

## Newsletter Topics 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2015

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Drinking water projects without future?

## Preface

Dear Readers,

The campaign “Drinking cups for drinking water” raised, over the last five years, more than 160,000 Euro. With this funding based on the tremendous generosity of Hannover 96 fans, many drinking water projects in Kenya and the Ivory Coast have been realised. The decision of the Hannover 96 management of replacing the deposit reusable cups with non-reusable plastic cups leads to a sad end of this successful campaign. However, where there is a will, there are alternatives. The fact that many Bundesliga clubs renounced the use of polluting non-reusable polylactide cups in favour of reusable cups gives clear evidence

for that. We ask all friends of GNF to send a letter to the manager of the club, Mr. Martin Kind, asking him to revoke this decision and follow the social and environmental responsibility of the traditional club for the sake of the environment as well as thousands of people in Africa who have received access to clean water.



Udo Gattenlöhner  
Executive Director  
Global Nature Fund



## Drinking Water for Africa Additional projects are planned

The campaign “Drinking cups for drinking water” that GNF launched with TUI, Hannover 96 and the fan club “Rote Kurve” in 2009, ended with the football season 2014, when the club made the decision to introduce a non-returnable cup system in the stadium. Nevertheless, much has been achieved during the last five years in the framework of this action. In Kenya a total of five drinking water projects have been realised. In the Man and N’zi Comoé regions of the Ivory Coast, a total of 51 water wells were repaired and now provide residents with fresh groundwater. Local communities of all partner villages have been actively involved in the measures and water committees responsible

(among other tasks) for well maintenance, have been established.

### Successfully completed projects in Kenya and the Ivory Coast

In Ivory Coast, 15 groundwater pumps were repaired and put into operation in collaboration with Habitat for Humanity and villagers during the final stage of the project. In April 2015, a water project at the Akadoot Primary School in the Malakisi Village in Kenya was realised in collaboration with Solwodi Germany. Five tanks each with a capacity of 10,000 litres were installed, and a sanitary area with toilets and a laundry room were constructed. Schoolchildren and villagers benefit from the water treatment. In total, there are 1,000 more people who now have access to clean water.

### Project implementation continues secured

Our most sincerely thanks to all the volunteers who collected cups during football matches in the Hannover stadium and, most of all, to the fans donating



Groundwater pump in Troumanbo (Ivory Coast)



Rainwater tank of the Akadoot Primary School (Kenya)



Well in the village Kora Akissikro (Ivory Coast)

their cups’ deposit money for the projects in Africa. Since autumn 2014, the company Sika AG has supported GNF water projects in Africa. In the Kenyan village Kandara, a drinking water filtration unit has already been built and five more groundwater pumps in the Ivory Coast have been repaired. In 2015, additional projects will be realised. (SH)  
[www.globalnature.org/drinking-water-africa](http://www.globalnature.org/drinking-water-africa)

## Business & Biodiversity

### Strengthening cooperation between Thailand and Europe

The “Biodiversity based Economy Development Office” (BEDO) from Thailand and GNF intensified their cooperation



Asia and Europe – together for more biodiversity



Biodiversity checks soon in Thai Companies

in order to support Southeast Asiatic companies on biodiversity management. GNF organised a workshop in March 2015 in Bangkok where BEDO employees were trained in the implementation of Biodiversity Checks in companies. The check was developed by GNF in the context of the “European Business and Biodiversity Campaign” (EBBC) and has so far been applied in Europe by more than 40 companies. BEDO will adjust the check to the requirements of Thai companies and will start with the first pilot checks within the coming months. In addition, GNF and BEDO lined up another seminar to introduce Thai companies and institutions to the Biodiversity Checks. Participants included representatives of Nestlé Thailand, Latex System, CPF, Capital Rice, Thailand Industry Council, Thailand Federation of Trade and the Bank of Thailand. By doing the checks, companies can find out their impact on biodiversity and then identify and take meaningful actions to protect it. (SH)

## Successful Project in South Africa

### Somkhanda Reserve is one of the greenest destinations

During several years, GNF and its South African partner Wildlands Conservation Trust have been supporting the Somkhanda Wildlife Reserve through the development of sustainably and sound wildlife tourism. After the successful conclusion of the project, the project site was selected under the “Top 100 World’s Greenest Holiday

Destinations 2014”. In the framework of the German-South African project partnership, several members from Gumbi-Klan, Somkhanda Reserve’s official owner, have been trained in urgently needed capacities in order to ensure professional management of the reserve. Sustainable tourism allows the generation of income and the creation of local jobs thereby supporting the management of the reserve. Hence, for long-term protection, the project site is safeguarded as a habitat for endangered wildlife species. So far, 26 members of the local community have been trained in the fields of tourism, wildlife conservation and sustainable management.

Up to now, 50 long-term income opportunities for the local community have been created and more than 1,000 school children from the region are participating in a comprehensive environmental education programme. Within the region, among other activities, a pack of endangered African wild dogs was reintroduced. The pride had its first offspring in May 2015.

The region attracts many national and international tourists, and more than 2,500 people have visited Somkhanda.



Panoramic view of the Somkhanda Reserve



White rhinos in Somkhanda sustainably protected

## International Water Fair Berlin

The exhibition “Wasser erleben” offers an entertaining way for schools, students and the general public to test their water knowledge and receive helpful hints for daily life. How much water is consumed every day in Germany? How much waste is washed into the sea? Why is it important to protect lakes? The exhibition is part of the trade fair “Wasser Berlin International”, which takes place every two years in March. Students and teachers proposed interesting projects and dissertations. GNF took the opportunity to present its project “Young Journalists for the Environment” raising awareness to protect our water bodies and engage the public.



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Awarded safari tourism in Somkhanda

The community-based tourism approach and the unique habitat with its fascinating biodiversity have also been awarded internationally. The award was presented by the Belgian Association “Green Destinations”. In addition to Somkhanda, other Living Lakes partner regions such as Mono Lake, Okavango Delta and Madampe were recognized as well. The project “Linking Biodiversity Conservation and Poverty Reduction in South Africa”, fostering the growth of ecotourism in the region, has been funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and the Foundation Ursula Merz. (KT)

[www.globalnature.org/somkhanda-biodiversity-conservation](http://www.globalnature.org/somkhanda-biodiversity-conservation)



## Green Filter for Colombia Plants for water treatment

After the successful implementation of the first Green Filter pilot plant in San Miguel de Sema in 2013, three other wetlands are being constructed between



First water hyacinths are implemented

2014 and 2016 in Colombia. The project costs, funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) as well as by the GNF fundraising campaign "Clean Water for the World" reach up to 400,000 Euro. The second plant in Susa is already in operation and was officially inaugurated in June 2015 during a visit of GNF's Executive Director to the project site. This Green Filter with a size of 3,400 m<sup>2</sup> is the largest constructed wetland in Colombia. 1,000 households are connected to this sewage purification system. The successful and rapid implementation of the pilot project is due to the dedication and competence of the local partner Fundación Humedales and the cooperation of local community members.

The campaign is supported by Kärcher GmbH & Co. KG and the Foundation Ursula Merz. (JPS)  
[www.globalnature.org/Greenfilter-Colombia](http://www.globalnature.org/Greenfilter-Colombia)



Completed green filter plant in the village of Susa



## Training Course at Lake Constance Interview with Badral Yondon

Under the framework of the EU founded project "Guide and Integrate a Sustainable Economic Revitalization of Local Communities dependent on long-term Stewardship of Lake Hovsgol National Park, Mongolia" a delegation travelled to Germany where, after a successful participation at the ITB Berlin, they took part in a training program. The team members visited the Harz National Park in central Germany, where they met the director Mr. Andreas Pusch. During the following days, the delegation visited both shores of Lake Constance. The training course included a workshop with representatives of Forum Magazine, Eco-camping, a consulting firm, Swiss University of HTW Chur and Lake Constance Conservancy, visits to a waste-

water treatment plant, waste management and renewable energy companies, city planning, fishery, organic farming village and to the Max-Planck Institute meeting Prof. Martin Wikelski, the director.

In order to better explain the results of such an interesting and fruitful activity, here a short interview of Badral Yondon board member of the Mongol Ecology Center with one of the participants:

### Mr. Yondon, which are the biggest challenges and priorities that Lake Hovsgol faces at the moment?

The biggest challenge is pressure from the unplanned increase in the number of visitations to the lake. While the total number of beds at the lake does not reach 4,000, during peak season daily visitations reach 7,000 and this number is anticipated to grow with completion of a new paved road and visa-free travel from Russia. This results in illegal camping, fishing and littering along the lakeshore.

### Which were the main outcomes of the training course?

The study tour was a good way for major stakeholders to interact in a concealed environment and to learn about the latest environmentally-friendly technologies and practices and sustainable tourism. While it is not easy to make big investments



Leachate purification of the waste management center in Weiherberg near Friedrichshafen/Radaraach

into the infrastructure at the moment, the trip helped team members to understand where our goals should be set.

### How transferable could the experiences visited been? And, which one will be easiest to transfer with the highest positive impact?

Most of what we have seen requires significant investments into the local infrastructure by the government. However knowing what technologies exist and how effective they are will help the local community to plan for the future and possibly raise funds for some green, sustainable technologies and to lobby the government for support. At the same time, visits to overpopulated areas along the Lake Constance helped locals appreciate what they have in Mongolia and encouraged them to keep the development within certain boundaries.

Mr. Yondon, thank you very much for such an interesting interview.



Trip field at the shorelines of Lake Constance



Visitor group at Lake Constance



## High Profile for Lake Hovsgol

### Media trip to the Threatened Lake of the Year 2015

Seven journalists from Germany, Spain, Italy, Hungary and Switzerland, visited Lake Hovsgol National Park at the end of June 2015. Mongol Ecology Center and Global Nature Fund enabled them to liaise with local people, officials, conservationists and rangers of the national park. One unique insight was in the synergy between spirituality and science in the lakes conservancy, which suffers from increasing tourism and its consequences. (TS)



*Impressions of the pristine landscape, Lake Hovsgol and its unique people*

## Events

### July – November 2015

**15 July 2015, 14:30 p.m.**

#### Press Conference on the Sustainable Development of the Jordan River Valley

Global Nature Fund, Hackescher Markt 4, 10178 Berlin, Germany

Contact and confirmation of attendance:  
Dr. Alain Maasri, [maasri@globalnature.org](mailto:maasri@globalnature.org),  
Phone: +49 (0)30 - 24 00 867 341

**23 - 26 July 2015**

#### 14<sup>th</sup> NaturVision Film Festival

Ludwigsburg, Germany

<http://festival.natur-vision.de/en/filmfestival/home.html>

**23 - 28 August 2015**

#### World Water Week

Stockholm, Sweden

[www.worldwaterweek.org](http://www.worldwaterweek.org)

**4 - 6 September 2015**

#### EcoSummit together with Sekisui

Radolfzell, Lake Constance, Germany

**3 - 6 November 2015**

#### Project Meeting

#### "Mangrove Rehabilitation in Asia"

Thailand

[www.globalnature.org/mangrove-network](http://www.globalnature.org/mangrove-network)

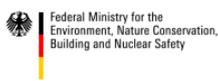
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