual financial statement is submitted to both the foundation authorities, and voluntarily to a certified auditing firm for reviewing purposes. GNF received a full attestation in both cases. Furthermore, GNF is controlled regularly by the German tax authority. As the foundation is recognised as charitable, donations and additional endowment contributions can be set off against tax liability. Besides, if GNF is appointed as the statutory heir of an asset, the foundation is exempted from paying inheritance tax. The foundation's assets are currently 417,638.04 Euro. According to the foundation's charter, these assets have to be covered by GNF's stocks and can be supported with donations starting at 20,000 Euro.

Disclosure and Transparency

We attach great importance to transparency. This is why our annual reports do not only present the last years' achievements, but also serve as a legitimation for the annual financial statement. The balance sheet as well as the profit and loss account are depicted in great detail. The report is sent to all donors, supporters, and project partners. Additionally, both the annual financial statement and the foundation's statutes are available for download on our website.

A growing number of NGOs in Germany acquire a fund raising certificate. Up to now we have waived this kind of confirmation due to the full attesta-

Travelling to Protect the Environment

The GNF documents all flights by its employees and board members and calculates the CO₂ emissions.

On the basis of the calculations by the climate organization myclimate, the GNF donates the appropriate amount to the organization for climate change projects and promoting renewable energy.

Structure

Supervision and voluntary Inspections

The Global Nature Fund was approved by the Senate Office for Justice in Berlin as a foundation on April 29, 1998, pursuant to § 80 of the Berlin legal code in conjunction with § 2 Clause 1 of the Berlin Law on Foundations. The supervisory authority has to review and approve potential



tion of our audit report and the constant supervision by both foundation supervisory and the tax authorities. Prerequisites, costs and benefits of a seal like that are currently being examined. Official awards, such as the one we received by the UN Decade of the Environment, are a direct and non-bureaucratic sign of appreciation for our work. In order to share the development of GNF with our donors and partners, we will continue to lay emphasis on transparent reporting through publications like our annual reports and our website.

Honorary Positions

According to § 4 of the charter, the honorary positions of the foundation are the Board of Directors and the Founders Committee. The **Founders Committee** meets annually, represents the interests of the foundation, oversees the work of the Board of Directors, and decides on its discharge. At present the committee is comprised of three seats: Michael Bauer (Chairman), Jürgen Resch (Vice Chairman), and Prof. Dr. Thomas Feske. In addition to the active board members, there are also passive stakeholders and advisors.

The **Board of Directors** leads and manages the foundation in accordance with its statutes. Business operations are conducted by a full-time Executive Director. The committee meets twice a year, and is comprised of a maximum of seven seats, six of which are currently filled by Marion Hammerl (President), Prof. Dr. Manfred

Niekisch (Vice President), Jörg Dürr-Pucher, Prof. Dr. Harald Kächele, Dr. Andrew Venter, and Sebastian Winkler.

GNF's **Scientific Advisory Board** consists of several international experts and is being consulted for technical expertise where necessary. The following individuals are present members of the board on a voluntary basis: Roger de Freitas, Great Britain; Dr. Hendrik Hoeck, Switzerland; Prof. Dr. Masahisa Nakamura, Japan; John Pinder, Great Britain; Dr. Antonio Gómez Reyna, Mexico; Dr. Tillmann Stottele, Germany; and Prof. Dr. Michael Succow, Germany.

⚓ Lake Constance, location of GNF's headquarters. Lake Constance serves as a role model for many of our projects, because it shows a harmonic coexistence of human activities and environmental well-being, even in densely populated areas.

⚓ The estuarial area of the Radolfzeller Aach is an undisturbed reed land area, which serves as a habitat for rare plants and a variety of birds.



Living Lakes and Water

Accomplishments of this unit involve transboundary water management, drinking water projects and educational activities. Since its foundation seventeen years ago, the international Living Lakes Network has been working for the protection of lakes and wetlands worldwide. An important part of our work in this concern is the transfer of know-how and experiences in order to disseminate successful measures to many partner lakes. GNF coordinates the network, which currently comprises 104 lakes in 55 countries.



Living Lakes

GNF founded the Living Lakes Network in 1998 to protect the habitats and water resources of lakes and wetlands. Today, GNF plans and implements sustainable environmental and nature protection projects together with over 100 partner organizations worldwide. Living Lakes offers its members a forum for dialog, a place to collaborate on project implementation, and to exchange experiences, knowledge and environmental technologies.

The network's goals are:

- › Biodiversity protection and the conservation of lakes, wetlands, and other aquatic ecosystems.
- › Restoration of altered and threatened wetlands and lake ecosystems.
- › Amelioration of the quality of life of the lake's riparian populations through participatory projects.
- › The sustainable use and development of these ecosystems through farming, fishing, tourism, housing developments, and energy/water usage.
- › Promotion of the use of applied sciences and technologies for the protection of these ecosystems.
- › Support for education programs and collaborations with the local population and other relevant groups with the goal of protecting the biodiversity of these ecosystems.

The Living Lakes partnership has grown since its foundation in 1998 from four lakes to its current number of 104 partner lakes. As part of project conceptualization, GNF pays special attention to designing measures that are transferable and replicable. As a result, the projects are geographically flexible and can be implemented across a broad spectrum and under various circumstances.

National and multinational Networks

Cooperation and sharing experiences between international Living Lakes partners is subject to numerous challenges. Political and cultural differences have to be overcome and the variety of ecosystems requires intensive analysis and preparation. Often it is not easy to even find a common point of time for environmentalists from all over the world to exchange views via video conference. This is why we established national and multinational Living Lakes networks. Partners from certain areas can cooperate without language barriers, coordinate joint projects and support each other's campaign work. Six of those "subnetworks" have been established over the past years. The efficiency of this exchange often depends on the partners' financial and personnel situation. The Living Lakes partner organizations in China, Latin America, East Africa and Italy, for instance, are currently focussing on their own



projects, whereas the networks in Germany and Canada developed an intensive and highly dynamic collaboration. GNF works continuously with the networks' coordinators in finding financial support for common projects and strengthening the cooperation between network partners.

Living Lakes Network Canada

2014 was an eventful year for the Living Lakes Canada Network. A new initiative "Rapid Respond" has been launched that provides training and support for communities to respond to disastrous large-scale pollution events like the Obed Mine coal sludge spill that occurred in the Upper Athabasca River watershed or the tailings pond breach at Mount Polley. In a Citizen Groundwater Monitoring Programme community volunteers from the Columbia Valley were trained to collect groundwater data over time and a report which will help guide basin communities in their land-use and water planning was created. The Living Lakes Canada team is monitoring water quality of the Flathead River. The work supports the Flathead Wild campaign goal to expand the Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park and establish a Southern Rocky Mountain Wildlife Management Area in the Flathead Valley. To the many further events and activities the Living Lakes Canada team has been involved in 2014 belong for example the 5th Annual Tar Sands Healing Walk, the "I Love My Lake" campaign, the Canada Water Week 2014 as well as the Canadian Aquatic Bio-Monitoring Network.

Further information is available on the newly designed website www.livinglakes.ca.

Living Lakes Network Germany

Living Lakes Network Germany is an active network for the protection of lakes in Germany. Since 2013, there have been a growing number of joint projects, which in turn reinforces the cooperation between partners. The project "Diving for Environmental Protection" launched an initiative that made the partner from Lake Stechlin work more closely together with other members of the network. In the meantime the network is being perceived as a renowned and – due to

⚓ Lake Chiemsee has been appointed "Living Lake 2015" for its sustainable tourism management and great achievements in the area of accessibility services, showing how people and nature can live in harmony.

⚓ Volunteers gather samples from numerous sites in order to monitor the water quality of the rivers in Columbia Valley, Canada.



» Diving for Environmental Protection is one of the most recent projects of our partners in the Living Lakes Network Germany.



the sponsorship by the Anton & Petra Ehrmann Foundation – as a stable and reliable platform for sharing experience and transferring knowledge on German lakes between experts and committed citizens. Since its foundation in 2009, several collaborative activities concerning environmental conservation of German lakes were implemented. Amongst others, these activities involved projects on applied conservation measures and environmental education, a joint appearance in the media and a variety of campaign days. At the moment the network consists of 22 active organizations, which are either nationwide operating partners, or represent one of 14 greater lake areas in Ger-

many. Current issues are the growing pressure on lakeshores because of building development, phosphate precipitation that threatens lakes in Eastern Germany, and the new fertilizer ordinance which, as matters stand, will not be conducive to the recovery of lakes and rivers.

Threatened Lake of the Year 2014

On February 2nd, on the occasion of the Worlds Wetlands Day, GNF proclaimed Lake Sampaloc and six other crater lakes in San Pablo City (Bunot, Mojicap, Pandin, Palakpakin, Yambo und Kalibato) as “Threatened Lake of the Year 2014”.

Intensive Fish Farming poses serious Threat to Crater Lakes in the Philippines

30 years ago, the seven crater lakes were used by locals for leisure activities and as a recreational site. In the course of the nineties, however, illegal fishing systems started to grow on the shoreline and at times covered up to 70% of the crater lakes’ surface. Even though only 10% coverage is officially allowed, fish cages still occupy much more of the surface area. “Overfeeding and oversized fish populations cause eutrophication and a rapid deterioration of the water quality. This development is clearly visible in occasionally elevated fish mortality and a massive growth of



« “Illegal cage systems are often equipped with floating huts that serve as storage room for fish food, and as the keeper’s living area”, explains Bobby Azores from the Friends of the Seven Lakes Foundation at Lake Sampaloc in the Philippines.

green alga as a result of high pollution levels”, explains Bobby Azores, chairman of the Philippine environmental organization Friends of the Seven Lakes Foundation.

Local Commitment

Since its foundation in 2000, the Friends of the Seven Lakes Foundation – together with other environmental organizations – has been working on a pilot project for renaturation at Lake Sampaloc. Eventually, the municipal administration of San Pablo City agreed to implement a master plan for sustainable tourism development. New aquaculture regulations and adjusted land development plans are a central part of the agenda.

Know-how for Lake Protection

A modern green filter facility is planned to keep Lake Sampaloc clean in the future. This cost-effective waste water treatment has proved to be very effective and successful in other GNF projects. To this end, open fish cages must be replaced by fish basins and moved to the designated aquaculture zone. Creation of alternative sources of income for the many illegal fishermen is another goal and part of the action plan. For more information visit: www.globalnature.org/ThreatenedLake2014

Living Lake of the Year 2014

On World Water Day (22nd March) 2014, GNF announced the decision of naming the Chiemsee our “Living Lake 2014” as part of a nationwide campaign. As a retreat area for many endangered water and wading birds, it is protected by the international Ramsar-Convention on Wetlands of International Importance. The lake and its environment accommodate a rich and diverse flora and fauna. The lake hosts 47 orchid species, 58 types of dragonflies, 19 bat species, 148 breeding birds and 150 other species for whom the lake is of significant importance for their migratory routes.

With a surface area of almost 80 square kilometres, the Chiemsee is not only the third largest lake in Germany, but one of the most popular touristic destinations of the country. 2.5 million overnight stays and many daily visitors from the greater Munich area make an effective tourism infrastructure indispensable. To ensure that nature does not fall by the wayside in this regard, it is necessary to have a fair cooperative dialog

between public authorities, touristic and environmental organizations, and other users. Only a “sustainable tourism” can preserve the beauty and distinctiveness of the area while sustaining the long-term appeal as a touristic site.

Rest areas with designated observatory posts give visitors the opportunity to enjoy this natural spectacle without disturbing animals or causing damage to sensitive plant communities. Guided tours with Chiemsee park rangers (who are organized in the Association of Nature and Landscape Guides Inn/Salzach) bring the most precious natural treasures to the visitors’ attention while teaching a considerate behaviour within natural zones.

Worth highlighting is the exceptional commitment of the Chiemsee Nature Guides for barrier-free accessibility of experiencing nature, which is a pioneering approach in the area of environmental education. 3D-maps, info cards in Braille, and guided tours based on touch bring the Chiemsee and its natural treasures to life for the visually impaired. Trips for visitors with reduced mobility have been offered for many years as well.

By choosing the Chiemsee as “Living Lake of the Year” this exemplary approach for the harmonic coexistence of people and nature shall be honoured and supported. A leaflet and the touring exhibition of the Living Lakes Network Germany provide information about the project and its background.



➤ Iris sibirica is an indigenous flower of the meadows surrounding Lake Chiemsee.



« Environmental education is a major issue for our partners at the Chiemsee. Several observatory posts provide great scenic views to visitors.

Members of the Living Lakes Network

NORTH AMERICA

- 1 Columbia River Wetlands; **Canada**
- 2 Lake Winnipeg; **Canada**
- 3 Athabasca River; **Canada ***
- 4 Huron Lake; **Canada ***
- 5 Skeena River; **Canada ***
- 6 Mono Lake; **USA**
- 7 Lake Chapala; **Mexico**
- 8 Lake Atitlán; **Guatemala**
- 9 Lake Amatitlán; **Guatemala**

SOUTH AMERICA

- 10 Laguna de Fúquene; **Colombia**
- 11 Lake Titicaca; **Peru, Bolivia**
- 12 Pantanal Wetlands; **Brazil, Bolivia, Paraguay**
- 13 Lagunita Komplex; **Paraguay**
- 14 Laguna de Rocha; **Uruguay**
- 15 Mar Chiquita; **Argentina**
- 16 Río Gallegos; **Argentina**

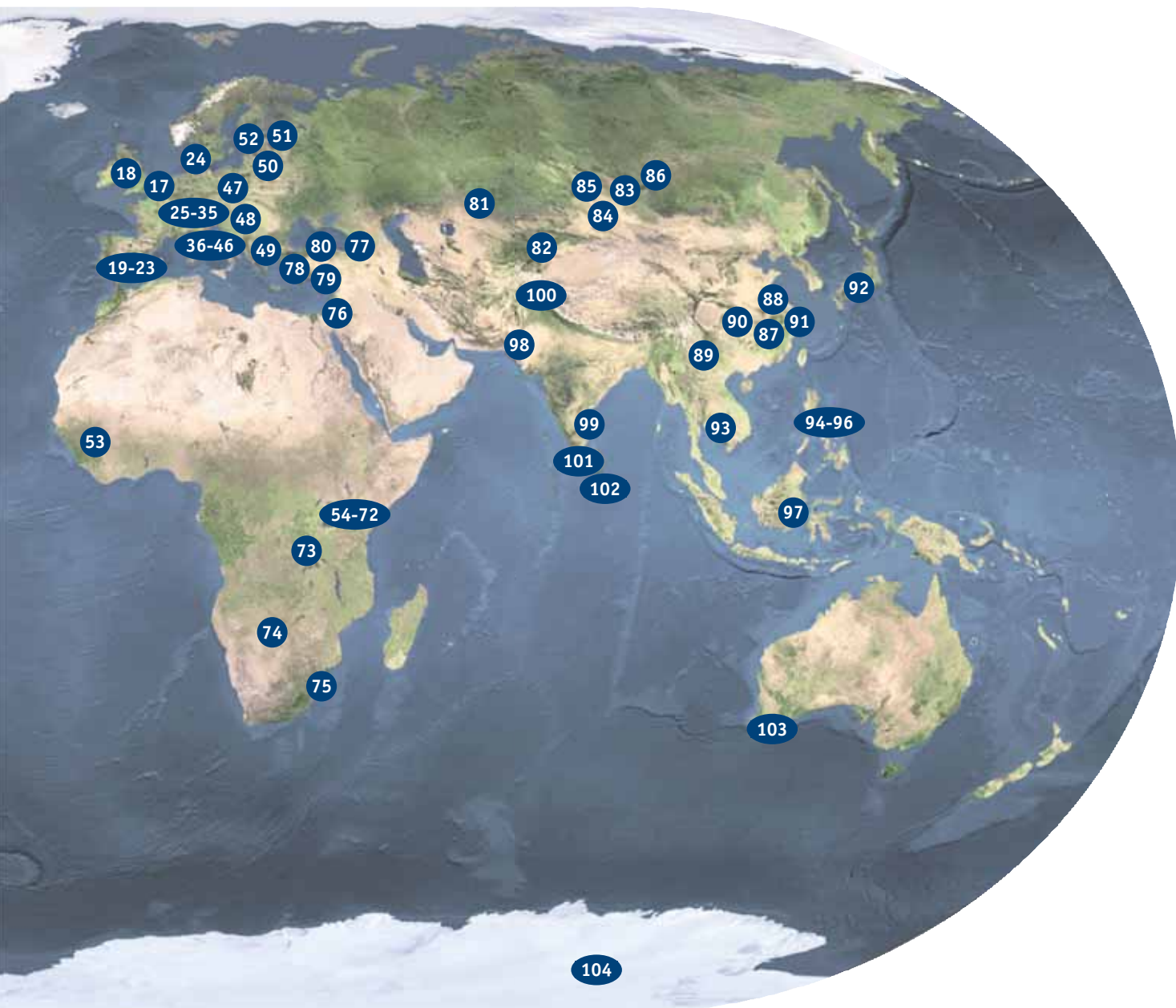
EUROPE

- 17 Norfolk & Suffolk Broads; **Great Britain**
- 18 Lake District; **Great Britain**
- 19 La Nava; **Spain**
- 20 Lake Albufera; **Spain**
- 21 Delta de Llobregat; **Spain**
- 22 La Mancha Wetlands; **Spain**
- 23 Salobrar de Campos Wetlands; **Majorca, Spain**
- 24 Kolindsund Wetlands; **Denmark**
- 25 Lake Constance; **Germany, Switzerland, Austria**
- 26 Chiemsee; **Germany ***
- 27 Lake Dümmer; **Germany ***
- 28 Lake Plön; **Germany ***
- 29 Lusatian Lakeland; **Germany ***
- 30 Mindelsee; **Germany ***
- 31 Upper Swabian Lakes; **Germany ***
- 32 Lake of Plau; **Germany ***
- 33 Lake Schwerin; **Germany ***
- 34 Lake Stechlin; **Germany ***
- 35 Lake Steinhude; **Germany ***
- 36 Lake Trasimeno; **Italy**
- 37 Lake Albano; **Italy ***
- 38 Lake Bolsena; **Italy ***
- 39 Lake Bracciano; **Italy ***
- 40 Colfiorito Wetland and Park; **Italy ***
- 41 Lake Garda; **Italy ***
- 42 Lago Maggiore; **Italy ***
- 43 Lake Nemi; **Italy ***
- 44 Lake Orta; **Italy ***
- 45 Lake Piediluco; **Italy ***
- 46 Lake Vico; **Italy ***
- 47 Milicz Ponds; **Poland**
- 48 Lake Balaton; **Hungary**
- 49 Nestos Lakes and Lagoons; **Greece**
- 50 Labanoras Regional Park; **Lithuania**
- 51 Lake Peipsi; **Estonia, Russia**
- 52 Lake Võrtsjärv; **Estonia**

AFRIKA

- 53 Lake Sonfon; **Sierra Leone**
- 54 Lake Victoria; **Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda**
- 55 Lake Bogoria; **Kenya ***
- 56 Lakes of Bugesera Region; **Burundi ***
- 57 Bujagali Falls; **Uganda ***
- 58 Lake Bunyonyi; **Uganda ***
- 59 Lake Chala; **Kenya ***
- 60 Lake Ihema; **Rwanda ***
- 61 Lake Jipe; **Kenya, Tanzania ***
- 62 Lake Kanyaboli; **Kenya ***
- 63 Lake Katwe; **Uganda ***
- 64 Lake Kivu; **Democratic Republic of the Congo, Rwanda ***
- 65 Lake Kyoga; **Uganda ***
- 66 Mau Forest; **Kenya ***
- 67 Lake Nabugabo; **Uganda ***
- 68 Lake Naivasha; **Kenya ***
- 69 Lake Ol Bolossat; **Kenya ***
- 70 Lake Rwihinda; **Burundi ***
- 71 Shompole Wetland; **Kenya, Tanzania ***
- 72 Lake Wamala; **Uganda ***
- 73 Lake Tanganyika; **Burundi, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Tanzania, Zambia ***
- 74 Okavango Delta; **Botswana**
- 75 Lake St. Lucia; **South Africa**





ASIA

- | | | | |
|----|---|-----|---|
| 76 | Dead Sea; Israel, Jordan, Palestine | 93 | Lake Tonle Sap; Cambodia |
| 77 | Lake Paliastomi; Georgia | 94 | Laguna de Bay; Philippines |
| 78 | Lake Uluabat; Turkey | 95 | Lake Sampaloc; Philippines |
| 79 | Lake Eğirdir; Turkey | 96 | Lake Taal; Philippines |
| 80 | Lake Sapanca; Turkey | 97 | Lake Jempang & Mahakam Wetlands; Indonesia |
| 81 | Lake Tengiz; Kazakhstan | 98 | Deh Akro Wetlands; Pakistan |
| 82 | Lake Issyk-Kul; Kyrgyzstan | 99 | Lake Pulicat; India |
| 83 | Lake Hovsgol; Mongolia | 100 | Lake Wular; India |
| 84 | Lakes Ulaan, Airag, Khyargas and Angir-Nuden Mondochei; Mongolia | 101 | Lake Bolgoda; Sri Lanka |
| 85 | Lake Uvs; Mongolia | 102 | Lake Maduganga and Lake Madampe; Sri Lanka |
| 86 | Lake Baikal; Russia | | |
| 87 | Lake Poyang; China | | |
| 88 | Lake Chao; China * | | |
| 89 | Lake Dian; China * | | |
| 90 | Lake Dongting; China * | | |
| 91 | Lake Tai; China * | | |
| 92 | Lake Biwa; Japan | | |

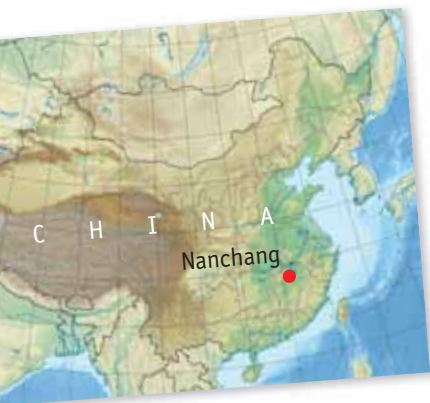
AUSTRALIA / OZEANIA

- 103 Wilson Inlet; **Australia**

ANTARCTICA

- 104 Lake Vostok; **Antarctica**

* National member of a national or multi national Living Lakes Network.



Living Lakes Conference in China

On the occasion of the 14th Living Lakes Conference in November 2014, 300 representatives from 33 countries met in Nanchang, capital of the province Jiangxi in southern China. The conference was organised by GNF, the Jiangxi Academy of Sciences, and the Chinese NGO MRLSD (Mountain River Lake Sustainable Development). Its main topic was the protection of lakes in densely populated regions. The environment of Nanchang itself is characterised by many construction sites and recently erected skyscrapers along the river Gan. This development is an indicator for China's strong economic growth. Despite – or rather as a result of – economic success, the dangerous environmental situation in China is intensifying dramatically. Although air pollution is less severe than in megacities like Shanghai or Beijing, and despite the fact that weather conditions had actually been good and motorcycles have been banned from the city and replaced by electronic alternatives, it was impossible to see the sky in Nanchang. With more than 1.3 billion inhabitants, the People's Republic of China is the most populated country in the world. "22% of the world's population live in China. However, the country has only 7% of the global water supplies", GNF's president Marion Hammerl said in her opening speech, as she pointed out the challenge of guaranteeing a sufficient water supply for a constantly growing population. Whereas lakes and wetlands are of great importance for the supply of drinking water, their protection is still a strongly

neglected topic, not only in China. "Wetlands are often perceived as wasteland, which is why almost 70% of them have vanished in the past 100 years", Chris Percival from the Ramsar Convention described the problem in his presentation.

The centre of attention of MRLSD as an environmental organization is Lake Poyang, the largest lake in China. Its water level is subject to strong seasonal fluctuations, as Lake Poyang remains natural and non-regulated. In dry summers, the size of the lake shrinks to less than 1,000 square kilometers. During winter in the rain season its shallow surface area can increase to more than 4,000 square kilometers, serving as wintering grounds for approximately half a million aquatic birds. In 2011, Lake Poyang experienced the longest dry period in 50 years, which was followed by exceptionally strong precipitations causing severe flooding in the region. A study by MRLSD showed that strong deforestation and agricultural overuse in the lake's environment diminish its water storage capacity. "Moreover, climate change appears to have a negative impact on the lake", said Yan Bangyou from the Chinese research team. The growing pressure of environmental problems starts to initiate a change of mind, which comes along with efforts to approach water protection in China more seriously. Xiaohong Wang, president of the Jiangxi Academy of Sciences, stressed that "a better cooperation between politics, administration, science and the in China just recently evolving NGOs is an absolutely essential requirement

✎ "Lakes in Densely Populated regions – Balance between People and Nature" was the topic of the 14th international Living Lakes Conference in China.



for the success of lake protection strategies". There was wide consent among the delegates that apart from adequate legislation, profound knowledge, and modern technologies, the decisive factor for the protection of lakes and drinking water is the political will to do so. In their final declaration, the conference delegates demand collaborative efforts for the protection of lakes all over the world and a quick implementation of promising project strategies. For this purpose, they formed working groups on topics such as renaturation, water management, climate protection and environmental education. The environmentalists planned to meet again in two years' time – presumably in Africa – to report on their success.

Master Plan to Save the Lower Jordan River

The Lower Jordan River, a shared natural resource between Israel, Palestine, and Jordan, was once a flourishing aquatic ecosystem in the heart of Middle East providing a multitude of ecosystem services and creating diverse habitats for wildlife species like the river otter. During the last decades 96 % of the river's water was diverted for human needs, which converted the Jordan into a trickle of water mixed with untreated sewage and brim from desalination plants. This degradation has not only caused major damage to the river's ecosystem, but is also jeopardizing the economic

✎ A view of a baptism site at the Jordan River. The heavily polluted water is still accessible for pilgrims from all over the world.

Living Lakes Webinars

Since 2014, three web-based seminars have been held, to meet the wish of the continuously growing Living Lakes Network to establish more extensive exchange of experiences.

The following topics were discussed:

- › EU Water Related Policies
- › Environmental Services and Water Stewardship
- › Sustainable Development of Tourism Destinations

The presentations are available for download on: www.globalnature.org/LivingLakesWebinars



生命湖泊大会 2014年11月 中国·南昌 Conference (Nanchang, China 2014)"





Declaration of Non-Governmental Organizations Supporting the Rehabilitation and the Sustainable Development of the Jordan River

NGOs from all around the world promoted a sustainable development and conservation measures for the Jordan Valley. The declaration, signed by 33 parties from 22 countries, was received by Ms. Nancy Haddaden on behalf of the Israeli, Jordanian and Palestinian teams of EcoPeace on November 21st, 2014.

development of the valley. Whereas the availability of water in the Middle East has always been scarce because of climatic conditions, the critical state of the Lower Jordan River is mainly due to the mismanagement of available water resources. Thus, by elaborating a regional management plan and adopting more sustainable water management practices, the river could be saved. Against this background, GNF and its partners, the Water and Environment Development Organization (WEDO), EcoPeace and the Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI), came together in 2012 to develop the first regional trans-boundary integrated Master Plan. This development plan lays a foundation for sustainable trans-boundary water governance in the Lower Jordan River Basin. The project puts together internationally renowned experts of trans-boundary water management, local stakeholders, citizens, and NGOs from the three riparian countries. As the project fosters dialogue and collaboration between Israel, Palestine and Jordan, it also contributes to a peaceful cooperation on water issues in countries where a peaceful cooperation is not a matter of course.

Long term Development of the Lower Jordan Valley

The project team organized the "International Conference on Sustainable Development in the Jordan Valley" in November 2014. The conference took place on the shores of the Dead Sea in Jordan and brought together over 150 government officials from Jordan, Palestine and Israel, international diplomatic representatives, international development agency representatives, and river basin experts. A master plan draft was published. It included measures for the recycling of treated sewage water as an alternative water source for agricultural purposes. Moreover, the master plan is based on the principles of shared benefits,

sustainable development, and fair rights and access to the shared waters for all inhabitants of the area. This vision requires a major shift from conventional thinking. This is why EcoPeace, SIWI, and the Global Nature Fund will continue to work on the master plan while searching for political and financial support.

The project is funded by the European Union under the framework of the SWIM program (Sustainable Water Integrated Management) as well as the Foundation Ursula Merz, the Environmental Action Germany and Rapunzel Naturkost with funds from the Hand in Hand-Fund.

Drinking Water for Africa

Water is Life! Every human being must drink every day in order to survive. A central concern of the seventh UN Millennium Development Goal (Ecological Sustainability) is to constantly lower the number of people living without clean drinking water and sanitary facilities. In spite of the remarkable achievements that have been made in this regard in the past decade (see i.e. UNESCO Report Water for a Sustainable World 2015), drinking water is still a pressing issue in rural areas of developing countries. Often, the factor that limits people's access to clean drinking water is not the availability of suitable technologies. Instead, a complex mixture of several aspects, mainly socioeconomic obstacles, obstructs the implementation of technologies that could guarantee an easy, secure, reliable, and affordable water supply. As a consequence, there are still approximately five million people – most of them are children

» The water of the Jordan serves for irrigation of agricultural land and to refresh the population on the border of the fields.

» School children at the Akadoot primary school in Kenya now have access to treated rainwater for sanitary purposes.



in Africa – dying every year of diseases such as cholera, typhus, or diarrhea, which are caused by polluted drinking water.

Our project “Cups for Drinking Water”, launched in 2009 in cooperation with TUI, the football club Hannover 96, and the fan club “Rote Kurve”, had to be stopped in the end of the last season, because the deposit cups were subject to security issues. Persistent persuading efforts by GNF made the club’s administration change their mind. From August 2015, the project will resume with a revised cup-design. Besides, we already achieved a lot during the past five years: Five drinking water systems were built and put into operation in Kenya. The most recently established systems are situated in the village Gitune, approximately 85 km north-east of Nairobi, and at the Akadoot Primary School in the village of Malakisi. Furthermore, 62 drinking water wells have been repaired in the regions of Man and N’zi Comoé, Ivory Coast, thus supplying the local population with fresh water. The residents of all villages have been actively involved in the repairing process. They have established water committees, which are responsible for the maintenance of the wells.

Together with the Sika AG, GNF has realized various drinking water projects in Africa since 2008. In 2014, a hub for drinking water was put into operation in cooperation with our Kenyan partner organization Pureflow and the local communities’ administration in the village Kandara, about 30 km north of the town of Thika. Using micro filter technology, water from rainfall or rivers is purified in the hub by so-called “Skyhydrants”. Then, the clean water can be purchased at the hub in

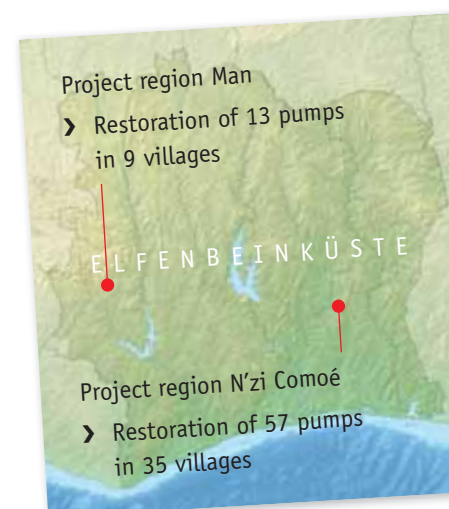


exchange for a small service fee. The Skyhydrants run without electricity. In the course of the project, local technicians were taught in service and maintenance and are now responsible for a smooth operation of the systems. The project’s educational component is an essential element for long-term success and supports capacity building within the community. In addition to the completed project in Kenya, several new projects were implemented in Ivory Coast. We built eight wells in the region of Dimbokro in 2014, which are now used by roughly 500 families. The residents of the villages Assamoikro, Daniahoussokro, Kayabo, Kprakro, N’zissiessou and Troumanbo are actively involved in the construction of the wells and manage the water distribution in their communities on their own. They founded water committees that take care of technical operation and hygienic education in the villages. The residents agreed that every user should pay a small annual amount in order to cover maintenance costs. Our well projects in Ivory Coast are realized in cooperation with Habitat for Humanity.

» Many fans of Hannover 96 waived the deposit of their drinking cups to support our project “Drinking Cups for Drinking Water”.



« Thanks to the newly installed water pump, the community members of Kora Akissikro, Ivory Coast, are able to maintain their own water supply with fresh groundwater.



Business and Biodiversity

For several years, GNF has been working with businesses to integrate biodiversity preservation into their management strategies. GNF supports the private sector with a range of initiatives to promote a more sustainable use of natural resources, including our “Greening of Company Premises” project and the integration of biodiversity criteria into environmental management schemes. Since 2013, GNF has been cooperating nationwide with the German Federal Ministry for the Environment by participating in its “Enterprises and Biodiversity 2020” initiative (Unternehmen Biologische Vielfalt 2020).



European Business & Biodiversity Campaign

Global Nature Fund coordinates the European Business and Biodiversity Campaign (EBBC) on a European scale. Together with partner organizations such as Fundación Global Nature España, the Lake Constance Foundation, dokeo consulting GmbH, and ALTOP-Media, GNF consults businesses about the importance of biodiversity for economic success. GNF and its partners offer a Biodiversity Check for Companies and provide information about current affairs and trends for ecological

management on a multilingual web portal. The European campaign is supported i.e. by the Heinz Sielmann Foundation.

Greening of Company Premises

With the “Business and Biodiversity – Greening of Company Premises” project, GNF, together with the Heinz Sielmann Foundation and the Lake Constance Foundation, aims to encourage the development of biodiversity friendly company grounds. Apart from initial support for companies to convert corporate premises into nature-orient-



All publications are
accessible for download on
[www.globalnature.org/
publications](http://www.globalnature.org/publications)



« The inner courtyard of Alfred Kärcher GmbH & Co. KG's new headquarters in Winnenden was designed in a nature-oriented way with ecologically and aesthetically valuable “fault lines” that imitate typical regional rock formations. The first pair of wagtails moved in shortly afterwards – a proof for the initiative's success. The feedback from employees and customers is solely positive as well.



ed designed areas, Biodiversity Checks are offered in order to evaluate business practices and their impact on biodiversity. In the meantime, we provide advices to 30 companies with many of them already implementing transformations. The leaflet “Nature-oriented Company Premises – Inspiring Businesses in Germany, Austria and Switzerland” presents a selection of promising approaches. Further information and practical examples can be found in the press supplement “Nature-oriented Company Premises” that was published in the journal “forum. Nachhaltig Wirtschaften”, as well as in the brochure “Self-Check on Potentials for Biodiversity-Oriented Design of Company Premises” that supports businesses in assessing possible opportunities for more biodiversity on their sites. The project is supported by the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation and the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety under the framework of their biodiversity conservation program (Bundesprogramm zur Biologischen Vielfalt).

How Business Values Natural Capital

Practically every business relies on natural resources such as food products, timber or water, and it is common practice for many businesses to draw upon their natural environment in this

regard. However, the environment is not an inexhaustible resource. Negative impacts on a company's production performance are a result of overusing natural resources. This is why more and more businesses measure and assess their environmental costs and include them in their long-term accounting. The Global Nature Fund takes a lead in this development with our “Economic Valuation of Natural Capital from a Business Perspective” project, which was co-funded by the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety and the German Federal Environmental Agency. The study “How Business Values Natural Capital” that was published with the end of the project in June 2014 analyses exemplary enterprises, presents challenges to the implementation of valuation methods, and provides recommendations for action.

CSR-Task Conservation of Resources in SMEs

Successful completion of several projects in the context of the federal German CSR-initiative

What is the best way to make small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) take interest in biodiversity issues? This is the core issue of the project “Nature Protection and Biodiversity Conservation as a Task for CSR in small and medium

With numerous campaigns and projects, GNF demonstrates how businesses can manage biodiversity concerns sustainably.





➤ Two guidelines on "Biological Diversity in Business" show good examples and provide ideas for concrete action.



Many specific measures for the protection of biodiversity have been initiated by our two projects on small and mediums-sized enterprises. A local vintner, who implemented measures for saving wildcat habitats, is just one example we supported with a sponsoring campaign.

sized businesses", which was implemented in cooperation with the Lake Constance Foundation and the Federal Association for Ecological Viniculture. The project "Conservation of Resources as a CSR-Task in Medium Sized Enterprises", realized in collaboration with adelphi research and the Institute for Applied Material Flow Management from the Trier University of Applied Science, deals with the same topic. Both projects were embedded in the context of the program "CSR – Social Responsibility in SMEs", the German Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs had launched with financial support from European Social Fund for Germany. Unfortunately, the program expired in the end of 2014.

Integrating biodiversity in the management policies of SMEs has a significant difference in comparison to similar efforts with large corporations: While in both cases it is mandatory that there is a certain motivation and awareness of biodiversity as a factor of economic success, there are differences in the implementation. Working with SMEs requires dealing with some challenging conditions: Although there is not much time, there is a lot of work. Besides, it is important to consider a long tradition of social commitment and a small personnel capacity for activities beyond the company's core interest. SMEs often choose the same approach for CSR and their general operational interests: pragmatic, and focussed on results and direct implementation. Even though biodiversity management is a crucial factor for a company's long-term success, this reality has not been accepted yet by many SMEs. They often lack basic knowledge of biological coherences. This is why they need consulting with regard to specific measures to promote biodiversity and how to integrate it in various company sectors. As a result, they can benefit from a "Business Case Biodiversity", an economic advantage through biodiversity protection.

50 SMEs have been analyzed by using specifically adjusted Biodiversity-Checks in order to meet their individual needs. All companies received detailed reports on their status quo, running projects, successes and further measures and recommendations. The feedback was mixed. The cooperation with organic viniculture companies had already been very successful. Therefore, there was a strong request for more ideas and suggestions. The ECOVIN-Project entailed an action plan containing 80 measures and a Biodiversity and Sustainability Program for ECOVIN-members.

ECOVIN's board of directors decided to include this action plan into the directives for their currently 250 members. A great success for our project!

A challenge for the implementation of biodiversity protective measures is the scarcity of personnel resources. Approaching this problem via an industry association that works on the topic in place of its members has been identified as the best strategy for this purpose. The results were summarized in the brochure "Biodiversity in SMEs – Guidelines for the Implementation of CSR" (only available in German). We hope that the brochure will initiate actions for the conservation of biodiversity in SMEs. It provides a range of measures and starting points for different industry departments and provides advice for SMEs on which steps can be taken and how. About 30 practical examples for small projects in different industry sectors and a long list of sources of information are a central part of the publication. We were pleased to hear that the administration of the Berlin Senate asked for another guideline prospect on "Berlin Enterprises promote Biodiversity – Proposals for Action" in the context of the Berlin Strategy on Biodiversity.

Naturwert

Greening of Company Premises as an Introduction to Biodiversity Management

What is the best way to make companies redesign their premises in a greener, more natural way – appealing to its finances or its ecological responsibility? During the project NATURWERT eleven case studies were performed in order to evaluate costs and benefits of biodiversity supportive measures. The most popular activities involve optimized rain water drainage and the purposeful collection of rainwater. This is where companies can effectively save money: Drainage fees do not apply and the collected rain water can be used to water outdoor facilities and green roofs. There is a variety of (re-)designing concepts, such as replacing conventional lawn areas with colourful (wild-)flower meadows from native seed mixtures, or using natural stone walls instead of concrete material for fringing flowerbeds and paths. The costs of reconstruction measures and maintenance of nature-oriented areas depends on the size of the area, the location, and price levels of local horticulture companies. According to businesses, the benefits of a green premise are less financial matters, but rather the opportunity



to communicate their ecological philosophy to the public. A further point in favour of a more natural business environment is the work – and life quality of their employees during working hours and breaks.

The results of project NATURWERT have been processed into a film documentary and as a leaflet. Both files are accessible online on our website. The project was realized in cooperation with the Institute for Ecological Economy Research, the Lake Constance Foundation, and the Biodiversity in Good Company Initiative. We received funding from the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation and the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety.

Online Information Platform for Biodiversity Markets

In the course of the project “Online Information Platform for Biodiversity Markets” GNF and Environmental Action Germany examined how financial mechanisms should be rearranged in order to create mutually beneficial conditions for companies and biodiversity. Biodiversity markets are among the most important instruments available for implementing the strategic goals of the UN-Convention on Biodiversity (CBD). For instance, ecosystem services and ecosystem components such as carbon trading, certified products, eco-tourism and air pollution certificates can be traded on these markets. GNF presents differ-

ent markets, case studies, news, and academic publications on www.naturalcapitalmarkets.org. The project was supported by the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety and the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation and was finished in 2014. The study “Markets for Natural Capital – Status Quo and Projects”, as well as toolkits for the private sector, financial service providers, and NGOs are available online in German and English.

Sustainability in the Automobile Sector

In the framework of the project “Resource Efficiency and Sustainable Consumption in the Automobile Sector in Germany”, in May 2014 the study “Sustainable Raw Materials for the German Automotive Sector” was published. The results showcasing impacts and responsibilities of the industry were impressively demonstrated here.

Partners of the project, which ended in March 2014, were SÜDWIND and the Collaborating Centre on Sustainable Consumption and Production (CSCP). The project was funded by the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety and the German Federal Environment Agency.

Business and Biodiversity – Informing & Networking

A central issue of GNF’s project “Enterprises and Biodiversity – Essentials for Target-Group-Specific Information Brokering & Networking” was to determine which communication strategies are most useful to arouse a company’s interest for biodiversity. In order to find an answer to this question, a demand analysis was implemented and 30 representatives of trade associations, companies and initiatives were interviewed. In general, it was obvious that a holistic engagement with the topic is still due for the supply chains of the eight industry sectors examined. Almost all interviewees mentioned a lack of information on biodiversity in their company or within their association. GNF, the Initiative Biodiversity in Good Company, and the nova-institute are now preparing information in a target group-specific

« Naturally designed company premises can be a first step towards biodiversity protective management.



» The NATURWERT brochure “Ways to nature-oriented premises” presents 21 ideas for more diversity on corporate areas.



» Is it possible to gain profits while protecting biodiversity at the same time? Our study “Markets for Natural Capital – Status Quo and Projects” gives answers.



» The study not only deals with the social and ecological issues of resource management, but gives an outline on future challenges and possible solutions.



➤ More biodiversity in tourism.

For this purpose, the GNF has contributed to the development of the online knowledge pool "Tourism and Biodiversity" and created interactive biodiversity checklists for the tourism service providers.

✎ Biodiversity is often not appropriately taken into consideration in seals and labels of the food industry. A set of recommendations, developed by GNF and the Lake Constance Foundation, helps decide which criteria are effective and meaningful.

way for two selected industry sectors. The objective is to raise interest as well as understanding, and finally provoke the companies' commitment for the protection of biodiversity. The project is supported by the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation and the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety.

Biodiversity Standards in the Food Industry

The food industry and food retail sector have substantial impacts on biodiversity. However, the protection of biodiversity and ecosystem services are currently not considered with the appropriate significance they actually deserve considering their importance as an economic factor. With their joint project "Biodiversity Criteria in Standards and Quality Seals of the Food Sector", GNF and the Lake Constance Foundation (LCF) intended to integrate biodiversity criteria into certificate systems and supply standards of the food industry. The project did not aim to establish an own biodiversity label, but to define and include meaningful criteria into already existing quality systems and sustainability standards. Certified businesses that are dedicated to the protection of biodiversity are better prepared for upcoming legal regulations and develop competitive advantages by appealing to the growing number of consumers, who adjust their consumption habits to ecological and social criteria.

During the first period of the project, which is funded by the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation, the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety and the REWE Group, the criteria of 19 seals and standards were analyzed with regard to their contribution to biodiversity protection. LCF and GNF identified biodiversity relevant criteria in standards and examined to which extent the existing criteria address critical points in relation to biodiversity and where an urgent need for improving existing standards and labels exists. The results were discussed with representatives from standards organizations, companies, farm operations and environmental experts. These findings were published in a 40-pages Baseline Report. As the next step, the Lake Constance Foundation and the Global Nature Fund compiled recommendations for policies for the standards organizations and concrete criteria for biodiversity protection. A working group consisting of representatives from standards organizations, the REWE Group, other companies from the food industry and retail companies, as well as certifiers and environmental organizations all supported the development of a set of recommendations that was finally published in October 2014.

Our recommendations were presented to the industry via food industry associations and on exhibitions and events. Several important label and standard organizations have already integrated criteria for the protection of biodiversity in their own guidelines.

Integration of Biodiversity Aspects in Tourism

Tour operators and hotels can contribute to biodiversity preservation through progressive strategies and initiatives. They are often guided by certifications and standards for corporate social responsibility (CSR). The goal of the project "Integration of Biodiversity-Related Aspects in Current Processes for Developing and Implementing CSR in the Field of Tourism" is to raise awareness in the tourism industry for preserving biodiversity by creating a stronger concern for biodiversity in labels and certificates. The project period 2014, a baseline study and recommendations on the "Integration of Biodiversity into CSR Processes in Tourism" were published in both German and English. The project, which was





« Tourism is one of the most important economic sectors in Germany. Growing awareness about potentially negative impacts on the environment has already initiated a change of mind in the industry.

implemented by GNF in cooperation with adelphi and Ecotrans as coordinator, was supported by the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation as well as the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety.

Forest Investments for Biodiversity Protection

Forest funds and other investment products with a connection to forestry are getting more and more popular. They are said to be resilient to financial crisis, because trees grow regardless of trends in economic and capital markets and the global demand for timber increases constantly. As a consequence, expectations on income returns are high, attracting both financial institutions and private investors, while at the same time promising a “clean ecological slate”.

In contrast to this development, there is a lack of funding opportunities for stopping the global loss of biodiversity. Increasing investments in forest funds could be a possible solution to this funding deficit, on condition that the funded projects actually do contribute to the protection of biodiversity and are realized in consideration of social conditions during their implementation. The variety of projects and business models, which are offered by various forest and investment funds make it difficult to estimate how sustainable local investments really are.

Financially supported by the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation,

Building and Nuclear Safety, and the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN), the Global Nature Fund and its partner OroVerde analyzed six different forest investment projects in the field with regard to ecological and social criteria. The results were sobering. “The majority of the projects examined did not take ecological responsibility and, besides, did not consider their social impact on the local population in an appropriate way”, said BfN-president Prof. Dr. Beate Jessel about the study results.

According to promotional brochures, forest funding creates natural and biodiverse forests. Projects that finance the creation of mono-cropping and plantations are often disguised by using the green image of forest investments, even though they have a significant negative impact on a variety of plants and animals, and on the living conditions of the local population as well. In almost every case investigated, teak, eucalyptus, pine, or acacia were planted – species that are not even domestic to the plantation areas. Above all, mixed woodlands with domestic species are the ecosystems most suited for offering a habitat for threatened plants and animals and contribute to a high degree to the conservation of biodiversity. “Most investors neglect the ecological situation at the site before they start to invest. Only if there is enough information about the ecosystem, flora and fauna of the project area, it is possible to take measures against biodiversity loss and protect the environment, as it is meant to be”, said project manager Dr. Elke Mannigel from OroVerde.



Based on an analysis of biodiversity criteria and policies in CSR-standards in tourism a baseline study was published which demonstrates how biodiversity protection measures are integrated in CSR tourism standards and awards. An Additional publication gives recommendations on how the integration of biodiversity aspects in CSR tourism standards and awards can be fostered.



The study “Forest Investments – Biodiversity Conservation or Income Returns” that was published in the end of the project, recommends actions on how forest investments could be designed more sustainable. Furthermore, there are lots of information for interested investors that will help them evaluate forest investment projects.

Sustainable Development and Development Cooperation

Sustainability has always been a major concern in all of our working units. GNF's main objective is to contribute to keeping anthropogenic impacts within the ecological boundaries of our planet. As the main challenge in this context is primarily a matter of complex interactions between human activities and ecological processes, our projects put people in the center of attention. With our efforts we hope to achieve a significant improvement to the life-quality of local populations without compromising the state of the environment.



» Besides solar powered lanterns and batteries, clean and affordable drinking water is offered at the WE!Hub stations. This reduces the transmission of diseases that are especially harmful to children – like cholera – through contaminated drinking water.

Sun-light for Kenya

The multi-year project, "Solar Energy for Rural Kenya", could be successfully concluded in December 2014. Under the framework of the project, five so-called WE!Hubs or water-energy stations were constructed. These stations are powered by solar energy and are used to charge lanterns and batteries that are used in households, for fishing, or in small shops. For a small fee only, participants can use the WE!Hub stations to recharge their electronic devices. In this way, the initiative can sustainably provide around 5,000

households with affordable and reliable energy production instead of relying on otherwise widely used petroleum lanterns that have many negative impacts on the environment and human health. In addition to energy, the solar power stations also provide clean drinking water and a charging service for cell phones. Computers are also available in the WE!Hubs in the form of internet cafes. Training workshops and courses offer residents access to new forms of communication and sources of income. The project team consists of our technological partner Osram, GNF, and the Kenyan companies Light for Life and Thames Electricals. Local partners will continue the maintenance of the WE!Hub stations after the project is finished. They will start a social enterprise that reinvests revenues in order to expand the project. The initiative was funded by the European Union under the ACP Energy Facility Programme and the Siemens Foundation.



» Hub Mbita – the WE!Hubs in Kenya provide locals with solar production, clean drinking water, and computer services. The environmentally damaging use of petroleum lanterns is reduced as well.





Clean Water for the World

Green Filters combine Wastewater Treatment with Environmental Protection

The main reason for pollution and eutrophication of lakes in rural areas of developing countries is the discharge of untreated sewage water from communities in the catchment area. So called "Green Filter" are a cost effective solution to this problem and the main focus of the "Clean Water for the World" campaign, the Global Nature Fund initiated in collaboration with the Kärcher GmbH & Co. KG. Green Filters are sewage plants that are based on plants and work like natural wetlands. Green Filter systems are suitable for the sewage treatment of small communities and combine the benefits of low costs and easy maintenance. There is no need for chemical supplements and, depending on the area's topography, they can work without electricity.



The first pilot plant was built in 2013 in San Miguel de Sema, Colombia. Felipe Valderrame, project manager from the local partner organization Fundación Humedales, explains that the success of the pilot project raised interest and triggered demand from other communities in the area. In September 2014, Fundación Humedales received funding from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, which enabled the construction of three more facilities in the area north of Bogotá. All three of them will start operating in 2015. In addition, financial support is provided by the Foundation Ursula Merz.

Apart from new filter facilities in Colombia, GNF was able to launch pilot projects in Mexico, the Philippines and South Africa. The Mexican project will be realized with our partner organization Corazón de la Tierra in a village with 5,000 inhabitants close to San Andres-Ixlan. In South Africa we are cooperating with the Wildlife Conservation Trust in order to implement a similar project in a community in the region Plankenbrug-Stellenbosch. The Philippine Green Filter plant will be realized by the Friends of Seven Lakes Foundation at the Threatened Lake of 2014, Lake Sampaloc. More Green Filter facilities are being planned in Nicaragua, Jordan and Moldavia.

After a construction time of four months, the first of three Green Filter facilities is inaugurated in Susa, Colombia. They will improve the sanitary and hygienic conditions of 1,000 inhabitants.

Already in summer 2012, the campaign "Clean Water for the World" was launched from Kärcher and the GNF.





➤ Sustainable structures for production, packaging and distribution of mate tea not only enhance the protection of valuable primary forests, but also secure long-term income opportunities for the local population.

Protecting Biodiversity and Traditional Cultures in Paraguay

Mbaracayú Forest Biosphere Reserve is one of the most biodiverse areas in Paraguay. The area is exceptional on a global level for its occurrence of highly endangered species such as jaguar and tapir. Within the past 60 years, this natural treasure has been severely damaged due to road constructions and the expansion of agriculture and cattle ranching. The Global Nature Fund – together with Fundación Moisés Bertoni and the local community – is working on a project to protect about 65,000 ha of the Mbaracayú Biosphere Reserve through sustainable land use management, while at the same time creating alternative sources of income for 90 families. Sustainable structures for cultivation, processing and marketing of mate tea and medicinal herbs will be established. Trainings

of coral reefs and tropical rainforests. Together with mangrove forests vanishes their flora and fauna, including a number of edible fish, and their protective impact against flooding and soil erosion. As a consequence, an important focus of GNF's international efforts in 2014 were projects and campaigns that deal with the protection of these threatened ecosystems. In the course of the project "Mangrove Protection in Asia" we successfully take measures to reforest mangroves while providing the local population with access to alternative income sources and environmental education. With the help of five partner organizations we are operating in four countries. The project receives funding from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development and is further supported by the Foundation Ursula Merz. A donation from Daimler AG made a further expansion of our efforts for mangrove conservation possible. The triennial



➤ Environmental Education is a key aspect for the implementation of our projects.

➤ Intact mangrove forests are not only a habitat for a variety of animal and plant species, but they also protect the population in coastal areas against flooding and soil erosion. Moreover, they are natural carbon sinks.

and workshops will support the local community's organization efforts and impart knowledge on sustainable cultivation strategies. A central objective is the employment of women in order to promote gender equality. The project is funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development and is supported by the Foundation Ursula Merz. Additional financial support was provided by the Daimler AG.

Mangrove Protection in Asia

Mangroves are among the most productive and most threatened ecosystems of the planet. Although more than 100 million people worldwide benefit from their ecosystem services, they disappear in such a rapid pace that – according to experts – their decline is even faster than those



project "Mangrove protection in Asia" enables the renaturation of 150,000 square meters of forest and six kilometer coastline. Furthermore it includes 5,000 people in nature conservation measures, for instance, through environmental education programmes.

Reforestation and Sustainable Cooking Stoves for Burundi

Burundi is a small agricultural country in the center of Africa. The majority of its rural population lives on the edge of subsistence. The United Nations rank Burundi as the third poorest country worldwide. The people in this region are still suffering from the legacy of a civil war that devastated the country in 2005. A third of

a household's income in Burundi is usually invested in firewood, which is why timber is often produced illegally. In order to preserve the forests for bushbuck and serval, a rare African wildcat, GNF launched the project "Trees and Stoves for Burundi" in cooperation with the Burundian partner organization Biraturaba. Together with community members from Rukaramu, Kagwema, Maramvya, and Gateri 62,000 tree saplings have been planted and cherished. 1,200 closed clay-stoves that only need half the amount of firewood replace open fires for cooking purposes. In total, 770 families benefit from our project and 30 ha of forest were restored. Awareness campaigns and the involvement of locals are crucial measures for enhancing the ecological and social conditions in the project area. The initiative was funded by donations, through CO₂ compensation means from the administration of Baden-Württemberg, and further donations by the Foundation for Development Cooperation Baden-Württemberg, Environmental Action Germany, and Rapunzel Naturkost with funds from the Hand in Hand-Fund.

Strengthening Park Management and Eco-Tourism in Mongolia

Lake Hovsgol is one of the oldest and cleanest lakes in the world. It is located in the far North of Mongolia and surrounded by Hovsgol National Park. For thousands of years, nomads have been living in this permafrost region, which is still inhabited by nomadic ethnic groups such as Darkhad, Khotgoid, Uriankhai and Tsaatan. Lake Hovsgol contains approximately 70% of all Mongolian freshwater reserves. A variety of ecosystems can be found in its catchment area: High elevation tundra, alpine forests, steppe willows, swamplands and ponds. The local flora and fauna is unique: Moose, Caribou, and critically endangered Argali sheep live in the mountains surrounding the lake and share their habitat with wolves and brown bears. Until recently, Lake Hovsgol was barely accessible for visitors. However, the infrastructural development with new streets, airports and the easing of travel restriction at the Russian border cause a steady increase in the number of visitors in the area.

On the one hand, tourism is a promising source of income for the poor rural population of this remote region. On the other hand, the constantly intensifying influx of visitors has a massive nega-



tive impact on the environment. A recent study conducted by international experts shows that touristic activities pose a serious threat to the fragile ecological equilibrium of the lake's ecosystem. Negative impacts are already visible in the form of unauthorized camps, illegal dumping grounds and untreated sewage leaking into Lake Hovsgol. Furthermore, researchers detected illegal fishery, logging, and overgrazing in the national park. The Global Nature Fund and the Mongol Ecology Center (MEC) take a stand for sustaining the balance between humans and nature in the Hovsgol National Park. In the course of the project, rangers are being trained and equipped. Information Centers will be established in the villages Hatgal and Hankh. The project receives support from the EuropeAid-Programme, the Erbacher Foundation and the Sika AG. On World Wetlands Day, the 2nd of February, 2015, GNF named Lake Hovsgol "Threatened Lake of the Year 2015" in order to raise awareness for further conservation efforts for this fascinating and vulnerable ecosystem. More information available at: www.globalnature.org/ThreatenedLake2015

➤ The initiative "Trees and Stoves for Burundi" has a twofold impact: Cooking on clay stoves saves wood, while tree planting activities ensure a reliable wood supply for the future. Inhabitants of four villages helped planting more than 62,000 tree saplings.

➤ Training the operators of campgrounds and ger-camps (traditional nomadic tents) shall help to guide groups of visitors in less fragile areas of Hovsgol National Park.



Nature Conservation

In our Nature Conservation Unit themes like protecting endangered species, man-made landscapes, and environmental education are being revived and redefined. Our main priority in 2014 was to ensure the continuation of projects for the protection of African wild dogs, Baikal seals, and hyacinth macaws. Besides, our efforts in the Mediterranean Basin were supported by establishing a sponsorship system. The Nature Conservation Unit is also involved in other GNF projects such as national park management in Mongolia, mangrove renaturation in Sri Lanka, or the construction of green filter plants in Colombia.



Implementation of Water and Environmental Protection in Europe – Seveso II

✎ According to the EU Seveso-Directive, hazardous substances must be stored in appropriate distance to valuable ecosystems, but so far the implementation by EU member states has been insufficient.

Many essential water and environmental protection directives are often insufficiently known. With the Seveso-I-Directive (Directive 82/501/EEC) on the major-accident hazards of certain industrial activities the European Community reacted against industry accidents, especially the Seveso disaster 1976 in Italy. The directive controls the proper handling of hazardous substances with a focus on quantitative thresholds in industrial processes, precautionary quality secu-

rity measures, and measures in case of emergency. The ambition was to prevent accidents in the first place and minimize the consequences for people and the environment in case of potential accidents. In 1996, the Directive 96//82/EC (Seveso-II-Directive or incident directive) expanded its field of application, tightened regulations, and added among other regulations the aspect of supervision of land-use planning. Art. 12, par. 1/2 stipulates that member states of the European Union have to ensure in their national land-use plans that industrial areas and particularly valuable or fragile areas of special concern for nature conservation will be separated by a buffer zone of an appropriate distance.



What is the state in the now 28 member states of the EU two decades after Seveso II? That was the question, GNF had to resolve in cooperation with the consulting company eclareon GmbH and the ecologic Institute on behalf of the German Commission for Plant Security (KAS). Initial requests in all EU-countries revealed that many authorities in the newer member states did not know the passage mentioned above. Other responses showed that art. 12, par. 1/2 is also not applied in Estonia, Poland, Czech Republic, and Slovenia. Of the many countries we examined particularly carefully (Denmark, Germany, Finland, France, the UK, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Sweden and the non-EU-member Switzerland), only the United Kingdom had established meaningful guidelines. In Finland and Sweden there are easy



and pragmatic procedures, which might be sufficient for less densely populated areas. Although Italy has a complex set of guidelines, many types of reserves are not considered at all, while the definition of safe distances is inexplicable as well. Regulations all over Europe lack consistency. The same is true for the definition of areas of special concern for nature conservation. The questionnaire was guided by German regulations for environmental, forest, and water protection measures, as well as the fauna-and-flora-Directive, and the Birds-Directive. Consequently, the query was very detailed. Whereas the legislation is not consistent throughout Europe, many aspects are settled individually. In accordance with the Seveso-Directive, some states introduced parallel categories, which are not represented in nature conservation policies.

As matters stand, art. 12, par. 1/2 of the European Seveso-II-Directive has not been implemented sufficiently, but there was no final assessment to what degree this shortcoming poses a direct risk to fragile nature conservation areas. According to information requested from environmental associations in several countries, precautionary regulations seem to be quite extensive and luckily there have been no major accidents in the past couple of years. The new Seveso-III-Directive (2012/18/EC) is in place since 2012 and includes a range of new other possibilities besides the compliance of an appropriate distance to natural sites.

Young Journalists for the Environment

Getting the youth interested and excited about the environment is a crucial part of our work, which is why we need to stay innovative in terms of the ways and methods we use to reach out to young people. Our project “Young Journalists for the Environment” aims at an alternative approach: instead of looking for “nature freaks” we were addressing photography buffs, young hobby-authors and bloggers. In two schools, one each in the Northern and Southern Germany, pupils were taught journalistic and photographic skills during multi-day workshops. Several field trips on topics like nature conservation or renewable energies provided the young journalists with an

✎ By combining nature conservation and poverty reduction in South Africa, GNF and its partners protect this rhinoceros and numerous other wildlife species as well.

✎ At the photo workshop for the yojo-journal in Barsinghausen near Lake Steinhude.





➤ Through competent guidance, the young journalists received an exciting insight into the forest off the beaten tracks.

➤ Anton Harms (right) from the Alfsee Holiday- and Recreation Park shows programme manager Dr. Thomas Schaefer flora and fauna of his campground.

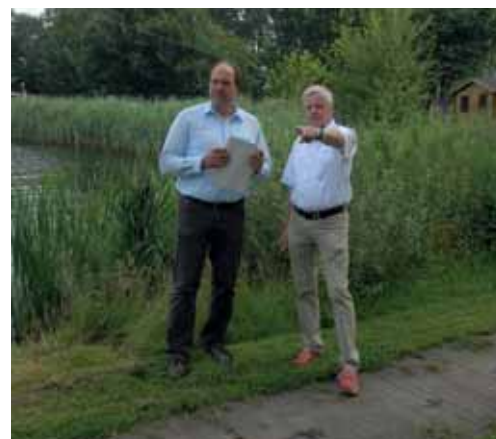
➤ Apart from being a beautiful contrast to white yurts, colourful blossoming waysides are a habitat for many animals.

opportunity to test their new or improved abilities and fill the online-journal "Yojo". We started with pupils in a pilot group at Lake Constance in 2014, who have published their results online at www.yojo-magazin.de. Since then, the blog has been filled with a number of remarkable journalistic articles, interviews, field trip reports, photo galleries, and blog entries.

Together with the BUND Nature Conservation Centre Möggingen and the Regional Environmental Education Centre Steinhuder Meer, the project has been implemented in collaboration with students of the Friedrich-Hecker High School in Radolfzell and the High School Bad Nenndorf. The journalistic activities are supported by the German environmental magazine natur. The project is funded by the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety and the German Federal Environmental Agency.

Biodiversity on Campgrounds

Camping entails sleeping in tents, trailers, RVs, or in rental units surrounded by attractive landscapes in mostly natural settings. A pristine environment, clean air, and clear water are just as important factors for campers as sanitary facilities, attractive recreational activities, and a friendly staff. For campers, experiencing nature is a central element of their holidays. They spend almost all day outside and surrounded by forests, meadows, lakes or rivers, plants and animals. Usually, they are open for new impressions and ideas, which is especially true for areas, where the quality of the surrounding landscape is an essential marketing factor. Environmentally friendly recreation facilities experience a steadily increasing demand and in a European survey of 9,218 participants on 175 camping sites, natural experiences were mentioned as a main request by more than two thirds of campground customers (Dambacher, 2006). Yet, there are still many tourists for whom nature is hardly more than a backdrop to their vacation. For these people we need incentives to change their mind. Several camping companies approach this challenge with active nature conservation efforts. However, many campground operators lack the necessary knowledge for an effective promotion of biodiversity. By training and educating their staff, those companies have the potential to establish biodiversity campaigns on their premises on a regular basis and in a cost effective way. With our project EcoCamping, which is financially supported by the German Federal Environmental Foundation, GNF and Ecocamping e.V. provide advanced training for staff and volunteers on more than 30 campgrounds. Moreover, we raise awareness for biodiversity issues and develop a national cooperation network for sustainable biodiversity strategies on camping sites.





Linking Biodiversity Conservation and Poverty Reduction in South Africa

Discussions about land use practices in rural African areas are often boiled down to a decision between ecological and economical exploitation. The Somkhanda Game Reserve in the North of the South African province KwaZulu Natal is a vivid exception to this rule, as it shows how biodiversity conservation measures can be used successfully as a source of income. With the establishment of ecological tourism in the project area we combined biodiversity supportive structures with the creation of urgently needed job opportunities. As a result of our work, 50 people are able to make a living based on tourism, wildlife conservation and conservational management. Roughly 300 family members benefit in total from these generated incomes. At the same time, we are protecting 12,000 ha of wildlife habitat on the long term, which is particularly important for black and white rhinos as well as African wild dogs. Those endangered species are either living in the reserve, or were reintroduced in the course of the project. In addition, 240 wild animals, mostly zebras and impalas, were set free in the Somkhanda reserve where they also serve as prey for wild dogs. An extensive environmental information programme supports the entrenchment of the projects' principles within the local population. So far, the programme has thrilled more than 1,000 school kids in the area. The project, which received funding by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development and further support from the Foundation Ursula Merz, expired in September 2014. The implemented tourism concept has been



awarded by "Green Destinations" as one of the world's Top-100 Greenest Holiday Destinations".

Natural Conservation at First Hand – Trainees visit South Africa

In May 2014, the Alfred Kärcher GmbH & Co. KG, a company that has been supporting GNF for many years, gave ten of their trainees the opportunity to get personally involved in our species conservation projects in South Africa. During their stay in the Somkhanda Game Reserve they helped local rangers putting up and controlling camera traps. The information gathered are used to estimate leopard population sizes. After attending a crash course in how to read tracks, they helped monitoring critically endangered rhinoceroses. Sharing experiences and cultural exchange with young members of the Gumbi clan was perceived as a personal gain by everyone.



75% of the people living in the project area do not have a secure income. In the course of the project members of the surrounding communities were trained and offered urgently needed job opportunities.

The resettlement of a pack of wild dogs in the Somkhanda Game Reserve will contribute to the conservation of this endangered species in South Africa.

« Marc Siegle, who took part in the species conservation projects in Somkhanda game reserve in May 2014, was enthusiastic: "We were given the chance of experiencing South Africa in a very unique way. We gained insights in both natural and cultural treasures. However, not from a touristic point of view, but right in the thick of things."

» Nina Dagbaeva and Tatjana Fedorova from the Baikal Information Center GRAN present the Baikal Box that contains environmental education material for children and grown-ups on the 14th Living Lakes Conference in China.



Environmental Education for the Protection of the Baikal Seal

Nina Dagbaeva and Tatyana Fedorova from the Baikal Information Center GRAN publicly presented their "Baikal Box" at the 14th Living Lakes Conference in Nanchang, China. The extensive collection of educational material on the Baikal seal was developed during the project "Why Nerpa is weeping", which was funded by the EthikBank. The professional learning material from this far remote part of the world aroused interest from representatives from all over the world. It further prompted a fruitful discussion on how the exchange of project results between our numerous network partners could be ensured and maintained even without annual conferences. Nerpa, how the Baikal seal is called in the local Buriatian language, is a unique species: It is still unknown how seals were able to colonize Lake Baikal, because the linear distance between the lake and the sea is approximately 2,000 km and more than 3,800 km if the route through the rivers Angara and Jenissei is considered. Lake Baikal is the oldest lake on earth. For roughly 25 million years the area has been cut off from

» The Baikal seal, also known as Nerpa, is the icon of Lake Baikal.



the sea. Even though the nerpa population is currently not critically endangered, the seal is believed to be a symbol for the lake and its condition in Buryatia. This is why nerpa is highly suitable as a flag ship species for environmental education measures. The project further enabled the development of a renowned exhibition about the Baikal seal in Ulan-Ude. In the course of this exhibition there have been many events with school classes. In addition, educational seminars were held for students and employees in the field of museum education. Besides, the project was highly useful to connect the activists of environmental education at Lake Baikal – a challenging task considering the dimensions of the lake, for instance its 700 km length.

Macaw Protection in the Pantanal Floodplains

It is surprising how little is known publicly about the Pantanal area in the border region of Bolivia, Brazil, and Paraguay, which is also known as the "Heart of South America". A team from the environmental organization Ecotrópica has been studying large areas of the Pantanal for decades. Its biodiversity is unique: 475 bird species, 135 mammals, 80 reptiles, and roughly 325 fish species, many of which have been unknown to the academic world. However, the ethanol industry is expanding relentlessly into the once untouched wetlands in form of sugar cane plantations and facilities for the production of biofuels. They bring along poachers and smugglers, who hunt endangered species such as jaguar or the rare hyacinth macaw. Ecotrópica is fighting against plans to degrade the mighty Paraguayan rivers to cargo canals and demands a moratorium to stop infrastructural development in the Pantanal region. Moreover, there is a long list of tasks for the environmental activists, who are urgently needed in the area: Land grabbing, monitoring, environmental education, campaigns against slash-and-burn activities in the wilderness, to name but a few. In close cooperation with scientists, Ecotrópica is supporting protection and management strategies for those ecosystems and habitats for macaws in the Acurizal and Penha regions. With thorough monitoring activities they intend to provide scientist proof for the existence of macaws in the project areas. Furthermore, opportunities for species resettlement are being explored in suitable areas.

Protection of Cultural Landscapes in Europe

Extremadura

20 years anniversary of model finca "El Baldío"

With a strong environmental vision, Fundación Global Nature (FGN) started their first activities in Extremadura in Southern Spain in 1994. Most of the 280 ha Finca areal had not been used and cultivated for decades. Like many rural Spanish regions, Extremadura was suffering from drift to the cities and later on from EU agricultural policies. FGN started with a large-scale reforestation programme for locally characteristic dehesa-forests. Since then, 119 ha of forest have been restored with financial help from donations, sponsorships, and different grants. Another 100 ha will follow in the course of the next years – providing a home for rare species like Adalbert's eagle, Iberian lynx, and Montpellier snake. Experiences and insights gained from the challenging process of growing forests in the dry Spanish soil and in climate conditions including just 480 mm annual precipitation and an average summer air temperature of more than 30 °C were transferred to other landowners via regional reforestation programs.

Another important focus of the finca management during the last two decades has been the breeding of ancient, regionally adapted farm animals. Gourmets might think of Iberic ham in this context, but the breeding programmes of the Fundación focus more on endangered species such as the white Cacerña cattle, Spanish merino sheep, or black-brown goats. Even though launching the project was not easy with only 280 ha of extensive pasturage, the project developed greatly, and a stable genetic pool was established as a result of good breeding cooperations through all of Spain.

In the meantime, hundreds of animals have been distributed to other fincas.

When FGN pioneered with their project in 1995, there were only 257 white Cacerña cows left in all of Spain. The breed, which is well adapted to the tough southern Spanish conditions, has been protected by law since 1979. Meanwhile, many other fincas in the area realized the added value of Cacerña cattle and shifted back from modern high-performance breeds to this traditional local alternative. As a consequence, the population has doubled since then from about 150 to more than 300 animals.

Breeding programmes with black merino sheep and black-brown goats are successful as well. There are millions of merino sheep worldwide, mostly in Australia and New Zealand. However, the Spanish subspecies, which had been introduced by Moors more than a thousand years ago, has become rare. In old times, millions of Spanish merino sheep were herded seasonally over distances of more than 800 km from Andalusia and Extremadura northwards to the Pyrenees by nomadic shepherds, a culture called transhumance. Together with the species itself this cultural heritage was about to go extinct. In 1998, there were only 300 of those sheep left in Spain, with most of them belonging to the FGN. Consistent project work in this area caused several breeders to join the movement and even some shepherds have picked up their nomadic existence again. Seeing hundreds of sheep being herded through the streets of Madrid is an amazing spectacle. Traditional transhumance trails, so called Cañadas, are protected by a royal decree ever since the middle age. It is a great reward for the Spanish colleagues to see children from an urban background getting in touch with ancient traditions of their nation as the result of their work.

Nowadays, the FGN mainly works on new perspectives for the transhumance culture, including the economic potential of ancient endangered domestic animals that are not only extremely well adapted to the challenging local climate, but provide high-quality meat products from extensive pastoral farming. New commercialization strategies for "transhumance products", or the touristic exploitations of the Cañadas that lead all across the Spanish cultural and natural treasures, are some of the most important aspects contributing to make transhumance a considerable example of sustainable management in the 21st century.



➤ Roaming herds of sheep fit perfectly in these unique landscapes – but not only from an aesthetical point of view.

➤ A characteristic dehesan landscape: Spaciously located cork oaks and holm oaks provide shade for grazing animals.

« Hot stones are popular observation points for reptiles.



Majorca



➤ Gerald Hau, representative for public relations for the environmental association Grup Balear d'Ornotologis i Defensa de la Naturaleza (GOB) on Majorca.



Interview with Gerald Hau (GH), who is responsible for public relations at the environmental association Grup Balear d'Ornotologis i Defensa de la Naturaleza (GOB) on Majorca. The interview has been conducted by GNF employee Thomas Schaefer (TS) during the visit of Gerald Hau at Lake Constance in February 2015.

Thomas Schaefer: 40 years GOB. What a great anniversary last year! How has the work on Majorca changed over the years?

Gerald Hau: Actually it hasn't changed that much, which is unfortunate. Of course we achieved a lot in the past decades. Without the GOB many of Majorca's natural treasures would have been lost forever. The conservation measures of the island Sa Dragonera and the beach Es Trenc, as well as the establishment of the national parks Parc Natural de Mondragó and Parc Natural de s'Albufera de Mallorca are examples of our successful work. However, when I look at old annual reports of GOB, I realize that our main problems and challenges haven't changed in four decades. They mention current issues, such as the protection of this unique landscape, nature conservation projects, environmental awareness campaigns for locals and tourists, and finally many environmental problems – for example waste imports from Italy and Ireland that are burned in garbage incineration plants in Majorca. Moreover, we still work in the field of environmental sciences, for instance by monitoring migratory birds in order to improve the basic data for environmental measures.

TS: Protecting Cultural Landscapes is a pretty wide topic. What exactly does the GOB do in this regard?

GH: It is indeed a pretty "wide field" of topics – to use this metaphor by Theodor Fontane. We intend to conserve wide fields, wide vast areas of undisturbed man-made landscapes. The pressure as a result of urban sprawl and growing settlements is steadily high here in Majorca. And this is especially true for the coastal areas, where currently the last remaining building sites are literally being "attacked". We have been reporting about the dream beach of Es Trenc, about issues with construction sites at Cap Formentor, the Mediterranean national park Cabrera, or about the wetlands in Ses Fontanelles, which are currently being destroyed by a giant mall. Everything in Spain is subordinated to the primacy of economic growth; environmental protection in particular. Additionally, there are illegal construction sites. They emerge overnight and then the GOB has to fight against them in endless trials, opposing both communities and building owners. Yet, even in the up-country regions urban sprawl is intensifying, since a change in the law has facilitated the demarcation of building land.

TS: Nowadays the news keep telling us that Spain is experiencing a recovery from the last crisis?

GH: Unfortunately, the crisis has actually just begun. Even though Majorca is still doing well in comparison with other parts of Spain, we almost exclusively have uncertain jobs left, besides 91,000 people, who are unemployed and who not even qualify for governmental support anymore and live on food donations. This is a scandal for the European Union that once actually took up the cause for solidarity! Moreover, we perceive that public governmental funding is running low and the support by private donors decreases as well as a result of the economic situation. We have many donors who apologize for the cessation of their funding, because they have no money left anymore. In addition to that, many jobs were cut in public nature administrations. Actually, Majorca could become a role model for using solar energy and has the potential to cover all of its energy supply from renewable decentralized energy sources. Thousands of jobs could be created that way. However, the big energy companies obstruct this process. The conservative government even overturned the feed-in compensation for regenerative electricity.

TS: How does this development influence the work of the GOB?

GH: Well, we once were a pretty large team consisting of permanently employees, project staff and independent employees. Only a third of our once more than twenty colleagues is left. Luckily, we still have many volunteers, many of them young, well-educated people, who help us organize campaigns. But sometimes it is even difficult to cover material expenses such as driving costs etc. The amount of work is rising while our resources are dwindling.

TS: Ten years ago, GOB and GNF launched campaigns aiming at German tourists in Majorca to gather funding and support. What happened to this initiative?

GH: We gained several very faithful donors with this campaign, who have been supporting our work for many years now. At times it feels like Christmas when in the course of the year we receive a larger contribution and are suddenly able to implement a project we already almost gave up on. Still, altogether we had expected more from the project, especially as many of the Germans living in Majorca are very wealthy. Apart from few exceptions, however, they don't seem to care about the environment.

TS: What's next in Majorca?

GH: Basically, everything stays pretty much the same. Because we are not running out of work, we will continue to work on the pressing issues. Of course, we would love to see a topic closed every now and then. For example, littering has decreased significantly. Bird hunting has ceased as well through the establishment of conservation areas; just to name a few. But there are new issues emerging, building and construction, or plastic in the sea. This requires tough, at times confrontational, political work for the cause of nature conservation, which we will continue to pursue.

TS: Dear Gerald, thank you very much for the interview and best regards to the colleagues in Majorca.



« Thanks to 40 years of campaign work of the GOB it is still unspoiled: Cap de Formentor, a popular observation point for tourists on Majorca.

Environmental Education and Public Relations

If we want to sustain our natural environment for future generations, it is essential that we act and think sustainably. This is why Environmental Education and Public Relations play an important role in all of our concerns. In order to raise awareness and publicity for our successful projects, GNF uses both traditional print media, and digital ways of communication. Our recently redesigned website is now fully accessible on all mobile devices.



All publications are accessible on www.globalnature.org/publications.

✍ The GNF gives account on its project work regularly in both the GNF Newsletter and the DUHwelt.

Media Relations

In 2014, the Global Nature Fund generated 23 press releases in German and seven in English. During February and March our main focus usually lies on the topics "Threatened Lake of the Year" and "Living Lake of the Year", respectively. The numerous publications of 2014 were accompanied by press releases, providing background information for our projects. In late 2014, our public relations mainly dealt with the 14th Living Lake Conference in China.

Publications

All our publications are available for download on our **GNF website** (www.globalnature.org/publications). The unit Businesses and Biodiversity was particularly active in 2014 and released numerous brochures and studies in cooperation with different project partners. Besides, the manual "Solar Energy for Rural Kenya: WE!Hub – Water Energy Hubs", which describes our project in Kenya, is worth mentioning in this context.





Our **newsletter** is published periodically in German and English, informing about current topics, projects and events. All issues are available for download on our website (www.globalnature.org/newsletter). Moreover, those who are interested can subscribe to getting our newsletter via email.

Four times a year, the journal **DUHwelt**, published by Environmental Action Germany together with GNF, provides information on our work in German.

Exhibitions

The travelling exhibition “Pantanal – A Threatened Paradise” could be visited in the public library Löffingen, Germany, from March to April



2014. Besides, the biologist Angelika Hofer explained the singularity and the particular issues concerning the South American wetland area to visitors in an evening lecture.

An exhibition presenting our project to save the Jordan River was hosted for a whole year in the Arche Noah in Dordrecht, the Netherlands, from June 2014.

In spring 2014, the exhibition “Living Lakes Germany” could be visited at our Living Lake of the Year 2014, Lake Chiemsee.

Workshops and Presentations

In the course of some projects from the unit Business & Biodiversity, there were workshops on various topics, such as “Corporate Evaluation of Natural Capital”. Moreover, we presented our projects with information stands on several occasions. For instance, we appeared at the TUI Marathon in Hannover to inform about the project “Drinking Water for Africa”.

Internet

Since September 2014, the website of GNF (www.globalnature.org) is accessible on mobile devices such as tablets and smartphones. As part of a new graphic design and an upgrade

➤ Environmental Education and Public Relations play an essential role for GNF and its partner organizations, enabling a close-up experience and understanding of nature, as well as providing background information and coherences with modern media.

« Numerous visitors of all ages could learn about this unique wetland and discovering natural beauty in the Pantanal exhibition.

» The photo gallery on our main page directly leads to the GNF's most current topics. Furthermore, several project-websites provide background information.



» Stefan Hörmann, GNF (right) at a joint press conference with Dieter Overath, Managing Director Fairtrade Germany (middle) and Bijumon Kurian, representatives of the Fair Trade cooperative Manarcadu (left) at the Bio-fach Fair 2015 in Nuremberg.

» There was intensive media coverage, when the first Green Filter was opened in Susa, Colombia. Felipe Valderrama from Fundación Humedales presents the first successful results.

on the latest technical standards, our website was reshaped completely. There are still detailed information in German and English about all Living Lakes partner organizations, other projects, publications and current events. More than 600,000 people from all over the world visited our website in 2014. New donation templates were uploaded in the end of 2014. Four different payment options are being offered, allowing sponsors of our projects to support us with safe and simple online-donations. For some projects, GNF maintains a separate website in cooperation with partner organizations. For instance, the website www.business-biodiversity.eu is quite popular. It was developed in 2010 in the context of the European Business and Biodiversity Campaign

and provides detailed information on background knowledge and current events. Besides, news are being posted on Twitter (@probiobiodiversity). The website has acquired a reputation as a reliable source of information on the topic Business and Biodiversity and is accessed by roughly 60,000 visitors every month. The website www.we-hub.org informs in English about the progress of the Water-Energy-Hub project in Kenya. Apart from information on project partners, project sites, and background information, there are videos that document the current state and construction progress of the hubs. Extensive information and starting points for measures on biodiversity in small and medium-sized enterprises (SME) can be found on the website of the project "Conserva-



tion of Resources as a CSR-Task in Medium Sized Enterprises": www.kmu-nachhaltigkeitscheck.de. Since 2013, <http://lebensmittelstandards.business-biodiversity.eu> provides background information on the project "Biodiversity Standards in the Food Industry". Specific information material about the project "Online Information Platform for Biodiversity Markets" is accessible on www.naturalcapitalmarkets.org since May 2013. The initiative "Greening Company Premises" has an own project website as well. On www.naturnahehirmengelaende.de we offer examples and recommendations for biodiversity friendly designed company premises. The soon-to-be journalists from our "young journalists for nature" project are publishing on their own blog: www.yojo-magazin.de. The latest news on GNF and other relevant topics you find on our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/globalnature.org).



Awards

Living Lakes named UN Decade Measure

2014 was the final year of the "UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development" that had been running since 2005. Its main ambition was to entrench the principles of sustainable development in all educational sectors. The Living Lakes network had been awarded the title "UN Decade Project" for the first time in November 2005 for the years 2006 and 2007. Later, this distinction was renewed four times for the two following years, respectively. Moreover, the network has been declared "Official Measure of the UN Decade" for 2014.



Awards for Living Lakes Partners

The world's top-100 sustainable holiday destinations

In January 2015, Green Destination honoured the 100 "greenest" holiday destinations, including the following Living Lakes partner regions: Mono Lake, USA; Okavango Delta, Botswana; Madampe Lake Region, Sri Lanka; Lake Võrtsjärvi, Estonia; and Lake District National Park, UK. Another project area of GNF, the Somkhanda Game Reserve, has been awarded as well.



➤ The Somkhanda Game Reserve is one of the top-100 greenest holiday destinations worldwide. With project partners we established a concept of sustainable tourism which combines conservation of endangered species with poverty reduction in an exemplary way.

Memberships

Over the years, Global Nature Fund has extended its number of memberships in various associations. Whereas some memberships started with projects, others have more strategic reasons. We are currently a member in the following organizations:

- BION – Biodiversity Network Bonn
- Association of German Press Officers
- Association of German Foundations
- German Fundraising Association
- German League for Nature, Animal and Environment Protection – DNR
- ECOCAMPING e.V.
- Freshwater Action Network
- International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
- Climate-Alliance Germany
- Natural Capital Coalition
- TransFair e.V. (Fairtrade Germany)

« The honouring as "UN-Decade Measure" was awarded in the course of the "UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development" 2005-2014.

Cooperative Partnerships

Project proposals for public and private institutions are becoming more and more important for our project work, as they contribute with a continuously growing share to our financing. Cooperative partnerships with companies are another important pillar of our work, which we use to promote environmental protection.



Cooperative Projects with the Business Community

Even though this is an important side effect, GNF's main objective for the cooperation with businesses is not the acquisition of funding for our projects. Instead, we seek to increase the private sector's awareness for environmental concerns, as well as for the importance of ecological criteria for a sustainable economic development. Considering our broad range of projects concerning the private sector, we observe growing interest from businesses for our project work. Hence, we were able to increase revenues from cooperations during the past years.

Contentions on environmental issues between enterprises and NGOs can be – and sometimes have to be – confrontational. However, when enterprises take environmental concerns and objectives seriously, we believe that offering reliable and trustful collaborations is an important step towards working together on sustainable and replicable solutions for the challenges of our time. In addition to water and climate protection, environment and nature conservation, and development cooperation, also the conservation of biodiversity plays an important role in our work. In this regard, the GNF acts as a contact for small, medium and multinational global companies. As a result, not only humans

and nature, but also the companies themselves benefit from this collaboration.

The GNF has worked with the Swabian company Alfred Kärcher GmbH & Co. KG since 2012 under the framework of their collaborative "Clean Water for the World" campaign. The goal of this cooperative partnership is to improve the disastrous situation related to untreated sewage through the installation of cost-efficient and effective green filter plants in developing countries. After the successful implementation of a pilot plant in Colombia in 2013, further projects were initiated in 2014 in Colombia, Nicaragua, Mexico, South Africa and in the Philippines. The Daimler AG has supported the GNF and the Living Lakes Network since its foundation in 1998. At the moment, Daimler primarily supports our mangrove conservation projects in Asia. The GNF also participates actively in stakeholder dialogues in the automobile producing company, calling for sustainable mobility without fossil fuels.

The Swiss Sika AG company has supported the GNF by funding specific projects in developing countries since 2015. Recipient countries include Colombia, Burundi, Kenya, Ivory Coast, and Mongolia. Besides, the global Living Lakes Network has been receiving funding from Sika for the past ten years. In the context of the European Business and Biodiversity Campaign, SEKISUI Chemical supports the project work of



the GNF. The campaign's main goal is to enhance the efficiency of measures for environmental protection in businesses, and to integrate aspects of biodiversity in quality- and environmental management policies. The clothing retailer C&A has been a sponsor of the Living Lakes Network since 2008. The EthikBank has been a supporter of the GNF's social and ecological projects for years, such as the protection of Nerpa seals at Lake Baikal. Under the heading of "Living Lakes Project Saving", the GLS-Bank offers financial investment possibilities, whose interest are directed as donations to the GNF's project work.

The REWE Group supports the GNF project "Biodiversity Standards in the Food Industry". Seal- and standardization companies, as well as companies that maintain their own labels, receive concrete guidance and recommendations on how criteria for the protection of biodiversity and natural resources can be integrated in their own guidelines.

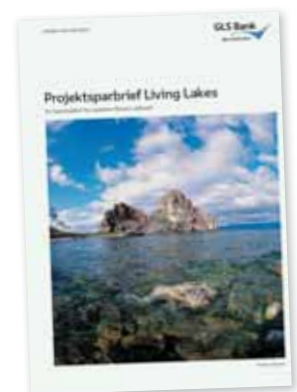
On the international day of biodiversity, the 22nd of May 2014, Symrise AG and the GNF announce a strategic partnership. Symrise is a global provider of aromatic substances and flavours, cosmetic base substances and active substances, and functional ingredients. Together with partner organizations from the Union for Ethical BioTrade (UEBT) the GNF assists Symrise in developing and implementing a biodiversity

strategy, which among other things includes a biodiversity preserving acquisition of natural resources, a nature-oriented design of company premises, and awareness-raising programmes for employees.

Meopta s.r.o., a company with a long tradition of manufacturing high-quality binoculars and spotting scopes in Europe, supports the Living Lakes Network Germany since 2014.

The GNF cooperates with the Osram AG at a 'content-related' level. Osram is the technological partner of water- and solar projects in Kenya, where we developed alternatives to environmentally harmful petroleum lamps. Unfortunately, the campaign "Drinking Cups for Drinking Water" that funded many drinking water treatment facilities and wells in Kenya and the Ivory Coast, was abandoned in 2014 after the TUI AG withdrew from sponsoring the German Bundesliga Football Club Hannover 96. As a result, Hannover 96 switched from environmentally friendly deposit-cups to disposable plastic cups. On the occasion of the TUI Marathon in Hannover in April 2014, our project was once again presented publically with an exhibition stand and the support of eichels: Event GmbH. From August 2015 on, the reusable drinking cup will be reintroduced to Hannover 96's football stadium. Deposit donations will once again benefit our water projects.

Cooperation with partners all over the world helps creating a framework for a sustainable development of the environment, nature, and the local population in project areas as well.



With the project "Saving for Living Lakes", the GLS-Bank gives their customers an attractive possibility to donate.

Public Institutions, International Partners and Private Funders

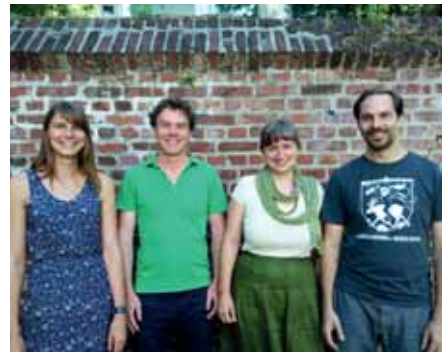
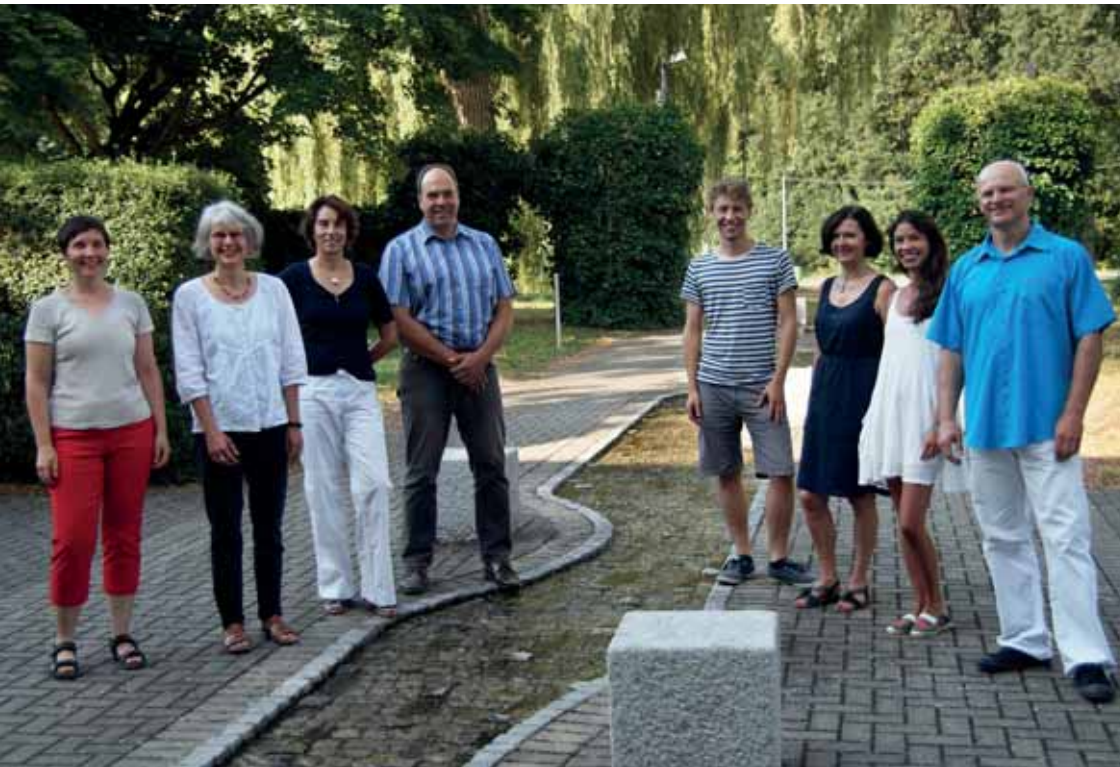
The Foundation Ursula Merz has supported GNF's projects on all seven continents for many years under the frameworks of various diverse environmental and conservation projects. The Anton & Petra Ehrmann Foundation is another longstanding partner and supporter of the Living Lakes Network Germany. The Siemens Foundation continues funding of GNF projects in Kenya. The GNF receives further financial means for international development projects through contributions from Rapunzel Naturkost's Hand in Hand-Fund and the Environmental Action Germany. A project for a sustainable use of forest wood was implemented in Burundi with the help from the Baden-Württemberg State Government and the Foundation for Development and Cooperation Baden-Württemberg. The Heinz Sielmann Foundation supports the European Business & Biodiversity Campaign. A project in the Mongolian Hovsgol National Park is supported by the Ehrbacher Foundation.

The GNF considers collaboration with public institutions to be of great importance. In conjunction with an important exchange of information, the GNF's project work is financed by a variety of public and private supporters. Counted among the most important are the European Union (especially through the funding programs Life+ and EuropeAid), the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB), the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN), the German Federal Environmental Agency (UBA), the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), and the German Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (BMAS). From 2014 on, the GNF also receives project fundings from the German Federal Environmental Foundation (DBU).

The GNF also collaborates with the Secretariats from the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands and the UN Convention on Migratory Species UNEP/CMS.



» The project work of the GNF is appreciated and supported by many.



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➤ A strong team spread over three offices – Radolfzell (large picture), Bonn (top right) and Berlin (bottom right).

On December 31st, 2014, the GNF employed 18 staff members, including interns and temporary jobs. Ten staff members worked in the main office Radolfzell, five in Bonn, and three in our office in Berlin.

Stable Finances for Powerful Projects

Roughly one out of three German citizens donates – a remarkable commitment, but still not enough to sustain the Global Nature Fund’s activities entirely. Furthermore, it has been observed that the competition for a limited amount of donations and contributions intensifies significantly. This is why (apart from private donations) project grants and revenues from co-operative ventures are our main source of income.



Structure of Revenues

Our revenues consist of project allowances from public institutions like the EU or federal ministries, the private sector, foundations and businesses, as well as donations and sponsorships. We also apply for receipts from fines imposed by judicial authorities. Non-profit organizations are struggling to cope with a legislative alteration regarding receipts from penal procedures (fines). It is necessary to develop new strategies in order to compensate this income gap.

All these financial sources – some of which were already described in the chapter “Cooperations” – need to be maintained and stimulated.

Private donations are of particular importance, because we can use them to cover our projects’ own contributions. By sending donation mailings, we are trying to cover a part of our financial needs, while at the same time fulfilling our statutory duty of environmental awareness raising. The support we receive through our donors is as multifaceted as the variety of our projects in the four thematic units. Whether it is a long-time sponsorship, supporting membership, or non-regular donations – everything helps financing project work and our running costs as well. Since 2014, our website offers different payment methods, such as SEPA Credit Transfer, direct bank transfer, PayPal, or Credit Card. All of them can be used from mobile devices such as smartphones and tablets.

Tax-reducing donations to the foundation’s assets are possible at all times. Another way of supporting the GNF is a pecuniary legacy, usually in the form of a last will. Guidance for drawing up a will can be requested with GNF.

Donors, who support the GNF in an exceptional way and feel especially connected to our work, are referred to as “Friends of the Living Lakes”. This group consists of people, who have been donating for many years now or who gave remark-

» In 2014, the topics in our mailings were Habitat Protection of Humans and Animals in Burundi, Support for the Threatened Lake of 2014 – Lake Sampaloc in the Philippines, ecologically managed vineyards and the protection of wildcats in Germany, as well as Introducing and Fostering Sustainable Tourism at Lake Hovsgol in Mongolia. We introduced the “donors-card” in 2013 in order to improve the service for our supporters.





able amounts, but also people who named us in their last will or support the campaign “Savings for Living Lakes”.

We regularly invite our supporters to special journeys into our project areas. In most cases they visit Lake Constance, but we also offered trips to the Chiemsee, the river Moselle and the Schweriner See. On these tours we can present and explain projects for nature conservation and environmental education in a vivid and direct way. Our Living Lakes Network Germany still holds a variety of possible and promising travel destinations for our donors.

Structure of Expenditures

The main share of our revenues is used for specific purposes, such as project work, environmental education, or public relations activities. Our project work is being conducted in the GNF’s four subject areas: Living Lakes & Water, Nature Conservation, Sustainable Development and Business & Biodiversity. The central project of the GNF – the Living Lakes-Network – is of particular significance. The network of more than 104 Living Lakes partner organizations has to be maintained and fostered.

Our largest projects in terms of financial investments are our international projects that receive funding from the European Union. In the course of

the past two years the GNF has implemented three of these EU-projects simultaneously. Besides, we just recently started to manage BMZ-funded projects, which are more difficult to finance due to a different funding structure. Projects in Germany, such as the Network Living Lakes Germany, may be smaller in terms of their funding scope, but are no less important than large-scale projects. More information about these projects, environmental education and public relations can be found in the previous chapters.

Apart from project costs there are material expenses like costs for IT-equipment or office accommodation. Accounting, marketing and administrative tasks need to be managed as well. Highly skilled and dedicated employees are a prerequisite for the successful initiation and implementation of the GNF’s ambitious projects, which is why personnel costs are another important part of our expenses. In order to help young people gain professional experience, the Global Nature Fund employs several interns and two to three trainees every year.

➤ Funds for our project work are generated through a variety of financing options. Private donors, public institutions, and the private sector all successfully contribute a sound financial balance sheet.

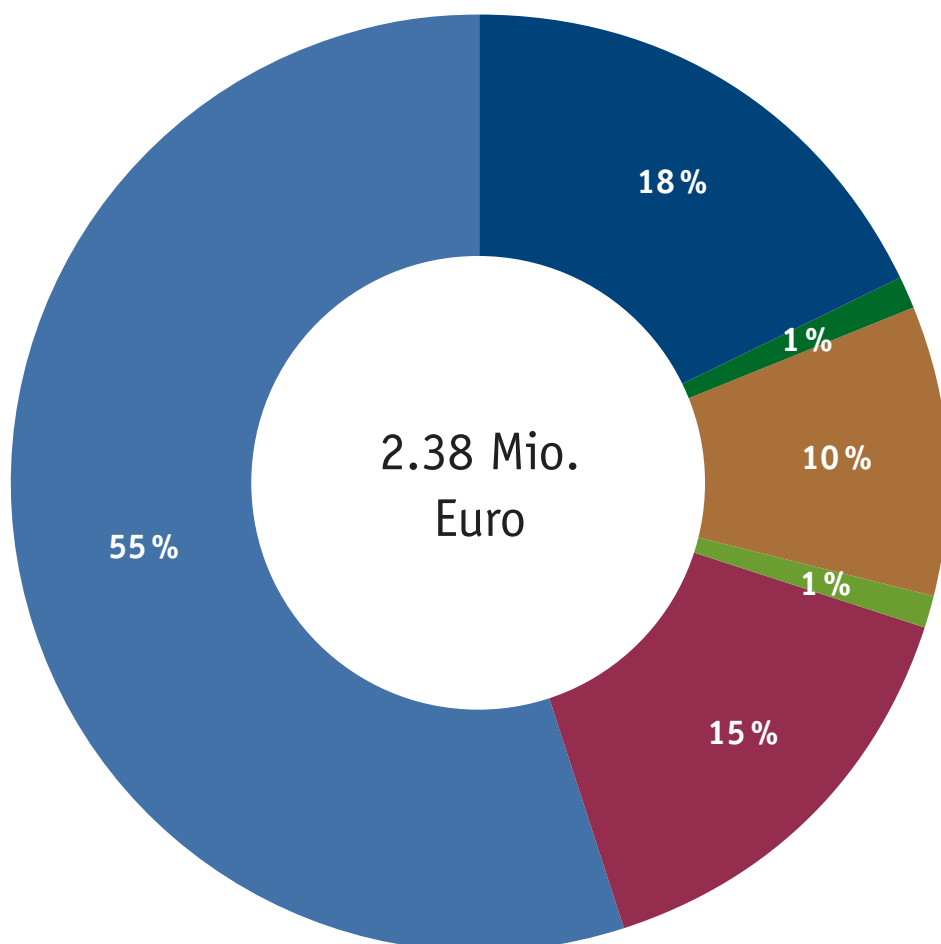
Presentation of our Annual Financial Statement

The financial position of the Global Nature Fund is published in an annual balance sheet, which is compiled in accordance with the regulations of

the German Commercial Code, the Berlin Regulations for Foundations, and our statutes. Incomes and expenses of a financial year are presented in a profit-and-loss account. Our annual financial statement is reviewed by an independent auditing company and gets submitted to supervisory and financial authorities.

Budget 2014 – Revenues in Euro

Donations	435,093.97
Allocation of Fines	20,400.00
Sponsorship	236,066.91
Interest and other Income	25,512.35
Dissolution of Project Provisions	367,340.00
Project Allowances	1,296,136.15
Total	2,380,549.38

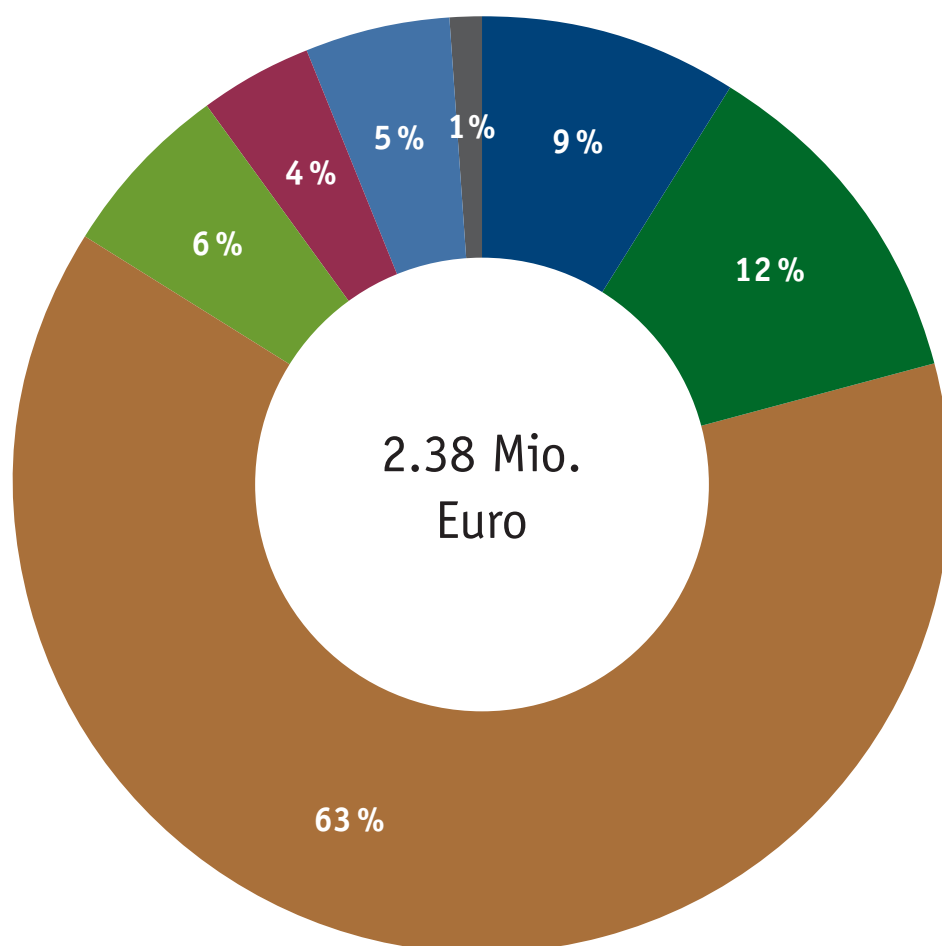


Excerpt from the Audit Certificate 2014: "The Annual Financial Statement complies with adequate and orderly accounting and provides an accurate view of the financial-, assets and earning position of the Global Nature Fund (§ 264 Par. 2 HGB)."

Total assets account for 3,605,030.74 Euro in 2014, which means an increase of 1,298,616.45 Euro compared to the previous year. The foundation's capital remains unchanged at 417,638.04 Euro. Free reserves could be raised by 17,669.80 Euro to establish a total amount of 318,497.38 Euro.

Budget 2014 – Expenses in Euro

Living Lakes & Water	216,348.79
Business & Biodiversity	296,450.26
Sustainable Development & Development Cooperation	1,494,795.33
Nature Conservation	151,048.99
Environmental Education, Fundraising & Public Relations	94,116.33
General Administration	110,119.88
Appropriation to Free Reserves	17,669.80
Total	2,380,549.38



Global Nature Fund, 78315 Radolfzell, Germany
Profit and Loss Account from 1 January to 31 December 2014

Revenues from statutable activities	€
1. Donations and Allowances	
a) Donations and Allowances in general	
Donations accrued in accounting year	254,163.67
Consumption of donations accrued in pre-accounting year	20,000.00
Not yet realized donations in accounting year	0.00
Revenue from consumption of donations in accounting year	274,163.67
b) Donations and Allowances earmarked	
Donations accrued in accounting year	2,086,692.73
Consumption of donations accrued in pre-accounting year	347,340.00
Not yet realized donations in accounting year	373,559.37
Revenue from consumption of donations in accounting year	2,060,473.36
c) Allocation of Fines	20,400.00
d) Legacies	0.00
2. Other Income and revenues	
a) Interest and other yield on assets	8,729.95
b) Other Revenues	16,782.40
Total Revenues	2,380,549.38
 Expenditures from statutable activities	 €
Project Expenses	1,545,943.16
Personnel Expenses	547,684.65
Social security contributions and pension costs	131,538.82
Other expenditures	
Business operation expenses (Administration)	84,153.70
Fundraising and Public Relation	49,431.81
Interest and similar expenditures	2,233.16
Depreciation	1,894.28
Total Expenditures	2,362,879.58
Annual Profit/Loss	17,669.80
Appropriation to/withdrawal from free reserves	-17,669.80
	0.00

Auditing according to § 316 ff HGB by chartered accountant Dr. Herberger, GmbH, Konstanz.

Global Nature Fund, 78315 Radolfzell, Germany

Balance Sheet per 31 December 2014

ACTIVA		PASSIVA	
	31.12.2014 €		31.12.2014 €
	previous year €		previous year €
A. Fixed Assets		A. Equity Capital	
I. Tangible Assets		I. Foundation Capital	
- Furniture and Office Equipment	1,837.88	- Seed Capital	86,919.62
II. Financial Assets		- Increase in Capital	330,718.42
- Investment	306.78		417,638.04
B. Current Assets		II. Reserves	
I. Stocks		Free Reserves	
- Projects in process	1,650,861.94	- Balance carried forward on 01.01.2014	300,827.58
II. Receivables and other assets		- Appropriation to reserves	17,669.80
- Accounts receivable (suppliers and services)	4,990.70	- Balance 31.12.2014	300,827.58
- Other receivables	307,328.63	B. Not yet realized donations and allowances	
	312,319.33		0.00
III. Cash and current bank accounts		C. Provisions	
- Cash in hand	54.94	- Provisions for Pension Fund and similar obligations	0.00
- Bank accounts	738,391.48	- Other Provisions	34,784.16
- Fixed term deposit	833,668.76		34,784.16
	1,572,115.18	D. Liabilities	
C. Accrued Items		- Advance Payments for projects	1,553,942.29
	67,589.63	- Trade Liabilities (suppliers and services)	889,573.51
	80,486.30	- Liabilities to not yet realized earmarked donations and allowances	373,559.37
		- Other Liabilities	17,035.99
			2,834,111.16
Total of Activa/Assets	3,605,030.74	Total of Passiva/Liabilities	3,605,030.74
	2,306,414.26		2,306,414.26



Marion Hammerl, President

Auditing according to § 316 ff HGB by chartered accountant Dr. Herberger, GmbH, Konstanz.

Partner Organizations in Projects

Without our partner organizations all over the world, the implementation of our projects would be impossible. They ensure a successful coordination and implementation of our project work, and stay in touch with regional authorities and local inhabitants. Some of these organizations are also members in our Living Lakes Network for the sustainable development of lakes and wetlands all over the world.



Adelphi
www.adelphi.de



ALTOP Verlags- und Vertriebsgesellschaft für umweltfreundliche Produkte mbH
www.eco-world.de



Baikal Information Center GRAN
www.baikalgran.ru



Biodiversity-Based Economy Development Office (BEDO)
www.bedo.or.th



'Biodiversity in Good Company' Initiative e. V.
www.business-and-biodiversity.de



Biraturaba
<http://biraturaba.org>



Bodensee-Stiftung
www.bodensee-stiftung.org



Friends of the Earth Germany (BUND), Nature Conservation Centre Möggingen
www.bund.net



BUND Regional Association in Mecklenburg-West Pomerania, Location Group Schwerin
www.bund-mv.de



Chiemsee-Naturführer – Natur- u. Landschaftsführer e.V.
www.landschaftsfuehrer.com; www.naturerlebnis-chiemsee.de/dnads



Centre for Research on New International Economic Order (CRaNIEO)
www.crenieo.org

Living Lakes



Collaborating Centre on Sustainable Consumption and Production (CSCP)
www.scp-centre.org



Corazón de la Tierra
www.corazondelatierra.org.mx



Environmental Action Germany (DUH)
www.duh.de



dokeo GmbH
www.dokeo.de



EcoPeace Middle East (formerly Friends of the Earth Middle East (FoEME))
www.foeme.org



eclareon GmbH
www.eclareon.com/de



Ecocamping e.V.
www.ecocamping.net



ecologic Institute
www.ecologic.eu/de



Ecotrans – European Network for Sustainable Tourism Development
www.ecotrans.org



Ecotrópica
www.ecotropica.org.br



EcoVin – German Federal Association of Organic Viticulture
www.ecovin.de



ECNC – European Centre for Nature Conservation
www.ecnc.org



EMACE Foundation of Sri Lanka
www.emacesrilanka.com



Fisheries Action Coalition Team (FACT)
www.fact.org.kh



Friends of the Seven Lakes Foundation
<http://friends7lakes.org>



Fundación Global Nature (FGN)
www.fundacionglobalnature.org



Fundación Humedales
www.fundacionhumedales.org



Fundación Moisés Bertoni (FMB)
www.mbertoni.org.py



Grüne Liga e.V. – Netzwerk Ökologischer Bewegungen
www.grueneliga.de



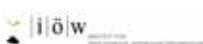
Habitat for Humanity
www.hfh.de



Heinz Sielmann Stiftung
www.sielmann-stiftung.de



Institute for Applied Material Flow Management (IfaS) of Trier University
www.stoffstrom.org



Institute for Ecological Economy Research (IÖW)
www.ioew.de



Jiangxi Academy of Sciences
www.jxas.ac.cn



Light for Life Kenya
www.globalnature.org/solar-kenia



Mangrove Action Project (MAP)
<http://mangroveactionproject.org>



Mongol Ecology Center (MEC)
www.mongolec.org



MRLSD – Promotion Association for Mountain-River-Lake Regional Sustainable Development
www.mrlsd.org.cn



Nagenahiru Foundation – Center for Conservation of Lakes and Wetlands
www.nagenahiru.org



natur – Das Magazin für Natur, Umwelt und besseres Leben
www.natur.de



Naturschutzstation Zippendorf e.V.
www.naturschutzstation-schwerin.de



nova Institut
www.nova-institut.de



OroVerde – Die Tropenwaldstiftung
www.regenwald-schuetzen.org



OSIENALA (Friends of Lake Victoria)
www.osienala.org



PureFlow
www.pureflow.co.ke



Regionales Umweltbildungszentrum Steinhuder Meer (RUZ)
www.oessm.org/bildung/ruz



SOLWODI Deutschland e.V.
www.solwodi.de



Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI)
www.siwil.org



SÜDWIND e.V.
www.suedwind-institut.de



Thames Electricals Ltd. Kenya
www.globalnature.org/solar-kenia



Union for Ethical Biotrade (UEBT)
www.ethicalbiotrade.org



Verband Deutscher Sporttaucher e.V. (VDST)
www.vdst.de



Vereinigung Deutscher Gewässerschutz e.V.
www.vdg-online.de



Verband für Nachhaltigkeits- und Umweltmanagement e. V. (VNU)
www.vnu-ev.de



Water and Environmental Development Organization (WEDO)
<http://wedo-pal.org>



Wildlands Conservation Trust
www.wildlands.co.za



World Vision Nicaragua
www.wvi.org/nicaragua

Credits/Photos: Title: Dave Gilroy/Wildlands Conservation Trust recorded in the Somkhanda Game Reserve; P.5: Stiftung Natur & Wirtschaft (t ri), Steffen Holzmann/Environmental Action Germany (b ri); P.6/7: MRLSD – Promotion Association for Mountain-River-Lake Regional Sustainable Development; P.8/9: Sven Schulz/Bodensee-Stiftung (t ri), Steffen Holzmann/Environmental Action Germany (b ri); P.10/11: Johann Zimmermann (t ri), Wildsight (b ri); P.12/13: Armin Trutnau (t le), Steffen Holzmann/Environmental Action Germany (t ri), Johann Zimmermann (b ri); P.16: Uwe Dederling/Wikimedia (Map); P.19: Uwe Dederling/Wikimedia (Map); P.20/21: Kärcher (b le), Stiftung Natur & Wirtschaft (t ri), creator 76/Fotolia.com (b ri); P.22/23: XK/Fotolia.com (b le), Stiftung Natur & Wirtschaft (t ri); P.25: Galyna Andrushko/Fotolia.com (t le); P.26: OSRAM (b le); P.30/31: fernost (b le), David Gilroy/Wildlands Conservation Trust (t ri); P.33: Wildlands Conservation Trust (t ri), Carolin Häfner/Kärcher (b ri); P.34: Baikal Information Centre GRAN (b le); P.35: Andreas Schmidt; P.36/37: Andreas & Bettina Schmidt (except t le); P.40: TransFair (b ri); P.45: Barbara Kleemann/Environmental Action Germany (t le); P.47: AlexKalina/canstockphoto.de; all others: GNF Archive.



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Thank you!

Donation Account: GLS-Gemeinschaftsbank Bochum

IBAN: DE 53 4306 0967 8040 4160 00 | BIC: GENODEM1GLS



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